

Mandalay National Wildlife Refuge

Mandalay National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1996, is located in Terrebonne Parish in southeast Louisiana. The 4,416 acre refuge is composed of freshwater marsh and cypress-tupelo swamp. The refuge provides excellent habitat for waterfowl, wading birds, and neotropical songbirds. The refuge is open year round to the public from legal sunrise to legal sunset. No night time use of the refuge is allowed. Most of the refuge access is by boat only and foot travel is extremely difficult due to the soft marsh environment. The Mandalay Refuge Nature Trail provides a glimpse into three different habitat types within a 45-minute hike. Hunting is only permitted on the refuge in specific areas, under date and time restrictions. All open hunting seasons are listed in this brochure. Fishing is allowed on the refuge year round except in areas closed to public access.

General Regulations

Hunting, fishing, and public use regulations are designed to provide safe recreational opportunities through wise use of renewable wildlife resources. Hunting and fishing are permitted in accordance with Federal regulations governing public use on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50 of The Code of Federal Regulations. An adult age 18 or older must supervise youth hunters at all times. Hunting and fishing will be in accordance with applicable State of Louisiana regulations subject to the conditions stated below.

Parents or adult guardians are responsible for ensuring that youth hunters age 16 and under do not engage in conduct that would constitute a violation of refuge regulations.

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). Only approved non-toxic shot may be possessed while hunting on the refuge.

Permits

All refuge hunters are required to possess a signed Hunt Permit while on the refuge. Hunt permits are free and are found on the front of this brochure. A signed hunt permit acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein. Other refuge visitors including anglers, birders, and photographers do not need a refuge Hunt Permit. Brochures may be obtained by mail, at the refuge headquarters, or from the refuge website.

Activity	Season Dates	Hunting Hours	Bag Limits	Hunt Areas	Refuge Permit
Deer Archery Bucks Only	Oct. 1 - 15	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. Allowed to enter refuge after 4 am and must exit 2 hours after sunset	1 per day	Entire refuge	Hunt Permit
Deer Archery	Oct.16 - Feb. 15	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. Allowed to enter refuge after 4 am and must exit 2 hours after sunset.	1 per day (either 1 buck or 1 doe per day)	Entire refuge except Hanson Unit closed (north of GIWW) until 12 noon on Wednesdays and Saturdays during State Waterfowl Season	Hunt Permit
Hog Archery	Oct.1 - Feb. 15	1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. Allowed to enter refuge after 4 am and must exit 2 hours after sunset	No limit	Entire refuge except Hanson Unit closed (north of GIWW) until 12 noon on Wednesdays and Saturdays during State Waterfowl Season	Hunt Permit
Waterfowl 8 - 15 years old	State Youth Waterfowl Days	1/2 hour before sunrise to 12 noon. All equipment, boats, decoys, etc. must be removed by 1 pm. Allowed to enter refuge after 4 am.	State of Louisiana Waterfowl Bag Limit applies	Hanson Unit Assigned waterfowl hunt unit	Hunt Permit, All must possess Lottery Permit.
Waterfowl (see Waterfowl Hunting section)	Wednesdays and Saturdays of State Waterfowl Season. Teal season closed.	1/2 hour before sunrise to 12 noon. All equipment, boats, decoys, etc. must be removed by 1 pm. Allowed to enter refuge after 4 am.	State of Louisiana Waterfowl Bag Limit applies	Hanson Unit Assigned waterfowl hunt unit	Hunt Permit, All must possess Lottery Permit.

Archery Hunting
Deer and Hog

Deer and hog (archery only) hunting will open at 12 pm (noon) on Wednesdays and Saturdays during State waterfowl seasons north of the Intracoastal Waterway. Bow hunters may enter the hunting area no earlier than 4 am and may remain no later than one hour after sunset.

Bow hunters are encouraged to participate in the International Bow hunters Education Program.

State of Louisiana regulations governing drug tipped arrows, pods, broadhead size, etc., are applicable. Longbow, compound bow, and crossbow or any bow drawn, held, or released by mechanical means will be a legal means of take during the deer archery season. Only portable deer stands may be used. Temporary deer stands may be erected one day before the deer archery season and must be removed from the refuge within one day after the season closes. Hunters may place only one deer stand on the refuge. Deer stands must have owner’s state hunting license number

clearly printed on the stand. Stands must be placed in a non-hunting position when not in use. Live vegetation can not be cut or moved to create blinds.

We prohibit organized deer drives. We define a “deer drive” as an organized or planned effort to pursue, drive, chase, or otherwise frighten or cause deer to move in the direction of any person(s) who is part of the organized or planned hunt and known to be waiting for the deer.

Waterfowl Hunting

We allow hunting of duck, goose, moorhen, gallinule, and coot on designated areas of the refuge subject to the following conditions:

Youth and adult lottery waterfowl hunts are conducted during State of Louisiana waterfowl season, but only on specifically designated days. Teal season is closed on the refuge.

Youth ages 8 to 15 (with adult age 18 and older supervising) are eligible to apply for the State Youth Waterfowl Days.

Prior to hunting, we must assign a refuge hunt area and issue a refuge lottery waterfowl permit to any person entering, using, or occupying the refuge for hunting migratory game birds. You may only hunt in your assigned area.

Youth ages 8 to 15 and their adult co-applicant supervisors are given preference during the refuge waterfowl hunt lottery. Once selected for a Lottery Youth Waterfowl Hunt the youth co-applicant must be present on the day of the hunt for the permit to be valid. In the event that no youth applications are received for a given hunting date, hunt areas will be filled with adult applicants for that date.

We allow hunting of migratory game birds on Wednesdays and Saturdays until 12 noon. Permitted hunters may only enter the refuge after 4 am and must exit the refuge no later than 1 pm.

Only one adult may occupy a unit with up to two youth (a youth-co-applicant and a youth guest) during a designated Lottery Youth Waterfowl Hunt. We allow no more than three hunters to hunt from a single hunt area at one time during any waterfowl hunt.

Waterfowl hunters must submit applications for lottery permits by October 16th. Lottery Waterfowl Hunt applications can be accessed via the internet at:

<http://www.fws.gov/forms/3-2355.pdf> or <https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Mandalay/> for Waterfowl Lottery Application directions. Applications can be sent to the refuge address on the cover of this brochure and will be accepted through October 16th.

All waterfowl taken on the refuge must be checked daily at one of the self-clearing check stations indicated on the map within this brochure.

Fishing

Fishing is permitted year round daily from legal sunrise to legal sunset. State of Louisiana creel limits apply. Lines must be attended at all times. Recreational crabbing is allowed. Commercial fishing is not allowed. The use of nets, traps, or unattended lines (trot, jog, bush, etc) is not allowed.

Public Use

Recreational boating is open all year. Wildlife observation is open all year.

Access to Refuge

Most access to the refuge is by boat only. No air-thrust or marsh buggies are allowed on the refuge.

All State of Louisiana boating regulations apply including, but not limited to running lights, registration, and personal flotation devices. Boating regulations are strictly enforced.

Access to the Mandalay Nature Trail parking area is by vehicle. All visitors to the Nature Trail must remain in their vehicles until arriving at the designated parking area. Beyond the parking area, the Nature Trail is foot access only gravel path minimally maintained that may be wet, muddy, and uneven. No motorized vehicles are allowed on the Nature Trail.

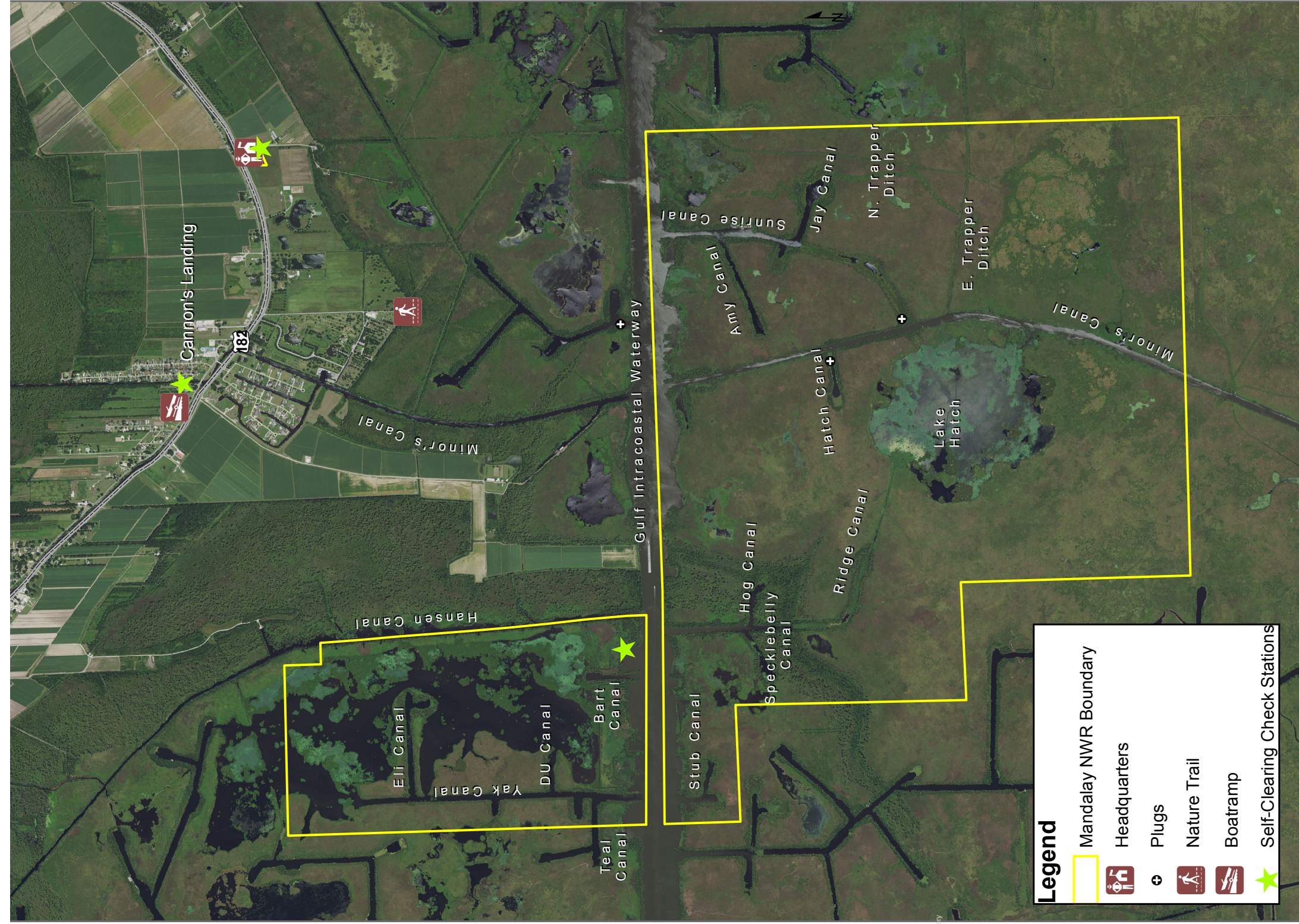
The following activities are prohibited on the refuge:

- The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting
- The possession or distribution of bait or hunting with the aid of bait, including any grain, salt, minerals, or other feed or any non-naturally occurring attractant
- Taking, collecting, or disturbing any plant or wildlife other than those specified by refuge rules
- Target shooting
- Feeding wildlife, including alligators
- Night time use
- Frogging or the taking of turtles
- Horses or ATV’s
- Climbing trees by driving nails, spikes or other objects: using a tree that has existing nails, spikes or permanent steps; or using climbing spikes
- Using areas designated “Area Closed”
- Camping, building fires or overnight anchoring
- Cutting firewood or trimming vegetation
- Searching for or removing any object of antiquity including arrowheads and pottery shards
- Littering
- Unrestrained pets, except that when hunting migratory game birds, we allow the use of dogs to locate, point and retrieve
- Spot-lighting wildlife
- Fishing with unattended jug, bush lines or trot lines

- Use of trail cameras
- Use of deer decoys
- Hunting or the discharge of firearms within 150 feet from the centerline of roads and maintained trails
- Use or possession of any type of material used as flagging or trail markers, except reflective tacks
- Any person or group (acting) as a hunting or fishing guide, outfitter or in any other capacity that any other individuals(s) pays or promises to pay directly or indirectly for services rendered to any other person or persons hunting on the refuge, regardless of whether such payment is for guiding, outfitting, lodging, or club membership
- All commercial hunting and fishing, including guiding or participating in a paid guided hunting or fishing activity
- Organized deer drives

Mandalay

National Wildlife Refuge



Signs and Boundaries



Entry permitted in accordance with refuge regulations.



Area closed to all public entry. Exceptions are stated on sign.



You are within the boundary of a National Wildlife Refuge.

Mandalay
National Wildlife Refuge
3599 Bayou Black Drive
Houma, LA 70360

Mailing address
1725 Willow Street
Franklin, LA 70538
337/828 0061
<http://www.fws.gov/mandalay>
email: mandalay@fws.gov

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

August 2020



This is an annual permit. In order to conserve tax dollars, please keep this permit throughout the year.

Mandalay Refuge Hunt Permit

When signed and carried, this serves as your permit for all refuge hunts, and acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein. Expires September 30, 2021

Signature (permits are non-transferable)

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Mandalay

*National Wildlife
Refuge Hunting and
Fishing Regulations
2020-2021*

