

Sport Fishing Regulations

Sport fishing is permitted only in Duck, Westcut Lakes, Possum Bayou, Lake Long and in the immediate vicinity of the Lake Agnes drainage culverts on the Red River.

Use of gear or equipment other than hook and line to catch fish or bait fish is prohibited.

Fishing is permitted from March 1 through October 15 during daylight hours only.

Yo-yo's are permitted during daylight hours only and must be attended (within sight) at all times.

Largemouth bass must be a minimum of 14 inches long. Possession of largemouth bass less than 14 inches long is prohibited on the refuge.

Black and white crappie (white perch) must be a minimum of 10 inches long. Possession of crappie less than 10 inches long is prohibited on the refuge.

Possession of cleaned or processed fish on the refuge is prohibited.

Creel limits, boating safety, and license requirements are in accordance with state regulations unless otherwise specified in this brochure.

Signs and Boundaries

Signs are useful tools in regulating the use of a public area. The wording of the sign applies to the area behind the sign. Please respect the following signs.



This sign delineates the refuge boundary. Always know the regulations before entering.



All hunting and possession of any weapon is prohibited beyond this sign.



This area is closed to all public entry. Exceptions stated on sign.



Speed limit on refuge roads, unless otherwise posted.



Only ATVs are allowed on these trails.

2008 - 2009 Hunting Seasons

Type	Season Dates	Specific Regulations
Squirrel, Rabbit and Raccoon	Oct. 4, 2008 Close of State season	Closed during muzzleloader deer hunts. Squirrel and rabbit dogs permitted from end of state deer gun season until end of rabbit season.
Deer-Archery	Nov. 1, 2008 - Feb. 15, 2009	One buck or doe per day. All areas CLOSED during muzzleloader hunts. Area 1B & 2B closed during youth gun hunts (Nov. 25).
Deer- Muzzleloader (Lottery)	Dec. 6-7, 2008 - Hunt 1 Jan. 3-4, 2009 - Hunt 2 Jan 17-18, 2009 - Hunt 3	Special Quota Permit Required One buck or doe per hunt, hunter orange (hat and vest) required, hunters must check in and out at a manned check station.
Deer-Youth Hunt (Lottery)	Nov. 25, 2008 Dec. 13, 2008 Dec. 30, 2008	Rifles allowed. One parent and one staff/volunteer with each youth. Two deer; (one buck, one doe) per hunt. Hunter orange required.
Waterfowl	Tuesday, Thursday, Saturday and Sunday until noon during State Season	Closed during muzzleloader hunts. Boats, blinds and decoys must be removed daily by 1 pm. Non-toxic shot required. Possession of lead shot prohibited. Dogs only permitted to retrieve game.
Youth Waterfowl Weekend	State Zone Date	All refuge waterfowl hunting regulations apply.
Dove, Snipe and Rail	State Season	Allowed ONLY during waterfowl hunt days during the State dove season. May be taken incidental to waterfowl hunting. Closed during muzzleloader deer hunts. Only non-toxic shot allowed.
Woodcock	State Woodcock Season	Closed during muzzleloader deer hunts. Non-toxic shot required.
Turkey	First 16 days of State Season until noon	Harvested turkeys must be checked at Dupuy's Grocery (located 7 miles south of the refuge on Hwy 452). Incidental hunting of hogs and use of turkey gobbler decoys is prohibited during Turkey season.

Note: Archers, you must collect biological data on the deer you harvest by weighing, taking antler measurements, pulling a jawbone, and recording data at the unmanned check station on the west end of Lake Long Road. Equipment, data forms, and instructions will be provided. Failure to comply will result in the issuance of a citation.

CAUTION HUNTERS, BLACK BEAR ADVISORY!

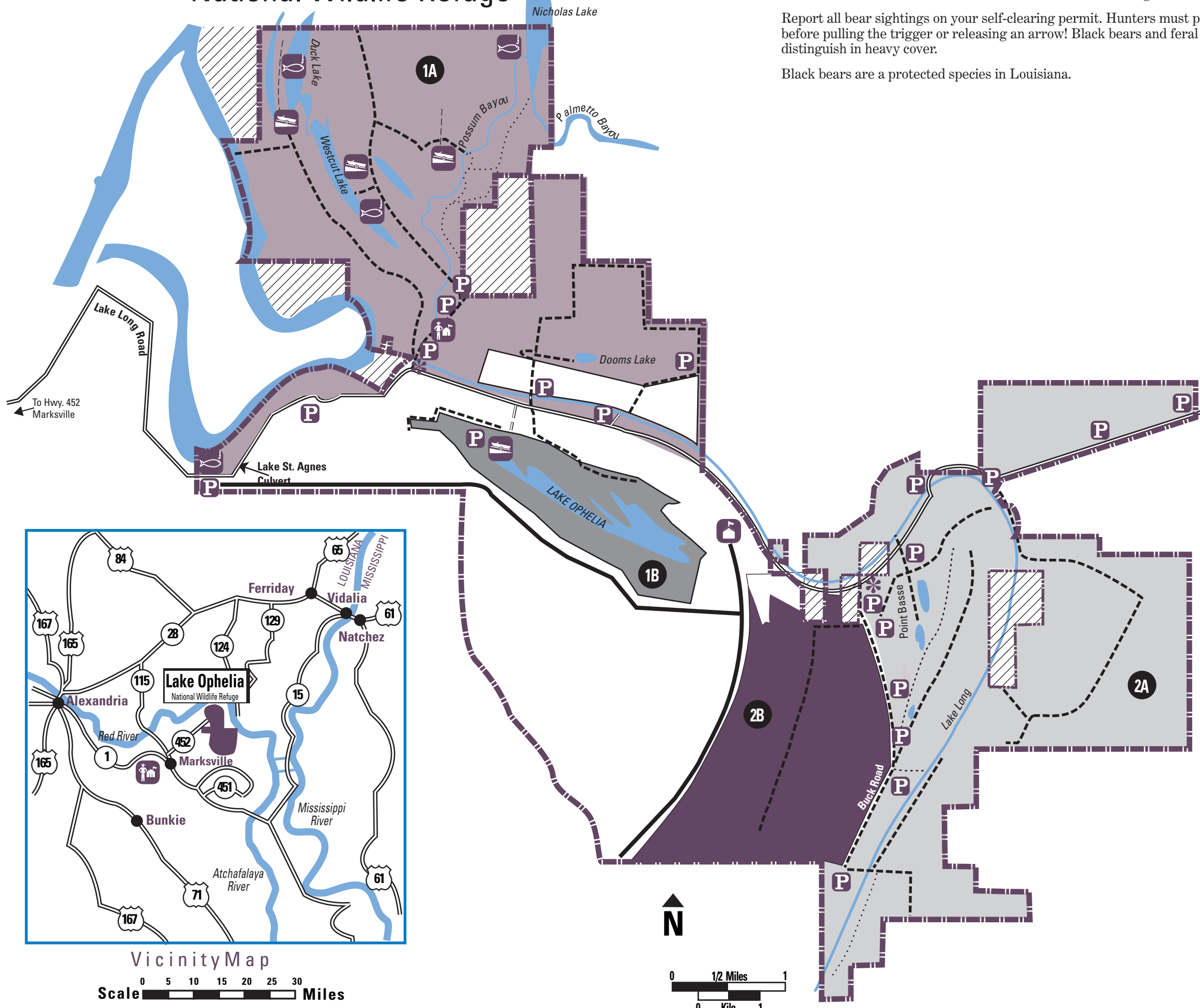
In a cooperative effort between the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Louisiana State University, and the Black Bear Conservation Committee, Louisiana black bear sows and cubs have been released on Lake Ophelia NWR in an attempt to reestablish these threatened bears within their historical range.

Report all bear sightings on your self-clearing permit. Hunters must positively identify their target before pulling the trigger or releasing an arrow! Black bears and feral hogs are sometimes hard to distinguish in heavy cover.

Black bears are a protected species in Louisiana.



Lake Ophelia National Wildlife Refuge



Legend	
	Refuge Boundary
	ATV Trail and Unimproved Gravel Road
	Foot Trail
	Mobility Impaired ATV Trail
	Improved Road
	Shop Road (official use only)
	Hunt Check Station
	Area Closed-no unauthorized entry
	Hunt area 1A-open during all refuge hunt seasons.
	Hunt area 1B-archery only, open refuge season until 12/5. Closed during youth deer hunts. Closed to all public use after 12/5.
	Hunt area 2A-open during all refuge hunt seasons.
	Hunt area 2B-archery, squirrel, and rabbit hunting only, open refuge season until 12/5. Closed during youth deer hunts. Closed to all public use after 12/5.
	Parking Area
	Private Inholding
	Water
	Refuge Headquarters
	Boat Launching
	Bank Fishing Area
	Maintenance Shop