

California Department of Fish and Game

Deer Management Program

2009 Deer Zone Information



Wildlife Branch
1812 9th Street Sacramento, CA 95811

General Deer Hunting Information For

ZONE B-1

(Includes Additional Hunts A-30 and M-11)

GENERAL INFORMATION FOR DEER HUNT ZONE

This information sheet has been prepared to assist deer hunters applying for, or planning to hunt in, Zone B-1 located in Del Norte and portions of Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, Siskiyou and Trinity counties. The following information should be useful to hunters for archery and general seasons as well as any "additional hunts" within this geographic area. For more specific information or additional questions regarding this area, contact the following Department office(s):

Northern Region Office (Region 1), 601 Locust Street, Redding, CA 96001 (530-225-2300) encompassing Del Norte, Humboldt, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama and Trinity counties; or

North Central Region Office (Region 2), 1701 Nimbus Road, Rancho Cordova, CA 95670 (916-358-2900) encompassing Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Lake, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, northeastern Sacramento, eastern San Joaquin, Sierra, Sutter, northern Yolo and Yuba counties.

REGULATIONS

Laws and regulations are designed to conserve wildlife and to provide for an equitable distribution of game mammals. The hunter who knows the laws and regulations can enjoy the hunting experience more. All hunters should read and be familiar with the current hunting regulations available online at: <http://www.fgc.ca.gov/regulations/current/mammalregs.asp>

The 2009 deer hunting regulations specific for Zone B-1 (archery and general season) and any additional hunts are at the end of this sheet. To hunt deer in Zone B-1, hunters must possess a "B" zone deer tag. This tag is valid during the archery or general season using the appropriate method of take in either: Zone B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5 or B-6. Season dates vary between these zones, so be sure to check the current regulations for the zone you plan to hunt.

Additionally, Archery Only Tags (AO Tags) are valid during the Zone B-1 archery or general season using archery equipment only.

Any additional deer hunts in Zone B-1 are listed in the Additional Deer Hunts section, below. Typically, tags for additional deer hunts are in high demand and distributed through the Department's Big Game Drawing held in June. To receive tags for many of these hunts, hunters must plan ahead and are encouraged to submit deer tag applications by late May. For information regarding deer tag application procedures and obtaining a deer tag for this area, see the 2009 Hunting Digest, available on-line at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/publications/digest/>

Successful hunters are reminded to immediately fill out both portions of the tag and permanently mark the date of kill; record the appropriate "B" zone (Zone B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5 or B-6) where they killed their buck; attach the tag to the antlers, or ear if antlerless; have the tag validated and countersigned; and return the completed report card portion to the Department within 30 days of taking a deer.

LAND OWNERSHIP/PUBLIC LAND OPPORTUNITIES

Zone B-1 contains a mixture of both public and private lands. Remember you must obtain and have in your possession written permission to hunt on private property. Hunter trespass laws are strictly enforced. Public lands within the zone are administered by the Klamath, Mendocino, Shasta-Trinity and Six Rivers National Forests (USFS) and the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). For information regarding these lands contact the following:

USFS Offices:

Klamath National Forest, 1312 Fairland Road, Yreka, CA 96097-9549 (530-842-6131)
Mendocino National Forest, 825 N. Humboldt Avenue, Willows, CA 95988 (530-934-3316)
Shasta-Trinity National Forest, 3644 Avtech Parkway, Redding, CA 96002 (530-226-2500)
Six Rivers National Forest, 1330 Bayshore Way, Eureka CA 95501 (707-442-1721)

BLM Offices:

Arcata Field Office, 1695 Heindon Road, Arcata, California 95521-4573 (707-825-2300)
Ukiah Field Office, 2550 North State Street, Ukiah, CA 95482 (707-468-4000)

In Zone B-1 and other zones throughout California, additional deer hunting opportunities may exist on private property licensed through the Department's Private Lands Management Program (PLM). For more information on the PLM and to obtain a list of participating ranches, go to the following link:

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/plm.html>

MAPS

For general maps detailing individual zone or additional deer hunt boundaries, go to the following link:

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/deer/zonemapsinfo.html>

The most comprehensive maps of the area are the four National Forest maps. USFS maps are available locally at most USFS offices; by contacting the USFS Pacific Southwest Regional Office at: 1323 Club Drive, Vallejo, CA 94592 (707-562-8737); or ordered by phone (406-329-3024), fax (406-329-3030), mail at USDA Forest Service, National Forest Store, P.O. Box 8268, Missoula, MT 59807, or on-line at <http://www.nationalforeststore.com/>.

BLM surface management maps may also be useful. However, because Zone B-1 covers such a large area, several maps are needed to depict it entirely. BLM surface management maps for Zone B-1 include the Crescent City, Eureka, Garberville, Happy Camp, Hayfork, Hoopa, Ukiah, and Willows maps. You can purchase these maps at BLM district offices or you can contact the BLM at 2800 Cottage Way, Suite W-1834, Sacramento, CA 95825 (916-978-4400).

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) topographic maps, are very helpful, especially for topographic features that are not displayed on USFS or BLM maps. USGS maps may be available from sporting goods, backpacking or engineering stores or you can contact the USGS directly at: Rocky Mountain Mapping Center, Branch of Information Services, Box 25286, Denver, CO 80225 (888-ASK-USGS).

ACCESS/MAJOR ROADS

Although there is a lot of private land in Zone B-1, there are extensive tracts of public land with excellent access. Primary roadways in Zone B-1 are State Highway 101 (western B-1), State Highway 96 (northeastern B-1), State Highway 199 (northern B-1), State Highway 36 (south-central B-1) and Highway 162 (southern B-1). Many County, USFS and BLM roads branch off of these primary roadways providing access to public lands.

WEATHER CONDITIONS/TRAVEL TIPS

The weather in this region is highly variable so BE PREPARED. The weather is usually quite hot and dry, but early storms are not uncommon. Snow fall will be a rare occurrence with these storms but heavy rains can make many roads very difficult, if not impossible, to travel. You should be prepared with appropriate clothing and equipment for a variety of weather conditions.

Zone B-1 covers a very large geographic area. The terrain can be very steep and rugged and vegetation can be extremely dense. As you should do in all remote areas, hunters are urged to bring a shovel, a good spare tire, extra water, etc. Use care when operating any vehicle off-road and check with the BLM or USFS for rules and regulations regarding vehicle and travel restrictions in the area. Horses can be useful in some portions of B-1, especially in the Board Camp Mountain and Bug Creek Butte area. However, remember that it may be necessary to carry supplemental horse feed into the back country. Contact the local USFS and/or BLM office for more information regarding forage conditions for livestock.

CAMPING

There are numerous designated campgrounds within Zone B-1. The facilities available at these campgrounds vary from primitive campsites to campsites with running water and showers. Most campgrounds are clearly marked on USFS and BLM maps. Camping outside of designated campgrounds is usually permitted on BLM and USFS lands. However, during fire season special regulations may apply and it will be necessary to obtain a fire permit from the USFS or BLM. You can also check with the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection office for rules in specific areas.

Please, DO NOT camp or hunt for prolonged periods near water sources important to wildlife and livestock. Remaining for over 30 minutes and within 200 yards of an artificial water source including guzzlers or horizontal wells on public lands within California is a Fish and Game violation (Title 14, Section 730). You can pack water, wildlife can't.

HARVEST INFORMATION

Information on deer harvest for this area is available in tables contained in the annual Deer Kill Reports available on-line at: <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/deer/deerhunt.html> The most useful tables for the purposes of planning or applying for hunts in this area are Tables 1b (Harvest and Success Information), 2a (Antler Class Information) and 10b (Drawing Statistics).

HERD CONDITIONS AND HABITATS

The deer population in Zone B-1 is considered stable. Population trends in some areas are increasing while others are decreasing. Check with the local Fish and Game office for specific information regarding the area you plan to hunt. As with most deer herds in California and other western states, the long-term population trend has been on a steady decline since the 1960's and 1970's. These long-term declines have been due to land management practices that have precluded fire, resulting in changes toward more mature and less diverse habitats, and reduced quality and quantity of deer habitats. Short-term fluctuations in deer populations are usually attributed to weather events that affect forage production.

The subspecies of deer inhabiting Zone B-1 are Columbian black-tailed deer, and are generally considered resident deer. That is, their movement is up and down the slopes, they do not make long seasonal migrations. The deer in this area generally move to higher elevations in late spring and will remain there until the first heavy fall storms force them down below the snow line. This downward movement often occurs during the hunting season, so hunters should be prepared to move to lower areas later in the season after stormy weather.

The vegetation is highly varied throughout Zone B-1 ranging from coastal scrub, mixed and montane chaparral, oak-woodland, hardwood-conifer, and dense conifer forests to some alpine habitats. Generally speaking, deer populations in this area respond favorably to vegetation disturbances that enhance brush species (wildfire and timber harvesting). Riparian areas (areas along watercourses), recently burned areas or clear cuts that have re-sprouted with brush are good areas to hunt. Areas where oaks are producing acorns may also attract deer. Typically, lower densities of deer are observed in the more densely forested areas or in older, more decadent brushlands.

HUNTING TIPS AND WHERE TO LOOK FOR DEER

Successful hunters often spend a considerable amount of time scouting pre-season, locating individual or groups of deer, recently used deer trails, and feeding and bedding areas. You may not see many deer from the roads in this area and generally the more successful hunters do more hiking to locate deer.

Binoculars and/or spotting scopes can be very helpful for locating and identifying deer at greater distances. In general, attempt to hunt areas that are away from other activities such as concentrations of hunters, vehicles, and/or livestock.

Historically, some of the more popular and productive deer hunting areas in Zone B-1 include:

Del Norte County: Bear Basin, French Hill, Page Mountain, Sanger Peak and Shelly Creek.

Humboldt County: 8 Mile Ridge, Black Lassics, Blake Mountain, Board Camp, Buck Mountain, Grouse Mountain, Larabee Butte, Mad River Rock, Pilot Ridge, Race Track, Snow Camp, South Fork Mountain, Titlow Hill, and Watts Lake.

Lake County: areas in the vicinity of Lake Pillsbury and Snow Mountain.

Mendocino County: Anthony Peak, Bald Mountain, Buck Rock, Dos Rios, Etsel Ridge, Grizzly Flat, Howard Lake, Hull Mountain, Indian Dick, Little Doe Ridge, Mendocino Pass, Monkey Rock, San Hedrin Mountain, Snow Mountain and Soldier Ridge.

Siskiyou County: Badger Mountain, Clear Creek, Elk Lake and Valley, Grayback, Grider Ridge, Gun Sight Peak, Lake Mountain, Mill Creek, Poker Flat and Thompson Ridge.

For additional information about deer hunting in California, see the Department's publication "Guide To Hunting Deer In California" at the following web site:

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/deer/docs/deerguide.pdf>

ADDITIONAL DEER HUNTS

In 2009, two additional deer hunting opportunities exist within Zone B-1: a) Hunt M-11 (Northwestern California Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt); and b) Hunt A-30 (Covelo Archery Buck Hunt). For general maps detailing the individual hunt area boundaries, go to the following link:

<http://www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/deer/deermaps.html>

2009 ZONE AND ADDITIONAL HUNT SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

§ 360. Deer.

Except as otherwise provided in this Title 14, deer may be taken only as follows:

(a) A, B, C, and D Zone Hunts.

(2) Zone B.

(A) Area: Shall include all of Zones B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5 and B-6 (see subsections 360(a)(2)(A) 1-6).

1. Zone B-1.

In the County of Del Norte and those portions of Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, Siskiyou and Trinity counties within a line: Beginning at the California-Oregon state line and the Pacific Ocean; east along the state line to the point where Cook-Green Pass Road (Forest Service Road 48N20) intersects the California-Oregon state line; south on the Cook-Green Pass Road to Highway 96 near Seiad Valley; west and south along Highway 96 to Highway 299 at Willow Creek; southeast along Highway 299 to the South Fork of the Trinity River; southeast along the South Fork of the Trinity River to the boundary of the Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness Area; southwest along the boundary of the Yolla Bolly-Middle Eel Wilderness Area to the Four Corners Rock-Washington Rock Trail; south and east on the Four Corners Rock-Washington Rock Trail to the North Fork of Middle Fork Eel River; south on the North Fork of Middle Fork Eel River to Middle Fork Eel River; east on Middle Fork Eel River to confluence with Balm of Gilead Creek; north and east on Balm of Gilead Creek to confluence with Minnie Creek; east and south on Minnie Creek to Soldier Ridge Trail; north on Soldier Ridge Trail to Summit Trail; south on Summit Trail to Green Springs Trail head at Pacific Crest Road (U.S. Forest Service Road M-2); south on the Mendocino Pass Road to the intersection of Forest Highway 7; west on Forest Highway 7 to the Middle Fork of the Eel River near Eel River Work Center; southwest on the Middle Fork of the Eel River to the Black Butte River; Black Butte River to the Glenn-Mendocino county line; south along the Glenn-Mendocino and Lake-Mendocino county lines to the northern boundary of State Game Refuge 2-A; east and south along the northern and eastern boundaries of State Game Refuge 2-A to the Glenn-Lake near Sheetiron Mountain; south along the Glenn-Lake and Colusa-Lake county lines to Forest Service Road 17N16; west on Forest Service Road 17N16 to Forest Service Road M-10; west on Forest Service Road M-10 to the Rice Fork of the Eel River; northwest along the Rice Fork of the Eel River and the shore of Lake Pillsbury to the Main Eel River at Scott Dam; west and north along the Main Eel

River to the Hearst-Willits Road; southwest on the Hearst-Willits Road to Commercial Avenue; west on Commercial Avenue to Highway 101; north on Highway 101 to Highway 1 at Leggett; west on Highway 1 to its intersection with the South Fork of the Eel River; north and west along the South Fork of the Eel River to the main Eel River; west and north along the main Eel River to mouth of the Eel River and north along the Pacific coastline to the point of beginning.

(B) Season: The seasons for the B Zone shall be those specified for the areas described as B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5 and B-6 (see subsections 360(a)(2)(B)1-6).

1. Zone B-1.

The season in Zone B-1 shall open on the third Saturday in September and extend for 37 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better, per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 55,500. Zone B tags are valid in Zones B-1, B-2, B-3, B-4, B-5 and B-6

(c) Additional Hunts.

(23) M-11 (Northwestern California Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt).

(A) Area: Those portions of Del Norte, Glenn, Humboldt, Lake, Mendocino, Siskiyou, and Trinity counties within the area described as Zone B-1 (see subsection 360(a)(2)(A)1.).

(B) Season: The season for additional hunt M-11 (Northwestern California Muzzleloading Rifle Buck Hunt) shall open on the second Saturday in November and extend for 16 consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better, per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 20.

(E) Special Conditions: Only muzzleloading rifles as specified in Section 353 may be used.

(44) Conditions for Special Hunts.

(A) When hunting on military reservations or private lands, hunters shall have in their possession a written permit signed by the landowner, which may specify where and when the permittee may hunt.

(B) When required, tagholders shall check in and check out of designated check stations.

§ 361. Archery Deer Hunting.

(a) Archery Hunting With General Deer Zone Tags. Deer may be taken during the archery season only with archery equipment specified in Section 354 as follows:

(2) B Zones.

(A) Zones B-1 through B-3, B-5 and B-6.

1. Area: As described in subsection 360(a)(2)(A).

2. Season: The archery deer season in Zones B-1 through B-3, B-5 and B-6 shall open on the third Saturday in August and extend for 23 consecutive days.

3. Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better per tag.

(b) Archery Hunting With Area-specific Archery Tags. Deer may be taken only with archery equipment specified in Section 354, only during the archery seasons as follows:

(25) A-30 (Covelo Archery Buck Hunt).

(A) Area: That portion of Mendocino County within a line beginning at the intersection of Highway 101 and the Humboldt-Mendocino county line; east along the Humboldt-Mendocino county line to the Trinity-Mendocino county line; east along Trinity-Mendocino county line to the Mendocino-Tehama county line; south on the Mendocino-Tehama county line to the Mendocino-Glenn county line; south on the Mendocino-Glenn county line to the Mendocino-Lake county line; west and south on the Mendocino-Lake county line to the Main Eel River; west and north on the Main Eel River to the Hearst-Willits Road; southwest on the Hearst-Willits Road to Commercial Avenue; west on Commercial Avenue to Highway 101; north on Highway 101 to the point of beginning.

(B) Season: The season for hunt A-30 (Covelo Archery Buck Hunt) shall open on the second Saturday in November and extend for sixteen consecutive days.

(C) Bag and Possession Limit: One buck, forked horn (see subsection 351(a)) or better, per tag.

(D) Number of Tags: 40.

(c) Archery Hunting with Archery Only Tags. Deer may be taken only with archery equipment specified in Section 354, during the archery seasons and general seasons as follows:

(1) Number of Archery Only Tags Permitted. A person may obtain an archery only tag using a one-deer tag application and a second archery only tag using a second deer tag application.

(2) Zones in Which Archery Only Tags are Valid. An archery only tag is valid for hunt G-10, and during the archery season and general season in all zones except C-1 through C-4 and X-1 through X-12.

(3) Areas: As described in subsections 360(a) and (c).

(4) Seasons: The archery season and general seasons are provided in subsection 361(a) above and in subsections 360(a) and (c).

(5) Bag and Possession Limit: All bag and possession limits per zone are the same as those described in subsections 360(a) and (c).

(d) Hunting Area Limitations. Archers not in possession of an archery only tag may hunt only in the zone, zones, or areas for which they have a general tag or an area-specific archery tag. (Refer to subsection 361(c)(2) for zones in which archery only tags are valid).

(e) Crossbow Prohibition. Except as provided in subsection 354(j), crossbows may not be used during any archery season or during the general season when using an archery only tag.

**** GOOD LUCK! ****