

Ocean Ranch Unit opens to waterfowl hunting

January 9, 2023



The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is pleased to announce that its Ocean Ranch Unit in Humboldt County, part of the larger Eel River Wildlife Area, opened to waterfowl hunting and general public access beginning Monday, January 2.

Over the past two years, the unit has been subject to periodic public closures to allow for heavy construction and habitat restoration work to benefit native plant, fish and wildlife species. All restoration efforts are now complete. Improved public access and enjoyment of the property also has been a focus of the work, and the unit now offers a formal trail system, improved parking, a new launch for kayaks and canoes, and interpretive signage.

Waterfowl hunters especially should be aware of changed conditions within the Ocean Ranch Unit, including new trails, deep-water channels and varying wetland habitat features.

A Type C wildlife area, the Ocean Ranch Unit is open to both to walk-in and boat-in hunting. No reservations, hunting passes or entry permits are required beyond a valid California hunting license and a California Duck Validation and Federal Duck Stamp for adult hunters.