

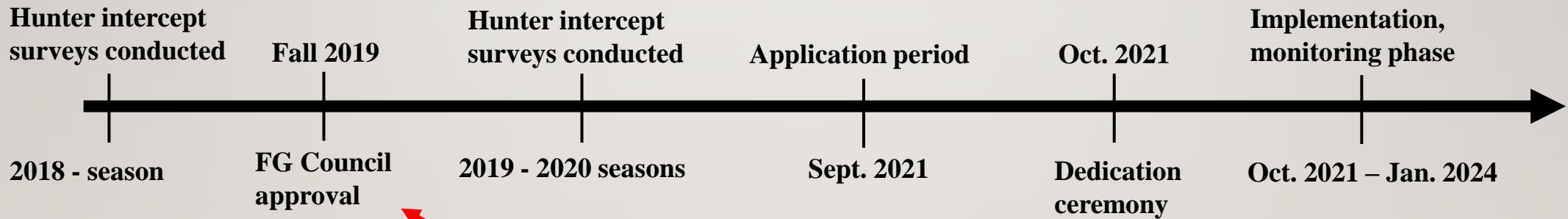
# TUCKAHOE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA WATERFOWL HUNTING PLAN

Ryan Risher, R3 Coordinator  
Bureau of Information and Education  
Fish and Game Council Meeting – September 14



# TUCKAHOE MANAGED HUNT TIMELINE

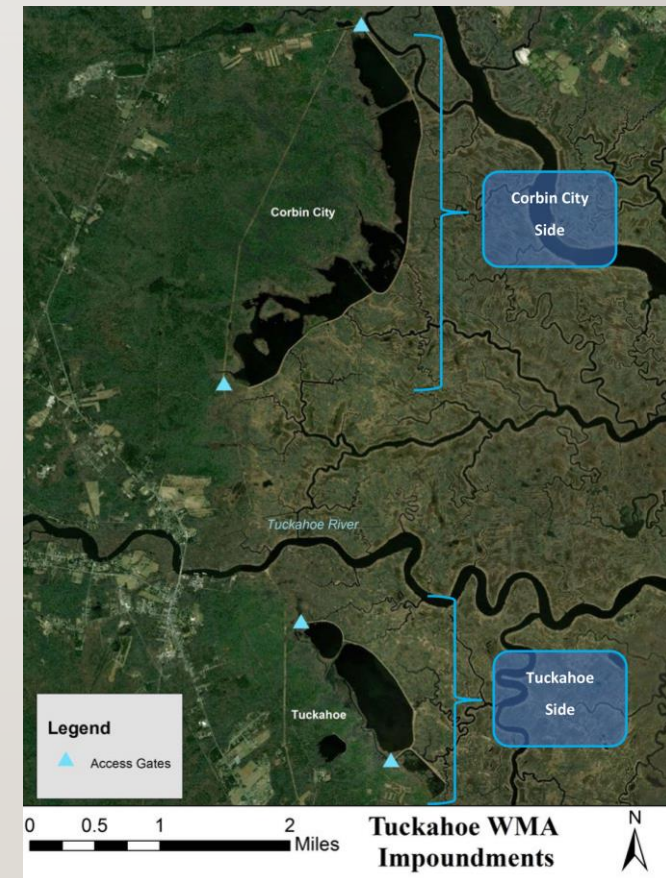
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# INITIAL FISH AND GAME COUNCIL PROPOSAL

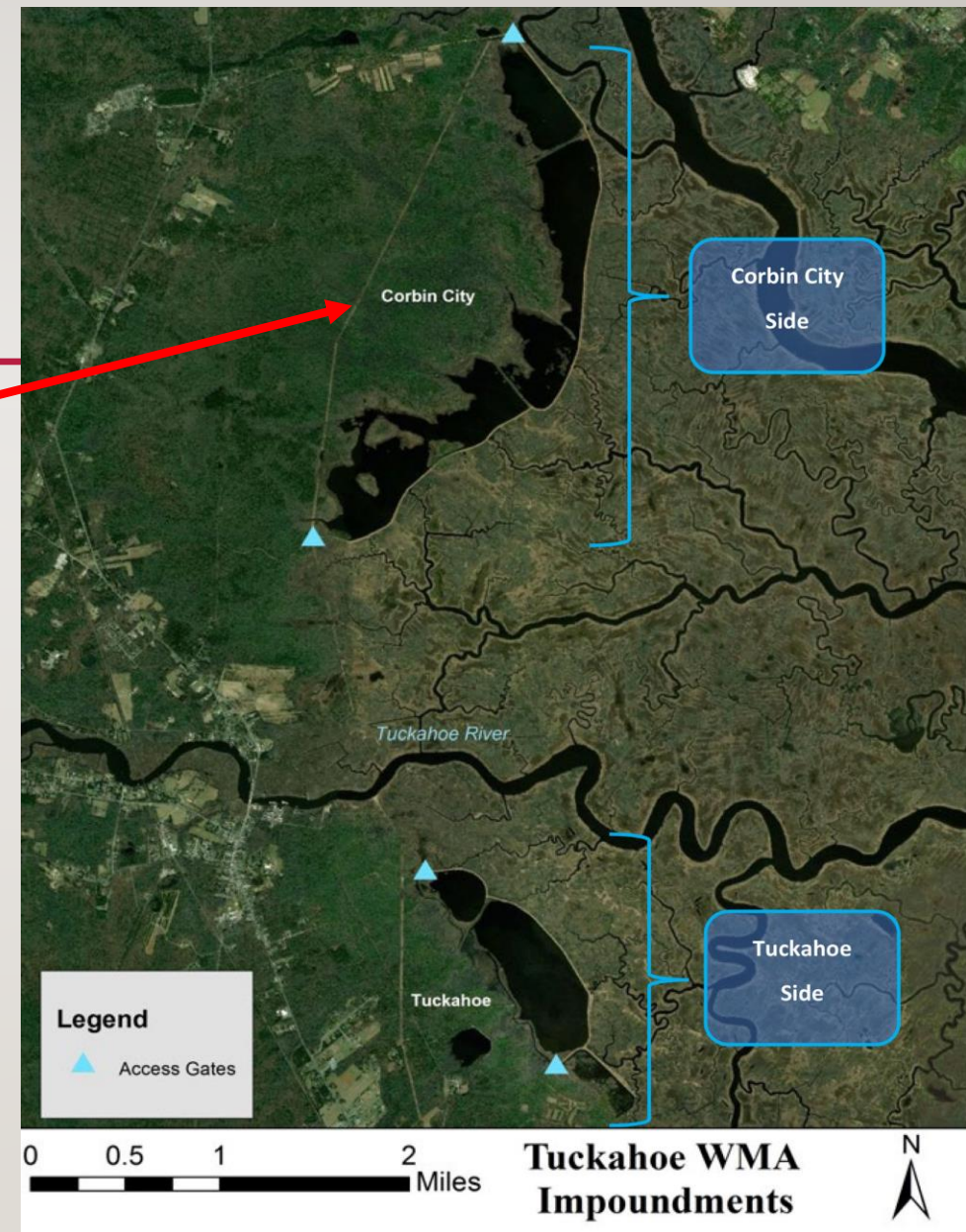
- Two different options for hunting experiences and hunter densities.
- Limit waterfowl hunting to Mondays, Wednesdays, and Saturdays during South Zone duck season; hunting ceases at noon.
- Overall objective: **improve the overall quality of waterfowl hunting at the Tuckahoe impoundments.**





# MANAGED HUNT PLAN REGIME

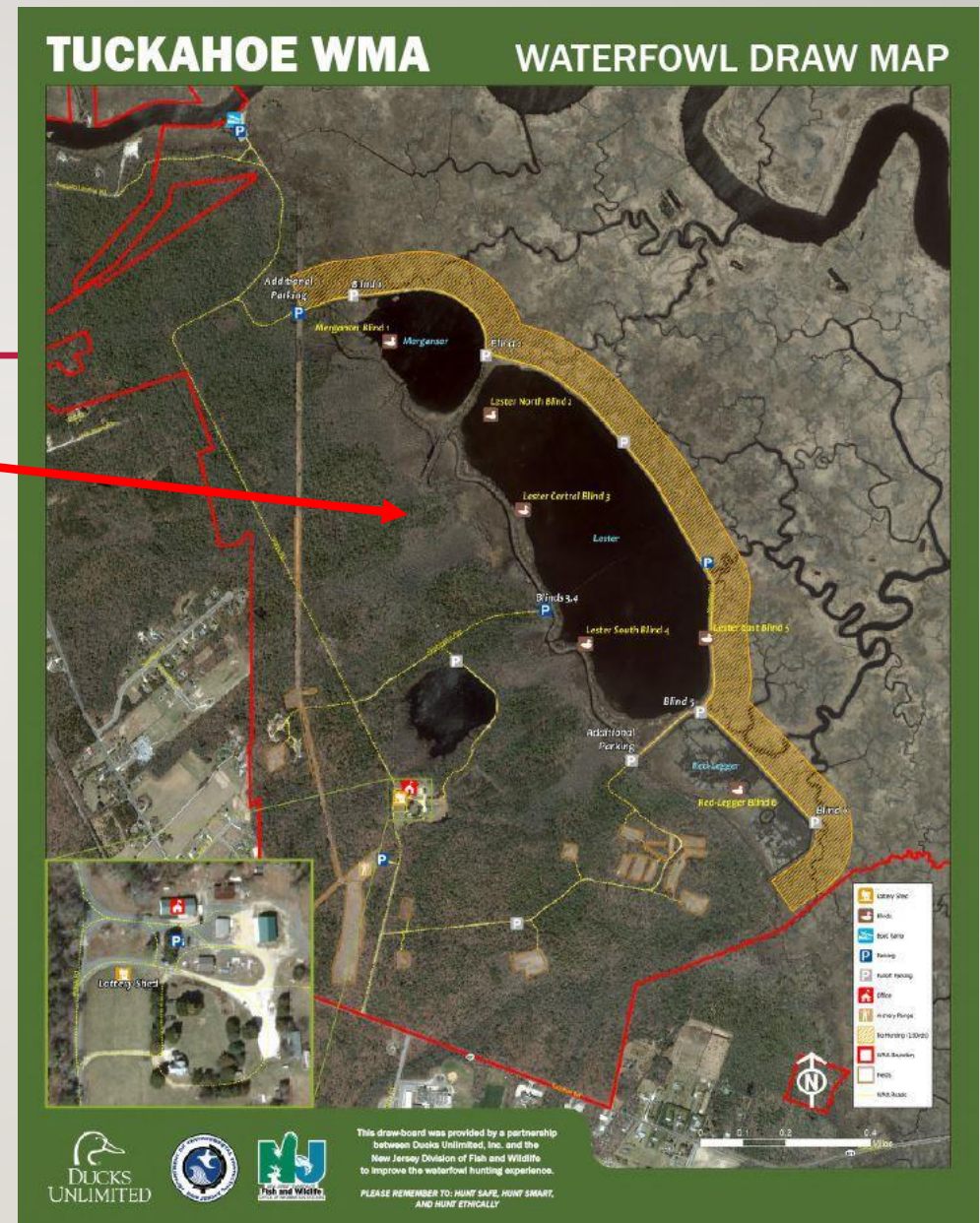
- Corbin City impoundments
  - No permanent blinds, only temporary ones permitted.
  - No restrictions on number of hunters or hunting party size.
  - No restrictions on hunting location.





# MANAGED HUNT PLAN REGIME

- Tuckahoe impoundments
  - Six permanent blinds available by lottery only can accommodate up to four hunters each.
  - Blinds allow for 360° shooting opportunities.
  - Permits **768** hunter days despite reduction in huntable days.



# APPLICATION SYNOPSIS

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- **NO FEE** associated with application, blind reservation.
- Highlights 32 regular season huntable days, three youth/military days, and one special mentored hunting opportunity.
- Site information (i.e. map of area, report times, regulations, etc.)





# A HUNTER GETS SELECTED, NOW WHAT?

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- Report three hours before sunrise for check-in and conduct blind selection.
- Hunting permitted until noon, must vacate by 2PM.
- Hunters must complete an exit survey.



# WHAT IS ACCOMPLISHED BY THE HUNT PLAN?

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- Reduced hunting pressure and overall disturbance for waterfowl using the area.
- By improving the *overall quality* of waterfowl hunting at the Tuckahoe impoundments, we can;
  - Provide an opportunity for newly recruited or less experienced waterfowl hunters,
  - Provide a new and improved experience for current waterfowl hunters, and
  - Provide an opportunity that alleviates access and overcrowding constraints that negatively impact waterfowl hunters' experiences.





# MENTORED HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES

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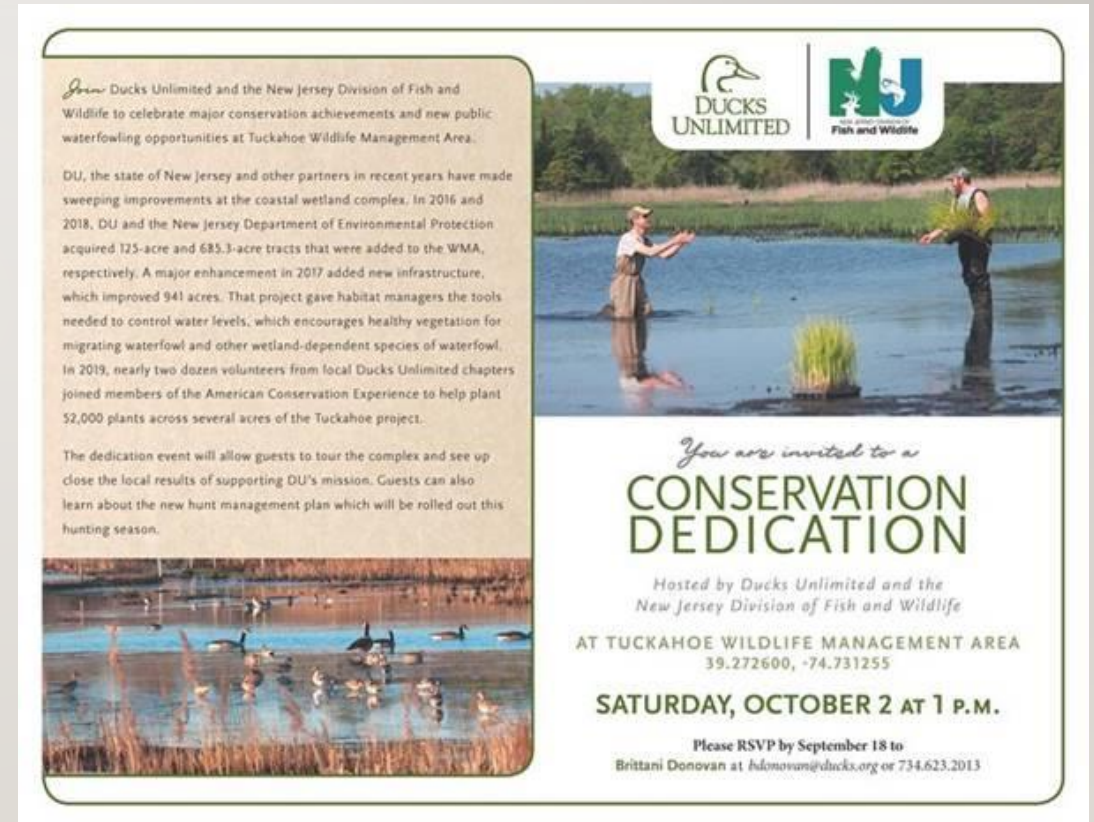
- Two-day outreach hunt Friday and Saturday, Nov. 19-20 and *more!*





# ONGOING MANAGEMENT, WHAT'S NEXT?

- Continued hunter intercept surveys.
- Updates to public/hunters with or without blind reservations.
- Active engagement with new hunters.
- Post-season reviews, blind and signage maintenance (as needed).



*Join Ducks Unlimited and the New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife to celebrate major conservation achievements and new public waterfowling opportunities at Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area.*

DU, the state of New Jersey and other partners in recent years have made sweeping improvements at the coastal wetland complex. In 2016 and 2018, DU and the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection acquired 125-acre and 685.3-acre tracts that were added to the WMA, respectively. A major enhancement in 2017 added new infrastructure, which improved 941 acres. That project gave habitat managers the tools needed to control water levels, which encourages healthy vegetation for migrating waterfowl and other wetland-dependent species of waterfowl. In 2019, nearly two dozen volunteers from local Ducks Unlimited chapters joined members of the American Conservation Experience to help plant 52,000 plants across several acres of the Tuckahoe project.

The dedication event will allow guests to tour the complex and see up close the local results of supporting DU's mission. Guests can also learn about the new hunt management plan which will be rolled out this hunting season.

*You are invited to a*  
**CONSERVATION DEDICATION**

*Hosted by Ducks Unlimited and the  
New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife*

**AT TUCKAHOE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA**  
39.272600, -74.731255

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 2 AT 1 P.M.**

Please RSVP by September 18 to  
Brittani Donovan at [bdonovan@ducks.org](mailto:bdonovan@ducks.org) or 734.623.2013



# FINAL THOUGHTS

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- Combination of habitat restoration and a hunting regime that reduces disturbance will benefit waterfowl hunting at Tuckahoe WMA.
- Thanks for your time & happy hunting!
- [tuckahoewmafowl@dep.nj.gov](mailto:tuckahoewmafowl@dep.nj.gov)

