

GENERAL RULES AND INFORMATION

It Is Unlawful

- To hunt on cultivated or posted private lands without permission. See Trespass Law, page 47.
- To hunt or take any wildlife without a valid hunting license on your person.
- To take any game without the proper tag and/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** for holders of a valid handicapped persons Motor Vehicle Hunting Permit.
- To operate any vehicle in an area designated as closed for that specific vehicle type.
- To operate a motor vehicle in violation of area, trail or road restriction.
- To use aircraft, including unmanned aircraft, to locate game and communicate location to persons on the ground, or to use any helicopter to transport hunters, gear or game **except** at established landing fields.
- Make use of any aircraft, including unmanned aircraft, to locate any big game animals for purpose of hunting those animals during the same calendar day those animals were located from the air.
- For all hunters, anglers and trappers, with or without game or fish, to not stop and report at any check station established to inspect licenses and fish and game – even if hunting, fishing or trapping was done outside the state of Idaho.
- To fail to produce wildlife in possession for inspection upon request of a conservation officer or other person authorized to enforce Idaho Department of Fish and Game laws.
- To hunt any animal or bird by aid of a spotlight, flashlight or artificial light of any kind; **except** unprotected or predatory animals on private land after obtaining written permission, and on public lands after obtaining the required permit from a Fish and Game regional office. It is lawful to hunt raccoons on public lands without a permit if such taking is not in violation of state, county, or city laws, ordinances, or regulations.
- 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, hind legs of bullfrogs and tails of crayfish;
- 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 take more animals than the hunter has legal tags for that species.
- 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 upland game bird with the aid of baiting. Bait is defined as any substance placed to attract upland game birds. Baiting is allowed for some big game animals (see current Big Game Seasons and Rules).
- To possess or transport game or parts (including processed meat) taken by another person without having a proxy statement, page 47.

Wounding and Retrieving

No person shall wound or kill any upland game bird, upland game animal or furbearer without making a reasonable effort to retrieve it and reduce it to possession. Every upland game bird, upland game animal or furbearer wounded by hunting and reduced to possession shall be killed immediately and become a part of the daily bag limit.

Identification of Species in Possession, Transportation or Shipment

Any person in possession of or transporting harvested game that has been lawfully taken and reduced to possession must comply with the following requirements:

- No person shall transport for another, receive for cleaning, processing, or storage, or accept as a gift any harvested game unless it is accompanied by a written "proxy" statement signed by the taker. A blank proxy statement is on page 46. It must be filled out completely for the appropriate species to be valid. Migratory game birds accepted as a gift shall apply to the recipient's possession limit. Migratory game birds being temporarily possessed or transported for the taker, as provided above, shall not apply to the non-taker's possession limit.
- Any time big game, turkeys, or sandhill cranes are transported, a validated tag must be attached to the largest portion of the carcass. In addition, the taker must be in possession of the appropriate hunting license and permits. Any person transporting big game for another (including big game animal parts, processed meat, and/or gifts of big game that do not exceed the lawful possession limit) must be in possession of any applicable permits and all information from the proxy statement, see page 47. The validated tag must remain attached

to the carcass until the meat is processed. The validated tag must accompany the meat to the place of final storage or until final consumption.

- One fully-feathered wing or head must be left naturally attached to any dressed game bird (except turkey) and Eurasian collared doves; the beard or leg must be left naturally attached to turkey carcasses. Naturally-attached parts are needed so enforcement and management personnel are able to identify the species and sex of the birds in possession or being transported.
- Any package or container in which game species are being transported by common carrier must have the name, address, and hunting license number of the shipper, the name and address of the consignee, and an accurate statement of the species and number of each contained in the package or container clearly and conspicuously marked on the outside.
- No person shall give another any game species to possess or transport unless they also give the transporter a written proxy statement, see page 47.
- When a wild turkey is accompanied by a written statement as provided above and is being transported for another, it shall not be counted in the possession limit of the person transporting the wild turkey.

Areas Closed to Hunting of Game Birds

- Hunting, killing or molesting of any game bird is prohibited in the following areas:
- Fort Boise Wildlife Management Area (refuge) from September 15 through the end of waterfowl hunting season in the following area: Beginning at the bridge across Sand Hollow Creek on Old Fort Boise Road about 100 yards west of the WMA headquarters, then north along the east bank of Sand Hollow Creek to its confluence with the Snake River, then north and northeast downstream along the east bank of the Snake River to the WMA boundary fence, then south and southeast along the WMA boundary fence to Old Fort Boise Road, then west on Old Fort Boise Road to the point of beginning.
- Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve. All lands contained within Craters of the Moon National Monument prior to the expansion of the park in November 2000 are closed to hunting. Contact the National Park Service (208-527-1300 or www.nps.gov/crmo) for a map indicating these boundaries. All other public lands within Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve are open to hunting.
- Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument in Twin Falls County, *except* that portion within an area 50 feet in elevation above the high water level of the Snake River. The upslope area is marked by yellow fiberglass markers, and hunting is permitted down slope to the river.
- Harriman State Park Wildlife Refuge in Fremont County.
- Nez Perce National Historical Park in Clearwater, Idaho, and Nez Perce counties.

- That portion of Ada County within Veterans Memorial Park and the area between State Highway 21, Warm Springs Avenue, and the Boise City limits.
- Yellowstone National Park in Fremont County.
- Roswell Marsh Wildlife Habitat Area in Canyon County on Sundays through Wednesdays from September 15 through the end of the waterfowl hunting season in the area south of Highway 18 and west of Pebble Lane (Roswell Marsh Segment).
- On any of those portions of federal refuges, State game preserves, State Wildlife Management Areas, bird preserves, bird refuges, and bird sanctuaries for which hunting closures have been declared by legislative or Commission action.
- Lewiston Nature Preserve in Nez Perce County.
- Myrtle Creek Reserve in Boundary County.
- Springfield Bird Reserve in Bingham County.
- Mann's Lake in Nez Perce County and extending 300 yards beyond the Bureau of Reclamation property line that encompasses the lake.

Areas Closed to Hunting of Upland Game Animals

Hunting, killing, or molesting upland game animals is prohibited in the following areas:

- Craters of the Moon National Monument and Preserve.
- Harriman State Park Wildlife Refuge in Fremont County.
- Nez Perce National Historical Park in Clearwater, Idaho and Nez Perce counties.
- That portion of Ada County within Veterans Memorial Park and the area between State Highway 21, Warm Springs Avenue and the New York Canal from the New York Canal Diversion Dam downstream to the Boise City limits.
- Yellowstone National Park in Fremont County.
- Mann's Lake in Nez Perce County and extending 300 yards beyond the Bureau of Reclamation property that encompasses the lake.
- On any of those portions of federal refuges, State game preserves, State wildlife management areas, bird preserves, bird refuges, and bird sanctuaries for which bird hunting closures have been declared by legislative or Commission action.

Trespass Law

All persons must have written permission or other lawful permission to enter private property. The law specifies:

No person shall enter or remain on private land to shoot any weapon or hunt, fish, trap or retrieve game without written permission or other lawful permission. **See page 47 for permission form and additional information.**

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 Department of 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.

Indian-owned Lands and National Wildlife Refuges

Warning: Federal law prohibits unauthorized trespass on Indian-owned reservation lands for hunting, fishing or trapping purposes (18 U.S. 1165).

Trapping on National Wildlife Refuges is under federal regulations by permit only, and steel shot may be required on certain refuges for some upland game species. Check with federal refuge manager.

Hunting of Predatory & Unprotected Animals

Some animals are classified as “predators” or as “unprotected” and can be hunted and taken all year. Animals classified as predators in Idaho include coyotes, raccoons, jackrabbits, skunks, weasels, and starling. The most frequently hunted unprotected animals include marmots, fox squirrels, porcupines, opossum and Columbian ground squirrels, English sparrows, Eurasian-collared doves, and feral pigeons. These species may be taken in any amounts and at any time by holders of the appropriate valid Idaho hunting, trapping or combination hunting license, provided such taking is not in violation of state, county, or city laws, ordinances or regulations.

Protected Nongame Wildlife, Species of Special Concern, Threatened or Endangered Species, Protected Birds

Special classifications for some animals extend extra protection to those species. These animals cannot be hunted, taken or possessed. Threatened or endangered wildlife include caribou, Canada lynx, grizzly bear, and Northern Idaho ground squirrel. Protected nongame wildlife include wolverine, chipmunks, rock squirrel, Wyoming ground squirrel (nevadensis subspecies only), golden-mantled ground squirrel, Merriam’s ground squirrel, Piute ground squirrel, pika, kit fox, northern flying squirrel,

bats, Southern Idaho ground squirrel and migratory song birds. See page 43 for ground squirrel information.

All birds in Idaho are protected **except** starlings, Eurasian-collared doves, English sparrows and feral pigeons. Protected nongame birds cannot be hunted, taken or possessed (including parts of birds, even if found dead). All hawks, owls, eagle and vultures are protected. Game birds may be taken only in accordance with established hunting rules.

For a pamphlet on collecting, possessing, and importing amphibians and reptiles contact a Fish and Game office or visit idfg.idaho.gov.

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.

Hunters: Watch For Traps Set For Furbearers!

- Ask landowners if there are traps set on their land — and avoid them.
- If a hunting dog is accidentally caught in a trap, it should be removed with caution. Although usually not seriously harmed, a dog in a trap will be frightened and may bite. As gently as possible, cover the dog’s head with a jacket, etc., and carefully remove the trap.
- For more information and videos visit: idfg.idaho.gov/media/release-pet

REPORT WILDLIFE CRIME POACHING IS STEALING

Concerned citizens who choose to “Make the Call” are instrumental in catching poachers stealing game and fish from Idaho’s citizens.

Anyone with information about a wildlife violation are encouraged to “Make the Call” and contact the Citizens Against Poaching (CAP) hotline at **1-800-632-5999**. Callers may remain anonymous, and they may be eligible for a reward.





PROXY STATEMENT (To transport wildlife taken by another person)

Taker's Name _____ Taker's Signature _____
 Taker's Address _____
 License No. _____ Tag No. _____

Species <small>(Circle)</small>	#Taken	Date Killed	Unit/Hunt Area	Sex
Sage-grouse				
Sharp-tailed Grouse				
Ruffed Grouse				
Chukar				
Ring-necked Pheasant				
Wild Turkey				
Other				

Other Game:

Species _____ #Taken _____ Date Killed _____

IDAHO'S TRESPASS LAW

ASK FIRST

Know before you go!



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 because:

- The property 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.

Note - if private property adjoins or is contained within public lands, the fence line adjacent to public land should be posted with "no trespassing signs" or bright orange/ fluorescent paint at the corners of the fence adjoining public land and at all navigable streams, roads, gates and rights-of-way entering the private land from public 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.

Private posting at navigable streams shall not prohibit access to navigable streams below the high-water mark as allowed by Idaho law.

A property owner may revoke permission at any time. Any person must leave private property when asked to do so by the owner or agent.

A 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.

Refer to Idaho Code 36-1603 and I.C. 18-7008.
Please visit: <https://idfg.idaho.gov/askfirst>

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.

YOUTH HUNT INFORMATION

YOUTH HUNTS

- Hunters must be 10 to 17 years of age to hunt big game or turkey in hunts designated for youth.

NOTE: The 2020 Idaho Legislature may approve a new rule in April 2020 that would allow Hunting Passport holders who are 8 or 9 years of age to purchase turkey tags to participate in the following turkey hunts: general season, general youth-only, depredation, and landowner permission hunts with the appropriate landowner permission permit. Hunting Passport holders are not eligible to participate in controlled hunts. Please call your local regional office to find out if this rule has been approved.

- Hunters must be 10 to 17 years of age to apply for a youth-only controlled hunt, except a 9-year old may apply for a controlled hunt, provided they are ten (10) years of age when they participate in the hunt for which they are applying. Hunters who apply for a youth-only controlled hunt while 17 and turn 18 before the youth-only controlled hunt begins can still participate in the hunts designated for youth.

THREE-YEAR LICENSES

- If the youth becomes a resident of another state, this license remains valid but cannot be used to purchase resident tags.
- If the youth purchases the multi-year junior combination or hunting license while 17, he or she may continue to purchase the junior priced tags through the valid dates of the license. Youth hunt restrictions based on age still apply. A holder of a multi-year junior combination or hunting license over the age of 17 cannot participate in big game or turkey hunts designated for youth and cannot apply for youth-only controlled hunts.

JUNIOR LICENSES

Only properly licensed youth 10 or older may hunt big game/turkey, except a 9-year old may buy a license to apply for a controlled hunt provided they are ten (10) years of age when they participate in the hunt for which they are applying. They cannot participate in the hunt until they are ten (10).

Resident

- All resident youth younger than 12, who possess a junior hunting license, must be accompanied by a licensed adult 18 years of age or older and be close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices.
- All hunters possessing a Hunting Passport must be accompanied by a licensed adult 18 years of age



or older and be close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices.

Nonresident

- Nonresident youth ages 10 to 17, who possess a nonresident junior mentored hunting license, must be accompanied by a licensed adult 18 years of age or older and be close enough to be within normal conversation or hearing range without shouting or the aid of electronic devices. The licensed adult must have a current year tag which is valid for the same species, and may hunt while participating in the mentored hunting program. The licensed adult may not accompany more than two youth at a time. A tag that has already been filled still meets the tag possession requirement.
- Nonresident youth ages 12 to 17, who possess a full price hunting license are not required to follow the “accompanied by” rule in the field.