



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 2023 – August 2024

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 in the dewatering unit is closed on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. The last 14 days of the waterfowl season is open all 14 days.

HUNTING DATES & BAG LIMITS:

DEER:

(Archery) **Oct. 14-Nov.17** – Two deer a day, 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:	
(Youth / Active Military / Veterans)	Nov. 18, 2023, and Feb. 3, 2024 – State bag limits. 25 shell limit does not apply to youth on these days.
(Special Teal)	Sept. 9-24 – (Dewatering Unit open 7 days/week) State bag limit.
(Duck, Coot, Merganser)	Nov. 24 - 25 and Dec. 2 - Jan. 28 – State bag limit.
(All Geese)	Sept. 2 - Oct.1, Oct. 14-28, Nov. 24-25, and Dec. 2-Jan. 28 – State bag limits.
(Sandhill Crane)	Dec. 2-Jan. 7, Jan. 15-30 – Sunrise to noon. 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. 1 - March 3 – Fox squirrel season closed during February and March. Bag limit: 8 squirrels per day. 8 rabbits per day.
CROW:	Sept. 1 - March 3 – 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 - March 3 – Nighttime hours only. 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

BOWFISHING: March 1 - Aug. 31. Nongame fish only.

THE FOLLOWING APPLIES TO THE SWAN CREEK DEWATERING UNIT

- 1. It shall be unlawful for any person to fish from October 31st through the second Saturday in February.
- 2. All activity is prohibited when gates are closed. There shall be no activity from 7:00 PM to 3:00 AM, during the periods when gates are open. Gates are opened the morning of the November youth/ military waterfowl hunt day and closed that night. Gates are opened the opening day of regular waterfowl season. Gates are closed each Monday night and opened each Friday morning of regular waterfowl season, until the last fourteen days of regular waterfowl season during which gates remain open. Gates are closed the night of the last day of regular waterfowl season and opened the morning of the February youth/military waterfowl hunt day and remain open until June 1st.
- It shall be unlawful to use airboats.
- It shall be unlawful for any person to leave any vehicle parked at the established launching sites. Hunters must use designated parking areas. However, physically disabled persons with approved handicap vehicles may be parked at the designated handicap parking location at the main
- 5. It shall be unlawful to hunt waterfowl within 150 yards of an occupied or unoccupied blind.

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.

- 1. 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.
- 2. To discharge firearms for target practice except on designated target ranges in accordance with listed rules during posted times and dates.
- 3. For any person, except authorized personnel, to operate any motor-driven vehicle behind locked gates, barricaded roads, or signs which prohibits vehicular traffic.
- 4. For any unauthorized person to possess and/or operate ANY UNLICENSED MOTOR DRIVEN VEHI-**CLE 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.
- 5. To damage or remove any artifacts, trees, firewood, plants, dirt, gravel, or sod without
- 6. To erect any permanent tree stand; install any screw-in style steps, spikes, or nails; or otherwise
- 7. 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 OR code or visit OutdoorAlabama.com/WMARules for the complete WMA rules and regulation 220-2-.55