

Supplemental Information to Refuge Hunting Regulations and Permit Carolina Sandhills National Wildlife Refuge 2022-2023 Hunt Seasons

(Valid September, 2022 – April, 2023)

Permits

Hunters must possess all applicable licenses, permits and government issued picture ID while in the field. The refuge is not a Wildlife Management Area (WMA); therefore, hunters do not need a WMA permit.

Small Game Reporting

Hunters are asked to voluntarily complete the Upland/Small Game/Furbearer Report (FWS Form 3-2362) when hunting quail, dove, woodcock, rabbits, raccoons, and opossum. The forms and drop boxes are located at RT9/RT9A, the Oxpen, the Refuge HQ, and the Deer Check Station.

Mourning Dove

Dove hunting will be allowed from noon until 6 pm on selected fields according to the following schedule:

September 8 – Field A

September 15 – Field B

September 22 – Fields A & B

September 29 – Fields A & B

Fridays during the second and third state seasons

All state and federal regulations apply.

The daily bag limit is 15 mourning doves.

All trash, including shotgun shell hulls, must be removed from the field.

The possession or use of more than 50 shotgun shells is prohibited.

During the September dove hunts:

- Hunters must sign in/out of fields and complete harvest report. Sign in begins at 12 noon.
- Hunters must remain in the cultivated fields at all times; wooded areas are closed to dove hunting.

Report any banded doves to www.reportband.gov. You will need the band number(s), and where, when, and how you recovered the bird.

Woodcock & Quail

Friday, November 25, 2022 - Quail only

Friday, December 9, 2022 - Quail only

Friday, December 23, 2022

Friday, January 6, 2023

Friday, January 20, 2023

Friday, February 3, 2023 - Quail only

Friday, February 17, 2023 - Quail only

The daily bag limit is two quail.

Rabbit

Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays during December 2022 and January 2023

Raccoon/Opossum

December 5, 2022 (sunset) until 4 am

December 10, 2022

January 2, 2023 (sunset) until 4 am

January 7, 2023

February 6, 2023 (sunset) until 4 am

February 11, 2023

Coyote/Feral Hog

Unlimited hogs and coyote may be harvested while deer hunting.

Deer

All harvested deer and hogs must be checked-in at the check station on the date of the harvest prior to removing the animal from the refuge. All coyotes harvested must be reported at the check station on the date of the harvest.

The daily bag limit is two deer (only one can be antlerless) and season limit (total for all hunts) is five deer, at least two of which must be antlerless.

An antlerless deer is defined as a deer with no antlers or an antlered deer with less than two inches of antler visible above the hairline.

Youth Deer

Open to all youth age 17 and under.

October 15, 2022

November 12, 2022

Archery

Bow and arrow, long bow, recurve bow, compound bow or crossbow.

October 17-22, 2022

December 1-31, 2022 (excluding Sundays)

Primitive Weapons

Archery equipment, muzzleloading shotguns 20 gauge or larger, and muzzleloading rifles .36 caliber or larger.

October 24-29, 2022

Modern Gun

Shotguns, centerfire rifles, and all primitive and archery equipment. Handguns .357 caliber or larger and a barrel of no less than six inches. No military or hard jacketed ammunition.

November 3-5, 2022

November 17-19, 2022



U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service

Turkey

State regulations for turkey hunting apply along with these special regulations:

The refuge bag limit is one (1) bearded gobbler for the entire season (Youth and General Turkey hunts). A turkey killed on the refuge counts toward your state bag limit.

Walk-in areas are designated on the Turkey Hunting map. No motorized vehicles are allowed in walk-in areas. E-bikes with an electric motor of less than 750 watts (1h.p.) with fully operational pedals and an operating speed of less than 20mph (Class 1 electric bicycles) are permitted.

Areas closed to turkey hunting are easily identified by roads, refuge boundary and on the Turkey Hunt Map that is included with drawn hunters quota permit. Therefore, no closed area signs are posted.

All harvested turkeys must be tagged and taken to the refuge office for check-in. No hunter may leave the refuge with a turkey without first checking in at the refuge office.

Youth Turkey

Open to all youth age 17 and under. Youth must possess turkey transport tags in accordance with state regulations. A Quota Permit is not required. A turkey killed during the youth hunt counts toward your refuge bag limit.

March 25, 2023

April 29, 2023

General Turkey Quota Hunts

The general turkey hunt is a quota hunt of no more than 125 hunters per hunt.

All hunters (including youth) must have a quota permit to participate in these hunts.

Each quota permit will specify for which hunt you have been drawn.

Quota permits are not transferable.

All hunters age 16 and older participating in the hunt must have their quota turkey hunt permit, a valid state hunting license, turkey transport tags, and government-issued picture identification (such as a driver's license) in their possession.

All hunters age 15 and under must have their quota turkey hunt permit and turkey transport tags.

During Quota Hunts, no person may assist another hunter unless both hunters have quota permits (this includes one hunter calling for another or video recording).

General Turkey Quota Hunt Dates

Hunt 1 – April 6-8, 2023 (Quota)

Hunt 2 – April 13-15, 2023 (Quota)

Application Process

The application process for the 2023 Turkey Quota Hunts is under development and will be announced by January 5, 2023.

For general information

Carolina Sandhills NWR
23734 US Highway 1
McBee, SC 29101
843/335-8350

CarolinaSandhills@fws.gov

<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/carolina-sandhills/visit-us/activities>

A Georeferenced PDF Refuge General Hunt Map is available to download at <https://www.fws.gov/media/carolina-sandhills-national-wildlife-refuge-map>