

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 2020- August 2021

PERMITS: Daily permits for Zone B gun deer hunts will be issued from the Black Warrior Headquarters check 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 (Hunters using the WMA App to check in and out need no daily permit). Season map/permits for all hunts, except Zone B gun deer hunts, may be obtained from the selfservice issuing station located at the management area headquarters (Hunters can also use the WMA App to check in and out); 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, feral swine and small game harvested during any hunt shall be reported by using the WMA App or logged at the check station located on the Northwest Road (FS Road 208) prior to leaving the wildlife management area. *Special buck antler restrictions apply to all deer hunting on Zone B.

NOTE: • A State Hunting License, Wildlife Management Area (WMA) License and a WMA permit are required when hunting deer, turkey, or waterfowl on a WMA. For residents, a State hunting license, Wildlife Heritage License or State Fishing License and WMA permit are required for hunting small game, except waterfowl on WMA. 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).

• 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 WMA. 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.

In addition to appropriate licenses, a WMA Map Permit is required in App or paper form on this WMA for all hunters 16 years of age and older. Hunters who fully complete the WMA Check-In/Check Out on the Outdoor Alabama app are not required to be in possession of a paper copy of the WMA Map Permit. Check-In and Check-Out must be completed upon arrival and departing the WMA. If not using this feature of the app, hunters must have a signed paper copy of the WMA Map Permit in their possession.

HUNTING DATES:

DEER: <u>Zone A</u>

Zone B

(Gun) Stalk Hunting Hunter's Choice: Nov. 7. One deer a day, either one unantlered deer or one antlered.

Stalk Hunting Antlered Bucks Only: Nov. 12 - 14, Nov. 26 - Nov. 29, and Dec. 17-20. One antlered buck a day.

(Primitive Weapons) Stalk Hunting Hunter's Choice: Nov. 2-6. One deer a day, either one unantlered deer or one antlered buck. (Archery) Stalk Hunting Hunters' Choice: Oct. 1 – Jan. 15. One deer a day, either one unantlered deer or one antlered buck.

Stalk Hunting Antlered Bucks Only: Jan. 16 – Jan. 27. One antlered buck a day.

Archery hunting is permitted in zone closed to gun 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.

(Gun) Stalk Hunting Antlered Bucks Only: Nov. 19 - 22, Dec. 4-6 and Dec. 11-13. One antlered buck a day. It is MANDATORY to bring all deer

harvested on this hunt to the check station for analysis and data collection *Antlered buck restrictions apply.

(Primitive Weapons) Stalk Hunting Hunter's Choice: Nov. 2-6. One deer a day, either one unantlered deer or one antlered buck.

*Antlered buck restrictions apply.

(Archery) Stalk Hunting Hunter's Choice: Oct. 1 – Jan. 15. One deer a day, either one unantlered deer or one antlered buck. *Antlered buck restrictions apply.

> Stalk Hunting Antlered Bucks Only: Jan. 16-Jan. 27. One antlered buck a day. *Antlered buck restrictions apply. Archery hunting is permitted in zone closed to gun 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.

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

Zones A & B

TURKEY: Mar. 20 (daylight until 1:00 p.m.). Gobblers only. All hunters must record their harvest at the check station or WMA App. (Youth) (Physically Disabled) Mar. 26 (daylight until 1:00 p.m.). Gobblers only. All hunters must record their harvest at the check station or WMA App.

(Regular) Mar. 27 – May 2 (daylight until 1:00 p.m.). Gobblers only. All hunters must record their harvest at the check station or WMA App. Nov. 7-Feb. 28. No hunting on days of gun and primitive weapons deer hunts.

QUAIL: RABBIT & SQUIRREL: Sept. 12-Mar. 7. No hunting on days of gun and primitive weapons deer hunts. Fox squirrel season closed.

RACCOON & OPOSSUM: Sept. 1 – Feb. 28 (nighttime hours only). No hunting on nights preceding or nights of 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 a day. Sept.12 – Feb. 28. No hunting on days of gun and primitive weapons deer hunts.

CROW: WOODCOCK: State Seasons. No hunting on days of gun and primitive weapons deer hunts.

FERAL SWINE (Special Season): Sept. 1-15 and Mar. 1-14. Permitted firearms & 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

Oct. 31-Feb. 28. Trapping permits must be obtained from Area Biologist. All trappers must wear hunter's orange while trapping on days of gun (excluding feral swine):

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 dayone 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:

Refer to 220-2-.55 at www.outdooralabama.com/wildllife-management-areas/wma-rules-and-regulations

IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL:

- 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 WMA 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 (27) for limited exception)
- 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).
- To use dogs for feral swine or small game hunting where dogs are expressly prohibited.
- To use dogs for hunting, training or any purpose from the end of small game season until August 31.
- 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.
- 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. 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 (27) for limited exception) To camp in the WMA 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.
- To kill or willfully molest any species of wildlife except those designated for hunting.
- To discharge fireworks at any time.
- To discharge firearms for target practice except on the designated target range.
- 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. 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 (27) for limited exception)
- To transport deer, turkey, or swine killed during any hunts from the area before being checked or reported at the designated check stations or by WMA app as described above. 14.
- 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.
- For any unauthorized person to possess and/or operate ANY UNLICENSED MOTOR DRIVEN VEHICLE on the WMA. 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 WMA except (1) on roads open to four-wheel motorized vehicles; and (2) in areas, roads, and trails designated as open to horses. For any person to hunt any wildlife species (except turkey, migratory birds and while hunting legally designated species during legal nighttime hours) without wearing the minimum requirement of hunter orange
- 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.
- For any person to deposit, distribute or scatter grain, salt, litter, or any other materials on any WMA maintained by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources prior to receiving approval from said
- 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.
- To damage or remove any artifacts, trees, crops, plants, dirt, gravel or sod without legal authorization. To erect or use a permanent tree stand or scaffold without written permission from the landowners.
- 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.
- 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. To violate any posted restrictions on entry, hunting, fishing, or other conduct.
- 25. 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.
- Nothing in this regulation prohibits or requires a WMA 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.

 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.