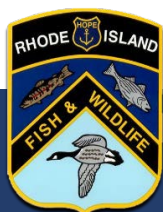


State of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Division of Fish & Wildlife

2024-2025 South Shore Management Area Packet



Dean Birch



Prepared by the Rhode Island
Department of Environmental Management

Division of Fish & Wildlife
277 Great Neck Road
West Kingston, RI 02892
Phone: (401) 789-0281
Fax: (401) 783-7490

Jennifer Kilburn, Principal Wildlife Biologist



THIS PROJECT WAS SUPPORTED by Wildlife Restoration Grants administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program: *Partnering to fund conservation and connect people with nature.*

Federal Aid Project funded by your purchase of hunting equipment.

It is the policy of the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management to offer its services and accommodations to all orderly persons, and as required, to all properly licensed persons, without regard to race, religion, color, national origin, ancestry, sex, age, or handicap. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, facility, or if you desire further information, please write to the Office for Equal Opportunity, US Department of the Interior, Office of the Secretary, Washington, DC 20240.

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements.....	1
South Shore Management Area Hunting Regulations.....	4
Season Dates.....	4
Legal Shooting Hours.....	4
Permits.....	4
South Shore Management Area Reservations.....	5
How to Make a Reservation.....	5
Reservation Guidelines.....	5
South Shore Management Area Harvest Reporting.....	5
South Shore Management Area Additional Information.....	5
Shot Requirements.....	5
Decoys.....	5
Vehicles.....	6
Handicap Accessibility.....	6
Restrictions.....	6
Hunting Regulations.....	6
South Shore Management Area 2024-2025 Reservation Schedule.....	8
South Shore Management Area Map.....	10

South Shore Management Area Hunting Regulations

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

Season Dates

Season Dates	Season	Bag Limit	Possession Limit	SSMA Reservation Required?
September 1 – September 30, 2024	Early	15	45	NO
November 23 – December 1, 2024	Regular	2	6	YES
December 7, 2024 – January 26, 2025	Regular	2	6	YES
February 1 – February 15, 2025 *	LATE	CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED

*SSMA is closed to goose hunting during the Late Canada Goose Season. For additional Late Canada Goose hunting season information see the 2022-2023 Hunting and Trapping Abstract.

Legal Shooting Hours

Season Dates	Legal Shooting Hours
September 1-September 30 2024	1/2 hour before Sunrise until 1/2 hour after Sunset
November 32 – December 1 2024	1/2 hour before Sunrise until Sunset
December 7 – January 26 2024	1/2 hour before Sunrise until Sunset

Permits

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 2021-22 Hunting Regulations.

Handicap Accessibility

- ❖ Upon request, Area #5 will have an accessible above-ground blind. The blind will be established by the Division in either a hedgerow or within standing crop rows (i.e., standing corn).
- ❖ 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 2024-2025 Reservation Schedule

November				
Day of Hunt	Date of Hunt	Earliest Reservation Day	Earliest Reservation Date	
Saturday	23-Nov	Thursday	14-Nov	
Sunday	24-Nov	Thursday	14-Nov	
Monday	25-Nov	Thursday	14-Nov	
Tuesday	26-Nov	Friday	15-Nov	
Wednesday	27-Nov	Monday	18-Nov	
Thursday	28-Nov	Tuesday	19-Nov	Thanksgiving
Friday	29-Nov	Tuesday	19-Nov	
Saturday	30-Nov	Wednesday	20-Nov	
Sunday	1-Dec	Wednesday	20-Nov	

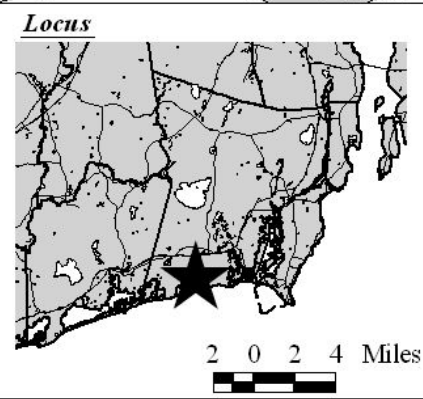
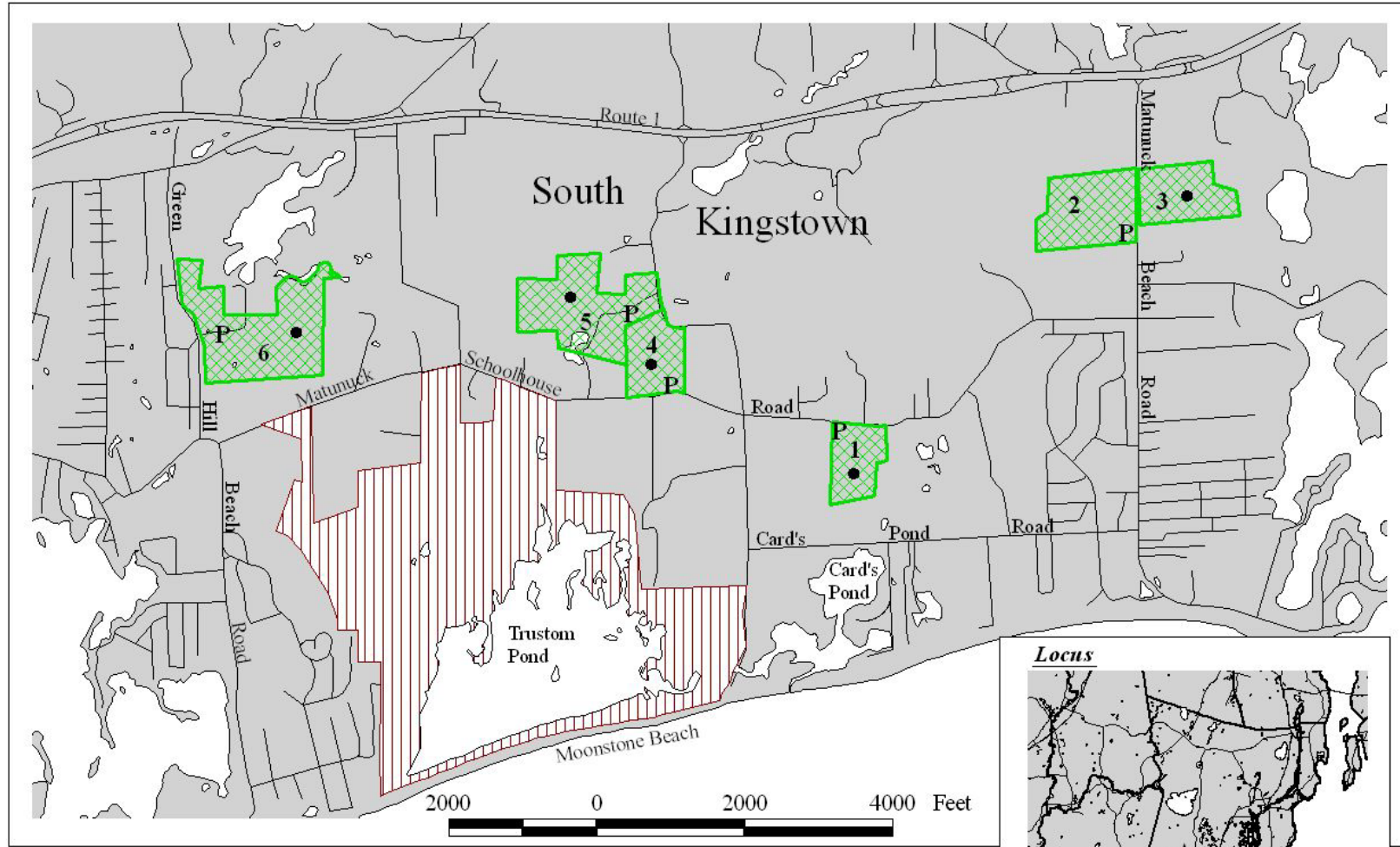
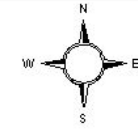
December				
Day of Hunt	Date of Hunt	Earliest Reservation Day	Earliest Reservation Date	
Saturday	7-Dec	Wednesday	27-Nov	
Sunday	8-Dec	Wednesday	27-Nov	
Monday	9-Dec	Wednesday	27-Nov	
Tuesday	10-Dec	Friday	29-Nov	
Wednesday	11-Dec	Monday	2-Dec	
Thursday	12-Dec	Tuesday	3-Dec	
Friday	13-Dec	Wednesday	4-Dec	
Saturday	14-Dec	Thursday	5-Dec	
Sunday	15-Dec	Thursday	5-Dec	
Monday	16-Dec	Thursday	5-Dec	
Tuesday	17-Dec	Friday	6-Dec	
Wednesday	18-Dec	Monday	9-Dec	
Thursday	19-Dec	Tuesday	10-Dec	
Friday	20-Dec	Wednesday	11-Dec	
Saturday	21-Dec	Thursday	12-Dec	
Sunday	22-Dec	Thursday	12-Dec	
Monday	23-Dec	Thursday	12-Dec	
Tuesday	24-Dec	Friday	13-Dec	
Wednesday	25-Dec	Monday	16-Dec	Christmas Day
Thursday	26-Dec	Monday	16-Dec	
Friday	27-Dec	Tuesday	17-Dec	
Saturday	28-Dec	Wednesday	18-Dec	
Sunday	29-Dec	Wednesday	18-Dec	
Monday	30-Dec	Wednesday	18-Dec	
Tuesday	31-Dec	Thursday	19-Dec	

Wednesday	1-Jan	Friday	20-Dec	New Year's Day
Thursday	2-Jan	Monday	23-Dec	
Friday	3-Jan	Tuesday	24-Dec	

January

Day of Hunt	Date of Hunt	Earliest Reservation Day	Earliest Reservation Date	
Saturday	4-Jan	Tuesday	24-Dec	
Sunday	5-Jan	Tuesday	24-Dec	
Monday	6-Jan	Tuesday	24-Dec	
Tuesday	7-Jan	Thursday	26-Dec	
Wednesday	8-Jan	Monday	30-Dec	
Thursday	9-Jan	Monday	30-Dec	
Friday	10-Jan	Tuesday	31-Dec	
Saturday	11-Jan	Thursday	2-Jan	
Sunday	12-Jan	Thursday	2-Jan	
Monday	13-Jan	Thursday	2-Jan	
Tuesday	14-Jan	Friday	3-Jan	
Wednesday	15-Jan	Monday	6-Jan	
Thursday	16-Jan	Tuesday	7-Jan	
Friday	17-Jan	Wednesday	8-Jan	
Saturday	18-Jan	Thursday	9-Jan	
Sunday	19-Jan	Thursday	9-Jan	
Monday	20-Jan	Thursday	9-Jan	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Tuesday	21-Jan	Thursday	9-Jan	
Wednesday	22-Jan	Friday	10-Jan	
Thursday	23-Jan	Monday	13-Jan	
Friday	24-Jan	Tuesday	14-Jan	
Saturday	25-Jan	Wednesday	15-Jan	
Sunday	26-Jan	Wednesday	15-Jan	

South Shore Management Area Hunting Locations



- Legend**
-  South Shore Management Hunting Areas
 -  U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Trustom Pond)
 -  Roads
 -  Pit Blinds
 -  Parking Area