

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Laughlin Air Force Base

HUNTING PLAN



2026

Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas

47th Civil Engineer Squadron

White-Tailed Deer Hunting Plan
Laughlin Air Force Base, Texas
Signatory Page and Annual Reviews

BISSONETTE.ERIC.M.1
018584340

Digitally signed by
BISSONETTE.ERIC.M.1018584340
Date: 2026.09.18 14:23:29 -05'00'

ERIC M. BISSONETTE, Colonel, USAF
Commander, 47th Flying Training Wing

18 September 2026

DATE

2026 Annual Review:

GUINDIN-
ROBLESJOANNY.1637156850

Digitally signed by GUINDIN-
ROBLESJOANNY.1637156850
Date: 2026.09.21 11:37:10 -05'00'

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGER

21 September 2026

DATE

2027 Annual Review:

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGER

DATE

2028 Annual Review:

NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGER

DATE

Table of Contents

Section 1. General Information	2
1.1. Purpose	2
1.2. Eligibility	2
1.3. Hunting Licenses, Endorsements and Hunter's Education	3
1.4. Youth Hunters	4
1.5. Hunters with Disabilities	4
1.6. Hunting Sites Access, Check-in, & Check-out	4
1.7. Permits, WTD Lottery, and Hunting Sites Management	5
1.8. General Regulations and Safety	5
1.9. Firearms	6
1.10. Archery	6
1.11. Vegetation Management	6
1.12. Baiting/Supplemental Feeding	6
1.13. Hunting Equipment	6
Section 2. Game Management	7
2.1. Game Surveys and Population Management	7
2.2. Deer Species	7
2.3. Game Check-In, Tagging, and Tracking	8
Section 3. Conservation Laws	9
3.1. Conservation Law Enforcement Officer	9
Points of Contact	15
 List of Tables	
Table 1 - Infraction Matrix	9
 List of Maps	
Map 1 - Laughlin AFB Hunting Sites	11
Map 2 - CE Environmental Office	14

Section 1. General Information

1.1. Purpose

Laughlin Air Force Base (LAFB) owns and manages 4,695 acres. When appropriate and consistent with the military mission, safety, security requirements, and the sustainability of natural resources, the Department of Defense allows access to natural resources for recreational purposes. Recreation will be conducted in accordance with the Sikes Act, and to Department of the Air Force Manual (DAFMAN) 32-7003. Recreational activities, like the White-tailed Deer Hunting Program, are subject to all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations. White-tailed deer is a resource managed by the State of Texas and the base. They provide an opportunity for recreational hunting and to be utilized as food.

LAFB operates under Texas Parks & Wildlife Department's (TPWD's) rules and regulations pertaining to Val Verde County (Southern Zone) in addition to LAFB specific regulations. LAFB is part of TPWD's Managed Lands Deer Program (MLDP). The MLDP program provides management support to LAFB through the Harvest Option (HO). This option allows LAFB to provide white-tailed deer tags to those eligible and able to access the base.

It is the individual participant's responsibility to take the time to read, understand, and fully comply with this plan.

1.2. Eligibility

Access to base is restricted by Security Forces Squadron (SFS). While firearms may be allowed onto base through SFS guidelines, the base does not accept the risks of hunting with shotguns or rifles. Archery, including crossbows, is the only acceptable means of hunting on Laughlin AFB. The following are people eligible to participate in the Laughlin hunting program:

Table 1: Eligibility Categories

Eligibility Category	Access Requirement
Active-Duty Military.	DoD ID
DoD Civilian.	DoD ID
Active-Duty Military Dependents and Family Members.	DoD ID. DoD ID is not required for dependents less than 10 years old.
Disabled Veterans with Veterans Health Identification Card (VHIC).	VHIC. without DoD ID or VHIC, the Disabled Veteran will be considered "General Public."
Military Retirees.	DoD ID
DoD Civilian Retirees.	DoD ID
Employees of Installation *Prime Contractors.	DoD ID

Civilians (enlisted and commissioned) in National Guard and Reserve not on Active duty.	DoD ID.
General Public (All others including disabled veterans not covered by another eligible category).	Must be sponsored onto base and may apply for and hunt at LAFB. They must be sponsored and escorted by the sponsor during all hunting efforts, provided that the security posture is appropriate at the time (INRMP 7.2.1). Due to concerns with safety, national security, and mission requirements, when the Force Protection Condition elevates beyond "Bravo," the Threat Working Group (TWG) will determine if all hunting sites are to be deemed "Restricted" and no general public hunters will be allowed.

* Prime Contractors defined as a contractor with a five-year or greater term contract

1.3. Hunting Licenses, Endorsements and Hunter's Education

A first come, first served system will be implemented for the hunters who meet all requirements and tests. This method provides the hunters with more opportunities to select an open site that works with their schedule. The base permit will not allow the use of any state tags on the hunting license. MLDP tags will be provided by the Natural Resources Manager (NRM)—they are the only permitted tags and are only good for LAFB.

Hunters who wish to participate must:

- Have a valid driver's license.
- Have a DoD identification card or Air Force identification card. Visitors may use a temporary base pass. Accompanied minors are exempt from ID requirements.
- Have proof of a completed Hunter Safety Course (active duty members and honorably discharged veterans of the United States Armed Forces; active duty members or those who have previously served as members of the Texas Army National Guard, Texas Air National Guard, or the Texas State Guard; or persons who are serving or have previously served as peace officers as described by Subdivision (1), (2), (3), or (4), Article 2.12, Code of Criminal Procedure ARE EXEMPT).
- Have a valid Texas Hunting License.
- Complete mandatory Safety Briefing and Competency Test provided by CE.
- Be willing to cooperate, clean area, and provide feedback to the NRM.
- Be provided with a buck (if available) and an antlerless tag by the NRM, and a Parking Pass from iSportsman.
- Select an open hunting site by contacting the NRM every Monday prior to the hunting weekend. Open sites can be verified through iSportsman.

- Have signs placed at all entrances, warning people of danger (maps will be provided).
- Have arrows/bolts with broadheads with at least 2 blades. Mechanical broadheads may be used.
- **Not** enter other hunting sites during hunting hours.

Please refer to the TPWD's [Outdoor Annual](#) for information on hunting licenses.

1.4. Youth Hunters

Youth hunters are welcome and strongly encouraged to hunt on Laughlin AFB, which welcomes youth hunters ages 9 through 17. To participate, youth hunters must possess a valid Texas hunting license and state-recognized Hunter Education Certification. While youth ages 9 through 16 qualify for the discounted Texas Youth Hunting License, a 17-year-old must purchase a standard adult license unless they purchased their youth license prior to their 17th birthday. All youth hunters must complete the mandatory Base Safety Briefing and pass the Archery Competency Test before they are allowed to hunt on the installation. During all hunting activities, the youth must be accompanied by a licensed adult sponsor who meets all LAFB hunting requirements but is not hunting at the same time as the youth. The adult sponsor is solely responsible for the conduct and safety of the underage hunter under their supervision.

1.5. Hunters with Disabilities

Although there are no designated sites for disabled hunters, the NRM will make every effort to accommodate disabled participants. Most of the hunting sites are flat and easily accessible, a couple of the sites may have some rough terrain around their perimeters. Please contact the NRM if accommodation is required.

1.6. Hunting Sites Access, Check-in, & Check-out

Hunting will be allowed on Friday to Sunday, and on holidays as published by the NRM. Monday-Thursday leading up to the weekend may be used to become familiar with the hunting sites. Any equipment found after a person is done with designated site or outside of hunting sites by NRM or SFS will be confiscated. Hunters must check into and out of sites with SFS using the hunting website, during pre-hunt scouting.

Hunters must carry a valid Texas Hunting License at all times while in the field, and all harvested deer must be properly tagged with an authorized MLDP tag.

“Active Hunting Road Closed” signs must be placed in designated spots to block off roads prior to the beginning of the hunting sessions; this shall be completed by the NRM or hunters. Hunting sites will be accessed by road, and personal vehicles (POV) must be parked in designated areas. All vehicles must stay on roads—no off roading is allowed. iSportsman parking tag must be displayed in vehicle on the dashboard while hunting.

Check-in and check-out must be completed on iSportsman. Hunters shall check-in as they enter their assigned site, starting no earlier than 90 minutes before sunrise. Hunters must be checked

out of hunting sites 90 minutes after sunset. If pursuit of an injured deer delays the check out, please notify the SFS (830-298-5100) and the NRM (830-298-5058).

- **Mornings:** Hunting start time is 30 minutes before sunrise and ends at 10:00. Tracking hunters must inform the NRM (298-5058) and SFS (298-5100) if more time is needed.
- **Afternoons:** Start time is at 15:00 and ends 30 minutes after sunset. Hunting sites and dead pit must be vacated by 22:00. Tracking hunters must inform the NRM and SFS if more time is needed.
- **1000-1500:** can be used to track wounded deer. Please call the NRM and SFS if you need to leave your hunting site during these times to track wounded deer. Do not access any other hunting site when tracking wounded deer.

1.7. Permits, WTD Lottery, and Hunting Sites Management

White-tailed land management deer tags are obtained from Laughlin Environmental and are provided to the hunters by the NRM. A Texas hunting License is required but deer tags from the license are not permitted for use.

Hunters will be scheduled for a site on a first come, first served basis. Hunters will e-mail joanny.guindin-robles@us.af.mil on Monday morning if they desire to hunt the following weekend. Areas will be assigned by the NRM who will manage what areas are open for the weekend to avoid over hunting. Hunters will check in and out of their assigned areas through their account on iSportsman.

Charges to enter the program and receive a hunting permit will be set by the NRM and paid through the hunting website. All proceeds made during the hunt will be put back into the LAFB Natural Resources Management program.

1.8. General Regulations and Safety

SFS maintains peace and upholds the laws and regulations of LAFB. TPWD Game Wardens have access to LAFB to assist in the management of wildlife or to prosecute/investigate hunting violations. Hunters are to maintain safe hunting practices and procedures. A training course and breakdown of safe practices will be provided by the NRM. If regulations and laws are broken, SFS and the Game Wardens will be promptly notified.

A minimum distance of 200 feet must be maintained from public access areas, such as the golf course and Arkansas St, at all times.

Hunters **may not** spotlight or shoot using artificial light.

No dogs will be allowed in the hunting sites during or after the hunt. It is the responsibility of hunters to track and find deer, making every attempt to recover wounded deer within their assigned areas. If an injured deer is not found, the hunter must notify SFS x5100 and the NRM x5058. It is not the responsibility of the NRM or SFS to track and find wounded deer.

Hunters may not be under the influence of drugs or alcohol.

In case of an emergency:

- Call 911 and tell dispatcher that you are on LAFB.
- Once transferred to base dispatch, tell the dispatcher your location.

Take the time before the hunts to get to know your routes—especially when traveling to and from feeders and hunting blinds. If anything unsafe is encountered, take notes and report to Wing Safety (298-5382) and Laughlin Environmental. SFS and TPWD Game Wardens may visit hunting sites at any time. Direct all concerns to the NRM (298-5058). Call SFS (298-5100) if Security Forces are needed. Hunters may report unsafe situations via the hunting app, which will then be sent to Wing Safety, SFS and the NRM.

1.9. Firearms

No firearms will be used for hunting on LAFB. Use of firearms will result in arrest and prosecution.

1.10. Archery

Bows, including compound, long, short, recurve, and crossbows, are allowed for use. Arrows must include broad-heads with at least 2 blades. Mechanical broadheads may be used as long as they open on impact. Hunters must attend and pass an Archery Competency Test on base. If they fail, they will not be allowed to hunt. Incompetent shooting is a safety hazard to the hunter, base residents, personnel, and wildlife. Air-bows **are not** permitted.

Hunters must place temporary blinds facing away from any access road. Shooting off an access road or across a road is illegal.

1.11. Vegetation Management

The Laughlin NRM will make sure that hunting sites and lanes will be mowed and maintained prior to the hunting season beginning. Hunters may alter vegetation only by removing tree branches or shrub branches. Entire trees or shrubs may not be removed. If they are removed, their removal may result in a hunting infraction.

1.12. Baiting/Supplemental Feeding

The NRM may pre-bait hunting sites using supplements and feeders as funds allow. The hunters may also bait their areas. Bait may include corn, hay, protein, and/or salt licks.

1.13. Hunting Equipment

Hunters are encouraged to bring and set up their own blinds during the hunt. All personal equipment must be clearly marked with contact information of the hunter. If the equipment is lost, stolen, or broken, it is not the responsibility of LAFB. Hunters should report any damaged or

stolen personal property to SFS and the NRM.

Section 2. Game Management

2.1. Game Surveys and Population Management

The NRM conducts deer surveys every year after breeding season on LAFB. This information is collected and sent to TPWD, who provides a population estimate and a recommended harvest quota. The quota will be seasonally briefed by the NRM according to the INRMP goals. If the deer population is found to be too low, hunting may be postponed for the year. When the harvest quota is met by hunters, the hunting season will be closed for the year. The Laughlin NRM may take other opportunities to meet the quotas.

2.2. Deer Species

White-tailed deer are valuable and sustainable resources for Texas, the Air Force, and the general region. Keeping the population at or near the TPWD recommended population is necessary to mitigate risk to the Air Force mission and to maintain a healthy deer population.



Figure 1 - White-Tailed Deer, Buck



Figure 2 - White-Tailed Deer, Doe

Axis deer is an exotic species that escaped captivity from game ranches and is now prevalent in Texas. The axis population on the base is very low. If seen during regular white-tail hunting efforts, they may be harvested as no tag is required. Please inform the NRM if axis deer is harvested.



Figure 3 - Axis Deer, Doe and Buck

Exotic Barasingha have been spotted on LAFB. **Do Not Shoot!!** They are endangered and are internationally protected by USFWS. They are a large deer with tall, many-tined, c-shaped antlers. They may be light tan to reddish-brown in color, and are noticeably larger than white-tail and axis deer. Harming the Barasingha could result in monetary fines in excess of \$10,000, lifetime forfeiture of hunting rights in the State of Texas and LAFB, forfeiture of firearms, and other punitive measures.



Figure 4 - Barasingha Bucks

2.3. Game Check-In, Tagging, and Tracking

When a deer is taken (harvested), it must be tagged immediately, and field dressed (removal of internal organs) in an approved location as identified on Map 1. TPWD Game Wardens consider the MLDP tag as proof of sex. Reporting of take to the NRM on the online hunting platform is required by TPWD; to include sex, age, and antler points. Reporting will be conducted on iSportsman by the hunter and must be completed as the hunter checks-out of hunting sites, or by

the next day after the weekend hunt if unable to report through the website.

Hunters shall put forth a “good faith effort” to track wounded game to avoid Failure to Retrieve charges by TPWD Game Wardens. Hunters may track shot/wounded deer within their assigned hunting site. If the deer leaves the assigned site or cannot be found within that assigned area, the NRM and SFS must be contacted for further direction or support before tracking deer outside of hunting site.

The hunter must gut and field dress deer at official “dead pits”; hunter shall not leave gut piles in hunting sites. Leaving gut piles creates a Bird/Wildlife Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) for the aircrafts. Disposal of carcasses and/or entrails in trash bins on LAFB is unauthorized. Hunter must completely cover carcass in dead pits with at least 2 inches of dirt to discourage scavengers. The hunter may quarter deer at the dead pit. The hunter may not hang deer or display deer at any location on base, including housing. Waste of Game is when a hunter disposes of usable meat with the carcass. Hunters shall process the four quarters and two backstraps. TPWD Game Wardens may check to make sure that the four quarters and two backstraps of the deer are utilized.

Section 3. Conservation Laws

3.1. Conservation Law Enforcement Officer

SFS and Texas Game Wardens have full authority to perform their duties at any time, including access to all hunting sites and may spot-check hunters for compliance with applicable regulations/instructions. SFS will ensure that hunters are parked on authorized utility roads.

SFS has access to the online hunting platform, providing them with current information about hunters, sites being hunted on, and who is checked in and out of those areas. Civilians who request to hunt on base shall be subjected to a vetting procedure like base visitors or contractors seeking unescorted access. This will be completed before acceptance of reservations for hunting or training.

Game Wardens are responsible for ensuring that fish and wildlife laws are followed. White-tailed deer are managed by TPWD on and off base. Game Wardens may be called if hunters violate regulations.

Table 1 below lists the possible infractions and the length of time in which the hunter would lose their privilege to hunt.

Table 1 - Infraction Matrix

Infraction	1st Infraction	2nd Infraction
Taking a deer, buck, doe, or fawn without the correct permit	1 year	Permanent loss of privileges
Not having your tag and license while hunting	1 year	Permanent loss of privileges
Not cooperating with SFS or TPWD during check	1 year	Permanent loss of privileges

Infraction	1st Infraction	2nd Infraction
Hunting during the day before/after time	1 year	Permanent loss of privileges.
Waste of game	1 year	Permanent loss of privileges.
Failure to retrieve deer	6 months	Permanent loss of privileges.
Hunting while under the influence of drugs or alcohol	Permanent loss of privileges	--
Do not check in/out	1 year	Permanent loss of privileges
Negligent damage to signs	6 months	Permanent loss of privileges
Using artificial light to hunt	1 year	Permanent loss of privileges
Hunting on wrong day during week	1 year	Permanent loss of privileges
Leaving unit site during hunt without signing out	1 week	Permanent loss of privileges
Going into other units during hunt times	6 months	Permanent loss of privileges
Leaving gut piles outside of dead pit	1 year	Permanent loss of privileges
Leaving garbage in hunting sites	1 week	Permanent loss of privileges
Shoot barasingha	Permanent loss of privileges; USFWS will be notified	--
Destroy, deface, disturb, or remove government property	1 year	Permanent loss of privileges
Shooting off or across an access road	Permanent loss of privileges	--

Map 1 - Laughlin AFB Hunting Sites





Figure 5 - Dead Pit



Figure 6 - Dead Pit

Map 2 - CE Environmental and NRM Office



Points of Contact

NATURAL RESOURCES OFFICE (Building 100)

Joanny Guindin Robles Natural

Resources Manager

joanny.guindin-robles@us.af.mil

830-298-5058

GEOFF M. BETO, CIV,

Environmental Element Chief/COR

geoffrey.beto@us.af.mil

830-298-5596 or (830) 734-4724

VAL VERDE GAME WARDENS:

Game Warden E. Janecka 325-710-8399

Game Warden Kornelis 830-313-1959

Game Warden Simpson 254-784-3055

Game Warden Springer 830-703-9277

EMERGENCY POINTS OF CONTACT:

LAFB Emergency:

Call **911** and tell them you are at Laughlin AFB to get transferred to base dispatch.

SFS Law Enforcement Desk:

830-298-5100

LAFB Fire Department:

830-298-5633

ISPORTSMAN LINK:

<https://laughlin.isportsman.net/>