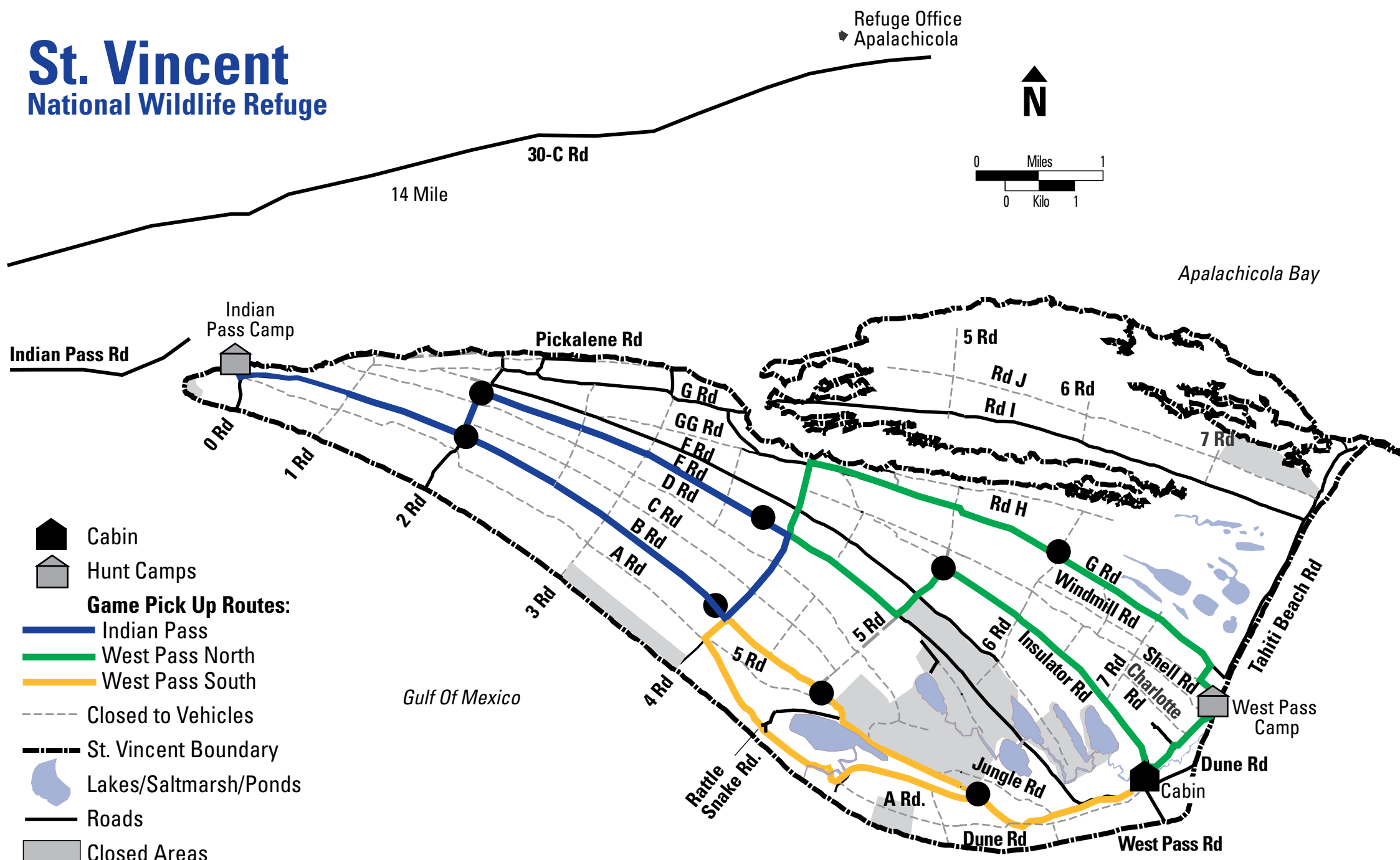


St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge

St. Vincent National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations 2009-2010



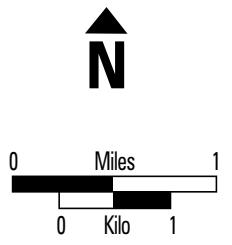
Closed areas are subject to change, contact Refuge Office for current information.

St. Vincent
National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 447
Apalachicola, FL 32329
Website: <http://www.fws.gov/saintvincent>

St. Marks
National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 68
St. Marks, FL 32355
Website: <http://www.fws.gov/saintmarks>
850/925 6121

1800/334WILD
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

July 2009



General Provisions

St. Vincent NWR is one of over 500 national wildlife refuges. The primary objective of the refuge is to provide habitat for conservation and protection of all species of wildlife. The harvest of surplus animals is one tool used to maintain wildlife populations at a level compatible with habitat.

The regulations below supplement the general regulations which govern hunting on wildlife refuges as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 32. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State regulations.

Specific Hunting Regulations

Public hunting of white-tailed deer, sambar deer, feral hogs, and raccoons is permitted on 11,400 acres of St. Vincent Island as shown on the map on the reverse side of this brochure.

Access onto St. Vincent Island is restricted to the Indian Pass and West Pass campsites. Entry during the sambar deer hunt is restricted to the eastern end of the island at the West Pass campsite.

Hunt seasons will be Thursday – noon Saturday for each hunt, except for archery hunt, which will end 1/2 hour after sunset on Saturday.

Hunters must check-in at the check stations after 8 am Eastern Time (ET) the Wednesday before the hunts begin and before setting up campsites and tree stands. Hunters arriving after this must sign in at check station if unstaffed and then, may hunt. They must complete check-in later that same day with staff.

The check station will be staffed beginning at 9 am ET each day of the hunt.

Hunters must check out with refuge staff before leaving the island. Campers must remove all personal equipment from the island by 4 pm ET the last day of the hunt (Saturday), except for archery hunters, who must be off the island by 11 am on Sunday.

The successful hunter must check out game at designated check stations. No live game may be checked out.

Hunters must field dress game in the woods prior to collection during game pick up runs. Game pick up will only occur on open roads.

No entry allowed in closed areas on Refuge.

The following may ride during the game pick up runs: successful hunter of game retrieved. If a successful minor (18 years or younger), one adult may accompany. If a successful adult, accompanying minor hunter (18 years or younger) may ride.

Primitive weapon hunts (sambar and white-tailed deer): All hunters, when outside campsite area, must wear a minimum of 500 square inches of solid, unbroken fluorescent orange-colored material above the waistline, including while in stand.

Archery hunters are encouraged to wear a fluorescent orange outer garment while hunting on the ground or walking to and from stands.

Youth hunters (younger than 16 years) must possess a valid refuge permit and be supervised by an adult at least 21 years of age, and must remain in sight and normal voice contact of the adult. Each adult may supervise only one youth.

Non-quota white-tailed deer hunters, regardless of age, must possess a refuge hunt permit.

Permitted adult sambar hunter (over 21 years of age) may bring one unpermitted youth (younger than 16 years). Bag limit must then be shared.

Hunters who have a state disabled hunting license, mobility-impaired person permit number, and require help during the hunts, must contact the St. Marks NWR office at 850/925 6121 to request a Hunter Assistance Form.

Stand hours will be enforced from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 9 am ET for all hunts. Courtesy evening stand hours will be observed from 2 hours before sunset until sunset.

A hunter safety orientation meeting will be held Wednesday evening before each hunt at 5 pm ET at each check station.

Hunters may set up tree stands only after check-in and stands must be removed from the island at the end of each hunt.

Camping and fires are restricted to the two designated camping areas. Campsites are unimproved.

Only non-potable water will be available at the campsites.

Hunters must observe quiet time in the campground(s) between 9 pm – 5 am ET. No loud or boisterous activity permitted.

Weapons may be discharged at the designated discharge area(s) between 5 am to 9 pm ET.

Prohibited Activities

■ Domestic animals are not permitted on the refuge.

■ **The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while on the island during refuge hunts is prohibited.**

■ No motorized equipment, generators or vehicles (except bicycles) are allowed.

■ Littering and cutting of live or standing dead trees are prohibited. Only dead and downed wood may be cut.

■ It is unlawful to insert a nail, spike or other metal object into any tree or to hunt from any tree in which a nail, spike, or other metal object has been inserted.

■ Only still and stalk hunting permitted. Intentional driving of game animals (game drives) is prohibited.

■ Use of flagging tape and reflective materials prohibited. Painting or defacing plants or trees prohibited. Target practice is prohibited.

■ **Discharging of weapons (including cap firing) in campgrounds is prohibited.**

■ Weapons must have the caps removed from muzzleloaders and arrows quivered before and after legal shooting hours.

Hunt Permits

The Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission (FWCC) will be handling the quota and non-quota hunt permits for St. Vincent NWR. Applications and permits may be purchased from any license agent or tax collectors office or on-line at www.wildlifelicenses.com/fl beginning at 10 am Eastern Time June 15, 2009 through 11:59 pm Eastern Time July 30, 2009.

Quota Hunt

Sambar Deer (Primitive Weapons) – 200 permits Season- December 3 - 5, 2009 (Thursday – noon on Saturday) 1/2 hour before sunrise until 3 pm Thursday and Friday (noon on Saturday)

Species: sambar deer (either sex), feral hogs, raccoons.

Bag limit: one sambar; unlimited hogs and raccoons.

Weapons: state regulations for primitive weapons.

License: possess identification, a Florida hunting license and a valid refuge hunt permit. No management area stamp, archery stamp or muzzleloader stamp required.

Non-quota Hunts

White-tailed Deer (Archery)

Season: November 12-14, 2009 (Thursday– Saturday) 1/2 hour before sunrise until 1/2 hour after sunset.

Species: white-tailed deer (either sex – no spotted fawns or spike bucks); feral hogs, raccoons.

Bag limit: one white-tailed deer; unlimited hogs and raccoons.

Weapons: state regulations for archery equipment. Crossbows are not permitted without state disabled crossbow permit.

License: possess identification, a Florida hunting license Florida archery stamp, and a valid refuge hunt permit. No state management area stamp required.

Primitive Weapons Hunt

Season: January 21-23, 2010 (Thursday – noon on Saturday) 1/2 hour before sunrise until 1/2 hour after sunset

Species: white-tailed deer (buck having one or more forked antlers at least 5 inches in length visible above the hairline with points greater than 1 inch in length. A limited number of either-sex permits will be issued at the Wednesday orientation meeting); feral hogs and raccoons.

Bag limit: One white-tailed deer. If you have an either sex permit, the bag limit is one deer that may be antlerless (no spotted fawns or spiked buck) or a buck with legal antler configuration. Unlimited hogs and raccoons.

Weapons: State regulations for primitive weapons.

License: possess identification, Florida hunting license and valid refuge hunt permit. No state management area stamp, archery stamp or muzzleloader stamp required.

Signs Protect Visitors and Resources

Millions of people visit national wildlife refuges every year. In order to both protect wildllands and wildlife and provide visitors with an enjoyable experience on refuges, certain regulations are necessary. Please respect the following signs and help us take care of your refuge.



This area closed to all public entry.



This sign delineates the refuge boundary.



This area closed to all public entry.

