



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

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

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Impact Summary: State Government: Yes
Local Government: No
Private Impact: Yes
Substantial impact: Uncertain but potential

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

I. SUMMARY

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

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

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

II. INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE

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

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

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

III. STATEMENT OF NEED

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

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

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

IV. BACKGROUND

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

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

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

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

Currently, game lands are classified as follows:

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

i.) Determining Feasibility

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

Survey of Public Opinions

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

State-wide Listening Sessions

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

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

Focus Groups

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

Structured Decision Making

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

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

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

Table 1: NCWRC decision guiding criteria and criteria weighting.

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

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

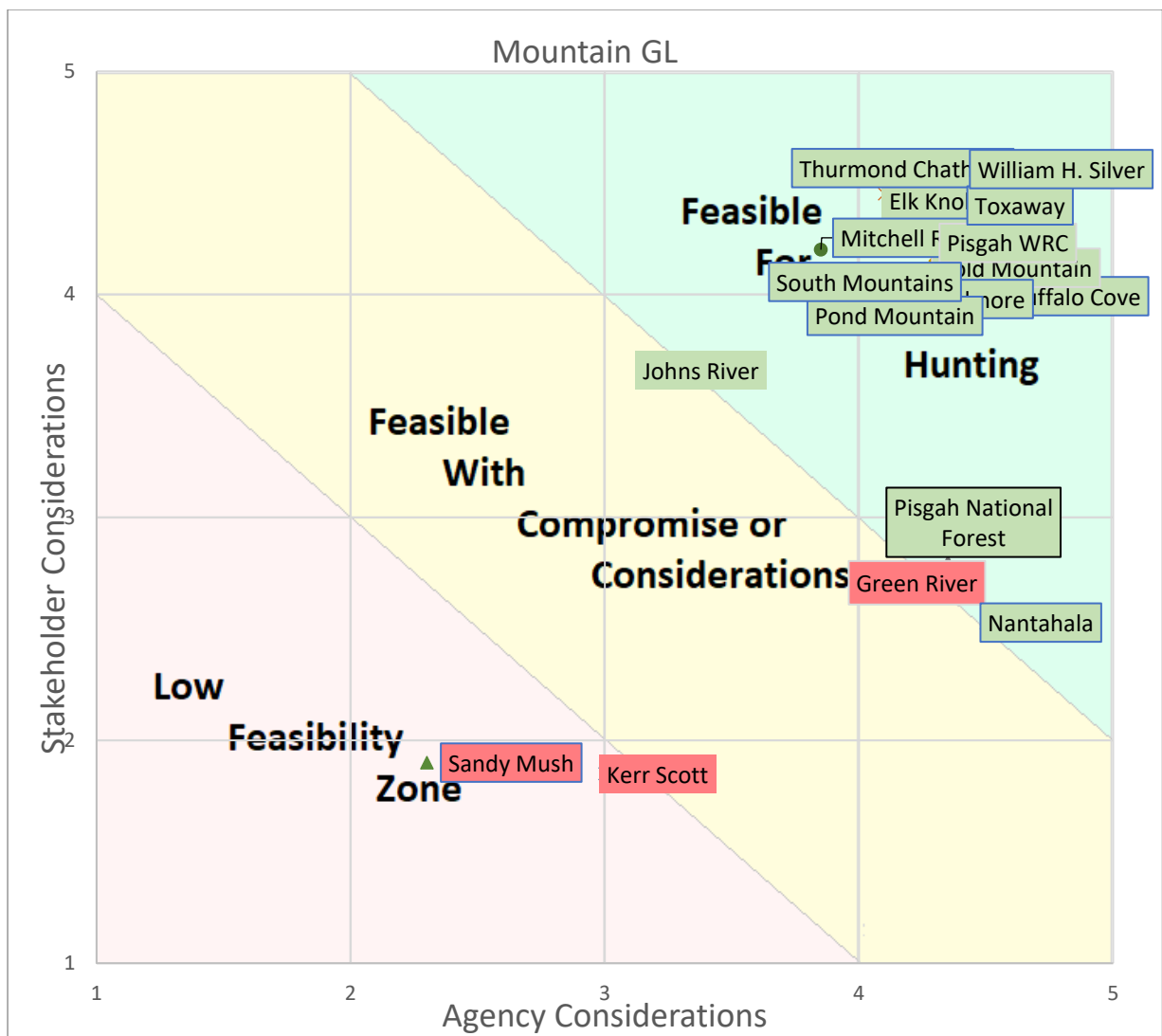


Figure 1: Feasibility plot for Sunday Hunting on Mountains Game Lands, based on scoring of feasibility criteria. Green labels will allow Sunday hunting.

Staff Recommendations

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

V. IMPACTS

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

i.) State Impacts

Costs

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

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

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

Benefits

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

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

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

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

ii.) Private Impacts

Costs

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

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

Benefits

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

VI. ALTERNATIVES

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

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

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

VII. CONCLUSIONS

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

Works Cited

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APPENDIX A

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

2 (a) Safety Requirements. No person while hunting on any designated game land shall be under the influence of
3 alcohol or any narcotic drug, or fail to comply with restrictions enacted by the National Park Service regarding
4 the use of the Blue Ridge Parkway where it adjoins game lands listed in this Rule.

5 (b) Traffic Requirements. No person shall park a vehicle on game lands in such a manner as to block traffic or
6 gates, or otherwise prevent vehicles from using any roadway.

7 (c) Tree Stands. It is unlawful to erect or to occupy, for the purpose of hunting, any tree stand or platform attached
8 by nails, screws, bolts, or wire to a tree on any game land designated herein. This prohibition does not apply to
9 lag-screw steps or portable stands that are removed after use with no metal remaining in or attached to the tree.

10 (d) Time and Manner of Taking. Hunting is allowed on game lands only during the open season for game animals
11 and game birds, unless hunting is allowed by permit. Individual game lands or parts thereof may be closed to
12 hunting or limited to specific dates by this Chapter. Persons shall hunt only with weapons lawful for the open
13 game animal or game bird seasons. On managed waterfowl impoundments, persons shall:

- 14 (1) not enter the posted impoundment areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted hunting dates;
- 15 (2) not hunt after 1:00 p.m. on such hunting dates;
- 16 (3) not set decoys out prior to 4:00 a.m.;
- 17 (4) remove decoys by 3:00 p.m. each day; and
- 18 (5) not operate any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine.

19 On designated youth waterfowl days, youths may hunt on managed waterfowl impoundments from ½ hour before
20 sunrise to sunset. On designated veterans and military waterfowl days, veterans, as defined in 38 USC 101, and
21 members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active
22 duty other than for training, with valid credentials may hunt on game lands and impoundments not designated as
23 permit-only areas from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset. Restrictions (1), (3), and (5) in this Paragraph shall apply.

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

32 (e) Definitions:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

31 (2) Alligator River Game Land in Tyrrell County

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

3 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.

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

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

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

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

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

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

21 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area

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

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

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

26 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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

29 (C) Waterfowl shall be taken only on:

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

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

35 (D) Horseback riding is prohibited.

36 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

11 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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

14 (C) Target shooting is prohibited.

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

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

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

19 (C) Turkey Hunting is by permit only on that portion known as the Roan Island Tract.

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

23 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

33 (A) Three Days per Week Area

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

7 (E) Target shooting is prohibited.

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

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

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

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

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

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

19 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

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

21 (A) Six Days per Week Area

22 (B) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited.

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

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

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

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

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

31 ~~(45)~~(44) Lantern Acres Game Land in Tyrrell and Washington counties

32 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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

35 (C) Wild turkey hunting is by permit only.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

4 (A) Six Days per Week Area

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

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

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

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

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

13 (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

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

15 (A) Three Days per Week Area

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

32 (ii) Swimming.

33 (I) Target shooting is prohibited.

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

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

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

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

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

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

1 ~~(58)~~(57) Northwest River Marsh Game Land in Currituck County

- 2 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven 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) The boundary of the Game Land shall extend five yards from the edge of the marsh or
- 6 shoreline.
- 7 (D) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.

8 ~~(59)~~(58) Pee Dee River Game Land in Anson, Montgomery, Richmond, and Stanly counties

- 9 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 10 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 11 Antlers Season through the second Friday thereafter.
- 12 (C) Use of centerfire rifles is prohibited in that portion in Anson and Richmond counties
- 13 North of US-74.
- 14 (D) Target shooting is prohibited.
- 15 (E) Horseback riding is allowed seven days per week from May 16 through August 31,
- 16 and on Sundays only September 1 through May 15 only on roads opened to vehicular
- 17 traffic and gated roads and trails posted for equestrian use. ~~only during the following~~
- 18 ~~times:~~
- 19 (i) ~~during June, July, and August; and~~
- 20 (ii) ~~on Sundays during the other months or parts of months when deer and turkey~~
- 21 ~~seasons are closed.~~
- 22 (F) Pursuing or chasing deer or bear with dogs for the purposes of training or hunting shall
- 23 be prohibited on that portion south of US-74.

24 ~~(60)~~(59) Perkins Game Land in Davie County

- 25 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 26 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With
- 27 Visible Antlers ~~Season.~~ Season through the second Tuesday thereafter.
- 28 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited from November 1 through January 1.
- 29 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.

30 ~~(61)~~(60) Pisgah Game Land in Avery, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Haywood, Henderson, Madison,

31 McDowell, Mitchell, Transylvania, Watauga, and Yancey counties

- 32 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 33 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open Saturday of the applicable Deer With
- 34 Visible Antlers Season.
- 35 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited on the Black Bear (McDowell County), Linville River
- 36 (Burke County), and Little Tablerock Tracts (Avery, McDowell, and Mitchell
- 37 counties).
- 38 (D) The use of bicycles shall be restricted to designated trails on the Linville River Tract
- 39 (Burke County). Persons engaged in the act of hunting on the Linville River Tract
- 40 during any open day of an applicable season for game birds or game animals shall be
- 41 exempt from this restriction.

- 1 ~~(62)~~(61) Pond Mountain Game Land in Ashe County
- 2 (A) ~~Six~~ Seven Days per Week Area
- 3 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 4 Antlers Season through the first Friday thereafter.
- 5 (C) Horseback riding is prohibited except on designated trails from May 16 through
- 6 August 31 and Sundays from September 1 through October 31. All horseback riding
- 7 is prohibited from November 1 through May 15.
- 8 ~~(63)~~(62) Pungo River Game Land in Hyde County
- 9 (A) Six Days per Week Area
- 10 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 11 Antlers Season.
- 12 ~~(64)~~(63) Rendezvous Mountain State Forest Game Land in Wilkes County
- 13 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 14 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken the first open day of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 15 Antlers Season through the second Wednesday thereafter.
- 16 (C) Bear hunting is prohibited.
- 17 ~~(65)~~(64) Rhodes Pond Game Land in Cumberland and Harnett counties
- 18 (A) Hunting is by permit only.
- 19 (B) Swimming is prohibited on the area.
- 20 ~~(66)~~(65) Roanoke River Wetlands in Bertie, Halifax, Martin, and Northampton counties
- 21 (A) Hunting and trapping is by Permit only.
- 22 (B) Vehicles are prohibited on roads or trails except those operated on Commission
- 23 business or by permit holders.
- 24 (C) Camping is restricted to September 1 through the last day of February and March 31
- 25 through May 14 in areas both designated and posted as camping areas, provided,
- 26 however, that camping is allowed at any time within 100 yards of the Roanoke River
- 27 on the state-owned portion of the game land.
- 28 (D) Target Shooting is prohibited.
- 29 ~~(67)~~(66) Roanoke Island Marshes Game Land in Dare County-Hunting is by permit only.
- 30 ~~(68)~~(67) Robeson Game Land in Robeson County
- 31 (A) ~~Three~~ Four Days per Week Area
- 32 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken all the open days of the applicable Deer With Visible
- 33 Antlers Season.
- 34 (C) Bear shall not be harvested on Sunday.
- 35 ~~(69)~~(68) Rockfish Creek Game Land in Hoke County
- 36 (A) Three Days per Week Area
- 37 (B) Deer of either sex may be taken with archery equipment on open hunting days from
- 38 the Saturday on or nearest September 10 to the fourth Friday before Thanksgiving Day.
- 39 (C) Deer of either sex may be taken with blackpowder firearms on open hunting days
- 40 beginning the fourth Saturday before Thanksgiving Day through the Wednesday of the
- 41 second week thereafter.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

6 (B) Target Shooting is prohibited.

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

8 (A) Three Days per Week Area

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

22 (ii) hunting is by permit only; and

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

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

25 (G) Target Shooting is prohibited.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

33

APPENDIX B

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

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

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

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

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