



PO Box 5121, San Angelo, TX 76904
(325)655-0877
wildlife@wildlifesystems.com

Dear Mule Deer Hunter,

Thank you for choosing WSI as your outfitter for your mule deer hunt you have scheduled. We intend to provide you with a safe and enjoyable experience which begins with proper prehunt planning. Read through the entirety of this Prep Packet as a general guideline in preparing for your hunt.

1. If you have not already done so, please fill out and send in "Hunter Profile," even if you have sent one in from a previous trip. Indicate if you want WSI to process your hunting license, and if you do, please send license fees in with your profile. All payments should be made payable to Wildlife Systems, Inc.
2. WSI does not provide airport shuttle on mule deer hunts. Should you fly, it is best to schedule flights into Midland and rent vehicle.
3. All fees are due 30 days prior to hunt. You will not receive another notice, so please mark it on your calendar.
4. Please remember that our rebooking policy dictates that we must have a \$300 Reservation Fee in within 30 days after completion of hunt, if indeed you would like to rebook for the following season on the "same" hunt. See "Payment Policy" in Prep Packet.
5. We encourage you to consider taking out a travel insurance plan. We are currently working with Travel Guard International who provides an economical plan that will assist you with problems such as hunt cancellation, luggage complications, as well as unforeseen medical expenses, or emergency medical evacuation. Go to our website at www.wildlifesystems.com and click on Sportsman's Travel Insurance.
6. Don't forget to practice with your firearm.
7. Unless you have been instructed otherwise, your mule deer hunt will begin with an afternoon hunt. So plan on arriving to ranch between 10:30 a.m. and 1:00 p.m. **Do not** arrive before 10:00 a.m. We will service a quick lunch at noon, have an orientation at 1:00, and begin hunting shortly after. For those of you flying, you may want to arrive into Midland the evening before and get a motel, which will make it easier to get to the ranch by noon. Your departure day is not intended to be a hunt day, but if for some reason you do not have a buck, we may possibly hunt a few hours that morning.

Please let us know if we can be of any further assistance. We look forward to serving as your host on a great hunt. Thanks once again for your interest in our service.

To a good hunt,

Greg Simons

WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS

Thank you for choosing to be our customer and for the confidence you have placed in us. The staff of WSI, from our office to our camp, will do everything within our means to earn your continued trust and goodwill. Your hunting success and personal satisfaction are very important to us.

We have been serving hunters from around the globe since 1987. Our customers' loyalty and continued participation within our hunting programs is what has fueled the growth of WSI.

Just as you have certain expectations of us, we have certain expectations of you. Here are a few ideas that will help insure a successful hunt:

- Read through this packet to familiarize yourself with various aspects regarding your hunt.
- Know what is included with your package. Refer to your contract if you are uncertain.
- Attend your hunt with an open frame of mind. There are many variables we deal with in conducting hunts, thus, we ask you to be understanding of various situations that are inherent to a hunting trip.

Once again, thank you for being our customer. We look forward to seeing you in camp. You have my personal promise that we will do the best we can to ensure an enjoyable hunting experience for you.

Sincerely,

Greg Simons (Proprietor)

PAYMENT POLICY

- Deposits may be paid with personal or business check, so long as this payment precedes hunt by 30 days.
- Balance is due 30 days prior to start day of hunt. You **will not** receive a 30-day notice, so let this serve as your reminder. Failure to pay balance by 30-day period may result in cancellation of your hunt and forfeiture of any previously paid fees.
- If for any reason there are fees due at time of hunt (i.e., trophy fees on additional animals), these fees must be paid at time of hunt with either cash or credit card (no exceptions).
- All credit card payments will be accessed a 3% processing fee on the amount being charged. We accept Visa, Master Card, and American Express.

Cancellation Policy – No payments will be refunded unless cancellee can be replaced at the standard hunt cost. We will make every effort possible to replace cancellee at full hunt value, but WSI is not responsible for replacing cancellee, and no refunds will be granted unless cancellee is replaced at full price.

Rebooking Policy – WSI offers their clients “first right of refusal” in rebooking their hunt for the following year, but to ensure this, a \$300 Reservation Fee must be paid within 30 days of completion of hunt. Once dates and prices have been established for next year’s hunts, client will have option of either confirming with remainder of first 50%, or Reservation Fee will be refunded. Once hunt is confirmed, Cancellation Policy does apply.

WHAT TO BRING

Having the proper equipment, clothing, and travel items can make for a much more comfortable and enjoyable hunting trip. It is better to be over prepared than under stocked, but remember there are certain weight and baggage restrictions when traveling by airplane. The following checklist should cover some of the essentials.

Primary Checklist

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------------|
| - gun(s) | - flight tickets |
| - ammo (40 rounds) | - camera and film |
| - binoculars | - gloves |
| - flashlight | - pajamas or warm-up’s |
| - hunting clothes* | - water bottle |
| - hunting boots | - knife |
| - hunting cap | - day or fanny pack |
| - rain parka | |

You May Also Want To Bring

- | | |
|----------------------|------------------------------|
| - sunglasses | - video camera (recommended) |
| - book for reading | - sun screen |
| - ice chest | - bug spray |
| - spotting scope | - bit of string and tape |
| - special medication | - liquor or alcohol* |
| - preferred snacks | - shooting bipod |

- ❖ Clothing should be suited for temperatures ranging from 20 degrees to 80 degrees. Check internet weather forecast prior to hunt. Clothing that allows you to layer up is best. Camo is recommended but not essential.
- ❖ We do not provide alcoholic beverages in camp. We will allow you to BYOB, but we will enforce certain drinking/hunting policies.

HUNTING LICENSE

- All Texas hunters who were born on or after September 2, 1971, must have successfully completed a Hunter Education Training Course.
- WSI can obtain your necessary hunting license. Please indicate on the enclosed “Hunter Profile” if you do wish for us to obtain your license. If you do not indicate that you do want us to obtain your license, we will assume you are bringing it with you. If you choose for us to obtain license, it will be given to you upon your arrival.

- Nonresident hunting license fees are \$315. This license covers anything you will be allowed to harvest. You need to send \$315 to us along with “Hunter Profile” at least 30 days prior to hunt if you want us to process your license.
- For nonresidents who are less than 17 years of age, a special license exists for a cost of only \$7.00 and covers anything they may take, except waterfowl.

TRAVEL TIPS

A hunter’s journey to and from their hunting destination is a major part of the trip. Because of great distances between point of origin and hunt location, many hunters choose to fly to eliminate road time. There are a few regulations that hunters need to keep in mind that will make their trip more smooth and enjoyable. Additionally, there are certain procedures that if followed, make your airport transition much easier.

Helpful Hints:

- Try to never over pack suitcase any more than what is necessary. Duffel bags work well for most hunters’ needs.
- When possible, lock all luggage.
- Whether its carry-on or checked luggage, be sure to attach your name, address, and phone number on each item.
- Pack your highly valuable items, if possible, in a carry-on, particularly those items that are fragile.
- Always check in approximately 1.5 hours prior to scheduled departure. At that time, your firearm will be subject to inspection to ensure no shells are in the chamber.

Requirements and Restrictions:

- Each person is allowed to check up to two pieces of luggage, including carry-on’s. Any additional pieces are subject to additional airline charges, which are generally \$80 or more for each additional piece. Thus, you might consider bringing a large duffel bag, gun case, and carry-on’s (i.e., camera bag).
- You are restricted to a maximum of 50 pounds per piece that is checked. Anything above this is subject to additional charge.
- All firearms must be transported in a hard-sided container capable of being locked.
- While ammunition can be carried in the gun case in a separate container, shells cannot be in the chamber. You are allowed up to ten pounds of ammo, which must be shipped in checked baggage. We recommend transporting ammo in a duffel bag. Ammo must be in some type of ammo container.
- Law prohibits the transportation of hazardous materials such as compressed gasses, flammable solids and liquids, poisons, and corrosives, which includes lighters.
- You are not allowed to carry on knives of any sort, but you can put them in your checked baggage.

Shipment of meat, hides, and antlers:

- For those hunters interested in keeping their meat, you must take back with you, either on airplane in ice chest or in vehicle if you drive. **We do not ship meat.** You can purchase a plastic ice chest from us for \$20.
- All trophies are caped and frozen. If hunter prefers to have a taxidermist of his own do the work, we either ship the cape and antlers back with the hunter in a container (i.e., ice chest, box, duffel bag, etc.), or we can ship at a later date to them or their taxidermist, and hunter will incur shipping and service charge fees.
- If hunter wishes to leave their trophy to be mounted at our taxidermist, we will put taxidermist in touch with hunter to discuss pose and payment, and taxidermist will ship mount to hunter upon completion of work.

One other matter:

Always keep in mind that certain unexpected occurrences can and do happen from time to time when traveling by air. Such things as delayed or canceled flights, and luggage not arriving with hunter, are but a few things that are possible. For missing luggage, when you arrive, we will file necessary claims, and luggage will generally arrive on the next flight. If worse comes to worse, we will do what we have to do to outfit you with necessary gear so that you lose no hunting time. Just try to take all this in stride, and your trip will be much more enjoyable.

Airport Shuttle:

WSI does not provide airport shuttle on mule deer hunts. It is approximately 2.5 hours from Midland Airport to ranch. Please let us know if you have not received directions.

MISCELLANEOUS EXPENSES

It is generally understood that nobody likes hidden expenses when on a hunting trip. Services included in your hunting package are outlined in your contract. As with most hunting excursions, there are a few miscellaneous expenses that may or may not be incurred during your WSI hunting trip. The following is a summary of various costs, in addition to your package, that you should bear in mind.

1. **Airfare** – WSI hunt packages do not include airfare. We do provide shuttle to and from the nearest airport on most hunts, but this is subject to arrival and departure times. Check with us about details.
2. **Shipping of meat, capes, and antlers** – Many of our hunters take their meat and trophy back with them on the airplane. However, we do sometimes ship cape/antlers to hunter or their taxidermist. We do not ship meat. If you are interested in the meat, you need to take it back with you. All shipping charges will be reversed and some form of crating/handling fee will be charged to the hunter. The following price structure will generally prevail on crating/handling fees:

• White-tailed Deer	\$20
• Mule Deer	\$30
• Elk (unsplit)	\$75
• Elk (Split)	\$50
• Turkey	\$20
• Exotics (Small)	\$20
• Exotics (Large)	\$40 - \$75

These fees include boxing/crating of both the cape and antlers/horns. Price on a per animal basis may be reduced when multiple animals are shipped in a single container. The above prices do not include shipping costs or material costs for boxes or crates which are extra.

3. **Taxidermy** – WSI can arrange for providing taxidermy services at hunter's expense payable to the taxidermist. We only work with reputable, award-winning taxidermists.
4. **License and Tags** – All hunting/fishing licenses are at hunter's expense. WSI generally takes care of obtaining licenses, but hunter is charged exact cost of license.

5. **Gratuities** – Though gratuities are certainly not required on WSI hunts, it is generally customary for hunters to tip both their guide and the cook. Use your discretion in determining what you feel is a fair amount. Tips are always appreciated by camp staff. Here is a suggested “rule of thumb” on tipping amounts:

<u>Hunt Price</u>	<u>Gratuity Amount/Hunter</u>	
Up to \$1,500	\$150 - \$225 (Guide)	\$40 - \$75 (Cook)
\$1,500 - \$3,000	\$175 - \$300 (Guide)	\$40 - \$75 (Cook)
\$3,000 - \$5,000	\$300 - \$500 (Guide)	\$60 - \$100 (Cook)
\$5,000 +	7% - 10% Hunt (Guide)	\$100+ (Cook)

6. **Other** – It is always wise to carry some extra cash with you for incidental travel expenses (gifts, airport meals, parking fees, etc.). It is also a good idea to have several \$1.00 and \$5.00 bills for airport gratuities.

It is our intention to provide you with a comfortable, fun hunt with no unwanted surprises. Make sure you are familiar with what is included with your hunt package to ensure that no hassles are encountered.

HUNTING/CAMP POLICIES & RULES

1. No drinking of alcoholic beverages is allowed in the field. If drinking of alcohol is done during daylight hours, it is up to a WSI staff member to decide whether or not that particular hunter will be allowed to hunt that day. **Safety first!**
2. No pets allowed on ranch.
3. Any wounded animal will be treated as a kill. If blood is found, animal will be considered wounded, and we will make a reasonable effort to recover such animals. Hunter may or may not be allowed to continue to hunt if they wound a buck, depending upon WSI ability to harvest extra bucks from that particular property and depending upon the specific situation. A WSI staff member will make the final decision on whether the hunter will have an option to hunt for another buck, and hunter will pay a predetermined harvest fee if another buck is taken.
4. When being transported in a guide’s vehicle, no shells are allowed in the chamber, and barrels should be pointed toward the floor of the vehicle. No loaded guns are allowed in or around the camp area.
5. Hunters are forbidden to shoot any animals that are not specified in their contract, unless given permission by guide. In the event that a hunter kills game in excess of his allowed limit, hunter will be charged a harvest fee comparable to the standard hunt price for that animal.
6. Hunters are expected to not leave trash in the field or in the blinds.
7. If hunters should open any gates while on the premises, gates should be locked or latched the same way they were found.
8. Should any hunter’s action become an unreasonable risk factor to other individuals attending the hunt, hunter may be immediately dismissed from the premises, and no money will be refunded.

9. Should any hunter's behavior become unruly, hunter may be dismissed from premises with no money refunded.

Let's all have a safe and enjoyable hunt.

FIREARMS & SHOOTING

Your firearm and your ability to adequately handle and use this piece of equipment with proficiency play a critical role in the ultimate outcome of your hunting trip.

Mule Deer Calibers & Loads

For mule deer we recommend a caliber that is flat shooting and capable of delivering plenty of knock down power. Calibers such as .270, .280, 7mm, and .300 mag are all popular choices. Well constructed bullets such as partitions and A-frames are recommended. No ballistic tips please.

Shooting Practice

It cannot be overemphasized how important it is for you to put some time in at the range. We recommend you visit the range a minimum of two times during the six-week period preceding your hunt, firing a minimum of ten rounds per trip. Make sure you practice from shooting positions that are realistic field situations, such as prone, elbows on knees, leaning against a tree, etc. If you plan on using a gun-mounted bipod, be sure to practice with one.

We recommend that your gun be signed in for 100 yards dead on. If you decide to sight your gun high at 100 yards, it should not be more than 1.5 inches high at that distance. The most common mistake we see hunters make is having gun sighted in 2" – 3" high at 100 yards.

HUNTER PROFILE FORM

We need to receive a Hunter Profile on all of our hunting clients. Even if you have previously filled one out on a previous hunt, please fill one out for your upcoming hunt with WSI. If you have not received this form from us in the mail, or if you have lost it, you can print one off from our website. Click back to our PDF options of our various hunt packets and down at bottom of this list is a PDF file titled "Hunter Profile Form." Print, fill out, and send back to us.