

Mandalay National Wildlife Refuge

Mandalay National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1996, is located in Terrebonne Parish in southeast Louisiana. The 4,212 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 sunrise to sunset. No night time use of the refuge is allowed. Access is by boat only and foot travel is extremely difficult due to the soft marsh environment. 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. Hunting and fishing will be in accordance with applicable State of Louisiana regulations subject to the conditions stated below.

Permits

Refuge permits are **not** required for activities described in this brochure except for lottery waterfowl hunting. All visitors, including hunters, fishermen, boaters, birdwatchers, etc., are required to abide by all terms and conditions in the refuge hunting, fishing and public use brochure (this document) as well as all other applicable State of Louisiana and Federal regulations.

Hunters and anglers 16 years of age and older are required to have a valid State of Louisiana hunting and/or fishing license.

Brochures may be obtained by mail, at the refuge headquarters, or from the internet. To help save tax dollars, hunters and anglers are encouraged to retain and use the same brochure throughout the entire season.

Archery Hunting

Deer and Hog

Deer and Hog (archery only) hunting will be conducted in accordance to the State of Louisiana season dates. Bowhunters may enter the hunting area no earlier than 4:00 am and may remain no later than one hour after sunset.

Activity	Season Dates	Restrictions	Refuge Permit Requirements
Wildlife Observation	Year Round	Open in all areas not restricted by gates or designated as “Area Closed.”	None
Recreational Fishing	Year Round	Open in all area not restricted by gates or designated as “Area Closed.”	None
Recreational Boating	Year round	Open in all area not restricted by gates or designated as “Area Closed.”	None
Hunting	October - January	Lottery Waterfowl and Archery Deer and Hog. See Annual Hunt Regulations.	Daily Self Clearing Permits Lottery Permits for Waterfowl

All archery hunters must sign in and out at designated check stations daily. All game taken (including deer, hogs and nutria) on the refuge must be checked daily at one of the self-clearing check stations indicated on the map within this brochure. Feral hogs and nutria may be taken during the archery hunt. State of Louisiana bag limits apply unless otherwise specified within the most current “Annual Bowhunter Regulations” available at the refuge headquarters.

Bowhunters must possess proof of completion of the International Bowhunters Education Program. Each adult of age 21 years or older can supervise no more than one youth of age 17 years or younger for archery hunting.

Bows are permitted only during the State of Louisiana archery season. State of Louisiana regulations governing drug tipped arrows, pods, broadhead size, etc., are applicable. Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries regulations governing crossbow use will apply to refuge hunters. **No firearms are allowed on the archery hunt.**

Hunting from old stands erected in past years or using old structures or camps is strictly prohibited. Old structures and stands are unsafe for any use.

Waterfowl Hunting

Waterfowl (Youth and Adult Lottery Hunts) are conducted during State of Louisiana season dates but only on specifically designated days. Waterfowl hunters should refer to the most current Mandalay NWR’s “Lottery Waterfowl Annual Hunt Regulations” available at the refuge headquarters.

All waterfowl hunters regardless of age must possess a Hunter Safety Course certificate. All hunters under 18 years of age must be accompanied by an adult of age 21 years or older. Each adult can supervise no more than two youths for the Lottery Waterfowl hunt.

Waterfowl hunters must submit applications for lottery permits by October 15th. Current regulations are available at the refuge headquarters.

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

State of Louisiana creel limits apply. Fishing is permitted during daylight hours only (sunrise to sunset). 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.

Physically Challenged or Disabled Users

Physically challenged or disabled public users are encouraged to consult refuge staff for available options and alternatives that may make their visit more enjoyable.

Public Use

Fishing is open all year.

Recreational Boating is open all year.

Wildlife observation is open all year.

Access to Refuge

Access to the Mandalay Nature Trail Parking Area is by vehicle. All visitors to the Nature Trail must remain in their vehicle until arriving at the designated parking area. Beyond the parking area, the Nature Trail is foot access only. No motorized vehicles are allowed on the Nature Trail.

All other access to Mandalay National Wildlife Refuge is by boat only. There are no roads leading to the refuge’s property. All boating access is limited to existing canals, ditches, and trenasses. No airboats 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 floatation devices. Boating regulations are strictly enforced.

The following activities are prohibited on the refuge:
The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting

Baiting or hunting over bait

Taking, collecting or disturbing any plant or wildlife other than those specified by refuge rules

Target shooting

No feeding wildlife, including alligators

No night time use of the refuge is allowed

No frogging

No taking of turtles

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”

Marking with flagging, paper, paint, trash, etc...

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

Spot-lighting wildlife or using man-drives for deer or hogs

Unregulated trapping

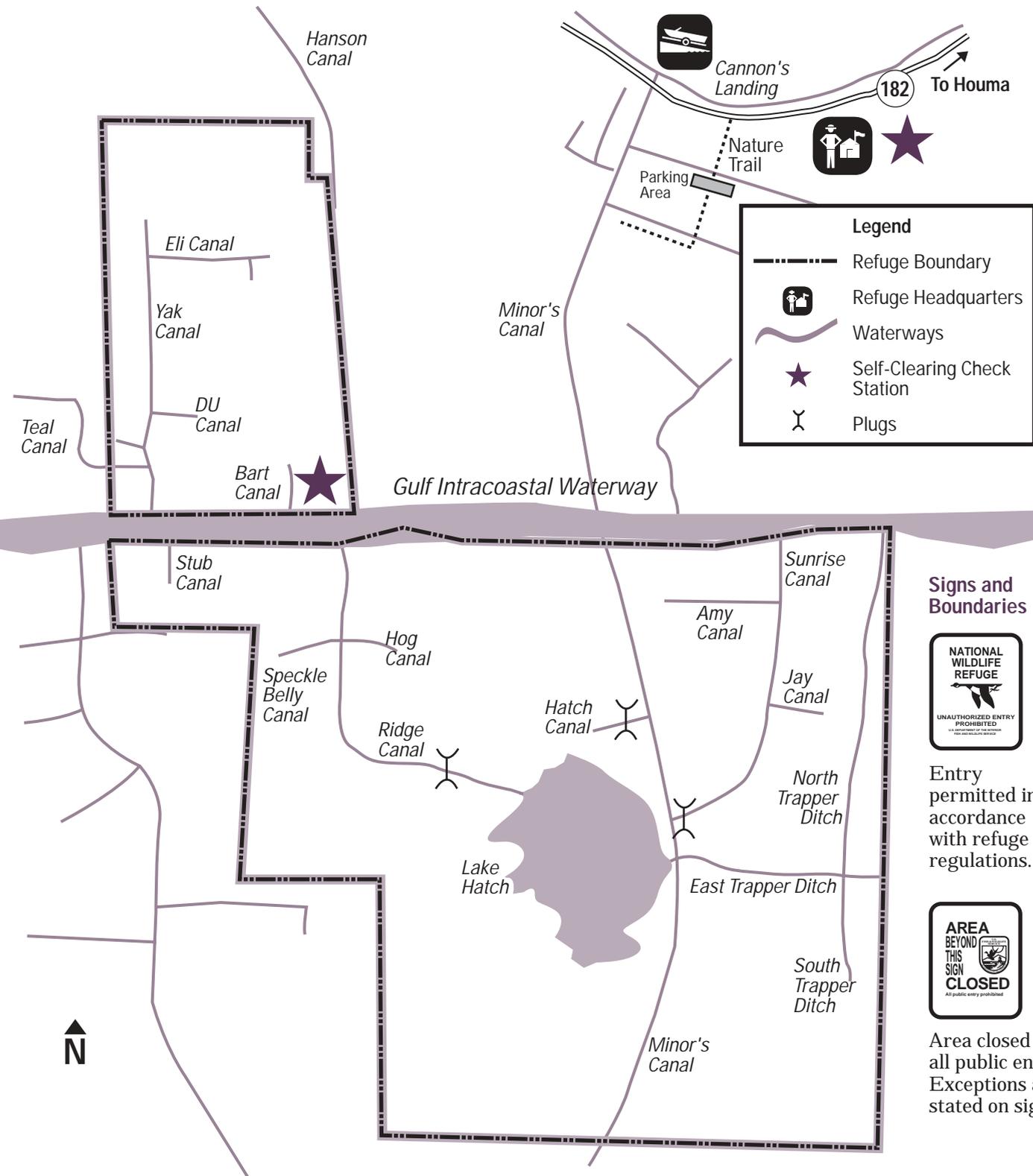
Fishing with use of jug, bush lines or trot lines

Commercial fishing or crabbing

Louisiana’s black bears are protected! The Louisiana black is listed as a threatened species under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973. It is unlawful for anyone to take, harass, disturb, etc. any Louisiana black bear. Criminal penalty up to \$50,000 and 1 year imprisonment.

Mandalay

*National Wildlife Refuge
Hunting, Fishing and
Public Use Regulations*



Legend

- Refuge Boundary
- Refuge Headquarters
- Waterways
- ★ Self-Clearing Check Station
- Y Plugs

Signs and Boundaries



Entry permitted in accordance with refuge regulations.



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



Mandalay
National Wildlife Refuge
3599 Bayou Black Drive
Houma, Louisiana 70360
985/853 1078
<http://southeast.fws.gov/mandalay/index.html>
email: mandalay@fws.gov

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

August 2004

