



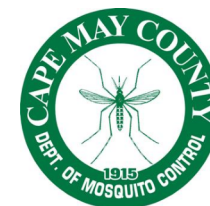
# Tuckahoe WMA Managed Waterfowl Hunt Summary

**Joe Leskie**

**R3 Program Administrator**

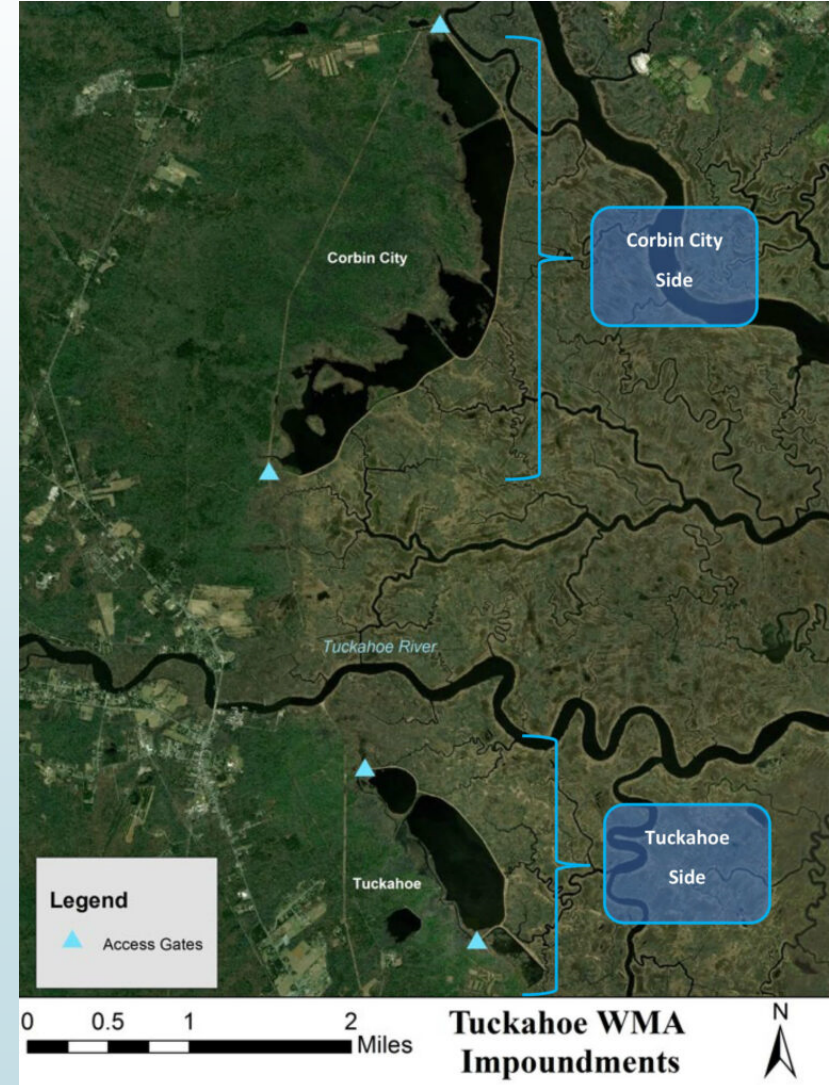
**Bureau of Information and Education**

**New Jersey Fish and Wildlife**



# Tuckahoe Wildlife Management Area

- Six coastal impoundments totaling 941 acres constructed during the 1940s.
- Second largest WMA – 18,660 acres.
- Primarily consists of tidal marshes, woodlands, fields, and impoundments.
- Corbin City – Atlantic County
- Tuckahoe – Cape May County



# Four Major Program Objectives

- Improve the overall quality of waterfowl habitat and hunting at the Tuckahoe WMA impoundments
- Provide opportunities for *newly recruited or less experienced waterfowl hunters. (RECRUIT)*
- Provide a new and improved experience for *current waterfowl hunters. (RETAIN)*
- Provide an opportunity that alleviates access and overcrowding that negatively impact waterfowl hunters' experiences that could *bring hunters back. (REACTIVATE)*





# 2021-2022 Implementation

- Pre-season lottery (September 1 – 30)
- 430 applications received with 180 hunt dates.
- Approximately 237 hunters were recorded participating on the Tuckahoe side where lottery was facilitated.
- Held a mentored waterfowl hunt on Nov. 20 with Ducks Unlimited to introduce new men, women, and youth to waterfowl hunting in a controlled environment.
- 29 groups utilized the decoy loaner program.





# First Year Summary How'd We Do ?

## Collected 183 surveys

- Mean age: **40 years old**
- **90%** residents, **10%** nonresidents
- **54%** travel > 1 hour to Tuckahoe

## ➤ Hunter Participation:

- **20%** hunt 0-5 days,
- **22%** hunt 6-10 days,
- **25%** hunt 11-20 days
- **32%** hunt over 20 days
- Averaged **3 hunters** per group

## ➤ Satisfaction

- **Ducks seen: 76%**
- **Ducks harvested: 34%**
- **Hunters encountered: 70%**



# Year One Post-Implementation Summary

## Support of a hunt plan

- **87%** support program continuance, **10%** no opinion/undecided, **2%** suspend.

## Lottery process ranks (1 – poor, 5 – excellent)

- Lottery application process: **4.22**
- Lottery notification process: **4.32**
- On-site blind draw process: **4.27**
- Blind locations: **3.18**
- Logistics parking and blind access: **3.88**
- Check out and exit survey process: **4.56**



# Moving Forward-Improvements

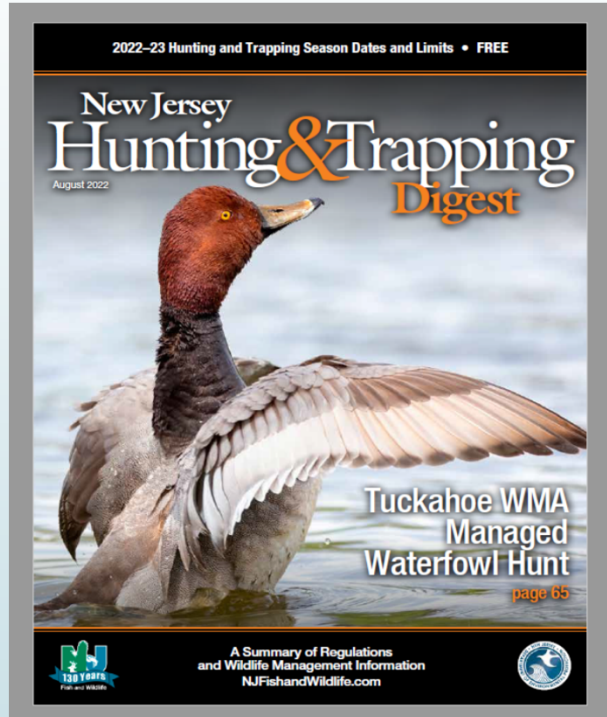
## Improvements for 2022-2023...

- **On-Line Application (Simpler and Quicker)**
- **Award hunting blinds ahead of time in random lottery. 10 choices help reduce oversubscription.**
- **Enhance access points to aid hunters.**
- **Improve trail markings to the blinds.**
- **Expand survey abilities at Corbin City QR Code.**
- **Create an extensive informational packet that includes updated maps, gps coordinates, blind # and detailed FAQ's.**
- **Offer a Scouting/Orientation Day prior to the season so hunters can come and see for themselves where they will be hunting.**

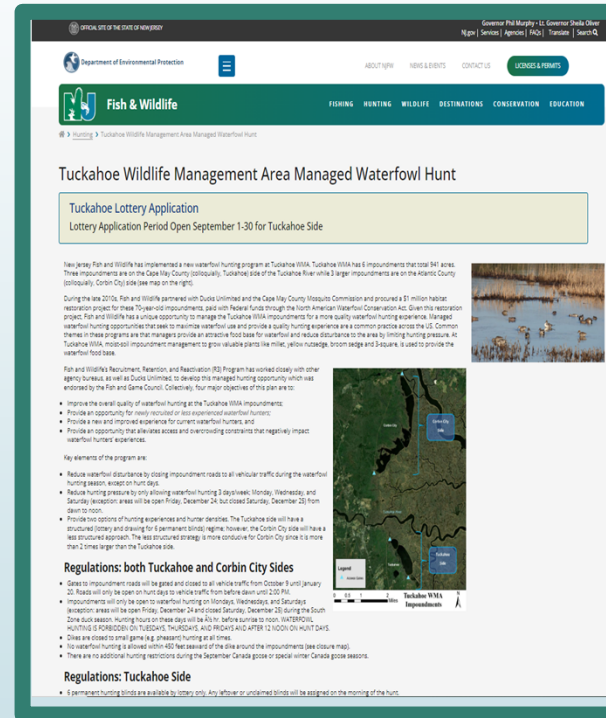




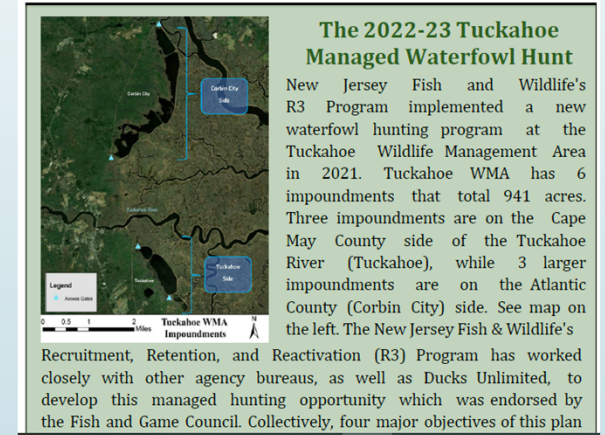
# How Will We Promote the Program



- Information in our 2022-23 Hunting & Trapping Digest



- Information and fillable application on our new Fish & Wildlife Website



- Information in our Upcoming September 2022 R3 Newsletter



**Thank You!**

**QUESTIONS?**



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