Idaho Upland Game, Turkey & Furbearer

2022 & 2023 Seasons and Rules

Effective February 1, 2022 to June 30, 2024
See Migratory Bird Seasons and Rules for Crow, Doves and Sandhill Crane
idfg.idaho.gov
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I am honored to be the director of Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and it remains my priority to maintain our high-quality hunting, fishing and trapping opportunities. The Department, along with the Fish and Game Commission, use biological and social science, along with direct involvement from hunters and trappers, to manage upland game, turkey and furbearer populations and provide hunting and trapping opportunities.

Hunting and trapping allow nearly anyone to enjoy outdoor experiences with friends and family, create some of our most memorable lifetime experiences, and the foundation of many family traditions that often span generations.

This brochure contains a multitude of hunting opportunities for upland game and upland birds, as well as trapping for furbearers, for anyone who buys a license.

We know how important upland game hunting and trapping are to folks who participate, and we are committed to professional wildlife management. Idaho’s upland game and furbearer populations produce a diversity of hunting and trapping opportunities, and regulated hunting and trapping ensures sustainable use of our wildlife heritage now and into the future.

We fully appreciate that harvesting healthy, organic meat is an important part of hunting, and a reason many people learn to hunt. Processing game meat and enjoying great meals from the animals we harvest give hunters, along with their families and friends, a chance to enjoy the benefits long after the hunt is over. Furthermore, upland game hunting is often a good way to introduce people to the sport.

In addition to providing opportunity to pursue a fascinating group of animals, regulated trapping provides many benefits to Idahoans. The management of furbearers through trapping reduces wildlife damage to crops and property, and in some instances, reduces threats to human health and safety. The data collected from trapped furbearers helps track the status and health of these species.

Also, knowledge held by the trapping community has aided Fish and Game in reintroduction efforts of beaver and river otters, and consistently helps with capturing other animals for research.

Although we enjoy liberal seasons, annual harvest of both upland game and furbearers represents a very small and sustainable proportion of these populations.

Because of the diversity of species and habitats available to hunters, Idaho’s upland hunting resources are unique, not only in the West, but nationally. Upland game bird populations may dramatically fluctuate from year-to-year, but most upland bird hunting opportunities have remained stable over the last decade and about 300,000 birds harvested annually. Our turkey hunting is excellent, with hunters consistently enjoying 30-percent success rates in general hunts during spring seasons, and we see no signs of a dramatic change.

Fish and Game recently completed Idaho’s first wild turkey management plan, which was formerly part of an overall upland bird management plan.

To better understand views of turkey hunters, Fish and Game staff conducted an opinion survey of turkey hunters in June 2020 and used that information to help shape the 6-year turkey management plan.

The plan identifies five main priorities:

- Hunter opportunity and harvest
- Population management and monitoring
- Nuisance and depredations
- Habitat improvement and management
- Hunting access

Responses to the wild turkey hunter opinion survey reinforced the importance of hunter opportunity, habitat improvement and management, and increased hunter access for wild turkey hunting.

While most news is good for our upland hunting, that’s not to say everything is exactly how Fish and Game’s wildlife managers, or hunters, want it. Our wild pheasant hunting opportunities have experienced declines due in large part to habitat loss. Fish and Game staff is pursuing ways to provide more pheasant hunting opportunities, and in recent years has expanded pheasant stocking program to include at least two stocking locations in each of Fish and Game’s seven management regions.

Thank you for supporting the Idaho Department of Fish and Game and wildlife conservation in Idaho, and I wish you happy hunting, fishing and trapping in 2020 and beyond.

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

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Ed Schriever, 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:

• 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.
• A service fee is added for online transactions. GoOutdoorsidaho.com
• 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 Numbers
Rules booklets, nonresident license applications: 208-334-3700
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/idoaho
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 administrules.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.

2022/2023 Upland Game, Furbearer, and Turkey BOC/pca 41918/2-2022/220,000 ROP/GG
What's New?

Turkey

• Created a new general spring archery-only turkey hunt on Farragut State Park/WMA from April 15-30.

• Created a new general fall archery-only turkey hunt on Farragut State Park/WMA from November 1 – December 1.

• Expanded the hunt boundary for Landowner Permission Hunts in 38-2 in the Southwest Region.

• Reduced the number of controlled hunts and tags available in Unit 54 in the Magic Valley Region.

• Added Unit 68A to the list of units open to general spring turkey hunting in the Southeast Region; spring controlled hunts were eliminated.

• Added Unit 70 to the list of units open to general fall turkey hunting in the Southeast Region.

• Created a new fall controlled hunt in Unit 68A in the Southeast Region.

• Shortened the season for the Unit 70 Landowner Permission Hunt in the Southeast Region.

• Increased number of tags for spring and fall controlled hunts in 21A-1 in the Salmon Region.

• Expanded the season for the fall controlled hunt in 21A-1 in the Salmon Region.

Trapping

• Removed stream closures to beaver trapping in the Magic Valley, Southeast, and Salmon Regions. See pages 32 – 33 for updated exceptions to beaver trapping.

• Removed closures on river otter trapping in the Clearwater, Southwest, and Salmon Regions, see pages 31 – 33.

• New rules regarding the use of bait when trapping, see pages 36 and 37.

• New rules regarding the use of body-gripping traps on dryland, see page 37.

Turkey Controlled Hunt Application Dates:

• Spring hunt application period: February 1 - March 1
  Results available by March 20

• Fall hunt application period: May 1 - June 5
  Results available by July 10