



Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2015–2016

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 the *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 (PMUs) 1-1 to 1-15
2. PMUs 2-2 to 2-19
3. PMUs 3-12 to 3-20 and 3-26 to 3-44
4. PMUs 4-1 to 4-9 and 4-14 to 4-40
5. PMUs 5-1 to 5-15
6. PMUs 6-1 to 6-30
7. PMUs 7-2 to 7-58
8. PMUs 8-1 to 8-15 and 8-21 to 8-26

If you need more information to determine in which district you are located, please visit:
www.env.gov.bc.ca/fw/wildlife/hunting/regulations

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 (12 to 17 years) 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 Geese and Ross's Geese	Other geese	Brant	Band-tailed Pigeons	Mourning Doves
No. 1	Oct. 3 and Oct. 4, 2015	Oct. 10, 2015, to Jan. 22, 2016	Oct. 10, 2015, to Jan. 22, 2016	Oct. 10, 2015, to Jan. 22, 2016(a); Sept. 5 to Sept. 13, 2015(b)(c)(d); Oct. 10 to Nov. 22, 2015(b)(c)(d); Dec. 19, 2015, to Jan. 10, 2016(b)(c)(d); and Feb. 11 to Mar. 10, 2016(b)(c)(d)	No open season	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30, 2015	No open season
No. 2	Oct. 3 and Oct. 4, 2015(e)(f)	Oct. 10, 2015, to Jan. 22, 2016(c)(e)	Oct. 10, 2015, to Jan. 3, 2016(e), and Feb. 21 to Mar. 10, 2016(e)	Oct. 10, 2015, to Jan. 22, 2016(e)(g); Sept. 5 to Sept. 13, 2015(c)(d)(e); Oct. 10 to Nov. 22, 2015(c)(d)(e); Dec. 19, 2015, to Jan. 10, 2016(c)(d)(e); and Feb. 11 to Mar. 10, 2016(c)(d)(e)	Mar. 1 to Mar. 10, 2016(c)(h)	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30, 2015(e)	No open season
No. 3	Sept. 5 and Sept. 6, 2015	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23, 2015	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23, 2015	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23, 2015(g); Sept. 10 to Sept. 20, 2015(d); Oct. 1 to Dec. 23, 2015(d); and Mar. 1 to Mar. 10, 2016(d)	No open season	Sept. 15 to Sept. 30, 2015(i)	Sept. 1 to Sept. 30, 2015
No. 4	Sept. 5 and Sept. 6, 2015	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23, 2015	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23, 2015	Sept. 10 to Dec. 23, 2015	No open season	No open season	Sept. 1 to Sept. 30, 2015
No. 5	Sept. 12 and Sept. 13, 2015	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25, 2015	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25, 2015	Sept. 15 to Dec. 25, 2015	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 6	Sept. 5 and Sept. 6, 2015	Sept. 1 to Sept. 4 and Sept. 7 to Nov. 30, 2015(j); Oct. 1, 2015, to Jan. 13, 2016(k)	Sept. 1 to Sept. 4 and Sept. 7 to Nov. 30, 2015(j); Oct. 1, 2015, to Jan. 13, 2016(k)	Sept. 1 to Sept. 4, 2015, and Sept. 7 to Nov. 30, 2015(j); Oct. 1, 2015, to Jan. 13, 2016(k)	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 7	Sept. 1 and Sept. 2, 2015(l); Sept. 12 and Sept. 13, 2015(m)	Sept. 3 to Nov. 30, 2015(l); Sept. 1 to Sept. 11 and Sept. 14 to Nov. 30, 2015(m)	Sept. 3 to Nov. 30, 2015(l); Sept. 1 to Sept. 11 and Sept. 14 to Nov. 30, 2015(m)	Sept. 3 to Nov. 30, 2015(l); Sept. 1 to Sept. 11, 2015, and Sept. 14 to Nov. 30, 2015(m)	No open season	No open season	No open season
No. 8	Sept. 5 and Sept. 6, 2015	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25, 2015	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25, 2015	Sept. 12 to Dec. 25, 2015(g); Sept. 20 to Nov. 28, 2015(d); Dec. 20, 2015, to Jan. 5, 2016(d); and Feb. 21 to Mar. 10, 2016(d)	No open season	No open season	Sept. 1 to Sept. 30, 2015

(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.

(l) 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 Geese and Ross's Geese)	Dark geese (Canada Geese, Cackling Geese 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(j)	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.

(l) Any combination of Canada Geese and Cackling Geese.

(m) PMU 2-4 only.



REPORT YOUR MIGRATORY BIRD BANDS:
CALL 1-800-327-BAND (2263) OR GO TO: WWW.REPORTBAND.GOV

