

Appendix A

Abstracts of the 2006 Massachusetts Fish & Wildlife Laws, Massachusetts
Migratory Bird Regulations for 2005-2006 Season
CACO Hunting Regulations
Waiver of Policy Regarding Pheasant Stocking/Hunting at CACO

Photos by Bill Byrne



ABSTRACTS **of the 2006** **Massachusetts** **Fish & Wildlife Laws**



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Wayne F. MacCallum, *Director*

Publication of this Document approved by Philmore Anderson III, State Purchasing Agent



From the Director

The emergence of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) in North American cervids (members of the deer family) poses a major threat to the health of our wild deer herds. CWD was first documented during the late 1960s in Colorado. Deer with this illness suffer tremors, excessive salivation, extreme behavior changes and extreme weight loss to the point that they become severely emaciated (skinny) and eventually die. In 1978, researchers identified this mysterious malady as a “transmissible spongiform encephalopathy,” a contagious neurological disease that attacks the brain tissue of infected animals.

The illness is caused by a strange agent called a prion. The prion is basically an ordinary protein found in the central nervous system and lymph tissues of its host, but for unknown reasons is folded in an abnormal way that changes it and provides it with immunity to the enzymes that would normally break it down. When a prion comes in contact with the normal form of the protein, it changes that protein, causing it to become another prion. Each prion then goes on to repeat the process, causing a chain reaction. Since the body is unable to destroy or eliminate prions, the result is an accumulation in the brain cells that ultimately destroys the normal cells and kills the host.

The disease, which occurs only in cervids, is thought to be passed from one animal to the next through contact with the saliva and/or urine of infected animals. It is particularly communicable in farm or artificial feeding situations, which isn't surprising given the high degree of contact and crowding that is typically present under such unnatural conditions.

CWD was first observed in captive deer in Colorado in 1967. By 1981 CWD had been found in free ranging wild deer and elk living in Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska, and in captive deer and elk in South Dakota, Oklahoma, Kansas, Montana, Alberta, Saskatchewan and South Korea. In 2001 the disease was detected in wild deer in Wisconsin near a captive deer and elk farm. State deer biologists across the nation responded, sampling brain tissue and testing for CWD in an effort to determine where else the disease might show up. This testing found the disease in captive animals in Minnesota, and east of the Mississippi in wild deer in Illinois.

The likelihood of CWD being found in Massachusetts seemed remote because the Fisheries & Wildlife Board had established regulations in 1995 prohibiting the farming of white-tailed deer and elk due to concerns that such animals had the potential to introduce diseases to our wild deer populations. The spread of CWD has instigated similar protective actions by other states. In fact, Massachusetts and its neighboring states have closed their borders to the importation of farmed deer and elk. Such importation bans further reduce the risk of this disease entering the Commonwealth.

Since 2002, 684 deer have been tested in Massachusetts through samples taken at deer check stations and from meat processing facilities or road-kills. We are pleased to report that CWD has **not** been detected in Massachusetts.

In 2005 CWD was reported from a deer in New York and another from West Virginia. Given the likelihood that the disease has spread because of the transport of captive deer and elk, and because of the possibility that the disease could spread through neurological tissue of animals taken from a CWD positive area to a “clean” area, the Fisheries & Wildlife Board voted to make it illegal to import, process or possess whole carcasses or parts of deer or elk (wild or captive) from states and Canadian provinces where CWD has been detected.

The only exceptions to the regulations are de-boned meat, cleaned skull caps, hides, upper canine teeth (buglers, whistlers and ivories) and taxidermy mounts. Restricting importation to these specific deer parts prevents the importation of neurological tissue — which is where the disease-causing prions are located — yet sportsmen and women hunting in “infected” states can still safely use any deer they harvest. Vermont, New Hampshire and Rhode Island have similar regulations in place and are consistent with regulations set or proposed to be set.



There is no indication that CWD poses any risk to humans. People have eaten deer and elk from infected areas of Colorado, Wyoming and Nebraska for more than 20 years. Epidemiologists with the Federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization have studied the disease intensively and have found no sign of a human health link. Meanwhile we have chosen to manage for the health and safety of the Massachusetts deer herd, so if you hunt deer or elk in a state or province in which CWD has been detected, check with their state fish and wildlife agency for any specific recommendations or regulations pertaining to CWD.

For more information on CWD or other wildlife topics, visit our website at www.masswildlife.org. Remember that your purchases of hunting and fishing licenses and stamps underwrite the research and management programs which conserve the wildlife of Massachusetts. Thank you for your continuing support!

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Wayne F. MacCallum, Director

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Commonwealth of Massachusetts

STEPHEN R. PRITCHARD, Secretary
Executive Office of Environmental Affairs

DAVID M. PETERS, Commissioner
Department of Fish and Game

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Table of Contents

Fishing	4-5
Species Regulations	4
Bait Regulations	4
Fish Consumption Advisories	5
Catch & Release Areas	5
Interstate Waters	5
Free Fishing Weekend	5
Sportfishing Awards Program	5
Marine Fisheries Information Hotline	14
Hunting	6-11
Species Regulations	6
Furbearer Check Stations	6
General Hunting Regulations	7
Wildlife Management Zones Map	Centerfold
Licenses & Permits	10
Massachusetts Gun Laws	11
Wildlife Management Area (WMA) Regulations	12
MassWildlife Information Directory	12
Public Access Information	12
MassWildlife Offices & Facilities Location Map	13
Boat Registration	14
Office of Law Enforcement Directory	14
Hunter Education Programs	15
Wildlife Education Programs	15

New This Year

New regulations prohibit the importation of any live cervid (member of the deer family) or any cervid carcass. Meat brought into Massachusetts from CWD-positive states or provinces must be de-boned and packaged.

Black Bear season has been extended and now runs from Sept. 5 - 23 and from Nov. 6 - 25. The bear hunting permit application is now attached to your hunting license.

These Abstracts contain a summary of the laws and regulations in place as of September 1, 2005. Any changes in law or regulation enacted after September 1 are distributed through our regular press releases to the news media, town clerk offices, all license sales outlets and on our website. These are not the complete laws (MGL Ch.131 and 321 CMR) and are subject to change.

To obtain a License to Carry or a Firearms Identification card, contact your local police department. For a nonresident License to Carry, a permit to own or possess firearms by aliens, or for more information on the gun laws, contact the Department of Public Safety, Firearms Record Bureau, 200 Arlington St. Suite 2200, Chelsea, MA 02150, tel. (617) 660-4780. License sales outlets may sell a hunting or sporting license only after seeing proof of a previous year's hunting license, a certificate of completion of a hunter education course, or a valid FID or License to Carry.

Please see page 11 for Massachusetts Gun Laws.

A hunting, fishing or trapping license is not a permit to trespass on private land, posted or not. Remember, your privilege to enter on private land is a courtesy extended to you by the owner. Practice courtesy yourself if you want to continue hunting or fishing.

Hunting, fishing, sporting, and trapping licenses do not have to be displayed in a visible manner, but they must be shown on demand to any officer empowered to enforce these laws, and to landowners or lessees while on their property.

FISHING

	ALL DATES INCLUSIVE	Daily Creel	Length ¹
TROUT²			
lakes, ponds, major rivers ³	Jan.1 - Dec. 31	3	—
all other rivers and brooks ⁴	April 1 - Sept. 10	8	—
	Sept. 11 - March 31	3	—
South Pond, Brookfield ⁵	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31	3	15"
LAKE TROUT			
Wachusett Reservoir ⁶	"	3	—
Quabbin ^{6,7}	"	4	less than 20"
		1	greater than 23"
SALMON (landlocked)	"	2	15"
SALMON (broodstock) ⁸	"	2	15"
AMERICAN SHAD	"	6	—
CHAIN PICKEREL	"	5	15"
BLACK BASS (Largemouth and Smallmouth, singly or combined):	"	5	12"
NORTHERN PIKE	"	1	28"
TIGER MUSKIE	"	1	28"
WALLEYE	"	5	14"
SMELT ⁹	Jan. 1 - Feb. 28	—	—
	May 16 - Dec. 31	—	—
ALL OTHER FRESHWATER SPECIES	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31	—	—

STRIPED BASS and HERRING: For current regulations call the Division of Marine Fisheries at (617) 626-1520, or visit their website at www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.

POSSESSION OF: Sturgeon (all species), American Brook Lamprey, Bridle Shiner, Burbot, Eastern Silvery Minnow, Lake Chub, Longnose Sucker, and Northern Redbelly Dace IS ILLEGAL! If caught RELEASE IMMEDIATELY.

¹Minimum length is measured as the straight line (not curved over the body) from the tip of the snout to the tip of the tail. Forked tails may be squeezed together for the final measurement.

²Trout applies to Brook, Brown, Rainbow and Tiger (a cross between a female brown and a male brook trout). From April 1 to September 10, no more than eight trout as defined may be taken daily, and only three of those trout may be from lakes, ponds, or major rivers. From Sept. 11 to Mar. 31, no more than three trout as defined, may be taken daily.

³Major Rivers: Childs, Coonamessett, Deerfield, Farmington, Green (Colrain), Green (Great Barrington), Ipswich, Jones, Mashpee, Millers, Nissitissit, North (Colrain), North (West Branch), Parker, Quaboag, Quinapoxet, Quinebaug, Seven Mile, Santuit, Scorton Creek, Shawsheen, Squannacook, Stillwater (Sterling, Princeton), Swift (East Branch), Swift (Winsor Dam to Ware River, except as posted), Tully (East and West Branches) Ware, Ware (East Branch), Westfield (All Branches).

⁴Mainstem Housatonic River from the confluence of the East and West Branches to the MA/CT line, exclusive of catch and release areas, limit one trout, minimum length 20 inches.

⁵Special brown trout water: Total daily creel is 3 trout but only 1 may be a brown trout and it must be at least 15 inches.

⁶Opening and closing dates are set by the Department of Conservation and Recreation. For Quabbin Reservoir call 413-323-7221, for Wachusett / Sudbury Reservoirs call 508-835-4816 or 978-365-3800. The use of lead fishing sinkers including, but not limited to, split shot, bullet weights, egg sinkers, slip sinkers, bell sinkers, pinch sinkers, rubber grip sinkers, bank sinkers, pyramid sinkers, or twist, strap or wraparound sinkers for the taking of fish in Quabbin and Wachusett Reservoirs is prohibited. Lead fishing sinkers DO NOT include other lead fishing-related items such as artificial lures, jigs, lead-core line, down-rigger weights, keel sinkers, torpedo casting and trolling sinkers, or weighted flies.

⁷Lake trout at Quabbin measuring 20"-23" (inclusive) are protected. NO HARVEST!

⁸The harvest of broodstock salmon (Atlantic salmon) is lawful in all inland waters of Massachusetts except in: 1) the Connecticut River and all its tributaries, and 2) the Merrimack River downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA and all its tributaries downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA. The possession of an Atlantic salmon (including broodstock salmon) while fishing in the Connecticut River and all its tributaries and in the Merrimack River downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA and all its tributaries downstream of the Essex Dam in Lawrence, MA is prohibited.

⁹Smelt may be taken by hook and line only.

Bait: Permit required to take baitfish for purpose of sale. Frogs (except leopard frogs) 2-1/2" or less snout to vent may be used as bait; 10 daily, 10 in possession. May not be sold. Baitfish may be taken by licensed anglers at any time (except for purposes of sale) with a rectangular net not exceeding 36 square feet of net area or by a hoop or circular net not exceeding 6 feet in diameter or with a fish trap with openings not exceeding one inch. The following species may be taken for personal use as bait by licensed anglers:

American eel	Banded killifish	Bluntnose minnow
Creek chubsucker	Emerald shiner	Fallfish
Fathead minnow	Golden shiner	Mummichog
Pumpkinseed	Rainbow smelt [‡]	Yellow perch
Spottail shiner	White sucker	

[‡] Hook and line only. Possession or use of smelt as bait in inland waters other than during the smelt season is prohibited.

Herring — for current regulations on the use and taking of herring contact the Division of Marine Fisheries, 617-626-1520 or www.mass.gov/marinefisheries.

Catch and Release Areas:

Artificial lures only. No bait in possession.

Housatonic River - From the Route 20 bridge in Lee downstream to Willow Mill Dam AND from Glendale Dam downstream to the R.R. bridge. No Fishing from June 15 - August 31 inclusive within 100 feet from the mouths of posted tributaries. Posted tributaries are: Beartown Brook, Goose Pond Brook, Hop Brook and Mohawk Brook.

Red Brook - From the outlet of White Island Pond to the inlet of Buttermilk Bay.

Nissitissit River - From the New Hampshire border to the Prescott St. Bridge. **FLY FISHING ONLY.**

Swift River - Winsor Dam to Rte. 9, catch & release **FLY FISHING ONLY** (year around); Rte. 9 to Cady Lane, catch & release July 1 - Dec. 31 (Artificials only).

Deerfield River - Fife Brook Dam to Hoosac Tunnel, and the section extending from Pelham Brook to the Mohawk Camp-ground.

Westfield River, East Branch - Immediately below the Chesterfield Gorge parking lot in Chesterfield to the gate north of the Corps of Engineers parking lot at Knightville in Huntington.

Millers River - Templeton/Athol railroad bridge to dam in Athol and from Wendell Rd. bridge in Orange to breached dam in Erving center.

Quashnet River - From the outlet of John's Pond to the sign 0.1 Mile below Route 28.

Fish Consumption Advisories: The MA Dept. of Public Health (MDPH), has issued a statewide advisory for pregnant women not to consume fish caught in fresh water due to elevated levels of mercury in fish. MDPH has also issued fish consumption advisories for the general public on selected bodies of water primarily due to PCB and mercury contamination. For more information or for a list of waters with fish consumption advisories, write or call the MDPH at 250 Washington Street, 7th Floor, Boston, MA 02108-4619; (617) 624-5757.

Interstate Ponds: Wallum Lake, Douglas: fishing permitted by persons duly licensed in Massachusetts or Rhode Island. Rhode Island regulations apply.

Lake Monomonac and Robbins Pond, Winchendon; Long Pond, Tyngsboro and Dracut; Bent Pond, Warwick; Tuxbury Pond, Amesbury: fishing permitted by persons duly licensed in Massachusetts or New Hampshire. New Hampshire regulations apply.

Colebrook Reservoir, Tolland; Perry Pond, Dudley; Muddy Pond, Southbridge; Breakneck Pond, Sturbridge; Congamond Lake, Southwick; Hamilton Reservoir, Holland: fishing permitted by persons duly licensed in Massachusetts or Connecticut. Connecticut regulations apply to Colebrook Reservoir, Breakneck Pond, Perry Pond and Muddy Pond. Massachusetts regulations apply to Congamond Lake and Hamilton Reservoir.

Sherman Reservoir, Rowe: MA regulations apply and MA license required in MA. Vermont regulations apply and VT license required in VT.

FREE FISHING WEEKEND

June 3 & 4, 2006 — **No license needed**

Spears, Bow and Arrows - May be used to take suckers, carp and eels only. Fishing license required.

PROHIBITED:

Explosives

Poisons

Rubbish in inland waters

Releasing fish or spawn into inland waters, except by permit.

Jug, toggle or trot line fishing.

More than two hooks for fishing or more than five hooks when ice fishing. A hook is defined as an angling device which is attached to a fishing line and which is designed to take one fish at a time, including, but not limited to, devices commonly called spinners, spoons, bait harnesses, lead head jigs or plugs, the purpose of which is to capture the fish by enticing it to take the device into its mouth.

Sale of freshwater fish without a permit.

Snagging

Transporting live fish (except bait) without a permit.

Avoid Aquatic Hitch Hikers!

INVASIVE PLANT AND ANIMAL SPECIES ARE A MAJOR ENVIRONMENTAL PROBLEM
ALWAYS WASH BOATS, MOTORS and TRAILERS, and ALWAYS EMPTY BAIT BUCKETS and LIVE WELLS
BEFORE MOVING from ONE BODY of WATER to ANOTHER.
DON'T BE RESPONSIBLE FOR CONTAMINATING NEW WATERS with INVASIVE SPECIES!

SPORTFISHING AWARDS

Awards for freshwater fish are offered in 22 categories. Each qualified entry receives a bronze pin. Largest fish in each category each year receives a "gold" pin and plaque. Fish must meet minimum weight requirements as listed below, and must be weighed on a certified scale at an official weighing station. Please check our website or send request with self-addressed stamped envelope to Field Headquarters for a list of weighing stations and more detailed regulations.

Largemouth Bass	7 lbs. 8 ozs.	Channel Catfish*	6 lbs. 0 ozs.
Smallmouth Bass	4 lbs. 8 ozs.	White Catfish*	4 lbs. 0 ozs.
Northern Pike	15 lbs. 0 ozs.	Bullhead*	1 lb. 12 ozs.
Tiger Muskie	10 lbs. 0 ozs.	Sunfish**	1 lb. 0 ozs.
Chain Pickerel	4 lbs. 8 ozs.	Walleye	5 lbs. 0 ozs.
Rainbow Trout	4 lbs. 0 ozs.	Crappie/Calico	2 lbs. 0 ozs.
Brown Trout	6 lbs. 0 ozs.	White Perch	1 lb. 8 ozs.
Brook Trout	2 lbs. 0 ozs.	Yellow Perch	1 lb. 8 ozs.
Lake Trout	7 lbs. 0 ozs.	Carp	20 lbs. 0 ozs.
Shad	5 lbs. 0 ozs.	Landlocked Salmon***	5 lbs. 0 ozs.
Brood Salmon	10 lbs. 0 ozs.	Tiger Trout	3 lbs. 0 ozs.

** Sunfish category includes bluegills, pumpkinseeds and rock bass.

*** Landlocked Salmon are recognized only from Quabbin & Wachusett Reservoirs

HUNTING

OPEN SEASON (All Dates Inclusive)
NO HUNTING ON SUNDAY

Species	Open season	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit	Season Limit
Birds:				
Crow ¹	Jan. 2 - Apr. 10 Jul. 1 - Apr. 10, 2007	-	-	-
Pheasant ²	Oct. 14 - Nov. 25	2	4	6
Quail ³	Oct. 14 - Nov. 25	4	8	20
Ruffed Grouse ⁴	Oct. 14 - Nov. 25	3	6	15
Turkey ⁵ Spring:				
Zones 1 - 10; 13:	Apr. 24 - May 20			
Zones 11 & 12:	Apr. 24 - May 6			
Fall:				
Zones 1 - 9; 13:	Oct. 30 - Nov. 4			
Waterfowl / migratory birds (including woodcock) see Migratory Bird Abstracts.				
Mammals:				
Black Bear ⁶	Sep. 5 - Sep. 23 Nov. 6 - Nov. 25		See Note # 6	
Bobcat ⁷	Jan. 2 - Mar. 8 Dec. 20 - Mar. 8, 2007		See Note # 7	
Cottontail Rabbit:				
Zones 1 - 12:	Jan. 2 - Feb. 28 Oct. 14 - Feb. 28, 2007	5	10	-
Zones 13 & 14:	Jan. 2 - Feb. 28 Nov. 15 - Feb. 28, 2007	5	10	-
Coyote ⁸	Jan. 2 - Feb. 28 Nov. 1 - Feb. 28, 2007	-	-	-
Deer (archery) ⁹	Oct. 16 - Nov. 25			
Deer (shotgun) ⁹				
Zones 1 - 11; 14:	Nov. 27 - Dec. 9			
Zones 12 & 13:	Nov. 27 - Dec. 2			
Deer (muzzleloader) ⁹	Dec. 11 - Dec. 30			
Fox (red or gray)	Jan. 2 - Feb. 28 Nov. 1 - Feb. 28, 2007	-	-	-
Gray Squirrel ¹⁰				
Zones 1 - 9:	Sep. 11 - Jan. 2, 2007	5	10	-
Zones 10 - 14:	Oct. 14 - Jan. 2, 2007	5	10	-
Jackrabbit ¹¹	Nov. 15 - Dec. 30	1	2	-
Opossum ¹²	Jan. 2 - Jan. 31 Oct. 2 - Jan. 31, 2007	-	-	-
Raccoon ¹²	Jan. 2 - Jan. 31 Oct. 2 - Jan. 31, 2007	3	-	-
Snowshoe Hare				
Zones 1 - 4:	Jan. 2 - Feb. 28 Oct. 14 - Feb. 28, 2007	2	4	-
Zones 5 - 12:	Jan. 2 - Feb. 4 Oct. 14 - Feb. 5, 2007	2	4	-
Zones 13 & 14:	Jan. 2 - Feb. 4 Nov. 15 - Feb. 5, 2007	2	4	-
Reptiles and Amphibians:				
Bullfrog & Green frog ¹³	Jul. 16 - Sep. 30	12	24	-
Snapping Turtle ¹³	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31	-	-	-

Hunting hours are from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset on each day of open season **except** for: (A) spring turkey, raccoon and opossum (see footnotes 5 & 12) and (B) WMA REG #10 (pg. 12) which states that no person shall hunt before sunrise or after sunset on any WMA where pheasant or quail are stocked during the pheasant or quail season (Oct.14 to Nov. 25) except for the hunting of raccoons and opossums between 9P.M. and 3A.M. (C) Hunting for rabbit, hare, fox and coyote which closes at midnight.

FURBEARER CHECK STATIONS: Check stations are located at all Wildlife District Headquarters, Bitzer and Sunderland State Fish Hatcheries, Newbury WMA Headquarters, and Westboro Field Headquarters (Monday - Friday excluding holidays). **Call check station prior to bringing pelts for sealing.**

1Crow - May be hunted only on Friday, Saturday and Monday during the open season. Hunting hours close 1/2 hr. after sunset except as noted in WMA Reg #10 (See hunting hours above).

2Pheasants - Zone from the New Hampshire border south on I-95 to I-495 south to I-95, north on I-95 to I-93/128, east on I-93/128 to Route 3, south on Route 3 to Route 228, north on 228 to the Hull town line. Cocks and hens west of zone line and on all Wildlife Management Areas. Cocks only east of zone line including Hull and in Dukes and Nantucket counties. See WMA Reg. #10 under hunting hours above.

3Quail - Season limited to Zones 11 - 14. See WMA Reg #10 under hunting hours above.

4Ruffed Grouse - see WMA Reg. #10 under hunting hours above.

5Turkey - Permit required. **Official safety sticker must be adhered to firearm in such a manner as to be visible when hunter is sighting down the barrel.** Send self addressed stamped envelope to MassWildlife's Field Headquarters office (See p. 13) if new or replacement sticker is needed. **Spring hunting hours:** 1/2 hour before sunrise to 12:00 noon. **Fall hunting hours:** 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hr. after sunset except as noted in WMA Reg #10 (See hunting hours above). **Bag limit:** (A) 2 bearded birds in spring season (1 per day) with NO fall bird allowed, **OR** (B) 1 bearded bird in spring season, and 1 bird of either sex in fall season. Hunting only with shotguns no larger than 10 gauge and restricted to shot sizes #4 - #6, or with bows 40 lbs. pull or greater. Electronic calls, dogs, bait, driving prohibited. Successful hunters must tag bird immediately (with tag attached to permit) and bring bird to an official checking station within 48 hours.

6Bear - Permit required - submit application attached to license to Westboro Field Headquarters prior to season opening. Zones 1 - 9 ONLY. Hunting only with rifle .23 caliber or larger, muzzleloader .44 - .775 caliber, bows with 40 lb. pull or greater, or revolvers .357 Magnum or .40 caliber or larger. Handguns permitted in September season only - **SHOTGUNS PROHIBITED.** Dogs prohibited for hunting and training (See: **Hunting Dogs**, page 10). Hunting hours close 1/2 hr. after sunset except as noted in WMA Reg #10 (See hunting hours above). Successful hunters must tag bear immediately (with tag attached to permit) and bring bear to an official checking station within 48 hours. **Limit 1 bear per year.**

7Bobcat - Hunting hours close 1/2 hour after sunset. Hunting limited to Zones 1 - 8. All bobcats taken must be checked within four working days of date of harvest. The Director will close the season when the total harvest reaches 50 animals.

8Coyote & Fox - Hunting hours end at midnight. Pelts must be tagged within four working days of the end of the season. **Rifles** chambered to take larger than .22 caliber long rifle rimfire ammunition, pistols and revolvers larger than .38 caliber between the hours of 1/2 hour after sunset and 1/2 hour before sunrise **are prohibited.** Weapons other than shotguns and bows and arrows are prohibited on WMAs stocked with pheasant or quail during the pheasant and quail season. Possession or use of any rifle chambered larger than .22 long rifle in any place where birds or mammals may be found in Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Plymouth, and Nantucket counties is prohibited, November 1 - March 31.

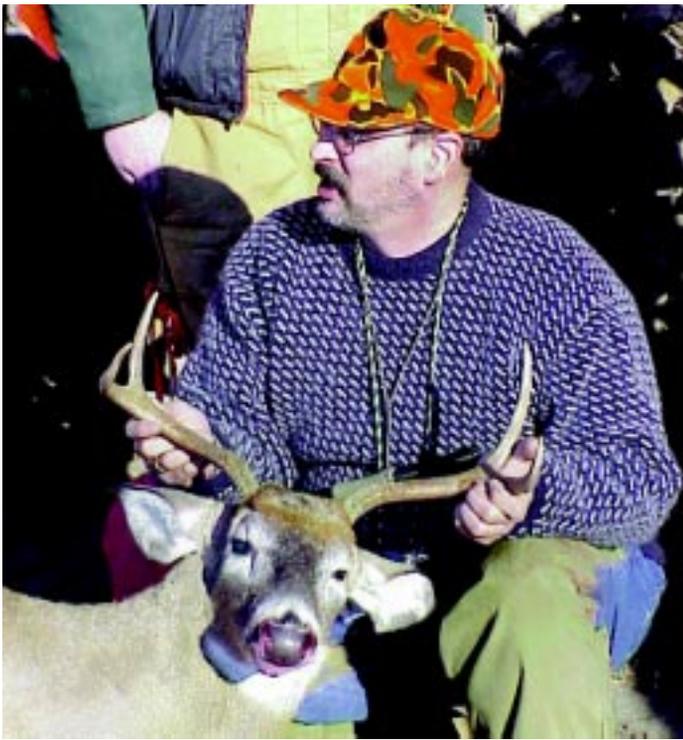
9Deer - **Hunting hours** begin 1/2 hour before sunrise and close 1/2 hr. after sunset except as noted in WMA Reg. #10 (See hunting hours pg.6).

ALL HUNTING SEASONS except waterfowl ARE CLOSED during shotgun deer season from Nov. 27 to Dec. 9 in Zones 1 - 11 & 14 and from Nov. 27 to Dec. 2 in Zones 12-13.

The following species may be taken by licensed hunters with no daily or seasonal bag limit: English sparrow, starling, chipmunk, flying squirrel, red squirrel, weasel, porcupine, skunk, woodchuck.

Closed season throughout the year on all birds and mammals not mentioned herein or in Massachusetts migratory bird regulations.

Hunter harassment is against state law. Report violations to the Office of Law Enforcement 1-800-632-8075 or state or local police and prepare to provide a description of violators.



Antlered deer- any deer with at least one antler 3 inches long measured on a straight line from the center of the anterior (front) base of the antler burr to the tip.

Antlerless deer- a permit is required to harvest antlerless deer during any season in all zones. Only one application per person. Applications must be postmarked no later than **July 16th**. Incomplete or late applications will not be accepted. Additional permits may be available in certain zones (see page 11 for details). Permits are accompanied by a zone specific tag and are valid in any season.

Note: Each 2006 antlerless deer permit will have a tag attached, valid for one antlerless deer, increasing the seasonal bag limit for anyone possessing an antlerless deer permit. If you hunt the archery, shotgun, or muzzleloader seasons, you must have an antlerless permit to take an antlerless deer. The number of deer a hunter may harvest statewide depends on the number of antlerless deer permits they purchase. A hunter may possess antlerless deer permits for more than one Zone. For example, if a hunter applies for a permit for Zone 5 through the drawing, and is selected for that permit, that hunter may purchase additional permits for a Zone that has permits available (such as Zone 10 or Zone 14). Permit availability depends on permit allocation and the number of applicants.

Tagging requirements- Immediately upon killing a deer and prior to moving it (during any deer season), the tag portion must be separated from the license or antlerless deer permit, filled out, and attached to the deer in a conspicuous manner. The deer must be taken to an official checking station by the person who killed it within 48 hours after killing it for validation by a Division of Fisheries and Wildlife representative. At that time the paper tag will be collected and a metal tag affixed. This constitutes the official report of kill as required by law. Deer taken on Nantucket, Martha's Vineyard or Cuttyhunk must be tagged on the island where shot. Deer must not be possessed, transported, or under a person's control unless the deer, or a part of the deer, is open to view. However, after the deer has been tagged with an official metal seal, the deer may be concealed.

After killing 2 deer (except for persons with unused valid deer tags) a person shall not hunt for any bird or mammal other than deer, during the remainder of the shotgun deer season. This does not apply to hunting waterfowl on coastal waters.

Daily bag: the daily bag limit is determined by the number of valid tags a hunter possesses. Hunters possessing one deer may take an additional deer before presenting the first deer at an official check station. However, all deer must be taken to a check station within 48 hours of being killed.

Yearly bag: 2 antlered deer, and as many antlerless deer as the hunter has valid permits for, **PROVIDED:**

(A) Hunters may purchase additional antlerless deer permits for **available zones** subject to an overall quota in each zone.

(See p. 11 for antlerless deer permit regulations.)

(B) Hunters may take a maximum of two (2) deer in the **Quabbin** Reservation, both of which may be antlerless, provided the hunter obtains a second antlerless deer permit after checking their first antlerless deer at a Quabbin check station. **Antlerless** deer taken in the Quabbin are not considered part of the statewide bag limit. **Antlered** deer taken in the Quabbin are part of the statewide bag limit.

No person shall kill an antlerless deer unless he or she possesses on his or her person a permit from the director to do so.

During shotgun season hunters may use shotguns not larger than 10 gauge, bows and arrows, or muzzleloaders, including modern muzzleloaders, muzzleloaders with telescopic sights, and sabot rounds in muzzleloaders, including hinge action muzzleloaders.

During shotgun and muzzleloader seasons all deer hunters must wear a minimum of 500 square inches of "hunter orange" on their head, chest, and back. This includes archers hunting during either season (see page 10).

The possession of rifles, handguns, or dogs in any woodland or field, on any highway, or use of same on any game, is **prohibited** during the shotgun deer season except that the use of dogs is lawful for hunting waterfowl on coastal waters.

Driving deer is lawful.

Quabbin Controlled Hunt: Contact Dept. of Conservation & Recreation (413-323-7221) in June for information. Must apply by August 15.

Muzzleloader Season - Limited to shoulder-fired muzzleloaders .44 to .775 caliber; barrel length 18" or more with only one barrel operative. In-line ignition systems permitted providing rifle loads from muzzle. Hinge action muzzleloaders are not legal. Single projectile only (no buckshot). Sabot rounds, 209 primers and scopes are legal. Powder limited to black powder or approved substitutes. Firearm is considered unloaded when cap or pan powder is removed. Stamp required. **An antlerless deer permit is required by muzzleloader hunters in order to take an antlerless deer.** Archers may hunt during the muzzleloader firearms season but must purchase a primitive firearms stamp and wear at least 500 square inches of hunter orange on head, back and chest.

Paraplegic Season: There is a special deer hunt for paraplegic sportsmen. Contact Field Headquarters for information (508)792-7270.

10 Gray Squirrel - Rifles and handguns permitted in Zones 1 - 9; prohibited in Zones 10 - 14. No person shall hunt before sunrise or after sunset on any WMA where pheasant or quail are stocked during the open season on pheasant or quail (Oct. 14 to Nov. 25) except for the hunting of raccoons between 9PM and 3AM (WMA Reg #10, pg. 12). No person shall hunt by any means other than shotgun or bow and arrow during the pheasant and quail season on areas stocked with pheasant or quail except for hunting raccoons or opossums between 9PM and 3AM (WMA Reg. #9, pg.12).

11 Jackrabbit - Season limited to Nantucket County — Zone 14.

12 Raccoon & Opossum - Limit of 3 raccoon from sunset of one day to sunset of following day by one person; 6 by two or more persons hunting in same group. No limit on opossum. Night hunting on Wildlife Management Areas (except Delaney and Flint Pond WMAs) is permitted from sunset to sunrise excepting from Oct. 14 to Nov. 25 on areas stocked with pheasant or quail, when raccoon and opossum may be hunted only from 9PM to 3AM.

13 Bullfrog, Green frog, Snapping Turtle - No license required. Minimum size for frogs 3" snout to vent.

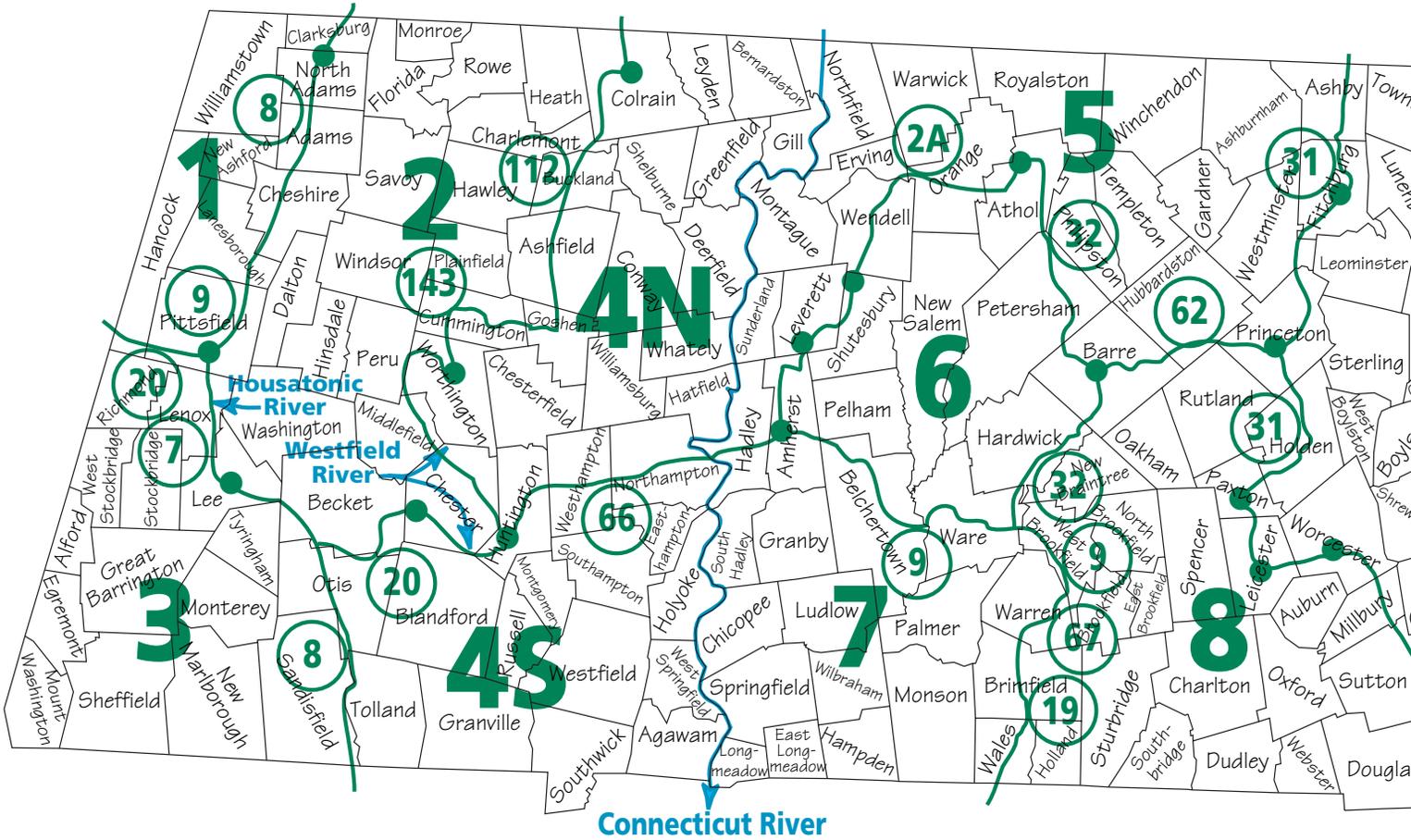
HUNTING REGULATIONS

Accidents - All hunting injuries or deaths **MUST** be reported to state, local police, and/or environmental police.

Archery - Poisoned arrows, or explosive tips or bows drawn by mechanical means are prohibited. Mechanical releases permitted.

(Continued, Page 10)

Wildlife Management



Zone 01 - Northerly by the Vermont border; westerly by the New York border; southerly by a line running along Rte. 20 to the junction with Rte. 7 in Pittsfield; north on Rte. 7 to Rte. 9 and east on Rte. 9 to the junction of Rte. 8.; and easterly by a line running from the Vermont border south along Rte. 8 to Rte. 9 in Pittsfield.

Zone 02 - Northerly by Vermont border; westerly by zones 01 and 03; southerly by the Mass. Turnpike (I-90) from the intersection with the Housatonic River in Lee, east to the intersection (dead end) with Bonny Rigg Hill Road in Becket; and easterly by a line running from the Vermont border south along Rte. 112 to Rte. 143 in Worthington, along Rte. 143 west to the intersection with the middle branch of the Westfield River, then south along the middle branch of the Westfield River to the intersection with the East branch of the Westfield River, south along the East branch of the Westfield River to Rte. 20 in Huntington, west along Rte. 20 to Bonny Rigg Hill Road in Becket, south on Bonny Rigg Hill Road to the intersection with the Mass. Turnpike.

Zone 03 - Northerly by zones 01; westerly by the New York border; southerly by the New York and Connecticut borders; and easterly by a line running south along the Housatonic River from the junction with Rte. 9 in Pittsfield to the junction with Rte. 20 in Lee, east along Rte. 20 to the junction with Rte. 8 in West Becket, and south on Rte. 8 to the Connecticut border.

Zone 04 North - Northerly by the Vermont border; westerly by zone 02; southerly by a line running north from the intersection of Rte. 20 and the East branch of the Westfield River in Huntington along the East branch of the Westfield River to the intersection with Rte. 66, along Rte. 66 to the intersection with Rte. 9 in Northampton, to the intersection with the Connecticut River at the Northampton/Hadley town line; and easterly by the Connecticut River.

Zone 04 South - Northerly by zones 02 and 04N; westerly by zone 03; southerly by the Connecticut Border; and easterly by the Connecticut River.

Zone 05 - Northerly by the New Hampshire border; westerly by the Connecticut River; southerly by a line running from the intersection of the Connecticut River and Rte. 9 at the Northampton/Hadley line east along Rte. 9 to Rte. 116 in Hadley, north along Rte. 116 to Rte. 63 in North Amherst, east along Rte. 63 and Pine Street to State Street, northeast along State Street and East Leverett Road to Cushman Road, along Cushman Road to Shutesbury Road in East Leverett, east on Shutesbury Road and Leverett Road to Wendell Road in Shutesbury Center, north

along Wendell Road to Locks Pond Road, north on Locks Pond Road to Lake View Road, northeast on Lake View Road to Locks Village Road, north along Locks Village Road to Depot Road in Wendell, north on Depot Road to Rte. 2A in Wendell Depot, east on Rte. 2A to Rte. 32 in Athol, south on Rte. 32 to Rte. 62 in Barre, and east on Rte. 62 to the intersection with Rte. 31 in Princeton.

Zone 06 - Northerly by zone 05; westerly by zone 05; southerly by a line running from the intersection of Rte. 9 and Rt. 116 in Hadley, east along Rte. 9 to the intersection with Rte. 32 in Ware; and easterly by a line running from the intersection of Rte. 32 and Rte. 62 in Barre, and easterly, south along Rte. 32 to the intersection with Rte. 9 in Ware.

Zone 07 - Northerly by zones 05 and 06; southerly by the Connecticut border; easterly by a line running from the intersection of Rte. 9 and Rte. 32 in Ware, east along Rte. 9 to the intersection with Rte. 67, southwest along Rte. 67 to the intersection with Rte. 19 in Warren, and south along Rte. 19 to the Connecticut border.

Zone 08 - Northerly by zone 05; southerly by the Connecticut and Rhode Island borders; easterly by the following: Rte. 31 in Princeton south to Rte. 56 south to Rte. 9 in Leicester, Rte. 9 east to Cambridge Street in Worcester, Cambridge Street east to Rte. 146, Rte. 146 southeast to the Rhode Island border, westerly by zones 06 and 07.

Zone 09 - Northerly by the New Hampshire border; southerly by the Rhode Island border; easterly by the following: Rte. 3 from New Hampshire southeast to Rte. I-495 south to Rte. 121 in Wrentham, 121 southwest to the Rhode Island border; westerly by zones 05 and 08.

Zone 10 - Northerly by the New Hampshire border; southerly by the following: Rte. 1A northeast from Walpole to Rte. 128, Rte. 128 east to Rte. 228, Rte. 228 north to the Atlantic Ocean; easterly by the Atlantic Ocean; westerly by zone 09.

Zone 11 - Northerly by zones 09 and 10; southerly by Buzzard's Bay and the Cape Cod Canal; easterly by the Atlantic Ocean; westerly by the Rhode Island border.

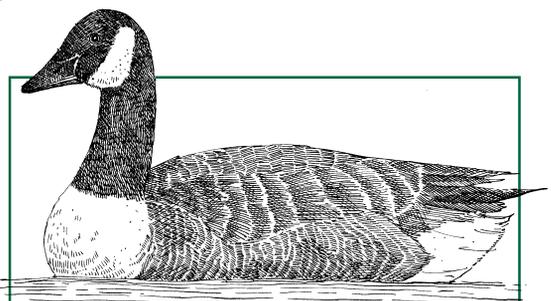
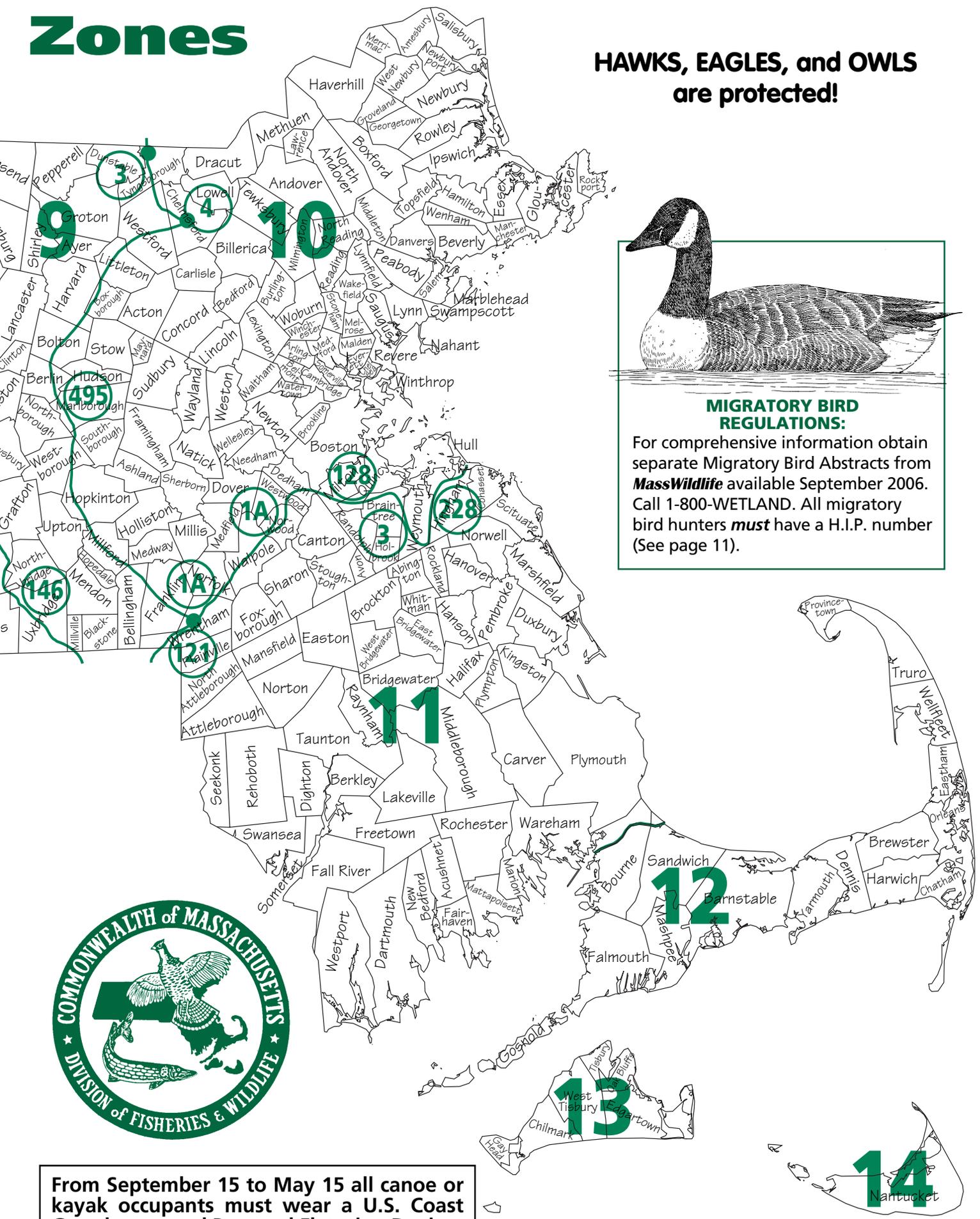
Zone 12 - Northerly, southerly and easterly by the Atlantic Ocean; westerly by zone 11.

Zone 13 - Dukes County.

Zone 14 - Nantucket.

Zones

HAWKS, EAGLES, and OWLS are protected!



MIGRATORY BIRD REGULATIONS:

For comprehensive information obtain separate Migratory Bird Abstracts from **MassWildlife** available September 2006. Call 1-800-WETLAND. All migratory bird hunters **must** have a H.I.P. number (See page 11).



From September 15 to May 15 all canoe or kayak occupants must wear a U.S. Coast Guard approved Personal Flotation Device.

(Continued from Page 7)

Arrows used on deer, bear or turkey must have well-sharpened steel broadhead blades not less than 7/8 of an inch in width. Recurve or long bows for deer, bear or turkey hunting must have at least 40 lbs. pull at 28" or at peak draw weight for compound bows. No arrows may be released within 150 feet of, or across, any state or hard-surfaced highway and hunting is prohibited within 500 feet of any dwelling or building in use, unless authorized by owner or occupant thereof.

Antlerless deer permit required to take antlerless deer in any zone during archery deer season (Oct. 16 - Nov. 25), in addition to a hunting or sporting license. Archers, while hunting deer, shall not possess firearms on their person or use dogs. (See deer regulations this page for daily and seasonal bag limits, and antlerless deer permit regulations on page 11.) Archers may hunt with a bow and arrow during the shotgun season and muzzleloader season but must comply with the shotgun or muzzleloader season regulations. **Crossbows may be used by certain permanently handicapped persons by permit only.** For regulations and an application, visit our website or contact MassWildlife at (508) 792-7270.

Hunter Orange - No person shall hunt during the pheasant or quail season on public shooting grounds or Wildlife Management Areas where pheasant or quail are stocked without wearing a "hunter orange" cap or hat except while night-hunting for raccoons or while hunting waterfowl from a blind or boat.

During the period when it is legal to hunt deer with a shotgun, all hunters, except waterfowl hunters hunting within a blind or from a boat, must wear, in a conspicuous manner on chest, back, and head, a minimum of 500 square inches of "hunter orange" clothing or material. During the muzzleloader season deer hunters only must comply with the hunter orange requirement.

Hunting Dogs - May be trained at any time (except during the shotgun season on deer) provided no firearms other than pistol or revolver and blank cartridges are used or possessed. No sporting or hunting license necessary. During the shotgun season on deer, dogs may be used for waterfowl hunting on coastal waters only. Hunting bear or bobcat with dogs, or training dogs on those species, is prohibited.

Reptiles and Amphibians - No open season on 25 species: hunting, taking, possessing alive prohibited. Regulations available from MassWildlife. Possession limit of 2 on all others except bullfrog, green frog, or snapping turtle. (See p. 6).

Tree Stands - Must have written permission of landowner to construct or use any tree stand held in place with nails, bolts, etc., or in place for more than 30 days.

PROHIBITED

Artificial Lights for hunting any bird or mammal except raccoon and opossum.

Baiting wild birds, bear or deer.

Careless or negligent use of firearms.

Choke Traps, Leghold Traps or Nets for taking any bird or mammal.

Decoys for hunting deer.

Discharge of any Firearm or release of any arrow upon or across any state or hard-surfaced highway, or within 150 feet of any such highway, or possession of a loaded firearm, discharge of a firearm or hunting on the land of another within 500 feet of any dwelling or building in use, except as authorized by the owner or occupant thereof.

Electronic Calls for hunting migratory game birds, wild turkey, or deer.

Ferretting, possession of non-vaccinated / unneutered ferrets / fitches without permit. It is unlawful to hunt with a ferret.

Hunting on Posted Land without permission.

Hunting on Sunday.

Importation, transportation, liberation or possession of any live vertebrate protected under Chapter 131 of the General Laws except under permit from the Director.

Intoxication and Drugs - No person under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs shall hunt, target shoot, carry a firearm, bow and arrow or other weapon.

Loaded Shotgun or rifle in or on any motor vehicle, recreational vehicle (including snowmobiles), aircraft or motor boat, except as stated in the Migratory Bird Hunting Abstracts.

Machine Guns, fully-automatic firearms, any crossbow, any tracer or incendiary ammunition for hunting. Crossbows allowed for certain handicapped persons only (see Archery).

Motor Vehicles, Recreational Vehicles (including Snowmobiles), Aircraft for hunting any bird or mammal.

Possession of any protected wildlife and/or wild plants, dead or alive, taken from the wild, except by permit.

Power or Sailboats for hunting birds except when beached or tied to blind or for retrieving injured birds.

Removal of any mammal from walls, holes in trees, ground or logs.

Rifles chambered to take larger than .22 caliber long rifle rimfire ammunition, pistols and revolvers larger than .38 caliber between the hours of 1/2 hour after sunset and 1/2 hour before sunrise. Weapons other than shotguns and bows and arrows are prohibited on WMAs stocked with pheasant or quail during the pheasant and quail season. Possession or use of any rifle chambered larger than .22 long rifle in any place where birds or mammals may be found in Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Plymouth, and Nantucket counties November 1 - March 31, except during daylight hours on target ranges and except for the use of rifled caplocks or flintlocks during muzzleloader deer season, or rifled barrel shotguns during the shotgun deer season.

Sale of all species of mammals and birds or parts thereof, except heads, hides and hooves of deer.

Shotgun Ammunition - Except during the prescribed open season when deer may be hunted lawfully with a shotgun, a person shall not have in his possession a shotgun shell loaded with a rifled slug, single ball, buckshot of any size, BB shot or air rifle shot in any place where birds or mammals may be found except on a skeet, trap or target range between sunrise and sunset, or **except** as specified in Migratory Bird Hunting Abstracts.

Swivel or Pivot Guns for hunting any bird.

Taking Nests, destroying or disturbing eggs or nests of birds protected by law.

Target Shooting on Sunday except on one's own property or on a recognized range.

Traps for taking birds except under permit. All traps except cage or box traps and common mouse or rat traps are unlawful for the taking of fur-bearing mammals.

Vandalism or damage to property or livestock.

LICENSES & PERMITS

Licenses, stamps, permits, and boat registration renewals are now available online at mass.gov/massoutdoors. Anyone holding an electronic license may subsequently purchase stamps, permits or boat registration renewals over the Internet. Persons holding traditional licenses must purchase permits, stamps and licenses at license sales outlets in the traditional way.

Licenses are valid from Jan. 1 through Dec. 31 (except for limited term licenses).

Licenses are issued by: most city and town clerks, all MassWildlife offices and selected other outlets. Application may be made in person or by mail, or by agent of applicant. NOTE: City and town clerks MUST add an additional One Dollar (\$1.00) and other sales agents MAY add up to an additional One Dollar and Fifty Cent (\$1.50) service fee to the price of each license sold. NO SERVICE FEE is added to the price of licenses at MassWildlife offices.

Licenses are required for all persons 15 years of age and over for fishing (inland waters) and hunting (any bird or mammal). Trapping license 12

years and over. License must be shown on demand to any officer empowered to enforce these laws and to landowners, or lessees while on their property. No F.I.D. card needed if 12 to 14 years of age, or for bowhunting. Face of license must not be obscured. **NOTE:** No adult may buy a hunting or sporting license unless he shows the issuing agent a previous year's hunting or sporting license (from any state), a certificate of competency issued by MassWildlife's Hunter Education Program, a License to Carry, or a F.I.D. card. Licenses for minors see page 11.

Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (H.I.P.) provides the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service with migratory game bird harvest estimates for ducks, geese and other migratory game birds. Hunter cooperation is a critical part of gathering this information and managing game bird populations. Woodcock, rail, coot, snipe and waterfowl hunters **must** have a Harvest Information Permit (H.I.P.) number. This number can be obtained annually by calling **1-800-WETLAND**, and completing a seven question survey. There is no charge for the permit.

Waterfowl Consumption Advisory: The MA Department of Public Health has issued a waterfowl consumption advisory for the Housatonic River due to PCBs. For more information call the MDPH at (617) 624-5757.

Bear Permit - Bear permit applications are attached to hunting/sporting licenses. \$5.00 fee **MUST** accompany each completed application. Current holders of electronic licenses may purchase permits on-line. Submit application by July 15 to ensure timely processing.

Wild Turkey Permit - Application is on the duplicate slip of hunting / sporting license. Current holders of electronic licenses may purchase permits on-line. Apply by March 15 for spring season & Sept. 15 for fall season to ensure entry in the permit system. \$5.00 fee **MUST accompany application**. One fee covers both seasons.

Antlerless Deer Permit is required to take antlerless deer during shotgun, archery and muzzleloader seasons in all zones. (Application is on hunting / sporting license.) **DO NOT send fee with application.** Selection is by random drawing. Applications must be submitted by **July 16**. Successful applicants will be notified and assessed a \$5.00 fee. Additional permits, if available after drawing, will be issued at all District Offices and Westboro (in person only) until the overall quota for each zone is reached. Applicants must have original hunting license and \$5.00 fee for each permit requested. Permits for zone 13 and 14 may also be requested by mail from the Westboro office or at check stations on each island. **NOTE:** A fifteen dollar (\$15) fee will be charged for all returned checks.

For a listing of Turkey, Bear and Deer check stations, visit our website or send a Self-addressed Stamped Envelope to Field Headquarters, Westboro.

STAMPS

Archery Stamp (\$5.10), required to hunt deer with a bow from Oct. 16 - Nov. 25. Stamp must be signed across the face in ink and attached to the rear of the license.

Primitive Firearms Stamp (\$5.10 each), required to hunt deer with a muzzleloader or with archery equipment Dec.11 - 30. Stamp must be signed across the face in ink and attached to the rear of the license.

Mass. Waterfowl Stamp - required in addition to Federal Stamp. Stamps shall be signed across the face in ink and in possession while hunting waterfowl. (Not needed for Woodcock, Snipe, or Rails)...\$5.00

Residency Requirement - To obtain a resident license applicant must reside in Mass. for 6 consecutive months immediately prior to purchase. **Nonresidents** - A big-game license is required to hunt deer, bear and turkey. **Aliens** must obtain a permit from the Dept. of Public Safety for possession of firearms prior to obtaining a hunting license.

Minors 15 through 17 years of age are required to be licensed and to have required stamps and permits. To obtain a license a minor must have a Hunter Education Certificate, an FID card, or a letter signed by a parent affirming that the minor will be accompanied by an adult while hunting. Minors between 12 and 14 inclusive may hunt when accompanied by a duly licensed adult, provided that a single bag limit shall be observed and only one firearm/bow is possessed by the two. Only one minor per adult is permitted.

Special Licenses or Permits are necessary for possession or release of certain wildlife and for dealers, propagators, wildlife rehabilitators, taxidermists and/or fur buyers. Apply to the MassWildlife Boston office, Permit Section, 617-626-1575. Contact Field Headquarters in Westboro, 508-792-7270, for permits for falconry, problem animal control or shooting preserves.

No license is required by any legal resident of the Commonwealth or member of his immediate family for hunting, fishing or trapping on land owned or leased by him which is used principally for agriculture, if he is or they are actually domiciled thereon.

Penalties - License revoked for one year in addition to other penalties and fines and restitutions of up to \$1,000 and/or 1 year in jail. Careless and negligent use of firearms - fines of up to \$500 and/or 6 months imprisonment and loss of license for 5 years.



MASSACHUSETTS GUN LAW:

Possession: No License to Carry (LTC) or Firearms Identification (FID) Card is needed by bow hunters, nor by minors 12-14 years old hunting with a duly licensed adult, nor for the possession of primitive rifles or shotguns as defined in Chapter 140, Section 121, or their ammunition. However, an LTC or FID is required to purchase all ammunition, including black powder and Pyrodex. For hunting, resident citizens ages 15 and over must have an FID Card to possess a non-large capacity rifle or shotgun. An LTC is needed to possess large capacity rifles and shotguns and all handguns. Non-residents with a valid Massachusetts non-resident hunting license do not need an LTC or FID to possess or carry a rifle or shotgun, but must carry their firearms unloaded and in a case while traveling in their vehicles. Non-residents **may not** purchase guns or ammunition in Massachusetts.

Caution: Massachusetts public safety laws define primitive arms differently from the laws and regulations of *MassWildlife*.

Travel: Rifles, shotguns, and muzzleloaders may not be carried in or on motor vehicles, nor may they be carried on public ways, unless they are unloaded and in an enclosed case, or the person is lawfully engaged in hunting. A large capacity rifle or shotgun must be carried unloaded, and contained within a locked trunk or in a locked case or other secure container.

Storage: State law requires that whenever a gun is not under your direct control, it must be kept in a locked container or equipped with a tamper resistant mechanical lock. Muzzleloaders are exempt from this requirement.

TRAPPING: For comprehensive trapping information obtain separate Trapping Abstract from MassWildlife available October 2006.



WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA REGULATIONS

MassWildlife holds 116 Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and 13 wildlife sanctuaries. Maps are available from Field Headquarters, Westboro.

1. No person shall possess any alcoholic beverage except under permit or dump or discard any can, bottle or rubbish.
2. No person shall remove vegetation, soil or stones from any WMA except under permit.
3. No person shall use excessive speed in driving a vehicle.
4. No person, unless under permit, shall drive or possess any vehicle except on roads or trails maintained for public traffic.
5. No person shall deface or tamper with any sign, building or equipment.
6. No person shall build or maintain a fire without written permission from the Director of *MassWildlife* or his designee.
7. No person shall camp within any WMA without written permission from the Director or his designee.
8. No person shall engage in target practicing without written permission from the Director or his designee.
9. No person shall use any means other than shotgun or bow and arrow during the pheasant and quail season on areas stocked with pheasant or quail except for hunting raccoons between 9PM and 3AM.
10. No person shall hunt before sunrise or after sunset on any WMA where pheasant or quail are stocked during the open season on pheasant or quail, Oct. 14 to Nov. 25, except for the hunting of raccoons between 9PM and 3AM.
11. No person shall hunt during the pheasant or quail season on wildlife management areas where pheasant or quail are stocked without wearing a "hunter orange" cap or hat except while night hunting for raccoons or while hunting from a blind or boat.
12. No person, except under permit, shall dig or disturb any artifact or archaeological remains.
13. The Director may make special regulations to handle special situations peculiar to any WMA. Controlled hunts are in effect at certain times on Burns, Delaney and Ludlow WMAs. Contact District Supervisor for details.

Any landowner permitting use of his property for recreation without charging a fee is **not liable** for injuries to recreational users or their property except in cases of willful, wanton or reckless conduct by the owner.
(Chapter 21, Section 17C MGL)

The Massachusetts Wildlife Viewing Guide & The Critters of Massachusetts

The *Massachusetts Viewing Guide* is 96 pages of wonderful trips to see wildlife and their habitats, from the summit of Mt. Greylock to the depths of Stellwagen Bank. \$8.95 at any *MassWildlife* office, or send \$8.95 plus \$2.00 for postage and handling to the Westboro Field Headquarters, One Rabbit Hill Rd. Westboro, Ma. 01581. *The Critters of Massachusetts* is for kids. Basic info on mammals, birds and reptiles. Available at any *MassWildlife* office or send \$5.00 plus \$1.50 p&h to above address.

HAVE A QUESTION?
VISIT OUR WEBSITE
mass.gov/masswildlife

For questions regarding conflicts with wildlife, stocking of fish or gamebirds, or other **regional** issues contact your nearest District Wildlife Supervisor. For the district locations and phone numbers please see page 13.

For questions regarding the following programs please call the listed numbers:

Art Contest, Stamps	(508) 792-7270
Aquatic Resource Education	(508) 792-7270
Becoming an Outdoorswoman	(508) 792-7270
Hunter Education	(617) 727-3623 or (508) 792-7434
Mass. Jr. Conservation Camp	(508) 792-7270
Project WILD	(508) 792-7270
Mass. Wildlife Magazine	(508) 792-7270
Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program	(508) 792-7270
Publications	(508) 792-7270
Fishing/Hunting Information	(508) 792-7270
Licenses	(617) 626-1590 or (508) 792-7270
Sportfishing Awards	(508) 792-7270
Trapping	(508) 792-7270
Waterfowl	(508) 792-7270
Wildlife Lands	(617) 626-1574

PERMITS:

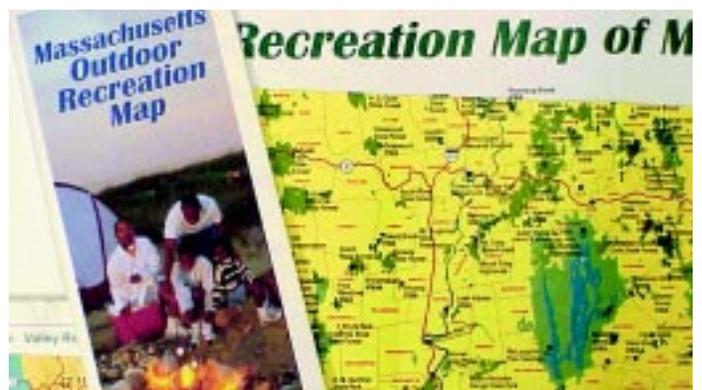
(Non-hunting): Permit Section	(617) 626-1575
Bear / Turkey / Antlerless Deer Permits	(508) 792-7270

TAGGED ANIMALS

Some bear, deer, moose, coyote or other animals have ear tags or radio collars. Contact *MassWildlife's* Westborough Field Headquarters (508) 792-7270 immediately after taking or finding these animals in order to determine their source and status.

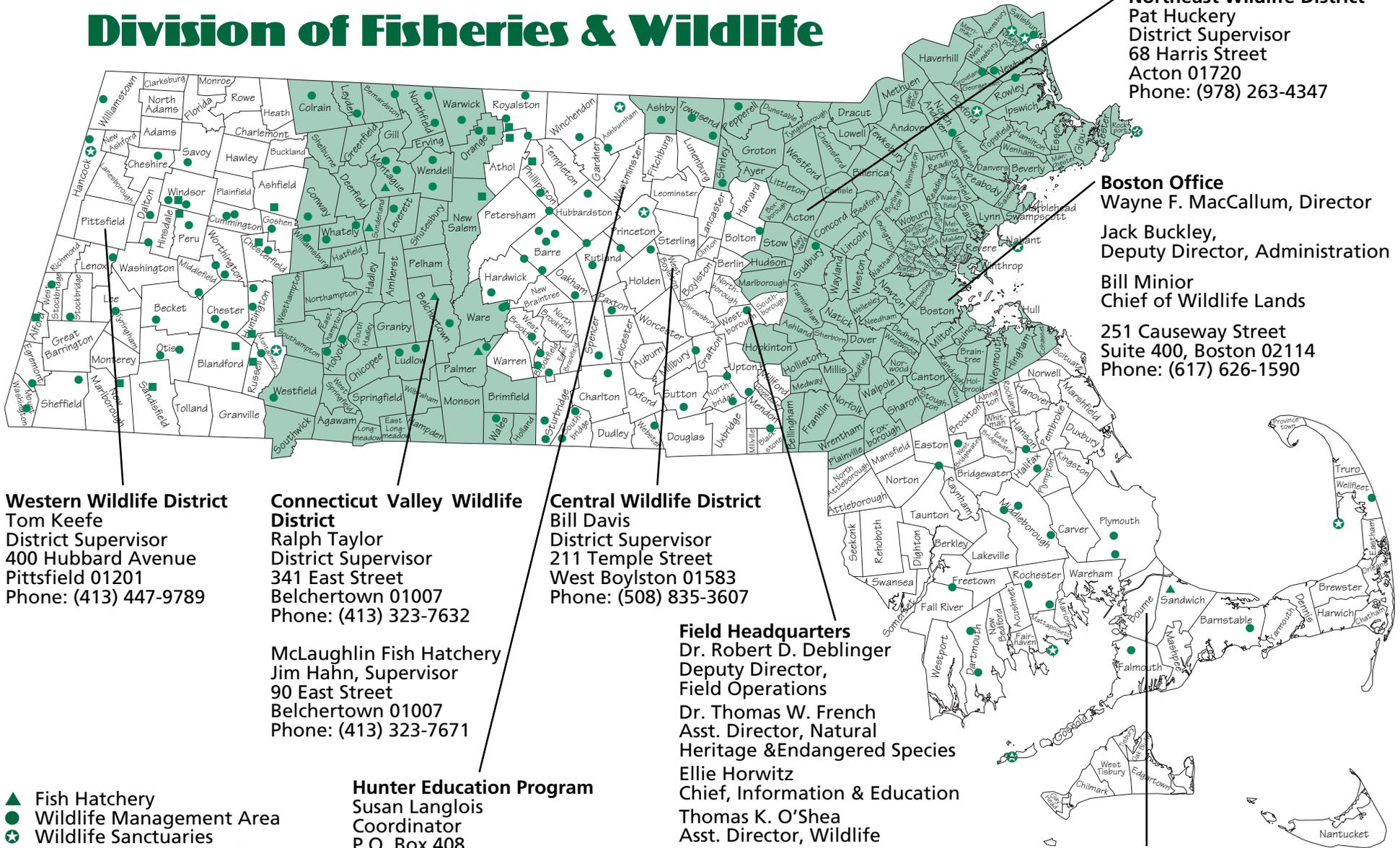
Do you want to know where to go fishing or boating? **Public Access to the Waters of Massachusetts** is now available. This 146 page map booklet will show and tell you information about current public sites. Send \$8.00, payable by check to:

Office of Fishing & Boating Access
Department of Fish and Game
1440 Soldiers Field Road
Brighton, MA 02135



MassWildlife's Outdoor Recreation Map features maps and grids with information on Wildlife Management Areas, State Forests and Parks, and Boat Access sites statewide. Copies can be obtained from a number of **DCR** and *MassWildlife* locations.

Division of Fisheries & Wildlife



Northeast Wildlife District
 Pat Huckery
 District Supervisor
 68 Harris Street
 Acton 01720
 Phone: (978) 263-4347

Boston Office
 Wayne F. MacCallum, Director
 Jack Buckley,
 Deputy Director, Administration

Bill Minor
 Chief of Wildlife Lands
 251 Causeway Street
 Suite 400, Boston 02114
 Phone: (617) 626-1590

Western Wildlife District
 Tom Keefe
 District Supervisor
 400 Hubbard Avenue
 Pittsfield 01201
 Phone: (413) 447-9789

Connecticut Valley Wildlife District
 Ralph Taylor
 District Supervisor
 341 East Street
 Belchertown 01007
 Phone: (413) 323-7632

Central Wildlife District
 Bill Davis
 District Supervisor
 211 Temple Street
 West Boylston 01583
 Phone: (508) 835-3607

McLaughlin Fish Hatchery
 Jim Hahn, Supervisor
 90 East Street
 Belchertown 01007
 Phone: (413) 323-7671

Field Headquarters
 Dr. Robert D. Deblinger
 Deputy Director,
 Field Operations
 Dr. Thomas W. French
 Asst. Director, Natural
 Heritage & Endangered Species
 Ellie Horwitz
 Chief, Information & Education
 Thomas K. O'Shea
 Asst. Director, Wildlife
 Dr. Ken Simmons
 Chief Fish Culturist
 Dr. Mark Tisa
 Asst. Director, Fisheries
 1 Rabbit Hill Rd., Westboro, 01581
 Phone: (508) 792-7270

Southeast Wildlife District
 Jason Zimmer
 District Supervisor
 195 Bournedale Road
 Buzzards Bay 02532
 Phone: (508) 759-3406

- ▲ Fish Hatchery
- Wildlife Management Area
- ☆ Wildlife Sanctuaries
- Wildlife Conservation Easement

Hunter Education Program
 Susan Langlois
 Coordinator
 P.O. Box 408
 Westminster 01473
 Phone: (508) 792-7434
 or (617) 727-3623

All **MassWildlife** lands and facilities are open to the general public without regard to race, color, creed, sex, handicap or age.

Office of Law Enforcement

To Report Violations Call: 1-800-632-8075

MAIN OFFICES

Director
James Hanlon, *Director*
251 Causeway Street, Suite 101
Boston, MA 02114

617-626-1650
FAX: 617-626-1670

INLAND ENFORCEMENT



Inland Bureau Headquarters
Roger Arduini, *Major*
183 Milk Street
Westboro, MA 01581

508-366-1176
508-366-6537
FAX: 508-366-1182

Eastern Massachusetts
Tom Sousa, *Captain*
11 Hawks Avenue
Hanson, MA 02341

781-293-4745
FAX: 781-293-4746

Western Massachusetts
Bruce Bennett, *Captain*
316 Turners Falls Road
Montague, MA 01351

413-367-0016
FAX: 413-367-0032

COASTAL ENFORCEMENT

Coastal Enforcement Headquarters
Kathleen Dolan, *Acting Major*
349 Lincoln Street, Building 45
Hingham, MA 02043

781-740-2577
781-740-2442
781-740-1163
FAX: 781-740-4113

Ray Lennon, *Captain*
2 State Fish Pier
Gloucester, MA 01930

978-283-7764
978-283-1162
FAX: 978-283-6729

MARINE THEFT/ BOATING SAFETY

George Agganis, *Captain*
251 Causeway Street, Suite 101
Boston, MA 02114

617-626-1666
FAX: 617-626-1605

BOATING & RECREATIONAL VEHICLE SAFETY

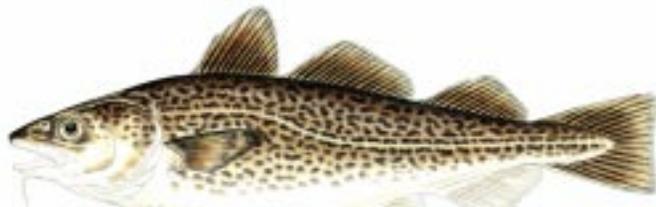
Lawrence Chenier, *Lieutenant*
1019 Iyanough Road
Hyannis, MA 02601

617-727-8760
508-790-9360
FAX: 617-727-2617

ENVIRONMENTAL STRIKE FORCE

Gail Larson, *Lieutenant*
1 Ashburton Place
Boston, MA 02108

617-727-2200
FAX: 617-727-5755



Marine Fisheries

A Commonwealth of Massachusetts Agency

Have any questions regarding regulations pertaining to the harvesting of salt water fish species? Call the Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries information hotline: (617) 626-1520.

TRANSPORT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

It is a violation of **FEDERAL LAW** to transport illegally taken fish or wildlife across state lines. For additional information contact the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement, Phone: (617) 889-6616.

For Boat Registration Information
phone: (617) 626-1610.

FEDERAL WILDLIFE LAW INFORMATION

Please note that fishing and hunting laws on federal parks, refuges and reservations such as that controlled by U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, or the National Park Service may differ from state regulations. Contact the agency in question.

ROAD-KILLED DEER may be kept by Massachusetts driver or passenger of vehicle killing deer if reported to Law Enforcement at 1-800-632-8075 immediately and then tagged at **MassWildlife** or at a Law Enforcement office within 24 hours and free permit issued.

Education Programs

MassWildlife offers a wide range of educational and skills programs. With suitable lead time, these programs can be adapted to the needs of virtually any group.



Angler Education — The Angler Education Program (AEP) teaches people of all ages, especially children, about the relationships between fish and their environment. The program teaches freshwater fishing skills, basic safety techniques, outdoor ethics and aquatic ecology through workshop sessions and/or through family fishing festivals.

Hunter Education Program — provides courses in the safe handling of firearms, and other outdoor activities related to hunting and firearm use. Designed for novices, courses in Basic Hunter Education, Bowhunter Education, Trapper Education, Muzzleloader Education and Map & Compass are offered statewide throughout the year. Certificates in certain courses satisfy hunting license requirements for Massachusetts as well as other states and Canadian provinces. Call (508) 792-7434 for more information.

Becoming an Outdoors-Woman — These special weekend and occasional one-day programs offer women of all ages an opportunity to sample a variety of outdoor activities from archery to wildlife photography and from kayaking to fly fishing. Sessions are designed for novices.



Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program — Information highlighting rare and endangered species, their habitats and protection strategies is available in the form of fact sheets, a vernal pool certification packet, posters, a field guide to vernal pools, another for dragonflies and damselflies, a county checklist of vascular plants, and a guide to the protection of freshwater biodiversity. For further information visit www.nhesp.org.

Junior Duck Stamp Program — Students participate in a state-wide duck stamp contest that combines art with wetlands and waterfowl information. Co-sponsored by the Massachusetts Wildlife Federation and Ducks Unlimited.



Massachusetts Junior Conservation Camp — A two week summer program for campers 13 to 17 years old. The program stresses outdoor sports including fishing, hunting, boating and instruction in fisheries, wildlife management and forestry, all in a fun setting. Co-sponsored by the Massachusetts Sportsmen's Junior Conservation Camp, Inc., the Dept. of Conservation and Recreation, the Office of Law Enforcement, and GOAL.

Project WILD — Emphasizes wildlife, people and the environment which they share. Six hour workshops are available for people who work with children in grades K - 12. Participants receive either the Project WILD or Aquatic WILD activity guide. PDPs are available.

Youth Hunts — Special Youth Pheasant Hunt Program and Youth Waterfowl Hunt are offered in fall. Each consists of range practice, an instructional field workshop and a day of hunting. For more information contact your local Wildlife District office or Field Headquarters.

For information on any of these programs call
MassWildlife (508) 792-7270.

STEP OUTSIDE™

Share your enjoyment of outdoor sports. Ask a friend, neighbor, child, spouse, or fellow worker to **STEP OUTSIDE™** and share the outdoor sporting experience. You'll be glad you did and so will they. Call (203) 426-1320.

2006 FEES

F1	Resident Fishing	\$27.50
F2	Resident Minor Fishing (Age 15-17)	11.50
F3	Resident Fishing (Age 65-69)	16.25
F4	Resident Fishing (Age 70 or over or paraplegic, blind, mentally retarded)	FREE
F6	Non-resident Fishing	37.50
F7	Non-resident Fishing (3 day)	23.50
F8	Resident Fishing (3 day)	12.50
F9	Non-res. Fishing (Age 15-17)	11.50
F10	Quabbin One Day Fishing (Quabbin only) (no land stamp required; sold by DCR & C. V. District)	5.00
H1	Resident Citizen Hunting	27.50
H2	Resident Hunting (Age 65-69)	16.25
H3	Resident Hunting, Paraplegic	FREE
H4	Resident Alien Hunting	27.50
H5	Non-resident Hunting, Big Game	99.50
H6	Non-resident Hunting, Small Game	65.50
H7	Non-resident Commercial Shooting Preserve (1 day)	10.00
H8	Resident Minor Hunting (Age 15-17)	11.50
H9	Resident Commercial Shooting Preserve (1 day)	10.00
S1	Resident Sporting	45.00
S2	Resident Sporting (Age 65-69)	25.00
S3	Resident Sporting (Age 70 or over)	FREE
T1	Resident Trapping	35.50
T2	Resident Minor Trapping (Age 12-17)	11.50
T3	Resident Trapping (Age 65-69)	20.25
DF	Duplicate Fishing	2.50
DH	Duplicate Hunting	2.50
DS	Duplicate Sporting	2.50
DT	Duplicate Trapping	2.50
M1	Archery Stamp	5.10
M2	Waterfowl Stamp	5.00
M3	Primitive Firearms Stamp	5.10
W1	Wildlands Stamp, Resident	5.00
W2	Wildlands Stamp, Non-resident	5.00

NOTE: Fee for FIRST resident license, ALL non-resident licenses **include** a \$5.00 fee for the Wildlands Conservation Stamp. Fee for SECOND RESIDENT LICENSE in calendar year, DOES NOT include a \$5.00 fee for the Wildlands Conservation Stamp. City and town clerks MUST add an additional One Dollar (\$1.00) and other sales agents MAY add up to an additional One Dollar and Fifty Cent (\$1.50) service fee to the price of each license sold. There is NO SERVICE FEE charged for the purchase of licenses at offices of **MassWildlife**.

Help save rare plants and animals



Photo by Bill Byrne

on your state tax return!

Peregrine Falcon (Endangered)

Massachusetts regulates 448 species of rare animals and plants. Census, inventory and research are high priority needs for these species. The MDFW's Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program protects these species and their habitats to preserve the biological diversity of the Commonwealth. As a citizen of Massachusetts **you can help** protect these rare animals and plants by contributing on your state income tax form, or by donating directly to:



NATURAL HERITAGE & ENDANGERED SPECIES FUND

Please make checks payable to the **Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Fund**, and mail to: Natural Heritage & Endangered Species Program, Massachusetts Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, 1 Rabbit Hill Road, Westborough, MA 01581. Thank you!

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Division of Fisheries & Wildlife, Dept. AB2006
Field Headquarters, Westboro, Massachusetts 01581

HUNTING

OPEN SEASON (All Dates Inclusive)
NO HUNTING ON SUNDAY

Species	Open season	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit	Season Limit
Birds:				
Crow ¹	Jan. 2 - Apr. 10 Jul. 1 - Apr. 10, 2007	-	-	-
Pheasant ²	Oct. 14 - Nov. 25	2	4	6
Quail ³	Oct. 14 - Nov. 25	4	8	20
Ruffed Grouse ⁴	Oct. 14 - Nov. 25	3	6	15
Turkey ⁵ Spring:				
Zones 1 - 10; 13:	Apr. 24 - May 20			
Zones 11 & 12:	Apr. 24 - May 6			
Fall:				
Zones 1 - 9; 13:	Oct. 30 - Nov. 4			
Waterfowl / migratory birds (including woodcock) see Migratory Bird Abstracts.				
Mammals:				
Black Bear ⁶	Sep. 5 - Sep. 23 Nov. 6 - Nov. 25		See Note # 6	
Bobcat ⁷	Jan. 2 - Mar. 8 Dec. 20 - Mar. 8, 2007		See Note # 7	
Cottontail Rabbit:				
Zones 1 - 12:	Jan. 2 - Feb. 28 Oct. 14 - Feb. 28, 2007	5	10	-
Zones 13 & 14:	Jan. 2 - Feb. 28 Nov. 15 - Feb. 28, 2007	5	10	-
Coyote ⁸	Jan. 2 - Feb. 28 Nov. 1 - Feb. 28, 2007	-	-	-
Deer (archery) ⁹	Oct. 16 - Nov. 25			
Deer (shotgun) ⁹				
Zones 1 - 11; 14:	Nov. 27 - Dec. 9			
Zones 12 & 13:	Nov. 27 - Dec. 2			
Deer (muzzleloader) ⁹	Dec. 11 - Dec. 30			
Fox (red or gray)	Jan. 2 - Feb. 28 Nov. 1 - Feb. 28, 2007	-	-	-
Gray Squirrel ¹⁰				
Zones 1 - 9:	Sep. 11 - Jan. 2, 2007	5	10	-
Zones 10 - 14:	Oct. 14 - Jan. 2, 2007	5	10	-
Jackrabbit ¹¹	Nov. 15 - Dec. 30	1	2	-
Opossum ¹²	Jan. 2 - Jan. 31 Oct. 2 - Jan. 31, 2007	-	-	-
Raccoon ¹²	Jan. 2 - Jan. 31 Oct. 2 - Jan. 31, 2007	3	-	-
Snowshoe Hare				
Zones 1 - 4:	Jan. 2 - Feb. 28 Oct. 14 - Feb. 28, 2007	2	4	-
Zones 5 - 12:	Jan. 2 - Feb. 4 Oct. 14 - Feb. 5, 2007	2	4	-
Zones 13 & 14:	Jan. 2 - Feb. 4 Nov. 15 - Feb. 5, 2007	2	4	-
Reptiles and Amphibians:				
Bullfrog & Green frog ¹³	Jul. 16 - Sep. 30	12	24	-
Snapping Turtle ¹³	Jan. 1 - Dec. 31	-	-	-

} See Note # 5

} See Note # 9

Hunting hours are from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset on each day of open season **except** for: (A) spring turkey, raccoon and opossum (see footnotes 5 & 12) and (B) WMA REG #10 (pg. 12) which states that no person shall hunt before sunrise or after sunset on any WMA where pheasant or quail are stocked during the pheasant or quail season (Oct.14 to Nov. 25) except for the hunting of raccoons and opossums between 9P.M. and 3A.M. (C) Hunting for rabbit, hare, fox and coyote which closes at midnight.

FURBEARER CHECK STATIONS: Check stations are located at all Wildlife District Headquarters, Bitzer and Sunderland State Fish Hatcheries, Newbury WMA Headquarters, and Westboro Field Headquarters (Monday - Friday excluding holidays). **Call check station prior to bringing pelts for sealing.**

1Crow - May be hunted only on Friday, Saturday and Monday during the open season. Hunting hours close 1/2 hr. after sunset except as noted in WMA Reg #10 (See hunting hours above).

2Pheasants - Zone from the New Hampshire border south on I-95 to I-495 south to I-95, north on I-95 to I-93/128, east on I-93/128 to Route 3, south on Route 3 to Route 228, north on 228 to the Hull town line. Cocks and hens west of zone line and on all Wildlife Management Areas. Cocks only east of zone line including Hull and in Dukes and Nantucket counties. See WMA Reg. #10 under hunting hours above.

3Quail - Season limited to Zones 11 - 14. See WMA Reg #10 under hunting hours above.

4Ruffed Grouse - see WMA Reg. #10 under hunting hours above.

5Turkey - Permit required. **Official safety sticker must be adhered to firearm in such a manner as to be visible when hunter is sighting down the barrel.** Send self addressed stamped envelope to MassWildlife's Field Headquarters office (See p. 13) if new or replacement sticker is needed. **Spring hunting hours:** 1/2 hour before sunrise to 12:00 noon. **Fall hunting hours:** 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hr. after sunset except as noted in WMA Reg #10 (See hunting hours above). **Bag limit:** (A) 2 bearded birds in spring season (1 per day) with NO fall bird allowed, **OR** (B) 1 bearded bird in spring season, and 1 bird of either sex in fall season. Hunting only with shotguns no larger than 10 gauge and restricted to shot sizes #4 - #6, or with bows 40 lbs. pull or greater. Electronic calls, dogs, bait, driving prohibited. Successful hunters must tag bird immediately (with tag attached to permit) and bring bird to an official checking station within 48 hours.

6Bear - Permit required - submit application attached to license to Westboro Field Headquarters prior to season opening. Zones 1 - 9 ONLY. Hunting only with rifle .23 caliber or larger, muzzleloader .44 - .775 caliber, bows with 40 lb. pull or greater, or revolvers .357 Magnum or .40 caliber or larger. Handguns permitted in September season only - **SHOTGUNS PROHIBITED.** Dogs prohibited for hunting and training (See: **Hunting Dogs**, page 10). Hunting hours close 1/2 hr. after sunset except as noted in WMA Reg #10 (See hunting hours above). Successful hunters must tag bear immediately (with tag attached to permit) and bring bear to an official checking station within 48 hours. **Limit 1 bear per year.**

7Bobcat - Hunting hours close 1/2 hour after sunset. Hunting limited to Zones 1 - 8. All bobcats taken must be checked within four working days of date of harvest. The Director will close the season when the total harvest reaches 50 animals.

8Coyote & Fox - Hunting hours end at midnight. Pelts must be tagged within four working days of the end of the season. **Rifles** chambered to take larger than .22 caliber long rifle rimfire ammunition, pistols and revolvers larger than .38 caliber between the hours of 1/2 hour after sunset and 1/2 hour before sunrise **are prohibited.** Weapons other than shotguns and bows and arrows are prohibited on WMAs stocked with pheasant or quail during the pheasant and quail season. Possession or use of any rifle chambered larger than .22 long rifle in any place where birds or mammals may be found in Barnstable, Bristol, Dukes, Plymouth, and Nantucket counties is prohibited, November 1 - March 31.

9Deer - **Hunting hours** begin 1/2 hour before sunrise and close 1/2 hr. after sunset except as noted in WMA Reg. #10 (See hunting hours pg.6).

ALL HUNTING SEASONS except waterfowl ARE CLOSED during shotgun deer season from Nov. 27 to Dec. 9 in Zones 1 - 11 & 14 and from Nov. 27 to Dec. 2 in Zones 12-13.

The following species may be taken by licensed hunters with no daily or seasonal bag limit: English sparrow, starling, chipmunk, flying squirrel, red squirrel, weasel, porcupine, skunk, woodchuck.

Closed season throughout the year on all birds and mammals not mentioned herein or in Massachusetts migratory bird regulations.

Hunter harassment is against state law. Report violations to the Office of Law Enforcement 1-800-632-8075 or state or local police and prepare to provide a description of violators.

**The following is a combination of
Federal and Massachusetts
Migratory Game Bird Laws and Regulations
in force from September 2005 - March 2006**

BAITING - No person shall take migratory game birds by baiting (placing corn or any other food to constitute a lure or enticement) or hunting over a baited area. An area is considered baited for 10 days after removal of the bait. It is not necessary for the hunter to know that the area is baited to be in violation of this section.

BOW & ARROW - Lawful for hunting migratory game birds.

DRESSING - The head and one fully-feathered wing must remain attached to each migratory game bird while it is transported to the hunter's home or preservation facility.

DRIVING - A person shall not hunt migratory game birds from or in connection with a motor driven land conveyance, aircraft or any kind of motor or sail boat used in concentrating or driving birds either for himself or for others.

ELECTRIC CALLS - No person shall take migratory game birds using pre-recorded calls or sounds or any electronic imitations of calls.

FALCONRY - All permitted ducks and coot may be taken by falconry October 6 - February 7. Limits in falconry are 3 daily, 6 in possession singly or in aggregate. Falconry closed Sunday.

IMPORTATION - No person shall import migratory game birds killed in any foreign country except Canada unless such birds are dressed, drawn, and the head and feet removed. One fully-feathered wing must remain on each bird transported between port of entry and the hunter's home or preservation facility. No person shall import migratory game birds belonging to another. For further information on migratory game birds killed in another country, consult Title 50 CFR 20.61-20.66.

LIVE DECOYS - No person shall hunt migratory game birds with the aid of live decoys or domesticated fowl of any kind. Such fowl must be removed for 10 consecutive days prior to hunting and be confined in an enclosure which reduces the audibility of their calls and conceals them from the sight of migratory waterfowl.

NON-TOXIC SHOT - Is required for **all** waterfowl and coot hunting - no lead shot in possession. Waterfowl hunters must use non-toxic shot up to and including BBB shot while hunting waterfowl. Steel, bismuth, tungsten-iron, tungsten-polymer, tungsten-matrix, tungsten-bronze, tungsten-tin-bismuth, tungsten-nickel-iron and Hevi-metal shot are legal.

PROHIBITED DEVICES - No one shall hunt migratory birds using a sinkbox, trap, snare, net, crossbow, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fish hook, poison, drug, explosive or stupefying substance.

SHIPMENT - Any package containing migratory game birds must be marked on the outside with the name and address of the sender and recipient and number of birds, by species, contained inside.

SHOTGUN - Migratory game birds may be hunted with shotguns no larger than 10 gauge, fired from the shoulder. Shotguns capable of holding more than 3 shells may not be used unless plugged with a one-piece filler which limits the gun's total capacity to 3 shells and which cannot be removed without disassembling the gun.

STAMPS - Each waterfowl hunter 16 years or older must carry on his person a valid federal waterfowl stamp and each hunter 15 years or older must carry a valid Massachusetts waterfowl stamp. Both stamps must be signed across the face in ink. Stamps are required for hunting any ducks (including seaducks) geese or brant, but not required for hunting rails, snipe, woodcock or American coot.

Federal stamps are valid July 1 - June 30

Massachusetts stamps are valid Jan. 1 - Dec. 31

TAGGING - Any migratory game birds not in the custody of the hunter must be tagged with the hunter's signature, address, total number of birds by species, and dates such birds were killed. No person shall receive or have in custody another's migratory game birds unless such birds are properly tagged.

VEHICLES - No person shall hunt migratory game birds from or with the aid of a motor vehicle or other motor driven land conveyance or aircraft except that paraplegics may take game birds from a stationary motor vehicle or other land conveyance. Further, no person may hunt from or by means of any motor boat or sailboat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or sails furled and all progress therefrom has ceased. However, a hunter may pick up or retrieve dead or crippled birds from a craft *under power* and may shoot injured birds from powered craft in coastal waters seaward of the first upstream bridge.

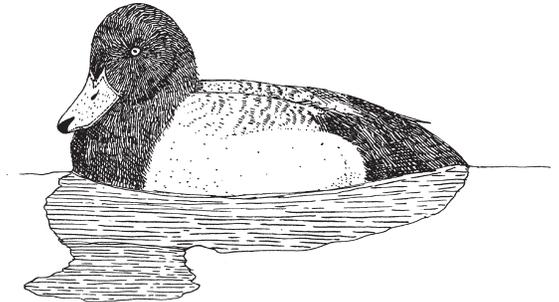
WANTON WASTE - All migratory birds killed or crippled shall be retrieved if possible, immediately killed, and retained by the hunter as part of the daily bag.

Note: No one may take migratory birds except during days and hours open to hunting as described herein. No one shall take more than one daily bag limit per day nor possess more than one daily bag limit in the field or while returning to vehicle, hunting camp, home, etc.

YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNT - Youth ages 12 - 15. Ducks, coots, mergansers and geese. All youths must be accompanied by a licensed adult hunter with valid Massachusetts waterfowl stamp. One firearm only. Adult may not hunt and may carry firearm only when unloaded and cased. No license or stamp needed for youths ages 12 - 14. License and Massachusetts waterfowl stamp needed for youths age 15. No federal stamp required. All other hunting regulations apply.

**REPORT ALL BANDED BIRDS - Call: 1-800-327-BAND
(2263)**

MassWildlife Migratory Bird Regulations for 2005 - 06 Season



H.I.P. number required for all migratory bird hunting!

A 2005 Harvest Information Permit (H.I.P) number is required for ALL migratory bird hunters for the remainder of the calendar year. This includes woodcock hunters. The number is good for the entire calendar year and is free. You need a hunting license in order to receive an H.I.P. number. A new HIP number is required for 2006.

CALL 1-800-WETLAND
(1-800-938-5263)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
**Division of
Fisheries & Wildlife**

251 Causeway Street
Boston, Massachusetts 02114
(617) 626-1590

Wayne F. MacCallum, *Director*

Office of Law Enforcement

1-800-632-8075 (to report violations) or 617-727-6398

2005 – 06 MIGRATORY BIRD REGULATIONS

SEASON	DATES	BAG	POSSESSION
Sora Rail	Sep. 1 - Nov. 8	5	5
Virginia Rail	Sep. 1 - Nov. 8	10	10
Snipe	Sep. 1 - Dec. 15	8	16
Woodcock	Oct. 13 - Oct. 29 & Oct. 31 - Nov. 12	3	6
Ducks ^A	Duck Dates	Canvasback Dates	
Berkshire:	Oct. 11 - Nov. 26	Oct. 11 - Nov. 14	6*
	Dec. 3 - Dec. 24		6*
Central:	Oct. 12 - Nov. 26	Oct. 12 - Nov. 15	6*
	Dec. 16 - Jan. 7		6*
Coastal:	Oct. 13 - Oct. 22	Dec. 19 - Jan. 21	6*
	Nov. 24 - Jan. 21		6*
American Coot	Same as ducks	15	30
Mergansers ^B	Same as ducks	5*	10*
Regular Goose (except Snow & Blue)			
Berkshire:	Oct. 22 - Nov. 26	3	6
	Dec. 9 - Dec. 24	3	6
Central:	Oct. 12 - Nov. 26	2	4
	Dec. 16 - Jan. 7	2	4
Coastal:	Oct. 13 - Oct. 22	2	4
	Nov. 24 - Jan. 21	2	4
Early Canada Goose (Statewide)	Sep. 6 - Sep. 24	5	10
Late Canada Goose (Central)	Jan. 16 - Feb. 15	5	10
(North Coastal)	Jan. 23 - Feb. 15	5	10
Snow & Blue Goose	Same as ducks	15	30
Late Snow / Blue Goose			
(Central/N.Coastal)	Same as Canada Goose	15	30
Sea Ducks ^C (Scoter, Eider, Long-tailed duck [oldsquaw])			
	Oct. 6 - Jan. 21	7**	14**
Brant (Coastal Zone Only)	Dec. 19 - Jan. 21	2	4
Falconry (Ducks and Coot only)	Oct. 6 - Feb. 7	3*	6*
Youth Waterfowl Hunt (Statewide)	Oct. 8 & Oct. 10	special provisions apply	

* Singly or in the aggregate

** Singly or in the aggregate, no more than 4 scoter, 4 eider(1 hen), 4 long-tailed duck [oldsquaw] in the daily bag.

A. The daily bag may contain no more than:

Mallard	4 (only 2 female)	Canvasback	1	Pintail	1
Scaup	2	Fulvous whistling	1	Harlequin	NONE
Wood Duck	2	Mottled	1	Hooded Merganser	1
Redhead	2	Black Duck	1	All other duck species	4

Possession limits are double the daily bag. (e.g. Mallards — possession 8 of which only 4 may be female).

B. Daily bag of mergansers may not include more than 1 hooded merganser; no more than 2 hooded in possession.

C. Scoter, eider and long-tailed duck [oldsquaw] during the open period other than open season for other ducks may be hunted **only** in coastal waters and rivers and streams seaward of the first upstream bridge.

Non-toxic shot required for all hunting of waterfowl and American coot statewide.

Hunting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

P.F.D. - Anyone aboard a canoe or kayak from Sept. 15 - May 15 must wear a life jacket or vest.

ZONE LINES - During the 2005-06 waterfowl hunting season the state will be divided into the following three zones:

Berkshire - Westward of a line running from the Vermont boundary, southward along I-91 to Route 9, West on Route 9 to Route 10, South on Route 10 to Route 202 and South on Route 202 to the Connecticut line.

Central - Eastward of the Berkshire zone line and westward of a boundary which will run from the New Hampshire line southward on I-95 to Route 1, South on Route 1 to I-93, South on I-93 to Route 3, South on Route 3 to Route 6, West on Route 6 to Route 28, West on Route 28 to I-195, West on Route I-195 to the Rhode Island line except that the waters and the lands 150 yards above the high water mark of the Assonet River to the Route 24 bridge and the Taunton River to the Center Street/Elm Street bridge shall be in the Coastal Zone.

Coastal - Eastward and southward of the Central zone line to the coast.

North Coastal Zone (late Goose season only) is that portion of the Coastal Zone north of the Cape Cod Canal to the New Hampshire line. During the late Canada goose season, goose hunting is **not** permitted south of this line.

This publication is a summary of state and federal regulations concerning the hunting of migratory birds. The actual federal regulations may be found in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Section 20, with some additional regulations in other locations. For additional information on federal regulations contact the Resident Agent-in-Charge, US Fish & Wildlife Service, Office of Law Enforcement, 70 Everett Ave., Suite 315, Chelsea, MA 02150, phone: (617) 889-6616. State regulations may be found in the Code of Mass. Regulations, 321 CMR 3.02(2) and in several sections of Ch.131 MGL. Special regulations may apply on National Wildlife Refuges open to hunting. A violation of state regulations is also a violation of federal law.





United States Department of the Interior

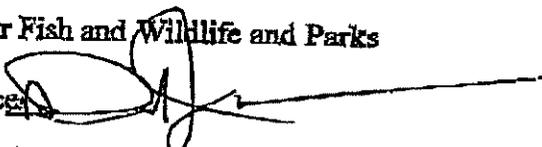
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE
Northeast Region
200 Chestnut Street
Philadelphia, PA 19106-2878

WHILE REFER TO:

October 7, 2002

Memorandum

To: Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

Through: ~~Director~~, National Park Service 

From: Regional Director, Northeast Region

Subject: Waiver of policy regarding pheasant stocking/hunting at Cape Cod National Seashore

Hunting is permitted by the enabling legislation (16 U.S.C. § 459b-6(c)) for Cape Cod National Seashore (the Seashore). The Secretary is authorized to promulgate regulations to manage such activity, but is required to consult with the state before doing so. The Secretary is also authorized to enter into "cooperative arrangements" with the state regarding hunting. The state of Massachusetts has been conducting a program for stocking pheasants (a non-native species) since the 1940s.

NPS Management Policies (MP) disfavor continuation of exotic species programs but explicitly state that "in general, new exotic species will not be introduced into parks" (MP 4.4.4.1) and that NPS will "in cooperation with states, as appropriate . . . prevent the introduction of exotic species into units of the National Park System" (MP 4.4.1.1). Harvesting of stocked species for recreational purposes is permitted under MP 4.4.3 where it has historically been conducted and when it will not impair park natural resources or processes, but only in national recreation areas or preserves, or under other circumstances that do not appear to apply here. Because this unit is a national seashore, questions have been raised about the validity of continuing this activity.

The General Management Plan/Environmental Impact Statement for the Seashore calls for development of a comprehensive non-native species management plan with restoration of natural self-sustaining ecosystems, supported by scientific information. It anticipates limiting or eliminating use of exotic species, specifically pheasants, and, as natural habitats are restored, promoting the restoration of quail and grouse populations. The Seashore proposes a gradual phase-out of the pheasant stocking as commensurate habitat restoration and quail and grouse hunting opportunities increase.

000041

Although it is not clear whether a waiver from MP is needed in this case, we are seeking a waiver to address questions resulting from the MP provisions cited above and to obtain high-level concurrence that this course of action is consistent with sound park management,

NOTE: None of the other game species currently hunted are affected by this waiver. Deer, waterfowl, squirrel, quail, etc. are all native species and hunting of these species is entirely consistent with the Seashore's authorizing legislation, management policies and park plans.

Background:

By 1961, the year the Seashore was created, the Massachusetts Department of Fish and Wildlife had been stocking pheasant on Cape Cod for an annual hunt for around 20 years. Originally the birds had been stocked on state-owned land (the Province Lands, which then became part of the Seashore). In 1971, the state requested permission to expand the program to the Marconi area, which was designated a wildlife management area at that time. The Seashore's advisory commission reviewed the request and agreed to allow the program for an experimental period, which has never been closed out.

The program is small. Of the 40,000 birds stocked statewide, 800 are stocked annually in the Seashore. The season runs for six weeks (excluding Sundays), and a portion of the 800 birds are released each week, late on Fridays and on days preceding holidays (a total of six to eight releases per year) in three locations. Hunters usually gather the morning after the release, and rangers estimate that on opening day as many as 35-50 hunters will be present. On succeeding Saturdays the number drops to around 25 hunters. Small numbers of hunters may sometimes be found on other days of the week. Most hunters bag their two birds quickly, moving only yards off the trail where the stocking took place. Within an hour or two of the start of the hunt each morning after a release, most hunters have gone home.

In the context of the broader hunting program at the Seashore the pheasant program is also small. The entire hunting season lasts from mid-September until mid-February, while the pheasant season lasts for only six weeks of this period. Deer and a broad variety of migratory waterfowl and upland game are hunted during the hunting season, with hunters using shotguns, bows and even, for a brief period, black powder. Dogs are used to hunt pheasant and rabbit. Pursuant to NPS authorities, the entire hunting program is managed in compliance with state regulations, and the state pays for the pheasant program in its entirety.

In response to concerns expressed in the mid-1990s by animal rights groups that the pheasant-stocking program was harmful and inappropriate, the Seashore conducted a two-year research program. An environmental assessment outlining the reasons for the research was prepared to focus attention on the management question. The purpose of the research was to identify ecological impacts, if any, to Seashore resources and values. After two years of monitoring and sampling, researchers found essentially no ecological impacts from the stocking program (Bump, 1999). For example, the study found no evidence that pheasants survive beyond the winter in great enough numbers to establish a breeding population.

In 1998 the Seashore completed a final environmental impact statement (EIS) as part of the general management planning process. Because hunting is allowed in the Seashore's enabling legislation, and because there is such strong support for it from a variety of constituencies, the EIS and resulting General Management Plan (GMP) call for it to continue in ways that remain compatible with the purposes of the Seashore. The GMP also provides that the Seashore will develop a "comprehensive management plan for nonnative species based on studies of . . . impacts of nonnative species on native biota and natural processes." See GMP, pages 39-40. Specifically, in relation to wildlife, the GMP emphasizes that fishing and hunting "focusing on native species" will be allowed as compatible "with sustainable populations and ecosystems" and anticipates developing a consistent policy towards stocking programs with the state Division of Fish and Wildlife "encouraging the use of native species." See GMP, page 41.

The EIS expressly considered a No-Action Alternative, which was to continue stocking with no changes (Alternative 1). Alternative 1, which acknowledged that the stocking programs "are based primarily on state policy rather than NPS policy and include 'put and take' programs using exotic species" would have continued these programs "even in the absence of good information regarding impacts of these programs on natural systems." See EIS, pages 207-8. Alternative 3 would have immediately ceased stocking of nonnative animals for hunting. See EIS, pages 37, 117, 261.

The selected alternative, Alternative 2, commits the Seashore to develop a comprehensive program for the management of invasive and non-native species. This alternative emphasizes acquisition of additional scientific information with consideration of impacts on resources, cultural values, and visitor experiences, in cooperation with local and state governments and partners. It anticipates that the "wildlife management activities at the seashore could affect hunters or fishermen by reducing or eliminating hunting or fishing opportunities for nonnative species that are currently stocked" but anticipates that "stocking of substitute native species could be increased." See EIS, page 243. It calls for the Service to: "work with the Massachusetts Division of Fish and Wildlife to evaluate wildlife management activities at the Seashore, especially those involving stocking and reintroductions of both native and nonnative species. The NPS goal of restoring natural, self-sustaining ecosystems could lead to limiting or eliminating the use of exotic species . . . [and] studies would be undertaken to determine the impacts of exotics, especially pheasants, on native species." See EIS, page 236. The EIS also discusses the problems with invasive and exotic vegetation throughout the Seashore and directs the Seashore to "manage fish and wildlife on a more sustainable basis, supported by a scientific database." See EIS, page 193. In the development of its comprehensive nonnative species management program, the EIS anticipates that the program will "control or eliminate invasive, nonnative species; use native species in all NPS revegetation efforts," and "[e]nhance cooperative management efforts with the state for hunting, stocking and reintroduction programs." See EIS, page 37.

The Seashore is now in the process of developing its comprehensive new program for the management of invasive and other nonnative species. The first component of such a program is an inventory, and current indications are that the inventory process will take some time. It is also obvious even at this early state that there are numerous invasive and very damaging nonnative

species, mostly plants, which have serious, immediate adverse impacts on Seashore resources. Specific species evaluations have been completed for pheasant impacts (the Bump study) and for the brown tail moth.

Since the completion of the research and the publishing of the EIS/GMP in 1998 the Seashore has allowed the program to continue (which it has without incident or further protest until very recently). There were several reasons for this. First, the Bump study clearly indicated that native Seashore resources are not put at risk by this program. Moreover, the early stages of the inventory process (as noted above) indicate that other nonnative species pose far more serious and immediate problems. Second, the program pre-dates the creation of the Seashore, and is very popular with a local constituency of hunters, many of them local residents. Given the longstanding nature of this program (it has now been in existence for over 40 years) and the presence of active advocates for it (it is still considered by many to be a desirable form of recreation), it has a certain standing through sheer longevity. Although this would not be sufficient justification for it to continue were there any evidence of damage, absent such evidence this factor carries some weight. Finally, there has been no significant change in the last five years in hunter versus non-hunter safety related incidents (i.e., no reports of injuries or "near miss" occurrences) associated with the program, despite dramatic increases in fall visitation and the year-round population. According to the state, there is clear evidence in the form of declining license sales that the number of hunters is shrinking both Cape-wide and around the state, so we would have no reason to expect any future increase in such incidents.

Over the winter of 2001/2002 the Seashore again began hearing from animal rights groups raising the issue of the program. In the interest of full discussion the Seashore asked the advisory commission if it would take another look and consider advising the Seashore whether the program is appropriate. The commission discussed the topic at several meetings and held a public forum to get input. Sessions were well attended by hunters, animal rights supporters, and others. In addition, animal rights groups organized at least two write-in campaigns; commissioners were provided with access to all written comments. At the commission's last meeting in April 2002 it reached no consensus, and held over the issue till Fall. The commission chair agreed to prepare a written report for commissioners to consider before the next meeting.

Discussions among Seashore staff this year have centered on whether or not any new information was raised by public or commission comment that might cause the Seashore to reconsider its earlier decision. Two issues in particular came up, one relating to antibiotic use by the state in raising the birds, and the other concerning trampling of vegetation and dog impacts. Staff investigated both issues. Regarding antibiotic use, it appears that the birds are fed antibiotics for only a few days after hatching. They are stocked when several months old, making the likelihood of retained antibiotics slim. Measuring chronic impacts from introduced residual antibiotics or from resistant bacteria in the birds is virtually impossible, according to staff scientists. Regarding trampling, it is almost impossible to distinguish any enhanced level of impact from this activity versus other activities that also create foot traffic in vegetated and forested areas. Much more popular than pheasant hunting are hiking, deer and all other forms of hunting combined, berry picking and mushroom hunting. Rabbit hunting also involves dogs. Tens of thousands of persons use the Seashore in these ways each year.

The portion of this use belonging to pheasant hunters is relatively small. However, as part of the monitoring program, the Seashore has initiated work on visitor use impacts that will address pedestrian-based effects.

A review of MP and NPS-77 (Exotic Species Management) gives no guidance that directly conflicts with a decision to allow the program to continue, as long as adverse impacts do not appear. MP 4.4.4.1 says, "In general, *new* exotic species will not be introduced into parks" (emphasis added). Although the intent to limit the presence of exotic species is clear, the longstanding nature of this program means that the birds are not a new exotic species. Further, NPS-77 directs that "exotic species . . . may be introduced to carry out NPS programs consistent with park objectives only when all the following conditions exist:

Available native species will not meet the needs of the program.

Based on scientific advice from appropriate federal, state, local and non-governmental sources, the exotic species will not become a pest.

Such introductions will not spread and disrupt desirable adjacent natural plant and animal communities and associations, particularly those of natural zones."

The first consideration is strongly advocated for by the state, whose officials indicate that for pheasant hunters only pheasant will do. The second two considerations have been addressed by the Bump report in the considered judgment of staff scientists. Further, recent communications from USGS researchers actively engaged in the Seashore's meso mammal populations studies indicate no increase in the numbers and times that coyotes are present in the stocked areas during the period of the hunt. In addition, Inventory and Monitoring bird studies in upland areas and directly within pheasant release areas have not documented a single observation of a pheasant outside the period of the hunt in over two years. The researchers believe that the short-term, ephemeral nature of the stocking program is not sufficient to attract predators to the area.

NPS-77 also defines "innocuous species" and the description fits pheasants at the Seashore closely. In the case of these species the direction is clear: "Management efforts should not be squandered on innocuous species." Although this language is directed toward management of species that have been introduced beyond our control, it is still indicative of an appropriate general approach.

Other MP sections also apply here. Section 1.4.5 discusses the manager's responsibility to determine what might constitute an impairment of park values. Section 2.1.1 requires a logical, documented decision making process. Section 2.3.1.8 describes required environmental analysis. And Section 5.2.1 discusses the requirement to consult with interested parties. In all cases we feel our process and our decisions to date as described above meet the intent of the policy guidance.

Proposed Action:

In the GMP reference is made to standardizing policies about stocking programs (pheasant are not the only stocked non-native species) and to encouraging the use of native species. We will continue to discuss this issue with Massachusetts Fish and Wildlife officials toward this end. State officials have indicated very clearly that the pheasant program has a specialized clientele (traditional bird hunters and those new to the sport, since pheasant hunting is among the least challenging), and that, should the Seashore decide to end the program, substitutes will take some time to become accepted.

In addition, the state has agreed to certify that the birds are fed antibiotics only during the first few days of life, and that they are disease free when released into the Seashore.

The Seashore has discussed with the state the Seashore's intentions to restore specific habitats as described in the GMP. During the last 50 years natural succession has changed vegetation patterns within the seashore, with open fields and heathlands succeeding to the mostly closed-canopy pitch pine and oak forest (NPS, 1998). The successional changes occurring are compounded by fire suppression and intensify the loss of important habitat for native and sensitive species. Because of the importance of these environments, both locally and globally, the Seashore understands the need for restoration of these changing habitats. As a result, the Seashore has initiated a series of studies to assess habitat needs and is currently developing heathland/grassland management plans. An exotic plant management environmental assessment and plan is also in preparation, as exotic plant control is pivotal to success in habitat restoration. Upon completion of these tasks, impacted lands will be targeted for restoration.

Successful restoration of the communities will translate to improved habitat for native species, including sensitive species such as grasshopper and vesper sparrows and upland species such as grouse and quail. Therefore, a logical extension of these actions would be to promote an expansion of quail and grouse hunts sufficient to maintain equivalent levels of hunting simultaneous with phasing out the stocking of pheasants, should the Seashore ultimately decide to do such a phase-out.

Summary justification:

Serious scrutiny of this program over a period of years has revealed little, if any, discernable impact in terms of environmental damage or safety risks. In the judgment of Seashore staff, there is no impairment from this program under the Organic Act and related park authorities. Because of this, the program does not violate the intent of MP to prevent impairment of park values. Although some language in MP gives clear guidance that stocking of nonnatives is inappropriate, there is also language in several sections that, taken as a whole, gives the manager some discretion when impairment does not occur and there are other strong considerations.

In accordance with the GMP, the Seashore continues to pay close attention to the program and related research, and is moving as described in its strategic plan to improve habitat for other hunted native species. The Seashore's intention over time is to shift the emphasis of the state hunting program to these more appropriate species.

000046

Certainly this program would not be established as a new program today. However, it has been small but popular for 50 years and a group of hunters looks forward to it each year. Generally our relationship with state wildlife officials is strong and cooperative. To cancel this program at the last minute without compelling reasons to do so would, in our judgment, be inappropriate and damaging to our relationship with the state and with the local hunting population.

Waiver request:

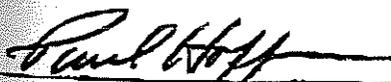
For the reasons described above we are requesting a waiver of Management Policies to the extent necessary to allow the pheasant stocking/hunting program to continue uninterrupted while we continue to examine options for phasing it out.

The waiver of policy is specific to Cape Cod National Seashore, and the presently proposed continuation and phasing-out program for pheasant stocking applies only to this case and is based on its unique circumstances and individual merits. It may not be viewed as precedential.



for
Marie Rust

I Concur:



Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks

000047