



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION
MARINE CORPS BASE QUANTICO
3250 CATLIN AVENUE
QUANTICO VIRGINIA 22134-5001

Canc: Sept 2027

MCINCR-MCBQBul 5-26
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MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION-MARINE CORPS
BASE QUANTICO BULLETIN 5-26

From: Commander, Marine Corps Installations National Capital Region-Marine Corps Base
Quantico

To: Distribution List

Subj: 2026-2027 FISCAL YEAR HUNTING AND TRAPPING SEASONS AND FISHING
REGULATIONS UPDATE

Ref: (a) MCINCR-MCBQO 11015.2D
(b) Distinguished Visitor Hunting Policy ltr of 7 Jul 21
(c) MCINCR-MCBQO 5090.1

Encl: (1) 2026-2027 Hunting Season
(2) 2026-2027 Game Check Station Hours of Operation and Archery Qualification Test
Schedule

1. Situation. The Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (DWR) has established the annual season dates for hunting and trapping. In accordance with the Sikes Act, Marine Corps Base Quantico (MCBQ) must set seasons within the framework established by DWR. The season dates, bag limits, and Game Check Station (GCS) hours of operation published in this bulletin are consistent with the military mission, Virginia law, and the conservation objectives contained in the MCBQ Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan.

2. Mission. To operate hunting, trapping, and fishing programs aboard MCBQ that adhere to all federal and state laws and are compatible with military training requirements.

3. Execution

a. Commander's Intent and Concept of Operations

(1) Commander's Intent. Hunting, trapping, and fishing will be provided to the extent allowable in keeping with mission security, safety, and good conservation stewardship.

(2) Concept of Operations

Distribution Statement A: Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

(a) All hunting, trapping, and fishing regulations and procedures are contained in reference (a). To ensure accessibility and convenience, these regulations and maps of hunting, trapping, and fishing areas are provided online at: <https://quantico.isportsman.net/>. Hunters, trappers, and anglers aboard the base must review and adhere to the regulations and procedures.

(b) Hunting Season Dates and Bag Limits. Enclosure (1) provides the 2026-2027 hunting/trapping season dates and bag limits.

(c) Adjustments in Season Dates and Bag Limits. The Assistant Chief of Staff, G-F (AC/S G-F) is authorized by reference (a) to reduce, adjust, or close hunting, trapping, and fishing days in the event of inclement weather, elevated force protection conditions, or in consonance with good conservation practices. Unscheduled closures or adjustments to season dates and bag limits made after publication of this bulletin will be posted at <https://quantico.isportsman.net> and at GCS. Additionally, hunters can call the MCBQ weather hotline at 703-784-3638 for information on weather related base closures or at <https://www.quantico.marines.mil>.

(d) Game Check Station (GCS) Hours of Operation. The GCS hours of operation are contained in enclosure (2). Hunting on Sundays is authorized. There will be no hunting on Tuesdays and Wednesdays and GCS is closed. Hunting is authorized each year on 11 November (i.e., Veteran's Day) even if it falls on a Tuesday or Wednesday. The GCS is closed on the following holidays with no hunting or scouting on Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and New Year's Day.

(e) Scouting. Scouting (defined as the act of exploring an area to gather information about wildlife) is allowed daily from 10 September through 31 January and again from 20 March to 15 May. Scouting hours follow hunting hours Thursday-Monday. Scouting for game prior to its opening season on Tuesdays and Wednesdays is limited to 0800-1600. Failure to check out of the training area by the designated time will result in suspension of your recreational privileges per reference (a). Scouters who do not check out of the training area are presumed lost or injured and search efforts are initiated if contact cannot be made.

(f) Early Hunting Reservation Schedule. While not required, MCBQ licensed hunters may attempt to make a hunting reservation on the day prior to a hunt. Early reservations start at noon for active duty and their dependents, 1215 for retired military and their dependents, and Department of War (DoW) civilian employees, and 1230 for non-affiliated civilians. Full details about the reservation of daily hunting locations are contained in the reference (a). Waterfowl blinds will be available on a first come, first served basis starting at noon via iSportsman.

(g) MCBQ Access Policy. All personnel entering MCBQ to hunt, trap, or fish must be compliant with the base access policy. Those who are not DoW affiliated or do not possess a Federal Personal Identification Verification card, must acquire a Defense Biometric Identification System (DBIDS) card to access the base. Sportsmen must pre-enroll in the DBIDS system at <https://www.quantico.marines.mil/Info/Base-Access/>. For more information on this process, visit: <https://quantico.isportsman.net>.

(h) iSportsman. Participation in any hunting, scouting, trapping, or fishing activity on MCBQ requires checking in and out through iSportsman. It also serves as the platform for seasonal updates and current announcements. Users must register for an account at: <https://quantico.isportsman.net>.

(i) Permit Sales. MCBQ hunting, trapping, and fishing permits are sold on iSportsman. The license fee schedule is detailed below:

Permit Type	Validity	Fee
Hunting Permit	Annual	\$40.00
Trip Hunting Permit	5 Consecutive Days	\$15.00
Annual Fishing Permit	Annual	\$20.00
Trip Fishing Permit	5 Consecutive Days	\$15.00
Annual Trapping Permit	Annual	\$20.00
Youth Permit (Under 18)	Annual	Free

Youth under 18 years of age are eligible for licenses at no cost. All other individuals must purchase a license. The Director, Natural Resources Environmental Affairs can waive license fees for special events (e.g., wounded warrior events). Event requests for license waivers should be submitted to the Director, Natural Resources Branch (john.rohm@usmc.mil). More information on permit sales can be found at the weblink: <https://quantico.isportsman.net/files/Bulletins>.

(j) Deer, Turkey, and Bear Checking Procedures. All deer, turkey, and bear harvested on MCBQ must be checked electronically through DWR (e.g. DWR hotline 1-866-GOT-GAME (468-4263), <https://gooutdoorsvirginia.com>, or DWR GoOutdoors app) and must be physically transported and presented to the GCS for data collection. Hunters must record the DWR confirmation number on their deer, turkey, or bear license and show evidence of this to the GCS staff. GCS staff collect data from harvested game that assist installation biologists with managing wildlife populations. Collection of this data may require removal of jaw bones, lymph nodes, and/or whole heads of deer or feathers from turkeys.

(k) Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) Procedures. Training areas in Fauquier and Prince William Counties fall within Virginia's CWD Disease Management Area 2 (DMA), where strict processing and transportation rules apply. Deer harvested in these areas must be processed at the GCS before leaving the installation unless you reside in a DMA county. If a Training Area (TA) is only partially within the DMA, the entire TA follows DMA rules. Maps and requirements are available at the GCS or on iSportsman. While CWD has not been detected in local deer populations, GCS staff, in coordination with DWR, continue testing harvested deer. For more information about CWD in deer, please visit: <https://www.dwr.virginia.gov/wildlife/diseases/cwd/>.

(l) Assisted Hunting. Active-duty service members who are receiving treatment from military hospitals for combat related injuries, paralyzed veterans, individuals who have significant mobility challenges, and hunters classified as distinguished visitors (reference (b)), may request hunting assistance. Priority access will be given for designated assisted hunting locations, which may be temporarily or permanently restricted to other hunters. Requests must be submitted 72 hours in advance through the Director, Natural Resources Branch (john.rohm@usmc.mil).

(m) Lunga Reservoir. Lunga Reservoir is opened per reference (c). All access is currently through Lunga Park operated by Marine Corps Community Services (MCCS). See the MCCS Lunga Park website for access details and hours of operations. <https://quantico.usmc-mccs.org/recreation-fitness/recreation/outdoor-recreation/lunga-park>. Anglers fishing at Lunga will need to check in to iSportsman. Rules and regulations related to fishing and boating on Lunga will be posted at <https://quantico.isportsman.net/Lunga%20Reservoir.aspx>.

(n) Fishing Creel and Length Limits. VA regulations concerning the possession of game and nongame fish, reptiles, amphibians, and aquatic invertebrates are applicable and enforced at the installation. MCBQ follows the VA creel and length limits for all fish species.

(o) Trail and Game Cameras. Trail cameras that lack the capability to transmit images, videos, or data remotely are authorized during the scouting period. Hunters can deploy up to 5 cameras at one time across designated hunting areas. Hunters must obtain a trail camera permit from the GCS prior to deploying any cameras. All cameras will be clearly marked with owner's name and hunting permit number and the markings must be visible and legible while deployed in the field. Hunters are required to immediately delete any images or videos depicting military training or government assets and report any suspicious activity or individuals to Conservation Law Enforcement. Any violations of trail camera use regulations will result in confiscation of cameras, suspension of hunting privileges, possible federal citations, and notation in DBIDS profile. If you see a violation of trail camera regulation, do not handle the camera and report the location to Conservation Law Enforcement.

(p) Free Fishing Days. On days designated by DWR as free fishing days, anglers who need an installation fishing license will be able to acquire a no cost permit via the iSportsman site. Anglers fishing under this permit still must follow all regulations.

(q) Blaze Color Requirement. Blaze colored clothing is not required for waterfowl hunters.

(r) Water Closures and Restrictions. Recreational access to MCBQ bodies of water may be subject to closure due to inclement weather and ice. Boat length restrictions for access and capability may be applied when necessary to protect public and emergency responder safety. Closures and current/daily restrictions will be posted at <https://quantico.isportsman.net/>.

(s) Obstructive Reservations. Hunters shall not create reservations or check-in to an area without hunting that day. Sportsmen who consistently allow reservations to expire or exhibit excessive cancellations may be subject to administrative holds, loss of reservation privileges, and/or hunting privileges.

(t) Observer Permit. Individuals who want to accompany active hunters but are not hunting themselves can obtain an observer permit by contacting the GCS. They must have an iSportsman account and current base access. Once the permit is obtained, the individual must check into training areas with hunters as an observer. Observers must remain in close proximity with associated hunter and cannot check into training areas alone. Observer permits are permitted on a case-by-case basis. Observers will follow all MCBQ regulations.

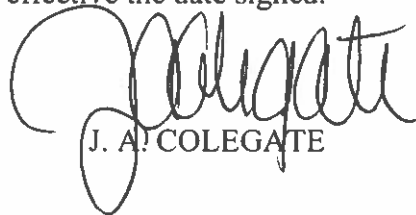
b. Subordinate Element Missions. AC/S G-F (Natural Resources and Environmental Affairs Branch) will administer the hunting program per reference (a).

4. Administration and Logistics. Recommendations concerning the contents of this Bulletin may be provided to the Commander, MCBQ via the appropriate chain of command.

5. Command and Signal.

a. Command. This Bulletin is applicable to all personnel aboard MCBQ. Contact the Conservation Law Enforcement Office at (703) 784-5218 or the Provost Marshal's Office, (703) 784-2252, if witness to any violation.

b. Signal. All land use restrictions are effective the date signed.



J. A. COLEGATE

DISTRIBUTION: A

2026-2027 MCBQ HUNTING SEASON

MCBQ Season Dates and Regulations

MCBQ hunting season dates, bag limits, and regulations may vary from Virginia hunting season dates. No fall hunting season aboard MCBQ will extend beyond 31 Jan, except the Youth & Veterans Waterfowl Day (6 Feb). See below for specific season dates.

Sunday Hunting

Hunting on Sunday is permitted.

No Hunting and GCS Closed Tuesdays and Wednesdays

WHITE-TAILED DEER

Youth/Apprentice Hunt	26 – 27 Sep	Either-sex. Firearms or Archery. Blaze orange or pink required.
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Archery	3 Oct – 13 Nov	Either-sex. Base-wide.
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Firearms*	14 Nov – 2 Jan	Buck-only except on designated either-sex (5 Dec and 2 Jan) and either-sex within Archery only Areas.
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*Shotgun, muzzleloader, or archery tackle may be used during the firearms season outside of the designated archery only areas, but hunters must abide by firearms either-sex dates and bag limits.

MCBQ will NOT participate in extended deer seasons in Fauquier, Prince William, and Stafford counties.

MCBQ Deer Hunting Policies and Bag Limits

Antlerless Deer: Females (does) and male fawns (button bucks) having no polished antler protruding above the hairline.

Antlered Deer: Antlered deer must have antlers visible above the hairline. DMAP and antlerless tags may NOT be used on antlered deer.

Daily Bag Limit: 1 per day. Exception: Guests selected for Wounded Warrior (WW) Hunts may harvest 2 deer per day, one must be antlered and the other must be antlerless. Deer harvested by these hunters count against their season bag limit. Antlerless deer taken on DMAP tags do not count against the daily bag limit.

Season Bag Limit: 3 per license year. Only 1 antlerless deer can be taken and no more than 2 antlered bucks (see definition above) can be taken at MCBQ during the 2026-2027 deer season. Any of the tabs on the Virginia deer license can be used at MCBQ so long as no more than 2 antlered bucks are harvested and the total number of tabs notched at MCBQ does not exceed 3. Antlerless deer taken on DMAP tags do not count against the season limit. With prior approval, hunters qualifying for assisted hunting may utilize a firearm in archery only areas.

Special Youth Antlerless Deer Regulation: The Virginia apprentice and youth antlerless deer regulation applies at MCBQ.

Special Muzzleloader Gun Season: There will be no muzzleloading gun season aboard MCBQ, with the following exceptions: from 31 Oct -13 Nov, persons requiring wheelchair for mobility may be assigned to Huntmaster stands and may harvest 1 deer per day, either-sex. Guests selected for WW Hunts may use a muzzleloading firearm and hunt either-sex. Volunteers assisting with these special hunts are not authorized to use muzzleloading firearms.

Deer Management Assistance Program (DMAP) Tags: MCBQ participates in Virginia's Deer Management Assistance Program. On MCINR-MCBQ only the following Archery areas are open for DMAP: Mainside, TDSA, OCS (2A, 2B, 3, 4), 5B, 5C, 6A, 6C, 7C, 8A, 8B, 17C, and Camp Upshur. **Only 1 DMAP tag may be used per day per hunter.** DMAP tags can only be used on antlerless deer. Hunters will need to bring harvested deer to GCS and inform staff of DMAP deer. Deer tagged with DMAP tags will not count against either daily or season bag limits.

Bonus Deer Tags: Bonus deer tags, sold by the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, are not authorized for deer harvested aboard MCBQ.

TURKEY**Fall Season – Either-sex**

Youth/Apprentice Hunt	10 – 11 Oct (Firearms or Archery)
Archery	3 Oct – 13 Nov
Firearms	17 – 30 Oct, 30 Nov – 26 Dec, 9 – 23 Jan

Spring Gobbler – Bearded Birds Only

Youth/Apprentice Hunt	3 – 4 Apr (Hunt ends at 1200)
Gobbler Season	10 Apr – 15 May (Hunt ends at 1200 all season)

Daily Limit: 1 (All Seasons)**Annual Limit:** 3

Only 1 beardless turkey can be taken per year and only during the fall season.

BLACK BEAR

Archery	17 Oct – 13 Nov
Firearms	27 – 29 Nov, 21 Dec – 2 Jan

Virginia bear license is required. One (1) per season. Females with cubs may not be harvested. Minimum weight 100 lbs. live or 75 lbs. dressed. Bear can be taken in any open hunting area but hunters must abide by weapons restrictions, i.e., must use archery tackle in archery only hunting areas. MCBQ will NOT participate in the early firearms bear season, youth/apprentice bear hunting weekend, nor muzzleloader season. **Season dates on MCBQ follow Fauquier County which are more restrictive than Prince William and Stafford counties.**

SMALL GAME HUNTING

RABBIT

31 Oct – 31 Jan

Daily Limit: 6

SQUIRREL

10 Sep – 31 Jan

Daily Limit: 6

* Fox Squirrel season is closed in Stafford County

QUAIL & RUFFED GROUSE

Season closed

All other game species not listed will follow the VA DWR seasons and bag limits provided they occur during an authorized MCB Quantico hunt day. See DWR Virginia Hunting and Trapping Regulation Digest for additional hunting regulations and seasons.

FURBEARER HUNTING

Opossum	15 Oct – 31 Jan	No Limit
Raccoon	15 Oct – 31 Jan	Daily Limit: 2*
Bobcat (Archery)	3 Oct – 31 Oct	Daily Limit: 2*
Bobcat (Firearms)	1 Nov – 31 Jan	Daily Limit: 2*
Red Fox	1 Nov – 31 Jan	No Limit
Gray Fox	2 – 31 Jan	Daily Limit: 1*
Coyote & Skunk	During any open MCBQ hunting season, with the allowable weapon for that season.	

Note: Night hunting is prohibited on MCBQ; Furbearers can only be taken ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.

*Raccoon, bobcat, and gray fox daily limit is per hunting party from 1200 one day to 1200 the following day.

FURBEARER TRAPPING

Opossum, Raccoon, Fox, & Bobcat	15 Nov – 31 Jan
Otter, Muskrat, Mink, Beaver, & Weasel	3 Dec – 31 Jan
Coyote & Skunk	During any open MCBQ trapping or hunting season.

See DWR Virginia Hunting and Trapping Regulation Digest for additional trapping regulations.

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

DOVE

10 Sep – 24 Oct, 21 – 29 Nov, 19 Dec – 18 Jan

Daily Limit: 15 per day*. The legal shooting hours are ½ hour before sunrise until sunset for the entire season.

YOUTH & VETERAN WATERFOWL DAYS

24 Oct and 6 Feb

Open to youth 15 years of age and under, military veterans, and active duty service members. Participants may harvest the allowed daily limit of ducks and other waterfowl.

SEPTEMBER CANADA GOOSE

10 Sep – 25 Sep

Daily Limit: 10 per day*

East of I-95

10 – 18 Sep; Hunting ceases at ½ hour after sunset.

19 – 25 Sep; Hunting ceases at sunset.

West of I-95

10 – 21 Sep; Hunting ceases at ½ hour after sunset.

24 – 25 Sep; Hunting ceases at sunset.

CANADA GOOSE

27 – 29 Nov, 26 Dec – 31 Jan

Daily Limit: 2 per day

SEPTEMBER TEAL

19 – 27 Sep (East of I-95); 24 – 27 Sep (West of I-95)

Daily Limit: 6 per day*

DUCKS

9 – 12 Oct (Black duck closed), 19 – 29 Nov, 19 Dec – 31 Jan

Daily Limit: 6 ducks of any species except noted DWR species limits (See DWR Migratory Gamebird Digest)*

MERGANSERS

9 – 12 Oct, 19 – 29 Nov, 19 Dec – 31 Jan

Daily Limit: 5 birds total, and can include any combination of hooded, red-breasted, and common mergansers*

WOODCOCK

11 Nov – 30 Nov, 26 Dec – 18 Jan

Daily Limit: 3 per day*

All other migratory game bird species not listed will follow the VA DWR seasons and bag limits. See DWR Migratory Gamebird Digest for additional regulations and seasons.

*No person shall possess, have in custody, or transport more than the daily bag limit or aggregate daily bag limit, whichever applies, of migratory game birds, tagged or not tagged, at or between the place where taken and either (a) their automobile or principal means of land transportation; or (b) their personal abode or temporary or transient place of lodging; or (c) a migratory bird preservation facility; or (d) a post office; or (e) a common carrier facility. No person on the opening day of the season shall possess any freshly killed migratory game birds more than the daily bag limit, or aggregate daily bag limit, whichever applies.

**2026-2027 GAME CHECK STATION (GCS) HOURS OF OPERATION
AND MAINSIDE ARCHERY QUALIFICATION SCHEDULE**

DATES	GAME CHECK STATION HOURS OF OPERATION¹
10 Sep – 2 Jan	0800 – 1 hour past sunset
3 – 31 Jan, 6 Feb	0800 – 1630
2, 9 Apr	0800 – 1600
3 & 4 Apr, 10 Apr – 15 May	0730 – 1300
MAINSIDE ARCHERY QUALIFICATION SCHEDULE²	
10 – 28 Sep	1200 Monday, Thursday, and Saturday at the archery site
1 – 29 Oct	1200 Monday and Thursday

Note:

1. The GCS will remain open longer if individuals are authorized to track wounded game by GCS personnel.
2. Must complete archery safety brief on iSportsman before attempting to qualify.