

# Waubay 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

Waubay National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) 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.

### General Information

The Refuge is open to hunting and fishing per Refuge-specific regulations and in accordance with State regulations.

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

### Hours

The Refuge is open every day during daylight hours.

Headquarters, including the office and visitor center, is open Monday through Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm, except Federal holidays.

**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
<b>Deer (archery)</b>	State season except during muzzleloader seasons.	During the muzzleloader seasons, the Refuge is closed to archery hunting. Portable tree stands may be placed and used only during the dates of the permitted hunt. In addition, the stand must be removed as soon as the tag is filled. Tree stands that use nails, wires, screws, bolts, or screw-in steps are not allowed.
<b>Deer (muzzleloader)</b>	Muzzleloader season 1 opens one week prior to the State's East River deer opener and runs for 9 days.  Muzzleloader season 3 opens the second weekend of the State's East River deer season and runs for 9 days.	Muzzleloaders may have optics, but those optics cannot use magnification. Deer hunting season 2 is closed.

### Boats

Non-motorized boats and paddlecraft must be launched at boat access points (see map). Boats with electric motors are not allowed.

### Vehicles

Vehicle travel is restricted to public roads.

Do not park vehicles in front of access gates.

### Pets

Pets must be on a leash controlled by the 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.)

### Waubay National Wildlife Refuge

44401 134A Street  
Waubay, SD 57273

605-989-2324

waubay@fws.gov

www.fws.gov/refuge/waubay

### Telecommunications Relay Service

TTY / Voice: 711

### U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

www.fws.gov

### Refuge Information

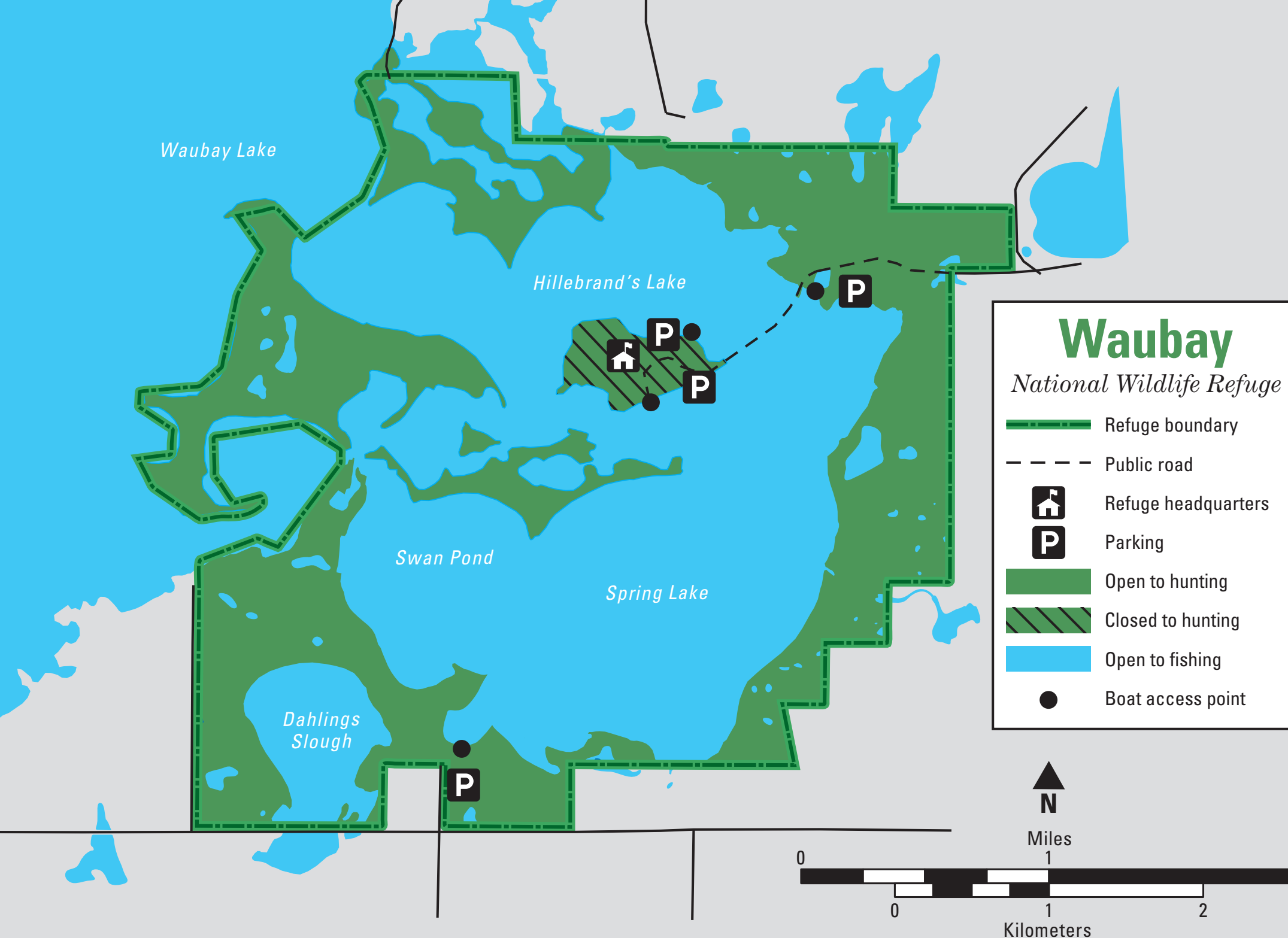
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### Accessibility

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**Prohibited Activities**

For the protection of people, wildlife, and habitats, the following activities are prohibited.

- Shooting from or across public roads or right-of-ways.
- Use of permanent tree stands or any tree stand that uses nails, wires, screws, bolts, or screw-in steps.
- Littering.
- Camping and open fires.

**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**

A portion of the Refuge is open to hunting for deer within specific dates (see hunting regulations table). A State-issued, Refuge-specific tag is required for hunting. The entire Headquarters Island is closed to all hunting (see map).

Only hunters with a valid, unfilled tag may be on the Refuge to hunt during the dates printed on the tag.

Hunters may not fill the following tags on the Refuge: East River, State muzzleloader, special buck, and state-wide youth tags.

**Fishing Regulations**

Open-water fishing and ice fishing are allowed on all Refuge waters.

Anglers may launch non-motorized boats or paddlecraft from a boat access point (see map).

When fishing from the shoreline, anglers must park vehicles in a designated parking area (see map).

When ice fishing, anglers may park vehicles along the south side of the east entrance road. Parking on Headquarters Island is limited to parking lots.

Anglers must access the ice on foot (no vehicles) and are allowed to be on ice from 1 hour prior to sunrise to 1 hour after sunset.

Portable fish houses may be used, but they must be removed from the Refuge each day.