



STATE OF MICHIGAN

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
LANSING

REBECCA A. HUMPHRIES  
DIRECTOR

March 14, 2005  
RESUBMITTED: April 11, 2005  
RESUBMITTED: April 25, 2005

Memorandum to the Natural Resources Commission:

SUBJECT: Elk Season Dates and Hunt Unit Boundaries

Authority:

The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451, as amended, authorizes the Director and the Commission to issue orders to manage wild animals in this state.

Discussion and Background:

The proposed Elk Management Units (EMU) and season dates for 2005 are designed to address specific forest regeneration concerns on private land, maintain the herd within the objective of 800-900 animals during the winter, and continue to address the concern of bovine tuberculosis (TB) in elk. A December elk hunt has been held every year since 1985 as the primary method to manage the population. The recommended dates for the upcoming December and January hunt periods are the same as 2004, adjusted for the calendar. An early elk hunt, in late August and early September, is proposed to target elk outside the primary elk range.

Within the primary elk range the proposed EMU boundaries have been re-drawn. A smaller EMU "B" will address specific concerns on private land in the center of the primary elk range. EMU "C" now includes the primary elk range east of M-33. Elk east of M-33 are at a higher risk of infection due to the proximity of the core bovine TB area. All TB positive elk to date have come from this area. A proactive approach to prevent the spread of TB throughout the elk herd is a reduction of elk numbers in this area. EMU "A" has increased slightly to accommodate the changes to EMU "B". EMU "D" now includes what was the northern and western portion of former EMU "B".

The proposed early season EMU boundaries, “L” & “M”, have been re-drawn to address elk located outside the primary elk range. The unit boundary changes and the proposed early hunt periods will help to maintain a smaller elk herd outside the primary elk range and target animals that historically have been less accessible during the December hunt.

The requested January elk hunt will be optional and dependent on the number and location of elk harvested and observed during the December hunt period.

Recommendation:

This order was submitted for information only at the April 2005 meeting of the Natural Resources Commission. This item appeared in the April 25, 2005, Calendar and is eligible for approval on May 5, 2005. We are now recommending that it be acted upon at this meeting.

William E. Moritz, Chief  
Wildlife Division

Alan Marble, Chief  
Law Enforcement Division

Arminda S. Koch  
Resource Management Deputy

Dennis Fedewa  
Chief Deputy

I have analyzed and discussed these recommendations with staff and concur as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

Rebecca A. Humphries  
Director

# **WILDLIFE CONSERVATION ORDER**

## **Amendment No. 4 of 2005**

Under the authority of sections 40107 and 40113a, Act No. 451 of the Public Acts of 1994, as amended, being sections 324.40107 and 324.40113a of the Michigan Compiled Laws, the Natural Resources Commission and the Director of the Department of Natural Resources ordered that effective May 6, 2005, the following section of the Wildlife Conservation Order shall read as follows:

### **3.1 Elk open season, hunt periods; season limit.**

Sec. 3.1. (1) The open season for taking elk shall be those days as specified below for the following hunt periods:

Hunt Period	Open Season
1	August 27 to August 31 and September 9 to September 12, in Elk Management Units "L" and "M"
2	December 6 to December 13, in Elk Management Units "A", "B", "C", "D", and "X"
3	January 16 to January 20, only in Elk Management Unit(s) where additional harvest is deemed necessary to meet elk management objectives.

(2) The season limit shall be one elk per license.

### **12.500 "Elk management unit A" defined.**

Sec. 12.500. "Elk management unit A" means that area of Montmorency and Otsego counties bounded by a line beginning in Montmorency county at the junction of County road 622 and highway M-33 (near center of section 34, T32N R02E), then southerly on highway M-33 to Kellyville road (southwest corner of section 35, T31N R02E), westerly on Kellyville road to its end (southeastern corner of section 32, T31N R02E), continuing westerly on the north edge of sections 4, 5, and 6 (also known as north boundary of the third correction line along sections 4, 5, and 6, T30N R02E), to Manier road (east side of section 1, T30N R01E), southerly on Manier road to county road 620 (also known as Old State road, section 12, T30N R01E), westerly on county road 620 to county road 495 (also known as Meridian road, section 7, T30N R01E), northerly on county road 495 to Johnson Crossing grade (northwest corner of section 31, T31N R01E), westerly on Johnson Crossing grade into Otsego county to Gibbs road (also known as Sparr road, east side of section 28, T31N R01W), westerly on Gibbs road to Marquardt road (south edge of section 29, T31N R02W), northerly on Marquardt road to the main stream of the Pigeon river (center of section 29, T31N R02W), northerly along the Pigeon river to Old Vanderbilt road (southwest corner of section 25, T32N R02W), easterly on Old Vanderbilt road to the Black river at McKinnon's bend (east side of section 32, T32N R01W), easterly, southerly, and northerly along the Black river into Montmorency county to Blue Lakes road (also known as Barber Bridge road or Main river bridge road, at section 21, T32N R01E), easterly on Blue Lakes road to East Branch road (also known as south Black river road, east side of section 22, T32N R01E), southeasterly on East Branch road to county road 622 (northwest corner of section 6, T31N R02E), southerly on county road 622 to Rouse road (section 13, T13N R01E), easterly on Rouse road to the point of beginning.

### **12.501 "Elk management unit B" defined.**

Sec. 12.501. "Elk management unit B" means that area of Cheboygan, Montmorency, Otsego, and Presque Isle counties bounded by a line beginning in Montmorency county at the junction of county road 622 and highway M-33 (near center of section 34, T32N R02E), then northerly on highway M-33 into Presque Isle county to Canada Creek highway (east-central section 29, T33N R02E), westerly on Canada Creek highway into Cheboygan county to Black river road (east-central section 22, T33N R01E), then south on Black river road to Clark Bridge road (east central section 27, T33N R01E), then westerly on Clark Bridge road to Osmun road (northeast corner of section 26, T33N R01W), south on Osmun road and into Otsego county to Twin Lakes road (north section 2 line, T32N R01W) continuing southerly on Twin Lakes road to Hardwood Lake road (southwest corner section 10, T32N R01W-road name change, no direction change) then easterly on Hardwood Lake road to Tin Shanty road (southwest corner

section 11, T32N R01W) then south on Tin Shanty road to the intersection with the Black river (northwest corner section 35, T32N R01W) easterly, southerly, and northerly along the Black river into Montmorency county to Blue Lakes road (also known as Barber Bridge road or Main River Bridge road, section 21, T32N R01E), easterly on Blue Lakes road to East Branch road (also known as south Black river road, east side of section 22, T32N R01E), southeasterly on East Branch road to county road 622 (northwest corner of section 6, T31N R02E), southerly on county road 622 to Rouse road (section 13, T13N R01E), easterly on Rouse road to the point of beginning.

#### **12.502 "Elk management unit C" defined.**

Sec. 12.502. "Elk management unit C" means that area of Montmorency county bounded by a line beginning at the junction of highway M-32 and highway M-33 in the village of Atlanta, then easterly on highway M-32 to Hall road (center of section 10, T30N R03E), north on Hall road to Orm road (northwest corner of section 34 T31N R03E), continue north on Orm road to Hayes road then east on Hayes road to Tripp road (southeast corner of section 22 T31N R03E), northerly on Tripp road to Voyer Lake road (center of section 15, T31N R03E), north on Voyer Lake road to County road 628 (center of section 27, T32N R03E), continue north and westerly on County road 628 to State Forest Trail (northeast corner of section 20, T32N R03E), northerly on State Forest Trail through center of section 17, and into southeast corner of section 8, then easterly into the southwest corner of section 9 then northerly through the center of section 9, continuing northerly through the western half of section 4 to the Rainy river Flooding dam, all in T32N Range 03E, follow the west Branch of the Upper Rainy river from the dam, northwesterly to the river's intersection with Mertz's road in Presque Isle county (southeast corner of section 32, T33N R03E), northwest on Mertz road to Rainy Lake road (center of section 30, T33N R03E), then northerly, easterly on Rainy Lake road to west 634 highway (east-central section 8 line, T33N R03E), then west on west 634 highway to Hoffmeyer road (center of west section 7 line, T33N R03E), northerly on Hoffmeyer road to 5 Mile road (northwest corner section 6 T33N R03E), then west on 5 Mile road to Price road (southeast corner section 33 T34N R2E), north on Price road to Hackett Lake road (center section 33 T34N R2E), then west on Hackett Lake road to highway M-33, southerly on highway M-33 to the point of beginning.

#### **12.503 "Elk management unit D" defined.**

Sec. 12.503. "Elk management unit D" means that area of Cheboygan and Otsego counties bounded by a line beginning at the junction of Sturgeon Valley road and highway I-75, easterly on Sturgeon Valley road to Dudd road, south on Dudd road to Old Vanderbilt road, easterly on Old Vanderbilt road to the Black river (east edge section 32, T32N R01W), follow the Black river northerly, easterly to Tin Shanty road (northwest corner section 35, T32N R01W), north on Tin Shanty road to Hardwood Lake road, then westerly on Hardwood Lake road to Twin Lakes road (west central section 10, T32N R01W), northerly on Twin Lakes road into Cheboygan county on Osmun road (road name change, no direction change) to Clark Bridge road (northeast corner section 26, T33N R01W), easterly on Clark Bridge road to Black river road (east-central section 27, T33N R01E), northerly on Black river road to Canada Creek road (west central section 23, T33N R01E), easterly on Canada Creek road into Presque Isle county on Canada Creek highway, to highway M-33 (section 29, T33N R02E), northerly on highway M-33 to Milligan highway (east section 6, T33N R02E), westerly on Milligan highway into Cheboygan county to Black river road (northeast corner section 2, T33N R01E), north on Black river road to Buzzels road (north side of section 2, T33N R01E), westerly on Buzzels road to Centerline road (section 34, T34N R01E), northerly on Centerline road to the south edge of section 21, T34N R01E, westerly on the south edge of section 21 to the west edge of section 21, T34N R01E, northerly on the west edge of section 21 to Tucker road (southeastern corner of section 17, T34N R01E), westerly on Tucker road to Brady road (western side of section 17, T34N R01E), northerly on Brady road to highway M-68 (section 6, T35N R01E), westerly on highway M-68 to Osmun road (west side of section 1, T34N R01W), southerly on Osmun road to Walker road (section 11, T34N R01W), westerly on Walker road to the west side of section 16, T34N R01W, southerly on the west side of section 16 to the south side of section 17, T34N R01W, westerly on the south side of section 17 to Pigeon river road (section 19, T34N R01W), westerly on Pigeon river road to Afton road, northerly on Afton road to highway M-68, westerly on M-68 to old highway 27 in Indian river, southerly on old highway 27 to Wildwood road, westerly on Wildwood road to Most road, southwestly on Most road to the west Cheboygan county line, southerly on the west Cheboygan county line to the west Otsego county line, southerly on the west Otsego county line to Huffman Lake road, easterly on Huffman Lake road to highway I-75, northerly on highway I-75 to the point of beginning.

**12.504 "Elk management unit L" defined.**

Sec. 12.504. "Elk management unit L" means that area of Charlevoix, Cheboygan, Emmet, Otsego and Montmorency counties except for the area of Cheboygan, Otsego, and Montmorency counties easterly of the line beginning at Montmorency county road 489 and the south county line (south edge section 34, T29N R01E), northerly on county road 489 to county road 491 (southeast corner section 22, T29N R01E), northerly on county road 491 to highway M-32, easterly on highway M-32 to Manier road (west edge section 12, T30N R01E) to state/county 620 road (same section), westerly on county 620 road to Meridian road on the east Otsego county line, then northerly on Meridian road to the north boundary of section 19, T31N R1E, westerly on the north boundary of section 19, T31N R01E, continuing westerly on the north section lines of sections 24, 23, and 22, T31N R01W to Sawdust Pile road, westerly on Sawdust Pile road to Tin Shanty bridge road, southerly on Tin Shanty bridge road to the Black river in section 28, T31N R01W, downstream along the Black river to Old Vanderbilt road at McKinnon's bend, westerly on Old Vanderbilt road to Dudd road, northerly on Dudd Road to Sturgeon Valley road, easterly on Sturgeon Valley road to Pickerel Lake road, northerly on Pickerel Lake road to Fisherman trail, northerly on Fisherman trail to Webb road, easterly on Webb road to Montgomery road, northerly on Montgomery road to Pigeon river road, easterly on the south section line of sections 17 and 16, T34N R1W to the quarter line of section 16, northerly on the section 16 quarterline to Walker road, easterly on Walker road to Osmun road, northerly on Osmun road to highway M-68, easterly on highway M-68 to the Cheboygan and Presque Isle county line, north on the Cheboygan and Presque county line to lake Huron.

**12.505 "Elk management unit M" defined.**

Sec. 12.505. "Elk management unit M" means that area of Alpena, Montmorency, and Presque Isle counties beginning at the intersection of M-33 and Hackett Lake road, approximately 5 miles south of Onaway, Presque Isle county (west edge section 32, T34N R02E), easterly along Hackett Lake road to Price road (east edge section 33, T33N R02E), southerly on Price road. to Five-Mile highway, then east on Five-Mile highway to Hoffmeyer road (northeast corner section 1, T33N R02E), southerly on Hoffmeyer road to W-634 highway (west edge section 7, T33N R03E), southerly on W-634 highway to Elk road (northeast edge section 13, T33N R02E), southerly on Elk road to Deer road (east edge section 36, T33N R02E), continue south on Deer road into Montmorency county on Millersburg road (north edge section 1, T32N R02E), continue south on Millersburg road to Tomahawk Lake road (south edge section 11, T32N R02E), easterly, southerly on Tomahawk Lake road to County road 628 (southwest corner section 19, T32N R03E), easterly on County road 628 to Voyer Lake road (northwest corner section 27, T32N R03E), southerly on Voyer Lake road. to Tripp road (center section 15, T31N R03E), southerly on Tripp road to Hayes road (south edge section 22, T31N R03E), west on Hayes road to Orm road (northwest corner section 27, T31N R03E), south on Orm road to Hall road (southwest corner section 27, T31N R03E), south on Hall road highway M-32 (center section 10, T30N R03E), westerly on M-32 to north highway M-33 (in the village of Atlanta), north on M-33 to Kellyville road (north edge section 2, T30N R02E) westerly on Kellyville road to its end, continuing westerly on the third correction line forming the north boundary of sections 4, 5, and 6, T30N R02E to Manier road, southerly on Manier road to highway M-32 (southwest edge section 7, T30N R02E), southerly, westerly on M-32 to county road 491 (center section 26, T30N R01E), southerly on county road 491 to county road 489 (southwest corner section 23, T29N R01E), southerly on county road 489 to the south Montmorency county line (south edge section 34, T29N R01E), then east along the south Montmorency line to the south Alpena county line, east along the south Alpena county line to highway M-65 (southwest corner section 36, T29N R05E) northerly on highway M-65 to US-23 in Presque Isle county (southeast corner section 16, T34N R06E), northwest on US-23 to the northwest corner of Presque Isle county, southerly along the west Presque Isle county line to highway M-68 (northwest corner section 7, T34N R02E), westerly on highway M-68 into Cheboygan county to Brady road (northeast corner section 7, T34N R01E), southerly on Brady road. to Tucker road (south edge section 17, T34N R02E), east on Tucker road to Line road (northeast corner section 21, T34N R01E), south on Line road to Buzzels road (northwest corner section 3, T33N R01E), east on Buzzels road to Black river road (northeast corner section 2, T33N R01E), southerly on Black river road to Comstock/Milligan road (east edge section 2, T33N R01E), east on Comstock/Milligan highway into Presque Isle county to highway M-33 (east edge section 6, T33N R02E), northerly on highway M-33 to point of beginning.

**12.506 "Elk management unit X" defined.**

Sec. 12.506. "Elk management unit X" means all areas in Alpena, Antrim, Charlevoix, Emmet, and Oscoda counties and those portions of Cheboygan, Montmorency, Otsego, and Presque Isle counties not included in elk management units A, B, C, and D as defined in sections 12.500, 12.501, 12.502, 12.503.

**12.508 Repealed. Am. 4, 2005, Eff. May 5, 2005.**

Issued this 5<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2005.

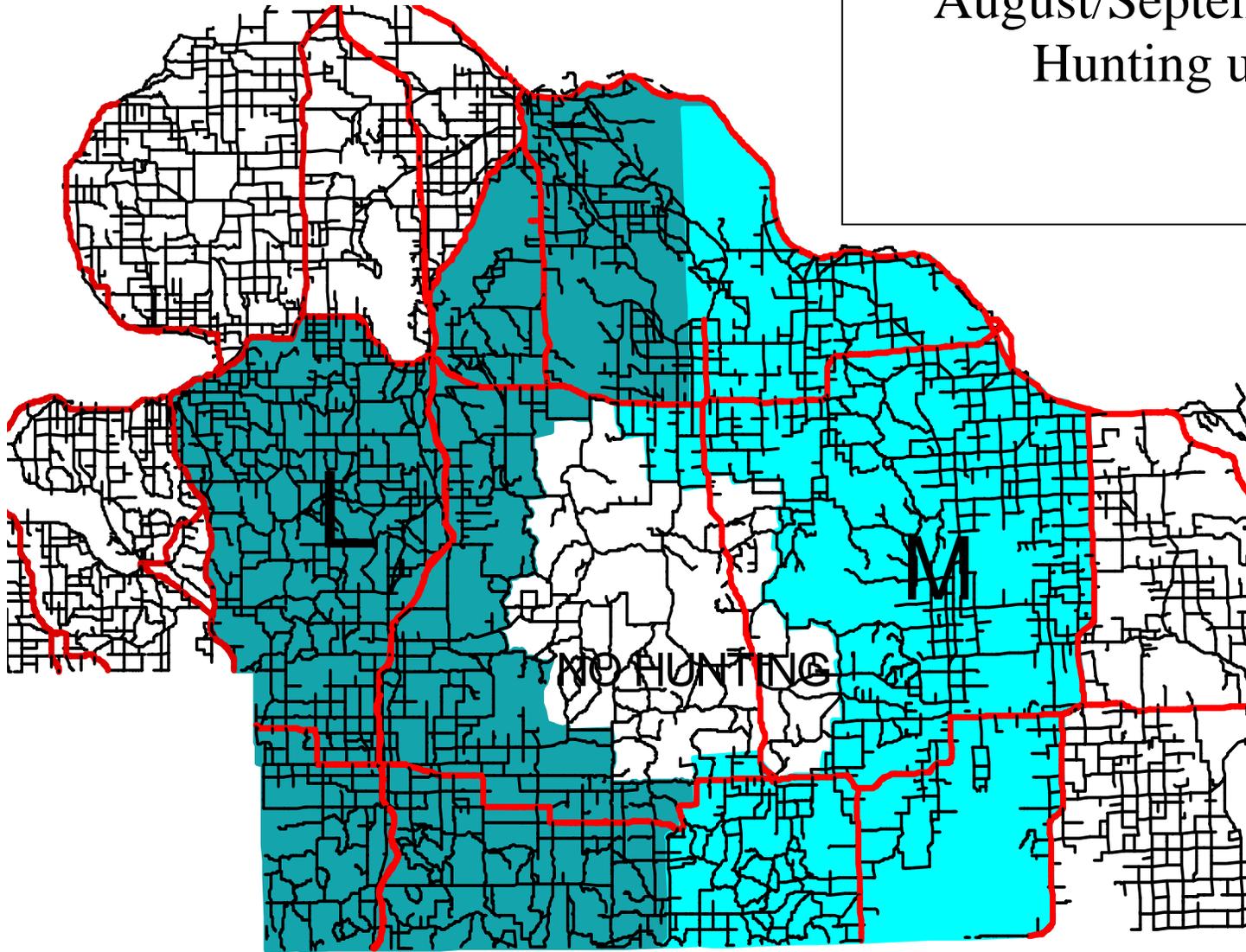
Approved as to matters over which the Natural Resources Commission has authority.

Keith J. Charters, Chairman  
Natural Resources Commission

Approved as to matters over which the Director has authority.

Rebecca A. Humphries  
Director

Proposed 2  
August/Septem  
Hunting u



# Proposed December 2005 Elk Hunting Units.

