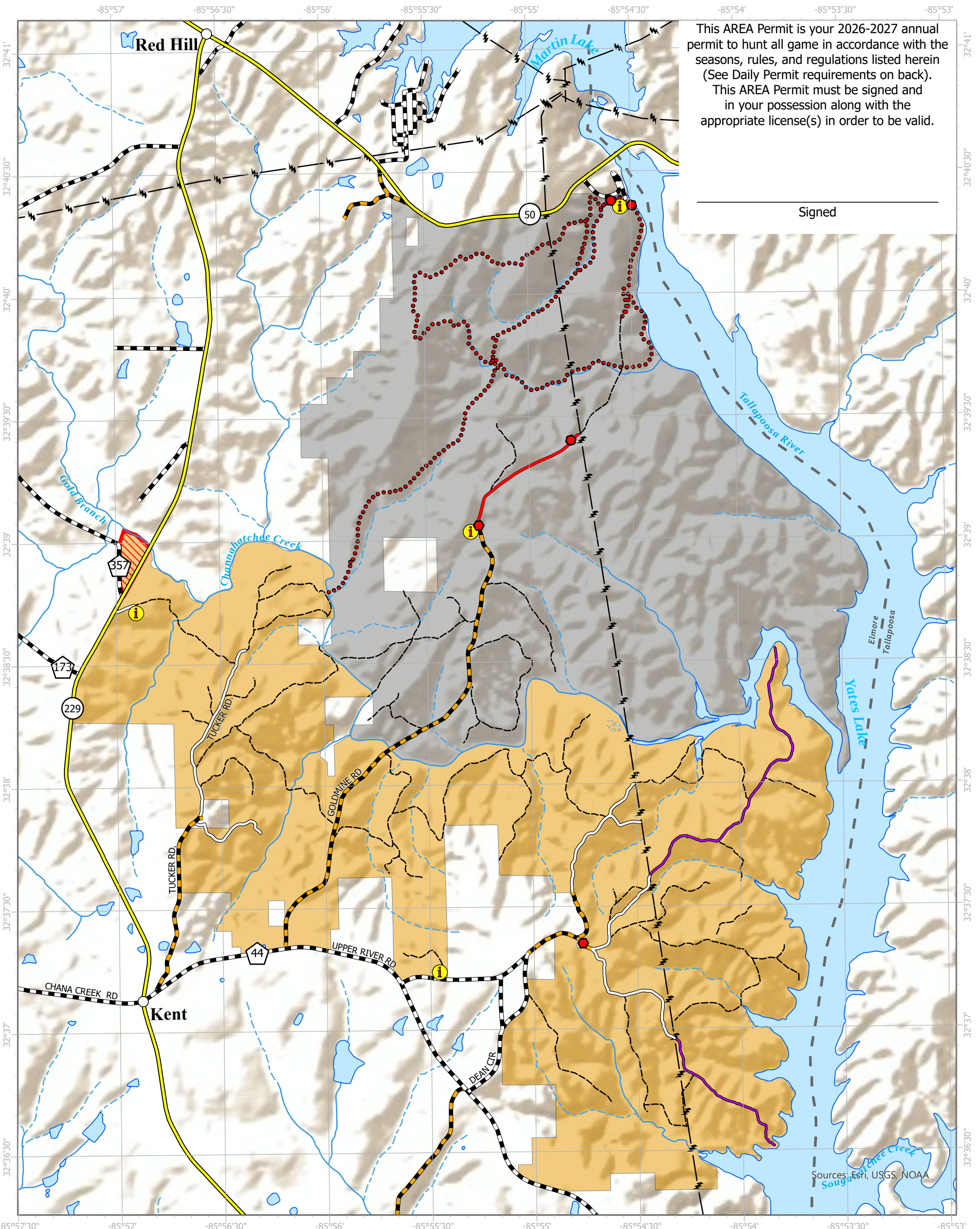




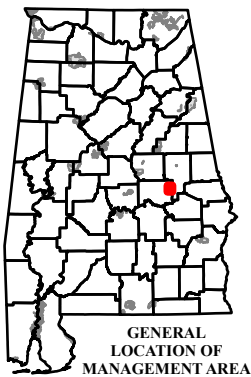
This AREA Permit is your 2026-2027 annual permit to hunt all game in accordance with the seasons, rules, and regulations listed herein (See Daily Permit requirements on back). This AREA Permit must be signed and in your possession along with the appropriate license(s) in order to be valid.

Signed _____

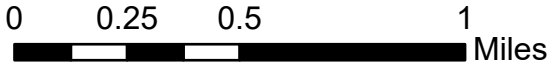
THE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE ON THE BASIS OF RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, AGE, SEX, NATIONAL ORIGIN, DISABILITY, PREGNANCY, GENETIC INFORMATION OR VETERAN STATUS IN ITS HIRING OR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES NOR IN ADMISSION TO, ACCESS TO, OR OPERATIONS OF ITS PROGRAMS, SERVICES OR ACTIVITIES.

THIS IS NOT A SURVEY. BOUNDARIES REFLECT INFORMATION PROVIDED FOR HUNTING AT THE DATE OF REVISION. THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION DOES NOT ACCEPT RESPONSIBILITY FOR ANY INACCURACIES HEREIN. THIS PUBLICATION IS AVAILABLE IN ALTERNATIVE FORMATS UPON REQUEST.

DUE TO THE SCALE OF THIS MAP THE ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND ITS AFFILIATES ASSUME NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR INACCURACIES IN ROAD ALIGNMENTS, CONFIGURATION OF INTERSECTIONS, AND OTHER RELATED DATA.



GENERAL LOCATION OF MANAGEMENT AREA



- Safety Zone
- Gate
- Self Service Kiosk - DAILY PERMIT
- Hiking Trails
- State Highway Paved
- County - Paved
- County - Gravel/Dirt
- WMA Roads Yearlong OPEN
- WMA Roads All Season OPEN
- WMA Roads Seasonally CLOSED
- WMA Road All Season CLOSED
- WMA Trail - WALKING ONLY
- Power Transmission Line

2026-27

FOREVER WILD

GOTHARD - AWF

YATES LAKE

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA



ZONE A

ZONE B



GOTHARD-AWF YATES LAKE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

Elmore County

ALABAMA DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL
RESOURCES – DIVISION OF WILDLIFE & FRESHWATER FISHERIES

Hunting Regulations September 2026 – August 2027

CONTACT INFORMATION:

For information and questions regarding regulations or use of the WMA,
please contact Biologist – **Kara Glassey (334) 530-1758**

WHAT YOU NEED:

- **To hunt DEER or TURKEY:** a Wildlife Management Area License and the applicable Resident or Non-Resident All Game Hunting License [for Alabama residents 16 through 64 years of age and for non-residents 16 years of age and older], are required.
- **To hunt WATERFOWL:** a Wildlife Management Area License, current HIP certification and valid State (ages 16 through 64) and Federal (ages 16 and over) Waterfowl Stamp, and applicable Resident or Non-Resident Small Game or All Game Hunting License [for Alabama residents 16 through 64 years of age and for non-residents 16 years of age and older], are required.
- **To hunt small game except waterfowl:** a Wildlife Heritage License OR applicable Resident or Non-Resident Small Game or All Game Hunting License [for Alabama residents 16 through 64 years of age and for non-residents 16 years of age and older], is required.
- **For ALL HUNTS:** a paper AREA Permit and a paper WMA daily permit are required UNLESS using the Outdoor Alabama WMA Check-In application to check in and out each hunt day.

NOTES:

- Statewide antlered buck season bag limit applies to all WMAs, except for bonus buck as allowed.
- Youth hunters on youth deer and turkey hunts must be less than 16 years of age. Supervisors must be 21 years old or older, or a parent, and must be properly licensed. Youth must always remain within 30 feet of supervisors.
- Administrators of the hunt shall have the right to distribute the hunters and to inspect all vehicles or other equipment while on the WMA. The Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and landowners, who are making the hunting possible, hereby put each hunter on notice that they hunt at their own risk and the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources and such landowners shall not be responsible for any accidents or injuries that may occur.

HUNTING DATES & BAG LIMITS:

DEER: (No Dog Deer Hunting) (No Buckshot)

Zone A & B: (Archery)

Oct. 15-Feb. 10 – One deer a day, either one unantlered deer or one antlered buck. No hunting on days of youth deer hunts. Archery hunters must abide by all gun deer hunting regulations when hunting days of gun deer hunts.

(Youth)

Nov. 14-15 – One deer a day, either one unantlered deer or one antlered buck.

(Primitive Weapons)

Nov. 16-20 – One deer a day, either one unantlered deer or one antlered buck.

(Gun)

Nov. 21-22 and Jan. 15-31 – One antlered buck a day.

Zone A: (Gun)

Nov. 26-29, Dec. 10-13, and Dec. 24-27 – One antlered buck a day.

Zone B: (Gun)

Dec. 3-6, Dec. 17-20, and Dec. 31- Jan. 3 – One antlered buck a day.

DATA COLLECTION: It is MANDATORY to bring all deer harvested on Jan 15-16 and Jan 29-30 (including archery) to the check station (kiosk off Hwy 229) for data collection. Check station will be open from 9:00 am to 7:00 pm. The results of all hunts for all species must be recorded using the Outdoor Alabama App or Daily Permit and submitted at kiosk at the conclusion of every hunt day.

TURKEY: (Youth) **March 13** (Daylight until 1 p.m.) Gobblers only. Decoys Allowed.
(Physically Disabled) **March 19** (Daylight until 1 p.m.) Gobblers only. Decoys Allowed.
(Regular) **March 20 - May 3** (Daylight until 1 p.m.) Gobblers only. Decoys Allowed.

BAG LIMIT – No more than 1 gobbler during the first 10 days of each season. No more than 2 gobblers total per hunter from Gothard-AWF Yates Lake WMA.

WATERFOWL: **State Season.** No hunting on days of youth, primitive weapons, or gun deer hunts. **State bag limits.** Small game hunting is permitted in zone not open for gun deer hunting.

RABBIT & SQUIRREL: **Sept. 12 - Feb. 28** – No hunting on days of youth, primitive weapons, or gun deer hunts. Fox squirrel season closed during February. Small game hunting is permitted in zone not open for gun deer hunting. **Bag limit: 8 squirrels per day. 8 rabbits per day.**

CROW: **Sept. 1 - Feb. 28** – No hunting on days of youth, primitive weapons, or gun deer hunts. Small game hunting is permitted in zone not open for gun deer hunting. **No bag limit.**

QUAIL: **Nov. 7 - Feb. 28** – No hunting on days of youth, primitive weapons, or gun deer hunts. Small game hunting is permitted in zone not open for gun deer hunting. **Bag limit: 8 per day.**

WOODCOCK: **State season.** No hunting on days of youth, primitive weapons, or gun deer hunts. Small game hunting is permitted in zone not open for gun deer hunting. **Bag limit: 3 per day.**

RACCOON & OPOSSUM: **Sept. 1 - Feb. 28** – Nighttime hours only. No hunting on nights preceding or nights of youth, primitive weapons, or gun deer hunts. **No bag limit.**

COYOTE, OPOSSUM, FERAL SWINE, RACCOON, FOX: Open during any other scheduled WMA Hunting Season using weapons and ammunition approved for those hunts. No dogs allowed. Daylight hours only. **No bag limit.**

FURBEARER TRAPPING: (Excluding feral swine) **Oct. 31 - Feb. 28** – Permits must be obtained from Area Biologist.

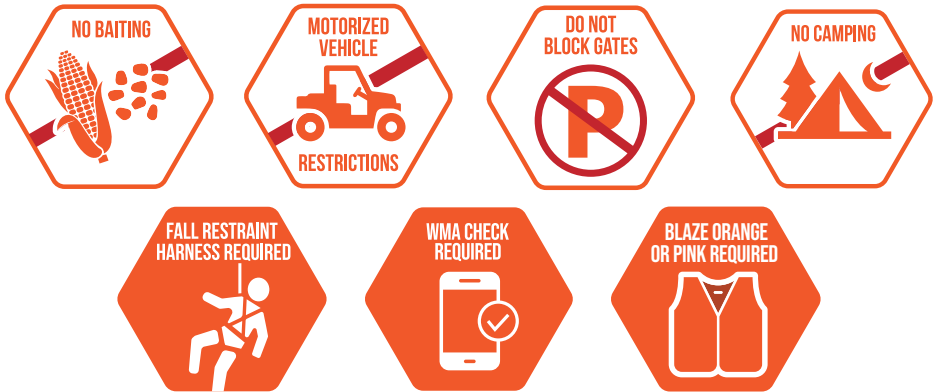
IMPORTANT:

All hunters must be familiar with WMA Regulation 220-2-.55. This regulation contains complete rules for hunting on this property. **In addition, it shall be unlawful:**

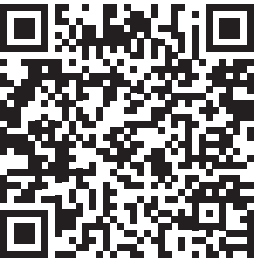
- *Users must refer to WMA Regulation 220-2-.55 for the complete list of WMA regulations.**
1. To transport harvested deer or turkey from the WMA before reporting harvest in the Game Check System. Hunters must also submit such harvests at the WMA check station for data collection if hunt date is indicated as a mandatory check station day on the Outdoor Alabama WMA Application or AREA Permit. All other harvested game must be recorded on the Outdoor Alabama WMA Application or WMA Daily Permit.
 2. To discharge firearms for target practice except on designated target ranges in accordance with listed rules during posted times and dates.
 3. For any person, except authorized personnel, to operate any motor-driven vehicle behind locked gates, barricaded roads, or signs which prohibits vehicular traffic.
 4. For any unauthorized person to possess and/or operate **ANY UNLICENSED MOTOR DRIVEN VEHICLE on WMA.**
 5. To damage or remove any artifacts, trees, firewood, plants, dirt, gravel, or sod without legal authorization.
 6. To erect any permanent tree stand; install any screw-in style steps, spikes, or nails; or otherwise damage any tree.
 7. For any unauthorized person to ride or possess horses on WMA except as detailed in Regulation 220-2-.55 sections (w) and (x).

WMA is provided by the Wildlife Section of the Division of Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries, Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, in cooperation with the Forever Wild Land Trust.

KNOW THE RULES AND REGULATIONS



For a complete list of legal firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment, see QR code.



By using this Wildlife Management Area I acknowledge I have read, understand, and agree to the current WMA Regulation 220-2-.55. The information provided here is not the full regulation and users must refer to 220-2-.55

Scan the QR code or visit OutdoorAlabama.com/WMARules for the complete WMA rules and regulation 220-2-.55