



# Retriever Field Trial Information

## Do I need a permit to hold a retriever field trial?

- No permit is needed to hold a field trial on private land. If you wish to hold a field trial on lands in FWC's wildlife management area system you must have a permit. Contact your [FWC regional office](#) to apply for a permit.

## I plan to release mallards at a field trial. What permits do I need?

- You need one of the following permits which authorize you to possess mallards in Florida:
  - Class III Personal Use Permit – This is a no cost permit
  - Class III License for Exhibition or Public Sale
  - Game Farm License
  - Additional information and permit applications available at: <http://www.myfwc.com/license/captive-wildlife/applications>
- No permit is needed to release mallards for field trials ([FAC 68A-4.0052](#)), provided that all released birds are returned to possession or caging as soon as possible after release.

## Additional Information:

- Federal regulations ([50CFR SS 21.13](#)) require that all mallards used in a field trial shall be from captive-reared stock and shall be marked prior to reaching 6 weeks of age using at least one of the following methods:
  - removal of a hind toe from the right foot
  - pinioning of a wing
  - banding of one leg with a seamless metal band
  - web tattooing with an identifying letter or number combination
- Before and after a field trial, all live mallards must remain in possession of individuals permitted to possess mallards in Florida.
- After a field trial, dead birds may be possessed, transported and stored by any person, provided that the marked foot or wing remains attached to the carcass until immediately prior to cooking.

FWC Waterfowl and Small Game Management Program

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