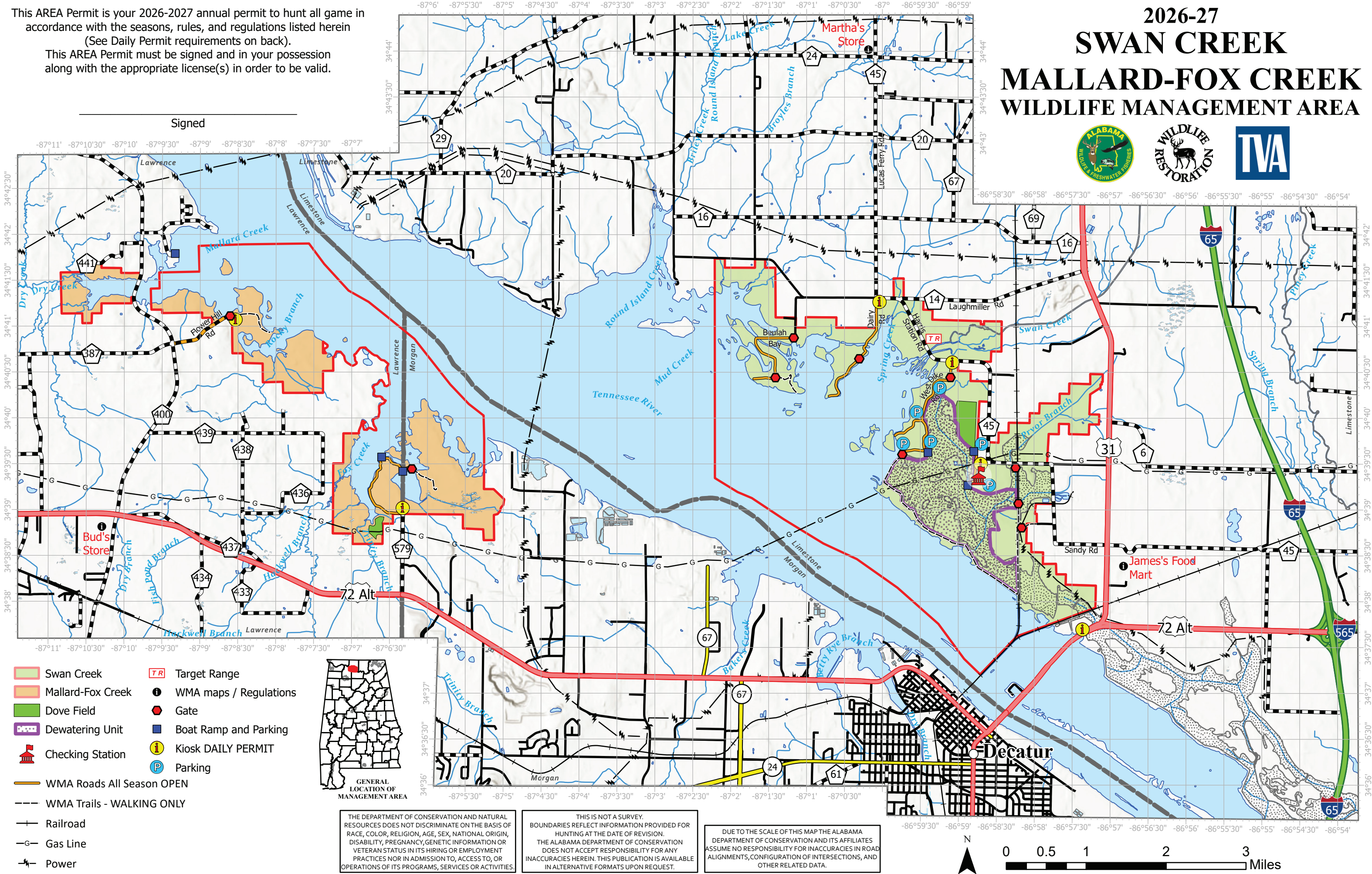


This AREA Permit is your 2026-2027 annual permit to hunt all game in accordance with the seasons, rules, and regulations listed herein (See Daily Permit requirements on back). This AREA Permit must be signed and in your possession along with the appropriate license(s) in order to be valid.

2026-27
**SWAN CREEK
MALLARD-FOX CREEK
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA**





SWAN CREEK, MALLARD - FOX CREEK WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Limestone, Morgan, and Lawrence Counties

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

Hunting Regulations September 2026 – August 2027

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For information and questions regarding regulations or use of the WMA,
please contact Biologist – **Drew Able at (256) 278-0681**

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:

- Statewide antlered buck season bag limit applies to all WMAs, except for bonus buck as allowed.
- 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.
- Waterfowl hunting: DEWATERING UNIT: All limited quota walk-in and boat blind locations within the Swan Creek WMA DWU will be permitted through a limited quota permit system determined by random computerized drawing prior to opening day for weekend hunts or in-person drawings on Tuesdays for weekday hunts. REMAINDER OF WMAs: Open daily during State Season.

HUNTING DATES & BAG LIMITS:

DEER:

(Archery) **Oct. 15-Nov. 20** – Two deer a day, two unantlered deer, or one unantlered deer and one antlered buck.

DATA COLLECTION: 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.

TURKEY:

No Open Season

RAIL:

State Season. Bag Limit: 15 per day.

WATERFOWL:

(Special Teal) **Sept. 12-20** – (Dewatering Unit open 7 days/week) **State bag limit. 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.**

(Youth / Active Military / Veterans) **Nov. 21, 2026, and Feb. 6, 2027 – State bag limits.**

(Duck, Coot, Merganser) **Nov. 27-28 and Dec. 5-Jan. 31 – State bag limits.**

(All Geese) **Sept. 5-Oct. 4, Oct. 17-31, Nov. 27-28 and Dec. 5-Jan. 31 – State bag limits.**

DEWATERING UNIT (DWU)- All limited quota walk-In and boat blind locations within the Swan Creek WMA DWU will be permitted through a limited quota permit system determined by random drawing prior to the hunts. 1/2 hour before sunrise until 12:00 noon. All hunters must exit the DWU no later than 1:30 PM.

REMAINDER OF WMAs - Open daily during State Season. 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

SANDHILL CRANE:

Nov. 27-Jan. 3, Jan. 11-25 – Sunrise to sunset.
By limited quota permit only.

DOVE:

State season. 12:00 noon to sunset each day of the season (NO MORNING HUNTING). Bag Limit: 15 per day.

RABBIT & SQUIRREL:

Sept. 12 - Feb. 28 – Fox squirrel season closed during February.
Bag limit: 8 squirrels per day. 8 rabbits per day.

CROW:

Sept. 1 - Feb. 28 – No bag limit.
Closed during regular waterfowl season.

QUAIL:

No Open Season.

WOODCOCK:

State Season – Bag limit: 3 per day.

SNIPE:

State Season – Bag limit: 8 per day.

RACCOON & OPOSSUM:

Sept. 1 - Feb. 28 – Nighttime hours only. **No bag limit.**

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

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. 31 - Feb. 28** – Permits must be obtained from Area Biologist.

BOWFISHING:

March 1 - Aug. 31. Nongame fish only.

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 sections (w) and (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 Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA).

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
for the complete WMA rules and regulation 220-2-.55