



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
LANSING



M. SCOTT BOWEN  
DIRECTOR

August 12, 2024

TO: M. Scott Bowen, Director

INFORMATION: Natural Resources Commission

SUBJECT: Discounted Antlerless Deer License for the Extended Late Antlerless Firearm Deer Season

Authority:

The fee for an antlerless deer license is established in Part 435, Hunting and Fishing Licensing, 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.43527a, as \$20 for a resident and \$20 for the first antlerless deer license purchased by a nonresident. The fee for an additional nonresident antlerless deer license is \$170. The fees for hunting and fishing licenses may be discounted by the Department in accordance with Section 43521 of Part 435. The Department is authorized to discount licenses to achieve a harvest or management objective for that species.

Discussion and Background:

At the July 11, 2024 Natural Resources Commission (NRC) meeting, the NRC amended Wildlife Conservation Order Amendment No. 6 of 2024; Deer Regulations to create an extended late antlerless firearm deer season from January 2 through the second Sunday in January upon public and privately-owned lands within Allegan, Barry, Bay, Calhoun, Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Gratiot, Hillsdale, Ingham, Ionia, Isabella, Jackson, Kent, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Mecosta, Midland, Monroe, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oakland, Ottawa, Saginaw, Shiawassee, St. Clair (excluding deer management unit 174), Washtenaw, and Wayne counties, and in deer management units (DMUs) 311, 312, and 332. The NRC requested the Department create a \$5 antlerless deer license specifically for this hunt to help increase antlerless harvest. In addition, the NRC implemented a purchase limit of 10 for the \$5 antlerless deer licenses. This purchase limit is in addition to the season purchase limit of 10 for the universal antlerless deer license. The bag limit for this season is 10 antlerless deer. Any valid unused deer license can be used to take an antlerless deer during this season. The extended late antlerless firearm deer season is set to expire on the second Sunday in January 2027. The following language is from the Wildlife Conservation Order Section 3.1001(13):

“(13) An extended late antlerless firearm deer season shall be from January 2 through the second Sunday in January upon public and privately owned lands within Allegan, Barry, Bay, Calhoun, Clinton, Eaton, Genesee, Gratiot, Hillsdale, Ingham, Ionia, Isabella, Jackson, Kent, Lapeer, Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Mecosta, Midland, Monroe, Montcalm, Muskegon, Newaygo, Oakland, Ottawa, Saginaw, Shiawassee, St. Clair (excluding deer management unit 174), Washtenaw, and Wayne counties, and deer management units 311, 312, and 332. Only an individual possessing a valid antlerless deer license, a mentored youth hunting license, a deer license, or a deer combination license may take a deer during this season. A deer kill tag issued under the mentored youth hunting license, deer license, or deer combination license shall be used to harvest an antlerless deer only. An individual may purchase up to a limit of 10 antlerless deer licenses for this season in addition to the season purchase limit described in

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section 3.102(8), however the bag limit for this season is 10 antlerless deer. An individual shall only possess or carry afield, or take a deer with a weapon that is legal to possess or carry afield, or to take a deer with during the open firearm deer season for that respective county or deer management unit. This subsection shall sunset on the second Sunday in January of 2027.”

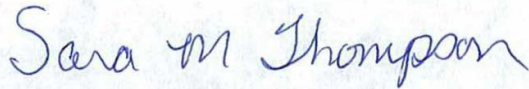
In order to implement a \$5 antlerless deer license for the extended late antlerless firearm deer season, the Department recommends:

- Discounting the fee for an antlerless deer license to \$5 for both residents and non-residents. The \$5 antlerless deer license will be valid for one antlerless deer during the extended late antlerless firearm season.
- The sales date will be December 1 to the second Sunday in January.
- The validity date will be January 2 to the second Sunday in January.

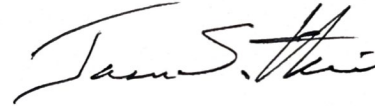
This Director’s Letter of Authorization will expire on the second Sunday of January 2027 unless rescinded at an earlier date via Director’s approval.

Recommendation:

We recommend the fee for antlerless deer licenses be discounted for the extended late antlerless firearm deer season as described in the Discussion and Background above.



Sara Thompson, Chief  
Wildlife Division



Jason S. Haines, Chief  
Law Enforcement Division



Jeffery J. Stampfly, Chief  
Forest Resources Division



Ronald A. Olson, Chief  
Parks and Recreation Division



Randall M. Claramunt, Chief  
Fisheries Division



Jon Spieles, Chief  
Marketing and Outreach Division



Dan Lord, Chief  
Finance and Operations Division

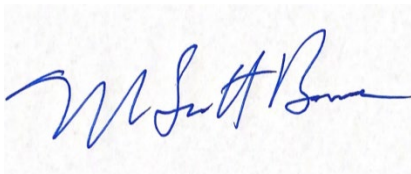


Shannon Lott  
Natural Resources Deputy



Kristin Phillips  
Chief Administrative Officer

I approve the staff recommendation with an effective date of September 12, 2024.



M. Scott Bowen, Director

Date: September 12, 2024