

Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission**Proclamation 23-07****Statewide Nonprotected Wildlife and Species Deemed Destructive**

Pursuant to the authority granted by Tennessee Code Annotated 70-4-107 and 70-5-108, the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission hereby proclaims the statewide nonprotected species, species deemed destructive, and manner and means of capture and dispatch.

SECTION I. SPECIES NOT PROTECTED BY LAW

The following species are not protected by law because they are non-native invasive populations with potential to damage property, pose a human health risk, and have detrimental effects on native wildlife.

- A. House (English) Sparrow
- B. European Starling
- C. Rock Pigeon
- D. Nutria

SECTION II. SPECIES DEEMED DESTRUCTIVE

The following species are deemed destructive to property and may pose a safety or health risk to people, livestock, and other native wildlife.

- A. Wild Hog

SECTION III. MANNER AND MEANS FOR CAPTURE AND DISPATCH OF WILD HOGS

- A. Landowners and individuals meeting the requirements for farmland license exemptions under TCA 70-2-204 may use the following methods without obtaining a Hog Control Exemption:
 - 1. Any weapon and ammunition legal for taking big game and small game during daylight hours only.
 - 2. Live traps with bait. Bait may not be used during big game hunting seasons without an exemption from the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency. All wild hogs must be dispatched before removal from trap.
 - 3. Utilize services provided by the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service,
- B. Landowners may be authorized to use additional methods by obtaining a Hog Control Exemption from the Wildlife Resources Agency subject to the following restrictions:
 - 1. Landowners may designate a maximum of 10 individuals, per calendar year, for properties up to 1,000 acres.
 - 2. For properties with more than 1,000 acres, one (1) additional designee is allowed for every 100 additional acres.

3. Designees may employ any methods authorized on the Hog Control Exemption at the landowner's discretion.
- C. Hog Control Exemptions may authorize the following:
1. The use of dogs as part of the experimental eradication program in Overton, Fentress, Cumberland, and Pickett counties. Dogs may not be used during November or December.
 2. Shooting at night with the aid of artificial light, shooting over bait during big game season, or other methods as approved by TWRA and listed on the Hog Control Exemption.
- D. Licensed Big Game Hunters may use the following means:
1. Wild hogs may be taken incidental to scheduled bear-dog hunts in the counties or portions of counties open to bear-dog hunting in the current Big Game Hunting Season Proclamation.
- E. Possession of a hog control exemption is not a defense for a violation of state and federal baiting statutes
- F. This Proclamation acknowledges the significant importance of Tennessee's agricultural industry to the State's economy and well-being. It is further acknowledged that wild, or wild appearing, hogs have a growing detrimental impact to this industry. In consideration of this and noting the particular challenges faced in dispatching wild hogs throughout a crop's growing season, the Executive Director may authorize the use of alternative manner and means of dispatching wild hogs by Agency personnel and/or their representative to protect agricultural property from such impacts

SECTION IV. TRANSPORTING FERAL, WILD OR WILD APPEARING HOGS

- A. The transporting of feral, wild or wild appearing hogs within the State of Tennessee shall not occur unless such movement meets the requirements as set forth by the Tennessee Department of Agriculture.
- B. The possession of hogs originating from the wild is prohibited.

SECTION V. REPEAL OF PRIOR PROCLAMATIONS

This proclamation repeals Proclamation No. 13-09.

TENNESSEE FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

Thomas Woods

Chairman

I certify that this is an accurate and complete copy of a proclamation lawfully promulgated and adopted by the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission on the 21st day of April, 2023.

[Signature]

Secretary



Subscribed and sworn to before me this the 5 day of May, 2023.

Elizabeth Uldrich

Notary Public

My commission expires on: September 7, 2026

Proclamation No. 23-07 received and recorded this 5th day of May, 2023; to be effective the 4th day of June, 2023.

Tre Hargett

Tre Hargett, Secretary of State

RECEIVED

May 05 2023, 4:06 pm

Secretary of State
Division of Publications