

Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge
27650B South Valley Road
Lima, MT 59739

406-276-3536
406-276-3538 fax

http://www.fws.gov/refuge/red_rock_lakes

For More Information on State Hunting Regulations, contact:

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks
For general information, call (406) 444-2535 or TDD (406) 444-1200. Those seeking nonresident hunting license information should call (406) 444-2950

For Hearing impaired. State transfer relay service (TRS) TTY/Voice: 711

U.S Fish & Wildlife Service
<http://www.fws.gov/>

For Refuge Information
1-800-344-WILD (9453)

September 2021



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Red Rock Lakes *National Wildlife Refuge*

2021 Hunting Regulations and Map



STOP POACHING, call 1-800-TIP-MONT.

Emergencies or violations may be reported to Refuge Headquarters in Lakeview during regular office hours, after hours to officers on patrol or to the Sheriff via 911 or 406-683-3700. Cell phone coverage is poor but texting may work. The nearest hospitals are in Dillon or Bozeman, MT or Idaho Falls, ID. Towing services are available in Lima or West Yellowstone, MT or Island Park, ID.

Hunters and boaters should be prepared for rapidly developing storms, winds, and cold temperatures.

We appreciate your cooperation and help to maintain a quality hunting atmosphere for all who frequent and enjoy the Refuge.

Welcome

Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge was established in 1935 to protect the rare trumpeter swan and migratory birds. Today, the Refuge continues to be one of the most important breeding areas in the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem for these majestic birds.

Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Refuges are a system of public lands and waters set aside to conserve America's fish, wildlife and plants. Since its inception, the System has grown to more than 150 million acres, 552 national wildlife refuges and other units of the Refuge System, plus 37 wetland management districts.

The refuge office is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, except on Federal Holidays.

For your safety, please observe all of the regulations covered in this brochure. See the Refuge general brochure for additional regulations and information.

**General
Refuge
Regulations**
*Vehicles and
Parking*

- Only legally licensed street legal vehicles are allowed on Refuge roads. Unlicensed off-highway vehicles (OHVs), such as motorcycles or all-terrain vehicles (ATVs or UTVs), may not be used on the Refuge. The use of motorboats is prohibited, except the river below lower lake water control structure
- Park in designated parking areas only.

*Fires and
Camping*

- Fires and camping are allowed only in the Lower Lake Campground and the Upper Lake Campground. Camping along roadsides or outside of the campgrounds is not permitted.

Littering

- Pack out any trash generated during your hunt, including spent shot shells.

**Refuge
Hunting
Regulations**

Waterfowl (ducks, geese, and coots) and Big Game (elk, white-tailed deer, mule deer, pronghorn, and moose) hunting is permitted on the refuge only in designated areas. See the map on the reverse side of this brochure. The refuge is **closed** to hunting for all other animals, including but not limited to bear, wolf, mountain lion, coyote, fox, badger, grouse, sandhill crane, dove, snipe, and all non-game species.

- Hunters must obey all Federal and State regulations.
- Shed antlers / horns and dead heads are **NOT permitted** to be removed from the refuge – no shed antler / horn hunting is allowed.
- Horses may not be used north of the South Valley Road except for retrieval of big game. Horses can be used for back country access to the Centennial Mountains south of the South Valley Road. Use only weed-free hay or pellets. Horses are not permitted in the campgrounds.
- Wheeled game carts or other mechanical transportation devices may not be used in Wilderness Areas. The bulk of the hunting areas are in Wilderness Areas.
- Possession or use of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited.
- No hunting or shooting is allowed within 50 yards of the center line of Refuge roads, camping areas, or parking areas.
- Refer to Inter-Agency Travel Maps for ownership of private land. Please respect private land.
- Wildlife Refuges are generally closed to activities unless specifically opened. If in doubt, contact the Refuge at 406-276-3536.

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).

Waterfowl Hunting

- Waterfowl Hunting is permitted in the Lower Red Rock Lake area and west of Sparrow Trail northward to Odell Creek, then westerly along Odell Creek to where it empties into Lower Red Rock Lake, then northerly to the Refuge fence 1 mile north of the river marsh, then westerly along said fence line to the west boundary of the Refuge, then southwesterly along the west boundary to South Valley Road, then easterly along South Valley Road to Sparrow Pond Trail.

Special Shot Restrictions

- Lead shot and its possession is prohibited.
- Shotguns shall be plugged to hold no more than three shells.

Blinds

- Temporary blinds for waterfowl hunting may be constructed out of natural material. All blinds must be deconstructed and removed at the end of each day's hunt.

Hunt Times

- Hunters may not enter the water prior to 4:30 AM. State Regulations apply thereafter for shooting times.

Boats

- Only non-motorized boats are allowed. An appropriate flotation device for each occupant is required on board.

Retrieving

- Hunters may not enter closed areas to retrieve birds.
- The use of **motorized / battery operated decoys** (MOJOS & water agitated) is prohibited.
- **Electronic duck or goose calls** are prohibited.
- Decoys, boats, or other property left over 48 hours are considered abandoned and will be removed.

Big Game Hunting

- Big game hunting is permitted within designated areas for elk, white-tailed deer, mule deer, pronghorn, and moose. Please refer to the map or the moose hunting brochure.
- Bow Hunting is permitted in areas designated as open to hunting of deer, elk, and pronghorn.
- Moose hunting is restricted to the willow bog area at the southeast corner of the Refuge. Permits are issued by special drawing by Montana Fish, Wildlife, & Parks. Permit holders will be mailed a map showing the moose hunt area on the Refuge. Moose may not be hunted in other areas of the Refuge.
- Do not drive off-road to retrieve downed game.

