

Game Lands Some 2,000,000 acres of public and private lands in North Carolina are managed by the Wildlife Resources Commission for public hunting, trapping and inland fishing. They are designated collectively as "game lands." Hunting on the Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge is managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Wildlife Resources Commission through a joint venture. Additional regulations apply to the Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge. A supplement showing the locations of game lands may be obtained from a wildlife service agent or by writing to the following address: Game Lands Maps, N.C. Wildlife Resources Commission, 1722 Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-1722. **A map book with detailed maps for the game lands may be purchased through the Commission's Wild Store.** Maps are also available online free of charge at www.ncwildlife.org.

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

GAME LANDS RESTRICTIONS

Waterfowl Hunting

- On posted waterfowl impoundments, it is unlawful on the legal hunting days for hunters to be within the posted impoundment area before 4 a.m., and hunting is prohibited after 1 p.m.; decoys may not be set out prior to 4 a.m. and must be removed by 3 p.m. each day.
- Waterfowl blinds may be constructed on most game lands; however, they become public property and can be used by anyone on a first-come, first-served basis.
- Blinds on areas not owned by the state must be removed after the hunting season; and on some game lands, the property owners may prohibit construction of permanent hunting blinds by posting a sign at the entrances stating such restrictions.
- It is unlawful to hunt in or within 100 yards of a designated "Disabled Sportsman's Waterfowl Blind" during the waterfowl season except by a disabled access permit-holder and his or her permitted companion.
- It is unlawful to hunt with or have in possession any shotgun shell containing lead or toxic shot while hunting on any posted waterfowl impoundment on any game land, except shotgun shells containing lead buckshot may be used while deer hunting.
- It is unlawful to operate internal combustion engine powered vessels or vehicles on posted waterfowl impoundments.

Vehicle Usage

- Driving a motorized vehicle is allowed only on those roads constructed, maintained and open for vehicular travel and those trails posted for vehicular use. This does not apply to participants in scheduled bird dog field trials held on the Sandhills Game Land or to persons holding special vehicular access identification cards issued to qualified disabled hunters.

- It is unlawful to block traffic or gates or otherwise prevent vehicles from using any roadway.
- Operation of any motorized land vehicle, including ATVs, not licensed for highway use is prohibited, except by those persons holding a Disabled Access Permit on areas under the Disabled Access Program. This does not apply to those areas specifically designated in national forests for unlicensed vehicle use.

Weapons

- It is unlawful to discharge any weapon:
 - from a vehicle,
 - within 150 yards of any residence located on or adjacent to game lands,
 - within 150 yards of any game lands building or game lands camping area (unless otherwise posted).
 The 150-yard provision of this rule does not apply to the use of archery equipment on Butner-Falls of Neuse and Jordan game lands.
- It is unlawful to possess a rifle or pistol larger than .22 rimfire or a shotgun shell with larger than no. 4 shot during closed gun seasons on big game—except any size steel or other nontoxic shot may be used while waterfowl or coyote hunting.
- During turkey season, it is unlawful to possess a rifle on game lands, **but bow-and-arrow may be used.**
- During closed seasons and closed hunting days on game birds (waterfowl, doves, woodcock, snipe, rails, gallinules, moorhens, coots, grouse, pheasant, quail, turkey) and game animals (deer, bear, fox, rabbits, squirrels, boar, bobcats, opossum, raccoon), it is unlawful to possess any firearm or bow and arrow readily available for use. During that time in which fox season is the only open season for a game animal, it is also unlawful to possess these weapons. The following exceptions, however, should be noted:
 - Possession is allowed on field-trial and designated target shooting areas and in camping areas for defense of person or property.
 - 22-caliber pistols with barrels, not greater than 7.5 inches in length and shooting only short, long or long rifle ammunition, may be carried as side arms on game lands at any time, except by hunters during the special bow-and-arrow and muzzle-loading firearms deer hunting season.
 - Individuals training dogs during closed season without field-trial authorization are prohibited from carrying any weapon.
 - A bow and fishing arrows may be possessed when used as a licensed special fishing device in those waters, where such use is authorized.

Training or Hunting with Dogs

- During the deer gun season, on those game lands open to deer hunting in and west of Rockingham, Guilford, Randolph, Montgomery and Anson (west of N.C. 742) counties, dogs may be used only for taking game birds. As an exception to the above rule, dogs may be used to take any legal small game during the gun season for deer in Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, Madison, Polk and Swain counties, except on bear sanctuaries. Additionally, raccoon and opossum may be hunted when in season on Uwharrie Game Land.
- Except for authorized field trials, dogs may not be trained or allowed to run unleashed from April 1 through Aug. 15 on any game land located west of I-95.
- Dogs also may not be trained or allowed to run unleashed during daylight hours on dates when special hunts are scheduled for the Disabled Sportsman Program hunts on these game lands. Additional restrictions apply to some bear sanctuaries and game lands.

- It is unlawful to train dogs or allow dogs to run unleashed on bear sanctuaries in and west of Madison, Buncombe, Henderson and Polk counties from March 1 to the Monday on or nearest Oct. 15.

Bear Sanctuaries

- It is unlawful to take wild boar on bear sanctuaries, except during the regular deer gun season, with muzzleloaders during the muzzleloading deer season, and with bow and arrow during the deer bow-and-arrow season.
- On bear sanctuaries, bear may not be taken and dogs may not be used to take wild boar.

Posted Zones on Game Lands

- Safety Zone – unlawful to hunt or discharge a weapon. Falconry is allowed.
- Restricted Zone – no entry without a permit.
- Archery Zone – bow-and-arrow hunting and falconry only. On such areas, deer of either sex may be taken on all open days of any applicable open deer season.
- Restricted Firearms Zones — unlawful to hunt with a center-fire rifle.
- **Scouting-only Zone — unlawful to discharge firearms or bow and arrow.**

Other Restrictions

- Use of game lands for purposes other than hunting, trapping and fishing is subject to the control of the landowners.
- It is unlawful to release pen-raised or wild birds or animals on game lands without written authorization from the Wildlife Resources Commission.
- It is unlawful to hunt while under the influence of alcohol or any narcotic drug.
- It is unlawful to litter or dispose of refuse, except in receptacles provided for the purpose.
- Live wild birds or animals may not be removed.
- It is unlawful to obscure the sex or age of any bird or animal by mutilation of the carcass.
- Placing bait on game lands is prohibited without written authorization.
- Game birds or game animals may not be taken with the aid of bait.
- It is unlawful to erect or to occupy for the purpose of hunting, any tree stand or platform attached by nails, screws, bolts or wire to a tree on any game land designated herein. This prohibition shall not apply to lag-screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal left remaining in or attached to the tree.
- It is unlawful to camp on game lands, except on an area designated by the landowner for camping, or to camp on those U.S. Forest Service lands that have been closed by posted order of the U.S. Forest Service. See the individual game lands listings beginning on page 57 for further restrictions.
- Hunting on Cowan’s Ford Waterfowl Refuge is by permit only.
- Raccoon and opossum hunting may continue until 7 a.m. on Tuesdays, until 7 a.m. on Thursdays and until midnight on Saturdays on three-day-per-week game lands.
- U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Corps of Engineers regulations prohibit permanent structures (including permanent duck blinds and permanent deer stands) on all lands under their management.
- Hunting Creek Swamp in Davie County and John’s River Waterfowl Refuge in Burke County are closed to hunting.

- **With the exception of Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, and Swain counties, licensed hunters may take feral hogs during the open season for any game animal using any legal manner of take allowed during those open game seasons. Dogs may be used for hunting feral hogs only on those game lands where the use of dogs is allowed for hunting deer or bear and only during the applicable deer or bear season.**
- Public nudity on any game land is prohibited.

Trapping on Game Lands Trapping fur-bearing animals is permitted on game lands during the open seasons and in accordance with the trapping regulations, except on posted “Safety” and “Restricted” zones and the regulated areas listed below that are closed to trapping:

- John’s River Waterfowl Refuge
- Hunting Creek Swamp Waterfowl Refuge
- J. Robert Gordon Sandhills Field Trial Area
- Harmon Den Bear Sanctuary
- Roanoke River Wetlands (by permit only)
- Sherwood Bear Sanctuary
- Cowan’s Ford Waterfowl Refuge

Bait may not be used on the national forest lands bounded by the Blue Ridge Parkway on the south, U.S. 276 on the north and east, and N.C. 215 on the west.

Trespassing on Game Lands Entry on game lands for purposes other than hunting, trapping and fishing is subject to the control of the landowners. Written permission of the owner is required to remove any plant or other materials.

Youth Waterfowl Day No special permit will be required on the following game lands for youth to hunt on the day officially designated as “Youth Waterfowl Day.” Youths must be 15 years of age or younger and accompanied by a properly licensed adult at least 21 years of age. Legal species include ducks, geese, mergansers, moorhens, gallinules and coots. The accompanying adult may not hunt. Call (800) 675-0263 after Sept. 1 for the date.

- Brunswick County Game Land
- Butner/Falls Game Land
- Goose Creek Game Land
- J. Morgan Futch Game Land
- Roanoke River Wetlands Game Land (does not include Roanoke River National Wildlife Refuge)
- Suggs Mill Pond Game Land
- White Oak River Game Land
- North River Game Land
- **Caswell Game Land**

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

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

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

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

- **Six-day-per-week areas:** Game lands on which any game may be taken during the open seasons.
- **Three-day-per-week areas:** Game lands on which any game may be hunted unless otherwise noted. Open days are Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's and Martin Luther King Jr. days. These areas are closed to hunting on other days of the week, unless specifically opened under the individual game lands listings.
- **Dove-only areas:** Game lands on which doves may be hunted by game lands license-holders on Mondays, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's days during open dove seasons. On these dove areas, dove hunters must possess a game lands license. Other hunting activities, regardless of the day of the week, are controlled by the landowner or his agent.
- **Permit-only areas:** Game lands on which a special permit is required to hunt or trap. To apply for any special permits in the listings below, see the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply.
- **Falconry on Game Lands:** Within established hunting seasons and on open hunting days, falconry is allowed on Archery and Safety Zones in game lands.

Alcoa Game Land – Davie, Davidson, Montgomery, Rowan and Stanly counties (8,372 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 10 - 16 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 in that portion in Montgomery County (moderate season); Nov. 17 - Dec. 15 in that portion in Davie County and Nov. 10 - Jan. 1 in that portion in Davidson, Rowan and Stanly counties (maximum season).

Alligator River Game Land – Tyrrell County (5,401 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 – Jan. 1 (maximum season)
- Bear may only be taken on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday during the November bear season and on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the second week of the December season.

Angola Bay Game Land – Duplin and Pender counties (24,483 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).

Bachelor Bay Game Land – Bertie, Martin and Washington counties (4,470 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).

Bertie County Game Land – Bertie County (3,075 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).

Bladen Lakes State Forest Game Land – Bladen County (32,363 acres)

- Three-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Oct. 13 - 24 and Dec. 24 - Jan. 1 (moderate season).
- Handguns shall not be carried and, except for muzzleloaders, rifles larger than .22 caliber rimfire shall not be used or possessed.

Shooting Ranges Shooting ranges on state-owned game lands are open from sunrise to sunset Monday through Saturday for the purpose of firearm marksmanship and development of shooting skills. All shooting-range users shall abide by the game lands restrictions and handle firearms and archery equipment in a safe manner. They also shall obey all regulations posted at the range. Additional restrictions:

- No use of glass targets.
- Firearms must be unloaded and cased in transport to and from the shooting range.
- No intentional shooting into a target holder or other permanent structure.
- No shooting at targets off the range.

Currently the Commission has one shooting range, located at the Cold Mountain Game Land.

DISABLED ACCESS PROGRAM

Refer to the “Disabled Sportsman Information” section on page 11 for qualification or application information.

Disabled Access Permit This permit allows persons with limited physical mobility to operate vehicles on OPEN-GATED or UNGATED roads otherwise closed to vehicular traffic on certain game lands and to have access to special hunting blinds for people with disabilities. Participants will be issued permanent identification cards, companion cards and vehicular-access permits valid for as long as the disability remains. A vehicular-access permit must be obtained and displayed in the passenger area of the vehicle. One able-bodied companion may accompany the disabled person provided they possess the companion card issued to each disabled hunter. The companion must remain in visual or verbal contact with the disabled hunter at all times. There is no charge for this permit.

Areas Involved Vehicular access under this permit is provided on the following game lands: (*Additional access may be provided on some U.S. Forest Service-owned game lands. These areas are not listed below, but details may be obtained by contacting the local ranger station for the district in which you wish to hunt.*)

- Bladen Lakes
- Caswell
- Goose Creek (waterfowl blind for disabled hunters only)
- Holly Shelter
- Roanoke River Wetlands
- Sandhills
- Thurmond Chatham

See current *Game Lands Map Book* online for details.

Currently there is a waterfowl blind for the disabled on the Spring Creek Impoundment of Goose Creek Game Land and on the Beaver Dam Impoundment of Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land. A disabled access permit is required. The Spring Creek Impoundment is available on non-permitted days on a first-come/first-served basis. On permitted days on Spring Creek and on the Beaver Dam Impoundment, users must apply through the Special Hunt Opportunities Program.

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

- On the Singletary Tract, deer and bear may be taken only by still hunting.
 - Turkey hunting on the Singletary Tract is by special permit only. See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply.
 - Camping is restricted to Sep. 1 - Feb 28 and April 7 - May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- Brunswick County Game Land** – Brunswick County (1,139 acres)
- Permit-only area (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply.)
- Buckhorn Game Land – Orange County (500 acres)**
- Permit-only area (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply.)
- Buckridge Game Land** – Tyrrell County (18,194 acres)
- Three-day-per-week area
 - Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Oct. 13 – Jan. 1 (maximum season)
 - Bear may only be taken on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday during the November Bear Season and on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the second week of the December Bear Season.
- Buffalo Cove Game Land** – Caldwell and Wilkes counties (6,575 acres)
- Six-day-per-week area
 - Gun Deer Season: Nov. 19-Dec. 8 in all portions of the game land
 - Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 8 (introductory season) in all portions of the game land.
 - Muzzleloader season: Oct. 8-13 in all portions of the game land
 - Bow-and-Arrow Season: Sept. 10 - Oct. 6 and Oct. 15 - Nov. 17 in all portions of the game land.
 - Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through Aug. 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from Sept. 1 through May 15. This rule includes all equine species.
- Bullard and Branch Hunting Preserve** – Robeson County (283 acres)
- Three-day-per-week area
 - Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - 24 and Dec. 24 - Jan. 1 (moderate season).
- Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land** – Durham, Granville and Wake counties (41,115 acres)
- Six-day-per-week area
 - Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (conservative season).
 - Waterfowl may be taken only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays, Christmas and New Year's days, and on opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons. No waterfowl hunting is allowed after 1 p.m. On the posted waterfowl impoundments, a special permit is required for all waterfowl hunting after Nov. 1.
 - Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.
 - Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 - Feb. 28 and April 7 - May 14 in designated camping areas.
 - Turkey hunting is by permit only (see the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply), except on those areas posted as Archery Zones.
 - Target shooting is prohibited.
 - The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited on that portion west of N.C. 50 and south of Falls Lake.
- Cape Fear River Wetlands Game Land** – Pender County (5,281 acres)
- Six-day-per-week area
 - Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).
 - Turkey hunting is by permit only on the Roan Island Tract (see the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply).
- Carteret County Game Land** – Carteret County (2,432 acres)
- Six-day-per-week area
 - Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - 19 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (moderate season)
- Dogs may not be used for hunting deer.
- Caswell Game Land** – Caswell County (17,198 acres)
- Three-day-per-week area
 - Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Dec. 24 - Jan. 1 (conservative season).
 - Horseback riding is allowed only during June, July and August and on Sundays during the remainder of the year, except during open turkey and deer seasons. Horseback riding is allowed only on roads opened to vehicular traffic. Participants must obtain a game lands license prior to engaging in horseback riding on this area.
 - Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 - Feb. 28 and April 7 - May 14 in designated camping areas.
 - Bearded or beardless turkeys may be taken Jan. 14 - 19 by permit only. (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply.)
 - The area posted with signs stating "C-U-R-E Wildlife Game Lands, Special Regulations Apply" and encompassed by the following roads is closed to all quail and woodcock hunting and all bird dog training: From Yanceyville south on N.C. 62 to the intersection of S.R. 1746, west on S.R. 1746 to the intersection of S.R. 1156, south on S.R. 1156 to the intersection of S.R. 1783, east on S.R. 1783 to the intersection of N.C. 62, north on N.C. 62 to the intersection of S.R. 1736, east on S.R. 1736 to the intersection of S.R. 1730, east on S.R. 1730 to N.C. 86, north on N.C. 86 to N.C. 62.
 - On the posted waterfowl impoundment, a special permit is required for all waterfowl hunting after Nov. 1.
- Caswell Farm Game Land** – Lenoir County (276 acres)
- Dove-only area
 - Dove hunting during the first segment is by permit only from opening day through either the first Saturday or Labor Day, whichever ever comes last. (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply.)
- Catawba Game Land** – Catawba County (1,189 acres)
- Three-day-per-week area
 - Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 15 (introductory season).
 - Deer may be taken with bow and arrow only from the tract known as Molly's Backbone.
- Chatham Game Land** – Chatham County (2,794 acres)
- Six-day-per-week area
 - Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 10 - 16 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (moderate season).
 - Turkey hunting is by permit only. (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply.)
 - Horseback riding, including all equine species, is allowed only during June, July and August and on Sundays during the remainder of the year, except during open turkey and deer seasons.
- Cherokee Game Land** – Ashe County (327 acres)
- Six-day-per-week area
 - Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 10 - 15 (conservative season).
- Chowan Game Land** – Chowan County (30 acres)
- Six-day-per-week area
 - Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).
- Chowan Swamp Game Land** – Gates and Hertford Counties (24,177 acres)
- Six-day-per-week area
 - Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).
- Cold Mountain Game Land** – Haywood County (3,295 acres)
- Six-day-per-week area
 - Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: None
 - Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through Aug. 31 and all horseback riding is prohibited from Sept. 1 through May 15. This rule includes all equine species.

Columbus County Game Land – Brunswick and Columbus counties (9,426 acres)

- Three-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).

Croatan Game Land – Carteret, Jones and Craven counties (160,724 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - 19 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (moderate season).
- Waterfowl may be taken only on Tuesdays and Saturdays; on Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's and Martin Luther King Jr. days; and on the opening and closing of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- From opening day to the first Saturday of dove season, a permit is needed to hunt on posted areas.
- Turkey hunting on Youth Turkey Day is by permit only.

Currituck Banks Game Land – Currituck County (228 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season)
- Permanent waterfowl blinds in Currituck Sound adjacent to these game lands shall be hunted by permit only after Nov. 1. (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply).
- Licensed hunting guides may accompany the permitted individual or party provided the guides do not possess or use a firearm.
- The boundary of the game land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.
- Dogs shall be allowed only for waterfowl hunting by permitted hunters on the day of their hunt.
- No screws, nails or other objects penetrating the bark shall be used to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.

Dare Game Land – Dare and Hyde counties (45,149 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Jan. 1 (introductory season).
- No hunting on posted parts of bombing range. Selected roads may be closed for military training.
- The use and training of dogs is prohibited from March 1 through June 30.
- Bear hunting is by permit only (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply) on the Bombing Range Bear Sanctuary.

Dover Bay Game Land – Craven County (3,100 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season)

Dupont State Forest Game Land – Henderson and Transylvania counties (10,256 acres)

- Permit-only area (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply.)
- Training and the use of dogs is prohibited except during scheduled small-game permit hunts for squirrel, grouse, rabbit or quail.

Elk Knob Game Land – Ashe and Watauga counties (728 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 10 - 15 (conservative season).

Embro Game Land – Halifax and Warren counties (4,254 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 19 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (moderate season).
- Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.

Goose Creek Game Land – Beaufort and Pamlico counties (10,027 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).
- On posted waterfowl impoundments, waterfowl may be taken

only on Tuesdays and Saturdays; on Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's and Martin Luther King Jr. days; and on the opening and closing days of the applicable duck hunting seasons. After Nov. 1, on the Pamlico Point, Campbell Creek, Hunting Creek, Parker Farm and Spring Creek impoundments, a special permit is required for hunting on the opening and closing days of duck seasons, the Saturdays of duck seasons, and on Thanksgiving, New Year's and Martin Luther King Jr. days. (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply.)

- Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 - Feb. 28 and April 7 - May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- From Nov. 1 - Mar. 15, all activities on the Campbell Creek and Pamlico Point impoundments are restricted to the Scouting-Only Zone EXCEPT waterfowl hunting on open days and trapping.

Green River Game Land – Henderson and Polk counties (14,308 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 8 (Introductory season)
- Horseback riding is prohibited. This rule includes all equine species.

Green Swamp Game Land – Brunswick County (15,430 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).

Gull Rock Game Land – Hyde County (31,057 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).
- On posted waterfowl impoundments, hunting of any species of wildlife is limited to Tuesdays and Saturdays; Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's and Martin Luther King Jr. days; and opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- On the Long Shoal River tract, bear may only be taken Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday during the November segment of the bear season and Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the second week of the December segment.
- Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 - Feb. 28 and April 7 - May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

Harris Game Land (formerly Shearon Harris Game Land) – Chatham, Harnett and Wake counties (14,090 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 10 - 16 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1, except those parts in Wake and Harnett counties where the season is Oct. 13 - 19 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (moderate seasons).
- Waterfowl may be taken only on Tuesdays, Fridays and Saturdays; on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's days; and on the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- The use or construction of permanent hunting blinds is prohibited.
- Turkey hunting is by permit only (See *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply).

Holly Shelter Game Land – Pender County (64,743 acres)

- Three-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Oct. 13 - 24 and Dec. 24 - Jan. 1 (moderate season).
- Waterfowl hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is allowed only on Tuesdays and Saturdays, and Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's and Martin Luther King Jr. days; and on the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- Camping is restricted to Sep. 1 - Feb. 28 and April 7 - May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.
- Turkey hunting on Youth Turkey Day is by permit only.
- On the portion of the game land that is north of the Bear Garden Road, west of Shaw Road to Baby Branch, east of the Northeast Cape Fear River, south of N.C. 53 and west of N.C. 50, deer

hunting and bear hunting are by permit only. Other species may be hunted on this area only during the normal open days for this game land.

Hyc0 Game Land – Person County (4,229 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 10 - 16 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (moderate season).
- Bearded or beardless turkey may be taken Jan. 14 - 19 by permit only. (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply).

J. Morgan Futch Game Land – Tyrrell County (600 acres)

- Permit Only Area (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply).

Jordan Game Land – Durham, Chatham, Orange and Wake counties (40,595 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 10 - 16 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 except that part in Wake Co. where the season is Oct. 13 - 19 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (moderate seasons).
- Waterfowl may be taken only on Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays; on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's days; and on the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited except those areas posted on the American Tobacco Trail.
- Target shooting is prohibited.
- Turkey hunting is by permit only. (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply), except on those areas posted as Archery Zones.

Kerr Scott Game Land – Wilkes County (523 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 17 - Dec. 15 (maximum season)
- Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.
- Use of firearms for hunting deer is prohibited during the Gun Deer Season.
- Tree stands may not be left overnight and no screws, nails, or other objects may be used to aid in climbing or to attach a tree stand or blind to a tree.
- Hunting on posted waterfowl impoundments is by permit only.

Lantern Acres Game Land – Tyrrell and Washington counties (1,852 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).
- Turkey hunting is by permit only (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply).
- **Dogs may not be used to hunt deer on the Godley Tract.**

Lee Game Lands – Lee County (2,421 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 10 - 16 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (moderate season).

Light Ground Pocosin Game Land – Pamlico Co. (1,046 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).

Linwood Game Land – Davidson County (126 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 10 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).

Mayo Game Land (formerly Person Game Land) – Person County (7,128 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 10 - 16 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (moderate season).
- Waterfowl may be hunted only on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays; Christmas and New Year's days; and on opening and closing days, of the applicable waterfowl seasons.

- Bearded or beardless turkeys may be taken Jan. 14 - 19 by permit only (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply).

Mitchell River Game Land – Surry County (1,729 acres)

- Three-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Dec. 3-15 (conservative season).
- Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 - Aug. 31. All horseback riding is prohibited Sept. 1- May 15. This rule includes all equine species.

Nantahala Game Land – Cherokee, Clay, Graham, Jackson, Macon, Swain and Transylvania counties (528,782 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 8 in that portion in Transylvania County (Introductory season).

Needmore Game Land – Macon and Swain counties (4,442 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 - Aug. 31. All horseback riding is prohibited from Sept. 1 - May 15. This rule applies to all equine species.

Neuse River Game Land – Craven Co. (4,372 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - 19 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (moderate season).

New Lake Game Land – Hyde and Tyrrell counties (1,394 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).

Nicholson Creek Game Land – Hoke Co. (1,027 acres)

- Three-day-per-week area
- Gun Deer Season: Open days during Nov. 10 - Dec. 8
- Bow-and-Arrow Season: Open days during Sept. 8 - Nov. 2
- Muzzleloader Season: Open days during Nov. 3 - 7
- Gun Either-Sex Season: Dec. 8 (introductory season)
- The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

North River Game Land – Camden and Currituck counties (14,937 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1. (maximum season).
- Turkey hunting is by permit only in that portion in Camden Co. (see the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply).
- The boundary of the game land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline in Currituck County.
- Hunting on the posted waterfowl impoundment is by permit only.
- **Turkey hunting on Youth Turkey Day is by permit only.**

Northwest River Marsh Game Land – Currituck Co. (3,045 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).
- The boundary of the game land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or shoreline.

Pee Dee River Game Land – Anson, Montgomery, Richmond and Stanly counties (6,829 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 10 - 16 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1, except that part in Richmond Co. where the season is Oct. 13 - 19 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (moderate seasons).
- Use of center fire rifles is prohibited in that portion in Anson and Richmond counties north of U.S. 74.

Perkins Game Land – Davie Co. (982 acres)

- Three-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 15 (introductory season).

Person Game Land – (See Mayo Game Land)

Pisgah Game Land – Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Madison, McDowell, Mitchell, Transylvania, Watauga and Yancey counties (505,217 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun either-sex season: Dec. 8 (introductory season) EXCEPT for these parts of the game land which have NO either-sex season:
 - Avery Co. south of the Blue Ridge Parkway
 - Yancey Co.
 - Haywood Co. area encompassed by U.S. 276 on the north, U.S. 74 on the west, and the Blue Ridge Parkway on the south and east.
- Harmon Den and Sherwood Bear Sanctuaries in Haywood County are closed to hunting raccoon, opossum and wildcat.
- Bear hunting on Mt. Mitchell Bear Sanctuary is by permit only.
- **Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River (Burke County), and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell and Mitchell counties).**

Pungo River Game Land – Hyde County (614 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).

Rhodes Pond Game Land – Cumberland County (461 acres)

- Permit-only area (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply).
- Swimming is prohibited.

Roanoke Island Marshes – Dare County (1,766 acres)

- Permit-only area (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply.)

Roanoke River Wetlands – Bertie, Halifax, Martin and Northampton counties (30,499 acres)

- Permit-only area (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply.)
- Vehicles are prohibited on roads or trails, except those vehicles operated on official Wildlife Resources Commission business or by permit holders.
- Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 - Feb. 28 and April 7 - May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas. (Camping is allowed anytime within 100 yards of the river.)

Robeson Game Land – Robeson County (42 acres)

- Three-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Oct. 13 - 24 and Dec. 24 - Jan. 1 (moderate season)

Rockfish Creek Game Land – Hoke County (2504 acres)

- Three-day-per-week area
- Gun deer Season: Open days during Nov. 10 - Dec. 8
- Bow-and-Arrow Season: Open days during Sept. 8 - Nov. 2
- Muzzleloader Season: Open days during Nov. 3 - 7
- Gun either-sex Season: Dec. 8 (introductory season)
- The use of dogs for hunting deer is prohibited.
- Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

Sampson Game Land – Sampson County (2,281 acres)

- Three-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).

Sandhills Game Land – Hoke, Moore, Richmond and Scotland counties (61,225 acres)

- Three-day-per-week area
- Gun Deer Season: Open days during Nov. 10 - Dec. 8, except on the field-trial grounds, where the season is the open days during Nov. 12 - 24.
- Bow-and-Arrow Season: Open days during Sept. 8 - Nov. 2

- Muzzleloader Season: Open days during Nov. 3 - 7 (Deer of either sex may be taken on these days).
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: By permit only (see the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply).
- Opossum, raccoon and squirrel (fox and gray) hunting on the field-trial grounds will be allowed on open days during Nov. 12 - 24.
- Rabbit hunting on the field-trial grounds will be allowed on open days during Nov. 17 - 24.
- Except for the deer, opossum, raccoon, rabbit and squirrel seasons specifically indicated for the field-trial grounds and the special hunts for the Disabled Sportsman Program, the field-trial grounds are closed to all hunting during the period of Oct. 22 - March 31.
- Horseback riding is prohibited on the J. Robert Gordon Field-Trial Area Oct. 22 - March 31, except by **people riding** in field trials.
- In addition to the regular open days, waterfowl may be taken on the opening and closing days of the applicable waterfowl seasons.
- Turkey hunting is by permit only (see the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply).
- Dove hunting on the field-trial grounds will be prohibited from the second Sunday in September through the remainder of the hunting season.
- Dog training is restricted to Mondays, Wednesdays and Saturdays from Oct. 1 - April 1.
- Swimming in lakes is not permitted.
- Camping is restricted to Sept. 1 - Feb. 28 and April 7 - May 14 in designated camping areas.
- It is illegal to hunt quail and woodcock and to train dogs on birds on areas posted with signs stating “C-U-R-E Wildlife Game Lands, Special Regulations Apply.” All of these posted areas are on that part of the Game Land east of U.S. 1 in Richmond County or east of S.R. 1001 and west of U.S. 15/501 in Scotland County.
- All of Sandhills game land in Moore County is located within the Sandhill Township (see “local laws” for additional restrictions).

Sandy Mush Game Land – Buncombe and Madison County (2,679 acres)

- Three-day-per-week area
- Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 - Aug. 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from Sept. 1 - May 15. This rule includes all equine species.

Second Creek Game Land – Rowan County (2,842 acres)

- **Permit-only area. See *Special Hunt Opportunities* to apply.**

Shearon Harris Game Land – (See Harris Game Land).

Shocco Creek Game Land – Franklin and Warren counties (7,957 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - 19 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (moderate season).
- Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.

South Mountains Game Land – Burke, Cleveland, McDowell and Rutherford counties (19,775 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Deer Season: Nov. 19 - Dec. 8 in all portions of the game land.
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 8 (introductory season) in all portions of the game land.
- Horseback riding is prohibited, except on designated trails May 16 through Aug. 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from Sept. 1 through May 15. This rule includes all equine species.
- That part of South Mountains Game Land in Cleveland, McDowell and Rutherford counties is closed to all grouse, quail and woodcock hunting and all bird dog training.

Stones Creek Game Land – Onslow County (2,923 acres)

- Six day-per-week area
- Swimming in all lakes is prohibited
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season)

Suggs Mill Pond Game Land – Cumberland and Bladen counties (9,588 acres)

- Permit-only area (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply).
- Camping is restricted to Sep. 1 - Feb. 28 and April 7 - May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas.

Sutton Lake Game Land – Brunswick and New Hanover counties (2,607 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (conservative season).

Tar River Game Land – Edgecombe County (134 acres)

- Permit-only area (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply).

Three Top Mountain Game Land – Ashe County (2,808 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec 10 - 15 (conservative season).
- Horseback riding is prohibited. This includes all equine species.

Thurmond Chatham Game Land – Alleghany and Wilkes counties (6,276 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 17 - 23 and Dec. 10 - 15 (moderate season).
- Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails May 16 through Aug. 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from Sept. 1 through May 15. This rule includes all equine species. Participants must obtain a game lands license prior to horseback riding on this area.
- Bearded or beardless turkeys may be taken Jan. 14 - 19 by permit only. See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply.

Tillery Game Land – Halifax County (3,867 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - 19 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (moderate season).
- Horseback riding, including all equine species, is prohibited.
- Dogs may not be used for hunting deer.

Toxaway Game Land – Jackson and Transylvania counties (11,651 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Dec. 8 (introductory season).
- Horseback riding is prohibited, except on designated trails May 16 through Aug. 31, and all horseback riding is prohibited from Sept. 1 through May 15. This rule includes all equine species.

Uwharrie Game Land – Davidson, Montgomery and Randolph counties (50,189 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Nov. 10 - 16 and Dec. 26 - Jan. 1 (moderate season)

Vance Game Land – Vance County (752 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).
- The use of dogs, center-fire rifles and handguns for hunting deer is prohibited on the Nutbush Peninsula tract.

Van Swamp Game Land – Beaufort and Washington counties (5,482 acres)

- Six-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).
- Bear may only be taken on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the November Bear Season and Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of the second week of the December Bear Season.

• **Turkey hunting on Youth Turkey Day is by permit only.**

White Oak River Game Land – Onslow County (2,303 acres)

- Three-day-per-week area
- Gun Either-Sex Deer Season: Open days during Oct. 13 - Jan. 1 (maximum season).
- Waterfowl may be taken only on Tuesdays and Saturdays; on Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's and Martin Luther King Jr. days; and on the opening and closing days of the statewide waterfowl hunting seasons. After Oct. 1, a special permit is required for hunting waterfowl on opening and closing days of the duck seasons, Saturdays of the duck seasons and on Thanksgiving, New Year's and Martin Luther King Jr. days. (See the *Special Hunt Opportunities* publication to apply).
- **A permit is needed to access Hargett Avenue.**
- **On the Huggins Tract, dogs may not be used to hunt deer, there is no discharge of center fire rifles allowed, AND hunting is by permit only.**

HUNTING AND FISHING MAPS FOR NORTH CAROLINA



GAME LANDS

- ◆ The Wildlife Resources Commission will no longer provide a copy of the full color version of the Game Lands Map Book free of charge.
- ◆ To better serve the public, our Web site now provides interactive, updated maps, including a searchable Game Lands database (by distance and primary species).
- ◆ You can buy the map book online through the Wild Store at www.ncwildlife.org or by calling (866) 945-3746.