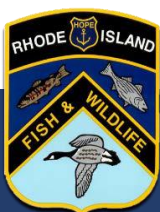


# State of Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management Division of Fish & Wildlife

## 2023-2024 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  
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# 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, 2023	Early	15	45	NO
November 18 – November 26, 2023	Regular	2	6	YES
December 2 – January 21, 2024	Regular	2	6	YES
<b>January 27 – February 10, 2024 *</b>	<b>LATE</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>

\*SSMA is closed to goose hunting during the Late Canada Goose Season. For additional Late Canada Goose hunting season information see the 2023-2024 Hunting and Trapping Abstract.

## Legal Shooting Hours

Season Dates	Legal Shooting Hours
September 1-September 30 2023	1/2 hour before Sunrise until 1/2 hour after Sunset
November 18 – November 26 2023	1/2 hour before Sunrise until Sunset
December 2 – January 21 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.
- ❖ If the permittee that made the reservation cannot be present at the reserved date and time the reservation **must be canceled.** Other permittees may call to reserve the field during normal business hours.
- ❖ 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 twenty-four (24) 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, Field #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 Fields 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 Fields 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 hunting during the archery season is allowed only in the wooded portions of Fields 3, 5, and 6 throughout the archery season, including during the Regular Canada Goose Season when the field reservation system is occurring.
- ❖ Deer hunting during the muzzleloader season is allowed only in the wooded portions of Field 5 and 6, except during the Regular Canada Goose Season when the field reservation system is occurring.
- ❖ Deer hunting during shotgun season is allowed only in Field 6 and its wooded portions, except during the Regular Canada Goose Season.
- ❖ 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.
- ❖ Turkey hunting is allowed in the wooded portions of Fields 3, 5 and 6 during the spring and fall turkey seasons.
- ❖ 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 2023-2024 Reservation Schedule

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### November

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Day of Hunt	Date of Hunt	Earliest Reservation Day	Earliest Reservation Date	
Saturday	18-Nov	Thursday	9-Nov	
Sunday	19-Nov	Thursday	9-Nov	
Monday	20-Nov	Thursday	9-Nov	
Tuesday	21-Nov	Friday	10-Nov	
Wednesday	22-Nov	Monday	13-Nov	
Thursday	23-Nov	Tuesday	14-Nov	Thanksgiving
Friday	24-Nov	Tuesday	14-Nov	
Saturday	25-Nov	Wednesday	15-Nov	
Sunday	26-Nov	Wednesday	15-Nov	

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### December

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Day of Hunt	Date of Hunt	Earliest Reservation Day	Earliest Reservation	
Saturday	2-Dec	Wednesday	22-Nov	
Sunday	3-Dec	Wednesday	22-Nov	
Monday	4-Dec	Wednesday	22-Nov	
Tuesday	5-Dec	Friday	24-Nov	
Wednesday	6-Dec	Monday	27-Nov	
Thursday	7-Dec	Tuesday	28-Nov	
Friday	8-Dec	Wednesday	29-Nov	
Saturday	9-Dec	Thursday	30-Nov	
Sunday	10-Dec	Thursday	30-Nov	
Monday	11-Dec	Thursday	30-Nov	
Tuesday	12-Dec	Friday	1-Dec	
Wednesday	13-Dec	Monday	4-Dec	
Thursday	14-Dec	Tuesday	5-Dec	
Friday	15-Dec	Wednesday	6-Dec	
Saturday	16-Dec	Thursday	7-Dec	
Sunday	17-Dec	Thursday	7-Dec	
Monday	18-Dec	Thursday	7-Dec	
Tuesday	19-Dec	Friday	8-Dec	
Wednesday	20-Dec	Monday	11-Dec	
Thursday	21-Dec	Tuesday	12-Dec	
Friday	22-Dec	Wednesday	13-Dec	
Saturday	23-Dec	Thursday	14-Dec	
Sunday	24-Dec	Thursday	14-Dec	



Monday	25-Dec	Thursday	14-Dec	Christmas Day
Tuesday	26-Dec	Thursday	14-Dec	
Wednesday	27-Dec	Friday	15-Dec	
Thursday	28-Dec	Monday	18-Dec	
Friday	29-Dec	Tuesday	19-Dec	
Saturday	30-Dec	Wednesday	20-Dec	
Sunday	31-Dec	Wednesday	20-Dec	

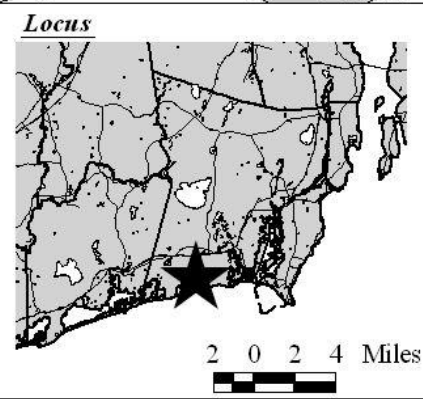
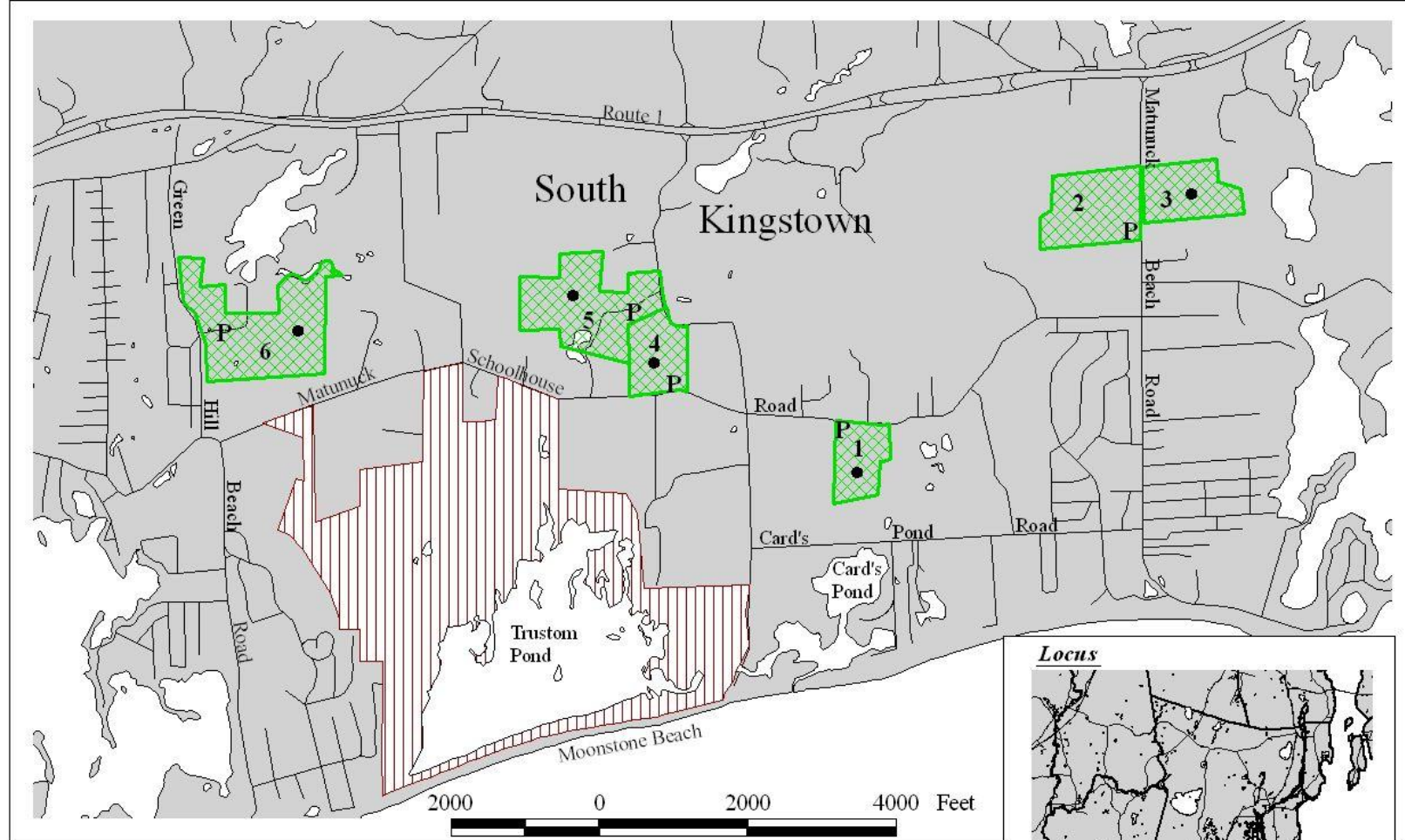
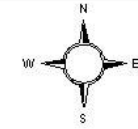
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**January**

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<b>Day of Hunt</b>	<b>Date of Hunt</b>	<b>Earliest Reservation Day</b>	<b>Earliest Reservation Date</b>	
Monday	1-Jan	Wednesday	20-Dec	New Year's Day
Tuesday	2-Jan	Wednesday	20-Dec	
Wednesday	3-Jan	Thursday	21-Dec	
Thursday	4-Jan	Friday	22-Dec	
Friday	5-Jan	Tuesday	26-Dec	
Saturday	6-Jan	Wednesday	27-Dec	
Sunday	7-Jan	Wednesday	27-Dec	
Monday	8-Jan	Wednesday	27-Dec	
Tuesday	9-Jan	Wednesday	27-Dec	
Wednesday	10-Jan	Friday	29-Dec	
Thursday	11-Jan	Tuesday	2-Jan	
Friday	12-Jan	Wednesday	3-Jan	
Saturday	13-Jan	Thursday	4-Jan	
Sunday	14-Jan	Thursday	4-Jan	
Monday	15-Jan	Thursday	4-Jan	Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day
Tuesday	16-Jan	Thursday	4-Jan	
Wednesday	17-Jan	Friday	5-Jan	
Thursday	18-Jan	Monday	8-Jan	
Friday	19-Jan	Tuesday	9-Jan	
Saturday	20-Jan	Wednesday	10-Jan	
Sunday	21-Jan	Wednesday	10-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

