

**Savannah NWR**  
**Jasper County, South Carolina**  
**Effingham and Chatham Counties, Georgia**

Savannah is one of over 545 national wildlife refuges. The primary objective of a national wildlife refuge is to provide habitat for the conservation and protection of all species of wildlife. The harvest of surplus animals is one tool used to manage wildlife populations at a level compatible with the environment, provide recreational opportunities, and permit the use of a valuable resource.

Public hunting on the Savannah National Wildlife Refuge is permitted on approximately 20,000 acres. Certain areas (marked on the map printed on the reverse side) are closed to hunting.

The regulations listed below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting on wildlife refuge areas as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State (Georgia and/or South Carolina) regulations. **All Coast Guard and State boating regulations will be enforced.**

**General Hunting Regulations**  
**Permits are required for all hunts and must be carried on the person while hunting.** All hunters must obtain a permit regardless of age. Permits are non-transferable. Only hunt participants with proper licenses and permits will be allowed on the refuge to hunt. A hunting license is required to hunt feral hogs.

Hunters 15 years of age or under (youth hunters) must have successfully passed a state-approved hunter education course in order to participate in any refuge hunt. Satisfactory completion of the course must be demonstrated by a card or certificate. Youth hunters must be supervised by an adult 21 years of age or older and must remain in sight and normal voice contact with the adult. During youth waterfowl hunts, the adult may supervise two youths; during all other refuge hunts, the adult may supervise only one youth.

No check-in or checkout is required. Transportation is not provided to, from, or on the refuge. Any movement within the refuge must be by foot, bicycle, or boat.

Hunting hours will be from one-half hour before legal sunrise to one-half hour after legal sunset.

Firearms must be unloaded and disassembled or cased while boats are in motion.

The possession or use of poison or poison pods is illegal.

The distribution of bait, and hunting over bait, is prohibited.

Participating in “man drives” for deer is prohibited.

Handguns and crossbows are prohibited.

Hunting from a tree in which a metal object has been screwed or driven to support a hunter is prohibited.

Hunt stands must be removed from the refuge daily.

No flagging, blazing, painting, or trail marking devices may be used to locate stands, or for any other purpose.

Pruning/limbing of live trees is prohibited.

Dogs will not be allowed on refuge hunts, except during waterfowl hunts.

Camping is not permitted on the refuge.

The possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited.

All forms of litter must be removed from the refuge.

Only designated game species and feral hogs may be taken, and other wildlife may not be molested in any manner.

Hunting will not be permitted closer than 100 yards of U.S. Hwy 17, GA Highway 25/SC Hwy 170 or the refuge maintenance center area; or railroad rights of way, nor within the areas marked as closed on the map printed in this brochure.

All persons within the hunt zone are required to wear an outer garment which contains a minimum of 500 square inches of hunter-orange material above the waist, except during the archery-only deer hunt, the turkey hunt, and the waterfowl hunt.

Specific regulations governing the deer, hog, squirrel, turkey, and waterfowl hunts are listed separately.

Permits for the non-quota hunts (printed on the cover of this brochure) are available throughout the hunt periods. A limited number of permits will be issued for the youth waterfowl hunt and the mobility-impaired gun hunt for

deer. Additional brochures and quota hunt applications may be downloaded from the refuge website <http://www.fws.gov/savannah>.

**Deer/Hog Archery Hunt**  
**October 1-31, 2008**

Archery hunting for deer and hogs will be permitted, from October 1-31, 2008, in all areas designated on the attached refuge map.

Only bows will be authorized for deer/hog hunting.  
**Crossbows are prohibited.**

Five deer (no more than three antlerless and two antlered) and feral hogs (no bag limit) may be taken. “Bonus” deer tags will not be issued for deer taken. All other state regulations will apply.

Doe days for refuge lands in Georgia will coincide with doe days set by the state for Effingham County only.

Does taken in South Carolina must be tagged with state doe tags before being removed from the refuge. These tags must be purchased from the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (application provided in the state hunting regulations booklet).

A big game license will be required to participate in this hunt.

**Deer/Hog/Squirrel Gun Hunt**  
**November 1-30, 2008**

Gun hunting for deer, hog, and squirrel will be permitted on November 1-30, 2008 in all areas designated on the attached refuge map.

Five deer (no more than three antlerless and two antlered) may be taken. “Bonus” tags will not be issued for deer taken. Doe days for refuge lands in Georgia will coincide with doe days set by the state for Effingham County only. All other state regulations will apply.

Does taken in South Carolina must be tagged with state doe tags before being removed from the refuge. These tags must be purchased from the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources (application provided in the state hunting regulations booklet).

Feral hogs may also be taken (no bag limit) during the deer hunt with weapons legal for this hunt.

Only shotguns with slugs, muzzleloaders, and bows (no crossbows), in accordance with state regulations, will be

authorized for deer and hog hunting throughout the designated hunt area. However, centerfire rifles of .22-caliber or larger are permitted north of Interstate Highway 95 only. Handguns are prohibited.

Georgia and/or South Carolina Game Zone 11 bag limits for squirrel will apply.

Only .22 caliber rimfire rifles or shotguns with #2 shot or smaller will be authorized for squirrel hunting.

A big game license will be required to participate in this hunt.

**Hog Hunt**  
**March 14-22, 2009**

Hog hunting will be permitted March 14-22, 2009 in all areas designated on the attached refuge map.

A hunting license is required to hunt feral hogs.

Only hogs (no bag limit) may be taken.

Only shotguns with slugs, muzzleloaders, and bows (no crossbows), in accordance with state regulations, will be authorized during the March hog hunt.

**Turkey Hunt**  
**April 4-24, 2009**

Turkey hunting on will be permitted April 4-24, 2009 in all areas designated on the attached refuge map.

Hunters may harvest three gobblers only.

Only shotguns with #2 shot or smaller, and bows (no crossbows) in accordance with state regulations, will be authorized for turkey hunting.

Possession of slugs or buckshot is illegal during the turkey hunt.

**Waterfowl Hunt**  
**State Seasons**

Hunting of waterfowl (ducks and coots) is permitted in designated areas north of GA Highway 25/SC Highway 170 (marked on attached refuge map).

Georgia and South Carolina waterfowl seasons and federal regulations apply.

Hunters are encouraged to use dogs as retrievers, but they must be under control at all times.

Decoys and other personal property must be removed from the refuge daily.

Hunting will not be permitted within 100 yards of Georgia Highway 25 and South Carolina Highway 170; in or on Middle and Steamboat Rivers and Houstown Cut, nor closer than 50 yards of the shoreline of these waterways.

**Mobility-Impaired Hunt**  
**November 18-19, 2008**

A limited number of mobility-impaired hunters (permanently dependent on wheelchairs for mobility) will be permitted to hunt deer/hogs within a portion of the refuge on November 18-19, 2008. For information concerning this hunt, contact the Savannah Coastal Refuges office (912/652 4415) before August 15 or visit the refuge website.

**Youth Hunts**

A youth archery hunt for deer is scheduled for October 1-31, 2008. An unlimited number of permits will be issued for this hunt. A limited number of permits will be issued for the youth waterfowl hunt set for November 29, December 6, and December 13, 2008. Both hunts will be held within a portion of the refuge located in Georgia (Solomon Tract), accessible by motorized vehicle from GA Highway 21. Youth hunters (15 years of age or under) must be under direct adult supervision (within sight and hearing of a person 21 years old or older). The adult may supervise no more than two youths.

To obtain a permit for the youth deer hunt, the youth waterfowl hunt, or further information about these hunts, contact the Savannah Coastal Refuges office or visit the refuge website. Youth waterfowl hunt applications must be returned to the refuge office by August 31, 2008 to be considered.

**Contact Information**

Savannah Coastal Refuges  
Parkway Business Center, Suite 10  
1000 Business Center Drive  
Savannah, GA 31405  
phone: 912/652 4415  
fax: 912/652 4385  
<http://www.fws.gov/savannah>

**Special Information**

Portions of the refuge lying in both Georgia and South Carolina are open to hunting. Therefore, hunters should familiarize themselves with the area they wish to hunt and obtain the appropriate state license/licenses.

Much of the land surrounding the Savannah NWR is privately owned. Please respect our neighbors by not trespassing to reach the refuge and making sure you are within refuge boundaries while hunting.

**Boater Caution**  
**Boats are needed to hunt the Georgia portions of the refuge; some areas in South Carolina are accessible by foot.** Motorized land vehicles may not be used.

Coastal waters are subject to extreme tidal fluctuations of six to ten feet. Hunters are urged to be familiar with tide tables, carry adequate safety equipment, and exercise caution when participating in hunts on the refuge.

## Fishing Regulations

Sport fishing on Savannah National Wildlife Refuge is permitted on impounded waters, tidal creeks, and canals within the refuge boundaries. Sport fishing shall be in accordance with all applicable state regulations and subject to the following special conditions:

Bank fishing from the Laurel Hill Wildlife Drive is permitted year-round. Kingfisher Pond (located off US-17, one mile north of the refuge impoundments on SC-170) is open to fishing all year. For all other impounded waters, the fishing season extends from March 1 through November 30. A South Carolina fishing license is required to fish in any of these areas.

Only non-motorized boats and boats with electric motors are permitted on Kingfisher Pond and other impounded waters.

State licenses are required, but no special refuge permit is needed for sport fishing.

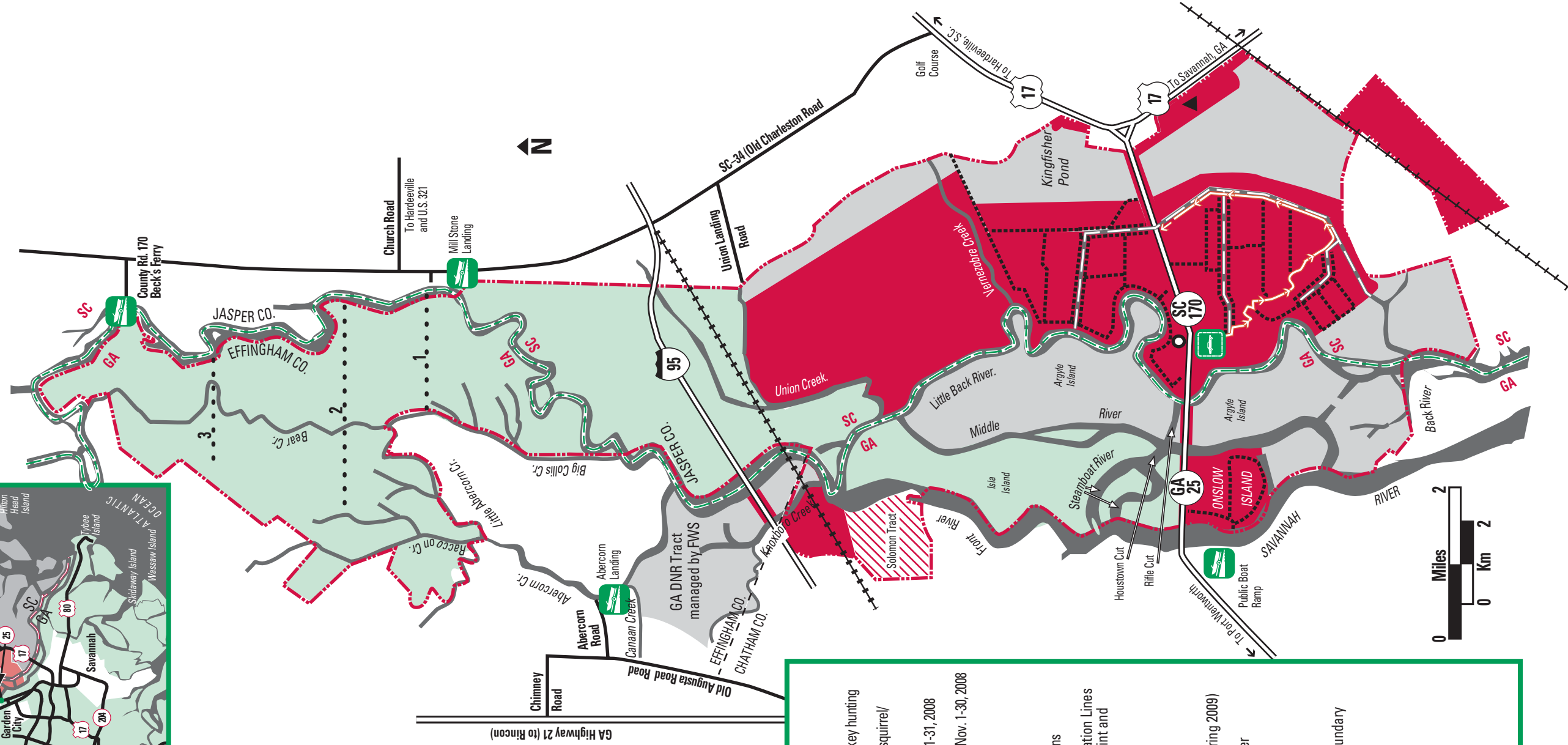
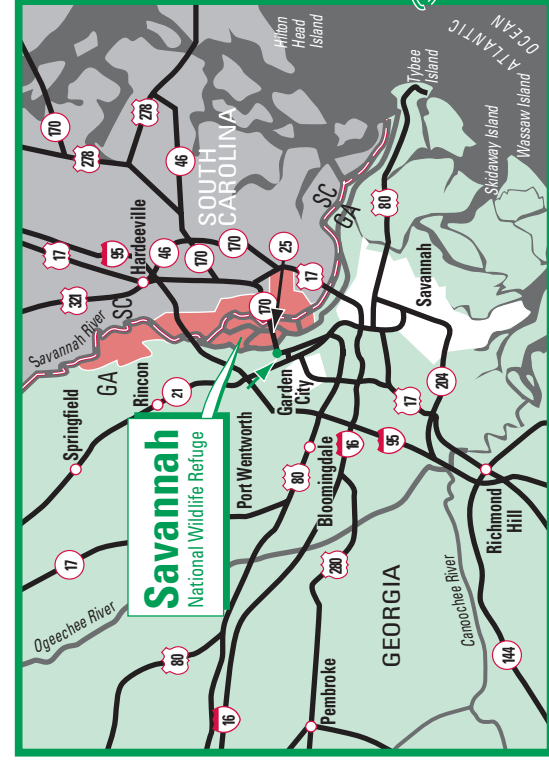
All areas posted with “Closed Area” signs are closed to all activities including fishing.

No one will be allowed on the refuge before sunrise and all persons must be off the refuge no later than one half hour after sunset.

Boats may not be left on the refuge overnight.

# Savannah

## National Wildlife Refuge



### Legend

- Open to deer/hog/squirrel/turkey hunting
- Open to waterfowl/deer/hog/squirrel/turkey hunting
- Archery Deer/Hog Hunt - Oct. 1-31, 2008
- Deer/Hog/Squirrel Gun Hunt - Nov. 1-30, 2008
- Hog Hunt - Mar. 14-22, 2009
- Turkey Hunt - April 4-24, 2009
- Waterfowl Hunt GA/SC Seasons
- (1, 2, & 3) East/West Orientation Lines (trees marked with blue paint and reflectors)
- Areas closed to all hunting
- Open to youth hunts only
- Visitor Center (Opening Spring 2009)
- Refuge Maintenance Center
- Laurel Hill Wildlife Drive
- Boat Launching Ramp
- Georgia/South Carolina Boundary
- Refuge Boundary
- Diversion Canal
- Dikes
- Railroad
- County/State Roads

Savannah Coastal Refuges  
 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
 1000 Business Center Drive  
 Parkway Business Center, Suite 10  
 Savannah, GA 31405  
 912/652 4415  
<http://www.fws.gov/savannah>

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

July 2008



### 2008-2009 Savannah NWR Hunt Permit

When signed and in your possession, this brochure serves as your permit for Savannah NWR's 2008-09 season hunts (including the waterfowl hunt, the March 14-22, 2009 hog hunt and the April 4-24, 2009 turkey hunt), and acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

# Savannah

## National Wildlife Refuge

### Hunting and Fishing Regulations 2008-2009