

Delta

*National Wildlife Refuge
General Fishing and
Hunting Regulations
2012 - 2013*



Southeast Louisiana Refuges
Delta National Wildlife Refuge
61389 Highway 434
Lacombe, LA 70445
985/882 2000
www.fws.gov/southeastlouisiana

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

July 2012



Delta Refuge Hunting Permit

When signed and in your possession, this serves as your permit for all refuge hunts, and acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

Expires June 30, 2013.

Signature (permits are not transferable)

**Delta National Wildlife Refuge
General Fishing and Hunting Regulations**

The regulations listed below supplement Louisiana State hunting and fishing regulations and the general regulations governing hunting and fishing on national wildlife refuges set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations.

All hunters must possess a refuge permit. This brochure when signed and in your possession, serves as a permit for all refuge hunts. This brochure is also available online at: <http://www.fws.gov/southeast/pubs.dlthnt.pdf>

Hunters and fishermen are cautioned that travel to the refuge may be hazardous due to rough water, fog and swells from ships and crew boats.

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on national wildlife refuges must comply with all provisions of state and local law. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.42 and specific refuge regulations in 50 CFR Part 32).

Only portable deer stands may be used. Deer stands may be erected one day before the deer archery season and must be removed from the refuge within one day after the season closes. Hunters may place only one deer stand on the refuge. Deer stands must have owners name, address and phone number clearly printed on the stand. Stands must be placed in a non-hunting position when not in use.

No firearms may be discharged within 250 yards of buildings or worksites such as oil or gas production facilities.

Possession of buckshot, lead shot, slugs, rifles, or rifle ammunition, while hunting on the refuge is prohibited.

Hunters participating in the special dog season for rabbits are required to wear a “hunters orange” hat.

All commercial activities including guiding or participating in a guided hunt are prohibited.

Target shooting on the refuge is prohibited.

Youth hunters under the age of 16 must be supervised by an adult at least 21 years of age during all hunts. Two youths may be supervised by one adult during small game and migratory bird hunts. Only one youth may be supervised during big game hunts. Youth must remain within normal voice contact of the adult who is supervising them. Parents or adult guardians are responsible for ensuring that hunters under the age of 16 do not engage in conduct that would constitute a violation of refuge regulations.

All refuge lands between Main Pass and Raphael Pass are closed to public entry during the State waterfowl hunting season, except during early teal season and conservation order for light geese.

Longbow, compound bow, and crossbow or any bow drawn, held, or released by mechanical means will be a legal means of take during the deer archery season.

The refuge is open from 1/2 hour before legal sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset with the exception that hunters may enter the refuge no earlier than 4 am. Waterfowl hunting must cease by 12 noon and all decoys and blinds removed from the hunting area by 1 pm.

We prohibit the use or possession of any type of material used as flagging or trail markers, except bright eyes or reflective tape.

Air boats, mud boats, go-devils, aircraft, and air cooled propulsion engines are prohibited on refuge waters.

The use of trail cameras on the refuge is prohibited.

Camping is not permitted on the refuge.

The use of deer decoys on the refuge is prohibited.

We prohibit possession or distribution of bait while in the field and hunting with the aid of bait, including any grain, salt, minerals, or any non-natural occurring food attractant on the refuge.

Use or possession of alcohol while hunting is prohibited.

Cutting, removing or damaging trees and other live plant matter is prohibited.

Fires are not permitted on the refuge.

Specific Sport Fishing Regulations:

We allow recreational fishing and crabbing on designated areas of the refuge in accordance with State regulations subject to the following conditions:

We only allow recreational fishing and crabbing from 1/2 hour before legal sunrise until 1/2 hour after legal sunset. However, during State waterfowl hunting seasons, we only allow recreational fishing and crabbing from after 12 noon until 1/2 hour after legal sunset.

We prohibit all commercial finfishing and shellfishing.

We prohibit the use of trotlines, limblines, slat traps, jug lines, nets, and alligator lines.

We prohibit the taking of turtle.

Specific Hunting Regulations:

State hunting regulations apply unless otherwise listed.

Type Hunt	Season	Special Regulations
Archery deer Bucks only October 1-15 Either sex October 16-31 and day after close of State duck season until end of State archery season	October 1-31 and from the day after the close of the State duck season until end of State archery season	Bow and arrow only. Hunters are encouraged to complete a certified Bowhunter Education course. No dogs or “man drives”. Hogs may be taken with bow and arrow during deer archery season.
Rabbit	From the day after the close of the State waterfowl season until the end of the State rabbit season.	Shotguns only, non-toxic shot only, shot size must be #4 or smaller. Dogs may be used.
Waterfowl (ducks and geese)	Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday during State teal, general State Waterfowl, and “light goose” special conservation seasons	Hunting permitted until noon. Temporary blinds only that must be removed daily by noon. Retrievers are allowed. Coots, Rails and Gallinules may be taken from therefuge only during waterfowl hunting days. Hunting is allowed on those portions of the refuge that lie northwest of Main Pass and south of Raphael Pass (shown on map).