

Information for Sports Persons:

Fishing and Hunting on State Forests:

Hunting and fishing are permitted activities on lands managed by the North Dakota Forest Service. All North Dakota Game and Fish Department regulations apply to hunting and fishing on public lands. Trapping of furbearers in accordance with North Dakota Game and Fish Department regulations laws is allowed on State Forest property without written permission.



Hunting & Firearms on State Forests:

Hunting is permitted, pursuant to designated hunting seasons and regulations set by the ND Game and Fish Department, on all State Forests except within 800 feet of the campgrounds and day use areas. All hunters are subject to federal, state and local laws governing hunting and the use of firearms.

Target practice and sighting of guns is prohibited on all State forests. All firearm use is subject to federal, state, and local laws.

Tree Stands / Hunting Blinds / Game Cameras:

No person may construct or use a permanent tree stand or permanent steps to a tree stand on any State Forest. Construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited on State Forest lands.

Portable tree stands and portable steps, screw-in steps, and natural tree stand may be used. Portable tree stands and portable steps are defined as those which are held to the tree with ropes, straps, cables, chains, or bars. Screw-in steps are those that are screwed into the tree by hand without the aid of any tools. Ladder type stands which lean against the tree are portable stands. A notched board placed in a tree crotch is a portable stand. Natural stands include crotches, trunks, down trees, etc., where no platform is used.

Tree stands and steps may not be put up before August 20th of the year, and they shall be taken down by January 10th of the following year. Stands and steps not removed by the 10th of January are subject to removal and confiscation by the North Dakota Forest Service.

Game cameras are permitted but may not be put up before August 20th of the year, and they shall be taken down by January 10th of the following year.

Tree stands and game cameras do not preempt hunting rights in the vicinity of the tree stand.

Baiting:

According to the North Dakota Game and Fish Department regulations: It is unlawful for an individual to hunt big game over bait, or place bait to attract big game for the purpose of hunting, in deer hunting units 3C west of the Missouri River, 3E1, 3E2, 3F1 and 3F2. Placing of bait for any purpose is prohibited on all Department wildlife management areas. Hunting 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 used in standard practices.

Hunting over bait is also not allowed on all U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service national wildlife refuges and waterfowl production areas; U.S. Forest Service national grasslands; and all North Dakota state school, state park and state forest service lands.

A person may use bait to lure and take furbearers when engaged in lawful trapping activities.



For Additional Information Contact:
North Dakota Forest Service
1037 Forestry Drive
Bottineau ND 58318
701.228.3700