

POTPOURRI

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Public Hearing – Substantive Change to Notice of Intent
2023-2025 Hunting Regulations and Seasons
(LAC 76:XIX.Chapter 1)

The Department of Wildlife and Fisheries (department) and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission (commission) published a Notice of Intent to amend its rules in the January 20, 2023 edition of the *Louisiana Register*. The commission proposes to amend the original Notice of Intent to include a proposed change for deer and turkey tagging procedures which specifies that tags can only be utilized by the individual for whom the tag was issued and also prohibits allowing someone else to utilize that individuals tags when completing deer and turkey tagging requirements and to modify the proposed waterfowl dates. The department manages wildlife and their associated habitat and sets the season dates, bag limits and harvesting reporting requirements in Louisiana. Action is being proposed for deer and turkey tagging as the department has concerns about individuals utilizing tags that have been assigned to others so they have the ability to harvest more than the season bag limit. Action is being proposed as public comment has indicated that persons in the west waterfowl zones prefer an earlier closing date.

Title 76

WILDLIFE AND FISHERIES

Part XIX. Hunting and WMA Regulations

Chapter 1. Resident Game Hunting Season

§111. General and Wildlife Management Area Hunting Rules and Regulations

A.–D.13. ...

E. General Deer Hunting Regulations

1. Prior to hunting deer, all deer hunters, regardless of age or license status, must obtain carcass or electronic deer tags and have in possession when hunting deer. Immediately upon harvesting a deer, the hunter must tag the deer with the appropriate carcass or electronic tag. Deer tags may only be used by the hunter to whom the tag was issued. Hunters who allow their deer tags to be used by another person, or who use tags issued to another person, are in violation of this Rule and are subject to fines and other administrative penalties, including, but not limited to, the automatic forfeiture of any remaining deer tags for the season for which they are issued. If using physical tag, the parish and date of kill must be documented on the deer tag and the hunter must validate the harvest by calling the validation toll free number or by utilizing the department's website within 72 hours of the kill. Hunters utilizing electronic tags shall electronically tag and validate their harvest before moving the deer. Hunters harvesting deer on DMAP lands can validate deer per instructions by LDWF using the DMAP harvest data sheets.

E.2.–G.20.c. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115 and R.S. 56:116.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:1279 (July 1999), amended LR 26:1494 (July 2000), LR 27:1049 (July 2001), LR 28:1603 (July 2002), LR 29:1124 (July 2003), repromulgated LR 29:1522 (August 2003), amended LR 30:1495 (July 2004), LR 31:1611 (July 2005), LR 32:1251 (July 2006), LR 33:1382 (July 2007), LR 34:1429 (July 2008), LR 35:1264 (July 2009), LR

36:1566 (July 2010), LR 37:2190 (July 2011), LR 38:1732 (July 2012), LR 39:2292 (August 2013), LR 40:1540 (August 2014), LR 41:963 (May 2015), LR 42:1112 (July 2016), LR 43:1423 (July 2017), LR 44:1277 (July 2018), LR 45:938 (July 2019), LR 46:961 (July 2020), LR 47:904 (July 2021), LR 48:511 (March 2022), LR 48:1867 (July 2022), LR .

§113. General and WMA Turkey Hunting Regulations

A. ...

B. Tags

1. Prior to hunting turkeys, all turkey hunters, regardless of age or license status, must obtain turkey tags and have them in their possession while turkey hunting. Turkey tags may only be used by the hunter to whom the tag was issued. Hunters who allow their turkey tags to be used by another person, or who use tags issued to another person, are in violation of this Rule and are subject to fines and other administrative penalties, including, but not limited to, the automatic forfeiture of any remaining turkey tags for the season for which they are issued. Immediately upon killing a turkey, hunters must attach a carcass tag to or electronically tag the turkey before it is moved from the site of the kill and must document the kill on the turkey harvest report card. If using carcass tags, the date of kill and parish of kill must be recorded on the carcass tag, and the tag must remain attached to the turkey while kept at camp or while it is transported to the domicile of the hunter or to a cold storage facility. Hunters who keep the carcass or meat at a camp must also comply with game possession tag regulations. Within 72 hours of the kill, the hunter must report the kill. Hunters may report turkeys electronically, calling the validation phone number, or using the validation website.

B.2.–G.2.a. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 25:2263 (November 1999), amended LR 26:2634 (November 2000), LR 27:2270 (December 2001), LR 28:2375 (November 2002), LR 29:2512 (November 2003), LR 30:2874 (December 2004), LR 31:3167 (December 2005), LR 32:2272 (December 2006), LR 33:2469 (November 2007), LR 35:91 (January 2009), LR 35:2478 (November 2009), LR 36:2581 (November 2010), LR 37:3535 (December 2011), LR 38:2941 (November 2012), LR 40:96 (January 2014), LR 40:1554 (August 2014), LR 41:977 (May 2015), LR 42:1127 (July 2016), LR 43:1426 (July 2017), LR 44:1303 (July 2018), LR 45:964 (July 2019), LR 46:988 (July 2020), LR 47:934 (July 2021), LR 48:1897 (July 2022), LR

§117. Migratory Bird Seasons, Regulations, and Bag Limits

A. Seasons and Bag Limits

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
Mourning and White Winged Doves and fully-dressed Eurasian and Collared Doves	South Zone: Sept. 2-Sept. 17 Oct. 14-Nov. 26 Dec. 16-Jan. 14 North Zone: Sept. 2-Sept. 24 Oct. 7-Nov. 12 Dec. 23-Jan. 21	15 (in aggregate)	45 (in aggregate)
Woodcock	Dec. 18-Jan. 31	3	9

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
Teal (Blue-winged, Green-winged and Cinnamon)	Sept. 15-Sept. 30	6	18
King and Clapper Rails	Sept. 15-Sept. 30 Nov. 11-Jan. 3	15 (in aggregate)	45 (in aggregate)
Sora and Virginia Rails	Sept. 15-Sept. 30 Nov. 11-Jan. 3	25 (in aggregate)	75 (in aggregate)
Gallinules	Sept. 15-Sept. 30 Nov. 11-Jan. 3	15	45
Snipe	West Zone: Nov. 2-Dec. 3 Dec. 16-Feb. 28 East Zone: Nov. 2-Dec. 3 Dec. 16-Feb. 28	8	24
Ducks, Coots and Mergansers	West Zone: Nov. 4-Nov. 5 (youth and	Daily bag limit on ducks is 6	Three times the daily bag limit.

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
	veterans only) Nov. 11-Dec. 3 Dec. 11-Jan. 7 Jan. 13-Jan. 21 East Zone: Nov. 11 (youth and veterans only) Nov. 18-Dec. 3 Dec. 16-Jan. 28 Feb. 3 (youth and veterans only)	and may include no more than 4 mallards (no more than 2 females), 3 wood ducks, 2 canvasbacks, 2 redheads, 1 black duck and 1 pintail. Only 1 scaup may be taken for the first 15 days of the season with 2 per day allowed for the remainder.	

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
		<p>No mottled ducks may be taken for the first 15 days of the season with 1 per day allowed for the remainder.</p> <p>Daily bag limit on coots is 15.</p> <p>Mergansers- The daily bag limit for mergansers is 5, only 2 of which may be hooded mergansers, in addition to</p>	

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
		the daily bag limit for ducks.	
Light Geese (Snow, Blue, and Ross') and White- Fronted Geese	East Zone: Nov. 4-Dec. 3 Dec. 16-Jan. 28 West Zone: Nov. 4-Dec. 3 Dec. 11-Jan. 7 Jan. 13-Jan. 28	Daily bag limit on Light Geese (snow, blue, and ross') is 20. Daily bag limit on White- Fronted Geese is 3.	No possession limit on Light Geese (snow, blue, and ross') Possession limit on White- Fronted Geese is 9.
Canada Geese	East Zone: Nov. 4-Dec. 3 Dec. 16-Jan. 28 West Zone:	1	3

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
	Nov. 4-Dec. 3 Dec. 11-Jan. 7 Jan. 13-Jan. 28		

B. Conservation Order for Light Geese Seasons and Bag Limits

Species	Season Dates	Daily Bag Limit	Possession Limit
Light Geese (Snow, Blue, and Ross')	East Zone: Dec. 4-Dec. 15 Jan. 29-Mar. 3 West Zone: Dec. 4-Dec. 10 Jan. 8-Jan. 12 Jan. 29-Mar. 3	No daily bag limit.	No possession limit.

C.-H.2. ...

AUTHORITY NOTE: Promulgated in accordance with R.S. 56:115.

HISTORICAL NOTE: Promulgated by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries, Wildlife and Fisheries Commission, LR 42:1130 (July 2016), amended LR 43:1427 (July 2017), LR 44:1306 (July 2018), LR 45:966 (July 2019), LR 46:991 (July 2020), LR 47:937 (July 2021), LR 48:1899 (July 2022), LR

Public Hearing

In accordance with R.S. 49:966(H)(2), a public hearing on the proposed substantive changes will be held by the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries on April 20, 2022 at 10 a.m. in the Joe L. Herring Louisiana Room of the Wildlife and Fisheries Headquarters Building, 2000 Quail Drive, Baton Rouge, LA, 70808.

Andrew J. Blanchard

Chairman