

# **Arkansas Game and Fish Commission**

## **Code Book**

**The regulations in this Code Book are hereby adopted by the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission under authority of Amendment 35 to the Constitution of the State of Arkansas. All laws, rules, regulations, or orders in conflict with the regulations in this Code Book are hereby repealed by the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission.**

## **24.00 Wildlife Management Area Migratory Waterfowl Regulations**

[24.01](#) Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Access Time Restrictions On WMAs

[24.02](#) Special Usage Restrictions On Certain WMAs And Lakes

[24.03](#) Boat Motor Restrictions On Certain WMAs

[24.04](#) Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Access Restrictions On WRAs

[24.05](#) Leaving Waterfowl Decoys Overnight Prohibited On WMAs And WRAs

[24.06](#) Hunting From Duck Blinds Prohibited On WMAs And Commission-Owned Or Controlled Lakes

[24.07](#) Waterfowl Shot Shell Restrictions For Certain WMAs

[24.08](#) Guiding Prohibited On All Commissioned-Owned Or Controlled WMAs

[24.09](#) Nonresident Waterfowl Hunting Permit Requirements On WMAs

[24.10](#) Waterfowl Hunting Permit Requirements On Certain WMAs

[24.11](#) Certain Waterfowl Decoys Prohibited

## 24.01 Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Access Time Restrictions On WMAs

It is unlawful to take or attempt to take migratory waterfowl on WMAs after 12:00 p.m. (Central Time) or remain on water-inundated areas or water courses on WMAs after 1:00 p.m.(Central Time) from the first day of the first segment of regular duck season to the last day of the last segment of regular duck season.

### EXCEPTIONS:

- A. Migratory waterfowl hunting is allowed during the entire day (regular shooting hours) of the last day of the last segment of regular duck season on all WMAs in compliance with Addenda [B1.08](#), [B1.13](#).
- B. In compliance with Codes [11.04](#), [24.02](#), and Addendum [B1.10](#).
- C. All-day hunting is allowed on Blue Mountain, Beaver Lake, Dardanelle (except at the McKinnen Bottoms and Hartman waterfowl units), DeGray Lake, Fort Chaffee, J. Perry Mikles Blue Mountain SUA, and Ozark Lake (except the Dyer Lake waterfowl unit) WMAs.
- D. Navigational boating access is unrestricted on natural rivers on WMAs.
- E. All migratory waterfowl hunting is closed on Maumelle River WMA.
- F. Nimrod WMA lands lying outside Lloyd Millwood Greentree Reservoir ("Duck Area").
- G. Commission staff, volunteers, and participants during Commission-sponsored mentored hunt programs.
- H. On Dave Donaldson Black River and George H. Dunklin Jr. Bayou Meto WMAs, persons must be off water-inundated areas or water courses by 12:00 p.m. (Central Time) from the first day of the first segment of regular duck season to the last day of the last segment of regular duck season.

**PENALTY:** Class 1

## 24.02 Special Usage Restrictions On Certain WMAs And Lakes

It is unlawful to enter or remain on certain WMAs and lakes in violation of their restrictions listed in Addendum [C1.12](#).

**PENALTY:** Class 1

## 24.03 Boat Motor Restrictions On Certain WMAs

Boats and boat motors shall comply with the following restrictions on certain WMAs:

- A. Boats with outboard motors of more than 25 horsepower or surface-drive motors of more than 37 horsepower and air boats may not be operated on Dr. Lester Sitzes III Bois d'Arc (excluding Dr. Lester Sitzes III Bois d'Arc Lake), George H. Dunklin Jr. Bayou Meto, Shirey Bay Rainey Brake (excluding Shirey Bay, Horseshoe Lake, and Hill Slough during non-hunting activities ), and Steve N. Wilson Raft Creek Bottoms WMAs.
- B. No boat motors allowed on Frog Bayou WMA.
- C. Boat motors over 10 horsepower are prohibited on St. Francis National Forest WMA.
- D. Boats with motors greater than 50 horsepower and airboats may not be operated on waters on Henry Gray Hurricane Lake WMA during duck season (Addendum [B1.08](#)).
- E. Airboats may not be operated on waters on Bell Slough, Beryl Anthony Lower Ouachita (excluding Ouachita River), Freddie Black Choctaw Island WMA and Deer Research Area (both units, excluding Mississippi River), Cut-Off Creek, Cypress Bayou, Ed Gordon Point Remove, Earl Buss Bayou DeView, Galla Creek, Harris Brake (excluding Harris Brake Lake), Holland Bottoms (excluding Tommy L. Sproles Lake Pickthorne), Mike Freeze Wattensaw, Petit Jean River (excluding Petit Jean River and Kingfisher Lake), Seven Devils, Sheffield Nelson Dagmar, Sulphur River (excluding Sulphur River and Mercer Bayou) and Trusten Holder (excluding Arkansas River, Arkansas Post Canal, Merrisach Lake, Moore Bayou, and Post Lake) WMAs during duck season (Addendum [B1.08](#)).
- F. On Maumelle River WMA all boating activities and trespassing is prohibited in the Restricted Area Zone 1 on the east end of Lake Maumelle as marked by buoy line. The Unrestricted Area Zone 2 covering the central and western portions of Lake Maumelle is open to boating and fishing during the hours of 4 a.m. until 8 p.m., November 1 - March 31 and 24 hours a day from April 1 - October 31. The use of air boats, aquaplanes, surfboards, motorized surfboards, wind-powered surfboards, personal watercraft, water skis, rafts, or other similar devices or vehicles on any part of Lake Maumelle is prohibited. Canoes and kayaks may only be launched from the Sleepy Hollow access area and only operated in that portion of Lake Maumelle west of the Arkansas Highway 10 bridge. Only boats with a 25 horsepower motor or less may launch from the Sleepy Hollow access area. That portion of Lake Maumelle lying east of Arkansas Highway 10 bridge and west of the Restricted Area Zone 1 buoy line is not open to boats less than 14 feet in length.

**EXCEPTION:** Boating activities by Central Arkansas Water Utility and U.S. Geological Survey personnel engaged in the performance of their duties are allowed in the Restricted Area Zone 1 of Lake Maumelle.

**PENALTY:** Class 1

## **24.04 Migratory Waterfowl Hunting Access Restrictions On WRAs**

All Commission-owned or controlled WRAs are closed to access from November 1 - February 15.

### **EXCEPTIONS:**

- A. Dr. Lester Sitzes III Bois d'Arc Lake WRA on Dr. Lester Sitzes III Bois d'Arc WMA is open for fishing and non-hunting access.
- B. Deer permit holders hunting during deer permit hunts on Dave Donaldson Black River WMA, Ed Gordon Point Remove WMA, Johnson County Waterfowl Rest Area on Dardanelle WMA, and Shirey Bay Rainey Brake WMA.
- C. DeGray Lake WMA Special Mobility-Impaired waterfowl hunt permit holders hunting during waterfowl permit hunts and bowfishers in possession of archery bowfishing equipment.

**PENALTY:** Class 1

## **24.05 Leaving Waterfowl Decoys Overnight Prohibited On WMAs And WRAs**

It is unlawful to leave waterfowl decoys overnight on WMAs and WRAs.

**EXCEPTION:** Decoys may be stored in slough boats kept at designated sites marked with yellow T-posts and signs. Decoys must be clearly labeled with the current vehicle license number of the owner. Waterfowl decoys and slough boats can only be stored overnight at the designated sites beginning the Saturday before the opening day of the waterfowl season and must be permanently removed 7 days after the last day of the regular waterfowl season.

**PENALTY:** Class 1

## 24.06 Hunting From Duck Blinds Prohibited On WMAs And Commission-Owned Or Controlled Lakes

It is unlawful while on any WMA or Commission-owned controlled lake to occupy or take or attempt to take wildlife from a duck blind that is made from common building materials, such as wire, nylon, metal or lumber, and which is not removed at the end of each day's hunt or at the end of the WMA's daily shooting hours. Any structure not in compliance with this code may be removed by Commission personnel and destroyed or otherwise disposed of in compliance with Commission policy.

**EXCEPTION:** In compliance with Code [19.13](#).

**PENALTY:** Class 1

## 24.07 Waterfowl Shot Shell Restrictions For Certain WMAs

It is unlawful to possess more than 15 shot shells or to possess shells containing shot larger than No.2 while taking or attempting to take waterfowl on Bell Slough, Camp Robinson, Cut-Off Creek, George H. Dunklin Jr. Bayou Meto, Shirey Bay Rainey Brake and Seven Devils WMAs.

**EXCEPTIONS:**

- A. In camping, parking or boat launching areas.
- B. In compliance with Addendum [B1.13](#).

**PENALTY:** Class 1

## 24.08 Guiding Prohibited On All Commission-Owned Or Controlled WMAs

- A. It is unlawful for any person to take or attempt to take waterfowl while being guided on Commission-owned or controlled WMAs or NWRs.
- B. It also is unlawful to guide waterfowl hunters on Commission-owned or controlled WMAs.

**PENALTY:** Class 2: Being guided  
Class 3: Guiding

## 24.09 Nonresident Waterfowl Hunting Permit Requirements On WMAs

- A. It is unlawful for any nonresident hunter who does not possess a valid Nonresident WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit to take or attempt to take waterfowl during regular duck season on any WMA.
- B. Permits may be purchased for the following dates only:
  - 1. First 10 days of regular duck season.
  - 2. December 27 through January 5 Annually.
  - 3. January 22 through January 31 Annually.
- C. Each permit will allow the nonresident to hunt waterfowl on any WMA for up to 5 consecutive days. The desired hunting dates must be selected from the options available at the time of purchase and all selections are final. Permit purchases are nonrefundable and nontransferable to other persons, dates, or WMAs.
- D. This permit is in addition to hunting and/or guide license requirements as stated in Chapter [03.00](#). This permit must be in the person's possession while taking or attempting to take waterfowl on any WMA.

### EXCEPTIONS:

- A. Former residents, who possess a Waterfowl Permit and a Resident Lifetime License for either hunting or combination hunting-and-fishing (Addendum [D1.01](#)) obtained prior to September 1, 2021, while a bona fide Arkansas resident (Code [01.00](#)-C, RESIDENT), may hunt waterfowl on any WMA in compliance with Chapter [24.00](#) without a Nonresident WMA Waterfowl Hunting Permit and are not subject to the above date restrictions.

**PENALTY:** Class 2

## 24.10 Waterfowl Hunting Permit Requirements On Certain WMAs

It is unlawful during waterfowl season, including the Special Youth/Veteran Waterfowl Hunts, to enter a flooded area without possessing a Waterfowl Hunting Permit on Cypress Bayou (Red Cut Slough Tract), Freddie Black Choctaw Island WMA and Deer Research Area West Unit, Frog Bayou WMA, the Conway George Tract on Sheffield Nelson Dagmar WMA and Steve N. Wilson Raft Creek Bottoms WMA and the DeGray Lake WRA during USCOE mobility-impaired waterfowl hunt.

### **EXCEPTIONS:**

- A. No permit is required during the Special Youth/Veteran Waterfowl Hunts on Steve N. Wilson Raft Creek Bottoms except for the youth blind permitted hole in compliance with Addendum [B1.13](#).
- B. No permit is required during the Special Youth/Veteran Waterfowl Hunts on Cypress Bayou Red Cut Slough Tract.
- C. Commission staff, volunteers, and participants during Commission-sponsored mentored hunt programs.

**PENALTY:** Class 1

## 24.11 Certain Waterfowl Decoys Prohibited

It shall be unlawful on any Commission-owned WMAs or lakes or Camp Robinson WMA and on any National Wildlife Refuge to possess, or take or attempt to take waterfowl with the use of, any simulated wing movement decoy or any decoy other than an artificial decoy that imitates the appearance of waterfowl: no moving parts or electrical components; and is not subjected to any artificial means that makes it appear to move, splash or cause ripples. From the first day of the first segment of regular duck season through the last day of the last segment of regular duck season including teal and youth waterfowl season. (Code [01.00-C](#)).

**EXCEPTION:** Manually operated “jerk strings” may be used to simulate decoy movement.

**PENALTY:** Class 1