

Bayou Cocodrie National Wildlife Refuge

Bayou Cocodrie National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1992, is located in Concordia Parish in east Central Louisiana. The 13,168 acre refuge is composed of some of the last remaining, least disturbed bottomland hardwoods in the Mississippi River Delta. Due to the area's diverse habitat, several wildlife species including game mammals, waterfowl, and Neotropical songbirds utilize the refuge. The refuge is open year round to the public. However, hunting is only permitted on the refuge during specific times of the year.

General Regulations

Hunting and fishing regulations are designed to provide safe recreational opportunities through wise use of renewable wildlife resources. Hunting and fishing are permitted in accordance with Federal regulations governing public use on national wildlife refuges as set forth in Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting and fishing will be in accordance with applicable State regulations subject to the following conditions.

Passes, Permits and Other Requirements

Entrance Pass
All visitors, including hunters and anglers, must purchase a refuge entrance pass before entering the refuge. **Exception:** At least one visitor per group (vehicle or boat) must have an entrance pass to permit the other members of his/her party onto the refuge.

If entering the refuge by car, an entrance pass must be visibly displayed with the pass number facing up on the front dashboard. If entering by boat, an entrance pass must be possessed by an occupant of the boat while on the refuge.

Annual entrance passes can be purchased for \$12.50 and daily passes can be purchased for \$5.00. Either pass can be purchased at the refuge headquarters office during regular weekday business hours or be obtained by mail after sending an appropriate money order or cashier's

check. Entrance passes are nontransferable. A fee of \$5.00 will be charged to replace lost entrance passes.

Other acceptable entrance passes are: The Federal Duck Stamp, Golden Eagle Passport, Golden Age Passport, or Golden Access Passport.

Permits

Refuge hunting and fishing permits are free. Hunters and anglers 16 years of age and older are required to have all valid state hunting and/or fishing licenses and a signed refuge permit as well. When signed and in your possession, the permit section of this brochure serves as your refuge hunt and/or fishing permit for that respective use and acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

Permits may be obtained by mail or from the refuge headquarters office during regular weekday business hours. To help save tax dollars, hunters and anglers are encouraged to retain and use the same permit throughout the entire season. Permits are nontransferable.

All individuals entering the refuge during the hunting season must register/sign-in at designated check stations. This includes those visitors/hunters entering the refuge on another individual's entrance pass. Non-permitted /non-registered individuals are not permitted on the refuge.

Other Requirements

Bowhunters must possess proof of completion of the International Bowhunters Education Program.

Bows are permitted only during the refuge archery hunt. State regulations governing equipment, including, but not limited to, drug tipped arrows, pods, broadhead size, etc., is applicable. Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries regulations governing crossbow use will apply to refuge hunters.



Specific Hunting Regulations

The possession of slugs or rifle ammunition larger than .22 caliber rimfire is prohibited during the refuge small game and woodcock hunts. Possession of buckshot is prohibited.

Firearms carried in vehicles or boats and on ATV's must be unloaded and encased or dismantled. Loaded is defined as shells in gun or caps on muzzleloader. Firearms are permitted on the refuge only during the applicable gun hunts.

Physically challenged or disabled public users are encouraged to consult refuge staff for available options and alternatives that may make their visit more enjoyable.

State bag limits apply unless otherwise specified. The only seasons open are listed in this brochure.

Hunting from old stands erected in past years or using old structures/camps is strictly prohibited. Old dilapidated stands and structures are unsafe for any use.

Hunter Orange is required during the refuge muzzleloader hunt and youth gun hunt. Four hundred (400) inches of Hunter Orange and a Hunter Orange cap must be displayed during these hunts. Hunter Orange is also recommended during the small game hunt and woodcock hunt.

Any hunter under 16 years of age must possess proof of completion of an approved Hunter Safety Course and be accompanied at all times by an adult 21 years of age or older. Each adult can supervise only one youth.

Hunters using shotguns to hunt small game and woodcock on the refuge are required to use an approved non-toxic shot.

All game taken on the refuge must be checked daily at one of the self-clearing check stations indicated on the map in this brochure.

During the youth gun deer hunt, only the youth is permitted to carry a

firearm. It is illegal to hunt or shoot deer with firearms smaller than a .22 caliber center-fire or a shotgun loaded with anything other than rifled slugs.

Entering from private property by means of walking, ATV, boat, etc... is strictly prohibited.

The primary method of taking game on the refuge is still hunting. The only time the refuge is not limited to still hunting is during the woodcock season and the second small game season.

All stands must be removed from the refuge daily.

The refuge will be open during specific hours only. Refuge hours will be posted at all registration/check stations. **All hunters must be off the refuge by closing time.** Hunters are cautioned not to attempt to take game at a time that may extend their departure beyond refuge closing hours. Closing hours will be strictly enforced.

Refuge Hunts

Only the species listed below may be taken. State bag limits apply.

Exception: 1 deer per day on the refuge, **not to exceed 6 deer per year.**

Rabbit and Squirrel

Deer (Youth)

Deer (Archery)

Deer (Muzzleloader)

Woodcock (Gun)

Incidental Species

Oct. 7-Nov. 3, 2000 (without dogs)
Nov. 6-Nov. 10, 2000 (without dogs)
Jan. 22-Feb. 11, 2001(with/without dogs)

Nov. 4-Nov. 5, 2000 (either sex)

Nov. 6-Nov. 12, 2000 (either sex)
Nov. 17-Jan. 19, 2001 (either sex)

Nov. 13-Nov. 16, 2000 (either sex)

Jan. 22-Jan. 31, 2001

Coyote, Beaver, Feral hog, Raccoon
Bag limit exception: 1 raccoon per day.

Incidental species can only be taken while a hunter is attempting to take small game, deer or woodcock. A hunter cannot hunt the refuge with the sole intent of taking just these incidental species.

Access

All motor vehicles are restricted to refuge parking areas or parish roads. ATV's are restricted to designated trails and are only allowed during the



Specific Fishing Regulations

Prohibited Activities



hunting seasons and the month of September. **Using your ATV to travel off a designated trail in order to retrieve game is strictly prohibited.** Only ATV's with a maximum tire pressure of 5 PSI are permitted. Parking areas and ATV trails may be closed to all use due to adverse weather conditions. Hunters must not block any gate, road, entrance or trail with their vehicle.

Boats

All state boating regulations apply including, but not limited to, running lights, registration, and personal floatation devices. Boats may be used to access the refuge from Bayou Cocodrie or Cross Bayou. Entering the refuge from U.S. Highway 84 is prohibited. Boats may be manually unloaded into the water at the end of Boggy Bayou Road. All boats must be docked on the banks of the refuge.

State creel limits apply.

Fishing is permitted during daylight hours only.

Fishing is permitted on the Cross Bayou Cut and all tributaries that fill with water from Bayou Cocodrie during high water stages.

The following activities are prohibited on the refuge:

Entering the refuge from private property and/or hunt leases.

The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting.

Baiting or hunting over bait.

Possession of lead shot during all hunts.

Taking, collecting or disturbing any plant or wildlife other than as specified in the refuge regulations.

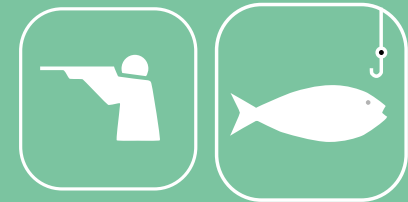
Target shooting.

Climbing trees to hunt by driving nails, spikes, or other metal objects; using a tree that has existing nails, spikes or metal objects; or using climbing spikes.

(continued)

Bayou Cocodrie

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting and Fishing Regulations 2000-2001

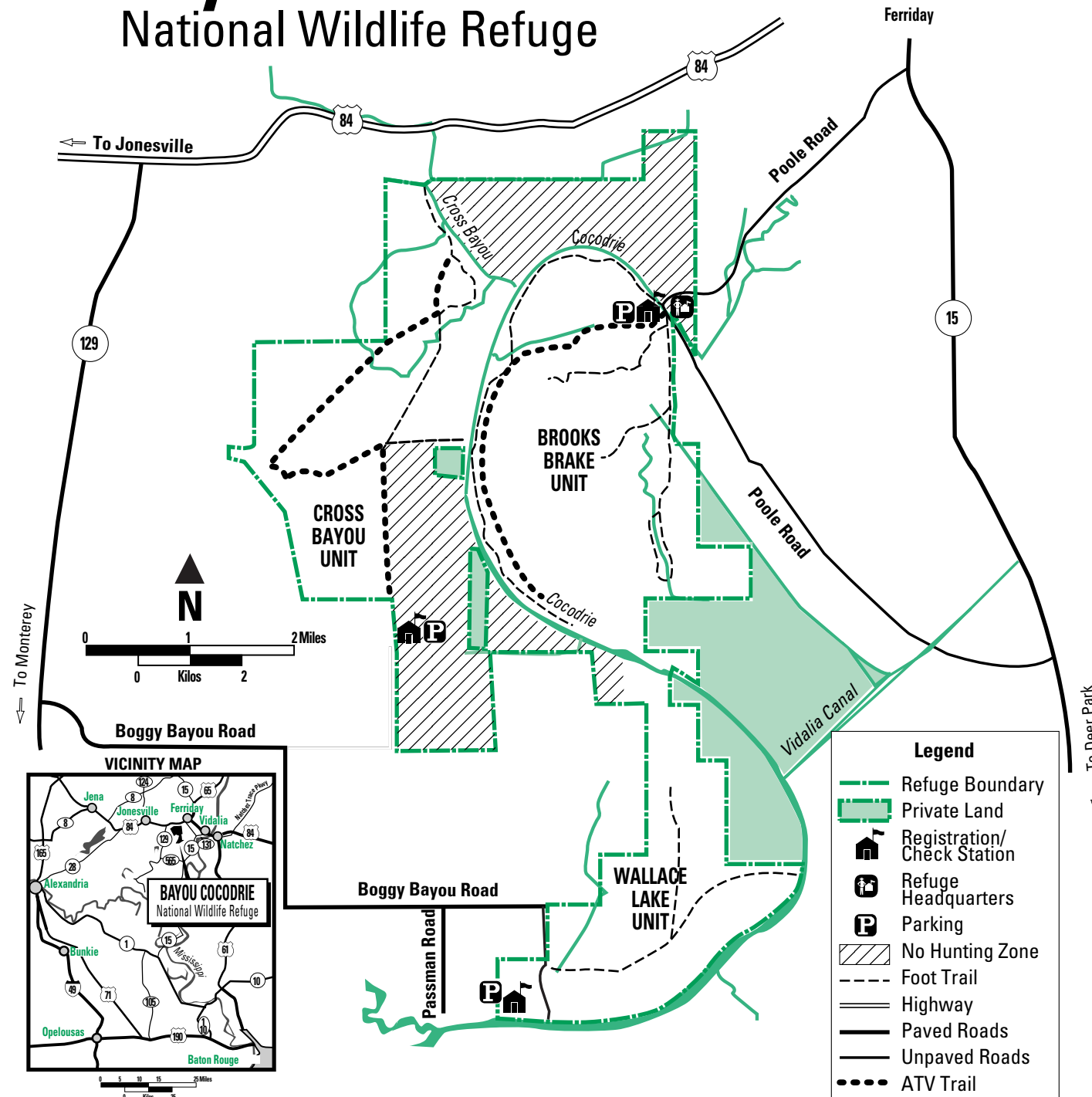


Bayou Cocodrie Refuge Hunting and Fishing Permit 2000-2001

When signed and in your possession, this serves as your hunting and/or fishing permit, and acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

Signature (Permit is non-transferable)

Bayou Cocodrie National Wildlife Refuge



Hunting within 150 feet of any refuge road or trail.

Hunting in designated "No Hunting Zones."

Marking areas with flagging, paper, paint, etc....

Use of horses or mules.

Camping/overnight parking.

Fires.

Cutting firewood or trimming vegetation.

Searching for or removing any object of antiquity including arrowheads and pottery shards.

Littering.

Unleashed pets.

Spot-lighting.

Man-drives for deer.

Trapping.

Hunting into or shooting across any open field.

Black bears are protected! The Louisiana black bear is listed as a threatened species under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973. It is unlawful for anyone to take, harass, disturb, etc. any Louisiana black bear. Criminal penalty: up to \$50,000 and 1 year imprisonment.

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.

Signs and Boundaries



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.

Bayou Cocodrie
National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 1772
Ferriday, Louisiana 71334
318/336 7119
<http://www.fws.gov>

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

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