

2022-2023 HUNTING, FISHING AND GENERAL RECREATION REGULATIONS

Tyndall Air Force Base (AFB), Florida

ACCESS

1. Tyndall AFB (TAFB) is open to DoD and non-DoD personnel (as defined below) for the purposes covered by this regulation. Access to base is strictly limited for those intended purposes.
2. Herein, **DoD personnel** are defined as Active Duty Military, Reserve, National Guard, DoD Civilians, Retired Military, Retired DoD Civilians, their dependents, and DoD Contractors with a current DoD identification card with base wide access. Individuals who are members of the public and are not affiliated with the DoD are herein referred to as **non-DoD**.
3. All DoD and non-DoD personnel participating in hunting and fishing (except DoD personnel while salt water fishing from shore) must have a current permit (see TAFB Permit section) and a picture ID with them at all times and provide them to Law Enforcement (Security Forces or Conservation Law Officer) upon request. Non-DoD members wishing to participate in recreational activities on TAFB must have a current recreational permit. NOTE: Defense Biometric Identification Data System DBIDS identification card will only be issued to those individuals once they obtain a recreation, hunting, or fishing permit.
4. TAFB permits/DBIDS cards may be revoked at any time for any violation of federal, state or county law, or violation of TAFB regulations, or for any reason determined to be necessary or advantageous to the United States Air Force. Individuals, vehicles, boats, weapons, credentials, fish, game and personal property may be checked and searched at any time by authorized federal, state and military law enforcement personnel.
5. DoD personnel may **sponsor** (escort) non-DoD personnel (not to exceed two persons per sponsor when hunting) to participate in recreational activities conducted within the gated areas of TAFB as delineated in these regulations. Contact the Visitor Center for policies regarding sponsoring guests. Sponsors as well as guests must have appropriate hunting and fishing licenses, if required, to participate in those recreational activities. Sponsors are liable for the actions of guests and must remain in the immediate vicinity of sponsored guests.
6. All non-DoD persons age 16 and over, wishing to recreate in areas which require DBIDS identification cards must possess a DBIDS card as outlined above. Non-DoD adult personnel may not escort other non-DoD adult personnel. However, a non-DoD adult may escort up to three children under the age of 16.
7. Non-DoD personnel who are required to have DBIDS identification cards, as outlined above, but are found to not possess DBIDS cards will be considered trespassing in accordance with US Code (18 U.S.C. §1382). Also, any recreational users who are found in restricted or off limits areas, or are found in an area during non-access times are trespassing.
8. The right and authority to open or close any area at any time to outdoor recreation is reserved by the Installation Commander.
9. Entry into any areas marked as a "Danger Area" or "Closed Area" is prohibited.
10. The water areas in Crooked Island Sound adjacent to the explosives detonation range is designated a Danger Area during weapons firing operations. These water areas will be marked by red warning flags flown atop poles during danger periods. Entry into these water areas while warning flags are displayed is prohibited.
11. The water areas in Crooked Island Sound adjacent to the drone launch facility and the tips of Crooked Island East and Crooked Island West are designated Danger Areas during launch operations. To ensure a safe fishing or recreation day, please call 82nd ATRS/DOW at 850-283-8293 for that day's mission scheduling.
12. Commercial fishing and tourism companies must have a contract with TAFB and the captain of any watercraft must have a Recreation Permit in order to launch any craft from TAFB property and/or to allow any customers to access the property.

ACCESS TIMES FOR GENERAL RECREATION (Refer to Hunting section for those times)

Personnel	East Unit	Buck Beach	Flight Line	Bonita Bay/Shoal Point/DuPont Bridge Boat Launch	West Unit
DoD	24/7	Weekends/ Holidays Only	24/7	24/7	24/7
Non-DoD	24/7	Weekends/ Holidays Only	Not Permitted	24/7	24/7 (DBIDS required to get access to controlled perimeter)

HUNTING REGULATIONS

General Hunting Regulations

1. All federal and state hunting rules, regulations and permit requirements apply, unless otherwise stated in these regulations. Individuals participating in this program must meet all access requirements as stated in the **ACCESS** section of this regulation.
2. Specific dates for hunting on TAFB will be established annually by the Installation Commander and made available as a supplement to these regulations. Hunting will be permitted on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays during open seasons, except as indicated in the supplement. TAFB is closed to hunting on Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's day.
3. The Hunting Check Station (Building 4027) opens at 4:30 AM beginning the first day of Archery Season and will be open every hunt day through deer season. Two lines will be formed as hunters arrive at the Check Station to wait for the opening at 4:30 AM (one line for DoD, which will be served first, and another line for non-DoD, as defined in ACCESS section paragraph 2.) Any DoD member will be given priority over non-DoD personnel at check-in. When the Check Station is manned, all hunters must check in at the Check Station before entering any Hunt Unit, and must obtain an appropriate Hunt Stand pass. This pass must be attached to the rear view mirror and be visible from the outside of the vehicle.
4. Hunters are required to immediately proceed to the appropriate tree stand as soon as the pass is issued and return directly to the Hunter Check Station when finished hunting to check out. Failure to do so will result in suspension for the rest of the season.
5. All hunters are required to return to the Check Station no later than the posted check out time which shall be 1.5 hours after sunset. Pursuit of a wounded or downed animal must be terminated in time to make it back to the Check Station in time to check out.
6. Entry into the East Hunt Unit is through Silver Flag Road, Road 98F, and along Hwy 98. Entry into the Flight Line Hunt Unit must be through the open Flight Line gate. Entry into the West Unit must be through either the Sabre Gate or the main gate (requires DBIDS for non-DoD).
7. All game harvested must be checked at the Check Station. A full weight of deer is required, so if field dressed, the entrails must be brought to the Check Station in a bag or other suitable container. A jaw bone for age data must be submitted to the Check Station Operator. **NO EXCEPTIONS.**
8. Failure to check in or out will result in the suspension of the privilege to hunt on TAFB for the remainder of the season.
9. Air guns (no PCPs) may only be used for gray squirrels. Shotguns, Muzzleloaders, Long Bows, Recurve Bows, Compound Bows and Crossbows are the only authorized weapons for use on TAFB. Shotgun ammunition for deer hunting is limited to slugs only. In the East Unit, only muzzleloaders may be used during the muzzleloader season, and crossbows may only be used during the archery season by hunters possessing a FWC Persons with Disabilities Crossbow Permit.
10. The East Unit is a designated Wildlife Management Area (WMA) by FWC. However, no Management Area Permit is required to hunt on Tyndall's East Unit.
11. Having a loaded weapon in a vehicle is prohibited. A loaded weapon is any shotgun with a shell in the chamber or magazine, or a muzzleloader with a firing cap in place, or a nocked arrow on a bow or crossbow. Weapons must be completely encased and locked, zipped, or tied shut while in a vehicle; ammunition must be kept separate from the firearm.
12. No person shall possess any weapon, either assembled or disassembled, in TAFB areas closed to hunting or in TAFB hunting areas during a period in which hunting is not authorized. The only exception to this rule is that bows are allowed at the archery range. If contacted by Law Enforcement, you must identify that you have a weapon on your person or in your vehicle.
13. During Archery Season: Possession of a weapon other than a bow or crossbow in the West Unit and Flightline Unit is prohibited. Possession of a weapon other than a bow (or crossbow with a FWC Persons of Disability Crossbow Permit) is prohibited in the East Unit.
14. Possession of more than one weapon to take wildlife, while in a tree stand, is prohibited during all deer seasons.
15. An archery field test, administered by Natural Resources staff, is required for any hunter using archery equipment (compound bow, crossbow, longbow, recurve bow) to take wildlife on Tyndall. You must test with each archery weapon you are using to hunt. Testing will be on base, at the Archery Range, every Thursday at 1400 hours, once hunting permits are available for purchase, and throughout the deer hunting season. You must have a hunting permit before you may take the test. Hunters may test up to 3 times in order to pass the test. Targets and instructions will be provided at the test site. Field tips must be used for the test – no broadheads. No hunter may hunt with archery equipment until they have successfully passed the archery field test.
16. It is unlawful to take or attempt to take wildlife from any place other than the tree stand for which you have a pass. Failure to follow this rule will result in suspension of your hunting privileges.
17. Still hunting from your designated hunting stand is the only method allowed to hunt deer, pigs, or coyotes. Stalking is prohibited.
18. Parking along paved roads is only allowed next to the wood line, not the road shoulder.
19. All hunters will obtain approval from Check Station Operator before pursuing wounded game into any closed area or adjacent hunt block. In this situation hunters may call the Check Station at 850-771-5062.
20. No person shall possess, place, expose or distribute any edible substance for attracting wildlife or take or attempt to take wildlife where an edible substance has been deposited. Scent lures are allowed, but must be removed when you leave your tree stand.
21. Driving a metal object into any tree, or hunting from a tree, in which a metal object has been driven, is prohibited.
22. Deer hunting is restricted to the pre-placed ladder stands belonging to Natural Resources. Moving, or attempting to move these stands will result in revocation of hunting permit.
23. Scouting may begin once you have purchased a TAFB hunting permit.
24. Individuals with a valid TAFB Hunting permit may scout the East and West units during daylight hours on non-hunt days. Weekend Only areas and the Flight Line Unit scouting is only allowed on weekends, holidays or base wide down days. Scouting on hunt days is allowed from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM after obtaining a scout pass from the Check Station.
25. All hunters and anyone accompanying them, regardless of age, must obtain the appropriate TAFB permits and are required to check in at the Check Station. All hunters under the age of 16 years must hunt under the supervision of a licensed adult.
26. Hunting small game when in season is allowed on TAFB only on designated hunting days (see General Hunting Regulation # 2) and only with the season-appropriate weapon. The taking of fox squirrels, quail and black bear is prohibited.
27. Feral hog and coyote may be taken in any hunting season except Spring Turkey season, with the season-appropriate weapon, with no bag limit.
28. Hunting in blocks 4C-4G, 6D, 7E, 8B, 8C, 8F, 10D, 10E and all Flight Line Unit blocks is limited weekends and holidays.

29. The use of dogs for deer hunting is prohibited except for trailing wounded game after notifying the Check Station Operator. The dog must be on a leash and in control at all times. Dogs may be used for bird hunting but must be under control of the hunter.
30. Trapping and trapping devices are prohibited.
31. All persons hunting during General Gun Season and Muzzleloading Season (when deer hunting is open), are required to wear a minimum of 500 sq. inches of blaze orange **at all times**, with the exception of dove hunters in designated dove fields and waterfowl hunters hunting over ponds.
32. A "**Mature Buck**" on TAFB is defined as an antlered deer with at least FOUR antler points on one side, with each point at least one inch in length (East and West Units), or at least TWO antler points on one side, at least one inch in length (Flightline Unit ONLY).
33. An "**Antlerless Deer**" on TAFB is defined as any deer (except spotted fawns) without antlers or a deer with antlers less than five inches in length.
34. Base housing residents are cautioned that archery hunting is authorized near housing areas and are advised to wear fluorescent orange or bright colored clothing while off of established roads or trails on any hunting day. A flier will be provided to Balfour Beauty Communities at TAFB for issuance to all housing occupants announcing hunting seasons.
35. GAME CAMERAS ARE PROHIBITED.
36. Tyndall Deer Season bag limit is 4 deer per hunter, 2 of which may be antlerless.

Alligator Season

1. Must have a Tyndall Recreation permit and meet all access requirements as stated in the **ACCESS** section of this regulation.
2. Must have a Bay County Alligator Harvest Permit as required by the state of Florida to hunt alligator on TAFB.
3. Must follow all state of Florida regulations.
4. Hunting allowed in all open hunt blocks, and all lakes and ponds open to recreation. Other areas may be identified by Natural Resources as needed.
5. Permits and regulations can be found at MYFWC.com.

Archery Season

1. An Archery Season permit allows hunting in all Hunt Stands whether designated as Archery or Gun during Archery Season. All access requirements as stated in the **ACCESS** section of this regulation must be met.
2. A passing archery score on a qualification field test is mandatory before hunters may use archery equipment to take wildlife. See #15 of General Hunting Regulations above.
3. Legal to take: Mature Bucks and Antlerless Deer in all hunt units (see #29-30 of General Hunting Regulations); small game (with a Small Game Permit) when in season, wild hogs and coyotes.
4. Legal to use: Long Bows, Recurve Bows, Compound Bows, and Crossbows (see #9 of General Hunting Regulations regarding additional permit requirements for using crossbows in the East Unit).

Muzzleloading Season

1. Individuals must have a TAFB Muzzleloading Season permit to hunt during Muzzleloading Season and meet all access requirements as stated in the **ACCESS** section of this regulation.
2. Legal to take: Mature Bucks only in all hunt units (see #29-30 of General Hunting Regulations); small game (with a Small Game Permit) when in season, wild hogs and coyotes.
3. Legal to use in Gun Hunt Blocks: Muzzleloaders, Long Bows, Re-curve Bows, Compound Bows, and Crossbows. Legal to use in Archery Hunt Blocks: Long Bows, Recurve Bows, Compound Bows, and Crossbows. In the East Unit, ONLY MUZZLELOADERS MAY BE USED, regardless of Hunt Block.

General Gun Season

1. Open to hunting on open days to those who have a TAFB General Gun Season Permit and meet all access requirements as stated in the **ACCESS** section of this regulation.
2. Legal to take: Mature Bucks only in all hunt units (see #29-30 of General Hunting Regulations); small game (with a Small Game Permit) when in season, wild hogs and coyotes.
3. Antlerless Deer may be taken in all Units during Antlerless Deer Season.
5. Legal to use in Gun Hunt Blocks: Air guns (no PCPs) only for gray squirrels, Shotguns, Muzzleloaders, Long Bows, Recurve Bows, Compound Bows, and Crossbows. Legal to use in Archery Hunt Blocks: Long Bows, Recurve Bows, Compound Bows, and Crossbows. See #9 of General Hunting Regulations regarding additional permit requirements for using crossbows in the East Unit.

Small Game

1. A TAFB Small Game Only hunting permit is available to those who only want to hunt migratory birds and/or small game. All access requirements as stated in the **ACCESS** section of this regulation must be met.
2. With this permit, it is legal to take: squirrel, opossum, raccoon, coyote, armadillo, bobcat, and migratory game birds on designated TAFB hunt days (See General Hunting Regulation #2), and according to the seasons and limits designated in the State of Florida Hunting Regulations.
3. Legal to use in Gun Hunt Blocks: Air guns (no PCPs) only for gray squirrels, Shotguns, Muzzleloaders, Long Bows, Recurve Bows, Compound Bows, and Crossbows. Legal to use in Archery Hunt Blocks: Long Bows, Recurve Bows, Compound Bows, and Crossbows (see #9 of General Hunting Regulations regarding additional permit requirements for using crossbows in the East Unit).
4. Dogs may be used for bird hunting but must be under control of the hunter.

5. Except for First Phase Dove hunting which is only allowed in designated dove fields, small game hunting is allowed in all designated Hunt Blocks with the appropriate weapon for the Block.
6. Waterfowl hunters hunting **on** Tyndall may only hunt on open hunt days in designated hunt blocks after checking in at the Hunting Check Station.
7. Waterfowl hunters accessing state waters **from** Tyndall must have a Tyndall Recreation or Small Game permit.
8. Waterfowl hunters may access state waters from **within** the controlled perimeter (as outlined in the Access section) only on open hunt days after checking in at the Hunting Check Station.
Waterfowl hunters may access state waters from **outside** the controlled perimeter (as outlined in the Access section) any day during the Migratory Bird season.

Spring Turkey Season

1. Hunters must register IN PERSON at the Check Station during January and be selected from a random drawing the second week of February in order to participate in the TAFB Spring Turkey Hunt. Each hunter drawn will be eligible for a 2-day, weekend hunt. The number of hunters drawn depends on the turkey quota established by the wildlife biologist. Those drawn will be notified by phone and will be told what days, and which hunting zone they were drawn to hunt. If a hunter is not able to hunt on the days drawn or if a hunter fails to pick up their packet by the Tuesday before their hunt weekend, the slot will be offered to the next person on the waiting list.
2. Once notified, hunters must bring their current Florida Hunting License and Florida Turkey Permit to the Check Station to purchase their TAFB Turkey permit. Hunters must meet all access requirements as stated in the **ACCESS** section of this regulation.
3. Scouting is limited to Monday through Friday immediately prior to the scheduled hunt weekend.
4. Legal to take: Two bearded turkeys.
5. Legal to use: Shotguns, Long Bows, Recurve Bows, Compound Bows, and Crossbows.
6. During the 2 day hunt, hunters may hunt turkeys from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

CAMPING

1. Camping is only authorized at the following locations: FAM Camp (DoD only), Primitive Camp Area, and the Group Campground. Campers must meet all access requirements as stated in the **ACCESS** section of this regulation.
2. Camping permits for FAM Camp (850-283-2798) are issued at the check-in building on-site. Contact Natural Resources (850-527-2009) for details regarding use of the Group & Primitive Campgrounds.
3. Non-DoD participants over age 16 must be vetted by Security Forces no later than 4 business days prior to the event. A list of Non-DoD participants, to include full name, social security number, date of birth, and driver's license state and number will be used to create an Entry Authority Listing (EAL) that authorizes overnight access for individuals that are not normally permitted on base for these short events.
4. Camping anywhere else on TAFB is prohibited without prior written authorization from Natural Resources.

OTHER OUTDOOR RECREATION

1. Hiking is authorized on maintained roads, forestry roads, nature trails and hiking trails in designated recreation areas. Hikers must meet all access requirements as stated in the **ACCESS** section of this regulation.
2. Bicycling is authorized only on maintained roads and marked forestry roads, marked trails and marked firebreaks. For safety, biking is prohibited on firebreaks on open hunt days. Biking is prohibited on trails designated as hiking only.
3. Dogs are prohibited on all barrier island beaches and within areas posted as "Critical Wildlife Areas" on TAFB. In all other areas, dogs must be in the control of their owner and on a leash.

PERMIT INFORMATION

1. Prior to obtaining a TAFB permit, refer to the **ACCESS** section above for additional information.
2. Everyone engaging in hunting or freshwater fishing on TAFB is required to have the appropriate TAFB permit(s) and DBIDS identification card (for access within controlled perimeter). All Non-DoD personnel (16 years and older) are required to have a Recreation Permit for saltwater fishing, launching watercraft from Tyndall property, and/or visiting the beach.
3. TAFB permits will be issued at Building 4027 (Hunting Check Station) when manned during the hunting season and on Tuesdays between the hours of 8:30 to 11:30 AM. Permits may also be obtained anytime online at: <https://tyndall.isportsman.net/>.
4. Proper identification and appropriate State Licenses, Permits and Federal Stamps are required prior to issuance of TAFB permits. Only cash is accepted for in-person sales. Credit or debit cards are accepted on line at <https://tyndall.isportsman.net>.

TAFB Permits

Permit	E5 and above/ All others	E4 or below/ Seniors/Disabled ¹	Youths (≤ 15)
Complete Sportsman (everything except Spring Turkey Season)	\$100.00	\$30.00	Free
Archery/Crossbow Season	\$20.00	\$10.00	Free
Muzzleload Season	\$10.00	\$5.00	Free
General Gun Season	\$60.00	\$20.00	Free
Small Game Only	\$20.00	\$5.00	Free
Spring Turkey (By Drawing Only)	\$25.00	\$25.00	Free
Freshwater Fishing	\$20.00	\$5.00	Free
7 Day Freshwater Fishing	\$5.00	\$3.00	Free
Recreation ²	\$15.00	Free	n/a

¹ Seniors are persons 65 years of age or older with proof of age. Disabled are those certified as being 100% disabled and possessing a Florida Resident Totally and Permanently Disabled Person Hunting and Fishing Certificate.

² Recreation Permits are not required for DoD Members.

TAFB Phone numbers

Hunter Check Station	850-771-5062
Natural Resources	850-527-2009
FamCamp	850-283-2798
Outdoor Recreation Center	850-283-3199
Visitor Center	850-283-9927
Security Forces	850-283-2254
Fire Department	850-283-4777
Drone Launch Schedule	850-283-8293
EMERGENCY	911