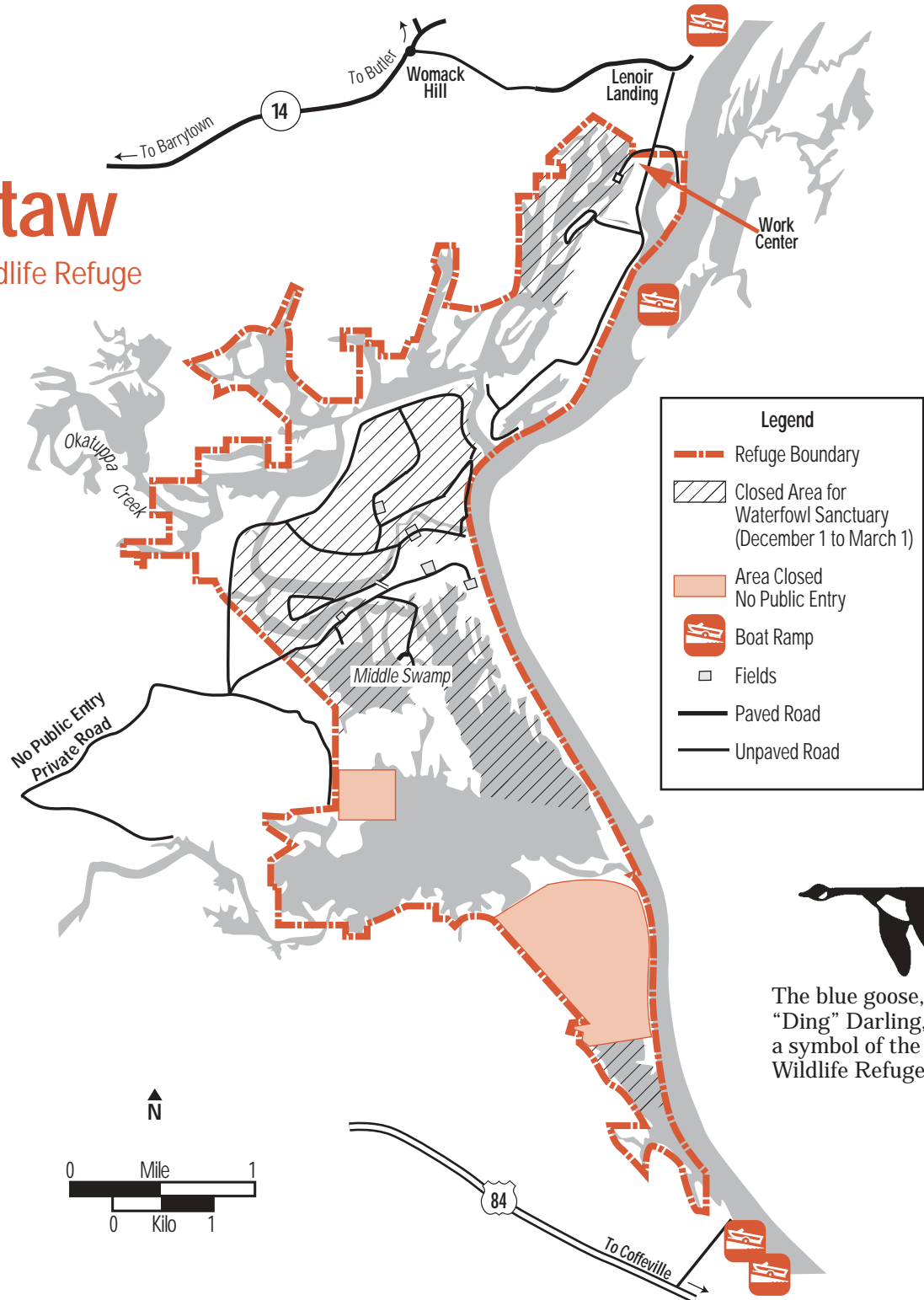


Choctaw

National Wildlife Refuge



The blue goose, designed by "Ding" Darling, has become a symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

Choctaw

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations 2003-2004



Choctaw National Wildlife Refuge Hunt Permit 2003-2004

Name _____

Address _____

I have read the regulations governing hunting and will abide by them.

Signature of Hunter _____ Date _____

Name of other people hunting in same party for raccoons:

This permit is valid only when signed by the hunter listed above for the current season.

Choctaw
National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 808
1310 College Avenue
Jackson, AL 36545
251/246 3583
<http://southeast.fws.gov>

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

June 2003



Choctaw National Wildlife Refuge General Provisions

Choctaw National Wildlife Refuge is one of over 500 national wildlife refuges. The primary objective of the National Wildlife Refuge System is to provide habitat for the conservation and protection of all species of wildlife. The harvest of surplus animals is one method used to manage wildlife populations. Carefully managed hunting helps maintain wildlife populations at levels compatible with their habitat, provides wholesome recreational opportunities, and permits the use of a valuable renewable resource.

Accessibility

Those requiring special assistance to participate in all refuge activities are encouraged to contact the refuge manager.

A person with a disability may be given permission to use a vehicle to gain access to areas normally closed to this use.

General Hunting Regulations

The regulations listed below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50, "Code of Federal Regulations":

All U.S. Coast Guard and State boating regulations will be enforced.

Only designated game species may be taken; all other wildlife may not be molested in any manner.

No cutting of trees and no fires or camping are permitted on the refuge.

Camping facilities are available at Corps of Engineers' Lenoir Landing, or Highway #84 Service Area.

Boats may not be left on the refuge overnight.

Hunting will be in accordance with State regulations subject to this permit's special conditions.

Driving directions

One permit good for all 2003 - 2004 Choctaw NWR Hunts for entire season as listed herein.

From Coffeeville, Alabama take Highway 84 across Tombigbee River going West. Take County Road 21 to Barrytown. Turn right on County Road 14 to refuge road. Watch for refuge signs from Highway 84 on to the refuge.

Permits

Permits are required for all hunts and for all hunters regardless of age.

Youth hunters

Youth hunters, anyone under the age of 16, must be supervised by an adult 21 years of age or older, and must remain in sight and normal voice contact with that adult.

This regulation sheet must be signed and carried on each person while hunting to serve as a permit.

Permits are non-transferable and must accompany proper state hunting license.

Hunters who fail to abide by all applicable regulations will also be considered to be hunting without permission.

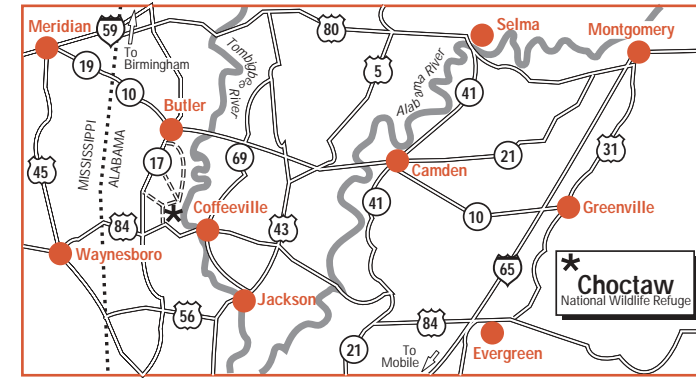
Last day 2003 hunting permitted is November 30. Refuge becomes yearly waterfowl sanctuary December 1 - March 1.

Only permitted firearms are allowed during refuge small game hunting seasons. No loaded weapons are allowed in land vehicles and weapons must be unloaded, and disassembled or cased, while vehicles and boats are in motion.

Prohibited

Possession of toxic shot (ie. lead, copper coated), shotgun shells or shot sizes not permitted is prohibited.

Hunting from a tree in which a metal object has been driven or screwed to support a hunter and all permanent stands are prohibited.



Cutting or trimming branches or brush for clear shooting lanes is prohibited.

Possession or use of any drug for hunting is prohibited.

The middle section of the refuge is accessible only by boat from the waters of Okatappa Creek, Turkey Creek, or the Tombigbee River.

Hunting hours will be from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Hunting will not be permitted within 100 yards of either the fenced-in Refuge Work Center Area or the Refuge Boat Ramp.

Tree stand users are required to use a safety belt or harness.

Flagging tape and reflective tacks are not allowed.

Checkout stations

All hunters harvesting refuge wildlife must record harvest data at one of the checkout stations upon conclusion of each day's hunting.

Checkout stations and scales are available at the following boat ramps:

Bobby's Fish Camp (Highway #84)

Refuge Work Center (Womack Hill)

Rabbit and Squirrel

Choctaw NWR 2003-2004 Hunts

October 15-November 30, 2003 (Archery)

November 8-30, 2003 (Shotgun #4 non-toxic shot or smaller or .22 caliber rimfire rifles — **no** .22 magnums)

Deer and Feral Hogs (Archery)

October 15-November 30, 2003 (bow and arrow and hand thrown spear)

Raccoon (night time)

February 14-29, 2004 (Shotgun #6 or smaller non-toxic shot or .22 caliber rimfire [State regulations]). No hunting or running of dogs before sunset or after 3:00 am.)

Feral Hogs (Archery)

March 13-21, 2004 (Bow and arrow or hand thrown spear.)

Feral Hogs (Muzzleloader)

April 3-4, 2004 (Limited permit hunt. Contact refuge headquarters for details.)

Incidental Species

Raccoon, opossum, nutria and coyotes may be taken during **Fall** hunts with those weapons legal during those hunts. A hunter cannot hunt the refuge with the sole intent of taking just these incidental species.

Dogs

Dogs are not permitted in Middle Swamp (between Okatappa and Turkey Creeks) except during raccoon hunts.