

Bogue Chitto National Wildlife Refuge Hunting, Fishing and Camping Regulations 2019-2020



Bogue Chitto Refuge Hunting Permit 2019-2020

When signed and in your possession, this serves as your permit to hunt on the Refuge. It acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

Signature (permits are not transferable).
Expires August 31, 2020

Bogue Chitto National Wildlife Refuge General Fishing, Hunting, and Camping Regulations

The regulations listed below supplement Louisiana and Mississippi 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 plants and animals are protected from hunting unless a specific refuge hunting season allows for the take of animals under this permit.

Hunters are required to have a Refuge permit. This brochure when signed and in your possession, serves as a permit for all Refuge hunts. Individuals using the Refuge are subject to inspection of permits, licenses, hunting equipment, bag limits, boats, vehicles, and their contents by wildlife officers.

Unless stated otherwise in this brochure, all Refuge lands are open during daylight shooting hours only, with the exception of legal night time hunting activities. Daylight shooting hours are from ½ hour before legal sunrise to ½ hour after legal sunset.

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).

Motorized vehicles are only permitted on public roads and designated parking areas.

The Refuge will be closed to all hunting, except waterfowl, when the Pearl River reaches 15.5 feet on the gauge at Pearl River. Call the National Weather Service at 985/649 0357 for current reading.

State hunting regulations apply unless otherwise listed. When the Refuge follows State seasons (as listed below); those Refuge lands in Mississippi follow Mississippi State seasons and those Refuge lands in Louisiana follow Louisiana State seasons.

An adult age 21 or older must supervise youth hunters during all hunts. State regulations define youth hunter age and hunter-education requirements. One adult may supervise two youths during small game hunts and migratory bird hunts, but is only allowed to supervise one youth during big game hunts. Youths must remain within normal voice contact of the adult who is supervising them. Adult guardians are responsible for ensuring that youth hunters do not engage in conduct that would constitute a violation of refuge regulations.

For the purpose of hunting, we prohibit possession of slugs, buckshot, rifle, or pistol ammunition unless otherwise specified and allowed during deer gun seasons.

Dogs are allowed for hunting migratory birds, woodcock, squirrels, rabbits, raccoon, and hogs during designated seasons only.

Big Game Regulations

Legal primitive firearms for primitive firearms season are defined by State law in the State you are hunting in.

All state approved archery equipment will be allowed as a legal means of take during the deer archery season.

It is illegal to construct or to hunt from any permanent stands or blinds. Valid permit holders are allowed to possess and hunt from a temporary stand or blind on the Refuge. All stands on the Refuge must be identified with owner's state license/sportman's identification number permanently and legibly written on or attached to the stand. Stands left on the area do not reserve the hunting locations. Temporary stands may be placed 48 hours prior to hunt and must be removed within 48 hours after the season closes. Stands not in compliance with these regulations may be confiscated and disposed of by the Refuge. We allow only one deer stand per hunter on the refuge.

All hunters, except waterfowl hunters and nighttime raccoon and opossum hunters, must abide by State WMA hunter-orange (or blaze pink in Louisiana) regulations during any open deer firearm or primitive firearm season on the Refuge.

During the dog season for squirrels and rabbits, all hunters, including archery hunters (while on the ground), except waterfowl hunters, must wear a hunter-orange (or blaze pink in Louisiana) hat or cap.

Deer hunters hunting from concealed blinds must display State WMA hunter-orange (or blaze pink in Louisiana) required regulations above or around their blinds; this must be visible from 360 degrees.

In the event the Refuge is closed during the deer gun hunts due to high water, alternative hunt days may be provided. Details will be provided in a news release and on the Refuge website: www.fws.gov/boguechitto. (Proposed dates, up to 22 days from December 30 - January 20, 2020; but only as many days as lost from the high water closure.)

For all deer hunts in Mississippi except youth hunts, legal buck antler restrictions apply.

All bow hunters are encouraged to complete a certified Bowhunter Education Course.

Migratory Bird Regulations

Waterfowl hunting must cease by noon and all decoys, spent shells, and blinds must be removed from the hunting area by 1 pm.

Upland Game/Small Game

All other hunters, including archery hunters (while on the ground), except waterfowl hunters, must wear a hunter-orange cap or hat (or blaze pink in Louisiana) during the season for squirrels and rabbits. All hunters using shotguns for small game must use approved non-toxic shot. Small game also may be hunted with .22 magnum, .17 and .22 caliber rimfire rifles.

Camping

Primitive camping is permitted within 100 feet of designated streams. This includes either bank of the Bogue Chitto River, Wilson Slough, West Pearl River south of Wilson Slough, and Refuge lands along the East Pearl River and Holmes Bayou.

No campsite can be left unattended longer than 24 hours. Campsites cannot be established longer than 14 consecutive days. Campers must mark their campsite with the owner's name, address, phone number, and dates of occupancy in a conspicuous location at the front of the tents.

The Refuge is closed to camping when the Pearl River reaches 15.5 feet on the gauge at Pearl River.

Specific Sport Fishing Regulations

Recreational fishing is permitted year-round in accordance with State regulations subject to the following conditions. All Federal and State regulations governing boating, creel limits, and license requirements must be followed by Refuge anglers.

Limb lines are permitted, but must be 100% cotton. Trotlines are permitted, but the last five feet of trotlines must be attached by a cotton line which extends into the water and be tended every 24 hours. All non- attended fishing gear on or attached to the Refuge must be tagged with the owner's name, address, and phone number.

The fishing pond at the Pearl River Turnaround is open except closed from April through the first full week of June. Non-gas powered boats may be hand launched when open. The use of this fishing pond area is permitted from 1/2 hour before legal sunrise to 1/2 hour after legal sunset. When open, we only allow hook and line as a legal method of take in the fishing ponds at the Pearl River Turnaround.

Bogue Chitto
National Wildlife Refuge
61389 Highway 434
Lacombe, LA 70445
985/882 2000
www.fws.gov/southeastlouisiana

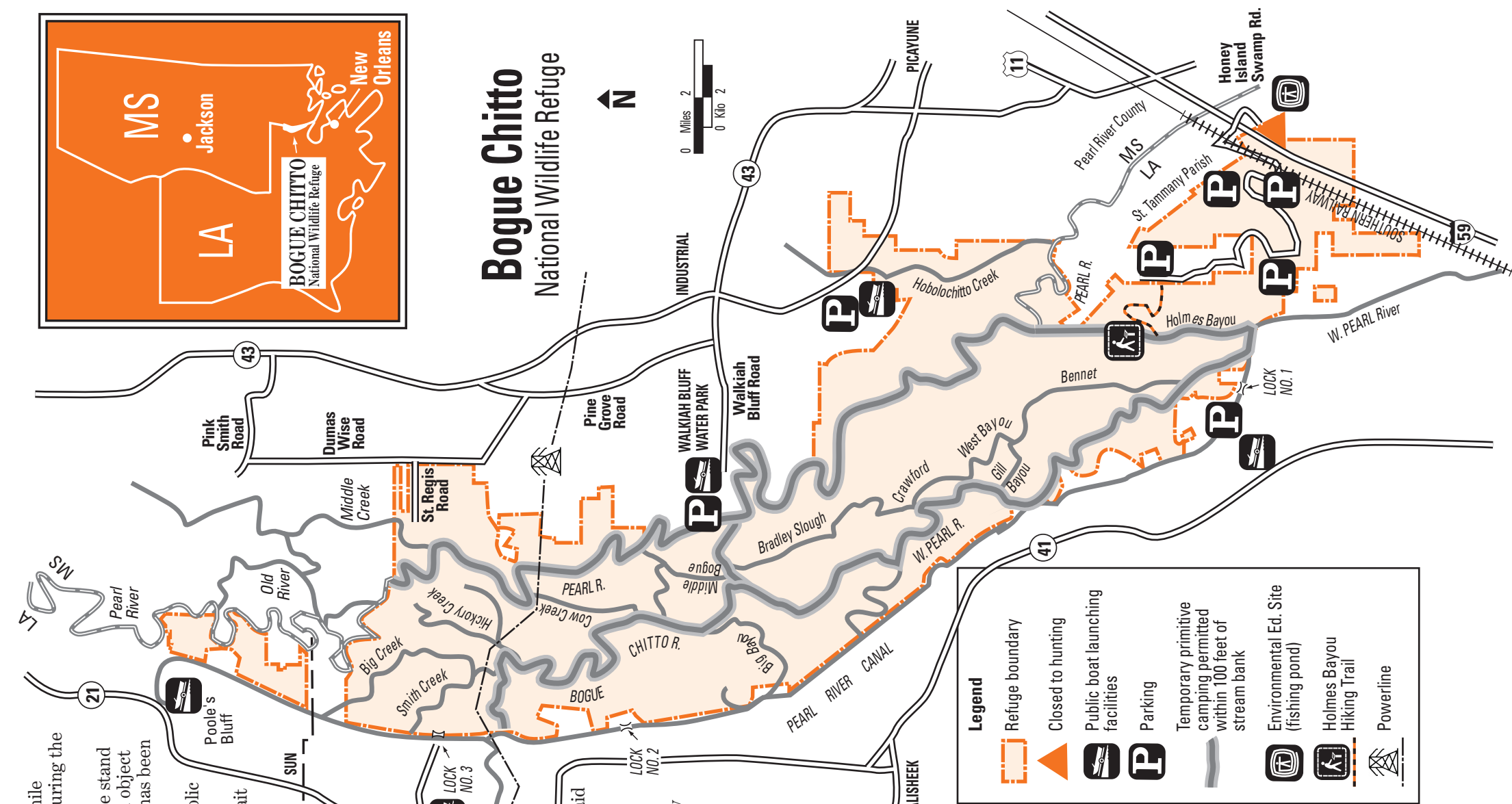
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD

August 2019



Prohibited Activities:

- The possession of toxic shot while hunting is prohibited, except during the deer gun hunts.
- Hunting from a permanent tree stand or from a tree in which a metal object (such as nails, spikes, screws) has been driven.
- The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting.
- Possession or distribution of bait while in the field and hunting with the Washington Parish St. Tammany Parish aid of bait, including any grain, salt, minerals, or any non-naturally-occurring food attractant.
- The use of horses and all-terrain vehicles
- All commercial hunting and fishing activities including guiding or participating in a paid guided hunt.
- Target shooting.
- Incidental take of hogs during the squirrel, rabbit, and turkey seasons.
- Houseboats within Refuge boundaries except for navigational purposes.
- Trail cameras.
- The use of deer or turkey gobbler decoys.
- It is unlawful to hunt from or discharge a firearm within 150 feet from the centerline of a public road, Refuge road, designated or maintained trail, building, residence, designated public facility, or above ground oil, gas, or electric facilities.
- The use of any type of material used as flagging or trail markers, except reflective tacks.
- Field dressing game (hogs included) within 300 feet of any road, trail or parking lot.
- Cutting, removing, or damaging live trees.
- Searching for or removing any object of archeological or historical significance including arrowheads, pottery or other artifacts.
- Blocking gates or roads with vehicles.



Legend

- Refuge boundary
- Closed to hunting
- Public boat launching facilities
- Parking
- Temporary primitive camping permitted within 100 feet of stream bank
- Environmental Ed. Site (fishing pond)
- Holmes Bayou Hiking Trail
- Powerline

Bogue Chitto NWR Hunt Regulations 2019-2020

Activity	Season: Mississippi (MS) and Louisiana (LA)	Hunting Hours	Bag Limit	Special Regulations
Archery Deer	State season applies.	State Shooting Hours	State Bag Limit	State regulations apply. All State approved archery equipment is allowed. Deer either sex. Hogs may be taken with archery equipment during the deer archery season. Archery allowed in MS during the MS primitive weapon and gun seasons.
Youth Gun Deer	November 8-10, 2019	State Shooting Hours	State Bag Limit	Deer either sex. Still hunting only. No dogs. Hogs may be taken as incidental game.
General Gun Deer	November 23-December 1, 2019	State Shooting Hours	State Bag Limit	Deer either sex on Saturday and Sunday. Bucks only on weekdays. Still hunting only. No dogs. Hogs may be taken as incidental take.
	December 21-29, 2019	State Shooting Hours	State Bag Limit	Deer either sex on Saturday and Sunday. Bucks only on weekdays. Still hunting only. No dogs. Hogs may be taken as incidental take.
Primitive Weapon/Archery (MS) and Primitive Firearm (LA) Deer	January 21 - 31, 2020	State Shooting Hours	State Bag Limit	Either sex. Still hunting only. No dogs. Hogs may be taken as incidental take.
Squirrel and Rabbit	State Fall Season (including Youth Season in MS). Closed during all deer gun and primitive firearms hunts.	State Shooting Hours	State Bag Limit	Only non-toxic shot (size #4 or smaller) or .22 cal rimfire ammunition or smaller is permitted. Dogs may be used from October 21 - November 3, 2019 and from February 1 - 28, 2020.
Raccoon and Opossum	LA - October 1 - 31, 2019	State Shooting Hours	State Bag Limit	Dogs are allowed. Only non-toxic shot (#4 or smaller) or .22 cal rimfire ammunition or smaller is permitted.
	MS - Opening day of State Season until November 30			
Turkey	LA - April 6-28, 2020 Youth Season - March 28-29, 2020 MS - State Season (including State Youth Season)	State Shooting Hours	State Bag Limit	State rules and regulations apply. No shot larger than BB or T sized shot is allowed while hunting. Only non-toxic shot is allowed.
Waterfowl and Coots (ducks, geese and coots)	State General Waterfowl Seasons including Youth Season apply. Open to hunting during the special "light goose" conservation season.	1/2 hour before legal sunrise until noon	State Bag Limit	All decoys, spent shells, and blinds must be removed by 1 pm.
Woodcock	State season applies.	State Shooting Hours	State Bag Limit	Only non-toxic shot is permitted using #4 shot or smaller. We allow dogs to locate, point, and retrieve.
Hog (dogs only)	February 1 - 28, 2020	State Shooting Hours	State Bag Limit	May be taken only with the aid of trained hog hunting dogs. All hogs must be killed prior to removal from the Refuge. During this season, only shotguns with non toxic shot or .22 cal. or smaller pistols or rifles with rimfire ammunition are permitted.