

All Stewards should be aware that big game hunting in the Santa Fe National Forest begins with bow hunting September 1 and continues with rifle hunting through November, and into December in some areas of the Forest.

As you plan your site visits during this time we encourage you to be especially aware of your surroundings. We are indebted to Lee Borduin for the following hunting information for the areas we access as site stewards. For more detail on the boundaries of specific game units, go to the N.M. Game and Fish web site at <http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/recreation/hunting/index.htm> and look under "Maps" about mid-way down the left column. You'll need the high resolution PDF file map to get enough detail to see if your sites fall within these game units.

Stewards are encouraged to wear some international orange clothing article and avoid "typical big game colors" white, black, tan, brown. Note that the "any legal sporting arm" hunts start on a Saturday and end on Wednesday at sundown. Thursday and Friday are not hunting days. Also, hunting activity is most intense during early morning hours and late afternoon so mid-day hikers are less likely to encounter hunters.

Hunting info for the areas monitored by site stewards is as follows:

Caja del Rio - included in Game Unit 6C. Likely little hunting activity but here are the dates:

- Deer: Sept. 1-22 (bow hunting); Oct. 10-14 (muzzleloaders and bows); Oct. 17-21, Nov. 7-11 (any legal sporting arm).
- Elk: Sept. 1-22 (bow hunting); Oct. 10-14 (muzzleloaders and bows); Oct. 17-21, 24-28, Oct. 31-Nov. 4, Nov. 27-Dec. 2, Dec. 5-9, 26-30 (any legal sporting arm).

Gallina - included primarily in Unit 5B with a few sites in Unit 5A.

5B: (Llaves area and east to Chama R.)

- Deer: Nov. 7-11, 25-29 (any legal sporting arm).
- Elk: Sept. 1-22 (bow hunting); Oct. 10-14, 17-21, 24-28, Oct. 31-Nov. 4, Nov. 27-Dec. 1, Dec. 19-23 (any legal sporting arm).

5A: (Continental Divide and points west.)

- Deer: Sept. 1-22 (bow hunting); Nov. 10-16 (any legal sporting arm).
- Elk: Sept. 1-22 (bow hunting); Oct. 3-7, 10-14, 17-21, 24-28 (any legal sporting arm).

Garcia - included in Game Unit 6C.

- Deer: Sept. 1-22 (bow hunting); Oct. 10-14 (muzzleloaders and bows); Oct. 17-21, Nov. 7-11 (any legal sporting arm).
- Elk: Sept. 1-22 (bow hunting); Oct. 10-14 (muzzleloaders and bows); Oct. 17-21, 24-28, Oct.31-Nov.4, Nov.27-Dec. 2, Dec. 5-9, 26-30 (any legal sporting arm).

Jemez - included in Game Unit 6A.

- Deer: Sept. 1-22 (bow hunting); Oct. 10-14 (muzzleloaders and bows); Oct. 17-21, Nov. 7-11 (any legal sporting arm).
- Elk: Sept. 1-22 (bow hunting); Oct. 10-14(muzzleloaders and bows); Oct. 17-21, 24-28, Oct. 31-Nov.4, Nov.27- Dec.1, Dec. 26-30 (any legal sporting arm).

Rio Chama - included in Game Unit 6C.

- Deer: Sept. 1-22 (bow hunting); Oct. 10-14 (muzzleloaders and bows); Oct. 17-21, Nov. 7-11 (any legal sporting arm).
- Elk: Sept. 1-22 (bow hunting); Oct. 10-14 (muzzleloaders and bows); Oct. 17-21, 24-28, Oct.31-Nov.4, Nov.27-Dec. 2, Dec. 5-9, Dec. 26-30 (any legal sporting arm).

Pecos - included in Game Unit 43.

- Deer: Sept. 1-22 (bow hunting); Sept. 24-30 (muzzleloaders and bows); Oct. 24-28, Oct.31-Nov. 4 (any legal sporting arm).
- Elk: Sept. 26-30 (any legal sporting arm).

Please contact your Area Team Leader if you have questions.