

Sabine

National Wildlife Refuge

Hunting Regulations



General Provisions

Sabine National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1937, is one of over 500 national wildlife refuges. The primary objective of a national wildlife refuge is to provide habitat for the conservation and protection of all species of fish and wildlife. Sport hunting is a priority public use permitted at a level compatible with the environment and when it can provide quality recreational opportunities.

Public hunting of ducks, geese and coots on Sabine National Wildlife Refuge is permitted in hunt units designated by signs stating Waterfowl Hunting Only and delineated on the leaflet map. The total available hunt area is approximately 34,000 acres in size.

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

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 will be in accordance with applicable State regulations subject to the following special conditions.

Permits and Licenses

The refuge hunting brochure is a permit to enter the refuge. Each hunter must be in possession of a signed permit while hunting.

All persons age 16 and over entering the hunt area must be legally licensed to hunt waterfowl. Youths under age 16 who want to hunt must have in possession proof of successful completion of their Hunter Safety Course. All youths attending the hunt must be in the direct supervision of an adult age 21 or older. Each adult may supervise no more than two youths.

Hunt Period and Access

Hunting is permitted only on Wednesdays, Saturdays and Sundays of the teal and waterfowl seasons. Hunters can enter the

refuge and launch three hours before legal shooting time. All hunters must be back at the check station by 12:00 pm. All boats on trailers must launch only from the West Cove Recreation Area boat launches. Hunters may also access Hunt Unit E by driving on Vastar Road. Road access is for walk-in hunters and hand launching of small boats. No trailers are allowed on Vastar Road. The hunting areas cannot be entered through adjacent private property. There will be no hunting on Christmas Day or New Year's Day.

Hunting

Hunters must use and be in possession of shells containing non-toxic shot only. All used shells need to be picked up and brought out of the hunt area along with all other trash. All shotguns must be unloaded and ENCASED when carried in transit through refuge canals.

Each hunting party is required to complete and return a waterfowl harvest data form to the check station or designated drop boxes after each hunt.

Hunters are encouraged to use retriever dogs during waterfowl hunts, but dogs must be under the control of the handler at all times. Hunting parties are required to space themselves at least 150 yards apart and 50 yards away from refuge canals.

Only blinds made of native vegetation and portable blinds are permitted. Decoys, portable blinds and all personal equipment must be removed after each day's hunt.

Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting, accessing and returning from blinds and in parking areas is prohibited.

Boat, Motor and Operation Limits

Boats may not be dragged across levees. Outboard motors may be operated in designated refuge canals and bayous. The operation of any outboard motor in the refuge marshes is prohibited. The operation of trolling motors is permitted. The use of air thrust boats, ATV's, personal motorized watercraft (Jet Ski's) and go-devil motors are prohibited.

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

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This permit is valid for the entire waterfowl season.

Annual Hunting Permit

When signed and in your possession, this brochure will serve as your permit for hunting on Sabine National Wildlife Refuge this year. It acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained in this brochure.

Signature

Date

(Permits are not transferable)

