

STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES
DIVISION OF FORESTRY AND WILDLIFE
2025 LANAI AXIS DEER HUNTING
SEASON ANNOUNCEMENT

The State of Hawai‘i, Department of Land and Natural Resources, Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) is pleased to announce that applications for the 2025 Lāna‘i axis deer hunting season will be available to the public online beginning Monday, September 16, 2024. Each person applying for the hunt will be assessed a ten-dollar (\$10.00) application fee. All application fee sales are final and must accompany the application at the time of filing.

Due to staff shortages, there may be limited opportunities to purchase deer and sheep tags at the Lāna‘i hunter check station. Hunters selected to participate in the hunt are encouraged to purchase and print their tags online ahead of time (except for the youth hunt where special tag issuance and check-in must be in-person). Each axis deer tag will cost Hawai‘i residents twenty dollars (\$20.00) and non-Hawai‘i residents one hundred twenty-five dollars (\$125.00). Tag fees will be waived for youths participating in the youth-only hunt.

A limited number of mouflon ewe tags may be available at no charge. A game mammal survey will occur on September 9th, and survey information may available the following week. The results will determine if a free ewe tag will be available to hunters. Tags will be available online and via the manual check station when manned.

Debit and credit cards will be accepted as payment for tags at the Lāna‘i hunter check station. Game mammal tags can be purchased and printed online at <http://gohunthawaii.ehawaii.gov>.

Applicants should obtain and pay close attention to the hunt announcement, instruction sheet, appendix, and online information regarding the application process and hunting season. If unforeseen circumstances arise, DOFAW may have to modify, reschedule, or cancel the season.

The following special conditions and procedures will be in effect for this hunt:

The 2025 Lāna‘i axis deer season will consist of four (4) separate hunts: an archery hunt, a youth hunt, a muzzleloader hunt, and a general rifle hunt.

The Archery Hunt will consist of four (4) periods, determined by draw, each totaling five (5) days.

- The first hunting period will begin on February 5, 2025, and end on February 9, 2025.
- The second hunting period will begin on February 12, 2025, and end on February 16, 2025.

- The third hunting period will begin on February 19, 2025, and end on February 23, 2025.
- The fourth hunting period will begin on February 26, 2025, and end on March 2, 2025.

A Youth Hunt will follow for one (1) weekend (Friday through Sunday), March 7 through 9, 2025.

A Muzzleloader Hunt will follow the youth hunt for one (1) weekend (Friday through Sunday), March 14-16, 2025.

The General Rifle Hunt will be held over eleven consecutive weekends (Fridays through Sundays), beginning on March 21, 2025, and ending on June 1, 2025.

All four (4) hunts will be subject to a lottery drawing. Standby hunting opportunities may be offered during the general rifle season depending on application levels. The hunting periods may be modified if application levels are lower than anticipated for the archery and general rifle seasons. Hunters can check lottery results online at <https://gohunthawaii.ehawaii.gov> or at <https://dlnr.hawaii.gov/recreation/hunting/>.

One hunter assistant will be allowed to accompany each senior citizen (age 65 or older) or disabled hunter. Proper documentation (driver's license, hunting license, disabled hunter permit), along with the hunter assistant permit, must be presented to any Department of Land and Natural Resources representative upon request.

The bag limit for the 2025 Lānaʻi axis deer season will be one (1) either sex axis deer per hunt applied and selected/drawn for. A free mouflon sheep ewe tag may be available online and/or at the Lanai hunter check station after purchasing the required axis deer tag. The availability of a mouflon sheep ewe tag will be determined based on aerial survey data and previous years' ewe harvest levels. Tags are not transferable and are valid only for the specific hunt for which they were issued.

A lottery drawing for the Archery Hunt will be conducted to assign hunting dates, with no limit on the number of archers allowed to participate. Archers who wish to be considered must apply. Hunters participating in the Archery Hunt can apply for and participate in either the Muzzleloader Hunt or the General Rifle Hunt. Archery hunters may check in on the Tuesday preceding the first day of the Archery Hunt between 8:00 am and 6:00 pm or from Wednesdays through Fridays between 8:00 am and 3:00 pm. Hunters are encouraged to purchase and print the axis deer tag and, if applicable, the free mouflon sheep ewe tag online and check in at the Lānaʻi hunter check station. When checking in at the Lānaʻi hunter check station, hunters must provide identification and present their permit card to a Department of Land and Natural Resources representative. Upon completing the hunt, hunters must check out by submitting their permit card, including providing harvest data, to the Lānaʻi hunter check station. Archery hunters have the option of checking in and checking out online by using the OuterSpatial app. If using this option, upon completion of the hunt, hunters must provide harvest data on the app

and need not return the permit card to the Lāna‘i hunter check station. Check-station hours may be modified based on online check-in/tag purchase options. Hunter check-in sheets may be left outside the Lāna‘i hunter check station to accommodate those late-arriving hunters who have purchased and printed their tag(s) online.

AXIS DEER HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUTH HUNTERS:

- Youth hunters must be 15 years of age or younger (HAR 13-123-2) as of the hunt date, possess a valid 2024-25 State of Hawai‘i hunting license, and be accompanied by a non-hunting adult (18 years of age or older) who also possesses a valid 2024-25 State of Hawai‘i hunting license.
- Youth hunters must apply to participate in this hunt.
- A total of 175 youth hunters will be drawn for the weekend.
- Youth hunters will be issued an axis deer tag and, if applicable, a mouflon sheep ewe tag, and the non-hunting adult will be issued permits at the time of hunter check-in. Check-ins and special tag receipts for the youth hunt will not be available online.
- Game tags are valid only for the specific hunt applied for.
- Youth hunters are limited to carrying one (1) type of hunting equipment while in the hunting area. Blaze orange is required for all youths and accompanying adults.
- One (1) non-hunting adult may accompany one (1) youth for this hunt.
- Youth hunters will be allowed to apply for and participate in the archery hunt, muzzleloader hunt, and general rifle hunt. They must submit a separate application for each hunt.

Participation in the Youth and Muzzleloader Hunts may be assigned by lottery if application levels exceed the allotted number of hunters allowed in the hunting area. General Rifle Hunt dates will be assigned by lottery drawing. Interested hunters may apply for the Muzzleloader Hunt Lottery or the General Rifle Hunt Lottery but may not apply for both.

Hunters can apply online for this hunt at <https://gohunthawaii.ehawaii.gov>. Please select 2025 Lāna‘i axis deer season. The application submission deadline will be 4:00 pm HST on Friday, October 25, 2024. Interested hunters must submit applications before the deadline to ensure proper processing.

Public drawings for the Archery, Youth, and Muzzleloader Hunts will be held on Friday, December 6, 2024, at 10:00 am at the J Cameron Center, MEO facility on the island of Maui. Following this drawing, the public drawing for the General Rifle Hunt lottery will be held at noon. The Lanai resident public drawing will be held at 9:00 am at the same location. If necessary, the standby selection process will begin upon completion of the general rifle lottery.

All eligible Youth, Muzzleloader, and General Rifle participants must check in either on the Thursday preceding their assigned hunting date between 8:00 am and 6:00 pm or on Friday between the hours of 7:00 am to 9:00 am and from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at the Forestry and Wildlife Office in Lāna‘i City. If applicable, general rifle standby hunters

must be present at the Lāna‘i City Division of Forestry and Wildlife office at 4:00 pm on the Thursday before their assigned hunting date to be eligible to replace no-show hunters. Muzzleloader and General Rifle hunters are encouraged to purchase and print the axis deer tag and, if applicable, the mouflon sheep ewe tag online and check in at the Lāna‘i hunter check station. The availability of the axis deer tag and the mouflon sheep ewe tag at the Lanai hunter check station may be limited. If checking in at the Lāna‘i hunter check station, hunters must provide identification and present their permit card to a Department of Land and Natural Resources representative. Upon completing the hunt, hunters must check out by submitting their permit card, including providing harvest data, to the Lāna‘i hunter check station. Hunters can also check in and check out online using the OuterSpatial app. If using the app, hunters will be prompted to provide harvest data on the app and need not return the permit card to the Lāna‘i hunter check station. Check-station hours may be modified based on demand. Hunter check-in sheets may be left outside the Lāna‘i hunter check station to accommodate those late-arriving hunters who have purchased and printed their tag(s) online. Hunting Units 1, 2, and 3 will be open for the Archery Hunt. Hunting Units 1 and 2 will be opened for the Youth, Muzzleloader, and General Rifle Hunts. **Note: The law requires all hunters to complete a manual or online hunter check-in and check-out.**

Additional details for this season are available at the Division of Forestry and Wildlife Offices at the following telephone numbers:

Oahu: (808) 587-0166

Hawaii: (808) 974-4221 (Hilo)

Kauai: (808) 274-3433

Maui: (808) 984-8100

Molokai: (808) 553-1745

Lanai: (808) 565-7916

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