

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Audubon National Wildlife Refuge

Hunting and Fishing Information



The Blue Goose is the symbol of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of lands and waters managed for the benefit of wildlife and people.



Welcome

Audubon National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Refuge is one of over 565 refuges and 38 wetland management districts in the National Wildlife Refuge System – a network of lands set aside specifically for wildlife. The Refuge System is a living heritage, conserving wildlife and habitat for people today and for generations to come.

Location and Hours

The Audubon NWR office and visitor center is located 3 miles north of Coleharbor, North Dakota, on U.S. Highway 83, and 1 mile east of the highway. It is open 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, Monday through Friday, except Federal holidays and when staff is working in the field.

General Information

The Refuge is open to deer hunting; a late-season hunt for grouse, partridge, and pheasant; and ice fishing in accordance with State and Refuge-specific regulations. Hunting waterfowl or any other species is prohibited.

To help protect wildlife and their habitats and to ensure your safety, please familiarize yourself with the following information.

Hunting is in accordance with State regulations; in addition, Refuge-specific regulations must be followed and are listed in the table below.

Activity	Season Dates	Other Regulations
Deer (youth, bow, gun, muzzleloader)	State seasons	Hunters may use portable tree stands that meet State regulations. Permanent tree stands are not allowed. Tree stands, trail cameras, portable hunting blinds, and all other personal property must be removed from the Refuge daily. Vehicle travel for retrieval of a harvested deer is restricted to the auto tour route and deer retrieval trails shown on the map. These roads may become inaccessible due to drifting snow.
Grouse, partridge, pheasant	Opens the first Monday after the deer gun season closes and remains open through the end of the State season.	Open for late-season hunting only. Hunters may possess and use only non-toxic shot. Use of dogs is encouraged while hunting.

Pets

With the exception of dogs used for hunting, pets must be on a leash controlled by their handler or inside a vehicle or fish house.

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.)

Prohibited Activities

The following activities are prohibited on the Refuge:

- Hunting within road right-of-ways
- Using or carrying lead shot while hunting
- Baiting
- Using horses to hunt or retrieve game
- Open-water fishing
- Dog training
- Disturbing or removing natural objects and artifacts
- Littering

Hunting and Fishing Regulations

Hunting and fishing are allowed in accordance with Federal regulations governing public use on national wildlife refuges as set forth in Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations, State regulations, and the Refuge-specific regulations in this brochure.

Hunting Regulations

Hunting is allowed for deer in accordance with State seasons. A late-season hunt is allowed for grouse, partridge, and pheasant. Special Refuge permits are not required.

The Refuge is divided into areas that are designated as open or closed to hunting (see map). Areas closed to hunting are posted with "No Hunting Zone" signs. Please note that Refuge islands are also closed to all hunting. Islands that become attached to the mainland because of low water levels and dikes may be hunted.

Hunters must park at the Refuge boundary or at a designated visitor parking area and walk to access areas open to hunting. Hunting from a vehicle, walking from a fish house, dropping off or picking up hunters, or driving on the auto tour route to access hunting areas is not allowed.

When hunting on private lands adjacent to the Refuge, downed game may be retrieved up to 100 yards inside the Refuge boundary fence and closed areas of the Refuge. Retrieval is limited to direct travel to and from the game and no firearms may be carried when retrieving game in these areas.

Ice Fishing Regulations

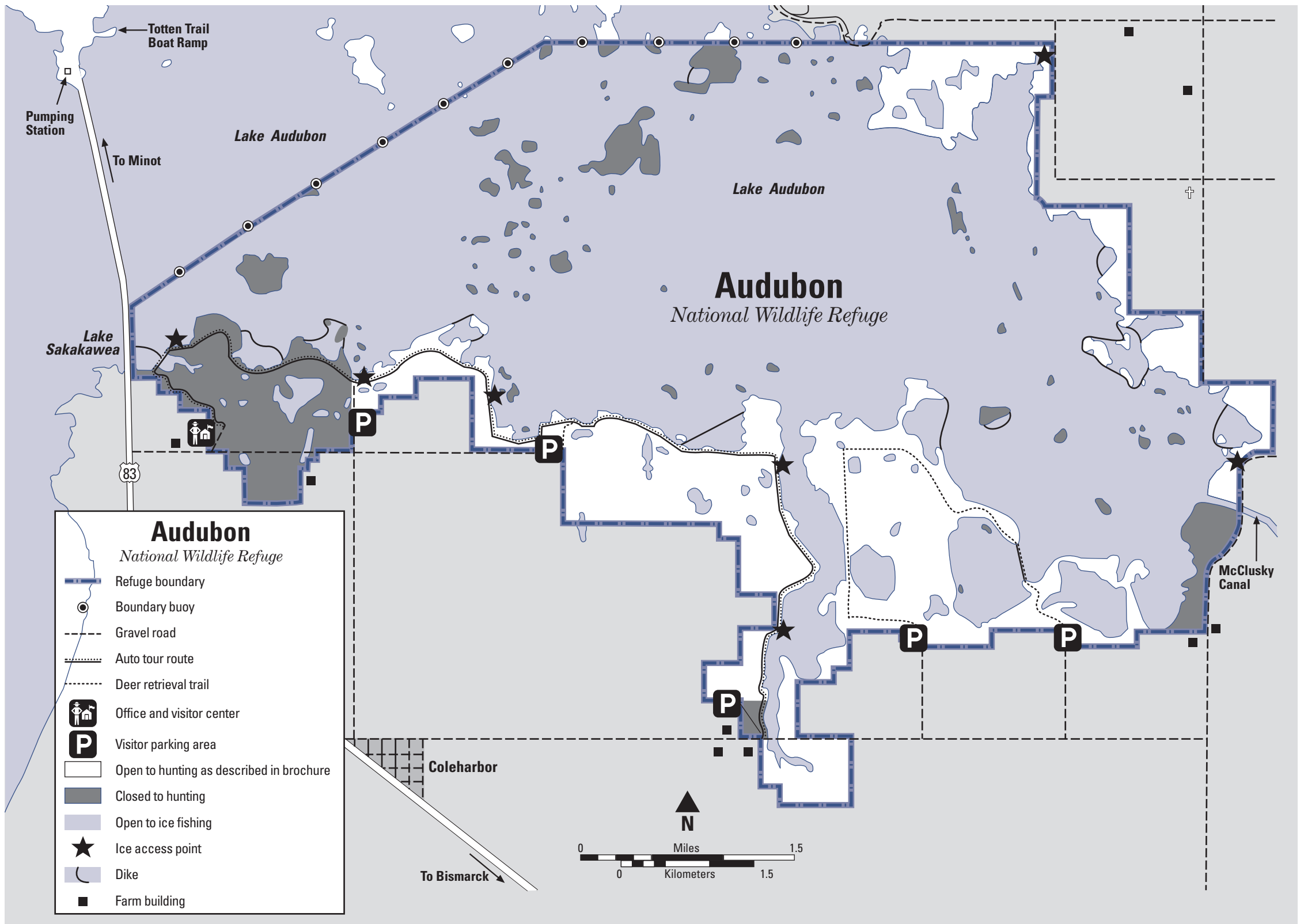
Ice fishing is allowed while ice covers the water.

Anglers may access the ice by vehicle at designated ice access points (see map).














All vehicles, including snowmobiles and all-terrain vehicles, are restricted to public roads, ice access points, and the ice. Vehicles must park on the ice or immediately adjacent to the road. Parking on grasslands is not allowed. Refuge staff does not plow snow from these areas.

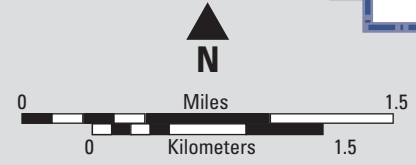
Fish houses may be used for ice fishing in accordance with State regulations. After March 15, fish houses must be removed from the Refuge daily. They may not be left unattended on uplands or in visitor parking areas.

Traveling on Lake Audubon ice is hazardous and requires caution. Proceed at your own risk.



Audubon
National Wildlife Refuge

-  Refuge boundary
-  Boundary buoy
-  Gravel road
-  Auto tour route
-  Deer retrieval trail
-  Office and visitor center
-  Visitor parking area
-  Open to hunting as described in brochure
-  Closed to hunting
-  Open to ice fishing
-  Ice access point
-  Dike
-  Farm building



Audubon National Wildlife Refuge
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Coleharbor, ND 58531

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audubon@fws.gov
www.fws.gov/refuge/audubon

Telecommunications Relay Service
TTY / Voice: 711

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
www.fws.gov

Refuge Information
1-800-344-WILD

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