

Deer Firearms Hunt Draw Information

Bluffs of Beaver Bend Nature Preserve

This page includes information and instructions for those interested in or selected to participate in a reserved draw hunt opportunity. It is important to note that areas participating in reserved hunts are managed by various agencies and may have unique restrictions that each hunter must follow. Please read each area's information packet carefully before pursuing a hunt.

Applying:

You must be properly licensed to hunt deer prior to applying. There are no age restrictions on applying. Youth hunters may apply if they are properly licensed to hunt deer. Visit our [Deer Hunting](#) page to learn more about deer hunting requirements.

Restrictions:

Allowed Equipment:

Equipment	Specifications
Rifle	Bullet diameter: .219 of an inch (5.56 mm) or larger A hunter may not possess more than 10 such cartridges for each of these rifles while hunting deer.
Handgun	Barrel length: 4" minimum Bullet diameter: .243" minimum Cartridge length: 1.16" minimum, except for 10 mm Auto and .40 S&W 10 mm also legal cartridges - Rifles with barrel less than 18" are NOT considered handguns .25 – 20 Winchester, .32 – 20 Winchester, .30 carbine, and .38 special ammunition are prohibited.
Shotgun	Bore: 10, 12, 16, 20, or 28 gauge, or .410 - Shooting slugs and sabot bullets only - Combination rifle-shotguns are allowed
Muzzleloading Rifle/Shotgun	Barrel caliber: .40" minimum Bullet diameter: .357" minimum - Single, bullet, loaded from muzzle. Powder may be loaded from the breech. - Sabot bullets permitted
Muzzleloading Handgun	Barrel length: 12" minimum, measured from the base of the breech plug (excluding tangs and other projections to the end of the barrel, including the muzzle crown) Barrel caliber: .50" minimum Bullet diameter: .44" minimum Loaded from muzzle and single shot
Airguns	Using non-ignited compressed air or other gas charged by external high compression power source Projectiles: Must shoot .40 caliber or larger single bullet generating 400 ft. lbs. of muzzle energy; or an arrow or bolt with sharpened metal or metal-edged broadhead at minimum 300 fps at release

Bag Limit:

- Deer harvested at this hunt count toward your statewide bag limit and the [county bag antlerless limit](#) of the hunted property.

Hunting Hours:

- Legal hunting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Hunt Period:

- The hunt period at Bluffs of Beaver Bend Nature Preserve is the 2026 deer firearms season, which starts November 14, 2026, and continues through November 29, 2026.

Hunt Information:

Ten (10) hunters will be drawn for this opportunity. Successfully drawn hunters will receive a hunt information packet with access permits included. If drawn, hunters may select one hunting partner who is allowed to hunt.

Tree stands must display your name, address, and telephone number legibly written and able to be read from ground level. Tree stands or any equipment associated with tree stands may not penetrate the bark of a tree more than ½ inch. Stands can be installed starting October 31, 2026, and must be removed by December 4, 2026.

Area Information:

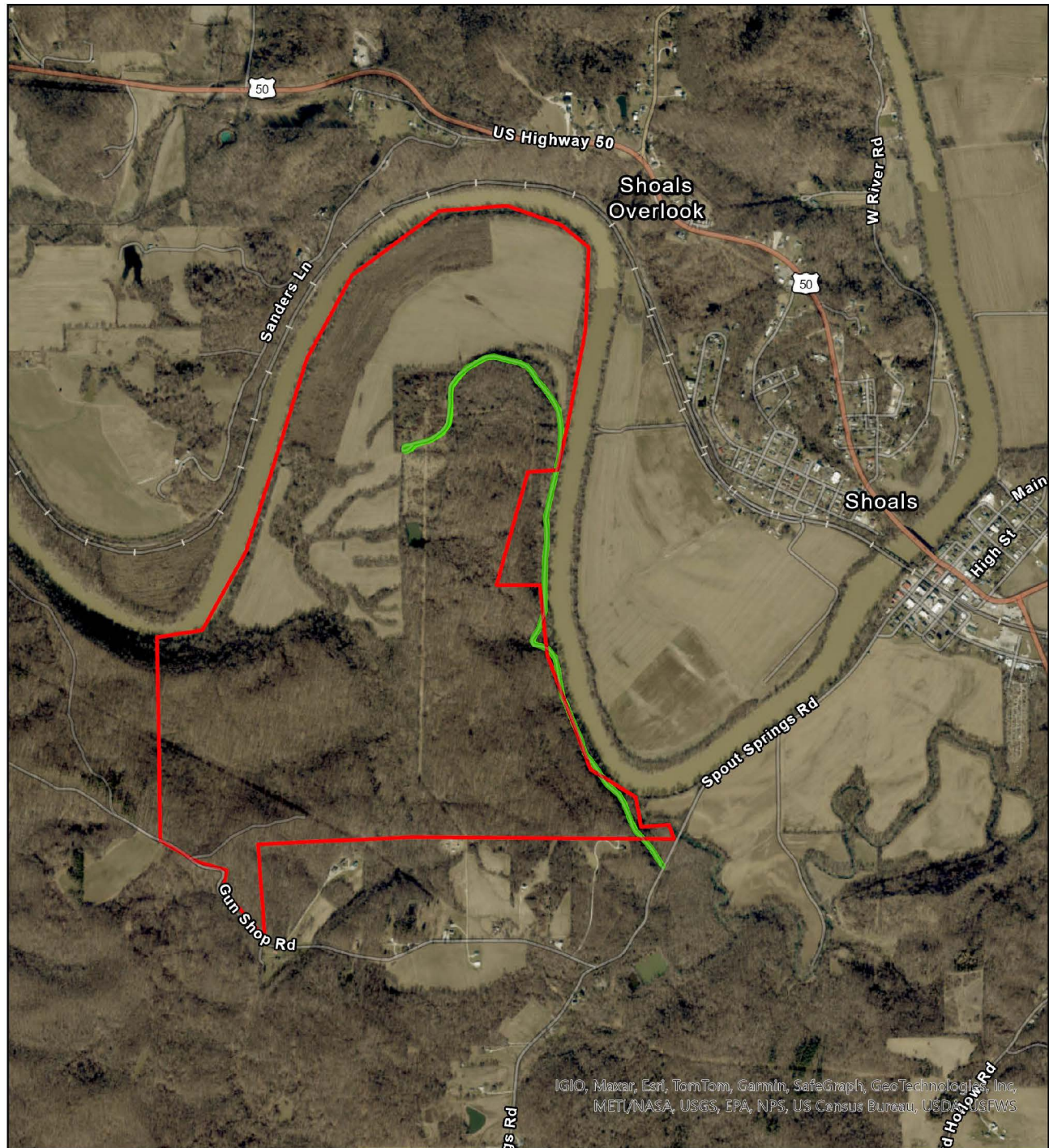
Bluffs of Beaver Bend Nature Preserve is a 760-acre property composed of upland forest, floodplain forest, and former agricultural fields that have been planted with trees. The entrance to Bluffs of Beaver Bend Nature Preserve is located approximately 1 mile west of Shoals, Indiana.

The area available for deer hunting is depicted on the attached map. All regulations of the firearms season will apply.

There is no standby drawing at Bluffs of Beaver Bend Nature Preserve.

Contact: If you have further questions, please contact ecologist Ryan Keller at 812-789-5048 or rkeller@dnr.IN.gov

Bluffs of Beaver Bend Nature Preserve



Legend

- ▬ Bluffs of Beaver Bend Nature Preserve Boundary
- ▬ Bluffs of Beaver Bend Access Lane

