

**Background Report
Draft Rule 68A-13.004
Agenda Item 11 A.
April 15, 2015**

Draft rule language for a five (5) day bear hunting season.

68A-13.004 Hunting Regulations for Non-Migratory Game and Issuance of Antlerless Deer Permits.

The hunting regulations for non-migratory game shall be as follows unless otherwise amended by the Commission, provided that regulations for hunting on wildlife management areas shall be as established by specific rule.

(1) Bag and possession limits:

(a) through (c) No change.

(d) Bear: daily, possession and season bag 1.

(2) No change.

(3) Open seasons:

(a) Antlered deer:

1. Zone A: Opening the third Saturday in September and closing 29 days thereafter and reopening the Saturday before the fourth Thursday in November and closing the first Sunday in January.

2. through 4. No change.

(b) through (d) No change.

(e) Gray squirrel: Opening the second Saturday of October and closing the first Sunday in March. Opening October 1 and closing March 31 for falconry.

~~No open season on fox squirrels.~~

(f) Rabbit: Throughout the year.

(h) Bear:

1. East Panhandle, North, Central, and South BMUs: Opening the Saturday prior to the last Saturday in October and closing 3 days thereafter.

2. All bear taken shall be checked and tagged within 12 hours of recovery at a Commission designated check station. The tag shall remain affixed to the hide until it is tanned or mounted.

(g) through (h) Relettered (i) through (j)

(4) through (5) No Change.

PROPOSED EFFECTIVE DATE: As soon as possible after adoption by the Commission.