



GMU 11M

May 1, 2025

Species within this game management unit (GMU): Pronghorn, Black Bear, Elk, Mule Deer, Merriam's Turkey.

Game Management Unit Boundaries

Beginning at the junction of Lake Mary-Clint's Well Rd. (FH3) and Walnut Canyon (mp 337.5 on FH3); northeasterly along Walnut Canyon to the Walnut Canyon National Monument boundary; northeasterly along the northern boundary of the Walnut Canyon National Monument to Walnut Canyon; northeasterly along Walnut Canyon to I-40 (mp 210.2); east on I-40 to the 345 KV transmission lines 1 and 2 (mp 212 on I-40); north and northeasterly along the power line to FR 545 (Sunset Crater Rd.); west along FR 545 to the Sunset Crater National Monument boundary; westerly along the southern boundary of the Sunset Crater National Monument to FR 545; west on FR 545 to U.S. Hwy 89; cross US Hwy 89 to FR 420 (Schultz Pass Rd.); southwesterly on FR 420 to the Transwestern Gas Pipeline; westerly along the Transwestern Gas Pipeline to FR 171; south on FR 171 to I-40 (mp 184.4 on I-40); east on I-40 to a point just north of the eastern boundary of Camp Navajo (mp 188.5 on I-40).

South along the eastern boundary of Camp Navajo to the southeast corner of Camp Navajo; southeast approximately 1/3 mile to the forest road in section 33; southeasterly along the forest road to FR 231 (Woody Mountain Rd.); easterly on FR 231 to FR 533; southerly on FR 533 to U.S. Hwy 89A; southerly on U.S. Hwy 89A to FR 237; northeasterly on FR 237 to Mountaineer Rd.; easterly on Mountaineer Rd. to FR 700; southerly on FR 700 to FR 235K; southeasterly on FR 235K to FR 235; northerly on FR 235 to FR 235A; easterly on FR 235A to FR 235; easterly on FR 235 to Priest Draw; northeasterly along the bottom of Priest Draw to FR 235; easterly on FR 235 to FR 132; southeasterly on FR 132 to FR 296A; northeasterly on FR 296A to FR 296; northeasterly on FR 296 to FR 132; northeasterly on FR 132 to FH3; southeasterly on FH3 to Walnut Creek (mp 337.5 on FH3).

Access: The USFS manages the vast majority of the pronghorn country in GMU 11M. There are also State Trust



Lands managed by the State Land Department that are available for hunting by licensed hunters. Be sure you do not enter any areas posted against trespass. Because the GMU was designed around the Flagstaff metro area, there are some access problems because of subdivisions and private property. These developments are increasing across private lands. Be sure of your backstop when making a shot, houses, which seem to spring up overnight, can be obscured by vegetation or rolling topography. If an area is signed posted, avoid that area.

Other Concerns: Leave all gates as you find them. If they are open, leave them open. If they are closed, be sure to close them when you pass through them. Do not litter and do not drive off-road when hunting. These two activities are unlawful. No vehicles, including bicycles, are allowed in designated wilderness areas. There are several vehicle closure areas throughout the GMU, including areas around Mt. Elden and the southeast portion of the GMU around Walnut Canyon National Monument. Remember, camping within ¼ mile of a water source is prohibited.

GMU 11M is a “Metro” game management unit and therefore restricted to archery hunting for most species of wildlife. GMU 11M is characterized by human development surrounded by USFS lands and one should expect high levels of human encounters while hunting in this GMU. Please remember to be respectful and courteous of other forms of recreation. In accordance with R12-4-303, it is unlawful to discharge an arrow, bolt, or hybrid device while taking wildlife within ¼ mile of an occupied farmhouse or other residence, cabin, lodge, or building without permission of the owner or resident.

All Hunts

Your big game hunter questionnaire link is located on the back of your tag. You also will receive a hunter questionnaire postcard in the mail. You can choose to return the hunter questionnaire postcard via postal mail or online: <https://www.azgfd.com/hunting/questionnaires>. You may also receive an email containing a link to your hunter questionnaire. You can respond by one method only. This information is a critical component of the hunt recommendation process, and your information helps us to accurately estimate species harvest and set permit levels.

Coconino National Forest Travel Management Rule

The Travel Management Rule only allows motorized use on designated roads, trails and areas as identified on a Motor Vehicle Use Map (MVUM). These maps are available for free at Forest Service offices and at this [link](#). Motorized retrieval of wildlife, including all big game species, is not permitted on national forest lands in GMU 5A. For further information regarding the Travel Management Rule, please contact the Coconino National Forest or refer [to the following page](#).

Species Information

Pronghorn

Overview: Because the pronghorn hunt occurs in late August and early September, the pronghorn will be on summer range during the hunt. Remember pronghorn permits are issued specifically for and are restricted to GMU 11M (NOT GMU 7, GMU 7 West, GMU 7 East, GMU 6A, GMU 6B or GMU 5B). Be sure you are familiar with the GMU boundaries before going hunting.

Areas: Generally, pronghorn can occur in virtually all grasslands within the GMU. The highest density of pronghorn will be found in the open grassland areas on the west side near Bellemont, the south and east sides near Walnut Canyon and Winona, and north of I-40 along the power line on the eastern edge of the GMU. They can also be found regularly in grasslands within the forested areas. Pronghorn also move through but generally avoid moderate to heavy densities of woody cover in the pine and pinyon-juniper types. Hunters should spend considerable time scouting prior to the season to locate herds. Volcanic cones and other high points in open grassland can afford hunters wide views for searching with binoculars and spotting scopes for pronghorn. Access these high points by foot, not by motorized vehicle off road.

Black Bear

Overview: The archery bear hunt in GMU 11M is combined with GMU 6B and occurs in the early fall. Bears are opportunistic foragers, eating mast crops when they are available. Acorns, berries and prickly pear cactus provide favored food sources when abundant. Bears tend to invade trash receptacles when natural food sources are limited. Securing containers inside a garage or storage building or treating them daily with a dilute chlorine bleach solution are useful strategies to avoid habituating bears into garbage foraging patterns. A bear that consistently forages in garbage presents a risk to humans and frequently must be destroyed. A person who encounters a potential bear threat should assume as intimidating a profile as possible: make yourself seem as large as possible by waving arms or a coat and use sticks, rocks or anything available to scare the bear.

Look for bears by glassing lower elevation canyons. In the fall, bears move around a lot, trying to find food and gain weight for the winter. Bears like just about anything edible, including prickly pear fruits and bugs. They find bugs by turning over logs and rocks. Remember that bear baiting is illegal in Arizona. And, remember taking a sow with cubs is prohibited. Care should be taken to watch for cubs as they may not be readily visible in dense cover.

Areas:

In GMU 11M: In the fall, male bears can range over wide areas and may occur in any forested or woody habitats in the GMU. The highest density of bears in GMU 11M will likely be located in the southeast portion of the GMU near Walnut Canyon and on the north side on and near Mt. Elden.

In GMU 6B: Sycamore Canyon - Casner Mountain: This area can be accessed using Woody Mountain Road from



Flagstaff or Red Canyon Road from Sedona. Most of the bear habitat is in USFS designated wilderness. Bears can be observed on open slopes with stands of cactus when the prickly pears are ripe.

West Fork of Oak Creek: The north and south rims of the canyon offer bear observation opportunities. This area can be accessed by using Forest Road 535 and Woody Mountain Road (FR 231).

East Pocket - Bear Sign Basin: The upland portion of this area can be accessed by Woody Mountain Road (FR 231). The basin portion, part of the Red Rock-Secret Mountain Wilderness, must be accessed by foot or horseback from Dry Creek Road-Vultee Arch Road northwest of Sedona. Dense chaparral and cypress dominate the basin.

Hunters are required to report their black bear harvest information to the Arizona Game and Fish Department within 48 hours of taking a black bear. Hunters can report their black bear harvest in person, by telephone at 1-877-438- 0447, or online.

In addition to the 48-hr reporting requirement, the hunter (or their designee) needs to present the black bear's skull and hide with attached proof of sex to a designated Arizona Game and Fish Department employee for inspection within 10 days of taking the black bear.

The hunter is responsible for monitoring if the GMU's bear season is still open prior to going out into the field. Call 1-800-970-BEAR (2327) or monitor the AZGFD [fall black bear harvest tracking page](#) to ensure that the season is still open. Click [here](#) to access more information regarding black bear regulations and harvest reporting.

Elk

Overview: Elk occur throughout GMU 11M the entire year. Remember elk permits are issued specifically for and are restricted to GMU 11M (NOT GMU 7, GMU 7 West, GMU 7 East, GMU 6A, GMU 6B or GMU 5B). Be sure you are familiar with the GMU boundaries before going hunting.

Areas: During the hunting season, elk can be found throughout the GMU, but are in higher densities on the west, south, and east portions of the GMU. Elk can also be found on the north side however, vehicle access is limited and you will have to pack your animal out. There are higher numbers of elk on the west side along Highway 89A near Forest Highlands and on the southeast side north of Walnut Canyon and south Continental. The area south of the Flagstaff Airport and east of Mountainaire is also a good area to check for bugling bulls.

Mule Deer

Overview: Mule deer occur throughout GMU 11M. During the hunting season, highest densities of mule deer will be found on previously burned areas around Mt. Elden south of the San Francisco Peaks. However, human densities are also high on the burns and mature bucks learn fast to escape into dense cover and usually leave



the burns early during the hunt. The ponderosa pine areas along Walnut Canyon, south near the Flagstaff Airport and on the west side of the GMU along Woody Mountain Road are good areas to find mule deer. The pinion-juniper habitats at lower elevations to the east contain some mature animals but their densities are relatively low and the thick brush makes hunting a challenge. Mature bucks also occur in and around Walnut Canyon but again, relatively low densities of bucks and thick woody vegetation render hunting difficult. The GMU has few locations where use of binoculars is beneficial. Most bucks taken result from chance encounters between hunters and deer.

Merriam's Turkey

Overview: Wild turkeys occur throughout the ponderosa pine forest, mixed conifer, and spruce-fir forests in summer. In winter the birds move to lower elevations and inhabit the ecotone between ponderosa pine and the pinyon-juniper habitat type. Meadows and the edges of grasslands are important to hens with poults seeking insects and for turkeys seeking green herbaceous vegetation when mast is in short supply. The primary mast species in GMU 11M are ponderosa pine, juniper, pinion pine and acorns. When ponderosa pine seed is abundant, the birds can be found in fairly extensive stands of forests, but are more likely to be located near roadways and other openings when mast is in short supply.

Areas: Turkeys can be found in the highest densities along Walnut Canyon and along Woody Mountain Road toward the Navajo Army Depot.

Game Management Unit Summary

Archery only for big game species

Archery and shotgun shooting only for small game species

Primary Game Species/ Hunting Month(s)

Elk	September-October
Deer	August-September
Pronghorn	August-September

Secondary Game Species/ Hunting Month(s)

Turkey	August-September
Black Bear	August-September
Tree Squirrel	August-September

Average # permits

Elk - 320
Deer - 240
Pronghorn - 5
Turkey Archery over the counter
Black Bear - 1 (Combined with GMU 6B)

Climate Information

MONTH AVG. TEMP AVG. RAINFALL AVG. SNOWFALL

January	Max 42°/Min 15°	0.50"	16.00"
February	Max 45°/Min 18°	0.40"	13.90"
March	Max 49°/Min 21°	0.40"	19.30"
April	Max 58°/Min 27°	0.60"	9.80"
May	Max 67°/Min 33°	0.70"	2.10"
June	Max 78°/Min 41°	2.60"	0.0"
July	Max 82°/Min 50°	2.80"	0.0"
August	Max 79°/Min 49°	1.70"	0.0"
September	Max 73°/Min 41°	1.70"	0.10"
October	Max 63°/Min 31°	1.00"	0.90"
November	Max 51°/Min 22°	1.00"	6.09"
December	Max 43°/Min 16°	0.40"	15.40"

Other Climate Information



GMU experiences heavy snowfalls during big winter storms which can be dangerous. If you're planning a trip, be sure to stay informed about weather conditions, carry a sleeping bag in your vehicle, and keep matches with you at all times.

Cities, Roads & Campgrounds

Major Cities and Towns in or Near Game Management Unit and Nearest Gas, Food, and Lodging

Flagstaff, Williams, Parks, Bellemont, Sedona

Major Highways and Roads Leading To

From the East: I-40

From the West: I-40

From the North: State Hwy 89

From the South: I-17

Developed Campgrounds

Two KOA campgrounds, 1 located on the east side of Flagstaff on Highway 89 and the 2nd is located east of Williams on I-40

Undeveloped Campgrounds

Camping is allowed on Forest Service administered land with restrictions...see above..

Brief Description of Terrain, Elevation, and Vegetation

Elevation ranges from 4,200' to 9,283' on Mt. Elden. The GMU consists of Great Basin desert scrub at the lowest elevations, volcanic cinder cones, open grassland, and pinyon-juniper woodlands below the ponderosa pine belt.

Government Agencies and Phone Numbers

Arizona Game and Fish Department, Region II – 928-774-5045

Arizona State Land Department – 928-774-1425

Coconino National Forest, Flagstaff Ranger District – 928-526-0866

Sunset Crater Volcano National Monument – 928-556-7042

Wupatki National Monument – 928-679-2365

Walnut Canyon National Monument – 928-526-3367