

General Hunting Regulations

A Refuge permit is required for all hunting activities. Permits are non-transferable and must be signed by the hunter and carried at all times while on the refuge in possession of hunting gear. A permit is located on the front of this brochure or can be downloaded and printed from the refuge website at <http://www.fws.gov/cacheriver>. An additional permit is required for the Quota Gun Deer Hunt.

Hunter Orange or Hunter Safety Green must be worn in accordance with Arkansas Game and Fish Commission regulations during Quota Gun and Muzzleloader Deer hunts.

Portable, pop-up blinds must have 144 square inches of blaze orange or chartreuse visible from all sides of the blind during firearms big-game seasons on the Refuge.

Bag limits for all species except deer are the same as state limits unless specified otherwise.

Stop Poaching Hotline 1800/482 9262

Mobility-impaired hunters

Mobility-impaired hunters may apply for a refuge Special Use Permit allowing the specialized use of ATVs. For more information, please call the refuge office at 870/347 2614.

Prohibited hunting activities include:

Commercial guiding/hunting.

Driving or screwing any metal object into a tree or hunting from a tree in which a metal object has been driven or screwed to support a hunter.

Building or hunting from permanent blinds or stands.

Hunting from a vehicle or use of a vehicle as a deer stand.

Possession or distribution of bait or hunting over bait, salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for wildlife.

Hunting from mowed or maintained roads (except for waterfowl hunting while roads are flooded).

Possession or use of lead shot or buckshot while hunting.

Possession or use of alcoholic beverages while hunting.

Hunting, taking, possessing, or attempting to take wildlife using a guide, guide service, outfitter, club, or organization providing assistance, service, or equipment.

Hunters under the age of 16

Any hunter born after 1968 must carry a valid hunter education card. Hunters less than 16 years old who have a valid hunter education card must be supervised by an adult of at least 21 years of age and remain within sight and normal voice contact with the adult. Hunters less than 16 years old do not need to have a card if they are under the direct supervision (within arm's reach) of a holder of a valid hunting license of at least 21 years of age. An adult may supervise up to two youths for migratory bird and small game hunting, but only one youth for big game hunting. Home state hunter education cards will be honored.

Specific Hunting Regulations

Refuge hunting regulations differ from surrounding deer zones and state seasons as follows:

***NOTE: The Refuge is closed to ALL other entry and public use November 10 - 18, 2012 during the Quota Gun Deer Hunt. Only Quota Gun Deer Hunt permit holders are allowed to enter or use the Refuge during this hunt and only for the purpose of deer hunting.**

Migratory Birds

Only non-toxic shot may be possessed or used for all migratory bird hunting.

Waterfowl (Duck, Coot and Geese): All hunt units.

State Seasons (except **closed November 10 - 18, 2012 during the Quota Gun Deer Hunt**)*

Morning (until 12 noon) hunting only throughout the entire season.

NOTE: All-day hunting permitted for geese (all applicable species) during the State Conservation Order

State bag limit(s) apply.

Hunters must pick up and remove their spent shell casings and boxes from the refuge to prevent littering.

Decoys, blinds, boats, and all other equipment must be removed daily by 1 pm.

Boats are prohibited on the Refuge from 12 am - 4 am.

Waterfowl hunters may enter the Refuge no earlier than 4 am.

Cutting of holes or other manipulation of vegetation (e.g., cutting bushes, mowing, weed-eating, etc.) or hunting from manipulated areas is prohibited.

Retriever dogs are allowed.

Waterfowl (Special Youth Quota Permit Hunt): Bayou DeView Unit. Available only to youth under 16. Applications will be received November 1-30, 2012. Visit our website for complete details: www.fws.gov/cacheriver/youthwaterfowl

Dove and Snipe: State seasons.* Morning (until 12 noon) hunting only. Dogs permitted.

Woodcock: State seasons.* Dogs permitted.

Small Game

Only rifles chambered for rimfire cartridges or shotguns with non-toxic shot may be used for all small game hunting.

Squirrel: All hunt units. September 1, 2012 - February 28, 2013.* Dogs permitted beginning December 1, 2012.

Rabbit: All hunt units. September 1, 2012 - February 28, 2013.* Dogs permitted beginning December 1, 2012.

Quail: All hunt units. November 1, 2012 - February 3, 2013.* Dogs permitted.

Furbearer:

All hunt units. Beaver, muskrat, nutria, armadillo, coyote, and feral hog may be taken incidental to any refuge hunt by the use of the device appropriate for that hunt and according to any applicable state regulations.

Feral hogs are destructive, non-native animals that are incompatible with refuge management. Live hogs may not be possessed, transported, or released on the refuge.

Raccoon: All hunt units. September 1, 2012 – March 31, 2013.* Dogs are required for hunting raccoons at night. Training or pleasure running of dogs is prohibited.

Opossum: All hunt units. September 1, 2012 - February 28, 2013.* Dogs are required for hunting opossum at night. Training or pleasure running of dogs is prohibited.

Trapping:

December 1, 2012 – January 31, 2013. REFUGE SPECIAL USE PERMIT REQUIRED. Trapping permitted on all hunt units, according to State regulations. Waterfowl sanctuaries are closed to all public entry and use. Contact refuge office at 870/347 2614 for additional details and requirements.

Big Game

For all deer and turkey harvested on the refuge, Zone 095 must be immediately recorded on your hunting license. In addition, all deer harvested on the refuge must be checked according to state regulations.

Only portable stands capable of being carried by one person in its entirety may be used and the owner's name and address must be permanently affixed to the stand. Stands may be erected 7 days prior to the refuge deer season and must be removed from the waterfowl sanctuary prior to November 15 and from the rest of the Refuge within 7 days of the closing of archery season.

The use of dogs for deer hunting is prohibited.

Deer Limits and Refuge Legal Buck Definition

Four deer, no more than two bucks, which may include:

- Two bucks with archery tackle,
- Four does with archery tackle,
- One buck or doe with muzzleloader each hunt,
- One buck and one doe, or two does with modern gun,

A legal buck on the Refuge is defined as any male deer (**no antler restriction**). Deer harvested on the Refuge are NOT bonus deer.

Deer (Archery/Crossbow): All hunt units: October 1, 2012 - February 28, 2013.* Either sex. State limit applies.

Deer (Muzzleloading): All hunt units: October 20 - 24, 2012 and December 29 - 31, 2012. Either sex. One deer limit refuge wide, each hunt.

Deer (Youth Gun): All hunt units. November 3 - 4, 2012. One buck and one doe, or two does.

Deer (Quota Gun): All hunt units. Quota hunt permit required. November 10- 18, 2012.* One buck and one doe, or two does.

NOTE: Holders of refuge Quota Gun Deer Hunt permits are NOT entitled to camp on State WMAs during the refuge Quota Gun Deer Hunt.

To apply for a Quota Gun Deer Hunt permit:

Quota permits issued first come, first serve.

Permit request must be sent via regular/first class U.S. Mail (priority/overnight/FedEx or in person will NOT be accepted).

Permit requests cannot be postmarked before August 1 or after August 31. Permits will be issued on a first come, first served basis until the quota is reached.

On a postcard or index card, print the full name (first, middle, last), mailing address and telephone number of each person requesting a permit, and indicate which refuge you are requesting (Cache River, Bald Knob, or Wapanocca).

Please print legibly. Duplicated, unclear, or incomplete applications will be returned.

Send a money order or cashier's check for \$12.50. No personal checks, cash, or credit cards.

Cashier's check or money order must be made out to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Please send one money order for party request. Number of applicants X \$12.50.

Mail requests to: Central Arkansas Refuges 26320 Highway 33 South Augusta, AR 72006

NOTE: Permits are non-transferable and nonrefundable, even in the event of refuge deer hunt closures due to flooding.

Refuge Hunting Unit Boundaries

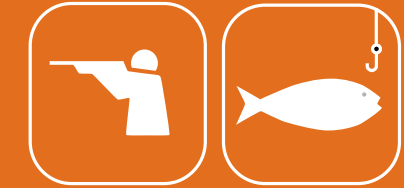
The refuge is divided into three hunt units. These are:

Unit I - refuge lands between Highway 79 and Interstate 40;

Unit II - All refuge lands east of Highway 33 between Interstate 40 and Highway 18 at Grubbs, AR;

Unit III - all refuge lands west of Highway 33 from Interstate 40 to Highway 64.

Cache River National Wildlife Refuge Hunting and Fishing Regulations 2012-2013



General Introduction

Cache River National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1986, is one of over 550 national wildlife refuges administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The primary objective of the Refuge is to provide habitat for migratory waterfowl and preserve the remaining tracts of bottomland hardwoods in the Cache River Basin. The Refuge is comprised of numerous tracts of land along the Cache and White Rivers and Bayou DeView in the Arkansas counties of Jackson, Woodruff, Prairie, and Monroe.

Hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, environmental education, and interpretation are priority public uses of the National Wildlife Refuge System. These wildlife-dependent uses are carefully managed on Cache River National Wildlife Refuge to ensure they are compatible with refuge purposes and provide safe, high-quality, low-impact, recreational opportunities.

Users of the Refuge must obey all signs pertaining to visitation, access, and public use regulations. All public uses, including hunting and fishing, are conducted in accordance with state and federal regulations as supplemented by the following special refuge regulations.

Access and Vehicle Use

Cache River National Wildlife Refuge is in the acquisition phase and the attached map shows the current ownership at the time of printing this brochure. Isolated land tracts that have been purchased are scattered throughout the acquisition zone and have been posted with refuge boundary signs and marked with yellow boundary paint. Access to many of these refuge lands is currently through private lands and all refuge visitors must obtain permission from adjacent landowners prior to crossing private land to reach refuge lands.

*The Refuge is closed to ALL other entry and public use November 10-18, 2012 during the Quota Gun Deer Hunt. Only Quota Gun Deer Hunt permit holders are allowed to enter or use the Refuge during this hunt and only for the purpose of deer hunting.

Waterfowl sanctuaries, indicated on the refuge map, are closed to ALL public entry and use, including hunting and fishing, from November 15 through February 28.

Most refuge roads are open to the general public. However, roads may be closed at any time road conditions or other administrative needs warrant. A locked gate or other barrier, road closed sign, or no vehicle sign means the road is closed to ALL vehicle travel, but not to foot travel unless signed otherwise.

All conventional vehicles must stay on maintained roads or established parking areas and meet all applicable federal and state requirements regulating the use of a licensed motor vehicle. Vehicles equipped with oversize tractor lug type tires are prohibited.

Recreational use of ATVs is not allowed. ATVs may ONLY be used September 1 to February 28 and ONLY to provide access for hunting. ATVs may ONLY be used on roads, trails, or established parking areas designated (marked) for ATV use. An ATV is defined as a vehicle with a maximum tire pressure of 15 psi, maximum dry weight of 1550 lbs., and with tires having a maximum centerline lug depth of one inch. Only those vehicles originally designed by their manufacturer to be ATVs are allowed; mini-trucks or other modified off-road vehicles are prohibited.

Horses/mules, personal watercraft (e.g., jet-ski, etc), hover craft, and airboats are prohibited.

General Refuge Regulations

Public use of the Refuge is permitted throughout the year. Permitted activities are hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, environmental education, and interpretation.

Nighttime use of the Refuge is limited to fishing, frogging, and/or raccoon/opossum hunting and the appropriate tackle/gear must be possessed.

Commercial activities

Commercial guiding for waterfowl hunting or any other hunting activity is prohibited.

Anyone planning to pursue any other commercial activity (e.g., fishing, filming, photography, collecting acorns, etc.) on refuge land, lakes, streams or waters, or on adjacent waters where riparian rights may be vested with the Refuge is required to first obtain a refuge Special Use Permit.

Prohibited activities include:

Open alcohol containers on refuge roads, ATV trails, parking areas, boat ramps, fishing piers, or observation decks.

Commercial guiding/hunting.

Camping, including mooring houseboats to refuge property.

Littering (including, but not limited to, shotgun shell hulls and cigarette butts).

Building fires.

Cutting or defacing trees, shrubs, or other plants.

Searching for or removal of artifacts.

Use of horses or mules.

Possession or use of fireworks.

Taking or possessing turtles or mollusks.

Possession, use, or manufacturing of illegal drugs.

Use of artificial light to locate wildlife, except as authorized for frogging and raccoon/opossum hunting.

Use of firearms, and possession or use of archery equipment and crossbows, except during refuge hunts that allow their use.

Loaded hunting firearms or muzzleloaders in or on a vehicle, ATV, or boat under power. "Loaded" is defined as having shells in the firearm or ignition device on the muzzleloader.

Target practice or non-hunting discharge of firearms.

Dog field trials and organized training events.

Possession or use of non-biodegradable materials to mark trails.

Failure to remove all marking materials from the Refuge following the hunt.

Use of audio devices, electronic callers, recordings or similar artificial devices for simulating the call of the Ivory-billed Woodpecker or any other bird (except for goose hunting under State Conservation Order).

Sport Fishing and Frogging Regulations

Sport fishing and frogging are permitted year-round in accordance with state regulations. Crawfish may be collected for personal use only. The owner's name and address must be permanently affixed to each trap.

Boats with the owner's name and address permanently displayed or valid registration may be left on the Refuge from March 1 through October 31.

Commercial fishing requires a refuge Special Use Permit.

Cache River National Wildlife Refuge
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
26320 Highway 33 South
Augusta, AR 72006
870/347 2614

<http://www.fws.gov/cacheriver>
<http://www.fws.gov/southeast>

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

July 2012



2012-2013 General Hunting Permit – Cache River NWR

This permit must be signed to be valid. Permit expires 06/30/2013. It must be carried by the hunter at all times while on the refuge and in possession of hunting gear. NOTE: Quota Permit is also required for Quota Gun Deer Hunt. I have read and understand the refuge hunting regulations and realize that hunting on the Refuge is a privilege and willingly agree to allow USFWS and AGFC Officers to inspect or search all equipment used during my hunt.

Signature (Permit not transferable)