

Mourning Doves and Sandhill Cranes

September 2012 and 2013

2012 and 2013 MOURNING DOVE SEASON AND LIMITS

September 1–September 30
Daily Bag Limit: 10
Possession Limit After First Day Of
Season: 20

- Federal Migratory Game Bird Harvest Information Program Validation—REQUIRED**
- Federal Migratory Bird Stamp—NOT REQUIRED**
- Nontoxic Shot—NOT REQUIRED**
- Shotgun capable of carrying no more than 3 shells—REQUIRED**

Migratory Birds are birds protected by federal law as a result of treaties signed with other countries. Protected migratory birds are listed in Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations, Section. 10.13. This list includes almost all birds found in the United States with the exception of the house sparrow, feral pigeon (commonly called rock dove), European starling, Eurasian collared-dove, mute swan, and upland game birds (which are protected by state laws).

All migratory birds are protected. However, a subset of migratory birds classified as migratory game birds may be hunted in accordance with State and Federal regulations. The list of migratory game birds includes species of ducks, geese (including brant), swans, doves and pigeons, cranes, rails, coots, gallinules and moorhens, woodcock and snipe, if there is an open season.

Stamps and Validations

No person shall hunt mourning doves, sandhill cranes, ducks, geese, brant, coots or common snipe anywhere within the state of Idaho without having in possession the appropriate hunting license that has been validated for the Federal Migratory Game Bird Harvest Information Program (Federal HIP). The validation cost is \$1.75 for residents and \$4.75 for nonresidents, and is available at any license vendor. This validation is in effect from January 1 through December 31 of each year.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and all state wildlife agencies cooperate in this program, which began in 1992, to gather better harvest information on migratory game birds. Idaho joined the program in 1996. The Federal HIP will allow migratory game bird managers to more accurately estimate the annual harvest of waterfowl, shore birds (snipe, for example), and doves to gain a better understanding of bird populations.

Equipment Restrictions:

- Shot Sizes: Sandhill cranes may legally be taken with shot size T (0.2 inches in diameter) or smaller (lead or nontoxic).

Federal Regulations

In addition to state rules, the following federal regulations apply to the taking, possessing, shipping, transporting, or storing of migratory game birds. This information is only a summary of the major federal regulations which are found in Title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, Part 20, and which are available at http://www.access.gpo.gov/nara/cfr/waisidx_08/50cfr20_08.html. Violation of federal regulations is also a violation of state law.

It is against the law to take migratory game birds:

- With a trap, snare, net, rifle, pistol, swivel gun, shotgun larger than a 10 gauge, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive, or stupefying substance.
- With any shotgun capable of holding more than three shells unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler which is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun.
- From a sink box (a low floating device having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water).
- From or with the aid or use of a car or other motor-driven land conveyance, or any aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs may take from any stationary motor vehicle or stationary motor-driven land conveyance (Also see: “It Is Unlawful” section on page 45). “Paraplegic” means an individual inflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs.
- By use or aid of live birds as decoys.
- From or by means of any motorboat or sailboat unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sail furled, and its progress therefrom has ceased.
- Using records or tapes of migratory bird calls, or sounds, or electronically amplified imitations of bird calls.
- By driving, rallying, or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sailboat to put them in the range of the hunters.

- By the aid of baiting (placing feed such as corn, wheat, salt, or other feed to constitute a lure or enticement), or on or over any baited areas. Hunters should be aware that a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after removal of the bait, and it is not necessary for the hunter to know an area is baited to be in violation.
- During the closed season.

Wanton Waste:

No person shall kill or cripple any migratory game bird without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird, and retain it in his actual custody, at the place where taken or between that place and either (a) his automobile or principal means of land transportation; or (b) his personal abode or temporary or transient place of lodging; or (c) a migratory bird preservation facility; or (d) a post office; or (e) a common carrier facility.

Federal Limits:

Daily Bag Limit: No person shall take in any one day more than one daily bag limit.

No person shall possess while in the field, have in custody, or transport more than one daily bag limit between the place where taken and either:

- His/her automobile or principle means of land transportation.
- His/her personal abode or temporary place of lodging.
- A migratory bird preservation facility.
- A post office.
- A common carrier facility.

Other Possession:

- No person shall possess more than one daily limit on the opening day of the season.
- No person shall possess more than the possession limit even when such birds are stored at home or are being processed at a commercial preservation facility.
- No person, including commercial facilities shall possess migratory birds of another unless such birds are tagged by the taker with the total number of birds and species, date killed, and signed by the taker.

Tagging:

No person shall give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information: (a) the hunter's signature, (b) the hunter's address, (c) the total number of birds involved, by species, and (d) the dates such birds were killed. Tagging is required if the birds are being transported by another person for the hunter, or if the birds have been left for cleaning, storage (including temporary storage), shipment, or taxidermy services (see proxy statement on page 48).

Termination of Possession:

The possession of birds taken by any hunter shall be deemed to have ceased when such birds have been delivered by him to:

- Another person as a gift when accompanied by a proxy statement. See page 48.
- A post office, or a common carrier, or a migratory bird preservation facility, **and** consigned for transport by the Postal Service or a common carrier to some person other than the hunter.

(Note: Migratory birds left in processing or storage facilities, home freezers, etc., are part of a hunter's "possession limit" until conditions above are met. Birds must be given or assigned to someone other than the taker in order to end or terminate possession.)

Species Identification:

No person shall transport within the United States any migratory game birds, except doves and band-tailed pigeons, unless the head or one fully feathered wing remains attached to each such bird at all times while being transported from the place where taken until they have arrived at the personal abode of the possessor or a migratory bird preservation facility.

Shipment:

No person shall ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with: (a) the name and address of the person sending the birds, (b) the name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent, and (c) the number of birds, by species, contained in the package.

Importation: For information regarding the importation of migratory birds killed in another country, hunters should consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66.

Other Regulations:

National Wildlife Refuges: More restrictive regulations may apply to National Wildlife Refuges. Hunters should check refuge regulations before hunting.

Indian-owned Reservation Lands: Federal law prohibits unauthorized trespass on Indian-owned reservation lands for hunting, fishing, or trapping purposes (18 US 1165).

Eurasian-collared Dove

Eurasian-collared doves are larger than mourning doves. They have a black collar on the top part of the neck, pale gray coloration, and dark primary feathers. These doves are an introduced species that have recently expanded their range into Idaho. Should you harvest Eurasian-collared doves while dove hunting, it is recommended they are left unplucked during transport so they can be distinguished from mourning doves. Eurasian-collared doves will not count as part of your aggregate bag of mourning doves as long as they are identifiable.

Eurasian-collared doves may be taken in any amounts and at any time by holders of the appropriate valid Idaho hunting or combination hunting license, provided such taking is not in violation of state, county, or city laws, ordinances or regulations.



Eurasian-collared Dove

Square tail



Mourning Dove

Pointed tail

Photos © Brian Small

Sandhill Crane Hunts

Seasons and limits for sandhill cranes are set annually. Therefore, season changes are published in a separate brochure. These brochures will be available at Fish and Game offices and license vendors statewide by August each year.

License Requirements: No person shall hunt sandhill cranes without having in possession the appropriate hunting license, sandhill crane tag and federal HIP validation.

Sandhill crane hunting occurs in eastern Idaho. Hunt areas will be described in the brochure.

One of the purposes of these hunts is to help reduce crop damage by sandhill cranes. Check with local landowners or department offices for information on crane use areas and remember: **Always**

“Ask First to Hunt on Private Property.”

Official Shooting Hours for Mourning Doves and Sandhill Cranes During September (One-half hour before sunrise to sunset)

The tables below have been adjusted to actual shooting times. No further adjustment is necessary.

September	Benewah, Bonner, Boundary, Clearwater, Kootenai, Latah, Lewis, that portion of Idaho County north of the Salmon River, Nez Perce and Shoshone counties.		Blaine, Butte, Camas, Cassia, Custer, Gooding, Jerome, Lemhi, Lincoln, Minidoka, and Twin Falls counties.		Bannock, Bear Lake, Bingham, Bonneville, Caribou, Clark, Franklin, Fremont, Jefferson, Madison, Oneida, Power and Teton counties.		Ada, Adams, Boise, Canyon, Elmore, Gem, that portion of Idaho County south of the Salmon River, Owyhee, Payette, Valley, and Washington counties.	
	Begin AM	End PM	Begin AM	End PM	Begin AM	End PM	Begin AM	End PM
1	5:38	7:31	6:31	8:13	6:25	8:05	6:38	8:21
2	5:39	7:29	6:32	8:12	6:26	8:04	6:39	8:19
3	5:41	7:27	6:33	8:10	6:27	8:02	6:40	8:17
4	5:42	7:25	6:34	8:08	6:28	8:00	6:42	8:15
5	5:43	7:23	6:35	8:07	6:29	7:59	6:43	8:14
6	5:45	7:21	6:36	8:05	6:30	7:57	6:44	8:12
7	5:46	7:19	6:37	8:03	6:31	7:55	6:45	8:10
8	5:48	7:17	6:38	8:01	6:32	7:53	6:46	8:08
9	5:49	7:15	6:39	8:00	6:33	7:52	6:47	8:06
10	5:50	7:13	6:40	7:58	6:34	7:50	6:48	8:05
11	5:52	7:11	6:41	7:56	6:35	7:48	6:49	8:03
12	5:53	7:09	6:42	7:54	6:36	7:46	6:50	8:01
13	5:54	7:07	6:43	7:52	6:37	7:44	6:52	7:59
14	5:56	7:05	6:45	7:51	6:29	7:43	6:53	7:57
15	5:57	7:03	6:46	7:49	6:40	7:41	6:54	7:56
16	5:58	7:01	6:47	7:47	6:41	7:39	6:55	7:54
17	6:00	6:59	6:48	7:45	6:42	7:37	6:56	7:52
18	6:01	6:57	6:49	7:43	6:43	7:35	6:57	7:50
19	6:02	6:55	6:50	7:41	6:44	7:34	6:58	7:48
20	6:04	6:53	6:52	7:39	6:45	7:32	6:59	7:46
21	6:05	6:51	6:53	7:37	6:46	7:30	7:01	7:45
22	6:06	6:49	6:54	7:36	6:47	7:28	7:02	7:43
23	6:07	6:47	6:55	7:35	6:48	7:26	7:03	7:41
24	6:08	6:45	6:56	7:33	6:49	7:25	7:04	7:39
25	6:09	6:42	6:58	7:31	6:50	7:24	7:05	7:37
26	6:11	6:40	6:59	7:29	6:52	7:22	7:06	7:35
27	6:12	6:38	7:00	7:27	6:53	7:20	7:08	7:34
28	6:13	6:35	7:02	7:25	6:54	7:18	7:09	7:32
29	6:14	6:33	7:03	7:23	6:55	7:16	7:10	7:30
30	6:15	6:31	7:04	7:21	6:56	7:14	7:11	7:28

Dove & Crane
Shooting Hours