



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

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

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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.¹ 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 of the proposed rule amendments to the game land rule 15A NCAC 10D .0103, with the proposed text included in Appendix A.

15A NCAC 10D .0103 Hunting on Game Lands

The proposed changes to this rule cover multiple general topic areas, including: game lands, target shooting, deer, bear, and permit requirements.

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

Deer

- A. This proposed amendment will establish a December archery season on South Mountains Game Land and Buffalo Cove Game Land for antlered deer. The NCAC does not include language allowing the extended archery season on South Mountains Game Land or Buffalo Cove Game Land. This proposal will update the NCAC to make the deer season at South Mountains Game Land and Buffalo Cove Game Land consistent with the western deer season and the Regulation's Digest.

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

The proposed amendment will have a state government impact by increasing days afield by which hunters will generate additional tax and license revenue. This rule change will afford archery deer hunters on South Mountains and Buffalo Cove Game Lands an extra 20 days afield and extend the season from 61 days to 81 days. These additional days should translate into more licenses, hotel stays, fuel, and equipment being purchased. Negative impacts to the State will be minimal as land management practices will not change because of this proposal. Also, financial impacts will not be substantial to the WRC Law Enforcement Division as

¹ 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.

they are currently actively patrolling these areas.

Local Impact

The proposed amendment may have a local government impact by increasing days afield by hunters which will generate local tax revenue through hotel taxes, fuel taxes, and sales tax on other hunting related purchases.

Private Impact

Private individuals will incur no costs as a result of this proposed amendment. They will however have increased opportunities for wildlife-based recreation and local businesses should see an increase in revenue due to an increase in days afield by hunters. User conflicts between non-hunters and archery hunters might increase; however, this has not been a problem in the past when the December archery season has been offered.

- B. The proposed amendment will allow deer of either sex to be taken during the first open Saturday of the Deer with Visible Antlers Season at Cold Mountain Game Land. The Introductory Gun Either-Sex Deer Season dates were shifted to the beginning of the season during the 2018-2019 regulation cycle. For game lands, the open date for the Introductory Season was moved to the first open Saturday of the Gun Season; however, this change was not captured in the NCAC text for Cold Mountain Game Land.

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

This proposed amendment will not have a state government impact. This proposal is simply moving the one day of the Gun Either-Sex Deer Season from the last open day of the regular gun season to the first open Saturday of the regular gun season. No land management or law enforcement activities will change because of this proposal.

Local Impact

No local government impact is expected since the proposal only consists of moving one day of the specified season from the end to the beginning of the season. *Private Impact*

Private individuals will incur no costs as a result of this proposed amendment. Also, allowing this extended archery season is consistent with the deer management objectives of the WRC Wildlife Management Division and the goal of maintaining a healthy, robust deer herd in North Carolina.

- C. The proposed amendment will establish the Conservative either-sex season on Buxton Woods Game Land. When Dare County was transitioned to the maximum deer either-sex season in 2009, the intent was for Buxton Woods Game Land to remain in the Conservative Season. This intent was captured in the Regulations Digest but this change was never incorporated into the NCAC.

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

No Impact

Local Impact

No impact

Private Impact

No Impact

Game Lands

- A. The proposed amendment will add Hyde County to the list of counties comprising Dare Game Land. A small portion of Dare Game Land extends into Hyde County and this proposal will correct this administrative oversight.

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

No Impact

Local Impact

No impact

Private Impact

No Impact

- B. The proposed amendment will clarify bear sanctuary rules in the NCAC. These administrative changes will allow staff to better track and implement changes to bear sanctuaries.

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

No Impact

Local Impact

No impact

Private Impact

No Impact

- C. This proposed amendment would add Pender County to the list of counties comprising Whitehall Plantation Game Land. The Long Ridge tract is an 848-acre tract in Pender County and it is being incorporated into the Whitehall Plantation Game Land.

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

Initial cost of boundary establishment will be \$5,110 (14.6 miles at \$350 per mile). WRC does not anticipate needing to devote additional staff time to patrolling in this area as its location is immediately adjacent to an existing game land.

Local Impact

County property tax revenue may be decreased by a minimal amount. The Pender County property tax rate is \$0.685/\$100 of property valued. The tract was purchased by WRC for \$1.5 million dollars. Assuming that the property was valued by the county at the market price, this could result in a loss of approximately \$10,275 in tax revenue for Pender County. However, revenue from user groups enjoying wildlife-based recreation should increase. This revenue to the local economy will be realized through increased travel to this area to use the new game land and will result in purchases of food, gas, lodging, and equipment.

Private Impact

Positive impacts should be expected due to this tract becoming accessible to the public. This new game land will benefit hunters, hikers, bird watchers, and other wildlife-based recreationists. The number of recreational trips to this new game land is unknown, but the recreational value of nature related activities is valued at \$47/day and the value of hunting related activities is approximately \$63/day.² The tract was previously privately owned and access to the public was not allowed. Although this tract of land was previously privately-owned, there will be no change in land-use. This specific tract may experience increased user traffic compared to when it was privately owned; however, utilization is expected to be consistent and in-line with game land management practices. Any associated negative impacts from this tract being added to the game land will be minimal.

- D. This amendment will change the designation of Dan River Game Land in Rockingham County from a Permit Only Area to a Three Days per Week Area with turkey and deer hunting by permit only. Changing the designation of this property to a Three Days per Week Area will increase hunting opportunities while ensuring a quality user experience for hunters, anglers, wildlife viewers, and other outdoor recreationists. Turkey and deer hunting will still be by permit only to conserve these populations and measure hunter interest.

Fiscal Impact

² 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.

State Impact

The change to a Three Day per Week Area will result in a loss of permit fees for small game hunting and trapping. For the 2018-2019 hunting season, permit revenue for the Dan River Game Land, if all permits are allotted, would total \$1,976 (247 permits x \$8/permit = \$1,976). These permits will not be offered for the 2019-2020 hunting season; therefore, the designation change could result in a loss of \$1,976. Land management costs and practices will not change at this location as a result of this proposal. Also, Law Enforcement staff are already patrolling this area for permit holders; although, a more frequent presence at this location might be needed as it changes to a Three Day per Week Area. However, a fiscal impact to the Law Enforcement Division will not be realized as staff will be reallocated to address priority enforcement needs. If this reallocation of resources is needed it is possible that a loss in enforcement capacity in other areas could be realized. This potential need and loss is unknown at this time and will be addressed by the WRC if needed.

Local Impact

This proposal could result in more hunters traveling to the game land. Revenue to the local economy could increase as users purchase food, gas, lodging, and equipment. Associated negative impacts are expected to be minimal.

Private Impact

Private individuals will be afforded more opportunities to hunt this game land. The increase in hunting opportunities could have a negative impact on adjacent landowners as an increase in traffic and noise associated with gun shots could be realized. Despite this, negative impacts are expected to be minimal.

Target Shooting

These proposed amendments will prohibit target shooting on White Oak River Game Land, Bertie County Game Land, Brinkleyville Game Land, Chowan Swamp Game Land, Embro Game Land, Lower Fishing Creek Game Land, Roanoke River Wetlands Game Land, Sandy Creek Game Land, Shocco Creek Game Land, Tar River Game Land, Tillery Game Land, Voice of America Game Land, and Perkins Game Land. Currently, popular shooting areas on these game lands contain no back-stop berms and are often located near boundaries with private property, occupied dwellings, and roads. By prohibiting target shooting on these game lands and allowing it only at NCWRC Shooting Ranges, users will have a safe environment for target shooting and user group conflicts can be avoided.

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

Agency staff are responsible for maintenance and upkeep of the game lands. Individuals utilizing this area for target shooting regularly deposit tires and a variety of other material used as targets on the property, which then must be cleaned up by staff. Time required to maintain these areas, while not precisely known, is estimated to cost the agency \$13,104 per year (\$21/hr x 208hrs/clean up x 3 clean-ups/year = \$13,104). Explicitly prohibiting target shooting may

result in a reduction of this activity, which would be a cost savings to the agency in staff time. However, if individuals continue to target shoot on this game land, and enforcement officers encounter the activity, individuals can be charged with a Class 3 misdemeanor with a fine of \$25 and court costs.

Additionally, targets are often placed on trees in the area, many of which have been damaged to the point that mortality is imminent. This proposed amendment may help to eliminate the damage and death caused to live trees that are currently being used as targets. The agency has no way to quantify this benefit.

Local Impact

This proposed amendment will have no local government impact.

Private Impact

This proposed amendment could affect private individuals who want to target shoot, as they will now need to travel to an official shooting range. The closest WRC ranges to these Game Lands are 45 miles. Depending on where the individual is traveling from, this could impose a minimal financial burden. Due to lack of data, the agency is unable to quantify this potential cost. However, the improved safety anticipated by this amendment is expected to exceed the potential cost to individuals. Currently, popular shooting areas on these game lands contain no back-stop berms and are often located near boundaries with private property, occupied dwellings, and roads.

Permit Requirements

This proposed amendment will designate the Little Macedonia Tract of Green Swamp Game Land as a permit-only area for all hunting and trapping. To help conserve the resources and provide for quality user experiences it is anticipated that 70 permits will be available each year. There are also nineteen different parcels of private property adjacent to this tract. If hunting opportunities on this property are left unrestricted and not managed, conflicts between hunters and adjacent landowners would likely be a regular occurrence. This amendment is also being proposed to help maintain cooperative relationships with adjacent landowners.

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

The agency imposes a \$8 administrative fee for permit hunt applications. The Little Macedonia tract is expected to offer 70 permit hunt opportunities each year. If the agency assumes that all 70 permits will be claimed, the anticipated revenue will total approximately \$560 per year ($\$8/\text{permit} \times 70 \text{ permits/yr} = \$560/\text{yr}$).

Local Impact

The proposed amendment will have no local government impact.

Private Impact

Because the agency is proposing to limit hunting opportunities on the Little Macedonia Tract,

private individuals will incur the \$8 fee associated with applying for permit hunt opportunities. The total annual impact to private individuals is anticipated to be approximately \$560 per year (\$8/permit x 70 permits/yr = \$560/yr). However, it should be noted that these opportunities are voluntary. It is assumed that hunters who choose to purchase a permit value the hunting opportunity at or above the cost of the permit.

Camping

These amendments will allow the public to camp in a designated camping area during open hunting seasons on Johns River Game Land. Additionally, camping will be allowed within 100 yards of the Neuse River on the Turkey Quarter Creek Island Tract of Neuse River Game Lands all year. This area will only be accessible by boat.

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

The agency anticipates a one-time cost of approximately \$3,000 to state resources for the establishment of this campground, which will include materials (\$1,100), labor (\$21/hr x 32 hrs = \$672), and equipment (\$1,228). This will be a primitive campground and maintenance will be performed once per year. The cost of maintenance, including labor (\$21/hr x 16 hrs = \$336) and equipment (\$0.46/mi. x 30 mi. = \$14) is estimated at \$350 per year. Designated campgrounds will not be established on Neuse River Game Land.

Environmental impacts are expected to be negligible, as camping on the Johns River Game Land is only allowed during the hunting seasons and the camping area on the Neuse River Game Land is only accessible by boat.

Local Impact

If hunters are not currently staying in the area overnight while hunting, these camping areas may have a positive impact on local economies, as users can plan for extended weekends that may result in the purchase of food, gas, and equipment in the local area. However, if users are currently staying in hotels and instead choose to camp on the game land, these camp sites might reduce the number of lodging stays in the local area, thereby decreasing local tax revenue. At this time, the WRC does not have a mechanism to measure or estimate changes in hunter behavior as a result of the new campsites; however, due to the limited size and primitive natures of these campsites, the availability of these campsites is expected to have an overall minimal impact on local economies.

Private Impact

Creating campgrounds will enhance opportunities for sportsmen by providing them with an option to camp on the Johns River and Neuse River Game Lands. The camping areas could provide a benefit to hunters by decreasing the trip related costs of hunting on game lands. However, due to lack of data, the agency cannot quantify this benefit.

Pursuing or Chasing Deer and Bear

This proposed regulation will prohibit the pursuing or chasing of deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting on the Long Ridge Tract of Whitehall Plantation Game Land. The size of the property, lack of an extensive road system, adjacent land use, and lack of historical hunting practices, indicate this property is not conducive to pursuing deer or bear with the use of dogs.

Fiscal Impact

Because this is a new tract of land and this addition is not changing an existing regulation, there are no anticipated fiscal impacts to state resources, local governments, or private individuals.

Hunting on Sundays

- A. This proposed amendment would clarify the definition of a Six Days per Week Game Land to indicate that hunting is allowed Monday through Saturday during open seasons. The proposal will also add the definition of a Seven Days per Week Game Land and indicate that hunting is allowed Monday through Sunday during open seasons. Further, as per HB 559 (2017), this rule will indicate that on Sundays, hunting between 9:30 AM and 12:30 PM is prohibited, the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs is prohibited, and hunting within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b), or any accessory structure thereof, is prohibited. HB 559 (2017) gave the Commission the authority to authorize hunting on Sundays on Game Lands. This proposal will amend the definitions of game lands and identify Sunday as an open day for “Seven Days per Week Areas”. This rule also outlines the restrictions to Sunday hunting as outlined in HB 559 (2017). This proposed rule does not allow for the hunting of migratory birds on Sundays.

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

All game lands being considered for Sunday hunting are Six Day per Week game lands. The addition of a seventh day is not anticipated to change land management practices or law enforcement presence. Law Enforcement Division staff are already patrolling game lands and private lands on Sunday. This change might result in a reallocation of Law Enforcement resources in some instances. If this reallocation of resources is needed it is possible that a loss in enforcement capacity in other areas could be realized. This potential for a loss in capacity is unknown at this time and will be addressed by the WRC if needed.

Initially, there is a possibility for increased violations as hunters become familiar with the change in rules for hunting on Sundays. However, the agency does not expect that violations will substantially increase from current levels. The agency regularly engages in outreach and education with hunters on an ongoing basis with the regulated community regarding hunting season changes. Because of these efforts, the agency does not anticipate a significant change in citations or associated penalties.

Allowing hunting on Sundays may result in an increase in hunting trips overall, or a shift in existing trips from other days to Sunday. Because Sunday hunting on game lands is a new opportunity, more individuals may be interested in hunting in general. While the agency

anticipates this increase in participation to be minimal, it could increase license sales.

Local Impact

This proposal could lead to extended weekend trips for hunters and yield an increase to local economies as food, gas, equipment, and lodging are purchased. Alternatively, this proposal could lead to fewer trips on Sundays by non-hunters and result in a negative impact to local economies. The agency's intent is that these lands are used and shared by multiple user groups.

Private Impact

This proposal has the potential to have both a positive and negative private impact. Hunters may view this proposal as a positive as they will be afforded another weekend day to hunt. However, non-hunters might see this a negative impact and decide to not use the game land during Sunday while hunters are active. To determine opinions, the agency conducted an online opinion survey about Sunday hunting on game lands. Almost 6,700 responses were received in this survey. In summary, 53% of the respondents supported Sunday hunting on game lands while 47% opposed it. Those in favor supported the idea of an extra weekend day to hunt, especially with school-aged children. Those who opposed Sunday hunting on game lands expressed concern regarding conflicts with different user groups, the potential for a diminished outdoor experience, and safety concerns. The selected game lands were chosen due to their ability to support multiple user groups with limited conflicts. The agency plans to evaluate the survey results and refine the proposed list if results suggest changes are warranted.

The ability to hunt on Sundays will increase opportunities for hunters using game lands. While the agency cannot predict how many hunters will take advantage of this opportunity, the daily value of a hunting trip is approximately \$63/day.

Those who oppose Sunday hunting on game lands expressed concern regarding conflicts with different user groups, the potential for a diminished outdoor experience, and safety concerns. These individuals may choose to no longer use game lands on Sundays during hunting seasons. The daily value of a nature based recreational trip is \$47/day. The difference between the increase in value for hunters and the decrease in value for nature-based recreational users cannot be quantified due to uncertainties in behavioral changes of individuals using game lands.

- B. This amendment would allow hunting on Sundays for selected Game Lands. Proposed game lands are as follows:

Region	Game Land	Acres
Coast	Alligator River	14,178
Coast	Angola Bay	34,157
Coast	Cape Fear Wetlands	7,191
Coast	Carteret County	1,936
Coast	Croatan	162,217

Coast	Dare	46,055
Coast	Gull Rock	28,585
Coast	Juniper Creek	19,837
Coast	Light Ground Pocosin	942
Coast	New Lake	1,438
Coast	North River	20,318
Coast	NW River Marsh	2,889
Piedmont	Brinkleyville	1,844
Piedmont	Embro	8,856
Piedmont	Lower Fishing Creek	1,296
Piedmont	Pee Dee River	4,487
Piedmont	Sandy Creek	1,113
Piedmont	Shocco Creek	8,109
Piedmont	Tillery	5,209
Piedmont	Uwharrie	51,850
Piedmont	Vance	853
Mountains	Buffalo Cove	6,631
Mountains	Cold Mountain	3,385
Mountains	Nantahala	533,190
Mountains	Needmore	4,931
Mountains	Pisgah	508,747
Mountains	Pond Mountain	2,908
Mountains	South Mountains	21,697
Mountains	Three Top Mountain	2,486
Mountains	Thurmond Chatham	6,471
Mountains	Toxaway	5,633
Mountains	William H. Silver	1,925

HB 559 (2017) gave the Commission the authority to authorize hunting on Sunday on Game Lands. The above Game Lands were determined by staff and partner input to be good areas to provide increased hunting opportunities while limiting the potential for user conflicts. Further, these Game Lands are currently being managed as Six Days Per Week game lands and professional judgment by the WRC suggests that the wildlife resources in these areas can sustain the potential increase in hunting pressure if these areas were managed as Seven Days Per Week game lands.

Fiscal Impact

State Impact

All game lands being considered for Sunday hunting are currently Six Day per Week Game Lands. The addition of a seventh day will not change land management practices or law enforcement presence. Law Enforcement Division staff are already patrolling game lands

and private lands on Sunday. This change might result in a reallocation of Law Enforcement resources in some instances. If this reallocation of resources is needed it is possible that a loss in enforcement capacity in other areas could be realized. This potential for a loss in capacity is unknown at this time and will be addressed by the WRC if needed.

Local Impact

This proposal could lead to extended weekend trips for hunters and yield an increase to local economies as food, gas, equipment, and lodging are purchased. However, because the increase in total hunters and number of additional trips per hunter is unknown, the resulting increase in local sales tax revenue is unknown. Alternatively, this proposal could lead to fewer trips on Sundays by non-hunters and result in a negative impact to local economies. Uncertainty regarding non-hunter behavior also exists and the overall impact of this loss to local revenue is unknown.

Private Impact

Hunters on these lands who wish to hunt an additional weekend day may view this proposal as a positive. However, non-hunters might see this a negative impact and decide to not use the game land during Sunday while hunters are active. To determine opinions, the agency conducted an online opinion survey about Sunday hunting on game lands. Almost 6,700 responses were received in this survey. In summary, 53% of the respondents supported Sunday hunting on game lands while 47% opposed it. As noted above, the value of hunting is estimated to be at \$63/day and the value of nature-based recreation is estimated to be at \$47/day. Actual changes in user behavior are not known at this time, however, the selected game lands were chosen due to their ability to support multiple user groups with limited conflicts. We plan to evaluate the survey results and refine the proposed list if results suggest changes are warranted. The public will also be able to provide further input regarding this proposal when it is presented to the public. Changing these Six Day per Week Areas to Seven Day per Week Areas will not negatively affect wildlife populations and this change is consistent with the management objectives of the WRC Wildlife Management Division.

1 **15A NCAC 10D .0103 HUNTING ON GAME LANDS**

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 occurring after the end of the regular waterfowl seasons only, youths may hunt
20 on managed waterfowl impoundments from $\frac{1}{2}$ hour before sunrise to sunset. Restrictions (1), (3), and (5) in this
21 Paragraph shall apply. On waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone," trapping during the
22 trapping season and waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the only activities allowed on the
23 portion of the impoundment outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone." No person shall attempt to obscure the sex
24 or age of any bird or animal taken by severing the head or any other part thereof, or possess any bird or animal that
25 has been so mutilated. No person shall place, or cause to be placed on any game land, salt, grain, fruit, or other foods
26 without prior written authorization of the Commission or its agent. A decision to grant or deny authorization shall be
27 made based on the best management practices for the wildlife species in question. No person shall take or attempt to
28 take any game birds or game animals attracted to such foods.

29 (e) Definitions:

- 30 (1) For purposes of this Section, "Dove Only Area" refers to a Game Land on which doves may be
31 taken and dove hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day,
32 Christmas Day, and New Year's Days within the federally-announced season.
- 33 (2) For purposes of this Section, "Three Days per Week Area" refers to a Game Land on which any
34 game may be taken during the open seasons and hunting is limited to Mondays, Wednesdays,
35 Saturdays, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and New Year's Days, except for game lands in this
36 Rule that specifically allow hunting on Tuesdays, Thursday, and Fridays. Falconry may also be
37 practiced on Sundays. These "open days" also apply to either-sex deer hunting seasons listed under

1 each game land. Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7:00 a.m. on Tuesdays, until
2 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
4 any 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
7 which any game may be taken on the open days of Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, Friday,
8 Saturday, and Sunday during the open seasons. On Sundays, hunting between 9:30 AM and 12:30
9 PM is prohibited, the use of a firearm to take deer that are run or chased by dogs is prohibited, and
10 hunting within 500 yards of a place of religious worship, as defined by G.S. 14-54.1(b), or any
11 accessory structure thereof, is prohibited

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

14 (g) ~~Bear Sanctuaries. On Three Days per Week Areas and Six Days per Week Areas, bears shall not be taken on lands~~
15 ~~designated and posted as bear sanctuaries except when authorized by permit only pursuant to this Chapter. Feral Swine~~
16 ~~shall not be taken with the use of dogs on bear sanctuaries. Dogs shall not be trained or allowed to run unleashed~~
17 ~~between March 1 and the Monday on or nearest October 15 on bear sanctuaries in and west of the counties and parts~~
18 ~~of counties described in 15A NCAC 10B .0109.~~

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

- 20 (1) Alcoa Game Land in Davidson, Davie, Montgomery, Rowan, and Stanly counties
 - 21 (A) Six 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 in that portion in Montgomery county,
24 and deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
25 Antlers Season in those portions in Davidson, Davie, Rowan, and Stanly counties.
 - 26 (C) On the Lick Creek Tract, deer and bear hunting is archery only.
- 27 (2) Alligator River Game Land in Tyrrell County
 - 28 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Day per Week Area
 - 29 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
30 Antlers Season.
 - 31 (C) Bear may only be taken the first three hunting days during the November Bear Season and
32 the first three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season.
- 33 (3) Angola Bay Game Land in Duplin and Pender 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) Target shooting is prohibited.

- 1 (4) Bachelor Bay Game Land in Bertie, Martin, and Washington counties

2 (A) Six 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 (5) Bertie County Game Land in Bertie County

6 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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

8 Antlers Season.

9 (C) Target Shooting is prohibited.

10 (6) Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land in Bladen County

11 (A) Three 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) Except for blackpowder firearms, rifles larger than .22 caliber rimfire shall not be used.

15 (D) On the Singletary Lake Tract, the use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited.

16 (E) Wild turkey hunting on the Singletary Lake Tract is by permit only.

17 (F) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March

18 31through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

19 (G) The use of dogs for pursuing or taking foxes is prohibited March 15 through July 15.

20 (7) Brinkleyville Game Land in Halifax 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) Horseback riding is prohibited.

25 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.

26 (8) Brunswick County Game Land in Brunswick County

27 (A) Hunting is by permit only.

28 (B) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

29 (9) Buckhorn Game Land in Orange County

30 (A) Hunting is by permit only.

31 (B) Horseback riding is prohibited.

32 (10) Buckridge Game Land in Tyrrell County.

33 (A) Three 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.

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

3 (H) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not
4 apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the applicable
5 seasons for game birds and game animals. On designated bicycle riding areas, the use of
6 bicycles is allowed from May 15 through August 31, and on Sundays only from September
7 1 through May 14.

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

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

13 (14) Buxton Woods Game Land in Dare County:
14 (A) Six Days per Week Area
15 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken ~~all the first open day days~~ of the applicable Deer With
16 Visible Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
17 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.

18 (15) Cape Fear River Wetlands Game Land in Pender County
19 (A) ~~Six Seven~~ Days per Week Area
20 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
21 Antlers Season.
22 (C) Turkey Hunting is by permit only on that portion known as the Roan Island Tract.
23 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on the portion of the game land that is west
24 of the Black River, north of Roan Island, east of Lyon Swamp Canal to Canetuck Road,
25 and south of NC 210 to the Black River.
26 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

27 (16) Carteret County Game Land in Carteret County
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) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.

32 (17) 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 is allowed only during June, July, and August, and on Sundays during
37 the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons. Horseback riding is
38 allowed only on roads opened to vehicular traffic and on those gated roads and trails that

1 are posted for equestrian use. People age 16 or older horseback riding on this game land
2 shall possess a Game Lands license.

3 (D) The area encompassed by the following roads is permit-only for all quail and woodcock
4 hunting, and all bird dog training: From Yanceyville south on NC 62 to the intersection of
5 SR 1746, west on SR 1746 to the intersection of SR 1156, south on SR 1156 to the
6 intersection of SR 1783, east on SR 1783 to the intersection of NC 62, north on NC 62 to
7 the intersection of SR 1736, east on SR 1736 to the intersection of SR 1730, east on SR
8 1730 to NC 86, north on NC 86 to NC 62.

9 (E) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl hunting is by permit only after
10 November 1.

11 (F) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas are
12 limited to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.

13 (G) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Shooting Range.

14 (18) Chatham Game Land in Chatham County

15 (A) Six 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) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

19 (D) Horseback riding is allowed only during June, July, and August; and on Sundays during
20 the remainder of the year except during open turkey and deer seasons.

21 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

22 (19) Chowan Game Land in Chowan County

23 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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

26 (20) 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 three hunting days during the November bear season
31 and the first three hunting days during the second week of the December bear season except
32 that portion of Chowan Swamp Game Land in Gates County that is east of Highway
33 158/13, south of Highway 158, west of Highway 32, and north of Catherine Creek and the
34 Chowan River where the bear season is the same as the season dates for the Gates County
35 bear season.

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

- (E) Horseback riding is prohibited except during May 16 through August 31 and on Sundays only September 1 through May 15 on those roads that are open to vehicular traffic and on those gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use.
 - (F) Target shooting is prohibited, ~~on the Sand Banks tract in Gates County, the area west of Sand Banks Road, east of the Chowan River and north of US 13/158 to the NC VA state line.~~
 - (21) Cold Mountain Game Land in Haywood County
 - (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
 - (B) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.
 - (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open ~~day~~ Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
 - (22) Columbus County Game Land in Columbus County.
 - (A) Three Days per Week Area
 - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
 - (23) Croatan Game Land in Carteret, Craven, and Jones counties
 - (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
 - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
 - (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:
 - (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
 - (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
 - (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
 - (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl day in October through the end of the waterfowl season, waterfowl hunting from designated Disabled Sportsmen blinds on the Catfish Lake Waterfowl Impoundment is by permit only.
 - (E) Dove hunting is by permit only for the first two open days of dove season on posted areas. During the rest of dove season, no permit is required to hunt doves.
 - (24) Currituck Banks Game Land in Currituck County
 - (A) Six Days per Week Area
 - (B) Permanent waterfowl blinds in Currituck Sound on these game lands shall be hunted by permit only from November 1 through the end of the waterfowl season.
 - (C) Licensed hunting guides may accompany the permitted individual or party provided the guides do not use a firearm.
 - (D) The boundary of the game land shall extend 5 yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.

- 1 (E) Dogs are allowed only for waterfowl hunting by permitted waterfowl hunters on the day of
2 their hunt.
- 3 (F) No screws, nails, or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand
4 or blind to a tree.
- 5 (G) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers
6 season.
- 7 (25) Dan River Game Land in Rockingham County
- 8 (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.—Three Days per Week Area
- 9 (B) Deer hunting is by permit only.
- 10 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
- 11 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on those areas posted for equestrian use. People age
12 16 or older horseback riding on this game land must possess a Game Lands license.
- 13 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 14 (26) Dare Game Land in Dare and Hyde counties 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 first Friday thereafter.
- 18 (C) No hunting is allowed on posted parts of bombing range.
- 19 (D) The use and training of dogs is prohibited from March 1 through June 30.
- 20 (27) Dover Bay Game Land in Craven County
- 21 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 22 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers
23 season.
- 24 (28) DuPont State Forest Game Lands in Henderson and Transylvania counties
- 25 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 26 (B) The training and use of dogs for hunting is prohibited except by special hunt permit holders
27 during scheduled permit hunts.
- 28 (29) Elk Knob Game Land in Watauga County
- 29 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 30 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
31 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 32 (30) Embro Game Land in Halifax and Warren 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 second Friday thereafter.
- 36 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.
- 37 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.

- (34) Gull Rock Game Land in Hyde County

(A) Six Seven Days per Week Area

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

(C) Waterfowl on posted waterfowl impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:

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

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

(iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl season.

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

(E) Bear may only be taken the first three hunting days during the November Bear Season and the first three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season, except for that portion designated as bear sanctuary.

(35) Harris Game Land in Chatham, Harnett, and Wake counties

(A) Six 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.

(C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on the following days:

(i) Tuesdays, Fridays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;

(ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and

(iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

(D) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds shall be prohibited.

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

(F) Target shooting is prohibited.

(G) Horseback riding is prohibited.

(36) Headwaters State Forest Game Land in Transylvania County

(A) Six Days per Week Area

(B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season

(37) Hill Farm Game Land in Stokes County- hunting and trapping is by permit only.

(38) Holly Shelter Game Land in Pender County

(A) Six Days per Week Area

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

(C) Waterfowl may be taken only on the following days:

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

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

- (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
 - (D) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas designated and posted as camping areas.
 - (E) On that portion north of the Bear Garden Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east of the Northeast Cape Fear River, south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, deer hunting and bear hunting are permit only.
 - (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer and bear is prohibited:
 - (i) all open days on that portion of the game land that is south of Baby Branch extending west to Stag Park Road, west of Shaw Road, north of Meeks Road extending west to Stag Park Road and east of Stag Park Road; and
 - (ii) on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Fridays, with the exception of Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's days, and except for the area north of Bear Garden Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east of the Northeast Cape Fear River, south of NC 53 and west of NC 50, where the use of dogs for deer and bear hunting is by permit only.
 - (G) Hunting and vehicular access on the Pender 4 Tract is restricted from September 1 to the last day of February and April 1 to May 15 to individuals that possess valid hunting opportunity permits, unless otherwise authorized by the Wildlife Resources Commission.
 - (H) Hunters who possess a Disabled Access Permit may operate an All Terrain Vehicle on and within 100 yards of trails designated for Disabled Sportsman Access.
 - (I) Target shooting is prohibited, except on the Holly Shelter Shooting Range.
 - (J) Geocaching is restricted to closed days for taking bear, deer, turkey, and waterfowl.

Hyco Game land in Person County

 - (A) Six 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.
 - (C) Target shooting is prohibited.

J. Morgan Futch Game Land in Tyrrell County - Permit Only Area.

Johns River Game Land in Burke County

 - (A) Hunting is by permit only.
 - (B) During permitted deer hunts, deer of either sex may be taken by permit holders.
 - (C) Entry on posted waterfowl impoundments is prohibited October 1 through March 31, except by lawful waterfowl hunting permit holders and only on those days written on the permits.
 - (D) The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited.
 - (E) Camping and the presence of campers and tents in designated Hunter Camping Areas is limited to August 31 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14.

- 1 (42) Jordan Game Land in Chatham, Durham, Orange, and Wake counties
- 2 (A) Six 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) Waterfowl may be taken only on:
- 6 (i) Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
- 7 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, and New Year's Days; and
- 8 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- 9 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited except on those areas posted as American Tobacco Trail
- 10 and other areas posted for equestrian use. Unless otherwise posted, horseback riding is
- 11 permitted on posted portions of the American Tobacco Trail anytime the trail is open for
- 12 use. On all other trails posted for equestrian use, horseback riding is allowed only during
- 13 June, July, and August, and on Sundays the remainder of the year except during open turkey
- 14 and deer seasons. People age 16 or older who ride horseback on trails occurring entirely
- 15 within the game land boundaries shall possess a Game Lands license.
- 16 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 17 (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only, except on those areas posted as an Archery Zone.
- 18 (G) The use of bicycles is restricted to designated areas, except that this restriction does not
- 19 apply to hunters engaged in the act of hunting during the open days of the applicable
- 20 seasons for game birds and game animals.
- 21 (43) Juniper Creek Game Land in Brunswick and Columbus counties
- 22 (A) Six Seven Days per Week Area
- 23 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
- 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.
- 26 (44) Kerr Scott Game Land in Wilkes County
- 27 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 28 (B) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.
- 29 (C) Use of blackpowder firearms, shotguns, or rifles for hunting deer during the applicable
- 30 Deer With Visible Antlers Season is prohibited.
- 31 (D) Tree stands shall not be left overnight; and no screws, nails, or other objects penetrating
- 32 the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.
- 33 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 34 Antlers season.
- 35 (F) Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.
- 36 (G) The use of firearms for hunting wild turkey is prohibited.
- 37 (45) Lantern Acres Game Land in Tyrrell and Washington counties

- 1 (A) Six Days per Week Area
2 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
3 Antlers Season.
4 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
5 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer on the Godley Tract is prohibited.
6 (E) Waterfowl hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.
7 (46) Lee Game Land in Lee County
8 (A) Six 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) Target shooting is prohibited.
12 (47) Light Ground Pocosin Game Land in Pamlico County
13 (A) ~~Six Seven~~ 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 (48) Linwood Game Land in Davidson County
17 (A) Six Days per Week Area
18 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken on all of the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
19 Antlers Season.
20 (49) Lower Fishing Creek Game Land in Edgecombe and Halifax 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.
25 (D) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
26 (F) Target Shooting is prohibited.
27 (50) Mayo Game Land in Person County
28 (A) Six 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) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:
32 (i) Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays applicable waterfowl seasons;
33 (ii) Christmas and New Year's Days; and
34 (iii) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
35 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.
36 (51) Mitchell River Game Land in Surry County
37 (A) Three Days per Week Area

- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
 - (C) Horseback riding is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River (Burke County), and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell counties).

(62) Pond Mountain Game Land in Ashe County

 - (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 first Friday thereafter.
 - (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails from May 16 through August 31 and Sundays from September 1 through October 31. All horseback riding is prohibited from November 1 through May 15.

(63) Pungo River Game Land in Hyde County

 - (A) Six Days per Week Area
 - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

(64) Rendezvous Mountain State Forest Game Land in Wilkes County

 - (A) Three 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 Wednesday thereafter.
 - (C) Bear hunting is prohibited.

(65) Rhodes Pond Game Land in Cumberland and Harnett counties

 - (A) Hunting is by permit only.
 - (B) Swimming is prohibited on the area.

(66) Roanoke River Wetlands in Bertie, Halifax, Martin, and Northampton counties

 - (A) Hunting is by Permit only.
 - (B) Vehicles are prohibited on roads or trails except those operated on Commission business or by permit holders.
 - (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas, provided, however, that camping is allowed at any time within 100 yards of the Roanoke River on the state-owned portion of the game land.
 - (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.

(67) Roanoke Island Marshes Game Land in Dare County-Hunting is by permit only.

(68) Robeson Game Land in Robeson County

 - (A) Three Days per Week Area
 - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.

- 1 (69) Rockfish Creek Game Land in Hoke County
2 (A) Three Days per Week Area
3 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from the
4 Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day.
5 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days beginning
6 the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the second week
7 thereafter.
8 (D) The Deer With Visible Antlers season consists of the open hunting days from the second
9 Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving Day.
10 (E) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
11 Antlers Season.
12 (F) The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
13 (G) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
14 (H) Taking fox squirrels is prohibited.
15 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.
16 (70) Rocky Run Game Land in Onslow County - Hunting is by permit only.
17 (71) Sampson Game Land in Sampson County
18 (A) Three 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) Target shooting is prohibited.
22 (72) Sandhills Game Land in Hoke, Moore, Richmond, and Scotland counties
23 (A) Three Days per Week Area
24 (B) Hunting is prohibited on the J. Robert Gordon Field Trial Grounds from October 22
25 through March 31 except as follows:
26 (i) deer of either-sex may be taken with archery equipment on all the open days of
27 the archery season through the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day; with
28 blackpowder firearms and archery equipment all the open days of the
29 blackpowder firearms season through the third Wednesday before Thanksgiving
30 Day; and only deer with visible antlers may be taken with all legal weapons from
31 the second Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following
32 Thanksgiving Day;
33 (ii) dove may be taken all open days from the opening day of the dove season through
34 the third Saturday thereafter;
35 (iii) squirrel (gray and fox) may be taken all the open days from second Monday before
36 Thanksgiving Day through the Saturday following Thanksgiving Day;

- 1 (A) Three Days per Week Area

2 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer with Visible

3 Antlers season.

4 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31 and

5 all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15.

6 (D) Dogs shall only be trained on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays and only as allowed

7 in 15A NCAC 10D .0102(f).

8 (E) Dove hunting is by permit only from the opening day through the second Saturday of dove

9 season.

10 (75) Second Creek Game Land in Rowan County- hunting is by permit only.

11 (76) Shocco Creek Game Land in Franklin, Halifax, Nash, and Warren 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) 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) Target Shooting is prohibited.

19 (77) South Mountains Game Land in Burke, Cleveland, McDowell, and Rutherford counties

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

21 (B) The Deer With Visible Antlers season for deer consists of the open hunting days from the

22 Monday before Thanksgiving Day through the third Saturday after Thanksgiving. Deer of

23 either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open days beginning the Saturday on

24 or nearest September 10 to the third Saturday thereafter, and Monday on or nearest October

25 15 to the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day. and during the Deer With Visible Antlers

26 Season. Deer with visible antlers may be taken with archery equipment the Monday

27 immediately following the closing of the Deer With Visible Antlers Season, as described

28 in this Part, through January 1. Deer may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open days

29 beginning the Monday on or nearest October 1 through the Saturday of the second week

30 thereafter, and during the Deer With Visible Antlers season.

31 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday day of the applicable Deer With

32 Visible Antlers Season.

33 (D) 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 (78) Stones Creek Game Land in Onslow County

36 (A) Six-Day per Week Area

- 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 use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays.

4 (D) Swimming in all lakes is prohibited.

5 (E) Waterfowl on posted waterfowl impoundments may be taken only on the following days:
6 (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
7 (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
8 (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

9 (F) Target shooting is prohibited.

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

11 (79) Suggs Mill Pond Game Land in Bladen and Cumberland counties

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

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

15 (C) Entry is prohibited on scheduled hunt or trapping days except for:
16 (i) hunters or trappers holding special hunt or trapping permits; and
17 (ii) persons using Campground Road to access Suggs Mill Pond Lake at the dam.

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

22 (E) During the period of November 1 through March 15, the use of vessels on managed
23 waterfowl impoundments is limited to waterfowl hunting only by waterfowl hunters
24 possessing a valid and current Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife
25 Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d).

26 (80) Sutton Lake Game Land in New Hanover and Brunswick counties

27 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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

30 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.

31 (81) Tar River Game Land in Edgecombe County – hunting is by permit only.
32 (A) Target Shooting is prohibited

33 (82) Texas Plantation Game Land in Tyrrell County - hunting is by permit only.

34 (83) Three Top Mountain Game Land in Ashe County

35 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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

- (C) Horseback riding is prohibited.

(84) Thurmond Chatham Game Land in Alleghany and Wilkes 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.

(C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through August 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from September 1 through May 15. People age 16 or older horseback riding on this game land shall possess a Game Lands license.

(D) The maximum period of consecutive overnight camping at any designated campground is 14 days within any 30 day period from May 1 through August 31. After 14 consecutive days of camping all personal belongings must be removed from the game land.

(85) Tillery game Land in Halifax County

(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.

(C) Horseback riding is prohibited.

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

(E) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

(F) Target Shooting is prohibited.

(86) Toxaway Game Land in Jackson and Transylvania counties

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

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

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

(87) Uwharrie Game Land in Davidson, Montgomery, and Randolph 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.

(C) On the posted waterfowl impoundment, waterfowl may be taken only on the following days:

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

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

(iii) Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

(D) Target shooting is prohibited, except at the Flintlock Valley Shooting Range.

(88) Vance Game Land in Vance County

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

- (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
 - (C) The use of dogs, centerfire rifles, and handguns for hunting deer is prohibited on the Nutbush Peninsula tract.

(89) Van Swamp Game Land in Beaufort and Washington counties

 - (A) Six Days per Week Area
 - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
 - (C) Bear may only be taken the first three hunting days during the November Bear Season and the first three hunting days during the second week of the December Bear Season.

(90) Voice of America Game Land in Beaufort County- hunting and trapping is by permit only.

 - (A) Target Shooting is prohibited.

(91) White Oak River Game Land in Onslow County

 - (A) Three Days per Week Area
 - (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible Antlers Season.
 - (C) Except as provided in Part (D) of this Subparagraph, waterfowl in posted waterfowl impoundments shall be taken only on the following days:
 - (i) the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons;
 - (ii) Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's, and Martin Luther King, Jr. Days; and
 - (iii) Tuesdays and Saturdays of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
 - (D) Beginning on the first open waterfowl season day in October and through the end of the waterfowl season, a permit is required for hunting posted waterfowl impoundments.
 - (E) The Huggins Tract and Morton Tracts have the following restrictions:
 - (i) access on Hargett Avenue and Sloan Farm Road requires a valid Hunting Opportunity Permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission pursuant to G.S. 113-264(d);
 - (ii) hunting is by permit only; and
 - (iii) the use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
 - (F) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.
 - (G) Target Shooting is prohibited.

(92) Whitehall Plantation Game Land in Bladen and Pender Counties

 - (A) Hunting and trapping is by permit only.
 - (B) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
 - (C) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting is prohibited on the Long Ridge Tract.

- 1 (93) William H. Silver Game Land in Haywood County
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 ~~(j)~~(h) On permitted type hunts, deer of either sex may be taken on the hunt dates indicated on the permit. Completed
6 applications shall be received by the Commission not later than the first day of September next preceding the dates of
7 hunt. Permits shall be issued by random computer selection, shall be mailed to the permittees prior to the hunt, and
8 are nontransferable. A hunter making a kill shall validate the kill and report the kill to a wildlife cooperator agent or
9 by phone.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

36 ~~(p)~~(o) When waterfowl hunting is specifically permitted in this Rule on Christmas and New Years' Day and those
37 days fall on Sundays, the open waterfowl hunting day shall be the following day.

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2 *History Note:* *Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-264; 113-291.2; 113-291.5; 113-296; 113-305;*
3 *Eff. February 1, 1976;*
4 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 3, 1991;*
5 *Amended Eff. July 1, 1998; July 1, 1997; July 1, 1996; September 1, 1995; July 1, 1995; September*
6 *1, 1994; July 1, 1994;*
7 *Temporary Amendment Eff. October 1, 1999; July 1, 1999;*
8 *Amended Eff. July 1, 2000;*
9 *Temporary Amendment Eff. July 1, 2002; July 1, 2001;*
10 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2002 (approved by RRC on 06/21/01 and 04/18/02);*
11 *Temporary Amendment Eff. June 1, 2003;*
12 *Amended Eff. June 1, 2004 (this replaces the amendment approved by RRC on July 17, 2003);*
13 *Amended Eff. August 1, 2018; August 1, 2017; August 1, 2016; May 1, 2015; August 1, 2014;*
14 *January 1, 2013; August 1, 2012; August 1, 2011; August 1, 2010; May 1, 2009; May 1, 2008; May*
15 *1, 2007; October 1, 2006; August 1, 2006; May 1, 2006; February 1, 2006; June 1, 2005; October*
16 *1, 2004.*

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