

Hunting Calendar

(Continued from Page 6)

Ducks, High Plains Zone

Season: Oct. 8-Jan. 2, 2012 and Jan. 21-29, 2012
 Area open: High Plains Zone
 Daily bag limit: 6
 Possession limit: Twice the daily limit

Ducks, Early Zone

Season: Oct. 8-Dec. 4, 2011 and Dec. 17-Jan. 1, 2012
 Area open: Early Zone
 Daily bag limit: 6
 Possession limit: Twice the daily limit

Ducks, Late Zone

Season: Oct. 29-Jan. 1, 2012 and Jan. 21-29, 2012
 Area open: Late Zone
 Daily bag limit: 6
 Possession limit: Twice the daily limit

Ducks, Southeast Zone

Season: Nov. 5, 2011-Jan. 8, 2012 and Jan. 21-29, 2012
 Area open: Southeast Zone
 Daily bag limit: 6
 Possession limit: Twice the daily limit

Duck Limits

The daily bag limit is 6 ducks, which may include no more than 5 mallards (only two of which may be hens), 3 wood ducks, 2 pintails, 2 scaup, 2 redhead, and 1 canvasback. Daily bag limit for mergansers is 5 (only two hooded mergansers, and daily limit for coots is 15.

Youth Waterfowl Seasons

High Plains Zone: Oct. 1-2, 2011
 Early Zone: Oct. 1-2, 2011
 Late Zone: Oct. 22-23, 2011
 Southeast Zone: Oct. 22-23, 2011

Canada Geese

Season: Oct. 29-Nov. 6, 2011 and Nov. 9-Feb. 12, 2012
 Area open: Statewide
 Daily bag limit: 3 (including Brant)
 Possession limit: 6

White-fronted Geese

Season: Oct. 29-Jan. 1, 2012 and Feb. 4-12, 2012
 Area open: Statewide
 Daily bag limit: 2
 Possession limit: 4

Light Geese

Season: Oct. 29-Nov. 6, 2011 and Nov. 9, 2011-Feb. 12, 2012
 Area open: Statewide
 Daily bag limit: 20
 Possession limit: No limit
 NOTE - Light geese may also be taken from Feb. 13 - April 30, 2012. During this period, there will be no bag or possession limit on light geese. In addition, participants will be allowed to use unplugged shotguns and electronic calls and take light geese from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset during the period of the conservation order.

Sandhill Crane

Season: Nov. 9-Jan 5, 2012
 Daily bag limit: 3
 Possession limit: 6

Upland Game Bird Seasons

Pheasant

Regular: November 12, 2011 - January 31, 2012
 Youth: November 5 - 6, 2011
 Area Open: Statewide
 Daily Bag Limit: 4 cocks in regular season, 2 cocks in youth season
 NOTE: Pheasants in possession

for transportation must retain intact a foot, plumage, or some part that will determine sex.

Quail

Regular: November 12, 2011 - January 31, 2012
 Youth: November 5-6, 2011
 Area Open: Statewide
 Daily Bag Limit: 8 in regular season, 4 in youth season

Prairie Chicken

Early (East zone only): Sept. 15 - Oct. 15, 2011
 Daily Bag Limit: 2
 Regular (East and Northwest zones): Nov. 19, 2011 - Jan. 31, 2012
 Daily Bag Limit: 2
 Southwest Zone: Nov. 19 - Dec. 31, 2011
 Daily Bag Limit: 1

Small Game

Squirrel

Regular: June 1 - Feb. 29, 2012
 Area Open: Statewide
 Daily bag limit: 5
 Possession limit: 20

Rabbits (Cottontail and Jackrabbit)

Regular: All year
 Area Open: Statewide
 Daily bag limit: 10
 Possession limit: 30

Bullfrogs

Regular: July 1 - Oct. 31
 Daily bag limit: 8
 Possession limit: 24

Crow

Regular: Nov. 10 - March 10, 2011
 Area Open: Statewide
 Limit: No Limit

Failed corn crop could affect hunting

With the recent failed corn crops in Kansas due to this year's drought, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reminds all hunters and landowners of federal waterfowl hunting regulations concerning crop manipulation (baiting).

Farm producers who use their land for hunting or lease the hunting rights on their land need to make sure they are following federal waterfowl hunting regulations concerning baiting.

"With the drought and heat conditions in Kansas this year and the failed corn crops in parts of Kansas, farmers are looking to manipulate some crops to prepare the fields for next year," says Kenny Kessler, USFWS special agent.

As a waterfowl hunter or land manager, it is your responsibility to know and obey all federal and state laws that govern the sport. While it is permissible to manipulate a crop for dove hunting, the only legal hunting that can occur for waterfowl is if, under these circumstances, the crop is 'normally' harvested," Kessler explains. "Rotary mowing of a corn crop, for example, would not be a 'normal' harvest, and therefore, hunting waterfowl would not be allowed on or near the areas manipulated."

Hunters should avoid hunting waterfowl over unharvested crops

that have been trampled by livestock or subjected to other types of manipulations, such as disked down crops where grain has better scattered or exposed.

Areas where grain is present and stored, such as grain elevators and grain bins, are illegal to hunt waterfowl over, as are areas where grain is present for the purpose of feeding livestock. Additionally, hunting over freshly planted wildlife food plots that contain exposed grain is illegal.

Finally, it's illegal to hunt croplands where a crop has been harvested and the removed grain is redistributed or "added back" onto the area where grown.

On the other hand, waterfowl hunting is allowed in fields of unharvested standing crops, including over standing crops that have been flooded. It's also permissible to flood fields after crops are harvested and use these areas for waterfowl hunting.

It's advisable for landowners to follow normal harvesting timelines if corn fields are planned to be used for hunting waterfowl.

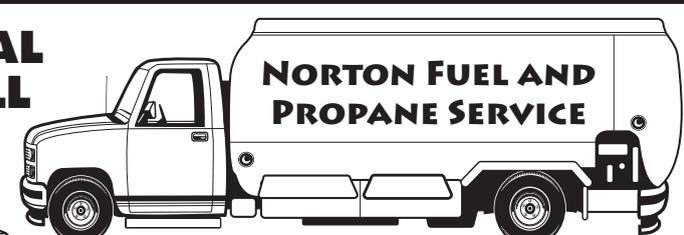
For additional information, see Waterfowl Hunting and Baiting, and Dove Hunting and Baiting on the USFWS website, www.fws.gov or contact Kessler at 785-232-5149 or Wichita, KS, at 316-788-4474.



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