



Wildlife Commission Extends Striped Bass Season until May 7

The Wildlife Commission has extended the striped bass harvest season within the Roanoke River Management Area until midnight on Sunday, May 7. The season had been set to expire by rule on April 30. The Roanoke River Management Area includes the Roanoke River and tributaries from Roanoke Rapids Lake Dam downstream to the mouth of the river at Albemarle Sound, including the Cashie, Middle and Eastmost rivers. [More](#)



Wildlife Commission Holding Public Forums on Deer Management

The Wildlife Commission will conduct nine public forums in May and June to gather input on white-tailed deer management. Biologists will present the 2016 deer hunting and management survey results, discuss potential management options and gather additional feedback from hunters and others interested in deer management. [Dates and locations](#)

Seen an Alligator? We Want to Know!



The Wildlife Commission is asking anyone who spots an alligator in the wild in North Carolina to upload and share photos on "NC Alligators," which launched earlier this month on the free online platform iNaturalist. Upload photos from a computer at [iNaturalist.org](https://www.inaturalist.org), or download the free iNaturalist app for android and iPhone. [More](#)

Wildlife Commission Holding Public Forums to Receive Comment on Alligator Management Plan

The Wildlife Commission and the N.C. Alligator Task Force are holding six public forums in June to present a draft of the N.C. Alligator Management Plan and receive public input on the plan. [Dates and locations](#)

Wildlife Commission Launches "Preserve Your Life" Campaign

To increase boating safety awareness, the Wildlife Commission has launched its "Preserve Your Life" campaign. Wildlife enforcement officers will hand out coupons that can be redeemed for discounts on life jackets at selected retailers. Wildlife officers also will conduct pre-launch safety checks at boating access areas across the state. [More](#)



Deer Harvest Report Shows 7.8 Percent Decrease From Previous Season

The Wildlife Commission's annual deer harvest report for the 2016-17 hunting season showed hunters across the state harvested 149,811 deer, which was a 7.8 percent decrease from the previous season and an 11.2 percent decrease from the 10-year average. Harvests declined across the state. [More](#)



2017-18 Webless Migratory Bird Seasons Set

The Wildlife Commission has set season dates, bag limits and applicable regulations for the 2017-18 waterfowl, webless migratory game bird (including doves) and extended falconry seasons. [More](#)



Tips on Getting Along with Gators

Despite their intimidating appearance, alligators are relatively secretive and shy — traits that can disappear and make them a public safety issue

if they are habitually fed by humans. The Wildlife Commission reminds the public that it is illegal to feed, harm, harass or poach an alligator in North Carolina. [More tips and regulations](#)



Maj. Todd Kennedy Receives National Award

The Wildlife Commission's Maj. Todd Kennedy has received the prestigious Guy Bradley Award, which recognizes individuals who have made an outstanding lifetime contribution to wildlife law enforcement, wildlife forensics or investigative techniques. Maj. Kennedy, who is the state's first recipient of this national award, was recognized for his 27 years of service with the Commission and his focus on leadership development within the agency. [More](#)



Report a Tagged Fish for Recapture Rewards

The Wildlife Commission and the N.C. Division of Marine Fisheries (DMF) are tagging striped bass, and DMF is tagging spotted seatrout, red drum and Southern flounder to improve management of these species. Anglers who catch a tagged fish are asked to cut off the tag and report it [online](#) or call 1-800-682-2632. Recapture rewards and information about your tagged fish will be offered with any tag return. [More](#)



Get Your Birding On with New Birding Checklists for the Sandy Mush and Green River Game Lands

The Wildlife Commission has available online birding checklists for the Sandy Mush and Green River game lands. Both game lands harbor diverse bird species and are a birder's paradise. [Download the checklists.](#)



Leave Wildlife Alone — For their Safety and Yours

They're cute, they're cuddly and they may look "abandoned." But, in the vast majority of cases, young animals are not abandoned and the Wildlife Commission urges people to resist approaching, handling, moving or feeding any wildlife — all of which can harm or ultimately kill the animal and can create a risk for human safety. [More](#)

Other News and Events

[40th Annual Pre-Collegiate Shooting Sports Championship Set for April 29](#)

[Wildlife Commission Offers Free Fishing Skills Workshops at Pechmann Center in May](#)

[Free Programs at Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education in Brevard in May](#)

[Wildlife Commission Holds Public Meeting on May 4 in Rockingham to Discuss 'Day Use Only Zone' on Pee Dee River Game Land](#)

[Bat Workshop to be Held in Raleigh on May 4](#)

[Volunteers Sought for the Pisgah Center for Wildlife Education](#)



[Buy a License](#) • [Go Hunting](#) • [Go Fishing](#) • [Go Boating](#) • [Get Outside](#) • [Learn More](#)
[Subscribe to *Wildlife in North Carolina* magazine](#)