

## YO LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION

### **2023-2024 Wildlife Regulations**

For the period of September 1, 2023, through August 31, 2024

# **2023-2024 YO LANDOWNERS ASSOCIATION (YOLA)**

## **WILDLIFE REGULATIONS**

*FOR PURPOSES OF THESE REGULATIONS, THE TERMS HARVEST AND HUNT ARE INTERCHANGEABLE*

### **EACH VIOLATION OF A YOLA WILDLIFE REGULATION IS SUBJECT TO FINE**

1. The following laws, regulations and definitions apply to hunting on the YO Ranchlands. Included in “hunting” are darting, trapping and other capture methods.
  - a. All Federal, State, Local, Texas Parks and Wildlife, and other applicable laws/regulations.
  - b. YOLA Wildlife Regulations in the 2019 Declaration of Covenants, Conditions & Restrictions (CCRs).
  - c. As used in this document, Owner shall include “designated representative” if the Property qualifies for same under the CCRs Section 2(d)2.
  - d. If a “designated hunt master” is named, he/she must be designated using the form provided at YOLA’s website. (<http://yoranchlands.org>)
  - e. These YOLA Wildlife Regulations apply from September 1, 202X thru August 31, 202Y.
2. Owners are responsible for the conduct of each of their invited guests/hunters, not only while on their property, but while those persons are on the entirety of the YO Ranchlands.
3. Shooting regulated animals is permitted **ONLY** from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset, unless further restricted by any applicable law/regulation.
4. Hunting, scouting, or shooting **IS NOT** allowed off the Owner’s property, in any developed road easement, or within 90’ (main) or 60’ (secondary) of the center of YOLA roads. The term “scouting” specifically includes “spotlighting”.
5. Shooting across property lines **IS NOT** allowed without prior written approval of the adjoining Owner.
6. Tracking wounded animals off an Owner’s property is **NOT** permitted without the consent of the Owner whose property the animal entered or without assistance from the YOLA Security Team.
7. Upon request, Owners and their guests must make their vehicles, contents, Hunter Permission Form (if applicable) and Texas State Hunting License available for inspection by the YOLA Security Team and/or members of the Wildlife Committee.
8. Harvest Tags:
  - a. Owners who are “Members in Good Standing” (dues paid, no outstanding fines) will be issued a tag for each quota animal allowed to be hunted and harvested in accordance with these Wildlife Regulations.

- b. Tags are issued specifically for an Owner's property(ies) and are not transferable to another property.
  - c. The Board and/or Wildlife Committee may from time to time authorize use of donated landowner tags for use on another Owner's property for special sanctioned events. An example: Combat Marine Outdoors veteran's hunt.
  - d. Tags must be used to report the harvest. The tag must be filled out as soon as the animal is taken and must remain with the animal. Tags for harvested animals must be deposited in the harvest box at the entrance to the YO Ranchlands or the harvest box located at the YOHQ Ranch gate south of Four Corners *when the animal leaves the Ranchlands, or within 24 hours after the animal was consumed or processed on the Owner's property.*
  - e. **NO quota animal (i.e., an animal whose harvest is regulated by these Wildlife Regulations) may be harvested without having a tag deposited in the harvest box.**
  - f. Previous years' tags are VOID, AND MUST NOT be used.
9. **HUNTING BY IMMEDIATE RELATIVES** – Owners or the “designated hunt master” are not required to be present on the Owner's property when an immediate relative is hunting. An immediate relative is defined as father/mother, brother/sister, son/daughter, and/or grandchild/grandchildren.
- a. The Owner or “designated hunt master” is responsible for the hunters even if the Owner is not present (see 2 above).
  - b. The Owner or “designated hunt master” must ensure immediate relatives are knowledgeable about safety, animal identification, hunting rules, harvest tag protocol, property lines, etc.
  - c. A Hunter Permission Form is required for immediate relatives.
  - d. The YOLA Security Team does not need to be contacted prior to hunting, but the Hunter Permission Form must be available for inspection by the YOLA Security Team and/or members of the Wildlife Committee upon request.
  - e. All Wildlife Regulations in this document must be followed, including those dealing with harvest tags.
10. **HUNTING BY GUEST HUNTERS** – Owners or the “designated hunt master” are not required to be present on the Owner's property when there are guest hunters – who are not immediate relatives – subject to the following rules. Guest hunters are those that are hunting without any fees being paid (direct or indirect, such as barter or trade).
- a. The Owner or “designated hunt master” is responsible for the hunters even if the Owner is not present (see 2 above).
  - b. The Owner or “designated hunt master” must ensure guest hunters are knowledgeable about safety, animal identification, hunting rules, harvest tag protocol, property lines, etc.
  - c. A Hunter Permission Form is required for guest hunters.
  - d. If the Owner or “designated hunt master” is not present:
    - Guest hunters must contact the YOLA Security Team to register before hunting.
    - The Hunter Permission Form must be carried on their person and made available for inspection by the YOLA Security Team and/or members of the Wildlife Committee upon request.

- e. All Wildlife Regulations in this document must be followed, including those dealing with harvest tags.

11. HUNTING BY FEE HUNTERS – Per the CCRs, Owners are required to be present on the Owner’s property when there are fee hunters. Fee hunters are those that contract to hunt on an Owner’s property for a fee (direct or indirect, such as barter or trade).

- a. At least 30 days prior to any fee hunt, the Owner must submit to the Wildlife Committee, a copy of their liability insurance policy with a limit not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00), and it must show YOLA as an “Additional Named Insured” under the policy. Other insurance designations will not be accepted.
- b. The Owner is responsible for the fee hunters (see 2 above).
- c. The Owner must ensure fee hunters are knowledgeable about safety, animal identification, hunting rules, harvest tag protocol, property lines, etc.
- d. The Owner’s property(ies) must be clearly marked as provided in Texas Penal Code, Title 7, Chapter 30, Section 30.05(b)(2)(D). See <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/docs/PE/htm/PE.30.htm>
- e. A Hunter Permission Form is required for fee hunters.
- f. The Hunter Permission Form must be available for inspection by the YOLA Security Team and/or members of the Wildlife Committee upon request.
- g. All Wildlife Regulations in this document must be followed, including those dealing with harvest tags.

12. ALTERNATIVE GAME HARVESTING METHODS – APPROVED CAPTURE METHODS or “MULTIPLE HARVEST/HUNTS” – Most Wildlife Regulations herein assume a traditional one weapon/one hunter situation. Multiple Harvest/Hunts include other approved capture methods such as netting, trapping, and darting. If Multiple Harvest/Hunts are used, Section 2(n)(4) of the CCRs, reprinted later in these Wildlife Regulations, specifically apply. Owners or the “designated hunt master” are not required to be present on the Owner’s property when conducting a Multiple Harvest/Hunt.

- a. The Owner or the “designated hunt master” must ensure parties involved in the Multiple Harvest/Hunt are knowledgeable about safety, animal identification, hunting rules, harvest tag protocol, property lines, etc.
- b. The Owner is responsible for the conduct of third parties participating in Multiple Harvest/Hunts described in Section 2(4) of the CCRs (see 2 above).
- c. If darting is used as a method of harvest, AND neither the Owner nor the “designated hunt master” are present during the Multiple Harvest/Hunt activity, the Owner’s property(ies) must be clearly marked as provided in Texas Penal Code, Title 7, Chapter 30, Section 30.05(b)(2)(D). See <http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/docs/PE/htm/PE.30.htm>
- d. The permit must be requested and obtained from the Wildlife Committee using the form provided at YOLA’s website, (<http://yoranchlands.org>) prior to the conduct of Multiple Harvests/Hunts. The Committee MAY issue a permit after due consideration of pertinent facts, including species to be harvested/hunted, location of the Multiple Harvest/Hunts, and experience of the harvester/hunter, among other factors.

- e. If YOLA or the Exotics Production Co-Op is granted all or some of the financial proceeds from an Alternative Game Harvesting Method, animals taken MAY NOT require Owner's harvest tags. This determination will be made by the Wildlife Committee as part of the permitting process. In all other cases, the animals taken will require Owner's harvest tags.
- f. If Section 2(n)(4)(d)(5) of the CCRs applies, the limits of the liability insurance policy shall be not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00), and it must show YOLA as an "Additional Named Insured" under the policy. Other insurance designations will not be accepted.
- g. If the Owner or "designated hunt master" is not present, the party(ies) conducting the Multiple Harvest/Hunt must contact the YOLA Security Team to register before conducting the Multiple Harvest/Hunt.
- h. All Wildlife Regulations in this document must be followed, including those dealing with harvest tags.

13. ALTERNATIVE GAME HARVESTING METHODS – LICENSED MEAT HUNTERS – Section 2(n)(4) provides for Owners to use licensed meat hunters to secure their quota. If licensed meat hunters are used, Section 2(n)(4) of the CCRs, reprinted later in these Wildlife Regulations, specifically apply. Owners or the "designated hunt master" MUST be present on the Owner's property when utilizing a licensed meat hunter.

- a. The Owner or the "designated hunt master" must ensure the licensed meat hunters are knowledgeable about safety, animal identification, hunting rules, harvest tag protocol, property lines, etc.
- b. The Owner is responsible for the conduct of the licensed meat hunters (see 2 above).
- c. The permit must be requested and obtained from the Wildlife Committee using the form provided at YOLA's website, (<http://yoranchlands.org>) prior to the conduct of a hunt by a licensed meat hunter. The Committee MAY issue a permit after due consideration of pertinent facts, including species to be harvested/hunted, location of the harvest/hunts, and experience of the harvester/hunter, among other factors.
- d. The limits of the licensed meat hunter's liability insurance policy shall be not less than one million dollars (\$1,000,000.00), and it must show YOLA as an "Additional Named Insured" under the policy. Other insurance designations will not be accepted.
- e. A Hunter Permission Form is required for licensed meat hunters.
- f. The Hunter Permission Form must be available for inspection by the YOLA Security Team and/or members of the Wildlife Committee upon request.
- g. All Wildlife Regulations in this document must be followed, including those dealing with harvest tags.

14. ENFORCEMENT – The CCRs vest enforcement of the Wildlife regulations in the Wildlife Committee. The Wildlife Committee can recommend to the YOLA Board fines up to \$2,000 per occurrence for each violation of these Wildlife Regulations. The authority to collect any fine approved by the Board is described in the CCRs.

# YO LANDOWNERS 2023/2024

## WILDLIFE QUOTAS

EFFECTIVE DATES: September 1, 2023 through August 31, 2024

YOLA regulated animals for the 2023 – 2024 YOLA hunting season are: **Axis, Sika, Fallow, Blackbuck, Whitetail, and Aoudad.**


Each YOLA member who is a “member in good standing” will be issued tags as described in the table below, on the recommendation by the Wildlife Committee and approval of the Board after reviewing the annual “Biologists Report and Harvest Recommendations”, and related factors.

YOLA QUOTAS 2023/2024	NOTES	ACREAGE	Up to & Including 50	>50 & up to & Including 100	>100 & up to & including 150	>150 & up to & including 200	Etc.
		QUOTA	½	1	1 ½	2	
Whitetail Buck	1,2		1	2	3	4	
AXIS, SIKA, FALLOW DOES and Sika Bucks	3	<b>OFF LIMITS</b>					
Whitetail Doe	1,2		3	5	7	9	
Blackbuck <b>Doe</b>	2		1	1	1	1	
Aoudad Ram	2		1	2	3	4	
Aoudad Ewe	2		2	4	6	8	

ANY BUCK TAG	NOTES	Up to & including 200 Acres	>200 and Up to & including 400 acres	Greater than 400 Acres
Your choice of Fallow Buck, Blackbuck Buck or Axis Buck Greater than 24"		1	2	3

NOTES:

1. Harvesting of animals must be in accordance with Texas Parks and Wildlife regulations
2. Harvest of animals regulated by YOLA must be reported using YOLA issued tag. **Tags MUST be dropped in collections box in a timely manner after harvesting an animal – see Wildlife Regulations, 8(d).**
3. **Sika, Fallow, Axis doe and Sika Buck are OFF LIMITS for the 2023/2024 season.**

Whitetail buck and doe	Highest Priority
Blackbuck doe	
Fallow and Blackbuck buck	
Axis Buck	
Sika, Fallow, Axis doe and Sika Buck	
Observing these priorities will help optimize our population of exotic and native game, improve the overall health and quality of the herd, and provide good hunting and viewing prospects for all Landowners.	

Further defining quotas:

Quotas are based on the total number of acres owned by each landowner, not the number of tracts and the acreage of each tract.

EXAMPLE:

Mr. X owns 2 tracts: Tract 22A is 51 acres and 22B is 60 acres. Total acres owned by Mr. X are 111 which entitles him to 1 ½ quotas, not 2 quotas. NOTE: If several tracts are owned under different names or entities but are essentially the same individual(s), the quota will be determined as in the “Mr. X” example above.

## YOLA 2019 CCRs

**Note: The following are excerpts from the 2019 CCRs that deal with hunting. YOLA membership has approved fines up to \$2,000 for each violation of the Wildlife Regulations and/or CCRs.**

### Section 2. Affirmative and Protective Covenants.

#### k) Hunting Blinds and Feeders

- 1) Hunting blinds and feeders on any of the Properties shall be well screened behind hills or trees to substantially eliminate visibility from any road or other Owner's permanent residence.
- 2) Hunting blinds and feeders must be at least 500 feet from the Main Road and at least 300 feet from any property line or Secondary Road.

#### n) Hunting and Wildlife Management

It is the intent of the YOLA to actively manage the environment and the free ranging herds of both native and exotic species through hunting and other methods of herd density control where hunting alone does not sufficiently manage the population.

- 1) Hunting shall be permitted on Owner's individual properties only. No hunting is allowed from any Main or Secondary Road or right of way.
- 2) Each Owner shall be entitled to harvest annually the quota of animals, whether native, or exotic, on such Owner's Property as the Wildlife Committee determines as provided in Section 7 hereof. Individual hunter's state hunting license requirements and restrictions may also apply.
- 3) No Owner may harvest more than the aforementioned quota of animals. If an Owner desires to harvest more than his quota of animals, he must secure prior approval of the Wildlife Committee for same and pay to the Association, in cash, that amount which would be necessary to acquire those animals.

#### 4) Alternate Game Harvesting Methods

##### (a) Fee Hunting

In the event that an Owner desires to sell, barter or trade his game to a non-Owner hunter, the Owner must supervise and accompany the hunter at all times. The Owner must provide prior satisfactory proof of insurance to the Wildlife Committee.

##### (b) Approved Capture Methods



Owners may use approved capture methods, such as netting, darting, or trapping to secure their quota.

(c) Licensed Meat Hunters

Owners may use licensed meat hunters to secure their quota.

(d) In the event that (a), (b) or (c) above are used, the following conditions must be met:

- (1) A permit must first be obtained from the Wildlife Committee;
- (2) The Wildlife Committee must be notified of the exact date or dates and times for the hunting or trapping operations (except 4(a) hereinabove);
- (3) The Wildlife Committee may, at its discretion, have a representative present (except 4(a) hereinabove);
- (4) The Wildlife Committee shall be provided with a list at the end of each day's activity describing the species and sex of each animal taken. The Committee shall have the right to physically verify this count; and
- (5) Professional hunters or trappers used must provide prior satisfactory proof of insurance to the Wildlife Committee.

- 5) All disputes concerning specific Owner quotas on any of the Properties and any other wildlife disputes shall be handled by the Wildlife Committee.
- 6) No Owners shall do any act that is designed to be harmful or injurious to the adjacent property Owner. Included within the meaning of this covenant shall be a prohibition against feeding close to a property line.
- 7) No Owner may release new species of live wild animals on any of the Properties without first securing the consent of the Wildlife Committee.

Owners may introduce domestic or exotic species on their own property for ranching/farming/hunting as long as the containment of, and health of, said animals is assured, and the Wildlife Committee has inspected the containment methods and given their consent in writing. These animals shall not be counted in the Owner's quota while on his/her property.

To the extent that these animals escape or are allowed out of containment, the Association has no obligation for any claims attributed to the escape.

- 8) No Owner may construct any section of High Fence after September 1, 2019. Any Owner whose property is completely and permanently High Fenced prior to September 1, 2019, shall be exempted from the provisions of paragraphs (n) 2 and 3 above.

Section 7. Committees.

d) Wildlife Committee Duties

1) Wildlife Management

The Wildlife Committee shall be responsible for overseeing the management of the free roaming wildlife within the Properties.

- (a) The Wildlife Committee shall have an annual wildlife survey ("Survey") performed on the Properties by a competent wildlife biologist ("Biologist") selected by the Committee.
- (b) The Survey shall project the total numbers of sex of each species of wildlife on the Properties, and shall contain the Biologist's recommendations as to the harvest number by sex for each species.
- (c) The Wildlife Committee shall use the Survey and the Biologist's harvest recommendations to determine harvest quotas by sex for each species on the Properties. Quotas shall be based on what the Properties will sustain and any other criteria that the Wildlife Committee deems to be sound management of the wildlife herd on the Properties.

2) Enforcement

The Wildlife Committee shall be responsible, under Board direction, for enforcing the wildlife provisions of this Declaration on behalf of the Association.

3) Additional Rules and Regulations

The Committee may, from time to time, propose additional Rules and Regulations for wildlife management that will be submitted to the Board for approval.

## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

### **What happens if I'm stopped or caught with untagged animals or meat?**

You will be treated as having violated the tag system and subject to fine.

### **Should I report dead animals I find?**

Yes. Please phone or e-mail the Chairman of the Wildlife Committee or place a note in a tag box, because it will assist the Wildlife Biologist in helping us manage our game. Please note the details of your observations. Of course, these do not require a tag.

### **I want to host a hunt for disadvantaged youths on my tract. How is this best done?**

There are several organizations that sponsor these types of hunts and will accompany the youths after they have given them training on safe hunting. Please contact a member of the Wildlife Committee for assistance. Rules concerning "HUNTING BY GUEST HUNTERS" will apply, and in this case the animals harvested/hunted by your youth guests WILL require a tag.

### **I will be making my land available for the Exotic Co-Op commercial meat harvesters. Do the animals taken in this hunt require a tag?**

No. But these animals will be included in the overall harvest data compiled by the Wildlife Committee for reporting purposes.

### **Can I sell or give my hunting tags to someone else?**

You can, only if they do the hunting on your property and abide by all hunting guidelines, including the rules for Fee Hunting. See Section 11 of these Wildlife Regulations – HUNTING BY FEE HUNTERS. You may not transfer your tags to another Landowner.

### **Can I trap or remove animals from my property?**

Yes. The removal of animals from your property may still require use of your tags. See specific rules for "Multiple Harvest/Hunts" in Section 12 – MULTIPLE HARVEST/HUNTS of these Wildlife Regulations and the CCRs – SECTION 2(n)(4).

**If I wound an animal and it crosses to my neighbor’s land, what should I do?**

Absolutely do not cross over to your neighbor’s land without their consent or request assistance from the YOLA Security team.

**Can I bring my dog to my land and let it run loose?**

Certainly, your dog can run your property, but it is your responsibility to ensure that it does not cross onto the adjacent property. Texas Parks and Wildlife regulations prohibit the use of dogs to “hunt or pursue deer”.

**One of my guests harvested an animal over my limit. What should I do?**

Immediately contact the YOLA Wildlife Chairman or the YOLA President. You will be expected to reimburse the Association as per the CCRs but may avoid a fine.

**I’d like to increase the income on my property. Can I sublease it?**

Of course, you can! It is your property. However, you should be aware, for the purposes of the CCRs, you are personally and financially responsible for the conduct of your invited guests/tenant/lessee. Carefully read Section 11 of these Wildlife Regulations – HUNTING BY FEE HUNTERS. Any violations on the part of your guests/tenant/lessee could subject you to fines and/or sanctions under our governing documents. (See the example of fines at the end of this section)

**After I butcher an animal, can I dispose of the remains in the YOLA trash trailer?**

NO! The trash trailer is only for normal household trash. Animal carcasses invite racoons and other scavengers that scatter trash on the ground. Just take the animal remains to a remote location on your land and leave them. After a few days, the natural scavengers will have completely recycled them for you!

**My neighbor has the feeder too close to my property line. What should I do?**

Contact YOLA Security or the Wildlife Committee Chairman. Each possible rule infraction will be investigated.

**I hear shooting or see activity that makes me think the regulations are being violated. Who should I call?**

Please contact YOLA Security or the Wildlife Committee Chairman. Each possible rule infraction will be investigated.

**May I give my tags to another Owner for their use on their property?**

No. You may allow other Owners to use your tags on your property but not on other property. The tags are issued specifically to your property and are not transferable.

**I will be having hunters on my property, and they will be hunting in my blinds by themselves. I will be on the property, but they will be hunting alone. Do they need a Permission Form?**

Yes. And they also need it on their person when they leave your property, as they may be stopped by Security and will need to have the permit available if requested.

**A contractor on my cabin is an avid hunter. Can I let him hunt?**

Yes, using the rules for “Guest Hunters”. This assumes, of course, that there is no financial agreement for this hunt. Please be aware that even a subtle agreement for a future discount on more contract work clearly makes this a “Fee Hunt” and those rules then apply.

**The Wildlife Regulations discuss violations and the resulting fines in terms of “per occurrence”. What does this mean?**

Example of violation and potential fine:

An Owner is out of town and told a friend he can enter his property and take a sika buck. The friend comes to the ranch with no paperwork, takes a sika buck, and is stopped in a random wildlife check. Possible results for the Owner are:

- 1) Did not notify YOLA Security: fine up to \$2,000
  - 2) Did not have YOLA Permission form: fine up to \$2,000
  - 3) Did not have YOLA Tag on animal: fine up to \$2,000
  - 4) Did not put YOLA Harvest Tag in box: fine up to \$2,000
- Total Potential Fine to Owner \$8,000

In this scenario, this activity could result in an \$8,000 fine. Our goal is “No violations, no fines”.

An Owner can appeal fines that are imposed to the Wildlife Committee or the Board following processes described in the CCRs.

**What is meant by the reference to “marking property in accordance with Texas law” in paragraph 117?**

The section referred to is the “purple poles” section of the Texas Penal Code (Title 7, Chapter 30, Section 30.05, and (b2D)). This can be found on the internet at:

<http://www.statutes.legis.state.tx.us/docs/PE/htm/PE.30.htm>