



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

Rule Amendments: 15A NCAC 10D .0102 General Regulations Regarding Use
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.¹ 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 and analysis of the proposed rule amendments to the game land rules 15A NCAC 10D .0102 and .0103, with the proposed text included in Appendix A and B:

15A NCAC 10D .0102 General Regulations Regarding Use

In recent years, the number of people that travel to sensitive habitat areas on Sandhills Game Land has increased to a level that degrades the habitat and threatens the population status of plants and animals using these habitats. Overuse and visitation to these sites likely affects the breeding behavior, movements, and other activity of species inhabiting these areas. Many species on these sensitive areas have small windows of time in which they breed (e.g., calling, breeding, egg deposition, migrations), sometimes only over a period of few nights per year. Disruption of breeding activity is likely at these sites based on recorded WRC Law Enforcement and WRC biologists' direct observations.

Given the rarity of many species in these habitats, overuse and visitation by numerous groups is likely to have deleterious effects on the species and habitat, and can lead to increased visitation and disruption pressure over time. This rule would allow protection of these type habitats and would prohibit entry within the specified dates posted at the sites. Although the main issue is occurring on the Sandhills Game Land, this rule would be beneficial state wide for other sensitive habitat areas such as mountain bogs, bat caves, and for carnivorous plant populations. *(Page 2 of Appendix A)*

Fiscal Impact

¹ 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.

State Impact

Agency staff are responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the game lands. The state will incur the additional costs (less than \$100 per year) of procuring, posting, and maintenance of signage on the portions of game lands designated as a “Sensitive Habitat Zone”. Also, if individuals continue to enter the posted Sensitive Habitat Zone and enforcement officers encounter the activity, individuals can be charged with a Class 3 misdemeanor with a fine of \$25 and court costs. The proposed protection of these sensitive areas should lead to the continued breeding of these rare species and a stronger population, which overall represents a benefit to the state and its citizens.

Local Impact

Local impact should be minimal because entry will not be prohibited to the entire game land. Only those designated areas will have entry restrictions since it would not be feasible to designate all areas on a particular game land. Wildlife observation will not be limited in these undesignated areas. The areas that will be designated will be relatively small in size and prohibit entry during specific times of the year. As such, any impact to local governments is expected to be nominal at worst.

Private Impact

Private impact should also be minimal because entry will not be prohibited to the entire game land and opportunities for wildlife observation still exist and the surrounding area in general provides much opportunity for wildlife observation.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

The proposed changes to this rule cover multiple general topic areas, including: game lands, target shooting, deer, bear, squirrel, fox, waterfowl, and permit requirements.

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

Deer

- A. This proposal clarifies that deer of either sex may be taken during the blackpowder firearms season on Buffalo Cove Game Land.
(Page 4 of Appendix B)

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

No Impact

Local Impact

No Impact

Private Impact

No Impact

- B.** This proposal clarifies that deer of either sex may be taken during the blackpowder firearms season on South Mountains Game Land. *(Page 19 of Appendix B)*

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

No Impact

Local Impact

No Impact

Private Impact

No Impact

- C.** This proposal clarifies that only deer with visible antlers may be taken during the extended primitive weapons season for deer on Sandhills Game Land. *(Page 18 of Appendix B)*

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

No Impact

Local Impact

No impact

Private Impact

No Impact

Squirrel

- A.** This regulation modifies rule text that on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Area at Sandhills Game Land that the season for squirrels coincides with the season for rabbits to allow one extra day of opportunity. *(Page 17 of Appendix B)*

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

The fiscal impact of this rule is expected to be minimal. An additional day of squirrel hunting on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Area is not anticipated to increase staff time for maintenance or maintenance costs. The WRC has no mechanism to determine how this additional day of squirrel hunting will affect hunter behavior. However, the overall fiscal impact should be positive since the value of hunting is estimated at \$63 per person per day.

Local Impact

Increasing the time which squirrel hunting is allowed on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial area should result in the additional purchase of food, gas, and equipment in the local area, however the WRC has no mechanism to quantify this benefit.

Private Impact

One additional day of squirrel hunting on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Area will enhance opportunities for this user group to enjoy the game land.

Fox

- A. This regulation will expand the timeframe in which pursuing or taking foxes with dogs is prohibited on Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land. The current prohibition on using dogs is from March 15 through July 15. This rule would extend that timeframe to be from February 15 through August 1. (*Page 3 of Appendix B*)

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

The proposed amendment will have no state government impact.

Local Impact

This proposed amendment could result in less hunters traveling to the game land. Revenue to the local economy could decrease as less users purchase food, gas, lodging, and equipment. Associated negative impacts are expected to be minimal.

Private Impact

This proposed amendment could negatively affect individuals who want to fox hunt within the expanded timeframe of the proposed prohibition. This proposal reduces fox hunting opportunities on the game land by one and one-half months. However, the ultimate goal of the proposal is to help with fox recruitment, which should result in an increase in fox hunters during the allowed fox hunting season, outweighing any associated negative fiscal impacts.

Waterfowl

- A. This regulation will allow armed services veterans, active duty armed services members, active duty national guardsmen, and active duty reservists to hunt waterfowl on non permit-only game land managed waterfowl impoundments on veterans/military waterfowl days. (*Page 1 and 24 of Appendix B*)

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

The fiscal impact of this rule is expected to be minimal. However, the overall fiscal impact should be positive since the value of hunting is estimated at \$63 per person per day.

Local Impact

Increasing the time which waterfowl hunting is allowed should result in the additional purchase of food, gas, and equipment in the local area, however the WRC has no mechanism to quantify this benefit.

Private Impact

Military personnel and veterans will have the opportunity to hunt waterfowl for two additional days .

Game Lands

- A. The proposed change will allow more opportunity for horseback riding on designated trails only on South Mountains Game Land. *(Page 20 of Appendix B)*

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

The fiscal impact of this rule is expected to be minimal. The horseback riding trail follows an established gravel road across the game land. As such, no additional staff time for maintenance nor new maintenance costs are expected. The Commission has no mechanism to determine how the increase in available dates to ride will affect rider behavior. However, the fiscal impact should be positive since the value of this type of outdoor recreation is \$47 per person per day.

Local Impact

Increasing opportunity for horseback riding on South Mountains Game Land should result in the additional purchase of food, gas, and equipment in the local area, however the agency cannot quantify this benefit.

Private Impact

This additional horseback riding opportunity on South Mountains Game Land will enhance opportunities for this user group to enjoy the game land.

- B. This proposal will restrict the use of bicycles to designated trails only on the State-owned Linville River Tract of Pisgah Game Land. This restriction will not apply to hunters using bicycles during open days of applicable hunting seasons. *(Page 16 of Appendix B)*

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

Agency staff are responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the game lands. Mountain biking on trails not designed for this activity creates resource damage through erosion. This damage must be repaired to maintain water quality of streams on the property which requires staff time and funds. Prohibiting mountain biking except on designated trails may result in a reduction of this activity in undesirable areas, which would be a cost savings to the agency in staff time and materials required for repair, though the agency has no way to quantify this. However, if individuals continue to ride on undesignated trails 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.

Local Impact

Local impact should be minimal since mountain biking will still be allowed on the property on designated trails and the surrounding area in general provides much opportunity for mountain biking.

Private Impact

Private impact should also be minimal to none since mountain biking will still be allowed on the property on designated trails and the surrounding area in general provides much opportunity for mountain biking.

- C. This proposal will clarify when a permit is required to hunt waterfowl on Goose Creek and White Oak River Game Lands (*Page 9 and 22 of Appendix B*)

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

No Impact

Local Impact

No Impact

Private Impact

No Impact

Target Shooting

- A. The proposed change will prohibit target shooting on Sandy Mush Game Land. (*Page 19 of Appendix B*)

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 these areas, while not precisely known, is estimated to cost the agency \$13,104 per year ($\$21/\text{hr} \times 208\text{hrs}/\text{clean up} \times 3 \text{ clean-ups}/\text{year} = \$13,104$). 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 Sandy Mush Game Lands is 35 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. Currently, popular shooting areas on Sandy Mush Game Land contain no back-stop berms and are often located near boundaries with private property, occupied dwellings, and roads.

Permit Requirements

- A. This regulation will designate deer hunting on the Campbell Tract of Columbus County Game Land as permit-only. (*Page 7 of Appendix B*)

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

The agency imposes a \$8 administrative fee for permit hunt applications. The Campbell Tract is expected to offer 55 permit hunt opportunities each year. Though more individuals may apply than the number of permits offered, the agency has no way to know how many. If it is assumed that all 55 permits will be claimed, the anticipated revenue will total approximately \$440 per year ($\$8/\text{permit} \times 55 \text{ permits}/\text{yr} = \$440/\text{yr}$).

Local Impact

The proposed rule will have no local government impact.

Private Impact

Because the agency is proposing to limit hunting opportunities on the Campbell Tract, private individuals will incur the \$8 fee associated with applying for permit hunt opportunities. Though more individuals may apply than the number of permits offered, the agency has no way to know how many. Thus, the total annual impact to private individuals is anticipated to be approximately \$440 per year ($\$8/\text{permit} \times 55 \text{ permits}/\text{yr} = \$440/\text{yr}$). 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.

There should be a positive fiscal impact to the private sector due to the increased public interest to deer hunt on the tract. These recreational activities should stimulate users to spend money.

- B.** This regulation will designate bear hunting on the Salters Creek Tract of Carteret County Game Land as permit-only. (*Page 5 of Appendix B*)

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

The agency imposes a \$8 administrative fee for permit hunt applications. The Salters Creek Tract is expected to offer 35 permit hunt opportunities annually. Though more individuals may apply than the number of permits offered, the agency has no way to know how many. If it is assumed that all 35 permits are claimed, the anticipated revenue will total approximately \$280 per year ($\$8/\text{permit} \times 35 \text{ permits}/\text{yr} = \$280/\text{yr}$).

Local Impact

The proposed rule will have little to no local government impact.

Private Impact

Because the agency is proposing to limit bear hunting opportunities on the Salters Creek Tract, private individuals will incur the \$8 fee associated with applying for permit hunt opportunities. Though more individuals may apply than the number of permits offered, the agency has no way to know how many. Thus, the total annual impact to private individuals is anticipated to be approximately \$280 per year ($\$8/\text{permit} \times 35 \text{ permits}/\text{yr} = \$280/\text{yr}$). 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.

There should be a positive fiscal impact to the private sector due to the increase in desire to bear hunt on the tract.

Pursuing or Chasing Deer and Bear

- A.** This regulation will prohibit the pursuing or chasing of deer and bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting on the Pee Dee River Game Land. (*Page 15 of Appendix B*)

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

This proposed amendment will have no fiscal impacts on state government.

Local Impact

Decreasing the opportunities to partake in hunting deer and bear with dogs on this game land will decrease the number of these hunters visiting local businesses, which will result in a decrease in the purchase of goods and services as they relate to needs of this user group – e.g., food, gas, hunting supplies, etc. The local government could potentially see a reduction in tax-based revenue. However, the agency has no way to project these potential reductions.

Private Impact

This proposed amendment will likely have a negative impact on the private sector. Individuals and groups that have traditionally pursued deer and bear with dogs on this game land will no longer have the opportunity. It will also deny those opportunities to potential first-time users. However, the number of individuals and groups that pursue deer and bear with dogs on this game land is unknown. Also, select local businesses that offer goods and services needed by these hunters will likely see a reduction in these users in their establishments due to the reduced hunting opportunities, although the agency has no way to quantify these losses.

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15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE

(a) For purposes of this Subchapter, the following definitions apply:

- (1) "Permanent Hunting Blind" means any structure that is used for hunter concealment, constructed from manmade or natural materials, and that is not disassembled and removed at the end of each day's hunt.
- (2) "Target shooting" means the discharge of a firearm for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or self-defense.
- (3) "Youth" means individuals under 18 years of age.

(b) Trespass. Entry on game lands for purposes other than hunting, trapping, or fishing shall be as authorized by the landowner. The Wildlife Resources Commission has identified the following areas on game lands that have additional restrictions on entry or usage:

- (1) Archery Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Archery Zones" hunting is limited to bow and arrow hunting and falconry only. On these areas, deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of any applicable deer season.
- (2) Safety Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Safety Zones" hunting is prohibited. No person shall hunt or discharge a firearm or bow and arrow within, into, or across a posted safety zone on any game land. Falconry is exempt from this provision.
- (3) Restricted Firearms Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Firearms Zones" the use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.
- (4) Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Zones" are closed to all use by the general public, and entry upon such an area for any purpose is prohibited without first having obtained written approval of such entry or use from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission. Entry shall be authorized only when such entry will not compromise the primary purpose for establishing the Restricted Zone and the person or persons requesting entry are able to demonstrate a valid need or such person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business. "Valid need" includes issues of access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public interest.
- (5) Temporary Restricted Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Temporary Restricted Zones" are closed to all use by the general public, and entry upon such an area for any purpose is prohibited without first having obtained written approval of such entry or use from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission. An area of a game land shall be declared a Temporary Restricted Zone when there is a danger to the health or welfare of the public due to topographical features or activities occurring on the area.
- (6) Scouting-only Zone. On portions of the game lands posted as "Scouting-only Zones" the discharge of firearms or bow and arrow is prohibited.

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1 (7) Restricted Deer Hunting Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Restricted Deer Hunting
2 Zones" the use of dogs for taking deer is prohibited, except as allowed by permit as provided in G.S.
3 113-264(d).

4 (8) Day Use Only Zone. On portions of game lands posted as "Day Use Only Zones" the use by the
5 general public shall be prohibited from sunset to sunrise.

6 (9) Sensitive Habitat Zone. Portions of game lands posted as "Sensitive Habitat Zones" are closed to
7 all use by the general public during the dates specified on the sign, and entry upon such an area for
8 any purpose is prohibited without first having obtained written approval of such entry or use from
9 an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission.

10 The Commission shall conduct a public input meeting in the area where the game land is located before establishing
11 the following zones: archery, restricted firearms, restricted zone, restricted deer hunting, or day use only. After the
12 input meeting, the public comments shall be presented at an official Commission meeting for final determination.

13 (c) Littering. No person shall deposit any litter, trash, garbage, or other refuse at any place on any game land except
14 in receptacles provided for disposal of such refuse at designated camping and target-shooting areas. No garbage dumps
15 or sanitary landfills shall be established on any game land by any person, firm, corporation, county, or municipality,
16 except as permitted by the landowner.

17 (d) Use of weapons. No person shall discharge:

- 18 (1) any weapon within 150 yards of any game land building or designated game land camping area,
19 except where posted otherwise;
- 20 (2) any weapon within 150 yards of any residence located on or adjacent to game lands, except on
21 Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan game lands; and
- 22 (3) any firearm within 150 yards of any residence located on or adjacent to Butner-Falls of Neuse and
23 Jordan Game Lands.

24 No person shall hunt with or have in possession any shotgun shell containing lead or toxic shot while hunting on any
25 posted waterfowl impoundment on any game land, except shotgun shells containing lead buckshot may be used while
26 deer hunting. Every individual carrying a concealed handgun shall adhere to the requirements set forth in G.S. 14-
27 415.11, even if the state issuing the concealed handgun permit is not North Carolina. On Butner-Falls of Neuse, Jordan,
28 Kerr Scott, and Vance game lands, no person shall possess loaded firearms, ammunition, bows and arrows, crossbows,
29 or other weapons except as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter III, Part 327.13, which is
30 incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions, free of charge, at: [http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-
31 bin/text-idx?SID=75b0c14fb2c26906cf64a267eb69b052&mc=true&node=se36.3.327_113&rgn=div8](http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=75b0c14fb2c26906cf64a267eb69b052&mc=true&node=se36.3.327_113&rgn=div8). On
32 Buckhorn, Chatham, Harris, Hyco, Lee, Mayo, and Sutton Lake game lands; Pee Dee River Game Land north of U.S.
33 74; and that portion of R. Wayne Bailey- Caswell Game Land that is located north of U.S. 158 and east of N.C. 119,
34 no person shall possess a firearm during closed hunting seasons or closed hunting days for game birds or game animals,
35 except under the following conditions:

- 36 (1) the firearm is a .22 caliber pistol with a barrel not greater than seven and one-half inches in length
37 and shooting only short, long, or long rifle ammunition carried as a side arm;

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- 1 (2) the firearm is cased or not immediately available for use;
- 2 (3) the firearm is used by persons participating in field trials on field trial areas; or
- 3 (4) the firearm is possessed in designated camping areas for defense of persons and property.

4 (e) Game Lands License: Hunting and Trapping

- 5 (1) Requirement. Except as provided in Subparagraph (4) of this Paragraph, any person entering upon
6 any game land for the purpose of hunting, trapping, running dogs, or training dogs using wildlife
7 shall have in his or her possession a game lands license in addition to the appropriate hunting or
8 trapping license, or a license that conveys the game land use privilege.
- 9 (2) For commission-sanctioned field trials, active participants (as defined in 15A NCAC 10B .0114) in
10 a field trial using wildlife shall possess a game lands license in addition to the appropriate North
11 Carolina hunting license, or a license that conveys the game land use privilege, except non-residents
12 may substitute hunting licenses from their state(s) of residence.
- 13 (3) For any other field trial using wildlife occurring on game lands, judges and active participants shall
14 possess a game lands license in addition to the appropriate North Carolina hunting license, or a
15 license that conveys the game land use privilege.
- 16 (4) Exceptions:
 - 17 (A) a person under 16 years of age may hunt on game lands on the license of his parent or legal
18 guardian;
 - 19 (B) on the game lands described in Rule .0103(e)(1) of this Section, the game lands license is
20 required only for hunting doves; all other activities are subject to the control of the
21 landowners.

22 (f) Field Trials and Training Dogs. Any individual or organization sponsoring a field trial on the Sandhills Field Trial
23 area or the Laurinburg Fox Trial facility, shall file with the Commission an application to use the area and facility
24 accompanied by the facility use fee computed at the rate of two hundred dollars (\$200.00) for each scheduled day of
25 the trial. The total facility use fee shall cover the period from 12:00 noon of the day preceding the first scheduled day
26 of the trial to 10:00 a.m. of the day following the last scheduled day of the trial. The facility use fee shall be paid for
27 all intermediate days on which for any reason trials are not run but the building or facilities are used or occupied. A
28 fee of seventy-five dollars (\$75.00) per day shall be charged to sporting, educational, or scouting groups for scheduled
29 events utilizing the club house only. No person or group of persons or any other entity shall enter or use in any manner
30 any of the physical facilities located on the Sandhills Field Trial area or the Laurinburg Fox Trial facility without first
31 having obtained written approval of such entry or use from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission,
32 and no such entry or use of any such facility shall exceed the scope of or continue beyond the approved use. The
33 Sandhills Field Trial facilities shall be used only for field trials scheduled with the approval of the Wildlife Resources
34 Commission. No more than 16 days of field trials may be scheduled for occurrence on the Sandhills facilities during
35 any calendar month, and no more than four days may be scheduled during any calendar week; provided, that a field
36 trial requiring more than four days may be scheduled during one week upon reduction of the maximum number of
37 days allowable during some other week so that the monthly maximum of 16 days is not exceeded. Before October 1

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1 of each year, the North Carolina Field Trial Association or other organization desiring use of the Sandhills facilities
2 between October 22 and November 18 and between December 3 and March 31 shall submit its proposed schedule of
3 such use to the Wildlife Resources Commission for its consideration and approval. The use of the Sandhills Field Trial
4 facilities at any time by individuals for training dogs is prohibited; elsewhere on the Sandhills Game Lands dogs may
5 be trained only on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays from October 1 through April 1. Dogs may not be trained
6 or permitted to run unleashed from April 1 through August 15 on any game land located west of I-95, except when
7 participating in field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Dogs may not be trained or permitted
8 to run unleashed from March 15 through June 15 on any game land located east of I-95, except when participating in
9 field trials sanctioned by the Wildlife Resources Commission. Additionally, on game lands located west of I-95 where
10 special hunts are scheduled for sportsmen participating in the Disabled Sportsman Program, dogs may not be trained
11 or allowed to run unleashed during legal big game hunting hours on the dates of the special hunts. A field trial shall
12 be authorized when such field trial does not conflict with other planned activities on the Game Land or field trial
13 facilities, and the applying organization can demonstrate their experience and expertise in conducting genuine field
14 trial activities. Entry to physical facilities, other than by field trial organizations under permit, shall be granted when
15 they do not conflict with other planned activities previously approved by the Commission and they do not conflict
16 with the mission of the agency.

17 (g) Trapping. Subject to the restrictions contained in 15A NCAC 10B .0110, .0302, and .0303, trapping of furbearing
18 animals is permitted on game lands during the applicable open seasons, except that trapping is prohibited:

- 19 (1) on the field trial course of the Sandhills Game Land;
- 20 (2) in posted "safety zones" located on any game land;
- 21 (3) by the use of bait on the National Forest Lands bounded by the Blue Ridge Parkway on the south,
22 US 276 on the north and east, and NC 215 on the west;
- 23 (4) on the John's River Waterfowl Refuge in Burke County; and
- 24 (5) on the DuPont State Forest Game Lands.

25 On those areas of state-owned land known collectively as the Roanoke River Wetlands, controlled trapping is allowed
26 under a permit system.

27 (h) Vehicular Traffic. No person shall drive a motorized vehicle on any game land except on those roads constructed,
28 maintained, and opened for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular travel, unless such person:

- 29 (1) is driving in the vehicle gallery of a scheduled bird dog field trial held on the Sandhills Game Land;
30 or
- 31 (2) is a disabled sportsman as defined in Paragraph (k) of this Rule or holds a Disabled Access Program
32 Permit as described in Paragraph (m) of this Rule and is abiding by the rules described in Paragraph
33 (m).

34 (i) Camping.

- 35 (1) No person shall camp on any game land except on an area designated by the landowner for camping.
- 36 (2) On game lands owned by the State of North Carolina, where the North Carolina Wildlife Resources
37 Commission is the primary custodian, the maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at

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1 any designated camping area is 14 days within any 30-day period from May 1 through August 31.

2 After 14 consecutive days of camping, all personal belongings shall be removed from the game land.

3 (j) Swimming. Swimming is prohibited in the lakes located on the Sandhills Game Land.

4 (k) Disabled Sportsman Program. In order to qualify for permit hunts for disabled sportsmen offered by the
5 Commission and use of designated blinds during those hunts, an individual shall possess a Disabled Veteran
6 Sportsman license, a Totally Disabled Sportsman license, or a disabled sportsman hunt certification issued by the
7 Commission. In order to qualify for the certification, the applicant shall provide medical certification of one or more
8 of the following disabilities:

9 (1) missing 50 percent or more of one or more limbs, whether by amputation or natural causes;

10 (2) paralysis of one or more limbs;

11 (3) dysfunction of one or more limbs rendering the person unable to perform the task of grasping and
12 lifting with the hands and arms or unable to walk without mechanical assistance, other than a cane;

13 (4) disease, injury, or defect confining the person to a wheelchair, walker, or crutches; or

14 (5) deafness.

15 On game lands where the privileges described in Paragraph (m) of this Rule apply, participants in the program may
16 operate electric wheel chairs, all terrain vehicles, or other passenger vehicles:

17 (1) on ungated or open-gated roads normally closed to vehicular traffic; and

18 (2) on any Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular
19 travel.

20 Each program participant may be accompanied by one companion provided such companion has in his possession the
21 companion card issued by the Commission. Hunters who qualify under the Disabled Sportsman Program and their
22 companions may access special hunting blinds for people with disabilities during regularly scheduled, non-permit
23 hunting days on a first come basis, except for those blinds located on the Restricted Area of Caswell Game Land.

24 (l) Release of Animals and Fish. It is unlawful to release pen-raised animals or birds, wild animals or birds,
25 domesticated animals, except hunting dogs and raptors where otherwise permitted for hunting or training purposes, or
26 feral animals, or hatchery-raised fish on game lands without prior written authorization. It is unlawful to move wild
27 fish from one stream to another on game lands without prior written authorization. Written authorization shall be given
28 when release of such animals is determined by a Wildlife Resources Commission biologist not to be harmful to native
29 wildlife in the area and such releases are in the public interest or advance the programs and goals of the Wildlife
30 Resources Commission.

31 (m) Non-Highway Licensed Vehicles. It is unlawful to operate motorized land vehicles not licensed for highway use
32 on Game Lands except for designated areas on National Forests. Disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (k) of this
33 Rule and people who have obtained a Disabled Access Program permit are exempt from the previous sentence but
34 shall comply with the terms of their permit. Furthermore, disabled persons, as defined under the federal Americans
35 with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 126) may use wheelchairs or other mobility devices designed for indoor pedestrian
36 use on any area where foot travel is allowed.

Appendix A

1 (n) Disabled Access Program. Permits issued under this program shall be based upon medical evidence submitted by
2 the person verifying that a handicap exists that limits physical mobility to the extent that normal utilization of the
3 game lands is not possible without vehicular assistance. Persons meeting this requirement may operate electric wheel
4 chairs, all terrain vehicles, and other passenger vehicles on any Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel
5 and those trails posted for vehicular travel and ungated or open-gated roads otherwise closed to vehicular traffic on
6 game lands owned by the Wildlife Resources Commission and on game lands whose owners have agreed to such use.
7 Those game lands, or parts thereof, where this Paragraph applies are designated in the game land rules and map book.
8 This Paragraph does not permit vehicular access on fields, openings, roads, paths, or trails planted for wildlife food or
9 cover. One companion, who is identified by a companion card issued to each qualified disabled person, may
10 accompany a disabled person to provide assistance, provided the companion is at all times in visual or verbal contact
11 with the disabled person. The companion may participate in all lawful activities while assisting a disabled person,
12 provided license requirements are met. Any vehicle used by a qualified disabled person for access to game lands under
13 this provision shall display the vehicular access permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission in the passenger
14 area of the vehicle where it can easily be seen by Commission staff outside the vehicle. It is unlawful for anyone other
15 than disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (k) of this Rule and those holding a Disabled Access Permit to hunt,
16 during waterfowl season, within 100 yards of a waterfowl blind designated by the Wildlife Resources Commission as
17 a Disabled Sportsman's hunting blind.

18 (o) Public nudity. Public nudity, including nude sunbathing, is prohibited on any Game Land, including land or water.
19 For the purposes of this Section, "public nudity" means a person's intentional failure to cover with a fully opaque
20 covering the person's genitals, pubic area, anal area, or female breasts below a point from the top of the areola while
21 in a public place.

22 (p) Shooting Ranges. On public shooting ranges managed by the Commission, no person shall use designated shooting
23 ranges for any purpose other than for firearm or bow and arrow marksmanship, development of shooting skills, or for
24 other safe uses of firearms and archery equipment. All other uses, including camping, building fires, operating
25 concessions or other activities not directly involved with recreational or competitive shooting are prohibited, except
26 for activities that have been approved by the Commission and for which a permit has been issued may be conducted,
27 provided that the permit authorizing such activity is available for inspection by wildlife enforcement officers at the
28 time the activity is taking place. No person, when using any shooting range, shall deposit any debris or refuse on the
29 grounds of the range. This includes any items used as targets, except that clay targets broken on the range, by the
30 shooter, may be left on the grounds where they fall. No person shall shoot any items made of glass on the grounds of
31 the range. No person may leave any vehicle or other obstruction in such a location or position that it will prevent,
32 impede, or inconvenience the use by other persons of any shooting range. No person shall leave parked any vehicle
33 or other object at any place on the shooting range other than such a place or zone as is designated as an authorized
34 parking zone and posted or marked as such. No person shall handle any firearms or bow and arrow on a shooting
35 range in a careless or reckless manner. No person shall intentionally shoot into any target holder, post, or other
36 permanent fixture or structure while using a shooting range. No person shall shoot a firearm in a manner that would
37 cause any rifled or smoothbore projectiles to travel off of the range, except that shotgun shot, size No. 4 or smaller

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1 may be allowed to travel from the range if it presents no risk of harm or injury to any person(s). Persons using a
2 shooting range shall obey posted range safety rules and those persons who violate range safety rules or create a public
3 safety hazard shall leave the shooting range if directed to by law enforcement officers or to leave by Commission
4 employees. No person shall handle any firearms on a shooting range while under the influence of an impairing
5 substance. The consumption of alcohol or alcoholic beverages on a shooting range is prohibited. Open days and hours
6 of operation shall be designated on signs and at least one such sign shall be posted at the entrance to each shooting
7 range. No person, when using any shooting range, shall do any act that is prohibited or neglect to do any act that is
8 required by signs or markings placed on such area under authority of this Rule for the purpose of regulating the use
9 of the area.

10 (q) Limited-access Roads. During the months of June, July, and August, roads posted as "Limited-access Roads" are
11 open to motorized vehicles from 5:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. only. These roads shall be posted with the opening and
12 closing times.

13
14 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-129; 113-134; 113-264; 113-270.3; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-305; 113-306;*
15 *143-318.10;*
16 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*
17 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1993; April 1, 1992;*
18 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 11, 1993;*
19 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1996; July 1, 1995; July 1, 1994;*
20 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 1999;*
21 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*
22 *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 31, 2001;*
23 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002;*
24 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004; (this amendment replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17,*
25 *2003);*
26 *Amended Eff. January 1, 2013; January 1, 2012; June 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May*
27 *1, 2008; May 1, 2007; May 1, 2006; November 1, 2005;*
28 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2014;*
29 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014.*

Appendix B

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 alcohol
3 or any narcotic drug, or fail to comply with restrictions enacted by the National Park Service regarding the use of the
4 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 gates,
6 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 hunting
12 or limited to specific dates by this Chapter. Persons shall hunt only with weapons lawful for the open game animal or
13 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. On designated veterans/military
21 waterfowl days, veterans and active duty members of the armed forces, active duty national guardsmen, and active
22 duty reservists may hunt on managed waterfowl impoundments from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset. Restrictions (1),
23 (3), and (5) in this Paragraph shall apply. On waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone,"
24 trapping during the trapping season and waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the only activities
25 allowed on the portion of the impoundment outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone." No person shall attempt to
26 obscure the sex or age of any bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other part thereof, or possess any bird
27 or animal that has been so mutilated. No person shall place, or cause to be placed on any game land, salt, grain, fruit,
28 or other foods without prior written authorization of the Commission or its agent. A decision to grant or deny
29 authorization shall be made based on the best management practices for the wildlife species in question. No person
30 shall take or attempt to take any game birds or game animals attracted to such foods.

31 (e) Definitions:

- 32 (1) For purposes of this Section, "Dove Only Area" refers to a Game Land on which doves may be
33 taken and dove hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day,
34 Christmas Day, and New Year's Days within the federally-announced season.
- 35 (2) For purposes of this Section, "Three Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which any
36 game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays,
37 Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Days, except for game lands in this

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1 Rule that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays. Falconry may also be
2 practiced on Sundays. These "open days" also apply to either-sex deer hunting seasons listed under
3 each game land. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, until
4 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight on Saturdays.

5 (3) For purposes of this Section, "Six Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which any game
6 may be taken on the open days of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday, and Saturday
7 during the open seasons.

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

10 (g) The listed seasons and restrictions apply in the following game lands:

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

12 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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

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

18 (2) Alligator River Game Land in Tyrrell County

19 (A) Six Day 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 may only be taken the first three hunting days during the November Bear Season and
23 the first three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season.

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

25 (A) Six 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) Target shooting is prohibited.

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

30 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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

33 (5) Bertie County Game Land in Bertie County

34 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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

37 (C) Target Shooting is prohibited.

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

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1 15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. Deer with visible antlers may be taken with
2 archery equipment the Monday immediately following the closing of the Deer With Visible
3 Antlers Season, as described in this Part, through January 1. Deer of either sex may be
4 taken with blackpowder firearms on open days beginning the Monday on or nearest
5 October 1 through the Saturday of the second week ~~thereafter, and during the Deer With~~
6 ~~Visible Antlers season.~~ thereafter.

7 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday 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 open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
18 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 September
34 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 the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
7 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
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 open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
21 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
22 (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
23 (D) Bear hunting on the Salters Creek Tract is by permit only.
- 24 (17) R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land in Caswell County
25 (A) Three Days per Week Area
26 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
27 Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.
28 (C) Horseback riding is allowed only during June, July, and August, and on Sundays during
29 the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons. Horseback riding is
30 allowed only on roads opened to vehicular traffic and on those gated roads and trails that
31 are posted for equestrian use. People age 16 or older horseback riding on this game land
32 shall possess a Game Lands license.
33 (D) The area encompassed by the following roads is permit-only for all quail and woodcock
34 hunting, and all bird dog training: From Yanceyville south on NC 62 to the intersection of
35 SR 1746, west on SR 1746 to the intersection of SR 1156, south on SR 1156 to the
36 intersection of SR 1783, east on SR 1783 to the intersection of NC 62, north on NC 62 to

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- 1 the intersection of SR 1736, east on SR 1736 to the intersection of SR 1730, east on SR
2 1730 to NC 86, north on NC 86 to NC 62.
- 3 (E) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl hunting is by permit only after
4 November 1.
- 5 (F) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are
6 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 7 (G) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Shooting Range.
- 8 (18) Chatham Game Land in Chatham County
- 9 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 10 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
11 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 12 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 13 (D) Horseback riding is allowed only during June, July, and August; and on Sundays during
14 the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons.
- 15 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 16 (19) Chowan Game Land in Chowan County
- 17 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 18 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers
19 Season.
- 20 (20) Chowan Swamp Game Land in Bertie, Gates, and Hertford counties.
- 21 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 22 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
23 Antlers Season.
- 24 (C) Bear hunting is restricted to the first three hunting days during the November bear season
25 and the first three hunting days during the second week of the December bear season except
26 that portion of Chowan Swamp Game Land in Gates County that is east of Highway
27 158/13, south of Highway 158, west of Highway 32, and north of Catherine Creek and the
28 Chowan River where the bear season is the same as the season dates for the Gates County
29 bear season.
- 30 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 32 (E) Horseback riding is prohibited except during May 16 through August 31 and on Sundays
33 only September 1 through May 15 on those roads that are open to vehicular traffic and on
34 those gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.
- 35 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 36 (21) Cold Mountain Game Land in Haywood County
- 37 (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 first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
4 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 (C) Deer hunting on the Campbell Tract shall be by permit only.
- 10 (23) Croatan Game Land in Carteret, Craven, and Jones counties
- 11 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 12 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
13 Antlers Season.
- 14 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:
- 15 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 16 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 17 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 18 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl day in October through the end of the waterfowl
19 season, waterfowl hunting from designated Disabled Sportsmen blinds on the Catfish Lake
20 Waterfowl Impoundment is by permit only.
- 21 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only for the first two open days of dove season on posted areas.
22 During the rest of dove season, no permit is required to hunt doves.
- 23 (24) Currituck Banks Game Land in Currituck County
- 24 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 25 (B) Permanent waterfowl blinds in Currituck Sound on these game lands shall be hunted by
26 permit only from November 1 through the end of the waterfowl season.
- 27 (C) Licensed hunting guides may accompany the permitted individual or party provided the
28 guides do not use a firearm.
- 29 (D) The boundary of the game land shall extend 5 yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.
- 30 (E) Dogs are allowed only for waterfowl hunting by permitted waterfowl hunters on the day of
31 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) Three Days per Week Area

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

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

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

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

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- 1 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 2 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on those areas posted as American Tobacco Trail
3 and other areas posted for equestrian use. Unless otherwise posted, horseback riding is
4 permitted on posted portions of the American Tobacco Trail anytime the trail is open for
5 use. On all other trails posted for equestrian use, horseback riding is allowed only during
6 June, July, and August, and on Sundays the remainder of the year except during open turkey
7 and deer seasons. People age 16 or older who ride horseback on trails occurring entirely
8 within the game land boundaries shall possess a Game Lands license.
- 9 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 10 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an Archery Zone.
- 11 (G) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not
12 apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the applicable
13 seasons for game birds and game animals.
- 14 (43) Juniper Creek Game Land in Brunswick and Columbus counties
- 15 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- 17 (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
18 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 19 (44) Kerr Scott Game Land in Wilkes County
- 20 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 21 (B) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.
- 22 (C) Use of blackpowder firearms, shotguns, or rifles for hunting deer during the applicable
23 Deer With Visible Antlers Season is prohibited.
- 24 (D) Tree stands shall not be left overnight; and no screws, nails, or other objects penetrating
25 the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.
- 26 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
27 Antlers season.
- 28 (F) Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.
- 29 (G) The use of firearms for hunting wild turkey is prohibited.
- 30 (45) Lantern Acres Game Land in Tyrrell and Washington 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) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 35 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer on the Godley Tract is prohibited.
- 36 (E) Waterfowl hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.
- 37 (46) Lee Game Land in Lee County

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

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- 1 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
2 Antlers Season in that portion located in Transylvania County.
- 3 (53) Needmore Game Land in Macon and Swain counties.
- 4 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 5 (B) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and
6 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 7 (C) On posted dove fields, dove hunting on the opening day of dove season is by permit only.
- 8 (54) Neuse River Game Land in Craven County
- 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 (C) Camping is allowed any time within 100 yards of the Neuse River on that portion of the
13 game land that lies west of NC-43.
- 14 (55) New Lake Game Land in Hyde and Tyrrell counties
- 15 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
17 Antlers Season.
- 18 (56) Nicholson Creek Game Land in Hoke County
- 19 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 20 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from the
21 Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the Friday before Thanksgiving Day.
- 22 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days beginning
23 the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday thereafter.
- 24 (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second
25 Saturday before Thanksgiving through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day.
- 26 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
27 Antlers Season.
- 28 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 29 (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 30 (H) On Lake Upchurch, the following activities are prohibited:
- 31 (i) Operating any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine; and
32 (ii) Swimming.
- 33 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 34 (57) North River Game Land in Camden and Currituck counties
- 35 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 36 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
37 Antlers Season.

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- 1 (C) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or
2 shoreline.
- 3 (D) Hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment is by permit only.
- 4 (58) Northwest River Marsh Game Land in Currituck 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) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or
9 shoreline.
- 10 (59) Pee Dee River Game Land in Anson, Montgomery, Richmond, and Stanly counties
- 11 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 12 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
13 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 14 (C) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited in that portion in Anson and Richmond counties North
15 of US-74.
- 16 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 17 (E) Horseback riding is allowed only on roads opened to vehicular traffic and only during the
18 following times:
- 19 (i) during June, July, and August; and
- 20 (ii) on Sundays during the other months or parts of months when deer and turkey
21 seasons are closed.
- 22 (F) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting shall be
23 prohibited.
- 24 (60) Perkins Game Land in Davie County
- 25 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 26 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
27 Antlers Season.
- 28 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited from November 1 through January 1.
- 29 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 30 (61) Pisgah Game Land in Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Madison,
31 McDowell, Mitchell, Transylvania, Watauga, and Yancey counties
- 32 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 33 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
34 Antlers Season.
- 35 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River
36 (Burke County), and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties).

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- 1 (D) The use of bicycles shall be restricted to designated trails. Persons engaged in the act of
2 hunting on the Linville River Tract (Burke County) during any open day of an applicable
3 season for game birds or game animals shall be exempt from this restriction.
- 4 (62) Pond Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- 5 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 6 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
7 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 8 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails from May 16 through August 31
9 and Sundays from September 1 through October 31. All horseback riding is prohibited
10 from November 1 through May 15.
- 11 (63) Pungo River Game Land in Hyde County
- 12 (A) Six 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 (64) Rendezvous Mountain State Forest Game Land in Wilkes County
- 16 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 17 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
18 Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.
- 19 (C) Bear hunting is prohibited.
- 20 (65) Rhodes Pond Game Land in Cumberland and Harnett counties
- 21 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 22 (B) Swimming is prohibited on the area.
- 23 (66) Roanoke River Wetlands in Bertie, Halifax, Martin, and Northampton counties
- 24 (A) Hunting is by Permit only.
- 25 (B) Vehicles are prohibited on roads or trails except those operated on Commission business
26 or by permit holders.
- 27 (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
28 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas, provided, however,
29 that camping is allowed at any time within 100 yards of the Roanoke River on the state-
30 owned portion of the game land.
- 31 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 32 (67) Roanoke Island Marshes Game Land in Dare County-Hunting is by permit only.
- 33 (68) Robeson Game Land in Robeson County
- 34 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 35 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
36 Antlers Season.
- 37 (69) Rockfish Creek Game Land in Hoke County

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- 1 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 2 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from the
- 3 Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day.
- 4 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days beginning
- 5 the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week
- 6 thereafter.
- 7 (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second
- 8 Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day.
- 9 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 10 Antlers Season.
- 11 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 12 (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 13 (H) Taking fox squirrels is prohibited.
- 14 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 15 (70) Rocky Run Game Land in Onslow County - Hunting is by permit only.
- 16 (71) Sampson Game Land in Sampson County
- 17 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 18 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 19 Antlers Season.
- 20 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 21 (72) Sandhills Game Land in Hoke, Moore, Richmond, and Scotland counties
- 22 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 23 (B) Hunting is prohibited on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds from October 22
- 24 through March 31 except as follows:
- 25 (i) deer of either-sex may be taken with archery equipment on all the open days of
- 26 the archery season through the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day; with
- 27 blackpowder firearms and archery equipment all the open days of the
- 28 blackpowder firearms season through the third Wednesday before Thanksgiving
- 29 Day; and only deer with visible antlers may be taken with all legal weapons from
- 30 the second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following
- 31 Thanksgiving Day;
- 32 (ii) dove may be taken all open days from the opening day of the dove season through
- 33 the third Saturday thereafter;
- 34 (iii) squirrel (gray and fox) may be taken all the open days from second ~~Monday~~
- 35 Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following Thanksgiving
- 36 Day;

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- 1 (iv) rabbit may be taken all open days from the second Saturday preceding
2 Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;
- 3 (v) waterfowl may be taken on open days during any waterfowl season;
- 4 (vi) wild animals and wild birds may be taken as part of a Disabled Sportsmen
5 Program Permit Hunt; and
- 6 (vii) raccoon and opossum may be taken on open days from sunrise Monday on or
7 nearest October 15 through the last day of February.
- 8 (C) The Deer With Visible Antlers season is the open hunting days from the second Saturday
9 before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day except on the
10 J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds.
- 11 (D) The archery season is all open days from the Saturday on or nearest to Sept. 10 to the fourth
12 Friday before Thanksgiving Day and, except on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds,
13 the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1. Deer of either sex may be
14 taken with archery equipment on all open hunting days during the archery season, by permit
15 during the Deer with Visible antlers season, and the blackpowder firearms season as stated
16 in this Subparagraph. Only deer with visible antlers may be taken from the third Monday
17 after Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- 18 (E) Blackpowder firearms season is all the open days from the fourth Saturday preceding
19 Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week thereafter and, except on
20 the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds, the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day
21 through January 1. Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on all open
22 hunting days during the blackpowder firearms season and by permit during the Deer With
23 Visible Antlers season. Only deer with visible antlers may be taken from the third Monday
24 after Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- 25 (F) Either-sex deer hunting during the Deer With Visible Antlers Season is by permit only.
- 26 (G) In addition to the regular hunting days, waterfowl may be taken on the opening and closing
27 days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 28 (H) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 29 (I) Horseback riding on field trial grounds from October 22 through March 31 is prohibited
30 unless participating in authorized field trials.
- 31 (J) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are
32 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 33 (K) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the John F. Lentz Hunter Education Complex.
- 34 (73) Sandy Creek Game Land in Nash and Franklin Counties
- 35 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 36 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
37 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

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- 1 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 2 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 3 (E) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 4 (74) Sandy Mush Game Land in Buncombe and Madison counties.
- 5 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 6 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer with Visible
- 7 Antlers season.
- 8 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and
- 9 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 10 (D) Dogs shall only be trained on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays and only as allowed
- 11 in 15A NCAC 10D .0102(f).
- 12 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only from the opening day through the second Saturday of dove
- 13 season.
- 14 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 15 (75) Second Creek Game Land in Rowan County- hunting is by permit only.
- 16 (76) Shocco Creek Game Land in Franklin, Halifax, Nash, and Warren counties
- 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 through the second Friday thereafter.
- 20 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 21 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
- 22 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 23 (E) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 24 (77) South Mountains Game Land in Burke, Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford counties
- 25 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 26 (B) The Deer With Visible Antlers season for deer consists of the open hunting days from the
- 27 Monday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving. Deer of
- 28 either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open days beginning the Saturday on
- 29 or nearest September 10 to the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on or nearest October
- 30 15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. Deer with visible antlers may be taken with
- 31 archery equipment the Monday immediately following the closing of the Deer With Visible
- 32 Antlers Season, as described in this Part, through January 1. Deer of either sex may be
- 33 taken with blackpowder firearms on open days beginning the Monday on or nearest
- 34 October 1 through the Saturday of the second week ~~thereafter, and during the Deer With~~
- 35 ~~Visible Antlers season. thereafter.~~
- 36 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday day of the applicable Deer With
- 37 Visible Antlers Season.

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- 1 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails during the following dates:
2 (i) January 2 through March 31;
3 (ii) May 16 through ~~August 31~~ August 31;
4 (iii) Sundays only - April 1 through May 15; and
5 (iv) Sundays only – September 1 through January 1.
6 ~~and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.~~
- 7 (78) Stones Creek Game Land in Onslow County
- 8 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 9 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
10 Antlers Season.
- 11 (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
- 12 (D) Swimming in all lakes is prohibited.
- 13 (E) Waterfowl on posted waterfowl impoundments may 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 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 18 (G) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.
- 19 (79) Suggs Mill Pond Game Land in Bladen and Cumberland counties
- 20 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 21 (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
22 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 23 (C) Entry is prohibited on scheduled hunt or trapping days except for:
- 24 (i) hunters or trappers holding special hunt or trapping permits; and
- 25 (ii) persons using Campground Road to access Suggs Mill Pond Lake at the dam.
- 26 (D) During the period of November 1 through January 31, except on Sundays, the use of vessels
27 on Suggs Mill Pond Lake and Little Singletary Lake is limited to waterfowl hunting only
28 by waterfowl hunters possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by
29 the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).
- 30 (E) During the period of November 1 through March 15, the use of vessels on managed
31 waterfowl impoundments is limited to waterfowl hunting only by waterfowl hunters
32 possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife
33 Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).
- 34 (80) Sutton Lake Game Land in New Hanover and Brunswick counties
- 35 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 36 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
37 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.

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- 1 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 2 (81) Tar River Game Land in Edgecombe County
- 3 (A) Hunting is by permit only
- 4 (B) Target Shooting is prohibited
- 5 (82) Texas Plantation Game Land in Tyrrell County - hunting is by permit only.
- 6 (83) Three Top Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- 7 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 8 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 9 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 10 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 11 (84) Thurmond Chatham Game Land in Alleghany and Wilkes counties
- 12 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 13 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 14 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 15 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and
- 16 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15. People age 16 or
- 17 older horseback riding on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license.
- 18 (D) The maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at any designated campground is
- 19 14 days within any 30 day period from May 1 through August 31. After 14 consecutive
- 20 days of camping all personal belongings must be removed from the game land.
- 21 (85) Tillery game Land in Halifax County
- 22 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 23 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 24 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 25 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 26 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 27 (E) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 28 (F) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 29 (86) Toxaway Game Land in Jackson and Transylvania counties
- 30 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 31 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday 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 (87) Uwharrie Game Land in Davidson, Montgomery, and Randolph counties
- 36 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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- 1 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
2 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 3 (C) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl may be taken only on the following
4 days:
- 5 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 6 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 7 (iii) Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 8 (D) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the Flintlock Valley Shooting Range.
- 9 (88) Vance Game Land in Vance 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) The use of dogs, centerfire rifles, and handguns for hunting deer is prohibited on the
14 Nutbush Peninsula tract.
- 15 (89) Van Swamp Game Land in Beaufort and Washington counties
- 16 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 17 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
18 Antlers Season.
- 19 (C) Bear may only be taken the first three hunting days during the November Bear Season and
20 the first three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season.
- 21 (90) Voice of America Game Land in Beaufort County
- 22 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 23 (B) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 24 (91) White Oak River Game Land in Onslow 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) Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl
29 impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
- 30 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 31 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 32 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 33 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October ~~and~~ through the end of ~~the~~ all
34 waterfowl season, a permit is required for hunting posted waterfowl impoundments.
- 35 (E) The Huggins Tract and Morton Tracts have the following restrictions:

Appendix B

- 1 (i) access on Hargett Avenue and Sloan Farm Road requires a valid Hunting
2 Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to
3 G.S. 113-264(d);
- 4 (ii) hunting is by permit only; and
5 (iii) the use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 6 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
7 (G) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 8 (92) Whitehall Plantation Game Land in Bladen and Pender counties
9 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.
10 (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
11 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
12 (C) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is
13 prohibited on the Long Ridge Tract.
- 14 (93) William H. Silver Game Land in Haywood County
15 (A) Six Days per Week Area
16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
17 Antlers Season.
- 18 (h) On permitted type hunts, deer of either sex may be taken on the hunt dates indicated on the permit. Completed
19 applications shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the dates of
20 hunt. Permits shall be issued by random computer selection, shall be mailed to the permittees prior to the hunt, and
21 are nontransferable. A hunter making a kill shall validate the kill and report the kill to a wildlife cooperater agent or
22 by phone.
- 23 (i) The following game lands and refuges are closed to all hunting except to those individuals who have obtained a
24 valid and current permit from the Wildlife Resources Commission:
- 25 (1) Bertie, Halifax and Martin counties—Roanoke River Wetlands;
26 (2) Bertie County—Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge;
27 (3) Bladen County—Suggs Mill Pond Game Lands;
28 (4) Burke County—John's River Waterfowl Refuge;
29 (5) Dare County—Dare Game Lands (Those parts of bombing range posted against hunting);
30 (6) Dare County—Roanoke Sound Marshes Game Lands; and
31 (7) Henderson and Transylvania counties—DuPont State Forest Game Lands.
- 32 (j) Access to Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge in Davie County requires written permission from the
33 Commission. Written permission may be granted only when entry onto the Waterfowl Refuge will not compromise
34 the primary purpose for establishing the Waterfowl Refuge and the person requesting entry can demonstrate a valid
35 need or the person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business. "Valid need" includes
36 issues of access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public
37 interest.

Appendix B

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

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

7 (m) Veterans/Military Waterfowl Days. On the day declared by the Commission to be Veterans/Military Waterfowl
8 Days, veterans and active duty armed services members, active duty national guardsmen, and active duty reservists
9 may hunt on any game land and any impoundment without a special hunt permit, including permit-only areas, except
10 where prohibited in Paragraph (h) of this Rule.

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

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

16 ~~(o)~~ (p) When waterfowl hunting is authorized in this Rule on Christmas and New Years' Day and those days fall on
17 Sundays, the open waterfowl hunting day shall be the following day.

18
19 *History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
20 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*
21 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 3, 1991;*
22 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; September*
23 *1, 1994; July 1, 1994;*
24 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 1999; July 1, 1999;*
25 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*
26 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;*
27 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);*
28 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*
29 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);*
30 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*
31 *January 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May*
32 *1, 2007; October 1, 2006; August 1, 2006; May 1, 2006; February 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; October*
33 *1, 2004;*
34 *Temporary Amendment Eff. August 1, 2018;*
35 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2019.*
36