



Waterfowl Impoundment Condition Alerts

Updated November 20, 2017

Every effort has been made to accurately report existing and/or anticipated conditions that may negatively impact the waterfowl hunting experience, but please note that conditions are subject to change for a variety of reasons and in some cases may vary from the information presented in this report.

NOTE: For all areas, refer to the current North Carolina Inland Fishing, Hunting and Trapping Regulations Digest to determine applicable hunt days for waterfowl and special regulations which may apply.

On managed (posted) waterfowl impoundments, hunters shall not enter the posted impoundment areas earlier than 4:00 a.m. on the permitted hunting dates, and hunting is prohibited after 1:00 p.m. on such hunting dates; decoys shall not be set out prior to 4:00 a.m. and must be removed by 3:00 p.m. each day. No person shall operate any vessel or vehicle powered by an internal combustion engine on a managed waterfowl impoundment. On waterfowl impoundments that have a posted "Scouting-only Zone," trapping during the trapping season and waterfowl hunting on designated waterfowl hunting days are the only activities allowed on the portion of the impoundment outside of the posted "Scouting-only Zone."

For impoundments not otherwise noted in this report, conditions are believed to be adequate to support waterfowl hunting.

COASTAL REGION

Croatan Game Land-Catfish Lake Impoundment

Impoundments 1 and 3 are at target levels. Pumping operations are ongoing for number 4. We expect to reach target level by December 1.

Goose Creek Impoundments

All Goose Creek impoundments are at target levels.

Holly Shelter Game Land-Lodge Road/Green Tree Impoundments.

Green tree and Lodge Road impoundments are at target levels.

White Oak River Game Land

Water levels are slightly below target levels to allow recent dike repairs to heal. The impoundment's eastern portion remains huntable. We anticipate the impoundment reaching target level by the December season.

J. Morgan Futch Game Land

Water levels are at desired depths throughout most of the units. Maintenance pumping will continue as needed throughout the season.

Gull Rock

A prescribed burn was conducted on September 25th to control undesirable vegetation and create open water areas. Subsequent pumping has filled the impoundment to a desired water level.

Lantern Acres Game Land

The eastern most impoundment has desired water depths on most of the impoundment. Conditions will continue to improve in the western impoundment as we continue pumping operations.

North River Game Land

Water levels are at desired depths. Maintenance pumping will continue as needed throughout the season.

Rhodes Pond Game Land

Damage to the dam that impounds water in Rhodes Pond has required draining of the lake for repairs. Normal water levels are not expected throughout the 2017-2018 waterfowl seasons and no permits will be issued.

Roanoke River Wetlands Game Land

The Minges Impoundments will have some open water throughout the season. The Suzie Slough impoundments, the northern most impoundments in Conoho, are not likely to be flooded. The Deep Pond impoundment will not be flooded unless the river floods.

Suggs Mill Pond Game Land

Hurricane Matthew washed away the portion of NC Highway 53 that served to impound water in Jessups Mill Pond. The road has been repaired but the water control structure and earthen dam will not be replaced in time for the 2017-2018 waterfowl seasons. Normal water levels are not expected and no waterfowl hunting opportunities will be available on this area. Suggs Mill Pond waterfowl impoundments 1 - 5 have optimal water levels and an ample amount of food for waterfowl.

Texas Plantation Game Land

Water levels are at desired depths. Maintenance pumping will continue as needed throughout the season.

Whitehall Plantation Game Land

The wetland at the end of Camp Road is currently only holding water in the lowest pools. This area offers very little waterfowl hunting opportunities unless there has been recent heavy rainfall. The lack of water over the past two years has allowed dense vegetation to grow on the higher sites. We believe that a beaver dam downstream is no longer damming water due to a breach that has not been repaired. It is unknown when or if water levels will recover to optimal depths.

PIEDMONT REGION

Butner-Falls of Neuse Game Land

Water levels are near full pool for the November season and are anticipated to be at full pool for the December-January season, with the exceptions/details noted below.

Upper Brickhouse Road and Knapp of Reeds impoundments currently only have pockets of water and flooded ditches. They may not fill this year without adequate rainfall.

At Flat River, Lower 'B' is full and Upper 'B' has only minimal water in the lowest areas and ditches. Flat River 'A' has some huntable water, but it is not full, and won't be unless the river comes back up enough to resume pumping. More water will be added as soon as river conditions allow.

Butner Depot, Beaverdam, and Bluff have adequate water conditions currently and will be brought to full pool for the last segment of the season. (Pumping will resume in Butner Depot as soon as the pump station project work has been completed.)

(Lower Brickhouse Road, Little River, and Hwy. 98 Impoundments are not included in the 2017-2018 flooding schedule.)

R. Wayne Bailey-Caswell Game Land

Water levels are essentially at full pool for the November season and will be at full pool for the December-January season in the Caswell and Brumley impoundments.

Jordan Game Land:

Water levels are near full pool for the November season and will be at full pool for the December-January season for impoundments: #1 Upper Little Creek, #4 Stagecoach, and #6 Beaver Creek.

(Impoundments: #2 Lower Little Creek, #3 New Hope Creek, #5 Northeast Creek, and #7 I-40 are not included in the 2017-2018 flooding schedule.)

Second Creek Game Land

The posted waterfowl impoundment on Second Creek Game Land does not include control structures to facilitate artificial manipulation of water levels. This area is completely dependent on rainfall and collection of surface water; therefore, conditions may vary throughout the season.

