

2024  
GAME BIRD HUNTING GUIDE  
REGULATIONS AND HUNTING AREAS  
NORTH ISLAND



[www.fishandgame.org.nz](http://www.fishandgame.org.nz)

# It takes more than luck

## to get a duck



A good bag, and a safe, enjoyable day hunting has nothing to do with luck. **This duck season we urge hunters everywhere to:**

- » Have a plan for their maimai, so everyone knows what to do before the first ducks arrive.
- » Always treat every shotgun as if it is loaded.
- » Handle your shotguns with care - never lean them where they could slide or be knocked over.
- » Do not drink alcohol before or while hunting, or hunt with anyone else who has been drinking.

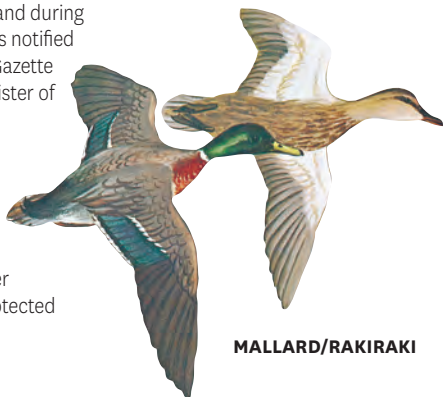


## NEW ZEALAND DUCK SPECIES

### GAME SPECIES

(NAMED IN BLACK)

These species may be hunted, but only in such regions and during such open seasons as notified in the New Zealand Gazette each year by the Minister of Hunting and Fishing. NOTE: Important recognition features are the large areas of white under the wings of the game ducks and the smaller overall size of the protected ducks.



**MALLARD/RAKIRAKI**



**PARADISE SHELDUCK/  
PŪTAKITAKI**



**SHOVELER/  
KURUWHENGI**



**GREY DUCK/PĀRERA**

## PROTECTED SPECIES

(NAMED IN RED)

The species are absolutely protected at all times.

## DO NOT TARGET



**BROWN TEAL/PĀTEKE**



**GREY TEAL/TĒTĒ-MOROITI**



**SCAUP/PĀPANGO**

The regulations printed in this guide booklet are subject to the Minister of Hunting and Fishing's approval. A copy of the published game notice in the New Zealand Gazette is available on [www.fishandgame.org.nz](http://www.fishandgame.org.nz) along with further information on game bird hunting.



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## GAME BIRD HUNTING CODE OF CONDUCT

Fish and Game New Zealand actively promotes responsible and ethical hunting practices. As game bird hunters we all have the following responsibilities, as detailed in the Game Bird Hunting Code of Conduct:

### HUNT HUMANELY

- Shoot only within the effective range of our firearm and our capabilities, and only when a quick, clean kill is likely
- Retrieve all shot birds promptly and dispatch wounded game birds quickly and humanely
- Respect the resource, value our game birds and eat what we shoot

### PROTECT GAME BIRD RESOURCES AND OUR HUNTING TRADITIONS

- Understand and observe all hunting regulations and licensing requirements
- Support game bird management and habitat enhancement activities
- Take no more than our immediate needs
- Share our knowledge and foster ethical attitudes and behaviour in hunting companions and youth





## CARE FOR THE ENVIRONMENT

- Remove all rubbish from the hunting area and dispose of offal and carcasses responsibly
- Use non-toxic shot and biodegradable products.
- Use established tracks and roads

## RESPECT THE RIGHTS OF OTHERS

- Respect private property and always ask for access permission
- Be considerate of non-hunters
- Be aware of our safety and the safety of others when hunting
- Comply with the Arms Act 1983 and always follow the 7 Firearms Safety Rules:
  1. Treat every firearm as loaded
  2. Always point firearms in a safe direction
  3. Load a firearm only when ready to fire
  4. Identify your target beyond all doubt
  5. Check your firing zone
  6. Store firearms and ammunition safely
  7. Avoid both alcohol and drugs when handling firearms

For further guidance about responsible game bird hunting read the full Code of Practice at [www.fishandgame.org.nz](http://www.fishandgame.org.nz)

## STOP THE SPREAD OF AQUATIC PESTS

Protect our waters: **CHECK, CLEAN, DRY.** Check dogs, boots, decoys, boats and their trailers before you leave the area.

## HUNTING LICENCE VALID NATIONWIDE

All game bird hunting licences can be used in all Fish & Game New Zealand regions. Day licences are valid only on or after the second Monday of the new season. It's important to note that if you're hunting in other regions you need to read up on the local regulations in this booklet. Fish & Game New Zealand sports fish and game licences are issued online, are processed electronically and comply with the Electronic Transactions Act 2002. Licences are issued centrally by a person authorised to issue licences on behalf of each Fish and Game council.

## GAME BIRD HABITAT STAMP

A game bird habitat stamp must be displayed on every licence to hunt or kill game<sup>1</sup>. The purpose of the Habitat Stamp Programme is to raise funds for habitat enhancement. Five dollars (\$5)<sup>2</sup> of the game licence fee is assigned to the stamp as income for the programme. See towards the back of this booklet for other stamp programme products. If you own or help manage suitable game bird habitat including wetlands, you are welcome to apply for funds raised from the habitat stamp programme. To apply see the Game Bird Habitat Trust website <https://fishandgame.org.nz/environment/protecting/protecting-nz-game-bird-habitats/the-nz-game-bird-habitat-trust> for details. Applications close June 30.

## SHOTGUNS AND USE OF NON-TOXIC SHOT

Game bird hunting can only be undertaken with a shotgun of a 10 gauge or smaller (including 12, 16, 20, 28, .410). Mandatory use of non-toxic shot applies to all waterfowl hunting, (Cl5, Open Season for Game Notice)).

This ban is mandatory across all lands (public and private) whilst hunting water fowl within 200 metres of all waterways and wetlands.

For more information refer below or to [www.fishandgame.org.nz](http://www.fishandgame.org.nz)

## WILDLIFE ACT 1953

The hunting of game is governed by the provisions of the Wildlife Act 1953. The Minister of Hunting and Fishing declares an open season for game annually in the New Zealand Gazette (see below). Some important provisions of the Wildlife Act are covered here. The Act and its companion Wildlife Regulations 1955 can be viewed in full online: <http://www.legislation.govt.nz/>

## WILDLIFE DECLARED TO BE GAME<sup>3</sup>

Hunters are reminded that only the following lists of species are game birds that they are permitted to hunt and kill.

<sup>1</sup> Section 19A(1) of the Wildlife Act 1953

<sup>2</sup> Section 72(3A)9e) of the Wildlife Act 1953

<sup>3</sup> Schedule 1 Wildlife Act 1953



### Waterfowl

- Kakiānau/black swan (*Cygnus atratus*) (except on Chatham Islands).
- Duck:
  - Pārera/grey duck (*Anas superciliosa*) and any cross of that species with any other species, variety, or kind of duck (except on Chatham Islands).
  - Rakiraki/Mallard duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and any cross of that species with any other species, variety, or kind of duck (except on Chatham Islands).
  - Pūtakitaki/paradise shelduck (*Tadorna variegata*). Putangitangi
  - Kuruwhengi/Australasian shoveler duck (New Zealand shoveler) (*Anas rhynchotis*).
- Pūkeko (*Porphyrio melanotus*) (except on Chatham Islands).

### Upland Game

- Chukar (*Alectoris graeca chukar*).
- Red-legged partridge (*Alectoris rufa rufa*).
- Pheasant (any bird not being a domestic bird, of the genus Phasianus and any cross of any such bird with any other species, variety, or kind of pheasant).
- Quail:
  - Australian or brown quail (*Synoicus*). *Synoicus ypsilophorus*
  - Californian quail (*Lophortyx californica*).
  - Virginian or bobwhite quail (*Colinus virginianus*).

## RESTRICTIONS ON THE TAKING OF GAME

(S18, Wildlife Act 1953)

No person shall use more than one shotgun or any live decoy.

## USE OF LEAD SHOT AMMUNITION OVER WATER

(C15, Open Season for Game Notice)

It is an offence to possess, or hunt waterfowl with 200 metres of open water using lead shot ammunition.

## LICENCE TO HUNT OR KILL GAME

(S19, Wildlife Act 1953)

It is an offence to hunt or kill game unless the person holds a current game licence, except in some circumstances where that person is a resident occupier as defined in the Wildlife Act.

## **OCCUPIER OF ANY LAND**

*(S19(3), Wildlife Act 1953)*

“...the occupier of any land, and the spouse or partner and any one son or daughter of the occupier, may, during an open season, hunt or kill on that land without a licence (but subject to all other restrictions imposed by game regulations.” The occupier of the land is normally the owner if she/he personally resides on the land, but this privilege can be transferred to farm manager or sharemilkers by a written statement indicating such to Fish and Game if the owner does not personally reside on the land. Note that the Act allows for hunting by three people; the occupier, his/her wife/husband/civil union partner or de facto partner and one son or daughter on that land - but no other land. Except a run-off farmed in conjunction with that land!

## **SHOOTING OF GAME NOT IN FLIGHT**

**PROHIBITED** *(S22, Wildlife Act 1953)*

It is an offence for a person to shoot or attempt to shoot at any game bird not in flight except where a game bird is already wounded by shooting.

## **OBSTRUCTING RANGERS** *(S40, Wildlife Act 1953)*

It is an offence to obstruct a ranger. The maximum penalty is 2-years imprisonment and/or \$100,000 fine.

## **TAKING PROTECTED WILDLIFE** *(S67A, Wildlife Act 1953)*

It is an offence to hunt or kill protected wildlife. The maximum penalties for hunting or killing absolutely protected wildlife is up to two years imprisonment or \$100,000.

## **GAME HUNTING EXCLUSION AREAS**

Closed game areas means a part of a region that is for the time being excluded from the open season in the region, but does not include a wildlife sanctuary or a wildlife refuge or any area in which the shooting or hunting or killing of animals is prohibited under or pursuant to paragraph (j) of subsection (2) of this [Wildlife] Act or any other Act. There is no open season for game birds on property in a closed game area. It remains legal to have a dog or a gun on such land, but not to use them to hunt game birds (which also applies to the landowner). (s2. Wildlife Act 1953). Each closed game area is administered by a Fish and Game Council.

## WILDLIFE REFUGES

It is illegal to take a dog or a gun onto Wildlife Refuge land, unless specifically permitted in writing to do so, or to harm or disturb any wildlife including game birds on that land (s14(3) Wildlife Act 1953). Wildlife Refuges are administered by the Department of Conservation.

The remainder of this hunting guide is made up of regional details and hunting conditions contained in the Gazetted Game Notice. These conditions are set out in the:

### FIRST SCHEDULE:

Hunting conditions generally common to all Fish and Game regions.

### SECOND SCHEDULE:

Regionally specific hunting conditions, including bag limits, closed and open game areas, shooting hours and the like.

## FIRST SCHEDULE

This notice revokes all previous Open Season for Game Notices and shall come into force on 4 May 2024.

### *Hunting conditions generally common to all fish and game regions*

#### 1 Bag limits

- 1.1 No person shall take or kill, on any one day, more than the number of game birds specified as the daily bag limit for the Fish and Game Region in which the game is taken.
- 1.2 No person shall possess, on any one day, more than the number of game birds specified as the daily bag limit for the Fish and Game Region in which the game is taken, except on Sunday 5 May 2024, when that person may have in their possession twice the number of game birds specified as the daily bag limit for Saturday 4 May 2024.
- 1.3 A person may possess more game than specified in clause 1(2) of this Schedule, if all such game is labelled with the following details:
  - (a) The name and address of the person by whom the game was taken;
  - (b) The number of the licence to hunt or kill game held by the person by whom the game was taken;
  - (c) The name of the Fish and Game Region by which that licence was issued;

- (d) The name of the Fish and Game Region in which the game was taken; and
- (e) The date on which the game was taken.

## **2 Waiver of Restrictions on Baiting for Waterfowl**

A person may hunt or kill game of the family Anatidae (waterfowl) during the open season for game in all Fish and Game Regions, except Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region, where food has been cast, thrown, placed or planted any time during the year. In the Second Schedule, Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region, Special Condition <sup>4</sup>(10), applies to restrictions on baiting.

## **3 Magazine Shotguns**

A person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, in any Fish and Game Regions with any magazine shotgun of a calibre 10 gauge or less, which includes magazine extensions that comply with the Arms Act 1983,<sup>5</sup> other than in the:

- (a) Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region;
- (b) Eastern Fish and Game Region;
- (c) Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Region;
- (d) Wellington Fish and Game Region;
- (e) Nelson/Marlborough Fish and Game Region;
- (f) West Coast Fish and Game Region.

For these six Regions special conditions in the Second Schedule apply.

## **4 Shot Size**

No person shall use, in any shotgun used for the purposes of hunting and killing game, any cartridge containing any shot size having a larger retained, per-pellet energy at 90 metres than lead BB.

## **5 Use of Lead Shot Prohibited**

**5.1** No person may possess lead shot, or use lead shot, while hunting or killing waterfowl within 200 metres of open water with any gun. Non-toxic alternative shot must be used, such as steel.

**5.2** For the purposes of this requirement, "waterfowl" means any of the following game species:

<sup>4</sup> Section 17 of the Wildlife Act 1953.

<sup>5</sup> Amended notification to section 18(1)(c) (iii) and (v) of the Wildlife Act 1953 as authorised by the Minister of Conservation under section 18(1) of that Act.

- Black swan (*Cygnus atratus*);
- Grey duck (*Anas superciliosa*) and any cross of that species with any other species, variety, or kind of duck;
- Mallard duck (*Anas platyrhynchos*) and any cross of that species with any other species, variety, or kind of duck;
- Paradise shelduck (*Tadorna variegata*) also known as Paradise duck;
- Australasian shoveler duck (New Zealand shoveler) (*Anas rhynchos*);
- Pūkeko (*Porphyrio porphyrio melanotus*).

**5.3** For the purposes of this requirement, “open water” means either:

- (a) any area of land or seabed covered permanently or seasonally by water wider than 3 metres; or
- (b) any area which is temporarily covered by water wider than 3 metres at the time of such possession or use, and that is contiguous to an area referred to in paragraph (3)(a).

## 6 Camouflaged Rowboats

A person may hunt or kill game within the following Fish and Game Regions, from unmoored camouflaged rowboats, subject to the excluded periods for the regions specified below: <sup>6</sup>

- **Northland** – no excluded period
- **Auckland/Waikato** – excluding 4 and 5 May 2024 for the whole Auckland/Waikato region and excluding 4 to 6 May and 11 and 12 May 2024 for the Waikato River north of the boat ramp at the confluence of the Mangawara Stream
- **Eastern** – excluding 4 and 5 May 2024
- **Hawke’s Bay** – excluding 4 and 5 May 2024
- **Taranaki** – no excluded period
- **Wellington** – excluding 4 and 5 May 2024
- **Nelson/Marlborough** – no excluded period
- **West Coast** – no excluded period
- **North Canterbury** – excluding 4 and 5 May 2024
- **Central South Island** – excluding 4 and 5 May 2024
- **Otago** – excluding Clutha River 4 to 12 May 2024 inclusive

<sup>6</sup> Section 18(1)(f)(vi) of the Wildlife Act 1953.

- **Southland** – excluding the Mataura, Aparima, Oreti, Waiau and Waimatuku rivers and their tributaries 4 to 31 May 2024 inclusive and excluding that part of the Oreti River below the Dunn’s Road bridge for the whole season.

## 7 Restriction on Taking of Game

No person shall use any vehicle propelled by mechanical power (including motorised watercraft) to chase or kill game, except in such circumstances and at such times as authorised by the Conservation Act 1987 and Wildlife Act 1953.<sup>7</sup>

## 8 Pegging Day

- 8.1** Stand claimants who claimed and occupied a stand during the 2023 Game Season may claim that stand at any time prior to pegging day (up to 10.00 a.m. on 7 April 2024) following the purchase of the 2024 game licence. If you are in the Auckland/Waikato Region, then the above mentioned applies **only to Adult Whole Season Licence Holders** and does not apply to Junior Licence Holders as it does in all other Fish and Game Regions.
- 8.2** Otherwise, unclaimed stands can only be claimed any time after 10.00am on 7 April 2024 in all Fish and Game Regions.
- 8.3** A stand may be claimed by planting on it a stake having either a board or identifying label attached, plainly identifying the name of the claimant and the number of his/her licence. The hunting stand claim tag provided with the licence must be completed with the name of the claimant and affixed to the board or identifying label.
- 8.4** The licence holder claiming a stand must be present in person at the stand when marking it up.
- 8.5** No one can claim more than one stand.
- 8.6** A stand cannot be claimed closer than 90 metres to a stand already claimed by another person without that person’s consent.
- 8.7** Any stand not occupied by the claimant within one hour after the opening hour of hunting, on any day, can be occupied by another licence holder for the remainder of the day.

## 9 Conditions

These conditions will expire at the end of the open season for game.

<sup>7</sup> Section 18(1)(f)(v) of the Wildlife Act 1953.

## SECOND SCHEDULE

*Regionally specific hunting conditions, bag limits, closed and open game areas, and the like.*







## 1 Game That May Be Hunted or Killed - Duration of the 2024/2025 Season

Species	Season Duration (dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit
Grey/mallard duck and any hybrid of that species	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	12
NZ shoveler duck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	3
Paradise shelduck	4 May to 28 Jul 2024	20
	15 Feb 2025 to 23 Feb 2025	20
Black swan	4 May to 28 Jul 2024	20
	15 Feb 2025 to 23 Feb 2025	20
Pūkeko	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	12
	15 Feb 2025 to 23 Feb 2025	12
California quail	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	10
Brown quail	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	10
Cock pheasant	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	5

## 2 Shooting Hours

6.30am to 6.30pm, except the hunting of paradise shelduck, pūkeko and black swan on 15 February to 23 February 2025 will be from 6.30am to 8.00pm.

## 3 Decoy Limit

No limit.

## 4 Special Conditions

- 4.1** No person shall wilfully leave on the hunting ground any game bird(s) shot or parts of any game bird(s) shot.
- 4.2** Camouflaged Rowboats: Persons may hunt or kill game from an unmoored camouflaged rowboat.
- 4.3** During the 15 February 2025 to 23 February 2025 special open season, no person shall hunt within 300 metres of any urban sewage oxidation ponds.
- 4.4** Any game bird licence holder who has a Department of Conservation authorisation to take or kill wildlife for the purpose of hawking or falconry may hunt with an Australasian Harrier (*Circus approximans*) to take game birds. This is subject to the season length and bag limit for each game bird species in clause 1 of this notice and any other special conditions for the Northland Fish and Game region and also subject to any conditions imposed by the Director-General of Conservation under such a permit.

## HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES IN NORTHLAND

The Northland Fish and Game Region extends north from a line midway to a point between the North Head and South Head of the Kaipara Harbour, then runs due east to a point just north of Wellsford and then a line running northeast to cross the coastline approximately 4.6km north of Te Arai Point. Northland region offers a wealth of accessible hunting opportunity throughout the region including Fish and Game managed wetland properties, pine plantation forestry and extensive harbours.

## TAKE A MATE HUNTING

2024 whole season game bird licence holders can take a mate hunting who has not purchased a game bird licence within the last THREE years or has had a previous mate's licence. Hunting for the mate will be permitted on Opening Weekend ONLY for \$5.00 which is the cost of the habitat stamp. Take A Mate Licences must be purchased through the Northland Fish and Game office in Whangarei.

The recipient of the mate's licence must be accompanied by an adult whole season licence holder and it only applies within the Northland Fish and Game region. The mate must comply with the game bird hunting regulations.

There is no better opportunity to introduce your friends, workmates, spouse, son, daughter to game bird hunting.

## PERMITS

Full details and payment must be provided at the time of issue. A permit is required for each licence holder and is not issued for a party or any group of hunters. Permits are issued for the full length of the open game season (May to August).

Part of the fee for permits issued to Flaxmill Wetlands and Jack Bisset Wetlands permanent stand holders are used as a contribution towards predator control operations within those areas.

Hunters requiring a permit must provide the following details:

- Name, postal address, email address and phone numbers
- Date of birth
- Game bird licence number
- Firearms licence number
- Vehicle registration
- Dog's name, breed and registration number.

All permits issued to licence holders will be accompanied with a map detailing the areas open to hunting.

Adult licence holders wishing to hunt on Fish & Game properties who are not stand holders can obtain a permit after 13th May 2024 at the casual rate. The exception to this is the new Underwood Wetland where casual hunting permits will be available from 6th May 2024.

Junior and child licence holders wishing to hunt on the Fish & Game properties who are not stand holders can obtain a free permit after 13th May 2023.

<i>Administrator</i>	<i>Place name</i>	<i>Location</i>	<i>Permit fee</i>
NFGC	Jack Bisset Wetland – Stand Holders Fee	Whangarei	\$35.00
	Jack Bisset Wetland – Casual Hunters Fee	Whangarei	\$10.00
	Flaxmill Wetland – Stand Holders Fee	Dargaville	\$35.00
	Flaxmill Wetland – Casual Hunters Fee	Dargaville	\$10.00
	Kawakawa Wetland	Kawakawa	\$10.00
	Borrow Cut Wetland	Kerikeri	\$10.00
	Underwood Wetland	Dargaville	\$10.00

## DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION

Licence holders wishing to hunt on Department of Conservation administered lands must obtain their permit from their local DOC office in Dargaville, Whangarei, Kerikeri or Kaitaia.

## TE PAKI FARM

Hunting at Te Paki Farm and Te Werahi Wetlands is now authorised by approval from local Iwi Ngati Kuri. All licence holders MUST contact John Macpherson, Field Officer in Kaitaia on 021 858 423, to obtain the appropriate contact details.

## RANGIPUTA LANDCORP FARM

is allowing hunting. Due to the M-Bovis outbreak, hunting will be strictly controlled and inductions will be necessary. Licence holders will need to contact Colin Rakena, the Farm Manager on 0274 350 982 to arrange access. Other hunting opportunities include peacock, turkey and Canada Goose.

## FORESTRY PERMITS

To hunt on permitted forestry lands managed and owned by Manulife Investment Management, Northland Forest Managers Ltd, and Rayonier Matariki Forests, a permit must be obtained

through the office of Northland Fish & Game. The permit is a legal requirement which enables the hunter to enter the forest, carry a firearm and use a dog on those properties.

The cost of the permit for the whole season is \$50.00. This fee covers all processing fees; coloured maps detailing the areas open to hunting plus Public Liability insurance while hunting in any of these forests. Some maps are now only available through free applications that can be downloaded to a cell phone. Applications for these permits can be made either by emailing or logging onto the Fish & Game website:

<https://fishandgame.org.nz/northland/game-bird-hunting-in-new-zealand/northland-hunting-locations-and-access/>

Email: [northland@fishandgame.org.nz](mailto:northland@fishandgame.org.nz)

Please note a **Kiwi Aversion Certificate** may be required for hunting dogs in some forest blocks. Please check the permit conditions to see where this rule applies.

Kiwi Aversion Certificates can be obtained through the Department of Conservation office in Whangarei. If you are interested in your dog being trained, please contact your local DOC office or search: <https://www.kiwiavoidancetraining.nz/>

## TE HIKU FOREST

is a privately owned pine forestry block that extends along the Ninety Mile Beach. The whole season permit fee of \$30 covers all processing fees, colour map and includes a contribution towards a predator control operation for the benefit of game birds.

Permits can be obtained at Hunting & Fishing Kaitaia, Riders Sports Kaitaia and through Northland Fish and Game office.

# PROTECT OUR WATERWAYS

## STOP THE SPREAD OF FRESHWATER PESTS



CHECK



CLEAN



DRY

# AUCKLAND/WAIKATO - Fish & Game Region<sup>9</sup>

OFFICE & POSTAL: 156 Brymer Road, RD9, Hamilton 3289

PHONE: (07) 849-1666

E-MAIL: aucklandwaikato@fishandgame.org.nz

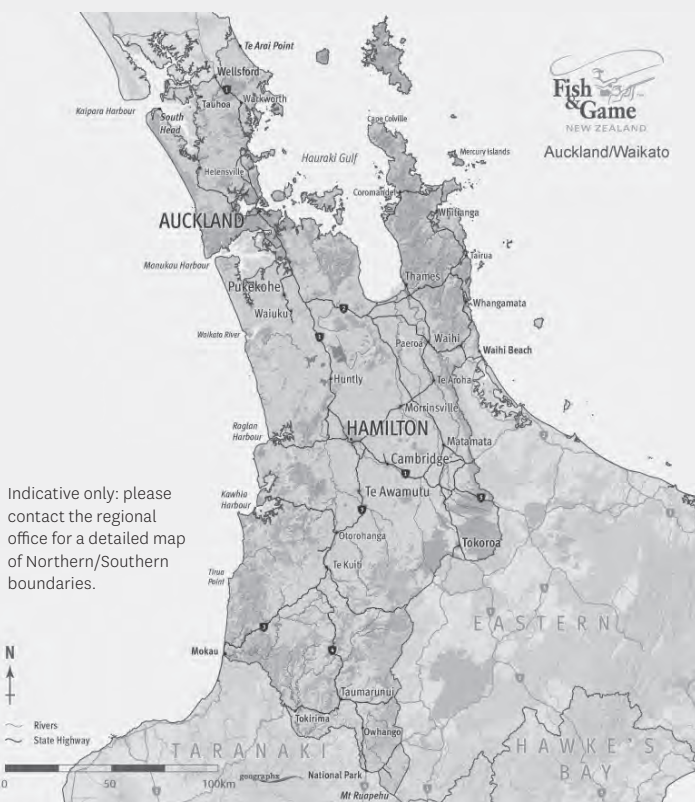
CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Ben Wilson

OFFICE MANAGER: Roslyn Simmonds

WILDLIFE MANAGERS: John Dyer, David Klee

FISHERIES MANAGER: Adam Daniel

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: Mischa Davis, Clare Robertson



Indicative only: please contact the regional office for a detailed map of Northern/Southern boundaries.

<sup>9</sup> Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game Region means the area so described in the NZ Gazette 24 May 1990, No.83 at page 1861, as amended by the NZ Gazette 29 August 1991, No.129 at page 2786, and further amended 28 January 1993, No.11 at page 192

## 1 Game That May Be Hunted or Killed - Duration of 2024/2025 Season

<i>Species</i>	<i>Season Duration (dates inclusive)</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limit</i>	<i>Hunting Area</i>
Grey/mallard duck and any hybrid of those species	4 May to 3 Jun 2024	8	All areas, except that no duck may be hunted on Great Barrier Island
NZ shoveler duck	4 May to 3 Jun 2024	2	All areas, except that no duck may be hunted on Great Barrier Island
Paradise shelduck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	10	The region south of Auckland Harbour Bridge
	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	20	The region north of Auckland Harbour Bridge
	15 Feb to 16 Feb 2025	15	The region north of Auckland Harbour Bridge
Pūkeko	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	10	All areas
	15 Feb to 16 Feb 2025	10	The region north of Auckland Harbour Bridge
Black swan	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	20	The region west of State Highway 1 and north of State Highway 22 (Glenbrook Road), Constable and Karioitahi Roads
	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	5	In the Otorohanga, Waitomo and Ruapehu District Council areas within the A/WF&GC region and the Aotea Harbour
	4 May to 3 Jun 2024	2	All other areas (except that no black swan may be hunted or killed on the Waikato Hydro Lakes: Karapiro, Arapuni and Waipapa)



<i>Species</i>	<i>Season Duration (dates inclusive)</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limit</i>	<i>Hunting Area</i>
Bobwhite (Virginian) quail, California quail and brown quail	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	10	All areas
Cock pheasant	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	3	All areas
	1 Sep to 28 Sep 2023	No limit	Glen Massey upland game property with special conditions specified in clause 6 for this region (junior hunters only)
Pheasant, both sexes	4 May to 25 August 2024	No limit	Upland game property with special conditions specified in clause 6 for this Region
Red-legged partridge	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	10	All Areas
	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	No limit	Upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 6 for this Region
	1 Apr to 2 May 2025	No limit	Upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 6 for this Region

## 2 Shooting Hours

6.30am to 6.15pm, except the hunting of paradise shelduck and pūkeko on 15 February to 16 February 2025 will be from 6.30am to 8.00pm.

## 3 Decoy Limit

No limit, except on Lake Waikare and Lake Rotokauri – a total decoy limit of 50 decoys per stand and no decoys to be placed within 50 metres of those placed by another hunter. Furthermore, on Lake Rotokauri a total limit of no more than 2 battery powered decoys per stand.

## 4 Special Conditions

**4.1** No person may use or cause to be used for the hunting or killing of game on Lake Waikare, any drifting or

temporarily moored floating stand or any stand, hide or maimai which is permanently fixed to the lake bed except within 180 metres of the outer margin of the lake or the shoreline of Motu Nuia Island (Grape Island).

- 4.2** No person may use or cause to be used for the hunting or killing of game on Lake Ngaroto any fixed stand, pontoon, hide or maimai except within 85 metres of the margin of the lake.
- 4.3** No person may use or cause to be used for the hunting or killing of game on Lake Rotokauri any fixed stand, pontoon, hide or maimai on any open water of the lake.
- 4.4** No person may wilfully leave on the hunting ground any game bird(s) shot or parts of any game birds shot.
- 4.5** No person may herd or drive waterfowl for the purpose of hunting or killing them.
- 4.6** No person may shoot game from any unmoored boat on the Waikato River north of the boat ramp at the confluence of the Mangawara Stream and the Waikato River at Taupiri on any of the first three days or the second weekend of the open season.
- 4.7** No person may shoot game from any unmoored boat on the Waikato River south of the boat ramp at the confluence of the Mangawara Stream and the Waikato River at Taupiri to the Shakespeare St bridge in Cambridge for the duration of the open season.
- 4.8** No person may possess a firearm in or on any unmoored vessel, except a rowboat, unless the firearm is dismantled or secured in a case, gunslip or other secure compartment, except when in use to retrieve wounded game.
- 4.9** On public land, the last tagged owner must remove any maimai not tagged up for 2 years from the date of the last mark-up.
- 4.10** No person may hunt or kill game of the family Anatidae (waterfowl) in all the area contained within a distance of 100 metres from the margins of any waters together with the area covered by those waters where food has been cast, thrown, placed or planted any time during the period 1 April to 28 June 2024 inclusive.<sup>10</sup>
- 4.11** No person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, within the Auckland/Waikato region with any magazine

<sup>10</sup> Section 17 of the Wildlife Act 1953.

shotgun of 10 gauge or smaller (including 12, 16, 20, 28, .410) unless the shotgun:

- (a) has a magazine of any type adjusted with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun; or
- (b) the magazine is pinned in accordance with Regulations made under this Act;

so that the magazine shotgun is incapable of holding more than 2 shells in the magazine, with no more than 3 shells in the magazine and chamber combined, at any one time.

**4.12** Any game bird licence holder who has a Department of Conservation authorisation to take or kill wildlife for the purpose of hawking or falconry may hunt with an Australasian Harrier (*Circus approximans*) to take game birds. This is subject to the season length and bag limit for each game bird species in clause 1 of this notice for this region and subject to any conditions imposed by the Director-General of Conservation under such a permit.

**4.13** No person may shoot game on Lake Cameron and Lake Mangakaware except from fixed stands authorised by the Waipa District Council.

**4.14** Every person who hunts or kills game shall make all reasonable efforts to retrieve game they have shot as soon as is practicable after shooting it.

**4.15** No person is allowed to shoot at game if they have no means of retrieving it.

## 5 Closed Game Areas

**5.1** All that area of the Waikato River below Mean High Water Spring Tide from the Tasman Sea inland to an imaginary line commencing from a marker at the exit of the Fisherman's Road drain on the north-western side of the river in Block VII Maoro Survey District, bearing 126 degrees true to a marker on the south-eastern side of the river.

**5.2** All DP 23519, being part Maungatapu Block, Blocks II and VI Maungakawa Survey District, being 15 hectares, the property of A. C. Allen, "Riverdale", Piako, Morrinsville.

**5.3** The township of Te Aroha.

**5.4** All that area lying to the east of the Southern Motorway and known as Pahurehure Inlet.

- 5.5 129 hectares, being part of the Manukau Harbour known as Waimahia Creek.
- 5.6 Lots 1–6 DPS 81922, subdivision of part Lot 7 DP 9441 and part Section 19 Block II Whitianga Survey District, 53.3353 hectares. Property of Andrew Hill.
- 5.7 Lake Puketirini (Weavers Lake) at Huntly.

## 6 Upland Game Properties with Special Conditions

- 6.1 This clause applies to the following specified properties only:
  - (a) **Glen Massey:** 292 ha, more or less, located west of Wilton Collieries Road, being Lot 1 DPS 79675, Lot 2 DPS 78878, Lot 3 DPS 78878, Sec 2A BLK IX Newcastle SD, situated in the Northern Waikato.
  - (b) **Lighthouse Station:** 550 ha, more or less, located east and west of Manukau Heads Road and north of Dickey Road, Awhitu, being Certificates of Titles 666156, 666157, 360998, 525469, 525470, 525471 NA2D/852, NA1011/239, NA333/280, NA2D/933, NA129A/544-551, NA342/275, NA61A/240.
- 6.2 Where hunting takes place in any specified property defined in this notice, no person shall have in that person's possession outside that specified property any game taken from that specified property, unless affixed to the game is a label with the name of the specified property where that game was taken or killed written legibly on it, and the additional words on the label, "for personal consumption, not for sale or profit", written legibly on it.
- 6.3 A person must not clip the wings of a bird released on any specified property after the bird is 8 weeks old.
- 6.4 A person must not clip the beak of any bird released on any specified property at any time.
- 6.5 A person must not hunt:
  - (a) a pheasant before it is 18 weeks old;
  - (b) a red legged partridge before it is 16 weeks old.
- 6.6 A person must not hunt waterfowl on a specified property on the same day that a pheasant or red-legged partridge hunt takes place on that property.
- 6.7 The unlimited daily bag for any specified property shall only apply when at least 400 pheasants and/or

red-legged partridges have been released on to that specified property within 5 months of the opening day of the season; otherwise the daily bag limit shall be 3 birds.

- 6.8** The owner of a property listed in subclause (1) or a lessee of that property owner must keep a register of:
- (a) the names and addresses of hunters and all other persons who take game from that property;
  - (b) the number and type of birds taken by those persons;
  - (c) the description of that person's role in the hunting and killing of game birds on that day.

## HUNTING IN AUCKLAND/WAIKATO

Hunting today suffers many threats; wetland drainage, habitat degradation, pollution, the animal rights lobby, ecofundamentalists, paranoia over firearms and worst off all, indifference.

There are groups who safeguard and share your interests. To join a group concerned with game bird hunting and the outdoors, please contact your local user group.

- **Eden/Papakura/Clevedon/Miranda:** Bill Gordon, wjgordon@xtra.co.nz
- **Franklin:** William Howard, william.howard@xtra.co.nz
- **Hamilton:** Dave Malcolm, dmalcolmnz@gmail.com
- **Helensville:** Keith Hargraves, hfgainc@gmail.com
- **Morrinsville:** Merv Douglas, dotandmerv@slingshot.co.nz
- **Ohinemuri:** Josh Firth, cjfirth@xtra.co.nz
- **Te Aroha:** Daniel Needham, dgneedham@gmail.com
- **Te Awamutu:** Grant Annan, jannan@slingshot.co.nz
- **Upper Piako Management Assoc.:** Mike O'Donnell, mike.odonnell@xtra.co.nz
- **Wellsford Gameshooters Club:** wfdgameshooters@gmail.com

## HUNTING ON FISH & GAME AND CROWN LAND

A General Authority (free to all licence holders) is required to hunt on Fish & Game Land – some 1700ha being owned by the Auckland/Waikato Region purchased from hunters' and angler's funds. The Authority can be obtained by sending a request via website

under “Hunting locations and access” or sending a stamped, self-addressed envelope to Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game, 156 Brymer Rd, RD 9, Hamilton 3289.

To hunt on Crown land managed by the Department of Conservation (DOC) you require a similar permit (also free) from DOC.

## FORESTRY PERMITS

Rayonier Forests: Tairua (Whangamata); Maramarua (Te Kauwhata); Waihou (Te Aroha); and Mahurangi (Warkworth).

Permits for Rayonier Forest blocks can be obtained from our office.

The cost of the permit for the season is \$50 and covers all four forests. This fee is to cover all processing fees, colour maps, as well as a Public Liability Insurance while hunting in any of their forests.

Hunters requiring a permit must provide the following payment details (internet banking) to be completed once confirmed:

- Name, address and phone numbers
- Date of Birth
- Game Bird Licence number
- Firearms Licence number
- Vehicle Registration
- Dog Registration number.

Permits can be filled in via website under “Hunting locations and access”, emailed to [aucklandwaikato@fishandgame.org.nz](mailto:aucklandwaikato@fishandgame.org.nz) or posted to Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game, 156 Brymer Rd, RD 9, Hamilton 3289.

## TAKE A MATE HUNTING

FOR ONLY \$4 Do you have a mate, relative, friend, co-worker or know somebody who is keen to give duck hunting a go, but doesn't want to pay the full cost of a licence? If so, on a strictly first come, first served basis, limited to the first 100 hunters who email into the Auckland/Waikato office with their 2023 Game bird Licence number, we will let you take your mate hunting on opening weekend for the \$4 cost of the Habitat Stamp which is displayed on the licence – which as you will recall is used solely to create, protect and restore wetland habitat.

The offer is strictly limited to those people (i.e. the mate) who have not purchased a licence before (and we can check via extensive database records going back over the last decade) – the offer is only for opening weekend – recipients of the mate's licence must be accompanied by a whole season licence holder. The offer only

applies to the Auckland/Waikato Fish and Game region and the mate must of course comply with the Game Hunting Regulations.

There is no better opportunity to introduce your friend, spouse, son or daughter to game bird hunting.





# EASTERN - FISH & GAME REGION<sup>11</sup>

OFFICE: c/- Ngongotaha Hatchery,  
1130 Paradise Valley Road, Ngongotaha

POSTAL ADDRESS: Private Bag 3010, Rotorua 3046

PHONE: (07) 357-5501  
0800-POACHING (0800 762 244)

E-MAIL: eastern@fishandgame.org.nz

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Arash Alaeinia

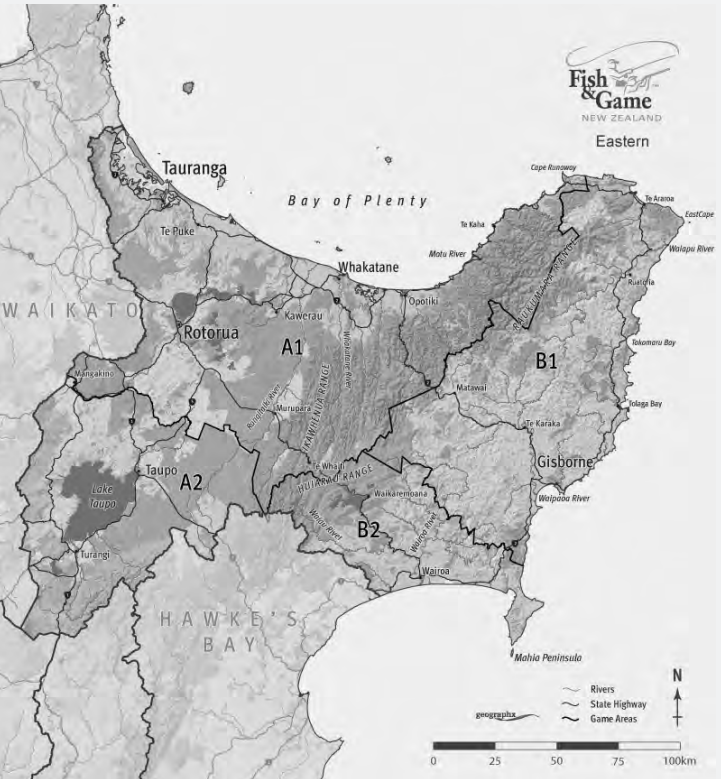
Office Manager: Kate Thompson

ADMIN STAFF: Cheyenne Robson

SENIOR FISH & GAME OFFICERS: Matthew McDougall (021 278 9408)

Anthony van Dorp

FISH & GAME OFFICERS: Georgia Beuth, Eben Herbert, John Meikle,  
Matt Osborne, Mark Sherburn, Nigel Simpson.



<sup>11</sup> Eastern Fish and Game Region means the area so described in the NZ Gazette 26 May 1990, No.83 at page 1861

## 1 Game That May Be Hunted or Killed - Duration of the 2024/2025 Season

<i>Species</i>	<i>Season Duration (dates inclusive)</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limit</i>	<i>Hunting Area</i>
Grey/mallard duck	4 May to 3 Jun 2024	6	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	4 May to 3 Jun 2024	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	6	Area A1, A2
	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	10	Area B2 and that part of B1, which lies south of the true right bank of the Uawa River Mouth, Tolaga Bay
	4 May to 14 Jul 2024	20	That part of B1, which lies north of the true right bank of the Uawa River Mouth, Tolaga Bay
Pūkeko	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	10	All areas
	1 Feb to 9 Feb 2025	10	All areas
Black swan	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	No limit	Area A1
	1 Feb to 9 Feb 2025	No limit	Area A1
	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	5	Area A2
	Closed season	0	Area B1 & B2
Bobwhite (Virginian) quail	Closed Season	0	All areas
Brown quail	Closed season	0	All areas
California quail	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	No limit	Area A1 & A2
	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	5	Area B1 & B2
Cock pheasant	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	5	All areas

## 2 Definition of Areas

The following descriptions refer to Management Units within the Eastern Region (described on Infomap 242B-2 Land Information New Zealand). The Management Units are defined using both District Council and Eastern Region Fish and Game boundaries.

The coastal boundaries of Management Units A1, B1 and, B2 follow the coastline as per Infomap 242-2.

- 2.1 Area A1:** Tauranga District, Western Bay of Plenty District, that part of the South Waikato District within the Eastern Fish and Game region and east of State Highway 1, Rotorua District, Kawerau District, Whakatane District and Opotiki District.
- 2.2 Area A2:** Those parts of the South Waikato District west of State Highway 1 within the Eastern Fish and Game region, Taupo District and Ruapehu District, which lie within the Eastern Fish and Game region.
- 2.3 Area B1:** Gisborne District.
- 2.4 Area B2:** That part of Wairoa District within the Eastern Fish and Game region.

### 3 Shooting Hours

6.15am to 6.15pm in all areas for all species during their respective seasons.

### 4 Decoy Limit

No limit.

### 5 Special Conditions

- 5.1** No person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, within the Eastern region with any magazine shotgun unless the shotgun:
  - (a) has a magazine of any type adjusted with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun; or
  - (b) the magazine is pinned in accordance with Regulations made under this Act;so that the magazine shotgun is incapable of holding more than 2 shells in the magazine, with no more than 3 shells in the magazine and chamber combined, at any one time.
- 5.2** Any game bird licence holder who has a Department of Conservation authorisation to take or kill wildlife for the purpose of hawking or falconry may hunt with an Australasian Harrier (*Circus approximans*) to take game birds. This is subject to the season length and bag limit for game birds specified in clause 1 of this notice for this Region and subject to any condition imposed by the Director-General of Conservation under such a permit.

**5.3** No person shall wilfully within the Eastern Fish and Game Region, in or on any public place, or in or on any private land without consent of the land occupier:

- (a) deposit any type of litter, including any carcass or part of it, of any shot game.
- (b) having deposited any type of litter, including carcasses or parts thereof, of any shot game, leaves it after having been deposited.
- (c) for the purposes of this regulation litter includes any refuse, animal or game remains, or waste matter or items of any type used in the course of hunting, which is abandoned or intended to be abandoned.

**5.4** A person must not use a drone to disturb game birds.

## **6 Hunting From a Boat Under Power**

No person may possess a firearm that can be rapidly deployed in or on any unmoored vessel, except (1) where the unmoored vessel is not being propelled at the time by a motorised device, or (2) the firearm is needed to retrieve wounded game. For the purpose of this subclause a firearm is considered unable to be rapidly deployed if it has been dismantled or secured in a case, gunslip or other secure compartment.

## **HUNTING IN THE EASTERN REGION**

We have produced a pamphlet on gamebird hunting in the Eastern Region. Inquire at your local sports shop or the Eastern Fish and Game Office for a copy. Eastern Fish and Game hold annual ballots for hunting sites in wetlands managed by the Council.

Hunters may register for the ballot before the end of the first week of November. All you have to do is phone or write to us with your name, address, and phone number and we will send you a ballot application form before it's held. Hunters from the previous year will automatically be sent an application form.

If you have changed your address, make sure you notify us of the changes. Access information to the reserves can be obtained from the website <https://fishandgame.org.nz/game-bird-hunting-in-new-zealand/where-to-hunt/regional-info/eastern/>



### CASUAL PERMITS TO HUNT IN THE WETLANDS

Casual permits, for non-ballot holders to hunt wetlands administered by Eastern Fish and Game, can be obtained by phoning or writing to the office in Rotorua. Casual permits are available after the first two weeks of the season. This allows successful ballot holders two weeks of undisturbed hunting.

### UPLAND GAME HUNTING

Some of New Zealand's best pheasant and quail hunting is found in the Eastern Region. A lot of this hunting is in the production forestry areas of the Bay of Plenty managed by Timberlands Limited. Permits to hunt in the forest are issued by FIRST Security 07 347 0297. [https://www.tll.co.nz/recreational\\_access\\_permits](https://www.tll.co.nz/recreational_access_permits)



### WETLAND CREATION

For information and advice on wetland creation contact the staff at your local Fish & Game offices. Wetlands in the Eastern Region are now rare. In some parts less than 1% of the original wetlands remain.

The Habitat Trust fund is one source of funding for enhancement, purchase or development of wetlands.

If you have a proposal to create or enhance a large area of wetland, we may be able to assist you obtain funding.



## 1 Game That May Be Hunted or Killed - Duration of the 2024/25 Season

Species	Season Duration (dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit	Hunting Area
Grey/mallard duck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	8	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	8	All areas
Pūkeko	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	10	All areas
Black swan	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	3	All areas
Brown quail	Closed season	0	All areas
California quail	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	10	All areas
Cock pheasant	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	2	All areas

## 2 Shooting Hours

6.15am to 6.00pm.

## 3 Decoy Limit

No limit.

## 4 Special Conditions

- 4.1 No person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, within the Hawke's Bay region with any magazine extensions on a shotgun of 10 gauge or smaller (including 12, 16, 20, 28, .410).
- 4.2 Magazine shotguns must be restricted in such a way that the shotgun is incapable of holding more than two shells in the magazine, with no more than 3 shells in the magazine and chamber combined at any one time.
- 4.2 Any game bird licence holder who has a Department of Conservation authorisation to take or kill wildlife for the purpose of hawking or falconry may hunt with an Australasian Harrier (*Circus approximans*) to take game birds. This is subject to the season length and bag limit for game birds specified in clause 1 of this notice for this Region and subject to any conditions imposed by the Director-General of Conservation under such a permit.

## HUNTING IN THE HAWKE'S BAY

The Hawke's Bay Fish and Game region is defined by river catchments, extending north to the Mohaka, west to the Ngaruroro, and southwest to encompass the Tukituki systems, with the southern border reaching the Tautane Stream just south of Cape Turnagain.

## WATERFOWL

The mallard, grey duck and hybrids are the most popular game birds of the region. These species respond well to calling and decoying and can be found on most of the region's rivers, streams, dams and lakes. Shoveler are a transient population for most of the season and are renowned for their fast flying and elusiveness.

There are extensive hunting opportunities in the riverbeds of the region. Access is good and well-marked with signs.

A little time spent checking out backwaters pre-season can pay dividends during the season.

Paradise shelduck are wide-spread and can be hunted successfully in most locations. Low-lying farmland with water nearby is ideal for hunting using silhouette decoys. If you want to target parries, the pasture lands and riverbeds are a good place to start. Most landowners are only too happy for hunters to target parries on pasture if they are approached and asked first.

The Hawke's Bay region administers a number of Controlled Shooting Areas throughout the region. Periodically vacancies arise, creating a wetland enhancement and shooting opportunity for local shooters. If you want to shoot this season but don't have anywhere to hunt, give our local Fish and Game office a call.

## UPLAND GAME

Hawke's Bay hosts a good population of ring-necked pheasant and varying numbers of California quail, with the best results achieved in scrubby river margins and forestry plantations with blocks of young trees. Pheasants are predominantly hunted in our major river systems with the Waipawa, Tukituki, Ngaruroro and Tutaekuri normally well worth a look. The best hunting is generally where good cover and watering opportunities are found (i.e. river basins), especially where these areas border orchards and/or assorted cropping areas. For most of these areas a dog is recommended as an easy way to cover ground effectively.



## A COUPLE OF THINGS TO REMEMBER

Access is a privilege not a right so if in doubt, please ask! Landowners frequently have paradise duck and swan problems and often appreciate flocks being dispersed by hunters. Often, they might offer the opportunity to shoot a vacant pond. In any case the personal courteous approach is by far your best bet.

Please do not leave the bodies or parts of shot game on the hunting ground. If carcasses are left in the field, it can encourage unwanted predators as well as ill feeling from other hunters and the non-hunting public. Please make yourself familiar with the Closed Game Areas and Wildlife Refuges scattered throughout Hawke's Bay.

## WILDLIFE REFUGES

1. The bed of the Tuki Tuki River between Waimarama Bridge and a line running from the north of the Mangangara Stream to the road at the southwestern corner of Section 9 and 15 in the Te Mata Survey District (8km upstream of the Waimarama Bridge)
2. Lakes Tutira, Orakei, and Waikopiro and certain surrounding land
3. Horseshoe Lake, Elsthorpe
4. The property of R H, J R, and T R Hartree, Puketitiri
5. The Westshore Ponds 6. The spit south of the mouth of the Ngaruroro River
6. Rakautana Forest, Waikoau
7. Pauhanui Bush, Gwavas Station, Tikokino Bay

## CLOSED GAME AREAS

1. Waitangi Estuary:
  - a. Downstream of Clive Bridge.
  - b. From 200m above State Highway 2 downstream on Ngaruroro and Tūtaekurī Rivers.
  - c. Horseshoe and New wetland (upstream side of railway between Ngaruroro and Tūtaekurī backwash).
  - d. From Awatoto south along the coast to (but not including) the left bank of the Tukituki River.
  - e. Grange Creek wetland (right bank of the Tukituki River near pathway and bridge).
2. Whakatu from Flowerlands (near pathway) upstream to Whakatu Railway Bridge.
3. Ruahapia from State Highway 2 downstream for 200m.

4. Havelock North from below The Figgery (Napier Rd) upstream to Louisa Stream (Herehere Wetland).
5. Pukahu on the Karamū Stream from 500m below St Georges Road upstream to the Awanui-Irongate confluence.
6. Pekapeka Wetland from carpark downstream to Stock Road.

For further information on these areas within the Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Region where hunting is prohibited see <https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/hawkes-bay/open-spaces/about/>

## POACHING PROBLEMS?

We have set up a **0800 POACHING** (0800-762-244) number. If you witness any offending let us know as soon as possible.

## WETLAND CREATION

For information and advice on wetland creation contact the staff at your local Fish & Game offices. Wetlands in the Hawke's Bay Region are now rare. In some parts less than 1% of the original wetlands remain. The Habitat Trust fund is one source of funding for enhancement, purchase or development of wetlands. If you have a proposal to create or enhance a large area of wetland, we may be able to assist you obtaining some funding.

## LICENCES

You can now order your game licence through our website [www.fishandgame.org.nz](http://www.fishandgame.org.nz)

# TARANAKI - Fish & Game Region<sup>13</sup>

**OFFICE/POSTAL:**

**WHANGANUI:** P.O Box 4152, Whanganui 4541  
**NEW PLYMOUTH:** 3/477A Devon Street East,  
PO Box 662, New Plymouth 4340

**PHONE:**

**WHANGANUI:** 021 270 0239  
**NEW PLYMOUTH:** (06) 757 9676

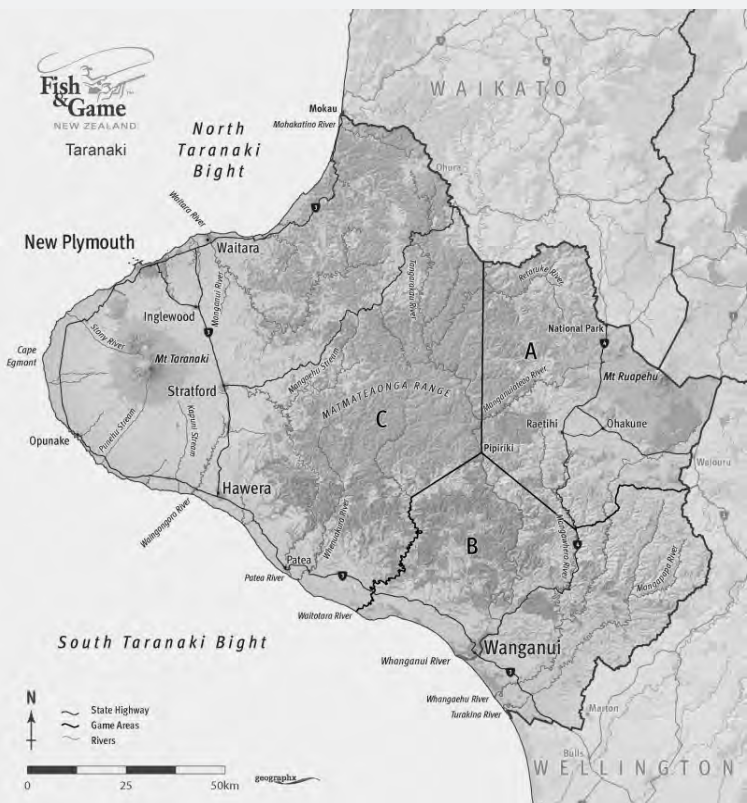
**E-MAIL:** taranaki@fishandgame.org.nz

**MANAGER:** Phil Teal

**Senior Field Officer:** Allen Stancliff

**OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR:** Jillie Steedman

**FIELD OFFICER:** Jacob Morison (on leave)



<sup>13</sup> Taranaki Fish and Game Region means the area so described in the NZ Gazette 24 May 1990, No.83 at page 1861

## 1 Game That May Be Hunted or Killed - Duration of the 2024/2025 Season

Species	Season Duration (dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit	Hunting Area
Grey/mallard duck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	12	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	10	All areas
	22 and 23 Feb 2025	10	Area C
	1 and 2 Mar 2025	10	Area C
	8 to 10 Mar 2025	10	Area C
Black swan	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	2	All areas
Pūkeko	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	5	Areas A & B
	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	10	Area C
California quail	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	5	All areas
Cock pheasant	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	2	All areas
Bobwhite (Virginian) quail	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	5	All areas
Red-legged partridge	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	2	All areas
Pheasant, both sexes	4 May to 25 August 2024	No limit	Upland game properties with special conditions in clause 6 for this region

## 2 Definition of Areas

- 2.1 Area A:** That area within the following boundary commencing at Waiaruhe Road; then by that road, Owhakura Road, Whangaehu Valley Road and Fields Track to Kakatahi; then by straight lines to Pipiriki and Tawhata; then by Tawhata Road to the boundary; then by the generally eastern boundary of the region to Waiaruhe Road.
- 2.2 Area B:** That area within the following boundary commencing at Waiaruhe Road; then by that road, Owhakura Road, Whangaehu Valley Road and Fields Track to Kakatahi; then by straight lines to Pipiriki and Makakaho Junction down the eastern bank of the Waitotara River to the sea; then by the sea coast and generally eastern boundary of the region to Waiaruhe Road.
- 2.3 Area C:** The balance of the region contained by the westerly boundaries of Area A and B and the sea coast between the Mokau River and Waitotara River mouths.

### 3 Shooting Hours

6.30am to 6.15pm.

### 4 Decoy Limit

No limit.

### 5 Special Conditions

#### 5.1 Special Paradise Shelduck Season

**Area C only:** For the Special Paradise Shelduck Season on 22 February, 23 February, 1 March, 2 March, 8 March, 9 March and 10 March 2025, the hours of hunting are extended to 6.30am to 8.00pm. In addition, all hunters, including land occupiers, must, within a month of the end of the season, provide the Taranaki Fish and Game Council with particulars of: the dates and locations where they hunted paradise shelduck; the hours hunted each day; the number of birds taken each day; and the number of birds not retrieved.

**5.2** No person shall hunt, as specified, within 100m of any urban sewage oxidation pond.

**5.3** No person may wilfully leave on the hunting ground any game bird(s) shot or parts of any game birds shot.

**5.4** No person may shoot game from a boat on the Whanganui River downstream of Kemps Pole (Kauarapaoa Stream confluence).

**5.5** No person may herd or drive waterfowl for the purpose of hunting or killing them.

**5.6** Any game bird licence holder who has a Department of Conservation authorisation to take or kill wildlife for the purpose of hawking or falconry may hunt with an Australasian Harrier (*Circus approximans*) to take game birds. This is subject to the season length and bag limit for each game bird species in clause 1 of this notice for this region and subject to any conditions imposed by the Director-General of Conservation under such a permit

### 6 Upland Game Properties with Special Conditions

**6.1** This clause applies to the following specified property only:

(a) Paetawa station: 1308 ha, more or less, at 366a Kauarapaoa Road, Whanganui, being Lots 1 and 2 DP 29356.

**6.2** Where hunting takes place in any specified property defined in this notice, no person shall have in that

person's possession outside that specified property any game taken from that specified property, unless affixed to the game is a label with the name of the specified property where that game was taken or killed written legibly on it, and the additional words on the label, "for personal consumption, not for sale or profit" written legibly on it.

- 6.3** A person must not clip the wings of a bird released on any specified property after the bird is 8 weeks old.
- 6.4** A person must not clip the beak of any bird released on any specified property at any time.
- 6.5** A person must not hunt a pheasant before it is 18 weeks old.
- 6.6** A person must not hunt waterfowl on a specified property on the same day that a pheasant hunt takes place on that property.
- 6.7** The unlimited mixed sex daily bag limit for the specified property shall only apply when at least 400 pheasants have been released on to that specified property within 5 months of the opening day of the season, Otherwise the daily bag limit shall be 2 cock pheasants.
- 6.8** A property owner listed in subclause (1) or a lessee of that property owner must keep a register of:
  - (a) the names and addresses of hunters and all other persons who take game from that property;
  - (b) the number and type of birds taken by those persons;
  - (c) the description of that person's role in the hunting and killing of game birds on that day.

## HUNTING TARANAKI WATERFOWL

The Taranaki Region has many rivers and streams, coastal dune lakes and ponds that provide good habitat for waterfowl. This translates into consistently good hunting and Taranaki duck hunters are among the most successful in the North Island.

Mallard duck is the predominant game species and in addition to traditional hunting from maimai on ponds and lakes, jump shooting along streams, rivers, drains and farm oxidation ponds is also productive. Good evening shooting can be had throughout the season on farm dams and wet paddocks, or on recently harvested stubble fields and in paddocks where supplementary feed is being fed to stock.

Paradise shelduck are widespread throughout the region and in

particular around the Taranaki ring-plain. Farmers and vegetable growers often welcome hunters harvesting these birds which may otherwise impact on areas of new grass or recovering pasture or crops at other times of the year. To further assist with managing their impact a special season for paradise shelduck will also be held in late February and early March 2025 in Area C (Taranaki) to disperse birds after the moult. All hunters, including land occupiers are required to hold a permit to hunt during a special season. Please contact the Whanganui or New Plymouth offices of Fish & Game NZ in early February 2025 for details.

Similarly, landowners are often supportive of hunting pūkeko from wetlands adjacent to maize growing or other cropping areas, where they can cause damage at planting time. Pūkeko numbers are greatest around the Taranaki ring-plain and south along the coast to Whanganui, and the extended season provides an additional hunting opportunity after the duck season has finished.

## UPLAND GAME

Scattered populations of pheasant and California quail are present in the coastal sand country and lowland pine plantations. There are also good pheasant populations, which are often overlooked, in the back country, particularly where there are scrubby rough areas adjacent to streams and rivers. Driving around these areas early or late in the day and particularly in spring is a good way to identify productive spots and make initial approaches regarding access.

## ACCESS

Most hunting opportunities are on private farmland and the appropriate permission should be sought. In this region many farmers are receptive to a polite request; just remember to leave the gun and dog behind when you make your first approach. Often farmers are hunters themselves and while access over opening weekend may not be an option there may be opportunities later in the season.

Permits are available through a weekly ballot from the Whanganui office of Fish & Game for upland game hunting in several Whanganui coastal areas, including Harakeke Forest and Nukumarū Recreation Reserve. Contact the Whanganui office for the latest opportunities and how to obtain a permit for these.

# WELLINGTON - Fish & Game Region<sup>14</sup>

OFFICE: 292 Featherston St, Palmerston North 4410  
POSTAL ADDRESS: PO Box 1325, Palmerston North 4440  
PHONE: (06) 359 0409  
E-MAIL: [wellington@fishandgame.org.nz](mailto:wellington@fishandgame.org.nz)  
CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Phil Teal  
ADMINISTRATION  
MANAGER: Corinne Deans  
FISH & GAME OFFICERS: Matt Kavermann (Senior)  
Hamish Carnachan (Senior Comms)  
RMA/TECHNICAL: Ami Coughlan



14 Wellington Fish and Game Region means the area so described in the NZ Gazette 24 May 1990, No.83 at page 1861



## 1 Game That May Be Hunted or Killed - Duration of the 2024/2025 Season

<i>Species</i>	<i>Season Duration (dates inclusive)</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limit</i>	<i>Hunting Area</i>
Grey/mallard duck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	12	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	10	All areas
Pūkeko	6 May to 25 Aug 2024	5	All areas
Black swan	6 May to 30 Jun 2024	5	All areas
Brown quail	Closed season	0	All areas
California quail	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	5	All areas
Cock pheasant	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	2	All areas
Pheasant, both sexes	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	No Limit	Upland game properties with special conditions specified in clause 5 for this Region
Red-legged partridge	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	1	All areas

## 2 Shooting Hours

6.30am to 6.30pm

## 4 Decoy Limit

No limit.

## 5 Upland Game Properties with Special Conditions

**5.1** This clause applies to the following specified properties only:

- (a) Lagoon Hill Station: 653 ha, more or less, at 134 Lagoon Hill Rd, Tukurumuri, South Wairarapa, being Lot 1 DP 579663 and Lot 4 DP 579663.

**5.2** Where hunting takes place in any specified property defined in subclause (1), no person shall have in that person's possession outside that specified property any game taken from that specified property, unless affixed to the game is a label with the name of the specified property where that game was taken or killed written legibly on it, and the additional words on the label, "for personal consumption, not for sale or profit", written

legibly on it.

- 5.3** A person must not clip the wings of a bird released on any specified property after the bird is 8 weeks old.
- 5.4** A person must not clip the beak of any bird released on any specified property at any time.
- 5.5** A person must not hunt:
  - (a) pheasant before it is 18 weeks old;
  - (b) a red-legged partridge before it is 16 weeks old.
- 5.6** A person must not hunt waterfowl on a specified property on the same day that a pheasant or red-legged partridge hunt takes place on that property.
- 5.7** The unlimited daily bag for any specified property shall only apply when at least 400 pheasants and/or red-legged partridges have been released on to that specified property within 5 months of the opening day of the season; otherwise the daily bag limit shall be 2 birds.
- 5.8** The owner of a property listed in subclause (1) or a lessee of that property owner must keep a register of:
  - (a) the names and addresses of hunters and all other persons who take game from that property;
  - (b) the number and type of birds taken by those persons;
  - (c) the description of that person's role in the hunting and killing of game birds on that day.

## 6 Special conditions

No person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, within the Wellington region with any magazine extensions on a shotgun of a bore smaller than 10 gauge (including 12, 16, 20, 28, .410).



## HUNTING IN WELLINGTON

Some of the best quality waterfowl hunting in the Wellington Fish and Game region can be found in the public hunting areas. Any game bird licence holder who obtains our Game Bird Hunting Access permit, may hunt the following wetlands after opening weekend for the remainder of the game season, or dates as printed in the permit booklet:

- Wairarapa Moana (Lake Wairarapa)
- Lake Omanu near Foxton (after Kings' Birthday Weekend)
- Makurerua Swamp 25 km south of Palmerston North
- Pukepuke Lagoon 4 km north of Himatangi Beach
- Pheasant and California quail hunting is available in 3 forests. Waitarere Forest (IFS Forestry); Erindale Forest (Wairarapa Estate Ltd); and Santoft Forests (Ernslaw One Ltd). The Game Bird Hunting Access Permit includes maps and conditions of access and includes a number of areas within the Wellington Fish and Game Region.



## 1080 WARNING

1080 is highly toxic to dogs. Toxicity can last for several months in the target species. If in doubt and you wish to hunt where 1080 warning signs are erected, check with your Regional Council (Manawatu-Whanganui 0800 800 800; Wellington 0800 496 734) or the land manager.

## HUNTING BALLOTS

There are a limited number of balloted hunting stands available each year within some of the named conservation areas. These are advertised in mid-October each year.



*Photo: Barry Harcourt*



# BLUE DUCK - WHIO, A THREATENED SPECIES.

In parts of the country whio (blue duck) populations are increasing in response to predator control, and birds are being seen from time to time on farmland in the vicinity of forested streams. They commonly do low level flights up and down streams in early morning and evening meaning a quick shooter can easily mistake them in low light. This threatened species is fully protected, and apart from setting conservation efforts back a step, killing one can mean a \$100,000 fine.

**Please take care to identify your target beyond all doubt so whio, along with all of our other protected birds, are not mistakenly shot.**

# YOUR ORDER

<b>NEW PRODUCTS</b> (No product is valid for postage)	<b>Price</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Total</b>
2024 Mallard drake Game Bird Habitat stamp	\$10.00		\$
2024 Mallard drake Game Bird Habitat first day cover	\$12.00		\$
2024 Mallard drake Game Bird Habitat miniature sheet	\$11.50		\$
2024 Mallard drake Game Bird Habitat miniature sheet first day cover	\$14.00		\$
2024 Mallard drake Game Bird Habitat Limited Edition Photo Print	\$65.00		\$

If you have a preference for the Photo Print number, please indicate it here.  
Numbers will be allocated on a 'first come, first served' basis, and we will endeavour to meet your requirements where possible.

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2022 Cock pheasant Limited Edition Photo Print	\$65.00		\$
2021 New Zealand shoveler Limited Edition Photo Print	\$65.00		\$
Plus overseas postage (see below)			\$
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<b>SHIPPING INFORMATION</b>	<b>Stamp &amp; Miniature Sheet</b>	<b>Photo Print</b>	<b>First Day Cover</b>
<b>AUSTRALIA</b> - 13 working days	NZ\$4.00	NZ\$7.50	No charge
<b>SOUTH PACIFIC</b> - 13 working days	NZ\$4.00	NZ\$10.80	No charge
<b>EAST ASIA AND NORTH AMERICA</b> - 13 working days	NZ\$4.60	NZ\$12.50	No charge
<b>REST OF WORLD</b> - 13 working days	NZ\$4.60	NZ\$14.00	No charge

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**World Wetlands Day, held every year on 2 February, marks the date of the adoption of intergovernmental treaty the Convention on Wetlands. The New Zealand Game Bird Habitat Collection is issued every year on this date; the 2024 issue is the 31st in the series and features a mallard drake.**

*The game bird species selected to feature in the Game Bird Habitat Trust's 2024 photo competition was the mallard, with a spectacular image of a drake in flight captured by David Towgood.*

*New Zealand's population of mallards, or rakiraki, descends from birds introduced from both America and Europe. They were first introduced when in 1867 when British gamebirds were brought across the Tasman from Australia. They subsequently crossbred with native grey ducks, leading to variations in plumage and a reduction in the population of native greys.*



Stamp RRP: \$10.00

*Mallard drakes are generally 10% larger than hens. They have glossy, dark-green heads with thin white collars separating their heads from their maroon breasts. Their backs and flanks are pale grey, and their rumps and tails blackish. The secondary flight feathers are metallic blue. The bills are yellow and legs and feet bright orange. By contrast, females are dull brown, and have brownish-grey bills with orange tips.*

*Mallards are the most common water bird in New Zealand. They occur throughout the mainland, on surrounding islands and on all vegetated*

*subantarctic islands. They utilise a wide range of habitats including urban streams and parks, isolated lakes, drains in pastoral areas, slow-flowing rivers, lowland lakes, hydro-dams, alpine tarns and estuaries.*

*Hunted during the annual May-June waterfowl season, approximately 500,000 mallards are shot each year.*



Miniature sheet RRP: \$11.50



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