



**Amend NMAC 19.31.6 Migratory Game Bird
June 25, 2026 Portales, NM**



Amend: Migratory Game Bird 19.31.6 NMAC

- **Adjust season dates according to calendar and US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) frameworks**
- **Adjust bag/possession limits according to USFWS frameworks**
- **Proposed USFWS frameworks published in Federal Register.**

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NEW MEXICO DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE



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- **Change regular migratory game bird season dates based on calendar shift and public comment**
- **Increase sandhill crane permits in SW draw hunts by 18 total, to be distributed among existing hunts**

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Public Comment

- 7 comments received as of June 23, 2026
- Hybrid public meetings held in Albuquerque and Las Cruces on March 11 and 12 (11 people online & 9 in person at both meetings)
- Comments received:
 - Doves in Mesilla Valley, additional hunting requested
 - Reduce waterfowl season length
 - Move EV crane hunt later
 - MRGV dark goose zone, eliminate
 - Youth duck changes, applications for weekends requested
 - Eliminate band-tailed pigeon season

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Proposed 2026-27 Central Flyway Seasons

Species	Zone	2025–2026		2026–2027	
		Open	Close	Open	Close
Ducks and coots	North Zone	Oct. 11	Jan. 14	Oct. 10	Jan. 13
	South Zone	Oct. 28	Jan. 31	Oct. 28	Jan. 31
Dark geese	MRGV	Dec. 19	Jan. 31	Dec. 19	Jan. 31
	Rest of State	Oct. 17	Jan. 31	Oct. 17	Jan. 31
Light geese	All Central Flyway	Oct. 17	Jan. 31	Oct. 17	Jan. 31
Rails and moorhens	All Central Flyway	Sep. 13	Nov. 21	Sep. 12	Nov. 20
Snipe	All Central Flyway	Oct. 11	Jan. 25	Oct. 10	Jan. 24
Youth waterfowl	North Zone	Oct. 4	Oct. 5	Oct. 3	Oct. 4
	South Zone	Oct. 25	Oct. 26	Oct. 24	Oct. 25
September teal	All Central Flyway	Sep. 13	Sep. 21	Sep. 12	Sep. 20

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Proposed 2026-27 Pacific Flyway Seasons

Species	Zone	2025–2026		2026–2027	
		Open	Close	Open	Close
Ducks and coots	All Pacific Flyway	Oct. 19	Jan. 31	Oct. 19	Jan. 31
Scaup	All Pacific Flyway	Oct. 19	Jan. 12	Oct. 19	Jan. 12
Dark and light geese	North Zone	Sep. 27	Oct. 12	Sep. 26	Oct. 11
	North Zone	Nov. 2	Jan. 31	Nov. 2	Jan. 31
	South Zone	Oct. 17	Jan. 31	Oct. 17	Jan. 31
Sora and Virginia rail	All Pacific Flyway	Sep. 13	Nov. 21	Sep. 12	Nov. 20
Snipe	All Pacific Flyway	Oct. 17	Jan. 31	Oct. 17	Jan. 31
Youth waterfowl	All Pacific Flyway	Oct. 11	Oct. 12	Oct. 10	Oct. 11

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Questions?



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