

Don Edwards San Francisco Bay

National Wildlife Refuge

Hunting and Fishing

Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR
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California Relay Service
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For Refuge information 1 800/344 WILD

August 2002



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| <i>Huntable Species</i> | Only ducks, geese, and coots may be hunted on the refuge. All other wildlife is protected. |
| <i>Fees</i> | There are no Refuge fees for hunting on the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. |
| <i>Licenses</i> | All hunters must carry a valid California hunting license. Waterfowl hunters 16 years or older must also possess a valid, signed, Federal Duck Stamp and a State duck stamp. |
| <i>Reservations</i> | No reservations or special permits are required to hunt in the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge. |
| <i>Access to Hunting Areas</i> | A walk-in hunting area is available in the Ravenswood Unit northwest of the Dumbarton Bridge. Look for signs in the parking areas for legal access. All other hunting areas are accessible by boat only. |
| <i>Hunting Season, Days, and Hours</i> | Waterfowl hunting season extends from approximately mid-October to mid-January. During the season, hunting is permitted daily from one half-hour before sunrise until sunset. More specific information is contained in California Hunting Regulations, Waterfowl. |
| <i>Retrieving Zones</i> | Hunters may enter closed areas of the Refuge to retrieve downed birds, provided they leave all weapons in a legal hunting area. The use of retriever dogs is encouraged. However, dogs must remain under physical or verbal control at all times and must not be allowed to roam free. |
| <i>Weapons and Ammunition</i> | No person may possess any weapon or ammunition that is illegal by state or federal regulations. Nontoxic (steel) shot must be used. Shotguns are permitted in designated hunting areas during the waterfowl hunting season only. |

Hunting Blinds

Hunters at Ravenswood may bring portable blinds with them, or construct temporary blinds of natural materials that readily decompose. Temporary blinds are not the builder's property, and become available for general use on a first-come basis on subsequent days. Permanent blinds, pit blinds and digging into levees are prohibited. Hunters may not enter closed areas of the Refuge prior to hunting season in order to scout for hunting sites or build blinds.

Accidents

All accidents and injuries occurring on the Refuge must be immediately reported to the Refuge Manager, Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR, PO Box 524, Newark, CA 94560. Phone 510/792-0222.

Alcohol

Use or possession of alcoholic beverages while hunting is prohibited.

Removal of Personal Property

All decoys, boats, and other personal property must be removed from the Refuge at the close of each day. Hunters are responsible for removing all trash including shot shell hulls when leaving hunting areas.

Bag and Possession Limits

Hunting limits vary from year to year; read California Hunting Regulations, Waterfowl, for up-to-date information.

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 disability. For more information please contact the U.S. Department of the Interior, Office of Equal Opportunity, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Fishing Information

Fishing Sites

Fishing opportunities are available at the Dumbarton Fishing Pier, Coyote Creek Lagoon in Fremont, and Faber-Laumeister Unit in East Palo Alto. Visitors may also fish from shore within one-half mile of the Dumbarton Fishing Pier and from boats in the Bay and sloughs. Mallard Slough is closed to boats from March 1 through August 31, and Mowry Slough is closed from March 15 to June 15 to protect sensitive wildlife species. Fishing is not permitted in salt evaporation ponds or marshes.

Refuge Days and Hours

Fishing areas are open daily (except Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Day). The Dumbarton Fishing Pier is open from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. in the winter, and 8 p.m. in the summer. Coyote Creek Lagoon and Faber-Laumeister Unit are open from sunrise to sunset.

Licenses

Everybody 16 years and older who is fishing from a boat or the shore must carry a valid California fishing license. Anglers fishing for striped bass from a boat or the shore must also have a valid striped bass stamp. Fishing licenses and striped bass stamps are not required for fishing on the Dumbarton Fishing Pier.

Equipment

Persons fishing from a boat or shore can use only one rod or hand line at a time, with no more than three hooks attached. Anglers on the pier may use up to two rods, two hand lines, or two crab nets/traps. Any combination of two methods is permitted, such as one rod and one net, or one hand line and one rod. No line may have more than three hooks. Crab traps must have two or more rigid circular openings at least four inches in diameter, constructed so that the lowest portion of each opening is no lower than five inches from the top of the trap.

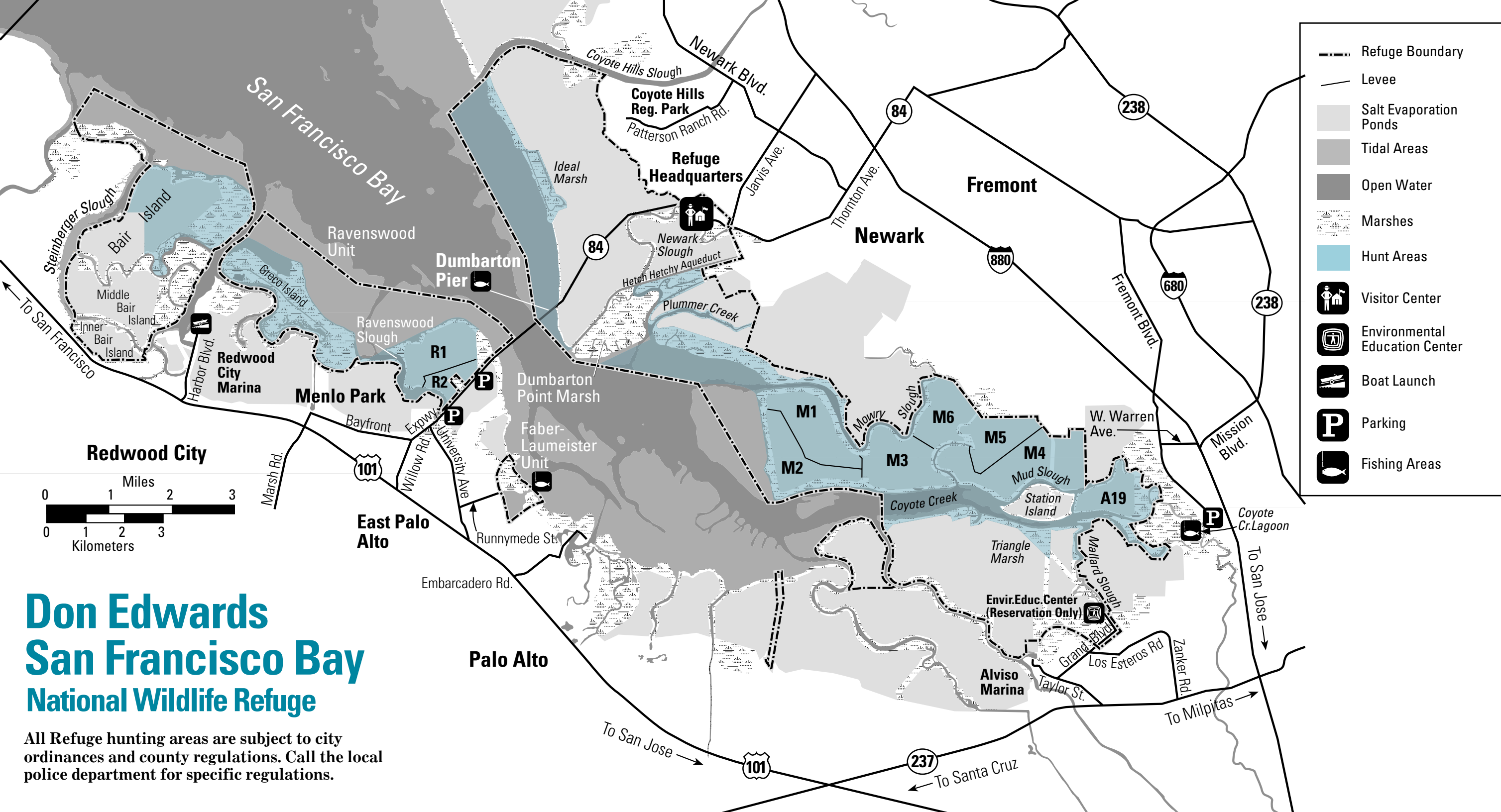
Size and Possession Limits

Check the California Sport Fishing Regulations for size and possession limits on certain species of fish.



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All Refuge hunting areas are subject to city ordinances and county regulations. Call the local police department for specific regulations.



Hunting Areas

Tidal Areas
Tidal areas include salt marshes, sloughs, mudflats, and open water of San Francisco Bay. Unless posted in the field and/or noted below, all tidal areas in the Refuge are open to hunting from boat up to the mean high water line.

The following tidal areas are **closed** to hunting:

1. Newark Slough is closed to hunting and shooting from its source to the Hetch-Hetchy Aqueduct, a distance of 3-1/2 miles.
2. Dumbarton Point Marsh to the Hetch-Hetchy Aqueduct (west side of Newark Slough) is closed to hunting and shooting.
3. The headwaters of Mallard Slough (Artesian Slough), in the vicinity of the Environmental Education Center, are closed to hunting.

Salt Evaporation Ponds

Salt evaporation ponds are artificial bodies of water, created by dredging marshes and surrounding them with levees. Bay water is confined in these ponds and evaporated to produce salt. Only non-motorized boats are permitted in these ponds. You can access the salt ponds by dragging your boat across the levee from the bay.

The nine salt evaporation ponds listed below are the only ones in which hunting is permitted. Shooting from levees is prohibited unless hunting in the Ravenswood unit. All other ponds are closed.

1. Ponds R-1 and R-2 in the Refuge's Ravenswood Unit. These ponds are located on the west side of the Dumbarton Bridge between Ravenswood Slough and Highway 84. The southeastern portion of Pond R-2, next to the highway, is closed to hunting. Hunting is not allowed within 300 feet of Highway 84.

2. Ponds M1-6, and A-19 in the Refuge's South Slough Unit. These ponds are located on the east side of the Bay between Mowry Slough and Coyote Creek. The easternmost portions of Ponds M-4 and M-5, next to the railroad tracks, are closed to hunting.