DOWNEAST SALMON FEDERATION
www.mainesalmonrivers.org

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Hunting & Wildlife Viewing Equipment Policy

Downeast Salmon Federation (DSF) welcomes the public to use the land it owns, including hunting and wildlife viewing in accordance with Maine State laws and hunting regulations.

DSF allows the use of portable tree stands, ground blinds, and automated game or trail cameras for legal hunting activities or for wildlife observation and photography. Express written permission from the DSF Stewardship Coordinator is required before any equipment may be left unattended.

Further, all equipment not attended by an owner must be plainly labeled with a tag of at least 2 x 4 inches which provides the name, address, and telephone number of the owner.

Recreational users may not cut any trees or limbs to establish or use a tree stand, ladder, or blind.

DSF does not permit the insertion of any object into a tree for the purpose of erecting a ladder, tree stand, or blind, or any recreational purpose.

No tree stands, ladders, or blinds may be left unattended on DSF land for more than 20 days after its last use. Under no circumstances may a tree stand, ladder, blind, or camera be left on DSF property for more than 120 total days during any 1-year period. No tree stand, ladder, or blind on DSF property shall be visible from any formal trail, campsite, lake or pond between May 1 and December 1.

Tree stands, ladders, blinds, or cameras that do not conform with this policy may be removed and disposed of by DSF at the owner's expense.

ATVs may, in rare circumstances, may be allowed to be used to retrieve large game, but only with advance written permission provided by DSF.

Bear Bait Sites

1. A permit from the Downeast Salmon Federation is required before placing bait for bear on its lands.
2. Permit fees for personal bait sites (up to 2 people may use a personal site) are $75 per bait site and permit fees for commercial bait sites are $150 per bait site. These costs offset stewardship and monitoring expenses associated with the site.
3. All applicants for bait site permits must provide proof of a valid, current hunting license and /or guides license at the time they apply, as such license(s) are required for this activity. All applicants must list the name of any guide, sporting camp or other hunting related business with which they have a business or financial relationship that pertains to the sites listed in the application. Applicants possessing guides licenses with a hunting endorsement are eligible for commercial bait sites only.

4. All applicants for commercial sites must provide proof of liability insurance in the amount of no less than $300,000 per occurrence. Applicants shall also list the name and phone number of anyone authorized to place bait at permitted site (s) if other than the applicant.
5. Applications for permits shall include a GPS location for each site applied for. A bait site is considered to have a radius no greater than 100 feet within which all bait must be placed.
6. Sites must be placed at least 50 yards from designated hiking trails and waterways and 500 yards from campsites and DSF camps.
7. DSF will attempt to accommodate all requests for bait sites in an equitable manner. Available bait sites will be allocated to applicants on a first come first serve basis. No individual hunter will be provided more than two permitted sites in a season.
8. Bait sites must be renewed annually.
9. If a permittee loses the required hunting or guides' license(s) all bait sites for the remainder of the current season are automatically forfeited with no refund of fees paid.
10. Bait sites are NOT assignable or transferable.
11. Bait site signs of 8"x11" must be placed at a distance no greater than 100 feet from the bait when bait is present or when the site is being used. Bait site signs must be placed in such a manner that the signs are conspicuous when approaching the bait site.
12. Permits shall be valid only for the bear hunting season for which they are issued and for the specific bait site location approved.
13. DSF may refuse to issue a permit for any site that is considered unsafe or that is inconsistent with other management activities or objectives.
14. Personal bear bait sites may be used by no more than two individuals named in the permit application for that specific bait site.
15. Permittees must abide by all applicable state laws, rules and regulations governing bear baiting, tree stands and other hunting and guiding activities. These include:
    - The bait areas will be cleaned up by November 10 as defined by the State litter laws
    - The bait is placed no sooner than 30 days before the opening day of the season and no later than October 31
16. Permittees must email or mail time-stamped before and after photos of their site to confirm that it is left in good order at the end of the season.

Nothing contained in this permit shall be construed as imposing an obligation upon the Permitter to restrict any other permit or permission granted by the Permitter nor shall anything contained in this Permit be construed as granting an exclusive right to carry on any activity on the Permitter's lands other than those leased to the Permittee for that purpose.

PENALTY. Revocation of the permit. Any violation of these rules will result in revocation of all bear baiting permits issued to the permittee, and potential permit ineligibility in the future. When revoked, permits must be surrendered to the Stewardship Coordinator on demand and the site must be cleaned up within 72 hours.
Based on: MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION 059 BUREAU OF PARKS AND LANDS Chapter 54: BEAR BAITING ON PUBLIC LANDS