



Controlled Hunts Applications that Count

I grew up around hunters. My dad is a hunter, as is his father. My cousins and aunts and uncles are hunters. My friends and their family members are hunters. So it's no surprise that I have entered a time or two in Oklahoma's Controlled Hunts drawings offered by the Wildlife Department. In fact, just a few years ago I drew out with a lifelong hunting buddy and both of our dad's for a muzzleloader deer hunt in southeast Oklahoma. These are men I've hunted with since I was old enough to tote a firearm, and even though I spent my boyhood hunting with those guys, it's another experience altogether to have the honor of hunting with them as a group of grown men. We spent the weekend scouting, searching for deer sign, and using the tricks we'd learned together over the years to get our chance at a buck during our unique controlled hunt opportunity. We ate out at a local dine-in and talked hunting, and we each got a chance to do what we enjoy. Though several nice deer were seen on that hunt, none of us brought one home. But it didn't matter. We were given an opportunity in addition to our regular hunting routine to spend time outdoors as a group of longtime friends. That's what it's about. And you have that same chance through the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation's Controlled Hunts program. —Michael Bergin, associate editor

For the opportunistic hunter, the Oklahoma Controlled Hunts program can be a ticket to exclusive hunting for lifetime memories, and plenty of meat for the freezer.

To date, thousands of hunters have enjoyed unique adventures through the Controlled Hunts program, which offers hunting opportunities in a variety of Oklahoma habitats for deer, elk, antelope, turkeys, raccoons and quail. Youth as well as persons with disabilities also have opportunities through the program that put them in prime wildlife habitat with the chance to take home a trophy. Controlled hunts are held in locations where unrestricted hunting would pose safety concerns or where over harvest might occur. Several of the controlled hunt choices are highly sought after and often have many times more applicants than available permits.

If you stay at it year after year, it's likely you'll get at least one chance to enjoy one of Oklahoma's many unique controlled hunts offered through the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation.

Getting drawn for a hunt through the Controlled Hunts program is a matter of odds, and though the results are ultimately determined by a random computer drawing, it all starts with hunters who are willing to "put their name in the hat."

Those who hope to participate in a controlled hunt must start by submitting a simple, easy-to-complete application online, but those who take that step often enjoy favorable odds of being drawn for at least something for which they applied, whether that be an exclusive antlerless deer hunt on a WMA or the ever-sought-after bull elk hunt at the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge.

But if getting drawn for a hunt is about chance, is there any way to sway chance in your direction?

Yes.

Preference points, for example, are accumulated each year that you apply, and every time you apply and don't get drawn, it's like getting your name put in the hat an extra time during the next year's drawing. Therefore, your odds of being drawn cannot help but improve if you apply again the next around. By continually submitting an application, you can build your chances far more than those who don't apply at all

because they feel the odds are too hard to beat. Additionally, some hunt categories allow you to apply with a group of other hunters, so that your friends' names are as good as your own when it comes to getting drawn.

Controlled Hunts applications usually become available online at wildlifedepartment.com in March. The application process is easy, and the program will not accept applications unless they are done correctly, giving the applicant assurance that their application was accepted and entered into the drawings.

The following pages offer a wealth of information about the controlled hunts opportunities offered by the Wildlife Department, as well as useful tips that might help you increase your chances of getting drawn for a hunt. For starters, remember the following tips as you prepare your Controlled Hunts application this year.

- Opportunities offered through the Controlled Hunts program include, among others, hunting elk at the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge or pronghorn antelope in Cimarron and Texas Counties. And though elk and antelope hunts can be more difficult to draw, Controlled Hunts applicants also have a shot at a number of exclusive deer and turkey hunts held at prime hunting locations all across the state. Upland bird hunters have a chance at one of several quail hunts at Four Canyon Preserve in western Oklahoma, and furbearer hunters are not forgotten either, with raccoon hunts available in a highly desirable hotspot in northeast Oklahoma.
- The Controlled Hunts application process usually begins in late March, when you will be able to log on to the Wildlife Department's Web site at wildlifedepartment.com to download, complete and submit an application. We here at Outdoor Oklahoma and the Wildlife Department encourage you to participate in the application process. It's done completely online, and it's both easy and fast. You also get immediate confirmation when your application is processed. In other words, there is no way you can submit your application incorrectly. There are no hassles, and no regrets that you didn't track down a hard copy application before the deadline.

- Winners of controlled hunts are randomly selected through a computerized process that draws applications from the pool of those that applied, but the good thing is that you can apply for several hunts and increase your chances of being selected for a hunt.

As if Oklahoma didn't already offer an enormous variety of outdoor opportunities, the Wildlife Department's Controlled Hunts Program provides yet another extra chance to get out there and enjoy it all through a hunt you can remember your whole life. And that's what we encourage you to do. Use the following pages as a guide to planning and submitting your application.

SOME TIPS FOR GETTING STARTED

One of the best things you can do to increase your chances of getting drawn is to make sure you apply each and every year like clockwork. Once again, your odds of drawing a controlled hunt will improve with each year that you apply because each preference point you earn acts like an extra application the next time you apply. In other words, if you have been putting in for the controlled hunt of your dreams for five years straight without getting drawn, you will be five times more likely than a first-time applicant to be selected in that category next year. Those who say they have stopped applying because they never get drawn are actually giving you an advantage, as long as you just keep on applying. Your chances only get better each year that you apply and they don't.

Although hunters with more preference points have greater chances of being drawn for one of Oklahoma's Controlled Hunts, the system still doesn't guarantee that those with the most points will be drawn for a hunt — only that their odds improve. First-time applicants with no preference points can and do get drawn over those with many points.

In some categories, hunters may apply in groups of up to four people. For group applications, the preference points of each hunter in the group will be averaged. If four hunters put in together — one with no points, one with two points, and the

other two with three points each — the group's preference points will be two, which is the average of all four hunters on the application. If not drawn in that category, each applicant in the hunt group will be given a single preference point.

Once you are selected for a hunt category, all Preference points that you have built up for a given category are lost once you are selected for that hunt, so make sure you can attend the hunt dates that year before applying to avoid losing the advantageous preference points you earned over the years. You can begin building preference points with the next year's application again, but it would be disappointing to apply year after year only to be selected on a year you cannot attend the hunt.

Regardless of whether or not you've been drawn, it's important to keep apply-

ing, if for no other reason than to gain preference points.

There are several other good tips to consider as well.

Selecting hunts that happen on key dates of the regular statewide seasons, such as the opening weekend of muzzleloader or gun season, can increase your odds of being drawn.

Hunts that are considered by some to be less desirable, such as antlerless deer hunts, may be just the right choice for a meat hunter looking to up his chances at getting to hunt at a premier location.

By designating additional choices, you increase your overall odds of being selected for at least one of the choices, so make the most selections a category allows (five in the deer category, for example), rather than just three, two or only one.

Rather than looking at the number of

permits available for each hunt, it could be in your favor to consider the ratio of permits to applicants before making a decision on which hunts you think will give you the best chance.

For those locations that offer multiple hunts in the same category, the second or third hunts (the later hunts) are often easier to draw than the first hunts offered at that location.

You cannot submit more than one application form per category. Previously, when applications were completed through a booklet system, this would have resulted in disqualification. Now that applications are completed and submitted online, you will receive confirmation that your application was processed correctly. This system will help you avoid mistakes, so make sure you receive confirmation of a successful application.

DEER HUNTS

Total applicants (includes first, second, third, fourth and fifth choice preferences): **72,980**

Total permits available: **4,454**

Overall odds of getting drawn for any one specific permit: **1 in 16**

Some of the state's nicest bucks come from controlled hunt opportunities. But the first step is to apply.

Deer Hunts	Type	Hunt Type	Begin Date	End Date	Hunt #	# of Applications	Permits
Atoka WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/07/09	11/08/09	301	2,000	75
Canton WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/21/09	11/22/09	302	1,797	150
Cherokee GMA	Either-Sex	Muzzleloader	11/07/09	11/07/09	303	1,629	50
Cherokee GMA	Antlerless Only	Muzzleloader	11/07/09	11/07/09	304	209	75
Cherokee GMA	Either-Sex	Muzzleloader	11/08/09	11/08/09	305	1,039	50
Cherokee GMA	Antlerless Only	Muzzleloader	11/08/09	11/08/09	306	121	75
Cherokee GMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/14/09	11/14/09	307	1,525	50
Cherokee GMA	Antlerless Only	Gun	11/14/09	11/14/09	308	204	75
Cherokee GMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/15/09	11/15/09	309	1,149	50
Cherokee GMA	Antlerless Only	Gun	11/15/09	11/15/09	310	146	75
Cookson WMA	Either-Sex	Muzzleloader	11/07/09	11/08/09	311	1,636	25
Cookson WMA	Antlerless Only	Muzzleloader	11/07/09	11/07/09	312	166	50
Cookson WMA	Antlerless Only	Muzzleloader	11/08/09	11/08/09	313	76	50
Cookson WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/14/09	11/15/09	314	1,907	25
Cookson WMA	Antlerless Only	Gun	11/14/09	11/14/09	315	136	50
Cookson WMA	Antlerless Only	Gun	11/15/09	11/15/09	316	91	50
Deep Fork NWR	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Muzzleloader	10/30/09	11/01/09	317	845	50
Four Canyon Preserve	Antlerless Only	Muzzleloader	10/17/09	10/18/09	318	44	4
Four Canyon Preserve	Either-Sex	Muzzleloader	10/17/09	10/18/09	319	462	2
Four Canyon Preserve	Antlerless Only	Gun	11/20/09	11/21/09	320	49	4
Four Canyon Preserve	Either-Sex	Gun	11/20/09	11/21/09	321	416	2
Ft. Cobb WMA and SP	Antlerless Only	Muzzleloader	10/21/09	10/22/09	322	324	40
Ft. Gibson WRP	Either-Sex	Archery	10/20/09	10/20/09	323	740	50
Ft. Gibson WRP	Antlerless Only	Muzzleloader	10/21/09	10/21/09	324	201	50
Ft. Gibson WRP	Antlerless Only	Muzzleloader	11/04/09	11/04/09	325	174	50
Ft. Gibson WRP	Either-Sex	Muzzleloader	11/05/09	11/05/09	326	1,376	50
Hugo Lake COE	Antlerless Only	Gun	01/08/10	01/10/10	327	154	15
James Collins WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/21/09	11/22/09	328	1,274	50
Lexington WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/14/09	11/14/09	329	1,025	125
Lexington WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/15/09	11/15/09	330	516	125
Lexington WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/18/09	11/18/09	331	433	125
Lexington WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/19/09	11/19/09	332	353	125
Little River NWR	Either-Sex	Gun	11/06/09	11/08/09	333	537	30
Little River NWR	Either-Sex	Gun	11/13/09	11/15/09	334	386	30
McAlester AAP	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Archery	10/09/09	10/11/09	335	613	100
McAlester AAP	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Archery	10/16/09	10/18/09	336	1,948	275
McAlester AAP	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Archery	10/23/09	10/25/09	337	2,234	275
McAlester AAP	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Archery	10/30/09	11/01/09	338	3,304	275
McAlester AAP	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Archery	11/06/09	11/08/09	339	4,437	275
McAlester AAP	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Archery	11/13/09	11/15/09	340	4,434	275

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DEER HUNT HINTS

- Steer clear of the most popular hunts, such as the Wichita Mountains buck gun hunt, the Sandy Sanders buck gun hunt and Salt Plains NWR hunts that allow either sex hunting. If you avoid these, your odds go up for getting drawn.
- Controlled hunts held during the regular muzzleloader and gun seasons, especially those held during the opening weekends, often offer better odds of getting drawn than those held outside the regular statewide season dates since many would-be applicants already have their hunting plans in place for those dates.
- Antlerless-only hunts traditionally see fewer applicants compared to buck-only or either-sex hunts.
- Areas in the northeast like Cherokee, Cookson Hills, Gruber and Spavinaw WMAs typically have higher numbers of applicants. Consider applying for hunts in others parts of the state.
- Archery hunts are historically easier to draw on average than muzzleloader or gun hunts.

Deer Hunts	Type	Hunt Type	Begin Date	End Date	Hunt #	# of Applications	Permits
McCurtain Co. WA	Either-Sex	Muzzleloader	11/06/09	11/08/09	341	311	16
McGee Creek WMA	Either-Sex	Muzzleloader	10/31/09	11/01/09	342	1,354	100
McGee Creek WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/07/09	11/08/09	343	1,741	75
Okmulgee GMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/21/09	11/21/09	344	646	70
Okmulgee GMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/22/09	11/22/09	345	346	70
Osage-Western Wall WMA	Antlerless Only	Muzzleloader	11/13/09	11/14/09	346	112	20
Osage-Western Wall WMA	Either-Sex	Muzzleloader	11/13/09	11/14/09	347	1,001	10
Pushmataha WMA	Either-Sex	Muzzleloader	11/06/09	11/08/09	348	2,183	75
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Archery	10/16/09	10/18/09	349	519	15
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Archery	10/16/09	10/19/09	350	428	10
Salt Plains NWR	(2) See Code K	Gun	10/16/09	10/18/09	351	1,198	10
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Antlerless or Spike Only	Muzzleloader	10/23/09	10/25/09	352	136	24
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Muzzleloader	10/23/09	10/26/09	353	918	10
Salt Plains NWR	(2) See Code K	Muzzleloader	10/23/09	10/25/09	354	594	15
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Antlerless or Spike Only	Gun	11/06/09	11/08/09	355	257	24
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Gun	11/06/09	11/09/09	356	2,356	10
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Antlerless or Spike Only	Gun	11/20/09	11/22/09	357	261	42
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Gun	11/20/09	11/23/09	358	1,301	10
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Antlerless or Spike Only	Gun	11/27/09	11/29/09	359	138	24
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Gun	11/27/09	11/30/09	360	966	10
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Antlerless or Spike Only	Gun	12/04/09	12/06/09	361	117	17
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Gun	12/04/09	12/07/09	362	1,160	10
Sandy Sanders WMA	Either-Sex	Muzzleloader	10/24/09	10/25/09	363	857	25
Sandy Sanders WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/21/09	11/22/09	364	903	10
Sandy Sanders WMA	Antlerless Only	Gun	11/21/09	11/22/09	365	69	25
Sequoyah NWR	(2) Antlerless Only	Muzzleloader	10/28/09	10/29/09	366	318	30
Sequoyah NWR	(2) Antlerless Only	Muzzleloader	11/11/09	11/12/09	367	397	30
Sequoyah NWR	(2) Antlerless Only	Muzzleloader	12/02/09	12/03/09	368	277	30
Sequoyah NWR	(2) Antlerless Only	Muzzleloader	12/16/09	12/17/09	369	313	30
Spavinaw GMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/14/09	11/15/09	370	1,786	25
Spavinaw GMA	Antlerless Only	Gun	11/14/09	11/15/09	371	307	55
Tishomingo NWR	(2) 1st Antlerless, 2nd E-S	Muzzleloader	12/10/09	12/11/09	372	940	20
Walnut Creek SP Area 2	(2) 1st Antlerless, 2nd E-S	Archery	01/01/10	01/03/10	373	368	5
Washita NWR	Antlerless Only	Gun	10/21/09	10/22/09	374	341	25
Wichita Mts. NWR	Antlered Only	Gun	11/03/09	11/05/09	375	7,325	35
Wichita Mts. NWR	Antlerless Only	Gun	11/03/09	11/05/09	376	626	65

DEER HUNTS FOR PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

- Total applicants (includes first, second and third choice preferences): **297**
 Total permits available: **170**
 Overall odds of getting drawn for any one specific permit: **1 in 2**

Deer Hunts for Persons with Disabilities	Type	Hunt Type	Begin Date	End Date	Hunt #	# of Applications	Permits
Cherokee GMA	Either-Sex	Gun	10/03/09	10/04/09	401	41	40
Cookson WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	10/03/09	10/04/09	402	45	40
Deep Fork NWR	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Muzzleloader	10/30/09	11/01/09	403	13	5
Hugo Lake COE	(2) See Code P	Rifle	12/11/09	12/13/09	404	35	16
Oologah Lake COE	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Gun	11/13/09	11/15/09	405	35	8
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Muzzleloader	10/23/09	10/25/09	406	12	2
Salt Plains NWR	(2) See Code K	Gun	11/06/09	11/08/09	407	17	2
Salt Plains NWR	(2) See Code K	Gun	11/20/09	11/22/09	408	12	2
Salt Plains NWR	(2) See Code K	Gun	11/27/09	11/29/09	409	7	2
Salt Plains NWR	(2) See Code K	Gun	12/04/09	12/06/09	410	8	2
Sequoyah Resort Park	(2) 1st Antlerless, 2nd E-S	Muzzleloader	12/05/09	12/06/09	411	27	35
Tishomingo NWR	(2) 1st Antlerless, 2nd E-S	Gun	11/12/09	11/13/09	412	29	10
Waurika Lake COE	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Gun	10/17/09	10/18/09	413	16	6

YOUTH DEER HUNTS

Total applicants (includes first, second and third choice preferences): **3,994**

Total permits available: **912**

Overall odds of getting drawn for any one specific permit: **1 in 4**

With several of the draw hunts issuing either-sex permits and still others offering antlerless only hunts, applying for a doe hunt could be a productive way to put meat in the freezer.

Youth Deer Hunts	Type	Hunt Type	Begin Date	End Date	Hunt #	# of Applications	Permits
Atoka WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	10/31/09	11/01/09	501	134	50
Cherokee GMA	Either-Sex	Gun	10/10/09	10/11/09	502	243	50
Cookson WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	10/10/09	10/11/09	503	247	50
Deep Fork NWR	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Muzzleloader	10/09/09	10/11/09	504	72	25
Ft. Cobb WMA and SP	Antlerless Only	Muzzleloader / Shotgun	10/17/09	10/18/09	505	48	50
Ft. Gibson WRP	Either-Sex	Muzzleloader	12/12/09	12/12/09	506	62	25
Hugo WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	10/09/09	10/11/09	507	93	35
James Collins WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	10/23/09	10/25/09	508	155	50
James Collins WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	10/30/09	11/01/09	509	142	50
Keystone COE	Either-Sex	Gun	11/06/09	11/08/09	510	59	6
McAlester AAP	Antlerless Only	Shotgun	11/27/09	11/29/09	511	91	25
Okmulgee GMA	Either-Sex	Gun	10/24/09	10/25/09	512	93	24
Okmulgee GMA	Either-Sex	Gun	10/31/09	11/01/09	513	62	24
Osage-Western Wall WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/07/09	11/08/09	514	70	20
Pine Creek WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/13/09	11/15/09	515	42	12
Pushmataha WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	10/23/09	10/25/09	516	105	50
Pushmataha WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	10/30/09	11/01/09	517	103	50
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Gun	10/16/09	10/18/09	518	128	8
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Gun	10/23/09	10/25/09	519	109	8
Salt Plains NWR	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Gun	11/06/09	11/08/09	520	146	8
Sequoyah NWR	(2) 1st Antlerless, 2nd E-S	Muzzleloader	10/15/09	10/17/09	521	204	22
Sequoyah Resort Park	(2) 1st Antlerless, 2nd E-S	Muzzleloader	12/12/09	12/13/09	522	287	35
Spavinaw GMA	Either-Sex	Muzzleloader	10/31/09	11/01/09	523	129	40
Spavinaw GMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/06/09	11/08/09	524	248	60
Tenkiller COE	Either-Sex	Gun	11/07/09	11/08/09	525	82	10
Texoma COE	(2) Only 1 Antlered	Rifle	11/14/09	11/15/09	526	64	6
Tishomingo NWR	(2) 1st Antlerless, 2nd E-S	Gun	10/16/09	10/17/09	527	123	20
USDA Grazinglands R.L.	(2) 1st Antlerless, 2nd E-S	Gun	11/06/09	11/07/09	528	265	24
USDA Grazinglands R.L.	(2) 1st Antlerless, 2nd E-S	Rifle	12/11/09	12/12/09	529	227	24
Walnut Creek SP Area 2	(2) 1st Antlerless, 2nd E-S	Muzzleloader	12/11/09	12/13/09	530	70	6
Washita NWR Youth Exemption	Antlerless Only	Gun	10/16/09	10/17/09	531	49	20
Washita NWR Youth Exemption	Antlerless Only	Gun	11/06/09	11/07/09	532	42	25



ANTELOPE HUNTS

Total applicants (includes first and second choice preferences): **10,043**

Total permits available: **265**

Overall odds of getting drawn for any one specific permit: **1 in 39**

Antelope Hunts	Type	Hunt Type	Begin Date	End Date	Hunt #	# of Applications	Permits
Cimarron County	Either-Sex	Gun	09/10/09	09/13/09	201	4,577	50
Cimarron County	Doe	Gun	10/03/09	10/11/09	202	1,067	150
Texas County	Either-Sex	Gun	09/10/09	09/13/09	203	4,035	15
Texas County	Doe	Gun	10/03/09	10/11/09	204	364	50

Controlled antelope hunts are now offered in both Cimarron and Texas Counties in the Oklahoma Panhandle.

ANTELOPE HUNT HINTS

- The best odds are obtained when you put in for both the buck and doe hunt.



Controlled Hunts: Frequently Asked Questions

What is the Controlled Hunts Program?

Awarded to applicants selected in a random drawing, controlled hunts are held in situations where unrestricted hunting would pose safety concerns or where over harvest might occur. Several of the controlled hunt choices are highly sought after and often have many times more applicants than available permits.

Who can apply?

Any resident or nonresident who possesses a valid hunting license or who is otherwise exempt may apply for controlled hunts. A full listing of valid hunting licenses is available online at wildlifedepartment.com. Applicants must purchase the license prior to applying for controlled hunts. Applicants who are eligible for, and possess, apprentice-designated hunting licenses may also apply (although some hunts require hunter education certification by the date of the hunt.)

Why not have a true preference point system for the controlled hunts?

There are too many hunters applying for too few hunts for this kind of system to work.

If I put in for controlled hunts long enough, am I guaranteed of getting drawn?

No, but your odds get better and better each year.

If I put in with a group of four for a hunt, how are our preference points calculated?

Example: One person has one preference point, one has two, one has three and one has four. This equals 10 points total. The points are averaged to two and one half and then rounded off to three points. The group is assigned three preference points.

Can I keep accumulating points indefinitely?

Yes, until you are drawn or do not put in for a given category for five years.

If I can't make my hunt, do I get my preference points back?

No, once selected, your points in that category go back to zero.

Can I apply with a group of friends for a hunt?

Yes, but be sure all of your information is correct or your group could be disqualified.

What if I have an address change after I apply?

Contact our License Section at (405) 521-3852.

If I am a nonresident hunter applying for a controlled hunt what do I buy and what does it cost?

All applicants must purchase a nonresident hunting license prior to applying for the controlled hunts. A nonresident applicant may purchase a 5-day hunting license for \$42.50 before applying, however, it is not valid for turkey and big game hunting. In the event a nonresident applicant draws one of these hunts, they must obtain the appropriate license to hunt that type of game. Costs are: deer (\$201), elk (\$301) or antelope (\$301) both the hunting license and tag is included. For turkey, a nonresident will need a nonresident annual hunting license (\$137.00) as well as a turkey license (\$10.00). There is also a \$50.00 nonresident controlled hunts permit fee. Nonresident are also responsible for Federal User Fees. In addition, all nonresidents must obtain a fishing and hunting legacy permit (\$5.00) unless exempt.



KIM HART





ELK HUNTS

Total applicants (includes first, second and third choice preferences): **37,199**

Total permits available: **326**

Overall odds of getting drawn for any one specific permit: **1 in 114**

ELK HUNT HINTS

- Cow hunts offer much better odds of being selected than bull hunts.
- The second set of Wichita Mountains hunts (both bull and cow) offer better selection odds than the first set of hunts.

Elk Hunts	Type	Hunt Type	Begin Date	End Date	Hunt #	# of Applications	Permits
Cookson WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	11/14/09	11/15/09	101	1,813	1
Pushmataha WMA	Either-Sex	Gun	12/12/09	12/13/09	102	1,713	1
Wichita Mts. NWR	Either-Sex	Gun	12/08/09	12/10/09	103	11,081	22
Wichita Mts. NWR	Cow	Gun	12/08/09	12/10/09	104	898	86
Wichita Mts. NWR	Either-Sex	Gun	12/15/09	12/17/09	105	10,500	22
Wichita Mts. NWR	Cow	Gun	12/15/09	12/17/09	106	694	86
Wichita Mts. NWR	Either-Sex	Gun	01/12/10	01/14/10	107	9,831	22
Wichita Mts. NWR	Cow	Gun	01/12/10	01/14/10	108	669	86

This bull elk, photographed at the Wichita Mountains National Wildlife Refuge, is a symbol of Oklahoma's past, but also the success of conservation in Oklahoma. Additionally, it might serve as a little motivation for hunters to apply for the Wildlife Department's Controlled Hunts program. The draw hunts for bull elk are once-in-a-lifetime permits, and putting in for the hunt each year insures that you will gain preference points toward future drawings.

PURSUIT WITH HOUNDS (RACCOON HUNTS)

Total applicants (includes first, second and third choice preferences): **130**

Total permits available: **40**

Overall odds of getting drawn for any one specific permit: **1 in 3**

Raccoon hunters have as good a shot as anybody at drawing out for a controlled hunt, and maybe better. With two separate hunts, each offering 20 available permits, the 70-75 applicants that put in for each hunt have fairly good odds of being drawn.

Pursuit with Hounds (Raccoon Hunts)	Type	Hunt Type	Begin Date	End Date	Hunt #	# of Applications	Permits
Cookson WMA	Raccoon	Gun	01/08/10	01/10/10	601	70	20
Cookson WMA	Raccoon	Gun	01/22/10	01/24/10	602	60	20

YOUTH TURKEY HUNT HINTS

- Hunts with low permit numbers may be harder to draw than other hunts, even though more youngsters applied for the other areas.

YOUTH TURKEY HUNTS

Total applicants (includes first, second and third choice preferences): **1,199**

Total permits available: **72**

Overall odds of getting drawn for any one specific permit: **1 in 17**

SPRING TURKEY HUNTS

Total applicants (includes first, second and third choice preferences): **12,657**

Total permits available: **164**

Overall odds of getting drawn for any one specific permit: **1 in 77**

SPRING TURKEY HUNT HINTS

- The hunts at the McAlester Army Ammunition Plant have some of the highest application rates and are some of the hardest spring turkey hunts to draw.

- In areas that offer two hunts, the hunts offered later in the season are usually easier to draw.

As if Sooner gobbler hunters didn't already have some of the best turkey hunting opportunities available, the Controlled Hunts programs offers 236 draw permits, including hunts specifically designed for youth hunters.



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Youth Turkey Hunts	Type	Hunt Type	Begin Date	End Date	Hunt #	# of Applications	Permits
Cherokee GMA	Tom	Gun	04/09/10	04/11/10	801	358	25
Cookson WMA	Tom	Gun	04/09/10	04/11/10	802	339	25
Deep Fork NWR	Tom	Gun	04/09/10	04/11/10	803	117	7
Ft. Gibson WRP	Tom	Gun	04/23/10	04/25/10	804	217	5
Sandy Sanders WMA	Tom	Gun	04/09/10	04/11/10	805	168	10

Spring Turkey Hunts	Type	Hunt Type	Begin Date	End Date	Hunt #	# of Applications	Permits
Cherokee GMA	Tom	Gun	04/16/10	04/18/10	701	1,978	25
Cookson WMA	Tom	Gun	04/16/10	04/18/10	702	1,860	25
Deep Fork NWR	Tom	Gun	04/16/10	04/18/10	703	400	5
Four Canyon Preserve	Tom	Gun	04/06/10	04/07/10	704	459	4
Four Canyon Preserve	Tom	Gun	04/17/10	04/18/10	705	423	4
Ft. Gibson WRP	Tom	Gun	04/29/10	04/29/10	706	732	5
Little River NWR	Tom	Gun	04/10/10	04/18/10	707	549	20
McAlester AAP	Tom	Gun	04/16/10	04/18/10	708	2,618	20
McAlester AAP	Tom	Gun	04/23/10	04/25/10	709	2,246	20
McCurtain Co. WA	Tom	Gun	04/09/10	04/11/10	710	464	16
Sandy Sanders WMA	Tom	Gun	04/23/10	04/25/10	711	928	20

The wild turkey makes a worthy quarry for any hunter. Oklahoma is home to two species — the Rio Grande and the Eastern (pictured) — both of which hunters can pursue on a Controlled Hunt depending on their choice of hunt locations.



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QUAIL HUNTS

Total applicants (includes first, second and third choice preferences): **2,637**

Total permits available: **20**

Overall odds of getting drawn for any one specific permit: **1 in 132**

QUAIL HUNT HINTS

- Apply as a group to increase your odds, and remember that quail hunts during weekdays offer much better odds than those on weekends.

Quail Hunts	Type	Hunt Type	Begin Date	End Date	Hunt #	# of Applications	Permits
Four Canyon Preserve	Quail	Gun	11/14/09	11/14/09	901	622	4
Four Canyon Preserve	Quail	Gun	11/17/09	11/17/09	902	464	4
Four Canyon Preserve	Quail	Gun	11/19/09	11/19/09	903	566	4
Four Canyon Preserve	Quail	Gun	12/01/09	12/01/09	904	423	4
Four Canyon Preserve	Quail	Gun	12/12/09	12/12/09	905	562	4

A total of 28 permits are available to quail hunters hoping to draw out for one of several hunts at Four Canyon Preserve in western Oklahoma.

