

SCDNR seeks public comment on these revisions and technical wording. All comments can be submitted to Amanda Stroud, Public Information Director for Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries at strouda@dnr.sc.gov or mail comments to:

Amanda Stroud
SCDNR
Deer Management Comments
PO Box 167
Columbia, SC 29202

Comments will be accepted through midnight, January 20, 2012.

The following is technical wording that is necessary to make adjustments to the current deer hunting and licensing laws in order to put the deer management recommendations into place. Note: Words in plain font are currently in law. Words that are underlined are recommended new language. Words indicated by ~~strikethrough~~ are currently in law and would be eliminated in favor of new wording.

1 **SECTION 1. Chapter 11, Title 50 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:**

2
3 “Section 50-11-335. Bag limits for deer; penalty.

4
5 (A) The bag limit on antlered deer is:

6 (1) Game Zones 1 and 2: ~~daily~~ not more than two per day or ~~annually~~ not more than three ~~five~~
7 per year for all seasons combined; and

8 (2) Game Zones 3, 4, 5, and 6: not more than two per day or not more than five per year for all
9 seasons combined. ~~no daily or season limit.~~

10
11 (B) In all game zones the department may set the bag limits for antlerless deer.

12
13 (C) In all game zones the bag limit for deer (antlered or antlerless) on property in the Deer Quota
14 Program is set by the department.

15
16 (D) It is unlawful to take or possess deer in violation of this section. A person violating the
17 provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not less
18 than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or
19 both. Each animal over the limit is a separate offense.”

20
21 **SECTION 2. Chapter 11, Title 50 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:**

22
23 “Section 50-11-336. Tags issued for hunting deer; tagging requirement when taking deer; penalty

24
25 (A) The department will issue tags for the hunting and taking of deer.

26 (1) antlered tags issued to individual hunters are valid statewide except on properties enrolled in
27 the Deer Quota Program;

28 (2) antlerless tags issued to individual hunters are valid as prescribed by the department except on
29 properties enrolled in the Deer Quota Program;

30 (3) Deer Quota Program tags are valid only on the specific property for which they are issued.

1 (B) All deer taken (antlered and antlerless) must be tagged as prescribed by the department with a
2 tag current for the season before being moved from the point of kill.

3
4 (C) Each person taking a deer (antlered or antlerless) must record the date, sex, county, and game
5 zone of take as prescribed by the department. Any person who fails to comply is in violation of
6 this subsection.

7
8 (D) It is unlawful to take, possess or transport deer in violation of this section. A person violating
9 the provisions of this section is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction must be fined not
10 less than fifty dollars nor more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days
11 or both.

12
13
14 **SECTION 3. Chapter 11, Title 50 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:**

15
16 “Section 50-11-390. Antlerless deer season; department authority over antlerless deer; penalty

17
18 (A) The ~~Department of Natural Resources~~ department may permit the taking of antlerless deer
19 between September fifteenth and January first, inclusive. The department may set bag limits and
20 methods for hunting and taking of antlerless deer and other restrictions for the ~~proper~~ control of
21 hunting and taking of antlerless deer.

22
23 (B) ~~In all game zones, the department may issue individual tags for antlerless deer which must~~
24 ~~be used as prescribed by the department. These tags are valid statewide except on properties~~
25 ~~receiving antlerless the deer quota permit pursuant to subsection (C), and must be possessed and~~
26 ~~used only by the individuals to whom they are issued.~~

27
28 ~~(C) In all game zones, the department may issue antlerless deer quota permits to landowners or~~
29 ~~lessees. The department shall determine an appropriate quota of tags to be issued under each~~
30 ~~permit.~~

31
32 ~~(D) Antlerless deer taken pursuant to individual tags or quota permits must be tagged with a~~
33 ~~valid antlerless deer tag and reported to the department as prescribed. Each tag must be attached~~
34 ~~to the deer as prescribed by the department. before the animal is moved from the point of kill.~~
35 ~~Antlerless deer taken pursuant to quota permits must be tagged, even if taken on designated~~
36 ~~either sex days.~~

37
38 ~~(E) The department may suspend the taking of antlerless deer or revoke any quota permit or~~
39 ~~individual tag when environmental conditions or other factors warrant.~~

40
41 ~~(F)~~(C) It is unlawful to hunt or take, or possess, antlerless deer, except as permitted by this
42 section. A person violating the provisions of this section or the provisions for taking antlerless
43 deer established by the department is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be
44 fined not less than fifty ~~and not~~ nor more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than
45 thirty days or both.”

46
47 **SECTION 4. Chapter 11, Title 50 of the 1976 Code is amended by adding:**

48
49 “Section 50-11-395. Deer Quota Program; penalty.

1 (A) The department may issue deer quota permits to landowners or lessees. The department shall
2 determine a quota for antlered and antlerless deer and issue tags under each permit. Permittees in
3 the Deer Quota Program are responsible for reporting deer taken under quota permits as
4 prescribed by the department.

5
6 (B) The department may suspend the taking of deer on those properties enrolled in the quota
7 program or revoke any quota permit when environmental conditions or other factors warrant.

8
9 (C) It is unlawful to hunt or take, possess, or transport deer, except as permitted by this section.
10 A person violating the provisions of this section or the provisions for taking antlerless deer
11 established by the department is guilty of a misdemeanor and, upon conviction, must be fined not
12 less than fifty nor more than five hundred dollars or imprisoned not more than thirty days or
13 both.”

14
15
16 **SECTION 5. Chapter 9, Title 50 of the 1976 Code is amended to read:**

17
18 “Section 50-9-650. Annual deer tags issued to individuals; deer tag sets defined; Deer Quota
19 Program permit; exemption for individual tags

20
21 (A) For the privilege of ~~hunting taking antlerless~~ deer, in addition to the required hunting license
22 and big game permit; ~~a hunter shall obtain an annual antlerless deer tag issued in his name, and~~
23 ~~the fee:~~

24 ~~— (1) for a resident is five dollars per tag;~~

25 ~~— (2) for a nonresident is five dollars per;~~

26
27 (1) a resident must purchase a set of deer tags issued in his name.

28 (a)The cost for a complete set of annual deer tags is twenty dollars, one dollar of which the
29 issuing sales vendor may retain;

30 (b)The cost for a partial set of annual resident deer tags is ten dollars, one dollar of which the
31 issuing sales vendor may retain.

32
33 (2) a nonresident must purchase a set of deer tags issued in his name.

34 (a)The cost for a complete set of annual nonresident deer tags is thirty dollars, one dollar of
35 which the issuing sales vendor may retain;

36 (b)The cost for a partial set of annual nonresident deer tags is fifteen dollars, one dollar of
37 which the issuing sales vendor may retain.

38
39 (3) A youth under the age of sixteen must obtain a complete set of annual youth deer tags issued
40 in his name each year at no cost by applying to the department. For the purposes of these tags, a
41 youth must not have attained the age of sixteen years on or before opening day of the earliest deer
42 season.

43
44 (4) For the purposes of this section:

45 (a) a complete set of deer tags consists of five antlered deer tags and the number of antlerless
46 deer tags as set by regulation based on deer management needs;

47 (b) a partial set of deer tags consists of one antlered deer tag and one antlerless deer tag. An
48 individual may purchase up to four additional sets of partial deer tags provided that the number
49 of tags does not exceed the number of antlerless deer tags included with a complete set of deer
50 tags for the season.

1 (B) A landowner or lessee may apply to the ~~Antlerless Deer Quota Program for an antlerless a~~
2 deer quota permit at a cost of ~~fifty two hundred~~ dollars per ~~land tract application~~. ~~The department~~
3 ~~shall determine an appropriate quota of tags to be issued under each permit and there is no cost~~
4 ~~for these tags.~~

5
6 (C) Individuals who hunt deer exclusively on properties enrolled in the Deer Quota Program are
7 exempt from the requirement to purchase a set of annual deer tags.”
8

9 **SECTION 6. Subsection 50-9-920(B), Chapter 9, Title 50 of the 1976 Code is**
10 **amended to read:**

11
12 “(B) Revenue from fees generated from the sale of other hunting and freshwater fishing licenses,
13 permits, and tags must be remitted to the State Treasurer and credited to the Fish and Wildlife
14 Protection Fund. Revenue from each:

15 (1) Wildlife management area permit only must be used for the management and the procurement
16 of wildlife management area lands.

17 (2) A nonresident annual statewide hunting license must be used as follows:

18 (a) one dollar for the propagation, management, and protection of ducks and geese in this State;

19 (b) one dollar contributed by the department to proper agencies along the Atlantic Flyway for the
20 propagation, management, and protection of ducks and geese; and

21 (c) the balance to the Fish and Wildlife Protection Fund.

22 (3) A nonresident temporary statewide hunting license must be used as follows:

23 (a) fifty cents for the propagation, management, and protection of ducks and geese in this State;

24 (b) fifty cents contributed by the department to proper agencies in Canada for the propagation,
25 management, and protection of ducks and geese; and

26 (c) the balance to the Fish and Wildlife Protection Fund.

27 (4) A nonresident annual freshwater fishing license must be distributed as follows:

28 (a) fifty percent to the County Game and Fish Fund account for the respective county in which
29 the license was sold, except that these licenses sold through a central point such as online, call
30 centers, and department mass mailings must be equally allocated to the counties; and

31 (b) the balance to the Fish and Wildlife Protection Fund.

32 (5) Application and other fees, permits, and tags for the privilege of taking alligators must be used
33 by the department to support the alligator management program.

34
35 (6) ~~Antlerless deer quota permit(ADQP)~~ deer quota permit must be exclusively used to administer
36 the ~~ADQP program~~ Deer Quota Program and for deer management and research.

37
38 (7) ~~Individual antlerless set of annual~~ deer tags must be used as follows:

39 (a) ~~eighty~~ fifty percent to administer the tag program, deer management, and research;

40 and

41 (b) ~~the remaining~~ twenty percent for law enforcement; and

42 (c) the balance to the Fish and Wildlife Protection Fund.

43
44 (8) A nonresident annual freshwater fishing license must be distributed as follows:

45 (a) fifty percent to the County Game and Fish Fund account for the respective county in which
46 the license was sold, except that these licenses sold through a central point such as online, call
47 centers, and department mass mailings must be equally allocated to each county; and

48 (b) the balance to the Fish and Wildlife Protection Fund.

49 (9) Lakes and reservoirs permits must be equally distributed to the County Game and Fish Fund
50 of those counties in which the specified bodies of water are found in whole or in part.”
51

1
2 **SECTION 7.** If any section, subsection, item, subitem, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence,
3 clause, phrase, or word of this act is for any reason held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such
4 holding shall not affect the constitutionality or validity of the remaining portions of this act, the
5 General Assembly hereby declaring that it would have passed this act, and each and every
6 section, subsection, item, subitem, paragraph, subparagraph, sentence, clause, phrase, and word
7 thereof, irrespective of the fact that any one or more other sections, subsections, paragraphs,
8 subparagraphs, sentences, clauses, phrases, or words hereof may be declared to be
9 unconstitutional, invalid, or otherwise ineffective.

10
11 **SECTION 8.** This act takes effect July 1, 2013

12
13 -XX-
14