



**DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
502D AIR BASE WING
JOINT BASE SAN ANTONIO**



January 5, 2019

JBSA Hunting Program Panel Meeting Minutes

NAME		ORG, TITLE, ROLE	ATTENDED
Dayna Cramer		802 CES, Hunting Manager, Chair (Non-voting)	X
Archie Cooper		802 CES, Game Warden (Non-voting)	Call-in
1	Todd Biggs	Retired, Voting Member	X
2	Don Craig	Retired, Voting Member	
3	Cathleen Dalton	DoD Civilian, Voting Member	X
4	Kenneth Drummond	DoD Civilian, Voting Member	X
5	David Hill	Retired, Voting Member	X
6	John Knox	Active Duty, Voting Member	X
7	Denny Shofner	Active Duty, Voting Member	X
8	Kenneth Snow	Active Duty, Voting Member	
9	Glenn Taplin	DoD Civilian/Retired, Voting Member	X
10	Tra Vick	Active Duty, Voting Member	X

1. The meeting was called to order by Dayna Cramer at 1204. Eight (8) voting members present.
2. General Announcements
 - a. Schedule issues. Request for TAs are currently put in by the RNGRC staff and approved by ASA. ASA has decided that the Range Safety Officer is the only person who can approve the hunting schedule.
 - b. Publishing suspensions. We have published all active suspensions. Drummond asked if we could publish names. This is something we are already working with 502 ABW Legal.
 - c. Panel Members role within the JBSA hunting community. Panel members are encouraged to bring issues from hunters but all official decision must be released through official channels.
3. The hunting panel decided to develop a mission statement.
 - a. David Hill: The panel is the representation for ALL hunters, and bring issues/concerns to the Hunting Program staff
 - b. Glenn Taplin: Focus should be on balancing recreation and training but also maximizing recreational use times. Camp Bullis is the only hunting option some hunters have.
 - c. Ken Drummond: Focus should be on maximizing use of resources, representing all hunters, and provide more options for WTD hunting than a season long assigned lottery location.
 - d. Denny Shofner: There should be emphasis on promotion of the hunting program. We should try to work out some time of youth program as the youth is our future and hunting is in decline.

- e. Tra Vick: We also to make sure that we are preserving the right to hunt here. Ensuring that the population allows us to keep hunting viable at Cam Bullis.
- f. Todd Biggs: We need to advocate for more consideration of hunters and the way that they hunt to include allowable equipment.

The discussion lead to the development of the following mission statement:

“The JBSA (Camp Bullis) Hunting panel is a volunteer group of hunters selected to represent the general Camp Bullis hunting community and is dedicated to improving communications, conservation, and the overall outdoor experience on Camp Bullis in order to protect and improve Camp Bullis for future generations.”

4. Who should be invited to the panel in the future (ASA, FSS, Safety, etc)?

- a. Several panel members believe that at least a member if not Command level representative should be involved in these panel meetings.

5. Bonus WTD (Buck)

- a. Should only be considered for hunters who have gotten a doe and buck. Allow the hunter to go to an area that cannot meet the buck quota. Hunter have not hunted all season or have pulled their equipment.

6. Hog trapping and premium hunts.

- a. Shofner would like the NRM to better explain the reasoning for not allowing hunters to trap hogs.
- b. Shofner would also like the NRM to reconsider requiring hogs before a buck. Cooper explained this was to give hunters more options. Dalton asked that the quota be reconsidered but to keep the option. Hill asked that we consider allowing hogs killed between the close of the current WTD season and the opening of the next season count toward the quota requirement.

7. Extension of hunting hours and allowing for night hunts.

- a. Cooper and Cramer explained that both of these are a safety and staff issue.

8. More options to hunt

- a. Consider rotating GP areas and keeping some in the South portion of the installation.

9. More options to hunt WTD, already being worked by Natural Resources Office

- a. Consider areas with maintained feeders and stands.
- b. Consider areas with an annual lottery and lotteries of other lengths (every week, month, etc.)
- c. Consider doing a weekly WTD lottery and allowing those hunter to compartment hunt in GP areas.

10. Topics brought up during meeting:

- a. Consider allowing turkey hunting in only specific areas (without slugs) and reconsider orange requirement for turkey hunters.
- b. Consider hosting a town hall meeting before the WTD Season Lottery to explain changes to the regulations, quotas, and other issues.
- c. Consider hosting a town hall at the close of WTD season to provide lessons learned, stats, etc.
- d. Consider allowing hunters to leave an ID if they forgot their 2nd permit to leave at RNGRC.
 - Will not be discussed further as IDs are required for in field compliance checks.
- e. Consider allowing tree stands. Biggs asked for some type of education or display about Endangered Species habitat.
 - Elevated tripods are legal.
- f. Reconsider the doe before buck requirement. There is a general frustration among the hunters because they are not seeing does on their cameras or from their blinds.
 - Cooper mentioned that the Camp Bullis deer population is below the average for South Texas. What hunters often see on their cameras or in their blind is often skewed because use of feeders alters wildlife behaviors.
 - Cooper also talked about the standard protocol for doing deer surveys. The protocol is meant to cover the most amount of property possible with the amount of staff we have and to be consistent year to year.
- g. Consider use of the Boy Scout Area for hunting.
 - Map shows the Boy Scout area is considered to be in the cantonment.
- h. Consider reinstating the volunteer program.
 - Being considered as part of new violation redemption policy.
- i. Consider specific youth areas or a special youth hunting program.
- j. Consider a study of the impact of coyotes/hogs on fawn requirement. The panel would like to know if a study could be done and how long it would take.

11. Topics deferred:

- a. Harvest Log with photos

12. Votes:

- a. **Invite representatives, preferably Command level, from all of the organizations that make the hunting program function to panel meetings. 8/8**
 - **Per Natural Resources Manager we will invite reps from ASA, FSS, FSG (Camp Bullis HQ) and CES to subsequent meetings, but cannot guarantee attendance. Coordination with the organizations is on going daily.**
- b. **Bonus buck in the extended season for hunters who have taken both a doe and buck in the regular season. 8/8**
 - **Bonus doe has already been approved for WTD hunters who have filled their doe quota, no bonus buck will be approved as it would**

undercut the doe before a buck requirement and the reasons for that requirement.

c. Allow extended hours or night hunts. 7/8

- Per RNGRC and Natural Resources Manager we cannot extend hours as that is based on their manpower and ongoing safety issues that are being worked as general part of the hunting program.**

d. Have designated turkey areas, where hunters are not allowed to use slugs and the orange requirement is waived. 8/8

- We appreciate this suggestion and are working on implementing it before spring turkey season.**

13. Items the Hunting Program Manager believe warrant an extra look. See highlighted above.

14. Topics for considerations/discussion at the next meeting.

- Please see above topics brought up during this meeting. Most need to be discussed in further detail to move forward.

15. Meeting concluded at 1350.

16. Additional notes: If you see a wounded game animal, particularly a WTD and you believe a humane kill is necessary contact Game Warden Cooper.

The Natural Resources Manager has agreed to attend the February Hunting Panel Meeting. This meeting will be a Question and Answer Session that will be published on iSportsman. All questions must be submitted in writing by 31 January 2019.

17. Next meeting: 9 February 2019, 1100. Panel members are welcome to bring lunch.

18. Minutes recorded by Dayna Cramer. Should you have any questions please contact her at dayna.a.cramer.civ@mail.mil.

DAYNA CRAMER
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802 Civil Engineer Squadron