

**RULES
OF
TENNESSEE WILDLIFE RESOURCES AGENCY**

WILDLIFE RESOURCES

**CHAPTER 1660-01-14
RULES AND REGULATIONS FOR REFUGES,
WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS, AND PUBLIC HUNTING AREAS**

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1660-01-14-.01 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. § 70-1-206. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified May 8, 1974. Repeal filed June 25, 1975; effective July 25, 1975.

1660-01-14-.02 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. § 70-1-206. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified May 8, 1974. Repeal filed June 25, 1975; effective July 25, 1975.

1660-01-14-.03 CATOOSA, CHEATHAM, CHUCK SWAN, FORKS OF THE RIVER, LAUREL HILL, PEA RIDGE, PERCY PRIEST UNIT I AND PRENTICE COOPER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS.

- (1) Unauthorized entry or presence on Catoosa, Cheatham, Chuck Swan, Forks of the River, Laurel Hill, Pea Ridge, Percy Priest Unit I, and Prentice Cooper Wildlife Management Areas is prohibited during the following times and conditions:
 - (a) Between sunset and sunrise.
 - (b) When in the judgment of the area manager, weather conditions are such that travel over roads would result in undue damage to said roads.
 - (c) During such periods as the Wildlife Resources Agency, or other authorized agencies, may be conducting special projects, the nature of which is such that the presence of the general public would have a detrimental effect on such operations or when the nature of the operation may constitute a danger to the public.
 - (d) When Fire hazards exist.
- (2) Said area shall be temporarily posted when any of the conditions under (b), (c) and (d) exist.

(Rule 1660-01-14-.03, continued)

- (3) The use of any alcoholic beverage is prohibited on Catoosa, Cheatham, Chuck Swan, Forks of the River, Laurel Hill, Pea Ridge, Percy Priest Unit 1, Prentice Cooper, and Yanahli Wildlife Management Areas, except in designated camping areas.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206 and 70-4-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified May 8, 1974. Amendment filed August 2, 1982; effective August 31, 1982. Amendment filed September 26, 1996; effective December 10, 1996. Amendment filed July 19, 2001; effective October 2, 2001. Amendment filed February 27, 2004; effective May 12, 2004. Amendment filed July 1, 2014; effective September 29, 2014.

1660-01-14-.04 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206 and 70-4-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified May 8, 1974. Amendment filed June 8, 1977; effective July 8, 1977. Amendment filed January 30, 1995; effective April 15, 1995. Repeal filed March 31, 2000; effective June 14, 2000.

1660-01-14-.05 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. § 70-1-206. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified May 8, 1974. Amendment filed June 8, 1977; effective July 8, 1977. Repeal filed July 19, 2001; effective October 2, 2001.

1660-01-14-.06 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A.. §§ 70-1-206 and 70-4-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified May 8, 1974. Amendment filed October 29, 1974; effective November 29, 1974. Amendment filed July 2, 1979; effective August 16, 1979. Amendment filed June 27, 1984; effective July 27, 1984. Amendment filed January 30, 1995; effective April 15, 1995. Amendment filed July 14, 1999; September 27, 1999. Repeal filed July 19, 2001; effective October 2, 2001.

1660-01-14-.07 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A.. §§ 70-1-206 and 70-4-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified May 8, 1974. Amendment filed August 2, 1982; effective August 31, 1982. Original rule filed April 16, 1993; effective May 31, 1993. Repeal filed July 19, 2001; effective October 2, 2001.

1660-01-14-.08 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified May 8, 1974. Amendment filed July 19, 1976; effective August 18, 1976. Repeal filed June 8, 1977; effective July 8, 1977.

1660-01-14-.09 REPEALED.

Authority: T.C.A.. §§ 70-1-206. **Administrative History:** Original rule certified May 8, 1974. Repeal filed June 8, 1977; effective July 8, 1977.

1660-01-14-.10 STATE OPERATED WILDLIFE AND/OR WATERFOWL REFUGES.

- (1) The following regulations apply to wildlife and/or waterfowl refuges:
 - (a) The hunting, fishing, killing, taking and/or attempted taking of any species of wildlife is prohibited, except where specifically provided by proclamation.

(Rule 1660-01-14-.10, continued)

- (b) The discharging or firing of any type of weapon within, or into a refuge is prohibited, except during designated hunts.
 - (c) The concentrating, driving, rallying, or disturbance of waterfowl, cranes, and/or coots by means of the aid of water, land, or air conveyance or by any other means whatsoever is prohibited.
 - (d) Public use of refuge lands is permitted, except as otherwise prohibited by proclamation or rule. Public use is limited to activities of a temporary nature only.
 - (e) The construction of piers, boathouses, grills, or any other structure which is permanently affixed to the land or water is specifically prohibited on Hiwassee and Paint Rock Refuges.
- (2) The following regulations apply to Amnicola Refuge and Nickajack Cave Refuge:
- (a) Use of alcohol and drugs is prohibited.
 - (b) Camping or loitering is prohibited.
 - (c) Fireworks are prohibited.
 - (d) Picnicking prohibited unless provided for at designated areas.
 - (e) Pets must be confined to leash or carrier.
 - (f) Entrance on and/or use of Amnicola Refuge shall be by written permission only, and only at such time specified in the written permit.
 - (g) The Executive Director of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency or persons designated by him shall have sole authority to grant the permission described above.
 - (h) Persons desiring use of Amnicola Refuge must contact the TWRA Region 3 Office, 464 Industrial Blvd., Crossville, Tennessee 38555 at least 10 days prior to the date for which permission is desired in order to allow adequate time for processing the permit.
 - (i) Trespass by land or water for any use is prohibited on or in the Nickajack Cave Refuge except that use of the observation deck and access trail to the deck is permitted between April 1 and October 15, inclusive, and that fishing by sport fishing methods as set out by statute or proclamation is permitted as long as no vessel or person enters the refuge boundary.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206 and 70-4-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed June 8, 1977; effective July 8, 1977. Amendment filed May 19, 1980; effective July 3, 1980. Amendment filed June 27, 1985; effective July 27, 1985. Amendment filed June 27, 1988; effective August 11, 1988. Amendment filed October 26, 1988; effective December 10, 1988. Amendment filed June 8, 1989; effective July 23, 1989. Amendment filed August 29, 1990; effective October 13, 1990. Amendment filed October 21, 1991; effective December 5, 1991. Amendment filed December 14, 1992; effective January 29, 1993. Amendment filed August 9, 1993; effective October 23, 1993. Amendment filed April 4, 1994; effective June 18, 1994. Amendment filed September 26, 1996; effective December 10, 1996. Amendment filed September 30, 1997; effective December 13, 1997. Amendment filed July 19, 2001; effective October 2, 2001. Amendment filed July 1, 2014; effective September 29, 2014. Amendments filed September 28, 2016; effective December 27, 2016.

1660-01-14-.11 TELlico LAKE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA AND REFUGE.

- (1) Artifact Hunting.
 - (a) No person shall disturb or remove any artifact from the area without specific authorization.
 - (b) Digging, probing sub-surface or the use of under water snorkeling or scuba techniques to identify artifact areas is prohibited without specific authorization.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206 and 70-4-107. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed February 26, 1987; effective April 12, 1987. Amendment filed July 19, 2001; effective October 2, 2001.

1660-01-14-.12 CHEATHAM LAKE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA.

- (1) Borum Pond: Use of gasoline-powered motors is prohibited on all waters.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 9, 1993; effective October 23, 1993. Amendment filed July 19, 2001; effective October 2, 2001.

1660-01-14-.13 HUNTING AND MISCELLANEOUS USES OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS AND OTHER TENNESSEE WILDLIFE RESOURCES AGENCY CONTROLLED LANDS.

- (1) General.
 - (a) On management areas, the hunter (except raccoon, opossum, and turkey hunters) may not enter prior to two (2) hours before sunrise, and he must be out of the area by one (1) hour after sunset or legal closing time. Raccoon and opossum hunters must be out of the area one (1) hour after sunrise, except on the Cherokee Wildlife Management Area.
 - (b) Only guides approved by the hunt manager will be allowed on managed hunts and these may not carry guns while guiding unless they possess a valid hunting license, big game stamp and area hunt permit. When compartments are assigned by the hunt manager, hunters must remain in the compartment assigned.
 - (c) Unauthorized persons are prohibited from being in the wildlife management area during deer, bear, and turkey hunts, except on the Cherokee and Land Between the Lakes Wildlife Management Areas, or as otherwise specified by rule or proclamation.
- (2) Safety Rules.
 - (a) No hunt participant shall be in possession of any alcoholic beverage, narcotic drug, barbiturate, or marijuana while hunting within a management area or other Wildlife Resources Agency controlled lands. No individual may be under the influence of these substances at any time while within a management area or other Wildlife Resources Agency controlled lands.
 - (b) Target practice is prohibited except at ranges provided by the Wildlife Resources Agency or the USDA Forest Service. Safety Zones may be designated and posted by the area manager. Safety Zones are defined as an area of protection which may have restricted hunting activities around dwellings, recreation areas, firing and archery ranges and roads.

(Rule 1660-01-14-.13, continued)

- (3) Dogs.
 - (a) Use or possession of dogs is prohibited on wildlife management areas or on other Wildlife Resources Agency controlled lands except when authorized by Commission proclamation or regulation.
 - (b) These rules and regulations shall not be construed to conflict with rules and regulations promulgated by any State or Federal Agency with whom the Wildlife Resources Agency manages any area under terms of a cooperative agreement.
 - (c) Any dog found on Wildlife Resources Agency controlled lands shall be impounded and disposed of according to the procedures outlined in T.C.A. § 70-4-118.
- (4) Camping And Picnicking.
 - (a) Camping is specifically prohibited at State fish hatcheries. Visiting prohibited between 5 p.m. and 8 a.m.
 - (b) Overnight camping may be permitted on designated areas by permission from the Area Manager, except on non-Agency lands where legally promulgated rules specify otherwise. Camping shall not exceed 3 weeks in length from the beginning to the end of the camping stay. Owner's contact information (name, phone number, address) or TWRA ID number and date of arrival must be displayed on camper, tent, vehicle, etc., at all times.
 - (c) Houseboats, floats and other watercraft are permitted to anchor and/or moor along the shoreline of Chuck Swan and Cove Creek WMAs from the third Thursday of May through the second Tuesday of September. Houseboats, floats and other watercraft are prohibited from blocking access to coves. In addition, mooring lines cannot be placed to prevent cove access or create a boating hazard. Anchoring and/or mooring shall not exceed 21 consecutive days in length from the beginning to the end of the anchoring and/or mooring stay.
 - (d) Picnicking is permitted on designated areas.
- (5) Miscellaneous.
 - (a) Other use of wildlife management areas and other Wildlife Resources Agency controlled lands is subject to approval of the Executive Director, Regional Manager, Park Superintendent, State Forest Supervisor, National Forest Supervisor, or Forest Service National Recreation Area Supervisor.
 - (b) All motorized vehicles must be muffler equipped to suppress noise and be spark arrestor equipped to prevent fires. Operation of motorized vehicles is confined to roads and trails not designated as closed or as authorized by the Area Manager. On LBL, motorized vehicles are prohibited on all roads and trails not designated as open by signs and/or other appropriate methods. Driving off road into woods, fields, or on foot trails or utility right-of-way is prohibited on all agency owned wildlife management areas. Motorized vehicles may be prohibited on any agency owned wildlife management area if deemed necessary to protect wildlife, vegetation, and/or properties.
 - (c) Vehicles shall not be parked in any manner that will block or deny access to any road or trail.

(Rule 1660-01-14-.13, continued)

- (d) In addition to the above, the following apply to the use of trail bikes, mini-bikes, and other off-highway-vehicles:
1. Off Highway Vehicles (OHVs) are restricted to use on roads open to other motorized traffic, except where prohibited by state or federal statute, and designated trails only. Roads shall be posted if closed.
 2. OHVs may be prohibited from certain high use areas and at certain times when there is a threat to public safety or wildlife as indicated by signs.
 3. Driving off roads and designated trails into woods, fields, and utility rights of way is prohibited unless otherwise provided.
 4. OHVs may be operated during daylight hours and at other times when participating in authorized activities.
 5. OHVs must be equipped with properly functioning mufflers and spark arresters.
 6. OHVS may not be operated in a reckless or otherwise unsafe manner. No harassment or disturbance of people or wildlife is permitted.
 7. All incidents resulting in the injury to persons or damage to property must be reported by the person or persons involved as soon as possible to the district forester, area manager, or park superintendent. This report does not relieve persons from the responsibility of making any other accident reports which may be required under state law.
 8. Off Highway Vehicle is any vehicle capable of traveling off highways within the state. The term includes all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, dune buggies and other four-wheeled vehicles used for off-road activities.
- (e) The use of wire, nails or other metal materials is expressly prohibited in the building or attaching of climbing devices or hunting stands on or in trees. Hunting is prohibited from any stand attached to a tree with these materials. Portable climbing devices or stands that do not injure trees are excepted from this rule.
- (f) Acts of disorderly, obnoxious, or boisterous conduct, including acts that interfere with the orderly process of hunting, are prohibited. Violators shall be removed from the area and/or prosecuted. When an individual is convicted for a flagrant violation(s) or repeated violations of regulations governing management areas, the Executive Director shall at his discretion bar said individual from all management areas for a period of up to two years of date of written notification.
- (g) No person shall deface, damage, destroy or remove any equipment, structure, trees, fruits, nuts, crops, or other plants, dirt, gravel or sod from any wildlife management area or other Wildlife Resources Agency controlled lands without specific authorization.
- (h) No garbage, rubbish, litter or any refuse, sewage or other material which would pollute said area or waters, or render them unsightly or unsanitary shall be thrown, left or deposited on the area.
- (i) No warming, camping or any type fire shall be allowed except at designated camping areas. Anyone causing a forest fire shall be held liable for the cost of suppression.

(Rule 1660-01-14-.13, continued)

- (j) The following apply to the use of saddle and pack animals on Wildlife Management Areas:
 - 1. Horses and other saddle and pack animals are permitted on roads and trails open to motorized traffic and other trails or routes established for their use.
 - 2. Riding off roads into woods, fields, or on foot trails is prohibited unless otherwise provided.
 - 3. Horses and other saddle and pack animals may be prohibited from certain high use areas such as campgrounds, picnic areas, main-traveled roads, etc. as indicated by signs.
 - 4. Horses and other saddle and pack animals are prohibited at all times on Bridgestone/Firestone Centennial Wilderness, Foothills and Oak Ridge Wildlife Management Areas.
 - 5. Horses and other saddle and pack animals are prohibited during big game seasons on Cheatham, Laurel Hill, and Yanahli Wildlife Management Areas.
- (k) The following shall apply to abandoned and unattended property:
 - 1. Abandonment of any vehicle or other personal property is prohibited and such property may be impounded by the Area Manager or an authorized person.
 - 2. Leaving any vehicle or other personal property unattended for longer than 24 hours, without prior permission of the Area manager or other authorized person, is prohibited and any property so left may be impounded by the Area Manager or an authorized person, and may be disposed of according to state procedures. In the event unattended property interferes with a safe and orderly management of the area, it may be impounded at any time.

Authority: T.C.A. § 70-1-206. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed July 19, 2001; effective October 2, 2001. Amendment filed June 3, 2008; effective August 17, 2008. Amendment filed July 1, 2014; effective September 29, 2014. Amendments filed September 28, 2016; effective December 27, 2016.

1660-01-14-.14 HUNTING AND MISCELLANEOUS USES OF PUBLIC HUNTING AREAS.

- (1) Permits (on public hunting areas where required, as per agreement)
 - (a) Before any person may hunt on a public Hunting Area he must possess a valid and appropriate hunt permit purchased from a Public Hunting Area permit agent. This permit must be available for inspection while on the area.
 - (b) A public hunting area permit is subject to cancellation if the permittee violates any of the rules and regulations of the area.
- (2) Safety Rules
 - (a) No hunt participant shall be in possession of any alcoholic beverage, narcotic drug barbiturate, or marijuana while hunting within the Public Hunting Area. No person may be under the influence of these substances while hunting on a Public Hunting Area.
 - (b) Hunting is specifically prohibited inside safety zones on all public hunting areas.

(Rule 1660-01-14-.14, continued)

(3) Miscellaneous

- (a) All motorized vehicles must be muffler equipped to suppress noise and be spark arrestor equipped to prevent fires. Operation of motorized vehicles is confined to roads not designated as closed and driving off road into woods fields, strip mines, foot trails and utility rights-of-way is prohibited. Enduros, rallies, and/or motocross competition is prohibited on all agency-owned wildlife management areas.
- (b) Vehicles shall not be parked in any manner which will block or deny access to any road or trail.
- (c) The use of wire, nails or other metal materials is prohibited in the building or attaching of climbing devices or hunting stands on or in trees. Hunting is prohibited from any stand attached to a tree with these materials. Portable climbing devices and stands that do not injure trees are excepted from this rule.
- (d) No person shall deface, damage, destroy or remove any equipment, structure, sign, trees, plants, dirt or gravel from any Public Hunting Area without proper authorization.
- (e) No garbage, refuse, litter or sewage shall be left or deposited on a Public Hunting Area.
- (f) The use of buckshot for hunting and/or taking of deer and turkey is specifically prohibited.
- (g) The use of ATVs (4 wheelers, 3 wheelers, dirt bikes, etc.) or any unlicensed motorized vehicle is prohibited on the Weyerhaeuser Public Hunting Area.
- (h) Open fires are prohibited on all public hunting areas.
- (i) Other miscellaneous uses of public hunting areas shall be in accordance with posted notices and/or as indicated on the hunt permit.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206 and 70-2-225. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed July 19, 2001; effective October 2, 2001. Amendment filed May 2, 2003; effective July 16, 2003. Amendments filed September 28, 2016; effective December 27, 2016.

1660-01-14-.15 IMPACT PERMITS FOR USE OF WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA.

- (1) A High Impact Habitat Conservation Permit is required for riding hoofed animals, bicycling, and off highway vehicle use on designated wildlife management areas. Persons holding a valid hunting license with an appropriate permit to hunt on a wildlife management area and youths under age thirteen (13) are exempt.
- (2) At least one occupant of a vehicle must possess the proper permit(s). No permit shall be required on roads/trails as designated.
- (3) Off Highway Vehicle is any vehicle capable of traveling off highways within the state. The term includes all-terrain vehicles, motorcycles, dune buggies and other four-wheeled vehicles used for off-road activities.

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206 and 70-2-225. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed August 5, 2002; effective October 19, 2002. Amendment filed September 16, 2003; effective November 30, 2003. Amendment filed February 10, 2005; effective April 26, 2005. Repeal and new rules filed June 3, 2008;

(Rule 1660-01-14-.15, continued)

effective August 17, 2008. Amendment filed March 27, 2015; effective June 25, 2015. A six-day stay of the effective date of the rule filed March 27, 2015; new effective date July 1, 2015.

1660-01-14-.16 BELLAMY CAVE WILDLIFE REFUGE

- (1) Bellamy Cave Wildlife Refuge is closed to trespass except as otherwise provided in this rule.
- (2) Trespass may be authorized by obtaining permission in writing from the TWRA Region 2 Office, P.O. Box 41489, Nashville, TN 37204

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206 and 70-5-101. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 17, 2007; effective March 1, 2008.

1660-01-14-.17 MANAGED RECREATION AREAS ON FoothILLS WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

- (1) All recreation areas are open to the general public, at all times, free of charge for use subject to the following rules:
 - (a) Picnicking is permitted.
 - (b) Camping is prohibited at all times.
 - (c) Unattended vehicles shall not be left in a manner as to deprive or interfere with other persons' access to parking areas and/or facilities. Area is not to be used as a "park and ride" lot.
 - (d) No person, or persons, shall deface or remove trees or other plants, dirt, gravel, or sod or any structure placed on the area by the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency or with the approval of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency.
 - (e) No garbage, rubbish, litter or any refuse, or other material which would pollute said areas or waters, or render them unsatisfactory or unsanitary shall be left on the area.
 - (f) Commercial use of recreation area is prohibited. Organized events will be held by permit only.
 - (g) The use of firearms is prohibited.
 - (h) Disorderly conduct and/or use of intoxicants and/or other behavior modifying substances are prohibited.
 - (i) Handicapped parking zones, as posted, are reserved for handicapped users.
 - (j) Parking regulations will be enforced as posted. Officers of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency may, at their discretion, have offending vehicles towed (at owners' expense) or issue citations.
 - (k) Picnic tables are available on a "first come" basis and cannot be reserved.
 - (l) The use of fireworks is prohibited.
 - (m) All dogs must be leashed.
 - (n) No open fires. Cooking on grills is permitted.

(Rule 1660-01-14-.17, continued)

Authority: T.C.A. §§ 70-1-206 and 70-5-101. **Administrative History:** Original rule filed June 3, 2008; effective August 17, 2008.

1660-01-14-.18 REELFOOT LAKE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA – NAVIGATIONAL OR LOCATION AIDS.

- (1) Permission to establish private navigational or location aids, markers, poles, rods, or stakes on Reelfoot Lake Wildlife Management Area by an individual, municipality or any group must be obtained by written request to the executive director of the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency or his representative.
- (2) This shall not include stakes or poles associated with permanent blind sites permitted by 1660-01-02-.02(2)(c) or any other legal manner and means associated with hunting, fishing and trapping activities.
- (3) Any unauthorized navigational or location aid, marker, pole, rod or stake is subject to immediate removal by the Wildlife Resources Agency.

Authority: T.C.A. § 70-1-206(a)(6). **Administrative History:** Original rule filed December 16, 2008; effective March 1, 2009.