



BLACK WARRIOR & TOMBIGBEE LAKES 2025-2026 HUNTING/TRAPPING REGULATIONS

All persons in possession of a BW&T Hunting Permit agree to read and abide by the terms outlined in these regulations prior to accessing U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) lands. Hunting and trapping are permitted only on the areas indicated on the maps for BW&T project lands and waters. **HUNTERS LESS THAN 16 YEARS OF AGE MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT (21 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER).** All recreational users are subject to Title 36, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 327. State and federal wildlife laws, including local firearms ordinances, and seasons apply to project hunting lands with the following additional restrictions:

1. **All hunters, regardless of age, are required to complete a valid COE annual hunting permit prior to hunting COE lands.**
 - A) PLEASE NOTE: Only ONE permit is required per year.
 - B) Annual permits and maps are available on the BW&T Lakes web page:
[http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/Recreation/BlackWarriorTombigbee\(BWT\)Lakes/Hunting.aspx](http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/Recreation/BlackWarriorTombigbee(BWT)Lakes/Hunting.aspx)
 - C) See maps for permitted hunting areas. Check your intended hunting area to ensure that it is a BW&T Lakes permitted area.
 - D) To be valid, permits must be signed, dated, and displayed on the dash of the vehicle so that the name and date are visible from outside the vehicle.
 - E) The bottom portion of the permit (area below the dotted line) must be carried on hunter's person while hunting.
 - F) All hunting and trapping regulations are within the framework and bag limits set by state and federal regulations. All game must be taken by state regulated legal arms, ammunition, and within designated hunting hours.
 - G) Game may not be taken with pistols.
 - H) All firearms in boats under way must be unloaded and cased.
 - I) All firearms must be unloaded and cased if walking through an area with firearm restrictions to access a legal hunting area.
2. **No firearms hunting or trapping within 1000' of any lock, dam, building, dredge, construction site, or public use area.**
3. **Baiting and/or feeding of wildlife on BW&T Lakes project land is strictly prohibited.**
4. **Unless otherwise specified, hunting should only be performed with weapons listed for designated area.**
 - A) "All Game" areas may be hunted with shotgun (slugs only), muzzleloader, rim fire rifles, or archery equipment (crossbows, compound bows, or traditional bows).
 - B) "Primitive Weapons" areas may be hunted with muzzleloader or archery equipment (crossbows, compound bows, or traditional bows).
 - C) "Archery Only" areas may only be hunted with archery equipment (crossbows, compound bows, or traditional bows).
5. **Waterfowl hunting: Season and weapons follow designated federal and state regulations.**
 - A) This permit is needed for waterfowl hunting on the Tombigbee and Black Warrior Rivers from Bankhead Lock & Dam to Old Lock 1 Park.
 - B) Waterfowl shooting hours are from ½ hour before sunrise until 12:00 noon. All decoys, boats, and floating blinds must be removed from the hunting areas no later than 1:00 p.m. each day. No permanent structures/blinds allowed.
 - C) Waterfowl hunters should be aware that COE owns only a flowage easement on much of the property around and beneath the lakes.
 - D) Hunters must have permission from the landowner before accessing or wading on private property.
 - E) Retrievers are allowed for waterfowl hunting.
6. **Deer hunting: Seasons listed on Hunting Season Table.**
 - A) Legal weapons for deer hunting are archery equipment, muzzleloaders, and shotguns (slugs only). No high-powered rifles.
 - B) No buckshot, dogs, or man drives are allowed for deer hunting.
 - C) Portable tree stands/ground blinds for deer hunting will be allowed and must be removed daily. Driving a nail, or other metal object into or to hunt from any tree in which an object has been driven is strictly prohibited.
 - D) While climbing a tree, installing a stand that uses climbing aids, or while hunting from a tree stand, all hunters must use a full-body safety harness and fall arrest system manufactured to Tree Stand Manufacturers Association standards.
 - E) Hunters' orange must be worn in accordance with state regulations.
 - F) Hanging or cleaning deer is prohibited within campgrounds, picnic areas, boat ramps, parking lots, and other public use areas. Deer can be field dressed where harvested. Dumpsters cannot be used to dispose of carcasses.
 - G) All bucks must have at least three (3) points, one inch or longer, on one side.
 - H) Bag limit – Two deer per day, one antlered buck and one un-antlered deer during either sex season. One antlered buck per day during buck only season.
7. **Small game hunting: Seasons and weapons follow designated state regulations. Daytime Only.**
 - A) Small game hunting with legal firearms for small game will be allowed on hunting areas designated as "All game" and "Primitive Weapon".
 - B) Small game may be hunted with archer equipment in all areas.
 - C) Dogs are allowed for small game hunting only on Old Lock 1 Island.
8. **Feral hog hunting: Seasons listed on Hunting Season Table. Daytime Only.**
 - A) Day: "All game" areas - shotgun w/slugs only, muzzleloader, archery equipment, No dogs. "Archery Only" areas - archery equipment only, No dogs
9. **Camping is allowed in designated camping areas only.**
10. **Motorized vehicles may not obstruct gates, roads, trails, or fire lanes. No vehicles are allowed to travel off-road. ATV operation is strictly prohibited on COE property.**
11. **Indiscriminate taking of non-game wildlife on BW&T Lakes' project land and waters is prohibited.**



BLACK WARRIOR AND TOMBIGBEE LAKES 2025-2026 HUNTING/TRAPPING PERMIT

Forfeiture of hunting privileges: Any violation of federal, state, or local hunting, trespass, or wildlife regulations voids hunting permit, and may result in forfeiture of the COE hunting privileges for a period to be determined by the U.S. magistrate. The violator may also be subject to fines and/or imprisonment. If you witness a hunting policy violation or a violation of Title 36, please contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Wildlife Staff at (334) 289-3540.

Permission is hereby granted to:

Name: (Print) _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Expiration Date: 8/31/2026

For hunting and/or trapping on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lands and waters in accordance with Federal and State regulations. I have read, understand, and agree to abide by all the Black Warrior and Tombigbee Lakes Hunting/Trapping Regulations.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

(Permit Void Unless Signed and Dated)

2025 - 2026 HUNTING SEASONS FOR BLACK WARRIOR AND TOMBIGBEE LAKES			
Season	Opening Date	Closing Date	Comments
Deer			
Archery	15-Oct-25	24-Oct-25	Zone A - Either Sex Zone B – Antlered Only
Archery	25-Oct-25	10-Feb-26	Either Sex
Youth	14-Nov-25	17-Nov-25	Youth season - follow state regs. Either Sex
Special Muzzleloader	17-Nov-25	21-Nov-25	Follows state regs. Either Sex.
Muzzleloader & Shotgun	22-Nov-25	12-Dec-25	Antlered Bucks
Muzzleloader & Shotgun	05-Jan-26	10-Feb-26	
Muzzleloader & Shotgun	13-Dec-25	04-Jan-26	Either Sex
Feral Hog			
Feral Hog	13-Sep-25	8-May-26	Day hunting only. Hog hunting can only be done within another corresponding season, with appropriate weapons for that season and location.
Turkey			
Youth Turkey	21-Mar-26	22-Mar-26	Youth season - follow state regs.
Disabled	24-Mar-26		
Zone 1 & 3 Spring	25-Mar-26	08-May-26	Decoys allowed April 4 – May 8
Zone 3 Fall	15-Nov-25	23-Nov-25	NO Decoys Allowed
	13-Dec-25	28-Dec-25	

(Place top portion on dash of the vehicle)

(Cut out & keep lower portion on person while hunting)

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