

# Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge

## Hunting and Fishing



The Blue Goose is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of lands and waters managed for the benefit of wildlife and people.



### Welcome

Welcome to Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge (NWR). Established in 1963, Browns Park NWR contains 12,150 acres of wetland, grassland, and upland habitat along the Green River in northwest Colorado. Browns Park NWR is managed to provide sanctuary for migratory birds, conserve endangered and threatened species, and offer wildlife-dependent recreational opportunities for people.

### Safety

The Refuge is located in a remote and rugged area with no public services. Cell phone coverage is extremely limited. Visitors are highly encouraged to bring extra supplies in case of an emergency, including water, food, and fuel.

Gas stations are located 60 miles away in Maybell, Colorado, and 37 miles away in Dutch John, Utah.

### Prohibited Activities

- All commercial guiding and outfitting activities.
- Carrying, possessing, or discharging fireworks or explosives.
- Target shooting.
- Use or possession of alcohol while hunting.
- Collecting, possessing, or destroying any plant, or animal or part thereof (alive or dead).
- Collection of shed antlers.

### Special Shot Restrictions

Only approved non-toxic shot may be possessed and used in the field while hunting waterfowl, cottontail rabbits, and mourning doves. When hunting designated species with firearms other than shotgun, non-toxic bullets are highly encouraged to eliminate lead poisoning of wildlife.

### Vehicles

To protect wildlife from disturbance and minimize habitat damage, all motorized vehicles, off-road vehicles (ORVs), and bicycles must stay on developed roads. The speed limit on all Refuge roads is 25 mph unless posted otherwise. Driving off-road by any type of vehicle is prohibited. Watch for seasonal road closure signs March 1 - July 31.

### Parking

Vehicles must park in pull-outs or within 10 feet of the road. Overnight parking is not permitted except for campers in the designated campgrounds. Overnight parking for river floaters is allowed with prior approval from the Refuge staff.

### Government Property

Individuals altering or destroying government property, including cutting or altering boundary fences to access the Refuge, will be prosecuted. Check with the Refuge staff for availability and location of horse or stock gates.

### Camping

Camping is permitted in designated sites only at the campgrounds and is limited to 14 days in a 28-day period. The use of generators is allowed only from 7:00 am to 10:00 pm.

- Pack out all your trash.
- Campfires are allowed only in the metal fire rings provided at the campgrounds.
- Campfires should never be left unattended and must be completely extinguished.

### Horses

Horseback riding is permitted. Use of certified weed-free hay is required to minimize further introduction of invasive plants on the Refuge. Horses are not permitted in the campgrounds. If the corrals by the Swinging Bridge campground are not being used by local ranchers, horses may be kept in these corrals.

### Hunting Regulations Table

Hunting is in accordance with State regulations. In addition, Refuge-specific regulations must be followed, and are listed in the table below and described in this brochure.

Activity	Season Dates and Harvest	Other Regulations
<b>Elk, moose, mule deer, pronghorn antelope</b>	State season and regulations apply	Hunter access is allowed 1½ hours before sunrise to 1½ hours after sunset.  The Refuge spans Colorado Hunting Units 1 and 201, which are limited quota areas and may not be hunted with a general deer or elk license.
<b>Coot, duck, goose, merganser</b>	State season and regulations apply	Hunter access is allowed 1½ hours before sunrise to 1½ hours after sunset.  Waterfowl hunting is permitted on Butch Cassidy and Hog Lake wetlands. A section of the Butch Cassidy wetland crosses the Utah State line and requires a Utah State hunting license.  The Green River is also open to waterfowl hunting except in the closed areas. Hunters must be within 20 yards of the riverbank.
<b>Cottontail rabbit, mourning dove</b>	State season and regulations apply	Hunter access is allowed 1½ hours before sunrise to 1½ hours after sunset.  Only approved non-toxic shot may be possessed and used in the field.

See map for hunting areas

**Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge**  
1318 Highway 318  
Maybell, CO 81640

970-365-3613

[www.fws.gov/refuge/browns\\_park](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/browns_park)

**For State Relay Service**  
TTY / Voice: 711

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**  
[www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov)

**For Refuge Information**  
1-800-344-WILD

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### Accessibility

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## Hunting and Fishing Regulations

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 are allowed on the Refuge in accordance with State regulations and the Refuge-specific regulations in this brochure.

### Hunting Regulations

Some areas are closed to hunting – be familiar with regulations and boundaries. Hunting is permitted in designated areas for elk, moose, mule deer, pronghorn antelope, duck, coot, goose, merganser, mourning dove, and cottontail rabbit. Hunting or trapping of all other species is prohibited. Hunting of designated species is restricted to current State seasons only.

### Firearms

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuge System lands 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.)

### Hours

The Refuge is open daily from sunrise to sunset. During hunting season, the refuge is open from 1½ hours before sunrise to 1½ hours after sunset. During closed hours, public activity is limited to the campgrounds by campers in designated sites. The Refuge headquarters is open from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm, Monday through Friday, except on Federal holidays.

### Blinds and Stands

Portable or temporary blinds constructed from dead vegetation may be used. No tree stands, cutting live vegetation, or digging pit blinds is permitted.

### Personal Equipment

All personal equipment, including decoys and portable blinds, must be removed daily.

### Dogs

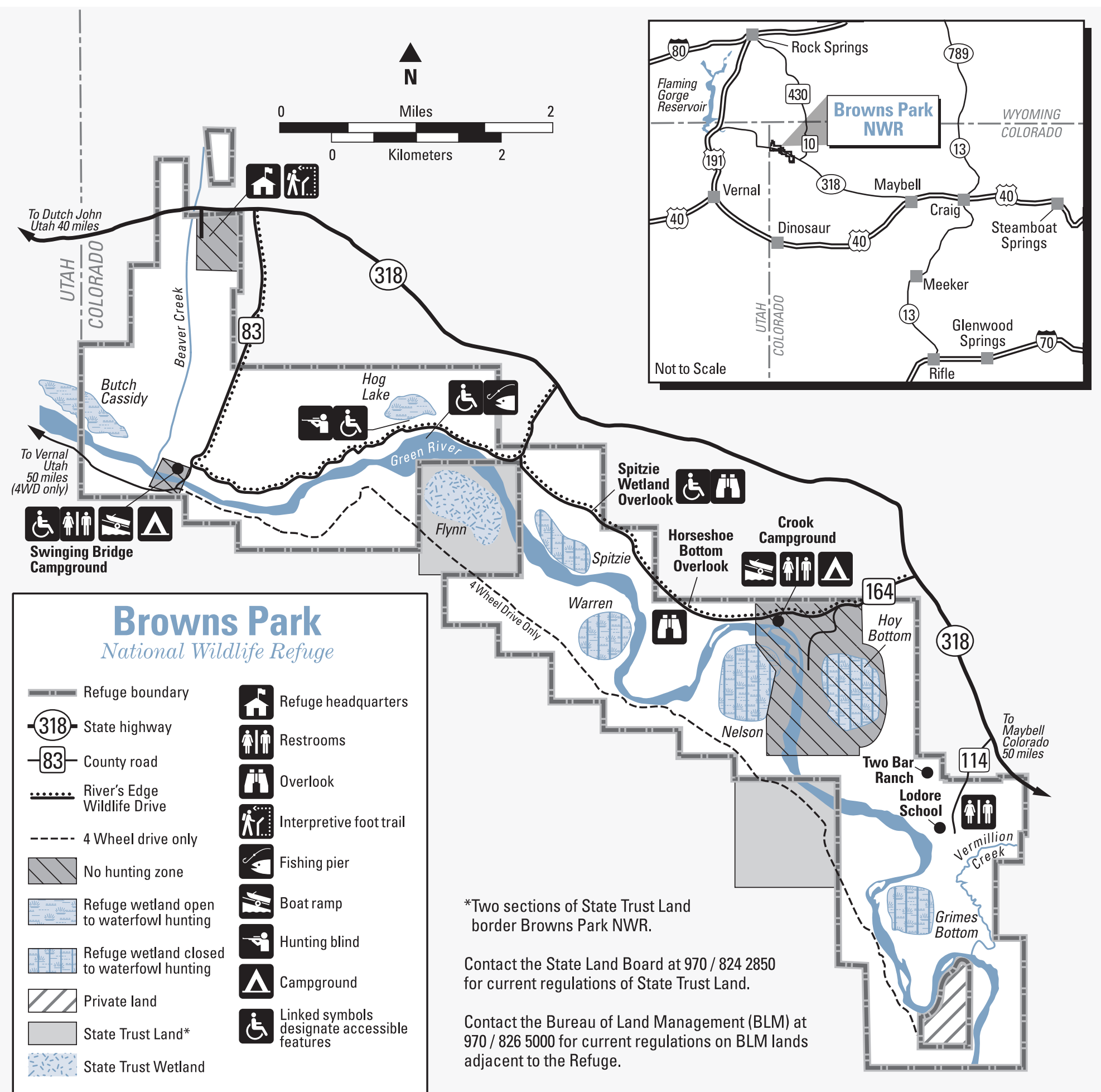
The use of dogs for hunting and retrieving small game is encouraged. Dogs must be under the owner's control at all times.

### Fishing Regulations

Fishing is permitted on the Green River and in Beaver Creek in accordance with State fishing regulations.

To protect breeding and migrating birds, fishing is prohibited on any Refuge wetland. Colorado pikeminnow, an endangered species, must be released immediately.

Use of spears, crossbows, and bows and arrows for taking or attempting to take fish is prohibited.



\*Two sections of State Trust Land border Browns Park NWR.

Contact the State Land Board at 970 / 824 2850 for current regulations of State Trust Land.

Contact the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) at 970 / 826 5000 for current regulations on BLM lands adjacent to the Refuge.