

TEXT

6 NYCRR 1.11(a)(2) and 1.11(b) are amended as follows:

(2) Southern zone.

| <i>Season</i> | <i>Season dates</i> |
|-------------------------|--|
| <u>Early Antlerless</u> | <u>9 consecutive days beginning on the 2nd Saturday of September</u> |
| Youth Firearms | 3 consecutive days beginning on the Saturday of Columbus Day weekend |
| Regular | 23 days beginning on the 3 rd Saturday in November |
| Bowhunting | Early Season: October 1 through the Friday immediately preceding regular season Late Season: nine days immediately following the regular season and December 26 through January 1 |
| Muzzleloader | Early Season: closed Late Season: nine consecutive days immediately following the regular season and December 26 through January 1 |

(b) Valid tags.

| <i>Season</i> | <i>Area</i> | <i>Valid tags (as described in section 1.18 of this Part)</i> |
|-------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|
| <u>Early Antlerless</u> | <u>Southern Zone</u> | <u>Deer Management Permits and Deer Management Assistance Program tags.</u> |
| Youth Firearms | Northern Zone and Southern Zone | Regular season deer tags, Deer Management Permits, and Deer Management Assistance Program tags. Junior hunters may take any deer on a regular season tag. |
| Regular | Northern Zone and Southern Zone | Regular season deer tags, Deer Management Permits, Deer Management Assistance Program tags. For junior bowhunters only, bow/mz either-sex tags may be used when hunting with a bow. |
| | Westchester County and Suffolk County | Regular season deer tags, Deer Management Permits, Deer Management Assistance Program tags, bow/mz either-sex tags, and bow/mz antlerless-only tags. Any deer may be taken on a regular season tag. |
| Early Bowhunting | Northern Zone and Southern Zone | Bow/mz either-sex tags, bow/mz antlerless-only tags, Deer Management Permits, Deer Management Assistance Program tags. |

| | | |
|--------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Late Bowhunting | Northern Zone and Southern Zone | Any unfilled tag for the current license year; any deer may be taken on a regular season tag. |
| Early Muzzleloader | Northern Zone | Bow/mz either-sex tags, bow/mz antlerless-only tags, Deer Management Permits, Deer Management Assistance Program tags. |
| Late Muzzleloader | Northern Zone and Southern Zone | Any unfilled tag for the current license year; any deer may be taken on a regular season tag. |

6 NYCRR 1.11(d)(7) is amended and a new paragraph (8) is added as follows:

(7) During the Northern Zone muzzleloading seasons, the types of deer that may be legally harvested and the open wildlife management units (WMUs) as described in section 4.1 of this Title are as set forth below.

| <i>Season</i> | <i>Open WMUs for harvest of deer of either sex</i> | <i>Open WMUs for harvest of antlerless deer only</i> | <i>Open WMUs for harvest of antlered deer only</i> |
|--------------------|--|--|--|
| Early Muzzleloader | 5A, 5C, 5F, 5G, 5H, 5J, <u>6A</u> , 6C, <u>6E</u> , 6G, 6H, <u>6J</u> , 6K | | [6A, 6F, 6J,] 6N |
| Late Muzzleloader | 5A, 5G, 5J, 6A, 6C, 6G, 6H | | |

(8) During the Early Antlerless season, antlerless deer may be taken with any legal implement in the following wildlife management units (WMUs) as described in section 4.1 of this Title: WMUs 3M, 3R, 8A, 8F, 8G, 8J, 8N, 9A, and 9F. Antlerless deer may be taken with longbows in the following WMUs as described in section 4.1 of this Title: WMUs 1C, 3S, 4J, and 8C.

6 NYCRR 1.18(e)(3) is amended as follows:

(3) A regular season deer tag may be used during the late special archery season[,] and the late muzzleloader season [and the September portion of the northern zone early archery season] by hunters holding licenses or stamps authorizing big game hunting during those seasons.

6 NYCRR 1.31(b) is amended as follows:

(b) Bear hunting seasons.

Bears may be taken only during the open seasons and areas listed below:

(1) Regular bear seasons:

| <i>Bear range</i> | <i>Season dates</i> | <i>Wildlife management unit (WMU)</i> |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Northern | [44 consecutive days beginning on the 2nd Saturday after Columbus Day <u>through the Sunday immediately following the 1st Saturday in December</u> | [5A, 5C, 5F, 5G, 5H, 5J,] 6A, [6C, 6F,] 6G, [6H, 6J,] 6K, and 6N |
| | <u>1st Saturday after the 2nd Monday in September through the Sunday immediately following the 1st Saturday in December</u> | <u>5A, 5C, 5F, 5G, 5H, 5J, 6C, 6F, 6H, and 6J</u> |
| Southern | 23 days beginning on the 3rd Saturday in November | 3A, 3C, 3F, 3G, 3H, 3J, 3K, 3M, 3N, 3P, 3R, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4F, 4G, 4H, 4J, 4K, 4L, 4O, 4P, 4R, 4S, 4T, 4U, 4W, 4Y, 4Z, 5R, 5S, 5T, 6P, 6R, 6S, 7A, 7F, 7H, 7J, 7M, 7P, 7R, 7S, 8A, 8C, 8F, 8G, 8H, 8J, 8M, 8N, 8P, 8R, 8S, 8T, 8W, 8X, 8Y, 9A, 9F, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9M, 9N, 9P, 9R, 9S, 9T, 9W, 9X, and 9Y |
| | October 1 to December 31 | 3S |

- (i) Legal implements for regular bear season are the same as for regular deer season.
- (ii) Black bear may only be taken by longbow in Westchester County (WMU 3S) and in WMUs 4J and 8C.

(2) Early bear season:

| <i>Bear range</i> | <i>Season dates</i> | <i>Wildlife management unit (WMU)</i> |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Northern | First Saturday after the second Monday in September through the Friday immediately preceding the Northern muzzleloading bear season | [5A, 5C, 5F, 5G, 5H, 5J, 6C, 6F, 6H, and 6J] |
| Southern | First Saturday after Labor Day for 16 days | 3A, 3C, 3H, 3J, 3K, 3M, 3P, 3R, 4P, 4R, and 4W |

- (i) Legal implements for early bear season are the same as for regular bear season.

(3) Bowhunting bear seasons:

| <i>Bear range</i> | <i>Season dates</i> | <i>Wildlife management unit (WMU)</i> |
|-------------------|--|---|
| Northern | First Saturday after the second Monday in September through the Friday immediately preceding the [regular season] <u>2nd Saturday after Columbus Day</u> | [5A, 5C, 5F, 5G, 5H, 5J,] 6A, [6C, 6F,] 6G, [6H, 6J,] 6K, and 6N |
| Southern | Early Season: October 1 through the Friday immediately preceding regular season; Late Season: nine days immediately following the regular season | 3A, 3C, 3F, 3G, 3H, 3J, 3K, 3M, 3N, 3P, 3R, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4F, 4G, 4H, 4J, 4K, 4L, 4O, 4P, 4R, 4S, 4T, 4U, 4W, 4Y, 4Z, 5R, 5S, 5T, 6P, 6R, 6S, 7A, 7F, 7H, 7J, 7M, 7P, 7R, 7S, 8A, 8C, 8F, 8G, 8H, 8J, 8M, 8N, 8P, 8R, 8S, 8T, 8W, 8X, 8Y, 9A, 9F, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9M, 9N, 9P, 9R, 9S, 9T, 9W, 9X and 9Y |

(i) Any person who hunts or takes bear during bowhunting season must possess a license and carcass tag valid to hunt big game granting special bowhunting season privileges, except as described in section 2.3(e)(3)(iv) of this Title.

(ii) Any person participating in the bowhunting bear hunting season may not have in his or her possession, or be accompanied by a person who has in his or her possession, any hunting implement other than a legal longbow, except as described in section 2.3(e)(3)(iii) of this Title.

(4) Muzzleloading bear seasons:

| <i>Bear range</i> | <i>Season dates</i> | <i>Wildlife management unit (WMU)</i> |
|-------------------|---|--|
| Northern | Seven consecutive days beginning on the 1st Saturday after Columbus Day | [5A, 5C, 5F, 5G, 5H, 5J,] 6A, [6C, 6F,] 6G, [6H, 6J,] 6K, and 6N |
| Southern | Nine consecutive days immediately following the regular season | 3A, 3C, 3F, 3G, 3H, 3J, 3K, 3M, 3N, 3P, 3R, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4F, 4G, 4H, 4K, 4L, 4O, 4P, 4R, 4S, 4T, 4U, 4W, 4Y, 4Z, 5R, 5S, 5T, 6P, 6R, 6S, 7A, 7F, 7H, 7J, 7M, 7P, 7R, 7S, 8A, 8F, 8G, 8H, 8J, 8M, 8N, 8P, 8R, 8S, 8T, 8W, 8X, 8Y, 9A, 9F, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9M, 9N, 9P, 9R, 9S, 9T, 9W, 9X, and 9Y |

(i) Any person who hunts or takes bear during muzzleloading season must possess a license and carcass tag valid to hunt big game granting special muzzleloading season privileges.

(ii) Any person participating in the muzzleloading bear hunting season may not have in his or her possession, or be accompanied by a person who has in his or her possession, a firearm other than a muzzleloading firearm which is lawful for taking big game.

(5) Youth bear season:

| <i>Bear range</i> | <i>Season dates</i> | <i>Wildlife management unit (WMU)</i> |
|-------------------|--|--|
| Northern | Three consecutive days beginning on the Saturday of Columbus Day weekend | [5A, 5C, 5F, 5G, 5H, 5J,] 6A, [6C, 6F,] 6G, [6H, 6J,] 6K, and 6N |
| Southern | Three consecutive days beginning on the Saturday of Columbus Day weekend | 3A, 3C, 3F, 3G, 3H, 3J, 3K, 3M, 3N, 3P, 3R, 3S, 4A, 4B, 4C, 4F, 4G, 4H, 4J, 4K, 4L, 4O, 4P, 4R, 4S, 4T, 4U, 4W, 4Y, 4Z, 5R, 5S, 5T, 6P, 6R, 6S, 7A, 7F, 7H, 7J, 7M, 7P, 7R, 7S, 8A, 8C, 8F, 8G, 8H, 8J, 8M, 8N, 8P, 8R, 8S, 8T, 8W, 8X, 8Y, 9A, 9F, 9G, 9H, 9J, 9K, 9M, 9N, 9P, 9R, 9S, 9T, 9W, 9X, and 9Y |

(i) Legal implements for youth bear season are the same as for regular bear season,

6 NYCRR 1.31(c)(4) is repealed and paragraphs 5-10 are renumbered 4-9.

6 NYCRR 2.1 is amended as follows:

During any hunting season established by law or fixed by order of the department for deer or bear, hunting hours daily shall be from 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.

A new 6 NYCRR 2.15 is adopted as follows:

2.15 Fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink requirements for hunting deer and bear.

(a) Definitions. Fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink may also be referred to as hunter orange, blaze orange, hunter pink, or blaze pink.

(b) Purpose. The provisions of this section shall apply to the taking of deer and bear pursuant to sections 3-0301, 11-0303, and 11-0903 of the Environmental Conservation Law.

(c) Specifications. Any person hunting deer or bear with a firearm or a person who is accompanying someone hunting deer or bear with a firearm shall display either:

- (1) a minimum total of two hundred fifty square inches of solid fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink material worn above the waist and visible from all directions; or
- (2) a minimum total of two hundred fifty square inches of patterned fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink consisting of no less than fifty percent fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink worn above the waist and visible from all directions; or
- (3) a hat or cap with no less than fifty percent of the exterior consisting of solid fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink material and visible from all directions.