

**CERTIFICATION OF EMERGENCY RULES
FILED WITH THE
LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OTHNI LATHRAM, DIRECTOR**

Pursuant to Code of Alabama 1975, §§41 22 5(b) and 41 22 6(c) (2)a. and b.

I certify that the attached emergency amendment is a correct copy as promulgated and adopted on Monday, June 17, 2024.

AGENCY NAME: Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

RULE NO. AND TITLE: 220-2-.164 Crow Creek, Mud Creek, And Raccoon Creek Wildlife Management Areas Waterfowl Hunting

EXPIRATION DATE OF RULE: Tuesday, October 15, 2024

NATURE OF EMERGENCY: The changes are needed prior to the commencement of the 2024-2025 hunting season that begins on September 1, 2024.

STATUTORY AUTHORITY: §§ 9-11-301, Code of Alabama, 1975.

SUBJECT OF RULE TO BE ADOPTED ON A PERMANENT BASIS: Yes

NAME, ADDRESS, AND TELEPHONE NUMBER OF PERSON TO CONTACT FOR COPY OF RULE: Charlanna W. Skaggs; 64 N. Union Street, Room 474, Montgomery, AL 36130; (334) 242-3165.

Christopher M. Blankenship

Chris Blankenship

Signature of officer authorized
to promulgate and adopt rules and
regulations or his or her deputy

REC'D & FILED
JUN 17, 2024
LEGISLATIVE SVC AGENCY

**Crow Creek, Mud Creek, And Raccoon Creek
Wildlife Management Areas Waterfowl Hunting.**

(1) In addition to 220-2-.55, it shall be unlawful on Crow Creek, Mud Creek and Raccoon Creek Wildlife Management Areas (WMA):

(a) For any person to leave any vehicle parked at the established launching sites. Hunters must use the designated parking areas. However, physically disabled persons with approved handicapped vehicles may be parked at the designated handicap parking locations.

(b) For any person to create or hunt from any dug-out or excavated area.

(c) To construct and/or utilize permanent waterfowl hunting blinds (those using building materials, flooring, or flotation and/or remaining in position overnight) anywhere on the Jackson County Waterfowl (Mud Creek, Crow Creek, and Raccoon Creek) WMAs.

(d) For any blinds to be left in said areas for more than one (1) day. All such blinds shall be disposed of as deemed advisable by the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

(e) For any person to leave waterfowl decoys overnight.

~~(f) For any person to access the water in the section of Mud Creek WMA that lies west of the railroad tracks and east of the furthest west Mud Creek WMA boundary 48 hours prior to waterfowl season openings. Persons may enter that area at 3:00 AM on waterfowl season opening days.~~

~~(g) To have more than 25 shotgun shells in the possession of each hunter (excluding youth hunters during the designated youth hunt days) while hunting waterfowl on all Jackson County Waterfowl Management Areas (Crow Creek WMA, Mud Creek WMA, and Raccoon Creek WMA).~~

g) For any person to operate airboats or air-cooled motors (go-devil type motors) on all portions of Mud Creek WMA lying west of Highway 72 from the beginning of youth/Veteran waterfowl season in November to the first Saturday in February.

(2) The following shall apply to the DEWATERING UNITS on Mud Creek and Raccoon Creek WMAs:

(a) All boats and/or boat blinds used for hunting waterfowl shall be launched and removed daily or shall be floated to an approved launching site for overnight mooring.

(b) It is unlawful for any person to use commercial fishing gear from October 31st through the second Saturday in February.

(c) Temporary blinds may be used for one (1) day only and removed by the hunter. All such blinds, except boat blinds, left for more than one (1) day shall be disposed of as deemed advisable by the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries

Division of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

(d) All activity is prohibited from 7:00 PM to 3:00 AM during the period of Nov. 1 - Feb. 15 and 48 hours prior to waterfowl season openings.

(e) It is unlawful to use airboats.

(f) It is unlawful to hunt waterfowl on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays, except during the Special Teal Season, the Special Early Goose Season, and the last two weeks of waterfowl season. All waterfowl hunting activity in the Mud Creek (Wannville) and Raccoon Creek dewatering units is prohibited on those days unless authorized by the personnel of the Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries Division of the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

(g) It is unlawful to use ~~gasoline-powered~~air-cooled motors (go-devil type motors) in Mud Creek (Wannville) dewatering unit and Raccoon Creek dewatering unit (North of ~~Hwy~~Highway 117).

(h) It is unlawful to launch any vessel prior to 3:00 AM daily. All hunters preparing to hunt waterfowl are not allowed in the water prior to 3:00 AM daily.

(3) It is unlawful to operate airboats and air-cooled motors (go-devil type motors) on all portions of Crow Creek Refuge and North Sauty Refuge from November 1 to ~~April 14~~March 31 of each year. Airboats are prohibited on the Green Tree Reservoir in the Mud Creek WMA at all times.

Author: Christopher M. Blankenship

Statutory Authority: Code of Ala. 1975, §9-11-301.

History: New Rule: Published June 30, 2021; effective August 14, 2021. **Amended (PE):** Published July 29, 2022; effective July 19, 2022. **Amended (ER):** Filed June 17, 2024; effective June 17, 2024; expires 120 days, October 15, 2024.

Penalty: As provided by law.