



# Migratory Birds Regulations in Canada July 2014

# Canadian Wildlife Service Waterfowl Committee

**CWS Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Number 43** 





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#### Comments:

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## **Table of Contents**

Establishment of the Hunting Regulations for Migratory Game Birds	1
Schedule for the Development of Hunting Regulations	1
Breeding Population Surveys	2
American Black Duck Harvest Strategy	2
Proposals to Modernize Canada's Migratory Birds Regulations to Improve the Management of Hunting in Canada	2
Biennial Regulatory Amendment to the Hunting Regulations	2
Management of Overabundant Geese	2
Summary of Hunting Regulations for Snow Geese and Ross's Geese for the 2014–2015 and 2015–2016 Seasons	5
Hunting Regulations for the 2014–2015 and 2015–2016 Seasons	6
Outcome of the Consultations Newfoundland and Labrador Prince Edward Island Nova Scotia New Brunswick Quebec Ontario Manitoba Saskatchewan Alberta British Columbia Yukon Territoriy. Northwest Territories	
Please Report Bird Bands	10
Updates to the Migratory Birds Regulations  Amendment to Allow for the Temporary Possession of Migratory Birds for Disease Testing	11
Literature Cited	
Appendix: 2014–2015 Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations Summaries by Province and Territory	14

## **Establishment of the Hunting Regulations for Migratory Game Birds**

The purpose of the amendments to Schedule 1 of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* is to change hunting season dates, set daily bag limits and possession limits, as well as make other related modifications for certain species of migratory game birds.

Commencing with the 2014-2015 hunting season, Environment Canada (EC) is moving from an annual to a biennial regulatory amendment cycle for the hunting regulations, meaning that the regulations in place are for the 2014-2015 and 2015-2016 hunting seasons (fall 2014 and fall 2015; special conservation measures for overabundant geese will be in effect for spring 2015 and spring 2016). The objective of this new policy approach is to reduce the resource burden to government associated with the regulatory process, while continuing to ensure that conservation and harvesting objectives are achieved. The amendment and corresponding formalized consultation processes will remain consistent with what was carried out in previous years, with the only change being that the amendments will now occur every two years. Environment Canada will continue evaluating the status of migratory game birds on an annual basis to ensure that the regulations are appropriate, and could amend the regulations at mid-intervals if necessary for conservation reasons. The proposal to adopt a two-year regulatory cycle underwent consultations, and was extensive supported unanimously by the Provinces and Territories.

Within each two-year regulatory cycle, hunting regulations for migratory game birds are reviewed by EC, with input from the provinces and territories and a range of other interested stakeholders. As part of this process, EC's Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) produces three reports. The first report, Population Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada, commonly called the November report, contains population and other biological information on migratory game birds, and thus provides the scientific basis for management. The population status of migratory birds is examined each year to ensure that conservation and harvesting objectives are achieved. Thus, the November report on migratory bird population status is published every year. The second report, Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations (including Regulation Proposals for Overabundant Species) (the December report), outlines the proposed changes to the 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

(www.ec.gc.ca/rcom-mbhr/default.asp?lang=En&n=6DE5A330-1).

The third report, *Migratory Birds Regulations in Canada* (the July report), summarizes the hunting regulations for the upcoming hunting seasons. The three documents are distributed to organizations and individuals with an interest in migratory game bird conservation, to provide an opportunity for input into the development of hunting regulations in Canada.

The process for developing regulations in Canada requires that any changes be in the form of final proposals by late February on years of regulatory changes. 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, EC will process a regulatory amendment and issue a bulletin updating these regulations.

## Schedule for the Development of Hunting Regulations

The schedule for development of the biennial hunting regulations is based on the requirement to have the hunting regulations made into law by early June:

- ➤ October through November The Population Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada report, containing biological information on migratory game birds, is developed. In early January, it is distributed and posted on the EC Nature website.
- November the CWS regional offices develop proposals for hunting regulations in consultation with the provinces and territories and interested stakeholders.
- ➤ Early to mid-January The *Proposals to Amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations* report containing the regulation proposals is posted on the EC Nature website and distributed to allow for public, inter-regional and international consultation.
- Early June Hunting regulations become law.
- ➤ Early July The Migratory Birds Regulations in Canada report, containing the approved hunting regulations, is distributed and posted on the EC Nature website. The migratory game bird hunting regulation summaries are available on the EC Nature website.

Early August – Hunting regulation summaries are available at Canada Post outlets.

Note to American Readers

The cycle of regulation development takes place earlier in Canada than in the United States. To meet the requirements of the process for development of regulations in

Canada, proposals for hunting regulations must be finalized no later than late February. 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.

### **Breeding Population Surveys**

The results of the 2014 breeding population surveys will be described in detail and compared with historical data sets in the *Population Status of Migratory Game Birds in Canada* report to be published in January 2015.

## American Black Duck Harvest Strategy

The Black Duck International Harvest Strategy was adopted in July 2012 by the CWS and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The objectives of the strategy, based on the principles of adaptive harvest management, are to:

- maintain a Black Duck population that provides consumptive and non-consumptive use commensurate with habitat carrying capacity;
- maintain societal values associated with the hunting tradition; and
- maintain equitable access to the Black Duck resource.

As such, the strategy is designed to identify appropriate harvest levels in Canada and the United States based on population levels of Black Ducks and sympatric Mallards while sharing the Black Duck harvest equally between the two countries. However, recognizing incomplete control of harvest through regulations, the strategy allows harvest in either country to vary between 40–60% of the annual continental harvest. Frequent evaluations of the strategy are conducted to ensure that it continues meeting the objectives stated above. Thus, the strategy allows the regulations for Black Ducks to change on a more frequent basis.

In its first year of implementation in 2013–2014, the strategy allowed a liberal harvest regime in Canada, with higher daily bag limits and in some cases longer Black Duck seasons. For the 2014–2015 hunting season, EC is implementing a moderate harvest regime for Black Ducks, which

represents a return to 1997–2013 harvest levels. The return to moderate regulations is mainly due to a large increase in the Mallard breeding population in the east in 2013. The Mallard increase is predicted to have a negative impact on Black Duck production through competition for resources between the two species on the breeding grounds and thus reduced production of young Black Ducks. Details on the Black Duck regulations can be found in the "Hunting Regulations for the 2014–2015 and 2015–2016 Seasons" section.

### Proposals to Modernize Canada's Migratory Birds Regulations to Improve the Management of Hunting in Canada

The CWS held consultations on the modernization of aspects related to the management of hunting within the *Migratory Birds Regulations*. The consultation period ended on June 9, 2014. Hundreds of comments were sent to EC expressing interest in the management of migratory game bird hunting in Canada.

In general, Canadians appreciate EC's and the CWS' effort to reform the *Migratory Birds Regulations* to make it easier for hunters to enjoy hunting migratory birds in Canada. Canadians also appreciated the opportunity that was given to them to comment on the proposed changes.

# **Biennial Regulatory Amendment to the Hunting Regulations**

The regulatory amendment cycle for migratory game bird hunting has been changed from one year to two years, to reduce administrative costs while continuing to ensure that conservation objectives are achieved.

The first two-year period of hunting regulations is starting with the coming hunting season (2014–15), and ending with the 2015–16 season.

This first two-year cycle will also establish special conservation measures for overabundant geese in spring 2015 and spring 2016 (note that the regulations for spring 2014 were made into law as part of the 2013–2014 process; see Appendix).

### **Management of Overabundant Geese**

#### Conservation Issue

Most Snow Goose and Ross's Goose populations are well above their population objectives (North American Waterfowl Management Plan 2012). This becomes an important conservation issue when

the rapid growth and increasing abundance affect the habitats on which they, and other species, depend. This relatively new issue was first highlighted 15 years ago, through comprehensive assessments of the environmental effects of the rapidly growing populations of mid-continent Lesser Snow Geese (Chen caerulescens caerulescens) and Greater Snow Geese (Chen caerulescens atlantica). The analyses, completed by Canadian and American experts, are contained in the reports 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).

These working groups concluded that the increase in Snow Goose populations was primarily human-induced. Changing farming supplied a reliable, highly nutritious food source for migrating and wintering geese. Combined with the safety found in refuges, this improved nutritional status led to increased survival and higher reproductive rates for Snow Geese. These populations have become so large that they are affecting the plant communities at staging areas and breeding grounds on which they and other species rely. Grazing and grubbing by geese not only permanently removes vegetation, but also changes soil salinity, nitrogen dynamics and moisture levels. The result is alteration or elimination of the plant communities. 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 another undesirable consequence of the growing goose populations.

#### Management Response

Initial management efforts focused on midcontinent Lesser Snow Geese and Greater Snow Geese populations where there was strong evidence for detrimental effects on habitats. Canada, the United States and Mexico agreed that the habitat damage being caused was a significant conservation issue, and that the populations were overabundant to the detriment of the arctic and sub-arctic ecosystems. Following that declaration, several concurrent management measures were initiated to curtail the rapid population growth and reduce population size to a level consistent with the carrying capacity of the habitat. Population models showed that, of all the potential management techniques, the most successful approach to control population growth would be to reduce survival rates for adult geese.

Therefore, beginning in 1999, Canada amended the *Migratory Birds Regulations* and created new tools that could be invoked to help manage overabundant species. These included special conditions under which hunters were encouraged to

increase their take during the regular hunting season and the special spring harvest season for conservation reasons and, in some cases and subject to specific controls, to use exceptional methods and equipment such as electronic calls and bait. The special conservation measures for Snow Geese were implemented in 1999 in selected areas of Quebec and Manitoba, and were expanded in 2001 to Saskatchewan and Nunavut, and in 2012 to southeastern Ontario. The dates and locations of application of these special conservation measures were determined in consultation with the provincial governments, other organizations local and communities.

#### Effectiveness of Special Conservation Measures

Evaluations showed that success of the special conservation measures to date has been mixed. In the case of Greater Snow Geese, the special conservation measures were successful in reducing the annual survival rate for adults from 83% to about 72.5% (Calvert and Gauthier 2005). The growth of the population was halted, but the special measures have not succeeded in reducing the size of the population, which appears stabilized at approximately 1 million birds in spring (Lefebvre 2013). Models showed that, without the special take by hunters in spring, the population would begin to grow rapidly once more (Gauthier and Reed 2007).

For mid-continent Lesser Snow Geese, the evaluation concluded that the population has continued to grow, although perhaps at a reduced rate (Leafloor et al. 2012). It also concluded that, although the annual harvest increased as a result of the conservation measures, it failed to reduce the population size. It was apparent that measures invoked to date have not been successful and that other measures would be required if population control were deemed essential. The report recommended that special conservation measures be maintained, and that additional measures to increase harvest be sought.

The evaluation report also suggested that the conditions for overabundance designation are met by Ross's Geese (*Chen rossii*), and predicted that continued growth and expansion of Lesser Snow Goose populations was especially likely in the central and western Arctic of Canada (Leafloor et al. 2012).

#### Significance of Overabundant Population

An overabundant population is one for which the rate of population growth has resulted in, or will result in, a population whose abundance directly threatens the conservation of migratory birds (themselves or others) or their habitats, or is injurious to or threatens agricultural, environmental or other similar interests. As such, designation provides tools to liberalize

harvest under special conservation measures, such as spring harvest, use of electronic calls, and baiting, in order to help reduce the population size and growth of the population through hunting.

#### Designation of Western Arctic Population of Lesser Snow Geese as Overabundant

Based on the recommendation of the Arctic Goose Joint Venture (Leafloor et al. 2012), the western Arctic population of Lesser Snow Goose has been designated as overabundant by the CWS. Experience has shown that serious habitat loss from the destructive foraging activities of Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese occurred in parallel with very rapid population growth in the central and eastern Arctic (Batt 1997). Some localized habitat damage has already occurred on Banks Island (Hines et al. 2010). If the western Arctic population continues to increase at the present rate, the negative impacts to habitat and other species are predicted to expand.

The western Arctic population of Lesser Snow Geese breeds primarily on Banks Island, Northwest Territories, with smaller breeding colonies on the mainland of the Northwest Territories and Alaska. The population migrates mainly through Alberta and western Saskatchewan in spring and autumn. The majority of birds winter in the Pacific Flyway, mostly in California, where they mix with the Wrangel Island population of Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese. Some birds also winter in the western Central Flyway, where they mix with mid-continent Snow Geese.

Western Arctic Snow Geese are already well above the spring population objective of 200 000 birds (North American Waterfowl Management Plan 2012). Photographic surveys of the nesting colonies indicate that the number of nesting birds has grown from about 171 000 adults in 1976 to about 500 000 adults in recent years (Kerbes et al. 1999; Hines et al. 2010; Canadian Wildlife Service, unpubl. data). The fall estimate of western Arctic/Wrangel Island Snow Geese in the Pacific Flyway was over 1 million birds in 2011, which represents an average increase of 6% per year from 2003 to 2011 (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2012). Increases have also been observed in the western Central Flyway population of Snow Geese (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2012).

Based on band return data, adults from the western Arctic population have an 85% chance of surviving from one year to the next (Canadian Wildlife Service, unpubl. data). This survival rate is high, and similar to estimates of other increasing white goose populations. Recent recovery rates for banded adult birds were only 2–3%, suggesting that non-hunting mortality is currently higher than hunting mortality (Canadian Wildlife Service, unpubl. data).

Conversely, increased survival is thought to be

mainly due to increased agricultural food supplies, increased use of refuges during migration and winter, and reduced harvest rates by hunters (Abraham et al. 1996; Abraham and Jefferies 1997).

The western Arctic population is showing a pattern of rapid population growth similar to that which has been observed in other populations of Snow Geese and Ross's Geese. For this reason, it is important to consider implementation of special conservation measures, such as spring harvest, before the western Arctic population reaches a level that cannot be controlled through increased harvest by hunters. Similar efforts to stabilize Greater Snow Goose numbers in eastern North America were successful because the population was still small enough to be controlled through increased harvest (Reed and Calvert 2007). Based on experience with the mid-continent population of Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese, it is likely easier to recover goose populations that reach low levels than to reduce them after they experience runaway growth (Leafloor et al. 2012). It may still be possible to stabilize the western Arctic population if liberalized harvest measures are implemented soon.

#### Designation of Ross's Geese as Overabundant

Based on the recommendation of the Arctic Goose Joint Venture (Leafloor et al. 2012), the Ross's Goose has been designated as overabundant by the CWS. Following publication of the Ecosystems Peril report (Batt 1997), unprecedented management actions were initiated in 1999 to reduce damage caused to arctic and subarctic ecosystems by the foraging activities of increasing numbers of Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese (Batt 1997; Moser 2001). Most of these actions were aimed at reducing survival of adult geese through increased harvest by hunters throughout the range of the midcontinent population, which was thought to be the most efficient means of reducing population size (Rockwell et al. 1997). Hunting regulations were liberalized during regular seasons, traditional hunting restrictions (e.g., prohibition on use of electronic calls, requirement for plugged shotguns, bag and possession limits) were relaxed or removed to promote increased harvest, and habitat management regimes on some refuges were altered to increase exposure of the birds to hunting outside of refuge areas. Additional amendments to the Migratory Birds Regulations in Canada and the United States were made to allow conservation harvests of such overabundant species outside of hunting seasons.

Though most attention was focused on overabundance of Lesser Snow Geese, Ross's Geese were designated as overabundant in the United States in 1999, and have been included in regulations allowing spring conservation harvests in that country since that time. In Canada, a court

decision in 1999 determined that overabundance regulations could not be applied to Ross's Geese because it had not been demonstrated that they were contributing to the habitat damage at that time.

It is now clear that Ross's Geese contribute to habitat degradation on nesting and staging areas where they occur in large numbers (Alisauskas et al. 2006b, Abraham et al. 2012). Like Lesser Snow Geese, Ross's Geese grub during nest building and spring staging, when a large portion of their diet is composed of the roots and rhizomes of sedges and grasses (Ryder and Alisauskas 1995). Alisauskas et al. (2006b) found that vegetative cover was removed in areas occupied by nesting Ross's Geese, resulting in exposure of mineral substrate and peat. This led to reduced vegetative species richness that worsened over time, particularly in low-lying habitats preferred by Ross's Geese for nesting. Reduced graminoid abundance caused by foraging geese has also led to dramatic declines in small mammal abundance around dense nesting colonies (Samelius and Alisauskas 2009). Didiuk et al. (2001) suggested that use by Ross's Geese of nesting areas previously degraded by Lesser Snow Geese (e.g. on the west coast of Hudson Bay) may slow the recovery of those areas due to the ongoing effects of foraging and nest building. The smaller bill morphology of Ross's Geese may allow them to crop vegetation more closely to the ground than Lesser Snow Geese, adding to the intensity of grazing pressure.

Ross's Geese are closely related to Lesser Snow Geese, and co-occur with the latter species throughout the year. Their behavioural and morphological similarity has led to harvest management of the two species in aggregate since 1978 (Moser and Duncan 2001). In the mid-1960s, most Ross's Geese (> 90%) nested in the central Arctic of Canada and wintered in the Central Valley of California (Melinchuk and Ryder 1980). Although comprehensive estimates of population size were not available until recently, photographic surveys of known nesting areas indicated fewer than 100 000 nesting Ross's Geese in the mid-1960s (Kerbes 1994). The continental population objective for Ross's Geese has been 100 000 birds since inception of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan in 1986. By the mid-2000s, Ross's Geese had expanded their range eastward on both nesting and wintering areas (Alisauskas et al. 2006a), and the population was estimated to number between 1.5-2.5 million adult birds (Alisauskas et al. 2009, 2011, 2012), despite efforts to stop the population through increased harvest by hunters.

Alisauskas et al. (2006a) analyzed hunter recoveries of Ross's Geese captured and marked in the Queen Maud Gulf region of the central Canadian Arctic, and found that survival of adults had declined during the period 1994–2000, reaching a low of approximately 0.80, apparently in response to

concurrent increases in harvest. The authors noted. however, that during this same time period, the Ross's Goose population at one of the largest known breeding colonies in the Queen Maud Gulf region had shown sustained growth, suggesting that an adult survival rate of 0.80 was unlikely to have negative consequences for continental Ross's Goose populations. Since 2001 (the last year that Alisauskas et al. [2006a] considered), continental harvest of adult Ross's Geese has apparently stabilized, and harvest rates (the annual proportion of the adult population harvested by hunters) have declined to only about 0.02-0.03 (Alisauskas et al. 2009, 2012; Dufour et al. 2012). Annual survival of Ross's Geese declined from 0.897 (95% CI = 0.789-0.953) to a low of 0.827 (95% CI = 0.801-0.850) during the period 1989-1997, then increased steadily from 1998 onward, reaching a high of 0.950 (95% CI = 0.899-0.976) in 2009. Notably, this reversal of the survival trajectory occurred in the face of some of the highest annual harvest levels estimated for adult Ross's Geese since 1989 (Alisauskas et al. 2012).

Multiple lines of evidence indicate that Ross's Goose populations have continued to grow, both in the central Arctic and at the continental level (Alisauskas et al. 2009, 2012). Collectively, these observations suggest that, like Snow Geese, increases in harvest of Ross's Geese have been outpaced by concurrent increases in abundance, thereby diminishing the effects of harvests on adult survival (Dufour et al. 2012). In fact, Ross's Goose numbers have continued to increase at a higher rate than have Lesser Snow Geese since the start of conservation actions in 1999, and continued growth of the Ross's Goose population is predicted to occur (Alisauskas et al. 2006a, 2012; Dufour et al. 2012). Thus, the environmental damage being caused, with its effects on other species and ecosystem structure and function, is expected to continue to increase.

# Summary of Hunting Regulations for Snow Geese and Ross's Geese for the 2014–2015 and 2015–2016 Seasons

Ross's Geese and the western Arctic population of Lesser Snow Geese have been designated overabundant. Therefore, amendments to Schedule 1 of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* created special conservation harvests in spring, outside the regular hunting season, during which hunters are encouraged to take these overabundant species for conservation reasons.

A spring conservation harvest for Western Arctic Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese was introduced in Alberta and the Northwest Territories.

A spring conservation harvest for Ross's Geese was established in Manitoba, Saskatchewan and

Nunavut.

The conservation season dates and locations were implemented as determined through consultation with the provincial governments, wildlife management boards, other organizations and local communities.

The following additional changes have been made to the regulations for Snow Geese and Ross's Geese within the regular hunting and already existing spring conservation seasons:

- The daily bag limit for Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese (combined) has been increased in Manitoba, Alberta, the Northwest Territories and Nunavut.
- The possession limit has been removed for Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, the Northwest Territories (for non-residents of Canada) and Nunavut (for non-residents).
- The spring conservation season length for Snow Geese has been extended by one month in Saskatchewan. The season changed from April 1 to May 31 to March 15 to June 15.
- All-day hunting of Snow Geese and Ross's Geese has been extended to include the entire province of Saskatchewan through all available season dates.
- The use of recorded Ross's Goose calls when hunting Snow Geese and Ross's Geese has been allowed in Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta and Nunavut.

The special conservation season dates that will be effect in fall 2014 and spring 2015 are posted on the EC website

www.ec.gc.ca/rcom-mbhr/default.asp?lang=en&n=a297b56f-1, and are contained in the Appendix (Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations Summaries).

The following section contains further detail regarding the new regulations for overabundant species.

## Hunting Regulations for the 2014–2015 and 2015–2016 Seasons

#### **Outcome of the Consultations**

The hunting regulation amendments were developed in consultation with the provinces and territories, other countries such as the United States and Mexico, and a range of other interested stakeholders, including hunters, Aboriginal groups and conservation groups. They were published in the Canada Gazette, Part II, on June 18, 2014.

Many comments were received throughout the consultation period. Overall, provincial governments, hunter associations and individual hunters were supportive of the amendments to the migratory game bird hunting regulations for the 2014–2015 and 2015–2016 seasons.

A limited amount of concern was raised by some hunters and hunter organizations in the Maritime provinces and Ontario over the return to moderate harvest levels for Black Ducks after a year of more liberal harvest levels. In Prince Edward Island, most of the comments received were supportive of maintaining the current closing date of December 31, although a minority believed that the season should end earlier, before winter freeze-up that could result in the hunt distribution being restricted to a few areas of open water. Maintaining the closing date of December 31, along with the reduced bag limits, is within the parameters of the moderate regime of the Black Duck International Harvest Strategy, and has been supported by the majority of hunters and hunter organizations. Furthermore, the new regulations for Black Ducks are comparable to the harvest levels that were in place for the 1997-2013 period. The Black Duck is a valued game bird and is in high demand by hunters in eastern Canada and the northeast United States. The Black Duck International Strategy, which was adopted in 2012 by the CWS and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, is designed to identify sustainable harvest levels in Canada and the United States, and allows the regulations for Black Ducks to shift on a more frequent basis. This is the only species for which a formal international harvest strategy is required, as the overall demand for Black Ducks is greater than the population could sustain.

An international group of experts (Arctic Goose Joint Venture) has found that populations of Ross's Geese and Western Arctic Lesser Snow Geese are causing, or are likely to cause, significant damage to their staging and nesting habitats. As a result, the CWS has designated Ross's Geese and the Western Arctic Snow Geese population as overabundant. This designation has been supported by stakeholders; however, one letter was received opposing this measure and suggesting that previous regulatory measures to control overabundance had failed to reduce the targeted populations and should therefore be abandoned.

The regulations in effect for 2014–2015 are contained in the Appendix (Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations Summaries) and are posted on the EC website

www.ec.gc.ca/rcom-mbhr/default.asp?lang=En&n=8FAC341C-1

#### **Newfoundland and Labrador**

#### - <u>Implementation of the American Black Duck</u> International Harvest Strategy

The strategy recommended a return to a moderate regime for the 2014–2015 season after one year of a liberal regime. The moderate regulatory package for American Black Ducks in Newfoundland and Labrador is a daily bag limit of four on the island of Newfoundland for the entire duck hunting season (a decrease compared to 2013–2014, from six to four) and the bag limit remained six in Labrador. The strategy allows the regulations for Black Ducks to shift on a more frequent basis.

The 2014–2015 and 2015-2016 regulations for Black Ducks are comparable to the harvest levels that were in place for the 1997–2013 period, which is the equivalent to the moderate regulatory package.

#### **Prince Edward Island**

#### - <u>Implementation of the American Black Duck</u> International Harvest Strategy

The strategy recommended a return to a moderate regime after one year of a liberal regime. The moderate regulatory package for American Black Ducks in Prince Edward Island is a daily bag limit of four American Black Ducks (a decrease compared to 2013-14 from six to four) for the first part of the hunting season (October 1 to November 7). Due to an increase in harvest susceptibility later in the season, a restriction of two American Black Ducks /Mallard hybrids or two American Black Ducks (a decrease compared to 2013–2014, from four to two) in the daily bag is in effect for the last part of the hunting season. The strategy allows the regulations for Black Ducks to shift on a more frequent basis.

The 2014–2015 and 2015-2016 regulations for Black Ducks are comparable to the harvest levels that were in place for the 1997–2013 period, which is the equivalent to the moderate package.

#### **Nova Scotia**

#### - <u>Implementation of the American Black Duck</u> <u>International Harvest Strategy</u>

The strategy recommended a return to a moderate regime after one year of a liberal regime. The moderate regulatory package for American Black Ducks in Nova Scotia is a daily bag limit of four American Black Ducks for the entire hunting season. In the previous hunting season (2013–2014), the daily bag limit for Black Ducks was six for the first two months of the duck season, and four for the last few weeks. The open season for ducks (other than

Common and Red-breasted Mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks, Harlequin Ducks, eiders, scoters, Goldeneyes and Buffleheads) is October 1 to December 31 in Zone 1, and October 22 to January 15 in Zones 2 and 3.

The 2014–2015 and 2015-2016 regulations for Black Ducks are comparable to the harvest levels that were in place for the 1997–2013 period, which is the equivalent to the moderate harvest package.

#### **New Brunswick**

#### - <u>Implementation of the American Black Duck</u> International Harvest Strategy

The strategy recommended a return to a moderate regime after one year of a liberal regime. The moderate regulatory package for American Black Ducks in New Brunswick is a daily bag limit of three American Black Ducks for the entire hunting season. In the previous hunting season (2013–2014), the daily bag limit for Black Ducks was six for the first two months of the duck season, and four for the last month. The open season for ducks (other than Common and Red-breasted Mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks, Harlequin Ducks, eiders and scoters), geese (other than Canada Geese and Cackling Geese) and snipes is October 15 to January 4 in Zone 1, and October 1 to December 18 in Zone 2.

The 2014–2015 and 2015-2016 regulations for Black Ducks are comparable to the harvest levels that were in place for the 1997–2013 period, which is the equivalent to the moderate harvest package.

#### Quebec

#### - Implementation of the American Black Duck International Harvest Strategy

The strategy for American recommended a return to a moderate regime after one year of a liberal regime. The daily bag limit has been reduced from six to four Black Ducks for all hunting districts in Quebec except within a zone in district F, west of route 155 and highway 55, where the daily bag remains two American Black Ducks.

The strategy allows the regulations for Black Ducks to shift on a more frequent basis. The 2014–2015 and 2015-2016 regulations for Black Ducks are comparable to the harvest levels that were in place for the 1997–2013 period.

#### - Season length for woodcock

The length of the woodcock season in Hunting Districts B, C, D, E and F of Quebec has been decreased by 1 day and now stands at 106 days. The total season length is 107 days including the

Waterfowler Heritage Day, the maximum allowed open season length.

#### Ontario

#### - <u>Implementation of the American Black Duck</u> International Harvest Strategy

The strategy recommended a return to a moderate regime after one year of a liberal regime. The moderate regulatory package for American Black Ducks in Ontario is a daily bag limit of two Black Ducks (decrease from four to two) in the Hudson–James Bay and Northern Hunting Districts and one Black Duck (decrease from two to one) in the Central and Southern Hunting Districts. Opening dates will remain the same. Season length is 107 days in the Hudson-James Bay, Northern and Central Hunting Districts while the season will be shorter in the Southern Hunting District closing on December 20.

The strategy allows the regulations for Black Ducks to shift on a more frequent basis. The 2014–2015 and 2015-2016 regulations for Black Ducks are comparable to the harvest levels that were in place for the 1997–2013 period.

#### - Removing restrictions on the daily bag limit of Canada and Cackling Geese

Restrictions on the daily bag limit for Canada Geese in the Hudson–James Bay (Provincial Wildlife Management Unit [WMU] 1D) and Northern Hunting Districts (WMUs 23 to 31 and 37 to 41) have been removed. This change means an increase of the daily bag limit from three to five Canada Geese / Cackling Geese.

Band recovery data show that this change in daily bag limit has the potential to increase the harvest of temperate-breeding Canada Geese with minimal effect on the Southern James Bay population of Canada Geese. Currently, the population of temperate-breeding Canada Geese is above its maximum population objective, and the population of Southern James Bay Canada Geese is above its minimum population objective.

#### Clarifying hunting restrictions

The wording in Table 1, Section 4(c) and (d), has been changed from "natural rush bed" to "area of emergent vegetation." This change clarifies, for both hunters and enforcement personnel, the intent of the hunting restriction.

#### Manitoba

- <u>Increasing the daily bag limit and eliminating the</u> <u>possession limit for Lesser Snow Geese and</u> Ross's Geese (combined)

The daily bag limit for Lesser Snow and Ross's Geese (combined) has been increased from 20 to 50, and the possession limit has been abolished. This measure will provide additional opportunity to manage these overabundant species, and contribute to reducing the growth of the populations through hunting. At the same time, it will facilitate the proper use of harvested birds.

#### - <u>Allowing the use of recorded Ross's Goose calls</u> in fall

The use of recorded Ross's Goose calls during the regular hunting season has been allowed for hunting Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese. The use of Snow Goose recorded calls was already permitted. This measure will provide additional opportunity to manage these overabundant species.

#### - <u>Introducing a spring conservation harvest for</u> Ross's Geese

A spring conservation harvest for Ross's Geese has been implemented at the same time as the existing conservation harvests for Lesser Snow Geese throughout the province. This measure will provide additional opportunity to manage this overabundant species, and to contribute toward reducing the growth of the population through hunting.

- Increasing the daily bag and possession limits for Canada Geese, Cackling Geese, White-fronted Geese and Brant (combined) for non-residents of Canada

The daily bag limit for Canada Geese, Cackling Geese, White-fronted Geese and Brant (combined) for non-residents of Canada has been increased from 5 to 8 and the possession limit has been increased from 15 to 24 in Game Bird Hunting Zone 1. Dark goose harvest in this zone includes Temperate Breeding Canada Geese (molt migrants), Cackling Geese and the Eastern Prairie population of Canada Geese, all of which have stable or increasing populations (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 2012). Harvest in this zone is expected to remain low due to the small number of non-resident hunters.

#### Saskatchewan

- Eliminating the possession limit for Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese (combined)

The possession limit for Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese (combined) has been abolished. This change will provide additional opportunity to manage these overabundant species, contribute to reducing the growth of the population through hunting, and facilitate the proper use of harvested birds.

- Extending all-day hunting for Lesser Snow and Ross's Geese to the entire province

All-day hunting of Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese has been extended to include the entire province, through all available season dates. This measure provides additional opportunity to manage these overabundant species, and contributes to reducing the growth of the populations through hunting.

- <u>Allowing the use of recorded Ross's Goose calls</u> in fall

The use of recorded Ross's Goose calls during the regular hunting season has been allowed for hunting Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese. The use of Snow Goose recorded calls was already permitted. This measure provides additional opportunity to manage these overabundant species.

- <u>Introducing a spring conservation harvest for</u> <u>Ross's Geese</u>

A spring conservation harvest for Ross's Geese has been implemented during the same period as the existing conservation harvests for Lesser Snow Geese throughout the province. The season will run from March 15 to June 15. This measure will provide additional opportunity to manage this overabundant species, and will contribute to reducing the growth of the population through hunting.

- <u>Extension of the existing spring conservation</u> season for Lesser Snow Geese

The spring conservation hunting season, for Lesser Snow Geese, has been extended by one month, changing from April 1–May 31 to March 15–June 15. This measure will provide additional opportunity to manage this overabundant species, and will contribute to reducing the growth of the population through hunting.

- <u>Increasing the daily bag and possession limits of</u>
<u>White-fronted Geese for non-residents of</u>
Canada

The daily bag limit has been increased from 4 to 5, and the possession limit has been increased from 12 to 15, for White-fronted Geese for non-residents of Canada. This change will harmonize bag and possession limits for all hunters and remove harvest restrictions placed on non-resident hunters. Furthermore, current population estimates are high and have been stable for several years.

#### Alberta

- <u>Increasing the daily bag limit and eliminating the possession limit for Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese (combined)</u>

The daily bag limit for Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese (combined) has been increased from 20 to 50, and the possession limit has been abolished. This measure will provide additional opportunity to manage these overabundant species, and contribute to reducing the growth of the populations through hunting. At the same time, it will facilitate the proper use of harvested birds.

- <u>Introducing a spring conservation harvest for</u> <u>Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese</u>

A spring conservation harvest for Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese has been implemented from March 15 to June 15 throughout the province. This measure will provide additional opportunity to manage these overabundant species, and contribute to reducing the growth of the populations through hunting.

- <u>Increasing the daily bag and possession limits of</u>
<u>White-fronted Geese for non-residents of</u>
Canada

The White-fronted Goose daily bag limit for non-residents of Canada has been increased from 4 to 5, and the possession limit has been increased from 12 to 15. This change will harmonize bag and possession limits for all hunters and remove harvest restrictions placed on non-resident hunters. Furthermore, current population estimates are high and have been stable for several years.

#### **British Columbia**

No regulatory changes were made for the 2014–2015 and 2015–2016 hunting seasons.

#### **Yukon Territory**

No regulatory changes were made for the 2014–2015 and 2015–16 hunting seasons.

#### **Northwest Territories**

- <u>Increasing the daily bag limit and eliminating the possession limit for Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese (combined)</u>

The daily bag limit for Lesser Snow and Ross's Geese (combined) has been increased from 15 for residents of Canada and 5 for non-residents to 50 per day for all hunters. The possession limit has been abolished for non-residents; there was no possession limit for residents. This measure will provide additional opportunity to manage these overabundant species, and contribute to reducing the growth of the populations through hunting. At the same time, it will facilitate the proper use of harvested birds.

- <u>Introducing a spring conservation harvest for</u> <u>Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese</u>

A spring special conservation season has been implemented for Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese from May 1 to June 30 on Banks Island, Victoria Island and the Queen Elizabeth Islands, and from May 1 to May 28 throughout the rest of the territory. This measure will provide additional opportunity to manage these overabundant species, and contribute to reducing the growth of these populations through hunting.

#### Nunavut

- <u>Increasing the daily bag limit and eliminating the possession limit for Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese (combined)</u>

The daily bag limit for Lesser Snow Geese and Ross's Geese (combined) has been increased from 15 for residents of Canada and 5 for non-residents to 50 per day for all hunters. The possession limit has been abolished for non-residents; there was no possession limit for residents. This measure will provide additional opportunity to manage these overabundant species, and contribute to reducing the growth of the populations through hunting. At the same time, it will facilitate the proper use of harvested birds.

- Introducing a spring conservation harvest for Ross's Geese

A spring conservation harvest for Ross's Geese

has been implemented throughout the territory at the same time as the existing conservation harvests for Lesser Snow Geese. This measure will provide additional opportunity to manage this overabundant species, and contribute to reducing the growth of the population through hunting.

- Allowing the use of recorded Ross's Goose calls

Ross's Goose calls are now also allowed to be used for hunting Snow Geese and Ross's Geese. The use of Snow Goose calls was already permitted. In addition, the restriction to use blue or white phase Snow Goose decoys has been lifted and their use is now permitted in Nunavut. These changes will provide additional opportunity to manage these overabundant species.

- <u>Bag and possession limits in the islands and</u> waters of James Bay

The bag limits and possession limits in the islands and waters of James Bay have been adjusted to match the regulations in the adjacent areas of Ontario and Quebec. In western James Bay, the daily bag limit has been increased to 5 Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, and the possession limit has been eliminated entirely. Also, in western James Bay, the possession limit for ducks has been increased to 18, with not more than 6 American Black Ducks and 1 Barrow's Goldeneye. In eastern James Bay, the possession limit has been set to 20 for geese other than Snow Geese and Ross's Geese, and 18 for ducks, with not more than 1 Barrow's Goldeneye and 2 Blue-winged Teals.

### **Please Report Bird Bands**

The North American Bird Banding Program relies on the public to report bird bands to its office. Reporting bird bands helps scientists and wildlife managers continue to learn about, monitor and conserve bird populations.

There are three ways to report bands to the Canadian Bird Banding Office: online at <a href="https://www.reportband.gov">www.reportband.gov</a>, calling toll-free 1-800-327-2263 (1-800-327-BAND), or writing to:

Bird Banding Office

National Wildlife Research Centre

Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada

Ottawa ON K1A 0H3

Email: BBO CWS@ec.gc.ca

After submitting your encounter reports online, you will promptly receive banding data, and have the option to print a certificate of appreciation.

On new bands, the website URL has replaced the postal address, and the toll-free number remains.

Hunters can still expect to find various types of bands on waterfowl, including bands without the website or phone number.

# **Updates to the Migratory Birds Regulations**

#### Amendment to Allow for the Temporary Possession of Migratory Birds for Disease Testing

The Government of Canada wished to inform the public of a variance in the application of paragraph 6(b) of the *Migratory Birds Regulations*, issued under the authority of section 36 of the same regulations, to allow for the temporary possession of found dead migratory birds, which is in effect until August 28, 2014. This variance order will be extended to August 28, 2015.

As public participation in the study of dead migratory birds is necessary to help conduct surveys on avian viruses, it is permitted to temporarily possess dead migratory birds, in order to allow for prompt delivery of such birds to provincial or territorial authorities for analysis. The Government of Canada is responsible, under the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, 1994, to ensure that migratory birds are protected and conserved, and testing dead birds is believed to be the most effective method available for the detection of avian viruses.

- If you find a dead migratory bird:
- contact the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre by phone 1-800-567-2033, or via their website <a href="www.ccwhc.ca/contact\_us.php">www.ccwhc.ca/contact\_us.php</a>
- consult the Public Health Agency of Canada website at <a href="https://www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fr-mos-eng.php">www.phac-aspc.gc.ca/influenza/fs-hwb-fr-mos-eng.php</a> for guidance on precautions to take when handling wild birds.

For more information on the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994*, visit <u>www.ec.gc.ca/alefewe/default.asp?lang=en&n=3DF2F089-1</u>.

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# **Appendix: 2014–2015 Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations Summaries by Province and Territory**

Summaries are also available on the Environment Canada Nature website: <a href="https://www.ec.gc.ca/rcom-mbhr/default.asp?lang=En&n=8FAC341C-1">www.ec.gc.ca/rcom-mbhr/default.asp?lang=En&n=8FAC341C-1</a>

## www.ec.gc.ca

Additional information can be obtained at:

Environment Canada Inquiry Centre 10 Wellington Street, 23rd Floor Gatineau QC K1A 0H3

Telephone: 1-800-668-6767 (in Canada only) or 819-997-2800

Fax: 819-994-1412 TTY: 819-994-0736

Email: enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

## Newfoundland and Labrador

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2014–2015

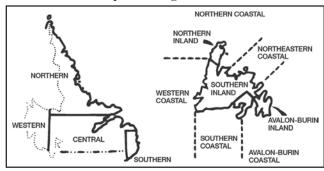


**Summary** 

The information presented here is a summary of the law. If there is a discrepancy between the law and this summary, the law prevails. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, the description of hunting zones and other restrictions on hunting, please refer to the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* and *Migratory Birds Regulations*. These, along with other useful information for hunters, can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca), or you may contact:

Environment Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service
6 Bruce Street
Mount Pearl, Newfoundland and Labrador A1N 4T3
Tel.: 1-800-668-6767
enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

#### 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.

You are required to possess a valid federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit with a Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp to hunt migratory birds in Canada. This permit and stamp are valid in all provinces and territories. The Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Nunatsiavut Government, have additional licence requirements for hunting migratory birds and/or to carry firearms. To know what you require, and if there are further restrictions for hunting migratory birds, please verify the applicable regulations for the province/territory where you will be hunting. Note that all required permits and licences must be in your possession while you are hunting.

#### **Consultation Process and Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports**

The hunting provisions of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* are reviewed by Environment Canada, with input from the provinces and territories, as well as a range of other interested stakeholders. Environment Canada has developed a consultation process for establishing hunting regulations for migratory birds, and publishes the Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Series that can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca).

#### IMPORTANT UPDATES TO THE HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

Daily bag limits for American Black Ducks in Newfoundland: The daily bag limit is set at 4 for the entire open season.

Barrow's Goldeneye is listed in the Species at Risk Act as a species of special concern, and the bag and possession limit of 1 remains in place.

For complete details regarding the 2014–2015 hunting season, please refer to the Open Season and Bag and Possession Limit tables below.

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. 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.

**Murre (turr) hunters:** All hunters must purchase and be in possession of a Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit and a Habitat Conservation Stamp while hunting murres. This hunt is only open to **residents** of Newfoundland and Labrador. Murres are the only migratory bird that can be legally hunted from a power boat. Any occupant of a boat who shoots or retrieves murres, or anyone who operates a boat to pursue murres, is hunting as defined in the *Migratory Birds Regulations* and is **required** to hold a Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit.

In Newfoundland and Labrador, **non-toxic shot must be used** to hunt migratory birds, except for murres (turrs). For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking whenever possible in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants.

#### **CRIME STOPPERS**

Hunting violations may be reported to Environment Canada Wildlife Enforcement at 709-772-7040, your local RCMP detachment, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (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	Sept. 20 to Dec. 27, 2014 WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY: Sept. 13, 2014	Nov. 22, 2014, to Feb. 28, 2015
All inland zones	Sept. 20 to Dec. 27, 2014 WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY: Sept. 13, 2014	No open season

<sup>\*</sup> Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers or Squeakers.

BAG AND POSSESSIO					
Ducks (other than mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks, Harlequin Ducks*, Limits eiders and scoters)  Long-tailed Ducks, Eiders and scoters  Long-tailed Ducks, eiders and scoters  Geese Snipe					
Daily bag	6(a)	6	6	5	10
Possession	18(b)	12	12	10	20

<sup>\*</sup> Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers or Squeakers.

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

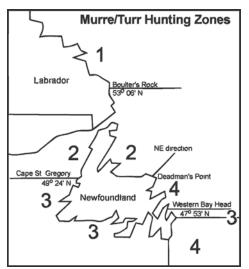
Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks* and eiders), geese and snipe	Eiders
Northern Labrador Zone	Sept. 6 to Dec. 20, 2014 WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY: Sept. 6, 2014	Sept. 27, 2014, to Jan. 10, 2015
Western Labrador Zone	Sept. 6 to Dec. 20, 2014 WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY: Sept. 6, 2014	No open season
Southern Labrador Zone	Sept. 6 to Dec. 20, 2014 WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY: Sept. 6, 2014	Nov. 22, 2014, to Feb. 28, 2015
Central Labrador Zone	Sept. 6 to Dec. 20, 2014 WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY: Sept. 6, 2014	Oct. 25 to Nov. 29, 2014, and Jan. 3 to Feb. 28, 2015

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

#### BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN LABRADOR

Limits	Ducks (other than mergansers, Harlequin Ducks*, eiders and scoters)	Mergansers, scoters and eiders	Geese	Snipe
Daily bag	6(a)	6	5	10
Possession	18(b)	12	10	20

- Harlequin Ducks are also known locally as Lords and Ladies, White-eyed Divers or Squeakers.
- (a) Not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
- (b) Not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye.



#### OPEN SEASONS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (Murres/Turrs)

Area	Murres
Zone No. 1	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014
Zone No. 2	Oct. 6, 2014, to Jan. 20, 2015
Zone No. 3	Nov. 25, 2014, to Mar. 10, 2015
Zone No. 4	Nov. 3, 2014, to Jan. 10, 2015, and Feb. 2 to Mar. 10, 2015

#### BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR (Murres/Turrs)

Limits	Murres
Daily bag	20
Possession	40





<sup>(</sup>a) Not more than 1 Barrow's Goldeneye and not more than 4 may be American Black Ducks.

<sup>(</sup>b) Not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye.

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2014–2015



The information presented here is a summary of the law. If there is a discrepancy between the law and this summary, the law prevails. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, the description of hunting zones and other restrictions on hunting, please refer to the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* and *Migratory Birds Regulations*. These, along with other useful information for hunters, can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca), or you may contact:

Environment Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service
17 Waterfowl Lane
P.O. Box 6227
Sackville, New Brunswick E4L 1G6
Tel.: 1-800-668-6767
enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

You are required to possess a valid federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit with a Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp to hunt migratory birds in Canada. This permit and stamp are valid in all provinces and territories. Most provinces and territories have additional licence requirements for hunting migratory birds and/or to carry firearms. To know what you require, and if there are further restrictions for hunting migratory birds (such as minimum required distances from residences and businesses), please verify the applicable regulations for the province/territory where you will be hunting. Note that all required permits and licences must be in your possession while you are hunting.

#### **Consultation Process and Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports**

The hunting provisions of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* are reviewed by Environment Canada, with input from the provinces and territories, as well as a range of other interested stakeholders. Environment Canada has developed a consultation process for establishing hunting regulations for migratory birds, and publishes the Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Series that can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca).

#### IMPORTANT UPDATES TO THE HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

American Black Ducks: Decreased daily bag limit for American Black Ducks in the latter part of the hunting season.

Barrow's Goldeneye is listed in the Species at Risk Act as a species of special concern, and the bag and possession limit of 1 remains in place.

For complete details regarding the 2014-2015 hunting season, please refer to the Open Season and Bag and Possession Limit tables below..

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. 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.

In Prince Edward Island, **non-toxic shot must be used** 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. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions. For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants.

#### **CRIME STOPPERS**

Environment Canada Wildlife Enforcement 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 1-800-222-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)

		Ducks (other than			
		Common and Red-breasted			
		Mergansers, Long-tailed			
	Ducks (other than	Ducks, Harlequin Ducks,	Common and Red-breasted		
	Harlequin Ducks)	eiders, and scoters)	Mergansers, Long-tailed		
Area	and geese	and snipe	Ducks, eiders, and scoters	Geese	Woodcock
Throughout the Province	Sept. 20, 2014	Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 2014	Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 2014	Sept. 2 to Sept. 15, 2014	Sept. 29 to Dec. 13, 2014
of Prince Edward Island	WATERFOWLER			Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 2014	-
	HERITAGE DAY				

#### BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND

	Ducks (other than Common and Red-breasted				
	Mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks, Harlequin	Common and Red-breasted Mergansers,			
Limits	Ducks, eiders, and scoters)	Long-tailed Ducks, eiders, and scoters	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bag	6(a)	6(c)	5( <i>e</i> )( <i>f</i> )	8	10
Possession	18(b)	12(d)	16	16	20

<sup>(</sup>a) Not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye. During the period beginning on October 1 and ending on November 7, 2014, not more than 4 may be Mallard-American Black Duck hybrids or American Black Ducks or any combination of them, and during the period beginning on November 8 and ending on December 31, 2014, not more than 2 may be Mallard-American Black Duck hybrids or American Black Ducks or any combination of them.





<sup>(</sup>b) Not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye.

<sup>(</sup>c) Not more than 4 may be scoters.

<sup>(</sup>d) Not more than 8 may be scoters.

<sup>(</sup>e) Up to 3 additional Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of them, may be taken daily during the 14-day period from September 2 to September 15, 2014.

<sup>(</sup>f) Not more than 3 daily during the period beginning on November 15 and ending on December 31, 2014.

or you may contact:

Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2014–2015



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Sackville, New Brunswick E4L 1G6
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enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

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#### **Consultation Process and Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports**

The hunting provisions of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* are reviewed by Environment Canada, with input from the provinces and territories, as well as a range of other interested stakeholders. Environment Canada has developed a consultation process for establishing hunting regulations for migratory birds, and publishes the Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Series that can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca).

#### IMPORTANT UPDATES TO THE HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR NOVA SCOTIA

Changes to opening and closing season dates, and decrease in season length for ducks.

Daily bag limits for American Black Ducks: The daily bag limit is set at 4 for the entire open season.

**Farmland restriction lifted:** Since 2012, the early season (September) restriction of hunting only on farmland for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese no longer applies.

Barrow's Goldeneye is listed in the Species at Risk Act as a species of special concern, and the bag and possession limit of 1 remains in place.

For complete details regarding the 2014-2015 hunting season, please refer to the Open Season and Bag and Possession Limit tables below.

Use of bait prior to and during the migratory bird hunting season is restricted; please consult the *Migratory Birds Regulations* for restrictions regarding deposition of bait. Check your permit and provincial hunting regulations for additional restrictions, such as Sunday closures and minimum required distances from residences and businesses.

National Wildlife Areas located in Nova Scotia are administered under the Wildlife Area Regulations of the Canada Wildlife Act. Refer to notices posted at entrances for area-specific rules.

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. 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.

#### **CRIME STOPPERS**

Hunting violations may be reported to Environment Canada Wildlife Enforcement at 506-364-5044, your local RCMP detachment, Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources at 1-800-565-2224, or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-TIPS (8477).

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

		Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks, Common and			
	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks) and geese WATERFOWLER	Red-breasted Mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks, eiders, scoters, Goldeneyes,	Common and Red-breasted Mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks, eiders, scoters,		
Area	HERITAGE DAY	and Buffleheads)	Goldeneyes, and Buffleheads	Geese	Woodcock and snipe
Zone No. 1*	Sept. 20, 2014	Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 2014	Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 2014	Sept. 2 to Sept. 16, 2014, and Oct. 1 to Dec. 31, 2014	Oct. 1 to Nov. 30, 2014
Zone No. 2*	Sept. 20, 2014	Oct. 22, 2014, to Jan. 15, 2015	Oct. 8, 2014, to Jan. 15, 2015	Sept. 2 to Sept. 22, 2014, and Oct. 22, 2014, to Jan. 15, 2015	Oct. 1 to Nov. 30, 2014
Zone No. 3*	Sept. 20, 2014	Oct. 22, 2014, to Jan. 15, 2015	Oct. 8, 2014, to Jan. 15, 2015	Sept. 2 to Sept. 22, 2014, and Oct. 22, 2014, to Jan. 15, 2015	Oct. 1 to Nov. 30, 2014

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;Zone No. 1" means the counties of Antigonish, Pictou, Colchester, Cumberland, Hants, Kings and Annapolis.

#### BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NOVA SCOTIA

	Ducks (other than Common and Red-breasted				
	Mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks, Harlequin	Common and Red-breasted Mergansers,			
Limits	Ducks, eiders, and scoters)	Long-tailed Ducks, eiders, and scoters	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bag	6(a)	5(c)	5(e)(f)	8	10
Possession	18(b)	10(d)	16	16	20

<sup>(</sup>a) Not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye and not more than 4 may be American Black Ducks.

- (b) Not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
- (c) Not more than 4 may be scoters.
- (d) Not more than 8 may be scoters.
- (e) In Zone No. 1, up to 3 additional Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of them, may be taken daily from September 2 to September 16, 2014.
- (f) In Zone No. 2 and Zone No. 3, up to 3 additional Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of them, may be taken daily from September 2 to September 22, 2014.





<sup>&</sup>quot;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.

<sup>&</sup>quot;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).

# Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2014–2015



**Summary** 

The information presented here is a summary of the law. If there is a discrepancy between the law and this summary, the law prevails. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, the description of hunting zones and other restrictions on hunting, please refer to the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* and *Migratory Birds Regulations*. These, along with other useful information for hunters, can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca), or you may contact:

Environment Canada Canadian Wildlife Service 17 Waterfowl Lane P.O. Box 6227 Sackville, New Brunswick E4L 1G6 Tel.: 1-800-668-6767 enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

You are required to possess a valid federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit with a Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp to hunt migratory birds in Canada. This permit and stamp are valid in all provinces and territories. Most provinces

#### **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.

and territories have additional licence requirements for hunting migratory birds and/or to carry firearms. To know what you require, and if there are further restrictions for hunting migratory birds, please verify the applicable regulations for the province/territory where you will be hunting. Note that all required permits and licences must be in your possession while you are hunting.

#### **Consultation Process and Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports**

The hunting provisions of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* are reviewed by Environment Canada, with input from the provinces and territories, as well as a range of other interested stakeholders. Environment Canada has developed a consultation process for establishing hunting regulations for migratory birds, and publishes the Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Series that can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca).

#### IMPORTANT UPDATES TO THE HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR NEW BRUNSWICK

Change in season dates: For ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks, Common and Red-breasted Mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks, eiders, and scoters), geese (other than Canada Geese and Cackling Geese) and snipe, the season is set at October 15, to January 4 in Zone No. 1, and October 1 to December 18, in Zone No. 2.

**Daily bag limit for American Black Ducks:** The bag limit is set at 3 for American Black Duck for the entire open season.

**Farmland restriction lifted:** Since 2012, the early season (September) restriction of hunting only on farmland for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese no longer applies.

Barrow's Goldeneye is listed in the Species at Risk Act as a species of special concern, and the bag and possession limit of 1 remains in place.

For complete details regarding the 2014–2015 hunting season, please refer to the Open Season and Bag and Possession Limit tables below.

Use of bait prior to and during the migratory bird hunting season is restricted; please consult the *Migratory Birds Regulations* for restrictions regarding deposition of bait. Check your permit and provincial hunting regulations for additional restrictions, such as Sunday closures and minimum required distances from residences and businesses.

National Wildlife Areas located in New Brunswick are administered under the Wildlife Area Regulations of the Canada Wildlife Act. Refer to notices posted at entrances for area-specific rules.

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. 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.

In New Brunswick, **non-toxic shot must be used** 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. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions. For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants.

#### **CRIME STOPPERS**

Environment Canada Wildlife Enforcement 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)

		Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks,			
	Ducks (other than Harlequin	Common and Red-breasted Mergansers,			
	Ducks) and geese	Long-tailed Ducks, eiders, and scoters),		Common and Red-breasted	
	WATERFOWLER	geese (other than Canada Geese	Canada Geese	Mergansers, Long-tailed	
Area	HERITAGE DAY	and Cackling Geese) and snipe	and Cackling Geese	Ducks, eiders, and scoters	Woodcock
Zone No. 1	Sept. 20, 2014	Oct. 15, 2014, to Jan. 4, 2015	1 , ,	Oct. 15, 2014, to Jan. 4, 2015, and Feb. 1 to Feb. 24, 2015	Sept. 15 to Nov. 30, 2014
Zone No. 2	Sept. 20, 2014	Oct. 1 to Dec. 18, 2014	Sept. 2 to Sept. 23, 2014, and Oct. 1 to Dec. 18, 2014	Oct. 1 to Dec. 18, 2014	Sept. 15 to Nov. 30, 2014

#### BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NEW BRUNSWICK

	Ducks (other than Common and Red-breasted Mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks, Harlequin	Common and Red-breasted Mergansers.			
Limits	Ducks, eiders, and scoters)	Long-tailed Ducks, eiders, and scoters	Geese	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bag	6(a)	6(c)	5(e)	8	10
Possession	18(b)	12(d)	16	16	20

- (a) Not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye and not more than 3 may be American Black Ducks.
- (b) Not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye.
- (c) Not more than 4 may be scoters; and in Zone No. 1 from February 1 to February 24, 2015, not more than 4 eiders may be taken daily.
- (d) Not more than 8 may be scoters; and in Zone No. 1 from February 1 to February 24, 2015, not more than 8 eiders may be possessed.
- (e) Up to 3 additional Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of them, may be taken daily from September 2 to September 23, 2014, inclusive.





**Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations**, 2014–2015



The information presented here is a summary of the law. If there is a discrepancy between the law and this summary, the law prevails. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, the description of hunting zones and other restrictions on hunting, please refer to the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994 and Migratory Birds Regulations. These, along with other useful information for hunters, can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca), or you may contact:

> **Environment Canada** Canadian Wildlife Service 801-1550 D'Estimauville Avenue Ouébec, Ouebec G1J 0C3 Tel.: 1-800-668-6767 Fax: 418-649-6591

enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

You are required to possess a valid federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit with a Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp to hunt migratory birds in Canada. This permit and stamp are valid in all provinces and territories, Most provinces and territories have additional licence requirements for hunting migratory birds and/or to carry firearms. To know what you require, and if there are further restrictions for hunting migratory birds, please verify the applicable regulations for the province/territory where you will be hunting. Note that all required permits and licences must be in your possession while you are hunting.

#### **Consultation Process and Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports**

The hunting provisions of the Migratory Birds Regulations are reviewed by Environment Canada, with input from the provinces and territories, as well as a range of other interested stakeholders. Environment Canada has developed a consultation process for establishing hunting regulations for migratory birds, and publishes the Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Series that can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca).

#### IMPORTANT UPDATES TO THE HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR OUEBEC

Daily bag limit for Black Ducks: Reduced to 4, with the exception of the area in District F that is west of Route 155 and Highway 55, where the daily limit is 2.

Barrow's Goldeneve is listed in the Species at Risk Act as a species of special concern, and the bag and possession limit of 1 remains in place.

For complete details regarding the 2014–2015 hunting season, please refer to the Open Season and Bag and Possession Limit tables below.

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:

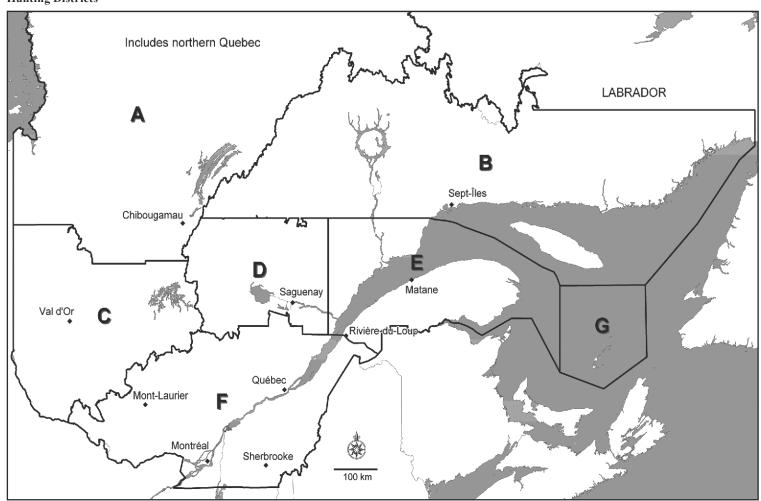
- to participate, young hunters under the age of majority do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit;
- young participants must comply with all existing safety and licensing requirements found in the *Firearms Act* and provincial hunting regulations;
- participants must be accompanied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

In Quebec, non-toxic shot must be used to hunt all 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 to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

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

Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), geese, woodcock and snipe, as well as coots and gallinules in District F WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks (other than eiders, Harlequin Ducks and Long-tailed Ducks), geese (other than Canada Geese, Cackling Geese and Snow Geese) and snipe	Canada Geese and Cackling Geese	Eiders and Long-tailed Ducks	Coots and gallinules	Woodcock
District A	N/A	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014	No open season	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014
District B	Sept. 6, 2014	Sept. 13 to Dec. 27, 2014	Sept. 13 to Dec. 27, 2014	Oct. 1, 2014, to Jan. 14, 2015(b)	No open season	Sept. 13 to Dec. 27, 2014
Districts C, D and E	Sept. 6, 2014	Sept. 13 to Dec. 27, 2014(c)	Sept. 1 to Sept. 12, 2014(a) Sept. 13 to Dec. 16, 2014	Sept. 13 to Dec. 27, 2014	No open season	Sept. 20, 2014, to Jan. 3, 2015
District F	Sept. 13, 2014	Sept. 20, 2014, to Jan. 3, 2015(c)	Sept. 6 to Sept. 19, 2014(a) Sept. 20 to Dec. 21, 2014	Sept. 20, 2014, to Jan. 3, 2015	Sept. 20, 2014, to Jan. 3, 2015	Sept. 20, 2014, to Jan. 3, 2015
District G	Sept. 20, 2014	Sept. 27 to Dec. 26, 2014	Sept. 27 to Dec. 26, 2014	Nov. 1, 2014, to Feb. 14, 2015	No open season	Sept. 27 to Dec. 26, 2014

#### **Hunting Districts**



<sup>(</sup>a) In Districts C, D, E and F, hunting for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese is allowed only on farmland.
(b) In District B along the northern shore west of the Natashquan River, the hunting seasons for eiders and Long-tailed Ducks are from October 1 to October 24, 2014, inclusive and from November 15, 2014, to February 5, 2015, inclusive.
(c) In District E, the hunting season for Barrow's Goldeneye and Common Goldeneye closes on October 21, 2014, in Provincial Hunting Zone 21 and 100 metres beyond this zone. In District F, the hunting season for Barrow's Goldeneye and Common Goldeneye closes on October 21, 2014, between Pointe Jureux (St. Irénée) and Gros Cap à l'Aigle (St. Fidèle) from routes 362 and 138 to 2 kilometres within Provincial Hunting Zone 21.

#### BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN QUEBEC

Limits	Ducks	Geese (other than Snow Geese)	Snow Geese	Coots and gallinules	Woodcock	Snipe
Daily bag	6(a)(b)(f)	5( <i>d</i> )( <i>f</i> )	20(f)	4( <i>f</i> )	8(e)(f)	10(f)
Possession	18(c)(f)	20(f)(g)	No limit	12(f)	24(f)	30(f)

- (a) Not more than 4 may be American Black Ducks, except in the portion of District F that is west of Route 155 and Highway 55, in which case not more than 2 may be American Black Ducks.
- b) Not more than 1 may be Blue-winged Teal and not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye
- (c) Not more than 2 may be Blue-winged Teal and not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye
- (d) Up to 5 additional Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of them, may be taken daily between September 1 and September 25, 2014
- (e) For non-residents of Canada, not more than 4 woodcocks may be taken daily.
- (f) Not more than 3 birds may be taken or possessed during Waterfowler Heritage Days, with the additional species restrictions described in notes (a) to (c) applying within that total.
- (g) No possession limit for Canada Geese.

#### **OVERABUNDANT SPECIES**

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.

#### MEASURES IN QUEBEC CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Area	Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
District A	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014 May 1 to June 30, 2015	Recorded bird calls( $d$ )( $f$ ) Recorded bird calls( $d$ )
District B	Sept. 13 to Dec. 27, 2014	Recorded bird calls( $d$ )( $f$ )
Districts C and D	Sept. 1 to Sept. 12, 2014( <i>a</i> ), and Sept. 13 to Dec. 27, 2014 Mar. 1 to May 31, 2015( <i>a</i> )	Recorded bird calls( $d$ )( $f$ ) Recorded bird calls( $d$ )
District E	Sept. 1 to Sept. 12, 2014( <i>a</i> ), and Sept. 13 to Dec. 27, 2014 Mar. 1 to May 31, 2015( <i>a</i> )	Recorded bird calls( <i>d</i> )( <i>f</i> ); bait crop area( <i>e</i> ) Recorded bird calls( <i>d</i> ); bait( <i>e</i> )
District F	Sept. 6 to Sept. 19, 2014( <i>a</i> ), and Sept. 20, 2014, to Jan. 3, 2015 Mar. 1 to May 31, 2015( <i>a</i> )( <i>b</i> )( <i>c</i> )	Recorded bird calls(d)(f); bait crop area(e) Recorded bird calls(d); bait(e)
District G	Sept. 27 to Dec. 26, 2014	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 the western limit of the municipality of Montmagny and the eastern limit of Cap-Saint-Ignace municipality, other than in lots 4 598 472 and 2 611 981 in Montmagny municipality.
- (c) In District F, 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 1000 m north of Highway 40 between Montée St-Laurent and the Maskinongé River. On the south shore of the St. Lawrence River, no person shall hunt south of the St. Lawrence River and north of the railroad right-of-way located near Route 132 between the Nicolet River in the east and Lacerte Road in the west.
- (d) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.
- (e) Hunting with bait or in a bait crop area is permitted if the Regional Director has given consent in writing pursuant to section 23.3.
- Any species of migratory bird for which it is open season may be taken while hunting Snow Geese with recorded Snow Geese calls.

#### NOTE

Hunters interested in participating in the spring conservation harvest of Snow Geese should keep their 2014–2015 federal permits..





Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2014–2015



**Summary** 

The information presented here is a summary of the law. If there is a discrepancy between the law and this summary, the law prevails. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, the description of hunting zones and other restrictions on hunting, please refer to the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* and *Migratory Birds Regulations*. These, along with other useful information for hunters, can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca), or you may contact:

Environment Canada Canadian Wildlife Service 4905 Dufferin Street Toronto, Ontario M3H 5T4 Tel.: 1-800-668-6767 enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

You are required to possess a valid federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit with a Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp to hunt migratory birds in Canada. This permit and stamp are valid in all provinces and territories. Most provinces and territories have additional licence requirements for hunting migratory birds and/or to carry firearms. To know what you require, and if there are further restrictions for hunting migratory birds, please verify the applicable regulations for the province/territory where you will be hunting. Note that all required permits and licences must be in your possession while you are hunting.

Note that south of the French and Mattawa rivers, Sunday gun hunting is permitted by provincial regulations in some municipalities, but not all. Season dates for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese in the Southern District may differ between municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is permitted and those where it is not. Hunters should consult the provincial regulations for information about Wildlife Management Unit boundaries and a list of municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is permitted.

#### **Consultation Process and Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports**

The hunting provisions of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* are reviewed by Environment Canada, with input from the provinces and territories, as well as a range of other interested stakeholders. Environment Canada has developed a consultation process for establishing hunting regulations for migratory birds, and publishes the Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Series that can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca).

#### IMPORTANT UPDATES TO THE HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR ONTARIO

American Black Duck: Length of the hunting season is 107 days in the Hudson–James Bay, Northern and Central Districts, with a closing date of December 20, 2014, in the Southern District; daily bag limits are decreased in each district.

Canada Goose: Daily bag limit has increased from 3 to 5 Canada Geese per day in the Hudson–James Bay (Wildlife Management Unit 1D) and Northern (Wildlife Management Units 23 to 31 and 37 to 41) hunting districts from September 10 to December 16, 2014.

Barrow's Goldeneye is listed in the Species at Risk Act as a species of special concern, and the bag and possession limit of 1 remains in place.

For complete details regarding the 2014–2015 hunting season, please refer to the Open Season and Bag and Possession Limit tables below.

In Ontario, **non-toxic shot must be used** to hunt all 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. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions. For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

Waterfowler Heritage Days were introduced to 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. 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;
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than one young hunter; and
- daily bag limits are outlined in the Bag and Possession Limits table below, and include footnotes a, e and f.

#### **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 60 to 95 inclusive

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

	` 1	,			
Area	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), rails (other than Yellow Rails and King Rails), gallinules, coots, snipe and geese WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY	Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks), rails (other than Yellow Rails and King Rails), gallinules, coots, snipe and geese (other than Canada Geese and Cackling Geese)	Canada Geese and Cackling Geese	Woodcock	Mourning Doves
1. Hudson–James Bay District	Sept. 6, 2014	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014	Sept. 1 to Dec. 15, 2014	No open season
2. Northern District	Sept. 6, 2014	Sept. 10 to Dec. 24, 2014	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014	Sept. 15 to Dec. 15, 2014	No open season
3. Central District	Sept. 13, 2014	Sept. 20, 2014, to Jan. 3, 2015	Sept. 2 to Dec. 17, 2014	Sept. 20 to Dec. 20, 2014	Sept. 2 to Nov. 10, 2014(a)
4. Southern District	Sept. 20, 2014	Sept. 27, 2014, to Jan. 10, 2015(b)(f)	Sept. 4 to Sept. 14, 2014(c) Sept. 4 to Sept. 13, 2014 (except for any Sunday within this period)(d)	Sept. 25 to Dec. 20, 2014	Sept. 4 to Nov. 12, 2014(a)
			Sept. 27 to Dec. 30, 2014(c)		
			Sept. 27, 2014, to Jan. 9, 2015 (except for any Sunday within this period)( <i>d</i> )		
			Feb. 28 to Mar. 7, 2015 (except for any Sunday within this period)( <i>d</i> )( <i>e</i> )		

<sup>(</sup>a) Non-toxic shot required

<sup>(</sup>b) In Wildlife Management Unit 65, recorded Snow Goose calls may be used when hunting Snow Geese; any species of migratory bird for which it is open season may be taken while hunting Snow Geese with those calls.

<sup>(</sup>c) In municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is permitted by provincial regulations.

<sup>(</sup>d) In municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is not permitted by provincial regulations.

<sup>(</sup>e) Except in Wildlife Management Unit 94.

<sup>(</sup>f) Except for American Black Ducks, for which the open season begins on September 27 and ends on December 20, 2014.

#### BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN ONTARIO

		Canada Geese			Rails (other than Yellow			
	Ducks (other than	and Cackling	White-fronted		Rails and King		Woodcock	
Limits	Harlequin Ducks)	Geese	Geese and Brant	Snow Geese	Rails) and snipe	Gallinules	and coots	Mourning Doves
Daily bag	6(a)	5(c)(d)(e)(f)	5	20	10	4	8	15
Possession	18(b)	No limit	15	No limit	30	12	24	45

- (a) Not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye. In the Southern District and Central District, not more than 1 may be an American Black Duck, and in the Hudson–James Bay District and Northern District, not more than 2 may be American Black Ducks.
- (b) Not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye. In the Southern District and Central District, not more than 3 may be American Black Ducks, and in the Hudson–James Bay District and Northern District, not more than 6 may be American Black Ducks.
- (c) A total of not more than 2 Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of them, may be taken daily in Wildlife Management Unit 94 from September 27, 2014, to January 9, 2015.
- (d) A total of not more than 3 Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of them, may be taken daily in Wildlife Management Units 82, 84, 85 and 93 from September 27 to October 31, 2014.
- (e) Up to 5 additional Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of them, may be taken daily in
  - (i) Wildlife Management Units 36 and 45 from September 1 to September 9, 2014;
  - (ii) Wildlife Management Units 42 to 44 and 46 to 59 from September 2 to September 19, 2014;
  - (iii) Wildlife Management Units 60 to 81, 83, 86 to 92, and 95 from September 4 to September 14, 2014, and
  - (iv) Wildlife Management Units 60 to 81, 83, and 86 to 92 from February 28 to March 7, 2015, in municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is not permitted.
- (f) Up to 3 additional Canada Geese or Cackling Geese, or any combination of them, may be taken daily in
  - (i) Wildlife Management Units 82, 84, 85, 93 and 94 from September 4 to September 14, 2014, and
  - (ii) Wildlife Management Units 82, 84, 85 and 93, from February 28 to March 7, 2015, in municipalities where Sunday gun hunting is not permitted.

#### MEASURES IN ONTARIO CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Area	Period during which Snow Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
Wildlife Management Unit 65	Mar. 1 to May 31, 2015(a)	Recorded bird calls(b)

- (a) Hunting and hunting equipment are allowed only on farmland.
- (b) "Recorded bird calls" refers to bird calls of a species referred to in the heading of column 2.

#### NOTE

Hunters interested in participating in the spring conservation harvest of Snow Geese should keep their 2014–2015 federal permits.





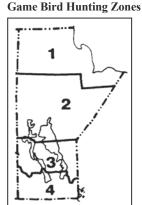
Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2014–2015



**Summary** 

The information presented here is a summary of the law. If there is a discrepancy between the law and this summary, the law prevails. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, the description of hunting zones and other restrictions on hunting, please refer to the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* and *Migratory Birds Regulations*. These, along with other useful information for hunters, can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca), or you may contact:

Environment Canada Canadian Wildlife Service Suite 150, 123 Main Street Winnipeg, Manitoba R3C 4W2 Tel.: 1-800-668-6767 enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca



You are required to possess a valid federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit with a Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation

Stamp to hunt migratory birds in Canada. This permit and stamp are valid in all provinces and territories. Most provinces and territories have additional licence requirements for hunting migratory birds and/or to carry firearms. To know what you require, and if there are further restrictions for hunting migratory birds, please verify the applicable regulations for the province/territory where you will be hunting. Note that all required permits and licences must be in your possession while you are hunting.

#### **Consultation Process and Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports**

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#### IMPORTANT UPDATES TO THE HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR MANITOBA

Inclusion of Ross's Geese in spring conservation harvests: Ross's Geese may now be harvested during the special conservation periods.

Increase in the daily bag limit for any combination of Snow Geese and Ross's Geese: Daily bag limit is 50, and there is no possession limit.

Increase in the daily bag limit for any combination of Canada and Cackling Geese, for non-residents of Canada, in Game Bird Hunting Zone 1: Daily bag limit is now 8, and the possession limit is 24.

For complete details regarding the 2014–2015 hunting season, please refer to the Open Season and Bag and Possession Limit tables below.

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. 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.

In Manitoba, **non-toxic shot must be used** to hunt migratory 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. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions. For those birds still hunted with lead shot, remove the lead shot before cooking in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants.

#### OPEN SEASONS IN MANITOBA

Game Bird Hunting Zone	Ducks, geese, coots, snipe and Sandhill Cranes WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks, geese, coots and snipe RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks, Canada Geese, Cackling Geese, White-fronted Geese, Brant, coots and snipe NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Sandhill Cranes	Snow and Ross's Geese NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	American Woodcock
Zone 1	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7, 2014(a)	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014(a)	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30, 2014	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014(a)	N/A
Zone 2	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7, 2014(a)	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30, 2014(a)	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30, 2014	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30, 2014	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30, 2014(a)	N/A
Zone 3	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7, 2014(a)	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30, 2014(a)	Sept. 24 to Nov. 30, 2014	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30, 2014	Sept. 17 to Nov. 30, 2014(a)	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30, 2014
Zone 4	Sept. 1 to Sept. 7, 2014(a)	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30, 2014(a)	Sept. 24 to Nov. 30, 2014	Sept. 1 to Nov. 30, 2014	Sept. 17 to Nov. 30, 2014(a)	Sept. 8 to Nov. 30, 2014

<sup>(</sup>a) Recorded Snow Goose and Ross's Goose calls may be used when hunting Snow Geese and Ross's Geese; any species of migratory bird for which it is open season may be taken while hunting Snow Geese and Ross's Geese with those calls.

#### BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN MANITOBA

	Ducks RESIDENTS	Ducks NON- RESIDENTS	Snow Geese and Ross's	Canada Geese, Cackling Geese, White-fronted Geese and Brant RESIDENTS	Canada Geese, Cackling Geese, White-fronted Geese and Brant NON- RESIDENTS	Sandhill				Woodcock NON- RESIDENTS
Limits	OF CANADA	OF CANADA	Geese	OF CANADA	OF CANADA	Cranes	Coots	Snipe		OF CANADA
Daily bag	8	8(a)	50	8(c)	5( <i>d</i> )	5	8	10	8	4
Possession	24	24(b)	No limit	24	15(e)	15	24	30	24	12

<sup>(</sup>a) In Game Bird Hunting Zone 4, not more than 4 may be Redheads or Canvasbacks or any combination of them.

#### NOTE

The open season for non-residents of Canada in Game Bird Hunting Zone 4 and in provincial Game Hunting Areas 13A, 14, 14A, that portion of Game Hunting Area 16 south of the north limit of Township 33 and Areas 18, 18A, 18B, 18C, 19, 19A, 19B, 20, 21A, 23A and 25 as described in Manitoba's *Hunting Area and Zones Regulation* 220/86, of the Province of Manitoba, made under the *Wildlife Act* (C.C.S.M., c. W130), includes:

- in respect of Canada Geese, Cackling Geese, White-fronted Geese and Brant, only that part of each day from one half-hour before sunrise to 12:00 noon, local time, from the opening date (September 24, 2014) up to and including the second Sunday in October (October 12, 2014), and, after that period, from one half-hour before sunrise until one half-hour after sunset; and
- in respect of Snow Geese and Ross's Geese, only that part of each day from one half-hour before sunrise until one half-hour after sunset.

#### **OVERABUNDANT SPECIES**

The Migratory Birds Regulations also provide for special conservation periods when hunters may take overabundant species. Please note that additional hunting methods or equipment are permitted during the special conservation periods. See the table below for details.

#### MEASURES IN MANITOBA CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Game Bird Hunting Zone	Period during which Snow Geese and Ross's Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment		
Zone 1	Aug. 15 to Aug. 31, 2014, and Apr. 1 to June 15, 2015	Recorded bird calls(a)		
Zones 2, 3 and 4	March 15 to May 31, 2015	Recorded bird calls(a)		

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

#### NOTE

Hunters interested in participating in the spring conservation harvest of Snow and Ross's Geese should keep their 2014–2015 federal permits.





<sup>(</sup>b) In Game Bird Hunting Zone 4, not more than 12 may be Redheads or Canvasbacks or any combination of them.

<sup>(</sup>c) In provincial Game Hunting Area 38, as described in regulations of the Province of Manitoba, made under the Wildlife Act (C.C.S.M., c. W130), up to 4 additional Canada Geese, Cackling Geese, White-fronted Geese or Brant, or any combination of them, may be taken daily during the period beginning on September 1 and ending on September 23, 2014, inclusive.

<sup>(</sup>d) Except in Game Bird Hunting Zone 1, where the daily bag limit is 8.

<sup>(</sup>e) Except in Game Bird Hunting Zone 1, where the possession limit is 24.

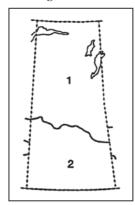


**Summary** 

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Environment Canada Canadian Wildlife Service 115 Perimeter Road Saskatoon, Saskatchewan S7N 0X4 Tel.: 1-800-668-6767 enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

## **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

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Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp to hunt migratory birds in Canada. This permit and stamp are valid in all provinces and territories. Most provinces and territories have additional licence requirements for hunting migratory birds and/or to carry firearms. To know what you require, and if there are further restrictions for hunting migratory birds, please verify the applicable regulations for the province/territory where you will be hunting. Note that all required permits and licences must be in your possession while you are hunting.

## **Consultation Process and Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports**

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## IMPORTANT UPDATES TO THE HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR SASKATCHEWAN

Increase in the daily bag limit and possession limit for White-fronted Geese for non-residents of Canada: Daily bag limit is now 5, and the possession limit is 15.

## **Snow Geese and Ross's Geese:**

- There is no possession limit for Snow Geese and Ross's Geese in the during the fall hunting season and spring conservation harvest.
- The special spring conservation harvest for Snow Geese has been expanded, and a spring conservation harvest for Ross's Geese has been introduced. Both may be harvested province-wide from March 15 to June 15, 2015.
- All-day hunting of Snow Geese and Ross's Geese is allowed province-wide during the open season in fall, and during the special spring conservation
  period, from one half-hour before sunrise until one half-hour after sunset.

For complete details regarding the 2014–2015 hunting season, please refer to the Open Season and Bag and Possession Limit tables below.

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. 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.

#### NOTE

In District No. 2 (South), during Waterfowler Heritage Days, and following the rules of these days, young hunters and mentors may participate in the Falconry season

In Saskatchewan, **non-toxic shot must be used** to hunt migratory birds. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting. Hunters should consult provincial or territorial regulations for additional restrictions.

#### 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.

## OPEN SEASONS IN SASKATCHEWAN

District	Ducks, geese, coots, snipe and Sandhill Cranes WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks, coots and snipe	Geese RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snow Geese and Ross's Geese NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Canada Geese, Cackling Geese and White-fronted Geese NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Sandhill Cranes
No. 1 (North)	Sept. 1, 2014, and Oct. 11–13, 2014( <i>b</i> )	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014(b)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014(b)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014
No. 2 (South)( <i>d</i> )	Sept. 1, 2014, and Oct. 11–13, 2014( <i>b</i> )( <i>c</i> )	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014(a)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014(b)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014(b)	Sept. 10 to Dec. 16, 2014	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014(c)

<sup>(</sup>a) Falconry season is open from September 1 to December 16, 2014, inclusive.

#### NOTE

The open season for Canada Geese, Cackling Geese and White-fronted Geese in District No. 2 (South), and the portion of District No. 1 (North) consisting of Provincial Wildlife Management Zones 43, 47 to 59 and 67 to 69 for residents and non-residents of Canada, from the opening date up to and including October 14, 2014, inclusive, includes only that part of each day from one half-hour before sunrise until noon, local time, and, after that period, from one half-hour before sunrise until one half-hour after sunset. The open season for Snow Geese and Ross's Geese for residents and non-residents of Canada province-wide includes only that part of each day from one half-hour before sunrise until one half-hour after sunset.

### BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN SASKATCHEWAN

			Canada Geese, Cackling Geese			
Limits	Ducks	Snow Geese and Ross's Geese	and White-fronted Geese	Sandhill Cranes	Coots	Snipe
Daily bag	8(a)	20	8(c)	5	10	10
Possession	24(b)	No limit	24( <i>d</i> )	15	30	30

<sup>(</sup>a) Not more than 4 may be Northern Pintails.

## MEASURES IN SASKATCHEWAN CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

District	Period during which Snow Geese and Ross's Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
No. 1 (North) and 2 (South)	March 15 to June 15, 2015	Recorded bird calls(a)

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

### NOTE

Hunters interested in participating in the conservation harvest of Snow Geese and Ross's Geese next spring should keep their 2014–2015 federal permits.





<sup>(</sup>b) Recorded Snow Goose and Ross's Goose calls may be used when hunting Snow Geese or Ross's Geese; any species of migratory bird for which it is open season may be taken while hunting Snow Geese or Ross's Geese with those calls.

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

<sup>(</sup>d) The Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area is closed to all hunting until September 20.

<sup>(</sup>b) Not more than 12 may be Northern Pintails.

<sup>(</sup>c) Not more than 5 may be White-fronted Geese.

<sup>(</sup>d) Not more than 15 may be White-fronted Geese.



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Environment Canada Canadian Wildlife Service 9250-49 Street Edmonton Alberta T6B 1K5 Tel.: 1-800-668-6767 enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

## 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.

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Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp to hunt migratory birds in Canada. This permit and stamp are valid in all provinces and territories. Most provinces and territories have additional licence requirements for hunting migratory birds and/or to carry firearms. To know what you require, and if there are further restrictions for hunting migratory birds, please verify the applicable regulations for the province/territory where you will be hunting. Note that all required permits and licences must be in your possession while you are hunting.

## **Consultation Process and Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports**

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## IMPORTANT UPDATES TO THE HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR ALBERTA

**Introduction of a special spring conservation harvest for Snow Geese and Ross's Geese:** Snow Geese and Ross's Geese may be harvested province wide from March 15 to June 15, 2015.

Increase in the daily bag limit for any combination of Snow Geese and Ross's Geese: Bag limit is 50, and there is no possession limit.

Increase in the daily bag limit for White-fronted Geese for non-residents of Canada: Bag limit is 5, and the possession limit is 15.

For complete details regarding the 2014–2015 hunting season, please refer to the Open Season and Bag and Possession Limit tables below.

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. 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:

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- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters.

In Alberta, **non-toxic shot must be used** to hunt migratory birds. 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.

## OPEN SEASONS IN ALBERTA

Area	Ducks, geese, coots and snipe WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS	Ducks, coots and snipe		Canada Geese, Cackling Geese and White-fronted Geese
Zones* 1, 2, 3, 4 and 8	Sept. 6 to Sept. 7, 2014(a)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014(b)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014(a)	Sept. 1 to Dec. 16, 2014
Zones* 5, 6 and 7	Sept. 6 to Sept. 7, 2014(a)	Sept. 8 to Dec. 21, 2014(c)	Sept. 8 to Dec. 21, 2014(a)	Sept. 8 to Dec. 21, 2014

<sup>\* &</sup>quot;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 to 532, and 841.

- (a) Recorded Snow Goose and Ross's Goose calls may be used when hunting Snow Geese or Ross's Geese; any species of migratory bird for which it is open season may be taken while hunting Snow Geese or Ross's Geese with those calls.
- Falconry season is open from September 1 to December 16, 2014.
- (c) Falconry season is open from September 8 to December 21, 2014.

## BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN ALBERTA

Limits	Ducks	Snow Geese and Ross's Geese	Canada Geese, Cackling Geese and White-fronted Geese	Coots	Snipe
Daily bag	8(a)	50	8(c)	8	8
Possession	24(b)	No limit	24(d)	24	24

- a) Not more than 4 may be Northern Pintails. For non-residents of Canada, not more than 2 may be Barrow's Goldeneye or Common Goldeneye or any combination of them.
- b) Not more than 12 may be Northern Pintails. For non-residents of Canada, not more than 6 may be Barrow's Goldeneve or Common Goldeneve or any combination of them
- (c) Not more than 5 may be White-fronted Geese.
- (d) Not more than 15 may be White-fronted Geese (d) Not more than 15 may be White-fronted Geese

## **OVERABUNDANT SPECIES**

The Migratory Birds Regulations also provide for special conservation periods when hunters may take overabundant species. Please note that additional hunting methods or equipment are permitted during the special conservation periods. See the table below for details.

## MEASURES IN ALBERTA CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Area	Period during which Snow Geese and Ross's Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
Throughout Alberta	March 15 to June 15, 2015	Recorded bird calls(a)

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

### NOTE

Hunters interested in participating in the conservation harvest of Snow Geese and Ross's Geese next spring should keep their 2014–2015 federal permits.





<sup>&</sup>quot;Zone No. 2" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 344, 347, 349 to 360, 520 to 528, 534 to 537, 539 to 542, and 544.

<sup>&</sup>quot;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.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Zone No. 4" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 206, 208, 216, 220 to 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.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Zone No. 5" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 151, 160, 162 to 164, and 166.

<sup>&</sup>quot;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.

<sup>&</sup>quot;Zone No. 7" means that part of Alberta included in PWMUs 102, 116, 118, 119, 124, 144, 148, and 150.

<sup>&</sup>quot;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, and 444 to 446.

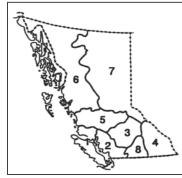


**Summary** 

The information presented here is a summary of the law. If there is a discrepancy between the law and this summary, the law prevails. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, the description of hunting districts and other restrictions on hunting, please refer to the *Migratory Birds Convention Act*, 1994 and Migratory Birds Regulations. These, along with other useful information for hunters, can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca), or you may contact:

Environment Canada Canadian Wildlife Service Pacific Wildlife Research Centre R.R. 1, 5421 Robertson Road Delta, British Columbia V4K 3N2 Tel.: 604-350-1950 Toll free: 1-800-668-6767 enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

## **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

You are required to possess a valid federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit with a Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp to hunt migratory birds in Canada. This permit and stamp are valid in all provinces and territories. Most provinces and territories have additional licence requirements for hunting migratory birds and/or to carry firearms. To know what you require, and if there are further restrictions for hunting migratory birds, please verify the applicable regulations for the province/territory where you will be hunting. Note that all required permits and licences must be in your possession while you are hunting.

## **Consultation Process and Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports**

The hunting provisions of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* are reviewed by Environment Canada, with input from the provinces and territories, as well as a range of other interested stakeholders. Environment Canada has developed a consultation process for establishing hunting regulations for migratory birds, and publishes the Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Series that can be found on the Environment Canada website (www ec.gc.ca).

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. 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.

In British Columbia, **non-toxic shot must be used** to hunt migratory game birds, except for 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 in order to reduce your exposure to contaminants. As well, remove the skin and fat from fish-eating birds before cooking them.

## 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	Oct. 4 and Oct. 5, 2014	Oct. 11, 2014, to Jan. 23, 2015	Oct. 11, 2014, to Jan. 23, 2015	Oct. 11, 2014, to Jan. 23, 2015(a); Sept. 6 to Sept. 14, 2014(b)(c)(d); Oct. 11 to Nov. 23, 2014(b)(c)(d); Dec. 20, 2014, to Jan. 11, 2015(b)(c)(d); and Feb. 10 to Mar. 10, 2015(b)(c)(d)	No open season	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30, 2014	No open season
No. 2	Oct. 4 and Oct. 5, 2014( <i>e</i> )( <i>f</i> )	Oct. 11, 2014, to Jan. 23, 2015(c)(e)	Oct. 11, 2014, to Jan. 4, 2015(e), and Feb. 20 to Mar. 10, 2015(e)	Oct. 11, 2014, to Jan. 23, 2015(e)(g); Sept. 6 to Sept. 14, 2014(c)(d)(e); Oct. 11 to Nov. 23, 2014(c)(d)(e); Dec. 20, 2014, to Jan. 11, 2015(c)(d)(e); and Feb. 10 to Mar. 10, 2015(c)(d)(e)	Mar. 1 to Mar. 10, 2015(c)(h)	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30, 2014(e)	No open season
No. 3	Sept. 6 and Sept. 7, 2014	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23, 2014	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23, 2014	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23, 2014( <i>g</i> ); Sept. 10 to Sept. 20, 2014( <i>d</i> ); Oct. 1 to Dec. 23, 2014( <i>d</i> ); and Mar. 1 to Mar. 10, 2015( <i>d</i> )	No open season	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30, 2014(i)	Sept. 1 to Sept. 30, 2014
No. 4	Sept. 6 and Sept. 7, 2014	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23, 2014	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23, 2014	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23, 2014	No open season	No open season	Sept. 1 to Sept. 30, 2014
No. 5	Sept. 13 and Sept. 14, 2014	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25, 2014	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25, 2014	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25, 2014	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 6	Sept. 6 and Sept. 7, 2014	Sept. 1 to Sept. 5 and Sept. 8 to Nov. 30, 2014( <i>j</i> ); Oct. 1, 2014, to Jan. 13, 2015( <i>k</i> )	Sept. 1 to Sept. 5 and Sept. 8 to Nov. 30, 2014( <i>j</i> ); Oct. 1, 2014, to Jan. 13, 2015( <i>k</i> )	Sept. 1 to Sept. 5 and Sept. 8 to Nov. 30, 2014( <i>j</i> ); Oct. 1, 2014, to Jan. 13, 2015( <i>k</i> )	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 7	Sept. 1 and Sept. 2, 2014( <i>l</i> ); Sept. 13 and Sept. 14, 2014( <i>m</i> )	Sept. 3 to Nov. 30, 2014( <i>l</i> ); Sept. 1 to Sept. 12 and Sept. 15 to Nov. 30, 2014( <i>m</i> )	Sept. 3 to Nov. 30, 2014( <i>l</i> ); Sept. 1 to Sept. 12 and Sept. 15 to Nov. 30, 2014( <i>m</i> )	Sept. 3 to Nov. 30, 2014( <i>I</i> ); Sept. 1 to Sept. 12, 2014, and Sept. 15 to Nov. 30, 2014( <i>m</i> )	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 8	Sept. 6 and Sept. 7, 2014	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25, 2014	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25, 2014	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25, 2014( <i>g</i> ); Sept. 20 to Nov. 28, 2014( <i>d</i> ); Dec. 20, 2014, to Jan. 5, 2015( <i>d</i> ); and Feb. 21 to Mar. 10, 2015( <i>d</i> )	No open season	No open season	Sept. 1 to Sept. 30, 2014

- (a) Provincial Management Units (PMUs) 1-1 to 1-15 inclusive for White-fronted Geese only and PMUs 1-3, and 1-8 to 1-15 inclusive for Canada Geese and Cackling Geese only.
- (b) PMUs 1-1, 1-2, and 1-4 to 1-7 inclusive.
- (c) See provincial regulations for local restrictions.
- (d) For Canada Geese and Cackling Geese only.
- (e) PMUs 2-2 to 2-19 inclusive.
- (f) Excluding Brant.
- (g) For White-fronted Geese only.
- (h) PMU 2-4 only.
- (i) PMUs 3-13 to 3-17 inclusive.
- (j) PMUs 6-1, 6-2, 6-4 to 6-10 inclusive, and 6-15 to 6-30 inclusive.
- (k) PMUs 6-3, and 6-11 to 6-14 inclusive.
- (1) PMUs 7-19 to 7-22 inclusive, 7-31 to 7-36 inclusive, and 7-42 to 7-58 inclusive. (m) PMUs 7-2 to 7-18 inclusive, 7-23 to 7-30 inclusive, and 7-37 to 7-41 inclusive.

## BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN BRITISH COLUMBIA

Limits	Ducks	White geese (Snow and Ross's geese)	Dark geese (Canada, Cackling and White-fronted geese)	Brant	Coots and snipe	Band-tailed Pigeons and Mourning Doves
Daily bag	8(a)(c)(e)(g)	5(i)	5(k), 10(l)	2(m)	10	5
Possession	24(b)(d)(f)(h)	15( <i>j</i> )	15(k), 30(l)	6(m)	30	15

- (a) Not more than 4 may be Northern Pintails.
- (b) Not more than 12 may be Northern Pintails.
- (c) Not more than 4 may be Canvasbacks. (d) Not more than 12 may be Canvasbacks.
- (e) Not more than 2 may be Goldeneyes.
- (f) Not more than 6 may be Goldeneyes.
- (g) Not more than 2 may be Harlequin Ducks.
- (h) Not more than 6 may be Harlequin Ducks.
- (i) In PMUs 2-4 and 2-5 only, a total of 10 White Geese including not more than 5 Ross's Geese may be taken daily.
  (j) In PMUs 2-4 and 2-5 only, a total of 30 White Geese including not more than 15 Ross's Geese may be possessed.
- (k) For White-fronted Geese only.
- (1) Any combination of Canada Geese and Cackling Geese.
- (*m*) PMU 2-4 only.







**Summary** 

The information presented here is a summary of the law. If there is a discrepancy between the law and this summary, the law prevails. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, the description of hunting zones and other restrictions on hunting, please refer to the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* and *Migratory Birds Regulations*. These, along with other useful information for hunters, can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca), or you may contact:

Environment Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service
5019, 52 Street
P.O. Box 2310
Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 2P7
Tel.: 1-800-668-6767
enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

You are required to possess a valid federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit with a Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp to hunt migratory birds in Canada. This permit and stamp are valid in all provinces and territories. Most provinces and territories have additional licence requirements for hunting migratory birds and/or to carry firearms. To know what you require, and if there are further restrictions for hunting migratory birds, please verify the applicable regulations for the province/territory where you will be hunting. Note that all required permits and licences must be in your possession while you are hunting.

If you are hunting on private lands within an area with a settled land claim, you must ask permission first.

### **Consultation Process and Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports**

The hunting provisions of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* are reviewed by Environment Canada, with input from the provinces and territories, as well as a range of other interested stakeholders. Environment Canada has developed a consultation process for establishing hunting regulations for migratory birds, and publishes the Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Series that can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca).

## IMPORTANT UPDATES TO THE HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Introduction of a special spring conservation harvest for Snow Geese and Ross's Geese: Snow Geese and Ross's Geese may be harvested during the special conservation season.

**Recorded Snow Goose and Ross's Goose calls may be used** when hunting Snow Geese and/or Ross's Geese. Any species of migratory birds for which it is an open season may be taken while hunting Snow Geese and Ross's Geese with those calls.

Increase in the daily bag limit for any combination of Snow Geese and Ross's Geese: Bag limit is 50 for residents and non-residents of Canada.

For complete details regarding the 2014–2015 hunting season, please refer to the Open Season and Bag and Possession Limit tables below.

In the Northwest Territories, **non-toxic shot must be used** to hunt migratory birds. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds.

## OPEN SEASONS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

Area	Ducks, geese, coots and snipe
Throughout the Northwest Territories	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10, 2014(a)

<sup>(</sup>a) Recorded Snow Goose and Ross's Goose calls may be used when hunting Snow Geese and Ross's Geese; any species of migratory bird for which it is open season may be taken while hunting Snow Geese and Ross's Geese with those calls.

## BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES

	Ducks RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Ducks NON- RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Geese, White-fronted Geese and Brant	Canada Geese, Cackling Geese, White-fronted Geese and Brant NON-RESIDENTS OF CANADA	Snow Geese and Ross's Geese	Coots	OF CANADA	Snipe NON- RESIDENTS OF CANADA
Daily bag	25	8	15	5(a)	50	25	10	10
Possession	No limit	16	No limit	10(a)	No limit	No limit	No limit	20

<sup>(</sup>a) Except that non-residents may not take more than 2 White-fronted Geese daily and may not possess more than 4.

## **OVERABUNDANT SPECIES**

The *Migratory Birds Regulations* also provide for special conservation periods when hunters may take overabundant species. Please note that additional hunting methods or equipment are permitted during the special conservation periods. See the table below for details.

## MEASURES IN THE NORTHWEST TERRITORIES CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

	Period during which Snow Geese and Ross's Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
Banks Island, Victoria Island and Queen Elizabeth Islands	May 1 to June 30, 2015	Recorded bird calls(a)
Throughout N.W.T. except Banks Island, Victoria Island, and Queen Elizabeth Islands	May 1 to May 28, 2015	Recorded bird calls(a)

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

#### NOTE

Hunters interested in participating in the conservation harvest of Snow Geese and Ross's Geese next spring should keep their 2014–2015 federal permits.

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







The information presented here is a summary of the law. If there is a discrepancy between the law and this summary, the law prevails. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, the description of hunting zones and other restrictions on hunting, please refer to the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* and *Migratory Birds Regulations*. These, along with other useful information for hunters, can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca), or you may contact:

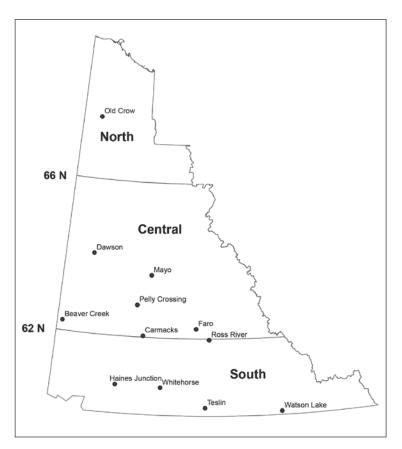
Environment Canada Canadian Wildlife Service 91780 Alaska Highway Whitehorse, Yukon Y1A 5X7 Tel.: 867-393-6700 Toll free: 1-800-668-6767 enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

You are required to possess a valid federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit with a Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp to hunt migratory birds in Canada. This permit and stamp are valid in all provinces and territories. Most provinces and territories have additional licence requirements for hunting migratory birds and/or to carry firearms. To know what you require, and if there are further restrictions for hunting migratory birds, please verify the applicable regulations for the province/territory where you will be hunting. Note that all required permits and licences must be in your possession while you are hunting.

## **Consultation Process and Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports**

The hunting provisions of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* are reviewed by Environment Canada, with input from the provinces and territories, and a range of other interested stakeholders. Environment Canada has developed a consultation process for establishing hunting regulations for migratory birds, and publishes the Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Series that can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca).

In the Yukon, **non-toxic shot must be used** to hunt migratory game birds. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds.



## **Yukon Hunting Zones**

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

Central Yukon Territory: All that portion of the Yukon Territory lying between latitude 62° and  $66^{\circ}$ 

Southern Yukon Territory: All that portion of the Yukon Territory lying south of latitude 62°

#### OPEN SEASONS IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

Area	Ducks	Geese	Sandhill Cranes	Rails and coots	Snipe
Northern Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31, 2014, for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014, for non-residents of the Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31, 2014, for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014, for non-residents of the Yukon Territory	No open season	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31, 2014, for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014, for non-residents of the Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31, 2014, for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014, for non-residents of the Yukon Territory
Central Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31, 2014, for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014, for non-residents of the Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31, 2014, for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014, for non-residents of the Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31, 2014, for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014, for non-residents of the Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31, 2014, for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014, for non-residents of the Yukon Territory	Aug. 15 to Oct. 31, 2014, for residents of the Yukon Territory; Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014, for non-residents of the Yukon Territory
Southern Yukon Territory	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014	No open season	Sept. 1 to Oct. 31, 2014

## BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN THE YUKON TERRITORY

Limits	Ducks	Geese	Sandhill Cranes	Rails and coots	Snipe
Daily bag	8(a)	5(b)	2	0( <i>c</i> )	10
Possession	24(a)	15(b)	4	0( <i>c</i> )	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 Central and 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.







The information presented here is a summary of the law. If there is a discrepancy between the law and this summary, the law prevails. For complete information on fines, general prohibitions, permitted hunting methods and equipment, the requirement to have adequate means to retrieve birds immediately, restrictions on the use of bait, the description of hunting zones and other restrictions on hunting, please refer to the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* and *Migratory Birds Regulations*. These, along with other useful information for hunters, can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca), or you may contact:

Environment Canada
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5019, 52 Street
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Yellowknife, Northwest Territories X1A 2P7
Tel.: 1-800-668-6767
enviroinfo@ec.gc.ca

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If you are hunting on private lands (Inuit Owned Lands), ensure you have permission from the Regional Inuit Association.

## **Consultation Process and Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports**

The hunting provisions of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* are reviewed by Environment Canada, with input from the provinces and territories, as well as a range of other interested stakeholders. Environment Canada has developed a consultation process for establishing hunting regulations for migratory birds, and publishes the Migratory Birds Regulatory Report Series that can be found on the Environment Canada website (www.ec.gc.ca).

## IMPORTANT UPDATES TO THE HUNTING REGULATIONS FOR NUNAVUT

Inclusion of Ross's Geese in spring conservation harvests: Ross's Geese may now be harvested during the special conservation periods.

Increase in the daily bag limit for any combination of Snow Geese and Ross's Geese: Bag limit is 50 for residents and non-residents of Canada.

Any combination of decoys can be used to hunt any migratory game bird for which there is an open season.

For complete details regarding the 2014–2015 hunting season, please refer to the Open Season and Bag and Possession Limit tables below.

In Nunavut, **non-toxic shot must be used** to hunt migratory birds. Within National Wildlife Areas, the possession of lead shot is prohibited for all hunting, including the hunting of migratory birds and upland game birds.

## OPEN SEASONS IN NUNAVUT

Area	Ducks, geese, coots and snipe
Throughout Nunavut	Sept. 1 to Dec. 10, 2014(a)

<sup>(</sup>a) Recorded Snow Goose and Ross's Goose calls may be used when hunting Snow Geese and Ross's Geese; any species of migratory birds for which it is open season may be taken while hunting Snow Geese and Ross's Geese with those calls.

## MEASURES IN NUNAVUT CONCERNING OVERABUNDANT SPECIES

Area	Period during which Snow Geese and Ross's Geese may be killed	Additional hunting method or equipment
Throughout Nunavut	Aug. 15 to Aug. 31, 2014	Recorded bird calls(a)
	May 1 to June 30, 2015	Recorded bird calls(a)

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

### NOTE

Hunters interested in participating in the conservation harvest of Snow Geese should keep their 2014–2015 federal permits.

## BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN NUNAVUT

			Canada Geese, Cackling	Canada Geese, Cackling				
		Ducks	Geese, White-fronted	Geese, White-fronted				Snipe
	Ducks	NON-	Geese and Brant	Geese and Brant	Snow Geese		Snipe	NON-
	RESIDENTS	RESIDENTS	RESIDENTS	NON-RESIDENTS	and Ross's		RESIDENTS	RESIDENTS
Limits	OF CANADA	OF CANADA	OF CANADA	OF CANADA	Geese	Coots	OF CANADA	OF CANADA
Daily bag	25(a)	8(a)	15(c)	5(e)	50(g)	25	10	10
Possession	No limit(b)	16(b)	No limit( <i>d</i> )	10(d)(f)	No limit	No limit	No limit	20

- (a) Except in that portion of the islands and waters of James Bay that are south of 55°N latitude, where the limit is 6, of which
  - (i) Not more than 2 may be American Black Ducks and 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye, in the area west of 80°15'W longitude; and
  - (ii) Not more than 4 may be American Black Ducks, 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye, and 1 may be Blue-winged Teal, in the area east of 80°15'W longitude.
- (b) Except in that portion of the islands and waters of James Bay that are south of 55°N latitude, where the limit is 18, of which
  (i) not more than 6 may be American Black Ducks and 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye, in the area west of 80°15'W longitude; and
  (ii) not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye and 2 may be Blue-winged Teal, in the area east of 80°15'W longitude.
- (c) In that portion of the islands and waters of James Bay that are west of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, not more than 5 may be Canada Geese or Cackling Geese or any combination of them.
- (d) Except in the portion of the islands and waters of James Bay that are east of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, where the limit is 20.
- (e) Not more than 2 may be White-fronted Geese.
- f) Not more than 4 may be White-fronted Geese. In that portion of the islands and waters of James Bay that are west of 80°15'W longitude and south of 55°N latitude, there is no limit on Canada Geese and Cackling Geese.
- (g) Except in that portion of the islands and waters of James Bay that are south of 55°N latitude, where the limit is 20.

#### 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.



