Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge





Big Game Hunt Orientation 2021 - 2022

Be Aware of Special Events occurring in 2021...





- On Saturday, October 2, the Chincoteague Volunteer Fire Company is conducting a horse roundup within the north grazing paddock (north of Gadwall Pool / E-Pool). The entire Refuge remains open for the Archery Hunt.
- Beginning Saturday, November 13th through Wednesday, November 17th, the Refuge will again host the Freedom Hunters. This group is authorized to use shotguns in a section of the Archery Only Zone (area depicted as White Hills between D-Dike and Beach Road; west of Wildlife Loop).
- Beginning Thursday, November 25th through Saturday, November 27th the Refuge will be closed to hunting (Refuge waterfowl week celebration).

Reminder: Areas of the refuge may need to close for management purposes, or other hazardous conditions that pose a threat to human health and safety. Such closures will be posted at the hunt register station.

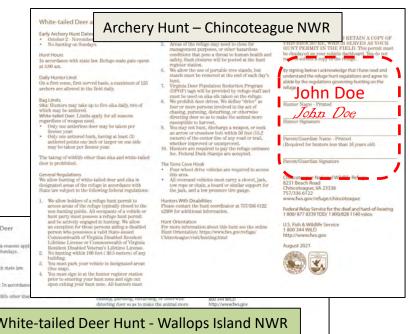
Refuge Hunt Permits

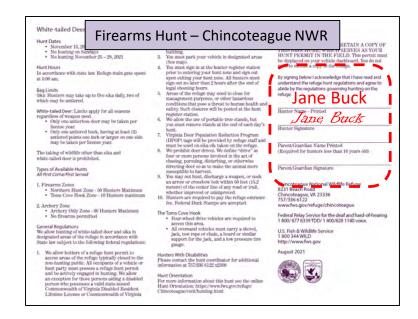




YOUR HUNT BROCHURE SERVES AS YOUR HUNT PERMIT.

Each hunter must print & sign their brochure.





PRINT, SIGN BELOW AND RETAIN A COPY OF THIS BROCHURE, WHICH SERVES AS YOUR HUNT PERMIT IN THE FIELD. This seat and quadrated pursue which or hands and copyride to the transport of any which the seat of the pursue which the seat of the

By signing below I acknowledge that I have read and understand the refuge hunt regulations and agree to abide by the regulations governing hunting on the refuge.



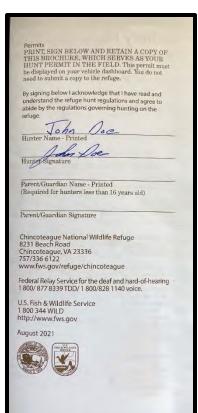
Display your Refuge Hunt Permit





Permits must be displayed while hunting on the dashboard of your vehicle in such a way that all of the occupants of that vehicle's permits are visible.





Refuge Hunt Permit

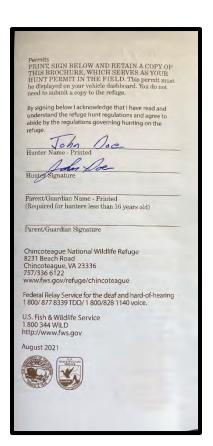




Your hunt permit is...

- valid throughout each Chincoteague Refuge hunt season.
- for hunting access only. All occupants of your vehicle must possess a valid hunt permit and be engaged in hunting in order to access portions of the refuge typically closed to the public.

Refuge Hunt Permits may be revoked at anytime for failure to abide by the conditions or for any violation of state or refuge regulations.



Licenses And Permits





In addition, you need a



State Resident or Nonresident *Hunting License*<u>AND</u> State Resident or Nonresident *Big Game License*.

Per Virginia, Accomack County was just included in the Earn a Buck (EAB) program. This <u>DOES NOT apply to public lands</u> and only applies to those hunting private property.

Virginia hunting and fishing license information can be found at dwr.virginia.gov/licenses

Licenses And Permits





Hunters using archery tackle during the archery season must also acquire a State Resident Archery License or Nonresident Archery License (If Hunting with a Longbow, Recurve, Compound Bow or Crossbow).



Hunters using a muzzleloader or archery tackle during the State's firearms deer season dates <u>DO NOT</u> need the additional archery or muzzleloading license.

Early Archery Season





Early archery dates: Saturday, October 2nd through Friday, November 12th.

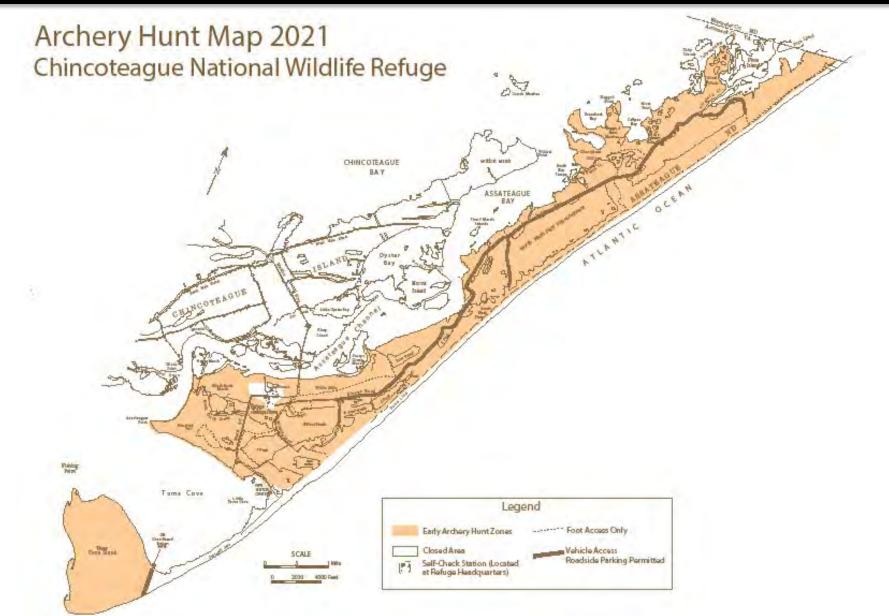
- No hunting or access to hunt areas permitted on Sundays.
- The refuge gate will open at 5:00am.
- Hunt hours are ½ hour before sunrise till ½ hour after sunset. All hunters must be signed out no later than 2 hours after legal shooting hours.
- This is a first come / first served hunt with a maximum of 125 archers allowed in the field.



Early Archery Season







Firearms Season





- Firearms season begins Saturday November 13th, the same as the State.
- The initial opening will run through Wednesday, November 24th. No hunting or access to hunt areas permitted on Sundays.
- During the initial opening the Refuge will host the Freedom Hunters (a wounded veterans organization), between November 13th and the 17th. This group is authorized to use shotguns in a portion of the Archery Only Zone (area depicted as White Hills between D-Dike and Beach Road; west of Wildlife Loop). NO OTHER USE OF FIREARMS IN THE ARCHERY ZONE IS PERMITTED
- The Refuge is closed to hunting from Thursday, November 25th through Saturday, November 27th.
- Firearms season resumes on Monday, November 29th and runs until Saturday, January 1st. No hunting or access to hunt areas permitted on Sundays.

Firearms Season





- A maximum of 50 hunters for the Northern Firearms Zone and 10 for the Toms Cove Hook Zone are allowed.
- No substitutions are allowed throughout the day. You may come and go without fear of losing your spot.
- The refuge gate will open at 5:00am.
- Hunt hours are ½ hour before sunrise till ½ hour after sunset.
- All hunters must be signed out no later than 2 hours after legal shooting hours.



Late Archery Season





- In addition to the 2 firearms zones, there is an archery only zone (see map). Total of 60 hunters allowed per day.
- Late archery begins Saturday, November 13th and runs through Saturday, January 1st. No hunting or access to hunt areas permitted on Sundays. No hunting during Thanksgiving / Event November 25th November 27th.
- Between November 13th and the 17th, the Refuge will host the Freedom Hunters (a wounded veterans organization). This group will be authorized to use shotguns in the Archery Only Zone (area depicted as White Hills between D-Dike and Beach Road; west of Wildlife Loop). NO OTHER USE OF FIREARMS IN THE ARCHERY ZONE IS PERMITTED
- The refuge gate will open at 5:00am.
- Hunt hours are ½ hour before sunrise till ½ hour after sunset. All hunters must be signed out no later than 2 hours after legal shooting hours.

Firearms And Late Archery Map







State Regulations Apply

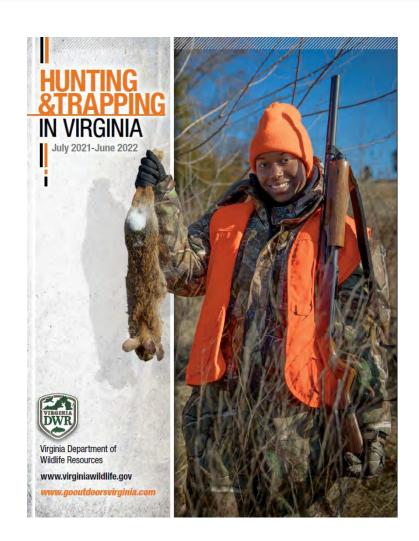




Hunters are required to abide by the Commonwealth of Virginia's hunting regulations unless otherwise noted in the refuge hunt brochure or in this orientation.

Please visit https://dwr.virginia.gov/hunting/for a complete listing.









- The use of game cameras is prohibited.
- Hunting from a stand attached with nails, wire, screws, or bolts is prohibited.
- Portable stands must be removed <u>after</u> each hunt day.
- Cutting shooting lanes is prohibited.
- Use of a boat, ATV, or saddled animal is prohibited.
- Hunting with dogs is not allowed (Pets not allowed on the refuge, even in your vehicle).
- An entrance pass is required. Hunters are required to pay the Refuge entrance fee (Federal Duck Stamp is also accepted).







Blaze clothing is required of all hunters during the firearms season.

Hunters must wear a solid blaze (blaze orange or blaze pink) hat or solid blaze upper body clothing that is visible from 360 degrees or display at least 100 square inches of solid blaze material at shoulder level within body reach and visible from 360 degrees.

Hunters using ground or tree stand blinds must display a minimum of 100 square inches of blaze orange, visible from 360 degrees, on the OUTSIDE of such blinds.

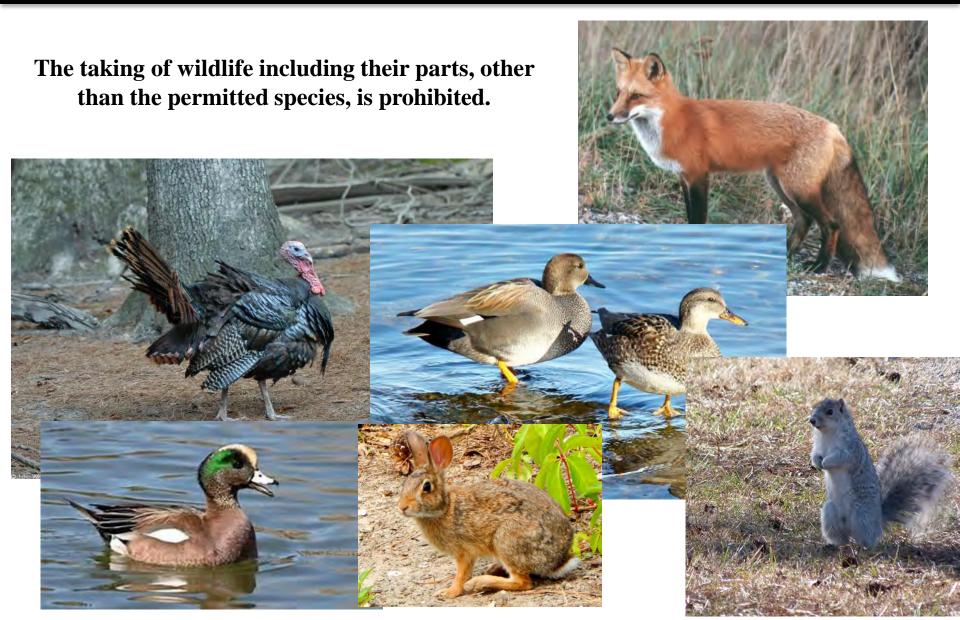
Blaze camouflage is not acceptable



Blaze orange is recommended, but not required, for archery hunters during the early archery season.











The <u>USE OR POSSESSION</u> of Alcoholic Beverages Is Prohibited







Refuge Rules and Regulations

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service encourages you to enjoy your visit, but remember that protecting wildlife, plants, and their habitats is the priority. Regulations exist for the welfare of wildlife, as well as for your safety. Please read and comply with the following list of regulations. Note this list is not all inclusive; therefore, remember that unless an activity is listed as permitted in a brochure or on a sign, it is not allowed.

Permitted Activities - in designated areas only



Wildlife Observation, photography, interpretation and education - throughout the refuge



Surf Fishing - into the ocean from the beach (Follow Virginia State Regulations)



Hunting (with a refuge issued permit)



Crabbing & Shellfishing



Shell collecting (no more than one gallon of unoccupied sea shells per person per day)



Hiking



Bicycling



 Boating - in Toms Cove and Assateague Channel (non-commercial)



Over-Sand Vehicle Use (with permit)



Recreational Beach (lifeguards present seasonally)



Horseback Riding (in South Over-Sand Vehicle Zone)



Climbing Assateague Lighthouse (schedule varies, call 757-336-3696)

Prohibited Activities



Pets (even in vehicles) - Service dogs permitted as defined by ADA regulations. Contact us for details.



Consuming alcoholic beverages



Disturbing, feeding, or harassing ponies or wildlife



Collecting, removing, or damaging plants or



Removing driftwood, bones or skeletons



Use of metal detectors and collecting cultural or historic objects



Climbing onto or digging into fragile sand dunes



Bicycling on the beach



Camping/Overnight stays



Open fires (except with a permit) or Fireworks



Boats and flotation devices within refuge water impoundments



Launching, landing, or operating unmanned aircraft (such as drones)



Firearms and weapons prohibited in government buildings





All hunters must sign in and out, at the check station, anytime they enter or leave their hunt area.

There may be up to 3 different clipboards, one for each hunt type.

- Archery Zone
- Northern Firearms Zone
- Toms Cove Hook







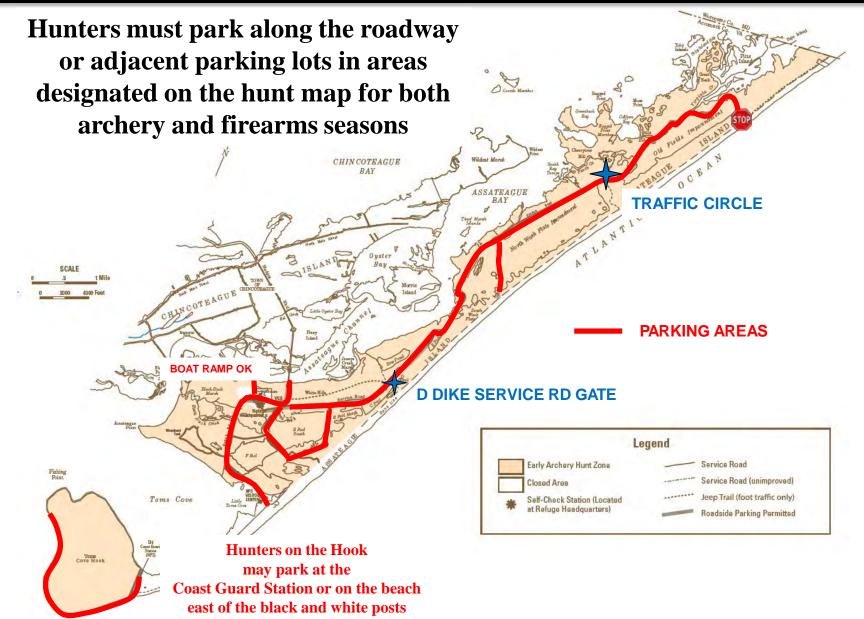


DATE____ Chincoteague NWR North Firearms 2019 SHEET 1 of 2

#	NAME	VEHICLE MAKE / MODEL	LICENSE PLATE#	PHONE NUMBER	IN	OUT	IN	OUT
1								
2								
3								
4								
5								
6		_						
7		Please fill ou	t the sign	in/out sh	neets	compl	etelv.	Once
8			•			_	•	
9		the sheets ar	e full for a	a given d	ay, ın	e Kei	uge n	ias mei
10		the maximu	m number	of hunte	ers fo	r that	day.	
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12								
12 13		The hunter n	nust he pro	esent who	en fill	ing or	it the	sheet.
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12 13 14 15		The hunter n You cannot	-		U	0		
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12 13 14 15 16 17		You cannot	sign in sor	neone w	U	0		
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The Service Rd. gate at D-Dike marks the boundary to the Northern Firearms Zone. Keep it closed.





Do Not block roads or trails; park off the roadway.





Obey Posted Speed Limits

SPEED LIMIT 20

• Do not operate motor vehicles past yellow posts.

- Do Not Enter Closed Areas as designated on the hunt map.
- 100'safety zone extends around all refuge buildings.











No Parking or Driving Past Markers at the northern end of the Service Rd.





Accessing the Hook



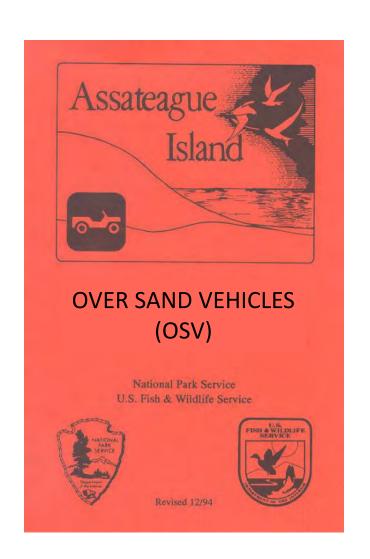


A Four Wheel Drive Vehicle is Required.

An OSV Permit is <u>not</u> required, however, all regulations and equipment requirements apply.

- Shovel
- Tow Strap
- Tire Pressure Gauge
- Vehicle Jack
- Jack Support Board

The Hook is subject to closure during periods of high tides when overwash occurs.



Bag Limits For Both Seasons





Sika

5 Sika per person per day,2 of which may be antlered





Bag Limits For Both Seasons





White-tailed deer bag limit is different than the State!

On the Refuge, the white-tailed deer bag limit is combined for archery and firearms seasons.



One (1) antlered white-tailed deer (3 points on one side) <u>per license year</u>

&

One (1) antlerless white-tailed deer <u>per license year</u>

may be harvested from the refuge

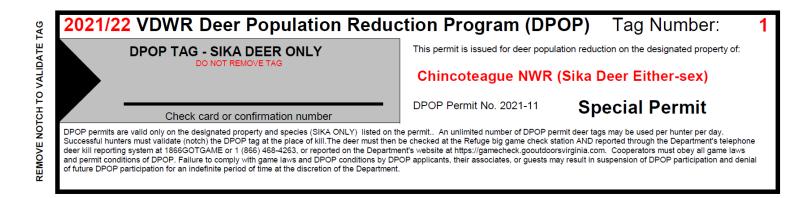
(EAB DOES NOT APPLY ON PUBLIC LANDS)

Tagging Requirements





Sika DPOP Tag



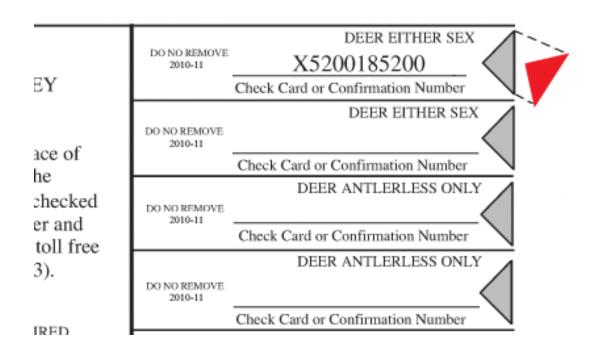
- Sheets of DPOP tags (for sika only) are available at the check station. Hunters may take 1 sheet per day (5 tags).
- Hunters that harvest a sika must cut out the appropriate section (notch) of the DPOP tag at the place of kill prior to moving the animal from the field.

Tagging Requirements





White-tailed Deer Tags



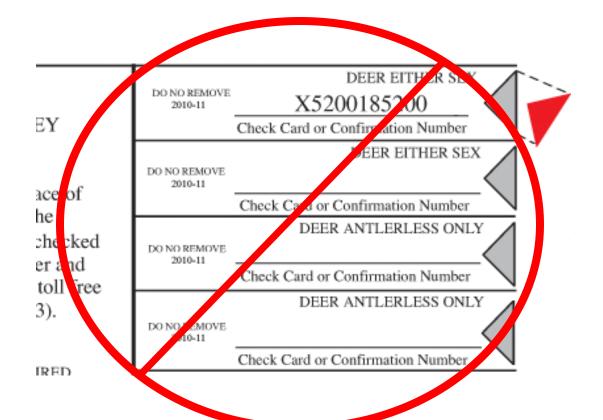
Hunters may now validate their tags for <u>white-tailed deer only</u> electronically using Virginia's Go Outdoors mobile app or notch the paper tags provided with their license.

Tagging Requirements





White-tailed Deer Tags



DO NOT use white-tailed deer tags for sika

Checking Requirement







Check your deer by:

1-866-GOT-GAME = 1-866-468-4263

Mobile Game Checking (Harvest Reporting): https://gooutdoorsvirginia.com

All White-tailed Deer and Sika must be checked by all hunters, including license-exempt hunters, upon vehicle transport of the carcass or at the conclusion of legal hunting hours, whichever occurs first and without unnecessary delay.

Use of Virginia's Telephone/Mobile App Checking System is <u>REQUIRED</u>.

Checking Requirement







Check your deer by:

1-866-GOT-GAME = 1-866-468-4263

Mobile Game Checking (Harvest Reporting): https://gooutdoorsvirginia.com

- Sika are "deer" (not elk) for telephone checking purposes
- 2 or more deer checked at the same time may have the same number, that's OK
- Write the check card number or confirmation number in ink on the license tag next to the notch
- It is unlawful to validate (notch) a tag from any license or special permit prior to the killing of an animal. A tag that is mistakenly validated (notched) prior to the killing of an animal must be voided by the licensee by writing, in ink, the word "VOID" on the line provided on the tag.
- Do not leave, or attempt to leave, the Refuge without a properly notched and validated tag for each kill.

Refuge Check Station





All harvested animals <u>must</u> be reported at the Refuge check station.

The check station may be periodically staffed at the beginning of each hunt season.

Follow self-check procedures if staff are not present.



Self-check Procedures

1. Deer Number:





Step 1 – COMPLETE JAWBONE TAG: Please print legibly.

SIKA or WHITE-TAILED

2. Club/Cooperator Name:	CNWR
3. County:	ACCOMACK
4. Date:	xx/xx/xxxx format
5. Sex of Deer:	Buck or Doe (circle one)
6. Deer Weight:	lbs. (Dressed)
7. Sloughing/Splitting Hooves?	Yes or No
8. Milk Present?	Yes or No
9. No. Antler Points (≥1" in length):	
10. Antler Beam Diameter (mm):	
11. Outside Spread (nearest 1/8"):	
12. Location:	PUBLIC
13. Hunter's Name:	
14. Comments:	

	VIRGINIA Diperient of Gare Natural History) JA	AWBONE TAG
-		siKa	
2	Club/Cooperator Name	CNU	NR
3.	County: Acco	maci	K
4.	Date: 10/	05/2	016
	Sex of Deer:		
	(circle one) Buch	or	Doe
6.	Deer Weight (nearest po	ound)	
7.	Sloughing/Splitting Ho	oves?	
	(circle one)	Yes	No
	Milk Present?	0.40	
	(circle one)	Yes	No
9.	No. Antler Points:	2	
	(≥ 1 in in length)	<u> </u>	
	Antler Beam Diameter: (nearest mm)	14	
11.	Outside Spread: (nearest 1/8 inch),	- 3/4	
12.	Location:	-	
	(circle one) Pul	Tohe Tohe	vate
		John	1 DUCK
14.	Comments:		
	Age (departr	nent use only)

Self-check Procedures

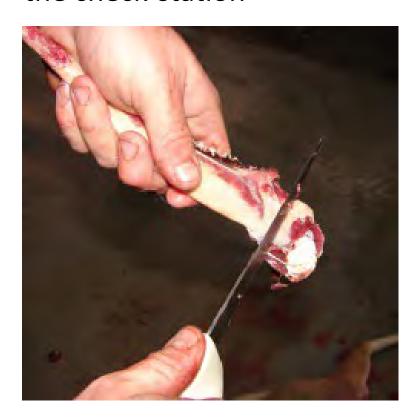




Step 2 – REMOVE JAWBONE (Deer may still be mounted if cheek is not cut)

Step 3 – ATTACH JAWBONE TAG & PLACE IN BUCKET

 Instructions are located inside the check-station





Wounded / Not Recovered





Wounded & not recovered deer must be reported in the check station after a reasonable attempt has been made to locate the deer.

Hunter will need to complete a field data sheet located in the check station.

Properly reported wounded and not recovered deer do not count against a hunter's bag limit.



Name:	Date:	Hunt License #: <u>VA</u>
Hunt Area:		
Species: Sika () WTD	() Sex: Buck() Doe() Age: Adult() Fawn()
Time Shot:	Time Spent Searching: _	
Type of Weapon: Bow	() Crossbow () Rifle ()	Shotgun () Pistol () Muzzleloader ()
If bow or crossbow, wa	s arrow recovered? Yes () N	lo ()
Location of hit on deer	:	# Times deer was hit:
Distance deer traveled	after hit:	Distance trailed:

Notes





- Personnel will stay out of the field as much as possible; however, refuge business continues.
- License, permits, vehicles, guns, and game are subject to inspection.
- Report persons who are not hunting and are in hunt areas closed to the general public.
- Remove your flagging and markers from the field.



EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

911

REPORT VIOLATIONS AND REQUEST NON-EMERGENCY ASSISTANCE

Chincoteague Police Dispatch Center

757-336-3155