

2023-24

# FREEDOM HILLS WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA



**ZONE A**

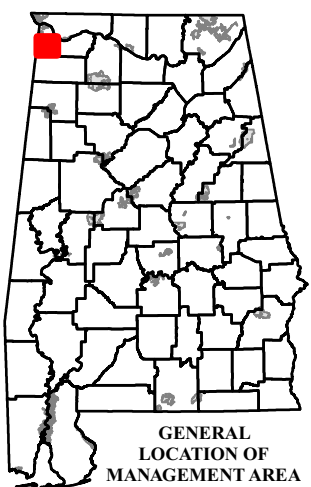
**ZONE B**

**Cherokee - PDHA**

This AREA Permit is your 2023-2024 annual permit to hunt all game in accordance with the seasons, rules, and regulations listed herein (See Daily Permit requirements on back). This AREA Permit must be signed and in your possession along with the appropriate license(s) in order to be valid.

Signed

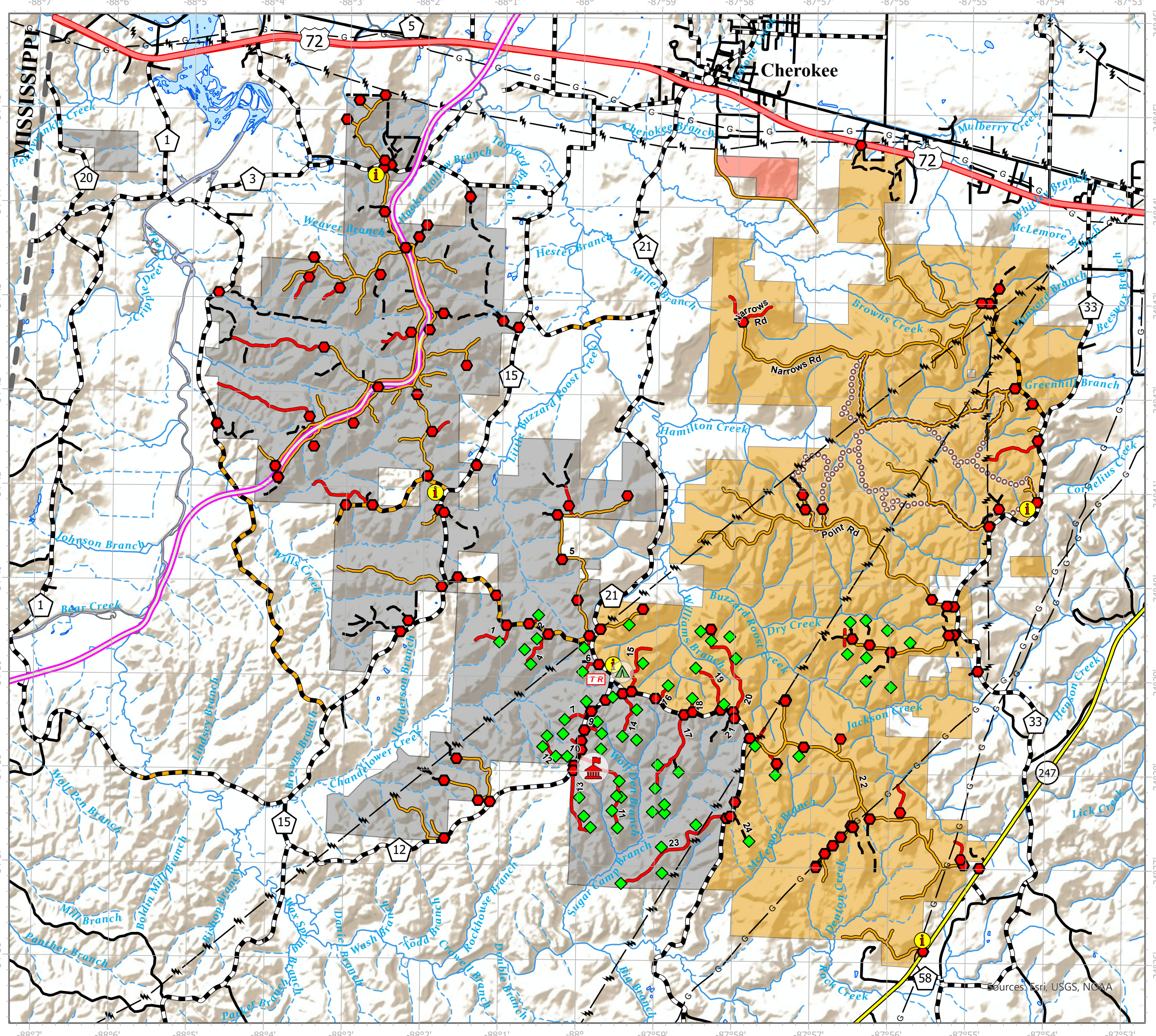
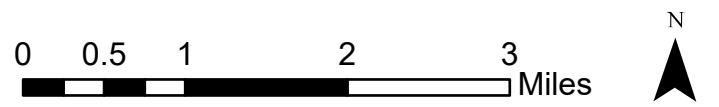
- Checking Station
- Camping Area
- Target Range
- Kiosk / DAILY PERMIT
- Gate
- Wildlife Opening
- Horse Trail
- Natchez Trace Parkway
- US Route Paved
- State Highway Paved
- County - Paved
- County - Gravel/Dirt
- WMA Roads Yearlong OPEN
- WMA Roads All Season OPEN
- WMA Roads Seasonally CLOSED
- WMA Trail - WALKING ONLY
- Other roads
- Power Transmission Line
- Gas Line



THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, AGE, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN, DISABILITY, PREGNANCY, GENETIC INFORMATION OR VETERAN STATUS IN ITS HIRING OR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES NOR IN ADMISSION TO, ACCESS TO, OR OPERATIONS OF ITS PROGRAMS, SERVICES OR ACTIVITIES.

THIS IS NOT A SURVEY. BOUNDARIES REFLECT INFORMATION PROVIDED FOR HUNTING AT THE DATE OF REVISION. THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION DOES NOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY INACCURACIES HEREIN. THIS PUBLICATION IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS UPON REQUEST.

DUE TO THE SCALE OF THIS MAP THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND ITS AFFILIATES ASSUME NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR INACCURACIES IN ROAD ALIGNMENTS, CONFIGURATION OF INTERSECTIONS, AND OTHER RELATED DATA.



Sources: Esri, USGS, NOAA





# FREEDOM HILLS WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Colbert County

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES – WILDLIFE & FRESHWATER FISHERIES DIVISION

Hunting Regulations September 2023 – August 2024

### CONTACT INFORMATION:

For information and questions regarding regulations or use of the WMA, please contact Biologist – **Courtenay Conring at (256) 278-5379**

## HUNTING DATES & BAG LIMITS:

**DEER:** (No Dog Deer Hunting) (No Buckshot)

<b>Zones A &amp; B:</b>	(Archery)	<b>Oct. 14-Feb. 10</b> – Two deer a day, one unantlered deer and one antlered buck. No hunting on days of youth gun deer hunt. <b>*No antler restrictions apply.</b>
	(Youth)	<b>Nov. 11-12</b> – Two deer a day, one unantlered deer and one antlered buck. <b>*No antler restrictions apply.</b>
	(Primitive Weapons)	<b>Nov. 13-17</b> – Two deer a day, one unantlered deer and one antlered buck. <b>*No antler restrictions apply.</b>
	(Gun)	<b>Nov. 23-26, Dec. 14-17, Jan. 18-21</b> – Two deer a day, one unantlered deer and one antlered buck.
<b>Zone A:</b>	(Gun)	<b>Jan. 4-7 and Jan. 25-28</b> – One antlered buck a day. (Jan. 6 Bonus Buck Day, must be validated by WFF personnel at check station prior to leaving Area). <b>*Antlered buck restrictions apply.</b>
<b>Zone B:</b>	(Gun)	<b>Jan. 11-14 and Feb. 1-4</b> – One antlered buck a day. (Feb. 3 Bonus Buck Day, must be validated by WFF personnel at check station prior to leaving Area). <b>*Antlered buck restrictions apply.</b>

**\* To be legal for harvest, antlered bucks must have at least three (3) antler points (1 inch or longer) on at least one main beam.**

**DATA COLLECTION:** All deer harvested must be submitted at check station for data collection on Fridays and Saturdays of gun hunts. The check station is open from 9:00am - 7:00pm. Additionally, the results of all hunts must be recorded using the Outdoor Alabama App or Daily Permit and submitted at kiosk at the conclusion of every hunt day.

<b>TURKEY:</b>	(Youth)	<b>April 6</b> (Daylight until 1 p.m.) Gobblers only
	(Physically Disabled)	<b>April 7</b> (Daylight until 1 p.m.) Gobblers only
	(Regular)	<b>April 8 - May 8</b> (Daylight until 1 p.m.) Gobblers only

**BAG LIMIT** – No more than 1 gobbler during the first 10 days of each season. No decoys allowed for the first 10 days of the WMA regular season. No more than 2 gobblers total per hunter from Freedom Hills WMA.

**WATERFOWL:** No Open Season

**DOVE:** State season. (Opening day: 12:00 noon to sunset; remainder of season: ½ hour before sunrise to sunset). First two weeks of season: Saturdays and Wednesdays only. Remainder of state season except, no hunting on days of youth, primitive weapons, or gun deer hunts. **Bag limit: 15 per day.**

**RABBIT & SQUIRREL:** **Sept. 9 - March 3** – No hunting on days of youth, primitive weapons, or gun deer hunts. Fox squirrel season closed during February and March. **Bag limit: 8 squirrels per day. 8 rabbits per day.**

**CROW:** **Sept. 1 - March 3** – No hunting on days of youth, primitive weapons, or gun deer hunts. **No bag limit.**

**QUAIL:** **Nov. 4 – Feb. 29.** – No hunting on days of youth, primitive weapons, or gun deer hunts. **Bag limit: 8 per day.**

**WOODCOCK:** State season – No hunting on days of gun deer hunts. **Bag limit: 3 per day.**

**SNIPE:** State season – No hunting on days of gun deer hunts. **Bag limit: 8 per day.**

**RACCOON & OPOSSUM:** **Sept. 1 - March 3** – Nighttime hours only. No hunting on nights preceding or nights of youth, primitive weapons, or gun deer hunts. **No bag limit.**

**BOBCAT, COYOTE, OPOSSUM, FERAL SWINE, RACCOON, FOX:**

Open during any other scheduled WMA Hunting Season using weapons and ammunition approved for those hunts. No dogs allowed. Daylight hours only. **No bag limit.**

**FURBEARER TRAPPING:** (Excluding feral swine) **Oct. 28 - Feb 29** – Permits must be obtained from Area Biologist

## IMPORTANT:

All hunters must be familiar with WMA Regulation 220-2-.55. This regulation contains complete rules for hunting on this property. **In addition, it shall be unlawful:**

**\*Users must refer to WMA Regulation 220-2-.55 for the complete list of WMA regulations.**

- To transport harvested deer or turkey from the WMA before reporting harvest in the Game Check System. Hunters must also submit such harvests at the WMA check station for data collection if hunt date is indicated as a mandatory check station day on the Outdoor Alabama WMA Application or AREA Permit. All other harvested game must be recorded on the Outdoor Alabama WMA Application or WMA Daily Permit.
- To discharge firearms for target practice except on designated target ranges in accordance with listed rules during posted times and dates.
- For any person, except authorized personnel, to operate any motor-driven vehicle behind locked gates, barricaded roads, or signs which prohibits vehicular traffic.
- For any unauthorized person to possess and/or operate **ANY UNLICENSED MOTOR DRIVEN VEHICLE on WMA**, except when utilized for the express purpose of hunting, fishing, trapping, camping, or related activities; and when operated only on regularly used roads depicted on WMA map to be open to for public four-wheel motorized vehicle traffic.
- To damage or remove any artifacts, trees, firewood, plants, dirt, gravel, or sod without legal authorization.
- To erect any permanent tree stand; install any screw-in style steps, spikes, or nails; or otherwise damage any tree.
- For any unauthorized person to ride or possess horses on WMA except as detailed in Regulation 220-2-.55 (w) & (x).

**WMA is provided by the Wildlife Section of the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, in cooperation with the Forever Wild Land Trust.**

### WHAT YOU NEED:

- To hunt DEER or TURKEY:** a Wildlife Management Area License and the applicable Resident or Non-Resident All Game Hunting License [for Alabama residents 16 through 64 years of age and for non-residents 16 years of age and older], are required.
- To hunt WATERFOWL:** a Wildlife Management Area License, current HIP certification and valid State (ages 16 through 64) and Federal (ages 16 and over) Waterfowl Stamp, and applicable Resident or Non-Resident Small Game or All Game Hunting License [for Alabama residents 16 through 64 years of age and for non-residents 16 years of age and older], are required.
- To hunt small game except waterfowl:** a Wildlife Heritage License OR applicable Resident or Non-Resident Small Game or All Game Hunting License [for Alabama residents 16 through 64 years of age and for non-residents 16 years of age and older], is required.
- For ALL HUNTS:** a paper AREA Permit and a paper WMA daily permit are required UNLESS using the Outdoor Alabama WMA Check-In application to check in and out each hunt day.

### NOTES:

- Freedom Hills WMA is located within the **BUFFER ZONE OF THE CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD) MANAGEMENT ZONE.**
- HUNTERS SHALL SUBMIT DEER HEADS FOR CWD TESTING FROM ALL DEER HARVESTED AT THE WMA CHECK STATION OR DROP-OFF SAMPLING FREEZER LOCATIONS OR A SCHEDULED DCNR MOBILE SAMPLING LOCATION.**
- NO WHOLE DEER BODY PARTS SHALL BE TRANSPORTED OUTSIDE OF CWD MANAGEMENT ZONE. ONLY MEAT THAT HAS BEEN COMPLETELY DEBONED; CLEANED SKULL PLATES WITH ATTACHED ANTLERS, IF NO VISIBLE BRAIN OR SPINAL CORD TISSUE IS PRESENT; UNATTACHED BARE ANTLERS OR SHEDS; RAW CAPES, IF NO VISIBLE BRAIN OR SPINAL CORD TISSUE IS PRESENT; UPPER CANINE TEETH, IF NO ROOT STRUCTURE OF OTHER SOFT TISSUE IS PRESENT; AND FINISHED TAXIDERMY PRODUCTS OR TANNED HIDES CAN BE TRANSPORTED OUTSIDE OF THE CWD MANAGEMENT ZONE.**
- Statewide antlered buck season bag limit applies to all WMAs, except for bonus buck as allowed.
- Youth hunters on youth deer and turkey hunts must be less than 16 years of age. Supervisors must be 21 years old or older, or a parent, and must be properly licensed. Youth must always remain within 30 feet of supervisors.
- Administrators of the hunt shall have the right to distribute the hunters and to inspect all vehicles or other equipment while on the WMA. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and landowners, who are making the hunting possible, hereby put each hunter on notice that they hunt at their own risk and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and such landowners shall not be responsible for any accidents or injuries that may occur.



## KNOW THE RULES AND REGULATIONS



For a complete list of legal firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment, see QR code.



By using this Wildlife Management Area I acknowledge I have read, understand, and agree to the current WMA Regulation 220-2-.55. The information provided here is not the full regulation and users must refer to 220-2-.55

Scan the QR code or visit [OutdoorAlabama.com/WMARules](http://OutdoorAlabama.com/WMARules) for the complete WMA rules and regulation 220-2-.55