

HUNTING WITH CROSS-BOWS

Cross-bows may not be used to hunt big game during archery-only seasons. The only exception is for an eligible handicapped hunter who has obtained a cross-bow licence.

A Bowhunting Permit, as required by bowhunters using conventional archery equipment, is not required by persons who are hunting with cross-bows.

In accordance with federal regulations, cross-bows may not be used for waterfowl hunting.

Persons hunting big game with a cross-bow must use an authorized cross-bow and arrow (bolt). An authorized cross-bow is one that requires 100 pounds or more of pull to draw the string or cable to its cocked position. There is no restriction on arrow length however it must have a tip as described under the heading "Bowhunting" on page 42.

GAME BIRD REGULATIONS

Please Remember

Federal regulations prohibit the use of lead shot or cross-bows for hunting waterfowl.

BE AWARE!

IN ALBERTA SAGE GROUSE ARE PROTECTED

Sage grouse are listed as an endangered species in Alberta. Be sure your target is not a sage grouse.

IT IS PROHIBITED TO HUNT SHARP-TAILED GROUSE IN MANY WMUS WITHIN ALBERTA (see page 60 for allowed WMUs)

Be sure of your target. For a more detailed description of Sharp-tailed Grouse, please go to: www.mywildalberta.com/hunting/GameSpecies

All birds are protected except the following: Starlings, Crows, Pigeons, House (English) Sparrows, Magpies, Blackbirds, Common Grackles, Brown-headed Cowbirds, Ravens (hunted on private land by residents) and any other birds for which an open season has been declared by the regulations as indicated in this summary.

Falconry Hunting

Falconers are permitted to hunt upland game birds and migratory birds, by means of falconry, in all areas of the province except in national parks and those restricted areas identified on pages 34 to 37.

To hunt any game birds by means of falconry, Recreational Falconry Permit holders must possess all the same hunting licence(s) as those who would hunt game birds with firearms are required to possess (see page 24).

Seasons

The open season to hunt upland game birds by means of falconry is from August 15, 2017 to March 31, 2018. Migratory game birds may be hunted by means of falconry during the designated open season for migratory birds (page 60).

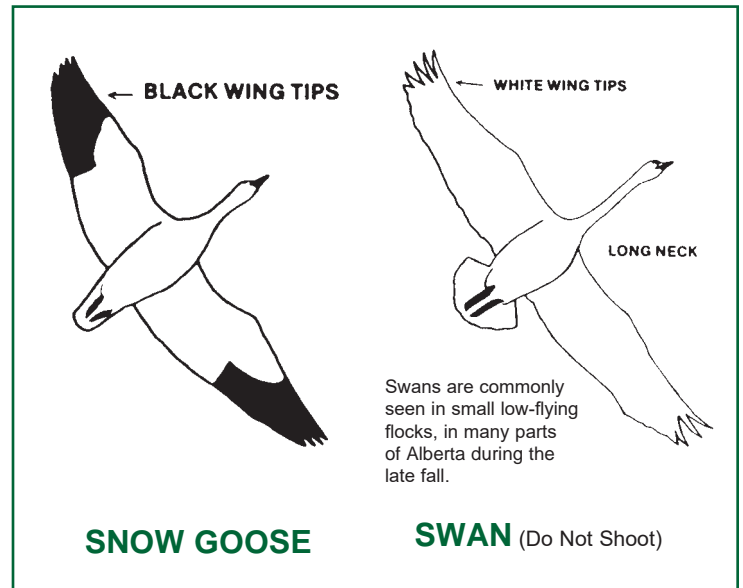
Bowhunting

Hunters wishing to hunt game birds with a bow and arrow, other than a cross-bow, require a Bowhunting Permit in addition to the other applicable licences.

Special Hunting Areas

In WMUs 212 and 248 the hunting of game birds is only permitted with bows and arrows, cross-bows, shotguns or a falconry bird. Cross-bows cannot be used to hunt migratory birds.

In WMU 410 the hunting of game birds is permitted only with bows and arrows or a falconry bird.



Swans are commonly seen in small low-flying flocks, in many parts of Alberta during the late fall.

Spring Snow/Ross's Goose Hunting Season

Alberta has a spring snow/Ross's goose hunting season from March 15 through June 15 annually. Please refer to the game bird hunting table on page 60 for valid WMUs. Regular fall hunting restrictions and daily bag limit (50) apply. As in the fall hunting season, there is no longer a possession limit for snow/Ross's geese.



WATERFOWLER HERITAGE DAYS

The first Saturday and Sunday in September are designated as Waterfowler Heritage Days in Alberta. Youth (age 12-17) may hunt waterfowl on these dates without a licence (provincial or federal) provided they are qualified to do so (see Licensing requirements for first-time hunters, page 15 and 17) and are accompanied by an adult migratory game bird hunting permit holder. The adult permit holder may not have in their possession or use a firearm, or accompany more than 2 minors at one time while mentoring youth. The youth can only hunt waterfowl species for which there will be an open season in that WMU. Regular bag limits and possession limits apply.

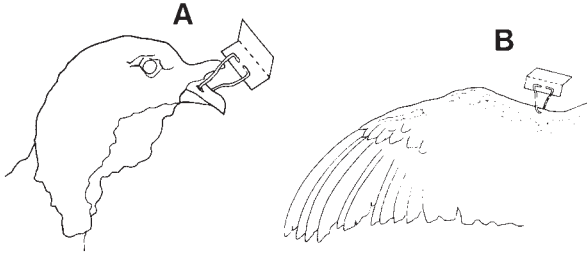
MERRIAM'S TURKEY DRAW

Merriam's Turkey Special Licences are issued through a draw and one bearded male is permitted per special licence holder.

Each Merriam's turkey harvested must be tagged

- immediately after the bird is killed, and
- in the manner described below with the paper tag supplied with each licence. All instructions on the back of the paper tag must be followed.

Merriam's Turkey Tagging Instructions



Tagging Instructions: (A) place wire through the nares, or (B) through the patagium between the tendon and the bones of the wing.

Tags must remain affixed until the carcass is delivered to

- the usual residence of the person who killed it, and is butchered, cut and packaged for consumption, or
- to a premises in respect of which there is a Food Establishment Permit issued under the *Public Health Act* or Licence for the Operation of an Abattoir issued under the *Meat Inspection Act*.

Please refer to items 1, 11 and 12 of Prohibitions, Game Bird section (page 29) for additional requirements concerning weapons and evidence of sex and species for Merriam's turkey.

Differentiating Between Males and females

The gobbler (male) has a fleshy growth (wattle) which hangs from the under side of the throat or chin. Males also exhibit fatty growths (caruncles) located on the side and back of the neck and on the lower throat. A fleshy projection above the bill of males (snood, or dew bill) will also distinguish males from females. Males also have a pronounced "beard" on the lower neck up to 25 centimetres (10 inches) long. The beard is usually absent or very small in females.

Common Characteristics to Differentiate Males and Females

Characteristic	Female	Male
Beard	Very rare, short	Regularly, up to 25cm (10") long
Gobble	Never	Frequently, especially in spring
Head Colour	Grey-brown, grey-blue	Bright turquoise blue, bright red, bright blue, sometimes grayish white

It is unlawful to hunt any wildlife or **discharge a firearm** between one-half hour after sunset and one-half hour before sunrise.

Sunrise/Sunset Table (Mountain Daylight Time)

Date	Sunrise	Sunset
May 01, 2018	6:15 a.m.	8:52 p.m.
May 05, 2018	6:08 a.m.	8:58 p.m.
May 10, 2018	6:01 a.m.	9:05 p.m.
May 15, 2018	5:54 a.m.	9:12 p.m.
May 20, 2018	5:47 a.m.	9:19 p.m.
May 25, 2018	5:42 a.m.	9:25 p.m.
May 30, 2018	5:38 a.m.	9:30 p.m.

ATTENTION TURKEY HUNTERS

Fish and Wildlife will be conducting a hunter harvest survey after the fall hunting season to obtain information required for turkey management. Your cooperation and assistance in collecting and providing the necessary information is required. We request that you keep track of the number of days hunted in each WMU.



MOUNTAIN VIEW TAXIDERMY

403.556.6644

NEW - SPECIALIZING IN BIRDS AND SMALL MAMMALS ONLY.









6312 - 46 Street, Olds, Alberta T4H 1M6
www.mountainviewtaxidermy.com