

Chincoteague

National Wildlife Refuge

Big Game Hunting Archery 2014



What's new for 2014-2015

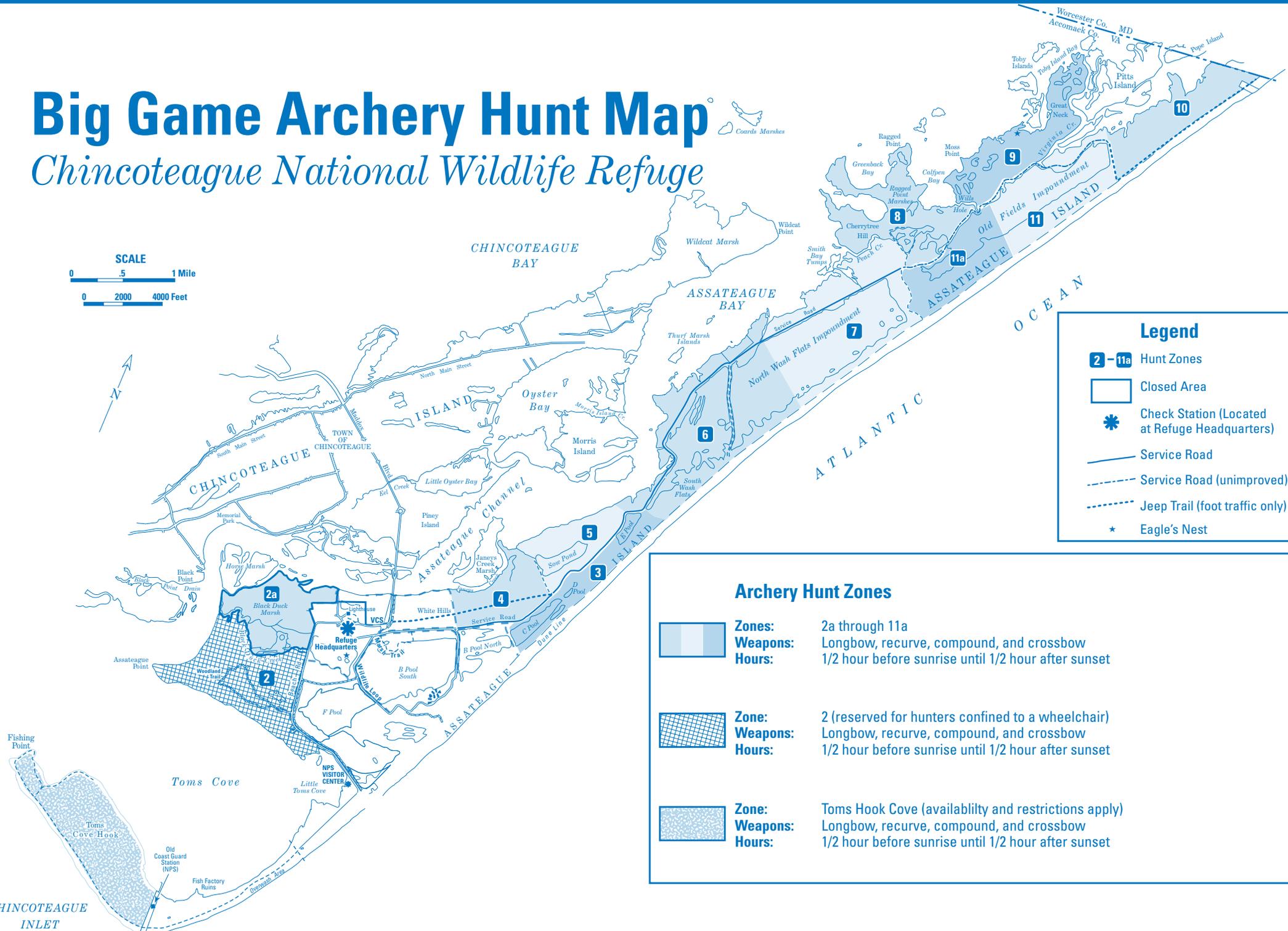
- Hunters must apply for their Big Game Archery Hunting Permit online. Applications are available at www.fws.gov/refuge/Chincoteague/visit/hunting.html and completed forms should be emailed to FW5_ChincoHunt@fws.gov. The online application and mailed-in \$5.00 application fee must be received before August 29, 2014 for the hunt party to be considered in the lottery.
- **All fees for applications and permits must be paid by mail or in person using cash, check or money order.** Mail payments to:
Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 62
Chincoteague, VA 23336
- All permits will be issued at orientation and must be validated with a signature.

CORRECTION: CONTACT EMAIL ADDRESS IS

FW5_ChincoHunt@fws.gov

Big Game Archery Hunt Map

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge



Legend

- 2 - 11a Hunt Zones
- Closed Area
- * Check Station (Located at Refuge Headquarters)
- Service Road
- Service Road (unimproved)
- Jeep Trail (foot traffic only)
- * Eagle's Nest

Archery Hunt Zones

	Zones: 2a through 11a
	Weapons: Longbow, recurve, compound, and crossbow
	Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise until 1/2 hour after sunset
	Zone: 2 (reserved for hunters confined to a wheelchair)
	Weapons: Longbow, recurve, compound, and crossbow
	Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise until 1/2 hour after sunset
	Zone: Toms Hook Cove (availability and restrictions apply)
	Weapons: Longbow, recurve, compound, and crossbow
	Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise until 1/2 hour after sunset

CHINCOTEAGUE INLET

General Provisions

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge is one of more than 560 national wildlife refuges managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The refuge was established in 1943 to provide habitat and protection for migratory birds. The refuge mission has expanded to include protection of endangered and threatened species; as well as stewardship of native wildlife. Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge provides environmental education and wildlife-dependent recreation to all visitors. Hunting is one tool used to manage wildlife populations at a level compatible with the environment, provide recreational opportunities, and permit the use of a valuable renewable resource.

General Hunt Regulations: *Archery*

Hunt Dates

October 20 – 22 and October 27 – 29, 2014.

Each week of the hunt is divided into a three day hunt period, Monday - Wednesday. Both sessions are for *sika elk and white-tailed deer*. Each hunt is limited to 125 hunters.

Application Deadline

August 29, 2014 (receipt date).

Hunters can apply as an individual or in groups of up to 5 hunters. **Hunters must apply for the Big-Game Archery Hunting lottery on-line.** Applications are available at www.fws.gov/refuge/Chincoteague/visit/hunting.html. Applications must be complete when submitted via email to FW5_ChincoHunt@fws.gov. A non-refundable \$5.00 fee will be charged to process each application. The payment for the application fee must be received before August 29, 2014 for the hunter to be considered in the lottery. **Fee payments must be submitted by mail or in person in cash, check or money order payable to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.**

- Mail payments to:
Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 62
Chincoteague, VA 23336
- If a person's name appears on more than one application, all applications with the duplicate name will be disqualified.
- **Applications will not be accepted over the telephone, fax or mail.**
- At least one member of the hunt party must be 18 years of age.
- Hunters must be age 12 or older by their selected hunt period to hunt on the refuge.
- Applications must contain the hunter's full legal name as it appears on their driver's license.
- ★ **NOTE:** A spam filter may prevent hunt related emails from reaching your inbox. Please add FW5_ChincoHunt@fws.gov to your address book.

Lottery Selection Results

A computerized lottery will be held to select hunters. The designated contact person listed on each successful application will be notified of results via email by September 5, 2014 and he/she will be responsible for informing the other party members of the assigned dates. Those hunters who are not selected will be recorded in order of lottery selection on a list of alternates. Alternates will only be notified if permits have not been claimed by selected hunters.

Permit Fees

Upon selection in the lottery, a \$20.00 permit fee must be paid for each hunter. **Fee payments must be submitted by mail or in person in cash, check or money order payable to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.** Mail payments to:

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 62
Chincoteague, VA 23336

Fees for the *entire hunt party* are due by September 26, 2014. **Hunters will receive permits during orientation and must sign the permit upon receipt;** permits must be signed to be valid. Hunters do not need to pay the \$20.00 fee again if they participate in the archery stand-by process. Fees are non-refundable.

- Substitutions can be made to the hunt party provided the substitute(s) did not apply to the original lottery.
- All substitutions must be submitted by using the appropriate form found at www.fws.gov/refuge/Chincoteague/visit/hunting.html. The substitution form must be submitted via email to FW5_ChincoHunt@fws.gov
- **Substitution requests must be received at least one week prior to arrival at orientation.**
- At least one person on the original application must remain in the hunting party.

If hunt party fees are not received by September 26, individuals on the alternates list will be contacted. Alternates selected must pay permit fees for their entire hunt party by October 10, 2014. Any remaining vacant zones will be posted on-line and will be available for standby.



White-tailed deer
©Julien Beauregard

Orientation

All hunters **must** attend the archery orientation session on Sunday at 10:00 am prior to their assigned hunt period.

Hunters must be on time. Once the orientation begins, late individuals will not be allowed to enter the room or hunt, under any circumstances.

Scouting will be permitted from 11:00 am - 6:00 pm following the orientation session. Hunters may only scout on the day prior to their scheduled three-day hunt period. The Tom's Cove Hook area may be available to archery hunters with four-wheel drive vehicles.

Stand-by Hunter Drawings

A stand-by lottery will be conducted after each orientation at 11:00 am. Selected stand-by hunters will be required to pay the \$20.00 permit fee.

Hunters in Wheelchairs

Zone 2 is reserved for hunters permanently confined to a wheelchair. Hunters with other disabilities will find most of the archery zones accessible. If no wheelchair hunters apply, the zone will not be hunted. Zone 2 contains a 1.6 mile paved loop trail ideal for hunters in wheelchairs. Please mark on your application if you are a wheelchair bound hunter and are interested in hunting in the wheelchair zone.

- Hunters in this zone must stay on paved trails, established paths and overlook platform, except when retrieving deer.
- Vehicles may be parked in the outer lot or driven on the trail to established parking lots.
- Each hunting party must have a non-hunting partner available if he/she needs assistance retrieving or dressing harvested animals.
- This partner must be identified at orientation and a "no fee" permit will be issued by refuge staff.

The Toms Cove Hook

- Availability and restrictions apply.
- Those wishing to hunt this area must have been preselected in the lottery and be present at the orientation immediately prior to their scheduled hunt.
- Those chosen for Toms Cove Hook will not retain their original hunt areas.
- If no pre-selected parties wish to hunt Toms Cove Hook, standby hunters will be given that opportunity.
- Four-wheel drive vehicles are required to access this area.
- All oversand vehicles must carry a shovel, jack, tow rope or chain, a board or similar support for the jack, and a low pressure tire gauge.

Bag Limits

Sika: Permitted archery hunters may take up to five sika daily, two of which may be antlered.

White-tailed Deer: White-tailed deer may be harvested in accordance with Virginia State regulations.

Other General Regulations

All federal and state hunting regulations apply.

A valid state/county hunting license, archery license, crossbow license (when applicable), big game license and refuge permit are required to hunt on the refuge.

Virginia big game tags must be used on white-tailed deer taken on the refuge.

Virginia Deer Population Reduction Program (DPOP) tags will be provided by refuge staff and must be used on sika elk taken on the refuge.

All harvested animals must be completely field dressed and brought to the refuge's official check station for inspection by personnel. Each hunter must sign in and out immediately before entering and after exiting the hunt zone. During the hunt orientation, you will be notified of the sign-in/out box and check station location.

There is a 330' closed area maintained around eagle nest.

The boundaries of the hunt zones are recognized in the field by prominent landmarks, flagging and signs (see map). Each hunter is responsible for knowing their zone's boundaries.

All hunters must make a reasonable effort to recover wounded animals and must notify the check station personnel immediately if they have been unable to recover the animal.

Hunters are not permitted to cross water management areas unless retrieving a harvested animal.

Non-hunters are not permitted in the field.

Tree stands permanently attached by nails, wire, screws or any other way is **prohibited. Portable stands are permitted and encouraged, but must be removed** at the end of each hunt period. The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service is not responsible for personal property left unattended.

The **use or possession** of alcoholic beverages or controlled substances is prohibited.

The use of a boat, all terrain vehicle (ATV), bicycle or saddled animal is prohibited within your hunt zone.

The taking of wildlife other than the permitted species is prohibited.

The minimum age allowed to hunt on the refuge is 12 years of age by the time they reach the hunt session, and the child must meet Virginia licensing requirements.

Hunters between the ages of 12 and 17 must be accompanied and directly supervised by a mentor over 18 who has on their person a valid Virginia hunting license and refuge

permit. Adults accompanying a youth hunter must obtain a refuge permit from Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge headquarters.

Deer drives are prohibited during the archery hunts.

Blaze orange is recommended but not required for archery hunters.

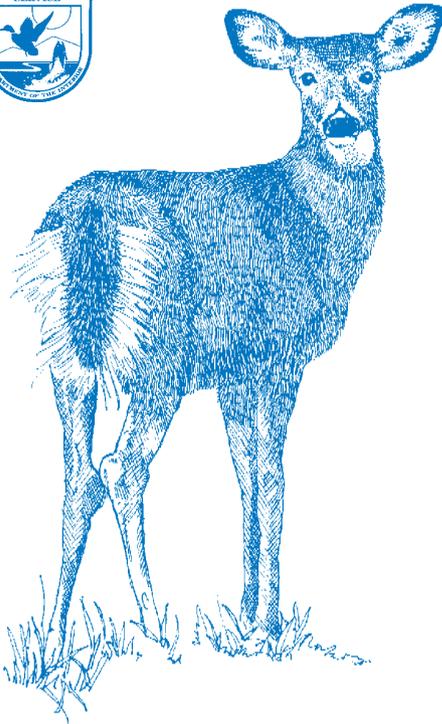
Persons possessing, transporting, or carrying firearms on National Wildlife Refuges must comply with all provisions of state and local law. Persons may only use (discharge) firearms in accordance with refuge regulations (50 CFR 27.42 and specific refuge regulations in 50 CFR Part 32).

Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 62
Chincoteague, VA 23336-0062
757/336 6122
www.fws.gov/refuge/chincoteague

Federal Relay Service for the deaf and hard-of-hearing
1 800/ 877 8339 TDD/ 1 866/377 8642 voice.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov>

June 2014



Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge
P.O. Box 62
Chincoteague, VA 23336-0062

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
1 800/344 WILD
<http://www.fws.gov/>

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE \$300