

White River National Wildlife Refuge 2008-2009



- Firearm hunting from or across roadways, 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.
- Loaded weapons in vehicle or boat while under power.
- 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 unless the guide, guide service, outfitter, club, organization or person has obtained a Special Use Permit from the refuge. It is your responsibility to verify that the guide, guide service, etc. has obtained the required Special Use Permit.
- Hunting, taking, possessing, or attempting to take wildlife with an unauthorized guide, guide service, outfitter, club or organization providing assistance, service or equipment is prohibited.

Guiding and other commercial uses

No person, including but not limited to a guide, guide service, outfitter, club, or other organization shall provide assistance, services, or equipment on the refuge to any other person for compensation unless such guide, guide service, outfitter, club, or other organization has obtained a Special Use Permit from the refuge. For the purpose of this regulation, any fee paid or services rendered to a person for lodging, meals, club membership or similar services will be considered compensation. A refuge Special Use Permit is also required for all other commercial activities (fishing, filming, photography, collecting acorns, etc.) on the refuge.

Camping

Camping is permitted year round on the North Unit (except the Kansas Lake Area and other areas listed) and on the South Unit at Jacks Bay, Moon Lake, Hudson's Landing, and the Floodgate campgrounds. All remaining campgrounds on the South Unit are open for camping from March 1 through December 15, except until December 31 for Prairie Lakes and Smokehouse Hill Campgrounds.

Camping is permitted only in designated campgrounds on the entire South Unit, on that portion of the North Unit located south of the Noram Gas Pipeline(see map) and on that portion of the North Unit south of U.S. Highway 79 between Roc Roe Bayou and the White River. Camping also permitted anywhere on the remainder of the North Unit.

Down wood may be gathered for use at campsites. 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.

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 Arkansas Power and Light Company powerline right-of-way, 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.

A refuge Special Use Permit is required to fish with any type tackle other than hook and line.

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. The use of bow and arrow for taking bullfrogs or fish is permitted by Special Use Permit.

Mobility-impaired users

Mobility-impaired users may apply for a permit allowing the use of ATV's in accordance with special use permit guidelines. Issuance of the permit is restricted to persons with a permanent physical condition that severely impairs their mobility from either paralysis or amputation of lower extremities, which requires the assistance from a wheelchair, braces, crutches or other similar aids of mobility. For more information, please call the refuge at 870/282 8200.

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

The Ivory-billed Woodpecker Information and Regulations

The Ivory-billed Woodpecker (IBW), the largest woodpecker species in the U.S. and Canada, was rediscovered in the Big Woods of Arkansas in February, 2004. The bird has been sighted at the nearby Cache River National Wildlife Refuge. Audio recordings taken on the White River National Wildlife Refuge in 2004 are also believed to be of the IBW.

Prior to its rediscovery, the bird's last confirmed sighting was in the 1940s at the Singer Tract near Tallulah, Louisiana on what is now the Tensas River National Wildlife Refuge. Until the recent evidence of the bird in the Cache River and White River refuges, most ornithologists believed the bird to be extinct.

At the time of publication, White River National Wildlife Refuge has not restricted any public use activities as a result of the evidence that the IBW exists within the refuge. While not anticipated, public use restrictions may be modified as more information and facts become available through continued research.

Refuge visitors are encouraged to report any bird sightings believed to be IBW to refuge officials and to carry cameras afield to document any sightings.

Sportsmen and women, particularly waterfowl hunters, are largely responsible for saving the IBW. More than 45,000 acres at Cache River National Wildlife Refuge and more than 10,500 acres at White River National Wildlife Refuge have been acquired using nearly \$44 million from the sale of Federal Duck Stamps. By conserving habitat for waterfowl, hunters, stamp collectors, and others that purchase the stamp have also conserved habitat for the IBW.

One can also help conserve the IBW by keeping an eye out for the bird. Hunters are asked to carefully study the identifying field characteristics of the IBW, which are outlined in this document, and report all sightings. Hunters should take extra care to identify their game so that they do not mistake a woodpecker for waterfowl such as a wood duck. All visitors should be aware that the IBW is protected under the Endangered Species Act, the Refuge Administration Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997, and other federal and state legislation. The unauthorized taking or harassment of this species is prohibited.

White River
National Wildlife Refuge
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<http://www.fws.gov/whiteriver>

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

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White River National Wildlife Refuge User Permit 2008-2009

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.

Name _____

Address _____

I have read and understand the refuge regulations.

Signature _____

White River National Wildlife Refuge

White River National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1935, contains nearly 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 on the accompanying maps, but are open for hunting in accordance with state seasons and bag limits. 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 35 mph, unless posted otherwise. Refuge roads on the South Unit are open to vehicular traffic March 1 through December 15. All other refuge roads are open all year. A locked gate, road closed sign, or other barrier (i.e. mounded dirt) means the road is closed to all vehicle travel but not to foot travel unless signed otherwise.

All licensed vehicles must stay on gravel roads. On both the North and South Units, ATV's must remain on yellow marked trails. ATV's are allowed only for wildlife dependent activities. The trails are marked with high visibility yellow ink on trees. **The use of ATV's on gravel roads is prohibited anywhere on the refuge unless signed otherwise.** An ATV 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 are allowed; mini-trucks or other modified off-road vehicles are prohibited. Personal watercraft (jet-ski, sea-do, wet bike) are prohibited on the refuge.

Boats, other than flat-bottomed johnboats 16 feet or less in length, may not be left overnight on the refuge during the period from November 1 through February 28.

Boats, ATV's, and portable tree stands left unattended on the refuge must have the owner's name and address affixed in a conspicuous manner.

General Hunt Regulations

Hunting is prohibited in areas closed to hunting as indicated on the accompanying maps or as otherwise posted.

Beaver, nutria, coyote, muskrat and feral hogs may be taken incident to any daytime refuge hunt with weapons legal for that hunt until the daily limit of game is taken.

State bag limits apply for all hunts unless indicated otherwise in this brochure.

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.

Weapons

Weapons not legal for taking designated game species during refuge hunts are prohibited.

For purposes of this permit, muzzleloaders are considered firearms.

Weapons must be completely unloaded including chamber and magazine and caps on muzzleloaders when within 100 yards of a camp or a designated campground or when carried on land vehicles or boats under power.

Permits

This permit must be in possession and signed by ALL refuge users. However, 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.

Flood Zone Closure Regulations

North Unit

The refuge will close to all deer hunting when the White River gauge at St. Charles reaches 23 feet as reported by the following website:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/lzk/html/whitervr.htm>

Season will reopen when the gauge reading reaches 21 feet as reported by the same website.

South Unit

The refuge will close to all deer hunting when the White River gauge at St. Charles reaches 23 feet and the tail-water gauge reading at Norrel Lock and Dam #1 reaches 145 simultaneously as reported by the following website:

<http://www.srh.noaa.gov/lzk/html/whitervr.htm>

Season will reopen when the gauge reading reaches 21 and 143 feet respectively as reported by the same website.

For refuge road and season closure information, call the refuge headquarters at 870/282 8200.

Check Stations

During the gun quota hunts, refuge staff will collect biological data. Collection of this information is needed for deer management decisions.

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 660 and all big game taken on the North Unit must be recorded as zone 661.** All Non-quota hunting closed during quota deer hunts. For a list of official State check stations contact the AG&FC at 877/367 3559 or visit their web site at <http://www.agfc.com>

Archery Deer and Turkey

North Unit: October 1, 2008 - January 31, 2009

Either sex for deer and turkey. State bag limit applies for deer. Limit for turkey is one. No antler restrictions for deer.

South Unit: October 1, 2008 - December 31, 2008

Either sex for deer and turkey. State bag limit applies for deer. Limit for turkey is one. No antler restrictions for deer.

Modern Gun Deer

South Unit: November 1-3, 2008

Quota permit required. Limit one deer either sex. No antler restrictions for deer.

North Unit: November 8-10, 2008

Quota permit required. Limit one deer either sex. No antler restrictions for deer.

North Unit Only: November 11-14, 2008

Limit one deer buck only. See bag limit section. Only user permit required. No antler restrictions for deer.

Modern Gun Youth Hunt at Cooks Lake: Dec. 6-7, 2008

Call 870/282 8200 for details.

Mobility Impaired Modern Gun Hunt at Cooks Lake:

Dec. 12-14, 2008

Call 870/282 8200 for details.

Women's Mobility Impaired Modern Gun Hunt:

Nov. 14-16, 2008

Call 870/282 8200 for details.

Muzzleloader Deer

North & South Unit: October 18-20, 2008

Quota permit required. Limit one deer either sex. No antler restrictions for deer.

North Unit Only: October 21-24, 2008

Limit one deer buck only. See bag limit section. Only user permit required. No antler restrictions for deer.

Deer bag limit

One deer limit refuge wide during the muzzleloaders season (October 18-24).

One deer limit refuge wide during the modern gun season (November 1-3 and 8-14).

Duck

Duck hunting is permitted until noon. Retriever dogs are permitted. Only portable blinds are permitted. Waterfowl hunters may enter the refuge no earlier than 4 am. Blinds, blind material, and decoys must be removed from the refuge by 1 pm each day.

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

South Unit: Every Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday of the statewide duck season.

Coot, geese and woodcock may be taken if in season. Designated area only (see map).

Furbearer

North Unit: 12 noon, Nov. 15, 2008 - 12 noon, Jan. 31, 2009.

Dogs permitted. Horses may be utilized from sunset to sunrise only. ATV rules apply.

South Unit: 12 noon, Dec. 1, 2008 - 12 noon, Dec. 15, 2008.

Dogs permitted. Horses may be utilized from sunset to sunrise only. Taking of any furbearing animals is limited to rimfire weapons and shotguns. ATV rules apply.

Rabbit and Squirrel

North Unit: Sep. 6, 2008 - Jan. 31, 2009

Dogs allowed Dec. 1, 2008 - Jan. 31, 2009

Spring squirrel season same as state season for North Unit only.

South Unit: Sep. 6 - Nov. 30, 2008

No dogs allowed. Closed to spring squirrel season.

Turkey - Spring

North and South Units: Same as state 2009 season for surrounding zones. Statewide limit applies. Toxic shot allowed.

Trapping

North Unit: Nov. 15, 2008 - Jan. 31, 2009

State regulations apply. (SPECIAL USE PERMIT REQUIRED). For information, contact Refuge Headquarters at 870/282 8200.

South Unit: Closed.

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

Prohibited Acts

General

■ Cutting, painting or defacing trees.

■ 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).

■ During waterfowl season, boating in south unit waterfowl hunt area, except from 4 am to 1 pm on hunt days.

■ Operating a vehicle in violation of State law.

Camping

■ Camping in Kansas Lake Area.

■ Loud noise in campgrounds after 10 pm, including generators.

■ Campsites must be occupied daily and removed after 14 consecutive days.

■ Leaving fires unattended.

Hunting

■ All non-quota hunting closed during quota deer hunts.

■ Hunting with the aid of bait, salt or ingestible attractant.

■ Use of dogs and/or horses other than specified in brochure.

■ 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 area.

■ Waterfowl hunting on Kansas Lake Area.

■ Kansas Lake area closed to all firearm deer hunting November 8- 14, 2008.

■ 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 small game or waterfowl.

■ All forms of man-deer drives.