Notes and Exceptions

MIGRATORY BIRD REGULATIONS

(See 2009-2010 Fish & Wildlife Digest for Additional Hunting Regulations)

MAJOR CHANGES FOR THE 2009-10 SEASON

- Brant season will be closed during part of the duck season in all zones. The brant daily bag limit was reduced to 2 birds.
- There will be a Conservation Order season for light geese from Feb. 16 - Apr. 10, 2010. See page 3 for details.
- Canvasback season will be open for the duration of the duck season with a 1-bird bag limit.
- Scaup season will be open for the duration of the duck season with a 2-bird bag limit.
- The wood duck daily bag limit was increased to 3 birds in 2008-2009 and remains the same for the 2009-2010 season.

Hunters reporting via the web will receive immediate feedback on where and when the bird was banded, as well as species, age and sex of the bird. Bands can also be reported by phone at 1-800-327-BAND or via postal service at the address inscribed on the band.

STATE REGULATIONS

State laws and regulations may be more stringent but not more lenient than those prescribed in the federal code (Title 50).

Restrictions:

a) Should any open season on migratory game birds, including waterfowl, be set by Federal regulation which would include the date of November 7, 2009, the starting time on such date will be 8:00 A.M. to coincide with the opening of the small game season on that date. However, this shall not preclude the hunting of migratory game birds, including waterfowl, on the tidal marshes of the State as regularly prescribed throughout the season by Federal regulations.

b) There shall be no open season for hunting any game birds or animals including migratory waterfowl:

- In or on the shores of the Shark River in Monmouth County.
- In the portion of the Manasquan River from the ocean inlet upstream to Route 37 bridge.
- On Herring Island and that portion of Barnegat Bay lying between northern and southern tips of Herring Island easterly to adjacent shoreline of Mantoloking Boro, Ocean County.
- On Parker Creek and Oceanport Creek, Monmouth County, or the shores thereof, southeast or northwest of the Conrail R.R. bridge.

c) (c) Waterfowl hunting on Delaware River is governed by State boundaries and restricted to respective state seasons.

d) Permanent blinds may not be constructed on some State Wildlife Management Areas. See page 82 of the 2009-10 NJ Fish and Wildlife Digest.

Hunting with firearms protected by 18 U.S.C. sections 1201-1202 may be conducted on these areas.

f) Nontoxic shot is required for rail, snipe and moorhen hunting AT ALL TIMES. See page 3 for nontoxic shot regulations.

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In addition to State regulations, the following Federal rules apply to the taking, possession, shipping, transporting, and storing of migratory game birds.

**NOTICE**—The material below is only a summary. Each hunter should also consult the actual Federal regulations, which may be found in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20. For more information or to get a copy, call the US Fish and Wildlife Service Law Enforcement Office at 908-787-1321.

**RESTRICTION**—No person shall take migratory game birds:
- By the aid of baiting (placing, exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering salt, grain or other feed that could lure birds to an area), or on or over any bated area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been bated. Hunters should be aware that a bated area is considered to be bated for 10 days after the removal of all the bait. However, nothing in this paragraph prohibits taking migratory game birds over lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation or normal soil stabilization practice. Violators convicted of hunting over bait may be fined up to $15,000 and individuals convicted of placing bait in an area may be fined up to $100,000.
- With a trap, snare, crossbow, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than 10-gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substances.
- With a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.

**Exceptions:** Shotguns capable of holding no more than 7 shells are permitted during the September Canada goose season and the Spring Light Goose Conservation Order.

From a sink box (a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).

**From or with the motor or use of other driven land conveyance, or any aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance.** Paraplegic means a person afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs, usually due to disease of or injury to the spinal cord.

**From or by means of any motor boat or sail boat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sail furled, and its progress therefore has ceased.**

**By the use or aid of live decoys.** All live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting, and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.

**Using records or tapes of migratory bird calls or sounds, or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls.** Exception: crows, September Canada goose, Light Goose Conservation Order.

**By driving, rallying, or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sail boat to put them in the range of the hunters.**

**POSSESSION OF LIVE BIRDS**—Wounded birds reduced to possession shall be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.

**TAGGING**—No person shall give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:
1. The hunter’s signature.
2. The hunter’s address.
3. The total number of birds involved, by species.
4. The dates such birds were killed. No person or business shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

**SHIPMENT**—No person shall ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with:
(a) the name and address of the person sending the
(birds, (b) the name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent, and
(c) the number of birds, by species, contained in the package.

**DRESSING**—No person shall completely dress any migratory game bird (except doves and band-tailed pigeons) and then transport the birds from the field. The head or one fully feathered wing must remain attached to all such birds while being transported from the field to the processor, and in the processor’s care until processing.

**NONTOXIC SHOT REGULATIONS**—Nontoxic shot is required for hunting rails, snipe, moorhens, coot, and waterfowl in New Jersey. Nontoxic shot includes steel, bismuth, tungsten-iron, tungsten-polymer, tungsten-matrix, tungsten-nickel-iron (HEVI-SHOT), tungsten-iron-nickel-tin (TINT), tungsten-bronze and tungsten-tin-bismuth shot types. Shot size may not exceed Size T 1 (0.200 inch).

**NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES**—Some National Wildlife Refuges have portions of their property open for migratory bird hunting. Specific regulations may apply at each refuge. For details contact:
Edward B. Forsythe NWR—609-463-1665
Simpson Meadows NWR—856-935-1487
Wallkill River NWR—973-702-7266
Cape May NWR—609-463-9994

**2010 SPRING LIGHT GOOSE CONSERVATION ORDER - Feb. 16 - Apr. 10, 2010.**

The Division expects the US Fish and Wildlife Service to authorize a spring Conservation Order for light geese. Special regulations apply:

1. Electronic calls are permitted.
2. Shotguns capable of holding no more than 7 shells (including magazine and chamber) are permitted.
3. Shooting hours: ½ hour before sunrise to ½ hour after sunset.
4. A valid hunting license, federal and state duck stamps, and NJ Light Goose Conservation Order (CO) Permit ($2.00) are required.
5. The NJ Light Goose Conservation Order is accessible from the Division’s web site or by mailing: Light Goose Permit, NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, PO Box 440, Trenton, NJ 08625-0400. A request for mailed permits must include: 1) Photocopy of 2010 Hunting or All-Around Sportsmen license which clearly shows the Conservation ID Number and DOB, 2) Check or money order for $2.00 payable to NJ Division of Fish and Wildlife, 3) Self-addressed, stamped envelope, 4) Daytime telephone number. The light goose permit will not be available until January 2010. As part of the permit process, hunters will be required to report their activity and harvest as requested on the Check the Division’s web site in late winter for more details.

**Special Winter Canada Goose Season Hunting Areas**

For the north, it is that portion of New Jersey within a continuous line that runs west along the New York State boundary to the Hudson River; then south along the New York State boundary to its intersection with Route 440 at Perth Amboy; then west on Route 440 to its intersection with the Garden State Parkway (GSP); then south on the GSP to its intersection with Route 70; then west on Route 70 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then north on the Turnpike to its intersection with Route 206; then north on Route 206 to its intersection with Route 1, Trenton; then west on Route 1 to its intersection with the Pennsylvania State boundary; then north along the Pennsylvania Turnpike in the Delaware River to its intersection with the New Jersey State boundary.

South Zone—That portion of New Jersey within a continuous line beginning at the intersection of the Delaware River and Route 1; then east along Route 1 to its intersection with Route 206; then south along Route 206 to its intersection with the New Jersey Turnpike; then south along the Turnpike to its intersection with Route 70; then east along Route 70 to its intersection with the GSP; then south on the GSP to Cape May City; then south to the Delaware State boundary in Delaware State bay; then north along the Delaware State boundary in the Delaware Bay and Delaware River to the Pennsylvania boundary; then north along the Pennsylvania State boundary in the Delaware River to Route 1, Trenton.

Coastal Zone—That portion of New Jersey east of the GSP that is not within the North or South zones.

**Woodcock Zones:**
North Zone—North of Route 70 from Point Pleasant to Camden.
South Zone—South of Route 70 from Point Pleasant to Camden.

**Special Sea Duck Area:**Defined as any waters of the Atlantic Ocean and in addition any tidal waters of any bay which are separated by at least 1 mile of open water from any shore, island or emergent vegetation. In this area, hunters must limit their hunting to open water areas at least one mile from any land or emergent vegetation in any direction.

**HUNTING ZONES**

Waterfowl Zones (Applies to regular ducks, coots, mergansers, regular season Canada geese, brant, snow goose and Youth Days).