

# Pond Creek

## National Wildlife Refuge Hunting and Fishing Regulations 2008-2009



### General Information

Pond Creek National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1994, is located along the Little and Cossatot Rivers in Southwest Arkansas. Public hunting and fishing is permitted on approximately 27,000 acres during specific times of the year. Special arrangements can be made to accommodate persons with bona fide disabilities by contacting the refuge office.

Individuals utilizing the refuge are subject to inspections of permits, licenses, hunting equipment, bag limits, boats, vehicles, and their contents by refuge or state officers.

The refuge may be closed without notice during periods of high water, during wildfire occurrences or other natural events that may pose a hazard to public safety.

To ensure your safety and enjoyment while visiting Pond Creek, please take the time to become familiar with the following regulations.

### General Refuge Regulations

The regulations below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State regulations subject to the following conditions.

**Permits are required for all hunts.** When signed and in your possession, the general hunt permit on the front of this brochure serves as your permit for all refuge hunts. In addition, gun deer hunts and gun turkey hunts require a non-transferable quota permit. For information on hunt dates and how to apply, please visit our website found on the front of this brochure or call Felsenthal NWR at 870/364 3167. The permit must be carried on the hunter's person and is not valid until signed. Quota permit applications must specify the refuge they are applying for. **Permits are not required for sport fishing, frogging or taking crawfish for personal use.**

### Weapons

Firearms, archery tackle and crossbows are permitted only during designated hunts.

All weapons within 100 yards of a campground must be unloaded. All weapons, including archery tackle, transported in or on any land vehicle or boat under power must be unloaded and encased or dismantled (loaded is defined as shells in gun or cap on muzzleloader). Archery tackle and crossbows must be uncocked with arrow uncocked from string. Only rimfire rifles no larger than .22 caliber and

shotguns are permitted during any refuge gun hunt.

### Exception:

During muzzleloader and deer gun hunts, weapons legal for these hunts are also permitted.

### Ammunition

Possession of shot larger than that legal for waterfowl hunting is prohibited; use or possession of lead shot is prohibited refuge wide.

*Exception:* During the deer and turkey hunts, lead ammunition legal for taking deer and turkey may be used. **Buckshot is prohibited for gun deer hunting.**

Small game, furbearers, feral hogs, beaver, nutria and coyotes may be hunted with rimfire lead ammunition during refuge open season.

### Motorized Vehicles

All motor vehicles are restricted to roads that are delineated on refuge map.

*Exception:* Standard manufacturer's high flotation all-terrain vehicles or ATV's are permitted only on trails designated by ATV signs and marked with yellow or blue paint. Blue painted trails are open year round for ATV use to reach areas open for fishing. Yellow painted trails are open from two days prior to the opening of state squirrel season until January 31, 2009. Both trails may be used by ATVs for wildlife dependent activities after the yellow trails are open.

ATV's are allowed only for wildlife dependent activities. ATV's are not allowed on any improved road open to conventional vehicles. ATV's are restricted to 700cc or less engine size, a width of 63" or less, tire centerline lug depth one (1) inch or less, ATV flotation type tire with 12 pounds of tire pressure or less, and classified as an ATV by the manufacturer. The maximum legal speed for any land vehicle is 35 mph.

### Animals/Pets

Dogs are allowed for hunting migratory birds, squirrel, rabbit, raccoon and opossum during designated seasons only. Other dogs and pets must be confined or on a leash. If free ranging dogs are caught on the refuge, they may be placed in portable pens placed at several locations (see map). Also, contact refuge headquarters at 870/289 2126 and leave message. Horses are prohibited during the muzzleloader and gun deer hunts. At other times horses may be used on roads

and trails that are open to vehicle use for refuge wildlife dependent activities. Firearms transported on horses must be unloaded and encased.

### Camping

Camping is permitted only in designated primitive camping areas and in conjunction with on-refuge wildlife-oriented activities. Camping area entrances are marked by signs and boundaries are marked with orange paint. Campers may stay no more than 14 days during any 30

**Need Additional Information?  
For more copies of this leaflet or other  
specific information, contact the refuge.**

**Felsenthal NWR  
P.O. Box 1157  
Crossett, AR 71635  
870/364 3167  
Office hours: Monday-Friday  
7 am - 3:30 pm**

**Pond Creek  
National Wildlife Refuge  
1958 Central Road  
Lockesburg, AR 71846  
870/289 2126  
PONDREEK@fws.gov**

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service  
1 800/344 WILD  
http://southeast.fws.gov**

**June 2008**



### Pond Creek General Hunt Permit 2008-2009

I have read and understand these refuge regulations. Note: No permit required for sport fishing. General hunt permit required for **all** hunting. **Quota** permit required for gun deer and gun turkey.

**Zone 532**

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Hunter

This permit is valid only when signed above by the hunter and entire brochure must be carried on hunter's person.

consecutive-day period in any campground. Camps must be occupied daily. All disturbances, including the use of generators, are prohibited after 10 pm. Camping on the refuge while hunting off the refuge is not permitted.

### Commercial Activities

No person, including but not limited to a guide, guide service, outfitter, club or other organization shall provide assistance, services, or equipment to any other person for compensation on National Wildlife Refuge lands unless such person, guide, guide service, outfitter, club or other organization has obtained a Commercial Use Permit from the National Wildlife Refuge. For the purposes of this regulation, any financial gain acquired from one person to another through business deals or fees paid to a person for lodging, meals, club membership or similar services will be considered compensation.

A refuge Commercial Use Permit is also required for all other commercial activities on the refuge including but not limited to commercial fishing, trapping, filming, photography, collecting plants or parts of plants, acorns or mussels.

### Fires

Permitted only in camping areas and must be attended. Only downed wood may be used for fires.

**Caution: During periods of high fire danger, all fires may be prohibited.**

### Prohibited Activities

Littering

Using an artificial light to locate wildlife. Exception: raccoon and opossum hunting during open season.

Possession, placement or hunting over bait, salt or any ingestible attractant.

Hunting within 150 feet of roads and trails open to motor vehicle use (including ATV and designated hiking trails)

Target practice

Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting or fishing. Consumption of alcohol in plain view in campgrounds. Consumption of alcohol or possession of opened alcoholic beverage container on roadways and in parking areas.

Taking of wildlife or plants (including cutting trees or brush) other than specified in this brochure.

Possession or use of herbicides.

Utilizing the services of a guide, guide service, outfitter, club, organization or other person who provides equipment, services or assistance on National Wildlife Refuge lands for compensation. Failure to comply with this provision subjects each hunter in the party to a fine if convicted of this violation.

Use or possession of any electronic call or other electronic device used for producing or projecting vocal sounds of wildlife.

Use of deer decoys.

Block gates, boat ramps, or roadways with vehicles

Participate in deer drives

Drive or screw a nail, spike or other metal object into a tree or hunting from any tree in which such an object has been placed.

Marking trails with materials other than biodegradable paper flagging, reflective twist ties or reflective tacks.

Searching for or removing any object of antiquity including arrowheads, pottery or other artifacts.

Possessing, using or leaving any tree stand, ATV, game camera, or boat on the refuge without owners name and address clearly marked on the outside.

### Specific Hunting Regulations

State bag limits, season lengths and weapon regulations apply unless otherwise specified in this brochure.

All deer harvested from refuge must be checked in at the refuge self-check station.

**Legal Buck Definition and Bag Limit:** The total number of bucks that can be harvested through a combination of all refuge deer hunts is two (these are not bonus deer). Legal bucks are any male deer. Deer limits for specific hunts apply (including one bonus doe tag). **EARN-A-BUCK PROGRAM:** Before a second buck can be harvested during any specialized hunt or combination of specialized hunts, a doe must be harvested and checked–in at the refuge self-check station.

**Bonus Doe Tag:** A bonus doe tag is available at the refuge office. A doe must be checked in to obtain a bonus doe tag. Only one tag will be issued per hunter upon request until all

tags are issued. The bonus doe taken must be tagged with the bonus doe tag and checked in at the refuge self-check station.

**Youth hunters** are youth less than 16 years at the beginning of the hunt they are participating in. All hunters born after December 31, 1968 must possess a Hunter Education Card. Exception: youth hunters under the age of 16 under direct supervision (within arms reach) of an adult 21 or older. In addition, hunters under the age of 16 (with Hunter Education Card) must be accompanied (in sight and in normal voice contact at all times) by an adult 21 or older. Each adult can supervise only **one** youth during big game hunts and no more than two youths during all other hunts.

Deer taken on muzzleloader and quota hunts must be checked at the refuge check station on same day killed. Carcass must be left intact (entrails may be removed) until taken to check station. All unused portions of game or fish taken must be disposed of at least 300 yards from any boat ramp or campground.

Only portable deer stands may be used. Stands may be placed beginning September 29 and must be removed no later than February 2. No more than three portable stands allowed per person.

All public use, except fishing and access for fishing, is closed during permit hunts.

### Sportfishing and Frogging Regulations

Sportfishing, frogging and taking of crawfish for personal use are permitted in all refuge waters in accordance with State regulations. Taking bullfrogs with archery tackle requires a special use permit.

Deer Limit and Definition. The total number of bucks that may be harvested through a combination of all refuge deer hunts at Pond Creek NWR (Zone 532) is two. **A legal buck is any male deer.**

**2008-2009 Season Dates: For all deer and turkey harvested on the refuge, the hunter will immediately (prior to moving the animal) complete hunting license tag using 532 as zone of kill. (Refuge office serves as wildlife check station). All deer harvested from refuge must be checked in at the refuge self - check station.**

Type	Season Dates	Specific Regulations
Duck, Goose, and Coot	State Duck and Teal Season	Hunters may not enter the hunting area before 4:30am. Hunting ends at noon each day. Only portable blinds are permitted. Blinds, boats and decoys must be removed by 1:30 pm each day, either to a designated camping area, vehicle, or from the refuge. <b>Closed during Quota gun deer hunts.</b>
Squirrel and Rabbit	9/6/2008-1/31/2009 (Spring season closed)	Dogs allowed 11/15/2008-1/31/2009 <b>Closed during Quota gun deer hunts.</b>
Raccoon and Opossum	Sunrise 11/15/2008-1/31/2009	Use of dogs required during hours of darkness. <b>Closed during Quota gun deer hunts.</b>
Deer (archery/crossbow) (Zone 532)	10/1/2008-1/31/2009	State bag limit applies. <b>Closed during Quota gun deer hunts.</b> See legal buck definition. Deer must be checked at refuge <b>self-check</b> station. State bag limit applies plus a bonus doe tag. (bonus doe tag required) <b>Earn-A-Buck program</b> applies
Deer (muzzleloader) (Zone 532)	10/18-26/2008	Bag limit 2 deer (2 does or 1 buck and 1 doe) plus a bonus doe (bonus doe tag required). See legal buck definition. Deer must be checked at refuge self- check station. <b>Earn-A-Buck program</b> applies
Quota Deer (gun) Youth (Zone 532)	10/25-26/2008	Quota permit required. Bag limit 2 deer (2 does or 1 buck & 1 doe) plus a bonus doe (bonus doe tag required). See legal buck definition. Deer must be checked at refuge self-check station. <b>Earn-A-Buck program</b> applies
Quota Deer (gun) (Zone 532)	11/15-16/2008	Quota permit required. Bag limit 2 deer (2 does or 1 buck & 1 doe) plus a bonus doe. (bonus doe tag required) See legal buck definition. Deer must be checked at refuge self-check station. <b>Earn-A-Buck program</b> applies
Turkey, Spring Archery (Zone 532)	State Season, Zone 9	State bag limit. Fall season closed. Closed during quota turkey hunts. Turkey must be check at refuge self-check station
Turkey, Spring, Gun (Zone 532)	3/28- 29/2009 (youth hunt)  4/11-12/2009	Quota permit required. Limit one bearded turkey. Youth hunt restricted to youths, under 16 years of age accompanied by one non-hunting adult 21 years of age or older. For other quota turkey hunt, no one may accompany permit holder while hunting. Turkeys must be checked at refuge self-check station.
Trapping	Sunrise 11/15/2008-1/31/2009	Special Use permit required and available at refuge office. Closed during quota deer hunt.
Beaver, Nutria Coyote, and Feral Hog	Any refuge hunt	May be taken without the use of dogs during any daytime refuge hunt with weapons legal for that hunt. No bag limits. Live hogs may not be transported.