

WASHINGTON

Game Bird and Small Game Hunting Regulations

Effective July 1, 2024 - June 30, 2025

2024



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2024

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WAC Summary Information

This pamphlet is a summary of the hunting regulations and seasons adopted by the Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission. This pamphlet does not contain nor is it intended to contain all Department regulations. Regulations specific to the hunting seasons described in this pamphlet are found in Sections 220-200, 220-220, and 220-400 through 220-417 of the Washington Administrative Code.

This program receives Federal assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus prohibit discrimination on the bases of race, color, national origin, age, disability and sex (in educational programs). If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility, please contact the WDFW ADA Program Manager at P.O. Box 43139, Olympia WA 98504 or write to: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Chief, Public Civil Rights Division, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240.

Report mandatory harvest record cards online at fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov



Significant changes are red.
Noteworthy information is blue.

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Message from WDFW



Eric Gardner
Wildlife Program
Director

Washington hunters are nature lovers, outdoor enthusiasts, and critically, conservationists. If you have a conversation with someone about why they go hunting, harvesting an animal is not always the first thing they mention. Of course, filling the freezer and providing for our families is important. Still, hunters also cherish the opportunities to spend time with friends and loved ones afield and take pride in contributing to wildlife management and conservation.

I look back on so many experiences I've had while hunting that have nothing to do with the harvest: those unbelievable encounters and the thrill of sharing space with incredible wildlife in their natural habitat. Even when I don't harvest an animal, I consider my efforts a success when I can experience these awe-inspiring moments and share them with others, and know that my financial investment as a hunter directly contributes to continued hunting opportunities in Washington.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently released the latest National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation. Through this survey, researchers gathered the latest data about hunters' participation and spending in Washington and nationwide.

Survey results showed that, in 2022, approximately 290,000 people went hunting in Washington and spent approximately \$1.1 billion dollars on equipment and trip-related expenses. This spending supports businesses and communities across the state, and taxes on this spending contribute to a variety of fish and wildlife management and conservation work. Washington hunters represented a wide range of age, gender, economic, and racial demographics, demonstrating that there is a place for everyone outdoors. Surveyed hunters also showcased the diversity of hunting opportunities in Washington. About one-third of Washington hunters targeted small game, with approximately 50,000 hunters targeting migratory birds and 50,000 targeting other wildlife.

These hunters – over a quarter of a million people – directly support Washington wildlife conservation through active population management and financial contributions that support the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's work. At the Department, we appreciate everything you do to support wildlife conservation in our great state.

I love hearing about fellow hunters' experiences in Washington, from harvesting their first wildlife to seeing incredible landscapes and species to sharing once-in-a-lifetime memories with people they love. These stories remind us of the bigger picture of hunting in Washington and all across the nation, and the ways hunting supports thriving ecosystems and the wildlife that live there.

As always, we wish you safe, successful, and memorable hunting seasons in the year ahead.

To learn more about the 2022 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation results, please visit WDFW's website.

Eric Gardner,
Wildlife Program Director

Congratulations to Yvonne Yin of Washington for placing in the Top 10 in the 2024 National Junior Duck Stamp Contest.

For more information on the **National Junior Duck Stamp Contest**, see: <https://www.fws.gov/program/junior-duck-stamp/junior-duck-stamp-contest-information>.



Snow Goose Swimming In Lake. Acrylic painting by artist Yvonne Yin. © USFWS

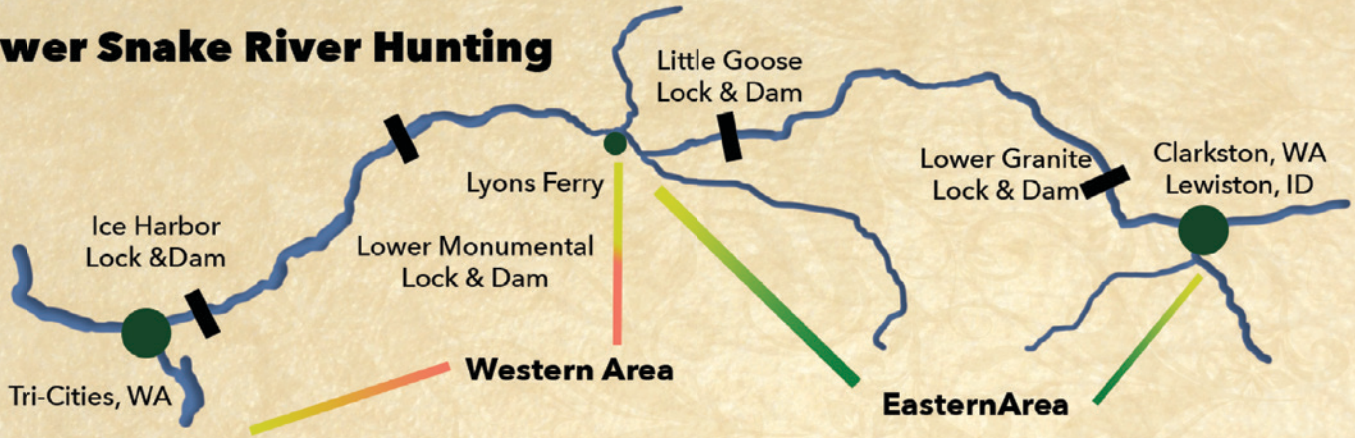


U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

US Army Corps
of Engineers
Walla Walla District

ALL STATE HUNTING REGULATIONS APPLY TO CORPS-MANAGED LANDS

Lower Snake River Hunting



The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers invites you to visit your public lands that we manage in southeastern Washington. More than 20,000 acres of lands are open to hunting. In addition, many campgrounds operated by the Corps and its lessees are open throughout the fall months with some limitations on services. For more information regarding maps, current hunting conditions, or to be contacted by one of our wildlife biologists, please visit our website at www.nww.usace.army.mil

While we manage primarily for upland game and waterfowl, many areas along the Snake River have very good deer hunting. In most places, our ownership is limited to a fairly narrow band of land along the river, so deer hunters are advised to secure adjacent private land access when hunting from public lands along the lower Snake River. Please respect the rights of our adjacent private landowners. Pre-season scouting is highly advised. Hunters should be prepared for somewhat crowded conditions on these intensively developed sites during the first few weeks of the season and around holidays.

The following Habitat Management Units are some of our larger and/or intensively developed areas:

Ice Harbor

Big Flat	895 acres-road access
Hollebeke	247 acres-road access
Lost Island	162 acres-road access

Lower Monumental

Skookum	764 acres-boat access
55 Mile	295 acres-boat access
Henley	967 acres-road access
Lyons Ferry	1,716 acres-road access

Little Goose

Central Ferry	546 acres-road access
New York Bar	210 acres-boat access
Willow Bar	232 acres-road access
Rice Bar	330 acres-road access
Swift Bar	441 acres-road access

Lower Granite

Kelly Bar	457 acres-boat access
Nisqually John	3,077 acres-road access
Hells Gate	650 acres-road access

Eastern Area:

Matt DeBerard	Matthew.r.deberard@usace.army.mil
Chris Jeffrey	Christopher.s.jeffrey@usace.army.mil

Western Area:

Brett Forge:	Brett.A.Forge@usace.army.mil
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US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Wildlife Management Area
Hunting Permitted
No Motorized Vehicles

For Information Contact:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walla Walla District
201 N. 3rd Street, Walla Walla, WA 99362
(509) 527-7136

Maps of 27 Corps of Engineers Habitat Management Units
can be obtained by visiting the following website

<https://www.nww.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation.aspx>

Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife





BUY YOUR HUNTING LICENSE ONLINE:
fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov

FOR LICENSE INFORMATION & VENDOR LOCATIONS:
 (360) 902-2464
dfw.wa.gov/licensing/vendors

WEBSITE:
dfw.wa.gov

HUNTING PROSPECTS:
dfw.wa.gov/hunting/prospects

OLYMPIA HEADQUARTERS OFFICE

Natural Resources Building
 1111 Washington Street SE
 Olympia, WA 98501
 Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
 PO Box 43200
 Olympia, WA 98504-3200

- Agency Receptionist:**.....(360) 902-2200
- TDD:**.....(800) 833-6388
- Wildlife Program:**.....(360) 902-2515
- Report Wolf Incident (24 hrs)**.....(877) 933-9847
- Enforcement Program:**.....(360) 902-2936
- Poaching in Progress:**.....Dial: 911
- To report a violation: (24 hrs)**.....(877) 933-9847
- Fish Program:**.....(360) 902-2700
- Hunter Education:**.....(360) 902-8111
- Licensing Division:**.....(360) 902-2464
- ADA Program**.....(360) 902-2349

REGIONAL OFFICES

- Region 1 - Spokane:**.....(509) 892-1001
 2315 N. Discovery Place, Spokane Valley, WA 99216-1566
- Region 2 - Ephrata:**.....(509) 754-4624
 1550 Alder St. NW, Ephrata, WA 98823-9699
- District Office - Wenatchee:**.....(509) 662-0452
 3860 Highway 97A., Wenatchee, WA 98801-9607
- Region 3 - Yakima:**.....(509) 575-2740
 1701 S 24th Ave., Yakima, WA 98902-5720
- Region 4 - Mill Creek:**.....(425) 775-1311
 16018 Mill Creek Blvd., Mill Creek, WA 98012-1541
- Region 5 - Ridgefield:**.....(360) 696-6211
 5525 S 11th Street, Ridgefield, WA 98642
- Region 6 - Montesano:**.....(360) 249-4628
 48 Devonshire Road, Montesano, WA 98563-9618

WASHINGTON FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION:

Barbara Baker, Commission Chair (Western Washington position, Thurston County)
Tim Ragen, Ph.D., Vice Chair (Western Washington position, Skagit County)
James "Jim" R. Anderson (At-Large position, Pierce County)
John Lehmkuhl, Ph.D. (Eastern Washington position, Chelan County)

Molly Linville (Eastern Washington position, Douglas County)
Woodrow "Woody" Myers (At-Large position, Spokane County)
Steve Parker (Eastern Washington position, Yakima County)
Melanie Rowland, J.D. (At-Large position, Okanogan County)
Lorna Smith (Western Washington position, Jefferson County)

WASHINGTON FISH AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR:

Kelly Susewind

MIGRATORY GAME BIRD HUNTERS

ducks • geese • coot • snipe • dove • pigeon

DON'T SKIP HIP

The **Harvest Information Program (HIP)** is a legally required certification for migratory game bird hunter that helps biologists and managers provide sustainable harvest opportunities into the future.



If you hunt ducks, geese, coot, snipe, dove, or pigeon in Washington, the purchase of your **Migratory Bird Permit** serves as your registration in the federal Harvest Information Program (HIP).

PURCHASE YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD PERMIT
ANSWER THE FOUR QUESTIONS PROVIDED
PARTICIPATE IN MANAGEMENT



Waterfowlers WSU Extension Island County and WDFW Waterfowl Section Need Your Help



Plastic shotgun wads and shell hulls have become the most common litter items encountered during beach clean ups in Island County in the last several years. This coincides with an uptick in the number of waterfowl hunter days, especially targeting sea ducks.

We can do better.

The WDFW Waterfowl Section is partnering with Washington State University Extension's Island County Community Beach Litter Project which is funded by a grant through the Department of Ecology to help educate waterfowl hunters about the topic and to work towards solutions.

KEEP IT CLEAN

Single-use plastics are harmful to the environment and a number of our natural resources that Washingtonians value. The Waterfowl Section recognizes the legal obligation to retrieve downed birds over chasing spent shotgun wads and shells, but it is litter. And this litter is not only bad for the environment, but it is not consistent with the leadership role waterfowlers have played in the important legacy of conservation efforts for waterfowl and their wetland habitats.

WAYS TO HELP

Seek alternatives: Several shell manufacturing companies are returning to biodegradable wads (something that use to be the norm). Support their efforts!

Volunteer at Community Beach Cleanups: The WSU Island County Community Beach Litter Project is an exceptional example, but this issue occurs everywhere waterfowling takes place over open water. Please consider finding an opportunity near you.



YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

For more information, visit: <https://extension.wsu.edu/island/nrs/beachlitter/> and <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/waterfowl>



License Fees & Information

License Fees & Information

License requirements and fees are set by the Washington State Legislature. Licenses are based on an April 1 - March 31 license year. Prices include all applicable fees and are subject to change. There are no senior citizen discounts on hunting licenses, tags, or permits. Hunters who are 16 years of age and possess a current youth hunting license may participate in youth hunting seasons, except for the youth waterfowl/coot season. Reduced prices for licenses, tags, and permits are for qualified disabled applicants.*

A small game license allows the holder to hunt for wild animals and wild birds, except big game and western Washington pheasant (see the Big Game Hunting Seasons & Regulations pamphlet for big game hunting license information). A small game license includes a prorated surcharge for Eastern Washington pheasant enhancement.

To hunt the Oregon portion of the Columbia River, including that portion of the Lewis and Clark National Wildlife Refuge and other islands in Oregon in the Columbia River, hunters must possess a valid Oregon resident or Oregon non-resident hunting license.

LICENSE TYPES	RESIDENT	NON-RESIDENT	RESIDENT SENIOR	YOUTH UNDER 16	RESIDENT REDUCED FEE ¹	NON-RESIDENT DISABLED VETERANS*
Get Outdoors (includes: Annual Fish Washington License, 2 pole and Puget Sound Crab endorsements, Deer + Elk + Bear + Cougar License w/ discounted Small game license, deer, elk, bear, cougar tags + 2 turkey tags, migratory bird permit and migratory bird hunt authorization)	\$236.18	—	—	—	—	—
Small Game	\$40.50	\$183.50	\$40.50	\$18.50	\$18.50	\$40.50
Small Game Discount ²	\$22.00	\$96.80	\$22.00	\$8.80	\$8.80	\$22.00
Western WA Pheasant	\$84.50	\$167.00	\$84.50	\$40.50	\$40.50	\$84.50
Western WA Pheasant-3 Day	\$40.50	\$79.00	\$40.50	—	\$40.50	\$40.50
3-Day Small Game	—	\$68.00	—	—	—	—
Migratory Bird Permit ³	\$17.00	\$17.00	\$17.00	FREE	\$17.00	\$17.00
Migratory Bird Authorization ⁴	\$13.20	\$13.20	\$13.20	\$3.30	\$13.20	\$13.20
Turkey Tag #1	\$15.90	\$44.50	\$15.90	FREE	\$15.90	\$44.50
Additional Turkey Tags	\$15.90	\$66.50	\$15.90	\$11.50	\$15.90	\$66.50
Special Hunt Permit Applications – Turkey	\$7.10	\$110.50	\$7.10	\$3.80	\$7.10	\$110.50

PARKING PASSES

Annual: \$35 with transaction and dealer fees if purchased at a WDFW dealer, by phone or online; or \$30 if purchased at a WA State Park or through WA Dept. of Licensing.

One-day: \$11.50 with transaction and dealer fees if purchased at a WDFW dealer, by phone or online; or \$10 if purchased at a WA State Park or through WA Dept. of Licensing.

- 1 You may qualify for reduced fees if: you are a veteran with at least 30% service connected disability; a veteran 65 years of age or older with a service connected disability; resident who permanently uses a wheelchair; resident who is blind or visually impaired; or resident with a developmental disability as defined in RCW 77.32.480. To request an application contact the WDFW Licensing Division at (360) 902-2464. Hearing Impaired TDD: (360) 902-2207.
- 2 To receive the discounted rate for small game, the small game licenses must be purchased at the same time as a big game license package is purchased.
- 3 All hunters of migratory game birds (ducks, geese, doves, coots, and snipe) are required to complete a Harvest Information Program (HIP) survey at a license dealer and possess a state migratory bird permit as evidence of compliance with this requirement when hunting migratory game birds. **All duck and goose hunters 16 and over must possess a federal migratory bird stamp signed in ink across the front.** Federal stamps can be purchased at some license dealers, all post offices, and all National Wildlife Refuges, by calling 1-800-STAMP24, or ordered online at fws.gov/duckstamps. Washington Migratory Bird Stamps (Duck Stamps) are available for free by sending proof of Migratory Bird Permit purchase and self-addressed stamped envelope to the Washington Waterfowl Association (WWA) by March 31. To obtain a State Duck Stamp from WWA see: washingtonduckstamp.com
- 4 Authorizations and harvest record cards are required for some species/areas. Authorizations and harvest record cards are available at WDFW license dealers or online at fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov. Hunters must select each of the required harvest record cards for species they intend to hunt. A test, with a passing score, is required before selecting the SW Canada Goose harvest record card (see page 30 for more information).



Photo by Deborah Svendsen

HUNTING WITH AN AUTHORIZATION NUMBER

Under the automated licensing system (WILD system), licenses may be purchased over the telephone at 1-866-246-9453 or online at: fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov. At the end of a telephone or Internet sale, an authorization number will be issued. That authorization number may be used as your license if you are hunting for species not requiring a transport tag or special Migratory Bird Authorization Harvest Card.

BIG GAME LICENSES

Forest grouse and unclassified wildlife are the only species that may be hunted with a big game authorization number until your appropriate tags and license have arrived.

SMALL GAME LICENSES

Most animals hunted with a small game license, including unclassified wildlife, may be hunted with a small game authorization number until the valid license and tags have been received in the mail. The exceptions are turkeys, which require a transport tag, and migratory birds that require a Migratory Bird Authorization and Harvest Record Card.

MIGRATORY BIRD PERMIT

Most migratory game birds may be hunted with a small game authorization number that includes a migratory bird permit until the valid license is received in the mail. The exceptions are migratory birds that require a Migratory Bird Authorization and Harvest Record Card.

Migratory Bird Licenses and Requirements

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS	SMALL GAME	MIGRATORY BIRD PERMIT	MIGRATORY BIRD AUTH	SNOW GOOSE HARVEST CARD	SW CANADA GOOSE HARVEST CARD	BRANT HARVEST CARD	SEA DUCK HARVEST CARD	BAND-TAILED PIGEON HARVEST CARD	FEDERAL DUCK STAMP
MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING									
Duck	X	X							X
Sea Duck	X	X	X				X		X
Harlequin Duck ¹ *permit only	X	X	X						X
Geese (except Brant)	X	X							X
Geese (except Brant) in GMA 2	X	X	X		X				X
Canada Goose	X	X							X
Canada Goose in GMA 2 ²	X	X	X		X				X
Snow/White Goose	X	X							X
Snow/White Goose in GMA 1 ³	X	X	X	X					X
Brant	X	X	X			X			X
Band-tailed Pigeon	X	X	X					X	
Mourning Dove, Coot, Snipe	X	X							

Other Small Game Licenses and Requirements

LICENSE REQUIREMENTS	SMALL GAME	BIG GAME OR SMALL GAME	WESTERN WA PHEASANT	TURKEY TRANSPORT TAG
UPLAND BIRD HUNTING				
Pheasant (Western WA) ⁴			X	
Chukar, Gray Partridge & Pheasant (Eastern WA)	X			
California Quail, Mountain Quail, Northern Bobwhite	X			
UPLAND GAME HUNTING				
Forest Grouse		X		
Turkey	X			X
Cottontail, Snowshoe Hare	X			
OTHER HUNTING				
Falconry	Small game and falconry licenses, other permits, tags, and licenses for species listed above (see https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/falconry).			
Bird Dog Training	Small game license required for training dogs on all wild game birds (WAC 220-400-030); except only a Western Washington pheasant license is required for Western Washington pheasants.			
Predatory Birds (e.g. crows, Eurasian collared dove)	Small game license or big game license, except not required under certain conditions (see WAC 220-416-040).			
Unclassified Wildlife (e.g. coyote)	Small game license or big game license for hunting, or trapping license for trapping.			
Bobcat, Fox, Raccoon	Small game license for hunting, or trapping license for trapping.			

Hunt Notes:

- Hunters must submit an application to be entered into the Harlequin Duck permit drawing. **Successful applicants will receive a harvest record card.**
- Goose Identification test required. This GMA requires a harvest record card for all goose hunters.
- The only GMA that requires a harvest record card for snow goose hunting is GMA 1. No other GMA has this requirement for snow goose hunting.
- Hunters must choose either odd-numbered or even-numbered weekend days from 8:00 a.m. until 10:00 a.m. at all units of Lake Terrell, Snoqualmie, Skookumchuck, and Scatter Creek Wildlife Areas, and all hunting sites on Whidbey Island. **Hunters with a 3-day pheasant license, hunters possessing a valid disabled hunter permit, hunters 65 years of age or older, and youth hunters (under 16) may hunt during either weekend day morning.** Youth hunters on these areas during weekend day morning hunts must be accompanied by an adult at least 18 years old (if hunting, adults must have an appropriately marked pheasant permit). All hunters may hunt these areas between 10:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m., regardless of their choice.

Note: Canada Geese are all subspecies of Canada and Cackling geese. White Geese are snow, Ross' and blue phase geese. **Dusky Canada goose season is closed. No other goose species is open to harvest.**

Note: Hunters may possess one of each of the harvest cards listed above, except in GMA1, where up to three cards are available. Duplicate cards are not available.

Hunter and Trapper Education

First time hunters should plan to complete hunter education training early in the year because very few classes are available after August. For more information about current classes or if you have questions about training requirements, visit our website at: wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/education or call 360-902-8111.



Photo by Dave Whipple

TRADITIONAL AND ONLINE LEARNING

Students have the choice of taking a traditional course or an online class with a field skills evaluation. The traditional course has in-person teaching from a group of hunter education instructors. The online class allows the students to complete the class at their own pace. Once the student has passed the online test, they have to demonstrate safe firearm handling in various hunting situations at a field skills evaluation. Students can enroll in a Washington hunter education course by visiting the website at: wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/education/basic

DEFERRAL OPTION FOR HUNTER EDUCATION

Interested individuals ages 10 and older may apply for a once-in-a-lifetime, one license-year deferral of hunter education training. Individuals receiving a deferral may participate in general hunting seasons through March 31, 2025 but are not eligible to apply for special permit hunts. For detailed information on the deferral requirements, please visit our website at: wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/education/deferral-program. Approved applicants must pay the \$20 deferral application fee when purchasing their deferral license.

TRAPPER EDUCATION

Prior to purchasing their first Washington state trappers license, prospective trappers must successfully complete the Washington trapper education training or successfully challenge the written examination through the home study option. Currently, no in-person trapper education classes are scheduled. WDFW has created the online test for prospective trappers to complete the home study option more easily. For more information on trapper education, please visit our website at: wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/education/trapping

BOWHUNTER EDUCATION

The bowhunter education program is not required to hunt in Washington and will not satisfy the hunter education requirement. This service is offered to Washington hunters who want to bow hunt in states where bowhunter education is required or who want to learn more about bowhunting. For more information, visit our website at: wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/education/bowhunting

Hunter Education Instructor Incentive Permits

AREA	DATES	RESTRICTIONS	GMUS	PERMITS
Region 1	"All general season and permit seasons established for GMUs included with the permit. Except seasons and permits for master hunters, youth, hunters with disabilities, or hunters 65 years and older, unless the hunter education instructor legally qualifies for such hunts. Except raffle and auction hunts do not apply."	Any White-tailed deer	Any 100 series GMU (Except GMU 157)	3
Region 2		Any White-tailed deer	GMUs 204, 215, 233, 239	1
		Any White-tailed deer	GMUs 218, 224, 231, 242	1
		Any deer	GMUs 218, 231	1
		Any deer	GMUs 245, 247	1
		Any deer	GMU 290	1
Region 3		Any deer	GMUs 335-368	2
		Any bull	GMUs 336-368	1
Region 4		Any deer	Any 400 series GMU (Except GMUs 485 and 490)	4
		Any elk	GMUs 454, 460	1
Region 5		Any deer	All 500 series GMUs (Except GMUs 522 and 578)	3
		Any elk	382, 388, and all 500 series GMUs EXCEPT GMU 522	1
Region 6		Any deer	Any 600 series GMUs	4
		Any elk	GMUs 618, 638-648, 654, 658, 663, 672, 699	1
Statewide	April 1 - May 31	One (1) male turkey or turkey with visible beard in addition to other spring season turkey harvest.	All	4

- Special permits are allocated through a random drawing and hunter education instructors must meet certain criteria to be able to draw a permit.
- Permit hunters must use the legal weapon for season dates being hunted. Hunter orange and/or hunter pink is required during modern firearm seasons.
- Permittees may purchase a second license and tag for use with the permit hunt only.
- Qualified hunter education instructors may only receive one incentive permit each year.

Follow the law to protect Southern Resident killer whales

Slow Down if you see a Whale Warning Flag or other signs that whales may be nearby such as



tail

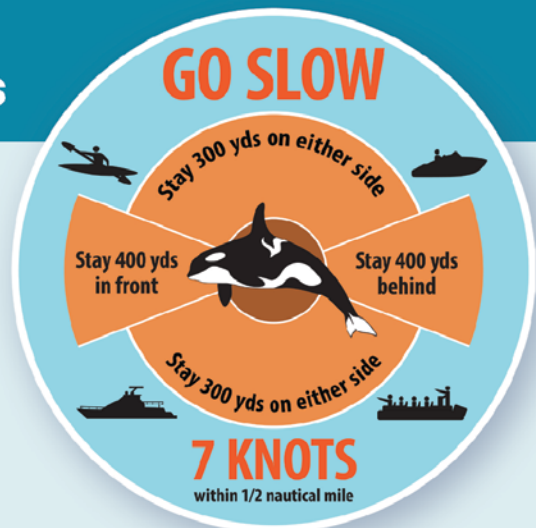
fin

blow

and follow the required distance and speed limits shown in the graphic on the right.

Starting in 2025, boaters must stay 1000 yards away from Southern Resident killer whales.

The laws apply to all motorized and non-motorized vessels, including kayaks, and violations can result in state fines of over \$500 (RCW 77.15.740)



1/2 nautical mile = roughly 1,000 yards

Report Violations:
1-800-853-1964
 or online at
www.bewhalewise.org

For more information visit www.bewhalewise.org

Youth, Veterans and Active Military Personnel Hunt Information



Photo by John Pleau

YOUTH ONLY HUNT DATES

Waterfowl*

Canada and White-fronted geese, ducks (including Scaup) and coots; See pages 21 & 27 for bag limit details. DOES NOT INCLUDE WHITE GEESE, BRANT OR SNIPE.

- **Western Washington:** Sept. 21, 2024
- **Eastern Washington:** Sept. 28, 2024

Upland*

See page 34 for details.

- **Pheasant (East & West):** Sept. 14-15, 2024
- **California Quail, bobwhite, chukar, & gray partridge (Eastside):** Sept. 14-15, 2024

Turkey*

See page 36 for details.

- **Spring Youth hunt:** April 1-7, 2025

WAC 220-220-040

Age of purchaser.

1. The age at the time of purchase determines the license necessary for the recreational activity.

2. Youth hunters who turn sixteen years of age during the license year may use a previously purchased youth hunting license during the remainder of the license year, but are required to have a state migratory bird permit on and after their sixteenth birthday, if they are hunting migratory birds.

YOUTH, VETERANS & ACTIVE MILITARY HUNT DATES

Waterfowl

Canada, White-fronted, and White geese, brant, ducks (including Scaup) and coots; See pages 21 & 27 for bag limit details.

- **Statewide:** February 1, 2025*

* Authorization and Harvest Record Cards are required for certain species during this hunt. Veteran and Active Military hunters must have one of the following, or a copy of, during the hunt: DD214, Veteran Benefit card, Retired Active Military I.D., or Active Duty I.D. card (WAC 220-416-060).

Youth Mentor Hunts

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is joining forces with Pheasants Forever, Washington Waterfowl Association, and other hunting organizations to offer Youth - Mentor Hunts. Often times it is difficult for kids to get into hunting because their parents or relatives don't hunt. This is an opportunity for any kids who are interested to have an adult take them out and teach them how it's done.

To participate, hunters must be under 16 years old. Interested young hunters or their parents should contact WDFW's Regional Offices. Whenever possible young hunters will be matched with available mentors depending on which area of the state they would like to hunt.

WDFW would like to thank the following organizations for helping with this event and providing mentors:

Inland Northwest Wildlife Council
509-487-8552

Pheasants Forever
Puget Sound Chapter
Columbia Basin Chapter
Yakima Valley Chapter

Vancouver Wildlife League
<http://vancouverwildlife.org>

First Hunt Foundation
<https://firsthuntfoundation.org>

National Wild Turkey Foundation
www.NWTF.org

U.S. Army (Fort Lewis)
Adventure Center: 253-967-6263

Whidbey Island Naval Air Station
360-257-1009

Washington Waterfowl Association
Paul McGovern - President
www.wwa.shuttlepod.org

Ducks Unlimited Washington
360-652-4273

Other organizations interested in providing mentors would be appreciated.
Contact the Wildlife Program at (360) 902-2515 or via email: wildthing@dfw.wa.gov

State Recreation Lands

PARKING AT STATE RECREATION LANDS

Anglers, hunters, and others who park on Washington state recreation lands must use either the WDFW Vehicle Access Pass or the Washington State Discover Pass.

WDFW VEHICLE ACCESS PASS (VAP)

Most annual hunting, fishing, and trapping licenses include a complimentary Vehicle Access Pass, which allows you to park at WDFW wildlife areas and water access areas. This pass is good only at WDFW managed lands.

WASHINGTON STATE DISCOVER PASS

To park at recreational properties owned or managed by Washington State Parks or the Washington Department of Natural Resources, you will need a state Discover Pass. The Discover Pass is also good at WDFW managed lands.

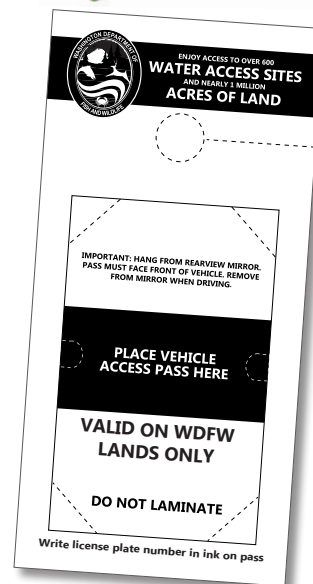
Proceeds from Discover Pass sales support the operation and maintenance of state-managed recreation lands throughout Washington. More information is online at <https://store.discoverpass.wa.gov/>.

WHERE TO PURCHASE

Fishing and hunting licenses, which include the Vehicle Access Pass, and the Discover Pass are available online at <https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov/#/login>; by phone at 360-902-2464; or at retail license vendors throughout the state. A complete vendor list is online at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/dealers>. The Discover Pass may also be purchased online at <http://discoverpass.wa.gov/>; by phone at 866-320-9933; and at state parks and parks system offices. Information about sales locations is online at <https://discoverpass.wa.gov/133/Where-to-Buy>.

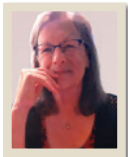
YOU MUST DISPLAY YOUR PARKING PASS

Whenever you park at state recreation lands, you must display the Vehicle Access Pass or the Discover Pass so that it is visible from outside the vehicle. Both passes may be transferred between two vehicles, but a single pass may be used for only one vehicle at a time.



Migratory Bird Stamp & Artwork

MEET THE 2024 WASHINGTON STATE DUCK STAMP COMPETITION WINNER AND WASHINGTON WATERFOWL ASSOCIATION'S ARTIST OF THE YEAR:



Margi Amstrup

Artist Margi Amstrup of Vashon Island, WA, has had a deep interest in the arts since childhood. After receiving her first award in the 7th grade, followed by more in high school, Margi eventually studied business and fine arts in college. She has produced works across various media, including acrylic, pen & ink, watercolor, and oils. She moves between

different genres, but her forte emerges in wildlife, landscapes, and commissioned portraits. Vashon, her hometown, has a vibrant artist community and provides natural beauty that inspires her.

In addition to showcasing her latest collection in a solo show, Margi participates in annual shows hosted by Vashon Allied Arts. Margi has donated her pieces to art auctions supporting K-12 education, The Vashon Sportsman Club, and the Vashon Allied Arts class programs.

As an outdoor enthusiast, Margi enjoys the hunting and fishing seasons with her husband, Andy. She appreciates the programs that foster beneficial wildlife and land stewardship, like Ducks Unlimited and State and Federal Duck Stamp programs.

Margi was honored to be selected as the 2024 Washington State Duck Stamp commissioned artist.



To receive a complimentary Duck Stamp, mail a copy of your license with a self addressed stamped envelope by March 31, 2025.

Mail to:
Washington Waterfowl Association
Duck Stamp Program
18207 Rhodes Lake Rd E.
Bonney Lake, WA 98391

Learn more at:
www.washingtonduckstamp.com



Prescribed fire is a management tool used by public land managers to increase public safety, improve wildlife habitat, create a more fire resilient landscape and a better experience for those who use public lands.

The safest and most effective windows for prescribed fire often occur during the spring, early summer, and fall. Ideal burn windows often occur at the same time as popular hunting seasons.

If you plan to hunt public land, please research in advance to make sure your hunting spot isn't within a burn area. Windows of time for safe and effective implementation of prescribed fire often occur on short notice.

Please visit dnr.wa.gov/prescribedfire or twitter.com/waDNR_Forests or **The Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife**

Thank you for your patience; we understand these fires can be an inconvenience while underway.



Washington Migratory Bird Permit and Artwork Dollars at Work

Thank You Migratory Bird Hunters of Washington!

Every year the revenue from migratory bird permits and artwork have been responsible for improvements in the quality and quantity of wetland habitats in Washington—for the benefit of migratory birds like waterfowl, coot, snipe, mourning dove, band-tailed pigeon and others!

Wetland habitats throughout Washington are critical to not only our breeding populations, but birds that are visitors from Alaska, western Canada, and eastern Russia—more than 35 species! It is only through a network of wetlands that we sustain these populations into the future.

You contribute to this international effort every year by purchasing your Migratory Bird Permit!

But Did You Know? You and others can also promote waterfowl conservation through art!

By giving someone you know waterfowl artwork you pass along the story and importance of wetland stewardship. To learn more and continue this waterfowl legacy, please visit the WDFW website (<https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/waterfowl/stamp>) and see available artwork at Washington Waterfowl Association's website (washingtontuckstamp.com).



Migratory Game Bird Season Summary

Migratory Game Bird Season Summary

All migratory waterfowl, coot, snipe, mourning dove and band-tailed pigeon are closed to harvest unless season dates are specified in this section.

SPECIES	SEPT. 2024	OCT. 2024	NOV. 2024	DEC. 2024	JAN. 2025	FEB. 2025	MAR. 2025
Duck, Coot, Snipe (statewide)							
Special Hunt Dates (except Snipe)	21* 28** 					1 	
Duck (statewide except Scaup)		12-20 	23 				26
Scaup (statewide - opens Nov. 2, 2024)			2 				26
Goose (by Goose Management Area)							
September Canada Goose Area 1 and 3	7-12 						
September Canada Goose Area 2 Coast and Inland	7-15 						
September Canada Goose Areas 4 & 5	7-8 						
Special Hunt Dates (Canada/cackling Geese, White-fronted Geese)	21* 28** 					1 	*White Geese included
GMA 1 White Goose (includes Snow, Ross', & Blue phases)		12 		Dec. 1 	14 		26
GMA 1 Canada Goose & White-fronted Goose		12 		Dec. 1 	14 		26
GMA 2 Inland (Clark, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum, portion of Grays Harbor east of Hwy 101)		12 27 		20 		12 	8 5
GMA 2 Coast (Pacific, portion of Grays Harbor west of Hwy 101)		12 27 	Oct. 30 	1 	18 19 		8 19
GMA 3 Canada Goose, White-fronted Goose, & White Goose		12 24 	2 				26
GMA 4 White Goose (includes Snow, Ross', & blue phases ONLY)		12-20 	9 				26
GMA 4 Canada Goose & White-fronted Goose ONLY		12 					26
GMA 5 Canada Goose, White-fronted Goose, & White Goose		12 28 	2 				26
Brant							
BRANT - Clallam & Whatcom Counties (Skagit Dates to be determined by survey results)						18, 22, 25 	1
BRANT - Pacific County					4 	26 	1
Band-tailed Pigeon							
	15-23 						
Mourning Dove (statewide)							
	1 		30 				

Youth Only Youth, Veterans & Active Military Every Day Selected Dates

* Sept 21 Youth Hunt is in Western Washington (West Zone) only.

** Sept 28 Youth Hunt is in Eastern Washington (East Zone) only.

What's NEW in 2024-2025?

Harlequin Duck Permits – 38 permits will be made available through a drawing to eligible applicants.

How to Apply:

To apply for a Harlequin duck permit, each applicant must have a valid Washington state: small game hunting license, migratory bird permit, AND migratory bird authorization.

Application is free.

Every **eligible** individual is allowed ONE application.

Incomplete, ineligible, or inaccurate applications will not be accepted or entered into the drawing.

Application period is open July 1st - August 14th. Submit Application through fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov. Drawing in August 2024.

For instructions on the application process see <https://wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/hunting/small-game/harlequin-duck-permit>.

Migratory Game Bird Seasons

Ducks, Coots, Snipe, Pigeon and Dove Seasons

SPECIES	AREA	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Duck For sea duck authorizations, see pamphlet page 11.	W. Washington Youth	Sept. 21 (Youth Only ^a)	7 ^b	7 ^b
	E. Washington Youth	Sept. 28 (Youth Only ^a)	7 ^b	7 ^b
	Youth, Veterans & Active Military (Statewide)	Feb. 1 ^a	7 ^b	7 ^b
	Statewide	Oct. 12-20 & Oct. 23 - Jan. 26, except Scaup season closed Oct. 12 - Nov. 1	7 ^b	21 ^b
Coot	W. Washington Youth	Sept. 21 (Youth Only ^a)	25	25
	E. Washington Youth	Sept. 28 (Youth Only ^a)	25	25
	Youth, Veterans & Active Military (Statewide)	Feb. 1 ^a	25	25
	Statewide	Oct. 12-20 & Oct. 23 - Jan. 26	25	75
Snipe	Statewide	Oct. 12-20 & Oct. 23 - Jan. 26	8	24
Band-tailed Pigeon For authorization reporting requirements, see page 11.	Statewide	Sept. 15-23	2	6
Mourning Dove	Statewide	Sept. 1 - Oct. 30	15	45

a Special hunting dates: Special Youth Hunting days open only to hunters 15 years of age or under (must be accompanied by an adult at least 18 years old who is not hunting). Veterans and Active Military is open to: veterans must have served in the active military, naval, or air service, and discharged or released under Honorable conditions, Active duty military includes members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty (other than for training). Must have one of the following, or a copy of, during the hunt: DD214, Veteran Benefit Card, Retired Active Military I.D., or Active Duty I.D. card.

b Daily bag limit: 7 ducks, to include not more than 2 hen mallard, 1 pintail, 2 scaup, 2 canvasback, and 2 redhead statewide; and to include not more than 2 scoter, 2 long-tailed duck, & 2 goldeneye in western Washington.

Possession limit (Youth and Youth, Veteran and Active Military Dates): Same as daily bag limit.

Possession limit (Regular Season): 21 ducks, to include not more than 6 hen mallard, 3 pintail, 6 scaup, 6 canvasback, and 6 redhead statewide; and to include not more than 6 scoter, 6 long-tailed duck, and 6 goldeneye in western Washington.

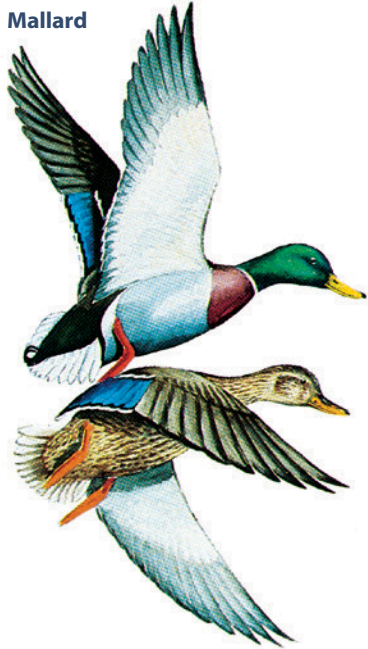
Harlequin Duck: Closed to harvest statewide, except for 38 permits (see page 20 for details).

Duck Species Identification

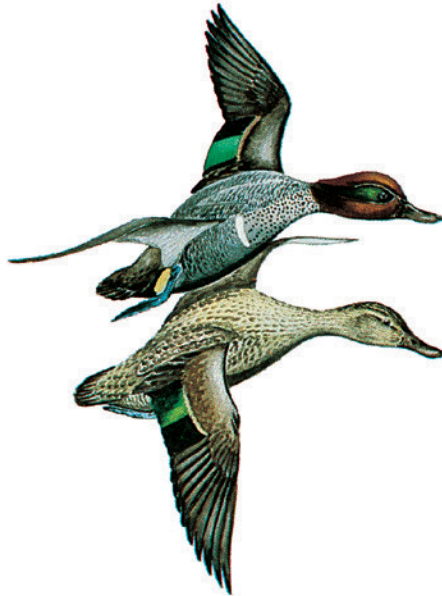
TOP DUCKS HARVESTED

These four dabbling species account for 80% of the total harvest statewide.

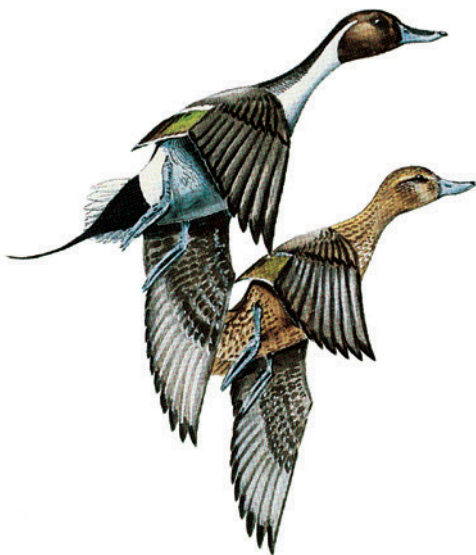
Mallard



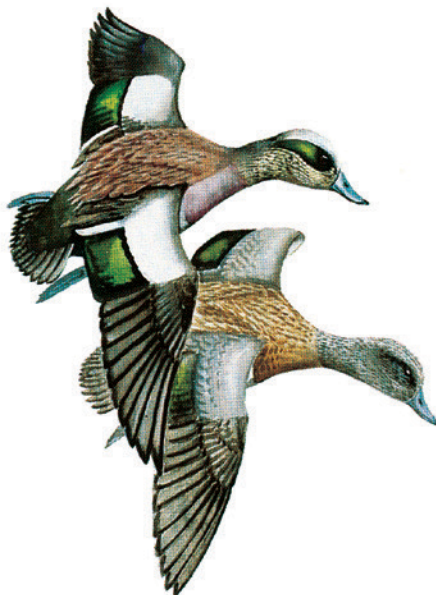
Green-winged Teal



Northern Pintail
1-bird daily limit.



American Wigeon



Federal Migratory Bird Band Reporting

Go to www.ReportBand.gov

You will need to provide the band number and how, when and where it was recovered. You will receive a certificate of appreciation via email, about the bird.

The band is yours to keep.



Photo Courtesy of K. Plourde

Other Duck Species Not Depicted

- Cinnamon Teal
- Blue-winged Teal
- Eurasian Wigeon
- Hooded Merganser
- Common Merganser
- Red-breasted Merganser

DIVING DUCK SPECIES

Species-specific bag limits apply—see page 21.

All 5 species occur within Washington wetlands and open waters.

Scaup season closed Oct. 12 – Nov. 1 Statewide.

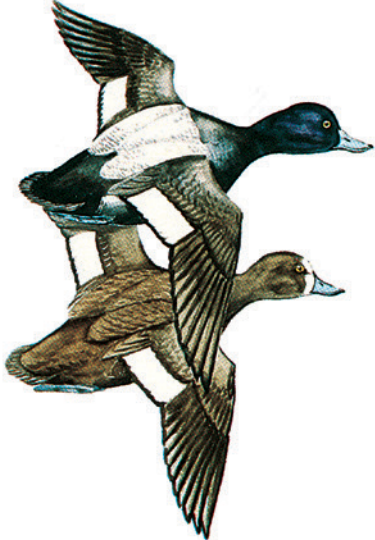
Ring-necked Duck, Canvasback, and Redhead open Oct. 12-20 & Oct. 23 – Jan. 26.

Note: Scaup are included in allowable harvest species during Youth and Youth, Veteran and Active Military Special Hunt Dates.

Scaup

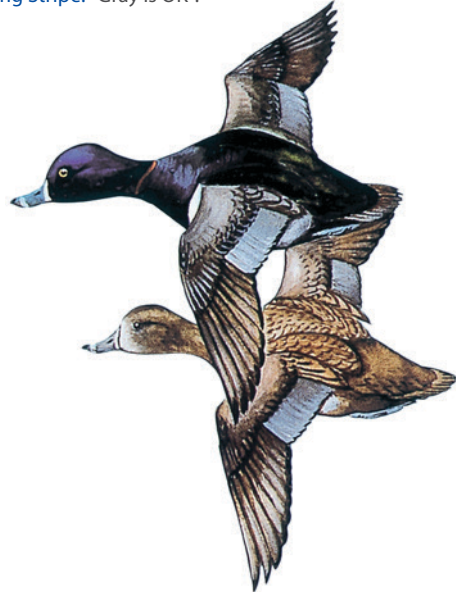
Closed Oct. 12 - Nov. 1 Statewide. **2-bird daily limit.**

White wing stripe.



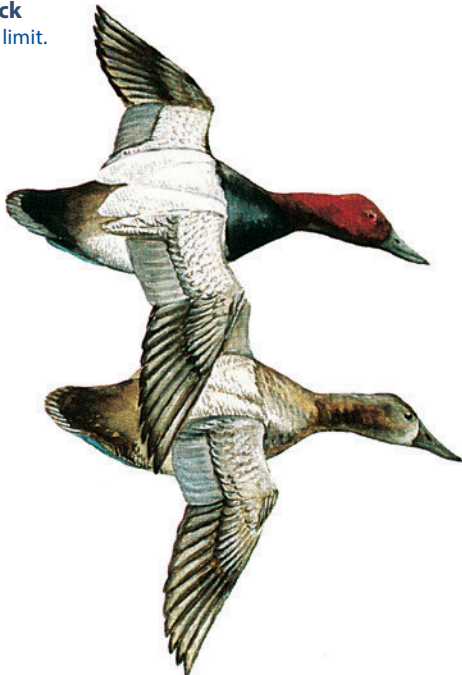
Ring-Necked Duck

Gray Wing Stripe. "Gray is OK".



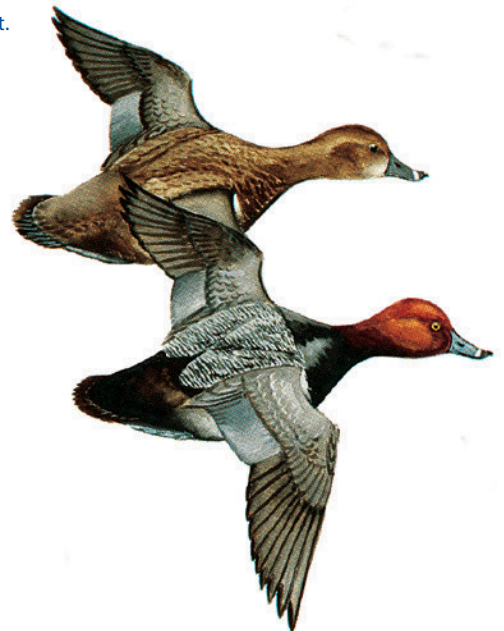
Canvasback

2-bird daily limit.



Redhead

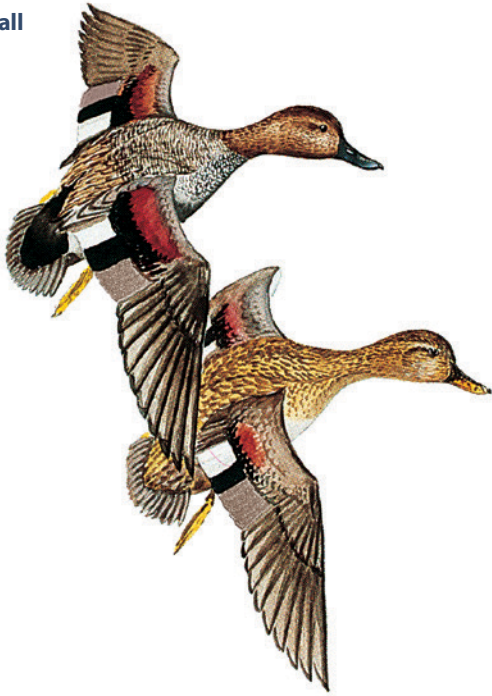
2-bird daily limit.



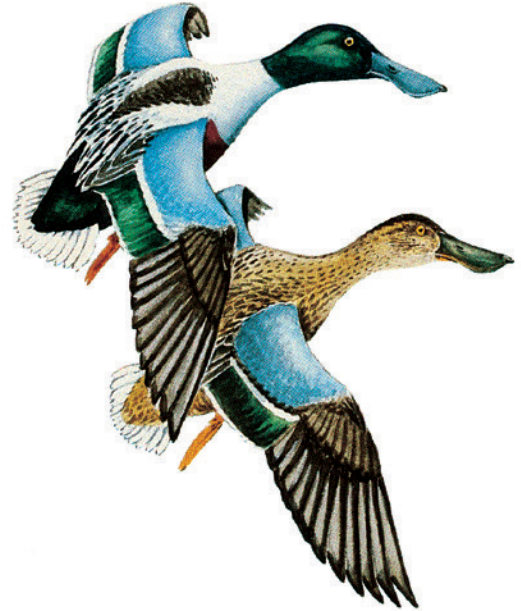
Drawings courtesy of Ducks Unlimited

OTHER COMMON DUCK SPECIES

Gadwall



Northern Shoveler



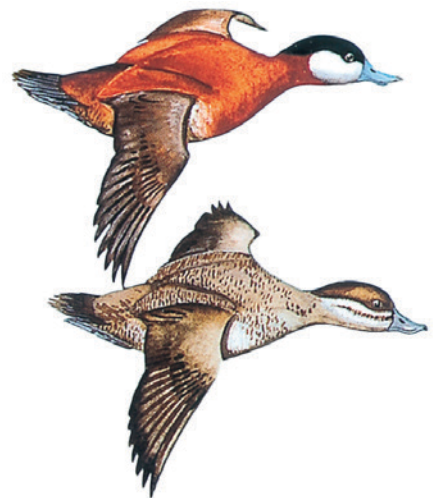
Bufflehead



Wood Duck



Ruddy Duck



SEA DUCK SPECIES

Species-specific bag limits apply—see page 21.

Mandatory Harvest Report requirement in western Washington—due **February 15th**.

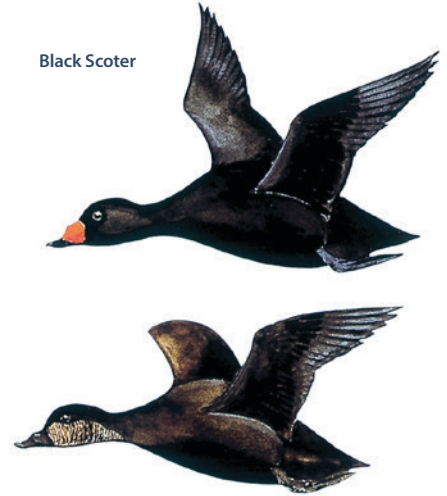
Scoter
2-bird daily limit.



Surf Scoter

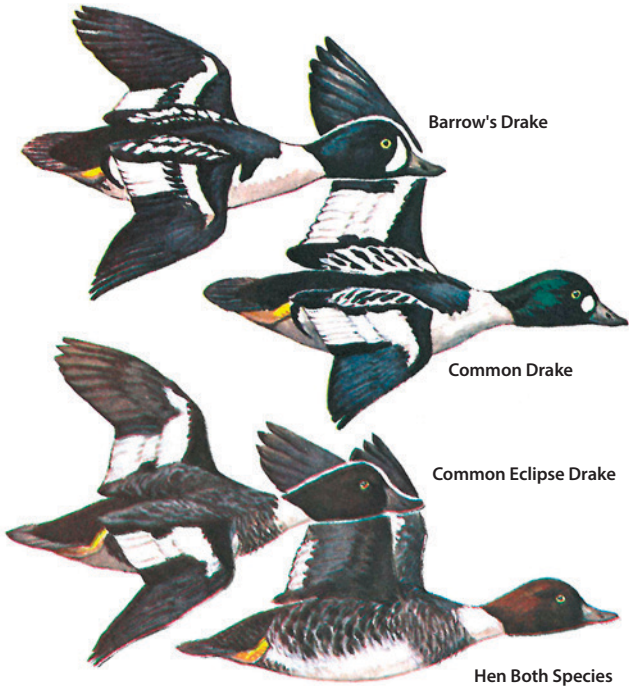


White-Winged Scoter



Black Scoter

Goldeneye
2-bird daily limit.



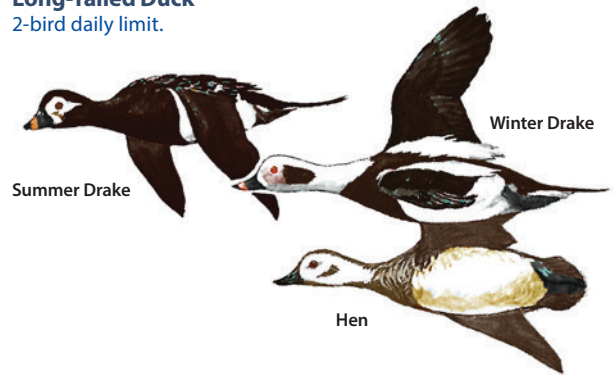
Barrow's Drake

Common Drake

Common Eclipse Drake

Hen Both Species

Long-Tailed Duck
2-bird daily limit.



Summer Drake

Winter Drake

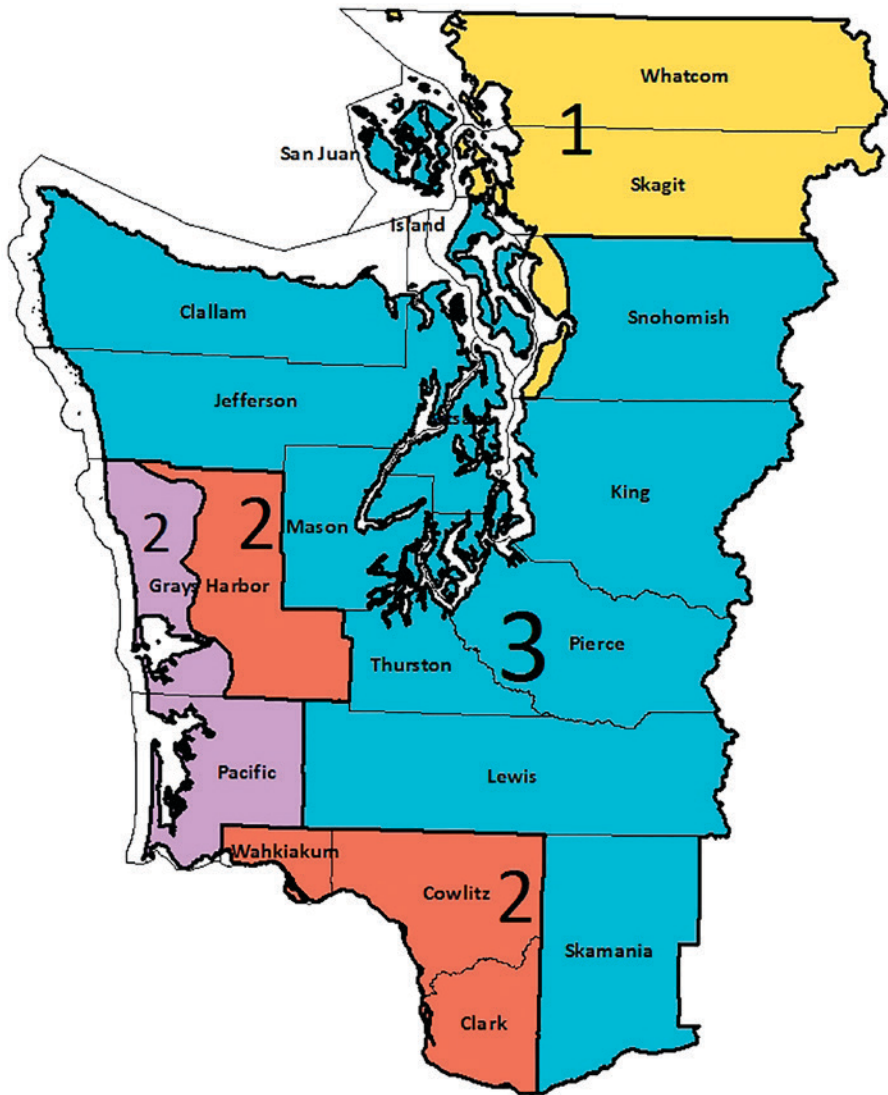
Hen

Harlequin Duck

Closed to harvest statewide, except for 38 permits (see page 20 for details).



Western Washington Goose Management Areas



Goose Management Area 1
Skagit and Whatcom counties, and that portion of Snohomish County west of Interstate 5.

Mandatory Harvest Report requirement in Goose Management Area 1 due **March 20th**.

During Feb. 8-18, 2025, the following specified WDFW lands are closed to goose hunting in Goose Management Area 1:

- Fir Island Farm Game Reserve Unit
- Island Unit
- Johnson DeBay's Slough Swan Reserve and Hunt Unit
- Leque Island Unit
- Samish Unit
- Samish River Unit
- South Padilla Bay Unit
- Skagit Headquarters Unit
- Whatcom Wildlife Area

Goose Management Area 2 - Inland
Clark, Cowlitz, Wahkiakum counties and that portion of Grays Harbor county east of Hwy 101

Goose Management Area 2 - Coast
Pacific county and that portion of Grays Harbor county west of Hwy 101

Mandatory Harvest Report requirement in GMA 2 Coast and Inland are due **March 20th**.

During February and March dates, National Wildlife Refuges and WDFW Wildlife Areas are closed to goose hunting in Goose Management Area 2.

Goose Management Area 3
All other parts of western Washington not included in Goose Management Areas 1 and 2.

Mandatory Bird Authorizations & Harvest Record Cards

MANDATORY HARVEST REPORTING DEADLINES:

Band-tailed Pigeon
September 30

Brant, Sea Duck, Harlequin Duck Permit

February 15

SW Canada Goose (GMA 2),
Snow Goose (GMA 1)
March 20

To improve management of certain limited migratory bird species, you are required to possess a Migratory Bird Authorization and Harvest Record Card(s) if you are hunting those species (see page 11).

Immediately after taking a band-tailed pigeon, brant, sea duck (scoters, long-tailed duck, goldeneyes) in western Washington, Harlequin duck, snow goose (Goose Management Area 1) or any goose in Goose Management Area 2 – Coast & Inland into possession, you must fill out the required harvest record card information in ink within the designated spaces provided.

You must report hunting activity on your harvest record cards to WDFW using the online reporting system at: <https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov/login>

Please note that you must comply with these reporting requirements or you will be required to pay a \$10 administrative fee before obtaining a harvest record card the next year.

2024-2025 Goose and Brant Seasons – Western Washington

SPECIES	AREA	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT			POSSESSION LIMIT		
Canada Goose September Seasons	Goose Mgmt Areas 1 & 3	Sept. 7-12	5 ^c			15 ^c		
	Goose Mgmt Area 2	Sept. 7-15	5 ^{c,d}			15 ^{c,d}		
Goose (except Brant)	Note: Canada Geese are all subspecies of Canada and Cackling geese. White Geese are snow, Ross' and blue phase geese. Dusky Canada goose season is closed. No other goose species is open to harvest.		CANADA GEESE	WHITE- FRONTED GEESE	WHITE GEESE	CANADA GEESE	WHITE- FRONTED GEESE	WHITE GEESE
	Western Washington Youth (Goose Mgmt Areas 1, 2, & 3)	Sept. 21 (Canada and white-fronted goose only)	4	10	—	4	10	—
	Youth, Veterans & Active Military (Statewide)	Feb. 1	4	10	10	4	10	10
	Goose Mgmt Area 1 ^e	Regular Season: Oct. 12 - Dec. 1 and Dec. 14 - Jan. 26 Late Season (white goose only): Feb. 8-18. See pamphlet for details.	4	10	10	12	30	30
	Goose Mgmt Area 2 - Coast ^f (includes Pacific County and that portion of Grays Harbor County west of Highway 101). Dusky Canada Goose season is closed in Area 2 during October - March. For authorization requirements, see pamphlet. During Feb. 8-19, National Wildlife Refuges and WDFW Wildlife Areas are closed to goose hunting in this management area.	Every day Oct. 12-27 Saturdays, Sundays, & Wednesdays only Oct. 30 - Dec. 1, Dec. 18 - Jan. 19, and Feb. 8-19.	3 ^g	10	10	9 ^g	30	30
	Goose Mgmt Area 2 - Inland ^f (includes Clark, Cowlitz, and Wahkiakum counties; and that portion of Grays Harbor County east of Highway 101). Dusky Canada Goose season is closed in GMA2 during October - March. For authorization requirements, see pamphlet. During Feb. 8 - Mar. 5, National Wildlife Refuges and WDFW Wildlife Areas are closed to goose hunting in this management area.	All areas except Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge: Every day Oct. 12-27 Saturdays, Sundays, & Wednesdays only Nov. 20 - Jan. 12 and Feb. 8 - Mar. 5 Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge: Tuesdays, Thursdays, & Saturdays only Oct. 12-27 and Nov. 20 - Jan. 11	3 ^g	10	10	9 ^g	30	30
Goose Mgmt Area 3	Oct. 12-24 & Nov. 2 - Jan. 26	4	10	10	12	30	30	
Brant For authorization reporting requirements, see regulations.	Skagit County	Starts closed: Additional season dates to be determined by aerial survey results. Season updates will be provided by WDFW news release.	2			6		
	Clallam & Whatcom	Jan. 18, 22, and 25	2			6		
	Pacific County	Jan. 4, 5, 7, 9, 11, 12, 14, 16, 18, 19, 21, 23, 25, and 26	2			6		
	Youth, Veterans & Active Military (Clallam, Pacific, Whatcom)	Feb. 1. Skagit County status will be determined by aerial survey results.	2			2		
Swans	Closed Statewide							

^c Daily bag and possession limits: to include Canada geese only.

^d Daily bag and possession limits in Pacific County are 15/45 during the September Canada goose season.

^e Skagit County and Whatcom County Special Restrictions: While hunting snow geese, if a hunter is convicted of a) trespass, b) shooting from, across, or along the maintained part of any public highway, c) discharging a firearm for the purpose of hunting waterfowl within 100 feet of any maintained portion of a public highway or roadway on Fir Island or discharging a firearm for the purpose of hunting snow geese within 100 feet of any maintained portion of a public highway or roadway in other areas of Skagit County or Whatcom County, or d) exceeding the daily bag limit for snow geese, authorization will be invalidated for the remainder of the current snow goose season and an authorization will not be issued for the subsequent snow goose season.

^f In Goose Management Area 2, legal hunting hours for geese are 30 minutes after the start of the official waterfowl hunting hours to 30 minutes before the end of official waterfowl hunting hours. See the inside back cover for hunting hours.

^g Dusky Canada goose season closed. A dusky Canada goose is defined as a dark breasted (Munsell 10 YR, 5 or less) Canada goose with a culmen (bill) length of 40-50 mm.

SWANS ARE PROTECTED BY FEDERAL AND STATE LAWS AND ARE CLOSED TO HARVEST

Swan, Tundra or Trumpeter
(White adult, gray juvenile, Protected Species)

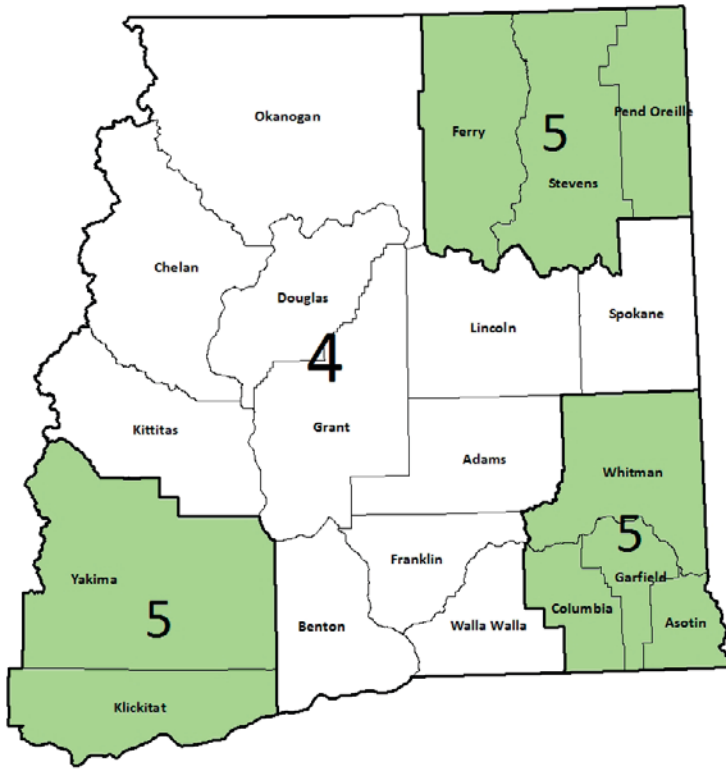


Snow Geese are:
Smaller, with Shorter necks, and Black-tipped wings



Drawings courtesy of Ducks Unlimited

Eastern Washington Goose Management Areas



- Goose Management Area 4**
Adams, Benton, Chelan, Douglas, Franklin, Grant, Kittitas, Lincoln, Okanogan, Spokane, and Walla Walla counties.
- Goose Management Area 5**
All other parts of eastern Washington not included in Goose Management Area 4.

2024-2025 Goose Seasons – Eastern Washington

SPECIES	AREA	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT			POSSESSION LIMIT			
			CANADA GEESE	WHITE-FRONTED GEESE	WHITE GEESE	CANADA GEESE	WHITE-FRONTED GEESE	WHITE GEESE	
Canada Goose September Seasons	Goose Management Areas 4 & 5	Sept. 7-8	5 ^c			10 ^c			
Goose (except Brant)	Note: Canada Geese are all subspecies of Canada and cackling geese. White Geese are snow, Ross' and blue phase geese. No other goose species is open to harvest.								
	Eastern Washington Youth (Goose Mgmt Areas 4 & 5)	Sept. 28 (Canada and White-fronted Goose only)	4	10	—	4	10	—	
	Youth, Veterans & Active Military (Statewide)	Feb. 1	4	10	10	4	10	10	
	Goose Management Area 4	Saturdays, Sundays, & Wednesdays only during: (Canada & white-fronted goose only)	Oct. 23 - Nov. 6.	4	10	—	12	30	—
		Saturdays, Sundays, & Wednesdays only during: (Canada, White-fronted, & White geese)	Oct. 12-20, Nov. 9 - Jan. 19; Every day Jan. 20-26; Additional hunt days include: Nov. 11, 28 & 29; Dec. 26, 27, 30, & 31.	4	10	10	12	30	30
	Late Season (white goose only): Feb. 15 - Mar. 2.		—	—	20	—	—	60	
	Goose Management Area 5	Oct. 12-28 & Nov. 2 - Jan. 26	4	10	10	12	30	30	
Swans	Closed Statewide								

^c Daily bag and possession limits: to include Canada geese only.

Canada Goose

Includes:
Canada (large)
Cackling (small)

**White-fronted Goose****White Goose**

Includes:
Snow
Ross's
blue phases



Washington Waterfowl Advisory Group

The Washington Waterfowl Advisory Group (WAG) was formed by WDFW in early 2003 to increase citizen involvement in the management of Washington's waterfowl resources. This group has members from a broad representation of waterfowl hunters throughout the state. Meetings are scheduled to provide advice to the department on a variety of topics, including planned expenditures of state migratory bird stamp revenues, waterfowl seasons, public access, and other topics. To learn more about the WAG, obtain meeting minutes, or contact a representative in your area, please contact the WDFW Waterfowl Section at (360) 902-2515 or please visit the website at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/about/advisory/wwag>. If you have comments to pass on to a WAG representative in your area, please email them to wildthing@dfw.wa.gov. State that the comments are for WAG, and note your county of residence. Thank you to those past members for dedicating your time and providing your insights to help shape waterfowl conservation and management here in Washington.

Goose Management Area 2 — Coast & Inland

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

Dusky Canada goose is closed to harvest in all of Goose Management Area 2 during October - March. If a hunter takes a dusky Canada goose, or does not comply with field check requirements, the authorization will be invalidated and the hunter will not be able to hunt geese in all of Goose Management Area 2 for the rest of the season. It is unlawful to fail to comply with all provisions listed for Goose Management Area 2.



Dusky Canada Goose

Munsell color chart (10YR, 5 or less)

Culmen length of 40-50mm

CLOSED TO HARVEST

OCTOBER - MARCH SEASON INFORMATION

- Must possess a valid Migratory Bird Authorization and [SW Canada Goose Harvest Record Card](#) for Goose Management Area 2 — Coast & Inland.
- **Special Shooting Hours Apply:** Legal goose hunting hours are 30 minutes after the start of official waterfowl hunting hours, to 30 minutes before the end of official waterfowl hours; Listed on the inside back cover of this pamphlet.
- **Special Season Dates:** The first two week period is open to goose hunting **everyday** of the week. See page 27 for Goose Management Area 2 date details.
- **Special Goose Season Closures:** National Wildlife Refuges and WDFW Wildlife Areas are closed during February-March season dates, **except for the Youth, Veterans & Active Military special hunt date.**
- All authorized goose hunters can participate in February-March season dates, but National Wildlife Refuges and WDFW Wildlife Areas are closed during this time.

CHECKLIST:

Requirements to hunt geese in GMA2

- ✓ **Step 1:** Review Goose Identification testing materials at: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/goose-identification-testing>
- ✓ **Step 2:** Take and complete identification test online at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/goose-identification-testing>
- ✓ **Step 3:** Once you pass the test with a minimum score of 80%, purchase your Migratory Bird Authorization and [SW Canada Goose Mandatory Harvest record card](#), online or at an authorized dealer.
- ✓ **Step 4:** Review and familiarize yourself with [new boundaries and season dates](#) within GMA2 — Coast & Inland (see page 26).
- ✓ **Step 5:** While hunting, carry the Mandatory Harvest record card and record harvest as instructed, for all geese taken throughout the hunting season.
- ✓ **Step 6: Mandatory Harvest Report requirement in Goose Management Area 2 — Coast & Inland due March 20th.**

Comparison of Canada Geese

Washington has seven different subspecies of Canada Geese that winter in the state, primarily in the SW Washington. Coloration of Canada and Cackling Geese can vary between subspecies and individuals. For more detailed identification guidelines, please take the online goose identification test required to hunt Goose Management Area 2. <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/goose-identification-testing>



Canada Geese (Western Canada Goose pictured)

- Large-bodied
- Long neck, most noticeable in flight
- Pronounced bill



Cackling Geese (Cackler pictured)

- Small-bodied
- Short neck, most noticeable in flight
- Stubby bill
- Typically in large flocks

Photo Courtesy of K. Plourde

Other Migratory Game Bird Species Identification

IDENTIFICATION OF SNIPE, RAVEN AND MOURNING DOVE



Wilson's Snipe

- Cryptic and secretive
- Found in marshy & flooded pasture habitats
- Typically flush in singles or pairs
- Two golden stripes down back
- Single note, raspy "scaipe" call when flushed



Flying Dowitcher Photo courtesy of Lucas DeCicco, USFWS

Dowitchers (2 species) **Not open to harvest!**

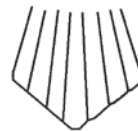
- Tend to be more visible
- Typically in open shallow-water & shorelines
- Typically fly-in in small flocks
- Obvious white stripe down back in flight



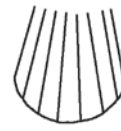
Eurasian Collared Dove

Mourning Dove

Eurasian collared doves have recently spread across Washington. Eurasian collared doves are much larger than mourning doves (see photo), and can be taken year-round with a Washington hunting license. Mourning doves can only be taken during September through October seasons.



Raven's Tail



Crow's Tail

Ravens are protected by state and federal laws, and are often confused with crows. **Not open to harvest!**

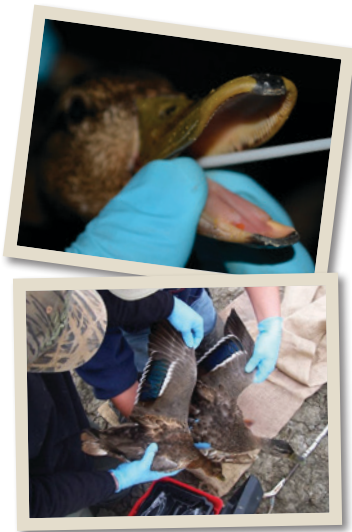
Crows are smaller than ravens and measure between 17 and 20 inches long, while ravens measure between 24 and 27 inches long.

Ravens spend much time gliding when in flight, while crows seldom if ever glide and usually fly with a steady wing beat.

Crows tails are blocky and more squared off while in flight, while ravens have a diamond-shaped tail (see drawing).

Crows have a more nasal, higher pitched call, where a raven's call is lower, and hoarser.

Avian Influenza Facts



AVIAN INFLUENZA (BIRD FLU) is a viral illness commonly found in birds. Wild birds can carry a number of avian influenza viruses, many of which do not seriously affect them. Several different bird flu strains have been identified around the world, including Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) strains, and spread quickly in all four flyways, including the Pacific Flyway during spring 2022. This strain of HPAI has been found in backyard poultry flocks, commercial poultry, wild waterfowl, and wild and captive raptors (hawks, falcons, etc.).

The risk to human health from avian influenza strains is believed to be minimal. However, it is important to note that:

- There have been no known cases of humans contracting the HPAI virus from healthy, free-flying wild birds anywhere in the world.
- There is no evidence that properly cooked waterfowl (or domestic poultry) can sicken people.

Citizens who observe sick birds or die-offs of wild birds should report it to WDFW's online reporting tool at wdfw.wa.gov/sickwildlife. Live bird tests focus on certain waterfowl and raptor species as HPAI seems to be impacting raptors and some waterfowl more than other previous strains of avian influenza. Hunter harvested birds will be tested during fall hunting seasons. Please cooperate with biologists if they should ask to test your harvested birds.



For Hunters

While it is extremely unlikely that hunters or people feeding wild birds could contract HPAI from wild birds, bird hunters who have domestic poultry or other birds at home, or who may visit domestic poultry markets or exhibitions (such as fairs), are asked to take special precautions to ensure that all equipment (boots, clothes, vehicles, dogs, etc.) are cleaned and disinfected to prevent the spread of diseases like HPAI.

The following precautions are recommended to reduce the risk of contracting any wildlife disease:

- Do not harvest or handle wild birds that are obviously sick or found dead.
- Wear disposable gloves while cleaning game or cleaning bird feeders.
- Do not eat, drink, or smoke while cleaning game.
- Wash hands with soap and water or alcohol wipes immediately after handling game or cleaning bird feeders.
- Wash tools and work surfaces used to clean game birds with soap and water, then disinfect with a 10 percent solution of household bleach.
- Separate raw meat, and anything it touches, from cooked or ready-to-eat foods to avoid contamination.
- Cook game birds thoroughly. Meat should reach an internal temperature of 155 to 165 degrees Fahrenheit to kill disease organisms and parasites.

More information and updates on avian flu is available on the following link:
<https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/diseases/bird-flu>

Bird Dog Training Season

Aug. 1, 2024 - Mar. 31, 2025 — A small game license is required to train dogs on wild game birds. A western Washington pheasant license is required to train dogs on pheasants in western Washington.

Exceptions: Dog training may be conducted year-round on designated portions of:

Region One

- Espanola (T 24 N, R 40 E, E 1/2 of Sec. 16)

Region Two

- Martha Lake Access Area (170 acres): One mile northeast of the town of George, southeast of the South Frontage Road along Interstate 90 and north of Baseline Road.

Region Three

- Wenas Wildlife Area

Region Four

- Skagit Wildlife Area
- Lake Terrell Wildlife Area
- Snoqualmie Wildlife Area

Region Five

- Shillapoo/Vancouver Lake Wildlife Area

Region Six

- Scatter Creek Wildlife Area
- Fort Lewis Military Base

Training dogs on western Washington pheasant release sites is only open from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Only youth and seniors may train dogs during their respective seasons on designated western Washington pheasant release sites. Wild upland game birds may be pursued during the dog training season but may not be killed except during established hunting seasons. Captive raised game birds may be released and killed during dog training if the hunter has proof of lawful acquisition (invoices) and the birds are appropriately marked (WAC 220-450-010 and 220-416-110).

Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease – Guidance for Rabbit Hunters

Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease Virus (RHDV1 and RHDV2) is a **contagious, often fatal disease in rabbits**. It is classified as a foreign animal disease and is not known to infect humans or dogs, though they can spread the virus. In 2020, an outbreak occurred in southwestern North America, and in 2021, wild rabbits and hares in Oregon and Idaho were infected. RHDV spreads by direct contact with infected rabbits, and the virus can remain active for months in the environment. Please take extra precautions to reduce the risk of spreading this virus:

- Don't release non-native domestic rabbits into the wild.
- Don't move wild rabbits between areas.
- Prevent contact with dead rabbits; if contact is unavoidable, wash hands thoroughly and disinfect clothing with a 10% bleach solution or sterilizing wash.
- If hunting rabbits, bury or discard remains appropriately. Double-bag remains if discarded in the trash.
- Always wash hands after handling rabbits or rabbit meat, domestic or wild.
- Follow disinfection guidelines (<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/sites/default/files/rhdv-cleaning-guidance.pdf>) if using gear from states with cases of RHDV2 in wild lagomorphs.
- Don't move rabbit carcasses unless for consumption.
- Do not feed rabbit carcasses to falcons or bring them from out of state.
- If you have pet rabbits, take extra disinfecting precautions before and after entering the field.

For additional details, please visit the Washington State Department of Agriculture website at <https://cms.agr.wa.gov/getmedia/07915d2d-bfd5-4cbb-b443-ab3b42b72722/RHDFactsheet>. Diseased rabbits may not show outward signs, or they may display bright red blood around the nose and mouth. If you notice more than 3 dead rabbits in close proximity, please reach out to a WDFW Wildlife Veterinarian at Katherine.haman@dfw.wa.gov.

Protect yourself and dog from tick-borne disease this hunting season

Ticks feed on birds, deer, other game animals, and people too. A tick's bite can spread serious and potentially deadly diseases. One of the most common diseases they spread is Lyme disease. Hunting brings you in to tick habitat, so take precautions to avoid being bitten.

- ✓ Before you go, treat clothing and hunting gear with permethrin. Always follow product instructions.
- ✓ Wear long-sleeved shirt and long pants. Tuck shirt into pants and wear gaiters over pant legs and boots to limit access to your skin.
- ✓ Watch for ticks when transporting and dressing deer or other game. Ticks may drop off the animals to find a new source of blood.
- ✓ Check yourself often for ticks, and remove them immediately. Ticks can be small and hard to see or feel. Look carefully on all parts of the body. Ticks tend to hide around the head, neck, ears, and body folds such as armpits, behind knees, and groin.
- ✓ Take a shower or bath as soon as possible to remove any ticks that may still be crawling on you.
- ✓ Remove attached ticks slowly and gently, using fine-tipped tweezers applied as close to the skin as possible.

Most tick-borne illnesses can be treated effectively when detected early. See your doctor right away if you develop a fever, rash, or flu-like symptoms after being in tick-infested areas.

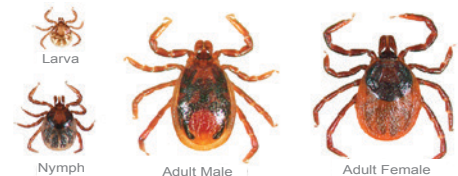
It's also important to protect your hunting dog from tick bites and tick-borne disease. Ask your veterinarian about tick prevention before you hunt, and check your dog often for ticks. If you have concerns that your dog picked up a disease, see your veterinarian.

Save the tick! We'll identify it!

If you do find a tick, save it! Put the tick and a few blades of grass in a small, hard container. Send it to DOH for identification. It's simple: follow the steps on the submission form found at www.doh.wa.gov/ticks. You'll help us monitor ticks to better understand the risk of tick-borne disease in our state. On our website, you can learn more about Washington's ticks and how to protect yourself.

Western-blacklegged Tick (*Ixodes pacificus*)

The most common tick species found in Western Washington, and the primary vector of Lyme disease in western United States.



American Dog Tick (*Dermacentor variabilis*)

The most common tick species found in Eastern Washington, and a vector of tularemia and Rocky Mountain spotted fever.



Photos by URI TickEncounter Resource Center

In general, nymphal ticks are about the size of a poppy seed, and adult ticks, the size of a sesame seed. After becoming engorged by a blood meal, the body expands substantially, and may appear grayish-brown.

Resident Game Bird Seasons

2024-2025 Upland Game Bird Season Summary

	SEPTEMBER 2024	OCTOBER 2024	NOVEMBER 2024	DECEMBER 2024	JANUARY 2025
Forest Grouse (statewide)	15				15
Pheasant (westside)					
Youth Hunters	14-15				
Age 65+ & Hunters w/ Disabilities	16-20				
General Season	21		30	1 15	
Pheasant (eastside)					
Youth Hunters	14-15				
Age 65+ & Hunters w/ Disabilities	16-20				
General Season		19			20
California Quail, Mountain Quail, Bobwhite (westside)		21	30		
California Quail, Bobwhite, & Gray Partridge (eastside)					
Youth Hunters	14-15				
General Season		5			20
Chukar (eastside)					
Youth Hunters	14-15				
General Season		5			31

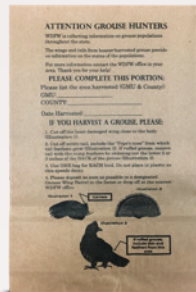
■ Youth Only
 ■ Age 65+ and Hunters with Disabilities
 ■ General Season
 ■ Extended Season

2024-2025 Upland Game Bird Seasons

SPECIES	AREA	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Forest Grouse (Ruffed, Sooty, Dusky, and Spruce)	Statewide	Sept. 15 - Jan. 15	4 grouse per day, to include not more than 3 Dusky or Sooty Grouse (combined), 3 Spruce Grouse, and 3 Ruffed Grouse.	12 grouse, to include not more than 9 Dusky or Sooty Grouse (combined), 9 Spruce Grouse, and 9 Ruffed Grouse.
Sage and Sharp-tailed Grouse, Ptarmigan	Closed Statewide			
Pheasant <small>*At the Samish release site pheasants will only be released during the youth and senior seasons. Please see the WDFW website (https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/locations/upland-bird) for alternative sites.</small>	Western Washington	8am to 4pm Sept. 14-15 (<i>Youth Only</i>) 8am to 4pm Sept. 16-20 (<i>Hunters 65 Years or Older, Hunters with Disabilities</i>)	2 either sex 2 either sex	4 either sex 10 either sex
	Western Washington	8am to 4pm Sept. 21 - Nov. 30	2 either sex	15 either sex
	Western Washington	8am to 4pm Dec. 1-15 <i>ONLY at Belfair, JBLM, Kosmos, Lincoln Creek, Scatter Creek, Skookumchuck, Green Diamond resource lands & Whidbey Island release sites</i>	2 either sex	15 either sex
	Eastern Washington	Sept. 14-15 (<i>Youth Only</i>) Sept. 16-20 (<i>Hunters 65 Years or Older, Hunters with Disabilities</i>)	3 cocks only 3 cocks only	6 cocks only 15 cocks only
	Eastern Washington	Oct. 19 - Jan. 20	3 cocks only	15 cocks only
	California (Valley) Quail and Northern Bobwhite	Western Washington	8am to 4pm Sept. 21 - Nov. 30	10 mixed bag
	Eastern Washington	Sept. 14-15 (<i>Youth Only</i>)	10 mixed bag	20 mixed bag
	Eastern Washington	Oct. 5 - Jan. 20	10 mixed bag	30 mixed bag
Quail (Mountain)	Western Washington	8am to 4pm Sept. 21 - Nov. 30	2 either sex	4 either sex
	Eastern Washington	Closed throughout Eastern Washington		
Gray Partridge	Eastern Washington	Sept. 14-15 (<i>Youth Only</i>)	6 either sex	12 either sex
		Oct. 5 - Jan. 20	6 either sex	18 either sex
Chukar	Eastern Washington	Sept. 14-15 (<i>Youth Only</i>)	6 either sex	12 either sex
		Oct. 5 - Jan. 31	6 either sex	18 either sex
Crow	Statewide	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31	No limit	No limit

Forest Grouse Wing and Tail Collection

Successful forest grouse hunters are requested to submit a wing and tail from each forest grouse harvested. Wings and tails should be placed in a paper bag (one bag for each bird) and can be brought to any WDFW District or Regional office. The wings and tails can also be deposited in collection barrels placed around the state. Paper bags are available at each collection barrel. Check the WDFW website at <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/upland-birds/grouse-wing-tail-collection> or contact a district office to find out if there are collection barrels in your area.



Small game harvest reporting is now online!

You can now report your small game hunting activity online at fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov. Your reports of which species, dates you hunted, counties where you hunted, number of days hunted, and number of harvests are crucial for managing these populations. Even if you did not hunt or harvest, your report is essential. You can log your hunting activity throughout the season until March 31st. For more information, visit wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/harvest-reporting.



Report Wild Turkey and Upland Bird Sightings

Help manage Washington's game bird populations by reporting your observations of wild turkeys and upland birds. In July and August, brood surveys that count the number of chicks or poults with hens will help monitor productivity. The rest of the year, your observations will help monitor distribution: where birds are located, what habitats they're using, and how they might move seasonally.

This year, Washington is having a brood survey blitz on the last weekend in July (July 27-28). Rally your friends and family and head to the fields to look for your favorite upland game birds. Report your observations, then share your photos in the photo contest (watch for information coming on WDFW's Facebook page). Winning photos will be featured in next year's Game Bird and Small Game Hunting Pamphlet.

For more information or to report sightings, visit wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/management/game-bird-survey.



Wild Turkey Seasons & Information

BAG LIMIT

Hunters who harvested their full bag limit during the spring CAN still participate in fall turkey seasons. Each season has a separate bag limit.

EVIDENCE OF SEX

It is unlawful to possess or transport wild turkey without the fully feathered head and beard (if present at harvest) attached, until the carcass is processed and/or stored for consumption.

WEAPONS

It is illegal to hunt turkeys with a weapon other than the following:

- Crossbow or bow and arrow;

- Shotgun or muzzleloading shotgun shooting #4 or smaller shot (0.13 inch diameter or smaller);
- Legal modern handgun designed for hunting, shooting #4 or smaller shot, and not capable of holding more than three shells. Handgun barrel length must be a minimum of 10 inches, inclusive of choke tube. Modern handguns must shoot a minimum three inch shotshell of .410 caliber or larger;
- Legal muzzleloading handgun designed for hunting and shooting #4 or smaller shot. Handgun barrel length must be a minimum of 10 inches. Muzzleloading handguns must be .45 caliber or larger;
- See page 54 for shot size diagram.

It is illegal to hunt turkeys with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells.

RESTRICTIONS

It is unlawful to use dogs, electronic calls, or electronic decoys to hunt turkey or baiting methods for game birds.

REPORTING

Turkey hunters will owe hunting activity reports (Spring and/or Fall) for each turkey transport tag purchased (see page 11).

If you purchase a turkey tag before the end of the spring season you must submit a spring hunting report. If you have an unfilled spring tag, or if you purchase a turkey tag after the end of the spring season, then you must submit a fall hunting report.

For Game Management Unit (GMU) descriptions and boundaries, see the Big Game Regulations or wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/locations/gmu.

General Wild Turkey Seasons

License Required: A small game license and a valid turkey transport tag.

You will owe hunting activity reports (Spring and/or Fall) for each turkey transport tag purchased.

SEASON	SEASON DATES	GMUS	BAG LIMIT/LEGAL BIRD
FALL GENERAL SEASONS (STATEWIDE SEASONAL BAG LIMIT IS FOUR (4) TURKEYS WITH THE FOLLOWING AREA RESTRICTIONS)			
Fall General Season	Sept. 1 - Dec. 31	101 through 154 and 162 through 186 382, 388, 568 through 578 203 through 290	Two (2) beardless and two (2) either sex turkeys Two (2) either sex turkey One (1) either sex turkey
SPRING SEASONS (STATEWIDE SEASONAL BAG LIMIT IS THREE (3) TURKEYS WITH THE FOLLOWING AREA RESTRICTIONS)			
Youth Only	April 1-7, 2025	Statewide*	The combined spring/youth season limit is three (3) turkeys.
Spring General Season	April 15 - May 31		Only two (2) turkeys may be killed in eastern Washington, except a third turkey may be taken in eastern Washington only in Spokane County. Only one (1) turkey may be killed in Kittitas County. Only one (1) turkey may be killed in Yakima County. Only one (1) turkey may be killed in Western Washington outside of Klickitat County. Two (2) turkeys may be killed in Klickitat County. Male turkeys and turkeys with visible beards only.

* Except for areas closed to hunting, including GMU 157 and other restricted areas listed in WAC 220-413-180.

Wild Turkey Special Permit Hunts

APPLICATION SUBMISSION PERIOD: SEE BIG GAME REGULATIONS FOR APPLICATION PERIOD DATES

- Please see the Big Game Regulations for more information on Wild Turkey Special Permit Hunts.

WHO MAY APPLY:

Anyone with a small game hunting license.

REQUIRED TO HUNT:

A small game hunting license, a valid turkey tag, and a valid special permit.

LEGAL BIRD:

Either sex.

Special Permit Only Wild Turkey Hunts

- You will owe hunting activity reports (Spring and/or Fall) for each turkey transport tag purchased.

HUNT CHOICE	HUNT NAME	HUNT AREA	SEASON DATES	BAG LIMIT	PERMITS	2023 APPS/ AVG POINTS
3001	Teanaway	GMU 335	Nov. 15 - Dec. 15	1	50	1289/4

First Turkey Program

Did you harvest your first turkey this year?

Send us your info and receive an official Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) First Turkey Certificate.



CERTIFICATE REQUIREMENTS:

1. Hunt and harvest your first turkey
2. Report your harvest online at <https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov/login> or by calling 360-902-2464.
3. Email the following information to: outreach@dfw.wa.gov
 - » First and last name
 - » Date of harvest
 - » Subspecies
 - » Mailing address

And ONE of the following:

- » Email address associated with your WILD account
- » Turkey report confirmation number

TO RECEIVE YOUR NWTf FIRST TURKEY PIN:

1. Contact the Washington State Chapter of the NWTf
2. When registering your First Turkey in the Washington state NWTf records, provide a copy of your WDFW First Turkey certificate.
3. NWTf will then send you your First Turkey pin.

NWTf WA State Chapter
Rich Reathafor
509-990-5599



Washington Slam

The Washington Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf) in cooperation with the Department of Fish and Wildlife is sponsoring brass pins in recognition of achieving the “Washington Slam.”

THE CHALLENGE:

Harvest all 3 subspecies – Eastern, Merriam’s, and Rio Grande. For the purposes of the “Washington Slam,” subspecies are defined by county of harvest. See the list of subspecies by county at the beginning of the spring turkey regulations.

TO RECEIVE YOUR WASHINGTON SLAM PIN:

1. Report your harvest online at <https://fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov/login> or by calling 360-902-2464.
2. Contact the Washington State Chapter of NWTf to complete and submit record forms.



NWTf WA State Chapter
Rich Reathafor
509-990-5599



Single Season Award Winners (all 3 subspecies taken in a single season)

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Jason Bye Robert Morgan Gerry Loney Christopher Locke Bob Shaw	Travis Arnott Justin Door Sean Kiniston Bob Shaw Jason Bye (black powder shotgun)	Jason Bye (black powder shotgun) David Hoel (archery) Harold Holste Sean Kiniston Brad Richard Bob Shaw Blake Westman Ross Sharp	Jack Arnold Jason Bye (black powder shotgun) Estaban Calderon Alex Chaney Bonnie Loney	Jason Bye Alex Chaney Tyson Gray David Hoel Clay Hull William Hull Alan Poe Bob Shaw



Multiple Season Award Winners (all 3 subspecies taken in 2 or more seasons)

2019	2020	2021	2022	2023
Travis Arnott	Kelsey Byrd Alan Poe	No winners	Gerry Loney Alan Poe	Trace Edminster



Falconry

If a raptor captures any species of wildlife (quarry) in a closed season, the falconer must release the quarry if it is not seriously injured. If the quarry is seriously injured or killed, the quarry must be left at the site, but the raptor may feed on the kill.

If the accidentally killed wildlife is a Washington State Candidate species (including jackrabbit), the falconer must immediately record on a WDFW form or facsimile: the falconer's name, falconry permit number, date, species and sex (if known) of the quarry, and the location of the kill (as accurately as possible).

Total accidental take of Candidate species cannot exceed 5/season; falconers must cease hunting for the day if a candidate species is taken.

A list of candidate species can be found at: wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/at-risk/listed

All reports of accidental take must be submitted to the WDFW falconry permit coordinator by April 1 each year.

Released quarry are not considered "take." Federal and state laws do not permit the take of endangered, threatened, sensitive or other protected species.

For more information on Falconry, visit <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/falconry/overview>



Photo by Josh Davis

2024-2025 Falconry Seasons

SPECIES	AREA	SEASON DATES (INCLUSIVE)	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Turkey	Eastern Washington	Sept. 1 - Feb. 15 (<i>falconry</i>)	1 turkey, either sex, per turkey tag with a maximum of 2 turkeys per season	2 (tag required for each turkey)
Upland Game Birds & Forest Grouse	Statewide	Aug. 1 - Mar. 15 (<i>falconry</i>)	2 pheasants (either sex), 6 partridge, 5 California (valley) quail or bobwhite, 2 mountain quail (W. WA only), & 3 forest grouse	Twice the daily bag
Cottontail and Snowshoe hare	Statewide	Aug. 1 - Mar. 15 (<i>falconry</i>)	5 cottontail or snowshoe hares, straight or mixed bag	15 straight or mixed bag
<i>Jackrabbit, pygmy rabbit, sage grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, ptarmigan - Closed statewide</i>				
Mourning Dove	Statewide	Sept. 1 - Dec. 16 (<i>falconry</i>)	3 mourning doves, straight or mixed bag with snipe, coots, ducks, and geese during established seasons	Three times the daily bag
Ducks, Coots, Snipe and Geese (except Brant)	Statewide	Same season dates for each species in each area listed previously (<i>falconry</i>)	3, straight or mixed bag including duck, coots, snipe, geese and mourning doves during established seasons	Three times the daily bag
Ducks, Coots & Geese (extended falconry)	Western Washington	Sept. 21	3, straight or mixed bag including duck, coots, Canada and White-fronted Geese	Same as the daily bag
	Eastern Washington	Sept. 28	3, straight or mixed bag including duck, coots, Canada and White-fronted Geese	Same as the daily bag
	Statewide	Feb. 1	3, straight or mixed bag including duck, coots and all geese	Same as the daily bag



Photo by Rob Conohan & Winsome Williams



Photo by Chris Magan



Photo by Chris Magan

Other Small Game Seasons

Other Small Game Seasons

SMALL GAME SPECIES	BAG LIMIT	SEASON DATES	NOTES AND EXCEPTIONS	
Bobcat	None	Statewide: Sept. 1 - Mar. 15	Sealing of pelt required. Submission of lower jaw required for sealing. Bobcat may not be hunted with dogs. Pelt Sealing Requirements: Successful hunters/trappers must contact a WDFW office for pelt sealing and submit the associated harvest report to the department by April 20, 2025. The bobcat hide must not be frozen so a seal may be attached. Submission of the dried lower jaw is required at the time of pelt sealing in order to receive your pelt seal. No one may possess an open WDFW bobcat seal unless it has been cut by a licensed taxidermist or fur dealer who has received and invoiced the pelt for processing. It is unlawful to hunt bobcat with dogs. Night hunting for bobcat is prohibited in the following GMUs: 101, 105, 108, 111, 113, 117, 203, 204, 215, 218, 224, 231, 233, 242-247, 250, 426, and 450.	
Fox	None	Statewide: Sept. 1 - Mar. 15	CLOSED within the exterior boundaries of the Mt. Baker-Snoqualmie, Okanogan, Wenatchee, and Gifford Pinchot National Forests.	
Raccoon	None	Statewide: Sept. 1 - Mar. 15	Dogs may be used to hunt raccoon, EXCEPT it is unlawful to hunt with dogs during the months of October or November during the dates established for modern firearm deer and elk general seasons in eastern and western Washington.	
Coyote	None	Year round.	Coyote may not be hunted with dogs. A small game or big game hunting license is required.	
Beaver, badger, weasels, marten, mink, muskrat, and river otter			May only be taken by trapping with a trapping license during the trapping season (Nov. 1 - Mar. 31). Trappers must contact a WDFW office for pelt sealing of river otter and submit all harvest reports to the Department by April 20, 2025. See Trapping Regulations at wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/regulations/trapping	
SPECIES	AREA	SEASON DATES	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Cottontail & Snowshoe Hare	Statewide	Sept. 1 - Mar. 15	5 mixed bag	15 mixed bag
Jackrabbit, Pygmy Rabbit, Lynx & Fisher	Closed Statewide			

NIGHT HUNTING, HOUND HUNTING AND PERMITS

Hunting at night:

- Night Hunting for Bobcat is prohibited in the following GMUs: 101, 105, 108, 111, 113, 117, 203, 204, 215, 218, 224, 231, 233, 242-247, 250, 426, and 450.
- It is unlawful to hunt bobcat and raccoon at night during modern firearm deer or elk general seasons that occur in October and November in eastern and western Washington.
- Hunting big game with the aid of an artificial light, spotlight, or night vision equipment is prohibited. Night vision equipment includes electronic light amplification devices, thermal imaging devices, and other comparable equipment used to enhance night vision. Coyote may be hunted at night with lights year round, EXCEPT it is unlawful to hunt coyote at night during modern firearm deer or elk general seasons that occur in October and November in eastern and western Washington.

Hound hunting:

- The use of dogs to hunt black bear, bobcat, coyote, and cougar is prohibited year-round.
- Dogs may be used to hunt raccoon, EXCEPT it is unlawful to hunt raccoons with dogs during modern firearm deer or elk general seasons that occur in October and November in eastern and western Washington.

Hunting Contest Permits:

- A hunting contest permit is required for all hunt contests. Please refer to the WDFW hunting contest permit website at wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/hunting/hunt-contest.

REPORT SMALL GAME HARVESTS ONLINE

Report your small game hunting activity online at fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov by March 31st.

NEW Bobcat Jaw Submission

Hunters who harvest a bobcat must provide a cleaned and air-dried complete lower jaw (both sides) for aging before a pelt can be sealed. Remove as much flesh as possible before bringing in the lower jaw and allow it to dry in the open air. To prevent decay, do not store or transport in any closed container made of plastic – use a cardboard box or paper bag. Label the pelt and jaw so it's clear which individual harvested bobcat they came from and submit to any WDFW office or permitted pelt sealer.

Identification of Wolves and Lynx in Washington

Wolves and Lynx are back in Washington.

They are protected under both federal and state law and may not be shot or killed.

Be sure of identification if you are hunting coyote or bobcat.

Report Wolf Observations at:

<https://wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/at-risk/species-recovery/gray-wolf/observations>

How to recognize a gray wolf

Gray Wolf

- Color: light gray to black
- Dimensions: 2.5 feet tall, 5-6 feet long
- Broad snout
- Round ears
- 80-120 pounds
- Paw size: 4" x 5"



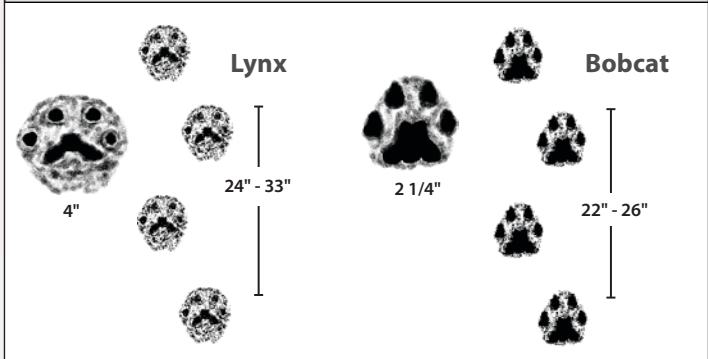
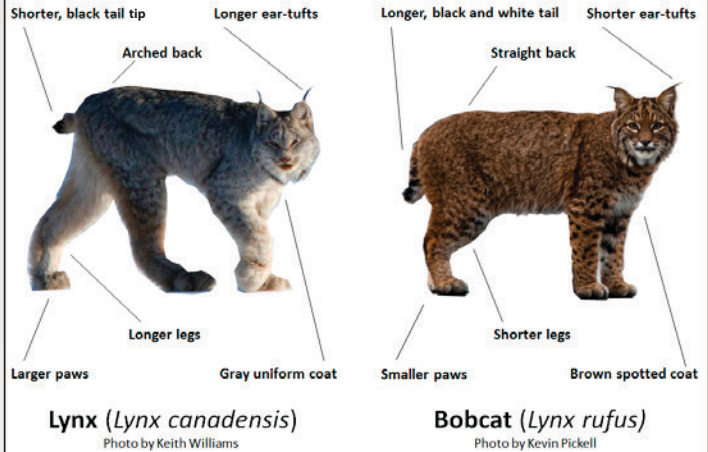
Coyote

- Color: light gray/brown
- Dimensions: 1.5 feet tall, 4 feet long
- Narrow snout
- Tall pointed ears
- 20-50 pounds
- Paw size: 2" x 2.5"



Photos: Savannah Walker, Wildlife Biologist, Spokane Tribe of Indians | Scott McCorquodale, WDFW

Lynx or Bobcat?



Identification of Fisher and Marten in Washington

Fishers are protected under both federal and state law and may not be trapped or killed.

Be sure of identification if you are trapping marten or mink.

Pelage Colors

Fisher — dark brown with lighter shading on head, back of the neck and back.

Marten — light brown to brown (cinnamon, russet), with creamy brown/ beige face and occasionally chest with darker brown legs, feet and end of tail.

Size

Fishers are bigger, darker and have noticeably longer and fuller tails than marten. Fishers tails average 14-15 inches in length and Martens tails average 6.5-7.5 inches in length.

Ear Shape

Fishers — rounded "teddy-bear" shaped ears

Martens — more pointed ears

Elevation

Fishers and martens overlap in elevation. Therefore, elevation should not be used as an indicator of species presence.

FISHER



Photo by Paul Bannick

MARTEN



WDFW Staff

Trapping Information

Use cubby boxes, with a closed front and 2.5 inch entrance hole, to avoid catching fishers.

Identification of Grouse Species

Sharp-tailed grouse have short pointed tails, blue grouse have long rounded tails. Though the sharptail grouse is typically found in grasslands, during the fall and winter it will often use aspen and waterbirch and will roost in the trees.

Sage Grouse and Sharp-tailed Grouse (below) are both threatened in Washington State.

Coloration is key — Sharp-tailed grouse have more white on their body feathers and have distinct markings on primary feathers. Blue grouse have less white on their body feathers and have mostly solid primary feathers.

Blue Grouse (Dusky)



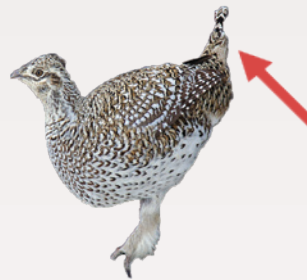
Sage Grouse

by Khanh Tran



Sharp-tailed Grouse

by Gregg Thompson



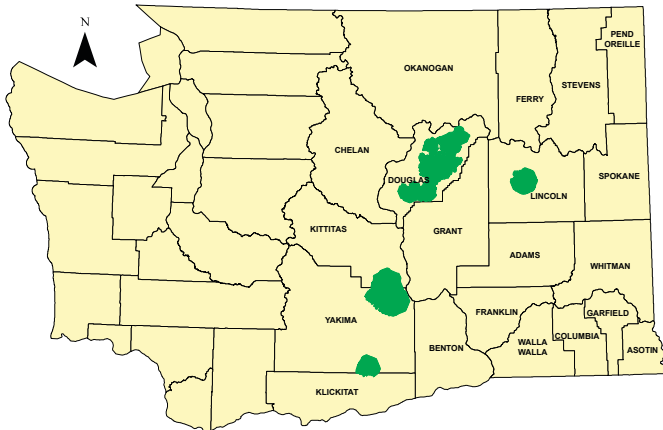
Ruffed Grouse



Game Bird Identification

SHARP-TAILED AND SAGE GROUSE ARE PROTECTED

These are the areas you will likely encounter Sage and Sharp-tailed Grouse. Remember these species are protected and cannot be hunted.



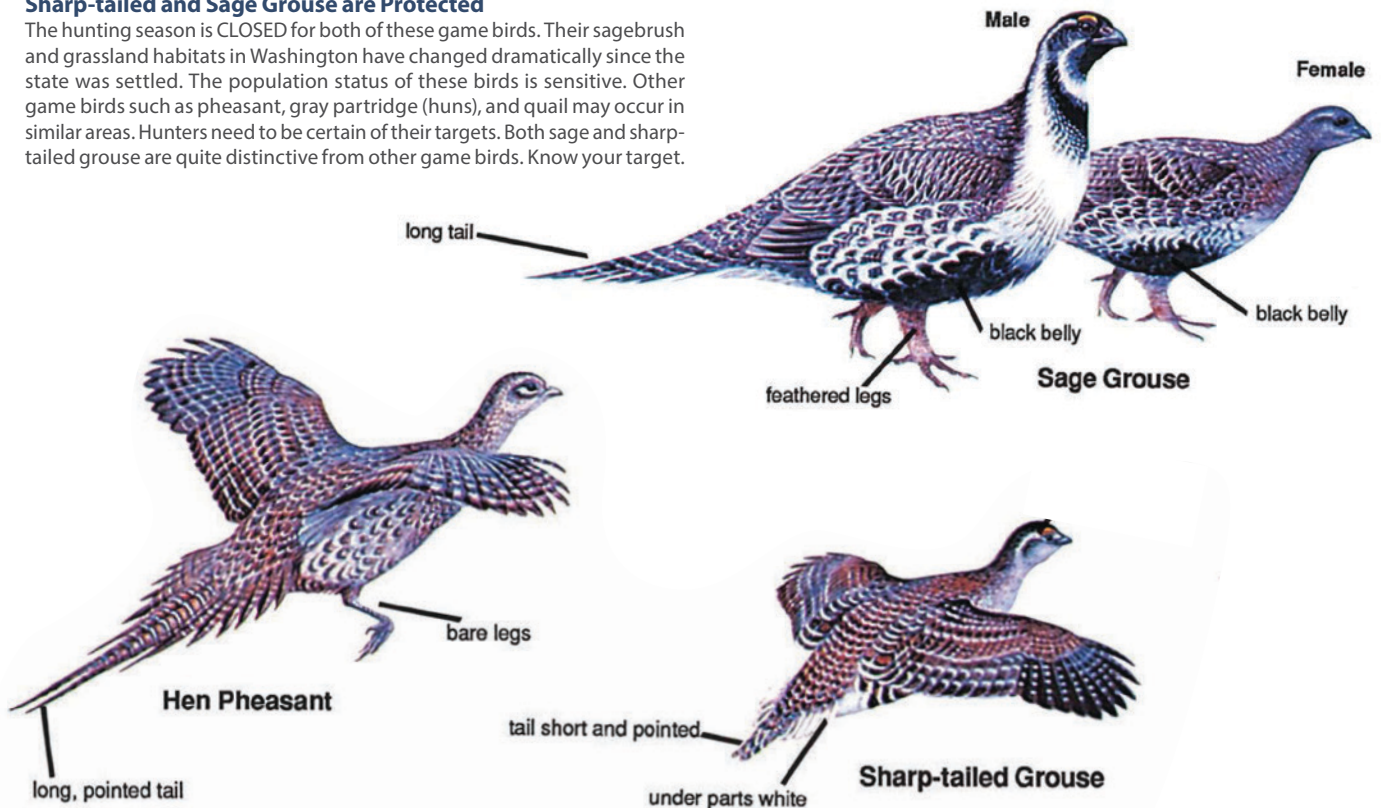
**Sage Grouse
Primary Management Zone**



**Sharp-tailed Grouse
Primary Management Zone**

Sharp-tailed and Sage Grouse are Protected

The hunting season is CLOSED for both of these game birds. Their sagebrush and grassland habitats in Washington have changed dramatically since the state was settled. The population status of these birds is sensitive. Other game birds such as pheasant, gray partridge (huns), and quail may occur in similar areas. Hunters need to be certain of their targets. Both sage and sharp-tailed grouse are quite distinctive from other game birds. Know your target.



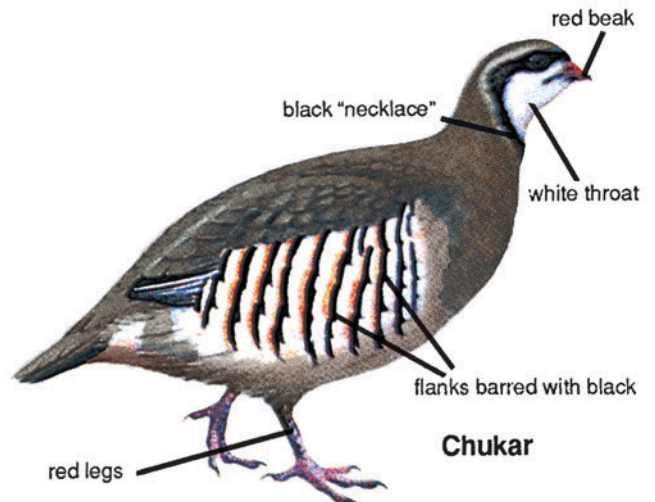
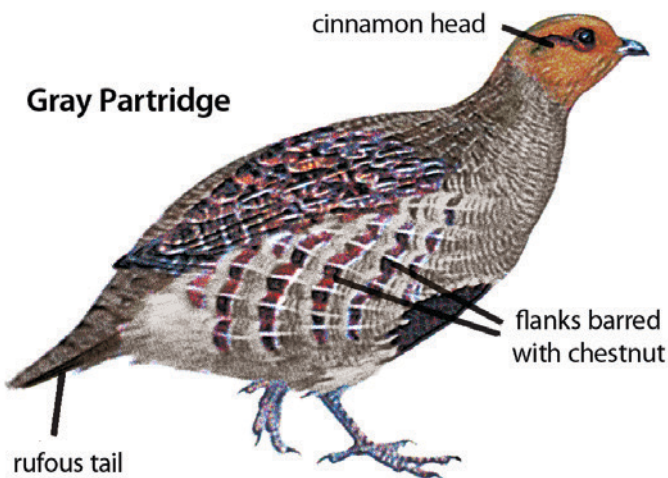
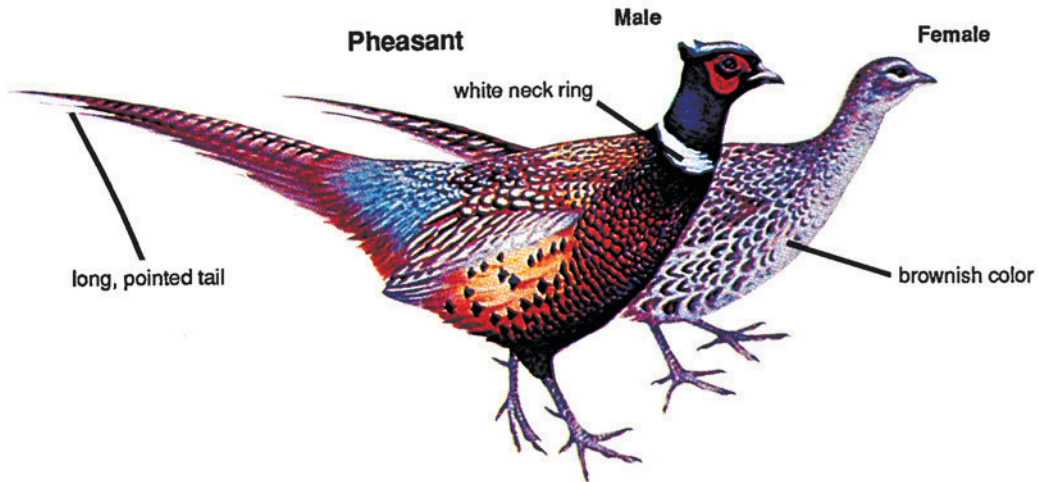
PRIMARY UPLAND BIRD MANAGEMENT AREAS

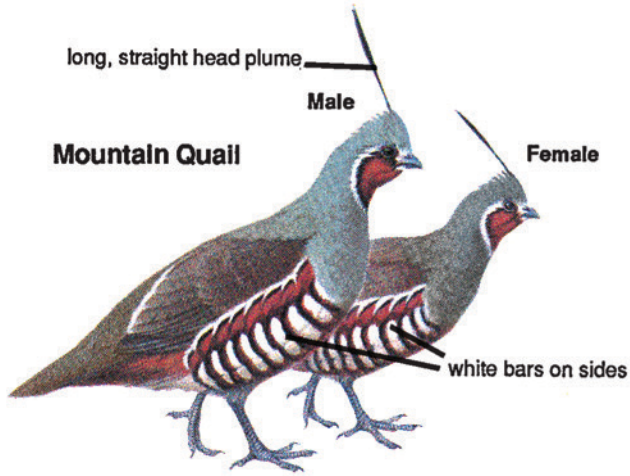


Ring-Necked Pheasant
Primary Management Zone

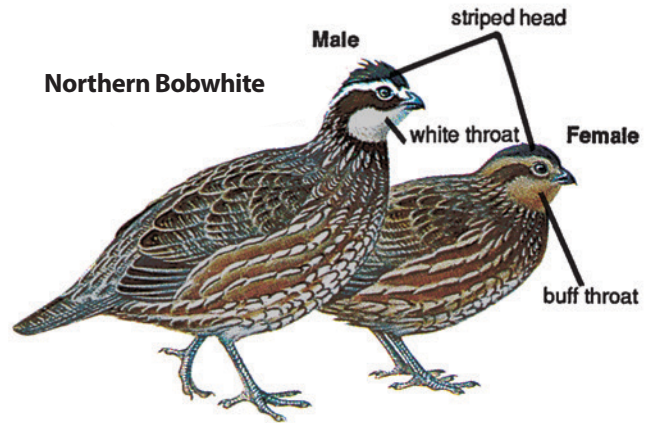


Chukar Partridge
Primary Management Zone

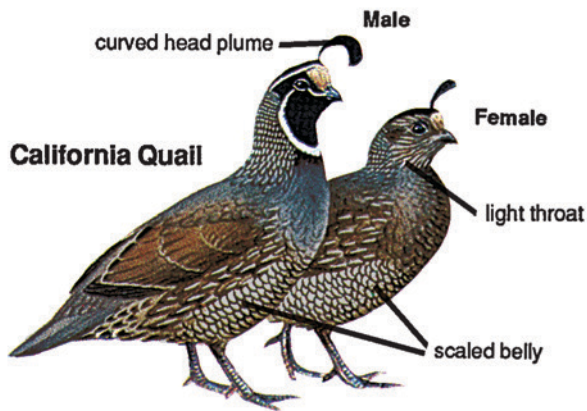




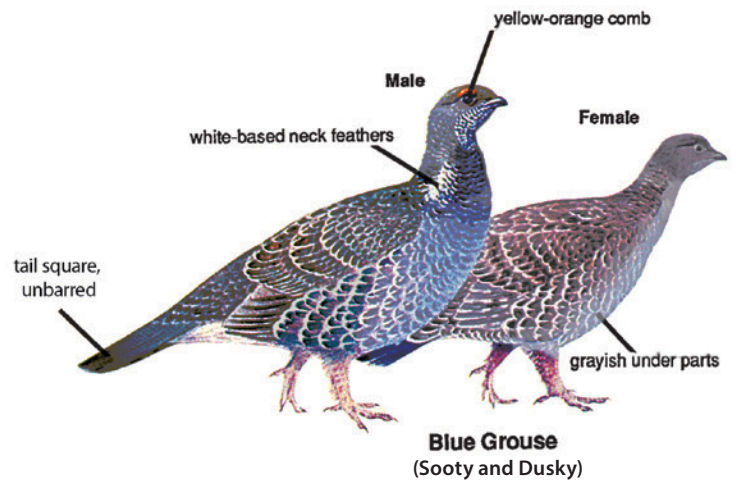
Mountain Quail



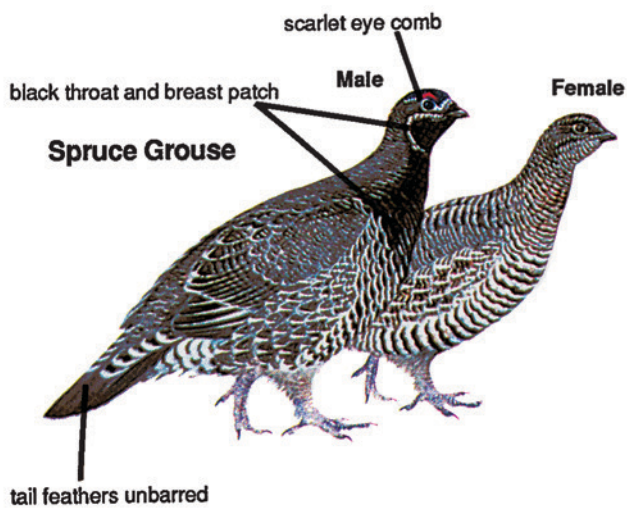
Northern Bobwhite



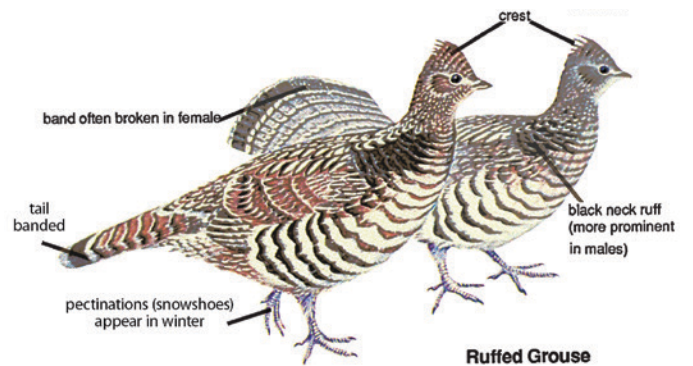
California Quail



Blue Grouse
(Sooty and Dusky)



Spruce Grouse



Ruffed Grouse

Please see pages 42-43 for other Grouse species.

Private Lands Access Program



Find enrolled properties online at: https://privatelands.wdfw.wa.gov/private_land/



Hunt by Written Permission – This includes private lands where a landowner or organization voluntarily open their land to public hunting on a contact-for-permission basis. Hunt by Written Permission requires the hunter to contact the Landowner and meet in person to obtain written permission to hunt that property. Written permission is validated by the possession of a written slip, provided to the hunter by the landowner. The Department provides these slips to the landowner at no cost. The Hunt by Written Permission program allows for the greatest flexibility for landowners and is our most widely used access program.



Hunt by Reservation – This component of the private lands program launched in 2013. It is attractive to many landowners and organizations because it allows access to specific reservation and hunter information via a landowner portal. The Hunt by Reservation program is managed through an online registration system where hunters create an account in order to reserve available properties. The Hunt by Reservation program allows landowners to manage hunting on their lands, without direct contact with hunters.



Feel Free to Hunt – This includes private lands where the Department has a management agreement with the landowner or organization to provide public access for hunting with minimal restrictions. This type of agreement provides the most open and unrestricted type of access for the public. Many Feel Free to Hunt properties house a wide variety of small game and big game species and provide ample hunting opportunity.



Register to Hunt – This includes private lands where the Department has a management agreement with the landowner or organization to regulate hunting access by on-site registration. Hunters are required to sign in using a registration slip found near the designated parking area. Parking is usually limited for these properties, to limit the number of hunters.



Hunting Area Information



Photo by Alan Bauer

Information on lands open to public hunting, including WDFW Wildlife Areas, is available from WDFW offices for the geographical areas shown (see page 6 for WDFW offices). Thousands of acres of both federal and state lands are open to public hunting, in addition to several National Wildlife Refuges that operate regulated hunting programs. Please see below for National Wildlife Refuge information. Information on WDFW Wildlife Areas and hunting access is available online at wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife_areas.

TRIBAL LANDS

There are both state and tribal rules and license requirements pertaining to non-tribal hunting within Native American reservations. You can find more information about tribal hunting on our website at: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/management/tribal>.

State hunting requirements and rules are in this pamphlet. Please call the appropriate WDFW Regional office if you have any questions about complying with state rules and licensing requirements when hunting on Indian reservations.

For tribal rules and license requirements, check with appropriate tribal authorities.

Upland bird seasons established by the state within the Colville and Yakama Reservations are the same as the seasons that the tribes established for these reservations.

For information regarding hunting or fishing within the boundaries of the Colville Tribal Reservation, hunters should contact the office of the Colville Confederated Tribes Fish and Wildlife Department, (509) 634-2110, to determine the tribal permits and regulations applicable to such activities.

For information regarding hunting migratory and upland birds on tribal-owned lands within the external boundaries of the Yakama Reservation, hunters should contact the Yakama Nation, (509) 865-5121, ext. 6307, to determine the applicable tribal permits and regulations.

For questions regarding differences in licensing, regulations, use of electronic decoys, or other information, please contact the WDFW Region 3 Yakima office at (509) 575-2740.

National Wildlife Refuges

Hunting is allowed on many National Wildlife Refuges. Please contact the refuge for specific information or visit www.fws.gov/refuges

Ridgefield*

28908 NW Main Ave.
PO Box 457
Ridgefield, WA 98642
Hunter Hotline: (360) 571-2015
<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/ridgefield>

Columbia, Umatilla, Toppenish, & McNary*

Mid-Columbia NWR
64 Maple Street
Burbank, WA 99323-8521
(509) 546-8300

Turnbull*

26010 South Smith
Cheney, WA 99004
(509) 235-4723
<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/turnbull>

Willapa*

3888 SR 101
Ilwaco, WA 98624
(360) 484-3482
<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/willapa>

Julia Butler Hansen

46 Steamboat Slough Rd.
Cathlamet, WA 98612
(360) 795-3915
<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/julia-butler-hansen-columbian-white-tailed-deer>

Nisqually

100 Brown Farm Rd. NE
Olympia, WA 98516
(360) 753-9467
<https://www.fws.gov/refuge/billy-frank-jr-nisqually>

*** Please contact for specific youth hunt opportunities**

PUBLIC CONDUCT ON WDFW LANDS

The Washington Fish and Wildlife Commission adopted rules (Washington Administrative Code 220-500, <https://app.leg.wa.gov/WAC/default.aspx?cite=220-500>) in December 2007 after years of discussion and extensive public review. As the number of users and types of use continue to increase on WDFW lands, the rules provide a fair and sensible approach to protecting both fish and wildlife habitats and recreational values consistent with healthy wildlife populations.

These rules only apply on WDFW lands. The complete public conduct rule package is available on the web at: <https://apps.leg.wa.gov/wac/default.aspx?cite=220>.

The rules address behavior and conduct, parking, camping, campfires, dumping and littering, target shooting, fireworks, pets, building blinds and tree stands, access, commercial and noncommercial use, and enforcement.

Fire rules allow campfires up to a maximum of three feet in diameter and three feet high unless posted otherwise. The rules also include a

21-day camping limit within a 30-day period unless posted otherwise. Vehicles should not be left unattended for more than 21 days. Unattended blinds are available to the public on a “first-come-first-serve” basis. These rules were designed to provide an equal opportunity for all users.

The firearms and target practicing rule prohibits the use of glass, signs, appliances, mattresses, televisions, furniture, and exploding items as targets. With the exception of clay pigeons, debris from target practice should be removed. These rules, along with no-littering laws, address a growing concern for the amount of garbage left on public lands. The rules also prohibit the discharge of firearms within 500 feet of one of the 21 department-designated campgrounds. These very limited shooting restrictions were included to protect the recreating public.

Rules governing pets allow hunters to use hunting dogs under their control, but not to let them or other pets roam unattended. From April through July, all dogs and other pets must be leashed on WDFW lands to protect nesting wildlife.

To manage multiple user groups, a permit from the department is required for any private or public event involving more than thirty people.

A commercial use permit from the department is required for any activity on department lands where a fee is charged or where the purpose is the sale or barter of a good or service regardless of whether the activity is intended to produce a profit. Hunting guides on WDFW lands are not permitted without a permit from the Director.

All those who use WDFW lands are encouraged to take a look at these rules. If they are followed, WDFW public lands will continue to provide safe, beautiful wildlands for all users to enjoy now and in the future.

Help Stop Poaching

Every year poachers steal hunting opportunities and hundreds of animals from the citizens of Washington. You can help protect our resources by reporting violations.

The Turn In a Poacher (TIP) program provides the public the opportunity to confidentially report fish and wildlife violations.

A person who provides information that leads to an arrest may be eligible for a cash reward or bonus points.

WDFW Enforcement Program
(360) 902-2936

wdfw.wa.gov/enforcement/reporting_violations.html

Turn In a Poacher

877-WDFW-TIP • (877-933-9847)



Photo by WDFW

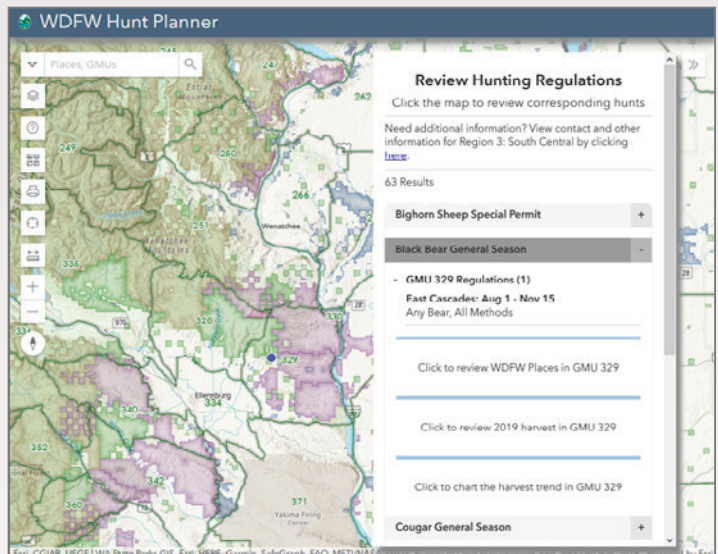
Review Hunts in the Upgraded Hunt Planner!

Go to <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/regulations/> and click on “**Hunt Planner Webmap**”

- New features, improved functionality, and more intuitive design
- Browser-based, mobile-friendly web map*
- Review harvest statistics and trends alongside hunting opportunities**

* No additional Mobile App download required. Accessible in all modern web browsers

** Not available for all hunting opportunities



Where To Get Maps

Maps provided in this pamphlet are for general reference only. For specific boundaries, refer to the legal descriptions on the following pages.

WASHINGTON DEPT. OF FISH AND WILDLIFE HUNT REGULATIONS WEBMAP

<https://geodataservices.wdfw.wa.gov/huntregs/>

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Major Public Lands maps and aerial photos
www.dnr.wa.gov/programs-and-services/buy-maps-aerial-photos-or-survey-data

DEPARTMENT OF ENTERPRISE SERVICES PRINT SHOP

TOPO and public lands maps
7580 New Market St SW
Tumwater, WA 98501
(360) 664-4343

ARNOLDS MAP SERVICE

Maps with GMU boundaries on them.
USGS Topographic Maps and other maps
119 W 24th Street
Vancouver, WA 98660
Email: parnold1942@gmail.com

BENCHMARK MAPS

Washington Road & Recreation Atlas, Public lands maps with GMU overlays, Washington Recreation Maps
Local bookstores
(888) 797-9377
www.benchmarkmaps.com

BIG SKY MAPS

Rams GMU Maps
Topography, Public/Private Lands
P.O. Box 1318
Caldwell, ID 83606
(800) 553-6658
www.bigskymaps.com

LC SPORTSMAPS, INC.

Maps with GMU boundaries (public and private lands)
PO Box 1840
Orting, WA 98360
(360) 872-0221
www.lcsportsmaps.com

MYTOPO

Hunt Area/GMU Maps provide 1:100,000 Bureau of Land Management base maps.
<http://www.mytopo.com/>

GREEN TRAILS MAPS

www.greentrailsmaps.com

ADAMS COUNTY:

<https://adamswa-mapsifter.publicaccessnow.com>

GRANT COUNTY:

<https://www.grantcountywa.gov/172/Geographic-Information-Systems-GIS>

WASHINGTON ATLAS AND GAZETTEER

Local bookstores or U.S. Geological Survey

METSKER MAPS

(800) 727-4430
www.metskers.com

ON X MAPS

Landowners Names & Boundaries.
Detailed Roads and Trails Data.
1925 Brooks St.
Missoula, MT 59801
(406) 540-1602
www.huntinggpsmaps.com

OUTDOOR RECREATION INFORMATION CENTER

Trip Planning Section
222 Yale Ave. N.
Seattle, WA 98109-5429
(206) 470-4060 / (206) 470-4061

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Spokane District
1103 North Fancher
Spokane, WA 99212
(509) 536-1200
www.blm.gov/or

U. S. FOREST SERVICE MAPS:

Many national forest trailheads in Washington now charge an access fee. You may contact the Forest Service for access fees and maps at any of the following forest service offices:
www.fs.usda.gov
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/visit/maps>

COLVILLE NATIONAL FOREST

765 South Main Street
Colville, WA 99114
(509) 684-7000

GIFFORD PINCHOT NATIONAL FOREST

(360) 891-5000
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/activity/giffordpinchot/recreation/hunting>

MOUNT BAKER-SNOQUALMIE NATIONAL FOREST

Mt. Baker-Ranger District
810 State Route 20
Sedro-Woolley, WA 98284-1263
(360) 856-5700
For rules and conduct pertaining to the Mt. Baker Wilderness Area visit:
www.fs.usda.gov/detail/mbs/specialplaces/?cid=fsbdev_001639

DARRINGTON RANGER DISTRICT

1405 Emens St.
Darrington, WA 98241-9502
(360) 436-1155

SKYKOMISH RANGER DISTRICT

74920 NE Stevens Pass Highway
Skykomish, WA 98288-0305
(360) 677-2414

SNOQUALMIE RANGER DISTRICT

902 SE North Bend Way, Bldg. 1
North Bend, WA 98045-9545
(425) 888-1421

OKANOGAN NATIONAL FOREST

1240 South Second Avenue
Okanogan, WA 98840
(509) 826-3275

OLYMPIC NATIONAL FOREST

1835 Black Lake Blvd SW
Olympia, WA 98512
360-956-2402
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/olympic/>

UMATILLA NATIONAL FOREST

2517 SW Hailey Avenue
Pendleton, OR 97801
(541) 278-3716

OKANOGAN-WENATCHEE NATIONAL FOREST HEADQUARTERS

215 Melody Lane
Wenatchee, WA 98801
(509) 664-9200
<https://www.fs.usda.gov/main/okawen/maps-pubs>

Regulated Access Programs

HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES

Several opportunities exist to experience waterfowl hunting through WDFW's Regulated Access Programs that focus on improving hunting conditions and minimizing disturbance to waterfowl. These areas are designed to provide low density hunter access and are closed to commercial guiding uses. For more information visit: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/locations/waterfowl-access-areas>

Public Land Opportunities: See WAC 220-416-080

Bailie Memorial Youth Ranch is located in Franklin County north of Basin City. Hunting is allowed Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday, and state holidays during the youth hunt and regular hunting seasons. Hunters must park and register in designated parking lots located at either Bailie Lake or Hendricks Road. Parking is limited to 5 vehicles per lot. Additional restrictions are posted at the parking lots. Contact WDFW's Region 3 Office for more information.

Frenchman Ponds is located on the Desert Wildlife Area southwest of Moses Lake at T17, R27E, sections 8 and 9. Access is every day during the youth hunt and regular waterfowl season. All visitors using the area must register and park in the designated parking lot. Parking is limited to 7 vehicles, 5 in the main parking lots and 2 reserved for disabled hunters. Vehicles are not allowed into the parking lot before 4:00 a.m. Additional restrictions are posted at the parking lot. Contact WDFW's Region 2 Office for more information and to reserve the disabled hunter blinds.

Mesa Lake is located in Franklin County west of Mesa, WA. Access is allowed year-round, seven days per week. All visitors using the area must park in designated lots off of either Langford or Sheffield Roads. All hunters must register to hunt. Additional restrictions are posted at the parking lots. Contact WDFW's Region 3 office for more information.

North Potholes is located on the Potholes Wildlife Area west of Moses Lake at T19, R27, S33 and 34.

Access is allowed everyday. All visitors using the area must register and park in the designated parking lot located on the northern boundary of the property, just off of the I-90 south frontage road. Parking is limited to 5 vehicles. Vehicles are not allowed in the parking lot before 4:00 a.m. Additional restrictions are posted at the parking lot.

Winchester Ponds is located on the Desert Wildlife Area west of Moses Lake at T18N, R25E section 13 and T18N, R26E, section 18. Access is allowed on Wednesday, Saturday, Sunday, and Management Area 4 goose hunting days during the youth hunt and regular waterfowl season. All visitors using the area must register and park in the designated parking lot located on the eastern boundary of the property. Parking is limited to 5 vehicles. Vehicles are not allowed in the parking lot before 4:00 a.m. Additional restrictions are posted at the parking lot. **Note:** The access route to Winchester Ponds has changed to the southeast end and is accessed by the gravel road at the substations off of Road 4. Contact WDFW's Region 2 Office for more information.

Windmill Ranch is located in Franklin County northeast of Basin City. Access is allowed year-round seven days a week. All visitors using the area must park in designated parking lots on either Marion or Colonial Roads. Parking is limited to eight vehicles per lot during October 1 to January 30. All hunters must register to hunt. Additional restrictions are posted at the parking lots. Contact WDFW's Region 3 Office for more information.

Private Land Opportunities:

The Waterfowl Habitat & Access Program (WHAP) is designed to work with landowners to allow limited access to private property. It absolves the landowners of managing hunting on their land, while increasing hunting opportunities for the public. Wetlands throughout Washington provide essential habitats to waterfowl, but also provide economic benefits to society. Drawing attention to this habitat-resource-landowner stewardship connection, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) works with the landowner to lay out each unit and ensure a safe hunting environment, while also taking landowner concerns and wishes into account. In many cases, these waterfowl compatible private lands are critical component to providing a network of food resources, resting habitats, and broader appreciation for Washington's waterfowl resources.

WDFW compensates each landowner for use of the property for hunting purposes. Funds are provided by the U.S. Department of Agriculture through the Voluntary Public Access and Habitat Improvement Program with additional funding provided by those who have purchased the Migratory Bird Permit.

Each WHAP unit is selected based on its potential habitat value to waterfowl, to provide waterfowl hunting access, and the landowner's willingness to participate in the program. WDFW

private lands staff members work closely with landowners to provide the best hunt scenario possible. When department staff member negotiate unit selection with landowners, two points are made clear:

- Agricultural crop preparation and harvest supersede availability of the unit to the public.
- Parking and blind location will get landowner approval before public access commences.
- Hunters should keep these points in mind before utilizing a WHAP site.

North Puget Sound has an expanded program to provide over 70 waterfowl hunting access sites (including over 40 blinds) on private lands. For more information please contact WDFW's Region 4 office.

Columbia Basin: in the past had provided access on agricultural crop stubble fields in Benton, Franklin, and Grant counties. Funding for this portion of the state was unavailable in 2019 but the new 2020 VPA-HIP grant will provide more opportunities for waterfowl hunting in the Columbia Basin during the 2020-21 seasons. Please contact WDFW's Region 2 and 3 offices.

WDFW PRIVATE LANDS PROGRAM

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Private Lands Program was developed to restore important habitats, and the wildlife that utilize those habitats, as well as increase public access to private property. To meet these goals, WDFW provides:

1. Services and incentives to landowners to encourage habitat enhancement and public access on private lands.
2. Assistance and works cooperatively with federal and state agencies with compatible goals.
3. Information and technical assistance to landowners.
4. Educational information to the public about habitat and private lands access.

Private lands are extremely important to Washington's wildlife, as well as recreational opportunity to the public. Improving hunting access on those lands is a major goal for the Department of Fish and Wildlife. Currently, there are over 500 private landowners and over 1.7 million acres enrolled in public access and habitat development agreements. In the next 3 years, we will be focusing on wetland areas, agricultural fields, and timberlands to improve access for waterfowl, turkey, big game, dove, and upland hunting across the state. There will also be growing opportunities for fishing and wildlife viewing access. In addition to these new opportunities, there will also be a strong push to improve current systems and provide a more user-friendly experience for the public interested in the opportunities that exist on private lands throughout Washington.

For additional information, please contact your local WDFW office or check out the Department's hunting access website: wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/hunting_access.



Photo by Chad Morrison

Persons with Disabilities

WDFW may issue a disability designation to a person with permanent disabilities as described in WAC 220-200-160.

WDFW DISABILITY STATUS:

A person with a disability is a person who has a permanent physical or developmental disability which substantially impairs their ability to participate in recreational activities or to access department lands.



ACCESSIBILITY WAC RULES

WAC 220-200-160, WAC 220-200-170, WAC 220-200-180, WAC 220-200-190, WAC 220-413-140, WAC 220-413-210.

All disability-related WAC language is available online at: wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/accessibility/laws

DISABLED HUNTER PROGRAM:

A hunter with a disability means a person who has been granted a disability designation and issued a valid disabled hunter endorsement on their license by the department.

The hunter with a disability issued a disability endorsement will receive a designated hunter com-

panion card. The hunter companion card allows a licensed hunter to assist the disabled hunter with that physical function the hunter with a disability is unable to perform. The hunter companion must be in the physical presence of the disabled hunter, not to exceed a ¼ mile separation. The hunter and companion must have a form of reliable and direct communication. A hunter with a disability may no longer possess a loaded firearm in a motor vehicle, or shoot from a motor vehicle, unless the hunter with a disability has been issued a special use permit from the department. In addition, it is unlawful for a hunter with a disability to utilize a crossbow in archery or muzzleloader season, unless the hunter with a disability has been issued a special use permit from the department. (For complete ADA hunting information and definitions, please refer to WAC 220-413-140.)

SPECIAL USE PERMITS:

Special use permits issued by the department allow for a limited, specific exception to a recreational activity, service, equipment, or regulation for persons granted a permanent disability designation and are processed through the Licensing Division. For complete special use permit information and definitions, please refer to WAC 220-

200-170 or visit the Special Use Permit Program website at: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/accessibility/wdfw-special-use-permit-program>.

ROAD ACCESS ENTRY PROGRAM

This program provides opportunities for accessibility modifications to hunters with a mobility disability, unable to walk 200' feet, or who have been medically prescribed the use of an assistive device every time for mobility such as; a wheelchair, walker, crutch, prosthetic, leg brace, or oxygen. Many new opportunities are being developed and existing areas may rotate due to current activities within those areas.

Access roads are identified through signage at the gated entry points. Hunters drawn for access will receive a permit for entry.

These opportunities are in cooperation with the Washington Department of Natural Resources (DNR), U.S. Forest Service (USFS), Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW), and private timber companies and private landowners.

The Road Access Entry Booklet is available online, June 1st and can be requested after June 1st at any WDFW Office. Submissions are accepted from June 1st through July 31st of each year. For 2024, all applicants must apply through the online licensing system (WILD). They can access the application via their WILD account.

For information about opportunities on DNR lands only, call (360) 902-1375.

For other information about the Road Access Entry Program, please call WDFW at (360) 902-2247.

DISABLED TRAPPER PROGRAM:

A trapper with a disability means a person who has been granted a disability designation and issued a valid disabled hunter endorsement on their trapper license by the department.

OTHER ACCESSIBILITY OPTIONS:

Other opportunities are available through the special deer and elk permit drawings in this pamphlet. Accessible waterfowl blinds are located around the state on private, state, and federal lands. Each regional office has possible program modifications and accessible facilities located within its region. They can help you with your hunting prospects for that specific area.

The Private Lands Access Program provides hunting access to 1.8 million acres of private land. Enrolled properties can be found at: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/locations/private-lands>

For questions about your license, or to request a Hunter/Fisher Disability Status or Special Use Permit application contact:

- **WDFW Licensing Division:** (360) 902-2464
- **Hearing impaired TTY:** 711
- **For Wildlife questions:** (360) 902-2515
- **Hunter Education questions:** (360) 902-8111



Photo by by Garrett Paeschke

Nontoxic Shot Requirements

RCW 77.15.400: There is a mandatory \$1,000 fine and loss of small game hunting privileges for 2 years if you are convicted of violating the following requirements:

NONTOXIC SHOT ZONES

Nontoxic Shot Requirements: Waterfowl, Coot & Snipe

It is unlawful to possess shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading) other than nontoxic shot when hunting for waterfowl, coot, or snipe.

It is unlawful to possess shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading) other than nontoxic shot for any purpose in the following areas:

- Well's Wildlife Area (Bridgeport Bar Unit)
- Cowlitz Wildlife Area (all units)
- Whatcom Wildlife Area (all units)
- Shillapoo Wildlife Area (all units)
- Skagit Wildlife Area (all units)
- Snoqualmie Wildlife Area (all units)
- Sunnyside-Snake River Wildlife Area (Headquarters, Byron and Windmill Ranch units)
- Sinlahekin Wildlife Area (Driscoll Island, Hegdahl, and Kline Parcel units)
- Johns River Wildlife Area (Chinook, Chehalis, and Elk River units)
- South Puget Sound Wildlife Area (Big Beef Creek, Lake Koeneman, Nisqually, Skokomish, and Union River units)
- Scatter Creek Wildlife Area (all units)
- North Olympic Wildlife Area (all units)

Many U.S. Fish and Wildlife refuges require the use of non-toxic shot (refer to specific refuge rules).



Though lead shot has been outlawed for waterfowl hunting since 1991, WDFW and partners continue to respond to lead poisoning of waterfowl from legacy lead shot every year. Depicted here are WDFW staff capturing lead-poisoned waterfowl.

In addition to the restrictions listed on the left, it is unlawful to possess shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading), other than nontoxic shot, when hunting for upland game birds (pheasant, quail, chukar, and gray partridge), mourning dove, band-tailed pigeon, on all areas where pheasants are released by WDFW.

- Asotin Wildlife Area
- Belfair
- Big Flat
- Buckshot
- Central Ferry
- Chehalis River *
- Chelan Wildlife Area (Chelan Butte and Swakane units)
- Chliwist Wildlife Area
- Colockum Wildlife Area (Headquarters Unit)
- Columbia Basin Wildlife Area (Banks Lake, Gloyd Seeps, Lower Crab Creek, Quincy Lakes, Warden units)
- Ebey Island
- Finn Ridge Road
- Fishtrap Lake
- Fort Lewis
- Goldendale Hatchery
- Gun Club Property
- Hartssock unit
- Hollebeke/Lost Island
- Hope Valley
- Hunter Farms *
- John Henley
- Klickitat Wildlife Area (Hill Road Unit)
- Kosmos
- Lincoln Creek
- Mill Creek
- Quincy Wildlife Area
- Rice Bar
- Sargeant Mac
- Scatter Creek Wildlife Area (Scatter Creek Unit and Skookumchuck Unit)
- Sherman Creek Wildlife Area
- Steamboat Rock
- Swakane Wildlife Area
- All Whidbey Island sites (NAS Sea Plan Base, OLF-Coupeville, Zylstra Road, Bayview) *
- Whiskey Dick
- Willow Bar
- Woodland Bottoms

* Unlawful to possess shot (either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading) other than nontoxic shot when hunting ALL game birds and game animals in this area.

For more information and complete pheasant release site maps, please see the Eastern and Western Washington Pheasant Release Enhancement Program booklets located at: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/locations/pheasant-enhancement> and <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/locations/pheasant-release> Contact the Adventure Center at Fort Lewis (253) 967-6263 and the Environmental Affairs Office at the Whidbey Island Naval Air Station (360) 257-1009 prior to hunting at these locations.

APPROVED NONTOXIC SHOT TYPES* — PERCENT COMPOSITION BY WEIGHT

- **bismuth-tin:** 97 bismuth, 3 tin
 - **iron (steel):** iron and carbon
 - **iron-tungsten:** any proportion of tungsten, ≥ 1 iron
 - **iron-tungsten-nickel:** ≥ 1 iron, any proportion of tungsten, up to 40 nickel
 - **copper-clad iron:** 84 to 56.59 iron core, with copper cladding up to 44.1 of the shot mass
 - **tungsten-bronze:** 51.1 tungsten, 44.4 copper, 3.9 tin, 0.6 iron; & 60 tungsten, 35.1 copper, 3.9 tin, 1 iron
 - **tungsten-iron-copper-nickel:** 40-76 tungsten, 10-37 iron, 9-16 copper, 5-7 nickel
 - **tungsten-matrix:** 95.9 tungsten, 4.1 polymer
 - **tungsten-polymer:** 95.5 tungsten, 4.5 Nylon 6 or 11
 - **tungsten-tin-iron:** any proportions of tungsten and tin, ≥ 1 iron
 - **tungsten-tin-bismuth:** any proportions of tungsten, tin, & bismuth
 - **tungsten-tin-iron-nickel:** 65 tungsten, 21.8 tin, 10.4 iron, 2.8 nickel
 - **tungsten-iron-polymer:** 41.5 - 95.2 tungsten, 1.5-52.0 iron, and 3.5 - 8.0 fluoropolymer
- * Coatings of copper, nickel, tin, zinc, zinc chloride, zinc chrome and fluoropolymers on approved nontoxic shot types are also approved.

Shoot Clean—Get The Lead Out

- Lead shot can kill wildlife that ingests it.
- It only takes a few lead pellets to be toxic to wildlife.
- Lead shot has resulted in extensive swan mortality in northwestern Washington.
- Target shooting can be a significant source of lead shot in the environment.
- Consider switching to nontoxic shot for all shotgun ammunition.

Nontoxic Shot Information

TOM ROSTER'S 2016 NONTOXIC SHOT LETHALITY TABLE[®]

Proven Nontoxic Loads For Waterfowl, Doves, & Upland Game Birds ¹ <i>Vel. Range Tested: 1,225 – 1,700 FPS</i>	Observed Hunters' Typical Shooting Range During Activity (Yards)	Most Effective Nontoxic Shot Size(s) For Birds Listed Under ACTIVITY At The Distances Listed In The Second Column	Minimum Load Weight (Ounces)	Minimum Pellet Hits Needed on Lethal Areas for Clean Kills	Minimum Pattern Count Needed at Any Distance for Clean Kills (# of Pellets in 30" Circle)	Most Effective Choke(s) at Distance (Given in Lead Shot Choke Designations)	NOTE: The pellets in the steel shot loads listed in this table were traditional, highly spherical ball-shaped pellets of ~ 7.86 g/cc density and 90-95 DPH hardness. The HEVI-Shot pellets were of 12.0 g/cc density and are harder than traditional steel pellets.
ACTIVITY							
Large Geese At Long Range Giant, Western, Atlantic and Interior Canadas	50-65	Steel BBB to T	1-1/4	1-2	50-55	Improved Modified	
	50-70	HEVI-Shot 2 to B	1-1/2	1-2	50-55	Improved Modified, Full	
Large Geese Over Decoys	35-50	Steel BB to BBB	1-1/4	1-2	50-55	Improved Cylinder, Modified	
	35-50	HEVI-Shot 2 to B	1-1/2	1-2	50-55	Improved Cylinder, Modified	
Medium/Small Geese Long Range Snow, White-fronted, Lesser Canadas	50-65	Steel BB to BBB	1-1/4	1-2	60-65	Improved Modified	
	50-65	HEVI-Shot 2	1-1/2	1-2	60-65	Improved Modified, Full	
Medium/Small Geese Over Decoys	35-50	Steel 2 to BB	1-1/8	1-2	60-65	Light Modified, Modified	
	35-50	HEVI-Shot 4 to 2	1-1/4	1-2	60-65	Improved Cylinder, Modified	
Large Ducks At Long Range Mallard, Black, Pintail, Goldeneye, Gadwall	45-65	Steel 2 to 1	1-1/8	1-2	85-90	Improved Modified, Full	
	45-65	HEVI-Shot 4	1-1/4	1-2	85-90	Improved Modified, Full	
Large Ducks Over Decoys	20-45	Steel 6 to 2	¾ - 1	1-2	85-90	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)	
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1-1/8	1-2	85-90	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)	
Medium Ducks Over Decoys Wigeon, Scaup, Shoveler	20-45	Steel 6 to 3	1	1-2	115-120	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)	
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1-1/8	1-2	115-120	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)	
Small Ducks Over Decoys Teal, Ruddy, Bufflehead	20-45	Steel 6 to 4	1	1-2	135-145	Mod. (20-35 Yds), Full (35-45 Yds)	
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6	1-1/8	1-2	135-145	Mod. (20-35 Yds), Full (35-45 Yds)	
Ring-Necked Pheasants	20-50	Steel 3 to 2	1	2-3	90-95	I.C. (20-30 Yds), Mod. (30-50 Yds)	
	20-50	HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1-1/8	2-3	90-95	I.C. (20-30 Yds), Mod. (30-50 Yds)	
Turkeys (Head and Neck Shots)	20-40	Steel 4; HEVI-Shot 6	1-1/4	3-4	210-230	Full or Extra Full	
Mourning Doves	20-45	Steel 8 to 7	¾ - ¾	1-2	200-210	IC-8's/LM-7's (20-30 Yds); Mod>30 Yd	
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 7½	¾	1-2	200-210	I.C. (20-30 Yds); Light Mod (30-45 Yd)	
Northern Bobwhite Quail	20-30	Steel 8 to 7	¾ - ¾	1-2	200-210	Imp. Cyl., Light Modified	
Swatter Load For Wounded Birds	20-30	Steel 7 to 6	1	1	175	Improved Modified, Full	

This table summarizes Tom Roster's analyses to date of the lethality data bases for certain of the 16 U.S. steel vs lead waterfowl & dove shooting tests published between 1968 & 2014 & one steel-only pheasant shooting test (1999) plus lethality data bases owned by ammunition companies for birds taken with nontoxic shotshell loads Roster tested for them & the CONSEP Org.
 Note: Steel #BBB (.190") & HEVI-Shot #2 (.150") have exhibited the best all-around performance for taking geese; steel #3 (.140") & HEVI-Shot #4 (.130") the best all-around performance for taking ducks; steel #2 & HEVI-Shot #4 (.130") the best all-around performance for taking ring-necked pheasants; & steel 7's (.100") the best all-around performance for taking doves.
¹ These findings are derived from testing 2½" 28 gauge; 3" 20 ga.; 2¼", 3" & 3½" 12 ga.; & 3½" 10 ga. steel loads; plus 2¾" 28 ga.; 2¼" & 3" 20 ga.; and 2¼" & 3" 12 ga. HEVI-Shot loads.
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Photo by WDFW

Shot Size Diagram

Shot Sizes		U.S. STANDARD DESIGNATIONS															
SHOT SIZES		●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●	●
Shot Number		12	9	8	7½	7	6	5	4	3	2	1	B	BB	BBB	T	
Diameter (in.)		.05	.08	.09	.095	.10	.11	.12	.13	.14	.15	.16	.17	.18	.19	.20	
Number of Lead Pellets per Ounce		2,385	585	410	350	300	225	170	135	n/a	90	n/a	n/a	50	n/a	n/a	
Number of Steel Pellets per Ounce		n/a	n/a	577	490	420	317	243	192	154	125	103	86	72	61	53	
BUCKSHOT SIZES		●	●	●	●	●	●										
Shot Number		4	3	1	0	00	000										
Diameter (in.)		.24	.25	.30	.32	.33	.36										

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Aquatic Invasive Species Information



IMPORTANT NOTICE: WASHINGTON STATE

AQUATIC INVASIVE SPECIES (AIS) PREVENTION PERMIT REQUIRED FOR:

- **Non-Resident Boats** (not registered in Washington State) before operating on state waters. Exemptions - see "More information" web link below.
- **Commercial Transporters of Boats** before transporting boats into the state.
- **Seaplanes** (resident or non-resident) before operating on state waters.

Purchase:

Online: fishhunt.dfw.wa.gov (scroll down/click AIS Prevention Permit link), or
Visit: WDFW license dealers wdfw.wa.gov/licenses/dealers

More information:

- **Price:** \$24 - valid 365 days.
- **Call:** 888-WDFW-AIS or 360-902-2700 M-F 8AM-5PM
- **Email:** ais@wdfw.wa.gov
- **Web:** wdfw.wa.gov/species-habitats/invasive/permits

Failure to have an AIS Prevention Permit may result in a \$150 fine (RCW 77.15.160)



Have permit readily available!

Thank You! Funds Used to Protect State Waters from AIS!

Summary of State Regulations

DECOY RESTRICTIONS

It Is Unlawful To:

- Place waterfowl decoys prior to 4:00 a.m.; allow or permit waterfowl decoys to be unattended or not in your immediate control for a period greater than one hour; or fail to remove waterfowl decoys within two hours after the close of established daily hunting hours on days open to waterfowl hunting on department owned or controlled lands, waters, or access areas.
- Place waterfowl decoys on lands or waters controlled by WDFW except as authorized by permit of the director, on days closed to waterfowl hunting on department owned or controlled lands, waters, or access areas.
- Hunt waterfowl or wild turkeys using live birds as decoys.
- Hunt waterfowl, turkey, or deer with the use or aid of battery-powered or other electronic devices as decoys.

FIREARM REGULATIONS

It Is Unlawful To Hunt:

- Game birds with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells.
- Game birds or game animals with a shotgun larger than 10 gauge.
- Wildlife with a fully automatic firearm.
- Game birds with a rifle or handgun, with the exception of:
 - » **Forest grouse** (dusky grouse, sooty grouse, spruce grouse and ruffed grouse), which may not be killed with any rifle or handgun 24 caliber or larger, or shotgun containing slugs or buckshot, during modern firearm deer or elk seasons unless appropriate deer or elk tags are in the hunter's possession. Forest grouse may be taken with shotguns as well as firearms smaller than 24 caliber during the entire grouse hunting season.
 - » **Turkey**, which it is unlawful to hunt with any weapon other than the following:
 - » Crossbow or bow and arrow;
 - » Shotgun shooting #4 or smaller shot, or muzzleloading shot-gun shooting #4 or smaller shot;
 - » Legal modern handgun designed for hunting, shooting #4 or smaller shot, and not capable of holding more than three shells. Hand-gun barrel length must be a minimum of 10 inches, inclusive of choke tube. Modern handguns must shoot a minimum three inch shotshell of .410 caliber or larger;
 - » Legal muzzleloading handgun designed for hunting and shooting #4 or smaller shot. Handgun barrel length must be a minimum of 10 inches. Muzzleloading handguns must be .45 caliber or larger.
- Game birds or game animals with anything other than a firearm, a bow and arrow, a crossbow, or by falconry, with the following exceptions:
 - » Forest grouse, snowshoe hare, and cottontail rabbit may be hunted with an air rifle no

smaller than .22 caliber and no larger than .25 caliber.

- » Bullfrogs may be hunted only by angling, hand dip netting, gigging, or bow and arrow.
- » Hunters with disabilities may also use a crossbow during any season that allows archery equipment with a special use permit as conditioned in WAC 220-413-130.

Unlawful Possession of Firearms:

- According to RCWs 9.41.040 and 9.41.170 aliens and felons may not possess firearms. If you are in doubt, seek appropriate legal counsel. Possession rights may in some cases be restored, per RCW chapter 9.41.

HUNTING RESTRICTIONS

It Is Unlawful To:

- Hunt wild animals (except rabbits and hares) with dogs (hounds) during modern firearm deer or elk general seasons that occur in October or November in eastern and western Washington.
- Hunt waterfowl, wild turkeys, or deer with the use or aid of electronic calls, except electronic calls may be used for lesser snow geese and Ross' geese during season dates occurring after February 1st in Goose Management Area 1 and Goose Management Area 4, when lesser snow geese and Ross' geese are the only species open to harvest as specified in WAC 220-416-060.
- Hunt game birds over bait or baited areas, or areas posted as upland bird feeding sites. (See page 58)
- Destroy or possess the nests or eggs of game birds or protected wildlife.
- Allow game animals or game birds you have taken to be recklessly wasted.
- Hunt wildlife from a vehicle (except authorized disabled hunters) or from a boat propelled by a motor, unless the boat's motor is shut off and progress due to the motor has stopped.
- Use a vehicle (including ATVs), aircraft, or boat to pursue, concentrate or harass wild animals or wild birds.
- Possess wildlife taken by another person unless you have in possession a written statement showing name, address, license and/or tag number, date, county and area the animal was taken in, and the signature of the hunter who killed it.
- Possess in the field or transport game birds unless a feathered wing or head is left attached to each carcass, except:
 - » Falconry-caught birds
 - » Turkeys, where the fully feathered head and the beard, if present at harvest, must be left attached
 - » Canada and cackling geese harvested in Goose Management Area 2 (Coast & Inland), where the fully feathered head must be left attached
- Avoid or fail to stop and report at a WDFW established check station, and produce hunting equipment, wildlife in your possession, and licenses, permits, tags, or stamps required.

Hunter Orange and Fluorescent Hunter Pink

Anyone hunting upland birds (pheasant, quail, and partridge), rabbits, or hares with a modern firearm during any upland game bird season is required to wear hunter orange/fluorescent hunter pink clothing. Those hunting forest grouse, rabbits, turkey or hares during those times and in those places open to taking of deer or elk during nonmaster hunter, modern firearm general seasons must also wear fluorescent orange/pink clothing. A minimum of 400 square inches of fluorescent orange/pink exterior clothing, worn above the waist and visible from all sides, is required to comply with this regulation.

PROPERTY LAWS

Hunters are welcome on most state-owned lands, although some lands leased to private owners may be posted closed to protect livestock, equipment, or crops. Courtesy shown while hunting and respect for property rights will prevent the closing of more of these lands to hunting. (See Public Conduct on WDFW Lands, page 47)

It Is Unlawful To:

- Remove, possess, or damage printed material or signs placed by authority of the Fish and Wildlife Commission.
- Place or leave litter on any land, either public or private, which is not your own.
- Post signs against trespass or otherwise prevent hunting on lands not owned or leased by that person.
- Operate a motor vehicle on lands owned, controlled, or managed by the WDFW, except as authorized. (Off-road travel on Department lands is usually prohibited.)
- Take a wild animal from another person's trap without permission or to damage or destroy a trap, except a trap may be removed by the property owner.
- Hunt or trap on state park lands.

SAFETY VIOLATIONS

It Is Unlawful To:

- Carry, transport, convey, possess, or control in or on any motor vehicle, a rifle or shotgun containing shells or cartridges in either the chamber or magazine, or a muzzleloading firearm that is loaded and capped or primed.
- Negligently shoot a firearm from, across, or along the maintained part of any public highway.

- Hunt while under the influence of intoxicating liquor or drugs.
- Shoot at wild animals or wild birds while they are on any utility line, pole, its crossarm, or insulator.
- Hunt upland birds with a modern firearm unless you are wearing hunter orange or fluorescent hunter pink.

EASTERN AND WESTERN WASHINGTON DEFINED:

EASTERN Washington includes all areas lying east of the Pacific Crest Trail and east of the Big White Salmon River in Klickitat and Skamania Counties, while **WESTERN** Washington refers to all areas west of the Pacific Crest Trail and west of (and including) the Big White Salmon River in Klickitat and Skamania Counties.

PRIVATE LANDS

It is unlawful to trespass. State hunting regulations apply to hunting private land, but do not guarantee access. Entry without permission onto any lands that are fenced, posted, cultivated, or used for commercial agricultural crops or aquaculture is considered trespass. Some private landowners (individuals or corporations) have chosen to deny access to, or across, their property. Check with landowners before entering their property. It is always best to obtain landowner permission before entering private property.

It Is Unlawful To:

- Hunt in areas posted with Hunting Only by Written Permission without a permission card signed by the landowner on your person.
- Hunt in areas posted with Hunt by Reservation without a valid permit.
- Hunt or shoot behind a Safety Zone sign.
- Operate a motor vehicle (including ORVs) behind a No Unauthorized Vehicles sign unless specifically authorized by the landowner under the Regulated Access Cooperative Agreement with the WDFW.
- Disobey posted notices or signs on private lands under cooperative agreement with WDFW (WAC 220-500-230).

Some private lands may be open weekends only.

LICENSING VIOLATIONS

It Is Unlawful To:

- Hunt (regardless of age) without a valid hunting license and any required tags, permits, authorizations, or stamps in your possession (see exceptions on page 10 for hunting with an authorization number).
- Buy, possess, or attempt to obtain any license, tag, or permit by using false information, or to buy, possess or attempt to obtain a license, tag, or permit when such license privilege has been revoked.
- Purchase or possess more than one of each license, tag, permit, or stamp during the same

year, unless it is a legally obtained duplicate or authorized by the Fish and Wildlife Commission.

- Transfer, loan to, or borrow from another person any license, tag, permit, or stamp.
- Refuse to show a license, tag, or permit, or to refuse to display wildlife taken when asked to do so by a fish and wildlife officer or other law officer.
- Purchase a hunting license for the first time if you were born after Jan. 1, 1972, unless you have successfully completed Hunter Education training.

For more complete information on regulations affecting wildlife, hunting and firearm safety, see the Big Game Hunting Seasons and Regulations pamphlet, available from license dealers throughout the state and online at wdfw.wa.gov.

IMPORT AND RETENTION OF DEAD WILDLIFE

It is unlawful to possess or import into Washington wildlife taken in another state or country, unless the wildlife was acquired lawfully. Proof of legal acquisition must be retained during the period of retention of the edible parts.

Special Migratory Bird Closures

WAC 220-411-220 SWINOMISH SPIT WATERFOWL, COOT, AND SNIPE CLOSURE (SKAGIT COUNTY).

It is unlawful to hunt migratory waterfowl, coot, and snipe within the following described boundary November 15 through March 31, and it is unlawful to hunt brant at any time within the following described boundary: Beginning at the Burlington Northern railroad tracks on the west shoreline of the Swinomish Channel to the reserve boundary sign on the northernmost sand island; thence 10,500 feet ENE to the reserve boundary sign; thence 1,800 feet SW to the reserve boundary sign; thence 7,000 feet SSW to the reserve boundary sign on the dike at the south end of Padilla Bay; thence continue westerly along said dike to the intersection of the Burlington Northern railroad tracks and the shoreline of the Swinomish Channel and the point of beginning.

WAC 220-416-070 COLUMBIA AND SNAKE RIVER WATERFOWL, COOT, AND SNIPE CLOSURES.

Section 1. Waters and land below the mean high water mark of Bachelor Island Slough of the Columbia River in Clark County. Bachelor Island Slough is further defined as those waters starting at the south end of the slough at its confluence with the Columbia River, running north along the eastern shore of Bachelor Island to the confluence with Lake River. (Clark County)

Section 2. The Columbia River and those lands lying within one-quarter mile of the Columbia River upstream from the railroad bridge at Wishram to the U.S. Highway 97 bridge at Maryhill. (Klickitat County)

Section 3. The Columbia River and its islands between the mouth of Glade Creek (river channel marker 57) and the old town site of Paterson (river channel marker 67), except the hunting of waterfowl, coot and snipe is permitted from the

main shoreline of the Columbia River in this area. (Benton County)

Section 4. The Columbia River and those lands lying within one-quarter mile of the Columbia River between the old Hanford townsite power line crossing in Section 24, T13N, R27E, to Vernita Bridge (Highway 24). (Benton, Franklin, and Grant counties)

Section 5. The Columbia River between the public boat launch at Sunland Estates (Wanapum Pool) and a point perpendicular in Kittitas County; upstream to the posted marker 200 yards north of Quilomene Bay and a point perpendicular in Grant County, including islands. (Grant and Kittitas counties)

Section 6. The Snake River and those lands within one-quarter mile of the Snake River, between the U.S. Highway 12 bridge near Burbank, upstream to a line running between shoreline navigation marker 5 at Levey Park Recreation Area and the Corps of Engineers windmill at Charbonneau Habitat Management Unit. (Franklin and Walla Walla counties)

Special Area Restrictions

WAC 220-413-180 SPECIAL CLOSURES AND FIREARM RESTRICTION AREAS.

It is unlawful to hunt wildlife with centerfire or rimfire rifles in the firearm restriction areas listed in WAC 220-413-180. It is unlawful to hunt in the restricted hunting areas listed in WAC 220-413-180.

WAC 220-416-080 REGULATED ACCESS AREA RESTRICTIONS FOR WATERFOWL, COOT, AND SNIPE HUNTING.

It is unlawful to hunt migratory waterfowl, coot, and snipe within the following regulated access areas managed by the department, except under when following specified restrictions.

- **Dungeness** (North Olympic Wildlife Area - Dungeness Unit)
- **Elk River** (Johns River Wildlife Area - Elk River Unit, south of State Route 105)
- **Frenchman** (Columbia Basin Wildlife Area - Desert Unit, southwest of Moses Lake at T17, R27E Sections 8 and 9)
- **Lynch Cove and Union River** (Mason County)
- **Mesa Lake** (Sunnyside-Snake River Wildlife Area - Mesa Lake Unit)
- **North Potholes** (Columbia Basin Wildlife Area - Potholes Unit, west of Moses Lake at T19, R27, S33 and S34)
- **Samish River** (Skagit Wildlife Area - Samish River Unit)
- **South Padilla Bay** (Skagit Wildlife Area - South Padilla Bay Unit)
- **Winchester** (Columbia Basin Wildlife Area - Desert Unit, west of Moses Lake at T18N, R25E Section 13, and T18N, R26E Section 18)

- **Windmill Ranch** (Sunnyside-Snake River Wildlife Area - Windmill Ranch Unit)

For additional information, please see page 50 in this pamphlet, contact your local WDFW office or check out the Department's hunting access website: <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/locations>.

WAC 220-416-090 NORTHERN PUGET SOUND HUNTING METHOD RESTRICTION.

It is unlawful to hunt waterfowl, coot, or snipe from a moving boat or any free-floating device that is not in a fixed position which is either anchored or secured to shore in Port Susan Bay, Skagit Bay, Padilla Bay, and Samish Bay. For a map please visit <https://wdfw.wa.gov/hunting/requirements/waterfowl>

WAC 220-414-050 SHOTGUN SHELL RESTRICTION AREAS.

1. It is unlawful to have in possession more than 15 shotgun shells or to fire (shoot) more than 15 shells in one day on the following areas:
 - » **Section a.** The Island Unit of the Skagit Wildlife Area in Skagit County.
 - » **Section b.** The Spencer Island Unit of the Snoqualmie Wildlife Area in Snohomish County.
 - » **Section c.** The Samish Unit of the Skagit Wildlife Area in Skagit County.
 - » **Section d.** The Johnson/DeBay's Slough Hunt Unit of the Skagit Wildlife Area in Skagit County.
 - » **Section e.** The Dungeness Unit of the North Olympic Wildlife Area in Clallam County.
 - » **Section f.** The Samish River Unit of the Skagit Wildlife Area in Skagit County.

- » **Section g.** The South Padilla Bay Unit of the Skagit Wildlife Area in Skagit County.
2. It is unlawful to have in possession more than 25 shotgun shells or to fire (shoot) more than 25 shells in one day on the Nisqually Unit of the South Puget Sound Wildlife Area in Thurston County.

MOUNT ST. HELENS:

Game Management Unit 522 (Loo-wit) is designated as a "CLOSED AREA" to the hunting of all wild animals and wild birds except by special permit. In addition, U.S. Forest Service maintains a firearm restriction on portions of the Mt. St. Helens National Monument.

Game Reserves — Closed to All Hunting



Photo Credit: Richard Eltrich

Game Reserves are CLOSED AREAS where hunting and trapping for all wild animals and wild birds is prohibited.

WAC 220-411-040 Byron Game Reserve (Yakima County). That part of the Byron Ponds segment of the Sunnyside-Snake River Wildlife Area east of the Mabton Pressure Pipeline, legally described as the W. 1/2 of Section 12 that is north of Highway No. 22, except for the NE 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of the SW 1/4; the NW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 of the SE 1/4 of Section 12; that part of Section 11 east of the Mabton pressure pipeline and north of Highway No. 22; and that part of Section 2 that is east of said pipeline; all of the above sections being in Twp. 8N., R.23E.W.M.

WAC 220-411-010 Arthur S. Coffin Game Reserve (Kittitas County). Beginning at the point where the Brewton Road crosses the south line of Section 19, Twp. 20, N., R21E.W.M.; thence northwesterly along the Brewton Road to the Colockum Pass Road in Section 13, Twp. 20N., R.20E.; thence northerly on the Colockum Pass Road to its junction with the Naneum Lookout Road in Section 13, Twp. 20N., R.20E.; thence westerly along the Naneum Lookout Road to where it crosses the Bonneville Power Line right of way in Section 16, Twp. 20N., R.20E.; thence southwestward along the power line to the Colockum Wildlife Recreation Area boundary on the south line of Section 20, Twp. 20N., R.20E.; thence easterly along the south line of Sections 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, Twp. 20N., R.20E., and Section 19, Twp. 20N., R21E.W.M. to the Brewton Road and the point of beginning.

WAC 220-411-030 Banks Lake Game Reserve (Grant County). In Township 25N, Range 28E, those parts of Sections 9, 10, and 11 and the north 1/2 of sections 14, 15, and 16, lying between State Highway 155 and the west wall of Grand Coulee.

WAC 220-411-110 Grimes Lake Game Reserve (Douglas County). Grimes Lake and all lands within one quarter mile of Grimes Lake.

WAC 220-411-150 Lewis County Game Farm Reserve. Tract A. Township 14 north, Range 3 west W.M., Sections 1 and 12. A part of the Joseph Borst Donation Land Claim described as follows: Beginning at the southwest (SW) corner of said donation land claim; thence south 78° east 1,760 feet along the south boundary of said donation land claim; thence north 1°45' east 2,230 feet to the north boundary of said donation land claim; thence west 957 feet along the north boundary of said donation land claim; thence north 88° west 766 feet to the northwest (NW) corner of said donation land claim; thence south 1°45' west 1,892 feet to the point of beginning. Containing 81.19 acres, more or less.

Tract B. Township 14 north, Range 3 west W.M., Sections 1 and 12. A part of the Sidney S. Ford Donation Land Claim described as follows: Commencing at the northwest (NW) corner of the Joseph Borst Donation Land Claim; thence west 1,122 feet; thence south 26°30' east 825 feet; thence south 972 feet; thence south 65° east to the west line of the Joseph Borst Donation Land Claim; thence north on the west line of the Joseph Borst Donation Land Claim to the point of beginning, containing 33.33 acres, more or less.

Tract C. Township 14 north, Range 3 west W.M. Section 1 Lots 2 and 4, Section 12 Lots 1, 2, and 3; containing 98.51 acres, more or less.

WAC 220-411-170 Rock Lake Game Reserve (Whitman County). On or within 1/4 mile of Rock Lake, Whitman County, except on the lower one mile and the upper one-half mile.

WAC 220-411-180 Skagit Delta Game Reserve (Skagit County). Beginning at a point on the west bank of Albert Slough at the confluence of said slough and Boom Slough; thence southwestward along the west bank of Boom Slough to the confluence of said slough and Boom-Crooked Cutoff Slough; thence westerly along the north bank of Boom-Crooked Cutoff Slough to the confluence of said slough and Crooked Slough; thence southwestward along the north bank of Crooked Slough to the confluence of said slough and Deepwater Slough and east Branch Freshwater-Deepwater Cutoff Slough; thence northwesterly along the north bank of east Branch Freshwater-Deepwater Cutoff Slough to the confluence of said slough and the east Branch Freshwater Slough; thence northerly along the east bank of east Branch Freshwater Slough to the confluence of said slough and Gilbert Hansen Slough; thence northeasterly along the south bank of Gilbert Hansen Slough to the confluence of said slough and Deepwater Slough; thence northeasterly along the south bank of Deepwater Slough to the confluence of said slough and Albert Slough; thence southeasterly along the west bank of Albert Slough to the point of beginning.

WAC 220-411-200 Sprague Lake Game Reserve (Adams and Lincoln counties). Beginning at the point where the easterly right of way line of Interstate Highway No. 90 crosses the Lincoln-Adams County line; thence southwestward along the easterly right of way line of the freeway to the Keystone Rd; thence southerly along the easterly boundary of Section 11 (T20N, R37E); thence southerly along the section line to Cow Creek; thence southerly along Cow Creek to Danekas Road; thence easterly and northerly along Danekas Road to the point where it crosses the Adams-Lincoln County line; thence westerly along said county line across Sprague Lake to the easterly right of way line of the freeway and point of beginning.

WAC 220-411-210 Stratford Game Reserve (Grant County). Stratford Game Reserve shall include the following described lands in Grant County: In Twp. 22N, R 28 EWM; Sec. 1 north of the Great Northern Railroad right of way; Sec. 2 north of the Great Northern Railroad right of way and State Highway No. 28; and that part of Section 3 lying north of the main canal and east of a line running north and south located 100 yards west of the Washington water power transmission line; In Twp. 23N, R. 28 EWM; all of Sections 11, 13, 14, 24, and 25; the south half of Sections 12, 10 and 9 except the north 300 feet of the S.1/2 of 9 and 10; Section 35 except that part west of north-south lying gravel road and south of cultivated lands; Sec. 36 except the east 500 feet; and those parts of Section 15, lying east of a line running north and south located 100 yards west of the Washington water power transmission line and also those portions of the north half of Sections 15 and 16 lying north of the cultivated lands; and in addition the north 500 feet of the NW 1/4 of SW 1/4 of Sec. 19, Twp. 23N, R. 29 EWM.

WAC 220-411-140 Lake Terrell Game Reserve (Whatcom County). All of Lake Terrell in Sections 15 and 16, Twp. 39 north, Range 1 east except that portion of the lake within 350 feet of the south line of said sections and, in addition, those uplands owned by the department in the W1/2 of the SW1/4 of said Section 15, and in the SE1/4 of NE1/4; the NW1/4 of NE1/4; the W1/2 of W1/2 of NE1/4 NE1/4; the E1/2 of the SW1/4 SW1/4; and the W1/2 of the SE1/4 of the SW1/4 except the south 350 feet in Section 16, Twp. 39 north, Range 1 east.

WAC 220-411-230 (1) Toppenish Creek Game Reserve, (Cort Meyer) (Yakima County). Commencing at the NE corner of the SE1/4 of the NW1/4 of Section 26, Township 10, Range 20E.W.M.; thence west one and three-quarters mile to the NW corner of the SE1/4 of the NE1/4 of Section 28, Township 10, Range 20; thence south one-quarter mile; thence east one quarter mile; thence south three-quarters mile to the SW corner of the NW1/4 of the NW1/4 of Section 34; thence east three quarters mile; thence south one-quarter mile; thence east three-quarters mile to center of Section 35; thence north one and one-quarter miles to place of beginning. All in Township 10 north, Range 20E.W.M.

WAC 220-411-240 Walla Walla River Game Reserve (Walla Walla County). A tract of land and water lying within sections 23, 24, 25, and 26 of Township 7, Range 31 E.W.M. in Walla Walla County, Washington, being more particularly described as follows: Beginning at a point where the Bonneville Power Administration power line between John Day and Lower Monumental Dams crosses the center of the main channel of the Walla Walla River, thence westerly along said center of the main channel to the easterly line of the right of way of US #12-395 Highway, thence northerly along said east line of said right of way to the southerly line of the right of way of the Union Pacific Railroad-Burlington Northern Railway joint Pendleton-Walla Walla track, thence easterly along said south line of said right of way to the center line of said Bonneville Power Administration power line, thence southerly along said center line to the center of the main channel of the Walla Walla River and the point of beginning.

WAC 220-411-260 Yakima River Game Reserve (Benton County). Beginning in Prosser at the intersection of Tenth Street and Grant Avenue; then west to the Yakima River and Prosser Dam; then west across Prosser Dam and the Yakima River to the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Maintenance Road; then north to Old Inland Empire Highway;

then northeasterly on Old Inland Empire Highway to Interstate I-82; then east on the south side of I-82 to the Chandler Canal; then east along the north side of the Chandler Canal to the powerline going across the Yakima River (approximately .4 Miles east of Bunn Road); then south along the powerlines and across the Yakima River to Wine Country Road; then west on Wine Country Road to Tenth Street and the point of beginning.

WAC 220-411-020 Badger Island Game Reserve (Walla Walla County). That portion of area on or within one-quarter mile of Badger Island lying in Sections 4 and 9, Township 7 north, Range 31E.W.M.

WAC 220-411-090 Foundation Island Game Reserve (Walla Walla County). That portion of area on or within one-quarter mile of Foundation Island lying in Section 24, Township 8 north, Range 30E.W.M.

WAC 220-411-160 North Potholes Game Reserve (Grant County). In T18N, R27E WM: All of Section 4, except the northernmost 250 yards and the N.W. 1/4 and the N.W. 1/4 N.E. 1/4; all of Section 3, except the northernmost 250 yards; that part of Section 10 north of the Job Corps Dike Rd; that part of Section 9 in the E 1/2 east of the fenceline, beginning at the N.W. corner of Section 9, and then following said fenceline southeasterly to the fence on the northern section line of Section 16 near Job Corps Dike; and that part of Section 15 north of Job Corps Dike Rd. All areas of North Potholes Game Reserve located in Sections 9, 10, and 15 are closed to all public access from March 15 through May 30 and from October 1 through February 1.

WAC 220-411-190 Snipes Game Reserve (Yakima County). WDFW lands within the following boundary of the Sunnyside Wildlife Area: That portion of T9N, R22E, Section 21 lying north and east of the Yakima River; the SW 1/4 of the NW 1/4 and the NW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of T9N, R22E, Section 22; and that portion of the SW 1/4 of the SW 1/4 of T9N, R22E, Section 22 lying north and east of the Yakima River.

WAC 220-411-130 Tennant Lake Game Reserve (Whatcom County). That portion of Tennant Lake in T 39N, R 2E, Section 29, and that portion north of an east to west line which lies 800 feet south of and parallel to the north line of Section 32 in the N1/2 NE1/4 in T 39N, R 2E.

WAC 220-411-250 Winchester Wasteway Game Reserve (Grant County). T18N, R25E, Section 12, and the SW 1/4 of T18N, R26E, Section 7. 800 acres.

WAC 220-411-100 Frenchmen Hills Wasteway Game Reserve (Grant County). T17N, R27E, the north 1/2 and the north 1/2 of south 1/2 of Section 17. 480 acres.

WAC 220-411-070 Duck Lake (Cormana Lake) Game Reserve (Lincoln County). T23N, R35E, Section 19.

WAC 220-411-060 Coffeepot Lake Game Reserve (Lincoln County). All portions of Coffeepot Lake and those public lands within one-quarter mile of Coffeepot Lake.

WAC 220-411-080 Fir Island Farm Game Reserve (Skagit County). In Skagit County beginning at the intersection of Fir Island Road and the west bank of Brown's Slough (inside base of dike); then east along Fir Island Road (96 feet) to the Brown's Slough dike; then southerly and easterly along the Brown's Slough dike to the Fir Island Farm access road; then north along the Fir Island Farm access road to Fir Island Road; then east along Fir Island Road to the northeast corner of Section 22 (T33N, R3E); then south along the east line of Section 22 (T33N, R3E) to Dry Slough; then westerly and south along the west bank of Dry Slough to the intersection with Dike District #22 dike; then westerly along the south side (Skagit Bay side) of the Dike District #22 dike to the intersection of the Dike District #22 dike and the south line of Government Lot #5 (Section 22, T33N, R3E), then west approximately 1900 feet to the west bank of Brown's Slough (inside base of dike), then north along the west bank of Brown's Slough to the intersection with the Fir Island Road and the point of beginning.

WAC 220-411-120 Johnson/Debay's Slough Game Reserve. In Skagit County, beginning at the intersection of Francis Rd and Debay's Isle Rd; then south and west along Francis Rd (3090 feet) to white corner marker; then north (1265 feet) to the middle of Debay's Slough; then westerly (2087 feet) along the channel of Debay's Slough to the western tip of the farmed portion of Debay's Island; then northerly to the south bank of the Skagit River; then easterly (3750 feet) along the south bank of the Skagit River white corner marker; then south approx. 855 feet to white corner post; then east along tree line to white post; south through trees to sough shoreline of Debay's Slough; then easterly and southerly along the west shoreline of Debay's Slough (1770 feet) to the south side of Debay's Isle Rd; then east along the south side of Debay's Isle Rd to the intersection of Francis Rd and the point of beginning.

This pamphlet is a summary of the hunting seasons & regulations (chapters 220, 220-500 & 220-411 of the Washington Administrative Code) adopted by the Fish and Wildlife Commission. This pamphlet does not contain nor is it intended to contain all department regulations. Regulations specific to the hunting seasons described in this pamphlet are found in sections 220-416-060 & 220-416-010 of the Washington Administrative Code. **CAUTION:** Emergency regulation changes may occur while the seasons in this pamphlet are in effect and will supersede information contained herein. Area news media will be informed of changes as they occur.

Game Bird Baiting: State and Federal Regulations



Photo by WDFW

The following information summarizes state and federal game bird baiting regulations, which have recently been standardized. Additional information about federal baiting regulations is described in the Summary of Federal Regulations below, at www.fws.gov/le/HuntFish/waterfowl_baiting.htm, or by calling (503) 231-6125.

WHAT IS BAITING?

Baiting is the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of salt, grain, or other feed that could lure or attract game birds to, on, or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them. A baited area is any area on which salt, grain, or other feed has been placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered, if that salt, grain, or feed could serve as a lure or attraction for game birds.

HOW LONG IS AN AREA BAITED?

A baited area remains off limits to hunting for 10 days after all salt, grain, or other feed has been completely removed.

HOW CLOSE TO BAIT CAN YOU HUNT WITHOUT BREAKING THE LAW?

There is no set distance. The law prohibits hunting if bait is present that could lure or attract birds to, on, or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Distance will vary depending on the circumstances and such factors as topography, weather, and flight patterns. Therefore, this question can only be answered on a case-by-case basis.

WHAT IS ILLEGAL?

Examples of areas where you cannot hunt game birds include:

- Unharvested crops that have been trampled by livestock or subjected to manipulations that distribute, scatter, or expose grain.
- Areas where grain or seed has been top-sown and the Cooperative Extension Service does not recommend the practice of top sowing, including freshly planted wildlife food plots that contain exposed grain.
- Croplands where a crop has been harvested and the removed grain is redistributed or “added back” onto the area where grown.
- For waterfowl and coot hunting, areas where grain is present and stored, such as grain elevators, grain bins, and livestock feeding areas. Hunters are cautioned that hunting within the vicinity (zone of influence) of a grain elevator or other places where grain is stored or fed to livestock may subject them to prosecution for hunting with the aid of bait. For example, the grain elevators near the mouth of the Walla Walla River, mouth of the Snake River, Clarkston, Lyons Ferry and Kalama, to name a few, have received heavy hunting pressure in past years. These areas are considered baited areas because they have exposed grain not related to a normal agricultural planting, harvest or post-harvest manipulation and are highly attractive to migratory waterfowl. These examples do not represent an all-inclusive list of waterfowl baiting violations.

THE HUNTER’S RESPONSIBILITY:

As a waterfowl hunter, you are responsible for determining whether your hunting area is baited.

BEFORE HUNTING, YOU SHOULD:

- Familiarize yourself with Federal and State game bird hunting regulations.
- Ask the landowner, your host or guide, and your hunting partners if the area has been baited and inspect the area for the presence of bait.
- Look for grain or other feed in the water, along the shore, and on the field. Pay particular attention to the presence of spilled grain on harvested fields and seeds planted by means of top sowing.
- Confirm that scattered seeds or grains on agricultural lands are present solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, normal agricultural harvesting, normal agricultural post-harvest manipulation, or normal soil stabilization practice by consulting the Cooperative Extension Service.
- Abandon the hunting site if you find grain or feed in an area and are uncertain about why it is there.

Summary of Federal Regulations

Below is a summary of the most commonly violated federal regulations. Federal regulations related to migratory bird hunting are located in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20.

For a complete list of federal regulations pertaining to migratory bird hunting, prior to going afield hunters should visit the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service website at www.fws.gov/hunting.

No persons shall take migratory game birds:

- a. With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fish hook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance.
- b. With a shotgun of any description capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so its total capacity does not exceed three shells.
- c. From or by means, aid, or use of a sinkbox or any other type of low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water.
- d. From or by means, aid, or use of any motor vehicle, motor-driven land conveyance, or aircraft of any kind, except that paraplegics and persons missing one or both legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance.
- e. From or by means of any motorboat or other craft having a motor attached, or any sailboat, unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased: Provided, that a craft under power may be used to retrieve dead or crippled birds; however, crippled birds may not be shot from such craft under power.
- f. By the use or aid of live birds as decoys; although not limited to, it shall be a violation of this paragraph for any person to take migratory waterfowl on an area where tame or captive live ducks or geese are present unless such birds are and have been for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to such taking, confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of wild migratory waterfowl.
- g. By the use or aid of recorded or electrically amplified bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds.
- h. By means or aid of any motor driven land, water, or air conveyance, or any sailboat used for the purpose of or resulting in the concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up of any migratory bird.
- i. By the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. However, nothing in this paragraph prohibits:
 1. The taking of any migratory game bird, including waterfowl, coots, and cranes, on or over the following lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas:
 - » Standing crops or flooded standing crops (including aquatics); standing, flooded, or manipulated natural vegetation; flooded harvested croplands; or lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation or normal soil stabilization practice.
 - » From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with natural vegetation.
 - » From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with vegetation from agricultural crops, as long as such camouflaging does not result in the exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of grain or other feed.
 - » Standing or flooded standing agricultural crops where grain is inadvertently scattered solely as a result of a hunter entering or exiting a hunting area, placing decoys, or retrieving downed birds.

2. The taking of any migratory game bird, except waterfowl, coots and cranes, on or over lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas, and where grain or other feed has been distributed or scattered solely as the result of manipulation of an agricultural crop or other feed on the land where grown, or solely as the result of a normal agricultural operation.

PERSONAL ABODE:

One's principal or ordinary home or dwelling place, as distinguished from one's temporary or transient place of abode or dwelling such as a hunting club, or any club house, cabin, tent or trailer house used as a hunting club, or any hotel, motel or rooming house used during a hunting, pleasure or business trip

WANTON WASTE OF MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS:

No person shall kill or cripple any migratory game bird without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird, and retain it in his actual custody, at the place where taken or between that place and either:

- a. His automobile or principal means of land transportation; or
- b. His personal abode or temporary or transient place of lodging; or
- c. A migratory bird preservation facility; or
- d. A post office; or
- e. A common carrier facility.

POSSESSION:

Possession Limit:

The maximum number of migratory game birds of a single species or a combination of species permitted to be possessed by any one person when lawfully taken in the United States in any one specified geographic area for which a possession limit is prescribed.

Field possession limit:

No person shall possess, have in custody, or transport more than the daily bag limit or aggregate daily bag limit, whichever applies, of migratory game birds, tagged or not tagged, at or between the place where taken and either:

- a. His automobile or principal means of land transportation; or
- b. His personal abode or temporary or transient place of lodging; or
- c. A migratory bird preservation facility; or
- d. A post office; or
- e. A common carrier facility.

Possession tagging requirement:

No person shall put or leave any migratory game birds at any place (other than at his personal abode), or in the custody of another person for picking, cleaning, processing, shipping, transportation, or storage (including temporary storage), or for the purpose of having taxidermy services performed, unless such birds have a tag attached,

signed by the hunter, stating his address, the total number and species of birds, and the date such birds were killed.

Migratory game birds being transported in any vehicle as the personal baggage of the possessor shall not be considered as being in storage or temporary storage.

Custody of birds of another:

No person shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are tagged as required above.

Termination of possession:

The possession of birds taken by any hunter shall be deemed to have ceased when such birds have been delivered by him to another person as a gift; or have been delivered by him to a post office, a common carrier, or a migratory bird preservation facility and consigned for transport by the Postal Service or a common carrier to some person other than the hunter.

Gift of migratory game birds:

No person may receive, possess, or give to another, any freshly killed migratory game birds as a gift, except at the personal abodes of the donor or donee, unless such birds have a tag attached, signed by the hunter who took the birds, stating such hunter's address, the total number and species of birds and the date such birds were taken.

Transportation of birds for another:

No person shall transport migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are tagged as required above.

Species identification requirement:

No person shall transport within the United States any migratory game birds, except doves and band-tailed pigeons (*Columba fasciata*), unless the head or one fully feathered wing remains attached to

each such bird at all times while being transported from the place where taken until they have arrived at the personal abode of the possessor or a migratory bird preservation facility.

MIGRATORY BIRD PRESERVATION FACILITIES:

Tagging requirement:

No migratory bird preservation facility shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds unless such birds are tagged.

Records required:

- a. No migratory bird preservation facility shall:
 1. Receive or have in custody any migratory game bird unless accurate records are maintained which can identify each bird received by, or in the custody of, the facility by the name of the person from whom the bird was obtained, and show (i) the number of each species; (ii) the location where taken; (iii) the date such birds were received; (iv) the name and address of the person from whom such birds were received; (v) the date such birds were disposed of; and (vi) the name and address of the person to whom such birds were delivered, or
 2. Destroy any records required to be maintained for a period of 1-year following the last entry on the record.
- b. Record keeping as required by this section will not be necessary at hunting clubs which do not fully process migratory birds by removal of both the head and wings.

Inspection of premises:

No migratory bird preservation facility shall prevent any person authorized to enforce this part from entering such facilities at all reasonable hours and inspecting the records and the premises where such operations are being carried.



Photo USFWS Mountain Prairie Region

NOW HIRING
Fish & Wildlife Police



WDFW is an equal opportunity employer

2024-2025 Official Hunting Hours

2024-2025 Official Hunting Hours* for Migratory Game Birds, Upland Birds, and Wild Turkeys

DATES (INCLUSIVE)	WESTERN WASHINGTON A.M. TO P.M.	EASTERN WASHINGTON A.M. TO P.M.
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME		
Sun. Sept. 1 - Sun. Sept. 8	6:00 - 7:45	5:45 - 7:30
Mon. Sept. 9 - Sun. Sept. 15	6:10 - 7:30	6:00 - 7:15
Mon. Sept. 16 - Sun. Sept. 22	6:20 - 7:15	6:10 - 7:00
Mon. Sept. 23 - Sun. Sept. 29	6:30 - 7:00	6:20 - 6:45
Mon. Sept. 30 - Sun. Oct. 6	6:40 - 6:45	6:30 - 6:35
Mon. Oct. 7 - Sun. Oct. 13	6:50 - 6:30	6:40 - 6:20
Mon. Oct. 14 - Sun. Oct. 20	7:00 - 6:20	6:50 - 6:05
Mon. Oct. 21 - Sun. Oct. 27	7:10 - 6:05	7:00 - 5:55
Mon. Oct. 28 - Sat. Nov. 2	7:20 - 5:55	7:10 - 5:50
PACIFIC STANDARD TIME		
Sun. Nov. 3	6:20 - 4:55	6:10 - 4:50
Mon. Nov. 4 - Sun. Nov. 10	6:30 - 4:45	6:20 - 4:30
Mon. Nov. 11 - Sun. Nov. 17	6:40 - 4:35	6:30 - 4:20
Mon. Nov. 18 - Sun. Nov. 24	6:50 - 4:25	6:40 - 4:15
Mon. Nov. 25 - Sun. Dec. 1	7:00 - 4:20	6:50 - 4:10
Mon. Dec. 2 - Sun. Dec. 8	7:10 - 4:20	7:00 - 4:10
Mon. Dec. 9 - Sun. Dec. 15	7:15 - 4:20	7:05 - 4:10
Mon. Dec. 16 - Sun. Dec. 22	7:20 - 4:20	7:10 - 4:10
Mon. Dec. 23 - Sun. Dec. 29	7:25 - 4:25	7:10 - 4:15
Mon. Dec. 30 - Sun. Jan. 5	7:25 - 4:30	7:15 - 4:15
Mon. Jan. 6 - Sun. Jan. 12	7:25 - 4:35	7:15 - 4:25
Mon. Jan. 13 - Sun. Jan. 19	7:20 - 4:45	7:10 - 4:35
Mon. Jan. 20 - Sun. Jan. 26	7:15 - 4:55	7:05 - 4:45
Mon. Jan. 27 - Sun. Feb. 2	7:10 - 5:05	6:55 - 4:55
Mon. Feb. 3 - Sun. Feb. 9	7:00 - 5:20	6:45 - 5:05
Mon. Feb. 10 - Sun. Feb. 16	6:50 - 5:30	6:35 - 5:15
Mon. Feb. 17 - Sun. Feb. 23	6:35 - 5:40	6:25 - 5:25
Mon. Feb. 24 - Sun. Mar. 2	6:25 - 5:50	6:10 - 5:40
Mon. Mar. 3 - Sat. Mar. 8	6:10 - 6:05	5:55 - 5:50

* These are lawful hunting hours for migratory game birds (duck, goose, coot, snipe, mourning dove, and band-tailed pigeon); upland birds (pheasant, quail, partridge); and turkey during established seasons.

Exceptions:

- Western Washington - Pheasant and quail hunting hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in all areas.
- Clark, Cowlitz, Grays Harbor, Pacific, and Wahkiakum counties - Goose hunting hours during October - March are 30 min. after the start of official hunting hours to 30 min. before the end of official hunting hours.
- Hunting hours for falconry seasons (except migratory game bird seasons) are exempt from these hunting hours, except on designated pheasant release sites.

2024-2025 Official Hunting Hours for Game Animals and Forest Grouse*

DATES (INCLUSIVE)	WESTERN WASHINGTON A.M. TO P.M.	EASTERN WASHINGTON A.M. TO P.M.
DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME		
Sun. Sept. 1 - Sun. Sept. 8	6:00 - 8:15	5:45 - 8:00
Mon. Sept. 9 - Sun. Sept. 15	6:10 - 8:00	6:00 - 7:45
Mon. Sept. 16 - Sun. Sept. 22	6:20 - 7:45	6:10 - 7:30
Mon. Sept. 23 - Sun. Sept. 29	6:30 - 7:30	6:20 - 7:15
Mon. Sept. 30 - Sun. Oct. 6	6:40 - 7:15	6:30 - 7:05
Mon. Oct. 7 - Sun. Oct. 13	6:50 - 7:00	6:40 - 6:50
Mon. Oct. 14 - Sun. Oct. 20	7:00 - 6:50	6:50 - 6:35
Mon. Oct. 21 - Sun. Oct. 27	7:10 - 6:35	7:00 - 6:25
Mon. Oct. 28 - Sat. Nov. 2	7:20 - 6:25	7:10 - 6:20
PACIFIC STANDARD TIME		
Sun. Nov. 3	6:20 - 5:25	6:10 - 5:20
Mon. Nov. 4 - Sun. Nov. 10	6:30 - 5:15	6:20 - 5:00
Mon. Nov. 11 - Sun. Nov. 17	6:40 - 5:05	6:30 - 4:50
Mon. Nov. 18 - Sun. Nov. 24	6:50 - 4:55	6:40 - 4:45
Mon. Nov. 25 - Sun. Dec. 1	7:00 - 4:50	6:50 - 4:40
Mon. Dec. 2 - Sun. Dec. 8	7:10 - 4:50	7:00 - 4:40
Mon. Dec. 9 - Sun. Dec. 15	7:15 - 4:50	7:05 - 4:40
Mon. Dec. 16 - Sun. Dec. 22	7:20 - 4:50	7:10 - 4:40
Mon. Dec. 23 - Sun. Dec. 29	7:25 - 4:55	7:10 - 4:45
Mon. Dec. 30 - Sun. Jan. 5	7:25 - 5:00	7:15 - 4:45
Mon. Jan. 6 - Sun. Jan. 12	7:25 - 5:05	7:15 - 4:55
Mon. Jan. 13 - Sun. Jan. 19	7:20 - 5:15	7:10 - 5:05
Mon. Jan. 20 - Sun. Jan. 26	7:15 - 5:25	7:05 - 5:15
Mon. Jan. 27 - Fri. Jan. 31	7:10 - 5:35	7:00 - 5:25