

OF THURSDAY, X MARCH 2019

WELLINGTON: XXX DAY, X MARCH 2019 — ISSUE NO. X

OPEN SEASON FOR GAME

IN

FISH AND GAME REGIONS

Government Notice**Wildlife Act 1953
Wildlife Regulations 1955
New Zealand Game Bird Habitat Stamp Regulations 1993****Open Season for Game in Fish and Game Regions**

Under sections 15 and 16 of the Wildlife Act 1953, the Minister of Conservation declares an open season for game in the Fish and Game Regions from 4 May 2019 to 1 May 2020 inclusive, subject to the conditions specified in the First and Second Schedules of this notice.

The Minister of Conservation gives consent, under section 17(2) of the Wildlife Act 1953, to the hunting or killing of game in the manner set out in this notice.

New Zealand Game Bird Habitat Stamp

A game bird habitat stamp must¹ be affixed to every licence to hunt or kill game or (in the case of licences issued electronically or in the form of plastic cards) a reproduction of the stamp incorporated within it. The following form of the 2019 Game Bird Habitat Stamp is approved².



The 2019 Game Bird Habitat Stamp has a face value of ten dollars (\$10.00). A fee of three dollars (\$3.00) only is payable³ for every game bird habitat stamp supplied with a licence to hunt or kill game.

First Schedule Hunting conditions generally common to all Fish and Game Regions.

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

¹Section 19A(1) of the Wildlife Act 1953

² Sections 19A(2)(a)(i) and 19A(2)(a)(ii) of the Wildlife Act 1953

³ Section 72(3A) of the Wildlife Act 1953

FIRST SCHEDULE**Hunting conditions generally common to all fish and game regions****1 Bag limits**

- (1) 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 2019, when that person may have in his or her possession twice the number of game birds specified as the daily bag limit for Saturday 4 May 2019.
- (2) A person may possess more game than specified in sub-clause (1) 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 person⁴ 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 4(9), 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 extensions⁵, 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

- (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 using a 10 or 12 gauge cartridge. Non-toxic alternative shot may be used, including steel.
- (2) For the purposes of this requirement, "waterfowl" means any of the following game species:
- Black swan (*Cygnus atratus*);

⁴Section 17 of the Wildlife Act 1953

⁵Amended 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

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 rhynchotis*);

Pukeko (*Porphyrio porphyrio melanotus*).

(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 Shotguns of a Bore Smaller Than 12 Gauge and Muzzle Loaders Exempt in Relation to Use of Lead Shot

Hunters are encouraged not to use lead shot in shotguns of a bore smaller than 12 gauge (including 16, 20, 28 gauge) or muzzle loaders within 200 metres of all waterways and wetlands for the 2019 season.

This remains voluntary in 2019 for smaller-gauge users but will become mandatory (lead shot prohibited) for the 2020 season across all Department of Conservation and Fish and Game administered lands. In 2021 lead shot will be prohibited for all licence holders (irrespective of gauge used) across all lands (public and private) hunting gamebirds within 200 metres of all waterways and wetlands.

7 Camouflaged Rowboats

A person⁶ 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:

Northland – no excluded period

Auckland/Waikato – excluding 4 and 5 May 2019

Eastern – excluding 4 and 5 May 2019

Hawke’s Bay – excluding 4 and 5 May 2019

Taranaki – no excluded period

Wellington – excluding 4 and 5 May 2019

Nelson/Marlborough – no excluded period

West Coast – no excluded period

North Canterbury – excluding 4 and 5 May 2019

Central South Island – excluding 4 and 5 May 2019

Otago – excluding Clutha River 4 to 12 May 2019 inclusive

Southland – excluding the Matarua, Aparima, Oreti, Waiau and Waimatuku rivers and their tributaries 4 to 31 May 2019 inclusive.

8 Restriction on Taking of Game

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

⁶Section 18(1)(f)(vi) of the Wildlife Act 1953

⁷Section 18(1)(f)(v) of the Wildlife Act 1953

9 Pegging Day

- (1) Stand claimants who claimed and occupied a stand during the 2018 Game Season may claim that stand at any time prior to pegging day (up to 10.00 a.m. on 7 April 2019) following the purchase of the 2019 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.
- (2) Otherwise, unclaimed stands can only be claimed any time after 10.00am on 7 April 2019 in all Fish and Game Regions.
- (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.
- (4) The licence holder claiming a stand must be present in person at the stand when marking it up.
- (5) No one can claim more than one stand.
- (6) A stand cannot be claimed closer than 90 metres to a stand already claimed by another person without that person's consent.
- (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.

10 Conditions

These conditions will expire at the end of the open season for game specified under the Second Schedule for each Fish and Game Region.

SECOND SCHEDULE**Regionally specific hunting conditions, bag limits, closed and open game areas and the like.****WEST COAST FISH AND GAME REGION⁸****1 Game That May be Hunted or Killed—Duration of 2019/2020 Season**

Species	Season Duration (dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit	Hunting Area
Grey/mallard duck and any hybrid of those species	4 May to 28 Jul 2019	Aggregate bag 15	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	4 May to 28 Jul 2019	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	4 May to 28 Jul 2019	15	All areas
	2 Mar to 10 Mar 2020 (Junior licence holders only)	5	
Pukeko	4 May to 28 Jul 2019	10	North of the Taramakau River
	2 Mar to 10 Mar 2020 (Junior licence holders only)	5	
	4 May to 28 Jul 2019	20	South of the Taramakau River
Black swan	4 May to 28 Jul 2019	4	All areas
Cock Pheasant	4 May to 28 Jul 2019	2	All areas

2 Shooting Hours

6.30am to 6.30pm (May to July inclusive).

6.30am to 8.00pm (March)

3 Decoy Limit

No limit.

4 Special conditions

No person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, within the West Coast region with any magazine shotgun of a bore smaller than 10 gauge 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 4 shells in the magazine, with no more than 5 shells in the magazine and chamber combined, at any one time.

Approved at Wellington this th day of February 2019

The Honourable Eugenie Sage
Minister of Conservation

⁸Reference to Description: *Gazette*, No. 83, of 24 May 1990, at page 1861

