Migratory Game Bird
19.31.6 NMAC

June 13, 2025

New Mexico State Game Commission Meeting

Red River, NM

New Mexico Department of Game & Fish

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.**

New Mexico Department of Game & Fish

Amend: Migratory Game Bird 19.31.6 NMAC

- Change regular migratory game bird season dates based on calendar shift and public comment
- Increase sandhill crane permits in MRGV and SW draw hunts by 12 total, to be distributed among existing hunts
- Pintail bag limit to increase from 1 to 3

New Mexico Department of Game & Fish

Public Comment

- 3 comments received as of June 11, 2025
- Hybrid public meeting held in Albuquerque and via Zoom on March 31st: One member of the public attended
- Comments received:
  - Crane hunt comments, SW and around Bernardo
  - Some concern for increase in pintail bag limit, particularly for hen harvest

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Proposed 2025-26 Central Flyway Seasons

Species	Zone	2024–2025		2025–2026	
		Open	Close	Open	Close
Ducks and coots	North Zone	Oct. 12	Jan. 15	Oct. 11	Jan. 14
	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. 14	Nov. 22	Sep. 13	Nov. 21
Snipe	All Central Flyway	Oct. 12	Jan. 26	Oct. 11	Jan. 25
Youth waterfowl	North Zone	Oct. 5	Oct. 6	Oct. 4	Oct. 5
	South Zone	Oct. 26	Oct. 27	Oct. 25	Oct. 26
September teal	All Central Flyway	Sep. 14	Sep. 22	Sep. 13	Sep. 21

- Includes falconry, youth waterfowl days, and September teal

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Proposed 2025-26 Pacific Flyway Seasons

Species	Zone	2023–2024		2024–2025	
		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. 21	Oct. 6	Sep. 21	Oct. 6
	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. 14	Nov. 22	Sep. 13	Nov. 21
Snipe	All Pacific Flyway	Oct. 17	Jan. 31	Oct. 17	Jan. 31
Youth waterfowl	All Pacific Flyway	Oct. 12	Oct. 13	Oct. 11	Oct. 12

- Includes falconry and youth waterfowl days

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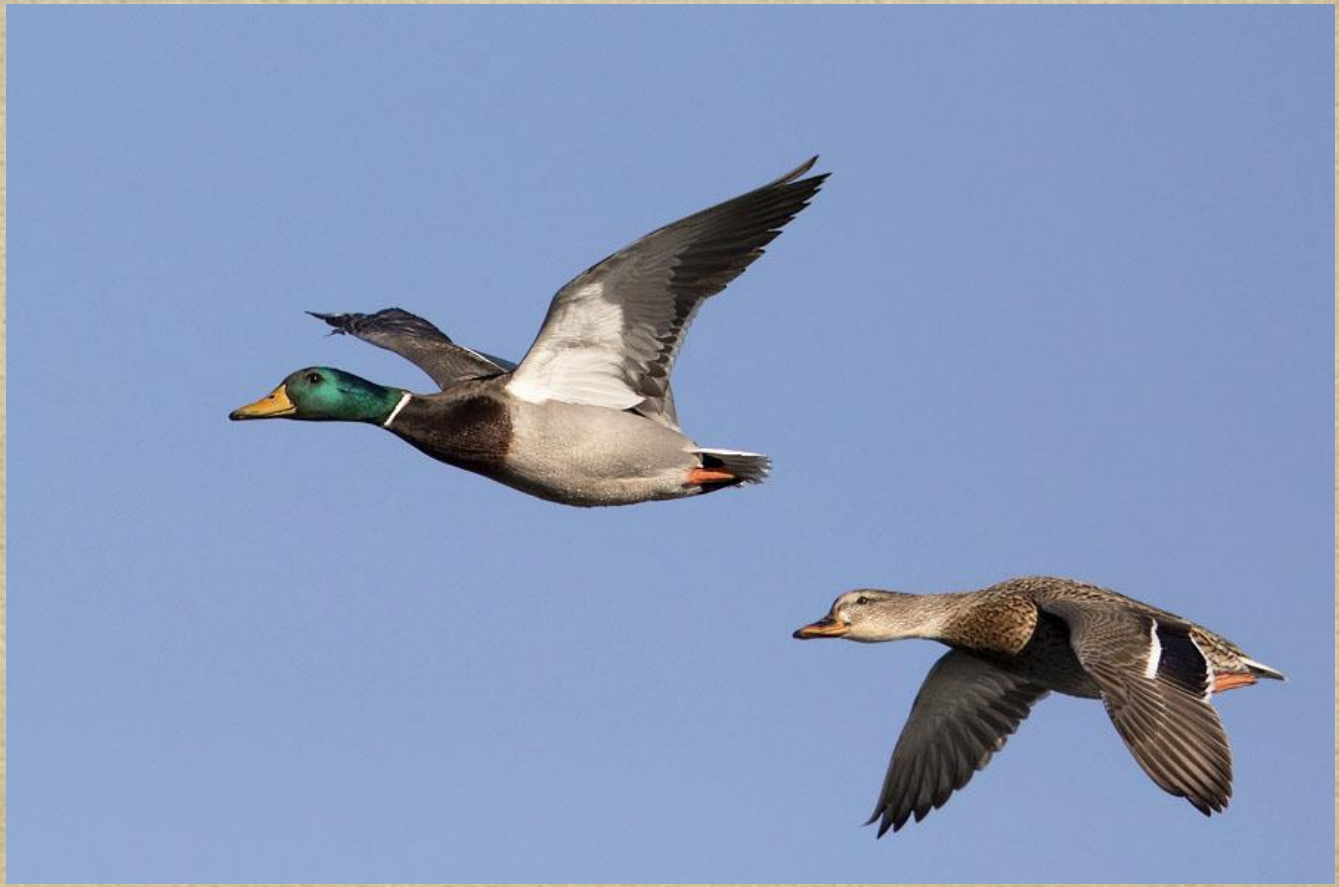
Questions?



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