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**ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION  
DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE  
Fish and Game Council  
2009-2012 Game Code  
Proposed Amendments: N.J.A.C. 7:25-5**

Authorized By: Fish and Game Council, Jeannette Vreeland, Acting Chair

Authority: N.J.S.A. 13:1B-29 et seq. and 23:1-1 et seq.

DEP Docket Number:

Calendar Reference: See summary below for explanation of exception to calendar requirement.

DEP Docket No. 05-09-03/718

Proposal Number: PRN 2009-

A **public hearing** concerning these proposed amendments will be held on:

April 21, 2009 at 6:30 P.M.

New Jersey State Museum

205 West State Street

Trenton, NJ 08625

Submit written comments by (60 days from date of proposal) to:

David Chanda, Director

Division of Fish and Wildlife

Department of Environmental Protection

P.O. Box 400

Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0400

The Fish and Game Council (Council) requests that commenters submit comments on disk or CD as well as on paper in order to facilitate incorporation of submitted comments into its comment-response document. For this purpose, the comments on disk or CD should not be access-restricted (locked or read-only). The Council prefers Microsoft Word 6.0 or above. MacIntosh formats should not be used. Submission of a disk or CD is not a requirement. Each comment should be identified by the applicable N.J.A.C. citation, with the commenter's name and affiliation following the comment.

The agency proposal follows:

**Summary**

The proposed 2009-2012 Game Code, N.J.A.C. 7:25-5, states when, under what circumstances, in what location, by what means, and what amounts and numbers, game-birds, game animals and fur-bearing animals may be pursued, taken, killed or had in possession. As the Council has provided for a 60-day comment period on this notice of

proposal, this notice is excepted from the rulemaking calendar requirement pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-3.3(a) 5.

Since the turn of the century, the Game Code has provided a system for the protection, propagation, increase, control and conservation of game birds, game animals, and fur-bearing animals in this State and for their use and development for public recreation and food supply. Yearly revisions of season dates, bag limits and other regulations based on scientific investigation and research ensures the greatest likelihood of success in reaching these goals.

Expired season dates are deleted and typographic corrections are made in the Code.

The proposed amendments include the following:

1. The definitions contained in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.1 are proposed for amendment as follows.

The term “bonus” in the definition of “bonus muzzleloader permit, bonus shotgun permit, and bonus bow permit” is replaced with the term “antlered” to eliminate the misinterpretation that these permits allow for the taking of an additional antlered deer beyond the bag limit. Instead, purchase of one of these permits is necessary before an antlered deer may be taken as part of the total bag limit. Consistent with this change, similar changes are proposed throughout the Game Code where the terms “bonus muzzleloader permit”, “bonus shotgun permit” and “bonus bow permit” currently appear.

A definition of “special areas” is added to differentiate between these deer management zones and regular deer management zones. Special areas are deer management zones where hunter access, management goals and hunting regulations are determined by the managing agency, and where season dates and bag limits differ from regular deer management zones, which are listed in Regulation Sets. Special areas may include Federal, State, county, and private lands, as designated by the Division. Special Area zones are referred to by zone number.

A definition of Regulation Set is added. Regulation Sets are used to organize regular deer management zones by season dates and bag limits, which are determined by the Division of Fish and Wildlife. All zones within a specific regulation set have the same season dates and overall bag limits for all seasons. Zones within regulation sets are referred to by regulation set number, not by individual zone number.

The definition of “antlered buck stub” is removed, as this definition is no longer necessary because antlered buck stubs are no longer issued as an attachment to the hunting license. Consistent with this proposed change, elimination of this term is proposed throughout the Game Code where it currently exists.

A definition of “deer check station” is added and includes a physical location, as is currently used, where a hunter must bring the deer to be registered as a legally harvested animal and an “automated deer check system” (ADCS) . ADCS is a means to register a legal hunter-harvested deer via the telephone or internet This definition and associated language is added to distinguish between the current requirement to physically bring harvested deer to one of approximately 100 deer check stations

established throughout the State, and a new system which is under consideration. The Division is exploring the transfer to an ADCS as a cost-saving measure and to provide a more convenient method for hunters to report deer harvested during the various deer seasons. Language has been added to all sections pertaining to white-tailed deer in preparation for transition to an automated system. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.1, 5.25, 5.26, 5.27, 5.28, 5.29, and 5.30.

2. Generally, hunting and trapping seasons in the Code are set for the same timeframe each year (for example, beginning on the second Friday in September and ending on the second Sunday in October). Wherever possible, specific calendar dates (month/day/year) for all hunting and/or trapping seasons have been replaced with a written definition of the time period the season is open to eliminate the necessity of having to update the Code for annual calendar changes. In certain cases, other game season dates that are predicated on deer seasons are specified by reference to the specific deer season citation. See N.J.A.C. 5.2, 5.3, 5.4, 5.5, 5.7, 5.8, 5.9, 5.10, 5.11, 5.13, 5.15, 5.18, 5.19, 5.23, 5.25, 5.26, 5.27, 5.28, 5.29, 5.30.
3. The opening day of the rabbit and hare hunting season is moved forward from the second week in November to the last Saturday in September. The opening day of small game season has traditionally started on the Saturday closest to November 10<sup>th</sup> to allow farmers time to harvest crops. This proposal will maintain that tradition by keeping the November opening dates the same for pheasant, chukar, and quail. An earlier rabbit/hare season should not interfere with farming activities since rabbit hunting involves hedgerows and old fields and most often uses a dog to flush and chase the game back to the stationary hunter. An earlier open to the season will also provide ample opportunity for rabbit/hare hunters to enjoy their sport during a time when rabbit populations are most abundant and allow hunting on Wildlife Management Areas without interference from bird hunters and trappers. Allowable weapons for this season, namely shotgun and bow and arrow, were added to clarify method of take; these methods are currently allowed and the proposed amendment neither expands or reduces the equipment that may be utilized. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.3.
4. Ruffed grouse is a native New Jersey species. Although grouse populations are cyclic, their numbers are believed to be in decline in New Jersey in recent years due to the natural maturation of New Jersey forests. Reductions in the statewide season length and bag limit were adopted by the Council in the 2005-2006 Game Code at the request of the Skylands Chapter and the Somerset Hills Chapter of the Ruffed Grouse Society. In an effort to further reduce this decline in New Jersey, which is most severe in the southern portion of the State, two grouse hunting zones are proposed, with State Route 70 dividing the two zones. North of Route 70, the season will be unchanged from the statewide season currently in the Code, except for calendar year adjustments. The proposed hunting season for ruffed grouse south of Route 70 will open approximately three weeks later than the statewide season currently in the Code, concurrent with the State's woodcock hunting season. Accordingly, as the end of the season will remain unchanged, the hunting season for ruffed grouse south of Route 70 will be reduced by three weeks. The statewide daily bag limit will remain two birds, as few hunters take more than one bird per hunting trip. The reduction in season length will be monitored to determine if there is a positive impact on the resident grouse population. The season length reduction in the southern zone will reduce

recreational hunting opportunity for a small number of early season grouse hunters. The establishment of the southern season dates concurrent with woodcock hunting will minimize the impact of the season reduction since both birds utilize similar habitat and are often hunted together. Allowable weapons for this season, namely shotgun and bow and arrow, were added to clarify method of take; this addition does not indicate a change. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.4.

5. N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.6(a)liii is proposed for amendment to allow hunters to obtain a second bear permit for an additional zone, from the pool of any leftover permits subsequent to the initial lottery, for the hunting of black bear. During the previous two bear hunting seasons in 2003 and 2005, there were additional permits available and hunters expressed an interest in obtaining these permits which would allow them to hunt in additional areas. In some cases, hunters reported that land upon which they had permission to hunt was split between two Bear Management Areas based upon established boundaries and their hunting opportunity was, therefore, limited. The season bag limit of one bear per hunter remains unchanged. The term “Bear Hunting Areas” have been changed to “Black Bear Management Zones”, as this language more accurately reflects management objectives, such as population and harvest densities, than the old language. Closing time for bear check stations has been changed from 8 p.m. to 7 p.m. to maintain consistency with deer check stations, as the seasons are concurrent. At this time, there is not an open bear season. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.6.
6. The Council is proposing to open the spring turkey hunting season one week later while maintaining the traditional season closure date, thereby decreasing the season length by one week. Currently the spring turkey season includes four weekday hunting periods designated as A, B, C, and D each of which are five days in duration (Monday – Friday). The season also includes a hunting period designated as E which allows hunting on two consecutive weekday periods (Monday-Fridays) during the last two weeks in May for a total of 10 days of hunting. This 10 day season is designed to offer a better opportunity for success at the end of the season when turkeys become more wary. The season also offers a hunting period G consisting of 5 consecutive Saturdays and thereby offers opportunity for hunters who are unable to take off from work during the week. The proposal eliminates the first weekday period and the quota allocated for that period, and renames the remaining 4 weekday periods as A, B, C & D. The period allowing hunting on Saturdays is renamed period E and the duration is decreased from 5 to 4 consecutive Saturdays. These changes are proposed as a result of recent research which recommends that spring seasons be timed to coincide with the onset of incubation by hens. A cooperative research project among eastern states indicates that the optimal time for a season opener is around April 25<sup>th</sup> for northern New Jersey and April 20<sup>th</sup> for southern New Jersey. Under this proposal, the season opener would fall between April 19<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup> depending on yearly calendar fluctuations. A later opener will result in less disturbance of clutching hens and will reduce illegal harvest of hens as they will be on the nest. A later date will also better coincide with the second peak in gobbling activity, which may increase hunter success, as more hens will be on the nest and toms will be more responsive to hunters’ calling. This proposal is intended to offset the decline in the turkey population that has occurred the past several years in the central portion of the State

by delaying hunting activity during the early part of nesting, when hens are more likely to abandon nests due to disturbance. Spring Turkey permit quotas, which are specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.7(k)1, have been proposed to be reduced to reflect the shorter season. The specification of the Spring Wild Turkey Gobbler Season Hunting Period "Y" is rewritten for clarification and redundant text regarding when the youth permit is valid is eliminated. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.7.

The boundaries of Turkey Hunting Areas (THA) 15, 20 and 21 have been proposed for amendment. Turkey harvest densities have been increasing in the southern portion of THA 15 over the past 10 years as the turkey population in this part of the Area has expanded. It is proposed that the southern portion of THA 15 be removed from THA 15 and divided into THAs 20 and 21, which contain similar habitat and turkey population characteristics. As there is no fall turkey hunting season in THA 15, but there is in THAs 20 and 21, this amendment will open up the areas moved to THAs 20 and 21 to fall turkey hunting. Because of the resulting reduction in the area and hunter density in THA 15 and corresponding increases to both THAs 20 and 21, 700 permits have been proposed to be transferred from THA 15 to THAs 20 and 21, based upon land area and established hunter density guidelines. Hunting Area boundary descriptions, and the turkey permit quota table are changed to reflect these proposals.

Turkey Hunting Areas 6, 7 and 10 have been removed from fall hunting. The criteria that must be met for a THA to be opened for fall hunting is an annual spring hunting season harvest of greater than or equal to one gobbler per square mile of turkey habitat for three consecutive years. Conversely, if the spring gobbler harvest in a THA open to fall hunting drops to below .75 gobblers/mile sq. for three years in a row, that THA will be removed from the fall hunting season. Based upon this criteria, and a recent analysis of harvest results, THAs 6, 7, and 10 meet the criteria for removal from the fall turkey hunting season. THA 22 is proposed to be opened to fall turkey hunting, as it meets the above criteria. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.7.

7. Beaver trapping permit quotas are proposed to be adjusted for Beaver Management Zones (BMZs) 13 and 26 based upon recent beaver population assessments. Due to a beaver population decrease in BMZ 13, the quota is proposed to be reduced by two permits and these permits are proposed to be added to BMZ 26, where the population has increased. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.9.
8. The Council is proposing to add Fisher (*Martes pinnanti*) to the list of furbearing animals subject to N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.11, with a closed season. Although fisher were reported to be established as far south as North Carolina prior to European settlement of North America, clearing of forests by settlers resulted in extirpation in the Mid-Atlantic states, including New Jersey. New Jersey is now at the southern portion of the fisher's natural range, most likely due to movement of fishers from restoration projects ongoing in New York and Pennsylvania. It is believed that fisher may be expanding its range southwest into New Jersey from New York's Catskill Mountains. There have been two confirmed sightings (Frelinghuysen Twp., Warren County 2004; Stokes State Forest, Sussex County 2006), and seven unconfirmed sightings from June through December 2007. Currently, the fisher is not listed as a resident species of wildlife in New Jersey in any statute or rule since its presence has only recently been confirmed. This amendment will clarify the fisher's status as a protected furbearer with a closed season. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.11.

9. The Council is additionally proposing to amend N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.11 to clarify that special trapping permits may be issued for both red fox and gray fox and to add coyotes to the list of species for which a special trapping permit may be issued for the control of nuisance animals. Coyotes may be legally taken by hunting and trapping, and can be controlled by farmers and landowners experiencing damage (see N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.22). This amendment will allow the control of coyotes in circumstances not related to property damage, for example for issues regarding public safety. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.11.
10. The Council is proposing to amend N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.13(c) to provide for the take of Canada geese in limited circumstances. Particularly, Canada geese may be allowed to be taken from August 1 to August 31 from private agricultural lands if there is a Federal Conservation Order or Managed Take Option in place, as defined by the US Fish and Wildlife Service in §50 CFR 21.61, and the Division has applied for and received permission from the U.S. Department of the Interior to issue permits for the take of Canada geese. Private agricultural lands are defined as farms which comprise an area of five acres or more, produce a gross income in excess of \$500 and are tax assessed as farmland, to remain consistent with N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.7(i)1, 5.28(i)1, 5.29(i)1, and 5.30(i)1. Canada geese have become an increasing problem to agriculture in the State as populations have increased. The Council believes the proposed change will help mitigate agricultural and environmental damage, and reduce resident geese populations.

The specification of the start of the migratory bird season is changed to the opening date of the pheasant season instead of the opening day of the small game season. This change in language does not represent a change in the opening date of the migratory bird season, but rather reflects that it is necessary to specify the opening date of the pheasant season, which is the same as the opening date for all small game under the current Code, because a different season start date is now proposed for rabbit and hare, another portion of the small game category, at N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.3. (see # 3 of this summary).

11. King rail is proposed to be added as a migratory game species with a closed season. Currently, king rail is not listed in the Game Code as a game species, but is listed as a non-game species in N.J.A.C. 7:25-4.17. In addition, king rails are listed as a game species in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement: Issuance of Annual Regulations Permitting the Sport Hunting of Migratory Birds (SEIS 88). The Endangered and Nongame Species Advisory Committee is in the process of updating the status list of all nongame bird species in New Jersey. In order to increase consistency between New Jersey's Nongame list and SEIS 88, hunting seasons for king rail should be defined in the Game Code. The population status of king rails warrants a closed season.
12. The genus name for woodcock was changed from *Philohela* to *Scolopax* by the American Ornithologists Union. The Council proposes the same change for consistency. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.13.
13. The season length for the special permit season for coyote, red fox and gray fox, as designated in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.19(e), is proposed to be increased by four weeks, and the bag limit for coyote removed. Coyotes are well established throughout all 21 counties of New Jersey. Damage complaints and sightings have increased statewide

- and attacks on humans have occurred. Based on the experience of other states, the increased season length and bag limit will not be detrimental to the species' long-term viability, but is designed to mitigate human-coyote conflicts. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.19.
14. The Council is proposing to amend N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.22 to prohibit the administration of any chemical or drug to any regulated wildlife species, unless specially permitted by the Division. Although the Council has regulated the use of fertility control on deer, other states have reported that they have been approached by private individuals or public entities regarding the application of growth enhancing hormones and chemicals, or insecticide applicators on wildlife, which may act as hosts to human pests. This amendment will ensure that the effects on native wildlife are considered prior to the authorization of any such activity. The proposed prohibition would not apply to use of the prohibited substances as part of the control of mice and rats in the genera *Mus*, *Peromyscus* or *Rattus*. The prohibition would also not apply to species that are possessed in accordance with a Department permit for research or other approved purposes, as defined under N.J.A.C. 7:25-4 and N.J.A.C. 7:25-10. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.22.
  15. N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.24 specifies authorized equipment and restrictions applicable to hunting using bow and arrow. The Council is proposing to expand the definition of "bow" by removing the prohibition on all draw locking and draw holding devices and by including crossbows and is proposing a definition of "crossbows" to specify the required size and components of an allowed crossbow. Crossbows legal for use in New Jersey shall have a stock length of at least 25 inches, and a minimum draw pull weight of 75 pounds; also, crossbows shall be uncocked whenever in or upon a motor vehicle.

As a result of the proposed change, hunters of all ages would be allowed to use crossbows during any open bow season for deer hunting. The benefits of crossbow use include hunter recruitment and retention, and better deer management in suburban/rural interface areas. Anticipated increases in license and permit sales will provide additional funding to the Division for the continued management of game species and their habitat throughout the State. Crossbows may encourage youth, women and other persons who have difficulty drawing a regular bow to participate in the sport and to start family hunting traditions. Crossbows will also enable aging hunters with various physical limitations not defined as a handicap, to continue with or to come back to the sport. Crossbows can be a practical alternative in populated areas where firearm discharge has been restricted by local ordinance, which should help the Division achieve deer management objectives where access may be an issue. And while no additional fees will be charged to hunt with a crossbow, additional revenue is anticipated through the increase in sales of archery licenses and Permit Bow season permits. A scientific survey, conducted by the Division and entitled "An Assessment of NJ Resident Hunter Opinion on Crossbows", found that the majority of resident deer hunters are in favor of expansion of the crossbow in archery seasons. Specifically, 73% of resident deer hunters surveyed supported the expansion of crossbow use, and 67% of deer hunters who reported hunting only with bows supported the proposal. Currently, crossbows are legal only with a special bow permit for physically handicapped individuals. The Council is proposing to delete N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.24(e), which specifies who is eligible for Special Bow Use Permits for

- crossbows and attachments to longbow, recurved bow or compound bows and as a result of this deletion, allow their use by all hunters without a special bow permit.
16. The Council proposes to repeal the current prohibition against the use of bows during the six-day firearm deer season in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.24, which covers bow and arrow general provisions, and proposes a corresponding amendment to N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27, which specifies the six-day firearm season, to include bows as a form of legal hunting equipment. As a result of these proposed amendments, bow and arrow would be considered legal for the taking of an antlered deer during the six-day firearm season, provided the hunter has a current and legal firearm license in addition to an archery license, or an all-around license. Because a bowhunter taking advantage of this new regulation will tag a deer using the transportation tag from a firearm license, the bowhunter must be licensed in both disciplines; thus the stated license requirement. This amendment will allow hunters who have landowner permission to hunt deer only with a legal bow and not a firearm on a particular property to hunt during this period and utilize the tags for this season, thereby increasing recreational opportunity and deer management objectives through an increase in harvest. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.24 and 5.27. The Council is clarifying that the antlered buck permits issued without fee to qualified farmers for the white-tailed deer special bow permit season, the white-tailed deer muzzleloader rifle permit season and the white-tailed deer shotgun permit season are valid in all zones in which the farmer has a valid special bow permit, shotgun permit or muzzleloader rifle permit, and are not just valid in the zone for which the farmer qualifies for a free permit. Since only one antlered buck permit may be possessed for each season, this clarification ensures that farmers have the same hunting opportunity to hunt multiple zones for bucks as do regularly licensed hunters. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.28-30.
17. The Council is proposing to amend the rules to authorize the Fish and Game Council to shift Deer Management Zones (DMZs) up or down Regulation Sets (see new definition in #1 of this summary), provided certain criteria are met and such a change is recommended by the Director. In order for a zone to be considered for such a change, the antlered or antlerless harvest must fall above or below 15 percent of the goal for that specific zone for at least two consecutive years. A table listing antlered harvest goals and management strategies for each deer management zone has been added to N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.29(r). Regulation Sets are groups of deer hunting season lengths and bag limits designed to meet harvest goals in the DMZs assigned to them. This proposal will allow the Council to make more timely response to unforeseen or undesirable population changes in order to better achieve deer management goals, and to avert potentially damaging situations. Moving a DMZ into a more liberal or more restrictive Regulation Set will allow for harvests that will better meet management objectives within a given zone, if need be, by manipulating season lengths and bag limits. Notice regarding changing the regulation set of a particular DMZ would be made by notice of administrative change, publication in the New Jersey Register, as well as posting on the Division's website at [www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com) and in the Hunting Digest which summaries the hunting and trapping regulations and is made available free of charge at all license issuing agents. The State's deer population is managed through deer management zones with seasons, bag limits and other restrictions designed to successfully manage the



resource established for each zone based upon the conditions present in that zone. The State is divided into 62 deer management zones.

Deer harvests are controlled through the manipulation of season lengths and bag limits. The rules currently include for each season an indication of the limitations applicable to different zones for that season. For example, the bag limit may be two deer (either one antlered and one antlerless or two antlerless) in some zones while in other zones the bag limit may be one antlered deer and an unlimited number of antlerless deer. Further requirements may be different from zone to zone, such as whether an antlerless deer must be taken before an antlered deer. After each possible limit, the deer management zones to which that limit is applicable are listed in the Code.

In order to simplify the process of determining which limitations are applicable, in the hunting issue of the Fish and Wildlife Digest, the Division has for some time grouped deer management zones that have similar conditions into Regulation Sets. Regulation Sets are groups of deer hunting season lengths and bag limits designed to meet harvest goals in the deer management zones assigned to them. Regulation Sets 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 8 have been referenced in the hunting issue of the Fish and Wildlife Digest in the past with the limitations applicable to each Regulation Set progressing from the most conservative to the most liberal deer hunting regulations.

The Council is now proposing to incorporate the Regulation Set scheme into the Code. Accordingly, in various provisions the Council is proposing to change references to deer management zones to which the provision applies to the more concise list of Regulation Sets. Except as noted below, the proposed change to Regulation Sets would not change the limitations applicable to a particular zone.

In addition to incorporating the Regulations Sets previously utilized in the hunting issue of the Fish and Wildlife Digest, the Council is proposing two new Regulation Sets. As indicated above, Regulation Sets 1, 2, 3, 4, 6 and 8 progress from most conservative to most liberal deer hunting regulations. In the proposed amendments, these Regulation Sets are left in the current numerical order and are not re-numbered to reduce confusion among hunters who are already familiar with their current designation. The Council is proposing, as Regulation Set 0, a group that is subject to the most conservative set of regulations. Additionally, the Council is proposing, as Regulation Set 9, a group that is subject to the most liberal set of regulations. Zones 21, 23, 24, 34, 43, 45 and 46 have been re-assigned to Regulation Set 0 in order to reduce the deer harvest since deer populations have been reduced below the management objective. As a result of this change, Zones 21, 23, 24, 43 45 and 46 will have a seven-day reduction in the permit muzzleloader season, and a one-deer reduction in the antlerless bag limit, as Set 0 reduces the antlerless bag limit to one deer for the muzzleloader season. Zone 34 will have a seven-day reduction in the permit muzzleloader season, a two-day reduction in the permit shotgun season, a one-deer reduction in the permit shotgun season bag limit, and an overall one deer reduction in the antlerless bag limit for the remaining seasons. Regulation Set 9 will add four antlerless-only hunting days to the Permit Muzzleloader season and Permit Shotgun season. There are no DMZs assigned to Regulation Set 9 for the 2009-2010 season. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.25, 5.26, 5.28, 5.29, 5.30.

A list of Regulation Sets delineating season lengths and bag limits, and a table

listing each DMZ and its Regulation Set, are additionally proposed to further simplify identification of the limits applicable to a particular zone. See N.J.A.C 7:25-5.29(q).

Due to the addition of antlered deer transportation tags to hunting licenses in 2007, and the advent of antlered buck permits, supplemental tags will only be issued for antlerless deer when checking in harvested animals. New language reflecting this change has been added to all pertinent deer sections. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.25, 5.26, 5.28, 5.29, and 5.30.

18. An increase in shotgun and muzzleloader season permits for Zone 36 is added to the shotgun and muzzleloader permit quota tables. This increase is proposed to compensate for an increase in hunting area in that zone due to a boundary change the previous season. Increased hunter interest in this zone will assist in accomplishing management goals within that zone. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.28(k) and 5.29(k).
19. A Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) is proposed to be added at N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.36. The DMAP will allow landowners or administrative agencies/organizations which can not adequately control the deer population on their property utilizing the limits contained in the Code to apply for additional antlerless permits in those deer management zones with restricted bag limits. Creation of a DMAP permit allows the Council and the Division to respond to special management needs without affecting the overall management goal or regulatory structure of the entire DMZ. An example of a situation which may qualify for the proposed DMAP are farms receiving extensive damage, which may be surrounded by public land and/or forested habitat, which may be managed with a more conservative deer season structure. Another example could be county parks or suburbanized communities within DMZs with conservative hunting regulations that may want to use DMAP as an alternative to hiring culling agents under the Community Based Deer Management Program.
20. The Council is proposing various changes to the Code to reflect changes in deer management strategy to adjust for conditions in various portions of the State. This year, a deer management strategy of population reduction is planned for 36 percent of the deer range in order to lessen economic losses associated with deer damage to landscape plantings or gardens, agricultural crops and deer/vehicle collisions. A deer management strategy of deer population stabilization is planned for 41.4 percent of the deer range where deer-human conflicts are minimal and the deer population is within the biological carrying capacity of the land. A deer management strategy of population growth is planned for 22.5 percent of the deer range where the population has decreased below the management goal for that area. The deer hunting season's duration, season dates, bag limits and permit quotas are adjusted, where necessary, to achieve the zone management strategies while maximizing the recreational and economic benefits of the State's renewable deer resource.

Zones 22 and 26 are moved from Regulation Set 4 to Regulation Set 3, and Zone 18 is moved from Regulation Set 3 to Regulation Set 2 in order to reduce harvest levels as all these zones have deer populations that are below management objectives. Zones 22 and 26 will have an 18-day reduction in the fall bow season, a 30-day reduction in the permit bow season, a seven-day reduction in the permit shotgun season, and a bag limit that goes from unlimited antlerless to two deer. Zone 18 will have a two-day reduction in the permit shotgun season. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.25, 5.26,

- 5.27, 5.28, 5.29, 5.30 and 5.31.
21. The permit shotgun season in Zone 37 (Fort Dix Military Reservation) is proposed to be extended from one to three days, and moved to the week between Christmas and New Year. The permit bow season permit quota is increased from 300 to 330. These changes are made at the request of Fort Dix Military Reservation and the Council has determined that these proposals will assist the administrating agency in meeting the deer management objective established for this zone. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.29, 5.30.
  22. At the request of the U.S. Department of Interior staff, the concurrent permit muzzleloader and permit shotgun season dates for Zone 38 (Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Department of the Interior) have been moved to coincide with the New Jersey Education Association Teachers Convention dates. Additionally, 290 permits are proposed to be transferred from the permit shotgun season to the permit muzzleloader season. This proposed amendment results in permit allocation changing from 390 to 100 for shotgun and from 10 to 300 for muzzleloader. The bag limit is changed from unlimited antlerless to two deer. The provision allowing two deer to be harvested at a time for the permit shotgun season is proposed for deletion. These changes are proposed to reduce harvest of antlerless deer as this zone's deer population is below its management objectives. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.28, 5.29 and 5.31.
  23. The Earn-A-Buck regulation is proposed to be removed from Zone 40 (Earle Naval Weapons Station, U.S. Department of the Navy). This change is made at the request of Earle Naval Weapons Station Staff. The Council has determined that these proposals will assist the administrating agency in meeting the deer management objective established for the zone. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.28 and 5.29.
  24. For Zone 53 (Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Center, U.S. Department of the Navy), the bag limit is proposed to be changed from two deer to unlimited antlerless deer for the permit bow and permit muzzleloader seasons. The permit shotgun season is moved to run concurrently with the six-day firearm season. These changes are made at the request of Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering staff. The Council has determined that these proposals will assist the administrating agency in meeting the deer management objective established for the zone. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27, 5.28, and 5.30.
  25. For Zone 61 (Atlantic County Parks System), the permit quota for the permit muzzleloader season is proposed to be increased from 40 to 60, for permit shotgun from 80 to 100, and for permit bow from 40 to 60 due to the acquisition of more lands. This change is made at the request of Atlantic County Parks staff and the Council has determined that these proposals will assist the administrating agency in meeting the deer management objective established for the zone. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.28, 5.29 and 5.30.
  26. The winter bow season is proposed to be added to Zone 67 (High Point State Park). This change is made at the request of the New Jersey Division of Parks and Forestry staff. The Council has determined that these proposals will assist the administrating agency in meeting the deer management objective established for the zone. N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.26.
  27. In Zone 68 (Franklin Parker and Four Mile Spring Preserves), the permit muzzleloader permit quota is proposed to be increased from 80 to 100. This change

is made at the request of the New Jersey Conservation Foundation staff which administers the Franklin Parker and Four Mile Spring Preserves and the Council has determined that these proposals will assist the administrating agency in meeting the deer management objective established for the zone.. Zone 68 is added to the list of zones with an unlimited antlerless bag limit for the fall bow season (see N.J.A.C. 7.25-5.25(b)); their omission from this list was an error in the previous Game Code. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.28.

28. The Council is proposing to allow for the sale of unclaimed bear, turkey and deer season muzzleloader permits. An unclaimed permit is one that has been applied for and awarded through the respective season lottery, but never claimed and paid for by the applicant. Allowing the sale of these unclaimed permits will increase opportunities for sportsmen and women who wish to participate in sold-out seasons. It would additionally provide additional funds for Division management efforts. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.6, 5.7, 5.28.
29. The boundaries between DMZs 19 and 23, and between DMZs 23 and 25 have been are proposed to be modified to include more definitive boundaries by replacing unmarked fire roads and seasonal stream corridors with nearby paved roads with identifying signage. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.29.

The remaining changes have been made for clarification, correction of typographical errors, change of format without change in text, and to reflect changes in calendar year.

### **Social Impact**

Most proposed changes are minor and will have little positive or negative social impact. The proposal to expand the use of crossbows for deer hunting is likely to cause significant public interest among people who support and oppose the proposal based on input already received by the Division. Interested parties and organizations can be expected to express their positions during the public comment period and to elected and government officials. The Council anticipates an overall positive social impact from the expanded use of crossbows. Crossbows will enable the Division to better manage deer in areas where deer populations may be problematic, such as in rural/suburban interface areas, but where gun hunting is not desirable, as bow hunting is more inconspicuous and may be less objectionable. Reduced deer populations in these areas will result in fewer deer-vehicle collisions, reduced rates of Lyme Disease, and reduced property damage. Further, crossbows will help with hunter retention and recruitment to offset a decline in hunting license sales that is being experienced not only in New Jersey but in most urbanized states.

The proposal to reduce the spring turkey hunting season will help to mitigate a reduction in turkey populations in the central and northern portions of the State. This proposal will result in an overall positive social impact because it will assure the wild turkey resource is protected and that long-term viability of the species, as well as future hunting opportunities, are protected.

The proposal to reduce the season length for ruffed grouse will have some short-term negative social impact, as it would reduce recreational hunting opportunity for some upland game hunters. However, the Council believes that the proposal will have an overall positive social impact because it will assure the ruffed grouse resource is

protected and that long-term viability of the species, as well as future hunting opportunities, are protected.

Minor changes in permit quotas, season dates and bag limits on special deer management areas will have little impact on the general public because use and access of these areas is already tightly controlled by respective administrative agencies.

Expanding the rabbit and hare hunting season will provide greater opportunity for participating hunters with little negative social impact since private landowners can decide not to allow the earlier open on their property if they so desire.

In general, the ability of the Division to address people/wildlife conflicts and public health and safety related to wildlife will be maintained. The continued positive social impact anticipated includes the conservation, management, and the enhancement of the wildlife resources for recreational activities.

### **Economic Impact**

The proposed changes will have a positive economic impact on local retailers serving the hunting population. The purchase of new crossbows and accessories will provide some local retailers with additional revenue. A deer management strategy of population reduction or stabilization on 77.4 percent of the deer range will mitigate economic losses associated with deer damage to landscape plantings or gardens, agricultural crops and deer/vehicle collisions. Additionally, crossbows may help to increase deer harvests in problematic areas where a no-discharge ordinance for firearms exists. The proposal to reduce the spring turkey hunting season by one week is expected to reduce the revenue collected by the Division due to the loss of sales of permits for that week, which may impact future game management activities. A loss in turkey permit sales may minimally impact some license agents. Increased sales of unclaimed turkey permits and and increased participation in archery hunting as a result of the proposal to allow crossbows is expect to offset that loss.

### **Environmental Impact**

The proposed amendments should have an overall positive environmental impact by protecting both habitat and species resources. The season length and bag limits in place for deer have been designed to maintain a high level of antlerless deer harvest and will help maintain deer populations at levels more compatible with natural habitats and other land uses. The addition of crossbows and the Deer Management Assistance Program will assist in reducing deer densities and mitigate damage to native forests in the State.

### **Federal Standards Statement**

Executive Order No. 27 (1994) and N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. require State agencies which adopt, readopt or amend State regulations that exceed any Federal standards or requirements to include in the rulemaking document a Federal standards analysis.

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service regulates hunting in National Wildlife Refuge areas in New Jersey pursuant to National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act, 16 U.S.C. §668dd (1966), and regulations (50 CFR 32.49). The

amendments to the Game Code do not contain any standards or requirements that exceed Federal regulations involving National Wildlife Refuge areas.

The waterfowl hunting regulations (50 CFR 20 and 21) and Conservation Order regulations (50 CFR 20) that are promulgated annually by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service allow states to select the dates, times, manner and means for hunting of waterfowl within the allowable Federal framework established by the Fish and Wildlife Service. Therefore, the Department has determined that the amendments to the Game Code do not contain any standards or requirements that exceed any standards or requirements imposed by Federal law. Accordingly, Executive Order No. 27 (1994) and N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. does not require further analysis.

### **Jobs Impact**

The proposed amendments are not anticipated to have any effect on the creation or elimination of jobs in the State. The amendments provide for continued recreational and economic benefits to the citizens of the State and the regulated use and proper management of the State's wildlife resources.

### **Agriculture Industry Impact**

The proposed amendments should have a positive impact by continuing to lessen the economic losses incurred by the agricultural community. Introduction of the Deer Management Assistance Program should further assist farmers in recruiting hunters to aid them in increasing antlerless deer harvests. The opportunity for private farmers to further control resident Canada geese populations by participating in the Federal Managed Take Program, as defined by the US Fish and Wildlife Service will additionally have a positive agricultural impact by reducing impacts caused by Canada geese.

### **Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**

In accordance with the New Jersey Regulatory Flexibility Act, N.J.S.A. 52:14B-16 et seq., the Council is required to determine whether its rules will affect "small businesses" as defined by the Regulatory Flexibility Act. Generally, the proposed 2009-2012 Game Code imposes minimal reporting and compliance requirements on sportsmen engaged in recreational hunting. These requirements are not changed by this proposal.

However, the Game Code also regulates the activity of trappers, who may engage in such activity for their economic benefit. Such trappers may be considered small businesses. As there is no increased regulatory burden on trappers due to the proposed amendments and given the Council's objective to protect game resources and foster recreational opportunities related to game, no differentiation in requirements to exempt small businesses is provided.

### **Smart Growth Impact**

Executive Order No. 4 (2002) requires State agencies which adopt, amend or repeal any rule adopted pursuant to Section 4(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act, to describe the impact of the proposed rule on the achievement of smart growth and implementation of the New Jersey State Development and Redevelopment Plan (State Plan). The Council has evaluated this rulemaking to determine the nature and extent the proposed amendments impact on smart growth and the implementation of the State Plan.

The proposed amendments do not involve land use policies or infrastructure development and therefore, do not impact smart growth. As to the implementation of the State Plan, the proposed amendments are intended to conserve the State's natural resources, which is one of the overall goals of the State Plan.

### **Housing Affordability Impact**

Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 52:14B-4, as amended effective July 17, 2008, by P.L. 2008, c. 46, the Council has evaluated the proposed amendments to determine their impact, if any, on the affordability of housing. The Council has evaluated this rulemaking to determine the nature and extent the proposed amendments impact on housing affordability and the implementation of the State Plan. The proposed amendments do not involve the creation or construction of any type of housing units and therefore do not impact housing affordability. As to the implementation of the State Plan, the proposed amendments are intended to conserve the State's natural resources, which is one of the overall goals of the State Plan.

### **Smart Growth Development Impact**

In accordance with N.J.S.A. 52:14B-4, as amended effective July 17, 2008, by P.L. 2008, c. 46, the Department has evaluated the proposed amendments for purposes of determining their impact, if any, on smart growth development.

As indicated above in the Smart Growth Impact statement, the proposed amendments do not involve land use policies or infrastructure development and therefore, do not impact smart growth development.

**Full text** of the proposal follows (additions indicated in underline and boldface **thus**; deletions indicated in boldface brackets [thus]):

#### SUBCHAPTER 5. 2009-2012 GAME CODE

##### **7:25-5.1 General provisions**

(a) – (b) (No change.)

(c) This Code, when adopted and when effective, shall supersede the provisions of the 200[5]9-200[6]12 Game Code.

(d) The following words and terms, when used in this subchapter, shall have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise.

1. "Bag limit" means the amount of permitted take per person per season, except in a permit season the "bag limit" is the amount of permitted take per permit per season.

2. – 6. (No change.)

7. "Traditional muzzleloader rifle" means a single shot, single barrel, side-lock percussion or flintlock firearm with iron or peep sights and a wooden stock. In-line

ignition, center-hammer and under-hammer muzzleloaders are not included in this definition. Scopes, Sabot slugs and jacketed projectiles are prohibited for the purposes of this definition.

8. – 12. (No change.)

13. ["Antlered buck stub" means that part of a 2002 or later, firearm, bow and arrow or all-around sportsman license that must be surrendered with the completed deer transportation tag upon registration of an antlered deer at an official deer checking station.] **“Special Areas” are deer management zones where hunter access is controlled by a regulating authority, and may include, but are not limited to, Federal, State, county, and private lands, as designated by the Division.**

14. "Youth Hunting License" means the free hunting license issued by the Division to persons 10 through 15 years of age upon the successful completion **of** an approved hunter education course. The license is valid, unless revoked for due cause, from the time of issuance until December 31 of the year in which the youth attains the age of 16 years.

15. "Youth hunter" [status applies to] **means** the possessor of the Youth Hunting License or the immediate family member of a qualified occupant farmer who is at least 10 years of age, [and] **Youth hunter status** continues until December 31 of the year in which [he or she] **the youth** turns 16 years **old**.

16. (No change.)

17. "Earn-a-buck" requirement means **that** deer hunters must harvest an antlerless deer from within a specified zone or zones[,] before taking or attempting to take an antlered deer in the prescribed season or season period, and deer management zone.

18. (No change.)

19. "[Bonus] **Antlered** muzzleloader permit," "[bonus] **antlered** shotgun permit" or "[bonus] **antlered** bow permit" [permit] means the additional purchase to the regular muzzleloader, shotgun or bow **zone-specific** antlerless permit, that contains an antlered deer transportation tag and allows for the pursuit and harvest of an antlered deer only. .

20. (No change.)

**21. Deer check station” means a physical location, as designated by the Division, where a hunter must bring his or her deer on the day of kill to be registered as a legally harvested deer; or an Automated deer check system” (ADCS) by which a hunter registers the harvested deer via the internet or telephone as designated by the Division.**

**22. “Regulation Set” means a group of deer management zones, as designated by the Division, which all have the same season dates and bag limits.**

(e) – (f) (No change.)

(f) (No change.)

**7:25-5.2. Pheasant-Chinese ringneck (*Phasianus colchicus torquatus*), English or**



**blackneck (*P. c. colchicus*), Mongolian (*P. mongolicus*), Japanese green (*Phasianus versicolor*); including mutants and crosses of above**

(a) [The duration of the pheasant season will be November 12-December 3 and December 12, 13, 15-31, 2005 and January 2-February 20, 2006; November 11-December 2 and December 11, 12, 14 -30, 2006, and January 1-February 19, 2007; November 10-December 1 and December 10, 11, 13-31, 2007, and January 1-February 18, 2008; November 8-December 6 and December 15, 16, 18-31, 2008, and January 1-February 16, 2009; November 7-December 5 and December 14, 15, 17 -31, 2009, and January 1-February 15, 2010; and, November 13-December 4 and December 13, 14, 16-31, 2010, and January 1-February 21, 2011.] **The annual season for hunting pheasant with shotgun or bow and arrow shall begin on the Saturday following the first Monday in November and conclude the third Monday of the following February, inclusive; except the season shall be closed during the six-day firearm deer season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a) and on the Wednesday immediately following the six-day firearm deer season.** The Director, with the approval of the Council, may establish season dates for special, experimental pheasant management zones for research purposes.

(b) (No change.)

(c) [The duration for the pheasant season for properly licensed persons engaged in falconry is September 1-December 3, and December 12, 13, 15-31, 2005 and January 1-March 31, 2006; September 1-December 2 and December 11, 12, 14 - 30, 2006, and January 1-March 31, 2007; September 1-December 1, and December 10, 11, 13-31, 2007, and January 1-March 31, 2008; September 1-December 6 and December 15, 16, 18-31, 2008, and January 1-March 31, 2009; September 1-December 5 and December 14, 15, 17-31, 2009, and January 1-March 31, 2010; and, September 1-December 4 and December 13, 14, 16-31, 2010, and January 1-March 31, 2011.] **The annual season for hunting pheasant by properly licensed persons engaged in falconry shall begin on September 1 and conclude the following March 31, inclusive; except the season shall be closed during the six-day firearm deer season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a) and on the Wednesday immediately following the six-day firearm deer season.**

(d)-(f) (No change.)

(g) [The season for properly licensed semi-wild preserves is November 12, 2005-March 15, 2006; November 11, 2006-March 15, 2007; November 10, 2007-March 15, 2008; November 8, 2008-March 15, 2009; November 7, 2009-March 15, 2010; and, November 13, 2010-March 15, 2011.] **The annual season for hunting pheasant on properly licensed semi-wild preserves shall begin on the Saturday following the first Monday in November and conclude the following March 15, inclusive;** except that nothing contained herein shall preclude properly licensed and permitted youth hunters from hunting pheasant on the Saturday before the regular opening of the pheasant season[,] on semi-wild preserves licensed for pheasant. Youth hunters must be under the direct supervision of a non-hunting adult (21 years or older)[,] who must possess a proper and valid firearm license. Direct supervision means the youth hunter and the supervising adult are together at the same location. The youth hunter shall not hunt independently of the

supervising adult. The Director, with approval of the Council, may extend the pheasant season on licensed semi-wild preserves for a period not to exceed 20 days.

1. (No change.)

(h) (No change.)

**7:25-5.3. Cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), black-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus californicus*), white-tailed jackrabbit (*Lepus townsendii*), European hare (*Lepus europeus*), chukar partridge (*Alectoris graeca*), and quail (*Colinus virginianus*)**

(a) [The duration of the season for the hunting of cottontail rabbit, black-tailed jack rabbit, white-tailed jack rabbit, European hare and chukar partridge November 12-December 3 and December 12, 13, 15-31, 2005, and January 2-February 20, 2006; November 11 -December 2 and December 11, 12, 14-30, 2006, and January 1-February 19, 2007; November 10-December 1 and December 10, 11, 13-31, 2007, and January 1-February 18, 2008; November 8-December 6 and December 15, 16, 18-31, 2008, and January 1-February 16, 2009; November 7-December 5 and December 14, 15, 17-31, 2009, and January 1-February 15, 2010; and, November 13-December 4 and December 13, 14, 16-31, and January 1-February 21, 2011. The season for hunting quail in the area of New Jersey north of Route 33 is as listed above. The season for hunting quail in the area of New Jersey south of Route 33 is above, except that the season shall end on January 31, 2006, January 31, 2007, January 31, 2008, January 31, 2009, January 30, 2010, and January 31, 2011.] **The annual season for hunting cottontail rabbit, black-tailed jackrabbit, white-tailed jackrabbit and European hare with shotgun or bow and arrow shall begin the last Saturday in September and conclude the third Monday of the following February, inclusive; except the season shall be closed during the six-day firearm deer season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a) and on the Wednesday immediately following the six-day firearm deer season. The annual season for hunting chukar partridge (statewide) and quail (in that portion of the State lying north of Route 33) with shotgun or bow and arrow shall begin on the Saturday following the first Monday in November and conclude the third Monday of the following February, inclusive; except the season shall be closed during the six-day firearm deer season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a) and on the Wednesday immediately following the six-day firearm deer season. The annual season for hunting quail with shotgun or bow and arrow in that portion of the State lying south of Route 33 shall begin on the Saturday following the first Monday in November and conclude the following January 31, inclusive; except the season shall be closed during the six-day firearm deer season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a) and on the Wednesday immediately following the six-day firearm deer season.**

(b) [The duration of the season for the hunting of the animals enumerated by (a) above for properly licensed persons engaged in falconry is September 1-December 3 and December 12, 13, 15-31, 2005 and January 1-March 31, 2006; September 1-December 2 and December 11, 12, 14-30, 2006 and January 1-March 31, 2007; September 1-December 1 and December 10, 11, 13-31, 2007, and January 1-March 31, 2008; September 1-December 6 and December 15, 16, 18-31, 2008, and January 1-March 31, 2009; September 1-December 5 and December 14, 15, 17-31, 2009, and January 1-March 31, 2010; and, September 1-December 4 and December 13, 14, 16-31, 2010, and January

1-March 31, 2011.] **The annual season for hunting the animals listed in (a) above for properly licensed persons engaged in falconry shall begin on September 1 and conclude the following March 31, inclusive; except the season shall be closed during the six-day firearm deer season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a) and on the Wednesday immediately following the six-day firearm deer season.**

(c) (No change.)

(d) The hunting hours for the animals enumerated in this section are [8:00 A.M. to 1/2 hour after sunset on November 12, 2005, November 11, 2006, November 10, 2007, November 8, 2008, November 7, 2009, and November 13, 2010. On all other days for which hunting for these animals is legal, the hours are sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.] **sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset except on the Saturday following the first Monday in November when legal hunting hours are 8:00 A.M. to 1/2 hour after sunset.**

(e) [The quail and chukar partridge season for properly licensed semi-wild preserves is November 12, 2005-March 15, 2006, November 11, 2006-March 15, 2007, November 10, 2007-March 15, 2008, November 8, 2008-March 15, 2009, November 7, 2009-March 15, 2010, and November 13, 2010-March 15, 2011] **The annual season for hunting chukar partridge and quail on properly licensed semi-wild preserves shall begin on the Saturday following the first Monday in November and conclude the following March 15** inclusive, except that nothing herein contained shall preclude properly licensed and permitted youth hunters from hunting quail and/or chukar on the Saturday before the regular opening of the quail and chukar season on semi-wild preserves licensed for quail and/or chukar. Youth hunters must be under the direct supervision of a non-hunting adult (21 years or older), who must possess a proper and valid firearm license. Direct supervision means the youth hunter and the supervising adult are together at the same location. The youth hunter may not hunt independently of the supervising adult. The Director, with approval of the [c]Council, may extend the quail and chukar partridge season on licensed semi-wild preserves for a period not to exceed 20 days.

1. (No change.)

(f) (No change.)

#### **7:25-5.4. Ruffed grouse (*Bonasa umbellus*)**

(a) [The duration of the season for the hunting of grouse is October 20-December 3, and December 12, 13, 15-31, 2005; October 19-December 2 and December 11, 12, 14-30, 2006; October 18-December 1 and December 10, 11, 13-31, 2007; October 16-December 6 and December 15, 16, 18-31, 2008; October 15-December 5 and December 14, 15, 17-31, 2009; and, October 21-December 4, and December 13, 14, 16-31, 2010.] **The annual season for hunting ruffed grouse with shotgun or bow and arrow in the area of New Jersey lying north of Route 70 shall begin on the third Thursday in October and conclude December 31, inclusive; except the season shall be closed during the six-day firearm deer season specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a) and on the Wednesday immediately following the six-day firearm deer season. The annual season for hunting ruffed grouse with shotgun or bow and arrow in the area of New Jersey**

**lying south of Route 70 shall begin the Saturday following the first Monday in November and conclude December 31, inclusive; except the season shall be closed during the six-day firearm deer season specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a) and on the Wednesday immediately following the six-day firearm deer season.**

(b) (No change.)

(c) The hunting hours for ruffed grouse are sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset except on [November 12, 2005, November 11, 2006; November 10, 2007; November 8, 2008; November 7, 2009; and, November 13, 2010] **the Saturday following the first Monday in November** when legal hunting hours are 8:00 A.M. to 1/2 hour after sunset.

(d) (No change.)

#### **7:25-5.5. Eastern gray squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*)**

(a) [The duration of the season for the hunting of squirrels is September 24-December 3, and December 12, 13, 15 - 31, 2005 and January 2 - February 20, 2006; September 30-December 2 and December 11, 12, 14-30, 2006, and January 1-February 19, 2007; September 29-December 1 and December 10, 11, 13-31, 2007, and January 1-February 18, 2008; September 27-December 6 and December 15, 16, 18-31, 2008, and January 1-February 16, 2009; September 26-December 5 and December 14, 15, 17-31, 2009, and January 1-February 15, 2010; and, September 25-December 4 and December 13,14, 16-31, 2010, and January 1-February 21, 2011.] **The annual season for hunting eastern gray squirrel with shotgun or bow and arrow shall begin on the last Saturday in September and conclude the third Monday of the following February, inclusive; except the season shall be closed during the six-day firearm deer season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a) and on the Wednesday immediately following the six-day firearm deer season.**

(b) [The duration of the season for the hunting of squirrels for properly licensed persons engaged in falconry is September 1-December 3, and December 12, 13, 15-31, 2005, and January 1-March 31, 2006; September 1-December 2 and December 11, 12, 14-30, 2006, and January 1-March 31, 2007; September 1-December 1, and December 10, 11, 13-31, 2007, and January 1-March 31, 2008; September 1-December 6 and December 15, 16, 18-31, 2008, and January 1-March 31, 2009; September 1-December 5 and December 14, 15, 17-31, 2009, and January 1-March 31, 2010; and, September 1-December 4 and December 13, 14, 16-31, 2010, and January 1-March 31, 2011.] **The annual season for hunting eastern gray squirrel by properly licensed persons engaged in falconry shall begin on September 1 and conclude the following March 31, inclusive; except the season shall be closed during the six-day firearm deer season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a) and on the Wednesday immediately following the six-day firearm deer season.**

(c) (No change.)

(d) Hunting hours for squirrels are sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset, except on [November 12, 2005; November 11, 2006; November 10, 2007; November 8, 2008; November 7, 2009; and November 13, 2010] **the Saturday following the first Monday in November** when legal hunting hours are 8:00 A.M. to 1/2 hour after sunset.

(e) (No change.)

**7:25-5.6 Black bear (*Ursus americanus*), bobcat (*Felis rufus*)**

(a) There is a closed season for bobcat. It shall be illegal to possess, take, kill or attempt to take or kill a bobcat at any time. It shall be illegal to use dogs to pursue or run black bear. There is a closed season for black bear until the Commissioner approves a comprehensive policy for the protection and propagation of black bear. Subsequent to approval of such comprehensive policy, there shall be an open season for black bear. Notice of the Commissioner's approval of the comprehensive policy and the Division's schedule for acceptance of applications for permits for the black bear hunt shall be published on the Division's website at [www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com). The season duration for black bear shall be concurrent with the six-day firearm deer season as enumerated in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a). Legal hunting hours for black bear shall be 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. Following the commencement of the season, the Director may, after consultation with the Chairman, close the season. To the extent possible, the Chairman will consult with available Council members prior to consultation with the Director. The Director will announce such closure, which will become effective 24 hours from the daily legal closing time of the day on which the decision is made, based upon data obtained and reviewed by the Division. Season closure will be announced by news release, radio, the Division's website ([www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com)) and other media.

1. Special black bear hunting permit requirement: All black bear hunters must have a current and valid firearm hunting license and a current and valid special "black bear hunting permit" which will be issued by the Division. A total of 10,000 special black bear hunting permits, allocated by [black] bear [hunting area] **management zone (BMZ)**, will be available to properly licensed firearm hunters who have successfully completed a mandatory black bear hunting seminar. A random lottery will be conducted, if demand exceeds supply in any [black] bear [hunting area] **BMZ**. The Division will notify successful applicants of dates, times, locations and other requirements of the black bear hunting seminars. Successful applicants, who previously completed a black bear hunting seminar, may be waived from attending a current year seminar. Black bear hunting permits are not transferable and must be in the possession of the hunter while hunting black bear. Hunters are limited to one black bear hunting permit per year. Juvenile hunters aged 10 through 13 years of age must have a black bear hunting permit and be under the direct supervision of a properly licensed adult (21 years of age or older) while bear hunting. The adult must also possess a black bear hunting permit. Direct supervision means the juvenile hunter and the supervising adult are together at the same location. The juvenile hunter may not hunt independently of the adult.

i. Black bear hunting permits will be issued on an individual basis to holders of valid and current firearm hunting licenses. Black bear hunting permits are valid only in the [black] bear [hunting area] **BMZ** and year designated on the permit, and are not transferable.

ii. (No change.)

iii. Black bear hunting permits shall be applied for as follows: Holders of valid and current firearm hunting licenses, including juvenile licenses, shall apply by submitting an application via the Division's ELS which has been properly completed in accordance with

instructions or, in the event of ELS operating difficulties, by providing the same information at ELS locations through such alternate system as may be designated by the Division. First time permit applicants who do not possess a valid hunting license may apply for a black bear hunting permit provided they have applied for a hunter education course prior to the application period and have provided such related information as may be required on the application. Only [one] two applications may be submitted per individual – one application for an initial permit lottery and one application for a left-over permit for a different BMZ. Submission of more than one application for the initial permit lottery or for a left-over permit by an individual will cause all applications to be void. All persons, while their hunting licenses are void under authority of law or as imposed by a court, are prohibited from making application for, or otherwise procuring, a black bear hunting permit. The application shall be completed to include the applicant's Conservation ID Number or name, address, [black bear hunting area] BMZ applied for, and any other information required by law or requested. Applications must be received no later than October 30, annually, to be included in the initial permit drawing. If the number of applications exceeds the [hunting area] BMZ permit quota, permit selection will be by random drawing. After the regular permit application period and initial permit selection process, nothing contained herein shall preclude the Division from issuing unfilled or unclaimed permits on a first come-first served basis to any properly licensed hunter. Any permit obtained by fraud shall be void.

2. Bag limit: Only one bear of either-sex and any age may be taken per properly licensed hunter annually. It is unlawful to take or attempt to take or continue to hunt for more than the number of black bear permitted. Properly licensed hunters who harvest a black bear shall immediately complete and affix to the bear the "Black Bear Transportation Tag" from their Black Bear Hunting Permit. Information included on the black bear transportation tag shall include: the hunters name, address and current firearm license number; date and time of kill; BMZ, county and municipality of kill; and the sex of the black bear. Successful hunters must take the black bear to a designated check station by [8]7:00 P.M. on the day of the kill. Hunters shall surrender the black bear transportation tag and will be issued a legal possession tag. Any legally killed black bear recovered too late to be brought to a designated black bear check station by [8]7:00 P.M. on the date of the kill must be reported immediately by telephone to the Northern Region Office of the Bureau of Law Enforcement. Hunters must provide their name, address and a telephone number where they can be reached on the telephone message recording device, if a Division representative is not available. Said black bear must be brought to a designated black bear check station on the next weekday to be registered and to receive a legal possession tag.

3. The black bear [hunting areas] management zones are located as follows:

i. [Black Bear Hunting Area No.] Zone 1. That portion of Warren and Sussex Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of the Portland Bridge and the Delaware River at Columbia; then northward along the east bank of the Delaware River to the New York State Line; then east along the New York State Line to Rt. 519; then south along Rt. 519 to its intersection with Rt. 627; then south along Rt. 627 to its intersection with Rt. 626; then south along Rt. 626 to its intersection with Rt. 521; then southwest along Rt. 521 to its intersection with Rt. 94 in Blairstown; the southwest

along Rt. 94 to the Portland Bridge, the point of beginning in Columbia. The islands of Labar, Tocks, Poxono, Depew, Namanock, Minisink and Mashipacong lying in the Delaware River are also included within this Hunting Area.

ii. [Black Bear Hunting No. Area] **Zone** 2. That portion of Sussex, Warren and Morris Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at Portland Bridge in Columbia; then northward along Rt. 94 to its intersection with Rt. 521 in Blirstown; then north along Rt. 521 to its intersection with Rt. 626; then north along Rt. 626 to its intersection with Rt. 627; then north along Rt. 627 to its intersection with Rt. 519 in Branchville; then north along Rt. 519 to the New York State Line; then southeast along the New York State line to Rt. 517; then south along Rt. 517 to its intersection with Rt. 94; then south on Rt. 94 to its intersection with Rt. 23 in Hamburg Borough; then south along Rt. 23 to its intersection with Rt. 517 in Franklin; then south along Rt. 517 to its intersection with Rt. 15 in Sparta; then south along Rt. 15 to its intersection with Interstate 80 in Dover; then west along interstate 80 to its intersection with Rt. 94; then south along Rt. 94 to the intersection with the Portland Bridge and the Delaware River located in Columbia, the point of beginning.

iii. [Black Bear Hunting Area No.] **Zone** 3. That portion of Sussex, Passaic, Morris and Bergen Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 80 and Rt. 15 in Dover; then north along Rt. 15 to its intersection with Rt. 517 in Sparta; then north along Rt. 517 to its intersection with Rt. 23 in Franklin; then north along Rt. 23/517 to its intersection with 517 in Hamburg Borough; then north along Rt. 517 to the New York State Line; then east along the New York State Line to its intersection with Rt. 287; then south along Rt. 287 to its intersection with Rt. 80; then west along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 15 the point of beginning in Dover.

iv. [Black Bear Hunting Area No.] **Zone** 4. That portion of Sussex, Warren, Morris, Somerset and Hunterdon Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Route 78 and the Delaware River; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the Portland Bridge at Columbia; then northeast along Rt. 94 to its intersection with Rt. 80; then east along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 287; then southwest along Rt. 287 to its intersection with Rt. 78; then west along Rt. 78 to the Delaware River the point of beginning.

v. [Black Bear Hunting Area No.] **Zone** 5. That portion of Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, and Union Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Routes 78 and 287; then north along Route 287 to its intersection with the New York State line; then southeast along the New York state line to the Hudson River; then south along the west shore of the Hudson River to Upper New York Bay; then south along the shore of Upper New York Bay to the Kill Van Kull; then west along the north shore of the Kill Van Kull to Newark Bay; then west across Newark Bay to its confluence with the Arthur Kill; then south along the west shore of the Arthur Kill to its intersection with Route 440; then west along Route 440 to its intersection with Route 287; then northwest along Route 287 to its intersection with Rt. 78 the point of beginning.

vi. [Black Bear Hunting Area No.] **Zone** 6. That portion of Warren, Hunterdon, Somerset, Middlesex, Mercer, Monmouth, Burlington, Ocean, Atlantic, Cape May,

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Cumberland, Salem, Gloucester and Camden Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 78 and the Delaware River; then east along Rt. 78 to its intersection with Rt. 287, then southeast along Rt. 287 to its intersection with Rt. 440; then south and east along Routes 287/440 to its intersection with the Arthur Kill at Perth Amboy; then south along the west shore of the Arthur Kill to Raritan Bay, then south and east along the shore of Raritan Bay to Sandy Hook; then north along the east shore of Sandy Hook Bay to the tip of Sandy Hook; then south along the Atlantic Ocean to the Delaware Bay shore; then north and west along the shore of Delaware Bay to its intersection with the Delaware River; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to its intersection with Rt. 78, the point of beginning.

4. – 5. (No change.)

6. A Black Bear Management Zone Map is on file at the Office of Administrative Law and is available from the Division. The Black Bear Hunting Season Permit Quotas are as specified by Zone as follows:

BLACK BEAR HUNTING SEASON PERMIT QUOTAS

[Black] Bear [Hunting Area] <u>Management Zone</u>	Hunting Season Permit Quota	Portions of Counties Involved
1	2,000	Sussex, Warren
2	3,000	Sussex, Warren, Morris
3	3,000	Sussex, Passaic, Morris, Bergen
4	2,000	Warren, Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset, Sussex
5	0	Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, and Union
6	0	Warren, Hunterdon, Somerset, Middlesex, Mercer, Monmouth, Burlington, Ocean, Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland, Salem, Camden, Gloucester

(b) (No change.)

**7:25-5.7 Wild turkey (Meleagris gallapavo)**

(a) The duration of the [2006, 2007, 2008, 2009, and 2010] Fall Either Sex Wild Turkey Hunting Seasons for Turkey Hunting Areas 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, [6, 7,] 8, 9, [10,] 11, 20, [and] 21 **and 22** shall include a hunting period "N" of six **consecutive** days **beginning on the last Monday in October.** [including: Monday, October 30--Saturday, November 4, 2006; Monday, October 29--Saturday, November 3, 2007; Monday, October 27--Saturday, November 1, 2008; Monday, October 26--Saturday, October 31, 2009; and, Monday October 25--Saturday, October 30, 2010.] There shall be no Fall Turkey Hunting in Turkey Hunting Areas **6, 7, 10,** 12, 14, 15, **and** 16., and 22 in 2006, 2007, 2008,



2009, and 2010.] The hunting periods for all [2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010] Spring Wild Turkey Gobbler Seasons shall be as specified in (a)1 through 6 below as follows:

1. Hunting Period A: [Monday, April 17--Friday, April 21, 2006; Monday, April 16--Friday, April 20, 2007; Monday, April 14--Friday, April 18, 2008; Monday, April 13--Friday, April 17, 2009; and Monday, April 19--Friday, April 23, 2010, inclusive] **A period of five consecutive days beginning the fifth Monday before Memorial Day;**

2. Hunting Period B: [Monday, April 24--Friday, April 28, 2006; Monday, April 23--Friday, April 27, 2007; Monday, April 21--Friday, April 25, 2008; Monday, April 20--Friday, April 24, 2009; and Monday, April 26--Friday, April 30, 2010, inclusive] **A period of five consecutive days beginning the fourth Monday before Memorial Day;**

3. Hunting Period C: [Monday, May 1--Friday, May 5, 2006; Monday, April 30--Friday, May 4, 2007; Monday, April 28--Friday, May 2, 2008; Monday, April 27--Friday, May 1, 2009; and Monday, May 3--Friday, May 7, 2010, inclusive] **A period of five consecutive days beginning the third Monday before Memorial Day;**

4. Hunting Period D: [Monday, May 8--Friday, May 12, 2006; Monday, May 7--Friday, May 11, 2007; Monday, May 5--Friday, May 9, 2008; Monday, May 4--Friday, May 8, 2009; and Monday, May 10--Friday, May 14, 2010, inclusive] **Two periods of five consecutive days, one beginning the second Monday Before Memorial Day, and the other beginning the Monday before Memorial Day;**

5. Hunting Period E: [Monday, May 15--Friday, May 19 and Monday, May 22--Friday, May 26, 2006; Monday, May 14--Friday, May 18 and Monday, May 21--Friday, May 25, 2007; Monday, May 12--Friday, May 16 and Monday, May 19--Friday, May 23, 2008; Monday, May 11--Friday, May 15 and Monday, May 18--Friday, May 22, 2009; and Monday, May 17--Friday, May 21 and Monday, May 24--Friday, May 28, 2010, inclusive] **A period of four days including the fifth, fourth, third and second Saturdays before Memorial Day;**

[6. Hunting Period G: Saturdays, April 21 and 28 and May 5, 12 and 19, 2007; April 19 and 26 and May 3, 10 and 17, 2008; April 18 and 25 and May 2, 9 and 16, 2009; April 24 and May 1, 8, 15 and 22, 2010; April 23 and 30 and May 7, 14 and 21, 2011; and April 21 and 28 and May 5, 12, and 19, 2012 inclusive; and .]

[7.] **6.** Hunting Period Y, exclusively applicable to youth hunters 10 to 16 years of age: [April 14--May 25, 2007; April 12--May 23, 2008; April 11--May 22, 2009; April 17--May 28, 2010; April 16--May 27, 2011; and April 14--May 25, 2012 inclusive.] **The sixth Saturday before Memorial Day, as designated in (o) below. If no turkey is harvested on this special youth spring turkey hunting day, the Y permit may be used for the duration of the Spring Wild Turkey Gobbler season until a bird has been harvested, as defined in (d) below.**

(b)-(c) (No change.)

(d) Special wild turkey hunting permits are valid only during the hunting period designated and only in the designated turkey hunting area. Permittees aged 10 to less than 14 years of age shall be accompanied by and under the direct supervision of a properly licensed adult who is at least 21 years of age. For the purposes of this section, direct

supervision is defined as both the juvenile hunter and properly licensed adult set up together at the same location, hunting as a unit and not hunting independently of each other for different birds. Youth hunters, 10 to 16 years of age, may obtain only one permit for Hunting Period Y per season. Youth hunters may use their Hunting Period Y permit in the designated zone at any time the season is open, including the special youth spring turkey hunting day enumerated in (o) below. Youth hunters possessing permits for Hunting Periods A, B, C, D, **or** E [or G] may only use these permits during the periods specified and on the special youth spring turkey hunting day. Youth hunters are not required to use their Hunting Period Y permit before using other permits. After taking their bird with a permit for Hunting Period Y, youth hunters are subject to the same area and hunting period that any additional regular period hunting permit designates. Permits are not transferable.

(e)-(g) (No change.)

(h) Wild Turkey Hunting Permits shall be applied for as follows:

1. – 5. (No change.)

6. Nothing contained herein shall preclude the Division from issuing unfilled **or unclaimed** permits on a first come-first served basis to any properly licensed bow and arrow hunter, firearm hunter or qualified farmer after the permit selection process.

(i) – (j) (No change.)

(k) Turkey hunting area map is on file at the Office of Administrative Law and is available from that agency or the Division. The Spring Turkey Hunting Season Permit Quotas are as specified in (k)1 below:

1. [2007-2011] Spring Turkey Hunting Season Permit Quotas are as follows:

**SPRING TURKEY HUNTING SEASON PERMIT QUOTAS**  
For Hunting Periods A, B, C, D, **and** E[, and G]

Turkey Hunting Area Number	Hunting Period Permit Quota*	Season Permit Quota Total	Portions of Counties Involved
1	240	[1,440] <b>1,200</b>	Sussex
2	315	[1,890] <b>1,575</b>	Sussex, Warren
3	115	[690] <b>575</b>	Sussex, Warren
4	240	[1,440] <b>1,200</b>	Sussex, Warren, Morris
5	325	[1,950] <b>1,625</b>	Sussex
6	500	[3,000] <b>2,500</b>	Sussex, Passaic, Bergen
7	500	[3,000] <b>2,500</b>	Sussex, Morris, Passaic
8	325	[1,950] <b>1,625</b>	Warren, Hunterdon
9	220	[1,320] <b>1,100</b>	Warren, Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset
10	160	[960] <b>800</b>	Essex, Middlesex, Morris, Somerset, Union, Bergen, Hudson, Passaic
11	300	[1,800] <b>1,500</b>	Middlesex, Mercer, Hunterdon, Somerset

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SPRING TURKEY HUNTING SEASON PERMIT QUOTAS

For Hunting Periods A, B, C, D, and E[, and G]

Turkey Hunting Area Number	Hunting Period Permit Quota*	Season Permit Quota Total	Portions of Counties Involved
12	175	[1,050] <b>875</b>	Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth, Ocean
14	200	[1,200] <b>1,000</b>	Burlington, Ocean, Monmouth, Mercer
15	[200] <b>100</b>	[1,200] <b>500</b>	Burlington, [Ocean,] Atlantic, [Salem,] Gloucester, Camden
16	200	[1,200] <b>1,000</b>	Burlington, Atlantic, Ocean, Cape May
20	[500] <b>750</b>	[3,000] <b>3,750</b>	Cumberland, Salem, Gloucester
21	[240] <b>380</b>	[1,440] <b>1,900</b>	Atlantic, Cumberland, Salem, Gloucester
22	120	[720] <b>600</b>	Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland
Total	[4,875] <b>5,165</b>	[29,250] <b>25,825</b>	

\* Applied to each of the [six] **five** Turkey Hunting Permit hunting periods (A, B, C, D, E[, G]) in all areas enumerated in (a)1 through [6] **5** above.

(1) The Fall Turkey Hunting Season (Hunting Period N Permit Quotas) are as follows:

FALL TURKEY HUNTING SEASON PERMIT QUOTAS [2007-2011]

Turkey Hunting Area Number	Permit Quota**	Portions of Counties Involved
1	240	Sussex
2	315	Sussex, Warren
3	115	Sussex, Warren
4	240	Sussex, Warren, Morris
5	325	Sussex
[6]	[500]	[Sussex, Passaic, Bergen]
[7]	[500]	[Sussex, Morris, Passaic]
8	325	Warren, Hunterdon
9	220	Warren, Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset
[10]	[160]	[Essex, Middlesex, Morris, Somerset, Union, Bergen, Hudson, Passaic]
11	300	Middlesex, Mercer, Hunterdon, Somerset
20	[500] <b>750</b>	Cumberland, Salem, Gloucester, <b>Camden</b>
21	[100] <b>200</b>	Atlantic, Cumberland, Salem, Gloucester, <b>Camden</b>
<b>22</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland</b>
Total	[3,840] <b>3,130</b>	

\*\* Applied to the single Fall Turkey Hunting Period "N" in Turkey Hunting Areas [1-11, 20] **1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 8, 9, 11, 20, 21 and 22.**

(m) (No change.)

(n) Turkey Hunting Areas are as follows:

1.-13 (No change.)

14. Turkey Hunting Area No. 15: That portion of Atlantic, Burlington, Camden, [Salem] and Gloucester Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Routes 70 and 206 at Red Lion; then south along Route 206 to Hammonton; then south along Route 54 from Hammonton to its intersection with [Route 40 at Buena]**the Atlantic City Expressway**; then west along [Route 40]**the Atlantic City Expressway** to its intersection with Route [77]**42** [at Upper Pittsgrove]; then north on Route [77]**42** to its intersection with [Route 45]**Interstate 76** [at Mullica Hill]; then north along [Route 45]**Interstate 76** to its intersection with [Route 322]**the Delaware River**[, then west along Route 322 to its intersection with the Delaware River]; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to its intersection with Route 30 at Camden; then east along Route 30 to its intersection with Route 38; then east along Route 38 to its intersection with Route 70; then east along Route 70 to the point of beginning.

15. (No change.)

16. Turkey Hunting Area No. 20: That portion of Cumberland, Gloucester, **Camden**, and Salem Counties beginning at the intersection of **the** east bank of the Delaware River and [Route 322]**Interstate 76** [near Bridgeport]; then southeast on [Route 322]**Interstate 76** to its intersection with Route [45]**42** [near Mullica Hill]; then south on Route [45]**42** to its intersection with [Route 77]**the Atlantic City Expressway**; then south on [Route 77]**the Atlantic City Expressway** to its intersection with Route [40]**536**; then [east]**south** along Route [40]**536** to its intersection with Route [553]**322**; **then west along Route 322 to its intersection with Route 47; then south along Route 47 to its intersection with Route 40; then west along Route 40 to its intersection with Route 553**; then south along Route 553 to its intersection with Route 49; then west along Route 49 to Bridgeton and its intersection with the Cohansey River; then south along the west bank of the Cohansey River to its confluence with the Delaware River; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the point of beginning.

17. Turkey Hunting Area No. 21: That portion of Atlantic, Cumberland, Gloucester, **Camden** and Salem Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Routes 40 and 553; then east along Route 40 to **its intersection with Route 47; then north along Route 47 to its intersection with Route 322; then east along Route 322 to its intersection with Route 536; then north along Route 536 to its intersection with the Atlantic City Expressway; then south along the Atlantic City Expressway to its intersection with Route 54; then south on Route 54 to** Lincoln Ave. (Route 655), in Buena Vista; then southwest along Lincoln Ave. to its intersection with Route 55 in Vineland; then south along Route 55 to its intersection with Route 49; then west along Route 49 to the Maurice River; then south along the west bank of he Maurice River to its confluence with Delaware Bay; then west along the Delaware Bay shore to the Cohansey River; then north along the east bank of the Cohansey River to its intersection with Route

49 at Bridgeton; then east along Route 49 to its intersection with Route 553; then north along Route 553 to the point of beginning.

18. (No change.)

(o) A special youth spring turkey hunting day with shotgun or bow and arrow will be [Saturday, April 15, 2006; Saturday, April 14, 2007; Saturday, April 12, 2008; Saturday, April 11, 2009; and Saturday, April 17, 2010, inclusive] **the sixth Saturday before Memorial Day**. Youth hunters must possess a current and valid Youth Hunting License and a valid permit for the hunting area. Youth hunters, 10 to 16 years of age, who qualify to hunt as provided for in (i) above must have a valid permit for the farm designated on the application. All youth hunters must be under the direct supervision of a non-hunting adult (21 years or older), who must possess a proper and valid firearm license if the youth is hunting with a shotgun; or a proper and valid bow and arrow license if the youth hunter is hunting with a bow and arrow. Direct supervision means the youth hunter and the supervising adult are set up together at the same location and hunting as a unit. The youth hunter may not hunt independently of the supervising adult. All other hunting requirements for the regular Spring Wild Turkey Gobbler Season shall apply.

**7:25-5.8. Mink (*Mustela vison*) muskrat (*Ondatra zibethicus*) and nutria (*Myocaster coypus*) trapping only**

(a) (No change.)

(b) The [duration of the] **annual** mink, muskrat and nutria-trapping season is as follows:

1. Northern Zone: 6:00 A.M. on November 15[, 2005] through [March 15, 2006, November 15, 2006-March 15, 2007; November 15, 2007-March 15, 2008; November 15, 2008-March 15, 2009; and, November 15, 2009-] **the following** March 15, [2010] inclusive, except on State Fish and Wildlife Management Areas, enumerated in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.33(a)2.

2. Southern Zone: 6:00 A.M. on December 1[, 2005] through [March 15, 2006, December 1, 2006-March 15, 2007; December 1, 2007-March 15, 2008; December 1, 2008-March 15, 2009; and December 1, 2009-] **the following** March 15[, 2010], inclusive, except on State Fish and Wildlife Management Areas, enumerated in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.33(a)2.

3. (No change.)

4. On State Fish and Wildlife Management Areas, enumerated in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.33(a)2, the season duration will be: 6:00 A.M. on January 1-March 15[, 2006; January 1-March 15, 2007; January 1-March 15, 2008; January 1-March 15, 2009; and, January 1-March 15, 2010], inclusive.

(c)-(e) (No change.)

**7:25-5.9 Beaver (*Castor canadensis*) trapping**

(a) (No change.)

(b) [The duration of the trapping season for beaver shall be December 26, 2005--February 9, 2006; December 26, 2006--February 9, 2007; December 26, 2007--February

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9, 2008; December 26, 2008--February 9, 2009; and, December 26, 2009--February 9, 2010] **The annual beaver trapping season shall begin December 26 and conclude the following February 9**, inclusive, except on State Fish and Wildlife Management Areas enumerated in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.33(a)2. On State Fish and Wildlife Management Areas enumerated in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.33(a)2 the trapping season for beaver shall be January 1--February 9[, 2006; January 1--February 9, 2007; January 1--February 9, 2008; January 1--February 9, 2009; and January 1--February 9, 2010], inclusive. If the anticipated harvest of beaver has not been accomplished during this season, up to 14 additional days may be authorized by the Director.

(c) Special Permit: A special permit obtained from the Division of Fish and Wildlife shall be required to trap beaver. If the number of applications received exceeds the quotas listed, a random drawing will be held to determine permit holders. Application for special permits shall be made via the Division's ELS or, in the event of ELS operating difficulties, by providing the same information at ELS locations through such alternate system as may be designated by the Division during the period October 1-31, annually. Unclaimed beaver permits may be issued over-the-counter. Applicants may apply for only one beaver trapping permit and shall provide their Conservation ID Number, or name, age, address and any other information requested thereon. Successful applicants must trap with a valid, current trapping license. The [2006-2007, 2007-2008, 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011] annual Special Beaver Trapping Permit quota is as follows:

#### ANNUAL SPECIAL BEAVER PERMIT QUOTAS

Beaver Management Zone Number*	Annual Permit Quota	Portions of Counties Involved
1	8	Sussex
2	16	Sussex
3	9	Bergen, Morris, Passaic, Sussex
4	7	Sussex, Warren
5	12	Sussex, Warren
6	20	Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Warren
7	9	Essex, Morris, Passaic
8	8	Ocean
9	7	Burlington, Ocean
10	8	Atlantic, Burlington, Camden
11	6	Atlantic, Burlington, Ocean
12	3	Atlantic, Camden, Gloucester
13	[10]8	Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland
14	2	Atlantic, Cumberland, Gloucester, Salem
15	2	Cumberland, Salem
16	6	Atlantic, Burlington
17	5	Atlantic
18	3	Atlantic, Cape May

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### ANNUAL SPECIAL BEAVER PERMIT QUOTAS

Beaver Management Zone Number*	Annual Permit Quota	Portions of Counties Involved
19	7	Hunterdon, Morris, Warren
20	3	Hunterdon, Morris
21	1	Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset
22	1	Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Union
23	1	Bergen, Hudson, Passaic
24	3	Hunterdon, Mercer, Somerset
25	5	Burlington, Mercer, Middlesex, Somerset
26	[1]3	Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth
27	1	Monmouth, Ocean
28	8	Burlington, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth
29	8	Burlington, Camden, Gloucester
30	6	Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, Salem
Total	186	

\* Beaver and otter management zones are described in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.10(h)1 through 30.

(d) – (i) (No change.)

#### 7:25-5.10 River otter (*Lutra canadensis*) trapping

(a) Otter may only be taken under special permit by means of a trap approved by the Division of Fish and Wildlife.

(b) [The duration of the trapping season for otter shall be December 26, 2005--February 9, 2006; December 26, 2006 --February 9, 2007; December 26, 2007--February 9, 2008; December 26, 2008--February 9, 2009; and, December 26, 2009--February 9, 2010] **The annual river otter trapping season shall begin December 26 and conclude the following February 9**, inclusive, except on State Fish and Wildlife Management Areas enumerated in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.33(a)2. On State Wildlife Management Areas enumerated in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.33(a)2 the trapping season for otter shall be January 1--February 9, [2006; January 1--February 9, 2007; January 1--February 9, 2008; January 1--February 9, 2009; and January 1--February 9, 2010] **inclusive**. If the anticipated harvest of otter has not been accomplished, up to 14 additional days may be authorized by the Director.

(c)-(i) (No change.)

#### 7:25-5.11. Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), gray fox (*Urocyon*

**cinereoargenteus), Virginia opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), striped skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*), long-tailed weasel (*Mustela frenata*), short-tailed weasel (*Mustela erminea*), fisher (*Martes pennanti*) and coyote (*Canis latrans*) trapping only**

(a) (No change.)

(b) [The duration of the regular raccoon, red fox, gray fox, Virginia opossum, striped skunk, long-tailed weasel, short-tailed weasel and coyote trapping season is 6:00 A.M. on November 15, 2005 to March 15, 2006, November 15, 2006-March 15, 2007; November 15, 2007 - March 15, 2008; November 15, 2008 - March 15, 2009; November 15, 2009 - March 15, 2010; and November 15, 2010 - March 15 2011] **The annual raccoon, red fox, gray fox, Virginia opossum, striped skunk, long-tailed weasel, short-tailed weasel and coyote trapping season shall begin 6:00 A.M. on November 15 and conclude the following March 15**, inclusive, except on State Fish and Wildlife Management Areas, enumerated in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.33(a)2. **There is no open season for fisher.**

(c) [The duration for trapping on State Fish and Wildlife Management Areas, enumerated in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.33(a)2, is 6:00 A.M. on January 1-March 15, 2006; January 1 - March 15, 2007; January 1 - March 15, 2008; January 1 - March 15, 2009; and, January 1 - March 15, 2010, inclusive.] **The annual raccoon, red fox, gray fox, Virginia opossum, striped skunk, long-tailed weasel, short-tailed weasel and coyote trapping season on State Fish and Wildlife Management Areas specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.33(a)2 shall begin at 6:00 A.M. on January 1 and conclude March 15, inclusive. There is no open season for fisher.**

(d) Special Permits: The Division in its discretion may issue a special permit for trapping of raccoon, **red fox, gray fox, coyote** and opossum.

(e)-(h) (No change.)

### **7:25-5.13 Migratory birds**

(a) Should any open season on migratory game birds, including waterfowl, [be] set by Federal regulation [which would] include **the** opening day of the [regular small game] **pheasant** season (**see N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.2(d)**), [including November 12, 2005, November 11, 2006, November 10, 2007, November 8, 2008, November 7, 2009 and November 13, 2010.] the starting time **for hunting of the migratory game bird season** on such date will be 8:00 A.M. to coincide with the opening of the [small game] **pheasant** season on that date. However, this shall not preclude the hunting of migratory game birds, including waterfowl, on the tidal marshes of the State as regularly prescribed throughout the season by Federal regulations.

(b) (No change.)

(c) A person shall not take, attempt to take, hunt for or have in possession, any migratory game birds, including waterfowl, except at the time and in the manner prescribed in the Code of Federal Regulations by the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, for the current hunting season or during the period that a U.S. Department of Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Conservation Order or Managed Take Option is in effect. **During the period that any Federal Conservation Order or Managed Take Option for Canada geese is in effect, the take of Canada**



**geese will be limited to private, agricultural lands during August 1-31. For the purposes of this section, agricultural lands means an area of five acres or more, producing a gross income in excess of \$500.00 and tax assessed as farmland. Any Federal Conservation Order or Managed Take Option for Canada geese would be implemented only after the Division requests, and is granted authority from, the U.S. Department of the Interior. Farmers or other individuals participating in any Federal Conservation Order or Managed Take Option for Canada geese shall obtain a permit from the Division of Fish and Wildlife.**

The species of migratory game birds, including waterfowl, that may be taken or possessed and, unless otherwise provided, the daily bag limits shall be the same as those prescribed by the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the current hunting season or during the period that a Conservation Order or Managed Take Option is in effect. [Effective September 1, 1998,] [a] Anyone engaged in hunting migratory birds including waterfowl, woodcock, mourning doves, rails and gallinules must comply with the rules of the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) as specified in 50 C.F.R. § 20.20 Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program; Final Rule, incorporated herein by reference, wherein licensed hunters are required to supply their names, addresses, and migratory bird harvest information to the hunting license authority of the state in which they hunt. Hunters are required to have evidence of participation in the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program on their person while hunting migratory game birds. Evidence of participation shall include a HIP certification on his or her valid hunting license. The HIP certification shall be obtained via the Division's ELS.

(d)-(k) (No change.)

(l) A person shall not take or attempt to take migratory game birds:

1. – 10. (No change.)

11. Before 8:00 A.M. on **the opening day of the pheasant season (see N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.2(d))** [November 12, 2005, November 11, 2006, November 10, 2007, November 8, 2008, November 7, 2009 and November 13, 2010]. However, this shall not preclude the hunting of migratory game birds on tidal waters or tidal marshes of the State;

12.-19. (No change.)

(m) Seasons and bag limits are as follows:

1. Mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*) **and king rail (*Rallus elegans*)** are protected. There is a closed season for mourning dove **and king rail.**

2. The duration of the season and bag limits for hunting clapper rail (*Rallus longirostris*), Virginia rail (*Rallus limicola*), sora rail (*Porzana carolina*), common gallinule or moorhen (*Gallinula chloropus*) and woodcock ([*Philohela*] **Scolopax** minor) are as prescribed by the Code of Federal Regulations by the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the current hunting season.

(n) Woodcock zones and hunting hours are as follows:

1. North Zone: That portion of the State situated north of Route 70 from Point Pleasant west to Camden.

2. South Zone: That portion of the State situated south of Route 70 from Point Pleasant west to Camden.

3. Hunting hours for woodcock are sunrise to sunset except on [November 12, 2005, November 11, 2006, November 10, 2007, November 8, 2008, November 7, 2009, and November 13, 2010] **the opening day of pheasant season, as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.2(d)**, when the hunting hours are 8:00 A.M. to sunset.

(o)-(r) (No change.)

#### **7:25-5.15. Crow (*Corvus* spp.)**

(a) Duration for the season for hunting the crow shall be Monday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday from **the second Monday in August through the third Saturday in March** [8, 2005 through March 18, 2006; August 14, 2006 through March 17, 2007; August 13, 2007 through March 15, 2008; August 11, 2008 through March 21, 2009; August 10, 2009 through March 20, 2010; and August 10, 2010 - March 19, 2011] or as otherwise prescribed by the Code of Federal Regulations by the U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the current hunting season inclusive, except closed during the six-day firearm deer season, **as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a)**. [on December 5-10, 2005, December 4 - 9, 2006; December 3 - 8, 2007; December 8 - 13, 2008; December 7 - 12, 2009; December 6 - 11, 2010; and December 5 - 10, 2011].

(b) (No change.)

(c) The hours for hunting crows shall be sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset, except on [November 12, 2005; November 11, 2006; November 10, 2007; November 8, 2008; November 7, 2009; November 13, 2010; and November 12, 2011] **opening day of pheasant season, as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.2(d)**, when the hours are 8:00 A.M. to 1/2 hour after sunset.

(d) (No change.)

#### **7:25-5.18 Woodchuck (*Marmota monax*) hunting**

(a) Duration for the hunting of woodchucks with a rifle including a muzzleloading rifle is [March 1 through September 28, 2005; March 1 through September 27, 2006; March 1 through September 26, 2007; March 1 through October 1, 2008; March 2 through September 30, 2009; March 1 through September 29, 2010; and March 1 through September 28, 2011.] **shall begin on March 1 (except in years when March 1 is a Sunday in which case the season shall begin on March 2) and conclude on the Wednesday before the opening of the fall bow and arrow deer season specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.25(a)1, inclusive.** Licensed hunters may also take woodchuck with shotgun or long bow and arrow or by means of falconry during the regular woodchuck rifle season and during the upland game season established in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.3, 5.4 and 5.5.

(b)-(f) (No change.)

**7:25-5.19 Red fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), gray fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*) and coyote (*Canis latrans*) hunting**

(a) The duration of the red fox, gray fox, and coyote hunting season is as follows:

1. Bow and Arrow Only: [October 1--November 11, 2005; September 30--November 10, 2006; September 29--November 9, 2007; October 4--November 7, 2008; October 3--November 6, 2009; and October 2--November 12, 2010.] **Begins on the opening day of the white-tailed deer fall bow season, as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.25(a)1, and concludes the Friday following the first Monday in November, inclusive.**

2. Firearm or Bow and Arrow: [November 12, 2005--February 20, 2006; November 11, 2006--February 19, 2007; November 10, 2007--February 18, 2008; November 8, 2008--February 16, 2009; November 7, 2009--February 15, 2010; and November 13, 2010--February 21, 2011] **Beginning on the Saturday following the first Monday in November and concluding the third Monday of the following February, inclusive.**

(b)-(d) (No change.)

(e) The duration of the special eastern coyote, red fox and gray fox hunting season is January **1 (except in years when January 1 is a Sunday in which case the season will begin January 2) through March 15, inclusive** [16--February 20, 2006; January 15--February 19, 2007; January 14--February 18, 2008; January 19--February 16, 2009; January 18--February 15, 2010; and January 17--February 21, 2011,] and it is open Statewide.

(f) The hours for the hunting of coyote, red fox and gray fox during the special eastern coyote, red fox and gray fox hunting season listed in (e) above are 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset. The hours for the hunting of coyote during the special coyote season as noted in (h) and (i) below which allows coyote hunting at night are 1/2 hour after sunset to 1/2 hour before sunrise with 10 or 12 gauge shotguns only.

(g) [The] **There is no** [daily] bag limit for coyote [hunting is two].

(h)-(k) (No change.)

**7:25-5.20. Dogs**

(a) A person shall not exercise or train dogs on State Fish and Wildlife Management Areas May 1 to August 31, inclusive, except on portions [or] **of** various wildlife management areas designated as dog training areas, and there shall be no exercising or training of dogs on any Wildlife Management Area on **the Friday following the first Monday in November,** the day preceding the opening of the regular small game season, enumerated in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.3(a) [including: November 11, 2005; November 10, 2006; November 9, 2007; November 7, 2008; November 6, 2009; and November 12, 2010].

(b)-(c) (No change.)

**7:25-5.22 Wild animals; possession, killing**

(a) No person shall have in possession, kill, attempt to take, hunt for, pursue, shoot, shoot at, trap, or attempt to trap any wild mammal or wild birds unless an open season for the taking of such birds or mammals has been declared by the New Jersey Fish and Game Laws or Code and then only during the respective open seasons fixed by the New Jersey Fish and Game Laws or Code, except as provided in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.15(a), (b) and (c).

**1. No person shall administer or attempt to administer any chemical or biological substance, including, but not limited to, drugs, pesticides, vaccines, disease prevention or treatment, immobilization drug, or growth stimulant, nor make any alterations or affix any device to any free-ranging vertebrate wildlife without first obtaining a permit approved by the Director in consultation with the Fish and Game Council, and issued by the Division. The possession of such unauthorized materials or devices in the field shall be considered the attempt to take wildlife contrary to the provisions of this code. Prior to the submission of an application, applicants must first obtain any necessary Federal permits. Each permit applicant must provide a written proposal describing the procedure, the credentials of the person(s) who will administer the substance or device, the purpose or intent of the procedure and an assessment of environmental impacts. The Division in cooperation with the Department of Animal Science, Cook College – Rutgers University and other scientists who may be selected by the Division will review each application and determine whether or not a permit is granted based on the overall justification and need for conducting such procedures, the qualifications of the person(s) administering the procedure and the anticipated environmental impacts affecting both wildlife and humans and the probability of success in achieving the intent listed in the application. The permit shall identify the time, place and methodology to be utilized and any special conditions established by the Council. This subsection does not apply to those substances or devices used in order to control species of the genera *Mus*, *Peromyscus* or *Rattus* in or around buildings; or to those species possessed under a permit defined under N.J.A.C. 7:25-4, or N.J.A.C. 7:25-10.**

(b)-(h) (No change.)

#### **7:25-5.23. Firearms and missiles, etc.**

(a)-(d) (No change.)

(e) Within the areas described as portions of Passaic, Mercer, Hunterdon, Warren, Morris and Sussex Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 513 and the New York State line; then south along Rt. 513 to its intersection with Rt. 511; then south along Rt. 511 to its intersection with Rt. 46; then west along Rt. 46 to its intersection with Rt. 80; then west along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 15; then north along Rt. 15 to its intersection with the Morris-Sussex County line; then south along the Morris-Sussex County line to the Warren County line; then southwest along the Morris-Warren County line to the Hunterdon County line; then southeast along the Morris-Hunterdon County line to the Somerset County line; then south along the Somerset-Hunterdon County line to its intersection with the Mercer County line; then west and south along the Hunterdon Mercer County line to its intersection with Rt. 31; then south along Rt. 31 to its intersection with Rt. 546; then west along Rt. 546 to the

Delaware River; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the New York State Line; then east along the New York State Line to the point of beginning at Lakeside; and in that portion of Salem, Gloucester, Camden, Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth, Ocean, Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 295 and the Delaware River; then east along Rt. 295 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then east along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 40; then east along Rt. 40 to its intersection with Rt. 47; then north along Rt. 47 to its intersection with Rt. 536; then east along Rt. 536 to its intersection with Rt. 206; then north along Rt. 206 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then northeast along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 571; then southeast along Rt. 571 to its intersection with the Garden State Parkway; then south along the Garden State Parkway to its intersection with Rt. 9 at Somers Point; then south along Rt. 9 to its intersection with Rt. 83; then west along Rt. 83 to its intersection with Rt. 47; then north along Rt. 47 to its intersection with Dennis Creek; then south along the west bank of Dennis Creek to its intersection with Delaware Bay; then northwest along the east shore of Delaware Bay and the Delaware River to the point of beginning; persons holding a valid and proper rifle permit in addition to their current firearm hunting license may hunt for squirrels between [September 24 - November 11, 2005 and January 7 - February 20, 2006; September 30 - November 10, 2006 and January 6 - February 19, 2007; September 29 - November 9, 2007 and January 5 - February 18, 2008; September 27 - November 7, 2008 and January 10 - February 16, 2009; September 26 - November 6, 2009 and January 9 - February 15, 2010; and September 25 - November 12, 2010 and January 8 - February 21, 2011] **the last Saturday in September and the Friday following the first Monday in November, inclusive; and, between the first Saturday in January and the third Monday in February, inclusive,** using a .36 caliber or smaller muzzleloading rifle loaded with a single projectile.

(f)-(v) (No change.)

#### **7:25-5.24 Bow and arrow, general provisions**

(a) A bow means longbow, recurved bow, [or] compound bow, **or crossbow.**[that is hand held and hand drawn and that has no mechanical devices built into or attached to, that will enable the archer to lock the bow at full or partial draw.] **A crossbow means a device capable of propelling an arrow by means of traverse limbs and a string, mounted on a stock of at least 25 inches in length, and having a working safety. Cocking levers and other devices may be used on crossbows.** [Except as provided in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.24(e) all draw locking and draw holding devices are prohibited and all crossbows or variations thereof are prohibited.] Hand-held releasing devices are permitted.

(b) No person shall use a bow and arrow for deer hunting[,] during the [six-day firearm,] permit muzzleloader or permit shotgun seasons. Nothing in this section shall preclude a properly licensed person from hunting with a bow and arrow when other seasons run concurrent and in the same deer management zones as the six-day firearm, permit muzzleloader or permit shotgun seasons or on any additional days if declared open. **A bow and arrow may be used to harvest antlered deer during the six-day**

**firearm season only if the hunter has a current and valid firearm license in addition to a current and valid archery license, or a current and valid all-around license. If an antlered deer is harvested with a bow and arrow during the six-day firearm season, the antlered transportation tag for the six-day firearm season from a firearm or all-around license must be used.** Bow and arrow hunting is not permitted between 1/2 hour after sunset and 1/2 hour before sunrise during other seasons. Deer shall not be hunted for or taken on Sunday except on wholly enclosed preserves that are properly licensed for the propagation thereof.

(c) During the seasons for taking deer, coyote, woodchuck or turkey with bow and arrow (as listed elsewhere in this subchapter), all arrows used for taking deer, coyote, woodchuck or turkey must be fitted with an edged head of the following specifications:  
1. – 3. (No change.)

4. Arrows fitted with heads other than specified in (c)1 through 3 above may be carried in the woods and fields during the Upland Game Season or other seasons which overlap with the Bow and Arrow Deer Season, in addition to arrows specified for deer. It is unlawful to hunt with any device propelled by any means that is used for the purpose of injecting or delivering any type of drug into an animal. **Whenever a crossbow is in or upon a motor vehicle, it shall be uncocked.**

5. [Except as noted in (c)6 below, a] **All** bows, except compounds **and crossbows**, must have a minimum draw pull weight of 35 pounds at the archers draw length. Compound bows must have a minimum peak weight of 35 pounds. **Crossbows must have a minimum draw pull weight of 75 pounds.**

(d) (No change.)

(e) [The Division may issue a Special Bow Use Permit to certain physically handicapped individuals which would allow these individuals as specified below in this subsection to hunt with a longbow, recurved bow or compound bow that has been modified such that it has a mechanical device built into or attached to, that will enable the archer to draw and lock the bow at full or partial draw. Crossbows are permitted under a Special Use Bow Permit. Special Bow Use Permit applications will require certification and testing by a physician licensed to practice medicine and be subject to Division review and ratification. For the purposes of this permit, a handicapped individual is defined as one who is incapable of using a bow due to a permanent disability resulting from the loss of, or loss of use of, one or both arms as a result of birth defects, injury or disease. Permittees are subject to all applicable Fish and Game laws and regulations. Violation of any Fish and Wildlife law or regulation may result in the revocation of any special permit issued by the Division.] **Reserved.**

(f) (No change.)

#### **7:25-5.25 White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) fall bow season**

(a) Duration of the fall bow season is as specified in (a)1 through 2 below. Legal hunting hours shall be 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

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1. [September 30, 2006-October 27, 2006; September 29, 2007-October 26, 2007; October 4, 2008-October 31, 2008; October 3, 2009-October 30, 2009; October 2, 2010-October 29, 2010; and October 1, 2011-October 28, 2011 in Zones 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 37, 39, 43, 45, 46, 54, 55 and 65.] **Opening the fourth Saturday prior to the last Friday in October through the last Friday in October, in zones in Regulation Sets 0, 1, 2, and 3; and in Zones 37, 39 and 54.**

2. [September 9, 2006-October 27, 2006; September 8, 2007-October 26, 2007; September 13, 2008-October 31, 2008; September 12, 2009-October 30, 2009; September 11, 2010-October 29, 2010; and September 10, 2011-October 28, 2011 in Zones 2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 40-42, 47-51, 53, 63, 66, and 68.] **Opening the second Saturday in September through the last Friday in October, in zones in Regulations Sets 4, 6, 8, and 9; and in Zones 40, 53, 66 and 68.**

3. A special youth deer hunting day with bow and arrow will be held on [Saturday, September 24, 2005; Saturday, September 23, 2006; Saturday, September 22, 2007; Saturday, September 27, 2008; Saturday, September 26, 2009; and Saturday, September 25, 2010.] **the Saturday prior to the opening day of the fall bow season as specified in (a)1 above.** The season will be open in all zones that are open for the fall bow season. Youth hunters must possess a current and valid youth bow license or be less than 16 years of age on the season date and qualified to hunt without a license under the farmer license exemption. All youth hunters must be under the direct supervision of a non-hunting adult (21 years of age or older), who must possess a proper and valid bow license. Direct supervision means the youth hunter and the supervising adult are together at the same location. The youth hunter may not hunt independently of the supervising adult. Any bow and edged arrowhead approved for deer hunting may be used. Legal hunting hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset EST. All other hunting requirements for the fall bow season shall apply, except as noted in (b)3 below.

(b) Bag Limit: Only one antlered deer may be taken Statewide during the fall bow season. [Hunters taking an antlered buck in accordance with the provisions set forth in this section must have a "Fall Bow Only Antlered Buck Stub" from their bow and arrow or all around sportsman license which is designated for use during the fall bow season. Beginning in 2007, **h**]Hunters must use an antlered deer transportation tag from their bow and arrow or all around sportsman license, which is designated for use during the fall bow season, when registering an antlered deer. The standard bag limit is two deer, either one antlered and one antlerless or two antlerless in [Zones: 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 43, 45, 46, 55, and 65.] **zones in Regulation Sets 1, 2, or 3.** In [Zones: 2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 37, 39-42, 47-51, 53, 54, 63, and 66,] **zones in Regulation Sets 4, 6, 8, and 9 and zones 37, 39, 40, 53, 54, and 68,** the bag limit is one antlered deer and an unlimited number of antlerless deer. **In zones in Regulation set 0, the bag limit is one antlered and one antlerless deer.** [Beginning in 2007 in Zones 2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 37, 39-42, 47-51, 53, 54, 63, 66 and 68, the bag limit is one antlered deer and an unlimited number of antlerless deer. In Zones 7-15, 36, 40, 41, 49, 50 and 51, Earn-A-Buck regulations are in effect throughout the 2006 season. In Zones 2, 5, 16, 17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 42, 47, 48, 53, and 63, an antlerless deer must be taken before an antlered deer from September 9-29, 2006. Beginning in 2007] **I**[i]n Zones [2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 40, 41, 42, 47-51, 53, 63 and 68,] **in Regulation Sets 4, 6, 8 and 9 and in**

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**Zones 53, and 68** an antlerless deer must be taken before an antlered deer from [September 8-28, 2007; September 13-October 3, 2008; September 12-October 2, 2009; September 11-October 1, 2010; and September 10-30, 2011] **the first Saturday in September through the fourth Saturday prior to the last Friday in October. All deer must be legally registered either at a deer check station or via the automated deer check system.** Properly licensed hunters who harvest their first **antlerless** deer during the bow season subject to the provisions of this section will be given a "New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag" (supplemental tag), upon registration of their deer at a designated deer check station, **or will be assigned a registration number via an automated deer check system as designated by the Division.** This tag **or registration number** will be valid for the taking of [one] additional **antlerless** deer, **as applicable by zone bag limit specified above** [either an antlered or antlerless deer, if the first deer was antlerless; or, an antlerless deer, if the first deer was antlered]. **No supplemental tags will be issued for antlered deer.** The supplemental tag may be used in any zone that is open for the season subject to the limitations of this section. Properly licensed hunters that harvest a second deer may obtain a "New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag" upon registration of their second deer at a designated check station. Supplemental tags for the taking of a third or subsequent deer are valid only in zones that have a bag limit of an unlimited number of antlerless deer listed above. After taking a second deer in any zone, hunters may not hunt deer during the fall bow season in the [following Zones: 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 43, 45, 46, 55 and 65] **zones in Regulation Sets 0, 1, 2, or 3.** One additional supplemental tag, valid only in zones with an unlimited antlerless deer bag limit, will be issued upon registration of each subsequent deer until the season concludes. [After harvesting the season limit of one antlered deer, supplemental deer tags will only be valid for taking antlerless deer.] All supplemental tags are valid on the date of issuance in all zones that are open for this season. Deer shall be tagged immediately with completely filled in "transportation tag" and shall be transported to a deer checking station before 8:00 P.M. D.S.T. or E.S.T., whichever is in effect, on the day killed to secure a legal possession tag. The legal possession tag must be securely affixed or locked on the deer before the deer is transported or removed from the authorized deer checking station. Hunters are responsible for legal possession tags being securely affixed or locked before leaving the deer check station. The supplemental tag shall be valid on the day of issuance and all registration requirements apply. [In addition, hunters taking an antlered buck must immediately detach, date and initial the current year "Fall Bow Only Antlered Buck Stub" from their bow and arrow or all around sportsman license, and surrender the stub with the transportation tag at the checking station. The buck stub requirement is discontinued beginning in 2007.] **If the deer check station system is no longer in use, then deer shall be tagged immediately with completely filled in "transportation tag" and shall be registered via an automated deer checking system, as designated by the Division, in lieu of a deer check station prior to the attempt to take an additional deer, and no later than midnight of the day of harvest. Hunters must record the registration number given via this system, which replaces the legal possession tag. If an automated deer check system is implemented, notice will be published in the New Jersey Register, on the Division's website and in the Hunting Digest which summarizes hunting season dates and regulations.**



1. The possession of a deer after 8:00 P.M. on the date killed without a legal possession tag shall be deemed illegal possession **under the deer check station system. Possession of a deer after midnight on the date killed without a legal registration number shall be deemed illegal under the ADCS.** Any legally killed deer which is recovered too late to be brought to the deer check station by closing time must be immediately reported by telephone to the nearest Division of Fish and Wildlife law enforcement regional headquarters. Said deer must be brought to a checking station on the next open day to receive a legal "possession tag." If the season has concluded, said deer must be taken to a regular deer checking station on the following weekday to receive a legal possession tag. It is unlawful to attempt to take or continue to hunt for more than the number of deer permitted.

2. In Zones 3, [6,] 9, 13, 27, 29, 35, 37, 40, and 63, it shall be illegal to kill, take or attempt to take any antlered deer which does not have a minimum of three antler points on one side. [Beginning in 2007, it shall be legal to kill, take or attempt to take an antlered deer with less than three antler points on one side in Zone 6.]

3. (No change.)

(c) This season shall be open only to holders of a valid and current bow and arrow hunting license or all around sportsman license that contains an attached fall bow and arrow deer "transportation tag" or a proper and valid supplemental tag. If the anticipated harvest of deer has not been accomplished during this season, additional days of bow and arrow deer hunting may be authorized by the Director. Such authorization and dates thereof shall be announced by press and radio. [Handicapped individuals hunting with a modified bow must have a valid Special Bow Use Permit on their person while hunting in addition to a valid Bow and Arrow Hunting License.]

(d) (No change.)

#### **7:25-5.26 White-tailed deer winter bow season**

(a) Duration of the winter bow season is from [January 1-31, 2007, January 1-31, 2008, January 1-31, 2009, January 1-30, 2010, January 1-31, 2011, and January 2-31, 2012 in Zones 1-6, 16-19, 21-31, 34, 35, 39, 40, 42, 43, 45-48, 53, 54, 55, 63, 65, 66, and 68.] **Duration of the winter bow season is from January 1 through January 31 in zones in Regulation Sets 0, 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6; and in Zones 39, 40, 53, 54, 66, 67 and 68.** Duration of the season is: [January 1-February 17, 2007, January 1-February 16, 2008, January 1-February 21, 2009, January 1-February 20, 2010, January 1-February 19, 2011, and January 2-February 18, 2012 in Zones 7-15, 36, 37, 41, 49, 50, 51 and 64, except closed January 1 (New Years Day) in Zone 37.] **January 1 through the third Saturday in February, in zones in Regulation Sets 8 and 9; and in Zones 37 and 64, except closed January 1 in Zone 37.**

Legal hunting hours shall be 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

(b) Bag Limit: Only one antlered deer may be taken Statewide during the winter bow season where the season is open. [Beginning in 2007,] **[h] Hunters** must use the antlered buck transportation tag from their bow and arrow or all around sportsman license, which is designated for use during the winter bow season, when registering an

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antlered deer. The standard bag limit is two deer, one antlered and one antlerless, or two antlerless in [Zones 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 43, 45, 46, 53, 55 and 65] **zones in Regulation Sets 1, 2, and 3, and Zone 53.** In [Zones 2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 37, 39-42, 47-51, 54, 63, 64, 66 and 68] **zones in Regulation Sets 4, 6, 8, and 9, and in Zones 37, 39, 40 64, 66, and 68,** the bag limit is one antlered deer and an unlimited number of antlerless deer. **In zones in Regulation Set 0, the bag limit is one antlered deer and one antlerless deer. All deer must be legally registered either at a deer check station or via the automated deer check system.** Properly licensed hunters who take their first deer during the winter bow season will be given a "New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag" (supplemental tag), upon registration of their first deer at a designated deer check station if that deer is antlerless only. This tag will be valid for the taking of one additional antlerless deer. No supplemental tags will be issued for antlered deer. The supplemental tag may be used in any zone that is open for the winter bow season subject to the limitations of this section. Properly licensed hunters that take a second antlerless deer may obtain a "New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag" upon registration of their second antlerless deer at a designated check station. Supplemental tags for the taking of a third and subsequent antlerless deer will only be valid in the zones listed above having an unlimited bag limit for antlerless deer. After taking a second deer in any zone, hunters may not hunt deer during the winter bow season in the [following Zones: 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 43, 45, 46, 53, 55 and 65] **zones in Regulation Sets 0, 1, 2, and 3.** One additional supplemental tag, valid only in zones with an unlimited antlerless deer bag limit, will be issued upon registration of each subsequent deer **at a designated check station** until the season concludes. Supplemental tags and antlerless transportation tags attached to the regular license are only valid for taking antlerless deer. All supplemental tags are valid on the date of issuance in all zones that are open for the winter bow season. **For deer harvested when the deer check station system is in use,** [U]pon harvesting a deer, hunters must immediately detach, completely fill out and attach the "transportation tag" to the deer, and then take the deer to a deer checking station before 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on the day killed to secure a legal possession tag. The legal possession tag must be securely affixed or locked on the deer before the deer is transported or removed from the authorized deer checking station. Hunters are responsible for legal possession tags being securely affixed or locked before leaving the deer check station. **For deer harvested when the deer check station system is no longer in use, upon harvesting a deer, hunters must immediately detach, completely fill out and attach the "transportation tag" to the deer and must register their deer via an ADCS, as designated by the Division, in lieu of a deer check station, prior to the attempt to take an additional deer and no later than midnight of the day of harvest. Hunters must record the registration number given via this system, which replaces the legal possession tag. If an automated deer checking system is implemented, notice will be published in the New Jersey Register, on the Division's website and in the Hunting Digest.**

1. The possession of a deer after 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on the date killed without a legal possession tag shall be deemed illegal possession **under the deer check station system. Possession of a deer after midnight on the date killed without a legal registration number shall be deemed illegal possession under the ADCS.** Any legally killed deer which is recovered too late to be brought to the deer check station by closing time must

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be immediately reported by telephone to the nearest Division of Fish and Wildlife law enforcement regional headquarters. Said deer must be brought to a checking station on the next open day to receive a legal "possession tag." If the season has concluded, said deer must be taken to a regular deer checking station on the following weekday to receive a legal possession tag. It is unlawful to attempt to take or continue to hunt for more than the number of deer permitted.

2. In Zones 3, 9, 13, 27, 29, 35, 37, 40, and 63, it shall be illegal to kill, take or attempt to take any antlered deer which does not have a minimum of three antler points on one side. [Beginning in January 2008, Zone 6 will no longer have Antler Point Restrictions.]

(c) This season will be open only to holders of a valid and current bow and arrow hunting license or all around sportsman license which contains an attached winter bow season "transportation tag" or a proper and valid supplemental tag. If the anticipated harvest of deer has not been accomplished during this season, additional days of special winter bow and arrow deer hunting may be authorized by the Director. Such authorization and dates thereof shall be announced by press and radio. [Handicapped individuals hunting with a modified bow must have a valid Special Bow Use Permit on their person while hunting in addition to a valid Bow and Arrow Hunting License.]

(d) (No change.)

#### **7:25-5.27 White-tailed deer six-day firearm season**

(a) Duration for this season will be [December 5--10, 2005, December 4--9, 2006, December 3--8, 2007, December 8--13, 2008, December 7--12, 2009, and December 6--11, 2010] **the second Monday after Thanksgiving through the following Saturday, inclusive with shotgun, [or] muzzleloader rifle, or bow and arrow, exclusively. Bow and arrow hunters participating in the six-day firearm season must possess a current and valid firearm license in addition to a current and valid archery license, or an all-around license; deer taken during this season will be tagged with the six-day transportation tag from either the firearm or all-around license.**

1. A special youth deer hunting day with shotgun or muzzleloader rifle will be held on [Saturday, November 19, 2005; Saturday, November 18, 2006; Saturday, November 17, 2007; Saturday, November 22, 2008; Saturday, November 21, 2009; and Saturday, November 20, 2010] **the second Saturday preceding the opening of the Permit Muzzleloader season, as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.28(d)2.** Youth hunters must possess a current and valid youth firearms license or be less than 16 years of age on the season date and qualified to hunt without a license under the farmer license exemption. Possession of a proper and valid rifle permit is also required if a muzzleloading rifle is used. All youth hunters must be under the direct supervision of a non-hunting adult (21 years of age or older), who must also possess a proper and valid firearm license and a rifle permit, if the youth hunter is using a muzzleloading rifle. Direct supervision means the youth hunter and the supervising adult are together at the same location. The youth hunter may not hunt independently of the supervising adult. Any firearm and ammunition approved for deer hunting may be used. Legal hunting hours are 1/2 hour before sunrise

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to 1/2 hour after sunset EST. All other hunting requirements for the six-day firearm season shall apply, except as noted in (b)3 below.

(b) Bag Limit: Two antlered deer, with one antler at least three inches long. **All deer must be legally registered either at a deer check station or via the automated deer check system. If an automated deer check system is implemented, notice will be published in the New Jersey Register, on the Division's website and in the Hunting Digest.** Deer shall be tagged immediately with the "transportation tag" appropriate for the season, completely filled in and shall be transported to a checking station before 7:00 P.M. on the day killed to secure a legal possession tag. The legal possession tag must be securely affixed or locked on the deer before the deer is transported or removed from the authorized deer checking station. Hunters are responsible for legal possession tags being securely affixed or locked before leaving the deer check station. The possession of a deer after 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on the date killed without a legal possession seal shall be deemed illegal possession **under the deer check station system. The possession of a deer after midnight on the date killed without a legal registration number shall be deemed illegal possession under the ADCS.** Upon completion of the registration of the first deer **at a deer check station**, one valid and proper "New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag" will be issued which will allow that person to continue hunting and take one additional deer with one antler at least three inches long during the current, six-day firearm season. The supplemental tag shall be valid on the day of issuance and all registration requirements apply. [In addition, hunters taking an antlered buck this season must immediately detach, date and initial the current year "Antlered Buck Stub--Six-Day Firearm Only" for their first buck; and "Antlered Buck Stub--Six-Day Firearm or Permit Shotgun Only" for their second buck from their firearm hunting or all around sportsman license, and surrender the stub with the transportation tag at the checking station.] **Deer shall be tagged immediately with the "transportation tag" appropriate for the season, completely filled in and shall be registered via an ADCS as designated by the Division, if the deer check station system is no longer in use, prior to the attempt to take an additional deer and no later than midnight of the day of harvest. Hunters must record the registration number given via the automated system, which replaces the legal possession tag.** Hunters who take two antlered deer during the six-day firearm season are prohibited from taking an antlered buck during the regular permit shotgun season. Any legally killed deer which is recovered too late to be brought to a check station by closing time shall be immediately reported by telephone to the nearest Division of Fish and Wildlife law enforcement regional headquarters. This deer must be brought to a checking station on the next open day to receive a legal "possession tag." If the season has concluded, this deer must be taken to a regular deer checking station on the following weekday to receive a legal "possession tag." It is unlawful to attempt to take or to continue to hunt for more than the number of deer permitted.

1. New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tags will be valid on the day of issuance in all zones **under the deer check station system.**

2. In Zones 3, [6,] 9, 13, 27, 29, 35, 37 and 63, it shall be illegal to kill, take or attempt to take any antlered deer which does not have a minimum of three antler points on one side. [Beginning in 2007, it shall be legal to kill, take or attempt to take an antlered deer with less than three antler points on one side in Zone 6.]

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3. (No change.)

(c) This season shall be open only to holders of a valid and current firearm hunting or all around sportsman license which contains an attached six-day firearm season transportation tag or a proper and valid supplemental tag. [In addition, hunters participating in the season must have a valid antlered buck stub attached to their firearm or all around sportsman license which is designated for use during the six-day firearm season.] If the anticipated harvest of deer has not been accomplished during this season, additional days of deer hunting may be authorized by the Director, with the approval of the Council. Such authorization and dates thereof shall be announced by press and radio.

(d) Hunting Hours: Legal hunting hours for the six-day firearm season shall be 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset with shotgun, [or] muzzleloader rifle, **or bow and arrow.**

(e)-(f) (No change.)

### **7:25-5.28 White-tailed deer muzzleloader rifle permit season**

(a)-(b) (No change.)

(c) Bag Limit: Only one antlered deer may be taken Statewide during the muzzleloader rifle permit season, regardless of the number of permits obtained. [Hunters taking an antlered buck in accordance with the provisions specified in this section must have an "Antlered Buck Stub" from their firearm or all around sportsman license from the calendar year in which the season begins which is designated for use during the "Permit Muzzleloader Only" season.] Two deer, one antlered and one antlerless or two antlerless may be taken in [Zones 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 37, 43, 45, 46, 53, 55 and 65] **zones in Regulation Sets 1, 2 and 3, and in Zone 37. Two deer, one antlered and one antlerless only may be taken in zones in Regulation Set 0.** One antlered and an unlimited number of antlerless deer may be taken in [Zones 2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 38-42, 47-51, 54, 57, 58, 61, 63, 66, 67, 68, and 70] **in zones in Regulation Sets 4, 6, 8 and 9, and in Zones 39, 40, 53, 57, 58, 66, 67, 68 and 70,** except as noted below and in (c)1 and 2 below. Only one deer may be taken at a time per permit until the season limit is reached except in [Zones 5, 7-15, 17, 19, 25, 36, 38-42, 48-51, 54, 57, 58, 66 and 68] **in zones in Regulation sets 6, 8 and 9, and in Zones 39, 40, 54, 57, 58, 66 and 68** where the limit is two deer at a time until the season concludes[. In Zones 2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 38-42, 47-51, 54, 57, 58, 61, 63, 66, 67, 68, and 70,] **In zones in regulation sets 4, 6, 8, 9, and in zones 53, 54, 57, 58, 61, 66, 67, 68, and 70** supplemental tags for the taking of a third and subsequent deer will be issued upon registration of deer at official deer checking stations until the season concludes. In [Zones 7-15, 36, 41, 49, 50, 51 and 58] **zones in Regulation Set 8, and in Zone 58,** only antlerless deer may be taken on applicable muzzleloader season permits during the [period of November 20-22 and 24 and December 4-9, 2006; November 28-30 and December 3-8, 2007; December 3-5 and December 8-13, 2008; December 2-4 and December 7-12, 2009; December 1-3 and December 6-11, 2010, and November 30-December 2 and December 5-10, 2011] **the Wednesday through Friday before the six-day firearm season, and the dates concurrent with the six-day firearm season as**

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**specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a).** In [Zones 5, 17, 19, 25, 42, 48, 57, and 68] **zones in Regulation Set 6 and in Zones 57 and 68,** only antlerless deer may be taken during [the periods of December 4-9, 2006; December 3-8, 2007; December 8-13, 2008; December 7-12, 2009; December 6-11, 2010; and December 5-10, 2011] **on the dates concurrent with the six-day firearm season, as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a).** **In zones in Regulation Set 9, only antlerless deer may be taken during the Monday through Wednesday and Friday of Thanksgiving week and the Wednesday through Friday before the six-day firearm season , and the dates concurrent with the six-day firearm season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a).** All supplemental tags are valid on the date of issuance and only in the zone for which the special season permit was. [All deer registration requirements apply.] **All deer must be legally registered either at a deer check station or via the automated deer check system. If an automated deer check system is implemented, notice will be published in the New Jersey Register, on the Division's webpage and in the Hunting Digest.** Deer shall be tagged immediately with the muzzleloader rifle permit season permit, transportation tag completely filled in, and shall be transported to a deer checking station before 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on the day killed to secure a legal possession tag. The legal possession tag must be securely affixed or locked before the deer is transported or removed from the authorized deer checking station. Hunters are responsible for legal possession tags being securely affixed or locked on the deer before leaving the deer check station. **Deer shall be tagged immediately with the muzzleloader rifle permit season permit, transportation tag completely filled in, and shall be registered via an ADCS, as designated by the Division, if the deer check station system is no longer in use, in lieu of a deer check station, prior to the attempt to take an additional deer, except as in (c) above and no later than midnight of the day of harvest. Hunters must record the registration number given via the ADCS, which replaces the legal possession tag.** [In addition, hunters taking an antlered buck must immediately detach, date and initial the "Antlered Buck Stub--Permit Muzzleloader Only" from their firearm or all around sportsman license from the calendar year in which the season began, and surrender the stub with the transportation tag at the checking station. In zones where the muzzleloader rifle permit season extends into January or February, the buck stub from the calendar year in which the season began shall be valid until the end of the season. Beginning in 2007, the "Antlered Buck Stub" requirement is discontinued. Beginning in 2007, h] **H**unters must use an antlered deer transportation tag from their [bonus] **antlered** muzzleloader permit which is designated for use during the permit muzzleloader season, when registering an antlered deer. The [bonus] **antlered** muzzleloader permit with antlered deer transportation tag which is valid only for the harvest of one antlered deer must be purchased in addition to an antlerless muzzleloader permit. The [bonus] **antlered** muzzleloader permit with antlered deer transportation tag may be used in any zone for which the hunter has already purchased an antlerless permit. The [bonus] **antlered** muzzleloader permit with antlered deer transportation tag must be purchased prior to the season opener or at the time of the purchase of the initial antlerless muzzleloader permit if the season has already begun. The possession of a deer after 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on the date killed without a legal possession seal shall be deemed illegal possession **under the deer check station system. The possession of a deer after midnight on the date killed without a legal registration number shall be deemed illegal possession under the ADCS.** Except as noted in (c)1

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through 3 below upon completion of registration of first deer, one valid and proper "New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag" (supplemental tag) will be issued **under the deer check station system** which will allow this person to continue hunting and take one additional antlerless deer during the current muzzleloader rifle permit season. The supplemental tag shall be valid on the day of issuance and all registration requirements apply. No supplemental tags shall be issued for antlered deer.

1. [In Zones 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 36, 41, 49, 50, and 51, the Earn-A-Buck regulation is in effect November 27 or 28, 2006. An antlerless deer taken in these zones on November 20-22 and 24, 2006 also satisfies the earn-a-buck requirement for the year. Beginning in 2007, Earn-A-Buck regulations are no longer in effect in Zones 7-15, 36, 41, 49, 50, 51, and 58.] In Zone[s 40 and] 67, an antlerless deer must be taken in each year before taking or attempting to take an antlered deer during the prescribed muzzleloader deer seasons. [It shall not be necessary to harvest an antlerless deer before taking or attempting to take an antlered deer during muzzleloader permit season days scheduled after the conclusion of the six-day firearm season.]

2. In Zones 3, [6,] 9, 13, 27, 29, 35, 37, 40, 63, and 67, it shall be illegal to kill, take or attempt to take any antlered deer which does not have a minimum of three antler points on one side. [Beginning in 2007, it shall be legal to kill, take or attempt to take an antlered deer with less than three antler points on one side in Zone 6.]

3. (No change.)

(d) Duration of the muzzleloader rifle permit season is as set forth in (d)1 through 15 below. There is no season in the following Zones: 56 and 64. Legal hunting hours shall be 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset E.S.T.

1. [January 2-6, 2006; November 27, 28 and December 11, 12, 16-23, 26-30, 2006 and January 1-5, 2007; November 26, 27 and December 10, 11, 15-24, 26-31, 2007 and January 1-4, 2008; December 1, 2, 15, 16, 20-24, 26-31, 2008 and January 1-9, 2009; November 30 and December 1, 14, 15, 19-24, 26-31, 2009 and January 1-8, 2010; and, November 29, 30 and December 13, 14, 18-24, 27-31, 2010 and January 1-7, 2011 in Zones 1-3, 6, 16, 18, 21-24, 26-31, 34, 35, 43, 45-47, 55, 61, 63, 65, and 70.] **The Monday and Tuesday the week preceding the six-day firearm season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a); the Monday and Tuesday of the week after the six-day firearm season; and the Saturday following the six-day firearm season through December 31 exclusive of Christmas Day, and January 1, or January 2 if January 1 is a Sunday, through the first Friday in January (NOTE: if January 1 falls on a Wednesday through Friday, then the season extends through the second Saturday in January) in zones in Regulation Sets 2, 3 and 4; and in Zones 61 and 70.**

2. [November 28, 29 and December 12, 13, 17--24, 26 and 27, 2005; November 27, 28 and December 11, 12, 16--23 and 26, 2006; November 26, 27 and December 10, 11 and 15--24, 2007; December 1, 2, 15, 16, 20--24, 26--30, 2008; November 30 and December 1, 14, 15, 19--24 and 26--29, 2009; and November 29, 30 and December 13, 14, 18--24, 27 and 28, 2010 in Zone 4.] **The Monday and Tuesday the week preceding the six-day firearm season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a), the Monday and Tuesday of the week following the six-day firearm season, and the Saturday following the six-day**

**firearm season through the last Tuesday in December, excluding Christmas Day, in zones in Regulation Set 1.**

3. [November 20-22, 27, 28, and December 4-9, 11, 12, 16-23, 26-30, 2006 and January 1-February 10, 2007; November 26-30 and December 3-8, 10, 11, 15-24, 26-31, 2007 and January 1-February 9, 2008; December 1-5, 8-13, 15, 16, 20-24, 26-31, 2008 and January 1-February 14, 2009; November 30, December 1, 7-12, 14, 15, 19-24, 26-31, 2009 and January 1-February 13, 2010; and, November 29, December 3, 6-11, 13, 14, 18-24, 27-31, 2010 and January 1-February 12, 2011; and November 28-December 2, December 5-10, 12, 13, 17-24, 26-31, 2011 and January 2-February 11, 2012 in Zones 7-15, 36, 41, 49, 50 and 51.] **The Monday through Friday preceding the six-day firearm season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a), the week of the six-day firearm season, the Monday and Tuesday following the six-day firearm season, and the Saturday following the six-day firearm season through December 31, exclusive of Christmas Day, and January 1 through the second Saturday in February in zones in Regulation Set 8.**

4. [November 27, 28 and December 4-9, 11, 12, 16-23, 26-30, 2006 and January 1-31, 2007; November 26, 27 and December 3-8, 10, 11, 15-24, 26-31, 2007 and January 1-31, 2008; December 1, 2, 8-13, 15, 16, 20-24, 26-31, 2008 and January 1-31, 2009; November 30 and December 1, 7-12, 14, 15, 19-24, 26-31, 2009 and January 1-30, 2010; November 29, 30 and December 6-11, 13, 14, 18-24, 27-31, 2010 and January 1-31, 2011; and November 29, 30 and December 5-10, 12, 13, 17-24, 26-31, 2011 and January 2-31, 2012 in Zones 5, 17, 19, 25, 42, 48, and 68.] **The Monday and Tuesday of the week preceding the six-day firearm season N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a), and the week of the six-day firearm season, and the Monday and Tuesday of the week following the six-day firearm season, and the Saturday following the six-day firearm season through December 31 exclusive of Christmas Day, and January 1 through January 31 in zones in Regulation Set 6; and in Zone 68.**

5. [November 7--11, and December 12--31, 2005 and January 2--7, 2006; November 6--10, and December 11--23, 26--30, 2006 and January 2--6, 2007; November 5--9 and December 10--24, 26--31, 2007 and January 2--5, 2008; November 10--14 and December 15--24, 26--31, 2008 and January 2--10, 2009;] November 9--13 and December 14--24, 26--31, 2009 and January 2--9, 2010; and November 8--12 and December 13--24, 27--31, 2010 and January 3--8, 2011; **November 7—11 and December 12—24, 26—31, 2011, and January 2—7, 2012; November 5—9 and December 10—24, 26—31, 2012, and January 7—12, 2013; and November 4—8 and December 16—24, 26—31, 2013, and January 6—11, 2014** in Zone 37.

6. [November 12, 16--19, 2005; November 11, 15--18, 2006; November 10, 14--17, 2007;] November 15, 19--22, 2008; [November 14, 18--21, 2009; November 13, 17--20, 2010; November 12, 16--19, 2011] **October 31, November 4-7, 2009; October 30, November 3-6, 2010; October 29, November 2-5, 2011; November 3, 7-10, 2012; November 2, 6-9, 2013** in Zone 38.

7. [November 28--December 3, 12--31, 2005 and January 2--31, 2006; November 27--December 2, 11--30, 2006 and January 1--31, 2007; November 26--December 1, 10--31,



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2007 and January 1--31, 2008; December 1--6, 15--31, 2008 and January 1--31, 2009;] November 30--December 5, 14--31, 2009 and January 1--30, 2010; and November 29--December 4, 13--31, 2010 and January 1--31, 2011; **November 28 -- December 3, 12--31, 2011, and January 2--31, 2012; November 26 -- December 1, 10--31, 2012, and January 1--31, 2013; December 2--7, 16--31, 2013, and January 1--31, 2014** in Zone 39.

8. [November 4, 11, 18, 20-22, 24 and 25, 2006; November 3, 10, 12, 17, 19-21, 23 and 24, 2007; November 8, 11, 15, 22, 24-26, 28 and 29, 2008;] November 7, 11, 14, 21, 23-25, 27 and 28, 2009; November 6, 11, 13, 20, 22-24, 26 and 27, 2010; and November 5, 11, 12, 19, 21-23, 25 and 26, 2011; **November 3, 10, 12, 17, 19--21 and 23 --24, 2012; November 9, 11, 16, 23, 25-- 27, and 29 --30, 2013** in Zone 40.

9. [November 26--30 and December 1--3, 12--31, 2005 and January 2--7, 2006; November 25--30 and December 1, 2, 11--23, 26--30, 2006 and January 1--6, 2007; November 24--30 and December 1, 10--24, 26--31, 2007 and January 1--5, 2008; November 29 and December 1--6, 15--24, 26--31, 2008 and January 1--10, 2009;] November 28--30 and December 1--5, 14--24, 26--31, 2009 and January 1--9, 2010; and November 27--30 and December 1--4, 13--24, 27--31, 2010 and January 1--8, 2011; **November 26 -- December 3, 12--24, 26--31, 2011, and January 2--7, 2012; November 24-- December 1, 10--24, 26--31, 2012, and January 1--5, 2013; November 30 and December 2--7, 16--24, 26--31, 2013, and January 1--4, 2014** in Zone 53.

10. [November 28 and 29 and December 12--31, 2005 and January 2--7, 2006; November 27, 28 and December 11--31, 2006 and January 1 --6, 2007; November 26, 27 and December 10--31, 2007 and January 1 --5, 2008;] December 1, 2, 15--31, 2008 and January 1--10, 2009; November 30 and December 1, 14--31, 2009 and January 1--9, 2010; and November 29, 30 and December 13--31, 2010 and January 1--8, 2011; **November 28, 29 and December 12--31, 2011, and January 2--7, 2012; November 26, 27 and December 10--31, 2012, and January 1--5, 2013; December 2, 3, 16--31, 2013, and January 1--11, 2014** in Zone 54.

11. [November 26, 27 and December 3-8, 10, 11, 15-24, 26-31, 2007 and January 1-4, 2008; December 1-5, 15, 16, 20-24, 26-31, 2008 and January 1-9, 2009;] November 30 and December 1, 7-12, 14, 15, 19-24, 26-31, 2009 and January 1-8, 2010; and, November 29, 30 and December 6-11, 13, 14, 18-24, 27-31, 2010 and January 1-7, 2011; **November 26, 27 and December 10, 11, 15-24, 26-31, 2012, and January 1-4, 2013** in Zone 57.

12. [November 26--December 3, 9 and 10, 2005 and January 7 and 14, 2006; November 25--December 2, 8, 9, 2006 and January 6, 13, 2007; November 24--December 1, 7, 8, 2007 and January 5, 12, 2008; November 29--December 6, 12, 13, 2008 and January 3, 10, 2009;] November 28--December 5, 11, 12, 2009 and January 2, 9, 2010; and November 27--December 4, 10, 11, 2010 and January 8, 15, 2011; **November 24 -- December 1, 7, 8, 2012, and January 5, 12, 2013; November 30 -- December 7, 13, 14, 2013, and January 4, 11, 2014** in Zone 66.

13. [November 7--10, 14--17, 2005; November 6--9, 13, 16, 2006; November 5--8, 12--15, 2007;] November 10--13, 17--20, 2008; November 9--12, 16--19, 2009; and

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November 8--11, 15--18, 2010; **November 7-10, 14-17, 2011; November 5-8, 12-15, 2012; November 4-7, 11-14, 2013** in Zone 67.

14. [November 26-30 and December 3-8, 10, 11, 15-24, 26-31, 2007 and January 1-4, 2008; December 1-5, 8-13, 15, 16, 20-24, 26-31, 2008 and January 1, 2, 2009;] November 30 and December 1, 7-12, 14, 15, 19-24, 26-31, 2009 and January 1, 2010; and November 29 and December 3, 6-11, 13, 14, 18-24, 27-31, 2010 and January 1-8, 2011; and November 28-December 2, December 5-10, 12, 13, 17-24, 26-31, 2011 and January 2-February 11, 2012; **November 26, 27, December 10, 11, 15-24, 26-31, 2012, and January 1-11, 2013; December 2, 3, 16, 17, 21-24, 26-31, 2013, and January 1-10, 2014** in Zone 58.

15. [At other times as determined by the Director.] **The Monday through Wednesday and the Friday of Thanksgiving week, the Monday through Friday preceding the six-day firearm season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27 the week of the six-day firearm season, the Monday and Tuesday following the six-day firearm season, and the Saturday following the six-day firearm season through December 31, exclusive of Christmas Day, and January 1 through the second Saturday in February in zones in Regulation Set 9.**

**16. The Monday and Tuesday the week preceding the six-day firearm season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a), the Monday and Tuesday of the week following the six-day firearm season, and the Saturday following the six-day firearm season through December 31, excluding Christmas Day, in zones in Regulation Set 0.**

**17. At other times as determined by the Director.**

(e) Antlerless permits for muzzleloader rifle permit season are valid only in the designated deer management zones or other designated areas and are not transferable. [Bonus] **Antlered** muzzleloader permits with antlered deer transportation tag may used in any zone for which the hunter has already purchased an antlerless muzzleloader permit for use during this season.

(f) Method: The taking of two deer, one antlered and one antlerless, or two antlerless, except as noted in (c)1 through 3 above, or the taking of deer as designated for special hunts is authorized to holders of valid permits for muzzleloader rifle permit season in designated deer management zones. The taking of two deer, one antlered and one antlerless, or two antlerless or the taking of deer as designated for special hunts is authorized to holders of valid farmer permits for muzzleloader rifle permit season only on the farm occupied and designated on the permit application.

1. Limited quota, special deer permits for muzzleloader rifle permit season will be issued on an individual basis to holders of valid and current firearm licenses and qualified farmers. Only one application per regular firearm license holder may be submitted, whether for muzzleloader rifle or shotgun permit seasons, during the initial application period. Duplicate or multiple applications will cause all applications to be void. All persons, while their hunting licenses are void under the authority of law or as imposed by a court, are prohibited from making application for, or otherwise procuring a

muzzleloader deer permit. For special management zones where the agency administering the affected land requires that hunters attend mandatory hunter orientation as a condition of access, failure to attend the designated session shall result in invalidation of the muzzleloader season permit for the zone. Limited quota, special deer permit zones include the following deer management zones: 37, 38, 39, 40, 53, 54, 57, 58, 61, 66, 67, 68, and 70. Only one antlerless muzzleloader rifle permit season permit may be purchased per zone. Only one [bonus] **antlered** muzzleloader permit with antlered deer transportation tag may be purchased per season.

2. (No change).(g) (No change.)

(h) Muzzleloader Rifle Permit Season limited quota, special deer permits shall be applied for as follows:

1. – 2. (No change.)

3. Only one application whether for limited quota antlerless and [bonus] **antlered** muzzleloader rifle or shotgun permit season or as provided for in (h)1 above, may be submitted by any regular firearm license holder during the initial permit application period. During the initial application period, regular firearm license holders may also submit one application for either a left-over shotgun or muzzleloader deer permit in the event such permits are available following the initial drawing. Applications for more than the allowable number of permits during the initial application period will cause all applications by an individual to be void and subject the applicant to prosecution.

4. – 6 (No change.)

7. Nothing contained herein shall preclude the Division from issuing unfilled **or unclaimed** limited quota, special deer permits on a first come-first served basis to any properly licensed hunter or qualified farmer after the permit selection process.

(i) Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 23:3-56.1, occupant and non-occupant Farmer Muzzleloader Rifle Permit Season Permits shall be applied for as follows:

1. – 4. (No change.)

5. Qualified farmers may apply for one shotgun antlerless and one [bonus] **antlered** permit season permit in any management zone in addition to one muzzleloader antlerless and one [bonus] **antlered** rifle permit season permit in any management zone where a muzzleloader rifle permit season is prescribed. Qualified farmers may also apply for either the muzzleloader rifle permit season permits or shotgun permit season permits as a regular firearm hunting license applicant. No farmer may use more than one [bonus] **antlered** permit for any season. Application for more than the allowable number of permits during the initial application period will cause all applications by an individual to be void.

6. (No change.)

(j) Muzzleloader Rifle, Occupant and Farmer Muzzleloader Rifle and Non-occupant Farmer Muzzleloader Rifle Season Permits shall be used as follows:

1. The antlerless [and bonus] muzzleloader rifle permit season permits are valid only in the deer management zone (DMZ) designated; **the antlered muzzleloader rifle**

**permit is valid in any zone for which the farmer has an antlerless permit for the season;** [and] **neither** are [not] transferable from individual to individual. The muzzleloader rifle permit season permit hunter is responsible for hunting in the correct DMZ as indicated and in ascertaining the boundaries.

2. The occupant farmer antlerless [and bonus] muzzleloader rifle permit season permit[s are] **is** valid only on the farm occupied and designated in the application and are not transferable from deer management zone to deer management zone, or from farm to farm, or from individual to individual. **The occupant farmer antlered muzzleloader rifle permit is valid in any zone which the farmer has an antlerless permit for the season.** The occupant farmer muzzleloader rifle permit season permit hunter is responsible for hunting on the correct farm in the correct DMZ as indicated and in ascertaining the boundaries.

3. The non-occupant farmer antlerless [and bonus] muzzleloader rifle season permits are valid only on private land within the deer management zone designated in the permit and are not valid on public lands within the DMZ. **The non-occupant farmer antlered muzzleloader rifle permit is valid in any zone which the farmer has an antlerless permit for the season.** The permits are not transferable from deer management zone to deer management zone or from individual to individual. The non-occupant farmer muzzleloader rifle permit season permit hunter is responsible for hunting on private lands in the DMZ as indicated and in ascertaining the boundaries.

(k) The Deer Management Zone Map is on file at the Office of Administrative Law and is available from that agency or the Division. The [2006-2007; 2007-2008; 2008-2009; 2009-2010; 2010-2011; and 2011-2012] Muzzleloader Rifle Deer Season Permit Quotas are as follows:

MUZZLELOADER RIFLE PERMIT SEASON PERMIT QUOTAS			
Deer Mgt. Zone No.	Season Dates Code	Permit Quota	Portions of Counties Involved
••• 36	3	[100] <b><u>800</u></b>	Bergen, Hudson, Essex, Morris, Union, Somerset, Middlesex, Passaic
••• 38	6	[10] <b><u>200</u></b>	Morris (Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge)
••• 61	1	[40] <b><u>60</u></b>	Atlantic (Atlantic County Park System)
••• 68	4	[80] <b><u>100</u></b>	Burlington (Parker Preserve)
••• Total		49,783] <b><u>50,693</u></b>	

(l) See (d)1 through 13 above for corresponding season date codes.

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(m) Permit quotas in Zones 37, 38, 39, 40, 53, 54, 57, 58, 61, 66, [and] 67, **68 and 70** are contingent upon approval by appropriate land management agencies for those zones.

(n) Muzzleloader rifle permit season permits not applied for by the deadlines enumerated in (h)4 and (i)4 above, may be reallocated to shotgun season applicants.

#### **7:25-5.29 White-tailed deer shotgun permit season**

(a) (No change.)

(b) If the anticipated harvest of deer has not been accomplished during this season, additional days of shotgun permit deer hunting may be authorized by the Director. Such authorization and the dates thereof shall be announced by press and radio.

**1. If, for two or more consecutive years, the yearly antlered or antlerless harvest in any deer management zone is above or below the stated buck goal by fifteen percent, the Council may, upon consultation with the Director, move a deer management zone into a more liberal or more conservative regulation set for subsequent deer seasons, as is determined to be appropriate to provide for harvests which will meet the stated goals, as specified in subsection (r) of this section. The appropriate regulation set will be determined by estimating the resulting harvest of antlered or antlerless deer under various regulation sets having varying season lengths and/or bag limits. Such regulation set changes will be published by notice in the New Jersey Register, on the Division's website and in the Hunting Digest which summarizes hunting season dates and regulations.**

(c) Bag limit: A properly licensed hunter who did not take two antlered deer during the current year, six-day firearm season may take one antlered deer during the shotgun permit season. Only one antlered deer may be taken Statewide during the shotgun permit season, regardless of the number of permits obtained. [Hunters taking an antlered deer in accordance with the provisions set forth in this section must have a valid "Antlered Buck Stub 6-Day Firearm Or Permit Shotgun Only" from their firearm or all around sportsman license from the calendar year in which the season begins.] One deer, either antlered or antlerless, may be taken in [Zones 1, 3, 4, 21, 23, 24, 37, 43, 45, and 46] **zones in Regulation Sets 0, 1 and 2**. Two deer, either one antlered and one antlerless or two antlerless may be taken in [Zones 6, 18, 30, 34, 55, and 65] **zones in Regulation Set 3**. One antlered deer and an unlimited number of antlerless deer may be taken in [Zones 2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 38-42, 47-51, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 61, 63, 64, 66, 68, and 70] **in zones in Regulation Sets 4, 6, 8 and 9, and in Zones 37, 39, 40, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 61, 64, 66, 68 and 70**. In [Zones 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 36, 41, 49, 50, 51 and 58] **zones in Regulation Set 8 and in Zone 58**, only antlerless deer may be taken on [November 20-22 and 24 and December 4-9, 2006; November 28-30 and December 3-8, 2007; December 3-5 and December 8-13, 2008; December 2-4 and December 7-12, 2009; December 1-3 and December 6-11, 2010; and November 30-December 2 and December 5-10, 2011] **the Wednesday through Friday preceding the six-day firearm season and on the dates concurrent with the six-day firearm season, as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a)**. In [Zones 5, 17, 19, 25, 42, 48 and 57] **zones in Regulation Set 6, and in**

**Zone 57**, only antlerless deer may be taken [during the period of December 4-9, 2006; December 3-8, 2007; December 8-13, 2008; December 7-12, 2009; December 6-11, 2010; and December 5-10, 2011] **during the dates concurrent with the six-day firearm season, as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a)**. [In Zone 40, an antlerless deer must be taken before taking or attempting to take an antlered deer during the prescribed season.] **In zones in Regulation Set 9, only antlerless deer may be taken during the Monday through Wednesday and Friday of Thanksgiving week, and the Wednesday through Friday of the week preceding the six-day firearm season, and during the during the dates concurrent with the six-day firearm season, as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a)**. Only one deer may be taken at a time per permit until the season limit is reached except in [Zones 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 25, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 48, 49, 50, 51, 54, 56, 57, 58, 64, 66 and 68] **zones in Regulation Sets 6, 8 and 9 and in Zones 39, 40, 54, 56, 57, 58, 64, 66 and 68** where the limit is two deer at a time per permit until the season concludes. New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tags are valid on the day of issuance in all zones. All deer tagging and registration provisions apply. [In addition, hunters taking an antlered deer must immediately detach, date and initial the "Antlered Buck Stub--6-Day Firearm or Permit Shotgun Only," from their firearm or all around sportsman license from the calendar year in which the season began, and surrender the stub with the transportation tag at the checking station. In zones where the shotgun permit season extends into January or February, the buck stub from the calendar year in which the season began shall be valid until the end of the shotgun permit season. Beginning in 2007, the "Antlered Buck Stub" requirement is discontinued. Beginning in 2007, h] **H**unters must use an antlered deer transportation tag from their [bonus] **antlered** shotgun permit which is designated for use during the permit shotgun season, when registering an antlered deer. The [bonus] **antlered** shotgun permit with antlered deer transportation tag, which is valid only for the harvest of one antlered deer, must be purchased in addition to an antlerless shotgun permit. The [bonus] **antlered** shotgun permit with antlered deer transportation tag may be used in any zone for which the hunter has already purchased an antlerless permit. The [bonus] **antlered** shotgun permit with antlered deer transportation tag must be purchased prior to the season opener or at the time of the purchase of the initial antlerless shotgun permit if the season has already begun. The season bag limits apply to both regular and farmer deer permits; however, all farmer shotgun permits are valid for taking antlerless deer only, when used during the six-day firearm buck season and on any other days authorized through the last day of the six-day firearm buck season.

1. In Zones 3, [6,] 9, 13, 27, 29, 35, 37, 40, and 63, it shall be illegal to kill, take or attempt to take any antlered deer which does not have a minimum of three antler points on one side. [Beginning in 2007, it shall be legal to kill, take or attempt to take an antlered deer with less than three antler points on one side in Zone 6.]

(d) Duration of the permit shotgun deer season is as set forth in (d)1 through 19 below. There is no season in Zone 67. Legal hunting hours shall be from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset on the following dates:

1. [December 14--16, 2005; December 13--15, 2006; December 12--14, 2007; December 17--19, 2008; December 16--18, 2009; and December 15--17, 2010 in Zones 6, 18, 30, 34, 55 and 65.] **The Wednesday through Friday of the week following the**

**six-day firearm season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-27(a) in zones in Regulation Set 3.**

2. [December 14-16, 2005 and January 7-14, 2006; December 13-15, 2006 and January 6-13, 2007; December 12-14, 2007 and January 5-12, 2008; December 17-19, 2008 and January 10-17, 2009; December 16-18, 2009 and January 9-16, 2010; and, December 15-17, 2010 and January 8-15, 2011 in Zones 2, 16, 22, 26-29, 31, 35, 47, 53, 63, and 70.] **The Wednesday through Friday of the week following the six-day firearm season, and the second Saturday through the third Saturday in January, in zones in Regulation Set 4; and in Zone 70.**

3. [December 14, 2005; December 13, 2006; December 12, 2007; December 17, 2008; December 16, 2009; and December 15, 2010 in Zones 1, 3, 4, 21, 23, 24, 43, 45 and 46.] **The Wednesday of the week following the six-day firearm season N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a) in zones in Regulation Set 0, 1 and 2.**

4. [November 20-22, 24 and December 4-9, 13-15, 2006 and January 6-February 10, 2007; November 28-30 and December 3-8, 12-14, 2007 and January 5-February 9, 2008; December 3-5 and December 8-13, 17-19, 2008 and January 10-February 14, 2009; December 2-4 and December 7-12, 16-18, 2009 and January 9-February 13, 2010; December 1-3 and December 6-11, 15-17, 2010 and January 8-February 12, 2011; and November 30-December 2 and December 5-10, 14-16, 2011 and January 7-February 11, 2012 in Zones 7-15, 36, 41, and 49-51.] **The Wednesday through Friday preceding the six-day firearm season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a), the week of the six-day firearm season, the Wednesday through Friday of the week following the six-day firearm season, and the first Saturday in January through the second Saturday in February in zones in Regulation Set 8.**

5. [December 4-9, 13-15, 2006 and January 6-31, 2007; December 3-8, 12-14, 2007 and January 5-31, 2008; December 8-13, 17-19, 2008 and January 10-31, 2009; December 7-12, 16-18, 2009 and January 9-30, 2010; December 6-11, 15-17, 2010 and January 8-31, 2011; and December 5-10, 14-16, 2011 and January 7-31, 2012 in Zones 5, 17, 19, 25, 42, 48, 57 and 68.] **The week of the six-day firearm season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a), and the Wednesday through Friday of the week following the six-day firearm season, and the first Saturday in January through January 31 in zones in Regulation Set 6; and in Zones 57 and 68.**

6. [December 17, 2005; December 16, 2006; December 15, 2007; December 20, 2008; and December 19, 2009; and December 18, 2010] **December 26, 28 and 29, 2009; December 27-29, 2010; December 24, 26 and 27, 2011; December 28, 29 and 31, 2012; December 28, 30 and 31, 2013** in Zone 37.

7. [November 12, 16--19, 2005; November 11, 15--18, 2006; November 10, 14--17, 2007;] November 15, 19--22, 2008; [November 14, 18--21, 2009; November 13, 17--20, 2010; and November 12, 16--19, 2011] **October 31, and November 4-7, 2009; October 30, and November 3-6, 2010; October 29, and November 2-5, 2011; November 3, 7-10, 2012; November 2, 6-9, 2013** in Zone 38.

8. [December 3, 5--10, 17, 24 and 31, 2005 and January 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2006; December 2, 4--9, 16, 23 and 30, 2006 and January 6, 13, 20 and 27, 2007; December 1,

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3--8, 15, 22 and 29, 2007 and January 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2008; December 6, 8--13, 20 and 27, 2008 and January 3, 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2009;] December 5, 7--12, 19 and 26, 2009 and January 2, 9, 16, 23 and 30, 2010; and December 4, 6--11, 18 and 25, 2010 and January 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2011; **December 3, 5-10, 17, 24 and 31, 2011, and January 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2012; December 1, 3-8, 15, 22 and 29, 2012, and January 5, 12, 19 and 26, 2013; December 7, 9-14, 21 and 28, 2013, and January 4, 11, 18 and 25, 2014** in Zone 39.

9. [November 3, 10, 12, 17, 19-21, 23 and 24, 2007; November 8, 11, 15, 22, 24-26, 28 and 29, 2008;] November 7, 11, 14, 21, 23-25, 27 and 28, 2009; November 6, 11, 13, 20, 22-24, 26 and 27, 2010; and November 5, 11, 12, 19, 21-23, 25 and 26, 2011; **November 3, 10, 12, 17, 19-21, and 23-24, 2012; November 9, 11, 16, 23, 25-27 and 29-30, 2013** in Zone 40.

10. (Reserved)

11. [December 5--10 and 31, 2005 and January 14, 2006; December 4--9, and 23, 2006 and January 13, 2007; December 3--8, and 22, 2007 and January 12, 2008;] December 8--13, and 27, 2008 and January 10, 2009; December 7--12, and 26, 2009 and January 9, 2010; and December 6--11, and 18, 2010 and January 8, 2011; **December 5-10, 17, 2011 and January 7, 2012; December 3-8, 22, 2012 and January 5, 2013; December 9-14, 28, 2013 and January 11, 2014** in Zone 54.

12. [December 12--16, 2005; December 11--15, 2006; December 10--14, 2007; December 15--19, 2008;] December 14--18, 2009; and December 13--17, 2010; **December 12--16, 20011; December 10-14, 2012; December 16-20, 2013** in Zone 56.

13. [November 28-30 and December 3-8, 12-14, 2007 and January 5-12, 2008; December 3-5 and December 8-13, 17-19, 2008 and January 3-10, 2009;] December 2-4 and December 7-12, 16-18, 2009 and January 2-9, 2010; December 1-3 and December 6-11, 15-17, 2010 and January 1-8, 2011; [and] November 30-December 2 and December 5-10, 14-16, 2011 and January 7-14, 2012; **November 28-30, and December 3-9, 12-14, 2012, and January 5-12, 2013; December 4-6, 9-14, 18-20, 2013, and January 4-11, 2014** in Zone 58.

14. [(Reserved.)] **The Monday through Wednesday and Friday of Thanksgiving week, the Wednesday through Friday preceding the six-day firearm season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.27(a), the week of the six-day firearm season, the Wednesday through Friday of the week following the six-day firearm season, and the first Saturday in January through the second Saturday in February in zones in regulation Set 9.**

15. [December 5--10, 14--16, 2005; December 4--9, 13--15, 2006; December 3--8, 12--14, 2007; December 8--13, 17--19, 2008;] December 7--12, 16--18, 2009; [and] December 6--11, 15--17, 2010; **December 5-10, 14-16, 2011; December 3-8, 12-14, 2012; December 9-14, 18-20, 2013** in Zone 61.

16. [December 3-8, 2007, December 8-13, 2008, ]December 7-12, 2009, December 6-11, 2010, and December 5-10, 2011; **December 3-8, 2012; December 9-14, 2013** in Zones **53 and 64**.



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17. [November 26--December 3, 9 and 10, 2005 and January 7 and 14, 2006; November 25--December 2, 8 and 9, 2006 and January 6 and 13, 2007; November 24--December 1, 7 and 8, 2007 and January 5 and 12, 2008; November 29--December 6, 12 and 13, 2008 and January 3 and 10, 2009;] November 28--December 5, 11 and 12, 2009 and January 2 and 9, 2010; [and] November 27--December 4, 10 and 11, 2010 and January 8 and 15, 2011; **November 26 – December 3, 9, 10, 2011, and January 7, 14, 2012; November 24 – December 1, 7, 8, 2012, and January 5, 12, 2013; November 30 – December 7, 13, 14, 2013, and January 4, 11, 2014** in Zone 66.

18. -19. (No change.)

(e) Antlerless shotgun permit season permits are valid only in the designated deer management zones or other designated areas and are not transferable. [Bonus] **An antlered** shotgun permit with antlered deer transportation tag may be used in any zone for which the hunter has [already purchased] an antlerless shotgun permit during this season.

(f) Method: The taking of deer with a shotgun under a shotgun permit season permit or a farmer shotgun permit season permit is permitted in designated deer management zones by holders of a shotgun permit season permit and, on their own property, by holders of a farmer shotgun permit season permit.

1. Limited quota, special deer permits for shotgun permit season will be issued on an individual basis to holders of valid and current firearm licenses, persons who have applied for the shotgun hunter education course prior to the permit application period and qualified farmers. Only one application, whether for shotgun or muzzleloader permit season, may be submitted by regular firearm license holders for the initial permit drawing. Applications for more than the allowable number of permits during the initial application period will cause all applications by an individual to be void and subject the applicant to prosecution. All persons, while their hunting licenses are void under the authority of law or as imposed by a court are prohibited from making application for, or otherwise procuring, a shotgun deer permit. For special management zones where the agency administering the affected lands requires that hunters attend mandatory hunter orientation as a condition of access, failure to attend the designated session shall result in invalidation of the shotgun season permit for the zone. Limited quota, special deer permit zones include the following deer management zones: 37, 38, 39, 40, 53, 54, 56, 57, 58, 61, 64, 66, 67, 68, and 70. Only one antlerless shotgun permit season permit may be purchased per zone. Only one [bonus] **antlered** shotgun permit with antlered deer transportation tag may be purchased per season.

2. (No change.)

(g) Permits for shotgun permit season consist of a back display, which includes a "deer transportation tag," or proper and valid supplemental tag. The back display portion of the permit will be conspicuously displayed on the outer clothing in addition to the valid firearm license in the case of a shotgun permit season permit, and without the license in the case of the farmer shotgun permit season permit. **All deer must be legally registered either at a deer check station or via the automated deer check system. If an automated deer check system is implemented, notice will be published in the New**

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**Jersey Register, on the Division's website and in the Hunting Digest.** Upon harvesting a deer during this season, the "deer transportation tag" portion of the permit must be detached, completely filled out, and affixed to the deer immediately upon killing. This completely filled in "deer transportation tag" allows legal transportation of the deer of either sex to an authorized checking station **or to a location where the hunter may register his or her deer via an automated deer checking system as designated by the Division** only. Personnel at the checking station will issue a "possession tag." Any permit holder killing a deer during this season must transport this deer to an authorized checking station by 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on date killed to secure the legal "possession tag." The possession of a deer of either sex after 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on the date killed without a legal "possession tag" shall be deemed illegal possession **under the deer check station system. Possession of a deer after midnight on the date killed without a legal registration number shall be deemed illegal under the ADCS.** The legal possession tag must be securely affixed or locked on the deer before the deer is transported or removed from the authorized deer checking station. Hunters are responsible for legal possession tags being securely affixed or locked before leaving the deer check station. Any legally killed deer which is recovered too late to be brought to the check station by closing time must be immediately reported by telephone to the nearest Division of Fish and Wildlife law enforcement regional headquarters. Said deer must be brought to a checking station on the next open day to receive a legal "possession tag." If the season has been concluded, said deer must be taken to a regular deer checking station on the following weekday to receive a legal "possession tag." For deer management zones where the shotgun permit season is more than one day and the bag limit is two deer, a valid and proper "New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag" will be issued upon registration of the first deer **under the deer check station system. Hunters must register their deer via an automated deer checking system as designated by the Division if the deer check station system is no longer in use, in lieu of a deer check station prior to the attempt to take an additional deer, except as in (c), and no later than midnight of the day of harvest. The hunter must record the registration number given by the ADCS, which replaces the legal possession tag.** This permit **or registration number** will allow this person to continue hunting and take one additional **antlerless** [legal] deer during the shotgun permit season, provided the season is open the following day(s) or on any additional days that shotgun permit season hunting is authorized. For deer management zones where the shotgun permit season is three days or more and the bag limit is three deer or more, additional "New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tags" will be issued, **under the deer check station system,** upon registration of the second, third or applicable **antlerless** deer until the bag limit is reached. This permit will allow this hunter to continue hunting and take one additional **antlerless** [legal] deer during the shotgun permit season, provided the season is open or on any additional days that shotgun permit season hunting is authorized. Permittees will be able to continue hunting on the designated season dates after registration of deer and issuance of appropriate tags **or registration numbers.** [Beginning in 2007, s] **Supplemental tags** will only be issued for and valid for antlerless deer, and no supplemental tags will be issued for antlered deer. [In addition, hunters taking an antlered buck must immediately detach, date and initial the "Permit Shotgun Only Antlered Buck Stub" from their firearm or all around sportsman license from the calendar year in which

the season began, and surrender the stub with the transportation tag at the checking station. In zones where the shotgun permit season extends into January or February, the buck stub from the calendar year in which the season began shall be valid until the end of the season. Beginning in 2007, the "Antlered Buck Stub" requirement is discontinued. Beginning in 2007, **h) Hunters** must use an antlered deer transportation tag from their [bonus] **antlered** shotgun permit, which is designated for use during the permit shotgun season, when registering an antlered deer. The [bonus] **antlered** shotgun permit with antlered deer transportation tag which is valid only for the harvest of one antlered deer, must be purchased in addition to an antlerless shotgun permit. The [bonus] **antlered** shotgun permit with antlered deer transportation tag may be used in any zone for which the hunter has already purchased an antlerless permit. The [bonus] **antlered** shotgun permit with antlered deer transportation tag must be purchased prior to the season open or at the time of the purchase of the initial antlerless shotgun permit if the season has already begun.

(h) Shotgun Permit Season limited quota, special deer permits shall be applied for as follows:

1. (No change.)

2. Permits for shotgun permit season will be issued on an individual basis to holders of valid and current firearm licenses, and persons with hunter education courses pending as indicated in (h)1 above. Only one application, whether for antlerless or [bonus] **antlered** shotgun or muzzleloader, permit season or as provided for in (h)1 above, may be submitted by any one individual during the initial application period and only one application, whether for a leftover shotgun or leftover muzzleloader permit, may be submitted by any one individual during the initial application period. Applications for more than the allowable number of permits during the initial application period will cause all applications to be void and subject the applicant to prosecution.

3. – 6. (No change.)

(i) Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 23:3-56.1, Occupant and Non-occupant Farmer Shotgun Permit Season Permits shall be applied for as follows:

1. – 4. (No change.)

5. Qualified farmers may apply for one antlerless and one [bonus] **antlered** shotgun permit season permit in any management zone in addition to one antlerless and one [bonus] **antlered** muzzleloader rifle permit season permit in any management zone where a muzzleloader rifle permit season is prescribed. Qualified farmers may also apply for either the permit shotgun or permit muzzleloader season permit as a regular firearm hunting license applicant. No farmer may use more than one [bonus] **antlered** permit for any season. Application for more than the allowable number of permits during the initial application period will cause all applications by an individual to be void and subject the applicant to prosecution.

6. In deer management zones where no regular permit shotgun season has been authorized, the season for qualified and permitted farmers will include the six-day firearm season and the Wednesday following the six-day firearm season and as provided for in (d)19 above, and the bag limit will be one deer per permit. Only one antlerless deer

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may be taken on this permit [during the six-day season. On the Wednesday following six-day firearm season, either an antlered or antlerless deer may be taken, if no antlerless deer were taken on this permit during the six-day season. If two antlered deer were taken by the farmer permittee during the regular six-day firearm season, the permit is only valid for taking one antlerless deer].

(j) Shotgun, Occupant Farmer Shotgun and Non-occupant Farmer Shotgun Permit Season Permits shall be used as follows:

1. The antlerless [and bonus] shotgun permit season permit[s are] **is** valid only in the deer management zone (DMZ) designated and are not transferable from individual to individual. **The antlered shotgun permit is valid in any zone which the farmer has a antlerless permit for that season.** The shotgun permit season permit hunter is responsible for hunting in the correct DMZ as indicated and in ascertaining the boundaries.

2. The occupant farmer antlerless [and bonus] shotgun permit season permit[s are] **is** valid only on the farm occupied and designated in the application and are not transferable from deer management zone to deer management zone, or from farm to farm or from individual to individual. **The antlered shotgun occupant permit is valid in any zone which the farmer has a season antlerless permit for that season.** The occupant farmer shotgun permit season permit hunter is responsible for hunting on the correct farm in the correct DMZ as indicated and in ascertaining the boundaries.

3. The non-occupant farmer antlerless [and bonus] shotgun season permit[s are] **is** valid only on private land within the deer management zone designated in the permit and are not valid on public lands within the DMZ. **The antlered shotgun non-occupant permit is valid in any zone which the farmer has a season antlerless permit for that season.** These permits are not transferable from deer management zone to deer management zone or from individual to individual. The non-occupant farmer shotgun permit season hunter is responsible for hunting on private lands in the correct DMZ as indicated and in ascertaining the boundaries.

(k) The Deer Management Zone Map is on file at the Office of Administrative Law and is available from that agency or the Division. The [2006-2007, 2007-2008, 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, 2011-2012] Shotgun Permit Season Permit Quotas are as follows:

SHOTGUN PERMIT SEASON PERMIT QUOTAS

Deer Mgt. Zone No.	Season Dates Code	Permit Quota	Portions of Counties Involved
••• 18	1	[120] <b><u>200</u></b>	Ocean
••• 36	4	[260] <b><u>1,000</u></b>	Bergen, Hudson, Essex, Morris, Union, Somerset, Middlesex, Passaic

SHOTGUN PERMIT SEASON PERMIT QUOTAS

Deer Mgt. Zone No.	Season Dates Code	Permit Quota	Portions of Counties Involved
••• 38	7	[390] <b>200</b>	Morris (Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge)
••• 61	15	[80] <b>100</b>	Atlantic (Atlantic County Park System)
••• Total		[78,664] <b>79,134</b>	

(l) – (n) (No change.)

(o) Permit quotas for Zones 37, 38, 39, 40, 53, 54, 56-59, 61, 64, 66, [and] 67 **and 68** are contingent upon approval by appropriate land management agencies for those zones.

(p) Deer Management Zones are located as follows:

1. – 18 (No change.)

19. Zone No. 19: That portion of Burlington and Camden Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 530 and Rt. 646 (New Lisbon-Four Mile Rd.); then southeast on Rt. 646 to its intersection with Turkey Buzzard Bridge Road; then west on Turkey Buzzard Bridge Rd. to its intersection with Rt. 644 (Buddtown-Ong's Hat Road); then southeast on Rt. 644 to its intersection with Rt. 70 **and Rt. 72** at Four Mile Circle; [then west on Rt. 70] **then east on Rt. 72** to its intersection with **Rt. 563; then south on Rt. 563 to its intersection with Rt. 532 and the railroad tracks;** [Burr's Mill Road; then southwest on Burr's Mill Rd. to its intersection with Avenue Road; then south on Avenue Rd. to its intersection with Sooy Place Road; then south on Sooy Place Rd. to its intersection with Irick's Causeway; then southwest on Irick's Causeway to its intersection with Rt. 532 (Chatsworth Road); then south and southeast on Rt. 532 to its intersection with South Park Rd.; then south on South Park Rd. to its intersection with White Horse-Speedwell Rd.; then south on White Horse-Speedwell Rd. to its intersection with Eagle Rd.; then southwest on Eagle Rd. to its intersection with the railroad tracks;] then west following the railroad tracks to their intersection with Carranza Rd.; then northwest on Carranza Rd. to its intersection with Tuckerton Rd.; then north and northwest on Tuckerton Rd. to its intersection with Forked Neck Rd. (Dingletown Rd.); then west along Forked Neck Road to its intersection with Rt. 206; then south along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 541, Stokes Road; then northwest along Rt. 541 to its intersection with Willow Grove Road; then southwest on Willow Grove Road to its intersection with Atsion Road; then northwest on Atsion Road to its intersection with Rt. 534, Jackson Road; then west along Rt. 534 to its intersection with Rt. 73; then north along Rt. 73 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then northeast along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 38; then east along Rt. 38 to its intersection with Rt. 530; then east along Rt. 530 to its intersection with Rt. 616 (Vincentown-Pemberton Road); then northeast on Rt. 616, Hanover Street, into the town of Pemberton to its intersection with Elizabeth Street; then east on Elizabeth Street,

which becomes Pemberton-Brown's Mills Road (Rt. 687) to its intersection with Rt. 530 (Pemberton-By-Pass Road); then east on Rt. 530 to its intersection with Rt. 646 (New Lisbon-Four Mile Road), the point of beginning. Fort Dix Military Reservation (Zone 37) is excluded from Zone 19. **Franklin Parker Preserve and Four Mile Spring Preserve (Zone 68) are excluded from Zone 19.**

20. – 22. (No change.)

23. Zone No. 23: That portion of Burlington, Atlantic and Camden Counties lying with a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 563 and the Mullica River at the Atlantic-Burlington County line near Green Bank; then north and west along the north bank of the Mullica River to its intersection with Rt. 542 at Pleasant Mills; then west along Rt. 542 to its intersection with Nescochague Creek; then northwest along Nescochague Creek to Great Swamp Branch; then westward along Great Swamp Branch to its intersection with Rt. 206 (just south of the intersection of Rt. 206 and Middle Road); then north along Rt. 206 to its intersection with [Albertson Brook (about four miles north of Hammonton); then westward along Albertson Brook until it becomes Blue Anchor Brook; then westward along Blue Anchor Brook to its intersection with] Rt. 30[, near Cedar Ave., south of Ancora]; then northwest along Rt. 30 to its intersection with Rt. 73; then north on Rt. 73 to its intersection with Rt. 534, Jackson Road; then east along Rt. 534 to its intersection with Atsion Road; then southeast on Atsion Road to its intersection with Willow Grove Road; then northeast on Willow Grove Road to its intersection with Rt. 541, Stokes Road; then southeast along Rt. 541 to its intersection with Rt. 206; then north along Rt. 206 to its intersection with Forked Neck Road; then east along Forked Neck Road (Dingletown Rd.) to its intersection with Tuckerton Rd.; then southeast and south on Tuckerton Rd. to its intersection with Carranza Rd.; then southeast on Carranza Rd. to its intersection with the railroad tracks; then east following the railroad tracks to their intersection with Eagle Rd.; then northeast on Eagle Rd. to its intersection with White Horse-Speedwell Rd.; then north on White Horse-Speedwell Rd. to their intersection with South Park Rd.; then north on South Park Rd. to its intersection with Rt. 532 (Chatsworth Rd.); then northwest on Rt. 532 to its intersection with Irick's Causeway; then northeast on Irick's Causeway to its intersection with Sooy Place Road (Vincentown-South Park Road); then northwest on Sooy Place Rd. to its intersection with Avenue Road; then northeast on Avenue Rd. to its intersection with Burr's Mill Road; then northeast on Burr's Mill Rd. to its intersection with Rt. 70; then east on Rt. 70 to its intersection with Rt. 72 at Four Mile Circle; then southeast on Rt. 72 to its intersection with Rt. 563; then southwest along Rt. 563 to its intersection with the Mullica River at the Atlantic-Burlington County line, the point of beginning near Green Bank. **The Franklin Parker Preserve and Four Mile Spring Preserve (Zone 68) are excluded from Zone 23.**

24. (No change.)

25. Zone No. 25: That portion of Salem, Gloucester, Atlantic and Camden Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 54 and Rt. 40 near Buena; then west on Rt. 40 to its intersection with Rt. 553; then north on Rt. 553 to its intersection with Rt. 610 (Aura Road); then southeast on Rt. 610 to its intersection with Rt. 655 (Fries Mills Road); then north on Rt. 655 to its intersection with Rt. 322; then

west on Rt. 322 to its intersection with Rt. 47 at Glassboro; then north on Rt. 47 to its intersection with County Road 635 (Hurffville-Grenloch Road); then eastward on County Road 635 to its intersection with County Road 705 (County House Road); then southeast along Rt. 705 to its intersection with County Road 688 (Turnerville-Hickstown Road); then eastward along County Road 688 to its intersection with County Road 689 (Berlin-Crosskeys Road); then northeast along County Road 689 to its intersection with Rt. 73 at Berlin; then south on Rt. 73 to its intersection with Rt. 30; then southeast along Rt. 30 to its intersection with [Blue Anchor Brook, just past Cedar Avenue, south of Ancora; then eastward along Blue Anchor Brook until it becomes Albertson Brook at Fleming Pike; then eastward along Albertson Brook to its intersection with] Rt. 206 [(about four miles north of Hammonton)]; then [south] **north** on Rt. 206 to its intersection with Great Swamp Branch (just pass the intersection of Rt. 206 and Middle Road); then eastward along Great Swamp Branch to its intersection with Nescochague Creek; then eastward along Nescochague Creek to Nescochague Lake, at Pleasant Mills; then westward along the north and western shore of Nescochague Lake to its intersection with Hammonton Creek; then westward along Hammonton Creek to its intersection with Rt. 30 (White Horse Pike), near Hammonton; then southeast on Rt. 30 to its intersection with Weymouth Road (Rts. 640-559); then southward on Weymouth Rd. to its intersection with the Atlantic City Expressway; then west along the Atlantic City Expressway to its intersection with Eighth Street; then south along Eighth Street to its intersection with Rt. 322; then westward on Rt. 322 to its intersection with Rt. 54; then southward on Rt. 54 to its intersection with Rt. 40 near Buena, the point of beginning. Zone 65 is excluded from Zone 25.

26. – 57. (No change.)

58. Zone No. 58: Those portions of Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge, including the Barnegat Division, U.S. Department of the Interior, located [north of the Mullica River and] north of Route 72, designated as open for deer hunting, lying within Ocean County.

59. – 62. (No change)

63. Zone No. 63: That portion of Salem County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of the Salem Canal and the Delaware River at Deepwater; then eastward along the south bank of the Salem Canal to its intersection with the Salem River; then southward along the west bank of the Salem River to its intersection with Rt. 49 at Salem; then southeastward on Rt. 49 to its intersection with Alloway Creek at Quinton; then, southwest along the northern bank of the Alloway Creek to its intersection with the Delaware River; then northward along the east bank of the Delaware River and New Jersey State line to Finns Point and Fort Mott State Park; then northward along the New Jersey State Line [through Killcohook National Wildlife Refuge] to the Delaware River; then northwest along the east bank of the Delaware River; then northwestward along the east bank of the Delaware River and New Jersey State line to its intersection with the Salem Canal at Deepwater, the point of beginning. [The Supawna Meadows National Wildlife Refuge (Zone 59) is excluded from Zone 63.]

64. – 69. (No change.)

**(q) Deer Management Zones by Regulation Set**

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**This subsection describes regulations sets, specifies the applicable regulation set, special area or undesignated status of each deer management zone, and provides a summary, for information purposes only, of conditions applicable to the designated regulation sets.**

**1.Regulation Sets are used to organize regular deer management zones by season dates and bag limits, which are determined by the Division of Fish and Wildlife. The following table identifies the applicable regulation set, special area or undesignated status of each deer management zone.**

**1.**

<u>Zone</u>	<u>Regulation Set</u>	<u>Zone</u>	<u>Regulation Set</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>36</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>37</u>	<u>Special Area</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>Special Area</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>Special Area</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>Special Area</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>41</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>9</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>2</u>
<u>10</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>44</u>	<u>not designated</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>45</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>12</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>46</u>	<u>0</u>
<u>13</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>47</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>14</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>48</u>	<u>6</u>
<u>15</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>49</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>16</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>50</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>17</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>51</u>	<u>8</u>
<u>18</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>not designated</u>
<u>19</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>53</u>	<u>Special Area</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>not designated</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>Special Area</u>
<u>21</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>22</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>56</u>	<u>Special Area</u>
<u>23</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>57</u>	<u>Special Area</u>
<u>24</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>58</u>	<u>Special Area</u>
<u>25</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>59</u>	<u>not designated</u>
<u>26</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>60</u>	<u>not designated</u>
<u>27</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>61</u>	<u>Special Area</u>
<u>28</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>62</u>	<u>not designated</u>
<u>29</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>63</u>	<u>4</u>
<u>30</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>Special Area</u>
<u>31</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>3</u>
<u>32</u>	<u>not designated</u>	<u>66</u>	<u>Special Area</u>
<u>33</u>	<u>not</u>	<u>67</u>	<u>Special Area</u>



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<u>34</u>	<u>designated</u> <u>0</u>	<u>68</u> <u>70</u>	<u>Special Area</u> <u>Special Area</u>
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**Note: Zones defined as Special Areas are not assigned to Regulation Sets; their season dates and bag limits may be found by zone within sections 7:25-5.25, 5.26, 5.27, 5.28, 5.29, and 5.30.**

**2. The following is a summary, for information purposes only, of the season lengths, the opening and closing dates, as well as other conditions applicable to each regulation set. Actual season lengths and other conditions and limitations are specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.25 – 5.30 above. Should there be any inconsistency between the information below and the corresponding provision of N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.25 – 5.30, the provisions of N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.25 – 5.30 shall govern.**

**Regulation Sets by Season Lengths and Bag Limits**

<u>SET #</u>	<u>Fall Bow</u>	<u>Permit Bow</u>	<u>Youth Day</u>	<u>Six-Day Fire-arm</u>	<u>Permit Muzzle-loader</u>	<u>Permit Shotgun</u>	<u>Winter Bow</u>	<u>total day</u>
<u>0</u>	<u>24 days</u> <u>2 deer*</u>	<u>25 days-2deer*</u>	<u>2 days</u> <u>1 deer</u> <u>ea</u>	<u>6 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>9 days-2 deer*</u>	<u>1 day</u> <u>1 deer</u>	<u>27 days</u> <u>2 deer*</u>	<u>93 days</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>24 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>25 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>2 days</u> <u>1 deer</u> <u>ea</u>	<u>6 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>13 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>1 day</u> <u>1 deer</u>	<u>27days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>97 days</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>24 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>25 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>2 days</u> <u>1 deer</u> <u>ea</u>	<u>6 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>21 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>1 day</u> <u>1 deer</u>	<u>27 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>105 days</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>24 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>25 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>2 days</u> <u>1 deer</u> <u>ea</u>	<u>6 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>21 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>3 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>27 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>107 days</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>42 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>55 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>2 days</u> <u>1 deer</u> <u>ea</u>	<u>6 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>21 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>10 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>27 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>124 days</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>no zones designated</u>							
<u>6</u>	<u>42 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>55 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>2 days</u> <u>1 deer</u> <u>ea</u>	<u>6 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>50 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>32 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>27 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>124 days</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>no zones designated</u>							
<u>8</u>	<u>42 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>55 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>2 days</u> <u>1 deer</u> <u>ea</u>	<u>6 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>61days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>43 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>41 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>138 days</u>

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<u>9</u>	<u>42 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>55 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>2 days</u> <u>1 deer</u> <u>ea</u>	<u>6 days</u> <u>2 deer</u>	<u>65 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>47 days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>41days</u> <u>no limit</u>	<u>138 days</u>
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Note: The number of days per season may vary slightly from year to year due to annual calendar changes.

\* Bag limits include one antlered deer per season except during the six-day firearm season where the bag limit is two antlered deer only; the antlerless bag limit is one antlerless deer only in Regulation Set 0, in all other regulation sets as stated.

(r) The following is for informational purposes only and is a summary of the desired antlered deer harvest and overall management strategies applicable to each deer management zones as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.25 – 5.30.

Buck goals and management strategies by deer management zone

<u>ZONE</u>	<u>Buck Goal*</u>	<u>Deer Range</u>	<u>Strategy</u>
<u>1</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>75</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>2</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>149</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>3</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>153</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>4</u>	<u>4.5</u>	<u>71</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>5</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>215</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>6</u>	<u>4.5</u>	<u>176</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>7</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>8</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>203</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>9</u>	<u>4.5</u>	<u>52</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>10</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>110</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>11</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>68</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>12</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>152</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>13</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>109</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>14</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>165</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>15</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>16</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>91</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>17</u>	<u>3.5</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>18</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>70</u>	<u>Increase</u>
<u>19</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>159</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>20</u>	<u>not designated</u>		
<u>21</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>192</u>	<u>Increase</u>
<u>22</u>	<u>3.5</u>	<u>34</u>	<u>Increase</u>
<u>23</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>178</u>	<u>Increase</u>
<u>24</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>169</u>	<u>Increase</u>

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<u>25</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>164</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>26</u>	<u>3.5</u>	<u>195</u>	<u>Increase</u>
<u>27</u>	<u>3.5</u>	<u>103</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>28</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>125</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>29</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>64</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>30</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>43</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>31</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>40</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>34</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>97</u>	<u>Increase</u>
<u>35</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>171</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>36</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>124</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>37</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>20</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>38</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>12</u>	<u>Increase</u>
<u>39</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>40</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>41</u>	<u>7</u>	<u>39</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>42</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>90</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>43</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>27</u>	<u>Increase</u>
<u>44</u>	<u>not designated</u>		
<u>45</u>	<u>3.5</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>Increase</u>
<u>46</u>	<u>3.5</u>	<u>79</u>	<u>Increase</u>
<u>47</u>	<u>1.5</u>	<u>54</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>48</u>	<u>4</u>	<u>86</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>49</u>	<u>0</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>50</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>137</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>51</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>162</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>52</u>	<u>not designated</u>		
<u>53</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>8</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>54</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>10</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>55</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>5.6</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>56</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>57</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>58</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>59</u>	<u>not designated</u>		
<u>60</u>	<u>not designated</u>		
<u>61</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>62</u>	<u>not designated</u>		
<u>63</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>64</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>65</u>	<u>5</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>
<u>66</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>67</u>	<u>6</u>	<u>15</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>68</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>Decrease</u>
<u>70</u>	<u>3</u>	<u>1.5</u>	<u>Stabilize</u>

\* per square mile.

### 7:25-5.30 White-tailed deer bow permit season

(a) – (b) (No change.)

(c) Bag Limit: Only one antlered deer may be taken Statewide during the bow permit season, regardless of the number of permits obtained. [Hunters taking an antlered deer in accordance with the provisions set forth in this section must have a valid "Antlered Buck Stub Permit Bow Only" from their bow and arrow or all around sportsman license from the calendar year in which the season began.] Two deer, one antlered and one antlerless or two antlerless may be taken in [Zones 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 43, 45, 46, 53, 55 and 65] **zones in Regulation Sets 1, 2 and 3.** One antlered and an unlimited number of antlerless deer may be taken in [Zones 2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 37, 39-42, 47-51, 54, 57, 58, 61, 63, 66, 68, and 70] **zones in Regulation Sets 4, 6, 8 and 9 and in Zones 37, 39, 40, 53, 54, 57, 58, 61, 66, 68 and 70,** except as noted in (c)1 and 2 below. **One antlered and one antlerless deer may be taken in zones in regulation Set 0.** Only one deer may be taken at a time per permit until the season limit is reached. All supplemental tags are valid on the date of issuance and only in the zone for which the special season permit was issued. All deer registration requirements apply. [In Zones 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 36, 40, 41, 49, 50 and 51, Earn-A-Buck regulations are in effect until December 9, 2006. Beginning in 2007, Earn-A-Buck regulations are no longer in effect in Zones 7-15, 36, 41, 49, 50, 51, and 58.] **All deer must be legally registered either at a deer check station or via the automated deer check system. If the deer check station system is in use, [D]deer shall be tagged immediately with the bow and arrow permit "transportation tag", completely filled in, and shall be transported to a checking station before 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on the day killed to secure a legal possession tag. If the deer check station system is no longer in use, deer shall be tagged immediately with the bow permit season permit transportation tag completely filled in, and shall be registered via an ADCS, as designated by the Division, prior to the attempt to take an additional deer, except as in (c) above and no later than midnight of the day of harvest. Hunters must record the registration number given via the ADCS, which replaces the legal possession tag.** The legal possession tag must be securely affixed or locked before the deer is transported or removed from the authorized deer checking station. Hunters are responsible for legal possession tags being securely affixed or locked on the deer before leaving the deer check station. [In addition, hunters taking an antlered deer must immediately detach, date and initial the current year "Antlered Buck Stub-Permit Bow Only" from bow and arrow or all around sportsman license, and surrender the stub with the transportation tag at the checking station. Beginning in 2007, the "Antlered Buck Stub" requirement is discontinued.] The possession of a deer after 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on the date killed without a legal possession seal shall be deemed illegal possession **under the deer check station system. Possession of a deer after midnight on the date killed without a legal registration number shall be deemed illegal under the ADCS.** Upon completion of the registration of the first deer, one valid and proper "New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag" (supplemental tag) will be issued **by the deer check station** which will allow the person to continue hunting and take one additional **antlerless** deer during bow permit season,

provided the season is open. The supplemental tag shall be valid on the day of issuance and all registration requirements apply. [Beginning in 2007, s] Supplemental tags will only be issued for antlerless deer; no supplemental tags will be issued for antlered deer.

1. In [Zones 2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 37, 39-42, 47-51, 54, 57, 58, 61, 63, 66, 68, and 70] zones in Regulation Sets 4, 6, 8 and 9 and in Zones 37, 39, 40, 53, 54, 57, 58, 61, 66, 68 and 70, supplemental tags for the taking of a third and subsequent deer will be issued upon registration of deer at official deer checking stations until the season concludes. A supplemental tag may be used to take an antlerless deer, subject to the above provisions and is only valid in that deer management zone for which the special season permit was originally issued. The supplemental tag is valid on the date of issuance. All tagging and registration requirements apply.

2. In Zones 3, [6,] 9, 13, 27, 29, 35, 37, 40 and 63, it shall be illegal to kill, take or attempt to take any antlered deer which does not have a minimum of three antler points on one side. [Beginning in 2007, it shall be legal to kill, take or attempt to take an antlered deer with less than three antler points on one side in Zone 6.]

3. [Hunters may satisfy the "earn a buck" requirement for the permit bow season by taking two antlerless deer during the fall bow season in Zones 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 36, 40, 41, 49, 50 and 51. To be eligible to participate in this program, hunters must first register two antlerless deer at an official deer checking station designated as participating in the program by the Division. Upon harvesting the first antlerless deer, hunters will be provided with "Bank A Doe Harvest Record Card." In addition to name, phone number, address, date of birth and license number, the hunter is required to record the date of harvest, metal possession seal number and check station name on the card for both the first and second antlerless deer taken during the fall bow season. Hunters who take two antlerless deer from any earn a buck zone and satisfy the registration requirements of this section may take an antlered deer first during the permit bow season in Zones 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 36, 40, 41, 49, 50 and 51. Hunters who are successful in taking an antlered deer first during the permit bow season must register their deer at the same participating check station as where they registered their antlerless deer. Hunters must submit the Bank A Doe Harvest Record Card in addition to their buck tag and permit transportation tag when registering an antlered buck as their first deer at a participating deer checking station. Beginning in 2007, Earn-A-Buck and Bank-A-Doe regulations are no longer in effect.] **(Reserved.)**

(d) Duration of the bow permit season is as set forth in (d)1 through 6 below. There is no season in the following Zones: 38, 56, 64 and 67 or any time as determined by the Director. Legal hunting hours shall be 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

1. [October 28-November 25, 2006; October 27-November 24, 2007; November 1-29, 2008; October 31-November 28, 2009; and, October 30-November 27, 2010 in Zones 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 43, 45, 46, 55 and 65.] **The Saturday following the close of the fall bow season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.25(a)1 through the last Saturday in November in zones in Regulation Sets 0, 1, 2, 3; and Zone 70.**

2. [October 28-November 18 and November 23-December 23, 26-30, 2006; October 27 - December 24, 26-31, 2007; November 1 - December 24, 26-31, 2008; October 31 - December 24, 26-31, 2009; October 30 - December 24, 27-31, 2010; and October 29 -

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December 31, 2011 in Zones 7-15, 36, 41, 49-51, and 58.] **The Saturday following the close of the fall bow season as specified in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.25(a)1 through December 31, excluding Christmas Day, in zones in Regulation Sets 4, 6, 8 and 9; and in Zones 58 and 68.**

3. [October 29--December 31, 2005 and January 2--31, 2006; October 28, 2006--January 31, 2007; October 27, 2007--January 31, 2008; November 1, 2008--January 31, 2009;] October 31, 2009--January 31, 2010; [and] October 30, 2010--January 31, 2011; **October 29, 2011 – January 31, 2012; October 27, 2012 – January 12, 2013; and October 26 – January 13, 2014** in Zone 61.

4. [October 29--December 31, 2005; October 28--December 30, 2006; October 27--December 31, 2007;] November 1--December 31, 2008; October 31--December 31, 2009; [and] October 30--December 31, 2010; **October 29- December 31, 2011; October 27 – December 31, 2012; and October 26- December 31, 2013** in Zones 39, 40, 54 and 66.

5. [October 29--December 31, 2005; October 28--December 23, 26--30, 2006; October 27--December 24, 26--31, 2007; November 1--December 24, 26--31, 2008;] October 31--December 24, 26--31, 2009; and October 30--December 24, 27--31, 2010; **October 29 – December 24 and 26-31, 2011; October 27 – December 24 and 26-31, 2012; and October 26 – December 24 and 26-31, 2013** in Zone 37.

6. [October 29--November 26, 2005; October 28--November 25, 2006; October 27--November 24, 2007; November 1--29, 2008;] October 31--November 28, 2009; and October 30--November 27, 2010; **October 29 – December 31, 2011; October 27 – December 31, 2012; and October 26 – December 31, 2013** in Zone 53.

7. [October 28-December 23, 26-30, 2006; October 27-December 24, 26-31, 2007; November 1-December 24, 26-31, 2008; October 31-December 24, 26-31, 2009; October 30-December 24, 27-31, 2010; and October 29-December 24, 26-31, 2011 in Zones 2, 5, 16, 17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 42, 47, 48, 57, 63, 68, and 70.] **(Reserved.)**

(e) Antlerless bow permit season permits are valid only in the designated deer management zones or other designated areas and are not transferable. [Bonus]**Antlered** bow permits with antlered deer transportation tags may be used in any zone for which the hunter has already purchased an antlerless bow permit.

(f) Method: The taking of two deer one antlered and one antlerless or two antlerless except as noted in (c) and (c)1 above or the taking of deer as designated for special hunts with a bow under a bow permit season permit or a farmer bow permit season permit, is permitted in designated deer management zones by holders of a bow permit season permit and on the farm occupied and designated in the application by holders of a farmer bow permit season permit.

1. – 2. (No change.)

3. Limited quota, special deer permits for bow permit season will be issued on an individual basis to holders of valid and current bow licenses and qualified farmers. Limited quota, special deer permit zones include the following deer management zones: 37, 38, 39, 40, 53, 54, 57, 58, 59, 61 and 66. Only one antlerless bow permit season

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permit may be purchased per zone. Only one [bonus] **antlered** bow permit with antlered deer transportation tag may be purchased per season.

4. All other special deer permits for bow permit season will be issued on an individual basis to holders of valid and current firearm licenses and rifle permits via the Division's ELS or, in the event of ELS operating difficulties, by providing the same information at ELS locations through such alternate systems as may be designated by the Division. These permits may be issued beginning on the effective date of the current Game Code, or as authorized by the Division, through the last day of the season. Qualified applicants may purchase permits for the following deer management zones: 1-19, 21-31, 34-36, 41, 42, 43, 45-51, 55, 63, 65 and 68. Qualified farmers may obtain permits as provided in (i) below. Only one antlerless bow permit season permit may be purchased per zone. Only one [bonus] **antlered** bow permit with antlered deer transportation tag may be purchased per season.

(g) Permits consist of back display which includes a deer transportation tag or proper and valid "supplemental tag" [or a proper and valid bonus tag]. The back display portion of the permit will be conspicuously displayed on the outer clothing in addition to the valid bow license, and without the license in the case of the farmer bow and arrow permit season permit. The "Deer Transportation Tag" portion of the permit must be completely filled out and affixed to the deer immediately upon killing. This completely filled in deer transportation tag allows legal transportation of the deer of either sex to an authorized checking station **or to a location where the hunter may register his deer via an automated deer check system as designated by the Division** only. [Beginning in 2007, h] Hunters must use an antlered deer transportation tag from their [bonus] **antlered** bow permit, which is designated for use during the permit bow season, when registering an antlered deer. The [bonus] **antlered** bow permit with antlered deer transportation tag, which is valid only for the harvest of one antlered deer, must be purchased in addition to an antlerless bow permit. The [bonus] **antlered** bow permit with antlered deer transportation tag may be used in any zone for which the hunter has already purchased an antlerless permit. The [bonus] **antlered** bow permit with antlered deer transportation tag must be purchased prior to the season open or at the time of the purchase of the initial antlerless bow permit if the season has already begun. Personnel at the checking station will issue a "possession tag." Any permit holder killing a deer of either sex during this season must transport this deer to an authorized checking station by 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on date killed to secure the legal "possession tag." The legal possession tag must be securely affixed or locked before the deer is transported or removed from the authorized deer checking station. Hunters are responsible for legal possession tags being securely affixed or locked before leaving the deer check station. The possession of a deer of either sex after 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on date killed without a legal "possession tag" shall be deemed illegal possession **under the deer check station system. Possession of a deer after midnight on the date killed without a legal registration number shall be deemed illegal under the ADCS.** Any legally killed deer which is recovered too late to be brought to the check station by closing time must be immediately reported by telephone to the nearest Division of Fish and Wildlife law enforcement regional headquarters. Such deer must be brought to a checking station on the next open day to receive a legal

"possession tag." If the season has been concluded, such deer must be taken to a regular deer checking station on the following weekday to receive a legal "possession tag."

(h) – (i) (No change.)

(j) Bow, Occupant Farmer Bow and Non-occupant Farmer Bow Permit Season Permits shall be used as follows:

1. The antlerless [and bonus] bow and arrow permit season permits are valid only in the deer management zone (DMZ) designated and are not transferable from individual to individual. **The antlered bow permit is valid in any zone which the farmer has an antlerless permit for that season.** The bow and arrow permit season permit hunter is responsible for hunting in the correct DMZ or farm as indicated and in ascertaining the boundaries.

2. The occupant farmer antlerless [and bonus] bow permit season permits are valid only on the farm occupied and designated in the application and are not transferable from deer management zone to deer management zone, or from farm to farm or from individual to individual. **The occupant farmer antlered bow permit is valid in any zone which the farmer has an antlerless permit for that season.** The occupant farmer bow permit season permit hunter is responsible for hunting on the correct farm in the correct DMZ as indicated and in ascertaining the boundaries.

3. The non-occupant farmer antlerless [and bonus] bow season permits are valid only on private land within the deer management zone designated in the permit and are not valid on public lands within the DMZ. **The non-occupant farmer antlered bow permit is valid only on private land within the deer management zone designated on the non-occupant farmer antlerless permit, or in any other zone for which the farmer has purchased an antlerless bow permit.** The permits are not transferable from deer management zone to deer management zone or from individual to individual. The non-occupant farmer bow permit season hunter is responsible for hunting on private lands in the correct DMZ as indicated and in ascertaining the boundaries.

(k) The Deer Management Zone Map is on file at the Office of Administrative Law and is available from that agency or the Division. The [2006-2007, 2007-2008, 2008-2009, 2009-2010, 2010-2011, and 2011-2012] Bow Permit Season Quotas are as follows:

BOW PERMIT SEASON PERMIT QUOTAS

Deer Mgt. Zone No.	Season Dates Code	Permit Quota	Portions of Counties Involved
••• 37	5	[300] <b>330</b>	Burlington, Ocean (Fort Dix Military Reservation)
••• 61	3	[40] <b>60</b>	Atlantic (Atlantic County Park System)
•••			



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BOW PERMIT SEASON PERMIT QUOTAS

Deer Mgt. Zone No.	Season Dates Code	Permit Quota	Portions of Counties Involved
Total		59,915 <b><u>59,965</u></b>	

(l) (No change.)

(m) Permit quotas for Zones 37, 39, 40, 53, 54, 57, 58, 59, 61, [and] 66, **68 and 70** are contingent upon approval by the appropriate land management agencies for these zones.

(n) (No change.)

**7:25-5.31. White-tailed deer permit shotgun season and permit muzzleloader season, Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge (Zone 38)**

(a) – (b) (No change.)

(c) Duration of the Great Swamp Permit Shotgun Season and Permit Muzzleloader Season shall be from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset on the following dates: [November 12, 16-19, 2005; November 11, 15-18, 2006; November 10, 14-17, 2007; November 15, 19-22, 2008; November 14, 18-21, 2009; November 13, 17-20, 2010; and November 12, 16-19, 2011] **October 31, November 4-7, 2009; October 30, November 3-6, 2010; October 29, November 2-5, 2011; November 3, 7-10, 2012; and November 2, 6-9, 2013** (concurrent) or as may otherwise be designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. If the anticipated harvest of deer has not been accomplished during the season, one or more [of the following] days of shotgun and muzzleloader permit deer hunting may be authorized by the Director, [November 30 and December 1-3, 2005; November 29 and 30 and December 1 and 2, 2006; November 28-30 and December 1, 2007; December 3-6, 2008; December 2-5, 2009; and December 1-4, 2010.] Such authorization and date thereof would be announced by press and radio.

(d) Bag Limit: [One antlered deer may be taken with a Great Swamp Permit Shotgun Season Permit or a Great Swamp Permit Muzzleloader Season Permit provided that the hunter has a valid antlered buck stub for the appropriate season, and an unlimited number of antlerless deer, may be taken with a Great Swamp Permit Shotgun Season Permit or a Great Swamp Permit Muzzleloader Season Permit. Two deer may be taken at a time per permit.] **Two deer, one antlered and one antlerless, or two antlerless, may be taken provided that the hunter has the appropriate antlered season permit in addition to the Zone 38 antlerless season permit.** All tagging and registration regulations apply.

(e) (No change.)

(f) Method: The taking of the designated bag limit of deer with a Great Swamp (Zone 38) permit shotgun season permit or permit muzzleloader season permit will be permitted in designated areas of the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. A total of **200** [390] Great Swamp, shotgun permit season permits and **200** [10] muzzleloader permit season

permits will be issued. Daily hunter quotas, hunt procedures and hunting methods in this area shall be provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

(g)-(i) (No change.)

**7:25-5.34. Controlled hunting-hunting restrictions on wildlife management areas**

(a) No wildlife management areas have been selected for limited hunter density [for the 2005 - 2006; 2006 - 2007; 2007 - 2008; 2008 - 2009; 2009 - 2010; or 2010 - 2011 seasons]. However, hunting with firearms shall be prohibited on the day prior to the opening of the regular small game seasons for pheasant established in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.2 and quail established in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.3 [including November 12, 2005; November 11, 2006; November 10, 2007; November 8, 2008; November 7, 2009; and November 13, 2010] on those wildlife management areas designated as pheasant and quail stamp areas in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.33.

(b) (No change.)

**7:25-5.36 White-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) special biological permit**

(a) (No change.)

**(b) Special permits, known as Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) permits, may be issued by the Director, in his or her discretion, for the taking of antlerless deer during the Permit Bow, Permit Shotgun, or Permit Muzzleloader seasons subject to the requirements of this subsection. All requirements applicable to the aforementioned hunting seasons pursuant to this subchapter apply. DMAP permits are non-transferable.**

**1. In granting DMAP permits, the Director shall consider any data available to him/her including, but not limited to, damage done to crops or property, ecological damage, the hazard posed to safe airport operations, the biological condition of the herd, or any other special management problem occurring on the property for which the DMAP permit(s) are requested. The applicant shall also provide any existing management plans for the property which support the need for DMAP permit(s); and any available biological data collected from previous deer management efforts. The applicant and the hunters receiving DMAP permits and acting as agent(s) of the applicant shall adhere to the following conditions:**

**i. The applicant and their agents shall conform to applicable Federal, State, and local statutes, rules, codes, and ordinances pertaining to the use and discharge of firearms.**

**ii. The applicant and their agents shall comply with the means, methods of take, dates, hours, recordkeeping requirements, and other conditions prescribed by the Division and listed on the DMAP application. Failure to comply with any of the conditions or the provisions of this subsection or previous sections may be the cause for revocation of the permits and may cause the denial of subsequent permits.**

**iii. Only the bows or firearms prescribed for the hunting of deer by the Division in N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.23 and 5.24 may be used to kill deer. The permit(s) will not be issued until a field investigation is performed by Division personnel.**

- iv. The permits are valid only for the lands specified on the application.
  - v. All deer taken pursuant to the DMAP shall be tagged immediately with the transportation tag included on the permit. Any applicant or their agent killing a deer on a DMAP permit must transport this deer to an authorized checking station by 7:00 pm on the date killed to secure the legal possession tag. If the deer check station system is no longer in use, deer harvested under this permit shall be tagged immediately and checked in via the ADCS.
  - vi. Applicants or their agents must keep written daily records of all hunting activity and mortality, including the date, sex, age, weight, number of antler points, antler beam measurement, and possession tag number of any animal killed. Said records must be available to the Division for inspection upon request.
  - vii. Within two weeks of the conclusion of the deer season, the applicant shall file a written report of activities. The report shall include the conservation identification number (CID) of the agent(s), and the dates, sex, age, number of antler points, antler beam measurement, and weights of any deer taken, and any additional biological information that may be applicable. If no deer are killed, the agent's CID number and dates of activity shall be listed.
2. Permits will only be issued to properties in deer management zones with a limited antlerless bag limit, or if the regular zone quota of permits is sold out. Permits will be issued at a rate of one per 10 acres.
- i. DMAP permits will be priced at the same rate as regular deer season permits. Permits will be issued by the Division. Up to two DMAP permits may be issued per agent, per property.
  - ii. Each DMAP permit allows for the taking of two antlerless deer only.
  - iii. Pursuant to the provisions of N.J.S.A. 23:3-56.1, a farmer and his or her immediate family will be issued one DMAP permit per person, without charge.
  - iv. Applicants or agents hunting under the DMAP must have a valid and current hunting license and permits required for the appropriate season, with the exception of the farmer hunting license exemption, as specified in N.J.S.A. 23:3-1(e).

[(b)] (c) (No change in text.)