



Tribal Elk Hunting Regulations

Giiwasedaa Mazina'igan

2015

Drawing for Elk Permits

There will be one drawing for elk permits. Entries are limited to one per eligible Tribal Member. Tribal Members who are of age and who have not won an elk lottery within the last five years are eligible to enter.

The drawing will no longer be weighted and each entry will receive equal weight.

The Natural Resource Commission will certify that all eligible applicants are entered into the software program, which will then generate winners. The program will also generate an ordered list of alternate hunters, so that if a winner is unable to take his or her permit, the alternate hunters will be contacted in order of the list.

All applicants whose names are drawn and alternate hunters who are offered a permit will be considered “winners” for purposes of five year waiting period, whether or not they were able to use the permit and whether or not they were successful in their hunt. Applicants whose names were drawn but who could not use the permit because of an intervening medical issue or a bona fide emergency can appeal to the Natural Resource Commission to be excused from the five year waiting period.

Tribal Elk Hunt Orientation

Successful applicants are required to attend a two hour training session prior to the scheduled elk hunt. The location of the elk hunt orientation will be provided to successful applicants. The orientation will cover hunter safety, elk behavior, carcass handling, marksmanship, hunting rules and regulations.

General Tribal Elk Hunting Regulations

The regulations in this handbook are for elk hunting. Hunters must abide by all other Tribal regulations. In the event of a conflict, these regulations control.

Possession and Transportation

A legal and current Tribal License and harvest/transport tag is required to take, transport and possess elk. The tags are only valid in the specified elk management unit. The hunter must immediately fill out the harvest / transport tag and attach it to the elk.

Lawfully taken Elk may be transported within or outside of the Ceded Territory providing the Tribal member has a valid and current Tribal license in their possession and the carcass has been properly sealed.

Registration and Testing

The elk must be registered within 72 hours of kill. Registration is mandatory. The harvest/transport tag must remain attached to the elk for transportation and until harvest seal is attached at a designated registration station.

Successful hunters must turn in the head of their elk for Bovine Tuberculosis testing to the Natural Resources Department or the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Heads turned into the LRBOI NRD will not be returned. If a hunter wants to keep the head for European mounting, he or she must contact the Wild Life Disease Laboratory at Michigan State University by calling (517) 336-5030 to make arrangements. Hunters who opt to use this laboratory must notify the LRBOI NRD of their intention.

Hunting Techniques

Firearm elk hunters are required to wear a minimum of one square foot of hunters' orange that is visible from all sides.

Archery elk hunters may hunt from a tree or portable raised platform. Firearm elk hunters may also hunt from a portable raised platform.

All raised platforms and ground blinds constructed from non-native, processed materials and placed on public or Tribal lands must have the user's name and Tribal identification number permanently affixed in legible English. Letters should be a minimum of 2 inches high.

Raised hunting platforms and ground blinds of any material that are erected or used on public or tribal land may not be attached to a tree by nails, screws or bolts that penetrates through the bark of a tree, except for a "t" bolt or similar device supplied from the manufacturer and recommended for safety.

All portable blinds must be removed from public and private lands at the end of each day's hunt.

Man-made pit blinds are prohibited on public and Tribal lands.

Tribal hunters cannot bait for elk.

Wounded Elk Record

If an elk is wounded but not recovered, hunters must contact a Tribal or State law enforcement officer, the MDNR or the LRBOI NRD. The hunter must provide the date and location

Weapons and Ammunition Allowed

Tribal Members may use any of the following weapons and ammunition for an elk hunt:

- Center-fire rifle of .243 caliber or larger
- Rifled muzzle-loader of .40 caliber or larger (including rifled muzzle-loader handguns)
- Smooth-bore muzzle-loader of .45 caliber or larger (including smooth-bore muzzle-loader handguns)
- 12-gauge shotgun or larger, using slugs
- Conventional (smokeless powder) handguns of .357 caliber or larger, with straight walled cartridges only (single or multiple shot, but cannot exceed maximum capacity of 9 rounds in the magazine and barrel combined)
- Conventional (smokeless powder) handguns of .243 center-fire caliber or larger bottleneck cartridges (single or multiple shot, but cannot exceed maximum capacity of 9 rounds in the magazine and barrel combined)
- Soft point or expanding bullets
- Bows with a minimum pull of 55 pounds
- Crossbows with a minimum pull of 100 pounds
- Arrows with a minimum of a one inch cutting surface broad heads

Concealed Weapons

Tribal Members may carry handguns with a valid concealed pistol license (CPL). Handguns must be carried in plain view while in the field. Transportation of handguns carried under a CPL must be in accordance with the terms of the CPL.

Weapons and Ammunition Prohibited

Tribal Members **may not** use:

- Fully automatic firearms (possession during elk hunt also prohibited)
- Shotguns or center-fired rifles capable of holding more than 6 shells in both chambers or magazine combined
- Cartridges containing either tracer or exploding bullets
- Devices known or used to silence firearms
- Firearms not specifically listed on page 5 of this booklet

Shooting Hours

Shooting hours are half an hour before sunrise to half an hour after sunset, local time. Tribal Members hunting elk may not shoot a firearm, crossbow or bow outside of these hours.

Marking Kill Sites

Elk hunters will be provided with two 1' x 1' flags and fluorescent ribbons for marking kill sites. Sites must be flagged unless law enforcement, DNR or LRBOI NDR staff are able to check the site before the harvested elk is removed. Otherwise, hunters will mark the site as follows:

- Tie one 1' x 1' flag to a tree over the gut pile or, if in a field, on a stick standing over the gut pile.
- Place ribbons with approximately 18 inches showing every fifty feet or less out to the nearest named road (not a two-track). Flags must be visible from one to the next.
- Place second 1' x 1' flag on a tree at the main road.
- **Do not** move elk from the kill site until the carcass is tagged and the site is flagged.

2015 Tribal Elk Hunting Seasons and Units

2015 Available Harvest Tags

2 Tags—(2 antlerless elk tags)

Hunt Period 1:

August 25—28; September 11—14; and September 25—28 on both public and private lands (with permission) in elk management unit “L” (See map on back).

Hunt Period 2:

December 5-28 on both public and private lands (with permission) in elk management units within areas G and X or F and X. (See the map on back)

For more information contact and to report wounded elk or kill sites:

Natural Resource Department: 866-723-1594

Conservation Law Enforcement: 231-723-6241

Weekends/After hours: Contact

Central Dispatch: 231-723-6241

For more information contact Conservation Law Enforcement or Natural Resource Department, Wildlife Staff:

Phone: 231-723-1594

Fax: 231-723-8873

Conservation Law Enforcement, Central Dispatch:
231-723-6241

Wildlife Disease Laboratory at MSU Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health:

(517) 336-5030

