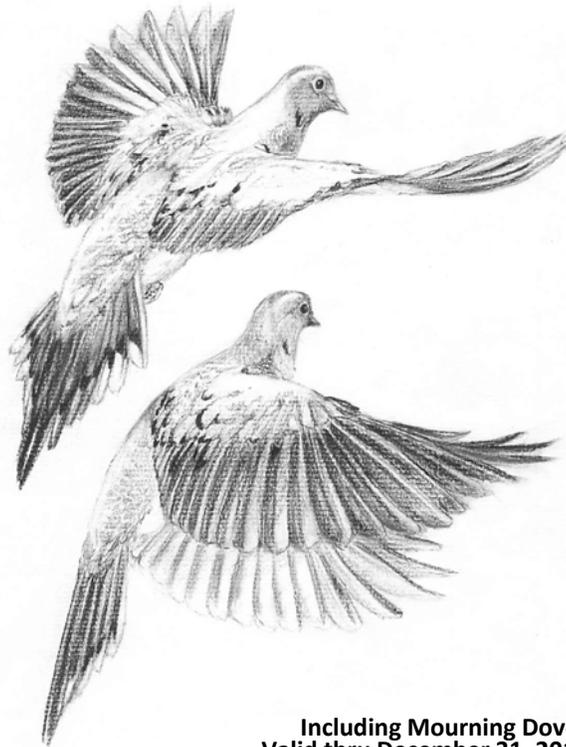


WYOMING
GAME AND FISH
COMMISSION



2015
Early Migratory Game Bird
Hunting Seasons



Artwork By: Tamara R. Sayre

Including Mourning Doves
Valid thru December 31, 2015

MANDATORY REQUIREMENT

All licensed migratory bird hunters shall possess and exhibit a National Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) Permit. Wyoming HIP permits shall be available only on the Department website.

Department Website: <http://wgfd.wyo.gov>

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LICENSE/PERMIT/STAMP FEES

Harvest Information Permit (HIP) free online at Department website.

Resident Daily Game Bird/Small Game	\$9.00
Nonresident Daily Game Bird/Small Game	\$20.00
Resident Annual Game Bird/Small Game	\$24.00
Nonresident Annual Game Bird/Small Game	\$72.00
Nonresident Annual Youth Game Bird/Small Game (May only be issued to nonresidents under the age of 18 years)	\$40.00
Resident Annual Game Bird	\$16.00
Resident Annual Small Game	\$16.00
Annual Conservation Stamp	\$12.50
Lifetime Conservation Stamp	\$180.50
Lifetime Resident Game Bird/Small Game/Fishing	\$482.00
Lifetime Resident Game Bird/Small Game	\$302.00
Wildlife Damage Management Stamp	\$10.00

IMPORTANT HUNTER INFORMATION

DISCLAIMER. The following sections are a condensed summary of applicable wildlife laws and other important information. This summary is in no way intended to alter the content or statutory intent of those laws. If you have any questions regarding the precise language, you can view a copy of the State Statutes (Title 23) and Wyoming Game and Fish Commission (Commission) Regulations, available at the Cheyenne Headquarters, Department Regional Offices, the Department website or consult the following websites: <http://soswy.state.wy.us> or <http://legisweb.state.wy.us>.

ACCESS AND VEHICLE TRAVEL ON LANDS ENROLLED IN THE DEPARTMENT'S PLPW WALK-IN AREA OR HUNTER MANAGEMENT AREA ACCESS PROGRAMS. Private lands enrolled in either the Walk-in Area or Hunter Management Area programs only grant access to hunters or anglers for the species of wildlife and for the time periods specified in Department publications. Hunters/anglers wishing to use enrolled PLPW private lands for any other wildlife species, activity or time period must obtain permission from the landowner or person in charge of the property. Travel by motorized vehicle is prohibited, except as otherwise stated. Department publications

or signs shall serve as official regulations of the Commission and may advise of additional restrictions. The landowner or person in charge of the property may grant permission for motorized vehicle travel contrary to Department signs or publications.

ACCESS YES. The Access Yes Program provides for a voluntary contribution from hunters and anglers used for providing public hunting and fishing access on private lands and inaccessible public lands. Hunters and anglers can donate any whole dollar amount to Access Yes when they purchase or apply for licenses. The Access Yes Program was established in response to numerous public requests that the Department help address the difficulties of finding places to hunt and fish. Donating to the program does not provide or imply access to all private lands in Wyoming.

AGE RESTRICTIONS; GAME BIRDS OTHER THAN WILD TURKEY. All persons fourteen (14) years of age and older shall possess the proper license while hunting game birds in Wyoming. A resident person less than fourteen (14) years of age may take game birds without a game bird license if accompanied by an adult. A nonresident person less than fourteen (14) years of age may take game birds without a game bird license if accompanied by an adult possessing a valid game bird license. Game birds taken by an unlicensed, nonresident person less than fourteen (14) years of age shall be applied to and limited by the daily bag and possession limits of the licensed adult in his company. A nonresident person less than fourteen (14) years of age who possesses a valid game bird license may take his own limit of game birds.

Federal regulations require all persons, regardless of age, to possess a valid state permit while hunting sandhill cranes. A resident person under fourteen (14) years of age who possesses a crane permit need not obtain a Wyoming game bird license if accompanied by an adult. A nonresident person under fourteen (14) years of age who possesses a crane permit need not obtain a Wyoming game bird license or conservation stamp if accompanied by an adult person possessing both a valid, unexpired Wyoming game bird license and a valid crane permit, in which case any crane taken by the nonresident person shall be applied to and limited by the crane permit held by the adult person in his company.

ARCHERY. Bow and arrow or crossbow are permissible equipment to take small game, upland game birds and migratory game birds. No special archery license is required to hunt game birds or small game with archery equipment; however, archers must first obtain the proper hunting license and, if required, stamps and permits for the species to be hunted. Archers must abide by the regulations established for the regular hunting season.

ARTIFICIAL LIGHT FOR HUNTING PROHIBITED; EXCEPTION. No person shall take any wildlife with the aid of or by using any artificial light or lighting device except that predators may be taken with the aid of an artificial light or lighting device by:

- (i) A public officer authorized to and conducting predator control;
- (ii) A landowner, resident manager or person with the landowner's or a resident manager's written permission to take predators, on land under the landowner's control for the protection of his property.

It is prima facie evidence of a violation if a person uses an artificial light in an area that may be inhabited by wildlife while having in his possession and control any device for taking wildlife. This shall not prohibit the hunting on foot of raccoon with the aid of a handlight, provided the hunter is accompanied by a raccoon hunting dog and, if hunting on private lands, has the written permission of the landowner or his agent.

BANDED BIRDS; REPORTING. Banded birds provide important management information. Please report all banded birds, whether harvested or found, to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service at the following toll free number: 1-800-327-BAND (2263). You may also report bands at the following web address: www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl. You should be prepared to give the following information: band number, location (distance and direction from nearest town), and date shot or found.

CHECK STATIONS. Every hunter, angler or trapper of furbearing animals shall stop and report at every check station on route to or from the hunting, fishing or trapping area, regardless if the person has wildlife in possession. Upon request of any authorized Department representative, anyone who has been hunting, fishing or trapping shall produce a valid license and conservation stamp, if required, and special management permit, if required, for game animals, game birds, furbearing animals or fish. Even if the game meat or fish in possession has been cut and wrapped or processed, the person transporting wildlife shall stop and report at the check station. Any person transporting wildlife harvested in another state or country shall stop at check stations on their route.

CLOSED AREAS. All areas within the state of Wyoming not opened by specific order of the Commission shall be closed to the taking of all big game animals, trophy game animals, small game animals, furbearing animals, upland and migratory game birds.

CONSERVATION STAMP REQUIRED. Each person licensed to hunt or fish in Wyoming shall purchase one (1) conservation stamp valid for the calendar year. The stamp shall be signed in ink and shall be in possession of the person while HUNTING OR FISHING. Hunters or anglers who acquire a lifetime conservation stamp or a conservation stamp authorization from the Department's Electronic Licensing Service (ELS) shall not be required to meet the signature provision.

Persons holding the following licenses are exempt from the requirement to purchase a conservation stamp while exercising hunting or fishing privileges under THESE licenses:

- Daily hunting or fishing license;
- Special limited fishing permit holders;
- Wyoming fifty (50%) percent disabled veteran fishing license; or,
- Licenses reissued to a veteran with disabilities.

Persons holding the following licenses are exempt from the requirement to purchase a conservation stamp while exercising hunting or fishing privileges under ANY Wyoming license. The person shall, at all times, be in possession of the license allowing the conservation stamp exemption while in the field:

- Any Wyoming pioneer hunting or fishing license;
- Wyoming one hundred (100%) percent disabled veteran game bird, small game and fishing license;
- Military combat general elk or general deer license; or,
- Military combat game bird or small game license.

Conservation stamps may be purchased from the Cheyenne Headquarters, Department Regional Offices, license selling agents throughout the state, select Department personnel and the Department website. A lifetime conservation stamp may be purchased by applying to the Cheyenne Headquarters or through any Department Regional Office.

DEFINITIONS:

"Accompanied by a mentor" means being directly supervised at all times by a mentor who is within sight and direct voice contact.

"Artificial light or lighting device" means any man-made light or lighting device that projects a light visible to the unaided eye

outside of the device, or any battery-powered device that provides an enhanced ability to see in the dark.

“Central Flyway” means that portion of Wyoming east of the Continental Divide, excluding the Great Divide Basin.

“Daily bag limit” means the maximum number of game birds, migratory game birds, waterfowl or small game animals that may be legally taken in a single day.

“Designated road” means only established roads that are marked with a white arrow sign as open to motor vehicles. Unmarked roads not marked with a white arrow sign are closed to motor vehicles.

“Domicile” means that place where a person has his true, fixed and permanent home to which whenever the person is temporarily absent the person has the intention of returning. To prove domicile as required by Wyoming Statutes § 23-1-102 and § 23-1-107 a person shall be able to establish that he: physically resides in Wyoming; has made his permanent home in Wyoming; is not residing in Wyoming for a special or temporary purpose; and, has abandoned his domicile in all other states, territories or countries.

“Established road” means any road or trail that has been graded or constructed to carry motor vehicles or on which repeated motor vehicle traffic has created well-defined tracks. Established roads on Department managed lands, excluding lands enrolled in the Private Lands/Public Wildlife Access Program, shall be marked with white arrow signs as open to motor vehicles. Established roads enrolled in the Department’s Private Lands/Public Wildlife Program are closed to motor vehicles unless designated as open to motor vehicles by Department sign.

“Falconry” means the sport of taking quarry by means of a trained raptor.

“Federal Duck Stamp” means Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp.

“Game bird” means grouse, partridge, pheasant, ptarmigan, quail, wild turkey and migratory game birds.

“License” means a document issued by the Department, through the authority of the Commission, to a qualified individual that grants certain privileges to take fish or wildlife in accordance with statutory or regulatory provisions.

“Mentee” means a person who has received special authorization from the Department to take wildlife and who has not received a certificate of competency and safety in the use and handling of firearms.

“Mentor” means a person who is at least eighteen (18) years of age, can demonstrate he has a certificate of competency and safety in the use and handling of firearms, possesses a valid Wyoming hunting license and is directly supervising not more than one (1) mentee, other than immediate family members, at a time while in the field.

“Migratory game bird” means all migratory game birds defined and protected under federal law.

“Nonresident” means any person not a resident.

“Nontoxic shot” means steel or any federally approved nontoxic shot.

“Order” means orders, rules and regulations.

“Pacific Flyway” means that portion of Wyoming west of the Continental Divide, including the Great Divide Basin.

“Permit” means a document that grants additional privileges to an individual who possesses the proper license(s) to carry out activities not authorized by the license itself.

“Possession limit” means the maximum number of game birds, waterfowl or small game animals that may be legally in possession. Wildlife in transit or storage shall be considered in possession. For migratory game birds, when a person hunts in more than one (1) state, flyway or zone, the person’s total possession limit shall not exceed the largest possession limit prescribed for any one of the states, flyways or zones in which the hunting takes place.

“Predacious bird” means English sparrow and starling.

“Predatory animal” means coyote, jackrabbit, porcupine, raccoon, red fox, skunk, stray cat, or gray wolf when located outside the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area and Seasonal

Wolf Trophy Game Management Area as described in W.S. § 23-1-101(a)(xii)(B)(i) and (ii).

"Protected animal" means black-footed ferret, fisher, lynx, otter, pika or wolverine.

"Protected bird" means migratory birds as defined and protected under federal law.

"Public road or highway" means any roadway that is open to vehicular travel by the public. The road surface, the area between the fences on a fenced public road or highway, and an area thirty (30) feet perpendicular to the edge of the road surface on an unfenced public road or highway shall be considered the public road or highway. Two-track trails on public lands are not public roads.

"Resident" means a United States citizen or legal alien who is domiciled in Wyoming for at least one (1) full year immediately preceding making application for any resident game and fish license, preference point, permit or tag, shall not have claimed residency in any other state, territory or country for any other purpose during that one (1) year period, and meets the requirements specified in Wyoming Statutes § 23-1-102 and § 23-1-107.

"Season limit" means the maximum number of sandhill cranes or pheasant that may be legally taken during the entire season.

"Small game animal" means cottontail rabbit or snowshoe hare, fox, gray and red squirrels.

"Take" means hunt, pursue, catch, capture, shoot, fish, seine, trap, kill or possess, or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, shoot, fish, seine, trap, kill or possess.

"Waste" means to leave, abandon or allow any edible portion of meat from a big game animal, game bird, game fish or small game animal to become tainted, rotten or otherwise unfit for human consumption prior to processing at a person's home or at a processor.

"Waterfowl" means ducks, geese, coots and mergansers.

DISABLED HUNTER INFORMATION. Contact the Cheyenne Headquarters or any Department Regional Office for specific information.

DUPLICATE AND REPLACEMENT LICENSE ISSUED UPON LOSS OR DESTRUCTION OF ORIGINAL; PURCHASE AND FEES. When any license issued has been lost or destroyed, the licensee may secure a duplicate of the original license from the Cheyenne Headquarters, any Department Regional Office or designated license selling agents. A duplicate license shall be issued if the original license was issued through the Department's Electronic Licensing Service (ELS) and contained a carcass coupon. A replacement license shall be issued if the original license was issued through the Department's ELS system and did not contain a carcass coupon. The licensee may secure a replacement license at the Cheyenne Headquarters, Department Regional Offices or from ELS agents. The Department shall charge a fee of five dollars (\$5) for each duplicate or replacement license.

EMERGENCY CLOSURES. The Commission may institute an emergency closure to shorten the season in any area at any time if a harvest quota is reached or if an emergency arises warranting the closure. Should a closure become necessary after the season opens, no refunds will be given for unused licenses.

FEDERAL MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING AND CONSERVATION STAMP (FEDERAL DUCK STAMP). Federal law requires that each waterfowl hunter sixteen (16) years of age or older must carry on his/her person a valid Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Federal Duck Stamp) signed in ink across the face. This stamp is required to take ducks, geese and mergansers. However, a Federal Duck Stamp is not required to take mourning doves, sandhill cranes, coots, snipe, rails or crows.

HARVEST SURVEY. Each year a request to participate in the harvest survey is sent to a sample of hunters. Since a person can hunt so many species in Wyoming, some hunters may be

asked to reply to more than one harvest survey questionnaire. Your reply provides critical data that Department wardens and biologists use to evaluate the past hunting season and set future hunting seasons. Even if you did not hunt, we need to hear from you to track hunter effort. We ask that you reply online, if possible, with your harvest survey information as soon as you are done hunting each species for the year. Your time and assistance is appreciated.

HUNTER SAFETY/MENTOR PROGRAM; EXCEPTION. Except as otherwise provided, no person born on or after January 1, 1966, may take wildlife by the use of firearms on land other than that of his own family, unless that person can demonstrate they have obtained a certificate of competency and safety in the use and handling of firearms. Attendance and successful completion of a hunter safety course offered by an association or governmental agency approved by the Commission satisfies the requirements of this section.

Any active member, honorably discharged past member or veteran of the armed forces of the United States and any active member or retired Wyoming peace officer qualified pursuant to W.S. § 9-1-701 through § 9-1-707 are exempt from the hunter safety requirements. Hunter safety exemption applications are available at the Cheyenne Headquarters and Department Regional Offices. This hunter safety exemption is not valid for those elk hunting within Grand Teton National Park (Hunt Areas 75 and 79), or for those participating in the Hunter Mentor Program.

A person who has not received a certificate of competency and safety in the use of handling firearms may apply to the Department for a special authorization to take wildlife with the use of a firearm while being accompanied by a person who is at least 18 years old, acting as a mentor, who possesses or can demonstrate he has successfully completed a hunter safety course and who possesses a valid Wyoming hunting license. A special authorization issued to an individual shall be valid for one (1) year from the date of issue and shall be in the possession of the recipient at all times while in the field. The application process may be completed on the Department website. A mentor shall not provide supervision for more than one (1) person, other than immediate family members, at a time in the field and shall accompany the mentee at all times to provide constant supervision.

HUNTING WITH FALCONS. Licenses to hunt with falcons may be purchased from the Cheyenne Headquarters, Department Regional Offices and designated license selling agents. The license entitles the holder thereof to hunt, pursue and kill game birds and small game animals with the use of falcons and in accordance with Commission regulations. Persons holding the proper license to hunt with falcons may hunt, pursue and kill game birds without distinction of sex in any of the hunt areas open for the taking of game birds. Hunters must also hold a valid hunting license for the species being hunted.

LEGAL WEAPONS FOR GAME BIRDS AND SMALL GAME. Except as otherwise provided, game birds, excluding blue and ruffed grouse, may only be taken by a center-fire or muzzleloading shotgun not larger than ten (10) gauge plugged to admit no more than one (1) shell in the chamber and two (2) shells in the magazine. Any shotgun, center-fire firearm, .22 WMR or .17 HMR rimfire firearm, or muzzle-loader may be used to take wild turkeys. Small game may be taken with any firearm or archery equipment. Blue and ruffed grouse may be taken with a projectile fired by any weapon.

LICENSE EXPIRATION. Game bird licenses expire on the last day of the calendar year in which issued.

LICENSE FRAUD PROHIBITED, INVALIDATION BY IMPROPER FEES. Department licenses, permits, stamps, tags or coupons shall not be altered by anyone other than authorized

Department personnel. No license, permit, stamp, tag or coupon shall be transferred or used for the purpose of taking wildlife except by the individual to whom it was issued and therein named and while in that individual's possession. No individual shall take or attempt to take any wildlife using another individual's license, permit, stamp, tag or coupon. Any license, tag, permit or stamp shall not be valid unless the proper fees have been received by the Department. Any Wyoming Game and Fish law enforcement officer may seize as evidence any license, tag, stamp or permit that was obtained in violation of Commission regulations or Wyoming statutes.

LITTER. Spent shotgun shells are litter. Please dispose of shotgun hulls properly along with other litter.

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS. Migratory game birds, which may be legally taken during authorized seasons by properly licensed hunters, include coots, doves, ducks, geese, mergansers, rails, sandhill cranes and snipe. A license is not required to take crows.

NATIONAL MIGRATORY BIRD HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM (HIP). Each licensed hunter who hunts migratory game birds shall complete a current Wyoming validation for the National Harvest Information Program (HIP) and shall obtain a Wyoming HIP permit. This requirement also applies to holders of pioneer and lifetime hunting licenses. Each licensed hunter engaged in the act of hunting doves, ducks, geese, mergansers, coots, rails, cranes or snipe shall be in possession of a Wyoming HIP permit. Each person obtaining a HIP permit for the purpose set forth in this section shall validate the permit by signing the person's name in ink across the face of the permit. HIP permits expire on June 30 each year.

Wyoming HIP permits shall be available only on the Department website. Only one HIP permit is required to hunt all species for the entire migratory game bird season. HIP permits are non-transferable to other states. A separate permit is required from each state in which you hunt.

NONTOXIC SHOT. Nontoxic shot (steel or any other federally approved nontoxic shot) shall be required when taking or attempting to take migratory game birds, except sandhill cranes. Nontoxic shot is also required when using a shotgun to take game birds or small game on all lands included in the Springer and Table Mountain Wildlife Habitat Management Areas. Nontoxic shot is also required for any person using a shotgun while hunting any game birds or small game on a National Wildlife Refuge. **CAUTION:** More restrictive regulations may apply on national wildlife refuges open to public hunting. For additional information about federal regulations, contact Special Agent-in-Charge, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P O Box 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225-0486, (303) 236-7540.

OPEN HOURS FOR TAKING EARLY MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS. See the shooting hours table on page 20.

PERMISSION TO HUNT, FISH OR TRAP. No person shall enter upon the private property of any person to hunt, fish or trap without the permission of the landowner or person in charge of the property. The license must bear the signature of the landowner, lessee or agent of the landowner on whose private property the hunter is hunting or the legitimate proof as evidence that permission to hunt, fish or trap has been granted.

PROHIBITED ACTS. IT IS ILLEGAL TO:

- Shoot or attempt to kill any wildlife from any public road or highway. No person shall fire any firearm from, upon, along or across any public road or highway. No person shall knowingly fire any rifle from the enclosed lands of one person onto or across the enclosed lands of another without the permission of both persons.
- Use any dog to hunt, run or harass any big or trophy game animal, protected animal or furbearing animal except as

otherwise provided by statute. The Commission shall regulate the use of dogs to take mountain lions and bobcats during hunting or trapping seasons.

- Use any aircraft to aid in the taking of any Wyoming wildlife, except predatory animals, whether by spotting or locating the wildlife, communicating with any person attempting to take the wildlife or by providing other aid to any person taking the wildlife within twenty-four (24) hours of being airborne. This section shall not apply to commercial, commuter or other aircraft used for the sole purpose of passenger transport.
- Take and leave, abandon or allow any game bird, game fish or game animal (except trophy game animal), or edible portion, to intentionally or needlessly go to waste.
- Transport illegally taken wildlife across state lines; such transportation is a violation of the Federal Lacey Act.
- Abandon meat from a big game animal or game bird at a meat processing plant. Unless there is an express agreement between the processing plant and the person providing otherwise, any meat from a big game animal or game bird left at a meat processing plant for more than forty-five (45) days is prima facie evidence of a violation if written notice of the expiration of time has been attempted by the processing plant in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the Commission.
- Harass, pursue, hunt, shoot or kill any Wyoming wildlife except predatory animals with, from or by use of any flying machine, automotive vehicle, trailer, motor-propelled wheeled vehicle or vehicle designed for travel over snow. The Commission may exempt handicapped hunters from any of these provisions. It is also illegal to shoot waterfowl from a boat under power or sail.

PROTECTED BIRDS. Migratory birds that may not be taken, possessed, transported, sold or bartered include all migratory birds as defined and protected under federal law including, but not limited to, trumpeter swans, whooping cranes, bitterns, grebes, herons, egrets, kingfishers, loons, pelicans, seagulls, shorebirds, eagles, falcons, hawks and owls. Any insectivorous birds and songbirds not otherwise classified are protected.

SHIPPING GAME ANIMALS OUT OF STATE. Except as otherwise exempt by state statute, no game animal or game bird, or any part thereof, shall be shipped or transported from the state unless accompanied by the licensee who harvested the animal, in possession of a proper coupon, or unless the amount does not exceed twenty-five (25) pounds and is properly tagged with a Wyoming interstate game tag. Only twenty-five (25) pounds from any one (1) big or trophy game animal may be exported from the state except as otherwise provided; the part to be exported from the state is of a nonedible trophy or hidelike nature and properly tagged with a Wyoming interstate game tag; the big or trophy game animal was legally harvested by a nonresident and is tagged with a Wyoming interstate game tag.

SHIPPING GAME ANIMALS WITHIN WYOMING. Except as otherwise exempt by state statute, no person shall ship, transport or receive for shipment or transportation within Wyoming any game animal, game bird, or any part thereof, unless tagged with a Wyoming interstate game tag, or unless the transportation is by a person accompanying the carcass of a big or trophy game animal who is in possession of a proper coupon, or the transportation is by a properly licensed game bird or small game hunter in possession of not more than his daily bag or possession limit.

SKY-BUSTING AND RETRIEVAL OF DOWNED BIRDS. It is unethical and disrespectful to your fellow hunters to shoot at geese, ducks and other game birds beyond reasonable killing ranges. The law requires that you make a reasonable effort to retrieve and reduce to possession any wounded or crippled migratory game birds you have shot. If you hit a migratory game bird and can see it fall or land in a location you can legally access, then you have an obligation to search for the downed

bird and attempt to retrieve it. If a crippled migratory game bird lands on adjoining private land, you have an obligation to seek that landowner's permission to retrieve the downed bird.

TAKING PREDATORY ANIMALS AND PREDACIOUS BIRDS. Predatory animals and predacious birds may be taken without a license.

VEHICLE RESTRICTIONS ON FEDERAL LAND. Sportsmen are advised that many areas of National Forest and Bureau of Land Management lands are subject to travel and vehicle use limitations to protect resources. Maps and additional information regarding these limitations are available at U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management and other agency offices near these public lands.

WATERCRAFT RESTRICTIONS. Waterfowl hunters should be aware certain bodies of water within Wyoming have watercraft restrictions on them. For a list of waters that have restrictions, please check the watercraft or fishing regulations or check with your local Department Regional Office.

WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT STAMP. The Wyoming Legislature created the Wyoming Animal Damage Management Board to manage rabid wildlife, mitigate damage caused to livestock, wildlife and crops by predatory animals, predacious birds and depredating animals and protect human health and safety. The legislation developed several sources of funding for the Board to carry out its responsibilities including the creation of a WILDLIFE DAMAGE MANAGEMENT STAMP. The fee for this stamp will be established annually by the Animal Damage Management Board. The stamp may be voluntarily purchased by those interested in funding the activities of the Board at the Cheyenne Headquarters, Department Regional Offices and all license selling agents. Purchase of the stamp is not mandatory, but does provide sportsmen a voluntary means to fund predator management.

WILDLIFE VIOLATOR COMPACT. Wyoming is a member of the Wildlife Violator Compact. The Compact enables a violator from any member state to accept a wildlife citation and proceed on his way without being required to post an appearance bond unless the violation requires MUST APPEAR and NO BOND ACCEPTED. The Compact recognizes the suspension of wildlife license privileges in the home state of any person whose license privileges have been suspended by a participating state. If you have had your privileges suspended in any of the participating states, you may lose your privileges in Wyoming, in addition to all the participating Compact states. Additional information about the Compact can be obtained by contacting the Wildlife Law Enforcement Coordinator at (307) 233-6413.

WIND RIVER RESERVATION. Only non-Indian owned, fee title lands are open to the taking of wildlife with a Wyoming license. Land status is complicated and lawful access must be investigated thoroughly. Sportsmen are advised it is their responsibility to determine land status prior to entering these areas.

SUMMARY OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS

RESTRICTIONS. No person shall take migratory game birds:

- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than a 10 gauge, punt gun, batter gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive or stupefying substance;
- With a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells;
- From a sink box - a low floating device having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water;
- From or with the aid or use of a motor vehicle or other motor driven land conveyance, or any aircraft;
- From or by means of any motorboat or sailboat unless the motor has been completely shut off or sail furled, and the boat's progress therefrom has ceased;

- By the use or aid of live decoys;
- By use of records or tapes of migratory bird calls or sounds, or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls;
- By driving, rallying or chasing birds with any motor driven land, water or air conveyance or any sailboat to put them in the range of the hunters;
- By the aid of baiting, or on, or over any baited area. As used in this paragraph, "baiting" shall mean the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of salt, grain or other feed that could serve as a lure or attractant for migratory game birds to, on, or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them; and "baited area" means any area on which salt, grain or other feed has been placed, exposed, deposited, distributed or scattered, such that salt, grain or other feed could serve as a lure or attractant for migratory game birds to, on, or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Any such area shall remain a baited area for ten (10) days following complete removal of all such salt, grain, or other feed. Refer to a copy of the federal regulation 50 CFR 20.11 revised as of October 1, 2014. A copy of 50 CFR 20.11 can be viewed at the Cheyenne Headquarters or any Department Regional Office.

For additional federal hunting frameworks and information refer to <http://flyways.us>.

DAILY BAG LIMIT. No person shall take in any one calendar day more than one daily bag limit. No person shall possess more than one daily bag limit while in the field, or while returning from the field to one's vehicle, hunting camp, home, etc.

POSSESSION OF LIVE BIRDS. Crippled birds shall be immediately killed.

SHIPPING. No person shall ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with: (1) the name and address of the person sending the birds; (2) the name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent; and, (3) the number of birds, by species, contained in the package.

SHOOTING OR FALCONRY HOURS. No person shall take migratory game birds except during the hours open to shooting and falconry methods as prescribed in this regulation.

TAGGING. No person shall give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:

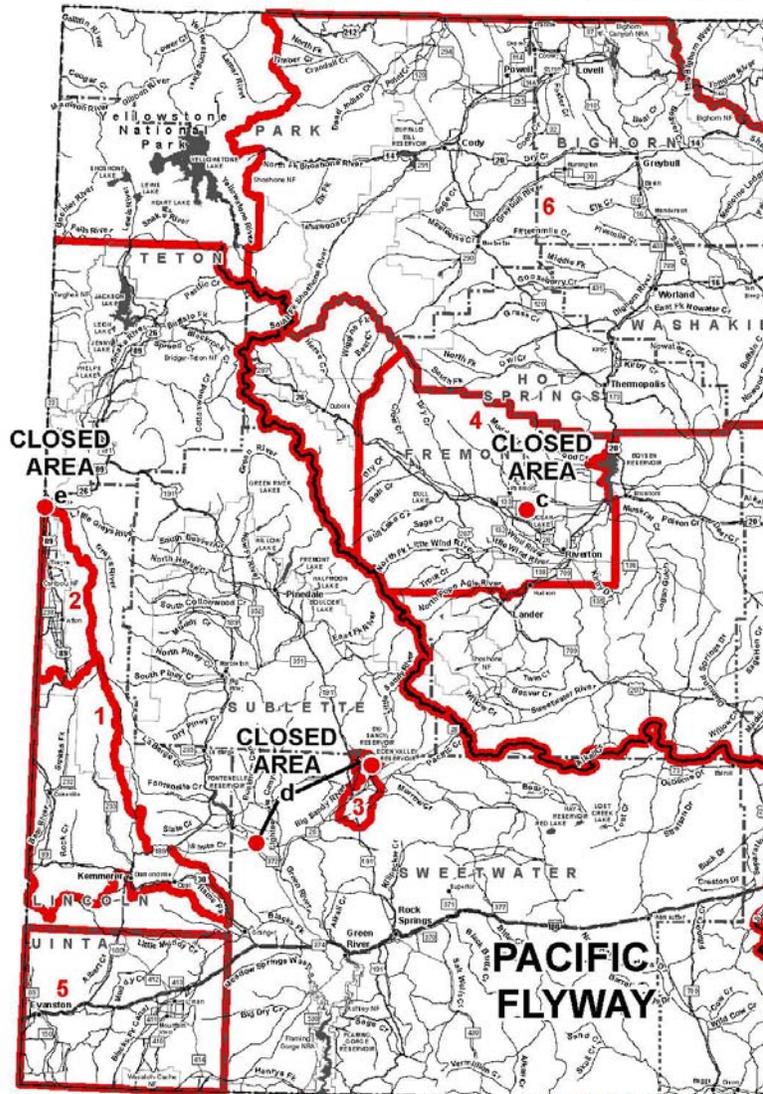
1. The hunter's signature
2. The hunter's address
3. The total number of birds by species
4. The dates such birds were killed

Tagging is required if the birds are being transported by another person for the hunter, or if the birds have been left for cleaning, storage (including temporary storage), shipping or taxidermy services.

WANTON WASTE. No person shall kill or cripple any migratory game bird without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird and retain it in the hunter's custody while in the field.

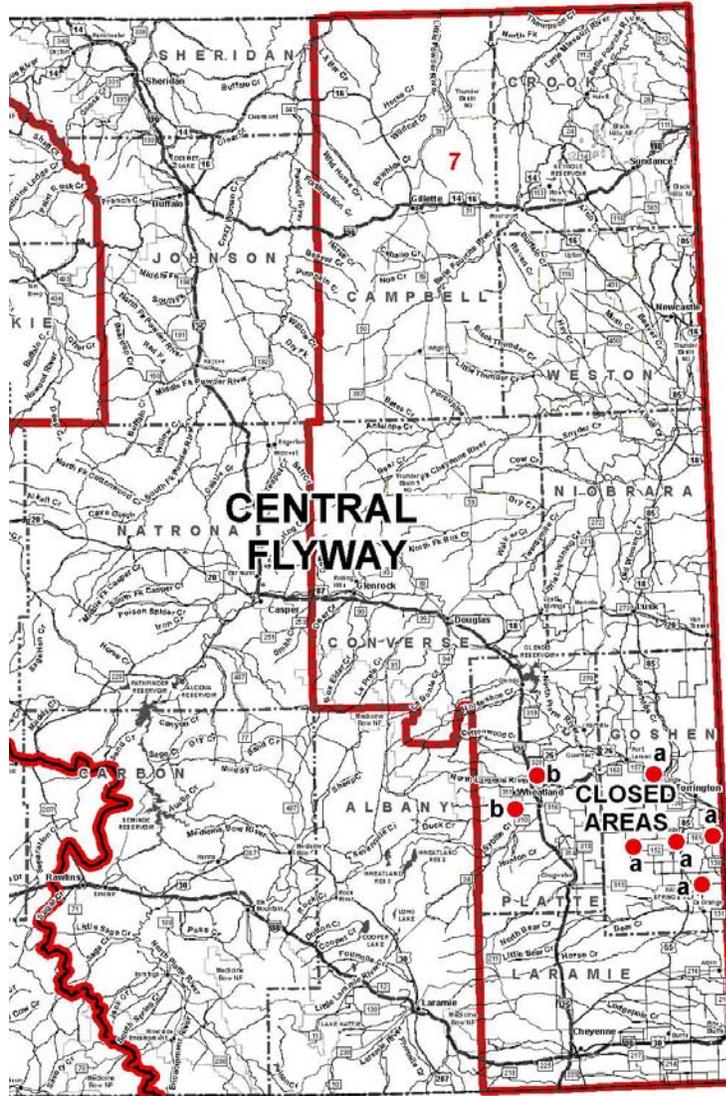
HUNTING ON NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES. CAUTION. More restrictive regulations may apply to national wildlife refuges open to public hunting. For additional information on federal regulations, contact Special Agent-in-Charge, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, PO Box 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, CO 80225, (303) 236-7540.

EARLY MIGRATORY GAME



THIS MAP IS FOR GENERAL REFERENCE ONLY.
Please use the written boundary descriptions in this regulation for detailed hunt area boundary information.

ME BIRD HUNTING AREAS



 CONTINENTAL DIVIDE

NUMBERS INDICATE SANDHILL CRANE HUNT AREAS

 CLOSED AREAS AS SET FORTH IN SECTION 3

DISTANCE ESTIMATION

One of the toughest jobs for a waterfowl hunter is to judge how far away a target is. Shooting at waterfowl out of range (sky-busting) causes a significantly higher rate of crippling than shooting at closer ranges and is not a responsible way to hunt. This applies to geese in particular. Because of their size, geese usually appear closer than they actually are.

You can use your shotgun to learn to judge distances more accurately and quickly. If the portion of a large Canada goose covered by the end of your shotgun barrel does not extend beyond the wing tips on an overhead shot, then the goose is near the maximum range of 50-55 yards. If the area of the goose covered by the barrel does not extend beyond the wrist joints of the wings, then the goose is probably 40 yards or less and is within effective killing range. The illustrations on the next page approximate what a goose's silhouette looks like at these maximum and optimum shotgun ranges. These guidelines are intended for 12 gauge shotguns with 28-30 inch barrel lengths. Generally speaking, if you cannot see the body of a flying goose on a crossing shot outside the muzzle of the shotgun, it is beyond 55 yards and too far away to shoot at.

Along with learning to estimate distances, pattern your shotgun and the loads you hunt with, and practice to improve your shooting skills. For most shotguns and reasonable shooting ranges, CONSEP research has found that steel #BB or #BBB shot for large-bodied geese, and steel #2, #1, or #BB shot for small- and medium-bodied geese are needed for proper penetration. These shot sizes will carry enough energy to penetrate a goose's vital areas. In order to kill large-bodied geese, CONSEP research has found your shotgun must consistently place at least 50-55 pellets inside a 30-inch circle at the distances you shoot. In order to kill small- or medium-bodied geese, CONSEP research finds your shotgun must consistently place at least 60-65 pellets inside the 30-inch circle. Try patterning your shotgun at various distances with the appropriate pellet sizes. The distance at which the pellet count in a 30-inch circle drops below 50-55 (large geese) and 60-65 (small-medium geese) determines the maximum effective range of your shotgun with that particular load. Be a responsible hunter and practice these suggestions to reduce crippling losses and to improve the non-hunting public's perception and acceptance of waterfowl hunting.

The shotgun barrel depicts the approximate area covered by a 12 gauge 28-30" single barrel or over/under barrel at optimum range of 40 yards or less on an overhead shot (Fig. 1) and a crossing shot (Fig 2). Fig. 3 indicates the approximate area covered at 50-55 yards on a crossing shot.

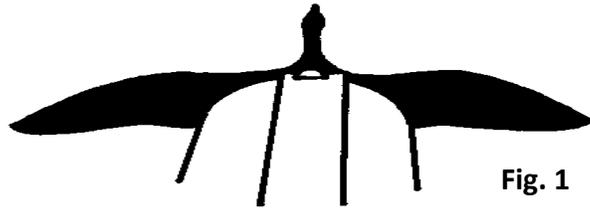


Fig. 1



Fig. 2



Fig. 3

**Remember ...
If your shotgun's muzzle appears to totally cover the
goose, it is too far away for a lethal shot.
If you are unsure ... DON'T SHOOT!**

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION
CHAPTER 39
EARLY MIGRATORY GAME BIRD HUNTING SEASONS

Section 1. Authority. This regulation is promulgated by authority of W.S. § 23-1-302 and § 23-2-105(d).

Section 2. Hunting Regulations.

(a) Federal Regulations. 16 USC 703-711 and 718a; 50 CFR 10, 50 CFR 20 revised as of October 1, 2014, which do not include any later amendments or editions of the incorporated matter, governing the hunting, taking and possession of migratory birds and migratory game birds, the requirement for a valid migratory bird hunting and conservation stamp and the requirement for state participation in the National Harvest Information Program are adopted as regulations of the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission. Violations of these federal statutes and regulations shall be violations of the Commission regulations. A copy of Title 50 of the Code of Federal Regulations can be viewed at Department Regional Offices.

(i) Automatic loading, pump, or repeating shotguns shall be plugged to admit no more than one (1) shell in the chamber and two (2) shells in the magazine.

(ii) Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp. A federal duck stamp is required for persons sixteen (16) years of age and older to hunt ducks, geese and mergansers, but a federal duck stamp is not required to hunt coots, sandhill cranes, crows, mourning doves, rail or snipe.

(iii) National Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program. Each licensed hunter who hunts migratory game birds shall complete a current Wyoming validation for the National Harvest Information Program (HIP) and shall obtain a Wyoming HIP permit. This requirement also applies to holders of pioneer and lifetime hunting licenses. Each licensed hunter engaged in the act of hunting doves, ducks, geese, mergansers, coots, rails, cranes or snipe shall be in possession of a Wyoming HIP permit and shall immediately produce said permit upon request from any authorized Department representative. Each person obtaining a HIP permit for the purpose set forth in this section shall validate the permit by signing the person's name in ink across the face of the permit. HIP permits expire on June 30 each year. HIP permits are not transferrable to other states. A separate validation is required from each state in which you hunt. Wyoming HIP permits shall be available only on the Department's website at <http://wgfd.wyo.gov>.

(b) Evidence of Species. One fully-feathered wing or the feathered head shall remain naturally attached to the carcass as a means of identification of migratory game birds, except mourning doves, in the field and while the birds are being transported.

(c) Nontoxic Shot Restrictions.

(i) No person shall hunt ducks, geese, mergansers or coots while possessing shot shells loaded with shot other than nontoxic shot.

(d) Limited Quota Sandhill Crane Permits. Persons may apply for limited quota sandhill crane permits on the Department's website at <http://wgfd.wyo.gov> between 8:00 a.m. July 1 and 12:00 midnight July 31, 2015. Party applications shall be accepted. Maximum party size shall be two (2). Party applications shall specify the same hunt area preference.

(e) General Sandhill Crane Permits. Permits to hunt in the general sandhill crane season (Hunt Area 7) shall be available only on the Department's website at <http://wgfd.wyo.gov> after August 1.

(f) Species, Hunt Areas and Limitations, Season Dates, Shooting Hours, Closed Areas, and Bag Limit.

(i) Mourning Doves, Rail and Snipe - Statewide

MOURNING DOVE, RAIL AND SNIPE						
Species, Hunt Areas and Limitations	Season Dates		Shooting Hours	Closed Areas Section 3 Subsections	Bag Limit	
	Opens	Closes			Daily	Possession
MOURNING DOVE - STATEWIDE	Sep. 1	Nov. 9	See Sec. 4	b, d, e	15	45
SORA AND VIRGINIA RAIL - STATEWIDE	Sep. 1	Nov. 9	See Sec. 4	b, d, e	25	75
SNIPE - STATEWIDE	Sep. 1	Dec. 16	See Sec. 4	b, d, e a - after Nov. 20 c - after Nov. 14	8	24

(ii) Sandhill Crane - Central and Pacific Flyways (see Section 6 for hunt area descriptions)

LIMITED QUOTA SANDHILL CRANE SEASONS						
Hunt Areas and Limitations	Permit Quota	Season Dates		Shooting Hours	Closed Areas Section 3 Subsections	Season Bag Limit
		Opens	Closes			
Hunt Area 1 - Limited quota permits	20	Sep. 1	Sep. 8	See Sec. 4		1(one)
Hunt Area 2 - Limited quota permits	20	Sep. 1	Sep. 8	See Sec. 4	e	1(one)
Hunt Area 3 - Limited quota permits	45	Sep. 1	Sep. 8	See Sec. 4	d	1(one)
Hunt Area 4 - Limited quota permits	60	Sep. 19	Oct. 11	See Sec. 4		1(one)
Hunt Area 5 - Limited quota permits	10	Sep. 1	Sep. 8	See Sec. 4		1(one)
Hunt Area 6 - Limited quota permits	60	Sep. 19	Oct. 11	See Sec. 4		1(one)

GENERAL SANDHILL CRANE SEASON						
Hunt Areas and Limitations	Season Dates		Shooting Hours	Closed Areas Section 3 Subsections	Bag Limit	
	Opens	Closes			Daily	Possession
Hunt Area 7 - Permit required	Sep. 19	Nov. 15	See Sec. 4	b	3	9

(iii) Early Canada Goose - Pacific Flyway

EARLY CANADA GOOSE - Any Canada Goose or Cackling Goose						
Hunt Areas and Limitations	Season Dates		Shooting Hours	Closed Areas Section 3 Subsections	Bag Limit	
	Opens	Closes			Daily	Possession
Pacific Flyway - All counties except Teton County	Sep. 1	Sep. 8	See Sec. 4	d, e	2	6
Teton County	Sep. 1	Sep. 8	See Sec. 4		3	9

(g) Permits. All persons, regardless of age, hunting sandhill cranes shall possess a permit valid for the area in which they are hunting. No person shall apply for or receive more than one (1) limited quota permit to hunt sandhill cranes. A person may also obtain a permit valid for the general sandhill crane season in Hunt Area 7.

(h) Tagging Sandhill Cranes. When a sandhill crane is killed under a limited quota permit, the permittee shall detach, sign and date the proper coupon and attach the coupon to the carcass before leaving the site of kill. The coupon shall remain on the crane carcass at all times until the meat undergoes processing, except that during transportation of the carcass the coupon may be removed to prevent its loss. If the coupon is removed for transportation of the carcass, it must be in possession of the person accompanying the carcass at all times. When dating a carcass coupon, the entire wedge or block shall be cut out for the date and the month of kill. The carcass coupon shall be attached to the carcass of a crane in such a manner as to be plainly visible. Sandhill cranes killed during the general crane season in Hunt Area 7 are not required to be tagged.

Section 3. Description of Closed Areas. The areas described in this Section shall be closed for the species and dates specified in the tables in Section 2 and Section 5.

(a) Goshen County

(i) Hawk Springs Reservoir. Beginning where the east fence of the Union Pacific Railroad right-of-way meets the south fence enclosing Hawk Springs Reservoir; due east along said fence to Goshen County Road 51; northerly along said road to the access road to the northeast dam of the reservoir; southwesterly along said road to the northeast dam and the fence enclosing the reservoir; northwesterly along said fence to the second gate; southwesterly from said gate to the northwest corner of the fence enclosing the reservoir; southerly along said fence to the beginning point.

(ii) Springer Reservoir. Beginning on U.S. Highway 85 at the George Marlatt farmhouse; westerly along the fence between the farm land and the pasture land to the west end of the west pump lake and Bump-Sullivan ditch; southerly along said ditch to the Wyoming Game and Fish Department's Springer Wildlife Habitat Management Area (WHMA); westerly then southerly along the Springer WHMA boundary to Parking Area 3; southeasterly along the reservoir access road to the Game and Fish Department buildings; due south from said buildings across the Whispering Wings LLC property to the Fulmer family trust pasture fence; westerly along said fence to Goshen County Road 37; southerly along said road to Goshen County Road 42; easterly along said road to U.S. Highway 85; northerly along said highway to the George Marlatt farmhouse. Also that portion of the Springer WHMA south of Goshen County Road 42.

(iii) Pond No. 1 Table Mountain Wildlife Habitat Management Area. Pond No. 1 and adjacent lands as marked by colored signs and posts.

(iv) Miller Lake (Glomill Reservoir). Miller Lake and all lands within three hundred (300) yards of the normal high water line.

(v) North Platte River. That portion of the North Platte River and all lands within three hundred (300) yards of each bank of said river located between the two river crossings of Wyoming Highway 157.

(b) Platte County

(i) Festo Lake. Festo Lake and all lands within three hundred (300) yards of the normal high water line shall be closed to all migratory game bird hunting.

(ii) Wheatland Reservoir No. 1. Wheatland Reservoir No. 1 and all lands within three hundred (300) yards of the normal high water line, shall be closed to hunting.

(c) Fremont County

(i) Ocean Lake. The waters of Ocean Lake and the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission lands within approximately one-half (1/2) mile of the aeration system on the north side of the lake shall be closed to migratory game bird hunting beginning November 15 through December 31 and January 1 through March 10 of each year. Beginning December 15 through March 10, the area shall be closed to all human presence, except for Wyoming Game and Fish Department administrative access, within one-half (1/2) mile of the aerator on the ice and as marked by signs on Commission lands around the aerator.

(d) Sweetwater County

(i) Eden Reservoir. Eden Reservoir and all lands within three hundred (300) yards of the normal high water line shall be closed to all migratory game bird hunting.

(ii) Seedskaadee National Wildlife Refuge. All lands within Seedskaadee National Wildlife Refuge shall be closed to goose hunting during the early Canada goose season.

(e) Lincoln County

(i) Palisades Reservoir. Beginning at the junction of the McCoy Creek Road and U.S. Highway 89; northerly on U.S. Highway 89 for 1.6 miles to the Palisades Reservoir high water line; westerly along said high water line to the Wyoming-Idaho state line; southerly along said state line to the McCoy Creek Road; southeasterly along the McCoy Creek Road to U.S. Highway 89 shall be closed to all migratory game bird hunting.

Section 4. Shooting Hours. Shooting hours for the hunting of all migratory game birds shall be as determined from the shooting hours table in this section.

(a) 2015 Migratory Game Bird Shooting Hours Table. This table (including adjustments for daylight savings time) lists the official shooting hours adopted by the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission for the taking of migratory game birds. (Do not use tables from other sources.)

ST = Starting Time — QT = Quitting Time

	AREA A		AREA B		AREA C		AREA D	
	ST	QT	ST	QT	ST	QT	ST	QT
<u>September</u>								
1-7	6:17	7:49	6:11	7:43	6:03	7:35	5:57	7:29
8-14	6:24	7:37	6:18	7:31	6:10	7:23	6:04	7:17
15-21	6:32	7:24	6:26	7:18	6:18	7:10	6:12	7:04
22-30	6:41	7:09	6:35	7:03	6:27	6:55	6:21	6:49
<u>October</u>								
1-7	6:50	6:56	6:44	6:50	6:36	6:42	6:30	6:36
8-14	6:58	6:44	6:52	6:38	6:44	6:30	6:38	6:24
15-21	7:06	6:32	7:00	6:26	6:52	6:18	6:46	6:12
22-31	7:17	6:19	7:11	6:13	7:03	6:04	6:57	5:59
<u>November</u>								
*1-7	6:27	5:08	6:21	5:02	6:13	4:54	6:07	4:48
8-14	6:36	5:00	6:30	4:54	6:22	4:46	6:16	4:40
15-21	6:44	4:54	6:38	4:48	6:30	4:40	6:24	4:34
22-30	6:54	4:48	6:48	4:42	6:40	4:34	6:34	4:28
<u>December</u>								
1-7	7:03	4:45	6:57	4:39	6:49	4:31	6:43	4:25
8-16	7:11	4:45	7:03	4:39	6:57	4:31	6:51	4:25

*Start Mountain Standard Time

AREA A - Lincoln, Sublette, Sweetwater, Teton, Uinta counties

AREA B - Big Horn, Fremont, Hot Springs, Park, Washakie counties

AREA C - Albany, Campbell, Carbon, Converse, Johnson, Natrona, Sheridan counties

AREA D - Crook, Goshen, Laramie, Niobrara, Platte, Weston counties

Section 5. Falconry Seasons. Migratory game birds may be taken by the use of falcons during the regular hunting season and special extended seasons in accordance with the limitations in this Section, Section 4, Section 3, Section 2 (a), (b) and (g) and the closures identified in Section 2 (f). No person shall be in possession of any firearm while hunting with a falcon.

(a) Falconry Bag and Possession Limits. The daily bag limit shall not exceed three (3) migratory game birds in the aggregate nor shall the possession limit exceed nine (9) migratory game birds in the aggregate for falconry during the open hunting season or special extended falconry season. The falconry bag and possession limits are not in addition to the bag and possession limits listed in Section 2, Hunting Regulations.

FALCONRY						
Species and Hunt Areas	Season Dates		Open Hours	Closed Areas	AGGREGATE Bag Limit	
	Opens	Closes			Daily	Possession
Mourning Doves - Statewide	Sep. 1	Nov. 9	See Sec. 4	Limitations in Sections 2 and 3 shall apply	3**	9**
Sora Rail, Virginia Rail and Snipe - Statewide	Sep. 1	Dec. 16				
Dark Geese - Pacific Flyway	Sep. 1	Sep. 8				

**The daily bag and possession limits, singly or in the aggregate, may include any species and sex of ducks, geese, coots, mergansers, rail, snipe and mourning doves when seasons for these species are open.

Section 6. Hunt Area Descriptions.

(a) General and Limited Quota Sandhill Crane Areas.

(i) **Area 1.** All of the Bear River and Ham’s Fork River drainages in Lincoln County.

(ii) **Area 2.** All of the Salt River drainage in Lincoln County south of the McCoy Creek Road.

(iii) **Area 3.** All lands within the Bureau of Reclamation’s Eden Project in Sweetwater County.

(iv) **Area 4.** All lands within the Bureau of Reclamation’s Riverton and Boysen Unit boundaries; those lands within Boysen State Park south of Cottonwood Creek, west of Boysen Reservoir, and south of U.S. Highway 20-26; and all non-Indian owned fee title lands within the exterior boundaries of the Wind River Reservation, excluding those lands within Hot Springs County.

(v) **Area 5.** All of Uinta County.

(vi) **Area 6.** All of Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park and Washakie counties.

(vii) **Area 7.** All of Campbell, Converse, Crook, Goshen, Laramie, Niobrara, Platte and Weston counties.

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION

By: Charles C. Price
Charles C. Price President

Dated: April 22, 2015

Know the Difference

Protected Species



Whooping Crane



Swan

Game Species



Snow Goose

EURASIAN COLLARED DOVES

Eurasian collared doves are an invasive species and as such, are not protected. Eurasian collared doves may be taken year round without limitation. Eurasian collared doves taken during the mourning dove season are not counted as part of the mourning dove daily bag and possession limits.

Contact Information	In State Toll-Free #	Out-of-State Phone #
Cheyenne Headquarters	1-800-842-1934	1-307-777-4600
Casper Regional Office	1-800-233-8544	1-307-473-3400
Cody Regional Office	1-800-654-1178	1-307-527-7125
Green River Regional Office	1-800-843-8096	1-307-875-3223
Jackson Regional Office	1-800-423-4113	1-307-733-2321
Lander Regional Office	1-800-654-7862	1-307-332-2688
Laramie Regional Office	1-800-843-2352	1-307-745-4046
Pinedale Regional Office	1-800-452-9107	1-307-367-4353
Sheridan Regional Office	1-800-331-9834	1-307-672-7418

For more information and materials call: 1-307-777-4600 or visit the Department website.

Report All Wildlife Violations!



Text keyword **WGFD** and message to **TIP411 (847-411)**

Help us Stand Watch
1-877-WGFD-TIP
(1-877-943-3847)

Out-of-State **(1-307-777-4330)**

Submit Tip Online: <http://wgfd.wyo.gov>

WYOMING



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