

GO HUNT Hawai'i

CONNECTING HUNTERS
& RESOURCE MANAGERS

SIGN ME UP

This is the first edition of Go Hunt Hawai'i, a quarterly newsletter to connect hunters and the Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR), Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW). Sign up to stay up to date on announcements, changes to hunting areas, research on animal populations and more.

Kaua'i Hunting Unit Celebrates First Birthday

WAIMEA HEIGHTS (UNIT L)

In December 2015, Hawai'i DLNR, the State Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC, state agency landowner), and ADC's licensees—including Kekaha Agriculture Association (KAA)—finalized a Co-operative Management Agreement and Right-of-Entry Agreement to open Waimea Heights Public Hunting Area (Unit L).

This provides access to another 3,372 acres of highly desired public hunting area on Kaua'i, an important addition to the State game management program.

Open:
Saturdays & Sundays
during hunting season.

DLNR-DOFAW manages over a million acres of state land for recreation and conservation. We recognize the high demand for enhancing public hunting opportunities on these lands statewide.

Unit L is another success of DLNR-DOFAW's Wildlife Access and Acquisitions Program, which establishes new hunting areas and accesses by buying and leasing private lands, or negotiating land easements or donations. Hunters guide this program by communicating to DOFAW about which accesses or lands are the highest priorities.

615
total hunter trips

Gamebirds

Early November -
final Sunday in January

169
bagged

*Erkel's francolin,
black francolin,
blue pheasant,
ring neck pheasant,
& two species of dove*

Game mammals



23
bagged

*Blacktailed deer
& feral pigs*

July - August
(archery only)
September - October
(muzzleloader only)

RESEARCH



In September 2016, DOFAW wildlife biologists and staff, in cooperation with Brigham Young University researchers, set out to determine survival rates, causes of mortality, habitat use patterns, and density of wild sheep (*Ovis aries*) in Pu'u Wa'awa'a forest reserve and Pu'u Anahulu game management area on the Island of Hawai'i.

DOFAW staff captured and tagged 82 animals, of which 22 ewes and 18 rams were fitted with tracking collars. Size measurements and biological samples were collected. Capture-mark-recapture methods using aerial surveys and/or camera traps were used to estimate abundance. This study is ongoing and will inform game management of wild sheep in these areas.

Photo: Brian Howell

WILDLIFE STAMPS

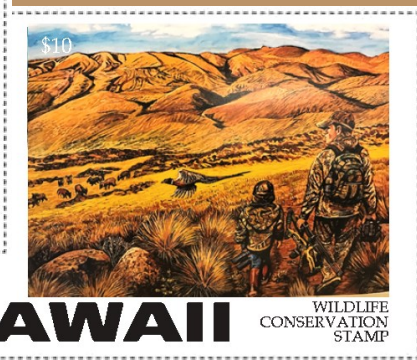
DLNR-DOFAW would like to thank all wildlife artists who provided their amazing artwork for the 2017-2018 Hawai'i Wildlife Conservation and Game Bird Stamp Art Contest.

A committee reviewed all submissions and winners were chosen.



Conservation Stamp Winner >
Carol Tredway

< Game Bird Stamp Winner
David K. Hayes



Announcements

LANA'I

AXIS DEER SEASON

The 2017 Lana'i Axis deer hunting season is now well underway. District biologists predict the upcoming season will be as good as or better than last. Recent winter rains are providing ample food and cover for the animals which may translate into healthier animals and increased fawn recruitment.

On average, 1,200 hunters take part in the Lana'i Axis deer hunts annually. With bag limits set at 3 animals per hunter, more than 700 animals are harvested each year. Road conditions within the Cooperative Game Management Area are passable, with tentative plans to improve roads this spring or summer.

Hunters are reminded they no longer need to pack the whole deer carcass, and are now allowed to de-bone the animal, provided a hind quarter is tagged with genitalia and skin still attached.

MOUFLON SHEEP APPLICATIONS



A friendly reminder that applications for the 2017 Lana'i Mouflon sheep season will be available to the public soon.

Available: March 20, 2017

Deadline: 4:00pm on April 28, 2017

HAWAII

SPRING BEARDED TURKEY SEASON

The 2017 Spring Bearded Turkey Hunting Season opened on March 1, 2017 and will run for 46 consecutive days through April 15, 2017 (with the exception of Unit E – Kipuka Ainahou that will run for 31 days). The daily bag limit is three per hunter with a season bag limit of three turkeys, within Pu'u Wa'awa'a and Mauna Kea Forest Reserve regions (Units A, F, and G) and Kipuka Ainahou (Unit E).

The season length, bag limits, and hunting areas are listed in Title 13, Chapter 122, "Rules Regulating Game Bird Hunting, Field Trials and Commercial Shooting Preserves."

Please note, hunting is no longer allowed on Department of Hawaiian Home Lands in Unit E—Kipuka Ainahou.



For future announcements
and news, please
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PICTURES OF HUNTING ON PUBLIC LANDS?

We're looking for hunting
activities, game animals &
landscapes to be featured in
future newsletters/online.

Please email us at
huntinghawaii@hawaii.gov