# Mackay Island

## National Wildlife Refuge
## Hunting Regulations 2023

**Welcome**
Public deer hunting by shotgun, muzzleloading rifle/shotgun, pistol, crossbow, and archery is permitted on the Refuge on hunting dates listed below and on hunting areas shown on the map. A signed Refuge hunt permit and a valid State hunting license shall be carried when hunting deer on the Refuge. No reservations are required and hunters may select sites and hunt anywhere within the designated hunting areas.

**Mackay Island National Wildlife Refuge**
**P.O. Box 39**
**Knotts Island, NC  27950**
**252/429 3100**
**https://www.fws.gov/refuge/mackay-island**

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**
**1 800/344 WILD**
**June 2023**

**For more information, call the Refuge Manager at 252/429 3100.**

This is a unit of the National Wildlife Refuge System, a network of lands and waters managed for the benefit of wildlife and people.

**Mackay Island**
**National Wildlife Refuge**
**Deer Hunting Permit 2023**
I certify that I have read and understand the refuge hunting regulations in this permit.

Printed Name:

_____

Signed:

_____

Date:

_____

(Cut out and carry with license)

**Youth**
Youth hunters (under age 16) may possess a firearm in any hunt provided they have passed a State-approved hunter safety course and are accompanied by an adult who is at least 21 years of age. Each adult may supervise only one youth. The adult must carry a valid State hunting license and a valid Refuge hunt permit when supervising a youth hunter.

**Hunters with Disabilities**
Hunting opportunities are available for disabled hunters. Please call the Refuge Office for information and to make advanced arrangements.

**Permit**
The cutout portion on this form, once signed, is your permit.

**Access**
Hunting areas may be accessed by foot, bicycle, boat, and vehicle only from 5 am to 8 pm. No access to hunting areas is permitted before 5 am. Vehicles are restricted to gravel roads. Parking is permitted on road shoulders. Refuge is closed to all other activities.

**Hunting Dates**
October 26-28, 2023

November 2-4, 2023

November 9-11, 2023

November 23-25, 2023

November 30- December 2, 2023

All state regulations for big game hunting, including the wearing of blaze orange, shall apply. Only portable deer stands are permitted.

All deer taken must be checked-in.

(1) if taken in North Carolina, checked-in at the Knotts Island Store or

(2) if taken in Virginia, checked-in at an authorized deer checking station.

**Coyotes**
Coyotes may be harvested incidental to deer hunting ½ hour before sunrise until ½ hour after sunset on the hunting dates listed above.

**General Regulations and Enforcement**
All hunters are subject to inspections of permits, licenses, tags, hunting equipment, bag limits, boats, vehicles, and their contents during compliance checks by Refuge Officers, North Carolina Wildlife Officers, Virginia Wildlife Officers, and any state or local law enforcement officer.

Violation of any Refuge regulation may result in the cancellation of your hunt permit and prosecution in Federal court. It is your responsibility to be familiar with all applicable Refuge and State deer hunting regulations before hunting on the Refuge. If you have a question concerning any Refuge regulation, please call the Refuge Office.
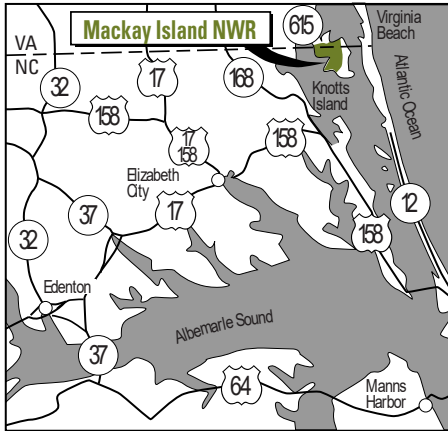
**The Following are Prohibited**
- Use of ATV's and any other unlicensed and unregistered vehicles.
- No dumping of deer parts within 100 feet of roads, wetlands and waterways. Hunters are responsible for the proper disposal of all deer parts.
- Driving vehicles off of gravel roads.
- Possessing a loaded firearm in a vehicle or boat.
- Carrying a loaded firearm or bow on or within 50 feet of gravel roads. Shooting from a vehicle or shooting on or across roads or roadways.
- Hunting outside of designated areas shown on the map or within 300 feet of the Refuge Office.
- Use of nails, bolts, or screws to attach portable stands to trees. Use of nail-, bolt-, or screw-type steps.
- Use of artificial lights, including vehicle headlights, to observe, locate, or take wildlife.
- Use of dogs to pursue, track or retrieve deer.
- Marking trees or vegetation with blazes, flagging, or other marking devices.
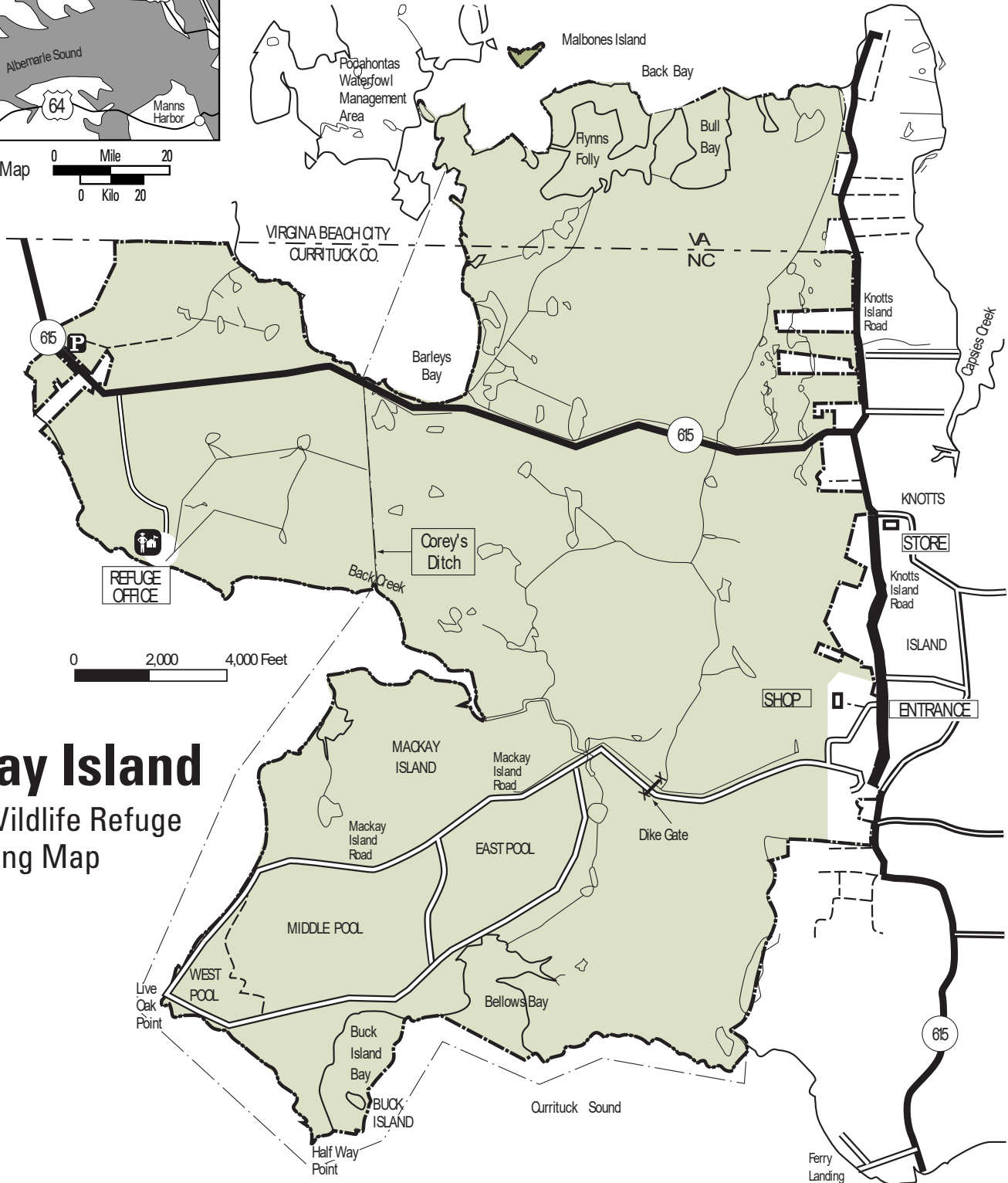- Possession of alcoholic beverages.

- Taking of any wildlife (other than deer) and plants.
- Leaving a portable stand overnight.
- Littering - if you pack it in, pack it out!

**Vicinity Map**

Mackay Island NWR

VA / NC
615
32
17
168
158
Virginia Beach
Knotts Island
Atlantic Ocean
17 / 158
158
158
12
Elizabeth City
37
17
158
32
37
Edenton
Albemarle Sound
Manns Harbor
37
64

0 Mile 20
0 Kilo 20

**Legend**

- Refuge Boundary
- Open During All Hunts
- Closed to Hunting
- Refuge Office
- P Parking

Malbones Island
Back Bay
Podahontas Waterfowl Management Area
Flynns Folly
Bull Bay
Knotts Island Road
Capsis Creek

VIRGINA BEACH CITY
CURRITUCK CO.
VA / NC

615
P
Barleys Bay
615
KNOTTS
STORE
Knotts Island Road
ISLAND

REFUGE OFFICE
Corey's Ditch
Back Creek

0 2,000 4,000 Feet

SHOP
ENTRANCE

MACKAY ISLAND
Mackay Island Road
Dike Gate
Mackay Island Road
EAST POOL
MIDDLE POOL
WEST POOL
Live Oak Point
Bellows Bay
Buck Island Bay
BUCK ISLAND
Half Way Point
Currituck Sound
615
Ferry Landing

# Mackay Island
National Wildlife Refuge
2023 Hunting Map