

Handy Brake

National Wildlife Refuge



photo: USFWS



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Refuge Facts

- Established: 1990.
- Acres: Approximately 490 in fee title and lease.
- Office located on D'Arbonne National Wildlife Refuge 10 miles north of West Monroe, Louisiana, on LA Highway 143.

Financial Impact of Refuge

- D'Arbonne, Handy Brake, Red River, Upper Ouachita, Black Bayou Lake NWR's and Louisiana Wetlands Management District are administered under the North Louisiana Refuges Complex with a total budget for FY 05 of \$1,435,500.
- 4,250 visitors annually.

Refuge Objectives

- Protect, enhance, and perpetuate bottomland hardwood habitats, moist soil areas, and other endemic ecotypes for the benefit of endangered species, waterfowl, and other migratory and resident wildlife.
- Provide compatible wildlife-oriented recreation and environmental education for the public.

Management Tools

- Forest management including reforestation of bottomland hardwoods.
- Water management for waterfowl and other wetlands species.
- Law enforcement.
- Education/interpretation.
- Partnerships.

Public Use Opportunities

- Observation tower.
- Wildlife observation.
- Photography.

Calendar of Events

October-January: wildlife observation (waterfowl migration).

Questions and Answers

When is the refuge open?

Currently Handy Brake is open for wildlife observation during daylight hours.