



## **Fiscal Note for Proposed Lands Management Rule Amendments for the Wildlife Resources Commission**

**Rule Amendments:** 15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

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**Impact Summary:** State Government: Yes  
Local Government: Yes  
Private Impact: Yes  
Substantial Economic Impact: No

**Authority:** G.S. 113 – 134; 113-264; 113-291.1; 113-291.5

### **BACKGROUND**

The wildlife resources of the State belong to the people of the State as a whole, including the enjoyment of these resources (G.S. § 113-131(a)). The Wildlife Resources Commission (WRC) is tasked with the conservation of wildlife resources of the State (G.S. § 143-239). This responsibility includes managing, as equitably as possible, the various competing interests regarding these resources, including the use and take of such resources (G.S. § 113-131.1(a)). The statutes governing wildlife resources are found in Chapter 113, Subchapter IV of the General Statutes, and WRC has been granted rulemaking authority to implement the provisions of these statutes (G.S. § 113-134).

As part of its mission, WRC conducts an annual review of its fish, wildlife, boating safety, and game land regulations, to determine whether such rules need to be adjusted in order to accomplish the objectives of: managing wildlife resources through a biologically sustainable harvest of such resources by hunters, trappers and anglers consistent with sound conservation objectives; ensuring the safety of the boating public; managing Commission-owned land for the conservation of wildlife resources and the enjoyment of the public; and implementing legislative directives.

Many of the proposed rule changes are expected to increase hunting, fishing, and outdoor recreation opportunities, while others are expected to restrict such opportunities. Additional

changes are intended to improve the quality of future opportunities.

Although the Commission does not have a mechanism to determine the fiscal impact of these specific rule changes on recreationists' behavior, economic research on the value individuals place on outdoor recreation can provide useful context for rules that affect opportunities for recreation. Taking the median of the findings across multiple studies, researchers have estimated that the value of hunting per person per day is approximately \$63; both hiking and "nature-related recreation" are valued at \$47 per person per day; and fishing is valued at approximately \$53 per person per day.<sup>1</sup> These figures represent individuals' total willingness to pay to engage in the activity, less the cost to do so. It does not represent any economic activity generated by the activity, such as retail sales. Note that these estimates are not species or location-specific. However, to the extent that the proposed rules induce recreationists to increase or decrease their trips in particular areas of the state, these findings provide a rough approximation of the costs or benefits to the individual.

The following is a summary of the proposed rule amendments to the game land rule 15A NCAC 10D .0103, with the proposed text included in Appendix A.

### **15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands**

The proposed changes to this rule cover multiple general topic areas, including: establishment of new game lands, feral swine, target shooting, quail, grouse, woodcock, bird dog training, deer, bear, and permit requirements.

For the reasons outlined below, the WRC believes that the proposed rule changes will have minimal fiscal impacts.

#### ***Establishment of New Game Lands***

This proposed amendment will establish the Dan River Game Land in Rockingham County and Headwaters State Forest Game Land in Transylvania County. Proposed amendments are necessary to designate these new properties as game lands and to establish appropriate rules for their management and use.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

##### ***State Impact***

The agency anticipates a one-time cost of approximately \$17,395 for establishing the two new game lands. For the Dan River Game Land, this will include placement and maintenance of boundary markings to facilitate identification of property (\$3,034), purchase and maintenance of gates to control vehicle access (\$1,000/gate), and creation of parking areas (\$1,000/area) for public access (\$3,034 + \$3,000 + \$2,000 = \$8,034). For the Headwaters State Forest Game

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<sup>1</sup> Rosenberger, Randall S.; White, Eric M.; Kline, Jeffrey D.; Cvitanovich, Claire. 2017. Recreation economic values for estimating outdoor recreation economic benefits from the National Forest System. Gen. Tech. Rep. PNWGTR-957. Portland, OR: U.S. Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Pacific Northwest Research Station. 33 p.

Land, the agency estimates a one-time cost of approximately \$9,361 to establish boundary markings, on this property.

#### *Local Impact*

The proposed addition of Dan River Game Land will have a local government impact by reducing property tax receipts. The proposed addition of Headwaters State Forest Game Land will have no impacts as it is already state-owned land. However, these new game lands have the potential to bring outdoor enthusiasts to the area and expend financial resources in the surrounding communities. The agency is unable to quantify this potential economic benefit at this time.

#### *Private Impact*

Private individuals will incur no costs as a result of this proposed amendment. They will however have increased opportunities for wildlife-based recreation and 1,700 acres of undeveloped land will be conserved for present and future generations for wildlife-based recreation. The agency is unable to quantify this benefit.

#### *Feral Swine*

This proposed amendment will allow for the take of feral swine on game lands during the open season for any game bird, using any legal manner of take allowed during those open game seasons. Currently, the take of feral swine is allowed on game lands only during the open season for any game animal. By adding game bird seasons to the current rule, licensed hunters will have the opportunity to harvest feral swine on game lands during the spring wild turkey season and migratory bird seasons.

#### Fiscal Impact

##### *State Impact*

This proposed amendment could have a positive impact on state resources by reducing the population of this very destructive, invasive species, which can carry diseases that are detrimental to domestic swine and cattle.

##### *Local Impact*

This proposed amendment could have a positive impact on local resources by reducing the population of this very destructive, invasive species, which can carry diseases that are detrimental to domestic swine and cattle.

##### *Private Impact*

Private individuals may benefit from increased opportunities to hunt feral swine. However, due to lack of data, the agency is unable to quantify this benefit. Private agricultural enterprises may benefit from a decrease in the population of feral swine, which are very destructive to crops, forests, grazing lands and carry diseases detrimental to domestic swine and cattle.

## ***Target Shooting***

This proposed amendment will explicitly prohibit target shooting on the Sand Banks tract of the Chowan Swamp Game Land. This area is frequently used by the public as an unauthorized shooting area and has become a safety hazard for other users and individuals traveling on Sand Banks Road. This change is necessary to improve overall safety and reduce undesirable impacts to game land resources, game land users, adjacent landowners, and the public.

## **Fiscal Impact**

### ***State Impact***

Agency staff are responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the game lands. Individuals utilizing this area for target shooting regularly deposit tires and a variety of other material used as targets on the property, which then must be cleaned up by staff. Time required to maintain this area, while not precisely known, is estimated to cost the agency \$1,008 per year ( $\$21/\text{hr} \times 16 \text{ hrs/clean up} \times 3 \text{ clean-ups/year} = \$1,008$ ). Explicitly prohibiting target shooting may result in a reduction of this activity, which would be a cost savings to the agency in staff time. However, if individuals continue to target shoot on this game land, and enforcement officers encounter the activity, individuals can be charged with a Class 3 misdemeanor with a fine of \$25 and court costs.

Additionally, targets are often placed on trees in the area, many of which have been damaged to the point that mortality is imminent. This proposed amendment may help to eliminate the damage and death caused to live trees that are currently being used as targets. The agency has no way to quantify this benefit.

### ***Local Impact***

This proposed amendment will have no local government impact.

### ***Private Impact***

This proposed amendment could affect private individuals who want to target shoot, as they will now need to travel to an official shooting range. The closest WRC range to the Sand Banks tract is 45 miles. Depending on where the individual is traveling from, this could impose a minimal financial burden. Due to lack of data, the agency is unable to quantify this potential cost. However, the improved safety anticipated by this amendment is expected to exceed the potential cost to individuals.

## ***Permit Requirements***

This proposed amendment will designate the newly acquired Little Macedonia Tract of Green Swamp Game Land as a permit-only area for hunting bear, deer, and turkey. To help conserve the resources and provide for quality user experiences it is anticipated that 70 permits will be available each year. There are also nineteen different parcels of private property adjacent to this tract. If hunting opportunities on this property are left unrestricted and not managed, conflicts between hunters and adjacent landowners would likely be a regular occurrence. This amendment

is also being proposed to help maintain cooperative relationships with adjacent landowners.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The agency imposes a \$5 administrative fee for permit hunt applications. The Little Macedonia tract is expected to offer 70 permit hunt opportunities each year. If the agency assumes that all 70 permits will be claimed, the anticipated revenue will total approximately \$350 per year ( $\$5/\text{permit} \times 70 \text{ permits}/\text{yr} = \$350/\text{yr}$ ).

#### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendment will have no local government impact.

#### *Private Impact*

Because the agency is proposing to limit hunting opportunities on the Little Macedonia Tract, private individuals will incur the \$5 fee associated with applying for permit hunt opportunities. The total annual impact to private individuals is anticipated to be approximately \$350 per year ( $\$5/\text{permit} \times 70 \text{ permits}/\text{yr} = \$350/\text{yr}$ ). However, it should be noted that these opportunities are voluntary. It is assumed that hunters who choose to purchase a permit value the hunting opportunity at or above the cost of the permit.

### ***Camping***

This proposed amendment will create a designated camping area on the Shocco Creek Game Land to allow hunter camping during open hunting seasons. Currently camping is prohibited on the Shocco Creek Game Land. The desire for a designated hunter camping area was identified by sportsmen during the public comment process of the Upper Tar Game Land Complex Management Plan.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The agency anticipates a one-time cost of approximately \$3,000 to state resources for the establishment of this campground, which will include materials (\$1,100), labor ( $\$21/\text{hr} \times 32 \text{ hrs} = \$672$ ), and equipment (\$1,228). This will be a primitive campground and maintenance will be performed once per year. The cost of maintenance, including labor ( $\$21/\text{hr} \times 16 \text{ hrs} = \$336$ ) and equipment ( $\$0.46/\text{mi.} \times 30 \text{ mi.} = \$14$ ) is estimated at \$350 per year.

#### *Local Impact*

The proposed amendment will have no local government impact.

#### *Private Impact*

Creating a designated campground will enhance opportunities for sportsmen, by providing them with an option to decrease their overall travel costs while hunting on the Shocco Creek Game

Land. Due to lack of data, the agency cannot quantify this benefit.

### ***Pursuing or Chasing Deer and Bear***

This proposed regulation will prohibit the pursuing or chasing of deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting on the newly acquired Little Macedonia Tract of Green Swamp Game Land. The size of the property, lack of an extensive road system, adjacent land use, lack of historical hunting practices, and plans for a WRC work depot at this location, indicate this property is not conducive to pursuing deer or bear with the use of dogs.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

Because this is a new tract of land and this addition is not changing an existing regulation, there are no anticipated fiscal impacts to state resources, local governments, or private individuals.

### ***Quail, woodcock, grouse, and bird dog training***

These proposed amendments would remove the restriction on grouse hunting, quail hunting, woodcock hunting, and all bird dog training on the CURE portion of South Mountains Game Land and Sandhills Game Land in Cleveland, McDowell, Rutherford, Richmond, and Scotland counties. These restrictions were initiated in 2004 in an effort to allow for maximum recruitment of quail populations after habitat enhancement at this site.

#### **Fiscal Impact**

##### ***State Impact***

The proposed amendment will remove the permit hunt requirements for these Sandhills Game Land. Historically, a limited number of permit opportunities have been offered on this property. Individuals apply (\$5 administrative fee per application) for 25 available permits and are randomly selected to receive a permit. Based on permit hunt data from the 2015-2016 and 2016-2017 seasons, an average of 65 applications are received for the 25 available permits. A loss of approximately \$325 ( $\$5/\text{application} \times 65 \text{ applicants/year} = \$325/\text{year}$ ) in administrative fees is anticipated due to the removal of the restriction on hunting these species.

##### ***Local Impact***

This proposed amendment will have no local government impact.

##### ***Private Impact***

These amendments will increase opportunities for upland bird hunting and dog training, which will benefit game land users. Additionally, individuals will not incur the \$5 fee to hunt upland game birds on the CURE portion of the Sandhills Game Land, and thus may realize the anticipated benefit of approximately \$325 per year ( $\$5/\text{application} \times 65 \text{ applications} = \$325$ ).

1 **15A NCAC 10D .0103 HUNTING ON GAME LANDS**

2 (a) Safety Requirements. No person while hunting on any designated game land shall be under the influence of  
3 alcohol or any narcotic drug, or fail to comply with restrictions enacted by the National Park Service regarding the  
4 use of the Blue Ridge Parkway where it adjoins game lands listed in this Rule.

5 (b) Traffic Requirements. No person shall park a vehicle on game lands in such a manner as to block traffic or  
6 gates, or otherwise prevent vehicles from using any roadway.

7 (c) Tree Stands. It is unlawful to erect or to occupy, for the purpose of hunting, any tree stand or platform attached  
8 by nails, screws, bolts, or wire to a tree on any game land designated herein. This prohibition does not apply to lag-  
9 screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal remaining in or attached to the tree.

10 (d) Time and Manner of Taking. Hunting is allowed on game lands only during the open season for game animals  
11 and game birds, unless hunting is allowed by permit. Individual game lands or parts thereof may be closed to  
12 hunting or limited to specific dates by this Chapter. Persons shall hunt only with weapons lawful for the open game  
13 animal or game bird seasons. On managed waterfowl impoundments, persons shall:

- 14 (1) not enter the posted impoundment areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted hunting dates;
- 15 (2) not hunt after 1:00 p.m. on such hunting dates;
- 16 (3) not set decoys out prior to 4:00 a.m.;
- 17 (4) remove decoys by 3:00 p.m. each day; and
- 18 (5) not operate any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine.

19 On designated youth waterfowl days occurring after the end of the regular waterfowl seasons only, youths may hunt  
20 on managed waterfowl impoundments from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset. Restrictions (1), (3), and (5) in this  
21 Paragraph shall apply. On waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone," trapping during the  
22 trapping season and waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the only activities allowed on the  
23 portion of the impoundment outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone." No person shall attempt to obscure the sex  
24 or age of any bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other part thereof, or possess any bird or animal that  
25 has been so mutilated. No person shall place, or cause to be placed on any game land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods  
26 without prior written authorization of the Commission or its agent. A decision to grant or deny authorization shall be  
27 made based on the best management practices for the wildlife species in question. No person shall take or attempt to  
28 take any game birds or game animals attracted to such foods.

29 (e) Definitions:

- 30 (1) For purposes of this Section, "Dove Only Area" refers to a Game Land on which doves may be  
31 taken and dove hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day,  
32 Christmas Day, and New Year's Days within the federally-announced season.
- 33 (2) For purposes of this Section, "Three Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which any  
34 game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays,  
35 Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Days, except for game lands in this  
36 Rule that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays. Falconry may also be  
37 practiced on Sundays. These "open days" also apply to either-sex deer hunting seasons listed

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1 under each game land. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays,  
2 until 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight on Saturdays.

3 (3) For purposes of this Section, "Six Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which any  
4 game may be taken during the open seasons.

5 (f) Hunting with Dogs on Game Lands. Deer shall not be taken with the use of dogs on game lands in counties or  
6 parts of counties where taking deer with dogs is prohibited as described in 15A NCAC 10B .0109.

7 (g) Bear Sanctuaries. On Three Days per Week Areas and Six Days per Week Areas, bears shall not be taken on  
8 lands designated and posted as bear sanctuaries except when authorized by permit only elsewhere in this Chapter.  
9 Feral Swine shall not be taken with the use of dogs on bear sanctuaries. Dogs shall not be trained or allowed to run  
10 unleashed between March 1 and the Monday on or nearest October 15 on bear sanctuaries in and west of the  
11 counties and parts of counties described in 15A NCAC 10B .0109.

12 (h) The listed seasons and restrictions apply in the following game lands:

13 (1) Alcoa Game Land in Davidson, Davie, Montgomery, Rowan, and Stanly counties

14 (A) Six Days per Week Area

15 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day days and the last six open days~~ of  
16 the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter in  
17 that portion in Montgomery county, and deer of either sex may be taken all the open days  
18 of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season in those portions in Davidson, Davie,  
19 Rowan, and Stanly counties.

20 (C) On the Lick Creek Tract, deer and bear hunting is archery only.

21 (2) Alligator River Game Land in Tyrrell County

22 (A) Six Day per Week Area

23 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
24 Antlers Season.

25 (C) Bear may only be taken the first three hunting days during the November Bear Season  
26 and the first three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season.

27 (3) Angola Bay Game Land in Duplin and Pender counties

28 (A) Six Days per Week Area

29 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
30 Antlers Season.

31 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.

32 (4) Bachelor Bay Game Land in Bertie, Martin, and Washington counties

33 (A) Six Days per Week Area

34 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
35 Antlers Season.

36 (5) Bertie County Game Land in Bertie County

37 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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- 1 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
2 Antlers Season.
- 3 (6) Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County
- 4 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 5 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
6 Antlers Season.
- 7 (C) Except for blackpowder firearms, rifles larger than .22 caliber rimfire shall not be used.
- 8 (D) On the Singletary Lake Tract, the use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited.
- 9 (E) Wild turkey hunting on the Singletary Lake Tract is by permit only.
- 10 (F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March  
11 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 12 (G) The use of dogs for pursuing or taking foxes is prohibited March 15 through July 15.
- 13 (7) Brinkleyville Game Land in Halifax County
- 14 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 15 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day days~~ and ~~the last six open days~~ of  
16 the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 17 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 18 (8) Brunswick County Game Land in Brunswick County
- 19 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 20 (B) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 21 (9) Buckhorn Game Land in Orange County
- 22 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 23 (B) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 24 (10) Buckridge Game Land in Tyrrell County.
- 25 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 26 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
27 Antlers Season.
- 28 (C) Bear may only be taken the first three hunting days during the November Bear Season  
29 and the first three hunting days of the second week of the December Bear Season. If any  
30 of these days falls on a Tuesday, Friday or Saturday, bear hunting is allowed on those  
31 days.
- 32 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 33 (11) Buffalo Cove Game Land in Caldwell and Wilkes Counties
- 34 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 35 (B) The Deer With Visible Antlers season for deer consists of the open hunting days from the  
36 ~~Monday before Saturday after~~ Thanksgiving Day through the ~~third first Saturday after~~  
37 ~~Thanksgiving in January~~. Deer may be taken with ~~bow and arrow~~ archery equipment on

- 1 open days beginning the Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the ~~third Saturday~~  
 2 ~~thereafter~~ Friday before Thanksgiving, and ~~Monday on or nearest October 15 to the~~  
 3 ~~Saturday before Thanksgiving~~ and during the Deer With Visible Antlers Season. Deer  
 4 may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open days beginning the ~~Monday on or~~  
 5 ~~nearest October 1~~ Saturday before Thanksgiving through the ~~Saturday of the second week~~  
 6 ~~thereafter~~ Friday after Thanksgiving, and during the Deer With Visible Antlers season.
- 7 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last~~ first open day of the applicable Deer With  
 8 Visible Antlers Season.
- 9 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and  
 10 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 11 (12) Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve Game Lands in Robeson County
- 12 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 13 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
 14 Antlers Season.
- 15 (13) Butner - Falls of Neuse Game Land in Durham, Granville, and Wake counties
- 16 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 17 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six~~ open day days and the ~~last six open days~~ of  
 18 the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 19 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:
- 20 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 21 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 22 (iii) Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 23 On the posted waterfowl impoundments a special permit is required for all waterfowl  
 24 hunting after November 1.
- 25 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 26 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 27 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an archery zone.
- 28 (G) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on that portion west of NC 50 and south of  
 29 Falls Lake.
- 30 (H) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not  
 31 apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the applicable  
 32 seasons for game birds and game animals. On designated bicycle riding areas, the use of  
 33 bicycles is allowed from May 15 through August 31, and on Sundays only from  
 34 September 1 through May 14.
- 35 (I) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are  
 36 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.

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- 1 (J) Camping is allowed at any time in the designated Mountains-to-Sea Trail Camping Area  
2 and shall not exceed a maximum stay of two consecutive nights. Campfires are prohibited  
3 in this camping area.
- 4 (14) Buxton Woods Game Land in Dare County:  
5 (A) Six Days per Week Area  
6 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
7 Antlers Season.  
8 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 9 (15) Cape Fear River Wetlands Game Land in Pender County  
10 (A) Six Days per Week Area  
11 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
12 Antlers Season.  
13 (C) Turkey Hunting is by permit only on that portion known as the Roan Island Tract.  
14 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on the portion of the game land that is west  
15 of the Black River, north of Roan Island, east of Lyon Swamp Canal to Canetuck Road,  
16 and south of NC 210 to the Black River.  
17 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 18 (16) Carteret County Game Land in Carteret County  
19 (A) Six Days per Week Area  
20 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day of days~~ and the ~~last six open days~~  
21 ~~of the~~ applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.  
22 (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 23 (17) R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land in Caswell County  
24 (A) Three Days per Week Area  
25 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last first six open day days~~ of the applicable Deer  
26 With Visible Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.  
27 (C) Horseback riding is allowed only during June, July, and August, and on Sundays during  
28 the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons. Horseback riding  
29 is allowed only on roads opened to vehicular traffic and on those gated roads and trails  
30 that are posted for equestrian use. People age 16 or older horseback riding on this game  
31 land shall possess a Game Lands license.  
32 (D) The area encompassed by the following roads is permit-only for all quail and woodcock  
33 hunting, and all bird dog training: From Yanceyville south on NC 62 to the intersection  
34 of SR 1746, west on SR 1746 to the intersection of SR 1156, south on SR 1156 to the  
35 intersection of SR 1783, east on SR 1783 to the intersection of NC 62, north on NC 62 to  
36 the intersection of SR 1736, east on SR 1736 to the intersection of SR 1730, east on SR  
37 1730 to NC 86, north on NC 86 to NC 62.

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- 1 (E) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl hunting is by permit only after  
2 November 1.
- 3 (F) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are  
4 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 5 (G) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Shooting Range.
- 6 (18) Chatham Game Land in Chatham County
- 7 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 8 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day days and the last six open days~~ of  
9 the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 10 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 11 (D) Horseback riding is allowed only during June, July, and August; and on Sundays during  
12 the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons.
- 13 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 14 (19) Chowan Game Land in Chowan County
- 15 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
17 Season.
- 18 (20) Chowan Swamp Game Land in Bertie, Gates, and Hertford counties.
- 19 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 20 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
21 Antlers Season.
- 22 (C) Bear hunting is restricted to the first three hunting days during the November bear season  
23 and the first three hunting days during the second week of the December bear season  
24 except that portion of Chowan Swamp Game Land in Gates County that is east of  
25 Highway 158/13, south of Highway 158, west of Highway 32, and north of Catherine  
26 Creek and the Chowan River where the bear season is the same as the season dates for  
27 the Gates County bear season.
- 28 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
29 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 30 (E) Horseback riding is prohibited except during May 16 through August 31 and on Sundays  
31 only September 1 through May 15 on those roads that are open to vehicular traffic and on  
32 those gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.
- 33 (F) Target shooting is prohibited in the area west of Sand Banks Road, east of the Chowan  
34 River and north of US 13/158 to the NC-VA state line.
- 35 (21) Cold Mountain Game Land in Haywood County
- 36 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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- 1 (B) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and  
2 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 3 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last~~ first open day of the applicable Deer With  
4 Visible Antlers Season.
- 5 (22) Columbus County Game Land in Columbus County.
- 6 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 7 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
8 Antlers Season.
- 9 (23) Croatan Game Land in Carteret, Craven, and Jones counties
- 10 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 11 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
12 Antlers Season.
- 13 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:
- 14 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 15 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 16 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 17 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl day in October through the end of the waterfowl  
18 season, waterfowl hunting from designated Disabled Sportsmen blinds on the Catfish  
19 Lake Waterfowl Impoundment is by permit only.
- 20 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only for the first two open days of dove season on posted  
21 areas. During the rest of dove season, no permit is required to hunt doves.
- 22 (24) Currituck Banks Game Land in Currituck County
- 23 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 24 (B) Permanent waterfowl blinds in Currituck Sound on these game lands shall be hunted by  
25 permit only from November 1 through the end of the waterfowl season.
- 26 (C) Licensed hunting guides may accompany the permitted individual or party provided the  
27 guides do not use a firearm.
- 28 (D) The boundary of the game land shall extend 5 yards from the edge of the marsh or  
29 shoreline.
- 30 (E) Dogs are allowed only for waterfowl hunting by permitted waterfowl hunters on the day  
31 of their hunt.
- 32 (F) No screws, nails, or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand  
33 or blind to a tree.
- 34 (G) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
35 season.
- 36 (25) Dan River Game Land in Rockingham County
- 37 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.

APPENDIX A – PROPOSED RULE

- 1                   (B) Horseback riding is prohibited except on those areas posted for equestrian use. People  
2                                   age 16 or older horseback riding on this game land must possess a Game Land license.
- 3                   (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 4   ~~(25)~~(26) Dare Game Land in Dare County
- 5                   (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 6                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last six~~ first open day ~~days~~ of the applicable Deer  
7                                   With Visible Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 8                   (C)     No hunting is allowed on posted parts of bombing range.
- 9                   (D)     The use and training of dogs is prohibited from March 1 through June 30.
- 10 ~~(26)~~(27) Dover Bay Game Land in Craven County
- 11                   (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 12                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
13                                   season.
- 14 ~~(27)~~(28) DuPont State Forest Game Lands in Henderson and Transylvania counties
- 15                   (A)     Hunting is by permit only.
- 16                   (B)     The training and use of dogs for hunting is prohibited except by special hunt permit  
17                                   holders during scheduled permit hunts.
- 18 ~~(28)~~(29) Elk Knob Game Land in Watauga County
- 19                   (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 20                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last six~~ first open day ~~day~~ of the applicable Deer  
21                                   With Visible Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 22 ~~(29)~~(30) Embro Game Land in Halifax and Warren counties
- 23                   (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 24                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day~~ ~~and the last six open days~~ of the  
25                                   applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 26                   (C)     Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 27 ~~(30)~~(31) Goose Creek Game Land in Beaufort and Pamlico counties
- 28                   (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 29                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
30                                   Antlers Season.
- 31                   (C)     Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl  
32                                   impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
- 33                                   (i)     the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 34                                   (ii)    Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 35                                   (iii)   Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 36                   (D)     Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October and through the end of the  
37                                   waterfowl season, waterfowl hunting is by permit only on the following waterfowl

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- 1 impoundments: Pamlico Point, Campbell Creek, Hunting Creek, Spring Creek, Smith  
2 Creek, and Hobucken.
- 3 (E) On Pamlico Point and Campbell Creek Waterfowl Impoundments all activities, except  
4 waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days and trapping during the  
5 trapping season, are restricted to the posted Scouting-only Zone during the period  
6 November 1 through March 15.
- 7 (F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
8 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 9 (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Parker Farm Tract is restricted from September 1  
10 through January 1 and April 1 through May 15 to individuals that possess a valid hunting  
11 opportunity permit.
- 12 ~~(31)~~(32) Green River Game Land in Henderson, and Polk counties
- 13 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 14 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last~~ first open day of the applicable Deer With  
15 Visible Antlers Season.
- 16 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 17 ~~(32)~~(33) Green Swamp Game Land in Brunswick County
- 18 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 19 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
20 Antlers Season.
- 21 (C) On that portion north of Big Macedonia Road, east of Makatoka Road, south of Little  
22 Macedonia Road, and west of Green Swamp Road, hunting for bear, deer, and turkey is  
23 permit only.
- 24 (D) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
25 prohibited on that portion of the game land that is north of Big Macedonia Road, east of  
26 Makatoka Road, south of Little Macedonia Road, and west of Green Swamp Road.
- 27 ~~(33)~~(34) Gull Rock Game Land in Hyde County
- 28 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 29 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
30 Antlers Season.
- 31 (C) Waterfowl on posted waterfowl impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
- 32 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons; and
- 33 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 34 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl season.
- 35 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
36 through May 14 in areas designated and posted as camping areas.

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- 1 (E) Bear may only be taken the first three hunting days during the November Bear Season  
2 and the first three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season,  
3 except for that portion designated as bear sanctuary.
- 4 ~~(34)~~(35) Harris Game Land in Chatham, Harnett, and Wake counties
- 5 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 6 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day days and the last six open days~~ of  
7 the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 8 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:
- 9 (i) Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 10 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and
- 11 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 12 (D) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds shall be prohibited.
- 13 (E) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an archery zone.
- 14 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 15 (G) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 16 (36) Headwaters State Forest Game Land in Transylvania County
- 17 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 18 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer with Visible  
19 Antlers Season
- 20 ~~(35)~~(37) Hill Farm Game Land in Stokes County- hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 21 ~~(36)~~(38) Holly Shelter Game Land in Pender County
- 22 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 23 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
24 Antlers Season.
- 25 (C) Waterfowl may be taken only on the following days:
- 26 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 27 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 28 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 29 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
30 through May 14 in areas designated and posted as camping areas.
- 31 (E) On that portion north of the Bear Garden Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east  
32 of the Northeast Cape Fear River, south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, deer hunting and  
33 bear hunting are permit only.
- 34 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited:
- 35 (i) all open days on that portion of the game land that is south of Baby Branch  
36 extending west to Stag Park Road, west of Shaw Road, north of Meeks Road  
37 extending west to Stag Park Road and east of Stag Park Road; and

- 1 (ii) on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, with the exception of Thanksgiving,
- 2 Christmas, and New Year's days, and except for the area north of Bear Garden
- 3 Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east of the Northeast Cape Fear
- 4 River, south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, where the use of dogs for deer and
- 5 bear hunting is by permit only.
- 6 (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Pender 4 Tract is restricted from September 1 to the
- 7 last day of February and April 1 to May 15 to individuals that possess valid hunting
- 8 opportunity permits, unless otherwise authorized by the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- 9 (H) Hunters who possess a Disabled Access Permit may operate an All Terrain Vehicle on
- 10 and within 100 yards of trails designated for Disabled Sportsman Access.
- 11 (I) Target shooting is prohibited, except on the Holly Shelter Shooting Range.
- 12 (J) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.
- 13 ~~(37)~~(39) Hyco Game land in Person County
- 14 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 15 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day days and the last six open days~~ of
- 16 the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 17 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 18 ~~(38)~~(40) J. Morgan Futch Game Land in Tyrrell County - Permit Only Area.
- 19 ~~(39)~~(41) Johns River Game Land in Burke County
- 20 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 21 (B) During permitted deer hunts, deer of either sex may be taken by permit holders.
- 22 (C) Entry on posted waterfowl impoundments is prohibited October 1 through March 31,
- 23 except by lawful waterfowl hunting permit holders and only on those days written on the
- 24 permits.
- 25 (D) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited.
- 26 ~~(40)~~(42) Jordan Game Land in Chatham, Durham, Orange, and Wake counties
- 27 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 28 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 29 Antlers Season.
- 30 (C) Waterfowl may be taken only on:
- 31 (i) Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 32 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and
- 33 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 34 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on those areas posted as American Tobacco Trail
- 35 and other areas posted for equestrian use. Unless otherwise posted, horseback riding is
- 36 permitted on posted portions of the American Tobacco Trail anytime the trail is open for
- 37 use. On all other trails posted for equestrian use, horseback riding is allowed only during

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1 June, July, and August, and on Sundays the remainder of the year except during open  
2 turkey and deer seasons. People age 16 or older who ride horseback on trails occurring  
3 entirely within the game land boundaries shall possess a Game Lands license.

4 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

5 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an Archery Zone.

6 (G) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not  
7 apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the applicable  
8 seasons for game birds and game animals.

9 ~~(41)~~(43) Juniper Creek Game Land in Brunswick and Columbus counties

10 (A) Six Days per Week Area

11 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers  
12 Season.

13 (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
14 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

15 ~~(42)~~(44) Kerr Scott Game Land in Wilkes County

16 (A) Six Days per Week Area

17 (B) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.

18 (C) Use of blackpowder firearms, shotguns, or rifles for hunting deer during the applicable  
19 Deer With Visible Antlers Season is prohibited.

20 (D) Tree stands shall not be left overnight; and no screws, nails, or other objects penetrating  
21 the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.

22 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
23 Antlers season.

24 (F) Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.

25 (G) The use of firearms for hunting wild turkey is prohibited.

26 ~~(43)~~(45) Lantern Acres Game Land in Tyrrell and Washington counties

27 (A) Six Days per Week Area

28 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
29 Antlers Season.

30 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

31 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer on the Godley Tract is prohibited.

32 (E) Waterfowl hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.

33 ~~(44)~~(46) Lee Game Land in Lee County

34 (A) Six Days per Week Area

35 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day~~ days and the last six open days of  
36 the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

37 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.

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- 1           ~~(45)~~(47) Light Ground Pocosin Game Land in Pamlico County
- 2                   (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 3                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer with Visible
- 4                             Antlers Season.
- 5           ~~(46)~~(48) Linwood Game Land in Davidson County
- 6                   (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 7                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken on all of the open days of the applicable Deer With
- 8                             Visible Antlers Season.
- 9           ~~(47)~~(49) Lower Fishing Creek Game Land in Edgecombe and Halifax counties
- 10                  (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 11                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day days~~ and the last six open days of
- 12                             the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 13                  (C)     Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 14                  (D)     The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 15           ~~(48)~~(50) Mayo Game Land in Person County
- 16                  (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 17                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day days~~ and the last six open days of
- 18                             the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 19                  (C)     Waterfowl shall be taken only on:
- 20                             (i)     Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 21                             (ii)    Christmas and New Year's Days; and
- 22                             (iii)   the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 23                  (D)     Target shooting is prohibited.
- 24           ~~(49)~~(51) Mitchell River Game Land in Surry County
- 25                  (A)     Three Days per Week Area
- 26                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last first six open day days~~ of the applicable Deer
- 27                             with Visible Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.
- 28                  (C)     Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31,
- 29                             and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 30           ~~(50)~~(52) Nantahala Game Land in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, Swain, and Transylvania
- 31                             counties
- 32                  (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 33                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first last open day of the applicable Deer With
- 34                             Visible Antlers Season in that portion located in Transylvania County.
- 35           ~~(51)~~(53) Needmore Game Land in Macon and Swain counties.
- 36                  (A)     Six Days per Week Area

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- 1 (B) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31,  
2 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 3 (C) On posted dove fields, dove hunting on the opening day of dove season is by permit only.
- 4 ~~(52)~~(54) Neuse River Game Land in Craven County
- 5 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 6 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
7 Antlers Season.
- 8 ~~(53)~~(55) New Lake Game Land in Hyde and Tyrrell counties
- 9 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 10 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
11 Antlers Season.
- 12 ~~(54)~~(56) Nicholson Creek Game Land in Hoke County
- 13 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 14 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken with ~~bow and arrow~~ archery equipment on open hunting  
15 days from the Saturday on or nearest September 10 ~~through to the third~~ fourth Friday  
16 before Thanksgiving.
- 17 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days  
18 beginning the ~~fourth~~ third Saturday before Thanksgiving through the first Wednesday ~~of~~  
19 ~~the second week~~ thereafter.
- 20 (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second  
21 Saturday before Thanksgiving through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving.
- 22 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last~~ first open day of the applicable Deer With  
23 Visible Antlers Season.
- 24 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 25 (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 26 (H) On Lake Upchurch, the following activities are prohibited:
- 27 (i) Operating any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine; and  
28 (ii) Swimming.
- 29 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 30 ~~(55)~~(57) North River Game Land in Camden and Currituck counties
- 31 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 32 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
33 Antlers Season.
- 34 (C) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or  
35 shoreline.
- 36 (D) Hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment is by permit only.
- 37 ~~(56)~~(58) Northwest River Marsh Game Land in Currituck County

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- 1 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 2 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 3 Antlers Season.
- 4 (C) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or
- 5 shoreline.
- 6 ~~(57)~~(59) Pee Dee River Game Land in Anson, Montgomery, Richmond, and Stanly counties
- 7 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 8 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day days and the last six open days~~ of
- 9 the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 10 (C) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited in that portion in Anson and Richmond counties
- 11 North of US-74.
- 12 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 13 (E) Horseback riding is allowed only on roads opened to vehicular traffic and only during the
- 14 following times:
- 15 (i) during June, July, and August; and
- 16 (ii) on Sundays during the other months or parts of months when deer and turkey
- 17 seasons are closed.
- 18 ~~(58)~~(60) Perkins Game Land in Davie County
- 19 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 20 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last~~first open day of the applicable Deer With
- 21 Visible Antlers Season.
- 22 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited from November 1 through January 1.
- 23 ~~(59)~~(61) Pisgah Game Land in Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Madison,
- 24 McDowell, Mitchell, Transylvania, Watauga, and Yancey counties
- 25 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 26 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last~~first open day of the applicable Deer With
- 27 Visible Antlers Season.
- 28 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River
- 29 (Burke County), and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties).
- 30 ~~(60)~~(62) Pond Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- 31 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 32 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last six~~ first open ~~day days~~ of the applicable Deer
- 33 with Visible Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 34 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails from May 16 through August
- 35 31 and Sundays from September 1 through October 31. All horseback riding is prohibited
- 36 from November 1 through May 15.
- 37 ~~(61)~~(63) Pungo River Game Land in Hyde County

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- 1 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 2 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 3 Antlers Season.
- 4 ~~(62)~~(64) Rendezvous Mountain State Forest Game Land in Wilkes County
- 5 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 6 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last six~~ first open day ~~days~~ of the applicable Deer
- 7 With Visible Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.
- 8 (C) Bear hunting is prohibited.
- 9 ~~(63)~~(65) Rhodes Pond Game Land in Cumberland and Harnett counties
- 10 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 11 (B) Swimming is prohibited on the area.
- 12 ~~(64)~~(66) Roanoke River Wetlands in Bertie, Halifax, Martin, and Northampton counties
- 13 (A) Hunting is by Permit only.
- 14 (B) Vehicles are prohibited on roads or trails except those operated on Commission business
- 15 or by permit holders.
- 16 (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
- 17 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas, provided,
- 18 however, that camping is allowed at any time within 100 yards of the Roanoke River on
- 19 the state-owned portion of the game land.
- 20 ~~(65)~~(67) Roanoke Island Marshes Game Land in Dare County-Hunting is by permit only.
- 21 ~~(66)~~(68) Robeson Game Land in Robeson County
- 22 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 23 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 24 Antlers Season.
- 25 ~~(67)~~(69) Rockfish Creek Game Land in Hoke County
- 26 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 27 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken with ~~bow and arrow~~ archery equipment on open hunting
- 28 days from the Saturday on or nearest September 10 through to the fourth ~~third~~ Friday
- 29 before Thanksgiving.
- 30 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days
- 31 beginning the ~~fourth~~ third Saturday before Thanksgiving through the first Wednesday ~~of~~
- 32 ~~the second week~~ thereafter.
- 33 (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second
- 34 Saturday before Thanksgiving through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving.
- 35 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~last~~ open day of the applicable Deer With
- 36 Visible Antlers Season.
- 37 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

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- 1 (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 2 (H) Taking fox squirrels is prohibited.
- 3 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 4 ~~(68)~~(70) Rocky Run Game Land in Onslow County - Hunting is by permit only.
- 5 ~~(69)~~(71) Sampson Game Land in Sampson County
- 6 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 7 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 8 Antlers Season.
- 9 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 10 ~~(70)~~(72) Sandhills Game Land in Hoke, Moore, Richmond, and Scotland counties
- 11 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 12 (B) Hunting is prohibited on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds from October 22
- 13 through March 31 except as follows:
- 14 (i) deer may be taken with archery equipment on all the open days of the ~~bow and~~
- 15 ~~arrow~~ archery season through the ~~fourth~~ third Friday before Thanksgiving; with
- 16 blackpowder firearms and archery equipment all the open days of the
- 17 blackpowder firearms season through the second Saturday before Thanksgiving;
- 18 and with all legal weapons from the second Monday before Thanksgiving
- 19 through the Saturday following Thanksgiving;
- 20 (ii) dove may be taken all open days from the opening day of the dove season
- 21 through the third Saturday thereafter;
- 22 (iii) squirrel (gray and fox) may be taken all the open days from second Monday
- 23 before Thanksgiving, through the Saturday following Thanksgiving;
- 24 (iv) rabbit may be taken all open days from the second Saturday preceding
- 25 Thanksgiving through the Saturday following Thanksgiving;
- 26 (v) waterfowl may be taken on open days during any waterfowl season;
- 27 (vi) wild animals and wild birds may be taken as part of a Disabled Sportsmen
- 28 Program Permit Hunt; and
- 29 (vii) raccoon and opossum may be taken on open days from sunrise Monday on or
- 30 nearest October 15 through the last day of February.
- 31 (C) The Deer With Visible Antlers season is the open hunting days from the second Saturday
- 32 before Thanksgiving through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving, except on the J.
- 33 Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds.
- 34 (D) The ~~bow and arrow~~ archery season is all open days from the Saturday on or nearest to
- 35 Sept. 10 to the ~~fourth~~ third Friday before Thanksgiving and, except on the J. Robert
- 36 Gordon Field Trial Grounds, the third Monday after Thanksgiving through the first
- 37 Sunday in January. Deer may be taken with archery equipment on all open hunting days

- 1 during the ~~bow and arrow~~ archery season, the Deer with Visible antlers season, and the  
 2 blackpowder firearms season as stated in this Subparagraph.
- 3 (E) Blackpowder firearms season is all the open days from the ~~fourth~~ third Saturday  
 4 preceding Thanksgiving through the first Wednesday ~~of the second week~~ thereafter and,  
 5 except on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds, the third Monday after Thanksgiving  
 6 through the first Sunday in January. Deer may be taken with blackpowder firearms on  
 7 all open hunting days during the blackpowder firearms season and the Deer With Visible  
 8 Antlers season.
- 9 (F) Either-sex deer hunting during the Deer With Visible Antlers Season is by permit only.
- 10 (G) In addition to the regular hunting days, waterfowl may be taken on the opening and  
 11 closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 12 (H) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 13 ~~(I) The following areas are permit only for all quail and woodcock hunting, and dog training~~  
 14 ~~on birds:~~
- 15 ~~(i) In Richmond County: that part east of US 1;~~  
 16 ~~(ii) In Scotland County: that part west of SR 1328 and north of Gardner Farm Lane~~  
 17 ~~and that part east of SR 1328 and north of Scotland Lake Lane.~~
- 18 ~~(I)~~ (L) Horseback riding on field trial grounds from October 22 through March 31 is prohibited  
 19 unless riding in authorized field trials.
- 20 ~~(K)~~ (J) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are  
 21 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 22 ~~(L)~~ (K) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the John F. Lentz Hunter Education Complex.
- 23 ~~(71)~~ (73) Sandy Creek Game Land in Nash and Franklin Counties
- 24 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 25 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day days and the last six open days~~ of  
 26 the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 27 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 28 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 29 ~~(72)~~ (74) Sandy Mush Game Land in Buncombe and Madison counties.
- 30 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 31 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last~~ first open day of the applicable Deer with Visible  
 32 Antlers season.
- 33 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and  
 34 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 35 (D) Dogs shall only be trained on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays and only as allowed  
 36 in 15A NCAC 10D .0102(f).

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- 1 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only from the opening day through the second Saturday of  
2 dove season.
- 3 ~~(73)~~(75) Second Creek Game Land in Rowan County- hunting is by permit only.
- 4 ~~(74)~~(76) Shocco Creek Game Land in Franklin, Halifax, Nash, and Warren counties
- 5 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 6 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day days and the last six open days~~ of  
7 the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 8 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 9 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
10 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 11 ~~(75)~~(77) South Mountains Game Land in Burke, Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford counties
- 12 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 13 (B) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the  
14 ~~Monday before Saturday after Thanksgiving through the third Saturday after~~  
15 ~~Thanksgiving~~ first Sunday in January. Deer may be taken with ~~bow and arrow~~ archery  
16 equipment on open days beginning the Saturday on or nearest September 10 ~~through to~~  
17 ~~the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on or nearest October 15 to the Saturday~~  
18 Friday before Thanksgiving and during the Deer With Visible Antlers season. Deer may  
19 be taken with blackpowder firearms on open days beginning the ~~Monday on or nearest~~  
20 ~~October 1 Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday of the second week~~  
21 through the Friday after Thanksgiving Day thereafter, and during the Deer With Visible  
22 Antlers season.
- 23 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first last open day of the applicable Deer With  
24 Visible Antlers Season.
- 25 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and  
26 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 27 ~~(E) That part of South Mountains Game Land in Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford~~  
28 ~~counties is closed to all grouse hunting, quail hunting, woodcock hunting, and all bird~~  
29 ~~dog training.~~
- 30 ~~(76)~~(78) Stones Creek Game Land in Onslow County
- 31 (A) Six-Day per Week Area
- 32 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
33 Antlers Season.
- 34 (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
- 35 (D) Swimming in all lakes is prohibited.
- 36 (E) Waterfowl on posted waterfowl impoundments may be taken only on the following days:  
37 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;

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- 1 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 2 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

3 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.

4 (G) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.

5 ~~(77)~~(79) Suggs Mill Pond Game Land in Bladen and Cumberland counties

6 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.

7 (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
8 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

9 (C) Entry is prohibited on scheduled hunt or trapping days except for:

10 (i) hunters or trappers holding special hunt or trapping permits; and

11 (ii) persons using Campground Road to access Suggs Mill Pond Lake at the dam.

12 (D) During the period of November 1 through January 31, except on Sundays, the use of  
13 vessels on Suggs Mill Pond Lake and Little Singletary Lake is limited to waterfowl  
14 hunting only by waterfowl hunters possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity  
15 Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).

16 (E) During the period of November 1 through March 15, the use of vessels on managed  
17 waterfowl impoundments is limited to waterfowl hunting only by waterfowl hunters  
18 possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife  
19 Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).

20 ~~(78)~~(80) Sutton Lake Game Land in New Hanover and Brunswick counties

21 (A) Six Days per Week Area

22 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last six~~ first open day ~~days~~ of the applicable Deer  
23 With Visible Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.

24 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.

25 ~~(79)~~(81) Tar River Game Land in Edgecombe County – hunting is by permit only.

26 ~~(80)~~(82) Texas Plantation Game Land in Tyrrell County - hunting is by permit only.

27 ~~(81)~~(83) Three Top Mountain Game Land in Ashe County

28 (A) Six Days per Week Area

29 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last~~ first ~~six~~ open day ~~days~~ of the applicable Deer  
30 With Visible Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.

31 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.

32 ~~(82)~~(84) Thurmond Chatham Game Land in Alleghany and Wilkes counties

33 (A) Six Days per Week Area

34 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six~~ open day ~~days~~ and the ~~last six~~ open days of  
35 the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

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- 1 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31,  
2 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15. People age 16  
3 or older horseback riding on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license.  
4 (D) The maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at any designated campground is  
5 14 days within any 30 day period from May 1 through August 31. After 14 consecutive  
6 days of camping all personal belongings must be removed from the game land.

7 ~~(83)~~(85) Tillery game Land in Halifax County

- 8 (A) Six Days per Week Area  
9 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day days and the last six open days~~ of  
10 the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.  
11 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.  
12 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.  
13 (E) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

14 ~~(84)~~(86) Toxaway Game Land in Jackson and Transylvania counties

- 15 (A) Six Days per Week Area  
16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last first~~ open day of the applicable Deer With  
17 Visible Antlers Season.  
18 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and  
19 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.

20 ~~(85)~~(87) Uwharrie Game Land in Davidson, Montgomery, and Randolph counties

- 21 (A) Six Days per Week Area  
22 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first ~~six open day days and the last open six days~~ of  
23 the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.  
24 (C) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl may be taken only on the following  
25 days:  
26 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;  
27 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
28 (iii) Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.  
29 (D) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the Flintlock Valley Shooting Range.

30 ~~(86)~~(88) Vance Game Land in Vance County

- 31 (A) Six Days per Week Area  
32 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
33 Antlers Season.  
34 (C) The use of dogs, centerfire rifles, and handguns for hunting deer is prohibited on the  
35 Nutbush Peninsula tract.

36 ~~(87)~~(89) Van Swamp Game Land in Beaufort and Washington counties

- 37 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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1 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
2 Antlers Season.

3 (C) Bear may only be taken the first three hunting days during the November Bear Season  
4 and the first three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season.

5 ~~(88)~~(90) Voice of America Game Land in Beaufort County- hunting and trapping is by permit only.

6 ~~(89)~~(91) White Oak River Game Land in Onslow County

7 (A) Three Days per Week Area

8 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
9 Antlers Season.

10 (C) Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl  
11 impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:

12 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;

13 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and

14 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

15 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October and through the end of the  
16 waterfowl season, a permit is required for hunting posted waterfowl impoundments.

17 (E) The Huggins Tract and Morton Tracts have the following restrictions:

18 (i) access on Hargett Avenue and Sloan Farm Road requires a valid Hunting  
19 Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to  
20 G.S. 113-264(d);

21 (ii) hunting is by permit only; and

22 (iii) the use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

23 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

24 ~~(90)~~(92) Whitehall Plantation Game Land in Bladen County

25 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.

26 (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
27 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

28 ~~(91)~~(93) William H. Silver Game Land in Haywood County

29 (A) Six Days per Week Area

30 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the ~~last~~first open day of the applicable Deer With  
31 Visible Antlers Season.

32 (i) On permitted type hunts, deer of either sex may be taken on the hunt dates indicated on the permit. Completed  
33 applications shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the dates  
34 of hunt. Permits shall be issued by random computer selection, shall be mailed to the permittees prior to the hunt,  
35 and are nontransferable. A hunter making a kill shall validate the kill and report the kill to a wildlife cooperator  
36 agent or by phone.

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1 (j) The following game lands and refuges are closed to all hunting except to those individuals who have obtained a  
2 valid and current permit from the Wildlife Resources Commission:

- 3 (1) Bertie, Halifax and Martin counties—Roanoke River Wetlands;
- 4 (2) Bertie County—Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge;
- 5 (3) Bladen County—Suggs Mill Pond Game Lands;
- 6 (4) Burke County—John's River Waterfowl Refuge;
- 7 (5) Dare County—Dare Game Lands (Those parts of bombing range posted against hunting);
- 8 (6) Dare County—Roanoke Sound Marshes Game Lands; and
- 9 (7) Henderson and Transylvania counties—DuPont State Forest Game Lands.

10 (k) Access to Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge in Davie County requires written permission from the  
11 Commission. Written permission may be granted only when entry onto the Waterfowl Refuge will not compromise  
12 the primary purpose for establishing the Waterfowl Refuge and the person requesting entry can demonstrate a valid  
13 need or the person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business. "Valid need" includes  
14 issues of access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the  
15 public interest.

16 (l) Feral swine may be taken by licensed hunters during the open season for any game animal or game bird using  
17 any legal manner of take allowed during those seasons. Dogs may not be used to hunt feral swine except on game  
18 lands that allow the use of dogs for hunting deer or bear, and during the applicable deer or bear season.

19 (m) Youth Waterfowl Day. On the day declared by the Commission to be Youth Waterfowl Day, youths may hunt  
20 on any game land and on any impoundment without a special hunt permit, including permit-only areas, except where  
21 prohibited in Paragraph (h) of this Rule.

22 (n) Permit Hunt Opportunities for Disabled Sportsmen. The Commission may designate special hunts for  
23 participants of the disabled sportsman program by permit. The Commission may schedule these permit hunts during  
24 the closed season. Hunt dates and species to be taken shall be identified on each permit. If the hunt has a limited  
25 weapon choice, the allowed weapons shall be stated on each permit.

26 (o) As used in this Rule, horseback riding includes all equine species.

27 (p) When waterfowl hunting is specifically permitted in this Rule on Christmas and New Years' Day and those days  
28 fall on Sundays, the open waterfowl hunting day shall be the following day.

29  
30 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*  
31 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*  
32 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 3, 1991;*  
33 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995;*  
34 *September 1, 1994; July 1, 1994;*  
35 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 1999; July 1, 1999;*  
36 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*  
37 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;*

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1                    *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);*  
2                    *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*  
3                    *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*  
4                    *2003);*  
5                    *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*  
6                    *January 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May*  
7                    *1, 2007; October 1, 2006; August 1, 2006; May 1, 2006; February 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; October*  
8                    *1, 2004*  
9