



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Mackay Island

National Wildlife Refuge Hunting Regulations 2026

Welcome

Public deer hunting by shotgun, muzzleloading rifle/shotgun, pistol, crossbow, and archery is permitted on the Refuge on dates listed below and on hunting areas shown on the map. No reservations are required. Hunters may select sites and hunt anywhere within the designated hunting areas. A signed Refuge hunt permit and a valid State hunting license shall be carried when hunting deer on the Refuge. Be sure you carry the appropriate State license (NC or VA) for where you are hunting.

Mackay Island National Wildlife Refuge

P.O. Box 39

Knotts Island, NC 27950

<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/mackay-island>

For more information, call the refuge office at 252/429 3100 and leave a message.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

July 2026

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 2026

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

Once signed, the cutout portion on this form is your deer hunting permit.

Access

Hunting areas may be accessed by foot, bicycle, boat, and vehicle only from **5:00 A.M. to 8:00 P.M.** Vehicles are restricted to gravel roads. Parking is permitted on road shoulders. Refuge is closed to all other activities during hunts.

Hunting Dates

October 22-25, 2026

October 29 - November 2, 2026

November 5-8, 2026

November 12-15, 2026

November 26-29, 2026

Coyotes and Feral Hogs

Coyotes and feral hogs may be harvested incidental to deer hunting 1/2 hour before sunrise until 1/2 hour after sunset on the hunting dates listed above.

General Regulations and Enforcement

All hunters are subject to inspections of permits, licenses, bag limits, hunting equipment, boats, vehicles, and their contents during compliance checks.

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, State, and Federal hunting regulations

before hunting on the Refuge. Please call the Refuge Office with questions.

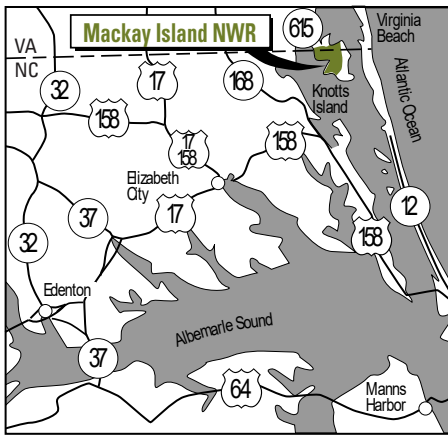
All State regulations for big game hunting, for the state you are hunting in, shall apply. Only portable deer stands are permitted.

All deer taken must be registered via North Carolina or Virginia registration systems depending upon which State the harvest occurred in.

Sunday hunting is permitted in accordance with North Carolina or Virginia specific Sunday hunting regulations.

The Following are Prohibited

- Use of ATV's/UTV'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 animal 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.
- Hunting with dogs.
- Marking trees or vegetation with blazes, flagging, or other marking devices.
- Possession of alcoholic beverages.
- Taking of any plants and wildlife not authorized by a valid hunting permit.
- Leaving a portable stand overnight.
- Littering - if you pack it in, pack it out!



Mackay Island

National Wildlife Refuge 2026 Hunting Map

Proclamation Boundary

Open During All Hunts

Closed to Hunting

Boat Ramp

Refuge Office

Parking

Private Property

Vicinity Map
0 Mile 20
0 Kilo 20

Directions to Brumley Rd Boat Ramp:
From Knotts Island Market head 1.6 miles south on NC 615
Turn left onto Brumley Rd for .8 miles

Directions to Back Bay Landing Boat Ramp.
From Knotts Island Market head 8.5 miles north on NC 615/Princess Anne
Turn right on Back Bay Landing Rd for 1.7 miles

