

Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge

Public Use Regulations 2017-2018

Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge

Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge (NWR), established in 1964 through community support and in cooperation with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is one of over 560 national wildlife refuges administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The refuge's 11,000-acre mixture of wetlands, croplands, forests, grasslands, and open water creates a mosaic of wildlife-rich habitats. The primary objective of Eufaula NWR is to provide habitat for migratory birds. The refuge also is managed to conserve other fish, wildlife and plant species of concern and their habitats.

Public use, including hunting and fishing, is permitted under carefully controlled conditions. When managed wisely, recreational use of renewable natural resources can occur while maintaining wildlife populations at levels compatible with the ecosystem.

The following regulations supplement the regulations governing public use of national wildlife refuges as set forth in Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations (50 CFR).

General Use Regulations

Designated areas of the refuge are closed, sometimes only seasonally, to all entry. Closed areas are indicated on the attached map and marked with signs.

Entering the refuge earlier than one-and-a-half hours before sunrise or remaining on the refuge later than one-and-a-half hours after sunset is prohibited.

Vehicles (including bicycles) are restricted to gravel/dirt roads maintained for public traffic. Roads closed to vehicles and/or bicycles are marked with signs. Physically challenged visitors needing assistance are encouraged to contact the refuge office.

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on Eufaula NWR 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).

Dogs must be under control at all times. Dogs more than 20 feet from owner or in water will not be considered under control. Using recognized retrieving breeds is encouraged while hunting dove or waterfowl. Use of other dogs while hunting is prohibited.

Prohibited Activities

Littering, including spent shotgun shells.

Use/possession of ATVs, UTVs, or OHVs. All vehicles and drivers must be licensed, registered, and insured for highway use.

Use/possession of personal watercraft (PWCs, Sea Doos, Jet Skis, WaveRunners, etc.), air-cooled propulsion engines (Mud Buddys, Go-Devils, etc.), and air thrust boats (including airboats, aircraft, and hovercraft).

Recreational towing (waterskiing, tubing, etc.).

Parking vehicles in a way that blocks roads, gates, or field access.

Camping or overnight parking or mooring.

Building fires.

Leaving personal property (including stands, blinds, and boats) on the refuge overnight.

Use/possession of glass bottles or containers.

Driving or screwing a nail, screw, or other metal object into a tree or hunting/observing from a tree in which a nail, screw, or other metal object has been driven or screwed.

Hunting/observing from a tree without use of a full body harness.

Constructing or occupying a permanent blind.

Cutting, removing, or defacing any vegetation (including fruits, nuts, and berries).

Searching for, or removing, any object of antiquity, including arrowheads or pottery.

Use/possession of flagging or other trail markers.

Trapping.

Target practice.

Possession of, or placing, any substance that constitutes an attractant (bait) to wildlife.

Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge

367 Highway 165
Eufaula, AL 36027-8187
334/687 4065
<http://eufaula.fws.gov>

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

June 2017



2017-2018 Hunt Permit

Signing this leaflet validates it as your general refuge hunting permit. It must be in your possession while participating in authorized refuge hunts. Quota hunt permits are issued separately.

I have read and understand these refuge regulations.

Hunter's Signature

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Prohibited Activities continued

Hunting alligators or any other species not specifically listed in this brochure (including frogs and turtles).

Use/possession of game cameras.

General Hunting Regulations

Only those species listed in this brochure may be hunted on Eufaula NWR.

Hunting and fishing will be in accordance with state and federal regulations, except as noted within this brochure and/or by signs posted on the refuge. A refuge permit is required for all hunts. Permits are non-transferrable, must be signed by the hunter, and must be carried along with appropriate state hunting licenses and hunter safety cards while hunting on the refuge. The front of this brochure serves as your permit for all hunting except waterfowl and youth gun hunts. Waterfowl and youth gun hunters must possess an additional quota hunting permit (see next column).

Except where noted, state regulations (including season and daily bag limits) apply.

Only still or stand hunting is permitted; drives are prohibited.

Possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited.

Non-toxic shot must be used for all hunts except the youth deer hunt. Possession of lead shot is prohibited.

Hunting with the aid of bait (feed such as corn, wheat, or salt or other substance that constitutes an attractant) or on or over any baited area is prohibited.

Archery deer and youth firearm hunters may take feral hogs during those seasons with equipment/weapons legal for that hunt. There are no daily or season bag limits for feral hogs.

All youth hunters must remain within sight and normal voice contact of a properly hunting-licensed adult age 21 or older (see special regulations for Alabama youth waterfowl hunt). Youth hunters must possess and carry verification of passing a state-approved hunter education course. We define youth as those individuals at least 10, but less than 16 years old.

Small Game

Dove

Dove hunting is allowed on selected Wednesdays and Saturdays during state seasons in September and October on designated Alabama portions of the

refuge. Hunt times will be in accordance with state regulations. The first Saturday hunt is a youth/adult hunt. Each youth (ages 10-15) must hunt. One adult supervisor can supervise up to two youth. Only one adult supervisor per youth may hunt. Contact the refuge office for exact hunt dates. Non-toxic shot is required. Possession of lead shot is prohibited.

Rabbit and Squirrel

Rabbit and squirrel, except fox squirrel, hunting is allowed during the state season in February on designated Alabama portions of the refuge. Dogs are not permitted. Shotguns using non-toxic shot are required. Possession of lead shot is prohibited.

Large Game

Archery Deer

Archery deer hunting is allowed during state seasons, subject to the following. All deer taken must be checked after each hunt at a self-clearing check station. Each successful hunter must complete a harvest report and deposit it in a drop box prior to leaving the refuge. During quota waterfowl hunts, only permitted waterfowl hunters may enter the Bradley or Kennedy units prior to 12 noon. After noon, visitors (including archery hunters) may enter these areas. **One deer may be taken each day.**

Alabama

The refuge participates in the quality deer management program. All bucks taken in Barbour County must have a minimum of three points on at least one antler.

Georgia

The refuge lands between Bustahatchee and Rood creeks are not open for archery hunting until November 1.

Waterfowl

Waterfowl hunting is prohibited refuge-wide, except in and during designated locations and times (see below).

Quota Hunts

Permitees for special quota hunts (Youth Gun Deer; Youth Waterfowl, Youth/Adult Waterfowl, and General Waterfowl) will be selected by random drawing. Individuals wishing to hunt during quota hunts must submit an application. Applications, available on-line (see below), will be accepted by mail (postmarked by the last day of the application period) or in person (until 4:30 pm the last day of the application period). Faxes or emails will not be accepted.

Hunters may apply one time per season per hunt type. Individuals applying for more than one hunt type must submit a separate application for each hunt. Incomplete applications will not be accepted.

Wheelchair accessible hunting blinds (one each in the Bradley and Kennedy units) are available for quota hunters who have permanent physical challenges and who are not able to hunt from other blinds. Persons seeking use of accessible blinds should indicate their request in Block 6 or 7 on the standard application form. The application must be received by the quota hunt application deadline. Call the refuge office for further information.

Successful applicants will be notified of their hunt date and time, how they can pay their user fee to confirm their hunt, and of other important information. Unsuccessful applicants will not be notified. Due to the large volume of applications received, we cannot confirm receipt of applications.

Youth Gun Deer

Georgia (Bradley Unit)

Application period: Aug. 1 - Sep. 15
Application form: FWS Form 3-2354
<http://www.fws.gov/forms/3-2354.pdf>
Complete blocks 1, 2, 3, 5, 7, 7A, and 8.
Eligible hunters: youth ages 10-15

Hunt dates: October 7 and October 21

Permit holders must abide by regulations regarding adult supervision and hunter education requirements found earlier in this brochure.

One adult may supervise no more than one youth hunter. Adults may not hunt. Hunters are required to check in and out at the Bradley Unit check station the morning of their hunt. Selectees will be notified of a special pre-hunt scouting day during which they may set up, and leave overnight, a portable stand. Each youth may take one deer per day.

Fee: After selection, \$20.00 to confirm/reserve hunt

General Waterfowl

Alabama (Kennedy Unit) and Georgia (Bradley Unit)

Application period: Aug. 1 - Sep. 15
Application form: FWS Form 3-2355
<http://www.fws.gov/forms/3-2355.pdf>
Complete blocks 1, 2, 3, 5 (write *Alabama* or *Georgia*), and 7.
Eligible hunters: All

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Hunt dates: Alabama - designated Saturdays (until 12 noon local time) during the state waterfowl season, Georgia - designated Wednesdays (until 12 noon local time) during the state waterfowl season.

Special regulations: Hunters must apply for the Georgia **or** the Alabama hunt, not both. Permit holders may bring up to two additional individuals (hunting youth, nonhunting youth or adult). No more than three persons are allowed per blind. Unconfirmed and unclaimed blinds will be filled by random draw the morning of each hunt. Hunters are limited to 25 shells each.

Fees: After selection, \$20.00 to confirm/reserve hunt and \$20.00 the morning of the hunt for each additional individual other than the permit holder (whether hunting or not). Please do not send any payment with your application.

Youth/Adult Waterfowl Alabama (Kennedy Unit) and Georgia (Bradley Unit)

Application period: Aug. 1 - Sep. 15
Application form: FWS Form 3-2355
<http://www.fws.gov/forms/3-2355.pdf>
Complete blocks 1, 2, 3 (name of youth), 5 (write *Alabama* or *Georgia*), 6 (write *Youth/Adult*), 6A, and 7. Eligible hunters: youth ages 10-15.

Hunt dates: Alabama - designated day (until 12 noon local time) during the state waterfowl season, Georgia - designated day (until 12 noon local time) during the state waterfowl season.

Special regulations: Hunters must apply for the Georgia **or** the Alabama hunt, not both. Permit holders must abide by regulations regarding adult supervision and hunter education requirements found earlier in this brochure. Permit holders may bring up to one additional individual (hunting youth, nonhunting youth or adult). One youth must hunt. No more than three persons are allowed per blind. One adult supervisor can supervise up to two youth. Only one adult may hunt. Unconfirmed and unclaimed blinds will be filled by random draw the morning of each hunt. Hunters are limited to 25 shells each.

Fees: After selection, \$20.00 to confirm/reserve hunt and \$20.00 the morning of the hunt for each additional individual other than the permit holder (whether hunting or not).

Youth Waterfowl Alabama (Kennedy Unit) and Georgia (Bradley Unit)

Application period: Aug. 1 - Sep. 15
Application form: FWS Form 3-2355
<http://www.fws.gov/forms/3-2355.pdf>
Complete blocks 1, 2, 3, 5 (write *Alabama* or *Georgia*), 6 (write *Youth*), 6A, and 7.

Eligible hunters: youth ages 10-15

Hunt dates: Alabama - designated Saturday (until 12 noon local time) during the state waterfowl season, Georgia - designated Saturday (until 12 noon local time) during the state waterfowl season.

Special regulations: Hunters must apply for the Georgia or the Alabama hunt, not both. All youth hunters must remain within sight and normal voice contact of a properly hunting-licensed adult age 25 or older (Alabama) or 21 or older (Georgia). Youth hunters must possess and carry verification of passing a state-approved hunter education course. Permit holders may bring up to one additional individual (hunting youth, nonhunting youth or adult). No more than three persons are allowed per blind. One adult supervisor can supervise up to two youth. Unconfirmed and unclaimed blinds will be filled by random draw the morning of each hunt. Hunters are limited to 25 shells each. Supervising adults may not hunt.

Fees: After selection, \$20.00 to confirm/reserve hunt and \$20.00 the morning of the hunt for each additional individual hunter other than the permit holder (whether hunting or not).

General Fishing Regulations

Except where noted, state regulations (including seasons, and creel and size limits) apply. Lake Eufaula size and creel limits apply to **all** refuge waters.

Fishing in Lake Eufaula is legal with either an Alabama or Georgia fishing license; fishing in refuge impounded waters requires a license from the state in which you are fishing. In Alabama persons can, without a fishing license, fish from shore with ordinary hook and line in the county of their residence.

Watercraft and commercial fishing are not permitted in refuge impounded waters. Harvesting frogs and turtles is prohibited on all refuge lands and waters.



Please respect the following signs:

Boundary of the refuge. The refuge boundary also is marked with red paint.



Area closed and area seasonally closed signs. These signs mean the area behind the sign is closed to all entry either year-round or seasonally. Do not enter the area behind this sign for any reason.



No hunting zone sign. This sign marks areas closed to hunting. Entry for other authorized activities generally is permitted.

Reporting violations/crimes or emergencies: Emergencies: 911

Wildlife Violations

Eufaula NWR: 334/687 4065

Alabama Game Watch: 800/272 4263

Georgia Poacher Hotline: 800/241 4113

Georgia Mobile Hotline: *DNR

General Crime

Alabama & Georgia, Eufaula NWR:
334/687 4065

Alabama, Eufaula, Police Department:
334/687 1200

Alabama, Barbour County, Sheriff's Office:
334/775 1128

Alabama, Russell County, Sheriff's Office:
334/298 6535

Georgia, Quitman County, Sheriff's Office:
229/334 3726

Georgia, Stewart County, Sheriff's Office:
229/838 4393

Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge

Legend

- Archery Hunt Opens Nov. 1
- Closed to All Entry
- No Hunt Zone
- Seasonally Closed Nov. 15-March 1
- Seasonally Closed Feb. 1-Sep. 1
Archery hunt opens Nov. 1
- Refuge Headquarters
- Boat Ramp
- Staffed Check Station
- Self Check Station
- Refuge Boundary
- Hard Surface Roads
- Road Closed or Seasonally Closed to Motorized Traffic
- Improved Light Duty Road

