Guidelines for FRAC Usage of JKWMA

We conduct our monthly deep-sky club observings at Joe Kurz Wildlife Management Area (JKWMA), a 3,700-acre game management and hunting area in Meriwether County. The facility is operated by the Ga. Dept. of Natural Resources, and its use is strictly regulated.

FRAC has worked out with the ranger the following guidelines for using JKWMA. Whether you observe at Joe Kurz regularly or occasionally, it is important that you follow these procedures carefully. Failure to do so could result in our being denied permission to use JKWMA.

1. Do not go out to JKWMA on any night except the scheduled Fri.-Sat. observing dates announced in our monthly newsletters and on our website. Those are the only nights that we have permission to be there.

2. Hunting Season. The hunting season at JKWMA runs roughly from mid-August through mid-March. During that period, the gate is left open at night. Do not close it when you enter or leave.

3. JKWMA’s Closed Season. Between mid-March and mid-August, hunting is not permitted at JKWMA. The facility is closed to the public and the gate is locked, but we have special permission to be there on our scheduled observing nights with the following provisions:

   When you arrive:
   a. If the gate is unlocked, that means a member has already arrived. Drive in and pull the gate shut behind you. Do not lock it.
   b. If the gate is locked, unlock it and pull it shut behind you but do not lock it. (If you don’t know the combination, call Dwight at 770-227-9321.)

   When you leave:
   a. If you are not the last to leave, close the gate behind you but do not lock it.
   b. If you are the last to leave, close the gate behind you and lock the combination lock to the other lock (not to the chain).