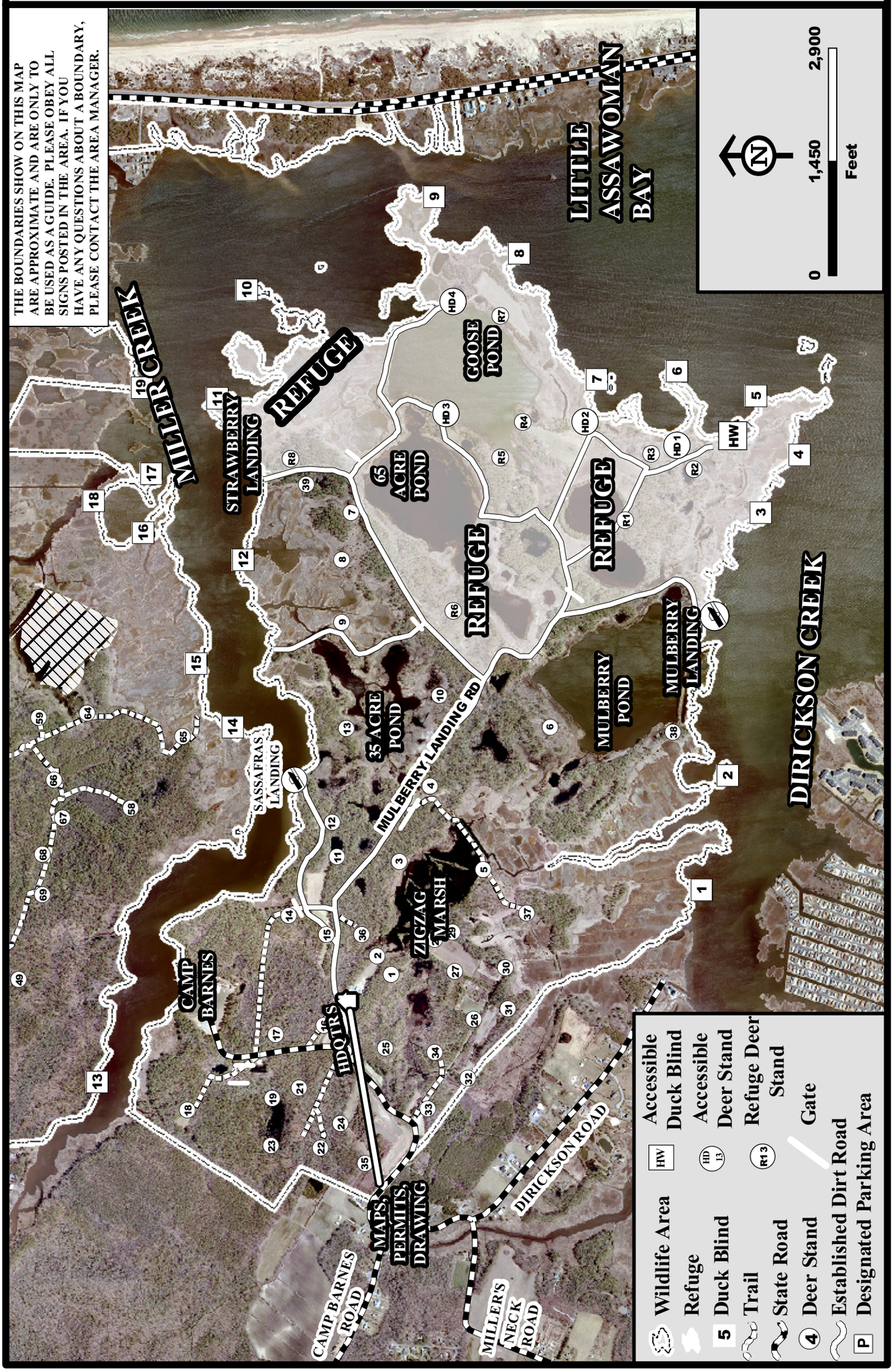
ASSAWOMAN WILDLIFE AREA

(3,100 ACRES)

MILLER NECK TRACT



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2008- 2009
ASSAWOMAN WILDLIFE AREA - Miller and Muddy Neck

Persons may hunt on the Assawoman Wildlife Area only as directed by the above rules, which have been established by Regulation 25 of the Division of Fish and Wildlife, pursuant to Section 103, 7 Delaware Code. **Violators of wildlife area regulations may be subject to fines and/or revocation of their hunting privilege on state wildlife areas for up to one year.**

NEW IN 2008 - The Stand/Blind Use Permit is no longer a daily permit. The new $20 Annual Permit replaces the old $10 daily permit. Permits needed for all deer firearms and waterfowl seasons. **Assawoman will be open on the 3rd weekend in mid-October for the special October antlerless firearms seasons.** Earlier deer drawing times during November shotgun season will continue. Gray squirrel hunting is open. Handgun hunting permitted except when it overlaps the Jan. firearms season (1 day).

A. GENERAL

1. Horse riders may use the trails marked with horse-riding signs only.

B. PERMITS

1. A hunting permit is required to hunt all species. Permits are issued at the Assawoman Checking Station located at the main gate. Permits are awarded on a daily lottery basis for waterfowl and firearms deer hunting. Vacant blinds/stands will be available after the lottery on a self sign-out procedure. All permits for deer archery and upland hunting are self sign-out. During archery season only, permits available at Muddy Neck tagboard on a self sign-out basis.
2. Lottery procedures are posted at the Assawoman Checking Station. All members of the hunting party must be present for the drawing. Hunters' names may appear on only one card. No names will be added after the drawing has begun. The certified card will serve as the permit.
3. Permits must be returned to the checking station or drop box upon leaving the area.
4. Failure to accurately report harvest or return permits will result in a revocation of hunting privileges. A blank card will be interpreted as zero harvest.
5. **Drawing times: deer firearms** - 1 1/2 hours, and **waterfowl** - 2 hours **(except during the Nov. shotgun deer season when the drawing will be 2 hours)** prior to sunrise.
6. **A Deer Stand/Waterfowl Blind Annual Permit number must be entered onto the register to obtain a daily hunting permit during all deer firearms and waterfowl seasons.**

C. WATERFOWL

1. After the daily drawing permits are available on a self-signup basis until 1:00 p.m. **No permits issued after 1:00 p.m.**
2. No more than three (3) persons shall occupy a blind. All hunting from state built stands only.

D. DEER HUNTING REGULATIONS

1. Deer drives permitted from 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. by a maximum of 6 residents only, provided they do not enter posted refuge areas and disturb resting waterfowl.

2. DEER HUNTING- ARCHERY.

1. Archery hunters must register for an archery zone at the tagboard (Muddy Neck or Assawoman) closest to their selected spot. Archers can check out a deer stand or elect to hunt within a zone. Hunters may hunt anywhere within the zone except the refuge, safety zones and upon impoundment dikes.
2. Hunters may select a state-built stand and either hunt from the stand or hunt within a 100 yards of the stand.
3. Archers **only** may use portable stands within a zone or a 100-yard radius of a state stand.

DEER - FIREARMS

1. Firearms deer hunters must use state stands. No portable stands are allowed during the firearms seasons, including archers electing to bow hunt during a gun season. All permits issued from Assawoman Check Station only during the firearms seasons. **Three stands modified to allow an adult and one child are available for Youth Deer Hunting Day.** The Adult/Youth stands are 18, 24, and 26. They are wider than the standard stand. Archery hunting is closed on Miller Neck during the Youth Deer Hunting Day. **Handgun hunting is permitted on special days. Handguns may be used in place of a shotgun during any deer shotgun season when a shotgun is a legal weapon.**
2. **Refuge stands (R1-R8) are open on Mondays and Fridays of the each shotgun season segment beginning on the first Monday of November Shotgun Season.** Stands HD 1 - 4 will be closed on Refuge Hunt Days.

DEER - DISABLED HUNTERS

1. Four sites within the refuge are available to disabled non-ambulatory deer hunters who wish to hunt from a vehicle. Severely disabled hunters must qualify & obtain a permit to hunt from a vehicle from the Director of the Division of Fish and Wildlife. An assistant must accompany disabled hunters.
2. Disabled hunters with less severe limitations may use secondary disabled deer stands equipped with stairs. Four stands are designated for this purpose - DS 4, 16, 33, and 56. If no disabled hunter is present for the daily lottery, others can use these stands.
3. Disabled hunters may apply for a reservation through a pre-season lottery. Call Rob Gano (539-3160) to check on stand availability.
4. A hydraulic-lift deer stand is available for wheelchair-bound deer hunters. Instructions, keys, and reservations must be obtained prior to the day of the hunt.
5. Stands HD 1 - 4 will be closed on refuge hunt days for everyone's safety.

E. UPLAND HUNTING - Doves, Turkey, Rabbit, Quail, Woodcock, Gray Squirrel, Raccoon, Opossum, Red and Gray Fox.

1. Upland game hunting, including falconry, will be allowed in season by permit only.
2. Turkey hunters must obtain a permit through a state lottery to hunt turkey at Assawoman.
3. No fox hunting during any deer firearms season.
4. Fox chasing is prohibited until 1 p.m. during the turkey season.
5. Dove hunting on Saturdays only during the September season from 1:00 - 6:00 p.m. Permits issued at 12:00 p.m. on opening day of the dove season. **Nontoxic shot required for dove hunting.**
6. Squirrel hunting is open after a 20-year closure. Caution must be used to protect the endangered Delmarva Fox Squirrel. Small game hunting is closed during all deer firearm seasons.
7. Raccoon hunting is permitted from Sept. 1 - March 31 during legal raccoon hunting seasons.

Patrick J. Emory, Director

For further information, contact the Division of Fish and Wildlife, Dover, Delaware 19901 (telephone 739-5297 or Regional Office at Assawoman 539-3160).

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Office for Equal Opportunity
U. S. Department of Interior
Washington, D.C. 20240

Division of Fish and Wildlife
89 Kings Highway
Dover, Delaware 19901

Federal Aid Project W-5-D