

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

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



Summary

The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information regarding fines, general prohibitions, permitted methods of hunting and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, description of hunting zones, and other regulations, you may contact:

Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
P.O. Box 1201
Lewisporte, Newfoundland and Labrador A0G 3A0
Tel.: 709-535-0601
Fax: 709-535-2743
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Check your permit and provincial hunting regulations for additional restrictions. The season lengths implemented in 1998 for eiders, Long-tailed Ducks (Oldsquaw or hounds), scoters, and mergansers remain in effect.

Migratory bird hunters: It is illegal to hunt migratory birds, including sea ducks, from a power boat unless the motor is not in operation and all forward progress of the boat has ceased. This regulation does not apply to persons hunting murre (turrs).

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, murre (turrs), and Mourning Doves. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

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.

For conservation purposes, the maximum daily bag of one Barrow's Goldeneye and maximum possession limit of two Barrow's Goldeneye will be instituted in Newfoundland and Labrador in 2007. The maximum daily bag limit of one bird would not make unintentional shooting illegal; however, it would ensure that legitimate hunters who did shoot one Barrow's Goldeneye would cease hunting for the day, or be aware that they would contravene regulations if they continued hunting and shot additional Barrow's Goldeneye. These regulations have been put in place to provide additional protection to this population, currently listed as a species of special concern in Schedule 1 (List of Wildlife Species at Risk) of the federal *Species at Risk Act*.

Murre (turr) hunters: All hunters must purchase and be in possession of a Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit and a Habitat Conservation Stamp while hunting murre (turrs). This hunt is only open to **residents** of Newfoundland and Labrador. Murre can be legally hunted from a power boat. Any occupant of a boat who shoots or retrieves murre, or anyone who operates a boat to pursue murre, is hunting as defined in the Migratory Birds Regulations and is **required** to hold a Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit. The non-toxic shot regulation described above does not apply to murre.

Sunday hunting: The Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations allow hunting for migratory birds (ducks, geese, snipe, and murre) on Sundays; however, Sunday hunting has been prohibited by the province. In 2006, the province brought in new regulations that allow Sunday hunting during specific periods of the year. In 2007, the province will permit murre hunting on Sundays throughout the murre season, and permit hunting of ducks, geese, and snipe on Sundays after October 31. Please contact the province for further information on Sunday hunting.

HELPFUL TIP

Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html.

CRIME STOPPERS

Hunting violations may be reported to the Canadian Wildlife Service office, your local RCMP detachment, or Crime Stoppers (1-800-363-8477).

OPEN SEASONS ON THE ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND (No open season for Harlequin Ducks**)

Area	Ducks, including mergansers (other than Long-tailed Ducks*, Harlequin Ducks**, eiders, and scoters), geese, and snipe	Long-tailed Ducks*, eiders, and scoters
All coastal zones	September 15 to December 29	November 24 to February 29
All inland zones	September 15 to December 29	No open season

* Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.

** Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers, or Squeakers.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS ON THE ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND

Limits	Ducks (other than mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, Harlequin Ducks**, eiders, and scoters)	Mergansers	Long-tailed Ducks*, eiders, and scoters	Geese	Snipe
Daily bags	6(a)	6	6	5	10
Possession	12(b)	12	12	10	20

(a) Not more than four may be American Black Ducks, and not more than one may be Barrow's Goldeneye.

(b) Not more than eight may be American Black Ducks, and not more than two may be Barrow's Goldeneye.

* Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.

** Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers, or Squeakers.

OPEN SEASONS IN LABRADOR (No open season for Harlequin Ducks**)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks** and eiders), geese, and snipe	Eiders
Northern Labrador Zone	September 1 to December 8	September 29 to January 12
Western Labrador Zone	September 1 to December 8	No open season
Southern Labrador Zone	September 8 to December 15	November 24 to February 29
Central Labrador Zone	September 1 to December 8	October 27 to November 24 and January 5 to February 29

** Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers, or Squeakers.

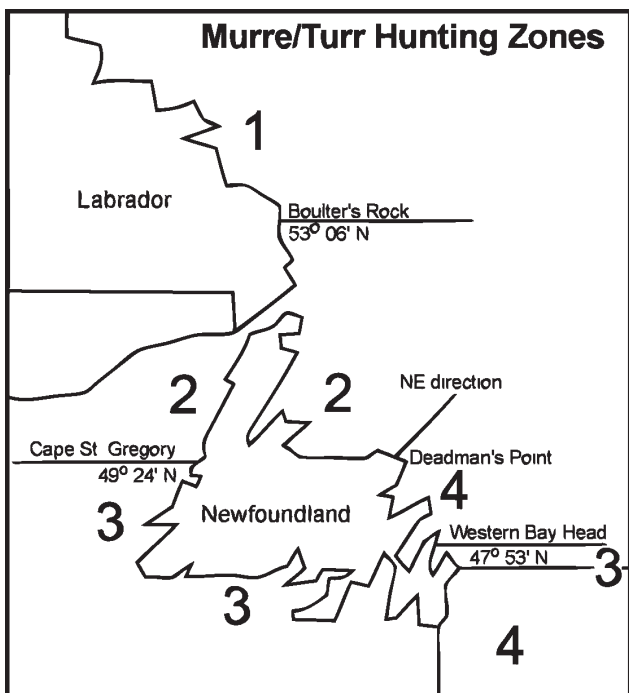
BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN LABRADOR

Limits	Ducks (other than mergansers, Harlequin Ducks**, eiders, and scoters)	Mergansers, scoters, and eiders	Geese	Snipe
Daily bags	6(a)	6	5	10
Possession	12(b)	12	10	20

(a) Not more than one may be Barrow's Goldeneye.

(b) Not more than two may be Barrow's Goldeneye.

** Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers, or Squeakers.



OPEN SEASONS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (Murre/Turrs)

Area	Murre
Zone No. 1	September 1 to December 16
Zone No. 2	October 7 to January 20
Zone No. 3	November 25 to March 10
Zone No. 4	November 3 to January 10 and February 2 to March 10

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (Murre/Turrs)

Limits	Murre
Daily bags	20
Possession	40