

FINAL REGULATIONS - CHAPTER W-9 - WILDLIFE PROPERTIES

ARTICLE II - PROPERTY-SPECIFIC PROVISIONS

#901 - PROPERTY-SPECIFIC REGULATIONS

See Appendix B for a list of properties without property-specific regulations, to which only restrictions in #900 apply)

- A.** On all Division properties which have reservations available or required, those reservations may be made by phone or online (cpw.state.co.us). Reservations for small game and waterfowl hunting may not be made more than 14 days in advance of the hunt date, nor after 12:00 noon on the day before the hunt date. Reservations for big game hunting may not be made more than 45 days in advance of the start of the season for which the reservation is being made. Unless otherwise specified, reservations for big game hunting are valid throughout the season designated by the license. Hunters who wish to cancel a reservation must do so no later than 12:00 noon on the day before the hunt date. Failure to hunt a reserved area without prior cancellation, or follow check station procedures, may cause forfeiture of the privilege to make reservations for the remainder of the hunting season. Hunters are limited to a maximum of one reservation per hunt date. Hunters must possess a valid license for the species to be hunted in order to make a reservation. Reservations are not transferable. The individual named on the reservation must be at the property on the day of the hunt. Hunters with reservations may only hunt the hunt area specified on the reservation. Any exceptions to the above restrictions will be listed under property specific regulations.
- B.** In addition to or in place of those restrictions listed in regulation #900, the following provisions or restrictions apply:

172. Oak Ridge State Wildlife Area (Bel Aire Unit, Lake Avery Unit, Oak Ridge Unit, Jon Wangnild Unit, Sleepy Cat Ponds Unit, and Sleepy Cat Fishing Easement) - Rio Blanco County

- a. Camping is prohibited, except in designated areas.
- b. Public access is prohibited on the Oak Ridge Unit from December 1 through July 15 except for CPW youth outreach turkey hunts April 1-30 and valid GMU 23 turkey license holders and their companion May 1-31.
- c. Public access is prohibited on Sleepy Cat Ponds Unit and Sleepy Cat Fishing Easement, except for fishing.
- d. Hunting is prohibited, except by archery in that portion south of Rio Blanco Co Rd 8, west of Rio Blanco Co Rd 17, and north and east of Rio Blanco Co Rd 10.
- e. Water skiing, jet skis, and boating other than wakeless boating, are prohibited on Lake Avery.

Basis and Purpose:

Modifying the public access dates for Oak Ridge State Wildlife Area to allow limited turkey hunting May 1-31st and youth outreach turkey hunting April 1-30th

Recently the wild turkey population has grown significantly near Meeker and specifically within unit 23. However, public land hunting opportunities are very limited for turkey hunters during the spring season in unit 23. Modifying the public access dates for Oak Ridge State Wildlife Area (SWA) will provide high quality public land hunting opportunities by allowing limited public access for spring turkey hunting. These changes will allow a very small number of CPW youth outreach hunts to occur in April prior to opening the area for hunters possessing a limited spring turkey license valid on public land in unit 23 in May. It is believed that this very limited public access for spring turkey hunting can be allowed without negatively impacting the mule deer and elk that use the property in spring.

The statements of basis and purpose for these regulations can be obtained from the Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife, Office of the Regulations Manager by emailing dnr_cpw_planning@state.co.us or by visiting the Division of Parks and Wildlife headquarters at 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO, 80216.

The statutory authority for these regulations includes, but is not limited to:

- § 24-4-103, C.R.S.
- §§ 33-1-101 to 33-6-209, C.R.S., particularly §§ 33-1-105, -106, -107, and 33-4-102, C.R.S.
- § 33-9-102, C.R.S.

EFFECTIVE DATE - THESE REGULATIONS SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE MARCH 2, 2023 AND SHALL REMAIN IN FULL FORCE AND EFFECT UNTIL REPEALED, AMENDED OR SUPERSEDED.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED BY THE PARKS AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO THIS 17TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2023.

APPROVED:
Carrie Besnette Hauser
Chair

ATTEST:
Marie Haskett
Secretary