

BUFFALOBERRY PATCH



By Greg Freeman, Department News Editor

Hunting over Bait

Add the U.S. Forest Service to the list of state and federal land management agencies in North Dakota that prohibit hunting big game and other wildlife over bait.

Dave Pieper, Grasslands supervisor, signed an order in September prohibiting hunting over bait on the Dakota Prairie Grasslands.

Along with the U.S. Forest Service's national grasslands, hunting over bait is also not allowed on all North Dakota Game and Fish Department wildlife management areas, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service national wildlife refuges and waterfowl production areas, and all North Dakota state school, park and forest service lands.

Hunting over bait is defined as the placement and/or use of baits 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. It does not apply to the use of scents and lures, water, food plots, standing crops, or livestock feeds being used in standard practices.

Deer, Turkey Licenses Available

Interested turkey and deer hunters still have time to purchase licenses for the 2008 hunting seasons.

Approximately 900 fall turkey licenses are available to hunters. There is a limit of 15 licenses per hunter. As of September 23, turkey licenses remain in units 04 (portions of Billings and Golden Valley counties south of Interstate 94), 13 (Dunn County), 15 (Emmons County), 17 (portions of Billings and Golden Valley counties north of Interstate 94), 45 (Stark County), and 99 (Mercer and Oliver counties).

The fall wild turkey season opens October 11 and continues through January 11, 2009. Turkey licenses are \$8 for residents and \$80 for nonresidents.

More than 20,000 antlerless deer licenses remain for the 2008 season. There is no limit on the number of licenses a hunter can receive. Doe licenses are still available in units 1, 2C, 2D, 2E, 2F1, 2H, 2I, 2J2, 2K2, 2L, 3A4, 3B3, 3E1, 3E2, 3F1, 3F2, 4E and 4F.

Remaining antlerless licenses – and doe licenses that have already been issued and are printed with second, third or additional concurrent season designations – can be used during any open season: bow season with a bow; the deer gun season with a bow, rifle or muzzleloader; or during the muzzleloader season with a muzzleloader. Hunters must stay in the unit to which the license is assigned.

North Dakota's 2008 deer gun season is November 7-23.

The archery season extends through January 4, 2009, and muzzleloader runs from November 28 through December 14. License fees are \$20 for residents and \$55 for nonresidents.

Resident and nonresident fall turkey and deer hunters can apply online at the North Dakota Game and Fish Department website, gf.nd.gov. Applications are also available by calling the Department's Bismarck office at (701) 328-6300.

Landowners Still Seeking Antlerless Deer Hunters for the 2008 Season

North Dakota Game and Fish Department big game biologist Bill Jensen continues to work with a number of landowners across the state that are willing to host antlerless deer hunters in 2008.

"We have had some additional interest by landowners with the program, and we are hoping to match landowners who want a good deer harvest with antlerless whitetail and mule deer hunters looking for a place to hunt," Jensen said. "This year alone we have already matched more than 250 antlerless deer hunters with 35 landowners wanting antlerless deer harvested."

This program is not intended as a guide service for buck hunters, Jensen said, but to direct antlerless hunters to specific areas to reduce deer depredation problems in the future.

"These landowners have contacted us and asked for help in reducing the deer population in their areas," Jensen said. "We're happy to direct some hunters to them, but we don't want landowners to be overwhelmed with calls either. This is the reason we have developed and set up the contact list."

Landowners still seeking hunters are located in hunting units 2D, 2I, 2K2, 3B3, 3C, 3E1, 3E2, 3F2, 4A, 4B, 4D, 4E and 4F.

Interested hunters can get their name on a list of possible participants by accessing the Game and Fish Department's website at gf.nd.gov. Hunters without Internet access can call the Department's main office in Bismarck at (701) 328-6300.

Hunters will provide their address, hunting unit(s) where they hold valid antlerless licenses, and if using firearm or bow. From this list the Department will select the number of hunters landowners have agreed to host. These hunters will be sent the landowner's name, phone number and any information relating to the landowner's specific situation.

Not everyone who signs up will end up with a new place to hunt, Jensen said, because not everyone's schedule will match up with a landowner's, and more people will likely put their name on the list than there are landowners.

North Dakota's 2008 deer gun season runs from November 7-23. The archery season extends through January 4, 2009, and muzzleloader season runs from November 28 – December 14.

Check Deer Licenses

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department urges deer hunters to find and check their licenses for accuracy.

Every year Department staff receives last-minute calls from hunters, including the morning of opening day, who can't find their licenses. If it happens at that point, it's difficult to get a replacement quickly as it takes time to process a license.

Another reason to find your license now is to check it for accuracy. Double-check the license to make sure the unit, species and deer sex is what you think it should be.

Deer hunters in need of a replacement license can print out a duplicate (replacement) license application from the Game and Fish website, gf.nd.gov, or can call (701) 328-6300 to have an application mailed or faxed.

The form must be completed, notarized and returned to the Department with a fee. The application will be processed the day it is received at the office, and the license will be mailed out the next day.

Preventing Spread of CWD

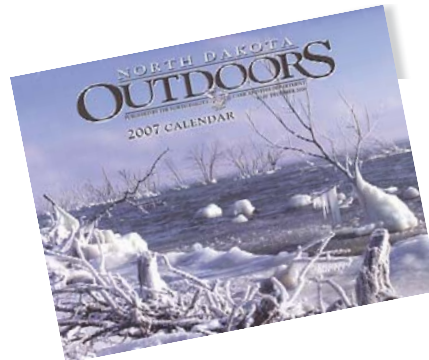
The 2008 proclamation establishing guidelines for transporting deer, elk and moose carcasses and carcass parts into North Dakota is now in effect as a precaution against the possible spread of chronic wasting disease into the state. To date, CWD has not been diagnosed in North Dakota, but has been found in a growing number of locations across North America in recent years.

Hunters are not allowed to transport into North Dakota the whole carcass, or certain carcass parts, of deer, elk, moose or other members of the cervid family from areas within states and provinces with documented occurrences of CWD in wild populations, or from any farmed cervid operation in states and provinces with documented occurrences of CWD in farmed cervids. Only the following portions of the carcass can be transported:

- Meat cut and wrapped either commercially or privately.
- Quarters or other portions of meat with no part of the spinal column or head attached.
- Meat that has been boned out.
- Hides with no heads attached.
- Clean (no meat or tissue attached) skull plates with antlers attached.
- Antlers with no meat or tissue attached.
- Upper canine teeth, also known as buglers, whistlers or ivories.
- Finished taxidermy heads.

A complete list of states and areas with documented cases of CWD is available on the North Dakota Game and Fish Department's website, gf.nd.gov.

Because each state or province has its own set of rules and regulations, hunters should contact the state or province in which they hunt to obtain more information.



2009 Calendar Orders

It's time to order the North Dakota Game and Fish Department's *North Dakota OUTDOORS* calendar, the official source for all the season and application dates you need to know in 2009. Along with outstanding color photographs of North Dakota wildlife and scenery, it also includes sunrise-sunset times and moon phases.

To order, send \$3 for each, plus \$1 postage, to: Calendar, North Dakota Game and Fish Department, 100 N. Bismarck Expressway, Bismarck, ND 58501-5095. Be sure to include a three-line return address with your order, or the post office may not deliver our return mailing.

The calendar is the *North Dakota OUTDOORS* magazine's December issue, so current subscribers will automatically receive it in the mail.

Calendar sales are not available through the Game and Fish website.

GAME & FISH STAFF



Jeff Merchant

Fisheries Technician Slot Filled

Jeff Merchant, who has been a seasonal employee with the North Dakota Game and Fish Department's fisheries division for several years, has been hired to fill a fisheries technician position in Dickinson.

Merchant, originally of Westbrook, Minnesota, has a degree in wildlife and fisheries sciences from South Dakota State University.

His primary responsibility with the Game and Fish Department will be working on district lakes in southwestern North Dakota.