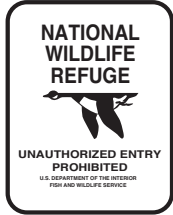


Signs Protect Visitors and Resources

Millions of people visit national wildlife refuges each year. The impact of human activity, if not regulated, can degrade these wildlands. Signs control recreational activities while protecting natural resources on the refuge. Please respect the following signs.



This sign delineates the refuge boundary. Entry is permitted only for authorized uses (hunting, fishing, sightseeing, etc.) in accordance with refuge regulations.



This area is closed to all entry. No hunting, fishing or sightseeing is permitted. No roads or trails are open to the public (see map).



This area is closed to all hunting (see map).



Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge

5770 Highway 52, North

Wadesboro, NC 28170

704/694 4424

http://www.fws.gov/refuge/pee_dee/

<http://southeast.fws.gov>

email: peedee@fws.gov

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

1 800/344 WILD

May 2023



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Pee Dee

National Wildlife Refuge
Public Use Regulations and
General Hunting Permit 2023-2024

General Hunting Permit 2023-2024

The signing of this leaflet validates it as your general refuge hunting permit and must be in your possession while participating in all authorized hunts.

I have read and understand these refuge regulations.

Hunter's Signature

Not valid until signed

This permit is valid only from September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024.

Welcome to Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge

Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge is one of over 565 national wildlife refuges. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service administers the refuge and is responsible for conserving, protecting, and enhancing the nation's fish and wildlife populations and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the public.

The provisions listed below supplement the general regulations that govern public use on national wildlife refuges, as set forth in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations. When permitted, hunting, fishing and other public uses will be in accordance with applicable state laws unless otherwise listed. Only the hunting seasons designated in this brochure are allowed on Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge.

General Provisions and Access

By law, national wildlife refuges are closed to all public use activities unless permitted. Hunting, fishing and other public use activities are permitted on many areas of the refuge. Contact the Refuge Manager for current regulations and authorized activities when visiting the refuge.

Public Entry

- The refuge is closed daily from one hour after sunset until one hour before sunrise except as authorized during designated hunts.
- Entry onto Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge constitutes consent to an inspection of persons and their licenses, permits, game bags, creels, and all hunting and/or fishing equipment.

Pets

- Pets must be under the control of the owner at all times.

Camping and Fires

- Camping and fires are prohibited.

Horseback Riding

- A special use permit is required for horseback riding on the refuge. Contact the refuge office to apply.
- Horseback riding is allowed only on gravel roads that are open to public vehicle traffic.
- Hunting from horseback is prohibited.

Alcoholic beverages

- The use or possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.

ATV's/Four Wheelers

- ATVs are prohibited except for use by disabled persons with a refuge special use permit.

Roads

- Vehicles must remain on established roads as indicated on the map of this brochure.
- Visitors may park alongside roads in a manner that will not block gates and fire lanes, or interfere with traffic.
- The speed limit on refuge roads is 15 mph, unless posted otherwise.
- Hunting on, from or across any road open to public vehicle traffic is prohibited.
- On small game hunts, hunting is prohibited on roads open to public vehicle traffic. This includes the right-of-way, which extends 30 feet from the center of the road.
- On big game quota hunts, hunting is prohibited **within 100 feet** of any vehicle or road open to public vehicle traffic.

Disabled Access

- Persons with disabilities who have special access needs should contact the Refuge Manager to request special use permits.

Weapons

- Discharging firearms, air guns, bows and arrows, or cross bows is prohibited unless authorized.

Closed Areas/No Hunting Zones

- **Refuge hunting areas are closed to the general public during all firearms deer hunts.** The "No Hunting Zone" around Headquarters and Sullivan Pond remains open all year.
- Designated areas are closed seasonally to hunting, fishing and all other public access.
- Other areas may be closed for management or safety reasons.
- Hunters are prohibited from entering or crossing a "No Hunting Zone" or "Closed Area" to access hunting areas.
- Discharging a Firearm within, into or across a "No Hunting Zone" or "Closed Area" is prohibited.

Refuge/Cultural resources

- The removal of any natural, historic or archaeological feature is prohibited.

Special Hunting Regulations

Permits

- Hunters must possess a valid, signed refuge General Hunting Permit for all hunts.
- Quota hunt permits are required for all firearms deer and turkey hunts. Quota hunt permits must be purchased online at: <https://peedee.recaccess.com>
- Quota deer hunt permits go on sale in August. Quota turkey hunt applications are available in January. Visit <https://peedee.recaccess.com> for specific dates on permit and lottery availability.
- Permits are non-transferable.
- Hunters must possess all applicable licenses, permits and government-issued picture ID while in the field.

Check Station

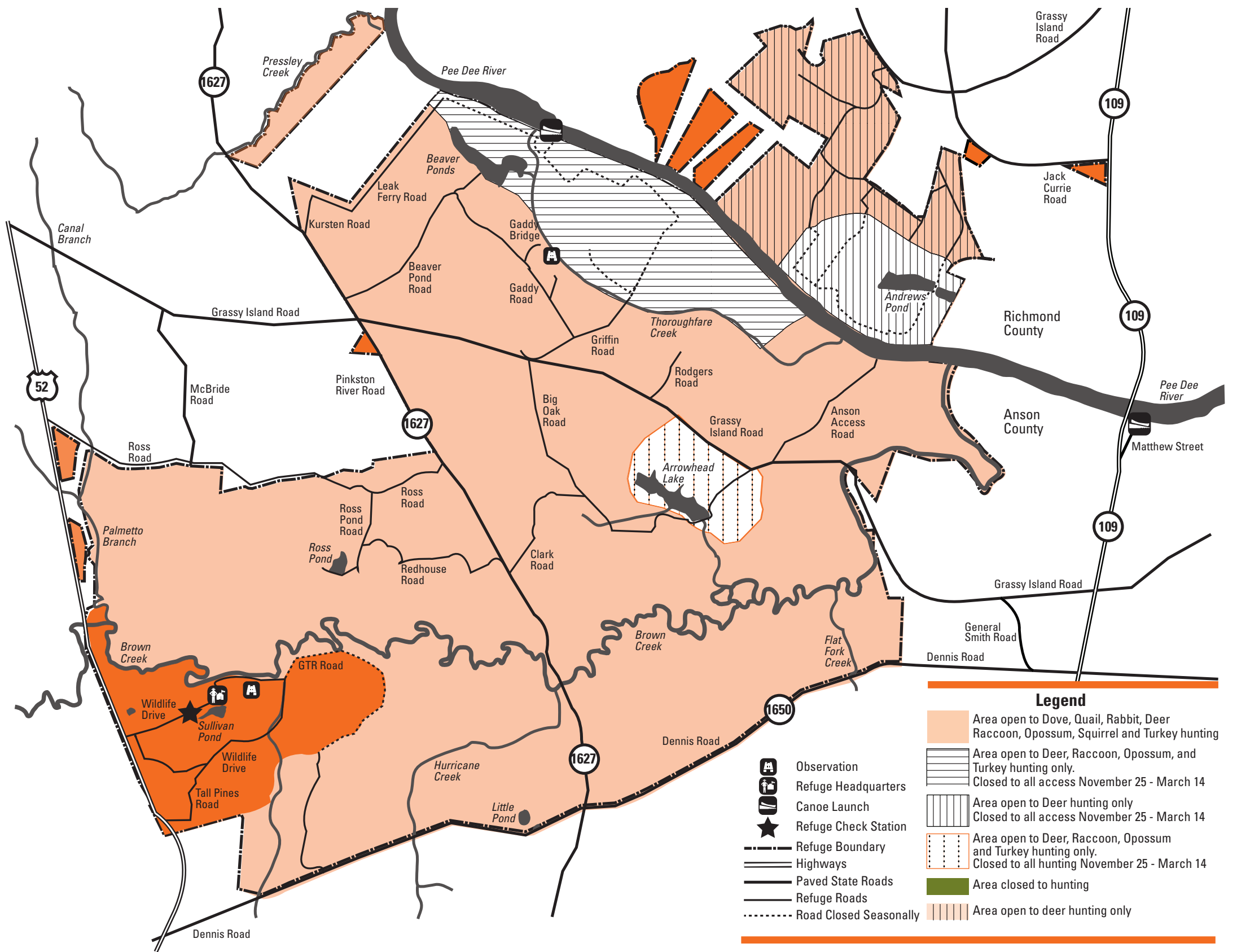
- The Check Station is located at Headquarters on Hwy 52 North.
- **All deer, feral hogs, and turkeys harvested on the refuge must be checked in** at the refuge check station on the date of the harvest prior to removing the animal from the refuge. **This includes archery.**
- Deer and turkeys harvested on the refuge **must also be reported with the State of NC** by calling 1-800-I-GOT-ONE. Refuge and NC records will be compared to make sure that your game has been properly checked in.
- If no employees are present at the check station, follow posted self-check in procedures.

Baiting

- Baiting and/or hunting in the vicinity of bait is prohibited.
- Baiting is defined as the placing of corn or other food stuffs, including salt and mineral blocks, to constitute an attraction for wildlife to any area.

Hunter Orange

- **During firearms deer hunts, all participants must wear at least 500 square inches of unbroken, fluorescent orange material above the waist as an outer garment while hunting and while enroute to and from hunting areas.**
- All persons participating in the late archery deer hunt must wear at a minimum, **a fluorescent orange hat** while hunting and while enroute to and from hunting areas.



Hunter Education / Youth Quota Hunts

- All refuge hunters under the age of 16 must show proof of successfully completing a State-approved hunter education course, and be directly supervised (within normal sight and voice contact) by a properly licensed adult at least 21 years of age.
- Youth quota hunts are for hunters ages 10 through 17.
- All youth quota hunt participants must be directly supervised (within normal sight and voice contact) by a properly licensed adult at least 21 years of age.
- One hunter and one supervising adult are allowed per youth quota hunt permit.
- During small game hunts, an adult may supervise up to two hunters under the age of 16.

Tree Stands & Blinds

- Only portable stands and blinds are permitted.
- Stands or blinds may be placed no more than four days prior to the opening day of your scheduled hunt.
- Participants in the Youth Deer Hunt may place their stand or blind up to 7 days prior to the hunt.
- Archery hunters must remove their stand or blind by the final day of the hunt.
- Quota hunters must remove their stands within 24 hours after the final day of their hunt.
- Inserting or driving a nail, screw, spike or other metal object into a tree or hunting from a tree into which a metal object has been inserted or driven is prohibited.

Hunting Dogs

- Dogs may not be used to run freely or locate game on non-hunting days.
- Deer hunting with dogs is prohibited.
- Dogs are permitted for small game and dove hunting.
- Dogs are required for the raccoon/opossum hunts.
- All dogs must wear a collar displaying the owner's contact information.

Organized Drives

- Organized deer drives are prohibited.

- A deer drive is defined as an organized or planned effort to pursue, drive, chase, or otherwise frighten or cause deer to move in the direction of any person(s) who is part of the organized or planned hunt and known to be waiting for deer.

Trail Cameras/Drones/Tree Marking

- The use of trail cameras and drones is prohibited.
- Marking any tree or other refuge feature with flagging material or paint is prohibited.
- Reflective clothespins may be used to mark trails, but must be removed at the end of each hunt.

Big Game Hunt Hours of Access

- Big game hunters are prohibited from entering the refuge prior to 4 am on scheduled hunt days.
- Big game hunters must leave the refuge no later than two hours after legal sunset.

Pre-hunt Scouting

- The refuge is open daily (except refuge firearms deer hunt days) for pre-hunt scouting.

Hunting Seasons

- Refuge areas open to hunting are designated on the map of this leaflet.
- The following list includes the specific hunts allowed on the refuge.
- Feral hogs may be taken during all established deer hunts, only by hunters legally participating in those hunts.
- All hunting is closed on Sundays.

Waterfowl

- No waterfowl hunting is allowed on the refuge. This includes the waters of the Pee Dee River from the confluence of Pressley Creek to the confluence of Brown Creek.

Mourning Dove

- State opening day, Labor Day, Wednesdays and Saturdays during State season in September only.
- Anson County only.

Early Archery Deer

- September 9-29, 2023 in Anson and Richmond Counties.

Firearms Deer

- Hunters must have a quota permit for the following hunts:
- **Either sex youth hunt (10-17 year olds): September 30 2023**
 - ***Either sex disabled hunt: October 6-7, 2023**
 - **Either sex muzzleloader: October 12-14, 2023**
 - **Either sex modern gun #1: October 19-21, 2023**
 - **Either sex modern gun #2: October 26-28, 2023**
 - **Either sex modern gun #3: November 2-4 2023**
 - **Either sex modern gun #4: November 9-11, 2023**
- *For more information on this hunt, contact the refuge office.

Raccoon/Opossum

- October 16-November 11, 2023 in Anson County only.
- Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Saturdays only; starting 1 hour after sunset.

Squirrel

- November 20 -December 9, 2023 in Anson County only.
- No fox squirrels.

Late Archery Deer

- December 11-30, 2023 in Anson and Richmond Counties.

Quail

- November 22, 2023 and December 2, 13, and 23, 2023 in Anson County only
- January 3, 13 and 24, 2024 in Anson County only.
- **Attention: bag limit is two (2) quail per hunter.**

Rabbit

- January 27 – February 10, 2024 in Anson County only.

Turkey

- Hunters must have a quota permit for the following hunts:
- **Youth hunt (10-17 year olds):** April 6 and 13, 2024
 - **Hunt #1:** April 18-20, 2024
 - **Hunt #2:** April 25-27, 2024

Refuge Violations

To report violations or information regarding violations occurring on Pee Dee National Wildlife Refuge, call 704/694 4424.