Chapter XIII

Managed State Game and Wildlife Areas

13.1 Managed state game areas and wildlife areas listed.

Sec. 13.1 The managed state game areas and wildlife areas are the Allegan state game area (Highbanks unit, Fennville farm, Ottawa marsh, and Bravo unit) - Allegan county; Cornish state game area - Van Buren county**;** Crow island state game area (east and west units) - Saginaw and Bay counties; Fish point wildlife area - Tuscola county; Grand Haven state game area - Ottawa county; Lapeer state game area - Lapeer county; Maple river state game area (wetlands wildlife management units near highway US-27) - Gratiot county; Munuscong wildlife area - Chippewa county; Muskegon state game area - Muskegon and Newaygo counties; Nayanquing point wildlife area - Bay county; Pointe Mouillee state game area - Wayne and Monroe counties; Portage marsh - Delta county; Sharonville state game area (Pierce road unit) - Jackson county; Shiawassee river state game area - Saginaw county; St. Clair flats wildlife area (Harsens island unit, Dickinson island unit and St. John's marsh unit) - St. Clair county; Sturgeon river sloughs wildlife area and Baraga plains wildlife area - Houghton and Baraga counties; and Wigwam bay wildlife area (east unit), Arenac county.

History: Eff. Mar 31, 1989; Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sep 1, 1990; Am. 14, 1996, Eff. Sep 1, 1996; Am. 13, 2005, Eff. Jul 8, 2005; Am. 14, 2009, Eff. Jul 10, 2009; Am. 7, 2015, Eff. August 14, 2015; Am. 10, 2015, Eff. Sept 11, 2015.

13.2 Unlawful acts.

Sec. 13.2 A person shall not do any of the following on any managed state game or wildlife area listed in section 13.1:

(1) Enter any lands or waters posted "wildlife refuge - do not enter" without written permission of the management unit supervisor or their representative.

(2) On managed waterfowl areas as defined in section 3.419, hunt in or occupy any hunting zone, area, post, or blind, other than designated on the permit issued to the person by the department, or hunt beyond such distance as may be specified for that blind or post.

(3) Hunt or shoot from any dike, trail, safety zone, or retrieving zone posted against such use.

(4) On managed waterfowl areas as defined in section 3.419, leave the area without returning their hunting permit and submitting all game taken for examination, unless directed to do otherwise by a posted sign or by instructions printed on their permit to hunt.

(5) Trap on any area posted "state game area - hunting by permit only" or "wildlife refuge - do not enter" in zones 2 and 3 without a permit from the management unit supervisor or their representative.

(6) Use dogs for hunting or retrieving in areas posted against such use.

(7) Enter any lands posted “permit required for access and hunting on dates posted” without a department issued permit.

History: Eff. Mar 31, 1989; Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sep 1, 1990; Am. 14, 1996, Eff. Sep 1, 1996; Am. 9, 1998, Eff. Sep 1, 1998; Am. 13, 1999, Eff. Sep 1, 1999; Am. 15, 2000, Eff. Sep 1, 2000; Am. 13, 2005, Eff. Jul 8, 2005; Am. 14, 2009, Eff. Jul 10, 2009; Am. 7, 2015, Eff. Aug. 14, 2015; Am. 3, 2025, Eff. Apr. 10, 2025.

13.3 Fish Point wildlife area; Nayanquing Point wildlife area; Pointe Mouillee state game area; Shiawassee river state game area; St. Clair flats wildlife area (Harsens island unit); additional rules.

Sec. 13.3 On those portions of the Fish point wildlife area, Nayanquing point wildlife area, Pointe Mouillee state game area, Shiawassee river state game area, and St. Clair flats wildlife area (Harsens island unit) posted “state game area hunting by permit only,” a permit is required to take any animal and the following rules shall apply:

(1) A person shall not take an animal without a permit for that species, location, and time period.

(2) Hunting shall be by reservation only on those days and units designated and published by the area manager. The area manager shall determine the number of reserved hunting permits to be issued. Applicants may not apply for more permits than authorized per hunter. The hunting reservation is not transferable from the original applicant to any other person.

(3) To hunt together as a party, all members of a group must register together prior to the drawing, except that up to 3 absentee hunters not present for the drawing may join a party, however the total maximum party size cannot exceed 4 hunters. Each hunter's registration information must be completed in entirety on the party registration card before the time of the drawing. Party members must hunt together in their assigned permit area.

(4) During a day designated and published by the area manager as "youth day(s)," hunting parties made up of at least 1 youth, 16 years old or younger, shall be given first priority for hunting permits. No more than 2 adults shall be permitted to hunt in the party with a maximum party size of 4.

(a) A parent or legal guardian shall not allow a youth hunter 10 through 16 years of age to go afield to hunt waterfowl unless the youth hunter is accompanied by a licensed adult at least 18 years of age subject to section 43517 of 1994 PA 451, as amended, MCL 324.43517 and in accordance with section 3.402 of this order.

(b) An individual 16 years of age or younger and holding a mentored youth license or an inclusive mentored license must be accompanied by a qualified mentor as described in section 2.14 of this order.

(5) It is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shotshells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, subsections (1) to (3) except single projectile loads.

History: Eff. Mar 31, 1989; Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sep 1, 1990; Am. 14, 1991, Eff. Sep 1, 1991; Am. 17, 1993, Eff. Sep 1, 1993; Am. 6, 1997, Eff. Sep 1, 1997; Am. 13, 1998, Eff. Sep 1, 1998; Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sep 11, 2004; Am. 16, 2006, Eff. Aug 11, 2006; Am. 12, 2007, Eff. Jul 13, 2007; Am. 14, 2009, Eff. Jul 10, 2009; Am. 12, 2012, Eff. Aug 9, 2012.; Am. 2, 2016, Eff. April 15, 2016; Am. 7, 2024, Eff. Aug. 8, 2024; Am. 8, 2024, Eff. Sept. 12, 2024; Am. 3, 2025, Eff. Apr. 10, 2025.

13.3a Pointe Mouillee state game area; additional rules.

Sec. 13.3a The following rules are established on those portions of the Pointe Mouillee state game area located in all or portions of sections 21, 22, 27, 28, 33, 34 T04S R11E; 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 35, and 36 T05S R10E; sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 30 and 31, T05S R11E; sections 1, 2, 11 and 12, of T06S R10E, and section 6 of T06 R11E, Monroe and Wayne counties:

(1) It is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shotshells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, subsections (1) to (3) except single projectile loads.

(2) Within the managed waterfowl hunting area as defined in 3.419, a current hunting license and appropriate stamps shall constitute a valid permit to hunt in the non-refuge areas, except as specified in 13.3 (3) and (4).

(3) Within the managed waterfowl hunting area as defined in 3.419, hunting permits are required for all waterfowl hunting and permits shall be returned to the check station immediately upon completion of the hunting period for which it was valid or upon termination of hunting, whichever occurs first.

(4) During the regular waterfowl season, small game and deer hunting are prohibited within the managed waterfowl hunting area as defined in 3.419.

(5) Within the managed waterfowl hunting area as defined in 3.419, it is prohibited to possess or use more than 25 shells during any hunting period.

History Note: Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sep 11, 2004; Am. 14, 2009, Eff. Jul 10, 2009; Am. 2, 2016, Eff. April 15, 2016.

13.4 Crow Island state game area; additional rule.

Sec. 13.4 On those portions of the Crow Island state game area located in sections 4 to 5, T12N R5E; sections 7 to 9, 16 to 22, 27 to 30, and 32 to 33, T13N R5E, Bay and Saginaw counties, it is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, subsections (1) to (3) except single projectile loads.

History Note: Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sep 11, 2004

13.5 Maple river state game area; additional rule.

Sec. 13.5 On those portions of the wetland wildlife management units of the Maple river state game Area located in section 30, T9N R1W; and sections 20 to 23, and 25 to 29, T9N R2W, Gratiot county, it is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, subsections (1) to (3) except single projectile loads.

History Note: Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sep 11, 2004

13.6 Muskegon county wastewater system; additional rules.

Sec. 13.6 The following rules and regulations apply to managed hunting on the leased lands of the Muskegon county wastewater system, being sections 1, 2, 10 to 14, 23, and 24, T10N R15W; sections 6 to 8, 17 to 20, 29 to 32, T10N R14W, Muskegon county, as posted:

(1) Hunting will be authorized only for waterfowl (ducks and geese) from morning opening hour to 2:00 p.m. on weekdays. On Saturdays and Sundays, hunts will take place from the morning opening hour to noon, and from 1:00 p.m. to closing hour.

(2) A person hunting shall have:

(a) Personal identification.

(b) A daily permit issued by the department at the Muskegon state game area headquarters.

(3) Controls:

(a) Only hunters with official permits will be admitted to the wastewater property or permitted to remain in the hunting area. Driving on the wastewater property is restricted to the most direct route to and from official parking areas. Other driving will require a permit from the county wastewater headquarters.

(b) Hunters shall only park in parking areas assigned at the drawings.

(c) Hunters shall not hunt outside of their assigned hunting zone, area, blind, or post. Hunters shall not possess loaded firearms or discharge firearms anywhere except from their assigned zone, area, blind, or post.

(d) Hunters shall not leave the area without returning their hunting permit and submitting all game taken for examination, unless directed to do otherwise by a posted sign or by instructions printed on their permit to hunt.

(e) It is prohibited to possess or use more than 25 shotshells with shot size greater than BBB during any hunting period.

(f) Hunters' permits and firearms will be subject to inspection by department or Muskegon county personnel.

(4) During a day designated and published by the area manager as "youth day(s)," hunting parties made up of at least 1 youth, 10 to 16 years old, accompanied by 1 or 2 parents, guardians, or other persons authorized by the parent or guardian who is 18 years of age or older, with appropriate licenses and stamps, shall be given first priority for hunting permits.

(5) It is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shotshells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, subsections (1) to (3), except single projectile loads.

History: Eff. Mar 31, 1989; Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sep 1, 1990; Am. 10, 1992, Eff. Sep 1, 1992; Am. 17, 1993, Eff. Sep 1, 1993; Am. 6, 1997, Eff. Sep 1, 1997; Am. 13, 1998, Eff. Sep 1, 1998; Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sep 11, 2004; Am. 16, 2006, Eff. Aug 11, 2006; Am. 14, 2009, Eff. Jul 10, 2009; Am. 2, 2016, Eff. April 15, 2016.

13.7 St. John's marsh; additional rules.

Sec. 13.7 Within the St. John's marsh unit, St. Clair county, being that portion of state-owned lands and waters lying in sections 19, 30, and 31, T3N R16E; sections 24, 25, 35, and 36, T3N R15E; and sections 1 and 2, T2N R15E:

(1) It is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shotshells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, subsections (1) to (3) except single projectile loads.

(2) Entry into an area posted “wildlife refuge” is prohibited from September 1 to January 1.

History: Eff. Mar 31, 1989; Am. 17, 1993, Eff. Sep 1, 1993; Am. 6, 1997, Eff. Sep 1, 1997; Am. 13, 1999, Eff. Sep 1, 1999; Am. 11, 2002, Eff. Sep 1, 2002; Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sep 11, 2004; Am. 2, 2009, Eff. Mar 6, 2009; Am. 14, 2009, Eff. Jul 10, 2009; Am. 2, 2022, Eff. Mar. 11, 2022; Am. 3, 2025, Eff. Apr. 10, 2025.

13.8 Windsor township state game area; rules.

Sec. 13.8 The following rules are in effect for the Windsor township state game area, being all or portions of section 4, T3N R3W, in Eaton county:

(1) Permitted over the entirety: archery hunting, trapping, and fishing.

(2) Walk-in access is permitted over the entirety.

(3) Signs containing the foregoing regulations shall be posted in such manner and at such locations as will provide reasonable notice of same to the public.

History: Eff. Mar 31, 1989; Am. 10, 2024, Oct. 10, 2024.

13.9 Shiawassee river state game area; rules.

Sec. 13.9 The following rules are established on those portions of the Shiawassee river state game area, Saginaw county, posted "state game area - hunting by permit only" being all or portions of sections 13, 14, 15, 16 17, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28 29, 32, 33, 34, 35, and 36 of T11N R03E; sections 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10 and 11 of T10N R03E; and sections 19 and 30 of T11N R04E:

(1) A current hunting license and appropriate stamps shall constitute a valid permit to hunt in the nonrefuge areas, except as specified in 13.9 (2) and (5).

(2) Hunting permits are required for all deer and waterfowl hunting. Waterfowl permits shall be returned to the check station immediately upon completion of the hunting period for which it was valid or upon termination of hunting, whichever occurs first.

(3) During the firearm deer seasons, a person hunting deer under a valid permit may only use single projectile loads.

(4) It shall be unlawful to camp or attempt to camp on designated parking areas or on any lands posted “state game area - hunting by permit only” from October 1 to January 1.

(5) During any waterfowl season within the managed waterfowl hunting area, small game and firearm deer hunting are prohibited.

(6) During the regular November firearm deer season there shall be no small game hunting.

(7) It is prohibited to possess or use more than 25 shotshells during any hunting period.

(8) It is unlawful to use motion-winged decoys.

(9) It is prohibited to hunt deer with firearms during any open waterfowl hunting season, except as follows:

(a) During any waterfowl season within the managed waterfowl hunting area, small game and firearm deer hunting is prohibited.

(b) Firearm managed deer hunting may be allowed from September 1 to January 1 of the following year, including areas posted as “wildlife refuge – do not enter,” by the wildlife supervisor or department designee if the department determines that conditions exist that significantly reduce habitat for waterfowl hunting. Participants must possess a valid deer management unit 273 hunting permit and current hunting licenses.

(10) Refuge deer hunting permits and non-refuge deer hunting permits may be issued to persons chosen in random drawings from applicants for different hunting periods for days designated by the management unit supervisor or representative. Permits shall not be transferred or altered.

History: Eff. Mar 31, 1989; Am. 13, 1990, Eff. Sep 1, 1990; Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sep 1, 1990; Am. 6, 1997, Eff. Sep 1, 1997; Am. 13, 1998, Eff. Sep 1, 1998; Am. 13, 1999, Eff. Sep 1, 1999; Am. 15, 2000, Eff. Sep 1, 2000; Am. 13, 2004, Eff. Aug 14, 2004; Am. 12, 2007, Eff. Jul 13, 2007; Am. 14, 2009, Eff. Jul 10, 2009; Am. 11, 2010, Eff. June 3, 2010; Am. 2, 2016, Eff. April 15, 2016; Am. 3, 2025, Eff. Apr. 10, 2025.

13.10 Fish point wildlife area; rules.

Sec. 13.10 The following rules are established on those portions of the Fish point wildlife area, Tuscola county, posted “state game area - hunting by permit only” being all or portions of section 10, T15N R8E; sections 15 to 16, T15N R8E; and sections 21 to 22, T15N R8E:

(1) A current hunting license and appropriate stamps shall constitute a valid permit to hunt in the nonrefuge areas, except as specified in 13.10 (2) and (4).

(2) Hunting permits are required for all deer and waterfowl hunting and permits shall be returned to the check station immediately upon completion of the hunting period for which it was valid or upon termination of hunting, whichever occurs first.

(3) No hunting of deer with firearms during any open waterfowl hunting season, except follows:

(a) Firearm managed deer hunting may be allowed from September 1 to January 1 of the following year, including areas posted as “wildlife refuge – do not enter,” by the wildlife supervisor or department designee if the department determines that conditions exist that significantly reduce optimal waterfowl hunting. Participants must possess a valid deer hunting permit and current hunting licenses.

(b) Firearm antlerless deer hunting may be allowed, including areas posted as “wildlife refuge – do not enter,” by the wildlife supervisor or department designee from the first Monday following the third Saturday in December through January 1. Participants must possess a valid deer hunting permit and current hunting licenses.

(4) During the managed waterfowl hunting season, small game hunters must participate in the waterfowl drawing to hunt in the managed waterfowl hunting zones.

(5) It is prohibited to possess or fire from a shotgun more than 25 shotshells during any hunting period.

(6) Deer hunting may be allowed during the appropriate hunting season on dates designated by the management unit supervisor or representative, within the areas posted “wildlife refuge-do not enter” through a random drawing of a validated daily party registration hunting permit or by obtaining a self-registered hunting permit.

(7) Refuge deer hunting permits and non-refuge deer hunting permits may be issued to persons chosen in random drawings from applicants for different hunting periods for days designated by the management unit supervisor or representative or by obtaining a self-registered hunting permit. Permits shall not be transferred or altered.

History: Eff. Mar 31, 1989; Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sep 1, 1990; Am. 13, 1999, Eff. Sep 1, 1999; Am. 12, 2007, Eff. Jul 13, 2007; Am. 14, 2009, Eff. Jul

10, 2009; Am. 11, 2010, Eff. June 3, 2010; Am. 8, 2014, Eff. Jul 11, 2014; Am. 3, 2025, Eff. Apr. 10, 2025.

13.11 Allegan state game area, Fennville farm unit; additional rules.

Sec. 13.11 Within the Fennville farm unit, being all or portions of sections 5, 7, 8, 9, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, and 30 of T02N R15W; sections 12, 13, and 24 of T02N R16W, posted "state game area - hunting by permit only" or "wildlife refuge – do not enter" the following rules are established:

(1) It is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shotshells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, except single projectile loads.

(2) During a day designated by the management unit supervisor or their representative as "youth day", only hunting parties made up of one to four youths,16 years old or younger, with appropriate licenses and stamps, will be included in the daily drawing. Only youths will be permitted to hunt.

(a) A parent or legal guardian shall not allow a youth hunter 10 through 16 years of age to go afield to hunt waterfowl unless the youth hunter is accompanied by a licensed adult at least 18 years of age subject to section 43517 of 1994 PA 451, as amended, MCL 324.43517 in accordance with section 3.402 of this order.

(b) An individual 16 years of age or younger and holding a mentored youth license or an inclusive mentored license must be accompanied by a qualified mentor as described in section 2.14 of this order.

(3) A current hunting license and appropriate stamps shall constitute a valid permit to hunt in the nonrefuge areas when the area goose season is closed and in zones 1, 9, and 10 during the goose season, except on designated days the management unit supervisor or their representative may suspend hunting for all animals in specified areas and allow hunting only under authority of a validated party registration hunting permit.

(4) The management unit supervisor or their representative, at their discretion, during the appropriate hunting season, may allow hunting on designated dates within the areas posted "wildlife refuge – do not enter" through a random drawing under the authority of a validated daily party registration hunting permit.

(5) On days designated by the management unit supervisor or their representative, during the deer hunting season, refuge deer hunting permits and non-refuge deer hunting permits may be issued to persons chosen in random drawings from applicants for different hunting periods. Permits shall not be transferred or altered.

(6) Deer hunting under the authority of a validated party registration hunting permit issued through a drawing may occur from opening hour until noon, for antlerless deer only, on the dates designated by the management unit supervisor or their representative.

(7) No person shall possess a dog or use a dog for hunting in Fennville farm unit zones 2-7 or in the portion of zone 8 located in sections 18 and 19 of T02N R15W (Clyde township) except in areas designated as retriever dog zones by the management unit supervisor or their representative, wherein dogs may be used to retrieve downed waterfowl while in the act of waterfowl hunting.

(8) During area goose season:

(a) It is prohibited to possess or use more than 25 shotshells while waterfowl hunting under authority of a validated party registration hunting permit.

(9) No hunting of deer with firearms is permitted within the Fennville farm unit.

History: Eff. Mar 31, 1989; Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sep 1, 1990; Am. 14, 1991, Eff. Sep 1, 1991; Am. 17, 1991, Eff. Jan 1, 1992; Am. 17, 1993, Eff. Sep 1, 1993; Am. 11, 1994, Eff. Sep 1, 1994; Am. 8, 1995, Eff. Sep 1, 1995; Am. 14, 1996, Eff. Sep 1, 1996; Am. 6, 1997, Eff. Sep 1, 1997; Am. 9, 1998, Eff. Sep 1, 1998; Am. 13, 1998, Eff. Sep 1, 1998; Am. 8, 1999, Eff. Sep 1, 1999; Am. 15, 2000, Eff. Sep 1, 2000; Am. 13, 2001, Eff. Sep 1, 2001; Am. 11, 2002, Eff. Sep 1, 2002; Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sep 11, 2004; Am. 13, 2005, Eff. Jul 8, 2005; Am. 9, 2006, Eff. Jul 7, 2006; Am. 16, 2006, Eff. Aug 11, 2006; Am. 14, 2009, Eff. Jul 10, 2009; Am. 2, 2016, Eff. April 15, 2016, Am. 8, 2024, Eff. Sept. 12, 2024.

13.11a Ottawa marsh unit; additional rules.

Sec 13.11a Within the Ottawa marsh unit, being all or portions of the state-owned lands and waters which are bounded on the north by the Kalamazoo river, on the south and west by the bottom of the bluff, and the pipeline right-of-way on the southeast, in sections 15, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, and 27. T3N R15W, and sections 29 and 30, T3N R14W, the following rules are established:

(1) During the waterfowl season, the hunting hours for all migratory birds shall be from opening hour to 3:00 p.m. each day.

(2) Blinds erected or constructed for purpose of hunting must be removed daily.

(3) It is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, except single projectile loads.

History: Am. 13, 2005, Eff. Jul 8, 2005; Am. 9, 2006, Eff. Jul 7, 2006; Am. 14, 2009, Eff. Jul 10, 2009; Am. 19, 2009, Oct. 8, 2009.

13.11b Highbanks unit; additional rule.

Sec 13.11b Within the Highbanks unit, being all or portions of sections 4, 5, and 9, T2N R14W, the following rule is established:

(1) It is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shotshells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, except single projectile loads.

History: Am. 19, 2009, Oct. 8, 2009.

13.12 Wigwam bay state wildlife area, east unit; additional rule.

Sec. 13.12 Within the diked area of the east unit of the Wigwam Bay State Wildlife Area located in sections 4 to 5, T18N R6E; and sections 32 to 33, T19N R6E, Arenac county, it is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, subsections (1) to (3) except single projectile loads.

History Note: Am. 17, 2004, Eff. Sep 11, 2004.

13.13 Baraga plains wildlife area; additional rules.

Sec. 13.13 The following rules are established on those portions of the Baraga plains wildlife area, Baraga county, being all or portions of sections 3 to 10, 15 to 22, 27 to 28, and 30 to 33, T49N R34W:

(1) Goose decoys shall not be placed on any lands or waters prior to the opening day of the goose season.

(2) Goose decoys shall not be left set out overnight.

History: Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sep 1, 1990.

13.14 Sturgeon river sloughs wildlife area; additional rules.

Sec. 13.14 The following rules are established on those portions of the Sturgeon river sloughs wildlife area, Houghton and Baraga counties, being all or portions of sections 3 to 6, 9 to 10, 16 to 17, and 19 to 21, T52N R33W; section 1, T52N R34W; sections 1 to 4, 9 to 10, 16, 20 to 21, 24 to 26, 28 to 29, and 31 to 33, T53N R33W; and sections 33 to 34, T54N R33W:

(1) Goose decoys shall not be placed on any lands or waters prior to the opening day of the goose season.

(2) Goose decoys shall not be left set out overnight.

History: Am. 16, 1990, Eff. Sep 1, 1990.

13.15 Repealed; Am. 13, 1999, Eff. Sep 1, 1999.

13.16 Nayanquing point wildlife area; additional rule.

Sec. 13.16 The following rules are established on those portions of the Nayanquing Point wildlife area, Bay county, posted “state game area-hunting by permit only” being all or portions of section 13, T16N R4E; sections 23 to 26, T16N R4E; and section 18, T16N R5E:

(1) A current hunting license and appropriate stamps shall constitute a valid permit to hunt in the nonrefuge areas when the managed waterfowl hunt season is closed, except as specified in 13.16 (2) and (4).

(2) Hunting permits are required for all deer and waterfowl hunting and permits shall be returned to the check station immediately upon completion of the hunting period for which it was valid or upon termination of hunting, whichever occurs first.

(3) No hunting of deer with firearms during any open waterfowl hunting season, except as follows:

(a) Firearm managed deer hunting may be allowed from September 1 to January 1 of the following year, including areas posted as “wildlife refuge – do not enter,” by the wildlife supervisor or department designee if the department determines that conditions exist that significantly reduce optimal waterfowl hunting. Participants must possess a valid deer hunting permit and current hunting licenses.

(b) Firearm antlerless deer hunting may be allowed, including areas posted as “wildlife refuge – do not enter,” by the wildlife supervisor or department designee from the first Monday following the third Saturday in December through January 1. Participants must possess a valid deer hunting permit and current hunting licenses.

(4) During the managed waterfowl hunting season, small game hunters must participate in the waterfowl drawing to hunt in the managed waterfowl hunting zones.

(5) It is prohibited to possess or fire from a shotgun more than 25 shotshells during any hunting period.

(6) Deer hunting may be allowed during the appropriate hunting season on dates designated by the management unit supervisor or representative, within the areas posted “wildlife refuge-do not enter” through a random drawing of validated daily party registration hunting permit or by obtaining a self-registered hunting permit.

(7) Refuge deer hunting permits and non-refuge deer hunting permits may be issued to persons chosen in random drawings from applicants for different hunting periods for days designated by the management unit supervisor or representative or by obtaining a self-registered hunting permit. Permits shall not be transferred or altered.

History: Am. 12, 2007, Eff. Jul 13, 2007; Am. 14, 2009, Eff. Jul 10, 2009; Am. 11, 2010, Eff. June 3, 2010; Am. 8, 2014, Eff. Jul 11, 2014; Am. 3, 2025, Eff. Apr. 10, 2025.

13.17 St. Clair flats state wildlife area, Harsens island unit; additional rules.

Sec. 13.17 The following rules are established on those portions of the St. Clair flats state wildlife area, Harsens island unit, St. Clair county, posted “state wildlife game area - hunting by permit only” being all or portions of sections 17, 18, 19, 20, 29, 30, and 31 of T02N, R16E; sections 13, 23, 24, 25, 26, 35 and 36 of T02N, R15E:

(1) During the firearm deer seasons, a person hunting deer under a valid permit may only use single projectile loads.

(2) It is prohibited to possess or use more than 25 shells during any hunting period.

(3) A current hunting license and appropriate stamps shall constitute a valid permit to hunt in the non-refuge areas, except as specified in subsection (4).

(4) Hunting permits are required for all deer and waterfowl hunting and permits shall be returned to the check station immediately upon completion of the hunting period for which it was valid or upon termination of hunting, whichever occurs first.

(5) It is unlawful to use motion-winged decoys.

(6) It is prohibited to hunt deer with firearms during any open waterfowl hunting season, except as follows:

(a) Firearm managed deer hunting may be allowed from September 1 to January 1 of the following year, including areas posted as “wildlife refuge – do not enter,” by the wildlife supervisor or department designee if the department determines that conditions exist that significantly reduce waterfowl habitat. Participants must possess a valid deer hunting permit and current hunting licenses.

(b) Firearm antlerless deer hunting may be allowed, including areas posted as “wildlife refuge – do not enter,” by the wildlife supervisor or department designee from the first Monday following the conclusion of the December firearm deer season through January 1 of the following year. Participants must possess a valid deer hunting permit and current hunting licenses.

(7) Deer hunting may be allowed during the appropriate hunting season on dates designated by the management unit supervisor or representative, within the areas posted “wildlife refuge-do not enter,” through a random drawing of validated daily party registration hunting permit or by obtaining a self-registered hunting permit.

(8) Refuge deer hunting permits and non-refuge deer hunting permits may be issued to persons chosen in random drawings from applicants for different hunting periods for days designated by the management unit supervisor or representative or by obtaining a self-registered hunting permit. Permits shall not be transferred or altered.

History: Am. 14, 2009, Eff. Jul 10, 2009; Am. 15, 2013, Eff. Aug 9, 2013; Am. 2, 2016, Eff. April 15, 2016; Am. 3, 2025, Eff. Apr. 10, 2025; Am. 6, 2026, Eff. May 24, 2026.

13.18 Sharonville state game area; Pierce road unit definition, rules.

Sec. 13.18 The following rules are established on those portions of the Sharonville state game area, Jackson county, posted “designated Pierce road unit – permit required for access and hunting on dates posted” being portions south of Sharon valley road in section 36, T03S R02E and sections 1 to 2 of T04S R04S:

(1) The management unit supervisor or their representative may designate special hunt opportunity days for the Pierce road unit during any deer hunting season.

(2) During designated special hunt opportunity days as posted by the department, all access to the Pierce road unit is prohibited without a permit. This subsection shall not apply to authorized employees and designated agents of the department performing official job responsibilities.

(3) An individual wishing to participate in restricted hunting days shall be eligible to apply for a permit if one of the following applies:

(a) The individual possesses a department issued permit to hunt from a standing vehicle.

(b) The individual is a veteran with 100 percent disability as defined by the United States department of veterans affairs. Documentation from the United States department of veterans affairs indicating 100 percent disability shall be in the possession of a veteran participating in restricted hunting days.

(c) The individual is a resident rated by the United States department of veterans affairs as individually unemployable. Documentation from the United States department of veterans affairs indicating an individually unemployable rating shall be in the possession of a veteran participating in restricted hunting days.

(d) The individual is blind as defined by section 1 of 1978 PA 260, MCL 393.351.

(e) The individual possesses a department issued permit to hunt using a laser sighting device.

(4) Permits for special hunt opportunity days may be issued to qualifying individuals chosen in random drawings. Permits shall not be transferred or altered.

(5) During the special hunt opportunities, a qualifying permitted hunter may designate up to three accompanying operators. “Operator” means an individual who accompanies the permitted hunter during the special hunt opportunity days. The operator(s) shall be capable of providing immediate aid to the permitted hunter and shall maintain uninterrupted, unaided visual contact with the permitted hunter. At least one operator in the hunting party shall be 18 years of age or older and shall possess a valid license to hunt deer, other than an apprentice, or a certificate of completion of training in hunter safety.

(6) A qualifying permitted hunter participating in special hunt opportunity days shall possess a deer license, deer combination license, or an antlerless deer license valid for deer management unit 038. A qualifying permitted hunter may take one deer during the period for which the permit is valid. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this order, during the restricted hunting days, a deer license or deer combination license is valid for either an antlered or an antlerless deer.

(7) Except as otherwise specifically provided in this section, all regulations of state law and this order regarding the taking, possession, transportation, and storage of deer during a deer season shall apply to an individual participating in special hunt opportunity days.

History: Am. 7, 2015, Eff. August 14, 2015.; Am. 14, 2018, Eff. Aug. 10, 2018.

13.19 Cornish state game area; additional rule.

Sec. 13.18 Within the Cornish state game area located in sections 21, 22, and 28, T4S R13W, Van Buren county, it is unlawful to use or possess any shot, whether loose or loaded in shot shells, of a material other than those specified in section 3.411, except single projectile loads.

History: Am. 10, 2015, Eff. Sept. 11, 2015.