



# TWRA NEWS

CONTACT: Dave Gabbard  
200 Lowell Thomas Drive  
Jackson, TN 38301  
1-731-423-5724  
1-800-372-3928  
1-731-423-6483 (fax)  
E-Mail: Dave.Gabbard@state.tn.us  
Hearing Impaired TDD # 615-781-6691  
Website at: [www.tnwildlife.org](http://www.tnwildlife.org)

“STOP POACHING” 1-800-831-1173

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## **2007 BOGOTA WMA APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE SEPT. 20**

## **TENNESSEE LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM DEER MORTALITY ATTRIBUTED TO EHD**

## **2007 BOGOTA WMA WATERFOWL RESERVATION APPLICATIONS AVAILABLE SEPTEMBER 20**

Reservation applications for the waterfowl hunts scheduled on Bogota WMA for the 2007-2008 season will be available at license agents or online beginning September 20, 2007 according to the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA).

All applications must be processed at a TWRA license agent, TWRA regional office or on-line at [www.tnwildlife.org](http://www.tnwildlife.org). No mail-in applications will be accepted. There is no fee for current Annual Sportsman License holders, Lifetime Sportsman License holders or senior citizens possessing a type 167 permit. For all other applicants, there is a \$10.00 non-refundable permit fee plus a \$1.00 agent fee (if applied for at a license agent) or a \$2.50 internet usage fee (if applied for on-line). The deadline is midnight, October 19, 2007.

Hunters will get to choose from 10 different hunt dates listed for the five pools available for hunting. Youths, ages 6-16 by the date of the hunt, may apply. However they must

apply and hunt with a party with a least one adult, 21 years of age or older, who remains in a position to take immediate control of the hunting device.

A computer drawing will be held to determine successful applications based on the Priority Drawing System. TWRA's Priority Draw System gives a priority point to hunters that participated last year without being drawn for a hunt. Applicants who were successful last year will have a priority of zero. In order to be drawn with priority, a hunter with priority must apply either alone or with a party in which all party members have priority. If a party applies and if that party includes a member that does not have priority points, all members of that party will be in the drawing with zero priority. Reservation cards will be issued to successful applicants.

“Hunters who are drawn for the specific hunt dates are the **only** hunters allowed to hunt” stated Bogota Area Manager Carl Wirwa. “Last year we had several hunters who had applied by themselves and were drawn and brought other hunters with them who had not applied. This is a violation of the rules and regulations for the hunt and hunters who do this are subject to the revocation of their permit.”

For all the information pertaining to hunting in Tennessee, please go on-line at [www.tnwildlife.org](http://www.tnwildlife.org).

### **TENNESSEE LIVESTOCK PRODUCERS HAVE NOTHING TO FEAR FROM DEER MORTALITY ATTRIBUTED TO EHD**

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) offices are receiving reports of dead deer in many areas of the state. The Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study at the University of Georgia in Athens has analyzed samples from these deer. The diagnosis is no surprise. Testing has confirmed that the deer are dying of EHD (Epizootic Hemorrhagic Disease).

EHD is no surprise because it occurs regularly in Tennessee, according to TWRA officials. Some years there is virtually no sign of EHD, and others, like this year, it seems to be everywhere. What causes a lot of concern to Tennessee livestock producers is that some people like to refer to this disease as “Blue Tongue”, a disease that afflicts cattle, but this is not the case.

“We most often start getting the dead deer reports in the last week of August and first part of September,” said Roger Applegate, TWRA Wildlife Disease Coordinator.

**“However, the most important thing for hunters, landowners, livestock producers and the public to know is that this is a regular and natural event that routinely afflicts white-tailed deer and that it is not transmissible to humans or any other animals.** The public also need not be overly concerned about the fate of the deer because any reduction in deer numbers in a local area will easily be made up within a couple of years.”

The EHD disease cycle begins with the virus being transmitted to deer by a midge; a small biting fly that humans recognize as “no-seeums.” The virus causes depression, fever, respiratory distress, and swelling of the neck or tongue. Those deer that survive these ills may slowly lose appetite and/or become lame which could last for several weeks before the deer die or shake off the disease.

White-tailed deer have adapted to EHD. Does that survive an infection of the EHD virus will pass along immunity to their fawns and foster an increase in immunity for several years before another die-off occurs.