



# GAME BIRD + SMALL GAME

WYOMING GAME AND FISH COMMISSION



**2026**  
REGULATIONS

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### **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: <https://rules.wyo.gov> or <https://wyoleg.gov>.

Dear hunters,

Welcome to the 2026 game bird hunting season. The success of hunting in Wyoming is dependent on the dedication and responsible practices of our outdoor community.

Commitment to Wyoming’s wildlife is essential in Game and Fish’s mission of conserving and managing our state’s wildlife. You play a vital role in this mission. The work that our agency does, from habitat restoration to law enforcement, is funded by license purchases each year. When you purchase your annual bird or small game license, you are investing in our mission, and Wyoming’s wildlife.

We want to thank you for observing responsible hunting practices, and adhering to our regulations. Not only are you ensuring safety and fairness for yourselves and others, you are playing a critical role in conserving wildlife and safeguarding outdoor traditions for the future.

The hunting community prides itself in respecting Wyoming’s wide-open spaces, whether on public or private land, and being mindful that we share these spaces with the wildlife that we conserve and protect. Please continue to play your part. Ensure your campfires are out, pack out trash, and be a good neighbor by closing gates behind you. Your responsible practices today are what ensure access and enjoyment for others and for future generations of hunters and recreators.

Thank you for partnering with Game and Fish through your hunting traditions. We wish you the best of luck, and a memorable 2026 hunting season.

Sincerely,



Angi Bruce  
Director, Wyoming Game and Fish Department

**LICENSE FEES**

Pheasant Special Management Permit .....	\$15.50
Resident Daily Game Bird/Small Game .....	\$9.00
Nonresident Daily Game Bird/Small Game .....	\$22.00
Resident 12 Month Game Bird/Small Game .....	\$27.00
Nonresident 12 Month Game Bird/Small Game .....	\$74.00
Nonresident 12 Month Youth Game Bird/Small Game (May only be issued to nonresidents under the age of 18 years) .....	\$40.00
Resident 12 Month Game Bird .....	\$16.00
Resident 12 Month Small Game .....	\$16.00
Resident Wild Turkey .....	\$16.00
Nonresident Wild Turkey .....	\$74.00
12 Month Conservation Stamp .....	\$21.50
Lifetime Conservation Stamp .....	\$185.50
Lifetime Resident Game Bird/Small Game/Fishing .....	\$496.00
Lifetime Resident Game Bird/Small Game .....	\$311.00
Light Goose Conservation Order Permit .....	\$15.50
Federal Duck Stamp .....	\$29.00
License to Hunt with Falcon .....	\$16.00
Harvest Information Permit (HIP) .....	Free online at Department website
Sage-Grouse Hunting Permit .....	Free at headquarters, regional offices, and online at Department website

**CARD FEE**

The Department shall charge a two point five percent (2.5%) processing fee of the cost of any license, permit, stamp, tag, preference point or competitive raffle chance applied for or purchased by the use of a debit or credit card.

## Terms & Definitions

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

**“Adult”** means a person eighteen (18) years of age or older.

**“Artificial light or lighting device”** means any man-made light or lighting device which projects a visible light outside the device, or any electronic device that provides an enhanced ability to see in the dark.

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

**“Conservation Order”** means an action to reduce the mid-continent population of light geese, which is promulgated in accordance with 50 CFR 20.21 revised as of August 8, 2019 and 50 CFR 21.180 revised as of January 7, 2022, which does not include any later amendments or editions of the incorporated matter. A copy of Title 50 and the Code of Federal Regulations can be viewed at the Cheyenne Headquarters, Department Regional Offices or on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service website ([www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov)).

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

**“Dark geese”** means Canada goose, cackling goose, white-fronted goose and brant.

**“Designated road”** means an established road marked with a white arrow sign.

**“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.

**“Electronic Licensing Service (ELS)”** means the Department’s Electronic Draw Application System, Internet Point of Sale System and Online Internet Sales System used by the Department, license selling agents and the public to apply for or purchase licenses, permits, stamps, tags and preference points.

**“Established road”** means any road or trail that has been graded or constructed to carry motor vehicles or on which repeated legal motor vehicle traffic has created well-defined tracks.

**“Expanding point bullet”** means any bullet designed by its manufacturer to create a wound channel larger than the bullet’s diameter.

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

**“Federal duck stamp”** means Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp or Electronic Duck Stamp.

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

**“General licenses”** means big or trophy game or wild turkey licenses valid in any hunt area in which licenses have not been totally limited in number. General licenses shall be valid only under species, sex, age class and harvest limitations that are in effect for each hunt area.

**“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.

**“Light geese”** means snow goose, blue goose and Ross’s goose.

**“Limited Quota Licenses”** means licenses that are limited in number and valid only in a hunt area(s) or portion(s) of a hunt area. Limited quota licenses shall be valid only under species, sex, age class, harvest, and weapon type limitations that are in effect for each hunt area.

**“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 they have 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 other federally approved nontoxic shot.

**“Orders”** means orders, rules and regulations.

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

**“Permit”** means a document that authorizes a license holder to carry out activities not authorized by the license itself.

**“Possession limit”** means the maximum number of game birds 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 limit shall not exceed the largest daily bag or 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 or stray cat. “Predatory animal” also means gray wolf located outside the Wolf Trophy Game Management Area and Seasonal Wolf Trophy Game Management Area as described in Wyoming Statute § 23-1-101 (a) (xii) (B) (I) and (II).

**“Protected animal”** means black-footed ferret, fisher, lynx, pika or wolverine.

**“Protected bird”** means migratory birds as defined and protected under federal law.

**“Public road or highway”** (except as otherwise provided) 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.

**“Real Time Video Photography Equipment”** means any video or photography equipment capable of utilizing cellular or Wi-Fi technology to transmit images or video for remote viewing.

**“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

pheasants that may be legally taken during the entire season.

**“Small game animal”** means cottontail rabbit or snowshoe hare, and fox, grey 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.

## Access Yes Program

Access to private lands enrolled in the Access Yes Walk-In or Hunter Management Program is granted only for the take of specific wild-life species during the dates specified in Department publications. Special rules apply for each individual area. Refer to the Department website for rules pertaining to each area. Travel by motorized vehicle is prohibited, except as otherwise stated. Hunters wishing to use enrolled private lands for any other activity or to take wildlife species not listed or outside designated time periods must obtain permission from the landowner or person in charge of the property. 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 activities contrary to that specified by Department signs or publications.

## Age Restrictions; Game Birds and Wild Turkey

All persons fourteen (14) years of age and older shall possess the proper license while hunting game birds in Wyoming. Federal regulation requires all persons, regardless of age, to possess a valid state crane permit while hunting sandhill crane(s).

### Residents under fourteen (14) years of age

- A resident person under fourteen (14) years of age may take game birds (except wild turkey) without a Wyoming game bird license if accompanied by an adult. A resident person under fourteen (14) years of age may take their own limit.
- A resident person under fourteen (14) years of age who possesses a sandhill crane permit need not obtain a Wyoming game bird license if accompanied by an adult.

### Nonresidents under fourteen (14) years of age

- A nonresident person under fourteen (14) years of age may take game birds (except wild turkey) without a Wyoming game bird license if accompanied by an adult possessing a valid Wyoming game bird license. Game birds taken by an unlicensed, nonresident person under fourteen (14) years of age shall be applied to and limited by the daily bag and possession limits of the licensed adult in their company.
- A nonresident person under fourteen (14) years of age who possesses a valid Wyoming game bird license and conservation stamp may take their own limit of game birds.
- A nonresident person under fourteen (14) years of age who possesses a sandhill crane permit need not obtain a Wyoming game bird license or conservation stamp if accompanied by an adult possessing a valid, unexpired Wyoming game bird license, conservation stamp and a valid sandhill crane permit, in which case any sandhill crane taken by the nonresident person shall not be applied to and limited by the sandhill crane permit held by the adult in their company.

NOTE: All resident and nonresident wild turkey hunters, including persons under fourteen (14) years of age, shall possess a valid wild turkey license. Wild turkey hunters under fourteen (14) years of age shall be accompanied by an adult.

## Age Restrictions; Small Game

No person fourteen (14) years of age or older shall take any small game animal without first obtaining the proper license.

### Residents under fourteen (14) years of age

- A resident person under fourteen (14) years of age may hunt small game without obtaining a small game animal license.

### Nonresidents under fourteen (14) years of age

- A nonresident person under fourteen (14) years of age need not obtain a small game animal license or conservation stamp if accompanied by an adult possessing a valid unexpired Wyoming small game animal license and conservation stamp in which case the nonresident person’s bag limit shall be applied to and limited by the small game hunting license held by the adult in their company.
- A nonresident person under fourteen (14) years of age who possesses a valid small game animal license and conservation stamp may take their own limit of small game.

## Archery Hunting

Bow and arrow or crossbow are permissible equipment to take small game, 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 comply with the regulations established for the regular hunting season, including open season dates.

## 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 as provided by statute and Commission regulation. Predatory animals may be taken with the aid of an artificial light or lighting device, including thermal or infrared imaging or other light imaging by:

- A public officer authorized to and conducting predator control;
- A landowner, resident manager or person with the landowner’s or a resident manager’s written permission to take predatory animals, on land under the landowner’s control for the protection of their property.
- Any person taking a predatory animal on public or state land is subject to limitations established by the Commission.

***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 their 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 land(s), has the written permission of the landowner or their agent.

- Any person hunting predatory animals on public land with an artificial light or lighting device, thermal or infrared imaging or other light imaging device shall display an activated infrared (IR) strobe beacon on their person visible from at least one hundred (100) yards in every direction. If the predator hunter is enclosed inside a vehicle, an activated IR strobe beacon shall be displayed on the exterior roof of the vehicle so as to be visible for at least one hundred (100) yards around the vehicle.
- Hunting of predatory animals at night with artificial light or lighting devices, thermal or infrared imaging or other light imaging on public land shall be closed from September 1 through December 31.

## Bait Restrictions

No person shall take a game animal, game bird or game fish and use any part thereof for bait to hunt, trap or poison any wildlife of Wyoming.

### Banded Birds; Reporting

If you have found or harvested a banded bird (except wild turkey), please report it at [www.reportband.gov](http://www.reportband.gov). You will be asked to provide the band number as well as the location, date and how you recovered the bird. Your contact information will be requested in case there are any questions. The U.S. Geological Survey's Patuxent Bird Banding Lab will send you a certificate of appreciation that includes information about the sex, age and species of bird, and where and when it was banded. You may keep the band. **Please note: Even if the band you recover is inscribed with a 1-800 number, as of July 2, 2017, you can only report it at [www.reportband.gov](http://www.reportband.gov).**

### Check Stations

Every hunter, angler or trapper entering or leaving areas for which check stations have been established shall stop and report at the check station if the check station is on the hunter's, angler's or trapper's route to and from the hunting or fishing area. **This requirement applies even if the person does not have wildlife in possession.** Game and fish licensees shall produce their licenses, permits or stamps as required by regulation for any game animals, game birds, fish or furbearing animals in their possession for inspection upon request by any authorized department representative.

### Closed Areas

All areas within the state of Wyoming not opened by specific order of the Commission shall be closed to the taking of game animals, furbearing animals and game birds.

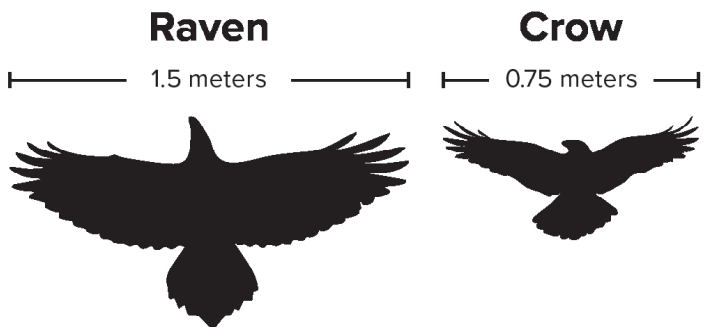
### Clothing Requirement

**Hunters Required to Wear Fluorescent Orange or Fluorescent Pink Clothing**

The wearing of fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink clothing while hunting small game and game birds is recommended as a safety measure and is required when hunting pheasants on Department Wildlife Habitat Management Areas or on Bureau of Reclamation Withdrawal Lands bordering and including Glendo State Park. Fluorescent orange camouflage or fluorescent pink camouflage are legal.

### Crow Season

The entire state of Wyoming shall be open to the taking of crows from November 1 through December 31 and from January 1 through February 28. No hunting license is required to hunt crows. Crows may be taken by use of firearms, bow and arrow, and falconry. There is no bag limit. While there is a hunting season for crows, ravens may not be hunted. The best method of distinguishing between the two species is the shape of the tail while in flight. The crow has a square tail while the raven has a wedge-shaped tail (see diagram).



### 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 or replacement 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 **contained a carcass coupon**. A replacement license shall be issued if the original license **did not contain a carcass coupon**. The Department shall charge a fee of seven dollars (\$7) for each duplicate or replacement license.

### Emergency Closures

The Commission may institute an emergency closure by regulation 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.


### Falconry Licenses

Licenses to hunt with trained raptors 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 trained raptors and in accordance with Commission regulations. Persons holding a proper falconry license may hunt, pursue and kill game birds without distinction of sex in any hunt area in which the falconry season is open for the taking of game birds. Persons hunting with trained raptors must also hold a valid hunting license for the species being hunted. If hunting sage grouse, an annual sage grouse permit is required.

### Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp

*(Federal Duck Stamp)*

Federal law requires each waterfowl hunter sixteen (16) years of age or older to purchase and carry a valid Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Federal Duck Stamp) signed in ink across the face. Hunters possessing an electronic Federal Duck Stamp are exempt from this signature provision. 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. Federal duck stamps expire June 30 of each year. The Federal Duck Stamp can be purchased on the Department website, [duckstamp.com](http://duckstamp.com), [usps.com](http://usps.com), at most post offices and some outdoor recreation stores.



Scan the QR code to access essential resources and information for federal migratory bird hunting.

### Firearm Calibers and Legal Weapons for Game Birds and Small Game

Except as provided below, game birds, excluding wild turkey, blue and ruffed grouse, may only be taken by a center-fire or muzzle-loading 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. Wild turkey may only be taken by any shotgun, center-fire firearm, .17 HMR or larger rimfire firearm with an overall cartridge length greater than one (1) inch, any muzzle-loading firearm, or any archery equipment. Blue grouse, ruffed grouse and small game may be taken in any manner except as prohibited by Wyoming Statute.

### Harvest Survey

Each year the Department and its contractors send harvest survey questionnaires to a sample of sportspersons, primarily through email, text and postal mail. Since a person can hunt multiple species in Wyo-

## CONSERVATION STAMP

***Don't Forget your Conservation Stamp!***  
*Hunters and anglers must purchase a conservation stamp prior to hunting and fishing in Wyoming.*



Conservation stamps are only available electronically through the Department's Electronic Licensing System (ELS), and ***may be purchased from the Cheyenne Headquarters, Department Regional Offices, license selling agents throughout the state and the Department website.***

### EXEMPTIONS

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;
- Honorably discharged Wyoming resident veteran who is one hundred percent (100%) disabled game bird, small game and fishing license;
- Military combat general elk or general deer license;
- Military combat game bird or small game license;
- Licenses reissued to a veteran with disabilities or a person with a permanent disability who uses a wheelchair; or,
- Resident United States Military Purple Heart Medal recipients.

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

- Daily hunting or fishing license;
- Nonresident five (5) consecutive day fishing license;
- Special limited fishing permit holders;
- Wyoming fifty (50%) percent disabled veteran fishing license; or,
- Resident permanently and totally disabled lifetime fishing license.

A lifetime conservation stamp may be purchased by applying to the Cheyenne Headquarters or through any Department Regional Office.



ming, some sportspersons may be asked to complete more than one harvest survey questionnaire. Your harvest survey response provides critical data the Department uses to evaluate the past hunting season and set future hunting seasons. Even if you did not hunt or harvest, we need to hear from you to accurately track hunter effort. We ask that you complete any harvest survey questionnaires sent to you by the Department or its contractors. Your time and assistance are much appreciated.

## Hunter Safety

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 their 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.

- A person who has not received a certificate of competency and safety in the use and handling of 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 acting as a mentor. A special authorization 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. Any person acting as a mentor shall be at least eighteen (18) years of age, shall possess a valid hunting license, and shall demonstrate they have successfully completed a hunter safety course. A mentor shall not provide supervision for more than one (1) person at a time in the field, other than immediate family members, and shall accompany the mentee at all times to provide constant supervision.
- A person under fourteen (14) years of age who has not yet received a hunter safety certificate may take small game and game birds while being accompanied by a mentor who possesses a valid Wyoming small game or game bird license and conservation stamp.
- Any active member, honorably discharged past member or veteran of the armed forces of the United States and any active or retired Wyoming peace officer qualified pursuant to Wyoming Statutes § 9-1-701 through § 9-1-707 may obtain an exemption from the hunter safety requirement. Hunter safety exemption applications are available at the Cheyenne Headquarters and Department Regional Offices. ***This hunter safety exemption is not valid for hunting elk within Grand Teton National Park (Hunt Areas 75 and 79), or for persons acting as mentors in the Hunter Mentor Program.***

## License Expiration

Game bird and small game licenses expire on the date indicated on the license.

## 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, permit, stamp or tag 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, permit, stamp or tag that was obtained in violation of Commission regulations or Wyoming statutes.

## Litter

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

## Migratory Game Birds

Migratory game birds that 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.

## Migratory Game Birds: Labeling and Shipping

**Labeling.** No person shall give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place (other than at their personal abode) or in the custody of another person unless the birds are labeled 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

Labeling 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.

**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; (3) the number of birds by species, contained in the package; and, (4) interstate game tag where required.

## 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, sandhill 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 other federally approved nontoxic shot) shall be required when taking or attempting to take ducks, mergansers, coots or geese. Nontoxic shot is also required when using a shotgun to take game birds or small game on the Springer and Table Mountain Wildlife Habitat Management Areas. A current list of federally-approved nontoxic shot types can be viewed at 50 CFR 20.21(j) (1).

CAUTION: More restrictive regulations may apply on national wildlife refuges. 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 Small Game, Upland Game Birds and Wild Turkey

Small game animals may only be taken from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to one-half (1/2) hour after sunset.

Except as otherwise provided, upland game birds and wild turkey may only be taken from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise to sunset.

## Permission to Hunt, Fish, Trap or Collect Antlers or Horns

No person shall enter upon, travel through or return across the private property of any person to take wildlife, hunt, fish, trap or collect antlers or horns without the permission of the landowner or person in charge of the property. "Travel through or return across" requires physically touching or driving on the surface of the private property. The license must bear the signature of the landowner, lessee or agent of the landowner on whose private property the person is accessing or other legitimate proof as evidence that permission to hunt has been granted.



Common merganser (Photo by Justin Binfet/WGFD)

## Pheasant Special Management Permit

A Pheasant Special Management Permit is required to hunt pheasants on some Department wildlife habitat management areas, some lands enrolled in the Access Yes Program and some state lands. Revenue from this permit helps finance pheasant rearing and stocking at our bird farms in the state. See page 17.

## Precautions When Hunting in Areas Occupied by Grizzly Bears

Hunters and anglers are reminded grizzly bears occupy many areas in and around the Bridger-Teton, Shoshone and Caribou-Targhee National Forests in northwest Wyoming. The Department strongly recommends individuals working and recreating in these areas take precautions, including carrying bear pepper spray, to avoid conflicts with grizzly bears. Information about human safety and proper storage of food and other attractants in occupied grizzly habitat is available from the Cheyenne Headquarters, Department Regional Offices, U.S. Forest Service Offices and the Department website. Regulations concerning food/carcass storage in occupied grizzly habitat can be obtained from the U.S. Forest Service. Report all conflicts with grizzly bears to the nearest Department Regional Office. Any taking of a grizzly bear shall be reported immediately to the Department (1-877-WGFD-TIP).

For information about staying safe in bear country, visit the Department Bear Wise page: <https://wgfd.wyo.gov/Bear-Wise-Print>

## 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 with the intent to spot, locate and aid in the taking of any big game animal from August 1 through January 31 of the following calendar year. Additionally, no person shall use any aircraft to spot, locate and aid in the taking of any trophy game animal during any open season. Nothing in this Section shall apply to the

operation of an aircraft in a usual manner where there is no attempt or intent to locate any game animal, such as aircraft used for the sole purpose of passenger transport.

- Take and leave, abandon or allow the edible portion of any game bird, game fish or game animal (except trophy game animal) 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.
- Carry a firearm with a cartridge therein, or take any wildlife, while intoxicated or under the influence of any controlled substance.
- Harass, pursue, hunt, shoot or kill any Wyoming wildlife that requires a license or permit to take, is protected under W.S. 23-1-101(a) (ix) and (x) or is classified as threatened or endangered by federal wildlife regulations, 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.
- 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, 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. Trumpeter swans are also protected in Wyoming.

## Sage Grouse Hunting Permit

A sage grouse hunting permit shall be required of any licensed hunter who participates in hunting sage grouse. The sage grouse hunting permit shall be in possession of any person while hunting sage grouse, and shall be immediately produced for inspection upon request from any authorized Department representative. The permit shall be available at headquarters, regional offices and the Department website.

## Shipping Game Animals and Game Birds 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 except by the person who harvested the animal, and in possession of the proper license, stamp and carcass coupon as required, or unless the amount does not exceed twenty-five (25) pounds and is properly tagged with a Wyoming interstate game tag. Not more than twenty-five (25) pounds from any one (1) big or trophy game animal may be exported from the state unless 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 or the big or trophy game animal was legally harvested by a nonresident and is tagged with a Wyoming interstate game tag.

## Shipping Game Animals and Game Birds 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 of a big or trophy game animal is by a person in possession of a proper carcass coupon signed and dated by the person who harvested the animal, or the transportation of game birds or small game is by a properly licensed hunter in possession of not more than the 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 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

Sportspersons 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 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 their way without being required to post an appearance bond unless the violation requires **MUST APPEAR and NO BOND ACCEPTED**. The Compact provides for 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 State of Wyoming license. Land status is complicated and lawful access must be investigated thoroughly. Sportspersons are advised it is their responsibility to determine land status prior to entering these areas.

## Wyoming State Parks

Wyoming State Parks allow limited hunting opportunities at specific locations and may have additional restrictions and regulations for access and hunting. Sportspersons are encouraged to contact Wyoming State Parks at [wyoparks.wyo.gov](http://wyoparks.wyo.gov) or contact the individual State Park Office for additional information prior to hunting.

# REMINDER

# SAGE GROUSE PERMIT REQUIRED

All licensed *sage grouse hunters will be required to carry a free, annual sage grouse hunting permit* to help us expand efforts to survey sage grouse hunters on their hunt experience.

Scan the QR code to obtain the new sage grouse permit.



Available at headquarters, regional offices and the Department website



# HOW TO FILL OUT CARCASS COUPON

**IMMEDIATELY AFTER HARVESTING AND BEFORE LEAVING THE SITE OF THE KILL COMPLETE ALL OF THE FOLLOWING STEPS:**

## CARCASS COUPON DATING AND DIS

When any big game animal or wild turkey is harvested under a license, or sandhill crane under a limited quota permit, *the licensee shall date the proper carcass coupon, the entire coupon, the entire of the kill shall be completed and removed.* The carcass coupon shall remain on the game animal or sandhill crane carcass until the meat undergoes processing on the trophy game animal reaches the hunter's home, except that during the transport of the carcass or hide, *carcass coupon may be removed to prevent its loss.* If the carcass coupon is removed for transport of the carcass or hide, it must be kept in the possession of the person transporting the carcass or hide, it must be kept in the possession of the person transporting the carcass or hide all times. While quartering a trophy animal are being packed, the carcass coupon shall remain in the possession of the person transporting

1

**Detach the carcass coupon from the license.**

2

**CUT OUT the entire MONTH of the kill.**

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	
1	WYOMING NONRESIDENT										31
2	CARCASS COUPON LICENSE #										30
3	VALID IN HUNT AREA:										29
4	DETACH FROM LICENSE, DATE BY CARRYING OUTSIDE DAY AND MONTH OF KILL, MUST HAVE ATTACHED TO CARCASS OR HIDE. LICENSEE RESPONSIBLE FOR KILL, LICENSEE TRANSPORTATION OF THE CARCASS OR HIDE. THIS COUPON MAY BE REMOVED TO PREVENT THE LOSS. IF THIS COUPON IS REMOVED FOR TRANSPORTATION, IT MUST BE IN THE POSSESSION OF THE PERSON ACCOMPANYING THE CARCASS.										28
5											27
6											26
7											25
8	DO NOT SIGN OR DETACH BEFORE YOU KILL THE ANIMAL.										24
9											23
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21

3

**CUT OUT the entire DAY of the kill.**

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	
1	WYOMING NONRESIDENT										31
2	CARCASS COUPON LICENSE #										30
3	VALID IN HUNT AREA:										29
4	DETACH FROM LICENSE, DATE BY CARRYING OUTSIDE DAY AND MONTH OF KILL, MUST HAVE ATTACHED TO CARCASS OR HIDE. LICENSEE RESPONSIBLE FOR KILL, LICENSEE TRANSPORTATION OF THE CARCASS OR HIDE. THIS COUPON MAY BE REMOVED TO PREVENT THE LOSS. IF THIS COUPON IS REMOVED FOR TRANSPORTATION, IT MUST BE IN THE POSSESSION OF THE PERSON ACCOMPANYING THE CARCASS.										28
5											27
6											26
7											25
8	DO NOT SIGN OR DETACH BEFORE YOU KILL THE ANIMAL.										24
9											23
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21

4

**SIGN the carcass coupon.**

JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	
1	WYOMING NONRESIDENT										31
2	CARCASS COUPON LICENSE #										30
3	VALID IN HUNT AREA:										29
4	DETACH FROM LICENSE, DATE BY CARRYING OUTSIDE DAY AND MONTH OF KILL, MUST HAVE ATTACHED TO CARCASS OR HIDE. LICENSEE RESPONSIBLE FOR KILL, LICENSEE TRANSPORTATION OF THE CARCASS OR HIDE. THIS COUPON MAY BE REMOVED TO PREVENT THE LOSS. IF THIS COUPON IS REMOVED FOR TRANSPORTATION, IT MUST BE IN THE POSSESSION OF THE PERSON ACCOMPANYING THE CARCASS.										28
5											27
6											26
7	Sign Here										25
8	DO NOT SIGN OR DETACH BEFORE YOU KILL THE ANIMAL.										24
9											23
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21

## U.S. FISH &amp; WILDLIFE SERVICE

**WATERFOWL HUNTING AND BAITING INFORMATION****WHAT IS LEGAL?**

*You can hunt waterfowl on or over or from:*

- Standing crops or flooded standing crops, including aquatic plants.
- Standing, flooded, or manipulated natural vegetation.
- Flooded harvested croplands.
- Lands or areas where grains have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting or post-harvest manipulation.
- Lands or areas where top-sown seeds have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, or a planting for agricultural soil erosion control or post-mining land reclamation.
- A blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with natural vegetation.
- A blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with vegetation from agricultural crops, provided your use of such vegetation does not expose, deposit, distribute or scatter grain or other feed.
- Standing or flooded standing crops where grain is inadvertently scattered solely as the result of hunters entering or leaving the area, placing decoys, or retrieving downed birds. Hunters are cautioned that while conducting these activities, any intentional scattering of grain will create a baited area.

**THE HUNTER'S RESPONSIBILITY**

*As a waterfowl hunter, you are responsible for determining whether your proposed hunting area is baited. Before hunting, you should:*

- Familiarize yourself with Federal and State waterfowl hunting regulations.
- Ask the landowner, your host or guide, and your hunting partners if the area has been baited and inspect the area for the presence of bait.
- Suspect the presence of bait if you see waterfowl feeding in a particular area in unusually large concentrations or displaying a lack of caution.
- Look for grain or other feed in the water, along the shore, and on the field. Pay particular attention to the presence of spilled grain on harvested fields and seeds planted by means of top sowing.
- Confirm that scattered seeds or grains on agricultural lands are present solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, normal agricultural harvesting, normal agricultural post-harvest manipulation, or normal soil stabilization practice by consulting the Cooperative Extension Service.
- Abandon the hunting site if you find grain or feed in an area and are uncertain about why it is there.

**EXCERPTS FROM TITLE 50, CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS, PART 20.21**

*No persons shall take migratory game birds:*

By the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. However, nothing in this paragraph prohibits:

- The taking of any migratory game bird, including waterfowl, coots, and cranes, on or over the following lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas—
  - Standing crops or flooded standing crops (including aquatics); standing, flooded, or manipulated natural vegetation; flooded harvested croplands; or lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post harvest manipulation or normal soil stabilization practice;
  - From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with natural vegetation;
  - From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with vegetation from agricultural crops, as long as such camouflaging does not result in the exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of grain or other feed; or,
  - Standing or flooded standing agricultural crops where grain is inadvertently scattered solely as a result of a hunter entering or exiting a hunting area, placing decoys, or retrieving downed birds.
- The taking of any migratory game bird, except waterfowl, coots, and cranes, on or over lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas, and where grain or other feed has been distributed or scattered solely as the result of manipulation of an agricultural crop or other feed on the land where grown, or solely as the result of a normal agricultural operation.

**WHAT IS ILLEGAL?**

*Some examples of areas where you cannot hunt waterfowl include:*

- Areas where grain or seed has been top-sown and the Cooperative Extension Service does not recommend the practice of top sowing.
- Crops that have been harvested outside of the recommended harvest dates established by the Cooperative Extension Service (including any subsequent post-harvest manipulations).
- Unharvested crops that have been trampled by livestock or subjected to other types of manipulations that distribute, scatter, or expose grain.
- Areas where grain is present and stored, such as grain elevators and grain bins.
- Areas where grain is present for the purpose of feeding livestock.
- Freshly planted wildlife food plots that contain exposed grain.
- Croplands where a crop has been harvested and the removed grain is redistributed or “added back” onto the area where grown.

*These examples do not represent an all-inclusive list of waterfowl baiting violations.*



# UPLAND GAME BIRD AND SMALL GAME HUNTING SEASONS

What documents do I need to hunt upland game birds in Wyoming?					
Documents	Resident		Nonresident		
	Under age of 14	Ages 14 and older	Under age of 14	Ages 14-17	Ages 18 and older
Hunter Safety Certificate (See page 8)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wyoming Conservation Stamp (See page 7)		✓		✓	✓
Pheasant Special Management Permit (See page 17)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Sage Grouse Hunting Permit (See page 9)		✓	✓*	✓	✓
Resident daily or 12 month game bird or game bird/small game hunting license (See page 5)		✓			
Nonresident daily or 12 month game bird/small game hunting license (See page 5)					✓
Nonresident 12 month youth game bird/small game hunting license (See page 5)				✓	

\* If the nonresident youth possesses a license.

## Section 2. Hunting Regulations

- Bag and Possession Limit. Only one (1) daily bag limit of each species of upland game birds and small game may be taken per day regardless of the number of hunt areas hunted in a single day. When hunting more than one (1) hunt area, a person's daily and possession limits shall be equal to, but shall not exceed, the largest daily and possession limit prescribed for any one (1) of the specified hunt areas in which the hunting and possession occurs.
- Evidence of sex and species shall remain naturally attached to the carcass of any upland game bird in the field and during transportation. For pheasant, this shall include the feathered head, feathered wing or foot. For all other upland game bird species, this shall include one fully feathered wing.
- No person shall possess or use shot other than nontoxic shot for hunting game birds and small game with a shotgun on the Commission's Table Mountain and Springer Wildlife Habitat Management Areas and on all national wildlife refuges open for hunting.
- Required Clothing. Any person hunting pheasants within the boundaries of any Wyoming Game and Fish Commission Wildlife Habitat Management Area, or on Bureau of Reclamation Withdrawal lands bordering and including Glendo State Park, shall wear in a visible manner at least one (1) outer garment of fluorescent orange or fluorescent pink color which shall include a hat, shirt, jacket, coat, vest or sweater.

## Section 3. Upland Game Bird Hunting Seasons

- Sage Grouse Hunt Areas, Season Dates, Bag Limits and Limitations.

SAGE GROUSE					
Hunt Area	Season Dates		Bag Limit		Limitations
	Opens	Closes	Daily	Poss.	
1	Sep. 19	Sep. 30	2	4	Any sage grouse
2, 3, 4					CLOSED

- Sage Grouse Hunt Area Descriptions.

**Area 1.** Includes all of Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park, Sweetwater and Uinta counties, all of Washakie County except that portion east of the 33 Mile Road (Natrona County Road 110) and east of Hazelton Road (Washakie County Road 81), as well as that portion of Albany County north of U.S. Highway 30-287 and west of the Fetterman Road (Albany County Road 61), that portion of Converse County south and west of the Balsh Road (U.S.F.S. Road 660), all of Carbon County except that por-

tion east of the Medicine Bow River and South of U.S. Highway 30-287, all of Lincoln and Fremont counties except those portions within the Snake River drainage, all of Sublette County except that portion within the Fish Creek Drainage, and all of Natrona County except that portion east of Interstate Highway 25, north of the Smoky Gap Road (Natrona County Road 115), north of the Wild Horse Trail Road (Natrona County Road 113), and north of the 33 Mile Road (Natrona County Road 110). Area 1 also excludes that portion of Natrona County south of Interstate Highway 25 in the Muddy Creek drainage.

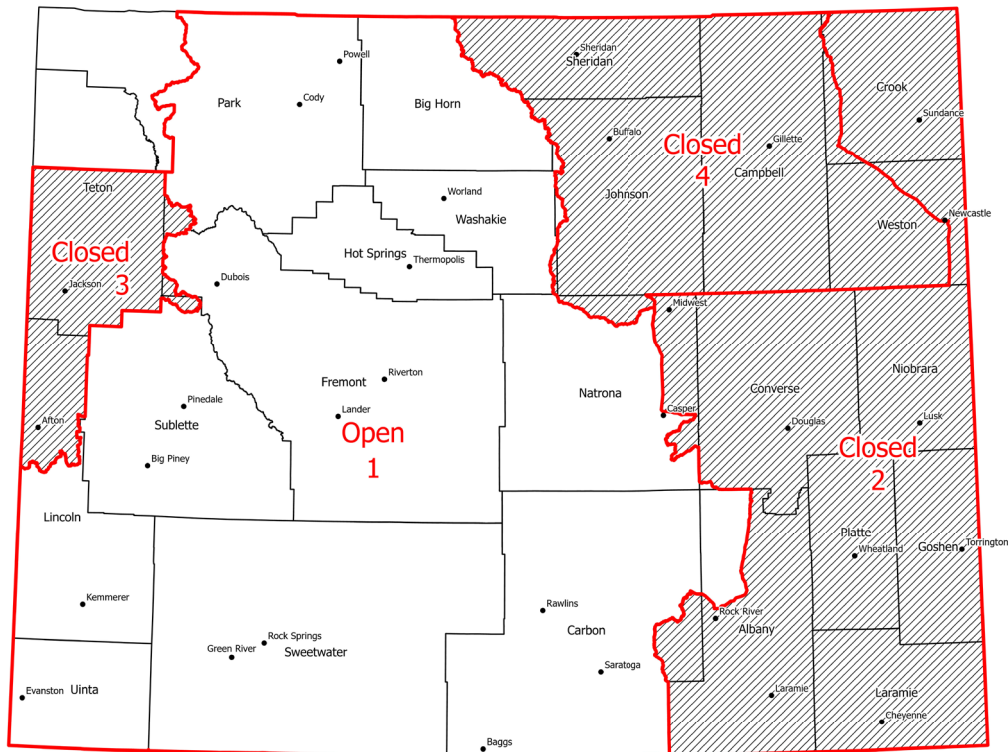
**Area 2.** The entire state of Wyoming excluding the lands described in Areas 1, 3 and 4.

**Area 3.** All lands in the Snake River drainage within Lincoln, Fremont and Teton counties and that portion of Sublette County within the Fish Creek Drainage.

**Area 4.** Beginning at the intersection of the Sheridan-Big Horn county line with the Wyoming-Montana state line; easterly along said state line to the Rocky Point Road in Crook County; southerly along said road to the "D" Road; southerly along said road to Interstate Highway 90; easterly along said highway to U.S. Highway 16 at Moorcroft; southeasterly along said highway to U.S. Highway 85 at Newcastle; southerly along said highway to the Weston-Niobrara-Campbell-Converse-Natrona-Johnson county lines; westerly along said county lines to Interstate Highway 25; southerly along said highway to the Midwest interchange and the Smoky Gap Road (Natrona County Road 115); westerly along said road to the Wild Horse Trail Road (Natrona County Road 113); westerly along said road to the 33 Mile Road (Natrona County Road 110); northwesterly along said road to the Hazelton Road (Washakie County Road 81); northerly along said road to the Gold Mine Road (U.S.F.S. Road 452); northerly along said road to the Canyon Creek Road (U.S.F.S. Road 25); northerly along said road to U.S. Highway 16; easterly along said highway to the divide along the Bighorn Mountain Range at Powder River Pass; northwesterly along said divide to the Big Horn County line; northwesterly along said county line to the Wyoming-Montana state line.

- b. **A sage grouse hunting permit shall be required of any licensed hunter who participates in hunting sage grouse.** The sage grouse hunting permit shall be in possession of any person while hunting sage grouse, and shall be immediately produced for inspection upon request from any authorized Department representative. The permit shall be available at headquarters, regional offices and the department website.

**2026 SAGE GROUSE HUNT AREAS**



**This map is for general reference only.** Please use the written boundary descriptions in this regulation for detailed boundary information.

- c. Blue (Dusky) Grouse Hunt Areas, Season Dates, Bag Limit and Limitations.

BLUE (DUSKY) GROUSE					
Hunt Area	Season Dates		Bag Limit		Limitations
	Opens	Closes	Daily	Poss.	
1	Sep. 1	Dec. 31	3	9	Any blue (dusky) grouse

- i. Blue (Dusky) Grouse Hunt Area Description

**Area 1.** The entire state of Wyoming.

- d. Ruffed Grouse Hunt Areas, Season Dates, Bag Limits and Limitations.

RUFFED GROUSE					
Hunt Area	Season Dates		Bag Limit		Limitations
	Opens	Closes	Daily	Poss.	
1	Sep. 1	Dec. 31	3	9	Any ruffed grouse

- i. Ruffed Grouse Hunt Area Description.

**Area 1.** The entire state of Wyoming.

- e. Partridge Hunt Areas, Season Dates, Bag Limit and Limitations.

CHUKAR PARTRIDGE					
Hunt Area	Season Dates		Bag Limit		Limitations
	Opens	Closes	Daily	Poss.	
1	Sep. 15	Jan. 31	5	15	Any chukar partridge

GRAY PARTRIDGE					
Hunt Area	Season Dates		Bag Limit		Limitations
	Opens	Closes	Daily	Poss.	
1	Sep. 15	Jan. 31	5	15	Any gray partridge

- i. Partridge Hunt Area Description.

**Area 1.** The entire state of Wyoming.

- f. Sharp-Tailed Grouse Hunt Areas, Season Dates, Bag Limit and Limitations.

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE					
Hunt Area	Season Dates		Bag Limit		Limitations
	Opens	Closes	Daily	Poss.	
1	Sep. 1	Dec. 31	3	9	Any sharp-tailed grouse

- i. Sharp-Tailed Grouse Hunt Area Description.

**Area 1.** That portion of Wyoming east of the Continental Divide.


# Guide to grouse of Wyoming

Tips for identifying Wyoming's grouse species

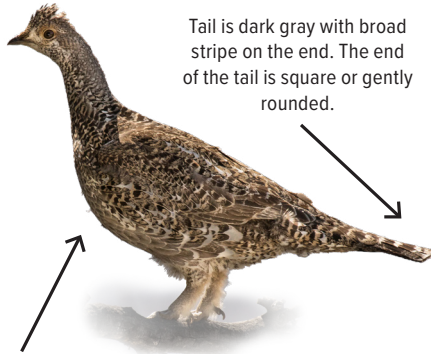
UPLAND GAME BIRDS

## Dusky grouse

**Length:** 17-22 inches  
**Weight:** 1.5-3 pounds

 Common habitat includes higher-elevation pine and fir forests, as well as brushy clearings and mountain meadows.

 The dusky grouse's belly is bluish-white.





Tail is dark gray with broad stripe on the end. The end of the tail is square or gently rounded.

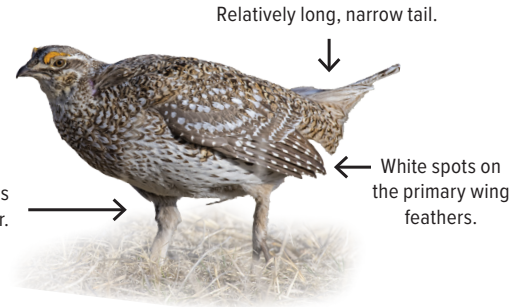
Slate gray to blackish with mottled brown on the wings.

## Sharp-tailed grouse

**Length:** 16.5-18.5 inches  
**Weight:** 1.5-2 pounds

 Habitat includes shrub steppe, grasslands, and mixed forest edges with aspen.

 Smaller than sage-grouse, with a "rocking" flight. Habitat may overlap with sage-grouse.



Relatively long, narrow tail.


Underside of wings are mottled/darker.


White spots on the primary wing feathers.

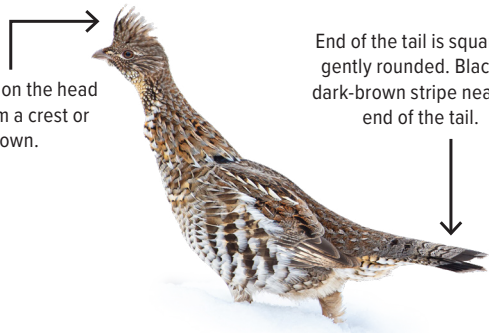
 Hunting for sharp-tailed grouse is **closed west of the Continental Divide**.

## Ruffed grouse

**Length:** 16-19 inches  
**Weight:** 1-1.5 pounds

 Ideal habitat includes thickets of aspen, alder, willow, maple and berry-producing shrubs, generally in mixed forest areas.

 The shape of the tail and crest on the head are good ways to identify ruffed grouse.





Feathers on the head may form a crest or crown.

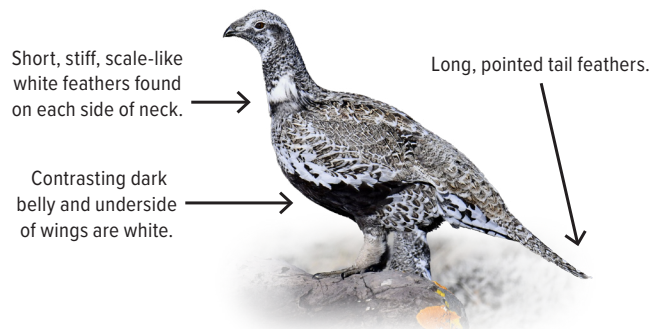
End of the tail is square or gently rounded. Black or dark-brown stripe near the end of the tail.

## Sage-grouse

**Length:** 19-30 inches  
**Weight:** 2-7 pounds

 Found in plains, foothills, and mountain valleys with continuous sagebrush and few trees, if any. Also found in wet meadows.

 Pointy, non-overlapping tail feathers with no stripes or bands at the tip. Habitat can overlap with other grouse. Larger than sharp-tailed grouse.



Short, stiff, scale-like white feathers found on each side of neck.

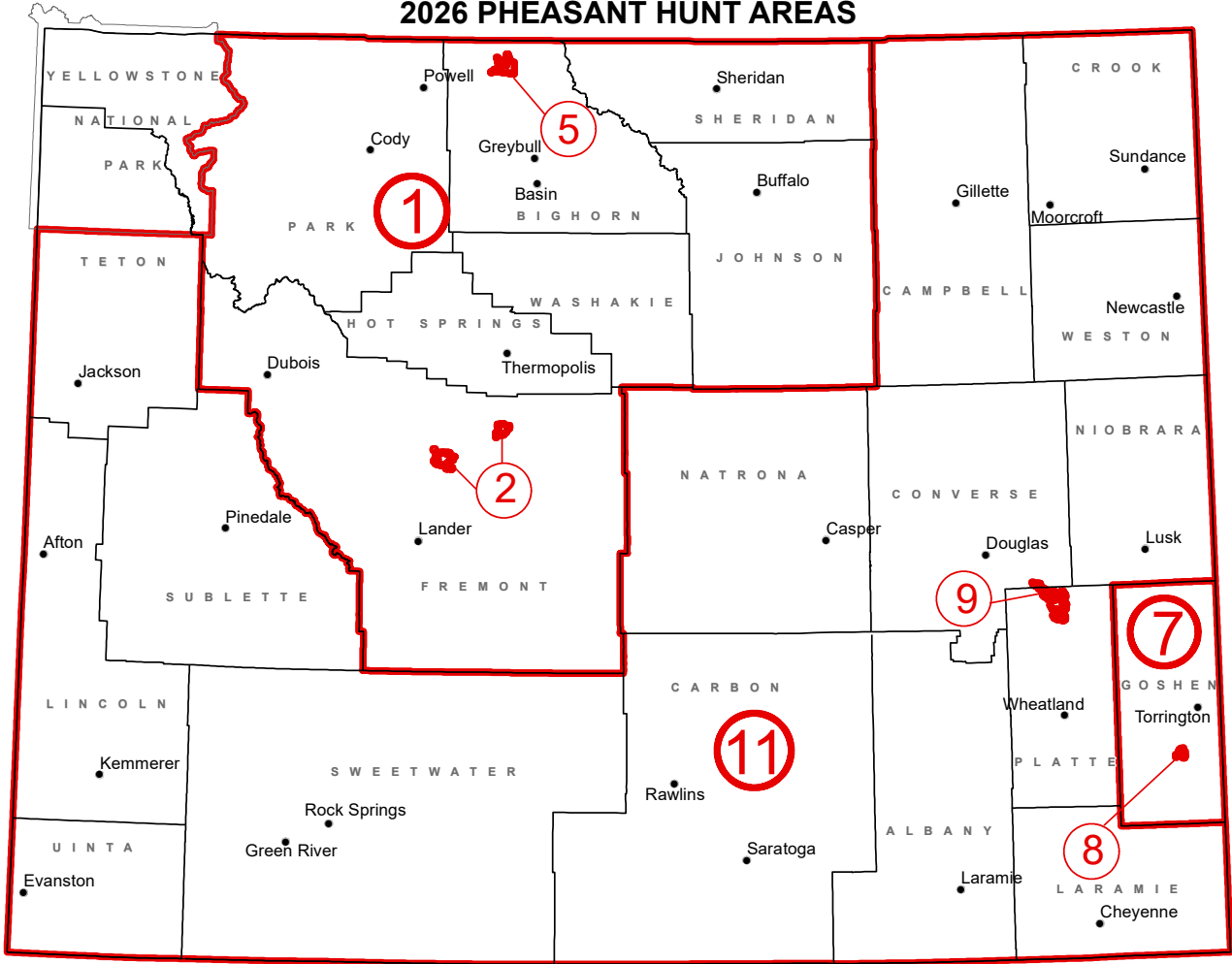
Contrasting dark belly and underside of wings are white.

Long, pointed tail feathers.

## Hunting opportunities

- To hunt dusky, ruffed, sharp-tailed grouse or sage-grouse, you need a game bird/small game license and a conservation stamp.
- To hunt sage-grouse, you also need a free permit, available only online or at regional Game and Fish offices. The permit allows you to receive a timely sage-grouse harvest survey.
- You can hunt grouse on any public lands open to hunting or on private land with landowner permission in accordance with Wyoming regulations.

### 2026 PHEASANT HUNT AREAS



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

UPLAND GAME BIRDS

g. Pheasant Hunt Areas, Season Dates, Bag Limit, Limitations and Shooting Hours.

PHEASANT							
Hunt Area	Season Dates		Bag Limit		Limitations	Shooting Hours	
	Opens	Closes	Daily	Poss.		Start	End
1	Nov. 1	Dec. 31	3	9	Male pheasant only except those areas in Sheridan and Johnson counties that require a Pheasant Special Management Permit in Section 4 shall be open for any pheasant. (Youth Hunt Nov. 14 - Refer to Section 7)	½ hour before Sunrise	Sunset
2	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	2	6	Any pheasant (Youth Hunt Nov. 14 - Refer to Section 7)	Week Days 8:00 a.m.	2:00 p.m.
	Dec. 1	Dec. 31	2	6	Male pheasant only	Weekend Days 8:00 a.m.	Sunset
5	Nov. 1	Dec. 31	3	9	Male pheasant only except that portion of Area 5 north of the Shoshone River and west of the Yellowtail Reservoir shall be open for any pheasant (Youth Hunt Nov. 13-15 - Refer to Section 7)	½ hour before Sunrise	Sunset
						Veterans Day (State Observed Holiday), Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and Weekend Days ½ hour before Sunrise	
						Week Days 11:00 a.m.	Sunset
7	Nov. 1	Dec. 31	3	9	Male pheasant only except that portion of Area 7 on the Table Mountain WHMA shall be open for any pheasant	½ hour before Sunrise	Sunset
						Table Mountain WHMA	
						8:00 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
8	Oct. 15	Oct. 31	3	Season Limit 9	Any pheasant (Springer permits) Refer to Section 5 (Youth Hunt Oct. 17, 25, 31 - Refer to Section 5)	8:00 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
8	Nov. 1	Nov. 30	3	9	Any pheasant	8:00 a.m.	4:00 p.m.
9	Nov. 1	Dec. 31	3	9	Any pheasant (Youth Hunt Nov. 8, 15, 22, 29 - Refer to Section 6)	8:00 a.m.	3:00 p.m.
11	Nov. 1	Dec. 31	3	9	Any pheasant	½ hour before Sunrise	Sunset

i. Pheasant Hunt Area Descriptions.

**Area 1.** All of Fremont County, excluding those lands described in pheasant Hunt Area 2. All of Sheridan, Johnson, Park, Washakie and Hot Springs counties, and all of Big Horn County excluding those lands described in pheasant Hunt Area 5.

**Area 2.** All lands in the Ocean Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area, the Mile High Ranch Access Area, the Killebrew Ranches Access Area and all lands in the Sand Mesa Wildlife Habitat Management Area east of the Bass Lake Road.

**Area 5.** All of the lands included in the Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Management Area north of U.S. Highway 14A.

**Area 7.** All of Goshen County excluding Hunt Area 8.

**Area 8.** All of the lands included in the Springer/Bump-Sullivan Wildlife Habitat Management Area.

**Area 9.** All Bureau of Reclamation Withdrawal lands bordering and including Glendo State Park and the adjoining Department's Access Yes Walk-in Area.

**Area 11.** The entire State of Wyoming excluding the lands described in Areas 1, 2, 5, 7, 8 and 9.

ii. Closed Areas.

- A. The waters and lands within one-half (1/2) mile of the aeration system on the north side of Ocean Lake shall be closed to pheasant hunting beginning December 15 through December 31 of each year.
- B. The Downar Bird Farm and Springer Headquarters in Goshen County shall be closed to pheasant hunting as marked by signs.
- C. The lands on the Springer/Bump-Sullivan Wildlife Habitat Management Area south of Goshen County Road 42 and west of Goshen County Road 37 shall be closed to pheasant hunting after November 13.
- D. Pond Number 1 and adjacent lands on the Table Mountain Wildlife Habitat Management Area in Goshen County, as marked by colored signs and posts, shall be closed to pheasant hunting after November 13.
- E. The Sheridan Bird Farm in Sheridan County shall be closed to pheasant hunting, except during hunts sponsored and supervised by the Wyoming Game and Fish Department.

### Section 4. Pheasant Special Management Permit

A Pheasant Special Management Permit shall be required of any person, except those exempted in this section, who participates in the hunting of pheasants in those areas listed in subsection (a) of this section. Owners of lands enrolled in the Department's Access Yes Walk-In Areas, and members of their immediate families (landowner's spouse, parents, grandparents, lineal descendants and their spouses or siblings) are exempt from the requirement to obtain a Pheasant Special Management Permit when they are hunting pheasants on the deeded land of the landowner. The Pheasant Special Management Permit shall be in possession of any person while hunting pheasants, and shall be immediately produced for inspection upon request from any authorized Department representative. The permit shall be available at Headquarters, Department Regional Offices and designated license selling agents.

- a. Pheasant Special Management Permit Areas. A Pheasant Special Management Permit shall be required to hunt pheasants in the areas listed in this subsection:
  - i. Bud Love Wildlife Habitat Management Area in Johnson County.
  - ii. Glendo State Park; including all Bureau of Reclamation Withdrawal lands bordering the Park and the adjoining Department's Access Yes Walk-In Area in Platte County.
  - iii. Ocean Lake Wildlife Habitat Management Area, the Mile High Ranch Access Area and the Killebrew Ranches Access Area in Fremont County.
  - iv. Springer Wildlife Habitat Management Area in Goshen County.
  - v. Table Mountain Wildlife Habitat Management Area in Goshen County.
  - vi. Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Management Area, excluding any private lands included within the Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Management Area, in Big Horn County.
  - vii. All lands in the Sand Mesa Wildlife Habitat Management Area east of the Bass Lake Road in Fremont County.
  - viii. All lands open to the hunting of pheasants that are enrolled in the Department's Access Yes Program, excluding Walk-In Access Areas in Big Horn, Fremont, Hot Springs, Park and Washakie counties on which pheasants are not released by the Department.
  - ix. All State Trust land in Sheridan County.
  - x. Welch Ranch Management Area in Sheridan County.

### Section 5. Springer Permit Pheasant Season

There shall be a Springer permit pheasant season in Hunt Area 8 beginning October 15 through October 31. In order to participate in this season, a person shall possess and present upon request a valid Springer permit, a valid bird license and conservation stamp (unless otherwise exempted by state statute) and a Pheasant Special Management Permit. The Springer permit shall only be valid for the day printed on the permit by the Department.

- a. Application for Springer Permits. Applications shall be submitted through the Electronic Licensing Service (ELS). Only youths may apply for Springer permits for youth only hunt days as set forth in Section 5 (c) of this Chapter. A drawing shall be utilized to determine successful applicants. A person shall only submit a single application. Successful applicants shall be notified by mail of their hunting date and furnished a set of special instructions.
- b. Issuance of Springer Permits. A maximum of one hundred twenty (120) permits shall be issued to successful applicants in the drawing for each day of the Springer permit pheasant season. A maximum of one hundred twenty (120) hunters shall be allowed to hunt at any one time during the Springer permit pheasant season. When a hunter checks out of the Springer Check Station, the Department may issue a permit to another person at the check station. If all one hundred twenty (120) permits for a single day have not been issued by the Department, or if the check station attendants are advised



Rooster pheasant

that a permitted hunter will not participate, the Department may issue a permit to another person at the check station on a first-come, first-served basis, not to exceed a maximum of one hundred twenty (120) permitted hunters. Permitted hunters may begin hunting at 8:00 a.m. Hunters who are issued permits through the drawing must check in at the check station by 8:00 a.m. on the date their permit is valid. Permits that are unclaimed after 8:00 a.m. may be issued to other hunters on a first-come, first-served basis.

- c. Youth Only Hunt Days. Only youths shall be allowed to take pheasants on the youth hunt days. Youths under the age of fourteen (14) shall be accompanied by an adult. No adult shall take any pheasant during the youth only hunt days. The youth only hunt days are October 17, 25 and 31.
- d. Springer Check Station. The Springer Check Station is located one and one-quarter (1-1/4) miles west of U.S. Highway 85 on the south boundary of the Springer Wildlife Habitat Management Area. The hours of operation of the check station shall be from 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. daily during the Springer permit pheasant season. Persons participating in the Springer permit pheasant season shall check in at the check station prior to hunting. Prior to leaving the Springer permit pheasant area, each hunter shall check out at the check station by 4:30 p.m. on the same day that the hunter registered and shall accurately report all harvested pheasants and return all special hunt materials to the check station.
- e. Parking Assignment. Parking lot assignments and tags shall be issued by the Department for each vehicle utilized by hunters. Park-

ing lot tags shall be displayed in a visible manner in each vehicle. All vehicles shall be parked in assigned parking lots.

**Section 6. Glendo Pheasant Hunt Area 9 Youth Pheasant Hunt**

Only youths shall be allowed to take pheasants on the dates listed in this section. Youths under the age of fourteen (14) shall be accompanied by an adult. No adults shall take any pheasant during the youth only hunt days. Youth only hunt days shall be the following Sundays; November 8, 15, 22 and 29.

**Section 7. Bud Love Wildlife Habitat Management Area, Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Management Area and Pheasant Hunt Area 2 Youth Pheasant Hunt**

Only youths shall be allowed to take pheasants on the dates listed in this section. Youths under the age of fourteen (14) shall be accompanied by an adult. No adults shall take any pheasant during the youth only hunt days.

- a. The Bud Love Wildlife Habitat Management Area and pheasant Hunt Area 2 youth only hunt day is Saturday, November 14.
- b. The Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Management Area youth only hunt days are November 13-15 and shall take place on all lands included in the Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Management Area north of the Shoshone River.

UPLAND GAME BIRDS

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# SMALL GAME HUNTING SEASONS

What documents do I need to hunt small game in Wyoming?					
Documents	Resident		Nonresident		
	Under age of 14	Ages 14 and older	Under age of 14	Ages 14-17	Ages 18 and older
Hunter Safety Certificate (See page 8)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wyoming Conservation Stamp (See page 7)		✓		✓	✓
Resident daily or 12 month game bird or game bird/small game hunting license (See page 5)		✓			
Nonresident daily or 12 month game bird/small game hunting license (See page 5)					✓
Nonresident 12 month youth game bird/small game hunting license (See page 5)				✓	

## Section 8. Small Game Hunting Seasons

a. Small Game Species, Seasons Dates, Bag Limits and Limitations.

Species	Season Dates		Bag Limit		Limitations
	Opens	Closes	Daily	Poss.	
Cottontail Rabbit	Sep. 1	Mar. 31	10	20	Any cottontail rabbit
Snowshoe Hare	Sep. 1	Mar. 31	4	8	Any snowshoe hare
Red, Grey and Fox Squirrel	Sep. 1	Mar. 31	10	20	Any red, grey or fox squirrel

i. Small Game Hunt Area Description.

**Area 1.** The entire state of Wyoming.

## Section 9. Archery Regulations

Upland game birds and small game may be taken with archery equipment in accordance with limitations set forth in this Chapter.

## Section 10. Upland Game Bird and Small Game Falconry Seasons

- Upland game birds may be taken with falcons in accordance with Section 3 of this Chapter. Persons hunting with falcons may take any pheasant.
- Except for sage grouse, the falconry season shall open September 1 and close March 1 in those open hunt areas listed in Section 3 of this Chapter and subject to the closures listed in Subsection 10(c) of this Chapter. The sage grouse falconry season shall open September 1 and close January 31 in sage grouse hunt area 1 as listed in Section 3 of this Chapter.

c. Closed Areas.

Species	Hunt Area	Limitations
Pheasant	8, 9	Closed to falconry hunting
Sage Grouse	2, 3, 4	Closed to falconry hunting

Also refer to closed areas in Section 3.

- The daily bag and possession limits for upland game birds other than sage grouse, shall be as set forth in Section 3 of this Chapter. The daily bag limit shall be one (1) sage grouse and the possession limit shall be two (2) sage grouse.
- Persons taking sage grouse with falcons shall respond to Department hunting/harvest information surveys not later than May 1 following the previous falconry sage grouse hunting season as listed in subsection (b).
- Small game animals may be taken with falcons in accordance with the open seasons in the table below.

Species	Falconry Season Dates		Bag Limit		Limitations
	Opens	Closes	Daily	Poss.	
Cottontail Rabbit	Sep. 1	Mar. 1	10	20	Any cottontail rabbit
	Mar. 2	Aug. 31	1	2	Any cottontail rabbit
Snowshoe Hare	Sep. 1	Mar. 1	10	20	Any snowshoe hare
	Mar. 2	Aug. 31	1	2	Any snowshoe hare
Red, Grey and Fox Squirrel	Sep. 1	Mar. 1	10	20	Any red, grey or fox squirrel
	Mar. 2	Aug. 31	1	2	Any red, grey or fox squirrel



Snowshoe Hare



Cottontail Rabbit  
(Photo by Amy Anderson/WGFD)

# MIGRATORY GAME BIRD HUNTING SEASONS AND LIGHT GOOSE CONSERVATION ORDER

What documents do I need to hunt migratory game birds in Wyoming?							
Documents	Resident			Nonresident			
	Under age of 14	Ages 14-15	Ages 16 and older	Under age of 14	Ages 14-15	Ages 16-17	Ages 18 and older
Hunter Safety Certificate (See page 8)	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wyoming Conservation Stamp (See page 7)		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Wyoming HIP Permit (See page 8)		✓	✓		✓	✓	✓
Federal Duck Stamp (see page 6)			✓			✓	✓
Resident daily or 12 month game bird or game bird/small game hunting license (See page 5)		✓	✓				
Nonresident daily or 12 month game bird/small game hunting license (See page 5)							✓
Nonresident 12 month youth game bird/small game hunting license (See page 5)					✓	✓	

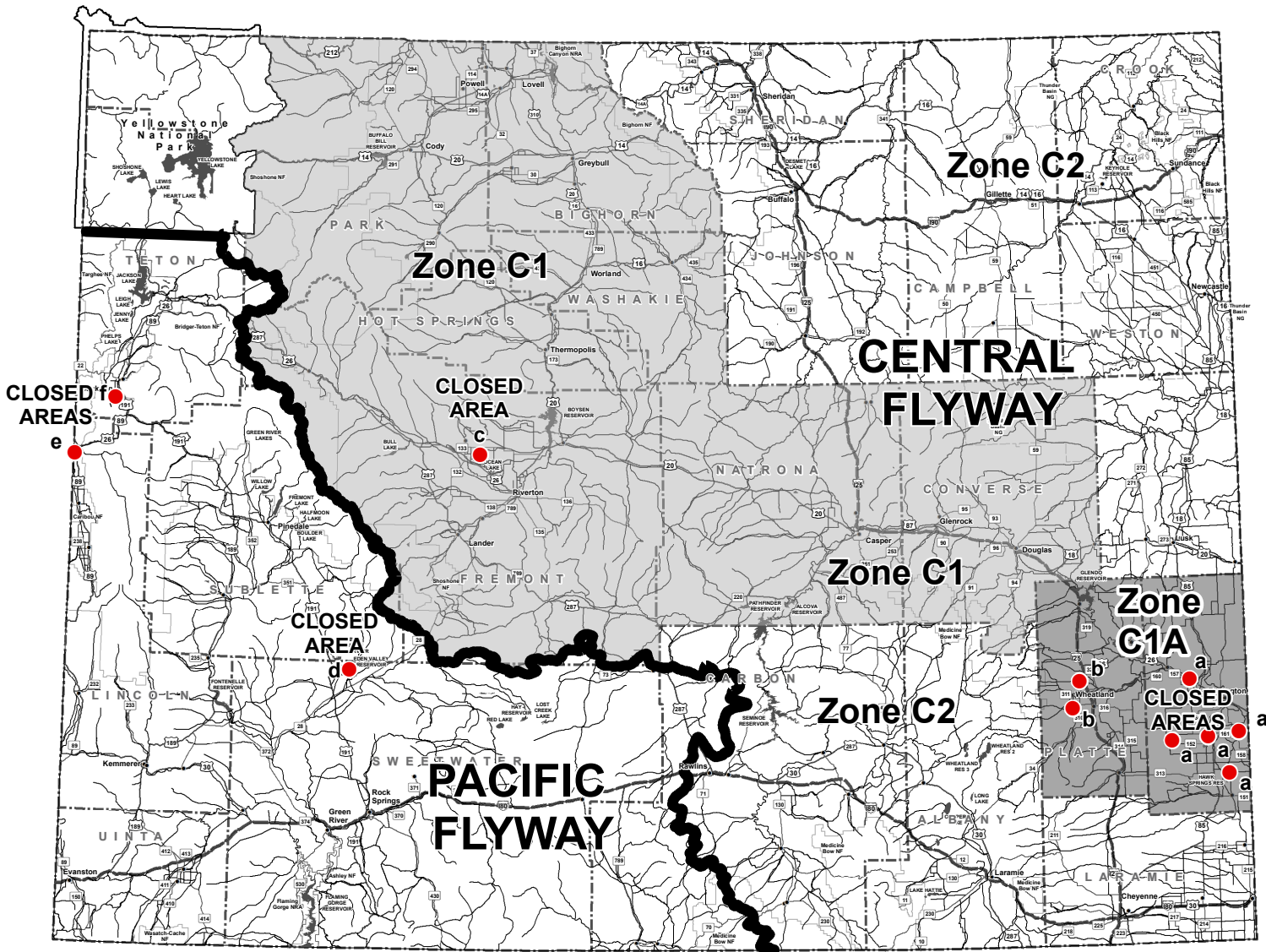
## Section 2. Hunting Regulations

- a. Federal Regulations. 50 CFR 20.21(i) revised as of August 8, 2019, which do not include any later amendments or editions of the incorporated matter, governing the baiting of migratory game birds, 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 the Cheyenne Headquarters, Department Regional Offices or on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service website ([www.fws.gov](http://www.fws.gov)).
- b. Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (federal duck stamp). A federal duck stamp is required for persons sixteen (16) years of age and older to hunt ducks, geese and mergansers. A federal duck stamp is not required to hunt coots, sandhill cranes, crows, mourning doves, rail or snipe. Federal duck stamps shall be signed in ink across the face of the stamp and shall be in possession of the hunter while in the field. Hunters possessing an electronic federal duck stamp are exempted from this signature provision during the time their electronic federal duck stamp is valid.
- c. HIP Permit. Each licensed hunter who hunts migratory game birds shall complete a current Wyoming validation for the National Migratory Bird 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. HIP permits shall be signed in ink across the face of the permit and shall be in possession of the hunter while in the field. HIP permits expire on June 30 each year. HIP permits are not transferrable to other states. A separate HIP permit is required from each state in which you hunt. Wyoming HIP permits shall be available only on the Department website. Youths under 14 are not required to obtain a HIP permit if they do not hold a valid game bird license.
- d. No person shall take migratory game birds:
  - i. With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10 gauge, punt gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive or stupefying substance;
  - ii. With any shotgun that can hold more than three (3) shells in the magazine and chamber combined, except during the light goose conservation order (refer to Section 7 of this regulation);

- iii. From a sink box or any low floating device, which has a depression to hide a person underneath the water's surface;
  - iv. 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;
  - v. By the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of ten (10) consecutive days prior to hunting, and shall be confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such birds from the sight of migratory game birds;
  - vi. By the use of records or tapes of migratory bird calls or sounds, or electronically amplified imitations of bird calls, except during the light goose conservation order;
  - vii. By driving, rallying or chasing migratory game birds with any motor driven land, water or air conveyance or any sailboat.
- e. Nontoxic Shot. No person shall hunt ducks, geese, mergansers or coots while possessing shot other than nontoxic shot. Nontoxic shot is also required when using a shotgun to hunt any game bird on the Commission's Table Mountain and Springer/Bump-Sullivan wildlife habitat management areas.
  - f. 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.
  - g. Mourning Dove, Rail and Snipe Hunting Seasons.

MOURNING DOVE, RAIL AND SNIPE - STATEWIDE					
Species	Season Dates		Closed Areas Section 3 Sub-sections	Bag Limit	
	Opens	Closes		Daily	Poss.
Mourning Dove	Sep. 1	Nov. 29	b, d, e a – after Nov. 13 c – after Nov. 14	15	45
Sora and Virginia Rail	Sep. 1	Nov. 9	b, d, e	25	75
Snipe	Sep. 1	Dec. 16	b, d, e a – after Nov. 13 c – after Nov. 14	8	24

# MIGRATORY GAME BIRD HUNTING AREAS



● CLOSED AREAS AS SET FORTH IN SECTIONS 2 & 3    ■ FLYWAY DIVISION    ■ CENTRAL FLYWAY ZONE C1    ■ CENTRAL FLYWAY ZONE C1A    ■ CENTRAL FLYWAY ZONE C2

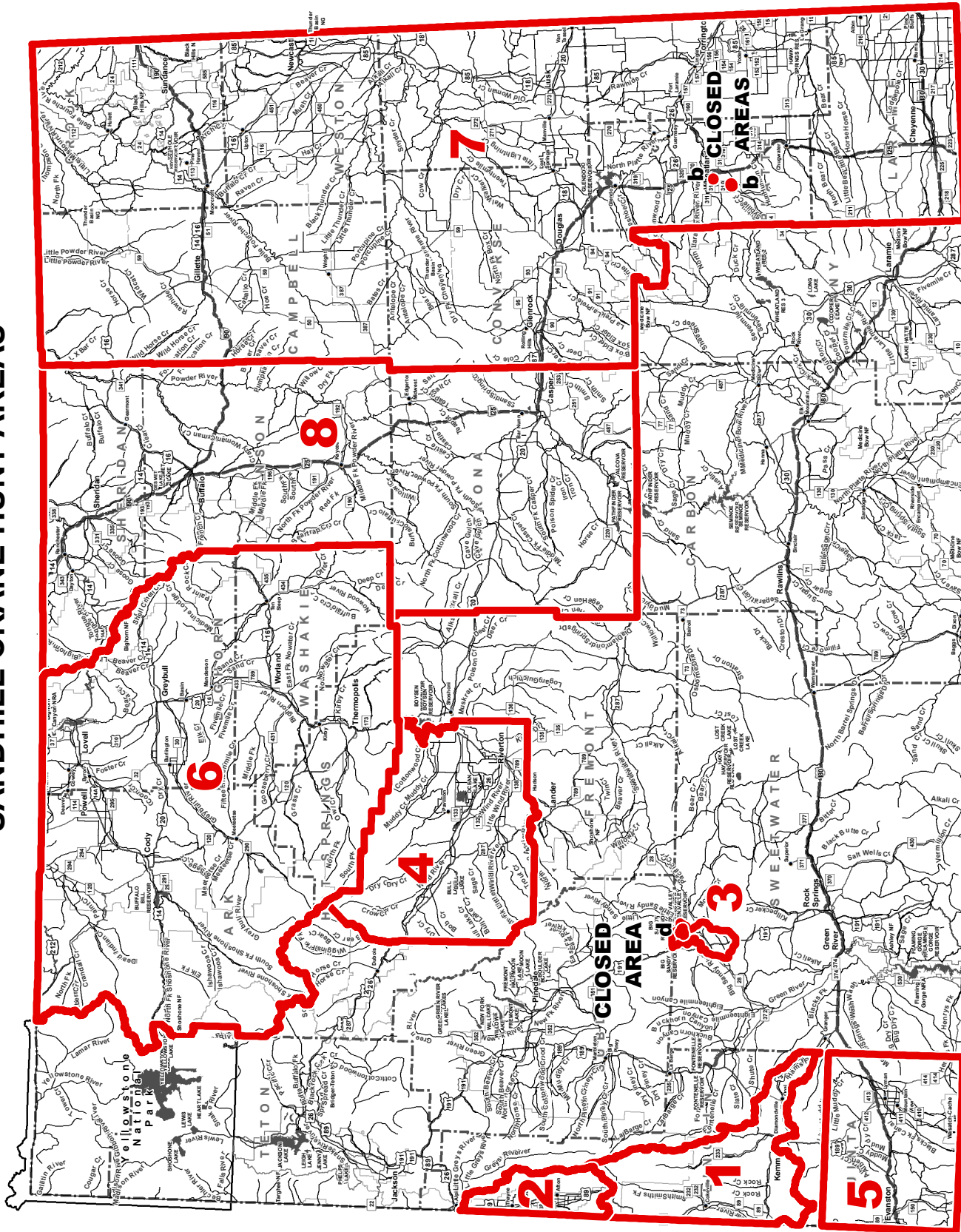
THIS MAP IS FOR GENERAL REFERENCE ONLY. Please use the written boundary descriptions in this regulation for detailed boundary information

## WATERFOWL SEASONS

SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR
	3 C1A 20	14	C1A	31			
	3 C1 20	14	C1	31			
	26	C2	29	12 C2 12			
	26	Pacific Flyway		8			
	3 C1A 14	14	C1A	14			
	3 C1 20	20	C1	14			
1 8 C2	26	C2	29	12 C2 12			
1 8 Pacific Flyway							
	26	Pacific Flyway		31			
	3	All Central Flyway		30	30 14	All Central Flyway	
	26	Pacific Flyway		31			
					15	CF Conservation Order 30	

■ Duck, Merganser, Coot    ■ Dark Goose    ■ Light Goose    ■ Canada Goose Only

# SANDHILL CRANE HUNT AREAS



● CLOSED AREAS AS SET FORTH IN SECTIONS 2 & 3

▭ SANDHILL CRANE HUNT AREAS

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

h. Sandhill Crane Hunting Seasons

LIMITED QUOTA PERMIT - SANDHILL CRANE SEASONS					
Hunt Area	Season Dates		Permit Quota	Closed Areas Section 3 Sub-sections	Season Bag Limit
	Opens	Closes			
1	Sep. 1	Sep. 20	62		1
2	Sep. 1	Sep. 20	62		1
3	Sep. 1	Sep. 13	249	d	1
4	Sep. 26	Oct. 18	249		1
5	Sep. 1	Sep. 15	62		1
6	Sep. 5	Oct. 4	249		1
8	Sep. 1	Sep. 30	93		1

GENERAL PERMIT - SANDHILL CRANE SEASONS					
Hunt Area	Season Dates		Closed Areas Section 3 Sub-sections	Bag Limit	
	Opens	Closes		Daily	Poss.

- i. Permits. All persons, regardless of age, hunting sandhill cranes shall possess a permit valid for the hunt area in which they are hunting. No person shall apply for or receive more than one (1) limited quota sandhill crane permit during a calendar year. A person may also obtain a permit valid for the general sandhill crane season in Hunt Area 7.
  - A. Limited Quota Sandhill Crane Permits. Persons may apply for limited quota sandhill crane permits through the Department’s Electronic Licensing Service (ELS). Party applications shall be accepted. Maximum party size shall be two (2). Residents and nonresidents shall not apply together as a party.
  - B. General Sandhill Crane Permits. Permits to hunt during the general sandhill crane season (Hunt Area 7) shall be available through the Department’s ELS.
- ii. Tagging Sandhill Cranes. When a sandhill crane is killed under a limited quota permit, the permittee shall detach, sign and date the carcass coupon and attach the coupon to the carcass before leaving the site of the 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 shall 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 the kill. The carcass coupon shall be attached to the carcass of a sandhill crane in such a manner as to be plainly visible. Sandhill cranes killed during the general sandhill crane season in Hunt Area 7 are not required to be tagged.
- iii. Limited Quota and General Sandhill Crane Hunt Area Descriptions.

**Area and Number.**

- Area 1.** All of the Bear River and Ham’s Fork River drainages in Lincoln County.
- Area 2.** All of the Salt River drainage in Lincoln County south of the McCoy Creek Road.
- Area 3.** All lands within the Bureau of Reclamation’s Eden Project in Sweetwater County.
- 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.
- Area 5.** All of Uinta County.
- Area 6.** All of Big Horn, Hot Springs, Park and Washakie counties.

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

**Area 8.** All of Johnson, Natrona and Sheridan counties.

i. Waterfowl Hunting Seasons

i. Pacific Flyway

PACIFIC FLYWAY					
Species	Season Dates		Closed Areas Section 3 Sub-sections	Bag Limit	
	Opens	Closes		Daily	Poss.
Ducks and Mergansers	Sep. 26	Jan. 8	d, e f - through Oct. 8	7*	21*
Coots	Sep. 26	Jan. 8	d, e f - through Oct. 8	15	45
Early Canada Goose	Sep. 1	Sep. 8	d, e f - through Oct. 8	5	15
Dark Geese	Sep. 26	Dec. 31	d, e f - through Oct. 8	5	15
Light Geese	Sep. 26	Dec. 31	d, e f - through Oct. 8	10	30

\* The daily bag limit of seven (7) ducks and mergansers may include any combination of species with the following restrictions:

- no more than two (2) hen mallards;
  - no more than three (3) pintail;
  - no more than two (2) canvasbacks;
  - no more than two (2) redheads; and,
  - no more than two (2) scaup. No scaup shall be taken after December 20.
- ii. Central Flyway Zones. The Central Flyway is divided into three (3) zones. Refer to the season dates for the zone in which you are hunting.
    - A. ZONE C1 shall include Big Horn, Converse, Hot Springs, Natrona, Park and Washakie counties, and Fremont County excluding those portions south or west of the Continental Divide.
    - B. ZONE C1A shall include Goshen and Platte counties.
    - C. ZONE C2 shall include Albany, Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Laramie, Niobrara, Sheridan and Weston counties; and that portion of Carbon County east of the Continental Divide.

iii. Central Flyway

CENTRAL FLYWAY					
Species	Season Dates		Closed Areas Section 3 Sub-sections	Bag Limit	
	Opens	Closes		Daily	Poss.
Light Geese	Oct. 3	Dec. 30	b a - after Nov. 13 c - after Nov. 14	20	60
	Jan. 30	Feb. 14	a, b, c	20	60

CENTRAL FLYWAY - ZONE C1					
Species	Season Dates		Closed Areas Section 3 Sub-sections	Bag Limit	
	Opens	Closes		Daily	Poss.
Ducks and Mergansers	Oct. 3	Oct. 20	c - after Nov. 14	6**	18**
	Nov. 14	Jan. 31			
Coots	Oct. 3	Oct. 20	c - after Nov. 14	15	45
	Nov. 14	Jan. 31			
Dark Geese	Oct. 3	Oct. 20	c	5	15
	Nov. 20	Feb. 14			

CENTRAL FLYWAY - ZONE C1A					
Species	Season Dates		Closed Areas Section 3 Sub-sections	Bag Limit	
	Opens	Closes		Daily	Poss.
Ducks and Mergansers	Oct. 3	Oct. 20	b	6**	18**
	Nov. 14	Jan. 31	b a - after Nov. 13		
Coots	Oct. 3	Oct. 20	b	15	45
	Nov. 14	Jan. 31	b a - after Nov. 13		
Dark Geese*	Oct. 3	Oct. 14	b	2	6
	Nov. 14	Feb. 14	a, b	5	15

CENTRAL FLYWAY - ZONE C2					
Species	Season Dates		Closed Areas Section 3 Sub-sections	Bag Limit	
	Opens	Closes		Daily	Poss.
Ducks and Mergansers	Sep. 26	Nov. 29		6**	18**
	Dec. 12	Jan. 12			
Coots	Sep. 26	Nov. 29		15	45
	Dec. 12	Jan. 12			
Early Canada Goose	Sep. 1	Sep. 8		5	15
Dark Geese	Sep. 26	Nov. 29		5	15
	Dec. 12	Jan. 12			

\*For Bump-Sullivan Managed Goose Hunt information, see Section 6.

\*\*The daily bag limit of six (6) ducks and mergansers may include any combination of species with the following restrictions:

- no more than five (5) mallards of which not more than two (2) shall be hens;
- no more than three (3) pintail;
- no more than three (3) wood ducks;
- no more than two (2) canvasbacks;
- no more than two (2) redheads; and,
- no more than one (1) scaup.
- two (2) blue-winged teal may be taken in addition to the regular limit of six (6) ducks during the following dates:

- Zone C1 and C1A: October 3 – October 11
- Zone C2: September 26 – October 4

j. Special Hunting Days for Youths, Veterans and Active Military Personnel (including members of the National Guard and Reserves on active duty). In the Pacific Flyway and in Zone C2 of the Central Flyway, the special hunting days for youths, veterans and active military personnel shall be September 19-20, 2026. In Zones C1 and C1A of the Central Flyway, the special hunting days for youths, veterans and active military personnel shall be September 26-27, 2026. Only qualifying persons may take ducks, mergansers, coots and geese on these special hunting days, subject to the following conditions:

- All youth hunters shall be seventeen (17) years of age or younger and shall be accompanied in the field by an adult at least eighteen (18) years of age.
- No more than four (4) youths shall be accompanied by any one (1) adult.
- The accompanying adult shall not take ducks, coots, mergansers or geese unless they also qualify as a veteran or active military personnel. However the accompanying adult may participate in other open seasons.
- All license and stamp requirements, daily bag limits, species and sex restrictions, shooting hours and other regulations that apply to the regular duck and goose seasons, as defined for each flyway, shall apply during the special hunting days for youths, veterans and active military personnel. Exceptions: The additional blue-winged teal limit does not apply on these special hunting days. In Zone C1A, the daily bag limit for dark geese shall be four (4) on the special hunting days for youths, veterans and active military personnel.
- All veterans and active military personnel participating in the special hunting days shall be in possession of documentation confirming they are a veteran or active military personnel while hunting in the field.
- The areas described in Section 3 (b), (d), (e) and (f) shall be closed to hunting during the special hunting days for youths, veterans and active military personnel.

### 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 Sections 2, 5 and 7.

a. Goshen County

- 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.
- 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 high-water mark of Springer Reservoir; westerly then southerly along the high-water mark 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 Wyoming Game and Fish Department buildings; due south from said buildings across the Whispering Wings LLC property to the Fullmer 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 Springer WHMA boundary at the Casey L. Hunter property; westerly then northerly along said boundary to the fence separating the Joe and Judith Hunter

Living Trust property and the George Marlatt & Son, Inc. property; easterly then southerly then easterly along said fence to U.S. Highway 85; northerly along said highway to the George Marlatt farmhouse.

- 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 beginning one-quarter (1/4) mile downstream of the western-most river crossing with Wyoming Highway 157 downstream to the eastern-most river crossing with 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.
  - ii. Wheatland Reservoir No. 1. Wheatland Reservoir No. 1 and all lands within three hundred (300) yards of the normal high water line.
- c. Fremont County
- i. Ocean Lake. The waters and lands within one-half (1/2) mile of the aeration system on the north side of Ocean Lake shall be closed to migratory game bird hunting beginning November 15 through March 10 of the following year.
- d. Sweetwater County
- i. Eden Reservoir. Eden Reservoir and all lands within three hundred (300) yards of the normal high water line.
- 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 one and six-tenths (1.6) miles to the Palisades Reservoir high water line; westerly along said high water line to the Wyoming - Idaho state line; south along said state line to the McCoy Creek Road; southeasterly along the McCoy Creek Road to U.S. Highway 89.
- f. Teton County
- i. South Park Wildlife Habitat Management Area Northwest Reservoirs. The three reservoirs (Snowy Egret, Sandhill Crane and Blue Heron) in the northwest corner of the property and the surrounding lands, beginning at the South Park Wildlife Habitat Management Area's northwest property corner; east along the fenced northern property boundary to Flat Creek; south along the western edge of Flat Creek to the bridge and South Park Feedground Road; southwest along South Park Feedground Road to the intersection with the maintenance road; northwest along the maintenance road to the end of the maintenance road; due west to the fenced property line; north along the fence to the northwest corner of the property.

### Section 4. Shooting Hours

- a. Except as provided in Section 4 (b) and Section 8, shooting hours for hunting all migratory game birds shall be from one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise until sunset.
- b. From November 14 through the close of the dark goose season, daily shooting hours for dark geese shall end at 1:00 p.m. on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays within the following areas: Goshen County north of Wyoming Highway 313 on the west side of U.S. Highway 85, and north of County Road 32 on the east side of U.S. Highway 85.

### Section 5. Falconry Seasons

Migratory game birds may be taken by the use of trained raptors in the possession of properly licensed falconers during the regular hunting season set forth in Section 2 and extended falconry seasons in accordance with the limitations in this Section, Section 2, Section 3 and Section 4. Licensed adult falconers are allowed to hunt by falconry methods during the special hunting days for youths, veterans and active military personnel set forth in Section 2 (j).

- 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 regular hunting season or extended falconry seasons. The daily bag and possession limits, singly or in the aggregate, may include any species and sex of ducks, geese, coots, mergansers, rail, snipe, mourning doves and sandhill crane when seasons for these species are open. No more than one (1) sandhill crane shall be taken under a limited quota sandhill crane permit. The falconry bag and possession limits are not in addition to the bag and possession limits listed in Section 2.

EXTENDED FALCONRY SEASONS					
Species and Hunt Areas	Extended Season Dates		Closed Areas Section 3 Sub-sections	AGGREGATE Bag Limit	
	Opens	Closes		Daily	Poss.
Mourning Doves - Statewide	Nov. 30	Dec. 16	b, d, e a – after Nov. 13 c – after Nov. 14	3	9
Sora Rail and Virginia Rail - Statewide	Nov. 10	Dec. 16			
<b>ZONE C1 and C1A</b> Central Flyway - Ducks, Mergansers and Coots	Oct. 21	Oct. 28	b	3	9
<b>ZONE C2</b> Central Flyway - Ducks, Mergansers and Coots	Sep. 21	Sep. 25	Nov. 30		

### Section 6. Bump-Sullivan Managed Goose Hunt

Nineteen (19) numbered pits/blinds shall be available each day during the dark goose hunting season and shall be occupied on a first-come, first-served basis within the Bump-Sullivan Managed Goose Hunt Area in Goshen County. From November 14, 2026 through February 14, 2027, hunting during dark goose shooting hours shall only be allowed from pits/blinds or within fifty (50) yards of the pits/blinds.

- a. Selection of pits/blinds. Hunters and hunting parties shall occupy pits/blinds by parking one vehicle directly in front of the numbered post that is marked with the corresponding number of the pit/blind. Vehicles shall not be parked overnight to reserve a pit/blind. Vehicles shall also not be parked in front of a numbered post of a pit/blind other than the one the hunting party is occupying. Hunters shall not change pits/blinds except by returning to the parking area and moving their vehicle to the numbered post corresponding to the new pit/blind.
- b. Access to pits/blinds. Hunters shall only park in established parking areas. No more than two (2) vehicles per pit/blind shall be allowed in the parking lots. No person shall drive a vehicle beyond the established parking areas during the goose and duck hunting seasons, except for Department administrative access. Hunters may only use non-motorized methods to transport decoys and other gear to and from the pit/blind.
- c. Commercial operations. No person shall conduct a commercially guided or outfitted hunt on the Bump-Sullivan Managed Goose Hunt Area.
- d. Bump-Sullivan Managed Goose Hunt Area boundary description. The Bump-Sullivan Managed Goose Hunt Area shall include the portion of the Springer/Bump Sullivan Wildlife Habitat Management Area (WHMA) located west of Goshen County Road 37 (Bump-Sullivan Reservoir and adjacent Commission owned lands); the portion of



# IDENTIFY YOUR BIRDS



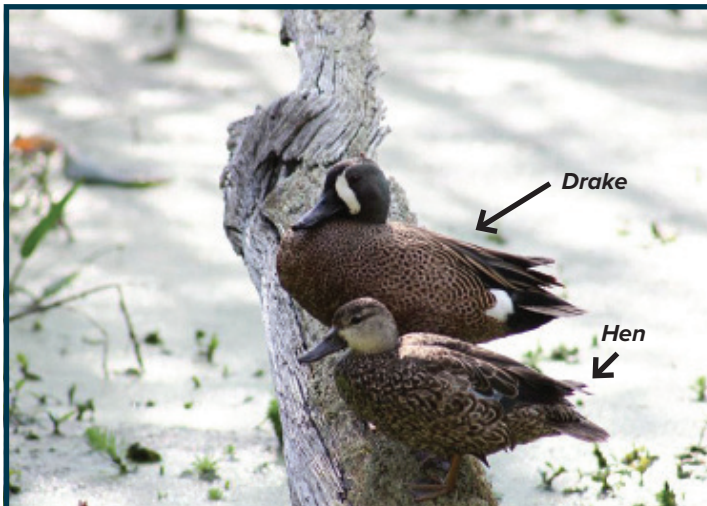
**SANDHILL CRANE**



**SNOW GOOSE (LIGHT GOOSE)**

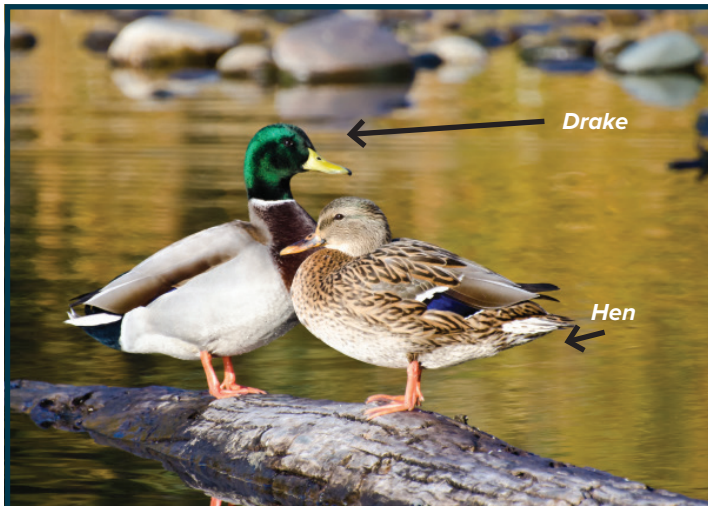


**TRUMPETER SWAN**



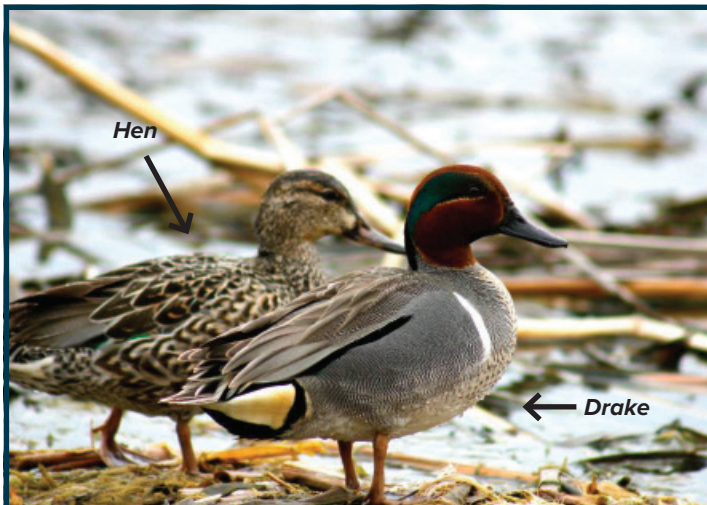
**BLUE-WINGED TEAL**

Length - 16 inches | Weight - 15 ounces



**MALLARD**

Length - 24 inches | Weight - 2.75 pounds



**GREEN-WINGED TEAL**

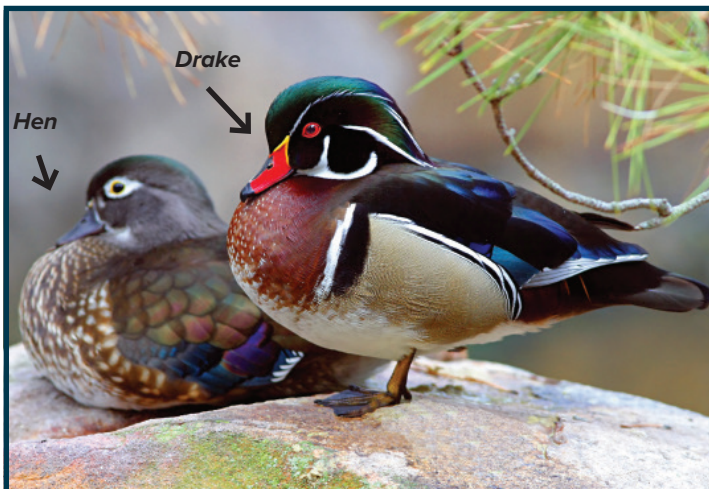
Length - 15 inches | Weight - 14 ounces



**PINTAIL**

Length - 26 inches | Weight - 1.75 pounds

# IDENTIFY YOUR BIRDS



Drake  
Hen

## WOOD DUCK

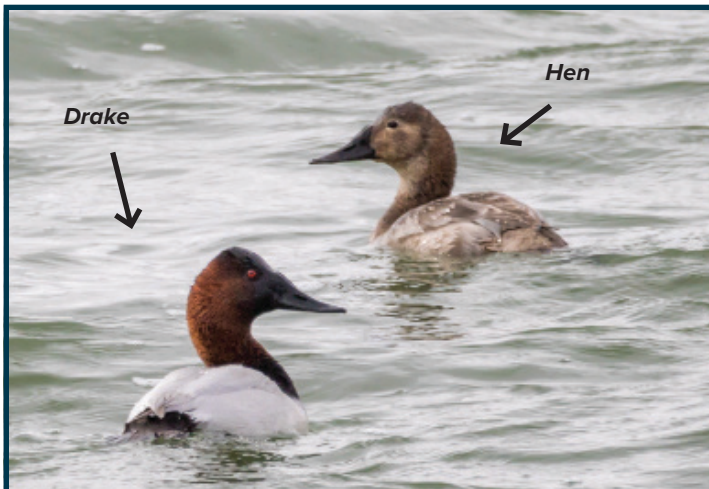
Length - 18.5 inches | Weight - 1.5 pounds



Drake  
Hen

## LESSER SCAUP

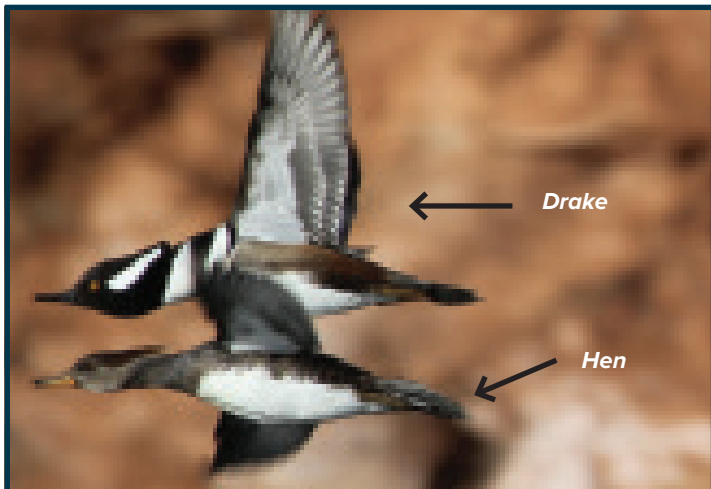
Length - 17 inches | Weight - 1.875 pounds



Drake  
Hen

## CANVASBACK

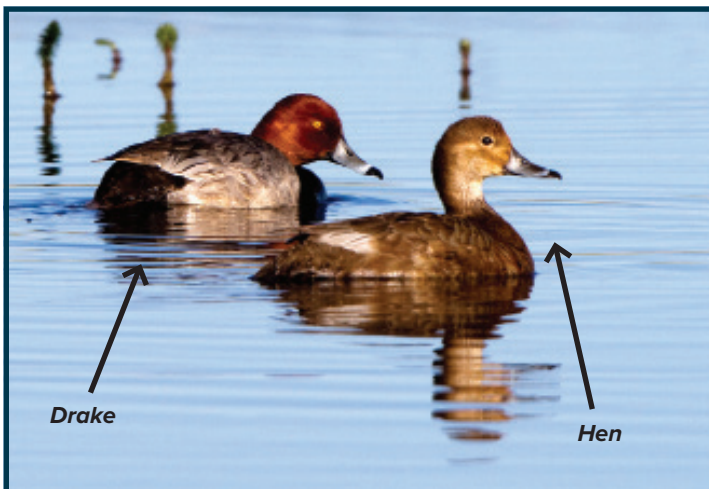
Length - 22 inches | Weight - 3 pounds



Drake  
Hen

## HOODED MERGANSER

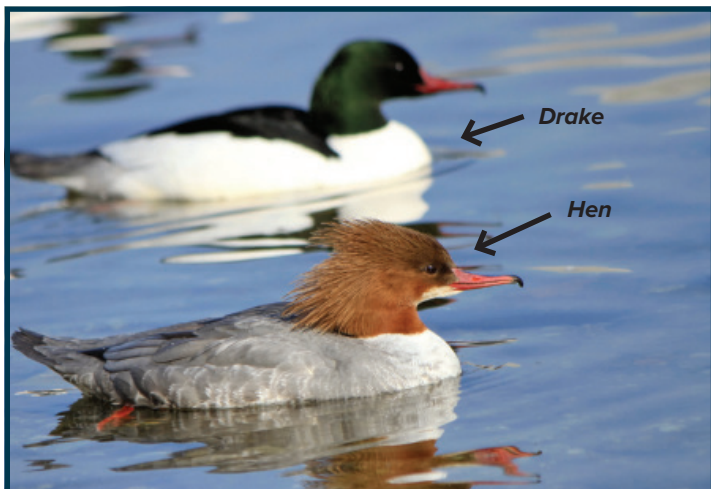
Length - 18 inches | Weight - 1.5 pounds



Drake  
Hen

## REDHEAD

Length - 20 inches | Weight - 2.5 pounds



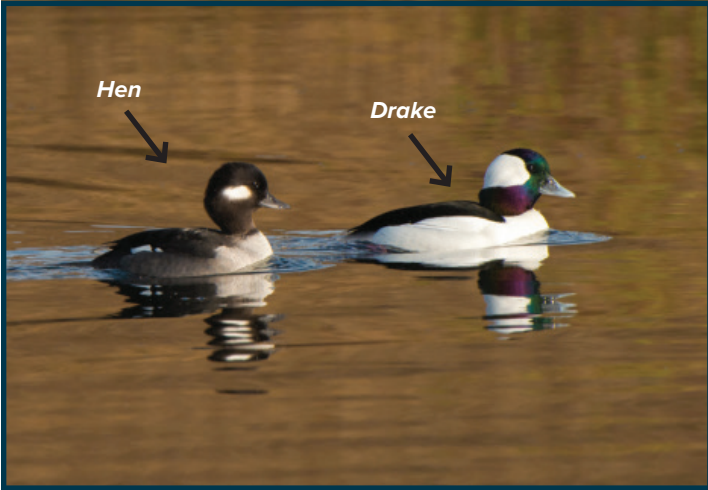
Drake  
Hen

## COMMON MERGANSER

Length - 22 inches | Weight - 3.2 pounds

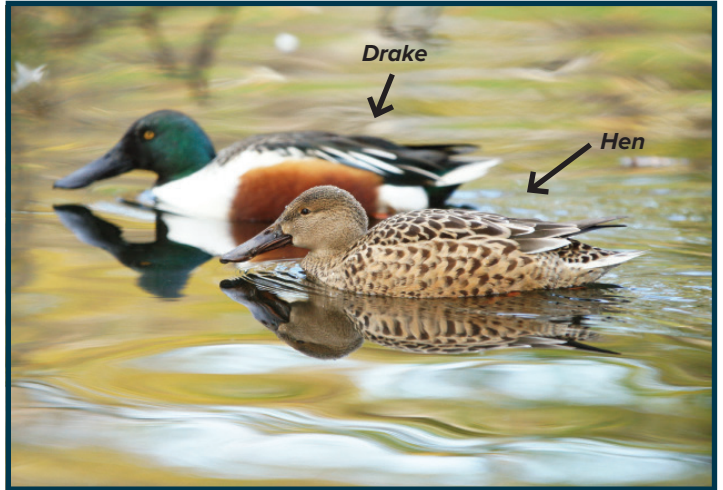
MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

# IDENTIFY YOUR BIRDS



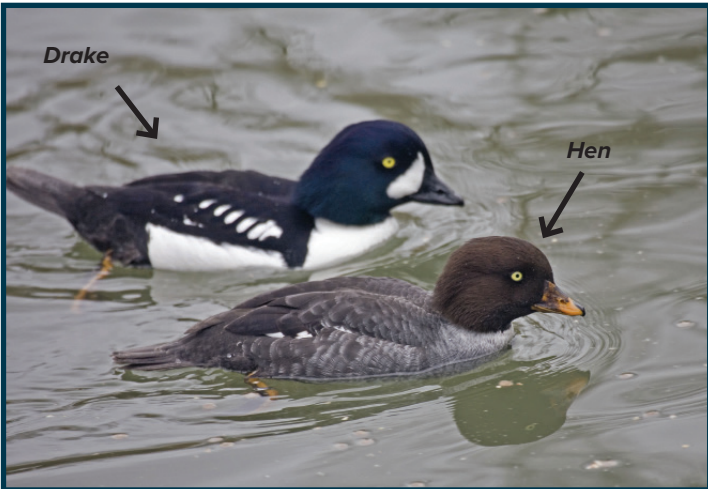
**BUFFLEHEAD**

Length - 15 inches | Weight - 1 pound



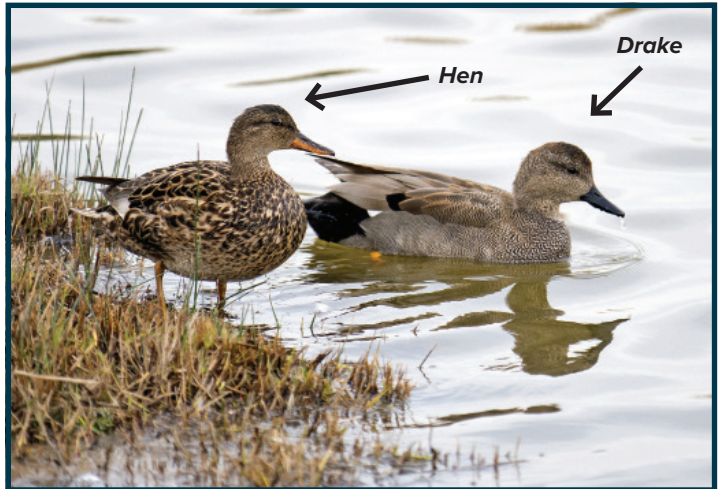
**NORTHERN SHOVELER**

Length - 19 inches | Weight - 1.5 pounds



**BARROW'S GOLDENEYE**

Length - 18 inches | Weight - 2 pounds



**GADWALL**

Length - 20 inches | Weight - 2 pounds



**AMERICAN WIGEON**

Length - 20 inches | Weight - 1.8 pounds



**COOT**

Length - 15 inches | Weight - 1 pound

# WILD TURKEY HUNTING SEASONS

What documents do I need to hunt wild turkey in Wyoming?		
Documents	Resident (All ages)	Nonresident (All ages)
Hunter Safety Certificate (See page 8)	✓	✓
Wyoming Conservation Stamp (See page 7)	✓	✓
Resident wild turkey license	✓	
Nonresident wild turkey license		✓

## Section 2. Hunting Regulations

- a. No person shall apply for or receive more than one (1) license for a wild turkey during any one (1) season, except as otherwise provided in this regulation. The maximum bag limit for wild turkey for any person with the proper license shall not exceed one (1) wild turkey per license.
- b. Issuance of Licenses. No person shall apply for or receive more than one (1) fall wild turkey license and one (1) spring wild turkey license in any calendar year. After the initial drawing is completed, a person may apply for and receive up to three (3) wild turkey licenses valid for each season, provided that at least two (2) of those licenses are Limited Quota Type 3 licenses. However, no person shall apply for and receive more than a total of three (3) wild turkey licenses valid for the fall season and no more than a total of three (3) wild turkey licenses valid for the spring season, except as authorized in Commission regulations.
- c. For the taking of wild turkey during the spring wild turkey season, the use of rimfire, center-fire or muzzle-loading rifles shall be prohibited off private land.
- d. No person shall possess or use shot other than nontoxic shot for hunting wild turkeys with a shotgun on all of the lands in the Springer and Table Mountain Wildlife Habitat Management Areas and on all national wildlife refuges open for hunting.
- e. Evidence of Sex. During the spring season in those hunt areas limited to the taking of male wild turkeys or any wild turkey with a visible beard, proof of sex shall accompany the turkey carcass, attached or unattached while the wild turkey is in transportation from the site of the kill to the residence of the person taking the wild turkey or delivered to a processor for processing. Proof of sex for male wild turkeys shall include either one leg including the spur, or a patch of skin with the breast feathers and beard attached; and for female wild turkey (bearded hen) a patch of skin with the breast feathers and beard attached.
- f. Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Management Area. During the spring season, no person shall attempt to take a wild turkey on the lands of the Wyoming Game and Fish Commission's Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Management Area without possessing a valid Hunter Management Area permission slip issued to them by the Department for said management area and the date(s) of any attempt to take.
- g. 2026 Fall Season. Hunt Areas, Season Dates and Limitations.

Hunt Area	Type	Season Dates		Quota	Limitations
		Opens	Closes		
1	Gen	Sep. 1	Sep. 30		Any wild turkey, archery only
1	Gen	Oct. 1	Jan. 31		Any wild turkey
1	3	Sep. 1	Sep. 30	1,200	Any wild turkey, archery only; valid within Converse, Natrona, Campbell, Johnson and Sheridan counties; also valid on private land in Big Horn, Crook, Hot Springs, Park, Washakie and Weston counties
1	3	Oct. 1	Jan. 31		Any wild turkey valid within Converse, Natrona, Campbell, Johnson and Sheridan counties; also valid on private land in Big Horn, Crook, Hot Springs, Park, Washakie and Weston counties

h. 2027 Spring Season. Hunt Areas, Season Dates and Limitations.

Hunt Area	Type	Season Dates		Quota	Limitations
		Opens	Closes		
1	Gen	Apr. 20	May 31		Any male wild turkey or any wild turkey with a visible beard (Hunter Management Area permission slip required to hunt on the Yellowtail Wildlife Habitat Management Area)
1	3	Apr. 1	May 31	800	Any male wild turkey or any wild turkey with a visible beard valid within Converse, Natrona, Campbell, Johnson and Sheridan counties

## Section 3. Archery Regulations

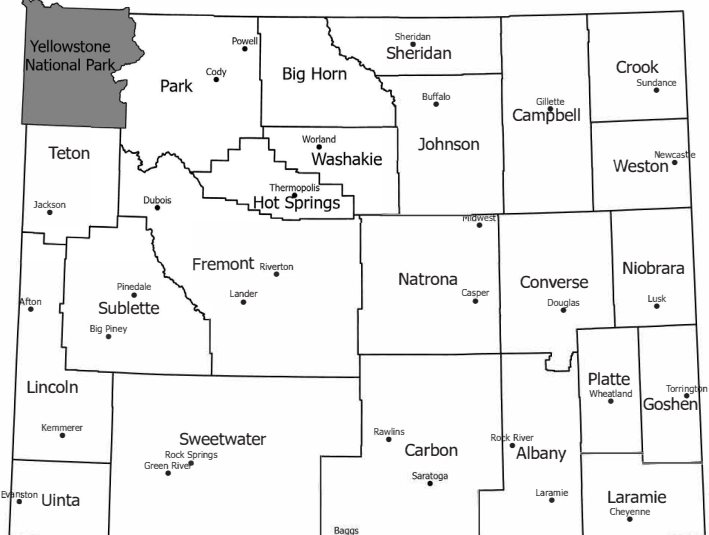
Wild turkey may be taken with any archery equipment during any open season in accordance with Section 2 of this Chapter.

## Section 4. Hunt Area Descriptions

**Area and Number.**

**Area 1.** The entire State of Wyoming.

WILD TURKEY HUNT AREA FALL 2026 - SPRING 2027



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



Scan the QR code to access an interactive map and learn more about specific hunt areas for wild turkeys.



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Management Areas*.



## REGIONAL OFFICES

	ADDRESS	PHONE NUMBER
<b>Cheyenne Headquarters</b>	5400 Bishop Boulevard, Cheyenne, WY 82006	(307) 777-4600
<b>Casper Region</b>	3030 Energy Lane, Casper, WY 82604	(307) 473-3400
<b>Cody Region</b>	2 Tilden Trail, Cody, WY 82414	(307) 527-7125
<b>Green River Region</b>	351 Astle Avenue, Green River, WY 82935	(307) 875-3223
<b>Jackson Region</b>	420 North Cache Street, Jackson, WY 83001 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 67, Jackson, WY 83001	(307) 733-2321
<b>Lander Region</b>	260 Buena Vista Drive, Lander, WY 82520	(307) 332-2688
<b>Laramie Region</b>	1212 South Adams Street, Laramie, WY 82070	(307) 745-4046
<b>Pinedale Region</b>	432 East Mill Street, Pinedale, WY 82941 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 850, Pinedale, WY 82941	(307) 367-4353
<b>Sheridan Region</b>	700 Valley View Drive, Sheridan, WY 82801	(307) 672-7418

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