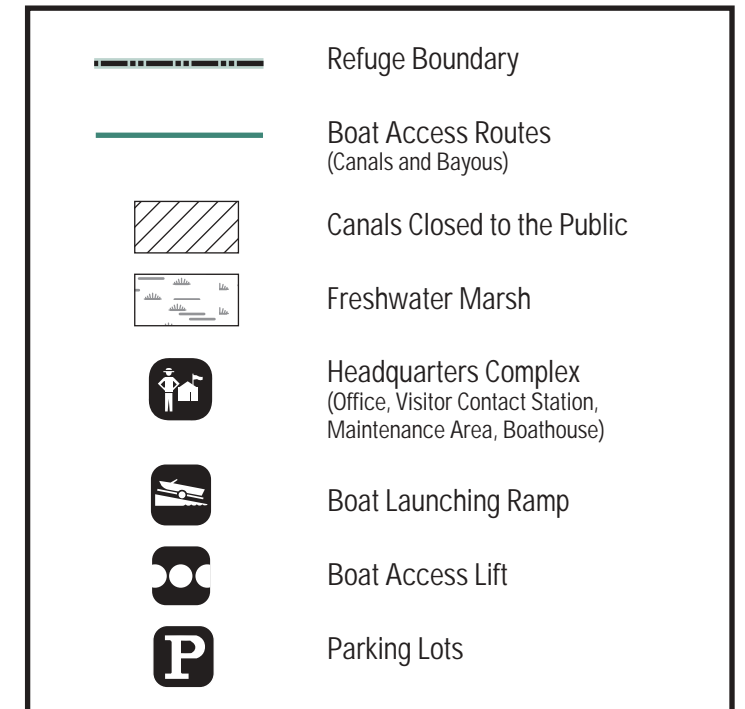
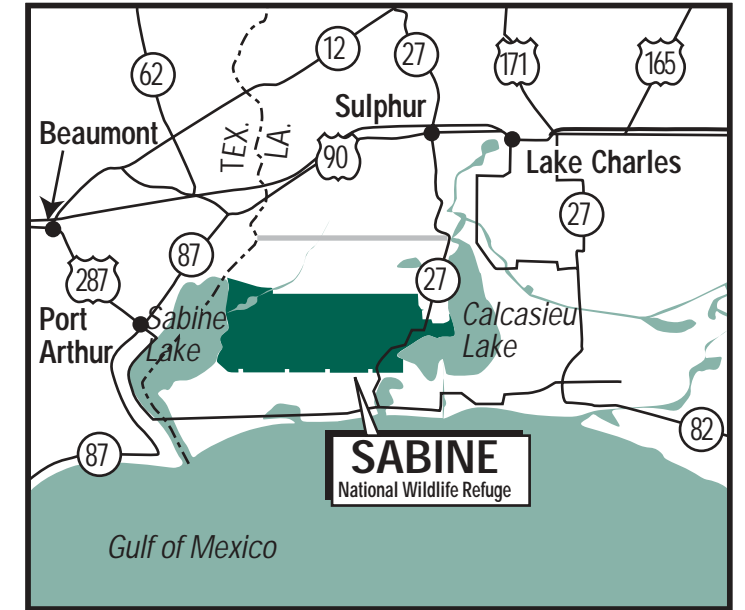
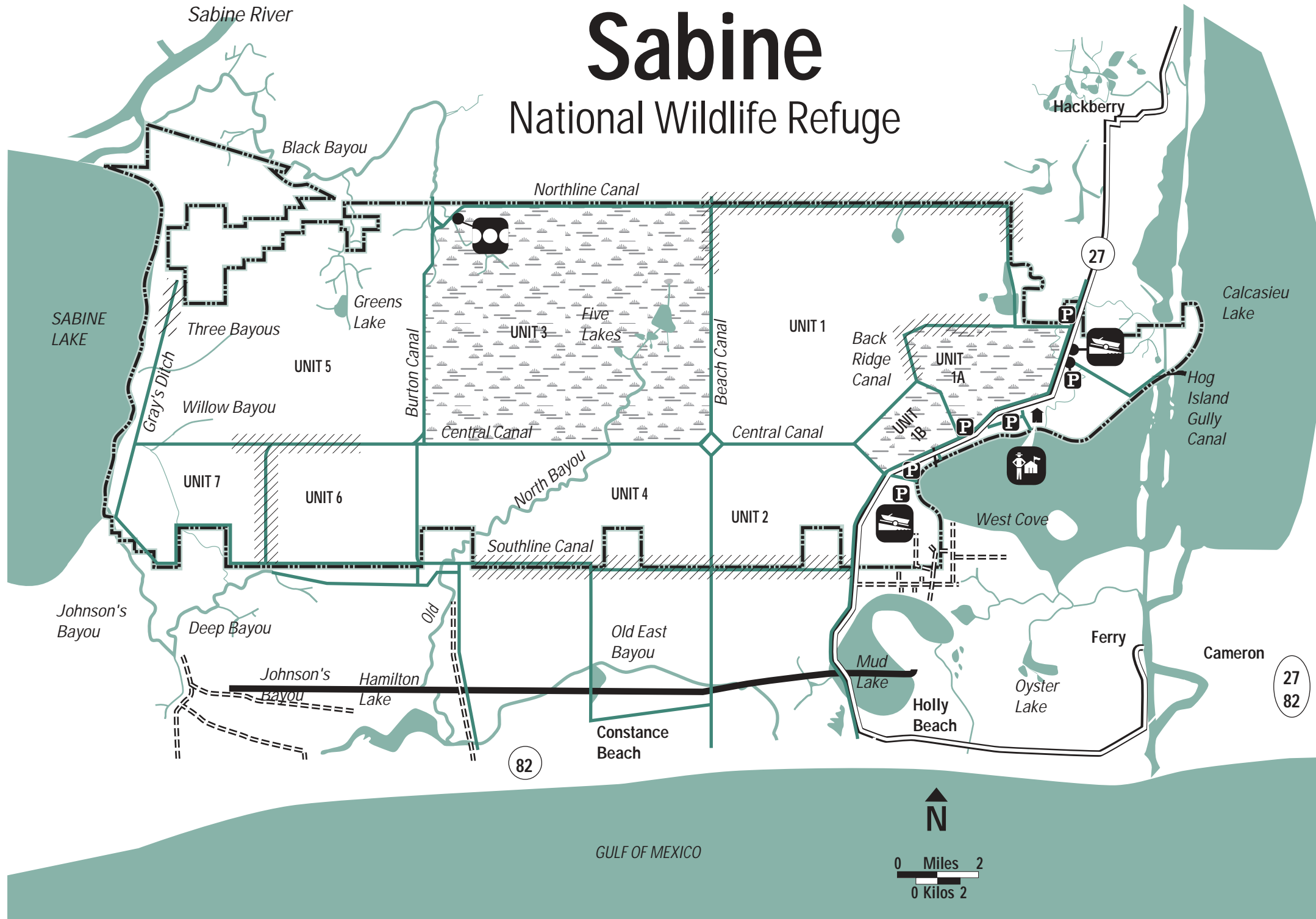


Sabine

National Wildlife Refuge



Sabine

National Wildlife Refuge Cast Netting Regulations and Permit



General Provisions

Sabine National Wildlife Refuge is one of over 500 national wildlife refuges covering more than 93 million acres that are specifically managed for fish, wildlife and their habitats. Cast netting for shrimp is a public use activity that is permitted when it is compatible with Service and refuge objectives.

Individuals utilizing the refuge are subject to inspections of permits, licenses, fishing equipment, daily limits, boats, vehicle and their contents by federal or state officers.

Any violation of special cast netting regulations may result in loss of permit for remainder of the year, a fine for the violation and/or a mandatory appearance in federal court. Multiple violations may result in a ban from any activity on the refuge.

The regulations listed below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting and fishing on wildlife refuge areas as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Cast netting will be in accordance with applicable state regulations subject to the following special conditions.

Licenses and Permits

In addition to valid Louisiana Basic Fishing and Salt Water Licenses, each individual, regardless of age, must possess a valid Sabine National Wildlife Refuge Cast Netting Permit. Minors under 18 years old, cast netting for shrimp, must be under the direct supervision of an adult 21 years old or older.

Cast Netting Hours and Areas

Cast netting is permitted from 12:00 noon to official sunset during the Louisiana inland water shrimp seasons in accordance with all state and refuge regulations.

Bank cast netting is permitted at **Northline Public Use Area, Hog Island Gully Public Use Area, the 1A/1B Public Use Area**, and at sites along Highway 27 that provide safe access and are not posted and signed as closed. No cast netting is permitted at West Cove Public Use Area.

Boat cast netting for shrimp is **permitted throughout the refuge** except where posted and signed as closed.

Specific areas closed to cast netting from boats are from under the bridges to the water control structures at Hog Island Gully and West Cove Public Use Areas, and the canal on either side of the entrance bridge to the Wetland Walkway as posted and signed.

Possession Limits/Requirements

Only recreational cast netting for shrimp is allowed on the refuge. Cast nets may not exceed a five foot (5 ft.) hanging

radius. The daily shrimp limit is 5 gallons of heads-on shrimp per day, per vehicle or boat. Cast netters must maintain actual custody of shrimp while on the refuge. This means the transfer of shrimp to another individual, boat or vehicle or the placement of shrimp at a location outside of the cast netters immediate custody is prohibited. No fish, crabs, or bait of any kind may be taken with a cast net. All by-catch must be immediately returned to the water before cast netting can continue.

Boat, Motor and Operation Limits

The refuge is open for boats from March 15 through October 15 of each year. All State boating regulations must be followed. Only outboard motors and trolling motors may be operated in designated areas, however, **ONLY** trolling motors may be operated in refuge marshes. Boats may not be dragged across levees. All boaters must obey the posted NO WAKE ZONES.

Littering

The use or possession of any type of glass containers on the refuge is prohibited. Help keep these marshes beautiful by taking all litter home. You are saving wildlife dollars.

Other

PLEASE DO NOT FEED OR APPROACH ALLIGATORS

Cast netters **may not reserve a place or save a space for themselves or others** by placing unattended equipment in designated cast netting areas.

Cast netters are prohibited from interfering with other recreational activities being conducted on the refuge, including boat launching and loading.

Swimming in the canals is prohibited. All cast netting must be done from designated areas. Wading out onto canals to cast net is prohibited.

Portable grills, campfires and cooking fires are prohibited on the refuge.

Firearms and other type weapons are prohibited on the refuge.

Commercial Activities

This permit is not a license to sell, barter or trade shrimp. It is only intended to allow individuals to take the refuge daily limit of shrimp for personal use only. Selling shrimp taken on any National Wildlife Refuge is both a state and federal violation. Individuals found guilty of violating these regulations could lose their hunting and fishing privileges, lose any equipment to include vessel or vehicle, and be subject to fines or imprisonment.

Sabine
National Wildlife Refuge
3000 Holly Beach Highway
Hackberry, Louisiana 70645
337/762-3816

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

March 2004



Sabine National Wildlife Refuge Cast Netting Permit

When signed and in your possession, this brochure acts as your permit to cast net.

I have read and understand the regulations for cast netting on Sabine National Wildlife Refuge.

Name (print)

Signature