Kisatchie National Forest (KNF) 2026 – 2027 Hunting Dates

General

- Bag Limit: 1 deer per day up to the statewide seasonal limit.
- All deer hunting on KNF lands is still hunting only.
- Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (LDWF) tagging requirements apply.
- LDWF Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Regulations for hunter orange and blaze pink apply.
- LDWF Youth Only Deer Hunt regulations apply for all KNF lands except that archery and open season small game hunting is allowed (Excluding those portions of the Vernon Unit within Fort Polk-Vernon WMA).
- See the 2026 – 27 Louisiana Hunting Regulations pamphlet for additional information.

Deer Archery:

- Vernon Unit of the Calcasieu Ranger District (Vernon Parish, excluding Fort Polk-Vernon WMA)
    - Sept. 19 – Jan. 15
- Catahoula Ranger District (Grant & Rapides Parish), Winn Ranger District (Winn, Grant & Natchitoches Parish), Kisatchie Ranger District (Natchitoches Parish), Evangeline Unit of the Calcasieu Ranger District (Rapides Parish) and the Caney Ranger District (Webster & Claiborne Parish)
    - Oct. 1 – Jan. 31 [including the Catahoula & Red Dirt National Wildlife Management Preserves (NWMP)]

Deer Firearms:

- Catahoula Ranger District (Grant & Rapides Parish), Winn Ranger District (Winn, Grant & Natchitoches Parish), Kisatchie Ranger District (Natchitoches Parish), Evangeline Unit of the Calcasieu Ranger District (Rapides Parish) and the Vernon Unit of the Calcasieu Ranger District (Vernon Parish, excluding Fort Polk-Vernon WMA)
    - *Youth Only*, either-sex: Oct. 10 – 16, still hunting only
    - Primitive Firearms, either-sex: Oct. 24 – 25 and Jan. 2 - 3, still hunting only
    - Firearms, either sex: Oct. 31 – Nov. 1 & Nov. 27, still hunting only
    - Firearms, bucks only: Nov. 7 – 26, Nov. 28 – 29, and Dec. 12 – 27, still hunting only
- Caney Ranger District (Webster & Claiborne Parish) Same as Area 2 regulations including *Youth Only* Hunt and Primitive Firearms, either-sex, except still hunt only

Other Species:

- Rabbit, Squirrel, Quail, Migratory Game Birds and Waterfowl (see LA Hunting Regulations for additional waterfowl information for Caney RD): Same dates, shooting hours, and bag limits as outside
    - EXCEPT, NO spring squirrel season on the KNF
    - EXCEPT, All waterfowl hunting ceases at 12 noon
- *Youth Only* Squirrel: Sept. 26 – 27
- Feral Hogs, Coyotes, Armadillos & Beavers: May be taken during daylight hours on any KNF hunt by properly licensed hunters with weapons legal for that hunt.
- Fox (chase only), Raccoons & Opossum (nighttime, chase only): Oct. 1 – Feb. 28 (See LA. Trapping Regulations for additional info. on trapping)
- Crows: Sept. 1 – Jan. 1
- Turkey: Caney Ranger District: April 3 – 18. All remaining KNF lands (includes NWMPs): April 3 – 25.
    - Youth Only: March 26 – 28 on all Ranger Districts (except Vernon Unit lands within Fort Polk-Vernon WMA).

Catahoula & Red Dirt NWMP *see Season Permit for additional information*:

- *Deer Youth Only*, either-sex: Oct. 10 – 16, still hunting only
- Deer Physically Challenged, either-sex: Oct. 10 – 11, still hunting only
- Deer Primitive Firearms, either-sex: Oct. 24 – 25, still hunting only
- Deer Firearms, either-sex: Oct. 31 – Nov. 1 & Nov. 27, still hunting only
- Deer Firearms, bucks only: Nov. 28 – 29, still hunting only
- Squirrel/Rabbit (with dogs) & Raccoon (nighttime with dogs): Jan. 2 – Feb. 28, Quail (with dogs): Nov. 21 – Feb. 28
    - Hunting these animals is closed during deer gun hunts on NWMP
    - Youth Only Squirrel: Sept. 26 – 27
- Self-clearing Daily Permit required on NWMP during deer gun hunts and turkey season.