

WHERE TO HUNT ELK



BEAR HUNTING

SEASON DATES & RESTRICTIONS

BEAR	Chase-only	Archery/Crossbow	Firearms	Quota Hunt with Dogs
	Aug. 1-31 and Dec. 22-26, 2014	Nov. 22-30, 2014	Dec. 13-15, 2014	Dec. 22-26, 2014

Regulations pertaining to bear season requirements were pending legislative approval when this guide went to press. Proposed items include allowing a bear chase permit to be purchased online at fw.ky.gov from July 1-Dec. 31 and establishing a minimum handgun restriction to hunt bear. Please call 1-800-858-1549 or visit fw.ky.gov for the latest information.

CHASE-ONLY SEASON WITH DOGS

Unless license exempt, participants must purchase a Bear Chase Permit or Junior Bear Chase Permit. Bear Chase Permits are available for purchase online at fw.ky.gov from July 1 – August 31.

Bears may be chased with dogs only within the Eastern, Central, and Western Bear Chase Areas (see map). Bears shall only be chased during legal daylight hours. Hunters shall not chase bears from an area where bait is present or has been present for 30 days. Individual chase groups shall include no more

than five (5) people and eight (8) dogs, except a chase party may total seven (7) people if two (2) additional youths accompany the party.

ARCHERY/CROSSBOW SEASON

Unless license exempt, hunters must purchase a Bear Permit, in addition to an Annual Hunting License. Bear Permits are available for purchase over-the-counter, by phone (1-877-598-2401), and online at fw.ky.gov.

The archery/crossbow season harvest quota is 10 bears or five (5) female

bears, whichever is reached first. If either limit is reached, the season will close 30 minutes after sunset that day. Successful hunters must telecheck their bear by 8 p.m. Eastern time and also call 1-800-858-1549 within 24 hours of harvest to arrange for a physical check of the animal and receive a tag issued by Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. Bears physically checked during the archery/crossbow season must include a carcass or an intact hide that contains the skull and proof of sex.

Hunters must call 1-800-858-1549

after 9 p.m. each day of the season to check if the bear quota has been reached. If the quota has not been reached, the season will continue through next day.

MODERN GUN SEASON

Unless license exempt, hunters must purchase a Bear Permit, in addition to an Annual Hunting License. Bear Permits are available for purchase over-the-counter, by phone, or online.

The modern gun season harvest quota is 10 bears or five (5) female bears, whichever limit is reached first. If either limit is reached, the season will close 30 minutes after sunset that day. Bears taken during the modern gun season must be checked immediately after leaving the field at a department operated check station by 9 p.m. Eastern time, where successful hunters will be issued a permanent tag by Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. Hunters must telecheck their bear before leaving the station. Locations of check stations are available online at fw.ky.gov or by calling 1-800-858-1549.

Hunters must call 1-800-858-1549 after 9 p.m. on each day of the season to check if the bear quota has been reached. If the quota has not been reached, the season will continue through next day.

BEAR QUOTA HUNT WITH DOGS

Unless license exempt, hunters must purchase a Bear Permit and a Bear Chase Permit or Junior Bear Chase Permit, in addition to an Annual Hunting License. Bear Chase Permits are available for purchase online at fw.ky.gov.

The harvest quota is five (5) bears of either sex. If the limit is reached, the season will close 30 minutes after sunset that day. Successful hunters must telecheck their bear by 8 p.m. Eastern time

and also call 1-800-858-1549 within 24 hours of harvest to arrange for a physical check of the animal and receive a tag issued by Kentucky Fish and Wildlife. Bears physically checked during the bear quota hunt with dogs season must include a carcass or an intact hide that contains the skull and proof of sex.

Hunters must call 1-800-858-1549 after 9 p.m. on each day of the season to check if the bear quota has been reached. If the quota has not been reached, the season will continue through the next day.

HUNTER ORANGE REQUIREMENT

Bear hunters and those who accompany them, or any other person hunting on public or private lands in the bear hunting zone during a firearm season for bears, must comply with the hunter orange clothing law. This requirement also applies to any person chasing bears during the bear quota hunt with dogs.

OTHER RESTRICTIONS

- Bear hunting is open to Kentucky residents only.
- Hunters and houndsmen may not disturb or take bears from dens.
- Bear hunting is prohibited on Big South Fork National River and Recreation Area, Cumberland Gap National Historical Park, Kingdom Come State Park, and the Hensley-Pine Mountain WMA. Additionally, bear hunting within the 12,094 acres surrounding Hensley-Pine Mountain WMA and Kingdom Come State Park is limited to landowners, their spouses and dependent children hunting on their own property.
- See map for detailed bear reserve boundaries.
- Hunters may not take female bears with cubs, or any bear weighing less

LEGAL BEAR EQUIPMENT

- A modern rifle of .270 caliber or larger, with a magazine capable of holding no more than 10 rounds.
- A muzzleloading rifle of .50 caliber or larger.
- A muzzle-loading or breech-loading shotgun no larger than 10-gauge, and no smaller than 20-gauge, firing a single projectile (slug, round ball, conical bullet or sabot bullet) only.
- Firearms may not be fully automatic (capable of firing more than one round with one trigger pull).
- Full metal jacketed or tracer bullet ammunition is prohibited.
- Archery and crossbow equipment that is legal for deer hunting.
- [See pending changes on page 17.](#)

Q: Is it legal to shoot a bear that is feeding at a trash can or dumpster?

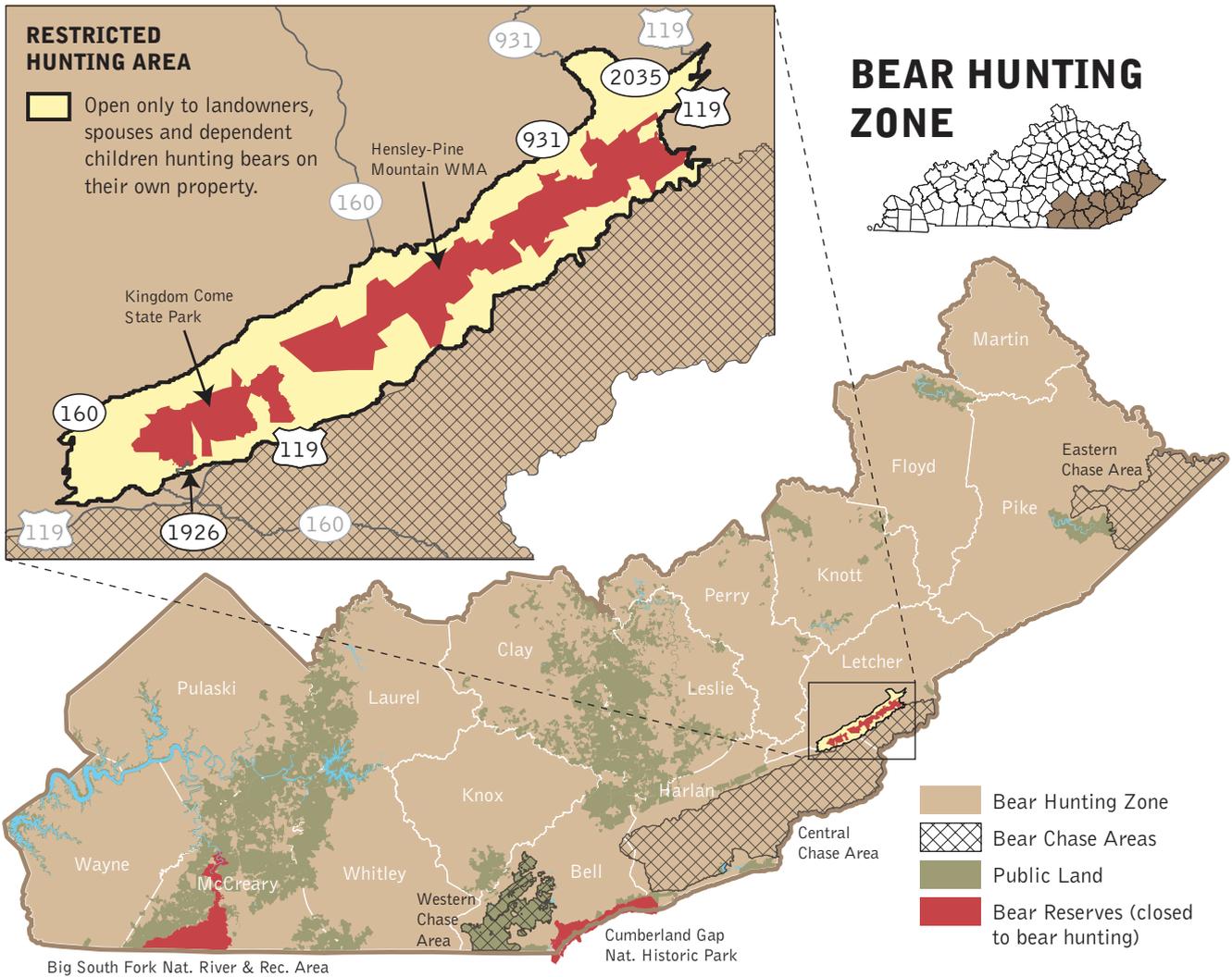
A: No. Garbage is considered bait.

- than 75 pounds.
- Hunters may not use bait during any bear season.
- Dogs may not be used to hunt bears during the archery/crossbow or modern gun seasons, but leashed tracking dogs may be used to recover wounded bears.
- Hunters 15 years old and younger who use a firearm must be accompanied by an adult, who shall remain in a position to take immediate control of the youth's firearm.

WHERE TO HUNT BEAR

PUBLIC HUNTING AREAS Only portions of these public hunting areas within the bear zone are open to bear hunting.

Asher Hunting Access Area, [Beaver Creek WMA](#), Boone Forestlands WMA, [Buck Creek WMA](#), [Buckhorn Lake WMA](#), [Burchell-Beech Creek WMA](#), [Cane Creek WMA](#), [Carr Creek Lake WMA](#), [CONSOL of Kentucky WMA](#), Corrigan WMA, Cranks Creek WMA, Daniel Boone National Forest, [Dewey Lake WMA](#), Elk Forest WMA, Fishtrap Lake WMA, Fortner-Davis WMA, [ICG Hunting Access Area](#), Jefferson National Forest, Kentenia State Forest, Kentucky Ridge Forest WMA, Kentucky Ridge State Forest, [Lake Cumberland WMA](#), Martins Fork Lake WMA, Martins Fork WMA & State Natural Area, [Paul Van Booven WMA](#), [Redbird WMA](#), [Robinson Forest WMA](#), Shillalah Creek WMA, Stone Mountain WMA & State Natural Area and [Wells Hunting Access Area](#)



FALL TURKEY HUNTING

SEASON DATES & RESTRICTIONS

FALL TURKEY	Shotgun	Archery	Crossbow
	Oct. 25-31 and Dec. 6-12, 2014	Sept. 6, 2014 - Jan. 19, 2015	Oct. 1-19 and Nov. 8 - Dec. 31, 2014

BAG LIMITS

- Four (4) birds total;
- No more than two (2) birds may be taken during archery and crossbow seasons.
- No more than two (2) birds may be taken during shotgun season, regard-

less of weapon.

- No more than one (1) bird may have a beard length of three (3) inches or longer.

PERMIT REQUIREMENTS

Adult hunters: Unless exempt, all

fall turkey hunters ages 16 and older must carry a Fall Turkey Permit or have been issued an authorization number for a Fall Turkey Permit before hunting.

The Fall Turkey Permit is valid for fall archery, crossbow and shotgun turkey seasons. The permit is good for a to-