Idaho Migratory Game Bird

2026-2027 Seasons & Rules



Includes Seasons and Rules for
Crows, Doves, Snipe, Sandhill Cranes and Waterfowl

idfg.idaho.gov

2026 & 2027 Idaho Migratory Game Bird Seasons and Rules Corrections

NOTE: The online version of the 2026 & 2027 Migratory Game Bird Seasons and Rules has the most accurate, up-to-date information.

UPDATED: NOVEMBER 2026	
PAGE(S)	**UPDATE**
TELEPHONE LICENSE AND TAG SALES DISCONTINUED	
4, 12, 14, 29	***Beginning December 1, 2026, Idaho Fish and Game will no longer offer license and tag purchases by telephone.*** ***The updated information is:*** To purchase licenses or tags, visit **GoOutdoorsIdaho.com**, use the **Go Outdoors Idaho** app, or visit an Idaho Fish and Game office during regular business hours or an authorized license vendor. ***The online version has been updated with this change.***

MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTERS:
PROTECT THE GAME, DON'T SKIP HIP
(MIGRATORY BIRD PERMIT)





Director Jim Fredericks' letter to Idaho migratory game bird hunters



Idaho is blessed with diverse and high-quality hunting, fishing and trapping. Whether you're hunting doves in September, ducks in October or snow geese in March, Idaho's migratory bird hunting offers long seasons with abundant and diverse opportunities.

Unlike other hunting in Idaho, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service determines how many days each state can allow migratory game bird hunting, which months those hunts can take place, and maximum bag limits. Idaho Fish and Game Commission sets Idaho's seasons within those parameters after consulting with hunters. Hunters in Idaho and across the Pacific Flyway have enjoyed liberal duck hunting seasons since the late 1990s, and that trend continues with this season.

Idaho's migratory game bird hunting seasons are also guided by international treaties, so the Commission has less leeway with migratory game birds than other birds and game animals that spend their entire lives within Idaho's borders.

However, hunters still play an important role in season setting. Fish and Game staff have been conducting waterfowl hunter opinion surveys since 2012 to better understand what hunters prefer with season structure and timing across the state. Hunter surveys helped shape the 2026–2027 duck and goose seasons.

Given Idaho's diverse landscapes, elevations and climates, "one-size-fits-all" migratory game bird hunting seasons wouldn't maximize opportunity in each region, so we have different opening and closing dates in different parts of the state to align with prime migrations and optimal hunting weather.

Hitting these optimal times is reflected in the quality of hunting available, and Idaho ranks near the top of the Pacific Flyway for long-term average harvests for many migratory game birds.

- Idaho ranks first in the Pacific Flyway for Canada goose and goldeneye harvest.
- Idaho ranks third in mourning dove harvest behind California and Arizona.
- Idaho is fourth for overall duck harvest behind California, Washington and Oregon.
- Mallards represent 66% of Idaho's duck harvest.

Idaho also contributes to breeding waterfowl populations directly and indirectly by providing nesting and migratory stop-over habitat at our Wildlife Management Areas, and supporting wetland habitat preservation and improvement within Idaho, and north as far as the Canadian prairies.

Jim Fredericks, Director
Idaho Fish and Game



Idaho Department of Fish and Game

Idaho Wildlife Policy

"All wildlife, including all wild animals, wild birds, and fish, within the state of Idaho, is hereby declared to be the property of the state of Idaho. It shall be preserved, protected, perpetuated, and managed. It shall be only captured or taken at such times or places, under such conditions, or by such means, or in such manner, as will preserve, protect, and perpetuate such wildlife, and provide for the citizens of this state and, as by law permitted to others, continued supplies of such wildlife for hunting, fishing and trapping."

— Idaho Code Section 36-103

Idaho Fish and Game Commission

Dave Bobbitt, Panhandle
Don Ebert, Clearwater
Tim Murphy, Southwest
Mike Roach, Magic Valley
Jordan Cheirrett, Southeast
Brody Harshbarger, Upper Snake
Ron Davies, Salmon

Idaho Department of Fish and Game

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Jim Fredericks, Director
Amber Worthington, Deputy Director
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Regional Offices

Panhandle Region..... 208-769-1414
2885 W. Kathleen Ave., Coeur d'Alene ID 83815

Clearwater Region 208-799-5010
3316 16th St., Lewiston ID 83501

Southwest Region 208-465-8465
15950 N. Gate Blvd., Nampa ID 83687

McCall Subregion..... 208-634-8137
555 Deinhard Lane, McCall ID 83638

Magic Valley Region 208-324-4359
324 S 417 E; Suite #1, Jerome ID 83338

Southeast Region 208-232-4703
1345 Barton Rd., Pocatello ID 83204

Upper Snake Region 208-525-7290
4279 Commerce Circle, Idaho Falls ID 83401

Salmon Region..... 208-756-2271
99 Highway 93 N., Salmon ID 83467

Idaho Fish and Game offices are open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday except state holidays. Offices in the Panhandle and Clearwater regions are in the Pacific Time Zone; all others are in the Mountain Time Zone.

To Buy a License, Tag or Permit:

- Go to Idaho Fish and Game's online licensing site at **GoOutdoorsIdaho.com**.
- Download our Go Outdoors Idaho app directly on your smartphone.
- In person, go to any Idaho Fish and Game office or license vendor.
- Commercial licenses and tags, duplicate tags, documents that require proof of disability, lifetime licenses, and bear baiting permits can only be purchased at Fish and Game offices.

*A credit card service fee is added for online and telephone transactions.

Other Resources

U. S. Forest Service:

Southern Idaho **fs.usda.gov/r4**

Northern Idaho..... **fs.usda.gov/r1**

Hells Canyon..... **fs.usda.gov/r6**

Bureau of Land Management: ..... **blm.gov/idaho**

Idaho Relay Service (TDD) 1-800-377-3529

To report wildlife crimes, call Citizens Against Poaching at 1-800-632-5999.
Emergency information can be relayed to Fish and Game personnel through any Idaho law enforcement agency.

Idaho Department of Fish and Game (IDFG) adheres to all applicable state and federal laws and regulations related to discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, gender, disability or veteran's status. If you feel you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility of Idaho Fish and Game, or if you desire further information, please write to: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707 OR Chief, Public Civil Rights Division, Department of the Interior, 1849 C Street NW, Washington, DC 20240. This publication will be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact the Department of Fish and Game for assistance.

Information in this brochure summarizes rules and is an official proclamation of the Idaho Fish and Game Commission for the taking of wildlife. The official rules are available at **adminrules.idaho.gov/rules/current** or from the Office of Administrative Rules, Department of Administration, Statehouse Mail, Boise, ID 83720, and may be reviewed in some libraries. Maps are for general reference only.

Costs associated with this publication are available from IDFG in accordance with Section 60-202, Idaho Code.
2026–27 Migratory Game Bird/BOC/pca 41918/11-2026/NJ

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What's New?

Ducks and Geese

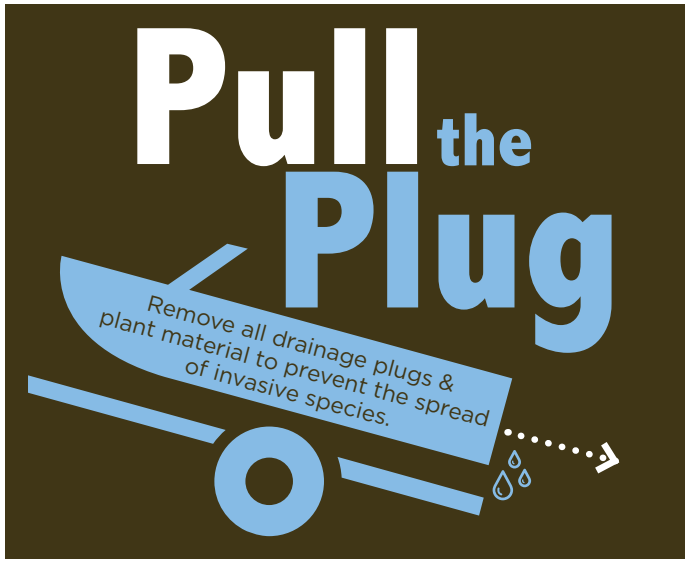
Fish and Game conducted a goose hunter opinion survey in 2024 and a duck hunter opinion survey in 2025 to assess hunter preferences on how to structure hunting seasons and zones, within the confines of federal hunting season frameworks. Results from these surveys will inform duck and goose seasons through 2030. Consequently, hunters will notice changes to hunt areas and season dates across the state. See pages 8–11 for additional details.

White-fronted Geese

The daily bag limit was reduced from 10 to 6, in response to recent declines in the fall population index, as per the Pacific Flyway Management Plan. See page 10.

Sandhill Crane

The number of tags was increased and additional seasons were added to each hunt area to distribute hunters in a manner to reduce hunter crowding. See page 14.



To use this brochure:

Hunting seasons and rules for all ducks, geese, sandhill crane, doves, and crow are available in this brochure. To get started:

- Pick the species and area you want to hunt, then refer to the section on that bird.
- Season and limit pages include maps for each hunting area.

Page 8: Duck, snipe and coot seasons, limits and areas.

Pages 9–11: Goose seasons, limits and areas.

Page 12: Swan seasons, limits and areas.

Page 13: Mourning dove and crow seasons and limits.

Page 14: Sandhill crane seasons and limits.

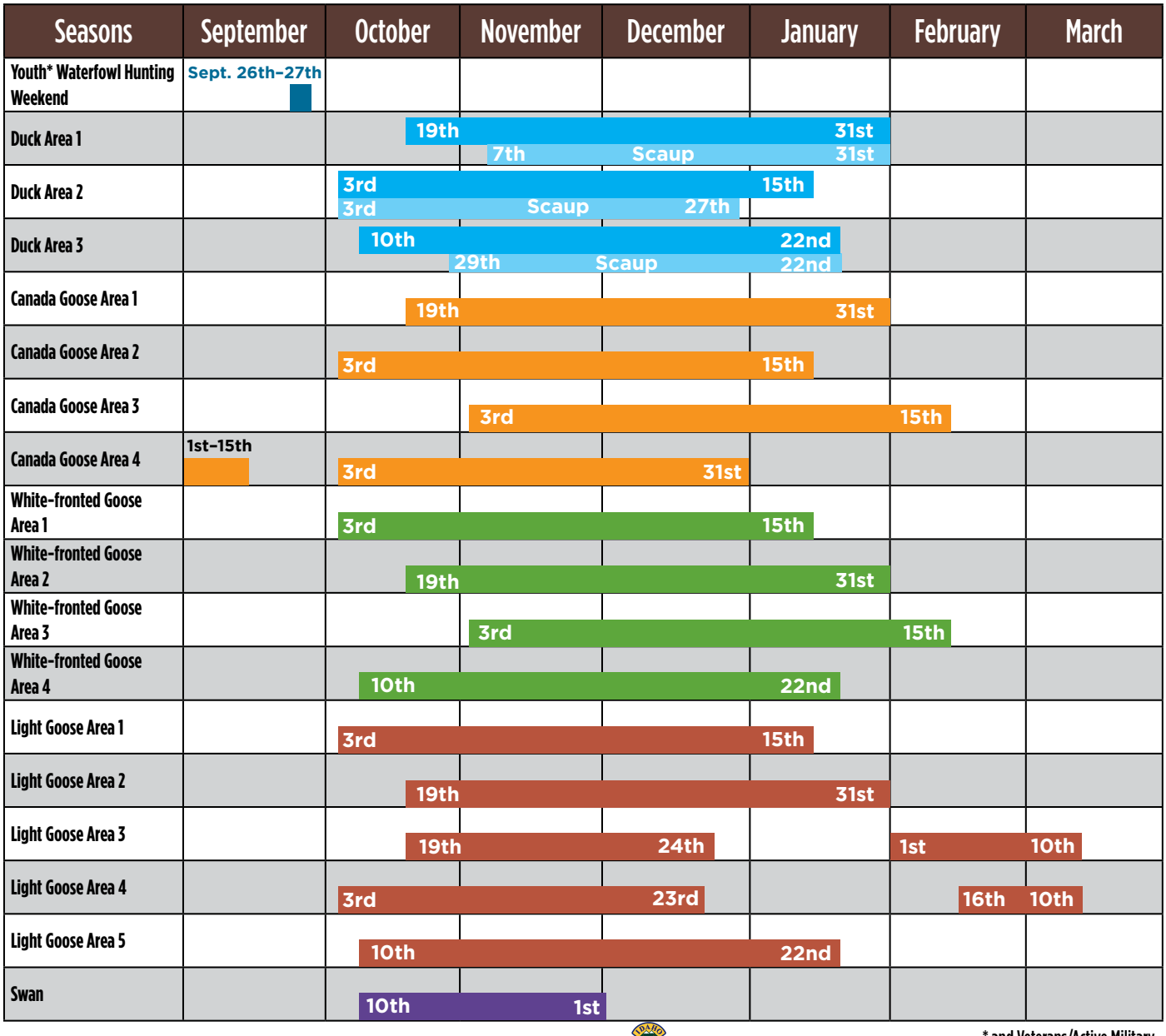
Pages 24–35: Detailed rules and related information.

Remember!

Waterfowl hunters are required to possess/use:

- A valid Idaho hunting license or hunting passport.
- Migratory Bird (HIP) Permit.
- Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation (Duck) Stamp for all hunters 16 years or older.
- Nontoxic shot.

It is the responsibility of the hunter to become familiar with rules that affect the hunt in which he or she is participating. **Seasons and rules may change after a booklet is printed.** Changes or corrections are posted online at **idfg.idaho.gov.**



* and Veterans/Active Military

Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation (Duck Stamp)

License holder must validate stamp by signing across the front in ink.



Available online @
idfg.idaho.gov/duckstamp

REPORT
DUCK AND GOOSE
LEG BANDS

Why? By reporting, you help provide information used to monitor populations, set hunting regulations, restore endangered species, and address issues such as avian influenza, bird hazards, and crop depredations. Plus you will receive a report on when and where the bird was banded.



To report please visit:
reportband.gov



photo courtesy by Martin Koenig

Youth and Veterans/ Active Military Waterfowl Hunting Weekend

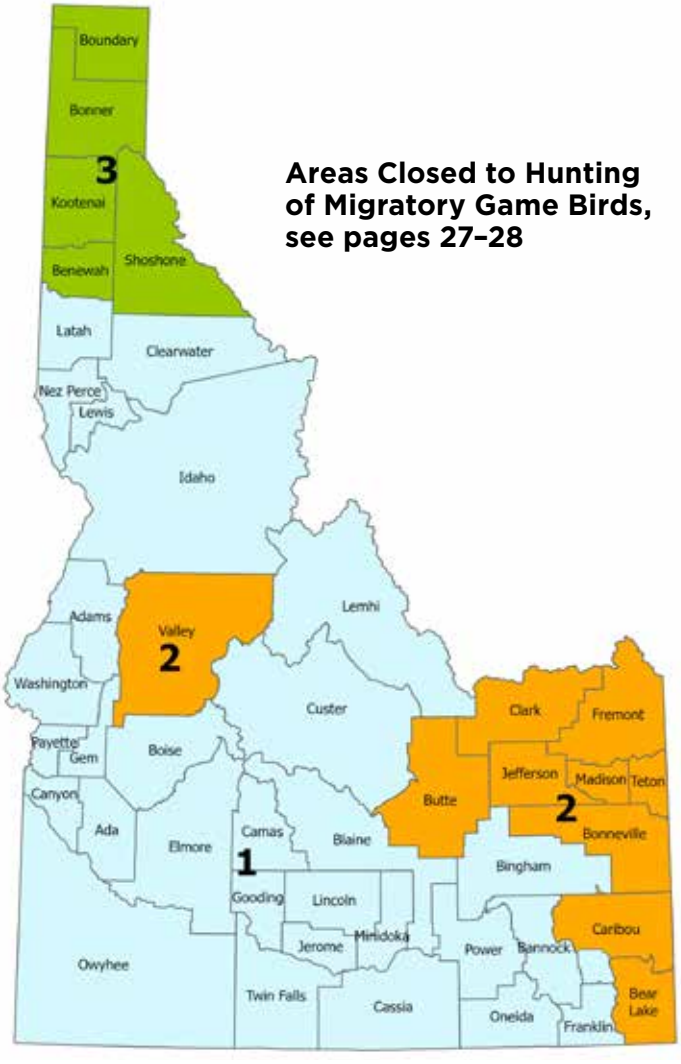
There is no better way to introduce a new hunter to the safe, ethical and responsible aspects of hunting than with the close supervision of a qualified adult mentor.

- Open to licensed hunters 17 years of age and younger.
- Veterans and active military personnel are also eligible to participate in this hunt. Check **idfg.idaho.gov** prior to the hunt for details on veterans and active military personnel eligibility.
- Duck, goose, and coot seasons are open for two days only, on **September 26–27, 2026**.
- Migratory Bird (HIP) Permit—required.
- Federal Migratory Bird (Duck) Stamp—not required for hunters 15 and younger.
- Daily duck, goose, and coot limits are the same as regular season limits statewide.
- At least one adult 18 years or older with a valid hunting license must accompany each youth hunting party into the field at all times. Adults are not authorized to hunt; however, veterans and active military personnel may hunt and harvest; **migratory bird (HIP) permit and Federal Migratory Bird (Duck) stamp required**.
- All other state rules and federal regulations pertaining to take of migratory game birds are in effect for this hunt.

Statewide Duck (Including Merganser), Wilson's Snipe and American Coot Seasons, Limits & Hunt Area Descriptions

DAILY BAG LIMIT: SEE BELOW | POSSESSION LIMIT: 3 TIMES DAILY BAG LIMIT





Areas Closed to Hunting of Migratory Game Birds, see pages 27–28

AREA 1

- **October 19, 2026 – January 31, 2027**
- **Scaup Season: November 7, 2026 – January 31, 2027**

Area 1 includes all parts of the state NOT included in areas 2 and 3 (see blue area on map).

AREA 2

- **October 3, 2026 – January 15, 2027**
- **Scaup Season: October 3, 2026 – December 27, 2026**

Area 2 includes the following counties: Bear Lake, Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Teton, and Valley; that portion of Bingham County within the Blackfoot Reservoir drainage; and that portion of Caribou County north and east of the following boundary: beginning at Highway 30 on the Bannock-Caribou County line to Power Plant Road, then south across the Alexander dam on Alexander Reservoir to the northern boundary of the Caribou Targhee National Forest, and then south and east along the eastern border of the Caribou Targhee National Forest to the Bear Lake County line (see orange area on map).

AREA 3

- **October 10, 2026 – January 22, 2027**
- **Scaup Season: October 29, 2026 – January 22, 2027**

Area 3 includes the following counties: Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai, and Shoshone counties (see green area on map).

Duck Bag Limit (Including mergansers)

7 of any kind, ***except*** shall not include more than the following:

2 female mallard
2 redhead
3 pintail
2 canvasback
2 scaup

Wilson's Snipe and Coot Bag Limits

Wilson's Snipe: 8

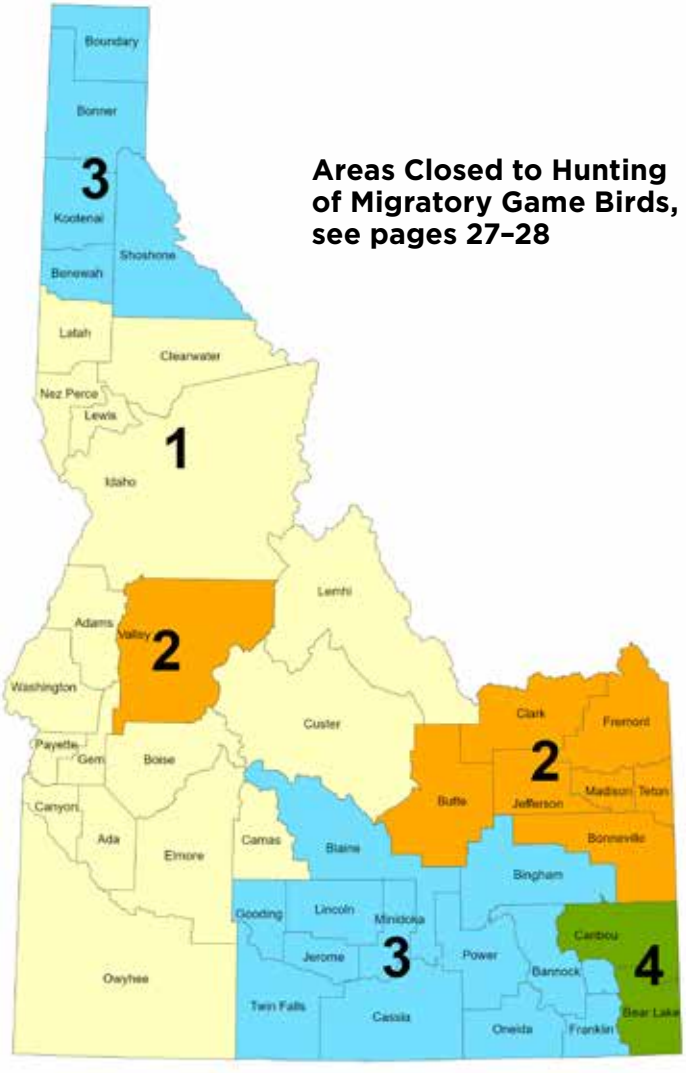
Coots: 25

Youth and Veterans/Active Military Waterfowl Hunting Weekend September 26–27, 2026

Canada Goose Seasons, Limits & Hunt Area Descriptions

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 5 | POSSESSION LIMIT: 15





Areas Closed to Hunting of Migratory Game Birds, see pages 27–28

AREA 1

- **October 19, 2026 – January 31, 2027**

Area 1 includes the following counties: Ada, Adams, Boise, Camas, Canyon, Clearwater, Custer, Elmore, Gem, Idaho, Latah, Lemhi, Lewis, Nez Perce, Owyhee, Payette, and Washington (see yellow area on map).

AREA 2

- **October 3, 2026 – January 15, 2027**

Area 2 includes the following counties: Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Teton and Valley (see orange area on map).

AREA 3

- **November 3, 2026 – February 15, 2027**

Area 3 includes all parts of the state NOT included in areas 1, 2, and 4 (see blue area on map).

AREA 4

- **September 1 – 15, 2026**
- **October 3, 2026 – December 31, 2026**

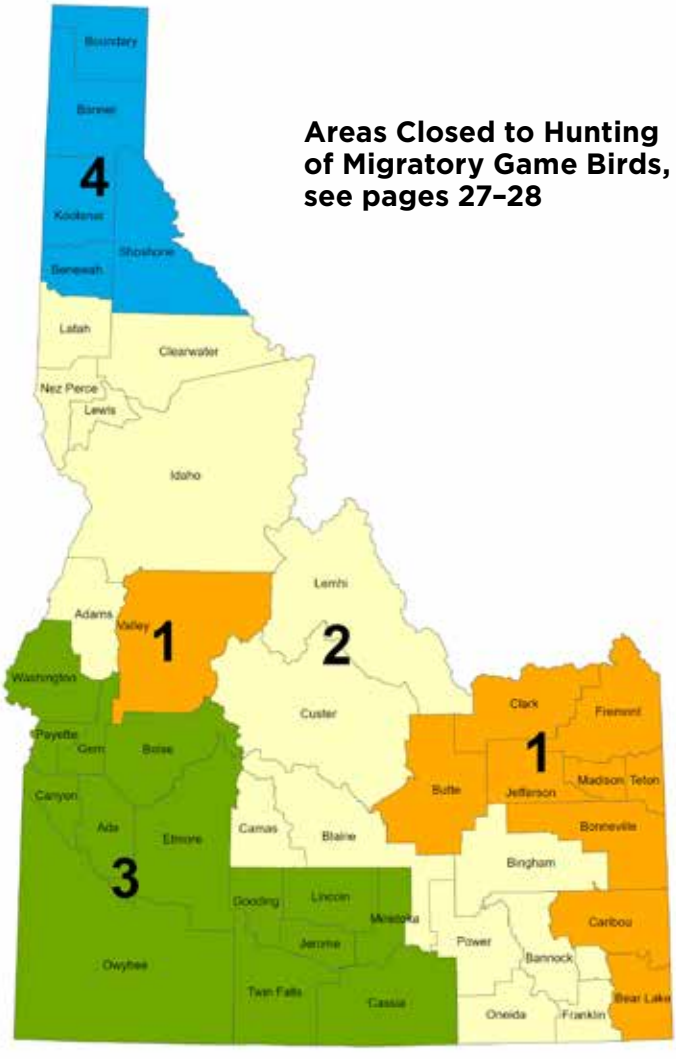
Area 4 includes the following counties: All of Bear Lake County; that portion of Bingham County within the Blackfoot Reservoir drainage; and that portion of Caribou County north and east of the following boundary: beginning at Highway 30 on the Bannock-Caribou County line to Power Plant Road, then south across the Alexander dam on Alexander Reservoir to the northern boundary of the Caribou Targhee National Forest, and then south and east along the eastern border of the Caribou Targhee National Forest to the Bear Lake County line (see green area on map).



White-fronted Goose Seasons, Limits & Hunt Area Descriptions

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 6 | POSSESSION LIMIT: 18





Areas Closed to Hunting of Migratory Game Birds, see pages 27–28

AREA 1

- **October 3, 2026 – January 15, 2027**

Area 1 includes the following counties: Bear Lake, Bonneville, Butte, Clark, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Teton, and Valley; that portion of Bingham County within the Blackfoot Reservoir drainage; and that portion of Caribou County north and east of the following boundary: beginning at Highway 30 on the Bannock-Caribou County line to Power Plant Road, then south across the Alexander dam on Alexander Reservoir to the northern boundary of the Caribou Targhee National Forest, and then south and east along the eastern border of the Caribou Targhee National Forest to the Bear Lake County line (see orange area on map).

AREA 2

- **October 19, 2026 – January 31, 2027**

Area 2 includes all parts of the state NOT included in areas 1, 3, and 4 (see yellow area on map).

AREA 3

- **November 3, 2026 – February 15, 2027**

Area 3 includes the following counties: Ada, Boise, Canyon, Cassia, Elmore, Gem, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, Owyhee, Payette, Twin Falls, and Washington (see green area on map).

- **Closures:** In the Southwest Region, Fort Boise and Payette River WMAs, and that portion of the Roswell Marsh Wildlife Habitat Area south of State Highway 18, and the Snake River Islands Unit of the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge will be closed February 1 – March 10, 2027.

AREA 4

- **October 10, 2026 – January 22, 2027**

Area 4 includes the following counties: Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai, and Shoshone (see blue area on map).



Light Goose Seasons, Limits & Hunt Area Descriptions
Snow (including Blue) Geese and Ross's Geese
DAILY BAG LIMIT: 20 | POSSESSION LIMIT: 60





Areas Closed to Hunting of Migratory Game Birds, see pages 27–28

AREA 1
- **October 3, 2026 – January 15, 2027**

Area 1 includes all parts of the state NOT included in areas 2, 3, 4, and 5 (see orange area on map).

AREA 2
- **October 19, 2026 – January 31, 2027**

Area 2 includes the following counties: Adams, Clearwater, Custer, Idaho, Latah, Lemhi, Lewis, and Nez Perce (see green area on map).

AREA 3
- **October 19, 2026 – December 24, 2026**
- **February 1, 2027 – March 10, 2027**

Area 3 includes the following counties: Ada, Blaine, Boise, Camas, Canyon, Cassia, Elmore, Gem, Gooding, Jerome, Lincoln, Minidoka, Owyhee, Payette, Twin Falls, and Washington (see yellow area on map).

- **Closures:** In the Southwest Region, Fort Boise and Payette River WMAs, and that portion of the Roswell Marsh Wildlife Habitat Area south of State Highway 18, and the Snake River Islands Unit of the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge will be closed February 1 – March 10, 2026.

AREA 4
- **October 3, 2026 – December 23, 2026**
- **February 16, 2027 – March 10, 2027**

Area 4 includes the following counties: Bannock, Butte, Franklin, Oneida, and Power counties; that portion of Bingham County outside the Blackfoot Reservoir drainage; that portion of Bonneville County west of Interstate 15; that portion of Caribou County south and west of the following boundary: beginning at Highway 30 on the Bannock-Caribou County line to Power Plant Road, then south across the Alexander dam on Alexander Reservoir to the northern boundary of the Caribou Targhee National Forest, and then south and east along the eastern border of the Caribou Targhee National Forest to the Bear Lake County line; that portion of Clark County west of Interstate 15; and that portion of Jefferson County west of Interstate 15 (see blue area on the map).

AREA 5
- **October 10, 2026 – January 22, 2027**

Area 5 includes the following counties: Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai, and Shoshone (see brown area on map).

Legal Hunting Methods for Light Geese

When all other waterfowl and migratory game bird hunting seasons, except falconry, are closed, recorded or electronically amplified bird calls or imitations of bird calls, and unplugged shotguns capable of holding more than three shells may be used to hunt light geese. These hunting methods apply to the light goose seasons in Area 3 and Area 4 from February 16 to March 10, 2027.

Swan Controlled Hunt Season and Rules

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 1 | POSSESSION LIMIT: 1 | OCT. 10, 2026 – DEC. 1, 2026

Idaho's swan controlled hunt season is limited to hunting ONLY in the following northern Idaho counties: Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, and Kootenai.

Controlled Hunt Information

Application Dates & Ways to Apply:

- May 1 – June 5: First application period for Swan Controlled Hunt tags.
- Early July: Drawing Results posted at **GoOutdoorsIdaho.com**, and applicants notified via email if a valid email address is on file.
- August 5 – 25: Second application period for Swan Controlled Hunt tags (if needed).

Applicants may apply anytime online at **GoOutdoorsIdaho.com**, or in-person during regular business hours at any Idaho Fish and Game office or license vendor location, see page 4.

Applications submitted online can be paid for using a Visa, MasterCard, or Discover card, and are subject to a credit card fee of 3% of the transaction plus $4.00 for online sales.

Fees:

Applicants must pay a nonrefundable application fee (per person) with each application. The fee is $6.25 for residents and $18.00 for nonresidents; an applicant can opt to designate $1 of this fee to the Citizens Against Poaching program during the application process.

Swan Tag Fee: Resident is $22.75 and Nonresident is $74.25

Refunds Of Controlled Hunt Fee: Hunting license fees will not be refunded to unsuccessful applicants. Application fees for controlled hunts are not refundable.

Eligibility to apply:

Any person with a valid Idaho hunting license may apply for a controlled hunt, subject to the following restrictions:

- Holders of a Nongame Hunting License, Hunting Passport, or a Three-Day Nonresident Small Game License may not apply for any controlled hunt.
- Only one application per person or group will be accepted for each species. Additional applications for the same person or group for the same species will result in all applications being declared ineligible.

Group applications:

Only one application per person or group will be accepted. No more than two individuals may apply on a swan group application. Applicants that submit a group application will all receive the same results in the draw, whether the application is successful or unsuccessful. If the group application exceeds the number of tags available in a hunt, the application will not be eligible, and nobody on the application is eligible to draw.

Nonresident Permit Limitations:

No more than 10 percent of controlled hunt tags may be issued to nonresidents.

Tag Designation to Child or Grandchild: A holder of a controlled hunt tag for swans may designate that tag to the holder's child or grandchild (under the age of 18) who is otherwise qualified to participate in the hunt. The child or grandchild may be designated only one controlled hunt tag for swans per calendar year. The designation must be made before the opening date of the hunt. Resident adults can only designate tags to resident youth; nonresident adults can only designate tags to nonresident youth. For more information on how to designate a tag, contact our Licenses Office at Licenses@idfg.idaho.gov.

Daily Bag Limit: 1 swan

Mandatory Check and Report – any hunter killing a swan must, within three (3) days of the date of kill, present the swan carcass (for measurement and identification) to a conservation officer, regional office or check station, and complete the relevant harvest report. A person may authorize another person to perform the check and report if that person possesses sufficient information to complete the report.

- **Swan Controlled Hunt Tag – REQUIRED**
- **Migratory Bird (HIP) Permit - REQUIRED**
- **Federal Migratory Bird (Duck) Stamp – REQUIRED**
- **Shotgun capable of carrying no more than 3 shells – REQUIRED**
- **Nontoxic Shot – REQUIRED**
- **Shot Size: No person shall take swans while in possession of shot larger than two tenths (0.2 inches) in diameter (size T)**

Fall 2026 Controlled Hunts – Swans

Hunt No.	Controlled Hunt Area	Tags	Season Dates	Notes
9301	1	50	Oct. 10 – Dec. 1	Hunt Area includes Benewah, Bonner, Boundary and Kootenai counties only

Mourning and White-winged Dove Seasons and Limits

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 15 | POSSESSION LIMIT: 45

Regular Firearm Season

- **September 1, 2026 – October 30, 2026**
- **Migratory Bird (HIP) Permit—REQUIRED**
- **Federal Migratory Bird (Duck) Stamp—NOT REQUIRED**
- **Shotgun capable of carrying no more than 3 shells—REQUIRED**
- **Nontoxic Shot—NOT REQUIRED**
- **Shot Size: No person shall take mourning doves while in possession of shot larger than two tenths (0.2 inches) in diameter (size T)**.

All game birds and Eurasian-collared doves must have one (1) fully-feathered wing or the head left naturally attached during transportation. Eurasian-collared doves are larger than mourning doves. They have a black collar on the top part of the neck, pale gray coloration, and dark primary feathers. These doves are introduced and have expanded their range in Idaho. Eurasian-collared doves will not count as part of your aggregate bag of doves as long as they are identifiable with wing or head attached. This identification requirement applies all year for Eurasian-collared doves.

Eurasian-collared doves may be taken in any amounts and at any time by holders of the appropriate valid Idaho hunting or combination hunting license, provided such taking is not in violation of state, county, or city laws, ordinances, or regulations.

Extended Falconry Season

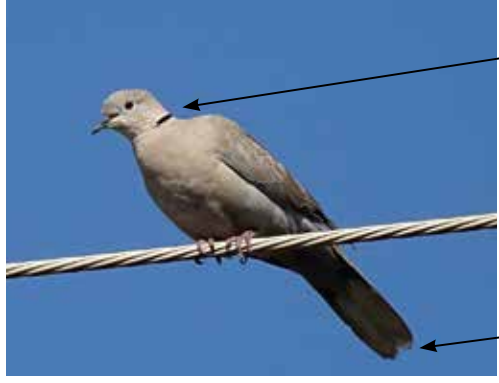
- **January 23, 2027 – March 10, 2027**
- **Daily Bag Limit: 3 | Possession Limit: 9**

For more information about Extended Falconry Seasons please refer to the current Idaho Upland Game, Turkey & Furbearer Seasons & Rules.

Mourning Dove



Eurasian-collared Dove



American Crow Seasons and Limits

DAILY BAG & POSSESSION LIMIT: NO LIMITS

- **October 27, 2026 – February 28, 2027**
- **Migratory Bird (HIP) Permit—NOT REQUIRED**
- **Federal Migratory Bird (Duck) Stamp—NOT REQUIRED**
- **Shotgun capable of carrying no more than 3 shells—NOT REQUIRED**
- **Nontoxic Shot—NOT REQUIRED**

No person shall take American crows:

- **From one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise.**
- **With trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol or a shotgun using shells exceeding three and one-half ($3^{1/2}$) inches maximum length.**

Areas Closed to Hunting

Areas closed to hunting of upland game birds are also closed to hunting of American crows.



Sandhill Crane Seasons and Limits

DAILY BAG LIMIT: 2 | SEASON LIMIT: 2

Sandhill crane hunting occurs in eastern Idaho. One of the purposes of these hunts is to help reduce crop damage.

Tags will be available for purchase at 10AM Mountain time on August 3rd in 2026, first-come, first-served. Tags can be purchased online at **GoOutdoorsIdaho.com**, or in-person at any Idaho Fish and Game office or license vendor location, see page 4.

Seasons and Requirements

- **September 1–15, 2026; September 16–30, 2026; September 1–30, 2026; or October 1–30, 2026 depending on tag type.**
- **Sandhill Crane Tag—REQUIRED**
- **Migratory Bird (HIP) Permit—REQUIRED WITH FIRST TAG ONLY**
- **Federal Migratory Bird (Duck) Stamp—NOT REQUIRED**
- **Shotgun capable of carrying no more than 3 shells—REQUIRED**
- **Nontoxic Shot—NOT REQUIRED**
- **Shot Size: No person shall take sandhill crane while in possession of shot larger than two tenths (0.2 inches) in diameter (size T).**

Tagging

Immediately after any sandhill crane is harvested, the tag must be validated and securely attached. The tag must remain attached so long as the sandhill crane is in transit or storage. No person may take more than 1 sandhill crane per legal tag in his or her possession.

Know Your Crane!

Please note the age of the crane you harvested. This data is important for crane harvest management.

An adult sandhill crane stands nearly four feet tall. Grayish plumage is accented by a featherless red head patch. Juveniles have tannish brown heads with no red.

Juvenile



Adult



Sandhill Crane Seasons, Limits and Tags		
Hunt Area	**Season**	**Tags**
1-Bear Lake	September 1–30	300
	October 1–30	150
2-Teton	September 1–15	40
	October 1–30	40
3-Fremont	September 1–15	40
	September 16–30	40
	October 1–30	30
4-Jefferson	September 1–15	30
	September 16–30	30
	October 1–30	30
5-Swan Lake	September 1–30	50
	October 1–30	20
6-Malad	September 1–30	50
	October 1–30	20
Note: Daily limit is 2 for all hunts. The season limit is 2 cranes.		

AREA 1

- Includes all of Bear Lake County and all of Caribou County, **except that portion lying within the Grays Lake Basin.**

AREA 2

- Includes all of Teton County, **except that portion lying west of state Highway 33 and south of Packsaddle Road (West 4000 North) and north of the North Cedron Road (West 6000 South) and east of the west bank of the Teton River.**

AREA 3

- Includes all of Fremont County, **except the Chester Wetlands Wildlife Management Area.**

AREA 4

- Includes all of Jefferson County, **except that portion beginning at the 1400 E/1750 N intersection, then west following the Mud Lake WMA boundary to the 1100 E/WMA Sparks Canal Road, then north and east following the Sparks Canal Road to the WMA North Bluff Road intersection, then east following the North Bluff Road to the WMA Lower Lake Road, then drawing a straight line south to the beginning point of 1750 N/1400 E intersection.**

AREA 5

- Includes Bannock County east of Interstate–15 and south of U.S. Highway 30; and all of Franklin County.

AREA 6

- **Includes that portion of Oneida County within the following boundary:** beginning at the Idaho/Utah border on Old Highway 191, then north along Old Highway 191, then west on 1500 S, then west on Highway 38 to 5400 S, then south to Pocatello Valley Road, then west and south on Pocatello Valley Road to 10000 W, then south on 10000 W to the Utah/Idaho border, then east to the beginning point.

Official Shooting Hours for the 2026-2027 Migratory Game Bird Seasons (EXCEPT CROWS)

Official shooting hours are from 1/2 hour before sunrise until sunset. Beginning and ending times are shown in the tables below. No further adjustments are necessary.

	Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Clearwater, Kootenai, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce and Shoshone counties and that portion of Idaho Co. north of the Salmon River (Pacific Time).		Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley and Washington counties and that portion of Idaho Co. south of the Salmon River (Mountain Time).		Blaine, Butte, Camas, Cassia, Custer, Gooding, Jerome, Lemhi, Lincoln, Minidoka and Twin Falls counties (Mountain Time).		Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Bonneville, Caribou, Clark, Franklin, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Oneida, Power and Teton counties (Mountain Time).	
SEPTEMBER	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**
1	5:38	7:31	6:38	8:21	6:31	8:13	6:25	8:05
2	5:39	7:29	6:39	8:19	6:32	8:12	6:26	8:04
3	5:41	7:27	6:40	8:17	6:33	8:10	6:27	8:02
4	5:42	7:25	6:42	8:15	6:34	8:08	6:28	8:00
5	5:43	7:23	6:43	8:14	6:35	8:07	6:29	7:59
6	5:45	7:21	6:44	8:12	6:36	8:05	6:30	7:57
7	5:46	7:19	6:45	8:10	6:37	8:03	6:31	7:55
8	5:48	7:17	6:46	8:08	6:38	8:01	6:32	7:53
9	5:49	7:15	6:47	8:06	6:39	8:00	6:33	7:52
10	5:50	7:13	6:48	8:05	6:40	7:58	6:34	7:50
11	5:52	7:11	6:49	8:03	6:41	7:56	6:35	7:48
12	5:53	7:09	6:50	8:01	6:42	7:54	6:36	7:46
13	5:54	7:07	6:52	7:59	6:43	7:52	6:37	7:44
14	5:56	7:05	6:53	7:57	6:45	7:51	6:39	7:43
15	5:57	7:03	6:54	7:56	6:46	7:49	6:40	7:41
16	5:58	7:01	6:55	7:54	6:47	7:47	6:41	7:39
17	6:00	6:59	6:56	7:52	6:48	7:45	6:42	7:37
18	6:01	6:57	6:57	7:50	6:49	7:43	6:43	7:35
19	6:02	6:55	6:58	7:48	6:50	7:41	6:44	7:34
20	6:04	6:53	6:59	7:46	6:52	7:39	6:45	7:32
21	6:05	6:51	7:01	7:45	6:53	7:37	6:46	7:30
22	6:06	6:49	7:02	7:43	6:54	7:36	6:47	7:28
23	6:07	6:47	7:03	7:41	6:55	7:35	6:48	7:26
24	6:08	6:45	7:04	7:39	6:56	7:33	6:49	7:25
25	6:09	6:42	7:05	7:37	6:58	7:31	6:50	7:24
26	6:11	6:40	7:06	7:35	6:59	7:29	6:52	7:22
27	6:12	6:38	7:08	7:34	7:00	7:27	6:53	7:20
28	6:13	6:35	7:09	7:32	7:02	7:25	6:54	7:18
29	6:14	6:33	7:10	7:30	7:03	7:23	6:55	7:16
30	6:15	6:31	7:11	7:28	7:04	7:21	6:56	7:14
OCTOBER	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**
1	6:16	6:28	7:12	7:26	7:05	7:19	6:57	7:12
2	6:18	6:27	7:13	7:25	7:06	7:17	6:58	7:10
3	6:19	6:24	7:14	7:23	7:08	7:16	7:00	7:08
4	6:20	6:23	7:15	7:21	7:09	7:14	7:01	7:07
5	6:21	6:21	7:17	7:19	7:10	7:12	7:02	7:05
6	6:23	6:19	7:18	7:17	7:11	7:10	7:03	7:03
7	6:24	6:17	7:19	7:16	7:12	7:09	7:04	7:02
8	6:25	6:15	7:20	7:14	7:13	7:07	7:05	7:00
9	6:27	6:13	7:21	7:12	7:14	7:05	7:06	6:58
10	6:28	6:11	7:23	7:10	7:16	7:04	7:08	6:57
11	6:30	6:09	7:24	7:09	7:17	7:02	7:09	6:55
12	6:31	6:08	7:25	7:07	7:18	7:00	7:10	6:53
13	6:32	6:06	7:26	7:05	7:19	6:59	7:11	6:52
14	6:34	6:04	7:27	7:04	7:20	6:57	7:12	6:50
15	6:35	6:02	7:29	7:02	7:21	6:55	7:13	6:48
16	6:36	6:00	7:30	7:00	7:23	6:54	7:15	6:47
17	6:38	5:58	7:31	6:59	7:24	6:52	7:16	6:45
18	6:39	5:57	7:32	6:57	7:25	6:50	7:17	6:43
19	6:41	5:55	7:34	6:55	7:26	6:49	7:18	6:42
20	6:42	5:53	7:35	6:54	7:28	6:48	7:20	6:40
21	6:43	5:51	7:36	6:52	7:29	6:46	7:21	6:39
22	6:45	5:50	7:37	6:51	7:30	6:44	7:22	6:37
23	6:46	5:48	7:39	6:49	7:31	6:43	7:23	6:36
24	6:48	5:46	7:40	6:48	7:32	6:41	7:24	6:34
25	6:49	5:45	7:41	6:46	7:34	6:40	7:26	6:33
26	6:50	5:43	7:42	6:45	7:35	6:38	7:27	6:31
27	6:52	5:41	7:44	6:43	7:36	6:37	7:28	6:30
28	6:53	5:40	7:45	6:42	7:37	6:35	7:29	6:28
29	6:55	5:38	7:46	6:40	7:39	6:34	7:31	6:27
30	6:56	5:37	7:48	6:39	7:40	6:33	7:32	6:26
31	6:58	5:35	7:49	6:38	7:41	6:31	7:33	6:24

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS

SHOOTING HOURS

	Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Clearwater, Kootenai, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce and Shoshone counties and that portion of Idaho Co. north of the Salmon River (Pacific Time).		Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley and Washington counties and that portion of Idaho Co. south of the Salmon River (Mountain Time).		Blaine, Butte, Camas, Cassia, Custer, Gooding, Jerome, Lemhi, Lincoln, Minidoka and Twin Falls counties (Mountain Time).		Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Bonneville, Caribou, Clark, Franklin, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Oneida, Power and Teton counties (Mountain Time).	
NOVEMBER	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**
1	5:59	4:32	6:50	5:36	6:41	5:30	6:34	5:23
2	6:01	4:32	6:51	5:35	6:43	5:29	6:36	5:22
3	6:02	4:31	6:53	5:34	6:44	5:27	6:37	5:20
4	6:04	4:29	6:54	5:33	6:45	5:26	6:39	5:19
5	6:05	4:28	6:55	5:31	6:47	5:25	6:40	5:18
6	6:06	4:27	6:57	5:30	6:48	5:24	6:41	5:17
7	6:08	4:25	6:58	5:29	6:49	5:23	6:42	5:16
8	6:09	4:24	6:59	5:27	6:50	5:21	6:43	5:14
9	6:11	4:23	7:01	5:26	6:52	5:20	6:45	5:13
10	6:12	4:21	7:02	5:25	6:53	5:19	6:46	5:12
11	6:14	4:20	7:03	5:24	6:54	5:18	6:47	5:11
12	6:15	4:19	7:05	5:23	6:56	5:17	6:49	5:10
13	6:16	4:18	7:06	5:22	6:57	5:16	6:50	5:09
14	6:18	4:17	7:07	5:21	6:58	5:15	6:51	5:08
15	6:19	4:16	7:08	5:20	6:59	5:14	6:52	5:07
16	6:21	4:14	7:10	5:19	7:01	5:13	6:54	5:06
17	6:22	4:13	7:11	5:18	7:02	5:13	6:55	5:06
18	6:24	4:12	7:12	5:17	7:03	5:12	6:56	5:05
19	6:25	4:12	7:14	5:17	7:04	5:11	6:57	5:04
20	6:26	4:11	7:15	5:16	7:06	5:10	6:59	5:03
21	6:28	4:10	7:16	5:15	7:07	5:09	7:00	5:02
22	6:29	4:09	7:17	5:14	7:08	5:09	7:01	5:02
23	6:30	4:08	7:19	5:14	7:09	5:08	7:02	5:01
24	6:32	4:07	7:20	5:13	7:10	5:07	7:03	5:00
25	6:33	4:07	7:21	5:12	7:12	5:07	7:05	5:00
26	6:34	4:06	7:22	5:12	7:13	5:06	7:06	4:59
27	6:36	4:05	7:23	5:11	7:14	5:06	7:07	4:59
28	6:37	4:05	7:25	5:11	7:15	5:05	7:08	4:58
29	6:38	4:04	7:26	5:10	7:16	5:05	7:09	4:58
30	6:39	4:04	7:27	5:10	7:17	5:05	7:10	4:58
DECEMBER	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**
1	6:41	4:03	7:28	5:10	7:19	5:04	7:11	4:57
2	6:42	4:03	7:29	5:09	7:20	5:04	7:13	4:57
3	6:43	4:03	7:30	5:09	7:21	5:04	7:14	4:57
4	6:44	4:02	7:31	5:09	7:22	5:03	7:15	4:56
5	6:45	4:02	7:32	5:09	7:23	5:03	7:16	4:56
6	6:46	4:02	7:33	5:08	7:24	5:03	7:17	4:56
7	6:47	4:02	7:34	5:08	7:25	5:03	7:18	4:56
8	6:48	4:01	7:35	5:08	7:26	5:03	7:19	4:56
9	6:49	4:01	7:36	5:08	7:26	5:03	7:19	4:56
10	6:50	4:01	7:37	5:08	7:27	5:03	7:20	4:56
11	6:51	4:01	7:38	5:08	7:28	5:03	7:21	4:56
12	6:52	4:01	7:39	5:08	7:29	5:03	7:22	4:56
13	6:53	4:01	7:40	5:09	7:30	5:03	7:23	4:56
14	6:54	4:02	7:40	5:09	7:31	5:03	7:24	4:56
15	6:55	4:02	7:41	5:09	7:31	5:04	7:25	4:57
16	6:55	4:02	7:42	5:09	7:32	5:04	7:25	4:57
17	6:57	4:02	7:42	5:09	7:33	5:04	7:26	4:57
18	6:57	4:03	7:43	5:10	7:33	5:05	7:26	4:58
19	6:57	4:03	7:44	5:10	7:34	5:05	7:27	4:58
20	6:58	4:03	7:44	5:10	7:35	5:05	7:28	4:58
21	6:59	4:04	7:45	5:11	7:35	5:05	7:28	4:59
22	6:59	4:04	7:45	5:12	7:36	5:06	7:29	4:59
23	6:59	4:06	7:46	5:12	7:36	5:07	7:29	5:00
24	7:00	4:06	7:46	5:13	7:36	5:08	7:30	5:01
25	7:00	4:06	7:47	5:13	7:36	5:08	7:30	5:01
26	7:01	4:07	7:47	5:14	7:36	5:09	7:30	5:02
27	7:01	4:08	7:47	5:15	7:37	5:09	7:31	5:02
28	7:01	4:08	7:48	5:15	7:37	5:10	7:31	5:03
29	7:01	4:09	7:48	5:16	7:37	5:11	7:31	5:04
30	7:01	4:10	7:48	5:17	7:37	5:12	7:31	5:05
31	7:02	4:11	7:48	5:18	7:37	5:13	7:31	5:05

	Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Clearwater, Kootenai, Latah, Lewis, Nez Perce and Shoshone counties and that portion of Idaho Co. north of the Salmon River (Pacific Time).		Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, Owyhee, Payette, Valley and Washington counties and that portion of Idaho Co. south of the Salmon River (Mountain Time).		Blaine, Butte, Camas, Cassia, Custer, Gooding, Jerome, Lemhi, Lincoln, Minidoka and Twin Falls counties (Mountain Time).		Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Bonneville, Caribou, Clark, Franklin, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Oneida, Power and Teton counties (Mountain Time).	
JANUARY	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**
1	7:02	4:12	7:48	5:19	7:40	5:13	7:32	5:07
2	7:02	4:13	7:48	5:20	7:40	5:14	7:32	5:08
3	7:02	4:14	7:48	5:21	7:40	5:14	7:32	5:08
4	7:02	4:15	7:48	5:22	7:40	5:15	7:32	5:09
5	7:01	4:16	7:48	5:23	7:40	5:16	7:32	5:10
6	7:01	4:17	7:48	5:24	7:40	5:17	7:32	5:11
7	7:01	4:18	7:48	5:25	7:39	5:18	7:31	5:12
8	7:01	4:19	7:48	5:26	7:39	5:19	7:31	5:13
9	7:00	4:20	7:48	5:27	7:39	5:20	7:31	5:14
10	7:00	4:22	7:47	5:28	7:39	5:21	7:31	5:16
11	7:00	4:23	7:47	5:29	7:38	5:22	7:30	5:17
12	6:59	4:24	7:47	5:30	7:38	5:23	7:30	5:18
13	6:59	4:25	7:46	5:31	7:38	5:24	7:30	5:19
14	6:58	4:27	7:46	5:33	7:37	5:26	7:29	5:20
15	6:58	4:28	7:45	5:34	7:37	5:27	7:29	5:21
16	6:57	4:29	7:45	5:35	7:36	5:28	7:28	5:22
17	6:56	4:31	7:44	5:36	7:36	5:30	7:28	5:24
18	6:56	4:32	7:44	5:37	7:35	5:31	7:27	5:25
19	6:55	4:33	7:43	5:39	7:35	5:32	7:27	5:26
20	6:54	4:35	7:42	5:40	7:34	5:33	7:26	5:27
21	6:53	4:36	7:42	5:41	7:33	5:35	7:25	5:29
22	6:52	4:37	7:41	5:43	7:31	5:37	7:24	5:29
23	6:52	4:39	7:40	5:44	7:30	5:38	7:23	5:30
24	6:51	4:40	7:39	5:45	7:30	5:40	7:22	5:32
25	6:50	4:42	7:38	5:46	7:29	5:41	7:22	5:33
26	6:48	4:43	7:38	5:48	7:28	5:42	7:21	5:33
27	6:47	4:45	7:37	5:49	7:27	5:43	7:20	5:34
28	6:46	4:47	7:35	5:51	7:26	5:46	7:18	5:34
29	6:45	4:48	7:34	5:52	7:25	5:48	7:17	5:36
30	6:44	4:50	7:33	5:54	7:24	5:49	7:16	5:37
31	6:42	4:51	7:32	5:55	7:23	5:50	7:15	5:38
FEBRUARY	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**
1	6:41	4:52	7:31	5:56	7:22	5:52	7:14	5:40
2	6:40	4:54	7:30	5:58	7:21	5:53	7:13	5:41
3	6:39	4:55	7:29	5:59	7:20	5:54	7:12	5:43
4	6:38	4:56	7:28	6:00	7:18	5:56	7:11	5:44
5	6:37	4:58	7:27	6:02	7:17	5:57	7:10	5:45
6	6:35	4:59	7:25	6:03	7:16	5:58	7:08	5:47
7	6:34	5:01	7:24	6:05	7:15	6:00	7:07	5:48
8	6:33	5:02	7:23	6:06	7:14	6:01	7:06	5:49
9	6:32	5:03	7:22	6:07	7:12	6:02	7:05	5:51
10	6:30	5:05	7:20	6:09	7:11	6:03	7:03	5:52
11	6:29	5:06	7:19	6:10	7:10	6:05	7:02	5:53
12	6:27	5:07	7:17	6:11	7:09	6:06	7:00	5:55
13	6:26	5:09	7:16	6:13	7:07	6:07	6:59	5:56
14	6:25	5:10	7:15	6:14	7:06	6:09	6:58	5:57
15	6:23	5:12	7:13	6:15	7:04	6:10	6:56	5:59
16			7:12	6:17	7:03	6:11	6:55	6:00
17			7:10	6:18	7:02	6:13	6:53	6:01
18			7:09	6:19	7:00	6:14	6:52	6:03
19			7:07	6:21	6:58	6:15	6:51	6:07
20			7:05	6:22	6:57	6:17	6:49	6:08
21			7:04	6:24	6:55	6:18	6:48	6:10
22			7:03	6:25	6:54	6:19	6:46	6:11
23			7:02	6:26	6:52	6:21	6:45	6:12
24			6:59	6:28	6:51	6:22	6:43	6:13
25			6:57	6:29	6:49	6:23	6:42	6:15
26			6:56	6:30	6:48	6:24	6:40	6:16
27			6:54	6:32	6:46	6:25	6:38	6:17
28			6:52	6:33	6:44	5:27	6:37	6:18
29			6:51	6:34	6:44	6:28	6:36	6:19
MARCH	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**	**Begin AM**	**End PM**
1			6:49	6:35	6:42	6:29	6:34	6:21
2			6:47	6:36	6:40	5:30	6:32	6:22
3			6:46	6:38	6:39	6:31	6:31	6:23
4			6:44	6:39	6:37	6:33	6:29	6:24
5			6:42	6:40	6:35	6:34	6:27	6:25
6			6:41	6:41	6:34	6:35	6:26	6:27
7			6:39	6:43	6:32	6:36	6:24	6:28
8			6:37	6:44	6:30	6:37	6:22	6:29
9			6:35	6:45	6:29	6:39	6:20	6:30
10			6:33	6:46	6:28	6:41	6:21	6:31

STATE AND FEDERAL REGULATIONS FOR

MIGRATORY GAME BIRD BAITING

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION SUMMARIZES MIGRATORY GAME BIRD BAITING REGULATIONS.



What is baiting?

Direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering salt, grain, or other feed that could lure or attract migratory game birds to, on, or over any hunted area.

How long is an area baited?

For 10 days after all salt, grain, or other feed is completely removed.

How close to bait can you hunt without breaking the law?

There is no set distance. It is illegal to hunt if bait is present. Distance will vary depending on the circumstances, topography, weather, and waterfowl flight patterns, case-by-case.

What is Illegal?

Examples of areas you cannot hunt migratory game birds include:

- Unharvested crops trampled by livestock or subjected to other types of manipulations that distribute, scatter, or expose grain.
- Croplands where harvested grain is redistributed or "added back" onto the area.
- Areas where grain is present and stored; grain elevators, grain bins or areas grain is present for feeding livestock.
- Freshly planted wildlife food plots with exposed grain.
- These examples do not represent an all-inclusive list of waterfowl baiting violations.

What is Legal?

You can hunt migratory game birds on, over, or from:

- Standing crops or flooded standing crops, including aquatic plants.
- Standing, flooded, or manipulated natural vegetation.
- Flooded harvested croplands.
- Lands where grains are scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, or post-harvest manipulation.
- Lands where top-sown seeds are scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, or planting for agricultural soil erosion control or post-mining land reclamation.

The Hunter's Responsibility

Hunter's are responsible for determining if a proposed hunting area is baited.

Before hunting, you should:

- Familiarize yourself with Federal and State migratory game bird hunting regulations.
- 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 top sowing.
- Confirm 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.

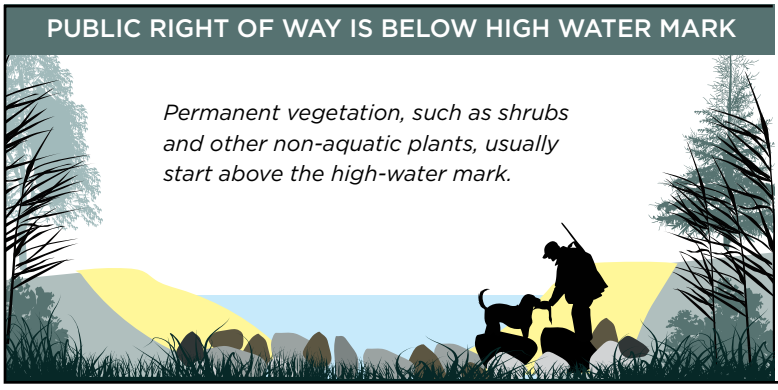
Additional information about federal baiting regulations:

fws.gov/media/waterfowl-hunting-and-baiting

NAVIGABILITY AND PUBLIC ACCESS

(Refer to Idaho Code 36-1601)

WHEN IN NAVIGABLE STREAMS BORDERED BY PRIVATE PROPERTY

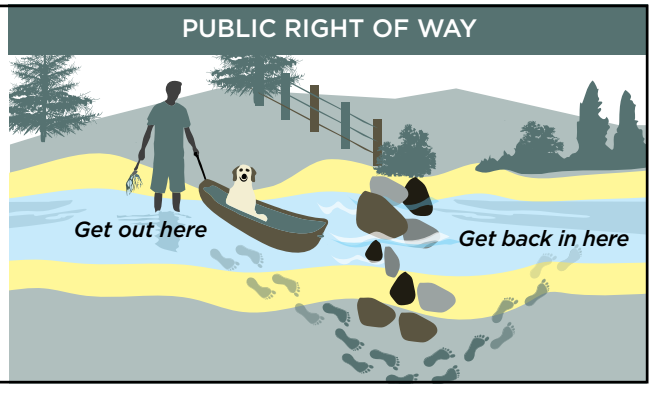


YOU MUST STAY BELOW THE NORMAL HIGH-WATER MARK

of the stream, unless you have landowners permission to get out on the bank or have no other means of getting around an obstruction in the stream (such as a fence or diversion dam). High-water area in yellow.

WHEN GETTING OUT OF A STREAM TO GO AROUND AN OBSTRUCTION

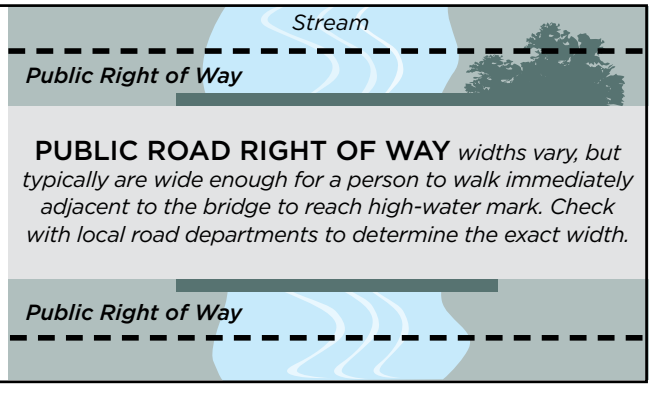
Take the shortest, most direct route around the obstruction to get back in the stream. Do not allow pets or children to trespass on adjacent private property without landowner permission.



YOU MAY ENTER AND EXIT A NAVIGABLE STREAM

at locations other than below the high-water mark, such as public right of way at county road bridges.

ASK FIRST Always get landowner permission before crossing private right of way.



Navigable streams are defined as any stream which, in its natural high-water condition, will float logs or any other commercial or float-able commodity, or is capable of being navigated by oar or motor propelled small craft for pleasure or commercial purposes. Navigable streams are recognized as public transportation corridors, thus members of the public have the right to use the corridor provided they enter and exit the corridor at a public right of way, and remain within the corridor. Many navigable steams flow through private property thus it is important that anglers and hunters know their rights and responsibilities when fishing and hunting in navigable waters that flow through private property.

Illustrations: CC-BY Nancy Jasper at Idaho Fish and Game

CANADA GOOSE



WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE



SNOW GOOSE

SNOW GEESE
NOTE: BLACK WING TIPS



TUNDRA SWAN



Adult



Juvenile

LIMITED OPPORTUNITY SWAN HUNT

SEE PAGE 12

KNOW YOUR TARGET!

Swan hunting is restricted

Two species of swan are found in Idaho: tundra and trumpeter swans. A limited swan hunt will take place in Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, and Kootenai counties in the Panhandle Region only.

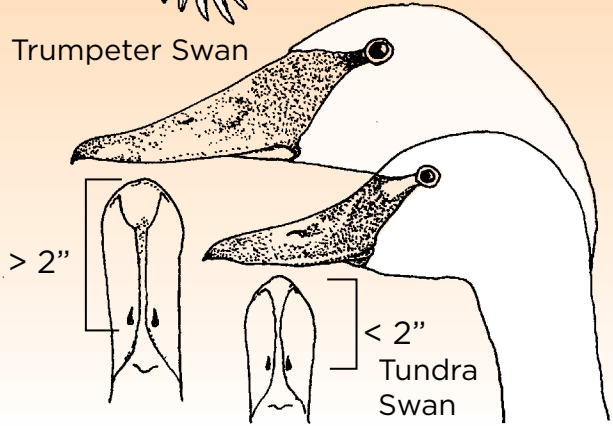
Swans have up to a seven-foot wingspan and weigh up to 30 pounds. Young swans (cygnets), are medium gray in color, with pale belly and wing linings, and are smaller than adults. Swans fly with a slow, distinct wing beat.

Snow and Ross's geese are also white, but are much smaller and have black wing tips.

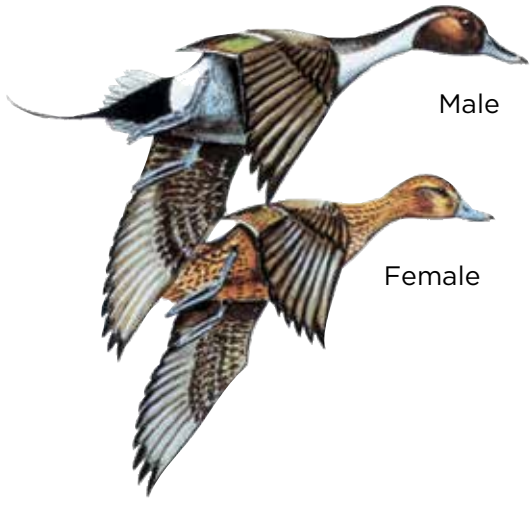
Swans are much larger and have longer necks, but they can be mistaken for light geese and are vulnerable to accidental and illegal shooting. Make sure you know the difference.



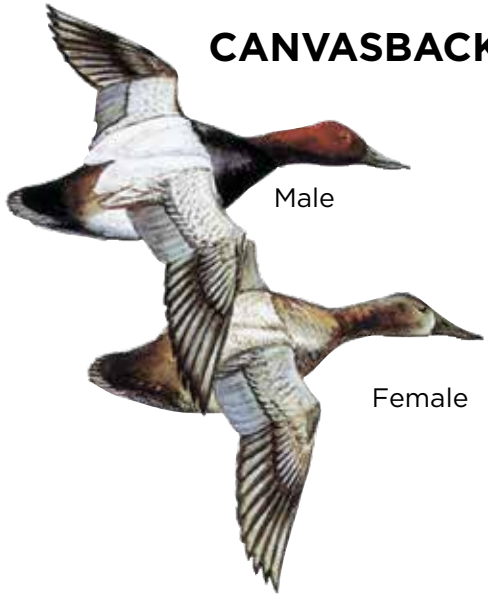
Report all sightings of swans with neck collars to the nearest IDFG office. (See page 4)



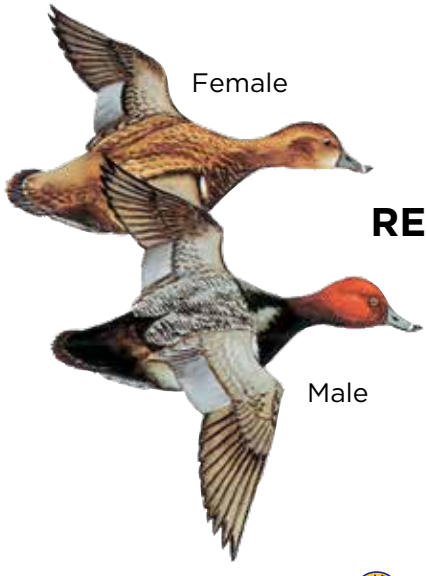
NORTHERN PINTAIL



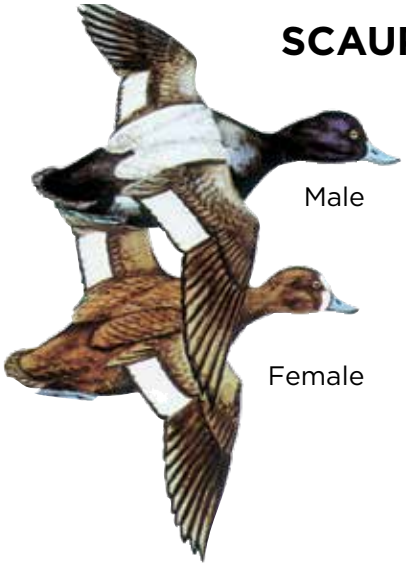
CANVASBACK



REDHEAD



SCAUP

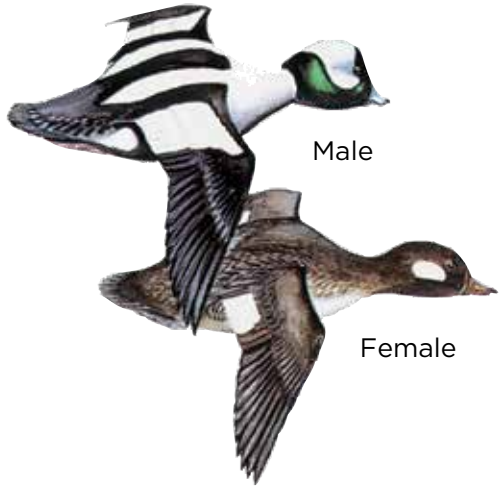


Male

Female

SPECIAL SHORTER SEASONS
SEE PAGE 8

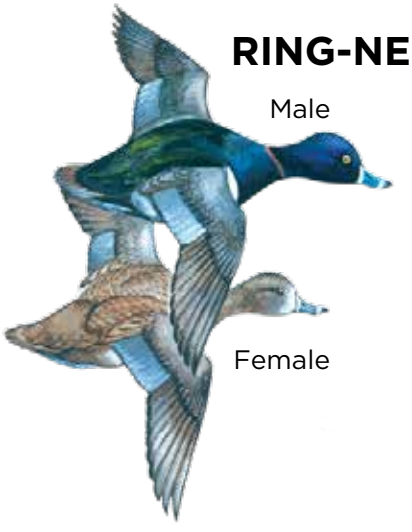
BUFFLEHEAD



Male

Female

RING-NECKED



Male

Female

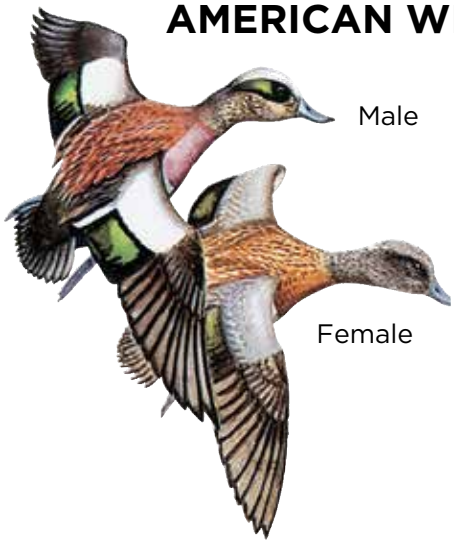
COMMON GOLDENEYE



Male

Female

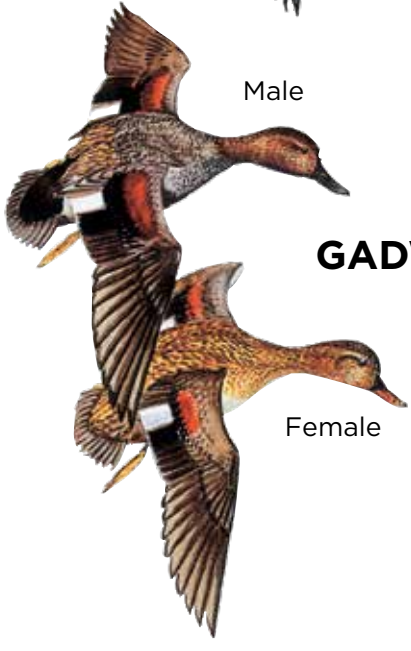
AMERICAN WIGEON



Male

Female

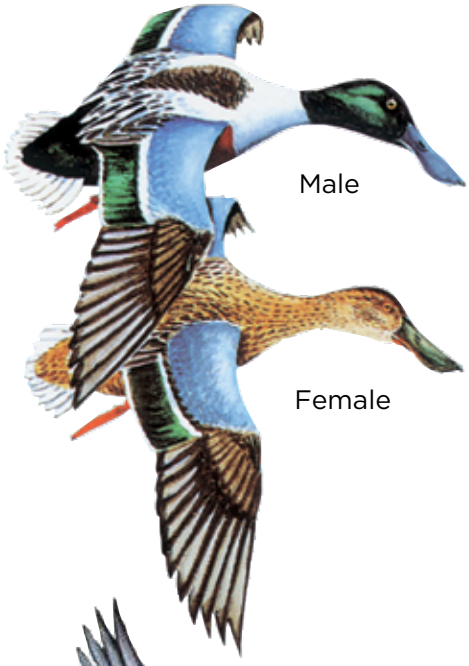
GADWALL



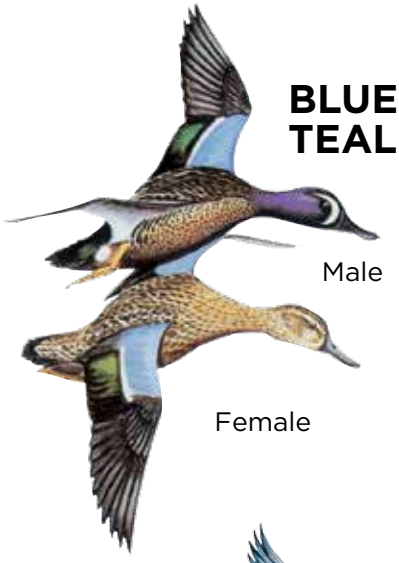
Male

Female

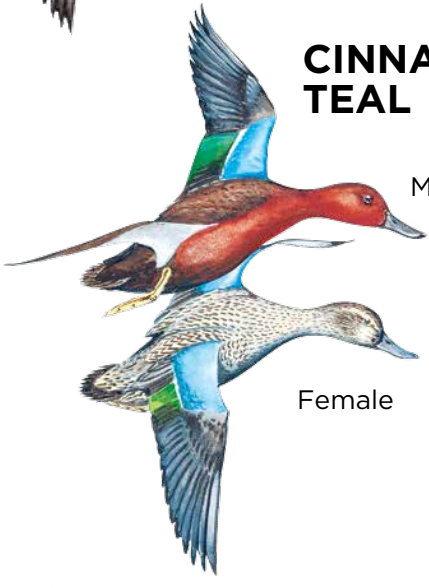
NORTHERN SHOVELER



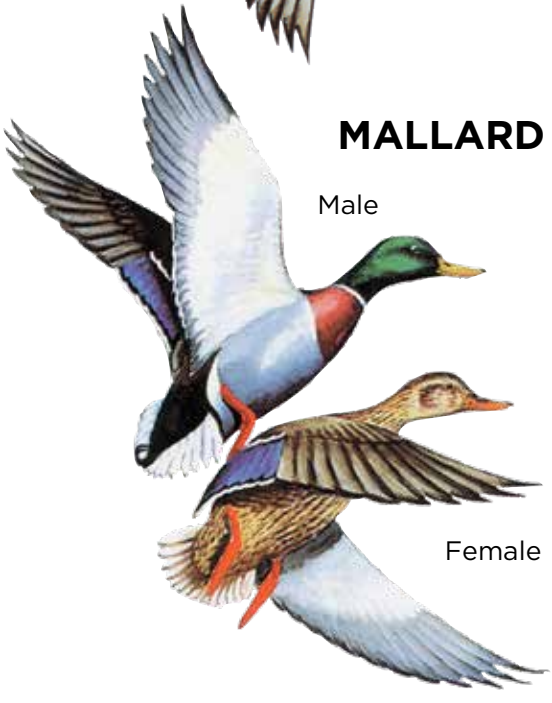
BLUE-WINGED TEAL



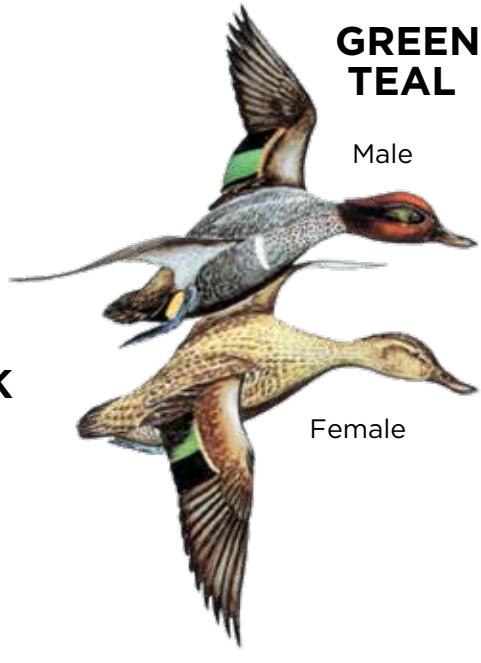
CINNAMON TEAL



MALLARD



GREEN-WINGED TEAL



WOOD DUCK



License Requirements

To hunt upland game birds, waterfowl, such as ducks or geese, snipe, mourning doves and sandhill cranes, small game, predators and unprotected species or to practice falconry in Idaho, all hunters must have in their possession a valid Idaho hunting license or hunting passport with the appropriate validations and stamps.

Stamps and Validations

- **Federal Migratory Bird (Duck) Stamp:** Physical stamps are available for purchase at U.S. post offices for $25.00. Physical stamps must be validated by signing, in ink, across the face of the stamp by any waterfowl hunter 16 or older. Electronic Duck Stamps are available for purchase online at **GoOutdoorsIdaho.com** or at **Duckstamp.com**. Electronic stamps are valid from the date of purchase through the following June 30. Physical stamps will be mailed to hunters who purchased an Electronic Stamp the following March 10.
- **Migratory Bird (HIP) permit**, costs $1.75 with Price Lock, $2.75 without Price Lock for residents, or $5.00 for nonresidents, effective from January 1 through December 31 of each year. Required for all waterfowl, sandhill crane, and mourning dove hunters.

Both are available online at: GoOutdoorsIdaho.com and at any license vendor.

Information from the Migratory Bird (HIP) permit allows migratory game bird managers to more accurately estimate annual harvest of waterfowl, shorebirds (e.g., snipe), and doves to gain a better understanding of bird populations. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and all state wildlife agencies cooperate in this program to gather better harvest information on migratory game birds. Idaho joined the program in 1996.

Federal Regulations

Idaho's waterfowl seasons are set within frameworks determined by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, after meeting with all state fish and wildlife agencies.

Migratory birds are protected by federal law as a result of treaties signed with other countries. Protected migratory birds are listed in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 10.13. This list includes almost all birds found in the United States with the exception of the house sparrow, feral pigeon (commonly called rock dove), European starling, Eurasian collared-dove, mute swan, and upland game birds (which are protected by state laws).

All migratory birds are protected. However, a subset of migratory birds classified as migratory game birds may be hunted in accordance with state and federal regulations. The list of migratory game birds includes species of ducks, geese (including brant), swans, doves and pigeons, cranes, rails, coots, gallinules and moorhens, woodcock and snipe, if there is an open season.

MOST COMMON HUNTING VIOLATIONS

Every hunting season, some individuals unwittingly or knowingly violate the state's game laws – some more frequently than others.

Idaho Fish and Game urge all hunters to review Idaho's hunting rules and regulations to ensure they act within the law.

The following is a listing of common violations our officers encounter every hunting season:

- Fail to validate the Federal Migratory Bird (Duck) Stamp by signing in ink. Refer to the information at the top of this page.
- Fail to purchase the Federal Migratory Bird (Duck) Stamp and/or Migratory Bird (HIP) permit, both of which are required to hunt waterfowl. Refer to the information at the top of this page.
- Possess and use a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler. Refer to page 25.
- Possess more migratory game birds than allowed. Refer to page 25 for federal limits.
- Fail to comply with lawful shooting hours. Refer to shooting hour charts on pages 15-17.
- Fail to purchase a valid hunting license. Refer to the information at the top of this page.

Persons with questions on these or any other Fish and Game laws and regulations can call any Fish and Game office, see page 4.

Nontoxic Shot: Nontoxic shot is required for all waterfowl hunting in Idaho. Hunters may have in their possession only nontoxic shot approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that is 0.20 inches in diameter (T size) or smaller. Please consult the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the most current list of nontoxic shot approved for waterfowl.

Additional federal regulations: In addition to state rules, (see: "State Rules" section on page 26) the following federal regulations apply to the taking, possessing, shipping, transporting, or storing of migratory game birds. This information is only a summary of the major federal regulations which are found in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20. Violation of federal regulations is also a violation of state law.

It is against the law to take migratory game birds:

- With any shotgun capable of holding more than three shells unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun. **Except** during a light-goose-only season (greater and lesser snow geese and Ross's geese) when all other waterfowl and crane hunting seasons, excluding falconry, are closed.
- Using records or tapes of migratory bird calls, or sounds, or electronically amplified imitations of bird calls. **Except** during a light-goose-only season (greater and lesser snow geese and Ross's geese) when all other waterfowl and crane hunting seasons, excluding falconry, are closed.
- From a sink box (a low floating device having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- From or with the aid or use of a car or other motor-driven land conveyance, or any aircraft, **except** that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance. "Paraplegic" means an individual inflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs.
- By use or aid of live birds as decoys.
- From or by means of any motorboat or sailboat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sail furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased.
- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than a 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance.
- By driving, rallying, or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sailboat to put them in the range of the hunters.
- By the aid of baiting (placing feed such as corn, wheat, salt, or other feed to constitute a lure or enticement), or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know the area is or has been baited. A baited area is considered baited for 10 days after removal of the bait, See page 18.
- During the closed season.
- Outside legal shooting hours.

Wanton Waste

No person shall kill or cripple any migratory game bird without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird, and retain it in his/her actual custody, at the place where taken or between that place and either (a) his/her automobile or principal means of land transportation; or (b) his/her personal abode or temporary or transient place of lodging; or (c) a migratory bird preservation facility; or (d) a post office; or (e) a common carrier facility.

Federal Bag Limits

Daily Bag Limit: No person shall take in any one day more than one daily bag limit.

No person shall possess while in the field, have in custody, or transport more than one daily bag limit between the place where taken and either:

- His/her automobile or principal means of land transportation.
- His/her personal abode or temporary place of lodging.
- A migratory bird preservation facility.
- A post office.
- A common carrier facility.

Possession Limit:

- No person shall possess more than one daily limit on the opening day of the season. See pages 8-14.
- No person shall possess more than the possession limit even when such birds are stored at home or are being processed at a commercial preservation facility. See pages 8-14.
- No person including commercial facilities shall possess migratory birds of another unless such birds are tagged by the taker with the following information: (a) the hunter's signature, (b) total number of birds involved, by species, (c) dates such birds were killed.

Tagging

No person shall give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information: (a) the hunter's signature, (b) the hunter's address, (c) the total number of birds involved, by species, and (d) the dates such birds were killed. Tagging is required if the birds are being transported by another person for the hunter, or if the birds have been left for cleaning, storage (including temporary storage), shipment, or taxidermy services. See proxy statement on page 35.

Termination of Possession

The possession of birds taken by any hunter shall be deemed to have ceased when such birds have been delivered by him to:

- Another person as a gift when accompanied by a proxy statement.

- A post office, or a common carrier, or a migratory bird preservation facility, **and** consigned for transport by the Postal Service or a common carrier to some person other than the hunter.

(Note: Migratory birds left in processing or storage facilities, home freezers, etc., are part of a hunter's "possession limit" until conditions above are met. Birds must be given or assigned to someone other than the taker in order to end or terminate possession.)

Species Identification

No person shall transport within the United States any migratory game bird and Eurasian-collared dove, unless the head or one fully feathered wing remains attached to each bird at all times while being transported from the place where taken until they have arrived at the personal abode of the possessor or a migratory bird preservation facility.

Shipment

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

Importation: For information regarding the importation of migratory birds killed in another country, hunters should consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66.

State Rules

It is Unlawful:

- To enter private land to hunt, fish, or trap without permission if the land is:

  Associated with a residence or business;

  or Cultivated

  or Fenced or enclosed in a way that delineates the private property;

  or unfenced and uncultivated, but is posted with conspicuous "no trespassing" signs or bright orange/fluorescent paint at all property corners and boundaries where the property intersects navigable streams, roads, gates and rights-of-way entering the land and posted in a way that people can see the postings.

  It is illegal for anyone to post public land that is not held under an exclusive control lease. At first conviction of trespass on private property carries a mandatory one-year revocation of hunting/fishing/trapping licenses in addition to misdemeanor fine and seizure of animals taken on private property.

  Federal law prohibits unauthorized trespass on Indian-owned reservation lands for hunting, fishing, or trapping purposes.

- To allow or cause the waste of edible portions of any game animal, **except** for mountain lion, black bear or gray wolf. Edible portions are defined as:

  Game birds - Breasts; **Upland game animals** - Hind legs, front legs and loins of rabbits and hares;
  Big game animals - Hind quarters, front quarters, loins and tenderloins; **Game fish** - Fillets of fish and tails of crayfish.

- To fail to stop and report at any Fish and Game check station—with or without game or fish—encountered on your route of travel, even if your hunting, fishing or trapping activity occurred outside the state of Idaho.
- To hunt or take any wildlife without a valid hunting license on your person.
- To take any game without the proper tag or permit.
- To shoot from or across the traveled portion, shoulders, or embankments of any road maintained by any government entity.
- To hunt game from any motorized vehicle, **except** holders of a valid handicapped persons Motor Vehicle Hunting Permit may hunt from a motorized vehicle when the vehicle is not on a public road and not in motion.
- To operate any vehicle in an area designated as closed for that specific vehicle type.
- To use aircraft, including unmanned aircraft (e.g. drones), to locate game or furbearing animal and communicate location to persons on the ground, or to use any helicopter to transport hunters, gear or game **except** at established landing fields.
- To fail to produce wildlife in possession for inspection upon request of a conservation officer or other person authorized to enforce Idaho Fish and Game laws.
- To transfer any license, tag or permit or use another's license, tag or permit.
- To party hunt, or help fill another hunter's bag.
- To acquire more controlled hunt permits or tags per species than that species' bag limit.
- To destroy or disturb traps or remove any wildlife from traps belonging to others.
- To enter Idaho with livestock without a health certificate for transport and a brand inspection slip.
- To intentionally interfere with the lawful taking of wildlife or lawful predator control by another.
- To hunt any game animal or bird by means of baiting with grain, salt in any form (liquid or solid), or any other substance (not to include liquid scents) to constitute an attraction or enticement, with the exception of applicable rules for the black bear baiting permit.
- To possess or transport game or parts, including processed meat, taken by another person without having a proxy statement.

Areas Closed to all Hunting

No person may hunt, kill, trap or molest any game animal, game bird, furbearing animal, or unprotected and predatory wildlife in the following areas:

- All National Parks and National Monuments, including

National Historic Parks. **Exceptions**: The portion of Craters of the Moon National Monument within the National Preserve that was added to the Monument in November 2000 is open to hunting; the portion of Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument within an area of fifty (50) feet in elevation above the high-water level of the Snake River, as marked by yellow fiberglass markers, is open to hunting downslope to the river.

- All state parks. **Exceptions:** Billingsley Creek Unit of Thousand Springs State Park, Castle Rock State Park, and state park lands within the City of Rocks National Reserve are open to hunting. Farragut State Park is open to hunting by archery only. Hells Gate State Park and Heyburn State Park are open to waterfowl hunting
- Harriman State Park Wildlife Refuge.
- Within the area bounded by State Highway 21, Warm Springs Avenue, and the New York Canal from the New York Canal Diversion Dam downstream to the Boise City limits.
- Mann's Lake in Nez Perce County and extending three hundred (300) yards beyond the Bureau of Reclamation property that encompasses the lake.
- Any other location for which a closure is established by Idaho Code, or Commission proclamation or order, or federal national wildlife refuge regulation or order.

Areas Closed to Hunting of all Game Birds

Hunting, killing, or molesting of any game bird is prohibited in the following areas:

- Lewiston Preserve in Nez Perce County (Idaho Code 36-1908). The area along the Clearwater River from Lewiston city limits upstream to Spalding railroad bridge, between Highway 95/12 on the north side and the Camas Prairie railroad on the south side.
- Springfield Bird Preserve (Springfield Bird Haven) in Bingham County (Idaho Code 36-1911). The area beginning 1 mile west of Springfield, Idaho on State Highway 39, and running north one-quarter mile, then east one-half mile, then south to State Highway 39, then east along the north line of Highway 39, then east along the north line of Highway one-half mile, then south one-half mile to the West 850 Road, then west along this road three-fourth mile, then northwesterly in a straight diagonal line to the point of beginning.
- Roswell Marsh Wildlife Habitat Area in Canyon County in the area south of Highway 18 and west of Pebble Lane (Roswell Marsh segment). Closed on Sundays, Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays from September 15 through the end of the waterfowl hunting season. Also closed to white-fronted and light goose hunting from February 1 – March 10.

Idaho Wildlife Preserves Open to Migratory Game Bird Hunting

- David Thompson Preserve in Bonner County
- Myrtle Creek Preserve in Boundary County

Areas Closed to Hunting of Migratory Game Birds, Except Mourning Doves

Hunting, killing, or molesting of any migratory game bird is prohibited **except** mourning dove in the following areas:

- Fort Hall Indian Reservation in Bingham, Bannock, and Power Counties within three hundred (300) yards each way of the Fort Hall Bluffs from Bigbend Boat Launch to the west boundary of the Fort Hall Indian Reservation.
- Hagerman Wildlife Management Area (WMA) in Gooding County in the area enclosed by the following boundary: Beginning at a point two hundred (200) yards west of the point at which U.S. Highway 30 crosses the south bank of Gridley Island, then northwest along a line two hundred (200) yards southwest of and parallel to U.S. Highway 30 to a point two hundred (200) yards west of the junction of U.S. Highway 30 and the WMA entrance, then west and north and east along a line two hundred (200) yards outside of the WMA boundary, which is marked by a fence, to the point at which the fence meets U.S. Highway 30, then east and south along a line five hundred (500) yards outside of the WMA boundary to the Snake River, then downstream along the north bank of the Snake River and then along the south bank of Gridley Island to the point where U.S. Highway 30 crosses the south bank of Gridley Island, then two hundred (200) yards west of U.S. Highway 30 to the point of beginning. **Exception**: Department sponsored waterfowl hunts.
- Mormon Reservoir in Camas County including the shoreline area within two hundred (200) yards of the ordinary high water line.
- Spokane River in Kootenai County from the Post Falls Dam to Lake Coeur d'Alene at the orange pilings, within two hundred (200) yards of the ordinary high water line two thousand one hundred twenty-eight (2,128) feet above sea level.

Areas Closed to Goose Hunting

- Canyon County in the area enclosed by the following boundary and within one hundred fifty (150) feet of the exterior side of said boundary (except that the closure extends to one hundred (100) yards from the exterior side of said boundary along that section commencing at the junction of Lake Shore Drive and Rim Road, then south on Rim Road to west Lewis Lane, then east on west Lewis Lane to Lake Shore Drive, then along Lake Shore Drive to Emerald Road): Beginning approximately at the junction of State Highway 45 (12th Avenue Road) and Greenhurst Road (Nampa), then west following Greenhurst Road to its junction with Middleton Road, then north following Middleton Road to its junction with Lake Lowell Avenue, then west following Lake Lowell Avenue to its junction with Lake Avenue, then north following Lake Avenue to its junction with West Roosevelt Avenue, then west following West Roosevelt Avenue to its junction with Indiana Avenue, then north following Indiana Avenue to its junction with State Highway 55 (Karcher Road), then west following

State Highway 55 to its junction with Riverside Road, then south following Riverside Road to the Deer Flat National Wildlife Refuge boundary, then west along boundary fence below lower embankment as posted to Lake Shore Drive, then in a southeast direction following Lake Shore Drive to its junction with Marsing Road, then east and south on Lake Shore Drive to Rim Drive, then south on Rim Drive to West Lewis Lane, then east on West Lewis Lane to Lake Shore Drive, then southeast on Lake Shore Drive to State Highway 45, then north on State Highway 45 to the point of beginning.

- Hagerman Valley in Gooding and Twin Falls Counties in the area enclosed by the following boundary: Beginning at the Gridley Island Bridge on the Snake River, then south and east along the south bank to a point perpendicular to mile marker 187.5, then on a direct line east to the southern tip of Ritter Island (in the Snake River), then continuing east to the intersection of 3200 South Road and 1300 East Road, then north on the 1300 East Road to the 1200 East Road, then northwest and north on the 1200 East Road to the 3000 South Road, then west on the 3000 South Road to a point five hundred (500) yards east of the intersection of the 3000 South Road and the Hagerman National Fish Hatchery Road) (east of the Hagerman WMA boundary), then north and west five hundred (500) yards outside the Hagerman WMA boundary to U.S. Highway 30, then west and south two hundred (200) yards outside the Hagerman WMA boundary to 2900 South Road, then west on 2900 South Road to 900 East Road, then due south to a point two hundred (200) yards north of the Snake River, then west and north two hundred (200) yards outside the high water line on the east bank of the Snake River to Lower Salmon Dam, then west across the Snake River, then south, southwest and east two hundred (200) yards outside the high water line on the west bank of the Snake River (including the Idaho Power Upper Salmon Dam diversion canal) to the Gridley Bridge, the point of beginning.
- Minidoka and Cassia Counties in the area enclosed by the following boundary: Within two hundred (200) yards of the high water line of the Snake River from Milner Dam upstream to Meridian Road (north side of the Snake River) and 650 East Road (south side of the Snake River), approximately six and one-half (6 1/2) miles east of the City of Burley.

Activities on Fish and Game Lands

Some of the activities prohibited on all lands, waters and roads under control or administration of Idaho Fish and Game include:

- Entering, using or occupying lands or waters posted against such entry, use, or occupancy.
- Constructing blinds, pits, platforms, or tree stands where the soil is disturbed, trees are cut or altered, and artificial fasteners, such as wire, rope, or nails are used. All blinds shall be available to the public on a "first-come, first-served" basis.
- Leaving decoys unattended. Decoys may not be placed earlier than two hours before official shooting hours for waterfowl. All decoys must be picked up and removed from the hunting site no later than two hours after official shooting hours for waterfowl for that particular day. Driving on Fish and Game property to place decoys is prohibited.
- Special rules relating to uses of and activities on wildlife management areas are detailed in a brochure titled "Public Use of Department Lands and Access Areas," available from Fish and Game regional offices.

Bird Dog Training Permits

- A permit is required to train bird dogs on private/public lands (excluding licensed shooting preserves) when the release of artificially propagated upland game birds or waterfowl will be part of the training process. Permit applications are available at Fish and Game regional offices.
- A permit is required to sponsor/conduct any organized competitive dog trials/tests on private or public lands (excluding licensed shooting preserves) when artificially propagated game birds are used. The permit is required even if live birds are not used or released during the trial on Wildlife Management Area lands. Permit applications are available at Fish and Game regional offices.

State Park Rules

Certain types of hunting are allowed on some state parks. Please contact the state park you are interested in visiting to determine hunting opportunity.

Protection of Wildlife: All molesting, injuring or killing of any wild creature is strictly prohibited, **except** as provided by action of the Idaho State Parks and Recreation Board and as established in board policy. Persons in possession of wildlife, which may be legally taken within state park boundaries, must comply with Idaho Fish and Game rules.

Personal Safety: No person may purposefully or negligently endanger the life of any person or creature within any land administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation. No person may discharge firearms or any other projectile firing devices within any lands administered by the Department of Parks and Recreation, **except** in the lawful defense of person, persons or property or in the course of lawful hunting, or for exhibition or at designated ranges as authorized by the director of the Department of Parks and Recreation.

Other Rules

National Wildlife Refuges: More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges. Hunters should check refuge regulations before hunting.

Indian-owned Reservation Lands: Federal law prohibits unauthorized trespass on Indian-owned reservation lands for hunting, fishing, or trapping purposes (18 US Code 1165).

Cities and counties may have ordinances that govern activities within their jurisdiction. Always verify the most current regulations with the appropriate local authorities before you hunt, fish or trap.

To Buy a License, Tag or Permit

- Go to Idaho Fish and Game's online licensing site at **GoOutdoorsIdaho.com**.
- Download the "Go Outdoors Idaho" mobile app directly on your smart phone.
- Outside the U.S., use the internet or mail.
- Commercial licenses and tags, duplicate tags, documents that require proof of disability, lifetime licenses, and bear-baiting permits can only be purchased at Fish and Game offices.

A credit card fee is added for online and telephone transactions.

For an overview of all license buying options, go online to Idaho Fish and Game's website at **idfg.idaho.gov/buy**.

When purchasing the buyer should ensure they have a valid email address on file to receive their purchase confirmation. Tags and/or permits that require notching must be physically received in the mail. A confirmation email cannot be used in lieu of a tag or some permits.

Licenses purchased online must be printed from the buyer's computer, or downloaded to the Go Outdoors Idaho mobile app; they will not be mailed without an additional fee. However, all tags and notchable permits will be mailed. A confirmation email may not be used in lieu of a tag or salmon/steelhead permit or Upland Game Bird Permits. Purchasers must wait until tags or permits arrive in the mail.

Electronic copies of licenses can be used in the field. This includes licenses downloaded directly to the **Go Outdoors Idaho** mobile app, or an email copy of the license.

Licenses, permits, and tags purchased online can be paid for using a Visa, MasterCard, or Discover card, and are subject to a credit card fee of 3% of the transaction, plus $4.00 for online sales (unless requesting a license be mailed, then $5.50).

Any license, tag or permit that is defaced or altered is invalid from the date and time of issue. It is unlawful to use or attempt to use any license that has been defaced or altered.

Sale Dates: Most licenses, permits, and tags go on sale December 1, for the upcoming year; but resident deer and elk tags are not available until after the deer and elk controlled hunt drawings are done in early July. Sage Grouse and Sandhill Crane tags go on sale August 3rd in 2026, and August 2nd in 2027. Most licenses are valid only for the calendar year for which they are issued.

Hunter and Bowhunter Education

- To buy a hunting license, all hunters must show proof that they have completed a hunter education course if they were born on or after January 1, 1975, unless they have held a valid hunting license from Idaho or another state.
- To buy an archery permit, all bowhunters must possess a valid hunting license and show proof they have completed an approved bowhunter education course or show evidence of having been licensed for an archery-only hunt in Idaho or another state. Hunters submitting an approved education course certification should allow Fish and Game staff 3 - 5 business days to process and should not submit the documentation immediately preceding a tag sale.
- Course and registration information can be found on Fish and Game's website at **idfg.idaho.gov/hunt/education** or by contacting any Fish and Game office.
- **Individuals planning to participate in fall hunts are encouraged to enroll in a course before June 30, as the number of courses offered becomes very limited closer to fall hunting seasons.**
- Prospective hunters have two course options to receive their certification: **Instructor-led Course** – 12 to 18 class hours plus an outdoor field day and final written exam. **Online Course** – A self-paced, online instruction and an online exam. An additional outdoor field day may be required for hunter certification, check **idfg.idaho.gov/hunt/education**.

Refund Policy

No refunds will be made for any resident or nonresident license, permits, or tags except the holders of general or controlled hunt deer, elk, pronghorn, moose, bighorn sheep, or mountain goat tag may be eligible for refund of tag and hunting license fees as follows:

- Illness or injury that disables a license holder for the entire applicable hunting season.
- Pregnancy of the tag holder with written confirmation from a licensed medical provider.
- Military deployment of license holder due to armed conflict.
- Death of the licensee.

Nonresident hunting licenses and tags may be refunded less issuance fees and a $50 processing fee. Resident hunting licenses and tags may be refunded less issuance fees. Fishing license fees are nonrefundable.

Individuals who are approved for refund will be eligible for applications in the following year as if the had not applied for the refunded tag.

If the parent or legal guardian of an individual in possession of a Junior Mentored deer or elk tag is eligible for a refund, the junior mentored tag holder will be eligible for the same refund options.

Tags and license must be returned with proof (death certificate, obituary, written justification by a licensed medical doctor, or copy of military orders). Hunting license fees will not be refunded after the license is used to apply for a controlled hunt or to buy a turkey, mountain lion, or bear tag. The request must be postmarked by December 31 of the year in which the license was valid, except for "event of death" refund, which must be submitted within 1 year of the death.

Hunting license and/or tags fees will not be refunded if the license and/or tag has been used for hunting in any capacity.

A controlled hunt tag may be made available in the same hunt for purchase by an immediate family member of a person who died before using his or her tag. Contact Licenses at (208) 334-2592.

If a nonresident refund is requested for any other reason, nonresident general and controlled hunt deer or elk tag fees (no hunting license fees) may be partially refunded using this sliding scale rate:

- Postmarked before May 1 – 75 percent refund.
- Postmarked May 1 through June 30 – 50 percent refund.
- Postmarked July 1 through July 31 – 25 percent refund.
- Postmarked August 1 through December 31 – No refund.

For more information please visit **idfg.idaho.gov/nonresident-refund-information.**

Resident Disabled Licenses

Any resident certified as permanently disabled or eligible for federal supplemental income (SSI), social security disability income (SSDI), railroad retirement board disability, a nonservice-connected veteran's pension, or a service-connected veteran's disability benefit with 40 percent or more combined/overall disability rating, may qualify for a "disabled" license. An applicant must provide either a benefit verification letter from the Social Security Administration in their name showing they are receiving SSI or SSDI benefits for the current year, or a letter from the Railroad Retirement board verifying disability status and being dated within 3 years preceding application for a license, or an official identification card issued by the U.S. Department of Defense, or a letter of any date from the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs verifying a service-connected disability rating of 40% or greater, or a current year's letter from the Veteran Affairs office showing the applicant is receiving a nonservice-connected pension, or a form prescribed by the department that certifies permanent physical disability. A physically disabled person means a person who has lost the use of one (1) or both lower extremities or both hands, or is unable to walk 200 feet or more unassisted by another person or without the aid of a walker, cane, crutches, braces, prosthetic device or a wheelchair, or is unable to walk 200 feet or more without great difficulty or discomfort due to one or more of the following impairments: neurological, orthopedic, respiratory, cardiac, arthritic disorder, blindness (a medically documented loss or impairment of vision and includes any person whose visual acuity with correcting lens does not exceed 20/20 in the better eye, or whose vision in the better eye is restricted to a field which subtends an angle of not greater than 20 degrees), or the loss of function or absence of a limb.

An applicant may present a valid Idaho driver's license if the holder meets disability requirements or section 49-117(7)(b), Idaho Code, and license is marked as disabled.

Disabled licenses may be purchased at Fish and Game offices, selected license vendors (see website at **idfg.idaho.gov/licenses** for list), and through the mail.

Disabled Hunter and Companion

The rules for a companion assisting a disabled hunter allow the companion to take an animal that has been wounded by the disabled hunter and to place and validate the disabled hunter's tag on the animal.

The rules apply for disabled hunters who possess a valid disability license, disabled archery permit, a disabled hunt-from-a-motor-vehicle permit and a valid tag, or a disabled veteran participating in a hunt as provided in section 36-408(7), Idaho Code, and has a valid tag or permit.

The companion is not required to have a tag or controlled hunt permit to assist a disabled hunter. However, the companion must have a valid license and applicable special weapon permit (i.e. – for an archery only hunt, the companion would need an archery permit) when assisting a disabled hunter.

The companion must have a written statement of designation from the disabled hunter while hunting with the disabled hunter or assisting them with taking and tagging their harvested animal. The statement must include the disabled hunters name, address, hunting license, big game tag number and the dates of the designation as a companion.

The companion must accompany the disabled hunter while hunting and they are required to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices.

For more information about the rules for a companion to a disabled hunter, please contact your local Fish and Game office, see page 4.

Resident Lifetime License Certificates

The purchase of a lifetime certificate could be the best investment you ever make. Lifetime certificates authorize all privileges associated with a corresponding annual license, are valid for the life of the certificate holder and are available to Idaho residents. The lifetime certificate does not include tags and permits. If a lifetime certificate holder moves out of Idaho, they will continue to receive an annual license, but will pay nonresident tag and permit fees. Lifetime certificates can be purchased at Idaho Fish and Game offices only.

Applicant	Combination	Hunting	Fishing	Trapping
0 - 1 year	$795.50	$276.75	$601.75	$701.75
2 - 50 years	$1,113.00	$386.75	$841.75	$981.75
51 and older	$636.75	$221.75	$481.75	$561.75

Idaho Residency Requirements

Proof of residency is required to buy any resident license. A previous year's license is not proof of residency.

1. **Drivers must present:** A valid Idaho driver's license and must have been domiciled in the state of Idaho for the last six months immediately prior to purchasing a resident license, tag or permit. Owning real property or paying property taxes within the state of Idaho does not in itself establish residency. You cannot claim resident privileges in any other state or country if you intend to claim residency and purchase resident licenses in the state of Idaho.

2. **Non-drivers must present:** An Idaho identification card issued by the Department of Transportation; or a combination of two documents bearing your name and address but not issued by yourself.

Examples include:

- Home utility bills for the previous six months.
- Rent receipts or mortgage statements for the previous six months.
- Notarized statement from an employer on business letterhead.
- Proof of voter registration dated six months prior.
- For a minor child under 18, identification from a parent.
- **Important note:** Idaho residents without a valid Idaho driver's license cannot purchase resident items through the online licensing system. Idaho residents with other residency qualification documentation must purchase resident items at an in-person vendor location or Idaho Fish and Game office.

3. **Military members:** A nonresident member of the Armed Forces of the United States or a foreign country, which includes state National Guard or Air National Guard, may obtain a resident license provided the service member presents a copy of assignment orders appropriate for the branch of service, such as "Request for Authorization for Permanent Change of Station-Military" that indicate the member is on active duty with permanent duty station in Idaho at the time of license application. The nonresident active duty member's spouse and dependent children less than 18 years of age may obtain a resident license, provided they present a copy of the service member's assignment orders and documentation they are a member of the active duty members household. Authorized documentation includes a marriage certificate, identification issued by the Idaho Department of Transportation indicating the same address as the active duty service member, or a current signed "Military Status and Residency Affidavit".

Members of the Armed Forces who are not residents of Idaho, and who are stationed or domiciled in Idaho fewer than 30 days immediately preceding application are not eligible for a resident license military furlough license and must purchase nonresident licenses and tags.

This is a summary of residency requirements, for additional details see Idaho Code 36-202(S) and 36-405; online at **idfg.idaho.gov/title36** and **idfg.idaho.gov/idapa13** or contact your local Fish and Game office. Persons who do not qualify as residents must purchase a nonresident license.

Hunting Passport

The Hunting Passport allows first-time hunters, resident or nonresident, to trial hunting with a licensed adult for only $1.75 without having to complete a hunter education course. A Hunting Passport can be purchased online at Idaho Fish and Game's licensing site **GoOutdoorsIdaho.com**, at a regional office, or at a local vendor.

The Hunting Passport can only be purchased once in a lifetime for individuals who have previously never held a hunting privilege in any state, (**except** an 8-year-old may obtain an additional passport each year until turning 10 years of age) and is valid for one calendar year, just like a hunting license, and expires on December 31 of the year in which it was obtained.

An individual must be at least 8 years of age or older to purchase a passport. Holders of a Hunting Passport must purchase general season tags, and all permits and validations to participate in the hunt. Hunters 8 to 9 years of age can hunt game birds (except sandhill crane), upland game animals, turkey, furbearers, predatory or unprotected species. Hunters 10 years of age and older can hunt big game, game birds (including sandhill crane), turkey, upland game animals, furbearers, and predatory or unprotected species.

Hunters cannot apply for a controlled hunt with a Hunting Passport.

Hunting Passport license holders must be accompanied by an eligible adult hunting mentor.

Responsibilities of the Hunting Mentor:

- Mentor must be at least 18 years of age.
- Mentor must have a valid Idaho hunting license.
- Mentor may not accompany more than two mentored hunters at one time. Accompany means close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic.
- No registration is required for the mentor.

For more details and frequently asked questions about the Hunter Passport, please go to **idfg.idaho.gov/hunt/passport**.



Resident License, Tag and Permit Fees

Prices listed below include prices for those who are in the Price Lock program, and prices for those who are not price locked. Visit **idfg.idaho.gov/licenses/pricelock** for more information. See important notes on next page.

FEE OR LICENSE	WITH PRICE LOCK		WITHOUT PRICE LOCK	
	ANNUAL	3-YEAR[7]	ANNUAL	3-YEAR[7]
Access-Depredation Fee for Adults	$5.00	$10.00	$5.00	$10.00
Access-Depredation Fee for Jr./Sr./DAV/Furlough	2.00	4.00	2.00	4.00
A license buyer is required to pay this annual fee when purchasing their first annual license of the year. It will not apply to any additional annual licenses purchased later in the year, nor is it required to purchase a daily license.				
Adult Licenses: 18 years of age and older				
Sportsman's Package (Adult or Youth)[1]	$124.25	N/A	$144.60	N/A
Combination (Hunting & Fishing)	33.50	97.00	38.75	112.75
Disabled Combination	5.00	11.50	5.75	13.75
Military Furlough Combination	17.50	N/A	20.50	N/A
Hunting	12.75	34.75	15.75	43.75
Fishing	25.75	73.75	30.50	88.00
Daily Fishing (first day) Each consecutive day at initial time of purchase	11.50 5.00	N/A	13.50 6.00	N/A
Disabled Fishing	5.00	11.50	5.75	13.75
Military Furlough Fishing	17.50	N/A	20.50	N/A
Trapping (expires June 30)	26.75	N/A	29.75	N/A
Taxidermist/Furbuyer (expires June 30)[2]	40.00	**5-yr**-176.75	40.00	**5-yr**-176.75
Hunting Passport (8+ yrs Junior or Adult)[6]	1.75	N/A	1.75	N/A
Youth Licenses				
Junior Combination (Hunting & Fishing, 14-17 yrs)	$17.50	$49.00	$19.75	$55.75
Junior Hunting (10-17 yrs)[5]	7.25	18.25	8.25	21.25
Junior Fishing (14-17yrs)	13.75	37.75	16.00	44.50
Youth Trapping (expires June 30)	7.25	N/A	8.25	N/A
Senior Licenses - 65 or Older				
Senior Combination (Hunting & Fishing)	$11.75	$31.75	$13.75	$37.75
Permits and Validations				
Archery or Muzzleloader Permit	$18.25	N/A	$19.50	N/A
DAV Archery or Muzzleloader Permit	3.75		3.75	
Bear Baiting Permit[2]	12.75		15.00	
Hound Hunter Permit	12.75		15.00	
Upland Game Bird Permit (Department-stocked birds; 18+ yrs)	23.75 ea.		28.75	
Sharp-tailed Grouse Permit	4.75		5.75	
Reasonable Weapon Modification Permit Archery/ Muzzleloader[2,3]	1.75		1.75	
Migratory Bird (HIP) Permit	1.75		2.75	
Salmon or Steelhead Permit	12.75		15.25	
Two-Pole Permit	13.75		15.00	
Adult Tags				
Deer	$19.75	N/A	$24.75	N/A
Elk	30.75		36.75	

FEE OR LICENSE	WITH PRICE LOCK		WITHOUT PRICE LOCK	
	ANNUAL	3-YEAR[7]	ANNUAL	3-YEAR[7]
Adult Tags				
Pronghorn	$31.25	N/A	$36.50	N/A
Bear/Second Bear and Mt. Lion/Second Mt. Lion	11.50 ea.		13.75	
Gray Wolf	11.50 ea.		13.75	
Turkey	19.75		22.75	
Second Turkey or Subsequent Turkey	12.25 ea.		12.25 ea.	
Special Unit Turkey	5.00 ea.		5.00 ea.	
Sage-grouse	22.75 ea.		22.75 ea.	
Sandhill Crane	19.75 ea.		22.75 ea.	
Swan	22.75		22.75	
Moose, Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat (tag only, does not include application fee)	166.75		199.75	
Youth, Senior and DAV Tags[4]				
Deer[4]	$10.75	N/A	$12.50	N/A
Elk[4]	16.50		18.75	
Bear and Second Bear[4]	6.75 ea.		7.75	
Turkey[4]	10.75 ea.		12.50 ea.	
Controlled Hunt				
Application for Deer, Elk, Pronghorn, Bear, or Turkey	$6.25 ea.	N/A	$6.25 ea.	N/A
Application for Moose, Sheep or Mt. Goat	16.75		16.75	

For licenses not listed, please visit our web page at: idfg.idaho.gov

Resident Notes:

[1] The sportsman's package includes deer, elk, turkey, bear, gray wolf and mountain lion tags, and archery, muzzleloader, salmon and steelhead permits.

[2] Available only at Idaho Fish and Game offices.

[3] Disability must be certified by a medical doctor on a Fish and Game form.

[4] Must have a senior combination or hunting license, a junior combination or hunting license, a junior hunting passport, or a DAV combination or hunting license.

[5] All youth younger than twelve must be accompanied in the field by an adult license holder close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices. A 9-year old may buy a license to apply for a controlled hunt tag, but he or she must be 10 years old at the time of the hunt.

[6] Anyone hunting with this license must be accompanied in the field by an adult license holder close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices. Hunting Passport Mentors may not accompany more than two mentored hunters at the same time.

[7] If a 3-year resident hunting, fishing or combination license holder moves out of Idaho, the license will remain valid, but the holder will be required to purchase nonresident tags and permits.



Nonresident License, Tag and Permit Fees

Prices listed below are as of December 1, 2024. Prices may change without notice. Licenses, tags and permits are valid through December 31, except where noted. All tags, permits and applications require the purchase of a license.

FEE OR LICENSE	ANNUAL	3-YEAR
Access-Depredation Fee for Adult	$10.00	$20.00
Access-Depredation Fee for Jr./DAV	4.00	8.00
A license buyer is required to pay this annual fee when purchasing their first annual license of the year. It will not apply to any additional annual licenses purchased later in the year, nor is it required to purchase a daily license.		
Adult Licenses: 18 years of age and older		
Combination Hunting & Fishing	$264.00	788.50
Hunting (includes three-day fishing license each year of license)	185.00	551.50
Disabled American Veteran Hunting (DAV)[6] (Includes three-day fishing license)	31.75	N/A
Small Game Hunting	141.75	N/A
Three-Day Nonresident Small Game Hunting	71.75	N/A
Nongame Hunting	39.00	N/A
Shooting Preserve Hunting	26.00	N/A
Fishing	108.00	291.25
Daily Fishing (first day) Each consecutive day at initial time of purchase	22.75 7.00	N/A
Three-day Salmon/Steelhead	44.75	N/A
Trapping (expires June 30)	331.75	N/A
Taxidermist/Furbuyer[1] (expires June 30)	187.00	N/A
Taxidermist/Furbuyer[1] (valid for 3 days)	$74.25	N/A
Hunting Passport[2] (8+years Junior or 18+years Adult)	1.75	N/A
Junior Mentored & Youth Licenses		
Junior Mentored Hunting[5] (10-17 yrs) (Includes three-day fishing license)	$91.75	$271.75
Junior Fishing (under 18 yrs)	23.75	67.75
Permits and Validations		
Archery or Muzzleloader Permit	$81.75	N/A
DAV Archery or Muzzleloader Permit	5.75 ea.	
Bear Baiting Permit[1]	34.75	
Hound Hunter Permit	301.75	
Permits and Validations		
Upland Game Bird Permit (Department-stocked birds; 18+ yrs)	$56.75 ea.	N/A
Sharp-tailed Grouse Permit	17.75	
Reasonable Weapon Modification Permit Archery/Muzzleloader[1,3]	1.75	

FEE OR LICENSE	ANNUAL	3-YEAR
Permits and Validations		
Migratory Bird (HIP) Permit	$5.00	N/A
Salmon or Steelhead Permit	28.25	
Two-Pole Permit	17.00	
Adult Tags		
Deer	$351.75	N/A
Elk	651.75	
Pronghorn	342.75	
Bear	231.75	
Reduced Bear and Second Bear	41.75 ea	
Mountain Lion	204.50	
Reduced Mountain Lion and Second Mountain Lion	41.75 ea.	
Gray Wolf	31.75 ea.	
Turkey	88.00 ea.	
Special Unit Turkey	5.00 ea.	
Sage-grouse	74.25 ea.	
Sandhill Crane	74.25	
Swan	67.50	
Moose, Bighorn Sheep, Mountain Goat (tag only, does not include application fee)	$2,626.75	
Junior Mentored		
Deer[4]	$176.75	N/A
Elk[4]	299.75	
Bear[4]	116.75 ea.	
Second Bear[4]	41.75 ea.	
Turkey [4]	44.75 ea.	
Disabled American Veteran Tags		
Deer[4]	$23.75	N/A
Elk[4]	39.75	
Bear and Second Bear[4]	23.75 ea.	
Turkey[4]	19.75 ea.	
Controlled Hunt		
Application for deer, elk, pronghorn, bear, or Turkey	$18.00 ea.	N/A
Application for moose, sheep or mt. goat	45.75	

For licenses not listed, please visit our web page at: idfg.idaho.gov.

Nonresident Notes:

[1] These licenses and permits are only available at Idaho Fish and Game offices.

[2] Anyone hunting with this license must be accompanied in the field by an adult license holder close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices. Hunting Passport Mentors may not accompany more than two mentored hunters at the same time.

[3] Disability must be certified by a medical professional (see Idaho Fish and Game form).

[4] Must have a Junior Mentored Hunting license, Junior Hunting Passport, or a DAV license. Any adult accompanying any youth possessing a Junior Mentored tag(s) must have a tag(s) for the same species. Junior Hunting Passport mentors may not accompany more than 2 mentored hunters at one time.

[5] Anyone hunting with this license must be accompanied in the field by an adult license holder close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices. A 9-year old may buy a license to apply for a controlled hunt, but he or she must be 10 years old at the time of the hunt.

[6] Disability must be certified by the U.S. Departement of Defense or by Veterans Affairs on their official letterhead showing combined service-connected disability rating of 40% or more.

If you have information about a wildlife violation,

Make The Call: 1-800-632-5999

- The Citizen's Against Poaching (CAP) Hotline is open 24/7/365.
- Callers can remain anonymous, and may be eligible for a cash reward.
- The more details a caller can provide, the better! Examples: License plates, suspect descriptions, dates/times, locations, and wildlife involved.



Photo: CC-BY Ben Bieri for Idaho Fish and Game

PROXY STATEMENT (To transport wildlife taken by another person)

Taker's Name_____ Taker's Signature_____

Taker's Address_____

License No. _____ Tag No._____

Species (Circle)	#Taken	Date Killed	Unit/Hunt Area	Sex
Mallard				
Green-winged Teal				
Common Goldeneye				
Canada Goose				
Dove				
White-fronted Goose				
Snow Goose				
Other				

Other Game:

Species _____ #Taken _____ Date Killed _____

WHEN NOXIOUS WEEDS MOVE IN, WATERFOWL MOVE OUT!

Noxious weeds replace native plants and destroy waterfowl habit. Most noxious weeds are not suitable for waterfowl forage. Waterfowl will leave areas infested by noxious weeds in search of better habitat.



The estimated damage from noxious weeds/other invasive species worldwide is $1.4 trillion (5% of the economy).

Noxious weeds can be transported by wind, water, boats, vehicles, wildlife, and **YOU!**

4 WAYS YOU CAN HELP!

1. Learn to identify noxious weeds in your area.
2. Clean boats, trailers, watercraft, vehicles, animals, and equipment before leaving home and your hunting locations.
3. Check your clothing and equipment for weed seeds.
4. Aviod traveling through, camping, or hunting in weed-infested areas.

1-844-WEEDSNO OR WWW.IDAHOWEEDAWARENESS.COM

Know Idaho's Trespass Law

All persons must have written permission, or other lawful form of permission, to enter or remain on private land to shoot any weapon or hunt, fish, trap or retrieve game.

A person should know land is private and they are not allowed without permission if:

- The property is associated with a residence, business
- Or, it is cultivated
- Or, it is fenced or enclosed in a way that delineates the private property
- Or, it is unfenced and uncultivated, but is posted with conspicuous "no trespassing" signs or bright orange/fluorescent paint at all property corners and boundaries where the property intersects navigable streams, roads, gates and rights-of-way entering the land and posted in a way that people can see the postings.
- Any person must leave private property when asked to do so by the owner or agent.

Note— It is illegal for anyone to post public land that is not held under an exclusive control lease. Private posting at navigable streams shall not prohibit access to navigable streams below the high-water mark as allowed by Idaho law.

PERMISSION FORM

Permission given to (print):

_____

Dates permission is valid:

from: _____

to: _____

General Description of Property: _____

_____

_____

_____

Landowner Name (print):

_____

Owner or Agent Signature:

_____

A property owner may revoke permission at any time.