

Black Bayou Lake NWR Hunting and Fishing Welcome

Black Bayou Lake National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1997, is one of over 550 national wildlife refuges. The primary objective of a national wildlife refuge is to provide habitat for the conservation and protection of all species of wildlife. The refuge contains a diversity of habitat types including freshwater lake, forested wetland, and upland pine forest.

Black Bayou Lake National Wildlife Refuge
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Monroe, LA 71203
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blackbayoulake@fws.gov
<http://www.fws.gov/refuge/blackbayoulake>
For State relay service TTY/ Voice: 711

The refuge is part of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a national network of lands and waters managed for the benefit of wildlife and people.
<http://www.fws.gov/1-800-344-WILD>

General Information

Use caution when operating boats or wading in flooded areas of the refuge. Obstructions/obstacles may be submerged and unmarked. On May 29, 2003, the state of Louisiana issued the following fish consumption advisory for Black Bayou Lake: For women of childbearing age and children under the age of seven—no consumption of bowfin (choupique, grinnel); other adults and children over the age of seven—limit bowfin (choupique, grinnel) to one meal per month. All species of fish should be limited to four meals per month for each person.

Firearms

Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuge System lands 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). Firearm ammunition, used for hunting, larger than a .22 caliber rim-fire, shotgun slug, or buckshot are prohibited. Lead shot is prohibited for all hunting.

Vehicles

Licensed motor vehicles are permitted only on public use roads.

Boats

All boats must comply with State law and display proper navigation lights from sunset to sunrise. Daylight use only.

Hunting and Fishing Regulations

Hunting and fishing 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.” Hunting and fishing will be in accordance with applicable State of Louisiana regulations subject to the conditions stated below. A signed refuge hunting permit (front of this brochure) must be carried by all hunters in addition to required State licenses to hunt.

Access

WHEN: Hunters may only access the Refuge no earlier than 4 am and must exit no later than two hours after legal shooting hours unless otherwise specified.

WHERE: Hunting is restricted in certain areas as shown on the hunting map. No hunting is allowed within 150 feet of the centerline of a designated road, refuge maintained road, hiking trail, ATV trail, dwellings, above ground gas or electrical transmission facilities or designated public facility. Hunters may not access the hunting area by boat from the public launch site.

Tree Stands

Tree stands, elevated platforms, and ground blinds may be put up each day but must be removed at the end of the day. Leaving personal property overnight is prohibited.

Harvest Reporting

A self-clearing permit is required for hunting only on the Refuge. Permits can be obtained at entry points of the refuge. Self-clearing permits consists of three portions: Check-In, Check-Out, and a Vehicle tag. The Check-In Portion must be completed and put in the permit box prior to each day’s hunt. The middle portion is the Daily Hunting Harvest Permit that must be carried by each hunter while on the refuge. At the end of the day’s hunt, the Daily Hunting Harvest Permit should be completed by each person indicating the number of game harvested (must indicate zero if no game was harvested). Do not include the number of game harvested by another person. Return the Daily Hunting Harvest Permit into the box before exiting the Refuge.

Each person parking an automobile on the Refuge must leave the Vehicle tag on the dashboard of the vehicle face up so it can be read from outside of the vehicle. Each person riding in the vehicle should display their Vehicle tag on the dashboard.

ATV Regulations

ATVs are permitted on trails designated for their use (see map). The trails are marked with signs and will be closed March 1 through August 31. ATVs are prohibited from two hours after legal shooting hours to 4 am. Raccoon hunters may not use ATVs. ATV tires are restricted to those no larger than 26 x 12 with a maximum 1” lug height and a maximum allowable tire pressure of 12 psi. as indicated on the tire by the manufacturer. ATVS cannot exceed 750 lbs, 85” in length and 48” in width. Use of all other ATVs or ATV tires is prohibited on the refuge.

Youth

Youths are defined the same as State regulations. Supervising adult may supervise only one youth on a big game hunt and no more than two youth on a small game or waterfowl hunt.

Prohibited Activities

• Launching boats with motors greater than 50 horsepower.

• Taking of wildlife (including frogs, turtles, and mollusks) and plants other than specified in refuge regulations

• Using motorized vehicles off the designated public access roads.This includes motorcycles, ATVs, jeeps, cars, trucks, etc. parking is restricted to parking areas and along public access roads which are shown on the map.

• Camping

• Littering

• Possession of deer decoys

• Overnight parking

• Commercial fishing

• Target practice

• Horses and mules

• Airboats Prohibited

• Cutting vegetation, including limbs

• Launching personal watercraft (jet skis)

• Taking or possession of waterfowl, big or small game, fish or plants by use of a guide or outfitter

• Driving or screwing a nail, spike or other metal object into a tree or hunting from any tree in which a nail, spike or other metal object has been driven or screwed

• Possession or distribution of bait while in the field and hunting with the aid of bait, including any grain, salt, mineral, or any non-natural occurring food attractant on the refuge

• Using trotlines, limb lines, yo-yos, traps or nets

• Participating in deer drives

• Crossing the plastic booms in a boat

• Operating a boat more than idle speed in No Wake Zone

• Possessing or using alcoholic beverages

• Searching for or removing any object of antiquity, including arrowheads, pottery or other artifacts

• Leaving personal property overnight (includes boats, deer stands, blinds, cameras, decoys)

• Leaving flagging or other trail markers

• Using a metal detector

Summary of Recent Regulations

1. Hunting area has changed (see map). Deer Archery Only Area has expanded.

2. Deer bag limit is one antlered and one antlerless deer per day.

3. Hunters only area required to possess and complete daily Self-clearing Permits. One permit per hunter per day.

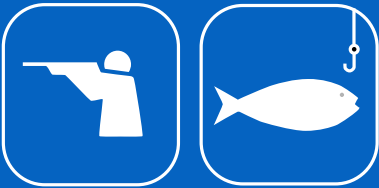
4. Waterfowl hunters must be off the Refuge by 1:30 pm.

5. No hunting is allowed within 150 feet of the centerline of a designated road, refuge maintained road, hiking trail, ATV trail, dwellings, above ground gas or electrical transmission facilities or designated public facility.

Hunt Type	Season Dates	Harvest	Hunt Areas	Other Regulations
Ducks, Coot	State Season, including special teal season and youth waterfowl season	State bag limits	As indicated on the map	Hunting until noon only. Retrievers may be used. Construction of and/or hunting from permanent blinds is prohibited. Boats, blinds and decoys may not be left unattended.
Quail, Woodcock	State Season	State bag limits	As indicated on the map	Bird dogs may be used for hunting.
Squirrel, Rabbit	State season, except closed in Spring season	State bag limits	As indicated on the map	Dogs may be used in January and February only Rabbit hunters using dogs must wear an orange hat
Raccoon, Opossum	December 1, 2020-January 31, 2021 for night hunting May be taken during daylight hours during rabbit and squirrel season.	State bag limits	As indicated on the map	Raccoons taken on the refuge may not be sold for human consumption. Elevated levels of mercury contamination have been found in refuge raccoons. It is recommended they not be eaten.
Coyote, Beaver	All refuge hunts	No bag limits	As indicated on the map	May be taken only with weapons legal for particular season.
Deer Archery	State Season	Limit of one antlerless and one antlered deer per day	As indicated on the map	Possession or distribution of bait while in the field and hunting with the aid of bait is prohibited, including any grain, salt, mineral, or any non-natural occurring food attractant on the refuge. A leashed dog may be used to retrieve wounded or un-recovered deer during legal hunting hours. A dog may be used to trail and retrieve un-recovered deer 2 hours after legal hunting hours; however, no person accompanying a dog after legal hunting hours may be in possession of a firearm, bow, crossbow or any other means of take while in the field.

Black Bayou Lake

National Wildlife Refuge
Public Use Regulations 2020-2021



Black Bayou Lake
National Wildlife Refuge
11372 Highway 143
Farmerville, LA 71241
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<http://southeast.fws.gov>
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
June 2020



Refuge Hunting Permit 2020- 2021
Black Bayou Lake National Wildlife Refuge

I have read and understand these regulations.



Signature of hunter

This permit is valid only when signed and must be carried on hunter’s person (may cut out)