

# Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2007

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 2007 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.

### NOTE

Waterfowler Heritage Day is September 8 for districts B, C, D, and E; September 15 for districts F, G, H, and I; and September 22 for District J. The opening hunting date for ducks is September 15 for districts B, C, D, and E; September 22 for districts F, G, H, and I; and September 29 for District J. The non-hunting area of Baie-du-Febvre has been abolished.

### HELPFUL TIP

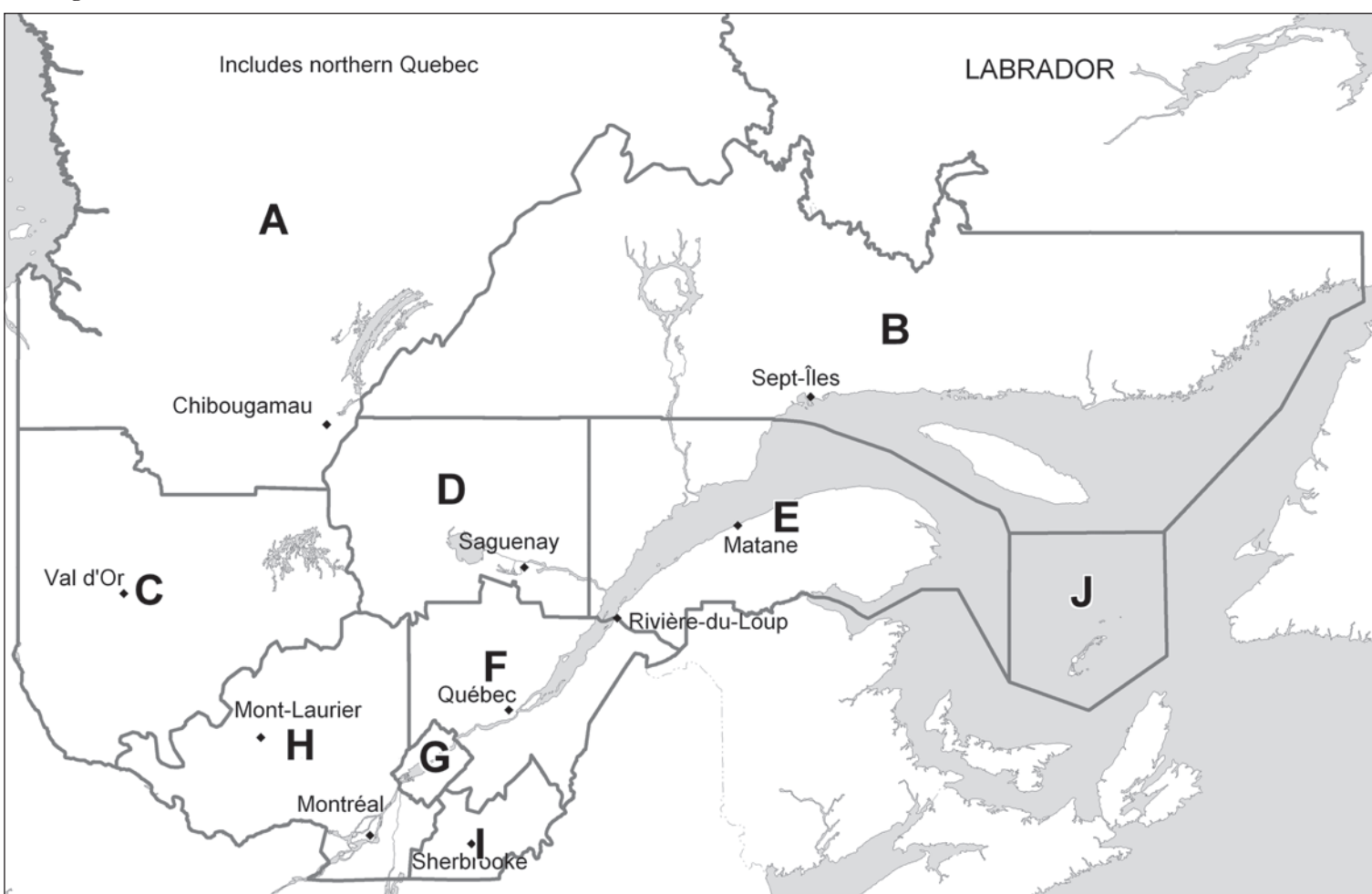
Canadians may be exposed to avian-borne viruses when hunting or handling migratory birds and other wild game. Environment Canada recommends the following Website, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing the risk of exposure: [www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html](http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html).

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

| Area           | Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), geese, woodcock, and snipe<br>WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS | Ducks (other than eiders, Harlequin Ducks, and Long-tailed Ducks*), geese (other than Canada, Cackling, and Snow geese), and snipe | Canada Geese and Cackling 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. 8   | Sept. 15 to Dec. 26  | Sept. 15 to Dec. 26                           | Oct. 1 to Jan. 14(b)          | No open season       | Sept. 8 to Dec. 22  |
| C, D, and E    | Sept. 8   | Sept. 15 to Dec. 26(c)   | Sept. 1 to Sept. 14(a)<br>Sept. 15 to Dec. 16 | Sept. 15 to Dec. 26           | No open season       | Sept. 15 to Dec. 26 |
| F, G, H, and I | Sept. 15(d)   | Sept. 22 to Dec. 26(c)   | Sept. 6 to Sept. 21(a)<br>Sept. 22 to Dec. 21 | Sept. 22 to Dec. 26           | Sept. 22 to Dec. 26  | Sept. 15 to Dec. 26 |
| J              | Sept. 22  | Sept. 29 to Dec. 26  | Sept. 29 to Dec. 26                           | Nov. 1 to Feb. 14             | No open season       | Sept. 29 to Dec. 26 |

- (a) In districts C, D, E, F, G, H, and I, hunting for Canada Geese and Cackling 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 No. 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 (Saint-Irénée) and Gros Cap à l'Aigle (Saint-Fidèle) from routes 362 and 138 to 2 kilometres within Provincial Hunting Zone No. 21.  
 (d) In districts F, G, H, and I, hunting for coots and gallinules is allowed during Waterfowler Heritage Day.  
 \* Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.

### 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 2007 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 15 to December 26   | Recorded bird calls(d)(f)                               |
| Districts C and D        | April 1 to May 31(a), September 1 to September 14(a), and September 15 to December 26       | Recorded bird calls(d)(f)                               |
| District E               | April 1 to May 31(a), September 1 to September 14(a), and September 15 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 21(a), and September 22 to December 26 | Recorded bird calls(d)(f) and bait or bait crop area(e) |
| District J               | September 29 to December 26   | Recorded bird calls(d)(f)                               |

- (a) Hunting and hunting equipment are 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 or in a bait crop area is permitted if the Regional Director of Environmental Stewardship Branch 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 only white phase Snow Geese in adult or juvenile plumage (white or grey).