



For Immediate Release
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TAHC Reminds Hunters of Requirements in a Fever Tick Quarantine Zone

AUSTIN, TX – The Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) reminds hunters in South Texas of additional requirements for handling white-tailed deer, nilgai, antelope, black buck, axis deer, and other exotic cervids harvested in a fever tick quarantine zone.

“Hunters play a pivotal role in preventing the spread of fever ticks to regions that have not been affected,” said Dr. Andy Schwartz, TAHC Executive Director Emeritus. “We want to emphasize to individuals hunting animals within a fever tick quarantine zone the importance of having those animals inspected and treated. This process is quick and simple and serves as a safeguard to prevent the dissemination of fever ticks further into Texas.”

Landowners, lessees, hunters, or any parties intending to harvest, relocate, or capture native or exotic free-ranging animals situated on a quarantined premises are required to arrange for inspection and treatment of these animals. A representative from either TAHC or the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) must inspect and treat carcasses, hides, capes, or the animals themselves before removal from the premises.

Portions of Brooks, Cameron, Hidalgo, Jim Hogg, Kenedy, Starr, Webb, Willacy, and Zapata counties have established fever tick quarantines.

“The establishment of fever tick quarantine zones aims to prevent the unintentional transmission of ticks carried by animals”, said Dr. Angela Lackie, TAHC Assistant Executive Director of Animal Health Programs. “In order to obtain a permit for relocating items or animals from a quarantined property, hunters must contact the designated representative for their county to have hides, capes, and/or animals inspected and treated.”

For more information about fever ticks, fever tick wildlife inspections, and contact information to request TAHC and USDA wildlife inspections, visit https://www.tahc.texas.gov/animal_health/feverticks-pests/#feverticks.

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Texas Fever Tick Quarantine Zones

