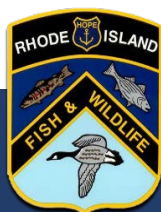


State of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Division of Fish & Wildlife

2025-2026 South Shore Management Area Packet



Dean Birch



Prepared by the Rhode Island
Department of Environmental Management

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South Shore Management Area Hunting Regulations

*Please note that the South Shore Management Area (SSMA) has specific regulations

Season Dates

*SSMA is closed to goose hunting during the Late Canada Goose Season. For additional Late Canada Goose hunting season

Season Dates	Season	Bag Limit	Possession Limit	SSMA Reservation Required?
September 1 – September 30, 2025	Early	15	45	NO
November 22 – November 30, 2025	Regular	2	6	YES
December 6, 2025 – January 25, 2026	Regular	2	6	YES

February 1 – February 15, 2025 * LATE CLOSED CLOSED CLOSED

information see the 2025-2026 Hunting and Trapping Abstract.

Legal Shooting Hours

Season Dates	Legal Shooting Hours	Permits
September 1-September 30 2025	1/2 hour before Sunrise until 1/2 hour after Sunset	A permit is required to hunt geese on the South Shore Management Area during the regular goose hunting season. Permits can be obtained through the RI DEM online licensing system.
November 22 – November 30 2025	1/2 hour before Sunrise until Sunset	
December 6 – January 25 2026	1/2 hour before Sunrise until Sunset	

A permit is required to hunt geese on the South Shore Management Area during the **regular** goose hunting season. Permits can be obtained through the RI DEM online licensing system.

1. Permits must be carried while hunting in the SSMA and be shown to an Environmental Police Officer or Division of Fish and Wildlife employee upon request.
2. All party members must have a permit and be registered when reserving and hunting a field.
3. No party shall exceed four (4) hunters/individuals.
4. Waterfowl hunters are also required to possess a RI hunting license in addition to a state and federal duck stamp and HIP permit.

CLICK HERE TO
GET A PERMIT

Website: <https://rio.ri.gov/>

South Shore Management Area Reservations

How to Make a Reservation

- ❖ **You must call (401)-789-0964 to make a reservation.** Reservations will not be accepted on any other phone line.
- ❖ Reservations are accepted between **9:00am and 12:00 noon Monday-Friday**, except when state offices are closed for holidays.
- ❖ Only one reservation will be accepted per phone call.
- ❖ Please have your Customer ID Number (located on your license) ready prior to calling in a reservation.

Reservation Guidelines

- ❖ Reservations may be made **no earlier than seven (7) business days in advance of the hunt (see page 8)**.
- ❖ Permittees can hunt a **maximum of two (2) half days per week** (Saturday through Friday).
- ❖ No one is permitted to hunt **two (2) consecutive days**.
- ❖ A half day shall be from ½ hour before sunrise until 11:30am or noon until sunset.
- ❖ The Division reserves the right to close some fields for periods of time to relieve the field(s) from hunting pressure and improve hunting opportunities.

South Shore Management Area Harvest Reporting

- ❖ **Harvest Reporting is NO LONGER REQUIRED**

South Shore Management Area Additional Information

Shot Requirements

- ❖ No person shall take waterfowl while possessing shells loaded with any shot other than steel shot, or other legally approved non- toxic shot as described in 9.11 (L) of the 2021-22 hunting regulations.
- ❖ All shot larger than BB is prohibited, including duplex loads containing shot larger than BB.

Decoys

- ❖ A minimum of twelve (12) life size or oversize decoys are required on premises; however, hunters may choose to use fewer decoys while hunting.

Vehicles

- ❖ Vehicles should park in designated areas only.
- ❖ Overnight parking is prohibited.
- ❖ Vehicles may not drive into or along the edge of any field for any reason. Except in an emergency, e.g., accident or injury or as provided in §9.16 (N) (8) (b) of the 2025-26 Hunting Regulations.

Handicap Accessibility

- ❖ Vehicles may be driven into the field to transport a handicapped hunter and their equipment only when field conditions are conducive (i.e., not during and after heavy rain when the field conditions are very muddy).
- ❖ Goose hunters applying for the accessibility program must provide a statement signed by a medical doctor stating that the handicap meets the following definition: a person temporarily or permanently handicapped (i.e., unable to walk without the assistance of crutches or wheelchair or with a chronic medical condition).
- ❖ All regulations for hunting geese in the SSMA shall apply.

Restrictions

- ❖ The following are prohibited: littering; fires; destruction of fencing, equipment, farm property, or standing crops; possession or use of alcoholic beverages; shooting within 500 feet of an occupied building; shooting near or otherwise disturbing persons working in the area; urinating or defecating in pit blinds.
- ❖ Please DO NOT artificially manipulate (knock down, trample, destroy or scatter) any crops left standing; doing so is considered baiting, a violation of federal and state law and will result in the loss of SSMA hunting privileges. These violations result in lost hunting opportunity for all SSMA users. The use of stalks left behind post-harvest for camouflaging the blinds is acceptable; however, the scattering or exposing of left-over corn is not. **PLEASE REPORT VIOLATIONS!**

Hunting Regulations

- ❖ Dove hunting is allowed in area 1, 3, 5, and 6 during the early mourning dove season. Doves may be taken **only** by permitted goose hunters while goose hunting when the field reservation system is in place during the open mourning dove season. Possession of lead shot for the taking of doves when goose hunting is prohibited.
- ❖ Small game and upland game bird hunting is allowed only in area 5 and 6 during the upland game season except during the Regular Canada goose Seasons.
- ❖ All small game and upland game bird hunting is prohibited during Regular Goose Season, including during Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days (last full weekend in October, Saturday / Sunday).
- ❖ Deer and turkey hunting is allowed as follows, but discharge of firearms and archery equipment are only allowed within in the wooded section of the Areas; however, deer and turkey may be in the field when harvested.

- Deer hunting during the archery season is allowed only in Areas 3, 5, and 6, including during the regular Canada Goose season when the field reservation system is occurring.
- Deer hunting during the muzzleloader season is allowed in Areas 5 and 6, except during the regular Canada Goose season when the blind reservation system is occurring.
- Turkey hunting is allowed in Areas 3, 5 and 6 during the spring and fall turkey seasons.
- ❖ Waterfowl hunting is allowed outside of the Regular Canada Goose Season but within legal waterfowl seasons without special hunting permits, reservations, or decoy restrictions, once fields are harvested.
- ❖ Ducks During Legal Duck Seasons: The taking of ducks during the legal duck season is permitted while goose hunting under the aforementioned regulations.
- ❖ Violations of any aforementioned regulations, state management area regulations, and/or any state or federal hunting laws will result in loss of hunting privileges on the SSMA for a period of one year, beginning from the date of the violation.

Please Report Violations!
DEM Enforcement: (401) 222-3070

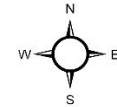
South Shore Management Area 2025-2026 Reservation Schedule

Day of Hunt	Date of Hunt	Earliest Reservation Day	Earliest Reservation Date	Holiday
Saturday	22-Nov-2025	Thursday	13-Nov-2025	
Sunday	23-Nov-2025	Thursday	13-Nov-2025	
Monday	24-Nov-2025	Thursday	13-Nov-2025	
Tuesday	25-Nov-2025	Friday	14-Nov-2025	
Wednesday	26-Nov-2025	Monday	17-Nov-2025	
Thursday	27-Nov-2025	Tuesday	18-Nov-2025	Thanksgiving
Friday	28-Nov-2025	Tuesday	18-Nov-2025	
Saturday	29-Nov-2025	Wednesday	19-Nov-2025	
Sunday	30-Nov-2025	Wednesday	19-Nov-2025	
Saturday	06-Dec-2025	Wednesday	26-Nov-2025	
Sunday	07-Dec-2025	Wednesday	26-Nov-2025	
Monday	08-Dec-2025	Wednesday	26-Nov-2025	
Tuesday	09-Dec-2025	Friday	28-Nov-2025	
Wednesday	10-Dec-2025	Monday	01-Dec-2025	
Thursday	11-Dec-2025	Tuesday	02-Dec-2025	
Friday	12-Dec-2025	Wednesday	03-Dec-2025	
Saturday	13-Dec-2025	Thursday	04-Dec-2025	
Sunday	14-Dec-2025	Thursday	04-Dec-2025	
Monday	15-Dec-2025	Thursday	04-Dec-2025	
Tuesday	16-Dec-2025	Friday	05-Dec-2025	
Wednesday	17-Dec-2025	Monday	08-Dec-2025	
Thursday	18-Dec-2025	Tuesday	09-Dec-2025	
Friday	19-Dec-2025	Wednesday	10-Dec-2025	
Saturday	20-Dec-2025	Thursday	11-Dec-2025	
Sunday	21-Dec-2025	Thursday	11-Dec-2025	
Monday	22-Dec-2025	Thursday	11-Dec-2025	
Tuesday	23-Dec-2025	Friday	12-Dec-2025	
Wednesday	24-Dec-2025	Monday	15-Dec-2025	
Thursday	25-Dec-2025	Tuesday	16-Dec-2025	Christmas
Friday	26-Dec-2025	Tuesday	16-Dec-2025	
Saturday	27-Dec-2025	Wednesday	17-Dec-2025	
Sunday	28-Dec-2025	Wednesday	17-Dec-2025	
Monday	29-Dec-2025	Wednesday	17-Dec-2025	
Tuesday	30-Dec-2025	Thursday	18-Dec-2025	
Wednesday	31-Dec-2025	Friday	19-Dec-2025	
Thursday	01-Jan-2026	Monday	22-Dec-2025	New Years
Friday	02-Jan-2026	Monday	22-Dec-2025	
Saturday	03-Jan-2026	Tuesday	23-Dec-2025	
Sunday	04-Jan-2026	Tuesday	23-Dec-2025	
Monday	05-Jan-2026	Tuesday	23-Dec-2025	
Tuesday	06-Jan-2026	Wednesday	24-Dec-2025	
Wednesday	07-Jan-2026	Friday	26-Dec-2025	

Thursday	08-Jan-2026	Monday	29-Dec-2025	
Friday	09-Jan-2026	Tuesday	30-Dec-2025	
Saturday	10-Jan-2026	Wednesday	31-Dec-2025	
Sunday	11-Jan-2026	Wednesday	31-Dec-2025	
Monday	12-Jan-2026	Wednesday	31-Dec-2025	
Tuesday	13-Jan-2026	Friday	02-Jan-2026	
Wednesday	14-Jan-2026	Monday	05-Jan-2026	
Thursday	15-Jan-2026	Tuesday	06-Jan-2026	
Friday	16-Jan-2026	Wednesday	07-Jan-2026	
Saturday	17-Jan-2026	Thursday	08-Jan-2026	
Sunday	18-Jan-2026	Thursday	08-Jan-2026	
Monday	19-Jan-2026	Thursday	08-Jan-2026	Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Tuesday	20-Jan-2026	Thursday	08-Jan-2026	
Wednesday	21-Jan-2026	Friday	09-Jan-2026	
Thursday	22-Jan-2026	Monday	12-Jan-2026	
Friday	23-Jan-2026	Tuesday	13-Jan-2026	
Saturday	24-Jan-2026	Wednesday	14-Jan-2026	
Sunday	25-Jan-2026	Wednesday	14-Jan-2026	

South Shore Management Area Map

South Shore Management Area Hunting Locations



- Parking
- Blinds
- Boundaries

