

Camp Pendleton Waterfowl Hunting 2018/19

Migration has occurred



Traditional river flights



Camouflage required



Ver 4, dtd 11 Feb 2019

J.C. Holt

Multiple sources

The Rules

WATERFOWL SEASON is 1 Dec 2018 – 27 Jan 2019

1. Report and show all game taken upon check-out. Present licenses, tags, appropriate stamps, and permits to REC Staff, along with the number and species of game taken, hunting equipment and vehicle being used.
2. Hunting Areas and blinds will be first assigned by a lottery using the waterfowl Area Preference Sheet (APS) for lottery draw on Saturday and Sunday. Up to three people may be in a hunting party and on one APS.
3. Lottery Drawing will be conducted by Friday morning prior to each hunting weekend. Hunters may check the weekly lottery results by accessing the warden web page <https://www.pendleton.marines.mil/Staff-Agencies/Environmental-Security/Game-Warden/>.
4. Potluck assignment of blinds is through a drawing held each hunting morning once lottery waterfowl hunters have gone to the field. Must appear in person at the WOB no later than 0545.
5. Physically check- in at the WOB immediately before entering any area of the Base to hunt. Hunters must also physically check-out at the WOB upon the completion of hunting. Hunters are required to check-out no later than posted times, unless otherwise specifically allowed. Employees may keep you from entering an area around sunrise (0600-0700) for your safety and to minimize disturbance to hunters already in the field.
6. Enter assigned areas by the prescribed route based upon training area availability and game warden direction. Hunters must display their vehicle placard on their dashboard.
7. During the waterfowl season, only specific shotguns conforming to California Fish and Wildlife hunting standards may be used. Shotguns shall not contain/hold more than three total rounds.
8. Waterfowl hunters are required to use **NON TOXIC** shot-shells (Steel, Bismuth, Tungsten, BB). Recommend #2, #3 or #4.
9. **Clean kills with a shotgun are seldom made at distances in excess of 35-45 yards.** "Sky blasting" at 50+ yards spoils the hunting for everyone and results in an increase in crippled birds. Hunters that sky blast will be suspended from waterfowl hunting up to one year.
10. Hunter orange is required by duck hunters allowed in training areas where other hunting activity is taking place. Hunter orange will be worn by the duck hunter until he/she reaches their established blind area or when returning to the vehicle.

More rules

General Restrictions and Information.

- a. Waterfowl hunting is not permitted at any **sewage treatment pond**, over or along roads, and areas designated as safety areas
- b. Areas not listed in this brief are not available for waterfowl hunting unless first authorized by the REC staff.
- c. Hunters are required to enter and leave the blinds by the most direct road route, making sure not to enter the safety zones established for other blinds.
- d. Hunters may enter the water with a slung weapon from assigned blind only to place decoys, retrieve decoys and downed birds. Do not shoot from the water during this process as zones are fires are not allowed for this with base operations.
- e. Always be aware of your zone of fire.
- f. Hunters are expected to cooperate and be ethical with other hunters to safely and properly use their assigned areas and not overlap the borders between hunting areas.
- g. Hunting must be conducted from the blind area toward open water and/or within 15' of either side of established blinds.
- h. Hunters are **not permitted to leave blinds to 'jump-shoot' waterfowl** in the water or beyond the 15 foot permanent blind distance on shore.
- i. Hunters using blinds will only discharge weapons and shoot at waterfowl over water areas and all hunters shall not shoot towards or over roads or behind blinds.
- j. Hunters cannot construct other permanent blinds along shorelines but can set up a temporary blind
- k. Hunters may bring chairs, camouflage netting and other hunting necessities and accessories, provided everything the hunter takes with him to the blind is removed when the hunter leaves the blind for the day.
- l. Live vegetation will not be cut and used as camouflage per base environmental rules. Hunters are prohibited from digging holes to construct temporary portable daily blinds.
- m. No new permanent blinds will be constructed without game warden permission.
- n. Decoys may be of static or non-mechanical pull string type. **No electrical wing spinning or wobbling decoys are allowed.**
- o. Take care not to disturb other hunters already set-up in their blinds if you arrive after them.

2017/2018

60 ducks

555hr hunter effort

2018/2019

143 ducks/geese

196 hunter days effort

Good migration

Water accumulation

Ducks bed in flat ponds

Fly fast via river to lake

Legend from West to East

FC: French Creek

BZ: Boat Zones

PH: Pump House

SM: Stuart Mesa

SP: Sewage Pond (no hunt)

SMR: Santa Margarita River

K1: Kilo 1 pond

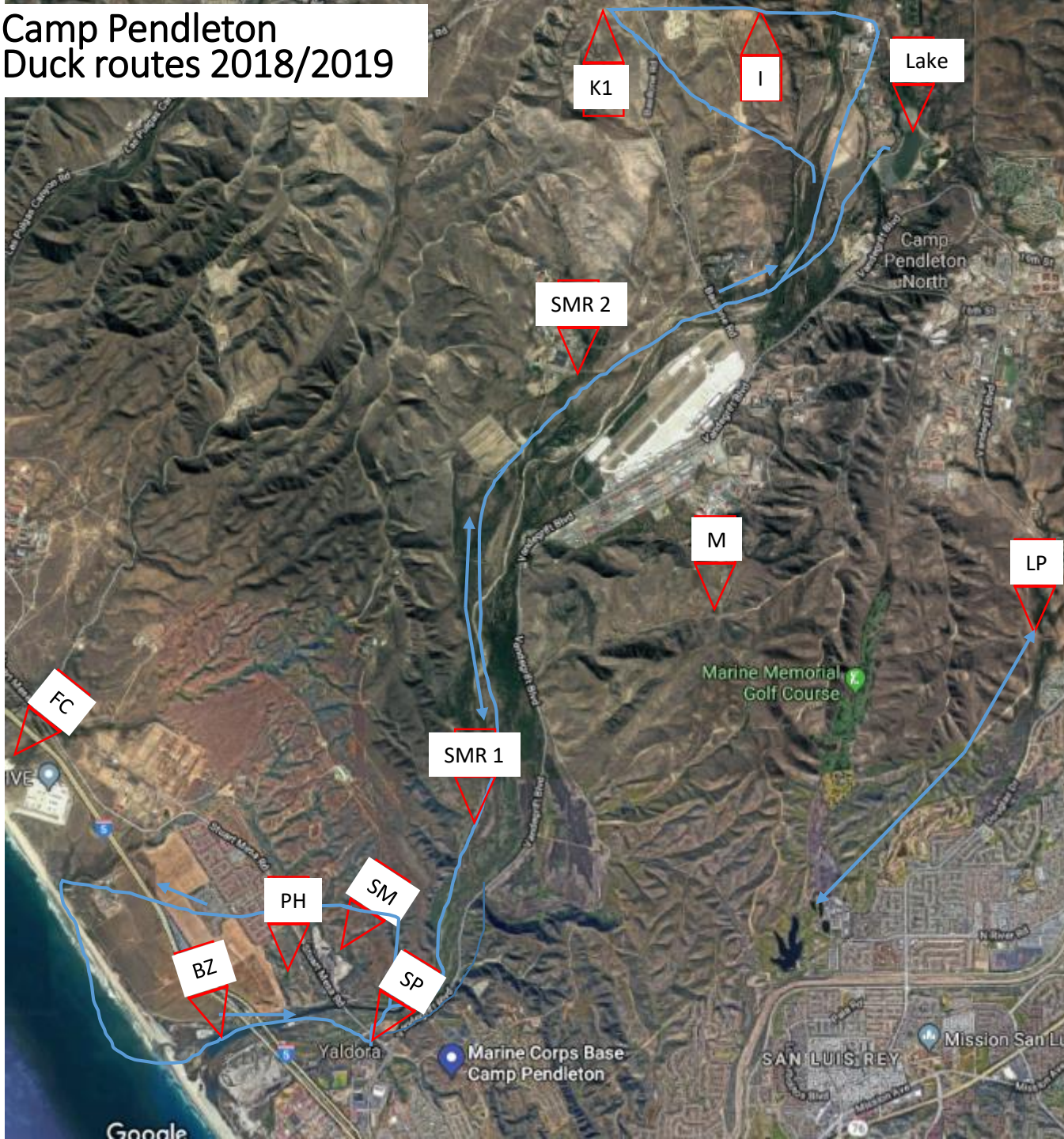
M: Mike pond

I: India pond

Lake: O'Neill lake (no hunt)

LP: Lima ponds

Camp Pendleton Duck routes 2018/2019



Boat Zone 1-3

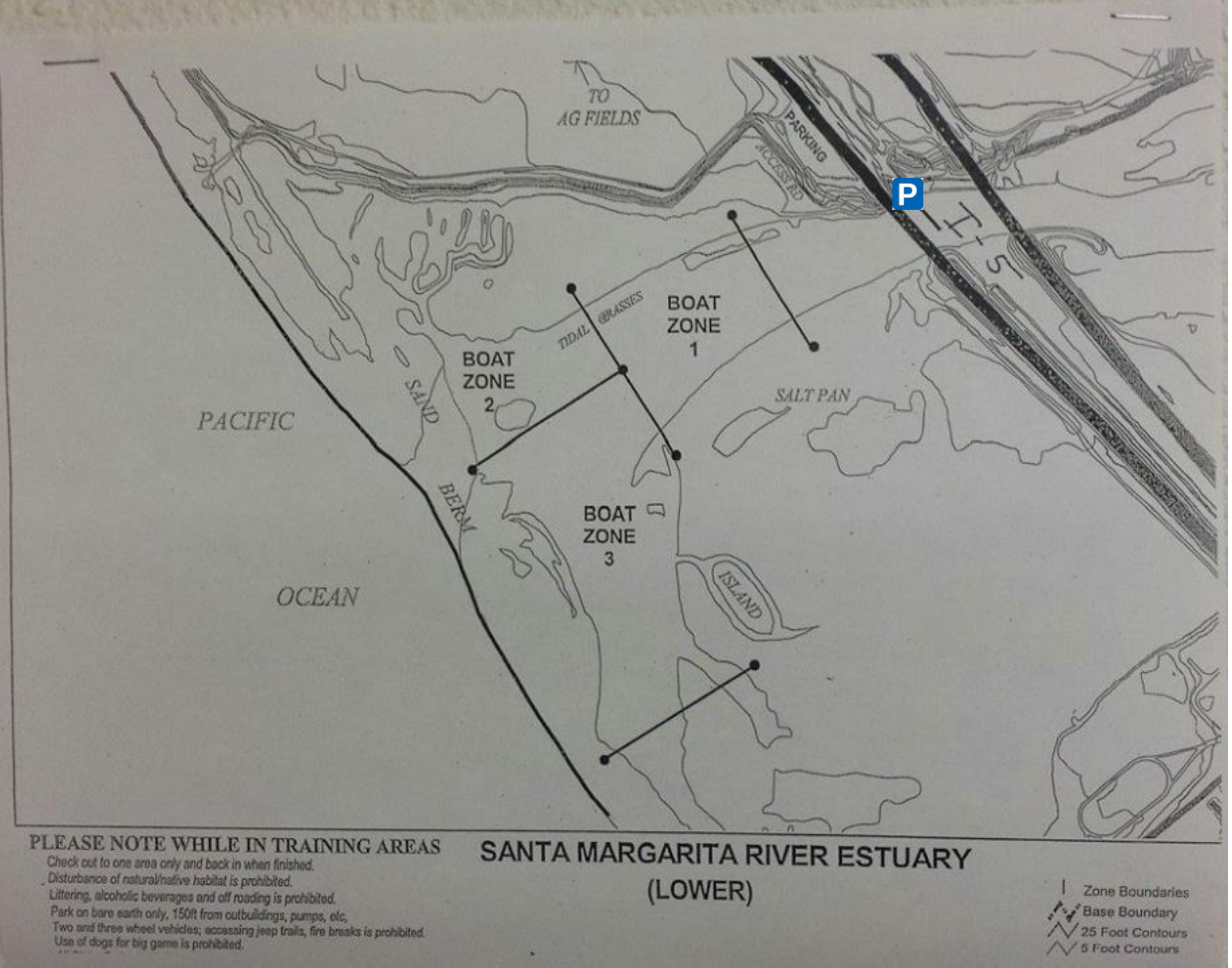
2017/2018

0 ducks
49hr hunter effort

2018/2019

11 ducks
18 hunter days effort

Boat only
Kayak layout blinds work
Put in near I-5 bridge
Anchored only
No shooting from shore
Limited natural cover
Action late this year



Boat Zone 4

2017/2018

11 ducks
119 hr hunter effort

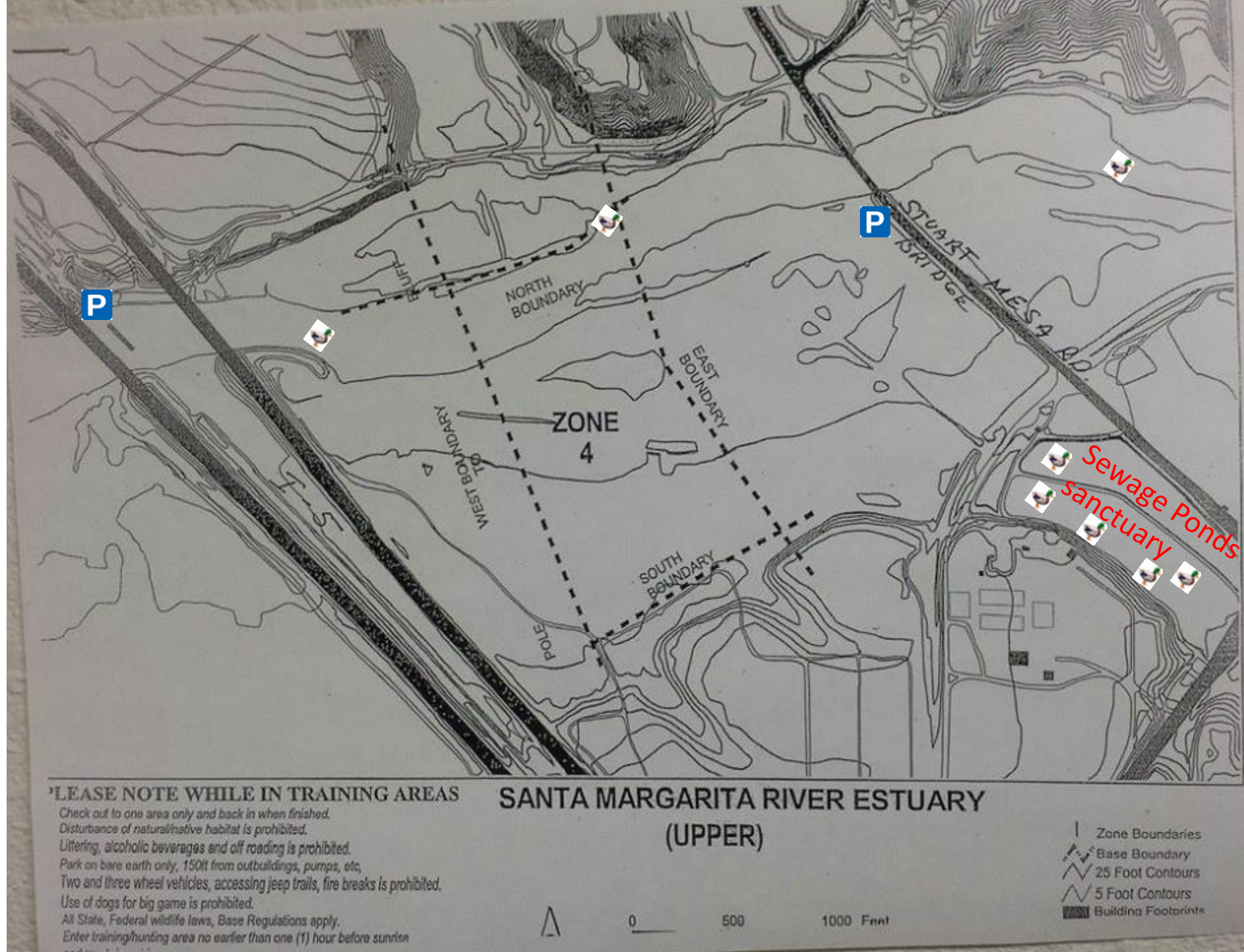
2018/2019

5 Ducks
8 hunter days effort

Same as other Boat Zones,
filled with Coots & Grebes,
pass by ducks.

Flooded to a marsh by mid
January with dispersed ducks
mostly on the east side of the
zones.

No shooting from shore.



Stuart Mesa Blinds & Pump House

2017/2018

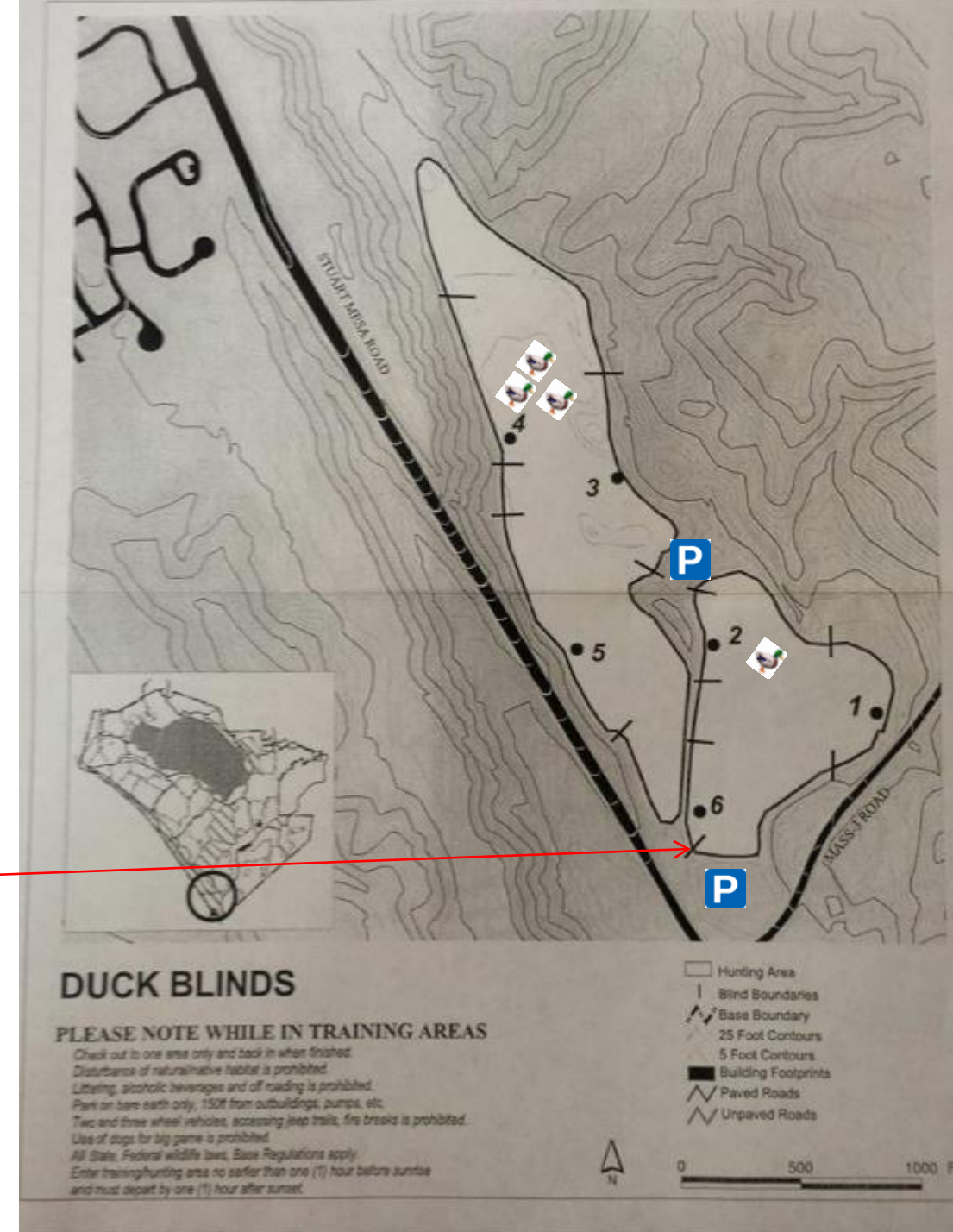
0 ducks
49hr hunter effort

2018/2019 (<8 Jan)

62 Ducks
50 hunter days effort

Pump house is deep and muddy. Dog or kayak retrieval. Teal, mallards, canvasback.

Stuart Mesa blinds filled shallow and late in season with ~100 trophy ducks and geese.



French Creek White Beach Victor TA

2017/2018

0 ducks

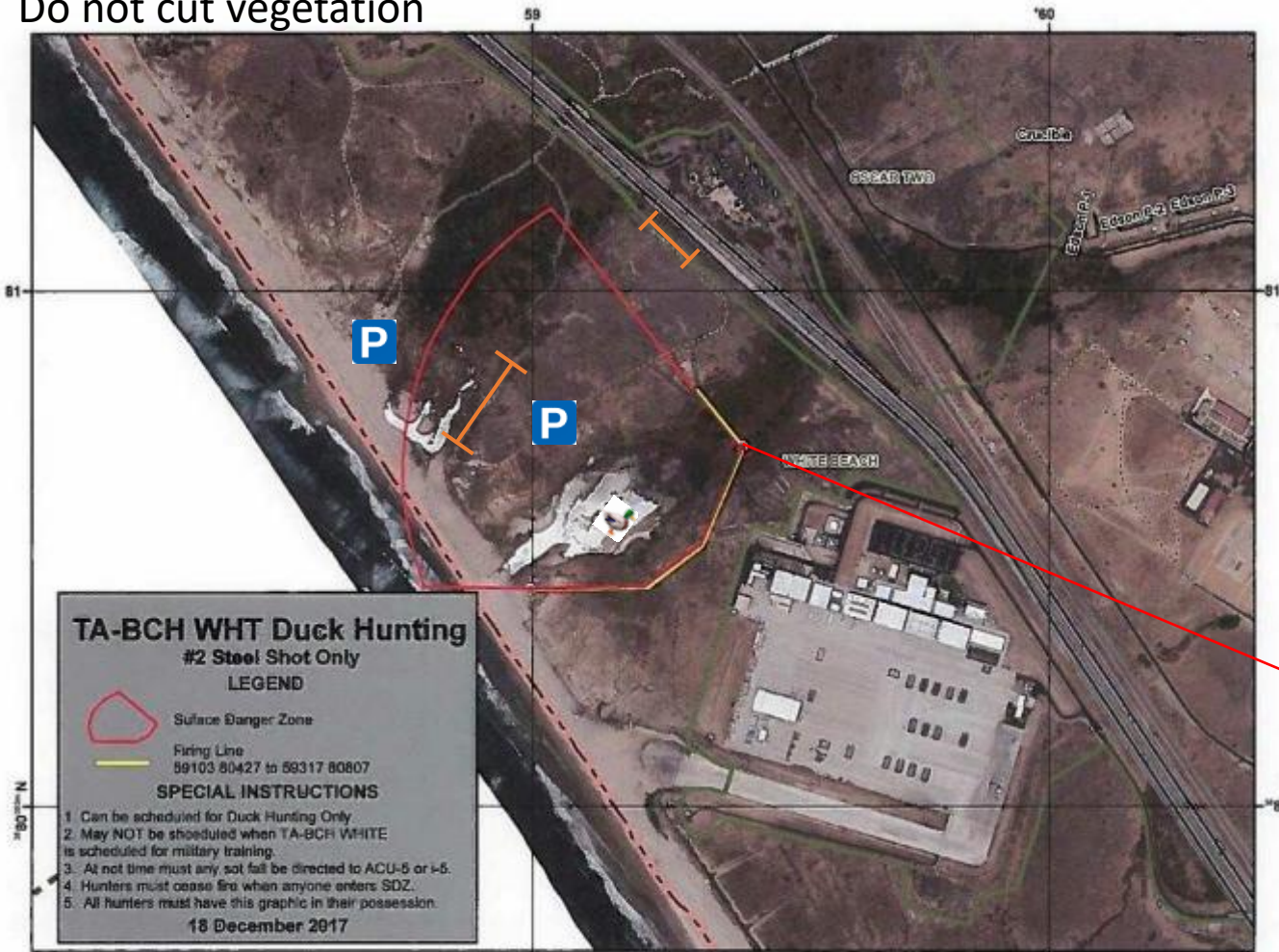
0hr hunter effort

2018/2019

19 Ducks

21 hunter days effort

Shallow, muddy clay. Muddy roads with brush. 3 good spots.
Good duck population; mallard, gadwall, canvasbacks, teal, ruddy
Do not cut vegetation



SMR 1

2017/2018

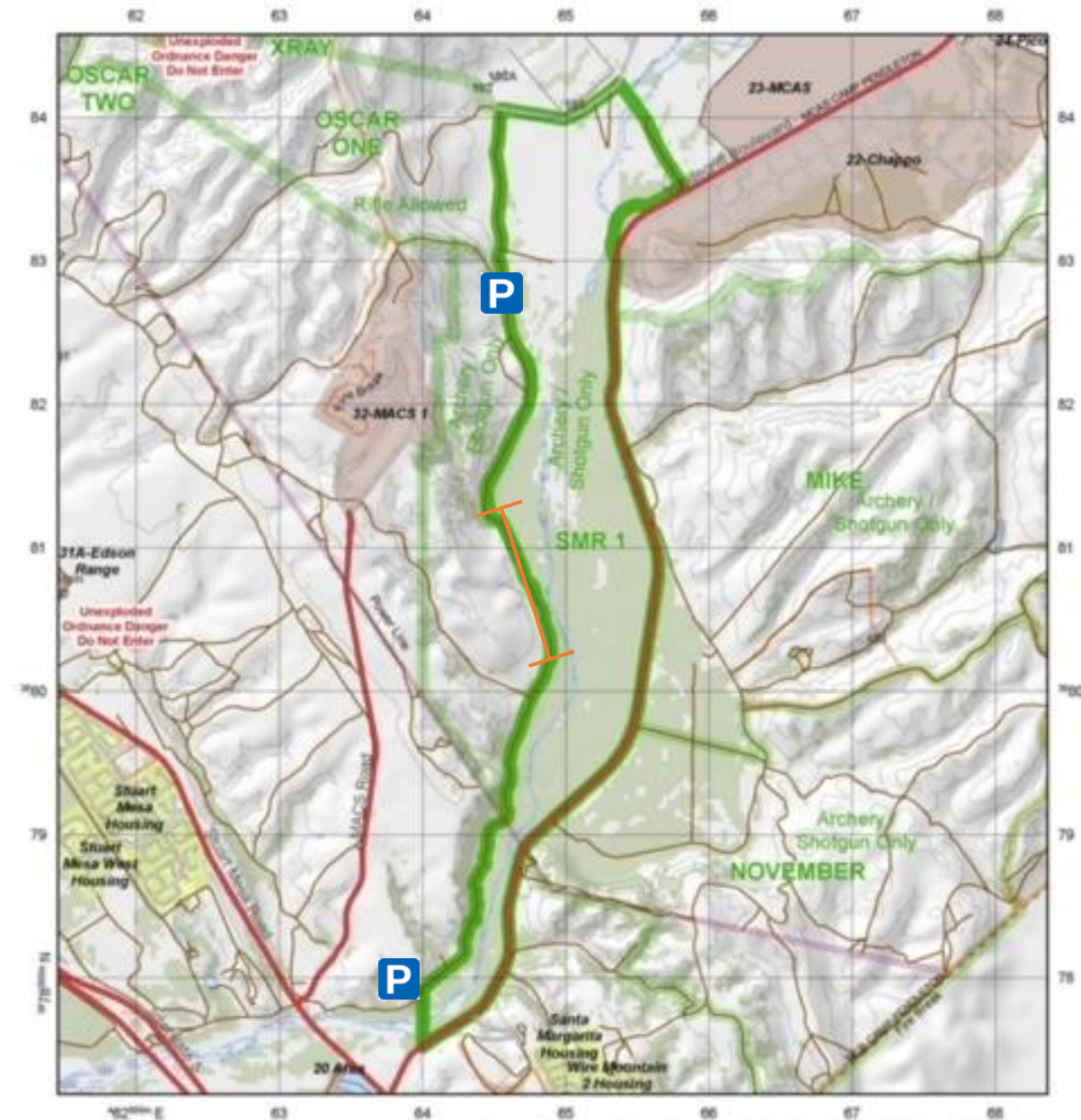
27 ducks
115 hr hunter effort

2018/2019

11 Ducks
37 hunter days effort

Stealth required
Jump big ducks: mallard, scaup, teal, widgeon, gadwall
Long shots
May not return
Self retrieve
Flooded timber
Good chance at dabbling ducks without boat, decoys, dog

Do not cut vegetation



SMR 1



From Game Warden office, turn right onto Vandegrift Blvd. and drive 7.8 miles to Stuart Mesa Rd turn right. Go 0.6 miles over bridge and turn at 1st right. Turn right again in 30 yards. SMR-1 on right. See map for boundaries.

Rules: Check in and out to one area only as authorized. Protect habitat. No littering, alcohol, off-road driving, quads, ATVs, or motorcycles. Park on bare ground, 50 yards from structures. No shooting within 150 yards of

SMR 2

2017/2018

16 ducks
115 hr hunter effort

2018/2019

24 Ducks
34 hunter days effort

Stealth required

Jump big ducks here; widgeon, scaup, teal, mallard, merganser

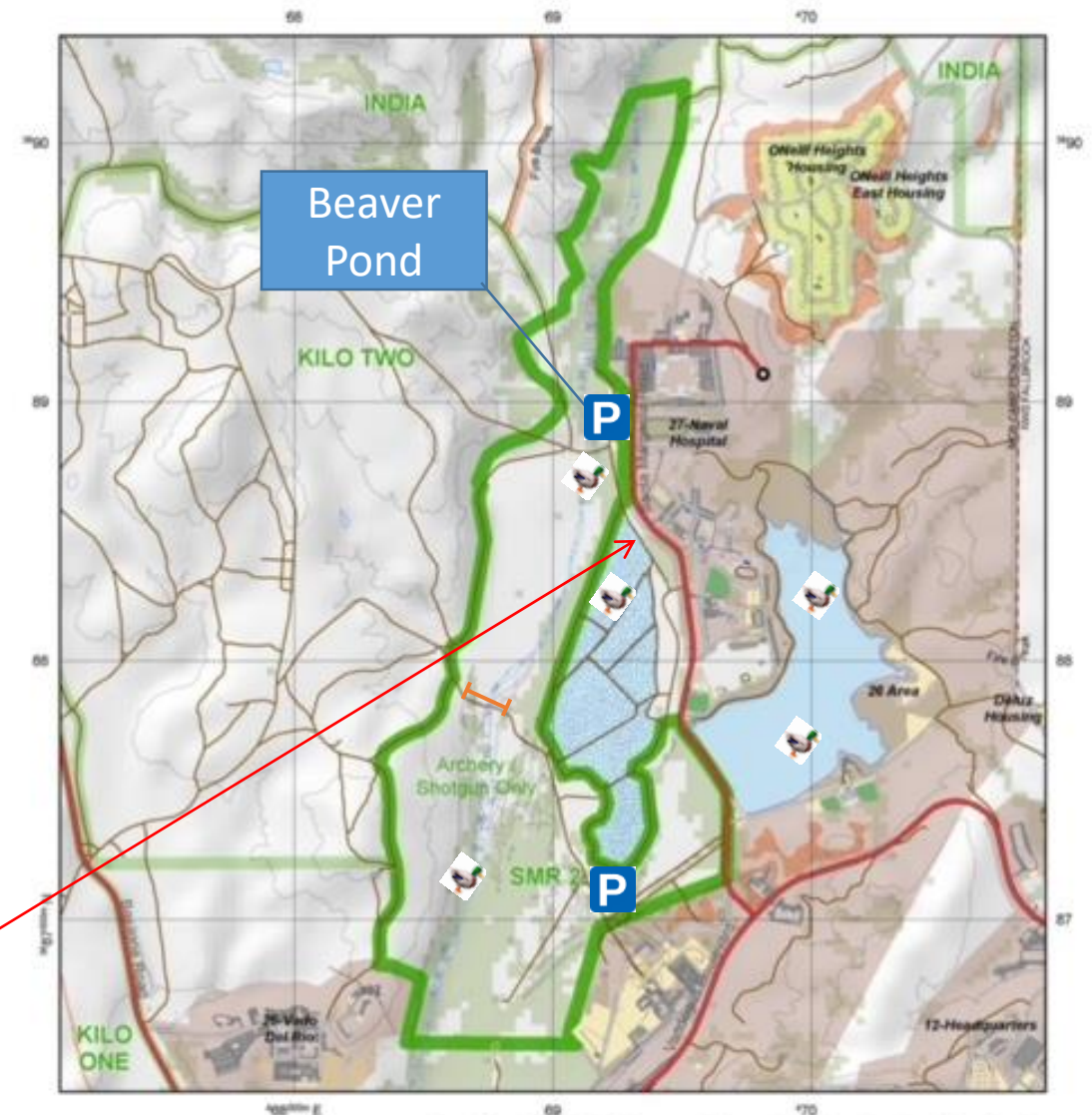
Long shots

Pass shooting

May not return

Best chance at dabbling ducks without boat, decoys, dog

Wounded warrior Blind #1, perc pond filled with water late as construction project was completed and drainage canal opened.



SMR 2



0 750 1,500 3,000 4,500
Contour Interval 100 feet
feet

From Game Warden Office, go out the gate to stop sign, turn left and go to next stop sign, turn left onto Santa Margarita Rd. Go 0.8 miles. Turn left on first dirt road across from the Fitness Center. Enter SMR-2. See map for boundaries.

Rules: Check in and out to one area only as authorized. Protect habitat. No littering, alcohol, off-road driving, quads, ATVs, or motorcycles. Park on bare ground, 50 yards from structures. No shooting within 150 yards of roads or buildings.

India Pond

2017/2018

2 ducks

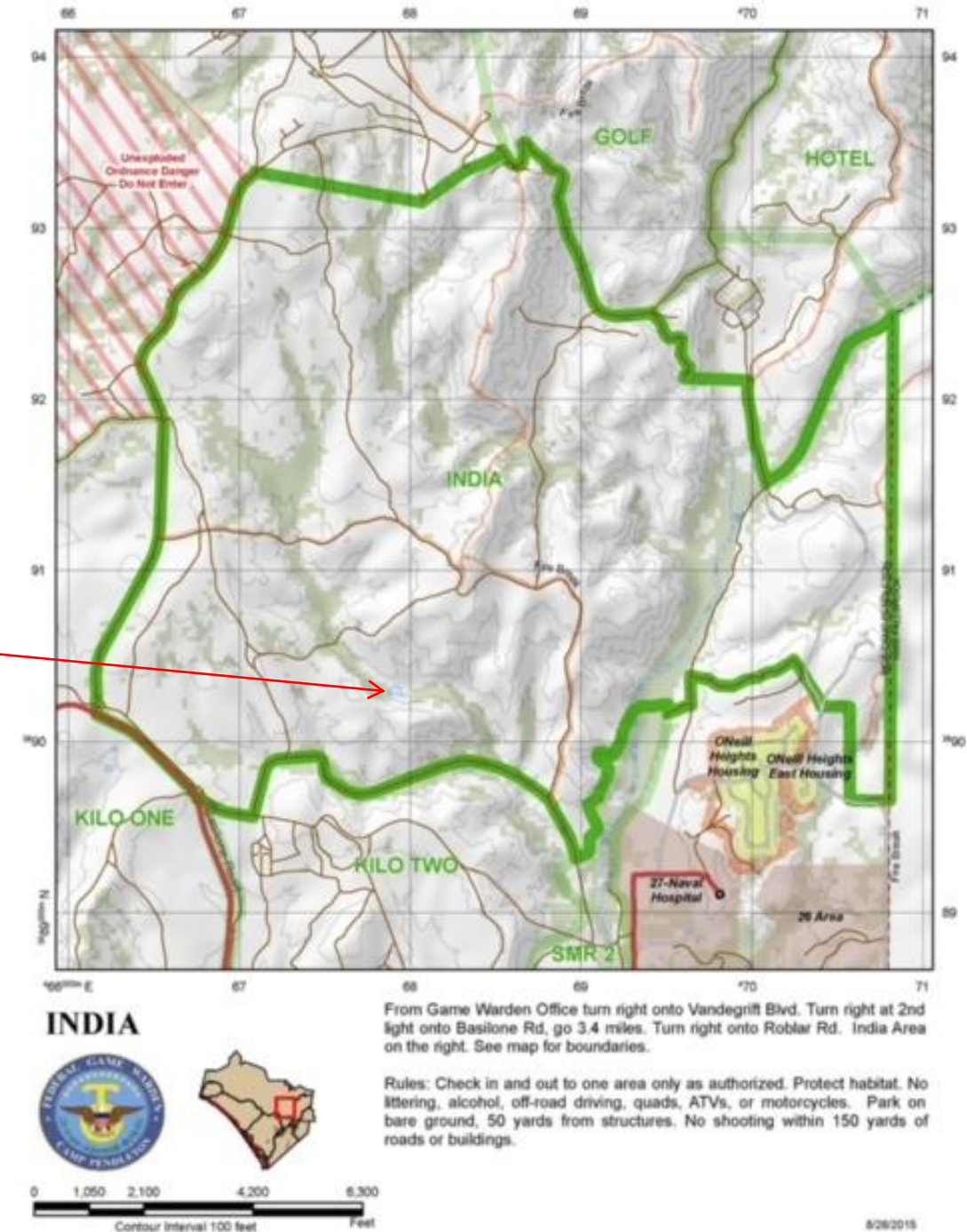
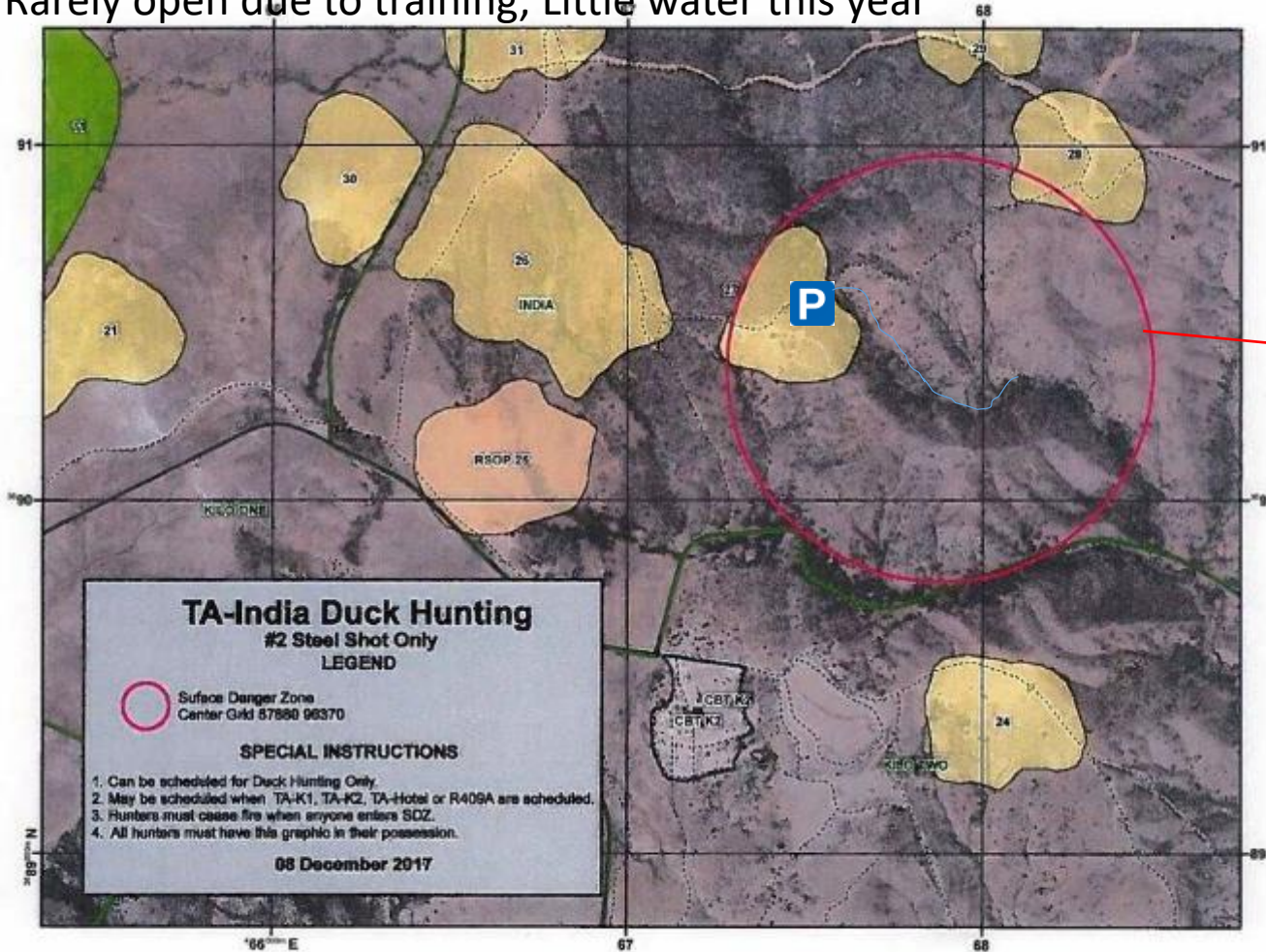
8 hr hunter effort

2018/2019 (<8 Jan)

0 Ducks

0 hunter days effort

Park AFA27, stealth walk in creek to pond & jump the few ducks
Rarely open due to training, Little water this year



K1 Pond

2017/2018

4 ducks

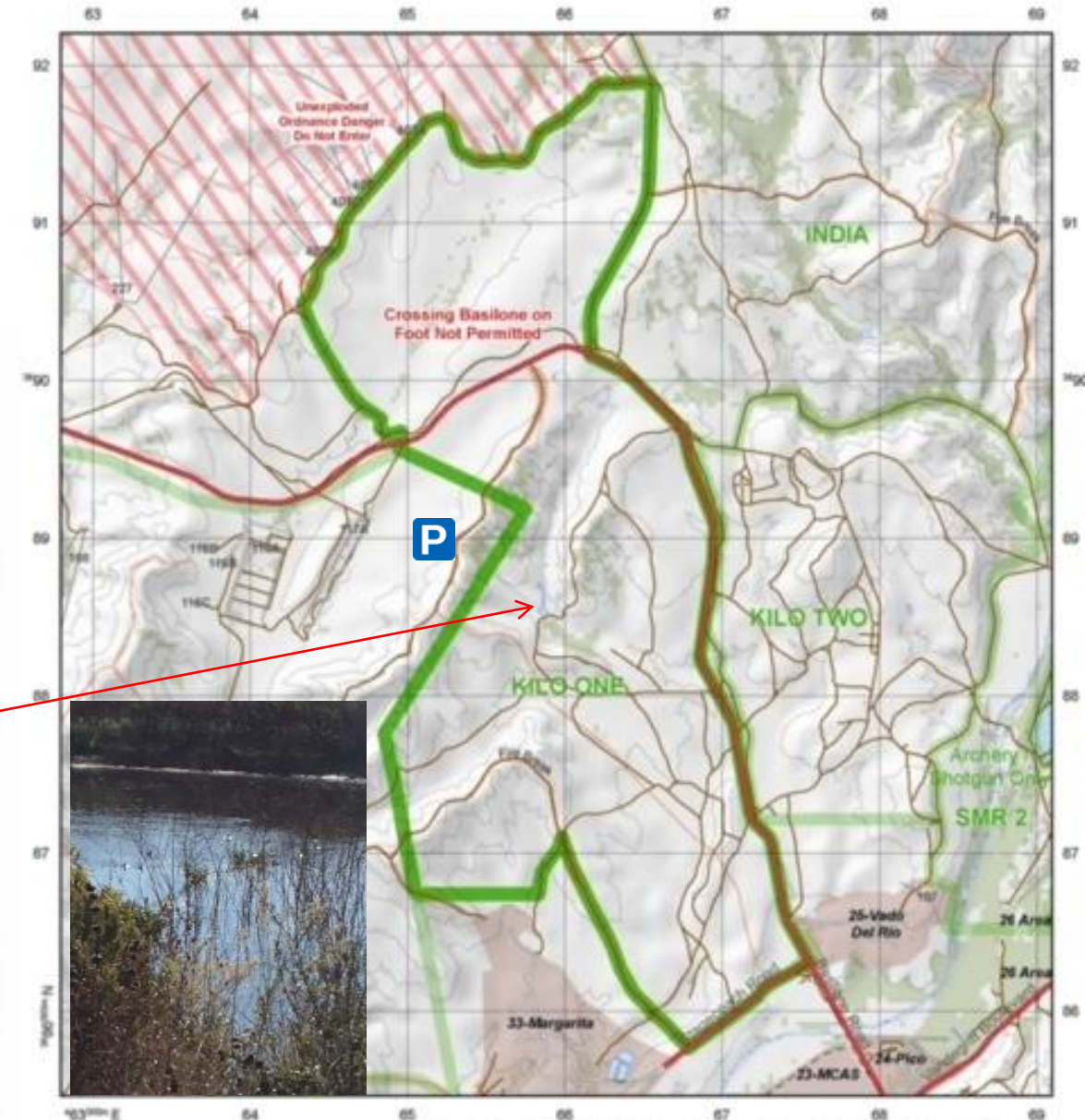
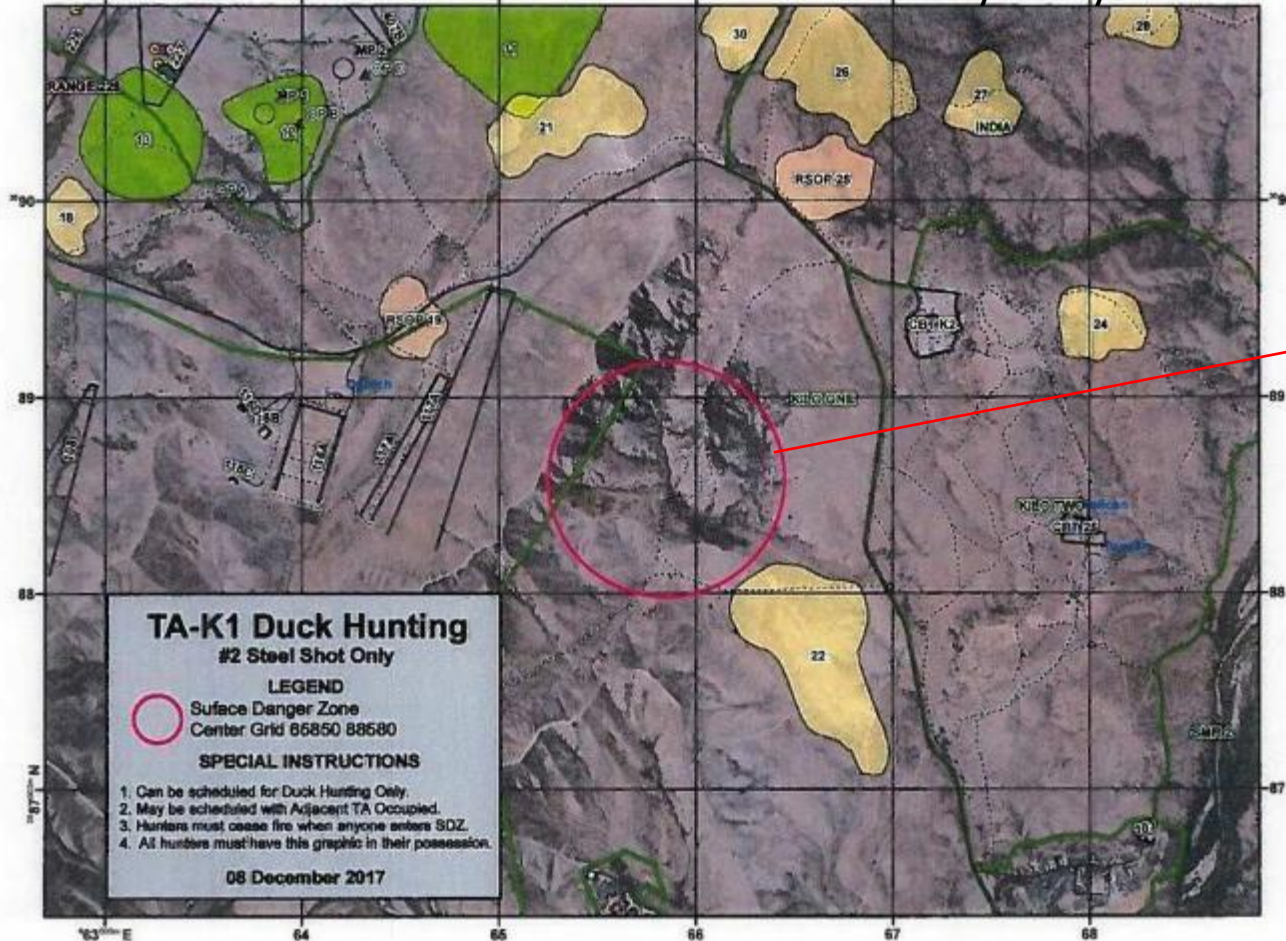
48hr hunter effort

2018/2019 (<8 Jan)

3 Ducks

8 hunter days effort

Park 500m away, walk left (west) side behind bushes to jump shoot. Soft bottom. Gets deep. Dog or throw retrieve recommended. Little water for the coots and ruddy this year.



KILO ONE



From Game Warden Office turn right onto Vandegriff Blvd. Turn right at 2nd light onto Basilone Rd, go 1.9 miles passing stagecoach Rd to 3rd dirt road on the left (DZ Basilone) enter Kilo 1 Training Area. See map for boundaries.

Rules: Check in and out to one area only as authorized. Protect habitat. No littering, alcohol, off-road driving, quads, ATVs, or motorcycles. Park on bare ground, 50 yards from structures. No shooting within 150 yards of water or buildings.

Hotel pond in the SMR drainage

2017/2018

0 ducks

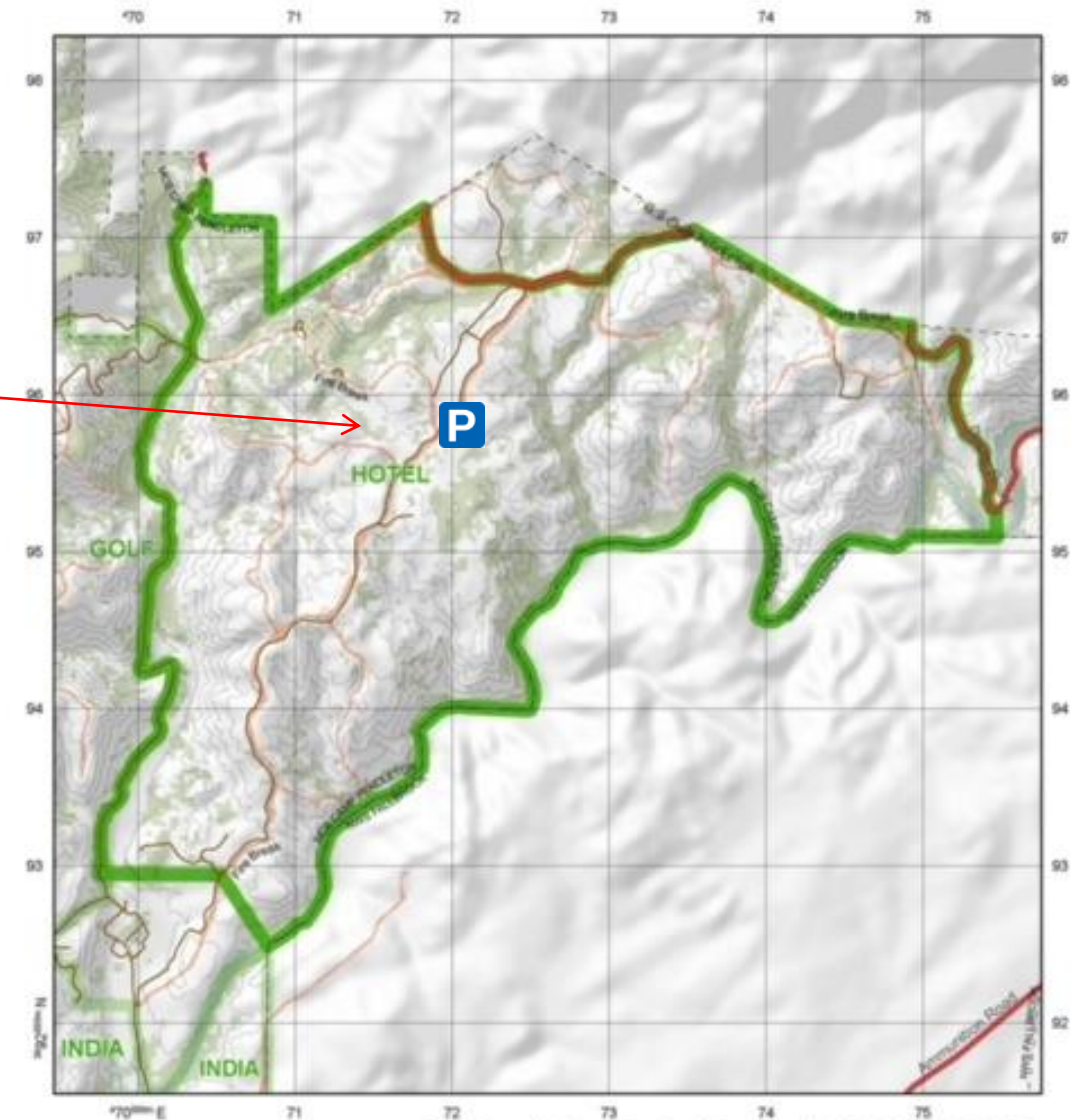
33 hr hunter effort

2018/2019

0 Ducks

0 hunter days effort

DeLuz crossing is flooded. Park along the road and walk up the river 500 yards. The Hotel pond is at 71466 95815, To access Hotel pond park at AFA 39 and walk in.



HOTEL



From Game Warden Office turn left onto Vandegriff Blvd. Turn left at 2nd light onto De Luz Rd. At 3.9 miles turn right at fork after a stream crossing. Continue 0.7 miles, Hotel Area begins. See map for boundaries.

Rules: Check in and out to one area only as authorized. Protect habitat. No littering, alcohol, off-road driving, quads, ATVs, or motorcycles. Park on bare ground, 50 yards from structures. No shooting within 150 yards of roads or buildings.

Mike pond

2017/2018

0 ducks

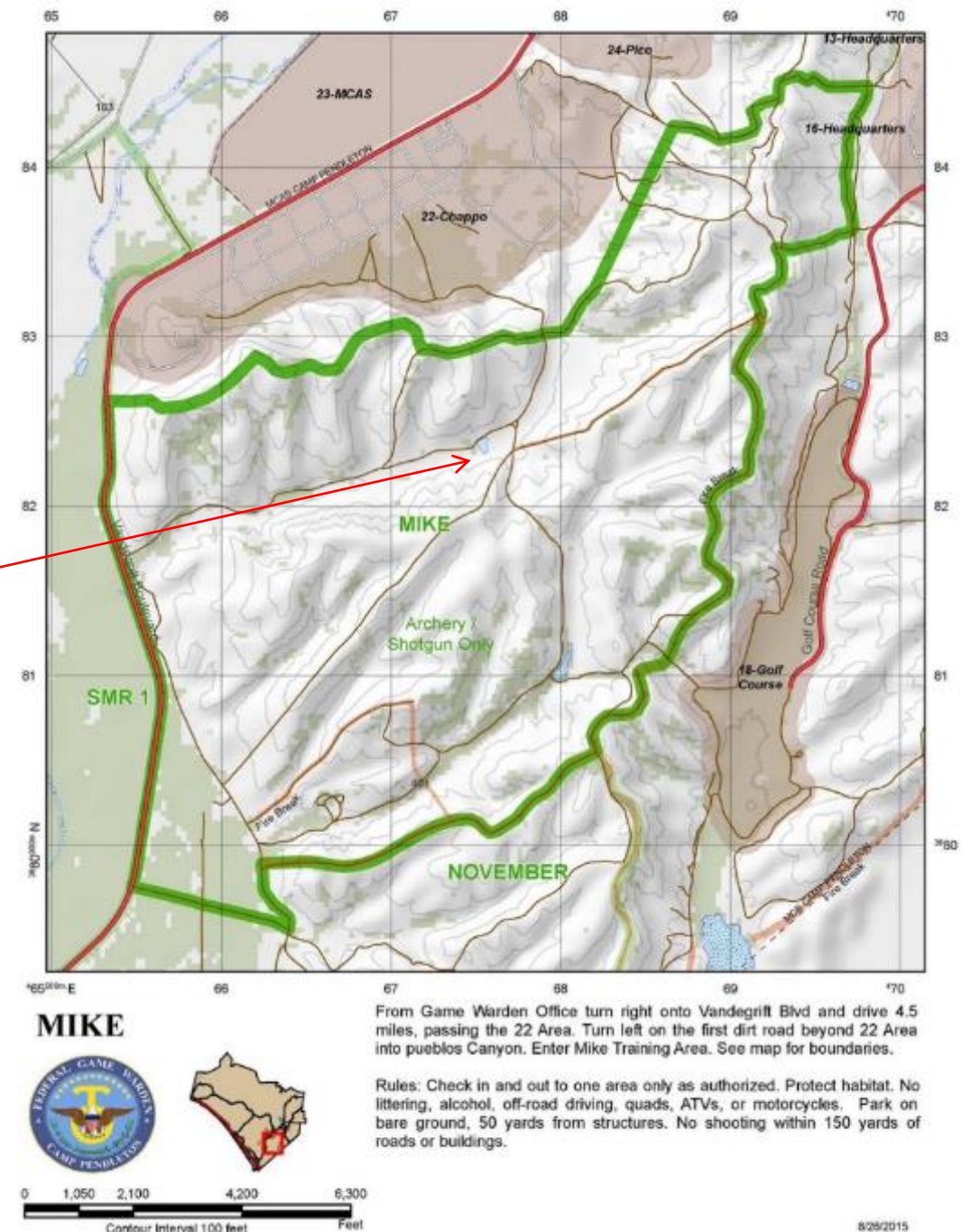
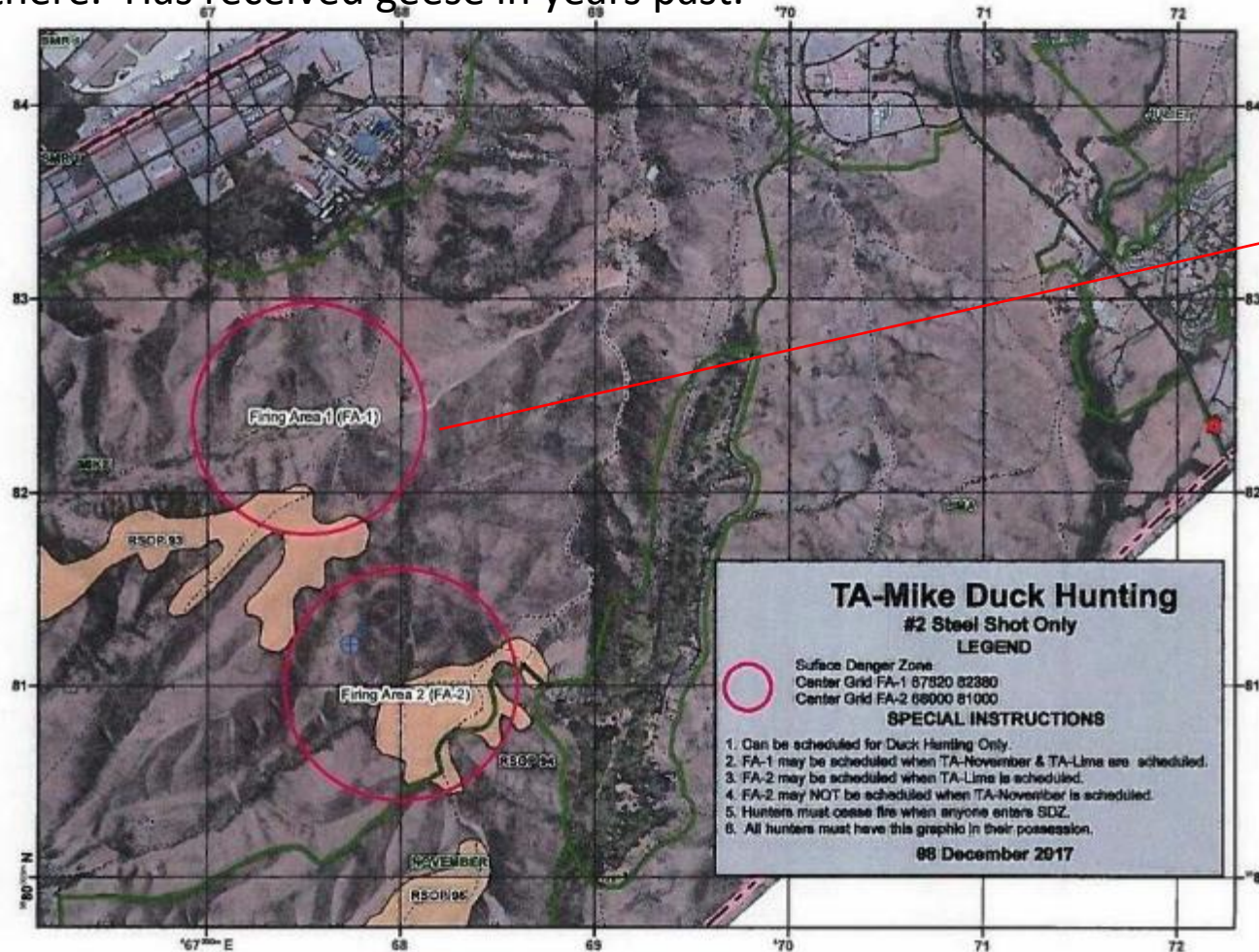
8 hr hunter effort

2018/2019 (<8 Jan)

0 Ducks

0 hunter days effort

It takes a large rain swell to flood Ysidora basin and provide water there. Has received geese in years past.



Lima ponds

2017/2018

0 ducks

0 hr hunter effort

2018/2019

20 Ducks

21 hunter days effort

Both the Horse pond and Pilgrim Creek Lake in Lima training area near the San Luis Rey gate were offered for waterfowl hunting on the last weekend of the season. Pilgrim Creek Lake (below) is deep due to water accumulation and requires a kayak or dog for retrieval. Filled with quality ducks that bed down, but most (not all 😊) take off and return outside legal shooting times.

