



DEPARTMENT OF LAND AND NATURAL RESOURCES

DLNR ANNOUNCES 2026 BLACK-TAILED DEER SEASON ON KAUA'I

LIHU'E -- The Department of Land and Natural Resources (DLNR) announces the opening of the black-tailed deer hunting season on the island of Kaua'i. Rules and conditions regulating game mammal hunting in Title 13, Chapter 123 will be in effect. For hunt details go to the Division of Forestry and Wildlife website at <http://dlnr.hawaii.gov/dofaw/>

HUNTERS MAY APPLY FOR ALL THREE (3) HUNTS:

Hunting Season	Unit(s) Open to Hunting	Season Duration	Season Bag Limit
Archery	Hunting Unit F	September thru December; Daily	One deer of either sex per archery tag hunter per license year
	Hunting Units J, and K	September thru December; Saturday, Sunday, and State Holidays	
	Hunting Unit D (Archery only)	June through August; weekends and State holidays	
	Hunting Unit D (Regular pig hunting season)	September through December; weekends and State holidays	
Muzzle-load Rifles Only	Hunting Unit A	September 5-6, 2026	One deer per muzzle-load hunter/license year; Unit A: one antlered buck, fork-horn or better. Units B; one deer of either sex
	Hunting Unit B (Regular pig hunting season)		
Regular Rifle	Hunting Unit A	Seven (7) consecutive weekends; lottery; <u>Unit A</u> September 12 th to October 25, 2026, Saturday and Sunday ONLY	One deer per rifle tag hunter per license year; Unit A : one antlered buck, fork-horn or better. Units B ; one deer of either sex
	Hunting Unit B	<u>Unit B</u> September 11 th to October 26, 2026, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, and Mondays	
	Hunting Units E1, and H	Year Round, Friday, Saturday, Sunday, Monday and State Holidays	*Annual permit required See Chapter 123, Rules Regulating Game Mammal Hunting for more details
	Hunting Unit E2	Year Round; Daily	

All archery and muzzleload permits may be purchased online at <https://gohunthawaii.ehawaii.gov/public/tags> or in person at 3060 Eiwa Street Ste.306 Lihue, HI 96766. Applications will be available at various Kauai vendors as well as at all hunter check stations. For more information on the access, please call the Kauai Division of Forestry and Wildlife (DOFAW) office at 274-3433

Payments via mail must be in the form of a personal check or a money order. No cash will be accepted through the mail. All qualified applicants will be issued permits and all application fees and tag fees are non-refundable.

Unit L (WAIMEA HEIGHTS HUNTING AREA)

Hunting Unit L on the Island of Kauai is closed until further notice. DLNR/DOFAW is currently working to renew the Cooperative Management Agreement with the Agribusiness Development Corporation (ADC).

ARCHERY ONLY SEASON: Resident archers interested in hunting in Units D, F, J, and K for black-tailed deer will be charged \$5.00 for their deer archery tag (\$25.00 non-resident hunter). The deer archery season will be in Hunting Unit F, from September 1st thru December 31, 2026, daily. Archery hunting in Unit J and K is from September 1st through December 31, 2026 on Saturday, Sundays and state holidays only. Hunters may either check-in at the Waimea Heights, Mango Tree or Koke'e hunter check-in stations. The bag limit will be one deer of either sex per archer per season.

A successful bow-hunter who has bagged a deer will have filled their deer archery bag limit; however, archers may continue to take pig and goat through the duration of the deer archery only season. The bag limit will be one pig and one goat per archer per hunting day. The use of dogs is prohibited during the deer archery only seasons.

MUZZLELOADER ONLY SEASON: The deer muzzleloader tag season will be in Hunting Units A, and B on September 5-6, 2026. Permits will be \$5.00 for resident and \$25.00 for non-residents.

The bag limit in Units B will be one (1) deer of either sex per muzzle-load hunter per license year. The bag limit in Unit A will be one (1) antlered deer, fork horn or better per hunter per license year. Feral pig hunting in Unit A during the deer season is **closed** for hunting. Feral Pig is **open** for hunting in Unit B during the deer season.

Unit A hunters must check-in at the Koke’e, Puu Opae or Mana Tunnels hunter check-in stations. A successful muzzleloader hunter who has bagged a deer will have filled their deer season bag limit but may accompany their hunting group without a firearm for the duration of the muzzleloader season. The use of dogs is prohibited during the deer muzzleloader only season.

REGULAR RIFLE SEASON: The regular rifle tag season for deer will be in Hunting Units A for seven (7) consecutive weekends beginning on September 12th and ending October 25, 2026. Unit B regular rifle tag season for deer will be in seven (7) consecutive weekends beginning on September 11th and ending October 26, 2026. Applications are available at various Kauai vendors, and all hunter check stations. Each Hawai’i resident hunter will be charged \$15.00, which includes processing the lottery application and rifle tag (\$30.00 for non-resident hunters). Each hunter applicant will be drawn for two (2) weekends; one weekend in Unit A and one weekend in Unit B.

The bag limit In Unit A will be one (1) antlered deer, fork horn or better per hunter per license year. Feral pig hunting will be closed in Unit A during the deer season. Unit A hunters must check-in at the Koke’e, Puu Opae or Mana Tunnels check-in stations. A successful hunter who has bagged a deer will have filled their season bag limit but may accompany their hunting group without a firearm for the duration of the season. The use of dogs is prohibited during the deer rifle season.

The bag limit in Unit B will be one (1) deer of either sex per hunter per license year. Feral pig hunting will be open in Unit B during the deer season. Dogs are permitted in Unit B while hunting. Unit B hunters must check-in at Koke’e or Waimea Valley hunter check-in stations. De-boning of deer will be allowed ONLY for hunters hunting in the Mokihana ridge section of Unit B. All hunters are required to preserve their game in a condition that will enable the identification of sex and species.

Hunting Units E-1, E-2 and H: Permits may be purchased online at <https://gohunthawaii.ehawaii.gov/public/tags> or in person at 3060 Eiwa Street Ste.306 Lihue, HI 96766.. The permit allows the taking of deer of either sex, feral pig and feral goat. There is a \$10.00 annual fee for resident hunters and \$25.00 for non-resident hunters.

The application deadline for the regular deer rifle tag season is 4:00 p.m. Friday, July 31, 2026. The public drawing will be held at the Lihu’e State office building, second floor conference room 209 on Wednesday, August 12, 2026 at 3:00 p.m. Lottery results will not be given over the telephone. Hunters are encouraged to attend the public drawing to determine the results or wait for their validated tags to be mailed to them. The Lihu’e Division of Forestry and Wildlife office will post the results after the public drawing.

All deer hunters (archery, muzzle-loader and regular rifle) are required to carry their deer tag(s) and valid hunting license on their person at all times while in the hunting area. Deer tags are non-transferable between hunters. There will be no make-up weekends or standby permits. Deer tag(s) must be fastened to the carcass immediately after taking a deer. Successful deer hunters are to bring their animal carcass to the Koke’e or Pu’u ‘Opae hunter check station for weighing and examination. All hunters are required to preserve their game in a condition that will enable the identification of sex and species. **No skinning or de-boning of deer carcasses will be permitted in hunting area.** However, hunters will be allowed to halve or quarter their animal.

All other requirements contained in Chapter 123, “Rules Regulating Game Mammal Hunting” apply to the Kaua’i deer hunting season. **For more information, please call the nearest Division of Forestry and Wildlife office on your island:**

Kaua’i 274-3433	O’ahu 587-0166	Maui 984-8100	Moloka’i 533-1745
Lana’i 565-7916	Hilo 933-4221	Kamuela 887-6063	