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Alabama HUNTING & FISHING

2022-2023 REQUIREMENTS, FEES and SEASON DATES

Digest

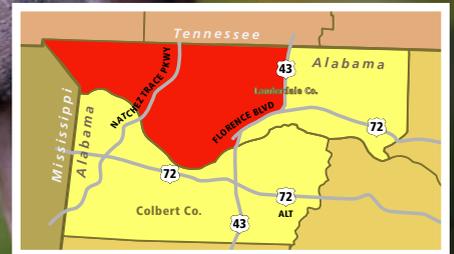
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CWD Zones
See Page 22-26



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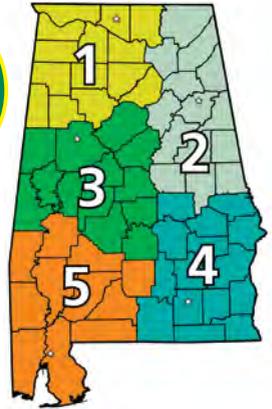
Alabama HUNTING & FISHING Digest

2022-2023 REQUIREMENTS, FEES and SEASON DATES
www.outdooralabama.com

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Blount, Colbert, Cullman, Fayette, Franklin, Lamar, Lauderdale, Lawrence, Limestone, Madison, Marion, Morgan, Walker, Winston
21453 Harris Station Rd.
Tanner, AL 35671
(256) 353-2634
email: dcnr.d1wff@dcnr.alabama.gov

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Spanish Fort, AL 36527
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ON THE COVER

Learn more about the new CWD zones and regulations. See pages 22-26.

Photographer: Gary Mitchell

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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Chuck Sykes,
Director

Fred R. Harders,
Assistant Director

Hunting and fishing are historically important aspects of Alabama's culture. From the founding of our state more than 200 years ago, these activities have sustained us through difficult times and enriched us during times of plenty. As we move past the pandemic, I hope you will continue to take advantage of the many outdoor recreational opportunities Alabama has to offer.

The Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR) currently manages more than 790,000 acres of public land across the state for excellent hunting opportunities. The Department also manages our many lakes and rivers for some of the best freshwater fishing in the country. Whether you intend to pursue white-tailed deer, a strutting gobbler, or a trophy largemouth bass, Alabama offers abundant access to do so.

One of my priorities as Governor is to ensure that our outdoors traditions continue while promoting economic growth so that all Alabamians prosper. Each year, several million people participate in outdoors-related activities in our state, generating an economic impact of almost \$15 billion. This translates into more than 135,000 jobs for Alabamians. Your purchase of a recreational hunting or fishing license helps make this possible.

Alabama has been and will remain resilient in the face of challenges. In early 2022, Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) was detected in two white-tailed deer in Lauderdale County. CWD is a neurological disease that affects a variety of deer species. ADCNR takes the presence of this disease very seriously and is utilizing its CWD Strategic Surveillance and Response Plan to manage it. I am confident they will do whatever is prudent and reasonable to protect the state's deer resources and our hunting culture.

The abundant access to quality outdoor recreation we enjoy today is due in large part to hunters and anglers. Your investment in and stewardship of our natural places help to make Alabama such a special and beautiful place. I encourage you to share your love of the outdoors with others who have never been hunting or fishing. By becoming a mentor, you can pass on those traditions to a new generation.

Thank you for your support.

ADDITIONAL OFFICES & PHONE NUMBERS

TO REPORT VIOLATIONS

(800) 272-4263

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(334) 242-3467
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MAJOR CHANGES & IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR THE 2022-2023 SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS

- ✓ New Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Management Zone (CMZ) Deer Season Zone to include Lauderdale and Colbert Counties (see page 22-26)
- ✓ New Chronic Wasting Disease Management Zone (CMZ) Regulation (www.outdooralabama.com/cwd/latest-cwd-information).
 - Mandatory CWD Sampling of hunter harvested deer on specified days within CMZ.
 - No transport of whole deer or deer (cervid) body parts outside of CMZ unless completely deboned.
 - No baiting or supplemental feeding of wildlife in the CMZ.
- ✓ Moved Colbert County to buffer zone (BZ).
- ✓ Moved portion of Marshall County from Zone C to Zone A.
- ✓ Turkey decoys allowed for youth and disabled seasons.



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

Date of Harvest:
____ / ____ / ____

Game Check Confirmation Number:

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES

For additional information or questions:
www.OutdoorAlabama.com/hunting/hunter-resources

As required for Game Check 220-2-.146

Revised 05/26/2021

HOW TO: KNOW THE DIFFERENCE

CONSERVATION ID (CID) NUMBER

A **PERMANENT** 6-digit number assigned to the **PERSON** who **FISHES** or **HUNTS**

- Residents can find it on top right corner of their license
- Non-residents can obtain one at game.dcnr.alabama.gov/CID

IT IS USED TO:

- Record your deer and turkey harvest
- Renew fishing and hunting licenses
- Log into your account at myoutdooralabama.com

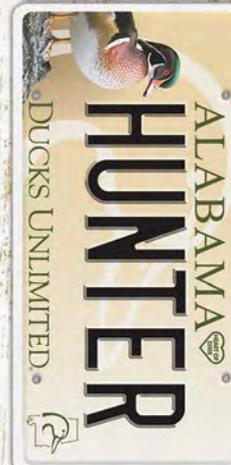
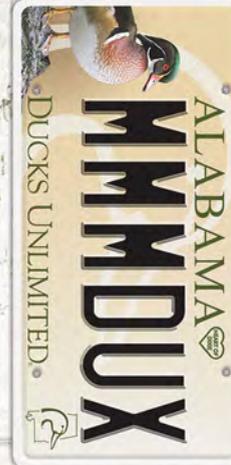
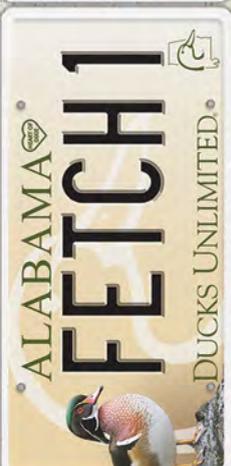
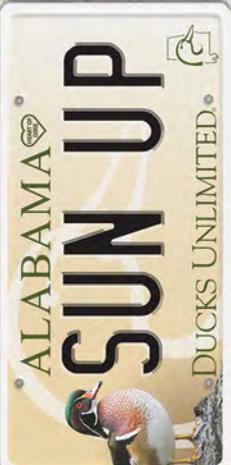
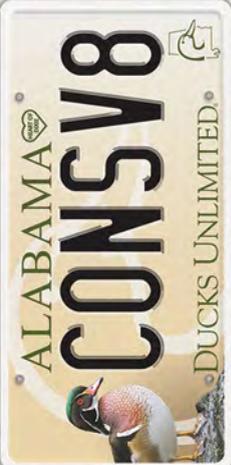
CONFIRMATION NUMBER

A number you receive when you Game Check your **DEER** or **TURKEY**

- You record it on your harvest record
- It is required to transfer possession of harvest to processors, taxidermists, or any other person

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- Determine future hunting season and bag limits
- Determine trends in harvest timing and wildlife populations



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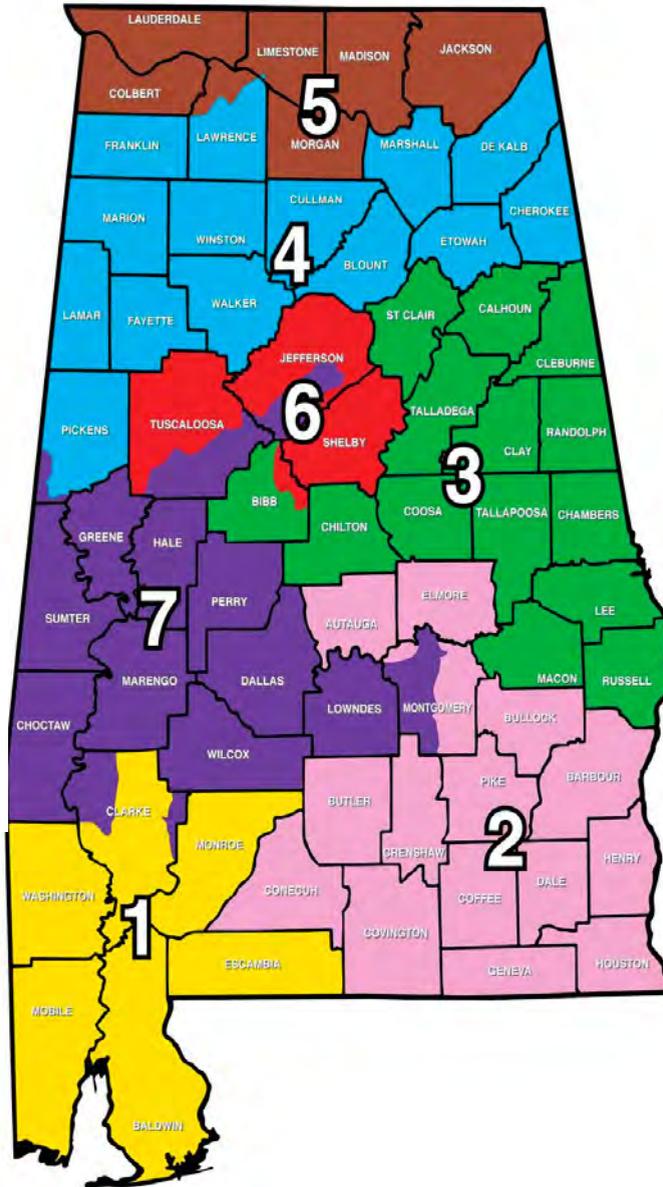
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CULLING — A PRACTICAL MANAGEMENT ALTERNATIVE?



Deer hunters love a good debate. From food plot seed choices, to rifle calibers, to effects of moon phase, disagreements over almost anything related to deer hunting or deer management is likely to pop up any time two or more of these folks get together. In most of these arguments, there really are no right or wrong answers, just a lot of personal preference. That's not the case with a relatively new "hot button" topic of many deer-related discussions – cull bucks.

The idea of culling bucks historically was not something Alabama's deer hunters thought about, let alone debated, 25+ years ago. At that time, most older hunters were still questioning the need for doe harvests and the idea of passing up younger bucks was still a new concept for most. Attitudes about both of these topics have changed significantly. Harvesting does and passing on young bucks are commonplace among nearly all groups of deer hunters, from those that hunt public land to those managing and hunting large tracts of private property

As attitudes about deer management changed, so did the deer herds. The days of rarely having opportunities to see, let alone harvest, 3+ year old bucks are long gone in much of Alabama. Deer hunting and management are no longer things Alabama's deer hunters only think about between football and turkey seasons. Deer management is now a year-round obsession with many deer hunters and managers



CONTINUED ON PAGE 12

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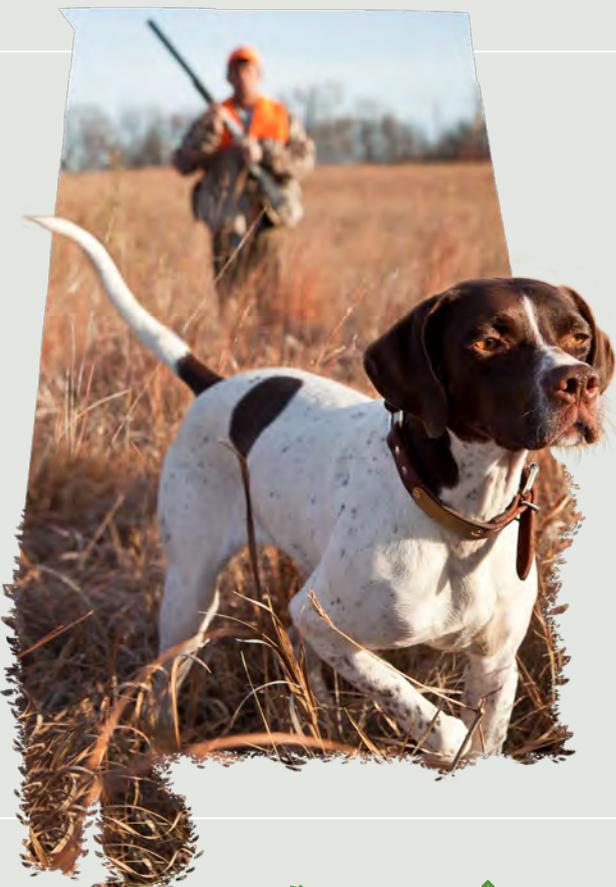
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looking to take the next step in their deer management journey. For many, this means addressing the issue of cull bucks.

So what is a cull buck? To cull is to remove something, usually of lower quality or with less desirable traits, from a population, and the word also refers to the individual being removed (culled). For deer, the trait that is most often used to determine a buck's value to the herd is antler size or shape. As a result, some deer hunters view any buck with antlers that do not meet their vision of what a buck should look like as one that should be removed from the herd for the herd's sake – a cull. Unfortunately, this thought process has numerous flaws.

Determining the cause of a free-ranging buck's antler abnormality or deficiency by looking at the live deer on the hoof is practically impossible. Deer are subjected to many factors which may impact antler development. Injuries, drought, and poor-quality habitat all can cause a buck's antler to develop abnormally. Many of these are uncontrollable by the deer manager or hunter. What is controllable is whether the hunter pulls the trigger or not. Having too many bucks is rarely an issue. For this reason, bucks that have not reached the target age for harvest should be given the benefit of the doubt in regard to lower quality or abnormal antlers in most situations.

Injuries to the deer's body, the antler while in velvet, or the antler pedicle usually are the main culprits for malformed antlers. Some injuries, such as injuries to the body, typically cause antler abnormalities in the year immediately following the injury. Given time, the buck will heal and usually grows a more typical set of antlers in subsequent years. The same thing applies to most growing antler injuries as well. Antlers grown in years following this type of injury generally return to their usual conformation.

Some types of injuries, such as those to the antler pedicle, can cause malformed antlers for several years following the injury. If an antler is shed prematurely or is broken off at the pedicle/antler junction, a piece of the pedicle or skull often is lost with the antler. This type of injury almost always affects antler development from the damaged pedicle in subsequent years. These deer usually are 2 ½ years old or older and have a "normal" antler with three, four, five, or more points and an "abnormal" antler, which often is a long spike or main beam with one short tine. The normal antler should be used to assess the buck's potential for antler growth, not the one that is malformed as a result of the injury. Given time, the deer may overcome the injury and develop normal antlers on both sides. Spike on one side, or more commonly seen acronym, SOOS, are commonly observed in many parts of Alabama and are representative examples of what can happen following a pedicle injury.

Another argument against culling bucks is the lack of understanding about white-tailed deer antler genetics. White-tailed deer genetics, including antler genetics, remain poorly understood. As for the trait of antler development, what is known is the dam provides as much or more genetic influence for antler development as does the sire. If it is possible to impact a free-ranging deer herd's antler genetics by removing specific deer, one would also have to identify and remove the doe that produced the "cull buck" in question. Throw in the constant influx of new bucks and their DNA into free-range populations through dispersal of young bucks and excursions by adult bucks, and the idea of quickly changing the genetic makeup of a free-range deer population by selectively harvesting bucks based on antler characteristics is an unattainable objective.

Multiple studies have examined the impact of aggressive culling programs on antler quality of future generations of free-range deer. One recent project conducted on three south Texas tracts com-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 75

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ALABAMA'S SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY AREAS

Every hunter desires to hunt a prime location with limited hunting pressure, where the odds for seeing and harvesting a quality deer or turkey are in their favor. The Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF) provides these venues with our Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) and now with a newer format of public land hunting through our Special Opportunity Areas (SOA). The SOA program hosts limited quota hunting opportunities on lands of varying ownership including WFF, Forever Wild Land Trust, Department of Transportation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Choctaw National Wildlife Refuge. The SOAs are smaller in size than the typical WMA and make for a more appropriate limited quota (random selection permit) hunting format designed to reduce hunting pressure and increase the quality of the hunt for the entire season. During the 2021-2022 season, eleven SOAs offered a limited number of slots for a successful permit holder and guest(s) to hunt a dedicated 300-400 acre unit for a 2-4 day hunt. Species that are available to hunt include white-tailed deer, turkey, waterfowl, dove and other small game.

For an opportunity to obtain one of the limited quota permits at an SOA, hunters can apply through the online registration system by visiting the Special Opportunity Area page at



OutdoorAlabama.com. Registration begins in September for white-tailed deer and dove, followed by waterfowl, small game, and turkey over the following months. Hunters have the opportunity to register for multiple hunts for each species at several different locations across the state.

To register, you must be 16 years old or older and have a Conservation ID (CID) and a Wildlife Management Area license. If you are a license exempt resident hunter (65 years old or older), Game Check H.E.L.P. number should be attained prior to registration instead of a Wildlife Management Area License. If selected as a "hunter", a valid Alabama hunting license is required before participating in the selected hunt. If selected for a migratory bird hunt, in addition to a state hunting license, a Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program Certification (HIP) (free of charge) and applicable State and Federal Waterfowl stamps (if hunting waterfowl) are required.

After the registration closes, a computerized random system selects the successful hunters. If selected for a hunt, either as a hunter or an alternate, you will receive an email requesting you to follow a link to the login page to either accept or decline your selection. If selected as a hunter and the selection is accepted, you will receive an email in the following weeks with hunt unit assignment, and other hunt details and logistics. Hunters can only accept one hunt per species per hunting season. This means someone cannot accept a hunter and an alternate selection. Once an acceptance of a selection is submitted, all other hunts for that species will be automatically declined. It is important to choose carefully, once the acceptance has been submitted it cannot be reversed.

So whether you are new to hunting public land or an experienced public land hunter and looking for that prime location with limited hunting pressure, the Special Opportunity Area program might be right for you. Remember to visit the OutdoorAlabama.com website this Fall and search for the Special Opportunity Area page to find out more about the SOA program and opportunities being offered for the current season.

HUNTING OUT OF STATE?

BEFORE YOU RETURN TO ALABAMA YOU NEED TO KNOW...

It is unlawful for persons to bring deer, elk, moose or caribou carcasses, hides or antlers into Alabama **FROM ANY STATE**, territory or province unless all meat has been deboned and skull plates and hides have been completely cleaned of all brain and spinal cord tissue. The presence of these materials in Alabama poses a serious threat to Alabama's deer herd.

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in North America

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a 100% fatal disease found in deer species. It is currently found in 26 states including Lauderdale County in Alabama, and three Canadian provinces. The transmitting agent, called prions, can remain viable in brain, spinal cord and bone tissue well after the death of the animal.

THE IMPROPER DISPOSAL OF CARCASSES FROM OUTSIDE OF ALABAMA IS ONE WAY THAT CWD CAN BE TRANSMITTED.

Help protect your children's resource and prevent this disease from affecting Alabama's deer herd.

Visit CDC.gov to learn more about consumption of venison from CWD areas.

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ucneeleeforestry.com

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MANDATORY FOR ALL DEER AND TURKEY HUNTERS

STEP BEFORE YOU GO HUNTING:

1 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?**

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 DURING YOUR HUNT:

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

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.

OR

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



MANDATORY GAME CHECK FOR ALL DEER AND TURKEY HUNTERS

STEP AFTER THE HUNT: EVERY HUNTER MUST REPORT THEIR HARVEST OF DEER AND TURKEY WITHIN 48 HOURS OF HARVEST OR BEFORE TRANSFERRING POSSESSION TO ANY OTHER PERSON: (IF YOU HAVE ALREADY RECORDED YOUR HARVEST VIA THE OUTDOOR AL APP, THIS STEP HAS BEEN COMPLETED)

You must report your deer or turkey harvest into the Game Check system within 48 hours of harvesting it or before transferring possession to any other person. 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.

THERE ARE THREE WAYS TO REPORT YOUR HARVEST:

1. Smartphone by OUTDOOR AL app. Download Link: www.outdooralabama.com/contact-us/mobile-apps
2. Online at www.outdooralabama.com/gamecheck
3. Game Check by Phone anytime, call: **800-888-7690**

* 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. (For more information, visit: www.outdooralabama.com/hunter-resources/GetYourCID)

Revised 04-13-2022

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.

Alabama 2022-2023 Harvest Record

All deer and turkey hunters must:

- Have Harvest Record in possession when hunting.
- Fill-out Harvest Record before moving the animal.

Name: _____ License No. or CID #: _____

ANTLERED BUCK – One of the three must have 4 pts, 1" or longer on one side

Harvest Date:	Points:	Confirmation No.:
___/___/___	R: ___ L: ___	_____
___/___/___	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.:
___/___/___	_____
___/___/___	_____
___/___/___	_____
___/___/___	_____
___/___/___	_____

Attach handwritten version to record additional unantlered deer

TURKEY (Gobblers Only)

Harvest Date:	___/___/___		___/___/___		___/___/___		___/___/___	
Confirmation No.:	_____		_____		_____		_____	

HARVEST REPORTING IS MANDATORY! HOW TO REPORT YOUR HARVEST

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- ONLINE: www.outdooralabama.com
- PHONE: 800-888-7690

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Hunting & Trapping

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 51.
- 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 Wildlife Management Area 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.
- Hunting with the aid of bait is prohibited on public lands (including WMA, SOA, USFS, TVA, Corp. of Engineers and public and private land within the CWD CMZ).

DEER

ANTLERED BUCKS

Male deer with one or more 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** – Antlered 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 WMA’s 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 WWF personnel.

UNANTLERED DEER

During the Unantlered Deer Gun, Special Muzzleloader, Bow and Arrow and Special Youth (under 16) Seasons, one unantlered

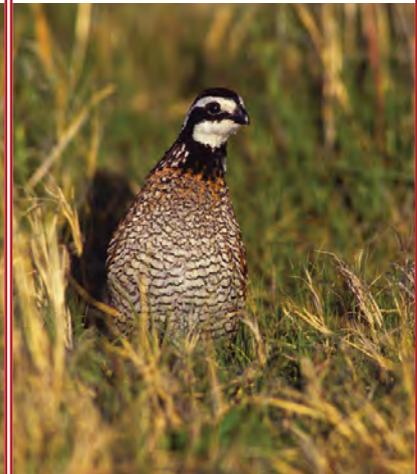
deer may be taken per day in addition to one antlered buck per day. See Special Exception #3 for selected areas with one deer per day limit on U.S. Forest Service Lands (see #3 on page 28).

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 and CMZ November 11-14 and in Zones D & E October 28-31. 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 Permits for youth deer hunting dates and other information.



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THE PARTNERSHIP TO IMPROVE PUBLIC DUCK HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES



Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF) biologist and wildlife technicians have been working on a more than respectable grocery list of upgrades and renovations to improve waterfowl habitat and associated infrastructure on several Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and Special Opportunity Areas (SOAs) across the State over the past few years. This work is a continued effort by WFF to provide improved hunting quality and hunting opportunities to our avid waterfowlers, while improving habitat quality. In total, the collection of waterfowl work, along with the newly created waterfowl habitat, will enhance an approximate total of 2,800 acres of WMA and SOA waterfowl habitat.

WFF is accomplishing the work in partnership with Ducks Unlimited (DU). DU is providing the 25% matching funds for the projects to leverage WFF's funding provided to Alabama by the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Program, administered through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, to cover the remaining 75%. This

priority list includes 10 projects covering the State and will apply approximately \$2 million dollars into restoration, enhancement, and development of priority waterfowl habitat over the next several years. The work will allow our biologists to better control optimal water levels in waterfowl impoundments, better control of invasive plants, increase waterfowl food production, and improve hunter access.

Projects include a wide range of activities including the installation of new pumps and water control structures in waterfowl impoundments, mulching of undesired vegetation in greentree reservoirs, removal of invasive exotic vegetation, adding waterfowl hunt opportunities to an existing SOA and the creation of a new waterfowl SOA in Jackson County, The Big Coon Creek SOA. For more information on waterfowl hunting opportunities on the WMAs or SOAs or on the partnership waterfowl enhancement projects, visit: Waterfowl Hunting in Alabama | Outdoor Alabama (outdooralabama.com/what-hunt/waterfowl-hunting-alabama).

NATIONAL WHITETAIL WARRIOR PROJECT, INC.
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VETERANS

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Alabama

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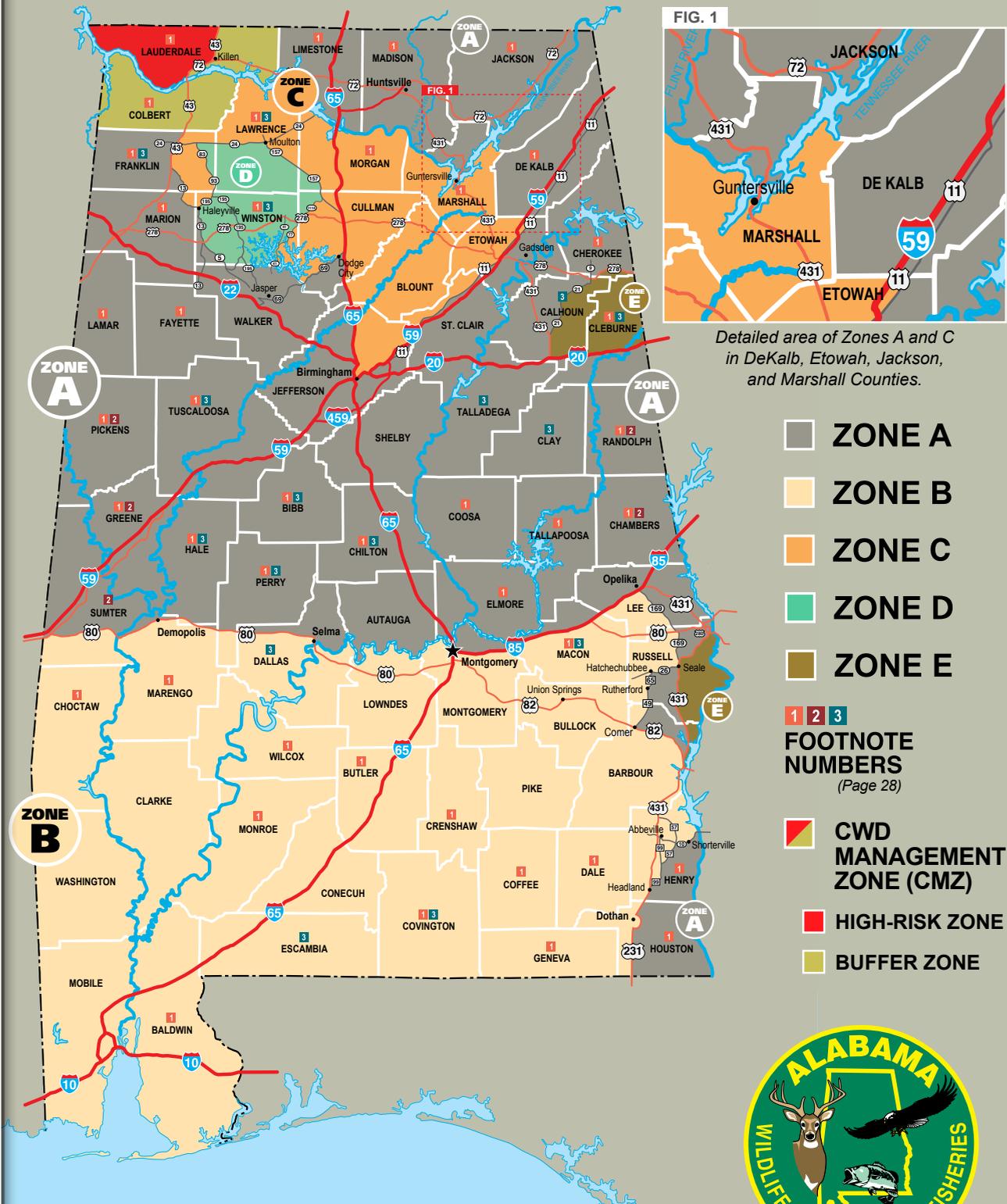


In the past year, the Alabama State and Local Chapters spent \$561,456 on mission delivery projects.

- 15 Landowner Workshops / Field Days
- Supporting Sponsor of the Avid Turkey Hunter Survey
- Provided landowner technical assistance and habitat support with the seed subsidy program
- R3 Coordinator for leading hunter Recruitment, Retention, and Reactivation efforts for Alabama
- Complete 5 year agreement with the United States Forest Service on the Talladega NF impacting over 6,000 acres
- Completed 3 year agreement with the Natural Resources Conservation Service geared toward Shortleaf Pine Management
- Invested over \$70,000 in education, outreach and scholarships.

www.nwtf.org/Alabama

2022-2023 Deer Season Zone Map



Revised 06/23/2022

CHRONIC WASTING DISEASE MANAGEMENT ZONE (CMZ)			
Bow and Arrow-Stalk Hunting		October 15, 2022 - February 10, 2023	Either Sex
Special Youth Gun		November 11-14, 2022	Either Sex
Special Muzzleloader and Air Rifle	Privately Owned or Leased Land and USFS Stalk Hunting Only (No Dogs)	November 14-18, 2022	Either Sex
Gun Deer-Stalk Hunting	On Privately Owned or Leased Land Only	November 19, 2022 - February 10, 2023	Either Sex
	On Open Permit Public Land	November 19 - December 9, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		December 10, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
		January 2 - February 10, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only
Gun Deer-Dog Deer Hunting	On Privately Owned or Leased Land Only	November 19, 2022 - January 15, 2023	Either Sex
	On Open Permit Public Lands Where Allowed	November 19 - December 9, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		December 10, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
		January 2-15, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only
ZONE A			
Bow and Arrow-Stalk Hunting		October 15, 2022 - February 10, 2023	Either Sex
Special Youth Gun		November 11-14, 2022	Either Sex
Special Muzzleloader and Air Rifle	Privately Owned or Leased Land and USFS Stalk Hunting Only (No Dogs)	November 14-18, 2022	Either Sex
Gun Deer-Stalk Hunting	On Privately Owned or Leased Land Only	November 19, 2022 - February 10, 2023	Either Sex
	On Open Permit Public Land	November 19 - December 9, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		December 10, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
		January 2 - February 10, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only
Gun Deer-Dog Deer Hunting	On Privately Owned or Leased Land Only	November 19, 2022 - January 15, 2023	Either Sex
	On Open Permit Public Lands Where Allowed	November 19 - December 9, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		December 10, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
		January 2-15, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only
ZONE B			
Bow and Arrow-Stalk Hunting		October 15-24, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		October 25, 2022 - February 10, 2023	Either Sex
Special Youth Gun		November 11-14, 2022	Either Sex
Special Muzzleloader and Air Rifle	Privately Owned or Leased Land and USFS Stalk Hunting Only (No Dogs)	November 14-18, 2022	Either Sex
Gun Deer-Stalk Hunting	On Privately Owned or Leased Land Only	November 19, 2022 - February 10, 2023	Either Sex
	On Open Permit Public Land	November 19 - December 9, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		December 10, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
		January 2 - February 10, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only
Gun Deer-Dog Deer Hunting	On Privately Owned or Leased Land Only	November 19, 2022 - January 15, 2023	Either Sex
	On Open Permit Public Lands Where Allowed	November 19 - December 9, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		December 10, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
		January 2-15, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only
ZONE C			
Bow and Arrow-Stalk Hunting		October 15, 2022 - February 10, 2023	Either Sex
Special Youth Gun		November 11-14, 2022	Either Sex
Special Muzzleloader and Air Rifle	Privately Owned or Leased Land and USFS Stalk Hunting Only (No Dogs)	November 14-18, 2022	Either Sex
Gun Deer-Stalk Hunting	On Privately Owned or Leased Land Only	November 19-27, 2022	Either Sex
		November 28 - December 16, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		December 17, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
		January 2 - February 10, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only
	On Open Permit Public Land	November 19 - December 16, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		December 17, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
Gun Deer-Dog Deer Hunting		January 2 - February 10, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only
	On Privately Owned or Leased Land Only	November 19-27, 2022	Either Sex
		November 28 - December 16, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		December 17, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
		January 2-15, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only
	On Open Permit Public Lands Where Allowed	November 19 - December 16, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		December 17, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
	January 2-15, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only	



ZONE D			
Bow and Arrow-Stalk Hunting		October 1, 2022 - January 15, 2023	Either Sex
		January 16-27, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only
Special Youth Gun		October 28-31, 2022	Either Sex
Special Muzzleloader and Air Rifle	Privately Owned or Leased Land and USFS Stalk Hunting Only (No Dogs)	October 31 - November 4, 2022	Either Sex
Gun Deer-Stalk Hunting	On Privately Owned or Leased Land Only	November 5 - 18, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		November 19-27, 2022	Either Sex
		November 28 - December 16, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
	On Open Permit Public Land	December 17, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
		January 2-27, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only
		November 5 - December 16, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		December 17, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
Gun Deer-Dog Deer Hunting	On Privately Owned or Leased Land Only	November 5-18, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		November 19-27, 2022	Either Sex
		November 28 - December 16, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
	On Open Permit Public Lands Where Allowed	December 17, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
		November 5 - December 16, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		December 17, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
ZONE E			
Bow and Arrow-Stalk Hunting		October 1, 2022 - January 15, 2023	Either Sex
		January 16-27, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only
Special Youth Gun		October 28-31, 2022	Either Sex
Special Muzzleloader and Air Rifle	Privately Owned or Leased Land and USFS Stalk Hunting Only (No Dogs)	October 31 - November 4, 2022	Either Sex
Gun Deer-Stalk Hunting	On Privately Owned or Leased Land Only	November 5, 2022 - January 15, 2023	Either Sex
		January 16-27, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only
	On Open Permit Public Land	November 5 - December 16, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		December 17, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
Gun Deer-Dog Deer Hunting	On Privately Owned or Leased Land Only	January 2-27, 2023	Antlered Bucks Only
		November 5, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex
	On Open Permit Public Lands Where Allowed	November 5 - December 16, 2022	Antlered Bucks Only
		December 17, 2022 - January 1, 2023	Either Sex

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ZONE A (see map): Those areas with the following boundaries: beginning at the intersection of the Alabama/Mississippi state line and US Hwy. 80 (Sumter County), east along US Hwy. 80 to the US Hwy. 80 Bypass in Selma (Dallas County); east along US Hwy 80 Bypass to the Alabama River; east along the Alabama River to I-65; south along I-65 to the intersection with I-85; north along I-85 to AL Hwy. 169 (Exit 60 – Lee County); south along AL Hwy. 169 to AL Hwy. 1/US Hwy. 431; south along AL Hwy. 1/US Hwy. 431 to AL Hwy. 26; west along AL Hwy. 26 to Russell County Road 65; south along Russell County Road 65 to Russell County Road 4; west along Russell County Road 4 to Russell County Road 49; south along Russell County Road 49 to US Hwy. 82; east along US Hwy. 82 to the Chattahoochee River; south along the Chattahoochee River to AL Hwy. 10; west along AL Hwy. 10 to Henry County Road 57; south along Henry County Road 57 to Henry County Road 99; south along Henry County Road 99 to US Hwy. 431; south along US Hwy. 431 to Ross Clark Circle (bypass around Dothan); east along Ross Clark Circle to US Hwy. 231; south along US Hwy. 231 to the Alabama/Florida state line; east along the Alabama/Florida state line to the Chattahoochee River; north along the Chattahoochee River to US Hwy. 82; west along US Hwy. 82 to US Hwy. 431; north along US Hwy. 431 to US Hwy. 280; east along US Hwy. 280 to Alabama/Georgia state line; north along Alabama/Georgia state line to I-20; west along I-20 to AL Hwy. 21; north along AL Hwy. 21 to US Hwy. 278; east along US Hwy 278 to the Alabama/Georgia state line; north along the Alabama/Georgia state line to the Alabama/Tennessee state line; west along the Alabama/Tennessee state line to the Lauderdale County/Limestone County line; south along the Lauderdale County/Limestone County line to the Tennessee River; west along the Tennessee River to the Colbert County/

Lawrence County line; south along the Colbert County/Lawrence County line to the Colbert County/Franklin County line; west along the Colbert County/Franklin County line to the Alabama/Mississippi state line; south along the Alabama/Mississippi state line ending at US Hwy. 80 (Sumter County). **Excludes Zones C, D, and E descriptions below.**

ZONE B (see map): Those areas south or west of a line described as: beginning at the intersection of the Mississippi state line and US Hwy. 80 (Sumter County), east along US Hwy. 80 to the US Hwy. 80 Bypass in Selma (Dallas County); east along US Hwy. 80 Bypass to the Alabama River; east along the Alabama River to I-65; south along I-65 to the intersection with I-85; north along I-85 to AL Hwy. 169 (Exit 60 – Lee County); south along AL Hwy. 169 to AL Hwy. 1/US Hwy. 431; south along AL Hwy. 1/US Hwy. 431 to AL Hwy. 26; west along AL Hwy. 26 to Russell County Road 65; south along Russell County Road 65 to Russell County Road 4; west along Russell County Road 4 to Russell County Road 49; south along Russell County Road 49 to US Hwy. 82; east along US Hwy. 82 to US Hwy. 431; south along US Hwy. 431 to US Hwy. 82; east along US Hwy. 82 to the Chattahoochee River; south along the Chattahoochee River to AL Hwy. 10; west along AL Hwy. 10 to Henry County Road 57; south along Henry County Road 57 to Henry County Road 99; south along Henry County Road 99 to US Hwy. 431; south along US Hwy. 431 to Ross Clark Circle (bypass around Dothan); east along Ross Clark Circle to US Hwy. 231; south along US Hwy. 231 to the Alabama/Florida state line; west along the Alabama/Florida state line to the Alabama/Mississippi state line, north along the Alabama/Mississippi state line ending at US Hwy. 80 (Sumter County). **Excludes Zone E description below.**

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ZONE C (see map): Those areas of Blount, Cullman, Etowah, Jefferson, Lawrence, Morgan, Marshall, St. Clair, Walker, and Winston Counties with the following boundaries: beginning at the Colbert County/Franklin County line on US Hwy. 43/13, south along US Hwy. 43/13 to Spruce Pine (Franklin County); south along AL Hwy. 13 to AL Hwy. 195 in Haleyville (Winston County); north along AL Hwy. 195 to Winston County Road 93; north along Winston County Road 93 to Franklin County Road 93; north along Franklin County Road 93 to Franklin County Road 81; north along Franklin County Road 81 to Franklin County Road 83; north along Franklin County Road 83 to AL Hwy. 24; east along Alabama Hwy. 24 to intersection with AL Hwy. 157 in Moulton (Lawrence County); south along AL Hwy. 157 to Cullman County Road 1114; south along Cullman County Road 1114 to US Hwy. 278 in Jones Chapel (Cullman County); west along US Hwy. 278 to Helicon Road (Winston County Road 77); south along Helicon Road (Winston County Road 77) to Winston County Road 41 in Arley (Winston County); south along Winston County Road 41 to the Sipsey Fork; south along the Sipsey Fork to US Hwy. 69; north along US Hwy. 69 to I-65; south along I-65 to I-59; north along I-59 to US Hwy. 11; north along US Hwy. 11 to Etowah County/Dekalb County line; west along Etowah County/Dekalb County line to Dekalb County/Marshall County line; north along Dekalb County/Marshall County line to Marshall County/Jackson County line, north along Marshall County/Jackson County line to Tennessee River; west along Tennessee River to the Colbert County/Lawrence County line; south along the Colbert County/Lawrence County line to the Colbert County/Franklin County line; west along the Colbert County/Franklin County line ending at US Hwy. 43/13. **Excludes Zone D description below.**

ZONED (see map): Those areas of Cullman, Franklin, Lawrence, Morgan and Winston Counties with the following boundaries: beginning at the intersection of AL Hwy. 157 and AL Hwy. 24 in Moulton (Lawrence County); south along AL Hwy. 157 to Cullman County Road 1114; south along Cullman County Road 1114 to US Hwy. 278 in Jones Chapel (Cullman County); west along US Hwy. 278 to Helicon Road (Winston County Road 77); west along Helicon Road (Winston County Road 77) to Winston County Road 41 in Arley (Winston County); south along Winston County Road 41 to the Sipsey Fork; south along the Sipsey Fork to the Winston County/Walker County line; west along the Winston County/Walker County line to AL Hwy. 5; north along AL Hwy. 5 to AL Hwy. 13 at Natural Bridge (Winston County); north along AL Hwy. 13 to AL Hwy. 195 in Haleyville (Winston County); north along AL Hwy. 195 to Winston County Road 93; north along Winston County Road 93 to Franklin County Road 93; north along Franklin County Road 93 to Franklin County Road 81; north along Franklin County Road 81 to Franklin County Road 83; north along Franklin County Road 83 to AL Hwy. 24; east along AL Hwy. 24 ending at intersection with AL Hwy. 157 in Moulton (Lawrence County).

ZONE E (see map): Those areas of Barbour and Russell Counties with the following boundaries: beginning at the intersection of US Hwy. 82 and US Hwy. 431 in Eufaula (Barbour County), north along US Hwy. 431 to US Hwy. 280; east along US Hwy. 280 to the Chattahoochee River; south along the Chattahoochee River to US Hwy. 82; west along US Hwy. 82 ending at intersection with US Hwy. 431 (Barbour County); and those areas of Calhoun, Cherokee, and Cleburne Counties with the following boundaries: beginning at the intersection of I-20 and AL Hwy.

21 (Calhoun County); north along AL Hwy. 21 to AL Hwy. 9 in Piedmont (Calhoun County); north along AL Hwy. 9 to US Hwy. 278; east along US Hwy. 278 to the Alabama/Georgia state line; south along the Alabama/Georgia state line to I-20; west along I-20 ending at intersection with AL Hwy. 21 (Calhoun County).

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Management Zone (see map): The CWD Management Zone (CMZ) includes all of Lauderdale and Colbert Counties.

Within the CMZ, the High-Risk Zone (HRZ) includes the portion of Lauderdale County with the following boundaries: beginning at the intersection of the Tennessee River and the Alabama/Mississippi State line, north along the Alabama/Mississippi State line to the Alabama/Tennessee State line; east along the Alabama/Tennessee State line to US Hwy. 43; south along US Hwy. 43 to the Tennessee River; west along the Tennessee River ending at the Alabama/Mississippi State line.

Within the CMZ, the Buffer Zone (BZ) includes those portions of Lauderdale and Colbert Counties with the following boundaries: beginning at the intersection of the Tennessee River and the Alabama/Mississippi State line, south along the Alabama/Mississippi State line to the Colbert County/Franklin County line; east along the Colbert County/Franklin County line to the Colbert County/Lawrence County line; north along the Colbert County/Lawrence County line to the Tennessee River; east along the Tennessee River to the Lauderdale County/Limestone County line; north along the Lauderdale County/Limestone County line to the Alabama/Tennessee State line; west along the Alabama/Tennessee State line to US Hwy. 43; south along US Hwy. 43 to the Tennessee River; west along the Tennessee River ending at the Alabama/Mississippi State line.



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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 west of US Hwy. 43); **Coosa; Covington** (north of US Hwy. 84); **Elmore** (that area inside the following boundaries: from the Coosa County/Elmore County line at the east bank of Lake Jordan, to 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).

By Stalk Hunting Only, (No Dogs): Bibb and Perry: (that area inside the following boundaries: east of AL Hwy. 219, 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. 460, 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 AL Hwy. 10 and that area inside the following boundaries, from the east city limit of Luverne, 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. 331, US Hwy. 331 north to County Rd. 41, County Rd. 41 north to County Rd. 39, County Rd. 39 north to the Luverne city limit); **Dale** (that area inside the following boundaries: Judy Creek south to Dale County Rd. 36, east to AL Hwy. 27, north to the Henry County line, north to the Barbour County line, west to Judy Creek); **DeKalb; Elmore** (that area inside the following boundaries: east of US Hwy. 231, south of AL Hwy. 14, west of Tumkeehatchee Creek and north of the Tallapoosa River); **Fayette** (that area inside the following boundaries: west of US Hwy 43 and north of AL Hwy. 18); **Franklin; Hale and Perry:** (that area inside the following boundaries: from County Rd. 32 at the Hale County Line, west to the intersection of AL Hwy. 25, AL Hwy. 25 north until it intersects with the Talladega National Forest boundary, following the boundary south until it intersects the Perry County line, following the National Forest boundary east to Perry County Rd. 23, south to the intersection of Perry County Rd. 29, south to the Spring Hill Church Road, Spring Hill Church Road west to the junction of Perry County Rd. 23 and AL Hwy. 14, west to the Hale County line); **Greene; Pickens;** and **Tuscaloosa:** (that area inside the following boundaries: in Pickens County from the intersection of US Hwy. 82 and County Rd. 63, south on County Rd. 63 to Benevola, County Rd. 2 (commonly known as the Romulus Road) east through Greene County to US Hwy. 82 in Tuscaloosa County); **Houston; Jackson; Lamar; Lauderdale; Lawrence; Limestone; Madison; Marion; Marshall; Morgan; Randolph; Tuscaloosa** (that area north of US Hwy. 82); and **Winston** (that area east of AL Hwy. 5 from the Walker County line to Natural Bridge and all that area north of US Hwy. 278).

2 U.S. CORP OF ENGINEERS LANDS:

On U.S. Army Corp of Engineers (USACE) Lands in Alabama, the special muzzle-loader, 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 District website at: <https://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Recreation/Hunting/>.

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 24 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.

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.



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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 to hunt using laser sights, attachments and light sources to project a beam forward of a gun or bow, except those who possess a current nighttime feral swine and coyote license, hunting those species during dates of the established special nighttime feral swine and coyote season or for legally blind hunters (220-2-.11), 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, except during the special nighttime feral swine and coyote hunting season with valid license. 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.
- 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.
- Spear or sharpened blade.

BULLFROG AND PIG FROG

- Air powered rifles .25 caliber or smaller.
- Gig or spear.
- Long bows, compound bows, or crossbows.
- Hand or dip net.

OTHER GAME BIRDS OR ANIMALS

- Rifles using rimfire ammunition or those operated by air.
- Muzzleloaders and black powder handguns of any caliber.
- Long bows, compound bows, or crossbows.
- Shotguns, 10 gauge or smaller, using standard No. 4 shot or smaller.
- Handguns or pistols.
- Blowguns using darts propelled by the hunter's breath only.
- Sling shots.

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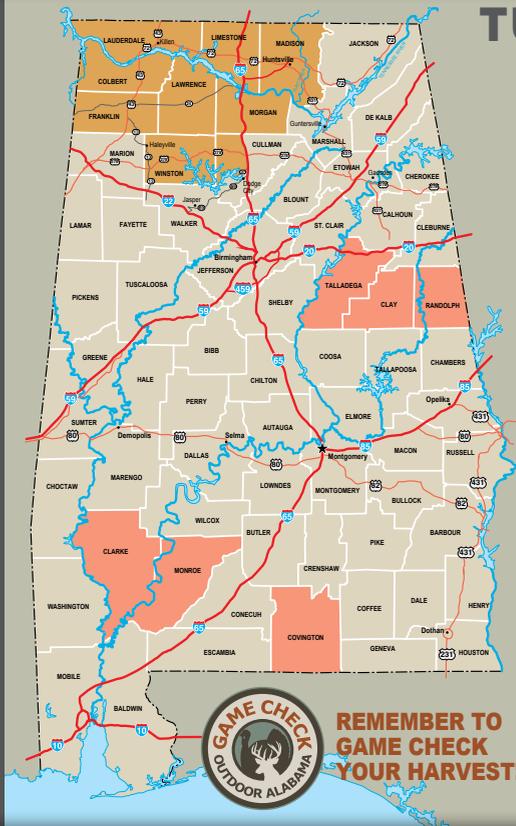
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Alabama Turkey Hunting Season Dates



TURKEY SEASON ZONES

- ZONE 1** MARCH 25 – MAY 8 (DECOYS ALLOWED APRIL 4)
- ZONE 2** APRIL 1 – MAY 8 (DECOYS ALLOWED APRIL 11)
- ZONE 3** NOVEMBER 19-27 (NO DECOYS ALLOWED)
DECEMBER 10 – JANUARY 1 (NO DECOYS ALLOWED)
MARCH 25 – MAY 8 (DECOYS ALLOWED APRIL 4)

GOBBLERS ONLY

One gobbler per day, four gobbler bag limit during combined fall and spring season.

SPECIAL YOUTH HUNT (DECOYS ALLOWED)

Saturday & Sunday the week prior to opening of spring season.

SPECIAL DISABLED HUNT (DECOYS ALLOWED)

One day prior to all regular season opening days. Participants must meet medical requirements of regulation 220-2-.109(2)(d).

WMA and U.S. Forest Service Ranger Districts

Bankhead Ranger District; WMAs - Lauderdale, Freedom Hills, Black Warrior, Coon Gulf, Riverton CHA and Martin CHA: April 8 - May 8 (daylight - 1 p.m.)

REMAINDER OF NATIONAL FORESTS DISTRICTS (Talladega Ranger District, Shoal Creek Ranger District, Oakmulgee Ranger District, Tuskegee Ranger District and Conecuh Ranger District) and WMAs THAT ALLOW TURKEY HUNTING: April 1 - May 8 (daylight - 1 p.m.)

BAG LIMIT

- One gobbler per day; four gobbler bag limit during combined fall and spring season.
- No more than two gobblers from any one WMA, CHA, or National Forest Ranger District
- No more than one gobbler during the first 10 days of each season from each WMA, CHA and National Forest Ranger District



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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 3**
- One-half hour before Sunrise until Sunset (All Day) **September 4 – October 23**
- One-half hour before Sunrise until Sunset (All Day) **November 19 – November 27**
- One-half hour before Sunrise until Sunset (All Day) **December 17 – January 15**

SOUTH ZONE

Baldwin; 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 10**
- One-half hour before Sunrise until Sunset (All Day) **September 11 – October 30**
- One-half hour before Sunrise until Sunset (All Day) **November 19 – November 27**
- One-half hour before Sunrise until Sunset (All Day) **December 17 – January 15**

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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.

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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- 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.

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.

BOBWHITE QUAIL

November 5 – February 28

- 8 a day — 8 in possession
- Closed on the Bankhead National Forest

RABBIT

September 10 – March 5

- 8 a day — 8 in possession

SQUIRREL

September 10 – March 5

- 8 a day — 8 in possession
- Fox squirrel closed on the Bankhead National Forest

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
- No running of dogs on open-permit lands during daytime or after 3:00 am during spring turkey season.

OPOSSUM AND FOX

No Closed Season

- May be hunted daytime or nighttime hours
- No Bag Limit
- No running of dogs on open-permit lands during daytime or after 3:00 am during spring turkey season.
- Fox — nighttime hours with dogs only. See page 34 for trapping information.

BEAR, MOUNTAIN LION AND RUFFED GROUSE

No Open Season

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.

BOBCAT^(1,3), COYOTE⁽²⁾, FOX AND FERAL SWINE⁽²⁾: (Daytime Hours Only)

No Bag Limit

No Closed Season

See page 51 for legal hunting hours.

1. Bobcat - See tagging requirement (above).
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
3. Bobcat – See page 34 for trapping information.
4. No running of dogs on open-permit lands during daytime or after 3:00 am during spring turkey season.

FERAL SWINE (2023): (PRIVATELY OWNED AND LEASED LANDS ONLY) (DOGS ONLY)

Special Nighttime Season

May 16 – August 31

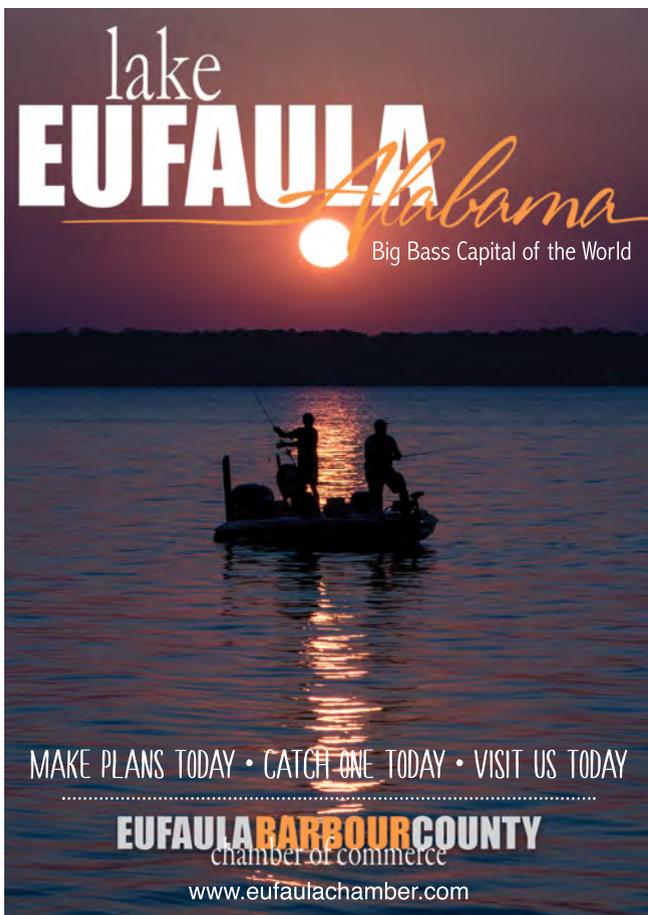
- No Bag Limit
- Dogs only – no firearms allowed.

FERAL SWINE AND COYOTE: (PRIVATELY OWNED AND LEASED LANDS ONLY)

Special Nighttime Season

February 11 – November 1

- No Bag Limit
- Must have a valid annual resident or nonresident nighttime feral swine and coyote hunting license (See pages 42-43).**



BEAVER, NUTRIA AND GROUNDHOG

No Closed Season

- No Bag Limit — Daylight Hours Only

STARLING, CROW AND HOUSE SPARROW

No Closed Season

- No Bag Limit — Daylight Hours Only

WOODCOCK

December 16 – January 29

- 3 a day
- Shooting Hours: One-half hour before Sunrise to Sunset.

SNIPE

November 12 – February 26

- 8 a day
- Shooting Hours: One-half hour before Sunrise to Sunset.

ALLIGATOR

- **By Limited Quota Permit Only**
- Must apply on-line at www.outdooralabama.com beginning at 8:00 am on the first Tuesday in June and ending at 8:00 am on the second Wednesday of July.
- Must be Alabama Resident or lifetime license holder to register.

Sunset on the 2nd Thursday in August – Sunrise on the Sunday immediately following the 2nd Thursday in August Sunset on the 3rd Thursday in August – Sunrise on the Sunday immediately following the 3rd Thursday in August

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

Sunset on the 2nd Saturday in August – Sunrise on the 1st Sunday of September

- **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 on the Friday preceding the 3rd Saturday in August – Sunrise on the Monday immediately following the 1st Sunday in October

- **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 19 and February 4

- **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.

CLAPPER RAIL, KING RAIL, VIRGINIA RAIL, SORA AND GALLINULE

September 10 – September 25

November 26 – January 18

- **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.

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CONCEAL CARRY * WESTERN * HUNTING AND PRIMITIVE MUZZLE-LOADERS * OLD MILITARY WESTERN CLOTHING BY SCULLY & KAYLEE, HISTORICAL REGALIA AND GREAT GIFTS IDEAS FOR ALL.

ON THE INTERNET: www.OldSouthFirearms.com AND VISIT US IN OUR STORE at 425 Argo Margaret Road in Argo, AL; located just .8 miles off of Interstate 59 at the 148 Argo exit. See Google Maps



SPECIAL TEAL SEASON

September 10 – September 25

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

DUCK, COOT AND MERGANSER

November 25 – November 26

December 3 – January 29

- **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.

GEESE

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

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.

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.

ALL GEESE:

September 3 – October 2

October 15 – October 29

November 25 – November 26

December 3 – January 29

DARK GEESE (CANADA, WHITE-FRONTED, BRANT)

- The aggregate bag limit shall be 5 a day.

LIGHT GEESE (SNOW, BLUE, ROSS'S)

- The aggregate bag limit shall be 5 a day.

SANDHILL CRANE:

DECEMBER 3 – JANUARY 8

JANUARY 16 – 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 29 – February 28

BEAVER, COYOTE, NUTRIA, FERAL SWINE, RACCOON AND OPOSSUM

No Closed Season

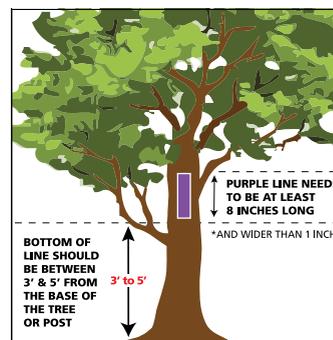
Note: Permit may be obtained through your local district office for the trapping of nuisance furbearers outside the dates of trapping season.

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.

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.

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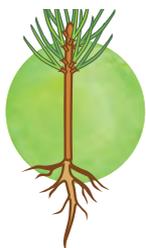
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910.512.1743

Swainsboro, GA
478.455.0808

ALABAMA DEER MANAGEMENT ASSISTANCE PROGRAM



If you are a landowner or lease land for deer hunting and in need of technical assistance in managing your deer herd, the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF) is here to assist with our Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP). The DMAP was implemented to assist landowners and hunting clubs with managing deer herds on their property. Wildlife biologists from WFF can provide DMAP Cooperators with assistance in designing deer harvest recommendations and habitat management programs to help achieve their deer management goals.

While the turn of the century represented all-time lows for deer numbers, aggressive stocking efforts conducted statewide by WFF assisted in their quick rebound. By the early 1980's, deer populations had exploded in many portions of Alabama. Either-sex gun deer seasons during this time were very short in nearly all counties, with most having only 2 or 11 days to harvest antlerless deer during the long gun deer season with some counties having no days of either-sex hunting during the gun season. The need for more options to harvest does was widespread and became the driving force behind the formation of DMAP in Alabama.

Alabama's DMAP started as a pilot program prior to the 1984-85 hunting season using only 10 Cooperators from around the state. It was made available to the public prior to the 1985-86 hunting

season and was an immediate success. DMAP allowed cooperators to harvest antlerless deer throughout the gun deer season. This flexibility made meeting the doe harvest goals prescribed by the wildlife biologists much more likely. Participation quickly grew, with more than 1,500 Cooperators enrolled in the program by 1992. The number continued to climb until 1998 when it peaked at 2,070.

Beginning with the 1998-99 hunting season, the length of either-sex gun deer seasons was substantially liberalized in most counties. This provided landowners and hunting clubs more options including additional days for harvesting does to better manage their herds and less dependence on DMAP for their antlerless harvest. As a result, participation in the DMAP began to decline in those counties. Approximately 150 Cooperators currently participate in DMAP.

To participate in DMAP, cooperators first must submit data from deer harvested on their property, a map of their property, and a DMAP application. Once enrolled in the program, a biologist is assigned to work with each Cooperator. The biologist typically makes an onsite visit with each cooperator to assess the property to be managed and discuss the Cooperator's long-term deer management goals.

The collection of deer harvest data is a requirement and essential for a successful DMAP cooperator and must continue each season. Data includes sex, body weight, jawbone, antler measurements for bucks, and lactation status of does. Cooperators also may submit hunter observation data taken while in the field. Most importantly, a lower jawbone must be taken from each deer so its age can be estimated by the wildlife biologist. Using these data, as well as the information gathered from meeting with the cooperator and touring the property, the biologist develops site-specific deer management recommendations. These usually include recommendations on the number and age of bucks and antlerless deer to be harvested, but can also include habitat management recommendations, advice for improving hunting success and deer sightings, or one of many other aspects of deer and wildlife management.

Participation in DMAP is free. To learn more about the program and discuss deer management options and schedule a site visit with a WFF wildlife biologist, visit Deer Management Assistance Program | Outdoor Alabama (outdooralabama.com/wildlife-management-programs/deer-management-assistance-program).



ALABAMA WILDLIFE AND FRESHWATER FISHERIES DIVISION

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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 52 for exemptions. Licenses must be in possession while hunting or fishing. A deer and turkey harvest record (either paper or app form)

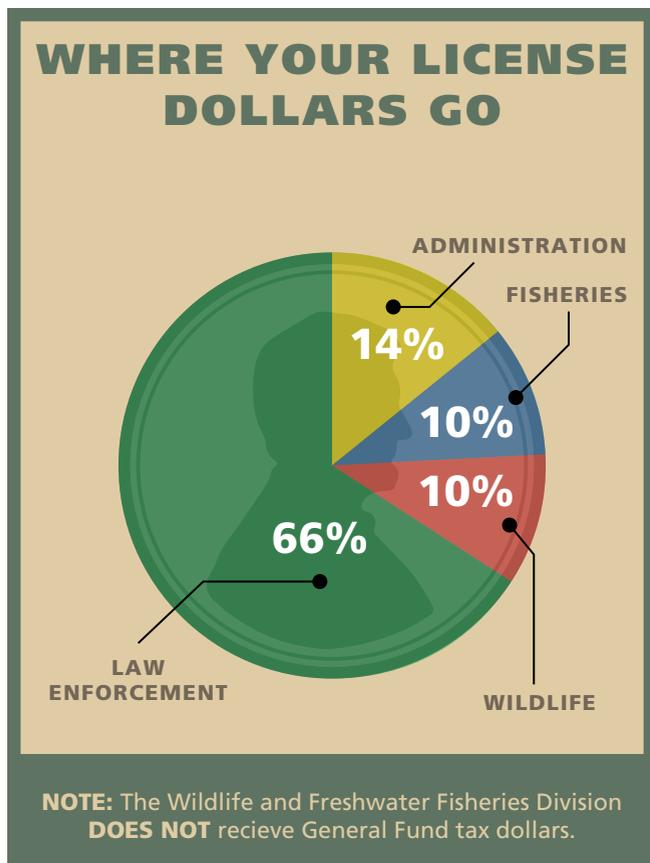
must be in possession every time a person is hunting deer or turkey. It is unlawful to utilize or possess more than one harvest record.

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.wfllicense@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).

Renewing your Hunting and Fishing License has never been easier. Visit www.outdooralabama.com/renew.



NEW!

AUTO RENEW

ON SELECTED RECREATIONAL HUNTING & FISHING LICENSES

When purchasing your next license you can:

- click yes to enroll in auto-renewal
- go to outdooralabama.com, select purchase a license and 'sign-in' to your profile

You can now update your profile to:

- add or delete licenses to be renewed
- update your contact information such as address, email, etc.

Reminders will be emailed prior to the renewals.

www.OutdoorAlabama.com

WHO NEEDS A LICENSE?

Residency is initially determined by Driver's License State of Issuance.

YOU ARE...	RESIDENT	NONRESIDENT
AGE	16-64	16+
HUNTING ON LAND YOU OWN	No	Purchase of non-resident license required
FISHING FROM THE BANK (PUBLIC WATERS) WITH A HOOK & LINE IN THE COUNTY YOU LIVE IN	No	N/A
MILITARY STATIONED IN ALABAMA	Yes	Stationed in Alabama (30 days or more) may purchase resident license
MILITARY VISITING ALABAMA	Home on leave — No license required (must have copy of leave papers and an AL driver's license)	Purchase of nonresident license required

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. Bait Privilege License are required when hunting deer or feral swine over bait. Management Area License and Permit are required when hunting deer or turkey on a wildlife management area.) See *Hunter Education* on page 52.

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.

NEED TO RENEW YOUR ALABAMA HUNTING AND FISHING LICENSE?

It's now easier and faster to renew your license online.

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www.myoutdooralabama.com

You can use your **birthday** with your **driver's license** and **social security number** or your **CID#** and you will be on your way to renewing your license.

You will see a list of your previous licenses – select the one to renew.

Make sure to verify and update your information as needed, enter your payment information and print your license...

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Tournaments
and great attractions:
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LEARN TO SHOOT!



4-hour outdoor firearm training sessions. Classes are taught by Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division Law Enforcement Firearms Instructors across the state.

This class is perfect for those ages 16+ who want to learn more about handgun safety and marksmanship in a low stress friendly environment.

- Safe handling and storage
- The parts of semi-auto pistols and revolvers
- Marksmanship
- Live fire on paper and steel targets
- Firearms, ammunition, and safety gear provided free of charge

There is no tuition fee for this course, participants will only need a Wildlife Heritage License (\$12.40) to attend. This license will allow you to use this and all other Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division ranges across the state.

These licenses may be purchased online ahead of time at outdooralabama.com, local probate offices, and many sporting goods stores.



REGISTER AND LEARN MORE ONLINE TODAY!

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OUTDOORALABAMA.COM/FIREARMS-101





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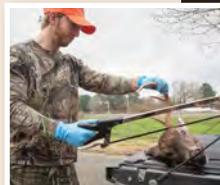
CWD SAMPLE COLLECTION STATIONS

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 9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023 (unless otherwise indicated)

CATEGORY	LICENSE TYPE	DESCRIPTION/INFO	FEE
HUNTING LICENSE <small>** Hunter Education required if license buyer is born on or after August 1, 1977. Hunting license buyers have the option to hunt under the 'supervision required' status in lieu of passing the hunter education course. (see page 52)</small>	State: All Game*	Valid for all legal game, to include deer and turkey. Includes privileges of Wildlife Heritage License.	\$30.25
	State: Small Game*	Valid for all legal game, except deer and turkey. Includes privileges of Wildlife Heritage License.	\$20.05
BAIT PRIVILEGE LICENSE	Annual	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.	\$16.35
NIGHTTIME FERAL SWINE AND COYOTE HUNTING LICENSE	Annual	Allows hunting of feral swine and coyote at night on private or leased lands during special season. Any 100% disabled hunting license holders pay \$1.05. Bait license required if hunting feral swine over bait. Required of all ages, NO EXEMPTIONS	\$15.90
PHYSICALLY DISABLED HUNTING LICENSE	Annual All Game (totally disabled)	Present certification of permanent disability benefit to your local Probate/License Commissioner Office for issuance. Includes privileges of Wildlife Heritage License.	\$6.70
50% PHYSICALLY DISABLED MILITARY VETERAN'S APPRECIATION HUNTING LICENSE	State: All Game	Present certification by the U.S. Veterans Administration to be 50% or more disabled to your local Probate/License Commissioner Office for issuance.	\$15.65
100% PHYSICALLY DISABLED MILITARY VETERAN'S APPRECIATION HUNTING LICENSE	State: All Game	Present certification by the U.S. Veterans Administration to be 100% disabled to your local Probate/License Commissioner Office for issuance.	\$3.30
PHYSICALLY DISABLED MILITARY VETERAN'S APPRECIATION 3-DAY HUNTING EVENT LICENSE	State: All Game	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.	\$152.55
GAME CHECK H.E.L.P. NUMBER	Annual	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.	N/C
WILDLIFE HERITAGE LICENSE	Annual	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, 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.	\$12.40
DUCK STAMPS	State	—	\$11.00
	Federal	Valid: 7/1/22 - 6/30/23.	\$28.00
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA LICENSE	Annual	Required for hunting big game (deer or turkey) and waterfowl on WMA, in addition to the appropriate hunting license and a WMA Permit (free). WMA shooting range users are required to have a valid hunting license, WMA License, or Wildlife Heritage License.	\$20.05
FUR CATCHERS LICENSE	Annual	90 day proof of residency required. Valid: 10/1/22 - 9/30/23	\$24.60
COMMERCIAL FOWL HUNTING PRESERVE LICENSE	7-Day	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.	\$10.00

For more information on resident licenses, see the notes on page 39. See page 44 for footnotes.

Outdoor ALABAMA

Where Memories Are Made!

2022-2023

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, waterfowl, freshwater fishing, saltwater fishing, and a special Second Amendment card for shooting sports enthusiasts.

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources | OutdoorAlabama.com

NONRESIDENT HUNTING LICENSES

Valid 9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023 (unless otherwise indicated)

CATEGORY	LICENSE TYPE	DESCRIPTION/INFO	FEES
HUNTING LICENSE <small>** Hunter Education required if license buyer is born on or after August 1, 1977. Hunting license buyers have the option to hunt under the 'supervision required' status in lieu of passing the hunter education course. (see page 52)</small>	All Game: Annual	Valid for all legal game, to include deer and turkey.	\$350.15
	All Game: 10-Day Trip	Valid for all legal game, to include deer and turkey. Valid for 240 consecutive hours.	\$216.20
	All Game: 3-Day Trip	Valid for all legal game, to include deer and turkey. Valid for 72 consecutive hours.	\$152.55
	Small Game: Annual	Valid for all legal game, except deer and turkey.	\$114.25
	Small Game: 10-Day Trip	Valid for all legal game, except deer and turkey. Valid for 240 consecutive hours.	\$69.60
	Small Game: 3-Day Trip	Valid for all legal game, except deer and turkey. Valid for 72 consecutive hours.	\$50.45
BAIT PRIVILEGE LICENSE	Annual	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.	\$55.70
NIGHTTIME FERAL SWINE AND COYOTE HUNTING LICENSE	Annual	Required for hunting feral swine and coyote at night on private or leased lands during special season. Required of all ages, NO EXEMPTIONS. Bait license required if hunting feral swine over bait.	\$54.15
PHYSICALLY DISABLED MILITARY VETERAN'S APPRECIATION 3-DAY HUNTING EVENT LICENSE	State: All Game	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.	\$152.55
GAME CHECK H.E.L.P. NUMBER	Annual	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.	N/C
DUCK STAMPS	State	—	\$11.00
	Federal	7/1/22 - 6/30/23.	\$28.00
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA LICENSE	Annual	Required for hunting on WMA's, in addition to the appropriate hunting license and WMA Permit (free). WMA shooting range users are required to have a valid hunting license or WMA License.	\$20.05
FUR CATCHERS LICENSE	Annual	Same as nonresident license in applicant's resident state, please call 334-242-3465. Valid: 10/1/22 - 9/30/23	Varies
COMMERCIAL FOWL HUNTING PRESERVE LICENSE	7-Day	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.	\$10.00

NOTE: Please see 'General Information for Hunting and Fishing Licenses' on page 38.

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Each feed time can vary
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Easy 4 wire hook up
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Road Feeder Unit with THE-ELIMINATOR



Control Box with attached Solar Panel & THE-ELIMINATOR

With over thirty years of experience in the feeder industry, West Texas Feeder Supply has the knowledge required to help meet all of your feeder needs. Our commitment to our customers is one of high quality merchandise, economical prices, and excellent service after the sale! We'll be there when you need us!

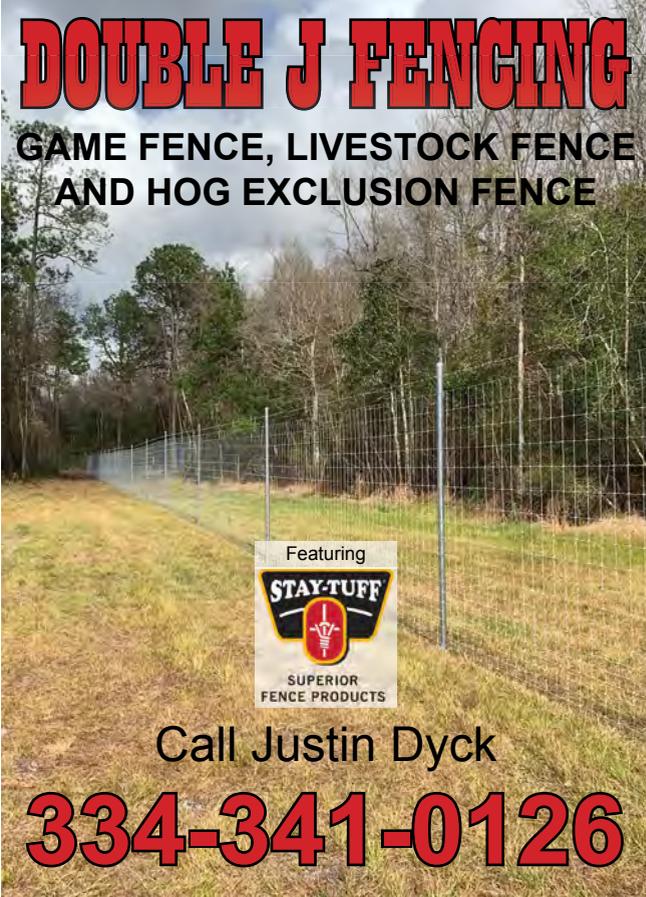
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RESIDENT FISHING LICENSES: Valid 9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023 (unless otherwise indicated)

CATEGORY	LICENSE TYPE	DESCRIPTION/INFO	FEE	
SPORT FISHING LICENSE	Freshwater: Annual*	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.	\$15.05
	Saltwater: Annual*		A SW Reef Fish Endorsement Privilege is also needed to fish gulf reef fish in saltwater.	\$26.50
	Saltwater: 7-Day Trip		Trip licenses are valid for 168 consecutive hours.	\$11.00
	Gulf Reef Fish Endorsement	Required for any resident 16 years of age and over to possess, take or attempt to take any gulf reef fish species listed in Rule 220-3-.46 (see www.outdooralabama.com/saltwater-fishing). NO EXEMPTIONS		\$10.00
PUBLIC FISHING LAKES DAILY FISHING LICENSE (SEE PAGE 74)	Public Fishing Lakes	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	\$6.85
PHYSICALLY DISABLED FRESHWATER FISHING 3-DAY EVENT LICENSE	Freshwater Trip	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.	—	\$100.00
	Saltwater Trip		—	\$100.00
DISABLED FISHING LICENSE	Freshwater Annual (totally disabled)	Present certification of permanent disability benefit to your local Probate/License Commissioner Office for issuance.	Includes privileges of Wildlife Heritage License.	\$3.20
	Saltwater Annual (totally disabled)	Present certification of permanent disability benefit to your local Probate/License Commissioner Office for issuance.	—	\$3.20
	Veterans Appreciation (20% disabled)	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.	\$3.30
			Saltwater	\$3.20
FRESHWATER COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE	Annual	12 month residency proof required. Required for use of any commercial gear. Valid: 10/1/22 - 9/30/23		\$100.00
	Retail Freshwater Fish Dealer	Required to sell commercial or nongame fish direct to the consumer. Valid: 10/1/22 - 9/30/23		\$11.00
	Wholesale Freshwater Fish Dealer	Required to sell commercial or nongame fish for resale. Valid: 10/1/22 - 9/30/23		\$26.00
FRESHWATER MUSSEL LICENSE	Catcher	12 month residency proof required. Valid: 10/1/22 - 9/30/23		\$251.00
	Dealer or Buyer	12 month residency proof required. Valid: 10/1/22 - 9/30/23		\$101.00
SPEAR FISHING LICENSE	Annual	Valid for fresh and saltwater. Must also have appropriate sportfishing license.		\$6.00

* 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.

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



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NONRESIDENT FISHING LICENSES: Valid 9/1/2022 - 8/31/2023 (unless otherwise indicated)

CATEGORY	LICENSE TYPE	DESCRIPTION/INFO		FEE
SPORT FISHING LICENSE	Freshwater: Annual	Required for nonresidents 16 years of age and older. Required in any public water regardless of tackle used. Special fishing license fees may apply to residents of Florida, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, & Tennessee.	—	\$58.15
	Freshwater: 7-Day Trip		Trip licenses are valid for 168 consecutive hours.	\$32.55
	Saltwater: Annual		A SW Reef Fish Endorsement Privilege is also needed to fish gulf reef fish in saltwater.	\$57.00
	Saltwater: 7-Day Trip		Trip licenses are valid for 168 consecutive hours.	\$31.40
	Gulf Reef Fish Endorsement		Required for any nonresident 16 years of age and over to possess, take or attempt to take any gulf reef fish species listed in Rule 220-3-.46 (see www.outdooralabama.com/saltwater-fishing). NO EXEMPTIONS	\$10.00
PUBLIC FISHING LAKES DAILY FISHING LICENSE (SEE PAGE 70)	Daily	In lieu of a regular fishing license, a nonresident may purchase to fish at many WFF Division owned Public Fishing Lakes. (Not valid in other public reservoirs, lakes and rivers.) In addition, daily or annual fishing permit still required (available at the lake).	Trip is valid for 1 day	\$8.00
	Annual		Expires August 31	\$13.95
FRESHWATER FISHING FAMILY TRIP LICENSE	Freshwater Trip	Allows nonresidents to add up to 4 additional immediate family (parents, spouse, children & grandchildren) to their Sport Fishing License. (License holder + 4 family members)	Trip is valid for 3 days	\$32.55
PHYSICALLY DISABLED FRESHWATER FISHING 3-DAY EVENT LICENSE	Freshwater Trip	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.	—	\$100.00
	Saltwater Trip		—	\$100.00
FRESHWATER COMMERCIAL FISHING LICENSE	Freshwater Commercial	Same as nonresident license in applicant's resident state, please call 334-242-3465. Valid: 10/1/22 - 9/30/23		Varies
	Retail Freshwater Fish Dealer	Required to sell commercial or nongame fish direct to the consumer. Valid: 10/1/22 - 9/30/23		\$11.00
	Wholesale Freshwater Fish Dealer	Required to sell commercial or nongame fish for resale. Valid: 10/1/22 - 9/30/23		\$26.00
FRESHWATER MUSSEL LICENSE	Catcher	Includes residents with less than 12 month residency proof. Valid: 10/1/22 - 9/30/23		\$751.00
	Dealer or Buyer	Includes residents with less than 12 month residency proof. Valid: 10/1/22 - 9/30/23		\$301.00
SPEAR FISHING LICENSE	Annual	Valid for fresh and saltwater. Must also have appropriate sportfishing license.		\$8.50
	7-day trip			\$3.50

NOTE: Please see 'General Information for Hunting and Fishing Licenses' on page 38.



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LIFETIME LICENSE APPLICATION

Prices valid through August 31, 2023

Name: _____ CID#: _____
 Social Security# _____ - _____ - _____ Driver's License #: _____
 Date of Birth: _____ Email: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____ County: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: Home (____) _____ - _____ Work (____) _____ - _____ Cell (____) _____ - _____
 Hunter Education ID Number/St: _____ Current Lifetime License # _____
(for upgrade or replacement)

Sex: Male
 Female
 Weight: _____
 Height: _____
 Race: _____
 Eyes: _____
 Hair: _____

License Privilege (by age)	Under 2	2-11	12-49	50 +	Upgrade
Hunting*	\$383.35	\$510.90	\$638.30	\$383.35	o
Freshwater Fishing*	\$192.05	\$255.85	\$319.65	\$192.05	o
Saltwater Fishing **	\$319.65	\$383.35	\$447.10	\$319.65	o
Hunting & Freshwater Fishing*	\$574.60	\$638.30	\$893.30	\$574.60	o
Hunting & Saltwater Fishing*	\$702.00	\$893.30	\$1,084.55	\$702.00	o
Freshwater & Saltwater Fishing*	\$510.90	\$638.30	\$765.80	\$510.90	o
Hunting, Fresh & Saltwater Fishing*	\$893.30	\$1,020.80	\$1,339.45	\$893.30	o
Add Additional Privileges	Under 2	2-11	12-49	50 +	
State Duck Stamp	\$169.20	\$213.95	\$258.90	\$169.20	o
Wildlife Heritage *	\$255.85	\$255.85	\$255.85	\$255.85	o
Saltwater Reef Fish Endorsement**	\$220.00	\$220.00	\$220.00	\$220.00	o
Resident Military Veteran's Appreciation	49 & under	50 & over			
Freshwater Fishing (20% or more disabled)	\$48.95	\$27.70	1-time Required Issuance Fee	\$1.15	o
Saltwater Fishing (20% or more disabled)	\$48.95	\$27.70			o
Hunting (40% or more disabled)	\$64.85	\$33.00			o
Hunting (100% or more disabled)	\$48.95	\$27.70			o
Replacement Lifetime License					
Each Replacement	\$5.00				o
Lifetime Application Total: \$					

* Freshwater Fishing and Hunting Lifetime License includes the Wildlife Heritage Privileges— see page 42.

** Reef Fish Endorsement required for any person possessing, taking or attempting to take any gulf reef fish species listed in Rule 220-3-.46. Visit: <https://www.outdooralabama.com/saltwater-fishing/saltwater-reef-fish-endorsement> for more information.

Please submit the supporting documents as required below:

0-4 years of age: 1) Birth Certificate, 2) Parent/Guardian's AL Driver's License and 3) Physician Statement, Daycare Record or Tax Return (showing dependents)

5-11 years of age: 1) Birth Certificate, 2) Parent/Guardian's AL Driver's License and 3) School Record, Progress Report or Report Card.

12-17 years of age (without AL Driver's License or ID): 1) Parent/Guardian's AL Driver's License and 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, 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**, (3) **copy of driver's license**, and (4) **copy of VA disability letter** 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 requests: 64 N Union Street, Ste 567, 36104. Questions: (334) 242-3465 or [DCNR.WFFLicense@dnr.alabama.gov](mailto:WFFLicense@dnr.alabama.gov)

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

Applicant's Signature: _____ Date: _____

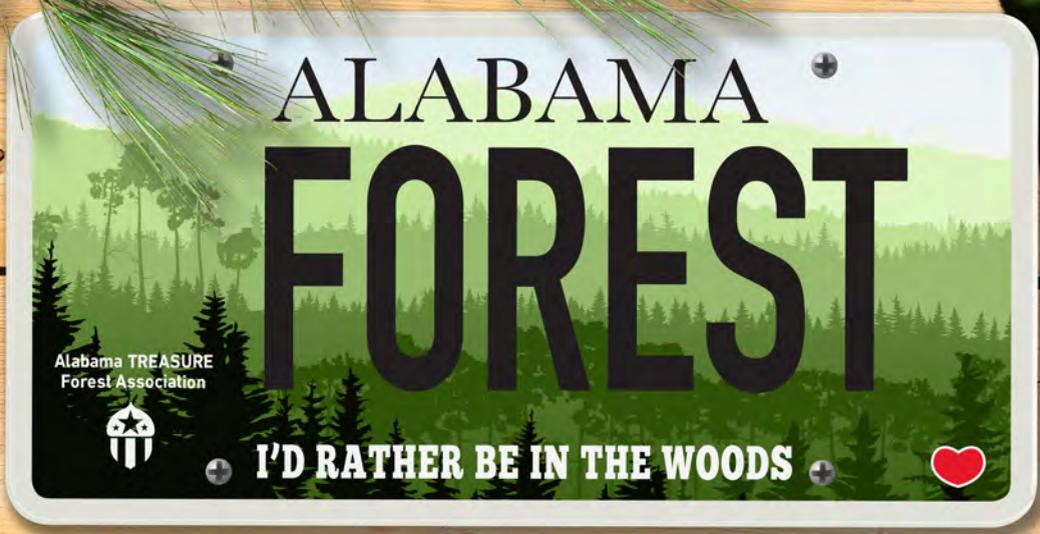
Check to be excluded o from list sold by DCNR If blank, you will be included.

⁽¹⁾ DCNR is now required by Section 30-3-194(a) Code of Alabama 1975 to collect social security numbers on all recreational licenses being issued/renewed.

SUPPORT NATURAL RESOURCES EDUCATION



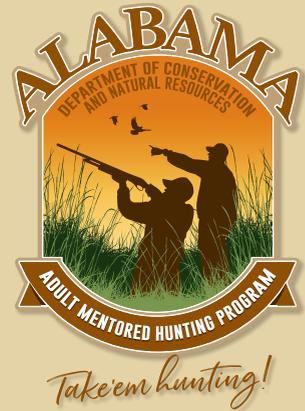
Purchase an "I'd rather be in the woods!" tag and support education and outreach efforts to raise awareness about the wonderful possibilities of sustainable land management.



INTERESTED IN BECOMING A HUNTER?

DON'T KNOW WHERE TO START?... DON'T KNOW WHERE TO GO?...
DON'T UNDERSTAND THE LAWS?... DON'T HAVE A MENTOR?...

There are many questions for people who have never been hunting or have been away from hunting for a long time. Alabama's Adult Mentored Hunting Program can help you answer the many questions you may have. Having a mentor to help you start a lifelong passion for the outdoors is the first step. Contact the Alabama Adult Mentored Hunting Program and tell them to *"Take'em hunting!"*



Learn more about the adult mentored hunting program by visiting OutdoorAlabama.com or contact Justin Grider at justin.grider@dcnr.alabama.gov or 205-339-5716.

HUNTER HARVEST PHOTO CHECKLIST



Bag memorable moments by creating photos that reflect your principles as a hunter and confirm your dedication to safe and responsible hunting. Future hunters learn from your example.

- WEAR THE LEGALLY REQUIRED AMOUNT OF HUNTER ORANGE*
- POINT MUZZLE OF UNLOADED FIREARM IN A SAFE DIRECTION
- PRESENT HARVEST MINDFULLY BY WIPING BLOOD AND POSITIONING RESPECTFULLY



WHEN POSTING YOUR PHOTO ON SOCIAL MEDIA, USE HASHTAG **#IWEARBLAZEORANGE**

*Hunter orange not required for bow season

CENTRAL STANDARD TIME

- Times in table are for Birmingham (downtown)
Location: W86°49',N33°32'
- 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 52).

DAY	SEPTEMBER		OCTOBER		NOVEMBER		DECEMBER		JANUARY		FEBRUARY	
	RISE	SET	RISE	SET	RISE	SET	RISE	SET	RISE	SET	RISE	SET
	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
1	0620	1911	0640	1830	0704	1754	0632	1638	0650	1649	0642	1718
2	0621	1910	0641	1829	0705	1753	0632	1638	0650	1650	0641	1718
3	0622	1908	0642	1828	0706	1752	0633	1638	0650	1651	0640	1719
4	0622	1907	0642	1826	0707	1751	0634	1638	0650	1652	0640	1720
5	0623	1906	0643	1825	0708	1751	0635	1638	0650	1653	0639	1721
6	0624	1904	0644	1824	0609	1650	0636	1638	0650	1653	0638	1722
7	0624	1903	0645	1822	0610	1649	0637	1638	0650	1654	0637	1723
8	0625	1902	0645	1821	0611	1648	0637	1638	0650	1655	0636	1724
9	0625	1900	0646	1820	0612	1647	0638	1639	0650	1656	0636	1725
10	0626	1859	0647	1819	0613	1647	0639	1639	0650	1657	0635	1726
11	0627	1858	0647	1817	0613	1646	0640	1639	0650	1658	0634	1727
12	0627	1856	0648	1816	0614	1645	0640	1639	0650	1659	0633	1728
13	0628	1855	0649	1815	0615	1645	0641	1639	0650	1659	0632	1729
14	0629	1854	0650	1814	0616	1644	0642	1640	0650	1700	0631	1730
15	0629	1852	0650	1812	0617	1644	0642	1640	0650	1701	0630	1731
16	0630	1851	0651	1811	0618	1643	0643	1640	0649	1702	0629	1732
17	0631	1849	0652	1810	0619	1642	0643	1641	0649	1703	0628	1732
18	0631	1848	0653	1809	0620	1642	0644	1641	0649	1704	0627	1733
19	0632	1847	0654	1808	0621	1642	0645	1642	0649	1705	0626	1734
20	0633	1845	0654	1806	0622	1641	0645	1642	0648	1706	0625	1735
21	0633	1844	0655	1805	0623	1641	0646	1643	0648	1707	0624	1736
22	0634	1843	0656	1804	0624	1640	0646	1643	0647	1708	0622	1737
23	0635	1841	0657	1803	0624	1640	0647	1644	0647	1709	0621	1738
24	0635	1840	0658	1802	0625	1640	0647	1644	0647	1710	0620	1738
25	0636	1838	0658	1801	0626	1639	0648	1645	0646	1711	0619	1739
26	0637	1837	0659	1800	0627	1639	0648	1645	0646	1712	0618	1740
27	0637	1836	0700	1759	0628	1639	0648	1646	0645	1713	0617	1741
28	0638	1834	0701	1758	0629	1639	0649	1647	0644	1714	0616	1742
29	0639	1833	0702	1757	0630	1639	0649	1647	0644	1715		
30	0640	1832	0703	1756	0631	1638	0649	1648	0643	1716		
31			0704	1755			0649	1649	0643	1717		

DATA from the Astronomical Applications Dept. of the U.S. Naval Observatory in Washington, D.C.



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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 (not in a WMA) 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, coyote, 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, groundhog, 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 rail, king rail, virginia rail, white-winged dove, sora, coot, common snipe, woodcock, mourning dove, gallinule, merganser, and sandhill crane.

PROTECTED SPECIES

All birds except House 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 non-game species regulation 222-2-.92.

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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 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 except with license.

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 ani-

mal, 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

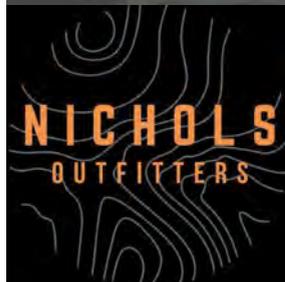
It is illegal to import any live member of the deer family (Cervidae) including deer, elk, caribou, moose, etc. This is our best defense against diseases that could devastate Alabama's deer herd. Recognizing the serious threat that the illegal transportation of live Cervidae into Alabama poses, the Alabama 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 or elk carcasses from ANY other state, territories or possessions of the U.S. unless all meat has been deboned and antlers skull plate 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



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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 35 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 74.

SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY AREAS

The Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division, Wildlife Section manages 13 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 RANGES AND ARCHERY PARKS

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 18 archery parks in partnership with local entities. Archery Parks 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.

Shooting ranges and archery parks are constructed with revenue from the sale of hunting licenses, and firearms and ammuni-

tion sales. Residents ages 16 through 64 using a Division shooting range or archery park are required to have either a valid Alabama: wildlife heritage license, hunting or freshwater fishing license or wildlife management area license. Non-residents 16 years of age and over using a Division shooting range or archery park are required to have either a valid Alabama: non-resident hunting license or wildlife management area license.

For exact locations, please refer to the map on page 74. 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, fishing, 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 59).

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.



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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. (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 white-tailed or fallow or elk except those certified prior to 2006. (9-11-503)
4. Hunt in lawful areas where baiting/feeding has occurred until 10 days after all bait/feed has been removed or consumed. (*Except those in possession of a baiting privilege license hunting white-tailed 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 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. Legal turkey decoys shall be allowed after the first 10 days of spring turkey season. In addition, legal turkey decoys are allowed during the special youth hunt and the spring special disabled hunt. (220-2-.01) (220-2-.11)
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 53) 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 those who possess a current nighttime feral swine and coyote license, hunting those species during dates of the established special nighttime feral swine and coyote season or for legally blind hunters. (220-2-.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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THE ALABAMA NONGAME WILDLIFE PROGRAM NEEDS YOUR HELP



IF YOU CATCH A GLIMPSE OF A LONG-TAILED WEASEL IN ALABAMA, YOU WILL BE ONE OF THE FEW ALABAMIANS WHO HAVE, AS THIS SMALLEST CARNIVORE OF ALABAMA IS RARELY SEEN IN THE STATE.

Long-tailed weasels are the rarest member of the weasel (mustelid) family in Alabama, with their more common kin being river otters and the somewhat less common being mink. All members of the weasel family, have long, cylindrical bodies, short legs, and powerful jaws for catching and killing prey. Long-tailed weasels may be confused with mink but can be distinguished in a few ways. Weasels are small, about the size of a gray squirrel, whereas mink are a little larger. Long-tailed weasels are distinctly two-tone in color, being brown on top and creamy-white below, whereas mink are uniformly dark brown with an occasional white chin or white spot on the chest. Long-tailed weasels also have a clearly black-tipped tail. Mink fur may gradually become

darker toward the back of the body and tail, but the tail does not have the obvious black tip. Mink are semi-aquatic, meaning they live and hunt in and around water. Long-tailed weasels may be found near waterbodies, but also occur in upland areas.

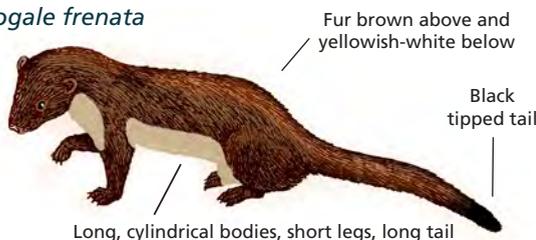
Little is known about the long-tailed weasels' abundance, distribution, and ecology in the state. As a first step to learn more about the weasel in the state, we need your help by reporting sightings with photographs (including game camera photos and any road-kill) along with locations (a GPS point or address is preferred).

By mapping the location of long-tailed weasels in the state, we may be able to get a clearer picture of their population status, habitat preferences and more on their life history and conservation needs. Please send your photos with date and location of the observation to: dcnr.wildlife@dcnr.alabama.gov

The long-tailed weasel may be easily confused with mink. Here's how to tell the difference:

LONG-TAILED WEASEL

Neogale frenata



Smaller than a gray squirrel

MAY BE CONFUSED WITH MINK

Neogale vison



Larger than a gray squirrel

Illustration Credit: © Sheri Amsel | www.exploringnature.org



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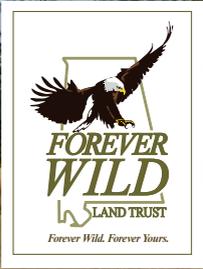
Tax-deductible donations can be mailed to:

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Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries
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Montgomery, AL 36130

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SECURING PUBLIC HUNTING FOR FUTURE GENERATIONS...

Forever Wild Land Trust, Alabama's land acquisition program, is now in its 30th 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.

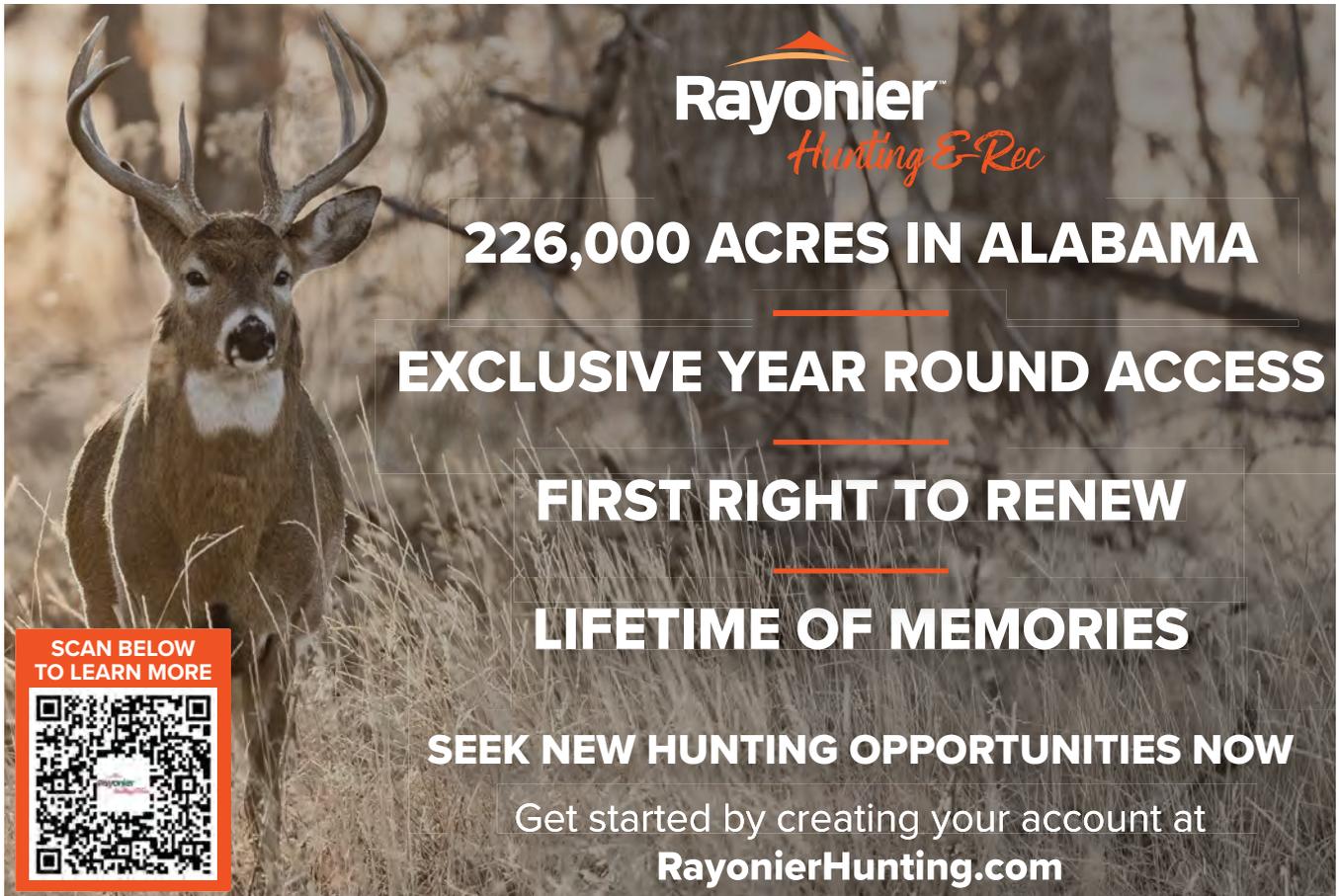
Forever Wild was developed largely in response to the loss of land available to the public for hunting and outdoor recreation. Since its inception, Forever Wild has

conserved more than 284,000 acres, of which 93% contribute to 23 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  [ALforeverwild](https://www.facebook.com/ALforeverwild)



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AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES Q&A



WHAT ARE AQUATIC NUISANCE SPECIES?

Aquatic Nuisance Species (ANS) are aquatic plants or animals that have been introduced outside of their native range which cause or have the potential to cause significant ecological, economic, aesthetic, human health, and/or recreational harm. ANS are considered invasive, so they are also commonly referred to as Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS).

HOW ARE ANS MOVED OUTSIDE THEIR NATIVE RANGE?

The spread of ANS typically occurs due to human activity via boats, trailers, bait buckets, water gardens, or the aquarium industry. Many of these species are introduced unintentionally into new areas, but intentional introductions are far too common by well-meaning, but uninformed individuals. For example, when a non-native plant or animal originally acquired for a water garden or aquarium is no longer desired, they are often released into our public waters. This is not only illegal but also jeopardizes our native aquatic species due to predation and/or competition for food or habitat.



Invasive Island Apple Snail depositing eggs on a log.

WHY ARE ANS A CONCERN FOR ALABAMA?

Alabama is blessed with an abundance of native aquatic species. In fact, Alabama ranks number one in the United States for the number of freshwater fish, crayfish, snail, mussel, and turtle species. ANS can threaten the existence of these native species, and many are already considered at risk. Unfortunately,

Alabama ranks third among all states for the number of threatened and endangered species. ANS also negatively impacts the quality of Alabama's numerous sport fisheries, which generated a recent estimate of \$463.5 million in annual revenue.



Outboard motor encrusted with invasive Zebra Mussels.

WHAT ANS CURRENTLY EXIST IN ALABAMA?

A few examples of ANS that have already created problems in Alabama are Silver Carp, Bighead Carp, Common Carp, Red Shiner, Blueback Herring, Zebra Mussel, Island Apple Snail, *Corbicula* clam, Virile Crayfish, Rusty Crayfish, Alligatorweed, Common Salvinia, Giant Salvinia, Hydrilla, Eurasian Watermilfoil, Water Hyacinth, Cuban Bulrush, Water Lettuce, and *Lyngbya* blue-green algae.

WHAT IS THE STATE OF ALABAMA DOING TO COMBAT THE ANS PROBLEM?

In 2021, the Alabama Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries (WFF) received federal approval for the Alabama Aquatic Nuisance Species Management Plan. The approval of this plan means Alabama is currently eligible to receive approximately \$100,000 annually to combat ANS. WFF already receives annual apportionments of federal funding to fight invasive Asian carp within the Tennessee River basin.

HOW YOU CAN ASSIST IN PREVENTING FUTURE ANS PROBLEMS?

Plants or animals should never be released into Alabama public waters, especially those that are not native to our state. Boats, motors, trailers, and other related gear should always be checked thoroughly for the presence of aquatic plants and animals after removal from the water. All foreign matter should be thoroughly cleaned from equipment prior to launching a boat at a different location. After fishing, never release any live bait into lakes and rivers where they did not originate. All accumulated water should be drained from the boat, motor, live well, etc. prior to leaving the boat launch.



Nuisance aquatic vegetation clinging to a boat trailer after a fishing trip.

HOW SHOULD ANS ISSUES BE REPORTED AND WHERE CAN ADDITIONAL INFORMATION BE FOUND?

Sightings or information about ANS issues in Alabama should be reported to: asiancarp@dcnr.alabama.gov

Additional information, including Alabama's ANS Management Plan can be found at: <https://www.outdooralabama.com/research/aquatic-nuisance-species-management-plan>



Invasive Silver Carp jumping from the water after being startled (Photo: Ryan Hagerty USFWS)

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Freshwater Fishing

IMPORTANT NOTES:

- All public streams, lakes and ponds are open to fishing throughout the year except some state-owned and managed Public Fishing Lakes (PFLs).
- 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.
- 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 total length 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 are on pages 68-69.
- 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 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.
- 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.
- It is illegal to transport any live baitfish caught from streams, rivers, public lakes or reservoirs in Alabama, away from the waters where caught or to import live baitfish from streams, rivers, public lakes or reservoirs from any area outside the State of Alabama. Baitfish are defined as any species of fish or crayfish that are legal to use as bait for recreational or commercial fishing.

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, shoal, 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, redbreast, bluegill, longear, and redear (shellcracker); black and white crappie; all members of the temperate bass family to include: saltwater striped, white, and yellow bass and any hybrids thereof; all members of the pike family to include chain, redfin, and grass pickerel; the following members of the perch family: sauger (jack), walleye, and yellow perch.

SALE OF GAME FISH

It shall be unlawful for any person to sell or offer for sale within this state, or ship or transport for sale within or without this state, or to ship into this state any game fish caught or taken in any of the fresh waters, whether public or private, of this state or any other 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).

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.



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ROD LIMITATIONS

There is no restriction on the number of rods used by anglers in most Alabama public water bodies with the following exceptions. No more than three rods and reels, or poles, or any combination thereof may be used on Weiss or Neely Henry Reservoir at any time. No more than two rods and reels, or poles, or any combination thereof may be used in the Sipsey Fork River from Lewis Smith Dam to the confluence with the Mulberry Fork at any time.

USE OF BREEM 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 by hook and line. Other game fish species may not be used for bait.

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.

JUG FISHING

Fishing with jugs is permissible in most Alabama public water bodies with a sport fishing license, if required. Jugs are not required to be labeled with angler identification and there is no limitation on the number of jugs used. All jugs must be removed from the water at the end of the fishing trip. Fishing with jugs is illegal in State-owned PFLs (see page 70).

TROT LINES

It is illegal to fish a 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, conservation ID 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. 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.

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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GIGS OR GRABBLING/NOODLING

Commercial or nongame fish may be legally taken by gigs or hand grabbling by persons possessing a valid sport fishing license. It shall be illegal to use any treble hook or any barbed hook for giggering or grabbling. Only a single barbless hook may be used.

BOWFISHING EQUIPMENT

Bowfishing with any longbow, recurve bow, compound bow or crossbow using barbed arrows attached by line to the bow, float, vessel or shooter is legal for the taking of commercial or nongame fish. A sport fishing license is required.

TAKING MINNOWS AND SHAD FOR BAIT

It is legal for licensed anglers to take minnows, shad, and certain suckers from specific 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 the species listed above for the exclusive use as fish bait. No seines may be used in un-impounded tributary streams and creeks. All game fish and all other commercial or nongame fish taken by nets or seines must be immediately returned to the water from whence they came with the least possible harm. Dip nets may be used to land legally caught fish. Live baitfish can not be transported to other bodies of water.

MUSSEL HARVEST FOR BAIT

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.

ZEBRA MUSSEL ALERT

The zebra mussel is an exotic species of freshwater mussel that has colonized many southern bodies of water, including the Tennessee and Black Warrior Rivers. 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: the Fisheries Section at (334) 242-3471.

PUBLIC WATER STOCKING

It shall be unlawful to intentionally stock or release any fish, mussel, snail, crayfish or their embryos, including baitfish, into the public waters of Alabama under the jurisdiction of the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries as provided in Rule 220-2-.42 except those waters from which they came without the written permission of a designated employee of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources authorized by the Director of the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries to issue such permit. The provisions of this rule shall not apply to the incidental release of bait into the water during the normal process of fishing.

LEARN TO FISH

The Go Fish, Alabama! Program provides adults and families, with little-to-no fishing experience, an opportunity to fish under the guidance and instruction of a skilled fishing mentor. The program is for individuals interested in learning how to fish, socializing outdoors with friends and family, putting fish on the dinner table, or simply enjoying the thrill and challenge of the catch. Each event is conducted in a safe, welcoming, and constructive environment.

The Go Fish, Alabama! Program provides participants with all the necessary equipment and tackle needed for their learn to fish experience. This program operates state-wide and focuses on providing fishing opportunities within a short driving distance to metropolitan areas. Events are held at State Public Fishing Lakes, city lakes, State Park lakes, and other fishing destinations across Alabama. Each event typically lasts four hours and is offered in the morning or afternoon on weekends and weekdays. For more information about this program visit: www.outdooralabama.com/GoFishAlabama.

ANGLER RECOGNITION PROGRAM

Alabama's Angler Recognition Program is intended to recognize 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.

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. These data may also be used by participating bass clubs to select tournament locations. All participating clubs receive a printed copy of the annual report.

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

LIFE JACKET REQUIREMENTS BELOW DAMS

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 BOATING ACCESS AREAS

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.

AT PUBLIC BOATING ACCESS AREAS, IT IS ILLEGAL TO:

- 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 from the Fisheries Section, 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.

COMMERCIAL FISHING

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).

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 excellent fishing opportunities for anglers in Alabama. There are more than 275,000 fish ponds in Alabama. Fish ponds greatly alleviate the fishing pressure on our public streams

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BASE CAMP**

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and lakes. Therefore, the Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division is vitally interested in this popular resource. Proper stocking with appropriate fish species and ongoing fish management will provide years of excellent fishing for bass, bluegill and shellcracker.

Technical assistance is provided to pond owners at no cost regarding proper management practices such as fertilization, liming, weed control and fish harvest. For additional information, contact a District Fisheries Office (see page 2).

ALABAMA & GEORGIA RECIPROCAL AGREEMENT

Alabama and Georgia have a reciprocal agreement for fishing from the banks or on the waters of the Chattahoochee River between Alabama and Georgia and all impoundments thereon, South of the Georgia Highway 109 bridge. This agreement does not include any streams or tributaries. Contact a Wildlife & Freshwater Fisheries Division Office for assistance (page 2).

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 Office (see page 2).

CLASSIC FRIED FISH RECIPE

INGREDIENTS

- » 1-10 oz. bag of seasoned fish fry coating mix
- » Ice cold water
- » Vegetable or canola oil
- » 3-4 lbs. of fresh fish

PREPARATION

Rinse fish well in ice cold water. Shake off excess water and completely coat fish in seasoned fish fry coating mix. Deep fry fish at 350 degrees Fahrenheit until internal temperature is 145 degrees Fahrenheit and golden brown. Serve fish while hot and enjoy!



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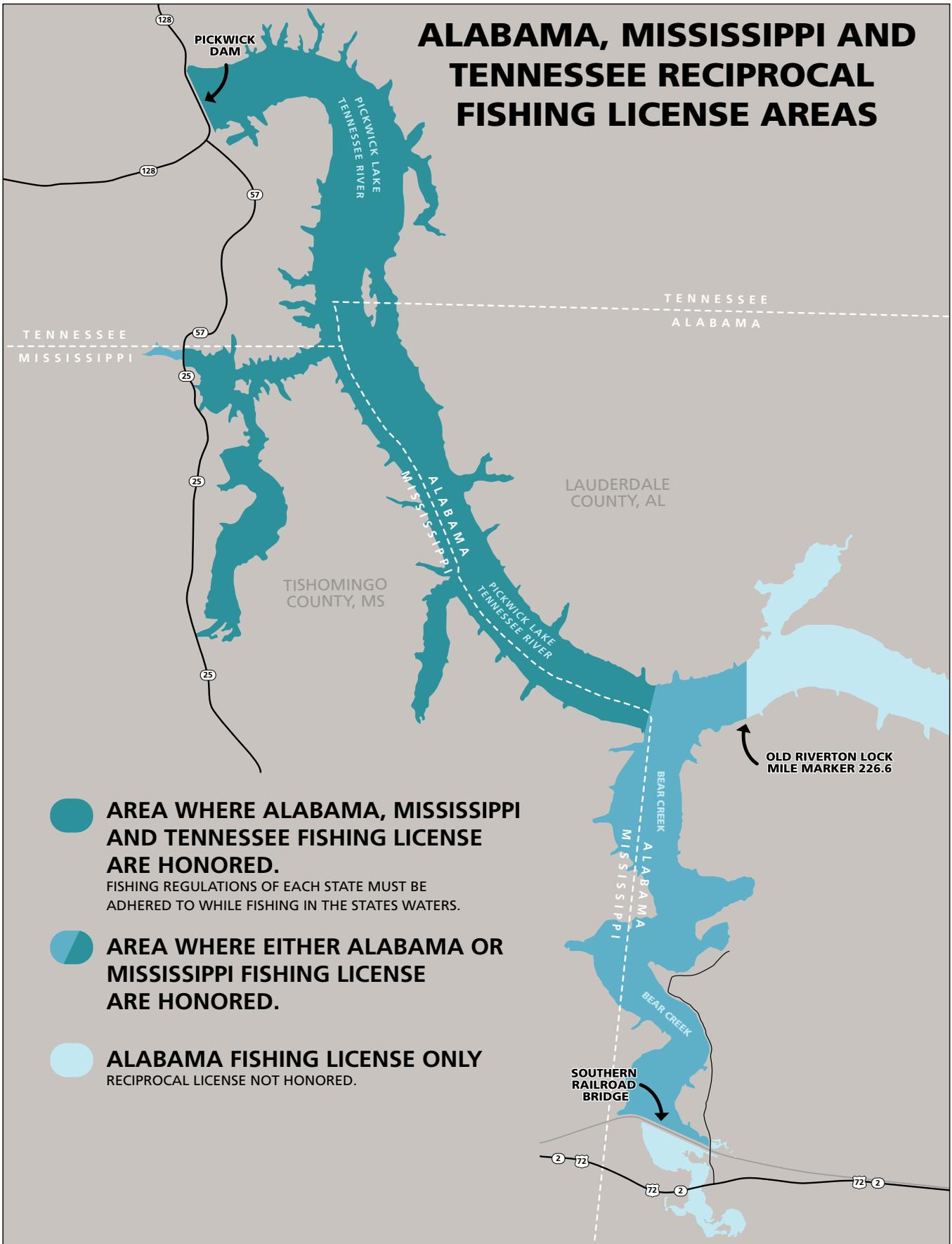
4500 HWY 77
Southside, AL 35907

Your Boating Headquarters



1-800-I'm Ready

ALABAMA, MISSISSIPPI AND TENNESSEE RECIPROCAL FISHING LICENSE AREAS



- 
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.



The following seasons for taking fish in accordance with the below stated times, places, manners and restrictions are hereby established. 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:

SPECIES	DETAILS	LIMIT
Black Bass	Includes combinations of largemouth, smallmouth, spotted, Alabama, shoal 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. The Alabama bass was formerly known as spotted bass in the Mobile drainage. No more than five of the daily creel limit of 10 may be smallmouth bass. See exceptions for shoal bass in specific tributaries of the Chattahoochee River.	10
Walleye	It shall be illegal to take or attempt to take walleye by any method from Sweetwater Lake located in the Talladega National Forest, Cleburne County, from White Plains Lake (also known as Whitesides Mill Lake), Calhoun County and from Shoal Creek upstream of White Plains Lake, Calhoun and Cleburne Counties. It shall also be illegal to take or attempt to take walleye by any method from Lake Mitchell on the Coosa River between Mitchell Dam and Lay Dam or from its tributary streams; Walnut Creek in Chilton County, Hatchet Creek in Coosa and Clay Counties, Weogufka Creek in Coosa County, and the Mulberry Fork River and Sipsey Fork River or any of their tributary streams in Blount, Cullman, Lawrence, Walker, or Winston Counties. Any walleye taken in these lakes or streams shall immediately be released back into the waters from which they were taken with least possible harm.	2
Sauger	It is illegal to possess any Sauger less than 15 inches in total length.	5
White Bass	—	15
Yellow Bass	—	15
Saltwater Striped Bass and Hybrids or Combinations	No more than five of the 15 may exceed 22 inches in total length. See exceptions for Lewis Smith, Inland, Yates, and Thurlow reservoirs and Lake Martin.	15
Crappie	It is illegal to possess any crappie less than nine inches in total length taken from Alabama public waters, including Aliceville Reservoir and Pickwick Reservoir. Waters exempt from the nine-inch crappie limit include impoundments less than 500 surface acres, the reciprocal waters of the Chattahoochee River including impoundments and tributaries, Bear Creek Reservoir (Big Bear Lake of the B.C.D.A. Lakes), Lake Jackson at Florala and Weiss Reservoir. See exception for Weiss Reservoir.	30
Yellow Perch	—	No Limit
Catfish (under 34 inches)	—	No Limit
Catfish (over 34 inches)	This size limit shall not apply to catfish harvested from the Perdido, Conecuh, Blackwater, Yellow, Choctawhatchee, Chipola, and Chattahoochee rivers basins. It shall be unlawful to transport live catfish 34 inches in length or greater beyond the boundaries of this State.	1
Bream	—	50
Rainbow Trout	It shall be unlawful to fish with more than two rods or to cull from the creel any trout caught from the Sipsey Fork from Lewis Smith Dam downstream to the confluence with the Mulberry Fork. Culling is defined as removing and releasing a trout from the creel (live well, stringer, basket, bucket, cooler or other container) whether or not it is replaced with another trout.	5
Alligator Gar	Alligator gar caught with commercial fishing gear must be immediately returned to the water.	1
Sturgeon	All sturgeon must be immediately returned to water with least possible harm.	Closed Season
Paddlefish or Spoonbill	All paddlefish must be immediately returned to water with least possible harm.	Closed Season
Skipjack Herring	—	100

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 is measured from the front of the mouth to the tip of the tail with both mouth and tail closed.
- It shall be unlawful to fish any trotline, snag or snare line without a plastic or metal tag attached containing the owners 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.

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.

Walter F. George Reservoir (Lake Eufaula) and its Tributaries - It is illegal to possess any largemouth bass less than 14 inches in total length.

Weiss Reservoir - It is illegal to possess crappie less than 10 inches in total length.

West Point Reservoir and its Tributaries - It is illegal to possess any largemouth bass less than 14 inches in total length.

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

Wilson Reservoir and its Tributaries of Big Nance and Town Creeks - It is illegal to possess any smallmouth bass less than 15 inches in total length.

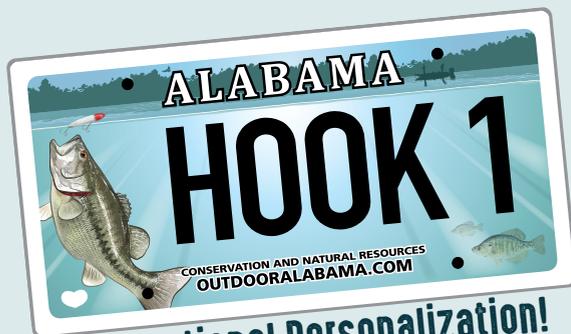
Yates Reservoir - It is illegal to possess more than two saltwater striped bass that exceed 22 inches in total length in the daily creel limit and only one of those may exceed 30 inches in total length.

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



To learn more about the tag, visit OutdoorAlabama.com/GoFish



Proceeds from the sale of each Freshwater Fishing license plate:

- Protects, enhances, and restores aquatic habitat
- Supports freshwater fish hatchery operations
- Fights invasive species
- Provides high-quality fishing opportunities
- Reestablishes rare freshwater species
- Benefits water quality for cleaner lakes and rivers
- Promotes conservation education
- And much more!!!





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:

PUBLIC FISHING LAKE	MANAGER	LAKE PHONE #	CLOSED DAYS
Barbour	Closed for renovation. Reopening TBD		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.
Bibb	Cindy Holder	(205) 938-2318	
Chambers	Closed for renovation. Reopening TBD		
Clay	Gene Simmons	(256) 488-0038	
Coffee	City of Elba, Ricky Mularz	(334) 447-2384	
Crenshaw	Closing Fall 2022 for renovation. Close date TBD	(334) 335-3103	
Dale	City of Ozark, Steve Sherrill	(334) 774-0588	
Dallas	Anthony Fail	(334) 874-8804	
DeKalb	Steven Simmons	(256) 657-1300	
Escambia	Allison Lee Devine	(251) 809-0068	
Fayette	No on-site manager		
Geneva	Daniel Drake	(334) 684-0361	
Lamar	Kathy Parker	(205) 695-8283	
Lee	Chris and Tina Wright	(334) 745-6563	
Madison	Chris and Cole Coultas	(256) 776-4905	
Marion	Barbara Goggans	(205) 495-1753	
Monroe	Darryl and Tammy Ikner	(251) 789-2104	
Pike	City of Troy, Brian Meadows	(334) 674-2480	
Walker	Closed. Reopening date TBD	(205) 221-1801	
Washington	No on-site manager		

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)
- Fish with jugs, bow and arrow, or hand grabbling
- Operate gasoline outboard motors except where permitted
- Camp (except where permitted), swim, wade or use sailboats
- Launch any boat including kayaks and canoes 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
- Consume alcoholic beverages during hours of operation
- Hunt, trap, pursue, catch or sell any wild bird or wild animal
- Fish without a permit if age 12 or older

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 the lake manager. No method other than hook and line with natural or artificial bait may be used at a PFL. All anglers must exhibit their catch, fishing permit and fishing license to a Conservation Officer or the 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.

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 an 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.



POACHING IS STEALING!

CALL 1-800-272-GAME

SPECIES	WEIGHT	DATE	LOCATION	ANGLER/HOMETOWN
Bass, Largemouth	16 lbs., 8 oz.	11/3/87	Mountain View Lake, Shelby Co.	Thomas "T.M." Burgin / Birmingham
Bass, Redeye (b)	3 lbs., 2 oz.	3/8/00	Choccolocco Creek	William Terry Johnson / Oxford
Bass, Rock	1 lb., 6 oz.	5/6/95	Paint Rock River	James R. Stewart / Scottsboro
Bass, Shoal	6 lbs., 11 oz.	2/25/96	Halawakee Creek	Darrell Trawick / Salem
Bass, Smallmouth (c)	10 lbs., 8 oz.	10/8/50	Wheeler Dam Tailwater	Owen F. Smith / Fairfield
Bass, Spotted (b)	8 lbs., 15 oz.	3/18/78	Lewis Smith Reservoir	Phillip C. Terry / Decatur
Bass, Striped (a)	69 lbs., 9 oz.	2/28/13	Bankhead Reservoir	James Bramlett / Dora
Bass, Striped Hybrid	25 lbs., 15 oz.	9/13/96	Sipsey Fork, Warrior River	E. H. Hodges / Chelsea
Bass, White	4 lbs., 9 oz.	2/14/87	Warrior River	Ben DeMott / Bessemer
Bass, Yellow (a)	2 lbs., 8 oz.	4/12/00	Guntersville Reservoir, Jackson Co.	Dennis M. Woebeking / Pisgah
Bowfin	18 lbs., 6 oz.	7/31/05	Lake Tuscaloosa	Nelson Ray Sansing / Sawyerville
Buffalo	57 lbs.	4/13/90	Guntersville Reservoir	Ralph B. Lowery / Albertville
Bullhead (Brown)	5 lbs., 8 oz.	5/11/22	Private Pond, Butler Co.	Nekko Cantrell / Georgiana
Carp	35 lbs.	4/19/80	Bear Creek, Colbert Co.	Darrin Jackson / Double Springs
Carp, Grass (White Amur)	73 lbs.	4/10/12	Guntersville Reservoir	Bradley D. Bridges, Sr. / Bryant
Catfish, Blue	120 lbs., 4 oz.	3/9/12	Holt Reservoir	John Paul Nichols / Northport
Catfish, Channel	40 lbs.	6/17/67	Inland Lake	Donald R. Cox / Oneonta
Catfish, Flathead	80 lbs.	6/22/86	Alabama River, Selma	Rick Conner / Selma
Catfish, White	10 lbs., 5 oz.	4/3/81	Chambers Co. Public Fishing Lake	Roy T. Britton / Opelika
Crappie, Black (tie)	4 lbs., 5 oz.	3/27/07	Ft. Payne Reservoir	Shelley Meadows / Mentone
	4 lbs., 5 oz.	6/2/97	Private Pond, Jefferson Co.	William D. Webb / Birmingham
	4 lbs., 4 oz.	3/18/84	Paint Creek	Sherril Harris / Sylacauga
Crappie, White (tie)	4 lbs., 9 oz.	5/8/00	Lake Martin, Tallapoosa Co.	Jeremy S. White / Alexander City
	4 lbs., 8 oz.	4/4/74	Guntersville Reservoir	Jack Grant / Altoona
Drum, Freshwater (b)	41 lbs., 8 oz.	7/24/49	Wilson Reservoir	Wilson Brock / Birmingham
Eel, American	5 lbs., 8 oz.	5/11/89	Lake Shechi, Chilton Co.	Tod A. Groover / Montevallo
Gar, Alligator (tie)	151 lbs., 9 oz.	8/13/09	Tensaw River	Richard Johnson / Bay Minette
	151 lbs., 5 oz.	8/13/04	Tensaw River	Michael Houseknecht / Mobile
Gar, Longnose	32 lbs., 14 oz.	4/18/85	Jordan Reservoir	Gary Smyth / Pelham
Gar, Spotted	8 lbs., 12 oz.	8/26/87	Cotaco Creek	Winston Baker / Alexander City
Herring, Skipjack	3 lbs., 4 oz.	5/2/12	Mulberry Fork	Bobby Lee Davis / Bessemer
Muskellunge	19 lbs., 8 oz.	12/31/72	Wilson Dam Tailwater	Steve Leatherwood / Haleyville
Paddlefish	52 lbs., 12 oz.	3/18/82	Wilson Dam Tailwater	Susan Holland / Muscle Shoals
Perch, Yellow	2 lbs., 2 oz.	3/7/15	Yates Reservoir	Gary Lee Grove, Jr. / Opelika
Pickerel, Chain	6 lbs., 6 oz.	6/24/76	Dyas Creek, Baldwin Co.	Michael P. Ryan / Bay Minette
Pickerel, Redfin (tie)	14 oz.	9/4/17	Baggett Creek / Washington Co.	Henry Merrit / Deer Park
	13 oz.	7/7/14	Armstrong Creek / Washington Co.	Frank Lambert Dickey / Chatom
Redhorse, Silver (a)	14 lbs., 14 oz.	4/24/95	Wilson Dam Tailwater	Chris Stephenson / Birmingham
Sauger	5 lbs., 2 oz.	3/5/72	Wilson Dam Tailwater	William F. Huntley / Athens
Sunfish, Bluegill (a)	4 lbs., 12 oz.	4/9/50	Ketona Lake, Birmingham	T. S. Hudson / Birmingham
Sunfish, Green	1 lb., 9 oz.	8/10/05	McLamore Pond, Walker County	Caleb Miller / Parrish
Sunfish, Longear	8 oz.	5/12/90	Yellow River	Jerry Jones / Ozark
Sunfish, Redbreast	1 lb., 4 oz.	6/12/10	Choctawhatchee River	Archie Russ / Brantley
Sunfish, Redear (b)	4 lbs., 4 oz.	5/5/62	Chattahoochee State Park	Jeff Lashley / Gordon
Trout, Rainbow	9 lbs., 1 oz.	4/22/06	Mud Creek, Tannehill State Park	Otha G. Hamm / Alexandria
Walleye	10 lbs., 14 oz.	6/24/80	Weiss Reservoir	Julia Hurley / Cedar Bluff
Warmouth	1 lb., 12 oz.	4/25/86	Farm Pond	Jimmy A. Barfield / Dothan

(a) World Record

(b) Previous World Record - Rod and Reel

(c) Previous World Record - Any Method

Revised: 6/8/2022



ALABAMA GAME FISH

Illustrations By: Duane Raver



Largemouth Bass



Smallmouth Bass



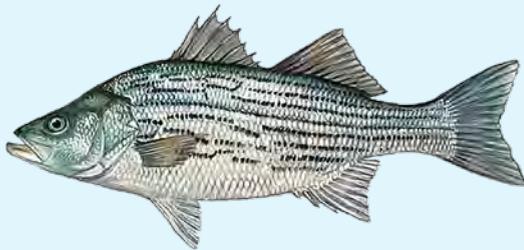
Spotted Bass



Striped Bass



White Bass



Hybrid Striped Bass



Yellow Bass



Bluegill Sunfish



Redear Sunfish



Redbreast Sunfish



Rainbow Trout

ALABAMA GAME FISH



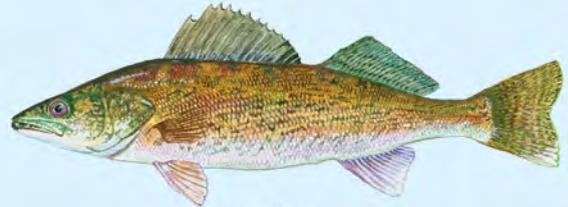
Black Crappie



White Crappie



Sauger



Walleye



Yellow Perch



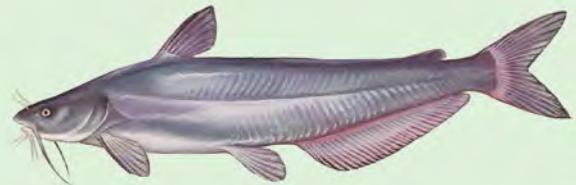
Chain Pickerel

ALABAMA NON-GAME FISH

Sturgeon Illustration By: Joseph Tomelleri



Channel Catfish



Blue Catfish



Flathead Catfish



Lake Sturgeon



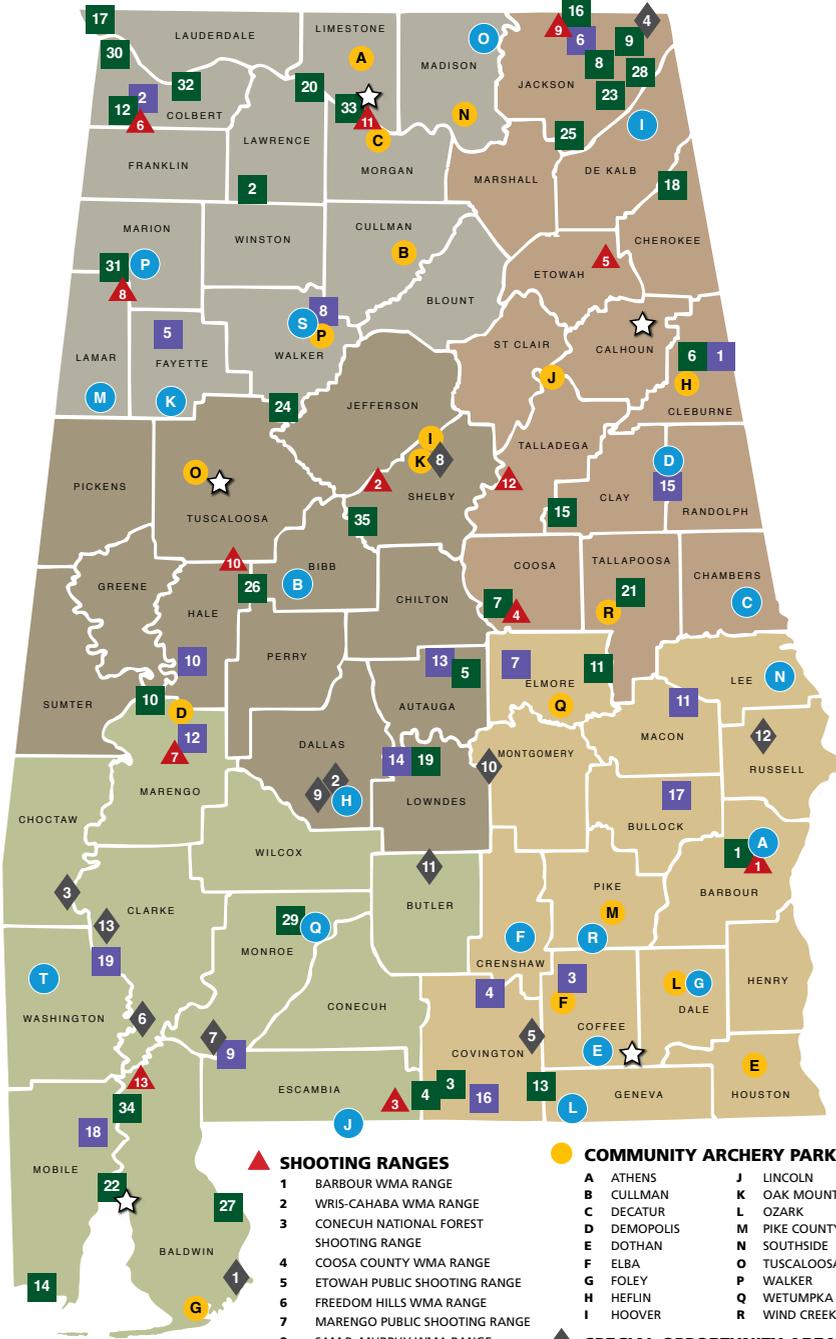
Bowfin



Freshwater Drum



ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES
Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division
Facilities Map



☆ **DISTRICT OFFICES**

- ▲ SHOOTING RANGES**
- 1 BARBOUR WMA RANGE
 - 2 WRIS-CAHABA WMA RANGE
 - 3 CONECUH NATIONAL FOREST SHOOTING RANGE
 - 4 COOSA COUNTY WMA RANGE
 - 5 ETOWAH PUBLIC SHOOTING RANGE
 - 6 FREEDOM HILLS WMA RANGE
 - 7 MARENGO PUBLIC SHOOTING RANGE
 - 8 SAM R. MURPHY WMA RANGE
 - 9 JDM-SKYLINE WMA RANGE
 - 10 SOUTH SANDY SHOOTING RANGE
 - 11 SWAN CREEK WMA RANGE
 - 12 RED EAGLE SKEET AND TRAP CLUB
 - 13 UPPER DELTA WMA RANGE

- COMMUNITY ARCHERY PARKS**
- | | |
|-------------|----------------|
| A ATHENS | J LINCOLN |
| B CULLMAN | K OAK MOUNTAIN |
| C DECATUR | L OZARK |
| D DEMOPOLIS | M PIKE COUNTY |
| E DOTHAN | N SOUTHSIDE |
| F ELBA | O TUSCALOOSA |
| G FOLEY | P WALKER |
| H HEFLIN | Q WETUMPKA |
| I HOOVER | R WIND CREEK |

- ◆ SPECIAL OPPORTUNITY AREAS**
- | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1 BLACKWATER | 8 OAK MOUNTAIN STATE PARK |
| 2 CEDAR CREEK | 9 PORTLAND LANDING |
| 3 CHOCTAW NWR | 10 PRAIRIE GLADES |
| 4 CROW CREEK | 11 THIGPEN HILL |
| 5 FRANK JACKSON STATE PARK | 12 UCHEE CREEK |
| 6 FRED T. STIMPSON | 13 UPPER STATE |
| 7 LITTLE RIVER STATE FOREST | |

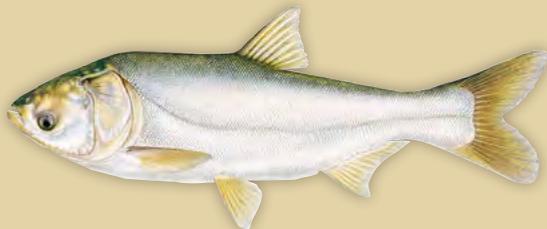
- WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS AND REFUGES**
- 1 BARBOUR
 - 2 BLACK WARRIOR
 - 3 BLUE SPRING
 - 4 BOGGY HOLLOW
 - 5 CHARLES D. KELLEY - AUTAUGA
 - 6 CHOCCOLOCCO
 - 7 COOSA
 - 8 CROW CREEK
 - 9 CROW CREEK REFUGE
 - 10 DAVID K. NELSON
 - 11 FOREVER WILD GOTHARD - AWF YATES LAKE
 - 12 FREEDOM HILLS
 - 13 GENEVA STATE FOREST
 - 14 GRAND BAY SAVANNA
 - 15 HOLLINS
 - 16 JAMES D. MARTIN - SKYLINE
 - 17 LAUDERDALE
 - 18 LITTLE RIVER
 - 19 LOWNDES
 - 20 MALLARD - FOX CREEK
 - 21 MARTIN
 - 22 MOBILE - TENSAW DELTA and W.L. HOLLAND
 - 23 MUD CREEK
 - 24 MULBERRY FORK
 - 25 NORTH SAUTY
 - 26 OAKMULGEE
 - 27 PERDIDO RIVER
 - 28 RACCOON CREEK
 - 29 RED HILLS
 - 30 RIVERTON
 - 31 SAM R. MURPHY
 - 32 SEVEN MILE
 - 33 SWAN CREEK
 - 34 UPPER DELTA
 - 35 WILLIAM R. IRELAND, SR. - CAHABA RIVER
- PUBLIC FISHING LAKES**
- | |
|--|
| A BARBOUR COUNTY |
| B BIBB COUNTY |
| C CHAMBERS COUNTY |
| D CLAY COUNTY |
| E COFFEE COUNTY |
| F CRENSHAW COUNTY |
| G DALE COUNTY (ED LISENBY LAKE) |
| H DALLAS COUNTY |
| I DEKALB COUNTY |
| J ESCAMBIA COUNTY (LEON BROOKS HINES LAKE) |
| K FAYETTE COUNTY |
| L GENEVA COUNTY |
| M LAMAR COUNTY |
| N LEE COUNTY |
| O MADISON COUNTY |
| P MARION COUNTY |
| Q MONROE COUNTY |
| R PIKE COUNTY |
| S WALKER COUNTY |
| T WASHINGTON COUNTY (J. EMMETT WOOD LAKE) |

- PHYSICALLY DISABLED HUNTING AREAS**
- 1 BIG OAK
 - 2 CHEROKEE
 - 3 COFFEE COUNTY (VICTORIA)
 - 4 DOZIER
 - 5 FAYETTE
 - 6 FOREVER WILD LAND TRUST - AL POWER CO.
 - 7 JORDAN
 - 8 LEWIS SMITH
 - 9 LITTLE RIVER STATE FOREST
 - 10 M. BARNETT LAWLEY FOREVER WILD FIELD TRIAL AREA
 - 11 MACON STATE FOREST
 - 12 MARENGO
 - 13 PINE HILLS
 - 14 PRAIRIE CREEK
 - 15 R.L. HARRIS
 - 16 SHILOH HILL
 - 17 TURNPIECE-IBENBERRY PLACE
 - 18 UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH ALABAMA FOUNDATION
 - 19 UPPER STATE

Revised 6/8/22

ATTENTION ANGLERS! YOUR HELP IS NEEDED

Fisheries Section biologists are interested in monitoring the distribution of Asian Carp in the public waters of Alabama.



Silver Carp



Bighead Carp

IF YOU CAPTURE EITHER OF THE SPECIES ABOVE, PLEASE PROVIDE:

- A photo of the fish
- Capture location (GPS if possible)
- Date of capture

**EMAIL THIS INFORMATION TO:
asiancarp@dcnr.alabama.gov**

After reporting, please DO NOT release these species back into the water, but rather dispatch and dispose of them properly.

© Joseph R. Tomelleri

**TO LEARN MORE, VISIT:
OutdoorAlabama.com/asiancarp**

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 12

pared antler quality on each tract following seven years of varying levels of culling. One property utilized an aggressive culling strategy that removed bucks from all age classes that did not meet established antler criteria for each age. Another property removed only 3.5 years or older bucks that did not meet the established antler criteria for their ages. The third property did not cull. After seven years, there were no measurable differences in antler quality even though most male fawns were sired by bucks that exceeded the culling criteria. Basically, culling of free-range deer to improve genetic potential for antler growth doesn't work.

If just improving antler quality of bucks harvested from a property is the primary goal, simply increasing the average age of bucks that are harvested is the most effective approach. Learning to distinguish an exceptional young deer from an average or below average older deer is essential for making harvest decisions when managing for older bucks. Time after time, bucks that are targeted because of less than desirable antler traits are younger than the hunter thinks. They needed time to develop and, in many cases, overcome a slow start in life caused by a late birth date or less than ideal habitat conditions. Just as common are the many well-formed, smaller antlered bucks hunters pass because they judged them to be young, but with good potential. Many of these bucks end up being adult deer with below average antlers. They are doing all they can antler-wise but are simply below average. Getting older doesn't help.

Improving and maximizing the potential of the habitat first will do more than any other management action. Simply put, deer are what they eat. The impact of habitat quality affects deer well before they are born. The physical condition of the doe prior to conception, during the pregnancy, and during nursing will impact a deer throughout its life and the lives of its offspring. If habitat quality is poor, deer are never able to come close to their potential for antler growth, body size, or fawn production. Deer living under the best quality habitat conditions have a much better chance of reaching their potential.

Is culling of bucks in a free-range population ever warranted? Never say never when discussing deer management, but for the overwhelming majority of situations the answer is "No". Bucks face many challenges from conception until they reach maturity. If managing to produce adult bucks is the goal, taking steps to allow as many as possible to reach the target age class should be priority. Relaxing harvest rules to allow for removal of bucks based on some arbitrary cull buck or management buck rule is most often detrimental to the management program's long-term success.

A common analogy used to explain the process of developing a deer management program for any property is to compare it to a bucket filled with holes. The lowest holes on the bucket are the most important and must be plugged first if there's any hope of the bucket holding water. For most properties, habitat quality, buck age structure, and deer densities are near the bottom of the bucket, while culling and genetics are at the very top of the bucket. Attempting to plug the top holes without first addressing the bottom holes results in an empty bucket. Don't get left holding an empty bucket.

Be sure to report your harvest using **Game Check**.
See page 16 for instructions.

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Jasper Split



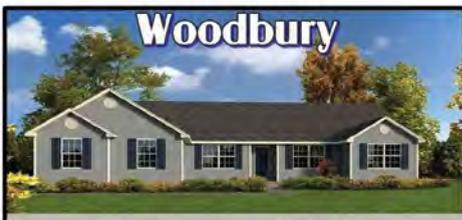
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Woodbury



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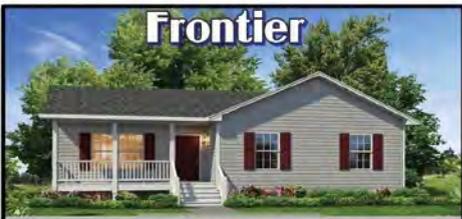
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