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## ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

### DIVISION OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

Fish and Game Council  
2004-2005 Game Code  
Proposed Amendments: N.J.A.C. 7:25-5

Authorized By: Fish and Game Council, W. Scott Ellis, Chairman

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

DEP Docket Number: 07-04-04/438

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

Proposal Number: PRN 2004-

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

June 8, 2004 at 6:30 P.M.

New Jersey State Museum  
205 West State Street  
Trenton, NJ 08625

Submit written comments by July 16, 2004 to:

Martin McHugh, Director  
Division of Fish and Wildlife  
Department of Environmental Protection  
P.O. Box 400  
Trenton, New Jersey 08625-0400

The agency proposal follows:

### **Summary**

The proposed 2004-2005 Game Code, N.J.A.C. 7:25-5, states when, under what circumstances, in what location, by what means, and what amounts and numbers, game-birds, game animals and fur-bearing animals may be pursued, taken, killed or had in

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possession. As the Department has provided for a 60-day comment period on this notice of proposal, this notice is excepted from the rulemaking calendar requirement pursuant to N.J.A.C. 1:30-3.3(a) 5.

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

The proposed amendments include the following revisions:

The daily and seasonal bag limit for pheasant, chukar partridge and quail stocked on semi-wild shooting preserves is clarified. There is no daily bag limit for pheasants and pheasants of either sex may be taken. There is no daily bag limit for chukar partridge and quail. The total season harvest for pheasant, chukar partridge and quail may not exceed the number specified for release on the semi-wild, shooting preserve application. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.2 and 5.3.

Calendar year adjustments are made to the six-day, black bear, special permit hunting season. The Fish and Game Council acknowledged that Department of Environmental Protection Commissioner Bradley M. Campbell appeared before the Council on March 9, 2004, and recommended against a bear hunting season. The Council voted to maintain the bear hunting season in the Game Code, with changes only to the season dates. The Commissioner continues to oppose a bear hunting season and has stated that he may consider withholding the issuance of bear hunting permits. The Council disagrees with the Commissioner. Proposed season dates are December 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 and 11, 2004 and are concurrent with the regular six-day firearm deer season dates. The permit application section is updated to require submission of the 2004 firearm

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license number and application ending date of September 30, 2004. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.6.

Beaver permit quotas are increased in beaver management Zones 2 and 25 based on field surveys, and in beaver management Zone 28 based on nuisance/damage complaint reports. The total regular permit quota will increase from 175 permits to 186 permits. The change will increase recreational opportunity for up to 11 individuals and will enhance efforts to manage the beaver population. The total number of site specific permits available is decreased from 20 to 14, because the total number of regular permits (186) and site-specific permits (14) may not exceed 200 (N.J.S.A 23:4-55). The reduction in site specific permits should have no impact on beaver management, because six or fewer permits have been issued annually over the past several years. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.9.

The exception allowing lead shot to be used for hunting coot, snipe, rail or gallinules prior to the opening of the regular waterfowl hunting season is eliminated. Only non-toxic shot authorized by Federal regulations for hunting waterfowl shall be used for hunting these species. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.14.

General falconry rules are amended. At the request of the Jersey Falconry Club, eyass or nestling goshawks (*Accipiter gentilis*) legally taken from the wild from other states may be possessed and used in the sport of falconry by General Class and Master Class falconers. Current New Jersey regulations prohibit the taking of eyass birds or nestlings of threatened or endangered species, however regulations do allow passage or captive-bred goshawks and red-shouldered hawks to be possessed. This change will allow New Jersey falconers in the General and Master Classes to possess eyass or nestling goshawks taken from the wild in states where it is legal to do so, and only when authorized and in accordance with applicable state and Federal regulations. The taking of eyass or nestling goshawks from the wild in New Jersey will continue to be prohibited. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.16.

At the request of falconers, the falconry hunting season days are clarified within the general falconry rules. Falconers have traditionally hunted on Sundays during the regular, small game seasons, and may hunt on properly licensed semi-wild and

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commercial shooting preserves during prescribed seasons including Sundays. The hunting of pheasants, rabbits, jack rabbits, hares, chukar partridge, quail, squirrels and woodchuck on Sundays with raptors is permitted during prescribed seasons. The hunting of waterfowl with raptors on Sundays during the waterfowl seasons is prohibited. Sundays are not included in the waterfowl season framework, because waterfowl hunting with firearms is prohibited on Sunday in New Jersey and inclusion of Sundays in the waterfowl season framework for falconry would require a corresponding reduction of the days available to firearm hunters. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.16.

The firearms and missiles section is revised. The Director is authorized to allow Federal Government employees, operating under a State of New Jersey Depredation Control Permit, Special Wildlife Management Permit and/or a Federal Fish and Wildlife permit that is co-signed by the Division, to shoot wildlife specifically listed on the permit with .22 caliber rifles, other caliber rifles or an air-rifle of .22 caliber or smaller. This change will provide additional tools to control nuisance/problem wildlife on areas including airports and federal lands. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.23.

This year, a deer management strategy of population reduction is planned for 61.6 percent of the deer range (39 deer management zones) in order to lessen economic losses associated with deer damage to landscape plantings or gardens, agricultural crops and deer/vehicle collisions. A deer management strategy of deer population stabilization is planned for 36.8 percent of the deer range (21 deer management zones) where deer-human conflicts are minimal and the deer population is within the biological carrying capacity of the land. One deer management zone, representing 1.6 percent of the deer range, has a population increase strategy for 2004-05. In 2004-05, the deer management strategy will be to decrease the deer population in Zones: 2, 4, 7-19, 22, 25, 26, 28, 30, 31, 34, 36, 38-42, 47, 49-51, 53-55, and 64-67. The deer management strategies for Zones 30 and 34 are changed from stabilization in 2003-04 to decrease in 2004-05. The 2004-05 deer management strategy will be to stabilize the deer population in Zones: 3, 5, 6, 21, 23, 24, 27, 29, 35, 37, 43, 45, 46, 48, 52, 56-59, 61, and 63. The deer management strategy is changed from stabilize in 2003-04 to increase in 2004-05 in Zone 1. The deer management strategy is changed from stabilize in 2003-04 to decrease in 2004-05 for

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Zones 2, 30, 34 and 66. The deer hunting season's duration, season dates, bag limits and permit quotas are adjusted where necessary to achieve the zone management strategies while maximizing the recreational and economic benefits of the State's renewable deer resource. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.25, 5.26, 5.27, 5.28, 5.29, 5.30 and 5.31.

For Zone 66, the Federal Aviation Administration Technical Center, the fall bow, deer hunting season dates are changed from the regular season format to the early season format. The requirement that an antlered deer have at least three points on one side is eliminated. The bag limits for permit shotgun and permit muzzleloader seasons are changed to allow two deer to be taken at a time. The season dates for permit shotgun season and permit muzzleloader season are changed. The muzzleloader permit season quota is increased from 10 to 15 permits. The permit shotgun season quota is increased from 55 to 65 permits. The permit bow season quota is decreased from 100 to 80 permits. These changes are made at the request of the Federal Aviation Administration Technical Center. The deer management strategy for Zone 66 was changed from stabilize to decrease due to an increase in the number of deer-vehicle collisions, loss of habitat and an increase in deer numbers in developed areas of the facility. The amendments will augment efforts to reduce the deer population. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.25, 5.26, 5.28, 5.29 and 5.30.

The bag limits for the permit muzzleloader and permit shotgun seasons are changed to allow for the taking of two deer at a time in Zone 54 (Picatinny Arsenal, U.S. Department of the Army). These changes are made at the request of Picatinny Arsenal and will enhance population reduction efforts on the facility. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.28 and 5.29.

The concurrent permit muzzleloader and permit shotgun seasons for Zone 38 (Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Department of the Interior) are increased by one day and the permit shotgun season, permit quota is increased from 290 to 390 permits. These changes are made at the request of Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. Increasing the seasons from 4 to 5 days will enhance population reduction efforts on the area and will provide increased recreational opportunity. Increasing the shotgun permit quota from 290 to 390 permits should satisfy increased demand for permits and

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will allow additional individuals to participate in the season. The management strategy for Zone 38 is population reduction and the amendments should increase the deer harvest. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.28, 5.29 and 5.31.

The permit muzzleloader season is increased by six days and the permit quota is increased from 60 to 100 permits, and the permit shotgun season quota is decreased from 180 to 160 permits for Zone 39 (Earle Naval Weapons Station, U.S. Department of the Navy). The permit muzzleloader season for Zone 40 (Earle Naval Weapons Station, Waterfront Section, U.S. Department of the Navy) is scheduled earlier. These changes are made at the request of Earle Naval Weapons Station in order to assist in a deer population reduction strategy and to satisfy demand for permits by season. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.28 and 5.29.

For Zone 53 (Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Center, U.S. Department of the Navy), the muzzleloader permit season quota is reduced from 50 to 40 permits, the shotgun permit season quota is increased from 41 to 50 permits, and the bow permit season quota is increased from 35 to 45 permits. These permit quota changes are made at the request of Lakehurst Naval Air Engineering Center in an effort to better satisfy demand for permits by season. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.28, 5.29 and 5.30.

The permit shotgun season for Zone 18 is increased from 1 day to 3 days and the bag limit is increased from 1 deer to 2 deer in order to reach the antlerless deer harvest objective. This change will augment efforts to reduce the deer population in the zone and will increase recreational hunting opportunity. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.29.

The season dates for the second hunting segment of the permit shotgun season for Zone 59 (Supawna Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, U.S. Department of the Interior), are scheduled earlier. This change is made at the request of Supawna Meadows National Wildlife Refuge in order to provide recreational opportunity during the holiday period. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.29.

At the request of sportsmen, three days (Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday) are reinstated for the permit bow season during the Thanksgiving week period, except in Zones 7 - 15, 36, 41, 49, 50 and 51 (earn-a-buck zones) which will remain closed on November 22 - 24, 2004 and November 21 - 23, 2005. The corresponding three days

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were included in the permit bow permit season through 2001, but were eliminated along with Thanksgiving-day and the following Friday in 2002 to avoid possible conflict with the permit shotgun and permit muzzleloader seasons scheduled to be open in earn-a-buck zones during the Thanksgiving week. The days will only be reinstated in zones that are not open for the shotgun permit and muzzleloader permit seasons. The season will remain closed in earn-a-buck zones to avoid conflict with the shotgun and muzzleloader permit deer seasons, where hunters are restricted to harvesting antlerless deer. Because the three additional days are weekdays, hunter participation is generally low and there will be minimal impact on the deer resource. There are also a sufficient number of deer available in applicable zones to support the change. See N.J.A.C. 7:25-5.30.

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

### **Social Impact**

Most proposed amendments are minor and will have little positive or negative social impact. The proposal to schedule a black bear season for a second year is likely to cause public controversy among people who support and oppose the proposal, based on experience with the 2003 season proposal and season. Interested parties and organizations can be expected to express their positions during the public comment period and to elected and government officials. Persons who oppose the killing of bears and those that are philosophically opposed to the killing of any animals will be displeased by the proposed season. Farmers and homeowners who live in the black bear hunting area that have experienced damage to property or loss of pets or livestock caused by bears and those that feel threatened by the current population level of bears may be relieved that the bear population may be reduced or controlled. Some bow hunters may object to the fact that the bow is not an authorized weapon for black bear hunting. The actual impact of a black bear hunting season on the public will be minimal because the season will again be held concurrent with the six-day firearm season and the season will

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be highly regulated and controlled through the issuance of special hunting permits. The 2003 black bear season proved to be safe and effective; there were no hunting accidents and the season did not result in a significant influx of hunters into the bear hunting area.

Minor changes in permit quotas, seasons dates and bag limits on special deer management areas will have little impact on the general public because use and access of these areas is already tightly controlled by respective administrative agencies and the changes are to existing seasons. Reinstatement of three week days to the permit bow season in some zones will expand recreational hunting opportunity for sportsmen. Increasing the beaver trapping permit quota will expand recreational trapping opportunity for 11 trappers.

Authorizing Federal employees to use rifles to control problem/nuisance wildlife under special Federal and/or State permits, may distress persons who are opposed to lethal wildlife control. However, the use of small caliber rifles and air rifles for wildlife control purposes provides an alternative to shotguns. Use of these weapons is also more effective in many situations and may result in less of a noise disturbance to the general public and other wildlife.

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

### **Economic Impact**

There will be little short-term positive or negative economic impact on local retailers serving the hunting population as a result of the proposed amendments. A deer management strategy of population reduction on 61.6 percent of the deer range will continue to lessen economic losses associated with deer damage to landscape plantings or gardens, agricultural crops and deer/vehicle collisions.

Scheduling a second black bear season will have little economic impact on sportsmen because they will not have to purchase an additional license and they already



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possess the necessary hunting equipment. The season also runs concurrent with the six-day firearm deer season which most of the hunters participate in. There will be a positive economic benefit to small business owners, such as butchers and taxidermists in the bear hunting area, because the majority of 2003 successful bear hunters stated that they would eat the bear which they harvested and most successful bear hunters stated that they would have the bear head and/or hide professionally prepared. Successful bear hunters in 2004 will most likely continue these practices. The regulated harvest of black bears may lessen economic losses associated with bear damage to agricultural crops and personal property, and predation on pets and livestock. The controlled harvest of bears may stabilize or reduce the time and costs required for responding to emergency, damage and nuisance black bear incidents by local police departments and the Division's Wildlife Control Unit. Also, the continuation of existing regulations should further the conservation and enhancement of the wildlife resource upon which a significant recreation and commercial industry is dependent and, therefore, occasion a long-term economic boon.

Authorization of the use of small caliber rifles by Federal employees operating under Federal and/or State permits may reduce the cost of controlling nuisance/problem wildlife by increasing effectiveness and decreasing the time expended to carry out control work.

### **Environmental Impact**

The proposed amendments should have little environmental impact; however, the existing rules should continue the conservation, management and enhancement of the State's wildlife resources based on their current population, distribution and habitat status. Elimination of the exemption allowing lead shot to be used for hunting snipe and rail before the opening of the regular waterfowl hunting season will eliminate any additional deposition of lead shot from this source in tidal and wetland areas. Authorization for New Jersey falconers to take eyass or nestling goshawks from healthy populations in other states, where lawful and authorized by applicable state and Federal

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regulations, will have no environmental impact in New Jersey. As of the Game Code adoption meeting date, there were only 52 licensed falconers in New Jersey and only a few were anticipated to be interested in pursuing the taking eyass or nestling goshawks in other states. The season length and bag limits in place for deer have been designed to maintain a high level of antlerless deer harvest and will help reduce and maintain deer populations at levels more compatible with natural habitats and other land uses. Because of the conservative bear season structure and experience gained with the 2003 bear season, the 2004 bear season is expected to result in a harvest of bears which is lower or equal to the annual recruitment to the population. This level of harvest is unlikely to decrease the black bear population and is anticipated to slow the rate of population increase. The bear population is recognized as a “hunnable” population – i.e. a population that can be hunted without endangering the viability or long-term population of bears in New Jersey.

### **Federal Standards Statement**

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

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service regulates hunting in National Wildlife Refuge areas in New Jersey pursuant to National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act, 16 U.S.C. §668dd (1966), and regulations (50 CFR 32.49). The adopted amendments to the Game Code do not contain any standards or requirements that exceed Federal regulations involving National Wildlife Refuge areas.

The waterfowl hunting regulations (50 CFR 20) and Conservation Order regulations (50 CFR 20) that are promulgated annually by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service allow states to select the dates, times, manner and means for hunting of waterfowl within the allowable Federal framework established by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

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Therefore, the Department has determined that the amendments to the Game Code do not contain any standards or requirements that exceed any standards or requirements imposed by Federal law. Accordingly, Executive Order No. 27 (1994) and N.J.S.A. 52:14B-1 et seq. does not require further analysis.

### **Jobs Impact**

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

### **Agriculture Industry Impact**

The proposed amendments should continue to lessen the economic losses incurred by the agricultural community. Expansion of the shotgun permit season from one to three days in Zone 18 and addition of three days to the permit bow season in many zones should continue to reduce the deer population and lessen the associated damage to agricultural crops. The increase of 11 permits to the regular beaver permit quota in three beaver management zones should provide additional opportunity to remove nuisance beaver. The continuation of the black bear season in northwestern New Jersey may provide limited relief from damage to agricultural crops and beehives by black bears.

### **Regulatory Flexibility Analysis**

Generally, the proposed 2004-2005 Game Code imposes minimal reporting and compliance requirements on sportsmen engaged in recreational hunting. These requirements are not, therefore, imposed upon small business, as the term is defined under the Regulatory Flexibility Act. N.J.S.A. 52:14B-16 et.seq.

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

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recreational opportunities related to game, no differentiation in requirements to exempt small businesses is provided.

### **Smart Growth Impact**

Executive Order No. 4 (2002) requires State agencies which adopt, amend or repeal any rule adopted pursuant to Section 4(a) of the Administrative Procedure Act, to describe the impact of the proposed rule on the achievement of smart growth and implementation of the New Jersey State Development and Redevelopment Plan (State Plan). The Department has evaluated this rulemaking to determine the nature and extent the proposed amendments impact on smart growth and the implementation of the State Plan. The proposed amendments do not involve land use policies or infrastructure development and therefore, do not impact smart growth. As to the implementation of the State Plan, the proposed amendments are intended to conserve the State's natural resources, which is one of the overall goals of the State Plan.

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

#### SUBCHAPTER 5. [2003-2004] 2004-2005 GAME CODE

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

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

(c) This Code, when adopted and when effective, shall supersede the provisions of [2002-2003] 2003-2004 Game Code.

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

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7:25-5.2 Pheasant - Chinese ringneck (*Phasianus colchicus torquatus*), English or blackneck (*P. c. colchicus*), Mongolian (*P. mongolicus*), Japanese green (*Phasianus versicolor*); including mutants and crosses of above

(a) The duration of the pheasant season will be [November 8–December 6, and December 15, 16, 18–31, 2003, and January 1–February 16, 2004;] November 13–December 4 and December 13, 14, 16–31, 2004, and January 1–February 21, 2005; November 12–December 3 and December 12, 13, 15-31, 2005 and January 2–February 20, 2006.

(b) (No change.)

(c) The duration for the pheasant season for properly licensed persons engaged in falconry is [September 1–December 6, and December 15, 16, 18–31, 2003, and January 1–March 31, 2004;] September 1–December 4, and December 13, 14, 16–31, 2004, and January 1–March 31, 2005; and September 1–December 3, and December 12, 13, 15-31, 2005 and January 2–March 31, 2006.

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

(g) The season for properly licensed semi-wild preserves is [November 8, 2003–March 15, 2004;] November 13, 2004–March 15, 2005; November 12, 2005–March 15, 2006, except that nothing contained herein shall preclude properly licensed and permitted youth hunters from hunting pheasant on the Saturday before the regular opening of the pheasant season, on semi-wild preserves licensed for pheasant. Youth hunters must be under the direct supervision of a non-hunting adult (21 years or older), who must possess a proper and valid firearm license. Direct supervision means the youth hunter and the supervising adult are together at the same location. The youth hunter shall not hunt independently of the supervising adult. The Director, with approval of the Council, may extend the pheasant season on licensed semi-wild preserves for a period not to exceed 20 days.

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1. There is no daily bag limit and pheasants of eithersex may be taken on properly licensed semi-wild shooting preserves. The total number of pheasants taken on a semi-wild shooting preserve in the season may not exceed the number specified for release on the semi-wild shooting preserve application.

(h) (No change.)

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

(a) The duration of the season for the hunting of cottontail rabbit, black-tailed jack rabbit, white-tailed jack rabbit, European hare, chukar partridge and quail is [November 8–December 6 and December 15, 16, 18– 31, 2003, and January 1–February 16, 2004;] November 13–December 4 and December 13, 14, 16–31, 2004, and January 1–February 21, 2005; and, November 12–December 3 and December 12, 13, 15 - 31, 2005, and January 2–February 20, 2006.

(b) The duration of the season for the hunting of the animals enumerated by (a) above for properly licensed persons engaged in falconry is [September 1–December 6, and December 15, 16, 18–31, 2003, and January 1–March 31, 2004;] September 1–December 4 and December 13, 14, 16–31, 2004, and January 1–March 31, 2005; and September 1–December 3 and December 12, 13, 15 - 31, 2005 and January 2 –March 31, 2006.

(c) (No change.)

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(d) The hunting hours for the animals enumerated in this section are 8:00 A.M. to 1/2 hour after sunset on [November 8, 2003;] November 13, 2004; and, November 12, 2005. On all other days for which hunting for these animals is legal, the hours are sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

(e) The quail and chukar partridge season for properly licensed semi-wild preserves is [November 8, 2003–March 15, 2004;] November 13, 2004– March 15, 2005; and November 12, 2005–March 15, 2006 inclusive, except that nothing herein contained shall preclude properly licensed and permitted youth hunters from hunting quail and/or chukar on the Saturday before the regular opening of the quail and chukar season on semi-wild preserves licensed for quail and/or chukar. Youth hunters must be under the direct supervision of a non-hunting adult (21 years or older), who must possess a proper and valid firearm license. Direct supervision means the youth hunter and the supervising adult are together at the same location. The youth hunter may not hunt independently of the supervising adult. The Director, with approval of the council, may extend the quail and chukar partridge season on licensed semi-wild preserves for a period not to exceed 20 days.

1. There is no daily bag limit for quail and chukar partridge taken on properly licensed semi-wild shooting preserves. The total number of quail and chukar partridge taken on a semi-wild shooting preserve in the season may not exceed the number specified for release on the semi-wild shooting preserve application.

(f) (No change.)

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

(a) There is a closed season for bobcat. It shall be illegal to possess, take, kill or attempt to take or kill a bobcat at any time. It shall be illegal to use dogs to pursue or

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run black bear. The season duration for black bear shall be December [8 – 13, 2003] 6 – 11, 2004 and shall be concurrent with the six-day firearm deer season. Legal hunting hours for black bear shall be ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset. Following the commencement of the season, the Commissioner of DEP or the Director may, after consultation with the Chairman, close the season. To the extent possible, the Chairman will consult with available Council members prior to consultation with the Commissioner or Director. The Commissioner or the Director will announce such closure, which will become effective 24 hours from the daily legal closing time of the day on which the decision is made, based upon data obtained and reviewed by the Division. Season closure will be announced by news release, radio, the Division’s website ([www.njfishandwildlife.com](http://www.njfishandwildlife.com)) and other media.

1. Special permit requirement: All black bear hunters must have a current and valid firearm hunting license and a special “black bear hunting permit” which will be issued by the Division. A total of 10,000 special black bear hunting permits will be available to properly licensed firearm hunters after successfully completing a mandatory black bear hunting seminar. Black bear permit applicants must submit their name, mailing address, [2003] 2004 firearm hunting license number, date of birth and evening telephone number on applications provided by the Division. Applications must be submitted to the Division of Fish and Wildlife, PO Box 400, Trenton NJ 08625-0400 no later than September 30, [2003] 2004. If, more than 10,000 applications are received, a random lottery will be conducted. The Division will notify successful applicants of dates, times, locations and other requirements of the black bear hunting seminars. Black bear hunting permits are not transferable and must be in the possession of the hunter while hunting black bear. Hunters are limited to one black bear hunting permit. Juvenile hunters aged 10 through 13 years of age must have a black bear hunting permit and be under the direct supervision of a properly licensed adult (21 years of age or older) while bear hunting. The adult must also possess a black bear hunting permit. Direct supervision means the juvenile hunter and the supervising adult are together at the same location. The juvenile hunter may not hunt independently of the adult.

2.-5. (No change)



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(b) (No change.)

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

(a) (No change.)

(b) The duration of the trapping season for beaver shall be January 1 through February 9, [2004,] 2005 and 2006, inclusive. If the anticipated harvest of beaver has not been accomplished during this season, up to 14 additional days may be authorized by the Director.

(c) Special Permit: A special permit obtained from the Division of Fish and Wildlife shall be required to trap beaver. If the number of applications received in the Trenton office exceeds the quotas listed, a random drawing will be held to determine permit holders. Applications shall be received in the Trenton office during the period October 15 - November 15, annually. Unclaimed beaver permits may be issued over-the-counter. Applicants may apply for only one beaver trapping permit and shall provide their current and valid trapping license number. Successful applicants must trap with a valid, current trapping license. The [2004] 2005 - 2006 Special Beaver Trapping Permit quota is as follows:

[2004] 2005 - 2006 SPECIAL BEAVER PERMIT QUOTAS

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Beaver Management Number	Portions of Counties Involved
	[2004]
	<u>2005-</u>
	2006
	Permit
	Quota*
<hr/>	
1	8 Sussex
2	[8] <u>16</u> Sussex
3	9 Bergen, Morris, Passaic, Sussex
4	7 Sussex, Warren
5	12 Sussex, Warren
6	20 Morris, Passaic, Sussex, Warren
7	9 Essex, Morris, Passaic
8	7 Ocean
9	7 Burlington, Ocean
10	8 Atlantic, Burlington, Camden
11	6 Atlantic, Burlington, Ocean
12	4Atlantic, Camden, Gloucester
13	10 Atlantic, Cape May, Cumberland
14	2 Atlantic, Cumberland, Gloucester, Salem
15	2 Cumberland, Salem
16	6 Atlantic, Burlington
17	5 Atlantic
18	3 Atlantic, Cape May
19	9 Hunterdon, Morris, Warren
20	3 Hunterdon, Morris
21	1 Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset
22	1 Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Union

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23	1 Bergen, Hudson, Passaic
24	3 Hunterdon, Mercer, Somerset
25	[3]5 Burlington, Mercer, Middlesex, Somerset
26	1 Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth
27	2 Monmouth, Ocean
28	[6]7 Burlington, Mercer, Middlesex, Monmouth
29	6 Burlington, Camden, Gloucester
30	6 Camden, Cumberland, Gloucester, Salem

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Total	[175]
	<u>186</u>

(d) Special Site Specific Permit: During the initial application period, applicants may also apply for one special site specific beaver permit. The total number of permits available shall not exceed [20]14. Site specific permits will be issued for specific locations or properties where the Division has determined that beaver damage or nuisance problems exist. A random drawing will be held to determine permit holders; however, applicants unsuccessful in obtaining the special permit as set forth at (c) above will be given first opportunity. Permits will be valid only during the beaver trapping season.

(e)-(i) (No change.)

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

(a) (No change.)

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(b) The duration of the trapping season for otter shall be January 1 through February 9, [2004,] 2005 and 2006, inclusive. If the anticipated harvest of otter has not been accomplished, up to 14 additional days may be authorized by the Director.

(c)-(g) (No change.)

(h) Beaver and Otter Zones are described as follows:

1. (No change.)

2. Zone 2: That portion of Sussex County lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of the New York-New Jersey state line with Rt. 519, then south on Rt. 519 to its intersection with Rt. 23; then south on Rt. 23 to its intersection with Rt. 519 at Colesville; then south on Rt. 519 to its intersection with County Rt. 636 above Branchville; then west on County Rt. 636 to its intersection with Rt. 206; then southeast on Rt. 206 to its intersection with Rt. 15 at Ross Corner; then south on Rt. 15 to its intersection with Rt. 517 at Sparta; then north on Rt. 517 to its intersection with Rt. 23, then east on Rt. 23 to its intersection with Rt. 515 at Stockholm; then north on Rt. 515 to its intersection with Rt. 94 at Vernon; then north on Rt. 94 to the state line, then west along the state line to its intersection with Rt. 519, the point of beginning.

3.-30. (No change.)

(i) (No change.)

7:25-5.14 Special regulation limiting use of shotguns and shotgun shells containing lead pellets

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(a) No person shall have in possession or use in hunting waterfowl and coot or any snipe, rail or gallinules [after the regular season for hunting waterfowl commences] any shotgun shell containing lead shot or lead pellets or have in possession or use any shotgun containing lead shot in New Jersey including all territorial waters.

1. Only shotgun shells containing steel pellets not larger than T(.200 inch) or bismuth pellets or other non-toxic shot authorized by Federal regulations not larger than T(.200 inch) and only shotguns containing steel pellets, bismuth pellets or other non-toxic shot authorized by Federal regulations not larger than T(.200 inch) shall be used for hunting waterfowl, coot or any snipe, rail or gallinule.

(b) A person found in possession of any of the following items at (b) 1 to 3 below while hunting for, pursuing, taking or attempting to take waterfowl, coot or any snipe, rail or gallinule [after the regular waterfowl season commences] is in violation of this section. Each violation shall constitute an additional, separate and distinct offense subjecting the person to a penalty of \$20.00 for each offense.

1.-3. (No change.)

(c) (No change.)

7:25-5.16 General falconry rules

(a) The following rules govern the taking, possession, training, transfer, marking and housing facilities of raptors, the classification of permittees and the use of raptors for falconry, to take, kill, or pursue wild birds or wild animals.

1. (No change.)

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2. Classes of permits are as follows:

i. (No change.)

ii. General: Permittee shall be at least 18 years of age.

(1)-(2) (No change.)

(3) Permittee may not take, transport or possess any golden eagle (*Aquila chrysaetos*) or any species listed as endangered or threatened by the U.S. Department of the Interior or the N.J. Division of Fish and Wildlife provided, however that captive bred Cooper's hawks (*Accipiter cooperi*), or one legally acquired from the wild from states outside New Jersey where it is not classified as endangered or threatened, may be possessed. Notwithstanding the above, passage or captive bred red-shouldered hawks (*Buteo lineatus*) or goshawks (*Accipiter gentilis*) may be possessed. Eyass birds or nestlings of threatened or endangered raptors may not be taken; however, eyass or nestling goshawks (*Accipiter gentilis*) legally taken from the wild from states outside New Jersey may be possessed.

(4) (No change.)

iii. Master: Permittee shall have at least five years of falconry experience in the practice of falconry at the general class. A raptor shall have been in possession for no less than 36 months during this time.

(1) (No change.)

(2) A permittee may not take, transport or possess any species listed as endangered on an U.S. Department of Interior or N.J. Division of Fish and Wildlife list, provided, however, that captive bred birds, when legally acquired and possessed in

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compliance with Federal authorization may be used. Captive bred Cooper's hawks or Cooper's hawks legally acquired from the wild from outside New Jersey where it is not classified as endangered or threatened may be possessed. Notwithstanding the above, passage or captive bred red-shouldered hawks or goshawks may also be possessed. Eyass birds or nestlings of threatened or endangered species may not be taken; however, eyass or nestling goshawks (Accipiter gentilis) legally taken from the wild from states outside New Jersey may be possessed.

\_\_\_\_\_ (3)-(6) (No change.)

3.-6. (No change.)

7. Hunting with raptors shall be as follows:

i. (No change.)

ii. Game species may be hunted only in accordance with the Game Laws and the seasons and bag limits established each year for falconry by the Division. The hunting of pheasants, rabbits, jackrabbits, hares, chukar partridge, quail, squirrels, and woodchuck on Sundays with raptors is permitted during the prescribed seasons. The hunting of waterfowl on Sundays with raptors is prohibited.

\_\_\_\_\_ iii. (No change.)

8.-12. (No change.)

7:25-5.23 Firearms and missiles, etc.

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

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(e) Within the areas described as portions of Passaic, Mercer, Hunterdon, Warren, Morris and Sussex Counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 513 and the New York State line; then south along Rt. 513 to its intersection with Rt. 511; then south along Rt. 511 to its intersection with Rt. 46; then west along Rt. 46 to its intersection with Rt. 80; then west along Rt. 80 to its intersection with Rt. 15; then north along Rt. 15 to its intersection with the Morris-Sussex County line; then south along the Morris-Sussex County line to the Warren County line; then southwest along the Morris-Warren County line to the Hunterdon County line; then southeast along the Morris-Hunterdon County line to the Somerset County line; then south along the Somerset-Hunterdon County line to its intersection with the Mercer County line; then west and south along the Hunterdon Mercer County line to its intersection with Rt. 31; then south along Rt. 31 to its intersection with Rt. 546; then west along Rt. 546 to the Delaware River; then north along the east bank of the Delaware River to the New York State Line; then east along the New York State Line to the point of beginning at Lakeside; and in that portion of Salem, Gloucester, Camden, Burlington, Mercer, Monmouth, Ocean, Atlantic, Cape May and Cumberland counties lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rt. 295 and the Delaware River; then east along Rt. 295 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then east along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 40; then east along Rt. 40 to its intersection with Rt. 47; then north along Rt. 47 to its intersection with Rt. 536; then east along Rt. 536 to its intersection with Rt. 206; then north along Rt. 206 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then northeast along the New Jersey Turnpike to its intersection with Rt. 571; then southeast along Rt. 571 to its intersection with the Garden State Parkway; then south along the Garden State Parkway to its intersection with Rt. 9 at Somers Point; then south along Rt. 9 to its intersection with Rt. 83; then west along Rt. 83 to its intersection with Rt. 47; then north along Rt. 47 to its intersection with Dennis Creek; then south along the west bank of Dennis Creek to its intersection with Delaware Bay; then northwest along the east shore of Delaware Bay and the Delaware River to the point of beginning; persons holding a valid and proper rifle permit in addition to their current firearm hunting license may hunt for squirrels between [September 27–



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November 7, 2003 and January 3–February 16, 2004;] September 25–November 12, 2004, and January 8–February 21, 2005; and September 24, November 11, 2005 and January 7–February 20, 2006 using a .36 caliber or smaller muzzleloading rifle loaded with a single projectile.

(f)-(t) (No change.)

(u) Notwithstanding the foregoing, this section shall not preclude the Director from authorizing, on a case by case basis, Federal Government employees operating under a State of New Jersey Depredation Control Permit, Special Wildlife Management Permit and/or a Federal Fish and Wildlife permit that is co-signed by the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, to shoot wildlife specifically listed on that permit with an air rifle or a rifle when that permit specifically authorizes the use of air rifles and/or rifles. Air rifles used for this purpose shall be restricted to .22 caliber or smaller only. Rifles used for this purpose shall be restricted to .22 caliber or other calibers approved by the Division.

\_\_\_\_\_Recodify existing (u) as (v) (No change in text.)

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

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

1. [September 27 – October 24, 2003,] October 2 – 29, 2004, and October 1 – 28, 2005 in Zones 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 37, 39, 43, 45, 46, 52–55[,] and 65 [and 66].

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2. [September 6 – October 24, 2003,] September 11 – October 29, 2004 and September 10 – October 28, 2005 in Zones 2, 5, 7–17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 40–42, 47–51, 57, [and] 63 and 66.

(b) Bag Limit: Only one antlered deer may be taken Statewide during the fall bow season. Hunters taking an antlered buck in accordance with the provisions set forth in this section must have a “Fall Bow Only Antlered Buck Stub” from their bow and arrow or all around sportsman license which is designated for use during the fall bow season. The standard bag limit is two deer, either one antlered and one antlerless or two antlerless in Zones: 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 37, 43, 45, 46, 52, 53, 55, and 65. In Zones: 2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 39-42, 47-51, 54, 57, 63, and 66 the bag limit is one antlered deer and an unlimited number of antlerless deer. In Zones 7–15, 36, 40, 41, 49, 50 and 51, an antlerless deer must be taken from one of these zones before an antlered deer may be taken throughout the season. In Zones 2, 5, 16, 17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 42, 47, 48, 57 and 63 an antlerless deer must be taken before an antlered deer from [September 6 – 26, 2003,] September 11 – October 1, 2004 and September 10 – 30, 2005; after these periods, the earn-a-buck requirement does not apply. Properly licensed hunters who harvest their first deer during the fall bow season subject to the provisions of this section will be given a “New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag” (supplemental tag), upon registration of their deer at a designated deer check station. This tag will be valid for the taking of one additional deer, either an antlered or antlerless deer, if the first deer was antlerless; or, an antlerless deer, if the first deer was antlered. The supplemental tag may be used in any zone that is open for the season subject to the limitations of this section. Properly licensed hunters that harvest a second deer may obtain a “New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag” upon registration of their second deer at a designated check station. Supplemental tags for the taking of a third or subsequent deer are valid only in zones that have a bag limit of an unlimited number of antlerless deer listed above. After taking a second deer, hunters may not hunt deer during the fall bow season in the following Zones: 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 37, 43, 45, 46, 52, 53, 55 and 65. One additional supplemental tag, valid only in zones with an

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unlimited antlerless deer bag limit, will be issued upon registration of each subsequent deer until the season concludes. After harvesting the season limit of one antlered deer, supplemental deer tags will only be valid for taking antlerless deer. All supplemental tags are valid on the date of issuance in all zones that are open for this season. Deer shall be tagged immediately with completely filled in "transportation tag" and shall be transported to a deer checking station before 8:00 P.M. D.S.T. or E.S.T., whichever is in effect, on the day killed to secure a legal possession tag. The legal possession tag must be securely affixed or locked on the deer before the deer is transported or removed from the authorized deer checking station. Hunters are responsible for legal possession tags being securely affixed or locked before leaving the deer check station. The supplemental tag shall be valid on the day of issuance and all registration requirements apply. In addition, hunters taking an antlered buck must immediately detach, date and initial the current year "Fall Bow Only Antlered Buck Stub" from their bow and arrow or all around sportsman license, and surrender the stub with the transportation tag at the checking station.

1. (No change.)

2. In Zones 3, 6, 9, 13, 27, 29, 35, 37, 40, and 63 [and 66] it shall be illegal to kill, take or attempt to take any antlered deer which does not have a minimum of three antler points on one side.

(c)-(d) (No change.)

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

(a) Duration of the winter bow season is from January 1 - 31[, 2004] and 2005, and January 2 – 31, 2006 in zones: 1–6, 16-19, 21-31, 34, 35, 37, 39, 40, 42, 43, 45-48, 52, 53, 54, 55, 63, 65 and 66; and, [January 1 – February 14, 2004,] January 1 – February 19, 2005 and January 2 – February 18, 2006 in zones: 7–15, 36, 41, 49, 50 and

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51, except closed January 1 (New Years Day) in Zones 37 and 52. Legal hunting hours shall be 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset.

(b) Bag Limit: Only one antlered deer may be taken Statewide during the winter bow season where the season is open. Hunters taking an antlered buck in accordance with the provisions set forth in this section must have an antlered buck stub from their bow and arrow hunting license or all around sportsman license which is designated for use during the winter bow season. The standard bag limit is two deer, one antlered and one antlerless, or two antlerless in Zones 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 37, 43, 45, 46, 52, 53, 55 and 65. In Zones 2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 39-42, 47-51, 54, 63 and 66 the bag limit is one antlered deer and an unlimited number of antlerless deer. Properly licensed hunters who take their first deer during the winter bow season will be given a "New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag" (supplemental tag), upon registration of their first deer at a designated deer check station. This tag will be valid for the taking of one additional deer, either an antlered or antlerless deer, if the first deer was antlerless; or, an antlerless deer, if the first deer was antlered. The supplemental tag may be used in any zone that is open for the winter bow season subject to the limitations of this section. Properly licensed hunters that take a second deer may obtain a "New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag" upon registration of their second deer at a designated check station. Supplemental tags for the taking of a third or subsequent deer are only valid in zones that have a bag limit of an unlimited number of antlerless deer. Supplemental tags for the taking of a third and subsequent deer will only be valid in the zones listed above having an unlimited bag limit for antlerless deer. After taking a second deer, hunters may not hunt deer during the winter bow season in the following Zones: 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 37, 43, 45, 46, 52, 53, 55 and 65. One additional supplemental tag, valid only in zones with an unlimited antlerless deer bag limit, will be issued upon registration of each subsequent deer until the season concludes. Supplemental tags and transportation tags attached to the regular license are only valid for taking antlerless deer except that they are valid for taking an antlered deer when accompanied by a proper and valid antlered buck stub designated for use during the

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winter bow season. After harvesting the season limit of one antlered deer, supplemental tags will only be valid for taking antlerless deer. All supplemental tags are valid on the date of issuance in all zones that are open for the winter bow season. Upon harvesting a deer, hunters must immediately detach, completely fill out and attach the “transportation tag” to the deer, and then take the deer to a deer checking station before 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on the day killed to secure a legal possession tag. The legal possession tag must be securely affixed or locked on the deer before the deer is transported or removed from the authorized deer checking station. Hunters are responsible for legal possession tags being securely affixed or locked before leaving the deer check station. In addition, hunters taking an antlered buck must immediately detach, date and initial the current year “Winter Bow Only Antlered Buck Stub” from their bow and arrow or all around sportsman license, and surrender the stub with the transportation tag at the checking station.

1. (No change.)

2. In Zones 3, 6, 9, 13, 27, 29, 35, 37, 40, and 63 [and 66] it shall be illegal to kill, take or attempt to take any antlered deer which does not have a minimum of three antler points on one side.

(c)-(d) (No change.)

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

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

(c) Bag Limit: Only one antlered deer may be taken Statewide during the muzzleloader rifle permit season, regardless of the number of permits obtained. Hunters taking an antlered buck in accordance with the provisions set forth in this section must

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have an “Antlered Buck Stub” from their firearm or all around sportsman license from the calendar year in which the season begins which is designated for use during the “Permit Muzzleloader Only” season. Two deer, one antlered and one antlerless or two antlerless may be taken on a permit in Zones 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 37, 43, 45, 46, 52, 53, 55 and 65. One antlered and an unlimited number of antlerless deer may be taken in Zones 2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 38-42, 47-51, 54, 57-59, 61, 63, 66 and 67, except as noted below and in (c) 1 and 2 below. Only one deer may be taken at a time per permit until the season limit is reached except in Zones 5, 7-15, 17, 19, 25, 36, 38-42, 48-51, 54, [and], 59 and 66 where the limit is two deer at a time per permit until the season concludes. In Zones 2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25-29, 31, 35, 36, 38-42, 47-51, 54, 57-59, 61, 63, 66 and 67 supplemental tags for the taking of a third and subsequent deer will be issued upon registration of deer at official deer checking stations until the season concludes. In Zones 7-15, 36, 41, 49, 50 and 51 only antlerless deer may be taken on applicable muzzleloader season permits during the period of [November 24 - 26 and 28, and December 8 - 13, 2003,] November 22 - 24, and 26 and December 6 - 11, 2004, November 21 - 23 and 25 and December 5 - 10, 2005. In Zones 5, 17, 19, 25, 42 and 48 only antlerless deer may be taken during the periods of [December 8 - 13, 2003,] December 6 - 11, 2004 and December 5 - 10, 2005. All supplemental tags are valid on the date of issuance and only in the zone for which the special season permit was issued. All deer registration requirements apply. Deer shall be tagged immediately with the muzzleloader rifle permit season permit, transportation tag completely filled in, and shall be transported to a deer checking station before 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on the day killed to secure a legal possession tag. The legal possession tag must be securely affixed or locked before the deer is transported or removed from the authorized deer checking station. Hunters are responsible for legal possession tags being securely affixed or locked on the deer before leaving the deer check station. In addition, hunters taking an antlered buck must immediately detach, date and initial the “Antlered Buck Stub - Permit Muzzleloader Only” from their firearm or all around sportsman license from the calendar year in which the season began, and surrender the stub with the transportation tag at the checking station. In zones where the muzzleloader rifle permit season extends into

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January or February, the buck stub from the calendar year in which the season began shall be valid until the end of the season. The possession of a deer after 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on the date killed without a legal possession seal shall be deemed illegal possession. Except as noted in (c)1 through 3 below upon completion of registration of first deer, one valid and proper "New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag" (supplemental tag) will be issued which will allow this person to continue hunting and take one additional deer either an antlered deer or antlerless deer if the first deer was antlerless or an antlerless deer if the first deer was antlered during the current muzzleloader rifle permit season. The supplemental tag shall be valid on the day of issuance and all registration requirements apply.

1. In Zones 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 36, 41, 49, 50, and 51, an antlerless deer must be taken from one of these zones in each year before taking or attempting to take an antlered deer on [December 1 or 2, 2003,] November 29 or 30, 2004 and November 28 or 29, 2005. An antlerless deer taken in these zones on [November 24 - 26 and 28, 2003,] November 22 – 24 and 26, 2004 and November 21 – 23, [or] and 25, 2005 also satisfies the earn-a buck requirement for the respective year. In Zones 38, 40 and 67 an antlerless deer must be taken in each year before taking or attempting to take an antlered deer during the prescribed muzzleloader deer seasons. It shall not be necessary to harvest an antlerless deer before taking or attempting to take an antlered deer during muzzleloader, permit season days scheduled after the conclusion of the six-day firearm season.

2. In Zones 3, 6, 9, 13, 27, 29, 35, 37, 40, 59, 63, [66] and 67, it shall be illegal to kill, take or attempt to take any antlered deer which does not have a minimum of three antler points on one side.

3. (No change.)

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

1. [December 1, 2, 15, 16, 20 - 24, 26 - 31, 2003 and January 1- 9, 2004;] November 29, 30 and December 13, 14, 18 - 24, 27 - 31, 2004 and January 1- 7, 2005; and, November 28, 29 and December 12, 13, 17 - 31, 2005 and January 2 - 6, 2006, in Zones 1-3, 6, 16, 18, 21-24, 26-31, 34, 35, 43, 45- 47, 55, 57, 58, 61, 63 and 65.

2. [December 1, 2, 15, 16, 20 - 24, 26 - 31, 2003;] November 29, 30 and December 13, 14, 18 - 24, 27 - 29, 2004; and, November 28, 29 and December 12, 13, 17 - 24, 26 and 27, 2005 in Zone 4.

3. [November 24 - 26 and 28, and December 1, 2, 8 - 13, 15, 16, 20 - 24, 26 - 31, 2003; and January 1 - February 14, 2004;] November 22 - 24, 26, 29 and 30 and December 6 - 11, 13, 14, 18 - 24, 27 - 31, 2004 and January 1 - February 12, 2005; and, November 21 - 23, 25, 28, 29 and December 5 - 10, 12, 13, 17 - 31, 2005 and January 2 - February 11, 2006 in Zones 7- 15, 36, 41, 49, 50 and 51.

4. [December 1, 2, 8-13, 15, 16, 20-24, 26-31, 2003 and January 1 - 31, 2004;] November 29 and 30 and December 6 - 11, 13, 14, 18 - 24, 27 - 31, 2004 and January 1 - 31, 2005; and, November 28 and 29 and December 5 - 10, 12, 13, 17 - 31, 2005 and January 2 - 31, 2006 in Zones 5, 17, 19, 25, 42 and 48.

5. [November 10 - 14, and December 15 - 24, 26 - 31, 2003 and January 2 - 10, 2004;] November 8 - 12, and December 13 - 24, 27 - 31, 2004 and January 3 - 8, 2005; and, November 7 - 11, and December 12 - 31, 2005 and January 2 - 7, 2006\_ in Zones 37 and 52.

6. [November 19 - 22, 2003;] November 13, 17 - 20, 2004; and, November 12, 16 - 19, 2005; in Zone 38.

7. [December 1 - 6, 15 - 31, 2003 and, January 1 - 31, 2004;] November 29 - December 4, 13 - 31, 2004 and January 1 - 31, 2005; and, November 28 - December 3, 12 - 31, 2005 and January 2 - 31, 2006\_ in Zone 39.



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8. [November 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, and December 15 – 20, 2003;] November 6, 13, 20, and 22 - 27 [and December 4, 13 – 18], 2004; and November 5, 12, 19, and 21 - 26[25 and December 3, 12 – 17], 2005 in Zone 40.

9. [November 29, and December 1 - 6, 15 – 24, 26 – 31, 2003, and January 1 – 10, 2004;] November 27 – 30 and December 1 – 4, 13 –24, 27 – 31, 2004 and January 1 – 8, 2005; and, November 26 – 30 and December 1 – 3, 12 - 31, 2005 and January 2 – 14, 2006 in Zone 53.

10. [December 1, 2, 15 – 31, 2003, and January 1 – 10, 2004;] November 29 and 30 and December 13 – 31, 2004 and January 1–8, 2005; and, November 28 and 29 and December 12 – 31, 2005 and January 2 – 7, 2006 in Zone 54.

11. [December 15 – 24, 26 and 27, 2003;] December 13 - 24, 2004; and, December 12 – 24, 2005 in Zone 59.

12. [December 1 – 6, 13 and 20, 2003; November [29 – December 4, 11 and 18, 2004] 27 - December 4, 10 and 11, 2004 and January 8 and 15, 2005; and, November [28 – December 3, 10, 17, 2005] 26 - December 3, 9 and 10, 2005 and January 7 and 14, 2006 in Zone 66.

13. [November 10 – 13, 17 – 20, 2003;] November 8 – 11, 15 – 18, 2004; and, November 7 – 10, 14 – 17, 2005 in Zone 67.

14.– 15. (No change.)

(e)-(j) (No change.)

(k) The Deer Management Zone Map is on file at the Office of Administrative Law and is available from that agency or the Division. The [2003]2004-2005 Muzzleloader Rifle Deer Season Permit Quotas are as follows:

[2003]2004-2005 MUZZLELOADER RIFLE PERMIT SEASON PERMIT QUOTAS

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Deer Mgt. Zone	Season Dates Code	Permit Quota [2003]2004-
No.		2005 Portions of Counties Involved
1	1	1,140 Sussex
2	1	2,510 Sussex
3	1	1,180 Sussex, Passaic, Bergen, <u>Morris</u>
4	2	1,270 Sussex, Warren
5	4	3,510 Sussex, Warren
6	1	1,760 Sussex, Morris, Passaic, Essex, Warren
7	3	1,690 Warren, Hunterdon
8	3	2,920 Warren, Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset
9	3	530 Morris, Somerset
10	3	1,760 Warren, Hunterdon
11	3	1,090 Hunterdon
12	3	1,860 Mercer, Hunterdon, Somerset
13	3	365 Morris, Somerset, <u>Union</u>
14	3	1,020 Mercer, Somerset, Middlesex, Burlington
15	3	1,260 Mercer, Monmouth, Middlesex
16	1	1,240 Ocean, Monmouth
17	4	845 Ocean, Monmouth, <u>Mercer, Burlington</u>
18	1	660 Ocean
19	4	1,570 Camden, Burlington
21	1	1,350 Burlington, Ocean
22	1	350 Burlington, Ocean
23	1	1,420 Burlington, Camden, Atlantic
24	1	700 Burlington, Ocean
25	4	1,265 Gloucester, Camden, Atlantic, Salem
26	1	1860 Atlantic
27	1	1,050 Salem, Cumberland

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28	1	1,330 Salem, Cumberland, Gloucester
29	1	965 Salem, Cumberland
30	1	610 Cumberland
31	1	435 Cumberland
34	1	1,720 Cape May, Cumberland
35	1	1,460 Gloucester, Salem
36	3	100 Bergen, Hudson, Essex, Morris, Union, Somerset, Middlesex, Passaic
37	5	300 Burlington (Fort Dix Military Reservation)
38	6	10 Morris (Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge)
39	7	[60]100 Monmouth (Earle Naval Weapons Station)
40	8	50 Monmouth (Earle Naval Weapons Station – Waterfront)
41	3	590 Mercer, Hunterdon
42	4	500 Atlantic
43	1	255 Cumberland
45	1	590 Cumberland, Atlantic, Cape May
46	1	528 Atlantic
47	1	440 Atlantic, Cumberland, Gloucester
48	4	780 Burlington
49	3	120 Burlington, Camden, Gloucester
50	3	510 Middlesex, Monmouth
51	3	410 Monmouth, Ocean
52	5	180 Ocean (Fort Dix Military Reservation)
53	9	[50]40 Ocean (Lakehurst Naval Engineering Station)
54	10	25 Morris (Picatinny Arsenal-ARRAD Com)
55	1	210 Gloucester

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56		0 Atlantic (Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge)
57	1	40 Atlantic (Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge)
58	1	50 Burlington, Ocean (Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge)
59	11	25 Salem (Supawna Meadows National Wildlife Refuge)
61	1	40 Atlantic (Atlantic County Park System)
63	1	280 Salem
64		0 Monmouth (Monmouth Battlefield State Park)
65	1	390 Gloucester, Camden
66	12	[10]15 Atlantic (Federal Aviation Administration William J. Hughes Technical Center)
67	13	350 Sussex (High Point State Park)

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Total		[49,688] <u>49,723</u>
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\_\_\_\_\_ (l)-(n) (No change.)

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

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

(c) Bag limit: A properly licensed hunter who did not take two antlered deer during the current year, six-day firearm season may take one antlered deer during the shotgun permit season. Only one antlered deer may be taken Statewide during the

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shotgun permit season, regardless of the number of permits obtained. Hunters taking an antlered deer in accordance with the provisions set forth in this section must have a valid “Antlered Buck Stub 6-Day Firearm Or permit Shotgun Only” from their firearm or all around sportsman license from the calendar year in which the season begins. One deer, either antlered or antlerless, may be taken on a permit in Zones 1, 3, 4, [18,] 21, 23, 24, 37, 43, 45, 46, and 52. Two deer, either one antlered and one antlerless or two antlerless may be taken on a permit in Zones 6, 18, 30, 34 55, and 65. One antlered deer and an unlimited number of antlerless deer may be taken on a permit in Zones: 2, 5, 7- 17, 19, 22, 25–29, 31, 35, 36, 38-42, 47–51, 53, 54, 56–59, 61, 63, 64 and 66. In Zones 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 36, 41, 49, 50, and 51 only antlerless deer may be taken on [November 24, 25, 26 and 28 and December 8 – 13, 2003]. November 22 – 24[,] and 26, and December 6 - 11, 2004; and, November 21 - 23 and 25, and December 5 - 10, 2005. In Zones 5, 17, 19, 25, 42 and 48 only antlerless deer may be taken during the period of [December 8 – 13, 2003;] December 6 – 11, 2004; and, December 5 – 10, 2005. In Zones 38 and 40 an antlerless deer must be taken before taking or attempting to take an antlered deer during the prescribed season. Only one deer may be taken at a time per permit until the season limit is reached except in Zones 5, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 17, 19, 25, 36, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 48, 49, 50, 51, 54, 56, 59, [and], 64 and 66 where the limit is two deer at a time per permit until the season concludes. New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tags are valid on the day of issuance in all zones. All deer tagging and registration provisions apply. In addition, hunters taking an antlered deer must immediately detach, date and initial the “Antlered Buck Stub – 6-Day Firearm or Permit Shotgun Only,” from their firearm or all around sportsman license from the calendar year in which the season began, and surrender the stub with the transportation tag at the checking station. In zones where the shotgun permit season extends into January or February the buck stub from the calendar year in which the season began shall be valid until the end of the shotgun permit season. The season bag limits apply to both regular and farmer deer permits; however, all farmer shotgun permits are valid for taking antlerless deer only, when used during the six-day firearm buck season and on any other days authorized through the last day of the six-day firearm buck season.

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1. In Zones 3, 6, 9, 13, 27, 29, 35, 37, 40, 59, and 63 [and 66], it shall be illegal to kill, take or attempt to take any antlered deer which does not have a minimum of three antler points on one side.

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

1. [December 17 – 19, 2003;] December 15 – 17, 2004; and, December 14 – 16, 2005 in Zones 6, 18, 30, 34 55 and 65.

2. [December 17 – 19, 2003 and January 10 – 17, 2004;] December 15 – 17, 2004 and January 8 – 15, 2005; and, December 14 – 16, 2005 and January 7 – 14, 2006 in Zones 2, 16, 22, 26–29, 31, 35, 47, 53 and 63.

3. [December 17, 2003;] December 15, 2004; and, December 14, 2005 in Zones 1, 3, 4, [18,] 21, 23, 24, 43, 45, and 46.

4. [November 24 - 26 and 28 and December 8 – 13, 17 – 19, 2003, and January 3 – February 14, 2004;] November 22 – 24 and 26 and December 6 – 11, 15 – 17, 2004 and January 3 – February 12, 2005; and, November 21 – 23, 25 and December 5 – 10, 14 – 16, 2005 and January 3 – February 11, 2006 in Zones 7-15, 36, 41, and 49 - 51.

5. [December 8 – 13, 17 – 19, 2003, and January 3 – 31, 2004;] December 6 – 11, 15 – 17, 2004 and January 3 – 31, 2005; and, December 5 – 10, 14 – 16, 2005 and January 3 – 31, 2006 in Zones 5, 17, 19, 25, 42 and 48.

6. [December 27, 2003;] December 18, 2004; and, December 17, 2005 in Zones 37 and 52.

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7. [November 19 – 22, 2003;] November 13, 17 – 20, 2004; and, November 12, 16 – 19, 2005 in Zone 38.

8. [December 6, 20, and 27, 2003 and, January 3, 10, 17 and 24, 2004;] December 4, 6 - 11, 18 and 25, 2004 and January 1, 8, 15, 22 and 29, 2005; and, December 3, 5 - 10, 17, 24 and 31, 2005 and January 7, 14, 21 and 28, 2006 in Zone 39.

9. [December 15 – 20, 2003; December 13 – 18,] November 22 - 27, 2004; and, [December 12 – 17,] November 21 - 26, 2005 in Zone 40.

10. (No change.)

11. [December 8 – 13, and 27, 2003, and January 10, 2004;] December 6 – 11 and 18, 2004 and January 8, 2005; and, December 5 – 10 and 31, 2005 and January 14, 2006 in Zone 54.

12. [December 15 – 19, 2003;] December 13 – 17, 2004; and, December 12 – 16, 2005 in Zone 56.

13. [December 8 - 13, 2003 and January 10 – 31, 2004;] December 6 – 11, 2004 and January 8 – 31, 2005; and, December 5 – 10, 2005 and January 7 – 31, 2006 in Zones 57 and 58.

14. [December 11 - 13, 2003 (first segment) January 1 – 3, 2004 (second segment); and, January 22 – 24, 2004 (third segment);] December 9 – 11, 2004 (first segment), [January 6 – 8, 2005] December 30 and 31, 2004, and January 1, 2005 (second segment) and January 20 – 22, 2005 (third segment); and, December 8 – 10, 2005 (first segment), [January 5 – 7, 2006] December 29 - 31, 2005 (second segment) and January 19 – 21, 2006 (third segment) in Zone 59.

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15. [December 8 – 13, and 17 – 19, 2003;] December 6 – 11, 15 – 17, 2004; and, December 5 – 10, 14 – 16, 2005 in Zone 61.

16. [January 14, 16, 21 and 23, 2004;] January 12, 14, 19 and 21, 2005; and, January 11, 13, 18 and 20, 2006 in Zone 64.

17. [December 1 – 6, 13 and 20, 2003; November 29, 30 and December 1 – 4 and 18, 2004] November 27 - December 4, 10 and 11, 2004 and January 8 and 15, 2005; and, November [28 – 30 and December 1 – 3, and 17, 2005] 26 - December 3, 9 and 10, 2005 and January 7 and 14, 2006 in Zone 66.

18. – 19. (No change.)

(e)-(j) (No change.)

(k) The Deer Management Zone Map is on file at the Office of Administrative Law and is available from that agency or the Division. The [2003]2004-2005 Shotgun Permit Season Permit Quotas are as follows:

[2003]2004-2005 SHOTGUN PERMIT SEASON PERMIT QUOTAS

Deer Mgt. Zone No.	Season Dates Code	Permit Quota	Portions of Counties Involved
1	3	645	Sussex
2	2	3,250	Sussex
3	3	303	Sussex, Passaic, Bergen, <u>Morris</u>



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4	3	744 Sussex, Warren
5	5	8,360 Sussex, Warren
6	1	2,210 Sussex, Morris, Passaic, Essex, Warren
7	4	3,490 Warren, Hunterdon
8	4	7,280 Warren, Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset
9	4	1,240 Morris, Somerset
10	4	3,590 Warren, Hunterdon
11	4	2,370 Hunterdon
12	4	4,140 Mercer, Hunterdon, Somerset
13	4	1,000 Morris, Somerset, <u>Union</u>
14	4	2,820 Mercer, Somerset, Middlesex, Burlington
15	4	2,650 Mercer, Monmouth, Middlesex
16	2	1,630 Ocean, Monmouth
17	5	1,650 Ocean, Monmouth, <u>Mercer, Burlington</u>
18	[3]1	120 Ocean
19	5	2,830 Camden, Burlington
21	3	270 Burlington, Ocean
22	2	785 Burlington, Ocean
23	3	260 Burlington, Camden, Atlantic
24	3	106 Burlington, Ocean
25	5	3,400 Gloucester, Camden, Atlantic, Salem
26	2	2,365 Atlantic
27	2	1,540 Salem, Cumberland
28	2	1,530 Salem, Cumberland, Gloucester
29	2	1,390 Salem, Cumberland
30	1	520 Cumberland
31	2	390 Cumberland
34	1	1,370 Cape May, Cumberland
35	2	2,910 Gloucester, Salem

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36	4	260 Bergen, Hudson, Essex, Morris, Union, Somerset, Middlesex, Passaic
37	6	75 Burlington (Fort Dix Military Reservation)
38	7	[290] <u>390</u> Morris (Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge)
39	8	[180] <u>160</u> Monmouth (Earle Naval Weapons Station)
40	9	50 Monmouth (Earle Naval Weapons Station – Waterfront)
41	4	1,300 Mercer, Hunterdon
42	5	1,330 Atlantic
43	3	55 Cumberland
45	3	170 Cumberland, Atlantic, Cape May
46	3	146 Atlantic
47	2	850 Atlantic, Cumberland, Gloucester
48	5	1,760 Burlington
49	4	310 Burlington, Camden, Gloucester
50	4	1,780 Middlesex, Monmouth
51	4	1,510 Monmouth, Ocean
52	6	25 Ocean (Fort Dix Military Reservation)
53	2	[41] <u>50</u> Ocean (Lakehurst Naval Engineering Station)
54	11	25 Morris (Picatinny Arsenal-ARRAD Com)
55	1	80 Gloucester
56	12	25 Atlantic (Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge)
57	13	40 Atlantic (Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge)
58	13	75 Burlington, Ocean (Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge)
59	14	75 Salem (Supawna Meadows National Wildlife Refuge)

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61	15	80 Atlantic (Atlantic County Park System)
63	2	600 Salem
64	16	100 Monmouth (Monmouth Battlefield State Park)
65	1	120 Gloucester, Camden
66	17	[55]65 Atlantic (Federal Aviation Administration William J. Hughes Technical Center)
67		0 Sussex (High Point State Park)
<hr/>		
Total		[78,565] <u>78,664</u>

(l)-(o) (No change.)

(p) Deer Management Zones are located as follows:

1.-25. (No change.)

26. Zone No. 26: That portion of Atlantic [and Burlington] Count[ies] lying within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of Rts. 40 and 54 near Buena; then southeast on Rt. 40 to its intersection with Rt. 50; then north on Rt. 50 to its intersection with Rt. 322; then east on Rt. 322 to its intersection with Cologne Avenue; then north on Cologne Avenue to its intersection with Duerer Street; then east on Duerer Street to its intersection with Rt. 575; then northeast on Rt. 575 to its intersection with the Garden State Parkway; then north along the Garden State Parkway to its intersection with the Mullica River and the Atlantic-Burlington County line; then northwest along the south bank of the Mullica River to its intersection with Rt. 542 at Pleasant Mills; then west on Rt. 542 to its intersection with Nescochaque Creek at Pleasant Mills; then south along the west bank of Nescochaque Creek to Nescochaque Lake; then southwest along the western bank of Nescochaque Lake to its intersection

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with Hammonton Creek; then westward along Hammonton Creek to its intersection with Rt. 30 (White Horse Pike), near Hammonton; then south on Rt. 30 to its intersection with Weymouth Road (Rts. 640-559); then south on Weymouth Road to its intersection with the Atlantic City Expressway; then northwest along the Atlantic City Expressway to its intersection with Eighth Street; then southwest along Eighth Street to its intersection with Rt. 322 (Black Horse Pike); then northwest along Rt. 332 to its intersection with Rt. 54; then southwest along Rt. 54 to its intersection with Rt. 40 at Buena, the point of beginning. The Atlantic County Park System (Zone 61) is excluded from Zone 26.

27.-67. (No change.)

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

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

(c) Bag Limit: Only one antlered deer may be taken Statewide during the bow permit season, regardless of the number of permits obtained. Hunters taking an antlered deer in accordance with the provisions set forth in this section must have a valid "Antlered Buck Stub Permit Bow Only" from their bow and arrow or all around sportsman license from the calendar year in which the season began. Two deer, one antlered and one antlerless or two antlerless may be taken on a permit in Zones 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 37, 43, 45, 46, 52, 53, 55 and 65. One antlered and an unlimited number of antlerless deer may be taken in Zones 2, 5, 7-17, 19, 22, 25 - 29, 31, 35, 36, 39 - 42, 47-51, 54, 57-59, 61, 63 and 66, except as noted in (c)1 and 2 below. Only one deer may be taken at a time per permit until the season limit is reached. All supplemental tags are valid on the date of issuance and only in the zone for which the special season permit was issued. All deer registration requirements apply. In Zones: 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 36, 40, 41, 49, 50 and 51 an antlerless deer must be taken from one of these zones before taking or attempting to take an antlered deer through [December 13, 2003;]

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December 11, 2004 and December 10, 2005. The earn a buck requirement shall not apply after these dates. Deer shall be tagged immediately with the bow and arrow permit "transportation tag", completely filled in, and shall be transported to a checking station before 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on the day killed to secure a legal possession tag. The legal possession tag must be securely affixed or locked before the deer is transported or removed from the authorized deer checking station. Hunters are responsible for legal possession tags being securely affixed or locked on the deer before leaving the deer check station. In addition, hunters taking an antlered deer must immediately detach, date and initial the current year "Antlered Buck Stub – Permit Bow Only" from bow and arrow or all around sportsman license, and surrender the stub with the transportation tag at the checking station. The possession of a deer after 7:00 P.M. E.S.T. on the date killed without a legal possession seal shall be deemed illegal possession. Upon completion of the registration of the first deer, one valid and proper "New Jersey Supplemental Deer Transportation Tag" (supplemental tag) will be issued which will allow the person to continue hunting and take one additional deer during bow permit season, provided the season is open. The supplemental tag shall be valid on the day of issuance and all registration requirements apply.

1. (No change.)

2. In Zones 3, 6, 9, 13, 27, 29, 35, 37, 40, 59, and 63, [and 66] it shall be illegal to kill, take or attempt to take any antlered deer which does not have a minimum of three antler points on one side.

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

1. [October 25 – November 22, 27 - 29, 2003;] October 30 – November [20 and November 25 –] 27, 2004; and October 29 – November [19 and November 24 –] 26, 2005 in Zones 1, 3, 4, 6, 18, 21, 23, 24, 30, 34, 43, 45, 46, 55, 57–59, and 65.

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2. [October 25 – November 22 and November 27 - December 24, 26 – 31, 2003;] October 30 – November 20 and November 25 – December 24, 27 – 31, 2004; and, October 29 – November 19 and November 24 – December 31, 2005 in Zones [2, 5,] 7– [17, 19, 22, 25 – 29, 31, 35,] 15, 36, 41, [42, 47 –] and 49 - 51 [and 63].

3. [October 25 – December 31, 2003, and January 1 - 31, 2004;] October 30 – December 31, 2004 and January 1 – 31, 2005; and, October 29 – December 31, 2005 and January 2 – 31, 2006 in Zone 61.

4. [October 25 – December 31, 2003;] October 30- December 31, 2004; and, October 29 – December 31, 2005 in Zones 39, 40, 54 and 66.

5. [October 25 – November 8, 15 – 29, 2003;] October 30 – November 6, 13 – 27, 2004; and, October 29 - November 5, 12 – 26, 2005 in Zones 37 and 52.

6. [October 25 – November 29, 2003;] October 30 – November 27, 2004; and, October 29 – November 26, 2005 in Zone 53.

7. October 30 – December 24, 27 – 31, 2004 and October 29 – December 31, 2005 in Zones 2, 5, 16, 17, 19, 22, 25 – 29, 31, 35, 42, 47, 48 and 63.

\_\_\_\_\_ (e)-(j) (No change.)

(k) The Deer Management Zone Map is on file at the Office of Administrative Law and is available from that agency or the Division. The [2003]2004-2005 Bow Permit Season Quotas are as follows:

[2003]2004-2005 BOW PERMIT SEASON PERMIT QUOTAS

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Deer Mgt. Zone No.	Season Dates Code	Permit Quota	Portions of Counties Involved
		[2003]2004-2005	
1	1	1,105	Sussex
2	[2]7	2,790	Sussex
3	1	1,185	Sussex, Passaic, Bergen, <u>Morris</u>
4	1	1,140	Sussex, Warren
5	[2]7	4,300	Sussex, Warren
6	1	2,210	Sussex, Morris, Passaic, Essex, Warren
7	2	2,100	Warren, Hunterdon
8	2	4,210	Warren, Hunterdon, Morris, Somerset
9	2	1,115	Morris, Somerset
10	2	2,440	Warren, Hunterdon
11	2	1,580	Hunterdon
12	2	3,080	Mercer, Hunterdon, Somerset
13	2	1,650	Morris, Somerset, <u>Union</u>
14	2	2,290	Mercer, Somerset, Middlesex, Burlington
15	2	1,820	Mercer, Monmouth, Middlesex
16	[2]7	1,850	Ocean, Monmouth
17	[2]7	880	Ocean, Monmouth, <u>Mercer, Burlington</u>
18	1	635	Ocean
19	[2]7	1,910	Camden, Burlington
21	1	970	Burlington, Ocean
22	[2]7	480	Burlington, Ocean
23	1	1,020	Burlington, Camden, Atlantic
24	1	370	Burlington, Ocean
25	[2]7	1,455	Gloucester, Camden, Atlantic, Salem
26	[2]7	1,315	Atlantic
27	[2]7	1,285	Salem, Cumberland

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28	[2]Z	1,400 Salem, Cumberland, Gloucester
29	[2]Z	1,145 Salem, Cumberland
30	1	435 Cumberland
31	[2]Z	390 Cumberland
34	1	1,240 Cape May, Cumberland
35	[2]Z	1,740 Gloucester, Salem
36	2	500 Bergen, Hudson, Essex, Morris, Union, Somerset, Middlesex, Passaic
37	5	190 Burlington (Fort Dix Military Reservation)
38		0 Morris (Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge)
39	4	110 Monmouth (Earle Naval Weapons Station)
40	4	80 Monmouth (Earle Naval Weapons Station – Waterfront)
41	2	830 Mercer, Hunterdon
42	[2]Z	600 Atlantic
43	1	185 Cumberland
45	1	420 Cumberland, Atlantic, Cape May
46	1	300 Atlantic
47	[2]Z	360 Atlantic, Cumberland, Gloucester
48	[2]Z	1,040 Burlington
49	2	285 Burlington, Camden, Gloucester
50	2	1,320 Middlesex, Monmouth
51	2	740 Monmouth, Ocean
52	5	65 Ocean (Fort Dix Military Reservation)
53	6	[35]45 Ocean (Lakehurst Naval Engineering Station)
54	4	40 Morris (Picatinny Arsenal-ARRAD Com)
55	1	140 Gloucester
56		0 Atlantic (Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge)



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57	1	40 Atlantic (Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge)
58	1	50 Burlington, Ocean (Edwin B. Forsythe National Wildlife Refuge)
59	1	35 Salem (Supawna Meadows National Wildlife Refuge)
61	3	40 Atlantic (Atlantic County Park System)
63	[2]7	320 Salem
64		0 Monmouth (Monmouth Battlefield State Park)
65	1	390 Gloucester, Camden
66	4	[100]80 Atlantic (Federal Aviation Administration William J. Hughes Technical Center)
67		0 Sussex (High Point State Park)
<hr/>		
Total		<u>59,740</u>
		[59,750]

(l) See (d)1 through [4] 7 above for corresponding season date codes.

(m)-(n) (No change.)

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

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

(c) Duration of the Great Swamp Permit Shotgun Season and Permit Muzzleloader Season shall be from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 1/2 hour after sunset on the following dates [November 19 – 22, 2003;] November 13, 17 – 20, 2004; and, November

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12, 16 – 19, 2005 (concurrent) or as may otherwise be designated by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. If the anticipated harvest of deer has not been accomplished during the season, one or more of the following days of shotgun and muzzleloader permit deer hunting may be authorized by the Director: [December 3 – 6, 2003;] December 1- 4, 2004; and November 30 and December 1 – 3, 2005. Such authorization and date thereof would be announced by press and radio.

(d)-(e) (No change.)

(f) Method: The taking of the designated bag limit of deer with a Great Swamp (Zone 38) permit shotgun season permit or permit muzzleloader season permit will be permitted in designated areas of the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. A total of [290] 390 Great Swamp, shotgun permit season permits and 10 muzzleloader permit season permits will be issued. Daily hunter quotas, hunt procedures and hunting methods in this area shall be provided by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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

Based on consultation with staff, I hereby certify that the above statements, including the Federal Standards Analysis addressing the requirements of Executive Order 27 (1994), permit the public to understand accurately and plainly the purpose and expected consequences of these proposed amendments. I hereby authorize this proposal.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
W. Scott Ellis, Chairman  
Fish and Game Council