

GRAND TRAVERSE BAND **ELK HUNTING REGULATIONS**

Definitions: The definitions contained in the Grand Traverse Band (GTB) Elk Hunting regulations shall apply to the provisions of these regulations.

Elk Hunting Regulations: These regulations are a supplement to GTB's Hunting, Fishing, Trapping and Gathering regulations by action of the Tribal Council of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians ("GTB" or "Tribe") based on the motion of the Natural Resources & Environmental Committee.

Elk Season: The open of the GTB elk hunting season shall begin on the first day of the State elk season, and close 15 days after the final day of the last State Season; which may occur in either December or January. The GTB elk season will also close if the quota is met during that time period.

Elk Management Units: Beginning the first day of Hunt Period One (1) of the State elk season until the beginning of State Hunt Period Two (2), no GTB member shall engage in hunting for elk within areas which are designated not open for hunting elk (Core Area). Specifically, this includes the central management unit(s) ("core area") during State Hunt Period 1 defined when the State notice is sent.

Beginning the first day of Hunt Period Two (2) of the State elk season through 15 days after the last day of the final December/January State elk season, all areas will be open to GTB members for hunting elk.

Elk Harvest Permit Required: No GTB member shall hunt elk without possessing a valid Elk Harvest Permit issued by the Tribe which shall define the hunter to whom it is issued and the sex of the animal for which it is valid (*i.e.*, cow or Hunter Choice allowing for a bull or cow to be harvested). Permits issued to GTB members shall be valid for the entire elk hunting season.

Elk Harvest Permit Conditions and Eligibility: Any GTB member issued an Elk Harvest Permit must comply with any and all conditions contained in the permit including, but not limited to, restrictions on the type of firearm, ammunition and hunting hours.

In order to be eligible for an Elk Harvest Permit, GTB members must have a valid hunter's safety certificate and/or affidavit supporting such proof and must possess a current and valid Tribal Hunting License which is in compliance with current GTB Hunting Regulation requirements prior to making an application for any Elk Hunting Permit.

Note* All GTB elk hunters must communicate with GTB Natural Resources Department staff or GTB Conservation Officers by the beginning of the State's December season. If a GTB Hunter has not done so, the Hunt Packet with all information, tags, and seals shall be returned to GTB-NRD to be re-issued to the first alternate hunter.

Applications of Elders of the age 55 years or older eligible applying for an Elk Harvest Permit shall be placed in a separate drawing pool for **one** Elk Harvest Permit and also in the general pool of applicants to be drawn. If an individual is successful in the draw from the Elder's pool of applicants, that individual shall not be eligible to be drawn from the general pool.

If an individual is successful in any of the Elk Harvest Permit drawings, that individual shall not be eligible to apply for Elk Harvest Permit drawings for 10 consecutive years.

Transferability of Permit: Elk Harvest Permits may not be transferred by the permit recipient. Instead, permits not utilized shall be transferred by the GTB-NRD to the next name drawn on the lottery list.

*Exception: Elders with a valid elk license may assign a designated hunter to harvest elk if that individual is a GTB Tribal Citizen with a valid Tribal license to hunt with a firearm.

Elk Hunt Orientation: Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, GTB members issued an Elk Harvest Permit will need to check the DNR orientation on-line or call the GTB-NRD at (231) 534-7656 or (231) 534-7500 and will be directed to the personnel.

Required Reporting: Any elk harvested will be affixed with a GTB Harvest tag. Location of harvest will be specifically reported with a GPS coordinate (preferred) along with the nearest road access. Or -Township, Range, and Section and point to the nearest road by way of flagging to the gut pile of the harvested elk.

Biological and Harvest Data Reporting Requirement: Each GTB member issued an Elk Harvest Permit shall comply with the data collection requirements identified during the orientation session. Failure to comply with the data collection requirements is a violation of these regulations and shall result in disqualification of any member found guilty of such violation for the issuance of any special Harvest Permit for wildlife for a period of up to five (5) years.

Baiting Prohibited: No GTB member shall place food material for elk to attract, lure or entice the animal as an aid in hunting.

Enforcement and Prosecution: These regulations may be enforced by any law enforcement or conservation officer of any Tribe that is a party to the 1836 Treaty of Washington or by a State of Michigan law enforcement officer if authorized to enforce Tribal regulations under the terms of the Inland Consent Decree and subsequent Tribal Council action. Prosecutions for violations of these regulations shall take place exclusively in the Tribal Court of the Grand Traverse Band of Ottawa and Chippewa Indians.

Penalties: In addition to those penalties set forth above, penalties for violations of the regulations shall be based on the penalty provisions in GTB's Hunting, Fishing, Trapping and Gathering regulations.