



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Little Rock District

Bull Shoals Lake

Ozark Isle Youth Muzzleloader Deer Hunt



December 11th and 12th, 2021

Mountain Home Project Office
324 W. 7th Street
Mountain Home, AR 72653
Bull Shoals Lake, Arkansas

**Afternoon
Hunting Only!**

Ozark Isle Youth Deer Hunt

December 11th and 12th, 2021 **Afternoon Hunting Only!**

A Recreational Opportunity for youngsters interested in the outdoors.



Purpose

The Ozark Isle Special Deer Hunt is to help improve the deer herd in this area through the provision of a recreational opportunity. This opportunity is being extended to the nation's youth in order to help youngsters to create an interest in conservation and the outdoors. This hunt is an effort to provide access, facilities, and other needed resources so these youngsters can enjoy a safe and successful recreational experience.

Point of Contact

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Mountain Home Project Office
324 W. 7th St.
Mountain Home, Arkansas 72653.**

Jared House, Wildlife Specialist, Telephone number: 501-340-1444

Description of the Area

Located west of Oakland, Arkansas, in Marion County, Ozark Isle Park is contained within the Oakland Resource Management Unit. The isle covers 476 acres where intensive habitat improvements have been performed at numerous locations. Historically, this area was mainly in open pastures on the gentle slopes that drained into Spring Creek to the north and into Thompson Hollow to the south. The once north-south ridge became an isle after inundation from the lake and was later developed as a park with camping, swimming, and boating facilities. The recreation fee season opens in May and closes the end of September. Access to the isle is by an elevated causeway from Oakland Park. The causeway is gated and will remain closed from October through April. The east facing slopes have favorable soils for good stands of many grasses, legumes, and some small grain crops. Food plots, and plantings are established here along with a prescribed burn schedule to encourage early succession of native plant species.

The Dry Run Area hunt covers approximately 400 acres lying between the Ozark Isle causeway and Marion County Road 142. Access to the Dry Run Hunt Area is through two locked gates located off the causeway road from Oakland Park and one locked gate located off of CR 142. These gated roads and will remain closed during the remainder of the year. One food plot will be established in this area, otherwise, the majority of the area is a heavy timbered area with the primary forest cover consisting of White Oak, Post Oak and Red Oak with Eastern Red Cedar.

Safety

Hunting Area/Terrain

1. The eight blind locations were carefully selected by ground observation, topographic information, and aerial photographs for safe spacing distances, use of landscape terrain, and location in relation to public access area, public roads and private houses to provide for the safest hunting conditions possible.
2. The hunt area is located in an area where heavy timber and the terrain (ridge lines and gullies) are used to provide screening from stray projectiles.
3. The area will be closed to the public during the 2 day hunt.
 - a. "Closed to Public" signs will be prominently posted along county road 142 and power line cuts with barrier tape being stretched across access roads and trails.
 - b. All interior access roads are gated and bermed to prevent access and all gates will be closed to prevent public access during the hunt.
 - c. The causeway road from Oakland Park will be closed to the public during the hunt.
 - d. An article will be sent to area newspapers informing the public of the area closure.
 - e. County Road 142 will be periodically patrolled during the hunt to check for possible trespassers in the hunt area during the hunt.

Method

1. Type of hunting devices permitted on the hunt will be **muzzleloading rifles** with single projectile ammunition only. **No center fire rifles, handguns, shotguns, or buck shot will be allowed.**
 - Muzzleloader: To be legal, muzzleloading long guns must have a barrel at least 18 inches long and be at least .45 caliber. Magnifying sight may be used. Single projectile balls or bullets only. The use of buck shot is not legal. Legal muzzleloaders use musket cap, percussion cap, or 209 primers and are loaded only through the muzzle and are not capable of firing a cartridge. Shotguns with slugs only are NOT legal. Check for legal muzzleloading rifle specifications in the *Arkansas Hunting Handbook 2021-22* published annually by the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission.
2. No dogs will be allowed in the hunt, nor allowed on the area during the hunt

Bag Limit

1. **Two legal buck deer and one doe (Bonus doe deer may be taken if bonus doe tags are available for this hunt. NOTE: Extra Doe tags (if available) are bonus deer and will not count against the season limit)**

Legal Deer

Youths may harvest any buck without regard to antler size and points. Youth may harvest does on this hunt, all deer harvested during the youth hunt will count toward the youth's seasonal bag limit, unless bonus doe tags are available. If the youth has already taken his/her legal limit of bucks for the season, he/she must take does only.

NOTE: We ask that you do not intentionally target button bucks.

In the case a button buck is harvested, it will qualify as an antlerless deer.

A doe is a female deer not having antlers.

Monitoring

1. A check station will be located at the entrance to Ozark Isle to provide control and safety during the hunt and officially check your deer with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission. The station will also be used to gather biological data and to insure compliance of the regulations of the hunt.
2. Each hunter and adult guide will be required to check in and out at the entrance check station to verify the permit before the hunt and allow for the examination of the deer after the hunt is completed. This will accommodate the check station personnel to gather the needed data and any other information needed. **Check in time is at 1:00 p.m. on Saturday, Dec. 11 and 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 12 and check out time at sunset each day.**

Season

1. **The season will be a 2 day season, Dec. 11 and 12, 2021, during the last muzzleloader hunting season in Zone 3. Afternoon Hunting Only.**
2. **The 2 day season will begin at 1:30 p.m. on Saturday, December 11 and continue until ½ hour after sunset and begins again 1:30 p.m. on Sunday, December 12 and continues until ½ hour after sunset. Afternoon hunting only.**
3. **Why Afternoons Only?** Historically, deer just do not travel much in the mornings in this area. Over 95% of all deer harvested on previous hunts were taken in the afternoon/evening. We have found that requiring the youth to hunt both morning and afternoon hunts, has caused the youths to wear out early and much less willing to stay in the blinds for the more productive afternoon hunting time. Limiting the hunt to two afternoon hunting sessions will help keep the youths more focused and comfortable and remaining in the blinds during the most productive times for success.

Permits

Criteria for eligibility:

1. Applicants for this hunt must be hunter education graduates who are 15 years old and under (born on or after December 11, 2015) **Applicants must hold a valid hunter education certification number and enter that number on the application.** Any hunter who received hunter education certification from a State other than Arkansas should also include the name of the state on the application next to the certification number.
2. Applicants must have parental permission to apply for this hunt, and the parent or guardian should sign the application along with the applicant.
3. Applicants must be accompanied by an unarmed adult over 21 years old during the hunt.
4. Applicants must meet all Arkansas State hunting license requirements. Arkansas residents under 16 are not required to have a hunting license.

Application Procedure and Permit Notification

1. In order to apply for a permit, the eligible applicants need to supply personal identification on a completed application form (attached) or available from the Corps' Project Office, in Mountain Home, Arkansas. **Permit applications must be received by the close of the business day on November 26, 2021.**
2. **Eight (8) permits will be issued by random drawing** for the designated hunting blinds. The random selection drawing will be held on November 29, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. A second drawing will follow to compile a waiting list in the event of any cancellations.
3. Notification of successful applicants will be by phone. A packet of instructions will be mailed to each successful applicant after the drawing. Hunters and their adult guides will be required to attend an orientation meeting. This will be held 1:00 p.m. the first day of the hunt to instruct participants on blind locations and safety requirements during the hunt. The eight blind locations will be drawn for by the youth hunters present at the beginning of each hunt day.

COVID -19 Precautions

1. CDC recommended precautions for the prevention of COVID-19 will be practiced when participants are in close proximity to other participants. These will include social distancing, masks, hand sanitizing, and daily temperature check before checking in.
2. Once blinds have been assigned, there will be no changing of blinds allowed for the two day hunt. Masks may be removed when not in close proximity to other participants and while in the blind.
3. More specific information and a liability waiver for signature will be provided before check in for the hunt. Following CDC recommended precautions is mandatory.

Safety

Hunting Areas/ Firearms.

1. Hunters will be required to have an adult guide in the blind during the hunt. The guide will not be permitted to have any weapon in possession during the hunt. Only one firearm per blind will be permitted. Hunting will be restricted to the hunting blinds. Hunters and their adult guides will be required to remain in designated blinds during hunting hours. **The adult guide may leave the blind to retrieve a harvested deer, but only with special permission from the Park Rangers on duty.**
2. Hunting from any vehicle is prohibited. ATV's may not be used during this hunt. All firearms must be cased and unloaded while transported by vehicle. (Muzzleloaders must have cap removed from nipple to be considered unloaded.)
3. All firearms will be unloaded until the hunter is safely seated inside their blind. Firearms must be unloaded upon departure from the blind. (The cap removed from the muzzleloader is considered unloaded.)
4. Portable radios will be provided to the volunteer assistants for direct communication to the check station personnel in case of emergencies or needed assistance.
5. This area will remain closed to the public during the hunt except to authorized personnel, the permitted hunters and their adult guides. Signs will be posted.

Hunter Orange

1. All hunters and adult guides during the hunt must wear hunter orange.
2. The colored area of the garment must total at least 400 square inches above the waist. In addition, a hunter orange head garment must be worn.

Safety Briefing

All permitted hunters and adult guides must attend a safety briefing starting at 1:00 p.m. Saturday, December 11, 2021 at the causeway gate leading to Ozark Isle Park. Before the hunt begins the permitted hunter and their adult guides will receive instructions and review of safety rules and regulations from Corps Park Rangers. The park rangers assigned this duty are certified as hunter safety instructors.

Complete and detach the following application and mail to:

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Mountain Home Project Office
324 West 7th Street
Mountain Home, Arkansas 72653
ATTN: Jared House**

**Application must be received
at this address by close of
business on November 26, 2021.**



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Little Rock District

Office Use
Only

Application

2021 Special Hunt Application

Ozark Isle Youth Muzzleloader Deer Hunt: Dec. 11-12, 2021

Name (print): _____

Address: _____

Phone: (____) _____ - _____ Date of Birth: * _____

*Hunter must be born on or after Dec. 11, 2015

Hunter Ed. I.D. No. _____ State of issue _____.

Youth hunter must have a hunter education number and must be under direct supervision of an adult guide over 21 years of age.

I would like to have _____ be my adult guide.

Relationship of guide to hunter: _____

Adult guide phone number: (____) _____ - _____.

I agree to comply with all regulations, conditions and disclaimers as set forth in applying for and participating in this special hunt. I also agree to not hold the government or any organization, or person affiliated with this hunt liable for any damages or personal injury while participating in any portion of this event.

(SIGNATURE OF HUNTER)

(DATE)

(SIGNATURE OF PARENT OR GUARDIAN)

(DATE)

**MAIL TO: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Mountain Home Project Office
324 West 7th Street
Mountain Home, Arkansas 72653
ATTN: Jared House**

**Application must be received
at this address by close of
business on November 26, 2021.**

Detach and mail in this application.