

Dale Bumpers White River

National Wildlife Refuge

Public Use, Hunting and Fishing Regulations

2015-2016

Dale Bumpers White River National Wildlife Refuge

Dale Bumpers White River National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1935, contains approximately 160,000 acres of prime bottomland hardwood habitat located within the floodplain of the lower White River. For management purposes, most of the lands within the refuge have been divided into a North Unit and a South Unit which are separated by Arkansas Highway 1. Refuge out-lying tracts are not depicted in this brochure; however maps are available upon request. These tracts are open for hunting in accordance with state seasons and bag limits of surrounding zone. All users are permitted on the refuge in accordance with State and Federal regulations as supplemented by the following special refuge regulations.

Access and Vehicle Use

The maximum speed for any land vehicle is 25 mph, unless posted otherwise. Refuge roads on the South Unit are open to motorized traffic March 1 through December 15 except the Jacks Bay waterfowl hunt area will remain open through duck season. All other refuge roads are open all year.

Dale Bumpers White River National Wildlife Refuge
PO Box 205
St. Charles, AR 72140
870/282 8200
<http://www.fws.gov/whiteriver>

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD

July 2015



Roads are commonly temporarily closed to land vehicles due to flooding. A locked gate, road closed sign, or other barrier (i.e. mounded dirt) means the road is closed to all motorized vehicles but not to **bicycle/foot** travel unless signed otherwise. For refuge road and closure information, call the refuge headquarters at 870/282 8200, extension #1.

All licensed vehicles must stay on gravel or paved roads. On both the North and South Units, ATV's or UTV's may only be used on yellow marked trails and are only allowed for wildlife dependent hunting and fishing activities. The trails are marked with high visibility yellow ink on trees.

An ATV or UTV is defined as a vehicle with a maximum tire pressure of 15 psi, a maximum dry weight of 1550 lbs., and with tires having a centerline lug depth of one inch or less. Only those vehicles originally designed by their manufacturer to be ATVs or UTVs are allowed; mini-trucks or other modified off-road vehicles are prohibited. Personal watercraft (jet-ski, sea-do) are prohibited on the refuge. ATVs or UTVs may not be stored on the refuge or left unattended except while

actively hunting or fishing near the ATV or UTV.

Jon Boats 16 feet or less with owner's name and address permanently displayed or valid registration may be left on the refuge from March 1 to October 31. **All boats must be removed from the refuge November 1 through February 28.**

Portable tree stands left unattended must have the owner's name and address affixed in a conspicuous manner.

No other personal items (i.e. game cameras, weapons, blinds, etc.) may be left unattended.

Permits

This user permit or signature section from the front page must be in possession and signed by ALL refuge users. In addition, quota hunt permits are also required to participate in the first three days of the modern gun and muzzleloader hunts on the north and south units.

Dale Bumpers White River National Wildlife Refuge User Permit 2015-2016
This permit must be read and signed to be valid. It must be carried by all. It is not transferable.
Note: This permit alone is not good for the quota permit gun hunt and muzzleloader hunt. You can go to: http://www.fws.gov/refuge/white_river/ Hover over visit, then click on Permits, and click on the printable Brochure and Map. Here you can print the brochure or obtain a hard copy.

Name _____
Address _____
I have read and understand the refuge regulations.

Signature _____

General Hunt Regulations

State bag limits apply for all hunts unless indicated otherwise in this brochure. Hunters who have harvested their limit of deer and need to assist others to a stand and/or help remove a deer must do so **without** being in possession of a **weapon**.

Beaver, nutria, and coyote may be taken without the use of dogs during any daytime refuge hunt with weapons legal for that hunt until the daily limit of game is taken. **In cooperation with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Feral Hog Control Program, Feral Hogs may only be taken on the Refuge during the Modern Gun and Muzzleloader deer hunts.** Live hogs may not be transported or possessed.

A hunter born after 1968 must carry a valid Hunter Education Card. Hunters under 16 years old do not need to have a card if they are under the direct supervision (within arms reach) of a holder of a valid hunting license of at least 21 years of age. Youth hunters under the age of 16 who have a valid Hunter Education Card must also be supervised by an adult not less than 21 years old but must only remain in sight and normal voice contact with the adult. An adult may supervise only one youth for big game hunting and up to two youths for waterfowl and small game. Home state Hunter Education Cards will be honored.

All other hunting is closed during quota deer hunts. Kansas Lake area closes to all entry December 1 - February 28.

Cooks Lake Unit

Access to the property is allowed through registration only.



Upon arrival, register at the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission's Potlatch Conservation Education Center. Hours of operation: Tuesday - Saturday, 8 am - 4:30 pm. For more information, please call 870/241 3373.

Special Youth Deer Hunt at Cooks Lake December 5-6, 2015. Youth Quota Permit required. Limit two (one buck and one doe, no antler restrictions, Bonus Deer). Call 870/282 8200 for details.

Mobility Impaired Deer Hunt at Cooks Lake

December 11-13, 2015. Mobility Impaired Quota Permit required. Limit two (one

Hunting Seasons	North	South
Archery Deer	10/1 - 01/31/16	10/1 - 12/31
Youth Deer Hunt	11/7 - 11/8	11/7 - 11/8
Muzzleloader Deer (Bucks only)	10/17 - 10/19 10/20 - 10/23	10/17 - 10/19
Gun Deer (modern firearm) (Bucks only)	11/14 - 11/16 11/17 - 11/18	11/14 - 11/16
Waterfowl	state season	Closed. See text under waterfowl.
Furbearer	11/21 - 01/31/16	12/01 - 12/15
Rabbit/Squirrel	9/1 - 1/31/16	9/1 - 11/30
Spring Turkey	state season	state season
Black Bear	closed	closed

buck and one doe, no antler restrictions, Bonus Deer). Call 870/282 8200 for details.

Weapons

Persons may only use (discharge) firearms during authorized hunting seasons while attempting to take game species. All hunting weapons used on the refuge must comply with state regulations for each game species, except the use or possession of buckshot is prohibited.

Flood Zone Closure Regulations

Refuge lands located in North Unit closes to deer hunting when the White River gauge at St. Charles reaches 26 feet, as reported by the National Weather Service at <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/lzk/html/whitervr.htm>. This restriction is lifted when the gauge falls to or below 23.5 feet.

Refuge lands located in South Unit closes to deer hunting when the White River gauge at Graham Burke Outlet reaches 150 feet MSL (30 ft.) and the gauge at Norrel Lock and Dam No. 1 on the Arkansas River reaches 145 feet msl. simultaneously, as reported by the National Weather Service at <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/lzk/html/whitervr.htm> (numbers 54 & 55 on website). This restriction is lifted when the White River gauge at Graham Burke Outlet falls to or below 148 feet MSL (28 ft.) and the gauge at Norrel Lock and Dam No. 1 on the Arkansas River falls to or below 143 feet msl. simultaneously.

For safety reasons, quota deer hunts will adhere to a more restrictive flood zone closure that is explained on the actual quota hunt permit cards. SEE

INFORMATION ON QUOTA HUNT PERMITS FOR MORE DETAILS.

Check Stations

During the gun quota hunts, refuge staff will collect biological data. Collection of this information is needed for deer management decisions. **New: Look for Biological information to be filled out on back of quota hunt permits.**

For all deer and turkey harvested on the refuge, the hunter will immediately (prior to moving the animal) complete the hunting license kill information. All big game taken on the South Unit must be recorded as zone 145 and North Unit must be recorded as zone 146. Out-lying tracts are the same zone number of the surrounding state zone. Call 866/305 0808 or visit <http://www.agfc.com/hunting/pages/huntingcheckinggame.aspx> to check your deer or turkey within 24 hours of harvest.

Archery Deer

North Unit: October 1, 2015–January 31, 2016. Kansas Lake Area closes to all entry December 1 - February 28.

Refuge permit required. State Zone 9 bag limit applies (either-sex). No antler restrictions apply.

South Unit: October 1, 2015–December 31, 2015. Refuge user brochure/permit required. State Zone 9 bag limit applies (either-sex). No antler restrictions apply.

Muzzleloader Deer

North & South Unit: October 17 –19, 2015. Quota Hunt Permit and Refuge user brochure/permit required. Limit one deer (either sex, no antler restrictions).

North Unit Only: October 20–23, 2015. Refuge user brochure/permit required. Limit one (buck only, no antler restrictions).

Modern Gun Deer Youth Hunt

North and South Unit: November 7-8, 2015. Refuge user brochure/permit required. Limit one (either sex, no antler restrictions). This is a “youth only hunt.” A 65 (years of age) plus hunt does not apply.

Modern Gun Deer

North and South Unit: November 14–16, 2015. Quota Hunt Permit and Refuge user brochure/permit required. Limit one deer (either sex, no antler restrictions).

North Unit Only: November 17–18, 2015. Refuge user brochure/permit required. Limit one (buck only, no antler restrictions).

Quota permits are non-transferable and non-refundable.

Annual Refuge Deer Limit and Definition

State Deer “Zone 9” bag limit applies and either sex with no antler restrictions (Button bucks will be checked as bucks). **The total number of bucks that may be harvested through a combination of all refuge hunts is two.** Only four deer total may be taken from a combination of both units of the refuge.

Waterfowl

Duck hunting is permitted until noon. Retriever dogs are permitted. Only portable blinds are permitted. Waterfowl hunters may not enter refuge designated hunt areas until 4 am. Blinds, blind material, and decoys must be removed from the refuge by 1 pm each day. **Waterfowl hunting is closed on the White River from Holly Lake downstream to Benzal Bridge.**

North Unit: Statewide duck season, and youth hunt day(s). Coot may be taken if in season.

South Unit: CLOSED, EXCEPTION: JACKS BAY HUNT AREA ONLY open every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday of the statewide duck season. Coot may be taken if in season. Designated area only (see map).

Furbearer

North Unit: 12 noon, November 21, 2015 – 12 noon, January 31, 2016. Dogs may be utilized from sunset to sunrise only. Horses and mules prohibited.

South Unit: 12 noon, December 1, 2015 – 12 noon, December 15, 2015. Dogs may be utilized from sunset to sunrise only. Horses and mules prohibited.

Both Units: Taking of any furbearing animal is limited to rimfire weapons and shotguns, non-toxic shot required for shotguns.

Furbearer (trapping): (North Unit only) –Must obtain Special Use Permit from Refuge Headquarters at St. Charles: 870/282 8200

South Unit is closed to furbearer trapping.

Rabbit and Squirrel

North Unit: September 1, 2015 – January 31, 2016 Refuge user brochure/permit required. Dogs are allowed December 1, 2015 – January 31, 2016. (Season closed during Quota Deer Hunts).

South Unit: September 1, 2015 – November 30, 2015. Refuge user brochure/permit required. Season closed during Quota Deer Hunts. **No dogs allowed.**

Turkey

Fall gun and Archery: Closed

Turkey – North and South Units: Same as state 2016 season for surrounding zone. Statewide limit applies. Non-toxic shot required.

Bear season closed on all refuge lands including cooperatively managed tracts.

Prohibited Acts

- Cutting, painting or defacing trees.
- The use of horses or mules
- Unleashed dogs if not actively hunting.
- Fires outside campsites.
- Littering (including, but not limited to shotgun shell hulls and cigarette butts).
- Operating a motor vehicle without a license (driver or vehicle) or in violation of State law.
- After November 30, boating in south unit waterfowl hunt area, except from 4 am to 1 pm on waterfowl hunt days.
- Operating an ATV on gravel roads.
- Camping in non designated campgrounds (see map).

Interpreting Refuge Signage



This sign clearly marks all refuge property. It is your responsibility to know where the property lines are and hunt within the boundaries.



This area is closed to all entry. No entering, hunting, fishing, or sight-seeing is permitted. No roads or trails beyond this sign are open to the public.



This area is closed to all hunting.

Take pride in your refuge. Don't litter. Report violations.

- Loud noise in campgrounds after 10 pm, including generators.
- Not occupying campsites on a daily basis.
- Persons camping and/or physical camps staying longer than 14 days during any 30 consecutive day period.
- Camping or ATV/UTV use for any reason other than wildlife dependent activities.
- Fires left unattended; fires not extinguished upon final departure.
- Possession of a loaded hunting weapon within 100 yards of a campground.

Hunting

- All other hunting is closed during quota deer hunts.
- Hunting with the aid of or possession of bait, salt or ingestible attractant.
- **Use of dogs from any gravel roadway during squirrel or raccoon hunts.**

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

- Marking trails with materials other than bio-degradable paper flagging or reflective tape/tacks.
- Use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting.
- Consumption of alcohol or possession of opened alcoholic beverage container on roadways and in parking areas.
- Waterfowl hunting on Kansas Lake Area.
- Cutting shooting lanes or other manipulation of vegetation or hunting in such areas.
- Possessing and/or using toxic shot by hunters using shotguns to hunt
- All forms of man-deer drives.
- Firearms hunting from or across roadways, campgrounds, levees, and maintained utility rights-of-way. (Exception: Waterfowl may be hunted in these areas when flooded.)
- Driving or screwing any object into a tree or to hunt from a tree in which an object has been driven or screwed.
- Leaving a hunt stand more than seven days before or after a hunt season.
- Target practice.
- No person shall utilize the service of a guide, guide service, outfitter, club, organization or other person who provides equipment, services, or assistance on the refuge for compensation.
- Commercial guiding for the take of wildlife or fish is prohibited.

Guiding and Other Commercial Uses

A refuge Special Use Permit is required for all commercial activities on the refuge.

Camping

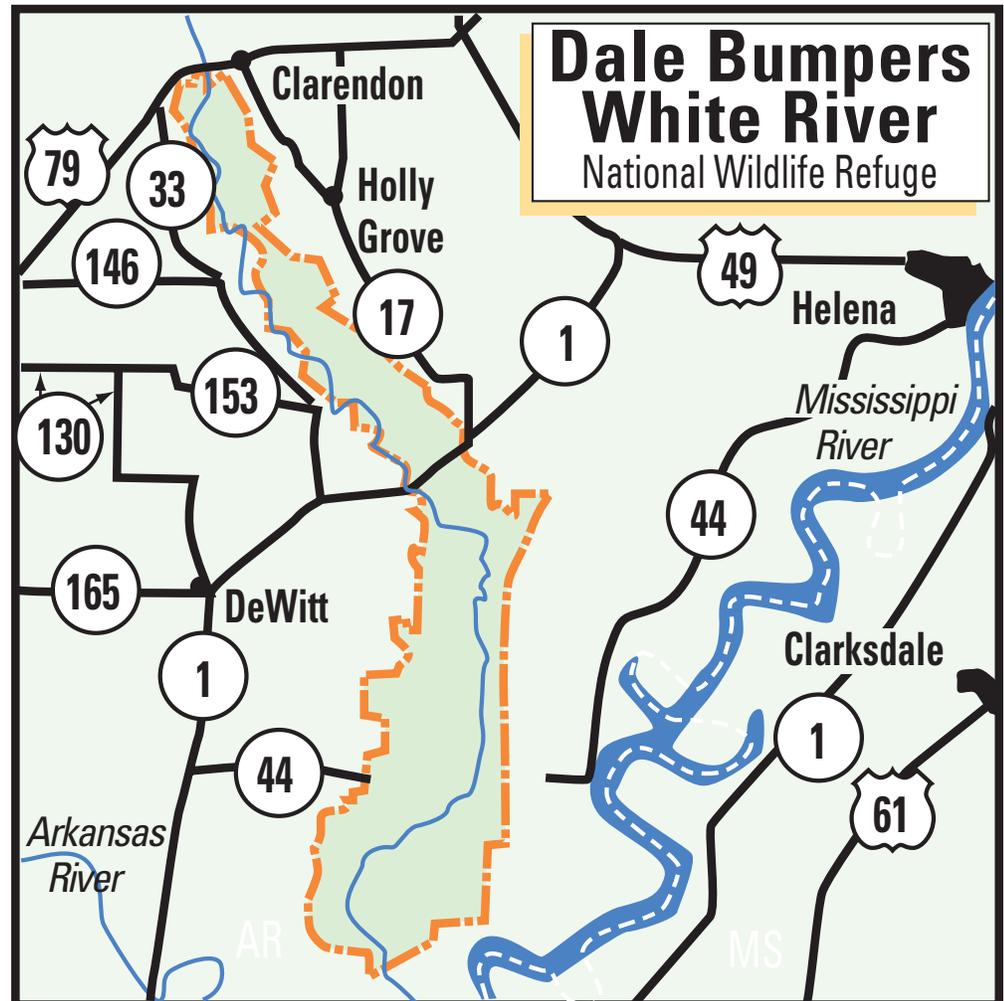
Camping is permitted only in designated campgrounds and dates as listed in map legend. For a list of nearby private campgrounds visit our website: www.fws.gov/refuge/White_River

Down wood may be gathered for use as firewood at campsites. To prevent the spread of harmful invasive insects, please do not bring firewood from elsewhere. Campers are required to remove all of their trash from the refuge. Campers must stay within the area blazed with white paint in designated camping areas.

Dale Bumpers White River National Wildlife Refuge

Located in Arkansas, Monroe, Phillips and Desha counties

Note: Refuge lands within existing outtracts and Trusten Holder WMA not shown.



Vicinity Map



Scale in Miles

Sport Fishing and Frogging Regulations

Fishing is permitted year round in LaGrue, Essex, Prairie, Scrubgrass & Brooks Bayous, Big Island Chute, Moon and Belknap Lakes next to Arkansas Highway 1, Indian Bay, the Arkansas Post Canal and adjacent drainage ditches, those borrow ditches located adjacent to the west bank of that portion of the White River Levee north of the Graham Burke pumping station, and all refuge owned waters located north of Arkansas Highway 1. All other refuge waters are open to sport fishing from March 1 through November 30 unless posted otherwise.

Frogging is permitted on all refuge owned waters open for sport fishing as follows: South Unit, frogging is permitted

from the beginning of the state season through November 30; North Unit, frogging is permitted for the entire state season.

Mobility-impaired Users

Individuals with a State issued Mobility Impaired Access Permit may apply for a permit allowing the use of ATV's in accordance with Special Use Permit guidelines. For more information, please call the refuge at 870/282 8200.

Our Visitor Center is Open

Monday – Friday, 8 am – 4 pm.

Take pride in your refuge.

Don't litter. Report violations.

South Unit

(South of Arkansas Highway 1)

Legend

- Refuge Boundary
- Area Closed to All Entry (see back)
- Area Closed to All Entry November 1–February 28
- Waterfowl Hunt Areas
- Area Closed to All Hunting
- Kansas Lake Area-Closed to All Entry December 1-February 28
- Refuge Lands Not Open to the General Public for Hunting, Fishing or Trapping
- Private Land Not Open to the General Public
- Gravel roads
- Paved roads
- Levee
- Gas Pipeline
- Powerline
- Designated Camping Areas
- Improved Boat Ramp
- Visitor Center
- Railroad
- Potlatch Conservation Education Center

Open March 1-Dec. 15

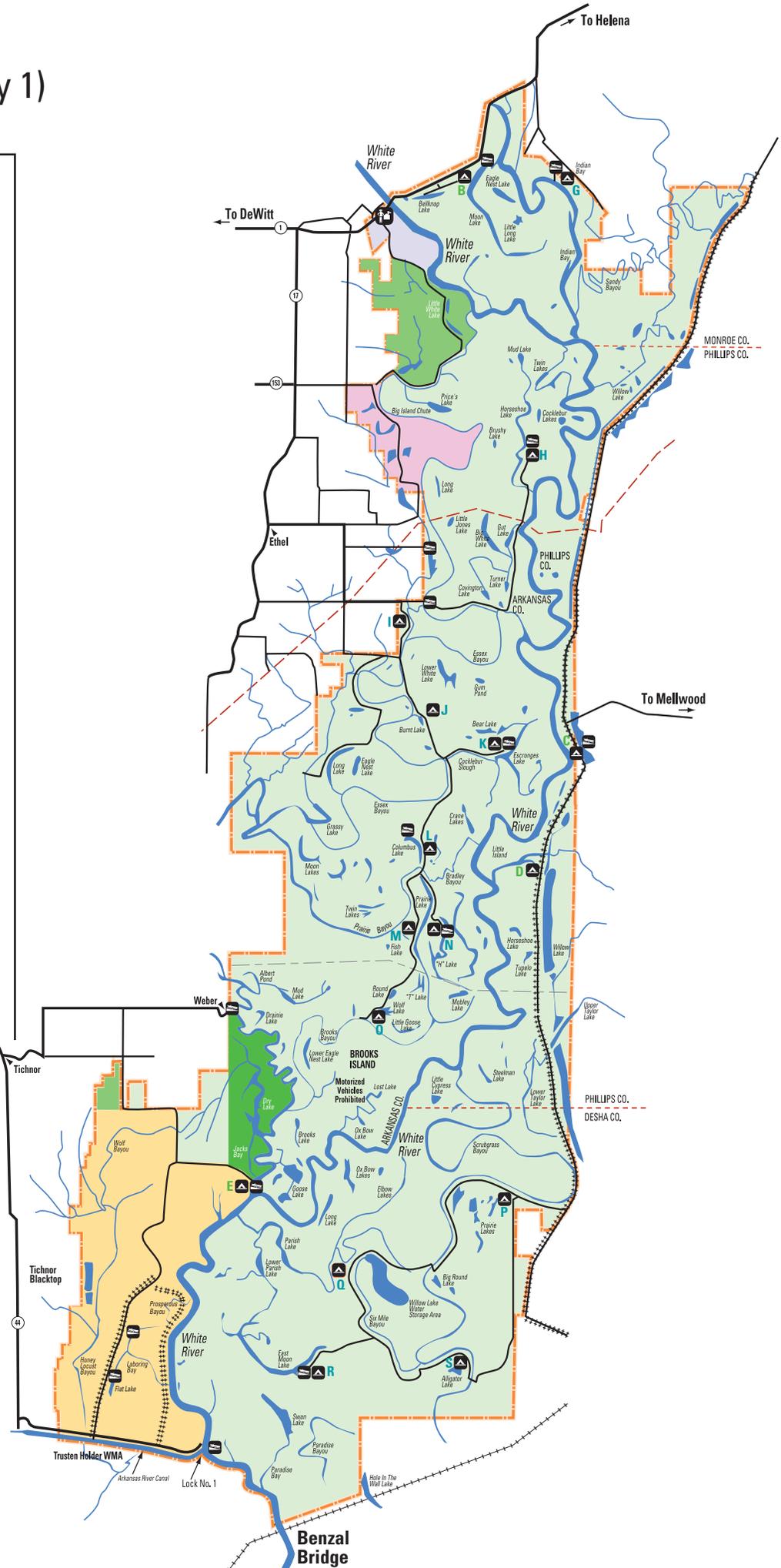
- G** Indian Bay
- H** Horseshoe Lake
- I** Smokehouse Hill*
- J** Burnt Lake
- K** Escronges Lake
- L** Columbus Lake
- M** Prairie Lake
- N** 'H' Lake
- O** Wolf Lake
- P** Prairie Lakes*
- Q** Six Mile Camp
- R** East Moon Lake
- S** Alligator Lake

Open Year Round

- A** Swan Lake
- B** Moon Lake
- C** Hudson's Landing
- D** Floodgate
- E** Jacks Bay
- F** Brown Shanty

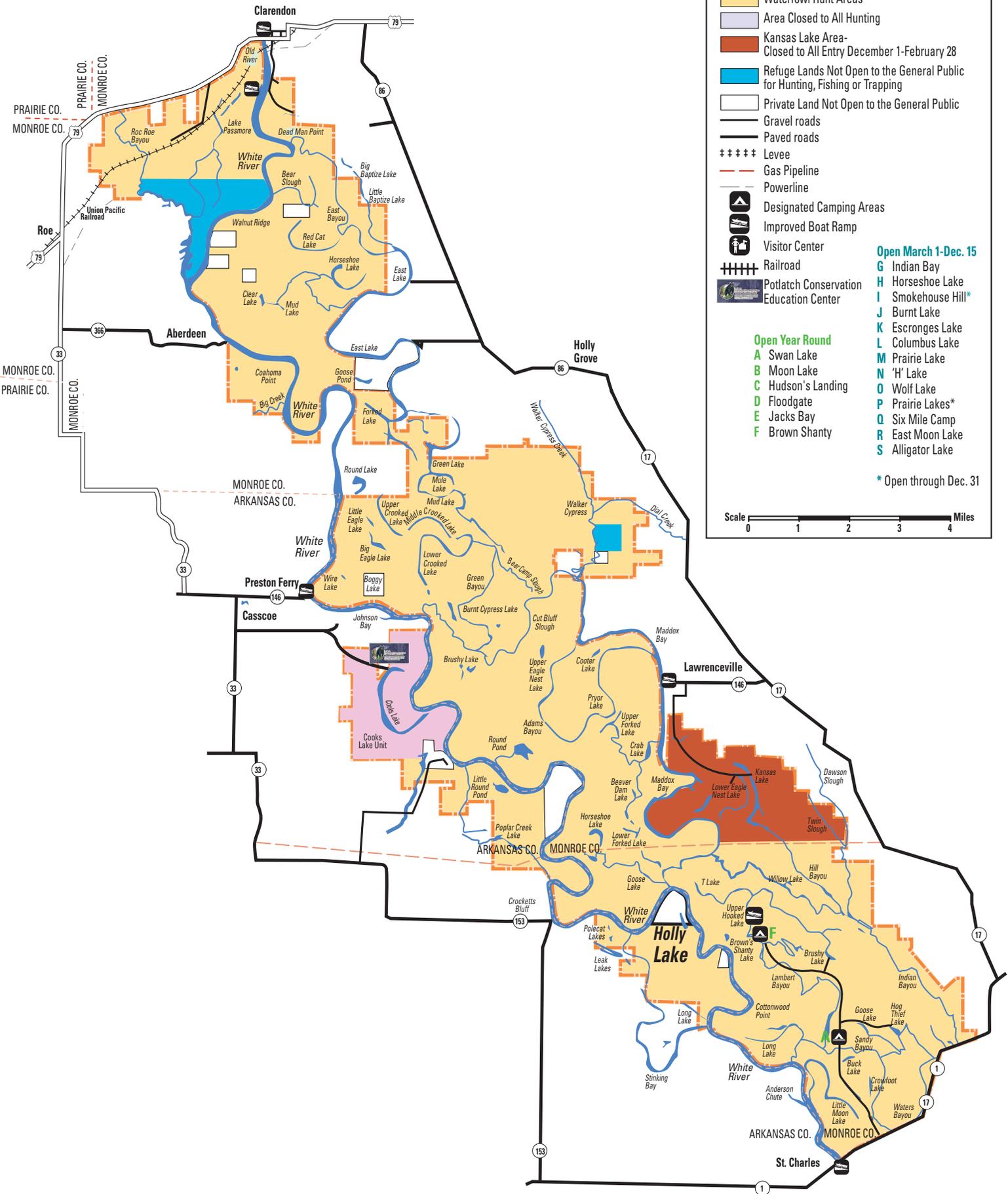
* Open through Dec. 31

Scale 0 1 2 3 4 Miles



North Unit

(North of Arkansas Highway 1)



Legend

- Refuge Boundary
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- Area Closed to All Hunting
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