Stands used on the refuge must be clearly marked with the name and address of the owner of the stand. Portable stands must be removed from trees daily and free-standing stands must be placed in a non-hunting position daily.

Access
All motor vehicles are restricted to refuge parking areas or parish roads. ATV’s are restricted to designated ATV trails and are only allowed from September 1 through Feb. 28. Using an ATV to travel off a designated trail in order to retrieve game, or for any other reason, is strictly prohibited. An all-terrain vehicle (ATV) is a 3 or 4 wheeled off-road vehicle with factory specifications not to exceed the following: weight 750 lbs. (337.5 kg), length 88 inches (212.5 cm), and width 48 inches (120 cm). We restrict ATV tires to those no larger than 25 X 12 with a maximum 1-inch (2.5 cm) lug height and a maximum allowable tire pressure of 7 psi as indicated on the tire by the manufacturer. Factory/manufacturer tires only. Only trailers with flotation-type tires may be used on the ATV trails. Parking areas and ATV trails may be closed to all use due to adverse conditions. Hunters must not block any gate, road, entrance, or trail with their vehicle. Horses and mules are not allowed. Bicycles are allowed year round and are restricted to designated trails.

All state boating regulations apply including, but not limited to, running lights, registration, and personal flotation devices. Boats may be used to access the refuge from Bayou Cocodrie or Cross Bayou. Entering the refuge from U.S. Highway 84 is prohibited. All boats used to access the refuge must be docked on the banks of the refuge. Boats used on the refuge may not be left on the refuge for more than 3 days and must be clearly marked with the name and home address of the person using the boat.

Specific Fishing Regulations
State creel limits apply.
Fishing is permitted during daylight hours only.
Taking or harassing alligator snapping turtles is prohibited.
Fishing is permitted on the Cross Bayou Cut and all tributaries that fill with water from Bayou Cocodrie during high water stages.
The refuge boat ramp is open from 4 am until 2 hours after sunset.

Prohibited Activities
The following activities are prohibited on the refuge:

■ Commercial fishing.
■ Use or possession of alcoholic beverages in the hunting areas and/or possession of open alcoholic beverages containers.
■ Baiting or hunting over bait, and the possession of bait.
■ Possession of a limb saw, tree cutting saw, or any other equipment of this nature.
■ Possession of any type of shot other than approved non-toxic shot.
■ Taking, collecting or disturbing any plant (including cutting trees or brush) or wildlife other than as specified in the refuge regulations.
■ Target shooting.
■ Use or possession of nails, spikes, or other metal objects; using a tree that has existing nails, spikes or metal objects; or using climbing spikes.
■ Hunting within 150 feet of a designated refuge road or trail. A designated trail is defined as any refuge trail that is marked with numbered trail markers and/or paint on trees along the trail route.
■ Hunting in designated “No Hunting Zones” and/or entering into designated “Closed Areas”.
■ Marking areas with flagging, paper, paint, etc. and/or possession of marking materials.
■ Use of horses or mules.
■ Camping/overnight parking.
■ Man-drives for deer.
■ Climbing and/or hunting from electrical power-line poles.

Black bears are protected
The Louisiana black bear is listed as a threatened species under the provisions of the Endangered Species Act of 1973. It is unlawful for anyone to take, harass, disturb, etc., any Louisiana black bear. Criminal penalty: up to $50,000 and 1 year imprisonment.
Bayou Cocodrie National Wildlife Refuge  
Bayou Cocodrie National Wildlife Refuge, established in 1961, is located in the southeast corner of Louisiana. The 14,686-acre refuge is composed of some of the last remaining, least disturbed bottomland hardwoods in the Mississippi River Delta. Due to the area’s diverse habitat, several wildlife species including game mammals, waterfowl, and Neotropical songbirds, utilize the refuge. The refuge is open year round to the public. However, hunting is only permitted on the refuge during specific times of the year.

General Regulations  
Hunting and fishing regulations are designed to provide safe and equitable opportunities through wise use of renewable wildlife resources. Hunting is permitted in accordance with Federal regulations governing public use on National Wildlife Refuges as set forth in Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations. Hunting will be in accordance with applicable State regulations subject to the following conditions.

Permits: Hunters and anglers 16 years of age and older are required to possess and carry all valid state hunting and/or fishing licenses and a signed refuge permit. When signed and in your possession, the permit section of this brochure serves as your Refuge Public Use Permit for all refuge activities except the lottery gun hunt, special access waterfowl hunt, and youth deer hunt. Hunters and anglers recognize your understanding of the regulations contained herein.

To help save tax dollars, hunters and anglers are encouraged to retain all valid state and federal permits and licenses throughout the entire season. Permits can be obtained at the refuge headquarters, or by telephone, written, or emailed request. Duplicate or incomplete applications will be discarded.

Successful applicants will be notified by mail and given details on how to submit the permit fee. Hunters under 16 years of age must be supervised by an adult 21 years of age or older and must possess proof of completion of an approved Hunter Safety Course. Only those persons with valid hunt permits are allowed to use the refuge during the gun hunt.

Special limited permits are also required for the lottery youth, and special access deer hunts. Applications for these limited permits will be accepted from July 1 until 4 pm on August 31, 2008, via the same procedure described above. Only individual applications are accepted for the Lottery Youth Hunts and the Special Access Deer Hunt.

Hunters between the ages of 8 and 15 years, inclusive, who have successfully completed hunter education, are eligible to apply for the lottery youth hunts. Youth hunt applicants must specify which unit they wish to apply for and you may only apply for one of the hunts.

Hunters who are permanently dependent on a wheelchair are eligible to apply for the special access harvest hunt permits. Applications must include a copy of the LDWF Disabled Hunter Card and a doctor’s certification stating the permanent nature of the chair dependency.

Applications for the youth hunts and the special access hunts are available only if you are a U.S. citizen. Applications for these hunts must be submitted prior to the Youth Deer Hunt (Tiffee field near the refuge headquarters), or South Essex (Essex field near the Cross Bayou Check Station).

The ATV trails and in-vehicle/on-watercraft use a standard (8.5 X 11 inch) sheet of paper. You may only apply once.

You must specify which unit you wish to hunt.

To be considered a group, all information for the group (up to 5 individuals) must appear on the same sheet of paper.

Do not send payment with your application.

General hunting rules will be applied. Duplicate or incomplete applications will be discarded.

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Permits are non-transferable and only successful applicants will be notified.

Special limited permits are required for the lottery gun hunt, and special access waterfowl hunts. Applications for these limited permits will be accepted from July 1 until 4 pm on August 31, 2008, via the same procedure described above. Only individual applications are accepted for the Lottery Youth Hunts and the Special Access Deer Hunt.

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