

# Quail Hunting for Beginners

by John Martsh  
R-3 Program Manager



Credit: Jim Stuart

# Why Quail Hunt?

- Flavorful, non-gamey, white meat
- Exciting to flush
- Aerial acrobatics make for a formidable target
- Inexpensive Gear
- Good exercise
- Quick and simple to field dress



# Gambel's Quail



Credit: Jim Stuart



# Montezuma Quail



*Mark L. Watson*

Credit: Mark Watson



# Northern Bobwhite Quail



Credit: Kelly Adams, ODWC



# Scaled Quail



Credit: Mark Watson

# Definitions

- Male quail - cock
- Female quail - hen
- Baby quail - chick
- Group of quail - covey



# Preseason Scouting



Credit: I. Martsh





# Hunting Methods

- Flushing - a hunter tries to sneak up on a sighted dove or flush an unseen one from behind or within cover.



# Flushing



Credit: I. Martsh



# Clothing

- Make sure it is weather appropriate.
- Wear comfortable footwear.
- Use a hat or cap to keep the sun out of your eyes.
- Avoid bright colors, stick to: black, gray, brown, dark green and dark blue.



# Essential Gear: Sporting Arm





# Essential Gear: Ammunition





# Essential Gear: Binoculars



# Essential Gear: Upland Hunting Vest






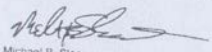
# Essential Gear: Hearing Protection



# Essential Gear: Hunting License and Stamps

 New Mexico Department of Game and Fish  
*Conserving New Mexico's Wildlife for Future Generations*

**License 2019 - 2020**  
04/01/2019 - 03/31/2020


  
Michael B. Sloane  
Director and Secretary to the Commission


License: 2999615 sold: 03/21/19 16:19  
70 - 2nd Rod  
28 - HMAV  
63 - Habitat Stamp  
36 - Game Hunt/Fish  
License: 2999618 sold: 03/21/19 16:19  
00 - HIP - 2999618  
License: 3363388 sold: 10/17/19 11:11  
89 - Band-Tailed Pigeon Permit  
License: 337691 sold: 11/09/19 8:17  
97 - Federal Duck Stamp

License No: 299€ 0321 1619

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Residence: NM since 08/10/1989

(505) 887-  
CIN: 070  
Gender: M  
Height: 5' 11"  
Weight: 185  
Hair Color: Brown  
Eye Color: Brown  
HE #: \_\_\_\_\_ / State: NM  
Active Duty/veteran: No  
Legal firearm possession: Yes

  
Signature: \_\_\_\_\_





# Equipment inside Vehicle: Fillet Knife and Game Shears



# Equipment inside Vehicle: Cooler and Gallon Freezer Bag





# Rules and Regulations

## Top 10

1. All quail can be hunted ½ hour before sunrise to ½ an hour after sunset.
2. One foot of each quail must remain attached to the bird until it is at a residence, taxidermist, meat processing facility or place of final cold storage.
3. The bag limit for Bobwhite, Gambel's and Scaled quail is 15 per day (singly or in aggregate). The possession limit is 30 quail.\*\*\*
4. The bag limit for Montezuma quail is five per day, and they can count towards the 15 quail bag limit if hunting multiple species. The possession limit is 10 Montezuma quail.\*\*\*
5. The quail season is three months long, from November 15 through February 15.\*\*\*

\*\*\*Bag limits and season dates are subject to change, please consult the latest Small Game Hunting Rules & Information booklet for the most up-to-date

# Rules and Regulations

## Top 10

### **It is unlawful to:**

6. 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 road.
7. Any person entering private property without written permission from the landowner, manager, or leasee, may be charged with criminal trespass.
8. Recklessly or carelessly handle a firearm.
9. Shoot at protected species or artificial wildlife from a motor vehicle.
10. Anyone taking small game must transport the edible portions of the meat from the field for human consumption.



# Conclusion

- A hunter education class is highly recommended for a beginner of any age.
- Find a good mentor and have fun.
- Teach a non-hunter how to quail hunt.
- Attempt a Quail Slam!