



Media contact: [Fairley Mahlum](#)
919-707-0180

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wildlife Commission Adopts Modified Rules for 2018-2019 Seasons

RALEIGH, N.C. (March 1, 2018) —The N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission voted yesterday to adopt rules related to wildlife, fisheries, and game lands management for the 2018-19 seasons. The effective date for these changes is Aug. 1, 2018.

Throughout the public hearing process, the Commission received passionate, well-articulated concerns from constituents regarding the cultural and traditional impacts of proposed deer season changes. Commissioners carefully weighed those comments along with biological information and decided to only adopt the following:

- Implement a statewide bag limit of two antlered and four antlerless deer.
 - Bonus Antlerless Deer Harvest Report Card are restricted to the Urban Archery Season only.
 - Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) participants would retain harvest flexibility.
- Shift either-sex days to the beginning of the Introductory, Conservative, and Moderate Gun Either-Sex Seasons.
- Move Polk, Rutherford and Cleveland Counties to the Northwestern Deer Season, and retain the Moderate Gun Either-Sex Season.

The Commission adopted rules to align bear hunting seasons in the Coastal Bear Management Unit (CBMU) with the five bear hunting zones with one modification, moving Pamlico County into Zone 5 of the CBMU. Additionally, the Commission disapproved the proposal to add two weeks to bear hunting season in the Mountain Bear Management Unit.

The table of upcoming season dates, approved by the Commission, may be found on the agency's [website](#).

About the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission

Since 1947, the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission has been dedicated to the conservation and sustainability of the state's fish and wildlife resources through research, scientific management, wise use, and public input. The Commission is the state regulatory agency responsible for the enforcement of fishing, hunting, trapping and boating laws and provides programs and opportunities for wildlife-related educational, recreational and sporting activities. To learn more, visit www.ncwildlife.org.

Get **N.C. Wildlife Update** — news including season dates, bag limits, legislative updates and more — delivered free to your Inbox from the N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission. Go to www.ncwildlife.org/enews.