



**MICHIGAN ARMY NATIONAL GUARD  
FORT CUSTER TRAINING CENTER**  
2501 26<sup>th</sup> Street  
Augusta Michigan 49012-9205

## MWR – Military/Employee Hunting/Fishing SOP for OCT 24 – SEP 25

### **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. Guests must also have a signed copy of the SOP on file with FCTC-DPOTS (Range Control) as well.

### **CHECK IN/OUT PROCEDURE**

Hunting weapons brought onto Fort Custer must be declared and visually identified at Front Gate. **All sportspersons 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: [huggettb@michigan.gov](mailto:huggettb@michigan.gov) or call 269-282-7878.

**Compliance with these procedures is 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](http://fortcusterhunt.org). (This will change regularly due to training schedule changes so check often).

Public Hunt Day, will be posted on [fortcusterhunt.org](http://fortcusterhunt.org). Contact Brian Huggett with environmental via email [huggettb@michigan.gov](mailto:huggettb@michigan.gov) or 269-282-7878 with questions regarding Public hunt dates.

### **SPECIES**

Whitetail deer, Turkey, Waterfowl, and small game 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, 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. Dog(s) used for small game hunting are not authorized. 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 2024 Michigan Hunting Digest (Ground Blinds on Public Land), cannot be placed prior to September 1<sup>st</sup> 2024, and must be removed no later than March 31<sup>st</sup> 2025. Tree stands and hunting blinds found after March 31<sup>st</sup> 2025 will be removed and disposed of. It is the sportsperson's responsibility to know what they are shooting at, what is both in front and behind their target.



## MWR – Military/Employee Hunting/Fishing 2024 – 2025 SOP

In signing this SOP to hunt on Fort Custer Training Center, I state that I am familiar with and will abide by all applicable Federal and State Game Laws and adhere to environmental regulations. I will follow all regulations and restrictions, which may be imposed on my actions and movements while at FCTC. I am familiar with and will follow all hunter safety rules. I will conduct myself at all times as a true sportsperson and I will respect the rights and property of others. I agree without exception, or reservation, to be solely and personally responsible for any injuries to myself, or others with me, and for all damage which may occur to my property and for any injury or damage to anyone else's person or property which may be caused by me, or by persons travelling with me for whom I am responsible for. I absolve the Government, the US Army, the State of Michigan, and Fort Custer Training Center of any liability or responsibility in connection with the exercise of any hunting privileges which may be extended to me.

Failure to adhere to these regulations/guidelines could result in restrictions or complete revocation of the following privileges at FCTC; hunting, driving, admittance, etc. Hunting privileges may be revoked by the Garrison Commander if he/she determines the hunter, sportsperson, and outdoor recreationist is not in compliance with the said SOP as shown above. Furthermore, violations of state or federal law will be reported to the proper authorities without reservation or prejudice. Military personnel are always held to the UCMJ in addition to any violations to state or federal laws.

LTC Peter J. Newman

| <i><b>FCTC Garrison Commander</b></i> | <i><b>SIGNATURE</b></i> | <i><b>DATE</b></i> |                       |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|
| <i><b>PRINTED NAME</b></i>            | <i><b>SIGNATURE</b></i> | <i><b>DATE</b></i> | <i><b>PHONE #</b></i> |

