

WILLIAM R. IRELAND, SR.—CAHABA RIVER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA
(Bibb & Shelby Counties)
ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES
Hunting Regulations – September 2018 – August 2019

PERMITS: Gun deer permits will be issued **daily** from the checking station on the Nov. 23-24 & Jan. 26 gun deer hunts only. This map shall serve as a permit for all other deer hunting, small game hunting, and turkey hunting. Maps are available at the self-service box located at the checking station; locally at Tractor Supply Co., Hwy. 25, Montevallo; Helena Hardware, Hwy. 91, Helena; McKinney Wrecker Service, West Blocton; Crossroads, Hwy. 22 and 119, Montevallo; Jones, Hwy. 22 and 17, Montevallo; Chevron, Co. Rd. 17, Helena; Coosa Mart, Hwy. 17, Helena; or via the internet at www.outdooralabama.com. Requests for small game, archery deer, youth deer, primitive weapons deer, and all turkey permits by mail should be sent to Area Biologist Chas Moore, P.O. Box 318, Calera, AL 35040 (office phone (205) 339-5716). Include a large, self-addressed stamped envelope and current hunting license number. All deer killed on Nov. 24-25 gun deer hunts **must** be checked in at the checking station on the day of the hunt. All deer killed during all other hunts, all turkeys killed during any turkey season, and all feral swine killed during any hunt **must** be reported by completing the self-service form at the checking station, kiosk, or by contacting the Area Biologist. **Trapping** permits must be obtained from the Area Biologist.

LOCATION OF CHECKING STATION: Approximately 2 miles west of Pea Ridge at 7774 Hwy. 10, Pea Ridge, AL, 35115. **Checking station will be open one hour before sunrise to one hour after sunset on the Nov. 23-24 and Jan. 26 gun deer hunts only. All deer harvested must be brought to the check station for data collection. On all other Gun deer & Primitive Weapon gun hunts listed below, the checking station will be open from 10:00 am-2:00 pm to collect data on harvested deer and provide additional assistance to WMA users.**

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 or Wildlife Heritage 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.
- 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.
- Individuals ages 16 through 64 that utilize the shooting range on William R. Ireland, Sr.-Cahaba River WMA are required to possess a valid Wildlife Heritage License, State hunting license, WMA license, or resident annual freshwater fishing license.
- Antlered buck restrictions apply for Zone A. Antlered bucks in Zone A must have at least three (3) antler points (1 inch or longer) on at least one main beam. 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:

Zones A & B	(Youth)	Stalk Hunting Hunter's Choice: Nov. 10-11. Two deer per day - one unantlered deer and one antlered buck. Archery hunting only on Cahaba River Refuge. No gun deer hunting permitted on Cahaba River Refuge.
	(Gun)	Stalk Hunting Hunter's Choice: Nov. 23-24. Two deer per day - one unantlered deer and one antlered buck. Check Station will be open from 4:30 am to 6:30 pm All deer harvested must be brought to the Check Station for data collection. *Antlered buck restrictions apply for Zone A. Archery hunting only on Cahaba River Refuge. No gun deer hunting permitted on Cahaba River Refuge.
	(Primitive Weapons)	Stalk Hunting Antlered Bucks Only: Nov. 17, Nov. 30-Dec. 1, Dec. 14-16, Dec. 21-23, Jan. 11-13, and Jan. 25-27 (Jan. 26 Bonus Buck Day, must be validated by WFF personnel at check station prior to leaving Area). On Jan. 26 th (bonus buck day) all hunters must obtain permit at check station prior to hunting. On all other gun deer hunts the check station will be open from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm to collect data on harvested deer and provide additional assistance to WMA users. One antlered buck per day. *Antlered buck restrictions apply for Zone A. Archery hunting only on Cahaba River Refuge. No gun deer hunting permitted on Cahaba River Refuge.
	(Archery)	Stalk Hunting Hunter's Choice: Nov. 14-16 and Jan. 18-20. Two deer per day – one unantlered deer and one antlered buck. On all primitive weapon deer hunts the check station will be open from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm to collect data on harvested deer and provide additional assistance to WMA users. *Antlered buck restrictions apply for Zone A. Archery hunting only on Cahaba River Refuge. No gun deer hunting permitted on Cahaba River Refuge.
		Stalk Hunting Hunter's Choice: Oct. 15 – Feb. 10. Two deer per day - one unantlered deer and one antlered buck. *Antlered buck restrictions apply for Zone A. Archery deer hunting only on Cahaba River Refuge. Archery hunters must obtain deer permit on days of hunter's choice gun hunts and abide by all gun deer hunt regulations.

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

Zones A & B

TURKEY:	(Youth) (Physically Disabled) (Regular)	Mar. 9-10 (daylight hours). Gobblers only. All successful hunters must record their harvest at the check station, or notify the Area Biologist. Mar. 15 (daylight hours). Gobblers only. All successful hunters must record their harvest at the check station, or notify the Area Biologist. Mar. 16 – Apr. 30 (daylight hours). Gobblers only. All successful hunters must record their harvest at the check station, or notify the Area Biologist.
DOVE:		State seasons (12:00 noon until sunset). Wednesdays and Saturdays only. No hunting on days of scheduled youth, gun, and primitive weapons deer hunts. No open season on the Cahaba River Refuge.
QUAIL:		Nov. 3 – Feb. 28. No hunting on days of scheduled youth, gun, and primitive weapons deer hunts.
RABBIT & SQUIRREL:		Sep. 15 – Mar. 3. No hunting on days of scheduled youth, gun, and primitive weapons deer hunts. Fox squirrel season closed during February and March.
RACCOON & OPOSSUM:		Sep. 1 – Mar. 3. (nighttime hours only). No hunting on nights preceding or nights of scheduled youth, gun, and primitive weapons deer hunts.
BOBCAT, COYOTE, FERAL SWINE & FOX:		Open during any other scheduled WMA Hunting Season using weapons and ammunition approved for those hunts. No Dogs Allowed. Daylight Hours Only. One fox per day.
STARLINGS & CROWS:		Sep. 1 – Feb. 28. No hunting on days of scheduled youth, gun, and primitive weapons deer hunts. No open season on the Cahaba River Refuge.
SNIPE:		Nov. 10 – Feb. 24. No hunting on days of primitive weapons and gun deer hunts. No hunting on days of scheduled gun and primitive weapons deer hunts.
WOODCOCK:		Dec. 14 – Jan. 27. No hunting on days of scheduled gun and primitive weapons deer hunts. No open season on the Cahaba River Refuge.
WATERFOWL:		State seasons (½-hour before sunrise until sunset). No hunting on days of scheduled gun and primitive weapons deer hunts. No open season on the Cahaba River Refuge.
FURBEARER TRAPPING: (excluding feral swine):		Nov. 3 – Feb. 28. Trapping permits must be obtained from Area Biologist. All trappers must wear hunter's orange while trapping on days of gun deer hunts. No open season on the Cahaba River Refuge.

BAG LIMITS: Deer (antlered bucks only hunts) – Zone A: Minimum of three (3) points, 1-inch or longer, on at least one antler – 1 a day (statewide antlered buck season bag limit applies), Zone B: antlers visible above the natural hairline – 1 a day (statewide antlered buck season bag limit applies; deer (archery, primitive weapons, hunter's choice gun hunts) - either-sex (except spotted fawns) – Zone A: Two deer per day-one unantlered deer and one antlered buck with a minimum of 3 points, 1 inch or greater on at least one antler (statewide antlered buck season bag limit applies), Zone B - Two deer per day-one unantlered deer and one antlered buck with antlers visible above the natural hairline (statewide antlered buck season bag limit applies); squirrel – 8 a day; rabbit – 8 a day; quail – 8 a day; woodcock – 3 a day; snipe – 8 a day; raccoon – 5 a day; opossum – no limit; fox – 1 a day; bobcat – no limit; mourning dove – 15 a day; crow, starling, and blackbird – no limit; waterfowl – State and Federal regulations apply; turkey (gobblers only) – 1 a day (5 per season); feral swine – no limit; coyote – no limit.

PERMITTED FIREARMS, BOW AND ARROW, & FALCONRY:

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.
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 open designated target ranges and except bow fishing equipment, without a valid permit. A permit is valid only during scheduled WMA seasons during legal hunting hours and only with the required hunting license(s) and stamps and only with weapons and ammunition permitted for hunting the wildlife listed on permit. See (24) for limited exception for certain lawfully licensed handguns possessed for personal protection.
2. To conduct organized man drives during stalk hunts outside the hours of 10:00 AM- 2:00 PM.
3. 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).
4. To use dogs for hunting, training or any purpose from March 4 until the opening of the following fall gun season.
5. For any person under 16 years of age to hunt on any WMA unless accompanied by a licensed adult hunter, at least 21 years of age, at all times.
6. For any person to carry in or on a vehicle, any of the following: any firearms [including pistols/handguns, except as described in (25)] 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 (25) for limited exception for certain lawfully licensed handguns possessed for personal protection.
7. To camp on any WMA except in designated sites. **No camping on the Cahaba River Refuge.** Individuals or groups may camp on WMAs for a period not to exceed nine (9) days in any thirty (30) day period. Campfires must be extinguished before departing. No warming fires shall be permitted away from camping area.
8. To kill or willfully molest any species of wildlife except those designated for hunting.
9. To discharge fireworks at any time.
10. To discharge firearms for target practice provided, except on the designated target range. All range users shall abide by the listed rules. The range may be closed as necessary by the Area Biologist.
11. To hunt or discharge firearms within 150 yards of any camping area, dwelling, dam, or active timber or mining operation, 100 yards of any paved public road or highway; within a posted safety zone or on Sunday within one/half mile of any church or from within the right-of-way of any developed road which is open to vehicular traffic.
12. **To possess open alcoholic beverages outside designated campgrounds.**
13. 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 (25) for limited exception).
14. To transport deer killed during the gun hunts from the WMA before being checked at the designated checking station, during the mandatory checking station operation dates above, or kiosk for scientific data.
15. 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.
16. For any unauthorized person at any time to possess and/or operate ANY UNLICENSED MOTOR DRIVEN VEHICLE (2, 3, 4, or 6 wheel) on **William R. Ireland, Sr. – Cahaba River WMA.**
17. For any unauthorized person at any time to operate any licensed motor scooter, motorcycle, trail bike, ATV, or other motor driven vehicle on the **William R. Ireland, Sr. – Cahaba River WMA.** Utility right-of-ways are not open to vehicular traffic.
18. For any unauthorized person at any time to ride or possess horses except on roads and trails open to four-wheel motorized vehicles or on roads and trails or in areas designated as open to horses, (except for raccoon hunters during the legal nighttime raccoon season where authorized). **A valid WMA license and a valid WMA permit are required to ride and/or possess horses on William R. Ireland, Sr. – Cahaba River WMA. No horses on the Cahaba River Refuge.**
19. For any person to hunt deer or feral swine on days of scheduled youth, gun, or primitive weapons deer 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.
20. 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.
21. **For any person to deposit, distribute or scatter grain, salt, litter, or any other materials on any WMA.**
22. To damage or remove any artifacts, trees, crops, or other 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 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.
25. 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 except as otherwise provided by this regulation.
26. For any person to field-dress or move any harvested antlered buck or turkey without first properly recording it on the hunter's Antlered Deer Harvest Record or Turkey Harvest Record form.
27. To use the target range without a valid State hunting license, WMA license, Wildlife Heritage license, or freshwater fishing license.
28. **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 Forever Wild Land Trust, Hancock Forest Management, Resource Management Services, Inc., USX Corporation and Valley Creek Land & Timber managed by Molpus Timberlands, LLC. and United States Fish and Wildlife Service.