

**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY MANEUVER CENTER of EXCELLENCE  
FORT BENNING, GEORGIA 31905-5000**

**FB Regulation  
No. 200-1**

**24 August 2020**

**Environmental Quality  
HUNTING, FISHING, AND RECREATION**

**Summary.** This regulation outlines rules governing hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities at the United States Army Maneuver Center of Excellence (MCoE), Fort Benning, Georgia.

**Applicability.** All individuals permitted to hunt, fish, or participate in outdoor recreational activities on the installation will comply with this regulation.

**Proponent and Exception Authority.** The proponent of this regulation is the Director of Public Works (DPW). Only the Garrison Commander may approve changes to this regulation. The Garrison Commander’s Hunting and Fishing Advisory Council (GCHFAC) reviews the regulation annually and recommends changes.

**Suggested Improvements.** Send comments and suggested improvements on a DA Form 2028 (Recommended Changes to Publications and Blank Forms) or a written letter through channels to the Commander, United States Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, ATTN: IMBE-PWE-N/ Chief, Natural Resources Management Branch, Environmental Division, DPW, Fort Benning, Georgia 31905-5122.

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## Chapter 1 Introduction

### 1-1. Purpose.

This regulation sets forth policies and procedures that govern hunting, fishing, and other recreational activities such as off-road vehicles, camping, and boating.

### 1-2. References.

A list of required and related publications and prescribed and referenced forms are in appendix A.

### 1-3. General.

The Commanding General, United States Army Maneuver Center of Excellence, intends to maximize hunting and fishing opportunities on Fort Benning consistent with mission requirements, sound environmental and natural resources management practices, and the Fort Benning Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan. Hunting, fishing, and other outdoor recreation activities are permitted when consistent with the military mission and no safety hazard is created. Be aware that Fort Benning Regulations may be more restrictive than either Alabama or Georgia State Hunting and Fishing Regulations.

## Chapter 2 Responsibilities

### 2-1. Director of Public Works (DPW). The DPW:

- a. Manages fish and wildlife resources consistent with governing laws, regulations, and the Fort Benning Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan as amended by the Sikes Act, 2004.
- b. Develops policies and determines the direction of the wildlife program and is the proponent of this regulation.
- c. Chief, Environmental Management Division (EMD), DPW, coordinates the funding and implementation of the wildlife program.
- d. Chief, Natural Resources Management Branch (NRMB), EMD, DPW, supervises and manages the wildlife program, to include management and oversight of the iSportsman system to issue online sales of Post Hunting, Fishing and Recreational Use Permits.

### 2-2. Director of Plans, Training, Mobilization & Security (DPTMS). The DPTM:

- a. Maximizes opportunities for hunting and fishing consistent with training and safety requirements.
- b. Range Division (DPTMS) prepares and updates areas open for hunting and fishing via the iSportsman System, up to three days in the future.
- c. Subject to manpower availability, Range Division personnel open locked gates to allow access to areas open for recreational use.

### 2-3. Director of Family and Morale, Welfare and Recreation (DFMWR). The DFMWR:

- a. Facilitates Permit Validation at the DFMWR Equipment Resource Center, Uchee Creek Country Store and Recreational Shooting Complex.
- b. Ensures that only those individuals allowed to hunt and fish on the installation have their permits and access passes validated.
- c. Ensures hunters provide proof of an approved Hunter Education Course or previous Fort Benning hunting permit within the past 2 seasons.
- d. Ensures hunters provide a current Alabama or Georgia license before validating their Fort Benning permit.
- e. Ensures that updated 1:55,000-scale Fort Benning Hunting and Fishing Maps are available for review or purchase upon request.

### 2-4. Director of Emergency Services (DES). The DES:

- a. Enforces the provisions of this regulation and all state and federal laws and regulations.
- b. Reports violations of this regulation to the NRMB Chief and Staff Judge Advocate (SJA) Military Hearing Officer.
- c. Maintains records of sportsmen cited for hunting and fishing violations.

### 2-5. Staff Judge Advocate (SJA). The SJA:

Provides a Hearing Officer to conduct administrative appeals of suspensions or revocations of hunting and fishing privileges and makes recommendations to Garrison Commander regarding administrative sanctions. Hearing officer will make determinations on requests for participation in the Community Service Program.

### 2-6. Garrison Commander's Hunting and Fishing Advisory Council (GCHFAC). The GCHFAC:

- a. Receives comments, suggestions, and concerns from Soldiers and other personnel authorized to hunt and fish on Fort Benning and represents their interests to improve hunting and fishing on the installation.
- b. Provides advice on the management of hunting and fishing on Fort Benning. Makes recommendations to improve hunting and fishing to the Chief, NRMB; Chief, EMD; Director of Public Works; and the Garrison Commander, as appropriate.
- c. Maximizes (in accordance with CG intent) the opportunities for hunting and fishing on Fort Benning consistent with training requirements, safety, and governing laws, regulations, and the Fort Benning Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan.
- d. Annually reviews and provides the Chief, NRMB, with proposed changes to FB Regulation 200-1, Hunting and Fishing and Recreation.

### 2-7. Sportsmen and recreational users. The Sportsman and recreational user:

- a. Understand and comply with all laws, policies, and regulations concerning recreational activities and authorized activities, including those related to personal weapons and hunting and fishing on the installation. Recreational use of the training landscape is a privilege and must be treated as such; participants will act in a professional and ethical manner at all times.
- b. Encouraged to lock and permanently mark any and all personal property (stands, trail cameras, etc.) with information unique to the owner and/or record/maintain serial numbers and photos of personal property as appropriate so that reasonable effort can be made to recover stolen property and facilitate enforcement actions.
- c. Ensure they have all valid and necessary state hunting and/or fishing licenses, valid documentation of completion of a Hunter Education Course and required Fort Benning documents before hunting or fishing on Fort Benning.
- d. Report hunting and fishing violations to the Military Police Desk (706-545-5224).
- e. Recommend changes in accordance with "Suggested Improvements" section to improve the management of hunting and fishing on Fort Benning.

## Chapter 3 Restrictions

### 3-1. General.

- a. The 1:55,000-scale Fort Benning Hunting and Fishing Map is used to control recreational use of training areas, including hunting and fishing activities. Sportsmen must familiarize themselves with the most recent Hunting and Fishing Map prior to hunting or fishing. Hunting is prohibited in the Fort Benning Cantonment areas except as shown on the hunting and fishing map and Cantonment archery hunt maps published separately.
- b. Hunters shall adhere to the policies contained in MCoE Regulation 190-11 related to the possession, registration, transport, use, and discharge of firearms.
- c. Hunters and Fishermen shall adhere to the policies contained in MCoE Regulation 190-13 related to accessing the installation.
- d. Hunting and fishing is prohibited in posted dud areas and in areas and facilities posted as "restricted" or an "exclusion area."
- e. Game wardens, military police, and other authorized personnel may search or inspect vehicles anywhere on the installation.

- f. Littering or dumping on Fort Benning is prohibited.
- g. The online Fort Benning iSportsman system (<https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/>) allows recreational users to register, create an account, purchase permits, check into and out of training areas to hunt or fish, and to record all harvest of deer, pigs, turkeys and fish.
- (1) All recreational users who intend to hunt, fish, or cut firewood on Fort Benning must register and create an account in iSportsman.
    - (a) All users must enter their information in all required fields and select the category which accurately represents their affiliation.
    - (b) All users must select that they intend to introduce a vehicle on the installation in order to obtain a Vehicle Access Pass.
      - (I) Enter information for the vehicle most likely to be used; however, it is OK if that is not the vehicle utilized for recreational activities.
      - (II) Any dependent or other hunter who does not anticipate bringing a vehicle on Post should enter the vehicle information for their sponsor.
  - (2) Any user who intends to hunt on Fort Benning must view and acknowledge completion of the Fort Benning Hunting Safety Brief ("My Safety Brief" tab on iSportsman) before they will be allowed to purchase a Post Hunting Permit.
  - (3) All hunting, fishing and wood cutting permits must be purchased online from iSportsman using a valid debit or credit card.
    - (a) After registration, all users must login and select the "Acquire Permits" button on their home page to purchase a permit(s).
    - (b) Permits may be purchased up to 30 days in advance. **IMPORTANT: All users will be presented with a waiver/hold harmless agreement and must enter the date they want their permit to start at the top of the waiver/hold harmless agreement. This date cannot be changed after the fact.**
    - (c) All users must print their permits.
    - (d) Hunting and Fishing Permits ARE NOT valid until they have been stamped. All Fort Benning Hunting and Fishing Permits must be validated and stamped at MWR Outdoor Recreation, the Recreational Shooting Complex; or at the Country Store, Uchee Creek Army Campground and Marina. Users must present all documentation as required by Ch. 3-2 of this regulation in order to have their permit validated.
  - (4) All Hunters must check into training areas thru iSportsman to hunt. Hunters can check-in online at <https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/> by logging into their account and selecting the check-in/checkout button or by dialing 866-401-1448.
  - (5) All fisherman who are fishing in King's or Twilight ponds must check into the ponds thru iSportsman. Fisherman can check-in online at <https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/> by logging into their account and selecting the check-in/checkout button or by dialing 866-401-1448. Fisherman fishing in King's or Twilight ponds must also record their harvest from those ponds.

### 3-2. Personnel authorized to hunt and fish on Fort Benning.

- a. **Hunter Education Course Requirements.** All hunters 16 years of age and older, who were born on or after 1 January 1961, are required to show proof of completion of a hunter education course to hunt on Fort Benning; see chapter 6-2 a. & b. for specific youth hunter requirements. All hunters 16 years of age and older must possess a Georgia or Alabama license and purchase a Fort Benning Post Hunting Permit to be eligible to hunt on Fort Benning. Evidence of completion includes presenting a valid hunter education card at the time of Post Hunting Permit purchase. If an individual previously purchased a Post Permit in the past two years, the individual does not have to present the hunter education card again. Valid hunter education cards include those obtained from any state wildlife agency or Canadian province. All hunters must view and confirm completion of the Fort Benning Hunter Safety Brief while logged into their user account on the Fort Benning iSportsman website.
- b. The following personnel are authorized to hunt and fish on Fort Benning:
- (1) United States Armed Forces active duty personnel.
  - (2) United States Armed Forces retired personnel.
  - (3) Veterans having a service connected disability of not less than 30 percent.
  - (4) Medal of Honor recipients.
  - (5) Department of Defense Civilian Employees (appropriated and non-appropriated fund) **working** full-time or equivalent status regardless of where they work.
  - (6) Retired Department of Defense Civilian Employees regardless of where they worked.
  - (7) Federal Civilian Employees working full-time or equivalent status on Fort Benning to include, but not limited to, U.S. Postal Service, U.S. Customs Service, and U.S. Army Engineer District, Savannah.
  - (8) Retired Federal Civilian Employees (same as paragraphs 3-2b (6)) who were employed at this installation immediately prior to retirement.
  - (9) National Guardsmen and Reservists who are on active status regardless of where they are assigned. See Glossary, Section II for a definition of active status.
  - (10) Surviving spouses of military personnel who possess a valid dependent ID card.
  - (11) Foreign military personnel assigned to Fort Benning.
  - (12) Primary dependents of sponsors listed in paragraphs 3-2.b. (1)-(11) above. A primary dependent is defined as a lawful spouse or an unmarried child (including step children) who is less than 21 years old or those individuals less than 23 years old who are enrolled in a full-time course of education above high school level which receive over half of their support from the sponsor, and any child, regardless of age, living as a dependent due to disability; see paragraph 3-2c (12a.) for a discussion of other Family members who may qualify as special guests. To obtain a hunting or fishing permit, Family members of persons defined in para 3-2b (1-11), without a Government Dependent ID card, shall be accompanied by the sponsor, who must sign a declaration or affidavit attesting to the relationship.
  - (13) Guests. Properly approved guests may hunt and fish on the installation, subject to the rules, laws, and other provisions applicable to other hunters, provided they obtain a FB Form 200-1-2 (Fort Benning Guest Permit). Any individual who meets the requirements set forth in paragraphs 3-2.b. (1)-(12) above and who is 18 years or older may sponsor up to three guests per day to hunt and fish on Fort Benning. There is no limit to the number of guests an individual may sponsor in a year, but no more than three may accompany the individual at one time.
- Note: Contractors are not authorized to hunt or fish unless an authorized person sponsors the contractor and the contractor obtains a FB Form 200-1-2 or the individual is otherwise authorized in para 3-2b.1-12.
- c. To have a Fort Benning hunting and/or fishing permit validated, everyone must submit the following documents to prove eligibility:
- (1) Active duty and retired United States Armed Forces personnel - Military ID Card.
  - (2) Disabled Veterans - Medical ID Card or DA Certificate of Disability indicating a service-connected disability of not less than 30 percent.
  - (3) Medal of Honor Recipients - Copy of orders awarding medal and photo identification.
  - (4) Department of Defense Civilian employees (appropriated and non-appropriated fund) - DoD Civilian ID Card, current Leave and Earnings Statement, and photo identification.
  - (5) Federal Civilian Employees (other than DoD Civilian Employees) employed full-time on Fort Benning - Photo identification, current Leave and Earnings Statement and memorandum from supervisor stating that the individual is employed full-time on Fort Benning, and will remain in a full-time status for the duration of the season. If the employee resigns, or their employment is terminated, the employee will immediately cease to be eligible to hunt or fish as an authorized individual with privileges, but may instead hunt/fish as a guest when sponsored.
  - (6) Retired Federal Employees – A copy of the last SF 50 (Notification of Personnel Action) indicating retired status or Retirement Certificate issued by Fort Benning and photo identification.
  - (7) Active National Guard or Reserve Personnel - Current Leave and Earnings Statement which shows active status and Military ID Card.
  - (8) Primary dependents 16-17 years of age - Dependent ID Card and a written permission statement from the sponsor.
  - (9) Primary dependents 18 years old and older - Dependent ID Card.
  - (10) Primary dependents 21 years old and those less than 23 years old who are enrolled in a full-time course of education above high school level which receive over half their support from their sponsor – Dependent ID Card and a current year student ID card or a signed memorandum from the school's registrar's office stating that the individual is a full-time student.

(11) Foreign military personnel assigned to Fort Benning – Military ID card and orders assigning the individual to Fort Benning.

(12) Guests. To obtain a Guest Permit (FB Form 200-1-2), the sponsor must be present, obtain the pass for the guest, and attest as to the relationship of the guest. Guests are classified into three categories as follows:

(a) Family Members – Family members of persons defined in paragraphs 3-2b, (1)-(12) above may be sponsored by an authorized sponsor and purchase an annual guest hunting/fishing permit at the rate of Sergeant and above. A Family member is defined as a son/daughter (including step children), brother/sister, father/mother (including in-laws) and grandchildren. Proof of relationship will be established by an affirmation signed by the sponsor. Blank forms for this purpose are available online at <https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/Regulations.aspx> or at the permit issuing agency. Sponsoring an ineligible person as a Family member will result in permanent revocation of sponsor's hunting privileges.

(b) Non-Family Members - Persons not described in paragraph 3-2c,(12),(a) above may be sponsored as guests and purchase guest hunting/fishing permits on a daily, three-day, or thirty day basis at guest hunting/fishing rates established for non-Family members by DPW, DFMWR and the GCHFAC.

(c) Annual Veteran Guests – Persons who have served in the Armed forces and separated from the Armed Forces under honorable conditions but do not meet the requirements as defined in paragraphs 3-2b, (1)-(12) above may be sponsored by an authorized sponsor and purchase an annual guest hunting/fishing permit at the rate of Sergeant and above. An Annual Veteran Guest is defined as prior service member who can produce a DD-214 or NGB-22 which states he/she was discharged from service under honorable conditions. Annual Veteran Guests may only hunt/fish while accompanied by an authorized sponsor.

(d) Persons classified as guests in paragraphs (a), (b), and (c) above are subject to all sponsor/guest provisions discussed elsewhere throughout this regulation.

(e) Family member guest of an individual who holds an honorary installation hunting or fishing permit will pay the Sergeant and above fee.

### 3-3. Use of privately owned vehicles or off-road vehicles (ORV) when hunting or fishing.

a. All personnel entering Fort Benning in a vehicle must do so through a manned Access Control Point. A valid Department of Defense ID card, State Driver's License, State ID Card or Passport must be presented to gain access.

b. Off-road motorized vehicles (ORV) are prohibited on Fort Benning, unless installation authorities grant an exception based upon demonstrated medical disability. Disabled hunters may not hunt from a moving ORV. Disabled hunters may submit requests for exception to this policy to the Chief, NRMB at the address listed in suggested improvements on page 1. Documentation of the medical disability must be submitted with this request and must be resubmitted each year to verify no change in status.

c. Individuals shall not block roads or park a vehicle in a manner so as to prevent another vehicle from passing on either a maintained or unimproved road. When picking up or dropping off equipment and/or game, however, an individual may temporarily block another vehicle's passage.

d. Individuals cannot park on or within 60 meters of a construction project.

e. Vehicles cannot be operated off of established roads and trails.

### 3-4. Areas, boundaries, and access restrictions for hunting and fishing.

a. Range Division designates areas "open" or "closed" for recreational use based upon mission requirements. Hunters and fishermen must verify open areas by checking online at: <https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/>.

b. **Fort Benning hunting and fishing map.** The May 2020 edition of the 1:55,000-scale Fort Benning Hunting and Fishing Map, published by Range Division, DPTMS, supersedes all previous editions, which are not authorized for use due to significant changes. The map is available for purchase at DFMWR Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center, Bldg 1707, Gillespie Street (behind Wynnsong Theater); the Recreational Shooting Complex; and at the Country Store, Uchee Creek Army Campground and Marina.

c. **Alphanumeric designations.** The Fort Benning Hunting and Fishing Map is divided into alphanumeric compartments, or areas. Exclusion, cantonment, and dud areas are permanently closed to hunting. Other areas will open and close depending on scheduled training and other events.

(1) Closed Areas. Areas are closed for recreation on days when they are designated as closed.

(2) Open Areas. These areas are open for hunting with the designated weapons. Prior to entering open areas for recreational activities sportsmen must verify that areas are open by checking the following website: <https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/>.

d. Area specific restrictions and weapons authorized to hunt in them. The following areas have specific hunting restrictions:

(1) **Archery-only areas.** Sportsmen shall only use weapons identified in paragraph 6-5.b. Archery-only hunting areas include S3, S4, S9, S12, and S46. Also included in this list are Hamlet Creek, Custer Road, Chattahoochee River, Sand Hill, and Weatherby Field. In addition to archery hunting in these areas, migratory waterfowl may be hunted with shotguns in the Custer Road, Weatherby Field, S3, and S4 Archery Areas during appropriate seasons. Waterfowl hunters can check into these areas as they would to bow hunt.

(2) **Shotgun areas.** Sportsmen may only use weapons identified in paragraph 6-5.c. Shotgun areas include: C1, C2, S10, S16, S31-35, and S49.

(3) **Rifle areas.** Hunting areas not listed in subparagraphs (1) and (2) above are designated as rifle areas. Sportsmen may only use weapons identified in paragraph 6-5.d in these areas.

(4) **Areas designated as open for archery hunting concurrent with training.**

(a) Archery hunting concurrent with training and other area closures, is permitted in non-live fire exercise (LFX) and non-surface danger zone (SDZ) affected training areas. Archery hunting is defined elsewhere in this regulation.

(b) On iSportsman, all of these areas have the letters "CT" following the alphanumeric compartment name. Any hunter who attempts to check into an "AHCT" Area will receive a message which they must acknowledge that rearticulates the requirements for hunting in these areas which are listed below in 3-4.d(4)(c-d).

(c) Archery hunters participating in this program must understand that safety and training remain the commander's top priorities. Under this program, archery hunters cannot hunt within 200 meters of any military equipment, personnel or training event. If a training unit moves inside the 200 meter buffer zone, it is the hunter's responsibility to immediately leave the area without interfering with the training event. Archery hunters must pay particular attention to where and how they park their vehicles in these areas. Archery hunters will not park in a manner that would prevent either military vehicles from passing or the training event to be conducted.

(d) Archery hunters who fail to comply with the special requirements of this program will be suspended IAW penalties listed in Table 8-1. Individuals violating provisions of this program will not be eligible to participate in the volunteer work program to shorten their period of suspension.

(e) Note – Because the list of areas available for this program is subject to change at any time with the development of ranges or implementation of weapons systems, a listing of areas available for this program is not published here. Hunters should check the Hunting and Fishing Information Sheets or iSportsman online at <https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/> to determine the eligible areas.

(5) **Named pond areas.** The following named ponds on post (Weems, Hedleys, and Snelling) have a designated code for checking in to hunt waterfowl. Hunters must check into that pond to hunt waterfowl on the pond. Hunting is prohibited on Russ Pond and Pool, Sand Hill Duck Pond, Twilight, Kings and Victory Ponds.

(6) **Multiple use compartments.** Training compartments on post which are divided by boundaries that separate open to normal hunting and archery only hunting can be checked into for either use. Hunters must be in the correct section of the compartment for the weapon being used for hunting as depicted on the Hunting and Fishing Map.

(7) **Disabled hunter areas.** Several areas on post have been set aside for hunting by disabled hunters only. In all cases a written explanation of disability from the VA or personal physician is required and must be presented to Natural Resources Management Branch for review and determination of qualification. Disabled is defined as: Any person who is restricted to a wheelchair, or is not ambulatory without walking aids (such as, walkers, crutches,

and so forth) or a prosthesis, has lost a limb or a vital organ (such as, lung, or is otherwise impaired to the extent that they cannot hunt alone; unassisted, or in a normal manner. Eligibility considered on a case by case basis, to maximize participation in Outdoor Sports by all qualified individuals. All hunters must coordinate with Natural Resources Management Branch to obtain access a minimum of two days ahead of expected hunt date.

**(8) Quality Deer Management.**

(a) All of Fort Benning is set aside as a Quality Deer Management (QDM) hunting area, with the exception that youth hunters, 15 years of age and younger, may harvest one antlered deer per season that does not meet antler restriction requirements. Youth hunters may only harvest an antlered deer that does not meet antler restriction requirements during the respective Alabama and Georgia youth hunting seasons and on mandatory deer check station days when deer from the respective state must be checked. Dates and locations for mandatory deer check stations are listed in Chapter 10-1.

**(b) ALL ANTLERED DEERS HARVESTED WILL HAVE AT LEAST FOUR POINTS (ONE INCH OR LONGER) ON ONE SIDE OF ANTLERS.**

(1) Antlered deer are deer with bare antlers visible above the natural hairline.

(2) Any hunter who harvests an antlered deer that does not meet the QDM requirements will be punished IAW Table 8-1.

(c) In addition to mandatory check stations listed in chapter 10-1, check stations may be established at random locations throughout Post to collect harvest data.

e. Sportsmen, persons, individuals will not bypass sentries, road guards, roadblocks, or closed and locked gates or cables (Unauthorized use of official keys to unlock gates or cables for the purpose of hunting is prohibited.) in a vehicle even if the area is open for hunting or fishing. Sportsmen may bypass sentries, road guards, roadblocks, or closed and locked gates or cables on foot if that area is listed as open for hunting or fishing.

f. All persons entering the installation in a privately owned vehicle are required to enter or exit the installation at manned access control points. All personnel hunting will enter and exit through manned access control points. Hunters may enter an open hunting compartment on the Fort Benning boundary in Georgia or Alabama from off post by foot.

g. Hunting or fishing in designated exclusion and duded impact areas is prohibited. Sportsmen must check the 1:55,000-scale Hunting and Fishing Map to identify the location of exclusion and duded impact areas. Duded impact areas are strictly off limits to all sportsman, no entry is allowed. Sportsmen may drive through exclusion areas on an established road or trail to get to an open area, provided that no road guard, gate, cable, or other such barrier is bypassed and the exclusion area is not occupied for training. To access an adjacent open area a Sportsman may walk through an exclusion area that is not occupied for training only on established roads or trails that are depicted on the hunting and fishing map, so long as their weapons are unloaded while within the boundaries of the exclusion area. Sportsmen may not park in an exclusion area.

**3-5. Cultural Resources.** Individuals may not disturb archeological sites on Fort Benning. The use or possession of metal detectors or any other device to locate or collect artifacts is prohibited.

## Chapter 4

### Safety

**4-1. General.** To avoid injuries and possible loss of life, hunting, fishing, and all other recreational activities must be accomplished in a safe and responsible manner. Many restrictions on hunting and fishing activities are based upon safety considerations. Anyone discovering or having knowledge of an accident or incident occurring on the installation will notify the appropriate authorities by the fastest means available (see table 4-1).

a. Feral swine precautions. Feral swine can transmit diseases to humans and domestic animals. Hunters should wear plastic gloves when field-dressing feral swine; wash their hands with soap and water as soon as possible after contact; avoid direct contact with the animal's blood and reproductive organs; and cook the meat thoroughly.

b. Safety light. Many hunters travel to and from their hunting area, tree stand, or blind just before dawn and after dusk. Hunters should use a small light while traveling to and from their stands or hunting area in periods of limited visibility to help hunters identify one another during low light conditions.

c. All personnel will follow the guidelines for checking into and out of the hunting areas in accordance with chapter 11 of this regulation.

### 4-2. Policies

a. Hunter Orange.

(1) Hunters must wear an outer garment which shows a minimum of 500 square inches of hunter orange (commonly called blaze or fluorescent orange) material above the waist and must also wear orange headgear while hunting. The orange headgear may be removed once the hunter is elevated (hunting from a tree stand or elevated platform). Hunter orange must be of solid color and visible from any angle. Only hunter orange is allowed. The various shades of red as well as camouflage-pattern orange are prohibited.

(2) The requirement to wear hunter orange is year round, both day and night, and in every season except when hunting waterfowl in archery-only areas, hunting doves on designated fields, archery hunting in archery-only areas, hunting crows in designated dove fields and hunting turkey. Archery hunters are not required to wear hunter orange when hunting in an archery-only area including areas designated as archery hunting only concurrent with training. Waterfowl hunters must wear the prescribed amount of hunter orange only when walking to or from a waterfowl hunting site, or while hunting along streams or creeks located inside or between areas open for firearm hunting.

(3) Persons accompanying a hunter must meet the same hunter orange requirements as the hunter.

(4) Hunters are not required to wear hunter orange when traveling in a vehicle or when on foot no more than ten (10) meters from a vehicle.

(5) Even when not required by this regulation, hunters should consider wearing hunter orange, particularly when changing locations or removing game from the field.

b. Safety straps. All persons are required to use a safety strap or harness while hunting from an elevated stand.

c. Duds. Duds can be found in many areas and must not be handled. Do not pick-up, transport, or remove duds. All duds should be immediately reported to Range Operation, 706-544-6291/6371/6271. Hunting and fishing are prohibited in posted dud areas and in those ranges and facilities posted "restricted" or "exclusion area" for safety reasons.

d. Alcohol and drugs. Hunters will not be intoxicated, possess alcohol on their person, or consume alcoholic beverages while hunting. Hunters will not be under the influence of illegal drugs or possess them while hunting. Hunters will not be under the influence of prescription drugs that alter decision making process while hunting.

e. Railroad tracks and their right of ways are off limits to hunting and vehicular traffic.

## Chapter 5

### Licenses, Permits, and Fees

**5-1. General.** When hunting or fishing on either the Georgia or Alabama side of Fort Benning, you must have the appropriate licenses, permits, and personal identification in your possession at that time.

**5-2. Federal license.** If the wildlife you are hunting requires the purchase of a federal license, permit or stamp, then you must have that license, permit or stamp in your possession at the time you are hunting. For example, if you are hunting migratory birds, then you must have a Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (federal duck stamp) and the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program Permit (HIP). The Federal Duck Stamp must be signed in ink across the face.

**5-3. State license.** Anyone who hunts or fishes on Fort Benning must have appropriate hunting or fishing licenses from Alabama or Georgia, subject to the following.

**Table 4-1, Point of Contact Information** (referenced in para 4-1)

<b>Information</b>	<b>Office</b>	<b>Phone / Website</b>
Automated check in/out of hunting areas To check the status of an area	iSportsman Hunter Control System	<a href="https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/">https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/</a> 866-401-1448
On-line access for areas open on Fort Benning for hunting and fishing	iSportsman	<a href="https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/">https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/</a>
On-line Fort Benning hunting and fishing	Environmental Management Division	<a href="http://www.benning.army.mil/garrison/DPW/EMD/wildlife.htm">http://www.benning.army.mil/garrison/DPW/EMD/wildlife.htm</a>
On-line MCoE Regulation 200-1, Fort Benning Hunting and Fishing Regulation	Environmental Management Division	<a href="https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/Regulations.aspx">https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/Regulations.aspx</a>
GA hunting and fishing licenses Fort Benning Hunting and Fishing Permits Fort Benning Hunter Access Passes Fort Benning Hunting and Fishing Maps Fort Benning Hunter Safety Cards / Film	DFMWR Equipment Resource Center, Bldg 1707, Gillespie St, Fort Benning Mon 8am-5pm, Tues-Thurs 9am-5pm, Fri 8am-6pm, Sat 8am – 1pm, closed Sun & holidays	545-7978 <a href="http://www.benningmwr.com/odr-huntingandfishing.php">http://www.benningmwr.com/odr-huntingandfishing.php</a>
GA hunting and fishing licenses Fort Benning Hunting and Fishing Permits Fort Benning Hunter Access Passes Fort Benning Hunting and Fishing Maps Boater Safety Cards	Uchee Creek Country Store Open 7 Days per week (except some holidays) 8am-6pm	545-4053 or 7238 <a href="http://benningmwr.com/uchee">http://benningmwr.com/uchee</a>
GA hunting and fishing licenses Fort Benning Hunting and Fishing Permits Fort Benning Hunter Access Passes Fort Benning Hunting and Fishing Maps	Recreational Shooting Complex, Bldg 2973, COL Ralph Puckett Pkwy, Fort Benning Closed Mondays and Tuesdays Wed-Fri 11am-7pm (Mar-Oct) 5pm (Nov-Feb) Saturday: 9am-5pm Sunday: 9am-5pm	545-6158 <a href="http://benningmwr.com/recreational-shooting-complex/">http://benningmwr.com/recreational-shooting-complex/</a>
To request military police To contact game warden (via MP Desk) to report hunting or fishing violations/ incidents To request an ambulance or to report a fire	Military Police Desk (24 hrs)	For Emergencies – Dial 911 Non-emergencies Dial 545-5223 or 5224
Fort Benning telephone numbers Fort Benning operator assistance	Post Operator (24 hrs) (both automated and operator assist)	545-2011 or 0110
Local and national directory assistance	National Directory Assistance (24 hrs) Note: charges apply – rates vary	411
Fort Benning Staff Duty Officer	MCoE Staff Duty Office (24 hrs)	545-2218 or 6814
Exceptions to Post hunting and fishing policy Post hunting and fishing regulation questions Post fish and wildlife management questions Post hunting seasons and bag limits	Chief, Natural Resources Management Branch, Environmental Management Division, Directorate of Public Works	544-7079 or 7081
Post controlled burning, forestry, planting	Chief, NRMB, DPW	544-7081
Timber harvesting, firewood permits	Forester, NRMB, DPW	544-7076, 7075
Range operations, duds, range incidents Assistance if locked behind range gate/barrier Reporting troops in an open hunting area	Radio Room, Range Division, (DPTMS), MCoE (24 hrs)	544-6291
Suspension of hunting/fishing privileges Hearing officer for filing appeals	Staff Judge Advocate, Administrative Law Division	545-1564
Fort Benning rifle, pistol and skeet shooting range Purchasing rifles and pistols	Fort Benning Recreational Shooting Complex Bldg 2793, Coursen Range, Dixie Road Mar-Sep, 11am-7pm Tue-Fri, 8am-5pm Sat Oct-Feb, 11am-5pm Tue-Fri, 8am-5pm Sat	545-6158 <a href="http://www.benningmwr.com/range.php">http://www.benningmwr.com/range.php</a>
Bass Club activities Bass fishing tournaments	Benning Bass Club	<a href="http://www.benningbassclub.com/">http://www.benningbassclub.com/</a>
Fort Benning firearm registration	Firearm Registration Office Bldg 18 or 215	545-5223 or 5224
Georgia hunting and fishing education classes, licenses, laws GA boating regulations, ramps, registration	Georgia Wildlife Resource Division, Dept of Natural Resources	770-918-6416 <a href="http://www.georgiawildlife.com/">http://www.georgiawildlife.com/</a>
Alabama hunting and fishing education classes, licenses, laws	Alabama Division of Wildlife and Fisheries, Dept of Conservation and Natural Resources	334-242-3465 <a href="http://www.outdooralabama.com/">http://www.outdooralabama.com/</a>

Alabama boating regulations, registration, and ramp locations	AL Marine Resources Division, Dept of Conservation and Natural Resources	<a href="http://www.outdooralabama.com/">http://www.outdooralabama.com/</a>
<p><b>Note: Do not call the Military Police Desk to check-in or out of an area.</b></p> <p><b>Do not call the Range Division (DPTMS), to open a locked gate in an open area.</b></p>		

a. **Active duty personnel.** Active duty personnel assigned to Fort Benning who have either a Georgia or Alabama hunting and/or fishing license may hunt and/or fish on either the Georgia or Alabama side of the installation with that license, but are bound by the rules, such as bag limits and season dates included herein. All personnel must possess a state harvest card for the state (Georgia or Alabama) in which they are hunting and complete the harvest card IAW each states specific requirements. Harvest cards can be printed free of charge from each respective states website. Family members, sponsored guests of active duty personnel, DoD Civilian Employees, retirees, and all other persons authorized to hunt or fish on Fort Benning are excluded from this agreement. This exception is authorized by a cooperative agreement between authorities in Georgia and Alabama.

b. **Georgia.** To hunt on the Georgia side of the installation, all hunters must meet all requirements for (age, residency, and proof of hunter safety course) and purchase a Georgia State Hunting License.

(1) **Big game license.** A Georgia Big Game License is required to hunt deer or turkey. All other game can be hunted with only a small game license.

(2) **Residency.** For the purpose of hunting and fishing, the State of Georgia considers all full-time military personnel (and their dependents) assigned to active duty at a Georgia military base, to be Georgia residents who may therefore purchase Georgia resident hunting and fishing licenses.

c. **Alabama.** Hunters must have an Alabama State Hunting License to hunt on the Alabama side of the installation and meet Alabama requirements (age, residency, proof of hunter safety course) to obtain these licenses.

**Note: Alabama license exceptions**

(1) **Military personnel.** Alabama allows active-duty service members who are on leave and are residents of the state to hunt or fish in Alabama at no cost. Active-duty personnel who meet the criteria of the Alabama state law license exemption may also hunt and/or fish on the Alabama portion of the installation without an Alabama license while they are on leave. These personnel are required to possess a Fort Benning Permit, a Hunting/Fishing Access Pass, Harvest Card, meet the hunter safety course requirements, and carry in their possession a valid military leave form in order to hunt or fish on the Alabama portion of the installation. These personnel must also present a military identification card, a valid leave form for the period they are hunting or fishing, and documentation that verifies that they are Alabama state residents (a current leave and earnings statement, or a current Alabama state tax document indicating that they are a resident of the state, or a notarized affidavit indicating that they are a resident of the state of Alabama). Personnel who are hunting or fishing in this status are not entitled to hunt or fish on the Georgia portion of the installation.

(2) **Alabama residents over 65 years of age.** Alabama residents 65 years of age and over are exempt from buying hunting licenses provided said resident has on his person while hunting a driver's license or proof of permanent Alabama residence and age. However, these persons are required to possess a Fort Benning Permit, a Hunting/Fishing Access Pass, Harvest Card and meet the hunter safety course requirements.

d. **For the purposes of hunting,** the Georgia-Alabama boundary shall be the western side of the Chattahoochee River channel (based on channel marker locations).

e. **Fishing in Chattahoochee River.** Either a Georgia or Alabama Fishing License may be used to fish in the Chattahoochee River. The Chattahoochee River and its impoundments are always considered open for fishing unless otherwise announced.

**5-4. Fort Benning permits.**

a. **Annual permits.** Personnel authorized to hunt and/or fish on Fort Benning in accordance with paragraph 3-2 must purchase a hunting and/or fishing permit online at <https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/>. Annual Permits are valid for 365 days from date of purchase and may be renewed up to 30 days prior to expiration. All Fort Benning permits must be purchased online and should be printed prior to the individual visiting DFMWR Outdoor Recreation Equipment Resource Center, Building 1707; the Recreational Shooting Complex; or, at the Country Store, Uchee Creek Army Campground and Marina to have their permit validated.

(1) **Hunting Permits.** All persons hunting on Fort Benning must obtain a Fort Benning Hunting Permit. Honorary permits will be issued to youth hunters and any person eligible for an honorary permit from the state, except that guest hunters do not qualify for honorary Post Permits.

(2) **Fishing Permits.** A Fort Benning Fishing Permit is required for any person age 16 or older to fish in any waters (pond or stream) on Fort Benning except that the Chattahoochee River may be fished from a boat or the bank without a permit. Fishing in streams that flow into the Chattahoochee River or backwaters areas of the Chattahoochee River do not require a permit if fishing from a boat, but bank fishing in these areas requires a permit.

(3) **Vehicle Access Pass.** All participants must have an Access Pass and therefore must register a vehicle in iSportsman so that an Access Pass can be issued. Youth and guest hunters may enter the vehicle information for their sponsor in iSportsman if they do not intend to bring their own vehicle on the installation. The Fort Benning Vehicle Access Pass will be issued to all individuals hunting, fishing, or cutting firewood on Fort Benning, including youth, disabled and honorary permit holders, when the Post Permit is acquired. The Access Pass belongs to each individual and must be displayed so that it can be read through the front windshield from outside the vehicle while the individual is afield at any time of the year, including when an individual is simply scouting an area. All individuals who are riding in the vehicle are required to display their Access Passes. A participant may park a vehicle lawfully and ride with another participant. If an individual does this, they must display their Fort Benning Vehicle Access Pass behind the windshield of the second vehicle, not from the parked vehicle.

b. **Honorary Permits.** Individuals who are eligible to hunt or fish on Fort Benning and who qualify for an honorary state license in either Georgia or Alabama may receive an honorary Fort Benning Permit to hunt or fish on the respective side of the reservation for which the license is held, except that guest hunters do not qualify for honorary Post Permits.

c. **Guest Permits.** Guests, as defined by sub-paragraph 3-2b (13), must be sponsored and possess an appropriate Guest Permit. Guest permits are obtained by a guest's sponsor. Guest Permits can be purchased and issued as annual permits for family member guests and qualified Veterans or 1 day, 3 day, 7 day or 30 day permits for non-family member guests. The primary sponsor's name will be entered on the pass at the time of validation by MWR personnel. If the primary sponsor is not available to accompany the guest while hunting or fishing, then any authorized sponsor who is willing to sponsor the guest can do so, provided he/she does not exceed the limit of three guests at any one time. When a guest is sponsored to hunt by a sponsor other than the primary, the guest **must** have the name and access pass number of their current sponsor available should he/she be questioned by any Conservation Officer. All sponsors are responsible for their guest as set forth elsewhere in this regulation. **Any guest found to be hunting/fishing without an appropriate authorized sponsor will have his/her permit revoked immediately, be subject to penalties as set forth in this regulation, and be permanently disqualified from being sponsored to hunt/fish on Fort Benning.**

**5-5. Fee and permit prices.** The GCHFAC, with approval of the Garrison Commander sets the cost of hunting and fishing fees which are subject to change. Permit fees are clearly displayed in iSportsman during permit purchasing. Users may also contact Fort Benning Natural Resources Management Branch for current fee information.

**Chapter 6  
Hunting Regulations**

**6-1. General**



- a. Placing any "bait" at any time on Fort Benning by anyone other than Ft. Benning Natural Resources Management Branch personnel, or those specifically authorized via special permit issued by Natural Resources Management Branch, is prohibited. Bait consists of corn, wheat, or other grains, apples, or other feed. Bait may not be placed, exposed, or scattered so as to constitute a lure, attraction, or enticement; with the exception that salts and minerals may be used and must be fully incorporated into the soil.
- b. Vehicles will not be driven through planted wildlife fields or feed strips.
- c. Individuals will not remove, destroy, or mutilate the head of a deer until it is processed or delivered to a facility for storage and processing.
- d. It is unlawful to capture, take, or possess any game bird or animal for use as a pet. It is unlawful to release into the wild or import any fish or wildlife without first coordinating with the Chief, Natural Resources Management Branch, DPW, and obtaining a permit from the appropriate state agency, with the exception that from the end of deer rifle season to the end of quail season, hunters can put out pen reared bobwhite quail in training compartments C30 through C35 on days when the compartment is open to normal hunting. Individuals may use Falcons or other birds of prey on Fort Benning provided they comply with applicable Georgia or Alabama law.
- e. Named ponds may be utilized for waterfowl hunting with the exception of Russ Pond and Pool, Sand Hill Duck Pond, Twilight, Kings and Victory Ponds.
- f. Hunters "shall not" drive hunt for deer. Still or stalk hunting are the only approved methods for hunting deer.
- g. Authorized hunters who sponsor guests must directly supervise their guest(s) while on Fort Benning. Sponsors and guests can meet in Cantonment Areas only, as delineated on Hunting and Fishing Map, before traveling to the hunting location. Sponsors must accompany the guest throughout the visit. Therefore, guests must travel to and from the hunting location with the sponsor either in the same vehicle or in a separate vehicle traveling directly behind the sponsor. Sponsor and guest must be signed into the same area, or areas, and either hunting in the same area or in two separate areas that are adjacent and share a common boundary. Sponsors are directly responsible for the actions of their guests. It is the sponsor's responsibility to ensure his guest(s) understand and comply with all Fort Benning regulations and policies. On the day of the hunt, sponsors (who may not necessarily be the guest's primary sponsor) who fail to directly supervise their guests properly are subject to punishments described in Table 8-1.
- h. Hunters may not guide hunt in exchange for money or other compensation on Fort Benning.
- i. Hunting stands, both portable and constructed, may be used on Fort Benning. All hunters are required to use a safety harness while hunting off the ground. Stands will not be attached on any tree marked with a single or double white/orange band (Red Cockaded Woodpecker Endangered Species Site). All stands left in the field must be marked with the individuals name, phone number, and season date; and will not be placed on utility poles. Stands no longer used or that are structurally unsafe should be dismantled and removed from the area.
- j. Any hunter may use another hunter's stand; however, it is expected that prior to doing so, the hunter will call the individual whose name is on the stand, consistent with common courtesy and hunter etiquette. If a hunter fails to call the owner of a marked stand and the owner shows up the individual must vacate the stand immediately.
- k. Mandatory deer checks will be conducted on specified dates at check station locations as indicated in chapter 10. Hunters must bring all deer harvested to the check station on the mandatory deer check dates.
- l. Tagging game. There is no requirement to tag harvested animals. In addition to any and all Georgia or Alabama harvest reporting requirements, hunters must also report game harvested through the iSportsman system as required in chapter 11 of this regulation. Persons transporting game harvested by another hunter must possess, in writing, the complete name, address, telephone number, Fort Benning Hunting Permit number, and State License number of the person who harvested the animal(s).
- m. Transporting Game: Harvested game must be transported with respect to the animal and in good taste to minimize impact on the non-hunting community. If transported in view of the public, harvested game will be transported with the chest cavity closed and the head and legs folded naturally towards the body of the animal as if the animal is lying down. If the animal cannot be transported with the chest cavity closed and head and legs folded in, hunters must use a tarp to cover the animal. Hunters will take every effort to minimize blood on the vehicle. Transportation of harvested game on the front or roof of a vehicle will only be used if no other option exists.
- n. Transporting Deer: Any deer harvested on the Georgia side of the installation may not be transported into Alabama unless all meat has been deboned and skull plates and hides completely cleaned of all brain and spinal cord tissue.
- o. Training and hunting with dogs.
- (1) Hunting deer or feral swine on the installation with dogs is prohibited. Dogs used for other legal forms of hunting must have a collar bearing the owner's name, phone number, and proof of vaccination.
- (2) Individuals authorized hunting privileges on Fort Benning may train or condition dogs on any designated dove field, LZ or DZ, year-round, except during turkey season or when dove hunters are present during dove season, provided that the area is open for firearm hunting. Individuals working with dogs must stay within the boundaries of said field while training. Hunters can use live pigeons or pen reared quail for training purposes and can shoot live ammunition from shotguns using size 7 ½ shot or smaller to harvest those training birds over dogs or use blank ammunition in pistols or shotguns. Individuals must wear hunter orange as described elsewhere in this regulation while training dogs in these areas.
- (3) Dogs may be used to hunt bobcat, fox, raccoon and coyote only at night. Use of dogs during daylight hours is allowed for hunting doves, quail, woodcock, waterfowl, squirrel, and rabbits.
- p. Trapping on the Fort Benning Military Reservation (other than the separately approved and managed program to control Feral Swine and the re-trapping of a lost falconry birds of prey) is prohibited. Trapping of birds of prey, removal of eggs from their nest is prohibited on Fort Benning Military Reservation unless exception has been granted through a special permit issued by the Natural Resources Management Branch.
- q. The use of any pitfall, deadfall, snare, catch, trap, net, exposed salt or minerals, live decoy, or baited hook to take game is prohibited. Game wardens and installation wildlife management personnel may trap for predator control and medical purposes only. Game wardens may trap dogs and other domestic animals, as required.
- r. Endangered and threatened species.
- (1) In accordance with AR 200-1, Environmental Protection and Enhancement, and the Endangered Species Act it is unlawful for any person subject to the jurisdiction of the U.S. to harass, harm, or capture any endangered species on Fort Benning.
- (2) Fort Benning is home to many unique and protected species, including the endangered Red-Cockaded Woodpecker (RCW) and the Gopher Tortoise. Sportsmen must be aware that it is a serious violation of federal law to infringe upon the habitat of an endangered species. Violators will be prosecuted in federal court. Hunters are urged to be sensitive to environmental concerns and ensure that their actions are consistent with good wildlife management practices. Sportsmen should report violations of this or any other regulation or law to the Military Police Desk at 545-5224.
- (3) Hunters may hunt within an RCW cluster site and portable hunting stands may be used on any tree in the cluster not marked with a single or double white, yellow, or orange band. RCW clusters are marked by white signs designating the area as an Endangered Species Site. Vehicles, of any type, are prohibited from entering or driving through an RCW cluster site on other than established and maintained roads or trails.
- (4) All sportsmen in vehicles must keep a watchful eye for Gopher Tortoises and try to avoid them if they are encountered while crossing roadways.
- s. The use of any electronic call is prohibited (except that electronic calls may be used to hunt crows, coyotes and feral swine.) The possession of any electronic calling device capable of producing real or imitation calls of any type except when hunting crows, coyotes or feral swine is prohibited.
- t. Hunters may use cell phones, pagers, two-way radios, Global Positioning Satellite (GPS) position location devices, and bionic ear devices while hunting.
- u. Taking a deer while it is in a river, lake, stream, or pond is prohibited.
- v. Use of electronic or mechanical decoys for turkey hunting is prohibited on the Alabama portions of the installation.
- w. Only battery powered lights or fuel type lanterns may be carried by hunters while night hunting.



- x. Butchering harvested game at on-post quarters in public view is permitted; however, hunters should use good judgment while butchering game to minimize adverse public reactions.
- y. Licensed Falconers can conduct Falconry in open hunting areas in accordance with State and Federal Regulations.
  - (1) Kite/ Balloon training associated with the training of raptors is prohibited.
  - (2) Extended falconry seasons and bag limits are listed in the current Georgia and Alabama Hunting Regulations.

## 6-2. Minimum age requirements

- a. Persons younger than 12 years of age must be with a sponsor while hunting and are not authorized to carry a weapon. These hunters may harvest game with the sponsor's weapon while under the direct supervision of an adult sponsor 18 years old or older.
- b. Persons 12-15 years of age must be under the direct supervision of an adult sponsor 18 years old or older. Carrying a weapon or weapons for hunting is permitted only if the youth hunter, 12-15 years of age, has successfully completed the hunter education requirement. Otherwise, hunters 12-15 years of age are not authorized to carry a weapon but may harvest game with their sponsor's weapon. To hunt on the Georgia side of the installation persons 12-15 years of age are not required to possess a Georgia hunting license if they are considered to be a Georgia resident. If they are not considered a Georgia resident, then they will need to purchase a non-resident hunting license to hunt deer or turkey on the Georgia side of the installation (they are exempt from the big game license requirement). To hunt big game on the Alabama side of the installation persons 12-15 years of age are not required to possess an Alabama hunting license.
- c. Primary dependents who are 16 years of age or older must obtain a Fort Benning Hunting Permit to hunt on the Installation and may carry a weapon to hunt on their own without a sponsor present. All persons 16 years of age or older who hunt must have the appropriate state license for the game they are hunting.
- d. Primary dependents 16-17 years of age require written permission from the sponsor to obtain a Fort Benning Hunting Permit.
- e. "Direct adult supervision" is defined as within sight or hearing of an adult sponsor 18 years old or older.
- f. Primary dependents age 18 years old or older are authorized to sponsor up to a maximum of three guests per day to hunt and fish on Fort Benning if they possess a current post permit and the appropriate state license.
- g. Adult sponsors of persons younger than 16 years of age must be authorized to hunt and fish on the installation per paragraph 3-2,a,(1)-(12) and possess a current post permit and the appropriate state license.
- h. Adult sponsors may not have more than two (2) hunters 12-15 years of age carrying weapons while under their supervision at one time.
- i. In Georgia, youth hunters must have a Georgia Deer Harvest Record. In Alabama, youth hunters must have an Alabama Hunter Harvest Record. These harvest record requirements are available free of charge.

**6-3. Hunting seasons.** Hunting seasons on the Georgia and Alabama side of the installation are listed in chapter 10.

## 6-4. Hunting hours.

- a. The legal hunting hours for hunting on Fort Benning are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset with the following exceptions:
  - (1) Legal hours for migratory bird hunting (such as, duck and dove) begin 30 minutes before legal sunrise and end at legal sunset except on opening day of dove season when the season opens at 1200 EST in Georgia and 1200 CST in Alabama.
  - (2) Raccoons, opossums, fox, bobcats, and coyotes may be hunted at night (see table 10-2, chapter 10).
- b. Night hunters must check-in through using the iSportsman Hunter Control System (automated). Night hunters may not enter an area to hunt at night until one-hour after sunset and must exit the area not later than one-hour before sunrise. Dogs may not be used for hunting after 3 AM during the Alabama Turkey Season on the Alabama portion of the reservation.

## 6-5. Legal weapons and ammunition.

- a. Wildlife may be hunted on the Georgia or Alabama side of the installation with any weapon approved for that purpose, except for restrictions listed herein:
  - (1) The use of buckshot and full metal jacketed ammunition is prohibited for hunting on Fort Benning.
  - (2) Bows must have a minimum draw of 40 lbs. Long bows, recurve bows, compound bows, and crossbows are all considered as bows in this regulation.
  - (3) It is unlawful to hunt with a bow or gun that has any light source attached that is capable of casting a beam of light forward of the bow or gun or to have in possession such a light source adapted for attachment to a bow or gun, except while hunting legal game at night within the legal night hunting hours. Hunters may not possess equipment that uses electronics to increase the ability to see in the dark (night vision equipment) while hunting any species of wildlife. Laser sighting devices which project a beam of light onto the target are prohibited at all times.
  - (4) Firearms suppressors are prohibited for hunting on Fort Benning. Hunters with a medical doctor validated medical condition that requires noise mitigation may seek an exception to policy (ETP) from the Garrison Commander. The Garrison Commander's Hunting and Fishing Advisory Council president and first vice president will manage all ETP requests for suppressor use. Hunters desiring an ETP for suppressors will contact the GCHFAC for guidance and documentation requirements.
  - (5) Shotguns must be plugged to a maximum capacity of three (3) shells (magazine and chamber combined) except for deer and feral swine hunting. For deer and feral swine, shotguns are limited to five (5) shells. There is no magazine capacity for rifles and pistols.
  - (6) Crossbows must have a working safety device. Crossbow bolts or arrows cannot be treated with any type of chemical or carry any type of chemical pod attachment.
  - (7) Exploding broadheads are prohibited on Fort Benning.
  - (8) Archery hunters may not use or have in their immediate possession a firearm at any time while hunting in an archery-only area. Firearms may be temporarily secured in a vehicle in accordance with MCoE Reg 190-11 while the hunter is parked in an archery only hunting area. In all other areas the following applies:
    - (a) On the Georgia side of the installation, archers may also carry any approved firearm in accordance with the open season and subject to restrictions on weapons in certain areas; however, archers may not have in their immediate possession a firearm at any time while hunting deer during the archery-only season or in an archery only compartment.
    - (b) On the Alabama side of the installation, archers are prohibited from having in their immediate possession both a gun and a bow while hunting any species of game, bird or animal, except during deer firearms season and subject to restrictions on weapons in certain areas.
- b. Legal weapons in Archery-only Areas. Long bows, recurve bows, compound bows, and crossbows are the only weapons permitted in archery-only areas. Firearms may be temporarily secured in a vehicle in accordance with MCoE Reg 190-11 while the hunter is parked in an archery only hunting area.
- c. Legal Weapons in Shotgun Areas. Legal weapons during open game seasons in "shotgun-only" areas are shotguns, muzzleloaders, air rifles, bows, and handguns in the following calibers: .357 magnum, .38 special, .40 cal., 41 magnum, .44 magnum, .45 ACP, .454 Casull, 480 Ruger, .45 Long Colt, 9mm parabellum/luger, and 10mm auto.
- d. Legal Weapons in Rifle Areas. Rifles, muzzleloaders, shotguns, air rifles, bows, and handguns may be used in rifle areas.
- e. Legal Weapons in Archery Hunting Concurrent with Training Areas. Legal weapons in areas open for Archery Hunting Concurrent With Training are long bows, recurve bows, compound bows, and crossbows.
- f. Legal Weapons for deer. Deer may be hunted with the following weapons in accordance with the applicable state's open season and Fort Benning hunting restrictions:

- (1) Rifles and handguns .22-caliber or larger centerfires with expanding bullets.
- (2) Pre-charged pneumatic air guns .30 caliber or larger
- (3) Shotguns 20-gauge or larger with slugs only. Buckshot is not allowed.
- (4) Muzzleloaders that are .44 caliber or larger on the Georgia side and .40 caliber or larger on the Alabama side of the installation.
- (5) Primitive weapons are bows, to include crossbows (scopes are allowed in both Georgia and Alabama), and muzzleloaders (scopes are allowed in both Alabama and Georgia).

g. Legal weapons for feral swine. Feral swine may be hunted year round with any weapon approved in accordance with area and training restrictions except during deer primitive weapons season and turkey season. During deer primitive weapons season, they may only be hunted with primitive weapons except that youth hunters may harvest feral swine with any approved firearm during youth deer season in the respective state. Feral Swine cannot be hunted during turkey season.

h. Legal weapons for turkey. Handguns, rifles, and muzzle loading rifles with ball ammunition may not be used to harvest turkey. Turkey may be hunted with the following weapons:

- (1) Shotguns with No.2 or smaller shot.
- (2) Any smoothbore muzzleloading firearm with No.2 or smaller shot.
- (3) Any approved archery weapon as defined below:
  - (a) In Georgia - Any approved archery weapon to include crossbows.
  - (b) In Alabama - Any approved archery weapon to include crossbows.

i. Legal weapons for waterfowl. Waterfowl may be hunted with any 10-gauge or smaller shotgun loaded with federally approved nontoxic shot of size "T" or smaller. No lead shot may be used or in possession while hunting waterfowl.

j. Legal weapons for furbearer animals. Due to varying regulations between Georgia and Alabama, hunters must check the appropriate state regulation to determine the legal weapons to hunt furbearer animals.

**6-6. Weapons Policies. Fort Benning weapons policies are provided in MCoE Regulation 190-11. Individuals must review MCoE 190-11 for specific details on discharge, registration, transport and storage of privately owned weapons**

**Chapter 7  
Fishing Regulations**

**7-1. General.**

- a. Sponsors must accompany their guests at all times while they are fishing on Fort Benning.
- b. Sportsman fishing in King's or Twilight Ponds must check in and record their harvest thru iSportsman.
- c. Children less than 16 years of age must obtain a Fort Benning Fishing Permit free of charge via iSportsman.
- d. Children less than 12 years of age must be accompanied by a sponsor.
- e. Russ Pond and Russ Pool are reserved for children's fishing only. Children 15 years of age and younger may fish in these areas without a Post fishing permit. Sponsors may assist children in baiting their hook, casting, and removing fish from their line. Sponsors are not required to have a Fort Benning Fishing Permit or fishing license when accompanying children in these areas. Signs will be posted when the ponds are closed.
- f. It is unlawful to park near a boat ramp in a manner which will impede others from either launching or retrieving their boat.

**7-2. Methods.** Only hook and line may be used for fishing except as follows:

- a. Trotlines may be used in the waters of the Chattahoochee River, Upatoi Creek and their tributaries. Trotline use in any other areas is prohibited. All trotlines must be marked with the owner's name, address and telephone number. Trotlines must be checked at least once every 24 hours.
- b. Setline or jug fishing is prohibited except in the areas where trotlines are authorized.
- c. State fish and game laws limit the number of trotlines.
- d. Seining in streams or ponds is prohibited.
- e. Use of fish traps, snatch hooks, or spears is prohibited and cannot be used on or around any of the ponds and streams on Fort Benning.
- f. Individuals may gig for frogs with a gig that has at least three prongs. A state fishing license and a Fort Benning Fishing Permit are required.
- g. Bows and arrows may be used to take non-game fish in the same areas where trotlines are allowed.
- h. Possession and use of minnows is not allowed in or around any named (managed) pond on the installation, with the exception of Kings Pond.

**7-3. Creel limits.** Creel and size limits by species for all ponds on Fort Benning are shown in Table 7-1. State regulations apply in the Chattahoochee River and its tributaries.

**7-4. Seasons.** All ponds on Fort Benning are open to fishing throughout the year, unless otherwise listed as closed on iSportsman or "Pond Closed" signs are posted at the pond. Averetts, Victory, Snelling, Kings, Weems and Hedley's ponds are designated in iSportsman. Streams are open to fishing dependent upon whether or not the training area(s) they lie in are listed as open or closed. Fishermen do not have to check-in through iSportsman to go fishing.

**Table 7-1. Creel limits (referenced in para 7-3).**

SPECIES OF FISH	DAILY LIMIT	SIZE LIMIT
Largemouth Bass		<b>restrictions below</b>
Weems*	3	all ≤14"
Twilight**	3	all ≤14"
Kings***	7	all ≤15" with one ≥ 20"
All Other Ponds****	15	all ≤15" with one ≥ 15"
Bream (all species)	15	None
Catfish (all species)	8	None
*Weems Pond restrictions – no bass ≥ 14"		
**Twilight Pond restrictions – no bass ≥ 14"		
***Kings Pond restrictions – no bass ≥ 15" except one bass ≥ 20" per day		
****All other ponds restrictions – no size limit but only one bass ≥ 15" per day		
NOTE: For all other species, state sport fishing regulations apply.		

## Chapter 8 Violations of Fish and Wildlife Laws, Rules, and Regulations

**8-1. General.** This regulation does not preempt or replace applicable federal or state laws regarding hunting and fishing; however, many post specific regulations are more restrictive than either state and will be enforced accordingly. Violations of the provisions of this regulation, state laws (either Georgia or Alabama, depending on location), or federal laws, may result in severe disciplinary and administrative penalties.

a. As a result of a violation, individuals may lose hunting and/or fishing privileges, have their personal equipment confiscated, or any combination of these actions.

b. Additionally, individuals may face criminal charges in United States Magistrates or District Court; in those cases, in addition to suffering the loss of hunting and fishing privileges, individuals may have to pay a fine and/or appear before the Federal Magistrate in United States District Court and face more serious penalties.

c. Hunters are expected to read, understand and comply with FB 200-1. Hunters, who are cited and suspended for three (3) serious violations, will have their Fort Benning hunting and fishing privileges permanently revoked. A serious violation is defined as any violation that results in a suspension of one year or more for any offense. In addition to the three strikes rule, the Garrison Commander may immediately and permanently revoke a sportsman's privileges for egregious conduct he deems unacceptable and damaging to the hunting and fishing program.

**Table 8-1. Violations and penalties** (referenced in para 8-2.c.(6) and (7))

<b>VIOLATION</b>	<b>1ST OFFENSE</b>	<b>2ND OFFENSE</b>
Illegal use of artificial light for locating game or hunting	Perm. Revocation	-
Discharging a firearm from a vehicle	Perm. Revocation	-
Theft of personal property or damage of another hunter's equipment (vehicle, trail camera, tree stands, accessories, etc)	Perm. Revocation	
Guide hunting for compensation	Perm. Revocation	-
Possession of open container of alcoholic beverage on person or use of illegal drugs while hunting	Perm. Revocation	-
Failure of guest to be supervised by a sponsor	Perm. Revocation	-
Sponsoring an ineligible person as a family member guest	Perm. Revocation	-
Erecting or affixing a tree stand to a marked RCW cavity tree	Perm. Revocation	-
Possessing illegally harvested game	3 years	Perm. Revocation
Hunting w/ unauthorized weapon or ammunition	3 years	Perm. Revocation
Transporting loaded firearm in a vehicle	3 years	Perm. Revocation
Carrying a concealed weapon in violation of MCoE 190-11 while hunting	3 years	Perm. Revocation
Discharging a firearm in violation of MCoE 190-11 while hunting	3 years	Perm. Revocation
Possession of a firearm while hunting deer during archery only season	3 years	Perm. Revocation
Hunting out of state seasons	3 years	Perm. Revocation
Placing bait or hunting over or taking game over baited areas as described in Ch. 6-1.a.	3 years	Perm. Revocation
Hunting ducks w/out appropriate federal duck stamp	1 year	Perm. Revocation
Failure to comply with special provisions of the archery hunting concurrent w/ training program	1 year	Perm. Revocation
Shooting before or after legal shooting hours	1 year	5 years
Hunting in a closed area or fishing in a closed pond	1 year	5 years
Failure to wear the approved type and minimum amount of fluorescent orange	1 year	5 years
Bypassing roadblock, cable or gate in a vehicle	1 year	5 years
Illegal harvest of an antlered deer (3 or more points) not meeting QDM requirement (4 on a side)	1 year	5 years
Hunting/fishing w/out a valid state hunting license or Fort Benning Permit	1 year*	5 years
Permitting another to fraudulently use your state hunting license	1 year*	5 years
Failure to properly record harvest IAW state requirements prior to moving animal from location of kill	1 year*	5 years
Exceeding creel/bag limits	1 year*	5 years
Possession of an unregistered firearm (MCoE 190-11 requirement) while hunting	1 year*	2 years
Hunting in an exclusion/duded impact area	1 year*	2 years
Littering or dumping in the training areas	1 year*	2 years
Hunting out of Installation seasons	1 year	2 years
Failure to wear a safety harness or strap while in elevated stand	1 year	2 years
Hunting/running deer or pigs with dogs	1 year	2 years
Taking fish by unauthorized means	6 months*	2 years
Transporting a headless deer carcass before processing	6 months*	2 years
Improper/inadequate safety equipment on boats while hunting or fishing	6 months*	2 years
Unauthorized use of any all-terrain vehicle or motorcycle	6 months*	2 years
Failure to check in properly through iSportsman	6 months*	1 year
Failure to record harvested deer, turkey, pig, or fish using iSportsman	6 months*	1 year
Illegal use of an internal combustion engine on ponds while hunting or fishing	6 months*	1 year

**Table 8-1. Violations and penalties** (continued from previous page)

Failure to properly transport a firearm in a vehicle IAW FB 190-11 while hunting	6 months*	1 year
Transporting a firearm and ammunition not separated IAW FB 190-11 while hunting	6 months*	1 year
Failure to plug shotgun as required	90 days	1 year
Failure to check deer during mandatory check days	45 days	6 months
Illegal harvest of an antlered spike deer	30 days	1 year
Failure to properly display or present the Fort Benning Vehicle Access Pass	30 days	6 months*
Inappropriately displaying/transporting harvested game	Warning	6 months*
Failure to possess/present weapons registration FB Form 190-11-R while hunting	Warning	6 months*
Failure to supervise guest with or without a guest violation	1 year loss spon priv	Perm loss of spon priv
<p>Violation of any provision of this regulation for which there is no specific penalty set out above or violation of any state or federal law relating to hunting or fishing, may result in a suspension of privileges deemed appropriate by the Garrison Commander.</p> <p>* A community service program exists whereby hunting or fishing privileges may be restored if offenders perform certain qualified, voluntary, supervised services. The offender must request the hearing officer to approve participation in this program. The community service shall consist of assigned tasks, performed voluntarily under supervision, which will benefit hunting, fishing or outdoor recreation or sports activities. Upon satisfactory completion of the appropriate combination of suspension and/or community service offenders may apply to regain their hunting or fishing privileges. Participation in this program is at the discretion of the Hearing Officer and is subject to the availability of supervisors. Guest hunters are not eligible to participate in this program.</p> <p>Any authorized hunter who is cited for and suspended for a violation with a 1 year or greater suspension will receive 1 "strike" IAW the "3 strikes rule" resulting in a permanent revocation of privileges. Citations resulting in a 1 strike suspension can be appealed.</p> <p>Violations of MCoE Regulation 190-11, Weapons Policy, may result in appropriate administrative action under the provisions of MCoE Regulation 200-1 and punitive action under the provisions of MCoE Regulation 190-11.</p>		

**8-2. Policies.**

- a. Inspections. All individuals must have their state hunting or fishing licenses, Fort Benning Permit and Access Pass, photo proof of identification, and exceptions to policy (if any) on their person when hunting or fishing. These documents must be made available, upon request, to any enforcement person.
- b. Report of violations. Sportsmen are encouraged to report any observed violations of this regulation and/or State and Federal laws to the Military Police Desk (545-5224).
- c. Administrative actions.
  - (1) Individuals cited for violating any regulation or law relating to hunting and fishing on Fort Benning will receive a notice of suspension of installation hunting and/or fishing privileges from citing officials. Upon receipt of this notice, the individual's hunting and fishing privileges are immediately suspended for the period of time specified in the notice IAW penalties set forth in Table 8-1. If the individual disagrees and believes that (s)he did not commit an offense, (s)he must, within seven (7) days, file an appeal with the Installation Hearing Officer, Office of the Staff Judge Advocate (545-1564). Failure to contact the Installation Hearing Officer within seven (7) days will constitute waiver of the right to appeal and the suspension will stand.
  - (2) If an individual files an appeal, (s)he may request a hearing with the Installation Hearing Officer. At this hearing, an individual may present evidence that could help in considering the appeal.
  - (3) Although an appeal is filed, the suspension remains in effect until the matter is decided.
  - (4) The Installation Hearing Officer will consider each case and recommend a decision within two weeks. This recommendation will be forwarded to the Garrison Commander for action. The Installation Hearing Officer will provide notice of the Garrison Commander's decision to the individual and to the Natural Resources Management Branch, DPW, and the Provost Marshal. While there is no further right to appeal of this decision, the Hearing Officer and the Garrison Commander, may, for good cause shown and in their complete discretion, consider requests for reconsideration.
  - (5) If the appeal is denied, the suspension will run for the time specified in the original notice. The period of suspension is calculated from the date the notice is issued, not the date of final action.
  - (6) A list of the standard Administrative Penalties for various infractions is at table 8-1, Violations and Penalties.
  - (7) A program is established whereby the Installation may restore hunting privileges if offenders perform qualified voluntary supervised community service. Table 8-1 indicates the offenses eligible for this program. The offender must request the hearing officer approve participation in this program. The community service shall consist of tasks performed voluntarily under supervision that will benefit the hunting, fishing or outdoors recreation or sports activities. Upon completion of the community service (and after completion of an appropriate Safety Course, if required), offenders may apply to regain their hunting/fishing privileges. Participation in this program is at the complete discretion of the Hearing Officer and subject to the availability of supervisors. The community service program exists solely for authorized hunters to earn back their hunting privileges. Guests who violate MCOE 200-1 are not eligible to participate in this program.
  - (8) Any person, not listed as eligible to hunt in Paragraph 3-2b(1) through (12), found hunting without an authorized sponsor will be titled under applicable Georgia Law and issued a post exclusion letter. Any authorized sponsor who fails to properly supervise a guest will lose their privilege to sponsor guests IAW penalties set forth in Table 8-1. Any authorized sponsor whose guest is found in violation of any other provision of this regulation will be subjected to the same penalty that is applied to their guest IAW penalties set forth in Table 8-1.

**Chapter 9****Use of Boats, Motorized Land Vehicles, and Camping****9-1. Boats.** Boats may be used to fish on Fort Benning, subject to the following conditions:

- a. Privately owned motorboats must be registered and meet all requirements in accordance to either the State of Georgia or the State of Alabama law, as appropriate.
- b. A personal flotation device (PFD) is required for each passenger in the boat. Each device must be U.S. Coast Guard approved, of appropriate size for the passenger(s), and readily available in case of need. Children under 13 years of age must wear PFD's aboard a moving vessel.
- c. Any person operating any watercraft on the waters of the Installation shall comply with the applicable Federal, Georgia, and Alabama safety rules and regulations relative to boat equipment, operation, lights, and navigation rules and have necessary boater education and licensing as required by Georgia and/or Alabama as appropriate.

d. Combustion-type motors will not be used to power boats on any pond or stream on Fort Benning, except on the Chattahoochee River or water accessible from the Chattahoochee River. Combustion-type motors may be used within 50 feet of a boat landing for the purpose of loading the boat onto a boat trailer. Electric motors may be used in ponds and other streams.

e. All lakes, ponds, rivers, and streams on the Installation are off-limits to recreational swimming, water skiing, aquaplaning, and scuba diving.

**9-2. Motorized land vehicles.** Privately owned motorized off-road vehicles (ORV) and all-terrain vehicles (ATV) of any type (two, three or four-wheel) are prohibited on Fort Benning. Requests for exception to this policy must be submitted along with documentation of a medical disability to the Chief, Natural Resources Management Branch (545-7081). Motor vehicles used to hunt or fish on Fort Benning must meet applicable safety, licensing, insurance, and registration requirements for use on public roads.

**9-3. Camping.** Camping is only authorized at Kings Pond, Twilight Pond, Weems Pond, and at the Uchee Creek Army Campground. Loaded firearms are prohibited in all camping areas. Recreational Vehicle (RV) Camping is allowed only at Weems Pond and the Uchee Creek Army Campground. Primitive camping is allowed only at the Uchee Creek Army Campground and King's, Weems and Twilight Ponds. Camp fires are permitted for recreational purposes or cooking food for immediate human consumption. The fire must be in an approved camping area and in a fire pit or ring. Fires can only include natural materials or plant growth brought in or picked up off the ground on site. No standing trees can be cut and no treated wood, plastic, rubber, heavy oils, or synthetic material can be burned in any open fire. Campfires must be supervised and fully extinguished before leaving the site. DFMWR-CRD-ODR Manager, at their discretion, has full authority to require campers to vacate camping areas at Kings, Weems, and Twilight Ponds.

## Chapter 10

### Hunting Seasons, Bag Limits, and Mandatory Deer Check

#### 10-1. Mandatory deer check.

All deer harvested must be brought to the check station on the following dates and locations:

a. Georgia – All deer harvested 17, 18, 24, 25, 31 Oct and 1, Nov 2020 on the Georgia side of the Installation must be brought by Natural Resources Management Branch Deer Check/Cleaning area in Harmony Church off 1<sup>st</sup> Division Road near the intersection of Cusseta Road directly across HWY 27/520/280 from the old Harmony Church Access Control Point.

b. Post Wide – All deer harvested 7, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, & 15 Nov 2020 on the Georgia and Alabama side of the Installation must be brought by Natural Resources Management Branch Deer Check/Cleaning Area in Harmony Church off 1<sup>st</sup> Division Road near the intersection of Cusseta Road directly across HWY 27/520/280 from the old Harmony Church Access Control Point.

c. Hunters who arrive at the check station and find it closed must transport the harvested deer to the Provost Marshall Office on Main Post, Building Bldg 215 on Wold Avenue. The hunter must fill out a harvest data sheet and turn it in to the Desk Officer. The Desk Officer will photograph the harvested deer and initial the harvest data sheet. Failure to transport the harvested deer to the Provost Marshall's Office or failure to fill out the harvest data sheet will be considered a violation of the mandatory deer check requirement. Natural Resources Management Branch personnel will collect photos and harvest data sheets on the first duty day after a mandatory check weekend.

#### 10-2. Season dates and bag limits.

It is the sportsman's responsibility to comply with the hunting and fishing seasons, regulations, and bag limits, for the States of Alabama and Georgia as set forth in this regulation. Season dates and bag limit are explained in table 10-1. Table 10-2 explains the seasons and bag limits.

## Chapter 11

### Hunter Check-in and Game Harvest Reporting Procedures

#### 11-1. General.

All hunters must check-in and checkout through iSportsman and report all harvested game. The iSportsman website (<https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/>) or phone number (866-401-1448) are the primary methods to check into an area and report harvest. The back-up Hunter Control System is a 24-hour answering machine (545-8387) that will be used if the iSportsman system is inoperative. Do not call Range Division or the Military Police Desk to check into an area.

#### 11-2. Check-in/report harvest procedure.

a. All hunters must check into hunting areas when hunting or scouting. This requirement exists to ensure the number of hunters does not exceed the area's capacity and to ensure accountability for all individuals in the field. Hunters may check into up to two hunting areas simultaneously. Hunters must checkout of all areas at the end of the day, two hours after sunset. Hunters also must checkout of an area before entering a third area in the same day. Hunters will use iSportsman as the primary method to check into an area. The backup Hunter Control system is a 24-hour answering machine that will be used if the iSportsman system is inoperative. In the unlikely event that both the primary and backup hunter control systems fail, then hunters may hunt after verifying that the area is in fact open for hunting by checking the Daily Hunting and Fishing Information Sheet. Do not call Range Division or the Military Police Desk to check into an area.

b. Determine which areas are open for hunting by going to <https://ftbenning.isportsman.net/> home page and selecting the Areas link on the blue banner before logging into iSportsman.

c. Access the iSportsman web based system by logging into your account with your username and password. Select the Check-in/Checkout button and follow all prompts to check into or out of areas. Hunters must always select the "confirm check-in" or "confirm checkout" button to complete the check-in/out process.

d. Access the iSportsman automated phone system by calling 866-401-1448. Select "1" to check into or out of areas, enter your Post Permit number and "4-digit PIN", and follow prompts to check into or out of areas.

e. In addition to filling out the State Harvest Record for deer and turkeys (prior to field dressing or moving the carcass) hunters must register deer, turkeys and feral swine using iSportsman before removing them from location of kill or as soon as phone or mobile internet service is available. To register harvests, users simply need log-in to iSportsman on the web or call the telephone number and follow the prompts to checkout of areas and record harvest. In the event a hunter is stopped by a Fort Benning Conservation Law Enforcement Officer, prior to having the phone or mobile service necessary to record harvest via iSportsman, the hunter will be afforded an opportunity to record their harvest, assuming they have phone or mobile internet service at that time.

f. All hunters who harvest a deer or turkey in Alabama must report to the State of Alabama, Department of Conservation and Natural Resources ("DCNR"), Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, their harvest of each and every whitetail deer or turkey within forty eight (48) hours of harvest by using one of the following methods: Online @ [www.OutdoorAlabama.com/gamecheck](http://www.OutdoorAlabama.com/gamecheck), by phone @ 800-888-7690 or by smartphone app. Hunters shall follow all prompts or directions to complete data entry requirement and enter the confirmation number provided on their Alabama state harvest record. All deer and turkey hunters are still required to have an Antlered Deer and Turkey Harvest Record in their possession while hunting and will still be required to fill out the harvest record prior to moving antlered deer and turkeys.

g. All hunters who harvest a deer or turkey in Georgia must report to the state of Georgia, Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Division, their harvest of each and every whitetail deer or turkey within 72 hours of harvest through "Georgia Game Check". If the hunter has cell service they are allowed to record harvest at location of kill via the online harvest record or the Outdoors GA app. However, harvest must still be recorded on paper harvest record at location of kill if hunter cannot complete electronic harvest card. If a hunter records harvest on paper harvest card they must also record confirmation number on paper card after recording harvest electronically.

**11-3. Backup procedures.**

a. Backup check-in procedures. If iSportsman is not working, hunters will need to call 545-8387. All hunters are required to check into an area by leaving their name, Access Pass number, area to be hunted, and state whether they are checking into or out of the area. Check-in Example: "Bob Knight checking into N35 and N38." Hunters checking into an Archery Concurrent With Training area should also add the statement, "for archery hunting only." Example: "Bob Knight checking into C34 for archery hunting only."

b. Backup harvest reporting procedures. If iSportsman is down when a hunter attempts to enter harvest information, the hunter must enter harvest information when iSportsman comes back on line, regardless of the duration it is down. Once the hunter is aware of the fact that iSportsman is up and running, (s)he must report any unreported harvest at that time. Do not report harvest on the backup answering machine. Hunters are only required to check deer, turkeys and pigs into iSportsman.

**Table 10-1. Season dates and bag limits** (referenced in para 10-1 and 10-2).

GAME	GEORGIA SEASON DATES	GEORGIA BAG LIMIT	ALABAMA SEASON DATES	ALABAMA BAG LIMIT
DEER Archery	12 Sep 20 – 10 Jan 21	- Season limit is 10 antlerless deer and 2 antlered deer.  - Both antlered deer must have at least 4 points one-inch or longer on one side of antlers except as noted in Ch. 3-4 d. (8) Note 1, table 10-2	01 Oct 20 – 27 Jan 21	Same bag limits as GA except: 2 per day; one antlered and one unantlered  Note 1, table 10-2
Deer (Special Youth Hunt)	10 Oct 20 - 16 Oct 20		30 Oct 20 – 2 Nov 20	
DEER Primitive Weapon (Muzzleloader, Air Rifle, & Archery)	10 Oct 20 – 16 Oct 20		2 Nov 20 – 6 Nov 20	
DEER Firearm (Either Sex)	17 Oct 20 – 10 Jan 21		7 Nov 20 – 15 Jan 21	Same bag limits as GA except: 2 per day; one antlered and one unantlered
DEER Firearm (Antlered Deer Only)	N/A		16 Jan 21 – 27 Jan 21	
FERAL SWINE Archery	Year round except during Turkey Season	No Limit	Year round except during Turkey Season	No Limit
FERAL SWINE Small Game Firearms and Primitive Weapons	Year round except during Turkey Season	Note 2, table 10-2	Year round except during Turkey Season	Note 2, table 10-2
FERAL SWINE Firearms (Centerfire Firearms)	Year round except during Deer Primitive Weapons (muzzleloader) and Turkey Seasons		Year round except during Deer Primitive Weapons (muzzleloader) and Turkey Seasons	
TURKEY Special Youth Hunt	13 Mar 21 – 14 Mar 21	3 gobblers per season Note 3, table 10-2	13 Mar 21 – 14 Mar 21	1 per day 3 gobblers per season Note 3, table 10-2
TURKEY Special Disabled Hunt	13 Mar 21 – 14 Mar 21		19 Mar 21	
TURKEY	20 Mar 21 – 15 May 21		20 Mar 21 – 02 May 21	
SQUIRREL	15 Aug 20 – 28 Feb 21	12 per day	12 Sep 20 – 07 Mar 21	8 per day 8 in possession
DOVE	05 Sep 20 – 30 Sep 20 21 Nov 20 – 29 Nov 20 08 Dec 20 – 31 Jan 31	15 per day 45 in possession Note 4, table 10-2	5 Sep 20 – 25 Oct 20 21 Nov 20 – 29 Nov 20 12 Dec 20 – 10 Jan 21	15 per day 15 in possession Note 4, table 10-2
RABBIT	14 Nov 20 – 28 Feb 21	12 per day Note 5, Table 10-2	12 Sep 20 – 07 Mar 21	8 per day 8 in possession Note 5, table 10-2
QUAIL	14 Nov 20 – 28 Feb 21	12 per day	07 Nov 20 – 28 Feb 21	8 per day 8 in possession
CROW	07 Nov 20 – 28 Feb 21	No Limit	Year round except during Turkey Season	No Limit
FOX	01 Dec 20 – 28 Feb 21	No Limit  Note 6, table 10-2	Year round except during Turkey Season	No Limit  Check Alabama regulations for more details  Note 6, table 10-2
BOBCAT	01 Dec 20 – 28 Feb 21		Year round except during Turkey Season	
OPOSSUM	15 Oct 20 – 28 Feb 21		Year round except during Turkey Season	
COYOTE Small Game Firearms & Archery	Year round except during Turkey Season		Year round except during Turkey Season	
COYOTE Firearm	Year round except during Deer Primitive Weapons and Turkey Seasons		Year round except during Deer Primitive Weapons and Turkey Seasons	
RACCOON	15 Oct 20 – 28 Feb 21	3 per day Note 6, table 10-2	Year round except during Turkey Season	5 per day Note 6, table 10-2

WATERFOWL/SNIPE	Date to be published separately and will coincide with GA state season.	Limits published separately and coincide with GA state bag limits. Note 7, table 10-2	Date to be published separately and will coincide with AL state season	Limits published separately and will coincide with AL state bag limits
WOODCOCK	05 Dec 20 – 18 Jan 21	3 per day 9 in possession	18 Dec 20 – 31 Jan 21	3 day
BEAR	Closed	N/A	Closed	N/A
COUGAR	Closed	N/A	Closed	N/A
ALLIGATOR	Special Permit Only	Note Table 10-2	Special Permit Only	Note Table 10-2

**Table 10-2. Explanation of seasons and bag limits** (referenced in para 10-1 and table 10-1).

<p><b>NOTES:</b></p> <p><b>1. DEER</b></p>	<p>a. The maximum number of deer that may be harvested by any one person by any method on the Fort Benning Reservation (Georgia and Alabama) during the season is as follows:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) No more than twelve (12) total deer.</li> <li>2) Season limit is 10 antlerless (does or button bucks) deer and 2 antlered deer.</li> <li>3) No more than two (2) of the twelve (12) may have antlers. Under no condition, shall any person take more than two antlered deer during the entire season.</li> <li>4) Both antlered deer must have at least four points (one inch or longer) on one side of the antlers except as noted for youth hunters in Ch. 3-4 d. (8).</li> <li>5) In Alabama, a maximum of two deer may be harvested per day, only one of which may be an antlered deer and only one of which may be an unantlered deer.</li> </ol> <p>b. Legal primitive weapons are any approved archery, muzzleloading weapons, or pre-charged pneumatic air guns. Muzzleloaders with scopes are legal primitive weapons in both Alabama and Georgia. Crossbows (scopes allowed in both Georgia and Alabama) are also legal primitive weapons.</p> <p>c. Legal firearm season weapons are bows, muzzleloaders, .30 cal or larger air rifles, .22 cal or larger centerfire rifles and handguns, and 20-gauge or larger shotguns with slugs in accordance with area or training restrictions on weapons.</p> <p>d. Buckshot is prohibited for deer and all other game on Fort Benning.</p> <p>e. All bows must have a minimum pull of 40 lbs. Long bows, recurve bows, compound bows, and crossbows are all considered as bows in this regulation.</p> <p>f. All air rifles must be Pre-charged pneumatic air guns .30 caliber or larger.</p> <p>g. Special Youth Hunts</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Georgia: Youth Hunters, 15 years of age and younger are authorized to hunt deer with any legal firearm for hunting deer on Fort Benning during the Georgia deer Primitive Weapons Season on the Georgia side of the installation. Youth hunters must have a Georgia deer and turkey harvest record and meet requirements of chapter 3, para 3-2 and chapter 6, para 6-2. Feral swine cannot be hunted.</li> <li>2) Alabama: Same legal arms and ammunition apply as in deer firearm season. Youth hunters must meet requirements in chapter 3, para 3-2 and chapter 6, para 6-2 of this regulation. Youth hunters must have an Alabama Deer and Turkey Harvest Record.</li> </ol>
<p><b>2. FERAL SWINE</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. There is no bag limit on feral swine in either Georgia or Alabama.</li> <li>b. Feral swine hunting is allowed with all approved archery equipment year round except during turkey season.</li> <li>c. Feral swine hunting is allowed year round with muzzleloading firearms and air rifles in accordance with area and training restrictions except during Turkey Season.</li> <li>d. Feral swine hunting is allowed year round with centerfire rifles, shotguns or pistols in accordance with area and training restrictions except during Deer Primitive Weapons and Turkey Seasons.</li> <li>e. Feral swine may not be hunted at night or with dogs.</li> <li>f. Tags from ear tagged feral swine must be returned to Natural Resources Management Branch, Bldg. 5884.</li> </ol>
<p><b>3. TURKEY</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The maximum number of turkeys that may be harvested by any one person on the Fort Benning Reservation (Alabama and Georgia combined) during the open season shall be three (3) with only one turkey per day in Alabama.</li> <li>b. Only gobblers may be harvested in both Georgia and Alabama; hens may not be harvested.</li> <li>c. Gobblers can only be harvested with shotguns or smoothbore muzzle loading shotguns with No. 2 or smaller shot and any approved archery weapon.</li> <li>d. Handguns, rifles, and muzzle loading rifles with ball ammunition may not be used to harvest turkey.</li> <li>e. Use of non-mechanical and non-electronic decoys is legal in Alabama and Georgia. Use of electronic or mechanical decoys is only allowed on the Georgia side of the installation.</li> <li>f. Special Youth Hunts – Hunters 15 years of age and younger only.</li> <li>g. Special Disabled Hunts – GA – mobility impaired only, i.e. confined to wheelchair, hemiplegia, monoplegia, paraplegia or single-leg amputation above the knee. AL – hunters must complete application with ALDCNR.</li> </ol>
<p><b>4. DOVE</b></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. In Georgia and Alabama, daily shooting hours will begin at noon and end at sunset on opening day of the September season and 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset on subsequent days during the seasons</li> <li>b. Hunting on managed, numbered dove fields will be open daily whenever the area is open for hunting with the exception of P-1 Landfill. Hunts on P1 Landfill will be scheduled and managed by Natural Resources Management Branch.</li> </ol>
<p><b>5. RABBIT</b></p>	<p>Dogs may be used to hunt rabbit.</p>
<p><b>6. BOBCAT, FOX, OPOSSUM, COYOTE, RACCOON</b></p>	<p><b>Georgia:</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Bobcat, fox, opossum, coyote and raccoon may be hunted at night. Coyotes may also be hunting during daytime hours.</li> <li>b. Only battery powered lights or fuel type lanterns may be carried by hunters for locating these animals.</li> </ol>



	<p>c. These animals may be taken only with small game firearms except coyotes, foxes, and bobcats which may also be taken with .17 cal and larger centerfire firearms IAW area and training restrictions during daylight and nighttime hours.</p> <p>d. Bobcat and fox may be hunted using manual calls. Electronic calls may be used for coyotes.</p> <p>e. Dogs may be used to hunt bobcat, fox, raccoon and coyote at night. Blaze orange outer garment and hat must be worn IAW with Ch 4-2(a).</p> <p><b>Alabama: Check state regs for additional weapons restrictions and seasons</b></p> <p>a. Fox, opossum, raccoon may be hunted at night. Coyotes may only be hunted during daytime hours.</p> <p>b. Fox may be hunted at night with lights and dogs only.</p> <p>c. Raccoon and opossum may be hunted at night with dogs, lights, and .22 caliber rimfire firearms or shotguns with No. 6 or smaller shot.</p> <p>d. Running dogs during daylight hours or after 0300 hrs during spring turkey season is prohibited.</p> <p>e. All bobcats are required to be tagged by an Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources representative within 14 days of harvest. Blaze orange outer garment and hat must be worn IAW with Ch 4-2(a).</p>
<b>7. ALLIGATOR</b>	<p>By quota permit only in the Chattahoochee River and its navigable tributaries. All respective state regulations apply. There is no reciprocity for active duty soldiers. All individuals, must have a valid hunting license from the respective state in order to obtain a quota permit from that state's lottery system. Hunters must be on the proper side of the river, in the state where the quota permit was issued from while hunting. Hunters who obtain a Georgia Quota Permit may contact Fort Benning Natural Resources Management Branch for potential additional opportunities in recreational fish ponds.</p>
<b>8. WATERFOWL</b>	<p>a. Steel shot size "T" or smaller is required for all waterfowl hunting.</p> <p>b. Lead shot may not be used.</p>

**Appendix A  
References**

**Section I  
Required and Related Publications**

- AR 190-5, Motor Vehicle Traffic Supervision
- AR 190-11, Physical Security of Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives
- AR 200-1, Environmental Protection and Enhancement
- MCoE Regulation 190-5, Vehicle Traffic Regulation
- MCoE Regulation 190-13, Installation Access Control

**Section II  
Prescribed and Referenced Forms**

- SF Form 50 (Notification of Personnel Action)

**Glossary**

**Section I  
Abbreviations**

- AR ..... Army Regulation
- GCHFAC ..... GC's Hunting and Fishing Advisory Council
- CRD ..... Community Recreation Division
- DFMWR ..... Directorate of Morale, Welfare and Recreation
- DoD ..... Department of Defense
- DPW ..... Directorate of Public Works
- EMD ..... Environmental Management Division
- FB ..... Fort Benning
- ID ..... Identification
- MPA ..... Military Police Activity
- NRMB ..... Natural Resources Management Branch
- ORV ..... Off-road vehicle
- RCW ..... Red-Cockaded woodpecker
- RV ..... Recreational Vehicle
- SJA ..... Staff Judge Advocate
- MCoE ..... Maneuver Center of Excellence

**Section II  
Terms**

**Accompany.** To meet this requirement, the sponsor and guest must be properly checked-in through iSportsman, the sponsor must be physically present and/or participating in the hunt and be signed into the same area or areas as the guest. If signed into multiple areas and both sponsor and guest are not occupying the same area, the areas must share a common boundary and be adjacent to each other.

**Active status.** The term "active status" means the status of a member of a reserve component who is not in the inactive Army National Guard or inactive Air National Guard or on an inactive status list.

**Antlered deer.** White-tailed deer (male or female) that has visible antler (bone) above the hair.

**Baited area.** Any place which contains feed, grains, or other substances which are exposed and available for consumption.

**Big game.** Deer and turkey. Feral swine are not classified as big game animals.

**Bow.** A long bow, recurve bow, compound bow, or a crossbow. Bows must have a minimum pull of 40 lbs.

**Cooperative Agreement.** The agreement entered into by Fort Benning, the State of Georgia, the State of Alabama, and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service.

**Direct adult supervision.** Under the command and control of a person 18 years old or older, with the minor being within sight or hearing distance of such person.

**Disabled Veteran.** A service member who has been honorably discharged or retired from military service and who has been given at least 30% disability by the Veterans Administration. Granted second priority for disabled hunting areas.

**Disabled Hunter.** Any individual who is restricted to a wheelchair, or is not ambulatory without walking aids (walkers, crutches, etc.) or a prosthesis, has lost a limb or a vital organ or is otherwise impaired to the extent they cannot hunt alone; unassisted or in a normal manner. Granted third priority for disabled hunting areas.

**Family member.** A son/daughter (including step children), brother/sister, father/mother (including in-laws) and grandchildren.

**Fish or fishing.** To catch, capture, take, or kill fish and all seafood and includes all lesser acts such as attempting to catch, capture, or kill by any device or method.

**Guide hunting.** Receiving compensation for assisting an individual in the pursuit and taking of game.

**Hunt or hunting.** The act of pursuing, calling, shooting, killing, and/or capturing wildlife, or using any device in an attempt to take wildlife. Hunting shall include every action of assistance to any person in taking or attempting to take wildlife; however, accompanying a hunter as a spectator, assisting in building, maintaining or placing stands, or assisting a hunter to locate, track, or recover wounded or harvested game is not considered hunting. Any individual possessing a bow, gun, or gun and dogs in any area where hunting is normally conducted is presumed to be hunting, except that traveling through or along a closed or exclusion area while going to or from an open area is not considered hunting. Possessing a loaded weapon under any conditions is considered hunting. Therefore, hunters entering an area before legal shooting hours, or exiting an area after legal shooting hours must unload their weapons or they will be presumed to be hunting. The only exception to this is for authorized night hunters.

**Hunting season.** That period of time when hunting a specific game bird or animal is permitted under the law.

**Illegal possession.** Possession of any wildlife or parts thereof, at any time other than during the authorized hunting season for that wildlife.

**Maintained road.** Maintained roads are those roads with a base consisting of pavement, concrete, gravel, or improved dirt that receive regular or periodic maintenance and are wide enough to allow at least two-way vehicular traffic.

**Open area.** Training areas that are available for recreational use, subject to fulfillment of an individual's permit, license, and area access pass requirements.

**Primary dependent.** A lawful spouse or an unmarried child who is less than 21 years old or less than 23 years old if enrolled in a full-time course of education above high school level and receives over half of his/her support from the sponsor.

**Purple Heart Warrior.** A service member who has received the Purple Heart Medal for his wounds. Granted first priority for disabled hunting areas.

**Size limit.** The minimum length allowable for a fish in a person's possession. Fish smaller than this size must be returned to the water unharmed as soon as they are landed.

**Sportsman.** Any person engaged in hunting, fishing or other outdoor recreation activities on the Fort Benning, Georgia military installation. This includes those engaged in any out of season activity that would support latter hunting or fishing.

**To take an animal.** To harass, harm, pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect, or to attempt to do any of the above.

**Unloaded weapon.** A shotgun, centerfire or rimfire rifle, or handgun that does not have any ammunition in the chamber, or a loaded magazine/clip affixed to the weapon. A muzzleloader weapon that does not have a percussion cap, flint, powder or other firing device affixed to or resting on the weapon's nipple or flash pan. An uncocked crossbow with the bolt removed from the platform.

**Weapons.** Firearms, bows, air or CO2 rifles or pistols, and slingshots are considered to be weapons on Fort Benning.

**Youth Hunter.** Any individual 15 years of age or younger who meets all requirements to hunt on Fort Benning.

**FOR THE COMMANDER:**

**MATTHEW SCALIA  
COL, IN  
Garrison Commander**

**OFFICIAL:**

**LUIS F. ORTEGA  
Director of Human Resources**

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