



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

**Rule Amendments:** 15A NCAC 10A .1102 Emergency Closures and Waivers  
15A NCAC 10D .0102 General Regulations Regarding Use  
15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands  
15A NCAC 10J .0103 Hunting on Wildlife Conservation Areas

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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.<sup>1</sup> 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, 15 NCAC 10A .1102, and 15A NCAC 10J .0103 with the proposed text included in Appendix A, B, C, and D.

### **15 NCAC 10A .1102 EMERGENCY CLOSURES AND WAIVERS (Appendix A)**

This proposed rule amendment will codify the Commission's authority to manage public access and use of Commission property and/or waive any non-statutorily required rules in Chapter 10 to protect public health, public safety, or wildlife resources. The Commission is authorized by G.S. 113-264 to regulate, prohibit or restrict public use of property by rule. 15A NCAC 10E .0103 has been used in the past to temporarily restrict access to specific Commission infrastructure as needed. However, as a result of COVID-19, it became necessary for the Commission to limit access to a variety of other properties (buildings, BAAs, PFAs and game land areas) for public health concerns, not because they could not meet their intended use (as is the case with hurricane damage, flooding, etc.). Additionally, as a result of COVID-19, the Commission found that it may be useful under certain circumstances, to have the ability to temporarily waive requirements of rule. While this flexibility was not available to the Commission during this particular emergency, the Commission would like to have the flexibility to exercise this ability in the future should it be needed in order to protect public health, safety, or wildlife resources.

#### Fiscal Impact

##### *State Impact*

This rule has no state government impact.

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<sup>1</sup> 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.

*Local Impact*

This rule has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

This rule has no private impact.

**15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE (Appendix B)**

- A. This proposed amendment clarifies that other wild animals authorized to be taken by trapping during the regulated trapping season (15A NCAC 10B .0303) or in a county authorizing fox trapping can also be taken on game lands by trapping. It establishes a closed trapping season on game lands from April 1 through October 31. Fur-bearing animals and coyotes, armadillos, and groundhogs can be trapped on private lands during the regulated trapping season. Foxes can be trapped on private lands in counties with session laws authorizing a fox trapping season (56 of 100 counties). While 10D .0102 does allow the trapping of fur-bearing animals on game lands, this rule has not been updated. The proposed amendment will clarify that trapping of foxes, coyotes, armadillos, and groundhogs is allowed on game lands.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

This amendment has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

This amendment has no private impact.

- B. This proposal clarifies that licensed trappers can use bait on game lands while trapping. Upon review of both 15 NCAC 10D .0102 and 15 NCAC 10D .0103 by Commission staff from the WMD, LAWA, and Wildlife Enforcement, it was determined that the rule regarding placement of foods on game lands needed to be clarified to reduce regulatory complexity. Currently, the Commission's regulations digest gives the impression that trappers can use bait and the use of bait by trappers on game lands is a common practice. The amended rule will clarify that trappers can use foods (e.g., bait), but with restrictions to prevent conflicts with other user groups and reduce capture of non-target species, such as birds of prey.

To reduce regulatory complexity, this section was moved to Rule 10D .0102 - General regulations regarding use. Additionally, LAWA staff identified an edit to identify an area on Sandhills Game Land by name and to remove reference to the trapping permit system on Roanoke River Wetland. Removing this reference also further clarifies that trappers may use foods on all game lands, except those that are restricted in 10D .0103(g)(3).

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The agency could see an increase in the number of trapping licenses sold due to this clarification. The current cost of an annual resident trapping license is \$32. A non-resident annual trapping license costs \$133. The Commission has no way to anticipate how many additional licenses might be sold and thus has no means to accurately quantify this potential increase.

#### *Local Impact*

Increases in sales tax revenue and expenditures on fuel and supplies needed to engage in trapping could be seen by local governments and businesses, but the Commission has no data to accurately quantify this benefit.

#### *Private Impact*

Trappers could see more days afield due to this clarification.

## **15A NCAC 10D .0103 HUNTING ON GAME LANDS (Appendix C)**

The proposed changes to this rule cover multiple general topic areas, including: game lands, horse-back riding, waterfowl, deer, and bear.

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

### ***Horse-back Riding***

- A. These proposals clarify when equestrian riding will be permitted and not on the R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell, Jordan, and Pee Dee River Game Lands. Proposed amendments will also allow equestrian riding on gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use at the Pee Dee River Game Land and clarify that a Game Land License is not needed to ride horses on the American Tobacco Trail at Jordan Game Land.

### Fiscal Impact

#### *State Impact*

The state could see a minor reduction in the sale of game land license (\$16 per license per year) sold if those individuals only riding on the American Tobacco Trail purchased a game land license in the past when they did not need to. The data do not exist to quantify this reduction.

#### *Local Impact*

Rule clarity and additional opportunities on the Pee Dee River Game Land may invite a small number of new users.

*Private Impact*

The decreased complexity of the rules and potential for additional opportunities at Pee Dee River Game Land, may cause new horseback riders to these areas.

- B. Clarify the times when equestrian riding will be permitted and not on Sandhills Game Land and restrict riders to open roads or those gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

Rule clarity may create an opportunity for a small number of new users.

*Private Impact*

The decreased complexity of the rules could cause an increase in the number of users. However, current and new users may decide to travel to a different area to horseback ride if being restricted to gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use is unappealing.

- C. Prohibit horseback riding, including all equine species, on William H Silvers Game Land. A great deal of the habitat management on this game land is focused on habitat improvements for elk. These habitat improvements are conducted on old logging trails and woods roads on the game lands due to the lack of flat ground that can be used for wildlife openings. The roads and trails are converted to linear wildlife openings that benefit elk and other wildlife. The Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation has made significant financial contributions to assist in the creation of these linear wildlife openings. Recently, groups of horseback riders have been riding on linear wildlife openings on the game land. As a result, the vegetation planted for wildlife in the linear openings is getting damaged and/or destroyed. The damaged/destroyed vegetation also creates the threat for erosion problems.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

This amendment has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

Approximately 12 horseback riders are currently using the area. The proposed rule change will be a lost opportunity for these riders. Additionally, though minor, these riders may incur an additional cost (time and gas) to travel an extra 20-30 miles to an alternative riding location on public land.

***Deer***

- A. This proposal would change Perkins Game Land from an Introductory Either-Sex Gun Season to a Conservative Either-Sex Gun Season. If approved, it would add 5 days to legally harvest does on Perkins Game Land during the general firearms season.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

Increasing the time which either-sex deer hunting is allowed on the Perkins Game Land may 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 either-sex deer hunting on the Perkins Game Land will enhance opportunities for deer hunters to enjoy the game land. The overall fiscal impact should be positive since the value of hunting is estimated at \$63 per person per day.

- B. This proposal would correct the NCAC text to reflect the correct primitive weapons seasons for deer on Nicholson Creek Game Land.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

This amendment has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

This amendment has no private impact.

***Bear***

This proposal will reduce regulatory confusion by amending rule language that establishes the December segment of the bear season for several game lands to improve intent and clarity. The current rule language establishing the December segment of the bear hunting season for five game lands is unclear and confusing. The proposed language would not change the bear season for these game lands.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

This amendment has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

This amendment has no private impact.

***Waterfowl***

This proposal amends the Stones Creek Game Land rule to remove references to impoundments on the game land where they do not exist. Amended text will eliminate confusion about game land facilities.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This amendment has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

This amendment has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

This amendment has no private impact.

***Game Lands***

- A. This proposed change would remove the Laurinburg Fox Trial facility from rule text. The commission no longer owns the facility.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This proposal has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

This proposal has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

This proposal has no private impact.

- B. This proposal will redefine the description of a Temporary Restricted Zone. Redefining the Temporary Restricted Zone description is needed to align this definition with the proposed

Emergency Closure and Waiver rule. The Temporary Restricted Zone and the Emergency Closure and Waiver rule provide the Commission with the authority to restrict public access to Commission-managed property where public safety, health, or wellbeing is at risk. This proposal will provide continuity between the two rules and ensure that the Commission can continue to provide safe environments for users of Commission-managed property.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This proposal has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

This proposal has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

This proposal has no private impact.

- C. This proposed change is to codify the game lands designated in the disabled access program. They are currently only identified in the regulation digest and map book.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This proposal has no state government impact.

*Local Impact*

This proposal has no local government impact.

*Private Impact*

This proposal has no private impact.

- D. This proposal will remove the Brunswick County Game Land from the NCAC. The private landowner removed this Game Land from the Game Land Program in 2017.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

Because this game land is removed from the program, the state may realize minimal cost savings associated with game land management for this property.

*Local Impact*

Because this game land is no longer in the program, users may not travel to this area as much. However, the Commission has no way to estimate or quantify this potential loss.

*Private Impact*

Removal of this game land from the program will be a lost opportunity for wildlife-associated recreation for users. The Commission has no way to quantify this loss.

***Pursuing or Chasing Deer and Bear***

This regulation will prohibit the pursuing or chasing of deer and bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting on the Beaufort County portion of Goose Creek Game Land north of NC 33. Hunter conflicts with adjacent landowners, surrounding hunter interests and other user groups necessitates a change in hunting methods on the game land tracts.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

This proposed amendment will have no impacts on state government.

*Local Impact*

Decreasing the opportunities to partake in hunting deer and bear with dogs on this game land may 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 that opportunity. It will also deny that opportunity 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.

**15A NCAC 10J .0103 HUNTING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS (Appendix D)**

This proposal will remove text indicating specific conservation areas are listed having additional hunting restrictions. Clarify text that no specific designations are listed for additional restrictions to apply.

Fiscal Impact

*State Impact*

No Impact

*Local Impact*

No Impact

*Private Impact*  
No Impact

APPENDIX A

1 **15 NCAC 10A .1102 EMERGENCY CLOSURES AND WAIVERS**

2 (a) The Commission may prohibit or restrict public access to and use of Wildlife Resources Commission property if  
3 the Commission finds that the closure is necessary to protect public health, public safety, or wildlife resources.  
4 Closures exercised under this Paragraph shall only be exercised for the duration of the threat.

5 (b) The Commission may waive any rule in this Chapter or portion thereof, that is not statutorily required, upon  
6 declaration of a national emergency, disaster, or state of emergency, by a federal, state, or local governmental authority  
7 impacting North Carolina. Waivers exercised under this Paragraph shall only be exercised for the duration of the  
8 declaration.

9 (c) The Commission may delegate emergency closure and waiver authority to the Executive Director.

10 (d) The following factors shall be considered in determining whether to restrict or prohibit public access or use, or  
11 waive requirements of rule:

- 12 (1) need for the closure or waiver;
- 13 (2) degree of benefit to the public, if applicable;
- 14 (3) degree of benefit to the resource, if applicable;
- 15 (4) degree of disruption to the Commission; and
- 16 (5) cost to the Commission.

17 (e) All closures and waivers shall be posted on the Commission website at [www.newwildlife.org](http://www.newwildlife.org).

18 (f) It is unlawful to use, enter, or remain on Wildlife Resources Commission Property that is closed pursuant to this  
19 Rule.

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### 15A NCAC 10D .0102 GENERAL REGULATIONS REGARDING USE (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)

(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~~ may be declared a Temporary Restricted Zone when there is a danger to the health or welfare of the public. ~~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 all  
7 use by the general public during the dates specified on the sign, and entry upon such an area for any  
8 purpose is prohibited without first obtaining written approval of such entry or use from an authorized  
9 agent of the Wildlife Resources Commission by calling 919-707-0150 and requesting a permit.

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 restricted deer hunting, day use only, or sensitive habitat.  
12 After the input meeting, the public comments shall be presented at an official Commission meeting for final  
13 determination.

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

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

19 (1) any weapon within 150 yards of any game land building or designated game land camping area,  
20 except where posted otherwise;

21 (2) any weapon within 150 yards of any residence located on or adjacent to game lands, except on  
22 Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan game lands; and

23 (3) any firearm within 150 yards of any residence located on or adjacent to Butner-Falls of Neuse and  
24 Jordan Game Lands.

25 No person shall hunt with or have in possession any shotgun shell containing lead or toxic shot while hunting on any  
26 posted waterfowl impoundment on any game land, except shotgun shells containing lead buckshot may be used while  
27 deer hunting. Every individual carrying a concealed handgun shall adhere to the requirements set forth in G.S. 14-  
28 415.11, even if the state issuing the concealed handgun permit is not North Carolina. On Butner-Falls of Neuse, Jordan,  
29 Kerr Scott, and Vance game lands, no person shall possess loaded firearms, ammunition, bows and arrows, crossbows,  
30 or other weapons except as provided in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 36, Chapter III, Part 327.13, which is  
31 incorporated by reference, including subsequent amendments and editions, free of charge, at:

32 [http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=75b0c14fb2c26906cf64a267eb69b052&mc=true&node=se36.3.327\\_](http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=75b0c14fb2c26906cf64a267eb69b052&mc=true&node=se36.3.327_)  
33 [113&rgn=div8](http://www.ecfr.gov/cgi-bin/text-idx?SID=75b0c14fb2c26906cf64a267eb69b052&mc=true&node=se36.3.327_113&rgn=div8). On Buckhorn, Chatham, Harris, Hyco, Lee, Mayo, and Sutton Lake game lands; Pee Dee River Game  
34 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  
35 east of N.C. 119, no person shall possess a firearm during closed hunting seasons or closed hunting days for game  
36 birds or game animals, except under the following conditions:

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- 1 (1) the firearm is a .22 caliber pistol with a barrel not greater than seven and one-half inches in length  
2 and shooting only short, long, or long rifle ammunition carried as a side arm;
- 3 (2) the firearm is cased or not immediately available for use;
- 4 (3) the firearm is used by persons participating in field trials on field trial areas; or
- 5 (4) the firearm is possessed in designated camping areas for defense of persons and property.

### 6 (e) Game Lands License: Hunting and Trapping

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

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

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

19 (g) Trapping. Subject to the restrictions contained in 15A NCAC 10B .0110, .0302, and .0303, trapping of furbearing  
20 ~~animals~~ animals, armadillos, coyotes, and groundhogs is permitted on game lands during the applicable open trapping  
21 ~~seasons,~~ seasons established by rule. Foxes can be trapped on game lands from November 1 through the end of  
22 February in any county with an open fox trapping season that falls between November 1 and the end of February.  
23 Foxes may not be taken by trapping on game lands in counties with a closed fox trapping season or during any fox  
24 trapping season that occurs outside the dates of November 1 through the end of February. Additionally, fox trapping  
25 is allowed on game lands in Clay, Graham, Henderson, Macon, and Tyrrell counties with a daily bag limit of two and  
26 a season bag limit of 10 from the first to the fourth Saturday in January. ~~except that trapping~~ Trapping is prohibited:

- 27 (1) on the ~~field trial course~~ J Robert Gordon Field Trial Area of the Sandhills Game Land;
- 28 (2) in posted "safety zones" located on any game land;
- 29 (3) by the use of bait on the National Forest Lands bounded by the Blue Ridge Parkway on the south,  
30 US 276 on the north and east, and NC 215 on the west;
- 31 (4) on the John's River Waterfowl Refuge in ~~Burke County;~~ and County;
- 32 (5) on the DuPont State Forest Game ~~Lands;~~ Lands; and
- 33 (6) from April 1 through October 31.

34 ~~On those areas of State-owned land known collectively as the Roanoke River Wetlands, controlled trapping is allowed~~  
35 ~~under a permit system.~~ At each trap, trappers may use a single bait site of grain, fruit, or other foods when trapping if  
36 the food is less than 3 cubic inches and is completely covered to prevent it from being seen from above. Feathers,

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1 including those with attached skin or entire bird wings, hair with or without skin or hide, and bones that include no  
2 attached meat, organs, or viscera are not considered other foods and are excluded from this requirement.

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

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

10 (i) Camping.

- 11 (1) No person shall camp on any game land except on an area designated by the landowner for camping.
- 12 (2) On game lands owned by the State of North Carolina, where the North Carolina Wildlife Resources  
13 Commission is the primary custodian, the maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at  
14 any designated camping area is 14 days within any 30-day period from May 1 through August 31.  
15 After 14 consecutive days of camping, all personal belongings shall be removed from the game land.

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

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

- 22 (1) missing 50 percent or more of one or more limbs, whether by amputation or natural causes;
- 23 (2) paralysis of one or more limbs;
- 24 (3) dysfunction of one or more limbs rendering the person unable to perform the task of grasping and  
25 lifting with the hands and arms or unable to walk without mechanical assistance, other than a cane;
- 26 (4) disease, injury, or defect confining the person to a wheelchair, walker, or crutches; or
- 27 (5) deafness.

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

- 30 (1) on ungated or open-gated roads normally closed to vehicular traffic; and
- 31 (2) on any Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular  
32 travel.

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

## APPENDIX B

- 1 (l) Release of Animals and Fish. It is unlawful to release pen-raised animals or birds, wild animals or birds,  
2 domesticated animals, except hunting dogs and raptors where otherwise permitted for hunting or training purposes, or  
3 feral animals, or hatchery-raised fish on game lands without prior written authorization. It is unlawful to move wild  
4 fish from one stream to another on game lands without prior written authorization. Written authorization shall be given  
5 when release of such animals is determined by a Wildlife Resources Commission biologist not to be harmful to native  
6 wildlife in the area and such releases are in the public interest or advance the programs and goals of the Wildlife  
7 Resources Commission.
- 8 (m) Non-Highway Licensed Vehicles. It is unlawful to operate motorized land vehicles not licensed for highway use  
9 on Game Lands except for designated areas on National Forests. Disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (k) of this  
10 Rule and people who have obtained a Disabled Access Program permit are exempt from the previous sentence but  
11 shall comply with the terms of their permit. Furthermore, disabled persons, as defined under the federal Americans  
12 with Disabilities Act (42 U.S.C. 126) may use wheelchairs or other mobility devices designed for indoor pedestrian  
13 use on any area where foot travel is allowed.
- 14 (n) Disabled Access Program. Permits issued under this program shall be based upon medical evidence submitted by  
15 the person verifying that a handicap exists that limits physical mobility to the extent that normal utilization of the  
16 game lands is not possible without vehicular assistance. Persons meeting this requirement may operate electric wheel  
17 chairs, all terrain vehicles, and other passenger vehicles on any Commission-maintained road open for vehicular travel  
18 and those trails posted for vehicular travel and ungated or open-gated roads otherwise closed to vehicular traffic on  
19 game lands owned by the Wildlife Resources Commission and on game lands whose owners have agreed to such use.  
20 Those game lands, or parts thereof, where this Paragraph applies are designated in the game land rules section of the  
21 regulations digest and map book. This Paragraph does not permit vehicular access on fields, openings, roads, paths,  
22 or trails planted for wildlife food or cover. One companion, who is identified by a companion card issued to each  
23 qualified disabled person, may accompany a disabled person to provide assistance, provided the companion is at all  
24 times in visual or verbal contact with the disabled person. The companion may participate in all lawful activities while  
25 assisting a disabled person, provided license requirements are met. Any vehicle used by a qualified disabled person  
26 for access to game lands under this provision shall display the vehicular access permit issued by the Wildlife Resources  
27 Commission in the passenger area of the vehicle where it can easily be seen by Commission staff outside the vehicle.  
28 It is unlawful for anyone other than disabled persons as defined in Paragraph (k) of this Rule and those holding a  
29 Disabled Access Permit to hunt, during waterfowl season, within 100 yards of a waterfowl blind designated by the  
30 Wildlife Resources Commission as a Disabled Sportsman's hunting blind.
- 31 (o) Public nudity. Public nudity, including nude sunbathing, is prohibited on any Game Land, including land or water.  
32 For the purposes of this Section, "public nudity" means a person's intentional failure to cover with a fully opaque  
33 covering the person's genitals, pubic area, anal area, or female breasts below a point from the top of the areola while  
34 in a public place.
- 35 (p) Shooting Ranges. On public shooting ranges managed by the Commission, no person shall use designated shooting  
36 ranges for any purpose other than for firearm or bow and arrow marksmanship, development of shooting skills, or for  
37 other safe uses of firearms and archery equipment. All other uses, including camping, building fires, operating

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1 concessions or other activities not directly involved with recreational or competitive shooting are prohibited, except  
2 for activities that have been approved by the Commission and for which a permit has been issued may be conducted,  
3 provided that the permit authorizing such activity is available for inspection by wildlife enforcement officers at the  
4 time the activity is taking place. No person, when using any shooting range, shall deposit any debris or refuse on the  
5 grounds of the range. This includes any items used as targets, except that clay targets broken on the range, by the  
6 shooter, may be left on the grounds where they fall. No person shall shoot any items made of glass on the grounds of  
7 the range. No person may leave any vehicle or other obstruction in such a location or position that it will prevent,  
8 impede, or inconvenience the use by other persons of any shooting range. No person shall leave parked any vehicle  
9 or other object at any place on the shooting range other than such a place or zone as is designated as an authorized  
10 parking zone and posted or marked as such. No person shall handle any firearms or bow and arrow on a shooting  
11 range in a careless or reckless manner. No person shall intentionally shoot into any target holder, post, or other  
12 permanent fixture or structure while using a shooting range. No person shall shoot a firearm in a manner that would  
13 cause any rifled or smoothbore projectiles to travel off of the range, except that shotgun shot, size No. 4 or smaller  
14 may be allowed to travel from the range if it presents no risk of harm or injury to any person(s). Persons using a  
15 shooting range shall obey posted range safety rules and those persons who violate range safety rules or create a public  
16 safety hazard shall leave the shooting range if directed to by law enforcement officers or to leave by Commission  
17 employees. No person shall handle any firearms on a shooting range while under the influence of an impairing  
18 substance. The consumption of alcohol or alcoholic beverages on a shooting range is prohibited. Open days and hours  
19 of operation shall be designated on signs and at least one such sign shall be posted at the entrance to each shooting  
20 range. No person, when using any shooting range, shall do any act that is prohibited or neglect to do any act that is  
21 required by signs or markings placed on such area under authority of this Rule for the purpose of regulating the use  
22 of the area.

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

26 (r) No person shall attempt to obscure the sex or age of any bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other  
27 part thereof, or possess any bird or animal that has been so mutilated.

28 (s) Baiting. Except as provided in section (g) of this Rule, no person shall place, or cause to be placed on any game  
29 land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without prior written authorization from an agent of the Commission. Written  
30 authorization may be provided for Commission authorized projects or Commission contractors to meet specific  
31 objectives. Except as authorized by rule, no person shall take or attempt to take any wild birds or wild animals attracted  
32 to such foods.

## APPENDIX C

### 1 **15A NCAC 10D .0103 HUNTING ON GAME LANDS (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

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, youths may hunt on managed waterfowl impoundments from ½ hour before  
20 sunrise to sunset. On designated veterans and military waterfowl days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and  
21 members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty  
22 other than for training, with valid credentials may hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-  
23 only areas from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset. Restrictions (1), (3), and (5) in this Paragraph shall apply. On  
24 waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone," trapping during the trapping season and waterfowl  
25 hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the only activities allowed on the portion of the impoundment  
26 outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone." ~~No person shall attempt to obscure the sex or age of any bird or animal  
27 taken by severing the head or any other part thereof, or possess any bird or animal that has been so mutilated. No  
28 person shall place, or cause to be placed on any game land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without prior written  
29 authorization of the Commission or its agent. A decision to grant or deny authorization shall be made based on the  
30 best management practices for the wildlife species in question. No person shall take or attempt to take any game birds  
31 or game animals attracted to such foods.~~

32 (e) Definitions:

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

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Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Days, except for game lands in this Rule that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays. Falconry may also be practiced on Sundays. These "open days" also apply to either-sex deer hunting seasons listed under each game land. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, until 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight on Saturdays.

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

(4) For purposes of this Section, "Seven Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which game may be taken during the open season on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays, Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. On Sundays, the following shall be prohibited:

(A) hunting between 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM;

(B) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;

(C) hunting within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b), or any accessory structure thereof.

(5) For purposes of this Section, "Four Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which game may be taken during the open season on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. On Sundays, the following shall be prohibited:

(A) hunting between 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM;

(B) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;

(C) hunting within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b), or any accessory structure thereof.

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

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

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

(A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

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

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

(2) Alligator River Game Land in Tyrrell County

(A) ~~Six~~ Seven Day per Week Area

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

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- 1 (C) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of three hunting days  
2 during the November Bear Season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday first  
3 three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season.
- 4 (3) Angola Bay Game Land in Duplin and Pender counties
- 5 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 9 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 10 (4) Bachelor Bay Game Land in Bertie, Martin, and Washington counties
- 11 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 15 (5) Bertie County Game Land in Bertie County
- 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) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 20 (6) Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County
- 21 (A) Three 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) Except for blackpowder firearms, rifles larger than .22 caliber rimfire shall not be used.
- 25 (D) On the Singletary Lake Tract, the use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited.
- 26 (E) Wild turkey hunting on the Singletary Lake Tract is by permit only.
- 27 (F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March  
28 31through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 29 (G) The use of dogs for pursuing or taking foxes shall be prohibited from February 15 through  
30 August 1.
- 31 (7) Brinkleyville Game Land in Halifax County
- 32 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 33 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
34 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 35 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 36 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 37 ~~(8) Brunswick County Game Land in Brunswick County~~

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- 1                   (A) ~~Hunting is by permit only.~~
- 2                   (B) ~~The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.~~
- 3       (9)(8) Buckhorn Game Land in Orange County
- 4                   (A)     Hunting is by permit only.
- 5                   (B)     Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 6       (10)(9) Buckridge Game Land in Tyrrell County.
- 7                   (A)     Three Days per Week Area
- 8                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 9                                   Antlers Season.
- 10                  (C)     Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~three hunting days during~~
- 11                                   of the November Bear Season and the first three hunting days of the second week second
- 12                                   Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~of the December Bear Season. If any of these days falls~~
- 13                                   ~~on a Tuesday, Friday or Saturday, bear hunting is allowed on those days.~~
- 14                  (D)     Target shooting is prohibited.
- 15       (11)(10) Buffalo Cove Game Land in Caldwell and Wilkes Counties
- 16                  (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 17                  (B)     The Deer With Visible Antlers season for deer consists of the open hunting days from the
- 18                                   Monday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving. Deer of
- 19                                   either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open days beginning the Saturday on
- 20                                   or nearest September 10 to the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on or nearest October
- 21                                   15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. Deer with visible antlers may be taken with
- 22                                   archery equipment the Monday immediately following the closing of the Deer With Visible
- 23                                   Antlers Season, as described in this Part, through January 1. Deer of either sex may be
- 24                                   taken with blackpowder firearms on open days beginning the Monday on or nearest
- 25                                   October 1 through the Saturday of the second week thereafter.
- 26                  (C)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 27                                   Antlers Season.
- 28                  (D)     Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and
- 29                                   all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 30       (12)(11) Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve Game Lands in Robeson County
- 31                  (A)     ~~Three~~ Four 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)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 35       (13)(12) Butner - Falls of Neuse Game Land in Durham, Granville, and Wake 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) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:
- 4 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 5 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 6 (iii) Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 7 On the posted waterfowl impoundments a special permit is required for all waterfowl
- 8 hunting after November 1.
- 9 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 10 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 11 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an archery zone.
- 12 (G) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on that portion west of NC 50 and south of
- 13 Falls Lake.
- 14 (H) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not
- 15 apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the applicable
- 16 seasons for game birds and game animals. On designated bicycle riding areas, the use of
- 17 bicycles is allowed from May 15 through August 31, and on Sundays only from September
- 18 1 through May 14.
- 19 (I) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are
- 20 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 21 (J) Camping is allowed at any time in the designated Mountains-to-Sea Trail Camping Area
- 22 and shall not exceed a maximum stay of two consecutive nights. Campfires are prohibited
- 23 in this camping area.
- 24 ~~(14)~~(13) Buxton Woods Game Land in Dare County:
- 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 first Friday thereafter.
- 28 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 29 ~~(15)~~(14) Cape Fear River Wetlands Game Land in Pender County
- 30 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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) Turkey Hunting is by permit only on that portion known as the Roan Island Tract.
- 34 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on the portion of the game land that is west
- 35 of the Black River, north of Roan Island, east of Lyon Swamp Canal to Canetuck Road,
- 36 and south of NC 210 to the Black River.
- 37 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

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- 1 (F) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 2 ~~(16)~~(15) Carteret County Game Land in Carteret County
- 3 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 4 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 5 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 6 (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 7 (D) Bear hunting on the Salters Creek Tract is by permit only.
- 8 (E) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 9 ~~(17)~~(16) R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land in Caswell County
- 10 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 11 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 12 Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.
- 13 (C) ~~Horseback riding, including all equine species, is allowed seven days per week from~~
- 14 ~~May 16 – August 31, only during June, July, and August, and on Sundays only, September~~
- 15 ~~1 – May 15, during the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons.~~
- 16 Horseback riding is allowed only on roads opened to vehicular traffic and on those gated
- 17 roads and trails that are posted for equestrian use. People age 16 or older horseback riding
- 18 on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license.
- 19 (D) The area encompassed by the following roads is permit-only for all quail and woodcock
- 20 hunting, and all bird dog training: From Yanceyville south on NC 62 to the intersection of
- 21 SR 1746, west on SR 1746 to the intersection of SR 1156, south on SR 1156 to the
- 22 intersection of SR 1783, east on SR 1783 to the intersection of NC 62, north on NC 62 to
- 23 the intersection of SR 1736, east on SR 1736 to the intersection of SR 1730, east on SR
- 24 1730 to NC 86, north on NC 86 to NC 62.
- 25 (E) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl hunting is by permit only after
- 26 November 1.
- 27 (F) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are
- 28 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 29 (G) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Shooting Range.
- 30 ~~(18)~~(17) Chatham Game Land in Chatham County
- 31 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 32 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 33 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 34 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 35 (D) Horseback riding is allowed only during June, July, and August; and on Sundays during
- 36 the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons.
- 37 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

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- 1           ~~(19)~~(18) Chowan Game Land in Chowan County
- 2                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 3                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers
- 4                                 Season.
- 5                   (C)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 6           ~~(20)~~(19) Chowan Swamp Game Land in Bertie, Gates, and Hertford counties.
- 7                   (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 8                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 9                                 Antlers Season.
- 10                  (C)     Bear hunting is restricted to the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~three hunting days~~
- 11                                 ~~during~~ of the November bear season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~first~~
- 12                                 ~~three hunting days during the second week~~ of the December bear season except that portion
- 13                                 of Chowan Swamp Game Land in Gates County that is east of Highway 158/13, south of
- 14                                 Highway 158, west of Highway 32, and north of Catherine Creek and the Chowan River
- 15                                 where the bear season is the same as the season dates for the Gates County bear season.
- 16                  (D)     Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
- 17                                 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 18                  (E)     Horseback riding is prohibited except during May 16 through August 31 and on Sundays
- 19                                 only September 1 through May 15 on those roads that are open to vehicular traffic and on
- 20                                 those gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.
- 21                  (F)     Target shooting is prohibited.
- 22           ~~(21)~~(20) Cold Mountain Game Land in Haywood County
- 23                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 24                   (B)     Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and
- 25                                 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 26                   (C)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 27                                 Antlers Season.
- 28           ~~(22)~~(21) Columbus County Game Land in Columbus County.
- 29                   (A)     ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 30                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 31                                 Antlers Season.
- 32                   (C)     Deer hunting on the Campbell Tract shall be by permit only.
- 33                   (D)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 34           ~~(23)~~(22) Croatan Game Land in Carteret, Craven, and Jones counties
- 35                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven 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) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:
- 2 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 3 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 4 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 5 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl day in October through the end of all waterfowl
- 6 seasons, waterfowl hunting from designated Disabled Sportsmen blinds on the Catfish
- 7 Lake Waterfowl Impoundment is by permit only.
- 8 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only for the first two open days of dove season on posted areas.
- 9 During the rest of dove season, no permit is required to hunt doves.
- 10 (F) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 11 ~~(24)~~(23) Currituck Banks Game Land in Currituck County
- 12 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 13 (B) Permanent waterfowl blinds in Currituck Sound on these game lands shall be hunted by
- 14 permit only from November 1 through the end of all waterfowl seasons.
- 15 (C) Licensed hunting guides may accompany the permitted individual or party provided the
- 16 guides do not use a firearm.
- 17 (D) The boundary of the game land shall extend 5 yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.
- 18 (E) Dogs are allowed only for waterfowl hunting by permitted waterfowl hunters on the day of
- 19 their hunt.
- 20 (F) No screws, nails, or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand
- 21 or blind to a tree.
- 22 (G) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers
- 23 season.
- 24 (H) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 25 ~~(25)~~(24) Dan River Game Land in Rockingham County
- 26 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 27 (B) Deer hunting is by permit only.
- 28 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 29 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on those areas posted for equestrian use. People age
- 30 16 or older horseback riding on this game land must possess a Game Lands license.
- 31 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 32 ~~(26)~~(25) Dare Game Land in Dare and Hyde counties
- 33 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 34 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 35 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 36 (C) No hunting is allowed on posted parts of bombing range.
- 37 (D) The use and training of dogs is prohibited from March 1 through June 30.

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- 1                   (E)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 2           ~~(27)~~(26) Dover Bay Game Land in Craven County
- 3                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 4                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers
- 5                                   season.
- 6           ~~(28)~~(27) DuPont State Forest Game Lands in Henderson and Transylvania counties
- 7                   (A)     Hunting is by permit only.
- 8                   (B)     The training and use of dogs for hunting is prohibited except by special hunt permit holders
- 9                                   during scheduled permit hunts.
- 10           ~~(29)~~(28) Elk Knob Game Land in Watauga County
- 11                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven 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 first Friday thereafter.
- 14           ~~(30)~~(29) Embro Game Land in Halifax and Warren counties
- 15                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 16                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 17                                   Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 18                   (C)     Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 19                   (D)     Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 20           ~~(31)~~(30) Goose Creek Game Land in Beaufort and Pamlico counties
- 21                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven 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)     Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl
- 25                                   impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
- 26                                   (i)     the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 27                                   (ii)    Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 28                                   (iii)   Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 29                   (D)     Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October through the end of all
- 30                                   waterfowl seasons, waterfowl hunting is by permit only on the following waterfowl
- 31                                   impoundments: Pamlico Point, Campbell Creek, Hunting Creek, Spring Creek, Smith
- 32                                   Creek, and Hobucken.
- 33                   (E)     On Pamlico Point and Campbell Creek Waterfowl Impoundments all activities, except
- 34                                   waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days and trapping during the trapping
- 35                                   season, are restricted to the posted Scouting-only Zone during the period November 1
- 36                                   through March 15.

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- 1 (F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
2 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 3 (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Parker Farm Tract is restricted from September 1  
4 through January 1 and April 1 through May 15 to individuals that possess a valid hunting  
5 opportunity permit.
- 6 (H) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
7 prohibited on the Beaufort County portion north of NC-33.
- 8 (I) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 9 ~~(32)~~(31) Green River Game Land in Henderson, and Polk counties
- 10 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 11 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible  
12 Antlers Season.
- 13 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 14 ~~(33)~~(32) Green Swamp Game Land in Brunswick County
- 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 (C) On that portion north of Big Macedonia Road, east of Makatoka Road, south of Little  
19 Macedonia Road, and west of Green Swamp Road, hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 20 (D) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
21 prohibited on that portion of the game land that is north of Big Macedonia Road, east of  
22 Makatoka Road, south of Little Macedonia Road, and west of Green Swamp Road.
- 23 ~~(34)~~(33) Gull Rock Game Land in Hyde County
- 24 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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 on posted waterfowl impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:  
28 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons; and  
29 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
30 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl season.
- 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) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of three hunting days  
34 ~~during~~ the November Bear Season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday first  
35 ~~three hunting days during the second week~~ of the December Bear Season, except for that  
36 portion designated as bear sanctuary.
- 37 ~~(35)~~(34) Harris Game Land in Chatham, Harnett, and Wake counties

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

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- 1 south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, where the use of dogs for deer and bear hunting  
2 is by permit only.
- 3 (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Pender 4 Tract is restricted from September 1 to the  
4 last day of February and April 1 to May 15 to individuals that possess valid hunting  
5 opportunity permits, unless otherwise authorized by the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- 6 (H) Hunters who possess a Disabled Access Permit may operate an All Terrain Vehicle on and  
7 within 100 yards of trails designated for Disabled Sportsman Access.
- 8 (I) Target shooting is prohibited, except on the Holly Shelter Shooting Range.
- 9 (J) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.
- 10 ~~(39)~~(38) Hyco Game land in Person County
- 11 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 15 ~~(40)~~(39) J. Morgan Futch Game Land in Tyrrell County - hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 16 ~~(41)~~(40) Johns River Game Land in Burke County
- 17 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 18 (B) During permitted deer hunts, deer of either sex may be taken by permit holders.
- 19 (C) Entry on posted waterfowl impoundments is prohibited October 1 through March 31,  
20 except by lawful waterfowl hunting permit holders and only on those days written on the  
21 permits.
- 22 (D) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited.
- 23 (E) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas is  
24 limited to August 31 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 25 ~~(42)~~(41) Jordan Game Land in Chatham, Durham, Orange, and Wake counties
- 26 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 27 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
28 Antlers Season.
- 29 (C) Waterfowl may be taken only on:
- 30 (i) Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 31 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and
- 32 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 33 (D) ~~Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited except~~ allowed only on  
34 those areas posted as American Tobacco Trail and other areas posted for equestrian use.  
35 Unless otherwise posted, horseback riding is permitted on posted portions of the American  
36 Tobacco Trail anytime the trail is open for use. On all other trails posted for equestrian use,  
37 horseback riding is allowed seven days per week from May 16 – August 31, only during

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- 1 ~~June, July, and August~~, and on Sundays only from September 1 – May 15. ~~the remainder of~~  
2 ~~the year except during open turkey and deer seasons~~. People age 16 or older must obtain  
3 ~~who ride horseback on trails occurring entirely within the game land boundaries shall~~  
4 ~~possess a Game Lands license.~~ license prior to engaging in horseback riding on any area  
5 other than the American Tobacco Trail.
- 6 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 7 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an Archery Zone.
- 8 (G) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not  
9 apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the applicable  
10 seasons for game birds and game animals.
- 11 ~~(43)~~(42) Juniper Creek Game Land in Brunswick and Columbus counties
- 12 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 13 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- 14 (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
15 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 16 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 17 ~~(44)~~(43) Kerr Scott Game Land in Wilkes County
- 18 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 19 (B) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.
- 20 (C) Use of blackpowder firearms, shotguns, or rifles for hunting deer during the applicable  
21 Deer With Visible Antlers Season is prohibited.
- 22 (D) Tree stands shall not be left overnight; and no screws, nails, or other objects penetrating  
23 the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.
- 24 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
25 Antlers season.
- 26 (F) Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.
- 27 (G) The use of firearms for hunting wild turkey is prohibited.
- 28 ~~(45)~~(44) Lantern Acres Game Land in Tyrrell and Washington counties
- 29 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 30 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
31 Antlers Season.
- 32 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 33 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer on the Godley Tract is prohibited.
- 34 (E) Waterfowl hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.
- 35 ~~(46)~~(45) Lee Game Land in Lee County
- 36 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 4 ~~(47)~~(46) Light Ground Pocosin Game Land in Pamlico County
- 5 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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)~~ Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 9 ~~(48)~~(47) Linwood Game Land in Davidson County
- 10 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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)~~(48) Lower Fishing Creek Game Land in Edgecombe and Halifax counties
- 14 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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)~~(49) Mayo Game Land in Person County
- 21 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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)~~(50) Mitchell River Game Land in Surry County
- 30 (A) ~~Three~~ Four 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)~~(51) Nantahala Game Land in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, Swain, and Transylvania  
36 counties
- 37 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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)~~(52) Needmore Game Land in Macon and Swain counties.
- 4 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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)~~(53) 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)~~(54) New Lake Game Land in Hyde and Tyrrell counties
- 15 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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 (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 19 ~~(56)~~(55) Nicholson Creek Game Land in Hoke County
- 20 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 21 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from the  
22 Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day.
- 23 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days beginning  
24 the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week  
25 thereafter.
- 26 (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second  
27 Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day.
- 28 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
29 Antlers Season.
- 30 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 31 (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 32 (H) On Lake Upchurch, the following activities are prohibited:
- 33 (i) Operating any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine; and  
34 (ii) Swimming.
- 35 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 36 ~~(57)~~(56) North River Game Land in Camden and Currituck counties
- 37 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

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- 1 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
2 Antlers Season.
- 3 (C) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or  
4 shoreline.
- 5 (D) Hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment is by permit only.
- 6 (E) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 7 ~~(58)~~(57) Northwest River Marsh Game Land in Currituck County
- 8 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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 boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or  
12 shoreline.
- 13 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 14 ~~(59)~~(58) Pee Dee River Game Land in Anson, Montgomery, Richmond, and Stanly counties
- 15 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
17 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 18 (C) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited in that portion in Anson and Richmond counties North  
19 of US-74.
- 20 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 21 (E) Horseback riding is allowed seven days per week from May 16 through August 31, and on  
22 Sundays only September 1 through May 15 only on roads opened to vehicular traffic and  
23 gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use. only during the following times:  
24 (i) ~~during June, July, and August; and~~  
25 (ii) ~~on Sundays during the other months or parts of months when deer and turkey~~  
26 ~~seasons are closed.~~
- 27 (F) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting shall be  
28 prohibited on that portion south of US-74.
- 29 ~~(60)~~(59) Perkins Game Land in Davie County
- 30 (A) ~~Three~~ Four 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~~ Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.
- 33 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited from November 1 through January 1.
- 34 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 35 ~~(61)~~(60) Pisgah Game Land in Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Madison,  
36 McDowell, Mitchell, Transylvania, Watauga, and Yancey counties
- 37 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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.
- 3 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River
- 4 (Burke County), and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties).
- 5 (D) The use of bicycles shall be restricted to designated trails on the Linville River Tract (Burke
- 6 County). Persons engaged in the act of hunting on the Linville River Tract during any open
- 7 day of an applicable season for game birds or game animals shall be exempt from this
- 8 restriction.
- 9 ~~(62)~~(61) Pond Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- 10 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 11 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 12 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 13 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails from May 16 through August 31
- 14 and Sundays from September 1 through October 31. All horseback riding is prohibited
- 15 from November 1 through May 15.
- 16 ~~(63)~~(62) Pungo River Game Land in Hyde County
- 17 (A) Six 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 ~~(64)~~(63) Rendezvous Mountain State Forest Game Land in Wilkes County
- 21 (A) Three 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 Wednesday thereafter.
- 24 (C) Bear hunting is prohibited.
- 25 ~~(65)~~(64) Rhodes Pond Game Land in Cumberland and Harnett counties
- 26 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 27 (B) Swimming is prohibited on the area.
- 28 ~~(66)~~(65) Roanoke River Wetlands in Bertie, Halifax, Martin, and Northampton counties
- 29 (A) Hunting and trapping is by Permit only.
- 30 (B) Vehicles are prohibited on roads or trails except those operated on Commission business
- 31 or by permit holders.
- 32 (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
- 33 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas, provided, however,
- 34 that camping is allowed at any time within 100 yards of the Roanoke River on the state-
- 35 owned portion of the game land.
- 36 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 37 ~~(67)~~(66) Roanoke Island Marshes Game Land in Dare County-Hunting is by permit only.

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- 1           ~~(68)~~(67) Robeson Game Land in Robeson County
- 2           (A)     ~~Three~~ Four 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)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 6           ~~(69)~~(68) Rockfish Creek Game Land in Hoke County
- 7           (A)     Three Days per Week Area
- 8           (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from the
- 9                     Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day.
- 10          (C)     Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days beginning
- 11                     the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week
- 12                     thereafter.
- 13          (D)     The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second
- 14                     Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day.
- 15          (E)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 16                     Antlers Season.
- 17          (F)     The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 18          (G)     Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 19          (H)     Taking fox squirrels is prohibited.
- 20          (I)     Target shooting is prohibited.
- 21          ~~(70)~~(69) Rocky Run Game Land in Onslow County - Hunting is by permit only.
- 22          ~~(71)~~(70) Sampson Game Land in Sampson County
- 23          (A)     ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 24          (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 25                     Antlers Season.
- 26          (C)     Target shooting is prohibited.
- 27          (D)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 28          ~~(72)~~(71) Sandhills Game Land in Hoke, Moore, Richmond, and Scotland counties
- 29          (A)     Three Days per Week Area
- 30          (B)     Hunting is prohibited on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds from October 22
- 31                     through March 31 except as follows:
- 32                     (i)     deer of either-sex may be taken with archery equipment on all the open days of
- 33                             the archery season through the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day; with
- 34                             blackpowder firearms and archery equipment all the open days of the
- 35                             blackpowder firearms season through the third Wednesday before Thanksgiving
- 36                             Day; and only deer with visible antlers may be taken with all legal weapons from

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- 1 the second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following  
2 Thanksgiving Day;
- 3 (ii) dove may be taken all open days from the opening day of the dove season through  
4 the third Saturday thereafter;
- 5 (iii) squirrel (gray and fox) may be taken all the open days from the second Saturday  
6 before Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;
- 7 (iv) rabbit may be taken all open days from the second Saturday preceding  
8 Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;
- 9 (v) waterfowl may be taken on open days during any waterfowl season;
- 10 (vi) wild animals and wild birds may be taken as part of a Disabled Sportsmen  
11 Program Permit Hunt; and
- 12 (vii) raccoon and opossum may be taken on open days from sunrise Monday on or  
13 nearest October 15 through the last day of February.
- 14 (C) The Deer With Visible Antlers season is the open hunting days from the second Saturday  
15 before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day except on the  
16 J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds.
- 17 (D) The archery season is all open days from the Saturday on or nearest to Sept. 10 to the fourth  
18 Friday before Thanksgiving Day and, except on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds,  
19 the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1. Deer of either sex may be  
20 taken with archery equipment on all open hunting days during the archery season, by permit  
21 during the Deer with Visible antlers season, and the blackpowder firearms season as stated  
22 in this Subparagraph. Only deer with visible antlers may be taken from the third Monday  
23 after Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- 24 (E) Blackpowder firearms season is all the open days from the fourth Saturday preceding  
25 Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week thereafter and, except on  
26 the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds, the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day  
27 through January 1. Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on all open  
28 hunting days during the blackpowder firearms season and by permit during the Deer With  
29 Visible Antlers season. Only deer with visible antlers may be taken from the third Monday  
30 after Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- 31 (F) Either-sex deer hunting during the Deer With Visible Antlers Season is by permit only.
- 32 (G) In addition to the regular hunting days, waterfowl may be taken on the opening and closing  
33 days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 34 (H) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 35 (I) Horseback riding on field trial grounds from October 22 through March 31 is prohibited  
36 unless participating in authorized field trials. Horseback riding is allowed on the remainder

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- 1 of the Sandhills Game Land seven days per week on roads that are open to vehicular traffic  
2 and gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.
- 3 (J) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are  
4 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.
- 5 (K) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the John F. Lentz Hunter Education Complex.
- 6 ~~(73)~~(72) Sandy Creek Game Land in Nash and Franklin Counties
- 7 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 11 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 12 (E) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 13 ~~(74)~~(73) Sandy Mush Game Land in Buncombe and Madison counties.
- 14 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 15 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer with Visible  
16 Antlers season.
- 17 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and  
18 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 19 (D) Dogs shall only be trained on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays and only as allowed  
20 in 15A NCAC 10D .0102(f).
- 21 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only from the opening day through the second Saturday of dove  
22 season.
- 23 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 24 ~~(75)~~(74) Second Creek Game Land in Rowan County- hunting is by permit only.
- 25 ~~(76)~~(75) Shocco Creek Game Land in Franklin, Halifax, Nash, and Warren counties
- 26 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 27 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
28 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 29 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 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) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 33 ~~(77)~~(76) South Mountains Game Land in Burke, Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford counties
- 34 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 35 (B) The Deer With Visible Antlers season for deer consists of the open hunting days from the  
36 Monday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving. Deer of  
37 either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open days beginning the Saturday on

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1 or nearest September 10 to the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on or nearest October  
2 15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. Deer with visible antlers may be taken with  
3 archery equipment the Monday immediately following the closing of the Deer With Visible  
4 Antlers Season, as described in this Part, through January 1. Deer of either sex may be  
5 taken with blackpowder firearms on open days beginning the Monday on or nearest  
6 October 1 through the Saturday of the second week thereafter.

7 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible  
8 Antlers Season.

9 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails during the following dates:

- 10 (i) January 2 through March 31;
- 11 (ii) May 16 through August 31;
- 12 (iii) Sundays only - April 1 through May 15; and
- 13 (iv) Sundays only - September 1 through January 1.

14 ~~(78)~~(77) Stones Creek Game Land in Onslow County

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 (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

19 (D) Swimming in all lakes is prohibited.

20 (E) Waterfowl ~~on posted waterfowl impoundments~~ may be taken only on the following days:

- 21 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 22 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 23 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

24 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.

25 (G) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.

26 ~~(79)~~(78) Suggs Mill Pond Game Land in Bladen and Cumberland counties

27 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.

28 (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
29 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

30 (C) Entry is prohibited on scheduled hunt or trapping days except for:

- 31 (i) hunters or trappers holding special hunt or trapping permits; and
- 32 (ii) persons using Campground Road to access Suggs Mill Pond Lake at the dam.

33 (D) During the period of November 1 through January 31, except on Sundays, the use of vessels  
34 on Suggs Mill Pond Lake and Little Singletary Lake is limited to waterfowl hunting only  
35 by waterfowl hunters possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by  
36 the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).

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- 1 (E) During the period of November 1 through March 15, the use of vessels on managed  
2 waterfowl impoundments is limited to waterfowl hunting only by waterfowl hunters  
3 possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife  
4 Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).
- 5 ~~(80)~~(79) Sutton Lake Game Land in New Hanover and Brunswick counties
- 6 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 7 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
8 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 9 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 10 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 11 ~~(81)~~(80) Tar River Game Land in Edgecombe County
- 12 (A) Hunting is by permit only
- 13 (B) Target Shooting is prohibited
- 14 ~~(82)~~(81) Texas Plantation Game Land in Tyrrell County - hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 15 ~~(83)~~(82) Three Top Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- 16 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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 first Friday thereafter.
- 19 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 20 ~~(84)~~(83) Thurmond Chatham Game Land in Alleghany and Wilkes counties
- 21 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and  
25 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15. People age 16 or  
26 older horseback riding on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license.
- 27 (D) The maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at any designated campground is  
28 14 days within any 30 day period from May 1 through August 31. After 14 consecutive  
29 days of camping all personal belongings must be removed from the game land.
- 30 ~~(85)~~(84) Tillery game Land in Halifax County
- 31 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 32 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
33 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 34 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 35 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 36 (E) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 37 (F) Target Shooting is prohibited.

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- 1           ~~(86)~~(85) Toxaway Game Land in Jackson and Transylvania counties
- 2                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 3                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 4                             Antlers Season.
- 5                   (C)     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           ~~(87)~~(86) Uwharrie Game Land in Davidson, Montgomery, and Randolph counties
- 8                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 9                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 10                            Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 11                   (C)     On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl may be taken only on the following
- 12                            days:
- 13                            (i)     the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 14                            (ii)    Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 15                            (iii)   Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 16                   (D)     Target shooting is prohibited, except at the Flintlock Valley Shooting Range.
- 17           ~~(88)~~(87) Vance Game Land in Vance County
- 18                   (A)     Six Days per Week Area
- 19                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 20                            Antlers Season.
- 21                   (C)     The use of dogs, centerfire rifles, and handguns for hunting deer is prohibited on the
- 22                            Nutbush Peninsula tract.
- 23           ~~(89)~~(88) Van Swamp Game Land in Beaufort and Washington counties
- 24                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven 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)     Bear may only be taken the first ~~Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of three hunting days~~
- 28                            ~~during~~ the November Bear Season and the ~~second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday first~~
- 29                            ~~three hunting days during the second week~~ of the December Bear Season.
- 30           ~~(90)~~(89) Voice of America Game Land in Beaufort County
- 31                   (A)     Hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 32                   (B)     Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 33           ~~(91)~~(90) White Oak River Game Land in Onslow 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.

APPENDIX C

- 1 (C) Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl  
2 impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
- 3 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 4 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 5 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 6 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October through the end of all  
7 waterfowl seasons, a permit is required for hunting posted waterfowl impoundments.
- 8 (E) The Huggins Tract and Morton Tracts have the following restrictions:
- 9 (i) access on Hargett Avenue and Sloan Farm Road requires a valid Hunting  
10 Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to  
11 G.S. 113-264(d);
- 12 (ii) hunting is by permit only; and
- 13 (iii) the use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 14 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 15 (G) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 16 ~~(92)~~(91) Whitehall Plantation Game Land in Bladen and Pender counties
- 17 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 18 (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
19 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 20 (C) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
21 prohibited on the Long Ridge Tract.
- 22 ~~(93)~~(92) William H. Silver Game Land in Haywood County
- 23 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 24 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible  
25 Antlers Season.
- 26 (C) Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.
- 27 (h) On permitted type hunts, deer of either sex may be taken on the hunt dates indicated on the permit. Completed  
28 applications shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the dates of  
29 hunt. Permits shall be issued by random computer selection, shall be mailed to the permittees prior to the hunt, and  
30 are nontransferable. A hunter making a kill shall validate the kill and report the kill to a wildlife cooperator agent or  
31 by phone.
- 32 (i) The following game lands and refuges are closed to all hunting except to those individuals who have obtained a  
33 valid and current permit from the Wildlife Resources Commission:
- 34 (1) Bertie, Halifax and Martin counties—Roanoke River Wetlands;
- 35 (2) Bertie County—Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge;
- 36 (3) Bladen County—Suggs Mill Pond Game Lands;
- 37 (4) Burke County—John's River Waterfowl Refuge;

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- 1           (5)     Dare County—Dare Game Lands (Those parts of bombing range posted against hunting);
- 2           (6)     Dare County—Roanoke Sound Marshes Game Lands; and
- 3           (7)     Henderson and Transylvania counties—DuPont State Forest Game Lands.
- 4 (j) Access to Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge in Davie County requires written permission from the
- 5 Commission. Written permission may be granted only when entry onto the Waterfowl Refuge will not compromise
- 6 the primary purpose for establishing the Waterfowl Refuge and the person requesting entry can demonstrate a valid
- 7 need or the person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business. "Valid need" includes
- 8 issues of access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to conduct activities in the public
- 9 interest.
- 10 (k) Feral swine may be taken by licensed hunters during the open season for any game animal or game bird using any
- 11 legal manner of take allowed during those seasons. Dogs may not be used to hunt feral swine except on game lands
- 12 that allow the use of dogs for hunting deer or bear, and during the applicable deer or bear season.
- 13 (l) Youth Waterfowl Day. On the day declared by the Commission to be Youth Waterfowl Day, youths may hunt on
- 14 any game land and on any impoundment without a special hunt permit, including permit-only areas, except where
- 15 prohibited in Paragraph (h) of this Rule.
- 16 (m) Veterans and Military Waterfowl Days. On the day declared by the Commission to be Veterans and Military
- 17 Waterfowl Days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including
- 18 members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty other than for training, with valid credentials may hunt
- 19 on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-only areas.
- 20 (n) Permit Hunt Opportunities for Disabled Sportsmen. The Commission may designate special hunts for participants
- 21 of the disabled sportsman program by permit. The Commission may schedule these permit hunts during the closed
- 22 season. Hunt dates and species to be taken shall be identified on each permit. If the hunt has a limited weapon choice,
- 23 the allowed weapons shall be stated on each permit.
- 24 (o) As used in this Rule, horseback riding includes all equine species.
- 25 (p) When waterfowl hunting is authorized in this Rule on Christmas and New Years' Day and those days fall on
- 26 Sundays, the open waterfowl hunting day shall be the following day.
- 27

APPENDIX D

1 **15A NCAC 10J .0103 HUNTING ON WILDLIFE CONSERVATION AREAS**

2 (a) Safety Requirements. No person while hunting on any area designated and posted as a wildlife conservation area  
3 shall be under the influence of alcohol or any narcotic drug.

4 (b) Tree Stands. It is unlawful to erect or to occupy, for the purpose of hunting, any tree stand or platform attached by  
5 nails, screws, bolts or wire to a tree on any area designated and posted as a wildlife conservation area. This prohibition  
6 shall not apply to lag-screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal left remaining in or attached  
7 to the tree.

8 (c) Time and Manner of Taking. Except where closed to hunting or limited to specific dates by these regulations,  
9 hunting on areas designated and posted as wildlife conservation areas is permitted during the open season for the game  
10 or furbearing species being hunted. Waterfowl hunters shall not enter the areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted  
11 hunting dates, and hunting is prohibited after 1:00 p.m. on such hunting dates; decoys may not be set out prior to 4:00  
12 a.m. and must be removed by 3:00 p.m. each date. No person shall operate any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal  
13 combustion engine on the waters of any area designated and posted as a wildlife conservation area. No person shall  
14 attempt to obscure the sex or age of any bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other part thereof, or possess  
15 any bird or animal which has been so mutilated. No person shall place, or cause to be placed on any area designated  
16 and posted as a wildlife conservation area, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods without prior written authorization of the  
17 Commission or its agent and no person shall take or attempt to take any game birds or game animals attracted to such  
18 foods. No person shall use an electronic calling device for the purpose of attracting wild birds or wild animals. No live  
19 wild animals or wild birds shall be removed from any designated wildlife conservation area except with the written  
20 permission of the landowner.

21 (d) Hunting Dates:

22 (1) Any game may be taken during the open seasons ~~on the following wildlife conservation areas~~ and  
23 hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays and Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's  
24 Days. In addition, deer may be taken with bow and arrow on the opening day of the bow and arrow  
25 season for deer. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, until 7:00  
26 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight on Saturdays. Additional restrictions apply as indicated in  
27 parentheses following specific designations:

28 (2) Except as otherwise indicated, the following designated wildlife conservation areas or indicated  
29 portions thereof are closed to all hunting:

30 (A) Nona Pitt Hinson Cohen Wildlife Conservation Area - Richmond County.

31 (B) John D. Lewis Wildlife Conservation Area - Wayne County.



## **Fiscal Note for Proposed Land Management Rule Amendments Sunday Hunting on Game Lands**

**Rule Amendments:** 15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

**Agency Contacts:** Carrie Ruhlman, Sr. Policy Analyst  
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**Impact Summary:** State Government: Yes  
Local Government: No  
Private Impact: Yes  
Substantial impact: Uncertain but potential

**Authority:** G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.1; S.L. 2017-182

### **I. SUMMARY**

The proposed permanent rule removes the prohibition of Sunday hunting on game lands for 56 of the 94 North Carolina Wildlife Resources (NCWRC) managed lands enrolled in the Game Lands Program (we are awaiting confirmation from the landowner of Dover Bay Game Land; however, for the purposes of the fiscal note, we have included this area as a 7-day per week game land). The following changes are proposed to 15A 10D .0103:

- replacing 6-day per week game lands with 7-day per week game lands (46 game lands)
- replacing 3-day per week game lands with 4-day per week game lands (6 game lands)
- allowing permit hunts on Sundays (4 game lands)

The following is a summary and analysis of the proposed rule amendments to 15A NCAC 10D .0103 to allow Sunday hunting on select game lands. The proposed text is included in Appendix A.

## II. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

When the Outdoor Heritage Act of 2015 passed, it removed the absolute prohibition on hunting with firearms on Sunday in North Carolina that had been in place since 1868. On July 25, 2017, the Outdoor Heritage Enhanced Act was signed by North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper granting authority to the Wildlife Resources Commission (NCWRC) to implement new options for hunting on Sundays on its game lands, though hunters are still prohibited from hunting:

- with a firearm between 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m.;
- deer with the use of dogs; and
- within 500 yards of a place of worship.

The NCWRC began evaluating options associated with Sunday hunting on game lands in 2018 and has continued gathering data and public input to help inform this decision through 2020. This fiscal note summarizes the potential costs and benefits to the State, regulated community, and citizens of North Carolina for increasing hunting opportunities on Wildlife Resources Commission-managed game lands through the allowance of Sunday Hunting on select properties. The Commission has determined the proposed rule will have minor impacts to State Government and private individuals. No impacts have been identified to local (county or municipal) governments. However, an exact quantification of the impacts could not be identified based on existing information.

## III. STATEMENT OF NEED

In 2015, the North Carolina General Assembly (NCGA) removed a longstanding prohibition on Sunday hunting on private property. Two years later, in 2017, the NCGA bestowed the NCWRC with the authority to implement rules and allow Sunday hunting on Game Lands. Following this shift in authority, many stakeholders began to inquire about the possibility of increasing hunting opportunities on NCWRC managed game lands.

A major component of the NCWRC's Strategic Plan is to "*Expand opportunities for all wildlife-associated recreation.*" This includes increasing access to hunting opportunities. By allowing an additional weekday to hunt during hunting seasons, more opportunities are made available to constituents.

Public access to huntable lands is becoming increasingly scarce in North Carolina and many constituents rely on public game lands as their only available hunting spaces. However, the currently limited number of days available for hunting on game lands can create an overcrowding scenario that reduces the overall quality of the activity. By adding an additional day of hunting opportunity, where the resources can accommodate the pressure, the crowding can potentially be reduced.

## IV. BACKGROUND

The Game Lands program was established in 1971, and incorporated approximately 800,000 acres of land. Traditionally, these areas were tightly controlled for the hunting of a limited number of species. The main purpose of the initial establishment of the Game Lands program was to set aside land dedicated for the use of public hunting, trapping, and fishing. However, since their establishment, game lands, now comprising over 2 million acres, have evolved to include a range of wildlife-related uses, including hiking, wildlife watching, photography, horseback riding, camping, and foraging. In fact, multiple surveys have indicated that these "non-traditional" (for the purposes of this fiscal note, non-traditional means activities other

than hunting, trapping, or fishing) uses are much more prevalent on some game lands than hunting and fishing.

In North Carolina, all forms hunting on Sundays had been prohibited from 1868 until 2015. This was largely motivated by “blue laws”, laws enacted based on the religious belief that Sundays were meant for worship or rest (Humphreys, 2016). The Outdoor Heritage Act of 2015, passed in the North Carolina State Legislature, removed this prohibition. The Outdoor Heritage Enhanced Act of 2017 expanded on the former legislation by granting authority to the NCWRC to implement rules for hunting on Sundays on game lands. However, the act still prohibits hunting with a firearm between 9:30am and 12:30 pm, prohibits hunting deer with the use of dogs, and prohibits hunting within 500 yards of a place of worship on Sundays.

Funding for the maintenance of game lands is provided through various sources. The sale of all licenses, including hunting licenses, accounts for approximately 25% of this funding, while US Fish & Wildlife Service wildlife restoration program funds support the remaining 75% of Game Lands management funding. This federal funding is also supported by the sale of hunting licenses, as well as other factors including in-state expenditures on hunting and firearm related items.

Currently, game lands are classified as follows:

- Three Days per Week Area - game lands on which any game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year’s Day, except for Game Lands that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays. However, Falconry is allowed on Sundays.
- Six Days per Week Area - game lands on which any game may be taken during the open seasons, on any day except Sundays.
- Permit Only - areas only huntable with a NCWRC-issued permit on days specified by the permit.

#### **i.) Determining Feasibility**

A substantial amount of effort was given by the NCWRC in determining the feasibility of allowing Sunday hunting on game lands. The process began by identifying constituent attitudes, preferences, and concerns through a series of surveys. These were addressed in greater detail through public “listening sessions” held in each NCWRC management region. Potential conflicts between user-groups were assessed and opportunities for feedback were provided by online focus group sessions with key stakeholders. Largely based on the results of these events, an iterative process amongst staff aided in development of an exploratory tool, based on structured decision making, which identified key criteria for deciding whether specific game lands were feasible options for hunting on Sundays.

#### ***Survey of Public Opinions***

In 2018, the NCWRC completed its first constituent survey to explore opinions on Sunday Hunting on game lands. The questionnaire was made public to constituents via press-release, social media, emails to the NCWRC listserv, and through cooperation with agency partners. Based on the responses, it was evident that significantly more work would need to be done before a decision on allowing Sunday hunting could be made. However, it did identify themes for both proponents

and opponents of Sunday hunting. The results suggested that public opinion was generally split on Sunday hunting. A divide between individuals for, and against existed between hunters and other user groups, but also within the hunter group. Some of the main themes for those that supported Sunday hunting were that it would increase access and participation to the activity in an already limited season, and that the prohibition of Sunday hunting was not based on science and instead favored religious beliefs. Opposition to Sunday hunting was shaped by safety concerns, user-group conflicts, concerns of wildlife pressure, and religious beliefs.

Following the first survey, the NCWRC decided to further explore additional details of the feasibility of Sunday hunting on game lands. An alternative and more comprehensive survey regarding public preferences was undertaken in 2020. Distributed to the general public via multiple modes, this survey identified some key aspects of the conflict in opinions on Sunday hunting. Over 30,000 responses were collected and opinions on the topic closely resembled the 2018 survey. In addition, the survey identified game lands use behavior, and preferences based on allowing Sunday hunting. Of the respondents, approximately 14,000 indicated that they hunt on game lands, while roughly 17,000 identified with some other activity on game lands. Perceived conflicts between these user groups was the primary driver behind much of the opposition to Sunday hunting.

Sundays were identified as the highest participation day in non-traditional activities such as hiking, biking, and wildlife watching. This held true for both hunter and non-hunters. The results of the second survey indicated that 74% of hunters were in support of Sunday hunting, while 75% of non-hunters were in opposition to the idea.

Hunters supported the idea for a number of reasons. These related to increasing hunting participation and the economic and conservation benefits provided from this increase, as well as the fact that over 40 other states have allowed it without conflict. Additionally, they indicated that it could reduce pressure on Saturdays from working class individuals as they could redistribute the pressure over an additional hunting day. Hunters that opposed the idea were mostly focused around religious beliefs, ecological impacts, safety of non-hunters, and “tradition”.

Non-hunters mostly opposed Sunday hunting due to the perceived safety concerns of co-usage, noise pollution, religious reasons, and impacts to wildlife. Those that support Sunday hunting questioned why Sunday should be treated differently from any other day and didn’t want to see opportunities restricted for other user groups.

It became apparent that the obvious conflict between user groups was going to be a major hurdle in determining whether to allow Sunday hunting on game lands. Those opposed to the idea of Sunday hunting indicated skepticism or “no options” (~60%) surrounding compromises to address concerns around Sunday hunting. Proponents of Sunday hunting felt there were “some” or “many” options available for addressing these concerns. Nevertheless, these options needed to be identified and explored. To do so, the NCWRC hosted listening sessions with the goal of identifying these alternative options and the consensus surrounding them.

### ***State-wide Listening Sessions***

Findings from the surveys were summarized and presented to over 400 individuals at 6 face-to-face externally facilitated listening sessions across the state and two online virtual listening sessions. The goal of these sessions was to review the available information regarding game land use and Sunday hunting, as well as determine some “middle-ground” options between the conflicting opinions and user-groups. The feasible options were determined by polling the listening session participants for consensus.

Many of the concerns that existed regarding safety and impacts to wildlife were quelled based on discussion by experts and between conflicting groups, however safety concerns persisted as a shared concern between groups. Terms of equity became a recurring theme, in that hunter participation largely funds the maintenance of game lands, while the non-hunters reap the benefits for free. In terms of fairness, non-hunters indicated they would also be willing to contribute towards the management of game lands in the form of user fees. The process confirmed that, with a lot of careful listening, compromise solutions for opening Sunday hunting on a limited number of game lands could be developed.

### ***Focus Groups***

The compromise solutions identified through the listening sessions were used as potential elements of a consensus solution and used as input into 3 focus groups. These focus groups consisted of 32 key stakeholders from various user-groups comprised of hunters and non-hunters. During these sessions, stakeholders discussed the potential solutions proposed from the survey and listening sessions. Key criteria for selecting suitable game lands were identified. And tangentially related to the topic of Sunday hunting, stakeholders discussed funding equity and the possibility for a user-pay scheme.

### ***Structured Decision Making***

After receiving substantial and informative feedback from our constituency in the form of survey responses, listening sessions, and focus groups with key stakeholders, the NCWRC was tasked with making a final decision on which game lands would be suitable for Sunday hunting. The decisions would rely on the expertise of NCWRC game lands managers/staff and biological experts. In order to make sure decisions were unbiased, these decisions would need to be made based on a specified set of criteria.

In an iterative process between agency staff, and guided by the agency social scientist, key sets of criteria were determined within a framework of structured decision making. These criteria were based on agency considerations and stakeholder considerations. The agency considerations related to the capacity of the NCWRC to allow Sunday hunting with regards, to ecological impacts, infrastructure impacts, Game Land capacity, species availability for hunting, and the regulatory complexity of Sunday hunting. Stakeholder considerations were largely based off the focus group outcomes and included the level of non-hunting use, proximity to large populations of users, proximity to alternative public lands for non-hunting use, level of non-hunting activities that are negatively impacted by

allowing hunting, and the level of acceptance or non-conflict with land owners adjoining game lands. In a similar iterative process between staff members, these criteria were weighted for their importance in the decision-making process (Table 1).

Table 1: NCWRC decision guiding criteria and criteria weighting.

<b>Agency Considerations</b>	<b>Weights</b>
Size of Game Land (<1000 1pt., 1000-10k 2-4 pts., >10k 5pts.)	<b>0.1</b>
Game species availability (Small number of huntable species 1 pt., most huntable species available, 5 pts.)	<b>0.15</b>
Infrastructure impacts of increased activity (High level of impact 1 pt, no impact 5 pts.)	<b>0.2</b>
Potential for overharvest of ANY game species or substantial resource disturbance with increased effort (high potential 1pt, no potential 5 pts.)	<b>0.3</b>
Game land complexity	<b>0.25</b>
<b>Stakeholder Considerations</b>	
Level of hunting use vs. other use- -consider number of non-hunter specific attractions (high # of other users/non-hunt attractions 1pt., moderate # of other users/attractions 2-4 pts., primarily hunting use and low # of other users 5 pts.)	<b>0.25</b>
Proximity to urban centers (high population density); (<10 miles 1pt., 10-20 miles 2-4pts., >20 miles 5 pts.)	<b>0.15</b>
Proximity to alternative public lands for recreation purposes (>20 miles 1pt., 10-20 miles 2-4 pts., <10 miles 5pts.)	<b>0.2</b>
Level of other activities being negatively impacted by Sunday Hunting (3 or more activities 1pt, 1 to 3 activities 2-4 pts., 0 activities 5pts.)	<b>0.25</b>
Level of acceptance/non-conflict with adjacent landowners (Low acceptance/high conflict 1 pt., moderate acceptance/conflict 2-4 pts., high acceptance/low conflict 5pts.)	<b>0.15</b>

After the criteria and weights were identified, a panel of game land experts, comprised of game lands staff, wildlife biologists, social scientists, and agency management were tasked with scoring each criterion for each game land from 1 to 5. Based on the recorded scores for each criterion, total scores were formulated for each set of considerations (agency and stakeholder), based on the weights of the criterion. The total scores for each consideration category were plotted on an XY scatterplot to determine whether the game lands were “feasible for Sunday hunting”, “feasible with considerations”, or currently “not feasible for Sunday hunting (Figure 1).

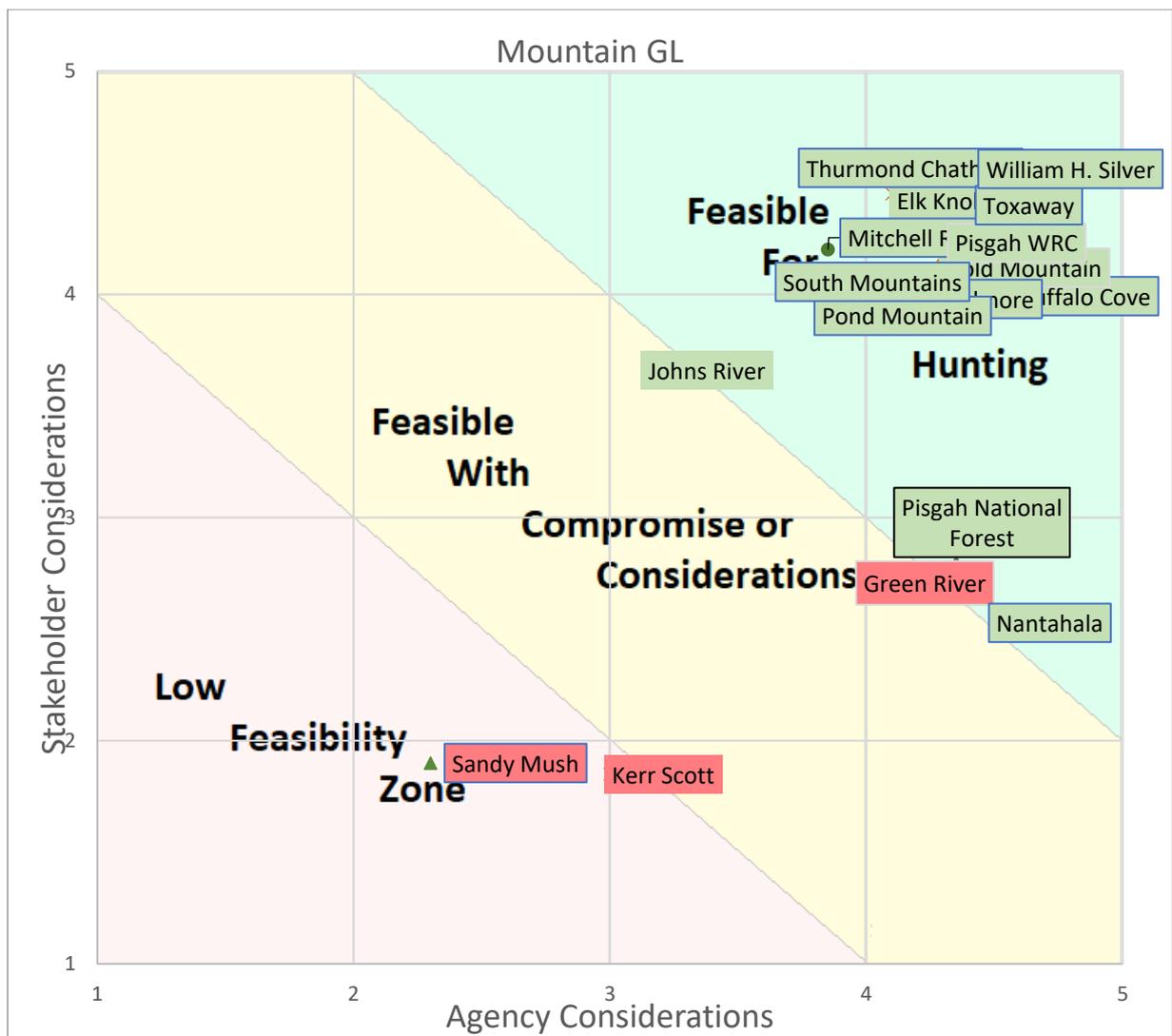


Figure 1: Feasibility plot for Sunday Hunting on Mountains Game Lands, based on scoring of feasibility criteria. Green labels will allow Sunday hunting.

### Staff Recommendations

The structured decision-making tool helped to guide game lands experts towards their final recommendations on the feasibility of allowing Sunday hunting on certain game lands. However, several other context specific factors were up to the judgement of the experts. It should be noted that not all game lands managed by the NCWRC were up for consideration, as the private landowners in some instances were opposed to Sunday hunting. However, based on the remaining game lands available for consideration, NCWRC staff determined that Sunday hunting is currently feasible on 56 game lands and gave brief statements of why, apart from the decision tool (Appendix B). In some instances, exceptions needed to be made over concerns of wildlife impacts. As a result, hunting bear with dogs received some additional restrictions.

## V. IMPACTS

The impacts of these Sunday hunting decisions are all but clear. Some impacts to the NCWRC could be estimated in terms of costs of signage, marketing and additional staff work. Decisions with regards to allowing Sunday hunting on game lands were centered around minimizing the impacts on game lands use and users. These potential impacts such as a change in usage can only be speculated at this time. There is not expected to be any additional impacts on local governments. In any case, these impacts are uncertain but may be substantial.

### i.) State Impacts

#### Costs

The costs to the NCWRC are expected to be minimal but will involve those associated with signage changes on the game lands, and marketing and communications materials and staff time to notify the public of these changes. However, these costs are anticipated to be offset by the potential for increased sales of hunting licenses and permits. Additionally, increased expenditures by hunters due to an additional day of hunting for those that rely on public land to hunt may generate additional tax revenue for the state. These additional expenditures are not expected to be substantial, however they could benefit local economies as well.

Costs to the state will come in the form of signage and marketing efforts to inform constituents of these rule changes. Although, these costs are expected to be minimal. An estimated \$5 per sign with an average of 3 signs per game land amounts to a one-time cost of \$855 ( $\$5/\text{sign} \times (3 \text{ signs}/\text{game land} \times 56 \text{ game lands}) = \$855$ ) for signage state-wide. Staff time required to post signs are estimated at a one-time cost of approximately \$1,980 ( $60 \text{ hours} \times \$33/\text{hour} = \$1,980$ ). Thus, the agency anticipates a one-time cost of approximately \$2,835 to post signage.

Additional costs to the agency are anticipated for outreach to the public to inform them of the rule change. The creation of new outreach materials are anticipated to cost the agency approximately \$11,640, which includes paid social media campaigns, web ads, and search engine optimization (\$5,000), and creation of outreach and webpage material and website updates, ( $80 \text{ hours} \times 2 \text{ staff} \times 41.50/\text{hour} = \$6,640$ ). Because materials can be re-used, no recurring cost was calculated.

#### Benefits

Increasing opportunities and the quality of one's hunting experience can contribute to the NCWRC's commitment to the recruitment, retention, and reactivation (R3) of hunters. As an agency that relies on the funding of game land management through income generated from the sale of licenses, particularly hunting licenses, R3 strategies are meant to bolster participation and there for increase the sale of licenses (Larson *et al.* 2014). While, the exact impact of additional available public land hunting days on license sales is unknown at this point, it may generate more agency revenue through increased license purchases.

An increase in license sales could also benefit game land management through increased funding from the license sales and federal funds issued to the agency based on these sales. An increase in hunting participation also amounts to an increase in expenditures on hunting related items, which may contain a federal excise tax used to generate more funding for game lands (Pittman-Robertson Act). However, the

estimates on these impacts could not be made as there are currently no data on the number of daily hunters on game lands.

Increasing opportunities for participation could also lead to increased applications for permit hunts, as four of the 56 game lands proposed for Sunday hunting are hunted by permit only. The fee to apply for permit hunts is \$8 and hunters may apply for as many permit hunts as they want. Over the past three hunting seasons, Rocky Run has offered seven permit hunts, Tar River two, Upper Roanoke 12, and Johns River on average 15. At this time, it is anticipated that the same number of hunts will be issued but the hunting days may change to include Sundays. The average number of applications received over the past three hunting seasons, for each of the four proposed game lands allowing permit hunts on Sundays, is as follows: Rocky Run = 124, Tar River = 122, Upper Roanoke = 2,385, and Johns River = 1,397. While the Commission cannot accurately estimate how many applications will be submitted if hunting is allowed on Sundays, the number is anticipated to increase, as weekend days are assumed to be more conducive to hunting for work and scheduling reasons.

## **ii.) Private Impacts**

### Costs

It is currently unknown how the level of game lands use will be impacted for each user-group based on the allowance of Sunday hunting. The NCWRC typically rejected recommending Sunday hunting on game lands where user-conflicts were likely to result in major user impacts.

During the big game hunting seasons, horseback riders have been allowed to ride on certain game lands only on Sundays. Now, horseback riding will still be allowed on Sundays on those game lands, but hunting will also be allowed. Because of this, participation in horseback riding on the game lands where hunting will be allowed on Sundays could decrease and result in reduced local expenditures generated by the transportation of horses to the game lands and associated expenses with a horseback riding trip if they choose not to ride because of hunting. However, game lands where this activity may be impacted are in proximity to alternative public lands where horseback riding can occur. Additionally, hunting is not allowed on Sundays from 9:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. As a result, it is unlikely these expenditures will change.

### Benefits

Non-hunting related wildlife associated recreation contributes a considerable amount of expenditures to the American economy. A 2016 survey of this group associated roughly \$76 Billion in economic activity based on their recreation (*2016 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation*). Rosenberger *et al.* (2017) estimated the mean daily expenditures of various hunting and non-hunting related activities. Common activities that occur on Game Lands, such as hiking, biking, and nature viewing were estimated to have average daily expenditures of \$78.19, \$98.94, and \$63.46 respectively, while “other” recreation was estimated at \$62.06. Based on some of the discussion surrounding the listening sessions held by the NCWRC, it is possible that some of these non-hunters may no longer participate in recreation on game lands, on Sundays if Sunday hunting is allowed.

Casola *et al.* (2020) explored how Sunday hunting could impact the visitation to North Carolina Game Lands by various user-groups (Table 3). In a survey of game lands

users, the authors found that non-hunters (current Sunday users) were less likely to visit the game land on Sundays if hunting were allowed. However, in general, aside from birders and equestrians, most non-traditional user groups do not have statistically significant opinions for or against Sunday hunting and hikers may be the only non-traditional user group who would visit game lands less often if Sunday hunting were allowed. Since the number of daily hikers per game land is currently unknown, a total impact value cannot be estimated. However, it is estimated that their participation in hiking on game lands could be reduced by as much as 21.6%.

Since horseback riding is already regulated, bird watchers are the only significantly impacted group. However, decision making for Sunday hunting also involved a NCWRC bird biologist, NC Birding trail organizer, and liaison to the birding community who provided valuable data on birding participation on game lands. The estimates were based on data collected through a mobile birding app (eBird), which allowed decision makers to view birder effort on various Game Lands. Most of the game lands that have been identified as feasible for Sunday Hunting had very little birder participation that would be impacted. However, these impacts could result in a decrease in participation of birding on game lands by up to an estimated 33%.

Table 2: Sunday visitation impacts by game lands users if Sunday hunting is allowed. (Source: Casola et al., 2020)

Activity	Visitation Impacts (N = 2069)			
	Count	Visit More	Visit Less	No Impact
Hunting	1152	61.4%	5.3%	33.3%
Trapping	63	68.3%	3.2%	28.6%
Fishing	1017	47.2%	8.46%	44.3%
Hiking	997	30.9%	21.6%	47.5%
Camping	581	39.1%	16.0%	45.1%
Birding	323	27.6%	33.4%	39.3%
Biking	227	27.8%	23.1%	49.5%
Motorized Boating	362	46.7%	11.6%	42.0%
Canoeing/Kayaking	572	25.9%	19.1%	55.2%
Horseback Riding	121	26.4%	34.7%	39.7%
Shooting Range	432	46.5%	4.17%	49.3%
Field Trials	127	40.2%	16.5%	43.3%
Other	145	14.5%	31.7%	54.5%
All Users Combined	2069	38.3%	15.3%	46.4%

An expectation of the agency is that by allowing Sunday hunting on game lands, it will generate more participation by hunters. Based on the results indicated in Table 3, 61.4% of hunters indicated they would visit game lands more on Sunday if hunting were allowed, representing a significant increase in participation. The average daily expenditure of hunters has been estimated at approximately \$76.72 (Rosenberger et al., 2017). This could potentially result in a significant increase in hunting related expenditures with an additional day of hunting available on public land. However, data do not exist to quantify this potential increase at this time.

## **VI. ALTERNATIVES**

There are two alternatives to the proposed rule changes. The first being that all forms of Sunday hunting are allowed on all game lands. The second being no change to the rule at all.

The NCNCWRC has decided to forego the idea of allowing all forms of Sunday hunting on all game lands for several major issues. The first and most prohibitive is the issue of land ownership. While the NCNCWRC is responsible for managing all game lands, it does not have complete authority to implement rules for privately owned land. In some instances, these private landowners enrolled in the Game Lands program opposed Sunday hunting on their lands. Additionally, extreme conflicts between user-groups were identified on several game lands which the NCWRC would greatly like to minimize. Finally, not all game lands can sustain the pressure of Sunday hunting. As a result, this alternative is not feasible and is rejected by the NCNCWRC.

The other alternative of maintaining the existing rule is also not an option for the NCNCWRC. In doing so would ignore the interests of our constituent base. Additionally, it goes against the agency objectives of increasing opportunities for wildlife users, such as hunters. Hunters are significantly more likely to use the game lands for recreation on Sunday if hunting is allowed, compared to a general indifference in the visitation behavior of other users. This increase in participation and the associated funding and expenditures will be lost if the existing rule is withheld, representing a potentially high opportunity cost. As a result of these factors, the NCNCWRC rejects this alternative.

## **VII. CONCLUSIONS**

Following the Outdoor Heritage Enhanced Act of 2017, the NCWRC has received substantial public interest in both allowing and disallowing Sunday hunting on game lands. Significant research, collaboration, and planning went into determining potential impacts. Providing opportunities for wildlife-associated recreation is a pillar of the agency's mission. The Commission believes that the anticipated the non-market benefits provided to hunters in the form of additional recreational opportunity will far outweigh the impacts of allowing Sunday hunting on the proposed 56 game lands.

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## APPENDIX A

### 1 **15A NCAC 10D .0103 HUNTING ON GAME LANDS (EFFECTIVE AUGUST 1, 2020)**

2 (a) Safety Requirements. No person while hunting on any designated game land shall be under the influence of  
3 alcohol or any narcotic drug, or fail to comply with restrictions enacted by the National Park Service regarding  
4 the use of the 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  
6 gates, 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  
9 lag-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  
12 hunting or limited to specific dates by this Chapter. Persons shall hunt only with weapons lawful for the open  
13 game animal or 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, youths may hunt on managed waterfowl impoundments from ½ hour before  
20 sunrise to sunset. On designated veterans and military waterfowl days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and  
21 members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active  
22 duty other than for training, with valid credentials may hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as  
23 permit-only areas from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset. Restrictions (1), (3), and (5) in this Paragraph shall apply.

24 On waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone," trapping during the trapping season and  
25 waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the only activities allowed on the portion of the  
26 impoundment outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone." ~~No person shall attempt to obscure the sex or age of  
27 any bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other part thereof, or possess any bird or animal that has  
28 been so mutilated. No person shall place, or cause to be placed on any game land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods  
29 without prior written authorization of the Commission or its agent. A decision to grant or deny authorization shall  
30 be made based on the best management practices for the wildlife species in question. No person shall take or  
31 attempt to take any game birds or game animals attracted to such foods.~~

32 (e) Definitions:

33 (1) For purposes of this Section, "Dove Only Area" refers to a Game Land on which doves may be  
34 taken and dove hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day,  
35 Christmas Day, and New Year's Days within the federally-announced season.

36 (2) For purposes of this Section, "Three Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which any  
37 game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays,  
38 Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Days, except for game lands in  
39 this Rule that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays. Falconry may  
40 also be practiced on Sundays. These "open days" also apply to either-sex deer hunting seasons

1 listed under each game land. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on  
2 Tuesdays, until 7:00 a.m. on Thursdays, and until midnight on Saturdays.

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

6 (4) For purposes of this Section, "Seven Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which  
7 game may be taken during the open season on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays,  
8 Fridays, Saturdays, and Sundays. On Sundays, the following shall be prohibited:

9 (A) hunting between 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM;

10 (B) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;

11 (C) hunting within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b),  
12 or any accessory structure thereof.

13 (5) For purposes of this Section, "Four Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which game  
14 may be taken during the open season on Tuesdays, Thursdays, Saturdays, and Sundays. On  
15 Sundays, the following shall be prohibited:

16 (A) hunting between 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM;

17 (B) the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs;

18 (C) hunting within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b),  
19 or any accessory structure thereof.

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

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

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

24 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

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

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

31 (2) Alligator River Game Land in Tyrrell County

32 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Day 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) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of three hunting days  
36 during the November Bear Season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday  
37 first three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season.

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

39 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

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

- 1 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 2 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 3 (4) Bachelor Bay Game Land in Bertie, ~~Martin~~, and Washington counties
- 4 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 5 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 6 Antlers Season.
- 7 (5) Bertie County Game Land in Bertie 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) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 12 (6) Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County
- 13 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 14 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 15 Antlers Season.
- 16 (C) Except for blackpowder firearms, rifles larger than .22 caliber rimfire shall not be used.
- 17 (D) On the Singletary Lake Tract, the use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited.
- 18 (E) Wild turkey hunting on the Singletary Lake Tract is by permit only.
- 19 (F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
- 20 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 21 (G) The use of dogs for pursuing or taking foxes shall be prohibited from February 15
- 22 through August 1.
- 23 (7) Brinkleyville Game Land in Halifax County
- 24 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 25 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 26 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 27 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 28 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 29 ~~(8) Brunswick County Game Land in Brunswick County~~
- 30 ~~(A) Hunting is by permit only.~~
- 31 ~~(B) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.~~
- 32 ~~(9)~~(8) Buckhorn Game Land in Orange County
- 33 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 34 (B) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 35 ~~(10)~~(9) Buckridge Game Land in Tyrrell County.
- 36 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 37 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 38 Antlers Season.
- 39 (C) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~three hunting days~~
- 40 ~~during of~~ the November Bear Season and the ~~first three hunting days of the second~~
- 41 ~~week~~ second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of the December Bear Season. ~~If any of~~

1 ~~these days falls on a Tuesday, Friday or Saturday, bear hunting is allowed on those~~  
2 ~~days.~~

3 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.

4 ~~(11)~~(10) Buffalo Cove Game Land in Caldwell and Wilkes Counties

5 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

6 (B) The Deer With Visible Antlers season for deer consists of the open hunting days from  
7 the Monday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving.  
8 Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open days beginning the  
9 Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on  
10 or nearest October 15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. Deer with visible  
11 antlers may be taken with archery equipment the Monday immediately following the  
12 closing of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season, as described in this Part, through  
13 January 1. Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open days  
14 beginning the Monday on or nearest October 1 through the Saturday of the second  
15 week thereafter.

16 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With  
17 Visible Antlers Season.

18 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31  
19 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.

20 ~~(12)~~(11) Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve Game Lands in Robeson County

21 (A) ~~Three~~ Four 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 shall not be harvested on Sunday.

25 ~~(13)~~(12) Butner - Falls of Neuse Game Land in Durham, Granville, and Wake counties

26 (A) Six Days per Week Area

27 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
28 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

29 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:

- 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, Thursdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

33 On the posted waterfowl impoundments a special permit is required for all waterfowl  
34 hunting after November 1.

35 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited.

36 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

37 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an archery zone.

38 (G) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on that portion west of NC 50 and south  
39 of Falls Lake.

40 (H) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does  
41 not apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the

1 applicable seasons for game birds and game animals. On designated bicycle riding  
2 areas, the use of bicycles is allowed from May 15 through August 31, and on Sundays  
3 only from September 1 through May 14.

4 (I) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas  
5 are limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May  
6 14.

7 (J) Camping is allowed at any time in the designated Mountains-to-Sea Trail Camping  
8 Area and shall not exceed a maximum stay of two consecutive nights. Campfires are  
9 prohibited in this camping area.

10 ~~(14)~~(13) Buxton Woods Game Land in Dare County:

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 first Friday thereafter.

14 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.

15 ~~(15)~~(14) Cape Fear River Wetlands Game Land in Pender County

16 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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) Turkey Hunting is by permit only on that portion known as the Roan Island Tract.

20 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on the portion of the game land that is  
21 west of the Black River, north of Roan Island, east of Lyon Swamp Canal to Canetuck  
22 Road, and south of NC 210 to the Black River.

23 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

24 (F) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

25 ~~(16)~~(15) Carteret County Game Land in Carteret County

26 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

27 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
28 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

29 (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

30 (D) Bear hunting on the Salters Creek Tract is by permit only.

31 (E) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

32 ~~(17)~~(16) R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land in Caswell County

33 (A) Three Days per Week Area

34 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
35 Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.

36 (C) Horseback riding, including all equine species, is allowed seven days per week  
37 from May 16 – August 31, only during June, July, and August, and on Sundays only,  
38 September 1 – May 15, during the remainder of the year except during open turkey  
39 and deer seasons. Horseback riding is allowed only on roads opened to vehicular traffic  
40 and on those gated roads and trails that are posted for equestrian use. People age 16 or  
41 older horseback riding on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license.

- 1 (D) The area encompassed by the following roads is permit-only for all quail and  
2 woodcock hunting, and all bird dog training: From Yanceyville south on NC 62 to the  
3 intersection of SR 1746, west on SR 1746 to the intersection of SR 1156, south on SR  
4 1156 to the intersection of SR 1783, east on SR 1783 to the intersection of NC 62,  
5 north on NC 62 to the intersection of SR 1736, east on SR 1736 to the intersection of  
6 SR 1730, east on SR 1730 to NC 86, north on NC 86 to NC 62.
- 7 (E) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl hunting is by permit only after  
8 November 1.
- 9 (F) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas  
10 are limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May  
11 14.
- 12 (G) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Shooting Range.
- 13 ~~(18)~~(17) Chatham Game Land in Chatham County
- 14 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 18 (D) Horseback riding is allowed only during June, July, and August; and on Sundays  
19 during the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons.
- 20 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 21 ~~(19)~~(18) Chowan Game Land in Chowan County
- 22 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 23 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers  
24 Season.
- 25 (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 26 ~~(20)~~(19) Chowan Swamp Game Land in Bertie, Gates, and Hertford counties.
- 27 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 28 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
29 Antlers Season.
- 30 (C) Bear hunting is restricted to the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday ~~three hunting~~  
31 ~~days during~~ of the November bear season and the second Saturday, Monday, and  
32 Tuesday ~~first three hunting days during the second week~~ of the December bear  
33 season except that portion of Chowan Swamp Game Land in Gates County that is  
34 east of Highway 158/13, south of Highway 158, west of Highway 32, and north of  
35 Catherine Creek and the Chowan River where the bear season is the same as the season  
36 dates for the Gates County bear season.
- 37 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
38 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 39 (E) Horseback riding is prohibited except during May 16 through August 31 and on  
40 Sundays only September 1 through May 15 on those roads that are open to vehicular  
41 traffic and on those gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.

- 1 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 2 ~~(21)~~(20) Cold Mountain Game Land in Haywood County
- 3 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 4 (B) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31
- 5 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 6 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With
- 7 Visible Antlers Season.
- 8 ~~(22)~~(21) Columbus County Game Land in Columbus County.
- 9 (A) ~~Three~~ Four 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) Deer hunting on the Campbell Tract shall be by permit only.
- 13 ~~(23)~~(22) Croatan Game Land in Carteret, Craven, and Jones counties
- 14 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 15 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 16 Antlers Season.
- 17 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:
- 18 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 19 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 20 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 21 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl day in October through the end of all waterfowl
- 22 seasons, waterfowl hunting from designated Disabled Sportsmen blinds on the Catfish
- 23 Lake Waterfowl Impoundment is by permit only.
- 24 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only for the first two open days of dove season on posted
- 25 areas. During the rest of dove season, no permit is required to hunt doves.
- 26 (F) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 27 ~~(24)~~(23) Currituck Banks Game Land in Currituck County
- 28 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 29 (B) Permanent waterfowl blinds in Currituck Sound on these game lands shall be hunted
- 30 by permit only from November 1 through the end of all waterfowl seasons.
- 31 (C) Licensed hunting guides may accompany the permitted individual or party provided
- 32 the guides do not use a firearm.
- 33 (D) The boundary of the game land shall extend 5 yards from the edge of the marsh or
- 34 shoreline.
- 35 (E) Dogs are allowed only for waterfowl hunting by permitted waterfowl hunters on the
- 36 day of their hunt.
- 37 (F) No screws, nails, or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree
- 38 stand or blind to a tree.
- 39 (G) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers
- 40 season.
- 41 (H) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

- 1           ~~(25)~~(24) Dan River Game Land in Rockingham County
- 2                   (A)     Three Days per Week Area
- 3                   (B)     Deer hunting is by permit only.
- 4                   (C)     Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 5                   (D)     Horseback riding is prohibited except on those areas posted for equestrian use. People
- 6                             age 16 or older horseback riding on this game land must possess a Game Lands license.
- 7                   (E)     Target shooting is prohibited.
- 8           ~~(26)~~(25) Dare Game Land in Dare and Hyde counties
- 9                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven 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 first Friday thereafter.
- 12                  (C)     No hunting is allowed on posted parts of bombing range.
- 13                  (D)     The use and training of dogs is prohibited from March 1 through June 30.
- 14           ~~(27)~~(26) Dover Bay Game Land in Craven County
- 15                  (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 16                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 17                             Antlers season.
- 18                  (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 19           ~~(28)~~(27) DuPont State Forest Game Lands in Henderson and Transylvania counties
- 20                  (A)     Hunting is by permit only.
- 21                  (B)     The training and use of dogs for hunting is prohibited except by special hunt permit
- 22                             holders during scheduled permit hunts.
- 23           ~~(29)~~(28) Elk Knob Game Land in Watauga County
- 24                  (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 25                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 26                             Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 27           ~~(30)~~(29) Embro Game Land in Halifax and Warren counties
- 28                  (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 29                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 30                             Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 31                  (C)     Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 32                  (D)     Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 33           ~~(31)~~(30) Goose Creek Game Land in Beaufort and Pamlico counties
- 34                  (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven 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)     Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl
- 38                             impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
- 39                             (i)     the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 40                             (ii)    Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 41                             (iii)   Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

- 1 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October through the end of all  
2 waterfowl seasons, waterfowl hunting is by permit only on the following waterfowl  
3 impoundments: Pamlico Point, Campbell Creek, Hunting Creek, Spring Creek, Smith  
4 Creek, and Hobucken.
- 5 (E) On Pamlico Point and Campbell Creek Waterfowl Impoundments all activities, except  
6 waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days and trapping during the  
7 trapping season, are restricted to the posted Scouting-only Zone during the period  
8 November 1 through March 15.
- 9 (F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
10 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 11 (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Parker Farm Tract is restricted from September 1  
12 through January 1 and April 1 through May 15 to individuals that possess a valid  
13 hunting opportunity permit.
- 14 (H) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
15 prohibited on the Beaufort County portion north of NC-33.
- 16 (I) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 17 ~~(32)~~(31) Green River Game Land in Henderson, and Polk counties
- 18 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 19 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With  
20 Visible Antlers Season.
- 21 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 22 ~~(33)~~(32) Green Swamp Game Land in Brunswick County
- 23 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 24 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
25 Antlers Season.
- 26 (C) On that portion north of Big Macedonia Road, east of Makatoka Road, south of Little  
27 Macedonia Road, and west of Green Swamp Road, hunting and trapping is by permit  
28 only.
- 29 (D) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
30 prohibited on that portion of the game land that is north of Big Macedonia Road, east  
31 of Makatoka Road, south of Little Macedonia Road, and west of Green Swamp Road.
- 32 ~~(34)~~(33) Gull Rock Game Land in Hyde County
- 33 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 34 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
35 Antlers Season.
- 36 (C) Waterfowl on posted waterfowl impoundments shall be taken only on the following  
37 days:
- 38 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons; and
- 39 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
- 40 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl season.

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

- 1 (ii) on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, with the exception of Thanksgiving,  
2 Christmas, and New Year's days, and except for the area north of Bear Garden  
3 Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east of the Northeast Cape Fear  
4 River, south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, where the use of dogs for deer and  
5 bear hunting is by permit only.
- 6 (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Pender 4 Tract is restricted from September 1 to  
7 the last day of February and April 1 to May 15 to individuals that possess valid hunting  
8 opportunity permits, unless otherwise authorized by the Wildlife Resources  
9 Commission.
- 10 (H) Hunters who possess a Disabled Access Permit may operate an All Terrain Vehicle on  
11 and within 100 yards of trails designated for Disabled Sportsman Access.
- 12 (I) Target shooting is prohibited, except on the Holly Shelter Shooting Range.
- 13 (J) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.
- 14 ~~(39)~~(38) Hyco Game land in Person County
- 15 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
17 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 18 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 19 ~~(40)~~(39) J. Morgan Futch Game Land in Tyrrell County - hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 20 ~~(41)~~(40) Johns River Game Land in Burke County
- 21 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 22 (B) During permitted deer hunts, deer of either sex may be taken by permit holders.
- 23 (C) Entry on posted waterfowl impoundments is prohibited October 1 through March 31,  
24 except by lawful waterfowl hunting permit holders and only on those days written on  
25 the permits.
- 26 (D) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited.
- 27 (E) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas  
28 is limited to August 31 through the last day of February and March 31 through May  
29 14.
- 30 ~~(42)~~(41) Jordan Game Land in Chatham, Durham, Orange, and Wake 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) Waterfowl may be taken only on:
- 35 (i) Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 36 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and
- 37 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 38 (D) ~~Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited except~~ allowed only  
39 on those areas posted as American Tobacco Trail and other areas posted for equestrian  
40 use. Unless otherwise posted, horseback riding is permitted on posted portions of the  
41 American Tobacco Trail anytime the trail is open for use. On all other trails posted for

1 equestrian use, horseback riding is allowed seven days per week from May 16 – August  
2 31, only during June, July, and August, and on Sundays only from September 1 –  
3 May 15, the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons. People  
4 age 16 or older must obtain who ride horseback on trails occurring entirely within the  
5 game land boundaries shall possess a Game Lands license–license prior to engaging in  
6 horseback riding on any area other than the American Tobacco Trail.

7 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

8 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an Archery  
9 Zone.

10 (G) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does  
11 not apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the  
12 applicable seasons for game birds and game animals.

13 ~~(43)~~(42) Juniper Creek Game Land in Brunswick and Columbus counties

14 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

15 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers  
16 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 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

20 ~~(44)~~(43) Kerr Scott Game Land in Wilkes County

21 (A) Six Days per Week Area

22 (B) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.

23 (C) Use of blackpowder firearms, shotguns, or rifles for hunting deer during the applicable  
24 Deer With Visible Antlers Season is prohibited.

25 (D) Tree stands shall not be left overnight; and no screws, nails, or other objects penetrating  
26 the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.

27 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
28 Antlers season.

29 (F) Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.

30 (G) The use of firearms for hunting wild turkey is prohibited.

31 ~~(45)~~(44) Lantern Acres Game Land in Tyrrell and Washington 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) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

36 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer on the Godley Tract is prohibited.

37 (E) Waterfowl hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.

38 ~~(46)~~(45) Lee Game Land in Lee County

39 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

40 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
41 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

- 1 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 2 ~~(47)~~(46) Light Ground Pocosin Game Land in Pamlico County
- 3 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 4 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer with Visible
- 5 Antlers Season.
- 6 (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 7 ~~(48)~~(47) Linwood Game Land in Davidson County
- 8 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 9 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken on all of the open days of the applicable Deer With
- 10 Visible Antlers Season.
- 11 ~~(49)~~(48) Lower Fishing Creek Game Land in Edgecombe and Halifax counties
- 12 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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.
- 16 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 17 (F) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 18 ~~(50)~~(49) Mayo Game Land in Person County
- 19 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:
- 23 (i) Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 24 (ii) Christmas and New Year's Days; and
- 25 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 26 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 27 ~~(51)~~(50) Mitchell River Game Land in Surry County
- 28 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 29 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 30 Antlers Season through the second ~~Wednesday~~ Tuesday thereafter.
- 31 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31,
- 32 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 33 ~~(52)~~(51) Nantahala Game Land in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, Swain, and Transylvania
- 34 counties
- 35 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 36 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With
- 37 Visible Antlers Season in that portion located in Transylvania County.
- 38 ~~(53)~~(52) Needmore Game Land in Macon and Swain counties.
- 39 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 40 (B) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31,
- 41 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.

1 (C) On posted dove fields, dove hunting on the opening day of dove season is by permit  
2 only.

3 ~~(54)~~(53) Neuse River Game Land in Craven County

4 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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

7 (C) Camping is allowed any time within 100 yards of the Neuse River on that portion of  
8 the game land that lies west of NC-43.

9 ~~(55)~~(54) New Lake Game Land in Hyde and Tyrrell counties

10 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

14 ~~(56)~~(55) Nicholson Creek Game Land in Hoke County

15 (A) Three Days per Week Area

16 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from  
17 the Saturday on or nearest September 10 through the fourth Friday before  
18 Thanksgiving Day.

19 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days  
20 beginning the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the  
21 second week thereafter.

22 (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the  
23 second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after  
24 Thanksgiving Day.

25 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
26 Antlers Season.

27 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

28 (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

29 (H) On Lake Upchurch, the following activities are prohibited:

30 (i) Operating any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine;  
31 and

32 (ii) Swimming.

33 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.

34 ~~(57)~~(56) North River Game Land in Camden and Currituck counties

35 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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.

38 (C) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or  
39 shoreline.

40 (D) Hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment is by permit only.

41 (E) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.



- 1           ~~(62)~~(61) Pond Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- 2                   (A)     ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 3                   (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 4                             Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 5                   (C)     Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails from May 16 through
- 6                             August 31 and Sundays from September 1 through October 31. All horseback riding
- 7                             is prohibited from November 1 through May 15.
- 8           ~~(63)~~(62) Pungo River Game Land in Hyde 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           ~~(64)~~(63) Rendezvous Mountain State Forest Game Land in Wilkes County
- 13                  (A)     Three 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 Wednesday thereafter.
- 16                  (C)     Bear hunting is prohibited.
- 17           ~~(65)~~(64) Rhodes Pond Game Land in Cumberland and Harnett counties
- 18                  (A)     Hunting is by permit only.
- 19                  (B)     Swimming is prohibited on the area.
- 20           ~~(66)~~(65) Roanoke River Wetlands in Bertie, Halifax, Martin, and Northampton counties
- 21                  (A)     Hunting and trapping is by Permit only.
- 22                  (B)     Vehicles are prohibited on roads or trails except those operated on Commission
- 23                             business or by permit holders.
- 24                  (C)     Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
- 25                             through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas, provided,
- 26                             however, that camping is allowed at any time within 100 yards of the Roanoke River
- 27                             on the state-owned portion of the game land.
- 28                  (D)     Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 29           ~~(67)~~(66) Roanoke Island Marshes Game Land in Dare County-Hunting is by permit only.
- 30           ~~(68)~~(67) Robeson Game Land in Robeson County
- 31                  (A)     ~~Three~~ Four 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)     Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 35           ~~(69)~~(68) Rockfish Creek Game Land in Hoke County
- 36                  (A)     Three Days per Week Area
- 37                  (B)     Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from
- 38                             the Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day.
- 39                  (C)     Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days
- 40                             beginning the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the
- 41                             second week thereafter.

- 1 (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the  
2 second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after  
3 Thanksgiving Day.
- 4 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
5 Antlers Season.
- 6 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 7 (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 8 (H) Taking fox squirrels is prohibited.
- 9 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 10 ~~(70)~~(69) Rocky Run Game Land in Onslow County - Hunting is by permit only.
- 11 ~~(71)~~(70) Sampson Game Land in Sampson County
- 12 (A) ~~Three~~ Four 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 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 16 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 17 ~~(72)~~(71) Sandhills Game Land in Hoke, Moore, Richmond, and Scotland counties
- 18 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 19 (B) Hunting is prohibited on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds from October 22  
20 through March 31 except as follows:
- 21 (i) deer of either-sex may be taken with archery equipment on all the open days  
22 of the archery season through the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day;  
23 with blackpowder firearms and archery equipment all the open days of the  
24 blackpowder firearms season through the third Wednesday before  
25 Thanksgiving Day; and only deer with visible antlers may be taken with all  
26 legal weapons from the second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through  
27 the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;
- 28 (ii) dove may be taken all open days from the opening day of the dove season  
29 through the third Saturday thereafter;
- 30 (iii) squirrel (gray and fox) may be taken all the open days from the second  
31 Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following  
32 Thanksgiving Day;
- 33 (iv) rabbit may be taken all open days from the second Saturday preceding  
34 Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;
- 35 (v) waterfowl may be taken on open days during any waterfowl season;
- 36 (vi) wild animals and wild birds may be taken as part of a Disabled Sportsmen  
37 Program Permit Hunt; and
- 38 (vii) raccoon and opossum may be taken on open days from sunrise Monday on or  
39 nearest October 15 through the last day of February.

- 1 (C) The Deer With Visible Antlers season is the open hunting days from the second  
2 Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day  
3 except on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds.
- 4 (D) The archery season is all open days from the Saturday on or nearest to Sept. 10 to the  
5 fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day and, except on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial  
6 Grounds, the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1. Deer of either  
7 sex may be taken with archery equipment on all open hunting days during the archery  
8 season, by permit during the Deer with Visible antlers season, and the blackpowder  
9 firearms season as stated in this Subparagraph. Only deer with visible antlers may be  
10 taken from the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- 11 (E) Blackpowder firearms season is all the open days from the fourth Saturday preceding  
12 Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week thereafter and, except  
13 on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds, the third Monday after Thanksgiving  
14 Day through January 1. Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on  
15 all open hunting days during the blackpowder firearms season and by permit during  
16 the Deer With Visible Antlers season. Only deer with visible antlers may be taken from  
17 the third Monday after Thanksgiving Day through January 1.
- 18 (F) Either-sex deer hunting during the Deer With Visible Antlers Season is by permit only.
- 19 (G) In addition to the regular hunting days, waterfowl may be taken on the opening and  
20 closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 21 (H) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 22 (I) Horseback riding on field trial grounds from October 22 through March 31 is  
23 prohibited unless participating in authorized field trials. Horseback riding is allowed  
24 on the remainder of the Sandhills Game Land seven days per week on roads that are  
25 open to vehicular traffic and gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.
- 26 (J) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas  
27 are limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May  
28 14.
- 29 (K) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the John F. Lentz Hunter Education Complex.  
30 ~~(73)~~(72) Sandy Creek Game Land in Nash and Franklin Counties-counties
- 31 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 32 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
33 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 34 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 35 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 36 (E) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 37 ~~(74)~~(73) Sandy Mush Game Land in Buncombe and Madison counties.
- 38 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 39 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer with  
40 Visible Antlers season.

- 1 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31  
2 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 3 (D) Dogs shall only be trained on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays and only as  
4 allowed in 15A NCAC 10D .0102(f).
- 5 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only from the opening day through the second Saturday of  
6 dove season.
- 7 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 8 ~~(75)~~(74) Second Creek Game Land in Rowan County- hunting is by permit only.
- 9 ~~(76)~~(75) Shocco Creek Game Land in Franklin, Halifax, Nash, and Warren counties
- 10 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 11 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
12 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 13 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 14 (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
15 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- 16 (E) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 17 ~~(77)~~(76) South Mountains Game Land in Burke, Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford counties
- 18 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 19 (B) The Deer With Visible Antlers season for deer consists of the open hunting days from  
20 the Monday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving.  
21 Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open days beginning the  
22 Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on  
23 or nearest October 15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. Deer with visible  
24 antlers may be taken with archery equipment the Monday immediately following the  
25 closing of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season, as described in this Part, through  
26 January 1. Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open days  
27 beginning the Monday on or nearest October 1 through the Saturday of the second  
28 week thereafter.
- 29 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With  
30 Visible Antlers Season.
- 31 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails during the following dates:
- 32 (i) January 2 through March 31;
- 33 (ii) May 16 through August 31;
- 34 (iii) Sundays only - April 1 through May 15; and
- 35 (iv) Sundays only - September 1 through January 1.
- 36 ~~(78)~~(77) Stones Creek Game Land in Onslow County
- 37 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 38 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
39 Antlers Season.
- 40 (C) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.
- 41 (D) Swimming in all lakes is prohibited.

- 1 (E) Waterfowl ~~on posted waterfowl impoundments~~ may be taken only on the following  
2 days:
- 3 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;  
4 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and  
5 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 6 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.  
7 (G) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.
- 8 ~~(79)~~(78) Suggs Mill Pond Game Land in Bladen and Cumberland 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) Entry is prohibited on scheduled hunt or trapping days except for:  
13 (i) hunters or trappers holding special hunt or trapping permits; and  
14 (ii) persons using Campground Road to access Suggs Mill Pond Lake at the dam.  
15 (D) During the period of November 1 through January 31, except on Sundays, the use of  
16 vessels on Suggs Mill Pond Lake and Little Singletary Lake is limited to waterfowl  
17 hunting only by waterfowl hunters possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity  
18 Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).  
19 (E) During the period of November 1 through March 15, the use of vessels on managed  
20 waterfowl impoundments is limited to waterfowl hunting only by waterfowl hunters  
21 possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife  
22 Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).
- 23 ~~(80)~~(79) Sutton Lake Game Land in New Hanover and Brunswick counties
- 24 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area  
25 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
26 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.  
27 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.  
28 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 29 ~~(81)~~(80) Tar River Game Land in Edgecombe County
- 30 (A) Hunting is by permit only  
31 (B) Target Shooting is prohibited
- 32 ~~(82)~~(81) Texas Plantation Game Land in Tyrrell County - hunting and trapping is by permit only.
- 33 ~~(83)~~(82) Three Top Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- 34 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area  
35 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
36 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.  
37 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 38 ~~(84)~~(83) Thurmond Chatham Game Land in Alleghany and Wilkes counties
- 39 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area  
40 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
41 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.

- 1 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31,  
2 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15. People age  
3 16 or older horseback riding on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license.
- 4 (D) The maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at any designated campground  
5 is 14 days within any 30 day period from May 1 through August 31. After 14  
6 consecutive days of camping all personal belongings must be removed from the game  
7 land.
- 8 ~~(85)~~(84) Tillery ~~game~~ Game Land in Halifax County
- 9 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 13 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- 14 (E) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 15 (F) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 16 ~~(86)~~(85) Toxaway Game Land in Jackson and Transylvania counties
- 17 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 18 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With  
19 Visible Antlers Season.
- 20 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31  
21 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
- 22 ~~(87)~~(86) Uwharrie Game Land in Davidson, Montgomery, and Randolph counties
- 23 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 24 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible  
25 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 26 (C) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl may be taken only on the following  
27 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) Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 31 (D) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the Flintlock Valley Shooting Range.
- 32 ~~(88)~~(87) Vance Game Land in Vance County
- 33 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 34 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
35 Antlers Season.
- 36 (C) The use of dogs, centerfire rifles, and handguns for hunting deer is prohibited on the  
37 Nutbush Peninsula tract.
- 38 ~~(89)~~(88) Van Swamp Game Land in Beaufort and Washington counties
- 39 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 40 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible  
41 Antlers Season.

1 (C) Bear may only be taken the first Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday of three hunting days  
2 during the November Bear Season and the second Saturday, Monday, and Tuesday  
3 first three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season.

4 ~~(90)~~(89) Voice of America Game Land in Beaufort County

5 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.

6 (B) Target Shooting is prohibited.

7 ~~(91)~~(90) White Oak River Game Land in Onslow County

8 (A) Three 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) Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl  
12 impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:

13 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;

14 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and

15 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

16 (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October through the end of all  
17 waterfowl seasons, a permit is required for hunting posted waterfowl impoundments.

18 (E) The Huggins Tract and Morton Tracts have the following restrictions:

19 (i) access on Hargett Avenue and Sloan Farm Road requires a valid Hunting  
20 Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant  
21 to G.S. 113-264(d);

22 (ii) hunting is by permit only; and

23 (iii) the use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

24 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

25 (G) Target Shooting is prohibited.

26 ~~(92)~~(91) Whitehall Plantation Game Land in Bladen and Pender counties

27 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.

28 (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31  
29 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

30 (C) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is  
31 prohibited on the Long Ridge Tract.

32 ~~(93)~~(92) William H. Silver Game Land in Haywood County

33 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area

34 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With  
35 Visible Antlers Season.

36 (C) Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.

37 (h) On permitted type hunts, deer of either sex may be taken on the hunt dates indicated on the permit. Completed  
38 applications shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the  
39 dates of hunt. Permits shall be issued by random computer selection, shall be mailed to the permittees prior to the  
40 hunt, and are nontransferable. A hunter making a kill shall validate the kill and report the kill to a wildlife  
41 cooperator agent or by phone.

1 (i) The following game lands and refuges are closed to all hunting except to those individuals who have obtained  
2 a valid and current permit from the Wildlife Resources Commission:

- 3 (1) Bertie, Halifax and Martin counties—Roanoke River Wetlands;
- 4 (2) Bertie County—Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge;
- 5 (3) Bladen County—Suggs Mill Pond Game Lands;
- 6 (4) Burke County—John's River Waterfowl Refuge;
- 7 (5) Dare County—Dare Game Lands (Those parts of bombing range posted against hunting);
- 8 (6) Dare County—Roanoke Sound Marshes Game Lands; and
- 9 (7) Henderson and Transylvania counties—DuPont State Forest Game Lands.

10 (j) Access to Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge in Davie County requires written permission from the  
11 Commission. Written permission may be granted only when entry onto the Waterfowl Refuge will not  
12 compromise the primary purpose for establishing the Waterfowl Refuge and the person requesting entry can  
13 demonstrate a valid need or the person is a contractor or agent of the Commission conducting official business.  
14 "Valid need" includes issues of access to private property, scientific investigations, surveys, or other access to  
15 conduct activities in the public interest.

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

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

22 (m) Veterans and Military Waterfowl Days. On the day declared by the Commission to be Veterans and Military  
23 Waterfowl Days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including  
24 members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty other than for training, with valid credentials may  
25 hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as permit-only areas.

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

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

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

33

APPENDIX B

<b>Game Land</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Sunday Hunting</b>
Alligator River	Large, 24,000 acres, many species available, important to birders, nearby public land without Sunday hunting (Alligator River NWR, Pettigrew State Park), Buckridge Game Land nearby	Yes
Angola Bay	34,000 acres, all game species available, a lot of roads in organic soil, Low overharvest risk, low non-traditional use, some birding and horseback riding, no conflicts with landowners, very close to Holly Shelter Game Land	Yes
Bachelor Bay	TNC property, they supportive of Sunday hunting at this location, boat access only	Yes
Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve	No impacts to infrastructure (no roads/trails), no overharvest, low non-traditional users, mainly hunters, close to Lumber River state park, no conflicts expected	Yes
Cape Fear River Wetlands	Large, 7,200 acres, low impact to infrastructure expected, no overharvest expected, mainly hunters, no sensitive species, low non-traditional use, close proximity to alternative land	Yes
Carteret County	7,100 acres, all species available, a lot of roads, low overharvest, rural, low non-traditional use, few conflicts expected, Cedar Island NWR nearby	Yes
Chowan	Small, low impact, boating access only, no use of non-traditional users	Yes
Columbus County	10,000 acres, low overharvest risk, minimal infrastructure, low non-traditional use, Lake Waccamaw State park near one tract	Yes
Croatan National Forest	Low overharvest potential, not complex, has horse trails and bike trails, high non-traditional use, state parks nearby, USFS supports allowing hunting on Sunday	Yes
Currituck Banks	Nearby parks, low impact on other uses, no issue from TNC partnership; Jockey Ridge State Park is nearby	Yes
Dare	Permit hunting, low potential for overharvest, low impact for infrastructure, surrounded by Alligator River NWR	Yes

Game Land	Notes	Sunday Hunting
Goose Creek	All species available, no infrastructure issues, mild complexities, low non-traditional use, mainly hunters, rural, little conflict expected	Yes
Gull Rock	Low risk of overharvest, low impact on other uses, rural, no conflicts	Yes
Juniper Creek	20,000 acres, some infrastructure in the form of roads, no overharvest risk to most species, some concern about bear harvest, low non-traditional use, primarily hunters, close to Lake Waccamaw state park, close to Green Swamp Game Land	Yes
Light Ground Pocosin	Not much game species, low overharvest potential, no infrastructure, rural, low non-traditional use, low conflict, no other public lands nearby	Yes
New Lake	Minimal access, low non-traditional use, low conflict, no harvest issues, rural, Mattamuskeet and Pocosin NWRs nearby	Yes
North River	Some non-traditional use, close to Dismal Swamp state park, large enough for Sunday hunting, mainly hunters, rural,	Yes
Northwest River Marsh	Remote, BAA access only, low use in general, not much non-traditional use, Mackay Island NWR, Great Dismal Swamp NWR nearby	Yes
Robeson	Low potential for overharvest, primarily hunting use, little non-traditional use, close to other public lands (Lumber River State Park), small tract	Yes
Rocky Run	Low species availability, permit only, low non-traditional use, mainly hunters, public land close by (Hammocks Beach State Park), no conflicts expected	Yes
Sampson	No infrastructure, no potential for overharvest, primarily hunting use	Yes
Sutton Lake	Low non-traditional use, no conflicts expected, conservative deer season, no infrastructure impacts	Yes
Van Swamp	Heavy use of dogs for deer, bear hunts in Nov/Dec, options for other hunts and non-traditional use nearby-minimizes risk for overharvest, Pettigrew State Park, RR NWR nearby. VOA Game Land nearby.	Yes

<b>Game Land</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Sunday Hunting</b>
Alcoa	Large game land, important to hunters, near Morrow Mtn. State Park, low conflicts expected	Yes
Brinkleyville	Large, Rural, all species available, important to hunters, low non-traditional use, next to Medoc Mtn. state park	Yes
Chatham	All species available, low non-traditional use, close to state parks (Haw River, Raven Rock), close to Jordan Game Land	Yes
Embryo	Large, 8,000 acres, rural, important to hunters, little non-traditional use, similar to Brinkleyville, right next to it	Yes
Harris	Next to Chatham and Lee, non-traditional users prevalent, close to state parks (Haw River, Raven Rock, Deep River), close to Jordan Game Land	Yes
Hycow	Little use by non-hunters, rural, far from public lands or urban center, low conflict with landowners	Yes
Lee	Low non-traditional use, mostly hunters, close to other parks for non-traditional users (Haw River, Raven Rock), close to Jordan Game Land, close to Raleigh	Yes
Linwood	Moderate hunting, no conflict w/ landowners	Yes
Lower Fishing Creek	Low nt use, mainly hunters, rural, far from other public lands or urban centers, high game species availability, little conflicts expected	Yes
Mayo	Large, all game species available, no complex rules, low non-traditional use, mostly hunters, rural, not near urban centers	Yes
Pee Dee River	Multiple counties, dog restrictions, close to urban centers, some adjacent areas for non-traditional user (Pee Dee NWR, Morrow Mtn. State Park), diversity of species to hunt, some horseback riding and camping	Yes
Perkins	One county, mostly hunting use, no known conflicts	Yes
Sandy Creek	All species available, low non-traditional use, mostly hunters, rural, Medoc Mtn. State Park is close, no conflicts with others	Yes

Game Land	Notes	Sunday Hunting
Shocco Creek	All game species available, no overharvest concerns, close to Medoc Mtn. state park, low non-traditional users, mostly hunting use, few conflicts expected	Yes
Tar River	Permit only, low non-traditional use, small, close to county parks for non-traditional users	Yes
Tillery	Low non-traditional use, far from urban centers, low conflict with landowners, all species available	Yes
Upper Roanoke River Wetlands	Large, permit only, all species, low non-traditional use, not close to urban centers, no conflicts expected	Yes
Uwharrie National Forest	Large game land, Heavy Sunday non-traditional use, some recreation areas, many species available, low potential for overharvest, close to other recreational opportunities; USFS supports allowing hunting on Sunday	Yes
Buffalo Cove	Low non-traditional use, no special amenities (one riding trail), rural, hard to get to, close to Pisgah for non-traditional users	Yes
Cold Mountain	Close to other land for non-traditional use, high hunting use	Yes
Elk Knob	No non-traditional use allowed, landowner agreeable to Sunday hunting	Yes
Johns River	Permit only, looking to see if we can fit more hunts in	Yes
Mitchell River	Limited game, remote, 3 day a week area, going to 4 day wouldn't impact pressure on game if added Sundays	Yes
Nantahala National Forest	2 sections asked to exclude from Sunday hunting by rangers (Jack Rabbit and Tsali). [USFS sent email to retract this request about Jack Rabbit and Tsali]. Support from Sunday hunting from focus group participants; USFS supports allowing hunting on Sunday	Yes

<b>Game Land</b>	<b>Notes</b>	<b>Sunday Hunting</b>
Needmore	Close to other tracts for non-traditional use, rural, Little Tennessee River through middle (watersport users), some traditional ideas about Sunday as a day of rest	Yes
Pisgah National Forest	USFS supportive of Sunday hunting on Pisgah, support from focus group participants	Yes
Pisgah NCWRC	Shared borders with US Forest Service-manage the same as USFS property	Yes
Pond Mountain	Remote, some non-traditional use but more hunting than non-traditional, low on ebird data/use	Yes
South Mountains	Some non-traditional use-adjoints South Mountain state park	Yes
Three Top Mountain	Some non-traditional use, some hunting, close to Elk Knob state park, no conflicts expected	Yes
Thurmond Chatham	Not much non-traditional use, mostly hunters, next to Stone Mtn. state park	Yes
Toxaway	Close to state park for non-traditional use, some hiking but not enough for conflict	Yes
William H. Silver	Close to Great Smoky Mtn. National Park for non-traditional use, close to Rendezvous Mtn., lot of use for hunting bear/hog/elk and deer	Yes