



Tribal Elk Hunting Additional Regulations and Annual Supplement

Giiwasedaa Mazina'igan

2023

2023 Tribal Elk Hunting Seasons and Units

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 not be weighted and each entry will receive equal weight.

The Natural Resource Commission will certify that all eligible applicants are entered into the Annual Elk drawing. The Natural Resource Commission will draw a 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. Successful applicants will be assigned a hunt period and elk management unit for when and where their permit will be valid.

All applicants whose names are drawn and alternate hunters who are offered a permit will be considered “winners” for purposes of a three year waiting period before resubmitting for the Elk drawing. 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 waiting period.

Tribal Elk Hunt Orientation

Successful applicants are required to attend a mandatory 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.

2023 Available Harvest Permits

5 permits (2 any elk and 3 antlerless elk permits).

Hunting Dates:

August 29-September 1 and **September 15-18** and **September 29-October 2** in Unit “X-Only” on both public and private lands (with permission) in elk management unit “X” (See map on back).

December 9-17 on both public and private lands (with permission) in elk management units within areas H and X or I and X. **December 18, 2023 - January 1, 2024** on **public land** only in elk management units within areas H and X or I and X (See the map on back).

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

LRBOI Officer Bobby Robles (231) 690-7319

LRBOI Officer Kyle Gunderson (231) 590-2740

LRBOI Conservation Law Enforcement: (231) 723-6241

LRBOI Natural Resource Department:

Monday-Friday 9am-5pm (231) 723-1594

Wildlife Disease Laboratory at MSU Diagnostic Center for Population and Animal Health: (517) 336-5034

MDNR Check Station: (989) 732-3541 Ext. 5993

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 unless the hunter meets all federal compliance requirements for use of a suppressor.
- 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 NRD 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.

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 Identification Card and transport tag is required to take, transport and possess elk. The transport tags are only valid in the assigned hunt period and elk management unit. Upon harvest, the permit holder must immediately fill out the transport tag and attach it to the elk.

Lawfully taken elk may be transported within or outside of the 1836 Ceded Territory providing the Tribal member has a legal and current Tribal Identification in their possession and the transport tag has been attached to the carcass.

Registration and Testing

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

Successful hunters may turn in the head of their elk for bovine tuberculosis testing to the Natural Resources Department or the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. Submitting the head for testing is voluntary. Heads that are turned in will not be returned.

Hunting Techniques

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

Elk hunters may hunt from a tree or 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 Tribal lands by March 1. Man-made pit blinds are prohibited on public and Tribal lands.

Tribal hunters are not allowed to bait elk. It is unlawful to take elk over bait.

It is unlawful to hunt elk with a dog.

It is unlawful to pursue or shoot a swimming elk.

Wounded Elk Record

If an elk is wounded but not recovered, hunters must contact a Tribal or State law enforcement officer, and the LRBOI NRD. The hunter must provide the date and location of where the animal was wounded. Before the hunter is allowed to pursue another elk, Tribal law enforcement must notify them that they are permitted to do so they are permitted to do so.

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.
- All muzzle-loaders shall be .50 caliber or larger .
- 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). Transportation of handguns carried under a CPL must be in accordance with the terms of the CPL.