

SECTION .1700 - FIELD TRAILS AND DOG TRAINING

15A NCAC 10H .1701 FIELD TRIALS

(a) The following definitions shall apply to the rules in Subchapters 10H and 10D of this Chapter:

- (1) "Commission-sanctioned field trial" means a field trial that has been authorized by the Wildlife Resources Commission and for which a Field Trial Permit has been issued.
- (2) "Active participant" means an individual participating in a field trial who handles dogs or uses a firearm.
- (3) "Field Trial Permit" means the permit issued by the Wildlife Resources Commission that authorizes an individual to hold a commission-sanctioned field trial for dogs.

(b) Individuals may apply for a Field Trial Permit from the Commission at www.gooutdoorsnorthcarolina.com or at the Commission headquarters located at 1751 Varsity Drive, Raleigh, NC 27606 by submitting the following information:

- (1) field trial dates;
- (2) business affiliation;
- (3) species of animal or game bird;
- (4) fox preserve permit number, if applicable;
- (5) county, if species is an animal; and
- (6) address, if species is a gamebird.

(c) An individual serving as a judge of a commission-sanctioned field trial shall be exempt from license requirements. An individual who is serving as a judge of a non-sanctioned field trial using wildlife shall possess a North Carolina hunting license.

(d) The following license requirements shall apply to active participants in field trials:

- (1) North Carolina residents participating in a field trial that uses wildlife shall have a North Carolina hunting license;
- (2) non-residents participating in a commission-sanctioned field trial that uses wildlife shall possess a North Carolina hunting license or a hunting license from his or her state of residence; and
- (3) non-residents participating in other types of field trials that use wildlife shall possess a North Carolina hunting license.

(e) Notwithstanding Paragraph (d) of this Rule, an individual without a license may participate in commission-sanctioned field trials for beagles conducted without firearms on private field trial areas that meet the fencing requirements specified in G.S. 113-276(k).

(f) Individuals shall not carry axes, saws, or climbing irons while training or running dogs during closed seasons for game animals.

(g) The following conditions shall apply to commission-sanctioned field trials for retrievers or bird dogs:

- (1) shotguns containing live ammunition or firearms using only blank ammunition shall be prohibited unless specifically authorized by a Field Trial Permit;
- (2) wild waterfowl, wild quail, or wild pheasant shall not be used in field trials when shotguns with live ammunition are permitted;
- (3) domestically raised waterfowl and game birds, lawfully obtained from a licensed game bird propagator may be used in field trials where shotguns with live ammunition are permitted;
- (4) waterfowl obtained from licensed game bird propagators for use in field trials when shotguns with live ammunition are authorized shall be marked by one of the methods specified in 50 CFR 21.45, including subsequent amendments and editions, found free of charge at www.ecfr.gov; and
- (5) when domestically raised game birds are obtained from licensed game bird propagators for use in field trials where shotguns with live ammunition are authorized, the purchaser of the birds shall obtain a copy of the receipt from the propagator showing the date, number of birds purchased, propagator license number, and species of birds purchased. A copy of the receipt shall be available for inspection by representatives of the Commission during the time and at the place where the trial is being held.

History Note: Authority G.S. 113-134; 113-273; 113-276; 113-291.1; 113-291.5; 50 CFR 21.45; Eff. August 1, 2024.