



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Holla Bend

National Wildlife Refuge

Public Use Regulations 2020-2021

Holla Bend National Wildlife Refuge

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

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U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

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<http://www.fws.gov>

<http://www.fws.gov/hollabend>

www.facebook.com/HollaBend

NationalWildlifeRefuge

July 2020



This is a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of lands and waters managed for the benefit of wildlife and people.

Holla Bend National Wildlife Refuge

Holla Bend National Wildlife Refuge is an important part of our National Wildlife Refuge System. This area was established to provide essential habitat for migratory birds in the Mississippi Valley flyway. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service administers the refuge system and is responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing the nation's fish and wildlife populations and their habitats for the continuing benefit of people.

Refuge Office Hours

Monday – Friday, 7 am to 3:30 pm. The refuge office is closed on weekends and federal holidays.

General Refuge Regulations

By law, public use activities on National Wildlife Refuges are prohibited unless expressly permitted. The regulations 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, fishing, wildlife observation and photography are permitted on the refuge in accordance with applicable State and Federal regulations subject to the following conditions.

Access

Holla Bend refuge is a nationally designated Fee Area, and a vehicle entrance pass is required of all visitors traveling through the refuge. Annual, daily and Federal Recreation passes are available. A daily pass for Holla Bend is \$4.00/vehicle.

Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamps, commonly known as "Duck Stamps," are valid for refuge admission and are available for purchase at the refuge office and any U.S. Post Office.

Holla Bend NWR sells an annual pass (\$12.50) that is valid for admission to Holla Bend only and is valid for one year from the time of purchase. The annual pass may be purchased at the refuge office or through the mail. Contact the Refuge Manager for additional information.

- Annual Pass - \$80.00 (valid for one year from date of issue) call refuge for availability.
- Senior Pass - for U.S. citizens 62 years of age or older. \$80 for lifetime or \$20 for annual
- Access Pass - Free (for U.S. citizens with a permanent disability)
- Military Pass - Free (for current US military personnel and dependents of deployed military personnel)
- Volunteer Pass - Free (for volunteers with 250 service hours with federal agencies that participate in the Federal Recreational Lands Pass Program).

The Senior and Access passes are valid for the lifetime of the pass holder. Paper versions of the Golden Age or Golden Access Passports can be exchanged for the new Senior and Access passes. Contact the Refuge Manager for additional pass information.

Vehicle Use

The maximum speed for any land vehicle is 25 mph, unless posted otherwise. ATVs are allowed only for wildlife dependent activities by disabled individuals possessing a refuge special use permit. Refuges roads are open year around. Vehicles must remain on established roads as indicated on the map. Vehicles may be parked alongside open roads in a manner that will not interfere with the normal flow of traffic. Do not block cabled or gated roads, field roads or trails. A cable, gate, road closed sign, or other barrier (e.g. mounded dirt) means the road is closed to all vehicle travel but not to foot travel unless signed otherwise.

2020-2021 General Hunting Permit - Holla Bend NWR

This permit must be signed to be valid. Permit expires 6/30/2021. It must be carried by the hunter at all times while on the refuge and in possession of hunting gear. An electronic signed copy of the permit may also be produced on a person's own cellular phone or other type of portable electronic device that clearly displays and accurately reproduces all of the information.

NOTE: An additional Permit is also required for Deer and Turkey hunting. I have read and understand the refuge hunting regulations and agree to obey them and agree to allow USFWS and AGFC Officers to inspect or search all equipment used during my hunt.

Signature (Permit not transferable)



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Emergency Telephone

Access into the refuge is through an automatically time-controlled gate. Closing times are posted near the entrance. If you are locked in the refuge or need assistance, call 911 on a cell phone and you will be connected to the Sheriff's office located in Danville.

Closed Areas

Designated areas may be closed to hunting, fishing, and all other public access for resource protection, special management or safety reasons. All refuge access is prohibited after dark unless specifically authorized by the Refuge Manager.

The refuge may close portions of the refuge or the Old River Channel from March 1 to June 30 due to bald eagle nesting activity. Be aware of all signs, buoys, etc. and consult the Refuge Manager for information.

Firearms and Archery Tackle

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuges 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). Archery tackle and crossbows are permitted only during designated hunts.

Animals/Pets

Dogs are permitted for raccoon and opossum hunting only during specified refuge season. Other dogs and pets must be confined or on a leash. Horses and mules are prohibited.

Specific Hunting Regulations

All deer, turkey, and raccoon harvested must be checked at the refuge check station before leaving the refuge. In addition, all deer and turkey harvested on the refuge must be checked according to state regulations. All deer and turkey must be properly tagged before game is moved. For all deer and turkey harvested on the refuge, Holla Bend NWR must be recorded on your game tag.

State bag limits apply unless otherwise noted. Only those species listed in this brochure or on refuge hunt permits may be taken.

The use of dogs for deer hunting is prohibited.

During big game seasons the automatic front gate will open one hour before daylight and close one hour after sunset.

All hunters must enter and exit the refuge from designated roads and parking lots only.

Waterfowl and other migratory bird hunting are prohibited on Holla Bend National Wildlife Refuge and parts of the surrounding area that fall within the Migratory Bird Closure Zone. Contact the Refuge Manager for more information.

NOTE: The refuge will be closed to all hunting related activities during the youth turkey hunts and the refuge will be closed to all entry during the youth gun deer hunt.

Hunter Education

Anyone born after 1968 must complete a hunter education course and carry a valid hunter education card to hunt in Arkansas. Youth under 16 may hunt without hunter education as long as they are under the direct supervision of an adult who is 21 years old and has a valid hunting license. Home state hunter education cards will be honored.

Tree Stands/Blinds

Only portable stands or blinds may be used. A portable hunting stand is any device or structure used for the purpose of hunting that can be carried in its entirety and erected by hand including but not limited to tripod stands, lean-to stands, lock-on stands, ladder stands and climbing stands. One tree stand or blind per hunter is allowed and must have the owner's Arkansas Game and Fish Commission license customer ID number permanently affixed to the stand. Stands/blinds may be erected seven days prior to the refuge deer season and must be removed within seven days after the season closes.

**Permits are Required for All Refuge Hunts*

When signed and in your possession, the general hunt permit on the front of this brochure serves as your permit for all refuge hunts. An electronic signed copy of the permit may also be produced on a person's own cellular phone or other type of portable electronic device that clearly displays and accurately reproduces all of the information. An additional permit is required for Fall Deer and Spring Turkey hunting. The permits are \$12.50 and must be purchased from the Refuge website at

www.fws.gov/refuge/holla_bend. Call refuge office for availability of Spring Turkey permits.

NOTE: Permits are non-transferable and nonrefundable, even in the event of refuge hunt closures due to flooding or government shut-downs.

Hunting Seasons

*Deer (Archery/Crossbow)**

Sep. 26 - Dec. 15. The limit is five deer, no more than two bucks. Rabbit, squirrel, coyote, beaver, raccoon, and bobcats may also be taken incidental to deer hunting with the devices legal for this hunt. The refuge will be closed to all entry during the youth gun deer hunt Nov. 7-8, 2020.

Note: Arkansas Game and Fish Commission CWD regulations apply to deer harvested on the refuge.

*Deer (Gun Youth) ***

Quota hunt only, Nov. 7-8. The Refuge will conduct one youth quota gun deer hunt for youths between ages 6-15. Applications must be postmarked during the month of September.

Raccoon and Opossum

Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday night during the month of February. Use of dogs is required. All dogs are required to wear a collar displaying the owner's contact information. Only rim-fire rifles no larger than .22 caliber are permitted.

*Turkey (Spring Archery/Crossbow)**

State season and bag limits apply.

*Turkey (Gun Youth) ***

Quota hunt only, two weekends. Contact refuge for dates and number of permits.

Youth hunts restricted to youths between ages 6-15. Applications must be postmarked during the month of January.

****To Apply for Youth Quota Gun Hunt Permits:**

Applications for youth hunts can be printed from the Refuge website: www.fws.gov/refuge/holla_bend filled out and mailed to the refuge office. Applications can also be made on a postcard or index card mailed in an envelope. Include the applicant's name, mailing address, phone number, and the date of the hunt for which he/she is applying; only one applicant per card.



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Specific Fishing Regulations

Sport fishing is permitted Mar. 1 - Oct. 31 from sunrise to sunset on all waters of the refuge. A valid Arkansas Fishing License is required. A Refuge specific permit is not required to fish; however, vehicle entrance fee/pass is required.

Access to refuge waters and land from the Arkansas River is prohibited. Boating over the dam at the Old River Channel, from either direction, is prohibited. Contact Refuge Manager for additional details.

Fishing will be in accordance with applicable state regulations subject to the following special conditions:

Trotline, Setline, Limblines and Yo-Yo fishing During refuge fishing season only. These devices cannot be left overnight or unattended. Lines must be secured with cotton line which extends into the water. Limit 20 devices per person. Each device must be clearly labeled with the fisherman's Arkansas Game and Fish Commission license customer ID number.

Free-Floating Fishing Devices

During refuge fishing season only. These devices cannot be left overnight or unattended. Up to 20 jugs or similar devices may be used and must be clearly marked with the user's Arkansas Game and Fish Commission license customer ID number.

Commercial Fishing

Commercial fishing is allowed by Special Use Permit only. Contact Refuge Manager for additional information.

Prohibited Activities

- Commercial guiding/hunting.
- Taking or possessing turtles or mollusks.
- Camping and fires.
- Carrying, possessing, or discharging fireworks or explosives
- Swimming.
- Littering (including, but not limited to cigarette butts, shotgun shell hulls, and fishing line).
- Searching for or removing artifacts.
- Blocking gates or roadways with vehicles.

- Use and/or possession of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances.
- Cutting, or defacing trees shrubs, or other plants.
- Possession or use of herbicides.
- Use of non-biodegradable material to mark trails.
- Target practice or non-hunting discharge of firearms.
- Dog field trials and organized training events.
- Leaving a hunt stand or blind after a hunt season.
- Baiting or hunting over bait, salt or any ingestible attractant.
- Use of natural scents or lures that contain natural deer and elk urine or other biofluids.
- All forms of man-deer drives.
- Using artificial light to locate wildlife, except as authorized for raccoon hunting.
- Hunting within 150 feet of roads and trails open to motor vehicle use.
- Driving or screwing any metal object into a tree or hunting from a tree in which a metal object has been driven or screwed to support a hunter.
- Building or hunting from permanent blinds or stands.
- Leaving boats overnight.
- Loaded hunting firearms in vehicle or boat while under power.
- Use of airboats, water skiing, jet skis, or other personal watercraft.
- Use of drones.
- Game cameras on the refuge without the owner's Arkansas Game and Fish Commission license customer ID number clearly written in a conspicuous location.

Signs

Signs are useful tools in regulating the use of a public area. The wording of the sign applies to the area behind the sign. Please respect and obey all signs on the refuge:



Refuge Boundary

Entry permitted in accordance with refuge regulations.



Closed Area

All entry prohibited.



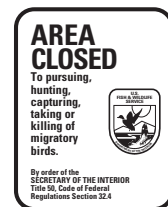
No Hunting Zone

Hunting, weapons or game retrieval prohibited.



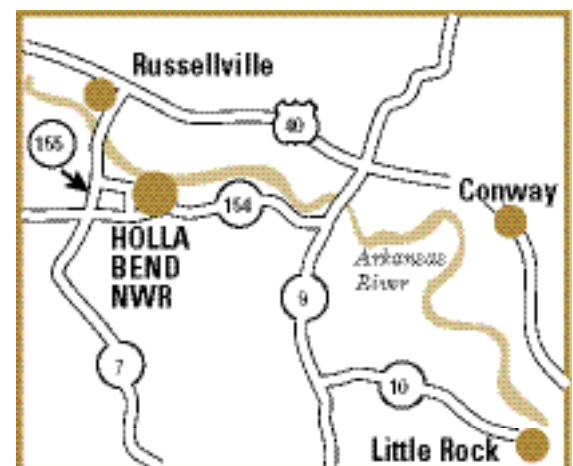
No Vehicles

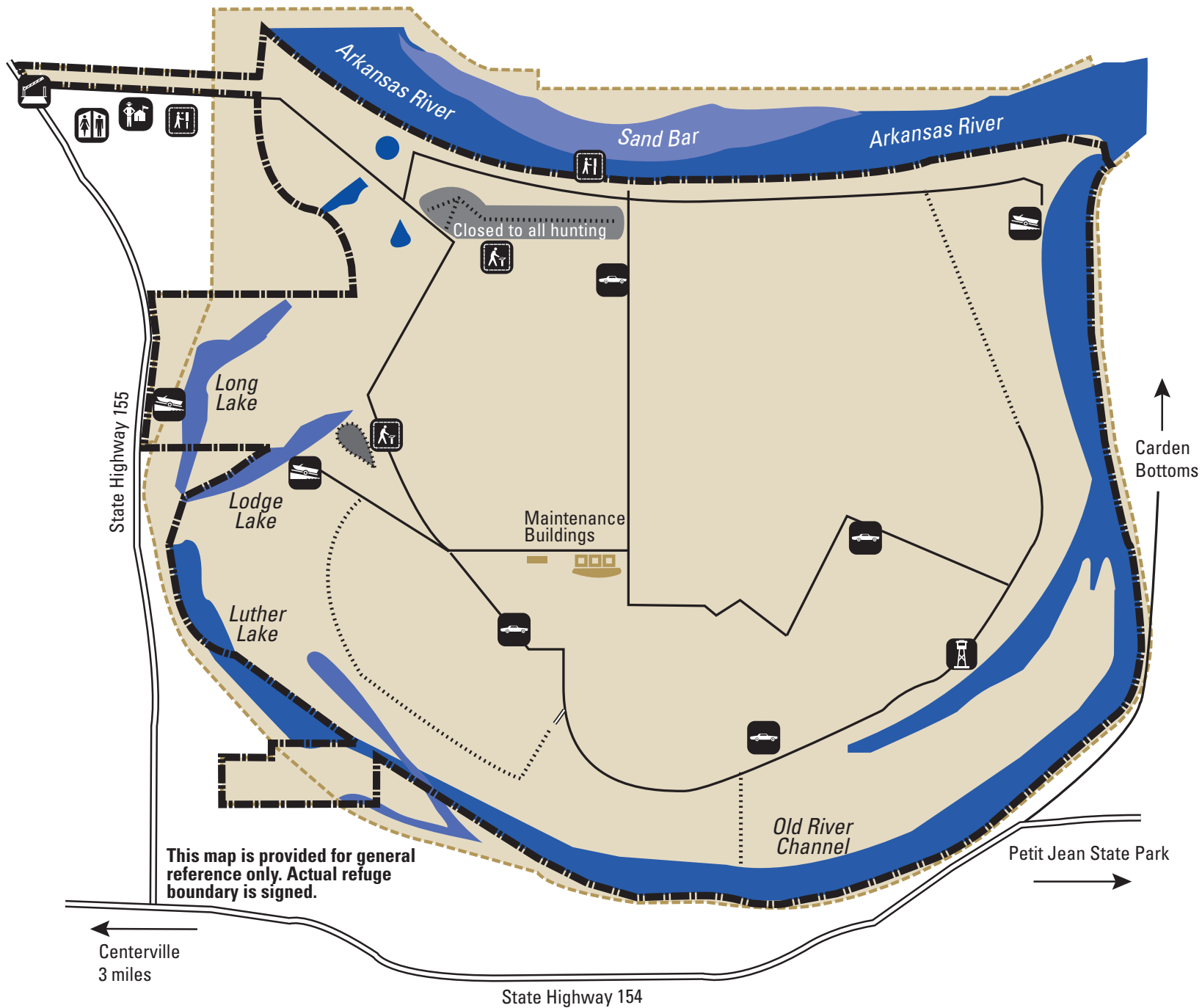
All vehicle traffic prohibited. Foot travel only.



Migratory Bird Closure Zone

Area behind signs closed to the taking/hunting of migratory birds.





- Refuge boundary
- Paved road
- Unpaved road
- Walk-in access
- Closed to hunting for all migratory birds
- Closed to all hunting
- Automatic gate
- Auto tour route
- Boat ramp
- Information station
- Observation tower
- Public restrooms
- Wildlife trail
- Refuge office/ Entrance fee station