



New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

2019–2020 NEW MEXICO

SMALL GAME

HUNTING RULES & INFO



Band-tailed Pigeons
Doves
Ducks
Dusky (Blue) Grouse
Geese
Pheasants
Quail
Sandhill Crane
Squirrels

wildlife.state.nm.us

Wildlife are held in trust for the public



Wildlife in North America belong to no individual but are held in trust for the public by state and federal governments.

In 1842, the Supreme Court established this concept in law and set the foundation for the North American Model of Wildlife Conservation.

Founding principles of the North American Model include:

- The elimination of market hunting for game.
- Wildlife should be allocated through law.
- The killing of wildlife requires a legitimate purpose.
- Wildlife are international resources.
- Science is the proper tool to determine and discharge wildlife policy.
- Hunting and fishing rules and regulations should be developed through public processes that create systems of wildlife conservation and use.

These principles helped end an era when millions of bison, birds, elk and other wildlife were killed without seasons or bag limits and helped to begin more than a century of conservation efforts to restore wildlife across North America.

Wildlife management today continues to be guided by these principles, and the success of these practices is evident every time a New Mexico resident or visitor sees the wonder of sandhill cranes along the Rio Grande or flushes a ring-neck pheasant from the brush.

All of this would never be possible without people like you — hunters who provide the means from fees and licenses to fund wildlife management across America. This is why we at the Department of Game and Fish encourage, recruit and work to retain hunters like you. You make this legacy of wildlife restoration and conservation available to everyone.

Thanks for all you do to support wildlife conservation in New Mexico.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael B. Sloane". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Michael B. Sloane, Director-New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

Contents

General Information	4
Important Reminders	5
License Requirements & Fees	6
License Information	7–9
Operation Game Thief: 1-800-432-4263	9
General Regulations	10–11
Rabbits and Other Nongame	10
Open Gate Program	11
Small Game Rules	12
Regulated Areas	13–15
Shooting Hours	15
Upland Game Rules	16
Eurasian collared-doves, grouse, pheasant, quail and squirrel	
Upland Game Seasons	17–18
Migratory Game Bird Rules	19–21
White-winged and mourning doves, American coot, band-tailed pigeon, common moorhen, common snipe, ducks, geese, sandhill crane, sora and Virginia rail.	
Federal Regulations for Migratory Birds	20–21
Migratory Game Bird Seasons	22–27
Dove and Band-tailed Pigeon	22
Game Commission Owned or Managed Areas	23
Migratory Game Birds	
Sandhill Crane	24–25
Central Flyway	25–26
Dark Goose, Light Goose, Duck, American Coot, Common Moorhen, Virginia Rail, Sora and Common Snipe	
Pacific Flyway	26–27
Goose, Duck, American Coot, Common Moorhen, Sora, Virginia Rail and Common Snipe	
Youth Waterfowl Seasons	27
Bernardo and La Joya Area Maps	28–29
Falconry Upland Game Seasons	30
Falconry Migratory Game Bird Seasons	30–31
Waterfowl Identification	32–34
Possession Certificate	35

General Information

Our Mission

To conserve, regulate, propagate and protect the wildlife and fish within the State of New Mexico, using a flexible management system that ensures sustainable use for public food supply, recreation and safety, and to provide for off-highway motor vehicle recreation that recognizes cultural, historic and resource values while ensuring public safety.

New Mexico State Game Commission

Commissioner emails available online: www.state.wildlife.nm.us; P.O. Box 25112, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

Joanna Prukop, Chair, Santa Fe

Roberta Salazar-Henry, Vice-chair, Las Cruces

Jimmy Ray Bates, Sr., Albuquerque

Gail Cramer, Mayhill

Tirzio J. Lopez, Cebolla

David Soules, Las Cruces

Jeremy Vesbach, Placitas

New Mexico Department of Game and Fish

One Wildlife Way, Santa Fe, NM 87507 1-888-248-6866

Michael B. Sloane, Director

Vacant, Deputy Director

Vacant, Assistant Director

James Comins, Assistant Director

Robert Griego, Colonel – Field Operations

Regional Offices

Northwest Office: 7816 Alamo Road, NW, Albuquerque, NM 87120 (505) 222-4700

Southwest Office: 2715 Northrise Drive, Las Cruces, NM 88011 (575) 532-2100

Northeast Office: 215 York Canyon Road, Raton, NM 87740 (575) 445-2311

P.O. Box 1145, Raton NM 87740

Southeast Office: 1615 West College Boulevard, Roswell, NM 88201 (575) 624-6135

Conservation Officer Contact Information

<http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/enforcement/law-enforcement-contact-information/>

Important Telephone Numbers

General Information, License Sales and Harvest Reporting 1-888-248-6866

Hunter Education Program Information (505) 222-4731

Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Information (505) 222-4712

Operation Game Thief (OGT) **1-800-432-4263**

24-hour Depredation Hotline 1-888-727-4883

TDD (number for hearing impaired) (505) 476-8143

The *2019–20 New Mexico Small Game Hunting Rules and Information* includes seasons for upland game and migratory game birds. Information about big game and turkey hunting regulations, license requirements and fees is provided online in the *2019–20 New Mexico Hunting Rules and Information*.

Cover: Montezuma quail. New Mexico Department of Game and Fish photo.



Important Reminders

Sandhill Crane and Pheasant Application Deadline: Aug. 21, 2019

Deadline for all special permit sandhill crane hunts and special permit pheasant hunts is August 21, 2019 before 5 p.m. MDT. No more than four persons may apply per application and no more than two persons per youth-only hunt application (page 17).

Small Game Species include:

Upland game

Eurasian collared-doves, grouse, pheasant, quail and squirrel.

Migratory game birds

White-winged and mourning doves, American coot, band-tailed pigeon, common moorhen, common snipe, ducks, geese, sandhill crane, sora and Virginia rail. Hunting swans in New Mexico is not allowed.

Small Game Hunting Requirements (see page 6)

Licenses and permits can be purchased online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us or by telephone: 1-888-248-6866. Licenses and permits may also be purchased at New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) offices or over the counter (OTC) at local vendors. Harvest reports also may be filed online or by telephone.

Print Your Own Licenses and Permits

NMDGF Game-hunting Licenses, Eastern Sandhill Crane permits, Light Goose Conservation Order permits and band-tailed pigeon permits are available online and may be printed on standard paper (PDF READER REQUIRED). Licenses and permits will no longer be mailed unless requested by telephone: 1-888-248-6866.

Information Center Assistance: 1-888-248-6866

The NMDGF Information Center is open year-round Monday–Friday, 8 a.m.–5 p.m. (except holidays) to answer questions and assist with license issues or harvest reports.

Free Online Maps and Mobile app

Maps are available at www.wildlife.state.nm.us for La Joya North and South Ponds, the Bernardo hunt areas, sandhill crane check stations and hunt boundaries, and designated areas in the lower Rio Grande Valley.

BLM-New Mexico has partnered with the New Mexico Department of Game and Fish (NMDGF) to provide free maps of big game hunting units and recreational areas on public lands. Download the CarryMap app to your mobile device, then download New Mexico maps at:

www.blm.gov/maps/frequently-requested/new-mexico/hunting/maps



License Requirements & Fees

While in The Field You Must Have All of the Following:

1. All small game hunters must possess a Game Hunting License or Game Hunting & Fishing License.
2. All hunters, trappers or anglers must possess a Habitat Management & Access Validation, except as defined on page 7.
3. All hunters, trappers or anglers on any U.S. Forest Service or Bureau of Land Management lands must possess a Habitat Improvement Stamp, except as defined on page 7.
4. All migratory bird hunters must possess a Harvest Information Program (HIP) number.
5. All waterfowl hunters 16 years of age or older must possess a federal Duck Stamp (page 7).
6. All hunters 17 years of age and younger must possess a Hunter Education or Mentored-Youth Hunter number.
7. All hunters on private lands must possess written permission from the landowner.

License Fees

License Type	Resident	Nonresident
Game Hunting License Squirrel and game birds	\$15.	\$65
Game Hunting & Fishing License. Squirrel, game birds and fishing	\$30.	Not Issued
Junior Game Hunting License. Squirrel and game birds	\$10.	\$15
Junior Game Hunting & Fishing License Squirrel, game birds and fishing	\$15.	Not Issued
Senior and Handicapped Game Hunting License Squirrel and game birds	\$15.	Not Issued
Senior and Handicapped Game Hunting & Fishing License Squirrel, game birds and fishing	\$20.	Not Issued
Disabled Veteran (less than 100%) Game Hunting & Fishing License Squirrel, game birds and fishing	\$10.	Not Issued
Temporary (4 days) Game Hunting License Squirrel and game birds (other than turkey)	Not Issued.	\$33
Nongame Hunting License Nongame species (pages 9 and 10).	Not Issued.	\$65
Habitat Improvement Stamp Mandatory on all U.S. Forest Service and BLM properties. For age requirements and exceptions, see page 7.	\$5	\$5
Habitat Management & Access Validation (HMAV) This validation does not replace the Habitat Stamp. For age requirements and exceptions, see page 7.	\$4	\$4
Harvest Information Program (HIP) Number. Required for hunting migratory game birds	\$0	\$0
Federal Duck Stamp. Required for waterfowl hunting (ducks and geese) age 16 and older	\$26.50	\$26.50

Licenses, stamps and validations may be purchased online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us, by telephone: 1-888-248-6866, at all NMDGF offices and over the counter at local vendors (\$1 vendor fee applies).

License Information

License, Validations, Stamps and HIP Number

All small game hunters must possess a Game Hunting License or Game Hunting & Fishing License, Habitat Management & Access Validation (except as defined below) and Habitat Improvement Stamp, if applicable.

Habitat Management & Access Validation

A Habitat Management and Access Validation (HMAV) must be purchased and possessed by all hunters, trappers or anglers, except individuals 17 years of age and younger and 100% disabled resident veterans in conjunction with privileges covered by the Disabled-Veteran card. This once-per-license-year fee is used to: lease access to private lands for public use; provide public access to landlocked public land; and provide improvement, maintenance, development and operation of State Game Commission property for fish and wildlife habitat management. The HMAV will automatically be added to the shopping cart with your first purchase of a hunting, fishing or trapping license if required.

Habitat Improvement Stamp

Hunters, trappers and anglers must purchase and possess a current Habitat Stamp to use U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) lands in New Mexico, except trappers or anglers 11 years of age and younger and 100% disabled resident veterans in conjunction with privileges covered by the Disabled-Veteran card. Only one stamp is required each license year for these lands. The stamp is not required on other public property or on private property. The stamp is not required in Unit 28 which is a predominately BLM property under military withdrawal. Funds from the sale of Habitat Stamps are used to improve wildlife habitat. All hunters, trappers and anglers are encouraged to purchase a Habitat Stamp.

Harvest Information Program Number (HIP)

Each license year, migratory bird hunters must obtain a HIP number. Every hunter must possess a separate permit number for each state in which they hunt migratory birds.

Duck Stamp

Federal law requires all waterfowl hunters 16 years of age or older to carry a valid federal Migratory Bird Hunting & Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp) which is signed in ink across the face. Stamps are available online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us or www.duckstamp.com and at U.S. Post Offices, NMDGF offices and at all license vendors. A valid hunting license that displays 'Federal Duck Stamp' meets the federal requirement for 45 days from the date of purchase.

Hunter Education or Mentored-Youth Hunter Number Required

Individuals younger than 18 years of age must either: 1.) possess a Hunter Education number from New Mexico or another state; or 2.) possess a New Mexico Mentored-Youth Hunter number. Certification and/or registration numbers will be printed on all hunters Game Hunting License once completed.

Youth Hunts

To qualify for youth hunts, applicants must be 17 years of age or younger on opening day of the hunt and must possess a Hunter Education number or a Mentored-Youth Hunter number.

Federal Youth Waterfowl Days

No application or special hunt permit is required. Youth hunters must be 17 years of age or younger and fully licensed. Hunters 16 years of age and older must possess a federal Duck Stamp. An adult 18 years of age or older must accompany the youth in the field (the adult may not hunt ducks but may participate in other seasons that are open on the special youth days). For more information about this hunt, see pages 23 and 27.

New Mexico Residency Requirements

To qualify for New Mexico resident license(s), an individual must meet one of the following criteria:

1. A United States citizen who has resided in N.M. for a period of not less than 90 days immediately preceding the date of application (or purchase) for the license, has been domiciled in N.M., and has not claimed residency elsewhere for any purpose. **Temporary or seasonal residents and home owners**, who maintain a primary residence outside of N.M., **do not qualify for resident licenses**.
2. A citizen of another country who is legally in the United States and has actually lived in N.M. for at least 90 days immediately preceding his/her license application (or purchase).
3. A student, not otherwise entitled to claim residence, who is attending any educational institution in N.M., has attended and actually has lived in the state for at least one full semester immediately preceding the application (or purchase) for a license. Students must present a certificate or letter verifying their enrollment and attendance from the proper authorities of the educational institution.
4. A member of the U.S. military, not otherwise entitled to claim residence, who is permanently assigned to a military installation located within N.M. and who presents with his/her application a certificate or letter that verifies the military assignment and is signed by the commanding officer. The spouse or dependent of such person, living within the same household and similarly certified by the person's commanding officer may also purchase resident licenses.

Military and Veteran Licenses

Free Licenses for 100% Disabled Resident Veterans

New Mexico residents who are 100%-disabled veterans of the armed services are eligible for a free lifetime Game Hunting & Fishing License. Disabled veterans may apply to NMDGF for a Disabled American Veteran card which allows the holder to hunt small game, fish and obtain a free deer license. Card holders do not need to buy or possess a Habitat Stamp or Habitat Management & Access Validation when fishing or hunting small game.

Disabled Veterans Game Hunting & Fishing Licenses

Residents who are disabled veterans of the armed services, but do not meet the 100%-disabled qualification, are eligible for a \$10 Game Hunting & Fishing License (\$20 savings). All other license requirements apply (page 6).

50% Discount for Resident Active Military and Veterans

50% discounts on all licenses, permits and stamps are available to New Mexico residents who are active duty military or veterans. The discount may be claimed by applying for or purchasing any license, permit or stamp online, by telephone or at any license vendor. Residents claiming this discount must be able to provide proof of active duty military or veteran status upon request. Discount does not apply to: application fees, license vendor fees, administrative fees, the federal Duck Stamp, or the Resident Disabled Veteran Game Hunting & Fishing License.

Resident Veteran Game Hunting & Fishing License

New Mexico residents who are members of the National Guard or the U.S. Armed Forces and were called to active duty on or after April 3, 2003 are eligible for a free Game Hunting & Fishing License for the year following their deactivation and return to New Mexico. Proof of service must be presented at an NMDGF office. A Habitat Management & Access Validation and Habitat Stamp are not required in conjunction with this once-in-a-lifetime benefit. For further information about Military and Veteran Licenses, please telephone: 1-888-248-6866.

License Information—continued.

Nongame Hunting License

Nongame species include prairie dogs, rabbits, ground squirrels, coyotes, skunks and Himalayan tahr. Residents are not required to have a license to take nongame species. Nonresidents must purchase a Nonresident Nongame License or a New Mexico Nonresident Game Hunting License. Nongame hunting is not permitted on Wildlife Management Areas, unless specifically permitted by rule.

License Refunds and Transfers

New Mexico Hunting Licenses and Game Hunting and Fishing Licenses are nontransferable and nonrefundable. For more information, telephone the NMDGF Information Center: 1-888-248-6866.

License Information Is Public Record

Pursuant to the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act, Sections 14-2-1 et. seq. NMSA 1978, information provided when applying for licenses and permits is public record and must be disclosed to anyone when properly requested except as provided by law.

Penalties for Hunting without a License

Hunters cited for hunting upland game or migratory birds without a license may pay a penalty assessment instead of appearing in court. The penalty assessment is \$125 for residents, \$175 nonresidents and includes the cost of a hunting license, permits, stamps and fees related to the citation (pages 6–7). A license will be mailed upon payment of the assessment. A hunter cited will be assessed 10 points against a potential 20 points which may result in license revocation. License Revocation: Hunting and fishing privileges may be revoked for three years or more, if accumulated game law violations equal 20+ points within a three year period. For further information, please contact any NMDGF office.

Parental Responsibility Act

The Parental Responsibility Act requires the New Mexico State Game Commission to suspend the recreational and professional licenses of anyone who does not comply with court-ordered child support obligations. The purpose is to discourage parental neglect of children by suspending hunting and fishing privileges until failure to pay court-ordered child support has been corrected and a \$25 reinstatement fee has been paid. For more information, telephone NMDGF Field Operations: (505) 476-8065 or 1-888-248-6866.

Operation Game Thief (OGT)

OGT is an anonymous tip line for reporting wildlife crimes anywhere in the state. Rewards are paid for any case where charges have been filed; a conviction is not required. OGT is funded solely through donations from individuals and organizations and not from tax or license fee. Rewards range from \$50-\$750.

OGT Hotline (24 hours, 7 days a week):

1-800-432-4263 or

www.wildlife.state.nm.us/ogt



General Regulations

It is unlawful to:

- Hunt protected species without a license and all applicable permits, stamps or validations.
- Hunt any protected species outside of established season for that species.
- Hunt protected species using licenses, permits, stamps or validations belonging to another individual or take or attempt to take a protected species for another person.
- Take or attempt to take game species by the aid of baiting. An area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait.
- Use live protected species as decoys to take or attempt to take game species.
- Exceed the daily bag limit or have more than the legal possession limit of any species.
- Use electronically or mechanically recorded calling devices, except as permitted for nongame species and during the Light Goose Conservation Order.
- Shoot at protected species or artificial wildlife from a motor vehicle.
- Discharge a firearm within 150 yards of a dwelling or building (not including abandoned or vacated buildings on public land) without the permission of the owner or lessee.
- Hunt while under the influence of alcohol or other intoxicants, including medical marijuana.
- Litter and/or pollute streams, lakes and other waters.
- Leave a fire unattended or improperly handle fire.
- Shine spotlights or other artificial lights into areas where livestock may be present, while in possession of any sporting arm.
- Park any motor vehicle or camp within 300 yards of any man-made water hole, water well or watering tank used by wildlife or domestic stock, without the prior consent of the private landowner, private-land lessee, public-land lessee or public-land management agency.
- Shoot at game on, from or across any paved, graded or maintained public road or within the fenced right-of-way of any paved, graded or maintained public road.
- Use motor-driven vehicles on roads closed under the Habitat Protection Act or other federal regulation.
- Hunt or shoot at any animal from an aircraft or drone or cause any non-domesticated animal to move from its place of rest or change its direction of travel.
- Hunt from, signal locations of protected species to hunters from or harass game with aircraft; hunt protected species observed from aircraft within 48 hours of observation; or hunt protected species the same day of air travel, except by commercial airline or direct flight to a landing strip.
- Take any animal that is protected by law but not listed as a game species and/or any animal that is listed as an endangered or threatened species.
- Recklessly or carelessly handle a firearm.

Protected Bird Species

Unless otherwise designated, all birds are protected by law. In addition to the game birds listed in this booklet, protected birds include eagles, hawks, falcons, owls, vultures, crows, ravens and all songbirds. Unprotected birds are starlings, rock doves (common pigeons) and house sparrows (English sparrows).

Rabbits and Other Nongame Species

Common nongame species include coyotes, skunks, rabbits and rock squirrels. New Mexico residents are not required to have a license to take nongame species. Nonresidents must possess either a Nonresident Nongame License or a current New Mexico nonresident game hunting license. Nongame species may be taken on U.S. Forest Service and BLM lands open to hunting. Nongame species may also be taken on State Trust Lands which are opened by easement, provided the hunter holds a valid license for protected species on those lands, and he/she is hunting during the season(s) designated for that license. White-sided jackrabbits, found primarily in Hidalgo county, are protected under the New Mexico Wildlife Conservation Act and may not be hunted.

Vehicle Use: Driving Off-road or on a Closed Road

1. During the seasons established for any protected species, it is unlawful to drive or ride in a motor vehicle which is driven off an established road on **public land** or on a closed road on public land when the vehicle bears a licensed hunter, angler or trapper.
2. During the seasons established for any protected species, it is unlawful to drive or ride in a motor vehicle which is driven off an established road on **private land**, without written permission from the landowner, when the vehicle bears a licensed hunter, angler or trapper.
3. It is unlawful to drive or ride in a motor vehicle which is being driven off an established road or on a closed road when gathering or searching for shed antlers on public land.
4. EXCEPTION: Snowmobiles may be driven off established roads, and lawfully taken game may be retrieved in areas not closed to vehicular traffic.
5. Public land as used in this section shall mean any federally owned or managed property, any state owned or managed property, any private property which is part of a unitization hunting agreement, ranch wide agreement or unit wide agreement for the species being hunted, any private property which the department has paid for public access for the species being hunted or any New Mexico state game commission owned or managed property.

Established road means:

1. A road, built or maintained by equipment, which shows no evidence of ever being closed to vehicular traffic by such means as berms, ripping, scarification, reseeding, fencing, gates, barricades or posted closures;
2. A two-track road which shows use prior to hunting seasons for other purposes such as recreation, mining, logging, and ranching and which shows no evidence of ever being closed to vehicular traffic by such means as berms, ripping, scarification, reseeding, fencing, gates, barricades or posted closures.

Hunting on Private Land

Hunters must obtain written permission before entering private lands (*see Criminal Trespass*). It is unlawful to hunt, capture, take, attempt to take or kill any game on posted private property without written permission of the landowner or person in control of the land, or if consent to remain on the property has been denied or withdrawn. Any game taken in violation of the above, shall be subject to seizure.

Criminal Trespass

Any person entering private property without written permission from the landowner, manager or leasee may be charged with criminal trespass under Chapter 30-14-1, NMSA 1978. Criminal trespass is a misdemeanor and punishable by fines up to \$1,000 and 364 days in jail. For complete descriptions of *what is* and *what is not* criminal trespass and the penalties involved, see page 26–27 of the *2019–20 New Mexico Hunting Rules and Information*, available online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us. Any person convicted of criminal trespass shall be revoked for at least three years.

Open Gate Program

Open Gate is a voluntary access program available to landowners statewide. The purpose of the program is to provide outdoor users more opportunities to hunt, fish and trap. To accomplish this lands and waters are leased from private landowners.



Each participating Open Gate property has special rules for permitted activities agreed upon by the landowner and NMDGF. These rules will be posted on the property and are also available on the NMDGF website: www.wildlife.state.nm.us. Hunters, anglers and trappers can use online information to locate and learn about properties that match their interests. It is the responsibility of the individual using the property to know and obey posted rules. Citations may be issued for violation of any rules or regulations.

Small Game Rules

Legal Sporting Arms

Upland Game: Eurasian collared-doves, grouse, pheasant, quail and squirrel.

Quail and pheasant may be taken with shotguns and muzzle-loading shotguns firing shot, bows and crossbows. Grouse and squirrels may be taken with shotguns firing shot, muzzle-loading shotguns, rim-fire and muzzle-loading firearms, bows, crossbows and compressed air gun firing a pellet.

Migratory Birds: White-winged and mourning doves, American coot, band-tailed pigeon, common moorhen, common snipe, ducks, geese, sandhill crane, sora and Virginia rail.

Migratory game birds may be taken with a shotgun fired from the shoulder, provided it is no larger than 10-gauge and is not capable of holding more than three shells. Migratory game birds also may be taken with muzzle-loading shotguns firing shot, bow and arrows and crossbow and bolts.

Nontoxic Shot Mandatory

Hunters must use and may only possess USFWS-approved nontoxic shot when hunting any waterfowl, coot, common moorhen, crane (draw hunt only), snipe, sora, or Virginia rail with shotguns (including muzzle-loading shotguns).

Anyone hunting small game on Bernardo, LaJoya and Huey WMAs must use and only possess USFWS-approved nontoxic shot. Nontoxic shot is not required for any species of upland game, dove, band-tailed pigeon and the eastern sandhill crane hunt on other commission owned or managed properties.

Nontoxic shot includes: bismuth-tin, iron (steel), copper-clad iron, iron-tungsten, iron-tungsten-nickel, tungsten-bronze, tungsten-iron-copper-nickel, tungsten matrix, tungsten polymer, tungsten-tin-iron, tungsten-tin-bismuth, tungsten-tin-iron-nickel and tungsten-iron-polymer.

Possession, Transportation and Storage

It is unlawful to possess game birds or squirrels without a proper license or possession certificate demonstrating the game was taken legally.

No game of any kind may be transported or possessed by another person, unless that game is accompanied by a possession certificate (sample possession certificate, page 35 and online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us).

Proof of Species, Sex and Bag Limit

The head or leg of each pheasant, one foot of each quail, and one fully feathered wing of each migratory game bird or Eurasian collared-dove (other species of dove and band-tailed pigeons are exempt) must remain attached to the bird until it is at a residence, taxidermist, meat processing facility or place of final cold storage.

Wanton Waste

Wanton waste is illegal. Anyone taking small game must transport the edible portions of the meat from the field for human consumption.

Regulated Areas

Access to Public Lands

New Mexico contains approximately nine million acres of National Forest and 13 million acres of BLM lands. NMDGF recommends contacting the appropriate land management agency prior to hunting. Many public lands in New Mexico are also interspersed with privately owned property. A private landowner has the right to control the use of his/her private land. Where no public access exists, sportsmen/women must obtain written permission from the landowner or leaseholder to cross private land for access to public land. It is unlawful for persons to post or restrict lawful use of public land.

Forest Service and BLM Lands

Most BLM and U.S. Forest Service lands, including Wilderness Study Areas, are open to public hunters. It is the responsibility of each hunter to know what restrictions apply and where. Vehicle use and off-road vehicle travel may be restricted or prohibited on these lands. For more information visit:

www.fs.fed.us or www.blm.gov/nm/st/en.html

State Trust Lands

The New Mexico State Game Commission has purchased a lease for hunting, fishing and trapping of protected species on State Trust Land. Certain State Trust Land may be under business lease and withdrawn by the Commissioner of Public Lands and unavailable for hunting, fishing or trapping. For specific locations, contact the New Mexico State Land Office: (505) 827-5842 or

www.nmstatelands.org/Recreational_Access.aspx#SportsmanAccess.

National Parks and Monuments

National parks and national monuments are closed to hunting, except the following BLM managed national monuments: Rio Grande Del Norte National Monument, Prehistoric Trackways National Monument and Organ Mountains–Desert Peaks National Monument.

National Wildlife Refuges

Contact individual federal refuges for regulations on hunting. For more information, see page 21.

Bureau of Reclamation (BOR)

Areas owned and operated by the Bureau of Reclamation are open, unless otherwise posted, to migratory game bird hunting during established seasons. All state and federal regulations apply, such as permits, shooting hours and bag limits. Additional restrictions may apply for lands managed by BOR. For information contact the Bureau of Reclamation: (505) 462-3540.

Native American Tribal Lands

Check with tribal officials about hunting on tribal lands.

McGregor Range in Unit 28

For access information, contact the Fort Bliss Security Office: (915) 568-3215.

Jornada Experimental Station

Contact the Jornada Experimental Station in Doña Ana County for public access and restrictions: (575) 646-4842.

Chihuahuan Desert Research Center

The Chihuahuan Desert Rangeland Research Center (College Ranch) is closed to public access. Telephone: (575) 646-2514 or visit online: <http://chihuahuansc.nmsu.edu/index.html>.

Middle Rio Grande Conservancy District

For more information and to obtain access along the Rio Grande telephone: (505) 864-7466.

Portions of the Rio Grande in Valencia County

Areas posted along the Rio Grande in Valencia County may be closed to hunting for public safety. For more information regarding closures contact the NMDGF Northwest Office: (505) 222-4700.

Sandia Ranger District

The Sandia Ranger District is open only to bow and crossbow hunting for upland game and migratory game birds during established seasons.

Valle Vidal

Valle Vidal is closed to all small game hunting.

New Mexico State Parks

Closed to all hunting except in designated areas. Contact state park superintendents for designated hunting areas and directions or telephone: 1-888-667-2757.

1. **Bluewater, Caballo, El Vado, Heron, Conchas, Ute, Elephant Butte and Sumner Lake State Parks:** Open for common snipe, sora, Virginia rail and waterfowl.
2. **Navajo Lake State Park:** Open for common snipe, sora, Virginia rail and waterfowl.
Closed areas: Navajo Dam stilling basin which includes the area from the crest of the bluff above the north bank of the San Juan River to N.M. Hwy. 511 on the south side of the river for ¼ mile downstream from the dam; Cottonwood Campground and Day Use Area from the lower boundary of the Quality Waters to a fence ¼ mile downstream from the Cottonwood Day Use Area; Pine and Sims Mesa Recreation Area; and Navajo Reservoir Recreation Area south end.

State Game Commission Owned or Managed Areas

The State Game Commission owns and manages lands across New Mexico for the benefit of fish, wildlife and their habitats. These lands include New Mexico's Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs). Select WMAs are open to provide additional public hunting opportunities. See below for special WMA rules.

General Rules for Hunting on Wildlife Management Areas

- WMA access is allowed by each properly-licensed hunter with up to three guests during his/her published hunt period (and scouting period for big game hunters only).
- Individuals may not enter closed areas as posted on site.
- Vehicles may not be operated off established roads or on closed roads.
- Camping is restricted to designated areas. Individuals may not camp more than 14 consecutive days, except during their published hunt period (and scouting period for big game hunters only).
- Campfires must be safely contained.
- Dogs must remain on leash, except when being used for hunting purposes as allowed by rule.
- Domestic livestock feed, other than pelleted feed, grain feed or hay certified as weed free, is prohibited.
- Individuals may not deface or remove rocks, minerals, plants (including fruits, nuts, and berries), animals, firewood, or man-made features (including artifacts).
- Individuals may not violate access rules for WMAs posted on site or otherwise published by NMDGF.

State Game Commission Owned or Managed Areas—continued.

Hunting nongame animals, protected furbearers or unprotected species (feral hogs) is not allowed on WMAs, except Water Canyon WMA where nongame hunting is allowed January 1–March 31, 2020. For further rules and specific information about each WMA, visit Conservation/State Game Commission Lands at <http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/conservation/state-game-commission-lands/>

WMAs **not specifically listed as open** on pages 17 and 23 **are closed to hunting** for species listed in this booklet.

Eurasian collared-dove hunting is open during seasons for mourning and white-winged dove and during open quail, squirrel and dusky grouse seasons on all open WMAs.

Shooting Hours

Upland Game: ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset, unless otherwise noted.

Migratory Game Birds: ½ hour before sunrise to sunset, unless otherwise noted.

Bottomless Lakes Overflow: ½ hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.

Wildlife Management Areas

Bernardo, Casa Colorado, Jackson Lake, La Joya, and W.S. Huey: ½ hour before sunrise to 1 p.m.

Exceptions: Shooting hours for the September Teal Season on the Bernardo and La Joya areas are from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset. Shooting hours for pheasant on the W.S. Huey WMA are ½ hour before sunrise to 4 p.m.

Migratory game bird hunting on all other WMAs: ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.

Upland game hunting on all other WMAs: ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.

Photo by Martin Perea.

Upland Game Seasons

Quail

Scaled, Gambel's, Bobwhite, Montezuma

Hunt Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Statewide	. . . . Nov. 15–Feb. 15, '20	. . 15 per day (no more than 5 Montezuma quail) / 30 in possession (no more than 10 Montezuma quail).

Dusky (Blue) Grouse

Hunt Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Statewide	. . . . Sept. 1–Nov. 30.	. . . . 3 per day / 6 in possession

Squirrel (Abert's, Red, Gray and Fox)

Hunt Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Statewide	. . . . Sept. 1–Nov. 30.	. . . . 8 per day / 16 in possession

Pheasant

Over the Counter, Statewide (excluding Valencia County)

Hunt Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Statewide	. . . . Dec. 12–15	. . . . 3 males per day / 6 in possession

Private Land, Valencia County

Hunt Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Valencia County	Dec. 14	. . . . 3 males

Landowners in Valencia County can receive from the NMDGF Northwest Office in Albuquerque an unlimited number of applications specially marked for hunting pheasants on their private land. See page 18.

Eurasian Collared-Dove

Hunt Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Statewide	. . . . April. 1–March. 31 '20	Unlimited



Upland Game Seasons—continued.

State Game Commission WMAs

State Game Commission owned or managed areas listed below are open to upland game hunting. No hunting is allowed outside of open seasons or for species not listed. No camping is allowed, and vehicles are restricted to designated areas. Shooting hours are listed on page 15.

Days Open to Upland Game Hunting (• = Days Open)

WMAs	Species	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thr.	Fri.	Sat.
W.S. Huey	Quail only		•		•			•
Prairie Chicken Areas	Quail only	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Colin Neblett, E.S. Barker, Humphries, Marquez, Rio Chama, Sandhills Prairie Conservation Area, Sargent, Socorro-Escondida, Urraca and Water Canyon.	All Upland Game	•	•	•	•	•	•	•

Draw Permit Hunts (Resident Only)

Applications must be made no later than Wednesday, August 21 before 5 p.m. MDT.

Bernardo and W.S. Huey Youth-only Pheasant Hunts

Two youth-only pheasant hunts are available by drawing. Using the hunt codes listed below, apply online or by telephone: 1-888-248-6866. Youth hunters must have a game hunting license and be accompanied by a non-hunting adult.

Hunt Area	Hunt Code	Season Dates	Bag Limit	Permits
Bernardo	PHE-0-001 . . . . .	.Oct. 19	3 males. . . . .	.20
W.S. Huey	PHE-0-002 . . . . .	.Dec. 7.	3 males. . . . .	.40

W.S. Huey Pheasant Hunt

A draw-permit hunt open to all applicants will be held at W.S. Huey on Dec. 14. Using the hunt code listed below, apply online or by telephone (listed above). This hunt is open to adult and youth hunters. A game hunting license is required.

Hunt Area	Hunt Code	Season Dates	Bag Limit	Permits
W.S. Huey.	PHE-0-005. . . . .	.Dec. 14	3 males. . . . .	.40

Bitter Lake Youth-only Pheasant Hunt

A youth-only pheasant hunt at Bitter Lake Refuge will be scheduled. Hunter Education and/or Mentored-Youth Hunter Program requirements are listed on page 7. For details contact the Bitter Lake Refuge: (575) 622-6755 or steve_alvarez@fws.gov.

Sorghum field in Mesilla. Photo by Martin Perea.

Upland Game Seasons—continued.

Valencia County Landowner Pheasant Permits

No public-land pheasant hunting is allowed in Valencia County. Private-land pheasant hunting is allowed in Valencia County, provided permission has been obtained from the landowner. Landowners are required to provide NMDGF's Northwest Office in Albuquerque proof of ownership and sufficient acreage to safely conduct the planned hunt(s). The landowner will be issued application forms to distribute to hunters.

All hunters intending to hunt on private land in Valencia County must obtain an application from the landowner and submit it to NMDGF's Northwest Office in Albuquerque (page 4). Hunters may possess a Valencia County Landowner Permit in addition to another special pheasant hunt permit.

Special Pheasant Permits

Permits (issued by drawing) are required for special permit pheasant hunts on W.S. Huey and for youth-only pheasant hunts on Bernardo WMA. To receive a permit, hunters may apply online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us or by telephone: 1-888-248-6866. Applications must be submitted by August 21 before 5 p.m. MDT. Hunt codes and further information are listed on page 17.

Dog Call-Pen and Field Trial Permits

A \$15 permit is required for either a call-pen release or dog field trial. Contact NMDGF Santa Fe Office for information: (505) 476-8064.

Shooting Preserve Permits

A shooting preserve permit fee is \$200. Contact NMDGF's Santa Fe office for information: (505) 476-8064.

Possession of Live Birds

Wounded birds must be killed immediately. Possession of live birds without a permit is illegal.

Falconry Upland Game Seasons (Statewide)

Grouse, pheasant, quail, squirrel and Eurasian collared-doves.

Species	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Grouse and Pheasant	Sept. 1–Feb. 28 '20 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 6 possession
Quail	Sept. 1–Feb. 28 '20 . . .	.6 singly or in aggregate / 30 possession
Squirrel	Sept. 1–Feb. 28 '20 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 16 in possession
Eurasian collared-dove	Apr. 1–Mar. 31 '20 . . .	No bag or possession limits

Migratory Game Bird Rules

Species include white-winged and mourning doves, American coot, band-tailed pigeon, common moorhen, common snipe, ducks, geese, sandhill crane, sora and Virginia rail.

Harvest Information Program Number (HIP)

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service requires all migratory game bird hunters to obtain a Harvest Information Program (HIP) number (page 7).

Migratory Game Bird Permits

Free Eastern Sandhill Crane Permit

Each eastern sandhill crane hunter must possess the appropriate license(s) (page 6), plus an Eastern Sandhill Crane Hunting Permit (free). There is no limit on the number issued and no application deadline. Permits are available online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us at NMDGF offices and at all license vendors (One-dollar vendor fee may apply). A federal Duck Stamp is not required to hunt sandhill cranes.

Draw Sandhill Crane Permits

Each draw-season sandhill crane hunter must have the appropriate license(s) (page 6), plus a draw permit (hunt codes and dates listed on page 25). Applications may be made online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us or telephone: 1-888-248-6866. Applications must be made by August 21, 2019 before 5 p.m. MDT. No more than four persons may apply per application, and no more than two persons per youth-only hunt application. Nonrefundable application fees are \$7 per resident and \$13 per nonresident. Additional information about hunt requirements will be given to successful applicants. A federal Duck Stamp is not required.

Free Band-tailed Pigeon Permit

All band-tailed pigeon hunters must possess a band-tailed pigeon permit. Permits are available online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us, by telephone: 1-888-248-6866, and at NMDGF offices and all license vendors (one-dollar vendor fee may apply).

Free Light Goose Conservation Order Permit

A Light Goose Conservation Order permit is required for hunters participating in the conservation order hunts Feb. 1–March 10, 2020 (see page 26). Permits are available online: www.wildlife.state.nm.us, by telephone: 1-888-248-6866, and at NMDGF offices and all license vendors (one-dollar vendor fee may apply).

Federal Duck Stamp

Federal law requires all waterfowl hunters 16 years of age or older to carry a valid federal Migratory Bird Hunting & Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp) which is signed in ink across the face. See page 7.

Legal Methods for Migratory Game Birds

It is legal to use artificial decoys, blinds and dogs.

It is illegal to shoot at any protected species from within or upon a motor vehicle, motor-driven boat, sailboat or aircraft. However, a person may shoot from a motor-driven boat when, the motor has been completely shut off and its progress therefrom has ceased.

Report All Banded Birds!

NMDGF requests all banded birds harvested be reported online: www.reportband.gov.

Migratory Game Bird Rules—continued.

Federal Regulations

In addition to all New Mexico regulations in this booklet, the following federal regulations apply on federal lands when taking, possessing, transporting and storing migratory game birds. Persons cited for violating federal regulations will be required to appear in federal court. The complete federal regulations (50 CFR-Part 20) is available online: www.fws.gov/permits/ltr/ltr.html

Illegal Methods

No person shall take migratory birds:

1. From a sink box (a low floating device that has a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
2. From or with the aid or use of a car or other motor-driven land conveyance or from or with the aid of any aircraft or drone.
3. By baiting (placing or directing placement of feed such as corn, wheat, salt, etc. for the purpose of causing, inducing or attempting to take any migratory game bird). Hunters should be aware a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait.

Importation of Harvested Migratory Birds

During any one-week beginning on Sunday, no person shall import more than:

1. 25 doves and 10 pigeons from any foreign country.
2. 10 ducks and 5 geese from any foreign country, except Canada and Mexico.
3. The Canadian and Mexican export limits for doves and waterfowl, which vary for different foreign provinces and states.

In addition, one fully feathered wing must remain attached to all harvested migratory game birds being transported or shipped between a port of entry and one's home or taxidermist. No person shall import harvested migratory game birds belonging to another person.

*The Department provides
migratory game bird habitat at
the Bernardo Wildlife Management Area.
Photo by Martin Perea.*

Migratory Game Bird Rules—continued.

Migratory Game Bird Hunting on National Wildlife Refuges (NWRs)

All state and federal regulations apply. Only USFWS-approved nontoxic shot may be used and possessed on refuges. Sporting arms must be unloaded and cased when transported.

Bosque del Apache NWR

Conducts special permit light goose hunts and allows dove hunting in specific areas. For current information, maps and applications, telephone (575) 835-1828 or visit:

https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Bosque_del_Apache/visit/visitor_activities.html

Las Vegas NWR

Conducts special permit Canada goose hunts and limited dove hunting. For information, maps and applications visit: www.fws.gov/refuge/las_vegas/ or telephone: (505) 425-3581.

Bitter Lake NWR

Conducts limited hunting for ducks, geese, coot, sandhill crane and dove. For information, maps and applications visit: www.fws.gov/refuge/bitter_lake/ or telephone: (575) 622-6755.

Sevilleta NWR

Limited hunting for mourning dove, white-winged dove, geese, duck and coot. One handicap-accessible duck blind is available first-come, first-served. For more information and maps visit: www.fws.gov/refuge/sevilleta or telephone: (505) 864-4021.

Migratory Game Bird Seasons

Dove and Band-tailed Pigeon Seasons

Mourning and White-winged Dove

North Zone: North of I-40 from the New Mexico/Arizona border to U.S. Hwy. 54 at Tucumcari; U.S. Hwy. 54 from Tucumcari to the New Mexico/Texas border. **South Zone:** South of I-40 from the New Mexico/Arizona border to U.S. Hwy. 54 at Tucumcari; U.S. Hwy. 54 from Tucumcari to the New Mexico/Texas border.

Hunt Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
North Zone	Sept. 1–Nov. 29	15 singly or aggregate / 45 in possession
South Zone	Sept. 1–Oct. 28 and Dec. 1–Jan. 1 '20	15 singly or aggregate / 45 in possession

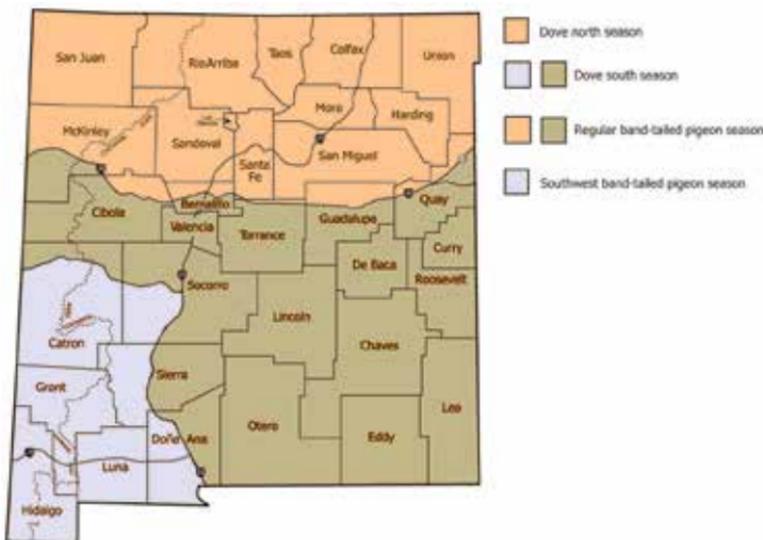
Band-tailed Pigeon

A free Band-tailed Pigeon Permit is required (page 19).

Southwest Season: South of U.S. Hwy. 60 and west of I-25. **Regular Season:** Remainder of the state outside the Southwest Season boundary.

Hunt Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Southwest Season	Oct. 1–14	2 per day / 6 in possession
Regular Season	Sept. 1–14	2 per day / 6 in possession

Dove and Band-tailed Pigeon Hunt Areas



State Game Commission WMAs

State Game Commission owned or managed areas listed below are open to migratory game bird hunting. No hunting is allowed outside of open seasons or for species not listed. No camping is allowed, and vehicles are restricted to designated areas. Shooting hours are listed on page 15.

Days Open to Migratory Game Bird Hunting (• = Days Open)

Wildlife Management Areas	Species	Sun.	Mon.	Tue.	Wed.	Thur.	Fri.	Sat.
W.S. Huey	Dove		•		•			•
All Prairie Chicken Areas, Sandhills Prairie Conservation Area, Big Hatchet Special Management Area	Dove	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Sargent, Humphries, Rio Chama, Urraca, Colin Neblett, Water Canyon, Marquez and E.S. Barker	Dove, Band-tailed pigeon	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Bernardo (South)	September Teal Season	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
South of U.S. 60 in Bernardo will be open for September Teal Season and youth waterfowl days.								
La Joya	September Teal Season	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
La Joya (east of railroad tracks)	Dove, Group I	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Bernardo (The Quagmire)	Group I	•		•		•		
Bernardo (Ponds)	Group I		•		•			•
Bernardo (Youth Unit)	Group I		•		•			•
La Joya (north portion)	Group I		•		•			•
That portion north of the main east/west entrance road and west of the railroad tracks.								
La Joya (south portion)	Group I	•		•		•		
That portion south of the main east/west entrance road and west of the railroad tracks.								
Charette Lake.	Group II	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Jackson Lake (west of NM 170).	Group II		•		•			•
Retherford & Hammond Tracts .	Group II	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
McAllister Lake, Tucumcari, and Wagon Mound	All migratory birds	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Socorro-Escondida	All migratory birds	•	•	•	•	•	•	•
Bernardo (Unit D)	Light Goose C.O.		•		•			•
Open only during the Light Goose Conservation Order.								

- Group I:** Includes ducks, light geese, dark geese (as part of the MRGV dark goose season), Virginia rail, sora, common moorhen, American coot and common snipe.
- Group II:** Includes ducks, all geese, Virginia rail, sora, common moorhen, American coot and common snipe.

Sandhill Crane Seasons

Applying for Sandhill Crane Hunts

Applications may be made online or by phone. The application deadline is August 21 before 5 p.m. MDT. No more than four persons may apply per application and no more than two persons per youth-only hunt application. A federal Duck Stamp is not required to hunt sandhill cranes. Cranes are often found on private property. To access private property, hunters must obtain and possess prior written permission.

Eastern Hunt (Eastern)

Chaves, Curry, De Baca, Eddy, Lea, Quay and Roosevelt counties: All Eastern Season sandhill crane hunters must possess an appropriate license (page 6), plus a free Regular Season sandhill crane permit (page 19). There is no deadline to apply. Permits are available online and at all license vendors. Eastern hunt dates are October 26–January 26, 2020.

Southwest Hunt (SW)

Parts of Sierra, Doña Ana, Luna, Grant and Hidalgo counties: Bounded on the south by the New Mexico/Mexico border; Bounded on the west by the New Mexico / Arizona border north to I-10; Bounded on the north by I-10 east to US 180, north to NM 26, east to NM 27, north to NM 152 and east to I-25; Bounded on the east by I-25 south to I-10, west to the Luna county line and south to the New Mexico/Mexico border.

Hunters who draw Southwest Crane Permits must return the Harvest Questionnaire and Bill Measurement Card to NMDGF no later than five days after hunting.

Estancia Valley Hunt (EV)

Portions of Bernalillo, Santa Fe and Torrance counties: Bounded on the west by NM 55 starting at Mountainair and north to NM 337, north to NM 14 and north to I-25; Bounded on the north by I-25 east to US 285; Bounded on the east by US 285 south to US 60; Bounded on the south by US 60 from US 285 west to NM 55 at Mountainair. Hunters who draw Special Estancia Valley Crane Permits must return the Harvest Questionnaire and Bill Measurement Card to NMDGF no later than five days after hunting.

Middle Rio Grande Valley (MRGV) Hunts and Resident Youth-only Hunt

Hunters who draw Special MRGV Crane Permits must: 1.) Check all cranes harvested at the designated check station; and 2.) Return the Harvest Questionnaire to NMDGF no later than five days after hunting. Sandhill crane check station dates in the Middle Rio Grande Valley: Nov. 9–10; Nov. 30–Dec. 1; Dec. 14–15; Jan. 4–5 '20; Jan. 11–12 '20. Harvest Questionnaires and hunt letters are available online:

<http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/hunting/information-by-animal/migratory-bird/>

Regular draw hunts: Valencia and Socorro counties only. Bernardo, La Joya, and Casa Colorada WMAs are closed to crane hunting during regular draw hunts.

Resident Youth-only Hunt: Youth hunters will be assigned to hunt on either Bernardo or Casa Colorada WMAs.

Sandhill Crane Hunt Areas



Migratory Game Bird Seasons—continued.

Sandhill Crane Hunts

Bag limit is 3 per day and 6 in possession.

Hunt Area	Hunt Code	Season Dates	Number of Permits
Eastern Hunt	N/A	Oct. 26–Jan. 26, '20	Unlimited
Estancia Valley Hunt	SCR-0-101	Oct. 26–29	65
		Oct. 31–Nov. 3	
MRGV Hunts	SCR-0-102	Nov. 9–10	55
	SCR-0-103	Nov. 30–Dec. 1	50
	SCR-0-104	Dec. 14–15	55
	SCR-0-105	Jan. 4–5, '20	55
	SCR-0-106	Jan. 11–12, '20	55
Southwestern	SCR-0-108	Oct. 26–Nov. 3	70
	SCR-0-109	Jan. 4–5, '20	60

Youth Sandhill Crane Hunt (residents only)

Bag and possession limits are 3.

MRGV Youth-only . SCR-0-107	Dec. 7	24
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Central Flyway Seasons

Possession limits are 3 times the daily bag limit for all species, unless otherwise noted.

North Zone

(East of the Continental Divide and north of I-40 and U.S. Hwy. 54 at Tucumcari)

Species	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Ducks	Oct. 12–Jan. 15, '20	6 ducks singly or in aggregate ⁽¹⁾ / 3 times daily bag
⁽¹⁾ Aggregate may consist of no more than: 5 mallards, only 2 of which may be female (Mexican-like ducks are considered part of the mallard bag limit); 3 scaup; 3 wood ducks; 2 redhead; 2 hooded merganser; 1 pintail; and 2 canvasback.		
American Coot	Oct. 12–Jan. 15, '20	15 daily / 45 in possession

South Zone

(East of the Continental Divide and south of I-40 and U.S. Hwy. 54 at Tucumcari)

Species	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Ducks and American Coot	Oct. 28–Jan. 31 '20	Same as North Zone / 3 times daily bag

North and South Zones (North Zone and South Zone boundaries above)

Species	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
September Teal Season	Sept. 14–22	6 singly or in aggregate / 18 in possession (blue-winged, cinnamon, green-winged teal)
Common Moorhen	Sept. 14–Nov. 22	1 daily / 3 in possession
Sora and Virginia Rail	Sept. 14–Nov. 22	10 singly or in aggregate / 20 in possession
Common Snipe	Oct. 12–Jan. 26 '20	8 daily / 24 in possession

Continued on page 26.

Central Flyway Seasons: North and South Zones—continued.

Dark Goose ⁽²⁾. Oct. 17–Jan. 31 '20 . . . 5 daily / 15 in possession

(Canada and white-fronted goose)

⁽²⁾ MRGV (Valencia, Socorro and Sierra counties) is closed to dark goose hunting in the regular season.

MRGV Dark Goose ⁽³⁾ . . . Dec. 21–Jan. 31, '20. . . 2 per day / 2 per season

(Canada and white-fronted goose)

⁽³⁾ MRGV includes Valencia, Socorro and Sierra counties.

Light Goose. Oct. 17–Jan. 31 '20 . . . 50 daily / No possession limit

(snow and Ross's goose)

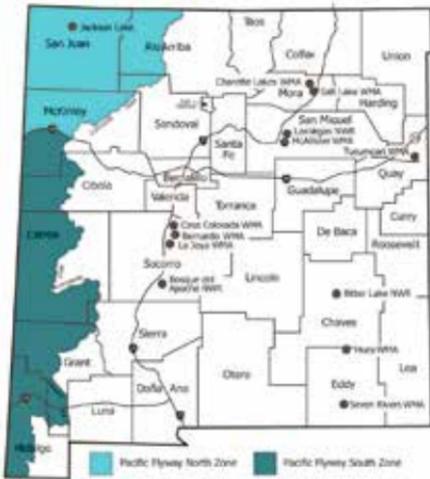
Light Goose Conservation . . Feb. 1–Mar. 10 '20 . . . No bag limit / No possession limit

Order ⁽⁴⁾ (snow and Ross's goose)

⁽⁴⁾ Free permit required (page 19). Approved tools include electronic calls and unplugged shotguns. Shooting until 1/2 hour after sunset, except on Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs).

Central Flyway

Pacific Flyway



Pacific Flyway Seasons

Possession limits are 3 times the daily bag limit for all species, unless otherwise noted.

North Zone (West of the Continental Divide and north of I-40)

Species	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Goose	Sept. 21–Oct. 6	4 Canada and brant / 12 in possession
	Nov. 2–Jan. 31, '20	10 white-fronted/ 30 in possession
		20 light / 60 in possession

South Zone (West of the Continental Divide and south of I-40)

Species	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Goose	Oct. 17–Jan. 31, '20	4 Canada and brant / 12 in possession
		10 white-fronted/ 30 in possession
		20 light / 60 in possession

Migratory Game Bird Seasons: Pacific Flyway Seasons—continued

North and South Zones (North Zone and South Zone boundaries, page 26)

Species	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Duck	Oct. 19–Jan. 31, '20 . . .	7 ducks in aggregate ⁽¹⁾ / 3 times daily bag
⁽¹⁾ Aggregate may include no more than 2 female mallards, 2 redheads, 1 pintail, 2 canvasback.		
Scaup	Oct. 19–Jan. 12, '20. . .	3 daily ⁽²⁾ / 9 possession.
⁽²⁾ May be part of the aggregate bag for duck.		
American Coot and Common Moorhen	Oct. 19–Jan. 31, '20. . .	25 singly or in aggregate / 75 in possession
Common Snipe	Oct. 17–Jan. 31, '20 . . .	8 daily / 24 in possession
Sora and Virginia Rail	Sept. 14 –Nov. 22	25 singly or in aggregate / 75 in possession

Youth Waterfowl Seasons

Federal Youth Waterfowl Days (Residents and Nonresidents)

Hunt Area	Zone	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Central Flyway	North	Sept. 28–29.	See pages 25–26
	South:	Oct. 5–6	See pages 25–26
Pacific Flyway	North and South	Oct. 5–6	See pages 25–26

No application is required. Youth hunters must be 17 years of age or younger and fully licensed (a special hunt permit is not required). Hunters 16 years of age and older must possess a federal Duck Stamp. An adult 18 years of age or older must accompany the youth in the field. The adult may not hunt ducks, but may if properly licensed participate in other seasons open during Youth Waterfowl Days.

The youth hunter may take only ducks, coots and moorhens. No sandhill cranes, geese or other waterfowl may be taken, unless it is open season for these species. Bag and possession limits are the same as the regular seasons.

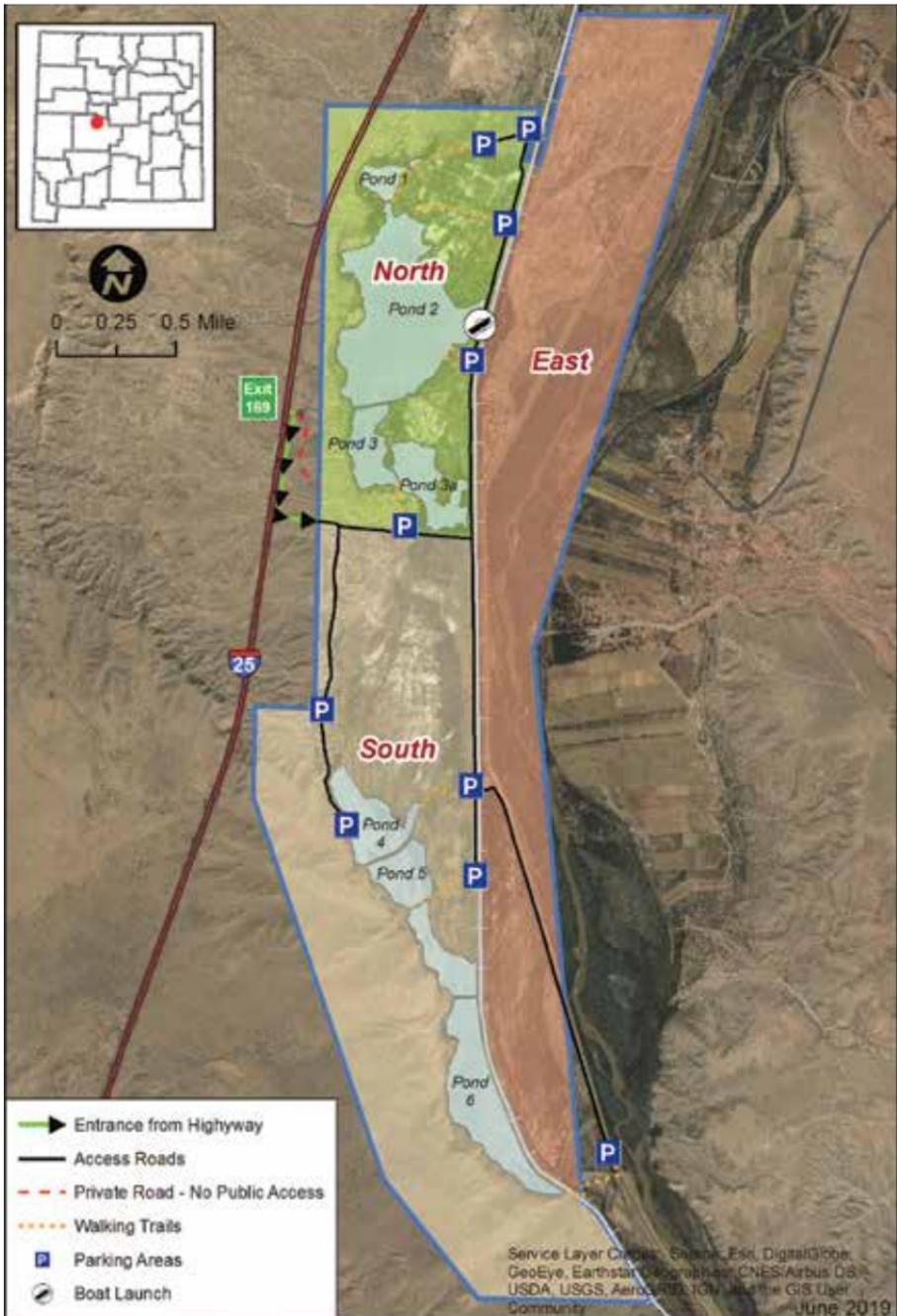
WMAs open during Youth Waterfowl Days include Bernardo, La Joya, Wagon Mound, Charette Lake, McAllister Lake and Tucumcari.

Youth Waterfowl Hunts at Bernardo (Residents Only)

Bernardo Youth Hunt Unit is open for waterfowl hunts for resident youth and their guests. Blind selection will be available first-come, first-served from ½ hour before sunrise to 1 p.m. Youth hunters must be accompanied by an 18 years of age or older supervising adult. Supervising adults may not hunt, but must be legally licensed. No more than four people per blind are allowed—at least half of whom must be youth hunters.

La Joya Wildlife Management Areas

Maps of State Game Commission Lands, including La Joya WMA, are available online:
<http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/conservation/state-game-commission-lands/>



Bernardo Wildlife Management Area

Maps of State Game Commission Lands, including Bernardo WMAs, are available online:
<http://www.wildlife.state.nm.us/conservation/state-game-commission-lands/>



Falconry Migratory Game Bird Seasons

White-winged and mourning doves, American coot, band-tailed pigeon, common moorhen, common snipe, ducks, geese, sandhill crane, sora and Virginia rail. All Wildlife Management Areas are open each day of the established falconry season. The portion of Jackson Lake east of N.M. Hwy. 170 is open to falconry-only migratory game bird hunting during established seasons.

Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Dove		
North Zone	Nov. 30–Dec. 4	3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
	Dec. 21–Jan. 1 '20.	3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
South Zone	Oct. 29–Nov. 5	3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
	Nov. 22–Nov. 30	3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession

Band-tailed Pigeon (Central Flyway and Pacific Flyway)

North Zone	Sept. 1–14	3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
South Zone	Oct. 1–14	3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession

Sandhill Crane

Eastern ⁽¹⁾	Oct. 12–25	3 singly or in aggregate / 6 in possession
Estancia Valley ⁽²⁾	Nov. 4–Dec. 24	3 singly or in aggregate / 6 in possession

⁽¹⁾ Sandhill Crane Permit (free) in possession is required while hunting.
⁽²⁾ Falconers are requested to report hunting efforts.

Duck and American Coot (Central Flyway)

North Zone	Sept. 14–22	3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
	Oct. 12–Jan. 15, '20.	3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
South Zone	Sept. 14–22	3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
	Oct. 28–Jan. 31, '20.	3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession

Duck and American Coot (Pacific Flyway)

All Zones	Oct. 19–Jan. 31, '20.	3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
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Scaup (Pacific Flyway)

All Zones	Oct. 19–Jan. 12, '20.	3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
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Photo by Martin Perea.

Falconry Migratory Game Bird Seasons—continued.

Area	Season Dates	Bag / Possession
Common Snipe (Central Flyway)		
All Zones	Oct. 12–Jan. 26, '20 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
Common Snipe (Pacific Flyway)		
All Zones	Oct. 17–Jan. 31, '20 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
Common Moorhen (Central Flyway)		
All Zones	Sept. 14–Dec. 29 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
Common Moorhen (Pacific Flyway)		
All Zones	Oct. 19–Jan. 31, '20 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
Sora and Virginia Rail (Central Flyway)		
All Zones	Sept. 14–Dec. 29 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
Sora and Virginia Rail (Pacific Flyway)		
All Zones	Sept. 14–Nov. 22 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
Light Goose (Central Flyway)		
All Zones	Oct. 17–Jan. 31, '20 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
Light Goose (Pacific Flyway)		
North Zone	Sept. 21–Oct. 6 . . . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
	Nov. 2–Jan. 31, '20 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
South Zone	Oct. 17–Jan. 31, '20 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
Dark Goose (Central Flyway)		
MRGV	Dec. 21–Jan. 31, '20 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
All Zones ⁽¹⁾	Oct. 17–Jan. 31, '20 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
⁽¹⁾ Excluding MRGV.		
Dark Goose (Pacific Flyway)		
North Zone	Sept. 21–Oct. 6 . . . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
	Nov. 2–Jan. 31, '20 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession
South Zone	Oct. 17–Jan. 31, '20 . . .	.3 singly or in aggregate / 9 in possession

Waterfowl Identification

Mallard

Length: 24"

Weight: 2.75 lbs.

Eclipse drake

Drake

Hen



Northern pintail

Length: 26"

Weight: 1.75 lbs.

Drake

Eclipse drake

Hen



Gadwall

Length: 21"

Weight: 2 lbs.

Drake

Eclipse drake

Hen



American wigeon

Length: 26"

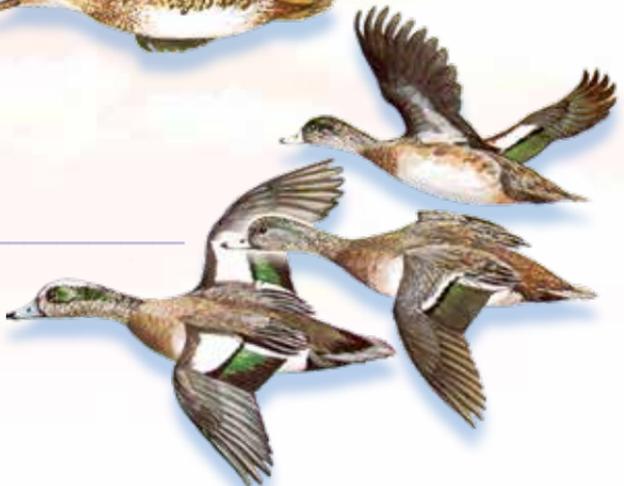
Length: 21"

Weight: 1.75 lbs.

Eclipse drake

Hen

Drake



Northern shoveler

Length: 19.5"
Weight: 1.5 lbs.
Drake
Eclipse drake
Hen



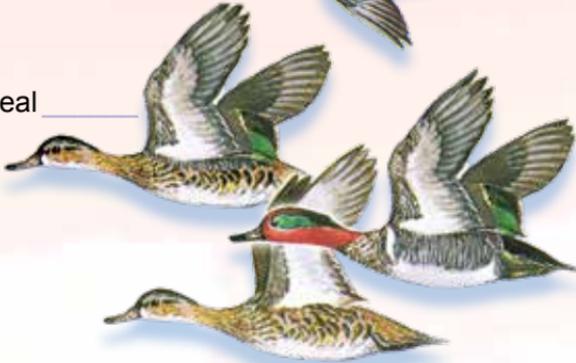
Blue-winged teal

Length: 16"
Weight: 15 oz.
Drake
Eclipse drake
Hen



Green-winged teal

Length: 15"
Weight: 14 oz.
Eclipse drake
Drake
Hen



Wood duck

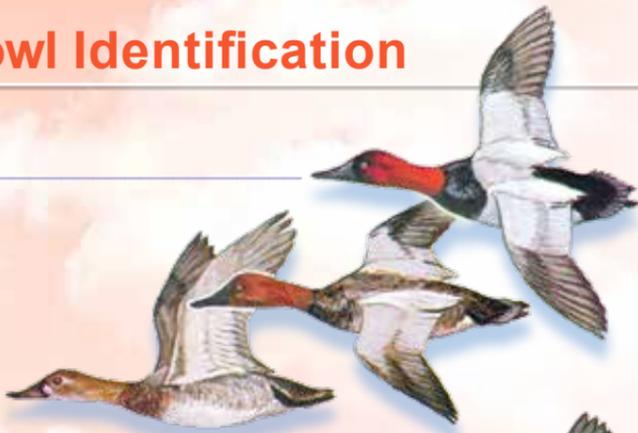
Length: 18.5"
Weight: 1.5 lbs.
Eclipse drake
Drake
Hen



Waterfowl Identification

Canvasback

Length: 22"
Weight: 3 lbs.
Drake
Eclipse drake
Hen



Redhead

Length: 20"
Weight: 2.5 lbs.
Eclipse drake
Drake
Hen



Ringneck

Length: 17"
Weight: 2.5 lbs.
Drake
Eclipse drake
Hen



Scaup

Length: 18.5"
Weight: 2 lbs.
Eclipse Drake
Hen
Lesser Drake
Greater Drake





Possession Certificate

Use this certificate if you give game animals or parts to a person or organization.

I, _____,
Full name of license holder. Please print.

residing at: _____ tel.: (____) ____ - _____,
Address and telephone of license holder required. Please print.

on this day: ___/___/___ at: _____,
Date of transaction; Place of transaction.

hereby convey to: _____ the following game animal(s) or parts:
Full name of person receiving game animal(s) of parts.

Detailed description of the kind and number of animals donated or the kind, approximate weight and specific parts donated.
(Example: one scaled quail weighing approximately 1 lb.)

for the purpose of: _____,
Donation, taxidermy and/or meat processing.

taken in GMU _____ under license number: _____ and taken on: ___/___/___.

Donor: _____ Recipient: _____
(Signature of license holder) (Signature of recipient)

By signing we understand and acknowledge to postdate, predate or otherwise falsify a Possession Certificate is unlawful.



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www.wildlife.state.nm.us/education



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