



## Hunting 2015 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

- 1) **Can I hunt in Great Sand Dunes National Park?** Hunting is prohibited within the national park but is allowed within Great Sand Dunes National Preserve.
- 2) **Can I drive through the national park to access legal hunting areas?** Yes. Visit our website at <http://www.nps.gov/grsa/learn/management/hunting.htm> to view the Transport and Access Maps.
- 3) **Can I cross the national park on foot to access legal hunting areas?** Yes. Visit our website at <http://www.nps.gov/grsa/learn/management/hunting.htm> to view the Transport and Access Maps.
- 4) **Can I ride a horse to access hunting areas?** Yes. Horses may be off-loaded at the horse trailer parking lot, ridden up the Medano Road to Point of No Return, and then continue on either the road or the Sand Ramp Trail to a hunter access point about ½ mile North of Point of not Return. You can continue along the Sand Ramp Trail to Medano Creek. Manure that falls onto the parking lot must be shoveled back into the trailer before riding away and again upon returning. Horses may also enter the park from the Baca-Grande subdivision (Liberty Gate) to access the Rio Grande National Forest or the preserve. There are limits to the numbers of livestock that may be in the Cold Creek drainage at one time. Please contact the Visitor Center for more information.
- 5) **Do I need a Great Sand Dunes permit to hunt?** No. ALL hunters are required to **register** with the Great Sand Dunes. This can be done by calling in or in person at the Park Visitor Center. Camping permits are also required for the Cold Creek drainage. You can call the Visitor Center at 719-378-6395 between 9:00-4:00.
- 6) **Can I set up camp in the national park and hunt in the national preserve or nearby Forest Service or BLM lands?** Yes, you may camp in the park at Pinon Flats Campground and drive to the National Preserve via the Medano Road or to other Forest Service or BLM lands to hunt (see above). Hunters may not hang game or game parts anywhere within the national park. Hunting camps are *not* allowed at any other location within the National Park. A hunting camp is defined as a base from which hunting activities begin and end each day.
- 7) **Can I transport game across the park?** Yes, you may transport your legally tagged and covered game in your **vehicle**. Game may also be transported by foot or horseback if you have registered with the park and only within designated corridors and areas. (See Transport and Access Maps)
- 8) **How do I know if I'm in the national park or not?** Maps are available at the Visitor Center. It is your responsibility to know your location at all times. The national park boundary is well marked in some locations, but not so well marked in others.
- 9) **What if I wound an animal and it enters the park. Can I pursue it?** No. Contact a park ranger or call (719) 378-6399 or (719) 589-5807, to report the incident and location so that a ranger can destroy the wounded animal.
- 10) **Are hunters required to keep their dogs on a leash at all times within the national preserve?** Hunters who are lawfully using dogs during actual hunting activities, such as in pursuit of a mountain lion or retrieving game birds, may take their dogs off leash. Otherwise, dogs are required to be leashed.
- 11) **I have other hunting questions. Where can I get more information?** For other hunting questions contact the Colorado Parks and Wildlife (303) 297-1192 or the National Park Service Visitor Center at (719) 378-6395.