McNary National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations — Fee Hunt Area



Hunting is permitted in accordance with state regulations (see wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/regulations/) and special refuge regulations.

Open to Hunting – Goose, duck, coot, snipe and upland game birds.

Closed to Hunting – All big game and all other species of wildlife not listed are protected. Examples include elk, deer, bear, dove, snakes, raven, crow, coyote, turkey and rabbits.

Days – Hunting is only permitted on Wednesdays, Saturdays, Sundays, Thanksgiving Day and New Year's Day during the state waterfowl season.

Hours – The refuge is open from 1-1/2 hours before legal hunting time to 1-1/2 hours after legal hunting time. Upland game birds may only be hunted from 12:00 noon until the close of state hunting hours on refuge waterfowl hunting days.

General Public Entry – Apart from hunting, the area is closed to all public entry during the year.

Firearms, Ammunition & Shell Limits – Only shotguns are permitted. Only federally approved non-toxic shot may be used or possessed. Hunters are limited to the use or possession of 25 shells per day.

Vehicle Travel and Parking – All vehicles, including bicycles, are restricted to designated motorized routes of travel and parking areas.

Boats – Non-motorized watercraft (e.g., boats, float tubes, layout-type vessels) may be used to set decoys and retrieve birds. Watercraft may not be used to access hunting locations.

Dogs – Dogs must be kept on leashes, except during the lawful pursuit of game during legal seasons.

Hunter Check Station & Procedures

Hunting Lottery, Fees and Youth Hunt – Details can be found online at www.fws.gov/mcriver/regulations/ or at the Hunter Check Station. Persons 15 years old and younger do not have to pay a fee.

Using Lottery Picks – The lottery winner must be present the day of the hunt, must have the corresponding hunting license and must hunt the entire time the blind is in use. If the lottery winner leaves, the guest(s) must leave or follow the hunting standby procedures.

Permits – Waterfowl hunters are required to possess and carry a special refuge permit. No permit or harvest card is required for upland bird hunting.

Check Station Location and Hours – The Hunter Check Station is located at the At the McNary Office (see map) and is staffed 1-1/2 hours before legal hunting time until 8:00 a.m. and from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Check In – Prior to hunting, all hunters must check-in at the Hunter Check Station to obtain a refuge permit, pay the recreation user fee, and obtain a blind assignment. Lottery selection holders must be present 1-1/2 hours before legal hunting time. After that, they will become standby hunters.

Blind Selection – Blind selection begins 1-1/2 hours before legal hunting time.

Standby Hunting – After lottery hunters have selected their blinds, standby hunters will select the remaining blind sites via a random drawing. Afternoon hunting blinds are also assigned via a drawing.

Check Out – Hunters are required to check out at the Hunter Check Station before switching blinds, hunting upland game, or leaving the refuge. Check-out must be no later than 1-1/2hour after the close of state hunting hours. If the Hunter Check Station is closed, hunters must drop their permit cards into the drop box.

Blind Occupancy – A maximum of 4 persons of any age are permitted per blind.

Slough Blinds – These staked blind sites (#1-23) are located near water. Hunters must remain within 100 feet of marked posts unless retrieving birds or setting decoys. Hunters with disabilities have priority for Blinds #2 and #8.

Field/Pit Blinds – These blinds are in agricultural areas; blind size and location may change according to crop management. Consult with the Hunter Check Station attendant for details. Hunters with disabilities have priority for Blind #31; they should hunt with a partner.

Selected Prohibited Activities

- The use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting
- Baiting of any wildlife, trapping, or netting
- Fires
- Horseback riding
- Overnight camping or parking
- Littering (including empty shotgun hulls)
- Use of ATVs and other off-road vehicles
- Commercial guiding for hunting
- Abandoning, discarding, or leaving personal property
- Target shooting
- Collecting of plants, animals, antlers, or other materials

Contact Information

McNary National Wildlife Refuge 64 Maple Street Burbank, WA 99323 509/546-8300 www.fws.gov/mcriver/regulations/ Hunter Hotline: 509/546-TEAL (8325)

