



Waterfowl Hunting Regulations 2018-2019

Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge

Hunting units on Anahuac NWR include the East Unit (Fee Area), Middleton Tract (Non-Fee Area), and the Pace Tract (Non-Fee Area). Hunters should consult specific hunting units below for information on open hunting days as they vary across hunting units. Also, opening of hunting units can change based on weather and marsh conditions. We ask that hunters be good sportsmen and respect the rights of other hunters afield. Hunting is limited to ducks, geese, and coots and is only permitted in accordance with all federal, state, and local laws. The regulations listed are a supplement to the general regulations set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. Additionally, refuge specific hunting regulations including signs are outlined below. Any emergency changes to regulations during the season will be posted on the Anahuac NWR webpage (www.fws.gov/refuge/anahuac/).

Refuge Specific Hunting Regulations

Possession of firearms is in accordance with federal and state laws. Permitted hunters must unload and encase shotguns while traveling in vehicles and boats on the refuge.

We permit the following:

- Scouting from sunrise to sunset during October 19-25, 2018, prior to the state Youth Waterfowl Hunt on October 27-28, 2018.
- Hunters 15 years of age or younger and under the direct supervision of an adult age 18 or older to participate in the state Youth Waterfowl Hunt.
- Use or possession of shotgun shells containing approved non-toxic shot.
- Vehicle travel and parking on designated roads only.
- Use of portable blinds, but they must be removed from the refuge daily.
- Use of retriever dogs, but they must be under the control of their handlers at all times.

We prohibit the following:

- Entering a hunting unit not legally licensed to hunt waterfowl.
- Adults from hunting during the state Youth Waterfowl Hunt.
- Entering hunting units prior to 4:00 am or later than 30 minutes before legal shooting time.
- Hunting before legal shooting time, hunting after 12:00 pm, or being on a hunt unit past 12:30 pm.
- Hunters age 17 or younger without the direct supervision of an adult age 18 or older.
- Hunting closer than 200 yards from other hunting groups and spaced ponds.
- Individual hunters within a group from being more than 50 feet from each other.
- Discharge of a firearm for purposes other than hunting.

- Use or possession of lead shot.
- Individual possession of more than 50 approved non-toxic shotgun shells (including within boats and vehicles).
- Blocking of roads, gates, trails, catwalks, boat ramps, or any facility.
- Hunting from a roadway.
- Operation of motorized boats on or through emergent wetland vegetation and mudflats.
- Boat motors greater than 25 HP in the hunting units.
- Motorized boats powered by air-cooled or radiator-cooled engines with a propeller larger than 9 inches in diameter.
- Airboats, marsh buggies, ATV's/UTV's, and personal watercrafts.
- Use, possession, or being under the influence of alcoholic beverages or drugs.
- Use or possession of drug paraphernalia.
- Drone use.
- Open flames and stoves.
- Construction, use, or occupancy of permanent hunting blinds or using invasive or exotic plants.
- Use of plastic flagging, reflectors, or reflective tape.
- Leaving personal property, trash, or spent shells.

East Unit (Fee Area)

Open for Hunting: Regular Waterfowl Season: open on Saturdays, Sundays, and Tuesdays. It will be determined each season if the Light Goose Conservation Order will be open on the East Unit. If the Light Goose Conservation Order is in effect during 2019 the East Unit will be open on Saturdays, Sundays, and Tuesdays until February 24, 2019.

Closed for Hunting: Regular Waterfowl Season: closed on Mondays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Closed during Early Teal Season, Early Canada Goose Season, Thanksgiving Day, November 26–December 7, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

Hunters will reserve a hunt pond or numbered field on a first-come, first-served basis. Reservations will only be taken 9:00 am–1:30 pm on the Friday prior to the hunt each week. Reservations can be made in person at the Anahuac NWR Headquarters, 4017 FM 563, Anahuac, TX 77514 or by phone at 409/267-5138 (Parking on the shoulder of FM 563 is not encouraged or supported.) There are approximately 46 hunt ponds to choose from, as well as eight numbered fields and one accessible hunt blind. Note: this may change, depending on weather and marsh conditions. Reservations will alternate between one phone call and one person in line until either all designated hunt locations are filled up or time expires. Reservations will be for a single day and are limited to one per caller or person in line. Multiple reservations require multiple phone calls or starting over in line. On the day of the hunt, at least one person on the reservation must be present in the hunting party. All ponds and numbered fields have a maximum limit of six hunters, only four of which can be adults (18 years or older). The accessible hunt blind is reserved exclusively for individuals with an ID, hang tag, or license plate displaying a disabled designation.

Hunters traveling by vehicle are required to check-in and check-out of the check station off of FM 1985. The entrance gate to the East Unit on FM 1985 will open at 3:00 am (check station gate will not open until 4:00 am) on the morning of the hunt during Regular Waterfowl Season (this time may vary during Light Goose Season). No hunters will be allowed to enter the refuge prior to this time.

Hunters 16 years of age and older are required to pay a \$10.00 daily use fee or a \$40.00 annual use fee. Hunters 16 years of age and older accessing the East Unit by motorized boat require a \$40.00 annual use fee. Motorized boats are prohibited from launching at the East Unit. Public access to ponds North of Jackson Ditch by motorized boat should be done

via Oyster and Onion Bayous by launching from the Oyster Bayou boat ramp on Anahuac NWR.

Hunters accessing the East Unit by motorized boat are prohibited from hunting the numbered ponds or numbered fields.

Pace Tract (Non-Fee Area)

Open for Hunting: Early Teal Season: seven days a week. Regular Waterfowl Season: seven days a week. If the Light Goose Conservation Order is in effect during 2019, the Pace Tract will be open seven days a week until February 24, 2019

Closed for Hunting: Closed during Early Canada Goose Season, Thanksgiving Day, November 26–December 7, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

Access to the Pace Tract is by boat only.

Middleton Tract (Non-Fee Area)

Open for Hunting: Early Teal Season: seven days a week. Regular Waterfowl Season: open on Saturdays, Sundays, and Wednesdays. If the Light Goose Conservation Order is in effect during 2019, the Middleton Tract will be open seven days a week until February 24, 2019.

Closed for Hunting: Regular Waterfowl Season: closed on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. Closed during the Early Canada Goose Season, Thanksgiving Day, November 26–December 7, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

Middleton Tract is located between East Bay Bayou and State Highway 124. Walk-in access off of Hwy 124 from the feeder road is difficult. Primary access is by boat. Two boat rollers are located on East Bay Bayou for access to the interior waterways of the Middleton Tract.

Failure to abide by or excessive violation of these refuge specific hunting regulations, federal regulations, or state laws may result in revocation of your hunting privileges on Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge by the refuge manager.

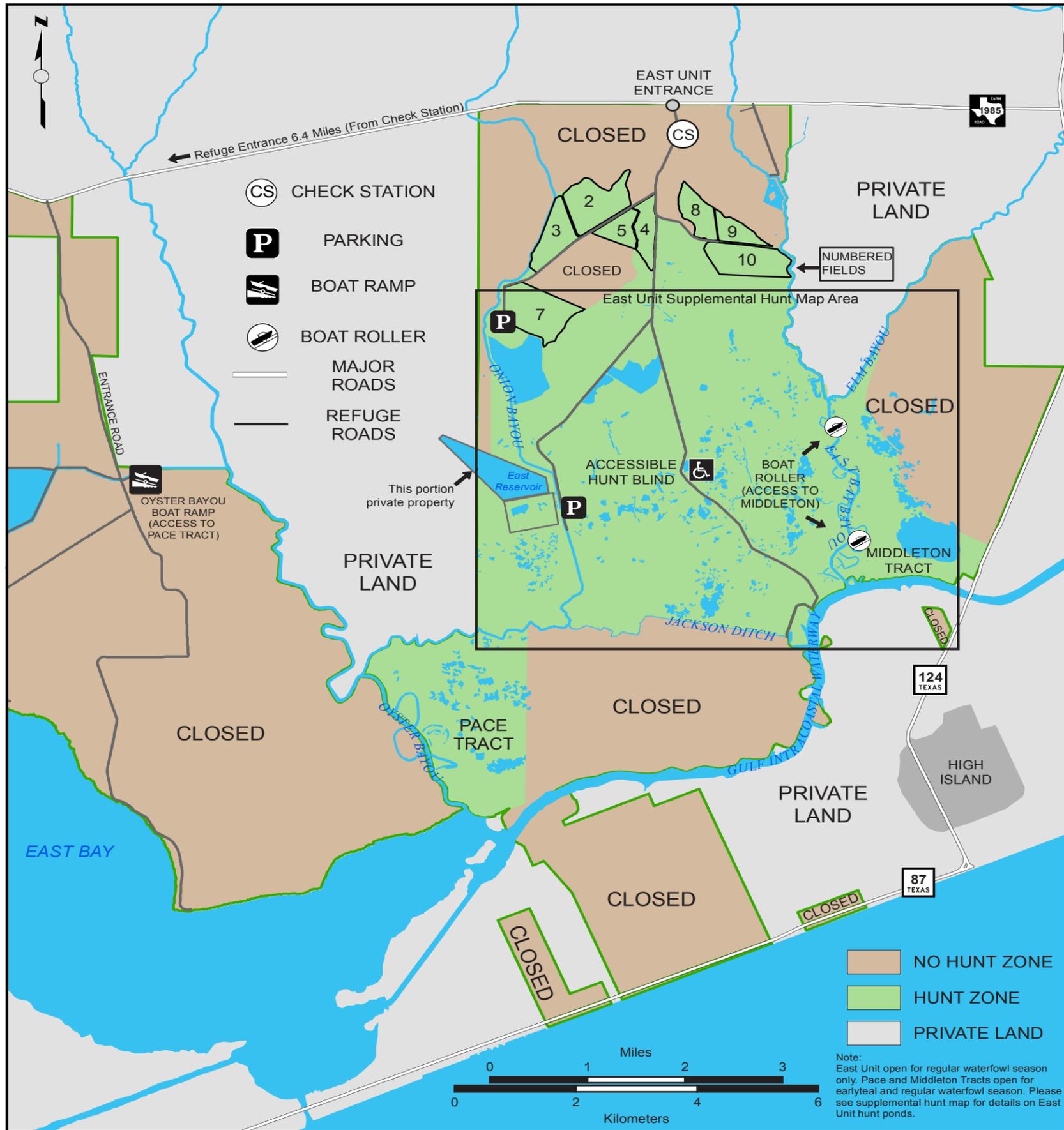
Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge Waterfowl Hunting Permit 2018-2019

When signed and in your possession, this hunt permit will serve as your general permit for all refuge hunts this season. It acknowledges your understanding of all federal and state laws and regulations pertaining to hunting on the refuge. The East Unit also requires either a daily use fee or an annual use fee while on the refuge.

Signature of Hunter

Date

Permits are required for all hunters. This permit is valid only when signed above and must be carried with you at all times while on the refuge. Permits are not transferable.



Hunting on all National Wildlife Refuges is a privilege, please respect it. All visitors are subject to inspection.

For More Information

For inquiries about refuge programs and activities, contact the refuge manager at:

Refuge Manager
 Anahuac National Wildlife Refuge
 P.O. Box 278
 Anahuac, TX 77514
 409/267-3337 Office
 409/267-5138 Reservations
 409/267-4314 Fax
 409/284-6834 Check Station
www.fws.gov/refuge/anahuac/

The signs below apply to the areas behind the signs. Please respect all refuge signs whenever you see them as you travel throughout the refuge.



National Wildlife Refuge. This sign marks the boundary of the refuge. Consult refuge management for authorized activities.



Area Closed. Certain areas of the refuge are closed to visitors for management purposes. Unauthorized entry beyond this sign is prohibited.



No Hunting Zone. This sign marks the boundary of no hunting areas on the refuge. All hunting is prohibited beyond this sign.



Public Hunting Area. This sign marks the boundaries of the hunting areas.



Waterfowl Hunting Only. This sign marks the boundaries of the waterfowl hunting areas.

