

2009-10

HUNTING/TRAPPING SEASON DETAILS

SNIPE	
Open Area:	Statewide
Opens:	Sept. 19
Closes:	Dec. 6
Daily Limit:	8
Possession Limit:	16
Shooting Hours:	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

WOODCOCK	
Open Area:	Statewide
Opens:	Sept. 19
Closes:	Nov. 2
Daily Limit:	3
Possession Limit:	6
Shooting Hours:	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

CROWS		
Open Area:	Statewide	
Fall Season	Opens:	Aug. 8
	Closes:	Oct. 18
Spring Season	Opens:	Mar. 13, 2010
	Closes:	Apr. 25, 2010
Daily Limit:	There is no limit on crows.	
Possession Limit:	There is no limit on crows.	
Shooting Hours:	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	

In addition to the crow season, crows may be taken when committing or about to commit depredations as specified in Federal law (50CFR21.43).

HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE	
Open Area:	Statewide
Opens:	Sept. 12
Closes:	Jan. 3
Daily Limit:	3
Possession Limit:	12
Shooting Hours:	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

RUFFED GROUSE	
Opens:	Sept. 12
Closes:	Jan. 3
Daily Limit:	3
Possession Limit:	12
Shooting Hours:	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

Open Area – Bottineau, Rolette, Cavalier, Pembina and Walsh counties in North Dakota. Also that portion of the J. Clark Salyer National Wildlife Refuge in McHenry County lying south of the Upham-Willow City Road is open to ruffed grouse hunting.

PHEASANT		
Open Area:	Regular Season*	Delayed Opener**
Opens:	Oct. 10	Oct. 17
Closes:	Jan. 3	Jan. 3
Daily Limit:	3	
Possession Limit:	12	
Shooting Hours:	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	

ONLY MALE PHEASANTS MAY BE TAKEN
***Regular season** – statewide except for **Delayed Opener** area.

****Delayed Opener** includes area in Williams and McKenzie counties starting where BN Railroad enters North Dakota, then east on the railroad tracks to the west boundary of the Trenton Wildlife Management Area (southwest of Trenton), then south and east on the boundary of the Trenton WMA to the Missouri River, then directly across the river, then west to the Yellowstone River, then south and west on the Yellowstone River to the Montana border, then north to the point of origin.

As per legislative action, nonresidents cannot hunt any game from October 10 through October 16 on North Dakota Game and Fish Department wildlife management areas or on Private Land Open To Sportsmen (PLOTS) areas.

SHARP-TAILED GROUSE	
Opens:	Sept. 12
Closes:	Jan. 3
Daily Limit:	3
Possession Limit:	12
Shooting Hours:	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

Open Area – Statewide except for that portion of North Dakota bordered on the west by ND Highway 32, on the north by the Sheyenne River, on the south by ND Highway 11 and on the east by the Red and Bois de Sioux rivers, and an area in Grand Forks County bordered on the east by the Red River, the south by U.S. Highway 2, the west by ND Highway 18, and the north by the Walsh and Grand Forks county line. Both areas are closed to sharp-tailed grouse hunting except during the special prairie grouse season for people who received lottery permits to hunt during that season.

DOVES	
Open Area:	Statewide
Opens:	Sept. 1
Closes:	Oct. 30
Daily Limit:	15
Possession Limit:	30
Shooting Hours:	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

It is illegal to hunt doves or other birds resting on utility lines or fixtures adjacent to such lines.

TREE SQUIRRELS	
Open Area:	Statewide
Opens:	Sept. 12
Closes:	Jan. 3
Daily Limit:	4
Possession Limit:	12
Shooting Hours:	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset

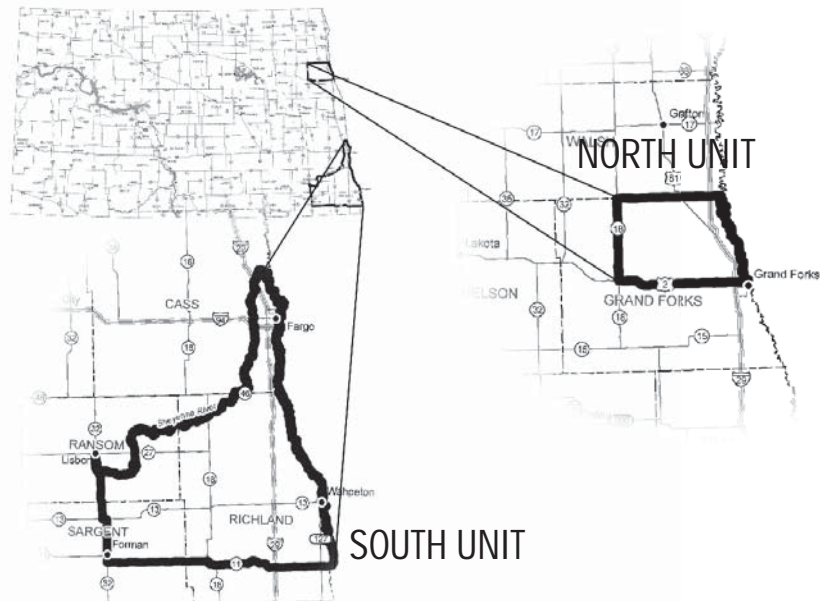
Tree squirrels may be taken with firearms loaded with shot, rimfire and muzzleloading firearms, or with bow and arrows legal for taking upland game.

PRAIRIE CHICKENS		
Open Areas:	North Unit	South Unit
Opens:	Oct. 10	Oct. 10
Closes:	Oct. 18	Oct. 18
Season Limit:	2	2
Shooting Hours:	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	

A permit holder may also take sharp-tailed grouse in the designated areas throughout the season, with a daily limit of 3 and possession limit of 12. However, once a permit holder harvests two prairie chickens they may no longer hunt sharp-tailed grouse or prairie chickens in the designated area.

Fifty permits were issued by lottery in the North Unit and 30 in the South Unit. A permit holder may take only two prairie chickens during this special season and each prairie chicken must be tagged immediately with the Department issued tag. (Two tags will be issued with each permit.)

PRAIRIE CHICKEN UNITS



SANDHILL CRANES

Open Area:	Zone 1	Zone 2
Opens:	Sept. 19	Sept. 19
Closes:	Nov. 15	Oct. 25
Daily Limit:	3	2
Possession Limit:	6	4
Shooting Hours: 1/2 hour before sunrise to:	1 pm CDT Sept. 19 through Oct. 31 2 pm CST Nov. 1 through Nov. 15	

Zone 1 – That portion of North Dakota west of U.S. Highway 281.

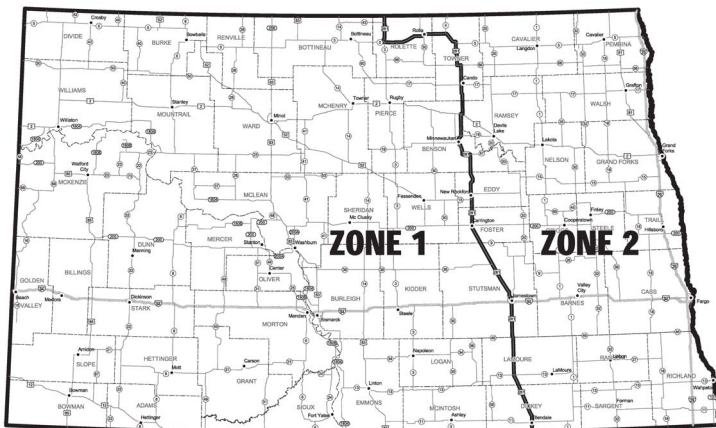
Zone 2 – That portion of North Dakota east of U.S. Highway 281.

Hunters may not aggregate daily bag or possession limits from the two zones. (A hunter may take up to 3 cranes in one day, provided all 3 birds are taken from Zone 1, or no more than 2 birds are taken from Zone 2.)

In addition to other licenses required, sandhill crane hunters must possess a \$5 sandhill crane hunting permit available from the North Dakota Game and Fish Department's Bismarck office.

It is unlawful to shoot from open water or from a boat or other floating vessel in open water while hunting sandhill cranes.

SANDHILL CRANE ZONES



BEAVER AND RACCOON HUNTING, TRAPPING AND UNDERWATER CABLE DEVICES

Open year-round (Officially from Apr. 1, 2009 – Mar. 31, 2010)

BEAVER AND RACCOON CABLE DEVICES ON LAND

Opens: Nov. 21 – Closes: May 9

From March 15, 2010, through May 9, 2010, cable devices must be within 50 feet of water; they must be no more than 4 inches off the ground and they must have a stop restricting loop size to 12 or less inches in diameter.

Beaver dams may be dismantled when their presence causes property damage.

MINK AND WEASEL TRAPPING

Opens: Oct. 24 – Closes: Mar. 14

MINK AND WEASEL CABLE DEVICES

Opens: Nov. 21 – Closes: Mar. 14

WEASEL HUNTING

Opens: Oct. 24 – Closes: Mar. 14

Weasels may be hunted statewide with .22 caliber rimfire rifles or pistols, muzzleloaders of .45 caliber or smaller, longbows and crossbows.

MUSKRAT TRAPPING

Opens: Oct. 24 – Closes: Mar. 14

MUSKRAT CABLE DEVICES

Opens: Nov. 21 – Closes: Mar. 14

Muskrat huts may be opened for insertion of traps or cable devices; however, the huts must be restored to their approximate original condition to prevent freeze-up.

In addition, muskrats may be trapped statewide with foothold traps or colony traps using underwater sets that are at least 2 inches under water, or trapped with conibear-type traps or cable devices with no more than 2 inches of the conibear trap or cable device above the water surface from March 15, 2010, through May 9, 2010. During this time period, float-sets are prohibited, and trapping or cable devices on the outside of any muskrat house or structure of any size is prohibited.

MUSKRAT HUNTING

Opens: Nov. 21 – Closes: May 9

MINK HUNTING

Opens: Nov. 21 – Closes: Mar. 14

Mink and muskrat may be hunted statewide with .22 caliber rimfire rifles or pistols, muzzleloaders of .45 caliber or smaller, longbows and crossbows.

BOBCAT HUNTING OR TRAPPING

Opens: Nov. 7 – Closes: Mar. 14

BOBCAT CABLE DEVICES

Opens: Nov. 21 – Closes: Mar. 14

Open only in the area south and west of the Missouri River.

The pelt and carcass of each bobcat must be presented to Game and Fish Department personnel for inspection and tagging prior to sale or transfer of possession, but no later than 14 days after the close of the season. No bobcat pelt will be tagged until the animal is skinned and presented with the intact carcass. The carcass shall remain property of the Department. No fur dealer shall possess or purchase an untagged bobcat.

RED FOX, GRAY FOX, COYOTE AND BADGER HUNTING OR TRAPPING

Open year-round (Officially from Apr. 1, 2009 – Mar. 31, 2010)

In addition, red fox, gray fox and coyote may be hunted at any hour from November 23, 2009, through March 14, 2010. Any hunter who engages in the hunting of red fox, gray fox or coyote during the time from half-hour after sunset to half-hour before sunrise, must hunt exclusively on foot and use a predator call. The use of a spotlight or any other artificial light is prohibited.

RED FOX, GRAY FOX, COYOTE AND BADGER CABLE DEVICES

Opens: Nov. 21 – Closes: Mar. 14

MOUNTAIN LIONS

Zone 1: Opens September 4 – Closes March 31, 2010

Zone 2: Opens: September 4 – Closes March 31, 2010

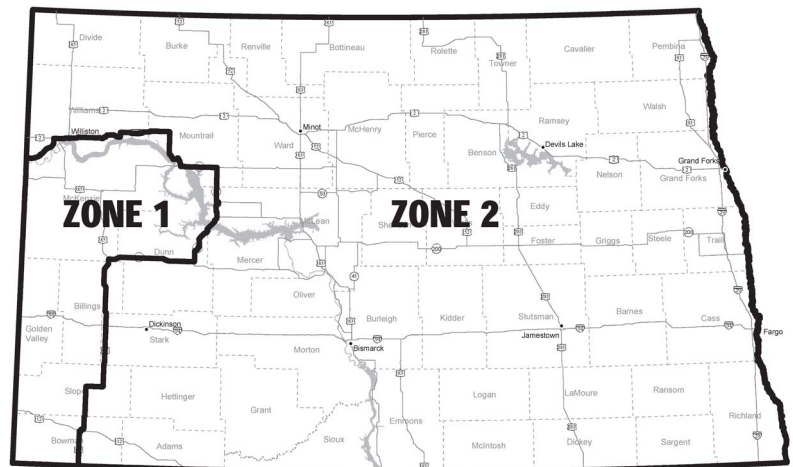
There is a quota of eight mountain lions in Zone 1. Once the quota is reached, the season in Zone 1 will close immediately. The quota does not include lions taken by USDA Wildlife Services, Department personnel for management purposes, private landowners in defense of livestock, for human safety issues, road killed animals, animals incidentally taken by traps or cable restraints, or those taken on Indian land.

There is no mountain lion quota in Zone 2.

Mountain lions may be hunted statewide by residents using legal firearms or archery equipment during regular hunting hours. No hunting or pursuing with dogs will be allowed until December 1. Cable devices and traps are not allowed. The limit is one lion per hunter per season. Kittens (lions with visible spots), or females accompanied by kittens may not be taken. Any lion taken must be reported to the Department within 12 hours and the entire intact animal must be submitted for analysis. Legally taken animals will be returned to the hunter.

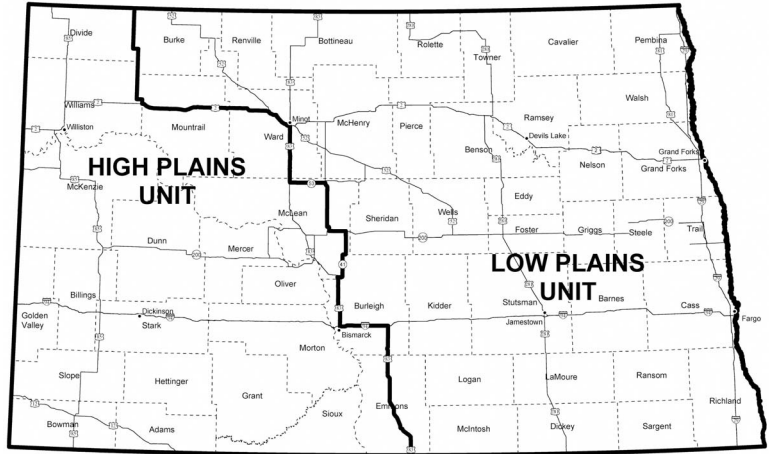
For more information, see the North Dakota 2009-10 Fur-bearer Guide.

MOUNTAIN LION ZONES



WATERFOWL SEASON DATES

MISSOURI RIVER CANADA GOOSE ZONE



High Plains Unit

Opens: September 26 (residents only), October 3 (nonresidents)

Closes: December 6

Opens: December 12

Closes: January 3

Shooting hours: Half-hour before sunrise to sunset.

Daily limits: Six ducks, which may include no more than five mallards (two of which may be hens), two scaup, two redheads, three wood ducks, one canvasback, one pintail. Possession limit is twice the daily limit.

White-Fronted Geese (statewide)

Opens: September 26 (residents only), October 3 (nonresidents)

Closes: December 6

Daily limit: Two geese, possession limit is four.

Canada Geese Regular Season

Opens: September 26 (residents only), October 3 (nonresidents)

Closes: January 1 (Missouri River Zone), December 24 (rest of state)

Daily limit: Three Canada geese daily, possession limit six.

Light (Snow) Geese (statewide)

Opens: September 26 (residents only), October 3 (nonresidents)

Closes: January 1

Daily limit: 20 geese, with no possession limit.

Shooting hours for all geese: Half-hour before sunrise to 1 p.m. each day through October 31. Starting November 1, shooting hours are a half-hour before sunrise to 2 p.m. each day. **Exception:** shooting hours are a half-hour before sunrise to sunset on all Saturdays and Wednesdays through the end of each season. Starting December 2, all-day hunting is also allowed on Sundays through the end of each season.

Early Canada Goose Season

Opens: August 15 (statewide)

Closes: September 7 (Missouri River Zone), September 15 (statewide)

Shooting hours: Half-hour before sunrise to sunset.

Daily limit: Five Canada geese daily, possession limit 10.

Note: Nonresidents can hunt during the early Canada goose season in Sargent and Richland counties without counting against their 14-day regular season period. Nonresidents who hunt in other counties during this season would have at least a seven-day period count against their 14-day license.

Youth Waterfowl Season

(For legally licensed residents and nonresidents ages 15 and younger.)

Opens: September 19

Closes: September 20

Shooting hours: Half-hour before sunrise to sunset.

Daily limit: Ducks – same as regular duck season. Three Canada geese.

Regular Duck Season

Low Plains Unit

Opens: September 26 (residents only), October 3 (nonresidents)

Closes: December 6

Shooting hours: Half-hour before sunrise to sunset.