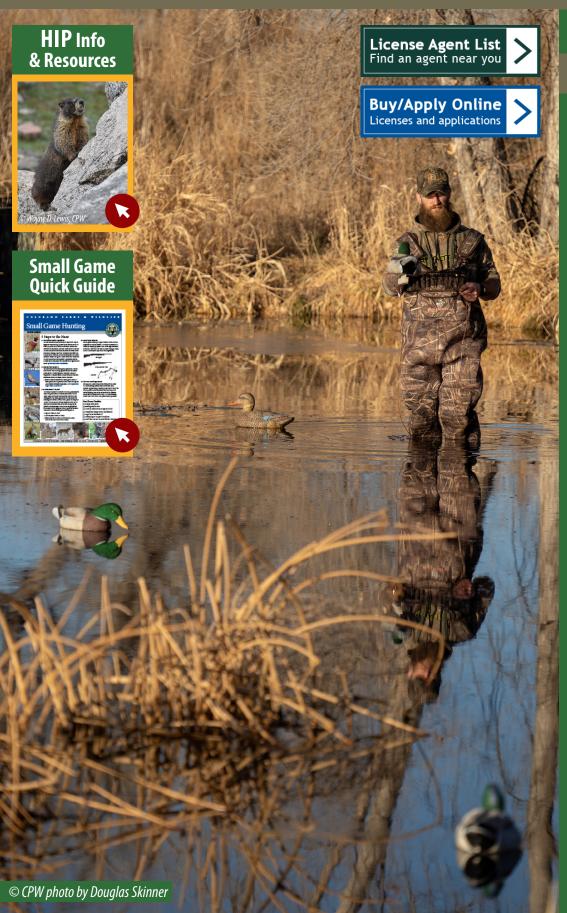
2025 Colorado Small Game & Waterfowl

Some season dates continue into 2026



Online Features

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Learn More:





Colorado Waterfowl Study - North Park, Colorado





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What's New: 2025 1

Get the Brochure Online: cpw.state.co.us/small-game-brochure

■ Map: Game management units (GMUs)......21



Join the Conversation



Cover Photo: Gambel's Quail © Donald M. Jones

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Printed for free distribution by:

Colorado Parks and Wildlife (CPW)

6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216 • 303-297-1192

cpw.state.co.us



Our mission: The mission of Colorado Parks and Wildlife is to perpetuate the wildlife resources of the state, to provide a quality state parks system and to provide enjoyable and sustainable outdoor recreation opportunities that educate and inspire current and future generations to serve as active stewards of Colorado's natural resources.

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Director

Jeff Davis

Colorado Parks and Wildlife Commission Members, as of July 2025

Richard Reading, Chair Dallas May James Jay Tutchton, Vice-Chair Jack Murphy Eden Vardy, Secretary Gabriel Otero Murphy Robinson Jessica Beaulieu

Frances Silva Blayney Dan Gibbs, ex-officio member John Emerick Kate Greenberg, ex-officio member Tai Jacober Jeff Davis, ex-officio member

Regulation Brochure Editor

Mark Koenig

Cover photo

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Printed

July 2025 by Publication Printers, Denver: 112,500 copies Printing paid for with hunting and fishing license fees.

The Colorado Division of Parks and Wildlife (CPW) receives federal financial assistance from multiple bureaus within the U.S. Department of the Interior. Under Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act (as amended), Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (as amended), the Age Discrimination Act of 1975 and Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin, gender, disability or age. In addition, CPW adheres to all antidiscrimination laws of the state of Colorado. For more information on how to request an accommodation or to file a grievance, please visit dnr.colorado.gov/accessibility.

Notice: Laws and regulations in this brochure are paraphrased for easier understanding and are intended only as a guide. Complete Colorado wildlife statutes and regulations are available at CPW offices listed below and online: cpw.state.co.us/rules-and-regulations

CPW Administrative, Regional & Area Office Locations

Administration

6060 Broadway Denver, 80216 303-297-1192 (M-F, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. MT) **Registration Office**

Boat, Snowmobile, Off-Highway Vehicle 13787 US Hwy 85 N Littleton, 80125

Only the offices below can assist hunters with animal checks and taking samples that are related to hunting activities. See the CPW website for a complete list of our parks locations that can also sell licenses, issue duplicate licenses and accept some licenses for refunds.

28167 County Rd. T Brush, 80723 970-842-6300

Colorado Springs

4255 Sinton Rd. Colorado Springs, 80907 719-227-5200

6060 Broadway Denver, 80216 303-291-7227

415 Turner Dr. Durango, 81301 970-247-0855

Fort Collins

317 W. Prospect Rd. Fort Collins, 80526 970-472-4300

Glenwood Springs

Grand Junction

711 Independent Ave. Grand Junction, 81505 970-255-6100

Gunnison

200 S. Spruce St. Gunnison, 81230 *970-641-7060*

Hot Sulphur Springs

346 Grand County Rd. 362 Hot Sulphur Springs, 80451 970-725-6200

2500 S. Main St. Lamar, 81052 719-336-6600

Meeker

73485 Hwy. 64 Meeker, 81641 970-878-6090

Monte Vista 0722 S. Rd. 1 E.

Monte Vista, 81144 719-587-6900

Montrose

2300 S. Townsend Ave. Montrose, 81401 970-252-6000

Pueblo

600 Pueblo Reservoir Rd. Pueblo, 81005 719-561-5300

7405 Hwy. 50 Salida, 81201 719-530-5520

Steamboat Springs

925 Weiss Dr. Steamboat Springs, 80487

970-870-3333

What's New: 2025

- ▶ Permit required to hunt white-tailed ptarmigan, greater sage-grouse and mountain sharp-tailed grouse: Starting with the 2025 seasons, an annual white-tailed ptarmigan, greater sage-grouse and mountain sharp-tailed grouse permit (\$5) is required in addition to the small game license and a completed HIP registration in order to take these species.
- ➤ Ability to take coyotes with unfilled big-game license removed: Big-game hunters with an unfilled big-game license could previously take coyotes during the season on their license with the same method of take as their big-game license. The provision has since been removed in an effort to improve coyote harvest estimations, which come from the HIP data provided by small game and coyote hunters.
- ► **Greater sage-grouse seasons open in GMUs 2, 4, 5 and 10:** Due to the three-year population average being above threshold, GMUs 2, 4, 5 and 10 are being opened to hunting. *See pages 10–11 for season dates, bag limits and maps.*
- ➤ Mountain sharp-tailed grouse season open in GMU 23: The total number of birds counted in GMU 23 has remained above threshold, indicating a population size suitable for harvest. See page 10 for season dates.
- ▶ Pintail daily bag limit increased to three: The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Flyway councils have approved a revised harvest-management strategy for the northern pintail that calls for a daily bag limit of three (an increase from one) in both the Pacific and Central flyways. See pages 12 & 16 for season dates.

License Information

License Fees & Habitat Stamps		
	Resident	Nonresident
► Habitat Stamp (required, ages 18—64)	\$12.47	\$12.47
► Small Game*	\$36.68	\$101.54
► Small Game (one-day)*	\$16.72	\$20.46
► Small Game (additional-day)*	\$7.99	\$7.99
► Youth Small Game & Furbearer (under 18)	\$1.50	\$1.50
► Small Game & Fishing Combo	\$61.62	n/a
► Furbearer License Only	\$36.68	\$101.54
► Furbearer Harvest Permit	\$10	\$10
► Colorado Waterfowl Stamp	\$12.47	\$12.47
► Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp	\$33	\$33
► Senior Small Game/Fishing Combo	\$36.22	n/a
(Residents age 65 and older) ► Senior Annual Small Game for		
Lifetime Fishing License Holders		n/a
(Senior Columbine or Centennial lifetime fishing license ha ► First Responder Lifetime	olders only)	
Small Game/Fishing Combo(Resident only, permanent occupational disability; see pag	free ge 2)	n/a
► Veterans Lifetime Small Game/Fishing Comb (Resident only, 50% disabled or Purple Heart recipient; se	ofree ee page 2)	n/a
► Band-tailed Pigeon Permit	\$5	\$5
► Sandhill Crane Permit	\$0	\$0
► New White-Tailed Ptarmigan, Greater Sa	nge-Grouse	À.F.
& Mountain Sharp-Tailed Grouse Permit .		\$5

*Does not include furbearers.

Prices include the **25-cent** search-and-rescue fee and the **\$1.50 fee** for the Wildlife Education Fund if applicable.

Accepted Forms of Payment

- Online and by phone: Visa, Mastercard, Discover credit/debit cards and CPW gift certificates.
- **CPW offices/parks**: In addition to the above: check, money order, traveler's checks and cash.
- **Sales agents**: Any form of payment the agent accepts. CPW gift certificates are **not** valid.

What You Need to Buy a License

See page 2 for details.

- 1 Proper identification and proof of residency (for Colorado residents).
- **Proof** of hunter education.
- **Habitat Stamp:** A 2025 (\$12.47) or lifetime (\$374.47) Habitat Stamp is required prior to buying a license for anyone ages 18–64.

Note: A Social Security number or Individual Taxpayer Identification Number is required for hunters age 12 and older, per federal law.

License Requirements

- 1. Hunters must have an annual youth small-game/furbearer, small-game (annual, 1-day or additional day, plus the furbearer harvest permit if applicable; see number 6 below), annual combo small-game/fishing license (plus the furbearer harvest permit if applicable; see number 6 below), or furbearer license. Hunters must carry their license when hunting and show it when requested by law enforcement officers. Note: Everyone age 16 years or older must have a valid hunting or fishing license to be on any part of a state trust land or state wildlife area or have a valid Colorado State Wildlife Area Pass to be on any part of a state wildlife area, unless specifically noted.
- Small-game, coyote and migratory bird hunters, including falconers, must sign up with HIP each year before their license is valid. See "Harvest Information Program" on page 3.
- 3. Annual fishing, small-game and furbearer licenses, the furbearer harvest permit, and the Colorado Waterfowl Stamps and Habitat Stamps are valid March 1 through March 31 of the following year (13 months). Lifetime combo small-game/fishing licenses are valid as long as you are a Colorado resident.
- **4.** In order to hunt small game in any seasons that continue beyond March 31, 2026 (*see small-game dates, pages 9–11*), you must purchase a 2026 small-game license
- 5. To hunt & take small game, you need a small-game license, a combo small-game/fishing or a lifetime combo small-game/fishing license. Small game definition on page 5.
- 6.To hunt furbearers, you will need to purchase either a furbearer license (to harvest furbearers only; definition of furbearer on page 5) or a small-game license (including daily small-game licenses and combo small-game/fishing licenses) and a \$10 annual furbearer harvest permit. See number 7 below for the exception for coyote.
- **7. To hunt coyotes**, you need a small-game license or a furbearer license. **An annual** furbearer harvest permit is **not** required to hunt or take coyote.
- **8.To hunt eurasian collared-doves,** and other invasive species, you must have a hunter education card; however, a hunting license is not required. *See page 7*.
- **9. To hunt common snapping turtles,** you need a small-game or fishing license.
- 10. To hunt waterfowl, you need a small-game hunting license. If you are 16 or older, you also must have the \$33 Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp (Duck Stamp) and the \$12.47 Colorado State Waterfowl Stamp to hunt waterfowl. Colorado Waterfowl Stamp: The state stamp is printed on your hunting license and validated by signing your name in ink on the license. Federal Duck Stamp: Effective July 1, 2025, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service implemented the Duck Stamp Modernization Act of 2023, allowing an individual to carry an electronic stamp for the entire waterfowl hunting season. The new electronic stamp shall remain valid from the day it is sold through the following June 30, instead of being valid 45 days from the day of sale (fws.gov/service/buy-duck-stamp-or-e-stamp). Traditional methods of purchasing the Federal Duck Stamp will continue. The physical stamp is valid when you sign your name in ink across the face of the stamp. A federal stamp is not required to take light geese during the conservation order season: See "Legal Migratory Bird Hunting Methods," no. 10 on page 6.
- **11.To hunt sandhill cranes,** an annual sandhill crane permit (\$0) is required in addition to the small game license and a completed HIP registration.
- **12. To hunt band-tailed pigeons,** a permit (\$5) is required in addition to the smallgame license. The permit is available online, by phone, at CPW offices and at sales agents.
- 13. New To hunt white-tailed ptarmigan, greater sage-grouse and mountain sharp-tailed grouse, an annual white-tailed ptarmigan, greater sage-grouse and mountain sharp-tailed grouse permit (\$5) is required in addition to the small game license and a completed HIP registration.
- **14.** If a license is restricted to a specific area, you can hunt only that area.
- **15.** Licenses are not transferable.
- **16.** False statements made in buying a license and altering a license are illegal and void the license.
- 17. All license exchanges will be charged a \$5.00 fee.

1 Residency Requirements

cpw.state.co.us/proofofresidency

- ► The physical residence address you give to buy or apply for a license must be the same as the address given for Colorado state income tax purposes. *A P.O. Box is not a valid physical address.*
- ➤ You terminate your Colorado residency if you apply for, buy or accept a resident hunting, fishing or trapping license issued by another state or foreign country, register to vote outside Colorado or accept a driver's license that shows an address other than in Colorado.

Residency Types

1. Standard Colorado Resident

- a. Requirements: You must live in Colorado for at least six consecutive months immediately prior to buying or applying for any resident CPW product, have your primary residence in Colorado, and have not applied for or purchased a resident license or pass outside of Colorado in the last 6 months.
- b. Proof: Current and valid Colorado driver's license/ID with a Colorado address issued six or more months prior. If the Colorado driver's license/ID is not six months old, you must provide at least two forms of additional residency proof, as outlined in "Additional Residency Proofs" below.

2. Student: Attending School Full Time in Colorado

- **a. Requirements:** You must be attending school full time at an accredited Colorado school starting at least six months prior to buying or applying for any resident CPW product.
- **b. Proof:** Student ID, name of institution, date you became a full-time student, and school transcript showing full-time status.

3. Student: Attending School Full Time Outside of Colorado

- **a. Requirements:** You must meet Colorado residency requirements and be attending an accredited school outside of Colorado, paying nonresident tuition.
- **b. Proof:** Student ID, name of institution, date you became a full-time student, and proof of out-of-state tuition payment.

4. Military: Stationed in Colorado

- **a. Requirements:** Requirements: You must be active-duty military stationed in Colorado. Military member's spouse and/or dependents share the same residency status. Residency begins the date the orders begin.
- **b. Proof:** Military ID and active orders.

5. Military: Colorado Home of Record

- **a. Requirements:** You must be active-duty military stationed outside of Colorado, but with Colorado as your home of record, paying income tax as a Colorado resident. Military member's spouse and/or dependents share the same residency status.
- **b. Proof:** Military ID and active orders.

6. Youth

Children under the age of 18 have the same residency status as their parent, legal guardian or person with whom they live the majority of the time per court order.

Other Residency Information

1. Additional Residency Proofs

If you otherwise meet residency requirements but your Colorado driver's license or ID was issued or renewed less than 6 months ago, or you have a CPW-approved religious exemption to photo identification on your record, you must provide at least two additional proofs of residency showing 6 consecutive months of Colorado residency immediately prior to buying or applying for a license. Those proofs include: income sources (pay stubs), utility bills, state income tax documents (as a full-time resident), lease agreements/rent receipts, vehicle registration, voter registration.

2. Multiple Homes

If you have a home in Colorado and another location, call 303-297-1192 to make sure you comply with Colorado residency requirements before obtaining a CPW license or state park pass

2 Hunter Education

Hunter Education (Safety) Requirements

- **1.** Anyone born on or after January 1, 1949, must have a hunter education card to hunt in Colorado.
- **2.** A hunter education card is needed to apply for/buy a license.
- 3. Your hunter education card must be carried while hunting, unless it is verified and your license is marked with a "V." To get your hunter education card verified, take your hunter education card to a CPW office (listed on inside front cover) or state park.
- **4.** CPW honors hunter education cards from other states, provinces and countries.

Hunter Education Exemptions

- Individuals over age 50 or active duty U.S. military and veterans can obtain a hunter education certificate by testing out of hunter education: cpw.state.co.us/hunter-education-test-out
- 2. An apprentice certificate can be obtained for hunters who are at least 10 years old and who must be accompanied by a mentor in the field. This hunter education waiver can be obtained twice in a lifetime: cpw.state.co.us/apprentice-certificate
- ► For more information, go to: cpw.state.co.us/ education-outreach

3 Habitat Stamps

Habitat Stamps are **required** for hunters and cost \$12.47; only one is required per person, per year for anyone ages 18–64. Habitat Stamps are now valid March 1–March 31 of the following year (13 months).

- ► A lifetime stamp is \$374.47.
- ► Anyone buying a one-day or additional-day license for fishing and/or small game is exempt from purchasing the Habitat Stamp with the first two of these licenses. The habitat fee will be assessed when a third one-day or additional-day license is purchased for fishing or small game.
- ➤ Anyone who is approved in the Columbine, First Responder, Veteran and/or Big Game Mobility programs is exempt from the Habitat Stamp requirement. See cpw.state.co.us/park-specialty-passes
- ➤ For more information, go to: cpw.state.co.us/ habitat-stamp

Special License Information

Youth Licenses & Mentor Hunting

People under age 18 must have a license to hunt small game. A youth small-game license is for hunters 17 and younger, and costs \$1.50. If a youth plans on hunting with a youth small-game license, they must be accompanied by a mentor and must meet hunter education requirements. A mentor must be 18 or older and must meet hunter education requirements; mentors aren't required to hunt. While hunting, youths and mentors must be able to see and hear each other without binoculars, radios, or other aids. Youths also have the option to purchase an adult small-game license as long as they meet hunter education requirements.

At age 18, hunters must buy an adult license. Mentors are not permitted to hunt ducks, geese, mergansers or coots during the youth waterfowl hunt season. See page 16, "Waterfowl: Youth, Veteran & Active Military Hunt," for season dates.

CPW offers several licenses for hunters and anglers with disabilities.

Go to **cpw.state.co.us/hunters-with-disabilities** for more license information and how to apply. *These licenses require advance legal paperwork submissions*.

Resident First Responder Lifetime Combo License

Colorado resident first responders who have proof of a permanent occupational disability can qualify for the First Responder program to obtain a lifetime combo small game/fishing license.

Resident Disabled Veteran Lifetime Combo License

Military veterans who have a service-connected disability (with an overall combined rating of 50% or more by the Dept. of Veteran's Affairs), or are Purple Heart recipients and are residents of Colorado can obtain a lifetime combo small game/fishing license.

General Information

Harvest Information Program (HIP)

Small-game, coyote and migratory bird hunters, including falconers, must sign up with HIP **each year** before their license is valid. You can get your 2025–2026 HIP validation beginning on April 1 but can get HIP validation anytime after April 1, as long as it's before you hunt small game or coyote during the 2025–2026 season.

The Harvest Information Program (HIP) is available through **cpwshop.com** (or by calling an automated phone service at 1-855-521-3050). To complete your annual HIP registration (free), log into your cpwshop.com account, click on "Go Hunting and Fishing" and "Buy Small Game and Combo Licenses." Add your preferred small game or combo product to your cart and complete the HIP questionnaire as prompted before checking out. *Note: If you already have an active small game or combo* license on your account, you can add the free HIP registration product, and any other permits you may need, from the "Small Game and Combo Licenses" product menu in your account. When you complete the questionnaire, you will be asked for basic information, including how many birds and small game you harvested the previous season, and the species you plan to hunt this year. A season means March 1 through March 31 of the following year. When you complete your purchase, a HIP validation will print on your license. If you previously purchased a 2025 license (at a license agent, for example), you will need to follow the same online process or call the automated phone service to complete HIP. This information helps CPW manage migratory bird and Colorado small-game species by improving harvest estimates. *Note:* When you complete the HIP survey, you will not receive a HIP number, but you will see a HIP validation on your CPW account. For more information, go to: cpw.state.co.us/HIP

Walk-In Access Program (WIA)

The Walk-In Access (WIA) program provides opportunities to hunt small game, migratory game birds and furbearers on enrolled properties, only during established season dates. Properties are closed to hunting Gambel's quail and greater sage-grouse.

The regular season walk-in properties are open Sept. 1 through the end of Feb. The late cropland season properties are open from the opening day of pheasant season through the end of Feb. Extended walk-in properties are open from the start of pheasant season through the end of March.

Properties are open to foot access only, from one hour before sunrise until one hour after sunset. They are open two hours before sunrise until two hours after sunset for waterfowl, deer, elk or pronghorn hunting.

Hunters must have a small-game license and Habitat Stamp to hunt on WIA lands. Properties enrolled are posted with Walk-In Access signs and published in the WIA atlas. Access is prohibited as posted when the landowner is actively harvesting crops.

Two atlases for 2025–26 will be published. The early version, the **2025 Regular Walk-In Atlas**, is available in late Aug. and includes properties open Sept. 1. The **2025 Late Cropland Atlas** will be available in late Oct. and includes an updated property list. *Note:* Some WIA properties in eastern Colorado will be open for both small-game and big-game hunting as part of the Big Game Access Program. *See the* **2025 Regular Walk-In Atlas** *for more details.*

Small-Game and Furbearer Surveys

Colorado Parks and Wildlife conducts several small-game and furbearer harvest surveys annually to estimate harvest, hunter numbers and recreation days, in addition to assessing satisfaction and crowding. Past survey results are available on the CPW website at **cpw.state.co.us/small-game-stats** and **cpw.state.co.us/furbearers**. Updated reports are available after annual surveys conclude.

Hunters are selected randomly to participate. Selected hunters are contacted by email, text and live-operator telephone calls. If contacted, your participation is not required, but responding — even if you did not hunt or harvest an animal — helps CPW manage small game and furbearers.

Bobcat Seals: Mandatory

All bobcats or their pelts must be personally presented by the hunter for inspection and sealing by CPW within 30 days after take, or within five days after the season closes; whichever is sooner. Any bobcat hide/pelt without a seal within five days after the season closes is illegal and becomes the property of the state. Seals will be placed only on bobcats taken legally in Colorado.

Inspection and sealing is free, and seals must stay attached to hide until processed. Bobcat hides/pelts cannot be transported, shipped or otherwise taken from Colorado until inspected and sealed. It is illegal to buy, sell, trade or barter an untanned bobcat hide/pelt without a seal. One seal per hide/pelt. Contact a nearby CPW office for details (offices listed on inside front cover).

Attention Hunters!



Our effort to reintroduce lynx to the state has been a great success. Lynx can now be found throughout southwest Colorado and into other parts of the state. Lynx sightings should be reported to a CPW office as we continue to monitor populations and movement. Bobcat hunters should use caution and carefully identify their target: It is illegal to harvest lynx. Lynx differ from bobcats in several ways:

- The tip of a lynx tail is black all around. On a bobcat, the underside of the tip of its tail is white.
- The ear tufts of lynx are more than 1 inch long.
- The belly fur on a lynx is tawny colored. On a bobcat, it is white.
- Lynx tracks are 3 1/2 to 4 1/2 inches wide. Bobcat tracks are smaller than 2 1/2 inches wide.

Donating Wildlife

You can donate edible parts of wildlife to a like-license holder anywhere or to anyone at the recipient's home. A like-license is for the same species, sex, dates and manner of take as the donor's license. Bag and possession limits apply to donors and recipients and birds must be properly tagged. See "Tagging, Transporting Birds," page 7.

Wildlife Causing Damage

Colorado law allows landowners to protect private property from most wildlife damage. For information, call CPW at 303-297-1192. Also see **cpw.state. co.us/rules-and-regulations**, Chapter W-17: Game Damage, for updated trapping regulations and details on small-game damage.

Call Before Digging: 1-800-922-1987

Colorado law requires waterfowl hunters to call the Utility Notification Center of Colorado before digging hunting pits. By doing so, hunters can avoid accidentally hitting electric, gas, water and other utility lines.

Safe Handling of Game Meat

Concern has grown about diseases affecting wild animals that could potentially make humans sick. Most of the time, properly handled and prepared game meat poses no greater risk than domestic meat of causing disease in humans. Hunters are encouraged to contact their local public health department or CPW office for information on wildlife diseases that may be present where they plan to hunt.

Public health officials recommend the following precautions when handling and preparing game meat:

- Do not handle animals that are obviously sick or found dead. Report sick or dead animals you find to a CPW office.
- 2. Keep game cool, clean and dry.
- **3.** Do not eat, drink or smoke while dressing game.
- **4.** Use disposable gloves when cleaning game.
- **5.** Wash your hands with soap and water, or use alcohol wipes after dressing game.
- **6.** Clean all tools and surfaces immediately afterward. Use hot, soapy water, then disinfect with a 10 percent chlorine bleach solution.
- 7. Cook game meat to an internal temperature of at least 165 degrees F to kill disease organisms and parasites. Juices from adequately cooked game meat should be clear.
- 8. Do not eat any raw portions of wild game.
- **9.** Do not feed raw wild game to domestic pets.

General Hunting Laws

- 1. Colorado Parks and Wildlife can post firing lines at its properties.
- 2. It is illegal to kill, capture, injure or harass wildlife from a motor vehicle or an aircraft. It is also illegal to operate aircraft with intent to injure, harass, drive or rally wildlife. It is illegal to discharge a firearm or release an arrow from a motor vehicle or an aircraft.
- 3. It is illegal to discharge a firearm or release an arrow from, on or across a public road. Hunting with rifles, handguns, shotguns firing a single slug and archery equipment is prohibited within 50 feet on each side of the center line of any public road. On a divided road, the prohibition includes the median, and the 50-foot requirement is measured from the center line of both roads.
- 4. It is illegal to carry or have a firearm, except a pistol or revolver, in or on a motor vehicle unless the chamber is unloaded. While using artificial light from a vehicle, it is illegal to have a firearm with cartridges in the chamber or magazine, or possess a strung bow unless the bow is cased.
- 5. Except for "furbearers" and "other small-game" species (see "Hunting Terms & Definitions: Small Game" on page 5), you must take all edible portions of meat ("small-game birds" and "small-game mammals") from the field and prepare for human consumption. Do not leave wounded wildlife (or wildlife that might be wounded) without attempting to track and kill it.
- **6.** Possession of wildlife is evidence you hunted.
- 7. Small-game and migratory bird hunters are not required to wear solid, fluorescent orange or pink clothes. However, CPW encourages you to wear fluorescent orange or pink clothes for safety.
- **8.** You must stop at CPW check stations when told to do so.
- **9.** Violations of Colorado wildlife laws carry point values. You can face suspension of license privileges for up to five years or more if you accumulate 20 or more points in five years.
- 10. During deer, elk, pronghorn and bear seasons, firearms (except handguns) must be unloaded in the chamber and magazine when carried on an off-highway vehicle (OHV). Firearms (except handguns) and bows carried on an OHV must be fully enclosed in a hard or soft case. Scabbards or cases with open ends or sides are prohibited. This regulation does not apply to landowners or their agents carrying a firearm on an OHV for the purpose of taking depredating wildlife on property owned or leased by them.
- 11. Caliber Restriction: It is illegal to hunt game birds, small-game animals or furbearers with a centerfire rifle larger than .23 caliber in regular rifle deer and elk seasons west of I-25, unless you have an unfilled deer or elk license for the season you are hunting. A small-game license is required.

Legal Hunting Hours

Legal times to hunt small game and/or waterfowl are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. See the sunrise/sunset table at right.

An exception is made for furbearers, which can be hunted from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Raccoons, coyotes, bobcats, striped skunks, beavers and red, gray or swift foxes can be hunted at night. See "Furbearers" under "Small-Game Hunting Laws" on page 5 for details.

In light goose conservation season, hunting is allowed one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Restrictions

Child Support Delinquency

State law requires a Social Security number to buy a license. It is not displayed on the license but is provided, if requested, to Child Support Enforcement authorities. Hunting and fishing licenses are not issued to those suspended for noncompliance with child support. Any current licenses become invalid if held by an individual who is noncompliant with child support.

Weapons Restrictions

Colorado and federal laws prohibit people convicted of certain crimes, such as domestic violence, from possessing weapons even for hunting. If you've been convicted of a crime, check with the appropriate law enforcement authority to find out how the laws apply to you.

2025–2026 Sunrise/Sunset Table (Denver)														
П	Sept	. (DST)*	Oct.	(DST)*	Nov.		Dec.		Jan.	2026	Feb.	2026	Mar.	2026
	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set	Rise	Set
_	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.	A.M.	P.M.
Day		7.20		C 41	7.20		7.00	4.25	7.24	1.10	7.07	F 10	())	F F2
1		7:30		6:41		5:57		4:35	7:21	4:46		5:19		5:52
2		7:28		6:40			PST 7:03		7:21	4:47		5:21		5:53
3		7:27	6:58		6:31	4:55		4:35	7:21	4:48		5:22		5:54
4		7:25		6:36		4:54		4:35	7:21	4:48		5:23		5:55
5		7:24		6:35		4:53		4:35	7:21	4:49		5:24		5:56
6		7:22		6:33		4:52		4:35	7:21	4:50		5:25		5:57
7 8		7:20 7:19		6:32 6:30		4:51 4:50		4:35 4:35		4:51 4:52		5:26 5:28		5:58 6:59 star
9								4:35 4:35		4:52 4:53				
9 10		7:17 7:16		6:29 6:27		4:49 4:48	7:09 7:10			4:53 4:54		5:29 5:30		7:00 7:01
11		7:16 7:14		6:27		4:48 4:47	7:10			4:54		5:30		7:01
12		7:14 7:12		6:24		4:47		4:35		4:55		5:32		7:02
13		7:12 7:11		6:23	6:42		7:12			4:57		5:34		7:04
14	6:49	7:09		6:23		4:43		4:36		4:58	6:53			7:04
15	6:41	7:07		6:20		4:43		4:36		5:00		5:36	7:12	7:07
16		7:06		6:18		4:43		4:36		5:01		5:37		7:08
17		7:04		6:17		4:42		4:37		5:02		5:38		7:09
18		7:02		6:15	6:48	4:41		4:37		5:03	6:48			7:10
19		7:01		6:14		4:41		4:37	7:17	5:04		5:41		7:10
20		6:59	7:15			4:40		4:38		5:05		5:42		7:12
21		6:58	7:16			4:39		4:38		5:06		5:43		7:12
22		6:56		6:10		4:39		4:39		5:07		5:44		7:14
23		6:54		6:08		4:38	7:18			5:09	6:41	5:45	6:58	7:15
24	6:49	6:53		6:07		4:38	7:19			5:10	6:40			7:16
25		6:51	7:21			4:37	7:19			5:11		5:47		7:17
26		6:49		6:04	6:57	4:37	7:19			5:12		5:48		7:18
27		6:48	7:23			4:37		4:42		5:13		5:49		7:19
28		6:46	7:24	6:02		4:36		4:43		5:15	6:34	5:51	6:50	7:20
29	6:54	6:44	7:25	6:01	7:00	4:36	7:20	4:43	7:10	5:16			6:48	7:21
30	6:55	6:43	7:26	5:59	7:01	4:36	7:20	4:44	7:09	5:17			6:47	7:22
31			7:27	5:58			7:20	4:45	7:08	5:18			6:45	7:23
DST=	=(Daylig	ht saving t	time)								S	ource: w	ww.usno.	navy.mil
	Time adjustment for other Colorado cities This table reflects the minutes to add/subtract to the chart above for select towns. These are approximate; use								lamosa uena Vis urlingto raig	sta - on -	+5 10 +9	Gr. Jun Gunnis La Junt Lamar	on	+13 +7 -6 -9

Aids in Hunting Small Game & Waterfowl

only as a reference. Consult a state map for more details.

- 1. Dogs are allowed to hunt small game, waterfowl and furbearers, but only to pursue, bring to bay, retrieve, flush or point. It is illegal to use dogs to hunt cottontail rabbits, snowshoe hares and tree squirrels on land where any regular deer, elk, pronghorn or moose season is in progress.
- 2. Artificial decoys are permitted.
- **3.** European ferrets are permitted for hawking. Ferrets must be neutered, tattooed on left inguinal area and dyed along one-fourth of their body for easy field identification.
- 4. Mechanical devices designed to call wildlife are allowed. Recorded or electronically amplified calls can be used to hunt furbearers and crows only and light geese during the conservation order season.
- 5. You can hunt migratory game birds over standing crops or feed used in the course of agricultural planting, harvesting or other normal agricultural practices; baiting is not allowed.
- **6.** It is illegal to use drones to look for, scout or detect wildlife as an aid in hunting.

Small-Game Hunting Laws

Legal Small-Game Hunting Methods

For small-game mammals

1. Rifles or handguns.

Note: Smart rifles are prohibited, including any firearm equipped with a target tracking system, electronically 7. Animals captured in live traps cannot be moved from controlled, assisted or computer-linked trigger or a ballistics computer. Any firearm equipped with a scope containing a computer processor is considered to be a smart rifle.

Note: Fully automatic rifles are prohibited.

- 2. Shotguns no larger than 10 gauge. Shotguns cannot be capable of holding more than 3 shells in magazine and chamber combined.
- 3. Hand-held bows and crossbows.
- 4. Air guns and slingshots.
- 5. Hawking.

For small-game birds

(Except migratory birds: see page 6-7)

- 1. Rifles or handguns allowed for dusky grouse and ptar-
- 2. Shotguns no larger than 10 gauge not firing a single slug. Shotguns cannot be capable of holding more than 3 shells in magazine and chamber combined.
- 3. Hand-held bows and crossbows.
- 4. Air guns and slingshots allowed for dusky grouse and ptarmigan.
- 5. Hawking.

For furbearers

- 1. Any rifle, handgun, shotgun, handheld bow or crossbow, air gun (pre-charged pneumatic air gun .25 caliber or larger for coyote and bobcat).
- 2. Furbearers caught in live traps (limited to cage or box traps) must be dispatched using the hunting methods above, all other methods of take are prohibited.
- 3. Use of bait. It must be made solely of plants or animals. Bait cannot contain metal, glass, porcelain, plastic, cardboard or paper. Wildlife used as bait can be carcasses or parts of legally taken furbearers, carp, shad, white and longnose suckers, and inedible parts of legally obtained game mammals, birds or game
- **4.** Electronic call devices.
- 5. You must check traps in person, at least daily. In lynx recovery areas, or where lynx are, you must check traps every 24 hours. More on lynx: cpw.state.co.us/species/lynx

- 6. Any accidentally captured live animals for which trapping hours are open must be killed or released immediately upon checking the trap.
- the capture site and must be killed or released on site when trap is checked.
- 8. All live traps (only cage or box traps) placed on public lands must be labeled clearly with the trapper's Customer Identification number (CID), in a place that can be easily seen without needing to move the trap to see the label. Trappers who don't have a CID must legibly label the traps with the trapper's name. Live traps that aren't labeled properly may be confiscated by any wildlife officer.
- **9.** If wildlife (except Canada lynx, see No. 8 in this list) is accidentally captured alive when trapping season is closed or is illegal for that species, you must release the animal immediately. You cannot kill it. If you find a dead animal in your trap, you must bring its carcass to a CPW officer or office within 5 days. Failing to do so is evidence of illegal possession of wildlife. Trappers who comply will not be charged with illegal possession.
- **10.** If you accidentally capture a Canada lynx and it's not injured, you must release it immediately and report it to CPW within 24 hours. If a lynx is accidentally injured, but not in your possession, you must report it to CPW within 24 hours. If you capture a lynx accidentally and injure it, take the lynx to CPW or a licensed veterinarian, and report it to CPW within 24 hours. If you accidentally kill a lynx, you must report it to CPW within 24 hours, and take the carcass to CPW within 3 days after the report. Failing to follow these rules is considered unlawful take and possession. You will not be charged if you comply with these requirements or use the plan's best management practices to avoid accidentally taking a lynx. Guidelines available on the CPW website, search for Avoid Lynx Take.
- **11.** On private land, artificial light is allowed at night to hunt beavers, raccoons, coyotes, bobcats, striped skunks and red, gray or swift foxes, with written permission of landowner or agent.
- 12. On public land, artificial light is allowed at night with permit from local district or area wildlife manager, to hunt raccoons, coyotes, bobcats, striped skunks, beavers and red, gray or swift foxes. Permits are valid for time and place specified. See additional artificial light restrictions on the CPW issued permit.

Hunting Terms & Definitions: Small Game

Air gun: any rifle or handgun .177 caliber or larger firing pellets, slugs or roundball ammunition powered by high-pressure air or compressed inert gas. Includes: pellet guns and pneumatic weapons.

Canada Lynx recovery area: in the San Juan and Rio Grande national forests, and associated land above 9,000 feet, W from a N-S line through Del Norte; E from a N-S line through Dolores; from New Mexico N to Gunnison basin, including Taylor Park E to Collegiate Range. The recovery area includes GMUs 55, 65–68, 70, 71, 74–81, 551, 681, 711 and 751.

Crossbow: bow fired from the shoulder, attached perpendicularly to its stock. Has mechanical device to hold string cocked.

Daily bag limit: maximum number of wildlife you can take in a day, including any eaten or donated during the day they're taken.

Falconry (or hawking): hunting with a trained

Furbearers: mink; pine marten; badger; red, gray, swift fox; striped, western-spotted skunk; beaver; muskrat; long-tailed, short-tailed weasel; coyote; bobcat; opossum; ring-tailed cat: raccoon.

Hand-held bow: long bow or compound bow with a manually held or drawn string.

Handgun: pistol, revolver, without shoulder stock or attachment.

Live trap (cage or box): mechanical device designed so an animal enters the trap through a door that closes, preventing exiting.

Pre-charged pneumatic air gun: air gun that is charged from an external high-compression source, such as an air compressor, air tank or external hand pump.

Pelt: skin of a furbearer with hair intact.

Possession limit: maximum number of wildlife you can have at any time, including in the field, in transport, at home or in storage.

Rifle: firearm fired from the shoulder with a rifled bore, at least a 16-inch or longer barrel and at least 26 inches in overall length.

Shotgun: firearm fired from the shoulder with a smooth bore, at least an 18-inch barrel and at least 26 inches in overall length.

Slingshot: hand-held device manually drawn or held with elastic band attached to arms, or attachment points for propelling stones or metal projectiles. Wrist-brace attachments and non-elastic projectile pouches are normal parts of a slingshot.

Small-game birds: dusky, mountain sharp-tailed grouse; greater sage-grouse; white-tailed ptarmigan; pheasant; northern bobwhite, scaled, Gambel's quail; chukar partridge; greater prairie-chicken.

Small-game mammals: cottontail rabbit; snowshoe hare; white-tailed, black-tailed jackrabbit; marmot; fox, pine, Abert's squirrel.

Other small game: black-tailed, white-tailed, Gunnison's prairie dog; Wyoming (Richardson's) ground squirrel; prairie rattlesnake; common snapping turtle.

Trapping: taking or attempting to take wildlife with a trap.

Illegal Small-Game Hunting Methods

- 1. The use of toxicants, drugs, explosives, stupefying substances or body grip devices, cable device traps, enclosed foothold traps, foothold traps, lethal cable device traps, and to hunt, kill, capture, injure or harass wildlife are illegal, except as allowed under Ch. W-17 or permitted by the CO Dept. of Agriculture.
- **2.** Use of electronic calls is not allowed to hunt small game. (Electronic calls are legal to hunt furbearers.)
- 3. Use of any artificial light, night vision or thermal devices as an aid in hunting wildlife, except as in "Legal Small-Game Hunting Methods" is not allowed.
- 4. Use of live-action game cameras to locate, surveil, or aid or assist in locating or surveiling game wildlife in order to take/try to take game wildlife during the same or following day. This doesn't include game cameras that record photographic/video data and store such data for later use, as long as the device cannot transmit data wirelessly.
- 5. Use of bait to hunt small-game mammals, game birds and migratory birds is not allowed.

- 6. Use of visual lures, fresh meat baits, fish oil and anise oil lures to attract felids in lynx recovery areas or where lynx are found is not allowed.
- **7.** Except when legally placed on private property by permit, it is illegal to set traps within 50 feet of either side of the travelled part of state or federal highways or county roads.
- 8. It is illegal to destroy or damage beaver or muskrat houses, dens or dams, except to maintain water flow or prevent property damage.
- 9. Contests involving furbearers (including coyote), black-tailed, white-tailed and Gunnison's prairie dogs, or Wyoming (Richardson's) ground squirrels are prohibited. A contest is any competitive event where money or other valuable prizes are awarded for the taking of these species. Certificates or similar tokens of recognition without significant monetary value are not considered valuable prizes. This does not apply to wildlife parks and field trials licensed by CPW.

Migratory Bird Hunting Laws

In Colorado, the Pacific Flyway is all lands west of the Continental Divide, and the Central Flyway is all lands east of the Continental Divide. Federal and state laws apply.

Legal Migratory Bird Hunting Methods

- 1. Shotguns cannot be larger than 10 gauge. They cannot be capable of holding more than three shells in magazine and chamber combined. They must be fired from the shoulder. To reduce capacity of shotguns that hold more than three shells in the chamber and magazine combined, the magazine must be cut off, altered or plugged with a one-piece filler that cannot be removed unless the gun is disassembled. Slugs are illegal to hunt waterfowl.
- **2.** Hand-held bows are allowed only if the arrow or bowstring is not held or drawn mechanically. It is illegal to use bows on firing lines designated by the Parks and Wildlife Commission.
- **3.** It is legal to hunt waterfowl in the open, from a blind or other concealed place (except a sink box). When camouflaged with vegetation from agricultural crops, camouflaging cannot result in exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering grain or other feed.
- 4. Hunting is allowed from vessels (except sink boxes) with motors or sails if motor is off, and/or sails furled and forward movement has stopped. Hunting is allowed from drifting vessels and those propelled by hand. Motorized vessels are only allowed to pick up dead or injured birds, or to put out and retrieve decoys.
- 5. It is legal to take migratory birds, including waterfowl, coots and cranes, on or over the following lands not otherwise baited: standing or flooded standing crops; standing flooded or manipulated natural vegetation; flooded harvested crop lands; where seeds or grains were scattered solely from normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation or normal soil stabilization practice; flooded, standing agricultural crops where grain is inadvertently scattered solely by a hunter entering or exiting an area, placing decoys or retrieving downed birds.

It is also legal to take migratory birds, except waterfowl, coots and cranes, on or over the following lands not otherwise baited: where grain or other feed is distributed or scattered solely from manipulation of agricultural crops or other feed, or solely from normal agricultural operations.

"Baiting" means the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, dis-

tributing or scattering of salt, grain or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them. "Baited area" means any area on which salt, grain or other feed has been placed, exposed, deposited, distributed or scattered, if that salt, grain or other feed could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Any such area will remain a baited area for ten days following the complete removal of all such salt, grain or other feed.

- **6.** Hawking or falconry permitted.
- 7. Dogs, artificial decoys, duck calls or goose calls are legal, except recorded or electronically amplified calls or sounds. Recorded or electronically amplified calls are legal to hunt common crows.
- **8.** You don't need a permit to have and transport plumage or skins of legally taken migratory birds for your use.
- 9. You don't need a permit to have, dispose and transport feathers from wild ducks and wild geese legally killed, or from birds seized and condemned by wildlife authorities. It is legal to use feathers to make fishing flies, bed pillows, mattresses and similar commercial items, except for millinery or ornamental use.
- **10. In light goose conservation order season:** Recorded or electronically amplified calls are allowed. Shotguns that hold more than 3 rounds in the chamber and magazine may be used in this season only. Hunting is allowed one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. A federal migratory bird stamp is not required, but a Colorado waterfowl stamp is. (See page 14 for season dates.)
- 11. The most restrictive state or federal laws apply.

See cpw.state.co.us/hunting/waterfowl or fws.gov/program/migratory-birds for a detailed summary of federal regulations on migratory bird hunting. More regulations also may apply to National Wildlife Refuges opened to hunting; go to fws.gov/refuges for details.

Illegal Migratory Bird Hunting Methods

- **1.** Baiting is illegal (see description of baiting above, number 5). For information on federal baiting laws, go to **fws.gov/story/2021-12/information-waterfowl-hunters**.
 - It is illegal to take migratory game birds and waterfowl by the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, if you know or reasonably should know the area is baited. It is illegal to place or direct placement of bait on or next to an area to cause, induce or allow anyone to take or attempt to take migratory birds with the help of bait or over a baited area.
- 2. It is illegal to use any artificial light as an aid in hunting or taking wildlife.
- **3.** Traps, snares, nets, rifles, pistols, swivel guns, punt guns, battery guns, machine guns and fish hooks, poisons, toxicants, explosives or stupefying substances are illegal.
- 4. It is illegal to use live, tame or captive ducks and geese as decoys. All tame, captive ducks and geese must be removed 10 days before hunting. They must be in an enclosure that substantially reduces the sound of their calls, and conceals them from the sight of waterfowl.
- **5.** It is illegal to leave decoys or things used as decoys in the field or on water overnight on state wildlife areas.
- **6.** You cannot hunt migratory birds on a federal reservation, federal land set aside as a wildlife reservation, breeding ground or refuge or federal land closed by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, except as permitted.
- 7. It is illegal to hunt migratory birds from, on or across a highway, road, trail, public or private right-of-way in national wildlife refuges. Stricter regulations may apply on wildlife refuges. Contact: Alamosa and Monte Vista NWR, 719-589-4021; Browns Park NWR, 970-365-3613; Arapaho NWR, 970-723-8202.

- 8. In the areas bounded on N by Wyoming; E and S by I-76, Hwy. 71, U.S. 36 and I-70; and W by the Continental Divide and Larimer- Jackson county line; and in Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Mesa, Otero and Prowers counties:
 - **a.** It is illegal to hunt waterfowl within 50 yards on either side of center line of a public road.
 - b. It is illegal to hunt waterfowl within 150 yards of a dwelling, including directly above it, without first obtaining permission from owner, occupant or person in charge of the dwelling.
- 9. Pueblo County: It is illegal to hunt waterfowl within 150 yards of a dwelling, including directly above it, without first obtaining permission from owner, occupant or person in charge of dwelling.
- 10. You cannot kill, have, transport, import or export migratory birds, their parts, nests or eggs that were taken, bought, sold, transported, possessed or exported illegally.
- 11. It is illegal to have or transport live migratory birds or waterfowl, including wounded birds. You must kill migratory birds immediately after you injure them, and they become part of your bag limit.
- **12.** It is illegal to buy, sell, barter or offer to buy or sell feathers or mounted specimens of migratory birds.
- 13. It is illegal to receive or have someone else's migratory birds unless they are tagged as required.
- **14. Sandhill crane hunters:** Whooping cranes are federally endangered and illegal to hunt. They may be in Colorado during sandhill crane season.
- 15. The most restrictive state or federal laws apply. See fws.gov/program/migratory-birds for more information.

Tagging, Transporting Birds

- **1.** A carcass tag must be attached to wildlife requiring one.
- **2.** Licensees must accompany wildlife not requiring a carcass tag (*except as in No. 4*).
- One fully feathered wing or head must be attached to birds in transit until they arrive at hunter's home or commercial processing facility.
- 4. To ship migratory birds, packages must be marked outside with name and address of sender, name and address of receiver and number of birds, by species. Licenses, a photocopy of the license or carcass tag must accompany wildlife shipped by common carrier.
- 5. It is illegal to leave migratory birds anywhere other than at your home or with someone else for picking, cleaning, processing, permanent or temporary storage or taxidermy, unless the birds or package of birds have a tag attached. You must sign tags and include your address, total number and species of birds, date of kill and your hunting license number.
- 6. It is illegal to receive or have someone else's migratory birds unless they are tagged as required.
- **7.** Migratory bird preservation facilities:
 - a. If you have someone else's migratory birds for picking, cleaning, freezing, processing, storing or shipping, you must have records showing the number of each species, date you received them, date birds were disposed of, and name and address of who received the birds.
 - **b.** You must keep records 1 year after the last entry.

- c. You must allow people authorized to enforce this regulation to enter the facilities at reasonable hours to inspect records and premises.
- 8. Per week, beginning on Sunday, it is illegal to import more than 25 doves and 10 pigeons from a foreign country, or more than 10 ducks and 5 geese from a foreign country, except Canada and Mexico. Doves and waterfowl imported from Canada and Mexico cannot exceed Canadian and Mexican export limits. One fully feathered wing must stay attached to birds transported and shipped between ports of entry and someone's home or a migratory bird facility. It is illegal to import someone else's birds.
- 9. It is illegal to take, have, transport, import or export migratory birds, their parts, nests or eggs that were taken, bought, sold, transported, possessed or exported illegally.
- 10. It is illegal to have or transport live migratory birds, including wounded birds. You must kill migratory game birds immediately after recovering them.
- 11. No permit is required to have or transport plumage and skins of legally taken migratory birds for your own use.
- 12. No permit is required to have, dispose of and transport feathers of wild ducks and wild geese legally killed, or of birds seized by wildlife authorities. It is legal to use feathers to make fishing flies, bed pillows, mattresses and similar commercial items, except millinery or ornamental use.
- 13. It is illegal to buy, sell, barter or offer to buy or sell feathers or mounted specimens of migratory game birds.

Hunting Terms & Definitions: Migratory Birds

Aggregate: Total number of animals allowed to be taken in one day, by one person, regardless of species.

Daily bag limit: Maximum number of wildlife you can take in a day, including any eaten or donated during the day they're taken.

Central Flyway: East of the Continental Divide.

Geese: All species of geese and brant. Light geese means lesser snow geese (including blue), greater snow geese and Ross' geese. Dark geese means Canada geese, white-fronted geese, brant, cackling geese and all other species of geese except light geese.

Manipulation: Alteration of natural vegetation or agricultural crops by activities that include, but are not limited to, mowing, shredding, discing, rolling, chopping, trampling, flattening, burning or herbicide treatments. Manipulation does not include distributing or scattering grain, seed or other feed after removal from, or storage on, the field where grown.

Migratory game birds: Migratory birds included in conventions between U.S. and foreign countries to protect birds for which seasons are established. They are: waterfowl (ducks, including mergansers, and geese, including brant), mourning and white-winged doves, sandhill cranes, American coots, sora, Virginia rail, Wilson's snipe, band-tailed pigeons, crows.

Natural vegetation: Non-agricultural, native or natural plants growing from planting, or existing seeds and other propagules. This does not include planted millet. However, millet growing on its own after planting year is considered natural vegetation.

Nontoxic shot: Any shot type approved to take migratory game birds according to 50 CFR 20.21 (*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*). See page 8 for table and details.

Normal agricultural operation: Planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation or agricultural practice conducted according to 50 CFR 20.11 (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service).

Normal agricultural planting, harvesting or post-harvest manipulation: Planting or harvesting to produce and gather crops, or manipulation after harvest and removal of grain, conducted according to 50 CFR 20.11 (*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*).

Normal soil stabilization practice: Planting for agricultural soil erosion control or post-mining reclamation conducted according to 50 CFR 20.11 (*U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*).

Pacific Flyway: West of the Continental Divide.

Possession limit: Maximum number of wildlife you can have at any time, including in the field, in transport, at home or in storage.

Sinkbox: Raft or low-floating device with a depression concealing a person below the surface of the water.

Bird Species Identification

A fully feathered wing or head must be attached to all birds, except turkeys, doves and bandtailed pigeons, in transit to hunter's home or commercial processor. For pheasants, a foot with visible spur can be substituted.

Note: While in the field or during transport, all dressed (not fully feathered) doves, including

Eurasian collared-doves, count against the daily bag and possession limit for mourning and white-winged doves during the Sept. 1–Nov. 29 dove season. Eurasian collared-doves must be fully feathered while in the field or during transport at all other times.

Hunting Invasive Birds

Eurasian collared-doves, European starlings and house (English) sparrows are considered invasive species in Colorado. Because of this designation, these species may be hunted year-round. No license or Habitat Stamp is required to hunt invasive species; however hunters must have and carry with them a hunter education card.

Hunters may harvest any number of each of these species and by any method of take approved for big- or small-game hunting. These species may be taken at night with the use of

artificial light and night vision equipment.

Commercial hunting of invasive species is prohibited, as is receiving or attempting to receive compensation by hunting these species.

Eurasian collared-doves must remain fully feathered while in the field or during transport, except when counted as part of the mourning or white-winged dove bag and possession limit during the dove season that runs from Sept. 1–Nov. 29. See page 10 for season dates and bag limits.

Watch for Banded Birds

Wildlife managers need help gathering information about the migratory bird populations.

If you kill or find a banded bird, please report it to the USGS Bird Banding Lab:

reportband.gov

Hawking & Falconry Hunting Laws

Note: See page 16, "Hunting with Falconry Raptors," for season dates and bag limits.

- 1. Apprentices may hunt with only one raptor at a time.
- 2. A resident falconry license is required.
- 3. Nonresident falconers must buy either:
- **a.** A nonresident annual falconry license; applications are submitted online at **cpwshop.com/purchase-special-license.page**, or;
- **b.** A nonresident small-game license and have proof that they possess a current and valid falconry license in their home state.
- **4.** Hunter education certificate is not necessary with a resident 3-year falconry license or a nonresident annual falconry license. State and federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamps are required for hunting migratory waterfowl.
- **5.** Falconers must comply with HIP (see page 3).

- **6.** Firearms are prohibited while hawking.
- **7.** Hawking is prohibited from a public road.
- **8.** Hawking on private property is illegal without permission from the owner or person in charge.
- **9.** A Raptor Importation License is required to import any raptor into Colorado. An application for raptor importation must be submitted a minimum of 7 days prior to the proposed importation date. A current health certificate issued within 30 days of the proposed entry from the state of origin is required. Raptor import application/license are fee exempt and may be submitted at **cpwshop.com/purchase-special-license.page**.

For questions about hawking and falconry licensing requirements in Colorado, contact CPW Special Wildlife Licensing at 720-660-1001 or go to **cpw.state.co.us/special-wildlife-licenses**.

Nontoxic Shot Regulations

- 1. It is illegal to use or have toxic (lead) shot, either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading, while taking or attempting to take ducks, geese or coots in Colorado. This includes national wildlife refuges open to hunting. Toxic shot, either in shotshells or as loose shot for muzzleloading, cannot be in a hunter's gun, on his/her person or near a hunter taking or attempting to take waterfowl. Store lead shot in your vehicle. You can store lead shot elsewhere if it's not readily accessible while hunting waterfowl.
- Nontoxic shot is required in commercial wildlife parks, field trials and dogtraining while hunting captive-reared mallards.
- **3.** It is illegal to have or use nontoxic shot larger than size T to hunt ducks, geese or coots.
- 4. Nontoxic shot is any type approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. On Nov. 6, 2017, USFWS approved the addition of corrosion-inhibited copper shot as a new form of nontoxic shot for waterfowl hunting. Find more information at: fws.gov/policy/library/2017/2017-24117.pdf

TOM ROSTER'S 2016 NONTOXIC SHOT LETHALITY TABLE®

Proven Nontoxic Loads For Waterfowl, Doves, & Upland Game Birds ¹ Vel. Range Tested: 1,225 – 1,700 FPS ACTIVITY	Observed Hunters' Typical Shooting Range During Activity (Yards)	Most Effective Nontoxic Shot Size(s) For Birds Listed Under ACTIVITY At The Distances Listed In The Second Column	Minimum Load Weight (Ounces)	Minimum Pellet Hits Needed on Lethal Areas for Clean Kills	Minimum Pattern Count Needed at Any Distance for Clean Kills (# of Pellets in 30" Circle)	Most Effective Choke(s) at Distance (Given in Lead Shot Choke Designations)	NOTE: The pellets in the steel shot loads listed in this table were traditional, highly spherical ball-shaped pellets of ~ 7.86 g/cc density and 90-95 DPH hardness. The HEVI-Shot pellets were of 12.0 g/cc density and are harder than traditional steel pellets.
Large Geese At Long Range	50-65	Steel BBB to T	1-1/4	1-2	50-55	Improved N	
Giant, Western, Atlantic and Interior Canadas	50-70	HEVI-Shot 2 to B	1-1/2	1-2	50-55		lodified, Full
Large Geese Over Decoys	35-50	Steel BB to BBB	1-1/4	1-2	50-55		ylinder, Modified
	35-50	HEVI-Shot 2 to B	1-1/2	1-2	50-55		ylinder, Modified
Medium/Small Geese Long Range	50-65	Steel BB to BBB	1-1/4	1-2	60-65	Improved N	
Snow, White-fronted, Lesser Canadas	50-65	HEVI-Shot 2	1-1/2	1-2	60-65		lodified, Full
Medium/Small Geese Over Decoys	35-50	Steel 2 to BB	1-1/8	1-2	60-65	Light Modified, Modified	
	35-50	HEVI-Shot 4 to 2	1-1/4	1-2	60-65		ylinder, Modified
Large Ducks At Long Range	45-65	Steel 2 to 1	1-1/8	1-2	85-90		lodified, Full
Mallard, Black, Pintail, Goldeneye, Gadwall	45-65	HEVI-Shot 4	1-1/4	1-2	85-90	Improved Modified, Full	
Large Ducks Over Decoys	20-45	Steel 6 to 2	3/4 - 1	1-2	85-90	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yd	
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1-1/8	1-2	85-90	I.C. (20-35 Ye	ds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)
Medium Ducks Over Decoys	20-45	Steel 6 to 3	1	1-2	115-120		ds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)
Wigeon, Scaup, Shoveler	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1-1/8	1-2	115-120	I.C. (20-35 Ye	ds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)
Small Ducks Over Decoys	20-45	Steel 6 to 4	1	1-2	135-145		Yds), Full (35-45 Yds)
Teal, Ruddy, Bufflehead	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6	1-1/8	1-2	135-145	Mod. (20-35	Yds), Full (35-45 Yds)
Ring-Necked Pheasants	20-50	Steel 3 to 2	1	2-3	90-95	I.C. (20-30 Ye	ds), Mod. (30-50 Yds)
	20-50	HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1-1/8	2-3	90-95	I.C. (20-30 Ye	ds), Mod. (30-50 Yds)
Turkeys (Head and Neck Shots)	20-40	Steel 4; HEVI-Shot 6	1-1/4	3-4	210-230	Full or Extra	a Full
Mourning Doves	20-45	Steel 8 to 7	5/8 -3/4	1-2	200-210	IC-8's/LM-7's	(20-30 Yds); Mod>30 Yd
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 71/2	3/4	1-2	200-210	I.C. (20-30 Yds	s); Light Mod (30-45 Yd)
Northern Bobwhite Quail	20-30	Steel 8 to 7	5/8 -3/4	1-2	200-210	Imp. Cyl., L	ight Modified
Swatter Load For Wounded Birds This table summarizes Tom Roster's analyses to date	20-30	Steel 7 to 6	1	1	175		lodified, Full

stell-only pleasant shooting test published that bases over the property of th

Get the Lead Out

Colorado Department of Public Health & Environment and Colorado Parks and Wildlife

Go to cdphe.colorado.gov/lead-health and click "For the public" to see the fact sheets on Lead in Harvested Wild Game and Lead in Indoor Shooting and Firing Ranges.

From the field to the table, ensuring your next harvest is safe for your family and nontarget wildlife is important. Health risks due to lead poisoning from consuming game meat are low for most people; however, switching to lead-free ammunition may be an option that's right for you. Science tells us that ingesting lead can cause potential human health problems over time.

Additionally, lead-based ammunition can cause adverse impacts on non target wildlife from lead ingestion while scavenging. Hunters themselves are conservationists, maintaining species populations and protecting habitats. By switching to lead-free ammunition, hunters can support wildlife by reducing the risk of lead poisoning to nontarget wildlife such as eagles and other raptors. For more information visit cpw.state.co.us/lead-free.

To help reduce human and wildlife health impacts, you can:

- 1. Use lead-free shot or bullets. There are many lead-free options now available.
- 2. Hunters who use lead ammunition should choose quality hunting-grade ammunition with a "bonded" or "partition" construction.
- 3. Use careful shot selection. Bullets that strike the lethal area (heart/lungs) are less likely to fragment than bullets that strike more heavily boned areas.
- 4. Bury or pack out your lead-shot gut piles to avoid lead ingestion by non target wildlife.
- 5. Avoid eating game meat from animals harvested with lead bullets if you are pregnant. Children younger than 6 should also avoid it.

A furbearer license

or the furbearer

harvest permit (with

a small-game or

combo license) is

required to hunt or

take these species.

See page 1

for more details.

Small-Game Animals

Season Dates & Bag Limits

► Abert's Squirrel Season: Nov. 15-Jan. 15, annually Daily bag limit: 2 Possession limit: 4

► Common Snapping Turtle **Seasons:** April 1–Oct. 31, annually **Bag limit:** Unlimited Possession limit: Unlimited

► Cottontail Rabbit

► Snowshoe Hare

► Jackrabbit: White-Tailed, Black-Tailed

Season: Oct. 1-end of Feb., annually **Daily bag limit:** 10 of each species Possession limit: 20 of each species

► Marmot

Season: Aug. 10-Oct. 15, annually

Daily bag limit: 2 Possession limit: 4

► Prairie Dog: White-Tailed, Black-Tailed, Gunnison's

Public land season: June 15-end of Feb., annually

Private land season: Year-round Bag & possession limit: Unlimited ► Prairie Rattlesnake

Season: June 15-Aug. 15, annually Daily bag limit: 3

Possession limit: 6

► Squirrel: Fox, Pine

Season: Oct. 1-end of Feb., annually **Daily bag limit:** 5 of each species **Possession limit:** 10 of each species

► Wyoming (Richardson's) **Ground Squirrel**

Season: Year-round

Bag & possession limit: Unlimited

Covote

Season: Year-round

Bag & possession limit: Unlimited

Note: While coyote are considered furbearers, you do **not** need a furbearer harvest permit to hunt this species. You may hunt coyote with a furbearer license or a small-game license. See license requirements to hunt coyote on

Coyote hunters must sign up with HIP **each year** before their license is valid. See the Harvest Information Program on page 3.

Furbearers:

Statewide: All Areas

► Badger

► Fox: Red, Gray, Swift

► Mink

► Muskrat

▶ Opossum

► Pine Marten

► Raccoon

► Ring-Tailed Cat

► Skunk: Striped, Western Spotted

Marmot © Wayne D. Lewis, CPW

Weasel: Long-Tailed, Short-Tailed Season: Nov. 1-end of Feb., annually

Daily bag limit: Unlimited Possession limit: Unlimited

▶ Beaver

Season: Oct. 1-April 30, annually Bag limit: Unlimited Possession limit: Unlimited

▶ Bobcat

Season: Dec. 1-end of Feb., annually

Bag limit: Unlimited Possession limit: Unlimited Note: See "Bobcat Seals," page 3.

Furbearer Harvest Log

Fill out the below Furbearer Harvest Log and use the information for answering the furbearer harvest survey if you are contacted at the end of the year. The surveys help us keep track of the furbearer species taken each year, so we can better manage their populations.

Furbearer Harvest Log Information



	WIVE
Species:	
Harvest Date:	
Sex: M / F	Age: Mature / Sub-Adult
Method: Hunt / Trap / Road Kill	
Location: (drainage)	
Decimal Degree:	-
County:	GMU:
Trap Nights: (No. of nights trap was	set)
Hunt Days: (No. of days or part days	hunted)
Bobca	at Harvest
Location:	
Decimal Degree:	-
Section:	1/4 Section:
Township:	Range:
or UTM Easting:	Northing:

Small-Game Season Opportunities

Check the exact season dates, more hunting opportunities, bag and possession limits and hunting area restrictions/boundaries in the regulations in this brochure and online: cpw.state.co.us/rules-and-regulations

Species	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.
Small-Game Animals & Furbe							
Abert's squirrel							
Rabbit, Hare							
Coyote							
Fox, Pine Squirrel							
Marmot							
Wyoming Ground Squirrel							
Badger, Fox, Mink, Skunk, etc.							
Small-Game Birds & Migrato	ry Small-	Game Birds					
Band-tailed pigeon							
Chukar Partridge							
Mourning, White-Winged Dove							1.
Greater Prairie-Chicken				-			
Dusky (Blue) Grouse							
Greater Sage-Grouse: Season 1							
Greater Sage-Grouse: Season 2	-	2 2-1	-				
Mountain Sharp-Tailed Grouse							
Pheasant: E of 1-25							
Pheasant: W of I-25							
Quail: W of I-25							
Quail: E of I-25 & N of I-70		1					
Quail: E of I-25 & 5 of I-70							
Ptarmigan: Season 1							
Ptarmigan: Season 2		1 1					

Small-Game Birds & Migratory Small-Game Birds

Season Dates & Bag Limits

► Band-Tailed Pigeon

Season: Sept. 1–14, annually

Area: Statewide Daily bag limit: 2 Possession limit: 6

Note: A band-tailed pigeon permit (\$5) is required in addition to the small-game license.

See page 1.

► Chukar Partridge

Season: Sept. 1-Nov. 30, annually

Area: Statewide
Daily bag limit: 4
Possession limit: 12

► Crow

Season: Nov. 1-end of Feb. 2026

Area: Statewide
Daily bag limit: Unlimited
Possession limit: Unlimited

Note: Recorded or electronically amplified calls

may be used during this season.

► Dove: Mourning, White-Winged

Season: Sept. 1-Nov. 29, annually

Area: Statewide

Daily bag limit: 15 singly or in aggregate **Possession limit:** 45 singly or in aggregate **Note:** See "Bird Species Identification" on page 7
for transit requirements. See "Eurasian Collared"
note on this page for influence on bag limits.

► Dove: Eurasian Collared

Season: Year-round Area: Statewide Daily bag limit: Unlimited Possession limit: Unlimited

Note: Eurasians must be fully feathered while in the field and during transport, unless counted as part of the mourning and/or white winged dove bag limits. See page 7.

Note: A license is not required, as these are considered an invasive species. See page 7, "Hunting Invasive Birds."

European Starling, House (English)Sparrow

Season: Year-round **Area:** Statewide

Daily bag limit: Unlimited Possession limit: Unlimited

Note: A license is not required, as these are considered an invasive species. See page 7, "Hunting Invasive Birds."

► Greater Prairie-Chicken

Season: Oct. 1-Jan. 31, annually

Area: Only GMUs 93, 97, 98, 100, 101, 102 103 and 109, and all of Morgan Co., and those portions E of Colo. 71, and S of Colo. 14 and Hwy. 138.

Daily bag limit: 2 per day **Possession limit:** 6 per year

► Grouse: Dusky (Blue)

Season: Sept. 1-Nov. 23, 2025 Area: West of I-25

Daily bag limit: 3 Possession limit: 9

► Grouse: Greater Sage

Season 1: Sept. 13-19, 2025

Area: GMUs New 2, 3, New 4, 5, 10, 11, 13, 18 except east of Colo. 125 in Grand Co., 27, 28 except north and east of Grand CR 50 (Church Park Rd.) and U.S. 40, 37, 181, 201, 211, 301 and 441.

Daily bag limit: 2 Possession limit: 4

Season 2: Sept. 13–14, 2025

Area: Only GMUs 6, 16, 17, 161 and 171

(North Park). **Daily bag limit:** 2 **Possession limit:** 2

Note: See map, bottom of page 11.

New Note: Starting with the 2025 seasons, an annual white-tailed ptarmigan, greater sage-grouse and mountain sharp-tailed grouse permit (\$5) is required. See page 1, "License Requirements."

► Grouse: Mountain Sharp-Tailed

Season: Sept. 1–21, 2025

Area: Only GMUs 4, 5, 12, 13, 14, New 23, 131, 211, 214 and 441.

Daily bag limit: 2
Possession limit: 4

New Note: Starting with the 2025 seasons, an annual white-tailed ptarmigan, greater sage-grouse and mountain sharp-tailed grouse permit (\$5) is required. See page 1, "License Requirements."

Colorado Dove Identification



► Mourning Dove

- 12 inches long from tip of beak to end of tail
- Grayish-brown color
- Long, pointed tail
- Rapid wing beat, erratic flight path
- Soft call "cooAHoo" followed by several coos

► White-Winged Dove

- Slightly larger than mourning dove
- Gray-brown color
- Long, moderately rounded tail
- White bar on upper wing surface
- Soft call "hoohoo-hoohoo" with the last note descending

► Eurasian Collared-Dove

- 15 inches from tip of beak to end of tail
- Larger, heavier than mourning dove
- Dark grayish-brown
- Long, squared tail
- Thin black band on neck with white upper border
- Gray belly and undertail coverts with black on tail
- Rapid, three-part cooing "coo-coo-coo" middle coo is longest







There are three types of doves in Colorado.

Knowing how to identify each is important to avoid violating the law while hunting.

White-winged doves are not common in Colorado, and live mostly along the Front Range. The white-winged dove is pioneering new habitats north of its historic range in the southwest U.S. Eurasian collared-doves are sporadic throughout the state. It is an exotic introduced into the United States, and is considered an invasive species.

Dove Banding

Mourning doves are banded in Colorado and other states as part of a program to monitor their status. Hunters should report banded mourning doves to the USGS Bird Banding Lab:

reportband.gov



► Pheasant

Season 1: Nov. 8–Jan. 31, 2026

Area: East of I-25

Season 2: Nov. 8–Jan. 4, 2026 **Area:** West of I-25

Daily bag limit: 3 cocks Possession limit: 9 cocks

► Quail: Northern Bobwhite, Scaled, Gambel's

Season 1: Nov. 8–Jan. 31, 2026

Area: East of I-25 and south of I-70 from I-25 to Byers and Hwy. 36 from Byers to Kansas, and the parts of the following counties that are west of I-25: Pueblo, Fremont, Huerfano, El Paso and Las Animas counties.

Season 2: Nov. 8-Jan. 4, 2026

Area: East of I-25 and north of I-70 from I-25 east to Byers and Hwy. 36 from Byers to Kansas.

Season 3: Nov. 8-Jan. 4, 2026

Area: West of I-25 except those areas west of I-25 in Pueblo, Fremont, Huerfano, El Paso and Las Animas counties.

Daily bag limit: 8 of each species **Possession limit:** 24 of each species

► Rail: Sora, Virginia

Season: Sept. 1-Nov. 9, annually

Area: Statewide

Daily bag limit: 25 singly or in aggregate **Possession limit:** 75 singly or in aggregate

► Sandhill Crane

Season: Oct. 4-Nov. 30, 2025

Area: East of the Continental Divide except North Park (Jackson Co.) and San Luis Valley.

Daily bag limit: 3
Possession limit: 9

Note: Permit required through HIP. See pages 1 and 3 for more information.

► White-Tailed Ptarmigan

Season 1: Sept. 13–Oct. 5, 2025 **Area:** Statewide, except GMUs 44, 45, 53, 54, 66,

67, 68, 70, 71, 74–81, 444 and 751.

Season 2: Sept. 13–Nov. 23, 2025

Area: Only GMUs 44, 45, 53, 54, 66, 67, 68, 70, 71, 74–81, 444 and 751.

Daily bag limit: 3

Possession limit: 6

New Note: Starting with the 2025 seasons, an annual white-tailed ptarmigan, greater sagegrouse and mountain sharp-tailed grouse permit (\$5) is required. See page 1, "License Requirements."

► Wilson's Snipe

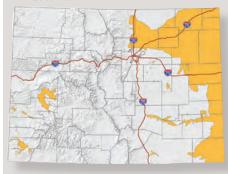
Season: Sept. 1-Dec. 16, annually

Area: Statewide Daily bag limit: 8 Possession limit: 24

Habitat Ranges: Common Small-Game Birds

The ranges of popular Colorado birds to hunt are shaded in yellow below. The red lines through the state indicate I-70 east and west, I-25 north and south, and I-76 northeast from Denver.

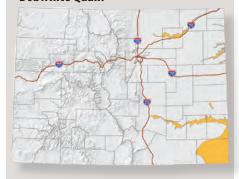
Pheasant:



Scaled Quail:



Bobwhite Quail:



Dusky Grouse:



Greater Sage-Grouse Hunting

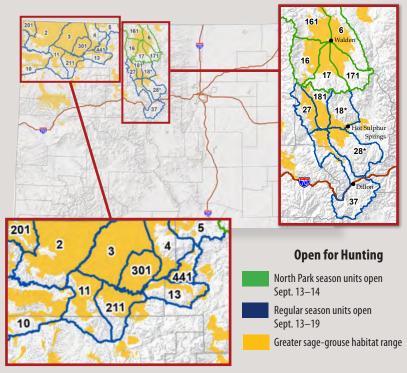
The areas of the state open to greater sage-grouse hunting were recently modified based on grouse populations.

Units open to greater sage-grouse hunting include GMUs 2, 3,

4, 5, 10, 11, 13, part of 18, 27, part of 28, 37, 181, 201, 211, 301 and

Also, the North Park season is open in units 6, 16, 17, 161 and 171.

441.



Waterfowl: Duck, Coot & Teal

Season Dates & Bag Limits

Central Flyway

Northeast Zone

Area: East of I-25 and north of I-70.

Dates: Oct. 18-Nov. 30; Dec. 11-Jan. 31, 2026

Daily bag limit:

Duck & Merganser: 6, in the aggregate. Up to 5 can be mallard, but no more than 2 can be female mallard. Included in the daily bag limit of 6, you can have no more than **New 3 pintails**, 2 canvasback, 2 redhead, 3 wood duck and 1 scaup.

Coot: 15

Possession limit: 3 daily bag limits

► Southeast Zone

 $\mbox{\it Area:}$ East of I-25 and south of I-70, and all of El Paso, Pueblo, Huerfano and Las Animas counties.

Dates: Oct. 28-Jan. 31, 2026

Daily bag limit:

Duck & Merganser: 6, in the aggregate. Up to 5 can be mallard, but no more than 2 can be female mallard. Included in the daily bag limit of 6, you can have no more than **New 3 pintails**, 2 canvasback, 2 redhead, 3 wood duck and 1 scaup.

Coot: 15

Possession limit: 3 daily bag limits

▶ Mountain/Foothills Zone

Area: West of I-25 and east of the Continental Divide, except El Paso, Pueblo, Huerfano and Las Animas counties.

Dates: Oct. 4-Nov. 30; Dec. 25-Jan. 31, 2026

Daily bag limit:

Duck & Merganser: 6, in the aggregate. Up to 5 can be mallard, but no more than 2 can be female mallard. Included in the daily bag limit of 6, you can have no more than **New 3 pintails**, 2 canvasback, 2 redhead, 3 wood duck and 1 scaup.

Coot: 15

Possession limit: 3 daily bag limits

Pacific Flyway

▶ Western Zone

Area: West of the Continental Divide not included in the Eastern Zone.

Wood duck © Vic Schend

Dates: Oct. 4-21; Nov. 6-Jan. 31, 2026

Daily bag limit:

Duck & Merganser: 7 in aggregate. Of these, no more than 2 can be female mallard, **New 3 pintails**, 2 canvasback, 2 redhead and 2 scaup. *No scaup can be taken after Jan. 12, 2026.*

Coot: 25

Possession limit: 3 daily bag limits

► Eastern Zone

Area: Routt, Grand, Summit, Eagle and Pitkin counties, those parts of Saguache, San Juan, Hinsdale and Mineral counties west of the Continental Divide, and part of Gunnison Co., except the North Fork of the Gunnison River Valley (GMUs 53, 63 and 521), and the part of Moffat Co. east of the northern intersection of CR 29 with the Moffat-Routt Co. line, south along CR 29 to the intersection of CR 29 with the Moffat-Routt Co. line (Elkhead Reservoir State Park).

Dates: Oct. 4-Jan. 16, 2026

Daily bag limit:

Duck & Merganser: 7 in aggregate. Of these, no more than 2 can be female mallard, New 3 pintails, 2 canvasback, 2 redhead and 2 scaup. *No scaup can be taken after Dec. 28, 2025.*

Coot: 25

Possession limit: 3 daily bag limits

September Teal Season

Areas: Lake and Chaffee counties, and all areas east of I-25.

Dates: Sept. 13–21, 2025

Daily bag limit: 6 teal — blue-winged, green-winged and cinnamon teal,

in aggregate

Possession limit: 18

Note: Only teal can be harvested during this season. Teal can also be harvested during all other duck seasons, including the youth, veteran & active military hunt season. Check daily bag limits on pages 12 and 16.

Ducks of Colorado

Illustrations of some commonly encountered ducks are depicted here. More on identifying waterfowl: ducks.org/hunting/waterfowl-id



H









Gadwall

Mallard

Pintail

Redhead

Hooded Merganser

American Wigeon

Blue-Winged Teal













Lesser Scaup

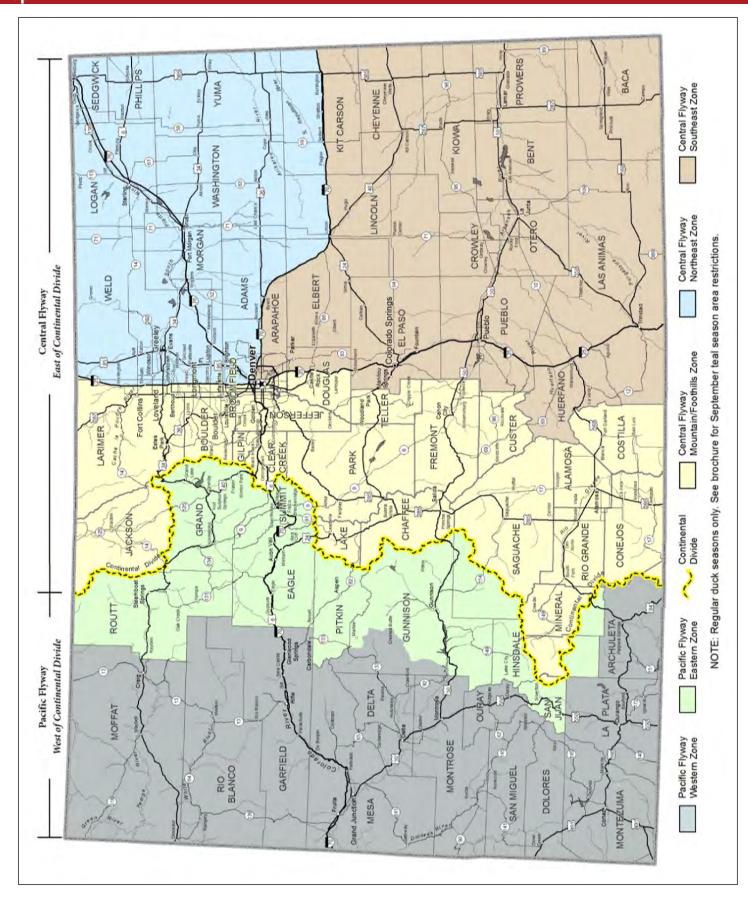
Goldeneye Green-Winged Teal

2025 Colorado Small Game & Waterfowl Hunting

Wood Duck

Duck Seasons: Flyways & Zones

Мар



Waterfowl: Goose

Season Dates & Bag Limits

Central Flyway

► Regular Season

Area: East of the Continental Divide, except areas designated as part of the special seasons below that include: North Park, San Luis Valley and South Park.

Dark Goose:

Dates: Nov. 3-Feb. 15, 2026

Daily bag limit: 5 **Possession limit: 15**

Light Goose:

Dates: Nov. 1-Feb. 15, 2026

Daily bag limit: 50

Possession limit: Unlimited

► Light Goose Conservation Order Season

Area: East of I-25.

Dates: Feb. 16-April 30, 2026 Daily bag limit: Unlimited Possession limit: Unlimited

Note: See page 6, No. 10 of "Legal Migratory Bird Hunting Methods"

section for special season rules.

► North Park Season

Area: Jackson Co.

Dark Goose:

Dates: Oct. 4-Jan. 16, 2026

Daily bag limit: 5 **Possession limit: 15**

Light Goose:

Dates: Nov. 1-Feb. 15, 2026

Daily bag limit: 50

Possession limit: Unlimited

► San Luis Valley Season

Area: Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla and Rio Grande counties, and the parts of Archuleta, Hinsdale, Mineral, Saguache and San Juan counties east of the Continental Divide.

Dark Goose:

Dates: Oct. 4-22; Nov. 22-Feb. 15, 2026

Daily bag limit: 5 Possession limit: 15

Light Goose:

Dates: Nov. 1-Feb. 15, 2026

Daily bag limit: 50

Possession limit: Unlimited

► South Park Season

Area: Chaffee, Custer, Fremont, Lake, Park and Teller counties.

Dark Goose:

Dates: Oct. 4-Jan. 16, 2026

Daily bag limit: 5 **Possession limit: 15**

Liaht Goose:

Dates: Nov. 1-Feb. 15, 2026

Daily bag limit: 50

Possession limit: Unlimited



Pacific Flyway

► Early Canada Goose Season

Area: West of the Continental Divide.

Dates: Sept. 1-9, annually Daily bag limit: 5 Possession limit: 15

► Western 7one

Area: West of the Continental Divide not included in Eastern Zone.

Dates: Oct. 4-12; Nov. 6-Jan. 31, 2026

Dark Goose: Daily bag limit: 5 **Possession limit: 15** Light Goose: Daily bag limit: 10 Possession limit: 30

► Eastern Zone

Area: Routt, Grand, Summit, Eagle and Pitkin counties, those parts of Saguache, San Juan, Hinsdale and Mineral counties west of the Continental Divide, and part of Gunnison Co., except the North Fork of the Gunnison River Valley (GMUs 53, 63 and 521), and the part of Moffat Co. east of the northern intersection of CR 29 with the Moffat-Routt Co. line, south along CR 29 to the intersection of CR 29 with the Moffat-Routt Co. line (Elkhead Reservoir State Park).

Dates: Oct. 4-Jan. 7, 2026

Dark Goose: Daily bag limit: 5 Possession limit: 15

Light Goose: Daily bag limit: 10**Possession limit: 30**

Attention: Snow goose hunters

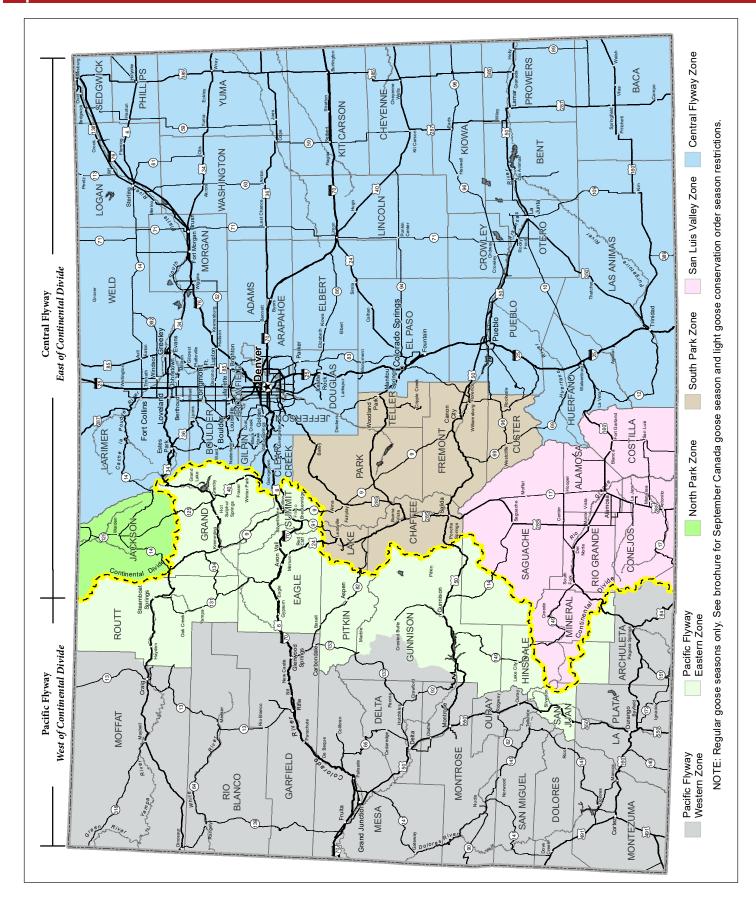
If you removed the plug from your shotgun to hunt during the 2025 light goose spring conservation order season, remember to replace the plug before hunting in the fall small-game and waterfowl seasons.



CPW photo by Dustin Doskocil

Goose Seasons: Flyways & Zones

Map



Waterfowl:

Note: Hunting in veteran and active-military seasons is restricted to veterans and members of the Armed Forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves. **Go online for acceptable forms of military I.D.: cpw.state.co.us**

Youth, Veteran & Active Military Season Dates & Bag Limits

Central Flyway

► All Zones in Central Flyway

Daily bag limits:

Duck, Merganser, Coot: Daily bag and possession limits are the same as regular Central Flyway regulations. *See page 12.*

Goose: 5 dark geese **Possession limit:** 3 daily bag limits

► Northeast Zone

Area: East of I-25 and north of I-70 **Dates:** Oct. 11–12, 2025

► Southeast Zone

Area: East of I-25 and south of I-70, and all of El Paso, Pueblo, Huerfano and Las Animas counties.

Dates: Oct. 18-19, 2025

▶ Mountain/Foothills Zone

Area: West of I-25 and east of the Continental Divide, except El Paso, Pueblo, Huerfano and Las Animas counties.

Dates: Sept. 27–28, 2025

Note: Hunting in youth seasons is restricted to youth ages 17 and younger with a mentor. Mentors cannot hunt during youth waterfowl seasons. **See "Special License Information," page 2.**

Pacific Flyway

▶ Western Zone

Area: West of the Continental Divide not included in the Eastern Zone.

Dates: Oct. 25–26, 2025

Daily bag limits:

Duck & Merganser: 7 in aggregate. Of these, no more than 2 can be female mallard, **New 3 pintails**, 2 canvasback, 2 redhead and 2 scaup.

Coot: 25

Goose: 5 dark geese, 10 light geese **Possession limit:** 3 daily bag limits

► Eastern Zone

Area: Routt, Grand, Summit, Eagle and Pitkin counties, those parts of Saguache, San Juan, Hinsdale and Mineral counties west of the Continental Divide, and part of Gunnison Co., except the North Fork of the Gunnison River Valley (GMUs 53, 63 and 521), and the part of Moffat Co. east of the northern intersection of CR 29 with the Moffat-Routt Co. line, south along CR 29 to the intersection of CR 29 with the Moffat-Routt Co. line (Elkhead Reservoir State Park).

Dates: Sept. 27-28, 2025

Daily bag limit:

Duck & Merganser: 7 in aggregate. Of those, no more than 2 can be female mallard, **New 3 pintails**, 2 canvasback, 2 redhead and 2 scaup.

Coot: 25

Goose: 5 dark geese, 10 light geese **Possession limit:** 3 daily bag limits

Hunting with Falconry Raptors

Season Dates & Bag Limits

- ► Cottontail Rabbit
- ► Snowshoe Hare
- Jackrabbit: White-Tailed, Black-Tailed

Season: Sept. 1-March 31, annually

Area: Statewide

Daily bag limit: 10 of each species **Possession limit:** 20 of each species

► Chukar Partridge

Season: Sept. 1-March 31, annually

Area: Statewide
Daily bag limit: 4
Possession limit: 12

► Band-Tailed Pigeon

- ► Crow
- ► Dove: Mourning, White-Winged
- ► Duck, Goose, Coot
- ► Rail: Sora, Virginia
- ► Wilson's Snipe

Central & Pacific Flyways:

Season: Dates coincide with established seasons. **Daily bag limit:** 3 singly or in aggregate for species with an open hunting season or special falconry season

Possession limit: 9 singly or in aggregate

Note: Falconry bag and possession limits are not in addition to gun bag limits.

- ► European Starling
- ► House (English) Sparrow
- **►** Eurasian Collared-Dove

Season: Year-round **Area:** Statewide

Bag & possession limits: Unlimited

► Furbearers

Season: Dates coincide with established seasons (see "Small-Game Animals," page 9).

Area: Statewide

Bag & possession limits: Unlimited

► Grouse: Dusky (Blue)

Season: Sept. 1-March 31, annually

Area: West of I-25

Daily bag limit: 3

Possession limit: 9

► Grouse: Greater Sage

Season: Sept. 1–Jan. 31, annually

Area: GMUs New 2, 3, New 4, 5, 10, 11, 13, 18

except east of Colo. 125 in Grand Co., 27, 28

except north and east of Grand CR 50 (Church

Park Rd.) and U.S. 40, 37, 181, 201, 211, 301 and

441; and in North Park (GMUs 6, 16, 17, 161 and

171).

Daily bag limit: 2

Possession limit: 2 birds only in North Park (GMUs 6, 16, 17, 161 and 171); 4 birds in all other GMUs listed above.

► Grouse: Mountain Sharp-Tailed

Red-tailed hawk © Wayne D. Lewis, CPV

Season: Sept. 1–Jan. 31, annually

Area: Only GMUs 4, 5, 12, 13, 14, New 23, 131, 211, 214 and 441.

Daily bag limit: 2 Possession limit: 4

► Pheasant

Note: Regulations for using hawks and falcons to hunt small game and waterfowl, **see page 8.**

Season: Sept. 1-March 31, annually

Area: Statewide
Daily bag limit: 3 birds
Possession limit: 9 birds

► Quail: Northern Bobwhite, Scaled, Gambel's

Season: Sept. 1–March 31, annually

Area: Statewide

Daily bag limit: 8 of each species **Possession limit:** 24 of each species

► Squirrel: Fox, Pine

Season: Sept. 1-March 31, annually

Area: Statewide

Daily bag limit: 5 of each species **Possession limit:** 10 of each species

► White-Tailed Ptarmigan

Season: Sept. 1-March 31, annually

Area: Statewide
Daily bag limit: 3
Possession limit: 6

Land-Use Rules

Note: Everyone age 16 years or older must have a valid hunting or fishing license to be on any part of a state trust land or state wildlife area or have a valid Colorado State Wildlife Area Pass to be on any part of a state wildlife area, unless specifically noted.

Special Regulations for Small Game & Waterfowl

Reservations

Hunting reservations must be made by phone at 1-800-244-5613 or online at: cpw.state. co.us/hunting-reservations

- ► Reservations available starting at 9 a.m.
- ► Reservations are not accepted more than 14 days before the hunt date, nor after noon the day before the hunt date, unless otherwise specified.
- ► To cancel, hunters must do so by noon the day before the hunt date, except for Boyd Lake State Park: Hunting reservations can be canceled up to the starting time of the reserved time slot. Failing to cancel reservations or follow check station procedures may result in losing future reservation privileges for the rest of the hunting season.
- ► Maximum 1 reservation per hunt date. Reservations are not transferable. To make the reservation, a hunter must have a valid license for the species to be hunted and must be at the property the day of the hunt.
- ► Hunters may only hunt the area specified on the reservation, unless stated otherwise in the property listings.
- ► The following properties require hunting reservations or have them available: See specific property regulations, pages 17—back cover.

Central Flyway:

- Andrick Ponds SWA
- Banner Lakes SWA
- Barr Lake State Park
- Boyd Lake State Park
- Brush Prairie Ponds SWA
- Centennial Valley SWA
- Elliott SWA: Union Tract
- Jackson Lake SWA
- Mitani-Tokuyasu SWA
- Tamarack Ranch SWA
- Whitehorse SWA

Pacific Flyway:

- Colorado River Island SWA
- Flanders Ranch SWA
- Franklin Island SWA
- Hereford Haven SWA
- Highline Lake State Park
- Horsethief Canyon SWA
- James M. Robb-Colorado River State Park
- Orchard Mesa SWA
- Stagecoach State Park
- Sweitzer Lake State Park
- Tilman Bishop SWA

- 1. It is illegal to hunt on private land without permission from landowner or person in charge. It is illegal to post or indicate that public lands are private. It is illegal to hunt on state trust lands without permission of lessee, except on lands open for wildlife recreation.
- 2. It is illegal to hunt waterfowl in federal reservations; areas the U.S. government sets aside as bird, game or other wildlife reservations, breeding grounds or refuges; or areas closed by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, except as permitted. More regulations may apply on national wildlife refuges. Contact: Alamosa and Monte Vista, 719-589-4021; Browns Park, 970-365-3613; Arapaho, 970-723-8202.
- **3.** In the areas bounded on N by Wyoming; E and S by I-76, Hwy. 71, U.S. 36 and I-70; and W by the Continental Divide and Larimer-Jackson county line; and in Bent, Crowley, Kiowa, Mesa, Otero and Prowers counties:
 - a. It is illegal to hunt waterfowl within 50 yards on either side of centerline of any public
 - **b.** It is illegal to hunt waterfowl within 150 yards of a dwelling, including directly above

- it, without first obtaining permission from owner, occupant or person in charge of the dwelling.
- 4. Pueblo County: It is illegal to hunt waterfowl within 150 yards of a dwelling, including directly above it, without first obtaining permission from owner, occupant or person in charge of dwelling.

5. Along the Colorado River:

- a. In Grand County: Closed to waterfowl hunting from Shadow Mountain dam to Twin Creek after Nov. 14.
- b. In Mesa County: Closed to waterfowl hunting on Colorado River and 200 yards on either side of river from Grand Avenue bridge in Grand Junction to W end of Horsethief Canyon SWA from Wed.-Fri., except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. The river and 200 yards on either side of it are closed to waterfowl hunting from Appleton Drain to Hunter Wash (at W end of Walker SWA). Hunting reservations are required to hunt waterfowl from designated blinds along the Riverfront Trail between Fruita and Loma. See "Reservations" at left.

Properties by Flyway

Central Flyway Properties:

- Ovid-Julesburg Corridor; Mt. Blue Sky Hwy.
- National Wildlife Refuges: Arapaho; Monte Vista & Alamosa
- Reservoirs (private): Empire; Fossil Creek; Meredith; Vancil
- SWAs: Andrick Ponds; Atwood; Banner Lakes; Bravo; Brush Prairie Ponds; Brush; Centennial Valley; Cottonwood; Diamond J; Dome Lakes; Dune Ridge; Elliott; Higel; Jackson Lake; Jean K. Tool; Jumbo (Julesburg) Reservoir; Jumping Cow; Knudson; Messex; Overland Trail; Playa Blanca; Pony Express; Queens; Red Lion; Russell Lakes; Sedgwick Bar; Shriver-Wright; Sikes Ranch; South Republican; Tamarack Ranch; Turk's Pond; Wellington; Whitehorse
- STLs: Atwood; Bravo; Ford Bridge; MacFarlane Reservoir; Mud Springs; Nee Noshe Reservoir; NeeSoPah; Overland Trail; Red Lion Ranch; Sikes Ranch; Steinhoff Hill
- State Parks: Barr Lake; Boyd Lake; Trinidad Lake

Pacific Flyway Properties:

- National Wildlife Refuges: Browns Park
- SFU: Roaring Judy
- **Reservoirs (private):** Dillon; Grand Lake & Windy Gap; Mack Mesa
- **SWAs:** Bill Patterson; Bodo; Cerro Summit; Chuck Lewis; Colorado River Island; Flanders Ranch; Franklin Island; Garfield Creek; Gunnison River; Horsethief Canyon; Mogensen Ponds; Orchard Mesa; Pastorius Reservoir; Sarvis Creek; Tilman Bishop; Totten Reservoir; Willow Creek Reservoir
- **STLs:** Browns Park; Fourmile; Ted's Canyon
- State Parks: Highline Lake; James M. Robb-Colorado River State Park; Stagecoach; Sweitzer Lake

This is not a complete list of regulations for these properties. See the current Colorado State Recreation Lands brochure for complete regulations, and for hunting regulations and opportunities at other properties.

► Andrick Ponds SWA, Morgan Co.

- 1. Open for public access 4 a.m.-9 p.m. Sat., Sun., Wed. and state and federal holidays only.
- **2.** From Sept. 1 through end of dark goose season, only open for migratory bird hunting within designated hunting areas. Reservations required, valid until sunrise and limited to 3 per hunter annually. See "Reservations" (left).
- **3.** Mandatory check in and check out at check stations. Check in allowed after 4 a.m. Hunters can hunt only the area reserved and may check in on first-come, first-served basis after a hunter checks out, or after sunrise if a hunter has not checked in. Maximum of 4 hunters per hunting area.
- 4. During waterfowl and turkey seasons, scouting permitted from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Thurs. only. All people scouting must check in and out at check station. Firearms, dogs not allowed during scouting.
- **5.** No hunting on Clark Lake.
- **6.** Hunting prohibited with centerfire rifles.

- ► Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge, Jackson Co.
 - 1. For information, call 970-723-8202.
 - 2. Units A and D closed to all hunting. Unit B open to migratory bird, small-game hunting through Dec. 31. Unit C closed to migratory bird hunting.

► Atwood STL, Logan Co.

- 1. Open for public access 4 a.m.-9 p.m., Sept. 1-May 31.
- **2.** Hunting prohibited with centerfire rifles.
- 3. See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20. **4.** See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

► Atwood SWA, Logan Co.

- 1. Open for public access 4 a.m.-9 p.m.
- 2. See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- 3. See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

Special Land-Use Rules

Fort Collins Natural Areas (Unit 191)

Hunters crossing the City of Fort Collins' Gateway Natural Area (in GMU 191) to access other lands must have a free city-issued permit at least one week (7 days) in advance to allow for processing. Contact the City of Fort Collins Natural Areas Department, 970-416-2815 or

fcgov.com/naturalareas/permits for more info.

► Banner Lakes SWA, Weld Co.

- **1.** Access by foot only, and only through designated parking area. Closed N of Hwy. 52 April 1–July 15.
- 2. Closed first day of regular waterfowl season to day before first day of pheasant season, except for waterfowl hunting on Sat., Sun., Mon. and state and federal holidays. During this period, waterfowl reservations available but not required. See "Reservations", page 17, for details. Reservations valid throughout reserved day until hunter with reservation checks out.

Hunters may check in on first-come, firstserved basis after a hunter with reservation checks out, or if no reservation exists for a hunt area after midnight immediately preceding the hunt, or if reserved area isn't claimed by legal sunrise.

Hunters can hunt only the area reserved. Maximum 4 hunters per reservation. Waterfowl hunters must check in and check out at designated stations.

Vessels prohibited except for hand-launched, hand-propelled vessels used as aid for fishing, hunting or training hunting dogs.

► Barr Lake State Park, Adams Co.

- 1. Waterfowl hunting only on opening day of the season and on Sat. and Wed. Hunters may only hunt the area reserved, and only from designated blinds, with a maximum of 3 hunters per blind.
- **2.** Dove hunting only on opening day of the season and on Sun. and Mon. for the month of Sept. Hunters may only hunt from designated stations, with a maximum of 3 hunters per station.
- **3.** Hunting by reservation only. *See "Reservations"* (page 17). Mandatory check in and check out at the check station.
- **4.** Hunt areas not reserved are available on first-come, first-served basis after 5 a.m. each hunting day. Reserved areas not claimed by 7 a.m. also available first come, first served.

► Bill Patterson SWA, Garfield Co.

- 1. Waterfowl hunting from designated blinds only.
- 2. Hunting allowed with shotguns only.

► Bodo SWA, La Plata Co.

- **1.** Public access prohibited Dec. 1–April 30, except for small game hunting south of CR 210.
- **2.** Discharging firearms or bows prohibited, except while hunting.
- 3. From Oct. 1–Nov. 30, dogs are allowed as service animals or when actively hunting, training for hunting or during licensed field trials. Dogs allowed May 1–Sept. 30 and must be under control and on leash by handler, except service animals or when actively hunting, training for hunting or during licensed field trials.

► Boyd Lake State Park, Larimar Co.

- 1. Hunting waterfowl by reservation only. See "Reservations" (page 17). Reservations available on first-come, first-served basis starting 14 days before hunt date, and can be made or canceled up to the starting time of the reserved time slot. Hunters may only hunt the area and time reserved.
- **2.** Leaving decoys set overnight is prohibited.

► Bravo STL, Logan Co.

- **1.** Open for public access 4 a.m.–9 p.m., Sept. 1–end of Feb.
- 2. Access from Bravo SWA parking lot only.
- **3.** See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- 4. See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

► Bravo SWA, Logan Co.

- 1. Open for public access 4 a.m.-9 p.m.
- **2.** See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- 3. See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

► Browns Park National Wildlife Refuge, Moffat Co.

- 1. For information, call 970-365-3613.
- Butch Cassidy Lake, Hog Lake and river corridor open to waterfowl hunting. All other units closed.

► Browns Park STL, Moffat Co.

- **1.** Open year-round for big game and small-game hunting, during open seasons only.
- 2. Open year-round for fishing on Green River.

► Brush SWA, Morgan Co.

- **1.** Open for public access 4 a.m.–9 p.m.
- **2.** See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- 3. See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

► Brush Prairie Ponds SWA, Morgan Co.

- **1.** Open for public access 4 a.m.–9 p.m.
- 2. Only hunting allowed Sept. 1 through end of dark goose season. Mandatory check in and check out at check station.
- 3. From Sept. 1–Nov. 30, only open for migratory bird hunting within designated hunting areas, and only on Sat., Sun., Wed. and state and federal holidays. Reservations required, valid until sunrise and limited to 3 per hunter annually. See "Reservations" (page 17).
- 4. Check in allowed after 4 a.m. Hunters can hunt only the area reserved and may check in on first-come, first-served basis after a hunter checks out or after sunrise if a hunter has not checked in. Maximum of 4 hunters, 2 vehicles per hunting area.
- 5. From Sept. 1–Nov. 30, scouting permitted from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. on Thurs. only. All people scouting must check in and out at check station. Firearms, dogs not allowed during scouting.
- 6. From Dec. 1 through end of dark goose season, hunters can check in on first-come, first-served basis after 4 a.m. or after a hunter checks out. 5 hunting areas available for check in. Properly checked-in hunters may hunt anywhere on the property.
- 7. Up to 2 hunting areas reserved annually for residents with a physical address of Brush, Co. Applications for the drawing available at CPW Brush Service Center in mid-Aug. Hunters must

have a valid waterfowl hunting license to enter drawing.

Hunters may apply for one hunt area per day, but can list multiple requests on one application. All relevant hunting regulations apply.

8. Discharging firearms or bows allowed only while hunting.

► Centennial Valley SWA, Weld Co.

- 1. Open 4 a.m.-one hour after sunset.
- **2.** Open for public access Sept. 1 through last day of spring turkey season.
- 3. During regular duck seasons, open Sat., Sun., Wed. and state and federal holidays only. Reservations required to hunt waterfowl and small game, limit of 3 per hunter annually. See "Reservations" (page 17). Waterfowl and small game hunters can hunt only the area reserved. All reservation hunters must check out at one of the check stations located in each parking lot of the property.
- **4.** Discharging firearms or bows allowed only while hunting.
- **5.** See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.

► Cerro Summit SWA, Montrose Co.

- **1.** Public access for fishing and hunting only.
- 2. Hunting allowed from Aug. 15-Nov. 30.
- **3.** Access through designated parking area only; public access by foot only.
- 4. Dogs are allowed as an aid in small-game hunting only. Dogs are prohibited from entering the water.
- Vessel use and water contact activity is prohibited except by float tubes with waders for fishing only.

► Chuck Lewis SWA, Routt Co.

- **1.** Open for public access from sunrise to sunset, except while hunting or fishing.
- **2.** Big-game and small-game hunting prohibited.
- **3.** Waterfowl hunting allowed, except within 50 yards of Routt CR 14F bridge.
- **4.** Discharging firearms or bows allowed only while hunting.

► Colorado River Island SWA, Mesa Co.

- **1.** Only waterfowl hunting, and only from designated blinds.
- **2.** Waterfowl hunting by reservation only. *See* "*Reservations*" (*page 17*). Hunters may only hunt area specified on reservation. Hunters must check in and out at the property.

► Cottonwood SWA, Morgan Co.

- **1.** Open for public access 4 a.m.–9 p.m. only, except with night hunting permit.
- **2.** See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- **3.** See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

► **Diamond J SWA**, Jackson Co.

- **1.** Fishing, small-game hunting and waterfowl hunting only.
- 2. Hunting by shotgun or falconry only.
- **3.** Discharge of firearms and bows is prohibited, except while hunting.

Launching Vessels

Launching or taking out vessels from the water is prohibited during waterfowl seasons on these properties:

► State Wildlife Areas:

Atwood, Bravo, Brush, Cottonwood, Dune Ridge, Elliott, Jean K. Tool, Knudson, Messex, Overland Trail, Pony Express, Sedgwick Bar and Tamarack Ranch

► State Trust Lands:

Atwood, Bravo, Ford Bridge, Overland Trail and Red Lion Ranch

► Dillon Reservoir, Summit Co.

- **1.** Goose hunting prohibited Sat. through Mon. of Labor Day weekend.
- 2. Dillon Reservoir Recreation Committee and Denver Water restrict hunting to designated areas only. For additional details, go to: summitcountyco.gov

► **Dome Lakes SWA**, Saguache Co.

- **1.** Discharging firearms or bows prohibited in designated safety zones or as posted.
- Dogs must be under control and on leash by handler, except when used as an aid in hunting waterfowl.

► Dune Ridge SWA, Logan Co.

- **1.** Open for public access 4 a.m.–9 p.m.
- **2.** See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- 3. See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

► **Eagle Rock SWA**, Yuma Co.

- 1. Open for public access 4 a.m.-9 p.m. only.
- **2.** Horse use is prohibited, except when used in hunting.

► Elliott SWA, Morgan Co.

- **1.** Open for public access 4 a.m.–9 p.m. only.
- 2. See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- **3.** See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19. Lonetree Tract:
- a. From Sept. 1 through regular duck seasons, mandatory check in and check out at check stations. Check in allowed after 4 a.m.

Hamlin Tracts:

a. From Sept. 1 through regular duck seasons, mandatory check in and check out at check stations on first-come, first-served basis.

Check in allowed after 4 a.m. Maximum of 4 hunters per hunting area. Hunters must comply with youth-mentor-only area restrictions as posted.

Union Tract:

- a. Waterfowl hunting, only from designated areas or blinds, on Sat., Sun., Wed. and state and federal holidays only. Reservations required, valid until sunrise and limited to 3 per hunter annually. See "Reservations" (page 17).
- **b.** Mandatory check in and check out at check station. Check in allowed after 4 a.m. Hunters can hunt only the area reserved and may check in on first-come, first-served basis after a hunter checks out or after sunrise if a hunter has not checked in. Maximum of 4 hunters per hunting area.
- c. During waterfowl seasons, scouting permitted from 10 a.m.-2 p.m. on Thurs. only. All people scouting must check in and out at check station. Firearms, dogs not allowed during scouting.

► **Empire Reservoir**, Weld & Morgan Cos.

 Goose hunting prohibited below high waterline and from any part of dam and inlet structures.

► Flanders Ranch SWA, Routt Co.

1. Waterfowl by reservation only. Reservation holders must have their confirmation letter with them at all times while hunting on property. See "Reservations" (page 17).

► Fossil Creek Reservoir, Larimer Co.

1. Goose hunting prohibited as posted.

► Ford Bridge STL, Logan Co.

- **1.** Open for public access Sept. 1–end of Feb., 4 a.m.–9 p.m.
- 2. Hunting with centerfire rifles prohibited.
- 3. See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

► Fourmile STL, Moffat Co.

- **1.** Open for big-game and small-game hunting Aug. 1–end of Feb.
- **2.** Only portable hunting blinds allowed.
- **3.** Motorized vehicles off CR prohibited.

► Franklin Island SWA, Mesa Co.

- **1.** Only waterfowl hunting, and only from designated blinds.
- 2. Waterfowl hunting by reservation only. See "Reservations" (page 17). Hunters may only hunt area specified on reservation. Hunters must check in and out at the property.
- **3.** Discharge of firearms and bows is prohibited, except while hunting.

► Garfield Creek SWA, Garfield Co.

- **1.** Grouse hunting is prohibited on the Upper Baldy Unit.
- **2.** Hunting prohibited within 75 yards of centerline of CRs 312 and 328.
- **3.** Discharge of firearms or bow prohibited in designated safety zones, or as posted.

► Grand Lake & Windy Gap Reservoir, Grand Co.

1. Waterfowl hunting prohibited on lakes and within 100 yards of high waterlines.

► Gunnison River SWA, Gunnison Co.

- **1.** Bicycles allowed on Van Tuyl trail system, except foot only traffic to Gunnison River from Van Tuyl trail intersection at Y-gate.
- **2.** Only waterfowl hunting on Van Tuyl tract.
- Dogs must be under control and on leash by handler, except when used as an aid in waterfowl hunting.

► **Highline Lake State Park**, Mesa Co.

- Waterfowl and small-game hunting Mon.-Fri., except for youth hunting waterfowl during youth waterfowl season weekend.
- Śmall-game hunting only in part of the park bounded on N and E by property boundaries; on S by no-wake buoy line; on W by Mack Mesa Reservoir.
- 3. Waterfowl hunting by reservation only. See "Reservations" (page 17). Hunters may only hunt area reserved and only from designated blinds, with a maximum of 4 hunters per blind.

► Horsethief Canyon SWA, Mesa Co.

- Open for public access sunrise to sunset; no time restrictions for fishing; seasonal closure March 15–July 15 as posted, except while spring turkey hunting.
- **2.** Quail hunting prohibited.
- **3.** Hunting permitted with shotguns, hand-held bows, muzzleloaders and by falconry.
- **4.** All turkey and waterfowl hunting W of Blind #1, S of the Colorado River require reservations. Reservations must be made through the Hunting Reservation System. See "Reservations" (page 17). Hunters can hunt only the area reserved. Hunters must check in and out at property.
- Waterfowl hunting prohibited Wed.-Fri. except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's days.

► Jackson Lake SWA, Morgan Co.

- **1.** Open 4 a.m.–9 p.m., except no time restrictions for fishing.
- **2.** Fishing prohibited Oct. 1 through dark goose season.
- 3. During teal season and first split of regular duck season, reservations required on Sat., Sun. and state and federal holidays to hunt waterfowl.

Reservations valid until sunrise and limited to 3 per hunter annually. Reservations must be made through the Hunting Reservation System. See "Reservations" (page 17).

Mon.-Fri., except state and federal holidays, hunter may check in on first-come, first-served basis.

4. Waterfowl hunters must check in and out at check station. Check in allowed after 4 a.m. Hunters can hunt only the area reserved and may check in on first-come, first-served basis after a hunter checks out or after sunrise if a hunter has not checked in. Maximum of 4 hunters per hunting area.

► James M. Robb-Colorado River State Park, Mesa Co. A park pass is required in all areas of the park.

1. Hunting by reservation only. *See "Reservations"* (*page 17*). Hunters may only hunt the area specified on the reservation.

Island Acres and Pear Park Sections:

- **a.** Park in designated parking areas only. A state park pass is required on all motor vehicles in the Island Acres section.
- **b.** Waterfowl hunting only, and only from designated blind. Maximum 4 hunters per blind.

34 Road Parcel:

- **a.** Park in designated parking areas only.
- Waterfowl hunting only, and only from designated blind. Maximum 2 hunters per blind.
- **c.** Hunting is only available on weekends (Sat. and Sun.) during established waterfowl seasons.
- **d.** Please respect private property in this area and remain on CPW property for the duration of your visit.

► Jean K. Tool SWA, Morgan Co.

- 1. Open for public access 4 a.m.–9 p.m. only.
- 2. See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- 3. See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

Land Closures During Deer Season

Waterfowl hunting and all other recreational activities except deer hunting are prohibited on the following lands during opening weekend of regular plains rifle deer season and on opening day and first weekend of late plains rifle deer season:

► State Wildlife Areas

Atwood, Bravo, Brush, Centennial Valley, Cottonwood, Dune Ridge, Elliott, Jean K. Tool, Knudson, Messex, Overland Tail, Pony Express, Sedgwick Bar and Tamarack Ranch

► State Trust Lands

Atwood, Bravo, Overland Trail and Red Lion Ranch

► Jumbo (Julesburg) Reservoir SWA,

Logan & Sedgwick Cos.

- Launching of motorized vessels or sailboats prohibited if ANS inspection station closed; vessels prohibited within 50 feet of outlet structure.
- 2. Hand-launched and hand-powered vessels allowed only for fishing, to set or pick up decoys, or to retrieve downed waterfowl after ANS inspection station closes for the year, or until reservoir frozen.
- 3. No hunting on frozen surface of lake.
- 4. Hunting geese is prohibited in the area bounded on the N by Logan CR 70/Sedgwick CR 28; on the E by Sedgwick CR 3; on the s by Sedgwick CR 24.8/Logan CR 970; and on the W by Logan CR 95.

► Jumping Cow SWA, Elbert Co.

- 1. Hunting access by permit only. Must have valid license prior to applying for permit. Permits on Woodard Unit issued with priority given to mobility-impaired hunters and to mentored youth hunters. Permits must be kept on hunter at all times.
 - **a.** Permits may designate hunt zones; if so, activity is restricted to those zones only. The permit is not valid property-wide.
 - The permit is not valid property-wide. **b.** Permits are free and available through a drawing process. Applications available from CPW Office in Denver, 303-291-7227.
 - c. Applications for fall hunting access due the third Mon. in Aug. Spring turkey applications due the third Mon. in March.
- 2. Dove, turkey, doe pronghorn, antlerless elk, antlerless white-tailed deer, and antlerless mule deer hunting permitted. On Woodard Unit, waterfowl, small game (excluding dove, turkey, and coyote), doe pronghorn, antlerless mule deer, and antlerless white-tailed deer permitted.
- **3.** Permitted hunters may take one other non-hunter onto the property.

hunter onto the property.
On Woodard Unit, mobility-impaired hunters may take two non-hunters onto the property. The additional non-hunter(s) must remain with permit holder.

- **4.** Permitted dove or valid Woodard Unit hunters may access property on opening day of their season. Other permitted hunters may enter property after the first Mon. after opening day of their season.
- **5.** Open for permitted hunter access 2 hours before sunrise to 1 hour after sunset. Hunters may remain as long as reasonable to retrieve downed game.
- 6. Vehicle use permitted only on marked existing roadways that lead to parking areas. Mobility-impaired hunters are allowed to use an OHV for hunting and game retrieval on Woodard Unit. All other access by foot or horseback only.
- **7.** Gates shall be left as found after passing through.

► Knudson SWA, Logan Co.

- 1. Open for public access 4 a.m.-9 p.m.
- **2.** Horse use prohibited, except when used as aid in hunting.
- **3.** Discharge of firearms and bows is prohibited, except while hunting.
- **4.** See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- 5. See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

► Lower Latham Reservoir, Weld Co.

1. Hunting prohibited as posted.

► MacFarlane Reservoir STL, Jackson Co.

- 1. Open Aug. 15-end of Feb.
- For waterfowl and small-game hunters, motorized access to MacFarlane Res. allowed on designated two-track routes only.
- 3. All other two-track roads closed to motorized travel.

► Meredith Reservoir, Crowley Co.

1. Hunting prohibited as posted.

► Messex SWA, Washington & Logan Cos.

- **1.** Open for public access 4 a.m.–9 p.m. only, except with night hunting permit.
- **2.** See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- 3. See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

► Mogensen Ponds SWA, Mesa Co.

 Hunting and discharge of firearms or bows prohibited, except for waterfowl hunting from designated blinds.

Monte Vista & Alamosa National Wildlife Refuges, Alamosa & Rio Grande Cos.

- **1.** For information, call 719-589-4021.
- **2.** Hunting in designated areas only, access through posted parking areas only.
- **3.** Two blinds available on first-come, first-served basis.
- **4.** Nontoxic shot required for shotgun hunting.
- **5.** Decoys cannot be left unattended and blinds must be removed daily.
- **6.** Dogs allowed only as an aid to hunting.

► Mt. Blue Sky Highway, Clear Creek Co.

 Hunting prohibited on Mt. Blue Sky Summit Lake Cirque and within a quarter-mile of either side of centerline of Mt. Blue Sky Hwy. (Colo.
 while road is open to vehicle traffic from intersection with Colo. 103 to summit.

When Mt. Blue Sky Hwy. is closed to vehicles at the entrance gates at the intersection of Colo. 5 and Colo. 103, the hunting closure is lifted. Hunting is prohibited within a half-mile of Colo. 5 at all times for white-tailed ptarmigan hunting.

► Mud Springs STL, Park Co.

- 1. Open for public access Sept. 1-end of Feb.
- 2. Big-game and small-game hunting only.

► Orchard Mesa SWA, Mesa Co.

- **1.** Only foot access from parking area on C Rd. between roads 30 and 31.
- 2. Closed March 15-July 15.
- **3.** Small-game hunting prohibited, except for waterfowl hunting.
- **4.** Big game and waterfowl hunting by reservation only. Reservations must be made through the Hunting Reservation System: See "Reservations," page 17, for details.
- **5.** Waterfowl hunters must use designated blinds only.

► Overland Trail STL, Logan Co.

- 1. Open for public access 4 a.m.-9 p.m., Sept. 1–May 30.
- **2.** See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- 3. See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

► Overland Trail SWA, Logan Co.

- 1. Open for public access 4 a.m.-9 p.m.
- 2. See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- 3. See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

► Ovid-Julesburg Corridor, Sedgwick Co.

1. Goose hunting during dark goose season prohibited in area bounded on N by U.S. 138; on E by U.S. 385; on S by I-76; on W by Sedgwick CR 29.

► Pastorius Reservoir SWA, La Plata Co.

1. Hunting only on Sat., Sun. and Wed.

► Playa Blanca SWA, Alamosa Co.

- 1. Open in designated areas July 16–Feb. 14, Tues., Thurs. and Sat. only.
- Camping allowed during waterfowl hunting seasons by licensed hunters and only in parking areas with self-contained camping trailers or campers.

► Pony Express SWA, Sedgwick Co.

- 1. Open for public access 4 a.m.-9 p.m.
- Goose hunting during dark goose season prohibited in area bounded on N by U.S. 138; on E by U.S. 385; on S by I-76; on W by Sedgwick CR 29.
- **3.** See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- **4.** See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

► Queens SWA, Kiowa Co.

- 1. Vessel use prohibited if it creates a whitewater wake in channel between Upper/Lower Queens.
- 2. Hunters must check in and check out of fields/pits at check station during waterfowl season.
- 3. Closed as posted in Nee Noshe except to retrieve downed waterfowl Dec. 1 through last day of waterfowl season as posted.

► Red Lion Ranch STL, Logan Co.

- **1.** Open for public access 4 a.m.–9 p.m., Sept. 1–May 30.
- See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- page 20. **3.** See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

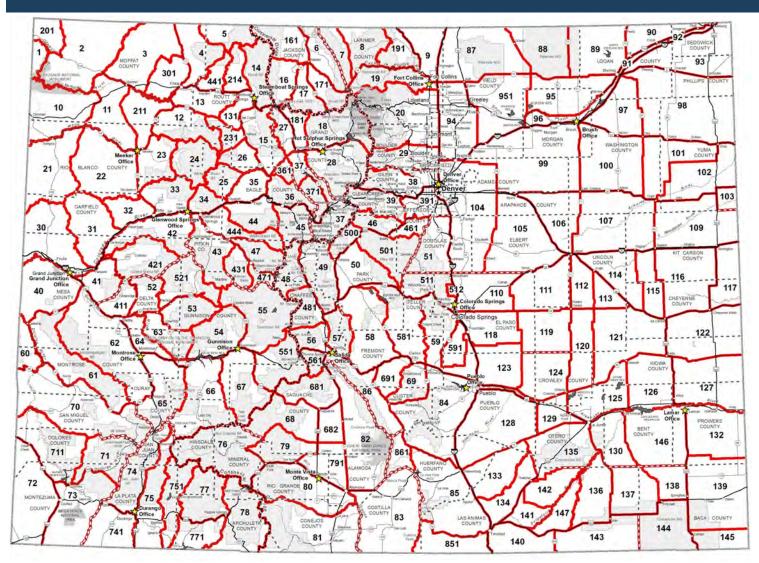
► Red Lion SWA, Logan Co.

- From September 1 through the regular duck seasons, hunters must check in and out at check station. Hunters may not check in until 4 a.m.
- 2. Vessel use prohibited except for craft propelled by hand, wind or electric motor, used for fishing, to set and pick up decoys or retrieve downed waterfowl. Vessels must be launched from designated area, as posted.
- **3.** Hunting prohibited from floating devices and frozen surface of lake.

► **Roaring Judy SFU**, Gunnison Co.

- **1.** Open for public access 1 hour before sunrise to 1 hour after sunset.
- **2.** Property E of Hwy. 135 only open for public access May 1–Nov. 30.
- **3.** W of Hwy. 135, hunting with shotguns utilizing birdshot for small game and waterfowl only.
- **4.** Discharging firearms or bows prohibited in designated safety zones as posted.
- **5.** Dogs must be under control and on leash by handler, except when hunting.

Game Management Unit Map



► Russell Lakes SWA, Saguache Co.

- **1.** Parking only in established areas.
- **2.** Closes at 1 p.m. during first split waterfowl season.
- **3.** Public access is prohibited from Feb. 15–July 15 to protect wintering and nesting waterfowl and to protect administrative areas. Sect. 29 closed during waterfowl seasons.
- Camping during waterfowl hunting seasons by licensed waterfowl hunters and only in selfcontained units in designated areas.

► Sarvis Creek SWA, Routt Co.

1. Discharge of firearms or bows allowed only when hunting.

► Sedgwick Bar SWA, Sedgwick Co.

- **1.** Open for public access 4 a.m.–9 p.m.
- 2. See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box, page 20.
- **3.** See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

► Shriver-Wright SWA, Rio Grande Co.

- **1.** Hunting with centerfire rifles prohibited.
- Discharge of firearms or bows prohibited, except while hunting or bows used on archery range.

- 3. Camping allowed during waterfowl hunting seasons by licensed waterfowl hunters and only in parking areas with self-contained units
- 4. Dogs must be under control and on leash by handler, except service animals or when actively hunting, training for hunting or during licensed field trials.
- Valid hunting or fishing or Colorado State Wildlife Area Pass not required to access this property.

► Sikes Ranch SWA & STL, Baca & Las Animas Cos.

- Trapping by permit only, and permit must be on trapper at all times while trapping. Permits available at CPW Area Office in Lamar.
- 2. Open for public access one hour before sunrise—one hour after sunset, except when an animal is harvested, the successful hunter is allowed to remain as long as necessary to remove the animal, and except when authorized by a night hunting permit.

► South Republican SWA, Yuma Co.

- Parking only in designated areas. Waterfowl hunting access prohibited on downstream face of dam.
- 2. Waterfowl hunting prohibited as posted.

► Stagecoach State Park, Routt Co.

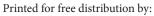
- **1.** Waterfowl hunting only in designated hunting zones. Maximum of 6 hunters per zone.
- Reservation required. See "Reservations" (page 17). Hunting only in reserved hunt zone. Mandatory check in and check out as posted.
- Hunt areas not reserved are available on first-come, first-served basis after 5 a.m. each hunting day.

Reserved areas not claimed by 7 a.m. also available first come, first served. Any hunt area must be yielded at any time by request of a hunter with a valid reservation for that area.

► Steinhoff Hill STL, Larimer Co.

1. Small-game hunting prohibited, except by archery or shotguns not firing single slugs.

Land-use rules continued on back cover





6060 Broadway, Denver, CO 80216 303-297-1192







Notice About This Guide & Species Included

This brochure includes information on small game, furbearers, migratory birds and waterfowl, including squirrel, beaver, bobcat, rabbit, hare, jackrabbit, coyote, marmot, prairie dog, badger, fox, skunk, weasel, band-tailed pigeon, partridge, crow, dove, greater prairie-chicken, dusky (blue) grouse, greater sage-grouse, mountain sharp-tailed grouse, pheasant, quail, rail, ptarmigan, duck, coot, merganser, teal, goose and more. This brochure is not a legal notice nor a complete collection of hunting regulations and laws. Copies of statutes and regulations can be obtained from a CPW office or at cpw.state.co.us/rules-and-regulations. For questions, call CPW at 303-297-1192.



Online Brochure

Land-use rules, continued from page 21

➤ Sweitzer Lake State Park, Delta Co.

- 1. Waterfowl hunting only on Sat., Sun., Wed. and state and federal holidays after Labor
- 2. Reservations required from 5 a.m.-12 p.m. See "Reservations" (page 17). Reserved zones unoccupied by 7 a.m. will be available on first-come, first-served basis. Any hunt zone must be yielded at any time upon request of a hunter holding a valid and active reservation for that zone.
- 3. Reservations not required from 1 p.m. to sunset. Hunting is first-come, first served at
- 4. Leaving decoys overnight is prohibited.
- 5. New Hunters may only hunt the area they reserved in the designated hunt zones with a maximum of four hunters per zone. Reservation holders must be present while hunting.
- 6. New Reservations will be limited to four times in a 25 day period per household
- 7. New The park can close the hunt zones reservation dates for park operations, public outreach and education events.

Note: Sweitzer Lake State Park hunting updates above (5-7) are pending CPW Commission approval. If approved, these changes shall become effective Oct. 1, 2025. Go to cpw.state.co.us/hunting-reservations for more information.

► Tamarack Ranch SWA, Logan Co.

- 1. Open for public access 4 a.m.-9 p.m. only.
- 2. Mandatory check in and check out at check station. Hunters must park at hunting area they check into. After 9 a.m., hunters may hunt surrounding areas.
- 3. From Oct. 25 through end of regular duck seasons, reservations are available but not required, on weekends and state and federal holidays. See "Reservations" (page 17).
- 4. See "Land Closures During Deer Season" box,
- 5. See "Launching Vessels" box, page 19.

- a. From first day of second duck season through end of dark goose season, waterfowl hunting allowed only through a lottery drawing. Hunting limited to specific pond/hunt area each day. To enter drawing, send a letter/ postcard postmarked by Sept. 30 to the CPW Area Office in Brush (28167 County Rd. T, Brush CO, 80723), with name, address, phone number, CID number and desired reservation dates (can list multiple dates on same letter/postcard). Must have a valid waterfowl hunting license.
- b. Mandatory check in and check out at check station. Maximum of 4 hunters per group, per day. Must park in designated parking areas, but allowed to drop off decoys via existing 4WD only road, as posted. Must remain on existing roads, as posted.
- c. During light goose conservation order season, mandatory check in and check out at check station.

► Ted's Canyon stl, Moffat Co.

- 1. Open for public access Aug. 15-end of Feb.
- 2. Big-game and small-game hunting only.

► Tilman Bishop swa, Mesa Co.

- 1. Closed during nesting and migratory bird period, March 15-July 15.
- 2. Walk-in access only.
- 3. Deer, waterfowl and small-game hunting
- 4. Hunting with archery equipment and shotguns with shot-shells or by falconry only.
- **5.** Waterfowl hunting by reservation only. Reservations must be made through the Hunting Reservation System: See "Reservations: Hunting" (page 1) for details. Hunters must check in and out at property.
- 6. Waterfowl hunters must use designated blinds.

► Totten Reservoir sWA, Montezuma Co.

- 1. Open for public access 1 hour before sunrise to 1 hour after sunset.
- 2. Closed along N shore March 1-May 31.
- **3.** Hunting prohibited in inlet as posted.

► Trinidad Lake State Park, Las Animas Co.

1. Waterfowl hunting prohibited as posted.

► Turk's Pond SWA, Baca Co.

- 1. All human activity prohibited within 0.25 miles of high waterline around Turk's Pond, including administrative buildings, from opening day of regular duck season through last day of regular dark goose season as posted. Hunters allowed inside closure only to retrieve downed waterfowl, must leave all firearms outside closure.
- 2. Vessel use prohibited except vessels propelled by hand or electric motor when used for fishing or hunting.

► Vancil Reservoir, Morgan Co.

1. Waterfowl hunting prohibited, as posted.

► Wellington SWA, Wellington Unit,

Larimer & Weld Cos.

- 1. From first day of regular waterfowl season to first day of pheasant season open only on Sat., Sun., Wed. and state and federal holidays.
- 2. Only hand-propelled vessels may be used, and only when hunting waterfowl.
- 3. Hunting with centerfire rifles prohibited.

► Whitehorse SWA, Adams Co.

- 1. Open only for youth/mentors who have received certification to use the property as participants in the youth hunting program; access limited to dates specified by the program.
- 2. Reservations available for waterfowl hunting. See "Reservations: Hunting" (page 1) for details. Hunters can hunt only the area reserved, except in areas where reservations are unreserved and unoccupied. Mandatory check in and check out at check station as posted and reservation holder mist be present while hunting.

► Willow Creek Reservoir swa, Grand Co.

- 1. Access permitted for fishing, small game, and waterfowl hunting only.
- 2. Access permitted only through designated access points as posted.
- **3.** Hunting with centerfire rifles prohibited.

Report Poachers

Operation Game Thief: 1-877-265-6648 Email: game.thief@state.co.us

Earn a reward payment for reporting wildlife violations by calling Operation Game Thief. Callers can remain anonymous. (This number is not for information requests or emergencies.)

To Donate: co.accessgov.com/ogt/Forms/Page/ogt/payments/

