

Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge

Welcome to Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge, 143,924 acres or 221 square miles, one of over 549 national wildlife refuges that form a network of United States lands and waters managed specifically for wildlife. Refuges provide habitat — food, water, cover, and space — for millions of migratory birds, over 70 endangered species, and thousands of other species of native plants and animals.

The Arthur R. Marshall Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge provides habitat and protection for endangered and threatened wildlife such as the American alligator, snail kite, and wood stork. Migratory birds such as neotropical songbirds, secretive marsh birds, shorebirds, and waterfowl winter at the refuge along with year-around resident herons, egrets, and ibis.

Through refuge programs and facilities, visitors can enjoy a variety of educational and wildlife-oriented recreational opportunities. Contact the refuge office for teaching pavilion reservations and for educational group visits. Public access is available at the Headquarters Area (off US 441/SR 7), Hillsboro Area (at the west end of Loxahatchee Road), and at 20-Mile Bend (off CR 880 and 20-Mile Bend Boat Ramp Road).

The refuge is open to the public from 5 am to 10 pm every day of the year. Hours are posted at each entrance. The Visitor Center is open 9 am - 4 pm seven days a week. The center is closed Thanksgiving and Christmas Day.

An entrance fee of \$5 per vehicle or \$1 per pedestrian is charged daily. Senior Pass, Access Pass, Annual Pass, Duck Stamp, and Refuge Specific annual passes are available upon request. Entrance fees apply at all three Refuge entrances.

Special Events

Calendar of Events Activities

Year Round

Everglades Day
2nd Saturday in February

International Migratory Bird Day
2nd Saturday in May

Kid’s Fishing Day
2nd Saturday in June

Alligator Hunting
August through October
on specified days
(must obtain lottery permit)

Waterfowl Hunting
November through January
on specified days
(must obtain permit)



C. Stavens



C. Rejan



U.S.F.W.S.



G. Stolz



R. Olson



L. Warley



S. Duffly

Facilities

Headquarters Area

Visitor Center (561/734 8303), Administration Offices, Cypress Swamp Boardwalk, Marsh Trail, Everglades Canoe Trail, observation tower, observation platforms, education pavilion, boat ramps, fishing pier, and bank fishing along the L-40 canal. Bike trail south along the L-40. Management Compartment C is made up of eight individual management impoundments. The Marsh Trail (C-7) is 0.8 miles around, and it is one mile from Lee Road to the C-30 canal. Loxahatchee Impoundment Landscape Assessment (LILA) is located in Impoundments 3 and 4. This project developed in partnership between the Refuge and the SFWMD, assists in performance measures for Everglades restoration by mimicking water depths and flows to induce responses by wildlife in different habitats. Grass levees facilitate walking around impoundments.

Hillsboro Area

Interpretive displays, four boat ramps, and bank fishing. Hiking and biking north along the L-40 and west along the L-39 to the S-6 pump station. Mountain or hybrid bicycles are recommended. Canoeing, boating, and kayaking in pubic use area.

20-Mile Bend Area

Boat ramp, fishing platform, bank fishing, biking, hiking trail and interpretive kiosk.

Activities

To protect the natural and cultural resources of the Refuge and protect and safeguard visitors, activities not specifically permitted are prohibited, including the collecting of all animals, plants (dead

or alive) and artifacts. This visitor information will insure that your Refuge visit is safe and enjoyable. Additional information concerning recreational activities, refuge programs and facilities is available at the Visitor Center.

Permitted

- Hiking, wildlife-observation, and photography only in areas open to public use and on designated trails. There is no entry or exit at the Acme pump stations.
- Firearms and weapons possession in compliance with Federal and State law.
- Boating, canoeing, and kayaking in canals and public use area except for those areas marked as being closed to the public. U.S. Coast Guard, state, and refuge regulations apply. All Coast Guard regulations apply pertaining to boat speeds. There is an idle speed no wake zone at each boat launch area. There is a speed limit of 35 MPH in all waters of the refuge and the STA-1 Distribution Canal is a slow speed zone for safety. All boaters must fly an orange flag 10 feet above the waterline when outside the main canal.
- Biking only in areas open to public use and on designated trails. All trails are recommended for mountain or hybrid bikes. It is recommended that you bring water, helmet, sunscreen, and light snacks. There is no shelter along the levee.
- Sport fishing permitted year round. Fishing tournaments are allowed by permit only. Only the use of rods and reels or poles and lines is permitted, and they must be attended at all times. State and refuge regulations apply.

- Waterfowl and alligator hunting by permit only in designated area. Special refuge dates, times, and regulations apply. Call the administrative office at 561/732 3684 for permit information.

Prohibited

- Feeding, harassing, injuring or taking any wildlife plants or artifacts. (Fishing, waterfowl hunting and alligator hunting are allowed in accordance with State of Florida and Federal seasons and limits.)
- Releasing animals or plants.
- Pets or domesticated animals.
- Fires, camping, or spotlighting.
- Travel on undesignated roads or entry in to posted closed areas.
- Airboats and boats with air colled engines or jet drives.
- The use of aircraft, manned or unmanned, including drones, over Refuge lands to disturb, harass, drive, rally, or hunt wildlife. Landing of aircraft is permitted only in emergencies.
- Commercial activity.
- Swimming, water skiing, snorkeling and diving.

For Your Safety

- Do not leave valuables in your vehicle. Leave them home or take with you.
- Allow time to return to your vehicle and exit before the Refuge closes. Gates close automatically.

- Be prepared to emergencies and changing weather conditions.
- Be prepared for floating vegetation that may block trails and canals.
- If canoeing or boating, carry water, food and foul weather clothing. Ensure that your boat is equipped with all required safety equipment, including life vests, fire extinguisher, whistle or horn, orange flag, emergency light and first aid kit. Make sure that your vessel is "seaworthy" and have plenty of fuel. Carry a Global Positioning System (GPS) and a phone, and let a friend or family member know where you are going and when you will return.
- If you become lost or disabled, stay with your boat.
- The USFWS Refuge emergency number is 1-800/307 5789 or 911.

Inspections

- Hunters, anglers and boaters are subject to inspection of permits, licenses, equipment, bag limits and vehicles, vessels and their contents by law enforcement officers.

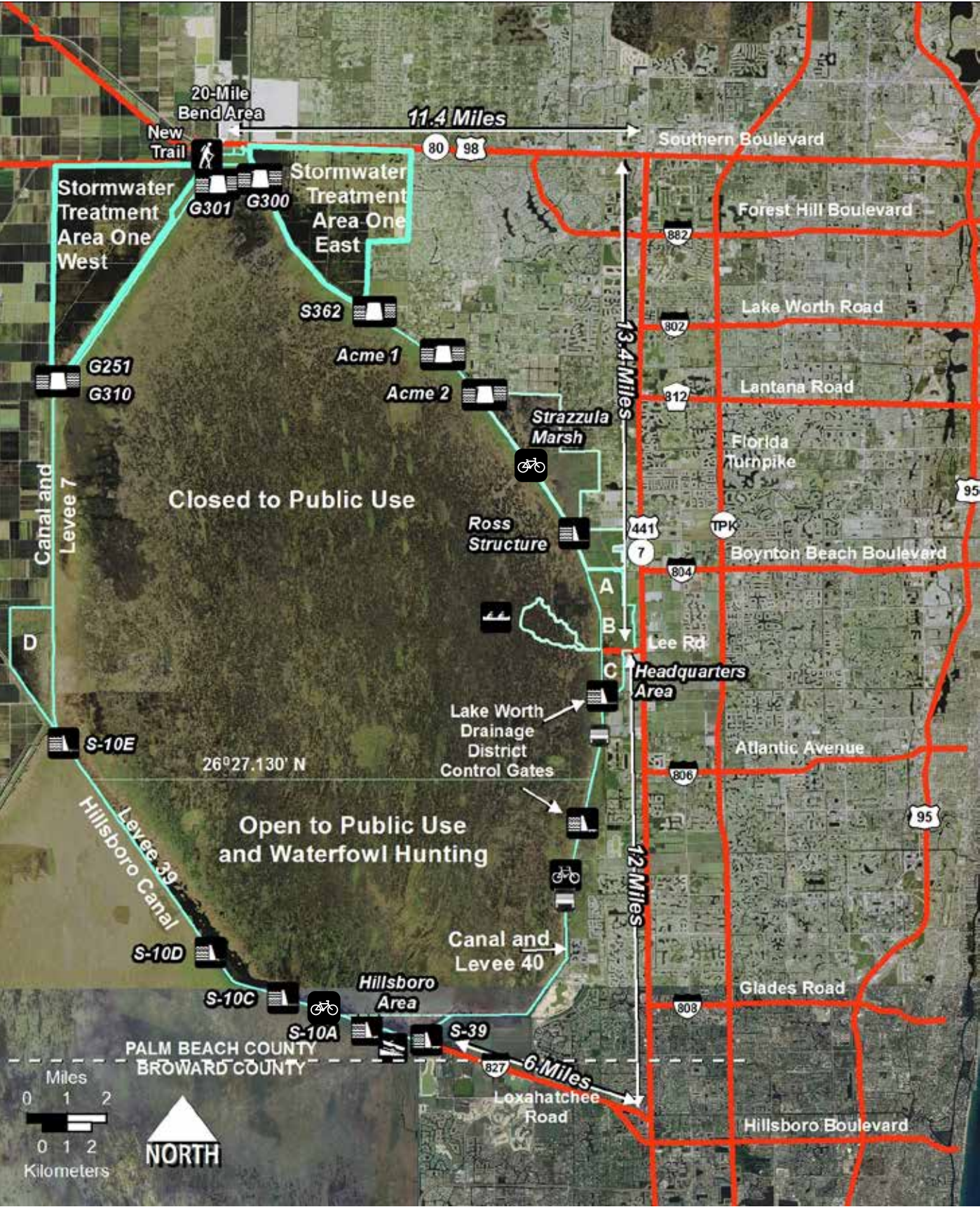
A.R.M. Loxahatchee National Wildlife Refuge
10216 Lee Road
Boynton Beach, FL 33473-4797
561/734 8303 (Visitor Center)
561/732 3684 (Administrative Office)
www.fws.gov/loxahatchee
Emergencies: 1-800/307 5789 or 911

March 2015

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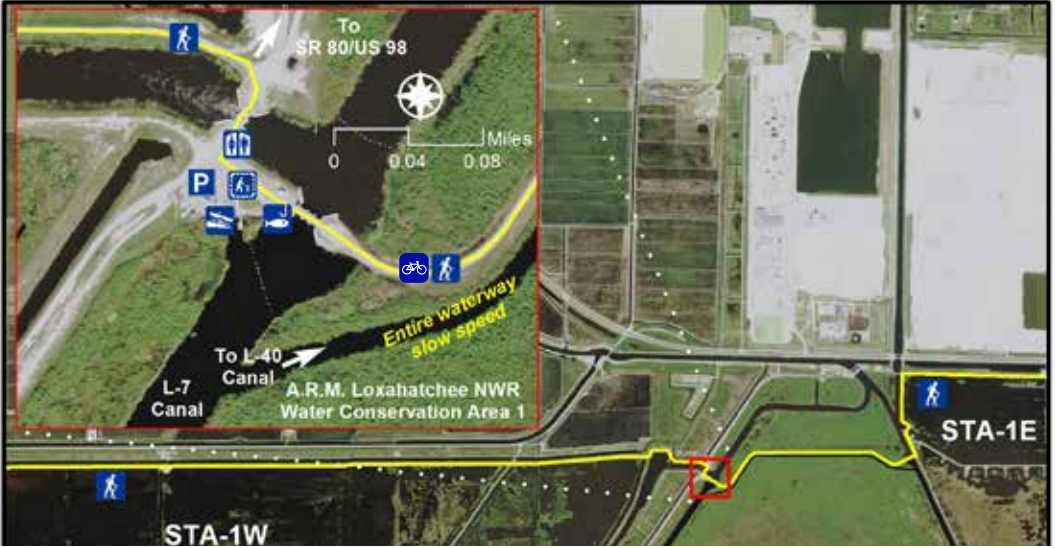
The “blue goose” is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System whose mission is to administer a national network of lands and waters for conservation, management, and where appropriate, restoration of the fish, wildlife, and plant resources and their habitats within the United States for the benefit of present and future generations of Americans.



Headquarters Area



Hillsboro Area



20-Mile Bend Area

Legend

Canoeing	Parking
Portable restrooms	Boat ramp
Photo blind-bird viewing	Fishing
Administration Building and Visitor Center	Pump structure
Informational kiosk	Water control structure
Bike trail	Bench
Walking trails	Educational Pavilion
	Observation tower