

**Request for preliminary adoption of amendments to 312 IAC 9-2-15, 9-3-2, 9-3-3, and 9-3-4 governing deer hunting and 312 IAC 9-4-11 governing wild turkey hunting. Adds a definition of “youth” in 312 IAC 9-1-17. Administrative Cause No. 23-FW-**

The DNR is proposing to move the definition of “youth” to 312 IAC 9-1-17 to eliminate duplication of the definitions in multiple rules and provide clarity of the term as used throughout 312 IAC 9. The changes to the wild turkey hunting rule correct the references to the deer hunting rules as a result of the proposed changes to 312 IAC 9-3-3 and 9-3-4.

Below is a summary and brief justification for the proposed changes to the deer hunting rules:

Proposed changes to 312 IAC 9-3-2:

*Creating a single license for archery and crossbow equipment*

The DNR is proposing to eliminate the crossbow license by allowing individuals who use either a bow and arrow or a crossbow and bolt to purchase an archery license and use either equipment. This change will help reduce confusion and give deer hunters an additional equipment option with the one (1) license. Both licenses are currently allowed during the entire deer archery season, so there is no change to the timeframe in which the licenses can be used. A recent survey of hunters found they were supportive of this change, although some do not consider crossbows to be “traditional” archery equipment. The change should not impact revenue for the DNR because an individual is still required to purchase a license, and most individuals use either a bow and an arrow or a crossbow to hunt, but not both. Since legalizing the use of a crossbow in 2012, less than one percent (1%) of resident and nonresident hunters who have purchased both a crossbow and an archery license or used both equipment types in the same license year. As for hunters who use the deer license bundle, since 2016 there has never been more than ninety-three (93) individuals check in a deer under both equipment types in a given year. Given these metrics, it is unlikely that eliminating the crossbow license and allowing crossbow use under an archery license would contribute to a significant revenue effect either from a decrease in archery or crossbow license sales or disincentivizing deer license bundle purchases. It is also unlikely to result in a change in harvest. Currently, individuals who hunt using archery equipment can take an antlered or antlerless deer with an archery or a crossbow license, as long as they do not take more than one (1) antlered deer in the regular deer seasons combined. However, the small percentage of individuals that purchase both an archery and a crossbow license could potentially save the cost of one (1) license since a license holder could use either type of equipment on the one (1) archery license.

A question in the 2022 Deer Management Survey asked about combining the archery and crossbow licenses into one license. We received 16,462 responses to this question. Of those, 73% supported this rule proposal (61% strongly supporting; 12% somewhat supporting), 12% were neutral, and 19% opposed (11% strongly opposing; 7% somewhat opposing).

In a 2021 survey, there were 894 archery-only respondents out of 16,462 total respondents (5.4%). Of those, 44% supported this proposal (31% strongly supporting; 13% somewhat supporting), 18% were neutral, and 38% opposed (30% strongly opposing; 8% somewhat opposing).

The DNR recognizes the desire of hunters to keep seasons specific to a type of equipment and to place certain limitations on others who hunt that season. However, the deer program aims to simplify the rules that govern deer hunting so that hunters desiring to enter the sport are less confused by the regulations.

### *312 IAC 9-3-2: Change the bundle license to one antlered deer and town antlerless deer*

The DNR is proposing to change the bundle license to allow hunters to take one (1) buck and two (2) antlerless deer and removing the option of harvesting three (3) antlerless deer. This is being proposed to further simplify regulations for hunters. Landowners and tenants of farmland who are exempt from needing a license to hunt deer on their own farmland would not be affected by this change and neither would resident youth license and a lifetime license holders. With only a small fraction of hunters using the bundle to harvest 3 antlerless deer, this will also reflect how the vast majority of hunters use this license.

The DNR asked a question about changing the bundle to allow hunters to only harvest one buck and two does in the 2022 Deer Management Survey. There were 16,374 responses to this question. Of those, 62% of hunters supported the proposed rule (40% strongly supporting), 19% were neutral, 18% opposed (11% strongly opposing).

### *312 IAC 9-3-2: Creation of the multiple season antlerless deer license*

This license will replace the bonus antlerless deer hunting license and allow an individual to take one antlerless deer per license using equipment authorized during the season in which they are hunting.

### *312 IAC 9-3-2: Creation of a statewide antlerless bag limit*

The DNR is proposing to create a statewide antlerless bag limit to go along with the current statewide antlered bag limit. This change is being proposed because the current county bonus antlerless quota (CBAQ) system allows individuals to shoot perceived excessive numbers of antlerless deer across multiple counties, if individuals in each county were to take the maximum number of bonus antlerless deer available in each county. The proposed changes to the rules governing deer hunting will allow an individual to still take no more than one (1) antlered deer during the regular deer seasons combined, as is allowed now, but it will also allow them to purchase up to six (6) additional multiple season antlerless deer licenses to take antlerless deer in any of the regular deer seasons (e.g., archery, firearm, and muzzleloader). This is not expected to create a significant change in revenue for the department since there are less than seventy (70) individuals that currently take more than seven (7) deer during a regular deer season each year. There are very few, if any, individuals who take the permitted six (6) antlerless deer under the current rules.

Currently, an emergency rule is authorized each year to establish the bonus antlerless deer bag limits per county and other limitations on properties where a bonus antlerless deer may not be taken. The proposed change would not affect military hunts, deer reduction zones, or other special licenses, so hunters will still be able to harvest additional deer if they desire.

The DNR asked a question about limiting the total number of antlerless deer that each hunter can harvest in Indiana to six antlerless deer in the 2022 Deer Management Survey, and there were 17,195

responses. Of those, 74% supported this to some degree (48% of those strongly supporting), 12% were neutral, and 14% opposed (7% opposing; 7% strongly opposing) this proposal.

## *312 IAC 9-3-2: Changing to the County Bonus Antlerless Quota to a County Antlerless Bag Limit*

The DNR's current bonus antlerless quota (CBAQ) structure is confusing for hunters. Currently, the number of antlerless deer a hunter can harvest in a county includes bag limits for the season types as well as the county bonus antlerless limit. Because there are also individual bag limits for these seasons, hunters often struggle to determine how many antlerless deer they can harvest. Hunters can also make mistakes when purchasing licenses because they may be unaware of the bag limits for the seasons. Therefore, DNR is proposing to change the CBAQ to a county antlerless bag limit that will provide a single number for how many antlerless deer can be harvested in a county, regardless of the equipment used to harvest the antlerless deer.

The DNR also asked a question about removing the "bonus" deer designation from rules in the 2022 Deer Management Survey and there were 16,691 responses to this question. Of those, 64% of hunters supported this rule proposal (37% strongly supporting; 27% somewhat supporting), 24% were neutral, and 12% were opposed (6% opposing; 6% strongly opposing).

## *312 IAC 9-3-2: Prohibit hunters from harvesting antlerless deer on certain DNR properties with a firearm*

Currently, hunters cannot use a bonus antlerless license or take a bonus antlerless deer on Fish & Wildlife Areas as well as a few other properties (Mississinewa Lake, Salamonie Lake, Patoka Lake) which is authorized by emergency rule each year when the CBAQ is set. Because of HEA 1623, the DNR can no longer have an emergency rule to establish these county quotas or property limits. In a survey of deer hunters in 2022, hunters their opinion of not allowing antlerless deer to be taken on Fish & Wildlife areas (FWAs) with a firearm. There were 16,478 responses to this question with 54% of hunters supporting this rule proposal (33% strongly supporting; 21% somewhat supporting), 29% were neutral, and 17% opposed this rule (9% strongly opposing; 8% somewhat opposing).

## *312 IAC 9-3-2: Replacement deer for deer harvested and determined to be unfit for consumption*

The DNR is proposing a rule that would allow a replacement deer to be taken if a deer that was legally taken and has meat that is unfit for human consumption under 312 IAC 9-3-2(bb). An individual taking a deer that is unfit for human consumption occurs often during deer season, with a peak during firearm season. Currently, department staff examines photographs, evaluates the meat condition based on observations by biologists and conservation officers, or both. A decision is made whether to allow a person to take another deer if the staff determines the deer is inedible based on department guidelines. If an individual is concerned with the condition of an antlerless deer, and there is evidence of systemic infection, department staff allows the individual to take another antlerless deer on the current license used to hunt a deer. The only issue determined by the department is the usability of the meat to the individual. However, when an individual calls regarding the condition of a buck (antlered deer), there is often an issue regarding the desirability of the antlers to that individual. Department staff have found that some individuals who are dissatisfied with the antlers on their buck will call asking to be able to take another buck on their license if they can find something wrong with the carcass. Additionally, some individuals see this as another opportunity to take a second buck if the meat of the first buck is not edible and believe they will get two sets of antlers for the year. If department staff determines that a

buck is unfit for human consumption, they are required to make arrangements to collect the antlers. The process is lengthened because the individual must decide if they are willing to live with the antlers, but not have meat from the deer. The willingness of an individual to give up antlers often helps department staff to determine whether the individual is trying to get another opportunity to shoot a second buck, or whether the individual has an honest concern about the condition of the meat. Currently, department staff does not allow individuals that is unfit for human consumption to keep the antlers. The change would allow DNR staff to offer to replace the meat with an antlerless deer privilege, making the response more uniform for the individual. This approach would replace the meat portion of the deer without needing to take away the antlers on the buck that was taken. If the department suspects a disease, such as bovine tuberculosis, department staff confiscate the whole deer and allow the individual to take another deer on that same license. This process is different than that described prior and will remain in place for a deer the department confiscates for disease reasons.

### *312 IAC 9-3-3: Allowing .40 caliber muzzleloaders during muzzleloader season*

The DNR is proposing to allow the use of a .40 caliber muzzleloader, which will allow more individuals to use equipment they currently use to hunt a deer. The deer program has received requests from hunters for this change. The DNR examined the muzzle velocity and energy and found than an example of a .40 caliber muzzleloader (CVA Paramount HTR) loaded to the recommended powder specifications with a 225 grain bullet is capable of a muzzle velocity of greater than 2600 ft per second with an energy of greater than 3500 ft lbs. At 200 yards, the velocity is still greater than 2200 ft per second with approximately 2300 ft lbs of kinetic energy remaining. This is more than enough velocity and energy to kill a deer effectively at over 200 yards with an expanding bullet.

### *312 IAC 9-3-3: Clarifying two pistol calibers for deer hunting*

The DNR is proposing to change the language in 312 IAC 9-3-3 to correct the terminology for a .25-20 Winchester and a .32-20 Winchester. This ammunition is currently allowed, but the terms need to accurately reflect the names of the cartridges used by the manufacturers.

### *312 IAC 9-3-3: Changing the dates for tree stands on public land in Deer Reduction Zones*

The current rule that governs when tree stands can be placed and removed on public land does not account for areas where the deer season starts earlier and ends later on public land that is contained within a deer reduction zone. Therefore, the proposed rule change is to allow portable tree stands & ground blinds to be placed on DNR properties between noon on Sept. 1 and Feb. 8. Allowing an individual to set up a stand on Sept. 1 gives the individual time to set up the deer stand prior to the start of the reduction zone season on Sept. 15 and allows them to leave it in place on the property until after the season is over on Jan. 31. Therefore, these additional dates are proposed to be added in subsection (g) for properties that are in a deer reduction zone.

### *312 IAC 9-3-3: Allow hunters to retrieve deer using thermal or infrared detectors*

Over the past several years, hunters have asked if DNR would allow the use of thermal and infrared detectors to locate and retrieve dead deer. DNR examined this issue and found the current language is inconsistent in that it is the only state law or rule that places a prohibition on equipment or methods used to retrieve a dead deer. 312 IAC 9-3-3 allows methods such as dogs and horses to be used to track

or trail a dead deer. This is also consistent with IC 14-22-6-16 that prohibits the use of unmanned aerial vehicles to aid in hunting but allows their use to retrieve a dead wild animal. Therefore, DNR has proposed to change this rule to allow the use of this thermal or infrared detectors to retrieve dead deer (but not be used when hunting deer).

## *312 IAC 9-3-4: Allow youth hunters to take no more than one deer on specific public land*

Currently, youth hunters are restricted from taking no more than one (1) antlerless deer on certain department properties. This rule language has been established by emergency rule in recent years, but HEA 1623 prohibits the use of emergency rules for this purpose and the DNR is proposed to add this to the permanent rule language.

## *312 IAC 9-3-4: Removal of the 'A' designation for County Bonus Antlerless Quotas*

The 'A' designation was historically used in counties to limit the harvest of bonus antlerless deer to the last half of firearm season. Recent deer population data has shown this is not necessary, especially with the switch from the CBAQ system to using a total antlerless bag limit to each county. All counties are proposed to have a normal antlerless bag limit of at least one (1) deer, and this is not expected to change in the near future.

## *312 IAC 9-3-4: Adding the Deer Reduction Zones to rule language*

Deer reduction zones (DRZs) target areas that have high deer populations and high human density or use, resulting in concerns about deer and vehicle collisions and personal property damage. A DRZ has traditionally been established by an emergency rule to allow for changes as needed annually, but because of HEA 1623-2023 the department may no longer use emergency rules for this purpose. The department designates an area as a DRZ to manage deer conflicts through sport hunting. A DRZ provides individuals with additional opportunities to take a deer in that area. The goal is to reduce conflict between deer and humans, not to eliminate the deer population. Incorporating or increasing hunting helps manage deer populations and increases deer wariness of humans, which can also reduce conflicts.

The smallest deer management unit in the state has traditionally been the county; however, a DRZ allows the department to target areas within a county for management. This should allow a deer population in one (1) part of a county to remain stable or increase while decreasing populations in another part of the same county. The approach coincides with the DNR's current deer management plan to strategically manage the state's deer herds. Therefore, in some areas of the state, there should be a larger deer population, while in others the population should be maintained or reduced. A DRZ allows managers to target such areas without reducing deer populations throughout an entire county.

Researchers identified potential areas with high conflict between humans and deer, or high deer use by mapping areas with high human density, high rates of deer and vehicle collisions. Conflicts may include reports of deer damage by landowners, requests for deer damage permits, requests by community leaders, or calls for assistance through our district and urban biologists. The designation process results in two (2) types of DRZs: (1) traditional; and (2) corridors. Traditional DRZs are established near or around urban areas and encompass a community. DRZ corridors are created along portions of major roadways to specifically address high rates of deer and vehicle collisions.

The increased allowable antlerless take and lengthened deer reduction zone season means that the individuals who hunt deer can help address problem areas and potentially reduce the need for other measures, such as the use of deer damage permits. DRZs can increase hunting opportunities for deer in urban environments and help alleviate conflicts between humans and deer. The Indiana DNR Deer Program staff recently conducted an analysis to determine the effectiveness of DRZs in reducing deer and vehicle collisions. Department staff found a decrease of deer and vehicle collisions within DRZs of approximately 15 percent (15%) after allowing individuals to take additional deer within DRZs. These results demonstrate the effectiveness of using targeted recreational hunting as a management tool to reduce deer and vehicle collisions.

## *312 IAC 9-3-4: Removing the bag limits for archery and muzzleloader licenses*

The DNR is proposing a rule change which would remove the season bag limits for deer taken with muzzleloader and archery license. Individuals will be able to take the number of antlerless deer allowed per county within the proposed new statewide antlerless bag limit using archery and muzzleloader licenses. Allowing an individual to take more than two antlerless (2) deer on archery licenses and more than one (1) antlerless deer on a muzzleloader license will reduce confusion over which license an individual is required to purchase, and how to check in a deer that is taken during a hunt. Much staff time and resources are taken up trying to explain the requirements of a license to an individual, and correcting an accidental mistake made when checking in a deer. This change will result in improved individual service, reduced staff time, and increased understanding the rules without making a change to the harvest.

## *312 IAC 9-3-2 and 312 IAC 9-3-4: Switching to an Antlerless Bag Limit for each county*

Since 2017, county bonus antlerless quotas have been set on an annual basis by emergency rule to allow for changes each year. This is no longer an option under HEA 1623-2023; therefore, the county antlerless bag limits have been added to this rule. These county bag limits are established using the following: information on individual's desires for the deer population to change from the Annual Deer Management Survey; trends in various deer population indices including deer vehicle collisions, the Archer's Index, changes in effort to take deer, deer damage permits, and others; professional opinions of wildlife biologists and conservation officers; the effects of disease; and the effects of changes on individuals and the deer population. Most recently, the department has added data about deer density from the Northeastern, East Central, and Southern Deer Management Units (DMUs) from the Purdue Integrated Deer Management Project. Because the county antlerless bag limit will now be a combination of the various equipment bag limits and the county bonus bag limit, department staff used the following method to create the proposed antlerless bag limit for inclusion in the rule:

- Because prior county bonus antlerless quota decisions were based on the data gathered each year, using data from the county data available at <https://www.in.gov/dnr/fish-and-wildlife/wildlife-resources/animals/white-tailed-deer/county-data/>.
- Department staff selected "normal" years (i.e., not a COVID year and not an epizootic hemorrhagic disease [EHD] recovery year). Most often, data from 2022 was selected unless a county was still in a recovery period from EHD. In those cases, 2018 was selected as the next best alternative.

- Department staff examined the number of affected individuals and the number of deer that would not be taken at a proposed county bag limit (or the increase the take at a proposed county bag limit).
- Department staff selected a bag limit where very few hunters (less than 10) would be affected by this new bag limit and a number where individuals were using the available bag limit. For example, Steuben County could have a higher bag limit based on population data, but staff have observed from experience that individuals will not use additional antlerless deer bag limits even if it is available. The DNR has seen in the past where individuals will decrease their personal take if they believe the county bag limit is too high. Therefore, the DNR will keep a designated-a county bag limit of three (3) for Steuben rather than a 4 or 5, even though the population would support a higher bag limit.
- Minor changes were made to try to keep the counties similar within Deer Management Units.
- Currently, Franklin and Fayette County have a low county bag limit to offset the effects of EHD. The department is proposing that the county bag limit be one (1) beginning in 2024, and two (2) beginning in 2025. The department will continue to review the data for these counties over time and make changes to get them to their target county bag limit of three (3) for Fayette County and four (4) for Franklin County.

## *312 IAC 9-3-4 (h) Removing the Late Antlerless Firearm Season*

Indiana currently has a firearm season for antlerless deer from December 26 through the first Sunday in January of the following year in counties with a bonus antlerless quota of 4 or more deer. This rule was initially proposed to try to significantly increase the harvest of antlerless deer, but research on that season found that hunters harvested antlerless deer later in the season in counties where that season is in place (see the 2020 Deer Report). A survey of deer hunters in 2021 found that only 24% of hunters used the season in the previous year and 38% of hunters reported hunting that season in the previous 5-year period (see the 2020 Deer Report). When asked what the general level of opposition or support was for that season, the DNR found that 43% of hunters were supportive to some degree and 27% were opposed to some degree. Therefore, because of the split interest by hunters for this season, the low use by hunters, and its ineffectiveness at changing the deer harvest, the DNR is proposing to remove this season at this time.

## 312 Natural Resources Commission

**Proposed Permanent Rule**

LSA Document #XX-XXX

**DIGEST**

Adds 312 IAC 9-1-17 to define “youth”. Amends 312 IAC 9-2-15 to make a technical and conforming change. Amends 312 IAC 9-3-2 regarding a license to hunt a deer to: (1) remove the crossbow license; (2) establish a multiple season antlerless deer license; (3) prohibit taking an antlerless deer with a firearm on certain department of natural resources (department) properties; (4) set a new statewide limit to take an antlerless deer of six antlerless deer per year; and (5) authorize the department to allow an individual to take an antlerless deer if a harvested deer is unfit for human consumption. Amends 312 IAC 9-3-3 to: (1) remove the reference to the special antlerless season; (2) describe a cartridge that is legal to hunt a deer; (3) change the caliber for a muzzleloading long gun to .40 caliber; (4) change the dates on which a portable tree or a ground blind may be placed on certain department properties; and (5) remove the restriction on using an infrared detector to retrieve a deer. Amends 312 IAC 9-3-4 to: (1) establish the number of antlerless deer a youth hunter may take during the youth hunting season on certain department properties; (2) provide that one antlered deer may be taken statewide; (3) set deer reduction zones; (4) set the antlerless bag limit per county; and (5) eliminate the special antlerless firearm season. Amends 312 IAC 9-4-11 to make technical and conforming changes. Effective on the date and time that the interim final rule is accepted for filing with the Publisher.

**HISTORY**

Notice of First Public Comment Period: *[date in regular type]*, Indiana Register (DIN: 20XX IR XXXX).

Notice of Second Public Comment Period: *[date]*, Indiana Register (DIN: 20XX IR XXXX). *[if applicable]*

Notice of First Public Hearing: *[date published]*, Indiana Register (DIN: 20XX IR XXXX).

Date of First Public Hearing: *[date]*.

Notice of Second Public Hearing: *[date published]*, Indiana Register (DIN: 20XX IR XXXX). *[if applicable]*

Date of Second Public Hearing: *[date]*. *[if applicable]*

**SUMMARY/RESPONSE TO COMMENTS**

*[Agency name]* requested public comment from *[date]*, through *[date]*, and during the public hearing on *[date of hearing or dates of hearings]*. **[Alt 1]:** *[Agency name]* received no comments in response to the Notice of First Public Comment Period. **[Alt 2]:** *[Agency name]* received comments from the following parties by the comment period deadline: *[summarizes the comments and response to comments]*.

*[Listing of all IAC citations within the document]*



**312 IAC 9-1-17; 312 IAC 9-2-15; 312 IAC 9-3-2; 312 IAC 9-3-3; 312 IAC 9-3-4; 312 IAC 9-4-11**

SECTION 1. 312 IAC IS ADDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

**312 IAC 9-1-17. "Youth" defined**

**Authority:** IC 14-10-2-4; IC 14-22-2-6

**Affected:** IC 14-22

**Sec. 17. "Youth" means an individual who is less than eighteen (18) years of age on the date of a hunt.**

SECTION 2. 312 IAC 9-2-15 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

**312 IAC 9-2-15 General requirements for hunter orange on ground blinds**

**Authority:** IC 14-10-2-4; IC 14-22-2-6

**Affected:** IC 14-22-38-7

**Sec. 15. ~~An occupied~~ An individual may not occupy a ground blind ~~must have unless the ground blind has~~ at least one hundred forty-four (144) square inches of hunter orange that is visible on each side of the blind from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset when the hunter is required to wear hunter orange ~~in accordance with~~ under IC 14-22-38-7 or ~~312 IAC 9-3-2(t)~~. **312 IAC 9-3-2.****

(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 9-2-15; filed Sep 13, 2013, 3:02 p.m.: 20131009-IR-312120670FRA; readopted filed May 20, 2014, 9:43 a.m.: 20140618-IR-312140017RFA; readopted filed Sep 18, 2019, 1:16 p.m.: 20191016-IR-312190325RFA)

SECTION 3. 312 IAC 9-3-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

**312 IAC 9-3-2 General requirements and licenses for hunting deer**

**Authority:** IC 14-10-2-4; IC 14-22-2-6

**Affected:** IC 14-22; IC 35-47

**Sec. 2. (a) This section and sections 3, 4, 8, 9, and 10 of this rule govern: ~~the~~:**

- (1) hunting;**
- (2) ~~transportation~~; transporting; and**
- (3) ~~disposal~~; disposing of;**

**of a white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*).**

**(b) "Deer license bundle" means a deer hunting license that replaces a valid deer hunting license and allows an individual to take one (1) antlered deer and two (2) antlerless deer under this section, and sections 3 and 4 of this rule during the following seasons combined during one (1) license year:**

- (1) Special youth season.**
- (2) Archery season.**
- (3) Firearms season.**
- (4) Muzzleloader season.**

**(c) "Multiple season antlerless deer license" means a deer hunting license that allows an individual to take one (1) antlerless deer using the equipment authorized for that season**

**under section 3 of this rule.**

~~(b) (d) Species of deer other than white-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus) are exempted from the following:~~

~~(1) This section.~~

~~(2) Sections 3, 4, 8, 9, and 10 of this rule.~~

An individual who claims ~~the exemption provided under this subsection~~ **must a deer taken is not a white-tailed deer (Odocoileus virginianus) shall** prove the deer is ~~other than~~ **not** a white-tailed deer.

~~(e) (e) The licenses identified in this section are nonexclusive. An individual may apply for one (1) or more of these licenses.~~ **multiple licenses to hunt deer under this section.**

~~(d) (f) Except as provided under IC 14-22-11-1 and IC 14-22-11-11, an individual must~~ **may not hunt a deer:**

(1) unless the individual possesses a valid, ~~completed, and signed~~ **to hunt a deer** ~~authorized under this section bearing the individual's name~~ **of the individual;** or

(2) with a ~~deer~~ **to hunt a deer under this section** issued to another individual.

~~(e) (g) A youth hunter may take a deer during the youth deer season established in under section 4(b) 4 of this rule only if:~~

~~(1) the youth hunter is~~ issued a license to hunt deer ~~with:~~ **under:**

(A) a resident youth consolidated hunting, trapping, and fishing license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);

(B) a nonresident youth deer firearms license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(29);

(C) a nonresident youth deer muzzleloader license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(30);

(D) a nonresident youth deer archery license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(31);

~~(E) a nonresident youth extra deer crossbow license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);~~

~~(F) (E) a nonresident youth extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);~~

~~(G) (F) a nonresident youth extra deer multiple season antlerless license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);~~

~~(H) (G) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4) before its repeal;~~

~~(I) (H) a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5) before its repeal; or~~

~~(J) (I) an apprentice license of the types identified in clauses (A) through (G) (F) under IC 14-22-12-1.7; or~~

~~(2) hunting the youth hunter takes a deer without a license under IC 14-22-11-1 and 312 IAC 9-2-14.~~

~~(h) (h) An individual may take a deer with a long bow, a recurve bow, or a compound bow, or a crossbow during the archery season established in under section 4(e) 4 of this rule only if:~~

~~(1) the individual is~~ issued a license to hunt deer by bow and ~~arrows~~ **arrow or crossbow** ~~with:~~ **under:**

(A) a resident deer archery license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(14);

(B) a nonresident deer archery license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(17);

(C) a resident youth consolidated hunting, trapping, and fishing license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);

(D) a nonresident youth deer archery license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(31);

- (E) a resident extra deer multiple season antlerless license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(18);
- (F) a nonresident extra deer multiple season antlerless license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(19);
- ~~(E)~~ (G) a resident extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(18);
- ~~(F)~~ (H) a nonresident extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(19);
- ~~(G)~~ (I) a nonresident youth extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);
- ~~(H)~~ (J) a nonresident youth extra deer **multiple season** antlerless license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);
- ~~(H)~~ (K) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4) before its repeal;
- ~~(I)~~ (L) a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5) before its repeal; or
- ~~(J)~~ (M) an apprentice license of the types identified in clauses (A) through ~~(G)~~ (I) under IC 14-22-12-1.7; or
- (2) ~~hunting~~ **the individual takes a deer** without a license under IC 14-22-11-1 and 312 IAC 9-2-14.
- ~~(g) An individual may take a deer with a crossbow during the archery season established in section 4(e) of this rule only if:~~
  - ~~(1) issued a license to hunt deer with:~~
    - ~~(A) a resident extra deer crossbow license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(14);~~
    - ~~(B) a nonresident extra deer crossbow license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(17);~~
    - ~~(C) a resident youth consolidated hunting, trapping, and fishing license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);~~
    - ~~(D) a nonresident youth extra deer crossbow license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(31);~~
    - ~~(E) a resident extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(18);~~
    - ~~(F) a nonresident extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(19);~~
    - ~~(G) a nonresident youth extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);~~
    - ~~(H) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4) before its repeal;~~
    - ~~(I) a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5) before its repeal; or~~
    - ~~(J) an apprentice license of the types identified in clauses (A) through (G) under IC 14-22-12-1.7; or~~
  - ~~(2) hunting without a license under IC 14-22-11-1 and 312 IAC 9-2-14.~~
- ~~(h)~~ **(i) Except as provided in subsection (v),** an individual may take a deer with a firearm during the firearms season ~~established in under~~ section 4(e) **4** of this rule ~~only~~ if:
  - (1) **the individual is** issued a license to hunt deer ~~by with~~ **firearms with: under:**
    - (A) a resident deer firearms license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(12);
    - (B) a nonresident deer firearms license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(15);
    - (C) a resident youth consolidated hunting, trapping, and fishing license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);
    - (D) a nonresident youth deer firearms license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(29);

- (E) a resident extra deer multiple season antlerless license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(18);
- (F) a nonresident extra deer multiple season antlerless license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(19);
- ~~(E)~~ (G) a resident extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(18);
- ~~(F)~~ (H) a nonresident extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(19);
- ~~(G)~~ (I) a nonresident youth extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);
- ~~(H)~~ (J) a nonresident youth extra deer **multiple season** antlerless license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);
- ~~(H)~~ (K) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4) before its repeal;
- ~~(H)~~ (L) a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5) before its repeal; or
- ~~(J)~~ (M) an apprentice license of the types identified in clauses (A) through ~~(G)~~ (I) under IC 14-22-12-1.7; or
- (2) ~~hunting~~ **the individual takes a** deer without a license under IC 14-22-11-1 and 312 IAC 9-2-14.
- ~~(j)~~ (j) An individual may take a deer with a muzzleloader during the muzzleloader season ~~established in~~ **under** section 4~~(d)~~ 4 of this rule ~~only~~ if:
- (1) **the individual is** issued a license to hunt deer by a muzzleloader with:
- (A) a resident deer muzzleloader license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(13);
- (B) a nonresident deer muzzleloader license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(16);
- (C) a resident youth consolidated hunting, trapping, and fishing license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);
- (D) a nonresident youth deer muzzleloader license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(30);
- (E) a resident extra deer multiple season antlerless license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(18);
- (F) a nonresident extra deer multiple season antlerless license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(19);
- ~~(E)~~ (G) a resident extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(18);
- ~~(F)~~ (H) a nonresident extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(19);
- ~~(G)~~ (I) a nonresident youth extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);
- ~~(H)~~ (J) a nonresident youth extra deer **multiple season** antlerless license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);
- ~~(H)~~ (K) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4) before its repeal;
- ~~(H)~~ (L) a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5) before its repeal; or
- ~~(J)~~ (M) an apprentice license of the types identified in clauses (A) through ~~(G)~~ (I) under IC 14-22-12-1.7; or
- (2) ~~hunting~~ **the individual takes a** deer without a license under IC 14-22-11-1 and 312 IAC 9-2-14.
- ~~(k)~~ (k) An individual may take a deer during the deer reduction season ~~established in~~ **under** section 4~~(d)~~ 4 of this rule ~~only~~ if:

(1) **the individual is** issued a license to hunt deer with:

- (A) a resident extra deer reduction zone license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(18);
- (B) a nonresident extra deer reduction zone license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(19);
- (C) a resident youth consolidated hunting, trapping, and fishing license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);
- (D) a nonresident youth extra deer reduction zone license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);
- (E) an apprentice license of the types identified in clauses (A) through (D) under IC 14-22-12-1.7;
- (F) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4) before its repeal; or
- (G) a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5) before its repeal; or

(2) ~~hunting~~ **the individual takes a** deer without a license under IC 14-22-11-1 and 312 IAC 9-2-14.

~~(k) (l)~~ **An individual may take an antlerless deer during the special antlerless-a deer hunting season established in under section 4(h) 4 of this rule if:**

(1) **the individual is** issued a license to hunt deer with:

- (A) a resident extra deer ~~bonus~~ **multiple season** antlerless license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(18);
- (B) a nonresident extra deer ~~bonus~~ **multiple season** antlerless license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(19);
- (C) a resident youth consolidated hunting, trapping, and fishing license under IC 14-22-11-10(b) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);
- (D) a nonresident youth extra deer ~~bonus~~ **multiple season** antlerless license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);
- (E) a resident extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(18);
- (F) a nonresident extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(19);
- (G) a nonresident youth extra deer license bundle under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(32);
- (H) an apprentice license of the types identified in clauses (A) through (G) under IC 14-22-12-1.7;
- (I) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4) before its repeal; or
- (J) a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5) before its repeal; or

(2) ~~hunting~~ **the individual takes a** deer without a license under IC 14-22-11-1 and 312 IAC 9-2-14.

~~(l) (m)~~ **An individual may take an antlerless deer in with a designated county, by authority of an extra deer bonus multiple season antlerless license, only as during the special youth, archery, firearm, and muzzleloader seasons as authorized in by section 4(g) and 4(h) 4 of this rule. An individual may take one (1) antlerless deer using equipment authorized for a season under section 3 of this rule with an extra deer multiple season antlerless deer license.**

~~(m) (n)~~ **An individual must, Immediately upon after taking a deer, an individual shall record on a piece of paper the following on a piece of paper:**

(1) The name and address of the individual who took the deer.

- (2) The license number (if applicable) of the **hunting license issued to the** individual who took the deer, **if applicable**.
- (3) The sex of the deer.
- (4) The month and day the deer was taken.

~~The~~ **An individual that who takes the a deer must shall** retain possession of the ~~completed~~ piece of paper **under this subsection** until the **piece of** paper is attached to the deer. **The individual shall attach** the piece of paper ~~must be attached~~ to the deer if the individual who takes the deer does not maintain direct physical control of, and constant visual contact with, the deer carcass.

~~(n)~~ **(o)** An individual who takes a deer ~~must cause delivery of~~ **shall ensure** the deer carcass **is delivered** to an official checking station ~~for registration to register the deer, in the name of the individual who took the deer or cause the reporting of report the take by providing and provide~~ true and accurate information required ~~on by~~ the department's electronic harvest reporting system on the ~~occurrence of the~~ earlier of the following:

- (1) ~~Within~~ **Not later than** forty-eight (48) hours ~~of the~~ **after** taking ~~of the~~ deer.
- (2) Before the deer is removed from ~~this the~~ state.

The individual who delivers ~~the a~~ deer carcass to an official checking station ~~for registration or reports the take on the department's electronic harvest reporting system must shall~~ provide true and accurate information that includes the information on the piece of paper described in subsection ~~(m); (n)~~.

~~(p)~~ **(p)** The head of a deer must remain attached to the **deer** carcass until the deer is registered either at an official checking station or through the ~~department's~~ electronic harvest reporting system.

~~(p)~~ **(q)** When a deer is registered:

- (1) at an official deer checking station, the checking station operator ~~must;~~ **shall:**
  - (A) record the information from the piece of paper described in subsection ~~(m); (n);~~
  - (B) report the take on the ~~department's~~ electronic harvest reporting system; and
  - (C) give the individual the confirmation number, which ~~must be recorded the individual shall record~~ on the piece of paper described in subsection ~~(m); (n)~~ or
- (2) using the ~~department's~~ electronic harvest reporting system, the individual who ~~took~~ **takes** the deer ~~must shall~~ record the confirmation number on the piece of paper described in subsection ~~(m); (n)~~.

~~(q)~~ **(r)** **An individual who takes a deer shall maintain the confirmation number provided under subsection (q) with the deer** ~~The department's electronic harvest confirmation number must be maintained with a deer until the processing of the deer processing begins.~~

~~(r)~~ **(s)** An individual ~~must may not~~ hunt a deer ~~except from~~ **beginning** one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise ~~to and ending~~ one-half (1/2) hour after sunset.

~~(s)~~ **(t)** An individual ~~must shall~~ wear hunter orange:

- (1) in a season ~~set forth in~~ **under** section 4(b), 4(e), 4(f), and 4(h) **4(c), 4(f), and 4(g)** of this rule;
- (2) in ~~that the portion of the~~ archery season ~~set forth in~~ **under** section 4(e) **4** of this rule that overlaps a season ~~set forth in~~ **under** section 4(b), 4(e), 4(f), and 4(h) **4(c), 4(f), and 4(g)** of this rule;
- (3) when ~~firearms are~~ **use of a firearm** is authorized under section 8(b) of this rule;
- (4) in ~~that portion of the~~ deer reduction season ~~set forth in~~ **under** section 4(d) **4** of this rule when ~~firearms are~~ **use of a firearm** is authorized under section 3(f) of this rule; ~~and or~~

~~(5) in the special antlerless season in the locations where the season is authorized in section 4(h) of this rule.~~

~~(t) (u)~~ An individual ~~must~~ **may** not take more than one (1) antlered deer **and six (6) antlerless deer statewide** during the special youth, archery, firearm, and muzzleloader seasons ~~authorized in collectively under~~ section 4 of this rule from the first day of the special youth deer season of one (1) calendar year through the last day of the archery season in the following calendar year. **An individual may not take more than the number of antlerless deer permitted per county during the special youth, archery, firearm, and muzzleloader seasons collectively.**

**(v) An individual may not take an antlerless deer with a firearm during the firearm season on the following properties operated by the department:**

**(1) A property operated by the division of fish and wildlife.**

**(2) Mississinewa Lake.**

**(3) Salamonie Lake.**

**(4) Patoka Lake.**

~~(u) (w)~~ An individual ~~must~~ **may** not ~~hunt~~ **take a** deer with the use or aid of:

**(1) bait, which includes:**

**(A) a food that is transported and placed for consumption, including, ~~but not limited to, piles~~ a pile of corn and apples or an apple placed in the a field;**

**(B) a prepared solid or liquid that is manufactured and intended for consumption by livestock or wild deer, including, ~~but not limited to, commercial baits and bait~~ or a food supplements; supplement;**

**(C) salt; or**

**(D) a mineral supplements; supplement**

**(2) ~~snare;~~ a snare;**

**(3) ~~dogs;~~ a dog; or**

**(4) ~~any other domesticated animals.~~ animal.**

~~The~~ **An individual may use of a manufactured scents and lures or scent or lure, or a similar chemical or natural attractants is not prohibited. attractant.**

~~(v) (x)~~ An area is considered baited for ten (10) days after ~~the removal of the bait and the baited soil is removed. Hunting~~ **An individual may hunt** an area, ~~such as an orchard, which that may be attractive to a deer as the result of normal agricultural activity. is not prohibited.~~

~~(w) (y)~~ Notwithstanding subsection ~~(u); (w)~~, an individual may use ~~dogs only while a dog on a leash to track or trail a wounded deer.~~

~~(x) (z)~~ Notwithstanding subsection ~~(u); (w)~~ an individual may use:

**(1) ~~donkeys;~~ a donkey;**

**(2) ~~mules; and~~ a mule; or**

**(3) ~~horses;~~ a horse;**

~~for transportation to and from a hunt to transport a deer. An individual may not use a donkey, a mule, or a horse under this subsection but not while hunting.~~

~~(y) (aa)~~ An individual may possess a handgun ~~in accordance with~~ **under IC 35-47** while hunting a deer.

~~(z) "Deer license bundle" means a multiple privilege deer license that replaces a valid deer hunting license and allows an individual to take one (1) antlered deer and two (2) antlerless deer or three (3) antlerless deer in accordance with this section and sections 3 and 4 of this rule in the following seasons combined in one (1) year:~~

- ~~(1) Special youth.~~
- ~~(2) Archery.~~
- ~~(3) Firearms.~~
- ~~(4) Muzzleloader.~~
- ~~(5) Special antlerless only.~~

**(bb) An individual who takes a deer that is believed to be unfit for human consumption by an authorized department biologist, property manager, or Indiana conservation officer may be issued an authorization to take an antlerless deer that will not count towards the statewide antlerless deer bag limit under subsection (u) or the county bag limit under section 4 of this rule.**

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 9-3-2; filed May 12, 1997, 10:00 a.m.: 20 IR 2702; filed Dec 26, 2001, 2:40 p.m.: 25 IR 1528; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; filed Sep 23, 2004, 3:00 p.m.: 28 IR 536; filed May 12, 2006, 10:38 a.m.: 29 IR 3344; filed Jun 23, 2006, 2:24 p.m.: 20060719-IR-312050214FRA; errata filed Jul 21, 2006, 1:56 p.m.: 20060802-IR-312050214ACA; filed Jul 10, 2007, 2:09 p.m.: 20070808-IR-312060572FRA; readopted filed Nov 24, 2008, 11:08 a.m.: 20081210-IR-312080672RFA; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:34 p.m.: 20091202-IR-312090044FRA; filed Dec 1, 2011, 4:01 p.m.: 20111228-IR-312110101FRA; errata filed Jan 10, 2012, 1:19 p.m.: 20120125-IR-312120006ACA; filed Jul 9, 2012, 3:00 p.m.: 20120808-IR-312120065FRA; filed Dec 18, 2012, 2:00 p.m.: 20130116-IR-312120115FRA; filed Sep 13, 2013, 3:02 p.m.: 20131009-IR-312120670FRA; readopted filed May 20, 2014, 9:43 a.m.: 20140618-IR-312140017RFA; filed Jun 15, 2015, 3:43 p.m.: 20150715-IR-312140453FRA; readopted filed Sep 18, 2019, 1:16 p.m.: 20191016-IR-312190325RFA; filed Nov 16, 2020, 9:30 a.m.: 20201216-IR-312200069FRA)*

#### SECTION 4. 312 IAC 9-3-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

##### **312 IAC 9-3-3 Equipment for deer hunting**

**Authority:** IC 14-10-2-4; IC 14-22-2-6

**Affected:** IC 14-22; IC 35-47-1-6

Sec. 3. (a) During the youth special deer season established ~~in~~ **by** section 4~~(b)~~ **4** of this rule, a youth hunter ~~must~~ **may** hunt a deer ~~only~~ with the following equipment:

- (1) A bow and arrow as described in subsection (b)(1) through ~~(b)(5)~~. **(b)(4)**.
- (2) A crossbow as defined in 312 IAC 9-1-5.3.
- (3) A shotgun as described in subsection (d)(1).
- (4) A muzzleloading long gun as described in subsection (d)(3). ~~and (d)(5)~~.
- (5) A rifle, with the use of cartridges described in subsection (d)(4).
- (6) An air gun as defined in 312 IAC 9-1-1.2.

(b) During the archery season ~~established in~~ **under** section 4~~(c)~~ **4** of this rule, an individual ~~must~~ **may** hunt a deer ~~only~~ with **the following** equipment: ~~as follows:~~

- (1) ~~With~~ A long bow, a recurve bow, or a compound bow that has at least thirty-five (35) pounds pull with a ~~valid~~ license **to hunt a deer identified at under** section 2~~(f)~~ **2** of this rule.
- (2) With a crossbow ~~with~~ **and** a ~~valid~~ license **to hunt a deer identified at under** section 2~~(g)~~ **2** of this rule.
- (3) ~~Arrows~~ **An arrow** or ~~bolts~~ **a bolt** must be equipped with a metal or metal-edged ~~(or~~



~~flint, chert, or obsidian napped)~~ broadheads. **broadhead, a flint broadhead, a chert broadhead, or an obsidian napped broadhead.**

~~(4) Poisoned or explosive arrows or bolts are unlawful.~~

~~(5) For A long bows, bow, a recurve bows, bow, and or a compound bows, no portion of the bow's riser (handle) or any:~~ **bow with a:**

- (A) track;
- (B) trough;
- (C) channel;
- (D) arrow rest; or
- (E) **any** other device,

that attaches to the ~~bow's riser~~ **of the bow shall must not** contact, support, or guide the arrow from a point rearward of the ~~bow's brace height~~ **of the bow.**

**Use of a poisoned or explosive arrow or bolt is unlawful.**

~~(c) During the firearms season established in under section 4(e) 4 of this rule, and the special antlerless season established in section 4(h) of this rule, an individual must hunt~~ **may take a deer only** with any of the following equipment:

- (1) A shotgun.
- (2) A shotgun with rifled barrel.
- (3) A handgun.
- (4) A muzzleloading long gun.
- (5) A muzzleloading handgun.
- (6) A rifle, with the use of ~~cartridges~~ **a cartridge** described in subsection (d)(4). ~~only.~~
- (7) An air gun as defined in 312 IAC 9-1-1.2.

~~(d) As used in section~~ **sections 2, 4, and 8** of this rule **and** this section, ~~and sections 4 and 8 of this rule,~~ a firearm must meet the following specifications:

(1) A shotgun must have a ~~gauge~~ **bore of:**

- (A) 10 gauge;**
- (B) 12 gauge;**
- (C) 16 gauge;**
- (D) 20 gauge;**
- (E) 28 gauge; or**
- (F) .410 bore; caliber;**

loaded with a single projectile.

(2) A handgun must:

- (A) conform to the requirements of IC 35-47-1-6;
- (B) have a barrel at least four (4) inches long;
- (C) fire a bullet ~~of at least~~ **at least** two hundred forty-three thousandths (.243) **of an** inch in diameter; ~~or larger;~~ and
- (D) not be a rifle that has a barrel less than eighteen (18) inches.

~~The A~~ handgun cartridge case, without a bullet, must be at least one and sixteen hundredths (1.16) inches long. **Use of a full metal jacketed bullets are bullet is unlawful.** ~~All .25/20~~ **Use of .25-20 Winchester ammunition, 32/20 .32-20 Winchester ammunition, .30 Carbine ammunition, and or .38 Special ammunition is prohibited. unlawful.**

(3) A muzzleloading long gun must be ~~.44 at least .40~~ **at least .40** caliber, ~~or larger,~~ loaded with a bullet at least three hundred fifty-seven thousandths (.357) **of an** inch. ~~or larger.~~ A

muzzleloading handgun must be single shot, .50 caliber or larger, loaded with ~~bullets~~ **a bullet** at least .44 caliber, and have a barrel at least twelve (12) inches long. The length of a muzzleloading handgun barrel is determined by measuring from the base of the breech plug, ~~excluding tangs and other projections~~, to the end of the barrel, including the muzzle crown, **excluding a tang or another projection. During the muzzleloading season under section 4 of this rule**, a muzzleloading gun must be capable of ~~being loaded only loading only~~ from the muzzle, including ~~both the powder and the bullet~~.

(4) A rifle must fire a cartridge that meets the following specifications:

- (A) Fire a bullet of **at least** three hundred fifty-seven thousandths (.357) of an inch in diameter. ~~or larger.~~
- (B) Have a ~~minimum~~ case length of **at least** one and sixteen hundredths (1.16) inches.
- (C) Have a ~~maximum~~ case length of **not more than** one and eight tenths (1.8) inches.

**Use of a full metal jacketed bullets are bullet is unlawful.**

~~(5) A muzzleloading long gun, as described in subsection (3), Except that it may be a capable of having the bullet loaded from the muzzle and the powder loaded from the breech.~~

(e) During the muzzleloader season ~~established in~~ **under** section 4~~(f)~~ **4** of this rule, an individual ~~must hunt~~ **may take a deer only** with: a:

- (1) a muzzleloading long gun as described in subsection (d)(3); or
- (2) a muzzleloading handgun as described in subsection (d)(3).

(f) During the deer reduction season established in section 4~~(d)~~ **4** of this rule, an individual ~~may hunt take a deer~~ with:

- (1) ~~bows a bow and arrows arrow or crossbow and bolt~~ described in subsection (b) ~~from beginning on~~ September 15 ~~through and ending on~~ January 31; ~~of the following year, or with firearms~~
- (2) **a firearm** described in ~~subsections subsection (c) and or subsection (d) from beginning on~~ the first Saturday after November 11 ~~through and ending on~~ January 31. ~~of the following year.~~

(g) An individual ~~must may~~ not erect, place, or hunt from a permanent tree or ground blind on ~~state land owned lands. or leased by the state.~~ **A An individual may erect, place, or hunt from a temporary tree or ground blind that may be left overnight and placed on:**

- (1) a ~~DNR department~~ property as defined at 312 IAC 8-1.5-6;
- (2) a U.S. Forest Service ~~lands; land;~~ or
- (3) ~~any~~ a national wildlife refuge;

~~must be portable and may be left overnight only between~~ **beginning at** noon on September 15 and **ending on** January 10, **or beginning at noon on September 1 and ending on February 8 on a department property within a deer reduction zone under section 4 of this rule.** **A An individual may not use a fastener used in conjunction with a tree blind and a tree or pole climber that penetrates a tree more than one-half (1/2) inch. is prohibited. Each** **A tree or ground blind must be legibly marked with the name, address, and telephone number of the owner of the tree or ground blind in the English language, or the individual's customer identification number issued to the owner by the department.**

(h) An individual ~~must may~~ not use ~~an infrared sensors sensor~~ to ~~locate or take aid in~~

**taking a deer.** ~~An individual must not hunt or retrieve deer with the aid of an infrared detector.~~

(i) An individual ~~must~~ **may** not ~~possess or~~ use an electronic deer call while hunting deer. *(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 9-3-3; filed May 12, 1997, 10:00 a.m.: 20 IR 2703; filed Nov 13, 1997, 12:09 p.m.: 21 IR 1272; filed Dec 26, 2001, 2:40 p.m.: 25 IR 1530; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; filed Sep 23, 2004, 3:00 p.m.: 28 IR 538; filed Jun 23, 2006, 2:24 p.m.: 20060719-IR-312050214FRA; filed Jun 29, 2007, 2:30 p.m.: 20070725-IR-312060272FRA; filed Sep 6, 2007, 12:20 p.m.: 20071003-IR-312070023FRA; readopted filed Nov 24, 2008, 11:08 a.m.: 20081210-IR-312080672RFA; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:34 p.m.: 20091202-IR-312090044FRA; filed Dec 1, 2011, 4:01 p.m.: 20111228-IR-312110101FRA; filed Sep 13, 2013, 3:02 p.m.: 20131009-IR-312120670FRA; errata filed Dec 6, 2013, 11:12 a.m.: 20140101-IR-312130537ACA; readopted filed May 20, 2014, 9:43 a.m.: 20140618-IR-312140017RFA; filed Jun 15, 2015, 3:43 p.m.: 20150715-IR-312140453FRA; readopted filed Sep 18, 2019, 1:16 p.m.: 20191016-IR-312190325RFA; filed Nov 16, 2020, 9:30 a.m.: 20201216-IR-312200069FRA; filed May 11, 2021, 1:07 p.m.: 20210609-IR-312200602FRA)*

SECTION 5. 312 IAC 9-3-4 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

**312 IAC 9-3-4 Season dates and bag limits**

**Authority:** IC 14-10-2-4; IC 14-22-2-6

**Affected:** IC 14-22; IC 35-47-2

Sec. 4. (a) **Except as provided in section 2 of this rule,** an individual ~~must not~~ **may** take **not** more than one (1) deer with ~~each a deer~~ **license to hunt a deer.**

(b) The special youth deer season is two (2) consecutive days beginning on the Saturday immediately before October 1, or as approved annually by the director as follows:

(1) The seasonal limit for ~~hunting~~ **taking a deer** under this subsection is one (1) antlered deer, and the number of antlerless deer ~~established~~ under subsection (g). ~~for the county being hunted.~~ **A youth hunter may take not more than one (1) antlerless deer under this subsection on the following properties operated by the department:**

(A) **A property operated by the division of fish and wildlife.**

(B) **Salamonie Lake.**

(C) **Mississinewa Lake.**

(D) **Patoka Lake.** ~~If the county being hunted is designated as an "A" county under subsection (g), the youth hunter may take no more than one (1) antlerless deer under this subsection.~~

(2) A youth hunter who takes an antlered deer under this subsection may not take another antlered deer during the:

(A) ~~archery seasons established in~~ **season under** subsection (c);

(B) ~~firearm season established in~~ **under** subsection (e); or

(C) ~~muzzleloader season established in~~ **under** subsection (f).

(3) ~~As used in this section, "youth" means an individual who is less than eighteen (18) years of age by the date of the hunt.~~

(4) **(3) A youth hunter who hunts takes a deer under this subsection must be accompanied by an adult of individual who is at least eighteen (18) years of age who:**

(A) does not possess a firearm, a bow and arrow, or a crossbow while in the field, except for a handgun carried lawfully ~~in accordance with~~ **under** IC 35-47-2;

- (B) possesses a ~~valid hunting~~ license **to hunt a wild animal** of any type that is not an apprentice license, unless **the individual is** exempt from needing a ~~hunting~~ license **to hunt** under IC 14-22-11-1 and 312 IAC 9-2-14;
- (C) ~~must~~ **may** not accompany more than two (2) youth hunters at ~~any~~ one (1) time; and
- (D) ~~must be~~ **is** in close proximity and able to communicate with the youth hunter at ~~all times~~. **during the hunt.**
- (c) The archery deer season ~~is from~~ **begins on** October 1 ~~through~~ **and ends on** the first Sunday in January. ~~An individual must take not more than two (2) deer of which only one (1) may be antlered under this subsection.~~
- (d) The deer reduction season is as follows:
  - (1) ~~From~~ **Begins** September 15 ~~through~~ **and ends** January 31 ~~of the following year~~ in a deer reduction zone.
  - (2) Under this subsection:
    - (A) An individual ~~must~~ **may** take not more than ten (10) deer of which only one (1) ~~may be deer may be an antlered deer.~~
    - (B) **An individual shall take** at least one (1) antlerless deer ~~must be taken~~ in a deer reduction zone prior to taking an antlered deer.
  - (3) A deer taken under this subsection does not count against a bag limit for deer ~~set elsewhere in~~ **under** this rule.
  - (4) ~~Deer reduction zones subject to the deer reduction season shall be established on an annual basis by a temporary rule authorized by the director.~~
  - (4) **The Evansville deer reduction zone is the portion of Vanderburgh County south of East Boonville-New Harmony Road, except for the following areas:**
    - (A) **The area south of Interstate 164/Veterans Memorial Parkway from the Warrick County line to the east to where it intersects Main Street along the Ohio River Shore to the west.**
    - (B) **The area south of the intersection of Broadway Avenue and the Posey County line to the west, extending east to Bayou Creek Road and east to the Ohio River with Bayou Creek Road and extending east to the Ohio River.**
  - (5) **The Lafayette deer reduction zone is the portion of Tippecanoe County as follows:**
    - (A) **The area to the east, beginning at the intersection of Interstate 65 and County Road 600 North following Interstate 65 south to the junction with State Road 38.**
    - (B) **The area along State Road 38 from the intersection of Interstate 65 and State Road 38 west to Veterans Memorial Parkway/County Road 350 South, then south along Veterans Memorial Parkway west to the junction with U.S. Highway 231/State Road 52.**
    - (C) **The area from the intersection of Veterans Memorial Parkway/County Road 350 South and U.S. Highway 231 following U.S. Highway 231/State Road 52 north to the junction with State Road 25.**
    - (D) **The area from the intersection of State Road 25 and U.S. Highway 231 south along State Road 25 to the intersection of County Road 300 South and State Road 25 South.**
    - (E) **The area from the intersection of State Road 25 South and County Road**

300 South to the west along County Road 300 South to the intersection of County Road 300 South and County Road 700 West.

(F) The area from the intersection of County Road 700 West and County Road 300 South to the north along County Road 700 West to the intersection of County Road 700 West and Division Road/South River Road.

(G) The area from the intersection of County Road 700 West and Division Road/South River Road to the east along Division Road/South River Road to the intersection of Division Road/South River Road and South Newman Road.

(H) The area from the intersection of South Newman Road and Division Road/South River Road to the north along South Newman Road to the intersection of South Newman Road and State Road 26/State Street.

(I) The area from the intersection of South Newman Road and State Road 26/State Street to the east along State Road 26/State Street to the intersection of State Road 26/State Street and U.S. Highway 231/State Road 52.

(J) The area to the north along U.S. Highway 231 from the intersection of State Road 26/State Street and U.S. Highway 231/State Road 52 to the intersection of U.S. Highway 231/State Road 52 and State Road 52/U.S. Highway 231.

(K) The area to the west along State Road 52 from the intersection of State Road 52 and U.S. Highway 231/State Road 52 to the intersection of State Road 52 and County Road 400 West.

(L) The area to the north along County Road 400 West from the intersection of State Road 52/U.S. Highway 231 to the intersection of County Road 400 West and County Road 375 West.

(M) The area to the north along County Road 375 West from the junction with County Road 400 West to the intersection of County Road 375 West and County Road 600 North.

(N) The area to the east along County Road 600 North from the junction with County Road 375 West to the intersection of County Road 600 North and Interstate 65.

(6) The Michigan City/LaPorte deer reduction zone is the portion of LaPorte County between Lake Michigan and the following boundary:

(A) The area from the junction of the Porter/LaPorte County line and Interstate 94 to the east to the intersection of Interstate 94 and Johnson Road.

(B) The area from the intersection of Interstate 94 and Johnson Road to the south to the intersection of Johnson Road and County Road 500 West.

(C) The area from the south along County Road 500 West from the intersection at Johnson Road to the intersection of County Road 500 West and State Road 2.

(D) The area from the east along State Road 2 from the intersection at County Road 500 West to the intersection of State Road 2 and State Road 39/Longwood Drive.

(E) The area to the south along State Road 39/Longwood Drive from the intersection at State Road 2 to the intersection at County Road 400 South.

(F) The area to the east along County Road 400 South from the intersection at State Road 2 to the intersection at County Road 300 East.

- (G) The area to the north along County Road 300 East from the intersection at County Road 400 South to the intersection at Division Road.
- (H) The area to the west along Division Road from the intersection at County Road 300 East to the intersection at County Road 250 East.
- (I) The area to the north along County Road 250 East from the intersection at Division Road to the intersection at County Road 150 North.
- (J) The area to the west along County Road 150 North from the intersection at County Road 250 East to the intersection at Fail Road.
- (K) The area to the north along North Fail Road from the intersection at County Road 150 North to the intersection at U.S. Highway 20.
- (L) The area to the west along U.S. Highway 20 from the intersection at North Fail Road to the intersection of U.S. Highway 20 and Interstate 94.
- (M) The area to the north along Interstate 94 from the intersection at U.S. Highway 20 to the junction with the Indiana/Michigan state line.
- (7) The Muncie deer reduction zone is the portion of Delaware County as follows:
  - (A) The area at the intersection of Yorktown-Gaston Pike/County Road 600 West, extending east along State Road 332 East to the intersection at Nebo Road.
  - (B) The area to the north along Nebo Road from the intersection at State Road 332 to the intersection at County Road 500 North/Royerton Road.
  - (C) The area to the east along County Road 500 North/Royerton Road from the intersection at North Nebo Road to the intersection at U.S. Highway 35.
  - (D) The area to the south along U.S. Highway 35 from the intersection at County Road 500 North/Royerton Road to the intersection at State Road 67.
  - (E) The area to the south along State Road 67 from the intersection at U.S. Highway 35 to the intersection at County Road 400 South.
  - (F) The area to the west along County Road 400 South from the intersection at State Road 67 to the intersection at South Marsh Avenue/County Road 600 West.
  - (G) The area to the north along Marsh Avenue/County Road 600 West from the intersection at County Road 400 South to intersection at State Road 32.
  - (H) The area to the east along State Road 32 from the intersection at Marsh Avenue to the intersection at Tiger Drive/County Road 575 West.
  - (I) The area to the north along Tiger Drive/County Road 575 West from the intersection at State Road 32 to the intersection at River Road.
  - (J) The area to the west along River Road from the intersection at Tiger Drive to the intersection at Yorktown-Gaston Pike/County Road 600 West.
  - (K) The area to the north along Yorktown-Gaston Pike/County Road 600 West to the intersection at State Road 332.
- (8) The South Bend/Mishawaka/Elkhart deer reduction zone is the portion of St. Joseph County and Elkhart County south of the Michigan state line as follows:
  - (A) The area at the junction of U.S. Highway 31 and the Indiana/Michigan state line to the south along U.S. Highway 31 to the intersection at U.S. Highway 20.
  - (B) The area to the east along U.S. Highway 20/U.S. Highway 31 to the

intersection at County Road 17.

(C) The area to the north along County Road 17 from the intersection at U.S. Highway 20 to the junction with the Indiana/Michigan state line.

(9) The Warsaw deer reduction zone is the portion of Kosciusko County as follows:

(A) The area at the intersection of State Road 15 and Levi Lee Road, extending east to the intersection of Levi Lee Road and County Road 100 East.

(B) The area to the south along County Road 100 East from the intersection at Levi Lee Road to the intersection at County Road 450 North.

(C) The area to the east along County Road 450 North from the intersection at County Road 100 East to the intersection at Chapman Lake Drive.

(D) The area to the south along Chapman Lake Drive from the intersection at County Road 450 North to the intersection at County Road 300 East.

(E) The area to the south along County Road 300 East from the intersection at Chapman Lake Road to the intersection at Old U.S. Highway 30/E. Old Road 30.

(F) The area to the east on Old U.S. Highway 30/E. Old Road 30 from the intersection at County Road 300 East to the intersection at County Road 450 East.

(G) The area to the south along County Road 450 East from the intersection at Old U.S. Highway 30/E. Old Road 30 to the intersection at U.S. Highway 30.

(H) The area to the east on U.S. Highway 30 from the intersection at County Road 450 East to the intersection at Van Ness Road.

(I) The area to the south along Van Ness Road from the intersection at U.S. Highway 30 to the intersection at Wooster Road.

(J) The area to the west along Wooster Road from the intersection at Van Ness Road to the intersection at County Road 500 East.

(K) The area to the south along County Road 500 East from the intersection at Wooster Road to the intersection at County Road 350 South.

(L) The area to the west along County Road 350 South from the intersection at County Road 500 East to the intersection at County Road 450 East.

(M) The area to the south along County Road 450 East from the intersection at County Road 350 South to the intersection at County Road 400 South.

(N) The area to the west along County Road 400 South from the intersection at County Road 450 East to the intersection at State Road 15.

(O) The area to the north along State Road 15 from the intersection at County Road 400 South to the intersection at County Road 350 South.

(P) The area to the west along County Road 350 South from the intersection at State Road 15 to the intersection at County Road 450 West.

(Q) The area to the north along County Road 450 West from the intersection at County Road 350 South to the intersection at County Road 400 West.

(R) The area to the north along County Road 400 West from the intersection at County Road 450 West to the intersection at Crystal Lake Road.

(S) The area to the east along Crystal Lake Road from the intersection at County Road 400 West to the intersection at Zimmer Road.

(T) The area to the north along Zimmer Road from the intersection at Crystal

Lake Road to the intersection at Lincoln Highway/Old U.S. Highway 30.

(U) The area to the west along Lincoln Highway/Old U.S. Highway 30 from the intersection at Zimmer Road to the intersection at County Road 350 West.

(V) The area to the north along County Road 350 West from the intersection at Lincoln Highway/Old U.S. Highway 30 to the intersection at U.S. Highway 30.

(W) The area to the east along U.S. Highway 30 from the intersection at County Road 350 West to the intersection at County Road 150 West/Silveus Crossing.

(X) The area to the north along County Road 150 West/Silveus Crossing from the intersection at U.S. Highway 30 to the intersection at County Road 400 North.

(Y) The area to the east along County Road 400 North from the intersection at County Road 150 West/Silveus Crossing to the intersection at State Road 15.

(Z) The area to the north along State Road 15 from the intersection at County Road 400 North to the intersection at Levi Lee Road.

(10) The Allen County deer reduction zone is the portion of Allen County as follows:

(A) The area between Interstate 69 and Interstate 469.

(B) The area to the west of Interstate 69 that extends north of Lafayette Center Road and south of State Road 14.

(C) The area west of Interstate 69 to the:

(i) north of U.S. Highway 30;

(ii) east of O Day Road to the intersection at State Road 33;

(iii) south of State Road 33 to the intersection at Johnson Road;

(iv) east of Johnson Road north to the intersection at West Shoaff Road;

(v) south of West Shoaff Road east to the intersection at State Road 3;  
and

(vi) east of State Road 3 north to the junction with the DeKalb County line.

(D) The area to the east of Interstate 69, to the north of Interstate 469, to the west of the St. Joseph River, and to the south of Schlatter Road.

(11) The Cordry-Sweetwater deer reduction zone is the portion of Brown County contained within the Cordry-Sweetwater Conservancy District.

(12) The Brown County deer reduction zone is the portion of Brown County as follows:

(A) The area that is not more than one-half (½) mile on either side of the centerline of State Road 46 from the Monroe County line to the Bartholomew County line.

(B) The area of Monroe Lake that is located not more than one-half (1/2) mile from the centerline of State Road 46.

(C) The area that is the management units of Yellowwood State Forest contained within the following tracts:

(i) Compartment 2, Tracts 2 and 40.

(ii) Compartment 3, Tracts 1 and 2.



- (iii) Compartment 4, Tract 2.
- (iv) Compartment 5, Tracts 5, 9, 10, 11, and 15.
- (v) Compartment 8, Tract 27.
- (vi) Compartment 9, Tract 1.

The Brown County deer reduction zone does not include any portion of Brown County State Park.

(13) The Dearborn County deer reduction zone is the portion of Dearborn County that includes a privately owned parcel of land that has a portion located not more than one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) mile on either side of the centerline of the following road segments:

- (A) The area of U.S. 50 from the Dearborn/Ripley County line east to the Indiana state line.
- (B) The area of State Road 148 from the intersection at State Road 48, extending south to the intersection at U.S. 50.
- (C) The area of State Road 48 from the intersection at State Road 148, extending south to the intersection at U.S. 50.

(14) The DeKalb County deer reduction zone is the portion of DeKalb County that includes a privately owned parcel of land that has a portion located not more than one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) mile on either side of the centerline of Interstate 69 from the DeKalb/Steuben County line south to the DeKalb/Allen County line.

(15) The Fulton County deer reduction zone is a privately owned parcel of land that has a portion located not more than one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) mile on either side of the centerline of U.S. Highway 31 from the Fulton/Marshall County line to the south to the intersection at State Road 14.

(16) The LaGrange County deer reduction zone is a privately owned parcel of land that has a portion located not more than one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) mile on either side of the centerline of the following road segments:

- (A) The area of U.S. Highway 20 from the intersection at State Road 9 to the east to the LaGrange/Steuben County line.
- (B) The area of State Road 9 from the intersection at U.S. Highway 20 to the south to the LaGrange/Noble County line.
- (C) The area of State Road 3 from the intersection at U.S. Highway 20 to the south to the LaGrange/Noble County line.

(17) The Lake County deer reduction zone is the portion of Lake County as follows:

- (A) The area from north of the junction of the Indiana state line and 151st Avenue.
- (B) The area from 151st Avenue east to the intersection at U.S. Highway 41.
- (C) The area from U.S. Highway 41 south to the intersection at State Road 2.
- (D) The area from State Road 2 east to the intersection at Interstate 65.
- (E) The area from Interstate 65 north to the intersection at 145th Avenue.
- (F) The area from 145th Avenue east to the intersection at U.S. Highway 231.
- (G) The area from U.S. Highway 231 south to the junction with the Porter County line.

(18) The Madison County deer reduction zone is the portion of Madison County that includes a privately owned parcel of land that has a portion located not more than one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) mile on either side of the centerline of Interstate 69 from the

**Madison/Hamilton County line east to the Madison/Delaware County line.**

**(19) The Griffy Lake Nature Preserve deer reduction zone is the portion of Monroe County contained in the Griffy Lake Nature Preserve.**

**(20) The Monroe County deer reduction zone is the portion of Monroe County that includes a privately owned parcel of land that has a portion located not more than one-half (½) mile on either side of the centerline of State Road 37 from the Interstate 69 split south to the junction with the Monroe/Lawrence County line.**

**(21) The Porter County deer reduction zone is the portion of Porter County as follows:**

**(A) The area from north of the junction of U.S. Highway 231 and the Porter/Lake County line.**

**(B) The area to the east along U.S. Highway 231 to the intersection at State Road 2.**

**(C) The area to the north along State Road 2 north to the intersection at Division Road.**

**(D) The area to the east along Division Road to the junction with the LaPorte County line.**

**(22) The Steuben County deer reduction zone is the portion of Steuben County that includes a privately owned parcel of land that has a portion located not more than one-half (½) mile on either side of the centerline of the following road segments:**

**(A) The area of Interstate 69 from the Indiana state line south to the junction with Steuben/DeKalb County line.**

**(B) The area of Interstate 80/90 Toll Road from the Steuben/LaGrange County line east to the intersection at Interstate 69.**

**(C) The area of U.S. Highway 20 from the Steuben/LaGrange County line east to the intersection at Interstate 69.**

**(23) The Wabash County deer reduction zone is the portion of Wabash County that includes a privately owned parcel of land that has a portion located not more than one-half (½) mile on either side of the centerline of State Road 114 from the junction with the Wabash/Fulton County line east to the intersection at State Road 13.**

**(24) The Warrick County deer reduction zone is the portion of Warrick County extending south of State Road 62 from the junction with the Warrick/Vanderburgh County line, then to the intersection at State Road 61 as follows:**

**(A) The area to the south along State Road 61 to the intersection at State Road 66.**

**(B) The area to the west along State Road 66 to the intersection at the French Island Trail.**

**(C) The area to the west along French Island Trail to the intersection at Jennings Street.**

**(D) The area to the west along Jennings Street to the intersection at Old State Road 662.**

**(E) The area to the west along Old State Road 662 to the intersection at State Road 662.**

**(F) The area to the west along State Road 662 to the junction with the Warrick/Vanderburgh County line.**

**(25) The deer reduction zones in central Indiana are as follows:**

**(A) Marion County.**

**(B) The area in Johnson County to the south from the Marion County line as follows:**

**(i) The area to the west of Interstate 65 and south to the intersection of Interstate 65 and Whiteland Road.**

**(ii) The area to the west along Whiteland Road to the intersection at State Road 144.**

**(iii) The area to the west along State Road 144 to the intersection at State Road 37.**

**(iv) The area to the south along State Road 37 to the junction with the Johnson/Morgan County line.**

**(C) The area in Morgan County to the north of the junction of State Road 37 and the Morgan/Johnson County line as follows:**

**(i) The area to the west of State Road 37 South to the intersection of State Road 37 and State Road 39/Morton Avenue.**

**(ii) The area to the north along State Road 39/Morton Avenue from the intersection at State Road 37 to the intersection at State Road 67.**

**(iii) The area to the north along State Road 67 from the intersection at State Road 39 to the intersection at Indiana Street/State Road 267.**

**(iv) The area to the north along Indiana Street/State Road 267 from the intersection at State Road 67 to the intersection at State Road 42/High Street.**

**(v) The area to the west along State Road 42/High Street from the intersection at Indiana Street/State Road 267 to the intersection at State Road 267.**

**(vi) The area to the north along State Road 267 to the junction with the Morgan/Hendricks County line.**

**(D) The area in Hendricks County to the east of State Road 267 from the Morgan County line north to the Boone County line.**

**(E) The area in Boone County to the east of State Road 267 from the Hendricks County line north to the intersection at Interstate 65 as follows:**

**(i) The area from Interstate 65 south to the intersection at State Road 334.**

**(ii) The area to the east to the intersection at Ford Road/County Road 975 East/Pleasantview Road.**

**(iii) The area to the north to the intersection at County Road 300 South.**

**(iv) The area from County Road 300 South east to the junction with the Hamilton County line.**

**(F) The area in Hamilton County to the south of State Road 32 from the Boone County line east to the junction with U.S. Highway 31 as follows:**

**(i) The area to the north along U.S. Highway 31 to the intersection at 236th Street.**

**(ii) The area to the east along 236th Street to the intersection at State Road 19.**

(iii) The area to the south along State Road 19 to the intersection at State Road 32.

(iv) The area to the east along State Road 32 to the junction with the Madison County line.

(e) The firearms deer season ~~is from~~ **begins** the first Saturday after November 11 and ~~continues for ends after~~ an additional fifteen (15) days. An individual ~~must may~~ take not more than one (1) antlered deer under this subsection **with a firearms license**.

(f) The deer hunting season ~~for only using to use~~ a muzzleloading long gun or a muzzleloading handgun ~~is from~~ **begins** the first Saturday after the closing day of firearms season ~~as established in under~~ subsection (e) and ~~continues for ends after~~ an additional fifteen (15) days. An individual ~~must may not take not~~ more than ~~one (1) deer of either sex~~ **the number of deer authorized by 312 IAC 9-3-2** under this subsection.

(g) ~~The season and bag limit for hunting per county to take an antlerless deer in a designated county, by authority of an extra deer bonus antlerless license under section 2(j) of this rule, shall be established on an annual basis by a temporary rule authorized by the director is as follows:~~

- (1) Two (2) deer in Adams County.
- (2) Three (3) deer in Allen County.
- (3) Three (3) deer in Bartholomew County.
- (4) Two (2) in deer Benton County.
- (5) Two (2) in deer Blackford County.
- (6) Three (3) in deer Boone County.
- (7) Four (4) in deer Brown County.
- (8) Three (3) in deer Carroll County.
- (9) Three (3) in deer Cass County.
- (10) Three (3) in deer Clark County.
- (11) Three (3) in deer Clay County.
- (12) Three (3) in deer Clinton County.
- (13) Four (4) in deer Crawford County.
- (14) Three (3) deer in Daviess County.
- (15) Four (4) deer in Dearborn County.
- (16) Two (2) deer in Decatur County.
- (17) Three (3) deer in DeKalb County.
- (18) Three (3) deer in Delaware County.
- (19) Three (3) deer in Dubois County.
- (20) Three (3) deer in Elkhart County.
- (21) In Fayette County:
  - (A) One (1) deer beginning October 1, 2024; and
  - (B) Two (2) deer beginning October 1, 2025.
- (22) Four (4) deer in Floyd County.
- (23) Three (3) deer in Fountain County.
- (24) In Franklin County:
  - (A) One (1) deer beginning October 1, 2024; and
  - (B) Two (2) deer beginning October 1, 2025.
- (25) Three (3) deer in Fulton County.

- (26) Three (3) deer in Gibson County.
- (27) Three (3) deer in Grant County.
- (28) Three (3) deer in Greene County.
- (29) Three (3) deer in Hamilton County.
- (30) Two (2) deer in Hancock County.
- (31) Four (4) deer in Harrison County.
- (32) Three (3) deer in Hendricks County.
- (33) Three (3) deer in Henry County.
- (34) Three (3) deer in Howard County.
- (35) Three (3) deer in Huntington County.
- (36) Four (4) deer in Jackson County.
- (37) Three (3) deer in Jasper County.
- (38) Two (2) deer in Jay County.
- (39) Four (4) deer in Jefferson County.
- (40) Four (4) deer in Jennings County.
- (41) Three (3) deer in Johnson County.
- (42) Three (3) deer in Knox County.
- (43) Three (3) deer in Kosciusko County.
- (44) Three (3) deer in LaGrange County.
- (45) Three (3) deer in Lake County.
- (46) Three (3) deer in LaPorte County.
- (47) Four (4) deer in Lawrence County.
- (48) Three (3) deer in Madison County.
- (49) Three (3) deer in Marion County.
- (50) Three (3) deer in Marshall County.
- (51) Three (3) deer in Martin County.
- (52) Three (3) deer in Miami County.
- (53) Four (4) deer in Monroe County.
- (54) Three (3) deer in Montgomery County.
- (55) Four (4) deer in Morgan County.
- (56) Three (3) deer in Newton County.
- (57) Three (3) deer in Noble County.
- (58) Three (3) deer in Ohio County.
- (59) Four (4) deer in Orange County.
- (60) Four (4) deer in Owen County.
- (61) Three (3) deer in Parke County.
- (62) Four (4) deer in Perry County.
- (63) Three (3) deer in Pike County.
- (64) Three (3) deer in Porter County.
- (65) Three (3) deer in Posey County.
- (66) Three (3) deer in Pulaski County.
- (67) Three (3) deer in Putnam County.
- (68) Two (2) deer in Randolph County.
- (69) Four (4) deer in Ripley County.
- (70) Two (2) deer in Rush County.

- (71) Three (3) deer in St. Joseph County.
- (72) Four (4) deer in Scott County.
- (73) Two (2) deer in Shelby County.
- (74) Three (3) deer in Spencer County.
- (75) Three (3) deer in Starke County.
- (76) Three (3) deer in Steuben County.
- (77) Three (3) deer in Sullivan County.
- (78) Three (3) deer in Switzerland County.
- (79) Three (3) deer in Tippecanoe County.
- (80) Two (2) deer in Tipton County.
- (81) Three (3) deer in Union County.
- (82) Three (3) deer in Vanderburgh County.
- (83) Three (3) deer in Vermillion County.
- (84) Three (3) deer in Vigo County.
- (85) Three (3) deer in Wabash County.
- (86) Three (3) deer in Warren County.
- (87) Three (3) deer in Warrick County.
- (88) Four (4) deer in Washington County.
- (89) Three (3) deer in Wayne County.
- (90) Two (2) deer in Wells County.
- (91) Three (3) deer in White County.
- (92) Three (3) deer in Whitley County.

~~(h) The special antlerless deer season is from December 26 through the first Sunday in January of the following year in counties with an antlerless quota of four (4) or more deer. An individual may take only antlerless deer under this subsection and may take only the number established under subsection (g) for the county being hunted.~~

*(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 9-3-4; filed May 12, 1997, 10:00 a.m.: 20 IR 2703; filed Nov 5, 1997, 3:25 p.m.: 21 IR 930; filed Dec 26, 2001, 2:40 p.m.: 25 IR 1530; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; filed Sep 23, 2004, 3:00 p.m.: 28 IR 538; filed May 25, 2005, 10:15 a.m.: 28 IR 2945; filed Jun 29, 2007, 2:30 p.m.: 20070725-IR-312060272FRA; filed Jul 10, 2007, 2:09 p.m.: 20070808-IR-312060572FRA; filed Sep 6, 2007, 12:20 p.m.: 20071003-IR-312070023FRA; readopted filed Nov 24, 2008, 11:08 a.m.: 20081210-IR-312080672RFA; filed Nov 3, 2009, 3:34 p.m.: 20091202-IR-312090044FRA; filed Nov 12, 2009, 3:53 p.m.: 20091209-IR-312090060FRA; filed Dec 1, 2011, 4:01 p.m.: 20111228-IR-312110101FRA; readopted filed May 20, 2014, 9:43 a.m.: 20140618-IR-312140017RFA; filed Jun 15, 2015, 3:43 p.m.: 20150715-IR-312140453FRA; readopted filed Sep 18, 2019, 1:16 p.m.: 20191016-IR-312190325RFA)*

SECTION 6. 312 IAC 9-4-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS:

**312 IAC 9-4-11 Wild turkeys**

**Authority:** IC 14-10-2-4; IC 14-22-2-6

**Affected:** IC 14-22; IC 35-47

Sec. 11. (a) Except as provided in subsection (c), an individual may hunt wild turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo*) in the spring from the first Wednesday after April 20 and continuing for

an additional eighteen (18) consecutive days. On property managed by the division of fish and wildlife, an individual may hunt wild turkeys under this subsection only until noon (central time) or 1:00 p.m. (Eastern time).

(b) An individual may hunt wild turkeys (*Meleagris gallopavo*) during the fall as follows:

(1) With firearms from the first Wednesday after October 14 and continuing for an additional eleven (11) consecutive days in the following counties only:

- (A) Bartholomew.
- (B) Brown.
- (C) Clark.
- (D) Clay
- (E) Crawford.
- (F) Daviess.
- (G) Dearborn.
- (H) DeKalb.
- (I) Dubois.
- (J) Elkhart.
- (K) Fayette.
- (L) Floyd.
- (M) Fountain.
- (N) Franklin.
- (O) Gibson.
- (P) Greene.
- (Q) Harrison.
- (R) Jackson.
- (S) Jefferson.
- (T) Jennings.
- (U) Knox.
- (V) Kosciusko.
- (W) LaGrange.
- (X) LaPorte.
- (Y) Lawrence.
- (Z) Marshall.
- (AA) Martin.
- (BB) Monroe.
- (CC) Morgan.
- (DD) Noble.
- (EE) Ohio.
- (FF) Orange.
- (GG) Owen.
- (HH) Parke.
- (II) Perry.
- (JJ) Pike.
- (KK) Posey.
- (LL) Putnam.
- (MM) Ripley.

(NN) Scott.  
(OO) Spencer.  
(PP) St. Joseph.  
(QQ) Starke.  
(RR) Steuben.  
(SS) Sullivan.  
(TT) Switzerland.  
(UU) Union.  
(VV) Vanderburgh.  
(WW) Vermillion.  
(XX) Vigo.  
(YY) Warren.  
(ZZ) Warrick.  
(AAA) Washington.

(2) With a bow and arrows from:

(A) October 1 to the end of the fall turkey season with firearms as established in subdivision (1); and

(B) the first Saturday after the closing day of deer firearms season as established in ~~312 IAC 9-3-4(e)~~ **312 IAC 9-3-4** through the first Sunday in January.

(c) The spring and fall seasons for hunting and possessing wild turkeys on Camp Atterbury shall be determined by the director on an annual basis to prevent interference with military training exercises.

(d) An individual may take one (1):

(1) bearded or male wild turkey during the spring season; and

(2) wild turkey of either sex during the fall season.

(e) An individual must not do the following:

(1) Hunt wild turkeys except between one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise and sunset.

(2) Take a wild turkey except with the use of any of the following:

(A) A shotgun or muzzleloading shotgun with a barrel length of [sic, at] least 18 inches (forty-six (46) cm):

(i) of 28, 20, 16, 12, and 10 gauge; or

(ii) .410 caliber;

loaded only with shot of size 4, 5, 6, 7, 7 ½, or smaller. Shot size smaller than size 7 ½ must be comprised of tungsten super shot or equivalent pellet density only.

Shot sizes of equal or greater diameter than six (6) shot (diameter equal to eleven-hundredths (0.11) inch) up through and including four (4) shot (diameter equal [sic, to] thirteen-hundredths [sic, thirteen-hundredths] (0.13) inch) must have a density composition equal to or less than fifteen (15) grams per cubic centimeter.

(B) A bow and arrows, including crossbows as defined in 312 IAC 9-1-5.3, with the following restrictions:

(i) An individual must not use a:

(AA) long bow; or

(BB) compound bow;

of less than thirty-five (35) pounds pull.



(ii) Arrows must be equipped with metal or metal-edged (or flint, chert, or obsidian napped) broadheads.

(iii) An individual must not use a:

(AA) crossbow of less than one hundred twenty-five (125) pounds pull;

(BB) crossbow without a mechanical safety; or

(CC) poisoned or explosive arrow.

(iv) No portion of a bow's riser (handle) or:

(AA) track;

(BB) trough;

(CC) channel;

(DD) arrow rest; or

(EE) other device;

that attaches to the bow's riser shall contact, support, or guide the arrow from a point rearward of the bow's brace height.

(3) Hunt wild turkeys in the fall season that takes place during the deer muzzleloader season as established in ~~312 IAC 9-3-4(f)~~ **312 IAC 9-3-4** or during the deer special late antlerless season in a location where authorized as established in ~~312 IAC 9-3-4(h)~~ unless that individual wears hunter orange.

(4) Call wild turkeys for another individual unless licensed in accordance with subsection (j) or (k). The individual who calls the wild turkey may have already harvested a wild turkey.

(f) The special youth season for hunting wild turkeys under this subsection is two (2) consecutive days beginning on the Saturday immediately before the start of the spring turkey season established in subsection (a). ~~As used in this subsection, "youth" means an individual who is less than eighteen (18) years of age on the date of the hunt.~~ A youth who hunts a wild turkey under this section must be accompanied by an adult who is at least eighteen (18) years of age. An adult accompanying a youth hunter must not possess a firearm, bow and arrow, or crossbow while in the field. The seasonal limit for hunting wild turkeys under this subsection is one (1) bearded or male wild turkey. A youth hunter who takes a wild turkey under this subsection must not take another wild turkey during the spring turkey season in the same year.

(g) An individual must not use or possess:

(1) a dog;

(2) another domesticated animal;

(3) a live decoy;

(4) a recorded call;

(5) an electronically powered or controlled decoy; or

(6) bait;

while hunting a wild turkey. An area is considered baited for ten (10) days after the removal of the bait, but an area is not considered to be baited that is attractive to wild turkeys resulting from normal agricultural practices.

(h) An individual may possess a handgun while hunting wild turkeys in accordance with IC 35-47.

(i) Except as provided under IC 14-22-11-1 and IC 14-22-11-11, an individual must not hunt:

- (1) wild turkeys unless possessing a completed and signed license bearing the individual's name; or
- (2) with a wild turkey license issued to another individual.
- (j) An individual may take a wild turkey during the spring season established under subsection (a) only if:
  - (1) issued a license to hunt wild turkeys with:
    - (A) a resident youth consolidated hunting license under IC 14-22-11-10(b);
    - (B) a resident spring turkey license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(20);
    - (C) a nonresident spring turkey license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(21);
    - (D) a resident youth consolidated hunting license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);
    - (E) a nonresident youth spring turkey license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(27);
    - (F) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4) before its repeal;
    - (G) a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5) before its repeal; or
    - (H) an apprentice spring turkey hunting license under IC 14-22-12-1.7; or
  - (2) hunting under IC 14-22-11-1.
- (k) An individual may take a wild turkey during the fall season established under subsection (b) only if:
  - (1) issued a license to hunt wild turkeys with:
    - (A) a resident youth consolidated hunting license under IC 14-22-11-10(b);
    - (B) a resident fall turkey license under IC 14-22-11-10(a) or IC 14-22-12-1(a)(22);
    - (C) a nonresident fall turkey license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(23);
    - (D) a resident youth consolidated hunting license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(24);
    - (E) a nonresident youth fall turkey license under IC 14-22-12-1(a)(28);
    - (F) a lifetime comprehensive hunting license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(4) before its repeal;
    - (G) a lifetime comprehensive hunting and fishing license under IC 14-22-12-7(a)(5) before its repeal; or
    - (H) an apprentice fall turkey hunting license under IC 14-22-12-1.7; or
  - (2) hunting under IC 14-22-11-1.
- (l) Immediately after taking a wild turkey, an individual must attach a piece of paper to a leg of the turkey directly above the spur stating the following:
  - (1) The name and address of the individual who took the turkey.
  - (2) The license number (if applicable) of the individual who took the turkey.
  - (3) The date the wild turkey was taken.
  - (4) The sex of the wild turkey taken.
- (m) An individual who takes a wild turkey must do one (1) of the following:
  - (1) Cause delivery of the wild turkey to an official turkey checking station within forty-eight (48) hours of taking as follows:
    - (A) Register the wild turkey in the name of the individual who took the wild turkey.

(B) Provide the check station with true and accurate information that includes the information on the piece of paper described in subsection (l).

(C) Record the confirmation number provided by the department's electronic harvest reporting system on the piece of paper described in subsection (l).

(2) Cause the reporting of the take by providing true and accurate information required on the department's electronic harvest reporting system within forty-eight (48) hours of taking. The individual who took the wild turkey or the individual reporting the take of the turkey must record the department's electronic harvest confirmation number on the piece of paper described in subsection (l). This confirmation number must be maintained with the turkey until processing of the turkey begins.

(n) The department's electronic harvest confirmation number must be maintained with a wild turkey that is gifted to another individual until processing of the wild turkey begins.

(o) The official wild turkey checking station operator shall accurately report the taking of the wild turkey on the department's electronic harvest reporting system and give the individual the confirmation number.

(p) The feathers and beard of a wild turkey must remain attached while the wild turkey is in transit from the site where taken.

(q) As used in this section, "bait" means to:

- (1) place;
- (2) expose;
- (3) deposit;
- (4) distribute; or
- (5) scatter;

grain, salt, or other feed to lure, attract, or entice a wild turkey to an area where a person may take the wild turkey.

(Natural Resources Commission; 312 IAC 9-4-11; filed May 12, 1997, 10:00 a.m.: 20 IR 2710; filed May 28, 1998, 5:14 p.m.: 21 IR 3715; filed Dec 26, 2001, 2:40 p.m.: 25 IR 1533; readopted filed Jul 28, 2003, 12:00 p.m.: 27 IR 286; filed Sep 23, 2004, 3:00 p.m.: 28 IR 541; filed May 25, 2005, 10:15 a.m.: 28 IR 2946; filed Jun 23, 2006, 2:24 p.m.: 20060719-IR-312050214FRA; filed Jan 8, 2007, 9:11 a.m.: 20070207-IR-312060193FRA; filed Sep 6, 2007, 12:20 p.m.: 20071003-IR-312070023FRA; readopted filed Nov 24, 2008, 11:08 a.m.: 20081210-IR-312080672RFA; filed Apr 3, 2009, 1:48 p.m.: 20090429-IR-312080740FRA; filed Mar 12, 2010, 1:28 p.m.: 20100407-IR-312090479FRA; filed Aug 27, 2010, 10:52 a.m.: 20100922-IR-312090984FRA; filed Dec 18, 2012, 2:00 p.m.: 20130116-IR-312120115FRA; readopted filed May 20, 2014, 9:43 a.m.: 20140618-IR-312140017RFA; filed Jun 15, 2015, 3:43 p.m.: 20150715-IR-312140453FRA; filed Jun 21, 2018, 1:45 p.m.: 20180718-IR-312170436FRA; readopted filed Sep 18, 2019, 1:16 p.m.: 20191016-IR-312190325RFA; filed May 11, 2021, 1:07 p.m.: 20210609-IR-312200602FRA)

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## AGENDA ITEM #5

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