

BLACK WARRIOR WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
BANKHEAD NATIONAL FOREST
(Lawrence & Winston Counties)
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE & FRESHWATER FISHERIES
Hunting Regulations – September 2018– August 2019

PERMITS: Permits for Zone B gun deer hunts will be issued from the Black Warrior Headquarters checking station, 200 yards off of Hwy. 33 on the Northwest Road (Forest Service Rd. 208), on the dates of the hunts; check station will be open by 5:00 AM. Season map/permits for all hunts, except Zone B gun deer hunts, may be obtained from the self-service issuing station located at the management area headquarters; Dependable Service Center, Russellville; Trading Post, Intersection of Hwy. 33 and 36, three miles south of Moulton; Wal-Mart locations at Hwy. 195 East, Haleyville and at the intersection of Hwy. 24 and 157, Moulton; the Winston County Coop, Hwy. 195 east, Haleyville; Lawrence and Winston County Courthouses; U.S. Forest Service Office, Hwy. 33 North, Double Springs; or by printing from the internet at www.outdooralabama.com (both front and back pages of the internet map/permit must be together to be valid). Trapping permits must be obtained from the area biologist, Kevin.Pugh, 21453 Harris Station Road, Tanner, AL 35671 or by e-mail at kevin.pugh@dcnr.alabama.gov. All deer, turkey, and feral swine killed during any hunt shall be reported and/or logged at the checking station located on the Northwest Road (FS Road 208) prior to leaving the WMA. Special buck antler restrictions apply to all deer hunting on Zone B.

NOTE: • **A State Hunting License, Wildlife Management Area (WMA) License and a wildlife management area permit are required when hunting deer, turkey, or waterfowl on a wildlife management area. For residents, a State hunting license, Wildlife Heritage License (residents only) or State Fishing License (residents only) and WMA permit are required for hunting small game, except waterfowl on wildlife management areas. Nonresidents must possess a wildlife management area license in addition to a hunting license and WMA permit to hunt big game and small game.**

- **Individuals, ages 16 through 64, that utilize any WMA shooting range are required to possess either a State Hunting License, a State Fishing License (residents only), a WMA license, or a Wildlife Heritage License (residents only). (This does not apply to the Hurricane Creek Shooting Range on the Black Warrior WMA but requires a \$3.00 USFS per vehicle daily use fee).**
- **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 remain within 30 feet of supervisors at all times. The adult-youth pair is to check in and out at the Area checking station as a single unit.**
- **Statewide antlered buck season bag limit applies to all WMAs.**
- **Administrators of the hunt shall have the right to distribute the hunters and to inspect all vehicles or other equipment while on the areas. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and landowners, who are making the hunting possible, hereby put each hunter on notice that he hunts at his 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.**

HUNTING DATES:

DEER

Zone A: **NOTE: On days of Gun Deer Hunts in Zone B, Zone A will be open to small game and deer archery hunting only.**

(Gun) Stalk Hunting Hunter's Choice **Nov. 17. One deer per day - one unantlered deer or one antlered buck.**
Stalk Hunting Antlered Bucks Only: **Nov. 22-25, Dec. 6-9, and Dec. 20-23. One antlered buck per day.**

(Primitive Weapons) Stalk Hunting Hunter's Choice **Nov. 12-14. One deer per day - one unantlered deer or one antlered buck.**

(Archery) Stalk Hunting Hunter's Choice **Oct. 15 – Jan. 14. One deer per day - one unantlered deer or one antlered buck.**
Stalk Hunting Antlered Bucks Only: **Jan. 15 – Feb. 10.** One antlered buck per day. Archery hunting is permitted in zone closed to deer hunting.

Zone B: **NOTE: On days of Gun Deer and/or Primitive Weapons Deer Hunts in Zone A, Zone B will be open to small game and deer archery hunting only.**
NOTE: *All antlered bucks regardless of harvest method, on Zone B must have at least four (4) points (1 inch or longer) on at least one main beam.

(Gun) **Special Early Hunt** Stalk Hunting Antlered Bucks Only: **Nov. 9-11. One antlered buck per day. *Antlered buck restrictions apply.**
Stalk Hunting Antlered Bucks Only: **Nov. 30-Dec. 2 and Dec. 14-16. One antlered buck per day. *Antlered buck restrictions apply.**

(Primitive Weapons) Stalk Hunting Hunter's Choice **Nov. 15-16. One deer per day - one unantlered deer or one antlered buck**

(Archery) Stalk Hunting Hunter's Choice: **Oct. 15– Jan. 14. One deer per day - one unantlered deer or one antlered buck.**
Stalk hunting Antlered Bucks Only: **Jan. 15 – Feb. 10.** One antlered buck per day. Archery hunting is permitted in zone closed to deer hunting. Archery hunters must obtain deer permit on days of gun hunts if hunting in zone open to gun hunt and abide by all gun deer hunt regulations. ***Antlered buck restrictions apply.**

***To be legal for harvest, antlered bucks in Zone B must have at least four (4) points (1 inch or longer) on at least one main beam.**

ALL OTHER HUNTING SEASONS: NOTE: On days of Gun Deer and/or Primitive Weapons Deer Hunts in either Zone A or B, the opposite zone will be open to small game and deer archery hunting.

Zones A & B:

TURKEY: (Youth) **Mar. 30** (Daylight until 1:00 pm). Gobblers only. All successful hunters must record their harvest at the check station.
(Physically Disabled) **Mar. 31** (Daylight until 1:00 pm). Gobblers only. All successful hunters must record their harvest at the check station.
(Regular) **Apr. 1 – 30** (Daylight until 1:00 pm). Gobblers only. All successful hunters must record their harvest at the check station.
Nov. 3 – Feb. 28. No hunting on the specified zone on days of gun deer and/or primitive weapons deer hunts.
Sep. 15 – Mar. 3. No hunting on the specified zone on days of gun deer and/or primitive weapons deer hunts. Fox squirrel season closed during February and March.
Sep. 1 – Feb. 28. Nighttime hours only. No hunting on nights preceding or nights of gun and primitive weapons deer hunts.

& FOX: Open during any scheduled WMA hunting season using weapons and ammunition approved for those hunts. No Dogs Allowed. Daylight Hours Only. One fox per day.

CROW: **Sep. 15 – Feb. 28.** No hunting on the specified zone on days of gun deer and/or primitive weapons deer hunts.

WOODCOCK: **Dec. 14- Jan. 27.** No hunting on the specified zone on days of gun deer and/or primitive weapons deer hunts.

FERAL SWINE (Special Season): **Sep. 1-15 and Mar. 1-14.** Permitted firearms and archery equipment and hunter orange requirements same as for gun deer hunts on the WMA. No buckshot. No dogs allowed. Daylight hours only.

FURBEARER TRAPPING: (excluding feral swine) **Nov. 3– Feb. 28.** All trappers must wear hunter's orange while trapping on days of gun and primitive weapons deer hunts.

BAG LIMITS:

Deer (ALL BUCKS HARVESTED ON WMA'S MUST BE INCLUDED AS PART OF THE ANNUAL STATE WIDE 3 BUCK LIMIT) - *Hunter's Choice Gun, Primitive Weapons and Archery Deer Hunts* - One deer per day- one unantlered deer or one antlered buck, **except special buck antler restrictions apply on Zone B (see hunt dates above); Turkey (Gobblers only) - 1 per day (5 per season); Squirrel - 8 per day; Quail - 8 per day; Rabbit - 8 per day; Crow - No Limit; Raccoon - 5 per day; Opossum - No Limit; Woodcock - 3 per day; Feral Swine, Bobcat, and Coyote - No Limit; Fox - 1 per day; Falconers may take migratory game birds (not more than 3 per day in aggregate combination) and resident game birds and animals following the bag limits listed above for firearms and archery.**

PERMITTED FIREARMS, BOW AND ARROW, & FALCONRY:

Deer: Deer: *Stalk Hunts:* As defined in Alabama Regulations legal arms and ammunition in 220-2-.02(2), (excluding buckshot) and archery equipment in 220-2-.03.
Primitive Weapons: Using only muzzle loading rifles (.40 caliber or larger), muzzle loading shotguns, air-powered guns (.30 caliber or larger) or archery equipment as defined in 220-2-.03.

Turkey: As defined in 220-2-.02(3), except no center-fire pistols or crossbows allowed.

Special Feral Swine Hunts: Same as Stalk Deer Hunts (**Hunter Orange Requirements Apply**).

Remainder of Seasons: Legal arms and ammunition as defined in 220-2-.02 and archery equipment in 220-2-.03.

Trapping: As Defined in 220-2-.30(2), except no .22 magnums are allowed.

Falconry will be legal on all AREA scheduled hunts for legally permitted falconers; following the dates those seasons are open on each AREA.

IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL:

1. To hunt, trap, use dogs, possess firearms, traps or bow and arrow, except on designated target ranges and except bow fishing equipment without a valid permit. A permit is valid only during scheduled AREA seasons during legal hunting hours and only with the required hunting License(s) and weapons and ammunition permitted for hunting wildlife listed on permit. See (28) for limited exception for certain lawfully licensed handguns possessed for personal protection.
2. To use dogs for stalk hunting of deer or for turkey hunting. (Leashed dogs may be used for the expressed purpose of retrieving wounded deer, limited to two dogs per tracking event).
3. To use dogs for feral swine or small game hunting where dogs are expressly prohibited.
4. To use dogs for hunting, training or any purpose from the end of small game season until August 31.
5. For any person under 16 years of age to hunt on the area unless accompanied by an adult who is either 21 years old or older or the parent and who possesses all licenses to hunt WMA.
6. To have in possession any fully automatic rifle or any firearms, ammunition or bow and arrow except as prescribed above on the Permitted Firearms and Bow and Arrow section or on a designated shooting range.
7. For any person to hunt deer with a gun **on Zone B** without first presenting his required hunting licenses at the checking station.
8. For any person to carry firearms in or on a vehicle by any of the following: any firearms with ammunition in the magazine, breech or clip attached to firearms, or black powder weapons with primer, cap or flash powder in place, or cocked crossbows. See (28) for limited exception for certain lawfully licensed handguns possessed for personal protection.
9. To camp in the management area except in designated sites. Campers using generators must camp in site designated for generator use. On areas located on U.S. Forest Service lands, this camping restriction applies from October 1-January 31. Individuals or groups may camp in the area for a period not to exceed nine (9) days in any 30-day period. Campfires must be extinguished before departing. No warming fires shall be permitted away from camping area.
10. To kill or willfully molest any species of wildlife except those designated for hunting.
11. To discharge fireworks at any time.
12. To discharge firearms for target practice except on the designated target range.
13. To hunt or discharge firearms within 150 yards of any camping area, dwelling, dam or timber operation, 100 yards of any paved public road or highway, or from within the right-of-way of any developed U.S. Forest Service road (paved or unpaved), which is open for vehicle traffic; within a posted safety zone or on Sunday within one-half mile of any church.
14. For any person to possess any firearm while hunting with bow and arrow or crossbow, except on days of either sex gun deer hunts (See 28 for limited exception).
15. To transport deer, turkey, or swine killed during any hunts from the area before being checked or reported at the designated checking stations.
16. For any person except authorized personnel to operate any motor driven vehicle behind, under or around any locked gate, barricaded road or sign which prohibits vehicular traffic.
17. For any unauthorized person to possess and/or operate **ANY UNLICENSED MOTOR DRIVEN VEHICLE** on the area. ALL VEHICLES must remain on regularly used roads open for public use by four-wheel vehicle traffic. For any unauthorized person to ride or possess horses on any AREA except (1) on roads open to four-wheel motorized vehicles; and (2) in areas, roads, and trails designated as open to horses.
18. For any person to hunt deer or feral swine on days of scheduled gun, or primitive weapons hunts without wearing an outer garment above the waist containing a minimum of 144 square inches of hunter orange color, or either a full-size hunter orange hat or cap. Hunters are not required to wear hunter orange when hunting from a stand elevated twelve (12) feet or more above the ground. The hunter orange must be of solid color, except for a small logo and or printing on the front of the cap, and visible from any angle.
19. For any person except authorized personnel to block or otherwise stop traffic on any road or at any gate by parking a vehicle in such a way that passage around the vehicle is impossible.
20. For any person to deposit, distribute or scatter grain, salt, litter, or any other materials on any AREA maintained by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources prior to receiving approval from said Department.
21. To hunt small game during gun deer hunts and primitive weapon hunts in the same zone as the open gun/primitive deer hunt. The opposite zone will be open to small game hunting.
22. To damage or remove any artifacts, trees, crops, plants, dirt, gravel or sod without legal authorization.
23. To erect or use a permanent tree stand or scaffold without written permission from the landowners.
24. To cast a light of any kind, either hand held, affixed to a vehicle, or otherwise, between the hours of sunset and sunrise except in areas where the state law is more restrictive. This paragraph does not apply to the headlights of vehicles traveling in a normal manner on an open established road.
25. To hunt from an elevated stand or platform without attaching themselves to the tree or platform with a full body safety harness capable of supporting their weight.
26. To violate any posted restrictions on entry, hunting, fishing, or other conduct.
27. To release any animal, bird, fish, or other wildlife on any WMA, Refuge, or Public Lands without first obtaining written permission from the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division.
28. Nothing in this regulation prohibits or requires a wildlife management area permit for the possession of handguns by lawfully licensed persons for personal protection, provided the handguns are not used to hunt or take or to attempt to take wildlife (including persons while bow hunting) except as otherwise provided by this regulation.
29. **Users should refer to WMA Regulation 220-2-.55 for the complete list of WMA specific regulations.**

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 U.S. Forest Service with financial assistance from the Alabama Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation.