

Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge

Welcome to Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, 143,874 acres or 221 square miles, one of over 540 national wildlife refuges that form a network of United States lands and waters managed specifically for wildlife. Refuges provide habitat — food, water, cover, and space — for millions of migratory birds, over 70 endangered species, and thousands of other species of native plants and animals.

The Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge provides habitat and protection for endangered and threatened wildlife such as the American alligator, snail kite, and wood stork. Migratory birds such as neotropical songbirds, secretive marsh birds, shorebirds, and waterfowl winter at the refuge along with year-round resident herons, egrets, and ibis.

Through refuge programs and facilities, visitors can enjoy a variety of educational and wildlife-oriented recreational opportunities. Contact the refuge office for teaching pavilion (chickee) reservations for educational group visits. Public access is available at both the Headquarters Area (off US 441/SR 7) and the Hillsboro Area (at the west end of Loxahatchee Road). The refuge is open to the public from sunrise to sunset every day of the year. Hours are posted at each entrance. The Visitor Center is open 9:00 am - 4:00 pm Monday through Friday, Saturday and Sunday 9:00 am - 4:30 pm, mid-October through April; Wednesday through Friday, Saturday and Sunday 9:00 am - 4:30 pm the rest of the year. The center is closed December 25.

An entrance fee of \$5 per vehicle or \$1 per pedestrian is charged daily. Golden Age, Golden Access, Golden Eagle, and Duck Stamp annual passes are available upon request. A \$12 Refuge Specific Annual Pass and a \$15 Golden Eagle Hologram for National Park Service pass upgrades are also available. Entrance fees apply at both refuge entrances.

Special Events

Everglades Day
2nd Saturday in February

International Migratory Bird Day
2nd Saturday in May

Kid's Fishing Day - National Fishing Week
2nd Saturday in June

National Wildlife Refuge Week
2nd week of October

Calendar of Events Activities
November through April

Waterfowl Hunting
November through January on specified days (must obtain permit)



Al Suhr



M Bailey



L. Chapman



J Kleen



Betty Wargo



USFWS



USFWS

Facilities

Headquarters Area

Visitor Center (561/734 8303), Administration Offices, Cypress Swamp Boardwalk, Marsh Trail, Everglades Canoe Trail, observation towers, boat ramps, and bank fishing along the L-40 canal. Biking trail south along the L-40. Management Compartment C is made up of ten individual wildlife management impoundments, numbered 1-10. The Marsh Trail (C-7) is 0.8 miles around, and it is one mile from the Administration (Headquarters) Building to the C-30 canal. Grass levees facilitate walking around impoundments.

Hillsboro Area

Interpretive displays, four boat ramps, and bank fishing. Hiking north along the L-40 and west along the L-39 to the S-6 pump station. Biking trail north along the L-40. Mountain or hybrid bicycles are recommended. Canoeing, boating, and kayaking in public use area.

20-Mile Bend Area

Boat ramp, fishing platform, bank fishing, and interpretive kiosk.

Activities

Permitted activities are allowed only in designated public use areas. Activities which are not specifically permitted are prohibited, including collecting of all plants, animals, and artifacts.

Additional information concerning recreational activities, refuge programs and facilities is available at the Visitor Center.

Permitted

- Entry only during posted hours and only at Headquarters Area and Hillsboro Area entrances. Closing times are strictly enforced.
- Hiking, wildlife observation, and photography only in areas open to public use and on designated trails. Hiking is permitted from the Headquarters Area north to Acme 1 pump station, south to the Hillsboro Area, and west to the S6 pump station. There is no entry or exit at the Acme pump stations.
- Boating, canoeing, and kayaking in canals and public use area except for Management Compartment C and those areas marked as being closed to the public. U.S. Coast Guard, state, and refuge regulations apply. All Coast Guard regulations apply pertaining to boat speeds. There is a minimum wake slow speed zone at each boat launch area.
- Biking is permitted along the L-40 levee from the Headquarters Area to the Hillsboro Area. The 12-mile trail is recommended for mountain and hybrid bikes. It is recommended that you bring water, helmet, sunscreen and light snacks. There is no shelter along the levee.
- Sport fishing permitted in the L-40 perimeter canal and public use area of the interior except for the Management Compartment C and those areas posted as closed to the public. Only the use of rods and reels or poles and lines is permitted, and they must be attended at all times. State and refuge regulations apply.

- Waterfowl hunting by permit only in designated area. Special refuge dates, times, and regulations apply. Call the administrative office at 561/732 3684 for permit information.

Prohibited

- Feeding, enticing or disturbing alligators and all other wildlife.
- Firearms or weapons of any type, except approved firearms used in conjunction with the refuge waterfowl hunt. These weapons must be unloaded and encased when not hunting.
- Pets of any kind.
- Possession or use of trotlines, jugs, gigs, seines, cast nets or other fishing devices not described as permitted, and commercial fishing of any kind.
- Harassment, taking, or injury of all plants or animals other than legally taken fish or waterfowl.
- Release of any animals or plants.
- Motorcycles, ATVs, or other motorized vehicles of any type on levees.
- Airboats, Jet Skis, Wave Runners, Go Devils, Hovercrafts.
- Fires of any type, picnicking, camping, night use, or spotlighting.
- Entry into areas posted as closed.
- Swimming, water skiing, scuba diving, or snorkeling.
- Motorized watercraft on canoe trail.

For Your Safety

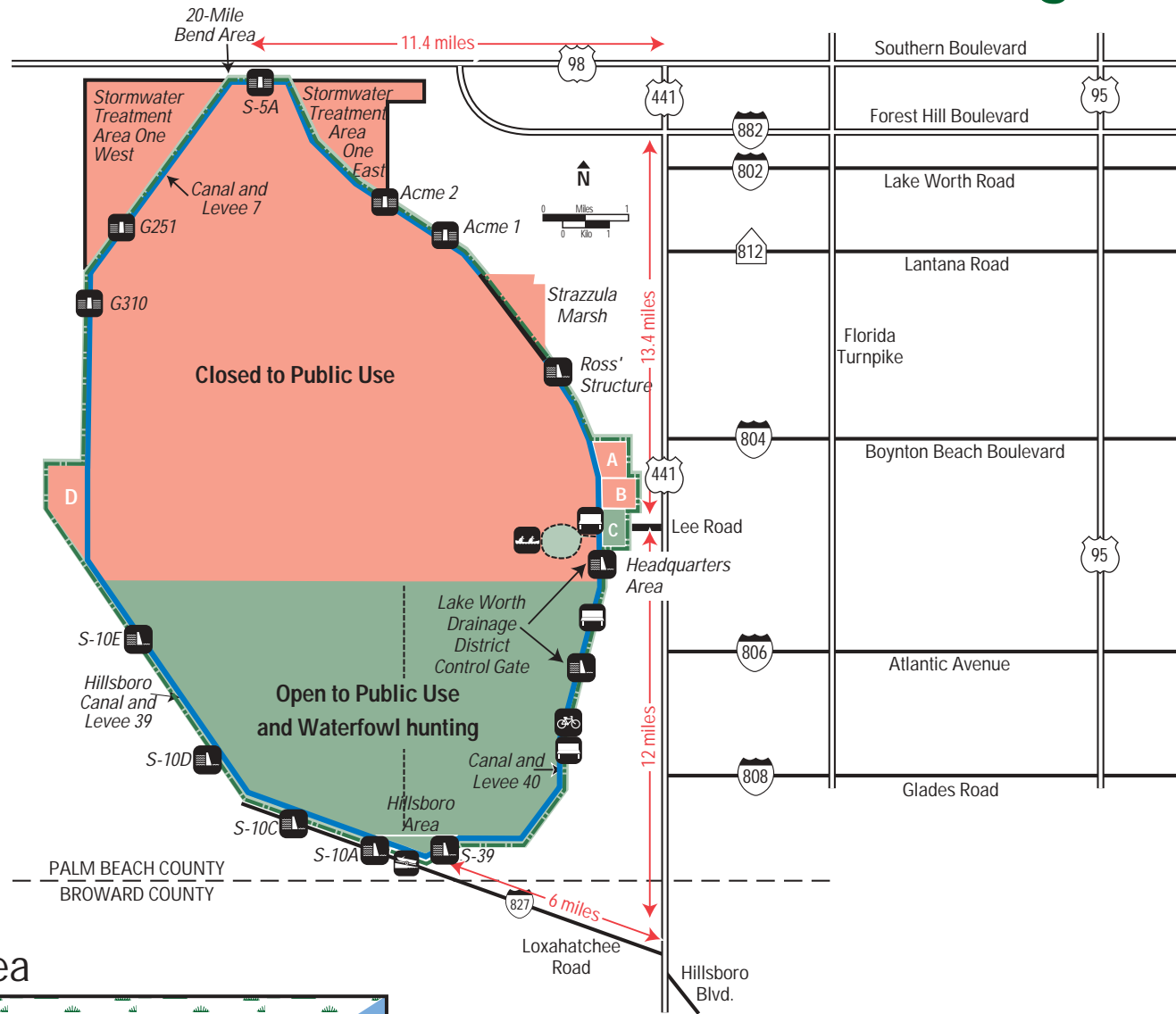
- Be prepared to observe regulations concerning: posted hours, closed areas, fishing or hunting license requirements, boat registration, life jackets, and other required safety equipment.
- Do not leave valuables in your vehicle.
- Allow time to return to your vehicle and leave the area before posted closing time.
- If canoeing or boating, carry insect repellent, water, foul weather clothing, U.S. Coast Guard approved safety equipment, and an emergency light. If lost or disabled, stay with your boat and attempt to reach the main canal. Display emergency light after dark. Remember, floating vegetation and changing water levels can block canals and hide boat trails.
- Tell a relative or friend where you are going and when you should return. **The emergency number for the refuge is 561/936 4100.** The refuge may also be monitoring Marine Channel 16.

A.R.M. Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge
10216 Lee Road
Boynton Beach, FL 33437-4796
561/734 8303 (Visitor Center)
561/732 3684 (Administrative Office)
<http://Loxahatchee.fws.gov>
Emergencies: 561/936 4100 or 911

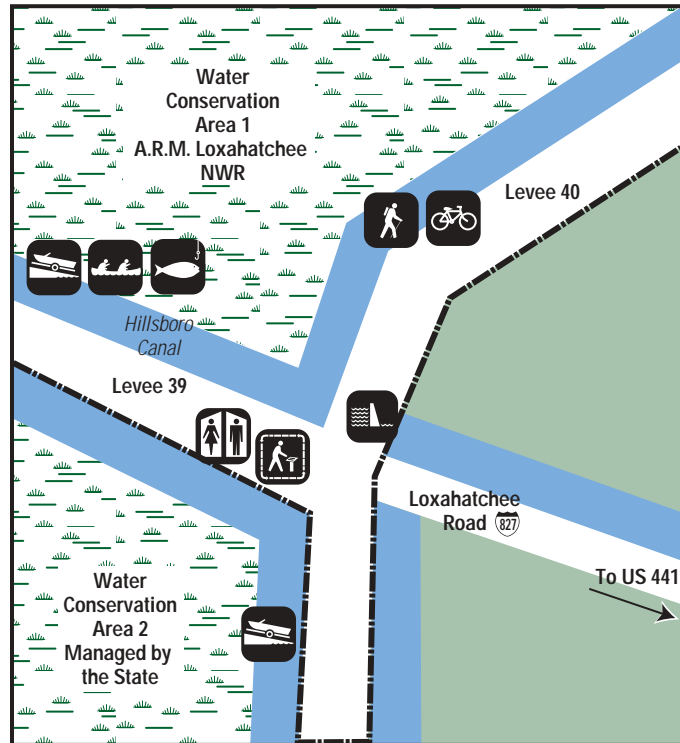
A.R.M. Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge



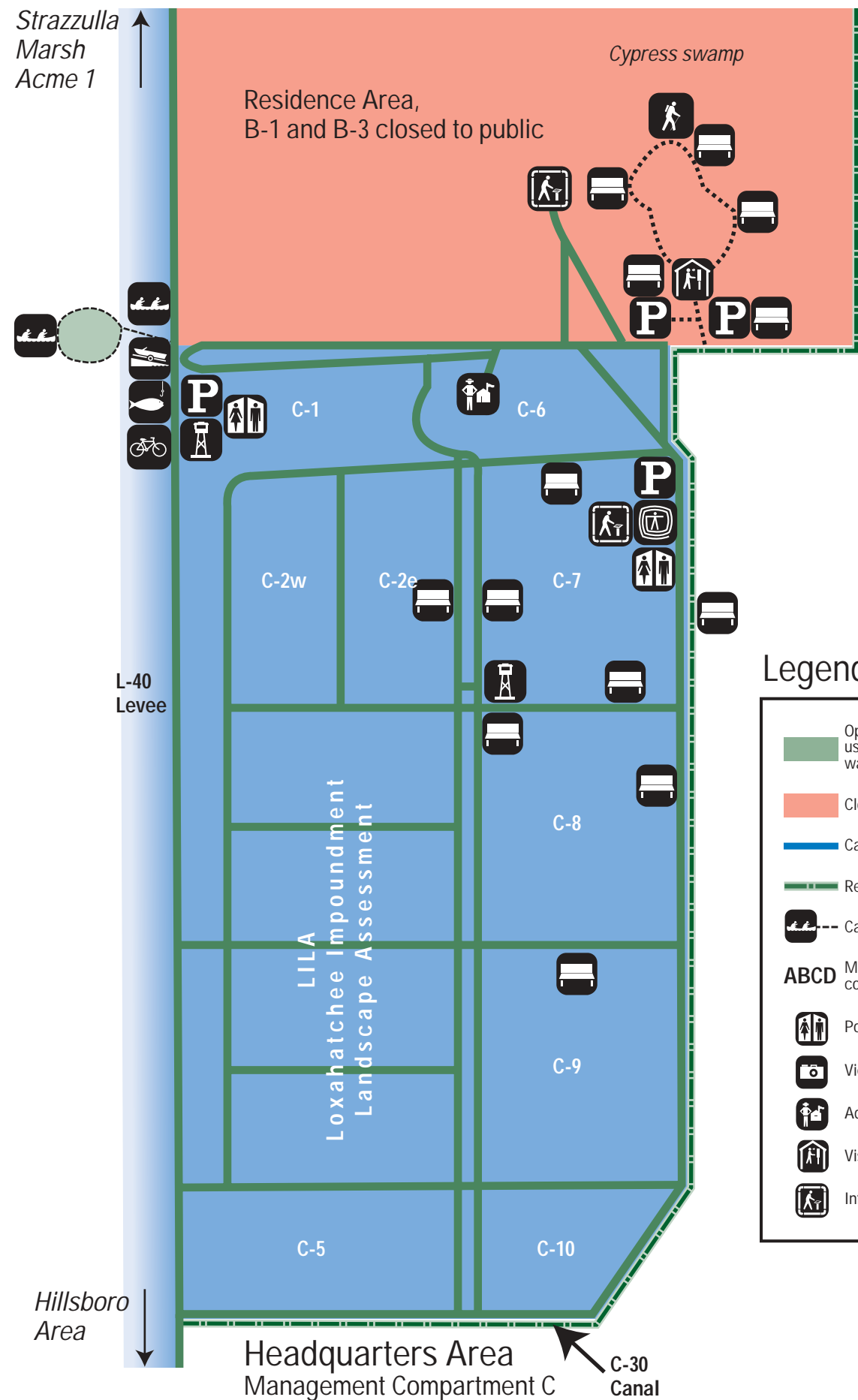
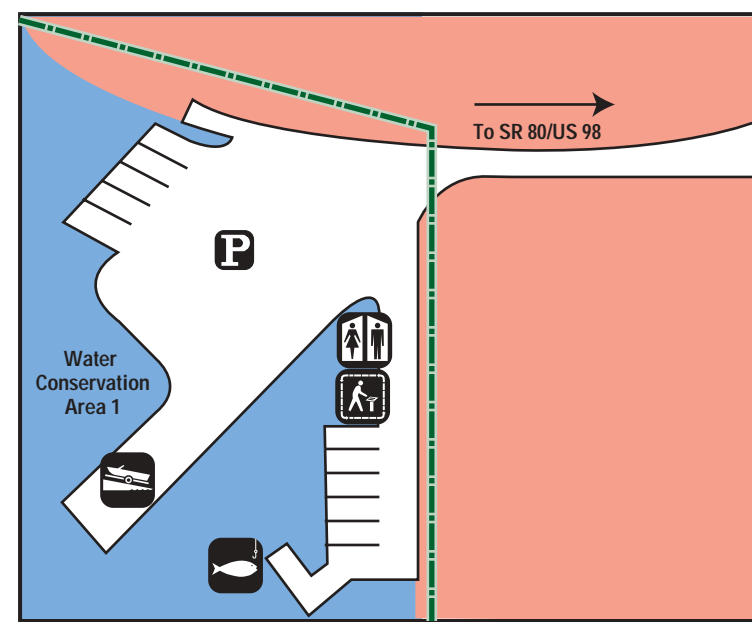
The "blue goose" is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System whose mission is to administer a national network of lands and waters for conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.



Hillsboro Area



20-Mile Bend Area



Legend

Open to public use and waterfowl hunting	Bike trail
Closed to public use	Walking trails
Canal	Observation tower
Refuge boundary	Parking
Canoeing	Boat ramp
ABCD Management compartments	Fishing
Portable restrooms	Pump structure
Viewing platform	Water control structure
Administration office	Bench
Visitor center	Chickee
Informational kiosk	

