

As of June 8, 2022

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 All laws, rules, regulations, or orders in conflict with the regulations in this Code Book are hereby repealed by the Arkansas State Game and Fish Commission.

02.00 Zone Regulations

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02.01 Zone Regulation Requirements

It is unlawful to hunt or possess wildlife in the zones described herein without complying with regulations established for said zones (Addendum [E1.00](#)).

PENALTY: Class 1

**02.02 Wildlife Management Areas Established
As Zones**

- A. If the Commission, upon proper and thorough investigation, shall determine that intensified game management through the increased production of food, more rigid enforcement, restocking or other methods are needed in an area for the increased production of wildlife; the Commission may set aside and define specific areas on lands controlled by the Commission and suitable markers shall be put up by the Commission in such places as shall be determined, defining and identifying the areas as a wildlife management area or a wildlife demonstration area (referred to as WMA, WDA, SP-CA or, NWR).
- B. Each WMA (Code [01.00-C](#)) is a separate zone for which the Commission may establish and apply hunting regulations. All seasons/limits and regulations are the same as the surrounding zone unless otherwise specified. All private lands (including any combinations of lands separately owned, and regardless of whether such lands touch a road, creek, stream, river, lake, or other waterbody) that are completely surrounded by WMA lands (except National Wildlife Refuges) shall be considered as inholdings. Such inholdings shall be subject to the same regulations pertaining to hunting season dates, hunting hours, bag limits, and hunting permits as the surrounding WMA.

EXCEPTIONS:

- A. Private lands that are completely surrounded by NWR lands shall be subject to the same state regulations pertaining to hunting season dates, hunting hours, bag limits, and hunting permits as the surrounding or nearest adjacent state management zone, plus any federal regulations pertaining to NWR inholdings.
- B. Private lands that are completely surrounded by a WMA that are located within the 5 county (Boone, Carroll, Madison, Newton, and Searcy Counties) Elk Management Assistance

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Program private land elk zone shall be subject to the elk hunting season dates, bag limits and hunting permits as the surrounding or nearest adjacent state management zone that allows elk hunting.

- C. Private lands that are completely surrounded by Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission lands shall be subject to the same state regulations pertaining to hunting season dates, hunting hours, bag limits, and hunting permits as the surrounding or nearest adjacent state management zone, plus any federal regulations pertaining to ANHC inholdings.

PENALTY: Class 1

02.03 RESERVED

RESERVED.

02.04 Hunting Deer Prohibited Within Closed Flood Prone Regions

It is unlawful to hunt deer within closed Flood Prone Regions (Addendum [E1.04](#)).

PENALTY: Class 1

02.05 Entry During Closure Of Public Access And/Or Zones Due To Emergency Condition

It is unlawful to enter upon any Commission-owned or controlled property which has been ordered closed to public access, or to hunt, fish, or trap in any zone which has been ordered closed pursuant to this regulation and in compliance with Code [01.00-O](#).

PENALTY: Class 1

**02.06 Waters And Submerged Lands Within
Or Adjacent To WMAs Included In WMA Zones**

- A. All portions of navigable and non-navigable waters of the state and their Submerged lands as defined in Ark. Code Ann. § 22-6-201 that are located within the exterior boundaries of a WMA zone (Code [02.02](#)) and not within the boundaries of a private inholding (Code [02.02](#)) shall be considered part of the WMA for purposes of wildlife regulations.
- B. All portions of navigable waters of the state or Commission-owned or managed waters and their submerged lands as defined in Ark. Code Ann. § 22-6-201 located adjacent to the exterior boundaries of a WMA zone (Code [02.02](#)) shall be considered part of the WMA for purposes of wildlife regulation.

EXCEPTION: Unless otherwise authorized by a state agency or officer or by state law or regulation, navigable waters of the state and their submerged lands as defined in Ark. Code Ann. § 22-6-201 that are located within or adjacent to a WMA zone (Code [02.02](#)) shall not be considered part of the WMA for the limited purpose of prohibiting (Codes [20.06](#), [24.06](#)) the building, attaching, or erecting of a structure within the WMA. All other WMA regulations and the prohibitions on hunting, taking, or attempting to take wildlife from such structures shall apply. Persons wishing to place a structure within navigable waters of the state or their submerged lands as defined in Ark. Code Ann. § 22-6- 201 must request permission to do so from the Arkansas Commissioner of State Lands.

PENALTY: Class 1