2026 – 2027 SEASON PERMIT

Catahoula & Red Dirt National Wildlife Management Preserve (NWMP) Regulations

Kisatchie National Forest (KNF)

-In cooperation with Louisiana Department of Wildlife & Fisheries (LDWF)-

GENERAL

Catahoula NWMP (36,000 acres) is within the Winn and Catahoula Ranger Districts (RD) and Red Dirt NWMP (38,000 acres) is within the Kisatchie RD. The Forest Supervisor can close the NWMP to the public during emergency situations. Unless otherwise stated, the LDWF state-wide regulations apply. LDWF Wildlife Management Area (WMA) hunter orange and blaze pink requirements apply. In the Kisatchie Hills Wilderness (within the Red Dirt NWMP) no motorized or mechanical means of transportation, including bicycles, are allowed. Walk-ins and horses are permissible in the Wilderness. It is the responsibility of the user to obtain the current Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM), which shows the National Forest System roads, trails, and camping designations (**NOTE: camping regulations do vary between Preserves**) and areas that are designated for motor vehicle use pursuant to 36 CFR 212.51. The MVUM also identifies the vehicle classes allowed on each route/area and any seasonal restrictions that apply. These maps are available, at no charge, at all RD offices or may be downloaded at www.fs.usda.gov/r08/kisatchie/maps-guides by clicking the RD you wish to visit and selecting the map.

PERMITS

Hunting, fishing and trapping are permitted in the NWMP in accordance with federal and state regulations. Each person hunting, fishing or trapping in the NWMP is required to have in his or her possession this Season Permit, in addition to the required state licenses. This season permit can be obtained at the RD offices listed above and can be printed from the KNF webpage (www.fs.usda.gov/r08/kisatchie/recreation/hunting). Hunters that are not required to possess a Louisiana hunting/fishing license must possess proof of such exemption. **Each person, including archery, desiring to engage in any deer hunt during the gun season and during turkey season, in the NWMP, must also obtain a Self-clearing Daily Permit**. This permit will be available at the Main Check Stations, Hunter Camps, Kisatchie, Catahoula and Winn RD Offices and at the Supervisor's Office (see address and contact information below). You may also self-clear through LDWF's WMA mobile application. All permits are free of charge. NOTE: The self-clearing permit consists of two portions, check-in and check-out. The check-in portion must be completed and put in the permit box before each hunt on the day of the hunt. The check-out portion must be carried by each person while on the Preserve and must be completed and put in the permit box at the end of that day's hunt. When Mandatory Deer Checks are specified (see below), all hunters must check deer at the Preserve main check station.

HUNTING SEASONS

Feral Hogs, Coyotes, Armadillos & Beavers: May be taken during daylight hours on any KNF hunt by properly licensed hunters with the weapon legal for that hunt. No bag limit.

Deer: During all deer gun hunts, all hunters (including archery), must follow the Self-clearing Daily Permit process. When Mandatory Deer Checks are specified (see below), all hunters (including archery), must check deer at the main check station. Deer can be field dressed. Bag limit for deer: 1 per day, 6 per season. LDWF deer tags mandatory. Still-hunting only for deer.

Deer Archery Season Oct. 1 – Jan. 31: The same hunting hours and archery restrictions listed in the LDWF Hunting Regulations for Area 2 are in effect for the Preserves. Note the mandatory deer check dates below.

Deer Youth Only (either-sex) Oct. 10 – 16: LDWF youth deer hunt regulations apply except that archery hunting is allowed.

Deer Physically-Challenged Hunt (either-sex) Oct. 10 – 11: Physically-challenged hunters must have in possession a LDWF Physically Challenged Hunters Permit, issued by LDWF.

Deer Primitive Firearms Hunt (either-sex) October 24 – 25: Check station will be open 7:30AM – 8:00PM on Oct. 24 and 25 for mandatory deer check.

Deer Firearms (either-sex) Oct. 31 – Nov. 1 and Nov. 27: Check station will be open on Oct. 31 & Nov. 1 (7:30AM – 8:00PM) and on November 27 (6:30AM – 7:00PM) for mandatory deer check.

Deer Firearms (bucks only) Nov. 28 – 29

Squirrel, Rabbit, Quail, Dove, Woodcock, and Waterfowl (without dogs): All seasons the same as outside (unless otherwise stated) with the exception of hunting these animals is closed during deer gun hunts. Consult appropriate LDWF hunting pamphlet for additional information on these species.
-No spring squirrel season
-***Youth Only Squirrel****: September 26 – 27*
-Squirrel and Rabbit (with dogs): Jan. 2 – Feb. 28
-Quail (with dogs): Nov. 21 – Feb. 28

Raccoon and Opossum (non-dog season/daylight hours): May be taken by properly licensed hunters as incidental take with gear legal for the season in progress. **Raccoon** (nighttime, with dogs): Jan. 2 – Feb. 28

Turkey: April 3 – April 25**; Youth Only Hunt** Mar. 26 – 28 (Self-clearing Daily Permit required for all turkey hunts)

Fishing: LDWF state creel limits apply. The Preserve will be closed for fishing during the deer gun hunts.

Trapping: See LDWF Trapping Regulations. The Preserve will be closed for trapping during deer gun hunts.

ATVs: All-terrain and utility vehicle (ATV/UTV) use is allowed ONLY on Forest roads designated as open seasonally to ATV/UTV use. Do not modify or remove spark arrestors. ATV/UTVs are prohibited in some campsites and recreation areas, please read bulletin boards for additional information. Consult the current MVUM for ATV/UTV (including a list of big-game retrieval corridors) and other vehicle travel use/information for each RD.

SELECT PROHIBITED ACTS: The following acts are prohibited on this Preserve, under the authority of 36 CFR 261, Subparts A and B. Violators are subject to punishment by a fine of not more than $5,000 or imprisonment of not more than 6 months, or both. 1. Violating state or federal laws. 2. Hunting, fishing, or trapping without a Season Permit. Also, Self-clearing Daily Permit is required during deer and turkey gun hunts in addition to the Season Permit. 3. Dispersed camping during gun seasons for deer and turkey. See MVUM for additional camping regulations. 4. Driving vehicles on closed roads (obtain Motor Vehicle Use Map from any KNF office). 5. Hunting or discharging a firearm or any other implement capable of taking human or animal life, causing injury or damaging property: (a) in or within 150 yards of a residence, building, campsite, developed recreation site or occupied area; (b) across or on a National Forest System Road (NFSR) or across a body of water where any person or property is exposed to injury or damage as a result of such discharge; or (c) hunting within 50 feet of the center of any NFSR. 6. Baiting or hunting over bait (all species) or using live decoys. 7. Building or hunting from, permanent tree stands or blinds; using any temporary tree stand or blind that penetrates the bark or otherwise damages the tree. 8. Using tree-climbing spurs. 9. Placing or leaving a temporary stand more than 24 hours. 10. Shooting one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise. Please consult the Louisiana Hunting Regulations pamphlet for additional information.

Lisa W. Lewis
Forest Supervisor, Kisatchie National Forest

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Catahoula & Red Dirt NWMP SEASON PERMIT, 2026 – 2027

This Permit allows the holder to hunt, fish, and trap on the NWMPs. The regulations on this Permit serve as "Terms of a Special Use Authorization," as provided for in 36 CFR 241.3(a) and 36 CFR 261.10(k). This Permit is nontransferable and is valid only when signed by the permittee and accompanied by a valid Louisiana hunting, fishing, or trapping license and must be in your possession at all times while hunting, fishing, or trapping on the Preserve. Your signature acknowledges your understanding of the regulations contained herein. This Permit expires August 31, 2027.

Permittee Signature_____

For additional information contact offices Mon. – Fri. 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM: *Winn RD*: 9671 US Hwy 84 West, Winnfield, LA 71483, Telephone 318-628-4664; *Catahoula RD*: 5325 Hwy 8, Bentley, LA 71407, Telephone 318-765-3554; *Kisatchie RD*: 229 Dogwood Park Rd, Provencal, LA 71468, Telephone 318-473-7160; *Forest Supervisor's Office*: 2500 Shreveport Highway, Pineville, LA 71360, Telephone 318-473-7160 or visit our webpage at www.fs.usda.gov/r08/kisatchie/.

Help stop poaching. Call Operation Game Thief 1-800-442-2511