

Valentine National Wildlife Refuge  
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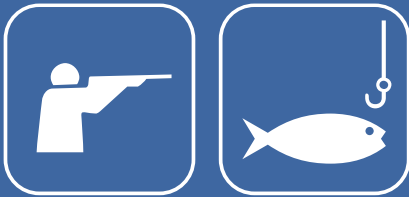
July 2013



## U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

# Valentine *National Wildlife Refuge*

## *Hunting and Fishing Regulations*



### General Regulations

#### *State of Nebraska Regulations*

State hunting and fishing regulations, seasons, bag limits, and license requirements apply. Additional refuge-specific regulations are outlined in this brochure.

#### *Hours*

Fishermen are allowed to enter the Refuge 1 hour before sunrise and must be off the Refuge by 1½ hours after sunset. Hunters may enter the Refuge 2 hours before sunrise and must be off the Refuge by 2 hours after sunset. All personal property such as blinds, boats, decoys, and fishing huts must be removed from the Refuge at the end of the day.

#### *Access*

Motor vehicles are permitted only on public use roads and trails as shown on the map. Driving on the ice or off-road are prohibited. Four-wheel drive is recommended on some public use trails – see map.

#### *Camping and Fires*

Camping and fires are both prohibited on the Refuge. Camping is available nearby.

Fishing is allowed on the nine lakes shaded in dark blue on the map.

#### *Northern Pike*

On all Refuge fishing lakes, keep only northern pike 28 inches or shorter. All pike longer than 28 inches must be released.

#### *Boats*

The use of internal combustion motors is prohibited on all Refuge lakes. Boats propelled with oars, paddles, or electric motors may be used.

#### *Bait*

The possession or use of live or dead minnows, except for frozen or dead smelt, and the possession of any fish not taken from Refuge waters is prohibited.

#### *Turtles, Frogs, and Minnows*

These animals may not be taken on the Refuge except that bull frogs may be harvested on Refuge lakes open to fishing.

### Hunting Regulations

Hunting for deer, prairie grouse, pheasants, doves, coyote, ducks, geese, and coots is allowed on the Refuge. The Refuge is closed to hunting of all other birds and animals.

#### *Rifle and Muzzleloader - Deer*

The entire Refuge is open for rifle and muzzleloader deer hunting, except the waterfowl hunting area and closed areas shown on the map.

#### *Archery - Deer*

The entire Refuge is open for archery deer hunting, except in the closed areas shown on the map.

#### *Coyote*

The entire Refuge is open for coyote hunting except in the closed areas shown on the map. Coyote hunting is allowed from the Saturday closest to November 13 through March 15 from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. The use of dogs or bait to hunt coyotes is prohibited.

#### *Prairie Grouse, Pheasants, and Doves*

The entire Refuge is open for hunting prairie grouse, pheasants, and doves, except in the closed areas shown on the map.

#### *Ducks, Geese, and Coots*

Hunting ducks, geese, and coots is allowed only on Watts, Rice, and Duck Lakes in the waterfowl hunting area shown on the map.

#### *Non-toxic Shot*

Steel or other non-toxic shot is required for all bird hunting on the Refuge. Possession of lead shot in the field is prohibited.

#### *Firearms*

Person 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).

Welcome to  
Valentine National  
Wildlife Refuge



*This blue goose,  
designed by J.N.  
“Ding” Darling,  
is the symbol  
of the National  
Wildlife Refuge  
System.*

Valentine National Wildlife Refuge (NWR) was established in 1935 to protect a portion of the Sandhills and their wildlife. The unique nature of the Refuge was recognized in 1976 when the Sandhills prairie was designated as a National Natural Landmark.

Valentine NWR is one of over 550 refuges in the National Wildlife Refuge System – a network of lands set aside specifically for wildlife. Managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the Refuge System is a living heritage, preserving wildlife and habitat for people today and for generations to come.

Funding for acquiring refuge lands in the National Wildlife Refuge System was established in 1934 through the passage of the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act, more commonly known as the “Duck Stamp” Act. This Act requires waterfowl hunters to annually purchase a migratory bird or duck stamp. Funds collected from duck stamp sales have been used to purchase numerous refuges including Valentine NWR, that provide the habitats needed to sustain a variety of wildlife for both hunters and non-hunters to enjoy.

Accessible boat docks are located at Watts, Dewey, Pelican, West Long, Clear, and Hackberry lakes. Persons with disabilities with a special Nebraska Game and Parks Commission permit may shoot game from a vehicle parked on the shoulder of a refuge public use trail.

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs and activities of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is available to all individuals regardless of physical or mental ability. Dial 711 for a free connection to the State relay service for TTY and voice calls to and from the speech and hearing impaired. For more information or to address accessibility needs, please contact the Refuge staff at 402 / 376 3789, or the U.S. Department of the Interior; Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, DC 20240.

