Agency Name: Department of Natural Resources

Statutory Authority: 50-1-200, 50-1-220, 50-11-10, 50-11-310, 50-11-335, 50-11-350, 50-11-390, 50-11-430, 50-11-520, 50-11-530, 50-11-854, 50-11-2200, and 50-11-2210

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**DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

CHAPTER 123

Statutory Authority: 1976 Code Sections 50-1-200, 50-1-220, 50-11-10, 50-11-310, 50-11-335,

50-11-350, 50-11-390, 50-11-430, 50-11-520, 50-11-530, 50-11-854, 50-11-2200 and 50-11-2210

123-40. Wildlife Management Area Regulations

**Synopsis:**

These regulations amend Chapter 123-40 Wildlife Management Area Regulations in order to set seasons, bag limits and methods of hunting and taking of wildlife on existing and additional Wildlife Management Areas.

The Notice of Drafting for this regulation was published on May 27, 2011 in the *South Carolina State Register* Volume 35, Issue No. 5.

**Instructions:**

Amend Regulation 123-40 as follows: Included are specific changes, deletions and additions. Unless specifically listed as a change, all other existing regulations remain intact.

(A) Game Zone 1 – under Chauga, Franklin L. Gravely, Caesar’s Head for “Still Gun Hunts for Deer Only” delete Oct. 31 – Dec. 22 (WMA). To “Special Party Dog Hunt for Bear Only” add “Hogs no limit in 3rd Column. To “Hogs and Coyotes” change second sentence and add last two sentences. Add new hunt “Hog Hunts With Dogs” all three columns below the “Hogs and Coyotes” paragraph.

(B) Game Zone 2 – To “Hogs and Coyotes” add “feral” to the first sentence, change second sentence and add last two sentences. Add new hunt “Hog Hunts With Dogs” all three columns below the “Hogs and Coyotes” paragraph.

Under Keowee WMA To “Hogs and Coyotes”, change second sentence and add last two sentences. Under Fants Grove WMA To “Hogs and Coyotes”, change second sentence and add last two sentences.

(G) Francis Marion National Forest – add sentence to first paragraph of general regulations for Francis Marion. Add “Still Hog Hunts (no dogs), all three columns. Place after general regulations. Hellhole WMA, Small Game, make changes to last sentence in the middle column.

(H) Moultrie WMA under Porcher WMA, To “Small Game” add “Shotguns only” in first column.

(J) Webb WMA – add 2-sentence statement at beginning of Webb regulations. To “Quail Hunts” delete data card statement first column, add shooting hours to 3rd column. To “Still Hog Hunts (no dogs)” change season dates column 2.

(N) Bear Island WMA – add sentence to first regulation paragraph. To “Quail” change season dates column 2. To “Other Small Game” change season dates column 2. To “Raccoon/Opossum” change season dates column 2. Add “Alligator Hunts” before regulations for hog hunts.

(R) Santee Coastal Reverve WMA - add sentence to first regulation paragraph. Add “Alligator Hunts” before regulations for hog hunts.

(T) Woodbury WMA – To “Special Hog Still Hunt” change seasons column 2 and add “only” to column 3. To “Special Hog Hunt With Dogs” change seasons in column 2 and make wording changes to column 3.

(U) Manchester State Forest WMA – To “Still Gun Hunts” change seasons column 2 and add statement column 3.

(V) Sand Hills State Forest WMA – add “Special Coyote Still Hunt” all three columns between Still Gun Hunts and Small Game regulations.

(W) Marsh WMA - To “Special Hog Still Hunt” change seasons column 2 and add “only” to column 3. To “Special Hog Hunt with Dogs” change seasons in column 2 and make wording changes to column 3.

(X) Hamilton Ridge WMA – To first general regulation paragraph, delete 4th sentence and add 2 sentences to the end of the paragraph. Delete “Muzzleloader and Archery” in all 3 columns. To “Archery Only” add Nov. season. To “Still Hog Hunts (no dogs)” change season dates in column 2. Delete last sentence in paragraph that comes after the section “Hog Hunts With dogs”. To “Quail Hunts” delete data card statement in 1st column and add shooting hours sentence to 3rd column.

(Z) Donnelley WMA – make changes to first general regulation paragraph. To “Small Game” change season dates column 2. To “Raccoon and Opossum” change season dates column 2 and change limits in column 3.

(AA) Little Pee Dee River Complex WMA – add sentence to first regulation paragraph. To “Raccoon” change season dates in column 2. To “Special Hog Still Hunt” change season column 2. To “Special Hog Hunt With Dogs” change season column 2. Delete first sentence in last paragraph.

(DD) Palachucola WMA – delete one sentence and add 2-sentence statement in first regulation paragraph. To “Muzzleloader and Archery” delete only “Muzzleloader and” from first column, leave the word “Archery” and maintain columns 2 and 3. To “Quail Hunts” delete data card statement first column, add shooting hours to 3rd column. To “Still Hog Hunts (no dogs)” change seasons column 2. Delete 2 sentences in last regulation paragraph.

(FF) Waccamaw River Heritage Preserve WMA – add “Special Hog Still Hunt” all 3 columns, place between Raccoon and Hog Hunt With Dogs. To “Hog Hunt With Dogs” change season column 2.

(II) Cartwheel Bay WMA – To “Deer Hunts” add “Hogs no limit” column 3.

(LL) Sandy Island WMA – delete entire Sandy Island WMA, all columns.

(NN) Dungannon WMA – To “Archery” add “Hogs no limit” to column 3.

(QQ) Oak Lea WMA – To “Archery” change season column 2. Add “Archery & Muzzleloader” all 3 columns.

(SS) Edisto River WMA – add statement concerning hogs to beginning of Edisto River WMA regulations. To “Still Gun Hunts” change season column 2.

(UU) Wee Tee WMA –To “Special Hog Still Hunt” change seasons column 2 and add “only” to column 3. To “Special Hog Hunt With Dogs” change seasons column 2 and make wording changes to column 3.

(VV) Bonneau Ferry WMA – delete paragraph related to Hog hunters and entire “Special Hog Hunt With Dogs”, all three columns.

(YY) Botany Bay Plantation WMA – To “Raccoons and Opossum” change season date column 2.

2.14 – add 2 sentences.

5.3 – delete the word “coyotes”.

5.6 – add new entire regulation. Place after 5.5.

7.1 – make changes to wording.

10.14 – make changes to wording.

10.15 – delete “Santee Cooper”.

10.16 – add “Santee Cooper”. To listing for “Santee Cooper” change column 2.

**Text:**

SUBARTICLE 1

HUNTING IN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

123-40. Wildlife Management Area Regulations.

1.1 The following regulations amend South Carolina Department of Natural Resources regulation Numbers 123-40 and 123-51.

1.2. The regulations governing hunting including prescribed schedules and seasons, methods of hunting and taking wildlife, and bag limits for Wildlife Management Areas and special restrictions for use of WMA lands are as follows:

**(A) Game Zone 1**

**Chauga, Franklin L. Gravely, Caesar’s Head**

Still Gun Hunts Oct. 11 - Oct. 16 Total of 7 deer for all gun hunts.

For Deer Only Oct. 31 – Jan. 1 2 deer per day, buck ONLY,

(No dogs) except either-sex on days

 specified in Reg. 4.2. Archers

 allowed to take either-sex

 during entire period.

Special Party Dog Oct. 24 - Oct. 30 5 bears per party, no bears

Hunt For Bear Only 100 lbs. or less, no sow with

 cubs at her side. Groups

 hunting together are

considered 1 party. Hogs no limit.

Hogs and Coyotes

On each WMA property, feral hogs and coyotes may be taken during the open season for any game. No hog hunting with dogs, except during special designated hog hunts with dogs and the during the party dog hunts for bear. Hog hunters must use small game weapons during small game-only season. Hog hunters are required to wear hat, coat or vest of solid international orange color while hunting. No hogs may be taken alive from WMA.

Hog Hunts with Jan. 2 – Mar. 1 No limit.

Dogs (handguns only) Daylight hours only

Four dog limit per party.

**(B) Game Zone 2**

Hogs and Coyotes: On WMA lands in Game Zone 2, feral hogs and coyotes may be taken during the open season for any game. No hog or coyote hunting with dogs ,except during special designated hog hunts with dogs. Only small game weapons allowed during the small game-only seasons. Hog hunters are required to wear hat, coat or vest of solid international orange color while hunting. No hogs may be taken alive from WMA.

Hog Hunts with Feb. 1 – Feb. 15 No limit.

Dogs (pistols only)

Four dog limit per party.

**Keowee WMA**

Hogs and Coyotes: On Keowee WMA property, feral hogs and coyotes may be taken during the open season for any game. No hog hunting with dogs. Hog hunters must use small game weapons during small game-only season. Hog hunters are required to wear hat, coat or vest of solid international orange color while hunting. No hogs may be taken alive from WMA.

**Fants Grove WMA**

Hogs and Coyotes: On Fants Grove WMA, feral hogs and coyotes may be taken during the open season for any game. No hog hunting with dogs . Hog hunters must use small game weapons during small game-only season. Hog hunters are required to wear hat, coat or vest of solid international orange color while hunting. No hogs may be taken alive from WMA.

**(G) Francis Marion National Forest**

During still gun hunts for deer there shall be no hunting or shooting Total of 4 deer for all gun and

from, on or across any road open to vehicle traffic. No buckshot muzzleloader hunts on the

on still gun hunts. During deer hunts when dogs are used buckshot Francis Marion.

only is permitted. On either-sex deer hunts with dogs, all deer must

be checked in by one hour after legal sunset. On all still gun and

muzzleloader either-sex hunts for all units, all does must be tagged

with an individual antlerless deer tag except when harvested on county-wide

either-sex days. Individual antlerless deer tags are valid on days not

designated as either-sex on or after Oct. 1 for still hunting only.

Tibwin Special Use Area (in Wambaw) is closed to hunting except for

Special hunts. On youth deer hunts, only youths 17 and younger may

carry a gun and must be accompanied by an adult 21 years old or older.

Hogs may be harvested during any scheduled hunt. No fox or coyote

hunting with dogs on the Francis Marion.

Still Hog Hunts (no dogs) Mar. 2 – Mar. 20 Hogs only, no limit.

Archery, crossbows,

centerfire rifles, muzzleloading

rifles, centerfire handguns and

shotguns with slugs only.

**Hellhole WMA**

Small Game No hunting before Sept. 1 or after Game Zone 6 bag limits

No open season Mar. 1; otherwise Game Zone 6 except quail - 8 per day.

for fox hunting seasons apply. Dogs allowed during

 small game gun season only. Closed

 during scheduled periods using dogs

 to hunt deer or hogs.

**(H) Moultrie**

**Porcher WMA**

Small Game Jan. 2 - Mar.1 Game Zone 6 bag limits,

(No open season on except quail - 8 per day.

fox squirrels) Shotguns

only.

**(J) Webb WMA**

Data cards are required for hunter access. Completed data cards must be returned daily upon leaving

Webb WMA.

Quail Hunts 2nd and 4th Wed. in Jan. 8 quail per day.

 2nd and 4th Sat. in Jan. Shooting hours end 30

 1st and 3rd Sat. in Feb. minutes prior to official

 1st and 3rd Wed. in Feb. sunset.

Still Hog Hunts (no dogs) 4th Thurs. – Sat. in Feb. No limit.

Archery, crossbows, 2nd Thurs. – Sat. in May

centerfire rifles, muzzleloading1st Thurs. – Sat. in Sept.

rifles, centerfire handguns and

shotguns with slugs only.

**(N) Bear Island WMA**

All hunters must sign in and out at the Bear Island Office. Hunting in designated areas only. Hogs may be harvested during any scheduled hunt.

Quail Quail hunting Tue. only Game Zone 6 bag limits.

 Beginning the Tue. after

 Federal youth waterfowl day - Mar. 1.

Other Small Game Beginning the Wed. after Game Zone 6 bag limits.

No open season on Federal youth waterfowl day – Mar. 1.

fox squirrels. Wed. and Sat. Only

Raccoon/Opossum Beginning the Wed. after Game Zone 6 bag limits.

 Federal youth waterfowl day –

 Mar. 15. Wed. and Fri. Nights Only

Alligator Hunts Hunters selected by drawing only. 1 alligator per selected hunter.

Bear Island East and Limited season with restricted access.

West Units only.

**(R) Santee Coastal Reserve WMA**

Deer hunters must sign in and sign out and complete a data card on harvested animals. Hogs may be harvested during any scheduled hunt.

Alligator Hunts Hunters selected by drawing only. 1 alligator per selected hunter.

Cape Unit only. Limited season with restricted access.

**(T) Woodbury WMA**

Special Hog Mar. 1 – 3rd Sat. in Mar. Hogs only, no limit.

Still Hunt (No dogs) May 2 – last Sat. in June

Archery, crossbows, centerfire (Thurs. - Sat. only).

rifles, muzzleloading rifles, 1st Mon. in Aug. – last Sat. in

centerfire handguns and Aug. (Thurs. – Sat. only).

shotguns with slugs only.

Special Hog Hunt 1st Mon. in Jan. - Hogs only, no limit. Limit of 4

With dogs 4th Sat. in Jan. bay or catch dogs per party,

 no live hogs removed from

 1st Mon. in July – last Sat. WMA. Handguns only.

 in July (Thurs. – Sat. only).

**(U) Manchester State Forest WMA**

Deer Total of 5 deer per season for

all hunts.

Still Gun Hunts 5th Mon. in Sept. – following Sat. 1 per day, buck only

(No Dogs, no buckshot) except on either-sex hunts

 published annually.

1st Mon. in Oct. – following Sat.

2nd Mon. in Oct. – following Sat.

 3rd Tues. in Oct. – following Fri.

 4th Tues. in Oct. – following Fri.

 5th Tues. in Oct. – following Thurs.

 1st Tues. in Nov. – following Fri. In years when there is a fifth

 2nd Tues. in Nov. – following Sat. Tuesday in Oct., additional

 3rd Tues. in Nov. – following Fri. deer hunts may be scheduled on

 Mon. – Sat. the week of Thanksgiving. Fridays and Saturdays during

 4th Mon. in Nov. – following Fri. October and November.

 1st Tues. in Dec. – following Fri. In years when there is a fifth

 First full week following the 1st Monday in Dec. additional

 Tues. in Dec. – following Fri. hunts may be scheduled that

 Second full week following the 1st week.

 Tues. in Dec. – following Fri

 Third full week following 1st Tues.

 in Dec. – following Sat.

**(V) Sand Hills State Forest WMA**

Special Coyote Still Hunt Mar. 1 – 3rd Sat. in Mar. Coyotes only, no limit.

Archery, crossbows, centerfire

rifles, muzzleloading rifles,

centerfire handguns and

shotguns. No dogs.

**(W) Marsh WMA**

Special Hog Mar. 1 – 3rd Sat. in Mar. Hogs only, no limit.

Still Hunt (No dogs) May 2 – last Sat. in June

Archery, crossbows, centerfire (Thurs. - Sat. only).

rifles, muzzleloading rifles, 1st Mon. in Aug. – last Sat. in

centerfire handguns and Aug. (Thurs. – Sat. only).

shotguns with slugs only.

Special Hog Hunt 1st Mon. in Jan.- Hogs only, no limit. Limit of 4

With Dogs 4th Sat. in Jan. bay or catch dogs per party,

 1st Mon. in July – last Sat. no live hogs removed from

 in July (Thurs. – Sat. only). WMA. Handguns only.

**(X) Hamilton Ridge WMA**

Quality Deer Management Area – Antlered deer must have at least 4 points on 1 side or a minimum 12-inch antler spread. A point must be at least 1 inch long measured from the nearest edge of main beam to the top of the point. No more than 3 bucks total may be taken during all seasons combined regardless of method. Firearms must be unloaded and cased when not hunting. No hunting or shooting from, on, or across any roads open to vehicular traffic. Scouting and stand placement allowed 1 day prior to hunts. No buckshot. Hogs may be taken only during deer hunts or scheduled hog hunts. All taken must be killed where taken. Horseback riding by permit only. No ATVs allowed. Data cards are required for hunter access. Completed data cards must be returned daily upon leaving Hamilton Ridge WMA.

Deer

Archery Only 3rd Mon. - Sat. in Sept. 2 deer per hunt period, either-

(No dogs) 4th Mon. – Sat. in Oct. sex, only 1 buck. Hogs no limit.

 1st week in Nov.

 2nd Mon. – Sat. in Nov.

 2nd Thur. – Sat. in Dec.

Still Hog Hunt (no dogs) 4th Thurs. – Sat. in Feb. No limit.

Archery, crossbows, 2nd Thurs. – Sat. in May

centerfire rifles, muzzleloading 1st Thurs. – Sat. in Sept.

rifles, centerfire handguns and

shotguns with slugs only.

Hog hunters are required to wear hat, coat or vest of solid international orange color while hunting.

Quail Hunts 2nd and 4th Wed. in Jan. 8 quail per day.

 2nd and 4th Sat. in Jan. Shooting hours end 30

 1st and 3rd Sat. in Feb. minutes prior to official

 1st and 3rd Wed. in Feb. sunset.

**(Z) Donnelley WMA**

Deer

All hunters must sign in and out at the check station. Hunting in designated areas only. Scouting season for archery only on the day before season opens. Hogs can be harvested during any scheduled hunt only with weapons allowed for the current open season.

Small Game Wed. and Sat. Dec. 6 - Mar. 1 Game Zone 6 Bag Limits.

No open season for

fox squirrels.

Raccoon and Opossum Tues. and Fri. Nights Dec. 6 - Mar.15 Raccoon - Game Zone 6 Bag

 Limits, opossum - no limit.

**(AA) Little Pee Dee River Complex WMA**

Includes Little Pee Dee River HP, Tilghman HP, Dargan HP, and Ward HP in Horry and Marion counties. This also includes the Upper Gunters Island and Huggins tracts in Horry Co. which are part of Dargan HP. Still hunting only, no deer dogs, no buckshot, no hunting from vehicles or watercraft, or from or on any roads open to vehicular traffic. Hogs may be harvested during any scheduled hunt only with weapons allowed for the current open season.

Raccoon Sept. 15 – Mar. 1 3 per party per night.

Special Hog Still Mar. 1 – 20 Hogs only, no limit,

Hunt (no dogs) no bay or catch dogs.

Archery, crossbows, centerfire

rifles, muzzleloading rifles,

centerfire handguns and shotguns

with slugs only.

Special Hog Hunt Mar. 26 – 31 No limit, handguns only, no

With Dogs more than 4 bay or catch dogs per party. No live hogs removed from WMA.

Buckshot and rimfire firearms not permitted.

**(DD) Palachucola WMA**

Deer Hunts

Deer hunting or shooting will not be allowed from or on roads open to vehicle traffic. Data cards are required for hunter access. Completed data cards must be returned daily upon leaving Palachucola WMA.

Archery 3rd Thurs. – Sat. in Dec. 3 deer, either-sex except only

(No dogs) 1 buck with a minimum 4 points

 on one side or a minimum

 12-inch antler spread.

Quail Hunts 2nd and 4th Wed. in Jan. 8 quail per day.

 2nd and 4th Sat. in Jan. Shooting hours end 30

 1st and 3rd Sat. in Feb. minutes prior to official

 1st and 3rd Wed. in Feb. sunset.

Still Hog Hunts (no dogs) 4th Thurs. – Sat. in Feb. No limit.

Archery, crossbows, 2nd Thurs. – Sat. in May

centerfire rifles, muzzleloading 1st Thurs. – Sat. in Sept.

rifles, centerfire handguns and

shotguns with slugs only.

Hog hunters are required to wear a hat, coat or vest of solid international orange color while hunting. Hunters must sign register at Webb WMA upon entering and leaving the Palachucola WMA. No hogs may be taken alive from Palachucola WMA.

**(FF) Waccamaw River Heritage Preserve WMA**

Special Hog Still Mar. 1 – 20 Hogs only, no limit,

Hunt (no dogs) no bay or catch dogs.

Archery, crossbows, centerfire

rifles, muzzleloading rifles,

centerfire handguns and shotguns

with slugs only.

Hog hunt with dogs Mar. 21 – 25 No limit, sidearms only, no

 More than 4 bay or catch dogs

 per party, no live hogs removed

 from WMA.

**(II) Cartwheel Bay HP**

Deer Hunts Total 3 deer for all hunts

 combined. Hogs no limit.

**(NN) Dungannon WMA**

Deer Hunts Total 8 deer per season.

(No dogs)

Archery Oct. 15 - Dec. 1 2 deer per day, either-sex.

(No dogs) Hogs no limit.

**(QQ) Oak Lea WMA**

Deer Total 10 deer per season.

Archery Sept. 15 - Sept. 22 2 deer per day, either-sex.

Archery & Muzzleloader Sept. 23 - Sept. 30 2 deer per day, either-sex.

**(SS) Edisto River WMA**

Hogs may be harvested during any scheduled hunt.

Still Gun Hunts Monday following the closing 1 per day, either-sex

of muzzleloader season each Fri. & Sat. in Nov.

through Dec. 31 Hogs, no limit.

**(UU) Wee Tee WMA**

Special Hog Mar. 1 – 3rd Sat. in Mar. Hogs only, no limit.

Still Hunt (No dogs) May 2 – last Sat. in June

Archery, crossbows, centerfire (Thurs. - Sat. only).

rifles, muzzleloading rifles, 1st Mon. in Aug. – last Sat. in

centerfire handguns and Aug. (Thurs. – Sat. only).

shotguns with slugs only.

Special Hog Hunts 1st Mon. in Jan. - Hogs only, no limit. Limit of 4

With Dogs 4th Sat. in Jan. bay or catch dogs per party,

 1st Mon. in July – last Sat. no live hogs removed from

 in July (Thurs. – Sat. only). WMA. Handguns only.

**(VV) Bonneau Ferry WMA**

**(YY) Botany Bay Plantation WMA**

Raccoons and Opossum Jan. 2 – Mar. 15 (Wed. - Fri. only) Game Zone 6 bag limits.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA REGULATIONS

General

2.14 On WMA lands, hunting armadillos, coyotes and hogs at night is prohibited. Armadillos and coyotes may be hunted during any open season for game during daylight hours. Weapon(s) used to hunt armadillos and coyotes are limited to the weapon(s) that are allowed for the current open season on WMA.

5.3 On WMA lands, dogs may be used for hunting foxes, raccoons, bobcats or opossums only between thirty (30) minutes after official sunset and 30 minutes before official sunrise.

5.6 On WMA lands, dogs may be used to hunt hogs only during special designated hog hunts with dogs.

7.1 On all WMA lands during any gun and muzzleloader hunting seasons for deer, bear and hogs, all hunters including small game hunters must wear either a hat, coat, or vest of solid visible international orange, except hunters for dove, turkey, ducks, geese and other hunted migratory birds including crows are exempt from this requirement while hunting for those species.

10.14 On Crackerneck WMA, waterfowl may be hunted only on Fri., Sat. and Thanksgiving Day within the regular migratory bird seasons and no hunting on Dec. 25; Fant's Grove WMA is open AM only on Wednesdays and Saturdays during the regular migratory bird seasons; Palachucola WMA, Tillman Sand Ridge WMA, Hamilton Ridge WMA and Webb WMA are open AM only for waterfowl hunting during the regular migratory bird seasons only on days when small game hunting is allowed.

10.15 Category I Designated Waterfowl Areas include Beaverdam, Bonneau Ferry, Broad River, Clemson, Sandy Beach, Samworth, Santee Coastal Reserve, Santee-Delta, Tibwin, Bear Island, and Donnelley Wildlife Management Areas. Hunting in Category I Designated Waterfowl Areas is by special permit obtained through annual computer drawing.

10.16 Category II Designated Waterfowl Areas include Biedler Impoundment, Carr Creek (bounded by Samworth WMA), Little Carr Creek (bounded by Samworth WMA), Lake Cunningham, Russell Creek, Monticello Reservoir, Parr Reservoir, Duncan Creek, Dunaway, Dungannon, Enoree River, Moultrie, Hatchery, Hickory Top, Hickory Top Greentree Reservoir, Lancaster Reservoir, Turtle Island, Little Pee Dee River Complex (including Ervin Dargan, Horace Tilghman), Great Pee Dee River, Potato Creek Hatchery, Sampson Island Unit (Bear Island), Tyger River, Marsh, Wee Tee, Woodbury, Ditch Pond, Waccamaw River Heritage Preserve, Santee Cooper and 40 Acre Rock Waterfowl Management Areas. Hunting on Category II Designated Waterfowl Areas is in accordance with scheduled dates and times.

DESIGNATED WATERFOWL AREAS

Area Open dates inclusiveBag Limits

Santee Cooper Sat. AM only during Federal Limits

 regular season.

**Fiscal Impact Statement:**

This amendment of Regulation 123-40 will result in increased public hunting opportunities which should generate additional State revenue through license sales. In addition, the local economy should benefit from sales of hunting supplies, food and overnight accommodations. Sales taxes on these items will also directly benefit government.

**Statement of Rationale:**

Rationale for the formulation of these regulations is based on over 60 years of experience by SCDNR in establishing public hunting areas. New areas are evaluated on location, size, current wildlife presence, access and recreation use potential. Contractual agreements with the landowners provide guidelines for the use and management of the property. Wildlife Management Area agreements are on file with the Wildlife Management Section of the Department of Natural Resources, Room 267, Dennis Building, 1000 Assembly Street, Columbia.