
alligator season. Conflicts between mixed user groups might occur, but will be mitigated by time (non-hunting season) and law enforcement patrols. Conflicts between consumptive users, such as disruption of or hunting too close to other hunters, may also occur.

Other potential safety impacts include hunters becoming injured, or stuck on the lake due to numerous submerged cypress stumps and knees. Response will be coordinated through Lanier County and DNR. These circumstances are true for most natural areas and should be expected by hunters. These potential impacts can be mitigated by hunters having a general knowledge of the lake and cell phone to call for assistance. General warning or caution statements may also be made available on the Refuge website.

Refuge management activities can be accomplished without conflicting with hunting activities since the hunt will occur Friday through Sunday. A slight increase in gas emissions may occur due to the increase in boat traffic but additional boat traffic is expected to be minimal. However, no significant biological or ecological impacts are anticipated as a result, despite other priority public uses occurring via vehicular or boat traffic on the Refuge for decades. This use should not result in long-term impacts that adversely affect the purposes for which the Refuge was established.

Determination (check one below):

_____ Use is Compatible

Use is Compatible with Following Stipulations

Stipulations Necessary to Ensure Compatibility: The below stipulations are recommended in order for hunting each species to be compatible in the most liberal circumstances. Slight modifications and further restrictions may be implemented for sustainability. Final stipulations will be found in the CFR.

Applicable for All Hunting

- Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on national wildlife refuges must comply with all provisions of Federal, State, and local law.
- Airboats and jetskis are not permitted on Banks Lake.
- Taking of any plants or other wildlife is prohibited.

Alligator

- Anyone hunting or assisting an alligator permit holder must possess a valid Hunting License. Hunters age 15 and younger need not have a Hunting License. In order to hunt unsupervised they must have a valid Hunter Education Certificate. An Alligator Harvest Permit must be in possession of a person in the hunting party.
- One (1) alligator limit. Legal alligators must be greater than or equal to 48 inches in length as measured from end of the snout to tip of the tail.
- Hunters may use hand-held ropes or snares, snatch hooks, harpoons, gigs or arrows with a restraining line attached. Legal alligators must be dispatched immediately upon capture by using a handgun or bangstick, or by severing the spinal cord with a sharp implement.
- Dispatched alligators must be tagged with a Georgia DNR-supplied temporary harvest tag before transporting. Temporary tags shall be locked through the skin of the carcass. The temporary tag shall remain attached to the alligator hide until the carcass is validated by