

Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations

December 2006

Canadian Wildlife Service
Waterfowl Committee

CWS Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Number 20



Environment
Canada

Environnement
Canada

Canadian Wildlife
Service

Service canadien
de la faune

Canada

For more information on wildlife and the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS), please visit the following Web sites:

National CWS Web site: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca

Regional CWS Web sites:

Atlantic Region: www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Québec Region: www.qc.ec.gc.ca/faune/faune.html

Ontario Region: www.on.ec.gc.ca/wildlife_e.html

Prairie and Northern Region: www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/index.en.html

Pacific and Yukon Region: www.pyr.ec.gc.ca/EN/Wildlife/index.shtml

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.

<http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index.html> (English)

http://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/id-mi/index_f.html (French)

Cover Art:

The 2006 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp entitled "Resting Time – Brant Geese" is by Canadian wildlife artist Pierre Leduc of Quebec.

Through a special partnership with Environment Canada, Wildlife Habitat Canada receives the revenues from the sale of the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp, purchased primarily by waterfowl hunters to validate their Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permits. The conservation stamp is also sold to stamp and print collectors, as well as to people interested in contributing to habitat conservation. Through this unique partnership with Environment Canada, Wildlife Habitat Canada has been able to dedicate more than \$30 million since 1985 to thousands of habitat conservation projects across Canada.

For more information on Wildlife Habitat Canada, the conservation stamp and print program, please call Wildlife Habitat Canada at (613) 722-2090 (in the Ottawa region) or toll free at 1-800-669-7919. You can also obtain this information from Wildlife Habitat Canada's website at www.whc.org.

Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations

December 2006

Canadian Wildlife Service Waterfowl Committee

CWS Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Number 20

Editors:

This report was prepared by the Canadian Wildlife Service Waterfowl Committee, and edited by Kathryn Dickson and H  l  ne L  vesque (CWS, National Office).

This report should be cited as:

Canadian Wildlife Service Waterfowl Committee. 2006. Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations: December 2006. CWS Migr. Birds Regul. Rep. No. 20.

Comments:

Comments regarding this report, the regulation-setting process or other items relating to national migratory game bird concerns should be sent to:

Director General, Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ontario, K1A 0H3.

Region-specific comments should be sent to the appropriate Regional Director, Canadian Wildlife Service, at the following addresses:

Atlantic Region: 17 Waterfowl Lane, P.O. Box 6227, Sackville, NB, E4L 1G6

Qu  bec Region: 1141 route de l'  glise, P.O. Box 10100, Sainte-Foy, QC, G1V 4H5

Ontario Region: 4905 Dufferin Street, Downsview, ON, M3H 5T4.

Prairie & Northern Region: Twin Atria No.2, 4999-98 Avenue, Edmonton, AB, T6B 2X3

Pacific & Yukon Region: 5421 Robertson Road, R.R. #1, Delta, BC, V4K 3N2

Published by Authority of the
Minister of Environment
Canadian Wildlife Service

© Minister of Public Works and
Government Services Canada, 2006
Catalogue No. CW69-16/20-2006E
ISBN 978-0-662-44793-1
ISSN 1497-0139

Copies of this report may be obtained from:

Publications
Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment Canada
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0H3
cws-scf@ec.gc.ca
<http://www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca>

Table of Contents

BACKGROUND	1
ANNUAL SCHEDULE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF HUNTING REGULATIONS	1
BLACK DUCK HARVEST STRATEGY	2
MANAGEMENT OF THE EASTERN POPULATION OF BARROW’S GOLDENEYE	2
MANAGEMENT OF OVERABUNDANT SNOW GEESE	2
PROPOSED CHANGES TO HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR THE 2007-2008 SEASON	4
<i>Newfoundland and Labrador</i>	4
<i>Prince Edward Island</i>	4
<i>Nova Scotia</i>	4
<i>New Brunswick</i>	4
<i>Quebec</i>	5
<i>Ontario</i>	5
<i>Manitoba</i>	6
<i>Saskatchewan</i>	6
<i>Alberta</i>	6
<i>British Columbia</i>	6
<i>Nunavut</i>	8
<i>Northwest Territories</i>	8
<i>Yukon Territory</i>	8
UPDATES TO THE MIGRATORY BIRDS REGULATIONS	8
<i>Hunting from a vehicle for mobility impaired hunters</i>	8
<i>New prohibition regarding wastage of migratory birds</i>	8
<i>Addition of a new non-toxic shot</i>	9
<i>Amendment to allow for the temporary possession of migratory birds for disease testing</i>	9
LITERATURE CITED	9
APPENDICES	11
<i>Appendix A. Special Conservation Measures - Proposals for 2007</i>	11
<i>Appendix B. Objectives and Guidelines for the Establishment of National Regulations for Migratory Game Bird Hunting</i>	14
<i>Appendix C. 2006 Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations Summaries by Province and Territory.</i>	17

Background

Canadian hunting regulations for migratory game birds are reviewed annually by Environment Canada, with input from the provinces and territories and a range of other interested stakeholders. As part of this process, the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) produces three reports each year. The November report *Population Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada* contains population and other biological information on migratory game birds, and thus provides the scientific basis for management. The December report *Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations* outlines the proposed changes to the annual hunting regulations, as well as other proposed amendments to the *Migratory Birds Regulations*. Proposals for hunting regulations are developed in accordance with the *Objectives and Guidelines for the Establishment of National Regulations for Migratory Game Bird Hunting* (Appendix B). These two reports are distributed to organizations and individuals with an interest in migratory game bird conservation, to provide an opportunity for input to the development of hunting regulations in this country. The third report, *Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations in Canada*, issued in July, summarizes the hunting regulations for the upcoming hunting season.

The process for development of regulations in Canada requires that any changes be in the form of final proposals by early March of each year. That means that regulations must be set without the benefit of knowledge about the breeding conditions and production forecasts of the coming year. This does not usually present difficulties because the hunting regulations are based on trends over several years, but in some cases the results from recent harvest surveys or breeding population surveys conducted in May and June will indicate that changes in the national approach are needed to ensure conservation of migratory game birds. **In this case, the Canadian Wildlife Service will issue a bulletin updating these regulations.**

Annual Schedule for the Development of Hunting Regulations

The annual schedule is based on the requirement to have the annual hunting regulations made into law by early June of each year:

- Early November – The November report, containing biological information, is distributed by CWS-National Office (N.O.).
- November and December – Jurisdictions develop proposals for hunting regulations in coordination with CWS Regional Directors.
- December 13 – CWS Regions provide to CWS-N.O. the proposed changes to hunting regulations (with justifications) for the upcoming year, as well as any other information that should be included in the December report, including advance notice on items for future years. Descriptions of zone changes are sent by CWS Regions to the Surveyor General for review, approval and translation.
- Early January – CWS-N.O. distributes the December report containing the regulation proposals, to allow for public, inter-regional and international consultation.
- February 21 – Replies from consultation are due at CWS Regional Directors' offices, who then ensure distribution to the provinces and territories.
- Mid-January through mid-February – CWS Regions work with the provinces and territories to finalize the regulation proposals.
- March 10 – Final proposals, as well as the final text of the regulations and regulation summaries, are sent by CWS Regional Directors to CWS-N.O.
- April through May – CWS-N.O. undertakes the process to prepare legal documents and obtain approvals of the regulatory proposals.
- Early June – Final hunting regulations become law.
- July 15 – Hunting regulation summaries are available at Canada Post Outlets.
- End of July – CWS-N.O. finalizes the July report containing the final proposals for hunting regulations and the hunting regulation summaries.
- End of August – Regulation consolidations are available to CWS Regions.

Note to United States Readers

The annual cycle of regulation development in Canada is earlier than that in the United States. To meet the requirements of the Canadian regulatory process, proposals for hunting regulations must be finalized no later than late February each year. Canadian representatives at the summer Flyway Council meetings and other hearings are not

reporting on what is being considered, but on what has been passed into law.

Black Duck Harvest Strategy

Progress on the development of an international Black Duck harvest strategy that uses the principles of Adaptive Harvest Management (AHM) has been published in previous issues of the CWS Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports. In fall 2004, the USFWS and the Canadian Wildlife Service agreed to work towards finalizing an adaptive harvest management approach for determining appropriate levels of harvest for Black Ducks in Canada and the U.S. This approach will be based on breeding ground survey information. Initially, models were based on wintering ground surveys, so some technical adjustments need to be made before the models based on breeding ground information can be used. We are now updating these models with the breeding pair information.

The Black Duck Harvest Strategy Working Group will keep the appropriate regulatory consultation bodies in Canada and United States informed of progress as tools are developed for implementation of adaptive harvest management for Black Ducks. These bodies will also be informed if alternative strategic frameworks for Black Duck hunting management come under consideration.

More details on the adaptive management study can be found on the following Web site: <http://coopunit.forestry.uga.edu/blackduck/>

Management of the Eastern Population of Barrow's Goldeneye

The Eastern population of Barrows Goldeneye is currently estimated to be about 8000 individuals (or 1800 pairs). These birds are known to breed in east-central Québec, although small numbers may nest in adjacent portions of Newfoundland and Labrador. The status of the eastern Canadian population of BAGO was reviewed by COSEWIC in November 2001, and at that time classified as a "Species of Concern".

Existing zone closures in Québec and New Brunswick have already significantly reduced the likelihood that hunters will encounter Barrows Goldeneye, and have achieved consequent reductions in harvest. However, due to the small population size, restricted range and potential threats from human activities, the Canadian Wildlife Service and its partners have agreed that it

is important to further minimise the harvest of this listed species, and to involve migratory game bird hunters in its conservation.

For 2007, we propose to eliminate the targeted hunting of Barrows Goldeneye, and to reduce the harvest to those Barrows Goldeneye shot unintentionally by hunters of other waterfowl, such as Common Goldeneye, by imposing a maximum daily bag of one bird and maximum possession limit of two birds in portions of Eastern Canada. The maximum daily bag limit of one bird would not make such unintentional shooting illegal, however, it would ensure that legitimate hunters who did shoot one Barrows Goldeneye would cease hunting for the day, or be aware that they would contravene regulations if they continued hunting and shot additional Barrows Goldeneye. As Common Goldeneye population levels are stable and high enough to readily support a managed harvest, initiatives to reduce the Barrows Goldeneye harvest are designed to have a minimum effect on hunting opportunity for Common Goldeneye, to the extent possible.

Management of Overabundant Snow Geese

Issue

The rapid growth of most Snow Goose populations is of great concern. Assessments of the environmental effects of the rapidly growing populations of Mid-continent Lesser Snow Geese and of Greater Snow Geese were completed by working groups of Canadian and American scientists. Their analyses are contained in the comprehensive reports entitled "*Arctic Ecosystems in Peril – Report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group*" (Batt 1997) and "*The Greater Snow Goose – Report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group*" (Batt 1998). The working groups concluded that the primary causes of the increase of Snow Goose populations were human induced. Improved nutrition from agricultural practices and safety in refuges has resulted in increased survival and reproductive rates of Snow Geese. These populations have become so large that they are affecting the vegetation communities on which they and other species rely at staging areas and on the breeding grounds. Grazing and grubbing by geese not only permanently removes vegetation, but also changes soil salinity, nitrogen dynamics and moisture levels. The result is the alteration or elimination of the plant communities, which in all likelihood will not be restored. Although the Arctic is vast, the areas that support migrating and breeding geese and other companion species are

limited in extent and some areas are likely to become inhospitable for decades. Increasing crop damage is also an important consequence of the growing Snow Goose populations.

Increasing numbers of spring migrant Greater Snow Geese have recently been observed using tidal marsh habitats in and around Restigouche Co., New Brunswick. The Canadian Wildlife Service, in concert with the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources and Energy, is currently examining the possibility of establishing future special conservation seasons in New Brunswick to assist efforts already in place in Quebec to curtail the rapid population growth, and reduce population size, of Greater Snow Geese. Consultation will be undertaken during 2007 to determine whether the special measures in place in Quebec should be extended to include northwestern New Brunswick.

Regulation

Several management actions are being undertaken concurrently to curtail the rapid population growth and reduce population size to a level consistent with the carrying capacity of the habitat. One action involves attempts to increase the mortality rate of Snow Geese by two to three times the rate achieved prior to the introduction of habitat conservation measures. Beginning in 1999 an amendment to the Migratory Birds Regulations created special conservation measures during which hunters were encouraged to take overabundant species for conservation reasons and, in some cases and subject to specific controls, to use special methods and equipment such as electronic calls and bait. The 1999 and 2000 regulations applied in selected areas of Québec and Manitoba. Beginning in spring 2001, special conservation measures were also implemented in Saskatchewan and Nunavut. The dates and locations where special conservation measures were implemented were determined through consultation with the provincial governments, other organizations and local communities.

Evaluation

Evaluation plans are being implemented to track progress toward the goals of reduced population growth and, ultimately, recovery by plant communities.

For Lesser Snow Geese, the original objectives for increased harvest were aimed at increasing continental harvest to approximately 0.8 to 1.2 million birds annually (Rockwell et al. 1997). These projections were later challenged as being too conservative, and annual harvest requirements of 1.4 to 3.4 million birds were projected using

updated information (Cooke et al. 2000; Rockwell and Ankney 2000). Continental harvests of mid-continent light geese, which includes approximately 100,000 Ross's geese per year, declined from approximately 1 million birds in 1999 to about 700,000 birds in 2004 (USFWS and CWS, unpublished data), and have not met the objectives in any year. Photographic and ground-based surveys of some of the nesting colonies of lesser snow geese suggest that the population has increased since 1997, and survival rates of adult snow geese remain high. Lesser Snow Geese remain extremely abundant, and continue to have negative effects on arctic habitats.

In the case of Greater Snow Geese, the population objective adopted by the North American Waterfowl Management Plan was 500,000 birds, down from the nearly 1.0 million birds present in 1999. A recent evaluation demonstrated that special measures (of which the spring season was key) have been successful in reducing the annual survival rate for adults from about 83% to about 72.5%. This is reflected in the spring counts, which show the population to have stabilized at between 800,000 and 1,000,000 birds, remaining well above the goal. Moreover, models show that without a spring harvest, the population would quickly begin to grow again, because of environmental conditions such as changes in climate that favour good breeding conditions in the Arctic as well as improved feeding conditions (cornfields) on wintering and staging grounds. At the same time, it appears that the harvest in Canada has been maximized. CWS is working with the United States Fish & Wildlife Service and States to increase the harvest of Greater Snow Geese on the wintering grounds, but we also need to implement measures that could increase Canada's harvest further, or at least help to maintain it at the current level.

Proposal for 2007-08

The special conservation measures for spring 2007 in Québec, Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Nunavut will be maintained with no changes in comparison to the spring of 2006 (Appendix A).

For special measures in fall 2007, there are minor amendments being considered for Québec, which would adjust the dates to maintain the tradition of season opening days on Saturdays. In District J (Magdalene Islands) the opening date would be delayed by 6 days to fall on the traditional "last Saturday" of September. In Manitoba, the current requirement to use only white phase snow goose decoys when using electronic calls in fall is proposed to be changed to permit the use of white and blue phase snow goose decoys. This change

is in recognition of the large proportion of blue phase snow geese in the mid-continent population. It is the intention of the CWS to stabilize the dates for special conservation measures in Manitoba and Saskatchewan spring hunting of Mid-continent Lesser Geese over a 4-year period from 2007/08 to 2010/11. The intention may also be considered in the future for Nunavut and Québec. The proposed time period corresponds to the completion of an evaluation of special measures to-date for Lesser Snow Geese, as well as the expiry of the new 2005-2010 Action Plan for Sustainable Integrated Management of the Greater Snow Goose in Québec (Bélanger and Lefebvre 2006).

There are several advantages to this approach: (1) it facilitates participation and advance planning by hunters and outfitters, (2) it allows advance advertisement of spring seasons by all levels of government, and (3) it is administratively more efficient. As described above, all of this can be accomplished with no risk to the population, and the status of the populations would continue to be updated annually through the CWS Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports series. Regulatory amendments would be made, if deemed necessary.

Proposed Changes to Hunting Regulations for the 2007-2008 Season

CWS and the provinces and territories have jointly developed the regulatory proposals presented here. Other proposals consistent with these may be sent to the appropriate CWS Regional Director by any interested organization or individual. To facilitate the comparison of changes proposed in this text with current regulations, the summaries of the 2006 *Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations* are included in Appendix C.

Newfoundland and Labrador

Barrows Goldeneye

For conservation purposes, it is proposed that the targeted hunting of birds from the Eastern Canadian population of Barrow's Goldeneye be eliminated, by imposing a maximum daily bag of one bird and maximum possession limit of two birds in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Other Regulatory Changes

No other regulatory changes are proposed except minor date adjustments to avoid Sunday

openings or closings.

Prince Edward Island

Barrows Goldeneye

For conservation purposes, it is proposed that the targeted hunting of birds from the Eastern Canadian population of Barrow's Goldeneye be eliminated, by imposing a maximum daily bag of one bird and maximum possession limit of two birds in Prince Edward Island.

Mallard

It is proposed that the existing daily bag and possession limit restrictions on Mallard Ducks be removed; and that daily bag and possession limits for Mallards would be included in the category of "Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks)". Mallard populations continue to increase in eastern Canada and evidence suggests this population increase may result in detrimental effects on American Black Duck populations. It is proposed that current restrictions on bag and possession limits for American Black Ducks and Mallard-American Black Duck hybrids will be maintained.

Other Regulatory Changes

Waterfowler Heritage Day is proposed for 15 September 2007.

Nova Scotia

Barrows Goldeneye

For conservation purposes, it is proposed that the targeted hunting of birds from the Eastern Canadian population of Barrow's Goldeneye be eliminated, by imposing a maximum daily bag of one bird and maximum possession limit of two birds in Nova Scotia.

Other Regulatory Changes

No other regulatory changes are proposed except minor date adjustments to avoid Sunday openings or closings. Waterfowler Heritage Day is proposed for 22 September 2007.

New Brunswick

Canada Goose

Spring surveys conducted annually to estimate numbers of waterfowl breeding in the Maritime Provinces have identified a 10-fold

increase in the abundance of breeding Canada geese over the past decade. It is proposed that an early September Canada Goose season be opened in New Brunswick in both Zone No. 1 and Zone No. 2 to help reduce nuisance and crop depredation problems associated with Canada geese from introduced flocks. Similar seasons are currently in place and considered very effective in controlling population growth of temperate-breeding Canada geese in other Provinces in Canada.

Seasons would occur before most migrant geese arrive in New Brunswick and as such would increase harvest pressure on locally-breeding geese only. In order to prevent disturbance to other waterfowl, hunting during the September Canada Goose season would be restricted to farmland only. A bag and possession limit of eight and sixteen birds respectively (during the early September Canada Goose season only) is proposed. In 2007, it is proposed that the dates for early September Canada Goose season in New Brunswick would be as follows:

- September 4 – September 14 in Zone 1
- September 4 – September 14 in Zone 2

Barrows Goldeneye

For conservation purposes, it is proposed that the targeted hunting of birds from the Eastern Canadian population of Barrow's Goldeneye be eliminated, by imposing a maximum daily bag of one bird and maximum possession limit of two birds in New Brunswick.

Other Regulatory Changes

No other regulatory changes are proposed except minor date adjustments to avoid Sunday openings or closings. Waterfowler Heritage Day is proposed for 15 September 2007.

Quebec

No-hunting zones

The Canadian Wildlife Service continues to review the status of certain no-hunting zones in Québec. At the time of initial designation, the zones were intended to provide waterfowl with a resting area, to protect certain species or to consolidate the protection of some areas. However, changes in the number of hunters, the status of certain populations which have now become more abundant, as well as the multitude of municipal regulations limiting the use of firearms,

have led CWS to review their status. We propose abolishing the no-hunting zone of Baie-du-Febvre.

Ontario

Canada Goose

Regulations for Canada geese in Ontario seek to maintain a high level of harvest of the rapidly expanding temperate-breeding population (TBP) while limiting harvest of northern-breeding populations, in particular the Southern James Bay Population (SJBP) whose numbers are presently at low but stable levels. In the case of TBP Canada geese, harvest has been increased through implementation of special seasons with higher bag limits before and after the regular waterfowl hunting season. Canada goose hunting regulations are regularly re-evaluated and refined to meet the above-mentioned objectives. Since the first modifications designed to focus harvest pressure on TBP Canada geese were introduced, the regulations have become increasingly complex. There is a desire to simplify regulations whenever possible to reduce confusion.

Possession Limits

A result of the many modifications to the regulations has been that possession limits for Canada geese differ over time during the season and between localities. The current possession limit in most areas during the regular season is 10, however it is as low as 4 in some areas and as high as 24 across the province during special seasons targeting TBP geese. This has resulted in several requests each year for clarification and fear of prosecution among hunters in situations where the legal possession limit changes overnight from 24 to 10 or even to 4. While there is evidence that daily bag limits can influence the level of harvest, there is no evidence that possession limits do. For the 2007-2008 hunting season, we are proposing to harmonize Canada goose possession limits at the highest level (24), at all times and places in Ontario.

Sunday Hunting in Southern District

Since 1998 Sunday hunting of migratory birds in some areas of the Southern District already closed for provincial species was prohibited by federal regulations in order to use compensatory days for those Sundays to apply to special hunting seasons for Canada geese whose numbers were increasing exponentially along with the level of damage and nuisance problems they caused. In 2006, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources re-

instituted Sunday gun-hunting in all southern Ontario municipalities that consented to the change. The Canadian Wildlife Service, desiring to harmonize federal and provincial regulations to the extent possible, similarly allowed Sunday hunting of migratory birds in some parts of the Southern Waterfowl District. In those areas with Sunday hunting, some special Canada goose seasons had to be discontinued in order to not exceed the maximum numbers of hunting days allowed under the MBCA. However, because not all municipalities approved Sunday hunting, the CWS did not consider that a blanket authorization of Sunday hunting throughout the Southern District would be desirable. Losing the use of compensatory days in areas that still would not allow Sunday hunting under provincial legislation would lead to a net decrease in opportunities for Canada goose hunting.

Allowing Sunday hunting is expected to result in an increase in the harvest of TBP Canada geese because: 1) the daily rate of band returns from this population is higher during the regular hunting season, even without Sundays, than during late special Canada goose seasons and 2) by allowing Sunday hunting, the available number of hunting days for any hunters who work or attend school from Monday to Friday will effectively be doubled.

In deciding which areas where Sunday hunting for migratory birds will be allowed, we will consider the following:

- (1) Sunday hunting for migratory birds will be allowed (or not) for entire provincial Wildlife Management Units (WMU) only. No smaller divisions, such as individual municipalities, will be considered.
- (2) In order to maintain the greatest possible hunting pressure on TBP Canada geese, and considering (1), Sunday hunting for migratory birds will be allowed in WMUs where municipalities representing the majority of the land surface gave their consent to the change in provincial regulations. In these areas, special late Canada goose seasons will be discontinued and the length of the regular hunting season will be adjusted so as not to exceed the maximum number of days allowed under the MBCA. In other WMUs, the federal prohibition on Sunday hunting will remain in place and special late Canada goose seasons will be maintained.

In 2006-2007, the federal prohibition on Sunday hunting for migratory birds was lifted in provincial Wildlife Management Units 60 to 72 inclusive. For

2007-2008, we are proposing that WMUs 83 and 95 be added to the list of WMUs where Sunday hunting for migratory birds is no longer prohibited under federal regulations.

Manitoba

Eastern Prairie Population (EPP) Canada Geese

It is proposed to increase the daily bag limit for Canada Geese in GHA 25B for non-Canadian residents to 5 birds daily with 15 in possession. The existing regulations restrict those hunters to 4 per day with 12 in possession. An early nesting season in 2006 led to an increase in productivity from EPP geese and has resulted in an overall rise in the EPP population and a significant increase in the 2006 fall flight. Over-harvest in this GHA is not a concern at this time.

Snow Geese

The current requirement to use only white phase snow goose decoys when using electronic calls in fall is proposed to be changed to permit the use of white and blue phase snow goose decoys. This change is in recognition of the large proportion of blue phase snow geese in the mid-continent population.

Saskatchewan

No changes are proposed to the migratory game bird hunting regulations for the 2007/08 season.

Alberta

No changes are proposed to the migratory game bird hunting regulations for the 2007/08 season.

British Columbia

Canvasback, Northern Pintails, Harlequin Ducks and Goldeneyes

It is proposed that the current restrictive regulations on Canvasback, Northern Pintails, Harlequin Ducks and goldeneyes be maintained.

Ducks, Coot, and Snipe Season, Snow and Ross' Geese Season, and Greater White-fronted Goose Season

In Hunting District 1 and 2, the following minor date adjustments are proposed for the regular

hunting season to provide for traditional weekend openings and to accommodate Waterfowler Heritage Days:

For District No. 1:

For Ducks, Coots and Snipe and for Snow and Ross's Goose seasons only:
October 6, 2007 to January 18, 2008

For District No. 2:

For Provincial Management Units 2-4 and 2-5, for Snow and Ross's Goose seasons only:
October 6, 2007 to January 1, 2008 and
February 23, 2008 to March 10, 2008

For Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-10 inclusive and 2-12 to 2-19 inclusive, and for Ducks, Coots and Snipe only:
October 6, 2007 to January 18, 2008

Wrangel Island Lesser Snow Goose

The Wrangel Island Population of Lesser Snow Goose historically experienced a complete reproductive failure approximately once every 3 years. This has changed and there has been an unprecedented run of good breeding years on Wrangel Island (i.e. 8th consecutive good year in 2006). The mid-winter estimate for the Fraser-Skagit population has doubled compared to the early 1990's. This population growth has resulted in an equally large reduction in the density/biomass of their preferred food (bulrush) on the Fraser River delta, especially after the population increased to more than 50,000 birds (S. Boyd, pers. comm.). The pattern observed here is similar to that of the mid-continent Lesser Snow Goose population and eastern Greater Snow Goose population: increased reproductive rates, increased population size, negative effects on natural plant communities and increased pressure on agricultural lands. To help manage the Fraser-Skagit population (i.e. maintain numbers so the population does not increase out of control), hunting regulations were changed beginning in 2003-2004 to provide for an additional 25 days for the fall season (the season now adds up to 107 days). These regulatory changes have not been sufficient to prevent the population from growing exponentially. The harvest rate on the Fraser-Skagit population in recent years is estimated at ca. 7% but a simple analysis of population demographics suggests that a harvest rate in the range of 12-14% will be required to control the growth of this population (S. Boyd, unpubl. data).

Two regulatory changes are being considered to increase Lesser Snow Goose harvest in Region 2:

1. Increase the bag/possession limit from 5/10 to 8/16 (i.e. same as for ducks)
2. Increase the bag/possession limit from 5/10 to 10/20 (i.e. double current limits)

Pacific Population of Western Canada Goose

Over the last few years, a number of strategies including the introduction of multiple seasons ("split seasons") have been implemented in the southern part of the province to increase the harvest on resident Canada Geese. It is proposed that the current opening and closing date for each split season in Management District 3 and 8 be maintained. Minor date adjustments to the regular and split season dates are proposed for Hunting District 2 to provide for traditional weekend openings. It is also proposed to create split seasons in Hunting District 1 similar to the ones found in Hunting District 2 to increase harvest on the resident Canada Goose population.

For District No. 1:

For Provincial Management Units 1-3, and 1-8 to 1-15 inclusive:
October 6, 2007 to January 18, 2008

For Provincial Management Units 1-1, 1-2, 1-4 to 1-7 inclusive:
September 8 to September 16, 2007
October 6 to November 23, 2007
December 15, 2007 to January 6, 2008
February 16 to March 10, 2008

For District No. 2:

For Provincial Management Units 2-5 to 2-7 inclusive, 2-9, 2-10, and 2-12 to 2-17 inclusive:
October 6, 2007 to January 18, 2008

For Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-4 inclusive, 2-8, 2-18 and 2-19:
September 8 to September 16, 2007
October 6 to November 25, 2007
December 15, 2007 to January 6, 2008
February 18 to March 10, 2008

For Provincial Management Units 2-11 only:
September 10 to December 23, 2007

Waterfowler Heritage Days

For Hunting District No. 1
Waterfowler Heritage days are proposed for 29

and 30 September 2007.

For Hunting District No. 2

Waterfowler Heritage days are proposed for 29 and 30 September 2007 for Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-10 inclusive and 2-12 to 2-19 inclusive for Ducks and Canada Geese only, and, additionally, in Provincial Management Units 2-4 and 2-5 only, for Snow Geese and Ross's Geese. Waterfowler Heritage days are proposed for 1 and 2 September 2007 in Provincial Management Unit 2-11, for Ducks and Canada Goose only.

For Hunting District No. 3

Waterfowler Heritage days are proposed for 1 and 2 September 2007.

For Hunting District No. 4

Waterfowler Heritage days are proposed for 1 and 2 September 2007.

For Hunting District No. 5

Waterfowler Heritage days are proposed for 8 and 9 September 2007.

For Hunting District No. 6

Waterfowler Heritage days are proposed for 15 and 16 September 2007 for Provincial Management Unit 6-3 and 6-11 to 6-14 inclusive. Waterfowler Heritage days are proposed for 1 and 2 September 2007 for Provincial Management Units 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 to 6-10 inclusive, and 6-15 to 6-30 inclusive.

For Hunting District No. 8

Waterfowler Heritage days are proposed for 1 and 2 September 2007.

Nunavut

No regulatory changes are proposed for the 2007-2008 season.

Northwest Territories

No regulatory changes are proposed for the 2007-2008 season.

Yukon Territory

No regulatory changes are proposed for the 2007-2008 season.

Updates to the Migratory Birds Regulations

Hunting from a vehicle for mobility impaired hunters

The Field and Stream Association for Manitobans with Disabilities has contacted the Canadian Wildlife Service requesting that an amendment to the Migratory Birds Regulations be considered to allow the use of a vehicle while hunting migratory birds. The association reported that the provincial hunting regulations in Manitoba had been modified to allow a permanently disabled hunter to discharge a firearm from a stationary vehicle while hunting for big game.

Enquiring about other provincial approaches, CWS found that the question of hunting by persons with disabilities is a complex situation that is being handled differently in different provincial jurisdictions. In some instances the discharge of a firearm from a vehicle is considered to be strictly a safety issue and it has therefore been prohibited for all persons. In many cases, however, provincial authorities provide an exception either through administrative procedures and/or through regulations. In those instances, the province has usually developed an approach to identify who is eligible.

It is suggested that a change could be made to the *Migratory Birds Regulations* to accommodate persons that are mobility impaired to hunt migratory birds from a stationary vehicle. CWS is therefore developing a proposal to allow persons with disabilities to hunt from such a vehicle provided that provincial safety requirements are followed. The provision of an exception would not include a relaxation of any other provisions, particularly section 16, which requires all hunters to retrieve the game birds shot. A proposed amendment could be pre-published in the Canada Gazette as early as fall 2007.

New prohibition regarding wastage of migratory birds

The *Migratory Birds Regulations* have several provisions to ensure sustainable use of migratory game birds. Some provisions deal directly with the setting of bag and possession limits and season opening dates, other provisions address hunting methods and equipments, the obligation of retrieving birds, and more. All these tools contribute to the maintenance and sustainable use of migratory bird populations. The regulations however do not have a provision that

explicitly prohibits the wastage of migratory game birds.

The absence of a provision prohibiting wastage has been noted by several interest groups including aboriginal hunters. It is clear that such a prohibition falls within the spirit of the Migratory Birds Convention, where the values associated with migratory birds are emphasized in its preamble: "Committed to the long-term conservation of shared species of migratory birds for their nutritional, social, cultural, spiritual, ecological, economic, and aesthetic values....".

Several provincial regulations addressing the conservation of wildlife have specific provisions that prohibit wastage. These regulations do not always cover migratory birds and thus, CWS is considering the development of an explicit regulatory proposal that would prohibit wastage of migratory birds.

Addition of a new non-toxic shot

The Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada, has proposed an amendment to the *Migratory Birds Regulations* (MBR) and the *Wildlife Area Regulations* (WAR) to (i) update the definition of non-toxic shot to include tungsten-iron-nickel-copper shot as an approved non-toxic shot alternative, (ii) make minor adjustments to the existing definitions of tungsten-nickel-iron and tungsten-bronze-iron shots, and (iii) ensure the definition is consistent in all the Department of the Environment's wildlife regulations. The proposal was published in Canada Gazette I on December 9, 2006, for a formal 30-day period of public comment.

All available evidence indicates that the new shot type is not toxic to migratory game birds or their environments. In addition, the revised definitions of tungsten-nickel-iron and tungsten-bronze-iron, would continue to ensure non-toxicity while at the same time permitting the broadest range possible of alternative formulations. These proposed amendments would allow additional options for manufacturers and hunters.

In the MBR, the definition of "non-toxic shot" includes: bismuth shot, steel shot, tin shot, tungsten-bronze-iron shot, tungsten-iron shot, tungsten-matrix shot, tungsten-nickel-iron shot and tungsten-polymer shot. To this list it is proposed to add tungsten-iron-nickel-copper shot, consisting of, by weight:

- a) 40-76 per cent tungsten,
- b) 10-37 per cent iron,
- c) 9-16 per cent copper,
- d) 5-7 per cent nickel and
- e) not more than 1 per cent lead, or zinc.

It is also proposed to amend the definition of "tungsten-nickel-iron", as follows:

- (a) up to 90% tungsten (formerly was "at least 50% tungsten"),
- (b) up to 90% iron (formerly was "at least 15%"),
- (c) not more than 40% nickel, (formerly was "35%") and
- d) not more than 1% of any other element.

Finally, the definition of "tungsten-bronze-iron" would be amended as follows:

- (a) up to 90% tungsten (formerly was "at least 50% tungsten")
- (b) up to 90% iron (formerly was "at least 0.5% iron")
- (c) up to 90% tin (formerly was "at least 3%")
- (d) not more than 45% copper
- (e) not more than 1% of any other element

Amendment to allow for the temporary possession of migratory birds for disease testing

According to section 6.(b), no person shall "have in his possession a live migratory bird, or a carcass, skin, nest or egg of a migratory bird except under authority of a permit therefor". In order to facilitate provincial, territorial, municipal and federal government employees, as well as the public, to assist in surveillance for avian influenza in wild birds found dead, the temporary possession of migratory birds is currently allowed under a ministerial order (issued under section 36 of the Migratory Birds Regulations). As it is envisioned that surveillance of diseases in migratory birds will continue as an ongoing measure, EC is considering to amend the Migratory Birds Regulations to exempt individuals from the possession prohibition, in defined cases of temporary possession for disease testing.

For more information on avian influenza surveillance, please visit the following web site:

<http://wildlife1.usask.ca/en/aiv/index.php>

Literature Cited

Batt, B. D. J. (ed.). 1997. Arctic Ecosystems in peril: report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group. Arctic Goose Joint Venture Special Publication, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C., and Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ontario.

- Batt, B. D. J. (ed.). 1998. The Greater Snow Goose: report of the Arctic Goose Habitat Working Group. Arctic Goose Joint Venture Special Publication, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C., and Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ontario.
- Bélanger, L. and J. Lefebvre. 2006. Plan for Sustainable Integrated Management of the Greater Snow Goose in Québec: 2005-2010. Can. Wild. Serv. Québec Region, Environment Canada, Sainte-Foy, 34 pp.
- Boyd, H., H. Lévesque and K.M. Dickson. 2002. Changes in reported waterfowl hunting activity and kill in Canada and the United States, 1985-1998. [Canadian Wildlife Service Occas. Paper No. 107](#), 24 pp.
- Canadian Wildlife Service Waterfowl Committee. 2006. [Population Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada: November 2006](#). CWS Migr. Birds Regul. Rep. No. 19.

Appendices

Appendix A. Special Conservation Measures - Proposals for 2007

MEASURES IN QUEBEC CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES
(CHANGES TO THE DATES IN FALL TO RETAIN TRADITIONAL SATURDAY OPENINGS)

Item	Column 1 Area	Column 2 Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Column 3 Additional hunting method or equipment
1.	District A	May 1 to June 30 and September 1 to December 10	Recorded bird calls <i>(d)(f)</i>
2.	District B	September 15 to December 26	Recorded bird calls <i>(d) (f)</i>
3.	District C and D	April 1 to May 31 <i>(a)</i> , September 1 to September 14 <i>(a)</i> and September 15 to December 16	Recorded bird calls <i>(d) (f)</i>
4.	District E	April 1 to May 31 <i>(a)</i> , September 1 to September 14 <i>(a)</i> and September 15 to December 16	Recorded bird calls <i>(d)(f)</i> and bait or bait crop area <i>(e)</i>
5.	District F,G,H,I	April 1 to May 31 <i>(a),(b),(c)</i> September 6 to September 21 <i>(a)</i> ,and September 22 to December 26	Recorded bird calls <i>(d)(f)</i> and bait or bait crop area <i>(e)</i>
6.	District J	September 29 to December 26	Recorded bird calls <i>(d)(f)</i>

(a) Hunting and hunting equipment (decoys) 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 St-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 no. 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 has given consent in writing pursuant to section 23.3.

(f) The decoys used when hunting with recorded Snow Goose calls must represent only white-phase Snow Geese in adult or juvenile plumage (white or gray).

MEASURES IN MANITOBA CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES
(NO CHANGES)

Item	Column 1 Area	Column 2 Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Column 3 Additional hunting method or equipment
1.	Zone 1	April 1 to May 31 and August 15 to August 31	Recorded bird calls (a)(b)
2.	Zone 2	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (a)(b)
3.	Zone 3	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (a)(b)
4.	Zone 4	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (a)(b)

(a) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.

(b) If decoys are used when hunting with recorded Snow Goose calls, the decoys must represent white or blue phase Snow Geese.

As well, the current requirement to use only white phase snow goose decoys when using electronic calls in fall is proposed to be changed to permit the use of white and blue phase snow goose decoys, as is allowed during spring.

MEASURES IN SASKATCHEWAN CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES
(NO CHANGES)

Item	Column 1 Area	Column 2 Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Column 3 Additional hunting method or equipment
1.	East of 106° W Longitude	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (a)(b)
2.	West of 106° W Longitude	April 1 to April 30	Recorded bird calls (a)(b)

(a) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.

(b) If decoys are used when hunting with recorded Snow Goose calls, the decoys must represent white or blue phase Snow Geese.

MEASURES IN NUNAVUT CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES
 (FOOTNOTE (B) IS MODIFIED TO MATCH MANITOBA AND SASKATCHEWAN)

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Item	Area	Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
1.	Throughout Nunavut	May 1 - June 7	Recorded bird calls (a)(b)

(a) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.

(b) If decoys are used when hunting with recorded Snow Goose calls, the decoys must represent white or blue phase Snow Geese.

Appendix B. Objectives and Guidelines for the Establishment of National Regulations for Migratory Game Bird Hunting

(Revised June 1999, updated December 2001)

A. Description of Regulations

The *Migratory Birds Regulations* are part of the regulations respecting the protection of migratory birds in general, as mandated by the *Migratory Birds Convention* (MBC). According to the *MBC Act, 1994*, the Governor in Council may make regulations providing for:

1. The periods during which, or the geographic areas in which, migratory birds may be killed.
2. The species and number of migratory game birds that a person may kill in any period when doing so is permitted by the regulation.
3. The manner in which migratory game birds may be killed and the equipment that may be used.
4. The periods in each year during which a person may have in possession migratory game birds killed during the season when the taking of such birds was legal, and the number of birds that may be possessed.

This document deals with these four aspects of regulation, although the *Migratory Birds Regulations* deal with other areas as well.

B. Guiding Principles

Guiding principles for migratory bird hunting regulations include those laid out in the *Guidelines for Wildlife Policy in Canada* as approved by the Wildlife Ministers at the Wildlife Ministers Conference, 30 September 1982. In particular, the most relevant principles are:

1. The maintenance of viable natural wildlife stocks always takes precedence over their use.
2. Canadians are temporary custodians, not the owners, of their wildlife heritage.
3. Canadians are free to enjoy and use wildlife in Canada, subject to laws aimed at securing its sustainable enjoyment and use.
4. The cost of management essential to preserving viable populations of wildlife should be borne by all Canadians; special management measures required to permit intensive uses should be supported by the users.
5. Wildlife has intrinsic, social and economic values, but wildlife sometimes causes problems that require management.
6. Conservation of wildlife relies upon a well-informed public.

C. Objectives of the Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations

1. To provide an opportunity for Canadians to hunt migratory game birds, by establishing hunting seasons. Guidelines for hunting regulations are described in Section D. Briefly, regulations should be based on a number of features specific to the geographic area under consideration. Factors such as the timing of arrival and departure of migrating birds, the status of local breeding populations, fledging of local broods and completion of the moult of successfully breeding females, and other special issues such as the status of species, should be used to determine the most effective hunting regulations. Sometimes regulations may need to be based on the species of highest conservation concern.
2. To manage the take of migratory game birds at levels compatible with the species ability to sustain healthy populations consistent with the available habitat throughout their range.
3. To conserve the genetic diversity within migratory game bird populations.
4. To provide hunting opportunity in various parts of Canada within the limits imposed by the abundance, migration, and distribution patterns of migratory bird populations, and with due respect for the traditional

use of the migratory game bird resource in Canada.

5. To limit the accidental killing of a migratory game bird species requiring protection because of poor population status, where there is a reasonable possibility that a hunter might confuse that species with another for which there is an open season.
6. To assist, at times and in specific locations, in the prevention of damage to natural habitat or depredation of agricultural crops by migratory game birds.

D. Guidelines for the Regulations on Migratory Game Bird Hunting

1. Regulations shall be established according to the requirements of the *Migratory Birds Convention* and the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*.
2. Regulations shall address the Principles of Section B and the Objectives of Section C.
3. Unless needs dictate otherwise, hunting regulations will be changed as little as possible from year to year.
4. Regulations should be simple and readily enforceable.
5. Where a conflict arises between allocation of harvest among jurisdictions and the conservation of migratory game bird populations, the conservation objective shall take precedence.
6. When uncertainty exists about the status of a migratory game bird population, a precautionary approach will be taken in establishing sustainable hunting regulations.
7. Hunting regulations may not discriminate among Canadian hunters based on their province or territory of residence. This guideline does not preclude recognition of aboriginal rights.
8. Regulations should be consistent in jurisdictions where important concentration areas for staging waterfowl straddle borders.
9. Where possible, regional, national and international harvest strategies will be developed among management agencies that share populations. Regulations will be designed to meet mutual targets for harvest, harvest rate or population size.
10. Specific regulation changes will be developed through a process of co-management and public consultation with other interested groups and individuals.
11. Hunting regulations should be consistent with terms of agreements in aboriginal land claim settlements.

E. Regulatory Process

Regulations may be established each year in one of two ways; selection of a regulatory package from a pre-established set of possible packages, or through an annual regulatory consultation process.

Pre-established sets of regulatory alternatives:

Regulatory alternatives may be pre-established according to the guidelines outlined in section D, with the selection made in any year based on a predetermined set of conditions. For example, a set of three regulatory packages with decreasing harvest rates could be described; liberal, moderate and restrictive. The criteria for annual selection among the alternatives could be based on the results of population surveys. This method would reduce the time required to conduct the usual annual process, simplify the implementation of multi-jurisdictional harvest strategies, and increase the predictability of regulations.

Annual regulatory process:

The Minister of the Environment must be in a position to proceed with any changes to the *Migratory Birds Regulations* for the upcoming hunting season by the second Monday in June. To ensure that the regulations are made with the best possible advice, a broad process of consultation must be carried out. Reports produced as part of this process may be obtained from Regional Directors, Environmental Conservation, or the Director, Wildlife Conservation Branch, Canadian Wildlife Service.

1. The Canadian Wildlife Service, national office, issues a status report on migratory game bird populations at the beginning of November. This report describes the biological information available to determine the status of each population.

2. Regional officials (biologists and management) of the Canadian Wildlife Service and provincial and territorial wildlife officials will consult with non-government organizations and interested individuals on issues related to hunting regulations for the coming season. To ensure that all parties have access to the best possible biological information, the November status report may be used as an aid.
3. The initial suggestions for regulation changes will be developed through regional consultation processes. These processes may vary among regions, but should include active participation by provincial and territorial wildlife agencies, wildlife co-management boards and affected stakeholders. The changes, with rationale and predicted effect (Section F) are described in a regulation report issued at the end of December from the national office. This report allows inter-regional and international consideration of proposed changes.
4. Public and organizational comments on the proposals outlined in the December report should be sent to the appropriate Regional Director, or the Director General, Canadian Wildlife Service.
5. Final regulation proposals, incorporating input from the consultations, are submitted from the Regional Directors of Environmental Conservation to the Director General, Canadian Wildlife Service, by the end of March.
6. The regulation proposals are moved, by the national office, through the process for consideration by the government beginning in June.
7. Population surveys are carried out throughout the year. From time to time these surveys may show an unexpected change in migratory game bird populations that require a sudden revision to the national regulation proposals.
8. The final regulations, as approved by the Governor-in-Council and the Special Committee of Council, are described in a report which is distributed to all involved parties. Each purchaser of a migratory game bird hunting permit receives a summary of the regulations for that province.

F. Items to Be Addressed in Regulatory Proposals

Proposals to change migratory game bird hunting regulations should address the following questions:

1. What is the goal of the regulatory change?
2. How does the change address the Objectives and Guidelines set out in this document?
3. What is the predicted effect of the proposal? An analysis based on existing data sources should be included.
4. How will the actual effect of the regulatory change be measured?

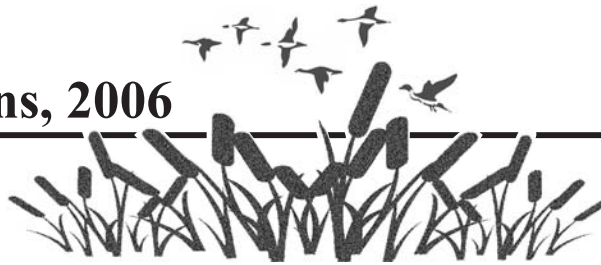
The proposals should be as concise as possible, while still including the required elements. A simplified rationale would apply for regulations that carry out previously negotiated harvest strategies and agreements.

Appendix C. 2006 Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations Summaries by Province and Territory

(following pages; also available on the CWS national Web site at http://www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/publications/reg/index_E.cfm.)

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2006

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
Canadian Wildlife Service
P.O. Box 1201
Lewisporte, Newfoundland 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 length implemented in 1998 for eiders, Long-tailed Ducks (Oldsquaw or hounds), scoters, and mergansers remains in effect. Note that in some winters, such as experienced in early 2005, heavy ice conditions make sea ducks very vulnerable to high harvest. Should these conditions reoccur in 2007, the Canadian Wildlife Service may decide to implement partial closures in affected zones. In this case, there will be announcements in local newspapers and on radio.

Reminder: 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).

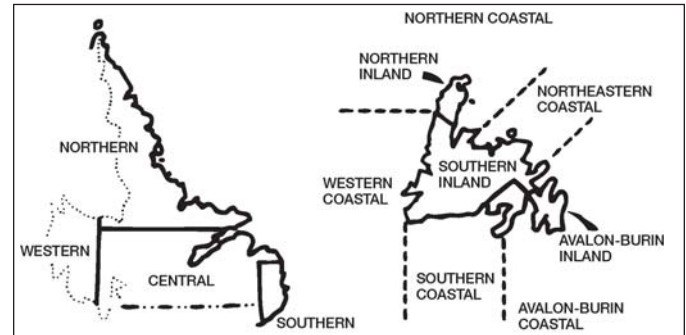
Attention murre (turr) hunters: In the 2006-07 season, **all** hunters must purchase and be in possession of a Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit and Habitat Conservation Stamp while hunting murre (turrs). Season length and bag limits for hunting murre remain in effect. The non-toxic shot regulation described below does not apply to 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.

When hunting and handling birds, Canadians may be exposed to viruses carried by and affecting birds (such as the West Nile or avian influenza viruses). Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following websites, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wn-no/index_e.html, www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/avian_e.html, and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fr-mos_e.html. Some relevant information is also available on the Canadian Wildlife Service website: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/nwrc-cnrf/default.asp?lang=en&n=FAD35B22.

Waterfowl and Snipe Hunting Zones



“Coastal” refers to that portion of the coast lying within 100 metres of the mean ordinary high-water mark, including the coastal portions of offshore islands and the adjacent marine coastal waters.

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	Third Saturday of September to last Saturday of December	Fourth Saturday of November to the last day of February
All Inland Zones	Third Saturday of September to last Saturday of December	No open season

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

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.
 (b) Not more than eight may be American Black Ducks.
 * Long-tailed Duck is the current name for Oldsquaw.

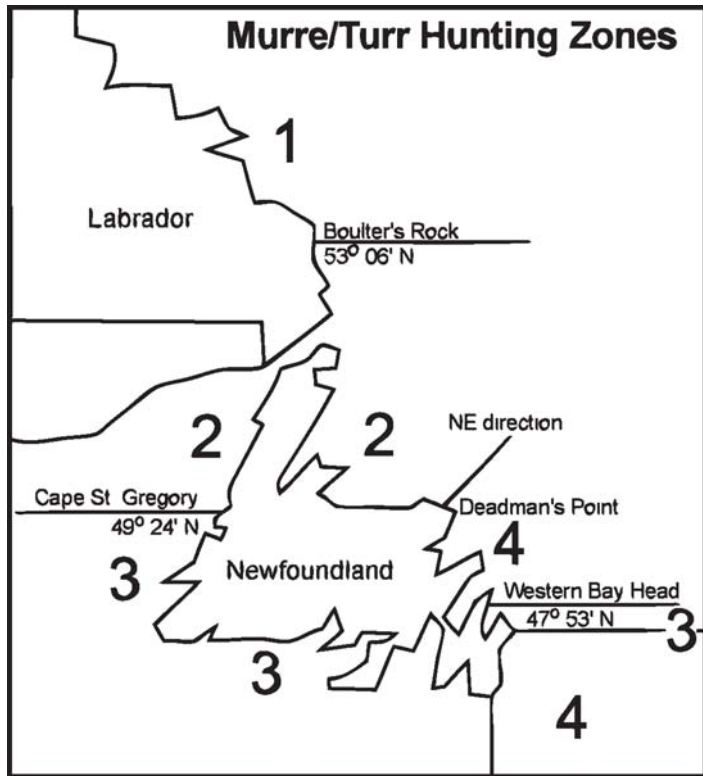
OPEN SEASONS IN LABRADOR (No open season for Harlequin Ducks)**

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks** and eiders), geese, and snipe	Eiders
Northern Labrador Zone	First Saturday in September to second Saturday in December	Last Saturday in September to second Saturday in January
Western Labrador Zone	First Saturday in September to second Saturday in December	No open season
Southern Labrador Zone	Second Saturday in September to third Saturday in December	Fourth Saturday in November to last day of February
Central Labrador Zone	First Saturday in September to second Saturday in December	Last Saturday in October to last Saturday in November and first Saturday in January to last day of February

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	6	5	10
Possession	12	12	10	20

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



OPEN SEASONS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (Murre/Turrs)

Area	Murres
Zone No. 1	September 1 to December 16
Zone No. 2	October 7 to January 20
Zone No. 3	November 24 to March 10
Zone No. 4	November 3 to January 10 February 2 to March 10

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

Limits	Murres
Daily Bags	20
Possession	40

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2006

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
Canadian Wildlife Service
17 Waterfowl Lane
P.O. Box 6227
Sackville, New Brunswick E4L 1G6
Tel.: (506) 364-5032
Fax: (506) 364-5062
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html**

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Waterfowler Heritage Day provides young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor 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, Band-tailed Pigeons, 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.

When hunting and handling birds, Canadians may be exposed to viruses carried by and affecting birds (such as the West Nile or avian influenza viruses). Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following websites, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wn-no/index_e.html, www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/avian_e.html, and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fi-mos_e.html. Some relevant information is also available on the Canadian Wildlife Service website: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/nwrc-cnrf/default.asp?lang=en&n=FAD35B22.

CRIME STOPPERS

The Canadian Wildlife Service has joined forces with Prince Edward Island Crime Stoppers to address offences concerning migratory birds. Anyone wishing to report illegal hunting activities, illegal selling of birds, or other offences related to migratory birds is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-566-TIPS (8477). Your call is anonymous, and you may be eligible for a cash reward.

OPEN SEASONS IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND (No open season for Harlequin Ducks)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks) and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), snipe, and geese	Woodcock
Throughout the Province of Prince Edward Island	September 16	First Monday of October to second Saturday of December	Last Monday in September to second Saturday in December

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

Limits	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks)	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(a)	5	8	10
Possession	12(b)	10	16	20

- (a) Not more than four may be Mallards, Mallard–American Black Duck hybrids, or American Black Ducks.
 (b) Not more than eight may be Mallards, Mallard–American Black Duck hybrids, or American Black Ducks.

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2006

Summary



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



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
Canadian Wildlife Service
5th Floor, Queen's Square
45 Alderney Drive
Dartmouth, Nova Scotia B2Y 2N6
Tel.: (902) 426-1188
Fax: (902) 426-6434
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html**

Use of bait prior to and during the migratory bird hunting season is prohibited. Check your permit and provincial hunting regulations for additional restrictions.

Waterfowler Heritage Day provides young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor 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, Band-tailed Pigeons, 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.

When hunting and handling birds, Canadians may be exposed to viruses carried by and affecting birds (such as the West Nile or avian influenza viruses). Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following websites, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wn-no/index_e.html, www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/avian_e.html, and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fr-mos_e.html. Some relevant information is also available on the Canadian Wildlife Service website: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/nwrc-cnrf/default.asp?lang=en&n=FAD35B22.

CRIME STOPPERS

Hunting violations may be reported to the CWS office, your local RCMP detachment, Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources at 1-800-565-2224, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-422-8477.

OPEN SEASONS IN NOVA SCOTIA (No open season for Harlequin Ducks)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks) and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks)	Additional seasons for Common and Red-breasted mergansers	Additional seasons for Long-tailed Ducks**, eiders, and scoters in coastal waters only	Additional seasons for scaup, goldeneyes, and Buffleheads	Geese	Woodcock and snipe
Zone No. 1*	Sept. 23	Oct. 2 to Dec. 30	No additional season	No additional season	No additional season	Oct. 2 to Dec. 30	Oct. 2 to Nov. 30
Zone No. 2*	Sept. 23	Oct. 9 to Dec. 30	Oct. 2 to Oct. 7 and Jan. 1 to Jan. 6 (in coastal waters only)	Oct. 2 to Oct. 7 and Jan. 1 to Jan. 6	Jan. 1 to Jan. 6	Oct. 9 to Jan. 15	Oct. 2 to Nov. 30
Zone No. 3*	Sept. 23	Oct. 9 to Dec. 30	Jan. 1 to Jan. 6	No additional season	Jan. 1 to Jan. 6	Oct. 9 to Jan. 15	Oct. 2 to Nov. 30

* "Zone No. 1" means the counties of Antigonish, Pictou, Colchester, Cumberland, Hants, Kings, and Annapolis.

"Zone No. 2" means the counties of Digby, Yarmouth, Shelburne, Queens, Lunenburg, Halifax, Guysborough, Cape Breton, Victoria, Inverness, and Richmond, except the area described under Zone 3.

"Zone No. 3" means Bras d'Or Lake and all waters draining into Bras d'Or Lake including waters on the lake side of the highway bridge on Great Bras d'Or at Seal Islands (Highway No. 105), at St. Peters on St. Peters Inlet (Highway No. 4), and at Bras d'Or on St. Andrews Channel (Highway No. 105).

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

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NOVA SCOTIA

Limits	Ducks (other than Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, Harlequin Ducks, eiders, and scoters)	Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, eiders, and scoters	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(a)	5	5	8	10
Possession	12(b)	10	10	16	20

(a) Not more than four may be American Black Ducks.

(b) Not more than eight may be American Black Ducks.

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

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2006

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
Canadian Wildlife Service
17 Waterfowl Lane
P.O. Box 6227
Sackville, New Brunswick E4L 1G6
Tel.: (506) 364-5032
Fax: (506) 364-5062
www.ns.ec.gc.ca/wildlife/index.html

Check your permit and provincial hunting regulations for additional restrictions, such as the 1:00 P.M. closure for Tabusintac and Tracadie lagoons, the requirement to use a dog while hunting woodcock during September, etc.

Waterfowler Heritage Day provides young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor 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, Band-tailed Pigeons, 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.

When hunting and handling birds, Canadians may be exposed to viruses carried by and affecting birds (such as the West Nile or avian influenza viruses). Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following websites, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wn-no/index_e.html, www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/avian_e.html, and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fr-mos_e.html. Some relevant information is also available on the Canadian Wildlife Service website: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/nwrc-cnrf/default.asp?lang=en&n=FAD35B22.

Hunting Zones

Zone No.1

Saint John County south of No. 1 Highway and west of Saint John Harbour, that part of Charlotte County lying south of No. 1 Highway, and the Grand Manan Islands and Campobello Island, except the following area, which is closed to hunting: the area in the Bay of Fundy known as The Wolves, including the surrounding waters.

Zone No. 2

The remainder of the Province of New Brunswick, except the following, which are closed to hunting: the estuary of the Tabusintac River, Bathurst Basin and most of Bathurst Harbour (two islands remain open and signs have been posted to indicate their locations), and the Dalhousie shoreline from the eastern tip of Dalhousie Island to the mouth of the Miller Brook and extending one kilometre offshore.

CRIME STOPPERS

The Canadian Wildlife Service has joined forces with New Brunswick Crime Stoppers to address offences concerning migratory birds. Anyone wishing to report illegal hunting activities, illegal selling of birds, or other offences related to migratory birds is asked to call Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477). Your call is anonymous, and you may be eligible for a cash reward.

OPEN SEASONS IN NEW BRUNSWICK (No open season for Harlequin Ducks)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks) and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), geese, and snipe	Additional season for Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, eiders and scoters in coastal waters only	Woodcock
Zone No. 1	September 16	October 16 to January 4	February 1 to February 24	September 15 to November 30
Zone No. 2	September 16	October 2 to December 18	No additional season	September 15 to November 30

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

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NEW BRUNSWICK

Limits	Ducks (other than Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks*, Harlequin Ducks, eiders, and scoters)	Common and Red-breasted mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks,* eiders, and scoters	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bags	6(a)	6(c)	5	8	10
Possession	12(b)	12(d)	10	16	20

(a) Not more than three may be American Black Ducks.

(b) Not more than six may be American Black Ducks.

(c) Not more than four may be scoters and in Zone No. 1 from February 1 to February 24; not more than four eiders may be taken daily.

(d) Not more than eight may be scoters and in Zone No. 1 from February 1 to February 24; not more than eight eiders may be possessed.

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

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2006

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 2006-2007 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.

When hunting and handling birds, Canadians may be exposed to viruses carried by and affecting birds (such as the West Nile or avian influenza viruses). Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following websites, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wn-no/index_e.html, www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/avian_e.html, and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fi-mos_e.html. Some relevant information is also available on the Canadian Wildlife Service website: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/nwrc-cnrf/default.asp?lang=en&n=FAD35B22.

NOTE

Waterfowler Heritage Day is September 9 for districts B, C, D, and E; September 16 for districts F, G, H, and I; and September 23 for District J. The opening hunting date for ducks is September 16 for districts B, C, D, and E; September 23 for districts F, G, H, and I; and September 30 for District J. The non-hunting area of Beauharnois has been abolished. The opening date for early hunting of Canada Geese and Snow Geese is September 1 in districts C, D, and E.

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. 9	Sept. 16 to Dec. 26	Sept. 16 to Dec. 26	Oct. 1 to Jan. 14(b)	No open season	Sept. 9 to Dec. 22
C, D and E	Sept. 9	Sept. 16 to Dec. 26(c)	Sept. 1 to Sept. 15(a) Sept. 16 to Dec. 16	Sept. 16 to Dec. 26	No open season	Sept. 16 to Dec. 26
F, G, H, and I	Sept. 16(d)	Sept. 23 to Dec. 26(c)	Sept. 6 to Sept. 22(a) Sept. 23 to Dec. 21	Sept. 23 to Dec. 26	Sept. 23 to Dec. 26	Sept. 16 to Dec. 26
J	Sept. 23	Sept. 30 to Dec. 26	Sept. 30 to Dec. 26	Nov. 1 to Feb. 14	No open season	Sept. 30 to Dec. 26

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

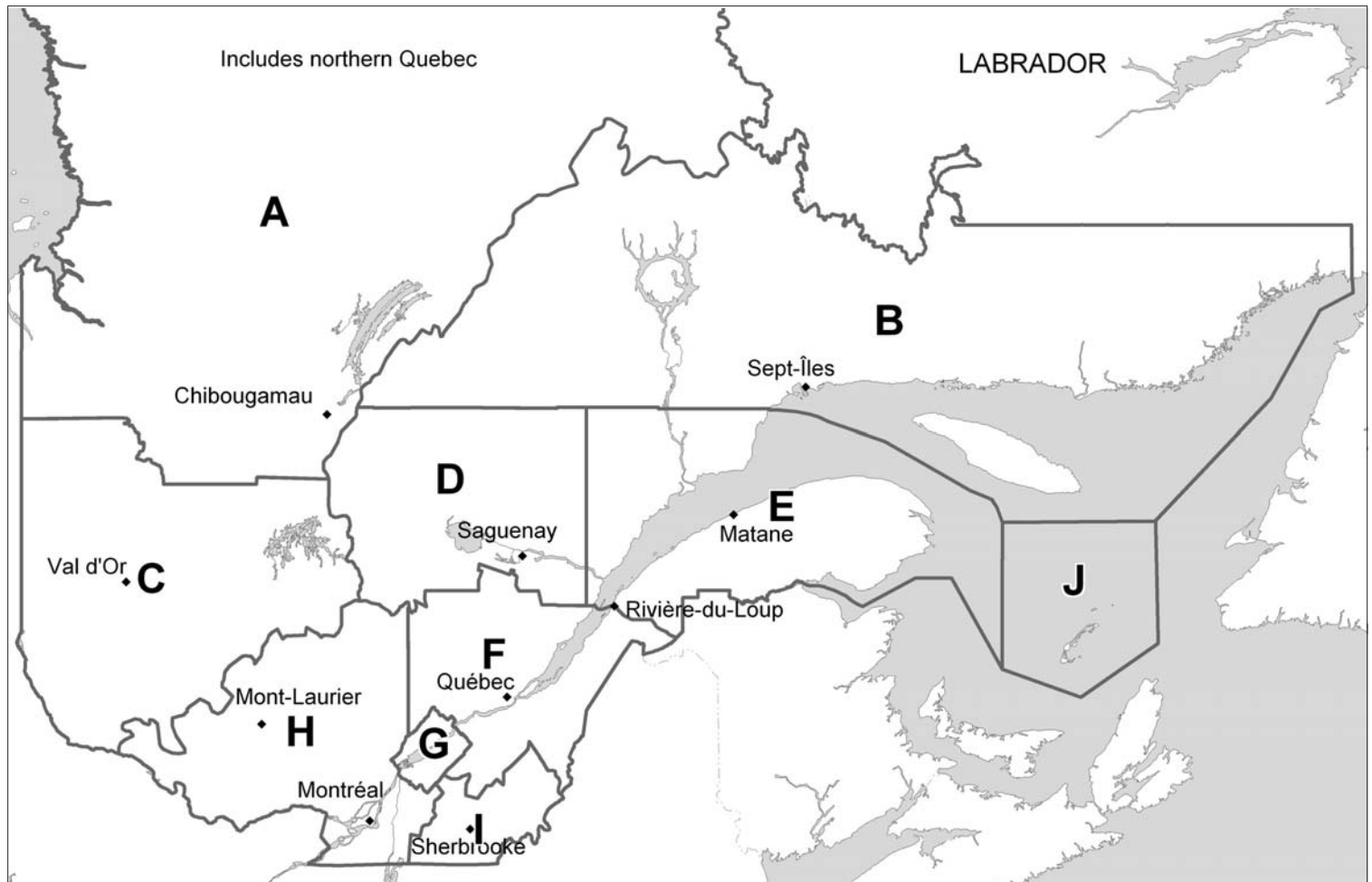
(b) In District B along the North Shore west of the Natashquan River, the hunting seasons for eiders and Long-tailed Ducks are from October 1 to October 24 inclusive and from November 15 to February 5 inclusive.

(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 (Saint-Irénée) and Gros Cap à l'Aigle (Saint-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.

* 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 2006–2007 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 16 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(d)(f)
Districts C and D	April 1 to May 31(a), September 1 to September 15(a), and September 16 to December 16	Recorded bird calls(d)(f)
District E	April 1 to May 31(a), September 1 to September 15(a), and September 16 to December 16	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 22(a), and September 23 to December 26	Recorded bird calls(d)(f) and bait or bait crop area(e)
District J	September 23 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 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 only white phase Snow Geese in adult or juvenile plumage (white or grey).

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2006

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 on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting districts, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

**Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment Canada
P.O. Box 5050, 867 Lakeshore Road
Burlington, Ontario L7R 4A6
(905) 336-6410
www.on.ec.gc.ca/wildlife_e.html**

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Note that there is now increased availability of Sunday hunting in the Southern District. The onus is on the hunter to determine, for the area where he or she wishes to hunt, that both Sunday gun hunting is permitted (provincial regulations) and Sunday migratory bird hunting is permitted (federal regulations).

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, 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.

When hunting and handling birds, Canadians may be exposed to viruses carried by and affecting birds (such as the West Nile or avian influenza viruses). Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following websites, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wn-no/index_e.html, www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/avian_e.html, and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fr-mos_e.html. Some relevant information is also available on the Canadian Wildlife Service website: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/nwrc-cnrf/default.asp?lang=en&n=FAD35B22.

Note that hunting restrictions have been put in place for the Wolfe Island area to address concerns over the declining use of this area by waterfowl. As a result, hunting will be permitted in the Wolfe Island area only when hunters are on the island, on the shore, in the shoreline marsh, or on a dock within 20 metres of the shore.

Hunting Districts



- 1. Hudson-James Bay District**
Wildlife Management Units 1A, 1B, and the portions of Wildlife Management Units 1D, 25, and 26 lying east of longitude 83°45' and north of latitude 51°
- 2. Northern District**
Wildlife Management Unit 1C, those parts of 1D, 25, and 26 lying west of longitude 83°45' and south of latitude 51°, and Wildlife Management Units 2 to 24, 27 to 41, and 45
- 3. Central District**
Wildlife Management Units 42 to 44 and 46 to 59
- 4. Southern District**
Wildlife Management Units 60A and 61 to 95

OPEN SEASONS IN ONTARIO (No open season for Harlequin Ducks)

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), rails (other than Yellow Rails and King Rails), Common Moorhens, American Coots, Common Snipe, and geese (other than Canada Geese)	Canada Geese*	Woodcock
1. Hudson–James Bay District	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15
2. Northern District	Sept. 10 to Dec. 15	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15	Sept. 15 to Dec. 15
3. Central District	Sept. 16 to Dec. 20	Sept. 5 to Dec. 20	Sept. 20 to Dec. 20
4. Southern District	Sept. 23 to Dec. 20(f)	Sept. 5 to Sept. 16(a)(f) and Sept. 9 to Sept. 19(b) and Sept. 23 to Dec. 27(b) and Sept. 23 to Jan. 4(c)(f) and Sept. 23 to Oct. 21(d)(f) and Nov. 29 to Jan. 4(d)(f) and Feb. 21 to Feb. 28(e)(f)	Sept. 25 to Dec. 20(f)

(a) In Wildlife Management Units 73 to 89 inclusive, 90 (excluding that part of the Township of South Walsingham, south of County Road 42, which includes Long Point), and 91 to 95 inclusive.

(b) In Wildlife Management Units 60A to 72B inclusive.

(c) In Wildlife Management Units 73 to 93 inclusive, and 95.

(d) In Wildlife Management Unit 94.

(e) In Wildlife Management Units 73 to 93 inclusive.

(f) No person shall hunt migratory birds on the following Sundays during the hunting season in Wildlife Management Units 73 to 95 inclusive from September 10 to December 31, and February 25. Sunday exclusions do not apply to falconers who may hunt only ducks on Sundays from September 24 to December 17 inclusive.

* See below for a simplified presentation of Canada Goose Regulations for Southern District.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN ONTARIO

Limits	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks)	Geese* (other than Snow Geese) and Brant	Snow Geese	Rails (other than Yellow Rails and King Rails), American Coots, Common Snipe, and Common Moorhens	Woodcock
Daily bags	6(a)(b)(c)	5(d)(e)(f)(g)	10	10	8
Possession	12(a)(b)(c)	10(d)(e)(f)(g)	40	20	16

(a) Not more than one American Black Duck may be taken daily and not more than two American Black Ducks may be possessed in Central and Southern districts and not more than two American Black Ducks may be taken daily and not more than four American Black Ducks may be possessed in Hudson–James Bay and Northern districts.

(b) Not more than four Canvasbacks may be taken daily and not more than eight Canvasbacks may be possessed.

(c) Not more than four Redheads may be taken daily and not more than eight Redheads may be possessed.

(d) Not more than three Canada Geese may be taken daily and not more than 10 Canada Geese may be possessed in that portion of Wildlife Management Unit 1D in Hudson–James Bay District, and in Wildlife Management Units 23 to 31 inclusive and 37 to 41 inclusive from September 10 to December 15 inclusive.

(e) Not more than two Canada Geese may be taken daily and not more than four Canada Geese may be possessed in Wildlife Management Unit 94 from September 23 to October 21 inclusive and from November 29 to January 4 inclusive.

(f) Not more than three Canada Geese may be taken daily and not more than 10 Canada Geese may be possessed in Wildlife Management Units 82 to 86 inclusive and 93 from September 23 to October 31 inclusive.

(g) Three additional Canada Geese may be taken daily and 14 additional Canada Geese may be possessed in Wildlife Management Units 36 and 45 from September 1 to September 9 inclusive; in Central District from September 5 to September 15 inclusive; in Wildlife Management Units 73 to 89 inclusive, 90 (excluding that part of the Township of South Walsingham, south of County Road 42, which includes Long Point), and 91 to 95 inclusive from September 5 to September 16 inclusive; in Wildlife Management Units 60A to 72B inclusive from September 9 to September 19 inclusive; and in Wildlife Management Units 73 to 93 inclusive from February 21 to February 28 inclusive.

* See below for a simplified presentation of Canada Goose Regulations for Southern District.

SUMMARY OF CANADA GOOSE REGULATIONS IN THE SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ONTARIO

Daily Limit	8	8	3	5	5	5	2	2	8
Possession Limit	24	24	10	10	10	10	4	4	24
Start	5 Sept.	9 Sept.	23 Sept.	1 Nov.	23 Sept.	23 Sept.	23 Sept.	29 Nov.	21 Feb.
Close	16 Sept.	19 Sept.	31 Oct.	4 Jan.	27. Dec.	4 Jan.	21 Oct.	4 Jan.	28 Feb.
WMU									
60A		X			X				
61		X			X				
62		X			X				
63		X			X				
64A		X			X				
64B		X			X				
65		X			X				
66		X			X				
67		X			X				
68		X			X				
69		X			X				
70		X			X				
71		X			X				
72A		X			X				
72B		X			X				
73	X					X			X
74	X					X			X
75	X					X			X
76	X					X			X
77	X					X			X
78	X					X			X
79	X					X			X
80	X					X			X
81	X					X			X
82	X		X	X					X
83	X		X	X					X
84	X		X	X					X
85	X		X	X					X
86	X		X	X					X
87	X					X			X
88	X					X			X
89	X					X			X
90	Except part of South Walsingham					X			X
91	X					X			X
92	X					X			X
93	X		X	X					X
94	X						X	X	
95	X					X			
Season Table	a	b	c	c	b	c	d	d	e
Footnotes									
Limits Table	g	g	f				e	e	g
Footnotes									

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2006

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 on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting zones, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
Suite 150
123 Main Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 4W2
(204) 983-5263

www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Waterfowler Heritage Days provide young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor 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:

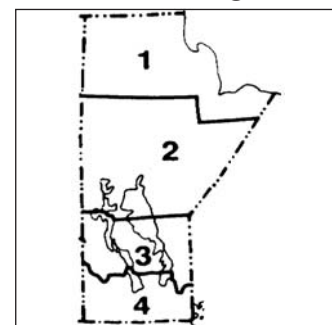
- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the Firearms Act and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied 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 to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. 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.

When hunting and handling birds, Canadians may be exposed to viruses carried by and affecting birds (such as the West Nile or avian influenza viruses). Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following websites, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wn-no/index_e.html, www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/avian_e.html, and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fr-mos_e.html. Some relevant information is also available on the Canadian Wildlife Service website: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/nwrc-cnrf/default.asp?lang=en&n=FAD35B22.

Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese, and, if decoys are also used, they must be white. While so doing, you may also take any migratory bird for which there is an open season.

Game Bird Hunting Zones



OPEN SEASONS IN MANITOBA

Area	Ducks and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks, geese, coots, and snipe RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks, Canada Geese, coots, and snipe NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Sandhill Cranes RESIDENTS OF CANADA AND NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snow and Ross's geese NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA
Zone 1	N/A	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31(b)	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	No open season	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31(b)
Zone 2	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(b)	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30(a)	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(b)
Zone 3	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(b)	Sept. 25 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 18 to Nov. 30(b)
Zone 4	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30(b)	Sept. 25 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 18 to Nov. 30(b)

(a) In provincial Game Hunting Areas (GHAs) 6 and 6A only.

(b) Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese, and, if decoys are also used, they must be white. While so doing, you may also take any migratory bird for which there is an open season.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN MANITOBA

Limits	Ducks RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark geese (Canada and white-fronted geese, and Brant)	Sandhill Cranes	Coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(a)	8(c)	20	5(e)	5	8	10
Possession	16(b)	16(d)	80	15(f)	10	16	20

(a) In Zone 4 for Residents, not more than four may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.

(b) In Zone 4 for Residents, not more than eight may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.

(c) In Zone 4 for non-residents, not more than two may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.

(d) In Zone 4 for non-residents, not more than four may be Redheads or Canvasbacks in total.

(e) Except that in provincial Game Hunting Area (GHA) 25B of Zone 4, non-residents may not take more than four Canada Geese daily.

(f) Except that in provincial GHA 25B of Zone 4, non-residents may not possess more than 12 Canada Geese.

NOTE

The open season for hunting of geese by non-residents in Game Bird Hunting Zone 4, and the Provincial Game Hunting Areas 13A, 14, 14A, all that portion of Game Hunting Area 16 south of the north limit of township 33, Game Hunting Areas 18, 18A, 18B, 18C, 19, 19A, 19B, 20, 21A, 23A, and 25 as described in Manitoba Regulation 220/86 as filed on September 25, 1986, includes only that part of each day from one-half hour before sunrise to 12:00 noon, local time, from the opening date (September 26) to October 15 inclusive, and on and after October 16 geese may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.

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.

NOTE

Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2006–2007 federal permits.

MEASURES IN MANITOBA CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Area	Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
Zone 1	April 1 to May 31 and August 15 to August 31	Recorded bird calls (a)(b)
Zones 2, 3, and 4	April 1 to May 31	Recorded bird calls (a)(b)

(a) "Recorded bird calls" refers to the Snow Goose call.

(b) If decoys are used when hunting with recorded bird calls, during the April–May and August 15–31 periods only, decoys must represent white or blue phase Snow Geese.

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2006

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 on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting districts, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
115 Perimeter Road
Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 0X4
(306) 975-4919

www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. 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.

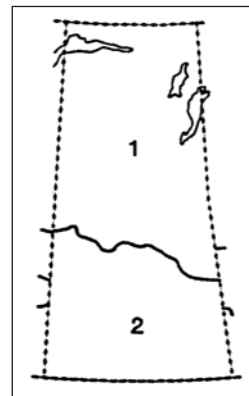
When hunting and handling birds, Canadians may be exposed to viruses carried by and affecting birds (such as the West Nile or avian influenza viruses). Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following websites, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wn-no/index_e.html, www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/avian_e.html, and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fr-mos_e.html. Some relevant information is also available on the Canadian Wildlife Service website: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/nwrc-cnrf/default.asp?lang=en&n=FAD35B22.

Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese, and, if decoys are also used, they must be white. While so doing, any migratory bird for which there is an open season may also be taken.

NOTE

Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2006–2007 federal permits.

Hunting Districts



District No. 1 (North)
Provincial Wildlife
Management Zones 43
and 47 to 76 inclusive.

District No. 2 (South)
Provincial Wildlife
Management Zones
1 to 42 inclusive and 44 to
46 inclusive.

OPEN SEASONS IN SASKATCHEWAN

District	Ducks, coots, and snipe	Geese RESIDENTS OF SASKATCHEWAN	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese) NON-RESIDENTS OF SASKATCHEWAN	Dark geese (Canada and White-fronted geese) NON-RESIDENTS OF SASKATCHEWAN	Sandhill Cranes
No. 1 (North)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(d)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(d)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16
No. 2 (South)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(a)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(b)(d)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(d)	Sept. 10 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16(c)

(a) Falconry season is open from September 1 to December 16 inclusive.

(b) Except White-fronted Geese; the season for residents of Saskatchewan for White-fronted Geese is from September 10 to December 16 inclusive.

(c) The Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area is closed to all Sandhill Crane hunting.

(d) Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese, and, if decoys are also used, they must be white. While so doing, you may also take any migratory bird for which there is an open season.

NOTE

The open season for geese for residents and non-residents of Saskatchewan in District No. 2 (South), and the Provincial Wildlife Management Zones 43, 47 to 59 inclusive, and 67 to 69 inclusive of District No. 1 (North) includes only that part of each day from one-half hour before sunrise to 12:00 noon, local time, from September 1 to October 14, inclusive, and on and after October 15 geese may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset, except east of 106 degrees west longitude, where, on and after September 1, white geese (Snow and Ross's geese) may be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset. Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area is closed to all hunting until September 20.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN SASKATCHEWAN

Limits	Ducks	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark geese (Canada and White-fronted geese)	Sandhill Cranes	Coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(a)	20	8(c)	5	10	10
Possession	16(b)	60	16(d)	10	20	20

(a) Not more than three may be Northern Pintails.

(b) Not more than six may be Northern Pintails.

(c) For residents of Saskatchewan, not more than four may be White-fronted Geese. For non-residents of Saskatchewan, not more than three may be White-fronted Geese.

(d) For residents of Saskatchewan, not more than eight may be White-fronted Geese. For non-residents of Saskatchewan, not more than six may be White-fronted Geese.

Cranes

Where the Director General of the Canadian Wildlife Service or the Chief Provincial Game Officer of Saskatchewan is of the opinion that Whooping Cranes may be in the Saskatchewan Sandhill Crane Management Area during the open season for Sandhill Cranes in that area, such officer may prohibit the hunting of Sandhill Cranes in that area, and thereafter no person shall hunt or kill Sandhill Cranes in that area in that year.

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2006



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 on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting zones, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
4999-98 Ave.

Edmonton, Alberta T6B 2X3
(780) 951-8891

www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. 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.

When hunting and handling birds, Canadians may be exposed to viruses carried by and affecting birds (such as the West Nile or avian influenza viruses). Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following websites, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wn-no/index_e.html, www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/avian_e.html, and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fr-mos_e.html. Some relevant information is also available on the Canadian Wildlife Service website: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/nwrc-cnrf/default.asp?lang=en&n=FAD35B22.

Hunting Zones



Hunters are advised to pay particular attention to the Alberta Hunting Guide to ensure that they are hunting for the correct species in the correct wildlife management unit during the permitted times and dates. Note that these zone numbers do not correspond to regions as presented in the Guide.

OPEN SEASONS IN ALBERTA

Area	Ducks	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark geese (Canada and White-fronted geese)	Coots and snipe	Falconry season for ducks, coots, and snipe
Zones 1(a), 2, 3, 4, and 8*	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16
Zones 5, 6, and 7*	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23	Sept. 8 to Dec. 23

(a) Except that Alberta Wildlife Management Unit 841 in Zone 1 has an opening date of September 15.

* "Zone No. 1" means that part of Alberta included in Provincial Wildlife Management Units (PWMUs) 501 to 506, 509 to 512, 514 to 519, 529, 530 to 532, and 841.

"Zone No. 2" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 344, 347, 349, 350 to 360, 520 to 528, 534 to 537, 539, 540, 542, and 544.

"Zone No. 3" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 200, 202 to 204, 230, 232, 234, 236, 238, 240, 252, 254, 256, 258, 260, and 500.

"Zone No. 4" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 206, 208, 216, 220, 221, 222, 224, 226, 228, 242, 244, 246, 248, 250, 320, 322, 324, 326, 328, 330, 332, 334, 336 to 340, 342, 346, 348, 429, 507, 508, and 936.

"Zone No. 5" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 151, 160 to 163, 164, and 166.

"Zone No. 6" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 104, 106, 108, 110, 112, 128, 130, 132, 134, 136, 138, 140, 142, 152, 156, 158, 210, 212, 214, 300, 302 to 306, 308, 310, 312, and 314.

"Zone No. 7" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 102, 116, 118, 119, 124, 144, 148, and 150.

"Zone No. 8" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 316, 318, 400, 402, 404, 406, 408, 410, 412, 414, 416 to 418, 420, 422, 426, 428, 430, 432, 434, 436 to 442, 444 to 446.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN ALBERTA

Limits	Ducks	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark geese (Canada and White-fronted geese)	Coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(a)	20	8(c)	10	10
Possession	16(b)	60	16(d)	20	20

(a) Not more than four may be Northern Pintails.

(b) Not more than eight may be Northern Pintails.

(c) For Canadian residents, not more than five may be White-fronted Geese. For non-residents of Canada, not more than three may be White-fronted Geese.

(d) For Canadian residents, not more than 10 may be White-fronted Geese. For non-residents of Canada, not more than six may be White-fronted Geese.

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2006

Summary



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



The information presented here is a summary of the law. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting districts, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

**Environment Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service
Pacific Wildlife Research Centre
R.R. 1, 5421 Robertson Road
Delta, British Columbia V4K 3N2
(604) 940-4710**

www.pyr.ec.gc.ca/en/wildlife/hunting/index.shtml

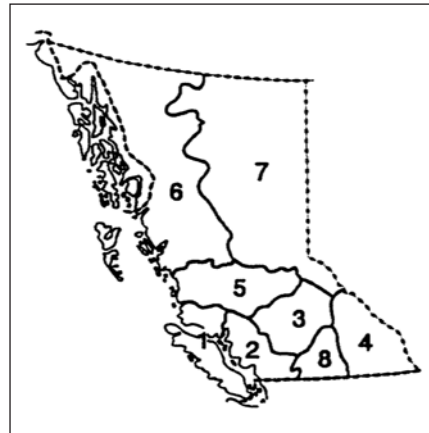
Waterfowler Heritage Days provide young hunters under the age of majority with the opportunity to practise hunting and outdoor skills, learn about wildlife conservation, and reinforce safety training in a structured, supervised environment before the season opens for other hunters. Licensed adult hunters 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.

Check your permit and provincial regulations for additional restrictions.

When hunting and handling birds, Canadians may be exposed to viruses carried by and affecting birds (such as the West Nile or avian influenza viruses). Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following websites, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wn-no/index_e.html, www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/avian_e.html, and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fr-mos_e.html. Some relevant information is also available on the Canadian Wildlife Service website: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/nwrc-cnrf/default.asp?lang=en&n=FAD35B22.

Hunting Districts



1. Provincial Management Units (PMU) 1-1 to 1-15
2. PMU 2-2 to 2-19
3. PMU 3-12 to 3-20 and 3-26 to 3-44
4. PMU 4-1 to 4-9 and 4-14 to 4-40
5. PMU 5-1 to 5-15
6. PMU 6-1 to 6-30
7. PMU 7-2 to 7-58
8. PMU 8-1 to 8-15 and 8-21 to 8-26

OPEN SEASONS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

District	Ducks and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks, coots, and snipe	Snow and Ross's geese	Other geese	Brant	Band-tailed Pigeons	Mourning Doves
No. 1	Sept. 9 and 10(b) Sept. 30 and Oct. 1(p)	Oct. 7 to Jan. 19	Oct. 7 to Jan. 19	Oct. 7 to Jan. 19(a) Sept. 15 to Oct. 22(b)(h) Dec. 15 to Jan. 25(b)(h) Feb. 14 to March 10(b)(h)	No open season	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30	No open season
No. 2	Sept. 2 and 3(j)(r) Sept. 30 and Oct. 1(q)	Oct. 7 to Jan. 19(g)(h) Sept. 10 to Dec. 23(j)	Oct. 7 to Jan. 2(d) Feb. 22 to Mar. 10(d)	Oct. 7 to Jan. 19(e) Sept. 9 to Sept. 17(f)(h) Oct. 7 to Nov. 26(f)(h) Dec. 16 to Jan. 1(f)(h) Feb. 11 to Mar. 10(f)(h) Sept. 10 to Dec. 23(c)(j)	Mar. 1 to Mar. 10(h)(i)	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30(s)	No open season
No. 3	Sept. 2 and 3	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23(k) Sept. 10 to Sept. 20(l) Oct. 1 to Dec. 23(l) Mar. 1 to Mar. 10(l)	No open season	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30(t)	Sept. 1 to Sept. 30
No. 4	Sept. 2 and 3	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23	No open season	No open season	Sept. 1 to Sept. 30
No. 5	Sept. 9 and 10	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 6	Sept. 1 and 2(m) Sept. 16 and 17(n)	Sept. 3 to Nov. 30(m) Oct. 1 to Jan. 13(n)	Sept. 3 to Nov. 30(m) Oct. 1 to Jan. 13(n)	Sept. 3 to Nov. 30(m) Oct. 1 to Jan. 13(n)	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 7	N/A	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 8	Sept. 2 and 3	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25(o) Sept. 20 to Nov. 28(c) Dec. 20 to Jan. 5(c) Feb. 21 to March 10(c)	No open season	No open season	Sept. 1 to Sept. 30

(a) Provincial Management Units 1-3, and 1-7 to 1-15 inclusive, and for Canada Geese only.

(b) Provincial Management Units 1-1, 1-2, 1-4, 1-5, and 1-6 only, and for Canada Geese only.

(c) For Canada Geese only.

(d) Provincial Management Units 2-4 and 2-5 only.

(e) Provincial Management Units 2-5 to 2-7 inclusive, 2-9, 2-10, and 2-12 to 2-17 inclusive only, and for Canada Geese only.

(f) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-4 inclusive, 2-8, 2-18, and 2-19 only, and for Canada Geese only.

(g) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-10 inclusive and 2-12 to 2-19 inclusive.

(h) See provincial regulations for local restrictions.

(i) Provincial Management Unit 2-4 only.

(j) Provincial Management Unit 2-11 only.

(k) Provincial Management Units 3-12 to 3-18 inclusive, 3-30 to 3-35, and 3-38 to 3-44 inclusive for White-fronted and Canada geese, and Provincial Management Units 3-19, 3-20, 3-26 to 3-29, 3-36 and 3-37 inclusive for White-fronted Geese only.

(l) Provincial Management Units 3-19, 3-20, and 3-26 to 3-29, 3-36 and 3-37 inclusive and for Canada Geese only.

(m) Provincial Management Units 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 to 6-10 inclusive, and 6-15 to 6-30 inclusive only.

(n) Provincial Management Units 6-3 and 6-11 to 6-14 inclusive only.

(o) For White-fronted Geese only.

(p) For ducks, Snow Geese and Ross's Geese only, and additionally, in Provincial Management Units 1-3, and 1-7 to 1-15 inclusive, for Canada Geese.

(q) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-10 inclusive and 2-12 to 2-19 inclusive for ducks and Canada Geese only, and additionally, in Provincial Management Units 2-4 and 2-5 only, for Snow Geese and Ross's Geese.

(r) For ducks and Canada Geese only.

(s) Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-19 inclusive.

(t) Provincial Management Units 3-13 to 3-17 inclusive.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Limits	Ducks	Geese	Coots	Snipe	Band-tailed Pigeons	Mourning Doves
Daily bags	8(a)(c)(e)(k)	5(g)(i)	10	10	5	5
Possession	16(b)(d)(f)(l)	10(h)(j)	20	20	10	10

- (a) Not more than four may be Northern Pintails.
- (b) Not more than eight may be Northern Pintails.
- (c) Not more than four may be Canvasbacks.
- (d) Not more than eight may be Canvasbacks.
- (e) Not more than two may be goldeneyes.
- (f) Not more than four may be goldeneyes.
- (g) Not more than two may be Brant in Provincial Management Unit 2-4.
- (h) Not more than four may be Brant in Provincial Management Unit 2-4.
- (i) In Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-4 inclusive, 2-8, 2-18, and 2-19 only, a total of five Canada Geese can be taken daily.
- (j) In Provincial Management Units 2-2 to 2-4 inclusive, 2-8, 2-18, and 2-19 only, a total of 10 Canada Geese can be in possession daily.
- (k) Not more than two may be Harlequin Ducks.
- (l) Not more than four may be Harlequin Ducks.

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2006



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 on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting areas, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

**Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
5204 50th Avenue, Suite 301
Yellowknife, NT X1A 1E2
(867) 669-4730**

www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Check your permit and territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. 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.

When hunting and handling birds, Canadians may be exposed to viruses carried by and affecting birds (such as the West Nile or avian influenza viruses). Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following websites, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wn-no/index_e.html, www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/avian_e.html, and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fr-mos_e.html. Some relevant information is also available on the Canadian Wildlife Service website: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/nwrc-cnrf/default.asp?lang=en&n=FAD35B22.

Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese, and, if decoys are also used, they must be white. While so doing, you may also take any migratory bird for which there is an open season.

NOTE

Hunters interested in participating in a possible conservation harvest of Snow Geese next spring should keep their 2006–2007 federal permits.

OPEN SEASONS IN NUNAVUT

Area	Ducks, geese, coots, and snipe
Throughout Nunavut	September 1 to December 10(a)

(a) Snow Goose call recordings may be used for the purpose of hunting Snow Geese, and, if decoys are also used, they must be white. While so doing, you may also take any migratory bird for which there is an open season.

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NUNAVUT

Limits	Ducks RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Coots RESIDENTS OF CANADA AND NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snipe RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snipe NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA
Daily bags	25(c)(g)	8(e)(g)	15(b)(e)	5(a)(b)(e)	25	10	10
Possession	No limit(d)(h)	16(d)(h)	No limit(b)(f)	10(a)(b)(f)	No limit	No limit	20

- (a) Except that non-residents may not take more than two White-fronted Geese daily and may not possess more than four.
- (b) Except that on Akimiski Island and in its adjacent waters in James Bay, not more than three Canada Geese may be taken daily, and not more than 10 may be possessed.
- (c) Except that on Akimiski Island and in its adjacent waters in James Bay, the daily bag limit for ducks is six, with not more than two American Black Ducks.
- (d) Except that on Akimiski Island and in its adjacent waters in James Bay, the possession limit for ducks is 12, with not more than four American Black Ducks.
- (e) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the daily bag limit is 20 Snow Geese, five Canada Geese, and five other geese.
- (f) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the possession limit is 60 Snow Geese, 10 Canada Geese, and 10 other geese.
- (g) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the daily bag limit for ducks is six, with not more than four American Black Ducks and two Blue-winged Teal.
- (h) Except that on the islands in James Bay east of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, or in their surrounding waters, the possession limit for ducks is 12, with not more than eight American Black Ducks and four Blue-winged Teal.

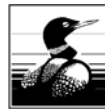
NOTE

No person shall hunt earlier than one-half hour before sunrise or later than one-half hour after sunset, except north of the 60th parallel, where no person shall hunt earlier than one hour before sunrise or later than one hour after sunset.

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2006



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 on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting areas, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

Wildlife Enforcement Coordinator
Environment Canada
5204 50th Avenue, Suite 301
Yellowknife, NT X1A 1E2
(867) 669-4730
www.mb.ec.gc.ca/nature/migratorybirds/dc00s06.en.html

Check your permit and territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used to hunt migratory birds in **all** areas of Canada. 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.

When hunting and handling birds, Canadians may be exposed to viruses carried by and affecting birds (such as the West Nile or avian influenza viruses). Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following websites, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wn-no/index_e.html, www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/avian_e.html, and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fr-mos_e.html. Some relevant information is also available on the Canadian Wildlife Service website: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/nwrc-cnrf/default.asp?lang=en&n=FAD35B22.

OPEN SEASONS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Area	Ducks, geese, coots, and snipe
Throughout the Northwest Territories	September 1 to December 10

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Limits	Ducks	Ducks	Geese	Geese	Coots	Snipe	Snipe
	RESIDENTS OF CANADA	NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	RESIDENTS OF CANADA	NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	RESIDENTS OF CANADA AND NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	RESIDENTS OF CANADA	NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA
Daily bags	25	8	15	5(a)	25	10	10
Possession	No limit	16	No limit	10(a)	No limit	No limit	20

(a) Except that non-residents may not take more than two White-fronted Geese daily and may not possess more than four.

NOTE

No person shall hunt earlier than one hour before sunrise or later than one hour after sunset.

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2006



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 on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the need to retrieve birds, restrictions on using bait, description of hunting areas, and other restrictions on hunting, contact:

**Enforcement Coordinator
Canadian Wildlife Service
91782 Alaska Highway
Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5B7
(867) 667-4597**

www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/theme.cfm?lang=e&category=6

Check your permit and territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

Non-toxic shot must be used in **all** areas of Canada to hunt migratory game birds, except for woodcock, Band-tailed Pigeons, 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.

When hunting and handling birds, Canadians may be exposed to viruses carried by and affecting birds (such as the West Nile or avian influenza viruses). Environment Canada recommends that you consult the following websites, maintained by the Public Health Agency of Canada, for information about minimizing exposure: www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/wn-no/index_e.html, www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/avian_e.html, and www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fi-mos_e.html. Some relevant information is also available on the Canadian Wildlife Service website: www.cws-scf.ec.gc.ca/nwrc-cnrf/default.asp?lang=en&n=FAD35B22.

Hunting Areas

Northern Yukon Territory: All that portion of the Yukon Territory lying north of latitude 66°

Southern Yukon Territory: All that portion of the Yukon Territory lying south of latitude 66°

OPEN SEASONS IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

Area	Ducks	Geese	Sandhill Cranes	Rails and coots	Snipe
Northern Yukon Territory	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	No open season	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31
Southern Yukon Territory	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31	No open season	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31

BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

Limits	Ducks	Geese	Sandhill Cranes	Rails and coots	Snipe
Daily bags	8(a)	5(b)	2	0(c)	10
Possession	24(a)	15(b)	4	0(c)	30(d)

- (a) Except that in the northern Yukon Territory 17 additional ducks may be taken per day, with no possession limit.
 (b) Except that in the northern Yukon Territory 10 additional geese may be taken per day, with no possession limit.
 (c) Except that in the northern Yukon Territory 25 rails and coots may be taken per day, with no possession limit.
 (d) Except that in the northern Yukon Territory there is no possession limit.

NOTE

No person shall hunt earlier than one hour before sunrise or later than one hour after sunset.