

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.****NELSON MARLBOROUGH 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 | 8 | All areas |
| NZ shoveler duck | 4 May to 28 Jul 2019 | 2 | All areas |
| Paradise shelduck | 4 May to 28 Jul 2019 | 10 | All areas, except Tasman/Golden Bay area |
| Pukeko | 4 May to 28 Jul 2019 | 15 | Tasman/Golden Bay area |
| | 4 May to 28 Jul 2019 | 10 | Except East Coast/Kaikoura area |
| | 4 May to 28 Jul 2019 | 2 | East Coast/Kaikoura area only |
| | 29 Jul to 27 Oct 2019 | 10 | Tasman/Golden Bay area only |
| | 1 Jan 2020 to 23 Feb 2020 | 10 | Tasman/Golden Bay area only |
| Black swan | 4 May to 28 Jul 2019 | 10 | All areas |
| California quail | 4 May to 25 Aug 2019 | 10 | Except Motueka and Waimea River Bermland |
| | 1 Jun to 25 Aug 2019 | 10 | Motueka and Waimea River Bermland only |
| Cock pheasant (subject to clause 5(4) for this region) | 1 Jun to 3 Jun 2019 | 1 | All publicly administered land (excludes Crown Forest land) |
| | 22 and 23 Jun 2019 | 1 | |
| | 20 and 21 Jul 2019 | 1 | |
| Cock pheasant (subject to clause 5(4) for this region) | 4 May to 28 Jul 2019 | 1 | All privately owned land as well as Crown Forest Land, and Rabbit Island (Fish & Game organised hunt only) |
| Chukar (subject to clause 5(7) for this region) | 1 Jul to 31 Jul | 2 | All areas |

2 Definition of Areas

(1) **Wairau Lagoons:** That area defined as all open waters, islands and the peninsula between Chandlers Lagoon and Big Lagoon, south of the Wairau River mouth, including Te Aropipi Channel and south to the White Bluffs.

(2) **Tasman/Golden Bay area:** The area west of the Bryant/Gordon Range, north of State Highway 63 from St Arnaud to Kawatiri Junction encompassing Tasman & Golden Bays.

(3) **Motueka River Bermland:** The area adjacent to the Motueka River downstream of the Alexander Bluff Bridge within the boundaries of State Highway 61 and Old Wharf Road to the east and the Motueka River West Bank Road, Umukuri Road and Lodder Lane in the west.

(4) **Waimea River Bermland:** That area known as the Waimea Bermland contained within the stopbanks (or a 200 metre strip from both riverbanks where stopbanks are not present) of the Waimea and Wairoa Rivers up to the junction of the Lee River and the Wai-iti River up to State Highway 6 (Wai-iti

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

Bridge). Hunters are advised not to hunt the area between Pugh Road and Brightwater due to safety issues with the proximity of the cycleway and roads.

(5) East Coast/Kaikoura Area: The area to the south of the Awatere Valley/Molesworth Road and the Redwood Pass Road.

3 Shooting Hours

6.30am to 6.30pm during May, then 6.45am to 6.15pm until 25 August 2019. For the remaining pukeko season, sunrise to sunset.

4 Decoy Limit

No limit.

5 Special Conditions

- (1)** All permanent hunting stands/maimais used for the purposes of hunting of game on the Wairau Lagoons must be situated above the mean high-water level.
- (2)** Moored camouflaged boats are permitted for hunting or killing game in the Wairau Lagoons, but shall not be within 200 metres of any other hunting stand.
- (3)** Farmers who hunt their own property under section 19 of the Wildlife Act 1953 are allowed to do so without having to purchase a licence, although they are subject to this notice and the Regulations. Those farmers who wish to do so can receive a current copy of the regional newsletter and national magazine. Contact the Nelson Fish and Game Council office to place your address on the mailing list.
- (4)** The pheasant season for all Crown Forestry land has been increased subject to usual forestry access hunting permit requirements. Although a permit/diary is required when hunting Crown forestry land, pheasant hunting on private land is no longer subject to diary/permit requirements. Permits are available on request from the Fish and Game Council office in Richmond at no cost.
- (5)** Waimea Estuary. Due to the proximity of the cycleway, those hunting Pearl Creek and Neiman Creek are advised to use caution.
- (6)** No person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, within the Nelson/Marlborough Fish and Game region with any magazine extensions on a shotgun of a bore smaller than 10 gauge (including 12, 16, 20, 28, 410).
- (7)** Chukar hunting by permit only and subject to strict access conditions. Permits are available on request from the Fish and Game Council office in Richmond at no cost.

Approved at Wellington this th day of February 2019

The Honourable Eugenie Sage
Minister of Conservation