GAME LANDS LICENSE  The Game Lands License is required, in addition to the appropriate hunting or trapping license, to hunt, trap, train dogs or participate in field trials on any game land. (The Game Lands License is included with some lifetime or sportsman’s licenses.) A special permit may be required for some species on these areas. On field trials scheduled on game lands by the Wildlife Resources Commission, nonresidents in possession of hunting licenses from their own states and persons serving as judges may participate without the license. Persons who are observing only at field trials do not need to have any license.

Hunting Seasons
Unless otherwise indicated for a particular game land, game animal and game bird seasons are the same as the private land surrounding the game land. Unless otherwise provided by permit, hunting is allowed on game lands only during the open seasons for game animals and game birds and is restricted to weapons lawful for open game animal or game bird seasons.

GAME LANDS RESTRICTIONS

Waterfowl Hunting
- On posted waterfowl impoundments, it is unlawful on the legal hunting days for hunters to be within the posted impoundment area before 4 a.m., and hunting is prohibited after 1 p.m.; decoys may not be set out prior to 4 a.m. and must be removed by 3 p.m. each day.
- Waterfowl blinds may be constructed on most game lands; however, they become public property and can be used by anyone on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Blinds on areas not owned by the state must be removed after the hunting season, and on some game lands, the property owners may prohibit construction of permanent hunting blinds by posting a sign at the entrances stating such restrictions.
- It is unlawful to hunt in or within 100 yards of a designated Disabled Sportman’s Waterfowl Blind during the waterfowl season, except by a disabled access permit holder and his or her permitted companion or holders of applicable disabled waterfowl hunt permits.
- It is unlawful to hunt with or have in possession any shotgun shell containing lead or toxic shot while hunting on any posted waterfowl impoundment on any game land, except shotgun shells containing lead buckshot may be used while deer hunting.
- It is unlawful to operate internal combustion engine-powered vessels or vehicles on posted waterfowl impoundments.
- If a waterfowl impoundment has a posted scouting-only zone, all activities except hunting and trapping are restricted to that zone from Nov. 1 to March 15.
- When open days for waterfowl include Christmas and New Year’s Day and those days fall on Sundays, the open waterfowl hunting day is the following Monday.

Vehicle Usage
- Driving a motorized vehicle licensed for highway use is allowed only on those roads constructed, maintained and open for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular use. This does not apply to participants in scheduled bird dog field trials held on the Sandhills Game Land.
- Operation of any motorized land vehicle, including ATVs, not licensed for highway use is prohibited, except as otherwise expressly allowed. This does not apply to those areas specifically designated in national forests for unlicensed vehicle use.
- On those game lands or parts thereof specifically listed under the Disabled Access Program (page 64), persons holding a Disabled Veteran or Totally Disabled License, a Disabled Sportsman Hunt Certification, or a Disabled Access Permit may operate vehicles, including ATVs on:
  - any Wildlife Resources Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel
  - those trails posted for vehicular travel
  - ungated and open-gated roads otherwise closed to vehicular traffic.
- It is unlawful to block traffic or gates or otherwise prevent vehicles from using any roadway.
- On roads posted as “limited access” motorized vehicles are prohibited from 10 p.m. to 5 a.m. during the months of June, July and August.

Weapons
- It is unlawful to discharge any weapon:
  - from a vehicle,
  - within 150 yards of any residence located on or adjacent to game lands,
  - within 150 yards of any game lands building or game lands camping area (unless otherwise posted).
- Firearms may be carried openly, or concealed with a valid concealed handgun permit, at any time on game lands, except for the game lands noted in this section. Hunting is allowed ONLY during the open seasons on game birds and game animals.
- On Buckhorn, Butner-Falls of Neuse, Chatham, Harris, Hycos, Jordan, Kerr Scott, Lee, Mayo, Sutton Lake, and Vance game lands and Pee Dee River Game Land north of U.S. 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 during closed seasons and closed hunting days on game birds (waterfowl, doves, woodcock, snipe, rails, gallinules, moorhens, coots, grous, pheasant, quail, turkey) and game animals (deer, bear, fox, rabbits, squirrels, bobcats, opossum, raccoon), it is unlawful to possess any firearm readily available for use. During that time in which fox season is the only open season for a game animal, it is also unlawful to possess these weapons. However, persons may possess a firearm during the closed season on these game lands if:
  - is cased or not immediately available for use;
  - is used by persons participating in field trials on field trial areas;
  - is possessed in designated camping areas for defense of persons and property;
  - or if it is a 22-caliber pistol with a barrel, not greater than 7.5 inches in length and shooting only short, long or long rifle ammunition, carried as a side arm.
**Training or Hunting with Dogs**
- Except for authorized field trials, dogs may not be trained or allowed to run unleashed from April 1 through Aug. 15 on any game land located west of I-95 and from March 15 through June 15 east of I-95.
- On game lands west of I-95, dogs also may not be trained or allowed to run unleashed during daylight hours on dates when special hunts are scheduled for the Disabled Sportsman Program. Additional restrictions apply to some bear sanctuaries and game lands.
- It is unlawful to train dogs or allow dogs to run unleashed on bear sanctuaries in and west of Madison, Buncombe, Henderson and Polk counties from March 1 to the Monday on or nearest Oct. 15.

**Bear Sanctuaries**
- It is unlawful to take feral swine on bear sanctuaries, except during the bow season, blackpowder season, deer gun season and any small game season, but hunters are restricted to the weapons and manner of take legal for that particular season.
- On bear sanctuaries, bear may not be taken and dogs may not be used to take feral swine.
- Dogs may not be used to pursue bear, except during permit hunts that allow hunting bear with dogs.

**Posted Zones on Game Lands**
- Safety Zone – unlawful to hunt or discharge a weapon. Falconry is allowed.
- Restricted Zone – no entry without a permit.
- Temporary Restricted Zone – no entry without a permit.
- Archery Zone – bow-and-arrow hunting and falconry only. On such areas, deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of any applicable open deer season.
- Restricted Firearms Zones – unlawful to hunt with a centerfire rifle.
- Scouting-only Zone – unlawful to discharge firearms or bow and arrow.
- Restricted Deer Hunting Zone – use of dogs for taking deer prohibited.

**Removal of Plants, Animals and Other Materials**
Only the following plants, animals and materials may be possessed on or removed from game lands:
- Wildlife, birds or fish legally taken under a valid hunting, trapping, fishing or falconry license.
- Small amount of edible plants or plant parts for personal consumption, except any plants on a state or federal protected list.
- Insects, worms or other invertebrates collected as fish bait for personal use, except any on a state or federal protected list. Any fish bait collected may not be sold.
- Small amounts of animal parts, plant parts not removed from live plants, dirt, rocks and water. These items may not be collected for commercial purposes or sale.
- Firewood for use while camping on a game land.
- Litter and road kill animals, except when specifically prohibited.
- To possess or remove any other plants, animals and materials requires written permission. This includes, but is not limited to, firewood to be taken off the game land, pine straw, ginseng, venus fly-trap, snakes, lizards, turtles, frogs and salamanders.

**Other Restrictions**
- Disabled sportsmen blinds are for use by those individuals who possess a Disabled Veteran or Totally Disabled License or a Disabled Sportsman Hunt Certification, in addition to a valid hunting license and their companions on a first-come basis during nonpermit, open hunting days, except for the Restricted Area of R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land. During permit hunts, the Commission will designate use of disabled sportsman blinds.
- Use of game lands for purposes other than hunting, trapping and fishing is subject to the control of the landowners.
- It is unlawful to release ANY bird or animal, except hunting dogs and raptors, on game lands without written authorization from the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- It is unlawful to hunt while under the influence of alcohol or any narcotic drug.
- It is unlawful to litter or dispose of refuse, except in receptacles provided for the purpose.
- It is unlawful to obscure the sex or age of any bird or animal by mutilation of the carcass.
- Placing bait on game lands is prohibited without written authorization.

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**The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act**, commonly known as the Pittman-Robertson Wildlife Restoration Act, was signed by President Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1937. The Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act, commonly known as the Dingell-Johnson Sport Fish Restoration Act, was passed in 1950. Combined, these acts make up the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program. This program is administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and funded by excise taxes on firearms, archery equipment, ammunition, fishing tackle, boats, and outboard motors sold to sportsmen and women. To date the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration program has provided over $15 billion to support fish and wildlife conservation in the United States, including over $320 million to North Carolina.

**North Carolina Wildlife Restoration projects include:**
- Restoring white-tailed deer, wild turkey, and river otter.
- Managing wildlife populations statewide and habitat on 2 million acres of state game lands.
- Providing technical guidance to public and private landowners to help them manage wildlife.
- Training more than 18,000 students annually in hunter education.

**North Carolina Sport Fish Restoration projects include:**
- Managing fish populations in lakes, rivers, and streams and protecting these aquatic habitats.
- Managing more than 1,100 miles of trout streams with public access.
- Offering free public fishing opportunities at more than 100 Public Fishing Areas and Community Fishing Program sites.
- Providing access to public waters at more than 200 Boating Access Areas.

For more information on program accomplishments in North Carolina, visit [www.ncwildlife.org](http://www.ncwildlife.org)
• Game birds or game animals may not be taken with the aid of bait.
• It is unlawful to erect or to occupy for the purpose of hunting, any tree stand or platform attached by nails, screws, bolts or wire to a tree on any game land designated herein. This prohibition shall not apply to lag-screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal left remaining in or attached to the tree.
• It is unlawful to camp on game lands, except on an area designated by the landowner for camping, or to camp on those U.S. Forest Service lands that have been closed by posted order of the U.S. Forest Service. See the individual game lands listings beginning on page 65 for further restrictions.
• Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7 a.m. on Saturdays, until 7 a.m. on Thursdays and until midnight on Tuesdays on three-day-per-week game lands.
• U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and U.S. Corps of Engineers regulations prohibit permanent structures (including permanent duck blinds and permanent deer stands) on all lands under their management.
• A permit is needed to enter Hunting Creek Swamp in Davie County.
• John's River Waterfowl Refuge in Burke County is closed to hunting.
• Properly licensed hunters may take feral hogs on game lands during the open season for any game animal using any legal manner of take allowed during those open game seasons. Dogs may be used for hunting feral hogs only on those game lands where the use of dogs is allowed for hunting deer or bear and only during the open applicable deer or bear season.
• Public nudity on any game land is prohibited.

Trapping on Game Lands  Trapping fur-bearing animals is permitted on game lands during the open seasons and in accordance with the trapping regulations, except on posted “Safety,” “Temporary Restricted” and “Restricted” zones and the regulated areas listed below that are closed to trapping:
- John's River Waterfowl Refuge, Burke Co.
- Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge, Davie Co.
- J. Robert Gordon Sandhills Field Trial Area

A permit is required to trap on any game land designated as a permit-only area.
Bait may not be used on the national forest lands bounded by the Blue Ridge Parkway on the south, U.S. 276 on the north and east, and N.C. 215 on the west.

Trespassing on Game Lands  Entry on game lands for purposes other than hunting, trapping and fishing is subject to the control of the landowners.

Youth Waterfowl Day  No special permit will be required for youth to hunt waterfowl on any game land or game land impoundment, including permit-only areas the day officially designated as “Youth Waterfowl Day,” unless specified for an individual game land that waterfowl hunting on Youth Waterfowl Day is by permit only.

Waterfowl Management Areas  On those areas established by the Wildlife Resources Commission for either waterfowl restoration or waterfowl resting and feeding, and posted as waterfowl management areas, it is unlawful to hunt or harass waterfowl.

Field-Trial Facilities  Field trials may be scheduled on the J. Robert Gordon Sandhills “Field Trial Area” and the Laurinburg “Fox-Trial Facility” by application in advance, accompanied by the appropriate facility use fee. No person or group shall use these facilities without having obtained specific written approval from an authorized agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission.

Shooting Ranges  Commission-managed shooting ranges are available for the purpose of firearm marksmanship and development of shooting skills. Days and hours of operation may vary and are posted at the entrance to each range. All shooting-range users shall abide by the game lands restrictions and handle firearms and archery equipment in a safe manner. They also shall obey all regulations posted at the range. Additional restrictions:
- No use of glass targets.
- No intentional shooting into a target holder or other permanent structure.
- No shooting at targets off the range.

Currently the Commission manages the following shooting ranges:
- Wayne E. Smith Shooting Range on Cold Mountain Game Land.
- Flintlock Valley Shooting Range on Uwharrie Game Land.
- John F. Lentz Hunter Education Complex on Sandhills Game Land.
- Caswell Shooting Range on R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land.

Additional public and private shooting ranges can be found at ncwildlife.org/Hunting/BefortheHunt/ShootingRanges.aspx

DISABLED ACCESS PROGRAM

Disabled Access Permit  A Disabled Access Permit allows persons with limited physical mobility to operate vehicles, including ATVs, on any Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel, those trails posted for vehicular travel and on open-gated or ungated roads, otherwise closed to vehicular traffic on game lands listed in the Disabled Access Program and to have access to special disabled hunting blinds. It does not authorize operation of vehicles on closed roads on game lands not listed in the Disabled Access Program. The disabled hunter will be issued a companion and vehicle access card. One companion may accompany the disabled hunter, provided that person possesses the companion card. This permit is valid as long as the qualifying disability persists. There is no fee associated with this permit. Refer to the “Disabled Sportsman Information” section on page 14 for qualification and application information.

NOTE: Disabled individuals, as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act, may use a wheelchair or other mobility device designed for indoor pedestrian use on any area where foot travel is allowed on properties owned or controlled by the Commission.

Areas Involved  Vehicular access under this permit is provided on the following game lands: (Additional access may be provided on some U.S. Forest Service-owned game lands. Those areas are not listed below, but details may be obtained by contacting the local ranger station for the district in which you wish to hunt.)
- Bertie
- Bladen Lakes
- Butner-Falls of Neuse (waterfowl blind for disabled hunters only)
- R. Wayne Bailey – Caswell
- Goose Creek (waterfowl blind for disabled hunters only)
- Holly Shelter
- Lantern Acres
- Roanoke River Wetlands
- Sandhills
- Suggs Mill Pond
- Tillery
- Thurmond Chatham

See current game land maps at ncwildlife.org for details and disabled access locations.
Currently there is a waterfowl blind for the disabled on the Spring Creek Impoundment of Goose Creek Game Land and on the Beaver Dam Impoundment of Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land. A disabled access permit is required. On permitted days on Spring Creek and on the Beaver Dam Impoundment, users must apply through the Permit Hunting Opportunities Program.

**Disabled Sportsman Permit Hunt Program** All of the hunts the Commission offers to the disabled sportsman require permits. Information about qualifications required for these hunts and available disabled blinds can be found in the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication.

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**EITHER-SEX SEASONS AND OTHER RULES APPLYING TO INDIVIDUAL GAME LANDS**

Each game land falls into one of three categories and is so designated in the individual game lands listings. A special permit may be required for some species on any of these areas (see the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication). The three designations are as follows:

- **Six-day-per-week areas**: Game lands on which any game may be taken during the open seasons.
- **Three-day-per-week areas**: Game lands on which any game may be hunted unless otherwise noted. Open days are Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgivings, Christmas, New Year’s and Martin Luther King Jr. days. These areas are closed to hunting on other days of the week, unless specifically opened under the individual game lands listings. Falconry may be practiced on Sundays.
- **Permit-only areas**: Game lands on which a special permit is required to hunt or trap. To apply for any special permits in the listings below, see the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication.
- **Falconry on Game Lands**: Within established hunting seasons and on open hunting days, falconry is allowed on Archery and Safety Zones in game lands.

**Alcoa Game Land** – Davie, Davidson, Montgomery, Rowan and Stanly counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Bear may only be taken on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday during the November Bear Season and on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the second week of the December Bear season.

**Butter-Falls of Neuse Game Land** – Durham, Granville and Wake counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 15 – Dec. 26 (maximum season).
- Waterfowl may be hunted only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, Christmas, Martin Luther King Jr. and New Year’s days, and on opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons. On the posted waterfowl impoundments, a special permit is required for all waterfowl hunting after Nov. 1.

**Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land** – Bladen County
- Three-day-per-week area.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Oct. 18 – Jan. 1 (maximum season).
- Rifles larger than .22 caliber rimfire shall not be used.
- On the Singletary Tract, hunting deer and bear with dogs is prohibited.
- Turkey hunting on the Singletary Tract is by permit only. (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
- Youth-adult permit hunts are available on Turnbull Creek Educational State Forest. (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
- Campground is restricted to Sept. 1 – Feb. 28 and March 31 – May 29 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- Discharge of centerfire rifles is prohibited.

**Brinkleyville Game Land** – Halifax County
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.

**Brunswick County Game Land** – Brunswick County
- Permit-only area (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
- Hunting deer with dogs is prohibited.

**Buckhorn Game Land** – Orange County
- Permit-only area (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
- Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.

**Buckridge Game Land** – Tyrrell County
- Three-day-per-week area.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Oct. 18 – Jan. 1 (maximum season).
- Bear may only be taken on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday during the November Bear Season and on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the second week of the December Bear season.

**Buffalo Cove Game Land** – Caldwell and Wilkes counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Gun Deer Season: Nov. 15 – Dec. 13 in all portions of the game land.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 13 (introductory season) in all portions of the game land.
- Blackpowder season: Sept. 29 – Oct. 11 in all portions of the game land.
- Archery Season: Sept. 8 – 27 and Oct. 13 – Nov. 22 in all portions of the game land.
- Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through Aug. 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from Sept. 1 through May 15. This rule includes all equine species.

**Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve** – Robeson County
- Three-day-per-week area.

**Butter-Falls of Neuse Game Land** – Durham, Granville and Wake counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 15 – Dec. 26 (maximum season).
- Waterfowl may be taken only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, Christmas, Martin Luther King Jr. and New Year’s days, and on opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons. On the posted waterfowl impoundments, a special permit is required for all waterfowl hunting after Nov. 1.
Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited. Horseback riding is allowed only during June, July and August and a six-day-per-week area.

Turkey hunting is by permit only (see the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply), except on those areas posted as Archery Zones. Target shooting is prohibited. The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on that portion west of N.C. 50 and south of Falls Lake. Except while hunting, bicycle riding is restricted to designated areas.

Buxton Woods Game Land – Dare County
Six-day-per-week area.
Gun Either-Sex Season: Dec. 26 – Jan. 1 (conservative season)

Cape Fear River Wetlands Game Land – Pender and New Hanover counties
Six-day-per-week area.

R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land – Caswell County
Three-day-per-week area.
Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 26 – Jan. 1 (moderate season)

Carteret County Game Land – Carteret County
Six-day-per-week area.

Chowan Game Land – Chowan County
Six-day-per-week area.

Chowan Swamp Game Land – Bertie, Gates and Hertford counties
Six-day-per-week area.

Cold Mountain Game Land – Haywood County
Six-day-per-week area.
Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 13 (introductory season)

Croatan Game Land – Carteret, Jones and Craven counties
Six-day-per-week area.

Curtis Johns Wildlife Management Area – Craven County
Six-day-per-week area.

Curtituck Banks Game Land – Currituck County
Six-day-per-week area.
Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 18 – Jan. 1 (maximum season)

Permanent waterfowl blinds in Currituck Sound adjacent to these game lands shall be hunted by permit only after Nov. 1. (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)

Licensed hunting guides may accompany the permitted individual or party, but may not hunt.

The boundary of the game land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.

Dogs shall be allowed only for waterfowl hunting by permitted hunters on the day of their hunt.

No screws, nails or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.

Turkey hunting is by permit only. (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)

Horseback riding, including all equine species, is allowed only during June, July and August and on Sundays during the remainder of the year, except during open turkey and deer seasons.

Target shooting is prohibited.

Cherokee Game Land – Ashe County
Six-day-per-week area.

Chowan Game Land – Chowan County
Six-day-per-week area.

Chowan Swamp Game Land – Bertie, Gates and Hertford counties
Six-day-per-week area.

Bear may only be taken on the first Saturday, Monday and Tuesday during the November segment of the bear season and on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the second week of the December segment, except that on the portion of Chowan Swamp Game Land in Gates County east of Highway 158/13, south of Highway 158, west of Highway 32, and north of Catherine Creek and the Chowan River the bear season is Nov. 8 – Nov. 15 and Dec. 15 – Dec. 27.

Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 – Feb. 29 and March 31 – May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

Cape Fear River Wetlands Game Land – Pender and New Hanover counties
Six-day-per-week area.


The area posted with signs stating “CURE Wildlife Game Lands, Special Regulations Apply” and encompassed by the following roads is closed to all quail and woodcock hunting and all bird dog training: From Yanceyville south on N.C. 62 to the intersection of S.R. 1746, west on S.R. 1746 to the intersection of S.R. 1156, south on S.R. 1156 to the intersection of S.R. 1783, east on S.R. 1783 to the intersection of N.C. 62, north on N.C. 62 to the intersection of S.R. 1736, east on S.R. 1736 to the intersection of S.R. 1730, west on S.R. 1730 to N.C. 86, north on N.C. 86 to N.C. 62.

On the posted waterfowl impoundments, a special permit is required for all waterfowl hunting after Nov. 1.

Catawba Game Land – Catawba County
Three-day-per-week area.
Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Jan. 1 (introductory season).

Deer may be taken with archery equipment only from the tract known as Molly’s Backbone.

Chatham Game Land – Chatham County
Six-day-per-week area.
Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 15 – Nov. 21 and Dec. 26 – Jan. 1 (moderate season).
Dare Game Land – Dare and Hyde counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- No hunting on posted parts of bombing range. Selected roads may be closed for military training.
- The use and training of dogs is prohibited from March 1 – June 30.
- Bear hunting is by permit only (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply) on the Bombing Range Bear Sanctuary.

Dover Bay Game Land – Craven County
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 18 – Jan. 1 (maximum season)

DuPont State Forest Game Land – Henderson and Transylvania counties
- Permit-only area (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
- Training and the use of dogs is prohibited except during scheduled permit hunts.

Elk Knob Game Land – Watauga County
- Six-day-per-week area.

Embry Game Land – Halifax and Warren counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.

Goose Creek Game Land – Beaufort and Pamlico counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Prior to Oct 1, waterfowl may be taken only on Tuesdays and Saturdays and on the opening and closing days of the statewide waterfowl seasons on the posted impoundments.
- Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October and through the end of the waterfowl season, waterfowl hunting is by permit only on posted waterfowl impoundments.
- Hunting and vehicular access on the Parker Farm Tract is restricted from Sept. 1 through Jan. 1 and April 1 – May 15 to individuals that possess a valid hunting opportunity permit (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply).
- Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 – Feb. 28 and March 31 – May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

Green River Game Land – Henderson and Polk counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 27, except that part in Henderson Co. where the season is Dec. 13 (introductory seasons).
- Horseback riding is prohibited. This rule includes all equine species.

Green Swamp Game Land – Brunswick County
- Six-day-per-week area.

Gull Rock Game Land – Hyde and Tyrrell counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- On posted waterfowl impoundments, hunting of any species of wildlife is limited to Tuesdays and Saturdays; Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's and Martin Luther King Jr. days; and opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- Bear may only be taken Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday during the November segment of the bear season and Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the second week of the December segment, except that portion of the game land designated as bear sanctuary. Bear hunting is prohibited on the bear sanctuary except by permit only for disabled sportsmen (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply).
- Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 – Feb. 28 and March 31 – May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

Harris Game Land – Chatham, Harnett and Wake counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Waterfowl may be taken only on Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays; on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's days; and on the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited.
- Turkey hunting is by permit only (See Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply).
- Target shooting is prohibited.

Holly Shelter Game Land – Pender County
- Three-day-per-week area.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Oct. 18 – Jan. 1 (maximum season).
- Waterfowl hunting is allowed only on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's and Martin Luther King Jr. days; and on the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 – Feb. 28 and March 31 – May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- On the portion of the game land that is north of the Bear Garden Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east of the Northeast Cape Fear River, south of N.C. 53 and west of N.C. 50, deer hunting and bear hunting are by permit only. (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply). Other species may be hunted on this area only during the normal open days for this game land.
- Hunting deer and bear with dogs on the Pender 4 and Greentree impoundment tracts is prohibited.
- Hunting and vehicular access on the Pender 4 Tract is restricted from Sept. 1 to the last day of February and April 1 to May 15 to individuals that possess valid hunting opportunity permits (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply).
- Hunters who possess a Disabled Access Permit to operate all terrain vehicles are allowed on and within 100 yards of trails designated for Disabled Sportsman Access. See the online game land maps for designated trails.

Hyco Game Land – Person County
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 15 – Nov. 21 and Dec. 26 – Jan. 1 (moderate season).
- Target shooting is prohibited.

J. Morgan Futch Game Land – Tyrrell County
- Permit Only Area (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply).

Johns River Game Land – Burke County
- Permit Only Area (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply).
- The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited.

Jordan Game Land – Durham, Chatham, Orange and Wake counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 15 – Jan. 1, except that part in Wake Co. where the season is Oct. 18 – Jan. 1 (maximum seasons).
• Waterfowl may be taken only on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays; on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's days; and on the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
• Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited except those areas posted on the American Tobacco Trail.
• Target shooting is prohibited.
• Turkey hunting is by permit only. (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply), except on those areas posted as Archery Zones.
• Except while hunting, bicycle riding is restricted to designated areas.

Juniper Creek Game Land – Brunswick and Columbus counties
• Six-day-per-week area.
• Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 – Feb. 28 and March 31 – May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

Kerr Scott Game Land – Wilkes County
• Six-day-per-week area.
• Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 22 – Jan. 1 (maximum season).
• Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.
• Deer may be taken by archery equipment only except during the blackpowder season.
• Tree stands may not be left overnight and no screws, nails, or other objects may be used to aid in climbing or to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.
• Turkey hunting is archery only.

Lantern Acres Game Land – Tyrrell and Washington counties
• Six-day-per-week area.
• Turkey hunting is by permit only (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply).
• Dogs may not be used to hunt deer on the Godley Tract.
• Waterfowl hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply).

Lee Game Land – Lee County
• Six-day-per-week area.
• Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 15 – Nov. 21 and Dec. 26 – Jan. 1 (moderate season).
• Target shooting is prohibited.

Light Ground Pocosin Game Land – Pamlico County
• Six-day-per-week area.

Linwood Game Land – Davidson County
• Six-day-per-week area.
• Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 15 – Jan. 1 (maximum season).

Lower Fishing Creek Game Land – Edgecombe and Halifax counties
• Six-day-per-week area.
• Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.
• Dogs may not be used for hunting deer.

Mayo Game Land – Person County
• Six-day-per-week area.
• Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 15 – 21 and Dec. 26 – Jan. 1 (moderate season).
• Waterfowl may be hunted only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; Christmas and New Year's days; and on opening and closing days, of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
• Target shooting is prohibited.

Mitchell River Game Land – Alleghany and Surry counties
• Three-day-per-week area.
• Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Dec. 24 – Jan. 1 (conservative season).

Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails. May 16 – Aug. 31. All horseback riding is prohibited. Sept. 1 – May 15. This rule includes all equine species.

Nantahala Game Land – Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, Swain and Transylvania counties
• Six-day-per-week area.
• Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 13 in that portion in Transylvania County (introductory season).

Needmore Game Land – Macon and Swain counties
• Six-day-per-week area.
• Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 – Aug. 31. All horseback riding is prohibited from Sept. 1 – May 15. This rule applies to all equine species.
• On posted dove fields, dove hunting on the opening day of dove season is by permit only.

Neuse River Game Land – Craven County
• Six-day-per-week area.

New Lake Game Land – Hyde and Tyrrell counties
• Six-day-per-week area.

Nicholson Creek Game Land – Hoke County
• Three-day-per-week area.
• Gun Deer Season: Open days during Nov. 15 – Dec. 13
• Archery Season: Open days during Sept. 13 – Oct. 31
• Blackpowder Season: Open days during Nov. 1 – Nov. 12
• Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 13 (introductory season)
• The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
• Turkey hunting is by permit only (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply).
• Swimming and internal combustion engines are prohibited at Lake Upchurch.

North River Game Land – Camden and Currituck counties
• Six-day-per-week area.
• The boundary of the game land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline in Currituck County.
• Hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment is by permit only. (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply).

Northwest River Marsh Game Land – Currituck County
• Six-day-per-week area.
• The boundary of the game land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.

Pee Dee River Game Land – Anson, Montgomery, Richmond and Stanly counties
• Six-day-per-week area.
• The use of centerfire rifles is prohibited in that portion in Anson and Richmond counties north of U.S. 74.
• Target shooting is prohibited.

Perkins Game Land – Davie County
• Three-day-per-week area.
• Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Jan. 1 (introductory season).
• Horseback riding is prohibited from November 1 through January 1.

Pisgah Game Land – Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Transylvania, Watauga and Yancey counties
• Six-day-per-week area.

Please note: For the convenience of the reader, major regulation changes appear in RED.
• Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 13, except that portion in Watauga County where the season is Jan. 1 (introductory seasons)
• Hunting raccoon, opossum and wildcat on the Harmon Den and Sherwood Bear sanctuaries in Haywood County is allowed.
• Bear hunting on Mt. Mitchell Bear and Daniel Boone sanctuaries is by permit only.
• Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River (Burke County), and Little Table Rock tracts (Avery, McDowell and Mitchell counties).

Pond Mountain Game Land – Ashe County
• Six-day-per-week area.
• Deer and bear hunting is by permit only (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
• Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.

Pungo River Game Land – Hyde County
• Six-day-per-week area.

Rhodes Pond Game Land – Cumberland and Harnett counties
• Permit-only area (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
• Swimming is prohibited.

Roanoke Island Marshes Game Land – Dare County
• Permit-only area (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)

Roanoke River Wetlands Game Land – Bertie, Halifax, Martin and Northampton counties
• Permit-only area (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
• Vehicles are prohibited on roads or trails, except those vehicles operated on official Wildlife Resources Commission business or by permit holders.
• Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 – Feb. 28 and March 31 – May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas. (Camping is allowed anytime within 100 yards of the Roanoke River.)

Robeson Game Land – Robeson County
• Three-day-per-week area.
• Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Oct. 18 – Oct. 29 and Dec. 24 – Jan. 1 (moderate season)

Rockfish Creek Game Land – Hoke County
• Three-day-per-week area.
• Gun Deer Season: Open days during Nov. 15 – Dec. 13
• Archery Season: Open days during Sept. 13 – Oct. 31
• Blackpowder Season: Open days during Nov. 1 – Nov. 12
• Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 13 (introductory season)
• The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
• Turkey hunting is by permit only (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
• Taking fox squirrels is prohibited.

Rocky Run Game Land – Onslow County
• Permit-only area (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)

Sampson Game Land – Sampson County
• Three-day-per-week area.
• Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Oct. 18 – Jan. 1 (maximum season).

Sandhills Game Land – Hoke, Moore, Richmond and Scotland counties
• Three-day-per-week area.
• Gun Deer Season: Open days during Nov. 15 – Dec. 13, except on the field-trial grounds, where the season is the open days during Nov. 17 – Nov. 29.
• Archery Season: Open days during Sept. 13 – Oct. 31 and Dec. 15 – Jan. 1 except on the field trial grounds where the archery season is open days during Sept. 13 – Oct. 31.
• Blackpowder Season: Open days during Nov. 1 – Nov. 12 and Dec. 15 – Jan. 1 except on the field trial grounds where the blackpowder season is open days during Nov. 1 – Nov. 15 (Deer of either sex may be taken on these days.)
• Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: By permit only (see the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
• Opossum, raccoon and squirrel (fox and gray) hunting on the field-trial grounds will be allowed on open days during Nov. 17 – Nov. 29.

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- Rabbit hunting on the field-trial grounds will be allowed on open days during Nov. 15 – Nov. 29.
- Dove hunting on the field-trial grounds will be prohibited from the third Sunday in September through the remainder of the hunting season.
- Waterfowl hunting on the field trial grounds is allowed on open days during any waterfowl season.
- Except for the opossum, raccoon, rabbit, squirrel, waterfowl and deer seasons (including bow and arrow, blackpowder and gun) specifically indicated above for the field-trial grounds, the field-trial grounds are CLOSED to all hunting during the period of Oct. 22 – March 31. This restriction does not apply to permit hunts offered to disabled sportsman.
- Horseback riding is prohibited on the J. Robert Gordon Field-Trial Area Oct. 22 – March 31, except by people riding in field trials.
- In addition to the regular open days, waterfowl may be taken on the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- Turkey hunting is by permit only (see the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
- Dove hunting on the field-trial grounds will be prohibited from the third Sunday in September through the remainder of the hunting season.
- Dog training is prohibited on the field trial grounds. Elsewhere, dog training is restricted to Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays from Oct. 1 – April 1.
- Swimming in lakes is not permitted.
- Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 – Feb. 28 and March 31 – May 14 in designated camping areas.
- It is illegal to hunt quail and woodcock and to train dogs on birds on areas posted with signs stating “CURE Wildlife Game Lands, Special Regulations Apply” without a permit. All of these posted areas are on that part of the game land east of U.S. 1 in Richmond County or east of S.R. 1001 and west of U.S. 15/501 in Scotland County.
- All of Sandhills Game Land in Moore County is located within the Sandhill Township (See Moore County “local laws” for rifle caliber restrictions and additional restrictions.)

**Sandy Creek Game Land –** Franklin and Nash Counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.
- Dogs may not be used for hunting deer.

**Sandy Mush Game Land –** Buncombe and Madison County
- Three-day-per-week area.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 13 (introductory season).
- Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 – Aug. 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from Sept. 1 – May 15. This rule includes all equine species.
- Dogs may only be trained on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays and only during that time period when dog training is allowed on game lands.
- Dove hunting is by permit only for the first six open days of the dove season (See Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)

**Second Creek Game Land –** Rowan County
- Permit-only area. (See Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)

**Shocco Creek Game Land –** Franklin, Halifax, Nash and Warren counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.

**South Mountains Game Land –** Burke, Cleveland, McDowell and Rutherford counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Gun Deer Season: Nov. 24 – Dec. 13 in all portions of the game land.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 13 (introductory season) in all portions of the game land.
- Archery Season: Sept. 8 – 27 and Oct. 13 – Nov. 22 in all portions of the game land.
- Horseback riding is prohibited, except on designated trails May 16 – Aug. 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from Sept. 1 – May 15. This rule includes all equine species.
- That part of South Mountains Game Land in Cleveland, McDowell and Rutherford counties is closed to all grouse, quail and woodcock hunting and all bird dog training.

**Stones Creek Game Land –** Onslow County
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Swimming in all lakes is prohibited.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season Oct. 18 – Jan. 1 (maximum season).
- Waterfowl may be taken only on Tuesdays and Saturdays; on Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year’s and Martin Luther King Jr. days; and on the opening and closing days of the statewide waterfowl season.
- Dogs may be used for hunting deer on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays only.

**Suggs Mill Pond Game Land –** Cumberland and Bladen counties
- Permit-only area (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
- Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 – Feb. 28 and March 31 – May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- During scheduled permit hunts, only hunters and trappers with permits may enter the game land, EXCEPT the public may use Campground Road to access the pond at the dam.

**Sutton Lake Game Land –** Brunswick and New Hanover counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Target shooting is prohibited.
- Discharge of centerfire rifles is prohibited.

**Tar River Game Land –** Edgecombe County
- Permit-only area (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)

**Three Top Mountain Game Land –** Ashe County
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Horseback riding is prohibited. This includes all equine species.

**Thurmond Chatham Game Land –** Alleghany and Wilkes counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 – Aug. 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from Sept. 1 – May 15. This rule includes all equine species. Participants must obtain a game lands license prior to horseback riding on this area.
- The maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at any designated campground is 14 days within any 30-day period from May 1 – Aug. 31. After 14 consecutive days of camping, all personal belongings must be removed from the game land.
Tillery Game Land – Halifax County
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.
- Dogs may not be used for hunting deer.
- Turkey hunting is by permit only. (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)

Toxaway Game Land – Jackson and Transylvania counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 13 (introductory season).
- Horseback riding is prohibited, except on designated trails May 16 – Aug. 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from Sept. 1 – May 15. This rule includes all equine species.

Uwharrie Game Land – Davidson, Montgomery and Randolph counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 15 – Nov. 21 and Dec. 26 – Jan. 1 (moderate season).

Vance Game Land – Vance County
- Six-day-per-week area.
- The use of dogs, centerfire rifles and handguns for hunting deer is prohibited on the Nutbush Peninsula Tract.

Van Swamp Game Land – Beaufort and Washington counties
- Six-day-per-week area.
- Bear may only be taken on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the November Bear Season and Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the second week of the December Bear Season.

Whitehall Plantation Game Land – Bladen County
- Permit-only area (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
- Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 – Feb. 28 and March 31 – May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

White Oak River Game Land – Onslow County
- Three-day-per-week area.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Oct. 18 – Jan. 1 (maximum season).
- Prior to Oct. 1, waterfowl may be taken only on Tuesdays and Saturdays; and on the opening and closing days of the statewide waterfowl hunting seasons on the posted impoundments.
- Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October and through the end of the waterfowl season, waterfowl hunting is by permit only on posted waterfowl impoundments.
- Waterfowl hunting on the Huggins and Morton tracts is by permit only for the entire waterfowl season. (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
- A hunting opportunity permit is needed to access Hargett Avenue and Sloan Farm Road.
- On the Huggins and Morton tracts, dogs may not be used to hunt deer, there is no discharge of centerfire rifles allowed, AND hunting is by permit only. (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)
- Turkey hunting is by permit only. (See the Permit Hunting Opportunities publication to apply.)

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