

# Retrieving an Animal After Hours

If you wound an animal close to the end of hunting hours, you may be able to continue tracking it for up to two additional hours *after* the normal checkout time. However, strict adherence to these procedures is required, and no exceptions will be made to the checkout deadline. Remember: if you are unsure of your shot placement, it is always best to stop the hunt and resume tracking the next day. This significantly increases the chance of recovering the animal.

Here's how to obtain the necessary After Hours Permit and proceed:

1. **Get a Permit:** Log into your iSportsman account and click "Acquire Permits." Select the "Retrieving Big Game After Hours Permit" (it's free), add it to your cart, save, check out, and confirm.

2. **Permit Availability:** You can obtain up to **4** of these permits during the season, and each permit is valid for 1 day. **Use them only when absolutely necessary.**

3. **Initial Checkout:** Check out of your hunting area as usual.

\*If you've already found the animal: Report your harvest at this time. Do **not** report it again later.

\*If you haven't found the animal: You will report a recovered animal when you check out from the "Retrieving an Animal After Hours" activity.

4. **Check In for Retrieval:** Select "Check In/Check Out," then "Check In." This will enable the "Retrieving Deer After Checkout Time" button. Select it, choose your hunting area, and confirm. *You can only check in for this activity one hour before sunset until two hours after sunset.*

5. **Final Checkout:** Be absolutely certain to check out and be physically clear of the hunting area by the designated checkout time. Report the harvest when you check out, if the animal has been recovered. Confirm your checkout to ensure it is processed.

6. **If Recovery is Delayed:** If you cannot recover the animal by the checkout time, and the area is closed the following day (or it's Tuesday), contact Hunt Control:

\*Weekdays: After 0700 (go to the entry door south of the Hunt Control entrance).

\*Weekends: By 1330.

\*Hunt Control will determine if you can access the area to continue the search. Access may be restricted due to military training.