08-22-10

TENNESSEE WILDLIFE RESOURCES COMMISSION
PROCLAMATION
MANNER AND MEANS OF HUNTING, TAKING, AND TRAPPING

Statewide and on Wildlife Management Areas and State Refuges

Pursuant to the authority granted by Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 70-4-107 and 70-5-108, the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission hereby proclaims the manner and means of hunting, taking, and trapping~~, effective August 1, 2010.~~

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

SECTION I. ILLEGAL WEAPONS

(1) Shotguns using ammunition loaded with shot larger than Number four (4) are prohibited for hunting all wildlife except beavers, coyotes and waterfowl.

(2) Shotguns loaded with single ball or slug ammunition are prohibited for hunting all wildlife except deer, bear, and wild hogs except as follows: Coyotes and bobcats may be taken by big game hunters while hunting big game with any legal big game weapon or ammunition.

(3) Rifles or handguns loaded with military or other full metal jacketed type of ammunition are prohibited.

(4) Rifles or handguns loaded with center-fire ammunition are prohibited for all hunting between 30 minutes after sunset and 30 minutes before sunrise.

(5) Rifles or handguns loaded with center-fire ammunition are prohibited during all deer, bear or wild hog seasons for hunting any wildlife except deer, bear, or wild hog. When the small game season is open for coyotes, crows, groundhogs, beaver, foxes and bobcats these species may be taken by deer, bear, or wild hog hunters while hunting deer, bear, or wild hog with any legal deer, bear, or wild hog weapon or ammunition as provided in the Big Game Season Proclamation.

(6) Any arrow with poisoned or chemically treated tip or explosive head is illegal for hunting.

(7) Weapons capable of fully automatic fire are prohibited for hunting of all wildlife.

(8) Firearms or archery equipment with any device utilizing an artificial light capable of locating wildlife.

SECTION II. PROHIBITED ACTS

(1) The use or possession of predator calls while night hunting of any species is prohibited.

(2) The use or possession and/or the accompanying of anyone using or possessing raccoon calls, squallers, weapons, ammunition, or climbers while training dogs is prohibited during training season, except raccoon calls may be used during authorized field trials.

(3) The use of dogs in taking or attempting to take deer is prohibited. Taking or attempting to take deer being pursued by dog, or dogs, is prohibited.

(4) The use or possession of a pod arrow, any pod-type device for holding drugs or chemicals on an arrow, or any drugs or chemicals used in pod arrows while archery hunting is prohibited.

(5) Quota hunt permits are not transferable. Anyone found hunting on a borrowed quota permit shall be deemed guilty of hunting in closed season.

(6) Juveniles under the age of eighteen (18) are prohibited from using handguns for the purpose of hunting.

(7) Hunting prohibited over a site where bait has been placed to feed or attract wildlife unless the bait has been removed at least ten days prior to hunting.

(8) Possession of firearms prohibited while chasing coyote, fox, and bobcat with dogs from the first Saturday in November through the end of the deer season.

(10) Use or possession of any electronic light amplifying night vision scope or device is prohibited when in possession of a firearm or archery tackle between sunset and sunrise.

(11) Use or possession of electronic calls and live decoys prohibited while hunting wild turkey.

(12) Possession of agricultural grain on one's person while turkey hunting is prohibited.

SECTION III. LEGAL WEAPONS

(1) Turkey Hunting

(a) Shotguns 28 gauge or larger using ammunition loaded with number 4 shot or smaller

(b) Longbows, recurve bows, compound bows and crossbows.

(c) Weapons may be equipped with sighting devices except those devices utilizing an artificial light capable of locating wildlife.

(2) Deer, Bear, and Wild Hog Hunting

(a) Shotguns using ammunition loaded with single solid ball or slugs.

(b) Rifles, except those described in Section I. (3) above, using center- fire ammunition in all counties except where regulated by legislative acts.

(c) Muzzle-loading rifles, handguns or shotguns of .40 caliber (.40") minimum. These muzzle-loading firearms are legal during any gun season or hunt unless otherwise specified. Muzzleloading firearms are defined as those firearms which are incapable of being loaded from the breech.

(d) Longbows, recurve bows, compound bows and crossbows.

(e) Hunting arrows and bolts with broadheads shall be of a barbless design and shall have sharpened blades.

(f) Center-fire handguns having a barrel length of four (4) inches or more, in all counties except where regulated by legislative acts.

(g) Weapons may be equipped with sighting devices except those devices utilizing an artificial light capable of locating wildlife.

(h) During any deer or bear archery season, wild hogs may only be hunted with archery equipment, except wild hog hunters may use any big game weapon during wild hog dog hunts.

(3) Small Game Hunting

(a) Shotguns and handguns using ammunition loaded with Number Four (4) or smaller shot are legal for all small game hunting.

(b) Shotguns using ammunition loaded with T (0.20 inch diameter) or smaller shot are legal for hunting coyotes and beaver except during big game seasons.

(c) Shotguns loaded with nontoxic shot approved by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service are legal for hunting waterfowl.

(d) Rifles and handguns using rim-fire ammunition and air rifles are legal for hunting small game except migratory birds.

(e) Rifles and handguns using center-fire ammunition are legal for hunting beaver, bobcat, foxes, coyotes, groundhogs, and crows, except during deer and bear seasons and on wild hog hunts with dogs permitted. Rifles and handguns using center-fire ammunition prohibited for hunting all small game species on wildlife management areas (except on wildlife management areas open with statewide seasons or as noted in the wildlife management area proclamation or as specified in Section I.(2) and (5) above)

(f) Muzzle-loading firearms (rifles, handguns and shotguns).

(g) Longbows, recurve bows, compound bows and crossbows.

(h) Falcons and Falconry – Subject to Tennessee Code Annotated Section 70-414.

(i) Gigs and angling equipment are also legal for taking bullfrogs.

(j) Weapons may be equipped with sighting devices except those devices utilizing an artificial light capable of locating wildlife.

SECTION IV. LEGAL TRAPPING DEVICES AND DEFINITIONS

(1) Leg-hold traps with an outside measure of jaw spread that is 9 inches or less, as measured at the widest point, are legal for all furbearer species during the legal trapping season.

(2) Square instant-kill traps that have an exterior jaw measurement 16 inches or less, as measured at the widest point, and circular instant kill traps that have an exterior measurement 12 inches or less, as measured at the widest point, are legal for all furbearer species during the legal trapping season. Instant kill traps are considered steel jawed traps and their use is restricted to that allowed for steel jawed traps.

(3) Live traps are legal for taking any species of wildlife listed as having a trapping season. Live traps are defined as those traps that act as a cage after capture.

(4) Steel cable snares having a minimum cable diameter of 5/64 inch and a maximum cable diameter of 3/32 inch are legal for all legal furbearer species during the legal trapping season. All snares shall have affixed a tag bearing the name of the owner. Spring activated snares other than Collarum snares prohibited.

(5) Cushion-hold traps are legal for all furbearer species during the legal trapping season. The Woodstream Soft-Catch, Duke Rubber Jaw Trap, Butera Cushion Catch traps, Cushion Catch #33 Trap, J. C. Conner Coyote "Jake" Trap, Oneida Victor Soft-Catch Traps, and any legal sized offset jawed traps equipped with Humane Hold universal pads by KG Enterprises, Sudden Valley Supply trap pads, and/or J. C. Conner's Rubber Pad Kits (when installed according to manufacturers recommendations) meet the definition of a "cushion-hold trap" as provided in TCA 70-1-101 which may be used in accordance with TCA 70-4-120.

(6) The following species specific traps - Egg Traps, Coon Cuffs, Lil' Grizz Getrz and Duffer's Raccoon Trap, Pos-z-loc, Cooncatcher, are legal for furbearers during the legal trapping season.

(7) For trapping purposes "water set" is defined to mean traps set in water adjacent to and part of streams, ponds, lakes, wetlands or other water courses and includes floating sets.

SECTION V. AMMUNITION

(1) Possession of ammunition except that as specifically authorized is prohibited on all wildlife management areas, state refuges, and public hunting areas.

(2) Possession or use of buckshot is specifically prohibited while hunting all species, except in those counties where authorized by Private Acts.

(3) Possession of shotgun ammunition loaded with more than one solid ball is specifically prohibited while hunting deer, bear, or wild hogs except in those counties where legal by Private Act.

(4) Possession of shot larger than No. 4 is prohibited when hunting all wildlife except waterfowl, coyotes and beaver.

(5) Possession of slugs is prohibited except while hunting deer, bear, and wild hogs.

(6) Possession or use of any loose shot other than non-toxic (as approved by U.S Fish and Wildlife Service) or any shotgun shell loaded with shot other than non-toxic is prohibited while hunting waterfowl, coots, gallinules, Virginia rails, and sora rails.

SECTION VI. POSSESSION OF LIVE ANIMALS

Every game animal, wounded or unwounded by hunting and/or trapping and taken into possession by the hunter or trapper, shall be immediately slain and become part of the daily bag limit. No person shall, at any time, or by any means, possess or transport live animals taken under the authority of hunting season proclamations.

SECTION VII. LEGAL HUNTING HOURS

(1) All big game and small game species (except bullfrogs, raccoons, opossums, migratory birds, and the chasing of foxes) daylight hours only (30 minutes before official sunrise and until 30 minutes after official sunset) except turkey open only until official sunset.

(2) Hunting of bullfrogs, raccoons, opossums, the chasing of foxes and the trapping of furbearers is permitted day or night unless restricted by Proclamation.

(3) Migratory birds - To comply with federal regulations for migratory birds, unless restricted by proclamation.

SECTION VIII. MIGRATORY BIRD REGULATIONS

(1) Federal regulations relative to baiting, firearms, bag and possession limits, wanton waste, tagging, and methods of hunting are hereby adopted and will be applicable to hunting and/or taking of species listed.

(2) No person shall hunt migratory game birds with a shotgun of any description capable of holding more than three (3) shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so its total capacity does not exceed three (3) shells.

(3) All persons who hunt migratory game birds are required to have in their possession a valid Tennessee Migratory Bird Permit (TMBP) in addition to other required Tennessee licenses and permits, with the following exceptions:

(a) disabled veterans
(b) landowners hunting on their own land
(c) lifetime license holders
(d) residents of Tennessee under 13 years of age
(e) residents of Tennessee who are 65 or older
(f) Military personnel on leave or furlough

(4) Refer to federal regulations 50 CFR Ch. 1 (21.41 and 21.43) for conditions and restrictions applicable to the taking of crows in certain depredation or health hazard situations outside of the crow sport hunting season.

SECTION IX. MISCELLANEOUS

(1) On private property, hunting while in or on an ATV or other vehicle that cannot be licensed to operate on public highways in Tennessee is permitted provided the vehicle is stationary.

(2) Hunters who have filled their seasonal or daily bag limit for any species may continue to accompany other hunters provided they are not in possession of any ammunition or any weapon. This person must also comply with all other legal requirements.

SECTION IX. REPEAL OF PRIOR PROCLAMATION

This proclamation repeals Proclamation No. 09-06 dated May 21, 2009.

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission

Chairman

I certify that this is an accurate and complete copy of a proclamation lawfully promulgated and adopted by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Commission on the 20th day of May, 2010.

Secretary

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 20 day of August, 2010.

Notary Public

LISA CRAWFORD STATE OF TENNESSEE NOTARY PUBLIC DAVIDSON COUNTY

My Commission Expires August 23, 2011

My commission expires on: _____.

Proclamation No. 10-11 received and recorded the 23 day of Aug., 2010; to be effective the 22 day of Sept., 2010.

Tre Hargett, Secretary of State

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