



**RESOLUTION OF THE GOVERNING BODY
OF THE
THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES
OF THE
FORT BERTHOLD INDIAN RESERVATION**

A Resolution Entitled: “*Approval of the 2026-27 Hunting Proclamations.*”

WHEREAS, This Nation having accepted the Indian Reorganization Act of June 18, 1934, and the authority under said Act and having adopted a Constitution and By-laws pursuant to said Act; and

WHEREAS, Article III of the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes, also known as the Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara Nation (“Tribes” or “MHA Nation”), provides that the Tribal Business Council is the governing body of the Tribes; and

WHEREAS, The Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes authorizes and empowers the Tribal Business Council to engage in activities on behalf of and in the interest of the welfare and benefit of the Tribes and of the enrolled members thereof; and

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 5 (l) of the Constitution of the Three Affiliated Tribes provides that the Tribal Business Council has the power to adopt resolutions regulating the procedure of the Tribal Business Council and other Tribal agencies and Tribal officials on the Reservation; and

WHEREAS, Article VI, Section 5 (d) of the Constitution provides that the Tribal Business Council has the power to regulate hunting and fishing on all lands within the jurisdiction of the Tribes; and

WHEREAS, The Tribal Fish & Wildlife Department has developed hunting proclamations for authorized hunting on the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation for 2026 and 2027 and has presented said proclamations to the Tribal Business Council for approval.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes hereby approves the following Fish & Wildlife Proclamations for 2026-2027:

1. 2026 Deer Bow Proclamation;
2. 2026 Pronghorn Proclamation;
3. 2026 North American Elk Proclamation;
4. 2026 Moose Proclamation;
5. 2026 Bighorn Sheep Proclamation;



6. 2026 Fall Turkey Proclamation;
7. 2026 Deer Gun Proclamation;
8. 2026-2027 Youth Hunting Seasons; and
9. 2027 Spring Wild Turkey Proclamation

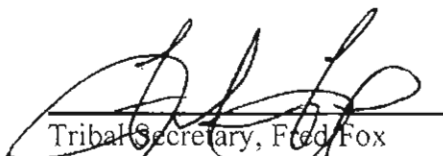
CERTIFICATION

I, the undersigned, as Secretary of the Tribal Business Council of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, hereby certify that the Tribal Business Council is composed of 7 members of whom 5 constitute a quorum, 7 were present at a Regular Meeting thereof duly called, noticed, convened, and held on the 8th day of July 2026; that the foregoing Resolution was duly adopted at such Meeting by the affirmative vote of 6 members, 0 members opposed, 0 members abstained, 1 members not voting, and that said Resolution has not been rescinded or amended in any way.

Chairman [] voting. [X] not voting.

Dated this 8th day of July 2026.

ATTEST:


Tribal Secretary, Fred Fox
Tribal Business Council
Three Affiliated Tribes


Tribal Chairman, Mark N. Fox
Tribal Business Council
Three Affiliated Tribes

2026-2027 SEASONS

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- The seal of the North Dakota Game and Fish Department is a large, circular emblem in the background. It features a central illustration of a bison standing on a patch of ground, with a fish jumping out of the water in front of it. The words "NORTH DAKOTA" are arched across the top, and "GAME & FISH DEPARTMENT" is arched across the bottom. The word "ARIKARA" is written in a smaller arc below the bison. The words "FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION" are written in a larger arc at the very bottom.
- 1) Changes to 2026-27 Hunting Proclamations**
 - 2) 2026-27 Hunting Resolution**
 - 3) 2026-27 Tribal Season Dates**
 - 4) 2026-27 Tribal License Fees**
 - 5) 2026 Deer Bow Proclamation**
 - 6) 2026 Pronghorn Proclamation**
 - 7) 2026 North American Elk Proclamation**
 - 8) 2026 Moose Proclamation**
 - 9) 2026 Bighorn Sheep Proclamation**
 - 10) 2026 Fall Wild Turkey Proclamation**
 - 11) 2026 Deer Gun Proclamation**
 - 12) 2026-27 Youth Hunting Seasons**
 - 13) 2027 Spring Wild Turkey Proclamation**

TRIBAL BUSINESS COUNCIL MEETING

July 8, 2026



TAT Fish & Wildlife Division
325 Main St, PO Box 1402
New Town, ND 58763
Office No. (701) 627-4760
Fax No. (701) 627-4743
tatfishandwildlife.com



Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Nation

Fish and Wildlife Division

Three Affiliated Tribes • Fort Berthold Indian Reservation
PO Box 1402, New Town, ND 58763
Phone: (701) 627-4760 • Fax: (701) 627-4743

Changes to 2026-2027 Hunting Proclamations:

- All:
 1. Update all dates to reflect the 2026-27 calendar year
 2. Wording in Licenses and Permits section to reflect online license, lottery/raffle applications, and digital copies of licenses.
- Bighorn Sheep
 1. Number of licenses to be determined after summer surveys.
- Youth Deer Season
 1. Removed "have not previously received a youth deer season license".
 - a. Explanation: Any youth between aged 12 and 15 may purchase a youth deer season license as long as they have not purchased a regular deer gun season license. Previously, we only allowed them to purchase a youth deer season license once in their lifetime. (Ex. A Youth aged 13 who purchased a youth deer license the previous year could not purchase another and had to wait until they turned 14 to apply for a regular deer gun season license.)



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Chairman [] voting. [] not voting.

Dated this ____ day of _____ 2026.

ATTEST:

Tribal Secretary, Fred W. Fox
Tribal Business Council
Three Affiliated Tribes

Tribal Chairman, Mark N. Fox
Tribal Business Council
Three Affiliated Tribes



Fort Berthold Reservation
Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Tribes
Fish and Wildlife Division
P.O. Box 1402, New Town, ND 58763
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2026-2027 TRIBAL GAME DATES

January 2026

- 04: Sharp-tailed Grouse season closes
- 04: Hungarian Partridge season closes
- 04: Deer Bow season closes
- 04: Pheasant seasons closes
- 04: Elk season closes
- 04: Fall Wild Turkey season closes

February 2026

- 28: Tree Squirrel season closes

March 2026

- 08: Daylight Savings Time begins – set clocks ahead 1 hour
- 14: Spring Crow season opens
- 15: Weasel hunting, trapping, and cable device seasons close
- 15: Bobcat hunting, trapping and cable device seasons close
- 15: Badger/Coyote/Fox cable device seasons close
- 15: Fish house removal deadline
- 16: Beaver/Raccoon cable devices on land must be placed within 50 feet of water and be no greater than 4 inches off the ground, stop restricting loop size $\leq 12"$.
- 16: Mink/Muskrat trap and cable device restrictions begin [See Small Game/Furbearer Proclamation]
- 31: Mountain Lion season closes (*unless quota of 10 is reached beforehand*)
- 31: Fishing (2025-26) season closes
- 31: Badger/Coyote/Fox hunting and trapping, pursue with dogs (2025-26) seasons close
- 31: Beaver/Raccoon hunting, trapping, underwater cable device (2025-26) seasons close

April 2026

- 01: 2026-27 Fishing season opens — new licenses required
- 01: Beaver and Raccoon hunting, trapping and underwater cable device seasons opens — *open year-round from April 1 to March 31* — new licenses required.
- 01: Badger/Coyote/Fox hunting, trapping, pursue with dogs seasons opens—*open year round from April 1 to March 31*
- 04: Spring Turkey season opens
- 26: Spring Crow season closes

May 2026

- 01: Mink/Muskrat float trap sets must have protective covering
- 10: Beaver/Raccoon cable device on land seasons closes
- 10: Mink & Muskrat hunting, trapping, cable device seasons close
- 17: Spring Turkey season closes
- 31: Coyote/Fox night time hunting seasons close



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2026-2027 TRIBAL GAME DATES

July 2026

3-5: Free fishing for Enrolled TAT Tribal Members

August 2026

- 15: Early Canada Geese season opens
- 15: Crow (Fall) season opens
- 28: Deer Bow season opens
- 28: Mountain Lion season opens

September 2026

- 01: Dove season opens
- 12: Snipe season opens
- 12: Sharp-tailed Grouse season opens
- 12: Hungarian Partridge season opens
- 12: Tree Squirrel season opens
- 15: Early Canada Geese season closes
- 18: Youth Deer season opens
- 19: Sandhill Crane season opens
- 19: Woodcock season opens
- 19, 20: Youth Waterfowl season (legally licensed youth 15 years of age or younger)
- 25: Pronghorn season opens
- 26: Canada Geese season opens
- 26: Ducks, Mergansers, Coots seasons opens
- 26: Light Geese (Fall) season opens
- 26: White-fronted Geese season opens
- 27: Youth Deer season closes

October 2026

- 02: Elk season opens
- 03: Fall turkey season opens
- 03, 04: Youth Pheasant season (legally licensed youth 15 years of age or younger)
- 09: Moose season opens
- 10: Pheasant Season opens
- 16: Bighorn Sheep season opens
- 18: Pronghorn season closes
- 24: Mink, Muskrat, and Weasel trapping seasons opens



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2026-2027 TRIBAL GAME DATES

November 2026

- 01: Daylight Savings Time ends—set clocks back 1 hour
- 01: Moose season closes
- 02: Crow (Fall) season closes
- 02: Woodcock season closes
- 06: Deer Gun season opens
- 07: Bobcat hunting & trapping seasons opens
- 08: Sandhill Crane season closes
- 23: Mountain Lion pursue with dogs season opens
- 23: Bobcat cable device season opens
- 23: Mink, Muskrat, and Weasel hunting & cable device seasons open
- 23: Beaver & Raccoon cable device on land seasons opens
- 23: Badger/Coyote/Fox cable device seasons open
- 23: Coyote/Fox night hunting seasons open
- 29: Dove season closes
- 29: Deer Gun season closes

December 2026

- 06: White-fronted Geese season closes
- 06: Ducks, Mergansers, Coots seasons closes
- 06: Snipe season closes
- 12: Ducks, Mergansers, Coots seasons re-opens
- 31: Bighorn Sheep season closes

2027

January 2027

- 01: Canada Geese season closes
- 03: Elk season closes
- 03: Sharp-tailed Grouse season closes
- 03: Hungarian Partridge season closes
- 03: Deer Bow season closes
- 03: Pheasant season closes
- 03: Fall Wild Turkey season closes
- 03: Light Geese (Fall) season closes
- 03: Ducks, Mergansers, Coots season closes

February 2027

- 28: Tree Squirrel season closes



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2026-2027 TRIBAL GAME DATES

March 2027

- 13: Spring Crow season opens
- 14: Daylight Savings Time begins – set clocks ahead 1 hour
- 15: Weasel hunting, trapping, and cable device seasons close
- 15: Bobcat hunting, trapping and cable device seasons close
- 15: Badger/Coyote/Fox cable device seasons close
- 15: Fish house removal deadline
- 16: Beaver/Raccoon cable devices on land must be placed within 50 feet of water and be no greater than 4 inches off the ground off ground, stop restricting loop size ≤ 12 "
- 16: Mink/Muskrat trap and cable device restrictions begin [See Small Game/Furbearer Proclamation]
- 31: Mountain Lion season closes (*unless quota of 10 is reached beforehand*)
- 31: Fishing (2026-27) season closes
- 31: Badger/Coyote/Fox hunting and trapping, pursue with dogs (2026-27) seasons close
- 31: Beaver/Raccoon hunting, trapping, underwater cable device (2026-27) seasons close

April 2027

- 01: 2027-28 Fishing season opens — new licenses required
- 01: Beaver and Raccoon hunting, trapping and underwater cable device seasons opens — *open year-round from April 1 to March 31* – new licenses required.
- 01: Badger/Coyote/Fox hunting, trapping, pursue with dogs seasons opens—*open year-round from April 1 to March 31*
- 03: Spring Turkey season opens
- 25: Spring Crow season closes

May 2027

- 01: Mink/Muskrat float trap sets must have protective covering
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2026-2027 TRIBAL LICENSE FEES

DEFINITIONS:

TRIBAL MEMBER: One who is enrolled with the Three Affiliated Tribes.

SPOUSE OF ENROLLED MEMBER: One who is not an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes but is legally married to an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.

NON-MEMBER RESIDENT: One who is living within the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Reservation but is not an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.

NON-MEMBER NON-RESIDENT: One who is neither an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes nor lives within the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.
*Proof of enrollment, marriage, and residency is required.**

2026 BIG GAME FEES:

2026 DEER BOW:

TAT TRIBAL MEMBERS.....	\$25.00	NON-MEMBER RESIDENTS	\$150.00
SPOUSES OF ENROLLED MEMBERS.....	\$100.00		

2026 DEER GUN:

TAT TRIBAL MEMBERS.....	\$25.00	NON-MEMBER RESIDENTS	\$150.00
SPOUSES OF ENROLLED MEMBERS.....	\$100.00	NON-MEMBER NON-RESIDENTS	\$750.00

2026 PRONGHORN:

RAFFLE TICKETS \$10.00 (per chance)

If drawn, the permit fees are as follows:

TAT TRIBAL MEMBERS..... \$25.00

2026 MOOSE & ELK:

RAFFLE TICKETS \$10.00 (per chance)

If drawn, the permit fees are as follows:

TAT TRIBAL MEMBERS..... \$150.00

2026 BIGHORN SHEEP

LOTTERY..... \$10.00 (per application)

If drawn, the permit fees are as follows:

BIGHORN SHEEP PERMIT... \$150.00



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2026-2027 TRIBAL LICENSE FEES

ADDITIONAL FEES

- **INCOMPLETED HARVEST REPORT:** Individuals who have not completed the 2025 big game questionnaires (including Deer Bow, Deer Gun, Pronghorn, Moose, and Elk) are required to pay a fee of \$20.00 for each incomplete questionnaire. Payment of this fee is necessary before they can participate in any subsequent hunting and/or fishing seasons.
- **DUPLICATE TAGS:** Duplicate tags will be at the cost of the original price.

2026-2027 LICENSE FEES:

MEMBERS OF THE THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES:

One who is enrolled with the Three Affiliated Tribes

Small Game	\$10.00/person \$0.00/Seniors 55+
Furbearer	\$10.00/person \$0.00/Seniors 55+
Small Game/Furbearer Combo	\$18.00/person
Waterfowl	\$10.00/person (All waterfowl hunters are also required to obtain a federal duck stamp) \$0.00/Seniors 55+
Turkey (Spring/Fall).....	\$10.00/person \$0.00/Seniors 55+
Deer Gun	\$25.00/person Antlered \$10.00/person Antlerless \$0.00/Seniors 55+



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2026-2027 TRIBAL LICENSE FEES

SPOUSES OF ENROLLED MEMBERS OF THE THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES:

One who is not an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes but is legally married to an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.

All non-TAT enrolled members who do not reside in North Dakota must obtain an annual conservation permit, in addition to other required licenses.

Conservation Permit..... \$20.00/person/annual

Small Game..... \$20.00/person

Turkey (Spring/Fall) \$25.00/person

Furbearer \$20.00/person

Small Game/Furbearer Combo..... \$35.00/person

Waterfowl..... \$15.00/person
(All waterfowl hunters are also required to obtain a federal duck stamp)

Small Game/Waterfowl Combo \$28.00/person



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2026-2027 TRIBAL LICENSE FEES

NON-MEMBER RESIDENT:

A Non-member Resident is one who is living within the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Reservation but is not an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.

Small Game.....	\$50.00/person
Turkey (Spring/Fall)	\$50.00/person
Furbearer	\$50.00/person
Small Game/Furbearer Combo.....	\$90.00/person
Waterfowl.....	\$30.00/person
<i>(All waterfowl hunters are also required to obtain a federal duck stamp)</i>	
Small Game/Waterfowl Combo	\$70.00/person
Sportsman's Package	\$120.00/person
<i>(Small Game/Upland Hobitot, Furbearer, and Waterfowl)</i>	



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2026-2027 TRIBAL LICENSE FEES

NON-MEMBER NON-RESIDENT:

Non-member Non-resident is one who is neither an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes nor lives within the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Reservation

All non-TAT enrolled members who do not reside in North Dakota must obtain an annual conservation permit, in addition to other required licenses.

Conservation Permit \$20.00/person/annual

Small Game/Upland Habitat..... \$100.00/person

Turkey (Spring/Fall) \$100.00/person

Furbearer \$75.00/person

Small Game/Furbearer Combo..... \$150.00/person

Waterfowl..... \$30.00/person

(All waterfowl hunters are also required to obtain a federal duck stamp)

Small Game/Waterfowl Combo \$120.00/person

Sportsman's Package..... \$180.00/person

(Small Game/Upland Habitat, Furbearer, and Waterfowl)



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2026 DEER BOW PROCLAMATION

Pursuant to Chapter 18 of Title 9 of the Code of Laws of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation and the authority of the Three Affiliated Tribal Business Council: The Director of the Three Affiliated Tribes Fish & Wildlife Division hereby declares an open season on Deer as described in the following proclamation.

Except as provided hereafter or otherwise by law, no person shall hunt, kill, take, possess, transport, or so attempt to hunt, kill, take, transport, or possess any deer or parts thereof.

1. SEASON:

The season for taking Deer with a bow shall be from one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) hour before sunrise to one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) hour after sunset each day from August 28, 2026 through January 3, 2027. Hunters must cease any hunting activity, leave any stand or blind and must be in the process of leaving the field at the close of shooting hours (one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) hour after sunset).

2. LIMIT:

One Deer, regardless of sex, species, or age, may be taken per license holder during the Deer Bow season.

3. LICENSES AND PERMITS:

Persons eligible to partake in the 2026 Deer Bow Season are: Tribal Members, Spouses of Enrolled Members, and Non-Member Residents.

Hunters must be in good standing and in compliance with all Fish & Wildlife rules and regulations. They must be current with all questionnaires, etc. to be eligible for the 2026 Deer Bow Season.

Licenses and special permits shall be issued in a manner and form prescribed by the TAT Fish & Wildlife Director and in accordance with applicable laws. Such permits shall be in the form of tags indicating the sex and unit that hunters may legally hunt. Tags must be endorsed in ink with the licensee's signature. Licenses shall be in the form of a computer-generated document and must be endorsed with the hunter's signature at the bottom where indicated. All hunters shall carry on their person the physical permit tags, as well as their signed license. A signed digital copy of the license may be accepted in lieu of a printed copy. Tags are issued on a first-come, first-served basis. A valid tribal or state-issued ID is required to be presented at the time of purchase of a deer gun license to verify residency or hunter status. There shall be no designation of hunters for the deer bow season. Deer Bow Sales will open on July 1, 2026 close on September 11, 2026.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE LICENSES ARE NOT VALID ON THE FORT BERTHOLD INDIAN RESERVATION. ANYONE HUNTING ON TRUST OR ALLOTTED LANDS WITHIN THE EXTERIOR BOUNDARIES OF THE RESERVATION WITH A STATE DEER LICENSE AND NOT A TRIBAL LICENSE WILL BE CITED FOR HUNTING WITHOUT A PROPER LICENSE.

4. FEES:

The following fees below are for a Deer Bow permit only.

Enrolled TAT Tribal Member\$25.00
Spouses of Enrolled Members.....\$100.00
Non-Member Residents\$150.00

5. WEAPONS RESTRICTIONS:

A bow must be pulled, held and released by hand. Any release aid may be used providing it is hand operated, the shooter supports the draw weight of the bow, and the release is not attached to any part of the bow other than at the bowstring. A compound bow used for hunting deer must have at least 35 pounds of draw at 28 inches or less draw length. Recurve and long bows used for hunting deer must have at least 35 pounds of draw at 28 inches. Arrows must be at least 24 inches long, tipped with a metal broadhead, with at least two sharp cutting edges, and have a cutting diameter of at least 3/4 inch (i.e., not able to pass through a 3/4-inch ring). It is illegal to hunt big game with barbed arrows (barbed refers to an arrowhead with any fixed portion of the rear or trailing edge of the arrowhead forming an angle less than 90 degrees with the shaft). Broadheads with mechanical or retractable blades are legal. Telescopic sights, range finding devices or other electronic devices attached to the bow, or the arrow, are not permitted. Exception: battery powered or electronically lighted sights that do not project light, a lighted nock and recording devices which do not aid in range finding, sighting or shooting the bow are permitted. Handheld range finding devices are legal. Arrows capable of causing damage or injury in excess of that inflicted by the cutting edges of the broadhead are prohibited while hunting deer with a bow (e.g., explosive arrow points, arrows tipped with drugs or chemicals, and pneumatic or hydraulic shafts are illegal). No firearms, except handguns, may be in the hunter's possession while hunting with a deer bow license. However, handguns may not be used in any manner to assist in the harvest of a deer with an archery license.

A Crossbow is defined as a weapon consisting of a bow mounted transversely on a stock or frame and designed to fire a bolt, arrow, or quarrel by the release of the bowstring, which is controlled by a mechanical or electric trigger and a working safety. Crossbows are legal for TAT Tribal Members ONLY during the 2026 Deer Bow season.

Crossbows are legal for Non-TAT Members who are disabled or handicapped (i.e. paraplegics and/or having lost the use of one or both arms) in which case they need to apply for and possess a permit from the TAT Fish & Wildlife Department Director.

Crossbow Restrictions:

Crossbows must: a) have a minimum draw weight of 75 pounds, b) be equipped with a working safety to prevent accidental firing, c) use arrows or bolts at least 14 inches in length, and d) be designed to be fired from the shoulder. Crossbows equipped with pistol grips and designed to be fired with one hand are illegal. Crossbow hunters may use telescopic, battery powered, or electronically lighted reticle not exceeding a maximum power of eight, but must comply with all other archery equipment regulations listed above.

It is required by all crossbow/handicap permit holders to have their special permit on their person on all times while hunting.

Other Firearm and Archery Equipment Restrictions – it is illegal to go afield with a firearm or bow and arrow while intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol or any narcotic drug, barbiturate or marijuana.

6. HUNTING AREA RESTRICTIONS:

Hunters will only be allowed to fill their permit within the unit designated on their license.

It is unlawful to leave open any gates, bars, or other devices used to enclose any lands upon entry or exit, or to cut, remove, or lay down any fence to gain entry to any land for the purpose of hunting.

It is unlawful to shoot, destroy, molest, mutilate, or remove any signs.

It is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm within 440 yards of any occupied buildings, schools, medical facilities, or residences, or to shoot from roads, roadway ditches, or across a road.

It is illegal to hunt in unharvested cereal and oilseed crops. Crops also include alfalfa, clover, and other grasses grown for seed.

POSTING: It is unlawful to hunt on lands legally posted without first obtaining written permission from the owner or tenant. It is unlawful for anyone but the owner or tenant to post land. Legal signs shall give notice that no hunting is permitted and shall display: NAME, ADDRESS OF OWNER OR TENANT, and DATE OF POSTING. Signs must be every eighty (80) rods on unfenced lands and at every corner and access point on fenced areas.

PLEASE OBTAIN WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE LAND OWNER OR TENANT EVEN IF LAND IS NOT POSTED.

7. AREAS CLOSED TO HUNTING:

It shall be unlawful to hunt or pursue game in the following areas:

- 1) The buffalo pasture located in Unit #1 (Mandaree Area) known as Range Unit 904 in the Skunk Creek Bay Area—this unit is designated as a Wildlife Reserve Area and no hunting is allowed.
- 2) The MHA Tribal Ranch/Buffalo Project and MHA Tribal Park.

A permit from the Director is required to take game on Tribal reserve areas or parks posted closed to hunting.

It is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm within 440 yards of any occupied buildings, schools, medical facilities, or residences (*Chapter 18-1-9*).

8. HUNTING BIG GAME OVER BAIT:

Hunting big game over bait on TAT public tribal land is prohibited. Hunting big game over bait is defined as the placement and or use of bait(s) for attracting big game and other wildlife to a specific location for the purpose of hunting. Baits include but are not limited to grains, minerals, salts, fruits, vegetables, hay or any other natural or manufactured foods. The designation does not apply to the use of scents and lures, water, food plots, standing crops, or livestock feeds being used in standard practices.

9. AGE REQUIREMENTS:

There is no minimum age to purchase a Deer Bow license, but any persons under age 16 afield with archery equipment must be licensed and under direct supervision (must be able to have unaided verbal contact) of parent, guardian or adult authorized by their parent or guardian.

Hunter's Education Requirement: Hunters born after December 31, 1961 must complete a certified tribal or state hunter education course and PRESENT the certification card earned to the license vendor in order to purchase a Fort Berthold hunting license. EXCEPTION: Veterans of the United States Armed Forces that have been honorably discharged – persons applying for this exception MUST present a copy of form DD214 to the TAT Fish & Wildlife office to be eligible.

10. AIRCRAFT, MOTOR-DRIVEN VEHICLES, LIGHTS:

It shall be illegal to use all types of aircraft, manned or unmanned (i.e. drones), for spotting game 72 hours prior to and during the hunting season. A licensee cannot hunt the same day he/she is airborne over his/her hunting unit, except on a scheduled passenger airline flight. It is illegal to drive, concentrate, rally, raise, stir up, spot or disturb game with all types of aircraft, manned or unmanned, or any motorized vehicle.

Motor-driven vehicles may not be used to pursue game. Motorized vehicles may not be used to retrieve a big game animal until the animal has been taken into possession and legally tagged.

It is illegal to shoot with bow and arrow or firearm while in or on a motor-driven vehicle or boat. No person may carry a firearm with a cartridge in the chamber in or on a motor-driven vehicle while hunting big game animals. The entire cylinder of a revolver is considered the chamber, requiring the revolver to be completely unloaded. Handguns with removable magazines must have the magazine removed from the firearm if the magazine contains any loaded shells. It is illegal to carry any muzzleloading firearm in or on a motor-driven vehicle with a percussion cap or primer on the nipple or powder in the flash pan.

No person may use a motor-driven vehicle in the process of hunting big game or aid another in the process of hunting big game unless the motor-driven vehicle is on an established road or trail.

"Established Road or Trail" means any public highway or road, improved or otherwise, dedicated for public ingress or egress. This does not include temporary trails across cultivated land used for agricultural purposes. Exception: After a deer has been killed and properly tagged, a motor-driven vehicle may be used to make the retrieval by leaving the established road or trail and proceeding to the carcass by the shortest accessible route, and returning to the road or trail immediately by the same route. Except for persons having a special handicap hunting permit from TAT Fish & Wildlife Director, no person may use a motor-driven vehicle while in the process of hunting deer or aid another in the process of hunting deer including travel to and from the hunting location unless the motor-driven vehicle is on an established road or trail. While a handicap hunting permit is in use, neither the driver nor any passenger may hunt from the vehicle unless they each possess an individual handicap permit of the same type.

ESTABLISHED ROADS OR TRAILS DO NOT INCLUDE TEMPORARY TRAILS ACROSS CULTIVATED LAND AND PASTURES USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

It is illegal to engage in shining for big game with any artificial light for the purpose of locating or observing big game between sunset of one day and sunrise of the next.

The use of night vision equipment, electronically enhanced light gathering optics or thermal imaging equipment for locating or hunting game is illegal. (Exception: Lighted nocks on arrows are allowed for big game.)

11. CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS:

All Deer bow hunters are required to wear legal orange clothing while the Deer Gun (November 6 – November 29, 2026) season is in progress. Legal orange clothing is a head covering and outer garment above the waistline of solid daylight fluorescent orange color totaling at least 400 square inches.

12. MANNER OF TAKING:

It is legal to use a horse in the process of hunting Deer.

It is illegal to use a dog as an aid to hunting Deer.

It is illegal to take or attempt to take a Deer by dragging a wire, rope, or other contrivance.

13. TAGGING:

IMMEDIATELY after an animal has been killed and before moving the animal, the hunter must indicate the date of kill by cutting out the appropriate month and day from the tag provided with the license and attach it to the base of the antler on antlered deer or in a slit in the ear on antlerless deer to prevent its removal. In no case is it legal to possess or transport an animal unless it is properly tagged. The meat (carcass) tag must remain with the edible flesh (carcass) during transportation and until it is cut up and packaged as food. No person may re-use or attempt to re-use any tag issued. When any part of an animal is mounted, if the tag is removed from the antlers or ear, the tag must be securely fastened to the back or bottom of the mount and remain there. Tags are not transferable.

14. TRANSPORTING AND STORAGE:

License holders must accompany their game animal, or parts thereof (excluding hide), during transportation. Except that a permit for the transportation of game may be issued by the TAT Fish & Wildlife Department upon request. Game may be shipped by common carrier in receipt of a proper bill of lading.

A deer carcass or boned out meat must be accompanied by the head to the final place of storage. Exception: Tag as currently required, then take two pictures, using a cellphone with location and date and time stamp turned on. One picture of the entire animal at the kill site with tag attached, and a second picture of a closeup of the tag so that tag information is readable. Drop off the head at a CWD collection site properly tagged or if you leave the deer head in the field at the kill site, after taking pictures and saving them, the ear or antler with the tag attached must be cut off and accompany the meat or carcass while in transport. The photographs of the tagged deer must be shown to any game warden or other law enforcement officer upon request.

It is illegal to possess or transport another's game animal or parts thereof (excluding hides) without the license holder accompanying or as otherwise permitted. Processed and packaged meat of legally harvested game may only be gifted to another (but not sold, traded or bartered). Un-processed, un-packaged meat of legally harvested game may be gifted (but not sold, traded or bartered) as follows: 1) Prior to reaching the licensee's permanent residence, a transportation permit must be obtained and accompany the game meat. 2) After reaching the licensee's permanent residence if accompanied by the carcass tag of the person who harvested the game.

Commercial processors and common carriers may possess any person's legally taken possession limit of game. The meat (carcass) tag from the individual's license shall accompany the edible flesh (carcass) through processing and be returned to the individual.

15. WANTON WASTE:

No person shall kill or cripple any big game animal without making a reasonable effort to retrieve and retain the big game animal in his/her actual custody. No person shall waste, destroy, spoil or abandon the edible flesh of any big game animal at the place where taken or between that place or either (a) his/her permanent residence, (b) a taxidermist, (c) a common carrier, or (d) a commercial processor.

"Edible Flesh" (Big Game Animals) is both front quarters, both hind quarters and back straps but does not include meat ruined by bullet or natural causes.

16. HUNTER QUESTIONNAIRES:

Complete and accurate information on the hunter questionnaires will greatly assist the Fish & Wildlife Division in determining the number of deer harvested and the optimum number of permits that can be issued to

maintain a stable and healthy deer population on the Reservation lands for future generations. Hunters are required to hand them in or send them to the Three Affiliated Tribes Fish & Wildlife Division.

This is mandatory and must be submitted within 30 days of the end of the 2026 Deer Bow season. Failure to comply with this statute will result in an extra fee that must be paid before a hunter will be eligible to participate in any subsequent hunting and/or fishing seasons.

17. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) Possess a valid general game license.
- 2) Possess a hunter's safety certificate if born after 12/31/1961. (see Sect. 9 for exceptions)
- 3) Complete your 2026 Deer Bow Application and make payment in full.
- 4) All Non-TAT enrolled members who do not reside in North Dakota must possess a Tribal Conservation Permit.
- 5) Receive Deer Bow license via computer-generated page and endorse in ink at the bottom where indicated.
- 6) Maintain your Deer Bow tag and license at all times while you hunt.
- 7) Hunt only in the unit for which the tag is issued.
- 8) Follow all weapons, vehicle, and other hunting restrictions.
- 9) Abstain from hunting in closed areas.
- 10) Wear the appropriate amount of hunter orange while in the field.
- 11) Fill out and return a 2026 Deer Bow Hunter Questionnaire within 30 days of the end of the 2026 Deer Bow Season.

*Pursuant to Section 18-6-1 of Chapter 18-6 of Title 9, Tribal Proclamations Have Force of Law—
Penalty: Any tribal proclamation issued at the request of the Natural Resources Board or the
Director of the Tribal Fish & Wildlife Division shall have the force of law. Any persons violating a
provision of such order or proclamation is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined for not more
than five hundred (\$500.00). In addition to any fine imposed in this Chapter, the person shall be
subject to forfeiture of her/his license, the privilege to hunt and fish for a period of one year, and
confiscation of her/his vehicle, guns, boat, fishing equipment or anything used in connection with
the violation*

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE FORT BERTHOLD FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS.
CALL 627-4760 BETWEEN 8 AM AND 4:30 PM MONDAY THRU FRIDAY.
After hours please call the TAT Police Department 627-3617**

**NOTIFY THE TAT FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS
"All information is confidential."**



Fort Berthold Reservation
Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Tribes
Fish and Wildlife Division
P.O. Box 1402, New Town, ND 58763
Phone: (701) 627-4760 Fax: (701) 627-4743

2026 PRONGHORN PROCLAMATION

Pursuant to Chapter 18 of Title 9 of the Code of Laws of the Three Affiliated Tribes (TAT) of the Fort Berthold Reservation and the authority of the Three Affiliated Tribal Business Council: the Three Affiliated Tribes Fish & Wildlife Division hereby declares an open season in 2026 on Pronghorn or Aashibca (*Antilocapra Americana*) as described in the following proclamation.

Except as provided hereafter or otherwise by law, no person shall hunt, trap, kill, harass, take, and attempt to take, or possess any pronghorn or parts thereof.

1. SEASON:

The season for taking Pronghorn shall be from one-half (½) hour before sunrise to one-half (½) hour after sunset each day from September 25, 2026 through October 18, 2026. Hunters must cease any hunting activity, leave any stand or blind and must be in the process of leaving the field at the close of shooting hours (one half (½) hour after sunset).

2. LIMIT:

One pronghorn may be taken per license holder during the season. Hunters are restricted to the type of pronghorn as designated on the license.

3. LICENSES AND PERMITS:

Persons eligible to partake in the 2026 Pronghorn Season are: Tribal Members only.

Licenses and special permits shall be issued in a manner and form prescribed by the Fish and Wildlife Director and in accordance with applicable laws. Such permits shall be in the form of tags indicating the sex and unit that hunters may legally hunt. Tags must be endorsed in ink with the licensee's signature. Licenses shall be in the form of a computer-generated document and must be endorsed with the hunter's signature at the bottom where indicated. All hunters shall carry on their person the physical permit tags, as well as their signed license. A signed digital copy of the license may be accepted in lieu of a printed copy. Licenses are nontransferable. No person may give, barter, or sell an issued license to another person.

Permits will be issued for Pronghorn through an online raffle, with recipients determined by a random draw of all eligible entries submitted through the online licensing system. Pronghorn raffle entries will go on sale on Aug. 3rd, 2026, and the drawing will be conducted electronically at the end of the business day on September 11th, 2026, with the successful applicants notified by email. A completed application and full payment must be received prior to issuance of the permits. The permits are non-transferable. No person may give, barter, or sell an issued permit, as is the case with licenses, to another person.

Persons who receive a Pronghorn permit through the raffle draw shall not be eligible to apply for the same type of pronghorn permit granted for three subsequent seasons.

Antlered Pronghorn permits..... (Reservation - Wide); Unit 4 closed to Pronghorn Season

NORTH DAKOTA STATE LICENSES ARE NOT VALID ON THE FORT BERTHOLD INDIAN RESERVATION. ANYONE HUNTING ON TRUST OR ALLOTTED LANDS WITHIN THE EXTERIOR BOUNDARIES OF THE RESERVATION WITH A STATE PRONGHORN LICENSE AND NOT A TRIBAL LICENSE WILL BE CITED FOR HUNTING WITHOUT A PROPER LICENSE.

4. FEES:

Raffle entries will be available for purchase through the online licensing system at a cost of \$10.00 per entry. All ticket sales are final and non-refundable. Tribal Pronghorn Permits will be issued to selected applicants at a cost of \$25.00 per tag for enrolled TAT Tribal Members.

There will be no use of the designated hunter for the 2026 Pronghorn Season.

Persons using another's license to hunt, or the act of loaning out one's license for another to hunt for you is a violation of Section 18-3-6 of Title 9 of the Tribal Code of Laws and is punishable by a mandatory fine of \$100 and loss of hunting privileges for a period of one (1) year.

5. WEAPONS RESTRICTIONS:

Pronghorn may only be taken with the following weapons:

A) Rifles:

- 1) Having a barrel length of 16 inches or greater.
- 2) Firing a center fire cartridge of .22 or larger.
- 3) Designed to be fired from the shoulder.

RESTRICTIONS:

- a. Fully automatic firearms, full metal jacketed bullets, which are non-expanding, as well as altered projectiles, are prohibited.
- b. Centerfire rifles of .50 or larger using smokeless powder with a case length of greater than 3.5 inches are prohibited.

B) Muzzleloaders or Black Powder Rifles:

- 1) Having a barrel length of 18 inches or greater.
- 2) .45 caliber or larger
- 3) Designed to be fired from the shoulder.
- 4) All components must be loaded through the muzzle.

C) Shotguns or muzzleloading shotguns:

- 1) Having a barrel length of 18 inches or greater
- 2) Rifled slugs or patched round balls of 20 gauge or larger

D) Handguns:

- 1) Having a barrel length of 4 inches or greater
- 2) .35 caliber or larger
- 3) Any centerfire handguns designed to fire a legal rifle cartridge shall be legal
- 4) Muzzleloading handguns must be .50 caliber or larger.

F) Pre-charged pneumatic air guns, charged from an external high compression source such as an air compressor, air tank or an external hand pump are legal for pronghorn but must fire a projectile (excluding air bolts) of at least .35 caliber in diameter and at least 150 grains in weight with a minimum muzzle velocity of 600 feet per second.

G) Legal Archery Equipment:

Defined as a compound, recurve, or longbow that must be pulled, held, and released by hand. Any release aid may be used providing it is hand operated, the shooter supports the draw weight of the bow, and the release is not attached to any part of the bow other than the bowstring. A compound bow used for hunting pronghorn must have at least 35 pounds of draw at 28 inches or less draw length. Recurve and long bows used for hunting pronghorn must have at least 35 pounds of draw at 28 inches. Arrows must be at least 24 inches long, tipped with a metal broadhead, with at least two sharp cutting edges, and have a cutting diameter of at least 3/4 inch (i.e., not able to pass through a 3/4-inch ring). It is illegal to hunt big game with barbed arrows (barbed refers to an arrowhead with any fixed portion of the rear or trailing edge of the arrowhead forming an angle less than 90 degrees with the shaft). Broadheads with mechanical or retractable blades not manufactured to stay open are legal. Telescopic sights, range finding devices, or other electronic devices attached to the bow, or the arrow, are not permitted. Exception: battery powered or electronically lighted sights that do not project light, a lighted nock and recording devices which do not aid in range finding, sighting or shooting the bow are permitted. Handheld range finding devices are legal. Arrows capable of causing damage or injury in excess of that inflicted by the cutting edges of the broadhead are prohibited while hunting big game with a bow (e.g., explosive arrow points, arrows tipped with drugs or chemicals, and pneumatic or hydraulic shafts are illegal).

- I) Crossbow is defined as a weapon consisting of a bow mounted transversely on a stock or frame and designed to fire a bolt, arrow, or quarrel by the release of the bowstring, which is controlled by a mechanical or electric trigger and a working safety. Crossbows are legal for TAT Tribal Members ONLY during the 2026 pronghorn season. Crossbows are illegal for Non-TAT Members except if disabled or handicapped (i.e. paraplegics and/or having lost the use of one or both arms) with a permit from the TAT Fish and Wildlife Director.

Crossbow Restrictions:

Crossbows must: a) have a minimum draw weight of 75 pounds, b) be equipped with a working safety to prevent accidental firing, c) use arrows or bolts at least 14 inches in length, and d) be designed to be fired from the shoulder. Crossbows equipped with pistol grips and designed to be fired with one hand are illegal. Crossbow hunters may use telescopic, battery powered, or electronically lighted reticle not exceeding a maximum power of eight, but must comply with all other archery equipment regulations listed above.

It is required by all crossbow/handicap permit holders to have their special permit on their person on all times while hunting.

Other Firearm and Archery Equipment Restrictions – it is illegal to go afield with a firearm or bow and arrow while intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol or any narcotic drug, barbiturate or marijuana.

6. HUNTING AREA RESTRICTIONS:

Hunters will only be allowed to fill their permit within the unit designated on their license.

It is unlawful to leave open any gates, bars, or other devices used to enclose any lands upon entry or exit, or to cut, remove, or lay down any fence to gain entry to any land for the purpose of hunting.

It is unlawful to shoot, destroy, molest, mutilate, or remove any signs.

It is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm within 440 yards of any occupied buildings, schools, medical facilities, or residences, or to shoot from roads, roadway ditches, or across a road.

It is illegal to hunt in unharvested cereal and oilseed crops. Crops also include alfalfa, clover, and other grasses grown for seed.

POSTING: It is unlawful to hunt on lands legally posted without first obtaining written permission from the owner or tenant. It is unlawful for anyone but the owner or tenant to post land. Legal signs shall give notice that no hunting is permitted and shall display: NAME, ADDRESS OF OWNER OR TENANT and DATE OF POSTING. Signs must be every eighty (80) rods on unfenced lands and at every corner and access point on fenced areas.

PLEASE OBTAIN WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE LAND OWNER OR TENANT EVEN IF LAND IS NOT POSTED.

7. AREAS CLOSED TO HUNTING:

It shall be unlawful to hunt or pursue game in the following areas:

- 1) The buffalo pasture located in Unit #1 (Mandaree Area) known as Range Unit 904 in the Skunk Creek Bay Area—this unit is designated as a Wildlife Reserve Area and no hunting is allowed.
- 2) Unit 4 is closed for the 2026 Pronghorn season.
- 3) The MHA Tribal Ranch/Buffalo Project and MHA Tribal Park.

A permit from the Director is required to take game on Tribal reserve areas or parks posted closed to hunting.

It is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm within 440 yards of any occupied buildings, schools, medical facilities, or residences (*Chapter 18-1-9*).

8. HUNTING BIG GAME OVER BAIT:

Hunting big game over bait on TAT public tribal land prohibited. Hunting big game over bait is defined as the placement and or use of bait(s) for attracting big game and other wildlife to a specific location for the purpose of hunting. Baits include but are not limited to grains, minerals, salts, fruits, vegetables, hay or any other natural or manufactured foods. The designation does not apply to the use of scents and lures, water, food plots, standing crops, or livestock feeds being used in standard practices.

9. AGE REQUIREMENTS:

To purchase a Pronghorn license, persons must be 14 years of age or older on the opening day of the season. Persons under age 16 afield with archery equipment must be under direct supervision of parent, guardian or adult authorized by their parent or guardian.

Hunter's Education Requirement: Hunters born after December 31, 1961 must complete a certified tribal or state hunter education course and PRESENT the certification card earned to the license vendor in order to purchase a Fort Berthold hunting license. EXCEPTION: Veterans of the United States Armed Forces that have been honorably discharged – persons applying for this exemption MUST present a copy of form DD214 to the TAT Fish & Wildlife office to be eligible.

10. AIRCRAFT, MOTOR-DRIVEN VEHICLES, LIGHTS:

It shall be illegal to use all types of aircraft, manned or unmanned (i.e. drones), for spotting game 72 hours prior to and during the hunting season. A licensee cannot hunt the same day he/she is airborne over his/her hunting unit, except on a scheduled passenger airline flight. It is illegal to drive, concentrate, rally, raise, stir up, spot or disturb game with all types of aircraft, manned or unmanned, and any motorized vehicle.

Motor-driven vehicles may not be used to pursue game. Motorized vehicles may not be used to retrieve a big game animal until the animal has been taken into possession and legally tagged.

It is illegal to shoot with bow and arrow or firearm while in or on a motor-driven vehicle or boat. No person may carry a firearm with a cartridge in the chamber in or on a motor-driven vehicle while hunting big game animals. The entire cylinder of a revolver is considered the chamber, requiring the revolver to be completely unloaded. Handguns with removable magazines must have the magazine removed from the firearm if the magazine contains any loaded shells. It is illegal to carry any muzzleloading firearm in or on a motor-driven vehicle with a percussion cap or primer on the nipple or powder in the flash pan.

No person may use a motor-driven vehicle in the process of hunting big game or aid another in the process of hunting big game unless the motor-driven vehicle is on an established road or trail.

"Established Road or Trail" means any public highway or road, improved or otherwise, dedicated for public ingress or egress. This does not include temporary trails across cultivated land used for agricultural purposes. Exception: After a pronghorn has been killed and properly tagged, a motor-driven vehicle may be used to make the retrieval by leaving the established road or trail and proceeding to the carcass by the shortest accessible route, and returning to the road or trail immediately by the same route. Except for persons having a special handicap hunting permit from TAT Fish & Wildlife Director, no person may use a motor-driven vehicle while in the process of hunting pronghorn or aid another in the process of hunting pronghorn including travel to and from the hunting location unless the motor-driven vehicle is on an established road or trail. While a handicap hunting permit is in use, neither the driver nor any passenger may hunt from the vehicle unless they each possess an individual handicap permit of the same type.

ESTABLISHED ROADS OR TRAILS DO NOT INCLUDE TEMPORARY TRAILS ACROSS CULTIVATED LAND AND PASTURES USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

It is illegal to engage in shining for big game with any artificial light for the purpose of locating or observing big game between sunset of one day and sunrise of the next.

The use of night vision equipment, electronically enhanced light gathering optics or thermal imaging equipment for locating or hunting game is illegal.

11. CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS:

All pronghorn hunters, including bow hunters, are required to wear orange clothing while the pronghorn gun season is in progress. **Legal orange clothing is a head covering and outer garment above the waistline of solid daylight fluorescent orange color totaling at least 400 square inches.**

12. MANNER OF TAKING:

It is legal to use a horse in the process of hunting Pronghorn.

It is illegal to use a dog as an aid to hunting Pronghorn.

It is illegal to take or attempt to take a Pronghorn by dragging a wire, rope, or other contrivance.

13. TAGGING:

IMMEDIATELY after an animal has been killed and before moving the animal, the hunter must indicate the date of kill by cutting out the appropriate month and day from the tag provided with the license and attach it to the base of the horn on male pronghorn or in a slit in the ear on female pronghorn to prevent its removal. In no case is it legal to possess or transport an animal unless it is properly tagged. The meat (carcass) tag must remain with the edible flesh (carcass) during transportation and until it is cut up and packaged as food. No person may re-use or attempt to re-use any tag issued. Tags are not transferable. When any part of an

animal is mounted, if the tag is removed from the horns or ear, the tag must be securely fastened to the back or bottom of the mount and remain there

14. TRANSPORTING AND PROCESSING:

License holders must accompany their game animal, or parts thereof, (excluding hide) during transportation. Except that a permit for the transportation of game may be issued by the TAT Fish & Wildlife Department upon request. Game may be shipped by public carrier in receipt of a proper bill of lading.

A pronghorn carcass or boned out meat must be accompanied by the head to the final place of storage. Exception: Tag as currently required, then take two pictures, using a cellphone with location and date and time stamp turned on. One picture of the entire animal at the kill site with tag attached, and a second picture of a closeup of the tag so that tag information is readable. If you leave the pronghorn head in the field at the kill site, after taking pictures and saving them, the ear or horn with the tag attached must be cut off and accompany the meat or carcass while in transport. The photographs of the tagged pronghorn must be shown to any game warden or other law enforcement officer upon request.

It is illegal to possess or transport another's game animal or parts thereof (excluding hides) without the license holder accompanying or as otherwise permitted. Processed and packaged meat of legally harvested game may only be gifted to another (but not sold, traded or bartered). Un-processed, un-packaged meat of legally harvested game may be gifted (but not sold, traded or bartered) as follows: 1) Prior to reaching the licensee's permanent residence, a transportation permit must be obtained and accompany the game meat. 2) After reaching the licensee's permanent residence if accompanied by the carcass tag of the person who harvested the game.

Commercial processors and common carriers may possess any person's legally taken possession limit of game. The meat (carcass) tag from the individuals license shall accompany the edible flesh (carcass) through processing and be returned to the individual to be kept until the meat is consumed or until March 31, 2026.

15. WANTON WASTE:

No person shall kill or cripple any big game animal without making a reasonable effort to retrieve and retain the big game animal in his/her actual custody. No person shall waste, destroy, spoil or abandon the edible flesh of any big game animal at the place where taken or between that place or either (a) his/her permanent residence, (b) a taxidermist, (c) a common carrier, or (d) a commercial processor.

"Edible Flesh" (Big Game Animals) is both front quarters, both hind quarters and back straps but does not include meat ruined by bullet or natural causes.

16. HUNTER QUESTIONNAIRES:

Complete and accurate information on the hunter questionnaires will greatly assist the Fish & Wildlife Division in determining the number of pronghorn harvested and the optimum number of permits that can be issued to maintain a stable and healthy pronghorn population on the Reservation lands for future generations. Hunters are required to hand them in or send them to the Three Affiliated Tribes Fish & Wildlife Division.

This is mandatory and must be submitted within 30 days of the end of the 2026 Pronghorn season. Failure to comply with this statute will result in an extra fee that must be paid before a hunter will be eligible to participate in any subsequent hunting and/or fishing seasons.

17. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) Possess a valid general game license.
- 2) Possess a hunter's safety certificate if born after 12/31/1961. (see Sect. 9 for exemptions)

- 3) Complete your 2026 Pronghorn Application and make payment in full.
- 4) Receive Pronghorn license via computer-generated page and endorse in ink at the bottom where indicated.
- 5) Maintain your Pronghorn tag and license at all times while you hunt.
- 6) Hunt only in the unit for which the tag is issued.
- 7) Follow all weapons, vehicle and other hunting restrictions.
- 8) Abstain from hunting in closed areas.
- 9) Wear the appropriate amount of hunter orange while in the field.
- 10) Fill out and return a 2026 Pronghorn Hunter Questionnaire within 30 days of end of the 2026 Pronghorn Season.

*Pursuant to Section 18-6-1 of Chapter 18-6 of Title 9, Tribal Proclamations Have Force of Law—
Penalty: Any tribal proclamation issued at the request of the Natural Resources Board or the
Director of the Tribal Fish & Wildlife Division shall have the force of law. Any persons violating a
provision of such order or proclamation is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined for not more
than five hundred (\$500.00). In addition to any fine imposed in this Chapter, the person shall be
subject to forfeiture of her/his license, the privilege to hunt and fish for a period of one year, and
confiscation of her/his vehicle, guns, boat, fishing equipment or anything used in connection with
the violation*

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE FORT BERTHOLD FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS.
CALL 627-4760 BETWEEN 8 AM AND 4:30 PM MONDAY THRU FRIDAY.
After hours please call the TAT Police Department 627-3617**

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"All information is confidential."**



Fort Berthold Reservation
Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Tribes
Fish and Wildlife Division
404 Frontage Road, New Town, ND 58763
Phone: (701) 627-4760 Fax: (701) 627-4743

2026 NORTH AMERICAN ELK PROCLAMATION

Pursuant to Chapter 18 of Title 9 of the Code of Laws of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation and the authority of the Three Affiliated Tribes Business Council: Three Affiliated Tribes Fish and Wildlife Division hereby declares an open season in 2026 on North American Elk or Maadoga (*Cervus elaphus*) as described in the following proclamation.

Except as provided hereafter or otherwise by law, no person shall hunt, trap, kill, harass, take, and attempt to take, or possess any elk or parts thereof.

1. SEASON:

The season for taking Elk shall be from one half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one half (1/2) hour after sunset each day from October 2, 2026 through January 3, 2027.

2. LIMIT:

One North American Elk may be taken per license holder during the season. Hunters are restricted to the type of elk as designated on the license.

3. LICENSES AND PERMITS:

Persons eligible to partake in the 2026 Elk Season are: Tribal Members

Licenses and special permits shall be issued in a manner and form prescribed by the Fish and Wildlife Director and in accordance with applicable laws. Such permits shall be in the form of tags indicating the sex and unit that hunters may legally hunt. Tags must be endorsed in ink with the licensee's signature. Licenses shall be in the form of a computer-generated document and must be endorsed with the hunter's signature at the bottom where indicated. All hunters shall carry on their person the physical permit tags, as well as their signed license. A signed digital copy of the license may be accepted in lieu of a printed copy. Licenses are nontransferable. No person may give, barter, or sell an issued license to another person.

Permits will be issued for Elk through an online raffle, with recipients determined by a random draw of all eligible entries submitted through the online licensing system. Elk raffle entries will go on sale on Aug. 3rd, 2026, and the drawing will be conducted electronically at the end of the business day on September 11th, 2026, with the successful applicants notified by email. A completed application and full payment must be received prior to issuance of the permits. The permits are non-transferable. No person may give, barter, or sell an issued permit, as is the case with licenses, to another person.

Persons who receive an Elk permit through the raffle draw shall not be eligible to apply for the same type of elk permit granted for three subsequent seasons.

Antlered Elk permits..... Unit 1 (Mandaree/Four Bears) only.

Antlerless Elk permits..... Unit 1 (Mandaree/Four Bears) only.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE LICENSES ARE NOT VALID ON THE FORT BERTHOLD INDIAN RESERVATION. ANYONE HUNTING ON TRUST OR ALLOTTED LANDS WITH A STATE ELK LICENSE AND NOT A TRIBAL LICENSE WILL BE CITED FOR HUNTING WITHOUT A PROPER LICENSE.

4. FEES:

Raffle entries will be available for purchase through the online licensing system at a cost of \$10.00 per entry. All ticket sales are final and non-refundable. Tribal Elk Permits will be issued to selected applicants at a cost of \$25.00 per tag for enrolled TAT Tribal Members.

There will be no use of the designated hunter for the 2026 Elk Season.

Persons using another's license to hunt, or the act of loaning out one's license for another to hunt for you is a violation of Section 18-3-6 of Title 9 of the Tribal Code of Laws and is punishable by a mandatory fine of \$100 and loss of hunting privileges for a period of one (1) year.

5. WEAPONS RESTRICTIONS:

Nonlicensees – An elk licensee hunting in the field may be accompanied by no more than three (3) nonlicensees given they are not carrying any type of firearms or archery equipment in the field while assisting the legally licensed hunter.

Elk may only be taken with the following weapons:

A) Rifles:

- 1) Having a barrel length of 16 inches or greater.
- 2) Firing a centerfire cartridge of .25 caliber or greater.

RESTRICTIONS:

- i.) Fully automatic firearms, full metal jacketed bullets which are non-expanding, as well as altered projectiles are prohibited.

B) Shotguns:

- 1) Having a barrel length of 18 inches or greater
- 2) Rifled slugs of 20-gauge or larger.

C) Handgun:

- 1) Cartridge cases under .40 caliber must be at least 1.285 inches in length and bullets must be at least .257 inches in diameter
- 2) Cartridge cases of .40 caliber or larger must be at least .992 in length.

D) Muzzleloader Rifles or Single Shot Muzzleloader pistols:

- 1) All components must be loaded through the muzzle, with flint or percussion ignition, firing black powder or black powder substitutes.
- 2) .50 caliber or larger slug or ball.

RESTRICTIONS:

- i) Muzzleloaders with powder charge and percussion cap in place will be considered loaded and are illegal for transport in that manner.
- ii) Revolvers with bullets in the cylinder will be considered loaded and are illegal for transport in that manner.

E) Pre-charged pneumatic air guns, charged from an external high compression source such as an air compressor, air tank or an external hand pump are legal for elk but must fire a projectile (excluding air

bolts) of at least .45 caliber in diameter and at least 350 grains in weight with a minimum muzzle velocity of 600 feet per second.

F) Legal Archery Equipment:

Defined as a compound, recurve, or longbow that must be pulled, held, and released by hand. Any release aid may be used providing it is hand operated, the shooter supports the draw weight of the bow, and the release is not attached to any part of the bow other than the bowstring. The bows used for hunting elk must have at least 50 pounds of draw at 28 inches or less draw length. Arrows must be at least 24 inches long, tipped with a metal broad head, with at least two sharp cutting edges, and have a cutting diameter of at least $\frac{3}{4}$ inch (i.e., not able to pass through a $\frac{3}{4}$ inch ring). Broadheads used for hunting elk must be unbarbed (barbed refers to an arrowhead with any fixed portion of the rear or trailing edge of the arrowhead forming an angle less than 90 degrees from the shaft) and have fixed blades (i.e., broad heads with mechanical or retractable blades not manufactured to stay open are illegal). Telescopic sights, range finding devices, or other electronic devices attached to the bow, or the arrow, are not permitted. Exception: battery-powered or electronically lighted sights that do not project light, a lighted nock and recording devices which do not aid in range finding, sighting or shooting the bow are permitted. Handheld range finding devices are legal. Arrows capable of causing damage or injury to the animal in excess of that inflicted by the cutting edges of the broad head are prohibited while hunting elk with a bow (ex. explosive arrow points, arrows tipped with drugs or chemicals, and pneumatic or hydraulic shafts are illegal).

- G) Crossbow is defined as a weapon consisting of a bow mounted transversely on a stock or frame and designed to fire a bolt, arrow, or quarrel by the release of the bowstring, which is controlled by a mechanical or electric trigger and a working safety. Crossbows are legal for TAT Tribal Members ONLY during the 2026 elk season. Crossbows are illegal for Non-TAT Members, except if disabled or handicapped (i.e. paraplegics and/or having lost the use of one or both arms) with a permit from the TAT Fish and Wildlife Department Director. When permitted, crossbows must: a) have a peak draw weight of at least 75 pounds, b) be equipped with a working safety to prevent accidental firing, c) use arrows or bolts at least 14 inches in length, and d) be designed to be fired from the shoulder. Crossbows equipped with pistol grips and designed to be fired with one hand are illegal. Crossbow hunters must comply with all other archery equipment regulations listed above. It is required by all crossbow/handicap permit holders to have their special permit on their person at all times while hunting.

Other Firearm and Archery Equipment Restrictions – it is illegal to go afield with a firearm or bow and arrow while intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol or any narcotic drug, barbiturate or marijuana.

6. HUNTING AREA RESTRICTIONS:

Hunters will only be allowed to fill their permit within the unit designated on their license and tags.

It is unlawful to leave open any gates, bars, or other devices used to enclose any lands upon entry or exit, or to cut, remove, or lay down any fence to gain entry to any land for the purpose of hunting.

It is unlawful to shoot, destroy, molest, mutilate, or remove any signs.

It is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm within 440 yards of any occupied buildings, schools, medical facilities, or residences, or to shoot from roads, roadway ditches, or across a road.

It is illegal to hunt in unharvested cereal and oilseed crops. Crops also include alfalfa, clover, and other grasses grown for seed.

POSTING: It is unlawful to hunt on lands legally posted without first obtaining written permission from the owner or tenant. It is unlawful for anyone but the owner or tenant to post land. Legal signs shall give notice that no hunting is permitted and shall display: NAME, ADDRESS OF OWNER OR TENANT, and DATE OF POSTING. Signs must be every eighty (80) rods on unfenced lands and at access points on fenced areas.

PLEASE OBTAIN WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE LANDOWNER OR TENANT EVEN IF LAND IS NOT POSTED.

Please use good judgment when hunting during the 2026 Elk Season. Fort Berthold ranchers will still be utilizing the Range Units and cattle will be present. Ranchers will be busy moving cattle during this season. HUNTER SAFETY must be practiced at all times. Close all gates and verify your targets before shooting.

7. AREAS CLOSED TO HUNTING:

It shall be unlawful to hunt or pursue elk in the following areas:

- 1) The buffalo pasture located in Unit #1 (Mandaree Area) known as Range Unit 904 in the Skunk Creek Bay Area—this unit is designated as a Wildlife Reserve Area and no hunting is allowed.
- 2) Unit 2, 3, and 4—these areas are closed to 2026 Elk season.
- 3) The MHA Tribal Ranch/Buffalo Project and MHA Tribal Park.

A permit from the Director is required to take game on Tribal reserve areas or parks posted closed to hunting.

It is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm within 440 yards of any occupied buildings, schools, medical facilities, or residences (Chapter 18-1-9).

8. HUNTING BIG GAME OVER BAIT:

Hunting big game over bait on TAT public tribal land prohibited. Hunting big game over bait is defined as the placement and/or use of bait(s) for attracting big game and other wildlife to a specific location for the purpose of hunting. Baits include but are not limited to grains, minerals, salts, fruits, vegetables, hay or any other natural or manufactured foods. The designation does not apply to the use of scents and lures, water, food plots, standing crops, or livestock feeds being used in standard practices.

9. AGE REQUIREMENTS:

To purchase an Elk license, persons must be 14 years of age or older on the opening day of the season. A parent, guardian or a person authorized by the parent or guardian must accompany persons under 16 years of age afield with a gun.

Hunter's Education Requirement: Persons born after December 31, 1961 must complete a certified Reservation or State Hunter Safety Program and PRESENT the certification card earned to the license vendor in order to purchase a Fort Berthold hunting license. **EXCEPTION:** Veterans of the United States Armed Forces that have been honorably discharged. Persons applying for this exception **MUST** present a copy of form DD214 to the TAT Fish and Wildlife Division to be eligible.

10. AIRCRAFT, MOTOR-DRIVEN VEHICLES, LIGHTS:

It is illegal to use all types of aircraft, manned or unmanned (i.e., drones), for spotting game 72 hours prior to and during the hunting season. A licensee cannot hunt the same day she or he is airborne over her/his hunting unit, except on a scheduled passenger airline flight. It is illegal to drive, concentrate, rally, raise, stir up, spot or disturb game with all types of aircraft, manned or unmanned.

Motor-driven vehicles may not be used to pursue game and may not be used to retrieve an elk until the animal has been taken into possession and legally tagged.

It is illegal to shoot with a bow and arrow or firearm while in or on a motor-driven vehicle. No person may carry a firearm with a cartridge in the chamber in or on a motor-driven vehicle while hunting elk. The entire cylinder of a revolver is considered the chamber, requiring the revolver to be completely unloaded. Handguns with removable magazines or clips must have the magazine or clip removed from the firearm if the magazine or clip contains any loaded shells. It is illegal to carry any muzzleloading firearm in or on a motor-driven vehicle with a percussion cap or primer on the nipple or powder in the flash pan.

No person may use a motor-driven vehicle in the process of hunting big game or aid another in the process of hunting big game unless the motor-driven vehicle is on an established road or trail.

“Established Road or Trail” means any public highway or road, improved or otherwise, dedicated for public ingress or egress. This does not include temporary trails across cultivated land used for agricultural purposes. Exception: After an elk has been killed and properly tagged, a motor-driven vehicle may be used to make the retrieval by leaving the established road or trail and proceeding to the carcass by the shortest accessible route, and returning to the road or trail immediately by the same route. Except for persons having a special handicap hunting permit from TAT Fish & Wildlife Director, no person may use a motor-driven vehicle while in the process of hunting elk or aid another in the process of hunting elk including travel to and from the hunting location unless the motor-driven vehicle is on an established road or trail. While a handicap hunting permit is in use, neither the driver nor any passenger may hunt from the vehicle unless they each possess an individual handicap permit of the same type.

ESTABLISHED ROADS AND TRAILS DO NOT INCLUDE TEMPORARY TRAILS ACROSS CULTIVATED LAND AND PASTURES USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

It shall be illegal to engage in shining for big game with any artificial light for the purpose of locating or observing big game between sunset of one day and sunrise of the next.

Use of night vision equipment, electronically enhanced light gathering optics or thermal imaging equipment for locating or hunting game is illegal.

11. CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS:

All elk hunters are required to wear a head covering and an outer garment above the waistline of solid daylight fluorescent orange color, totaling at least 400 square inches.

12. MANNER OF TAKING:

It is legal to use a horse in the process of hunting Elk.

It is illegal to use a dog as an aid to hunting Elk.

It is illegal to take or attempt to take an Elk by dragging a wire, rope, or other contrivance.

13. TAGGING:

Hunters are required to contact the TAT Fish and Wildlife Division within 24 hours of their harvest to aide in the collection of scientific data.

Immediately after an elk has been killed, the hunter must indicate the date of kill by writing the date on tag where indicated and securely attach it to the antler on an antlered elk or in a slit in the ear on an antlerless elk to prevent its removal.

In no case is it legal to possess or transport an elk unless it is properly tagged. The meat (carcass) tag must remain with the edible flesh (carcass) until it is cut up and packaged as food. No person may reuse or attempt to reuse any tag issued. Tags are non-transferable.

When any part of an animal is mounted, if the tag is removed from the antlers or ear, the tag must be securely fastened to the back or bottom of the mount and remain there.

14. TRANSPORTING AND PROCESSING:

License holders must accompany their game animal, or parts thereof (excluding hide), during transportation, unless a permit for the transportation of game is issued by the TAT Fish & Wildlife Department upon request. Game may be shipped by common carrier in receipt of proper bill of lading. An elk carcass or boned out meat must be accompanied by the head to the final place of storage. Exception: Tag as currently required, then take two pictures, using a cellphone with location and date and time stamp turned on. One picture of the entire animal at the kill site with tag attached, and a second picture of a closeup of the tag so that tag information is readable. Drop off the head at a CWD collection site properly tagged or if you leave the elk head in the field at the kill site, after taking pictures and saving them, the ear or antler with the tag attached must be cut off and accompany the meat or carcass while in transport. The photographs of the tagged elk must be shown to any game warden or other law enforcement officer upon request.

It is illegal to possess or transport another's elk, or parts thereof (excluding hide), without the license holder accompanying or as otherwise permitted. Processed and packaged meat of legally taken elk may be gifted to another. Unprocessed, unpackaged game meat may be gifted as follows: 1) Prior to reaching the licensee's personal residence a transportation permit must be obtained and accompany the elk meat. 2) After reaching the licensee's personal residence if accompanied by the name and address of the licensee.

Commercial processors and common carriers may possess any person's legally taken possession limit or game.

15. WANTON WASTE:

No person shall kill or cripple any elk without making a reasonable effort to retrieve and retain the elk in his or her actual custody. No person shall waste, destroy, spoil, or abandon the edible flesh of an elk at the place where taken or between that place and either (a) his or her permanent residence, (b) a taxidermist, (c) a common carrier, or (d) a commercial processor.

16. HUNTER QUESTIONNAIRES:

Complete and accurate information on the hunter questionnaires will greatly assist the Fish and Wildlife Division in determining the number of Elk harvested and the optimum number of permits that can be issued to maintain a stable, healthy Elk population on the Reservation lands for future generations. Successful hunters may call in their information. **This is mandatory and must be submitted within 30 days of the end of the 2026 Elk season. Failure to comply with this statute will result in an extra fee that must be paid before a hunter will be eligible to participate in any subsequent hunting and/or fishing seasons.**

17. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Possess a valid general game license.
2. Possess a hunter safety certificate if born after 12/31/61. (See Sect. 9 for exceptions.)
3. Once selected, complete your 2026 Elk Application and make payment in full.
4. All Non-TAT enrolled members who do not reside in North Dakota must possess a Tribal Conservation Permit.
5. Receive Elk license via computer-generated page and endorse in ink at the bottom where indicated.
6. Maintain your Elk tag and license at all times while you hunt.
7. Hunt only in the unit for which the tag is issued.

8. Follow all weapons, vehicle and other hunting restrictions.
9. Abstain from hunting in closed areas.
10. Wear the appropriate amount of hunter orange while in the field.
11. Only three (3) persons will be allowed to assist a legally licensed Hunter.
However, only the legally licensed hunter is allowed to harvest an animal.
All Non-TAT enrolled members who do not reside in North Dakota who accompany an elk hunter must possess a valid Conservation Permit.
12. Those who accompany the legally licensed hunter are not allowed to carry firearms in the field while assisting the legally licensed hunter.
13. Fill out and return a 2026 Elk Hunter Questionnaire within 30 days of end of the 2026 Elk Season.

*Pursuant to Section 18-6-1 of Chapter 18-6 of Title 9, Tribal Proclamations Have Force of Law—
Penalty: Any Tribal proclamation issued at the request of the Natural Resources Board or the
Director of the Tribal Fish & Wildlife Division shall have the force of law. Any persons violating a
provision of such order or proclamation is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined for not more
than five hundred (\$500.00). In addition to any fine imposed in this chapter, the person shall be
subject to forfeiture of her/his license, the privilege to hunt and fish for a period of one year, and
confiscation of her/his vehicle, guns, boat, fishing equipment or anything used in connection with
the violation.*

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE FORT BERTHOLD FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS.
CALL 627-4760 BETWEEN 8 AM AND 4:30 PM MONDAY THRU FRIDAY.
After hours please call the TAT Police Department at 627-3617**

**NOTIFY THE TAT FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS
“All information is confidential.”**



Fort Berthold Reservation
Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Tribes
Fish and Wildlife Division
404 Frontage Road, New Town, ND 58763
Phone: (701) 627-4760 Fax: (701) 627-4743

2026 MOOSE PROCLAMATION

Pursuant to Chapter 18 of Title 9 of the Code of Laws of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation and the authority of the Three Affiliated Tribes Business Council: the Three Affiliated Tribes Fish and Wildlife Division hereby declares an open season in 2026 on Moose as described in the following proclamation.

Except as provided hereafter or otherwise by law, no person shall hunt, trap, kill, harass, take, and attempt to take, or possess any Moose or parts thereof.

1. SEASON:

The season for taking Moose with firearms shall be from one half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one half (1/2) hour after sunset each day from October 9, 2026 through November 1, 2026.

2. LIMIT:

One Moose may be taken per license holder during the season. Hunters are restricted to the type of Moose as designated on the license.

3. LICENSES AND PERMITS:

Persons eligible to partake in the 2026 Moose Season are: Tribal Members only.

Licenses and special permits shall be issued in a manner and form prescribed by the Fish and Wildlife Director and in accordance with applicable laws. Such permits shall be in the form of tags indicating the sex and unit that hunters may legally hunt. Tags must be endorsed in ink with the licensee's signature. Licenses shall be in the form of a computer-generated document and must be endorsed with the hunter's signature at the bottom where indicated. All hunters shall carry on their person the physical permit tags, as well as their signed license. A signed digital copy of the license may be accepted in lieu of a printed copy. Licenses are nontransferable. No person may give, barter, or sell an issued license to another person.

Permits will be issued for Moose through an online raffle, with recipients determined by a random draw of all eligible entries submitted through the online licensing system. Moose raffle entries will go on sale on Aug. 3rd, 2026, and the drawing will be conducted electronically at the end of the business day on September 11th, 2026, with the successful applicants notified by email. A completed application and full payment must be received prior to issuance of the permits. The permits are non-transferable. No person may give, barter, or sell an issued permit, as is the case with licenses, to another person.

Persons who receive a moose permit through the raffle draw shall not be eligible to apply for the same type of moose permit granted for three subsequent seasons.

Bull Moose permits..... (Reservation - Wide)

Cow Moose permits..... Unit 3 (Parshall/White Shield) only.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE LICENSES ARE NOT VALID ON THE FORT BERTHOLD INDIAN RESERVATION. ANYONE HUNTING ON TRUST OR ALLOTTED LANDS WITH A STATE MOOSE LICENSE AND NOT A TRIBAL LICENSE WILL BE CITED FOR HUNTING WITHOUT A PROPER LICENSE.

4. FEES:

Raffle entries will be available for purchase through the online licensing system at a cost of \$10.00 per entry. All ticket sales are final and non-refundable. Tribal Moose Permits will be issued to selected applicants at a cost of \$25.00 per tag for enrolled TAT Tribal Members.

There will be no use of the designated hunter for the 2026 Moose Season.

Persons using another's license to hunt, or the act of loaning out one's license for another to hunt for you is a violation of Section 18-3-6 of Title 9 of the Tribal Code of Laws and is punishable by a mandatory fine of \$100 and loss of hunting privileges for a period of one (1) year.

5. WEAPONS RESTRICTIONS:

Nonlicensees – A moose licensee hunting in the field may be accompanied by no more than three (3) nonlicensees given they are not carrying any type of firearms or archery equipment in the field while assisting the legally licensed hunter.

Moose may only be taken with the following weapons:

A) Rifles:

- 1) Having a barrel length of 16 inches or greater.
- 2) Firing a centerfire cartridge of .25 caliber or greater.

RESTRICTIONS:

- i.) Fully automatic firearms, full metal jacketed bullets which are non-expanding, as well as altered projectiles, are prohibited.

B) Shotguns:

- 1) Having a barrel length of 18 inches or greater
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C) Handgun:

- 1) Cartridge cases under .40 caliber must be at least 1.285 inches in length and bullets must be at least .257 inches in diameter
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D) Muzzleloader Rifles or Single Shot Muzzleloader pistols:

- 1) All components must be loaded through the muzzle, with flint or percussion ignition, firing black powder or black powder substitutes.
- 2) .50 caliber or larger slug or ball.

RESTRICTIONS:

- i) Muzzleloaders with powder charge and percussion cap in place will be considered loaded and are illegal for transport in that manner.
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- E) Pre-charged pneumatic air guns, charged from an external high compression source such as an air compressor, air tank or an external hand pump are legal for moose but must fire a projectile (excluding air bolts) of at least .45 caliber in diameter and at least 350 grains in weight with a minimum muzzle velocity of 600 feet per second.

F) Legal Archery Equipment:

Defined as a compound, recurve, or longbow that must be pulled, held, and released by hand. Any release aid may be used providing it is hand operated, the shooter supports the draw weight of the bow and the release is not attached to any part of the bow other than the bowstring. The bows used for hunting moose must have at least 50 pounds of draw at 28 inches or less draw length. Arrows must be at least 24 inches long, tipped with a metal broad head, with at least two sharp cutting edges, and have a cutting diameter of at least 3/4 inch (i.e., not able to pass through a 3/4-inch ring). Broadheads used for hunting moose must be unbarbed (barbed refers to an arrowhead with any fixed portion of the rear or trailing edge of the arrowhead forming an angle less than 90 degrees from the shaft) and have fixed blades (i.e., broad heads with mechanical or retractable blades not manufactured to stay open are illegal). Telescopic sights, range finding devices, or other electronic devices attached to the bow, or the arrow, are not permitted. Exception: battery-powered or electronically lighted sights that do not project light, a lighted nock and recording devices which do not aid in range finding, sighting or shooting the bow are permitted. Handheld range finding devices are legal. Arrows capable of causing damage or injury to the animal in excess of that inflicted by the cutting edges of the broad head are prohibited while hunting moose with a bow (ex. explosive arrow points, arrows tipped with drugs or chemicals, and pneumatic or hydraulic shafts are illegal).

- G) Crossbow is defined as a weapon consisting of a bow mounted transversely on a stock or frame and designed to fire a bolt, arrow, or quarrel by the release of the bowstring, which is controlled by a mechanical or electric trigger and a working safety. Crossbows are legal for TAT Tribal Members **ONLY** during the 2026 moose season. Crossbows are illegal for Non-TAT Members, except if disabled or handicapped (i.e. Paraplegics and/or having lost the use of one or both arms) with a permit from the TAT Fish and Wildlife Department Director. When permitted, crossbows must: a) have a peak draw weight of at least 75 pounds, b) be equipped with a working safety to prevent accidental firing, c) have a stock at least 14 inches long, and d) be designed to be fired from the shoulder. Crossbows equipped with pistol grips and designed to be fired with one hand are illegal. Crossbow hunters must comply with all other archery equipment regulations listed above.
- It is required by all crossbow/handicap permit holders to have their special permit on their person at all times while hunting.

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Hunters will only be allowed to fill their permit within the unit designated on their license and tags.

It is unlawful to leave open any gates, bars, or other devices used to enclose any lands upon entry or exit, or to cut, remove, or lay down any fence to gain entry to any land for the purpose of hunting.

It is unlawful to shoot, destroy, molest, mutilate, or remove any signs.

It is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm within 440 yards of any occupied buildings, schools, medical facilities, or residences, or to shoot from roads, roadway ditches, or across a road.

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notice that no hunting is permitted and shall display: NAME, ADDRESS OF OWNER OR TENANT, and DATE OF POSTING. Signs must be every eighty (80) rods on unfenced lands and at access points on fenced areas.

PLEASE OBTAIN WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE LANDOWNER OR TENANT EVEN IF LAND IS NOT POSTED.

Please use good judgment when hunting during the 2026 Moose Season. Fort Berthold ranchers will still be utilizing the Range Units and cattle will be present. Ranchers will be busy moving cattle during this season. HUNTER SAFETY must be practiced at all times. Close all gates and verify your targets before shooting.

7. AREAS CLOSED TO HUNTING:

It shall be unlawful to hunt or pursue game in the following areas:

- 1) The buffalo pasture located in Unit #1 (Mandaree Area) known as Range Unit 904 in the Skunk Creek Bay Area—this unit is designated as a Wildlife Reserve Area and no hunting is allowed.
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A permit from the Director is required to take game on Tribal reserve areas or parks posted closed to hunting.

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To purchase a Moose license, persons must be 14 years of age or older on the opening day of the season. A parent, guardian or a person authorized by the parent or guardian must accompany persons under 16 years of age, afield with a gun.

Hunter's Education Requirement: Persons born after December 31, 1961 must complete a certified Reservation or State Hunter Safety Program and PRESENT the certification card earned to the license vendor in order to purchase a Fort Berthold hunting license. EXCEPTION: Veterans of the United States Armed Forces that have been honorably discharged. Persons applying for this exception MUST present a copy of form DD214 to the TAT Fish and Wildlife Division to be eligible.

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completely unloaded. Handguns with removable magazines or clips must have the magazine or clip removed from the firearm if the magazine or clip contains any loaded shells. It is illegal to carry any muzzleloading firearm in or on a motor-driven vehicle with a percussion cap or primer on the nipple or powder in the flash pan.

No person may use a motor-driven vehicle in the process of hunting big game or aid another in the process of hunting big game unless the motor-driven vehicle is on an established road or trail.

"Established Road or Trail" means any public highway or road, improved or otherwise, dedicated for public ingress or egress. This does not include temporary trails across cultivated land used for agricultural purposes. Exception: After a moose has been killed and properly tagged, a motor-driven vehicle may be used to make the retrieval by leaving the established road or trail and proceeding to the carcass by the shortest accessible route, and returning to the road or trail immediately by the same route. Except for persons having a special handicap hunting permit from TAT Fish & Wildlife Director, no person may use a motor-driven vehicle while in the process of hunting moose or aid another in the process of hunting moose including travel to and from the hunting location unless the motor-driven vehicle is on an established road or trail. While a handicap hunting permit is in use, neither the driver nor any passenger may hunt from the vehicle unless they each possess an individual handicap permit of the same type.

ESTABLISHED ROADS AND TRAILS DO NOT INCLUDE TEMPORARY TRAILS ACROSS CULTIVATED LAND AND PASTURES USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

It shall be illegal to engage in shining for big game with any artificial light for the purpose of locating or observing big game between sunset of one day and sunrise of the next.

Use of night vision equipment, electronically enhanced light gathering optics or thermal imaging equipment for locating or hunting game is illegal.

11. CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS:

All moose hunters are required to wear a head covering and an outer garment above the waistline of solid daylight fluorescent orange color, totaling at least 400 square inches.

12. MANNER OF TAKING:

It is legal to use a horse in the process of hunting Moose.

It is illegal to use a dog as an aid to hunting Moose.

It is illegal to take or attempt to take a Moose by dragging a wire, rope, or other contrivance.

13. TAGGING:

Hunters are required to contact the TAT Fish and Wildlife Division within 24 hours of their harvest to aid in the collection of scientific data.

Immediately after a moose has been killed, the hunter must indicate the date of kill by writing the date on tag where indicated and securely attach it to the antler on an antlered moose or in a slit in the ear on an antlerless moose to prevent its removal.

In no case is it legal to possess or transport a moose unless it is properly tagged. The meat (carcass) tag must remain with the edible flesh (carcass) until it is cut up and packaged as food. No person may reuse or attempt to reuse any tag issued. Tags are non-transferable.

When any part of an animal is mounted, if the tag is removed from the antlers or ear, the tag must be securely fastened to the back or bottom of the mount and remain there.

14. TRANSPORTING AND PROCESSING:

License holders must accompany their game animal, or parts thereof, (excluding hide) during transportation, unless a permit for the transportation of game is issued by the TAT Fish & Wildlife Department upon request. Game may be shipped by common carrier in receipt of proper bill of lading. A moose carcass or boned out meat must be accompanied by the head to the final place of storage. Exception: Tag as currently required, then take two pictures, using a cellphone with location and date and time stamp turned on. One picture of the entire animal at the kill site with tag attached, and a second picture of a closeup of the tag so that tag information is readable. Drop off the head at a CWD collection site properly tagged or if you leave the moose head in the field at the kill site, after taking pictures and saving them, the ear or antler with the tag attached must be cut off and accompany the meat or carcass while in transport. The photographs of the tagged moose must be shown to any game warden or other law enforcement officer upon request.

It is illegal to possess or transport another's moose, or parts thereof, (excluding hide) without the license holder accompanying or as otherwise permitted. Processed and packaged meat of legally taken moose may be gifted to another. Unprocessed, unpackaged game meat may be gifted as follows: 1) Prior to reaching the licensee's personal residence a transportation permit must be obtained and accompany the moose meat. 2) After reaching the licensee's personal residence if accompanied by the name and address of the licensee.

Commercial processors and common carriers may possess any person's legally taken possession limit or game.

15. WANTON WASTE:

No person shall kill or cripple any big game animal without making a reasonable effort to retrieve and retain the big game animal in his or her actual custody. No person shall waste, destroy, spoil, or abandon the edible flesh of any big game animal at the place where taken or between that place and either (a) his or her permanent residence, (b) a taxidermist, (c) a common carrier, or (d) a commercial processor.

"Edible Flesh" (Big Game Animals) is both front quarters, both hind quarters and back straps but does not include meat ruined by bullet or natural causes.

16. HUNTER QUESTIONNAIRES:

Complete and accurate information on the hunter questionnaires will greatly assist the Fish and Wildlife Division in determining the number of Moose harvested and the optimum number of permits that can be issued to maintain a stable, healthy Moose population on the Reservation lands for future generations. Successful hunters may call in their information. This is **mandatory and must be submitted within 30 days of the end of the 2026 Moose season. Failure to comply with this statute will result in an extra fee that must be paid before a hunter will be eligible to participate in any subsequent hunting and/or fishing seasons.**

17. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Possess a hunter safety certificate if born after 12/31/61. (See Sect. 9 for exceptions.)
2. Once selected, complete your 2026 Moose Application and make payment in full.
3. All Non-TAT enrolled members who do not reside in North Dakota must possess a Tribal Conservation Permit.
4. Receive Moose license via computer-generated page and endorse in ink at the bottom where indicated.
5. Maintain your Moose tag and license at all times while you hunt.
6. Hunt only in the unit for which the tag is issued.
7. Follow all weapons, vehicle and other hunting restrictions.
8. Abstain from hunting in closed areas.

9. Wear the appropriate amount of hunter orange while in the field.
10. Only three (3) persons will be allowed to assist a legally licensed hunter.
However, only the legally licensed hunter is allowed to harvest an animal.
All Non-TAT enrolled members who do not reside in North Dakota who accompany a moose hunter must possess a valid Conservation Permit.
11. Those who accompany the legally licensed hunter are not allowed to carry firearms in the field while assisting the legally licensed hunter.
12. Fill out and return a 2026 Moose Hunter Questionnaire within 30 days of end of the 2026 Moose Season.

*Pursuant to Section 18-6-1 of Chapter 18-6 of Title 9, Tribal Proclamations Have Force of Law—
Penalty: Any Tribal proclamation issued at the request of the Natural Resources Board or the
Director of the Tribal Fish & Wildlife Division shall have the force of law. Any persons violating a
provision of such order or proclamation is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined for not more
than five hundred (\$500.00). In addition to any fine imposed in this chapter, the person shall be
subject to forfeiture of her/his license, the privilege to hunt and fish for a period of one year, and
confiscation of her/his vehicle, guns, boat, fishing equipment or anything used in connection with
the violation.*

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE FORT BERTHOLD FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS.
CALL 627-4760 BETWEEN 8 AM AND 4:30 PM MONDAY THRU FRIDAY.
After hours please call the TAT Police Department 627-3617**

**NOTIFY THE TAT FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS
“All information is confidential.”**



Fort Berthold Reservation
Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Tribes
Fish and Wildlife Division
404 Frontage Road, New Town, ND 58763
Phone: (701) 627-4760 Fax: (701) 627-4743

2026 BIGHORN SHEEP PROCLAMATION

Pursuant to Chapter 18 of Title 9 of the Code of Laws of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation and the authority of the Three Affiliated Tribes Business Council: the Three Affiliated Tribes Fish and Wildlife Division hereby declares an open season in 2026 on Bighorn sheep as described in the following proclamation.

Except as provided hereafter or otherwise by law, no person shall hunt, trap, kill, harass, take, and attempt to take, or possess any bighorn sheep or parts thereof.

1. SEASON:

The season for taking bighorn sheep with firearms shall be from one half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one half (1/2) hour after sunset each day from October 16, 2026 through December 31, 2026.

2. LIMIT:

One bighorn sheep may be taken per license holder during the season. Hunters are restricted to unit and type of bighorn sheep as designated on license.

3. LICENSES AND PERMITS:

The number of licenses shall be determined by September 1, 2026, after the summer population survey is complete.

Licenses and special permits shall be issued in a manner and form prescribed by the Fish and Wildlife Director and in accordance with applicable laws. Such permits shall be in the form of tags indicating the sex and unit that hunters may legally hunt. Tags must be endorsed in ink with the licensee's signature. Licenses shall be in the form of a computer-generated document and must be endorsed with the hunter's signature at the bottom where indicated. All hunters shall carry on their person the physical permit tags, as well as their signed license. A signed digital copy of the license may be accepted in lieu of a printed copy. Licenses are nontransferable. No person may give, barter, or sell an issued license to another person.

Persons who receive a bighorn sheep permit shall not be eligible to apply for the same type of bighorn sheep permit granted for any future seasons.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE LICENSES ARE NOT VALID ON THE FORT BERTHOLD INDIAN RESERVATION *(with the exception of the remaining licenses allocated within the 2020 Bighorn Sheep MOU, in which the department will recognize these state-issued bighorn sheep licenses and issue a concurrent license to the state hunter).*

ANYONE HUNTING ON TRUST OR ALLOTTED LANDS WITH A STATE BIGHORN SHEEP LICENSE AND NOT A TRIBAL LICENSE WILL BE CITED FOR HUNTING WITHOUT A PROPER LICENSE.

4. FEES:

Bighorn Sheep Ram Permit.....\$150.00

There will be no use of the designated hunter for the 2026 Bighorn Sheep Season.

Persons using another's license to hunt, or the act of loaning out one's license for another to hunt for you is a violation of Section 18-3-6 of Title 9 of the Tribal Code of Laws and is punishable by a mandatory fine of \$100 and loss of hunting privileges for a period of one (1) year.

5. WEAPONS RESTRICTIONS:

Nonlicensees – A bighorn sheep licensee hunting in the field may be accompanied by no more than three (3) nonlicensees given they are not carrying any type of firearms or archery equipment in the field while assisting the legally licensed hunter.

Bighorn Sheep may only be taken with the following weapons:

A) Rifles:

1. Having a barrel length of 16 inches or greater.
2. Firing a centerfire cartridge of 2.43/6mm caliber or larger

RESTRICTIONS

- i. Fully automatic firearms, full metal jacketed bullets which are non-expanding, as well as altered projectiles are prohibited.

B) Shotguns:

1. Having a barrel length of 18 inches or greater
2. Rifled slugs of 20 gauge or larger.

C) Handgun:

1. Cartridge cases under .40 caliber must be at least 1.285 inches in length and bullets must be at least .257 inches in diameter
2. Cartridge cases of .40 caliber or larger must be at least .992 in length.

D) Muzzleloader Rifles or Single Shot Muzzleloader pistols:

1. All components must be loaded through the muzzle, with flint or percussion ignition, firing black powder or black powder substitutes.
2. .50 caliber or larger.

RESTRICTIONS

- i. Muzzleloaders with powder charge and percussion cap in place will be considered loaded and are illegal for transport in that manner.
- ii. Revolvers with bullets in the cylinder will be considered loaded and are illegal for transport in that manner.

- E) Pre-charged pneumatic air guns, charged from an external high compression source such as an air compressor, air tank or an external hand pump are legal for bighorn sheep but must fire a projectile (excluding air bolts) of at least .45 caliber in diameter and at least 350 grains in weight with a minimum muzzle velocity of 600 feet per second.

F) Legal Archery Equipment:

Defined as a compound, recurve, or longbow that must be pulled, held, and released by hand. Any release aid may be used providing it is hand operated, the shooter supports the draw weight of the bow and the release is not attached to any part of the bow other than the bowstring. The bows used for hunting bighorn sheep must have at least 50 pounds of draw at 28 inches or less draw length. Arrows must be at least 24 inches long, tipped with a metal broad head, with at least two sharp cutting edges, and have a cutting diameter of at least ¾ inch (i.e., not able to pass through a 3/4-inch ring). Broadheads used for hunting bighorn sheep must be unbarbed (barbed refers to an arrowhead with any fixed portion of the rear or trailing edge of the arrowhead forming an angle less than 90 degrees from the shaft) and have fixed blades (i.e., broad heads with mechanical or retractable blades not manufactured to stay open are illegal). Telescopic sights, range finding devices, or other electronic devices attached to the bow, or the arrow, are not permitted. Exception: battery-powered or electronically lighted sights that do not project light, a lighted nock and recording devices which do not aid in range finding, sighting or shooting the bow are permitted. Handheld range finding devices are legal. Arrows capable of causing damage or

injury to the animal in excess of that inflicted by the cutting edges of the broad head are prohibited while hunting bighorn sheep with a bow (ex. explosive arrow points, arrows tipped with drugs or chemicals, and pneumatic or hydraulic shafts are illegal).

- G) Crossbow is defined as a weapon consisting of a bow mounted transversely on a stock or frame and designed to fire a bolt, arrow, or quarrel by the release of the bowstring, which is controlled by a mechanical or electric trigger and a working safety. Crossbows are illegal, except if disabled or handicapped (i.e. Paraplegics and/or having lost the use of one or both arms) with a permit from the TAT Fish and Wildlife Department Director. When permitted, crossbows must: a) have a peak draw weight of at least 75 pounds, b) be equipped with a working safety to prevent accidental firing, c) have a stock at least 14 inches long, and d) be designed to be fired from the shoulder. Crossbows equipped with pistol grips and designed to be fired with one hand are illegal. Crossbow hunters must comply with all other archery equipment regulations listed above. It is required by all crossbow/handicap permit holders to have their special permit on their person at all times while hunting.

Other Firearm and Archery Equipment Restrictions – it is illegal to go afield with a firearm or bow and arrow while intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol or any narcotic drug, barbiturate or marijuana.

6. HUNTING AREA RESTRICTIONS:

Hunters will only be allowed to fill their permit within the unit designated on their license and tags.

It is unlawful to leave open any gates, bars, or other devices used to enclose any lands upon entry or exit, or to cut, remove, or lay down any fence to gain entry to any land for the purpose of hunting.

It is unlawful to shoot, destroy, molest, mutilate, or remove any signs.

It is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm within 440 yards of any occupied buildings, schools, medical facilities, or residences, or to shoot from roads, roadway ditches, or across a road.

It is illegal to hunt in unharvested cereal and oilseed crops. Crops also include alfalfa, clover, and other grasses grown for seed.

POSTING: It is unlawful to hunt on lands legally posted without first obtaining written permission from the owner or tenant. It is unlawful for anyone but the owner or tenant to post land. Legal signs shall give notice that no hunting is permitted and shall display: NAME, ADDRESS OF OWNER OR TENANT, and DATE OF POSTING. Signs must be every eighty (80) rods on unfenced lands and at access point on fenced areas.

PLEASE OBTAIN WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE LANDOWNER OR TENANT EVEN IF LAND IS NOT POSTED.

Please use good judgment when hunting during the 2026 Bighorn Sheep Season. Fort Berthold ranchers will still be utilizing the Range Units and cattle will be present. Ranchers will be busy moving cattle during this season. HUNTER SAFETY must be practiced at all times. Close all gates and verify your targets before shooting.

7. AREAS CLOSED TO HUNTING:

It shall be unlawful to hunt or pursue game in the following areas:

- 1) The buffalo pasture located in Unit #1 (Mandaree Area) known as Range Unit 904 in the Skunk Creek Bay Area—this unit is designated as a Wildlife Reserve Area and no hunting is allowed.
- 2) The MHA Tribal Ranch/Buffalo Project and the MHA Tribal Park.

A permit from the Director is required to take game on Tribal reserve areas or parks posted closed to hunting.

It is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm within 440 yards of any occupied buildings, schools, medical facilities, or residences (*Chapter 18-1-9*).

8. HUNTING BIG GAME OVER BAIT:

Hunting big game over bait on TAT public tribal land or is prohibited. Hunting big game over bait is defined as the placement and or use of bait(s) for attracting big game and other wildlife to a specific location for the purpose of hunting. Baits include but are not limited to grains, minerals, salts, fruits, vegetables, hay or any other natural or manufactured foods. The designation does not apply to the use of scents and lures, water, food plots, standing crops, or livestock feeds being used in standard practices.

9. AGE REQUIREMENTS:

To purchase a bighorn sheep license, persons must be 14 years of age or older on the opening day of the season. A parent, guardian or a person authorized by the parent or guardian must accompany persons under 16 years of age, afield with a gun.

Hunter's Education Requirement: Persons born after December 31, 1961 must complete a certified Reservation or State Hunter Safety Program and PRESENT the certification card earned to the license vendor in order to purchase a Fort Berthold hunting license. EXCEPTION: Veterans of the United States Armed Forces that have been honorably discharged. Persons applying for this exception MUST present a copy of form DD214 to the TAT Fish and Wildlife Division to be eligible.

10. AIRCRAFT, MOTOR-DRIVEN VEHICLES, LIGHTS:

It is illegal to use all types of aircraft, manned or unmanned (i.e., drones), for spotting game 72 hours prior to and during the hunting season. A licensee cannot hunt the same day he/she is airborne over his/her hunting unit, except on a scheduled passenger airline flight. It is illegal to drive, concentrate, rally, raise, stir up, spot or disturb game with all types of aircraft, manned or unmanned.

Motor-driven vehicles may not be used to pursue game and may not be used to retrieve a bighorn sheep until the bighorn sheep has been taken into possession and legally tagged.

It is illegal to shoot with a bow and arrow or firearm while in or on a motor-driven vehicle. No person may carry a firearm with a cartridge in the chamber in or on a motor-driven vehicle while hunting bighorn sheep. The entire cylinder of a revolver is considered the chamber, requiring the revolver to be completely unloaded. Handguns with removable magazines or clips must have the magazine or clip removed from the firearm if the magazine or clip contains any loaded shells. It is illegal to carry any muzzleloading firearm in or on a motor-driven vehicle with a percussion cap or primer on the nipple or powder in the flash pan.

No person may use a motor-driven vehicle in the process of hunting big game or aid another in the process of hunting big game unless the motor-driven vehicle is on an established road or trail.

"Established Road or Trail" means any public highway or road, improved or otherwise, dedicated for public ingress or egress. This does not include temporary trails across cultivated land used for agricultural purposes. Exception: After a bighorn sheep has been killed and properly tagged, a motor-driven vehicle may be used to make the retrieval by leaving the established road or trail and proceeding to the carcass by the shortest accessible route, and returning to the road or trail immediately by the same route. Except for persons having a special handicap hunting permit from TAT Fish & Wildlife Director, no person may use a motor-driven vehicle while in the process of hunting bighorn sheep or aid another in the process of hunting bighorn sheep including travel to and from the hunting location unless the motor-driven vehicle is on an

established road or trail. While a handicap hunting permit is in use, neither the driver nor any passenger may hunt from the vehicle unless they each possess an individual handicap permit of the same type.

ESTABLISHED ROADS AND TRAILS DO NOT INCLUDE TEMPORARY TRAILS ACROSS CULTIVATED LAND AND PASTURES USED FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

It shall be illegal to engage in shining for big game with any artificial light for the purpose of locating or observing big game between sunset of one day and sunrise of the next.

Use of night vision equipment, electronically enhanced light gathering optics or thermal imaging equipment for locating or hunting game is illegal.

11. CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS:

All bighorn sheep hunters are required to wear a head covering and an outer garment above the waistline of solid daylight fluorescent orange color, totaling at least 400 square inches.

12. MANNER OF TAKING:

It is legal to use a horse in the process of hunting bighorn sheep.

It is illegal to use a dog as an aid to hunting bighorn sheep.

It is illegal to take or attempt to take a bighorn sheep by dragging a wire, rope, or other contrivance.

13. TAGGING:

Immediately after a bighorn sheep has been killed, the hunter must indicate the date of kill by cutting out the appropriate month and day from the tag provided with the license and securely attaching it to the horn on a bighorn sheep to prevent its removal. A bighorn sheep may be tagged on the leg or rear quarter with evidence of sex naturally attached.

In no case is it legal to possess or transport a bighorn sheep unless it is properly tagged. The meat (carcass) tag must remain with the edible flesh (carcass) until it is cut up and packaged as food. No person may reuse or attempt to reuse any tag issued. Tags are non-transferrable.

Anyone who harvests a bighorn sheep on Fort Berthold must have it plugged by TAT Fish & Wildlife permitted personnel.

When any part of an animal is mounted, if the tag is removed from the antlers or ear, the tag must be securely fastened to the back or bottom of the mount and remain there.

14. TRANSPORTING AND PROCESSING:

License holders must accompany their game animal, or parts thereof, (excluding hide) during transportation, unless a permit for the transportation of game is issued by the TAT Fish & Wildlife Department upon request. Game may be shipped by common carrier in receipt of proper bill of lading. A bighorn sheep carcass or boned out meat must be accompanied by the head to the final place of storage. Exception: Tag as currently required, then take two pictures, using a cellphone with location and date and time stamp turned on. One picture of the entire animal at the kill site with tag attached, and a second picture of a closeup of the tag so that tag information is readable. Drop off the head at a CWD collection site properly tagged or if you leave the bighorn sheep head in the field at the kill site, after taking pictures and saving them, the ear or antler with the tag attached must be cut off and accompany the meat or carcass while in transport. The photographs of the tagged bighorn sheep must be shown to any game warden or other law enforcement officer upon request.

It is illegal to possess or transport another's bighorn sheep, or parts thereof, (excluding hide) without the license holder accompanying or as otherwise permitted. Processed and packaged meat of legally taken bighorn sheep may be gifted to another. Unprocessed, unpackaged game meat may be gifted as follows: 1) Prior to reaching the licensee's personal residence a transportation permit must be obtained and accompany the bighorn sheep meat. 2) After reaching the licensee's personal residence if accompanied by the name and address of the licensee.

Commercial processors and common carriers may possess any person's legally taken possession limit or game.

15. WANTON WASTE:

No person shall kill or cripple any big game animal without making a reasonable effort to retrieve and retain the big game animal in his or her actual custody. No person shall waste, destroy, spoil, or abandon the edible flesh of any big game animal at the place where taken or between that place and either (a) his or her permanent residence, (b) a taxidermist, (c) a common carrier, or (d) a commercial processor.

16. HUNTER QUESTIONNAIRES:

Complete and accurate information on the hunter questionnaires will greatly assist the Fish and Wildlife Division in determining the number of bighorn sheep harvested and the optimum number of permits that can be issued to maintain a stable, healthy bighorn sheep population on the Reservation lands for future generations. Successful hunters may call in their information. **This is mandatory and must be submitted within 30 days of the end of the 2026 Bighorn Sheep season. Failure to comply with this statute will result in an extra fee that must be paid before a hunter will be eligible to participate in any subsequent hunting and/or fishing seasons.**

17. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

1. Possess a hunter safety certificate if born after 12/31/61. (See Sect. 9 for exceptions.)
2. Once selected, complete your 2026 Bighorn Sheep Application and make payment in full.
3. Receive bighorn sheep license via computer-generated page and endorse in ink at the bottom where indicated.
4. Maintain your Bighorn sheep tag and license at all times while you hunt.
5. Hunt only in the unit for which the tag is issued.
6. Follow all weapons, vehicle and other hunting restrictions.
7. Abstain from hunting in closed areas.
8. Wear the appropriate amount of hunter orange while in the field.
9. Only three (3) persons will be allowed to assist a legally licensed hunter.

However, only the legally licensed hunter is allowed to harvest an animal.

All Non-TAT enrolled members who do not reside in North Dakota who accompany a Bighorn sheep hunter must possess a valid Conservation Permit.

10. Those who accompany the legally licensed hunter are not allowed to carry firearms in the field while assisting the legally licensed hunter.
11. Fill out and return a 2026 Bighorn sheep Hunter Questionnaire within 30 days of end of the 2026 Bighorn sheep Season.

*Pursuant to Section 18-6-1 of Chapter 18-6 of Title 9, Tribal Proclamations Have Force of Law—
Penalty: Any Tribal proclamation issued at the request of the Natural Resources Board or the
Director of the Tribal Fish & Wildlife Division shall have the force of law. Any persons violating a
provision of such order or proclamation is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined for not more
than five hundred (\$500.00). In addition to any fine imposed in this chapter, the person shall be
subject to forfeiture of her/his license, the privilege to hunt and fish for a period of one year, and
confiscation of her/his vehicle, guns, boat, fishing equipment or anything used in connection with
the violation.*

PLEASE NOTIFY THE FORT BERTHOLD FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS.

CALL 627-4760 BETWEEN 8 AM AND 4:30 PM MONDAY THRU FRIDAY.

After hours please call the TAT Police Department 627-3617

NOTIFY THE TAT FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS

"All information is confidential."



Fort Berthold Reservation
Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Tribes
Fish and Wildlife Division
P.O. Box 1402, New Town, ND 58763
Phone: (701) 627-4760 Fax: (701) 627-4743

2026 FALL TURKEY PROCLAMATION

Pursuant to Chapter 18 of Title 9 of the Code of Laws of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, and the authority of the Three Affiliated Tribes Business Council: The Three Affiliated Tribes Fish and Wildlife Division hereby declares an open season on wild turkeys as prescribed in the following proclamation.

Except as provided hereinafter or otherwise by law, no person shall hunt, kill, take, possess, transport, or so attempt to hunt, kill, take, or possess any wild turkeys.

1. SEASON DATES, TIMES, UNITS:

Season: Fall
Opening Date: October 4, 2026
Closing Date: January 3, 2027
Units: Unit 1—Mandaree and Four Bears;
Unit 3—Parshall and White Shield;
Unit 4—Twin Buttes
Hours of Hunting: One half hour (1/2) before sunrise to sunset

2. LICENSES AND PERMITS:

Members and non-members are eligible.

Licenses—issued on a first-come, first-serve basis. Licenses are issued in the form of tags.

Other licenses required—all hunters regardless of age must possess a general license certificate. In addition, Non-TAT enrolled members who do not reside in the state of North Dakota must also possess a Conservation permit.

3. FEES:

The following fees are for a Wild Turkey permit only; they do not include the cost of a Conservation permit required for Non-TAT enrolled members who do not reside in North Dakota:

Enrolled TAT Tribal Members..... \$10.00
Enrolled TAT Elders (55+) \$0.00
Spouses of Enrolled Members .. \$25.00
Non-Member Residents \$50.00
Non-Member Non-Residents \$100.00
Youth (15 years or younger)..... \$10.00

4. WEAPONS:

Firearms—Only shotguns no larger than 10 gauge and capable of holding no more than three shells in the magazine and chamber are legal. Minimum barrel length is 18 inches. Fully automatic firearms are illegal. Only muzzleloading long guns are legal. Muzzleloading rifles must have all components loaded through the muzzle. Handguns of .35 cal. and larger with 4-inch or greater barrel length are legal. Centerfire rifles and rimfire rifles are illegal for hunting wild turkeys.

Bows and Arrows—a bow must be pulled, held, and released by hand. Any release aid may be used providing it is hand operated, the shooter supports the draw weight of the bow, and the release is not attached to any part of the bow other than at the bowstring. A compound bow used for hunting turkeys must have at least 35 pounds of draw at 28 inches or less draw length. Recurve and long bows used for hunting turkeys must have at least 35 pounds of draw at 28 inches. Arrows must be at least 24 inches long, tipped with a metal broadhead, with at least two sharp cutting edges, and have a cutting diameter of at least 3/4 inches (i.e., not able to pass through a 3/4 inch ring.). It is illegal to hunt turkeys with barbed arrows. Broadheads with mechanical or retractable blades are legal. Telescopic sights, range finding devices or other electronic devices attached to the bow, or the arrow, are not permitted. Exception: battery powered or electronically lighted sights that do not project light, a lighted nock and recording devices which do not aid in range fighting, sighting or shooting the bow are permitted. Handheld range finding devices are legal. Arrows capable of causing damage or injury to the animal in excess of that inflicted by the cutting edges of the broadhead, are prohibited while hunting turkeys with a bow (e.g., explosive arrow points, arrows tipped with drugs or chemicals, and pneumatic or hydraulic shafts are illegal).

A **Crossbow** is defined as a weapon consisting of a bow mounted transversely on a stock or frame and designed to fire a bolt, arrow, or quarrel by the release of the bowstring, which is controlled by a mechanical or electric trigger and a working safety. Crossbows are legal for TAT Tribal Members ONLY during the 2026 fall turkey season.

Crossbows are illegal for Non-TAT Members except if disabled or handicapped (i.e. paraplegics and/or having lost the use of one or both arms) with a permit from the TAT Fish and Wildlife Director.

Crossbow Restrictions:

Crossbows must: a) have a minimum draw weight of 75 pounds, b) be equipped with a working safety to prevent accidental firing, c) use arrows or bolts at least 14 inches in length, and d) be designed to be fired from the shoulder. Crossbows equipped with pistol grips and designed to be fired with one hand are illegal. Crossbow hunters may use telescopic, battery powered, or electronically lighted reticle not exceeding a maximum power of eight, but must comply with all other archery equipment regulations listed above.

It is required by all crossbow/handicap permit holders to have their special permit on their person on all times while hunting.

5. AIRCRAFT AND MOTOR-DRIVEN VEHICLES:

Aircraft, manned or unmanned (i.e., drones), may not be used to locate, drive, concentrate, rally, raise, stir up, spot, or disturb game.

It is illegal to shoot with bow and arrow or firearm while in or on a motor-driven vehicle or boat. No person may carry a firearm with a loaded chamber in or on a motor-driven vehicle while hunting turkeys. The entire cylinder of a revolver is considered the chamber, requiring the revolver to be completely unloaded. It is illegal to carry any muzzle loading long gun or muzzle loading pistol in or on a motor-driven vehicle with a percussion cap or primer on the nipple or powder in the flash pan.

No person may use a motor-driven vehicle while in the process of hunting turkeys or aid another in the process of hunting turkeys including travel to and from the hunting location unless the motor-driven vehicle is on an established road or trail. "Established Road or Trail" means any public highway or road, improved or otherwise, dedicated for public ingress or egress. This does not include temporary trails across cultivated land used for agricultural purposes. A landowner or lessee who actively farms or ranches land and persons having written permission from a landowner or lessee who actively farms or ranches that land may use a motor-driven vehicle on that land other than on an established road or trail to hunt turkeys except during the deer gun season.

6. BAG LIMIT:

Each license holder may take and possess one bearded or male wild turkey per license.

7. TAGGING REQUIREMENTS:

Immediately after a turkey has been killed, the hunter must indicate the date of kill by cutting out the appropriate month and day from the tag provided with the license, and attach it around the leg of the turkey in an exact manner as illustrated on back of tag to prevent its removal. Hunters are required to have their turkey tags in possession while afield hunting and be able to present a valid turkey tag immediately upon request. In no case is it legal to possess or transport a turkey unless it is properly tagged. No person may reuse or attempt to reuse any tag issued. The meat (carcass) tag shall remain with the edible flesh (carcass) until it is packaged as food.

8. TRANSPORTATION:

License holders must accompany their wild turkey during transportation, except that it may be shipped by licensed public carrier in receipt of proper bill of lading.

9. AREAS CLOSED TO HUNTING:

It shall be unlawful to hunt or pursue game in the following areas:

- 1) Unit 2 is closed to Fall Turkey hunting
- 2) The buffalo pasture located in Unit #1 (Mandaree Area) known as Range Unit 904 in the Skunk Creek Bay Area—this unit is designated as a Wildlife Reserve Area and no hunting is allowed.
- 3) The MHA Tribal Ranch/Buffalo Project and MHA Tribal Park.

A permit from the Director is required to take game on Tribal reserve areas or parks posted closed to hunting.

It is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm within 440 yards of any occupied buildings, schools, medical facilities, or residences (*Chapter 18-1-9*).

It is illegal to hunt in unharvested crops without the owner's written consent. Crops also include alfalfa, clover, and other grasses grown for seed.

10. HUNTING UNIT DESCRIPTIONS:

Unit 1—Mandaree and Four Bears areas

Unit 2—**Closed for 2026 Fall Turkey season**

Unit 3—Parshall and White Shield areas

Unit 4—Twin Buttes area

11. WANTON WASTE OF A WILD TURKEY:

No person shall kill or cripple any wild turkey without making a reasonable effort to retrieve and retain the wild turkey in his or her actual custody. No person shall waste, destroy, spoil, or abandon the edible flesh of a wild turkey at the place where taken or between that place and either (a) his/her personal permanent residence, (b) taxidermist, or (c) a common carrier. Edible flesh means the breast meat of any wild turkey.

12. AGE REQUIREMENTS:

There is no minimum age for hunting turkeys, but all hunters under age 16 afield with firearms must be under direct supervision of a parent, guardian or adult authorized by their parent or guardian.

Hunter's Education Requirement: Hunters born after December 31, 1961 must complete a certified Tribal or state hunter education course and PRESENT the certification card earned to the license vendor in order

to purchase a Fort Berthold hunting license. EXCEPTIONS: youth under age 12 if they have appropriate licenses and are accompanied by a parent or guardian, and Veterans of the United States Armed Forces that have been honorably discharged – persons applying for this exception MUST present a copy of form DD214 to the TAT Fish and Wildlife office to be eligible.

13. HUNTER QUESTIONNAIRES:

Complete and accurate information on the hunter questionnaires will greatly assist the TAT Fish and Wildlife Division in determining the number of Wild Turkeys harvested and the optimum number of permits that can be issued to maintain a stable, healthy Wild Turkey population on the Reservation lands for future generations. Hunters are required to hand them in or send them to the Three Affiliated Tribes Fish and Wildlife Division.

*Pursuant to Section 18-6-1 of Chapter 18-6 of Title 9, Tribal Proclamations Have Force of Law—
Penalty: Any Tribal proclamation issued at the request of the Natural Resources Board or the Director of the Tribal Fish & Wildlife Division shall have the force of law. Any persons violating a provision of such order or proclamation is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined for not more than five hundred (\$500.00). In addition to any fine imposed in this Chapter, the person shall be subject to forfeiture of her/his license, the privilege to hunt and fish for a period of one year, and confiscation of her/his vehicle, guns, boat, fishing equipment or anything used in connection with the violation.*

PLEASE NOTIFY THE FORT BERTHOLD FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS.

CALL 627-4760 BETWEEN 8 AM AND 4:30 PM MONDAY THRU FRIDAY.

After hours please call the TAT Police Department 627-3617

NOTIFY THE TAT FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS

"All information is confidential."



Fort Berthold Reservation
Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Tribes
Fish and Wildlife Division
PO Box 1402, New Town, ND 58763
Phone: (701) 627-4760 Fax: (701) 627-4743

2026 DEER GUN PROCLAMATION

Pursuant to Chapter 18 of Title 9 of the Code of Laws of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation and the authority of the Three Affiliated Tribes Business Council: Three Affiliated Tribes Fish & Wildlife Division hereby declares an open season in 2026 on Mule Deer (ZILLA SHABISHA) and the White-tailed Deer (ZILLA DAGI) as described in the following proclamation.

Except as provided hereafter or otherwise by law, no person shall hunt, kill, take, possess, transport, or so attempt to hunt, kill, take, transport, or possess any deer or parts thereof.

DEFINITIONS. As hereinafter used, unless the content or subject matter otherwise requires: "Hunt" or "hunting" means shooting, shooting at, pursuing, taking, attempting to take, or killing any game; searching for or attempting to locate or flush any game; luring, calling, or attempting to attract game; hiding for the purpose of taking or attempting to take game; and walking, crawling, or advancing toward wildlife while possessing instruments or equipment useful in the taking of game. "Edible flesh" (big game animals) shall be both front quarters, both hind quarters, and back straps but does not include meat ruined by bullet or natural causes. "Common Carriers" are shipping companies, commercial meat processors and taxidermists. "Processed and Packaged Meat" is meat which has been cut/ground and wrapped. Quartered or boned out pieces of meat are not considered "processed."

1. SEASON:

The season for taking deer with a gun shall be from one-half ($\frac{1}{2}$) hour before sunrise to one half ($\frac{1}{2}$) hour after sunset each day from November 6, 2026 through November 29, 2026. Hunters must cease any hunting activity and must be in the process of leaving the field at the close of shooting hours.

2. LIMIT:

Deer Gun License Holders may take and possess one deer as prescribed on their license.

3. LICENSES AND PERMITS:

Persons eligible to partake in the 2026 Deer Gun Season are: TAT Tribal members, Spouses of Enrolled Members, and Non-Member Residents, and Non-Member Non-Residents.

Hunters must be in good standing and in compliance with all Fish & Wildlife rules and regulations. They must be current with all questionnaires, etc. to be eligible for the 2026 Deer Gun Season.

Licenses and special permits shall be issued in a manner and form prescribed by the Fish & Wildlife Director and in accordance with applicable laws. Such permits shall be in the form of tags indicating the sex and unit that hunters may legally hunt. Tags must be endorsed in ink with the licensee's signature. Licenses shall be in the form of a computer-generated document and must be endorsed with the hunter's signature at the bottom where indicated. All hunters shall carry on their person the physical permit tags, as well as their signed license. A signed digital copy of the license may be accepted in lieu of a printed copy. Licenses are nontransferable. No person may give, barter, or sell an issued license to another person.

Licenses and tags are issued on a first-come, first-served basis. A valid tribal or state-issued ID is required to be presented at the time of purchase of a deer gun license to verify residency or hunter status. Deer Gun Sales open September 14, 2026 and close November 5, 2026 at 4:30pm.

A license only allows you the opportunity to hunt. It is not a guarantee to harvest a deer, or of the quality of the animal.

NORTH DAKOTA STATE LICENSES ARE NOT VALID ON THE FORT BERTHOLD INDIAN RESERVATION. ANYONE HUNTING ON TRUST OR ALLOTTED LANDS WITHIN THE EXTERIOR BOUNDARIES OF THE RESERVATION WITH A STATE DEER GUN LICENSE AND NOT A TRIBAL LICENSE WILL BE CITED FOR HUNTING WITHOUT A PROPER LICENSE.

4. UNIT DESCRIPTIONS:

Unit 1 – Four Bears/ Mandaree
Unit 2 – New Town/ Shell Creek
Unit 3 – Parshall/ White Shield
Unit 4 – Twin Buttes

5. FEES:

The following fees are for a Deer Gun permit:

Enrolled TAT Tribal Member.....	\$25.00 Antlered
	\$10.00 Antlerless
Elder TAT Member (55+).....	No Charge Antlered or Antlerless
Spouse of Enrolled Member.....	\$100.00 Antlered
	\$50.00 Antlerless
Non-Member Resident.....	\$150.00 Antlered
Non-Member Non-Resident	\$750.00 Antlered

Members and non-members may use cash, credit or debit cards, certified checks, or money orders.

Personal checks are accepted only through mail-in applications. If an insufficient funds check is issued, the applicant shall be ineligible for the 2026 and 2027 Deer Gun Season.

Duplicate tags/licenses shall be issued at a cost equal to the original license fee.

Elder tribal members will be issued an antlerless tag unless they are able to go afield themselves; in such a case, they may request an antlered tag.

An Elder tribal member who obtains a Deer Gun hunting license may assign the license to a designated hunter if they do not wish to hunt or are unable to go afield themselves. Designated hunters may be selected from the following categories: TAT Members (including Elders 55+ who are able to go afield), spouses of enrolled members, and non-member residents, and non-member non-residents. Requests for designation must be made on the application form. Elders requesting a designated hunter shall be issued antlerless tags only. Only the designated hunter may harvest a deer under such a permit.

Designated hunters must meet all eligibility requirements set forth in the 2026 Deer Gun proclamation and possess a 2026-2027 general license. Designated hunters may only be assigned to one Elder. Each designated hunter is responsible for submitting a 2026 Designated Shooter Hunter Questionnaire.

It is illegal for anyone other than an elder TAT member to assign a designated hunter, and it is illegal for anyone other than the assigned designated hunter to harvest an elder deer.

6. WEAPONS RESTRICTIONS:

Deer may only be taken with the following weapons:

A) Rifles:

- 1) Having a barrel length of 16 inches or greater.
- 2) Firing a center fire cartridge of .22 or larger.
- 3) Designed to be fired from the shoulder

B) Muzzleloaders or Black Powder Rifles:

- 1) Having a barrel length of 18 inches or greater.
- 2) .45 caliber or larger
- 3) Designed to be fired from the shoulder
- 4) All components must be loaded through the muzzle.

C) Shotguns or muzzleloading shotguns:

- 1) Having a barrel length of 18 inches or greater
- 2) Rifled slugs or patched round balls of 20 gauge or larger

D) Handguns:

- 1) Having a barrel length of 4 inches or greater
- 2) .35 caliber or larger
- 3) Any centerfire handguns designed to fire a legal rifle cartridge shall be legal
- 4) Muzzleloading handguns must be .50 caliber or larger.

E) RESTRICTIONS:

- 1) Fully automatic firearms, full metal jacketed bullets, which are non-expanding, as well as altered projectiles, are prohibited.

F) Pre-charged pneumatic air guns, charged from an external high compression source such as an air compressor, air tank or an external hand pump are legal for deer but must fire a projectile (excluding air bolts) of at least .35 caliber in diameter and at least 150 grains in weight with a minimum muzzle velocity of 600 feet per second.

G) All legal bow equipment as listed in the Deer Bow season proclamation – except for crossbows (unless you have a special permit from the TAT Fish & Wildlife Director) – shall be legal during the Deer Gun season. If using legal bow equipment with the Deer Gun tag, you will be required to wear orange clothing. Please be mindful of other archery hunters as the regular Deer Bow Season will be in progress at this time and some bow hunters may not be wearing the required orange.

H) A Crossbow is defined as a weapon consisting of a bow mounted transversely on a stock or frame and designed to fire a bolt, arrow, or quarrel by the release of the bowstring, which is controlled by a mechanical or electric trigger and a working safety. Crossbows are legal for TAT Tribal Members ONLY during the 2026 deer gun season. Crossbows are illegal for Non-TAT Members except if disabled or handicapped (i.e. paraplegics and/or having lost the use of one or both arms) with a permit from the TAT Fish and Wildlife Director. When permitted, crossbows must: a) have a minimum draw weight of 75 pounds, b) be equipped with a working safety to prevent accidental firing, c) use arrows or bolts at least 14 inches in length, and d) be designed to be fired from the shoulder. Crossbows equipped with pistol grips and designed to be fired with one hand are illegal. Crossbow hunters may use telescopic, battery powered, or electronically lighted reticle not exceeding a maximum power of eight, but must comply with all other archery equipment regulations listed above.

It is required by all crossbow/handicap permit holders to have their special permit on their person on all times while hunting.

I) Other Firearm and Archery Equipment Restrictions – it is illegal to go afield with a firearm or bow and arrow while intoxicated or under the influence of alcohol or any narcotic drug, barbiturate or marijuana.

J) The use of suppressors is legal and must have proper, legible documentation on person when afield hunting during the 2026 Deer Gun season.

7. HUNTING AREA RESTRICTIONS:

Hunters may only fill their permit within the unit designated on their license.

It is unlawful to leave any open gates, bars or other devices used to enclose any lands, upon entry or exit, or to cut, remove, or lay down any fence to gain entry to any land for the purpose of hunting.

It is unlawful to shoot, destroy, molest, mutilate or remove any signs.

It is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm within 440 yards of any occupied buildings, schools, medical facilities, or residences, or to shoot from roads, roadway ditches, or across a road.

It is illegal to hunt in unharvested cereal and oilseed crops. Crops also include alfalfa, clover, and other grasses grown for seed.

POSTING: It is unlawful to hunt on lands legally posted without first obtaining written permission from the owner or tenant. It is unlawful for anyone but the owner or tenant to post land. Legal signs shall give notice that no hunting is permitted and shall display: NAME, ADDRESS OF OWNER OR TENANT, and DATE OF POSTING. Signs must be every eighty (80) rods on unfenced lands and at every access point on fenced areas.

PLEASE OBTAIN WRITTEN PERMISSION FROM THE LAND OWNER OR TENANT EVEN IF LAND IS NOT POSTED.

8. AREAS CLOSED TO HUNTING:

It shall be unlawful to hunt or pursue game in the following areas:

- 1) The buffalo pasture located in Unit #1 (Mandaree Area) known as Range Unit 904 in the Skunk Creek Bay Area—this unit is designated as a Wildlife Reserve Area and no hunting is allowed.
- 2) The MHA Tribal Ranch/Buffalo Project and MHA Tribal Park.

A permit from the Director is required to take game on Tribal reserve areas or parks posted closed to hunting.

It is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm within 440 yards of any occupied buildings, schools, medical facilities, or residences (*Chapter 18-1-9*).

9. HUNTING BIG GAME OVER BAIT:

Hunting big game over bait on TAT public tribal land prohibited. Hunting big game over bait is defined as the placement and/or use of bait(s) for attracting big game and other wildlife to a specific location for the purpose of hunting. Baits include but are not limited to grains, minerals, salts, fruits, vegetables, hay or any other natural or manufactured foods. The designation does not apply to the use of scents and lures, water, food plots, standing crops, or livestock feeds being used in standard practices.

10. AGE REQUIREMENTS:

To purchase a Deer Gun license, persons must be 14 years of age or older by opening day of the season.

Persons under age 16 afield with firearms must be under direct supervision of a hunter-education-certified parent, guardian or adult authorized by their parent or guardian.

Hunter's Education Requirement: Persons born after December 31, 1961 must complete a certified Tribal or state hunter education course and PRESENT the certification card earned to the license vendor in order to purchase a Fort Berthold hunting license. EXCEPTIONS: Veterans of the United States Armed Forces that have been honorably discharged – persons applying for this exemption MUST present a copy of form DD214 to the TAT Game and Fish office to be eligible.

11. YOUTH DEER SEASON

Tribal Members aged 12 to 15 are eligible to receive one deer license valid for the special youth deer season (September 18-27, 2026). Anyone applying for these licenses is not eligible to apply for a license for the regular deer gun season. If interested, inquire at the main office for an application and more information.

All firearms and archery equipment allowed during the regular deer gun season are legal during the youth deer season. In addition, each youth licensed hunter must be accompanied (must be able to have unaided verbal contact) by at least one unarmed parent, guardian, or adult authorized by their parent or guardian during the Youth Deer season. All non-licensees are prohibited from carrying a firearm or bow while accompanying a Youth Deer licensee hunting in the field during the Youth Deer season. A non-licensee is a person not having a Youth Deer license.

12. AIRCRAFT, MOTOR-DRIVEN VEHICLES, & LIGHTS

It is illegal to use all types of aircraft, manned or unmanned (i.e. drones), for spotting game 72 hours prior to and during the hunting season. A licensee cannot hunt the same day he/she is airborne over his/her hunting unit, except on a scheduled passenger airline flight. It is illegal to drive, concentrate, rally, raise, stir up, spot or disturb game with all types of aircraft, manned or unmanned, or any motorized vehicle.

Motor-driven vehicles may not be used to pursue game. Motorized vehicles may not be used to retrieve a big game animal until the animal has been taken into possession and legally tagged.

It is illegal to shoot with bow and arrow or firearm while in or on a motor-driven vehicle or boat. No person may carry a firearm with a cartridge in the chamber in or on a motor-driven vehicle while hunting big game animals. The entire cylinder of a revolver is considered the chamber, requiring the revolver to be completely unloaded. Handguns with removable magazines must have the magazine removed from the firearm if the magazine contains any loaded shells. It is illegal to carry any muzzleloading firearm in or on a motor-driven vehicle with a percussion cap or primer on the nipple or powder in the flash pan.

No person may use a motor-driven vehicle in the process of hunting big game or aid another in the process of hunting big game unless the motor-driven vehicle is on an established road or trail.

"Established Road or Trail" means any public highway or road, improved or otherwise, dedicated for public ingress or egress. This does not include temporary trails across cultivated land used for agricultural purposes. Exception: After a deer has been killed and properly tagged, a motor-driven vehicle may be used to make the retrieval by leaving the established road or trail and proceeding to the carcass by the shortest accessible route, and returning to the road or trail immediately by the same route. Except for persons having a special handicap hunting permit from TAT Fish & Wildlife Director, no person may use a motor-

driven vehicle while in the process of hunting deer or aid another in the process of hunting deer including travel to and from the hunting location unless the motor-driven vehicle is on an established road or trail. While a handicap hunting permit is in use, neither the driver nor any passenger may hunt from the vehicle unless they each possess an individual handicap permit of the same type.

ESTABLISHED ROADS OR TRAILS DO NOT INCLUDE TEMPORARY TRAILS MADE FOR AGRICULTURAL PURPOSES.

It is illegal to engage in shining for big game with any artificial light for the purpose of locating or observing big game between sunset of one day and sunrise of the next.

The use of night vision equipment, electronically enhanced light gathering optics or thermal imaging equipment for locating or hunting game is illegal. (Exception: Lighted nocks on arrows are allowed for big game.)

13. CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS:

All deer gun hunters are required to wear orange clothing while the Deer Gun season is in progress. **Legal orange clothing is a head covering and outer garment above the waistline of solid daylight fluorescent orange color totaling at least 400 square inches.**

Please keep in mind the 2026 Deer Bow Season will be in progress during the 2026 Deer Gun Season, so please be mindful of archery hunters as they may not be wearing the required orange. Remember, identify your target and what is beyond it.

14. MANNER OF TAKING:

It is legal to use a horse in the process of hunting deer.

It is illegal to use a dog as an aid to hunting deer.

It is illegal to take or attempt to take a deer by dragging a wire, rope or other contrivance.

15. TAGGING

IMMEDIATELY after an animal has been killed and before moving the animal, the hunter must indicate the date of kill by cutting out the appropriate month and day from the tag provided with the license and attach it to the base of the antler on antlered deer or in a slit in the ear on antlerless deer to prevent its removal. In no case is it legal to possess or transport an animal unless it is properly tagged. The meat (carcass) tag must remain with the edible flesh (carcass) during any transportation and until it is cut up and packaged as food. No person may re-use or attempt to re-use any tag issued. Tags are not transferable. When any part of an animal is mounted, if the tag is removed from the antlers or ear, the tag must be securely fastened to the back or bottom of the mount and remain there.

16. TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE

License holders must accompany their game animal, or parts thereof (excluding hide), during transportation. Except that a permit for the transportation of game may be issued by the TAT Fish & Wildlife Department upon request. Game may be shipped by common carrier in receipt of a proper bill of lading.

A deer carcass or boned out meat must be accompanied by the head to the final place of storage. Exception: Tag as currently required, then take two pictures, using a cellphone with location and date and time stamp turned on. One picture of the entire animal at the kill site with tag attached, and a second picture of a closeup of the tag so that tag information is readable. Drop off the head at a CWD collection site properly tagged or if you leave the deer head in the field at the kill site, after taking pictures and saving them, the ear or antler

with the tag attached must be cut off and accompany the meat or carcass while in transport. The photographs of the tagged deer must be shown to any game warden or other law enforcement officer upon request.

It is illegal to possess or transport another's game animal or parts thereof (excluding hides) without the license holder accompanying or as otherwise permitted. Processed and packaged meat of legally harvested game may only be gifted to another (but not sold, traded or bartered). Un-processed, un-packaged meat of legally harvested game may be gifted (but not sold, traded or bartered) as follows: 1) Prior to reaching the licensee's permanent residence, a transportation permit must be obtained and accompany the game meat. 2) After reaching the licensee's permanent residence if accompanied by the carcass tag of the person who harvested the game.

Commercial processors and common carriers may possess any person's legally taken possession limit of game. The meat (carcass) tag from the individuals license shall accompany the edible flesh (carcass) through processing and be returned to the individual.

17. WANTON WASTE

No person shall kill or cripple any big game animal without making a reasonable effort to retrieve and retain the big game animal in his/her actual custody. No person shall waste, destroy, spoil or abandon the edible flesh of any big game animal at the place where taken or between that place or either (a) his/her permanent residence, (b) a taxidermist, (c) a common carrier, or (d) a commercial processor.

18. HUNTER QUESTIONNAIRES

Complete and accurate information on the Hunter Questionnaires will greatly assist the Fish & Wildlife Division in determining the number of deer harvested and the optimum number of permits that can be issued to maintain a stable, healthy deer population on the Reservation lands for future generations. Hunters are required to hand them in or send them to the Three Affiliated Tribes Fish & Wildlife Division.

This is mandatory and must be submitted within 30 days of the end of 2026 Deer Gun season. Failure to comply with this statute will result in an extra fee and must be paid before a hunter will be eligible to participate in any subsequent hunting and/or fishing seasons.

19. GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:

- 1) Possess a valid general game license.
- 2) Possess a hunter's safety certificate if born after 12/31/1961. (See Sect. 10 for exemptions.)
- 3) Complete your 2026 Deer Gun Application and make payment in full.
- 4) All Non-TAT enrolled members who do not reside in North Dakota must possess a Tribal Conservation Permit.
- 5) Receive Deer Gun license via computer-generated page and endorse in ink at the bottom where indicated.
- 6) Maintain your Deer Gun tag and license at all times while you hunt.
- 7) Hunt only in the unit for which the tag is issued.
- 8) Follow all weapons, vehicle and other hunting restrictions.
- 9) Abstain from hunting in closed areas.
- 10) Wear the appropriate amount of hunter orange while in the field.
- 11) Fill out and return a 2026 Deer Gun Hunter Questionnaire within 30 days of end of the 2026 Deer Gun Season.

*Pursuant to Section 18-6-1 of Chapter 18-6 of Title 9, Tribal Proclamations Have Force of Law—
Penalty: Any Tribal proclamation issued at the request of the Natural Resources Board or the Director
of the Tribal Fish & Wildlife Division shall have the force of law. Any persons violating a provision of
such order or proclamation is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined for not more than five
hundred (\$500.00). In addition to any fine imposed in this Chapter, the person shall be subject to
forfeiture of her/his license, the privilege to hunt and fish for a period of one year, and confiscation
of her/his vehicle, guns, boat, fishing equipment or anything used in connection with the violation.*

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE FORT BERTHOLD FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS.
CALL 627-4760 BETWEEN 8 AM AND 4:30 PM MONDAY THRU FRIDAY.
After hours please call the TAT Police Department 627-3617**

**NOTIFY THE TAT FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS
“All information is confidential.”**



Fort Berthold Reservation
Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Tribes
Fish and Wildlife Division
P.O. Box 1402, New Town, ND 58763
Phone: (701) 627-4760 Fax: (701) 627-4743

2026-2027 YOUTH HUNTING SEASONS

Youth Deer Season

September 18-27, 2026

Tribal Members aged 12 to 15 who have not previously received a regular deer gun season license are eligible to receive one deer license valid for the special youth deer season. This includes youth who are age 11 the time of application, providing they will be age 12 by opening day of the youth season, as well as youth who apply at age 15 but will be turning 16 after they have applied for the license. This license is not valid for the regular deer gun season.

All firearms and archery equipment allowed during the regular Deer seasons are legal during the youth Deer season. In addition, each youth licensee must be under direct supervision (must be able to have unaided verbal contact) of at least one unarmed parent, guardian or adult authorized by her/his parent or guardian who is prohibited from carrying a firearm or bow while accompanying the youth hunter during the youth season. Orange clothing is required for youth hunters and mentors.

All Youth Deer hunters are subject to the same rules, regulations, and fines contained within the regular 2026 Deer Gun Proclamation, 2026 Deer Bow Proclamation and the Chapter 18, Title 9 Game, Fish and Recreation Code of the Three Affiliated Tribes.

Youth Deer Tag Fee: \$10

Youth Waterfowl Season

September 19-20, 2026

Legally licensed youth 15 years of age or younger may hunt Ducks, Mergansers, Coots or Geese. An adult of at least 18 years of age must accompany the youth hunter into the field. The adult may not hunt Ducks, Mergansers, Coots or Geese. The daily bag limit, including species restrictions, and all other regulations that apply to the regular Duck and Goose hunting seasons apply to this special season.

Youth Waterfowl Fee: \$10

Youth Pheasant Season

October 3-4, 2026

Legally licensed youth ages 15 and younger may hunt Pheasants Reservation-wide on October 3-4, 2026. An adult of at least 18 years of age must accompany the youth Pheasant hunter in the field. This adult may not carry a firearm and may not hunt any species of wildlife. Daily limit and hunting hours are the same as the regular season.

Small Game Fee: \$10

Small Game & Furbearer

There is no minimum age for hunting small game or furbearer, but anyone under age 16 afield with firearms must be licensed, have her/his hunter's safety certification if 12 years of age and older, and be under the direct supervision (must be able to have unaided verbal contact) of a parent, guardian, or adult authorized by their parent or guardian. All youth small game/furbearer hunters are subject to the same rules, regulations and fines contained within the regular 2026-2027 Small Game/Furbearer Proclamation and the Chapter 18, Title 9 Game, Fish and Recreation Code of the Three Affiliated Tribes.

Small Game Fee: \$10

Furbearer Fee: \$10

Small Game/Furbearer Combo: \$15



Fort Berthold Reservation
Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Tribes
Fish and Wildlife Division
P.O. Box 1402, New Town, ND 58763
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2027 SPRING TURKEY PROCLAMATION

Pursuant to Chapter 18 of Title 9 of the Code of Laws of the Three Affiliated Tribes of the Fort Berthold Reservation, and the authority of the Three Affiliated Tribes Business Council: The Three Affiliated Tribes Fish and Wildlife Division hereby declares an open season on wild turkeys as prescribed in the following proclamation.

Except as provided hereinafter or otherwise by law, no person shall hunt, kill, take, possess, transport, or so attempt to hunt, kill, take, or possess any wild turkeys.

1. SEASON DATES, TIMES, UNITS:

Season: Spring
Opening Date: April 3, 2027
Closing Date: May 16, 2027
Units: Unit 1—Mandaree and Four Bears;
Unit 3—Parshall and White Shield;
Unit 4—Twin Buttes
Hours of Hunting: One half hour (1/2) before sunrise to sunset

2. LICENSES AND PERMITS:

Members and non-members are eligible.

Licenses—issued on a first-come, first-serve basis. Licenses are issued in the form of tags.

Other licenses required—all hunters regardless of age must possess a general license certificate. In addition, Non-TAT enrolled members who do not reside in the state of North Dakota must also possess a Conservation permit.

3. FEES:

The following fees are for a Wild Turkey permit only; they do not include the cost of a Conservation permit required for Non-TAT enrolled members who do not reside in North Dakota:

Enrolled TAT Tribal Members.... \$10.00
Enrolled TAT Elders (55+) \$0.00
Spouses of Enrolled Members .. \$25.00
Non-Member Residents \$50.00
Non-Member Non-Residents \$100.00
Youth (15 years or younger)..... \$10.00

4. WEAPONS:

Firearms—Only shotguns no larger than 10 gauge and capable of holding no more than three shells in the magazine and chamber are legal. Minimum barrel length is 18 inches. Fully automatic firearms are illegal. Only muzzleloading long guns are legal. Muzzleloading rifles must have all components loaded through the muzzle. Handguns of .35 cal. and larger with 4-inch or greater barrel length are legal. Centerfire rifles and rimfire rifles are illegal for hunting wild turkeys.

Bows and Arrows—a bow must be pulled, held, and released by hand. Any release aid may be used providing it is hand operated, the shooter supports the draw weight of the bow, and the release is not attached to any part of the bow other than at the bowstring. A compound bow used for hunting turkeys must have at least 35 pounds of draw at 28 inches or less draw length. Recurve and long bows used for hunting turkeys must have at least 35 pounds of draw at 28 inches. Arrows must be at least 24 inches long, tipped with a metal broadhead, with at least two sharp cutting edges, and have a cutting diameter of at least 3/4 inches (i.e., not able to pass through a 3/4 inch ring.). It is illegal to hunt turkeys with barbed arrows. Broadheads with mechanical or retractable blades are legal. Telescopic sights, range finding devices or other electronic devices attached to the bow, or the arrow, are not permitted. Exception: battery powered or electronically lighted sights that do not project light, a lighted nock and recording devices which do not aid in range fighting, sighting or shooting the bow are permitted. Handheld range finding devices are legal. Arrows capable of causing damage or injury to the animal in excess of that inflicted by the cutting edges of the broadhead, are prohibited while hunting turkeys with a bow (e.g., explosive arrow points, arrows tipped with drugs or chemicals, and pneumatic or hydraulic shafts are illegal).

A **Crossbow** is defined as a weapon consisting of a bow mounted transversely on a stock or frame and designed to fire a bolt, arrow, or quarrel by the release of the bowstring, which is controlled by a mechanical or electric trigger and a working safety. Crossbows are legal for TAT Tribal Members ONLY during the 2027 spring turkey season.

Crossbows are illegal for Non-TAT Members except if disabled or handicapped (i.e. paraplegics and/or having lost the use of one or both arms) with a permit from the TAT Fish and Wildlife Director.

Crossbow Restrictions:

Crossbows must: a) have a minimum draw weight of 75 pounds, b) be equipped with a working safety to prevent accidental firing, c) use arrows or bolts at least 14 inches in length, and d) be designed to be fired from the shoulder. Crossbows equipped with pistol grips and designed to be fired with one hand are illegal. Crossbow hunters may use telescopic, battery powered, or electronically lighted reticle not exceeding a maximum power of eight, but must comply with all other archery equipment regulations listed above.

It is required by all crossbow/handicap permit holders to have their special permit on their person on all times while hunting.

5. AIRCRAFT AND MOTOR-DRIVEN VEHICLES:

Aircraft, manned or unmanned (i.e., drones), may not be used to locate, drive, concentrate, rally, raise, stir up, spot, or disturb game.

It is illegal to shoot with bow and arrow or firearm while in or on a motor-driven vehicle or boat. No person may carry a firearm with a loaded chamber in or on a motor-driven vehicle while hunting turkeys. The entire cylinder of a revolver is considered the chamber, requiring the revolver to be completely unloaded. It is illegal to carry any muzzle loading long gun or muzzle loading pistol in or on a motor-driven vehicle with a percussion cap or primer on the nipple or powder in the flash pan.

No person may use a motor-driven vehicle while in the process of hunting turkeys or aid another in the process of hunting turkeys including travel to and from the hunting location unless the motor-driven vehicle is on an established road or trail. "Established Road or Trail" means any public highway or road, improved or otherwise, dedicated for public ingress or egress. This does not include temporary trails across cultivated land used for agricultural purposes. A landowner or lessee who actively farms or ranches land and persons having written permission from a landowner or lessee who actively farms or ranches that land may use a motor-driven vehicle on that land other than on an established road or trail to hunt turkeys except during the deer gun season.

6. BAG LIMIT:

Each license holder may take and possess one bearded or male wild turkey per license.

7. TAGGING REQUIREMENTS:

Immediately after a turkey has been killed, the hunter must indicate the date of kill by cutting out the appropriate month and day from the tag provided with the license, and attach it around the leg of the turkey in an exact manner as illustrated on back of tag to prevent its removal. Hunters are required to have their turkey tags in possession while afield hunting and be able to present a valid turkey tag immediately upon request. In no case is it legal to possess or transport a turkey unless it is properly tagged. No person may reuse or attempt to reuse any tag issued. The meat (carcass) tag shall remain with the edible flesh (carcass) until it is packaged as food.

8. TRANSPORTATION:

License holders must accompany their wild turkey during transportation, except that it may be shipped by licensed public carrier in receipt of proper bill of lading.

9. AREAS CLOSED TO HUNTING:

It shall be unlawful to hunt or pursue game in the following areas:

- 1) Unit 2 is closed to Spring Turkey hunting
- 2) The buffalo pasture located in Unit #1 (Mandaree Area) known as Range Unit 904 in the Skunk Creek Bay Area—this unit is designated as a Wildlife Reserve Area and no hunting is allowed.
- 3) The MHA Tribal Ranch/Buffalo Project and MHA Tribal Park.

A permit from the Director is required to take game on Tribal reserve areas or parks posted closed to hunting.

It is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm within 440 yards of any occupied buildings, schools, medical facilities, or residences (*Chapter 18-1-9*).

It is illegal to hunt in unharvested crops without the owner's written consent. Crops also include alfalfa, clover, and other grasses grown for seed.

10. HUNTING UNIT DESCRIPTIONS:

Unit 1—Mandaree and Four Bears areas

Unit 2—**Closed for 2027 Spring Turkey season**

Unit 3—Parshall and White Shield areas

Unit 4—Twin Buttes area

11. WANTON WASTE OF A WILD TURKEY:

No person shall kill or cripple any wild turkey without making a reasonable effort to retrieve and retain the wild turkey in his or her actual custody. No person shall waste, destroy, spoil, or abandon the edible flesh of a wild turkey at the place where taken or between that place and either (a) his/her personal permanent residence, (b) taxidermist, or (c) a common carrier. Edible flesh means the breast meat of any wild turkey.

12. AGE REQUIREMENTS:

There is no minimum age for hunting turkeys, but all hunters under age 16 afield with firearms must be under direct supervision of a parent, guardian or adult authorized by their parent or guardian.

Hunter's Education Requirement: Hunters born after December 31, 1961 must complete a certified Tribal or state hunter education course and PRESENT the certification card earned to the license vendor in order

to purchase a Fort Berthold hunting license. EXCEPTIONS: youth under age 12 if they have appropriate licenses and are accompanied by a parent or guardian, and Veterans of the United States Armed Forces that have been honorably discharged – persons applying for this exception MUST present a copy of form DD214 to the TAT Fish and Wildlife office to be eligible.

13. HUNTER QUESTIONNAIRES:

Complete and accurate information on the hunter questionnaires will greatly assist the TAT Fish and Wildlife Division in determining the number of Wild Turkeys harvested and the optimum number of permits that can be issued to maintain a stable, healthy Wild Turkey population on the Reservation lands for future generations. Hunters are required to hand them in or send them to the Three Affiliated Tribes Fish and Wildlife Division.

*Pursuant to Section 18-6-1 of Chapter 18-6 of Title 9, Tribal Proclamations Have Force of Law—
Penalty: Any Tribal proclamation issued at the request of the Natural Resources Board or the Director of the Tribal Fish & Wildlife Division shall have the force of law. Any persons violating a provision of such order or proclamation is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined for not more than five hundred (\$500.00). In addition to any fine imposed in this Chapter, the person shall be subject to forfeiture of her/his license, the privilege to hunt and fish for a period of one year, and confiscation of her/his vehicle, guns, boat, fishing equipment or anything used in connection with the violation.*

PLEASE NOTIFY THE FORT BERTHOLD FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS.

CALL 627-4760 BETWEEN 8 AM AND 4:30 PM MONDAY THRU FRIDAY.

After hours please call the TAT Police Department at 627-3617

NOTIFY THE TAT FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS

"All information is confidential."