

White-tailed Deer and Elk Program Report

2015-16



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I. INTRODUCTION

Tennessee has abundant white-tailed deer populations resulting in good deer hunting. However, having abundant populations has not always been the case. As late as the 1940's, the white-tailed deer population in Tennessee was estimated at fewer than 1,000 animals (Nichols 1978). Fortunately, major restocking efforts from the 1930's through the 1980's have resulted in historic populations and good hunting. The annual white-tailed deer harvest in Tennessee now frequently exceeds 160,000 animals (Anderson et al., 2013).

Though early records are somewhat sketchy, elk (*C. Canadensis*) were apparently abundant in Tennessee prior to settlement by European explorers and colonists (Wathen et al., 1997). Other records indicate the last elk in Tennessee was killed in Obion County in 1865 (Murie 1951). Due to reintroduction efforts from 2000 to 2008, elk once again roam Tennessee and are of growing significance to its residents. Elk hunting opportunities are limited, but hunting for these permit holders is usually great.

II. GENERAL PROGRAM HISTORY

White-tailed deer

Past troubles for white-tailed deer populations in Tennessee have been traced back as far as 1896 when Rhoads, an early scientific writer, reported they had been exterminated over the greater part of Tennessee (Schultz 1955). Declines in white-tailed deer populations in Tennessee continued with fewer than 1,000 animals being reported in the 1940's (Nichols 1978). Extensive habitat loss from agricultural clearing and heavy exploitation for hides and venison nearly resulted in white-tailed deer being extirpated from Tennessee. As evidenced by early hide export records, white-tailed deer were likely abundant prior to these events (Dickson 2001).

Beginning in the 1930's, several public agencies began white-tailed deer restoration efforts on a few public lands in Tennessee. The Game and Fish Division of the Tennessee Department of Conservation, United States Forest Service, Tennessee Valley Authority, and the United States Navy restocked white-tailed deer at this time (TWRA Wildlife Research Report 91-1). The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA), known then as the Tennessee Game and Fish Commission, began restocking public lands in 1949 and private lands in the mid-1950's. Nine-thousand deer were released in Tennessee by these agencies from 1940-1985. White-tailed deer stockings included deer from Michigan, Maryland, Wisconsin, North Carolina, Virginia, and Texas. Once adequate populations of deer were built from these initial stockings, instate deer became the primary source for later restocking efforts (TWRA Wildlife Research Report 91-1).

The first white-tailed deer hunting seasons, limited to public lands, were established in Tennessee in the 1940's. Private land deer hunting opportunities began in the 1950's (Nichols 1978). By 1990, there were no counties in the state closed to deer hunting (TWRA Wildlife Research Report 91-1).

TWRA's success in increasing the white-tailed deer population and improving hunting has continued to this day. The white-tailed deer population is now estimated at over 600,000 and the annual harvest exceeds 160,000 (Figure 1). This is impressive considering less than 200 deer were reported harvested in 1978 (Deer Operational Plan 1979).

Elk

The eastern subspecies of North American Elk was present throughout Tennessee before European settlement. In the 1800's, habitat destruction and overharvest led to the extirpation of this subspecies in Tennessee (O'gara and Dundas 2002). Accounts from early settlers indicate elk were found in Middle Tennessee as late as 1825. "In the mountains of the east and in the swamps of the western part of the state it held out a bit longer...", apparently the last one having been shot in 1865 (Ganier 1928).

As a result of successful elk reintroductions in other states, TWRA began planning in 1996 to reintroduce elk to Tennessee (Wathen et al., 1997). TWRA selected a 271,145 hectare elk restoration zone on the North Cumberland Wildlife Management Area (NCWMA), formally known as Royal Blue WMA, located in Anderson, Campbell, Claiborne, Morgan and Scott counties (Figure 2). NCWMA was selected due to its close proximity to Kentucky's elk restoration zone, low human population, its potential elk hunting and viewing opportunities, and the near absence of nearby agricultural crops elk may damage (Wathen et al., 1997).

Initially, TWRA biologists believed NCWMA habitats would allow herd expansion up to 2,000 animals. As a result, plans called for a total of 400 elk to be released over four years, beginning in 2000 (Wathen et al., 1997). Elk Island National Park (EINP) in Alberta, Canada was chosen as the source of elk due to its long history of disease-free animals. The first release of elk occurred on December 19, 2000 at Horsebone Ridge on NCWMA where 50 were released. In 2001 and 2002, an additional 36 and 50 elk were released near Puncheon Camp Creek. Unfortunately after 2002, elk from EINP were no longer available due to new restrictions on interstate movement of cervids because of chronic wasting disease concerns. However in 2003,

Land between the Lakes (LBL) National Recreation Area had 31 elk, originating from EINP, available for TWRA (Lupardus 2005). TWRA imported and released these elk, but was unable to obtain additional elk from LBL until 2008; when it obtained and released 34 more.

Although TWRA's original plans were to release 400 elk, only 201 have been reintroduced in Tennessee (Steve Bennett, personal communication, 2014). The inability to import elk from EINP, due to import restrictions, and LBL, due to a lack of surplus animals, has resulted in TWRA not having a source of elk. If situations change enabling EINP or LBL to once again be a source, TWRA will consider importing more elk into Tennessee.

From TWRA staff recommendations, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission (TWRC) established the first Tennessee elk hunting season in 2009. The five day season began October 19th and ended October 23rd. Four fortunate hunters were randomly selected through a TWRA drawing and a fifth participant was the winner of an auction administered by a nongovernmental organization raising funds for TWRA's Elk Program. Based on the results of an additional drawing, hunters were assigned one of five elk hunting zones (EHZs) established on NCWMA (Figure 3). Every hunter successfully harvested a bull during the first hunt and subsequent hunts have yielded similarly impressive results as well (Table 1).

A few changes in elk hunting opportunity have occurred since the first hunt in 2009. First, a young sportsman elk permit was added in 2012; enabling a youth to hunt the entire NCWMA the weekend following the other elk hunt. The young sportsman permit recipient is selected through a TWRA drawing as well. Secondly, two EHZs were added to the original five on NCWMA. However, two of the original ones were closed indefinitely resulting in five EHZs

remaining open to hunters (Figure 4). All permits still have a bag limit of one antlered elk (Anderson et al., 2013).

III. 2015-16 HARVEST

White-tailed deer

The statewide white-tailed deer harvest for 2015-16 was 167,339 (Table 2). For the purposes of this report we present combined harvests of archery, muzzleloader, and gun hunters. The harvest was consistent with other recent annual totals only increasing 1.5% from the 2014-15 harvest (Figure 1). Male deer comprised of 54% (90,291) of the harvest while females comprised of 46% (77,048). Conversely, antlered deer (i.e., deer with antlers a minimum of three inches in length) comprised of 47% (78,821) of the harvest while antlerless deer (i.e., deer with antlers less than 3 inches in length, unantlered does, and buck fawns) comprised of 53% (88,518).

TWRA's Region II accounted for 34% of the statewide harvest. TWRA's Region I came in a close second, accounting for 32% of the overall harvest and Regions III and IV reported 18% and 12%, respectively. Only 4% of the harvest occurred on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), similar to the previous deer season (Table 2).

Although the statewide antlered buck limit was reduced from 3 to 2, hunter success and weapon type harvest data from the 2015-2016 white-tailed deer season was similar to recent years. Thirty-nine percent of Tennessee's estimated 240,000 deer hunters were successful in harvesting at least one deer (Table 3). Twenty-eight percent of deer hunters harvested an antlered deer and 19% harvested antlerless deer. Sixty-eight percent of the hunters who harvested deer killed less than three (Table 3). Gun hunters killed 67% of the harvested deer,

and 22% were harvested by muzzleloader hunters. Archery hunters, including crossbow hunters, harvested 12% of the deer. Crossbow hunters only harvested 5% of the total kill while users of other archery equipment harvested 7%.

Giles County led the state in deer harvest with 4,736 (Table 4). Other top five counties included Henry, Fayette, Hardeman, and Montgomery Counties. Regarding the number of bucks killed with nine or more points, Montgomery, Hickman, Giles, Henry, and Dickson led the state (Table 5). In regards to WMAs, Land between the Lakes (LBL) WMA led the state in harvest and number of bucks with nine points or more taken (Table 6 and 7).

TWRA personnel collected biological data from 3,625 white-tailed deer during the 2015-16 deer season. Twenty percent of the antlered bucks (i.e., yearlings and older) sampled were 3.5 years or older (Table 8 and Figures 5 and 6). This was 1% higher than the 2014-15 deer season. Thirty-seven percent of the buck harvest comprised of yearlings (i.e., 1.5 years-old), matching the all-time low from the previous year (Figure 7). Age data from 1,705 deer harvested on WMAs revealed 26% percent of bucks from WMAs were 3.5 years-old or older, whereas 32% percent were 1.5 years-old (Table 9 and Figure 8). For WMA specific harvest data search the Hunters Toolbox at:

<https://jc.activeoutdoorsolutions.com/TNHFIInternetHarvest/app/mainWmaReport.do>.

The 2015-16 white-tailed deer season marked a significant change in the statewide antlered buck bag limit from three per season to two. The most significant statistical result of the reduction in the antlered buck limit was a decrease in antlerless bucks (i.e., bucks with antlers less than 3 inches in length) harvested. The antlerless buck harvest (3,060) declined 71% compared to the previous five year average (10,720) (Figure 9). The buck (i.e., male deer)

harvest decreased by 6% and the doe (i.e., female deer) harvest increased by 11% from the previous year.

Another significant change starting with the 2015-16 deer season was the addition of a 5-day Unit L private lands antlerless hunt. The hunt occurred following the end of the regular gun season and prior to the January Young Sportsman's hunt. The additional hunting opportunity resulted in a harvest of 3,277 deer.

Elk

The 2015 elk hunt took place October 19st through October 25th. Hunting on the first five days was limited to the four hunters drawn during the regular elk hunt drawing and another hunter who purchased the auction elk tag, whereas the final two days were limited to a youth hunter drawn during the young sportsman drawing. All hunters, except the youth hunter, participated in an additional drawing to determine which elk hunting zone they would hunt (Figure 4). EHZ 1 (Chestnut Ridge and Fork Mountain) and EHZ 4 (Anderson and Massengale Mountain) were closed to hunting in 2015, but two additional units (Braden Mountain and Tackett Creek) were established to keep the number of open units at five. The youth was allowed to hunt all open zones. In total, four elk were harvested by the six hunters for an overall success rate of 67%. Three bulls were harvested during the first five days and another bull was taken during the youth-only hunting days (Table 1).

IV. 2015 ELK POPULATION ESTIMATION

Elk population estimates are conducted annually using mark-resight surveys analyzed using the Bowden estimator in program NOREMARK. To facilitate this, an aerial survey is conducted within one week of the mark-resight survey to determine the total number of elk with

active (i.e., working) collars on the study area. Elk with active radio collars are considered marked animals, whereas elk with inactive radio collars are considered unmarked.

Ground survey periods begin in early November and extend into early December. Observations are conducted opportunistically by WMA staff and volunteers throughout the survey period. Additional systematic surveys are conducted during intensive periods (e.g., 2-3 days) with up to six vehicles being used to search for elk on or near NCWMA.

During the ground survey phase all elk observed are noted. If an elk is seen with a collar, a receiver is used to determine if the collar is active and elk with working collars are recorded as marked. No elk are located by following/using transmitter signals. When elk are sighted, the observer records group size, gender, age (calf or adult), and animal identification (radio frequency) if present (Anderson 2009).

Region IV staff and volunteers observed 362 elk during the 2015 survey period. Using the Bowden estimator for mark-resight data, we estimate an elk population of 405 animals (95% Confidence Interval: 197-833) in the Elk Restoration Zone (ERZ) (Figure 10).

The population estimate increased 48 % from 2014 and shows consistent growth from the restoration beginning. Due to the large confidence interval (197-833), it is difficult to say how much the population actually increased over the previous year, but the 2015 population estimate falls within reasonable bounds of the exponential growth curve fitted to data collected on the North Cumberland Elk Herd (Figure 1). These results indicate the population has a positive growth trajectory.

V. 2015 CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE (CWD) SURVEILLANCE

Even though CWD has never been detected in Tennessee, TWRA personnel have conducted CWD surveillance since 2002. Initially, TWRA personnel sampled over 1,000 white-tailed deer annually, but biologists realized these sampling efforts were likely insufficient to detect CWD in wild cervid populations. However, TWRA personnel have continued to test a minimum of 200 white-tailed deer per year. In regards to elk, CWD testing of hunter-harvested elk has continued since the first elk hunting season in 2009.

TWRA personnel sampled 286 whitetails and four elk in 2015. All samples were submitted to the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study College of Veterinary Medicine for analysis and none tested positive for CWD.

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APPENDIX

Table 1. 2009-2015 Tennessee Elk Hunt (NCWMA) results. Number of points indicated as 3x3.

Year	Zone 1	Zone 2	Zone 3	Zone 4	Zone 5	Zone 6	Youth	Total Harvest
2009	6x6	6x6	7x6	7x6	5x6			5
2010	5x5		5x4	3x3				3
2011	5x5	7x6		5x4				3
2012	8x6	7x6	5x5	7x6	6x6		5x5	6
2013	5x4	7x6		7x6	5x5		1x1	5
2014	5x5		5x5	6x6	6x6		8x6	5
2015		3x5			4x5	6x6	5x6	4

Table 2. Annual white-tailed harvest in Tennessee for 2011-2015.

	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16
Region 1*	57,828	60,914	53,775	53,461	53,397 (32%)
Region 2*	53,787	59,144	58,676	57,397	57,588 (34%)
Region 3*	30,080	30,004	28,944	27,911	29,377 (18%)
Region 4*	20,767	21,354	21,540	19,595	20,543 (12%)
Wildlife Management Areas**	5,240	5,540	5,812	6,511	6,434 (4%)
State Total	167,702	176,956	168,461	164,875	167,339

* private land harvest

** statewide harvest on WMAs

Table 3. 2015-16 White-tailed deer hunter success based on an estimated 240,000 hunters. Bonus deer may be harvested on select WMAs, the Tennessee statewide buck limit is 2.

	Number of Hunters that Harvest:										Total Harvest	Successful Hunters
	1 deer	2 deer	3 deer	4 deer	5 deer	6 deer	7 deer	8 deer	9 deer	10+ deer		
Antlered	54,615	11,785	199	10	1	0	0	0	0	1	78,838	66,611
Antlerless	28,409	9,554	3,779	1,594	799	448	227	137	75	146	88,540	45,168
Total	54,910	21,948	8,565	3,814	1,892	965	543	321	183	349	167,377	93,490

Table 4. 2015-2016 Tennessee white-tailed deer harvest by county.

County	Total Harvest	County	Total Harvest	County	Total Harvest
Anderson	1,089	Hamilton	2,044	Morgan	1,528
Bedford	1,934	Hancock	658	Obion	1,808
Benton	2,119	Hardeman	4,135	Overton	1,353
Bledsoe	1,055	Hardin	3,066	Perry	2,028
Blount	587	Hawkins	2,103	Pickett	366
Bradley	942	Haywood	2,073	Polk	135
Campbell	1,015	Henderson	1,842	Putnam	1,396
Cannon	1,113	Henry	4,577	Rhea	1,690
Carroll	3,242	Hickman	3,174	Roane	2,536
Carter	1,191	Houston	1,433	Robertson	1,661
Cheatham	1,340	Humphreys	2,790	Rutherford	1,950
Chester	1,140	Jackson	1,948	Scott	1,342
Claiborne	1,693	Jefferson	786	Sequatchie	677
Clay	866	Johnson	1,051	Sevier	404
Cocke	761	Knox	1,183	Shelby	1,308
Coffee	1,378	Lake	154	Smith	2,394
Crockett	593	Lauderdale	1,110	Stewart	2,468
Cumberland	2,086	Lawrence	3,043	Sullivan	1,907
Davidson	1,328	Lewis	1,081	Sumner	3,023
Decatur	1,461	Lincoln	3,729	Tipton	1,086
DeKalb	1,078	Loudon	1,161	Trousdale	596
Dickson	2,659	McMinn	1,617	Unicoi	331
Dyer	600	McNairy	2,377	Union	409
Fayette	4,474	Macon	1,105	Van Buren	1,121
Fentress	955	Madison	2,984	Warren	786
Franklin	3,413	Marion	1,404	Washington	712
Gibson	1,631	Marshall	2,328	Wayne	2,949
Giles	4,736	Maury	3,255	Weakley	2,898
Grainger	733	Meigs	1,155	White	1,060
Greene	1,038	Monroe	624	Williamson	1,954
Grundy	955	Montgomery	3,888	Wilson	2,569
Hamblen	390	Moore	988		

Table 5. 2015-16 Estimated harvest of white-tailed bucks with nine or more points by county, listed from greatest to least.

County	Total Harvest	County	Total Harvest	County	Total Harvest
Montgomery	435	Bedford	149	White	66
Hickman	349	Benton	147	Claiborne	65
Giles	348	Scott	143	Clay	65
Henry	348	Fentress	140	Greene	64
Dickson	347	Rhea	119	Washington	59
Maury	326	Marion	118	Anderson	58
Sumner	325	Henderson	117	Grundy	54
Lincoln	321	Jackson	116	Sequatchie	54
Humphreys	306	Putnam	112	McMinn	53
Stewart	291	Lewis	111	Moore	53
Fayette	283	McNairy	106	Johnson	52
Williamson	280	Shelby	106	Chester	51
Robertson	252	Smith	106	Knox	49
Franklin	234	Roane	105	Trousdale	47
Weakley	221	Lauderdale	103	Bradley	46
Wayne	210	Bledsoe	96	Crocket	46
Davidson	208	Decatur	96	Warren	45
Hardeman	208	Van Buren	96	Meigs	44
Lawrence	206	Hamilton	95	Cocke	38
Perry	196	Sullivan	91	Monroe	38
Cheatham	193	Macon	88	Pickett	36
Carroll	192	Overton	84	Jefferson	28
Wilson	190	Gibson	83	Blount	27
Hardin	189	Campbell	80	Hancock	27
Cumberland	178	Dekalb	80	Lake	25
Madison	174	Dyer	74	Sevier	23
Marshall	166	Tipton	74	Unicoi	21
Obion	164	Carter	73	Union	19
Rutherford	161	Hawkins	71	Polk	17
Morgan	159	Coffee	69	Grainger	14
Haywood	154	Loudon	67	Hamblen	2
Houston	152	Cannon	66		

Table 6. 2015-16 Total white-tailed deer harvest in Tennessee by WMA.

WMA	Harvest	WMA	Harvest	WMA	Harvest
AEDC	289	Flintville Hatchery	7	North Cherokee	236
Alpine Mountain	8	Foothills	5	North Chickamauga Creek	13
Arnold Hollow	22	Forks Of The River	3	North Cumberland	198
Bark Camp Barrens	64	Fort Ridge	1	Oak Ridge	247
Barkley	31	Fourth Fractional Township	2	Obion River	66
Bean Switch Refuge	10	Gallatin Steam Plant	16	Old Hickory Lock 5 Refuge	1
Bear Hollow Mountain	96	Gooch	19	Old Hickory	75
Beaver Dam Creek	107	Haley-Jaqueth	5	Owl Hollow Mill	33
Big Sandy	28	Happy Hollow	3	Paint Rock Refuge	2
Big South Fork NRA	5	Harmon Creek	8	Pea Ridge	5
Black Bayou Refuge	7	Hart's Mill	9	Percy Priest	243
Bogota	27	Hatchie NWR	102	Pickett S.F.	2
Bridgestone-Firestone	55	Haynes Bottom	51	Prentice Cooper	129
Browntown	32	Henderson Island Refuge	8	President's Island	21
Buffalo Springs	2	Hick Hill	23	Rankin Bottom	12
Camden	10	Hickory Flats	17	Reelfoot NWR	52
Catoosa	329	Hiwassee Refuge	81	Reelfoot	35
Cedar Hill Swamp	4	Holston Army A.P.	46	Shelby Forest	21
Charlotte A F Neal	1	Horns Bluff Refuge	11	Shelton Ferry	11
Cheatham Lake	16	Jackson Swamp	1	Skinner Mountain	2
Cheatham	101	John Tully	21	South Cherokee	177
Chickamauga	23	Keyes-Harrison	5	South Fork Waterfowl Refuge	1
Chickasaw NWR	71	Kyles Ford	17	Standing Stone S.F. & WMA	6
Chickasaw	63	Land Between The Lakes	365	Tellico Lake	26
Chuck Swan	233	Laurel Hill	101	Tennessee NWR	211
Cordell Hull Refuge	17	Lick Creek Bottoms	12	The Boils	5
Cordell Hull	160	Lower Hatchie NWR	80	Thorny Cypress	21
Cove Creek	17	Maness Swamp Refuge	4	Three Rivers	8
Cross Creeks NWR	179	Maple Springs	3	Tie Camp	78
Cummings Cove	2	Milan Army A.P.	218	Tigrett	30
Cypress Pond Refuge	3	Mingo Swamp	26	Tumbleweed	19
Dry Creek	28	Moss Island	7	Watts Bar	13
Eagle Creek	179	Mt. Roosevelt	22	White Lake Refuge	5
Eagle Lake Refuge	1	MTSU	45	White Oak	46
Edgar Evins S.P. & WMA	16	Natchez Trace	200	WilliamSPORT	41
Enterprise South Park	15	New Hope	1	Wolf River	69
Ernest Rice	5	Nolichucky	1	Yanahli	345
Fall Creek Falls	51	Normandy	8	Yuchi Refuge	68

Table 7. 2015-16 Total harvest of white-tailed bucks with nine or more points by WMA in Tennessee.

WMA	Harvest	WMA	Harvest	WMA	Harvest
Land Between The Lakes	50	Yuchi Refuge	2	Forks Of The River	0
Catoosa	44	Bark Camp Barrens	1	Fort Ridge	0
South Cherokee	24	Cedar Hill Swamp	1	Fourth Fractional Township	0
Cheatham	19	Cheatham Lake	1	Ft Campbell	0
North Cherokee	17	Chickasaw	1	Gallatin Steam Plant	0
AEDC	15	Cove Creek	1	Haley-Jaqueth	0
Laurel Hill	15	Enterprise South Park	1	Happy Hollow	0
Oak Ridge	13	Ernest Rice	1	Harmon Creek	0
North Cumberland	12	Flintville Hatchery	1	Hart's Mill	0
Eagle Creek	11	Hick Hill	1	Haynes Bottom	0
Milan Army A.P.	11	Lick Creek Bottoms	1	Henderson Island Refuge	0
Prentice Cooper	11	Mt. Roosevelt	1	Hickory Flats	0
Chickasaw NWR	10	MTSU	1	Hiwassee Refuge	0
President's Island	10	N. Chickamauga Creek	1	Hop-In Refuge	0
Bear Hollow Mountain	9	Pea Ridge	1	Horns Bluff Refuge	0
John Tully	9	Pickett SF	1	Jackson Swamp	0
Natchez Trace	9	Skinner Mountain	1	Jarrell Switch Refuge	0
Yanahli	9	Thorny Cypress	1	Keyes-Harrison	0
Reelfoot NWR	8	Three Rivers	1	Kingston Refuge	0
Tennessee NWR	8	Tie Camp	1	Kyker Bottoms	0
Percy Priest	7	White Oak	1	Kyles Ford	0
Bridgestone-Firestone	5	AEDC SA	0	Lick Creek	0
Cross Creeks NWR	5	Alpine Mountain	0	Maness Swamp Refuge	0
Lower Hatchie NWR	5	Arnold Hollow	0	Maple Springs	0
Tumbleweed	5	Bean Switch Refuge	0	Mingo Swamp	0
Gooch	4	Big Sandy	0	New Hope	0
Old Hickory	4	Big South Fork NRA	0	Nolichucky	0
Reelfoot	4	Black Bayou Refuge	0	Normandy	0
Barkley	3	Bogota	0	Old Hickory Lock 5 Refuge	0
Beaver Dam Creek	3	Buffalo Springs	0	Owl Hollow Mill	0
Cordell Hull	3	Camden	0	Paint Rock Refuge	0
Hatchie NWR	3	Charlotte A F Neal	0	Rankin Bottom	0
Shelby Forest	3	Chickamauga	0	Shelton Ferry	0
Williamsport	3	Cordell Hull Refuge	0	South Fork Waterfowl Refuge	0
Browntown	2	Cummings Cove	0	Tellico Lake	0
Chuck Swan	2	Cypress Pond Refuge	0	The Boils	0
Holston Army A.P.	2	Dry Creek	0	Tigrett	0
Moss Island	2	Eagle Lake Refuge	0	Watts Bar	0
Obion River	2	Edgar Evins SP & WMA	0	West Sandy	0
Standing Stone SF & WMA	2	Fall Creek Falls	0	White Lake Refuge	0
Wolf River	2	Foothills	0		

Table 8. Biological data from 2,557 bucks and 1,068 does examined by TWRA staff in 2015-16. Statewide harvest was 90,291 bucks and 77,048 does.

Bucks								Does			
Age	Number	%	Avg. points	Avg. Beam Circum	Avg. Beam Length	Avg. Outside Spread	Avg. Live Weight	Age	Number	%	Avg. Live Weight
Fawn	181	-	-	-	-	-	-	Fawn	195	-	-
1 1/2	872	37	4	2	9	8	102	1 1/2	281	32	93
2 1/2	1024	43	7	3	16	14	140	2 1/2	327	37	102
3 1/2	383	16	8	4	18	16	159	3 1/2	157	18	109
4 1/2	75	3	9	4	20	17	172	4 1/2	52	6	104
5 1/2	22	1	9	5	19	17	186	5 1/2	56	6	109

Table 9. 2015-16 White-tailed deer biological data from 1,705 deer harvested on WMAs.

Bucks								Does			
Age	Number	%	Avg. Points	Avg. Beam Circum	Avg. Beam Length	Avg. Outside Spread	Avg. Live Weight	Age	Number	%	Avg. Live Weight
Fawn	119	-	-	-	-	-	-	Fawn	123	-	-
1 1/2	325	32	3	2	8	8	108	1 1/2	137	30	93
2 1/2	429	43	7	3	15	13	144	2 1/2	149	33	106
3 1/2	200	20	8	4	18	16	163	3 1/2	90	20	114
4 1/2	39	4	9	4	20	18	183	4 1/2	38	8	110
5 1/2	16	2	9	5	19	18	187	5 1/2	40	9	111

Figure 1. White-tailed deer harvest in Tennessee.

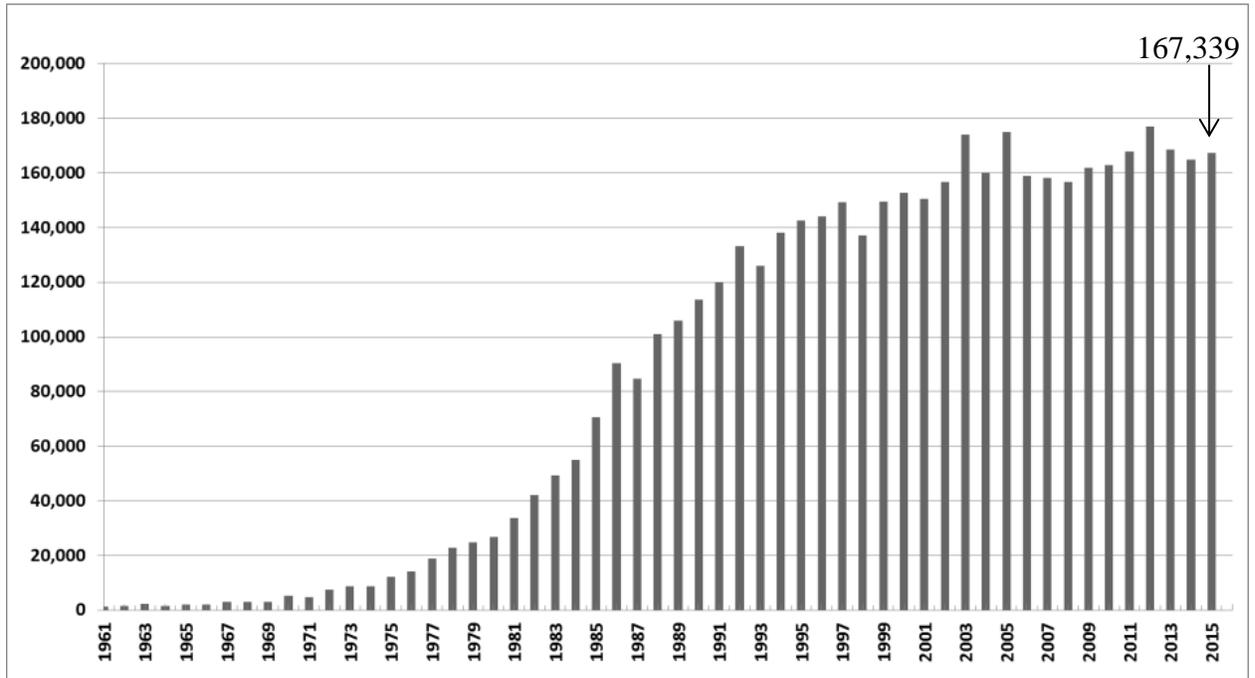


Figure 2.

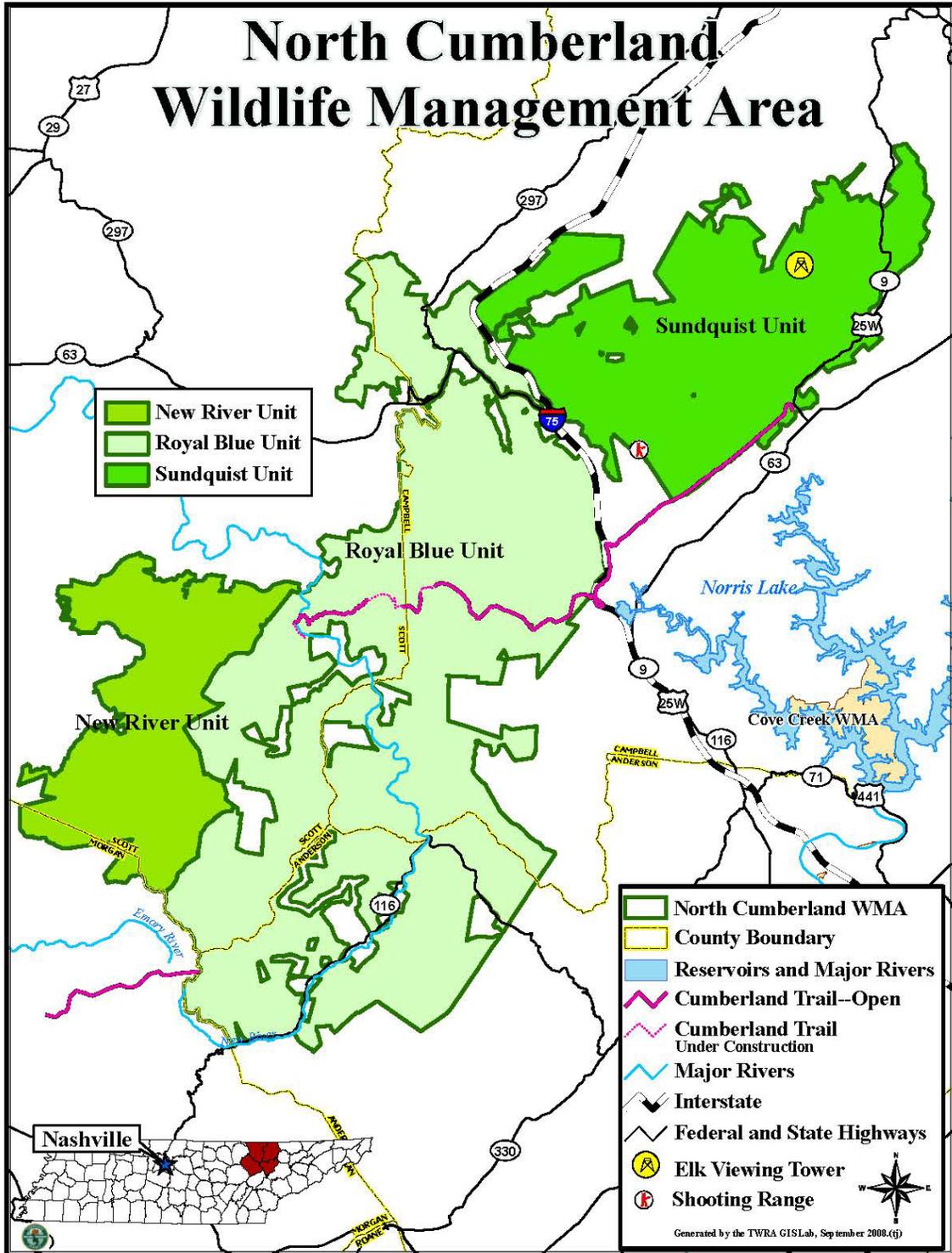


Figure 3.

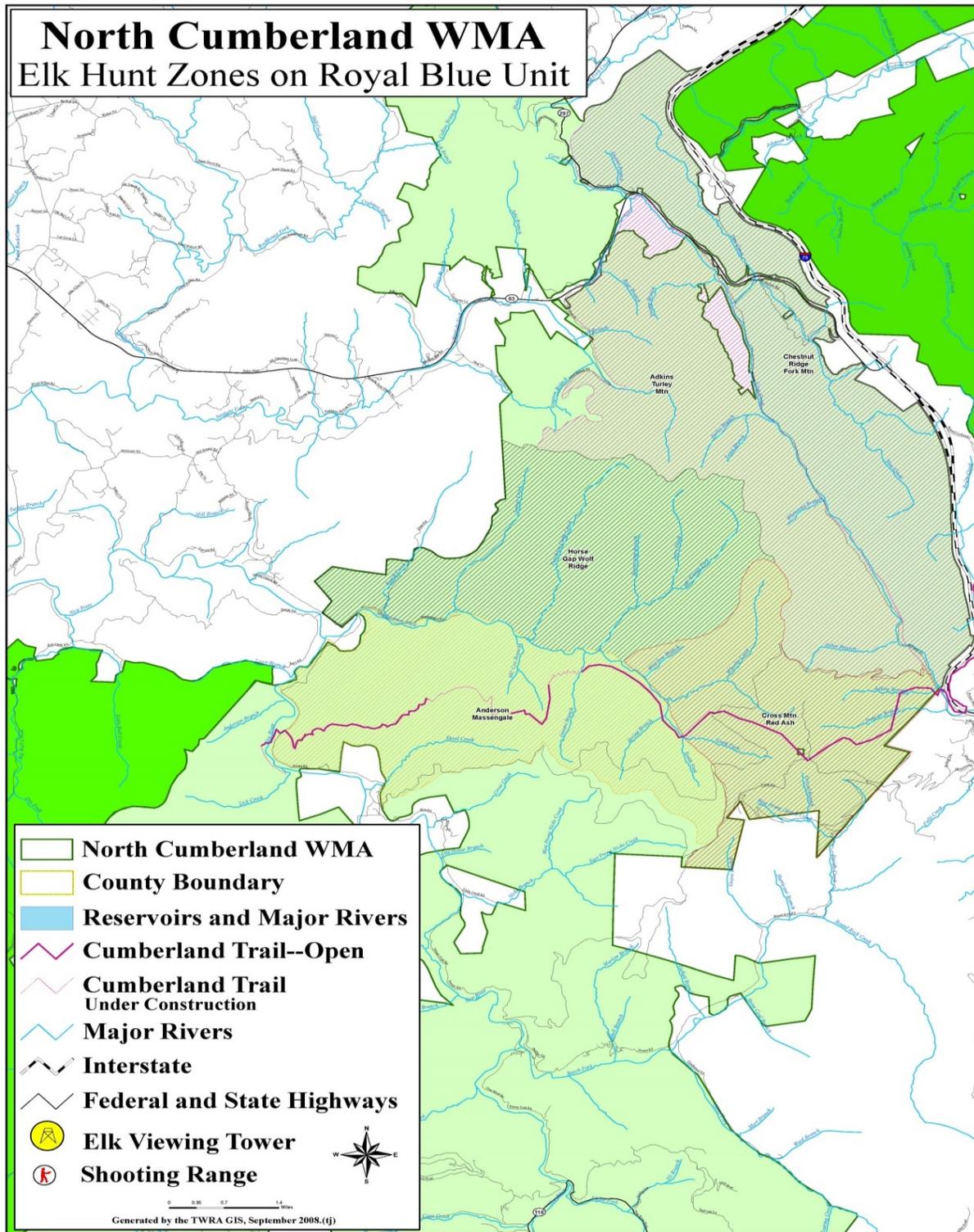


Figure 4.

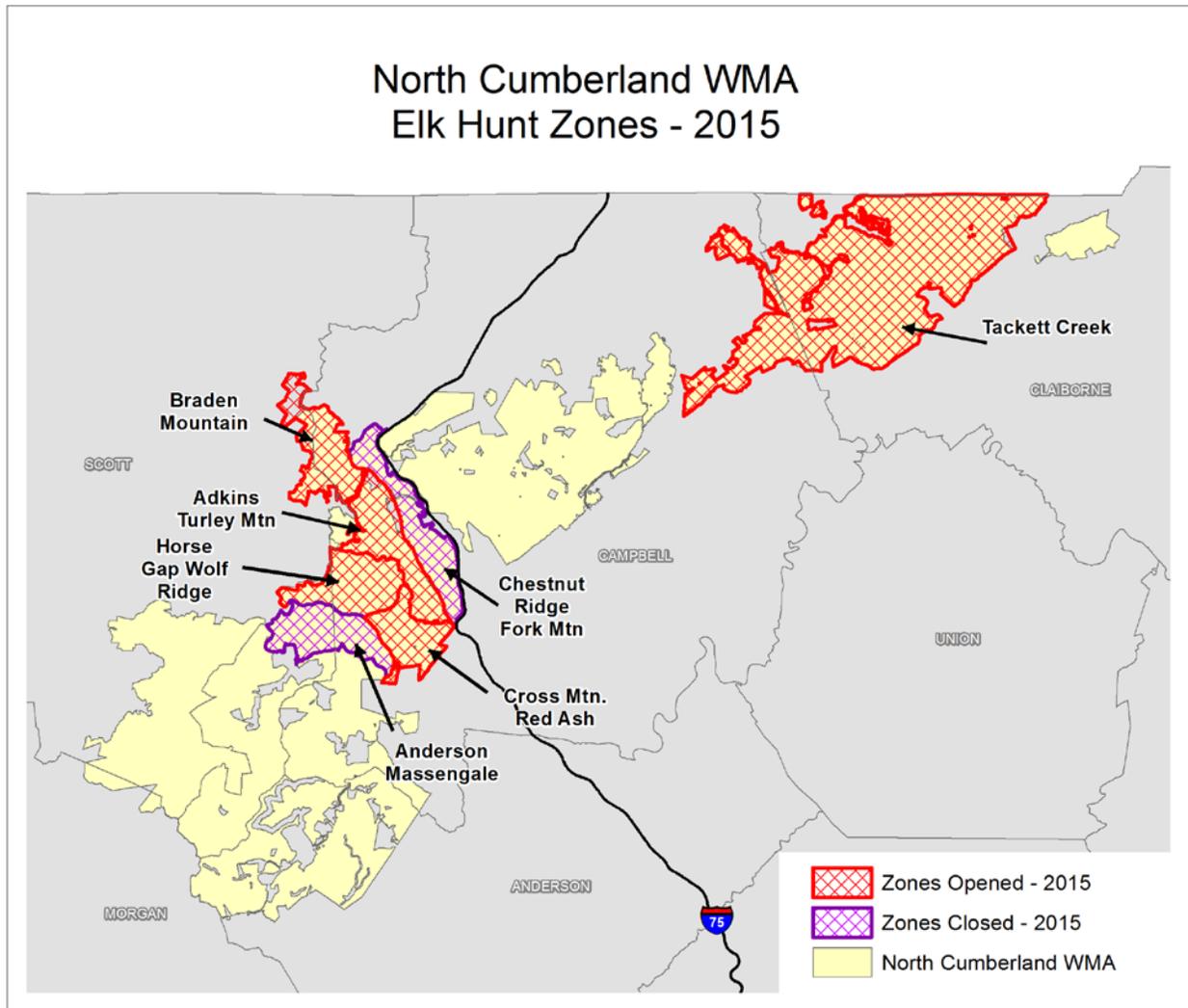


Figure 5. Age distribution of 2015-16 antlered white-tailed bucks harvested in Tennessee.

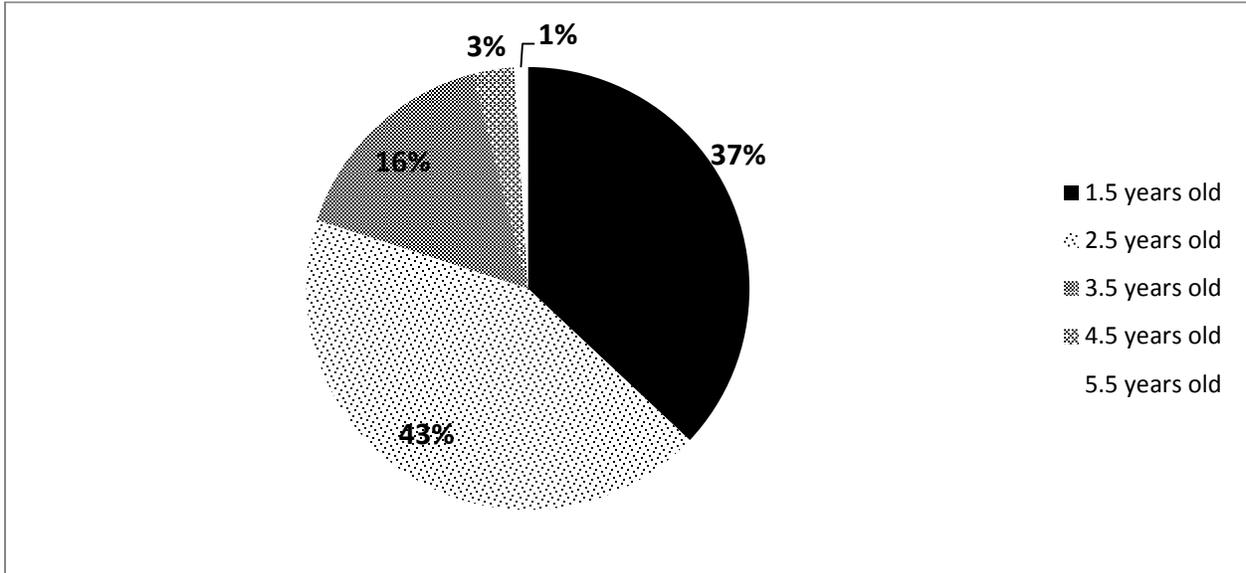


Figure 6. Percentage of antlered white-tailed bucks greater than or equal to 3.5 years-old in Tennessee harvest.

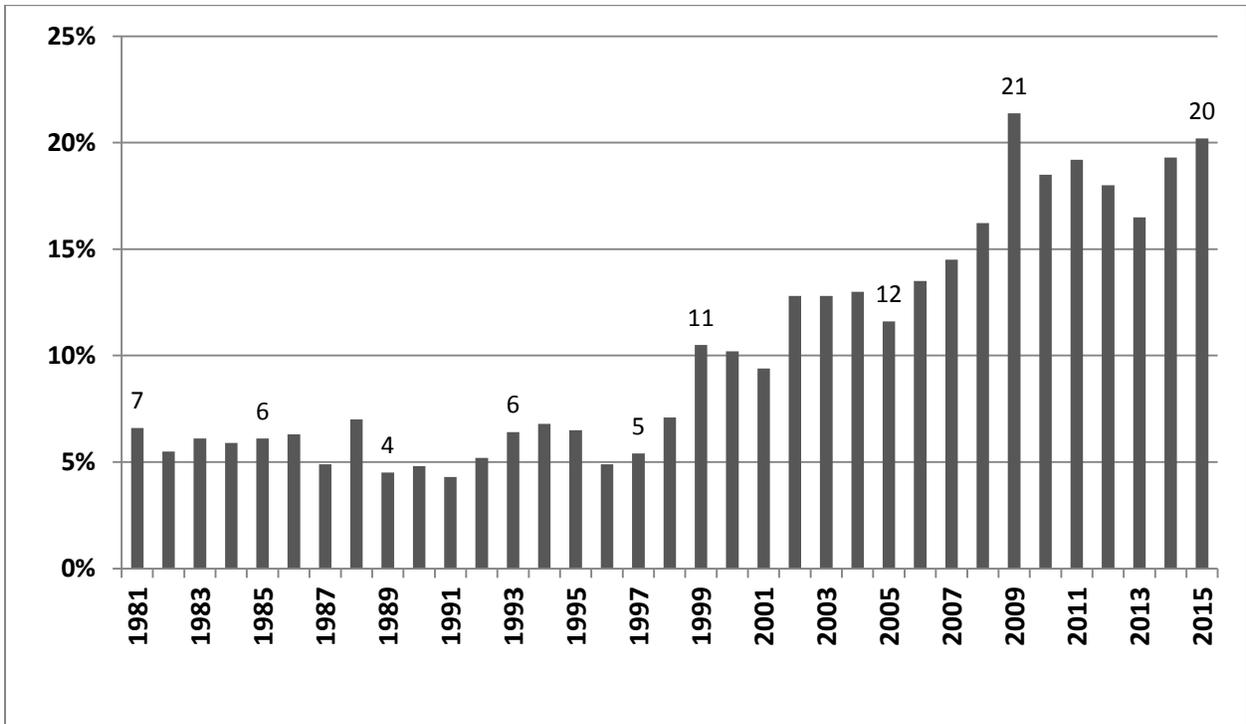


Figure 7. Percentage of antlered white-tailed bucks 1.5 years-old in Tennessee harvest.

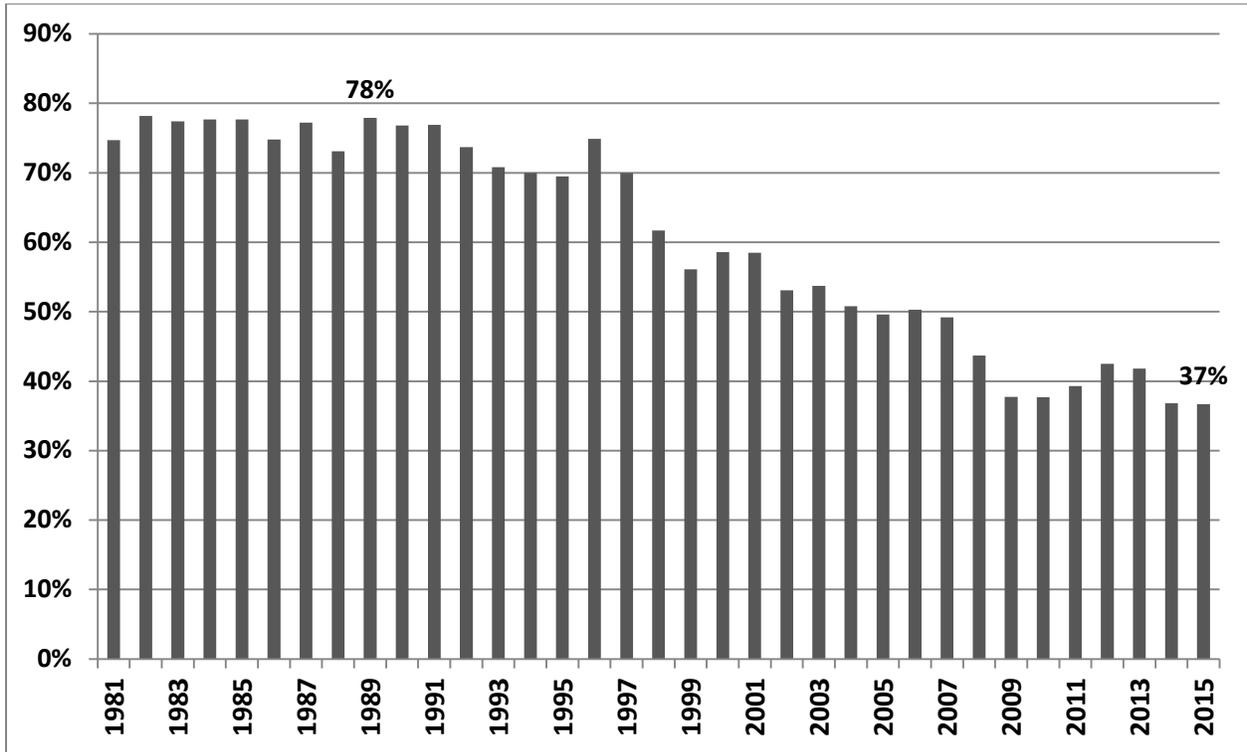


Figure 8. Age distribution of 2015-16 white-tailed bucks harvested on Tennessee WMAs.

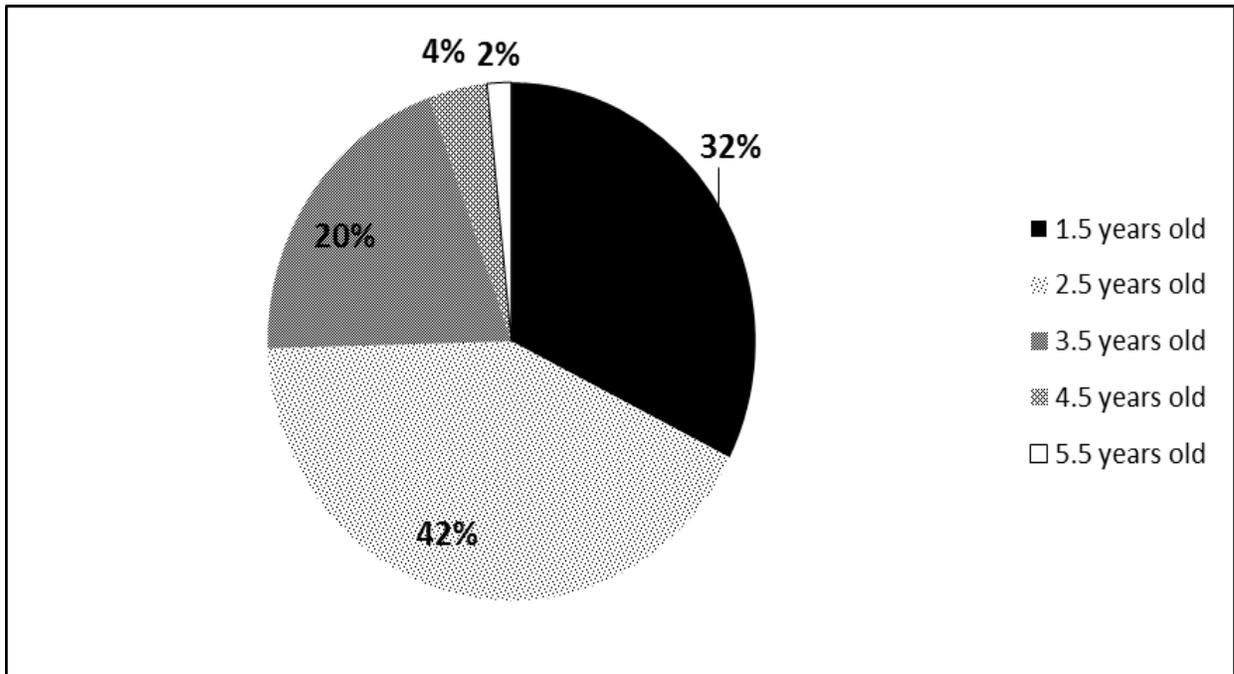


Figure 9. Number of antlered bucks with less than 3 inches of antler in the Tennessee harvest.

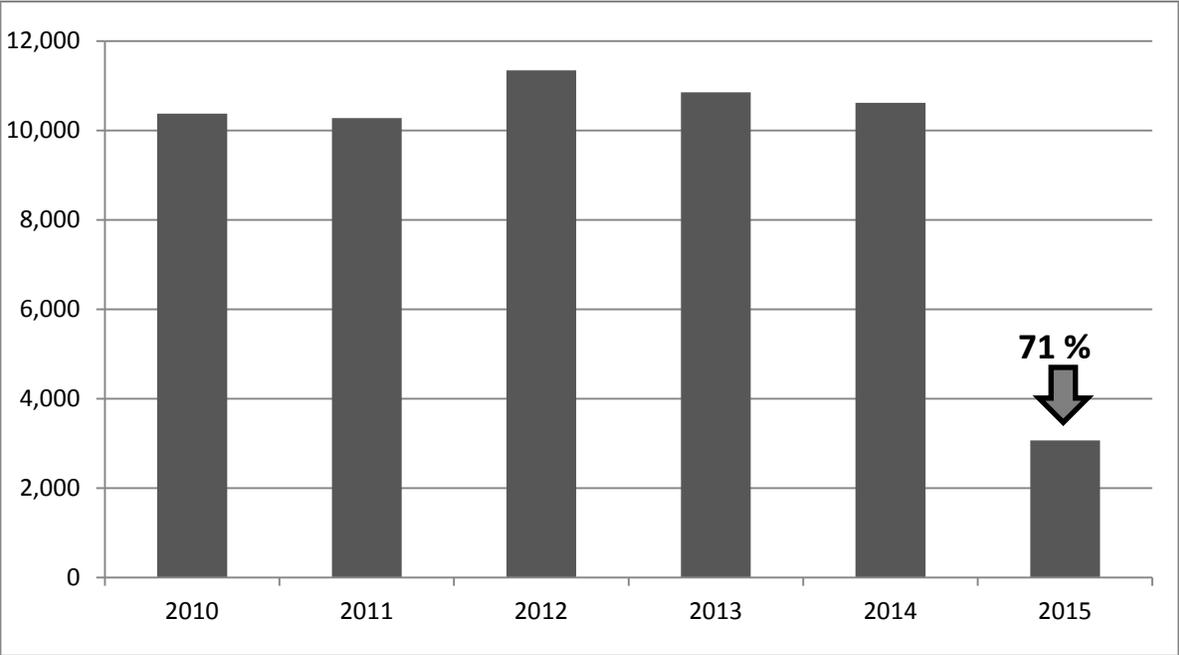
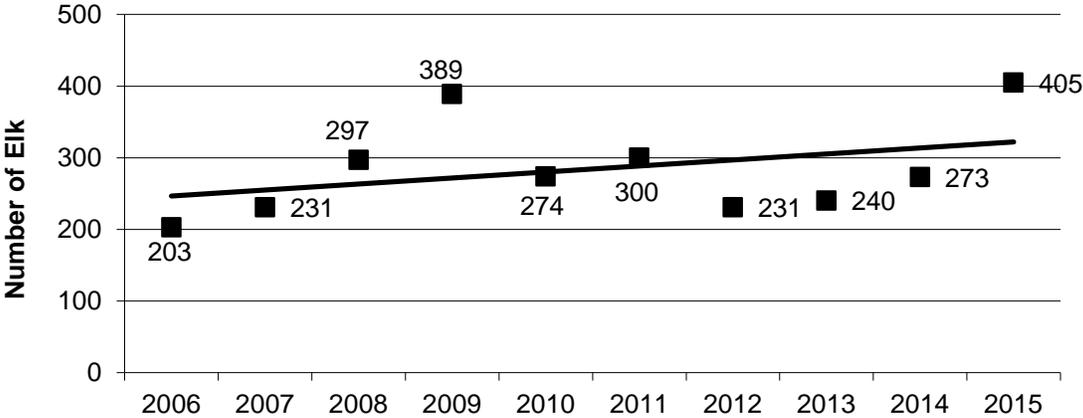


Figure 10. Tennessee Elk populations estimates for North Cumberland Elk Restoration Zone, including the original released animals (2006), fitted to an exponential growth curve.



Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission
 Proclamation 15-03
 Statewide Big Game Hunting Seasons and Bag Limit
 (Exclusive of Wildlife Management Areas and Refuges)

Page 1 of 9
 seq. 05-19-15
 rec. 5/27/15
 eff. 8/1/15

Pursuant to the authority granted by Tennessee Code Annotated Sections 70-4-107 and 70-5-108, the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission hereby proclaims the statewide big game seasons and bag limits, effective August 1, 2015.

Section I. White-tailed Deer

A. White-tailed Deer Hunting Units

For the purpose of these hunting regulations and better wildlife management, the State of Tennessee is hereby divided into three (3) deer units, as follows:

Unit

- A. Bledsoe, Bradley, Clay, Cumberland, DeKalb, Dyer, Grundy, Hamilton, Jackson, Lake, Lauderdale, Marion, McMinn, Meigs, Overton, Putnam, Rhea, Roane, Sequatchie, Tipton, Van Buren, Warren, White.

- B. Anderson, Blount, Campbell, Carter, Claiborne, Cocke, Fentress, Grainger, Greene, Hamblen, Hancock, Hawkins, Jefferson, Johnson, Knox, Loudon, Monroe, Morgan, Pickett, Polk, Scott, Sevier, Sullivan, Unicoi, Union, Washington.

- L. Bedford, Benton, Cannon, Carroll, Cheatham, Chester, Coffee, Crockett, Davidson, Decatur, Dickson, Fayette, Franklin, Gibson, Giles, Hardeman, Hardin, Haywood, Henderson, Henry, Hickman, Houston, Humphreys, Lawrence, Lewis, Lincoln, Macon, Madison, Marshall, Maury, McNairy, Montgomery, Moore, Obion, Perry, Robertson, Rutherford, Shelby, Smith, Stewart, Sumner, Trousdale, Wayne, Weakley, Williamson, Wilson.

B. White-tailed Deer Bag Limits and Season Dates

1. Statewide - Antlered Buck Bag Limit

The statewide bag limit for antlered bucks in Tennessee is two (2). No more than one (1) antlered deer may be taken per day. The only way the bag limit of two antlered bucks may be exceeded is if bucks are taken on TWRA or NWR managed hunts where the bucks are noted as bonus deer in the section listing WMA regulations. Deer taken on Ft. Campbell are also bonus deer.

2. Statewide – Deer Seasons and Bag Limits:

Season Type	Season Dates	Antlered Bag Limit	Antlerless Bag Limits		
		Statewide	Unit L	Unit A	Unit B
Archery*	4 th Saturday in September to the day before the opening day of Muzzleloader	2	3/day	4	4
Muzzleloader	3 rd Saturday before Thanksgiving to the day before the opening day of Gun		3/day	4	1

Gun	1 st Saturday before Thanksgiving through the first full weekend in January		3/day**	See Section D	See Section D
Young Sportsman***	Last weekend in October		3/day	2	1
	First weekend after the close of Gun season		3/day	2	1

* Archery season is closed during the October Young Sportsman hunt.

** A Type 94 permit is required to hunt antlerless deer during this season except for landowners hunting under the landowner exemption (as described in T.C.A. 70-2-204), Sportsman license holders (including Lifetime Sportsman), and hunters who possess a Type 167 permit.

*** Youths 6-16 years of age may participate. Young sportsmen must be accompanied by a non-hunting, adult, 21 years of age or older, who must remain in a position to take immediate control of the hunting device and who must also comply with fluorescent orange regulations, as specified for legal hunters. Multiple youths may be accompanied by a single qualifying adult.

Note: The statewide antlered buck limit is two (2). Antlered deer must have antlers a minimum of three inches (3") in length on buck only or antlered only hunts. Antlerless deer are defined as deer with no antlers or deer with antlers less than three inches (3") in length.

Archery equipment is legal during muzzleloader and gun seasons, muzzleloading equipment is legal during gun season.

3. Unit L, Private Land, Antlerless, White-tailed Deer Hunt

Gun-Muzzleloader-Archery	Monday following the first full weekend in January through the following Friday 3 per day
--------------------------	--

C. Non-Quota Antlerless White-tailed Deer Hunts

The following counties and portions of counties are open to antlerless deer hunting during the regular gun season as specified.

Non-quota Hunts -- No hunter quota but a Type 94 permit is required except for landowners hunting on their own land, Sportsman license holders (including Lifetime Sportsman), and hunters who possess a Type 167 permit.

Note: Unit A & B: the bag limit for each county for each non-quota hunt is defined in the Table.
Unit L: a hunter may harvest 3 antlerless deer per day during the regular gun season.

Dates: 1 st hunt period is Sat and Sun only, subsequent hunts are in one-week intervals starting on Monday.	Deer Non-Quota Hunts						
	(Sat,Sun only)	Week 1	Week 2	Week 3	Week 4	Week 5	Week 6 through end of Gun Season
COUNTY	NUMBER OF ANTLERLESS DEER PER HUNT						
Anderson	1					1	1
Bledsoe					1		
Blount ¹						1	
Bradley		1			1	1	
Campbell						1	
Carter	1					1	1
Claiborne	1					1	1
Cocke							1
DeKalb							2
Dyer	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Grainger						1	1
Greene						1	1
Grundy					1		
Hamblen						1	1
Hamilton		1	1		1	1	1
Hancock	1					1	1
Hawkins						2	2
Jackson	1						
Jefferson						1	1
Johnson ²						2	2
Knox						2	2
Lake					2	2	2
Lauderdale	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Loudon						1	1
McMinn		1			1	1	
Marion				1	1		
Meigs		1			1	1	
Morgan					1		
Putnam					1		
Rhea	1	1			1	1	
Roane	1	1			1	1	1
Scott						1	
Sequatchie					1		
Sevier						1	1
Sullivan	1					2	2
Tipton	1	1	1	1	2	2	2
Union						1	
Van Buren					1		
Warren						1	
Washington	1					1	

1 Blount County West of Highway 411 and east of Highway 129

Proc. 15-03

D. Claiborne County Special Red Deer Hunt

Allow taking of Red Deer in that portion of Claiborne County south of the Powell River. All harvested Red Deer must be checked out at designated TWRA check stations.

Gun-Muzzleloader-Archery Concurrent with statewide deer season
 No limit-Either Sex

Outside of deer season, Red Deer may be taken after requesting a free permit from the TWRA Region 4 Office.

No limit-Either Sex

Section II. Black Bear

A. Black Bear Bag Limits and Season Dates

For the purpose of these hunting regulations and better wildlife management, the State of Tennessee is hereby divided into five (5) bear hunt zones (BHZ's), as follows:

BHZ1: Carter, Cocke (North of I-40), Greene, Johnson, Sullivan, Unicoi, & Washington.

BHZ2: Blount, Cocke (South of I-40), Jefferson (East of Hwy 411), Sevier

BHZ3: McMinn (East of Hwy 411), Monroe, Polk (East of Hwy 411 & North of Hwy 64)

BHZ4: Cumberland (North of I-40), Fentress, Morgan, Pickett (East of Hwy 111), & Scott (West of Hwy 27)

Transitional: Bradley, Hamblen, Hamilton, Hancock, Hawkins, Grainger, Jefferson (west of Hwy 411), Knox, Loudon, McMinn (West of Hwy 411), & Polk (West of Hwy 411)

Bear Hunt Zone (BHZ)					
	BHZ 1	BHZ 2	BHZ 3	BHZ 4**	Transitional
Gun/Muzzleloader/Archery (Dogs Allowed)	Oct. 5-9 Nov. 2-6 Nov. 30 - Dec.19	Sep.28-Oct.4 Nov. 2-6 Nov. 30 - Dec. 24	Oct. 3-11 Nov. 2-6 Nov.30.-Dec.13 Dec.30-Jan.2	Closed	Closed
Archery Only (No Dogs)	Sep.26- Oct.23	Sep.26- Oct.23	Sep.26- Oct.23	Sep.26- Oct.23	Sep.26- Oct.23
Gun/Muzzleloader/Archery (No Dogs)	Nov. 21-24	Nov. 21-24	Nov. 21-24	Closed	Closed
Young Sportsman* G/M/A (No Dogs)	Oct. 24-25	Oct. 24-25	Oct. 24-25	Closed	Closed

* Youths 6-16 years of age may participate. Young sportsmen must be accompanied by a non-hunting, adult, 21 years of age or older, who must remain in a position to take immediate control of the hunting device and who must also comply with fluorescent orange regulations, as specified for legal hunters. Multiple youths may be accompanied by a single qualifying adult.

** The following areas within BHZ4 are closed to bear hunting: Big South Fork River and Recreation Area, Scott State Forest, and Obed National Scenic River Corridor.

The following zones are open for a bear dog training season during daylight hours only:

BHZ 1 and BHZ 2

Aug. 22-Sep. 27, 2015

No bears may be taken. No weapons may be possessed.

BHZ 3

Sep. 9-18, 2015

No bears may be taken. No weapons may be possessed.

B. Special Bear Hunting Regulations:

1. The limit of bears for any person participating in the statewide or managed hunts or both shall not exceed one (1) bear per calendar year.
2. Cubs or female bears with cubs at side may not be taken at any time. A cub is defined as any bear weighing seventy-five (75) pounds or less

Section III. Elk Bag Limits and Season Dates

A. Elk Hunting Zones (EHZ)

For the purpose of these hunting regulations and better wildlife management, seven (7) elk hunting zones have been designated on the North Cumberland Wildlife Management Area (WMA), as follows:

EHZ 1: Chestnut Ridge and Fork Mountain

That portion of the North Cumberland WMA west of I-75 and east of the Southern railroad tracks. All safety zones designated by TWRA and private property excluded.

EHZ 2: Adkins and Turley Mountain

That portion west of the Southern Railroad tracks, east of Red Ash Rd. to Wheeler Gap, northeast of Adkins Mountain Road to Jenny Gap, east of Straight Fork Rd. to State Highway 63, east of Hwy 63 to the Southern Railroad tracks. All safety zones designated by TWRA and private property excluded.

EHZ 3: Horse Gap and Wolf Ridge

That portion of North Cumberland WMA south of Adkins Mountain Rd. to Huckaby Knob, west of the trail on Brushy Mountain Ridge to Montgomery Fork Creek, north of Montgomery Fork Creek (downstream) to the North Cumberland WMA boundary line and east of the North Cumberland WMA boundary line to Jenny Gap. All safety zones designated by TWRA and private property excluded.

EHZ 4: Anderson and Massengale Mountain

That portion on the North Cumberland WMA south of Montgomery Fork Creek to Little Bruce Ridge, west of Little Bruce Ridge to Short Haul Rd. to Grave Gap, north of Massengale Mountain road to Poor Mountain Road, north of Poor Mountain Rd. to Norma Rd., east of Norma Rd. to Montgomery Fork Creek. All safety zones designated by TWRA and private property excluded.

Proc. 15-03

EHZ 5: Cross Mountain and Red Ash

That portion on the North Cumberland WMA South of Red Ash Rd. to Wheeler Gap, west of Adkins Mountain Rd. to Huckaby Knob, east of the trail on the Brushy Mountain Ridge to Montgomery Fork Creek, east of Little Bruce Ridge to Short Haul Rd., east of Massengale Rd. to Ash Log Gap, north of boundary back to Southern Railroad, west of Southern Railroad to Red Ash Church. All safety zones designated by TWRA and private property excluded.

EHZ 6: Braden Mountain

That portion of the North Cumberland WMA, north of State Hwy 63, west of State Hwy 297, and east of the Rock House community. EHZ 6 also includes the Mon Petit / Atlas Petroleum property which joins the North Cumberland Boundary on the north. All safety zones designated by TWRA and private property excluded.

EHZ 7: Tackett Creek

That portion of the North Cumberland WMA, Tackett Creek Unit, south of Tennessee and Kentucky State Line, north of the Cumberland Trail State Park and east of US Hwy 25W. All safety zones designated by TWRA and private property excluded.

B. Elk Bag Limits, Season Dates, and Quotas

1. Elk harvest will be regulated by a quota permit system. The bag limits, dates, and quotas are as follows: The five (5) EHZ's open for the 2015 elk season are EHZ 2, 3, 5, 6, and 7.

	Elk Hunting Zone (EHZ)	Season Type	Season Dates	Permits	Bag Limit
1	Chestnut Ridge & Fork Mountain	Gun/ Muzzleloader/ Archery	3 rd Monday of October through the following Friday	5	1 antlered elk per permit
2	Adkins & Turley Mountain				
3	Horse Gap & Wolf Ridge				
4	Anderson & Massengale Mountain				
5	Cross Mountain & Red Ash				
6	Braden Mountain				
7	Tackett Creek				
	Hunting Area - all five EHZs listed as open in Section III. B. 1.	Gun/ Muzzleloader/ Archery	First Saturday and Sunday following 3 rd Monday of Oct.	1*	1 antlered elk per permit

* Special Youth Elk Permit - allocated to a resident hunter between the ages of 13-16 on the first day of the hunt.

2. Annual permit allocation hunt will be as follows:

- The Executive Director is authorized to issue one permit to a qualifying non-profit wildlife conservation organization, in accordance with Rule 1660-1-25.
- The remaining permits will be allocated by a drawing conducted by TWRA. Drawing procedures will be posted by TWRA during application period.

C. Special Regulations

1. Hunters will be assigned an EHZ as designated by TWRA. However, if during the course of the hunt, one hunter remains with an unfilled tag, that hunter may be re-assigned an open EHZ according to TWRA specifications.
2. All harvested elk must be checked out at the North Cumberland Wildlife Management Area Office before leaving the Wildlife Management Area.
3. The harvest location must be clearly marked with flagging tape. The location must be adequately marked so that TWRA employees can identify the harvest site. This must be accomplished by doing one of the following: 1) Providing GPS coordinates, 2) Accompanying a TWRA employee to the harvest site, or 3) Flagging a trail that can be easily followed from the harvest site to a road.
4. Use or possession of electronic tracking equipment is prohibited.
5. Bugling or calling of elk is prohibited within the EHZs during all elk hunts except by permitted hunters and their assistants.

Section IV. General Regulations for Spring and Fall Turkey Harvest

A. Miscellaneous

1. The use of any type of food to feed or attract wild turkeys on WMAs. Shooting or stalking turkeys from a boat in Shelby, Dyer, Tipton, Lauderdale, Haywood or Obion counties prohibited. Calling or attempting to call wild turkeys using any call to mimic the sounds made by a wild turkey is prohibited from March 1st to the opening day of the spring turkey hunts on all WMAs.
2. A licensed turkey hunter, who has filled his/her bag limit or does not possess a valid permit for a quota hunt, may accompany another turkey hunter (except on Oak Ridge WMA) and assist him/her in calling, but may not have a gun or bow in his possession.
3. Legal shooting hours for turkey - Thirty (30) minutes before sunrise to sunset

B. Statewide Spring Turkey Season Dates

1. Spring Turkey Season Dates

Saturday closest to April 1st and progressing for the next 44 days.

2. Statewide Young Sportsmen Hunt (6-16 years of age)

The Saturday and Sunday before opening day of Spring Turkey Season. Youths must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult 21 years of age or older, who must remain in a position to take immediate control of the hunting device, who is not required to have a license. Multiple youths may be accompanied by a single qualifying adult.

C. Spring Turkey Bag and Possession Limits

One (1) bearded turkey per day, not to exceed four (4) per season.

Young Sportsmen hunt - One (1) bearded turkey. Turkey counts toward statewide bag unless taken on WMA where turkey is listed as bonus bird.

D. Fall Turkey Hunting (Shotgun/Archery)

The following counties are open for fall turkey hunting. Bag limits for this season are defined

by the following table. The bag limits listed in the table are for turkeys, either sex. If a county is listed in the table, turkey may be harvested with archery equipment during the deer/archery only season. Turkeys harvested during the deer/archery only season count toward the county bag limit.

COUNTY	Dates: 14 days preceding 1 st Young Sportsman Deer Hunt	COUNTY	Dates: 14 days preceding 1 st Young Sportsman Deer Hunt
Anderson	2	Jackson	1
Bedford	6	Jefferson	2
Benton	1	Johnson	2
Blount	2	Knox	2
Campbell	2	Madison	1
Cannon	3	Marion	2
Carroll	3	Marshall	6
Carter	2	Maury	6
Cheatham	6	McNairy	1
Chester	1	Meigs	1
Claiborne	2	Montgomery	6
Clay	1	Moore	3
Cocke	3	Morgan	1
Coffee	3	Obion	1
Cumberland	1	Overton	1
Davidson	6	Perry	1
Decatur	1	Pickett	1
DeKalb	2	Putnam	1
Dickson	3	Rhea	1
Fayette	1	Roane	1
Franklin	6	Robertson	6
Fentress	1	Rutherford	6
Gibson	1	Scott	2
Grainger	2	Sequatchie	1
Greene	3	Sevier	2
Grundy	1	Smith	6
Hamblen	2	Stewart	1
Hamilton	1	Sullivan	3
Hancock	2	Sumner	6
Hardeman	1	Trousdale	6
Hardin	1	Union	2
Hawkins	3	Van Buren	1
Henderson	1	Warren	3
Henry	3	Washington	2
Hickman	6	Weakley	3
Houston	1	White	2
Humphreys	1	Williamson	6
Lewis	3	Wilson	6
Lincoln	3		
Macon	6		

Section V. Special Regulations.

1. For antlered bucks a legal antler point is a projection at least one inch long, measured from the tip of the point to the nearest edge of the beam, following the mid-line of the tine.
2. Deer and turkey defined as "bonus" animals do not count toward statewide, seasonal, or daily bag limits.

Section VI. Repeal of Prior Proclamations

This proclamation repeals Proclamation No. 14-03.

Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission



 Chairman

I certify that this is an accurate and complete copy of a proclamation lawfully promulgated and adopted by the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission on the 22th day of May, 2015.

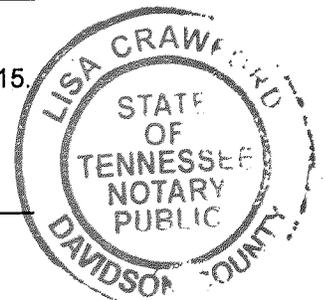


 Secretary

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 27 day of May, 2015.



 Notary Public



My commission expires: My Commission Expires: 3/10/2019

Proclamation No. 15-03 received and recorded this 27th day of May, 2015; to be effective the 1 day of August, 2015.



 Tre Hargett, Secretary of State

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Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission
Proclamation 15-04

Wildlife Management Areas
Hunting Seasons, Limits and Miscellaneous Regulations

Seq. 05-20-15
rec. 5/27/15
eff. 8/1/15

Pursuant to the authority granted by Tennessee Code Annotated Sections 70-4-107 and 70-5-108, the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission hereby proclaims the wildlife management areas hunting seasons, limits and miscellaneous regulations, effective August 1, 2015.

Note: Migratory Bird Season Dates and Limits are pending in lieu of Federal Frameworks.

Section 1. General

A. Hunting Season

1. On WMAs open with statewide seasons, the season dates, bag limits, weapon types, and ammunition types that pertain to the county where the WMA is located apply to that WMA. Special regulations listed specifically for those WMAs still apply.
2. Small Game: All species identified in the current Small Game, Furbearer, Early Migratory Bird, Late Migratory Bird, and Dove hunting seasons proclamations.
Big Game: All species identified in the current Big Game Proclamation.
3. Small game hunting and dog training closed at sunset on the day before and during scheduled big game hunts on the following wildlife management areas, unless special exception indicated: AEDC, Bridgestone-Firestone Centennial Wilderness, Catoosa, Chuck Swan State Forest, Happy Hollow, Hiwassee Refuge, Laurel Hill, Prentice Cooper State Forest, the Thief Neck Island Unit of Watts Bar, Williamsport, and Yuchi Refuge.
4. Crow may be taken on scheduled small game hunt days that coincide with statewide crow season unless an exception is noted.
5. Red fox may be taken during the statewide trapping season except where regulated by legislative act or unless otherwise specified.
6. Falconry open with statewide falconry seasons unless an exception is noted.
7. Small game (except raccoon) and retriever field trials permitted year-round with 30-day advanced approval of the area manager unless otherwise specified.
8. Raccoon hound field trials permitted Sep. 1-Apr. 30 unless prohibited.
9. Dog training is year-round unless otherwise indicated.
10. On all WMAs open to the late duck season, the statewide Youth Waterfowl Season is open, unless exception is noted. On all WMAs, the legal hunting hours during the Youth Waterfowl Season comply with federal regulations for migratory birds (30) minutes before official sunrise to sunset), unless exception is noted.
11. All game killed or crippled shall be retrieved if possible and retained in the custody of the hunter in the field. No game may be discarded on the premises of the management area.
12. Persons participating in a sanctioned field trial on a WMA, as authorized by the TWRA, may shoot to retrieve mallards. Mallards used in these trials must be held and released in accordance with all state laws, rules and regulations governing captive wildlife.
13. All refuges are closed Nov. 15-last day of Feb. to all forms of use and trespass unless otherwise indicated. Designated observation areas will be open year round, unless otherwise noted.
14. On WMAs open with the statewide season, quail season runs from the 1st Saturday in November until January 15th unless otherwise noted.

B. Bag and Possession Limits

1. Statewide bag and possession limits shall apply unless special exception is indicated.
2. One deer may be taken on each managed hunt where a permit is required except as otherwise indicated. Deer taken on buck-only hunts must have antlers a minimum of three inches (3") in length.
3. For the spring turkey season, one bearded turkey per day, not to exceed four per season, except as

otherwise indicated. Turkeys taken on quota hunts are bonus turkeys, unless otherwise noted.

C. Miscellaneous Regulations

1. Small game WMA permit is required to trap on all areas that require a small game hunt permit.
2. Possession of shotgun ammunition loaded with more than one solid ball is specifically prohibited while hunting deer, elk, or bear.
3. Dogs permitted for small game hunting unless otherwise indicated. Special regulations apply where indicated.
4. On all "Young-Sportsman Hunts," youths, ages 6–16, may participate but must be accompanied by an adult, 21 years of age or older, who must remain in a position to take immediate control of the hunting device. Adults cannot hunt except as indicated otherwise. Adults must comply with fluorescent orange regulations, as specified for legal hunters when accompanying Young Sportsmen on "Young-Sportsman Big Game Hunts," except as indicated.
5. Youths, ages 6–16, may participate on other WMA hunts (big game, small game, waterfowl, etc.) but must be accompanied by an adult, 21 years of age or older, who must remain in a position to take immediate control of the hunting device except as otherwise noted.
6. During the Youth Waterfowl Hunting Season, youth hunters must be 15 years of age or younger. Those, who are 16 years of age or older and are accompanying these youths, cannot duck hunt during the Youth Waterfowl Season but may participate in other open seasons. On WMAs, an adult at least 21 years of age must accompany youth hunters, ages 6–15, into the field. This adult cannot duck hunt but may participate in other open seasons.
7. The placement or depositing of any type of food to feed or attract wildlife on WMAs is prohibited.
8. Where persons are required to wear fluorescent orange, they must wear on their upper body and head a minimum of 500-square inches of daylight fluorescent orange visible front and back.
9. Wheelchair-bound hunts, zones, or blinds are open to hunters who are totally and permanently confined to a wheelchair as certified by a physician.
10. On wheelchair-bound big game hunts, each wheelchair-bound hunter must be accompanied by a non-hunting assistant (age 16 years or older) except on Cordell Hull Refuge where the assistant may also participate in hunting. On wheelchair-bound waterfowl hunts, each wheelchair-bound hunter must be accompanied by at least one, but not more than three assistants (at least one of whom must be age 16 years of age or older), who may also participate in hunting.
11. Persons already holding a blind permit may not participate in wheelchair-blind permit drawings. If a wheelchair-bound blind is not occupied by legal shooting hours, it may be occupied by another wheelchair-bound hunter for that day. Applications for wheelchair-bound waterfowl blind permits must be received by the appropriate regional office by noon on the 4th Friday in Oct.
12. Release or possession of pen-raised quail is prohibited except on approved field trial areas on Percy Priest and Tellico Lake WMAs (Manager approval required).
13. Waterfowl hunting from temporary blinds: no blinds, blind materials, boats, or decoys left overnight unless otherwise specified by rule or proclamation. A temporary blind is either a structure assembled or placed for a hunt or boat that is used for hunting; or a site consisting of the use of natural vegetation or conditions for concealment for a specified hunt.
14. Treestands must be marked with the hunter's TWRA identification number.
15. Access to all caves on agency controlled lands is closed except to authorized personnel only, unless designated differently through signage or agency brochures.

Section II. Wildlife Management Areas and Refuges – Seasons and Bag Limits

AEDC and Woods Reservoir Refuge

Unit 1 (Previously the TNARNG Maneuver Area)

Public access only through gate on Rifle Range Road north of railroad tracks

Turkey	Closed to spring turkey
Small Game	Closed to small game hunting.
Trapping	Closed to trapping.
Deer (Special Regulations)	All deer hunting season dates are subject to coordination with military training mission. Hunt dates will be confirmed a month in advance and advertised on the TWRA website and posted at the sign-in stations. Special quota permits will be sold by REAL system license agents or purchased on-line through the TWRA website.
Deer (Shotgun-Muzzleloader)	Four potential hunt dates: Nov. 7-8, 14-15, 21-22, Nov. 27-29. 100 hunter quota. Two deer, either sex, only one may be antlered (bonus deer).
Deer(Young-Sportsman)(Shotgun-Muzzleloader)	One hunt. Potential Hunt Dates: Oct. 3-4. No hunter quota. Two deer, either sex only one may be antlered (bonus deer).
 Unit 2	
(Old Camp Forrest area from golf course to UTSI Road and Wattendorf Memorial Hwy. to southern property boundary)	
Public access only through gate west of fire tower field.	
 Small Game	 Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. The area will be open to hunting as military training allows. Dates will be posted on the TWRA website and at sign-in stations. Hunting closed during deer hunts.
Trapping	Closed to trapping.
Deer (Special Regulations)	All deer hunting season dates are subject to coordination with military training mission. Hunt dates will be confirmed a month in advance and advertised on the TWRA website and posted at the sign-in stations. Special quota permits will be sold by REAL system license agents or purchased on-line through the TWRA website.
Deer/Turkey (Archery)	Three hunts. Potential hunt dates: Oct. 9-11, 16-18, 23-25. No hunter quota, Two deer, either sex, only one may be antlered (bonus deer). One turkey, either sex.
Deer(Young-Sportsman)(Shotgun-Muzzleloader)	One hunt. Potential hunt dates: Oct. 3-4. No hunter quota. Two deer, either sex, only one may be antlered (bonus deer).
Deer (Shotgun-Muzzleloader)	Two potential hunt dates: Nov.13-15, 27-29. 200 hunter quota. Two deer, either sex, only one may be antlered. Bonus deer).
Turkey (Fall)	One hunt. Dec.5-13. No hunter quota, Three turkeys, either sex.
Turkey	Same as statewide season except open only on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.

Units 3, 4, 5, and 6 (Remainder of WMA)

Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Hunting closed during deer hunts. Quail Nov.7-Jan.15
Deer/Turkey (Archery)	Three hunts. Oct. 9-11, 16-18, 23-25. No hunter quota, Two deer, either sex, only one may be antlered (bonus deer). One turkey, either sex.
Deer (Young-Sportsman)(Shotgun-Muzzleloader)	One hunt. Oct. 3-4. No hunter quota, Two deer, either sex, only one may be antlered (bonus deer).
Deer (Shotgun-Muzzleloader)	Two hunts. Nov. 13-15, 27-29. 600 quota, Two deer, either sex, only one may be antlered (bonus deer).
Turkey (Fall)	One hunt. Dec. 5-13. No hunter quota. Three turkeys either sex.
Turkey	Same as statewide season, except open only on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday.
Waterfowl	Same as statewide season, except open on Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, and Sunday of the late duck season and the first and last day of each segment. Hunting from registered blind sites only on Woods Reservoir. During the early duck and goose season hunting is allowed outside of registered blind sites, except 150 yards from the bank starting at the pumping station going west to the Rowland's Creek causeway. Waterfowl hunting is allowed from drawn blind sites during big game deer hunts.
Dog Training	Sep. 1– Feb. 28.
Woods Reservoir Waterfowl Refuge	Dec.1– Jan 31. All forms of trespass are prohibited.
Special Regulations	<p>All access will be strictly controlled. Big Game and Small Game hunters are required to sign in at one of the three hunter sign-in stations.</p> <p>All hunters must fill out a sign-in card and keep a portion of the card on their persons while hunting.</p> <p>Deer hunters will be required to fill out an observation card at the end of each hunt and deposit it at one of the sign-in stations.</p> <p>Certain areas may be closed due to military training. The barricades at the designated entry points will be closed and appropriate signs will be displayed. If the barricades are locked, the area is closed to all public activity, including hunting.</p> <p>Deer-Archery Zones may be hunted on any scheduled deer hunt with archery equipment only. These areas are closed to Small Game hunting and Spring Turkey hunting.</p> <p>ATVs are prohibited on the AEDC WMA.</p> <p>The use of metal detectors is prohibited.</p>

Digging is prohibited.

Buried and unexploded ordnance (UXO) could be encountered and unauthorized ground disturbance is a violation of federal law.

Rifles, center fire and rim fire, are prohibited. All handguns, including muzzleloading pistols are prohibited. Air rifles are allowed for small game hunting, except for migratory birds.

Alpine Mountain

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Mar. 15.

Wild hogs may be taken during any deer hunt by legal deer hunters.

Arnold Hollow

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons

Bark Camp Barrens

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Rabbit

Nov. 7 – Jan. 15

Dog Training

Sept. 1 – Jan.15

Barkley Unit I

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Waterfowl

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

During the late duck season, all activities are prohibited in the sub-impoundments when waterfowl hunting is closed. Duck seasons 45 days or longer:

Hunting of waterfowl during the late duck and goose seasons permitted only on Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday, and the first and last day of each segment of the late duck and goose seasons.

Duck seasons under 45 days: Hunting of waterfowl during the late duck and goose seasons permitted only on Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and the first and last day of each segment of the late duck and goose seasons.

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Mar. 15, except closed during the late duck season.

Special Regulations

All activities are prohibited in the sub-impoundments five days before each opening day of the statewide duck season.

Fishing, trapping, and hunting of all species other than waterfowl prohibited in the sub-impoundments during the

late duck season(s).

Deer and Small Game hunting is only allowed on days waterfowl hunting is closed during the late duck seasons.

Barkley Unit II

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons

Bean Switch Refuge

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Closed to dove and waterfowl hunting.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit.

Closed to fall turkey hunting.

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season

Bear Hollow Mountain

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons and bag limits, except as noted. Only one antlerless deer per day.

Special Regulations

ATVs may be used only on existing roads and only to retrieve harvested deer.

No littering. Hunter camping allowed only at designated campground (Lakeview). Fires permitted only in designated campground. Bear Hollow, Cave Springs, Keith Springs, Poplar Springs, and Rock House Roads will be opened for scouting on the 4th Saturday in Aug.

During daylight hours, all users outside of an enclosed vehicle or out of camp must wear fluorescent orange during the deer gun and muzzleloader seasons.

Horseback riders must stay on designated trails and park their vehicles in designated parking areas at all times.

Possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited while horseback riding. No tying horses to trees.

Beaver Dam Creek

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons.

Big Sandy and Gin Creek

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Waterfowl

Same as statewide season, except hunting of waterfowl during the late duck and goose seasons permitted only on Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday, and the first and last day of each segment of the late duck and

Dog Training
 Special Regulations

goose seasons.
 Sep. 1–Mar. 15, except closed during the late duck season.
 All activities are prohibited in the sub-impoundments five days before each opening day of the statewide duck season.
 During the late duck season, all activities are prohibited in the sub-impoundments when waterfowl hunting is closed.
 Fishing, trapping, and hunting of all species other than waterfowl prohibited in the sub-impoundments during the late duck season(s).

Black Bayou Refuge

Big Game, Small Game

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Nontoxic shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service only. Archery equipment only during the muzzleloader season.
 Closed to Young Sportsman deer hunts.

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Open with statewide young sportsman season

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Nov. 14.

Bogota

Deer, Small Game

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Areas within 150 yards of draw waterfowl pools are closed during small game, trapping and statewide deer gun season(s).

Special Dove (Youth)

Sept. 5, noon until sunset. Each youth must be accompanied by a non-hunting adult. Designated fields only.

Dove

Sept. 6 through the remainder of the 1st and 2nd segments of the statewide season. Designated fields only.

Waterfowl (Designated Pools Only)

Same as statewide season, except hunting of waterfowl during the late duck season permitted only on Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and the first and last day of each segment of the late duck season; and the youth waterfowl season. Goose seasons to coincide with statewide season after the youth waterfowl season, no pool restrictions or drawings.
 All hunting shall cease at 3:00 p.m. (CST) each day, except the last day of each season and the remaining goose seasons when hunting shall close at sunset.

Special Regulations

Designated pools (except Pool 1) will be allocated by computer draw. Waterfowl hunting is restricted to temporary blind sites. No waterfowl hunters permitted in pool 1 or access area from two hours after legal shooting hours have ended until 4:00 a.m. the following day during the late duck season(s).

No permanent blinds. All decoys, temporary blinds, blind materials, and boats must be removed daily.

Hunters are restricted to pools or numbered stakes as specified by special instructions supplied by TWRA annually.

Decoys and temporary blinds may be left out over the specified hunt but must be removed upon completion of the hunt on the last day.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit.

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Oct. 31.

Bridgestone-Firestone Centennial Wilderness

Small Game

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Closed to quail hunting. Closed to all hunting Mar. 1 through 4th Friday in Aug., except during turkey and spring squirrel seasons.

Big Game

Same as statewide seasons, except deer season is closed Nov. 13-20 and after Dec. 11.

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Mar. 15.

Special Regulations

No ATV, motorcycle, or horseback riding permitted.

Closed to all non-hunting activities during big game hunts, except during spring turkey season non-hunting activities are closed only until 12 noon CDT.

Wild hogs may be taken during any deer hunt by legal deer hunters.

Antlered deer must have a minimum of 4 points on one antler or a 15-inch minimum outside antler spread on all hunts.

(Big Bottom Unit)

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Closed to quail hunting.

Dog Training
Special Regulations

Sep. 1–Mar. 15.
Unauthorized entry is prohibited between sunset and sunrise.
Closed to all non-hunting activities during big game hunts

Wild hogs may be taken during any deer hunt by legal deer hunters.

Browntown

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons.

Buffalo Springs

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping
Special Regulations

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.
Waterfall parking area closed one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise.
Use or possession of alcohol is prohibited in the waterfall area.

Quail hunting closed. Quail training only during statewide quail season.

C. M. Gooch

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except Units A and E are closed during the waterfowl seasons and are closed to all activities five days before each opening of the late duck seasons.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit.

Closed to fall turkey season

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season

Waterfowl

Same as statewide season, except Gooch waterfowl hunting closes at 3:00 p.m. on Units A and E.
Waterfowl hunting on the last day of each segment of the duck and remaining goose seasons closes at sunset.
Fishing, trapping, and hunting of all species other than waterfowl is prohibited in Units A and E during the late duck seasons. On Gooch Unit E, no waterfowl hunters permitted on the unit or access area from two hours after legal shooting hours have ended until 4:00 a.m. the following day during the late duck season(s).
No permanent blinds. All temporary blinds, blind materials,

and boats must be removed from Unit E daily.

Gooch Unit E will be allocated by computer draw. Waterfowl hunting is restricted to temporary blind sites. Hunters are restricted to numbered stakes as specified by special instructions supplied by TWRA annually. Decoys may be left out over the specified hunt but must be removed upon completion of the hunt on the last day. Draw hunts will be Opening weekend (s), Monday-Thursday, and Friday-Sunday.

Camden Unit I

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping
Waterfowl

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Waterfowl hunting shall close at 3:00 p.m. (CST) each day of the regular statewide waterfowl seasons, except the last day of each segment of the late duck season and remaining goose seasons when hunting shall close at sunset.

Dog Training
Special Regulations

Sep. 1–Mar. 15, except closed during the late duck season.

All activities are prohibited in the sub-impoundments five days before each opening day of the statewide duck season.

Fishing, trapping, and hunting of all species other than waterfowl prohibited during the late duck season(s).

Camden Unit II

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Deer

Deer hunting will be with archery equipment only during waterfowl seasons. Archers must comply with the legal blaze orange requirements during the deer gun season.

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Mar. 15, except closed during late duck season.

Waterfowl (Wheelchair Bound only Blind Sites)

Application must be received by the TWRA Region I Office by noon on the 4th Friday in Oct. Persons holding a permit for another blind are not eligible to compete in the wheelchair-bound blind drawing. If blind is not occupied by shooting time, another wheelchair-bound hunter and 1 to 3 assistants (at least one assistant must be age 16 or older) may occupy the blind for that day. Hunting restricted to wheelchair hunters and assistants only within the marked wheelchair-hunting zone at designated blinds.

Catoosa

Small Game

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Raccoon and opossum season is Nov. 1 to sunrise Dec. 31. Dogs are not permitted during the spring squirrel season. Trapping and small game hunting closed during wild hog control season. Closed to quail hunting.

Deer (Archery)	Three hunts. Oct. 10-12, 13-15, 16-18. Archery equipment only. Area checking stations operated. Entire area open. One deer, either sex (bonus deer).
Deer (Muzzleloader)	One hunt. Nov. 19-22 Station quota: Genesis 1,000; Bicolor 1,000. One deer, buck only (bonus deer).
Deer (Gun)	One hunt. Nov. 12-15 Station quota: Genesis 1,000; Bicolor 1,000. One deer, buck only (bonus deer).
Deer (Gun)(Young-Sportsman)	One hunt. Oct. 31.-Nov. 1. Station quota: Genesis 100; Bicolor 100. Two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer).
Wild Hog (Control Season) (Dogs Permitted)	Dec. 9-13, Jan. 6-10 Entire area open. No limit, either sex. All participants in the hog control season must wear on the upper portion of their body and head a minimum of 500 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange, visible front and back. Participants may use any legal weapon and ammunition that is legal for taking Deer, Bear or Elk. Legal hours—One-half hour before sunrise and to one-half hour after sunset. Checking stations open on Catoosa—all hogs must be transported whole to the checking stations for data collection.
Deer (Gun)	One hunt. Dec. 3-6 Entire area open. One deer, buck only (bonus deer).
Bullfrog	Apr. 1–Sep. 1. No hunting during turkey hunts.
Turkey	Six hunts. Apr. 8-10, 12-14, 19-21, 22-24, 26-28 Apr. 29-May 1. One turkey per hunt, not to exceed four per season.
Turkey (Young-Sportsman)	One hunt. Apr. 16-17. One turkey (bonus bird).
Trapping	Dec. 15- Feb. 28.
Dog Training	Dog training is closed.
Special Regulations	Hunters required to check out big game and wild hogs at WMA check stations when stations are in operation. Walk-in hunting and trapping only from Feb. 1–last day of Feb. Closed to all hunting Mar. 1 through 4 th Friday in Aug., except during turkey and spring squirrel seasons. Antlered deer must have a minimum of 4 points on one antler or a 15-inch minimum outside antler spread on all hunts. Catoosa WMA will be closed to all users Feb. 1–last Friday in Mar., except walk-in hunters and trappers will be permitted Feb. 1–last day of Feb.

Guides prohibited on all hunts.

ATVs and motorized bikes are permitted only by individuals possessing a valid hunting and fishing license and WMA permit from the 4th Saturday in Aug. through the spring squirrel season. No entry onto the area except through gated TWRA access points.

Wild hogs may be taken during any deer hunt by legal deer hunters.

Rifles and handguns using center-fire ammunition are legal for hunting beaver, bobcat, foxes, coyotes, groundhogs, and crows only during big game seasons and the hunter must be a licensed legal big game hunter.

During big game hunts coyotes may be taken with any weapon legal for that hunt.

Chasing fox, coyote, or bobcat with dogs is not permitted.

Firing Range (Genesis Checking Station)

Open daily except during deer archery hunts and turkey hunts. Daylight hours only.

Firing Ranges (Peavine Campground)

Open Apr. 1 – Jan. 31, except closed during deer archery hunts and turkey hunts. Daylight hours only.

Cedar Hill Swamp

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Archery equipment only for Big Game.

Charlotte Ann Finnell Neal

Deer, Turkey, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Deer season closes Dec. 11. Archery equipment only for deer.

Small Game

Dec. 12–last day of Feb, except as noted. Squirrel season open from last Saturday in Aug. to Sep. 25, and during spring squirrel season. Dogs are not permitted during spring squirrel season.

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Mar. 15.

Special Regulations

Use of motorized vehicles prohibited.

Cheatham

Deer, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Buck only during muzzleloader and gun seasons.

Turkey

One hunt. Oct. 12-23. Hunter quota 150. Two turkeys, either sex.

Turkey

Same as statewide spring season.

Dog Training

Daylight hours only.

Firing Range

Open 12 noon until one hour after sunset daily. Automatic weapons prohibited.

Archery Range	Open daily. Field points only.
Cheatham Lake	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	<p>Same as statewide seasons on Sycamore Creek upstream from railroad trestle, Harpeth River upstream from Highway 49, and on Johnson Creek upstream from Johnson Creek Bridge.</p> <p>Hunting on remainder of Cheatham Lake WMA same as statewide season, except during the late duck season when hunting is open only on Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday, and the first and the last day of each segment of the late statewide duck season.</p> <p>Waterfowl hunting is permitted only from registered blind sites and from staked temporary blind sites during the late duck season.</p> <p>Hunting on Harpeth Island, Marks Creek, and Bluff Creek wade-in areas is not restricted to registered or staked temporary sites.</p> <p>Night hunting, trapping, and fishing prohibited in waterfowl impoundments during the waterfowl season.</p> <p>The sub-impoundment units as posted are closed to all types of activity five days before the opening of the first segment of the late duck season.</p>
Waterfowl (Wheelchair-bound only blind site)	Applications must be received by the TWRA Region II Office by noon on the 4 th Friday in October. Persons holding a permit for another blind are not eligible.
Dove	Same as statewide. Hunting permitted from designated fields only.
Dog Training	Sep. 1–Mar. 15, except closed during duck seasons.
Cheatham Lake – Pardue Pond Refuge and Dyson Ditch Refuge	
Big Game, Small Game	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Archery equipment only for deer.
Turkey	One hunt. Oct. 12-23. Hunter quota 50. Two turkeys, either sex.
Special Regulations	Access by boat only.
Cherokee	
Special Regulations	<p>Horseback riding on properties owned by the U.S. Forest Service shall be the same as U.S. Forest Service regulations. On those properties owned or leased by the TWRA, horseback riding is only permitted upon roads opened for vehicle travel: no riding off roads into openings, fields, trails, or through streams.</p> <p>Bobcat hunting with dogs prohibited. Dog training prohibited, except for Bear Dog Training Season in Carter, Cocke, Greene, Johnson, Monroe, Polk, Sullivan, Unicoi, and Washington counties, or as otherwise specified.</p>

	The use of and/or possession of any tracking device for dogs from Mar. 1–Aug. 15 is illegal. Hunting of coyotes with dogs prohibited.
North Cherokee	That portion of the Cherokee WMA lying north of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.
South Cherokee	That portion of the Cherokee WMA lying south of the Great Smoky Mountains National Park.
North Cherokee	
Special Regulations	<p>On property that is owned or leased by TWRA, ATV, and OHV operation is prohibited at all times at any location inside the boundaries of these properties.</p> <p>Only pointing breed dogs are permitted in the bear reserve one day before and during bear hunts.</p> <p>Wild hogs may be taken on any big game hunt with the weapon legal for that hunt, except wild hogs may not be taken in the bear reserves during bear season.</p>
Dove, Grouse, Quail, Rabbit, Snipe, Squirrel, Trapping	<p>Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.</p> <p>Small game hunters (except raccoon and opossum hunters between sunset and sunrise) must wear 500-square inches of fluorescent orange during big game muzzleloader and gun hunts.</p> <p>Beaver and coyote may be taken on any hunt with weapon legal for that hunt.</p> <p>Groundhog, fox, and skunk may be taken on any small game hunt with weapon legal for that hunt. Fox closed in Washington County.</p> <p>Bobcat may be taken on any scheduled big game or small game hunt that coincides with the statewide bobcat season with weapons legal for the scheduled hunt. No dogs allowed.</p> <p>Spring squirrel season is closed.</p>
Deer, Turkey	Same as statewide seasons, except closed to special county antlerless hunts.
Opossum, Raccoon	Oct.9–last day in Feb. Season closed Oct. 9-25, Nov. 2-6, Nov. 21-24, Nov.30-Dec.19 in all bear reserves.
Bear Dog Training Season	Sep. 3-28. No bears may be harvested. No weapons may be possessed. No training in bear reserves.
Bear	Same as statewide season, except closed Sep. 26–Oct. 4
South Cherokee	
Dove, Grouse, Quail, Rabbit, Snipe, Squirrel, Waterfowl, Woodcock	<p>Same as statewide, except as noted.</p> <p>Small game hunters, except raccoon and opossum hunters, must wear 500-square inches of fluorescent orange during big game muzzleloader and gun hunts.</p> <p>Spring squirrel season is closed.</p> <p>Closed to all hunting Mar. 1 – 4th Friday in Aug., except</p>

during turkey season.

Small game hunting in bear reserves and party hunt area during scheduled party hunts prohibited one day before and during bear (dogs permitted) hunts.

The use and/or possession of any tracking device for squirrel dogs is prohibited. Squirrel hunters utilizing dogs are limited to a maximum of 2 dogs per vehicle.

Dogs permitted for squirrel hunting outside of Bear Reserves during bear dog hunts and Jan. 2 – last day of Feb.

It is illegal to possess firearms with any breed of dog other than pointing breeds during daylight hours, excluding bear season, except as provided.

Season open on groundhog, fox and skunk during any small game hunt with weapons legal for that small game hunt. Bobcat may be taken on any scheduled big game or small game hunt that coincides with the statewide bobcat season with weapon legal for that scheduled hunt. Beaver and coyote may be taken on any hunt with weapon legal for that hunt.

Deer/Bear (Archery)

One hunt. Sep.19-Oct. 1. One deer, either sex (bonus deer). One bear, either sex, outside of bear reserves.

Deer (Muzzleloader)

One hunt. Oct. 26-Nov.1. One deer, buck only (bonus deer).

Deer (Gun)(Young-Sportsman)

One hunt. Oct. 17-18. One deer, either sex (bonus deer).

Deer (Gun)

Two hunts. Nov. 21 - 29, Dec.14-28. Two deer, buck only (bonus deer).

Bear (Gun)(Dogs Permitted)

Four hunts. Oct. 3-11, Nov. 2-6, Nov.30-Dec. 13, Dec. 29-Jan.1. One bear, either sex. Hunting confined to that area outside the Ocoee and Tellico Bear Reserves.

Bear Party-Dog Hunts (Gun)(Dogs Permitted)

Four hunts. Oct. 3-4, Oct. 10-11, Nov. 2-3, Nov. 30-Dec.1
Quota party dog hunts, 75 permits per party. One party permitted in each of the following areas: Upper Tellico, Lower Tellico, Upper Bald River, and Lower Bald River.
One bear, either sex.

Party-Dog Area closed during scheduled quota party-dog hunts.

Non-hunting juveniles under the age of 13 may accompany an adult hunter (18 years old or older) who has a valid party-hunt permit. Juveniles must also comply with all regulations specified for permitted hunters.

Opossum, Raccoon

Outside of Tellico and Ocoee Bear Reserves Nov. 7-19, Jan. 2-last day of Feb. Inside Tellico and Ocoee Bear Reserves Jan. 2-Feb. 1, limited to a maximum of two dogs per vehicle.

Bear Dog Training Season

Sep. 9-18. No bears may be harvested. No weapons may be possessed. No training in bear reserves.

Turkey Same as statewide spring turkey season.
Trapping Jan. 1– Feb. 28.
Special Regulations Bear reserves are closed to all big game hunting when the bear (dogs permitted) season is open on the South Cherokee.
22 caliber short, and long rifle are the only legal weapons on a raccoon hunt.
Wild hogs may be taken during any deer or bear hunt with no limit.

Chickamauga

(Shelton Bottoms, Mud Creek, New Bethal, Moon Island, Cottonport, Washington Ferry, Goodfield Creek, Gillespie Bend, Agency Creek, Ledford Island, Sugar Creek, South Mouse Creek Units).

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping Same as statewide hunting and trapping seasons. No waterfowl hunters permitted on Units from two hours after legal shooting hours have ended until 4:00 a.m. the following day during the duck season(s). Closed to quail hunting.

(Candies Creek, Rogers Creek, Yellow Creek, Johnson Bottoms Units)

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping Same as statewide seasons, except units closed to all forms of trespass including fishing, trapping and hunting for all species except waterfowl from the first opening day of the late duck season until the last day of the late duck season and on the day before and during the Youth Waterfowl hunts. Closed to quail hunting.

Waterfowl Designated blind sites will be allocated by computer draw. Waterfowl hunting is restricted to temporary blind sites. Hunters are restricted to blind sites or numbered stakes as specified by special instructions supplied by TWRA annually.
All hunters in a party are required to hunt in the same temporary blind site for which they are drawn.
Decoys and temporary blinds may be left out over the specified hunt but decoys must be removed upon completion of the hunt on the last day.
Only waterfowl hunting permitted on Thursday, Friday, Saturday, and Sunday and the opening and closing day of the duck season.
Waterfowl hunting ends at 3:00 p.m. on Thursday and Friday.
No waterfowl hunters or other activities permitted on Units from two hours after the end of the waterfowl hunting hours until 4:00 a.m. the following day during the duck season(s).

Youth hunters during the Youth Waterfowl season must enter the hunting area only from established TWRA parking areas.

Dog Training

Sep. 1-Mar. 15, except closed during late duck season.

(Soddy and Sale Creek Units)

Big Game, Small Game

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Closed to quail hunting.

Special regulations

Deer hunting with archery equipment only. Archery hunters must comply with hunter orange requirements during the statewide deer gun or muzzleloader seasons.

Shotguns loaded with No. 4 shot or smaller only (except waterfowl). Waterfowl hunting restricted to use of shotguns loaded with No. 2 shot or smaller.

Chickasaw State Forest

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons.

Chuck Swan

Dove, Rabbit, Squirrel, Waterfowl

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Waterfowl hunting is closed as posted.

Raccoon

Seven 1-night hunts. Nov. 8-14. Hunters must check out by 1:00 a.m. All raccoons must be checked out. One raccoon per party. A party is defined as all the occupants of a single vehicle.

Coyote

Jun 6 – Aug 14, 2016. Centerfire allowed. Free permit required

Deer (Archery)

One hunt. Oct. 16-17. Hunter quota 400. One deer, either sex. Deer counts toward statewide bag.

Deer (Gun)(Young-Sportsman)

One hunt. Oct. 24-25. Hunter quota 200. One deer, either sex. Deer counts toward statewide bag.

Deer (Gun)

Two hunts. Dec. 4-5, 11-12. Hunter quota 650. One deer, buck only. Deer counts toward statewide bag.

Deer (Muzzleloader)

One hunt. Nov. 27-28. Hunter quota 650. One deer, buck only. Deer counts toward statewide bag.

Turkey

Five hunts: Mar. 24-26, Mar. 31-Apr. 2, 7-9, 14-16, 21-23. Hunter quota 150. One turkey per hunt (bonus bird). Hunting ends at noon each day. Hunter must sign in and out at check station and be out by 1:00 p.m.

Trapping

Jan. 4-Feb 29. No raccoons. Quota is one party per compartment. Trappers must apply at WMA office. No snares or conibear traps. Trappers must report catch annually.

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Mar. 15, daylight hours only. Pointing breed dogs prohibited.

Special Regulations

Guides, deer driving, loud noises, and harassment on all deer hunts, and entering the wildlife management area from Norris Lake during the deer and turkey hunts prohibited.

Horses, ATVs, ORVs, bicycles, non-licensed passenger vehicles, and motorcycles are prohibited on the Main Forest Road. The Main Forest Road is defined as the road beginning at the big game checking station and ending at the intersection of the Back Valley, Forks of the River, and Big Loop roads.

A licensed vehicle is defined as a vehicle that is tagged, registered, and insured and is legal to operate on county, state, and federal highways.

Organized competition events for motorized/non-motorized vehicles prohibited. The maximum noise limit for all motorized vehicles is 86 dBa, as measured 50 feet from the exhaust, except as otherwise permitted.

The maximum speed limit is 25 mph or less if otherwise posted.

Beaver and coyote may be taken on any hunt with weapon legal for that hunt.

Groundhog, fox, and skunk may be taken on any small game hunt with weapon legal for that hunt.

Bobcat may be taken on any scheduled big game or small game hunt that coincides with the statewide bobcat season with weapon legal for the scheduled hunt.

Range open Thur/Fri from noon-sunset and Sat/Sun from sunrise to sunset. Closed during all big game quota hunts. No buckshot allowed on range.

Cordell Hull

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except deer hunting ends Dec. 11. Wheelchair-bound hunter zone open to wheelchair-bound hunters only. Deer bag limit is two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer) in the wheelchair-bound zone on Nov. 21-22. Closed to quail hunting.

(Defeated Creek Unit)

Same as statewide seasons except as noted. Closed to quail hunting. Archery equipment only for deer hunting. Shotguns only for small game hunting. Defeated Creek Unit is that area of Defeated Creek that extends from the main river channel to the corps of Engineers boundary along Defeated Creek excluding Defeated Creek Recreational Area.

Turkey (Wheelchair-bound Hunter Only Zone)	Apr.2-May 15. Wheelchair-bound hunters only. Two turkeys, either sex (bonus bird).
Wheelchair-bound Hunter Only Zone	That area in the old "Corps of Engineers Roaring River Campground" area of Cordell Hull WMA (north of Hwy. 135, north of Roaring River, south and east of Hwy. 85, and west of Old Roaring River Iron Bridge Road.
Dog Training	Sep. 1–Mar. 15.
Cordell Hull Refuge	
Big Game, Small Game	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Deer season is Sep. 28-Nov.1 Closed to quail hunting.
Deer (Archery)(Wheelchair-bound Hunter Only)	One hunt. Sep. 26-27. One deer, either sex (bonus deer).
Deer (Gun)(Wheelchair-bound Hunter Only)	One hunt. Nov. 7-8. One deer, either sex (bonus deer)
Dog Training	Sep. 1–Mar. 15, daylight hours only.
Special Regulations	Fishing by boat allowed during refuge closure in marked river channel only.
Cove Creek	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons.
Cummings Cove	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.
Dog Training	Sep. 1–Mar. 15.
Cypress Pond Refuge	
Big Game, Small Game	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Closed to waterfowl hunting.
Dove	Sept 1, noon-sunset. Closed Sept 2-4. Re-opens Sept. 5 continuing with statewide season.
Dog Training	Closed.
Dry Creek	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons.
Eagle Creek	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons.

Eagle Lake Refuge

Big Game, Small Game	Same as statewide seasons and bag limits, except as noted. Hunting allowed Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday only. Waterfowl season is closed.
Turkey	One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Hunt days are Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Bag limit one bearded turkey, counts toward statewide bag limit
Turkey (Young Sportsman)	Same as statewide season and bag limit
Dog Training	Closed
Special Regulations	Except for the Bomprezzi Unit, Eagle Lake Refuge is closed to all hunting Nov. 15–last day of Feb. Nontoxic shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service required for small game hunting. Access to the south end of Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park and Natural Area WMA through Eagle Lake Refuge will be permitted during hunting seasons. Observation tower open only during Meeman Shelby Forest hunt days that coincide with the hunting season.

(Bomprezzi Unit of Eagle Lake Refuge)

Big Game, Small Game	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.
Turkey	One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the statewide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey, counts toward statewide bag limit.
Turkey (Young Sportsman)	Same as statewide season and bag limit
Special Regulations	Shotgun only for small game. Center-fire rifles prohibited for deer. No antlerless deer may be taken during the statewide deer gun season.

Edgar Evins State Park

Big Game, Small Game	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Closed to spring squirrel hunting on north side of Center Hill Lake.
Deer (Safety Zone)(Archery)	One hunt. Oct. 14-15. Hunter quota 150. Bag limit two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer). Sign up for hand-held drawing which will be from 8am-12 noon CST Sept. 9 at Park office.
Dog Training	Same as statewide seasons, except closed on north side of Center Hill Lake.

Enterprise South Nature Park

- Closed to hunting, trapping and dog training, except as noted.
- Deer (Shotgun – Hunts for Warriors) One hunt. Oct. 19-20. Hunter quota 15. Two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer)
- Special Regulations Hunters are required to check out big game at WMA check stations when stations are in operation.

Ernest Rice, Sr.

- Small Game, Trapping Same as statewide season, except small game hunting is closed during the big game gun hunts except as noted.
- Waterfowl, Raccoon, Opossum Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Waterfowl, raccoon, and opossum seasons are not closed during the big game hunts.
- Deer Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Archery equipment only. Bucks must be spike or nine antler points or better. Archers must comply with legal blaze orange requirements during Muzzleloader and Gun seasons.
- Deer (Gun) One hunt. Beginning the third Saturday of December to run 7 consecutive days. One deer, antlered only. Bucks must be spike or nine antler points or better.
- Deer (Gun)(Young-Sportsman) Open with statewide seasons. No antler requirement on this hunt
- Turkey One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit.
- Turkey (Young Sportsman) Same as statewide season
- Dog Training Closed.

Fall Creek Falls State Park

- Squirrel Dec. 1–last day of Feb. Shotguns only. Spring squirrel season is closed.
- Deer (Archery) Four hunts. Nov. 7-9, 10-12, 13-15, Dec. 18-20. Two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer). One turkey either sex.
- Deer (Hunts for Warriors) (Shotgun/Muzzleloader)(Golf Course Zone) One hunt. Dec. 1-2. Hunter quota 15. Two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer).
- Turkey (Archery) One hunt. Apr.2-10. One turkey per day, not to exceed two turkeys (bonus bird).

Dog Training
Special Regulations

Closed.

Vehicle parking restricted to designated parking areas only during the hunting season. No parking permitted at all on roadside grass. All deer and turkey hunters must sign register at horse stables before hunting.

Coyotes may be taken on any hunt with weapons legal for that hunt.

Flintville Hatchery

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Archery equipment only for deer. Guns may be used on Young-Sportsman hunts and during fall turkey season.

Dog Training

Daylight hours only.

Foothills

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Closed to hunting Mar. 1st through 4th Friday in Aug., except for spring turkey.

Quail

Closed

Opossum, Raccoon

Jan. 1-Feb. 28.

Dog training

Closed.

Special Regulations

Motorized vehicles and horseback riding prohibited.

The use of and/or possession of any tracking device for dogs from Mar. 1 to Aug. 31 is not permitted.

Blaze orange required by small game hunters during big game muzzleloader and gun hunts (excluding spring turkey).

Wild hogs may be taken during any hunt.

Forks of the River

Big Game, Small Game

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

All hunting is closed from Mar. 1 through 4th Friday in Aug., except for spring squirrel and spring turkey season.

Pigeon is open with dove season.

Sep. waterfowl seasons closed.

Dove

Sep. 1, 5 and the remainder of the statewide season.

Designated youth field will be closed until Sep. 6.

Dove (Youth/Adult)

Youth/Adult field will be open Sep. 5 to youths who must be accompanied by a licensed adult who may also hunt this field.

Falconry and Crow

Opens 2nd Sat. in Sept. and runs concurrent with statewide season

Special Regulations

Shotguns, Muzzleloader, and Archery equipment only.
Area closed one hour after sunset to one hour before sunrise, except for raccoon and opossum hunters and scheduled events.

From Sept 6 – Feb 29. Closed on Tues. and Thurs. to non-hunters except for the paved greenway and Whaley trail. On Sat and Sun area closed to non-hunters till noon except for the paved greenway and Whaley trail.

From Apr.2 - May 15 (Spring turkey) area closed to non-hunters till noon except for the paved greenway and Whaley trail.

Paintball guns and accessories prohibited.

All animals accompanied by a non-hunting person are required to be leashed.

Fort Loudoun

Waterfowl

Same as statewide seasons, except open only on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, one-half hour before sunrise until noon. Size BBB or smaller required.

Dog Training

Closed.

Fort Ridge

Big game, small game, and trapping

Same as statewide seasons except as noted.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit. Closed to fall turkey season.

Turkey (Young-Sportsman)

Same as statewide season.

Fourth Fractional Township

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Archery equipment only for big game.

Small game hunting with shotguns only, using No. 6 shot or smaller.

Beagles and pointing breeds only. Dogs are not permitted during spring squirrel season.

Dog Training

Beagles and pointing breeds only. No dog training allowed during spring turkey season

Special Regulations

ATVs and motorcycles prohibited.

Gallatin Steam Plant (*Free Gallatin Steam Plant Permit required in addition to WMA Permit)

Deer/Turkey

Same as statewide season, except as noted. Archery equipment only.

Dog Training

Closed.

Special Regulations

Parking in designated areas. No camping. Scouting begins one week prior to opening day.

Haley-Jaqueth

Deer, Turkey

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Archery equipment only for deer.

Dove

Sep.5 Youth only (6-16) accompanied by a non-hunting adult and shooting is from staked positions only. Sep. 7 and every Saturday thereafter of the 1st segment open to all ages. All hunting is on designated field only.

Designated field only for dove.

Dog Training

Daylight hours only.

Happy Hollow

Small Game

Same as statewide season. No hunting the night before or during big game hunts.

Deer (Archery, Muzzleloader, Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season

Deer (Gun)

Three hunts. Nov. 21-23, Dec.12-14, 26-28. Hunter quota 80. Two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer).

Turkey

Two hunts. Apr. 2-5, 21-24. Hunter quota 50. One bearded bird. Closed to fall turkey season.

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season

Harmon Creek

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons.

Harp

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons

Dog Training

Sep. 1 – Mar. 15.

Hart's Mill

Big game, small game, trapping

Same as statewide seasons and bag limits except as noted.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit. Closed to fall turkey season.

Turkey (Young-Sportsman)

Same as statewide season.

Haynes Bottom

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

During the late duck season, waterfowl and small game hunting is open only on Wednesday, Thursday, Saturday, Sunday, and the first and last day of each segment of the late statewide duck season.

Waterfowl

Waterfowl hunting permitted only from registered blind sites beginning with the first day of the late duck season.

Special Regulations

Night hunting, trapping, dog training, and fishing prohibited in the waterfowl impoundment from Oct. 15-May 31.

Participating waterfowl hunters only in the bottoms during waterfowl seasons.

No horseback riding during big game hunts.

Dog Training

Open year round. Daylight hours only

Headwaters

Big Game, Small Game

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Closed to quail hunting.

Blaze orange required by all users during deer muzzleloader and gun hunts

Night hunting prohibited

Dog training daylight hours only

Horseback riding on designated trail only

No ATVs permitted

Parking in designated areas only

No parking at Blanton School Road gate (May 31-Sept 15).
Use River Road Trail access/parking during Blanton School gate closure.

Henderson Island Refuge

Big Game, Small Game

Same as statewide, except as noted. All small game hunting and dog training, excluding raccoon and opossum, closes at 4pm.

Rabbit

Nov. 1–14.

Quail

Closed.

Dog training

Rabbit and quail: Oct. 1-Nov. 14.
All other: Mar. 1–Oct. 31.

Special Regulations

Nontoxic shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service required for small game hunting as posted.

All small game hunting is Youth/Adult only. Youths must be accompanied by a licensed adult who may also hunt.

Public entry and fishing permitted while on the main river channel passing through the refuge.

Blaze orange required by small game hunters during big game muzzleloader and gun hunts (excluding spring turkey).

Horses prohibited.

Hick Hill

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons.

Hickory Flats

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons.

Hiwassee Refuge

Dove

Sep. 1, 12. Noon to sunset only. No access permitted by boat.

Dove (Youth)

Sep. 5. Noon to sunset only. No access permitted by boat.

Squirrel	Same as statewide seasons except as noted.
Rabbit	Nov.2-14. Bag limit of three per day
Opossum, Raccoon	Sep.8-Nov. 7. Hunting will be limited to Tuesday and Wednesday nights only.
Canada Goose	Sep. 1–15. No goose hunters permitted on refuge from two hours after shooting hours have ended until 4:00 a.m. the following day.
Wood Duck/Teal	Same as Sep. Wood Duck/Teal season. No duck hunters permitted on the refuge from two hours after shooting hours have ended until 4:00 a.m. the following day.
Deer (Shotgun–Muzzleloader)(Young-Sportsman)	One hunt. Sep.19-20. Hunter quota 100. Two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer).
Deer (Archery)	One hunt. Sep.25-27. Hunter quota 200. Two deer no more than one antlered, one turkey either sex. (bonus deer).
Deer (Archery)	One hunt. Oct 9-11. Two deer, no more than one antlered, one turkey either sex. (bonus deer).
Deer (Muzzleloader)	One hunt. Oct. 23-25. Hunter quota 150. Two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer).
Deer (Muzzleloader)	One hunt. Oct.30 - Nov. 1. Hunter quota 150. Two deer, no more than one antlered. (bonus deer).
Turkey	Same as statewide spring turkey season.
Dog Training	Sep. 1–Mar. 15, daylight hours only.
Retriever Dog Field Trials	Pre–approved by Area Manager at least 30 days in advance of trial dates.
Special Regulations	<p>During refuge closure, public entry and fishing is permitted while on the main river channel passing through the refuge. Nontoxic shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service required for small game hunting.</p> <p>Bobcat may be taken on any scheduled big game or small game hunt that coincides with the statewide bobcat season. Beaver and coyote may be taken on any hunt with weapons legal for that hunt. Season open on groundhog, fox and skunk during any scheduled small game hunt</p>
Holly Fork	Closed to hunting, trapping, and dog training.
Hop–In Refuge	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Closed to dove and waterfowl hunting.
Turkey	One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the

state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit.

Closed to Fall Turkey Season

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season

Special Regulations

Closed Nov. 1–last day in Feb. to all forms of use and trespass unless otherwise indicated.

Horns Bluff Refuge

Big Game, Small Game

Refuge Closed November 15 to Feb 15. Observation areas closed sunset to sunrise.

Same as statewide seasons except for closure dates. Deer hunting with archery equipment only. Closed to Quail hunting or taking.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit.

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season and bag limit

Waterfowl

North unit (portion of refuge north of Middle Fork Forked Deer River Canal) open to waterfowl hunting on Saturday and Sunday during late duck season(s). Walk-in only. No blinds, decoys, materials may be left overnight. All hunting shall cease at 3pm except the last day of the season when hunting closes at sunset. No access before 4am or after 5pm. No access during refuge closure dates except for waterfowl hunters on open hunt days..

Jackson Swamp

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Closed to quail hunting.

Dove

One hunt. Sep.1 by handheld drawing.

Sep.2-remainder of statewide season, open with statewide season

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Mar. 15.

Jarrell Switch Refuge

Big Game, Small Game

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Closed to waterfowl hunting.

John Tully

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Antlered deer must be spikes or must have 9 points or more.

No antlerless deer to be taken during the gun season.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit.

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season

Dove

Open at noon September 5 through the remainder of the statewide seasons. One youth-only field and two adult fields.

Waterfowl

Same as statewide seasons. Hunting ends at 3:00 p.m. except the last day of the late waterfowl season(s) and youth season(s) when hunting ends at sunset.

Waterfowl (Fig Field Unit/Fullen North and South Tracts)

Fig Field Unit is that land North of Grammer Road. Open with statewide seasons. Waterfowl Hunting will be allocated by hand held weekly draw hunts For 3 day hunts Friday-Sunday and Opening weekend(s). The hand held drawing will be held on the Monday prior to the hunt at 6:00 pm at the John Tully Field Office. Hunting will only be allowed from designated locations. Waterfowl hunting closes at 3:00 pm except the last day of the late waterfowl season(s) and youth seasons(s) when hunting ends at sunset.

Keyes-Harrison

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Dogs are not permitted during the spring squirrel season. Closed to quail hunting.

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Mar. 15.

Kingston Refuge

Closed to hunting, trapping and dog training.

Kyker Bottoms Refuge

Big Game, Small Game

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Deer hunting is open during archery and youth only.

Turkey is Youth/Adult only. Open Friday-Sunday only. Youth must be accompanied by a licensed adult who may also hunt.

Rabbit, Quail

Nov. 1–14. Quail bag limit 2/day, rabbit and quail hunting closes at 4pm.

Raccoon

Sept. 11-12, 18-19

Dog training

Rabbit and quail: Oct. 1–Oct. 31.

Special Regulations

Nontoxic shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service required for small game hunting as posted.

All small game hunting is Youth/Adult only. Youths must be accompanied by a licensed adult who may also hunt.

Blaze orange required by small game hunters during big game muzzleloader and gun hunts (excluding spring turkey).

Wild hogs may be taken on any deer and turkey hunt with hunting devices legal for those hunts.

Kyles Ford

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. All small game hunting and dog training excluding raccoon/opossum closes at 4pm.

Quail

Open to dog training only. Quail dog training open only during quail season.

Rabbit Dog Training

Oct.1 – Oct. 31

Special Regulation

Blaze orange required by small game hunters during big game muzzleloader and gun hunts (excluding spring turkey).

Land Between the Lakes

Squirrel

The 3rd Saturday in Aug.–the Friday before the 4th Saturday in Sep., Oct. 1–14, and Dec. 1–last day of Feb. Spring season same as statewide season.

Dove, Snipe, Woodcock

According to state and federal regulations, open on small game hunt dates that coincide with state seasons.

Fox, Quail, Rabbit

Dec. 1–last day of Feb., except quail to close on Jan. 15.

Bobcat/Otter	Dec. 1-- Last day of February.
Coyote, Armadillo, Ground Hog	May be taken during daylight hours only by legally licensed hunters during any open season with weapons specified for that season. Also may be taken with centerfire rifles, handguns, and shotguns with shot size T or smaller during the month of Feb.
Opossum, Raccoon	Sunset Dec. 1-- sunrise the last day of February. Two raccoons per person per night.
Crow	Open during any LBL small game season that coincides with the statewide crow season.
Fox Chasing	From sunset to sunrise, 3 rd Saturday in Aug. through the 3 rd Saturday in Sep. LBL Hunter Use Permit required.
Geese	Same as the statewide goose season, except closed on LBL deer quota hunt dates.
Ducks	Early duck season same as statewide season.
Waterfowl Hunting	Waterfowl hunting will be permitted during the statewide season throughout the Tennessee portion of LBL, except on designated, signed, refuge areas, nature watch areas, and public use areas, and on deer quota hunt dates. Permanent blinds are not allowed on LBL.
Trapping	Fourteen consecutive days beginning the 2nd Monday in Jan. LBL hunt areas as designated in LBL. Designated problem areas as assigned. All species equipment and methods to conform with statewide regulations. Trappers must obtain a trapping permit in advance at the Golden Pond Administration Office, and report their harvest in accordance to LBL instructions. Additional beaver -trapping season: Feb. 1--last day of Feb. All areas open, except Nature Watch Area, wildlife refuges, safety zones around facilities, and other areas posted as closed to hunting.
Dog Training	Quail, rabbit and raccoon chasing only. Oct. 1--31. Except closed from sunset Friday until sunrise Monday of the youth deer hunt weekend. LBL Hunter Use Permit required. Training permitted only in designated areas.
Bullfrog	May 15--Aug. 31. Gigs only. Bag limit 15.
Small Game (Archery Only)	Squirrel, groundhog, and fox may be taken during deer archery season only by legally licensed and equipped deer archery hunters. Statewide limits apply. Arrows must be equipped with broad-heads according to deer regulations or small game points.
Deer	During the September through January deer seasons, there is an LBL-wide one antlered buck limit per hunter, whether by gun, bow, quota, or non-quota, TN or KY hunt.
Deer/Turkey (Archery)	The 4 th Saturday in Sep. through the end of the statewide season, except for quota hunt days and one day immediately before each quota hunt. Archery equipment to

	conform to state regulations. One turkey, either sex (bonus bird). Two white-tailed deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer).
Deer (Gun)(Young-Sportsman)	One two-day hunt, beginning the third Saturday in October. Hunter quota 800. One white-tailed deer, either sex (bonus deer). Youths must be accompanied by an adult, and all youths must have received hunter safety instructions (see LBL website at www.lbl.org).
Deer (Gun)	One two-day hunt, beginning two Fridays before Thanksgiving Day. Hunter quota 1,000. One white-tailed deer, either sex (bonus deer).
Deer (Gun)	One two-day hunt, beginning on Saturday after Thanksgiving Day. Hunter quota 1,000. One white-tailed deer, either sex (bonus deer).
Deer (Other)	Up to 100 permits may be issued for special hunts.
Turkey (Young-Sportsman)	One two-day hunt, beginning on Saturday after the Saturday closest to April 1. Hunter quota 200. One turkey (bonus bird).
Turkey	One two-day hunt on Tuesday and Wednesday before the Saturday closest to April 15. Hunter quota 250. One two-day hunt beginning on the Saturday closest to April 15. Hunter quota 200. One turkey (bonus bird).
Turkey	One seven-day non-quota hunt, beginning Monday following the Saturday closest to April 15. One turkey (not bonus).
Turkey	One seven-day nonquota hunt beginning the second Monday following the Saturday closest to April 15. One turkey (not bonus).
Baiting	The placement of any bait to attract wildlife, including food or mineral substances is prohibited on LBL.
Areas open to hunting	All areas lying in Tennessee portion are open to hunting except: Nature Watch Area, wildlife refuges, safety zones around facilities, and areas posted as closed. The back half of Rushing Bay is closed to all activity Nov. 1-Mar. 15.
Field Trials:	
Raccoon Field Trials, Bird Dogs, Beagles and Retriever Field Trials	July 1-Mar. 31. Forest Service Special Use permit required.
Laurel Hill	
Small Game	Same as statewide season except as noted. Coyote may be taken during daylight hours only during any open season with weapons specified for that season.

	Bobcat may be taken on any scheduled big game or small game hunt that coincides with statewide bobcat season with weapon legal for that hunt.
Raccoon/Opossum	Sept. 11 - Feb. 28. Bag limit 2 raccoon per person per night. Opossum: no limit. Hunting closed at sunset the day before and during big game hunts
Dove	Same as statewide dove season. All fields open.
Fox Chasing	No fox chasing permitted.
Deer(Archery)	One hunt. Sep.19 - Oct. 4. archery equipment only. Three deer, either sex (bonus deer).
Deer (Gun)(Young-Sportsman)	One hunt. Oct. 10-11. One deer, either sex (bonus deer), no antler restrictions.
Deer (Muzzleloader)	One hunt. Oct. 15-18. Hunter quota 500. One deer, Buck only (bonus deer).
Deer (Gun)	Three hunts. Oct.23-25, Nov. 13-15, Nov. 27-29. Hunter quota 500. One deer, buck only (bonus deer).
Turkey	Same as statewide spring turkey season.
Trapping	Dec. 1-Feb. 11.
Dog Training	Sep. 1-Mar. 15, daylight hours only. No training during big game hunts.
Special Regulations	<p>Special buck regulations apply on all deer hunts. Bucks must have at least four antler points on one side or a 15 inch minimum outside spread.</p> <p>All horses must be ridden on designated trails or roads open to motorized vehicles.</p> <p>Possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited while horseback riding.</p> <p>Foot traffic only beyond cables/gates during spring turkey season</p>
Shields Farm Unit	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Centerfire rifles and handguns prohibited.
Lick Creek	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons.
Lick Creek Bottoms	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. All small game hunting and dog training excluding raccoon/opossum

	closes at 4pm.
Quail	Open to training only. Training open only during the statewide quail season.
Rabbit Dog Training	Oct.1-Oct.31
Dove	Sep. 1,remainder of statewide season. Sept.5, Youth/Adult only, from sunrise to noon then open to all hunters.
Waterfowl (Early seasons)	Wood Duck/Teal, Teal only, Canada Goose. Same as statewide seasonsSouth Mohawk, Skinner, and Foxgate units open on Tues., Sat. and closing day of the season only. Hunting closes at noon except for the last day that ends at sunset. Waterfowl hunting will be allocated by hand held weekly drawings. Hunting allowed from staked positions or designated pools only. Hunters may be accompanied by up to three guests. Remainder of the area is open with statewide seasons with no stake/pool restrictions or drawings. No access prior to 4am. Remainder of the area is open with statewide seasons with no stake/pool restrictions.
Waterfowl (Late seasons)	After the closing of youth waterfowl season, goose season is open with statewide season with no stake/pool restrictions or drawings. South Mohawk, Skinner, and Foxgate Units are open with the statewide season on a first come, first serve basis at designated stakes and pools as posted.
Waterfowl (Youth)	Nontoxic shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service required for small game (including dove) hunting in the Mohawk Field.
Special Regulations	Blaze orange required by small game hunters during big game muzzleloader and gun hunts (excluding spring turkey). No permanent blinds. All decoys, temporary blinds, blind materials and boats must be removed at the end of legal hunting.
Joachim Bible Waterfowl Refuge Unit (that portion of Lick Creek WMA between Murray Bridge Road, Bibles Chapel Road, and South Mohawk Road)	
Big Game, Small Game	Same as statewide, except as noted. All small game hunting and dog training, excluding raccoon/opossum, closes at 4pm.
Dove	Sep. 5 and everyday thereafter during the first and second segments.
Quail	Closed.
Rabbit	Nov. 1-14. Bag limit 2 rabbits/day.

Dog training	Rabbit and quail: Oct.1-Oct. 31. All other: Mar. 1–Oct. 31.
Special Regulations	Waterfowl Closed Nontoxic shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service required for small game (including dove) hunting as posted. All small game hunting is Youth/Adult only. Youths must be accompanied by a licensed adult who may also hunt.
Luper Mountain	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Dogs are not permitted during the spring squirrel season.
Dog Training	Sep. 1–Mar. 15.
Maness Swamp Refuge	
Big Game, Small Game	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.
Turkey	One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit. Closed to fall turkey season
Turkey (Young Sportsman)	Same as statewide season
Special Regulations	Closed Nov. 1–Feb. 14 to all forms of use and trespass unless otherwise indicated.
Maple Springs	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons.
McGlothin-Largen	
Deer, Turkey, Waterfowl	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Deer season Closes Dec.11. Archery equipment only for deer. Waterfowl season closed for Sep. wood duck, teal, and Canada goose seasons.
Rabbit	Dec.12 to last day of Feb. on Sat. and Sun. only. Bag limit of three per day.
Squirrel	Last Saturday in Aug. to Sep. 25; Dec. 12–last day of Feb, and during spring squirrel season except as noted. Shotguns with Number 6 shot or smaller only.
Dove	Sep. 1, 5. Noon to sunset only on Sept 1
Dog Training	Sep. 1–Mar. 15. Beagles and pointing breeds only.
Special Regulations	Use of motorized vehicles prohibited

Meeman-Shelby Forest State Park and Natural Area

Special Squirrel Hunt (Youth)

3rd Saturday in Aug.

Big Game, Small Game

Open Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday within statewide seasons, except as noted.

No antlerless deer may be taken during the statewide deer gun season.

Spring Squirrel season is closed.

Waterfowl

Waterfowl Hunting Draw Zone. Late season Waterfowl hunting will be allocated by computer draw and is restricted to temporary blind sites. Hunters are restricted to numbered stakes as specified by special instructions supplied by TWRA annually. Decoys may be left out over the specified hunt but must be removed upon completion of the hunt on the last day. Draw hunts will be Opening day(s) and Thursday-Saturday. Hunting will be limited to designated areas.

Waterfowl Hunting Non-Draw Zone. Same as statewide seasons on Opening day(s) and Thursday-Saturday.

Waterfowl (Youth)

Saturday(s) of the Statewide Youth Waterfowl season.

Turkey (Young-Sportsman)

One hunt. The Sat. (Mar. 26) of the Statewide youth turkey season. One bearded turkey.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Hunt days are Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday. Bag limit one bearded turkey, counts toward statewide bag limit

Trapping

Beaver trapping by special permit only. Trapping of all other species prohibited.

Dog Training

Open Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, Sep. 1–Mar. 15.

Field Trials

Sep. 1–Apr. 30.

Special Regulations

Shotgun, muzzleloader, and archery equipment only. Rifles and handguns prohibited.

Small game hunters must meet hunter orange requirements.

Mingo Swamp

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons.

Moss Island

Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons, except small game hunting is closed during the big game gun hunts except as noted.
Waterfowl, Raccoon, Opossum	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Waterfowl, raccoon, and opossum seasons are not closed during the big game hunts.
Deer	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Archery equipment only. Bucks must be spike or nine antler points or better. Archers must comply with legal blaze orange requirements during Muzzleloader and Gun Seasons.
Deer (Gun)	One hunt. Beginning the third Saturday of December to run 7 consecutive days. One deer antlered only. Bucks must be spike or nine antler points or better.
Deer (Gun)(Young-Sportsman)	Open with statewide seasons. No antler requirement on this hunt.
Turkey	One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit.
Turkey (Young Sportsman)	Same as statewide season
Dog Training	Closed

MTSU

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons.
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Mt. Roosevelt

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide season except as noted. Closed to September Archery Bear Season Dogs are not permitted during spring squirrel season. Deer same as statewide Unit A deer season. Closed to special antlerless deer hunts.
Dog Training	Sep. 1–Mar. 15.
Special Regulations	Closed to all non-hunting activities during big game hunts. ATVs and motorized bikes are permitted only by individuals possessing a valid hunting and fishing license and WMA permit.

Natchez Trace State Forest

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons.
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New Hope

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons.

Nolichucky

Big Game, Small Game

Same as statewide seasons except as noted.

Waterfowl

Blinds, blind materials, and decoys must be removed daily at the end of legal shooting hours. During all waterfowl seasons, boats may not be anchored, moored, or aground more than 1 hour after legal waterfowl hunting hours or earlier than 1 hour before legal shooting hours.

Normandy

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons.

North Chickamauga Creek

Big Game, Small Game

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.
Hunting only allowed on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday.
Closed to quail hunting. Bag limit for rabbits is three per day.

Waterfowl hunting also open on the first and last day of the statewide season. Hunting ends at noon each day.

Hixson, Rogers, Vandergriff, and Varner Units closed to all forms of trespass except hunting and trapping during the late waterfowl seasons.

Deer hunting with archery equipment only. Archery hunters must comply with hunter orange requirements during the statewide deer gun or muzzleloader seasons.

Turkey hunting ends at noon each day.

Deer (Archery) (Wheelchair-bound Hunter Only)
(Varner Unit Wheelchair Accessible Blind Site Only)

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Hunting only allowed on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday

Turkey (Wheelchair-bound Hunter Only)
(Varner Unit Wheelchair Accessible Blind Site Only)

Same as statewide season, except as noted. Hunting only allowed on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Turkey hunting ends at noon each day. Shotguns loaded with No. 4 shot or smaller only.

Waterfowl (Wheelchair-bound Hunter Only)
(Varner Unit Wheelchair Accessible Blind Site Only)

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Hunting only allowed on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Hunting ends at noon each day. Waterfowl hunting restricted to use of shotguns loaded with #2 shot or smaller.

Dove

Sep. 1 and every Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday of the statewide dove season.

Trapping	<p>Dove hunting from noon to sunset only. No dove hunters or dove hunting equipment on dove fields prior to 7:00 a.m. on opening day of the first segment on the dove season.</p> <p>Friday before Thanksgiving–Jan. 31. Traps must be checked each day.</p>
Dog Training (all breeds)	<p>Sep. 1–Jan. 31. Hixson, Rogers, Varner and Vandergriff Units closed to dog training from the first opening day of the late duck season until the end of duck season.</p>
Special Regulations	<p>Trespass prohibited by non-hunters on hunt days.</p> <p>No motorized vehicles outside parking areas.</p> <p>Units closed after sunset, except to opossum and raccoon hunters.</p> <p>All hunting ends on Jan. 31, except spring squirrel season and spring turkey season.</p> <p>Shotguns loaded with No. 4 shot or smaller only (except waterfowl). Waterfowl hunting restricted to use of shotguns loaded with #2 shot or smaller.</p>
Patton Unit	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	<p>Same as statewide season, except as noted.</p>
Special Regulations	<p>Possession of alcoholic beverages prohibited.</p>
North Cumberland	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	<p>Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Closed to hunting Mar. 1 through 4th Friday in Aug., except for spring turkey. Coyote hunting with centerfire weapons only allowed during deer gun seasons by licensed deer hunters. Spring squirrel season is closed.</p>
Beaver Trapping	<p>Restricted to designated compartments. Contact WMA manager for information. Annual harvest log must be maintained and submitted to WMA Manager by Jan. 15.</p>
Deer	<p>All deer count toward statewide bag limits</p>
Deer (Archery)	<p>Dates same as statewide. One antlered and one antlerless.</p>
Deer (Muzzleloader)	<p>Two hunts. Nov. 7-20 one antlered. Nov. 14-20 one antlerless.</p>
Deer (Gun)	<p>Two hunts. Nov. 21-Dec. 20, one antlered. Dec. 21-Jan. 3, one antlered. This deer may be either sex Dec. 21-27.</p>
Deer (Young-Sportsman)	<p>Dates and bag limits same as statewide.</p>
Turkey	<p>Closed to fall turkey hunting</p>

Dog Training	Sep. 1–Mar. 15.
Ginseng	Same as statewide season.
Special Regulations	<p>All users should be aware that hazards associated with mining (deep and strip) exist on this area. Public use is permitted during all hunts. During daylight hours, all users outside of an enclosed vehicle or out of camp must wear fluorescent orange during the deer gun and muzzleloader seasons.</p> <p>No person shall remove minerals, including coal, trees, plants (including vines), or building stone from the area without specific authorization.</p> <p>Camping is permitted on the entire area.</p> <p>ORV, horseback riding, bicycles, and all other vehicles are restricted to roads marked "open to vehicular traffic."</p> <p>Night-time use by the general public and raccoon hunters is permitted area-wide.</p> <p>Organized competition events for motorized/non-motorized vehicles prohibited.</p> <p>Maximum noise limit of 86 dBa for all motorized vehicles, as measured 50 feet from the exhaust.</p> <p>Speed limit is 25 mph.</p> <p>Wild hogs may be taken on any hunt. Chasing fox, coyote, bobcat, or wild hogs with dogs not permitted.</p>
Oak Ridge	
Deer (Shotgun–Muzzleloader)(Gun zones only)	<p>Three hunts. Oct. 31–Nov. 1, Nov. 14–15, Dec. 12–13. Hunter quota 450. Two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer).</p>
Deer (Archery)(Archery Zone)	<p>Three hunts. Oct. 31–Nov. 1, Nov. 14–15, Dec. 12–13. Hunter quota 600. Two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer). One turkey, either sex.</p>
Canada Goose	<p>Sep. 5, 6, 7, 12, 13 and Oct. 10, 11, 17, 18. One-half hour before sunrise to noon. Hunting on Solway and Freels Bend only from the shoreline to Solway Bend Farm Road and from shoreline to Freels Bend Farm Road. Boat access only. Hunting from temporary blinds only.</p>
Wood Duck/Teal	<p>Sep. 12–13. One-half hour before sunrise to noon. Hunting on Solway and Freels Bend only from the shoreline to Solway Bend Farm Road and from shoreline to Freels Bend Farm Road. Boat access only. Hunting from temporary blinds only.</p>

Turkey

Two hunts. Apr. 9-10, 16-17. Hunter quota 225. One turkey (bonus bird). Hunting ends at noon daily. Successful hunters must be at the check station by 1:00 p.m.

Dog Training

Closed.

Special Regulations:

Hunters required to check out big game and coyotes at WMA check stations when stations are in operation. All listed times are Eastern Daylight Savings Time or Eastern Standard Time.

On big game quota hunts and on approved scouting days for all zones, except Tower Shielding and Chestnut Ridge/Park City Road Zone, a non-hunting juvenile under the age of 16 may accompany an adult hunter (21 years old or older) who has a valid Oak Ridge WMA quota permit. However, these non-hunting juveniles may not accompany hunters into any area requiring entry through a Security Portal or Security Police Officer Check Point (e.g. Tower Shielding Facility, Chestnut Ridge/Park City Road or any badged-only hunting areas).

During deer hunts, non-hunting juveniles must also comply with fluorescent orange regulations specified for legal hunters.

Scouting dates: 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Oct. 24 for the Oct. 31-Nov.1 permit holders. Nov.7 for the Nov. 14-15 permit holders. Dec. 5 for the Dec. 12-13 holders. Haw Ridge Park will not be open for scouting on Oct. 24.

For deer hunts those hunters who have a DOE security badge for Oak Ridge and possess an Oak Ridge archery hunt permit may hunt in the Badged Only Archery-Only Hunting Zones as designated on the current Deer Hunt Map during the hunt date for which they have a permit.

Turkey scouting date: 7:00 a.m. to noon Apr 2 for the Apr. 9-10 and Apr 16-17 permit holders and approved youths only. For turkey hunts, those hunters who have a DOE Security Badge for Oak Ridge and possess an Oak Ridge WMA quota turkey permit may hunt in the Badged-Only Security Hunting Zones as designated on the current Turkey Hunt map during the hunt dates for which they have a permit.

No boat access during deer hunts, except for Haw Ridge Park. Boat access only for waterfowl hunters accessing Solway and Freels Bend on during the designated Sep. and Oct. hunting dates.

During October, November and December big game hunts, all hunters must wear fluorescent orange including archery hunters in the Archery-Only zones.

Hunters must carry, at all times, hunting license and permit, valid picture identification (youth excluded), and

signed current hunt map.

Coyotes may be taken on any hunt with weapons legal for that hunt.

Obion River

All Units (special regulations apply to Maness Swamp Hunting Unit)

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit.

Closed to fall turkey season

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season

Special Regulations

Adjacent Big Cypress Tree State Natural Area is open to hunting same as Obion River WMA. Hunting or access to hunt from the boardwalk structure is prohibited.

Maness Swamp Hunting Unit (North of State Hwy. 445 bordered by the South Fork and Middle Fork of the Obion Rivers as marked)

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the statewide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey, counts toward statewide bag limit.

Closed to fall turkey season

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season

Waterfowl

Same as statewide season, except hunting of waterfowl during the late duck season(s) permitted only on Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and the first and last day of each segment of the late duck season(s). All hunting shall cease at 3:00 p.m. (CST) each day, except the last day of the season and the remaining goose seasons when hunting closes at sunset.

Special Regulations

Closed to all activities five days before each opening of the late duck season(s). All hunting other than waterfowl is prohibited during the late duck season.

No waterfowl hunters permitted on Unit or Access area from two hours after legal shooting hours have ended until 4 a.m. the following day during the late duck season(s).

Old Hickory

Unit I (Hwy. 109 upstream to River Mile 267)

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.
Dove (Youth/Adult)	Youth/Adult only hunt is Sep.5 on Barton's Creek. Hunting begins at 6 am
Dove	Same as statewide season, except for Barton's Creek. Barton's Creek opens Sep. 7 and every Wednesday and Friday-Sunday thereafter during the first segment of the statewide season.
Waterfowl	Hunting is permitted only from registered blind sites and staked temporary blind sites during the late duck season. Same as statewide season, except waterfowl hunting shall cease at 3:00 p.m. (CST) during the late duck season, except hours same as statewide on the last day of each segment of the late duck season.
Waterfowl (Wheelchair-bound only blind site)	Applications must be received by the TWRA Region II Office by noon on the 4 th Friday in Oct. Persons holding a permit for another blind are not eligible.
Dog Training	Sep. 1–Mar. 15, except closed during duck seasons.
Special Regulations	Small game hunting is closed after 3:00 p.m. (CST) during the late duck season. The sub-impoundment units as posted are closed to all types of activity five days prior to the opening of the first segment of the late duck season. Raccoon and opossum hunting, trapping, and fishing are prohibited in sub-impoundments during the late waterfowl season.
Unit II – (Hwy. 109 downstream to Old Hickory Dam)	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.
Waterfowl	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Hunting from registered blind sites only, except during the early duck season. All goose hunting is from registered blinds only.
Unit III – (River Mile 267 upstream to River Mile 281)	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.
Waterfowl	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Hunting from temporary blinds only. Decoys must be picked up each day.
Old Hickory Lock 5 Refuge	
Special Regulations	Public entry and fishing permitted while on the main river channel passing through the refuge.
Old Hickory Lock 5 Refuge (North of the Cumberland River)	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.
Old Hickory Lock 5 Refuge (South of the Cumberland River)	

Deer, Turkey (Young Sportsman Only)

Sept. 26-27, Oct. 3-4, 10-11, 17-18. Archery equipment only.

Deer, Turkey (Young Sportsman Only)

Oct. 24-25, Oct. 31-Nov. 1, 7-8 Archery and muzzleloader equipment only.

Turkey (Young Sportsman Only)

Same as statewide spring turkey season.

Special Regulations

Boat access only.

Owl Hollow Mill

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Dove (Youth Only)

Sep. 5. Youth only (6-16) must be accompanied by a licensed non-hunting adult. Maple Bend Road field only. Rest of WMA closed.

Dove

Sep. 6. Entire WMA open to all ages for the remainder of the statewide dove season.

Paint Rock WMA

Big Game, Small Game

Same as statewide, except as noted.

Archery equipment only for deer.

Small game hunting restricted to shotguns only..

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Mar. 15.

Parker Branch

Big Game, Small Game

Same as statewide seasons except as noted

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit.

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season and bag limit

Dog Training

Nov 1 – Mar 15

Quail

Closed to hunting

Special Regulations

Farm pond closed to fishing sunset to sunrise

Pea Ridge

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide Unit A seasons, except as noted.

Closed to quail hunting.

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Mar. 15

Percy Priest

Special Regulations

Centerfire prohibited on all units

Unit I

Dove

Sep. 1, and each Saturday and Sunday thereafter, and Labor Day during the 1st and 2nd segments of the statewide season. Shooting from staked positions only. On Sep. 1, staked positions will be assigned by a drawing held on site at 10:00 a.m. and hunters must check out at the conclusion of their hunt. Successful applicants must be at their staked position at the start of shooting hours.

Squirrel

Same as statewide season, except as noted.

Quail, Rabbit (Youth)

Same as statewide seasons, except Monday through Thursday only. Shotguns only. Each Youth must be accompanied by an adult who may not hunt or carry weapons. Each adult must possess a valid hunting license and an area permit.

Deer/Turkey (Archery Only)

Same as statewide seasons.

Deer (Muzzleloader Only)

Nov. 9-12, 16-19 except open Monday through Thursday only. Remainder of deer season is archery only.

Turkey

Same as statewide spring turkey season, except closed Friday–Sunday until Apr. 30.

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Apr. 30. Small game permit required. Training from horseback prohibited before Oct. 1. Participants of sanctioned field trials may train 72 hours prior to and after scheduled dates without a small game permit. Blank ammunition only. Night time dog training prohibited.

Retriever Dog Training and Trials

Year-round in designated areas only. Trials must be scheduled with Area Manager and special field trial permits must be obtained from the TWRA Region II Office at least 30 days in advance of trial dates. Participants of sanctioned field trials may train 72 hours before and after scheduled dates without a small game hunt permit.

Bird and Rabbit Dog and Fox Hound Trials

Sep. 1–Apr. 30. Trials must be scheduled with Area Manager and special field trial permits must be obtained from the Region II Office at least 30 days in advance of trial dates. Field trial gallery must be kept out of standing or planted crops by Marshals provided by sponsoring club. Fox hound trials subject to special regulations

Special Regulations

Unit I closed to all activity from sunset to one-half hour before sunrise, except as noted.

Trucks and ATVs allowed off-road during sanctioned field trials and training only.

All activities, except dove hunts on designated fields and scheduled field trials, prohibited on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday from Sep. 1–Apr.30

Additional WMA closures for special field trial dates as determined by the manager.

Unit II

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Deer is shotgun–muzzleloader–archery only. Fall turkey is archery only

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Apr. 30. No hunting or training from horseback.

Archery Practice

Open year–round designated range site (Poole Knobs) only. Target arrows only.

Pickett State Forest

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons.

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Mar. 15.

Prentice Cooper State Forest

Small Game

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Closed to quail hunting.

Fox, Opossum, Raccoon

3rd Friday in Oct.–Jan. 31, except hunting will be limited to Monday, Tuesday, Friday, and Saturday nights only. All hunting ends Jan. 31. Bag limit is one per party per night.

Deer (Archery)

One hunt. Sep. 19-21. Hunter quota 400. Two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer).

Deer (Archery)

One hunt. Sep. 22-25. Two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer). No area checking station operated.

Deer (Muzzleloader)

Two hunts. Oct. 8-10, 29-31. Hunter quota 250. Two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer).

Deer (Gun)(Young-Sportsman)

One hunt. Oct. 24-25. Two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer).

Deer (Gun)

One hunt. Nov.6-8. One deer, buck only (bonus deer).

Deer (Gun)

One hunt. Nov. 28 – Dec 3. Two deer, buck only (bonus deer).

Turkey

Six hunts. Apr 5-7, 8-10, 13-15, 21-23, 26-28, Apr. 29-May 1. One turkey per day, not to exceed the statewide bag limit.

Trapping

Dec. 15-27.

Dog Training
Special Regulations

Sep. 1–Mar. 15.
Hunters required to check out big game at WMA check stations when stations are in operation.
Organized competition events for motorized vehicles prohibited. The maximum noise limit for all motorized vehicles is 86 dBa, as measured 50 feet from the exhaust, except as otherwise permitted.
The maximum speed limit is 25 mph or less if otherwise posted.
All side roads and trails will be closed to motorized vehicles Dec. 20–Mar. 15.

Closed to all hunting Mar. 1 through 4th Friday in Aug., except during turkey and spring squirrel seasons.
Open Thursday, Friday, and Saturdays only, during daylight hours. Closed during big game hunts.

Firing Range

Presidents Island

Deer (Archery)(Excluding Ensley Unit)

One antlerless hunt Oct. 16-18. Hunter quota 150. Bag limit 2 deer (Bonus deer), which may antlerless or spike bucks. Scouting date Oct. 15. Permit holders only.

Deer (Archery)(Excluding Ensley Unit)

One hunt. Dec.4-6. Hunter quota 50. Two deer, one antlered buck, and one antlerless (bonus deer). Bucks must have at least nine antler points. Scouting date: Dec. 3 for the Dec. 4-6 permit holders only.

Special Regulations (Excluding Ensley Unit)

Hunters must check in at hunter check station before hunting and check out at completion of each day's hunt. Permit will be held while hunters hunt. Access permitted from Farm Road only. No access permitted from Mississippi River, McKellar Lake, or from the Causeway. Access permitted only to TWRA authorized personnel and permit holders.

Deer (Archery)(Ensley Unit)

One hunt. Dec.4-6. Hunter quota 30. One deer, buck only (bonus deer). Bucks must have at least nine antler points. Scouting date: Dec. 3 for the Dec.4-6 permit holders only.

Special Regulations (Ensley Unit)

Access permitted from Shelby Drive only. Access permitted only to TWRA authorized personnel and permit holders.

Rankin

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping
Special Regulations

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.
Small game hunters (except waterfowl) must wear fluorescent hunter orange during Big Game hunts.

No permanent blinds. All decoys, temporary blinds, blind materials, and boats must be removed at end of legal

hunting.

Reelfoot

Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide, except as noted.

Opossum, Raccoon

Sunset, last Friday in Aug. – last day of Feb. No limit. No limit.

Deer

Same as statewide season except archery only from the first segment of the late waterfowl season until end of the statewide deer seasons and buck only during muzzleloader season. Deer count toward statewide bag limit

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Open with statewide season.

Waterfowl

Same as waterfowl zone seasons. Waterfowl hunting closed at 3:00 p.m. (CST), except for last day of each segment of the late duck and the remaining Reelfoot goose seasons when hunting ceases at sunset.

Waterfowl (Wheelchair-bound only blind sites)

Application must be received by the TWRA Region I Office by noon on the 4th Friday in Oct. Persons holding a permit for another blind are not eligible to compete in the wheelchair-bound blind drawing. If blind is not occupied by shooting time, another wheelchair-bound hunter and 1 to 3 assistants (at least one assistant must be age 16 or older) may occupy the blind for that day. Hunting restricted to wheelchair hunters and assistants only within the marked wheelchair-hunting zone at designated blinds.

Youth Waterfowl (Wheelchair-bound only blind sites)

Application must be received by the TWRA Region I Office by noon on the 4th Friday in Oct. Persons holding a permit for another blind are not eligible to compete in the wheelchair-bound blind drawing. Youths, age 6-15, must be accompanied by an adult, 21 years of age or older, who must remain in position to take immediate control of the hunting device except as otherwise noted. If blind is not occupied by shooting time, another wheelchair-bound hunter and 1 to 3 assistants (at least one assistant must be age 16 or older) may occupy the blind for that day. Hunting restricted to wheelchair hunters and assistants only within the marked wheelchair-hunting zone at designated blinds.

Shelton Ferry

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Deer is archery equipment only, except during Young-Sportsman hunts.

Skinner Mountain

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons. Trapping and small game hunting closes at sunset the day before hog control season. Wild hogs may be taken during any deer hunt by legal deer hunters.

Dog Training	Sep. 1–Mar. 15.
Wild Hog (Control Season)(Dogs Permitted)	Jan. 15-17. No limit, either sex. All participants in the hog control season must wear on the upper portion of their body and head a minimum of 500 square inches of daylight fluorescent orange, visible front and back. Participants may use any legal weapon and ammunition that is legal for taking Deer, Bear or Elk. Legal hours—One-half hour before sunrise and to one- half hour after sunset.
Special Regulations	ATVs and motorized bikes are permitted only by individuals possessing a valid hunting and fishing license and WMA permit from the 4 th Saturday in Aug. through the spring squirrel season
South Fork Refuge	
Big Game, Small Game	Same as statewide seasons, except closed to all activities five days before the first opening of the late duck season to Feb 15. All hunting other than waterfowl is prohibited during the late duck season. No access during refuge closure dates except for waterfowl hunters on open hunt days. Fall turkey season closed.
Turkey	One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit
Turkey (Young Sportsman)	Same as statewide season and bag limit
Waterfowl	Same as statewide season, except hunting of waterfowl during the late duck season permitted on Saturday and Sunday and the first and last day of each segment of the late duck season. All hunting ceases at 3:00 p.m. (CST) each day, except the last day of the season when hunting closes at sunset. Walk-in only. No blinds, decoys, materials may be left overnight. No access before 4am or after 5pm.
Standing Stone State Forest	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Closed to special season antlerless season. Buck only during statewide muzzleloader seasons.
Dog Training	Sep. 1–Mar. 15. Wild hogs may be taken during any deer hunt by legal deer hunters.

Tellico Lake

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide season, except as noted. Wild hogs may be taken during any deer hunt by legal deer hunters
Special Regulations	No blinds or decoys left overnight.
Wear's Bend Unit – (That portion of Tellico Reservoir Development Agency Industrial Park at LTRM 18.0 on the North side of Tellico Reservoir)	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide season, except as noted. Wild hogs may be taken during any deer hunt by legal deer hunters Closed to special season antlerless hunts.
Special Regulations	No blinds or decoys left overnight
Tellico West Unit – (That portion of Tellico Reservoir Development Agency Industrial Park at LTRM 18.0 on the North side of Tellico Reservoir)	
Deer (Archery)	Four hunts. Sept. 19-20, Oct 17-18, Nov 14-15, Dec 19-20. Hunter quota 30 each hunt. Two deer, not more than one antlered (bonus deer)
Turkey (Young-Sportsman)	One hunt. Mar. 26-27. Hunter quota 5. One turkey (bonus bird).
McGhee-Carson Unit – (That peninsula of Ft. Loudoun State Historic Park at LTRM 21.0)	
Dove	Sep. 7. Opens at noon
Rabbit, Squirrel	Nov 28-29, Dec 19-20, Dec 26-27, Jan 2-3, Jan 9-10. Bag limit 3 rabbits per day. Shotguns only..
Deer (Shotgun only)(Young-Sportsman)	One hunt. Dec. 12. Hunter quota 35. One deer, either sex (bonus deer).
Turkey (Young-Sportsman)	One hunt. Mar. 26-27. Hunter quota 5. One turkey (bonus bird).
Dog Training	Closed during field trials and big game hunts. Daylight hours only.
Dog Field Trials	Field Trial Permit Required. Sep. 1–Apr. 30. Trials must be scheduled with Area Manager and special field trial permit must be obtained from the TWRA Region III Office at least 30 days before trial dates.
Special Regulations	All hunting is Youth only. Each youth must be accompanied by an adult who may not hunt or carry weapons. Each adult must possess a valid hunting license and an area permit Horses permitted during dog training and field trials
Chota Refuge Unit –(That portion from LTRM 26.0 upstream to the Hiwassee – Alcoa Power line at LTRM 29.7)	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide, except as noted. Wild hogs may be

	taken during any deer or bear hunt by legal deer or bear hunters.
	No deer hunting Oct. 31-Nov. 6.
	Steel shot is required for dove.
Rabbit, Quail	Oct. 31-Nov. 6.
Dog Training	Mar. 1–Oct. 31
Dog Field Trials	Mar 1–Oct. 31. Field Trial Permit Required. Trials must be scheduled with Area Manager and special field trial permit must be obtained from the TWRA Region III Office at least 30 days before trial dates.
Special Regulations	Nontoxic shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service required for small game hunting as posted. Wild hogs may be taken during any deer hunt by legal deer hunters.
The Boils	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons, except closed to quail hunting.
Dog Training	Sep. 1–Mar. 15.
Thorny Cypress	
Big Game, Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Areas within 150 yards of draw waterfowl pools are closed during small game, trapping and statewide deer gun season(s).
Turkey	One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit
Turkey (Young Sportsman)	Same as statewide seasons.
Waterfowl	Same as statewide season, except hunting of waterfowl during the late duck season permitted only on Tuesday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and the first and last day of each segment of the late duck season and the youth waterfowl season. Goose season to coincide with statewide season after the youth waterfowl season, no pool restrictions or drawings. All hunting shall cease at 3:00 p.m. (CST) each day, except the last day of each season and the remaining goose seasons when hunting shall close at sunset.
Special Regulations:	Designated pools (except Pool 10, Pool 11 and Pool 12) will be allocated by computer draw. Waterfowl hunting is restricted to temporary blind sites. Hunters are restricted to pools or number stakes as specified by special instructions supplied by TWRA annually. All hunters in a party are required to hunt in the same temporary blind site for which

they are drawn. Decoys and temporary blinds may be left out over the specified hunt but must be removed upon completion of the hunt on the last day.

No waterfowl hunters permitted in Pool 10, Pool 11 or Pool 12 or access area from two hours after legal shooting hours have ended until 4:00 a.m. the following day during the late duck season(s). No permanent blinds. All decoys, temporary blinds, blind materials, and boats must be removed daily.

Three Rivers (East and West Units)

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit

Closed to fall turkey season

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season

Waterfowl

No waterfowl hunters permitted on unit or access area from two hours after legal shooting hours have ended until 4:00 a.m. the following day during late duck season(s).

Tie Camp

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons.

Tigrett

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

All small game hunting (excluding waterfowl hunting) closed on this area during the Young-Sportsman hunts.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season and bag limit

Waterfowl

Waterfowl hunting closes at 3:00 p.m. (CST) each day of the regular statewide waterfowl seasons, except the last day of duck seasons and remaining goose seasons when hunting closes at sunset. No access to WMA by waterfowl hunters before 4am

Tull Bottom

Big game, small game, trapping

Same as statewide seasons and bag limits except as noted.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the statewide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts

toward statewide bag limit. Closed to fall turkey season.

Turkey (Young-Sportsman)

Same as statewide season.

Tumbleweed

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit
Open with statewide season

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Watts Bar

Deer, Turkey, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide season, except as noted.

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Mar. 15.

**Iron Hill Island, Long Island, and Thief Neck
Island Units**

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Archery equipment only for deer except juveniles may use shotguns or muzzleloaders during statewide Young-Sportsman hunts. Small Game hunting is Shotgun-Archery only.

No Trapping during the duck season on the Long Island Unit.

West Sandy

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons,

Waterfowl

Waterfowl hunting closes at 3:00 p.m. (CST) each day of the regular statewide waterfowl seasons, except the last day of duck seasons and remaining goose seasons when hunting closes at sunset.

Waterfowl (Wheelchair-bound blind)

Wheelchair-bound blind provided – first come, first serve.

Hunting restricted to wheelchair hunters and assistants only within the marked wheelchair hunting zone.

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Mar. 15, except closed during the late duck season.

Special Regulations

All activities are prohibited in the sub-impoundments five days before each opening day of the statewide duck season. Fishing, trapping, and hunting of all species other than waterfowl prohibited in the sub-impoundments during the

late duck season.

White Lake Refuge

Big Game, Small Game

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Closed to dove, fall turkey, and waterfowl.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season.

White Oak

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Dove

Sept 1, noon-sunset. Closed Sept 2-4. Re-opens Sept. 5 continuing with statewide season.

Quail

Nov.30 - Dec. 31

Deer

Same as statewide seasons, except archery-only deer hunting after Nov.29, archers must meet legal blaze orange requirements during this period. Closed to January Young-Sportsman deer hunt.

Turkey

Fall turkey season closed.

Waterfowl

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted. Waterfowl hunting closes at 3:00 p.m. (CST) during the late duck season(s) and all types of water traffic prohibited after 5:00 p.m.
No waterfowl hunters permitted on the area or access areas before 4:00 a.m. opening day(s), and from 5:00 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. the following days during the late duck season.

Waterfowl (Lebanon Pond)

Special Regulations: Lebanon Pond waterfowl hunting area will be allocated by computer draw as specified in the waterfowl quota hunt computer drawing and allocation procedures. Draw hunts will be Opening weekend (s), Monday-Thursday, and Friday-Sunday within the late waterfowl seasons. Waterfowl hunting is restricted to ten temporary staked blind sites designated by GPS coordinates.

Successful applicants and guests will be required to hunt within 25 yards of staked blind sites and are required to hunt at the same temporary blind site for which they are drawn. Decoys and temporary blinds may be left out over the specified hunt period but must be removed upon completion

	of the hunt on the last day of that period.
Special Regulations	All small game hunting closed during Young-Sportsman deer hunts. All water traffic prohibited five days before the opening day(s) of the statewide duck season.
Whites Mill	
Waterfowl/Snipe	Youth/Adult only. Youths must be accompanied by a licensed adult who may also hunt. Saturdays only from staked positions.
Bullfrog	Mar. 1–Nov. 14, gigs only.
Special Regulations	Closed to all activity from Nov. 15 to the last day of the youth waterfowl season except legal hunters on Saturdays.
Williamsport	
Small Game, Trapping	Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.
Dove	Same as statewide season, except open only on Sep. 1 and every Saturday during the first segment. Designated fields only. Shooting from staked positions only on Sep. 1. On Sep. 1, staked positions will be assigned by a drawing held on site at 10:00 a.m. Hunters must be present at drawing and must check out at the conclusion of the hunt. Successful applicants must be at the staked position at legal shooting hours.
Deer (Archery)	Three hunts. Sep. 26-28, Oct. 3-5, Oct. 10-12 Two deer, either sex but only one can be antlered (bonus deer).
Deer (Gun)(Young-Sportsman)	Two hunts. Oct. 17-18, 24-25. Two deer, either sex but only one can be antlered (bonus deer).
Deer (Muzzleloader)	One hunt. Nov. 7-9. Hunter quota 100. Two deer, either sex but only one can be antlered (bonus deer).
Deer (Gun)	Four hunts. Nov. 21-23, 28-30, Dec. 12-14, 19-21 Hunter quota 100. Two deer, either sex but only one can be antlered (bonus deer).
Turkey (Young Sportsman)	One hunt. Mar. 26-27. One bearded bird.
Turkey	Two hunts. Apr. 2-5, 16-19. One bearded bird per hunt
Crow	Sep. 1–Feb 28. All crow hunting is limited to Saturdays during the month of September during the first segment of dove season, thereafter on Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays.
Dog Training	Sep. 1–Mar. 15, daylight hours only.

Special Regulations

Open one hour before sunrise until one hour after sunset on hunt days.
 No horseback riding during scheduled Big Game hunts.
 Possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

Wolf River

Unit I (that portion south of Hwy 57)

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Dove

Sep. 1 at noon and everyday thereafter during the remainder of the statewide dove seasons.

Quail

Closed to quail hunting; dog training permitted.

Rabbit

3rd Sat. in Nov - Jan. 31.

Deer

Deer hunting is archery equipment only after the 3rd Fri. in Nov. through the end of statewide deer seasons. Archers must meet legal blaze orange requirements during this period. Closed to January Young-Sportsman deer hunt.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit. Closed to fall turkey season.

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

Same as statewide season

Waterfowl

Waterfowl hunting closes at 3:00 p.m. (CST) each day during the late duck season(s), except the last day of each segment of the season(s) when hunting closes as sunset. Temporary blinds only.

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Jan.31 except closed during deer gun hunts.

Special Regulations

Adjacent Ghost River State Natural Area open same as Wolf River WMA. Hunting or access to hunt from the boardwalk structure is prohibited.

All small game hunting is closed during Young-Sportsman deer hunts.

Firing Range

Rifle Sight-In Range open in Oct.

Unit II (that portion north of Hwy 57)

Big game, small game, trapping

Same as statewide seasons and bag limits except as noted.

Turkey

One non-quota hunt from the third Saturday of the statewide spring turkey season until the sixth Sunday of the state wide spring turkey season. Bag limit one bearded turkey counts toward statewide bag limit. Closed to fall turkey season.

Turkey (Young-sportsman)

Same as statewide season.

Yanahli

Big Game, Small Game, Trapping

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Firing Range

Automatic weapons prohibited.

Special Regulations

Possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited while horseback riding.

During daylight hours, all users outside of an enclosed vehicle or out of camp must wear fluorescent orange during the deer gun and muzzleloader seasons.

Yuchi Refuge

Small Game

Same as statewide seasons, except as noted.

Closed to quail hunting.

Small game seasons closed in Wetland Zone from Nov. 15–last day of Feb.

Dove season Sept. 5 until end of first segment, except Youth hunt on Sep.1.

Raccoon, opossum hunting permitted on Tuesday and Wednesday only, sunset to sunrise. Closed after Nov. 14. All dogs need to be removed from the area before sunrise on Friday. Bag limit on raccoons, one per party per night.

Rabbit

Nov. 2-last day of Feb. Bag limit on rabbits is three per day.

Deer/Turkey (Archery)

Two hunts. Sep.26-27, Oct.10-11. Hunter quota 100 each hunt. Two deer, no more than one antlered (bonus deer). One turkey, either sex.

Deer (Gun)(Young-Sportsman)

Two hunts. Oct. 3-4, 24-25. Hunter quota 75 each hunt. Two deer, only one antlered (bonus deer).

Deer (Muzzleloader)

One hunt. Oct. 17-18. Hunter quota 50. One deer, either sex (bonus deer).

Deer (Gun)

One hunt. Oct. 31-Nov. 1. Hunter quota 50. One deer, either sex (bonus deer).

Deer (Wheelchair-bound Only)

One hunt. Nov. 7-8. One deer, either sex (bonus deer).

Turkey (Wheelchair-bound Only)

One hunt. April 1-3. One turkey, either sex (bonus bird). Hunting ends at noon.

Turkey

Five hunts. Apr. 8-10, 15-17, 22-24, Apr. 26-28, May 3-5. Hunter quota 10. One turkey (bonus bird). Hunting ends at Noon. Walk-in only.

Turkey (Young Sportsman)

One hunt. Mar 18-20. Hunter quota 10. One turkey either sex (bonus bird). Hunting ends at noon. Walk-in only,

Retriever Dog Field Trials

Pre-approved by Area Manager at least 30 days in advance of trial dates.

Dog Training

Sep. 1–Mar. 15 in Upland Zone.

Sep. 1–Nov. 14 and Mar. 1–15 in Wetland Zone. Daylight hours only. No fox or coyote chasing.

Special Regulations

Hunters required to check in big game at WMA check stations when stations are in operation.

Nontoxic shot only in Wetland Zone.

No boat access.

No ATV, ORV, or horseback riding permitted.

Wetland Zone closed to all forms of public use, including all forms of trespass from Nov. 15–last day of Feb.

Antlered deer must have a minimum of 4 points on one antler or a 15–inch minimum outside antler spread on all hunts.

On big game quota hunts one non-hunting juvenile under the age of 16 may accompany an adult hunter (18 years old or older) who has a valid WMA quota permit. During deer gun hunts non-hunting juvenile must also comply with fluorescent orange regulations specified for legal hunters.

SECTION III. REPEAL OF PRIOR PROCLAMATIONS

This proclamation repeals Proclamation No. 14-05

Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission

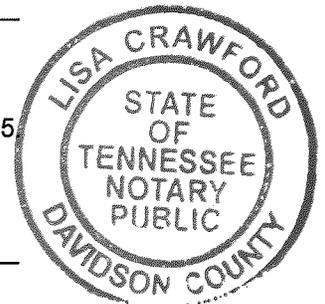
[Signature]
Chairman

I certify that this is an accurate and complete copy of a proclamation lawfully promulgated and adopted by the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission on the 22 day of May, 2015.

[Signature]
Secretary

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 27 day of May, 2015

[Signature]
Notary Public



My commission expires: My Commission Expires: 3/10/2019

Proclamation No. 15-04 received and recorded this 27th day of May, 2015; to be effective the 1 day of August, 2015



Tre Hargett, Secretary of State

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2015 MAY 27 PM 3:44
SECRETARY OF STATE
PUBLICATIONS

Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission
Proclamation 15-05

Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits on Select National Wildlife Refuges and Other Federal Areas

Pursuant to the authority granted by Tennessee code annotated sections, 70-4-107, 70-5-108 and 70-5-111 thereof, the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission, hereby proclaims the following regulations, effective August 1, 2015.

Section I. Hatchie National Wildlife Refuge

Dove, Opossum, Quail, Rabbit, Raccoon, Snipe, Squirrel and Woodcock ¹	Same as statewide seasons (except closed during archery and deer quota hunts and no spring squirrel season). Bag and possession limit same as statewide regulations. Non-toxic shot only.
Deer (Archery)	Sept. 26-Oct. 23, Oct. 26–Nov. 6, 2015. Area west of Interstate 40- Season date Sept. 26-Jan. 3, 2016, except closed during Youth Gun and Quota Gun Seasons. No hunter quota. Four deer, either sex (no more than two antlered). Counts in Unit L bag.
Deer (Archery/Muzzleloader/Gun)	Two hunts. Nov. 7-8, Nov. 14-15 2015. Hunter quota 250 per hunt. Two deer, either sex. You must harvest an antlerless deer before you harvest an antlered deer. Deer count as a bonus deer. Deer taken on quota gun hunts must be checked in with the state as harvested on Hatchie NWR.
Deer (Young Sportsman)	One Hunt: Oct. 24-25, 2015. Youth 6-16 may participate and must be accompanied by an adult 21 years of age or older. No more than 1 youth per adult.
Ducks, Geese and Coots ² (Porter Tract only) ³	Tues., Thurs. and Sat. of both the early and regular statewide seasons (hunting until 12:00 pm CST, only). Young Sportsman hunt open only on Saturday during the statewide youth hunt. Bag and possession limit in accordance with statewide regulations. Non-toxic shot only.
Spring Turkey 2016	Same as statewide. Non-quota (counts in statewide bag). Young Sportsman hunt to coincide with the statewide youth hunt and bag limit. Non-toxic shot only. Bag Limit: One (1) bearded turkey per season.

Section II. Chickasaw and Lower Hatchie National Wildlife Refuges

All small game and waterfowl hunting seasons and bag limits in accordance with statewide regulations (except closed during spring squirrel season). Rabbit, quail, dove, woodcock, snipe and squirrel hunting is closed during all young Sportsman deer, muzzleloader, and gun deer hunts. Raccoon and opossum

¹ Opossum and raccoon - hunting hours from sunset to one hour before sunrise. Closed the night before and during any archery and quota deer hunts. Beaver and coyote may be taken on any hunt.

² Only portable blinds or blinds of native vegetation may be used. Blinds and decoys must be removed each day.

³ Porter Tract is that portion of the refuge that lies at the extreme east end of the refuge lying east of Richland Creek and the Big Eddy Road.

hunting open with statewide seasons except closed on Friday and Saturday nights during young sportsman deer, muzzleloader, and gun hunts. All hunting blinds will be portable and nothing of a permanent nature will be constructed. The possession of saws, machetes, axes, or other tools for cutting vegetation is prohibited.

Waterfowl hunting until 12:00 pm CST only. All blinds, boats, and decoys must be removed from the refuge by 1:00 PM CST daily. Non-toxic shot only. Coyotes and beavers may be taken incidentally during scheduled hunts on the refuge. Legal methods of take include legal hunting equipment utilized during specified hunting seasons. No bag limit.

Squirrel, Rabbit, Quail,
Raccoon-and Opossum

Season, Bag, and Possession limit same as statewide. Season closed during all young sportsman deer, muzzleloader, and gun deer hunts and Spring squirrel season is closed. Non-toxic shot only. Raccoon and opossum hunting closed on Friday and Saturday nights during young sportsman deer, muzzleloader, and gun hunts.

Ducks, Geese, Coots,
Mergansers

Season, Bag, and Possession limit same as and statewide. Waterfowl hunting closes at 12:00 pm CST (noon) daily. Only portable blinds may be used. All blinds, boats, and decoys must be removed from the refuge by 1:00 pm CST daily. Non-toxic shot only. Champion Lake and Little Champion Lake will be open to quota hunting only. 8 permits per weekend on Champion Lake and 4 on Little Champion Lake.

Mourning Dove, Woodcock,
and Snipe

Season, Bag, and Possession limit same as statewide. Closed during all young Sportsman deer, muzzleloader, and gun deer hunts. Non-toxic shot only.

Deer – Archery, Young Sportsman,
Muzzleloader, and Gun

Seasons and bag limits same as statewide. No hunter quota. All harvested deer count in statewide bag limit.

Spring Turkey (Chickasaw/Lower Hatchie)

2016: Four Hunts: Youth only Hunt March 26-27, 2016, 25 permits per refuge. April 7-10, 2016; April 14-17, 2016; and April 21-24, 2016. Hunter quota: 25 permits per hunt for Lower Hatchie. 75 permits per hunt for Chickasaw. Non-toxic shot only. Bag Limit: One (1) bearded turkey (considered as bonus bird).

Section III. Sunk Lake Public Use Management Area (Northern Unit Only)

Squirrel, Rabbit, Quail,
Raccoon and Opossum

Season same as statewide. Spring squirrel season closed. Bag and possession limit same as statewide. Non-toxic shot only.

Deer (Archery only)

Sept. 26-Nov.14, 2015. No hunter quota. Same as statewide and all harvested deer count in statewide bag limit.

Section IV. Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge

Special federal permit required (except designated closed areas). Beaver and coyote may be taken on a scheduled hunt for other species with any weapon legal for the hunt. All other hunting (squirrel, archery turkey, archery deer) will be closed on weekends when quota deer hunts, primitive weapon hunts and youth hunts are scheduled.

Deer (Primitive Weapons: long bow, recurve bow and side hammered muzzleloaders with iron sights only)	One hunt. Oct. 10-11, 2015. Three deer (only one may be antlered). No hunter quota. All deer harvested are bonus deer.
Deer (Archery/Muzzleloader/Gun)	Two hunts. Oct. 23-25, Nov. 6-8, 2015. Three deer (only one may be antlered). Hunters must harvest an antlerless deer before harvesting an antlered deer. Hunter quota: Big Sandy Peninsula-100, Duck River Bottoms Unit- 125, Duck River Remainder Uplands Unit- 100, Britton Ford Peninsula- 25, Busseltown- 25. All deer harvested are bonus deer.
Deer/Turkey (Archery)	Same as statewide seasons not to extend past Nov 14, 2015. No hunter quota. Closed during quota hunts, Primitive Weapons hunts, and Young Sportsman hunts. State bag limits apply. Deer and turkey count toward statewide bag limit. No fall turkey gun hunt.
Deer (Archery/Muzzleloader/Gun) – Young Sportsman	One hunt. Oct. 3-4, 2015. No hunter quota, Young Sportsman, 6-16 years old. Three deer, either sex (no more than one antlered). All deer harvested are bonus deer.
Squirrel	Aug. 22 – Nov. 14, 2015. Closed during quota hunts, Primitive Weapons hunts, and during Young Sportsman hunt. Bag and possession limits are same as statewide.
Spring Squirrel	Same as statewide seasons.
Raccoon	Sept. 19-Oct 1, Oct. 5-8, Oct. 12-15, Oct.19-22, Oct.26-29, Nov.2-5, Nov. 9-12, 2015. Bag and possession limits are same as statewide.
Canada Goose	Same as statewide season except closed during the early wood duck/teal season. Closed during the October season. Bag and possession limits in accordance with statewide regulations.
Spring Turkey	Same as statewide season. State bag limits apply. Turkey counts toward statewide bag.
Fall Turkey	Same as statewide season. State bag limits apply. Turkey counts toward statewide bag.

Section V. Reelfoot and Lake Isom National Wildlife Refuges

Squirrel	Reelfoot: Aug. 22-Nov. 1, 2015. Lake Isom: Aug 22-Nov.14, 2015. Spring squirrel season closed. Bag and possession limits in accordance with statewide season. Non-toxic shot only.
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Raccoon	Sept. 25 - Oct. 11, 2015. No limit. Hunting hours – 7:00 pm until 12 am (midnight) only. Hunters must check out all raccoons for tagging. Non-toxic shot only.
Deer (Archery)	Reelfoot: Sept. 26-Oct. 23, Oct. 26-Nov. 5, Nov. 9-14, 2015. Lake Isom: Sept. 26-Oct 23, Oct. 26-Nov. 14, 2015. No hunter quota. Bag limit same as state and all harvested deer count in the statewide bag limit. Note: the use of shot shells larger than No. 4 and center-fire ammunition to hunt or take any wildlife species on the refuge during the deer (archery) season is prohibited.
Deer (Archery/Muzzleloader/Gun) Quota (Reelfoot Refuge only)	One hunt. Nov. 6-8, 2015. Hunter quota–150 (100 permits for Long Point Unit and 50 permits for Grassy Island Unit). Two deer, either sex. You must harvest an antlerless deer before you harvest an antlered deer. All deer harvested are bonus deer.
Spring Turkey Quota (Reelfoot Refuge Only)	Two hunts. Apr 8-10; and Apr. 15-17, 2016. Hunter quota: 30 permits per hunt, Grassy Island-15, Long Point-15. Non-toxic shot only. Bag Limit: One (1) bearded turkey per season (considered a bonus bird).
Coyotes and Beavers	May be taken incidentally during scheduled hunts on the refuge. Legal methods of take include legal hunting equipment utilized during specified hunting seasons. No bag limit.

Section VI. Cross Creeks National Wildlife Refuge

No hunting in safety zones as listed in NWR pamphlet. All other hunting (squirrel, spring turkey, archery deer) will be closed on weekends when quota deer hunts and youth hunts are scheduled. Special Federal permit required. Beaver and coyote may be taken on a scheduled hunt for other species with any weapon legal for the hunt.

Squirrel	Aug. 22-Nov.14, 2015. Bag and possession limit same as statewide. Closed when quota and young sportsman deer hunts are scheduled.
Spring Squirrel	Same as statewide season.
Deer (Archery/Muzzleloader/Gun)	Two hunts. Oct. 16-18, Oct. 30- Nov 1, 2015. Hunter quota: Southside: Northwest of Pool 5 Bridge– 30, Southside: Southeast of Pool 5 Bridge–40, Northside: West of N. Cross Road – 20, Northside: East of N. Cross Road - 40. Three deer (only one may be antlered). Hunters must harvest an antlerless deer before harvesting an antlered deer. All deer harvested are bonus deer.
Deer/Turkey (Archery)	Same as statewide seasons not to extend past Nov. 14, 2015. No hunter quota. Closed during quota and young sportsman hunts. State bag limits apply. Deer and turkey count toward statewide bag limit. No fall turkey gun hunt.

Deer (Archery/Muzzleloader/Gun)
(Young Sportsman Only)

One hunt. Oct 3-4, 2015. No hunter quota. Young Sportsman 6-16 years of age. Three deer either sex (no more than one antlered). All deer harvested are Bonus deer.

Canada Goose

Same as statewide season until opening of early wood duck/teal season. Closed during the October season. Bag and possession limits in accordance with statewide regulations.

Spring Turkey

Same as statewide season. State Bag limits apply. Turkey count toward statewide bag limit.

Section VII. Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area and Obed Wild and Scenic River

Special Regulations

Taking wild hogs incidental to hunting requires a permit from the National Park Service.

Wild hogs may be taken during any deer hunt, by legal deer hunters.

After the January closure of deer season, small game and furbearer hunters may take wild hogs if they are legally hunting small game or furbearers with equipment that would otherwise be legal for deer hunting.

Chasing wild hogs with dogs is not permitted. These special regulations apply at Obed Wild and Scenic River only on the lands administered by the National Park Service.

Section VIII. General Regulations for Hunting National Wildlife Refuges

1. Vehicles must remain on established roads open to public vehicles. Roads may be closed due to adverse weather conditions. Park vehicles in a manner that will not interfere with normal flow of traffic or block gates.
2. Camping and fires are prohibited, except on Chickasaw NWR during small and big game hunts in designated areas.
3. It is unlawful to drive a nail, spike, or other metal object into any tree or to hunt from any tree in which a nail, spike, or other metal object has been driven. Temporary blinds or stands permitted on the day of the hunt only. All blinds and stands must be removed at end of each day's hunt.
4. Dogs are prohibited except when used during refuge open seasons for small game and migratory birds.
5. Designated areas of refuges will be closed to all public entry to provide sanctuaries for waterfowl.
6. Shotgun hunters may only possess and use shotgun shells containing approved non-toxic shot.
7. Hunters must possess and carry a signed refuge brochure/permit.
8. All National Wildlife Refuges which are open to fall turkey quota hunts based on county designation, close for the season ½ hour after sunset on Nov. 10, except as otherwise noted.
9. A federal permit may be required for hunts. Quota permits are required for quota hunts and special federal regulations apply as specified. A signed refuge brochure serves as the permit for non-quota hunts, except on Tennessee and Cross Creeks where an annual permit is required for all hunts.
10. All antlered deer taken on National Wildlife Refuges count toward the statewide antlered deer bag limit except on NWR quota hunts or as otherwise noted. Antler-less deer taken on NWR quota hunts or where specific NWR hunt dates are listed are bonus deer except as otherwise noted.

- 11. On all Young Sportsman Hunts, youth, ages 6-16 (youth waterfowl 6-15), may participate but must be accompanied by an adult, 21 years of age or older, who must remain in a position to take immediate control of the hunting device. Adults cannot hunt except as indicated otherwise. Adults must comply with fluorescent orange regulations, as specified for legal hunters when accompanying young sportsmen on Young Sportsman Big Game Hunts, except as indicated. Youth, ages 6-16, may participate on other NWR hunts (big game, small game, waterfowl, etc.) but must be accompanied by an adult, 21 years of age or older, who must remain in a position to take immediate control of the hunting device, except as otherwise noted.
- 12. The use or possession of bait, or hunting over bait is strictly prohibited. Baiting means the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing or scattering any salt, grain, powder, liquid or other feed to attract game.
- 13. The use or possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited while on refuge lands and waters.
- 14. The cutting of holes, lanes, or any other manipulation of the vegetation (e.g. cutting of bushes and trees, mowing, herbicide use, and other actions) or hunting from or adjacent to manipulated areas is strictly prohibited. The possession of saws, machetes, axes, or other tools for cutting vegetation is prohibited.

Section IX. Repeal of Prior Proclamations

This proclamation repeals proclamation No. 14-06.

Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission



 Chairman

I certify that this is an accurate and complete copy of a proclamation lawfully promulgated and adopted by the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission on the 22 day of May 2015.



 Secretary

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 27 day of May, 2015.



 Notary Public



My commission expires on: My Commission Expires: 3/10/2019

Proclamation 15-05 received and recorded this 27th day of May, 2015; to be effective the 1 day of August, 2015



Tre Hargett, Secretary of State

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TENNESSEE FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION
PROCLAMATION 15-21
MANNER AND MEANS OF HUNTING, TAKING, AND TRAPPING

Statewide and on Wildlife Management Areas and State Refuges

Pursuant to the authority granted by Tennessee Code Annotated, Sections 70-4-107 and 70-5-108, the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission hereby proclaims the manner and means of hunting, taking, and trapping.

NOTE: All sections contained herein apply to statewide and management area hunting. Special restrictions may apply on some wildlife management areas. Legislative Private Acts also apply in some counties.

SECTION I. LEGAL HUNTING DEVICES – All firearms, hunting devices, and ammunition listed in the below table are legal for hunting purposes according to the individual species listed. If a firearm, hunting device, or ammunition is not listed in the below table it is illegal to hunt with within the State of Tennessee. Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) may have restrictions on some legal hunting devices.

Firearm, hunting device and ammunition	Big Game				Small Game		
	Deer	Bear	Elk	Turkey	Migratory Birds	Furbearers ⁴ and Crow	All Other Small Game
Shotguns (including muzzleloading shotguns) using ammunition loaded with Number Four (4) or smaller shot	No	No	No	Yes	Yes ³	Yes	Yes
Shotguns (including muzzleloading shotguns) using ammunition loaded with T shot (0.20 inch diameter) or smaller	No	No	No	No	Yes ^{3,6}	Yes	No
Shotguns (including muzzleloading shotguns) using ammunition loaded with single solid ball or slugs	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes ¹	No
Rifles and handguns using rimfire ammunition and air guns (.25 caliber or smaller)	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	Yes
Rifles and handguns using centerfire ammunition (full metal jacketed ammunition prohibited)	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes ^{1,5}	No
Muzzleloading firearms (rifles and handguns) .36 cal. or larger	Yes ⁷	Yes ⁷	Yes ⁷	No	No	Yes ^{1,7}	Yes ^{1,7}
Muzzleloading firearms (rifles and handguns) less than .36 cal.	No	No	No	No	No	Yes ⁷	Yes ⁷
Archery equipment (longbows, recurves, compounds, and crossbows)	Yes ²	Yes ²	Yes ²	Yes ²	Yes	Yes	Yes

- (1) If using this equipment while hunting during deer, elk or bear season you must be a legal big game hunter. (see Section VII, 8)
- (2) For big game hunting arrows and bolts must be equipped with sharpened broadheads. For all other game any points are allowed.
- (3) Waterfowl may only be hunted with non-toxic shot of size T or smaller.
- (4) Furbearers are defined as beaver, bobcat, coyote, fox, groundhog, mink, muskrat, opossum, river otter, raccoon, skunk, and weasel.
- (5) It is illegal to use rifles and handguns using centerfire ammunition from 30 minutes after sunset to 30 minutes before sunrise.
- (6) Migratory birds, except waterfowl, may only be hunted with ammunition loaded with Number (4) or smaller shot.

- (7) Muzzleloading firearms are defined as those firearms which are incapable of being loaded from the breech.

SECTION II. PROHIBITED ACTS

- (1) Possession of ammunition except that as specifically authorized is prohibited while hunting.
- (2) The use or possession and/or the accompanying of anyone using or possessing raccoon calls, squallers, weapons, ammunition, or climbers while training dogs is prohibited during training season, except raccoon calls may be used during authorized field trials.
- (3) The use of dogs in taking or attempting to take deer or elk is prohibited. Taking or attempting to take deer being pursued by dog, or dogs, is prohibited.
- (4) Juveniles under the age of eighteen (18) are prohibited from using handguns for the purpose of hunting.
- (5) No person shall make use of bait to take wildlife unless the bait has been removed and any electronic feeder disabled at least 10 days prior to hunting.
- (6) Possession of firearms prohibited while chasing coyote, fox, and bobcat with dogs from the first Saturday in November through the end of the deer season.
- (7) Use or possession of the following equipment is prohibited:
 - (a) Predator calls while night hunting.
 - (b) Pod arrows (any pod-type device for holding drugs or chemicals on an arrow) or any drugs or chemicals used in pod arrows while archery hunting.
 - (c) Explosive arrowheads and explosive broadheads are strictly prohibited.
 - (d) Firearms capable of fully automatic fire.
 - (e) Firearms or archery equipment with any device utilizing an artificial light capable of locating wildlife.
 - (f) Any electronic light amplifying night vision scope or device while in possession of a firearm or archery tackle between sunset and sunrise.
 - (g) Electronic calls or live decoys while hunting wild turkey, foxes, and waterfowl (except electronic calls are legal during the Conservation Season for Blue, Snow, and Ross' geese).
 - (h) Rifles or handguns with full metal jacketed ammunition.
 - (i) Rifles or handguns with centerfire ammunition between 30 minutes after sunset and 30 minutes before sunrise.
 - (j) Any loose shot other than non-toxic (as approved by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) or any shotgun shell loaded with shot other than non-toxic while hunting waterfowl, coots, gallinules, Virginia rails, and sora rails.
 - (k) Any firearm including air guns using archery bolts.
 - (l) Tracer ammunition

SECTION III. LEGAL TRAPPING DEVICES AND DEFINITIONS

- (1) Steel traps may only be used in accordance with TCA §70-4-120. Steel leg-hold traps must have an outside measure of jaw spread that is 9 inches or less, as measured at the widest point. Steel square instant-kill traps must have an exterior jaw measurement 16 inches or less, as measured at the widest point, and steel circular instant-kill traps must have an exterior measurement 12 inches or less, as measured at the widest point.
- (2) Live traps are legal for taking any species of wildlife listed as having a trapping season. Live traps are defined as those traps that act as a cage after capture.
- (3) Steel cable snares having a minimum cable diameter of 5/64 inch and a maximum cable diameter of 3/32 inch are legal for all legal furbearer species during the legal trapping season. All snares shall have affixed a tag bearing the name of the owner. Spring activated snares other than Collarum snares prohibited.
- (4) Commercially available dog-proof traps, also known as species-specific traps, are legal for trapping.
- (5) Cushion-hold traps as defined in TCA §70-1-101 with an outside measure of jaw spread that is 9 inches or less, as measured at the widest point, may be used for all sets in accordance with TCA §70-4-120.
- (6) For trapping purposes "water set" is defined to mean traps set in water adjacent to and part of streams, ponds, lakes, wetlands or other water courses and includes floating sets.
- (7) Trappers shall mark all of their traps with their name or TWRA ID number.

SECTION IV. LEGAL HUNTING HOURS

1. All big game and small game species (except bullfrogs, raccoons, opossums, migratory birds, and the chasing of foxes and rabbits) daylight hours only (30 minutes before official sunrise and until 30 minutes after official sunset) except turkey open only until official sunset.
2. Hunting of bullfrogs, raccoons, opossums, the chasing of foxes and rabbits, and the trapping of furbearers is permitted day or night unless restricted by Proclamation. No foxes or rabbits may be shot while chasing/training at night.
3. Hunting of migratory birds is to comply with federal regulations for migratory birds, unless restricted by proclamation.

SECTION V. MIGRATORY BIRD REGULATIONS

1. Federal regulations relative to baiting, firearms, bag and possession limits, wanton waste, tagging, and methods of hunting are hereby adopted and will be applicable to hunting and/or taking of species listed.
- (2) No person shall hunt migratory game birds, except crows, with a shotgun of any description capable of holding more than three (3) shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so its total capacity does not exceed three (3) shells.
- (3) All persons who hunt migratory game birds are required to have in their possession a valid Tennessee Migratory Bird Permit (TMBP) in addition to other required Tennessee licenses and permits, with the following exceptions:

1. disabled veterans
 2. landowners hunting on their own land
 3. lifetime license holders
 4. residents of Tennessee under 13 years of age
 5. residents of Tennessee who are 65 or older
 6. Military personnel on leave or furlough
1. Refer to federal regulations 50 CFR Ch. 1 (21.41 and 21.43) for conditions and restrictions applicable to the taking of crows in certain depredation or health hazard situations outside of the crow sport hunting season.
 - (5) Pursuant to federal regulations, during the Conservation Season for Blue, Snow, and Ross' Geese, waterfowl hunters may use unplugged shotguns and electronic calls. Hunting is allowed from 30 minutes before to 30 minutes after official sunset. There is no daily bag or possession limit. No Federal or state waterfowl stamps are required to hunt during the Conservation Season. Hunters must possess a Light Goose Conservation Season Permit and have a valid hunting license, but the license may be from any state.

SECTION VI. BIG GAME CHECK IN

1. Big game animals shall be checked in at any approved TWRA checking station, on the TWRA website, or by the TWRA mobile application before leaving the state or being gifted to another, and before the end of the calendar day. Evidence of the big game animal's species and sex must be available for inspection by TWRA personnel until the animal is checked in. After check in, documentation on approved TWRA forms or TWRA mobile application shall be available for inspection by TWRA personnel until time of final processing. This documentation of a confirmed check in shall accompany any big game animals taken to a taxidermist or meat processor or gifted to another.

Evidence of the animal's sex, species, and antlered status (if applicable) must remain with the animal while afield.

- (2) All harvested bears must be checked in at any approved checking station (excluding internet and mobile applications). Bears may be whole or field dressed, but must weigh 75 pounds or greater when checked in. If bears are quartered or boned out, the total of the meat, hide, etc., must equal or exceed 75 pounds. The reproductive sex organs shall remain attached to each bear harvested at least until the bear has been officially checked out at any official checking station.
- (3) Elk shall be checked in as instructed in the hunter's informational packet.
- (4) By completing the required check in information, whether on paper or electronic form, the hunter is affirming that the information as it appears on the permanent record is valid and correct.

SECTION VII. MISCELLANEOUS

1. Where hunting is allowed from vessels, it is legal to hunt from any vessel, so long as the vessel is not under forward motion from any influence of mechanical means or sail. On private property, it is legal to hunt from any motorized vehicle (to include ATVs, golf carts, etc.), provided the vehicle is stationary. Nothing in this subsection (1) shall be construed as authorizing hunting from a vessel, automobile or other motor vehicle while under power. Nothing in this subsection permits hunting from or across a public road or right-of-way.
2. Hunters who have filled their seasonal or daily bag limit for any species may continue to accompany other hunters provided they are not in possession of any ammunition or any weapon. This person must also comply with all other legal requirements. Access for hunters accompanying may be limited on some WMAs. A bear hunter who has filled the daily or seasonal limit may continue to carry a firearm and take hogs where incidental taking is allowed.

3. Every game animal, wounded or unwounded by hunting and/or trapping and taken into possession by the hunter or trapper shall be immediately slain and become part of the daily bag limit. No person shall, at any time, or by any means, possess or transport live animals taken under the authority of hunting season proclamations.
4. Gigs, angling equipment, archery, rimfire, and air firearms are legal for taking bullfrogs.
- (5) Archery equipment is permitted during the archery, muzzleloader and gun seasons. Muzzleloader equipment is permitted during the muzzleloader and gun seasons.
- (6) Pursuant to TCA 39-17-1351, persons with a valid handgun carry permit may possess a handgun the entire year while on the premises of any TWRA refuge, public hunting area, state owned wildlife management area or, to the extent permitted by federal law, national forest land maintained by the state, and private land. For other federally managed properties hunters should contact that specific facility or location. Nothing in this subsection shall authorize a person to use any handgun to hunt unless such person is in full compliance with all wildlife laws, rules and regulations.
- (7) During a deer archery only season, a fall turkey hunter may not be in possession of both archery equipment and firearms.
- (8) During archery deer/bear seasons a properly licensed big game hunter may use air guns .25 caliber or smaller to hunt small game while archery hunting for deer/bear. During the muzzleloader and gun deer/bear season, a legal deer or bear hunter may use rimfire or air guns .25 caliber or smaller to hunt small game.
- (9) During an archery only or muzzleloader/archery only deer, bear or elk season, furbearers may not be taken with rifles and handguns using centerfire ammunition. During the gun/muzzleloader/archery seasons, furbearers may be taken by legal big game hunters licensed for the weapon they are using.
- (10) The use of suppressors/silencers is legal for persons possessing the required federal license from the United States Department of Treasury. Hunters using these devices must have proof of such license on their person.

SECTION VIII. REPEAL OF PRIOR PROCLAMATION

This proclamation repeals Proclamation No. 15-06.

Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission


Chairman

I certify that this is an accurate and complete copy of a proclamation lawfully promulgated and adopted by the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission on the 21st day of August, 2015.


Secretary



Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 25 day of August, 2015.

Jana Crawford
Notary Public

My commission expires on: 3-10-2019

Proclamation No. 15-21 received and recorded the 26th day of August, 2015; to be effective the 24th day of September, 2015.

Tre Hargett
Tre Hargett, Secretary of State

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