



MICHIGAN ARMY NATIONAL GUARD
FORT CUSTER TRAINING CENTER
2501 26th Street
Augusta Michigan 49012-9205

MWR – Military/Employee Hunting/Fishing SOP for OCT 21 – SEP 22

PERSONS ELIGIBLE TO HUNT/FISH

- Current full time MDMVA / FCTC employees with valid ID
- Active/Retired MIARNG members with valid ID
- Anyone valid DoD ID

Final approval of the hunter eligibility rests with FCTC Garrison Commander.

Eligible hunters may host up to 2 guests. Eligible hunters are responsible for their guest(s) while on Fort Custer. Hunters must have (1) signed copy of SOP on file with FCTC-DPOTS (Range Control) and (1) on-person in order to go afield.

CHECK IN/OUT PROCEDURE

All weapons brought onto Fort Custer must be declared and visually identified at Front Gate. **All sportsmen must check in/out with Range Control during normal business hours before going afield and immediately after returning from your hunting area. Outside normal business hours check in/out is at the front gate security post.** Hunt dates will change according to troop training schedules and it is incumbent upon the hunter to coordinate through FCTC-DPOTS (Range Control) at 269-282-7559 prior to your hunt.

If you harvest game while on Fort Custer please notify Brian Huggett in the environmental office. This is for courtesy and tracking/herd management purposes only. Contact via email: Brian.w.huggett.nfg@mail.mil or call 269-282-7878.

Compliance with these procedures are mandatory and essential to maintain a safe and responsible hunt. If individuals are found to be out of compliance with this SOP or the MI DNR hunting regulations, privileges may be revoked at the discretion of DPOTS or the Garrison Commander.

HUNTING/FISHING AREAS

Training Areas 1-8 (*Areas 1-2 archery hunting only*) ALL SPECIES/ALL SEASONS see map on page 2.

There will be **no hunting/fishing in the North Impact Area (all land north of Territorial Rd. and South of Range Rd.)**. This duded impact area is off limits as per Army Regulation 210-21 Army Ranges and Training Land Program. (5-11d).

HUNT DAYS

Fort Custer is first and foremost a Training Center. When units are conducting live-fire ranges or training in any of the training areas hunting is **NOT** authorized until that training is complete. Hunters must coordinate with FCTC-DPOTS (Range Control call 269-282-7559 24 hours prior to coming to FCTC) to ensure hunting is open. A tentative schedule of available hunting dates and times will be posted on the website: fortcusterhunt.org. (This will change regularly due to training schedule changes so check often).

Public Hunt Day, will be posted on fortcusterhunt.org. Contact Brian Huggett with environmental via email Brian.w.huggett.nfg@mail.mil or 269-282-7878 with questions regarding Public hunt dates.

SPECIES

Whitetail deer, Turkey, and Waterfowl are authorized species available to hunt during MI-DNR published seasons and with appropriate licensing. Coyote hunting is not authorized. Trapping of any species must receive approval through FCTC-ENV and FCTC-CDR.

WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT

Shotgun, bow, crossbow, muzzleloaders, .35-caliber or larger rifle loaded with straight-walled cartridges are the only approved hunting weapons at Fort Custer Training Center: Concealed weapons are for personal protection and must be self-declared upon entry to Fort Custer Training Center, they are not to be used for hunting any game species. Access will be denied to any persons transporting weapons not approved for use on Fort Custer. Dogs may be used for waterfowl hunting as long as they come on post just prior to hunting and leave immediately when finished. A dog may be used to locate a down or mortally wounded deer as long as they come on post just prior to tracking and leave immediately when finished. The dog must be kept on a leash at all times. Temporary elevated tree stands may be used for deer hunting (no screw in steps or permanent blinds). Tree stands and hunting blinds must comply with the 2021 Michigan Hunting Digest (Ground Blinds on Public Land), cannot be placed prior to September 1st 2021, and must be removed no later than March 1st 2022. Tree stands and hunting blinds found after March 1st 2022 will be removed and disposed of. It is the sportsmen's responsibility to know what they are shooting at, what is both in front and behind their target.

