



## Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations, 2018–2019

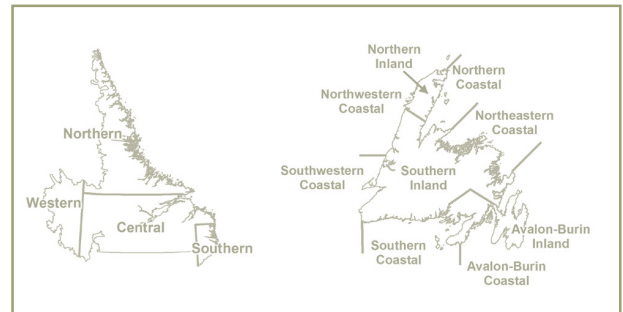
## Summary



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 Government of Canada website ([www.canada.ca](http://www.canada.ca)), or you may contact:

**Environment and Climate Change Canada**  
**Canadian Wildlife Service**  
6 Bruce Street  
Mount Pearl, Newfoundland and Labrador A1N 4T3  
Tel.: 1-800-668-6767  
[ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.enviroinfo.ec@canada.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.



**The Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit is now available online on the Government of Canada website ([www.canada.ca](http://www.canada.ca)).**  
Purchase and print your permit from the comfort of home.

### Consultation Process and Migratory Birds Regulatory Reports

The hunting provisions of the *Migratory Birds Regulations* are reviewed by Environment and Climate Change Canada, with input from the provinces and territories, as well as a range of other interested stakeholders. Environment and Climate Change 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 Government of Canada website ([www.canada.ca](http://www.canada.ca)).

### Enforcement Tool, Fine Regime, and Sentencing Provisions

In June 2017, the *Environmental Violations Administrative Monetary Penalties Regulations* came into force and administrative monetary penalties (AMPs) are now available to game officers to enforce designated violations of the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* (MBCA) and its associated regulations. In addition, amendments to the fine regime and sentencing provisions of the MBCA and the regulations necessary to complete the fine regime, the *Designation of Regulatory Provisions for the Purposes of Enforcement (Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994) Regulations*, came into force on July 12, 2017. The amendments aim to ensure that court-imposed fines more accurately reflect the seriousness of environmental offenses. The new fine regime will be applied by courts following a conviction pursuant to the MBCA or its associated regulations. Under the new fine regime, when a contravention of a designated provision occurs, the offender upon conviction, is subject to minimum and higher maximum fines. For more information on AMPs and the new fine regime, please visit <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/environmental-enforcement/acts-regulations/about-act.html>.

**Waterfowler Heritage Day** provides young hunters who are minors (under 18 years of age) 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 do not require the federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit or the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp;
- 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 (who is not a minor);
- mentors may not hunt or carry a firearm, and may accompany no more than two young hunters; and
- only young hunters may hunt when Waterfowler Heritage Days fall outside of the regular open season.

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

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.

**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.

#### CRIME STOPPERS

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 AND WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY ON THE ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND (No open season for Harlequin Ducks\*)

|                                                                               | Waterfowler Heritage Day                                                                                          | Open Seasons on the Island of Newfoundland                                                                        |                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Area                                                                          | Ducks, including mergansers (other than Long-tailed Ducks, Harlequin Ducks*, eiders and scoters), geese and snipe | Ducks, including mergansers (other than Long-tailed Ducks, Harlequin Ducks*, eiders and scoters), geese and snipe | Long-tailed Ducks, eiders and scoters |
| Northwestern Coastal Zone                                                     | Sept. 8, 2018                                                                                                     | Sept. 15 to Dec. 29, 2018                                                                                         | Nov. 1, 2018, to Feb. 14, 2019        |
| Southwestern, Southern, Avalon-Burin, Northeastern and Northern Coastal Zones | Sept. 8, 2018                                                                                                     | Sept. 15 to Dec. 29, 2018                                                                                         | Nov. 25, 2018, to Mar. 10, 2019       |
| All Inland Zones                                                              | Sept. 8, 2018                                                                                                     | Sept. 15 to Dec. 29, 2018                                                                                         | No open season                        |

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

#### BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS ON THE ISLAND OF NEWFOUNDLAND

| Limits     | Ducks (other than mergansers, Long-tailed Ducks, Harlequin Ducks*, eiders and scoters) | Mergansers | Long-tailed Ducks, eiders and scoters | Geese | Snipe |
|------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------------|-------|-------|
| Daily bag  | 6 (a)                                                                                  | 6          | 6                                     | 5     | 10    |
| Possession | 18 (b)                                                                                 | 12         | 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 and, during the period beginning on November 30 and ending on December 29, 2018, not more than 4 may be American Black Ducks.

(b) Not more than 1 may be Barrow's Goldeneye.

#### OPEN SEASONS AND WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAY IN LABRADOR (No open season for Harlequin Ducks\*)

|                        | Waterfowler Heritage Day                                        | Open Seasons in Labrador                                        |                                                       |
|------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| Area                   | Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks* and eiders), geese and snipe | Ducks (other than Harlequin Ducks* and eiders), geese and snipe | Eiders                                                |
| Northern Labrador Zone | Sept. 1, 2018                                                   | Sept. 1 to Dec. 15, 2018                                        | Sept. 29, 2018, to Jan. 12, 2019                      |
| Western Labrador Zone  | Sept. 1, 2018                                                   | Sept. 1 to Dec. 15, 2018                                        | No open season                                        |
| Southern Labrador Zone | Sept. 1, 2018                                                   | Sept. 1 to Dec. 15, 2018                                        | Nov. 1, 2018, to Feb. 14, 2019                        |
| Central Labrador Zone  | Sept. 1, 2018                                                   | Sept. 1 to Dec. 15, 2018                                        | Oct. 27 to Nov. 24, 2018, and Jan. 5 to Feb. 28, 2019 |

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

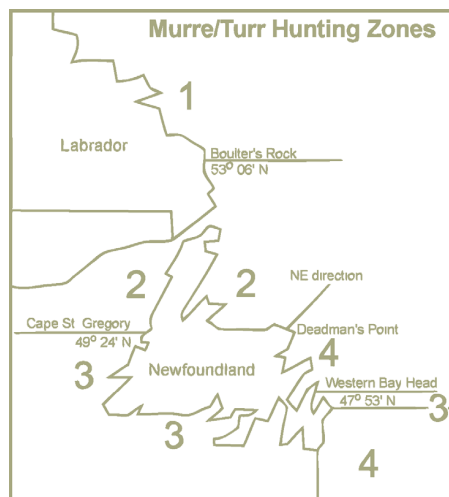
#### BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS IN LABRADOR

| 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, 2018                                    |
| Zone No. 2 | Oct. 6, 2018, to Jan. 20, 2019                              |
| Zone No. 3 | Nov. 25, 2018, to Mar. 10, 2019                             |
| Zone No. 4 | Nov. 3, 2018, to Jan. 10, 2019, and Feb. 2 to Mar. 10, 2019 |

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

| Limits     | Murres |
|------------|--------|
| Daily bag  | 20     |
| Possession | 40     |



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

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