

**RECREATIONAL LEASE MANAGEMENT (RLM)** 

# Hunting Lease Guide – South Region

# A Guide to Weyerhaeuser's Recreational Lease Management Program in the South Region.

This helpful guide provides valuable information on our land management and recreational lease programs and policies in Southern states.





Dear Leaseholder,

We would like to personally welcome you to Weyerhaeuser's lease program. Your lease will be managed by our Recreational Lease Management (RLM) team who is solely devoted to serving the needs of our lessees.

This hunting lease guide was developed to provide an overview of our lease process, programs and procedures. It will address most of the questions you may have as a new Weyerhaeuser leaseholder, and will provide you with important information on who to contact if you have additional concerns.

Please take a moment to familiarize yourself with our lease program by reading all the material contained in this guide and sharing it with your club members. It is our hope that you and your members will find this guide useful as you have questions about your Weyerhaeuser lease.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve you. Best wishes for many safe and successful hunting seasons.

Sincerely,

Weyerhaeuser Recreational Lease Management



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## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### FILLING OUT THE LEASE

When a club acquires a hunting lease, you must designate one person as the Club Contact. The Club Contact is the person who will serve as the club's representative and will speak on behalf of the club in any communication with Weyerhaeuser. It is also the responsibility of the Club Contact to ensure that all lease documents are complete.

You will be required to sign a hunting lease contract. The contract lists all the provisions and requirements of your lease with Weyerhaeuser. In addition, the Club Contact <u>must</u> complete a club member address list. This list is used to mail newsletters and other information to all club members. For every club member, you must provide their full name, complete mailing address, phone number and e-mail address.

Clubs have the option to administer their lease documents online through the Weyerhaeuser recreational website. Online account access allows the Club Contact to review, accept and pay for the lease contract online. Lessees who use the online lease acceptance and payment feature will receive automatic email notifications of receipt. Managing your account online also provides you with easy access to update your membership list and grant members read-only access to the club's online account by listing their email address in the membership list.

### WHAT THE LEASE ENTITLES YOU TO

As a leaseholder, your club is granted the exclusive right to encourage, protect and harvest game species on your club's leased lands. As such, you have the right to prosecute individuals who are trespassing.

Problems such as trespassing, poaching, or other game law violations should be communicated to your local game warden. Information about your state wildlife agency is provided below. For other problems such as vandalism, dumping, littering, and arson, contact your Recreational Lease Manager.

### State Wildlife Agency Contact Information

### State Law Enforcement Websites:

Alabama 800-272-4263 www.outdooralabama.com Arkansas 800-482-9262 www.agfc.com Florida 888-404-3922 www.myfwc.com Georgia 800-241-4113 www.georgiawildlife.dnr.state.ga.us Louisiana 800-442-2511 www.wlf.state.la.us Mississippi 800-237-6278 www.mdwfp.com North Carolina 800-662-7137 www.ncwildlife.org Oklahoma 800-522-8039 www.wildlifedepartment.com South Carolina 800-922-5431 www.dnr.sc.gov Texas 800-792-4263 www.tpwd.state.tx.us Virginia 804-367-1000 www.dgif.virginia.gov West Virginia 304-558-2784 www.wvdnr.gov

### **INSURANCE DETAILS**

Liability insurance coverage is included with your lease fee. The insurance policy is not a personal injury policy. Rather, it is a third-party liability policy. It is important that all club members be recorded on the club member list to ensure they are covered under this policy in case of an accident.

All accidents involving injuries which occur on your Weyerhaeuser lease, regardless of who is injured and how the injury occurred, should be reported immediately to our insurance provider Outdoor Underwriters, Inc at 866-961-4101 and the Recreational Lease Manager who oversees your lease. Make sure to include a contact telephone number and your hunting lease contract number when reporting the injury.

## **ORGANIZING YOUR HUNTING CLUB**

A well-run hunting club provides many benefits to its members, as well as club officers. Most clubs will benefit from establishing club rules and club bylaws.

Club rules guide the behavior of club members by identifying what is expected of club members as well as identifying what is not allowed. Club bylaws set forth how the club is organized and managed. Bylaws deal with how club officers are established, identify the responsibilities of each officer, and the length of their term in office. Bylaws may also address how membership is established in the club, how members may be removed from the club, and how disputes are resolved. A simplified example of a club constitution and bylaws is located further along in this document.

There are many ways in which clubs may decide to manage themselves. Clubs may put all club decisions to a majority vote of the membership, clubs may decide to elect club officers or a management committee that makes all management decisions for the club, or clubs may elect to allow all decisions be made by a single person that is recognized as having the best intentions of the club at heart.

We do not require clubs to adopt a specific leadership/management style, but we do suggest the following:

• Clubs should adopt a set of rules/regulations that guide club member behavior.

• Clubs should adopt bylaws that provide direction in how the club is managed and how disputes are resolved. We expect clubs to handle their own internal disputes.

• Bylaws should allow for replacement of current officers and should be ratified by the general membership.

• All financial information should be transparent to club membership. Club leadership should provide club members a full financial accounting at least yearly of all dues received and all club expenses.

## **COOPERATING WITH NEIGHBORS**

As a large landowner, we are well aware of the benefits of maintaining positive relationships with adjoining landowners. We rely on our neighbors for access to our properties. Additionally, our neighbors often notify us of forest insects, diseases, or other problems. As a leaseholder, your club is expected to maintain good relationships with neighboring landowners and hunting clubs.

Often, forest roads cross Weyerhaeuser property and continue onto adjoining land. As a leaseholder, you are expected to cooperate in providing <u>reasonable</u> access to adjoining landowners and hunting clubs. In the process of developing good relationships with neighboring landowners or clubs, your club may want to consider the following:

• Introduce yourself and your club members to neighbors. Often suspicions arise because one neighbor does not know the other. A simple introduction can be a first step to good relationships.

• Invite neighbors to a club dinner or other function.

• Offer to help neighboring landowners and clubs with retrieving wounded deer or with other work.

• Keep the lines of communication open. If you have a problem or suspect a neighbor has a problem with your club, talk with them.

## FOREST ACTIVITIES

The area you lease is part of a working forest. Forest management activities occur during all times of the year. This may include activities such as timber harvest, site preparation, tree planting, vegetation control, fertilization, road building, or forest research. There may be company personnel or other legitimate agents conducting forest management activities on your lease at any time.

Of all forest management activities, timber harvesting has the most influence on clubs. We strive to provide clubs advance notice of timber harvests. Club Contacts are notified of scheduled timber harvests each spring prior to renewing the lease contract. That way, clubs can make informed decisions on whether they wish to renew their lease. Club Contacts are provided a map of the proposed harvest area. Members are advised to remove all personal property from the harvest area. We are not responsible for damage to personal property left on the lease.

In **rare** cases, we must conduct unscheduled harvests. In these situations, we attempt to provide clubs with as much notice as possible. However, the notice may be within hours of when the harvest will occur.

Once an area has been harvested, clubs should be prepared for subsequent forest management activities such as site preparation (preparing the area for planting) and tree planting which will occur 6 to 24 months following harvest. Once an area has been harvested but before it has been site prepared and replanted is the best opportunity for establishing food plots on your lease area. If you are interested in establishing food plots, please read the Food Plot document provided in this packet or on our website.

# GATING/POSTING

Gating provides security for leaseholders, and reduces trespassing, road damage, vandalism, dumping, theft of property, and poaching.

All gates must conform to the following standards:

- Cable, chain, or wire gates are not permitted; they should be removed when found.
- All gates must meet regional specifications and need prior approval. For approval and specifications, please contact your lease manager.
- Gates should be a minimum of 16 to 20 feet wide.
- Gates should be located a minimum of 70 to 100 feet from any road intersection and placed along a road straightaway for a clear line-of-sight. Gates placed closer to road intersections or in curves may not allow for large trucks to pass. If so, these gates may be pulled up by loggers or other contractors. We will not be responsible for damage to gates which do not meet these criteria.
- Gates should open into the tract.
- A Weyerhaeuser lock is required on each gate. One club lock may also be used. If you are installing a new gate, please close and lock the gate. The next time one of our foresters visits your lease, they will insert our lock. You do not have to provide us with a key to your lock, since we will maintain our own lock.
- Weyerhaeuser does not provide keys to its locks. Clubs should provide their own locks. All locks belonging to a hunting club must be painted "blaze" orange. If a chain is used to secure the gate, locate your lock as far away as possible from the Weyerhaeuser lock on the chain which secures the gate. This will minimize the likelihood that one party bypasses the other party's lock.
- Drive arounds (areas where vehicle traffic can drive around gates) may be secured with narrowly spaced posts, mesh fencing such as hog-wire fencing, or a mound of dirt, if necessary. Strand fencing, such as barbed-wire fencing, is not permitted anywhere on the lease.

# DEER STANDS

Please observe the following guidelines when putting up deer stands:

- Stands may not be nailed into trees.
- Stands must be portable in nature. Chain-on/lock-on stands, climbing stands, ladder stands, screw-in steps, climbing sticks, and other climbing aids are allowed provided they are not attached to the tree using nails, spikes, or other materials *driven* into the tree.

Keep deer stand safety in mind at all times. Tree stand accidents comprise the largest percentage of hunting related accidents. Tree stand accidents can occur when ascending, descending, and while sitting in the stand. The best way to ensure your safety while in a stand is to **wear a safety belt at all times.** Most stand related accidents could have been prevented or minimized if the victim had been wearing a fall restraint device. Consider your safety belt the same way you consider you rifle or bow...as essential gear. Your life could depend on it.

# FOREST ROADS

Forest roads represent an enormous financial expense as well as an environmental concern. Each year we spend significant money maintaining existing roads, adding new roads, and closing old roads. Roads also represent the greatest potential factor to impact water quality. Given the costs and environmental concerns associated with roads, our philosophy is to provide the minimum number of high quality forest roads.

Given the variety of soils across our ownership, not all roads are equal. On sandier soils, roads will be able to withstand traffic during wet weather. Conversely, roads on sticky clay soils may become impassible during wet weather. We recognize this difference between soils and try to schedule our forest management activities based on soil characteristics. Hunters should also factor in road and soil conditions when evaluating potential areas to lease.

What does this mean to the lessee?

- Our philosophy is to provide access to the tract but not access to every portion of the tract. There may be some portions of your lease that do not have roads and require a rather long hike. We consider this to be part of the hunting experience.
- On certain soils, you may not be able to drive the roads on the lease during wet weather without causing damage to the roads. If the roads are extremely wet and boggy, use a four-wheeler or walk.
- To report roads that need maintenance, go through your on-line account and click the "contact us" tab after logging in. Please provide us all the information requested.
- Clubs that persist in causing damage to roads will be held liable for repair costs.

\_\_\_\_\_HUNTING CLUB CONSTITUTION AND BYLAWS

Article I. Name and Purpose Section 1. Name This organization shall be called the \_\_\_\_\_Hunting Club.

Section 2. Purpose

THE

The purpose of this organization is to promote wildlife conservation, friendly relationships with landowners, safety, fellowship, and ethical hunting through club functions.

### Article II. Membership

Section 1. Number of Members Membership shall be limited to \_\_\_\_\_members.

Section 2. Provision for Membership

In order to become a member of The \_\_\_\_\_\_Hunting Club, a person must be recommended by members who know the applicant and must serve a probationary period.

### Section 3. Dues and Fees

Members shall equally share expenses for lease fees, food plot plantings, and other expenses as approved by the membership. Dues shall be payable annually the month of \_\_\_\_\_\_. Dues for the current year shall be

\_\_\_\_\_\_ dollars, plus other approved expenses, equally shared. Each member will receive a copy of Lease when renewal is completed by Lessor.

### Article III. Officers, Elections, Vacancies, and Eligibility

Section 1. Officers and Their Duties

The officers of the organization shall consist of:

(a) The President shall preside over meetings and conduct all official business.

(b) The Vice-President shall assist the President and preside over committee meetings.

(c) The Secretary shall maintain the minutes of the club meetings, publicity, and serve as sergeant at arms.

(d) The *Treasurer* shall maintain the club financial matters and present a report at each meeting.

(e) The Camp or Hunt Master shall set up camp, maintain safety, and see that each sportsman obeys all hunting rules.

Section 2. Elections

Election of officers shall be held every two years at a meeting during the month of \_\_\_\_\_\_. Election shall be by simple majority of members present. Election for officers shall be held separately in order listed in Article III, Section 1.

Section 3. Term of Office

Each member is entitled to one vote except the President, who votes only in case of a tie.

Section 4. Term of Office

The term of office is for 2 years, which shall begin January 1 of an even year and end on the last day of December of the following odd year.

Section 5. Vacancies

In the event an office becomes vacant, nominations shall be asked for and an election held to fill the unexpired term of the individual vacating the office.

Section 6. Eligibility

To be eligible for an office, a member must:

(a) Have been a member for 2 years, (b) Have attended at least  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the club functions, (c) Have shown an active interest in club functions, (d) Have conducted himself in a sportsman-like manner.

### Article IV. Removal of Membership

A member will be dropped from the membership roll for the following:

(1) Failure to pay dues. (2) Any action which would reflect dishonor and disgrace on the organization.

(a) The Camp or Hunt Master shall hold a hearing and then rule on continuation of such person's membership should a problem involve Item 2 above, except that persons convicted of violating game laws shall be expelled automatically.

(3) Conviction of violating any Local, State, Federal, or Weyerhaeuser regulations.

### Article V. Guests

Section 1. Authorization

Members may bring one guest per day, provided they are pre-approved by the Camp or Hunt Master.

Section 2. Guest Fees

Guests will/will not be charged fees. The inviting member is responsible for the approved guest's accommodations.

Section 3. Neighboring Landowners Neighboring landowners will be invited to hunt with the club.

### Article VI. Method of Amending the Constitution

The constitution may be amended at any regular meeting by a 2/3 vote of the members present, providing written notice of the proposed amendment has been presented to the membership at least 30 days prior to the vote.

### **GENERAL CAMP AND HUNTING RULES**

I. All members and guests will faithfully practice the 10 Commandments of Gun Safety:

- 1. Treat every gun as if it were loaded.
- 2. Watch your muzzle.
- 3. Keep guns unloaded unless in use.
- 4. Be sure the barrel is clear of obstructions.
- 5. Be sure of your target and what is behind the target before you pull the trigger.
- 6. Never point a gun at anything you do not want to shoot.
- 7. Never climb a tree or fence or jump a ditch with a loaded gun. Never pull a gun toward you by the muzzle.
- 8. Never shoot a bullet at a flat, hard surface or at water.
- 9. Store guns and ammunition separately and beyond the reach of children.
- 10. Do not hunt or shoot when under the influence of alcohol or other drugs.

II. It is the intention of this club to provide the highest degree of ethical hunter atmosphere at all times for both experienced and inexperienced hunters.

III. Campfires and warming fires will be attended until completely extinguished. Should a fire escape, whether caused by the club or someone else, all persons hunting with the club will immediately help control it. The Camp or Hunt Master will be responsible for reporting the fire to authorities and local Weyerhaeuser Forester.

IV. All laws, rules, and regulations by the state's wildlife agency, as well as stipulations of lease, will be obeyed by members and guests. Violators will be reported.

V. All members and guests will observe rules set forth in the lease agreement with Weyerhaeuser. VI. Portable, elevated stands that do not damage trees will be used while deer hunting. Building permanent stands onto trees is prohibited.

VII. Our camp is to promote the best conservation possible while in the hunting area. No litter will be left. All litter will be brought back to the camp for proper disposal.

VIII. We will make every effort to avoid damage to roads, trees, fields, etc. Vehicle operation will be minimized when roads are wet to avoid road damage. Vehicles will be parked so as not to block roads. Placement of signs on posts will be favored, rather than placement on trees.

IX. Members will be responsible for their guests and family members under 18 years of age.

X. Deer stands will be far enough apart so as not to endanger other hunters. All stands shall face into the lease area.

XI. Coordination among members will be maintained to provide opportunities for all members to participate in food plot plantings and other club work projects authorized by Weyerhaeuser.

XII. Club members will treat fellow club members and neighbors with courtesy and respect. We will set an example of being a good neighbor.



# **Camping Program – South Region**

A <u>Campsite Application Form</u> must be submitted and approved before establishing a campsite. The policy and form can be found on our website www.wyrecreation.com

Lessee is strictly prohibited from placing on the Leased Property any building or structure of a permanent nature. Installation of permanent sewage treatment systems of any kind, electric utility service, and waterlines are strictly prohibited without prior written approval by a Weyerhaeuser's authorized representative. Residency will not be permitted on Weyerhaeuser property or the Leased Property. The expense of the permanent campsite and/or its amenities, to be determined by Weyerhaeuser, will be added to the overall price of the current Lease.

Temporary campsites are also allowed in some areas with the prior written approval of Weyerhaeuser's authorized representative. Where allowed Lessee agrees that camping on the Leased Property shall be only of a temporary nature, defined as "pack in/pack out" and it being understood that Lessee is strictly prohibited from placing on the Leased Property any building or structure of a permanent nature. Temporary campsites shall be confined to existing locations or natural openings and shall always be maintained in a neat and orderly manner and kept free of litter. Lessee may be required to relocate temporary campsites if Weyerhaeuser deems the current location unsuitable or if a temporary campsite conflicts with current or anticipated forest operations.

Abandoned vehicles are not allowed to be left on Weyerhaeuser property. Weyerhaeuser reserves the right to remove any abandoned vehicles and charge Lessee for the full cost of removal.

It is understood and agreed that should Weyerhaeuser be levied any taxes for any item associated with a temporary or permanent campsite, the Lessee shall pay those assessed taxes.



# Wildlife Opening Rental Program – South Region

A <u>Wildlife Openings Application Form</u> must be submitted and approved in writing by the Weyerhaeuser authorized representative if a designated and permanent opening is desired. The form will provide details of Weyerhaeuser's expectations pertaining to wildlife openings and the yearly rental costs for each wildlife opening. The policy and form can be found on our website <u>www.wyrecreation.com</u>.

Once a designated wildlife opening is established, the Lessee will be expected to maintain the opening until the surrounding plantation is final harvested again (typically 27 years). The expense of the wildlife opening, to be determined by Weyerhaeuser, will be added to the overall price of the current Lease. Rates for wildlife openings may vary from region to region.

Food plots that are in existing openings do not need approval. These plots will also not be protected from forest operations.

These plots are usually located in the following:

- · Loading decks and/or skid trails;
- Natural openings or other areas outside our planted pine plantations or hardwood regeneration;
- Within established rights-of-way, abandoned well sites and roadsides as long as it does not conflict with right-of-way grantee's use; it is the Lessee's responsibility to gain permission from utility line and pipeline companies.
- Between rows in our established pine plantations.

The following areas are strictly prohibited from the establishment of food plots:

- Within any existing roadbed;
- Any acres currently within pine plantations (unless previously approved in writing by Weyerhaeuser's authorized representative);
- No trees shall be removed for the construction of food plots.

Weyerhaeuser reserves the right to use these areas to support timber operations, notwithstanding the presence or absence of food plots. Weyerhaeuser assumes no liability for damage to food plots caused by the company, its contractors, agents or assigns.



### *A safe lease is an enjoyable lease Risk management and safety techniques for hunting clubs*

### By Ed Wilson, Outdoor Underwriters, Inc.

Each year as hunting season gets underway; millions of hunters enter the woods to enjoy a season of hunting success and camaraderie with friends and family. As your hunting club members enjoy time on your lease land, safety should be a primary focus. In addition to helping prevent accidental injuries, safety activities can also help limit clubs' risk of legal action due to liability.

While liability concerns are valid, they should not limit property access or recreational enjoyment. Smart hunting clubs can use several simple risk management techniques to limit their exposure to lawsuits and still provide ample recreational opportunities.

### Hunt management

At a minimum, clubs should hold an annual safety meeting prior to the start of the hunting season to discuss specific club rules and safety procedures. This would also be a good time for the club to review its lease and incorporate any specific lease requirements into club procedures.

Establish a sign-in/sign-out map for hunting stand selection. Stand locations should be determined with attention to hunter density, access issues, safety zones and the distance between hunters. It's also a good idea to assign a hunt master, especially for high-density hunting days such as Saturdays and any day during opening week. The hunt master should be empowered to control stand placement and hunting guests.

### **Tree-stand safety**

All tree stands should be inspected prior to the hunting season, and each member should sign off on the condition of his or her own stands. All ladder and climbing stands should have harnesses available that are capable of protecting the hunter should the stand fail or the hunter fall. In addition:

Check ladder stands for any loosening of the strap holding the stand to the tree. A safety strap can be secured around the stand and tree to provide additional security in case the original belt fails.

- Check raised platforms for any weakening or shifting of the support pillars.
- Check steps, support rails and floors for rotten wood, loose screws and nails, or other instability.
- Make sure ladder ropes or railings are secure.
- Hang a rope conveniently from the stand to safely lower and raise firearms and other equipment to sitting height.

### **Check-in station**

All leased tracts should have a convenient check-in station with a map that details stand sites and selection procedures. Additional information at the station should include:

- Emergency contact names and numbers.
- Phone numbers for the local fire department, emergency services, and/or ambulance service.
- The site location and accurate directions for directing emergency responders to it.
- The landowner's name and contact information.
- Club hunting procedures and other rules.

### Safety during dog or hunter drives

During hunts with dogs or people driving the game, be certain there is a sufficient distance between shooters. Hunters should be required to maintain the stand site until the drive is finished. Drivers should wear safety vests and hats that are clearly visible.

### **Controlling ATV use**

Require that all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) be driven with caution and only in areas in which it is safe to use them. ATV use should be limited to established and maintained roadways and trails, and they should not be used in heavily wooded areas.

### **Camping and fires**

Have a safe, designated campfire location with basic firefighting equipment (e.g., fire rakes and shovels) available onsite. Post and enforce specific rules governing campfires and the burning of litter, along with a requirement that all trash bottles and cans be disposed of properly. When in effect, landowner burn bans should be strictly enforced.

If the lease has a permanent camp location, have the area inspected prior to the start of the season for any electrical, heating system or building defects that may need correction. Check smoke alarms and carbon monoxide detectors. Document all inspections and their results in writing.

### Gates and other hazards

Gates and other potential road hazards should be posted and clearly marked, including marking both gates and gate poles with reflective tape for all-direction visibility. Don't use cables for gates. Keep brush and trees cleared away from the gate so it remains clearly visible.

Mark any known hazards on the lease land and post "private lease" or "no trespassing" signs along public roads, making sure club members are aware that the public might use those roads. Inform all club members of any logging or construction activity.

While hunting remains a safe outdoor activity, it is very important to integrate gun safety and hunt management into club practices.

Ed Wilson, who has forestry degrees from West Virginia University and a doctorate from Virginia Tech, works for Outdoor Underwriters, Inc. in Columbia, S.C..



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

# \* My lease has an existing lock on the gate. How do I know if it is a Weyerhaeuser lock and how do I obtain a key?

Weyerhaeuser does not provide keys to its locks. Clubs should provide their own locks. <u>All locks belonging to a hunting</u> <u>club must be painted "blaze" orange</u>. If your gate happens to have a chain, locate your lock as far away as possible from the Weyerhaeuser lock. This will minimize the likelihood that one party bypasses the other party's lock. Check with your lease manager to know the position and type of lock Weyerhaeuser uses in your area.

If the road that is gated does not extend beyond your lease (your lease area is the only property serviced by the road), the only locks which should be on the gate are the Weyerhaeuser lock, your club's lock, and occasionally other locks, such as utility companies.

Oftentimes, your club may share a road with other landowners or other Weyerhaeuser clubs. Please do not cut or otherwise disable any locks until you are certain which locks can be removed from a gate.

### \* We would like to install gates on our lease? Are their minimum gate specifications?

All gates must meet regional specifications and need prior approval. For approval and specifications, please contact your lease manager. Chains or cables can never be used as a gate. Single strand fencing, such as barbed wire cannot be used.

Gates should be set back from road intersections a <u>minimum of 70-100 feet and be a minimum of 16-20 feet wide</u>. This will allow large equipment trucks to safely turn off of public roads and straighten before reaching and passing through the gate area. Similarly, gates should be placed in road straight-away and not be placed immediately before/after significant curves in the road.

# ✤ There is a road that touches my lease, but goes through another person's property. Do I have rights to use this road for access?

Not necessarily. Assuming it is not a public road, in some cases, access to Weyerhaeuser property is not direct and must go through another landowner's property. If you are uncertain as to whether a particular road is a legal access point to your lease, discuss this situation with your lease manager.

### \* The road I use to access my lease is in poor condition. Who do I contact for repairs? Can I repair it myself?

Forest roads are not the domain of 2-wheel drive vehicles. You should expect to use ATVs and 4-wheel drive trucks on your lease. If the roads on your lease are impassable or if you believe they will become impassable within the near future, please contact the lease manager.

Lessees can make some minor road repairs, but only after first getting Weyerhaeuser approval for the proposed repairs. Weyerhaeuser has established road repair specifications that include the need for carefully placed water bars, ditches, etc.

# ✤ My new lease contains personal belongings (stands, structures, etc.) from the previous leaseholder. What is the procedure for removing these items? Do I have to allow the previous leaseholder access to my lease or can Weyerhaeuser remove these items?

Former lessees occasionally leave personal property on Weyerhaeuser land. Initially, please refer to Paragraph 19 of your lease contract (or the sample contract found on our website) for a legal explanation of Weyerhaeuser's policy on this matter.

If you are now the official, contracted lessee for the property, you may choose, as a gesture of good will, to allow the former club to retrieve their abandoned property at a time which is suitable to you. Remember the golden rule: treat others as you would wish to be treated. Do not assume personal property left by a previous lease is now the property of the new lease.

If the previous club left rubbish or camping related equipment, please take photos and make a list of all items left on the lease. Send this information to the lease administrator and request it be placed in your lease file, so that Weyerhaeuser knows these items were preexisting on your lease.

### How can I discern the boundaries of my lease?

Weyerhaeuser provides a standard location or stand map with your lease, which can facilitate locating and determining the boundaries of your lease. Weyerhaeuser's paint color for marking boundaries will vary. The most common color is white, but certain areas may use blue, yellow or reddish-orange painted horizontal boundary marks. You may also find occasional Weyerhaeuser, Plum Creek, Timber Company, Westvaco or Georgia Pacific boundary signs.

In many cases, a club will not lease an entire Weyerhaeuser property; some of your lease boundaries may be internal Weyerhaeuser roads or creeks. These boundaries would not be painted. If you have questions about boundaries, please call your lease manager.

### \* We would like to establish a campsite. What is the process?

Clubs may establish a campsite in accordance with the campsite policy found on our website. Clubs must submit a campsite request form to their lease manager for approval prior to setting up camp. The campsite request form is found at the end of the *Campsite Program* document on our website.

### \* We would like to establish power and water service at our campsite? What is the process?

Weyerhaeuser strongly encourages the use of portable generators for electrifying hunting camps. In rare circumstances, power will be allowed to a campsite, solely at the lessee's effort and expense, and to Weyerhaeuser's specifications. Contact your lease manager to discuss this possibility. Any establishment of power on Weyerhaeuser property must be pre-approved by your lease manager.

Although a few water wells do historically exist on Weyerhaeuser property, their establishment and use is rarely approved due to safety and environmental concerns. Typically, regulatory authorities now require water wells to be matched with septic systems or other forms of wastewater/sewage management systems, which makes them unfeasible on Weyerhaeuser land.

Any improvements on Weyerhaeuser land must be pre-approved by your lease manager.

### \* We would like to plant food plots? What areas are permissible to plant?

Clubs may plant old logging decks, natural openings and powerlines that are internal to your lease, or other areas that can be planted without causing damage to trees. Please do not plant road beds or road shoulders. Gas line ROW's can be used once obtaining approval and location from gas line officials.

Weyerhaeuser also provides a food plot rental program for clubs that wish to plant additional areas. Please review the *Food Plot Program* policy on our website for more information.

### \* Are we allowed to post the property?

Yes. Refer to paragraph 10 of the lease agreement for all posting requirements.

### **What kinds of deer stands are allowed?** Can deer stands be placed anywhere?

Ladder stands, lock-on, climbing, and tripod or other freestanding stands are allowed. No nails or other objects may be driven into any tree for any reason.

Common sense, courtesy and safety should be your primary considerations when placing your stands. Stands should be placed safely out of range of homes, camps, neighboring properties or other clubs' hunters. Stands shouldn't be placed along primary/maintained roads commonly traveled by personal vehicles, logging trucks or neighbors accessing other

properties, except where specifically authorized. Cooperate with adjoining leases and private landowners on stand placement along your boundaries to ensure safety and to avoid potential conflict. Finally, if you are aware of timber harvesting or planting activity in a particular area on your lease, take the initiative to move stands to other areas in order to prevent potential damage to your stands.

### Can we use our ATVs?

ATVs are allowed, but abusive ATV driving which damages roads or timber plantations will not be tolerated and can result in lease cancellation. ATV users assume the risk and responsibility for the condition of the property and cannot hold Weyerhaeuser responsible or liable for any damages or injuries that may result from ATV use.

### Can we cut shooting lanes?

No commercial trees can be cut for any reason. Lessees can cut hardwood brush that is in pine stands but may not cut hardwood brush in hardwood stands. If you are in doubt as to whether the plants in question are commercial trees or brush, do not cut.

### \* Do we have to let another recreational club cross our leased property?

Adjoining recreational clubs should cooperate regarding access. Use these opportunities to learn who your neighbors are and find out if the clubs can work together to improve recreational activities.

# \* Will Weyerhaeuser harvest timber during hunting season? How do I know if timber harvest will occur on my lease?

It is possible that Weyerhaeuser may harvest timber or conduct other forest management activities (site preparation, tree planting, spraying) on your lease during hunting seasons. At the beginning of each year, we notify leaseholders of planned timber harvests. If harvest plans change throughout the year, we notify leaseholders as soon as possible.

Unfortunately, harvest plans change due to factors beyond our control - weather conditions and mill needs. In some instances, we must make quick changes in our harvest plan. Lessees should be aware that Weyerhaeuser property is a working forest and, from time to time, ongoing forest management activities may impact your hunting.

For more information on harvesting, please review the Harvest FAQ document located in this packet.

### Can I sublease?

No. Subleasing, commercial hunting, or selling of hunting rights is not allowed. Subleasing will result in cancellation of the lease.

### Is the lease renewable?

Leaseholders in good standing are usually offered the option to re-lease the property. Weyerhaeuser has leaseholders that have leased land for decades.

### \* What happens if Weyerhaeuser sells the property I'm leasing?

Weyerhaeuser reserves the right to sell, exchange, or convey all or any part of the property you are leasing. If you are leasing a property and it sells, you will receive written notice prior to the sale closing date with information on final lease termination and personal property removal dates. The lease will terminate upon the date of transfer to the new owner. You will receive a pro-rated refund of your lease fees per the terms of your lease contract as set forth in the chart below: For the purpose of this paragraph Hunting Season is defined as the period between the first day of deer season (firearm season) and the last day of turkey season in the applicable jurisdiction.

Date of termination	Amount of Refund
(i) Prior to Hunting Season	Full Refund
(ii) During Hunting Season	Pro-Rata Refund based on percentage of lease term remaining
(iii) After Hunting Season	No Refund

You will also receive priority status for selecting a new lease next year when we post available leases. Priority Status means you will be given a chance to preview and lease available properties before the general public is allowed to lease them.

### How much will my hunting lease increase next year?

Lease prices will be reviewed every year to ensure Weyerhaeuser's prices remain competitive with the market. Leaseholders will be notified between February and April of each year regarding price information for the next leasing cycle.



## **Timber Harvesting – Frequently Asked Questions**

Please review the following questions and answers relating to timber harvest on Weyerhaeuser property. Please remember that while logging crews take special care to prevent any damage, we are not responsible for loss or damage to items left unattended on your lease per the terms of our lease contract. It is our hope that our notification process and this document will alleviate this risk by helping you with your planning efforts for the coming season.

### How do I know if Weyerhaeuser plans on harvesting timber on my property?

At the beginning of each year, Weyerhaeuser issues Harvest Notification letters to those clubs we expect will be affected by a timber harvest during that year. As the year progresses and harvests are added to the plan, we notify affected clubs on a weekly basis. The harvest notification letter provides basic information as to which parcel(s) will be affected, and suggestions for dealing with harvest activities. If you have not received a harvest notification letter, then the property you lease is not currently listed on our harvest schedule, although it is still possible that an unscheduled harvest could take place on your lease at any time. These unscheduled harvests are typically due to insect outbreaks, weather conditions, or unexpected market conditions. In this event, an additional notice will be sent to leases where a harvest has been added. In rare cases, clubs may not receive notification of harvest activities.

### When will Weyerhaeuser harvest the timber on my lease?

Weyerhaeuser cannot provide you with a specific date or time of harvest; we can only inform you that your lease will be affected at some time by harvest during the year (when our contractors can best access the timber and fit that job into their logging schedule). The timing of the harvest depends on many variables including weather, seasons, ground conditions, contractor schedules and market conditions. Please be aware that logging could take place on your lease at any time of year, including during hunting season, and we cannot provide you with advanced notice of timing.

### Can I call someone for more information?

As outlined in the answer above, harvest timing is affected by a number of factors. Lease Managers typically do not have specific information about the harvest on your lease.

### How will I know when harvest is about to take place if Weyerhaeuser can't provide a specific date?

There are some telltale signs you can watch for that will indicate logging will happen on your lease. Much of this work is done a year in advanced, so seeing this activity does not necessarily mean a harvest is imminent. Some of the activities you may see include: delineation of stream buffers with flagging tape or tree marking paint; fresh road grading or other road work; and clearing of log decks. When you receive notification of harvest, make sure you have removed your property from the area. While a hunting stand or feeder may seem clearly visible to you or me from the ground, an operator in the dark, enclosed cab of a feller-buncher or skidder may not be able to see it.

### How do I prepare for Harvest on my lease?

In general, plan on not using stands, feeders or other equipment or structures in the affected area until after the harvest is completed (in order to prevent damage or loss of your property).

First, make sure gates are the proper width and have the appropriate setback to allow logging trucks to pass through the gates. Gates should be set back 100 feet from road entrances and should be a minimum of 16 feet wide, with wider gates being preferred. If gates do not meet these minimum criteria and damage occurs to your gates, you will be responsible for gate replacement/repair. If gates meet these dimensions and damage occurs, Weyerhaeuser or the logger will be responsible for repair.

Also, inform the members of your lease/club that they should avoid leaving personal property in that area until after harvest and that they should realistically plan ahead to hunt other areas of the lease until after the harvest is completed. Hunting is still permitted in the scheduled harvest area, but it will be best to avoid placing/leaving stands, plots or feeders in the area as they will likely need to be moved and could be damaged.

### What do we do with our hunting stands?

To prevent risk of damage to your stands and other equipment, you should immediately proceed to remove your possessions from the harvest impact area. Also, be aware that any large wood /metal box or tower stands that are located close to roadsides may require removal to facilitate road preparation and log truck traffic.

### When can I put my stands back on the harvested area?

Weyerhaeuser generally conducts two types of harvests. Thinning in younger plantations and final harvest in mature stands. Typically, after a thinning operation, clubs can begin putting their hunting equipment back in the area. The final harvest is different because it is just the first step in preparing the site to be replanted. After the final harvest, operations such as burning, tillage or spraying will take place. These operations can sometimes take up to a year to complete. Moving hunting equipment on to these sites before all steps are completed could result in damaged property. A good rule of thumb is to wait until the site has been replanted with new pine trees before moving any stands, feeders or cameras into the area.

# How will our food plots in the harvest area be affected? Can I protect existing plots or add new plots after the harvest is completed?

Give careful consideration to planting food plots in old log decks or along roads within or leading to the designated harvest area. Unless these are enrolled/protected within our food plot program, they could be disturbed or even destroyed by logging activity. It is best to postpone any such planting until harvesting and post logging cleanup work is finished. For more information about our food plot policy, please visit <u>Food Plot Program</u> on our website.

Food plots are a sure method of providing high-quality, preferred browse and feed to White-tailed deer and wild turkeys, and that makes them a great way to attract and hold more game on your lease. Our Food Plot program provides an option for you to protect your food plots by enrolling, and therefore protecting, that acreage on your lease as paid and designated food plot acreage. Under the Food Plot program, you can create food plots in recently harvested stands as well as planted stands up to two years old.

#### Details of the Food Plot program:

- Your club must apply for at least two acres of plots (leases under 100 acres can apply for between one and three acres of plots).
- Individual plots must be a minimum of one acre. There are no limits on the maximum size of food plots.
- Plot clearing and planting are the responsibility of your club.
- Plots will be protected from Weyerhaeuser forest management operations.
- The annual rental fee is \$120 per acre, per year for food plots approved and installed after the site has been harvested, but before site preparation activities for tree planting begins (spraying, bedding).
- For food plots installed on land that has already been site prepared for tree planting or that has trees up to two years of age, the annual rental fee for food plots will be \$160 per acre, per year.
- Once your club enrolls in the food plot program, you must remain in the program and must keep the food plots maintained (yearly mowing at a minimum) as a condition of your lease.
- You may utilize other existing openings for food plots without charge, but please remember they are not protected plots.

#### What about our campsite, campers, etc.?

We recommend campers or other personal equipment at your campsite to be removed if your campsite is in the affected area or on the same roads which will be used for logging purposes. We cannot guarantee the safety of your personal property. If your camp is registered as a designated campsite, the area will be protected, but it is still advisable to remove any mobile structures. For more information about our campsite policy, please visit <u>Campsite Program</u> on our website.

# Logging activity just started on my lease and deer/turkey season will open next week. The loggers say they will be on our tract for 6-8 weeks. Can I get a refund for that acreage?

A primary reason Weyerhaeuser owns land is to grow and harvest trees. We must harvest timber at all times of the year. Unfortunately, your lease could be harvested during the hunting season. The lease contract states that timber harvest may occur at any time. Furthermore, we make every attempt to provide clubs notification of timber harvest prior to lease renewal so that they may make an informed decision on lease renewal. We regret that timber harvest is impacting your ability to hunt, but we will not issue refunds or prorate the lease.



RECREATIONAL LEASE MANAGEMENT (RLM)

# WEYERHAEUSER ASSISTANCE DIRECTORY

Please be prepared to provide your lease number when calling your Weyerhaeuser representative.

For most general issues, the quickest answer to your question may be found in this welcome packet or on the Weyerhaeuser website, <u>www.wyrecreation.com</u>.

### Call Our Lease Support Team at 1-855-248-6872

### **Regional Lease Administrators:**

Alabama and Georgia: **Tricia Kaye**, <u>atlanticadmin@weyerhaeuser.com</u> Arkansas, Oklahoma, and Texas: **Carol Smith**, <u>arokhunting@weyerhaeuser.com</u> Louisiana and Mississippi: **Cathy Jordan**, <u>gulfadmin@weyerhaeuser.com</u> Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia: **Terri Jones**, <u>northeastadmin@weyerhaeuser.com</u>

### **Regional Lease Managers:**

North Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia: **Amy James**, <u>amy.james@weyerhaeuser.com</u> Eastern Georgia, Florida, and South Carolina: **Paul Hanson**, <u>paul.hanson@weyerhaeuser.com</u> Alabama, Florida, and Western Georgia: **Donald Wood**, <u>donald.wood@weyerhaeuser.com</u> Mississippi, and East Louisiana: **Paul Durfield**, <u>paul.durfield@weyerhaeuser.com</u> South Arkansas, and West Louisiana **Ken McDonald**, <u>ken.mcdonald@weyerhaeuser.com</u> West Arkansas, Oklahoma and Texas: **John Drake**, <u>john.drake@weyerhaeuser.com</u>

### Contact Law Enforcement before calling Weyerhaeuser for:

- 1. An incidence of poaching, vandalism, or trespass.
- 2. A dispute with an adjoining Weyerhaeuser club.