

2023 Panhandle Predator Hunt

The Panhandle Predator Hunt is hosted by UF/IFAS Extension Holmes County and Escambia County. The mission of this contest is to involve youth in outdoor recreation and conservation, while harvesting predators that threaten the wild turkey and quail populations.

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IMPORTANT- The Panhandle Predator Hunt will run **simultaneously** in **TWO separate** locations as **separate** contests. The **HOLMES COUNTY** and **ESCAMBIA COUNTY** contests will be completely independent of each other. Teams will pick either contest to compete in but cannot hunt/check-in at both locations.

Rules and Regulations

1. This is a team event, with 4 person teams. Teams are defined as at least one adult and one kid 17 years of age or younger. Other team members can be adults or kids. Team Captain must be at least 18 years of age.
2. All teams participating are doing so at their own risk. Teams agree not to hold the University of Florida, Holmes County Board of County Commissioners, or any associated persons/sponsor liable for any damage, injury, or claims resulting from contestant's participation in this tournament.
3. Teams must comply with local, state and federal laws for hunting. Any violation of any Laws will be grounds for disqualification.
4. Teams are only allowed to hunt private lands in Florida.
5. Leg traps are not allowed, even if an individual on the team has a permit. ALL other legal harvest methods are allowed.
6. Contest hunting will run from May 18, 2023, starting at 6 PM, following mandatory team meeting with check-ins ending 4 PM on May 23, 2023.
7. All times are Central.
8. Winners will be determined by a points system. Racoons, possums, and coyotes will be counted toward the team's total points.
 - Possums = 1 point
 - Racoons = 2 points
 - Coyotes = 3 points
 - Youth will have the opportunity to answer a question about conversation or hunting to earn 5 points toward the total team points. Information will be given to them at the team meeting to allow them to study for questions.

9. All team captains are required to attend the team meeting at 6 PM on May 18th at the UF/IFAS Extension Office (703 B East Hwy 90, Bonifay, FL) parking lot.
10. Registration of teams will take place at the team meeting on May 18th at 6 PM.
11. Check-in locations and times will be posted at the team meeting.
12. All animals must be harvested during the defined contest dates and times. Any animal brought in that are suspect of illegal harvest or to be road kill will be grounds for the team to be disqualified.
13. NO roadkill.
14. Once animals are checked-in at checkpoint, their ears will be notched by contest official. Hunters are responsible to take all harvested animals with them when they leave the check point.
15. Any protest must be made, in writing with a \$50 non-refundable deposit, to the contest director within 30 minutes after conclusion of contest (May 23, 2023 at 4 PM) and must state rule or rules that were broken.
16. All adult team members are subject to a polygraph test.
17. Any team having a member who fails or refuses to take a polygraph test or whose condition does not permit administration of a test because of contestant's use of alcohol or drugs will be disqualified.
18. The use of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
19. Unsportsmanlike conduct may be grounds for disqualification if circumstances require.
20. Decisions of Contest Director will be final.