What are the eligibility requirements for a tundra swan permit? Each applicant, regardless of residency, must hold a valid N.C. hunting and N.C. waterfowl privilege license at the time of the drawing. A youth hunter less than 16 years of age on October 1, 2014 and who is not licensed may apply for this permit, but must be a member of a party with a properly licensed adult. In addition, all applicants must also have submitted their tundra swan permit survey by the April 1 deadline if they received a permit the previous year.

Where can I apply for a tundra swan permit? You can apply online at www.ncwildlife.org, by calling 888-248-6834, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.—5 p.m., or at a wildlife service agent. The application deadline is October 1.

How many applicants are there for the 5,000 available tundra swan permits? In 2013-14, there were a total of 7,587 applicants.

Has the number of applicants increased over time? Yes, over the last 7 years, the number of applicants has increased by approximately 24%. Most of this increase represents an increase in the number of resident hunter applications.

How many non-resident applicants receive a tundra swan permit? Non-residents receive, on average, approximately 10% of the 5,000 available permits.

Are my chances better if I apply individually or as a party? The odds in favor of being selected as a party are no different than those of being selected as an individual. Applying as a party ensures all applicants in the party well be selected or not selected.

Do I get preference in the next season’s drawing if I apply for and am not selected for a tundra swan permit the prior season? Yes. The Wildlife Resources Commission offers a preference point system for the Tundra Swan Permit Hunt Program. Eligible applicants not awarded a tundra swan permit in the 2013-14 season will be eligible for a preference point in the 2014-15 permit draw process.

If I fail to return my tundra swan permit survey, how long is it before I am eligible for another swan permit? Those who fail to return their tundra swan permit survey by the April 1 deadline will be disqualified during the draw process the following swan season only.
How will I know if I was awarded a tundra swan permit? Results of the tundra swan drawing are posted on the Commission’s website at www.ncwildlife.org/permithunt or by telephone at 888-248-6834, Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

How long before I receive my permit after I have been selected in the drawing? Permits are mailed to successful applicants approximately 30 days from the completion of the tundra swan drawing.

Can I give my permit to someone else if I am not able to hunt? No, the permit/tag is non-transferrable and valid only for the person whose name appears on the permit. The permit/tag must also be signed to be valid.

Do I need the physical tag with me when I am hunting tundra swan? Can I tag it later? The permit/tag must be carried on your person while hunting or in possession of a tundra swan. Immediately after harvesting a tundra swan, the permit/tag must be validated by punching out both the month and day of kill and affixing the tag to the swan.

Can I bring someone with me who will not be hunting to photograph, film, watch, etc. if they do not have a permit? Yes, however the observer cannot assist in any activities associated with the hunt, such as setting decoys, calling or retrieving birds, building a blind, working a dog, etc.

Can a tundra swan be harvested while hunting other animals or utilizing other permits? Yes, as long as you have a tundra swan permit/tag and the harvest occurs within the tundra swan season. You must use weapons that are consistent with that of waterfowl season.