

**North
Mississippi
Refuges Complex:
Coldwater River,
Tallahatchie, Dahomey**

*National Wildlife Refuges
Hunting & Fishing
Regulations 2004-2005*

General Information

In 1989, the North Mississippi Refuges Complex was established to manage U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service lands in the northern twenty-six counties of Mississippi. With its headquarters in Grenada, the complex is responsible for the management of Coldwater River, Dahomey and Tallahatchie National Wildlife Refuges, plus smaller fee-title properties and floodplain and conservation easements. The habitat consists of bottomland hardwoods, early successional reforestation areas, agricultural fields, and moist soil units.

In order to provide traditional recreational opportunities, public hunting and fishing are permitted in designated areas during specific times of the year at a level compatible with the environment. Certain areas of the complex may be closed for sanctuary or administrative purposes. Please refer to refuge maps.

To ensure your safety and enjoyment while visiting the North Mississippi Refuges Complex, please take the time to become familiar with the following regulations.

General Refuge Regulations

The regulations listed below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting and fishing on wildlife refuge areas as set forth in Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting and fishing are in accordance with applicable state regulations subject to the following special conditions.

All hunters must obtain and complete a User Information Card from a Hunter Information Station and display it on the dash with the name and address visible from the outside. Prior to leaving the refuge, the reverse side of the card must be completed and deposited at one of the Hunter Information Stations. If no game is harvested, report "0".

Individuals utilizing the refuge are subject to inspection of permits, licenses, hunting and fishing equipment, bag limits, boats, vehicles and their contents by Service or state officers.

All refuge lands are open during daylight hours only with the exception of legal hunting activities.

Permit Information

Hunters and anglers sixteen years of age and older are required to have a \$12.50 Refuge Hunting & Fishing Permit and all required state licenses in possession at all times while hunting or fishing on refuge property. All waterfowl hunters sixteen years of age and older must possess both a federal and a state waterfowl stamp.

Youth hunters, twelve thru fifteen years of age, must possess a Hunter Safety Course Certificate, a signed permit, and be directly supervised by a licensed and permitted adult twenty-one years of age or older. Youth hunters under the age of twelve must be directly supervised by a licensed and permitted adult twenty-one years of age or older. An adult may supervise a maximum of two youth.

Permits are available at the complex headquarters in Grenada, MS, Monday thru Friday 7:30 am to 4:00 pm or at Dahomey National Wildlife Refuge by appointment (662/742 9331). Permits are also available by mail. Mail the complete name, address, phone number and date of birth for each applicant on a plain sheet of paper to:

North Mississippi Refuges Complex
PO. Box 1070
Grenada, MS 38901
Attn: permit application

Enclose a personal check or money order payable to **USFWS**. There is no deadline for obtaining a Refuge Hunting and Fishing Permit.

Hours

General refuge hours are sunrise to sunset. During hunting season, hunters may enter the refuge two hours before sunrise and must exit the refuge no later than two hours after sunset except during raccoon hunts.

Mobility Impaired Persons

Special facilities are available to mobility impaired hunters. A mobility impaired hunter is defined as a person

- (1) permanently confined to a wheelchair, crutches, or a walker or
- (2) a single- or double-leg amputee.

Please contact the complex headquarters for more information.

Weapons

Except during authorized refuge hunts, possession of any weapon is prohibited on the refuge.

All handguns are specifically prohibited and may not be possessed at any time while on the refuge. All firearms transported in or on any vehicle including boats on the refuge must be unloaded and either dismantled or cased. Loaded is defined as shells in gun or cap on muzzleloader.

Only non-toxic shotshells may be used or possessed during waterfowl and small game hunts. Also, small game may be hunted with .22 caliber rimfire rifles. During deer and turkey hunts, lead ammunition legal for taking deer and turkey may be used.

Motorized Vehicles

Motorized vehicles are restricted to roads designated as vehicle access roads on the refuge maps. Blocking access to any road or trail is prohibited.

All Terrain Vehicles (ATVs) are not permitted on and may not be used on any area of the refuge.

Pets/ Animals

Dogs are allowed for hunting migratory birds, squirrels, rabbits, quail, and raccoons during designated seasons only. The use of dogs is encouraged to retrieve dead or wounded waterfowl. Dogs must remain in the control of their handlers at all times. Dogs are not allowed on refuge properties outside of hunting season. All other domestic animals are prohibited.

State Bag Limits

State season bag and possession limits apply unless otherwise stated. Consult

current Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks Regulations for details (www.mdwfp.com).

Deer Stands Portable deer stands may be erected two weeks prior to the opening of archery season on the refuge and must be removed by February 1, 2005.

Deer stands can not be nailed to trees nor can any blind or stand be attached to a tree by any metal object driven, screwed, or otherwise inserted into the tree.

Boats Boats and trailers must be registered, licensed, and meet all state regulations.

Waterfowl hunters may leave boats meeting all state registration requirements on refuge water bodies throughout the waterfowl season. Boats must be removed within seventy-two hours after the season closes.

Decoys & Blinds Decoys, duck blinds and litter must be removed from the hunting area following each day's hunt.

Only temporary blinds may be constructed.

Fluorescent-Orange All hunters or persons on the refuge for any reason during any open refuge hunting season must wear a minimum of 500 square inches of visible, unbroken, fluorescent-orange material above the waist line. Waterfowl hunters must comply while walking/boating to and from actual hunting area. Fluorescent-orange is not required for turkey season, hunting raccoons or frogs at night or for waterfowl hunters while actually hunting.

Migratory Game Birds Migratory game bird hunting (ducks, mergansers, coots, and geese) is allowed during specified state season on Wednesdays, Saturdays, and Sundays, thirty minutes before sunrise until noon. After duck, merganser, and coot season closes, light geese may be hunted daily during the period and time defined in the Conservation Order.

Prohibited Activities

- Man-drives for deer
- Use or possession of any drug or device for employing such drug for hunting
- Use or possession of plastic flagging
- Use or possession of alcoholic beverages
- Hunting or shooting across open fields from ground level during general gun and primitive weapon deer hunts
- Removal or destruction of any trees, plants, or other vegetation on the refuge for any reason
- Collecting, removing, or damaging any animal except those authorized by hunting and fishing regulations
- Fires, camping or littering
- All commercial activities including guiding or participating in a paid guided hunt
- Trapping
- Possession or use of jugs, seines, nets, hand-grab baskets or any other similar devices
- Commercial fishing of any kind
- Snagging or attempting to snag fish

Specific Hunting Regulations

During youth hunts only youth hunters and their adult supervisor are allowed on refuge lands.

Public entry North of Mississippi Highway 8 is prohibited on Tallahatchie NWR.

The Warwick Tract of Coldwater River NWR is open to only waterfowl hunting. All remaining areas of Coldwater River NWR are closed to public entry.
Exception: Fishing in the barrow pits at

the southeast corner of Coldwater River NWR and on the Warwick Tract is permitted. Please see map.

Other Refuge Lands

Approximately 3,500 acres acquired through the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) wetland acquisition program and managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are open to small game hunting of rabbit, squirrel and quail only. All hunting regulations apply. Properties include:

Bolivar County - Goss (543 acres), Hester III (386 acres) & Watts (214 acres), **Quitman County** - Trainor (228 acres), Trainor (219 acres) & Starr (320 acres), **Sunflower County** - Lindsey (204 acres), Povall (180 acres), Povall (80 acres), Povall (422 acres) & Walker (42 acres), **Marshall County** - Smith (232 acres), **LeFlore County** - Scott (90 acres), Scott (80 acres), & Gwin (343 acres). Please see maps.

General Fishing Regulations

All federal and state regulations governing boating, creel limits, and license requirements must be followed by refuge anglers.

Trotlines, yoyo's and limb lines are permitted for recreational use only.

Specific Fishing Regulations

Tallahatchie National Wildlife Refuge

Fishing is permitted South of Mississippi Highway 8 only.

Coldwater River National Wildlife Refuge (including the Warwick Tract)

Fishing is permitted in the barrow pits only.

Dahomey National Wildlife Refuge

Fishing is permitted.

Signs Protect Visitors and Resources

Millions of people visit national wildlife refuges each year. The impact of human activity, if not regulated, can degrade these wildlands. Signs help control recreational activities while protecting natural resources on the refuge. Please respect the following signs.



This sign delineates the refuge boundary. Entry is permitted only for authorized uses in accordance with refuge regulations. It is your responsibility to know where the property lines are and hunt within the boundaries.



This area is closed to all entry. No roads or trails are open to the public.

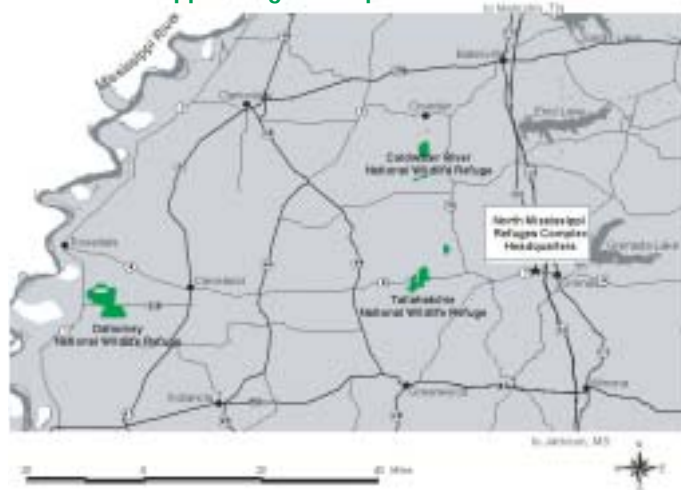


This area is closed to all hunting. Firearms and archery equipment are strictly prohibited.

For more information on Coldwater River, Dahomey, and Tallahatchie National Wildlife Refuges, contact:

North Mississippi Refuges Complex
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
2776 Sunset Drive
Grenada, MS 38901
662/226 8286 office 662/226 8488 fax

North Mississippi Refuges Complex



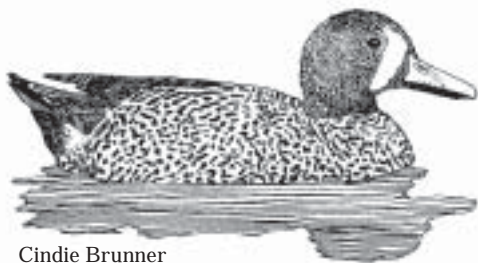
2004-2005 North Mississippi Refuges Complex Hunting Season

| Species | Season Dates | Specific Regulations |
|---------------------|-----------------------------------|--|
| Squirrel | State Season | Dahomey NWR & Tallahatchie NWR closed during all General Gun Deer Hunts. |
| Squirrel-Youth Hunt | Oct. 9-10, 2004 | |
| Rabbit | State Season | Dahomey NWR & Tallahatchie NWR closed during all General Gun Deer Hunts. |
| Raccoon | Jan. 1, 2005 - Feb. 28, 2005 | Special Use Permit required. Contact Refuge Manager. |
| Quail | State Season | Dahomey NWR & Tallahatchie NWR closed during all General Gun Deer Hunts. |
| Frogs | State Season | Special Use Permit required. Contact Refuge Manager. |
| Deer-Archery | State Archery Season | Either Sex. |
| Deer | State Season | Either Sex. Primitive Weapon |
| Deer-General Gun | Dec. 17, 18, 19, 20, and 21, 2004 | Either Sex. |
| Deer-Youth Hunt | Dec. 26-27, 2004 | General Gun - Either Sex |
| Turkey | State Season | Gobblers Only. Dahomey NWR Only. |
| Turkey-Youth Hunt | Apr. 2-3, 2005 | Gobblers Only. Dahomey NWR Only. |

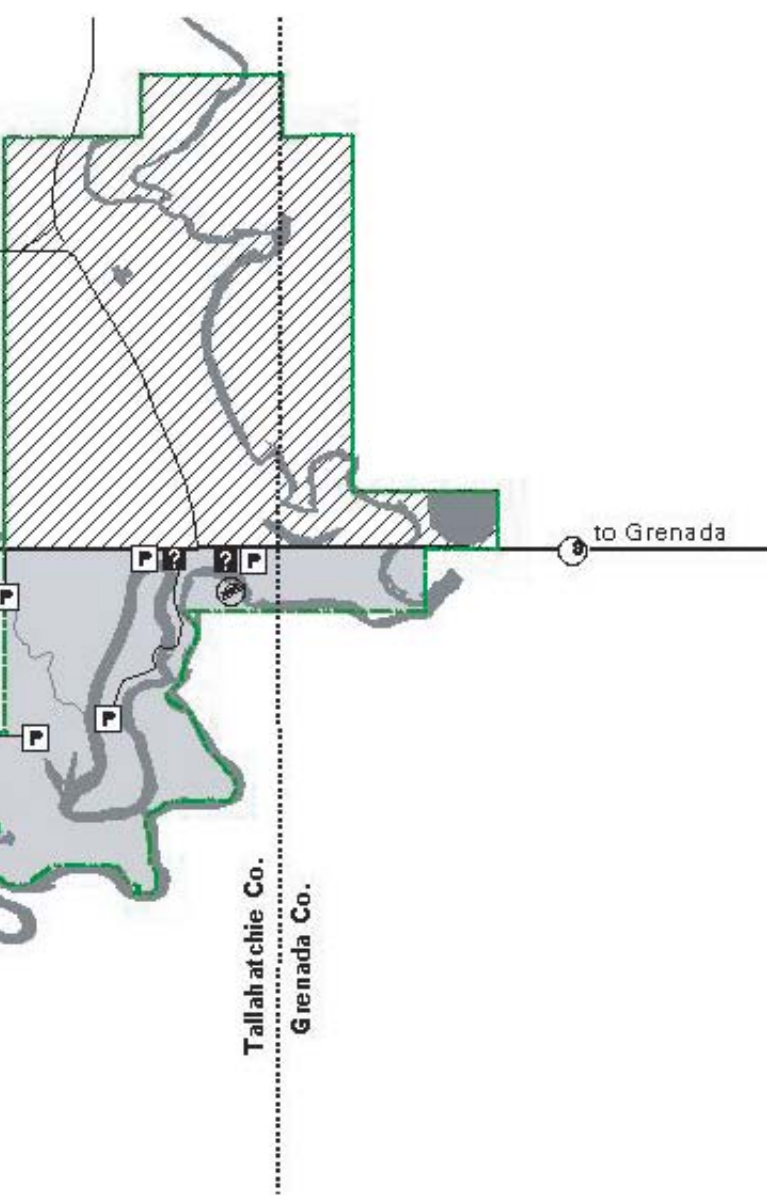
Migratory Game Birds

| | | |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|
| Ducks, Mergansers, Coots, and Geese | State Season | Open Wed., Sat., and Sun.: 30 minutes before sunrise until noon. Fluorescent-orange required while walking/boating to and from actual hunting area. Only approved non-toxic shot may be used or possessed. After duck, merganser and coot season closes, light geese may be hunted daily as specified in the Conservation Order. |
| Waterfowl Youth Hunt | State Season | Same Regulations Apply |
| Feral Hogs | May be taken during any hunt with weapons legal for that hunt. | No Bag Limit. |











Tallahatchie National Wildlife Refuge



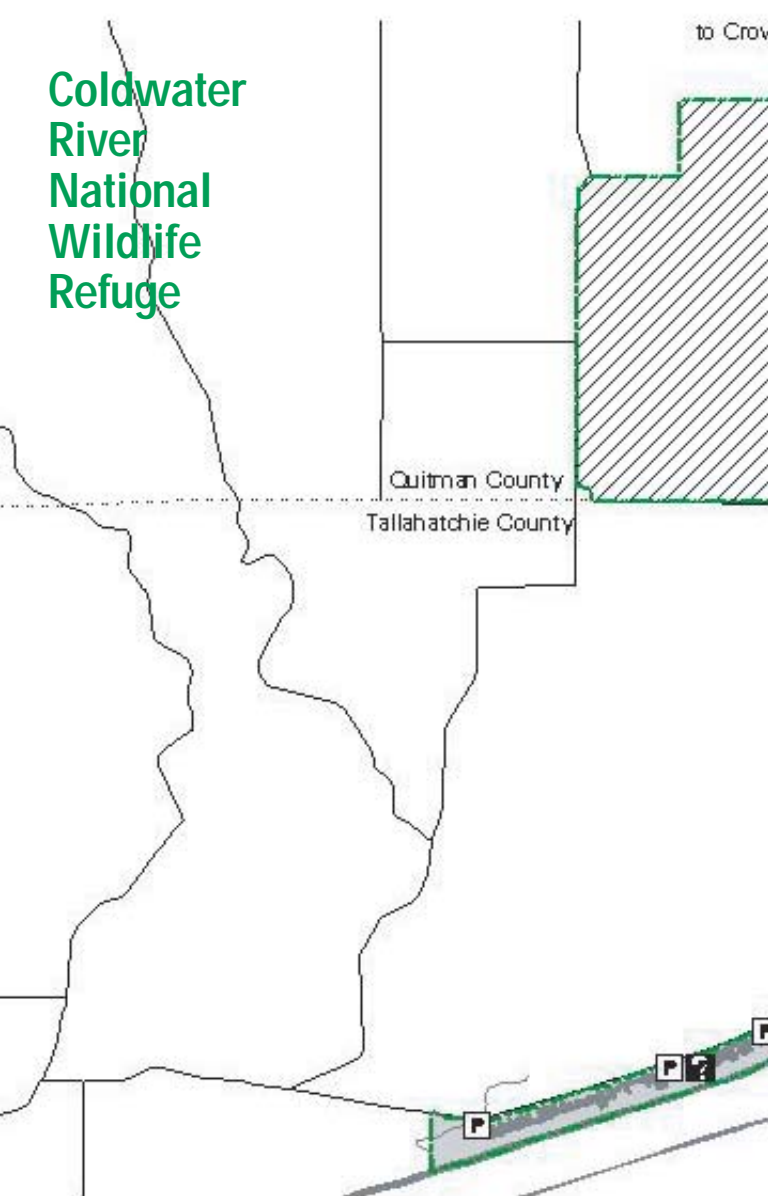
Cindie Brunner













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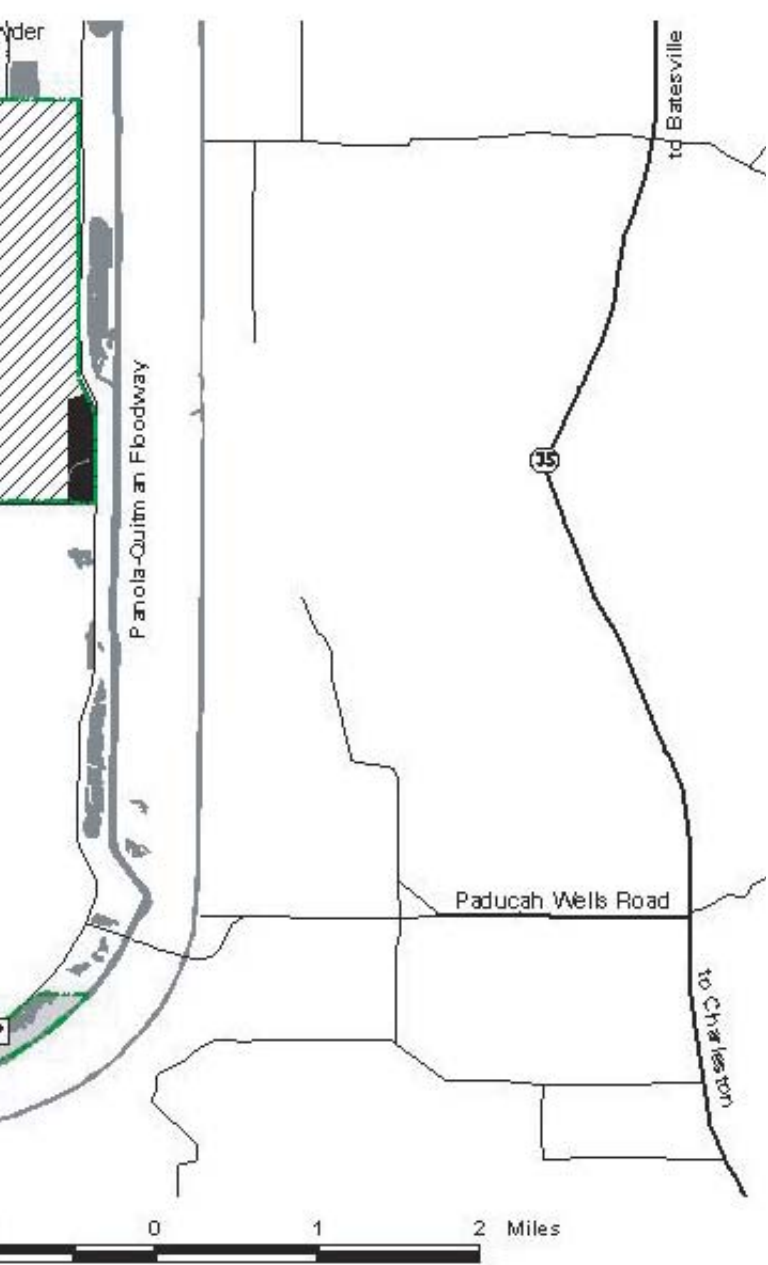
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|--|------------------------------|---|---|----------------------------|
|  | Refuge Boundary | Roads |  | Gravel Road |
|  | Open for Hunting and Fishing |  | Paved Road | |
|  | Closed Areas | Public Facilities |  | Hunter Information Station |
|  | Water Areas |  | Parking Area | |
|  | County Boundary |  | Boat Ramp | |

Coldwater River National Wildlife Refuge



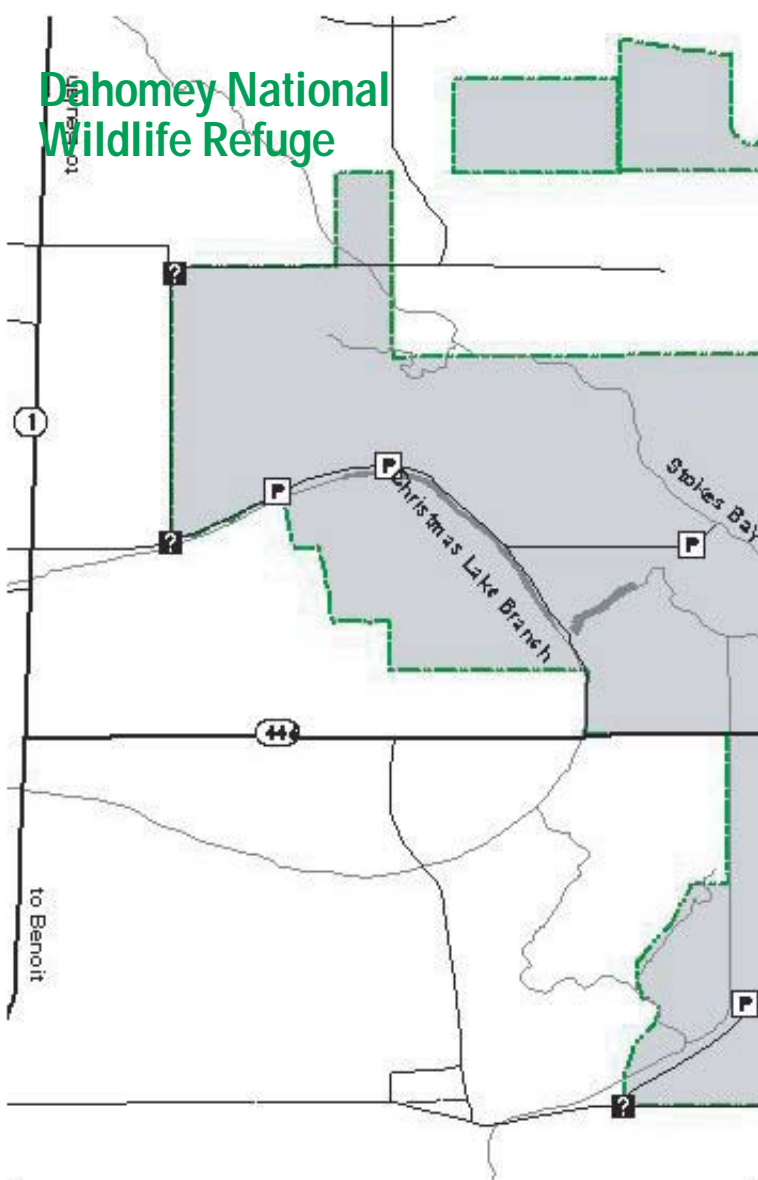
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|--|------------------------------|---|----------------------------|
|  | Refuge Boundary | Roads | |
|  | Open for Fishing Only |  | Gravel Road |
|  | Open for Hunting and Fishing |  | Paved Road |
|  | Closed Area | Public Facilities | |
|  | Water Areas |  | Parking Area |
|  | County Boundary |  | Hunter Information Station |



Cindie Brunner

Dahomey National Wildlife Refuge



Legend



Refuge Boundary



Open for Hunting and Fishing



Closed Area



Water Areas

Roads



Gravel Road



Paved Road

Refuge Facilities



Refuge Headquarters



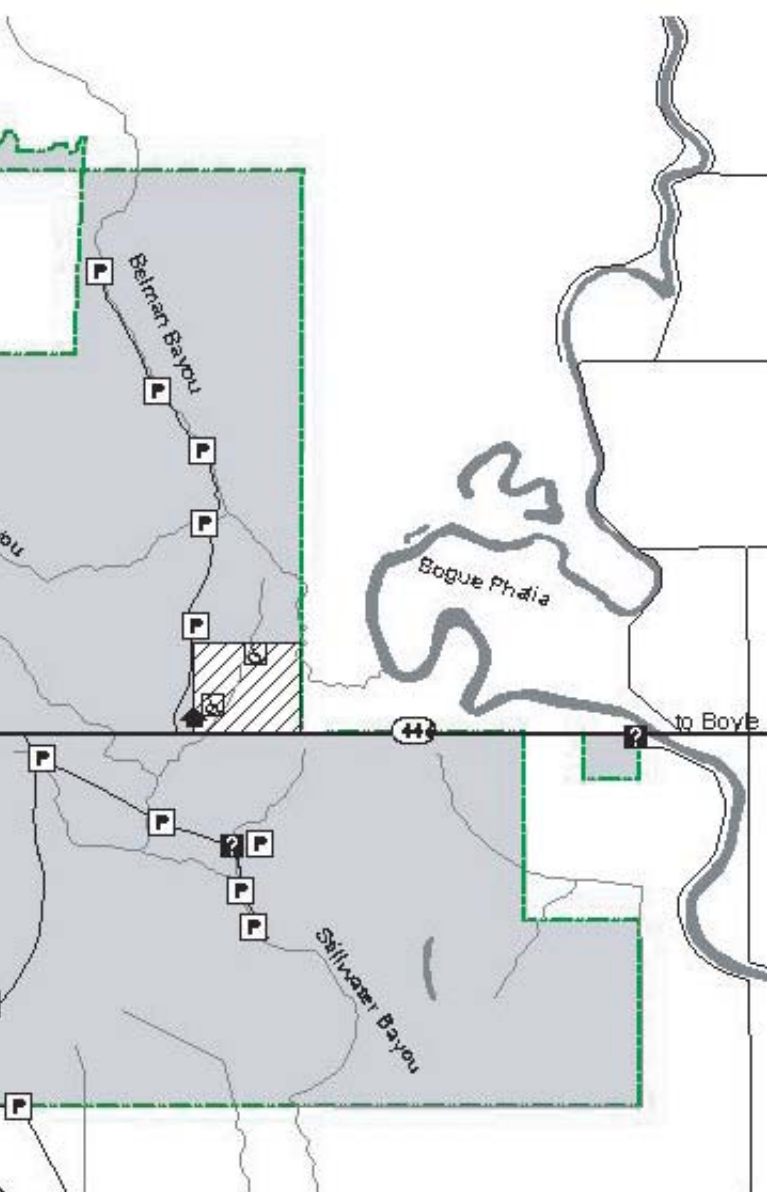
Hunter Information Station



Parking Area



Handicapped Hunting Blind



Cindie Brunner

Marshall County

Holly Springs

78

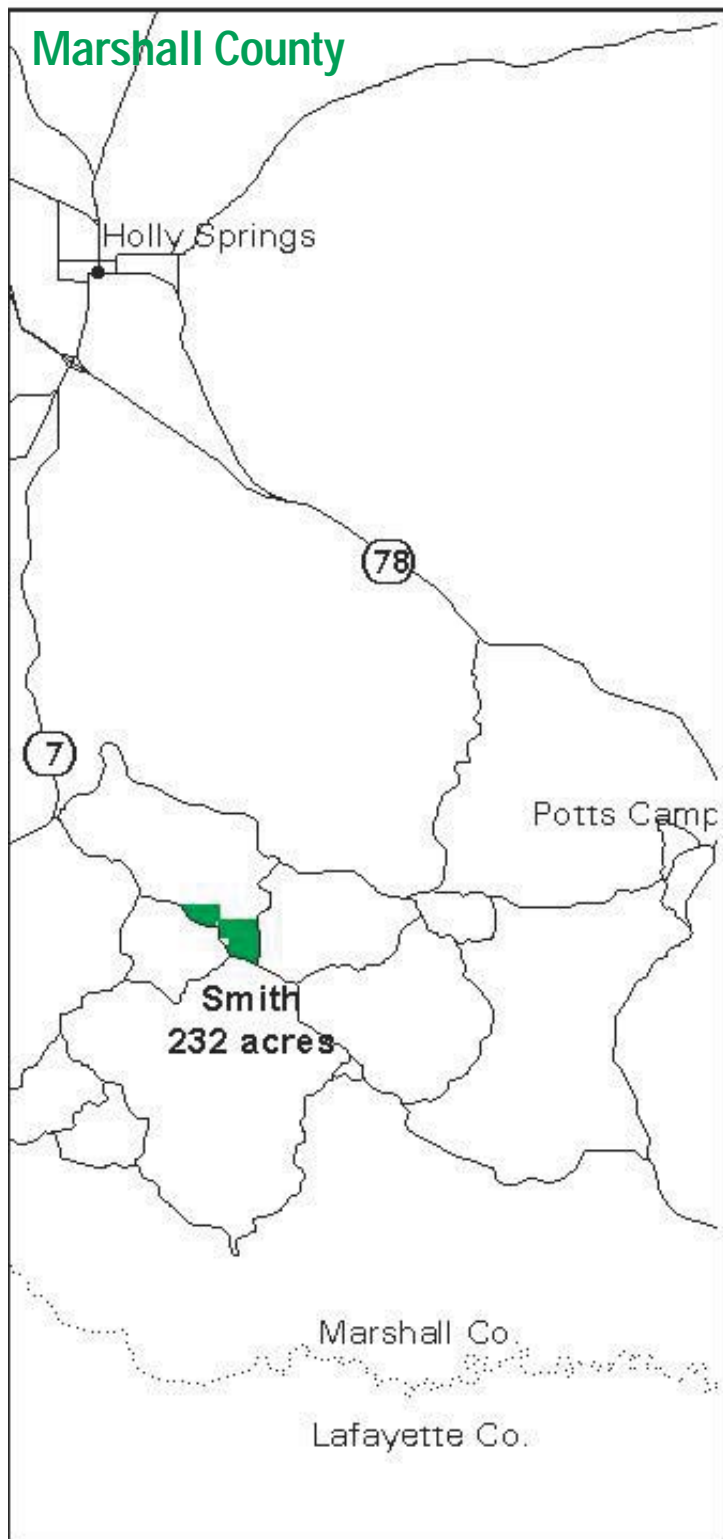
7

Potts Camp

Smith
232 acres

Marshall Co.

Lafayette Co.



Bolivar County

Coahoma Co.

Bolivar Co.

1

Watts

214 acres

Goss

543 acres

Alligator

Duncan

61

Shelby

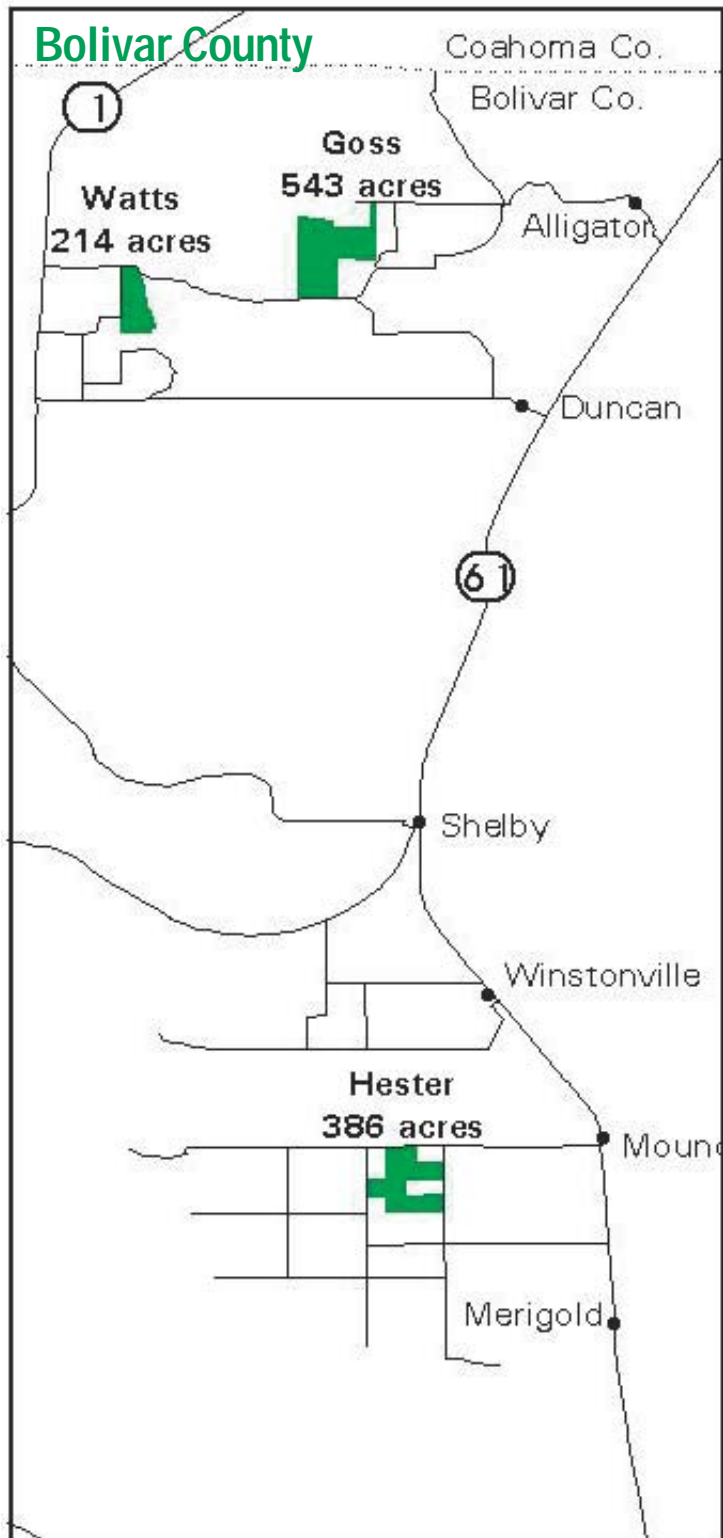
Winstonville

Hester

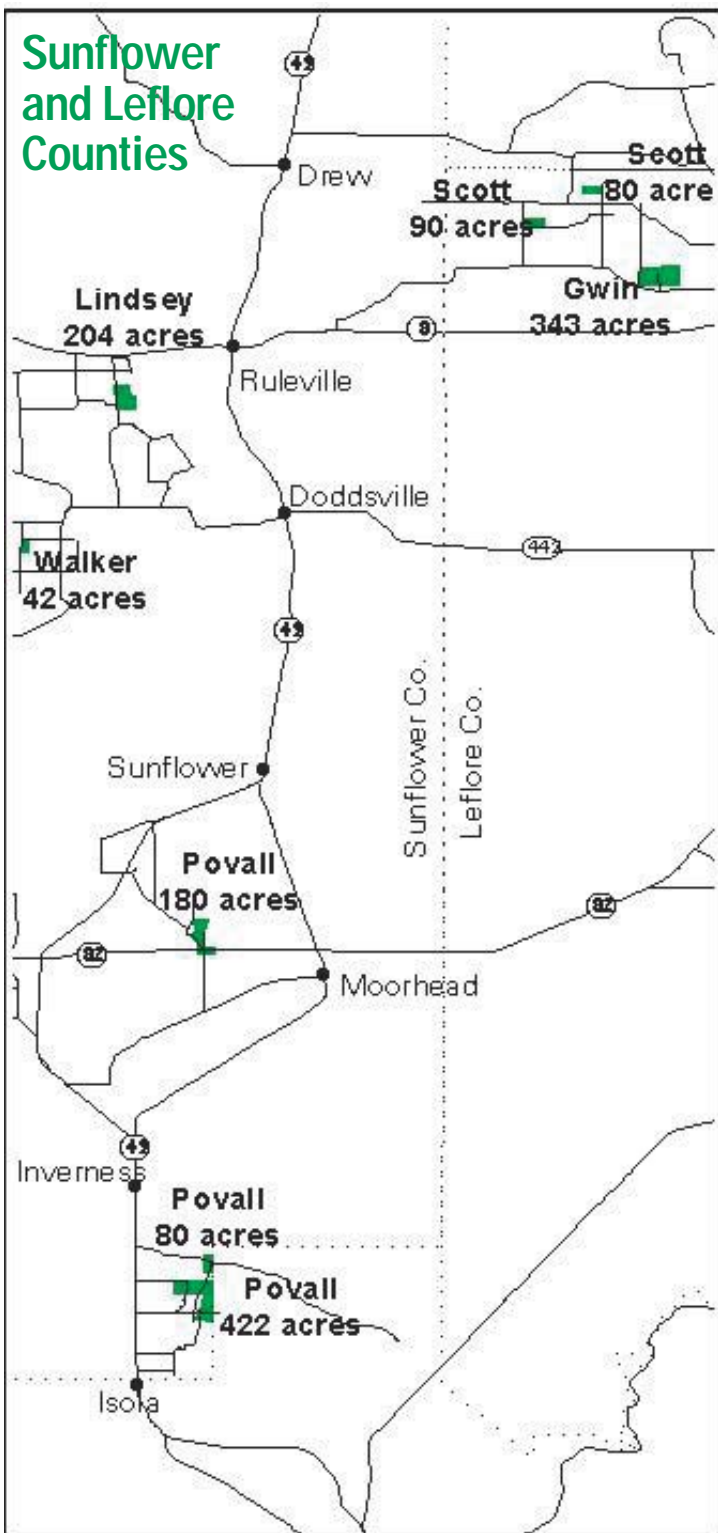
386 acres

Mound

Merigold



Sunflower and Leflore Counties



Quitman County



North Mississippi Refuges Complex
P.O. Box 1070
2776 Sunset Drive
Grenada, MS 38901
662/ 226 8286
<http://southeast.fws.gov>

Department of the Interior
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/ 344 WILD

August 2004