Idaho Migratory Game Bird
2022-2023 Seasons & Rules

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

idfg.idaho.gov
Be safe, enjoy your season and remember...

- **Be a mentor.** Pass on the heritage and traditions of hunting, fishing and trapping in Idaho.
- Hunting on private land is a privilege. Always get permission and thank the landowner.

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**2022-2023 Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp**

**U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service**

**Celebrating our Waterfowl Hunting Heritage**

Waterfowl hunters have a long history of contributing to wildlife habitat conservation. Perpetuate access for all to explore wildlife by purchasing Duck Stamps and enjoying the outdoors.
It is my honor and priority as the director of Idaho Fish and Game to continue Idaho's high-quality hunting, fishing and trapping opportunities. Whether it's dove hunting in September, duck hunting in October or snow geese in March, our migratory bird hunting offers long seasons with abundant and diverse game birds.

Unlike other hunting in Idaho, the guidelines for migratory game bird seasons and rules are set by U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the authority of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Simply put, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service determines how many days each state can allow hunting and the maximum bag limits, then the Idaho Fish and Game Commission sets season dates within those parameters after consulting with hunters to determine their preferences.

Idaho traditionally provides the most generous bag limits and longest seasons allowed, and Fish and Game staff and the Commission strive to provide as much hunting opportunity as possible during peak migration periods.

But Idaho's diverse landscapes, elevations and climates can make it challenging to create seasons that exactly coincide with prime migrations and good hunting weather in every part of the state, which is why there are various zones with different opening and closing dates.

Overall, Idaho's seasons, bag limits and rules for migratory game bird hunting remain fairly consistent, but there are some changes for the 2022-23 seasons.

• In parts of the state, duck and Canada goose seasons will open October 1, which is a Saturday, and will open October 19 in others, which is a Tuesday. This difference is to provide early season days that hunters asked for in some areas, and hunting through the end of January in other areas, which is as late as allowed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

• Hunters will get another Canada goose in the bag limit in 2022-23 with the limit raising from four to five daily.

• Veterans and active-duty military will again have a special two-day hunt September 24-25, which will coincide with the traditional youth waterfowl hunt.

Hunters should see healthy populations of migratory birds, which include doves, ducks, geese, sandhill cranes, Wilson's snipe, coots and American crows. Most of these species are found statewide.

Hunters can pursue most of these birds with a hunting license, migratory bird permit, and a Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation (Duck) Stamp for ducks and geese. Exceptions include sandhill cranes and swans, where a tag is required and limited numbers are available.

Considering how long the migratory game bird seasons last and how available these hunting opportunities are statewide, I want to encourage experienced hunters to share this valued Idaho tradition with young or new hunters and help them participate in our rich hunting heritage.

Hunters of all ages can take advantage of Idaho Fish and Game’s "Passport Program,” which is a simple, low-cost way for newcomers to try mentored hunting under these stipulations:

• Hunting Passports are only available to first-time hunters. Passport holders will need a Duck Stamp if they are 16 years or older. Those who have previously held a hunting license in any state are ineligible.

• Hunter Education certification is not needed to obtain a Hunting Passport.

• The minimum age to hold a Hunting Passport is eight years old; there is no maximum age.

You can see more details about the Passport Program at idfg.idaho.gov/hunt/passport.

Enjoy migratory game bird hunting, and thank you for supporting Idaho Fish and Game and wildlife conservation. I wish you a great year of hunting, fishing and trapping.

Ed Schriever, Director
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
Greg Cameron, Magic Valley
Lane Clezie, Southeast
Derick Attebury, Upper Snake
Ron Davies, Salmon

Idaho Department of Fish and Game
600 S. Walnut St., P.O. Box 25
Boise, ID 83707
208-334-3700 • idfg.idaho.gov

To Buy a License, Tag or Permit:
• In person, go to any Idaho Fish and Game office or license vendor.
• By credit card, within the United States call 1-800-554-8685. Outside the U.S., use the Internet or mail.
• From your computer or mobile device, go to gooutdoorsidaho.com. A service fee is added for online and telephone transactions.
• Commercial licenses and tags, duplicate tags, documents that require proof of disability, lifetime licenses, and bear baiting permits may be purchased only at Fish and Game offices.

Other Information
Rules booklets, nonresident license applications: 208-334-3700
U. S. Forest Service:
Southern Idaho ............................................. fs.usda.gov/r4
Northern Idaho ............................................. fs.usda.gov/r1
Bureau of Land Management: ......................... blm.gov/idaho
Idaho Relay Service (TDD) ......................... 1-800-377-3529

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.

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 IDFG, or if you desire further information, please write to: Idaho Department of Fish and Game, P.O. Box 25, Boise, ID 83707 or U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Federal Assistance, Mailstop: MBSP-4020, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, VA 22203, Telephone: (703) 358-2156. This publication will be made available in alternative formats upon request. Please contact IDFG 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.
2022 Migratory Game Bird/BOC/pca 41918/5-2022/125,000 ROP/GG
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What’s New?

Different duck and goose zones
There were several changes to hunt areas and season opening and closing dates, so hunters should check to see if it affects them.

Ducks
New hunt area in the Panhandle. Seasons in Area 1 start on Wednesday, October 19 and close on January 31. See page 8.

Canada geese
The daily bag limit has been increased from four to five, statewide. There is a new hunt area in the Panhandle and in eastern Idaho. Seasons in Area 1 start on Wednesday, October 19 and close on January 31. See page 9.

White-fronted geese
There is a new hunt area in the Panhandle. The season in Area 3 was extended by one week. See page 10.

Light geese
There is a new hunt area in the Panhandle. See page 11.

Swans
The season opens on the same day as duck and Canada goose seasons. See page 12.

Sandhill crane
The number of tags was slightly increased to accommodate for an increase in the annual harvest allocation for Idaho, as per the Pacific Flyway Management Plan. See page 14.

Dove
An extended falconry season was approved for January 23, 2023 through March 10, 2023, statewide. For details on falconry see the 2022-23 Idaho Upland Game, Turkey and Furbearer Seasons and Rules booklet.
GETTING STARTED

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.

It is the responsibility of the hunter to become familiar with the 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/rules](http://idfg.idaho.gov/rules).

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

Available online @ [idfg.idaho.gov/duckstamp](http://idfg.idaho.gov/duckstamp)

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* and Veterans/Active Military

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.
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

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.

• 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.

• Open to licensed hunters 17 years of age and younger.

• Duck, goose, and coot seasons are open for two days only, on September 24–25, 2022.

• 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.