Hunting is not allowed in the refuge areas (see map). Hunting pressure on the Bottoms can be heavy during waterfowl season, particularly on weekends. Hunters planning trips to the Bottoms should consider weekday hunts.

Prior to hunting any species on Cheyenne Bottoms Wildlife Area, all hunters are required to complete a Daily Hunt Permit. These permits can be found at all entrances to the wildlife area, at all parking lots and most boat ramps. Silver colored, iron dispensers are located at these points. Each permit is a two piece card. Before hunting, complete the top portion of the card and separate it from the lower portion and place it in the permit box. Carry the lower portion of the permit with you while hunting. Upon completion of your hunt, fill out the lower portion and place it in a permit box. Each hunter must complete one for each day hunting at Cheyenne Bottoms.

Pool 1, 5 and a portion of Pool 2 are refuge areas and closed to all activities. Exceptions to this occur for some special hunts. Check with wildlife area personnel for more information.

In addition to waterfowl, other game may be legally taken at Cheyenne Bottoms. Pheasant hunting is usually good. Snipe and duck hunting is good along the shallow marsh margins. Quail and deer are also present in fair numbers.

A handicapped accessible hunting/photo blind is available by reservation. Call the office for additional information and reservations.

In the event of whooping crane activity, the pool the birds are in is closed to all hunting and the goos hunting zones are closed to crane and light goose hunting.

Other activities provided increased water conservation to better meet wildlife needs during dry periods.

Manipulation of water levels in the pools is a major tool in managing the marsh for water birds. Each year, one or more of the pools is drained as deemed necessary. Often these areas are seeded to millet and/or wheat and undesirable vegetation is controlled by burning, mowing anddisking while the pools are dry.

The bottomland fowl season, which begins in March and April, opens 10 days after the waterfowl season closes to crane and light goose hunting. The waterfowl hunting season is to increase the production of waterfowl and shorebirds that nest on the area.

Approximately 13,000 acres of the wildlife area are open to hunting. This brochure is not intended to be a complete listing of area regulations. Some restrictions vary from year to year. If you have further questions contact Wildlife and Parks personnel.

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