

Whitetail Rut in Jack County

Breeding activity for white-tailed deer in Jack County peaks, on average, in mid-November, or November 15. The earliest conception date in the breeding chronology study conducted by TPWD was October 13, and the latest date was Dec. 17, with the highest percentage of does being bred around November 15.

So, while the majority of breeding occurs in mid-November, bucks are looking for receptive does now, and will until mid- to late-December. Movement will continue to increase in the days leading up to and immediately following the middle of November, and we will have another very small peak in mid-December (the 2nd estrous period for does not bred in November). Although the rut is going now, activity will be highest at night when the temperatures are warmer, like it's predicted to be this weekend. So, just because you don't see deer chasing while you are in the blind doesn't mean the rut isn't on.

Following is a link that shows the results of the breeding chronology study in Texas. Jack County is in the northern Cross Timbers Ecological area.

http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/huntwild/hunt/planning/rut_whitetailed_deer/#E11E6

Good luck with your hunting, and please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have about this or any other wildlife issue you may have.

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