

General Introduction

Bald Knob National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1993, is one of over 548 national wildlife refuges administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The primary objective of the refuge is to provide habitat for migratory waterfowl. The refuge is located in White County, Arkansas.

Public use, hunting and fishing are allowed under carefully controlled conditions in order to maintain wildlife populations at levels compatible with the ecosystem. This permits the wise use of a valuable natural resource and provides wholesome recreational opportunities for the public. Users of the refuge must obey all signs pertaining to visitation, access, and public use regulations. All public uses, including hunting and fishing, are conducted in accordance with state and federal regulations as supplemented by the following special refuge regulations.

Access and Vehicle Use

The Farm Unit is closed to all entry and public use November 8 - 9, 2008, during quota gun deer hunt.

The waterfowl sanctuary, indicated on the refuge map, is closed to all entry and public use from November 15 through February 28.

Conventional vehicles and ATVs may be used on the Farm Unit March 1 –November 14; however, ATVs **only** may be used from November 15 to February 28. Vehicle access on the Mingo Creek Unit is limited to ATV use **only** on roads marked for ATV use. An ATV is defined as a vehicle with a maximum tire pressure of 15 psi, maximum dry weight of 1550 lbs., and with tires having a maximum centerline lug depth of one inch. Only those vehicles originally designed by their manufacturer to be ATVs are allowed; mini-trucks or other modified off-road vehicles are prohibited. Recreational use of ATVs is not allowed. ATVs may only be used to provide access for priority public uses.

Conventional vehicles and ATVs must stay on maintained roads or established parking areas at all times, **but during wet conditions, are further restricted to graveled roads only.**

During the November 15 to February 28 ATV use only period on the Farm Unit, ATVs must remain on established parking areas, roads, or levee tops and are not allowed in fields or other areas.

Conventional vehicles must meet all applicable federal and state requirements regulating the use of licensed motor vehicles. Modified vehicles equipped with oversize tractor lug type tires are prohibited.

Most refuge roads are open to the general public. However, roads may be closed at any time road conditions or other administrative needs warrant. A locked gate or other barrier, road closed sign, or no vehicle sign means the road is closed to **all** vehicle travel but not to foot travel unless signed otherwise.

Parking of vehicles on roadsides that prevents the passage of extra-wide farm equipment is prohibited. Vehicles are subject to be towed at owner’s expense.

Personal watercraft (jet-ski, etc), hover craft and airboats are prohibited. Horses/mules are prohibited.

General Refuge Regulations

Public use of the refuge is permitted throughout the year. Permitted activities are hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, environmental education and interpretation.

Refuge permits are required for all hunting activities. Permits are nontransferable and must be carried at all times by anyone on refuge land in possession of hunting gear. A permit can be found on the front of this brochure.

Nighttime use is limited to fishing, frogging and/or raccoon/opossum hunting and the appropriate tackle must be possessed.

Prohibited Activities

- Camping

- Building fires

- Cutting or defacing trees, shrubs or other plants

- Littering

- Searching for or removal of artifacts

- Horseback riding

- Possession or use of fireworks

- Target practice

- Training and pleasure running of dogs

- Commercial hunting/fishing/guiding

- Houseboat mooring to the refuge bank on the Red River

- Joy riding, off road vehicling, driving conventional vehicles on wet/muddy ungraveled road.

- Taking or possessing turtles

- Possession, use, or manufacturing of illegal drugs

- Use of artificial light to locate wildlife except as authorized for frogging and raccoon/opossum hunting.

- Possession or use of firearms, archery equipment and crossbows except during refuge hunts that allow use of those devices.

Only biodegradable paper flagging or reflective tape/tacks may be possessed or used to mark trails

Sport Fishing and Frogging Regulations

Sport fishing and frogging are permitted year-round in accordance with state regulations. Crawfish may be collected for personal use only. All crawfish traps must have the owner’s name and address permanently affixed.

General Hunt Regulations

Hunter orange must be worn in accordance with Arkansas Game & Fish Commission regulations during Quota Gun and Muzzleloader Deer hunts.

Bag limits for all species except deer are the same as state limits unless specified otherwise.

Stop Poaching Hotline 1800/482 9262

Mobility-impaired hunters

Mobility-impaired hunters may apply for a special permit allowing the use of ATVs on existing refuge roads. Issuance of the permit is restricted to persons who are permanently confined to a wheelchair, require the use of mechanical aids (braces, crutches, or walkers) to walk, or have complete single leg amputations. For more information, please call the refuge at 870/347 2614.

Firearms

Firearms must be completely unloaded, including chamber and magazine and caps on muzzleloaders, when carried in/on land vehicles or boats under power.

Only non toxic shot or rimfire rifles maybe possessed and used for all small game hunting. The possession or use of buckshot is prohibited.

Prohibited hunting activities

- Trapping

- Driving or screwing any metal object into a tree or hunting from a tree in which a metal object has been driven or screwed to support a hunter.

- Building or hunting from permanent blinds

- Hunting from a vehicle or use of a vehicle as a deer stand.

- Baiting or hunting over bait, salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for wildlife.

- Hunting from mowed or maintained roads is prohibited except for waterfowl hunting.

- Possession or use of alcoholic beverages while hunting.

Hunters under the age of 16

Hunters under the age of 16 must be supervised by an adult not less than 21 years old and must remain in sight and normal voice contact with the adult. For small game/waterfowl hunts, the adult may supervise no more than two youths. For big game hunts, the adult may supervise only one youth.

A hunter born after 1968 must carry a valid Hunter Education Card. Hunters under the age of 16 do not need a card if they are under the direct supervision (within arm’s reach) of a holder of a valid hunting license at least 21 years of age. Home state Hunter Education Cards will be honored.

Specific Hunt Regulations

A refuge permit is required for all hunts. When signed, the permit on the front cover of this brochure will serve as a permit for all hunts (except Quota Gun Deer Hunt) and must be carried on your person while hunting. A quota deer permit is also required for the Quota Gun Deer Hunt. Refuge regulations differ from surrounding deer zones and state seasons as follows:

***The Farm Unit is closed to all entry and public use November 8-9, 2008 during Quota Gun Deer Hunt. Only Quota Gun Deer Hunt permit holders are allowed on the Farm Unit during this hunt.**

Migratory Birds

Waterfowl (Duck, Coot and Geese)

- State Seasons.*

- Shotgun shell possession limit - 25 daily including within vehicles.

- Hunters must stay 100 yards apart.

- Morning (until 12:00 noon) only.

- All day hunting permitted for geese (all applicable species) after January, 2009 closing of duck season through end of State conservation season.

- State bag limit(s) apply.

- Only non-toxic shot only may be possessed or used. Hunters should make an effort to pick up and remove their spent shell casings and boxes from the refuge to prevent littering.

- Decoys, blinds, boats and all other equipment must be removed daily by 1:00 pm.

- Waterfowl hunters may enter refuge no earlier than 4:00 a.m.

- Cutting of holes or other manipulation of vegetation (i.e.cutting bushes, mowing, weed-eating, etc.) or hunting from manipulated areas prohibited.

- Retriever dogs allowed.

Doves, Snipe and Woodcock

May be taken when seasons correspond with duck and/or goose seasons.* Morning (until 12 noon) hunting only. Dogs may be used to locate and retrieve game birds.

Small Game

Squirrel: September 6, 2008 - February 28, 2009.* Dogs permitted beginning December 15, 2008. Spring season closed.

Rabbit: September 6, 2008 - February 28, 2009.* Dogs permitted beginning December 15, 2008.

Quail: State season.* Dogs permitted.

Furbearer

Beaver, muskrat, nutria, armadillo, coyote, and feral hog: may be taken incidental to any refuge hunt by the use of the device appropriate for that hunt and according to any applicable state regulations.

Raccoon and Opossum: November 15 – November 30, 2008. Dogs are required for night hunting of raccoons/opossum. Waterfowl sanctuary is closed to raccoon/opossum hunting.

Big Game

For all deer and turkey harvested on the refuge, the zone to be immediately recorded on your hunting license and later at the refuge check station is 002. Harvested deer and turkey taken during archery or muzzleloader season must be recorded at one of the two self-check stations located at the refuge Headquarters and at the Mingo Creek Unit kiosk. All deer ALSO must be checked at an official State check station. Exception: deer harvested during the 2-day Quota Gun Deer Hunt MUST be checked at the refuge Headquarters.

Only portable stands capable of being carried by one person may be used and the owner’s name and address must be permanently affixed to the stand. Stands may be erected 7 days prior to the refuge deer season and must be removed from the waterfowl sanctuary prior to November 15 and from the rest of the refuge by the last day of archery season.

For all refuge hunts, the limit is one either-sex deer per hunt except for the archery season in which the statewide bag limit of 3 applies. The total number of bucks that can be harvested through a combination of all refuge hunts is two. A legal buck on the refuge is defined as any male deer (**no antler restriction**). Deer harvested on the refuge are NOT bonus deer.

Deer (Archery/Crossbow): October 1, 2008 - February 28,2009.* Either sex. State limit applies.

Deer (Muzzleloading): October 18-26, 2008. Either sex. One deer limit.

Deer (Youth Gun): Farm Unit Only. November 1,2, 2008. Either sex. One deer limit. **Mingo Creek Unit closed.**

Deer (Quota gun): Farm Unit Only (including waterfowl sanctuary) Quota hunt permit required. November 8-9, 2008. Either sex. One deer limit. Only shotguns with slugs, legal pistols, and muzzleloaders shooting a single projectile may be possessed or used for this hunt. **Mingo Creek Unit closed.**

Bald Knob

*National Wildlife Refuge
Public Use, Hunting and
Fishing Regulations
2008-2009*

**2008-2009 General Hunting Permit —
Bald Knob NWR**

This permit must be signed to be valid. Permit expires 6/30/2009. It must be carried while hunting. NOTE: Quota Permit also required for Quota Gun Deer Hunt.

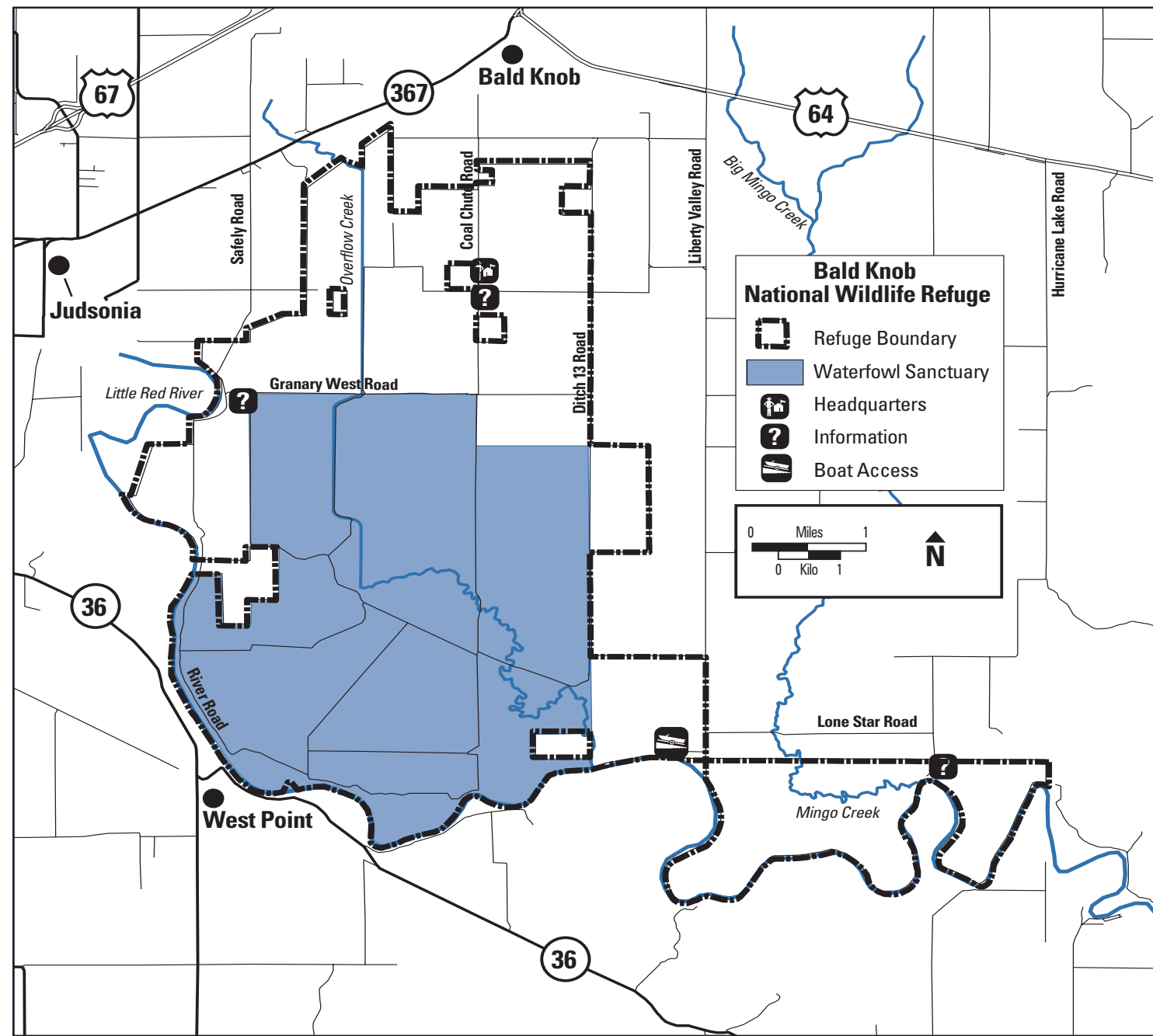
I have read and understand the refuge hunting and fishing regulations and realize that hunting on the refuge is a privilege and willingly agree to allow USFWS officers to inspect or search all my equipment used during my hunt.

Signature (Permit not transferable)

**Bald Knob
National Wildlife Refuge
26320 Highway 33 South
Augusta, AR 72006
870/347 2614
<http://www.fws.gov/southeast>
<http://www.fws.gov/baldknob>**

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

July 2008



Guide to Refuge Signs

Millions of people visit national wildlife refuges each year. The impact of human activity, if not regulated, can degrade these wildlands. Signs control recreational activities while protecting natural resources on the refuge. Please respect the following signs:



Area closed to all public use.

Some areas such as waterfowl sanctuaries are only seasonally closed. Seasonally closed areas have the specific closure dates printed on the face of the sign.



Refuge Boundary Sign

Public use permitted in accordance with refuge regulations.

To apply for a quota hunt permit:

- Quota permits issued first come, first serve.
- 250 permits available.
- Permit request must be sent via regular/first class U.S. Mail (priority/overnight/FedEx or in person will NOT be accepted).
- Request must be postmarked between August 1 and August 31 or until all permits have been issued, whichever comes first.
- Include the full name (first middle last), mailing address and telephone number of the permit holder and which refuge you are requesting (Cache River or Bald Knob).
- Please print. Duplicated, unclear, or incomplete applications will be returned.
- Send a money order or cashier's check for \$12.50. No personal checks, cash or credit cards.
- Parties of no more than 5 people will be accepted.
- Please include the full names (first middle last), individual mailing addresses and individual telephone numbers for each person in your party.
- Please send one money order for party request. Number of applicants X \$12.50.
- Mail request to: Central Arkansas Refuges, 26320 Highway 33 South, Augusta, AR 72006
- Permits are non-transferable and non-refundable.

The refuge is located in AG&FC Flood Prone Region B. The refuge will close to all deer hunting when the White River gauge at Augusta reaches 31 feet as reported by the National Weather Service at <http://www.srh.noaa.gov/data/LZK/RVSLZK>. This restriction is lifted when the gauge at Augusta falls below 30 feet **and** the White River gauge at Georgetown falls to or below 19 feet.

Turkey

Turkey (fall archery only): Mingo Creek Unit only. October 1, 2008 - February 28, 2009. State limit applies. Farm Unit Closed

Turkey (fall gun, spring gun, spring archery): Closed refuge-wide.