

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2005

Watch for this loon on blue
signs marking National
Wildlife Areas and Migratory
Bird Sanctuaries.*



Summary



*In Quebec, these signs also
identify no-hunting zones.

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the retrieval of birds, description of hunting districts and non-hunting areas, contact:

Canadian Wildlife Service
1141, route de l'Église
P.O. Box 10100
Sainte-Foy, Quebec G1V 4H5
Tel.: 1 800 463-4311
Fax: (418) 649-6475
www.qc.ec.gc.ca/faune/faune.html

A provincial hunting permit for small game is required to hunt migratory birds in Quebec. While hunting, it is obligatory for hunters to carry their permits with them. Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2005-2006 federal permits.

Non-residents of Canada hunting woodcock have a lower daily bag limit than Canadian hunters.

Waterfowler Heritage Days provide young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters who serve as mentors have an opportunity to pass on their considerable skills and knowledge by offering guidance and advice to younger hunters. The following rules are in effect:

- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the Firearms Act and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied by a licensed mentor over the age of majority; and
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds.

For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

Canadians may be exposed to the West Nile virus when bird-watching, hunting, or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following Web site, maintained by Health Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.hc-sc.gc.ca/english/westnile/animals.html.

NOTE
Waterfowler Heritage Day is September 10 for districts B, C, D and E; September 17 for districts F, G, H, I and J. The opening hunting date for ducks is September 17 for districts B, C, D and E; September 24 for districts F, G, H, I, and J. The non-hunting area of Côte de Beaupré west has been abolished.

OPEN SEASONS IN QUEBEC (No open season for Harlequin Ducks or rails)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), geese, woodcock and snipe WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks (other than eiders, Harlequin Ducks, and Long-tailed Ducks*), geese (other than Canada and Snow geese), and snipe	Canada Geese	Eiders and Long-tailed Ducks*	Coots and gallinules	Woodcock
A	N/A	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10	No open season	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10
B	Sept. 10	Sept. 17 to Dec. 26	Sept. 17 to Dec. 26	Oct. 1 to Jan. 14(b)	No open season	Sept. 10 to Dec. 22
C, D and E	Sept. 10	Sept. 17 to Dec. 26(c)	Sept. 6 to Sept. 16(a) Sept. 17 to Dec. 21	Sept. 17 to Dec. 26	No open season	Sept. 17 to Dec. 26
F, G, H, and I	Sept. 17(d)	Sept. 24 to Dec. 26(c)	Sept. 6 to Sept. 23(a) Sept. 24 to Dec. 21	Sept. 24 to Dec. 26	Sept. 24 to Dec. 26	Sept. 17 to Dec. 26
J	Sept. 17	Sept. 24 to Dec. 26	Sept. 24 to Dec. 26	Nov. 1 to Feb. 14	No open season	Sept. 24 to Dec. 26

(a) In Districts C, D, E, F, G, H, and I, hunting for Canada Geese is allowed only on farmland.

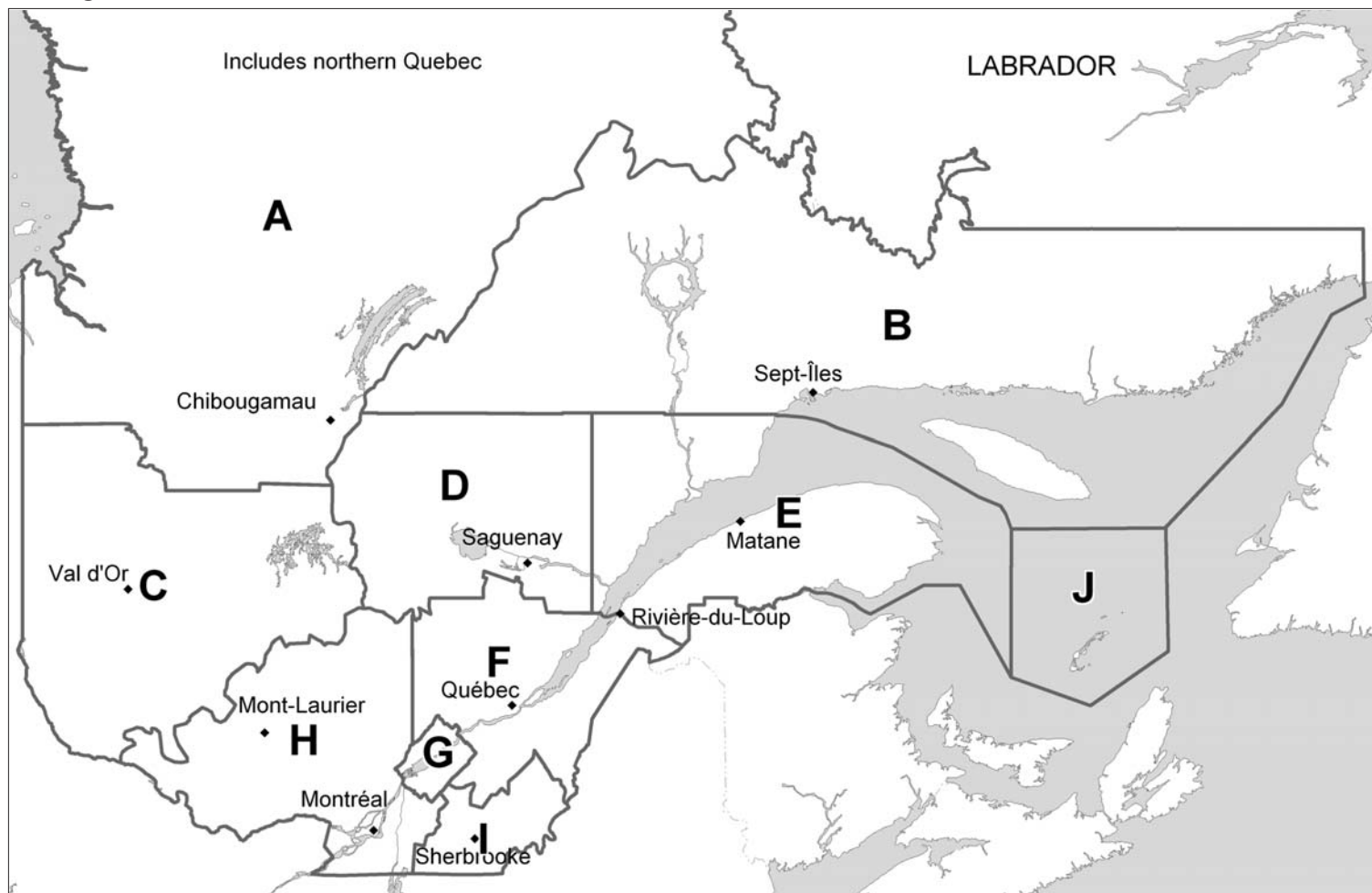
(b) In District B along the North Shore west of the Natashquan River, the hunting seasons for eiders and Long-tailed Ducks are from October 1 to October 24 inclusive and from November 15 to February 5 inclusive.

(c) In District E, the hunting season for Barrow's Goldeneyes and Common Goldeneyes closes on October 21 in Provincial Hunting Zone # 21 and 100 metres beyond this zone. In District F, the hunting season for Barrow's Goldeneyes and Common Goldeneyes closes on October 21 between Pointe Jureux (St. Irénée) and Gros Cap à l'Aigle (St. Fidèle) from routes 362 and 138 to 2 kilometres within Provincial Hunting Zone # 21.

(d) In Districts F, G, H and I, hunting for coots and gallinules is allowed during Waterfowler Heritage Day.

* Oldsquaw ducks are now referred to as Long-tailed Ducks.

Hunting Districts



BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN QUEBEC

Limits	Ducks	Geese (other than Snow Geese)	Snow Geese	Coots and gallinules	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(a)(b)(c)(d)(f)	5(f)	20(f)	4(f)	8(e)(f)	10(f)
Possession	12(a)(b)(c)(d)	10	60	8	16	20

- (a) Not more than four American Black Ducks may be taken daily, with a possession limit of eight in Districts A, B, C, D, E, F, and J.
 (b) Not more than two American Black Ducks may be taken daily, with a possession limit of four in Districts G, H, and I. Between November 1 and December 26, not more than four American Black Ducks may be taken daily, with a possession limit of eight in Districts G, H, and I (only lying east of Gatineau River).
 (c) Not more than two Blue-winged Teal may be taken daily, with a possession limit of four in Districts A, B, C, D, E, and J.
 (d) Not more than one Blue-winged Teal may be taken daily, with a possession limit of two in Districts F, G, H, and I.
 (e) For non-residents of Canada, not more than four woodcock may be taken daily.
 (f) Not more than three birds in total may be taken on Waterfowler Heritage Days. The additional species restrictions described in paragraphs (b), (c), and (d) continue to apply within this limit.

The Migratory Birds Regulations also provide for special conservation periods when hunters may take overabundant species. Please note that the additional hunting methods or equipment are permitted **only** during the special conservation periods. See the table below for details. Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2005–2006 federal permits.

MEASURES IN QUEBEC CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Area	Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
District A	May 1 to June 30 and September 1 to December 10	Recorded bird calls(d)(f)
District B	September 17 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(d)(f)
Districts C and D	April 1 to May 31(a), September 6 to September 16(a), and September 17 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(d)(f)
District E	April 1 to May 31(a), September 6 to September 16(a), and September 17 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(d)(f) and bait or bait crop area(e)
Districts F, G, H, and I	April 1 to May 31(a)(b)(c), September 6 to September 23(a), and September 24 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(d)(f) and bait or bait crop area(e)
District J	September 24 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(d)(f)

- (a) Hunting is allowed only on farmland.
 (b) In District F, no person shall hunt south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the road right-of-way of Route 132 between Forgues Street at Berthier-sur-Mer and the eastern limit of Cap-Saint-Ignace municipality.
 (c) In District G, on the north shore of the St. Lawrence River, no person shall hunt north of the St. Lawrence River and south of a line located at 1 000 m north of Highway 40 between Montée St-Laurent and the Maskinongé River. On the south shore of the St. Lawrence River, no person shall hunt south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the railroad right-of-way located near Route 132 between the Nicolet River in the east and Lacerte Road in the west.
 (d) “Recorded bird calls” refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.
 (e) Hunting with bait and hunting in a bait crop area are permitted if the Regional Director of Environmental Conservation of Environment Canada has given consent in writing pursuant to section 23.3 of the Migratory Birds Regulations.
 (f) If decoys are used when hunting with recorded Snow Goose calls, the decoys must represent white phase Snow Geese.



**REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263)**

