

Marine Corps Air Station, Cherry Point

Environmental Affairs Dept. Natural Resources Manager,
PSC Box 8003, Marine Corps Air Station,
Cherry Point, NC 28533-0006
Phone 252-466-3593

Cedar Island, Mattamuskeet and Swan Quarter National Wildlife Refuges

85 Mattamuskeet Rd., Swan Quarter, NC 27885
Phone 252-926-4021

Pea Island National Wildlife Refuge

P.O. Box 1969, Manteo, NC 27954
Phone 252-473-1131

Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge

5770 US Hwy 52 North, Wadesboro, NC 28170
Phone 704-694-4424

Pocosin Lakes National Wildlife Refuge

P.O. Box 329, Columbia, NC 27925
Phone 252-796-3004

Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge

P.O. Box 430, Windsor, NC 27983
Phone 252-794-3808

U.S. Forest Service

160 Zillicoa St., Suite A, Asheville, NC 28801
Phone 828-257-4200

Blue Ridge Parkway

Permits and information about special parkway regulations governing access to adjoining game lands may be obtained from: The Superintendent, Blue Ridge Parkway, National Park Service, 199 Hemphill Knob Rd., Asheville, NC 28803. Phone 828-271-4779.

BEAR

BIG GAME

Nonresidents hunting bear must possess a bear hunting license (See page 9).

Restrictions It is unlawful to do any of the following:

- Take a cub (**less than 75 pounds**) or a female bear with cub(s).
- Hunt bear on a designated bear sanctuary. (See the information below on bear sanctuaries.)

Information on the use of dogs to hunt bears and the use of unprocessed foods is on page 47.

BEAR HUNTING SEASONS

Daily limit 1; Season limit 1

WESTERN BEAR SEASON

Oct. 17 – Nov. 19
Dec. 12, 2016 – Jan. 2, 2017. In and west of Surry, Wilkes, Caldwell, Burke, Cleveland.

Note: Further game land restrictions may apply. See the Game Lands section for specific game land rules.

PIEDMONT BEAR SEASONS

Nov. 12, 2016 – Jan. 2, 2017

In the following counties:

Alamance	Granville	Person
Anson	Guilford	Randolph
Cabarrus	Lee	Rockingham
Caswell	Mecklenburg	Rowan
Chatham	Montgomery	Stanly
Davidson	Orange	Union
Durham		

Oct. 15, 2016 – Jan. 2, 2017

In the following counties:

Franklin	Moore	Vance
Harnett	Richmond	Wake
Johnston	Scotland	Warren
Hoke		

Nov. 19, 2016 - Jan. 2, 2017

In the following counties:

Alexander	Forsyth	Lincoln
Catawba	Gaston	Stokes
Davie	Iredell	Yadkin

EASTERN BEAR SEASONS

Nov. 14, 2016 – Jan. 2, 2017

In the following counties:

Bladen	New Hanover
Brunswick	Onslow
Carteret	Pamlico (use of dogs for hunting bear is prohibited here.)
Columbus	Pender
Cumberland	Sampson
Duplin	

Dec. 5 – 24, 2016

In the following counties:

Robeson

Nov. 14 – 19, 2016 and Dec. 12 – 24, 2016

In the following counties:

Beaufort	Halifax	Pasquotank*
Camden*	Hyde	Pitt
Chowan*	Jones	Tyrrell
Craven	Lenoir	Washington
Dare	Martin	Wayne
Edgecombe	Nash	Wilson
Greene	Northampton	

**Per local law, bear season opens Nov. 11 in these counties.*

Nov. 12 – 19, 2016 and Dec. 12 – 24, 2016

Bertie	Gates	Perquimans
Currituck	Hertford	

Bear Sanctuaries Bear may not be taken in those parts of counties included in the following sanctuaries:

Sanctuary	Applicable County or Counties
Bachelor Bay Bear Sanctuary	Bertie, Martin and Washington
Bombing Range Bear Sanctuary (except by permit only)	Dare
Daniel Boone Bear Sanctuary (except by permit only)	Avery, Burke and Caldwell
Columbus County Bear Sanctuary	Columbus
Croatan Bear Sanctuary	Carteret, Craven and Jones
Fires Creek Bear Sanctuary	Clay
Flat Top Bear Sanctuary	Mitchell and Yancey
Green Swamp Bear Sanctuary	Brunswick
Gull Rock Bear Sanctuary	Hyde
Harmon Den Bear Sanctuary	Haywood
Panther town-Bonas Defeat Bear Sanctuary	Jackson
Mt. Mitchell Bear Sanctuary (except by permit only)	McDowell and Yancey
North River Bear Sanctuary	Camden and Currituck
Pisgah Bear Sanctuary	Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Transylvania
Pungo River Bear Sanctuary	Hyde
Rich Mountain Bear Sanctuary	Madison
Sherwood Bear Sanctuary	Haywood
Standing Indian Bear Sanctuary	Macon
Suggs Mill Pond Bear Sanctuary	Bladen
Thurmond Chatham Bear Sanctuary	Wilkes
Wayah Bear Sanctuary	Macon

The following additional restrictions apply to bear sanctuaries:

- It is unlawful to take feral swine on bear sanctuaries except during the deer archery season, deer blackpowder season, deer gun season and any small game season using only weapons and manner of take prescribed for that hunting season.

- Dogs may not be used to take feral swine.
- Dogs may not be used to pursue bear.
- 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 until the Monday on or nearest Oct. 15.

DEER

YOUTH DEER HUNTING DAY

September 24, 2016

On this day, youth under the age of 16 may use any legal weapon to hunt deer of either sex. See page 42 for description of legal weapons. Hunters age 16 and older may only use the weapon legal for the type of season open in their county on this day. All hunters must wear hunter orange on this day, even if the hunter is using archery equipment.

EASTERN DEER SEASON

Archery: Sept. 10 – Sept. 30, 2016
 Blackpowder: Oct. 1 – Oct. 14, 2016
 Gun: Oct. 15, 2016 – Jan. 2, 2017

CENTRAL DEER SEASON

Archery: Sept. 10 – Oct. 28, 2016
 Blackpowder: Oct. 29 – Nov. 11, 2016
 Gun: Nov. 12, 2016 – Jan. 2, 2017

NORTHWESTERN DEER SEASON

Archery: Sept. 10 – Nov. 4, 2016
 Blackpowder: Nov. 5 – Nov. 18, 2016
 Gun: Nov. 19, 2016 – Jan. 2, 2017

WESTERN DEER SEASON

Archery: Sept. 10 – Oct. 2 and Oct. 16 – Nov. 20, 2016
 Blackpowder: Oct. 3 – Oct. 15, 2016
 Gun: Nov. 21 – Dec. 10, 2016 (except in Cleveland, Rutherford and Polk counties where the gun season is extended to Jan. 2)

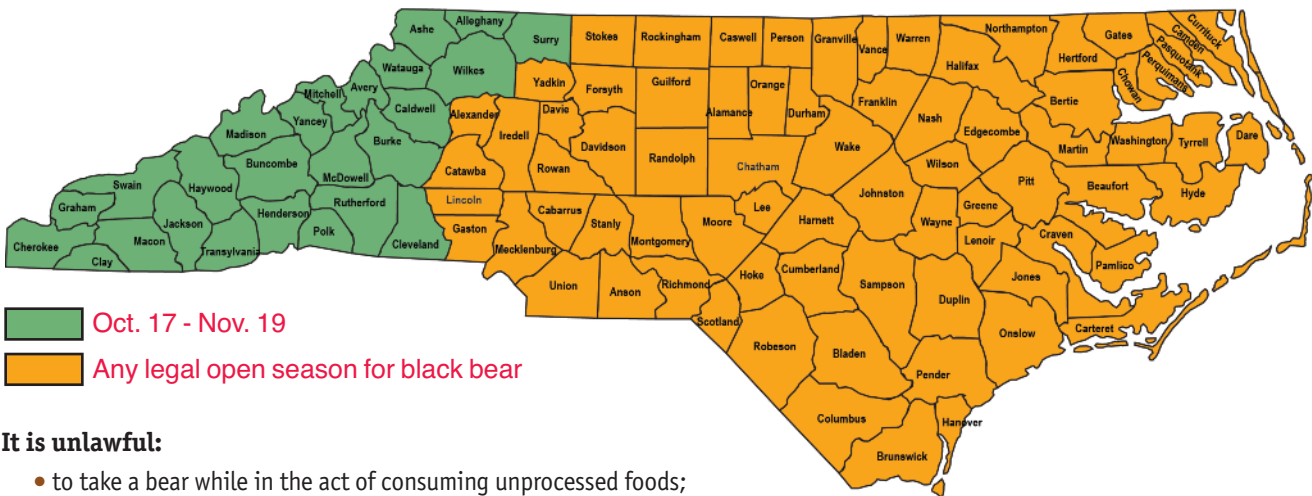
(continued on page 56)

Restrictions on Hunting Bear with Dogs and Using Unprocessed Foods

DOGS. Hunting bears with dogs is prohibited in the following counties or parts of counties: Alamance south of Interstate 85, Anson west of N.C. Hwy 742, Cabarrus, Chatham, Davie, Davidson, Forsyth, Gaston, Guilford, Lee, Lincoln, Mecklenburg, Montgomery, Orange south of Interstate 85, Pamlico (per local law), Randolph, Rockingham, Rowan, Stanly, Union, and Wake south of N.C. Hwy 98. In all other counties, hunting bears with the use of dogs is legal during open bear seasons, but restrictions may apply on game lands. See Game Land Section for further information.

UNPROCESSED FOODS. Legal during the Monday on or nearest October 15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving* in and west of Surry, Wilkes, Caldwell, Burke and Cleveland counties. In all other counties, unprocessed foods may be used to aid in taking of bear during any open season for bear.

** The prohibition against taking bears with the use and aid of bait does not apply to the release of dogs in the vicinity of any food source that is not a processed food product. However, dogs may not be released in the vicinity of any commercially available mineral supplement whether placed for the purpose of attracting deer or otherwise.*

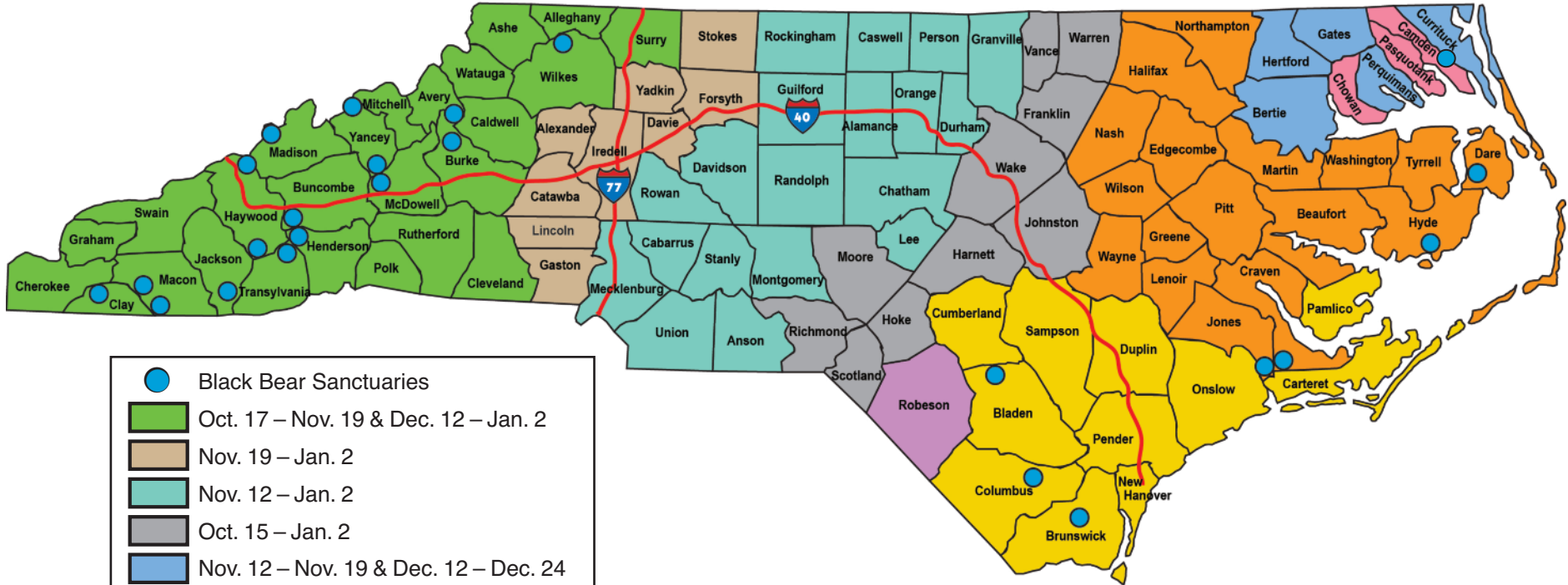


Oct. 17 - Nov. 19
 Any legal open season for black bear

It is unlawful:

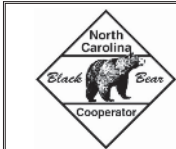
- to take a bear while in the act of consuming unprocessed foods;
- to place processed food products as bait in any area of the state with an established season for taking black bears. Processed food products are any food substance or flavoring that has been modified by the addition of ingredients or by treatment to modify its chemical composition or form or to enhance its aroma or taste. This includes: food products enhanced by sugar, honey, syrups, oils, salts, spices, peanut butter, grease, meat, bones, or blood; candies, pastries, gum, and sugar blocks; and extracts of such products;
- to use any bear bait attractant, including scented sprays, aerosols, scent balls, and scent powders; and
- to place any sort of processed or unprocessed foods on game lands.

2016 – 2017 BEAR SEASON



	Black Bear Sanctuaries
	Oct. 17 – Nov. 19 & Dec. 12 – Jan. 2
	Nov. 19 – Jan. 2
	Nov. 12 – Jan. 2
	Oct. 15 – Jan. 2
	Nov. 12 – Nov. 19 & Dec. 12 – Dec. 24
	Nov. 14 – Nov. 19 & Dec. 12 – Dec. 24
	Nov. 14 – Jan. 2
	Dec. 5 – 24
	Nov. 11 – Nov. 19 & Dec. 12 – Dec. 24

Please note: For the convenience of the reader, major regulation changes appear in RED.



Bear Hunters: Become a Bear Cooperator and receive a free, blaze orange hunting hat by submitting the premolars from your bear. Call 919-707-0050 for more information.