



2013 Big Spring Managed Deer Hunt - Archery



December 13-15, 2013

Big Spring Managed Deer Hunt – Archery



Purpose

The Big Spring managed deer hunt will improve the overall health of the deer herd through quality deer management in the Big Spring area. This recreational opportunity is an effort to provide proper access, facilities, and other needed resources so these individuals can enjoy a safe and successful recreational experience.

Point of Contact

National Park Service
Ozark National Scenic Riverways
P.O. Box 490
Van Buren, MO 63965

Kim Houf, Terrestrial Ecologist, 573-323-4236 ext. 4941

To Apply for Hunt: Go online at mdc.mo.gov/node/11252

Description of Proposed Area

Located at the end of State Road 103, four miles south of Van Buren, Missouri in Carter County. The Big Spring managed hunt will take place within the boundaries of the 5,500 acre Big Spring unit, which was one of Missouri's first state parks from 1924 until 1969. In 1969 the state of Missouri donated Big Springs State Park to the National Park Service for inclusion into Ozark National Scenic Riverways (OZAR). The area contains various developed areas to include a campground, picnic areas, a dining lodge, trails and rental cabins. The habitat for this area is primarily composed of oak-hickory forest with a few grass field openings. The majority of the area is managed with prescription fire in order to help benefit fire adapted fire benefits native species and habitats.

Method

1. Archery (longbow, recurve bow, or compound bow) will be the only devices permitted during the hunt.
2. No hunting dogs or other pets will be permitted to be used for the hunt, nor will they be allowed in the area during the hunt.

Bag Limit

1. Two deer, **antlerless only** are permitted to be harvested by each hunter.

Monitoring

1. An on-site entrance and exit check station will be located at the entrance of the Big Spring dining lodge parking lot to provide control and safety during the hunt. Each hunter will be required to check in and out at the check station daily to verify the permit.
2. Hunters will be required to check harvested deer in at the station in order for staff to gather biological data and to insure compliance of the regulations of the hunt.
3. All harvested deer must be checked in by telephone or on the Internet according to the Missouri Department of Conservation Telecheck regulations.

Required Registration and Safety Briefing

1. **Thursday, October 18th** - All permitted hunters **must attend** register for the hunt and attend the safety briefing at the park Headquarters located in Van Buren. Registration will begin at **7:00 pm**. Hunters will receive instructions and safety rules and regulations.