

Specific Hunting Regulations

All game must be checked out at designated check stations.

Public hunting is permitted on approximately 40,000 acres as shown on this map.

All hunters must possess identification, a Florida hunting license, and a valid refuge hunt permit for the hunt in which they are participating. State Management Area stamps are not required. A state archery stamp will be required for all archery hunts. A turkey stamp is required to hunt turkey. State and Federal waterfowl stamps are required to hunt waterfowl. State deer permit required for all refuge deer hunters.

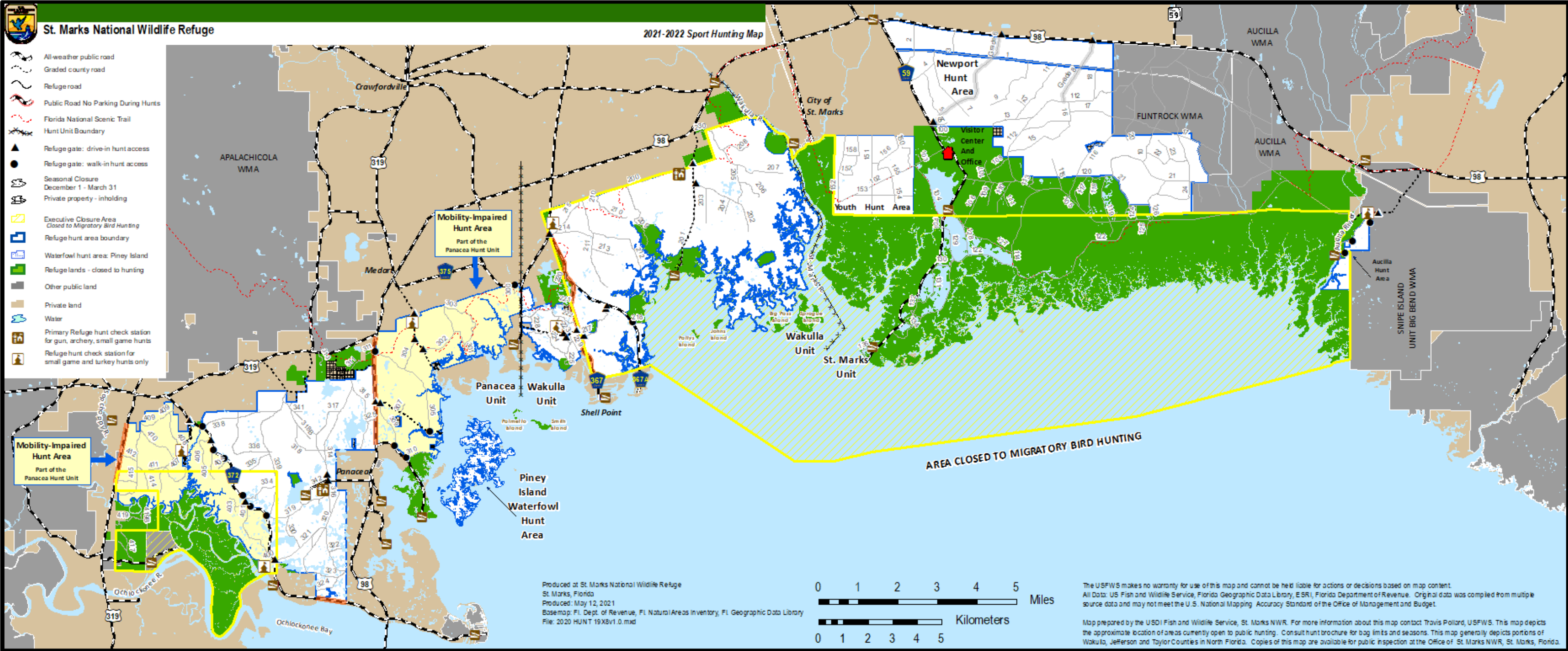
Foot/vehicle access into the refuge hunt area will be through designated access points (see map). No access along portions of public roads (see map). Vehicular access shown on map may vary according to weather and ground conditions. Vehicles are restricted to established roads. Boat access not permitted except to Piney Island for waterfowl hunting.

Pre-hunt scouting on foot is allowed anytime during daylight hours. The hunt area will be open to vehicles, weather permitting, two days before each quota hunt. Vehicle access in hunt area by permitted hunters only. Stands can not be placed prior to pre hunt scouting for the hunt are drawn. Stands must be removed by the last day of hunt. Portions of the hunt area may be temporarily closed due to wildlife management practices such as prescribed burns.

All hunters participating in refuge hunts (except turkey hunters) using firearms must wear a minimum of 500 square inches of fluorescent orange-colored material above the waistline. Archery hunters are encouraged to wear orange-colored material.

Stand hours from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1 1/2 hours after sunrise are observed during big game hunts as a hunter courtesy.

Youth hunters (younger than 16 years) must possess a valid refuge permit and be supervised by a permitted adult 21 years of age or older and must remain within sight and normal voice contact of the adult. For big game hunts, the adult may supervise only one youth. For small game hunts, the adult may supervise no more than two youths.



General Provisions

St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge is one of over 560 national wildlife refuges. The primary objective of the refuge is to provide habitat for conservation and protection of all species of wildlife. The harvest of surplus animals is one tool used to maintain wildlife populations at a level compatible with habitat.

The regulations listed below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting on wildlife refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable state regulations.

Prohibited Activities

- Target practice is prohibited.
- Driving game is prohibited
- Wood gathering, camping, littering, and fires are prohibited.
- Leashed dogs may be used for trailing injured game. Other use of dogs prohibited except for Piney Island Waterfowl hunt.
- Unleashed dogs prohibited.
- The use or possession of alcoholic beverages in refuge hunting areas is prohibited.
- The placing of or hunting over bait is prohibited.
- It is unlawful to insert a nail, spike or other metal object into any tree or to hunt from any tree in which a nail, spike or other metal object has been inserted.
- Hunting from any paved or unpaved refuge road is prohibited.
- Vehicle access on numbered roads only.
- Use of flagging tape and reflective tacks prohibited. Painting or defacing plants or trees prohibited.
- ATV's are prohibited on refuge hunts, except for mobility impaired hunters
- Hunting or cleaning of game within 1000 feet of any residence or developed public recreation area is prohibited.
- The refuge is open to daylight use only, except for authorized hunting activities.

Quota Hunts Permits

The Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC) will be handling all hunt permits for St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge. Applications may be submitted at any license agent or tax collector or on-line at <http://myfwc.com/license/limited-entry-hunts/> beginning at 10 am (Eastern Time) May 15 - June 15, 2021. Spring Turkey application period will begin November 1-30, 2021.

Panacea Unit Fall Archery

200 permits - November 2-6, 2021 Tuesday - Saturday. See bag limits below.

Species: white-tailed deer (see bag limits below); hogs unlimited. All game must be checked out at any game Check Station in the Panacea Unit.

Weapons: state regulations for archery equipment, (including crossbows).

Area: Panacea Unit only.

Wakulla Unit Fall Archery

200 permits - November 9-13, 2021 Tuesday - Saturday

Species: white-tailed deer (see bag limits below); hogs unlimited. All game must be checked out at any game Check Station in the Wakulla Unit.

Weapons: state regulations for archery equipment, (including crossbows).

Wakulla Unit General Gun Hunt

150 permits - December 11-13, 2021 Saturday - Monday

Species: white-tailed deer (see bag limits below); hogs unlimited.

Area: Wakulla Unit only. All game must be checked out at any check station in the Wakulla Unit

Weapons: state regulations for taking deer.

Panacea Unit General Gun Hunt

80 permits - December 17-19, 2021, Friday - Sunday

Species: white-tailed deer (see bag limits below); hogs unlimited.

Area: Panacea Unit only. All game must be checked out at any check station in the in the Panacea Unit.

Weapons: state regulations for taking deer.

Mobility-impaired Person Gun Hunt

30 permits - December 11-13, 2021 Saturday - Monday

Weapons: state regulations for taking deer.

Species: white-tailed deer (see bag limits below); hogs unlimited. All game must be checked out at any check station at the Panacea Unit.

Area: section of Panacea Unit west of Highway 372 (Buckhorn Creek area) and east of US 98 to Spring Creek. See map.

All Quota Hunts Bag Limit: Two deer per hunt, either two antlerless deer or one antlerless deer and one antlered deer. Antlerless deer are defined per state regulations as deer with no antler or antlers less than 5." Antlered deer must have at least 3 points, 1 inch or greater in length on one antler to be harvested. Unlimited hogs. Youth hunters 15 years and younger may harvest any deer except spotted fawn during archery season, bag limits apply. **New white-tailed Deer annual state bag limit is in effect for all refuge hunts.**

Spring Gobbler

100 permits - April 12-16, 2022, hunting hours 1/2 hour before sunrise until sunset.

Species: bearded turkeys and hogs unlimited. Bag limit: one turkey per hunt.

Area: Panacea and Wakulla Units only. All game must be checked out at designated check stations.

Weapons: Only bows, crossbows, and shotguns using #2 or smaller shot may to used for hunting.

Non-quota Hunt Permits

Small Game and Hogs

December 26, 2021 - January 9, 2022

Species: gray squirrels, rabbits, raccoons, and hogs.

Area: both Panacea and Wakulla Units and Aucilla River Area.

All state legal weapons allowed, including buckshot and slugs (Permits: available on website and refuge office)

Piney Island Waterfowl Hunt / State Season

Species: ducks and coots.

Area: Piney Island only.

Weapons: non-toxic shot only. Hunting from blinds left in area for more than one day prohibited. Remove blinds daily. Use of island plants for blinds prohibited.

Permits: No specific refuge permit required.

Port Leon Youth Hunting Area:

Youth Deer Hunt - December 4-6, 2020

Youth Spring Gobbler Hunt - March 19-21, 2021

Applications available online in the Youth Opportunities Section: <http://www.myfwc.com/hunting/>

Newport Hunt Area

This hunt area is east of the St. Marks River (see map). Access is limited to Grade 6 and Grade 8 only.

Archery Season:

September 18 - October 17, 2021

State legal archery equipment (including crossbows)

Muzzleloading Gun Season:

October 23 - November 5, 2021

Muzzleloading gun, bow and crossbow only

General Gun Season:

November 6, 2021 - January 23, 2022

Weapons: state regulations for species being hunted

Legal to hunt: Antlered deer must have at least three points, one inch or greater in length on one antler to be harvested. Archery hunters may also take antlerless deer during the archery season. (which includes does, and bucks with less than five inches in length, but not spotted fawn), and turkey of either sex. **State daily harvest and annual bag limits apply.** Hogs unlimited.

Spring Turkey Season:

Youth Turkey, March 12-13, 2022

Spring Turkey, March 19 - April 24, 2022

Weapons: Only bows, crossbows, and shotguns using #2 or smaller shot may be used for hunting - **bearded turkeys only, hunting allowed 1/2 hour before sunrise until sunset. State harvest limits apply. Hogs unlimited.**

Small Game Season:

January 24 - March 6, 2022. Same regulations for species and weapons listed under the (*Small Game and Hogs.*)

License requirements. Newport Hunt Area – Signed refuge hunting brochure, Florida hunting license, appropriate state stamp for weapon being used and game being hunted.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

St. Marks

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations 2021-2022

This leaflet must be signed to be valid for the December 26 - January 9 small game and Newport Hunt Area. It must be carried by the hunter while hunting. Companions must also have this permit while in hunt area. Gates not open for pre-hunt scouting by vehicles.

Name (*Please print*)

I have read and understand the refuge hunting regulations.

Signature (*Permits are not transferable*)

St. Marks National Wildlife Refuge

P.O. Box 68

St. Marks, FL 32355

850-925-6121

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

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

1-800-344-WILD

<http://southeast.fws.gov>

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