



**DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY**

NAVAL AIR STATION  
554 MC CAIN ST SUITE 310  
KINGSVILLE TX 78363-5054

**Canc: May 10**

NASKINGSNOTE 1710  
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**04 SEP 2009**

NASKINGS NOTICE 1710

Subj: ESCONDIDO DEER TAG DRAWING GUIDELINES FOR THE FY09-10 SEASON

1. Purpose. To publish guidelines for hunting deer at Escondido Ranch.

2. Action

a. Prior to purchasing a ticket, personnel must read these drawing guidelines concerning drawing and reservation rules. ID cards will be verified at the time tickets are purchased and upon reporting to the ranch. Payment for tickets must be received prior to the drawing in order to be eligible. VISA, Master Card, and American Express credit cards will be accepted.

b. 5 Trophy bucks, 15 Management bucks and 35 Doe tags are available for the 2009-2010 hunting season. Once tag is filled hunters will only be able to harvest remaining/open tags.

c. Escondido Ranch has been issued a Level 2 Managed Land Deer Permit (MLDP) by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department and all harvested deer must be tagged with Escondido Ranch tags. No personal deer tags will be allowed.

d. All hunters born after 2 September 1971 are required to have successfully completed a hunter's safety course.

3. 2009-2010 Hunting Seasons

a. ARCHERY ONLY SEASON

ARCHERY ONLY SEASON	
DRAWING DATES	No Draw
HUNT DATES	03 Oct - 06 Nov 2009

(1) No trophy hunting for white-tailed deer will be allowed during archery season. Archery hunters may only harvest management bucks or does during the archery only season.

04 SEP 2009

(2) Archery Hunters may purchase Trophy Buck draw tickets in order to archery hunt trophy deer during the rifle season.

(3) It is unlawful to possess a firearm while archery hunting.

(4) Longbows, compound bows, or re-curved bows used for hunting deer must have a 40-pound minimum draw at the time of hunting.

(5) The only personnel who will be authorized to use a crossbow to hunt deer is someone who has an upper-limb disability, provided the person, while hunting, has in their immediate possession a physician's statement certifying the extent of the disability. An upper-limb disability is defined as a permanent loss of the use of fingers, hand, or arm in a manner that renders the person incapable of using lawful archery equipment.

(6) While hunting deer, a projectile may not be poisoned, drugged, or explosive. When used to hunt deer, a projectile must be equipped with a broad-head hunting point that is at least 7/8 inch in width (upon impact) and have a minimum of two cutting edges. A mechanical broad-head must begin to open upon impact and when open must be a minimum of 7/8 inch in width.

(7) Archery hunters will be required to set up their own hunting stands. **Pop up blinds are available for rent at \$10 a day.**

(8) Escondido Ranch will be open from 1200 Thursdays through 1200 Sundays for archery season. Reservations for Mondays through Wednesdays can be made by contacting ranch manager.

b. SPECIAL YOUTH SEASON

SPECIAL YOUTH SEASON	
DRAWING DATES	No Draw - Make Reservations with Ranch
HUNT DATES	31 Oct - 01 Nov 2009 (Doe Only) *
* 1 Management/Cull buck may be taken under MLDP Level 2 during this hunt.	

04 SEP 2009

(1) Hunt fees will be waived for Youth Season Hunters. Only kill fees and lodging will be collected.

(2) Youth hunters must be accompanied by a person (Active Duty military, Reservist, Retiree, DOD or NAF employee) who is at least 17, who is licensed to hunt in Texas, who has passed hunter education or is exempt (born before 2 September 1971). Proof of certification or deferral is required to be on your person while hunting.

c. GENERAL SEASON (RIFLE) FOR ANTLERED DEER

GENERAL SEASON (RIFLE) for ANTLERED DEER			
	FIRST HUNT PERIOD	SECOND HUNT PERIOD	FINAL HUNT PERIOD
DRAWING DATES	07 Oct 09	28 Oct 09	02 Dec 09
HUNT DATES	07 Nov - 24 Nov 2009	30 Nov - 22 Dec 2009	2 Jan - 31 Jan 2010

**Note:** The beginning and ending hunt dates are subject to change if harvest quotas are reached before the end of the official Texas hunting season.

(1) Gun hunters are required to pass a shooting test prior to hunting. Hunters must successfully place three out of five shots in a nine inch target at 50 yards for guns with iron sights and at 100 yards for guns with mounted scopes.

(2) Minimum caliber for deer hunting will be .243.

(3) Deer hunters may choose to hunt other game at an additional fee. Night hunting is not allowed during deer season.

4. Hours of Operation

a. The ranch will be open for hunting 7 days a week from 01 October 2009 to 28 February 2010.

b. The ranch will be closed to hunting 24 November 2009 through 29 November 2009 and 23 December 2009 through 01 January 2010.

04 SEP 2009

5. Definitions

**There are three categories of deer:**

a. **Doe** is defined as any female deer 2.5 years of age or older.

b. **Management/Cull buck** is defined as an antlered deer greater than 4.5 years or older with less than 8 points and scoring less than 125 B&C. Antlered deer with unbranched/slick antlers may also be harvested under this category regardless of age.

c. **Trophy buck** is defined as an antlered deer greater than 5.5 years or older with at least 8 points, a spread wider than the ears (greater than 13 inches) and scoring more than 140+ B&C.

6. Drawings

a. The Commanding Officer or designee will conduct all drawings.

b. Standard draw tickets are **\$5.00** each with appropriate labels, **\$6.00** each if you decide to have ranch personnel label them for you. Tickets will be sold only at the Ranch and Information, Tickets and Tour (ITT) Office (NAS Kingsville) or by mail. Tickets must be filled out using self adhesive labels. Tickets received without labels will not be eligible for the drawing.

c. Personnel, whose tickets are drawn, will be notified by telephone within five days after the drawing. If unable to contact drawn personnel within ten days, an alternate will be selected.

d. Standard Draw ticket drawings are conducted approximately 30 days prior to each hunt period and will be from 60 percent of active duty military and 40 percent from other (i.e., reservists, retirees dependents, DOD civilians and NAF employees).

e. If a person declines to hunt during the period drawn, that ticket will be voided. A new ticket will have to be purchased to be included in another hunt period.

04 SEP 2009

f. All personnel who are drawn must have on record a copy of the signed Acknowledgement of Risk Form, NASKINGSINST 1710.7EE enclosure(6).

g. Super Combo Draw ticket drawings will be from all tickets purchased for the Super Combo hunt. Super Combo Hunt draw tickets are **\$100.00** each. This hunt allows one hunter to harvest legal bag limit of WTD for McMullen Co. (including 1 Trophy buck) plus 1 feral hog, 2 javalina and unlimited quail hunting during the 2nd hunt period. Additionally, hunting and ranch fees are waived for super combo hunters.

h. Applications for the Special Management Hunt on the McMullen Target Site will be accepted by sealed bid only. One hunter will have exclusive access to this area from Opening Day to the end of the antlered deer season in January to hunt 1 Trophy quality buck. Minimum bid for this hunt is \$750. Kill fees will be B&C times 10. Bid opening will be conducted on same date as 1st Hunt Period drawing.

i. The following requirements *must be met* for mailing in tickets:

(1) Personnel must read the drawing guidelines and join the King's Hunt Club.

(2) A copy of your ID card with a statement that you have read and understand the deer drawing guidelines.

(3) Payment for tickets: checks or credit card. Credit card payments are acceptable over the phone.

(4) Send a *self-adhesive* label for each ticket purchased and include the following info:

(a) Name.

(b) Telephone number (including area code).

(c) Which category and hunt period you would like, and place labels on the tickets.

04 SEP 2009

**Note:** If these requirements are not met, or tickets are not filled out properly, patrons will be charged \$6.00 per ticket to cover labor costs.

j. Mailing address: ESCONDIDO RANCH, ATTN: DEER DRAWING, P.O. BOX 1810, FREER, TX 78357-1810.

7. Fees

a. Lodging Fees: Lodging will be \$20 a night with the exception of E-5 and below whose fee will be \$15 a night.

b. Daily Hunting Fees: Big Game Hunting fees are \$100.00 per day.

c. Ranch Kill Fees

(1) Active Duty: \$50 for Doe, \$250 Management/Cull Buck, \$300 for a Trophy Buck.

(2) Retired Military/DoD Civilian: \$75 for Doe, \$325 Management/Cull Buck, \$450 for a Trophy Buck.

8. Fines

a. Fines are enforced for harvesting an immature illegal or unauthorized deer. Please know at what you are shooting. These additional fees will be assessed:

(1) \$300.00 for a Doe under 2.5 years old.

(2) \$400.00 and confiscation of animal for a Buck that does not meet the definition described in Section 3a.

(3) \$500.00 and confiscation of animal for any illegal or unauthorized means of harvesting.

b. In addition to assessed fines, violators may:

(1) Be temporarily or permanently banned from all NASK sponsored hunt programs.

(2) Have their names forwarded to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) Game Warden if it has been determined that state game laws have been violated.

9. Other Information

- a. No more than 20 hunters per day.
- b. Reservations are not required but are strongly recommended to ensure lodging and hunting availability.
- c. Ranch staff will make the hunting stand assignments. The stands that will be hunted from will be drawn based upon check-in times of hunters (i.e., earliest check-in will be assigned first stand drawn).
- d. Hunting and safety brief will be conducted before any hunting activities.
- e. Harvest Quotas are based on population surveys, TPWD, and Escondido Ranch working group recommendations. Final approval will be made by the Commanding Officer.
- f. Deer of any category not harvested during the designated hunting period will be made available to other hunters during the next hunting period through a draw.
- g. All deer hunting for each category will be suspended once harvest limits for each category have been reached
- h. No guests are allowed on deer stands, unless it is a family member that is less than 18 years of age and must be accompanied by a parent or legal guardian while in the stand and only one gun per stand.
- i. Data will be collected from all harvested game prior to processing. Measurements must be taken and recorded on all antlered deer and jaw bones removed for aging. This information will assist the ranch in managing the deer herd for the coming year.
- j. No alcoholic beverages shall be allowed outside the main compound. Any person found with such beverages will have their hunting privileges temporarily suspended immediately by ranch personnel until a final decision on suspension for a period up

04 SEP 2009

to ONE year can be made by the Executive Officer or Commanding Officer.

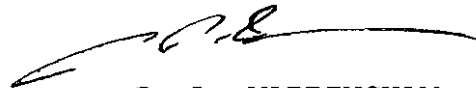
k. No alcoholic beverages may be consumed within *four hours* of handling firearms. Escondido Ranch staff will be responsible for determining if a person is considered capable of handling firearms due to intoxication. Ranch personnel will also have the authority to suspend hunting privileges for a 24-hour period due to intoxication.

10. Ranch Staff & Volunteer Hunting

a. Ranch Staff & volunteers will have the opportunity to hunt antlered deer at no cost through a separate draw hunt. Only 1 Trophy buck and 2 Management/Cull bucks will be available to the Escondido Ranch Staff & Volunteers during the 2009-10 hunting season. Staff & Volunteers will also be allowed 1 doe, 2 feral hogs, 2 javalina, 2 quail hunts and unlimited coyotes. Bobcats not allowed.

b. Volunteers will be required to work 2 weekends/month beginning 01 September - Thanksgiving in order to participate in the antlered deer drawing and to harvest other game. Drawing for antlered deer hunts will be held during the week of Thanksgiving. Staff & Volunteers may hunt only from 01 December 2009 through 28 February 2010.

c. Volunteers must complete 160 hours of volunteer time from 01 September to 31 August in order to be eligible for the antlered deer draw hunts after the 2009-10 hunting season.



P. L. WADDINGHAM

Distribution:  
NASK Intranet