



Hunting and Fishing Regulations

Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge and Wildlife Management Unit

Hunting Regulations at Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge

Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1946 to benefit migratory waterfowl in the Central Flyway and help conserve America's wildlife heritage for people today and generations yet to come.

Major objectives of the refuge are to provide habitat for wintering waterfowl and non-game migratory birds, wintering and breeding habitat for ducks, and habitat for the natural diversity of wildlife native to the area. Management objectives also emphasize opportunities for environmental education, interpretation, and wildlife-dependent recreation such as hunting, fishing, bird watching, and photography.

General Refuge Regulations

In the field, the Refuge boundary is indicated by white metal boundary signs and brown informational signs.

By law, national wildlife refuges are closed to all public use activities unless otherwise permitted. Hunting, fishing and certain other public uses are permitted on specific parts of the refuge. The regulations listed here supplement the general regulations that govern public use on national wildlife refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations.

Commercial Activities

Refuge regulations require anyone engaged in a commercial activity to first obtain a Refuge Special Use Permit. Anyone planning to pursue a commercial activity on refuge lands is advised to contact the Refuge Manager for information on permitted commercial activities and special use permits.

Weapons

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuges must comply with all provisions of state and local law. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.42 and specific refuge regulations in 50 CFR Part 32). Carrying, possessing, or discharging fireworks or explosives on national wildlife refuges are prohibited unless specifically authorized. The use or possession of air guns, spears, gigs, and other weapons on national wildlife refuges is prohibited except as may be authorized by the refuge manager.

Hunting

Tishomingo NWR maintains two distinct hunting and fishing areas within the refuge boundary. The refuge (dark green on the map) is more restrictive and functions as a wildlife sanctuary.

The Wildlife Management Unit (yellow-green in map) is co-managed through a partnership between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (ODWC).

The majority of hunting seasons on the refuge are closed but the refuge does offer controlled hunts for deer through the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation. Applications to enter the controlled hunts are available from the ODWC.

Wildlife Management Area

Hunters using the management unit must sign and carry the permit below and must also sign in and out at the various sign in locations (see map). The management unit has five separate sign in points.

Check Station Unit, Airport Unit, Pennington Bottom Unit, South Entrance and the walk-in only Maintenance Area on McAdams Road.

Limited hunting opportunities are allowed in accordance with federal and state regulations and season dates. The special regulations listed below also apply and are strictly enforced.

Special Regulations

Access

Vehicle access is allowed on designated roadways year around except during muzzleloader and gun deer seasons. No off-road driving is permitted.

Methods of Take

Non-toxic shot is mandatory for all shotgun hunting except single slugs regardless of the species being hunted. Rifle hunters are not required to use non-toxic bullets. Archery rules follow state regulations.

Waterfowl

The Management Unit is open for waterfowl hunting until 1:00 pm. Waterfowl hunters are required to be off of the Management Unit by 1:00 pm. Only non-toxic shot may be used.

Boats and retrieving dogs are allowed on the Management Unit year round. Dogs must remain under control of their handler. Pursuing of any game species with hounds is prohibited.

Deer

Deer hunting is allowed in accordance with the State season published under the Tishomingo WMU (Public Lands) portion of the Oklahoma Hunting Brochure.

Archery deer hunters must comply with florescent orange requirements during the primitive and modern gun seasons. Archery deer hunters must comply with florescent orange requirements during the primitive and modern gun seasons.

Portable or temporary stands may be utilized. No spikes or other damaging items may be driven into trees. Stands may remain in place no more than 14 days. Federal and State regulations prohibit baiting on this area.

Dove and other migratory game birds

Mourning dove, white-winged dove, Eurasian collared-dove, sora, Virginia rail, purple gallinule, common moorhen, and American crow hunting is permitted the same as statewide season dates. Only non-toxic shot may be used.

Upland Game

Eastern cottontail rabbit, swamp rabbit, northern bobwhite quail, woodcock, Wilson's snipe and squirrel hunting is permitted the same as statewide season dates, except closed during the first 9 days of the deer gun season. Only non-toxic shot may be used when using a shotgun.

Turkey

Hunting is allowed during the spring shotgun season and during the fall archery season in accordance with state regulations. Spring turkey limit is one tom turkey. Only non-toxic shot may be used.

Feral Hogs

Feral hog hunting is permitted year round. Feral hogs may be taken with a shotgun and non-toxic shot or single slug, archery, or with a rifle during any established hunting season with methods authorized for that hunting season, except that during any open deer and/or turkey season, only appropriate methods and legal equipment for that deer and/or turkey season are authorized for taking or pursuing feral hogs. No feral hogs may be removed alive from the management unit. Pursuing with hounds, horses or mules is prohibited. Feeding, baiting and trapping of feral hogs is prohibited.

Furbearers and Predators

Predator/furbearer calling is permitted the same as statewide season dates, except closed during the first 9 days of the deer gun season. Pursuing with hounds or trapping is prohibited.

All other wildlife is protected. Help keep your refuge clean. Please do not litter.

Fishing and Boating Regulations at Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge

Fishing
Fishing with hook and line is permitted on designated areas of the refuge subject to the following conditions: Bank and wade fishing with pole and line or rod and reel are permitted year-round in areas open for public access. This also includes night fishing.

Limblines, throwlines, juglines, and yo-yo's are not permitted anywhere on the Refuge or wildlife management unit. During boating season, trotlines are only permitted in the open area of Cumberland Pool and Rock Creek Lake. Trotlines used in the Cumberland Pool must be attached to anchored floats and may not be attached to sticks, poles, trees, buoys, or other fixed objects. The owners name and address must be on the end floats of each line without any viewing obstructions.

Containers

Use of any containers (jugs, bottles) as floats is not permitted. Glass or metallic floating devices are not permitted.

Trotlines

Trotlines are restricted to no more than 3 lines and 100 hooks per person. Hooks must be no less than 24 inches apart. Trotlines must be attended at least once every 24-hours. Trotlines must be made of non-metallic materials only. Trotlines are not permitted in waters less than 3-feet. Lines must be 3 feet or more below the water surface.

Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge General Hunt Permit

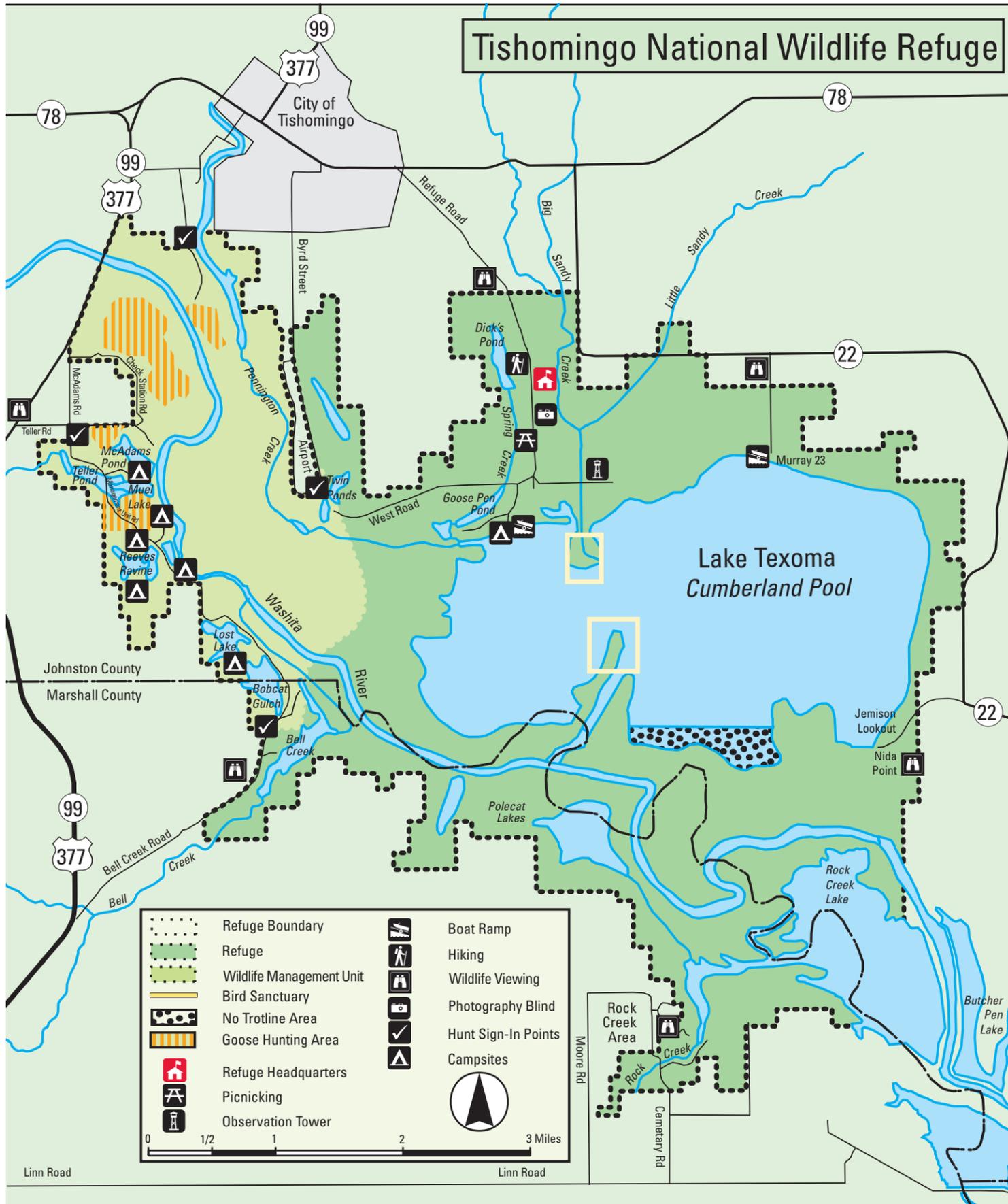
When signed and in your possession, this portion of the brochure will serve as your permit for all refuge hunts, and acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

I have read, fully understand and will comply with these refuge regulations.

Take pride in your refuge. Don't litter and report violations.

Signature of hunter _____ Date _____

Permits are not transferable and are valid only when signed.



During the boating season, no wake boat fishing is permitted in the Cumberland Pool (except at Sandy Creek and the Bird Sanctuary Zones). Fishing and boating is allowed year around in the wildlife management unit ponds.

Night fishing is permitted from a boat (during boating season) on the Cumberland Pool, except at Sandy Creek Peninsula and the Bird Sanctuary Zone(s). The Bird Sanctuary boundaries are designated by signs and buoys (see map).

Anglers may take up to 200 non-game fish for personal use as bait while fishing on the refuge in accordance with Oklahoma State Law.

Bow fishing is permitted only in the wildlife management unit during daylight hours. The taking of fish by the use of hands (noodling) is prohibited in all refuge and wildlife management unit waters. The taking of frogs, turtles, or mussels is prohibited.

Boating

The boating season runs March 1 through September 30 on refuge waters except for the wildlife management unit.

All State and Federal regulations apply to boats using the refuge.

Airboats, hovercraft and personnel watercraft are not permitted.

Caution: Cumberland Pool contains floating debris and submerged concrete structures.

Tube fishing or fishing with the aid of an inner tube-type flotation device as part of a pair of waders on Cumberland Pool or refuge lakes is permitted only during boating season, March 1 through September 30.

Boating, fishing, and entry into the Bird Sanctuary Zone(s) is prohibited.

Special daily bag and size limits

White or Black Crappie—10" minimum and 37 daily limit.

Channel or Blue Catfish—12" minimum. Daily limit 15 combined. Only one Blue Catfish over 30 inches.

Flathead Catfish—20" minimum and daily limit 5.

Striped and Hybrid Striped Bass—daily limit of 10 combined, only 2 may be 20" or longer.

White Bass—daily limit of 25. No size limit.

Largemouth, Smallmouth and Spotted Bass—Size limit of 14" minimum for Largemouth and Smallmouth Bass. Daily limit of 5 combined. No size limit on spotted bass for Lake Texoma.

Fish Cleaning—Possession of game fish that has been filleted or had its head or tail removed is prohibited within the refuge boundary.

General Regulations at Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge

Night time traffic is prohibited, except for night fishing and registered campers.

Searching for, collecting, or removal of artifacts or antiquities is prohibited. All plants and animals are protected and should not be disturbed or collected (except fish and wildlife legally taken during the refuge hunting and fishing seasons).

Fires are permitted only at designated areas. Ground fires are not permitted.

Target shooting is prohibited.

Swimming is not permitted.

Water skiing is not permitted.

Camping is allowed year-round at the Headquarters Camping Area and the wildlife management unit. The Headquarters Camping Area has one accessible site and six additional sites. Seven designated primitive campsites are available at the wildlife management unit: 1) McAdams River Access; 2) McAdams Pond; 3) Clifton River Access; 4) Reeves Ravine Pond (West); 5) Reeves Ravine Pond (East); 6) Rattlesnake River Access; and 7) Lost Lake.

Camping is limited to seven nights per visit.

For More Information Contact

For inquiries about refuge programs and activities, contact the refuge manager at:

Refuge Manager
 Tishomingo National Wildlife Refuge
 11766 South Refuge Road
 Tishomingo, OK 73460
 580/371-2402
 580/371-9312 Fax

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