

2012 FORT KNOX SMALL GAME/FALL TURKEY HUNTING GUIDELINES

* *Changes from 2011 are in italics.*

A Fort Knox background check must be performed on all individuals 18 years of age and older before a Fort Knox hunting permit can be purchased. Hunters must obtain a valid Fort Knox Small Game Hunting Permit before bringing a firearm onto the installation.

1. The Fort Knox Small Game seasons and bag limits coincide with the Commonwealth of Kentucky's seasons and bag limits, unless posted otherwise.

The 2012 Fort Knox Fall Archery Turkey Season will be held 8 September – 31 January and 27 October – 31 January for gun. The Fort Knox fall turkey bag limit is 3 turkeys per hunter (fall archery and gun seasons combined, 1 bird per day, and no more than 1 bird may have a beard length of 3 inches or longer). Legal hunting hours are 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset, or as listed on the Recreational Area Assignment Sheet.

All hunters must possess the appropriate Commonwealth of Kentucky hunting license, tags, and stamps and a valid Fort Knox Small Game Permit and/or Fall Turkey Permit, if turkey hunting, and a Fort Knox Firearms Authorization Card while in the hunting areas. A state-issued Hunter Education Certificate is required for all hunters age 12-60, however, the one-time Kentucky hunter education exemption is acceptable, but the hunter must be accompanied by an adult that meets the hunter education requirements above. Hunters eligible for free Fort Knox Permits are: military dependents under age 16 with verification of age and military status; Kentucky residents 65 years of age or older with KY Senior Citizen Hunting and Fishing License, and honorably discharged veterans of the U.S. Armed Services with a **100% service-connected disability** with a VA letter signed by their doctor or VA ID card stating 100% service-connected disability.

2. Due to the daily use of the reservation for training, a strictly controlled and rigidly enforced system of access to the hunting areas will be maintained.

a. The Fort Knox Hunting and Fishing Map is used to control all hunting/fishing activities. All sportsmen are required to familiarize themselves with this map and its proper use, the data contained, and retain it in their possession while hunting. It is the hunter's responsibility to check the map to determine the current boundaries of their assigned hunting area.

b. **Sign-in/out procedures:**

(1) Hunters must report in person to the Hunt Control Office to sign into a hunting area. Hunters may sign up themselves and 4 others into an area up to 48 hours in advance. The pink copy of the Recreational Area Assignment Sheet must be placed in the driver's side windshield of vehicle and be visible from the outside. The sponsor will be responsible for the clearance of all hunters listed on their Recreational Area Assignment Sheet. Hunters will not be authorized on more than one Recreational Area Assignment Sheet at any one time. The only persons authorized in a hunting area are those who are properly signed in on a valid area assignment sheet. There will be no hunting or scouting on Tuesdays or days the Hunt Control Office is closed.

(2) All hunters must clear their hunting area with the Hunt Control Office daily by the prescribed clearance time. The area must be cleared even if the hunters did not actually go into the area. Clearance may be done by either calling the Hunt Control Office (624-7311/2712) or in person and verbally assuring to Hunt Control personnel that you are clear of the area. Hunters are required to report all small game harvested to the Hunt Control Office, however, turkeys must be checked in at the Hunt Control Office. **Failure to clear on time is grounds for suspension of hunting privileges.**

3. **Authorized Small Game Hunting Equipment:** Archery equipment and shotguns no larger than 10 gauge or smaller than .410 with pelleted ammunition no larger than shot size T. Repeating shotguns will be plugged to hold a maximum of 3 shells. Steel shotshells are the only ammunition permitted in possession while hunting waterfowl. Rifles, handguns, and solid projectile ammunition are prohibited while small game hunting at Fort

Knox.

4. **Authorized Turkey Hunting Equipment:** Turkeys may be taken with archery equipment or 10, 12, 16, and 20 gauge shotguns with #4 shot or smaller. Repeating shotguns will be plugged to hold a maximum of 3 shells. **Ten shells maximum in possession per day.** Crossbows are prohibited except for hunters that have a valid crossbow Methods Exemption Permit printed from the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife website and signed by a physician.

5. All firearms must be unloaded **and fully encased** while at or in a vehicle and unloaded within 100 yards of an improved road (asphalt or rock based), structure, or checkpoint; when carried in a non-hunting area; during non-hunting hours; or after a hunter has taken the legal bag limit. No person shall discharge any firearm, bow, crossbow, or other similar device, upon, over, or across any improved roadway and there will be no hunting within 100 yards of an improved road, structure, or checkpoint.

6. Persons utilizing Hunting Areas 16, 18, or 19 are required to remain 100 yards from the fence surrounding the ammo supply point.

7. Privately-owned vehicles are not authorized on unimproved roads, trails, or firebreaks in the hunting areas. Do not park in front of gates or block access to buildings and *leave gates as you found them. No parking beyond the baseline on Ashley Range (HA 52), Kennedy and Scott Mountain Ranges (HA 54), or McKie Range (HA 59).* All rivers within Fort Knox are off limits. All vehicles will be driven by the most direct, authorized route to and from the assigned hunting area; cruising the training complex is not permitted.

8. Firearms will not be discharged from any motor vehicle. Discharge of firearms from boats while hunting migratory waterfowl is permissible provided the motor has been completely shut off, and its progress therefrom has ceased.

9. Baiting wildlife, such as placing grains, fruits or other natural or manufactured food materials, or the possession of such items in the hunting areas is prohibited.

10. Hunters that have a Vehicle Methods Exemption Permit may utilize an ATV on Fort Knox. However, the **ONLY** person authorized on the ATV is the person named on the Vehicle Methods Exemption Permit, others are not allowed on the ATV. There will be no riding around the hunting area; violators will be removed from the installation.

Persons that desire to hunt at Fort Knox release the U.S. Government and its agents from liability as identified in the Individual Release of Liability/Hold Harmless Agreement posted in the Hunt Control Office.

FAILURE TO ABIDE WITH FORT KNOX AND KENTUCKY HUNTING AND FISHING REGULATIONS WILL RESULT IN THE SUSPENSION OF HUNTING AND FISHING PRIVILEGES AND POSSIBLE CITATION BY THE MILITARY POLICE.