

**NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSION**  
**Quarterly Meeting**  
**April 22, 2018**  
**MINUTES**

The quarterly meeting of the Natural Resources Commission was held on Sunday, April 22, 2018 at Canaan Valley Resort State Park, Davis, West Virginia. The following individuals attended:

**NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSIONERS**

Jeffrey S. Bowers  
David M. Milne  
Kenneth R. Wilson  
Gregory K. Burnette  
Thomas O. Dotson  
Byron K. Chambers  
Peter L. Cuffaro (via conference call)

**MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE**

Delegate Ralph Rodighiero, District 36

**DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

Stephen S. McDaniel, Director (Presiding), South Charleston, WV  
Lysti Looney, Director's Office (Recording Secretary), South Charleston, WV  
Emily Fleming, Director's Office, South Charleston, WV  
Paul Johansen, Wildlife Resources, South Charleston, WV  
Jerry Jenkins, Law Enforcement, South Charleston, WV  
David Trader, Law Enforcement, South Charleston, WV  
Chris Ryan, Wildlife Resources, WV University, Morgantown, WV  
Scott Warner, Wildlife Resources, South Charleston, WV  
Gary Foster, Wildlife Resources, South Charleston/Elkins, WV  
Keith Krantz, Wildlife Resources, Elkins, WV

Jim Crum, Wildlife Resources, Elkins, WV  
Colin Carpenter, Wildlife Resources, Beckley, WV  
Kevin Oxenrider, Wildlife Resources, Romney, WV  
Jackie Moore, Law Enforcement, Farmington, WV  
John Ozalas, Law Enforcement, Farmington, WV  
Jeremiah Clark, Law Enforcement, Farmington, WV  
Mark Scott, Wildlife Resources, South Charleston, WV  
Steve Rauch, Wildlife Resources, Farmington, WV  
Randy Tucker, Wildlife Resources, Elkins, WV  
Sam England, Parks and Receptions, South Charleston, WV  
Scott Carr, Wildlife Resources, Farmington, WV  
Mike Peters, Wildlife Resources, Farmington, WV  
Kieran O'Malley, Wildlife Resources, Elkins, WV

#### **ORGANIZATIONS AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC**

Larry Lawson, Belle, WV  
Justin Hettick, West Virginia Bowhunters Association, Morgantown, WV  
William Vandale, Charleston, WV  
Gary Francisco, Buffalo, WV  
Donald McCloud, Pecks Mill, WV  
Steve Drumhiller, Canaan Valley Resort, Davis, WV  
Michada Mitchell, Davis, WV  
Dick Uchics, Thomas, WV  
Judy Rodd, Thomas, WV  
Melinda Gullett, Logan, WV  
Al Gullett, Logan, WV  
Joe Bragg, Morgantown, WV  
Shelda Vincell  
Dr. Siegel, Logan, WV  
Mandy Fox, Logan, WV  
David Smith, Logan, WV

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Director Stephen McDaniel called the meeting to order at approximately 1:00 p.m.  
Director McDaniel introduced himself, welcomed everyone to the meeting. He asked

the commissioners to introduce themselves and state the county they represent; Commissioner Peter Cuffaro, who was participating via phone introduced himself.

### **RATIFICATION OF MINUTES**

Commissioner Bowers made a **MOTION** to approve the minutes of the February 25, 2018 meeting of the Natural Resources Commission as submitted. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Gary Francisco, opposes the proposed brook trout fishing proposals - not against catch and release but opposes not being able to use bait.

William Vandell, opposes brook trout proposed catch and release regulations does not agree with no bait. He has seen 19 fish heads laying on creek banks one guy gives everybody a bad name does not see shutting down because of a few people. Brook trout stockings are listed on the DNR website for all public to see, which is hurting the fishing.

Dick Uchic, stated Camp 70 road along Blackwater is in terrible shape it will destroy your vehicle - asking if there are plans to grade the road. Director McDaniel stated it is a county road and is in terrible shape. Director McDaniel will call DOH tomorrow to question if they will grade the road. Mr. Uchic stated that South Eastern Trout Unlimited will be having their conference at Canaan in May and he has volunteered to guide anglers and would like to have the road graded before the event.

Donald McCloud, Friends of Chief Logan, stated he grew up outside of Chief Logan State Park and he knows the area and the people. Majority is against the controlled deer hunts in the state parks. He says there is not a deer problem there is not that many deer in the area. Stated there is a very active day use of the park. The hunt will eliminate the reason people go to the park to walk and see the deer and wildlife. He feels it is a money issue that started 18 months ago when Governor Justice was going to charge a park entrance fee, then the proposed timbering on state parks now the hunts.

Judy Rodd, Friends of Blackwater, stated two-thirds of the people are against the hunts. Most people who visit our state parks come for peace and tranquility, feels that hunting

in the parks will undermine this experience. Wildlife viewing is our parks most important draw. These are essentially tame deer in the parks this will hurt our parks image in ways that are not good. Specialized hunting to stop deer damage can be done in more efficient and humane ways than opening the parks to armed visitors.  
(Attachment A)

Shelda Vincell, feels that bear hunting and training with dogs all year is not good, it keeps the woods stirred up. If dogs chase bear, hunters feel they can follow dogs across fences and onto private property. Feels hunting with dogs should start in August and end when bears go into hibernation. In the South Branch Valley in the early eighties there were quail to hunt, there are no quail now feels it is due to the freeze in 1977. Would like to see DNR trap and release quail in Pendleton and Hampshire counties.

Al Gullett, stated Chief Logan Park is in his back door he is not against hunting, supposes the reason for this hunt is the damage of deer eating flowers. He walks daily and there are patches of Lady Slippers and other flowers. This park was set aside for enjoyment not to hunt deer. He walked the park every day this week and did not see any deer, suggests instead of hunt that DNR do a study as to why there are not more deer, rabbits and fox he thinks the problem is coyote.

Dr. Siegel, stated he has a petition with sixteen hundred signatures opposing the proposed controlled deer hunts in Chief Logan State Park. He has been a veterinarian in Logan for 30 years and has been a wildlife consultant and rehabbing mammals for 28 years. He has rehabbed and released approximately 75 fawns that were left alone for various reasons. He has rehabbed them and released them in the park. He feels these hunts are all for finances. He does not feel there is an overpopulation problem, but that actually there is a decrease of 80%. These deer are tame. If DNR is looking for money he has worked with fundraisers for years and that avenue would bring in more money and he is willing to pitch in and help raising the money. Asking for a two-year cooling off period and see if money is brought in - we can all work together.

Director McDaniel asked what scientific study do you have that there is an 80% decline of deer in the park. Dr. Siegel stated he does not have a scientific study it is based on his knowledge.

Justin Hettick, West Virginia Bowhunters Association, on the proposed new urban archery season would ask that you consider leaving open December through January 31. On the proposed deer hunts in the state parks he was at Chief Logan Park in

December and saw dozens of deer and more piebald deer than he has ever seen. He does not know if that is overpopulation but knows there were deer. Feels we should trust what the biologists say - they are trained and know what is best for controlling our deer herds.

Mandy Fox, stated Chief Logan Park is her favorite place and only sees decline in deer. Opposed to special hunt in park.

Delegate Ralph Roduggerio stated he lives less than a mile from the park. He would like a survey study of Chief Logan State Park - he thinks the decision is a mistake and does not feel there is over population. Residents are complaining these deer are considered pets. Hopes DNR will reconsider.

David Smith, stated the law is ridiculous and that he has hunted all his life there are so many safety reasons this hunt should not be held in Chief Logan Park. Stated you can feed these deer. Stated deer look sick you can see their ribs. Asked that DNR please reconsider.

Joe Bragg, stated he has seen a lot of deceased trout on Facebook. Stated it will take a lot of money to work on Deckers Creek (Preston County & Monongahela County) to fix this stream. Asked for a study of habitation on this stream. He stated fish can and will reproduce. Suggest getting with Trout Unlimited, Friends of Deckers Creek and individuals for help.

### **DIRECTOR'S COMMENTS**

Appreciates comments on Brook Trout. DNR spends tens of thousands of dollars on this program and we cannot keep streams a secret as it is not fair to the people, we want to let the people know about this. He is asking Paul Johansen and Gary Foster to investigate Bear Dog Training. Stated the reason for quail loss is mostly loss of habitat. Mike Peters is working on options with other states on the possibility of acquiring quail to relocate on our Tomblin Wildlife Management area in Logan County. Mark Scott, DNR's Assistant Chief of Fisheries, will look into Deckers Creek to see how we can improve the stream. I was the one who suggested an entrance fee for our state parks not Governor Justice. The state parks-controlled deer hunts have been going on in our parks for twenty years. There is a lot of man hours spent on our park hunts, the superintendents of our parks and biologist determine which parks need the hunts and how many permits will be issued, the best time for the hunts, amount of over populations and safety issues, etc. The hunts will not be held on weekends, they will be

held in the fall when occupancy is low, they will be in areas that will be closed off to visitors. All visitors will be notified that the hunts are being held. The nonrefundable fee is being applied due to people receiving the permit to hunt but not showing up for the hunts we feel with the fee this will help elevate the no shows. I would like to remind everyone that it is illegal to feed deer and wildlife in our state parks. Please do not feed the wildlife in our parks.

### **SUMMARY OF THE 2018 SECTIONAL MEETINGS – SPORTSMEN AND LANDOWNERS QUESTIONNAIRE**

Keith Krantz reviewed the results of the sectional meetings held in each of the districts. 52 clubs with 7,766 members, one club with an unknown number of members, and 142 individuals submitted completed questionnaires. (Attachment C)

### **APPROVE 2018 - 2019 BIG GAME HUNTING REGULATIONS**

Gary Foster reviewed the proposed regulations, Commissioner Bowers suggested to approve all regulations collective if no commissioner objects. Commissioner Wilson **MOVED** to amend "The Division of Natural Resources proposes a primitive weapon "Mountaineer Heritage Season" featuring traditional muzzleloading and/or archery equipment for bear and deer (either-sex). Only procession and flintlock rifles without scopes, and long and recurve bows will be permitted." Amending "Only *sidelock* procession and flintlock rifles without scopes, and long recurve bows will be permitted." Commissioner Wilson **MOVED** to approve with amendment. Commissioner Dotson seconded. Motion passed with amendment unanimously. (Attachment D)

The Division of Natural Resources proposes that the Special Urban Deer archery/Crossbow Season be a split season. The initial season will follow the current framewok and the late season will be open from Monday, January 14, 2019 through Sunday, January 20, 2019. Amending "the initial season will follow the current framework and the late season will be open from Monday, January 14, 2019 through Sunday, January 31, 2019". Commissioner Bowers **MOVED** to approve the amendment. Commissioner Dotson seconded. Motion passed with amendment unanimously. Commissioner Wilson **MOVED** to approve 2018-2019 Big Game Hunting regulations with amendments. Commissioner Milne seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

## **REVIEW PROPOSED 2019 - 2020 Hunting and Trapping Regulations**

Gary Foster reviewed the proposed 2019-2020 Hunting and Trapping Season regulations. (Attachment D)

## **APPROVE 2018 REPTILE REGULATIONS**

Kevin Oxenrider, reviewed proposed recommendation for 2018 Reptile Regulations. Commissioner Bowers made a **MOTION** to approve as submitted. Commissioner Wilson seconded. Motion passed unanimously. (Attachment E).

## **APPROVE STATE PARKS CONTROL DEER HUNTS**

Sam England reviewed the proposed control deer hunts. In the information I have passed out you will find on page 1.: A summary of each parks recommended dates and recommended permits per hunting period, page 2: a calendar view showing hunts at each park and page 3; each season and dates a calendar view shows distribution of hunts over time. DNR's goal in mind is: 1) Reduce deer population; 2) Conduct in a safe and efficient manner and 3) Eliminate or minimize interaction between hunting guests and non-hunting guests. Commissioner Bowers asked if there has been any incidents to date on the controlled hunts. Sam stated the control hunts on state parks started with the first hunt in 2001 and more parks were added in 2006 to date there has not been any near misses or negative interactions or other issues with the hunts. Director McDaniel asked what the day use and overnight stay in our parks are when the control hunts are conducted. Sam stated that there is very limited occupancy at our parks in the fall when the hunts are held. Commissioner Milne questioned the number of permits as example on Beech Fork State Park, Sam stated that there will be a total of 15 deer to be harvested at that park. The hunts will be held in late October and the first of November when occupancy is low. Commissioner Bowers made a **MOTION** to approve. Commissioner Burnette seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously. (Attachment F)

## **ESTABLISHING CATCH AND RELEASE IN LEIU OF DELAYED HARVEST FOR BLUESTONE RIVER – SUMMERS COUNTY 1-MILE SECTION FROM THE MOUTH OF MOUNTAIN CREEK DOWNSTREAM TO A STREAM GAUGE STATION WITHIN PIPESTEM STATE PARK PROPOSAL**

Sam England explained the proposal. He stated at Pipestem Resort State Park, Mountain Creek Lodge is at the bottom of the canyon and is accessible only by hiking or the tram. WVU did a study on the waters and DNR-Parks and Recreation stocked with rainbow trout and found that this stream could support big trout. There is an individual who provides guide services and does stocking at his expense. This year with his fishing guide services there is occupancy in the Mountain Creek Lodge. DNR feels we will get more kids fishing and enjoying the outdoors and will increase the occupancy of the lodge. Commissioner Dotson made a **MOTION** to approve. Commissioner Burnette seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

Paul Johansen made a recommendation allowing wildlife and parks staff to study the controlled deer hunt at Chief Logan State Park to see the agencies situation. Director McDaniel stated that DNR will not continue with the controlled deer hunt on Chief Logan State Park until Wildlife and Parks staff conduct survey and re-evaluate the proposed hunt. Commissioner Dotson made a **MOTION** for the agency to conduct study on the controlled deer hunt on Chief Logan State Park. Commissioner Bowers seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### **APPROVE SEASON AND BAG LIMITS FOR CATFISH NOODLING**

Mark Scott reviewed the proposal. Commissioner Bowers made a **MOTION** to approve. Commissioner Wilson seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### **REVIEW PROPOSED 2019 FISHING REGULATIONS**

Mark Scott reviewed the proposed 2019 Fishing Regulations. (Attachment G)

Commissioner Wilson stated that staff in the states of Arizona, Kentucky and West Virginia have done an excellent job with the Elk Restoration program. The Elk Program is moving forward.

### **NEXT MEETING DATE AND PLACE**

July 29, 2018, Stonewall Resort State Park, Roanoke, WV

### **ADJOURN**

Commissioner Wilson made a **MOTION** to adjourn. Commissioner Bowers seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:20 p.m.

# FRIENDS of BLACKWATER

571 Douglas Road • PO Box 247 Thomas, WV 26292 • 304-345-7663 • [info@saveblackwater.org](mailto:info@saveblackwater.org)

4/22/18

Re: Expanded Hunting in State Parks

Many of Friends of Blackwater's members and supporters are hunters and we certainly are not opposed to responsible hunting that does not threaten the public's rights. However, a recent proposal by the WV DNR to vastly expand hunting in state parks raises concerns.

1. The idea that expanding hunting in Parks will be a tourism draw really cuts against our experience. Most people who visit our state parks come for peace and tranquility, and will feel that hunting in the Parks will undermines this experience. Wildlife viewing is our parks' most important draw, and promoting killing the deer that people want to view will severely undermine this aspect of the visitor experience.
2. Hunting always means safety issues for visitors. Should the parks be closed when hunting is going on? Should potential visitors be notified on park websites, and in the local paper? Would armed hunters always be out of sight and sound of other park visitors?
3. There is speculation that hunting would mean more money to manage the Parks. But where is the real evidence? What would be the costs of managing such a program and compare it to revenue from hunters in parks?
4. Deer affect the forest understory across the state, but where is the evidence for each park's ecology? When there is a scientific assessment, then smart management decisions can be made; not just general ideas without understanding the situation on the ground.
5. Many people have said that hunting essentially tame deer in state parks is like shooting fish in a barrel, and is not very sporting. That will hurt our parks' image in ways that are not good.
6. The WVDNR manages one million four hundred thousand acres for wildlife. All but the 76,000 acres of land in state parks is open for general public hunting. These numbers are increasing every year, as the DNR adds more wildlife management areas. Specialized hunting to stop deer damage can be done in more efficient and humane ways than opening the parks to armed visitors. Managed culls by professional, strictly limited, hunters, would be a better strategy.
7. Many issues were raised by the 162 people who took our survey over five days since Wednesday April 17. Most opposed opening the Parks to hunting. Comments are attached. NO ONE commented against hunting in general.

*Judith Rodd*  
Director

**#103 comments: I am concerned about hunting in state parks, because...**

---

"I live in Logan county and there's not very many deer in Chief Logan State Park. The ones in our park are tame. WV has lots of public hunting land for hunters to hunt deer already - why would anyone want to kill a tame deer? I go to the park often and don't see that many deer. They closed deer gun season in the 70s in Logan because of low number of deer. The park is the only safe place around here for deer and I totally disagree with hunting in the parks. It would be dangerous for people walking trails and visiting the park so please stop the hunting in our parks. I'm a hunter also and I wouldn't even think of hunting in a park. Thank you"

*Richard McCoy – 24 Rickey Lane, Logan WV 25601*

"I have no problem with hunting, but I also think it is good for families to have a place to enjoy the outdoors without worrying about hunting. Parks can be that place. Thank you for your time."

*Kendall Brumbaugh – 229 Heavner Ave, Elkins WV 26241 – [kqbrum@hotmail.com](mailto:kqbrum@hotmail.com)*

"I will not visit a park that will allow hunting."

*Jodi Kershuk – 112 Bogg Hill Road, Wheeling WV 26003 – [kershuk@comcast.net](mailto:kershuk@comcast.net)*

"It would hardly be sporting to shoot the deer that are used to humans. Why do this? There is no lack of available hunting sites. We have lost other lands to hunting (eg Little Canaan Wildlife area) and can no longer safely use them for months and are barred from camping there anymore. Keep hunting out of these state parks."

*Jamie Jacobs – 420 Cedar Street, Morgantown WV 26501 – [jjacobs@labyrinth.net](mailto:jjacobs@labyrinth.net)*

"The deer in parks are so used to people it wouldn't even be sporting. It is shameful."

*Donna Gregory – 3718 Laurel Park Road, Clarksburg WV 26301 – [harleynanny4@yahoo.com](mailto:harleynanny4@yahoo.com)*

"I don't like the idea of allowing hunting in state parks. Has the DNR considered other methods of controlling deer population, such as birth control? I would be concerned that hunting will put areas off limits to hikers and other recreational users during a popular time (fall) for visitors. I have seen areas opened to controlled hunts where the number of deer culled have decreased over successive years, and not amounted to an appreciable number. Please consider other alternatives. Restrict controlled deer hunts to the various WMAs within the state. Thank you for your consideration."

*Clark Dixon – 79 Crabapple Lane, Ranson WV 25438 – [dixonconsultants@aol.com](mailto:dixonconsultants@aol.com)*

"The state parks are the one place folks can go without concern during hunting season. We can recreate and take our children into nature without any worry about hunting practices. Hunters already have private property, wildlife management areas, and state and national forests open to hunting."

*Kelly Bowyer – 161 Greathouse Road, Buckhannon WV 26201 – [lovebikeriding@hotmail.com](mailto:lovebikeriding@hotmail.com)*

"I don't think any hunting should take place in the state parks and definitely not on Sunday. The parks are for families to enjoy the beauty of nature and appreciate what a beautiful state we live in. Places to get away from city life and relax. I don't know how the danger of hunters in these woods would be contained."

*Walter Fish – 458 N Main St, New Martinsville WV 26155 – [wtfish@suddenlink.net](mailto:wtfish@suddenlink.net)*

"I understand the need to control the deer population, but I'm worried about hunting happening in these parks because of the people who go there with their families especially children. Will you be closing the parks to non hunters on those

days? I'm worried that someone hunting won't be paying good enough attention and end up shooting another adult or child and injuring or killing them. Also, the deer in the parks seem to stay out in the open more making it much easier for someone else to get injured."

*Elizabeth McCoy – 19 Cherrywood Terrace, Beaver WV 25801 – [summergirl63088@yahoo.com](mailto:summergirl63088@yahoo.com)*

"My family hikes and utilizes parks year round, and I do have concerns about safety. We already don't use Kanawha State Forest as much, because of the hunting. It is great to be able to let your children camp and play outside without hearing gun shots, and we use the parks a lot in the fall after fall sports finish. We have camped in Beech Fork, Watoga, and Stonewall, and also visited North Bend and Canaan without camping. The deer in state parks are very tame, and people like seeing them up close. Will all the 'tame' deer be killed because they won't be afraid of hunters? Who was consulted to make this decision?"

*Jan Maxey – 2170 Donald Avenue, Huntington WV 25701 – [sciencechick98@yahoo.com](mailto:sciencechick98@yahoo.com)*

"I think there should be no hunting in state parks"

*Eddie Walsh – 606 River Downs Drive, Logan WV 25601 – [walsh\\_transport@yahoo.com](mailto:walsh_transport@yahoo.com)*

"I do not believe hunting should be allowed in state parks. Parks are supposed to be a safe refuge, and hunting would be disruptive.

*Darlene Thompson – 175 Robinhood Road, Asheville NC 28804 – [darlene4355@att.net](mailto:darlene4355@att.net)*

"I think there are better ways to cull the deer herds. Hunting in state parks could be dangerous, and it destroys the silence that people seek when coming to parks."

*Cathy Pardee – 55 Moon Ridge Lane, Burlington WV 26710 – [cathypardee@frontiernet.net](mailto:cathypardee@frontiernet.net)*

"Don't hunt in the park. The deer are tame. There are plenty of wild deer outside of the parks for people to hunt. I would vote no to hunting in parks."

*Robin Mutters - 31 Mohawk Drive, Mt. Gay WV 25637 – [mutters.oc@suddenlink.net](mailto:mutters.oc@suddenlink.net)*

"As a visitor to Beech Fork State Park, as well as other parks in our state, I have noticed a decline in the deer population. There are many people who use the park for hiking or bird-watching who would need to be kept safe with strict regulations. As an alternative, you could trap deer and relocate them to areas short on deer, extend hunting days during regular season, or offer a split season in designated areas."

*Harry Peterson – 1409 Mayapple Heights, Barboursville WV 25504 – [carolinajarhead@gmail.com](mailto:carolinajarhead@gmail.com)*

My concern is that there will be a bunch of hunters around while other people are trying to camp, fish, use the trails etc. Will that drive away visitors or make them worry about stray fire? Will the sound of gunfire create a bad time in the parks? I want to also say that I am not an anti-hunting person."

*Jerry Payne – 69 Failplan Mobile Home Park, Ripley WV 25271 – [jrrpay@aol.com](mailto:jrrpay@aol.com)*

"I know how much I enjoy all wild animals and to see them in the wild. Living on State Parks I had a pet deer at Lost River and a baby skunk at Watoga. I now live in Charleston but once more out of town and the deer run freely."

*Charlotte Emswiler – 1626 Coonskin Drive, Charleston WV 25311 – [charlottearetta@gmail.com](mailto:charlottearetta@gmail.com)*

"There should absolutely be no hunting in state parks. It's a safe space to recreate with my family any time of the year. It would be a terrible idea. It's unsafe and unneeded."

*Emily Wilson – [emwh612@gmail.com](mailto:emwh612@gmail.com)*

"I have several concerns about this issue. In particular, I think it is unsportsmanlike to hunt deer that are used to people. Also, this will impact the park experience for many visitors."

*Kristine Jordan – 1409 Mountainside Road, Davis WV 26260 – [kris.jordan37@gmail.com](mailto:kris.jordan37@gmail.com)*

"I do not think anyone should be allowed to hunt in State Parks. There are people who drive around just to look at the deer. These are state parks which citizens should be able to enjoy without worrying if they might get shot. I think it should be illegal."

*Dreama Thomas – PO Box 403, Whitman WV 25652 – [dreamathomas@yahoo.com](mailto:dreamathomas@yahoo.com)*

"I am totally against hunting in Chief Logan State Park and Twin Falls. I enjoy watching the deers and they are tame. The deers will walk right up to you and my grandson when we see them in Chief Logan. I am not against hunting, but please not in our parks. I don't think it is safe for one thing, and another thing is that I wouldn't want my grandson to see a wounded deer trying to run with an arrow in it. Our park is a place for families to enjoy watching the deers. Also I don't see a lot of deers there and they are small deers. Please no hunting in our park! Thank you."

*Alesa McCoy – 24 Ricky Lane, Logan WV 25601 – [alesa@suddenlink.net](mailto:alesa@suddenlink.net)*

"No. It would be like killing a pet. The deer are friendly and trusting, at least at Cannan and Blackwater. There are enough available hunting areas."

*Spring Fertig – [spring.fertig@gmail.com](mailto:spring.fertig@gmail.com)*

"Hunting in state parks should not be allowed! This is dangerous for people in the park, a person could be shot on accident. Also the animals roaming in the parks are in a different environment than regular animals that are just roaming the hills. These animals roaming the parks are more calm and trusting of people. Some are fed by hand, so hunting them to kill is definitely wrong. "

*Tennisa Pack – [packtennisa01@yahoo.com](mailto:packtennisa01@yahoo.com)*

"I don't want hunting allowed in our state parks."

*Angela Deer – PO Box 553, Mt. Gay WV 25637 – [anndeer488@yahoo.com](mailto:anndeer488@yahoo.com)*

"Chief Logan is not to be used as a hunting area. I am strongly against this. This is what the tomblin wildlife management area is for. My private land also borders chief Logan and could cause more unwanted trustpassing."

*Michael Conley – 636 Cement Hill Road, Logan WV 25601 – [conleymike@aol.com](mailto:conleymike@aol.com)*

"I don't think hunting in state parks should be done. 1. Someone could be shot while hiking 2. Deer that live in the parks are not afraid of humans. 3. There's plenty of other lands to hunt. Leave the parks out of it. Keep them safe. I am a registered voter."

*Ruth Cline - 8968 Country Road, Cyclone WV 24827 – [rcline54@aol.com](mailto:rcline54@aol.com)*

"The deer not afraid of humans, so much so that they'll come right up too you. The other thing is the safety of the people that are in the parks, using the trails and all."

*Jessica Carter – 15 Nova Lane, Stollings WV 25646 – [gabbymommydaddy2004@gmail.com](mailto:gabbymommydaddy2004@gmail.com)*

"This decision has some serious potential downsides. I don't know if there has been enough research yet."

*Brian McCoy – [stonesfan\\_17@yahoo.com](mailto:stonesfan_17@yahoo.com)*

"People don't need to hunt in parks."

*Alice Ellis – PO Box 13, Clendenin WV 25045 – [aaliceanddonald@aol.com](mailto:aaliceanddonald@aol.com)*

"I don't think hunting should be permitted in state parks."

*Mark Mullins – 309 Cement Hill Road, Mt. Gay WV 25637 - [mullinsmark193582@gmail.com](mailto:mullinsmark193582@gmail.com)*

"My opinion is that there should be no hunting in state parks."

*Barry Adkins – PO Box 1122, Mt. Gay WV 25637 – [barryadkins66@gmail.com](mailto:barryadkins66@gmail.com)*

"Deer in the state parks are too tame to facilitate a fair chance of escape from hunters, which also lowers the challenge of the hunt considerably. State parks are also meant to be protected areas civilians can visit to enjoy nature and I do not believe hunting in the parks would be a positive experience for visitors or the wildlife in the park. Hunting in state parks could be dangerous to visitors or simply draw them away from the park. Overall, I firmly do not agree with hunting in state parks."

*Shannon Maynard – 36 Stoney Road, Fairmont WV 26554 - [smmaynard95@gmail.com](mailto:smmaynard95@gmail.com)*

"They should never allow hunting in parks. It is so not right. Do not allow it please."

*Ruby Stapleton – 211 Stratton Street, Logan WV 25601 – [thornejeanie@yahoo.com](mailto:thornejeanie@yahoo.com)*

"I don't think they should be hunting in the park. I like going to the park and looking at the Deer."

*Lorie Vance - PO Box 193, Ethel WV 25076 – [lorielbelcher@yahoo.com](mailto:lorielbelcher@yahoo.com)*

"I am opposed to this, as the deer are accustomed to humans."

*Thomas Toler – 503 Robert Street, Summersville WV 26651 - [ttpler1960@yahoo.com](mailto:ttpler1960@yahoo.com)*

"This should not take place. There is plenty of territory for hunting outside of the parks. Besides, we haven't had a deer over-population problem in Chief Logan State Park for a long time."

*James Crane – PO 844, Switzer WV 25647 – [mikey6958@yahoo.com](mailto:mikey6958@yahoo.com)*

"I feel that hunting in the park just isn't right. I love hunting and think it something worth doing but I don't think hunting should be in the park. The park is the only place for us to take our children around here and if they do that it will become so unsafe. Also the deer are so used to us people that come to the park that if we start hunting them there will be none to see."

*Melody Smith – PO Box 46, Mount Gay, WV 25637 - [melody1998.ms@gmail.com](mailto:melody1998.ms@gmail.com)*

"I am a resident of Tucker County and lived in a home surrounded by hunting land for years. There are bullet holes on the gutters of my house, where hunters took shots at deer in my yard. In a place populated with tourists, like State Parks, I find this idea to be completely dangerous to folks just out walking with children. Far too many hunters take shots at anything that moves. I also find the loud gun shots very disruptive when I am out in the woods to "get away from it all" and find peace. Please rethink this. West Virginia has plenty of acreage of hunting land. Thank you for hearing my opinion."

*Paula Stahl – 202 Sunnyside Lane Apt. 109, Parsons WV – [tohiunule@gmail.com](mailto:tohiunule@gmail.com)*

“State Parks should be a place to go where you don't need to hear gunshots or worry about safety.”

*Don Byer - [dbeyer@wsgarch.com](mailto:dbeyer@wsgarch.com)*

“Safety of visitors to the parks should be the first consideration. Visitors to the parks should not have to worry about their and their children's safety because of bullets from hunter's guns flying around. There are plenty of other places to hunt! This would not be "hunting" anyway. It would simply be killing for the sake of killing. There is no sport in that! Our WV parks need to be preserved for the beautiful scenery and recreation!”

*Barbara Miller – 179 Sunnyside Lane, Parsons WV 26287 – [b\\_miller@frontiernet.net](mailto:b_miller@frontiernet.net)*

“I do not like the idea of hunting in the park. It is a bad idea- anyone in the park at the same time as deer hunters could get hurt.”

*James Hurley – 174 Lower Dempsey Branch Road, Logan WV 25601 - [jameshurley679@gmail.com](mailto:jameshurley679@gmail.com)*

“I totally disagree with hunting in our parks there's plenty of public land to deer hunt on the park deer are Tame and not many of them. They are not over populated. It's a money issue- a pay to hunt deal, which is wrong. Please stop the hunting in the park. I too am a hunter but I am 100% against hunting in our parks. Thank you”

*Rick McCoy – 124 Ricky Lane, Logan WV 25601 - [hulkmonkey@msn.com](mailto:hulkmonkey@msn.com)*

“I am a die hard deer hunter. I feel the deer in our state parks are too used to people but I see the need for population control for the health of the herd. If the state is going to do hunts in the parks I think it needs to be bow only and doe only. I believe it should be by draw permit only. Our parks do not need to be open ground for hunting.”

*J.D. Keith – 533 Stewart's Run Road, Harrisville WV 26362*

“State parks should be refuges for people who visit them and the animals that live there. Animals should only be removed if they are causing harm and then in only the most humane way.”

*Karen Fedorov – 8044 Tackett Lane, Bealeton VA 22712 – [karen.fedorov@gmail.com](mailto:karen.fedorov@gmail.com)*

“I have visited Blackwater State Park and for 5 years we lived in Morgantown, WV and enjoyed the wildlife both in and out of the parks. I feel that hunting is not a good way to control the deer population! Other solutions should be explored!”

*Leah Harness – 1590 Pine Bluff Drive, Lynchburg VA 24503 – [loharness65@gmail.com](mailto:loharness65@gmail.com)*

“Even though I am older now, I still enjoy deer hunting. I have also carried a camera and used the parks for things other than hunting. I have used two state parks for lodging during hunting season. Always enjoyed seeing the deer in the park but would travel outside the park for hunting. Families who stay in the parks enjoy seeing the wildlife. Would hate to see it diminished.”

*Charles Dotson – 133 Second Ave, Fayetteville WV 25840 – [biar1@suddenlink.net](mailto:biar1@suddenlink.net)*

“Our family enjoys hiking, camping and fishing at Beech Fork State Park. I hunt at another Federal Wildlife Management property close by. We do not need anymore gun hunting days. Voting to allow hunting on Sunday has possibly taken away hiking there several Sundays a year. I will not take my family in state parks to dodge bullets while hiking.”

*Randall Watts – [famwatts@aol.com](mailto:famwatts@aol.com)*

“I walk or hike every day and the state parks are the only safe place to do this during deer season.”

*Lana Oaster – 425 Center Street, Hambleton WV 26269 – [lanaoaster@hotmail.com](mailto:lanaoaster@hotmail.com)*

"Hunting will put other park users at risk of injury or death."

*Charles Phillips – 1120B Rear Main, Boonville MO 65233 – [ozarkwild1@gmail.com](mailto:ozarkwild1@gmail.com)*

"I understand that deer overpopulation can cause a host of negative issues. I am OK with occasional (not annual) short-duration hunting in select state parks with special permits as needed to control the deer population. My preference would be to see the hunts conducted by trained staff or contractors rather than the general public to minimize the chance of impacts on the public."

*Brian Powell – 3292 University Ave Apt. 603, Morgantown WV 26505 - [bpowell@bitmapped.net](mailto:bpowell@bitmapped.net)*

"I am opposed to hunting of any sort in state parks."

*Charles Heller – 940 Astern Way #202, Annapolis MD 21401 - [cheller@anacap.com](mailto:cheller@anacap.com)*

"I have no problem with limited hunting to control deer populations, which is way too high in many areas. However, I am strongly opposed to increased hunting in state parks. My family (including 2 dogs) are avid hikers and users of public lands, and we do not feel comfortable being in the woods when hunting is allowed."

*Billy Joe Peyton – Charleston, WV - [bjpeyton7@aol.com](mailto:bjpeyton7@aol.com)*

"NO hunting in state parks. People walk there, picnic there, and look at them to be in a beautiful, semi wild place free of the tension of shots being heard and ammo flying through the air. Let's retain the state parks as a place of beauty and peace for all."

*Diane Clark – 1003 Wren Hollow Road, Woolwine Virginia 24185 – [diane718@centurylink.net](mailto:diane718@centurylink.net)*

"I am concerned about hunting in state parks for safety reasons. Ecologically I am not worried because I believe that there are too many deer in West Virginia. If proper safety is ensured, with non-hunting recreationists not allowed where the hunting takes place, then I am ok with it. But there need to be huge signs and much publicity beforehand. I wouldn't be in favor of long-term, annual hunting in state parks; however, six days for one year could serve as a trial to see whether this is a practical way to decrease the deer population."

*Katherine Gregg – 23 Meade Street, Buckhannon WV 26201 – [gregg@wwvc.edu](mailto:gregg@wwvc.edu)*

"Lets keep guns out of state parks. Our wildlife deserve a safe place."

*Kathryn Stone – 281 Baker Lane, Charleston WV 25303 – [xkatwalkx@aol.com](mailto:xkatwalkx@aol.com)*

"I am somewhat concerned about safety and the effect this would have on non-hunting visitors. I know that the ecological impacts of too many deer have been shown to be negative in general, but I do not know the specific situation in these WV parks. It is unfortunate that we have eliminated the deer's natural predators."

*Kathryn Henry – 320 Old Martinsburg Road, Shepherdstown WV 25443 - [dhenry@myexcel.com](mailto:dhenry@myexcel.com)*

"There are very few areas open to campers, hikers, bikers and outdoor oriented people during hunting season. We used to be able to be outdoors on Sunday without concern for our safety but that is no longer a given. Hunting is an important part of our heritage and environmental balance but I believe that our state parks are important non-hunting sanctuaries that should remain that way."

*Donna Weems – 320 Dream Catcher Circle, Morgantown WV 26508 – [donnaweems@rocketmail.com](mailto:donnaweems@rocketmail.com)*

"One of the treasures of West Virginia is its impressive state parks. I understand that controlling the deer population is important for the well-being of the deer themselves but also for the human populations who share space with deer. However, I would find the sound of rifle shots very intrusive if I were to visit during hunting times. If we are going to do this, I would rather it be only bow-and-arrow hunting."

*Susan Sailer – 415 Fountain View, Morgantown WV 26505 – [susansailer@gmail.com](mailto:susansailer@gmail.com)*

"I am aware that humans have become the de facto top down predator, and top down predators are needed to keep an ecosystem in balance. I am worried that reckless hunters -- and every year we hear of those occasions when humans rather than deer or turkey are shot, -- are going to limit my, and others', safe recreational use of state parks. I have learned not to hike during hunting season in those state properties where hunting is allowed. (I was once shot at while hiking at KSF! Yes! Really! After the branch fell from the tree above my head I began to shout "I am a human, not a deer! as I hiked back to my car. ) If we are going to allow hunting in state parks, I would advocate for strictly limited and strictly enforced hunting days in state parks. Those reckless hunters will try to "forget" which days they are not allowed to hunt unless WV strictly enforces time limitations.

*Gina Griffith – 2718 Lakeview Drive, St. Albans WV 25177 – [GinaDCG@att.net](mailto:GinaDCG@att.net)*

"I don't think we need that many days to clear out the deer. I never see too many deer when I go to the parks."

*Olive Ricketts – 3576 Webster Pike, Grafton WV 26354 – [ajhouse26354@yahoo.com](mailto:ajhouse26354@yahoo.com)*

"While deer populations need to be controlled, I worry that this sets a bad precedent that may lead to more hunting in state parks in the future."

*Nate Gwinn – 300 S. Mallard Street, Las Vegas NV 89107 - [nqwinn@email.arizona.edu](mailto:nqwinn@email.arizona.edu)*

"People like seeing animals up close where they aren't hunted. It adds to the park experience. If we are really concerned about controlling deer numbers, we could reintroduce predators like cougars."

*Helen McGinnis – PO Box 300, Harman WV 26270 – [hissyhelen38@gmail.com](mailto:hissyhelen38@gmail.com)*

"I don't think you should allow hunting in state parks. The deer are tame, it would be like shooting fish in a barrel."

*Linda Maynard - 36 Stoney Road, Fairmont WV 26554 - [maynli57@frontier.com](mailto:maynli57@frontier.com)*

"No! The state parks are the only safe place to recreate outdoors during hunting season. Isn't there enough hunting on the rest of the lands where it is permitted? Where else are we supposed to go during hunting season?"

*Lexiann Grant – 401 Deerbrook Lane, Belington WV 26250 – [lexi@lexiann.com](mailto:lexi@lexiann.com)*

"I am worried that it would not be safe for people hiking or using the park in other ways."

*Beth Adams- 45 Canyon View, Dryfork WV 26263 – [bethadams0208@gmail.com](mailto:bethadams0208@gmail.com)*

"I support the reduction of the number of deer, but only when needed, not as an annual event."

*Dave Siegfried - 108 Stonebrook Road, Winchester VA 22602 – [ddsiegfried@yahoo.com](mailto:ddsiegfried@yahoo.com)*

"I firmly believe that hunting in parks will lead to degradation."

*Robert Rhodes – PO Box 355, Mercersburg PA 17236 – [sycamorespringsfarms@earthlink.net](mailto:sycamorespringsfarms@earthlink.net)*

"This is unacceptable."

*Rev. Brad Davis – 2113 Park Ave., Parkersburg WV 26101 – [bqd90@hotmail.com](mailto:bqd90@hotmail.com)*

"Most of the visitors to these parks are city folks. Being close to the animals is probably the high point of their visit."

*John Bledsoe – 356 Joe's Road, Bomont WV 25030 – [fishelkjb@aol.com](mailto:fishelkjb@aol.com)*

"The deer in these parks are so used to humans that it would be the equivalent of shooting cows in a pasture. I have always liked the knowledge that state parks were a safe environment, free from hunting."

*William Styer – 1157 W Moreland Rd, Wooster OH 44691 – [bstyer@sssnet.com](mailto:bstyer@sssnet.com)*

"There should be no hunting. The parks should be for hikers and people wanting to see the animals."

*Catherine Rodgers* – 215 Middle Fork Lane, Berkeley Springs WV 25411 – [catrodgers@yahoo.com](mailto:catrodgers@yahoo.com)

"Hunting should not be allowed in state parks."

*Dan Livingston* – 311 8<sup>th</sup> Street, Glendale WV 26038 - [jd0510@comcast.net](mailto:jd0510@comcast.net)

"I would not go near any state park while hunting is going on. It would be dangerous."

*Judy McHugh* – 2008 Northwood Road, Charleston WV 25314 - [jhmwva@aol.com](mailto:jhmwva@aol.com)

"It wouldn't be sportsmanlike to hunt tame deer, and it wouldn't be good for the tourists."

*Kathryn Davis* – 79 Honeybee Lane, Hambleton WV 26269 – [snookied40@hotmail.com](mailto:snookied40@hotmail.com)

"Hunting in state parks should not be allowed. Safety is a huge consideration. I have many scary experiences with people who were not safe with guns. Someone who is not paying attention or reckless could endanger visitors. There is also the noise. Visitors like me visit the parks for solitude and quiet. Gunshots would be startling and I think people have a right to hear the natural sounds of the park. I believe that hunting in state parks sets a bad precedent."

*Allison Love* – 1588 Mutton Hollow Road, Stanardsville VA 22973 – [serenityk64@gmail.com](mailto:serenityk64@gmail.com)

"I'm concerned that the costs may exceed benefits: financial costs, costs to environment, cost in trust to DNR decision-making process. Although I'm currently in Ohio, I am from WV and return to visit kin and friends."

*Wayne Wolfram* – 3321 Hughes Blvd, Toledo OH 43606 – [wayne@glasscity.net](mailto:wayne@glasscity.net)

86.....

*Brenda Brown* [blchbrown@yahoo.com](mailto:blchbrown@yahoo.com), 4778 Stone Lick Rd. Kenna, WV 25248

---

*Olivia Allison* [olivia.allison@k12.wv.us](mailto:olivia.allison@k12.wv.us) 141 Cedar Grove Ct, Augusta WV, 24607

"Safety is my main concern. Many people go to out parks purposefully, knowing that they don't have to worry about hunters. This would make much needed (for mental health and sanity) nature time more stressful than it needs to be. I believe there are plenty of hunting grounds that the hunters can take part in their sport in. Written by a hunting supporter."

---

*Laura Davis* [omfarm707@gmail.com](mailto:omfarm707@gmail.com) Oakmound Farm, PO Box 707, Clarksburg WV

I know from being around the deer on my farm that deer who are accustomed to seeing humans on a daily basis do not run off or flee. The hunting would not be sport but like killing neighborhood pets. Is there not a better way to acquire revenue?

---

*Michele Garretson* -- [wvdeerhuntress@yahoo.com](mailto:wvdeerhuntress@yahoo.com) 524 King Street, Dunbar, WV 25064

"There aren't enough deer anywhere in the state. Let alone the state parks where people go to view wildlife."

---

*Suzanne Offutt* -- [suzanneoffutt@gmail.com](mailto:suzanneoffutt@gmail.com) -- 155 Glen Road, Shepherdstown, WV 25443

I have two conflicting opinions on this matter. First, I detest the thought of hunting in the state parks with the noise pollution, public safety, and the issue that this hardly seems like a genuine hunting experience when the deer will trustingly walk up to you. On the other hand, I do believe that our forested lands have suffered dire repercussions from the over browsing of the shrub layer and young trees. Many of our parklands have such limited understory growth which the casual visitor doesn't realize is an unnatural state. I would like to see deer populations managed without the use of loud firearms but could tolerate bow hunting well away from the easily accessed public areas of the parks.

---

*Cathy Jones -- [cathyqrib363@icloud.com](mailto:cathyqrib363@icloud.com) -- 644 Rabbit Run Rd, Hambleton, WV 26269*

I don't think it's a Great Idea. The Tourists love to see the wild life. Most have come for the nature. It's not fair for animals who are used to humans.

---

*David Fouts -- [foutsberg@citlink.net](mailto:foutsberg@citlink.net) -- 8008 Jordan Run Rd, Maysville, WV 26833*

If it is documented that there are more deer in parks than they can sustain without causing excessive damage to the vegetation, then I am in favor of hunting, otherwise I oppose it.

---

*Rodney Morrison -- [rodmorrison42@yahoo.com](mailto:rodmorrison42@yahoo.com) -- PO box 35, Delbarton, WV 25670*

"I love to hunt and fish and have done both for several years now. I also really enjoy deer hunting, both bow and rifle. But we have more than enough private as well as public hunting lands, to hunt on. This whole issue has nothing to do with deer herd management and everything to do with additional revenue. Leave the state parks alone, for families to enjoy as was intended."

---

*Bill Javins -- [bjwv1169@gmail.com](mailto:bjwv1169@gmail.com) -- 4072 40th St., Nitro, WV 25143*

Deer should be controlled but I feel it's more about the money than deer control. If the deer needs to be reduced then remove some and donate meat to the food shelters

---

*cecilia vega -- [ceciliaravega@gmail.com](mailto:ceciliaravega@gmail.com) -- HC 73 box 80, Alderson, WV, 24910*

"I do not want hunting in state parks. It will ruin the peaceful atmosphere many seek out when enjoying these places. It is also a very special experience for out of state visitors to see deer so up close and comfortable with people which would be ruined with hunting. I'd rather reintroduce natural predators to control the population and potentially bring in more park visitors."

---

*Lucas Warner-- [lucasawarner@yahoo.com](mailto:lucasawarner@yahoo.com) -- 26271*

"Is nothing sacred any more? The terrible idea of allowing Sunday hunting is a done deal so let's keep our state parks free of public hunting."

---

*Brian Lee -- [brian.lee@navy.mil](mailto:brian.lee@navy.mil) -- 12949 Ottawa Drive, Lusby, MD, 20657*

My concern is public safety, we hike in some pretty remote areas in the Canaan Valley area. Guess the deer are pretty used to people in some areas, would be a slaughter at first but I suspect the deer would wise up after a while. Work currently has me in Maryland but I owned property in Canaan Valley and plan on retiring there in about 4 years.

---

Robert Davis -- [lieutenant617@hotmail.com](mailto:lieutenant617@hotmail.com) -- 1440 Cane Fork Road, Charleston, WV 25314

Yes I would like to see hunting in state parks but bow or cross bow only

---

Michelle Jarrell -- [wvcherry@gmail.com](mailto:wvcherry@gmail.com) -- 24 S Queens Ct, Huntington, WV, 25705

---

Holly Landes -- [hwlandes55@hardynet.com](mailto:hwlandes55@hardynet.com)

---

Debra Leilich -- [dsleilich@aol.com](mailto:dsleilich@aol.com) -- 167 Fairview Lane, Victor, WV 25938

I am totally against hunting in state parks. They are supposed to be a safe place to enjoy nature, not worry about getting shot. This will ruin the park for everyone but the hunters.

---

Jeffrey Woods -- [itwoods@suddenlink.net](mailto:itwoods@suddenlink.net) -- 913 55th St., Vienna, WV 26105

I am okay with some level of hunting in state parks. Game biologists and park rangers need to be key focal points. My experience in two parks (Canaan and North Bend) would cause me to believe there would be easy pickings as deer have gotten tame through human interaction and random feedings. Safety has to be a prime consideration. Perhaps primitive weapons or something similar would reduce the possibility of someone injuring another person.

---

Randy Mitchell -- [pastorrandy@suddenlink.net](mailto:pastorrandy@suddenlink.net) -- 50 Wellesley Drive, Washington, WV 26181

Deer herds need thinning. Hunting is most economical. What is being done for safety? Closing the park but for hunters?

---

Connie Fortner -- [cmarie38@hotmail.com](mailto:cmarie38@hotmail.com) -- 822 Eastfork, Dingess, WV 25671

Not in the parks!

---

Mark M Giese -- [m.mk@att.net](mailto:m.mk@att.net) -- 1520 Bryn Mawr Ave, Mount Pleasant, WI 53403-3606

Do not expand hunting.



## #59 Comments: I am not concerned about hunting in state parks, but have comments

---

"I would support deer hunting in these state parks as an effort to control an over-population. I would hope permits issued would be limited and harvests would not drastically reduce the Herd."

*Timothy Finney – [tfinn66@yahoo.com](mailto:tfinn66@yahoo.com)*

"Too many deer is an ecological problem. There must be some means of control, and hunting seems to be the only method. It could bring revenue and hunters to the parks and improve species diversity. There will be safety issues, so visitors should be forewarned. This idea should be tried on a limited basis at first, not as a permanent policy, and there should be extra fees because bagging a deer in the park should be easy. Maybe open the lodges only to hunters during that week?"

*Carol Nix – 624 Stony Run, Independence WV 26374 – [almostnixie@cs.com](mailto:almostnixie@cs.com)*

"I think it should be tried. However, if the impact is negative on non-hunting visitors, it should be discontinued."

*William Csutoros – 770 Buffalo Creek Road, Lost Creek WV 26385 – [bcsutoros@yahoo.com](mailto:bcsutoros@yahoo.com)*

"I believe the initiative is designed to reduce overpopulation in a controlled and supervised manner. I think we should let the DNR manage our parks and be supportive of their efforts."

*Rob Gilligan – 69 Shady Grove Estates, Bruceton Mills WV 26525 - [robertwgilligan@gmail.com](mailto:robertwgilligan@gmail.com)*

"I think it is necessary to achieve a balance in the wildlife, including plants. My only concern would be knowing ahead of time. I wouldn't want to show up in a park not knowing ahead of time that there would be hunting."

*John Holmes – 681 Plum Tree Lane, Hanover PA 17331 – [jholmes7405@comcast.com](mailto:jholmes7405@comcast.com)*

"Over population is a problem in many of the designated parks. I strongly support limited controlled antlerless hunts to reduce the population."

*Cully McCurdy – Marlinton, WV 25954 – [cullymccurdy@gmail.com](mailto:cullymccurdy@gmail.com)*

"The only real concern about this is safety, which can be addressed with clear signage at trailheads and other boundaries."

*Daniel Lehmann – PO Box 18, Helvetia WV 26224 – [irunwv@gmail.com](mailto:irunwv@gmail.com)*

"I hunt and I visit state parks. I am in favor of controlled hunts there. I do not think they should allow muzzle loader hunting though, only primitive hunting without scopes."

*Andrew Albert – Saint Albans, WV – [aalbertwv@gmail.com](mailto:aalbertwv@gmail.com)*

"I think there is an overpopulation of deer in the parks. They need to be thinned."

*John Cool – [jtcooljr@hotmail.com](mailto:jtcooljr@hotmail.com)*

"I personally encourage more hunting in state parks, if it is advertised properly by the state and DNR to inform the public and the tourists this should be no issue. I also recommend a buck to doe ratio harvest in Canaan Valley state park.. would love to draw a spot and be happy to pay for the application. A thought about the application process do separate doe and buck draw applications to generate more revenue if needed... let the hunter decide you will get more participation and more applications."

*Ryan Rapp – 617 Kent Ave, Davis WV 26260 – [huntinthetrack@yahoo.com](mailto:huntinthetrack@yahoo.com)*

"Deer are overbrowsing our native flora. The deer population is not sustainable. Hunting is a valid management tool that allow our deer population to be culled."

*Francis Slider – 10658 Appalachian Hwy, Davis WV 26260 – [fslider@frontier.com](mailto:fslider@frontier.com)*

"What is there to be concerned about? The deer and other animals need controlled, we should allow more hunting in all state parks."

*Jeremiah Elliott – 229 Barber Lane, Boomer WV 25031 - [jfeforlife@yahoo.com](mailto:jfeforlife@yahoo.com)*

"As long as it is done safely, I wouldn't have a problem with it. Sometimes the park seem run over with deer and a little thinning out wouldn't hurt."

*Keith Phillips – 34 Tiffany Lane, Charleston WV 25302 – [kep1662@gmail.com](mailto:kep1662@gmail.com)*

"I believe that the state could generate revenue by renting cabins, campgrounds, and a pay to hunt plan. When fall comes alot of campgrounds close and these parks become non profitable."

*Joseph Burdine – 7 Second Street, Beech Bottom WV 26030 - [ljb1967@yahoo.com](mailto:ljb1967@yahoo.com)*

"We are overrun with deer everywhere, public and private land. I would suggest a liberal anterless season. If it doesn't work out for whatever reason, we can always stop, and there are so many deer that I doubt we can do any longterm harm to the population. You see dozens of deer, any time of day or season, in Greenbrier and the surrounding counties."

*Donald Blake – 32653 Seneca Trail, Renick WV 24966 – [dvblake@k12.wv.us](mailto:dvblake@k12.wv.us)*

"If the overall deer population is increasing, that needs to be addressed. We don't want animals starving due to overpopulation."

*Alcinda Santonas – 309 9<sup>th</sup> Street, Glen Dale WV 26038 – [alsfox52@aol.com](mailto:alsfox52@aol.com)*

"Overpopulation of deer damages healthy forests."

*Thomas Williams – 7096 Leewood Forest Drive, Springfield VA 22151 – [tom@bikewine.com](mailto:tom@bikewine.com)*

"U need to thin them out and control population in the state parks,helps with habitat and disease."

*Roy Huffman – 39 Wooded Meadow Drive, Independence WV 26374 – [rhuffman67@yahoo.com](mailto:rhuffman67@yahoo.com)*

"I think it would be a good idea to allow hunting in these parks, but only within areas where it would be safe, and only bow or crossbow."

*Raymond Duncan – PO Box 209, Midway WV 25878 – [drifter.rd@gmail.com](mailto:drifter.rd@gmail.com)*

"I don't know that I am in favor of hunting in State Parks in general, but if there are too many deer in a park, I do believe hunting is the best way to control them."

*William Milway – 303 Greenway Place, Bel Air MD 21014 – [kayak1@jhu.edu](mailto:kayak1@jhu.edu)*

"Hunting in state parks will be good for the parks and the deer herds. It will help keep the woods full of flowers and low-growing shrubs. Although I live in NJ, I was born and raised in WV and I still visit Canaan Valley as often as I can."

*Stanley Smith – 193 Hillside Avenue, Piscataway NJ 08554 – [tufisses@msn.com](mailto:tufisses@msn.com)*

"The current lack of native predators requires some control mechamism to prevent damage to the understory. Fees should be able to cover the overhead costs of the hunt. Limiting the hunting period should minimize the potential conflict with visitors who don't want to see hunting. I use WV state parks."

*Richard Edwards – 1005 South Dogwood Drive, Harrisonburg VA 22801 – [richard.f.edwards@gmail.com](mailto:richard.f.edwards@gmail.com)*

"The deer population in Canaan Valley seems to be excessive. Expanding hunting in state parks experiencing deer overpopulation seems to be a sound management practice in my opinion. I support it."

*Frank Fico – Reston, VA*

"This will be necessary, unless we bring the deer's natural predators- wolves and wildcats."

*Virginia Winston – 1121 Hollida Lane, Martinsburg WV 25404 – [virginia@winstongardens.com](mailto:virginia@winstongardens.com)*

"I think hunting, if it is on a limited basis, could be a good thing."

*Mike Lucas – 2808 Earl Place Street, Parkersburg, WV 26101 – [wmlucas71@gmail.com](mailto:wmlucas71@gmail.com)*

"Canaan Valley State Park has very obvious browse lines in many parts of the park, which is a sign of over-population."

*Bob Deal – 494 Valley View Road, Davis WV 26260 – [dealdr937@msn.com](mailto:dealdr937@msn.com)*

"I like the way control hunt at Pipestem is operated. The deer are overpopulated and smaller because of the lack of food. The only way to thin the herd is by hunting."

*Jim Darling – 55 Gaines Street, Montgomery WV 25136 - [jdarling47@gmail.com](mailto:jdarling47@gmail.com)*

"I fully support the DNR in their effort to reduce the number of deer on State Parks."

*Dave Truban – 4407 Fairmont Road, Morgantown WV 26501 - [dtruban@comcast.net](mailto:dtruban@comcast.net)*

"Have been to one. Didn't see no visitors. Really didn't see but one deer first. I think it's good for the park. A week is good."

*Steven Johnson – 188 Celestial Street, Crab Orchard WV 25827 - [stevenj\\_43@hotmail.com](mailto:stevenj_43@hotmail.com)*

"You have to control the numbers to keep the herds in check."

*Robert Sanford – 1191 Anthony Creek Road, Birch River WV 26610 - [bobsanford66@yahoo.com](mailto:bobsanford66@yahoo.com)*

"A healthier deer herd is beneficial financially to the state. People are going out of state to deer hunt because our herds' male to female ratio is screwed up and the quality of bucks is low. Keep west virginians in state and bring hunters from out of state with healthy herds."

*Evan Riley – 300 19<sup>th</sup> Street, Dunbar WV 25064 - [evanriley22@gmail.com](mailto:evanriley22@gmail.com)*

"Should be for Kids only."

*Dwight Whitehair – 33 Dewey Ave, Pennsboro WV 26415 - [djmwhitehair@yahoo.com](mailto:djmwhitehair@yahoo.com)*

"There are too many, causing road hazards. And they are monopolizing the available forage, we need more diversity."

*Joel Hannah – 285 Cessna Lane, Davis WV 26260 – [jhannah828@aol.com](mailto:jhannah828@aol.com)*

"I think properly managed hunts in state parks, and in some cities, would be beneficial."

*James Grogan – 10 Lynnwood Ave, Wheeling WV 26003 - [jgrogan933@aol.com](mailto:jgrogan933@aol.com)*

"Safety, deer use to humans, no need for revenue after costs, very little if any. All the above concerns already mentioned. Could make it a lottery hunt for muzzle loads, for guided youths only or.... Raise our licence fee \$1 to cover cost of transplant deer to low populated areas?. My main question is why?. Dnr comes out ahead financially. If anything just do a youth hunt only. No need to send experience hunters in parking to kill tame deer."

*Bruce Chapman – PO Box 298, Matewan WV 25678 - [bkcu5602@gmail.com](mailto:bkcu5602@gmail.com)*

“I have hunted several times on the parks. I think it’s another tool in controlling the deer herd . Really enjoyed it.”

*Charles Barton – 181 Mills Avenue, Northfork WV 24868 - [crbarton@outlook.com](mailto:crbarton@outlook.com)*

“They should use this as a tool to generate income for the parks not the DNR. I think that they should be lottery style and have higher than average licensing fees and or stamps. To use these lands. They could also generate more revenue for the park system by opening camping, cabins and lodges for the hunters as well as using it to provide meals.”

*Matt Painter – 842 Harmony Road, Gandeeville WV 25243 - [paramountsurvey@gmail.com](mailto:paramountsurvey@gmail.com)*

“A short term hunt is going to have a very limited impact to non-hunters, and controlled hunts have already been implemented in some parks without issue. The deer in many of our parks are obviously overpopulated, and impacting vegetative communities, which in-turn impacts other native wildlife species.”

*Jason Clingerman – 23 Robin Lane, Morgantown WV 26508 - [jasonclingerman5@gmail.com](mailto:jasonclingerman5@gmail.com)*

“The deer herd is too high and has all but eliminated regeneration of some species due to browsing.”

*Mike Breiding – 163 S Park St., Wheeling WV 26003*

“Excellent way to control the herd.”

*Marshall Jarrett – Falls Church, VA – [marshalljarrettii@gmail.com](mailto:marshalljarrettii@gmail.com)*

“I agree that hunting should be allowed. It is a valid means of population control and disease control.”

*Charles Wishart – 138 Highland Ave, Terra Alta WV 26764 - [mwishart@atlanticbb.net](mailto:mwishart@atlanticbb.net)*

“Deer populations must be controlled.”

*Mike Webb – 175 Grape Island Lane, St. Mary’s WV 26170 – [mikejudywebb@suddenlink.net](mailto:mikejudywebb@suddenlink.net)*

“I am not against hunting in the WV state parks. I am concerned that it be carefully managed and that other park users are well notified of where it is happening and the timeframe. Mixing hunters with other park users who may not be expecting hunting to be occurring in the parks, could lead to accidents. Therefore, publicity and education are key to a safe and successful hunt, that also accommodates other park users.”

*David Brown – Silver Spring, MD – [Casabon2001@yahoo.com](mailto:Casabon2001@yahoo.com)*

“In my opinion the deer population in WV is too high. Almost every automobile I have owned has been hit one or more times by deer. In addition, I live in a rural area and have grown a vegetable garden since 1971. Beginning in 2004 or 2005, deer became a real problem, and I had to install deer fencing. If a short deer hunting season in our state parks will help solve the problem, I support it.”

*Naomi Cohen - 362 Sunwood Lane, Gap Mills WV 24941 – [nwcohen@hotmail.com](mailto:nwcohen@hotmail.com)*

“I believe hunting should be allowed on all public lands, regulated by drawing a tag for the season.”

*Jeremy Hawk – PO Box 50, Cabins WV 26855 – [jeremyhawk1972@gmail.com](mailto:jeremyhawk1972@gmail.com)*

“We need to log and hunt the state parks.”

*William Pack – 834 Lower Donnelly Road, Charleston WV 25304 - [williamdpack@gmail.com](mailto:williamdpack@gmail.com)*

Jeffrey Jackson- : 5714 Beaver Creek Rd. Marlinton, WV – 24954 [wv1badapple@yahoo.com](mailto:wv1badapple@yahoo.com)

“This has been needed for a long time . I live 2 mile from Watoga State Park and have seen what the over population has done to the deer in the park. there is not enough food supply to support them : When you see up to 10 deer in a bunch and can see their ribs in mid summer they are not getting enough food to support them.”

---

Nick Summerfield -- [summerfield.nicholass@gmail.com](mailto:summerfield.nicholass@gmail.com)

“First off the parks shut down the parts of the parks where the hunts take place. The non hunting visitors understand what's going on and what needs done. Second the deer are eating themselves out of house and home and the deer are very small compared to there wild counterparts the habitat can't handle that many deer per square acre.third the deer turn wild one the first arrow or bullet gets fired and they turn into wild deer again.fourth the hunts are very safe the dnt and park staff are on hand plus required safety gear is needed to be free stands and there are shooting zones for safe shooting it couldn't be any safer.its cheaper to hold these hunts and let public do it then to pay sharpshooter to come in on tax payer dollars. So money isn't a option plus the damage done by deer is expensive. I don't think the public needs a opinion on this the state needs to run these parks like a business and it is their choice.”

---

Randy Bodkins -- [randybodkins@live.com](mailto:randybodkins@live.com) 49 Brick Row Road, Norton, WV 26285

“It would be NICE to see State Parks get some use from actual residents of the area putting food in the freezer as opposed to being over-run by tourists.”

---

Pamela Smarr [psmarr1966@gmail.com](mailto:psmarr1966@gmail.com) 5252 Little Sand Run Road, Buckhannon, WV, 26201

---

Jason Pennington -- [jason-pennington@live.com](mailto:jason-pennington@live.com) -- 1197 Jonathan Run Road, Parsons, WV 26287

“All of these parks aren't visited too much in the winter. There will not be many if any on the trails. The population of deer in those areas are dense and need controlled. It is also a good opportunity for a new hunter to start out hunting an easier to hunt animal. Also there's state parks have places to stay and eat onsite to bring in a lot of new or fair weather hunters to help the sport grow. This sells more hunting liscenes and increases revenue for state parks in an off season. As long as the dnr doesn't let the population be over hunted this is a great opportunity. Yes also the public would be interested. Also the people who complain about all of this wouldn't even notice the impact on the park most in the winter time never actually enter the woods. Also isn't our state parks meant to welcome all types of people to include the sportsman and non sportsman.”

---

Alex Urban

---

Andrew McDaniel -- [andrewmcdaniel.rn@gmail.com](mailto:andrewmcdaniel.rn@gmail.com) – 474 Collins run rd , Glenville, WV 26351

“Hunting is the best management tool.”

---

Charles McDaniel -- [mtnman196435@yahoo.com](mailto:mtnman196435@yahoo.com) -- 2164 Mackeyville Rd, Hambleton, WV 26269

---

Dave Samuel -- [drdave@comcast.net](mailto:drdave@comcast.net)

"Ecologically way overdue"

---

Glenn Delaplain -- [gdelaplain@yahoo.com](mailto:gdelaplain@yahoo.com) -- 5392 South Fork Little Cacapon Rd., Shanks, WV 26761

"I would be interested in hunting in a state park close to me."

---

Lisa Maraffa -- [lightbutter@hotmail.com](mailto:lightbutter@hotmail.com) -- 543 Wildwood lake, Morgantown, WV 26508

"I am a hunter and feel that if it is necessary to keep a herd healthy then it is ok. Approved hunters should have to pass an ability test like an urban hunt though."

# SPRING WILDFLOWERS of Chief Logan State Park



Carolina Beauty



Cutleaf Toothwort



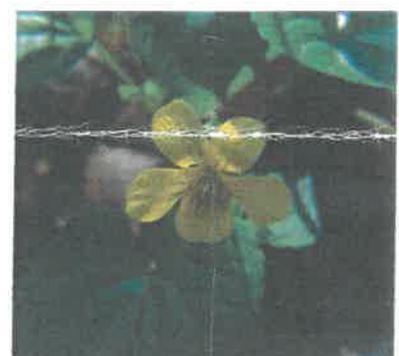
Rue Anemone



Trout Lily



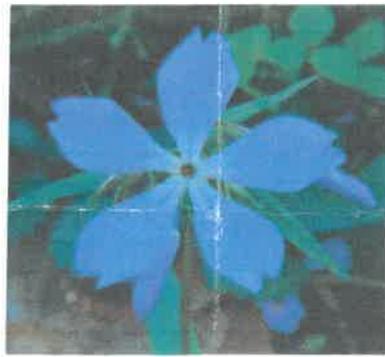
Golden Ragwort



Downy Yellow Violet



Virginia Bluebells



Wild Blue Phlox



Blue Cohosh



Jack-in-the-pulpit  
*Arisaema triphyllum*



Blue-Eyed Mary  
*Collinsia verna*



Anemone



Rattlesnake Plantain

Goodyera pubescens



Wood Anemone  
*Anemone quinquefolia*



Trillium  
Melanthiaceae  
Lily order



Adder's Tongue  
*Erythronium americanum*



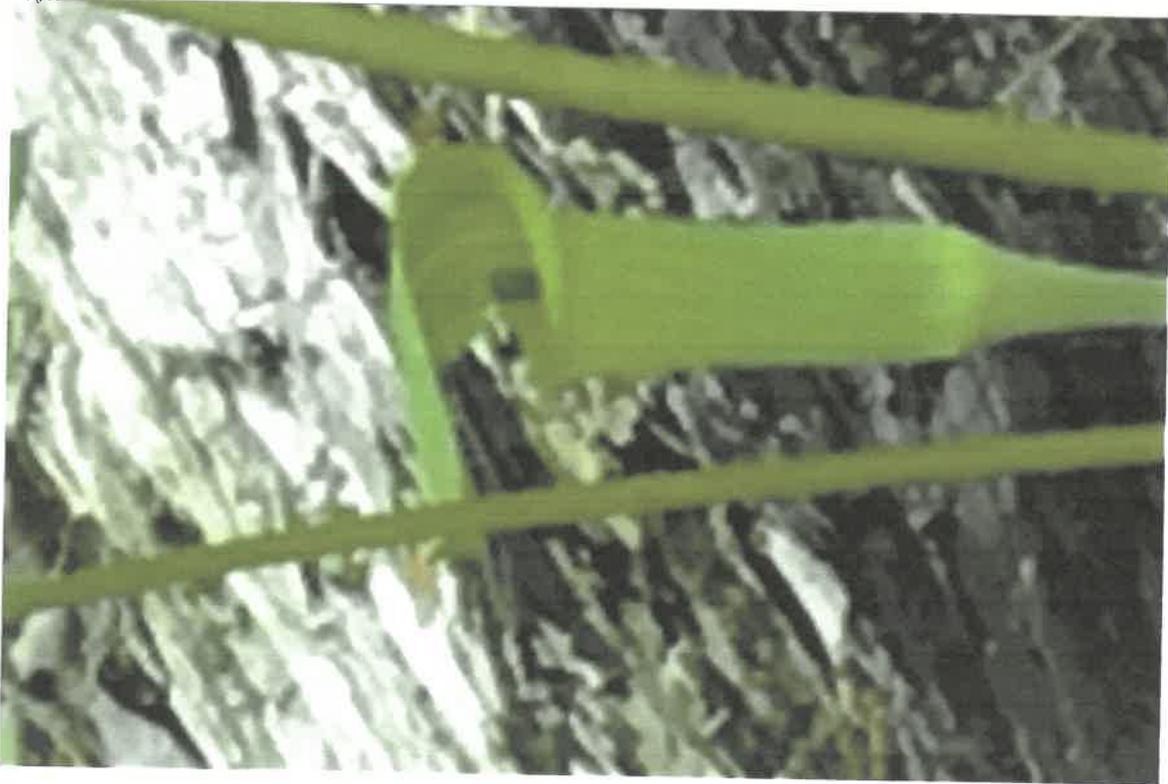
Carolina Spring Beauty  
*Claytonia caroliniana*



Lady Slipper Orchid  
Cypripedioideae



Adder's Tongue



Jack-in-the-Pulpit



Wake Robin Trillium  
*Trillium erectum*



Guyardotte Beauty  
*Synandra*



Squawroot  
*Coropholis americana*



Wild Geranium

# Ten state parks hosting deer hunts

By John McCoy  
staff writer

West Virginia's state parks have hosted deer hunts before, but not like the ones they're planning to host this fall.

Twenty-one three-day managed hunts will take place in 10 parks — a sharp break from recent years, when single-day hunts were held in only one or two parks. Sam England, chief of the state's Parks Section, said the main goal of conducting so many hunts is to protect the parks from the deer.

"All of these parks have an overabundance of deer," he explained. "That causes environmental problems. Deer browse or graze on native plant species and leave non-native species alone. The non-native species then proliferate, and the native species never get a chance to come back."

England said he observed that personally when he was the superintendent at Stonewall Jackson State Park.

"After three years of managed hunts at Stonewall, we finally reduced the deer population to a point where we started seeing grapevine sprouts, tree sprouts, and flow-ers such as trilliums and peperwort coming up again," he added.

This fall's hunts will take place at Beech Fork, Cacapon,

Stonewall, Twin Falls and Watoga state parks. Each park will host at least a pair of three-day hunts. North Bend, which has a higher deer density than the other parks, will host three.

All of the hunts will take place between Oct. 29 and Nov. 17, during the peak of the whitetail mating season. England said holding the hunts during that time period, when deer are on the move and less wary than usual, should give hunters plenty of incentive to participate.

"We want to increase the efficiency of these hunts," he said. "So we're trying to hold them at time when hunters will be most interested in participating. The other thing we're planning to do is to charge nominal application fees for the permits so hunters will be more committed to the hunts."

Parks officials previously didn't charge application fees. Permits were free; hunters who applied had their names drawn in a lottery to see which of them would get to participate.

According to England, that system had a serious drawback.

"It wasn't unusual to have only one-half to two-thirds of the hunters show up," he said. "When that happened, we only got one-half to two-thirds as

many deer killed as there would have been with a full complement of hunters. When you look at the effort and labor it took to put on those hunts, the low participation rate made them pretty inefficient."

England believes the application fees will make sure hunters have some skin in the game.

"We believe the application fees will help people who want to try these hunts to be more committed to them," he said.

Parks officials haven't yet established what the fees will be, but England said hunters "should find them really reasonable."

At most parks, the first hunt held will be archery/cross-bow-only. The second will be a muzzleloader season held the following weekend.

"We wanted to create something that would be popular with muzzleloader hunters," England said. "Being able to hunt during the rut is something muzzleloader hunters have wanted for a long time."

Three parks will not follow the archery-muzzleloader formula. At North Bend, the first two weekends will be archery/crossbow-only and the third will be for muzzleloaders.

Chief Logan and Twin Falls are located in counties where firearm hunting for deer is illegal, so each of those parks will host two separate archery

hunts open to longbows, recurve bows and compound bows. Only hunters with Class Y handicap permits will be allowed to use crossbows at Chief Logan and Twin Falls.

Most of the hunting at all of the parks will be for antlerless deer, but England said some hunters will get opportunities to take bucks.

"There will be two types of harvest," he continued. "In parks with two-deer limits, it will be 'one-and-one' — kill a doe and earn a chance to harvest a buck. In parks with one-deer limits, we'll do lottery draws in the morning for opportunities at bucks."

All of the hunts will be held on parks that have lodges or cabins. England hopes hunters choose to take advantage of the facilities and decide to stay there.

"We'd like to build camaraderie among the hunters, make these hunts popular," he said. "At parks with restaurants, we're even looking at opening them early and having breakfast buffets for the hunters. When it's all said and done, I think the public will be positive about this. I think folks are going to enjoy themselves."

Reach John McCoy at [johnmccoy@wvgazette.com](mailto:johnmccoy@wvgazette.com), 304-348-1231 or follow @GazMailOutdoors on Twitter.

## 2018 state park managed hunts

■ <b>Beech Fork State Park</b>	Nov. 5-7	Archery
	Nov. 12-14	Muzzleloader
■ <b>Cacapon Resort State Park</b>	Nov. 5-7	Archery
	Nov. 12-14	Archery
■ <b>Canaan Valley State Park</b>	Oct. 29-31	Archery
	Nov. 5-7	Muzzleloader
■ <b>Chief Logan State Park</b>	Nov. 5-7	Archery
	Nov. 8-10	Archery
■ <b>Lost River State Park</b>	Nov. 12-14	Archery
	Nov. 15-17	Muzzleloader
■ <b>North Bend State Park</b>	Oct. 29-31	Archery
	Nov. 1-3	Archery
	Nov. 5-7	Muzzleloader
■ <b>Pipestem State Park</b>	Nov. 5-7	Archery
	Nov. 12-14	Muzzleloader
■ <b>Stonewall Resort State Park</b>	Nov. 12-14	Archery
	Nov. 15-17	Muzzleloader
■ <b>Twin Falls State Park</b>	Nov. 5-7	Archery
	Nov. 8-10	Archery
■ <b>Watoga State Park</b>	Nov. 5-7	Archery
	Nov. 8-10	Muzzleloader

Canaan Valley, Chief Logan, Lost River, North Bend, Pipes-

## **No Hunting in Chief Logan State Park**

**1,603 have signed.**

State parks are places of tranquility and peace, where families go to play and enjoy nature. State parks are supposed to be a protected safe haven, for all members of a community...including wildlife. Some of the wildlife that live in the parks have been raised by humans after their mothers have been killed. These animals are very trusting of humans and will walk up and ask for a nibble or a head scratch.

West Virginia is now allowing hunting in Chief Logan State Park.

We want this to be stopped. We have personally raised some of these deer and nursed them to health after injury or parental loss. They have lost most of their natural fear of humans. There is no sport or glory in killing an animal that has been basically domesticated.

Please help bring this practice to an end!

My name is Charles Puckett, and my degree and training is in biology. This includes the ecology and the balance of animals and plants. In the last five years, I have seen little or no impact of deer, or other animals upon the diversity or population of native plants in Chief Logan State Park. I also observe a smaller population of deer in the park. This smaller population is due to multiple factors like emigration, disease, and impact of predators like coyotes and feral dogs. Compared to five years ago, I observe fewer deer in the park, again, this is likely due to multiple factors. There doesn't appear to be a need for a controlled hunt to control the population of whit tailed deer in Chief Logan State Park. I can find no evidence of over population of deer. I will share more specific observations if you wish. Thank you for your consideration.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Charles E. Puckett". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Charles E Puckett

M.A. Biological Sciences

Associate Professor of Biological Sciences

Southern West Virginia Community and Technical College

To whom it may concern 4-17-2018

Due to the fact that I cannot be there in person I am sending this letter in my place. I want to publically state that I absolutely do not agree with any plans to allow hunting in Chief Logan State Park. It has been said that there is an overpopulation of deer in our park. This is not true! Experts have reported a significant decline in the park's deer population. Our park should be a place for families to go and enjoy the wildlife and scenery. Not worry about their children and pets being safe.

The deer that reside in Chief Logan State park are so trusting of people they will actually come up to you and eat out of your hand. I guess you could say they have become somewhat domesticated. What kind of hunter would pay money to hunt a deer that will literally walk up to you and let you pet it? I have heard from a large number of my constituents, many of which are hunters themselves who do not want this to happen.

Please do not let this happen. Chief Logan State Park is one of the most beautiful and peaceful parks in the state. The people who use this park for hiking, walking their pets, picnicking and camping DO NOT WANT THIS TO HAPPEN. Please hear our voices.

Sincerely,



Senator Richard N Ojeda II

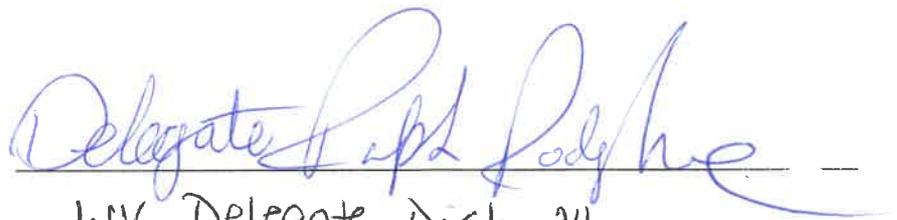
I, the undersigned, would like to add my name and support to the ongoing effort to prevent the establishment of a hunting season at the Chief Logan State Park; as it is currently being considered for the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Hearing at the Canaan Valley Resort.

State parks are places of tranquility and peace, where families go to play and enjoy nature. State and Federal parks were designed to be a safe haven for all members of a community...including wildlife. The deer at Chief Logan State Park have become trusting of humans and in many cases they will walk up and ask for a nibble or a head scratch. Many of these park deer have been raised and nursed back to health after injuries or loss of their mothers from one reason or another. They have lost their natural fear of humans. There is no sport or glory in killing an animal that has been basically domesticated.

A common tactic used to persuade the people into accepting this idea is telling them that the deer population is out of control, and the overgrazing has destroyed the natural vegetation of the park. Unfortunately for them, the people of Logan County that regularly visit our park, have eyes to see...we know there is no overgrazing problem.

The deer population at the park over the last few years has diminished dramatically because of unknown causes...should we as their trusted caretakers, lend a hand in their demise?

Please, let's stop the hunt before it starts. The park is our place to go for peace, quiet and to enjoy the beauty of our community. Let's not allow it to be taken away from us, or them.

  
WV Delegate Dist. 24

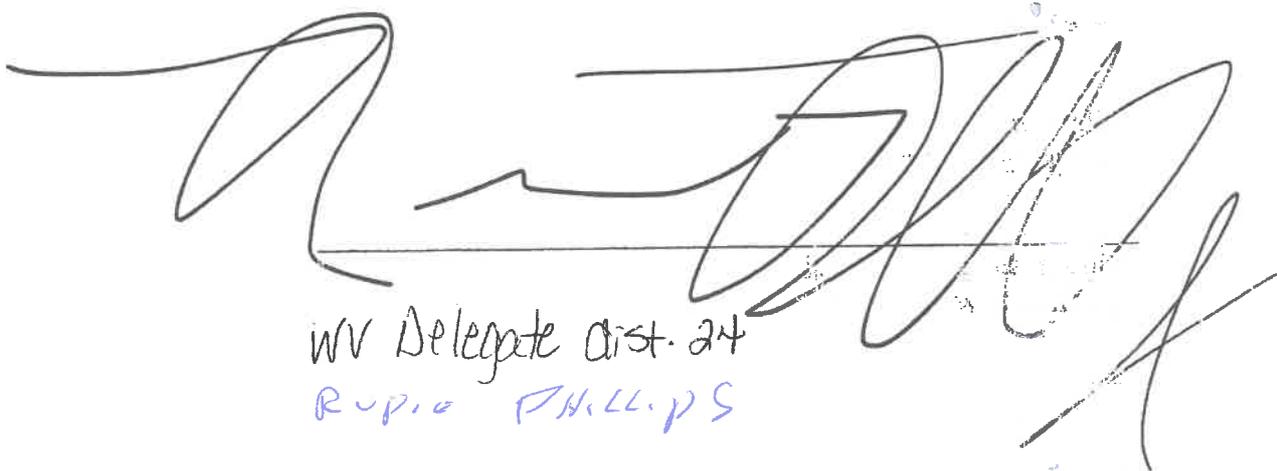
I, the undersigned, would like to add my name and support to the ongoing effort to prevent the establishment of a hunting season at the Chief Logan State Park; as it is currently being considered for the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Hearing at the Canaan Valley Resort

State parks are places of tranquility and peace, where families go to play and enjoy nature. State and Federal parks were designed to be a safe haven for all members of a community...including wildlife. The deer at Chief Logan State Park have become trusting of humans and in many cases they will walk up and ask for a nibble or a head scratch. Many of these park deer have been raised and nursed back to health after injuries or loss of their mothers from one reason or another. They have lost their natural fear of humans. There is no sport or glory in killing an animal that has been basically domesticated.

A common tactic used to persuade the people into accepting this idea is telling them that the deer population is out of control, and the overgrazing has destroyed the natural vegetation of the park. Unfortunately for them, the people of Logan County that regularly visit our park, have eyes to see...we know there is no overgrazing problem.

The deer population at the park over the last few years has diminished dramatically because of unknown causes...should we as their trusted caretakers, lend a hand in their demise?

Please, let's stop the hunt before it starts. The park is our place to go for peace, quiet and to enjoy the beauty of our community. Let's not allow it to be taken away from us, or them.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke.

WV Delegate Dist. 24  
Rocio Phillips

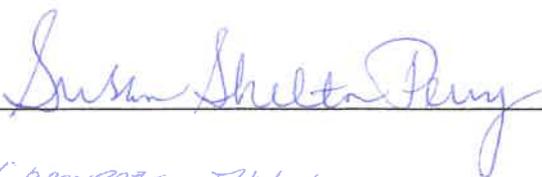
I, the undersigned, would like to add my name and support to the ongoing effort to prevent the establishment of a hunting season at the Chief Logan State Park; as it is currently being considered for the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Hearing at the Canaan Valley Resort

State parks are places of tranquility and peace, where families go to play and enjoy nature. State and Federal parks were designed to be a safe haven for all members of a community...including wildlife. The deer at Chief Logan State Park have become trusting of humans and in many cases they will walk up and ask for a nibble or a head scratch. Many of these park deer have been raised and nursed back to health after injuries or loss of their mothers from one reason or another. They have lost their natural fear of humans. There is no sport or glory in killing an animal that has been basically domesticated.

A common tactic used to persuade the people into accepting this idea is telling them that the deer population is out of control, and the overgrazing has destroyed the natural vegetation of the park. Unfortunately for them, the people of Logan County that regularly visit our park, have eyes to see...we know there is no overgrazing problem.

The deer population at the park over the last few years has diminished dramatically because of unknown causes...should we as their trusted caretakers, lend a hand in their demise?

Please, let's stop the hunt before it starts. The park is our place to go for peace, quiet and to enjoy the beauty of our community. Let's not allow it to be taken away from us, or them.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Canaan Valley Delegate

I, the undersigned, would like to add my name and support to the ongoing effort to prevent the establishment of a hunting season at the Chief Logan State Park; as it is currently being considered for the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Hearing at the Canaan Valley Resort

State parks are places of tranquility and peace, where families go to play and enjoy nature. State and Federal parks were designed to be a safe haven for all members of a community...including wildlife. The deer at Chief Logan State Park have become trusting of humans and in many cases they will walk up and ask for a nibble or a head scratch. Many of these park deer have been raised and nursed back to health after injuries or loss of their mothers from one reason or another. They have lost their natural fear of humans. There is no sport or glory in killing an animal that has been basically domesticated.

A common tactic used to persuade the people into accepting this idea is telling them that the deer population is out of control, and the overgrazing has destroyed the natural vegetation of the park. Unfortunately for them, the people of Logan County that regularly visit our park, have eyes to see...we know there is no overgrazing problem.

The deer population at the park over the last few years has diminished dramatically because of unknown causes...should we as their trusted caretakers, lend a hand in their demise?

Please, let's stop the hunt before it starts. The park is our place to go for peace, quiet and to enjoy the beauty of our community. Let's not allow it to be taken away from us, or them.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
LOGAN COUNTY COMMISSION PRESIDENT

I, the undersigned, would like to add my name and support to the ongoing effort to prevent the establishment of a hunting season at the Chief Logan State Park; as it is currently being considered for the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Hearing at the Canaan Valley Resort

State parks are places of tranquility and peace, where families go to play and enjoy nature. State and Federal parks were designed to be a safe haven for all members of a community...including wildlife. The deer at Chief Logan State Park have become trusting of humans and in many cases they will walk up and ask for a nibble or a head scratch. Many of these park deer have been raised and nursed back to health after injuries or loss of their mothers from one reason or another. They have lost their natural fear of humans. There is no sport or glory in killing an animal that has been basically domesticated.

A common tactic used to persuade the people into accepting this idea is telling them that the deer population is out of control, and the overgrazing has destroyed the natural vegetation of the park. Unfortunately for them, the people of Logan County that regularly visit our park, have eyes to see...we know there is no overgrazing problem.

The deer population at the park over the last few years has diminished dramatically because of unknown causes...should we as their trusted caretakers, lend a hand in their demise?

Please, let's stop the hunt before it starts. The park is our place to go for peace, quiet and to enjoy the beauty of our community. Let's not allow it to be taken away from us, or them.

*Sergio J. Alcala* City of Logan MA

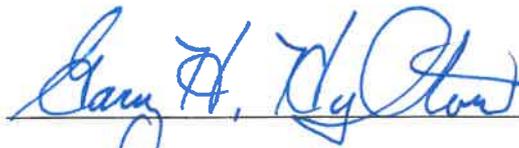
I, the undersigned, would like to add my name and support to the ongoing effort to prevent the establishment of a hunting season at the Chief Logan State Park; as it is currently being considered for the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Hearing at the Canaan Valley Resort

State parks are places of tranquility and peace, where families go to play and enjoy nature. State and Federal parks were designed to be a safe haven for all members of a community...including wildlife. The deer at Chief Logan State Park have become trusting of humans and in many cases they will walk up and ask for a nibble or a head scratch. Many of these park deer have been raised and nursed back to health after injuries or loss of their mothers from one reason or another. They have lost their natural fear of humans. There is no sport or glory in killing an animal that has been basically domesticated.

A common tactic used to persuade the people into accepting this idea is telling them that the deer population is out of control, and the overgrazing has destroyed the natural vegetation of the park. Unfortunately for them, the people of Logan County that regularly visit our park, have eyes to see...we know there is no overgrazing problem.

The deer population at the park over the last few years has diminished dramatically because of unknown causes...should we as their trusted caretakers, lend a hand in their demise?

Please, let's stop the hunt before it starts. The park is our place to go for peace, quiet and to enjoy the beauty of our community. Let's not allow it to be taken away from us, or them.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary H. DeStow  
Past Logan Mayor

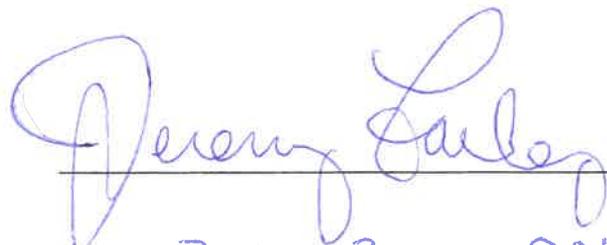
I, the undersigned, would like to add my name and support to the ongoing effort to prevent the establishment of a hunting season at the Chief Logan State Park; as it is currently being considered for the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Hearing at the Canaan Valley Resort

State parks are places of tranquility and peace, where families go to play and enjoy nature. State and Federal parks were designed to be a safe haven for all members of a community...including wildlife. The deer at Chief Logan State Park have become trusting of humans and in many cases they will walk up and ask for a nibble or a head scratch. Many of these park deer have been raised and nursed back to health after injuries or loss of their mothers from one reason or another. They have lost their natural fear of humans. There is no sport or glory in killing an animal that has been basically domesticated.

A common tactic used to persuade the people into accepting this idea is telling them that the deer population is out of control, and the overgrazing has destroyed the natural vegetation of the park. Unfortunately for them, the people of Logan County that regularly visit our park, have eyes to see...we know there is no overgrazing problem.

The deer population at the park over the last few years has diminished dramatically because of unknown causes...should we as their trusted caretakers, lend a hand in their demise?

Please, let's stop the hunt before it starts. The park is our place to go for peace, quiet and to enjoy the beauty of our community. Let's not allow it to be taken away from us, or them.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
304-360-3240

LOGAN COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

I, the undersigned, would like to add my name and support to the ongoing effort to prevent the establishment of a hunting season at the Chief Logan State Park; as it is currently being considered for the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Hearing at the Canaan Valley Resort

State parks are places of tranquility and peace, where families go to play and enjoy nature. State and Federal parks were designed to be a safe haven for all members of a community...including wildlife. The deer at Chief Logan State Park have become trusting of humans and in many cases they will walk up and ask for a nibble or a head scratch. Many of these park deer have been raised and nursed back to health after injuries or loss of their mothers from one reason or another. They have lost their natural fear of humans. There is no sport or glory in killing an animal that has been basically domesticated.

A common tactic used to persuade the people into accepting this idea is telling them that the deer population is out of control, and the overgrazing has destroyed the natural vegetation of the park. Unfortunately for them, the people of Logan County that regularly visit our park, have eyes to see...we know there is no overgrazing problem.

The deer population at the park over the last few years has diminished dramatically because of unknown causes...should we as their trusted caretakers, lend a hand in their demise?

Please, let's stop the hunt before it starts. The park is our place to go for peace, quiet and to enjoy the beauty of our community. Let's not allow it to be taken away from us, or them.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Tomblin", written over a horizontal line.

Tim Tomblin

I, the undersigned, would like to add my name and support to the ongoing effort to prevent the establishment of a hunting season at the Chief Logan State Park; as it is currently being considered for the April 22<sup>nd</sup> Hearing at the Canaan Valley Resort

State parks are places of tranquility and peace, where families go to play and enjoy nature. State and Federal parks were designed to be a safe haven for all members of a community...including wildlife. The deer at Chief Logan State Park have become trusting of humans and in many cases they will walk up and ask for a nibble or a head scratch. Many of these park deer have been raised and nursed back to health after injuries or loss of their mothers from one reason or another. They have lost their natural fear of humans. There is no sport or glory in killing an animal that has been basically domesticated.

A common tactic used to persuade the people into accepting this idea is telling them that the deer population is out of control, and the overgrazing has destroyed the natural vegetation of the park. Unfortunately for them, the people of Logan County that regularly visit our park, have eyes to see...we know there is no overgrazing problem.

The deer population at the park over the last few years has diminished dramatically because of unknown causes...should we as their trusted caretakers, lend a hand in their demise?

Please, let's stop the hunt before it starts. The park is our place to go for peace, quiet and to enjoy the beauty of our community. Let's not allow it to be taken away from us, or them.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tim Tomblin". The signature is stylized and written over a horizontal line.

Tim Tomblin

**Teresa Adkins**

18 hours ago ago

I worked in this Park and raised so many fawns I lost count on baby bottles when they were weaned they were released in the park area this is crazy

**Jill Tackett**

1 week ago ago

I have seen wounded deer come into the animal hospital and we fix them back up and release this beautiful animals into our parks. The deer are friendly in this park they will walk right up to people. And they has already been a decrease in the Deer population that we have noticed over the last couple of years. We also walk our own personal animals in this park and most are not kept on leashes so we worry about our own pets and the safety of people walking the hiking trails if they are hunters allowed into the park you could be putting someone's life in jeopardy.

Scott Hughes

2 hours ago ago

I'm signing this because shouldn't be no hunting in this state park or any state park!! I grew up in justice addition and after serving in the military I currently live there now with my daughters! I'm in the park everyday that the weather allows us to!! Over the years I've noticed that the population of deer has decreased.I no longer see the huge herds of deer that once roamed chief logan state park and as for hunting them. What is the sport in hunting a creature that will eat from your hand!! Not very sportsmanship in that is it?

**Amanda Crigger**

3 days ago ago

The deers are the only reason me and my lil girl go to the park. I'll never go again if they let people hunt. It's sad and cruel to even think bout such a horrible thing.

**esther siegel**

3 days ago ago

You said it all!!!! Thank you

**Carol Anderberg**

1 day ago ago

## **REASON FOR SIGNING**

**NO HUNTING.....ARE YOU PEOPLE  
MENTALITY DEAD, OR DO YOU LET  
PEOPLE HUNT OR KILL ANIMALS IN  
YOUR FRONT YARD?????????? FIND A  
GOOD THING TO DO FOR PEOPLE ,  
EXCUSE YOURSELF AND DO...**

**esther siegel**

18 hours ago ago

*2nd comment*

**I could not have said it better!!!!**

*3<sup>rd</sup> comment*

esther siegel

16 hours ago ago

The deer population are way down at this park, what sane person would sanction this? Take a walk through the park Mr. DNR for yourself! Shame on you. We all share this same earth, humans AND non-humans. Might not hurt to remember this!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!



**Ladonna Evans**

18 hours ago ago

I think it's absolutely rediculas that they would even consider this. I myself am a hunter and would never hunt here. I have been in this park on several occasions and the animals are so tame and friendly. In my opinion this wouldn't be a hunt . It would be a slaughter.

Tj Murphy

3 hours ago

I am a hunter and there are alot of places to hunt we do not need to hunt there. the park is a place for nature to be nature and to grow and not to be shot at.. its just not the right place to be hunting



**Charlena Rice**

2 days ago ago

### **REASON FOR SIGNING**

I think this is a horrible thing to allow hunting in our state parks!! Parks are for peaceful family and friend time! I think this is awful! It's a safe haven for wild animals!! Don't get me wrong I'm all about hunting but NOT in a state park!!



**AMY KINDER**

21 hours ago ago

It's a ridiculous idea. It's a state park and keep it that way. Stop coming up with here idiotic ideas. We go to the park to enjoy the natural beauty that is there. I'm all for hunting, we all hunt in my family. Let's just do it in better locations. I can't believe the idiotic stuff that you guys come up with. Common sense sure ain't common anymore.



**teresa spradlin**

2 days ago ago

I don't think hunting should be aloud in our parks, outside of park land is fine!



**William Mullins**

5 days ago ago

I am from Logan County, Born and Raised in Chapmanville WV Logan County, I used to travel the Park area all my life, I used to take my two Girls to the Park just so they could see and feed the Deer, and ect., I AM 100% AGAINST HUNTING ON ANY KIND IN CHIEF LOGAN PARK OR ANY SURROUNDING AREAS.



**Courtney Adkins**

17 hours ago ago

Ridiculous! The deer come right to people! The deer in the park should not be hunted! Please sign this petition! People have a million other places to hunt, stay out of our beautiful park!



brenda bryant

5 days ago ago

i don't want hunting in the park. the whole purpose of the park is to be natural!!



**Judy Powell**

19 hours ago ago

NO NO NO these animals know humans and are not scared of them to lure them to their death is just plain WRONG!!!!!!!

**Mandy Smith**

7 days ago ago

When I first i first moved to W.V. The Logan State Park was my absolute favorite place to go....Seeing the deer go right up to people so trusting really amazed me. For the past 10yrs I've seen a huge decline in the deer population in the park and if this law passes for hunting in the park we will NEVER see anymore beautiful deer...So I'm asking my family and friends to join the fight and oppose this law....Thank you...

**Wanda Dingedd**

1 hour ago ago

That would just be cruel and non hunting at all. Go into the forest if you are hunting where the animal would at least have a chance against the predator (hunter) I am not against hunting, I am against slaughter and using the park would be just that.



**Misty Osborne**

1 day ago ago

## **REASON FOR SIGNING**

Because that's just crazy it's a park & there's plenty of other sports to hunt ..



**Alethea Tomblin**  
14 hours ago ago

## **REASON FOR SIGNING**

**Keep our Park a refuge and place of safety for the deer.**



**Jennifer Marcum**

17 hours ago ago

I do not support this hunt. The money is not worth what we will lose. How could anyone call hunting in protected land sport? This is disgraceful. Please protect our deer.

**Linda Dickerson**

40 minutes ago ago

That would discourage me from taking grandchildren to the park. It would be damaging and dangerous for all.



mary corns

1 week ago ago

People should not be allowed to kill any animal in that park. There like pets...



**Jeannie Kessler**

1 week ago ago

We do not want hunting at Chief Logan! That's crazy!



**trena moore**

**5 days ago ago**

this is actually the craziest thing I've ever heard!!! NO!! hunting should NOT be permitted in our parks!

**Julia Ballard**

1 day ago ago

**REASON FOR SIGNING**

There should be no hunting in a state park.

**Grace Cline**

22 hours ago ago

State parks should be a safe place for everyone and everything. These safe havens should stay as such!

**Graciana Darby**

12 minutes ago ago

Parks are supposed to be safe spaces for animals and people.



**Raymond Blankenship**

15 hours ago ago

This is the most insane thing I have ever heard of. Who could shoot something that comes up to your door and sticks it's head in your window. Get real people.



**Kelly Beckett**

**3 days ago ago**

A lot of these animals have become domesticated from all the human contact and this is totally unfair to take their lives because they trust us!!

*2nd comment*



**Kelly Beckett**

3 days ago ago

A lot of these animals have become domesticated from all the human contact and this is totally unfair to take their lives because they trust us!!



**Rebecca McBrain**

21 hours ago ago

**It is WRONG!!!! PERIOD!!! WHAT AN EVIL  
PLAN!**

**Zane watkins**

21 hours ago ago

The deer are not as plentiful as they was few years ago. Before it wasn't nothing to drive through the park and see deer in every bottom. Now you are lucky to even see a deer



**Michelle Gibson**

2 weeks ago ago

I hardly ever see any deer at the park and besides the deer that I do see are tamed.



**jerry steele**

2 weeks ago ago

deer in the park are almost pets why dont they  
just shoot their cat

**Sandra Hugueley**

7 days ago ago

Our State Parks should be a safe place for all animals



## Patricia & Kenneth Evans

2 weeks ago ago

Even though it's posted Don't Feed The Deer ...,  
People do it Anyway and they have become so  
friendly now and easy targets for hunters ! I  
don't like all hunters because they don't do to  
feed their families but for the trophy ☐ and I feel  
it's wrong ! Please stop feeding them and killing  
them !



**Tammy Estepp**  
2 days ago ago

### **REASON FOR SIGNING**

should be a safe place for family and animals.....have seasons and places for hunting dont need to be here.

**Tom Bradshaw**

15 hours ago ago

It's a shame our beautiful park has become an instrument for the almighty dollar.



**B Johnson**

12 hours ago ago

Please. Do not allow hunting in our park. Those deer will walk right up to you. It would be very unfair to them. The park has always been a refuge for them.



**Lora Evans**

5 days ago ago

Hunting is supposed to be a sport. What is the sport in hunting a deer that will come and eat from your hand. Pitiful



**Richard Ojeda**

1 day ago ago

I feel this will be dangerous for families visiting the park as well as the damage it will do to the deer population in our park.



**Dottie Ahmed**

2 days ago ago

Parks are for picnics and families, not for slaughtering animals...What a shame to kill these beautiful domesticated animals when there are forrests all over WV. to hunt if you wish to do so...

**Shelia Robinette**

3 days ago ago

The deer in the park are tame; almost pets. They will walk right up to you. Shame on you for proposing such an activity. This will not be a hunt- it will be a slaughter. Our park is not the place . This reminds me of lazy big game hunters who are willing to pay big bucks to sit back and kill animals for a trophy to hang on the wall. How many dollars are you making with this so-called hunt? I do suppose those opposing this could plan a protest on the "hunt" days.



**Kelly Ojeda**

1 day ago ago

Hunting should not be allowed in Chief Logan State Park. We have very few deer in our park and the ones that are there are small not afraid of people. Who could hunt, shoot and kill an animal that is standing there looking you in the eyes?



**Wanda Ellis**

18 hours ago ago

No State park hunting.. i don't understand what the reason is behind this.. it isnt for over population thats for sure.



**Heather Thomas**

3 days ago ago

Our parks should be a refuge for both wildlife  
AND our families. Where we can commune  
with nature, not destroy/kill it!

**Tara Roberts**

4 days ago ago

Parks should be a haven. Period. A safe place for our wildlife and community. I am truly appalled at this decision.

**Diania Brumfield**

4 days ago ago

Let them have their safe place. I love the park!!!



**Ashley Farley**

1 day ago ago

## **REASON FOR SIGNING**

I think its ridiculous to even consider hunting in a state park. What's the difference in hunting around homes? People take their families to the park to enjoy the wild life and to play. Do you really think parents will feel...



**LISA Moore**

1 week ago ago

The deer are an asset to the park, for people to watch them play. There's plenty of other places for people to hunt!!



**Sue Gullett**

2 weeks ago ago

A state park is suppose to protect the animals not  
kill them!



Charly Akers

1 week ago ago

This is by far the dumbest idea our lawmakers have had yet! Go ahead let me add a few more names to my NO list in November!!!

**Donetta Curry**

3 days ago ago

Would' nt be too much hunting to it. It would be more like slaughter!!

They are so tame.



**Balinda Summers**

2 weeks ago ago

It's not fair to these animals who have become tame. They will eat out of your hand and would be easy to kill !!!!Shame on whoever would vote for such a thing

**Melissa Herndon**

2 weeks ago ago

They are to tame to shoot and it would be  
inhumane

I MAY NOT BE  
EVERYBODY'S  
CUP OF TEA,  
BUT I LOVE THE  
WOMAN GOD  
CREATED  
ME TO BE.

**Marti Dolin**

**4 days ago ago**

Shooting the tamed deer in the park?!?  
Really?



**Brandon Wolford**

4 days ago ago

The park is for families and tourism— NOT  
HUNTING.



**Nikki Miller**

7 days ago ago

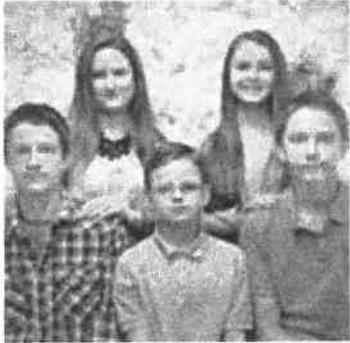
I think it's despicable that we've given these deer a safe haven only to turn around and let hunters shoot fish in a barrel. The deer do not to fear humans. I think those opposed to this should go to the park every morning during hunting season.



**Carleton Wood**

1 week ago ago

It's a State Park for God's sake! What is this, some kind of joke?? What kind of goofball would allow hunting at Chief Logan?? Geez...



**Alisha Eldridge**

3 days ago ago

This is disgraceful!! These deer are pretty much tame! That's a sorry use of "hunting"



**Michelle Clark**

19 hours ago ago

No hunting the deer come up to you. NO!!!!!!



**Seneca dempsey**  
**24 hours ago ago**

This is insane.

These deer especially come right to you and eat from your hand. Where is the "sport " in that?

This is sickening. Please do not allow hunting in Chief Logan Park.



**Kimberly Lee**

3 days ago ago

This is absolutely ridiculous!! This is where I took my kids to play when they were younger, and we've had our family reunion there for years. By allowing hunting, they're taking away the meaning, tranquility, and peacefulness of this beautiful place!



terena varney

1 day ago ago

I love our park. It is one of the most beautiful parks I have ever seen. Why would you allow such a thing as hunting in the park doesn't make sense to me. Those deer come right up to you. To me that would be cruel that isn't even hunting that's just mean.



**Colleen Clark**

6 days ago ago

This is a beautiful family oriented state park and seeing the wildlife!

**Carolyn Bias**

3 hours ago ago

## **REASON FOR SIGNING**

I think it is morally wrong to kill deer that are not afraid of people.



**Britneigh McCoy**

15 hours ago ago

The deer in Chief Logan Park will walk up to you like your pet would. It is ridiculous that they would even consider hunting in the parks. I'm apalled and I believe we should protest the day it takes place.



Rachel Curry

47 minutes ago ago

Rachel Curry. Hunters need to go where they belong , State Parks are NOT the place.



**Terri Turner**

2 weeks ago ago

This park has always protected our deer and now you want them to be killed! How stupid! It will not be safe to be in the park if this is allowed. Bow hunters here do not always follow rules! If they did we would still have the albino deer! They already poach and I hate to think what they will do if they are allowed to hunt legally!



I LOVE US.

peggy maynard

58 minutes ago ago

It is wrong to allow hunting in any state park



**LaWanda Bentler**

2 hours ago ago

This park is meant to have beautiful animals running through not to be killed.



**Gene Harrison**

**4 hours ago ago**

**Keep chief Logan park a animal  
sanctuary**

**Travanna Deer**

**11 hours ago ago**

**This is a state park not a hunting grounds**

## **Reasons for signing**

See why other supporters are signing, why this petition is important to them, and share your reason for signing (this will mean a lot to the starter of the petition).



**Rickara Kidd**

8 minutes ago ago

I love all animals! They are creatures of god and not just game or target practice !



**Connie Prince**

13 hours ago ago

Hunting in any park is a terrible idea!



**Marjorie Barker**

13 hours ago ago

I love the park, and there are hunting areas already established for this purpose.



**Julia Stalnaker**

15 hours ago ago

These deer have been there for along time.  
They're probably used to it being safe for them  
away from hunting. Let's keep it that way.



**Kristie Jones**

7 days ago ago

It's wrong & dangerous to let anyone hunt in a state park. Animals are there for their safety & now your threatening to take it away. State Parks are not a place for hunting or logging or anything of that nature they are places families go to relax have fun & enjoy the scenery & wildlife.



**Tiffany Sargent**

3 days ago ago

This is the craziest thing I have ever heard of being considered! Protect the wildlife in our parks and keep the parks safe for our children to hike in the trails!



**Judith Muncey-Wooten**

3 days ago ago

This is just ludicrous , who in their right mind would even consider this as an option?? The parks should be a safe haven for the wildlife . Where's the sport in this from a hunting point of view. Also, what about the danger to the humans ( especially children) who are there to enjoy the wildlife therein ?? How can this be a feasible change in any way??

Cassie Parsons

3 days ago ago

I just can't imagine that anyone would be cruel enough to kill the deer in the park. That is just so wrong. In my opinion, the type of people who would do something like that are irresponsible and have no conscience. Also, what about the visitors in the park or the hikers? Doesn't this put them in danger as well! This is unthinkable!



**Terri Doss**

16 hours ago ago

I don't think hunting should be allowed in state parks. Those are areas where people should be able to hike and enjoy nature with their pets without worrying about hunters nearby.



**Natisha Compton**

16 hours ago ago

Parks are made for fun, relaxation, family time .  
Not hunting



Cindy W

1 day ago ago

This is my hometown and this the dumbest idea ever.

**Carol Adams**

**21 hours ago ago**

**Do not want hunting in our park!!**



**Jeanette Ryman**

22 hours ago ago

The deer are tame and are not afraid of humans.  
It's not fair to kill a domesticated animal in the  
wild.



**Connie Yoder**

**22 hours ago ago**

Because I don't feel hunting should be legal in  
Chief Logan state park



betty shade

23 hours ago ago

I totally agree with not hunting at this park



**hatfield maria**

1 day ago ago

My family loves this park.....no hunting!



**Darlene Watkins**

1 day ago ago

No hunting should be allowed in state parks

**shanda spaulding**

1 day ago ago

Its just awful that they are going to allow this hunting to happen in the park where kids wonder up into those hills while being there at church events an reunions an birthdays and baby showers playing because its always been safe for them to do so some child could get shot or peoples dogs could be killed and those poor deer that have been safe for years there its just not right to start this in a small area

**Maranda Johnson**

1 day ago ago

Should not be hunting in state parks

Tommy Collier

3 days ago ago

Hunting in the park is a VERY BAD idea and stupid!



**Katrina Thompson**

3 days ago ago

We have such a wonderful park, please keep it safe for our people and animals.



susan benson

4 days ago ago

hunting in any state park is wrong



tabitha gibson

5 days ago ago

I don't think people should hunt animals in state parks or recreational parks for that matter



**Betty Griffin**

19 hours ago ago

The deer at the park are like pers.



**Ashley Wooten**

1 week ago ago

These deer are tamed and friendly. It wouldnt even be a challenge if they hunted at our park...its sad. Call and leave a message with the DNR's responsible Stephen McDainel 304-558-2754 or Sam England 304-558-2764.



**Charlene Spaulding**

1 week ago ago

Don't believe hunting should be allowed in  
Chief Logan or any State Park



Tammy Duty

1 week ago ago

No state park should be hunted in.



**Melissa Brumfield**

1 week ago ago

These animals are tame...they will eat right out of your hand!

**Jimi Nixon**

7 days ago ago

Chief Logan is too damned small to be hunting in there! That's crazy.



Stephanie Stacy

6 days ago ago

No hunting should be allowed in the state parks..



**kelli browning**

16 hours ago ago

## **REASON FOR SIGNING**

I don't think people should be allowed to kill animals in a place where family come to enjoy watching the animals!!!

## **REASON FOR SIGNING**

**National parks do not need to allow hunting,  
these parks are a place for families, not hunting.**



**melissa williams**  
15 hours ago ago

## **REASON FOR SIGNING**

I think leave the wild life in the park don't kill them I use to love watching them in the park

shirley cary

3 days ago ago

Shirley Cary. That is like killing your pets they are so friendly

**Debra Barnette**

3 days ago ago

There should be no hunting in a state park. This is a safe place where people can bring their families and make memories!



Kristy Vance

3 days ago ago

I think they shouldn't allow hunting in parks. Supposed to be safe and protected. Hunting starts it wont be safe and protected.



**Sheila Csin**

3 days ago ago

People use that park year round it is too dangerous to have hunters on this park. Absolutely no no no



**Bridgett Adams**

1 week ago ago

It's our state park in which children and families attend daily all through out the day! In winter seasons the park is a place to drive thru and look at the lights so no it should not be a hunting zone at anytime.. Way to risky!



**denise tomblin**

**1 week ago ago**

The parks should be the one safe place for all animals. Plus families and children are there at all times, seems like a very dangerous idea.

**Dee McCloud**

2 weeks ago ago

Because the park should be a place to go and see these magnificent animals not in fear of being shot at because of hunters!



**amie fowler**

2 weeks ago ago

So sad let's protect these animals who are depending upon us for protection! It's a state park where animals roam differently than out in the wild! It seems to be a safety issue to me as well!!

rebecca rucker  
10 hours ago ago

it's wrong



**Ted Carter**

10 hours ago ago

Don't like the idea of hunting in state parks

**Debra Bias**

1 week ago ago

This is so wrong. How can the hunting of “tame” deer in a public recreation area even be considered? And what of safety issues for “human” visitors during this time?



**Connie Kirk**

1 week ago ago

my family uses the park a ;ot danger for them



**Joann Leybra**

**6 days ago ago**

With wildlife habitat shrinking, states are desperate to open up more places to accommodate hunters in order to sell hunting licenses.

**Helen Webb**

1 day ago ago

These deer are part of the beauty of the park they are so use to people I would hate to see one get close to a vehicle and see someone shoot it. I think they need to leave it alone.



**Georgianna Hurley**

18 hours ago ago

This park is for families to enjoy the wildlife and beautiful scenery. Hunting in a state park would be a huge mistake to all concerned. What if someone would shot a person injuring them or killing them. Think about it!

**Kasey Workman**

18 hours ago ago

People should not be allowed to hunt in parks where we take our children to play. It's dangerous!! Period!!



**Sheena Marcum**

18 hours ago ago

Hunting in the park can be dangerous for the people visiting and the wildlife is beautiful..,

**Angela Collins**

16 hours ago ago

My best friend and I hike the trails, it's a place for peace and tranquility, a place to hang out with family.



**Twilla Runyon**

14 hours ago ago

This is the only nice thing we have. Do not want to be shot while taking a walk or picnic, this is crazy.



**Kimberly Orso**  
6 hours ago ago

We love our park



## Terry Workman

2 weeks ago ago

The deer at Chief Logan will just walk up to people, why in the world would that ever be allowed? I'm sure that plenty would love to hunt in circumstances like that, but what kind of true sportsman would even want to hunt in those circumstances. A park is supposed to be a peaceful place to go, to spend time either with family/friends or for solitude. No one wants to take their children to a place where animals will be killed all around them. The person that came up with this idea must have some true issues. This needs to be revisited and stopped, it is utterly ridiculous!



**Peggy Muschera Backus**

1 week ago ago

The deer in our park are too acclimated to being around people. And this is a tragedy waiting to happen. Too easy for someone to get shot.



**Brian Mosley**

1 week ago ago

No hunting in Chief Logan State park please



**Laci Vance**

4 days ago ago

I hike in the park and I usually have my big dog.  
What if someone is shot while hiking?



Ann Sansom

1 day ago ago

Please preserve the beauty of nature!



**Brenda Lear**

1 day ago ago

I will bevisiting my home of Logan with hopes to move back. Chieg Logan State Park is a heritage.

**sue webb**

20 hours ago ago

### **REASON FOR SIGNING**

My grandchildren and family are there all the time.How could they allow this to happen?

**Beverly Farmer**

18 hours ago ago

**REASON FOR SIGNING**

No sport in this these deer rat out of your hand

**Sandy Browning**

2 days ago ago

Hunting in the park is going to get someone or someone's pet or child killed. I do not agree with hunting in the park at all.



**Patti Robertson**

2 days ago ago

## **REASON FOR SIGNING**

Instead of shooting these domesticated animals that basically trust human beings, why not sterilize the deer in order to control the population if that is what the problem is? I'm all for people to be able to hunt undomesticated...

**Katherine Hooker**

3 days ago ago

We go walking on the trails in the park multiple times a week and take our kids with us. If they make hunting in the park legal then tell me how we will be able to still do this? It's stupid to even think about making it legal.

**April pritchard**

3 days ago ago

I couldn't imagine having a picnic with my kids or my family and then having Bambi shot right next to us.



**Sabrina Frye**

1 day ago ago

Our parks should remain safe and sacred.



**GAYNELLE BUCKNER**

2 weeks ago ago

The park is a place for families, to take your children and grandchildren, to enjoy all the beauty that God has created and enjoy peace and relaxation. No one wants to hear the gun shots or know that innocent deer and animals can roam in peace and I myself enjoy seeing them.



**Lori Justice**

1 week ago ago

Stupidity signing laws.



**John Ruth Elkins**

3 hours ago ago

## **REASON FOR SIGNING**

State Parks are a oplace to go and relax and enjoy the wildlife, not to kill it.I do not want my Grandchildren to have to see one of the deer with an arrow perhaps stuck in it's stomach and dieing a slow death.



**Jacob Bailey**

23 hours ago ago

## **REASON FOR SIGNING**

The park is a place for the citizens to enjoy.

**Brooklyn M**

14 hours ago ago

No one wants to be riding there bike and get shot with an arrow. Also I think every wild life should be able to run around free without hiding from everyone.

**SUMMARY OF SECTIONAL MEETING QUESTIONNAIRES FOR THE  
2018-2019 & 2019-2020 HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS,  
2019 FISHING REGULATIONS, AND  
2018 REPTILE AND AMPHIBIAN REGULATIONS**

52 clubs with 7,766 members, one club with an unknown number of members, and 142 individuals submitted questionnaires

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2018-2019 HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS</b>						
<b>PROPOSED REGULATION</b>		<b>INDIVIDUALS</b>		<b>CLUBS</b>		
		<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Number Membership</b>	<b>%*</b>	
1.	The Division of Natural Resources proposes that the 2018 antlerless deer season be open as shown on the attached table	Favor	114	82%	45 7,563	87%
		Oppose	25	18%	7 203	13%

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2018-2019 HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS</b>						
<b>PROPOSED REGULATION</b>		<b>INDIVIDUALS</b>		<b>CLUBS</b>		
		<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Number Membership</b>	<b>%*</b>	
2.	The Division on Natural Resources proposes that the 2018 black bear season be open as shown on the attached table.	Favor	126	93%	49 7,697	94%
		Oppose	10	7%	3 69	6%

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2018-2019 HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS</b>						
<b>PROPOSED REGULATION</b>		<b>INDIVIDUALS</b>		<b>CLUBS</b>		
		<b>Number</b>	<b>%</b>	<b>Number Membership</b>	<b>%*</b>	
3	The Division of Natural Resources proposes that the 2018-2019 wild boar gun, archery and crossbow season be a split season. The early seasons would follow the current frameworks and the late season is proposed to open on the first Friday on February and run through the following Sunday (for 2019 that would be February 1-3)	Favor	119	91%	49 7,765	98%
		Oppose	12	9%	1 10	2%

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2018-2019 HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS						
PROPOSED REGULATION		INDIVIDUALS		CLUBS		
		Number	%	Number Membership	%*	
6	The DNR proposes that the bobwhite quail hunting season be closed for the 2018-2019 hunting season on the Tomblin Wildlife Management Area and remained closed until further notice. This action is recommended as the agency begins a quail restoration project on the Tomblin WMA.	Favor	127	99%	46 7,104	94%
		Oppose	1	1%	3 499	6%

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2018-2019 HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS						
PROPOSED REGULATION		INDIVIDUALS		CLUBS		
		Number	%	Number Membership	%*	
7	The DNR proposes that all other big game hunting regulations for the 2018-2019 hunting season be open as shown on the attached table.	Favor	118	89%	46 7,571	92%
		Oppose	14	11%	4 72	8%

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2019-2020 HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS						
PROPOSED REGULATION		INDIVIDUALS		CLUBS		
		Number	%	Number Membership	%**	
1 b	The DNR proposes that all other hunting and trapping regulations for the 2019-2020 seasons be open as shown on the attached table.	Favor	117	91%	46 7,329	94%
		Oppose	12	9%	3 67	6%

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2019 FISHING REGULATIONS						
PROPOSED REGULATION		INDIVIDUALS		CLUBS		
		Number	%	Number Membership	%*	
1	The DNR proposes to establish catch and release trout fishing on Middle Fork of Williams River and tributaries, Webster, Pocahontas Counties, Tea Creek (Upstream of the Tea Creek Campground) and tributaries, Pocahontas County, Red Creek (Upstream of at CR 45 Bridge) and tributaries, Tucker County, Otter Creek and tributaries, Randolph and Tucker Creek.	Favor	103	81%	43 7,092	88%
		Oppose	24	19%	6 591	12%

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2019 FISHING REGULATIONS						
PROPOSED REGULATION			INDIVIDUALS		CLUBS	
			Number	%	Number Membership	%*
5	The DNR proposes that all other fishing regulations for 2019 would be the same as those in 2018.	Favor	119	93%	47	98%
		Oppose	9	7%	1 100	

RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2018 REPTILE REGULATIONS						
PROPOSED REGULATION			INDIVIDUALS		CLUBS	
			Number	%	Number Membership	%*
1	The DNR proposes to add the grey rat snake ( <i>pantheriophis spiloides</i> ) to the existing established seasons and limits for reptiles in West Virginia.	Favor	96	83%	43	93%
		Oppose	19	17%	3 68	

\* Percentages based on number of clubs

DEER – GENERAL				
No.	Clubs		Ind.	Comments
	Membership			
1	78		1	Baiting for deer should be prohibited, CWD concern
			1	Create Primitive weapons seasons in mid-fall and 1/1-15
			1	Change wording from “ hunting with the use of bait” to “hunting over bait”
			1	Opening dates on Sundays
1	73			Minerals/baiting should be allowed in eastern panhandle
1	73		1	No early firearm season
			1	License agents contact NRPO when asked to run a wvdr ID
			2	No special deer season in January for recurve/muzzleloader
			1	Keep firearm hunting closed in Wyoming county
			2	No hunting for deer after December 31
			1	Make hunters apply for a doe permit in every county
			2	No deer hunting in January
			2	Better deer management

		1	One antlered, one antlerless during archery
		1	Sell a fall archery stamp to allow hunting till gun season
		2	3 bow tags in bow only counties
		2	Extend archery season through January
1	20		Crossbow should be allowed in 4 southern counties
		1	Should start 2 <sup>nd</sup> Saturday in oct.
		1	Charge for a crossbow permit
<b>DEER – ANTLERLESS</b>			
<b>Clubs</b>		<b>Ind.</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Membership</b>		
		1	Close the season in Ritchie County
		1	Potts Creek WMA open for antlerless deer
1	10		Oppose antlerless season, drop Dec 28-31 dates
1	10	2	Cut back on doe season
1	25		No killing does in Coopers Rock State Park
		1	Only one antlerless deer in Grant County, too low of density
		1	Wrong to prohibit antlerless harvest on National Forest
		1	One doe limit in Monroe County
1	15		No doe hunting Oct 25-28, no December season
		1	Open Wayne Co. for antlerless season, don't split it
		1	Eliminate October and December season
		1	Eliminate early season, make week after muzzleloader
		2	Open Cranberry to antlerless maybe with permit
		2	Increase doe harvest
<b>Deer Muzzleloader</b>			
<b>Clubs</b>		<b>Ind.</b>	
<b>No.</b>	<b>Membership</b>		
		8	Supports the Mountaineer Heritage Season
		1	Waive blaze orange requirement for MHS
		1	MHS restrictions will be changed by the Legislature
1	14	1	Too long of a deer season with traditional weapons
		1	Short muzzleloader season end of oct/begin of nov.
1	30	4	Mountaineer heritage come in before buck season
1	10	3	Oppose mountaineer heritage season
		1	Keep muzzleloader season the same as 2017
		2	January season is too late
		1	Heritage season would be awesome if females weren't pregnant
1	22		Make the muzzleloader season come in Nov 1 run for 7-10 days
1	22		Be able to hunt bear during season

		1	Spring gobbler starts too early
		1	Expand turkey hunting seasons
		1	December fall turkey season
		1	5 week fall season, 3 bird limit, all in spring if hunter wants

### SMALL GAME/FURBEARERS

Clubs		Ind.	Comments
No.	Membership		
		1	Beaver trapping end last day February
		2	Otter limit 3
		2	Bobcat limit 5
		2	Move squirrel back to Saturday 1 <sup>st</sup> full week in October
		1	Get rid of otters
		1	Encourage more coyote hunting
		2	Add bobcat to night hunting
		1	Extend muskrat trapping season by 1 month
1	80		Change trap check to 48 hours
1	700		Extend otter harvest opportunities, overabundance
		1	Open squirrel later and close January 31
1	100		Would like to see improvement at South Branch for dove hunts
		1	Have not seen a quail or grouse in 30 years
		1	Open squirrel last week of September
		1	Continuous open season on foxes
		1	Start program to bring back quail & grouse

### MISCELLANEOUS

Clubs		Ind.	Comments
No.	Membership		
1	3000		Increase price of hunting/fishing license
1	3000		Make base hunting license valid for either sex and sell buck tags at a premium price.
		1	Create a discount for hunters who don't use ATVs
		4	Eliminate Spring dog training
		1	More timber cutting on National Forests
		1	Reopen range at Pedler
		1	List of cities with urban hunts
1	10	1	Close bobwhite season statewide
		1	Limited permits for public land hunting

		1	Have a spear hunting season during archery
<b>FISH – GENERAL</b>			
<b>Clubs</b>		<b>Ind.</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Membership</b>		
		1	3 lines or less in stream or lakes
		1	30 fish limit of panfish
		1	Like gold rush plan
		1	Fly fishing only area in southern WV
		1	No new streams added to fly fish only
		2	No fly fishing only streams
		1	No catch and release streams
		1	Increase throw net/cast net to 12ft diameter and ½" mesh
		1	No catch and release on the Williams, kids can't learn to fish
		3	No fishing on day of stocking
		1	No catch and release at Otter Creek
1	700		Creel limit on panfish
		1	Opposes 2019 question one regulation
		6	No fishing for one week after stocking
		1	Make all streams catch and release only
		1	Consider placing fish limits on trotlines/limblines
		1	Stocking at Laurel Lake
		1	Require each person to have own creel, stringer, bucket
1	20		Stop stocking in spillways when flooding, its un-sportsmen
1	20		Stock southern lakes 2 times a month
1	20		Fix small ponds boat ramp
	1		Good job on Edwards Run
1	60		Do better at stocking (more spread out)
1	60		Extend stocking on Clean Fork River
		1	Construct larger and better fish impoundment at Kanawha
		1	Delayed harvest at cranberry catch and release
		1	No more catch and release on Williams
		1	Lower fishing license cost
<b>TROUT</b>			
<b>Clubs</b>		<b>Ind.</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Membership</b>		
1	3000		Sell a cold water conservation stamp w/proceeds going towards trout habitat/research etc.
		2	Don't advertise catch-release native brook trout streams which are easily overfished
		1	1 line per angler
		2	Stock November to march, closed season till march 1st
		1	Money tags on trout

<b>CATFISH</b>			
<b>Clubs</b>		<b>Ind.</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Membership</b>		
		1	Allow bowfishing
		1	Extend flathead catfish regulations to statewide
		1	More channel catfish in lakes and WMA ponds
<b>BASS</b>			
<b>Clubs</b>		<b>Ind.</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Membership</b>		
		2	Tournaments should have to follow same regulations as the rest of anglers
		1	Likes proposed tournament change at Stonewall
		2	Slot limit at Bluestone dam to first bridge of New River
		1	Closed harvest on smallmouth bass during spawning
		1	C&R in New River or slot limit (black bass)
<b>CRAPPIE</b>			
<b>Clubs</b>		<b>Ind.</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Membership</b>		
1	6		Stocking on Little Kanawaha and lakes
		1	Establish a slot limit for Crappie
		1	Size limit of 8" at Stonewall Jackson lake
<b>MUSKY</b>			
<b>Clubs</b>		<b>Ind.</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Membership</b>		
1	6	1	Treat the Pocatalico River as a native musky fishery
		1	Stop stocking muskies
		1	Return Stonewall lake to 30" minimum length
		1	Change regs at Buckhannon pool, one muskie a day >30"
1	100	1	1 per day
		1	40" minimum length
<b>WALLEYE</b>			
<b>Clubs</b>		<b>Ind.</b>	<b>Comments</b>
<b>No.</b>	<b>Membership</b>		
		1	Slot limit of 15"-20"
		1	Limit of 4
		2	Good job
		1	Stock upper Greenbrier River
		1	Catch and release during spawning statewide
		1	Make Sandstone falls slot limit with limited harvest
		1	Reduce limits for walleye

**COMPARISON OF ATTENDANCE AT REGULATIONS MEETINGS  
FOR THE PERIOD 2008-2018**

<b>MEETING LOCATION</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2012</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2008</b>
Beckley	18	-	-	-	36	55	-	-	-	-	-
Buckhannon	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	35	32	24	55
Elkins	18	22	29	69	54	48	34	-	-	-	-
Fairmont	36	35	25	59	39	70	71	37	47	41	26
Fayetteville	-	-	12	35	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Flatwoods	-	21	19	19	16	-	-	-	-	-	-
Glen Dale	39	25	29	57	32	34	16	28	31	25	24
Harrisville	-	-	-	-	-	7	-	-	-	-	-
Lewisburg	5	10	-	-	-	35	34	21	74	57	89
Logan	33	17	39	51	28	47	46	56	30	73	32
Martinsburg	43	36	43	58	41	21	64	46	45	44	30
Milton	18	30	34	45	27	28	58	32	42	50	46
Moorefield	28	13	30	37	56	56	55	56	35	95	72
North Bend SP	-	5	-	16	-	-	-	13	-	9	-
Parkersburg	24	15	20	60	27	45	31	40	11	24	28
Pipestem Resort SP	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	32
Princeton	-	-	-	34	39	-	-	-	-	-	-
Spencer	16	-	17	-	15	-	42	-	6	-	12
Summersville	-	-	-	-	-	23	48	31	33	48	46
Twin Falls Resort SP	-	18	13	-	-	-	22	15	39	75	-
Weston	6	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Total</b>	<b>284</b>	<b>247</b>	<b>310</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>469</b>	<b>521</b>	<b>410</b>	<b>425</b>	<b>565</b>	<b>49</b>

		<p><u>Bear:</u> None</p> <p><u>Turkey/General Regulations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Change minimum size of bolt for crossbows (no minimum size)</li> <li>• Expand youth spring gobbler season to two days to include Sunday</li> <li>• Add bobcat to hunting with light at night season</li> </ul> <p><u>Fish</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Creek access – Wheeling Creek, Fish Creek, Buffalo Creek (fisherman, kayak/canoe, ADA).</li> </ul>
II	Moorefield	<p><u>Game</u></p> <p><u>Deer:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Antler restrictions (3 point rule)</li> <li>• Start gun season for residents the Saturday before Thanksgiving</li> <li>• No late antlerless season</li> <li>• Blinds need orange</li> <li>• Heritage season a great idea</li> <li>• Antler restrictions (4 points/side)</li> <li>• Kill 2 doe before buck.</li> </ul> <p><u>Bear:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a spring bear season with a bow, crossbow or muzzleloader. Fair chase – no dogs and no bait</li> </ul> <p><u>Turkey/General Regulations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Blinds need orange</li> <li>• Shot gun only – no rifle</li> <li>• Move squirrel season back to October</li> </ul> <p><u>Fish:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• No guided fishing within state</li> <li>• Delayed harvest season</li> <li>• Stock at high flow</li> </ul>

		<p><u>General Regulations:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not in favor of the opening day of squirrel season. Too early.</li> <li>• I like the opportunity for the Mountaineer Heritage Season.</li> <li>• Return regulation meetings to classroom format.</li> <li>• List WMA's and public hunting areas data in big game bulletin table</li> </ul> <p><u>Fish</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• In favor of the proposed regulation at Stonewall Jackson Lake. It is long overdue.</li> <li>• Continue year-round trout season.</li> <li>• Opposed to catch and release native trout. Not opposed to catch and release, just advertising it.</li> </ul>
III	Weston	<p><u>Game</u></p> <p><u>Deer</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support non-season specific antlerless harvest "Special Regulation" counties</li> </ul> <p><u>Bear</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Needs to read: "Entire County opened except State Parks."</li> </ul> <p><u>General Regulations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Move muzzleloader season to early November.</li> <li>• Make muzzleloader season 2 weeks.</li> </ul> <p><u>Fish</u></p> <p>None</p>
IV	Lewisburg	<p><u>Game</u></p> <p><u>Deer</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul> <p><u>Bear:</u> None</p> <p><u>Turkey/Small Game/General Regulations</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Add week in December for turkey season</li> <li>• 3-turkey bag limit (all 3 in spring, up to hunter)</li> <li>• All day turkey hunting last 2 weeks of spring season</li> <li>• Close bear training season during spring turkey season</li> </ul> <p><u>Fish</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• None</li> </ul>
IV	Beckley	<p><u>Game</u></p> <p><u>Deer</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Seven bucks per year allowed</li> <li>• Six to 7 bucks allowed per year</li> <li>• Youth hunt should be hunters choice</li> <li>• Carryover extra buck stamps to muzzleloader season</li> <li>• Earn a buck sucks</li> <li>• Lower buck limit</li> <li>• Lower buck limit and harvest more does in some counties</li> </ul>

		<p><b><u>Fish:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Huff Creek (post-restoration) return to stocking list</li> <li>• A bi-weekly stocking schedule on a southern WV trout stream and or impoundment (we don't get trout like the northern counties)</li> <li>• Stock bigger trout more often, size of trout in early stockings noted as very small at Chief Logan Pond</li> <li>• Buffalo Creel (Logan), fall stocking (2)</li> <li>• Improve Tug Fork access (2)</li> <li>• More class Q opportunities (3)</li> <li>• Reduce muskie creel/bag limit from 2/4 to 1 and 2 statewide</li> <li>• 40" size limit for muskie, specifically East Lynn</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Reptiles/Amphibians</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Have a resident license for reptiles</li> </ul>
VI	Spencer	<p><b><u>Game</u></b></p> <p><b><u>Deer</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Do not allow percussion rifles in the proposed Mountaineer Heritage Season</li> <li>• Reduce the annual buck limit from three to two</li> <li>• One comment in support of the Mountaineer Heritage season</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Bear:</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider having urban bear hunts</li> <li>• Landowner with bear damage should choose between reimbursements or damage permits but they shouldn't get both.</li> <li>• Allow bear hunting by permit only during buck season in nontraditional bear counties.</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Turkey/Small Game/General Regulations</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One comment supporting more attempts to recruit young hunters</li> </ul> <p><b><u>Fish</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• East Lynn Lake – 40 in minimum size limit on Muskellunge</li> <li>• East Lynn Lake – Muskellunge creel limit – 1 fish per day</li> </ul>

**RECOMMENDATIONS  
FOR THE  
2018-2019 BIG GAME HUNTING REGULATIONS  
AND THE  
2019-2020 HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS**

**Presented to the  
West Virginia Natural Resources Commission  
April 22, 2018**

**Prepared By:**

**West Virginia Division of Natural Resources  
Wildlife Resources Section  
Game Management Unit**

**1**

**Recommendations for the  
2018-2019  
Hunting and Trapping Regulations  
and  
2019-2020  
Hunting and Trapping Regulations**

**2**

**2018 Proposed  
Antlerless Deer Tables**

**3**

**2018 Proposed  
Black Bear Tables**

**4**

**2018-2019 Proposed  
Big Game Table**

**5**

**2019-2020 Proposed  
Hunting and Trapping Table**

**APPROVE SEASON AND BAG LIMITS FOR CATFISH NOODLING**

**REVIEW PROPOSED 2019 FISHING REGULATIONS**

**NEXT MEETING DATE AND PLACE**

July 29, 2018, Stonewall Resort State Park, Roanoke, WV

**ADJOURN**

Commissioner Milne made a **MOTION** to adjourn. Commissioner Burnette seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:20 p.m.

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE  
2018-2019 HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS**

1. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that the 2018 antlerless deer season be open as shown on the attached tables.

Favor \_\_\_\_\_ Oppose \_\_\_\_\_

2. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that the 2018 black bear season be open as shown on the attached table.

Favor \_\_\_\_\_ Oppose \_\_\_\_\_

3. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that the 2018-2019 wild boar gun, archery and crossbow season be a split season. The early seasons would follow the current frameworks and the late season is proposed to open on the first Friday in February and run through the following Sunday (for 2019 that would be February 1-3).

Favor \_\_\_\_\_ Oppose \_\_\_\_\_

4. The Division of Natural Resources proposes a primitive weapons "Mountaineer Heritage Season" featuring traditional muzzleloading and/or archery equipment for bear and deer (either-sex). Only percussion and flintlock rifles without scopes, and long and recurve bows will be permitted. In addition the use of dogs will not be permitted during this season. The season will run from Thursday, January 10, 2019 through Sunday, January 13, 2019 statewide with the exception that only long and recurve bows may be used in Logan, McDowell, Mingo and Wyoming counties during this season.

Favor \_\_\_\_\_ Oppose \_\_\_\_\_

5. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that the Special Urban Deer Archery/Crossbow Season be a split season. The initial season will follow the current framework and the late season will be open from Monday, January 14, 2019 through Sunday, January 20, 2019.

Favor \_\_\_\_\_ Oppose \_\_\_\_\_

6. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that the bobwhite quail hunting season be closed for the 2018-2019 hunting season on the Tomblin Wildlife Management Area and remained closed until further notice. This action is recommended as the agency begins a quail restoration project on the Tomblin WMA.

Favor \_\_\_\_\_

Oppose \_\_\_\_\_

7. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that all other big game hunting regulations for the 2018-2019 hunting seasons be open as shown on the attached table.

Favor \_\_\_\_\_

Oppose \_\_\_\_\_

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE  
2019-2020 HUNTING AND TRAPPING REGULATIONS**

1. The Division of Natural Resources proposes that all other hunting and trapping regulations for the 2019-2020 seasons be open as shown on the attached table.

Favor \_\_\_\_\_

Oppose \_\_\_\_\_

**PROPOSED 2018 ANTLERLESS DEER SEASON HUNTING REGULATIONS  
(PRIVATE LAND)**

<p>Counties or Parts Thereof Closed to Antlerless (Class N/NN) Hunting</p>	<p>Counties or Parts Thereof Open to Limited Licenses for Resident and Non-resident (Must Apply) (Season Bag Limit: 1)  Oct. 25-28; Nov. 19-Dec. 1; <i>Dec. 6-9;</i> Dec. 28-31</p>	<p>Counties or Parts Thereof Open to Unlimited Resident Class N and Nonresident Class NN  (Season Bag Limit: 1)  Oct. 25-28; Nov. 19-Dec. 1; <i>Dec. 6-9;</i> Dec. 28-31</p>	<p>Counties or Parts Thereof Open to Unlimited Resident Class N and Nonresident Class NN  (Season Bag Limit: 3)  Oct. 25-28; Nov. 19-Dec. 1; <i>Dec. 6-9;</i> Dec. 28-31</p>	<p>Counties or Parts Thereof Open to Unlimited Resident Class N and Nonresident Class NN. <i>(*see special regulation requirement below)</i> (Season Bag Limit: 3)  Oct. 25-28; Nov. 19-Dec. 1; <i>Dec. 6-9;</i> Dec. 28-31</p>
<p>Fayette (west portion) Kanawha (south portion) Raleigh (west portion) Wayne</p>	<p>Boone (300) Greenbrier (north portion - 200) Lincoln (400) Mineral (west portion - 200) Pocahontas (300) Raleigh (east portion - 250) Webster (300)</p>	<p>Braxton Brooke Clay Fayette (east portion) Hancock Marion Marshall Mason Mercer Nicholas Ohio Pleasants Randolph Summers Tucker Wetzel</p>	<p>Barbour Cabell Gilmer Grant Harrison Jackson Jefferson Kanawha (north portion) Lewis Monongalia Morgan Pendleton Putnam Roane Taylor Upshur Wirt</p>	<p>Berkeley Calhoun Doddridge Greenbrier (south portion) Hampshire Hardy Mineral (east portion) Monroe Preston Ritchie Tyler Wood</p>

*\*In these counties, hunters are required to take an antlerless deer, which may be taken during any deer season open to antlerless deer hunting, prior to harvesting a second antlered deer during the combined deer seasons.*

# **Summary of Proposed Changes to 2018 Antlerless Deer Season County Regulations**

**(Comparison of 2017 and 2018 Proposed Antlerless Deer Seasons)**

## **More Liberal 2018 Antlerless Season:**

Counties or portions of counties which were closed in 2017 and are proposed for limited permits in 2018: none

Counties or portions of counties with a proposed increase in bag limit to 1 unlimited: Clay, Fayette (east) and Nicholas

Counties or portions of counties with a proposed increase in bag limit to 3 unlimited: Pendleton (west)

Counties or portions of counties with a proposed increase in bag limit (with special regulation): Preston

## **More Restrictive 2018 Antlerless Season:**

Counties or portions of counties with a change in regulations from a bag limit of 3 (with a special regulation) to a bag limit of 3: Gilmer, Harrison, Jackson, Lewis, Morgan, Putnam, Roane, Taylor, Upshur and Wirt

Counties or portions of counties with a proposed reduction in bag limit to 1: Braxton, Brooke, Marion, Mason, Mercer, Pleasants, Summers and Wetzel

Counties or portions of counties with a proposed reduction in bag limit to 1 (limited permits): Lincoln and Webster

Counties or portions of counties with a proposed reduction in bag limit to closed: Wayne (north)

**Proposed Same 2018 Antlerless Season:** Barbour, Berkeley, Boone, Cabell, Calhoun, Doddridge, Fayette (west), Grant, Greenbrier, Hampshire, Hancock, Hardy, Jefferson, Kanawha, Marshall, Mineral, Monongalia, Monroe, Ohio, Pendleton (east), Pocahontas, Raleigh, Randolph, Ritchie, Tucker, Tyler, Wayne (south) and Wood

February 23, 2018

**PROPOSED 2018 ANTLERLESS DEER HUNTING REGULATIONS  
FOR PUBLIC LANDS**

**Season Dates: Nov. 19 - Dec. 1, 2018; Dec. 6 - 9, 2018; and Dec. 28 - 31, 2018**

<b>WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS OPEN TO LIMITED LICENSES FOR RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT CLASS N/NN ANTLERLESS SEASON – BAG LIMIT OF 1</b>		
Blackwater WMA (100) (Preston/Tucker Cos.)	Greenbrier SF (50) (Greenbrier Co.)	Little Canaan WMA (50) (Tucker Co.)
Bluestone WMA (100) (Summers/Mercer/Monroe Cos.)	Hillcrest WMA (25) (Hancock Co.)	Seneca SF (50) (Pocahontas Co.)
Calvin Price SF (50) (Pocahontas Co.)	Kumbrabow SF (50) (Randolph Co.)	

<b>WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS OPEN TO UNLIMITED LICENSES FOR RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT CLASS N/NN ANTLERLESS SEASON – BAG LIMIT OF 1</b>			
Amherst/Plymouth WMA (Putnam Co.)	Canaan Valley NWR (Tucker Co.)	Mill Creek WMA (Cabell Co.)	Snake Hill WMA (Monongalia/Preston Cos.)
Beech Fork WMA (Cabell/Wayne Cos.)	Coopers Rock SF (Monongalia/Preston Cos.)	Pleasant Creek WMA (Barbour/Taylor Cos.)	Upper Mud River WMA (Lincoln Co.)
Big Ugly WMA (Lincoln Co.)	Green Bottom WMA (Cabell/Mason Cos.)	Pruntytown WMA (Taylor Co.)	Wallback WMA (Roane/Clay/Kanawha Cos.)

<b>WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS OPEN TO UNLIMITED LICENSES FOR RESIDENT AND NONRESIDENT CLASS N/NN ANTLERLESS SEASON – BAG LIMIT OF 3</b>		
McClintic WMA (Mason Co.)		

<b>WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS CLOSED TO ANTLERLESS SEASON</b>		
Beaver Dam WMA (Randolph Co.)	Handley WMA (Pocahontas Co.)	Rimel WMA (Pocahontas Co.)
Becky Creek WMA (Randolph Co.)	Little River WMA (Pocahontas Co.)	Slatyfork WMA (Pocahontas/Randolph Cos.)
Camp Creek SF (Mercer Co.)	Neola WMA (Greenbrier/Pocahontas Cos.)	Tea Creek WMA (Pocahontas/Randolph/Webster Cos.)
Cheat WMA (Randolph Co.)	Otter Creek WMA (Randolph/Tucker Cos.)	Morris Creek WMA (Kanawha Co.)
Cranberry WMA (Nicholas/Webster/Pocahontas/ Greenbrier Cos.)	Potts Creek WMA (Monroe Co.)	

**All other WMAs and public lands will have the same regulations as it relates to bag limits as private land in the respective county or portion of county where the WMAs or other public lands are located; with the exception that these WMAs and public lands will be open during the dates listed above.**

**Proposed 2018 Black Bear Seasons**  
 Statewide bag limit two, provided at least one bear comes from Boone, Fayette, Kanawha, Logan, McDowell, Mingo, Nicholas, Preston, Raleigh or Wyoming counties

**Archery and Crossbow Season – 55 counties: Sept. 29 – Dec. 31**

Gun Seasons: Refer to Table Below

7-Day Gun With or Without Dogs Oct. 6 – Oct. 12 13-Day Gun Without Dogs Nov. 19 – Dec. 1 4-Week Gun With or Without Dogs Dec. 3 – Dec. 31	16-Day Gun With or Without Dogs Sept. 1 - Sept. 16 4-Week Gun With or Without Dogs Dec. 3 - Dec. 31	7-Day Gun With or Without Dogs Sept. 22 – Sept. 28 4-Week Gun With or Without Dogs Dec. 3 – Dec. 31	6-Week Gun Without Dogs Nov. 19 - Dec. 1 Dec. 3 - Dec. 31	4-Day Gun Without Dogs October 25 – 28 No Permit Required Private Land Only Portions of Counties Open for Deer Hunting	13-Day Gun Without Dogs Nov. 19 – Dec. 1 No Permit Needed Entire County Open	4-Week Gun Without Dogs Dec. 3 - Dec. 31
Boone Fayette Kanawha Raleigh	Logan McDowell Mingo Wyoming	Barbour (E. of Rt. 92) Braxton (E. of I-79) Clay (S. of Elk River) Grant Greenbrier Hardy Mineral (W. of New Creek) Monroe (E. of Rt. 219) Nicholas Pendleton Pocahontas Preston Randolph Tucker Upshur (E. of Rt. 20) Webster	Berkeley Brooke Cabell Calhoun Doddridge Gilmer Hampshire Hancock Harrison Jackson Jefferson Lewis Lincoln Marion Marshall Mason Mercer Monongalia Morgan Ohio Pleasants Putnam Ritchie Roane Summers Taylor Tyler Wayne Wetzel Wirt Wood	Berkeley Boone Fayette Hampshire Jefferson Kanawha Mercer Monroe Morgan Nicholas Preston Raleigh Summers	Barbour Braxton Clay Grant Greenbrier Hardy Mineral Monroe Nicholas Pendleton Pocahontas Preston Randolph Tucker Upshur Webster	Barbour (W. of Rt. 92) Braxton (W. of I-79) Clay (N. of Elk River) Mineral (E. of New Creek) Monroe (W. of Rt. 219) Upshur (W. of Rt. 20)

## **Summary of Proposed Changes to Bear Seasons for 2018**

### **More liberal seasons with hounds**

**Preston:** has been added to the counties with a bag limit of 2 bears.

**Logan, McDowell, Mingo and Wyoming: from:** 9-day season from September 2 – September 10 **to:** 16 day season from September 1 – September 16.

### **More Liberal Seasons without hounds**

**Cabell, Doddridge, Harrison, Lincoln Marion, Marshall, Mineral and Wetzell: from:** limited permits during buck-gun season **to** no permit needed during buck-gun season.

**Brooke, Hancock, Jackson, Mason, Ohio, Pleasants, Putnam, Ritchie, Roane, Tyler, Wayne and Wood: from:** archery and December firearms season without dogs **to** no permit needed during buck-gun season and December firearms season without dogs.

**New Season: Berkeley, Boone, Fayette, Hampshire, Jefferson, Kanawha, Mercer, Monroe, Morgan, Nicholas, Preston, Raleigh and Summers.** 4-day bear season without dogs, no permit required, on the portions of private land open for antlerless deer hunting.

**Mineral:** added to buck-gun bear season with no permit required.

### **More Liberal Archery Season**

**All counties (51) other than Logan, McDowell, Mingo and Wyoming: from:** split archery season from September 30 – November 17 and December 3 – December 31 **to** archery season from September 30 – December 31.

<b>Proposed Opening and Closing Dates for the 2018-2019 Big Game Hunting Seasons</b>		
<b>Species</b>	<b>Opening &amp; Closing Dates</b>	<b>Comments/Changes</b>
<b>Mountaineer Heritage Season Deer and Bear (Primitive Weapons)</b>	<b>Jan. 10, 2019 - Jan. 13, 2019</b>	<b>Percussion side lock and flintlock rifles, long and recurve bows only</b>
Bear (Archery & Crossbow)	Sept. 29, 2018 - Dec. 31, 2018	<b>The split season for designated counties will be eliminated.</b>
Bear (Gun) {Selected Counties} {Selected Counties} {Selected Counties} {Selected Counties} {Selected Counties}	Sept. 1, 2018 - Sept. 16, 2018 Sept. 22, 2018 - Sept. 28, 2018 Oct. 6, 2018 - Oct. 12, 2018 <b>Oct. 25, 2018 - Oct. 28, 2018</b> Nov. 19, 2018 - Dec. 1, 2018 Dec. 3, 2018 - Dec. 31, 2018	See Attached Bear Tables for Selected Counties
Boar (Gun)	Oct. 27, 2018 - Nov. 3, 2017 <b>Feb. 1, 2019 - Feb. 3, 2019</b>	<b>split season</b>
Boar (Archery & Crossbow)	Sept. 29, 2018 - Dec. 31, 2018 <b>Feb. 1, 2019 - Feb. 3, 2019</b>	<b>split season</b>
Deer (Archery & Crossbow - Special Urban)	Sept. 8, 2018 - Dec.31, 2018 <b>Jan. 14, 2019 - Jan. 20, 2019</b>	<b>split season</b>
Deer (Archery & Crossbow)	Sept. 29, 2018 - Dec. 31, 2018	
Deer (Bucks Only)	Nov. 19, 2018 - Dec. 1, 2018	
Deer (Antlerless) {Selected Counties}	Oct. 25, 2018 - <b>Oct. 28, 2018</b> Nov. 19, 2018 - Dec. 1, 2018 <b>Dec. 6, 2018 - Dec. 9, 2018</b> Dec. 28, 2018 - Dec. 31, 2018	See Attached Deer Tables For Selected Counties
Deer (Youth/Q/XS Season - Antlerless)	Oct. 20, 2018 Dec. 26, 2018 - Dec. 27, 2018	
Deer (Muzzleloader)	<b>Dec. 10, 2018 - Dec. 16, 2018</b>	<b>Season moved back 1-week</b>
Turkey (Fall) - (4 week counties)	Oct. 13, 2018 - Oct. 20, 2018 Oct. 29, 2018 - Nov. 17, 2018	
Turkey (Fall) - (2 week counties)	Oct. 13, 2018 - Oct. 20, 2018 Oct. 29, 2018 - Nov. 3, 2018	Fall counties determined after 2018 spring gobbler season
Turkey (Fall) - (1 week counties)	Oct. 13, 2018 - Oct. 20, 2018	Fall counties determined after 2018 spring gobbler season
Turkey (Spring Youth Season)	April 13, 2019	
Turkey (Spring 2019)	April 15, 2019 - May 11, 2019	

<b>Proposed Opening and Closing Dates for the 2019-2020 Hunting and Trapping Seasons</b>		
Species	Opening & Closing Dates	Comments/Changes
Squirrel	Sept. 14, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Squirrel (Youth)	Sept. 7, 2019	
Raccoon (Hunting)	Oct. 12, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Raccoon (Trapping)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Ruffed Grouse	Oct. 12, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Quail (Tomblin WMA closed)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Jan. 4, 2020	<b>Tomblin WMA closed to quail hunting season</b>
Rabbit	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Snowshoe Hare	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Ring-necked Pheasant (Statewide) (Hillcrest WMA)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Jan. 4, 2020 Nov. 9, 2019 - Dec. 7, 2019	
Fox (Hunting & Trapping) (Hunting at night with artificial light)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020 Jan. 1, 2020 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Bobcat (Hunting & Trapping)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Mink/Muskrat (Trapping)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Fisher (Trapping)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Jan. 31, 2020	
Beaver (Trapping)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Mar. 31, 2020	
Otter (Trapping)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Crow (Hunting)	Oct. 1, 2019 - Nov. 16, 2019 Jan. 1, 2020 - Mar. 7, 2020	
Skunk/Opossum/Coyote/Weasel/ Woodchuck/English Sparrow/European Starling/Pigeon (Hunting)	Continuous Open Season	
Coyote (Hunting at night with artificial light)	Jan. 1, 2020 - July 31, 2020	
Skunk/Opossum/Coyote/Weasel (Trapping)	Nov. 2, 2019 - Feb. 29, 2020	
Elk, Song & Insectivorous Birds, Hawks, Owls, Falcons & Eagles	No Open Season	

**RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE  
2018 REPTILE REGULATIONS**

1. The Division of Natural Resources proposes to add the grey rat snake (*Pantheriophis spiloides*) to the existing established seasons and limits for reptiles in West Virginia.

Favor \_\_\_\_\_

Oppose \_\_\_\_\_

## Overview of Proposed Recommendation for 2018 Reptile Regulations

Recent genetic evidence has suggested that the gray rat snake (*Pantheriphis spiloides*), a species once thought native to the US Southeast, is part of West Virginia's native herptofauna. To remain consistent within our regulations, to maintain regulatory authority over native wildlife, and to simplify the work of law enforcement investigating possible snake ownership violations, we would like to recommend that the gray rat snake be added to the list of snakes regulated under the current amphibian and reptile regulations. We are recommending that the gray rat snake be added to the list of native snakes currently occurring in the amphibian and reptile regulations, that specifies that bona fide West Virginia residents may possess a limit of 4 native snakes in aggregate, with exceptions made for timber rattlesnakes and northern copperheads (only 1 individual may be possessed; timber rattlesnakes must be 42 inches or greater).

### 2018 WV State Parks Deer Hunts

PARK	DATES OF HUNT/S	PERMITS PER DAY	EITHER SEX/ANTLERLESS/ANTLERED	TYPE OF HUNT
Beech Fork	November 5,6,7	15	1 either sex	Archery/Crossbow
	November 12,13,14	15	1 either sex	Archery/Crossbow
Cacapon	November 5,6,7	30	1 antlerless, 1 either sex	Archery/Crossbow
	November 12,13,14	30	2 antlerless with daily lottery buck draw	Muzzleloader
Lost River	November 12,13,14	30	1 either sex	Archery/Crossbow
	November 15,16,17	30	1 antlerless with daily lottery buck draw	Muzzleloader
Pipestem	November 5,6,7	30	1 antlerless, 1 either sex	Archery/Crossbow
	November 12,13,14	30	2 antlerless with daily lottery buck draw	Muzzleloader
Stonewall Resort	November 12,13,14	30	1 antlerless, 1 either sex	Archery/Crossbow
	November 15,16,17	30	2 antlerless with daily lottery buck draw	Muzzleloader
Watoga	November 5,6,7	30	1 either sex	Archery/Crossbow
	November 8,9,10	30	1 antlerless with daily lottery buck draw	Muzzleloader
North Bend	October 29,30,31	30	1 antlerless, 1 either sex	Archery/Crossbow
	November 1,2,3	30	1 antlerless, 1 either sex	Archery/Crossbow
	November 5,6,7	30	2 antlerless with daily lottery buck draw	Muzzleloader
Twin Falls	November 5,6,7	15	1 either sex	Archery/Class Y Crossbow
	November 8,9,10	15	1 either sex	Archery/Class Y Crossbow
Canaan	October 29,30,31	15	1 either sex	Archery/Crossbow
	November 5,6,7	15	1 antlerless with daily lottery buck draw	Muzzleloader
Chief Logan	November 5,6,7	15	1 either sex	Archery/Class Y Crossbow
	November 8,9,10	15	1 either sex	Archery/Class Y Crossbow

October 29-31	November 1-3	November 5-7	November 8-10	November 12-14	November 15-17
		Beech Fork		Beech Fork	
		Cacapon		Cacapon	
		Pipestem		Lost River	Lost River
				Pipestem	
				Stonewall	Stonewall
		Watoga	Watoga		
North Bend	North Bend	North Bend			
		Twin Falls	Twin Falls		
		Canaan			
Canaan		Chief Logan	Chief Logan		

**2018 WV State Parks Deer Hunts**

**PARK DATES OF HUNTS**

Beech Fork	November 5,6,7 November 12,13,14
Cacapon	November 5,6,7 November 12,13,14
Canaan	October 29,30,31 November 5,6,7
Chief Logan	November 5,6,7 November 8,9,10
Lost River	November 12,13,14 November 15,16,17
North Bend	October 29,30,31 November 1,2,3 November 5,6,7
Pipestem	November 5,6,7 November 12,13,14
Stonewall Resort	November 12,13,14 November 15,16,17
Twin Falls	November 5,6,7 November 8,9,10
Watoga	November 5,6,7 November 8,9,10

**Calendar View**

October 29-31	November 1-3	November 5-7	November 8-10	November 12-14	November 15-17
	Beech Fork	Beech Fork		Beech Fork	
	Cacapon	Cacapon		Cacapon	
	Canaan	Canaan			
	Chief Logan	Chief Logan			
		Lost River	Lost River		Lost River
North Bend	North Bend	North Bend			
		Pipestem		Pipestem	
				Stonewall	Stonewall
		Twin Falls	Twin Falls		
		Watoga	Watoga		

# **RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2019 FISHING REGULATIONS**

Presented to the  
West Virginia Natural Resources Commission

Prepared by: West Virginia Division of Natural Resources  
Wildlife Resources Section  
Fish Management  
February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2019

## RECOMMENDATIONS FOR THE 2019 FISHING REGULATIONS

1. The Division of Natural Resources proposes to establish catch-and-release trout fishing on Middle Fork of Williams River and tributaries, Webster and Pocahontas Counties, Tea Creek (Upstream of the Tea Creek Campground) and tributaries, Pocahontas County, Red Creek (Upstream of at CR 45 Bridge) and tributaries, Tucker County, Otter Creek and tributaries, Randolph and Tucker Counties.

Favor \_\_\_\_\_

Oppose \_\_\_\_\_

2. The Division of Natural Resources proposes to establish fly-fishing-only regulation for Edward Run (Upstream of the Edwards Run Pond 1.25 miles to the upstream boundary of the Edwards Run Wildlife Management Area) in Hampshire County.

Favor \_\_\_\_\_

Oppose \_\_\_\_\_

3. The Division of Natural Resources proposes to establish a slot limit at Parker Hollow Lake in Hardy County for all black bass (smallmouth, spotted, and largemouth) from 12 to 16 inches long in total length must be returned to the water at once.

Favor \_\_\_\_\_

Oppose \_\_\_\_\_

4. The Division of Natural Resources proposes an exclusion from the one black bass (smallmouth, spotted, and largemouth) 18 inches or longer length restriction for registered bass tournaments at Stonewall Jackson Reservoir.

Favor \_\_\_\_\_

Oppose \_\_\_\_\_

5. All other fishing regulations for 2019 would be the same as those in 2018

Favor \_\_\_\_\_

Oppose \_\_\_\_\_

## Hand-Fishing

Hand-fishing or “noodling” is the taking of catfish by use of hands only.

- Season is open June 15–August 31
- Hand-fishing is permitted during daylight hours only
- Use or possession of hooks, gaffs, spears, or anything other than hands while hand-fishing is prohibited.
- Use of bait or fish attractors is prohibited
- Only naturally-occurring cavities and naturally-occurring habitat may be hand-fished.
- The placement or use of artificial cavities and nesting boxes for hand-fishing is prohibited.
- The use of SCUBA gear or any other artificial breathing apparatus to hand fish is prohibited.
- Hand-fishing is prohibited on state-managed impoundments except Stonecoal, Hawks Nest, Mt. Storm, Cheat, and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lakes
- The daily creel limit for all catfish species taken by hand-fishing is 4 total, only two of which may be blue catfish, with only one fish allowed to be over 35 inches, unless the body of water has further restrictions.
- The daily creel limit for hand-fishing counts as part of any daily limit for hook and line fishing.