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ON THE COVER
Alabama has new deer zone seasons.
Photographer: Billy Pope

FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
If you have questions or comments regarding hunting or freshwater fishing laws, regulations, freshwater fisheries or wildlife programs, or to report violations, please contact your local District Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Office listed to the right.

For information on saltwater fishing license requirements, size and possession limits, contact the Marine Resources Division, PO Drawer 458, Gulf Shores, AL 36547; (251) 968-7576.

For information on boating, such as registration, license requirements or other information, contact the ALEA Marine Trooper Division (800) 272-7930.

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Tanner, AL 35671
(256) 353-2634
dcnr.d1wff@dcnr.alabama.gov

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Jacksonville, AL 36265
(256) 435-5422
dcnr.d2wff@dcnr.alabama.gov

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The recent COVID-19 pandemic has reminded us of just how essential outdoor recreation is to our health and well-being. Hunting and fishing are very important in the lives of many Alabamians. Because of that, the services provided by the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources are as important as ever. I am very thankful for the support of Alabama’s hunters and anglers in that effort.

While the Conservation Department manages the state’s natural resources for the benefit of all, it is you, hunters and anglers, who also deserve credit for our abundant natural resources and outdoor recreational opportunities. Hunting and fishing license revenue is matched with Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration and Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration funds to provide the majority of the budgets for the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries and Marine Resources divisions. The work they do ensures future generations will have the same access to the cherished outdoor activities that we enjoy today.

In addition to investing in the state’s conservation efforts, your participation in hunting and fishing helps thousands of Alabamians working in jobs associated with outdoors recreation. COVID-19 sent a shock through the country’s economy. Your support of local outdoors retailers translates into jobs for many who may have been affected by the pandemic.

Alabama’s wild places and the wildlife that inhabit them are part of what keeps us resilient. A day in the field or on the water resets our minds and refreshes our spirits. I encourage you to take advantage of those privileges this season. I also encourage you to share that experience with someone who is unfamiliar with our outdoors traditions. They are the ones who will carry those traditions into the future.

Alabama is truly a special place. You can hunt in the foothills of the Appalachian Mountains one day and, the next day, reel in a nice bass from one of our bountiful lakes. My job as Governor is to ensure that those traditions continue as well as to promote economic growth so that all Alabamians prosper. Thank you for your support in helping to make that happen.

Kay Ivey

ADDITIONAL OFFICES & PHONE NUMBERS

TO REPORT VIOLATIONS
(800) 272-4263

Enforcement
(334) 242-3467
Fisheries
(334) 242-3471
Wildlife
(334) 242-3469

ADMINISTRATION
64 N. Union St., Suite 567
P.O. Box 301456
Montgomery, AL 36130
(334) 242-3465

License Information
(334) 242-3829
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MAJOR CHANGES & IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE 2020-2021 SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS

✓ Two additional deer zones and associated earlier seasons (see page 22).
✓ Any person who is in possession of deer or turkey not harvested by that person must have in their possession proper written documentation including accompanying Game Check confirmation numbers (see page 76).
✓ Removed restriction of running dogs during daytime or after 3 am during and in areas of spring turkey seasons in areas of spring turkey seasons.
✓ Reduced Scaup limit from 3 to 1 (see page 31).
✓ Removed minimum acreage requirement for participation in Cooperative Deer Management Assistance Program (see page 76).
✓ Wild baitfish caught from public waters may not be imported from any area outside of Alabama (see page 58).
✓ Blueback Herring may be used for bait on or within the water from which they were caught (see page 58).
✓ Mandatory release of Alligator Gar caught with commercial or non-game fishing gear (see page 68).

YOU WILL GET A TICKET IF YOU:

• FAIL TO REPORT HARVEST: Many warnings were issued by the state’s Conservation Enforcement Officers during the past hunting seasons for violations of the Game Check Regulation. This season any violation of this regulation will result in the issuance of citations which have monetary fines attached to them. See page 16 for further information on the Game Check System.

• IMPORT PROHIBITED DEER PARTS: It is unlawful for persons hunting outside of Alabama to bring deer, elk, moose, caribou or any other cervidae carcasses, hides or antlers back to Alabama from any other location unless all meat has been deboned and skull plates and hides have been thoroughly cleaned of all brain and spinal cord tissue.

HUNTING WITH THE AID OF BAIT

The Alabama Legislature has legalized hunting white-tailed deer and feral swine with the aid of bait.

- ALL HUNTERS who wish to hunt white-tailed deer and feral swine with the aid of bait must purchase a required bait privilege license, INCLUDING LICENSE-EXEMPTED HUNTERS. A license-exempt hunter is anyone under the age of 16, residents 65 years or older, resident landowner and each resident family member that will hunt only on their own property. NO EXEMPTIONS.

- Hunting with the aid of bait is prohibited on public lands.

- The area definition is still in effect on private property for those who wish to supplemental feed and not hunt with the aid of bait.

- No other game animals may be hunted with the aid of bait in Alabama.

What is a Conservation ID#?

Conservation ID# (CID) is a permanent unique 6-digit number automatically issued to all resident hunting and freshwater fishing recreational licenses.

USE IT TO:

- Record your deer or turkey harvests in the Game Check System.
- Create a profile for the Outdoor Alabama app, allowing hunters, anglers and other wildlife enthusiasts access to information on-the-go.
- Renew recreational hunting and fishing licenses, speeding up the renewal process.

A License Exempt Hunter can obtain their Conservation ID# by getting their free Hunter Exempt License Privilege (H.E.L.P.) number which can be obtained anywhere licenses are sold.

YOUR CID# CAN BE FOUND ON YOUR LICENSE

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The 2020-21 deer hunting season will bring big changes for hunters in a few parts of Alabama with the creation of two new deer zones: Zones D and E. Deer seasons will open and close two weeks earlier in these new zones than they do in Deer Zones A, B, and C. This shift will allow hunters in Zones D and E to gun hunt before and during the peak of the rut, which was not possible with the previous season structure.

Data collected by WFF biologists over the last 25 years indicate the majority of deer in Alabama (80%) breed between mid-December and mid-February, but the peak of breeding can vary considerably among the Deer Zones, counties within Deer Zones, and even within a single county. This was a major point of contention for years among deer hunters in much of Alabama, particularly those in the southern counties. Many felt deer in their areas were not breeding until after Alabama’s hunting season closed on January 31st. Some were convinced the rut did not even get started until after season closed. These hunters wanted deer season to go well into February so they could hunt deer during the “entire” rut like everyone else.

WFF’s conception date data made it very clear that there were large areas of the state with substantial deer breeding activity that went beyond January 31st. These data made delineating the original Deer Zones A and B prior to the 2015-16 hunting season relatively simple. Areas south of US Highway 80 and Interstate 85 had an average conception date of January 28th, with 44% of the deer in the sample having conception dates after January 31st, so it was placed into Zone B. Deer in other parts of the state had an average conception date of January 9th, with only 14% of the deer breeding after January 31st. This became Zone A.

Even in the newly created Zone A, some areas had average conception dates that were similar to those seen in Zone B. The later breeding was not nearly as widespread in Zone A, but some hunters in Zone A felt the hunters in Zone B were given an unfair advantage. They wanted to hunt “all of the rut” like the Zone B hunters even when data did not fully support their argument. This was enough to prompt the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 12
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expansion of the February 10th closing date for deer season to the
entire state for the 2016-17 hunting season.

In addition to the later breeding observed in most of south Ala-
bama and some isolated areas of north Alabama, WFF’s data also
identified a few deer populations where conception dates were sig-
ificantly earlier than those in other areas. Hunters familiar with the
deer populations on Black Warrior WMA and Choccolocco WMA
already knew the rut was much earlier on those WMAs than it was
in basically any other part of Alabama. Average conception dates
on those areas were November 30th (Black Warrior) and December
4th (Choccolocco), with some deer bred as early as November 1st.
WFF actually began offering special early gun deer hunts in the first
couple of weeks in November on those WMAs starting with the 2015-
16 hunting season to allow hunters a chance to hunt these areas as
the rut was beginning instead of only at the tail end of the breeding
activity in late November and early December.

These early WMA hunts generated questions among hunters and
WFF staff in those areas about whether the early breeding was wide-
spread enough in some areas to warrant an earlier opening date for
deer season. Hunters in a few other locations in Alabama where
early breeding had been documented, primarily those areas along
the Alabama-Georgia state line, had similar questions.

WFF staff identified properties to sample in the counties surround-
ing documented early rutting activity to answer two main questions:
1) How widespread was the early breeding activity in the areas in
question? and 2) Were the boundaries of the areas large enough and
well-defined enough to consider establishing a new deer zone?

After sampling numerous sites WFF biologists realized the early
breeding did extend well outside the original sample sites and the
boundaries of three areas appeared to be well-defined and large
enough to at least propose opening and closing deer season earlier
in those areas to take advantage of the early rutting activity. These
areas included parts of Cullman, Franklin, Lawrence, and Winston
Counties in and around William B. Bankhead National Forest and
Black Warrior WMA, parts of Calhoun and Cleburne Counties in
and around the Shoal Creek District of Talladega National Forest
and Choccolocco WMA, and parts of Barbour and Russell Counties
along the Alabama-Georgia state line.

While the areas had very similar rut dates, the difference in deer
density among the three areas made it necessary to create two new
zones: Zone D, which includes the areas identified in Cullman,
Franklin, Lawrence, and Winston Counties, and Zone E, which
includes the areas identified in Barbour, Calhoun, Cleburne, and
Russell Counties. Opening and closing dates for both new zones will
be the same, but Zone D will have the same either-sex season dates as
Zone C. Zone E will have either-sex season throughout deer season,
just like what is currently offered in Zones A and B, but the starting
and ending dates of the season will be earlier.

There are always concerns about potential negative effects on the
deer population following such changes, but WFF will monitor buck
and doe harvests in the new zones to make sure any issues are ad-
dressed. Slight increases in buck harvest within these zones are ex-
pected, but most of the bucks taken will probably just be killed earlier
in the season than they would have been without the shift. Substantial
spikes in the annual deer harvests in Zones D & E are not likely but
will be addressed if needed. Having four complete seasons of Game
Check deer harvest data to serve as a baseline makes tracking these
changes possible.

While offering better hunting opportunities is the primary rea-
son for creating Zones D and E, the season shift in Zones D & E

CONTINUED ON PAGE 65

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A PROFILE OF A NEW HUNTER

Curt Ward is not unlike the other average 40-year-old males from Alabama. He grew up in the small town of Wetumpka, played baseball and enjoyed riding bikes with his friends. Although he spent a little time target shooting with his father, no one in his immediate family hunted or spent much time in the outdoors. He never knew what he was missing. He finished high school and went off to college, got married, and started a family. Along the way, Curt met people who would talk about storied weekends, of cooking delicious wild game meals and joking with friends and family at the hunting camps. Some of these people became friends and many of these people he realized had traits he really admired. These hunters tended to prioritize friends and family, and many of the highlights from their stories involved a friend or family member that was there to share the hunting experience. Many of these hunters really seemed to care about the environment and about making the outdoors part of a healthy lifestyle. After a series of life events led several of his close friends to move away, Curt found himself with time on his hands and a desire to learn. He jokingly told his wife that some of the best, most genuine people he knew were hunters, so he was going to learn how to hunt. Shortly thereafter, a conversation at work led a coworker to recommend the newly established Adult Mentored Hunting program (AMH). Curt followed up on the recommendation and applied and was selected for the very first 3-day mentored deer hunt.

Fast forward three seasons following his participation in the program and Curt finds himself hunting multiple states for multiple species. The proverbial “take the ball and run with it” adage is an understatement. With this new hobby also came new friendships, the component he attributes as most important for his continued involvement with hunting. The comradery, the food, the jokes, that’s his favorite part. The quality time with friends and family remains as his primary motivator.

Flashing back to his experience on the 3-day mentored deer hunt, Curt was overwhelmed by how nice it was. When the AMH program began, participants could bring a guest to accompany them on their experience. Curt asked a friend that was already an experienced hunter to tag along with him and Curt was worried his friend might not learn anything. Both he and Curt said they...
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BEFORE YOU GO HUNTING:

You must obtain a hunting license (unless exempt*) and a harvest record. Every hunter, regardless of age or license requirement must carry a harvest record. If you are exempt from needing a license or have a lifetime hunting license, you still need a Harvest Record. How do I get a harvest record?

License exempt hunters are hunters under the age of 16, residents age 65 and older, and resident landowners who hunt their own property.

HOW DO I GET A HARVEST RECORD?

You can use the form below or print a harvest record online from www.outdooralabama.com. Possession of a smartphone with the Outdoor AL app installed will be accepted in lieu of a paper Harvest Record.

* License exempt hunters are hunters under the age of 16, residents age 65 and older, and resident landowners who hunt their own property.

Step 1

When a deer or turkey is harvested, the hunter must record the date and type of animal before moving the animal. This can be accomplished by one of these two methods:

PAPER OR ELECTRONIC HARVEST RECORD

PAPER HARVEST RECORD: The hunter must complete the information prior to moving the animal, then record your harvest in the Game Check System online and write the confirmation number on the harvest record within 48 hours.

ELECTRONIC HARVEST RECORD: Using the Outdoor AL app, the hunter must enter the information prior to moving the animal.

Step 2

During your hunt:

You must always have your Harvest Record and hunting license in possession while hunting.

Step 3

After the hunt:

Every hunter must report their harvest of deer and turkey within 48 hours of harvesting it. You will need the following information to report your harvest:

1. Date of harvest
2. Type of animal harvested
3. County of harvest
4. Public or private land
5. Hunting license number or H.E.L.P. number, or *CID.

* The Conservation Identification (CID) is a permanent 6-digit number that is unique to each hunter, and can be used to record deer or turkey harvests in the Game Check System. (See page 6 for more information.)

There are three ways to report your harvest:

1. On your smartphone through the Outdoor AL app. Download the app at: http://www.outdooralabama.com/contact-us/mobile-apps
2. Online at www.outdooralabama.com/gamecheck
3. Game Check kiosks are available at each district office.

Alabama 2020-2021 Harvest Record

Name: ________________________________ License No. or CID #: ________________________________

Antlered Buck – One of the three must have 4 pts, 1” or longer on one side

Harvest Date: __/__/____ | Points: R: _____ L: _____ | Confirmation No.: ________________________________

R: _____ L: _____

R: _____ L: _____

Note: For Barbour County – minimum of 3 points, 1” or longer, on one antler for all antlered bucks. Further restrictions apply on certain management areas. See wildlife Management Area information.

Unantlered Deer

Harvest Date: __/__/____ | Confirmation No.: ________________________________

Turkey (Gobblers Only)

Harvest Date: __/__/____ | Confirmation No.: ________________________________

Harvest reporting is mandatory! How to report your harvest – • Smartphone app: Outdoor AL • Online: www.outdooralabama.com

Every Hunter MUST have a Paper Harvest Record in their possession or the Outdoor AL App installed on a smart phone and in their possession.
IMPORTANT NOTES:

• All deer and turkey hunters are required to report their harvest using Game Check and have a deer / turkey harvest record (either paper or app form) in possession. See page 16 for more information.
• All persons hunting on private lands of another must have written permission from the landowner with few exceptions.
• Legal hunting hours for deer are 30 minutes before official sunrise time until 30 minutes after official sunset time. See page 49.
• All required hunting and fishing licenses and waterfowl stamps must be in possession when hunting or fishing (either paper or digital form).
• See hunter orange requirement and definition of open permit – public land. Consult management area map permit for special rules and regulations and seasons before hunting State Wildlife Management Areas.
• Any party controlling hunting rights may, by choice, be more restrictive on seasons and bag limits than those stipulated below.

DEER

ANTLERED BUCKS
Male deer with bare antlers visible above natural hairline – Statewide – one a day.

White-Tailed Buck Limit
Three per hunter during all combined seasons. One of the three must have at least 4 antler points 1” or longer on one antler (except for Barbour County). A point is defined as an antler projection of at least one inch in length from base to tip. Main beam tip shall be counted as a point regardless of length.

Exceptions:
1. Barbour County Antler Restriction – white-tailed deer bucks must have a minimum of three points on one side, (except on the statewide special youth deer hunting dates during which any antlered buck may be taken).
2. Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Bonus Buck – One per hunter during all combined bonus buck hunt dates will be allowed to be harvested from a select collection of WMAs on specific hunt dates depicted on the WMA map permits that will not count towards the hunter’s State three buck limit. Must be validated at WMA check station by WFF personnel.

UNANTLERED DEER
During the Unantlered Deer Gun, Special Muzzleloader, Bow and Arrow and Special

Youth (under 16) Seasons, one unantlered deer may be taken per day in addition to one antlered buck per day. See Special Exception #3 for selected areas with one deer per day limit on U.S. Forest Service Lands.

SPECIAL YOUTH (under 16) DEER HUNTING
Statewide, (includes all Privately Owned, Leased Lands and Open Permit – Public Lands (except Wildlife Management Areas) in Zones A, B & C November 13-16 and in Zones D & E October 30 – November 2.
Dog hunting in those counties or parts of counties where and how it is allowed during the regular dog deer hunting season. Same legal arms and ammunition apply as in Deer season, in accordance with Rule 220-2-.119.
See the current Wildlife Management Area Map Permits for youth deer hunting dates and other information.

SPECIAL EXCEPTIONS
If notes 1, 2, or 3 appear by the county listed, see the special exceptions on pages 24 and 25. Note (1) relates to dog deer hunting. Note (2) relates to U.S. Corp of Engineers Lands. Note (3) relates to U.S. Forest Service Lands.
THINKING ABOUT SELLING YOUR LAND?
WE CAN HELP

JOHN LOPEZ
Agent, Northwest AL
(256) 998-2334

CHRIS MCCUNE
Broker, West Central AL
(205) 331-8516

BEN RICHARDSON
Agent, Northeast AL
(256) 391-2107

NICK GIBBS
Agent, North Central AL
(256) 458-0741

TODD EDWARDS
Agent, Southwest AL
(251) 747-1346

THINKING ABOUT SELLING YOUR LAND?
WE CAN HELP
In an effort to gain more information on the use of our Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) and provide better services to our hunters, the Division will be introducing a WMA Check In/Out function as an added feature on the Outdoor Alabama mobile app during the 2020-2021 hunting season. This follows the introduction of the physical “Daily Permit” required on certain WMAs. The implementation of the Daily Permit was an effort to gain more information about WMA hunter use, species hunted, and number of species harvested. This can now be accomplished by using the Outdoor Alabama app to check in/out and indicate that day’s hunting information or by using the original physical daily permits. A paper copy of the WMA Map Permit will not be required for those using the WMA Check In App but those hunters not using the WMA Check In App will be required to have a signed copy of the WMA Map Permit. During the 2020-2021 season, the use of Daily Permits and the Outdoor Alabama App WMA Check-In/Check-Out will be available at all WMAs, but will only be mandatory for Choccolocco, Coosa, Hollins, Jackson County, Little River, Mallard Fox Creek, Martin Community Hunting Area, James D. Martin Skyline, and Swan Creek WMAs. Beginning in the 2021-2022 hunting season, this will be a requirement at all WMAs. Your participation will assist the Division in improving our services to all Wildlife Management Area hunters.
LICENSE to CONSERVE.

Show your support for the NWTF Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt. initiative by getting your own NWTF Alabama tag.

In the next decade, the National Wild Turkey Federation is committed to:
- conserve or enhance 4 million acres of critical upland habitat
- create 1.5 million hunters
- open access to 500,000 acres for hunting

We are committed to Save the Habitat. Save the Hunt.

www.nwtf.org/alabama
2020-2021 Deer Season Zone Map

Detailed area of Zone C and D in Winston, Walker, and Cullman Counties.

ZONE A
ZONE B
ZONE C
ZONE D
ZONE E

FOOTNOTE NUMBERS

Revised 4-1-2020

www.outdooralabama.com
**ZONE A**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hunting Method</th>
<th>Sex</th>
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<tr>
<td>Bow and Arrow-Stalk Hunting</td>
<td>Either Sex</td>
<td>Oct. 15, 2020 - Feb. 10, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special Muzzleloader and Air Rifle</td>
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<td>Nov. 16, 2020 - Nov. 20, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gun Deer-Stalk Hunting</td>
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<td>Nov. 21, 2020 - Feb. 10, 2021</td>
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<td>Gun Deer-Dog Deer Hunting: Where Allowed</td>
<td>Either Sex</td>
<td>Nov. 21, 2020 - Jan. 15, 2021</td>
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<tr>
<td>Open Permit Public Lands</td>
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<td>Nov. 21, 2020 - Feb. 10, 2021</td>
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**ZONE D**

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<td>Oct. 1, 2020 - Jan. 15, 2021</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Special Muzzleloader and Air Rifle</td>
<td>Either Sex</td>
<td>Nov. 2, 2020 - Nov. 6, 2020</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gun Deer-Stalk Hunting</td>
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<td>Nov. 7, 2020 - Jan. 10, 2021</td>
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<td>Open Permit Public Lands</td>
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<td>Nov. 7, 2020 - Jan. 10, 2021</td>
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**ZONE E**

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<tr>
<td>Open Permit Public Lands</td>
<td>Antlered Bucks Only</td>
<td>Nov. 7, 2020 - Jan. 10, 2021</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Special Exception: Calhoun, Clay, and Talladega Counties*

Other than Piney Woods/Ivory Mountain area where dog hunting is prohibited in its entirety, no dog deer hunting on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday of each week unless Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day or New Year's Day falls on a Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday. No other state or federal holidays are included in this exception. Dog deer hunting on Thursday and Friday until 2:00 p.m., on weekends during legal shooting hours where allowed on USFS land in these counties. For a description of the Piney Woods/Ivory Mountain area and further restrictions and information on hunting USFS lands, see special exception 3, page 25.
Hwy 68 to AL Hwy 227; north on AL Hwy 227 to AL Hwy 75; north on AL Hwy 75 to AL Hwy 35; north on AL Hwy 35 to US Hwy 72; west on US Hwy 72 to AL Hwy 279; south on AL Hwy 279 to AL Hwy 79; south on AL Hwy 79; ending at the junction of US Hwy 431 and AL Hwy 79.

ZONE D (see map): Those areas of Cullman, Franklin, Lawrence, Morgan, and Winston Counties with the following boundaries: beginning at the intersection of US Hwy 157 and US Hwy 24 at Moulton (Lawrence County); south on AL Hwy 157 to Cullman County Road 1114; south on Cullman County Road 1114 to US Hwy 278 in Jones Chapel; west on US Hwy 278 to Helicon Road (Winston County Road 77); west on Helicon Road (Winston County Road 77) to Winston County Road 41 in Arley (Winston County); south on Winston County Road 41 to the Winston/Walker County line; west along the Winston/Walker County line to AL Hwy 5; north of US Hwy. 72; east along the Tennessee River to the intersection of the Natchez Trace Parkway, south along the Natchez Trace Parkway to US Hwy. 72; west along US Hwy. 72 to the Mississippi State line; north along the Mississippi State line to the Tennessee River, east along the Tennessee River to the intersection of the Natchez Trace Parkway, south along the Natchez Trace Parkway to the intersection of US Hwy. 72; Coosa; Covington (north of US Hwy. 84); Elmore (that area inside the following boundaries: from the Coosa County/Elmore County line, east to the Russell County line); Marengo; Monroe; Pickens (north of US Hwy. 82); Tallapoosa and Wilcox counties. Individual property owners in Chambers and Coosa counties may hunt with dogs on their own property without special permit. No dog deer hunting allowed on Open Permit- Public Land (see 220-2-85).

By Stalk Hunting Only, (No Dogs): Bibb and Perry (that area south of US Hwy. 231, south of US Hwy. 82 and north of AL Hwy. 183); Butler (that area south of AL Hwy. 106 and east of I-65); Cherokee; Chilton; Cleburne; Coffee (that area inside the following boundaries: AL Hwy. 134 from the Covington County Line, east to County Rd. 466, south to the Geneva County line, east to the Dale County line, north to AL Hwy. 134, west to AL Hwy. 87 north to US Hwy. 84, west to AL Hwy. 189, south to AL Hwy. 141, north to US Hwy. 84, west to the Covington County line); Crenshaw (north of US Hwy. 10 and that area inside the following boundaries, from the east city limit of Luvener, US Hwy. 29 east to the junction of County Rd. 57, County Rd. 57 south to the junction of Davis Rd., Davis Rd. west to County Rd. 41, County Rd. 41 south to US Hwy. 231, south along US Hwy. 231 to the intersection of AL Hwy. 14, west along AL Hwy. 14 to the east bank of the Coosa River, north along the east bank of the Coosa River to Lake Jordan, back to the Coosa County/Elmore County line); Geneva; Henry; Macon (that area inside the following boundaries: from County Rd. 24 at the Lee County line, west and south to County Rd. 26, west to County Rd. 10, southeast to County Rd. 5, south to County Rd. 47, south to County Rd. 2, east to the Russell County line); Marengo; Monroe; Pickens (north of US Hwy. 82); Tallapoosa and Wilcox counties. Individual property owners in Chambers and Coosa counties may hunt with dogs on their own property without special permit. No dog deer hunting allowed on Open Permit- Public Land (see 220-2-85).

SPECIAL EXCEPTION: 1 DOG DEER HUNTING: Dog Deer Hunting Prohibited Except by Special Permit from the Department:

Baldwin; Chambers; Choctaw (that area south of AL Hwy. 10 and west of AL Hwy. 17 and north of County Rd. 18 from AL Hwy. 17 to County Rd. 14 then north of County Rd. 14 to the Mississippi state line); Colbert (that area inside the following boundaries: from the intersection of the Natchez Trace Parkway and US Hwy. 72 west along US Hwy. 72 to the Mississippi State line, north along the Mississippi State line to the Tennessee River, east along the Tennessee River to the intersection of the Natchez Trace Parkway, south along the Natchez Trace Parkway to the intersection of US Hwy. 72); Coosa; Covington (north of US Hwy. 84); Elmore (that area inside the following boundaries: from the Coosa County/Elmore County line, at AL Hwy. 9, south along AL Hwy. 9 to the intersection of US Hwy. 29, west to County Rd. 10, southeast to County Rd. 4, north along County Rd. 4, north along County Rd. 4 to the Mississippi state line, north along the Mississippi State line to the Tennessee River, east along the Tennessee River to the intersection of the Natchez Trace Parkway, south along the Natchez Trace Parkway to the intersection of US Hwy. 72, Coosa; Covington (north of US Hwy. 84); Elmore (that area inside the following boundaries: from the Coosa County/Elmore County line, at AL Hwy. 9, south along AL Hwy. 9 to the intersection of US Hwy. 231, south along US Hwy. 231 to the intersection of AL Hwy. 14, west along AL Hwy. 14 to the east bank of the Coosa River, north along the east bank of the Coosa River to Lake Jordan, back to the Coosa County/Elmore County line); Geneva; Henry; Macon (that area inside the following boundaries: from County Rd. 24 at the Lee County line, west and south to County Rd. 26, west to County Rd. 10, southeast to County Rd. 5, south to County Rd. 47, south to County Rd. 2, east to the Russell County line); Marengo; Monroe; Pickens (north of US Hwy. 82); Tallapoosa and Wilcox counties. Individual property owners in Chambers and Coosa counties may hunt with dogs on their own property without special permit. No dog deer hunting allowed on Open Permit- Public Land (see 220-2-85).

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• Cape for Wall Mount

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Be sure to report your harvest using GAME CHECK. See page 16 for instructions.

For information on all available licenses, how and where to purchase your license and application packets, visit outdooralabama.com/license-information.

"AREA DEFINITION" REMAINS IN EFFECT

The 2019/2020 season marked the first time that white-tailed deer and feral swine were hunted with the aid of bait in Alabama by those who purchase the Baiting Privilege License. However, hunting with the aid of bait is not mandatory. Those who wish to continue a supplemental feeding program may continue to hunt under the guidance of the Definition of Area Regulation (220-2-157).

The area definition does not apply on any public land or to any other species.

For more information on this or any other regulation, please visit www.outdooralabama.com or call the Montgomery office at 334-242-3467.

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District website at: https://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Recreation/Hunting/.

2 U.S. CORP OF ENGINEERS LANDS: On U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) Lands in Alabama, the special muzzleloader, air rifle, and unantlered deer seasons are allowed the same as privately owned or leased lands in those counties if USACE does not further restrict. Be aware to consult USACE regulations regarding hunting activities and boat ramp use prior to hunting USACE regulated areas. Special Permits from the USACE may be required and some USACE areas are closed to hunting. For complete information concerning hunting on USACE lands, visit the USACE Mobile

3 U.S. FOREST SERVICE (USFS): (same as open permit for county), except Wildlife Mgmt. Areas – one deer per day.

Stalk Hunting Only – No Dogs (except for USFS Lands within Calhoun, Clay & Talladega counties): Same season and dates as open permit-public lands.

Dog Deer Hunting – Calhoun, Clay & Talladega counties during the Dog Deer Season on open permit-public lands – on Thursdays and Fridays until 2:00 p.m.; on weekends during legal shooting hours. No Dog Deer hunting on Monday, Tuesday or Wednesday of each week unless a holiday (see page 23 special exemption note) falls on those days; No Dog Deer hunting on the Piney Woods/Ivory Mountain Area, the borders of which are defined as: bounded by the Cleburne County line to the north running east and west, then to the west by Clay CR 3 running south to State Rte. 49; The south border is Clay CR 66 running east and west from State Rte. 49 to Hwy. 9; The eastern border is Hwy. 9 running north from Clay CR 66 to the Cleburne County line.
were blown away with the quality of the experience and described it as “top notch, and something people would pay big money to do. We both learned so much that weekend that we drove home exhausted. I wrote down as much as possible and still go back to look at those notes from time to time in order to process the experience. Besides the presentations about conservation, habitat management, and wildlife biology, the time spent talking to the biologists, that serve as hunting mentors, one on one was so valuable. You just learn so much.”

Curt was particularly impressed with the wildlife management and conservation presentation conducted by Director Chuck Sykes. “The way conservation, habitat management, and hunting are tied together was so eye opening to me.” Curt now utilizes that knowledge to implement management practices on some family land in Northwest Georgia. He enjoys taking his two daughters with him on “scouting” trips to set up their trail cameras, set up blinds, and spend time in the woods. After having deployed the trail cameras for only a month, over 3,000 pictures filled his memory card to reveal the property was teeming with wildlife. Prior to placing the camera, his mother, the owner of the property, had no idea how much wildlife was using her land. It was eye opening for everyone and has been a constant hub of interest and shared experiences for the family.

Along with knowledge about conservation and habitat management, Curt also learned about how to spot and identify game from...
**LEGAL ARMS & AMMUNITION**

**GENERAL PROHIBITIONS**
It shall be unlawful for any person to use any method, any weapon or ammunition contrary to this regulation while hunting or attempting to hunt game birds and animals or other species provided for herein unless expressly provided for by duly enacted laws of the State of Alabama. It shall be unlawful for any person to refuse to submit firearms and ammunition or any device, instrument or accessory used in hunting to Conservation Officers for inspection. It shall be unlawful for any person (except for legally blind hunters) to hunt with a bow or gun that has a light source attached that is capable of casting a beam of light (including a laser sight) forward of said bow or gun or to possess such a light source adapted for attachment to said bow or gun while hunting, except as provided for in 220-2-.02. It shall be unlawful to possess any equipment that uses electronics to increase the ability to see in the dark (night vision equipment) while hunting any species of wildlife, both protected or unprotected species. Hunting with fully automatic firearms is prohibited.

**DEER**
- Rifles using centerfire, mushrooming ammunition.
- Pre-charged pneumatic air powered guns, .30 caliber or larger.
- Pre-charged pneumatic arrow shooting rifles using an arrow equipped with a broadhead which has a minimum cutting diameter of 7/8 inch and 2 sharpened edges.
- Shotguns, 10 gauge or smaller using buckshot, slugs, or single round ball.
- Muzzleloaders and Black Powder Handguns: .40 caliber or larger.
- Long bows, compound bows, or crossbows in conformance with regulation 220-2-.03.
- Handguns or pistols using centerfire, mushrooming ammunition.
- Hunting with fully automatic firearms is prohibited.

**TURKEY**
- Shotguns, 10 gauge or smaller using standard No. 2 shot or smaller.
- Long bows, compound bows and crossbows in conformance with regulation 220-2-.03.
- Nothing in this section is intended to prohibit the possession of rifles, shotgun/rifle combinations (drilling) or buckshot and slugs when the hunter is stalk hunting both deer and turkey provided no person shoots or attempts to shoot turkey with the rifle or shotgun using buckshot or slugs.
- Pre-charged pneumatic arrow shooting rifles using an arrow equipped with a broadhead which has a minimum cutting diameter of 7/8 inch and 2 sharpened edges.

**MIGRATORY BIRDS**
- Shotguns, 10 gauge or smaller, plugged with a one piece filler incapable of removal without disassembling the gun or otherwise incapable of holding more than 3 shells using shot compositions and shot sizes that are approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Waterfowl hunters shall not possess any size lead shot.
- Long bows, compound bows, or crossbows.

**RACCOON & OPOSSUM**
- Nighttime hunting: Shotguns using No. 6 shot or smaller; rimfire firearms.
- Daytime hunting: see Other Game Birds Or Animals.

**BOBCAT, GROUNDHOG, UNPROTECTED WILDLIFE, FOX, COYOTE & FERAL SWINE**
- Rifles of any caliber.
- Handguns or pistols.
- Shotguns, 10 gauge or smaller.
- Pre-charged pneumatic air powered guns, .30 caliber or larger.
- Long bows, compound bows, or crossbows.
- Muzzleloaders and black powder handguns of any caliber.
- Blowguns using darts propelled by the hunter’s breath only.
- Sling shots.

Purchase an Alabama Hunting, Wildlife Heritage or Wildlife Management Area license to use any of our public shooting ranges. See map on page 66.
MOURNING AND WHITE-WINGED DOVE
Note: At time of printing, federal guidelines were not final. See Alabama Waterfowl Hunting Guide.

NORTH ZONE (All counties except those listed below in south zone.)
- Limit 15 a day (90 days)

SPLIT SEASON with Shooting Hours:
- 12 O’clock noon until Sunset (Afternoon Shooting Only) September 5
- One-half hour before Sunrise until Sunset (All Day) September 6 – October 25
- One-half hour before Sunrise until Sunset (All Day) November 21 – November 29
- One-half hour before Sunrise until Sunset (All Day) December 12 – January 10

SOUTH ZONE
Baldwin; Barbour; Coffee; Covington; Dale; Escambia; Geneva; Henry; Houston; and Mobile.
- Limit 15 a day (90 days)

SPLIT SEASON with Shooting Hours:
- 12 O’clock noon until Sunset (Afternoon Shooting Only) September 12
- One-half hour before Sunrise until Sunset (All Day) September 13 – November 1
- One-half hour before Sunrise until Sunset (All Day) November 21 – November 29
- One-half hour before Sunrise until Sunset (All Day) December 12 – January 10

IT IS LEGAL TO HUNT DOVES ON, OVER, OR FROM...
- Lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of normal agricultural operations, which include normal agricultural harvestings, normal agricultural post-harvest manipulations, or normal agricultural practices.
- Lands planted by means of top-sowing or aerial seeding where seeds have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, a planting for agricultural soil erosion control, or a planting for post-mining land reclamation.
- Lands or areas where grain or feed has been distributed or scattered solely as the result of the manipulation of an agricultural crop or other feed on the land where grown.
- Standing crops.
- Lands planted as wildlife food plots, provided the seed is planted in a manner consistent with Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service recommendations for the planting of wildlife food plots. In states without Cooperative Extension Service recommendations for the planting of food plots, the seed must be planted in accordance with Extension Service guidelines for producing a crop.
- Lands planted as pasture improvements or for the purpose of grazing livestock. The Fish and Wildlife Service will not make a distinction between agricultural fields planted with the intent to gather a crop and those planted without such intent provided...
the planting is carried out in a manner consistent with the recommendations of State Extension Specialists).

- Standing or manipulated natural vegetation.
- A blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with natural vegetation.

For further clarification, see [www.fws.gov/le/huntfish/whatislegal.htm](http://www.fws.gov/le/huntfish/whatislegal.htm).

The Alabama Cooperative Extension System recommends planting dates for some top sown grains between August 1 and November 30 depending on individual circumstances. For details see [www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/A/ANR-1467/ANR-1467-low.pdf](http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/A/ANR-1467/ANR-1467-low.pdf).

**BOBWHITE QUAIL**
November 7 – February 28
- 8 a day — 8 in possession

**RABBIT**
September 12 – March 7
- 8 a day — 8 in possession

**SQUIRREL**
September 12 – March 7
- 8 a day — 8 in possession

**RACCOON**
No Closed Season
- May be hunted daytime or nighttime hours
- Private Owned and Leased Lands: No Bag Limit
- Open Permit-Public Land: 5 Per Party
- Check with USFS for further restrictions.

**OPPOSUM AND FOX**
No Closed Season
- May be hunted daytime or nighttime hours
- No Bag Limit
- Check with USFS for further restrictions.
- Fox — nighttime hours with dogs only. See page 32 for trapping information.

**BOBCAT & OTTER TAGGING REQUIREMENT 220-2-.30**
All bobcat and otter, regardless of method of harvest, are required to be tagged by a representative of the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division within 14 days of harvest or may be left with a taxidermist with a completed tagging form, and the taxidermist is required to have the bobcat or otter tagged within 14 days of receipt.

**Open Permit-Public Land** is defined as governmentally owned land open for public hunting and/or lands made available to the public on an individual basis whether for a fee or not. Examples of such lands would be U.S. Forest Service Lands, land owned by lumber companies and utility companies available for use by hunters either through free permits, fee permits or no permit requirement. This does not include Alabama’s Wildlife Management Areas. See the current Wildlife Management Area Map Permit for information.

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Seasons & Bag Limits: Hunting & Trapping

BOBCAT(1,3), COYOTE(2), FOX AND FERAL SWINE(2):
(Daytime Hours Only)
No Bag Limit
No Closed Season
See page 49 for legal hunting hours.
1. Bobcat - See tagging requirement (see page 29).
2. Coyote and Feral Swine – trapping by landowner or his agent.
   Feral Swine – upon capture, it shall be unlawful to release any
   live feral swine. See regulation 220-2-.86
4. Check with USFS for further restrictions.

FERAL SWINE (2021): (PRIVATELY OWNED AND
LEASED LANDS ONLY) (DOGS ONLY)
SPECIAL NIGHTTIME SEASON
May 1 – August 31
• No Bag Limit – May be hunted during nighttime hours
• Dogs only – no firearms allowed.
Note: Permit may be obtained through your local district office
for nighttime nuisance control.

BEAVER, NUTRIA AND GROUNDHOG
No Closed Season
• No Bag Limit — Daylight Hours Only

STARLINGS, CROWS AND ENGLISH SPARROWS
No Closed Season
• No Bag Limit — Daylight Hours Only

BEAR, MOUNTAIN LION AND RUFFED GROUSE
No Open Season

WOODCOCK
December 18 – January 31
• 3 a day
• Shooting Hours: One-half hour before Sunrise to Sunset.

SNIPE
November 14 – February 28
• 8 a day
• Shooting Hours: One-half hour before Sunrise to Sunset.

CLAPPER RAIL, VIRGINIA RAIL, SORA AND GALLINULE
September 12 – September 27
November 27 – January 19
• Note: At time of printing, federal guidelines were not final.
  See Alabama Waterfowl Hunting Guide.
• 15 a day
• Shooting Hours: One-half hour before Sunrise to Sunset.
ALLIGATOR (2020)

- By Limited Quota Permit Only
- Must apply on-line at www.outdooralabama.com between June 2 (8:00 a.m.) and July 8 (8:00 a.m.)
- Must be Alabama Resident or lifetime license holder to register.

Sunset August 13 – Sunrise August 16
Sunset August 20 – Sunrise August 23

- West Central Zone: The private and public waters in Dallas; Monroe (north of U.S. Highway 84), and Wilcox (nighttime only)
- Coastal Zone: the private and public waters in Baldwin and Mobile that lie south of I-10 (nighttime only)
- Southwest Zone: Baldwin; Clarke; Mobile; Monroe (east of US Hwy. 43 and south of US Hwy. 84); and Washington Counties (nighttime only).

Sunset August 8 – Sunrise September 7

- Southeast Zone: the private and public waters in Barbour, Coffee, Covington, Dale, Geneva, Henry, Houston, and Russell counties (excluding public Alabama state waters in Walter F. George Reservoir (Lake Eufaula) and its navigable tributaries) (nighttime only)

Sunset August 14 – Sunrise October 5

- Lake Eufaula Zone: The public Alabama state waters only in the Walter F. George Reservoir (Lake Eufaula) and its navigable tributaries, south of Hwy 208, Omaha Bridge, (excluding Eufaula National Wildlife Refuge) (daytime and nighttime)

BULLFROG AND PIG FROG

No Closed Season

- May be hunted daytime or nighttime hours
- Limit 20 frogs in aggregate per person from 12 Noon to 12 Noon the following day.

SPECIAL YOUTH, ACTIVE MILITARY AND MILITARY VETERAN’S WATERFOWL HUNTING DAYS

November 21 and February 6

- Note: At time of printing, federal guidelines were not final. See Alabama Waterfowl Hunting Guide.
- Same shooting hours, bag limits, and legal arms and ammunition apply as in regular waterfowl season, in accordance with Rule 220-2-.119.

SPECIAL TEAL SEASON

September 12 – September 27

- Note: At time of printing, federal guidelines were not final. See Alabama Waterfowl Hunting Guide.
- 6 day
- Shooting Hours: One-half hour before Sunrise to Sunset.

DUCK, COOT AND MERGANSER

November 27 – November 28
December 5 – January 31

- Note: At time of printing, federal guidelines were not final. See Alabama Waterfowl Hunting Guide.
- Shooting Hours: One-half hour before Sunrise to Sunset.

DUCK

- 6 ducks a day — may include no more than 4 Mallards (no more than 2 of which may be female), 3 Wood Ducks, 1 Mottled Duck, 2 Black Duck, 2 Redhead, 1 Pintail, 2 Canvasback, and 1 Scaup.

COOT

- 15 a day

MERGANSER

- 5 a day, only 2 may be a Hooded Merganser.

Refer to the Alabama Waterfowl Hunting Guide and the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Regulation Book, as well as federal regulations, for details on waterfowl hunting requirements and seasons.
GEESE
- Note: At time of printing, federal guidelines were not final. See Alabama Waterfowl Hunting Guide.
- Statewide (including Southern James Bay Population Zone).
- Shooting Hours: One-half hour before Sunrise to Sunset.

SPECIAL GOOSE SEASON
September 1 – September 30

ALL GEESE:
- The aggregate special early season bag limit of 5 dark geese (Canada, White-fronted, Brant) shall not include more than 1 Brant. Additionally, an aggregate bag limit of 5 light geese (Snow, Blue, Ross’s) may be harvested per day.

October 10 – October 24
November 27 – November 28
December 5 – January 31

DARK GEESE (CANADA, WHITE-FRONTED, BRANT)
- Limit 5 a day, the aggregate bag limit of 5 shall not include more than 3 Canada Geese and 1 Brant, all five may be White-Fronted Geese.

LIGHT GEESE (SNOW, BLUE, ROSS’S)
- The aggregate bag limit shall be 5 a day.

SANDHILL CRANE:
DECEMBER 4 – JANUARY 3
JANUARY 11 – JANUARY 31

- By limited quota permit only. Must apply on-line at www.outdooralabama.com. Must be sixteen (16) years of age or older and a resident or lifetime hunting license holder to apply.
- Limit 3 per person per permit.
- Hunting zone will be that area north of Interstate 20 from the Georgia state line to the interchange with Interstate 65, then east of Interstate 65 to the interchange with Interstate 22, then north of Interstate 22 to the Mississippi state line. (excludes the remainder of the state).
- Shooting Hours – Sunrise to Sunset
- Legal arms and ammunition are same as waterfowl

TRAPPING:
BOBCAT, FOX, MINK, MUSKRAT, OTTER & STRIPED SKUNK
October 31 – February 28

BEAVER, COYOTE, NUTRIA, FERAL SWINE, RACCOON AND OPOSSUM
No Closed Season

Note: Permit may be obtained through your local district office for the trapping of nuisance furbearers outside the dates of trapping season.

WFF has collaborated with the AL Trappers and Predator Control Assoc., The Safari Club and the USDA Wildlife Services to host adult and youth trapping workshops throughout the state. Go to www.outdooralabama.com for dates and locations.

HUNTER ORANGE REQUIREMENT FOR HUNTING

During dates and in areas open by regulation to gun deer season, including youth deer season and muzzleloader deer season, all persons hunting any wildlife species, except foxes, raccoons, and opossums during legal nighttime hours or turkey or migratory birds (including crows), are required to wear an outer garment above the waist with a minimum of 144 square inches of hunter orange or either a full size hunter orange hat or cap.

Hunters are not required to wear hunter orange when:
- hunting from a stand elevated twelve (12) feet or more from the ground
- hunting in an enclosed box stand
- traveling in an enclosed vehicle
- traveling on foot no more than twenty (20) feet directly between an operating enclosed vehicle and a stand where the hunter is exempt from the hunter orange requirement. The hunter orange must be worn when traveling on foot between an operating enclosed vehicle and exempt stand when the distance is more than a direct distance of twenty (20) feet.

A small logo and/or printing is permitted on the front of hunter orange caps; otherwise, hunter orange must be of solid color and visible from any angle. Only hunter orange, commonly called blaze orange, ten-mile cloth, etc., is legal. The various shades of red as well as camo orange are not legal.

PURPLE PAINT PROTECTS PROPERTY

During the 2016 Legislative Session, Alabama lawmakers adopted a rule allowing landowners to paint purple stripes on trees or fence posts as an alternative to no-trespassing signs. Properly posted no-trespassing signs remain lawful.

Purple paint’s advantages include low cost, high visibility and difficult to remove. Alabama is one of several states recognizing purple paint as a valid no-trespassing marker.

According to the Code of Alabama, vertical stripes of purple paint must be longer than 8 inches, wider than 1 inch, 3–5 feet from the ground, readily visible to people approaching the property, 100 feet or less apart on forestland and less than 1,000 feet on non-forestland.
Like all good relationships, Bush Hog® is in it for the long haul. Since 1951, Bush Hog® has been providing products to American farmers and weekend warriors capable of turning your property into a land of opportunity. For those of you who have tractors rated at 40 PTO HP and below, we offer Finishing Mowers, Single Spindle & Multi-Spindle Rotary Cutters, Tillage, Construction, Landscape, Hay Equipment, and Snow Blowers to match the specialized needs of your tractor. With over 70 models to choose from, we have the right implement to help you get your job done.

Bush Hog® is proud of our legacy of creating the highest quality agricultural products in the business, which is why “If it doesn’t say Bush Hog®, it just won’t cut it.”

Check out our website for more details on specific models at bushhog.com
Oakmulgee Wildlife Management Area (WMA) represents one of the oldest WMAs in Alabama, established in 1938 as a collaborative partnership with the U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF). The WMA consists of 45,000 acres located in Bibb, Hale, Perry and Tuscaloosa Counties in west-central Alabama within the Oakmulgee Division of the Talladega National Forest. The terrain is characterized by its landscape of rolling hills situated just north of the fall line. The Oakmulgee District represents one of the largest continuous stands of longleaf forest uplands with mature hardwood bottomlands.

While it’s difficult to believe, Alabama’s deer herd was practically nonexistent in the early 1900’s and Alabama’s WMAs served as pivotal locations utilized in re-establishing their populations. Oakmulgee WMA represents initial areas to receive these deer during those early re-stocking efforts in Alabama. From 1938-1941, one hundred twenty-nine wild deer were captured in North Carolina, on Pisgah National Forest, and transported to and released on the WMA. Due to the success of these re-stocking efforts conducted during that era, Oakmulgee WMA was one of the first to provide public deer hunting opportunities in the state. During these early years of wildlife conservation in Alabama, many hunters would travel great distances to have the opportunity to hunt and possibly harvest their first whitetail deer. As confirmed through conception data collected by our Wildlife Section personnel, the deer at Oakmulgee have retained their genetic programming from North Carolina and continue to exhibit a peak rutting period extending from December 9th – 24th. This presents a unique opportunity for Alabama hunters, enabling to hunt the rut on the WMAs practically the entire season, traveling from WMA to another WMA as the season progresses.

If the deer hunting wasn’t enough to sufficiently pique your interest, Oakmulgee has long been known for its abundant turkey hunting attributes and attracts quite the gathering of hunters during the early portion of the season. The longleaf timber stands and habitat management practices targeting an open canopy of uneven aged forest maintained through selective timber harvests coupled with a prescribed burning regimen creates conditions conducive for quality turkey habitat. On a typical year, the second or third week of the turkey season represents the peak of gobbling activity and subsequent harvest on the Oakmulgee WMA.

Often overlooked and underused by hunters are the abundant small game hunting opportunities that the WMA has to offer. While it’s certainly a productive way to put wild game on the table, it also represents a great way to introduce a youngster or a new hunter to the rewarding sport of hunting. While many hunting clubs and some private landowners often will have self-imposed restrictions on small game hunting during deer season, Oakmulgee’s gun deer hunts are structured so that small game hunters have a wide collection of hunt days without conflict to better allow for multiple hunter type use of the WMA. Many of our WMAs are actually experiencing a resurgence in this prospect as many are realizing and capitalizing on the small game hunting opportunities available on public WMAs.

Oakmulgee WMA continues to thrive and offer public outdoor recreational opportunities. From hunting, hiking, wildlife watching, camping and fishing, the area has something to offer to anyone wanting to get away and immerse themselves in the outdoors. The U.S. Forest Service’s Payne Lake Recreational Area, within Oakmulgee WMA, offers both modern and primitive campsites, with restrooms and bath houses. The beautiful 110-acre Payne Lake offers outstanding fishing opportunities for anglers, or a peaceful place to just sit on the shoreline and relax. Additional primitive camping sites are available on the WMA as well. Thanks to the vision, agency partnership and work of many early conservationist more than 80 years ago, Oakmulgee WMA continues to be enjoyed by the public today and will for generations to come.

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850.572.3932
Swainsboro, GA
Holly Ridge, NC
Pensacola, FL

PINE SEEDLINGS with NUTRA GUARD
GET YOUR SEEDLINGS OFF TO A FAST START.
FARMS & NURSERY, INC.
Meeks' Farms & Nursery, Inc., Kite, GA
Unique and proprietary blends of controlled release fertilizers incorporated into the growing media
Sales 877.809.1737
Meeks' Farms & Nursery, Inc., Kite, GA
12 essential elements
uses
newly planted forest
Swainsboro, GA
Holly Ridge, NC
Pensacola, FL
transition from nursery to newly planted forest
important jump start in the transition from nursery to newly planted forest
providing your seedlings an important jump start in the transition from nursery to newly planted forest
12-14 months release cycle
released as a function of time/temperature
encapsulated CRF
released as a function of time/temperature
encapsulated CRF
uses
newly planted forest
Swainsboro, GA
Holly Ridge, NC
Pensacola, FL

www.outdooralabama.com
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MEEKS’
FARMS & NURSERY, INC.

Unique and proprietary blend of controlled release fertilizers incorporated into the growing media

NUTRA GUARD plugs are loaded with 12 essential elements

NUTRA GUARD uses encapsulated CRF released as a function of time/temperature

12-14 months release cycle providing your seedlings an important jump start in the transition from nursery to newly planted forest

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Insist on NUTRA GUARD Pine Seedlings from Meeks’ Farms and Nursery, Inc.

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FARMS & NURSERY, INC.

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REGIONAL SALES:
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Holly Ridge, NC
910.512.1743
Swainsboro, GA
478.455.0808
INTRODUCTION
This publication is provided as a popular guide to Alabama hunting and sport fishing laws and regulations. The Code of Alabama and the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Regulation Book are the final authorities on laws and regulations relating to hunting and fishing and can be accessed online at outdooralabama.com/hunting/seasons-and-bag-limits. Contact the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division, District Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Offices or any Conservation Enforcement Officer if you have a legal question not adequately covered in this booklet.

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSES
To qualify for a resident hunting or fishing license, a person must be a bona fide resident of Alabama for a minimum of 90 days continuously immediately prior to purchasing any such license or be a member of U.S. military stationed in Alabama. For the purpose of buying hunting and fishing licenses, residency is determined by the Driver's License issuance. Resident and nonresident annual hunting and fishing licenses are valid from September 1 through August 31 each year. Successfully completing an approved hunter education course is mandatory for all hunting license buyers born on or after August 1, 1977, see page 50 for exemptions. Licenses must be in possession while hunting or fishing. A deer and turkey harvest record (either paper or app form) must be in possession every time a person is hunting deer or turkey. It is unlawful to utilize or possess more than one harvest record.

It is illegal to kill or cripple any species of game bird, game animal or game fish without making a reasonable effort to retrieve same and include it in the daily bag or creel limit, except all game fish not meeting legal length regulations, and protected species. An individual should not trail or retrieve game on property they do not have permission to enter. All game bags, hunting coats, camping equipment, live boxes, automobiles and such used in hunting and fishing will be open for inspection by officers of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

BUYING LICENSES
Alabama hunting and fishing licenses are available in all sections of the State from approximately 275 special license agents in many sporting goods stores, marinas, and at all county courthouses. Licenses may also be purchased by mailing completed applications, proper payment and copy of driver's license to Attn: License Sales, Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division, 64 N. Union St., Suite 567, Montgomery, AL 36104. For application packet call (334) 242-3465 or e-mail dcnr.wfflicense@dcnr.alabama.gov or visit our website at www.outdooralabama.com/license-information. It is illegal to willfully or knowingly make a false statement to a license agent when purchasing a license. It is also illegal to lend, borrow, sell, buy,
rent or use another person’s license to hunt, fish or trap. For the purpose of buying hunting and fishing licenses, residency is determined initially by the Driver’s License issuance. An Alabama resident without an Alabama driver’s license must present proof of residency to a probate judge or license commissioner to purchase a license. (Excludes all persons with out-of-state driver’s license).

**MIGRATORY BIRD HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM**
All licensed hunters who hunt doves, woodcock, rails, snipe, coots, ducks, geese or sandhill cranes in Alabama are required by Federal law to obtain a Harvest Information Program (HIP) permit prior to hunting. The HIP program provides improved data collection on these species. This will allow hunting seasons for the various species to be set in an objective and efficient manner while maintaining healthy populations. HIP permits are free and are available wherever hunting licenses are sold. It takes a very short time to provide the requested information. In exchange for completing the HIP survey, you will receive proof of certification which must be in your possession while hunting migratory birds.

**GENERAL INFORMATION LICENSE FEES**
Hunting Licenses: Required for residents 16 years of age and under 65 years of age and nonresidents 16 years of age and older. Residents on active military duty home on leave may hunt and fish without licenses. (State and federal duck stamps are still required when hunting migratory waterfowl. Management Area License and Permit are required when hunting deer or turkey on a wildlife management area.) See Hunter Education on page 50.

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**DUPLICATE HUNTER EDUCATION CARD**

**Do you need a duplicate Hunter Education Card?**
You can now obtain a duplicate Hunter Education Card online. Go to www.outdooralabama.com and click on the hunting/hunter education link to print a duplicate Hunter Education Card.

Please call the Hunter Education Office at (800) 245-2740 if you have questions, or if you are unable to print a temporary card.

Licenses are available by calling the toll-free number 1-888-848-6887 and online at www.outdooralabama.com.
ALABAMA CONSERVATION ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Providing resource protection and public safety to Alabamians for over 100 years.

Along with enforcing Alabama’s hunting and fishing laws, Conservation Officers provide public safety services such as search and rescue during natural disasters, rural operations training for city and county first responders, and patrolling Alabama’s waterways.

Conservation law enforcement and public safety provided by the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is not funded through Alabama’s General Fund. Funding for the Alabama Conservation Enforcement Officer comes from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses.

WANT TO HELP? HERE’S HOW:
Support Conservation Enforcement in Alabama by Purchasing a Hunting or Fishing License.

PURCHASE YOUR LICENSE TODAY ONLINE AT OUTDOORALABAMA.COM
When you purchase a Lifetime License during the 2020-2021 season, you will receive the NEW Lifetime License hard card design.

NEW LIFETIME LICENSE DESIGN!

When you purchase a Lifetime License during the 2020-2021 season, you will receive the NEW Lifetime License hard card design.

COLLECTIBLE LICENSE CARDS

For an additional $5 to your annual license purchase, you can select from six different designs that depict a variety of wildlife photography. The wildlife designs include deer, turkey, wood duck, crappie, redfish, and a special “We the People...” Second Amendment card for shooting sports enthusiasts.

Show your support for conservation and purchase your hard card today!

CWD SAMPLE COLLECTION STATIONS

The Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division will be providing drop-off sampling locations available for hunters to submit their harvest for CWD testing.

Deer hunters play a critical role in the continued CWD monitoring efforts in Alabama. It will only take a few minutes of your time to help protect this valuable natural resource.

For a complete list of CWD collection station locations visit www.outdooralabama.com/chronic-wasting-disease/cwd-sampling
RESIDENT HUNTING LICENSES: Valid: 9/1/20 - 8/31/21 (unless otherwise indicated)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>LICENSE TYPE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION/INFO</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>HUNTING LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>State: All Game*</td>
<td>Valid for all legal game, to include deer and turkey. Includes privileges of Wildlife Heritage License.</td>
<td>$28.20</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>BAIT PRIVILEGE LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Allows taking of white-tailed deer or feral swine by aid of bait, in addition to required hunting licenses. Required of all ages. NO EXEMPTIONS.</td>
<td>$15.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PHYSICALLY DISABLED HUNTING LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Present certification of permanent disability benefit to your local Probate/License Commissioner Office for issuance. Includes privileges of Wildlife Heritage License.</td>
<td>$6.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>50% PHYSICALLY DISABLED MILITARY VETERAN’S APPRECIATION HUNTING LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>State: All Game (totally disabled)</td>
<td>Present certification by the U.S. Veterans Administration to be 50% or more disabled to your local Probate/License Commissioner Office for issuance.</td>
<td>$14.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>100% PHYSICALLY DISABLED MILITARY VETERAN’S APPRECIATION HUNTING LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>State: All Game</td>
<td>Present certification by the U.S. Veterans Administration to be 100% disabled to your local Probate/License Commissioner Office for issuance.</td>
<td>$3.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PHYSICALLY DISABLED MILITARY VETERAN’S APPRECIATION 3-DAY HUNTING EVENT LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>State: All Game</td>
<td>Event must be sanctioned by DCNR Commissioner. Allows up to 10 US military veterans, 50% or more disabled, to hunt on one event license. Must present certification by the U.S. Veterans Administration.</td>
<td>$142.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>GAME CHECK H.E.L.P. NUMBER</strong></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>H.E.L.P. License number to be used by license exempt residents to record deer and turkey harvest. NOTE: NOT NEEDED IF PURCHASING ANY OTHER ANNUAL RECREATIONAL PRIVILEGE.</td>
<td>N/C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WILDLIFE HERITAGE LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Allows residents to fish in freshwater statewide with hook and line from the bank, fish in WFF operated Public Fishing Lakes (daily lake permits required), hunt small game, except waterfowl, on WFF WMA (WMA permit required), shoot on WFF managed shooting ranges, and support wildlife. These privileges are also included in all resident hunting and freshwater fishing licenses, including lifetime licenses.</td>
<td>$11.60</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Duck Stamps</strong></td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Valid: 7/1/20 - 6/30/21.</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Federal</strong></td>
<td>Valid: 7/1/20 - 6/30/21.</td>
<td>$27.50</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Required for hunting big game (deer or turkey) and waterfowl on Management Areas, in addition to the appropriate hunting license and a Management Area Permit (free). Shooting range users on Wildlife Management Areas are required to have a valid hunting license, the Management Area License, or Wildlife Heritage License.</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FUR CATCHERS LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>90 day resident proof required. Valid: 10/1/20 - 9/30/21</td>
<td>$22.95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>COMMERCIAL FOWL HUNTING PRESERVE LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>7-Day</td>
<td>In lieu of a regular hunting license, a resident may purchase for $8.00, plus a $2.00 issuance fee, a 7-day commercial fowl hunting preserve license that allows that person the privilege of hunting only artificially propagated or pen-raised fowl on a licensed commercial fowl hunting preserve. Check with the hunting preserve for information.</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

For more information on resident licenses, see the notes on page 36. See page 42 for footnotes.
**NONRESIDENT HUNTING LICENSES**

Valid: 9/1/20 - 8/31/21 (unless otherwise indicated)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>LICENSE TYPE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION/INFO</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>HUNTING</td>
<td>All Game: Annual</td>
<td>Valid for all legal game, to include deer and turkey.</td>
<td>$325.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All Game: 10-Day Trip</td>
<td>Valid for all legal game, to include deer and turkey. Valid for 240 consecutive hours.</td>
<td>$201.25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>All Game: 3-Day Trip</td>
<td>Valid for all legal game, to include deer and turkey. Valid for 72 consecutive hours.</td>
<td>$142.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Small Game: Annual</td>
<td>Valid for all legal game, except deer and turkey.</td>
<td>$106.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Small Game: 10-Day Trip</td>
<td>Valid for all legal game, except deer and turkey. Valid for 240 consecutive hours.</td>
<td>$64.90</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Small Game: 3-Day Trip</td>
<td>Valid for all legal game, except deer and turkey. Valid for 72 consecutive hours.</td>
<td>$47.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BAIT PRIVILEGE</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Allows taking of white-tailed deer or feral swine by aid of bait, in addition to required hunting licenses. Required of all ages. NO EXEMPTIONS.</td>
<td>$51.85</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PHYSICALLY DISABLED MILITARY VETERAN’S APPRECIATION</td>
<td>State: All Game</td>
<td>Event must be sanctioned by DCNR Commissioner. Allows up to 10 US military veterans, 50% or more disabled, to hunt on one event license. Must present certification by the U.S. Veterans Administration.</td>
<td>$142.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GAME CHECK</td>
<td>H.E.L.P. NUMBER</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>H.E.L.P. License number to be used by nonresidents 15 years and younger to record deer and turkey harvest. NOTE: NOT NEEDED IF PURCHASING ANY OTHER ANNUAL RECREATIONAL PRIVILEGE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DUCK STAMPS</td>
<td>State</td>
<td>Required for hunting on Management Areas, in addition to the appropriate hunting license and a Management Area Permit (free).</td>
<td>Valid: 7/1/20 - 6/30/21. $11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Federal</td>
<td>Required for hunting on Management Areas, in addition to the appropriate hunting license and a Management Area Permit (free).</td>
<td>Valid: 7/1/20 - 6/30/21. $27.50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA LICENSE</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Required for hunting on Management Areas, in addition to the appropriate hunting license and a Management Area Permit (free). Shooting range users on Wildlife Management Areas are required to have a valid hunting license or the Management Area License.</td>
<td>$18.70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>FUR CATCHERS</td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Same as nonresident license in applicant’s resident state, please call 334-242-3465. Valid: 10/1/20 - 9/30/21.</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMMERCIAL FOWL HUNTING PRESERVE LICENSE</td>
<td>7-Day</td>
<td>In lieu of a regular hunting license, a nonresident may purchase for $8.00, plus a $2.00 issuance fee, a 7-day commercial fowl hunting preserve license that allows that person the privilege of hunting only artificially propagated or pen-raised fowl on a licensed commercial fowl hunting preserve. Check with the hunting preserve for information.</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Please see ‘General Information for Hunting and Fishing Licenses’ on page 36.

For more information on all available licenses, how and where to purchase your license and application packets, visit [www.outdooralabama.com/license-information](http://www.outdooralabama.com/license-information).
## License Descriptions & Fees—Fishing

**RESIDENT FISHING LICENSES:** Valid: 9/1/20 - 8/31/21 (unless otherwise indicated)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>LICENSE TYPE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION/INFO</th>
<th>FEE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPORT FISHING LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Freshwater: Annual*</td>
<td>Required for residents 16 years of age and under 65 years of age who fish with rod and reel, hook and line, or from a boat in public waters. This license is not required to fish with ordinary hook and line, only from bank in county of legal residence. Includes privileges of Wildlife Heritage License.</td>
<td>$14.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saltwater: Annual*</td>
<td>A SW Reef Fish Endorsement Privilege is also needed to fish gulf reef fish in saltwater.</td>
<td>$24.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saltwater: 7-Day Trip</td>
<td>Trip licenses are valid for 168 consecutive hours.</td>
<td>$10.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PUBLIC FISHING LAKES DAILY FISHING LICENSE</strong> (SEE PAGE 72)</td>
<td>Public Fishing Lakes</td>
<td>In lieu of a regular fishing license, a resident may purchase to fish for 1 day at many WFF Division owned Public Fishing Lakes. (Not valid in other public reservoirs, lakes and rivers.) Trip is valid for 1 day</td>
<td>$6.45</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PHYSICALLY DISABLED FRESHWATER FISHING 3-DAY EVENT LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Freshwater Trip</td>
<td>Event must be sanctioned by DCNR. Allows up to 20 physically disabled persons and their assistant to fish on one event license. $5.00 for each additional participant.</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saltwater Trip</td>
<td>—</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>DISABLED FISHING LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Freshwater Annual (totally disabled)</td>
<td>Present certification of permanent disability benefit to your local Probate/License Commissioner Office for issuance. Includes privileges of Wildlife Heritage License.</td>
<td>$3.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saltwater Annual (totally disabled)</td>
<td>Present certification of permanent disability benefit to your local Probate/License Commissioner Office for issuance.</td>
<td>$3.05</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Veterans Appreciation (20% disabled)</td>
<td>Present certification by the U.S. Veterans Administration to be 20% or more disabled to your local Probate/License Commissioner Office for issuance. Freshwater Includes privileges of Wildlife Heritage License.</td>
<td>$3.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Saltwater</td>
<td>$3.15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>12 month residency proof required. Required for use of any commercial gear. Valid: 10/1/20 - 9/30/21</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Retail Freshwater Fish Dealer</td>
<td>Required to sell commercial or nongame fish direct to the consumer. Valid: 10/1/20 - 9/30/21</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wholesale Freshwater Fish Dealer</td>
<td>Required to sell commercial or nongame fish for resale. Valid: 10/1/20 - 9/30/21</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRESHWATER MUSSEL LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Catcher</td>
<td>12 month residency proof required. Valid: 10/1/20 - 9/30/21</td>
<td>$251.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dealer or Buyer</td>
<td>12 month residency proof required. Valid: 10/1/20 - 9/30/21</td>
<td>$101.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPEAR FISHING LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Valid for fresh and saltwater. Must also have appropriate sportfishing license.</td>
<td>$6.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* Residents 64 years of age purchasing a hunting or fishing license are issued the license on a lifetime basis. Saltwater fishing license also required when saltwater fishing by use of any artificial bait, fly, lure, gig, cast net, bow, crab trap (five or less) or spear. Game fish may not be caught by any method other than ordinary hook and line, fly, troll, or spinner. The sale or purchase of game fish taken from public water is prohibited by law in Alabama.

**NOTE:** Residents 65 years of age and over are exempt from buying freshwater and saltwater fishing licenses, hunting licenses, wildlife management area license or state duck stamp (federal stamp required), provided said resident has on his person, while hunting or fishing, a driver's license or proof of permanent Alabama residence and age. If fishing in saltwater, residents 65 and over are required to register in the Saltwater Angler Registry each year.
• #1 Phoenix dealership in the nation!
• Mercury customer satisfaction award for six straight years!
• Best prices anywhere on Mercury outboards!

Mercury Premier-level service center!

www.freedommarincenter.com • 256-660-1703
**NONRESIDENT FISHING LICENSES:** Valid: 9/1/20 - 8/31/21 (unless otherwise indicated)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CATEGORY</th>
<th>LICENSE TYPE</th>
<th>DESCRIPTION/INFO</th>
<th>FEE</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPORT FISHING LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Freshwater: Annual</td>
<td>Required for nonresidents 16 years of age and older.</td>
<td>$54.20</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Freshwater: 7-Day Trip</td>
<td>Required in any public water regardless of tackle used.</td>
<td>$30.40</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saltwater: Annual</td>
<td>Special fishing license fees may apply to residents of Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, &amp; Tennessee.</td>
<td>$53.10</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saltwater: 7-Day Trip</td>
<td>Trip licenses are valid for 168 consecutive hours.</td>
<td>$29.30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PUBLIC FISHING LAKES DAILY FISHING LICENSE</strong> (SEE PAGE 72)</td>
<td>Daily</td>
<td>In lieu of a regular fishing license, a nonresident may purchase to fish at many WFF Division owned Public Fishing Lakes. <em>(Not valid in other public reservoirs, lakes and rivers.)</em></td>
<td>$7.55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Trip is valid for 1 day</td>
<td>$13.10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRESHWATER FISHING FAMILY TRIP LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Freshwater Trip</td>
<td>Allows nonresidents to add up to 4 additional immediate family (parents, spouse, children &amp; grandchildren) to their Sport Fishing License. <em>(License holder + 4 family members)</em></td>
<td>$30.40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>PHYSICALLY DISABLED FRESHWATER FISHING 3-DAY EVENT LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Freshwater Trip</td>
<td>Event must be sanctioned by DCNR. Allows up to 20 physically disabled persons and their assistant to fish on one event license. $5.00 for each additional participant.</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Saltwater Trip</td>
<td></td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRESHWATER COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Freshwater Commercial</td>
<td>Same as nonresident license in applicant’s resident state, please call 334-242-3465. Valid: 10/1/20 - 9/30/21</td>
<td>Varies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Retail Freshwater Fish Dealer</td>
<td>Required to sell commercial or nongame fish direct to the consumer. Valid: 10/1/20 - 9/30/21</td>
<td>$11.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Wholesale Freshwater Fish Dealer</td>
<td>Required to sell commercial or nongame fish for resale. Valid: 10/1/20 - 9/30/21</td>
<td>$26.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>FRESHWATER MUSSEL LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Catcher</td>
<td>Includes residents with less than 12 month residency proof. Valid: 10/1/20 - 9/30/21</td>
<td>$751.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Dealer or Buyer</td>
<td>Includes residents with less than 12 month residency proof. Valid: 10/1/20 - 9/30/21</td>
<td>$301.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>SPEAR FISHING LICENSE</strong></td>
<td>Annual</td>
<td>Valid for fresh and saltwater. Must also have appropriate sportfishing license.</td>
<td>$8.50</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7-day trip</td>
<td></td>
<td>$3.50</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**NOTE:** Please see ‘General Information for Hunting and Fishing Licenses’ on page 36.
There’s no better place for a change of scenery than Gulf Shores and Orange Beach. Our beaches are open and our destination is ready to welcome you back to our shores. We’ve missed you.

Plan your escape and request a vacation guide at GulfShores.com/back-to-the-beach
877-475-1534
# Lifetime License Application

**Name:** __________________________  **CID#:** __________________________

**Social Security #:** _______________  **Driver's License #:** __________________________

**Date of Birth:** _______________  **Email:** __________________________

**Address:** __________________________

**City:** __________________________  **County:** __________________________  **State:** ______  **Zip:** ______

**Phone:**  Home (___) _______  Work (___) _______  Cell (___) _______

**Hunter Education ID Number:** __________________________  **Current Lifetime License #:** __________________________

*Freshwater Fishing and Hunting Lifetime License included in the Wildlife Heritage Privileges—see page 40.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>License Privilege (by age)</th>
<th>Under 2</th>
<th>2-11</th>
<th>12-49</th>
<th>50 &amp; over</th>
<th>Upgrade</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hunting*</td>
<td>$356.75</td>
<td>$475.40</td>
<td>$593.95</td>
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<tr>
<td>AL Duck Stamp</td>
<td>$157.45</td>
<td>$199.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Freshwater Fishing*</td>
<td>$178.75</td>
<td>$238.10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saltwater Fishing</td>
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<td>$416.05</td>
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<td>Hunting &amp; AL Duck Stamp*</td>
<td>$513.25</td>
<td>$673.60</td>
<td>$833.90</td>
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<td>Hunting &amp; Freshwater Fishing*</td>
<td>$534.70</td>
<td>$593.95</td>
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<td>Hunting &amp; Saltwater Fishing*</td>
<td>$563.25</td>
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<td>$335.25</td>
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<td>Freshwater &amp; Saltwater Fishing*</td>
<td>$745.40</td>
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<td>Saltwater Fishing &amp; AL Duck Stamp*</td>
<td>$453.90</td>
<td>$554.95</td>
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<td>Saltwater Fishing &amp; Wildlife Heritage*</td>
<td>$534.45</td>
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<td>Wildlife Heritage &amp; AL Duck Stamp*</td>
<td>$394.60</td>
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<td>Hunting, AL Duck Stamp &amp; Freshwater Fishing*</td>
<td>$691.20</td>
<td>$792.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunting, Freshwater &amp; Saltwater Fishing*</td>
<td>$831.25</td>
<td>$949.85</td>
<td>$1,246.40</td>
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<td>Hunting, Saltwater Fishing &amp; AL Duck Stamp*</td>
<td>$809.70</td>
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<td>Freshwater, Saltwater Fishing &amp; AL Duck Stamp*</td>
<td>$631.85</td>
<td>$792.15</td>
<td>$952.55</td>
<td>$631.85</td>
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<tr>
<td>Saltwater Fishing, Wildlife Heritage &amp; AL Duck Stamp*</td>
<td>$690.95</td>
<td>$792.00</td>
<td>$893.05</td>
<td>$690.95</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Hunting, AL Duck Stamp, Fresh &amp; Saltwater Fishing*</td>
<td>$987.70</td>
<td>$1,148.05</td>
<td>$1,486.35</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wildlife Heritage*</td>
<td>$238.10</td>
<td>$238.10</td>
<td>$238.10</td>
<td>$238.10</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Replacement Lifetime License (enter current license number above):** $5.00

Please submit the supporting documents as required below:

- **0-4 years of age:** 1) Birth Certificate; 2) Parent/Guardian’s ID (Driver’s License or Social Security number); 3) Physician Statement; Daycare Record or Tax Return (showing dependents)
- **5-11 years of age:** 1) Birth Certificate; 2) Parent/Guardian’s ID (Driver’s License or Social Security number); 3) School Record, Progress Report or Report Card.
- **12-17 years of age (without AL Driver’s License or ID):** 1) Parent/Guardian’s ID (Driver’s License or Social Security number); 2) School Record, Progress Report or Report Card.
- **18+ and older (without AL Driver’s License or ID):** must provide 2 documents: Copy of Tax Return, Certificate of Employment with Address; Copy of Home Property Tax Bill, the Last 3 months of Utility Bills, or Other Legal Documents approved by DCNR.

**Residency Certification:** By signing below, this is to certify under penalty of law, that I am a bona fide Alabama resident having resided continuously in Alabama a minimum of 90 days immediately preceding this date as required by State Law. NOTE: It is a violation of Alabama law for any nonresident to attempt to purchase an Alabama lifetime hunting / fishing license.

Submit: (1) completed application, (2) check or money order, and (3) copy of driver’s license to:

Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources, Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Div., Attn: License Sales, PO Box 301456, Montgomery, AL 36130-1456; or by walk-in or express mail: 64 N Union Street, Ste 567, 36104. Questions: (334) 242-4365 or DCNR.WFFLicense@dcnr.alabama.gov

License can also be issued by selected WFF District Offices (Tanner & Jacksonville). County Probate Office/License Commissioner, local agents (which includes most sportinggood and bait & tackle shops in Alabama), our website www.outdooralabama.com or by calling 1-888-848-6887.

**Applicant’s Signature:** __________________________  **Date:** __________________________

Check to be excluded o from list sold by DCNR. If blank, you will be included.

(11) DCNR is required by Section 30-3-194(a) Code of Alabama 1975 to collect social security numbers on all recreational licenses being issued/renewed.
Building a TREASURE for tomorrow.

Timber, Recreation, Environment, and Aesthetics for a Sustainable, Usable REsource (TREASURE) are the ideals that guide the Alabama TREASURE Forest Program and the Alabama TREASURE Forest Association — like-minded individuals who know that owning land means more than just acreage. It is a passion to make the land better for the next generation. You can be a part of that effort.

Purchase a tag and support education and outreach efforts to raise awareness about the wonderful possibilities of sustainable land management.
CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

his time with his mentor. “The process of seeing movement and then narrowing down on that location and then properly identifying the animal was big for me. It’s something that I’ve practiced every year since then and I’ve gotten much better.” He’s been using that game eye to spot deer, ducks, and doves on a combination of land that he’s leased, private land that he’s been granted access to hunt, and some public land.

A motivated learner, Curt has attended multiple workshops conducted by the AMH program and continues to learn valuable information each time he attends an event. A small game workshop at a local Wildlife Management Area provided an opportunity to spend one on one time with a shooting instructor. “I went from being able to barely hit the broad side of a barn to consistently breaking clays. I can now hold my own when I shoot sporting clays with my dad.” A quick glance at his social media pages will tell you he has applied those shooting skills to some recent waterfowl and dove hunts with a high degree of success.

When asked about what advice he would give a new hunter, Curt responded by saying, “Keep going, make the time. Go. Even if you wake up late or it doesn’t seem to be an ideal time to be outside, get out there because you will always learn something. This day and age, our schedules are pulled in so many ways with almost everything vying for attention, you must make a real effort to carve out time. Make it a priority and get outside.”

If you are new to hunting and interested in learning more about the AMH program, please visit our website, www.OutdoorAlabama.com/mentored. There, you’ll find a list of workshops around the state taking place during the Fall. Find one near you and sign up to begin your new learning experience. After attending a workshop, you will have a solid foundation of fundamental skills and be eligible to attend mentored hunts that will take place during the winter and spring. Use the opportunity to learn new skills, meet other new hunters, and enjoy the great outdoors!

For the accomplished hunters, please consider inviting new people with you and take the time to mentor a new hunter. Consider family members, friends, and coworkers. You will find the experience to be extremely rewarding and well worth your time. Help us ensure a bright future for conservation!
### Sunrise & Sunset Times

**CENTRAL STANDARD TIME**

- Times in table are for Birmingham (downtown)
  
  Location: WO86O49', N33O32'

- Add one hour when on Daylight Savings Time

- PLEASE BE AWARE that sunrise/sunset times for other locations in the state—both north to south and east to west—may vary by as much as ten minutes or more from the times given in the table for downtown Birmingham. Times are specific to a given location’s coordinates of longitude and latitude, as well as day-of-the-year.

- Legal hunting hours for deer are 30 minutes before official sunrise time until 30 minutes after official sunset time (see page 50).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
<th>OCTOBER</th>
<th>NOVEMBER</th>
<th>DECEMBER</th>
<th>JANUARY</th>
<th>FEBRUARY</th>
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<td>RISE</td>
<td>SET</td>
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<td>SET</td>
<td>RISE</td>
<td>SET</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DAY</strong></td>
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<td>P.M.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

DATA from the Astronomical Applications Dept. of the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington, D.C.
HUNTING LAWS, REGULATIONS & INFORMATION

50 YARD RESTRICTION FROM A PUBLIC ROAD
You may not hunt or discharge a firearm within 50 yards of the right-of-way of any public road, highway, or railroad with a centerfire rifle, a shotgun using slugs or shot larger than number four (4) shot or a muzzle loading rifle .40 caliber or larger. This law significantly impacts deer hunters. It is illegal to take any action to harvest a deer within the 50 yard restricted area with a weapon or shot listed above. The law was passed by the State Legislature to address safety issues.

WHO NEEDS HUNTER EDUCATION?
All license buyers (16 or older) born after August 1, 1977 must successfully complete an approved hunter education course. Exceptions include: APOST certified law enforcement officers employed in the state, active duty U.S. Military personnel and Alabama residents who are active members of the AL National Guard.

There are two ways to obtain your hunter education class. An in-person class, also called a traditional class, or an all online option. The in person hunter education course is free; whereas the internet course providers charge a fee. 100% of the fee goes to the course provider to pay for the cost of providing and maintaining the online course. Students taking hunter education must be ten years of age or older.

For those born after August 1, 1977 and have yet to complete an approved hunter education course but would still like to hunt, there is the option of purchasing a “Supervision Required” hunting license. This license requires the hunter to be under the direct supervision of a properly licensed adult hunter while in the field. Hunters under supervision MUST be under normal voice control, not to exceed 30 feet away from a properly licensed hunter 21 years of age or older. Under no circumstance shall the supervising person be the holder of a “supervision required” license.

A list of classes along with more information about hunter education can be found on our website www.outdooralabama.com/hunting/hunter-education-alabama.

HUNTING DEFINED
Hunting includes pursuing, shooting, killing, capturing and trapping wild animals, wild birds, and all lesser acts, such as disturbing, harrying or worrying, or placing, setting, drawing or using any device used to take wild animals, wild birds, whether they result in taking or not, and includes every act of assistance to any person in taking or attempting to take wild animals or wild birds.

HUNTING PERMISSION REQUIREMENT
It is illegal to hunt, trap, capture, injure, kill or destroy any wild game on another person’s land without having in possession the written permission of the landowner or person in control of such land, unless accompanied by the landowner or unless a guest of the landowner.

HUNTING LANDS
Land is divided into two categories:
- **Private owned and leased land** is defined as that which is not open to the general public.
- **Open permit-public land** is defined as governmentally owned land open for public hunting and/or lands made available to the public on an individual basis whether for a fee or not. Examples of such lands would be U.S. Forest Service Lands and lands owned by lumber or utility companies available for use by hunters either through free permits, fee permits or no permit requirement.

LEGAL HUNTING HOURS
Legal hunting hours for resident game birds and game animals including deer during open season are daylight hours (defined as beginning 30 minutes before official sunrise time until 30 minutes after official sunset time.) only. Migratory game birds and waterfowl are as specified for each species. Game animals may be hunted in open season during daylight hours only, except as specified for fox, raccoon, opossum, feral swine, bullfrog, pig frog and alligator under seasons.

HUNTER ORANGE REQUIREMENT FOR HUNTING
During dates and in areas open by regulation to gun deer season, including youth deer season and muzzleloader deer season, all persons hunting any wildlife species, except foxes, raccoons, and opossums during legal nighttime hours or turkey or migratory birds (including crows), are required to wear an outer garment above the waist with a minimum of 144 square inches of hunter orange or either a full-size hunter orange hat or cap. Hunters are not required to wear hunter orange when hunting from a stand elevated twelve (12) feet or more from the ground, when hunting in an enclosed box stand, when traveling in an enclosed vehicle, or when traveling on foot no more than twenty (20) feet directly between an operating enclosed vehicle and a stand where the hunter is exempt from the hunter orange requirement. The hunter orange must be worn when traveling on foot between an operating enclosed vehicle and exempt stand when the distance is more than a direct distance of twenty (20) feet. A small logo and/or printing is permitted on the front of hunter orange caps; otherwise, hunter orange must be of solid color and visible from any angle. Only hunter orange, commonly called blaze orange or ten-mile cloth, etc., is legal. The various shades of red, as well as camo-orange, are not legal.

GAME ANIMALS
The following are designated as game animals in Alabama: bear, beaver, coyote, deer, fox, opossum, eastern cottontail rabbit, swamp rabbit, raccoon, squirrel, nutria, mountain lion (cougar), red wolf, ground-hog, bobcat, feral swine (wild hog) and alligator. See Protected Species below.

GAME BIRDS
The following are designated as game birds in Alabama:
- **Resident species**: bobwhite quail, ruffed grouse, wild turkey.
- **Migratory species**: wild duck, wild goose, brant, clapper and virginia rail, sora, coot, common snipe, woodcock, mourning dove, gallinule, merganser and sandhill crane.

PROTECTED SPECIES
All birds except English sparrows, crows, collared doves, starlings and blackbirds (except rusty) are protected by state law. Game birds and game animals may only be taken during open season for hunting. There is no open season in Alabama for bear, mountain lion (cougar) and ruffed grouse. Other wildlife species are protected by the nongame species regulation.
FURBEARING ANIMALS
The following are designated as furbearing animals in Alabama: beaver, bobcat, fox, mink, muskrat, nutria, opossum, otter, raccoon, striped skunk, coyote and feral swine.

ARCHERY AND SPEAR SPECIFICATIONS FOR HUNTING
Legal bows for hunting is defined as either a longbow, recurve bow, compound bow or crossbow. Longbows, recurve bows and compound bows must have a minimum peak tension of 30 lbs. Crossbows must have a minimum peak tension of 85 lbs at normal draw length. Arrows or bolts shall be equipped with broadhead having two sharpened edges and minimum cutting diameter of 7/8 inches. Attachments to the bow which project visible light are prohibited.

RUNNING DOGS
Deer may be run with dogs during the closed season only from October 1 to the opening of gun deer season in those counties/regions having an open dog deer season. Squirrel and rabbit may be run during closed season by licensed hunters (no guns).

SALE OF GAME BIRDS & GAME ANIMALS
It is illegal in Alabama to sell any game bird or game animal or any part of the animal, except lawfully taken deer hides, deer hooves and squirrel skins, hides and tails. Finished product items such as gloves, shoes, clothing, jewelry, tanned deer hides and similar products may be sold. Exceptions also apply to certain animals classified as both game animal and furbearing animal.

LIVE DEER AND ELK MAY NOT BE IMPORTED INTO ALABAMA
It is illegal to import any live member of the deer family (Cervidae) including deer, elk, caribou, moose, etc. This is our best defense against diseases that could devastate Alabama’s deer herd. Recognizing the serious threat that the illegal transportation of live Cervidae into Alabama poses, the Alabama Legislature increased the maximum fine for each violation to $5000. Should you become aware of any live deer being transported within Alabama, it is important to notify the Division at GAMEWATCH (800) 272-4263 immediately. It is also prohibited to import deer carcasses from ANY other state, territories or possessions of the U.S. unless all meat and antlers have been cleaned of spinal cord and brain tissue. Alabama’s deer herd is an extremely important segment of our wildlife resources. The white-tailed deer is the most popular game animal from both a recreational and economic viewpoint. This herd, through proper management, has the potential to produce high quality deer. It is extremely important that this herd receives protection from sources that could cause harm. This is one reason it is illegal to import deer from outside Alabama. Any time a deer is moved, all its bacteria, viruses, diseases and parasites such as worms and ticks go along. Provisions such as “health certificates” do not ensure that animals are disease free. Diseases of concern to our deer populations are unlikely to move into Alabama unless they come here with infected deer. This risk of disease transmission to our native herd is too great. Recent outbreaks of both chronic wasting disease, commonly referred to as CWD, and bovine tuberculosis in other parts of the country demonstrate the wisdom of that ban. Many other states have recently banned or are in the process of banning the importation of deer.
REPORT BANDS
To properly manage migratory birds, biologists must know migration patterns, harvest and survival rates, and ecological processes. Reporting banded bird recoveries will help provide the needed information. All band reports are very important. To report a recovery, refer to www.reportband.gov.

ALABAMA’S HUNTING & FISHING TRAIL FOR PEOPLE WITH PHYSICAL DISABILITIES
Alabama has a statewide network of hunting, fishing, and shooting sites for people with physical disabilities. There are no requirements to preregister to use the fishing and shooting facilities but those using the hunting sites (see below) must be approved in advance including certification that they meet disability guidelines. Users must be properly licensed and abide by all laws and regulations. Call (334) 242-3469 for additional information.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS
The Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division manages 34 WMAs to provide public hunting opportunities. Consult the Wildlife Management Area map permits and the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Regulation Book or www.outdooralabama.com for hunting dates and regulations governing hunting on these areas. Before hunting, hunters are required to have proper hunting licenses and management area permits.

In addition, WMA hunters must also possess the wildlife management area license for hunting deer, turkey or waterfowl. Shooting range users on WMAs are required to have a valid hunting license, management area license or wildlife heritage license (residents only). For locations, see map on page 66.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY AREAS
The Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division, Wildlife Section manages 6 SOAs, providing a different public land hunting opportunity through a limited quota random computerized draw process. These areas provide a selected hunter and guest(s) the opportunity to hunt a dedicated specific unit within an SOA for a two (2) to four (4) days.

To learn more about the various SOAs, available hunts and how to register visit the www.outdooralabama.com website. Visit the Hunting page and look for the Special Opportunity Area link.

DESIGNATED AREAS FOR PHYSICALLY DISABLED HUNTERS
Specific areas are reserved primarily for use by physically disabled hunters. These areas are open to deer hunting on designated days during gun deer season. To hunt these areas, hunters must possess proper hunting license, certificate of qualification and reserve hunting dates in advance. Application forms and information on these designated areas are available from the Wildlife Section, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, 64 N. Union St., Suite 584, Montgomery, AL 36104, (334) 242-3469.

SPECIAL YOUTH HUNTS
Youth who have not yet reached their sixteenth birthday have the opportunity to participate in special hunts. The special deer hunt is scheduled for the Friday, Saturday, Sunday and Monday before the opening of gun season. Each youth or youth hunting party (maximum of 2 youth) must be accompanied by a non-hunting, properly-licensed adult 21 years of age or older, or the parent of the youth, and wear hunter orange (adult must also).

The opportunity for youth to hunt turkey is offered the Saturday and Sunday prior to the regular spring season opening days. The same regulations apply as for the youth deer hunt, except hunter orange does not have to be worn while hunting turkey.

A special youth waterfowl hunt is offered statewide. The Alabama Waterfowl Hunting Guide should be referred to for rules and regulations.

Those interested in any of these special youth hunts should contact the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division’s Wildlife Section at (334) 242-3469 for more details.

YOUTH DOVE HUNTS
Fields located throughout Alabama will offer exclusive youth dove hunts on selected Saturday afternoons beginning on the opening date. To participate, an adult (21 years of age or older or the youth’s parent) must be accompanied by youth(s) less than 16 years old. These hunts are designed to maximize youth participation and foster mentoring by the adults. Information advertising the various hunts can be attained by calling the nearest district office (see page 2) or at www.outdooralabama.com.

SHOOTING AND ARCHERY RANGES
The Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division recognizes the need for public facilities where individuals can safely discharge firearms. The Division operates and maintains 12 shooting ranges open to the public. Most ranges offer shooting opportunities from 25 to 100 yards.

The Division also operates 17 archery ranges in partnership with local entities. Archery ranges consist of stationary targets from 5 to 50 yards. Most facilities also have a 12-foot shooting platform for bowhunters to practice shooting from an elevated position.

Ranges are constructed with revenue from the sale of hunting licenses, and firearms and ammunition sales. To use any of the Division’s ranges, a wildlife management area license or hunting license is required. For residents only, freshwater fishing license or wildlife heritage license can also be used.

For exact range location, please refer to the map on page 66. For more information, please call the Hunter Education Office at (334) 242-3620.

ALWAYS WEAR A FULL BODY HARNESS
Falling from treestands is the leading cause of injuries to hunters in Alabama. Injuries from treestand accidents could be minimized or prevented by wearing a full body harness. Alabama regulations now require all hunters utilizing a treestand on Wildlife Management Areas to wear a full body harness.

Always use a pull-up rope to pull equipment from the ground to your treestand. Never carry a gun, bow, or other equipment while climbing up or down a tree. Always pull guns up to your treestand unloaded. The use of portable treestands is highly recommended. Never erect permanent stands without landowner permission.

DEER MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
The Alabama Cooperative Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) was developed in 1984 to assist those who wish to intensify deer management on their lands. Over 100 landownerships and hunting clubs covering more than 200,000 acres are enrolled as DMAP cooperators. Wildlife biologists are assigned to help cooperators develop deer management plans and harvest strategies. Conservation Enforcement Officers assist with legal aspects of the program. Cooperators collect biological information from deer taken on their lands each year. Analysis of the data results in a status report and deer management recommendations which are provided to each cooperator before the following hunting season. For more information, contact the nearest Wildlife Section district office (page 2).

FOREVER WILD PROGRAM
The Forever Wild Program was adopted by Alabama voters in November 1992 to set aside land for permanent state ownership using a portion of the interest earned on profits from the sale of offshore natural gas. The land, to be used for hunting, fish-
ing, camping, outdoor recreation, natural resource protection and research and preservation of unique sites, will be acquired from willing sellers at no taxpayer cost and will belong to you, the public.

The 15-member Forever Wild Board reviews all nominated tracts for purchase and establishes a priority purchase authorization. The Forever Wild Program will allow a steady acquisition effort to build a public land base to meet the needs of Alabama citizens and provide natural resource protection and management to accommodate hunters, hikers, campers and other outdoor recreationists. For further information, contact the Lands Division at (334) 242-3484 (see page 57).

NONGAME WILDLIFE PROGRAM

Since 1984, the Nongame Wildlife Program has been charged with the conservation of the nongame animals of this state—animals that are neither caught, hunted nor trapped. With over 900 nongame vertebrate species of animals native to this state, as well as thousands more invertebrates such as butterflies, crayfish, mussels and snails, this is a formidable task indeed. Funding for the Nongame Wildlife Program does not include any state general funds—not a penny of taxpayer dollars. Conservationists support the program through the nongame checkoff on state tax returns, direct donations, and from hunting license and wildlife heritage license fees.

HUNTING ACCIDENTS IN ALABAMA

As the 2020-2021 hunting season begins, the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries would like to remind our hunters to stay safe while afield and avoid easily preventable accidents. Over the last four years, Alabama hunters have averaged thirteen treestand-related accidents per year. Practically all of these could have been prevented if a full body safety harness was attached to the tree from the moment the hunter ascended up the tree and until they reached the ground again. While it’s great to see more hunters wearing a safety harness when hunting from an elevated position, unfortunately, some hunters are not attaching themselves to the tree until they reach the height they wish to hunt. Statistics show that most falls occur during the transition from climbing into or out of the elevated stand. Please be mindful and repeatedly remind your hunting partners to use harnesses correctly and be connected to the tree constantly while climbing up, while hunting and all the way back until down on the ground.

Thankfully though, our hunters are practicing better firearms safety and the number of firearm accidents in Alabama have sharply declined in the last ten years. However, one accident remains too many and we continue to document them either self-inflicted or by another hunter. Over the last four years, Alabama has averaged 6 firearm accidents per year with an average of two being fatal. Carelessness in handling firearms or shooting without properly identifying the target accounts for the majority of incidents. Following the simple basics of firearms safety would practically eliminate these from occurring. Safe firearms handling should of utmost of concern for all hunters. The most important safety firearms rules to remember are:

1. Always control the muzzle of your firearm and keep it pointed in a safe direction.
2. Treat ALL firearms as if they are loaded. Always use a haul line to pull up your gear, bow, or unloaded firearm.
3. Never climb with anything in your hands or attached to your back. Before climbing down, utilize the haul line to safely lower all your equipment on the opposite side of the tree.
4. Finally, always properly identify your target and what is beyond before you pull the trigger.

Above all else, use common sense. Remember that safe hunting is no accident. Hunt safe, hunt smart!
The following are prohibited methods of hunting as condensed from Alabama law and regulation. Consult the Code of Alabama Title 9 and Alabama Game, Fish, Furbearers, and Other Wildlife Regulation Book for the entire law or regulation. Cites are provided below.

It is ILLEGAL to:

1. Hunt deer or turkey without a deer or turkey harvest record (paper or app form) in his/her possession or move any deer or turkey before recording harvest on the harvest record. Failure to report all deer and turkey harvested on your harvest record in Game Check is unlawful. See page 16. (220-2-.146)

2. Hunt any game animal which does not exhibit wild characteristics or under conditions where animals do not have opportunity for escape. (9-11-501/502)

3. Hunt any exotic game such as wild goat, wild sheep, deer other than whitetail or fallow or elk except those certified prior to 2006. (9-11-503)

4. Hunt any area where baiting/feeding has occurred until 10 days after all bait/feed has been removed or consumed. See page 25 for Area Definition. (*Except those in possession of a baiting privilege license hunting white-tail deer or feral swine. 220-2-.11)

5. Hunt any game animal or bird with a gun or bow and arrow except during daylight hours, with the exception of those species with legal night time seasons. (220-2-.07)

6. Shoot or hunt a turkey from an elevated tree stand with a firearm. All other legal game animals and birds may be taken with a bow and arrow or firearm from an elevated tree stand. (9-11-245)

7. Take a deer, whether dead or alive, from the waters of this State. (9-11-250)

8. Use live decoys for migratory birds and turkey. (220-2-.11)

9. Use electronic dove, turkey or waterfowl calls. Electronic calls may be used to call predators during daylight hours only during open hunting season for that species. (220-2-.11)

10. Hunt by the aid of fire or smoke, whether man-made or natural. (220-2-.11)

11. Hunt resident birds or animals on any floodwaters or backwaters, or islands less than 40 acres created by such. (220-2-.11)

12. Hunt or discharge a firearm from, upon or across any public road or railroad, or the right-of-way of any public road or railroad. You may not hunt or discharge a firearm within 50 yards of the right-of-way of any public road, highway, or railroad with a centerfire rifle, a shotgun using slugs or shot larger than number four (4) shot or a muzzle loading rifle .40 or larger. (9-11-257)

13. Willfully throw or cast the rays of a spotlight, headlight or artificial light from any motor vehicle while the vehicle is on any highway or public road and casting said light on any real property, between the hours of sunset and sunrise. (32-5-17)

14. Concentrate, drive, rally, molest, hunt, take, capture or kill any bird or animal from or by the aid of any automobile, ATV, airplane, train, motor boat, sailboat or any other type mechanically propelled device. Persons may hunt from a floating craft or motor vehicle once the motor is shut off and all forward motion has ceased. It is not legal to hunt from a vehicle on a public road. (220-2-.11)

15. Use gasoline or other noxious chemical to drive wildlife from their burrows, dens or retreats. (220-2-.11)

16. Kill unantlered deer except during unantlered deer seasons. (9-11-236)

17. Use or possess a decoy while turkey hunting which has mechanical and/or electronic parts that have the capabilities of movement or producing sound or which can be manipulated to do so, including any that are handheld or attached to weapons such as fanning or reaping. In addition, turkey decoys shall only be lawful during spring turkey season.

18. Take or attempt to take or have in possession more than the daily bag limit of any game bird or animal. (220-2-.18)

19. Import, possess, sell or offer to sell live: any species of mongoose, any species of wild rabbit or hare and any deer, raccoon, fox, skunk, coyote, wild turkey, wild rodents and any wild goat, sheep, antelope or other exotic game from any area outside of Alabama. (Also, see Sale of Game Birds and Game Animals, page 51) or any fish from the genus Clarias, Serrasalmus or Mylopharyngodon. (220-2-.26) (9-11-237)

20. Release any tame or wild turkey into any of the wild areas of the state. (220-2-.26)

21. Utilize firearms for hunting deer during the preliminary archery only season, except handguns may be possessed for personal protection. (220-2-.10)

22. Hunt using laser sights, attachments and light sources to project a beam forward of a gun or bow, except for legally blind hunters. (22-2-.11)

23. Hunt or take wildlife using poisons or explosives. (9-11-245)

24. Have in possession or keep in captivity any protected live wild bird or wild animal. (220-2-.26)

25. Trail wounded game onto property where the hunter does not have permission to enter. (9-11-241/242)

26. Possess live feral pig. To release any feral or domestic pig into the wild. Upon capture by trap or dog, feral pigs may not be released alive. (220-2-.86)

27. Hunt within 100 yards of any dwelling without the permission of the owner or lessee or discharge a firearm while hunting so that any projectile strikes any dwelling or building used for human occupation, or any commercial vessel, without the permission of the owner or lessee. This does not apply to a landowner or member of his/her immediate family hunting on his/her own property provided that no projectile strikes the above property of another without the permission of the owner or lessee. (220-2-.139)
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GOLDEN EAGLES IN ALABAMA

HUNTERS AND RECREATIONAL SHOOTERS ALSO CONTRIBUTE TO RESEARCH EFFORTS ON WILDLIFE, INCLUDING TRACKING GOLDEN EAGLES

While most Alabamians have been fortunate enough to have seen a bald eagle, which have become fairly common over the last century, few are aware that we have a wintering population of golden eagles. Although golden eagles have a distinct bright gold nape, they are often misidentified as immature bald eagles because both represent our largest birds of prey. Despite the resemblances, golden eagles only occur in Alabama during the winter, preferring forested landscapes and foraging in small forest openings, while bald eagles can be seen year-round often soaring over open fields and water.

Historically, golden eagles have occurred in Alabama but sightings were rare. In 2012, the Alabama Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division (AWFF) Nongame Wildlife Program began monitoring golden eagles using game cameras on some of the wildlife openings on our Wildlife Management Areas. These sites were baited with road-killed deer to provide eagles with the opportunity to scavenge and get photographed. Since 2012, we have acquired over 30,000 eagle photos and captured and tagged 19 golden eagles with cellular transmitters to track their movements. Each year, these eagles make tremendous journeys traveling 1,700 – 2,200 miles from their breeding sites in Canada to their wintering range terminus in Alabama.

Through these research efforts, we have discovered a larger wintering population in Alabama that was previously unknown with data suggesting that Alabama serves as an important overwintering site. The information gathered will help AWFF better manage preferred habitats and the wintering population of golden eagles.

Funding for golden eagle research and monitoring is made possible through the sale of hunting and wildlife heritage licenses, the voluntary Alabama Nongame Wildlife Fund tax check-off, and matching federal funds through excise taxes placed on the sale of arms, ammunition, and archery equipment that are distributed to the states through the Pittman-Robertson Act. In addition, a cooperating partner, The Birmingham Zoo, provided funding for three transmitters placed on golden eagles in January 2020.

For those that do not hunt but would like to contribute to projects such as this, the Wildlife Heritage License was created for you.
Forever Wild Land Trust, Alabama’s land acquisition program, is now in its 28th year. The purpose of this highly successful program is to evaluate acquisition of land for conservation and outdoor recreational purposes including public hunting.

Forever Wild has delivered on what it was supposed to do. The program’s success is the result of the dedication of its board members, the ongoing work of personnel within the Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources who administer the program, and the continued support of the public.

Forever Wild was developed largely in response to the loss of land available to the public for hunting and outdoor recreation. Since its inception, Forever Wild has protected over 275,000 acres, of which 93% contribute to 20 Wildlife Management Areas, Community Hunting Areas, and Special Opportunity Areas, as well as additional Recreational Areas.

As successful as Forever Wild has been in protecting unique habitats and providing public recreation lands, this progress has allowed Alabama simply to keep pace with the loss of other private-lease lands enrolled in the state’s public hunting Wildlife Management Area system. Overwhelming public support for the continuation of Forever Wild’s funding to acquire additional conservation and recreational land has preserved the legacy we will leave to future generations that depend on Alabama’s heritage of public hunting lands.

To learn more about Forever Wild, visit www.alabamaforeverwild.com  

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ALABAMA’S WILD BAITFISH REGULATION
FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

WHAT IS SPECIFIED IN THE CURRENT WILD BAITFISH REGULATION?

220-2-.162 Wild Baitfish Regulation: Within the jurisdiction of the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, it shall be unlawful to transport any live baitfish, having been caught or harvested from streams, rivers, public lakes or reservoirs in Alabama, away from the waters in which they are caught. Further, it is unlawful to import any live baitfish, having been caught or harvested from streams, rivers, public lakes, or reservoirs from any area outside the State of Alabama. For the purposes of this regulation, baitfish are defined as any species of fish or crayfish (Superfamily Astacoidea) that are legal to use as bait for recreational or commercial fishing in Alabama.

This regulation does not prohibit the possession or the use of live baitfish on or within the waters from which they have been caught or harvested. Nor does it prohibit the possession, importation, or use of live baitfish acquired from commercial producers and bait shops located within or outside the State of Alabama, provided the origin of these fish was not from a wild caught source.

WHY DID THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES (ADCNR) ENACT THE WILD BAITFISH REGULATION?

ADCNR implemented the current Wild Baitfish Regulation to assist in the fight against invasive species, particularly Asian carp. Since an angler using live baitfish could unknowingly capture young Asian carp from areas where they are currently established and transport them to water bodies where they do not currently exist, ADCNR chose to be proactive and enact a regulatory change that will reduce this threat and assist with protecting our valuable aquatic resources.

WHAT ARE ASIAN CARP AND HOW DID THEY ARRIVE IN THE UNITED STATES?

Asian carp refers to several different species of fish which are native to Asia. Currently, four Asian carp species are known to exist in the United States: Grass Carp, Bighead Carp, Silver Carp, and Black Carp. Asian carp were brought to the United States in the 1970’s through the aquaculture industry as a tool to control water quality issues and aquatic vegetation. Unfortunately, when the stocked aquaculture ponds became flooded due to heavy rainfall, Asian carp escaped into public water bodies, such as the Mississippi River.

WHY ARE ASIAN CARP SUCH A THREAT?

Since Asian carp are non-native, all four species have the potential to create various problems with our native aquatic environments. The species of utmost concern currently in Alabama is the Silver Carp. This species has already negatively impacted recreation and tourism to public water bodies in nearby states, such as Tennessee and Kentucky, and poses a significant threat to recreational boaters and anglers in Alabama. Silver Carp are well known for their jumping ability when frightened. This behavior has been documented to cause bodily injury to unsuspecting boaters struck by the flying fish. Another key concern is their ability to grow quickly and populate at a rapid rate. Silver carp are filter feeders and can consume large quantities of plankton, which is the base of the food chain. This behavior can devastate water bodies and negatively impact sport fisheries. Since Silver Carp have recently increased their range into the Tennessee River region in North Alabama, ADCNR is very concerned about their potential expansion to other areas.

WHY CAN’T ANGLERS TRANSPORT LIVE BAITFISH SPECIES LIKE HERRING AND SHAD TO OTHER WATER BODIES, SINCE THEY ARE NOT A THREAT TO SPORT FISH POPULATIONS?

Young Asian carp closely resemble other baitfish species such as herring and shad (Figure 1). Due to this likeness, most anglers either would not be able to differentiate these species, especially at smaller sizes, or would not take the time for proper identification. This error could result in the transport and establishment of species, like Silver Carp, to water bodies where they do not currently exist, increasing the potential for further damage to sport fish populations in Alabama.

WHY WERE LIVE BAITFISH SPECIES THAT DO NOT RESEMBLE ASIAN CARP INCLUDED IN THIS REGULATION?

Since many aquatic species in Alabama occur naturally only in certain tributaries or river basins, transporting them outside of their native range and introducing them into a new environment has the potential to be biologically harmful.

ARE ANGLERS ALLOWED TO TRANSPORT LIVE BAITFISH PURCHASED FROM A COMMERCIAL PRODUCER OR BAIT SHOP FOR USE WHEN ANGLING IN ALABAMA?

Anglers are only allowed to transport and use live baitfish in Alabama purchased from commercial producers or bait shops (in-state or out-of-state) if the origin of these fish was not from a wild caught source. Even if wild caught baitfish are acquired indirectly from a commercial producer, bait shop, etc., they are still illegal for transport and use in Alabama.

ARE LIVE BLUEBACK HERRING NOW LEGAL TO POSSESS AND USE AS LIVE BAIT IN ALABAMA?

ADCNR recently removed the possession restriction on live Blueback Herring from Regulation 220-2-.26. As with other wild baitfish, this species can only be used as live bait on water bodies in Alabama where they were caught or harvested. Blueback Herring cannot be legally transported from one water body to another per Regulation 220-2-.162.
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SEASONS
All public streams, lakes and ponds are open to fishing throughout the year except some state-owned and managed Public Fishing Lakes (PFL).

PRIVATE LANDS AND WATERS
It is illegal to fish in public waters on or from posted private land without the owner’s permission. It is illegal to fish in private waters without permission from the owners.

MEANS OF CATCHING GAME FISH
It is illegal to take, catch or kill, or attempt to take, catch or kill any game fish by any means other than ordinary hook and line, artificial lure, live bait, troll or spinner in any of the public waters of this State. It is unlawful to use electrical devices, explosives, poisons or firearms to take fish of any species from these waters.

GAME FISH
The following shall be named and designated as game fish in Alabama: rainbow trout, all members of the sunfish family to include: largemouth, smallmouth, spotted, shad, and those species formerly known as “redeye” bass, which are now known separately as Coosa, Warrior, Cahaba, Tallapoosa, and Chattahoochee bass, based on their respective drainages and the Alabama bass which was formerly known as spotted bass in the Mobile drainage; those fish commonly referred to as bream which include rock bass, flier, shadow bass, warmouth, redebreast, bluegill, longear, and redear (shellcracker); black and white crappie; all members of the perch family: sauger (jack), walleye, and grass pickerel; the following members of the perch family: sauger (jack), walleye, and yellow perch. All species of bream may be used as bait as long as a person does not have in his possession total bream numbers in excess of the number and name of person using and owning the basket. It is illegal to use electrical devices, explosives, poisons or firearms to take fish of any species from these waters.

THE BASS ANGLERS INFORMATION TEAM (BAIT) PROGRAM
BAIT is a voluntary partnership between bass clubs and the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF). The program summarizes information on bass fishing and is used by WFF fisheries biologists, in combination with their reservoir surveys, as the basis for fisheries management decisions. BAIT data allows biologists to identify trends in bass populations and helps them better understand the mechanisms that influence them. This data may also be used by participating bass clubs to select tournament locations.

In order to assist in the BAIT process, tell your fellow club members and tournament directors their participation is needed. If your club is already participating in this program, we thank you for your continued support. If your club is not participating, but would like to, simply complete and submit a BAIT card following each tournament. All participating clubs receive a printed copy of the annual report.

For more info, contact the Fisheries Section at (334) 242-3471, email Kyle.Bolton@dcrnr.alabama.gov or visit www.outdooralabama.com/fishing/tournaments.

ANGLER RECOGNITION PROGRAM
Alabama’s Angler Recognition Program is intended to honor individuals who catch large sportfish from Alabama waters and to provide biologists with useful statistics on the number of large fish caught from our reservoirs. The program includes four categories: Master Angler, Trophy Angler, Lake Record and State Record. Anglers can submit applications for Master Angler and Trophy Angler status based upon their fish’s total length or total weight, but not both, and may submit an unlimited number of applications. Applications, specific requirements, and instructions can be obtained from any District Fisheries office or from www.outdooralabama.com/freshwater-fishing/state-record-angler-recognition. Qualified anglers will receive a certificate commemorating their catch and a window decal.

CREEL AND POSSESSION LIMITS AND SIZE LIMITS
Detailed information on creel and possession limits and size limits is provided on page 68. Please familiarize yourself thoroughly with this information. You should also notice that size limits for the various fish species are not the same on all public waters. Be sure and check this information for each body of water you plan to fish. Should you have questions, you may contact any Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division Fisheries Biologist or Conservation Enforcement Officer or call (334) 242-3471 for assistance.

USE OF BREAM FOR BAIT
All species of bream may be used as bait as long as a person does not have in his possession total bream numbers in excess of the daily creel limit, regardless of size, and they are harvested legally. Other native game fish may not be used for bait.

SALE OF GAME FISH
It is unlawful to sell or purchase any game fish from Alabama or in Alabama from another state except (1) game fish raised in hatcheries and sold for stocking ponds and lakes; (2) non-native game fish (trout, salmon, etc.) raised for human consumption or (3) largemouth bass, shellcracker, yellow perch and bluegill (bream) raised in farm ponds, which may be sold under permit from the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division. For more information, contact your local District Office (page 2).

TROTLINES
It is illegal to fish trotline or snag line, set line, commercial fishing net, slat boxes or wire baskets within one-half mile below any lock, dam or powerhouse. All recreational licensed fisherman utilizing trotlines are limited to 100 hooks total. All trotlines must have a plastic or metal tag attached containing the owners name and either their address, fishing license number or phone number. Trotlines operated under commercial fishing licenses are not limited in number of hooks.

WIRE BASKETS
Wire baskets may be used only in certain counties to harvest nongame fish for personal consumption only. Persons holding a commercial fishing license may not fish with wire baskets. No fish taken in wire baskets may be sold or offered for sale. All game fish taken in the baskets must be immediately returned to the water. All baskets must be clearly marked with the valid wire basket license number and name of person using and owning the basket. It is illegal for any one person to fish with more than four wire baskets. Consult the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Regulation Book or local Conservation Enforcement Officer (see District Offices, page 2) to determine number of baskets and locations where wire baskets are legal.
GIGS OR GRABBLING
Commercial or nongame fish may be legally taken by gigs or by grabbling by hand by persons possessing a valid sport fishing license. It shall be illegal to use any treble hook or any barbed hook for gigging or grabbling. Only a single barbless hook may be used.

FILLETING FISH
It is unlawful to fillet a fish or remove heads while fishing or to possess fillets of fish while on public waters, except when fish are being prepared for immediate cooking and consumption; provided, however, that the fish may be drawn or gutted with heads left attached.

SPEARFISHING
The spearing of nongame or commercial fish solely for the purpose of sport in all waters of this state, both fresh and salt, is legal provided that the person engaged in the act of spearing is completely submerged and possesses the appropriate sport fishing and spearfishing licenses. This license is issued by the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division, Marine Resources Division and online. For more information and application packet, call (334) 242-3465 or visit our website at www.outdooralabama.com.

SNAGGING
It is unlawful to take fish by snagging on the Chattahoochee River or its impoundments, the Tennessee River or its impoundments, and State-owned public fishing lakes. Further, it is unlawful to take or attempt to take fish by snagging within 800 feet of any dam on the Coosa River or its impoundments.

HAVE YOU CAUGHT AN AMERICAN EEL?
The Rivers and Streams Fisheries Program of the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries is seeking information from the public regarding the catch or observation of American Eel in Alabama.

If you catch an American eel, please provide the following information:
location (GPS latitude/longitude coordinates), approximate length, date and time it was caught, how it was caught, type of bait used, and any photos.

Please consider donating the specimen for further age and growth studies. Please keep it on ice and place it in a plastic bag in the freezer as quickly as possible.

Contact: Steve.Rider@dcnr.alabama.gov to arrange a time and place for pick up of the specimen.

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Kasco Aerators
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Bass • Catfish • Shell Cracker • Bluegill
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PROFESSIONAL FISHING GUIDE
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Charleston, SC
(843)860-4231 × john@flyrightcharters.com
www.flyrightcharters.com
The zebra mussel is an exotic species of freshwater mussel that has colonized many southern bodies of water, including the Tennessee River system. These mussels can disrupt freshwater food chains and may cause major changes in some fish populations. Boaters are one of the major contributors to the spread of zebra mussels from infested to uninfested waters. To report zebra mussel sightings or for more information, contact: Alabama Dept. of Conservation and Natural Resources, Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division at (334) 242-3471.

Licensed anglers may use their hands, a rake or dip net not wider than 24 inches to collect the Asiatic Clam Corbicula for fish bait.

The zebra mussel is an exotic species of freshwater mussel that can exceed 24 inches in length, 12 inches in diameter, with funnel entrance not more than one inch in diameter, dip net or minnow seine, the length of which shall not exceed 25 feet and the width or depth of which shall not exceed 4 feet for the purpose of taking shad or minnows for the exclusive use as fish bait. No seines may be used in un-impounded tributary streams and creeks. All game fish and all commercial or nongame fish taken by nets or seines must be immediately returned to the water from whence they came with the least possible injury. Dip nets may be used to land legally caught fish.

Licensed anglers to take minnows, shad, and certain suckers from certain public waters by the use of a cast net, minnow jug, minnow basket, not to exceed 24 inches in length, 12 inches in diameter, with funnel entrance not more than one inch in diameter, dip net or minnow seine, the length of which shall not exceed 25 feet and the width or depth of which shall not exceed 4 feet for the purpose of taking shad or minnows for the exclusive use as fish bait. All seines may be used in un-impounded tributary streams and creeks. All game fish and all commercial or nongame fish taken by nets or seines must be immediately returned to the water from whence they came with the least possible injury. Dip nets may be used to land legally caught fish.

It is unlawful for any person to operate any vessel on the waters of Alabama within 800 feet below a hydroelectric dam and/or navigation lock and dam unless each person aboard, including the operator, is wearing a securely fastened U.S. Coast Guard approved personal flotation device Type I, II, III or V.

Public access areas include state-owned and/or operated boat launching ramps, associated parking lots, piers and any real or personal property within the boundaries of such areas. Such public access areas are for the uses of pleasure boating, hunting and fishing. Picnicking is allowed only where tables are provided. The following is a synopsis of regulations for use of such areas, and is intended as a general guide for the boating public. Please refer to the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Regulation Book for specific interpretation.

Public access areas are for the uses of pleasure boating, hunting and fishing. Picnicking is allowed only where tables are provided. The following is a synopsis of regulations for use of such areas, and is intended as a general guide for the boating public. Please refer to the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Regulation Book for specific interpretation.

Litter, Camp or build fires, Loiter, Discharge firearms, except as otherwise provided by law, Consume alcoholic beverages, Swim, dive, jump or sunbathe within 50 yards of any ramp or pier, Block ramp, pier or the approach with vehicles or trailers, Operate any unlicensed vehicle such as ATVs, except those driven by mobility impaired persons in accordance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, Solicit, sell, advertise or install signs, Destroy, damage, cut or remove any tree, bush, shrub, plant or flower, Operate commercial, industrial or construction equipment such as barges without written approval obtained from the Fisheries Section, 64 N. Union St., Suite 551, Montgomery, AL 36104.

All other state laws apply and are enforced on public access areas. Boating access information is available online at: www.outdooralabama.com.

This pamphlet covers only freshwater sport fishing laws and regulations. For information on freshwater commercial fishing or musseling, visit our website at www.outdooralabama.com, call (334) 242-3465 or visit the nearest District Office (page 2).

In 1995, a major initiative to bring fishing opportunities to urban dwellers became a reality when the Division launched the Community Fishing Program in cooperation with Alabama municipalities. Recognizing the shift in population from rural to urban areas, the program promotes fishing as wholesome fun for youth in Alabama cities and towns. From small communities to sprawling metropolitan areas, towns and cities throughout the State are all eligible to participate.

Good Fishing Depends on Clean Water

Many of our rivers, lakes, and coastal areas are experiencing algae blooms that cover our favorite fishing spots with green slime and cause fish kills and “dead zones” where no aquatic life can survive. The cause is usually nitrogen and phosphorus pollution that comes from farm and lawn fertilizers, septic systems, animal waste, and sewage treatment plants. Everyone can do their part for clean water by reducing fertilizer use, preserving plants along shorelines, and picking up pet waste. Supporting water quality protection supports great fishing!

Learn more at epa.gov/nutrientpollution

United States Environmental Protection Agency

www.outdooralabama.com
The Division partners with local communities or civic groups. The Division provides expertise, block off nets and loaner tackle. Communities and/or civic groups provide a location, volunteers and fish. The result is a lot of fun for everyone. Community events attracting participants are proof of the success of this program. To learn how to have a community fishing event in your area, contact your local district fisheries supervisor or visit our website at www.outdooralabama.com.

BOATING OPERATOR LICENSE REQUIREMENTS

The Roberson-Archer Act and The Boating Safety Enhancement Act of 2001 mandates that no one under the age of 12 may operate a motorized vessel, and that every vessel operator be licensed and have the license in possession at the time of operation.

For information on obtaining a vessel operator’s license, contact the ALEA Marine Trooper Division at (334) 517-2930, or visit www.outdooralabama.com and click on Boating.

BOATING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS FOR ALABAMA RESIDENTS

Must be 12 years old or older, but cannot operate alone until the age of 14. Operators 12 or 13 years old, after obtaining the vessel operator’s license, can only operate if an adult 21 years old or older with a vessel operator’s license in possession, is onboard and seated in a position to take immediate control of the vessel if necessary. A licensed operator, 14 years old or older, may legally operate without supervision. Possession of a certificate of completion for a boating course is not a vessel license.

BOATING LICENSE REQUIREMENTS FOR NONRESIDENTS

Nonresidents 12 years old and older, may operate on Alabama waters up to 45 days per calendar year without obtaining a vessel operator’s license. However, operators 12 or 13 years old, can only operate if an adult 21 years old or older who either has a vessel operator’s license in possession or who falls under the 45 day exemption period, is onboard and seated in a position to take immediate control of the vessel if necessary. If operating a vessel for more than 45 days, the nonresident must get an Alabama Nonresident Vessel Operator’s License. Nonresidents who have obtained a vessel certification or license from their home state, may use that in lieu of the Alabama Nonresident Vessel Operator’s License.

SALTWATER FISHING

For information on saltwater fishing license requirements, size and possession limits, contact the Marine Resources Division, PO Drawer 458, Gulf Shores, AL 36547, (251) 968-7576.

POND MANAGEMENT

Ponds provide more fishing opportunities than most types of waters in Alabama. Alabamians utilizing ponds for fishing provide needed funding for sport fish restoration. There are more than 275,000 fish ponds in Alabama. Manmade fish ponds greatly alleviate the fishing pressure on our public streams and lakes. Therefore, the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division is vitally interested in this popular resource. Proper stocking

Your purchase of hunting and fishing licenses support wildlife and fisheries programs.
and management will provide years of excellent fishing for bass, bluegill and shellcracker.

Sustaining good fishing in ponds requires proper design, stocking with appropriate fish species and ongoing fish management. Ponds should be thought of as gardens because all the basic gardening principles also apply to pond management.

Technical assistance is also provided to pond owners at no cost regarding proper management practices such as fertilization, liming, weed control and fish harvest. These management practices are essential to maintaining good fishing in ponds. In particular, proper fertilization results in an abundant food supply for bass and bream, ensuring that they will be abundant and in good condition. Contact a Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division Office for assistance (page 2).

“Culling” shall be defined as removing and releasing a fish from the creel (live well, stringer, basket, bucket, cooler, or other container) whether it is replaced or not.

**NON-NATIVE AQUATIC PLANTS**

It is prohibited to introduce, place or cause the introduction or placement of any non-native aquatic plant into any public waters of the State. For further information, contact the local District Fisheries Biologist (see page 2).
also has the potential to address a concern raised by many hunters and WFF staff in those areas since deer season was extended until February 10th in Zones A and C. Hunters have reported observing and accidentally killing more adult bucks without antlers in the late season than they did when season ended on January 31st. Deer in most of Alabama do not drop their antlers until March and April so this is not an issue in most of the state but casting antlers in late January and early February is fairly common in areas with early ruts (November and December breeding). Most of the accidental harvest of cast antlered bucks were by hunters who thought they were shooting a doe. Many of these accidental harvests are bucks that had been passed by hunters throughout the deer season in hopes that they would survive to the next season and have larger antlers. Ending the deer season earlier in the new zones should help reduce these accidental harvests of bucks that have shed their antlers. WFF staff will continue to gather feedback from hunters in Zones D and E, in addition to Zones A and C, to see if this issue is significant and if it needs to be addressed in other ways. The last several hunting seasons have brought many changes deer hunters in Alabama have longed for but probably never thought they would see. Mandatory reporting of deer harvests, hunting into February, and hunting with bait have all been met with mixed results, but each have benefited Alabama’s deer hunters to some degree. The addition of Deer Zones D and E will not impact as many of Alabama’s deer hunters as these previous statewide changes, but will hopefully create the positive effects deer hunters in these areas have long anticipated. Please be sure to record all deer harvests via Game Check to assist the Division’s biologists in making better informed decisions regarding Alabama’s deer herd.
AREA WHERE ALABAMA, MISSISSIPPI AND TENNESSEE FISHING LICENSE ARE HONORED.
FISHING REGULATIONS OF EACH STATE MUST BE ADHERED TO WHILE FISHING IN THE STATES WATERS.

AREA WHERE EITHER ALABAMA OR MISSISSIPPI FISHING LICENSE ARE HONORED.

ALABAMA FISHING LICENSE ONLY
RECIPROCAL LICENSE NOT HONORED.
1. The following seasons for taking fish in accordance with the below stated times, places, manners and restrictions are hereby established. Unless noted below, the seasons for all designated game and commercial fish are open continuously.

2. It shall be unlawful for any person to take or have in possession more than the daily limit for any fish as established herein. This shall not apply to fish held live for release by the sponsor or its designated agent after a bonafide fishing tournament provided they are released unharmed to the public waters from which they were taken as soon as reasonably possible on the same day they were taken. This does not obligate the sponsor or its designated agent to release dead or dying fish.

3. Except as otherwise noted, it shall be unlawful to possess any fish less than or greater than size restrictions as established herein. Size restrictions on all fish are determined by measuring from the front of the mouth to the tip of the tail with both mouth and tail closed. Except as otherwise provided for State and Federally owned and/or managed fishing lakes and ponds, the daily creel, possession limits and size restrictions for fish in all public waters of this State shall be as follows:

There is no closed season on any freshwater game fish. The creel and possession limits for fish in all public waters of this state, except as otherwise provided for certain State and Federally owned and/or managed fishing lakes and ponds, shall be as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES DETAILS</th>
<th>LIMIT</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Black Bass</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walleye</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sauger</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Bass</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow Bass</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saltwater Striped Bass and Hybrids or Combinations</td>
<td>15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crappie</td>
<td>30</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Yellow Perch</td>
<td>No Limit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catfish (under 34 inches)</td>
<td>No Limit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Catfish (over 34 inches)</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bream</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rainbow Trout</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alligator Gar</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sturgeon</td>
<td>Closed Season</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paddlefish or Spoonbill</td>
<td>Closed Season</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**IMPORTANT NOTES**

- The creel and possession limits provided for above shall **not** apply to fish held live for release by the sponsor or its designated agent after a bona fide fishing tournament provided they are released unharmed to the public waters from which they were taken as soon as reasonably possible on the same day they were taken. This does not obligate the sponsor or its designated agent to release dead or dying fish.

- **Total length** of fish measured from the front of the mouth to the tip of the tail with both mouth and tail closed.

- It is a violation of Alabama law for any person to transport more than one day’s creel limit of any species of fish beyond the boundaries of this state. It is a violation of Alabama law for any person to transport live catfish 34 inches in length or greater beyond the boundaries of this State.

- It shall be unlawful to transport live catfish 34 inches in length or greater beyond the boundaries of this State.

- **It shall be unlawful** for any angler to fish with more than three rods and reels, or poles, or any combination thereof on Weiss or Neely Henry Reservoir at any time.

- It shall be unlawful to fish any trotline, snag or snare line without plastic or metal tag attached containing the owner’s name and either their address, fishing license number or phone number.

- It shall be unlawful for any fisherman other than a licensed commercial fisherman to fish one or more trotline, snag or snare line or combination thereof containing more than 100 hooks total.

- Alligator gar caught with commercial or non-game fishing gear must be immediately returned to the water.
SIZE LIMITS

As provided for above, as posted in State and Federally owned and/or managed public fishing lakes and ponds, and as follows:

Chattahoochee River Tributaries - It is illegal to possess shoal bass in Little Uchee, Uchee, Osanippa, Halawakee and Wacoochee creeks.

Chattahoochee River and its Impoundments and Tributaries - Special creel limits apply in reciprocal waters as specified under regulation 220-2-.122.

Guntersville Reservoir and its Tributary of Town Creek - It is illegal to possess any largemouth or smallmouth bass less than 15 inches in total length.

Harris Reservoir - It is illegal to possess any largemouth bass between 13 inches and 16 inches in total length.

Lake Jackson at Florala - Creel limit of five black bass greater than 12 inches in total length. Only one of the five can be over 22 inches in total length.

Inland Reservoir - It is illegal to possess more than two saltwater striped bass that exceed 22 inches in total length in the daily creel limit and only one of those may exceed 30 inches in total length.

Lewis Smith Reservoir - It is illegal to possess any black bass between 13 inches and 15 inches in total length.

Lewis Smith Reservoir - It is illegal to possess more than two saltwater striped bass that exceed 22 inches in total length in the daily creel limit. It shall be unlawful to intentionally cull from the creel any saltwater striped bass from June 15th to October 15th. Culling is defined as removing and releasing a saltwater striped bass from the creel (live well, stringer, basket, bucket, cooler or other container) whether or not it is replaced with another striped bass.

Little Bear Creek Reservoir of the B.C.D.A Lakes - It is illegal to possess largemouth bass between 13 inches and 16 inches in total length.

Lake Martin - It is illegal to possess more than two saltwater striped bass that exceed 22 inches in total length in the daily creel limit. It shall be unlawful to intentionally cull from the creel any saltwater striped bass from June 15th to October 15th. Culling is defined as removing and releasing a saltwater striped bass from the creel (live well, stringer, basket, bucket, cooler or other container) whether or not it is replaced with another striped bass.

Pickwick Reservoir - It is illegal to possess any smallmouth bass or largemouth bass less than 15 inches in total length.

Thurlow Reservoir - It is illegal to possess more than two saltwater striped bass that exceed 22 inches in total length in the daily creel limit and only one of those may exceed 30 inches in total length.

FISH CONSUMPTION ADVISORIES

Fish from most waters in Alabama are safe for human consumption. For those locations of concern, fish consumption advisories are provided by the Alabama Department of Public Health. For a current list of advisories call: (800) 201-8208 or visit www.adph.org.

You Can Make A Difference

With the Purchase of the Freshwater Fishing Distinctive License Plate

Proceeds from the sale of each Freshwater Fishing license plate will be used to:

- Enhance and restore aquatic habitats
- Reestablish robust wild populations of threatened species
- Promote conservation education
- Support bass genetics research
- Fund fish disease research
- Minimize the damage caused by invasive species
- Produce fish for stocking in public waters

For more information visit OutdoorAlabama.com
State-owned Public Fishing Lakes (PFLs) include all land and waters under the direct supervision of the Fisheries Section of the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division. The lakes are as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>PUBLIC FISHING LAKE</th>
<th>MANAGER</th>
<th>LAKE PHONE #</th>
<th>CLOSED DAYS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Barbour</td>
<td>Closed for renovation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bibb</td>
<td>Cindy Holder (205) 938-2318</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chambers</td>
<td>Ted and Mike Craig (334) 864-8145</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Clay</td>
<td>Gene Simmons (256) 488-0038</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coffee</td>
<td>City of Elba, Ricky Mularz (334) 447-2384</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Crenshaw</td>
<td>City of Luverne, Lee Simmons (334) 335-3103</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dale</td>
<td>Steve Sherrill (334) 774-0588</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dallas</td>
<td>Anthony Fail (334) 874-8804</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DeKalb</td>
<td>Steven Simmons (256) 657-1300</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Escambia</td>
<td>Allison Lee Devine (251) 809-0068</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fayette</td>
<td>No on-site manager (256) 353-2634</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>Daniel Drake (334) 684-0361</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamar</td>
<td>Kathy Parker (205) 695-8283</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lee</td>
<td>Chris and Tina Wright (334) 745-6563</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Madison</td>
<td>Chris and Cole Coultas (256) 776-4905</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Marion</td>
<td>Barbara Goggans (205) 495-1753</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monroe</td>
<td>Tammy Ikner (251) 789-2104</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pike</td>
<td>City of Troy, Brian Meadows (334) 674-2480</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walker</td>
<td>Charlie Skalnik (205) 221-1801</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Washington</td>
<td>Closed for renovation Reopening Spring 2021</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

State-owned public fishing lakes are typically open six days a week from February 1 through June 30 each year. From July 1 until November 30, some lakes are only open five days a week. During the months of December and January, many lakes are closed or operate on a limited basis. Information and schedules may change without notice, so please call the Lake Manager or the appropriate Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries District Office for the current operating schedule.

**NOTE**
All anglers 12 years old and older must have a valid permit in possession to legally fish. No child younger than 12 years old can legally be left unaccompanied by an adult at a Public Fishing Lake (PFL). All daily creel, possession and size limits are posted at each lake. Fishing time is limited to daylight hours or as specified by lake manager. No method other than hook and line with natural or artificial bait may be used at PFL. All anglers must exhibit their catch, fishing permit and fishing license to Conservation Officer or Lake Manager upon demand. All fish must be carried to the Lake Manager who must count and weigh them. All PFLs are designated as wildlife sanctuaries. The above is a synopsis of regulations for state-owned Public Fishing Lakes and is intended as a general guide. Please refer to the *Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division Regulation Book* for complete regulations.

**AT ALL STATE OWNED PUBLIC FISHING LAKES, IT IS ILLEGAL TO:**
- Stock fish, including minnows used as legal bait
- Sell any fish that was caught from Public Fishing Lakes
- Use any minnow as bait except for goldfish, shiners or toughies (fatheads)
- Operate gasoline outboard motors except where permitted
- Camp (except where permitted), swim, wade or use sailboats
- Launch any boat without a permit
- Be unruly or disorderly
- Solicit, sell or advertise
- Remove shrubs, wildflowers, trees or plants
- Deface or destroy state property
- Exceed posted speed limits
- Operate unlicensed vehicles such as ATVs
- Hunt, trap, pursue, catch or sell any wild bird or wild animal
- Fish without a permit if age 12 or older
### Alabama Freshwater Fish Records

**SPECIES WEIGHT DATE LOCATION ANGLER/HOMETOWN**

- **Bass, Largemouth 16 lbs., 8 oz. 11/3/1987 Mountain View Lake, Shelby Co. Thomas "T.M." Burgin / Birmingham**
- **Bass, Redeye (b) 3 lbs., 2 oz. 3/8/2000 Choccolocco Creek William Terry Johnson / Oxford**
- **Bass, Rock 1 lb., 6 oz. 5/6/1995 Paint Rock River James R. Stewart / Scottsboro**
- **Bass, Shool 6 lbs., 11 oz. 2/25/1996 Halawkee Creek Darrell Trawick / Salem**
- **Bass, Smallmouth (c) 10 lbs., 8 oz. 10/8/1987 Wheeler Dam Tailwater Owen F. Smith / Fairfield**
- **Bass, Spotted (b) 3 lbs., 2 oz. 3/18/1978 Lewis Smith Reservoir Phillip C. Terry / Decatur**
- **Bass, Striped (a) 7 lbs., 1 oz. 2/28/2013 Bankhead Reservoir James Bramlett / Dora**
- **Bass, White 4 lbs., 9 oz. 2/14/1987 Warrior River Ben DeMott / Bessemer**
- **Bass, Yellow (a) 2 lbs., 8 oz. 4/12/2000 Guntersville Reservoir, Jackson Co. Dennis M. Woebbeking / Pisgah**
- **Bowfin 18 lbs., 6 oz. 7/31/2005 Lake Tuscaloosa Nelson Ray Sansing / Sawyerville**
- **Buffalo 5 lbs. 4/13/1990 Guntersville Reservoir Ralph B. Lowery / Albertville**
- **Bullhead (Brown) 4 lbs., 3 oz. 5/7/2019 Private Pond, Lee Co. Collin Burney / Auburn**
- **Carp 35 lbs. 4/19/1985 Bear Creek, Colbert Co. Darrin Jackson / Double Springs**
- **Carp, Grass (White Amur) 73 lbs. 4/10/2012 Guntersville Reservoir Bradley D. Bridges, Sr. / Bryant**
- **Catfish, Blue 120 lbs., 4 oz. 3/9/2012 Holt Reservoir John Paul Nichols / Northport**
- **Catfish, Channel 40 lbs. 6/17/1967 Inland Lake Donald R. Cox / Oneonta**
- **Catfish, Flathead 80 lbs. 6/22/1986 Alabama River, Selma Rick Conner / Selma**
- **Catfish, White 10 lbs., 5 oz. 4/3/1981 Chambers Co. Public Fishing Lake Roy T. Britton / Opelika**
- **Crappie, Black (tie) 4 lbs., 5 oz. 3/27/2007 Ft. Payne Reservoir Shelley Meadows / Mentone**
- **Crappie, Black (tie) 4 lbs., 5 oz. 6/2/1997 Private Pond, Lee Co. William D. Webb / Birmingham**
- **Crappie, White (tie) 4 lbs., 9 oz. 5/8/2000 Lake Martin, Tallapoosa Co. Jeremy S. White / Alexander City**
- **Drum, Freshwater (b) 41 lbs., 8 oz. 7/24/1949 Wilson Reservoir Wilson Brock / Birmingham**
- **Eel, American 5 lbs., 8 oz. 5/11/1989 Lake Shechti, Chilton Co. Todd A. Groover / Montevallo**
- **Gar, Alligator (tie) 151 lbs., 9 oz. 8/13/2004 Tensaw River Michael Houseknecht / Mobile**
- **Gar, Redfin (tie) 13 oz. 7/7/2014 Armco Creek Gary Lee Grove, Jr. / Opelika**
- **Gar, Silver (a) 14 lbs., 14 oz. 4/24/1995 Wilson Dam Tailwater Chris Stephenson / Birmingham**
- **Herring, Skipjack 3 lbs., 4 oz. 5/2/2012 Mulberry Fork Bobby Lee Davis / Bessemer**
- **Pike, Chain 12 lbs., 6 oz. 6/24/1976 Dyas Creek, Baldwin Co. Michael P. Ryan / Bay Minette**
- **Pickerel, Chain 1 oz. 9/4/2017 Baggett Creek / Washington Co. Henry Merrit / Deer Park**
- **Pickerel, Redfin 14 lbs., 14 oz. 3/5/1972 Wilson Dam Tailwater William F. Huntley / Athens**
- **Pickerel, Silver (a) 14 lbs., 14 oz. 4/24/1995 Wilson Dam Tailwater Chris Stephenson / Birmingham**
- **Sunfish, Bluegill (a) 4 lbs., 12 oz. 3/18/1982 Wilson Dam Tailwater Susan Holland / Muscle Shoals**
- **Sunfish, Chain 1 oz. 9/4/2017 Baggett Creek / Washington Co. Henry Merrit / Deer Park**
- **Sunfish, Green 8 lbs., 9 oz. 8/10/2000 McLamore Pond, Walker County Caleb Miller / Parrish**
- **Sunfish, Longear 8 oz. 5/12/1990 Yellow River Jerry Jones / Ozark**
- **Sunfish, Redbreast 3 lbs., 2 oz. 6/12/2010 Choctawhatchee River Archie Russ / Brantley**
- **Sunfish, Redear (b) 4 lbs., 4 oz. 5/5/1962 Chattahoochee State Park Jeff Lashley / Gordon**
- **Tautog, Rainbow 5 lbs., 10 oz. 4/2/2006 Mud Creek, Tannehill State Park Otha G. Hamm / Alexandria**
- **Walleye 1 lb., 12 oz. 4/25/1986 Farm Pond Jimmy A. Barfield / Dothan**

(a) World Record
(b) Previous World Record - Rod and Reel
(c) Previous World Record - Any Method
Revised: 3/13/2020

**PROCEDURES FOR THE CERTIFICATION OF ALABAMA STATE RECORD FRESHWATER FISH**

- Fish must be caught in Alabama waters by legal means.
- Fish must be identified by Alabama Fisheries Section biologist or other certified fisheries biologist.
- Fish must be weighed on certified scales.
- Weighing must be witnessed by two people.
- Application must be submitted on an official application form within three months of the catch (request a form by dialing 1-334-242-3471).
- Application form must be notarized.

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The target shooting and hunting community prides itself on being safe and responsible with firearms in all situations—from using them outdoors to storing them safely at home. Sometimes, however, unusual conditions such as extremely dry environments require an extra level of awareness and safety on the part of shooters.

Wildfires have many possible causes. The National Shooting Sports Foundation, the trade association for the firearms and ammunition industry, reminds all shooters that during dry and hot weather conditions their use of certain ammunition and targets could accidentally ignite a wildfire. NSSF reminds all target shooters and hunters, as well as other outdoor enthusiasts, to consider the potential consequences of their activities in fire-prone environments.

Shooters & Hunters: Help Prevent Wildfires.

• Make it a point to know the regulations and rules related to shooting in areas experiencing dry and hot conditions, whether on public or private land or at shooting ranges. Many national forests, for example, do not allow recreational shooting when fire restrictions are in effect.

• Consider the type of ammunition and targets you are using. Minimize the risk of fires by not using steel-jacketed ammunition, ammunition with steel-core components, tracer rounds or exploding targets in fire-prone areas.

• Remember that equipment, such as cars and ATVs, can have extremely hot exhaust systems that could ignite dry vegetation, so park only in designated areas.

• Extinguish and dispose of smoking materials safely.

• Follow guidelines to extinguish campfires.

• Warn others of potential dangers and behaviors for starting wildfires.

• Report any wildfire you see to authorities.

• Spread this message to other target shooters, hunters and outdoor enthusiasts.

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**Land Management**

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**ALABAMA DEER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

Alabama’s Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) offers cooperators an opportunity to gain assistance from wildlife biologist professionals with the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF) to better manage deer herds on both private and leased lands. The only requirement is for cooperators to collect data from all harvested deer. The biologists will then evaluate the data and generate deer harvest recommendations to guide the cooperators towards achieving their deer management objectives and goals. Habitat management advice is another service the biologists can provide if desired by the cooperator. All you have to do is contact your local District Office and they can put you in contact with one of our Private Lands Technical Assistance Biologists to get you on your way.

**Eastern Hellbender**

*Cryptobranchus alleganiensis alleganiensis*

The Alabama Nongame Wildlife Program is looking for sightings of the *Eastern Hellbender*.

**Ways to report:**

- Email photographs with GPS latitude/longitude coordinates (smartphone photos are automatically tagged with this information) to Ericha.Shelton-Nix@dcnr.alabama.gov

**HAVE YOU SEEN ME IN A STREAM IN NORTH ALABAMA?**

*Pete Proctor*

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**Learn more about the hellbender here:**

www.outdooralabama.com/salamanders/hellbender

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**ALABAMA DEER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM**

**DCNR DEER / TURKEY TRANSFER OF POSSESSION CERTIFICATE**

I, ________________________________________________

(Full Name)

____________________________________________________

(Conservation Identification Number)

hereby transfer possession to:

________________________________________________________

(Full Name / Processing Plant / Taxidermist)

the following legally harvested animal:

_____ Deer     _____ Turkey

Sex of Animal:

Male ____    Female ____

Date of Harvest:

________ / ________ / ________

Gamecheck Confirmation Number:

____________________________________________________

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES

For additional information or questions:

www.OutdoorAlabama.com/hunting/hunter-resources

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