

THE MARYLAND WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES – MARCH 17, 2021

Vice-Chair Tina Gregor called the meeting to order at 11:32 a.m. This meeting was held via teleconference and videoconference. Vice-Chair Gregor asked for a roll call of individuals who were on the “call.” Because of the anonymity of Google Meet callers, it was impossible to determine the identity of every participant.

Approval for March 17, 2021, Meeting Agenda

- Motion:
 1. Commissioner Schroyer moved to accept the Wildlife Advisory Commission March 17, 2021, Meeting Agenda.
 2. Commissioner Gulbrandsen seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.

Approval for Minutes from February 17, 2021 Meeting

- Motion:
 1. Commissioner Gulbrandsen moved to accept the February 17, 2021 meeting minutes as presented.
 2. Commissioner Schroyer seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.

Migratory Game Bird Advisory Committee Report – Presentation by Game Bird Section Leader Bill Harvey.

- The Migratory Game Bird Advisory Committee (MGBAC) remains at capacity. The chairperson is still Ladd Johnson.
- A minimum of two meetings are held each year.
- The Chair asked to report out that there are no outstanding issues and the MGBAC is functioning well at this time.

Finalize Selections of 2020-2021 Waterfowl Hunting Seasons – Presentation by Waterfowl Section Leader Josh Homyack.

- The staff has been collecting comments via the online forum. The full view of the comments is online. As it is available through the link that Ms. Spencer sent to the Commission before the meeting.
- Waterfowl Project Leader Josh Homyack presented a summary of the comments by PowerPoint Presentation. [ATTACHMENT A]
- The Commission received the Proposed Maryland Migratory Game Bird Seasons and Bag Limits for the 2021-22 hunting year. [ATTACHMENT B]
- One MGBAC member questioned the AP Canada Goose season re: the possibility of extending the season to February 5th. Waterfowl Project Leader Homyack explained that running the AP season to February 5 will push the youth day later, miss the last few days of overlap with the duck season, and push the Light Goose Conservation Season a week later. The MGBAC concluded with supporting the season as-presented.
- Q&A Section:
 1. Commissioner Wagner asked about moving the Sea Duck Season and whether there was feedback from members of MGBAC.
 - a. Several years ago when the season was cut to 60 days, staff had a lot of stakeholder dialogue with the sea duck hunting and outfitting community. Some hunters preferred an earlier start but others preferred running the sea duck season to the latest possible date. The hunters who hunt offshore of Ocean City wanted the season earlier because the birds move down the coast

and north of the Bay depending on the migration. Others, usually a majority, prefer the season in the current window.

- Motion:
 1. Commissioner Gulbrandsen moved to accept the Proposed Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons for 2021-2022 as presented.
 2. Commissioner Wagner seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.

2021 Legislative Session Update – Presentation by Associate Director Glenn Therres.

- Management Assistant Ms. Spencer emailed the Commission the Summary of 2021 Proposed Legislation, Wildlife and Heritage Service. [ATTACHMENT C]
- Associate Director Therres summarized the bills from the list of the Summary of 2021 Proposed Legislation that Wildlife and Heritage Service are tracking. The Wildlife and Heritage Service is monitoring 37 bills that have some implication for the Wildlife and Heritage Service.
- HB0293 Natural Resources – Organized Killing Contests – penalty was amended in Senate from \$25 to \$100.
- HB0325 Talbot County – Deer and Turkey Hunting – Sundays has been amended to conform to the standard language in the existing subtitle.
- HB0007 Venison Donation Expenses- Income Tax Credit and Grant Program has been amended to create a pilot program for Montgomery County and to get a tax credit but it would allow a hunter to process the deer and donate the deer. It creates a statewide grant to fund venison processing for local jurisdictions. The processing of this grant and/or funding of the program may not use special or federal wildlife/hunting-related funding.
- The Commission can review natural resources related bills by going to <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/mgawebsite/>
- Discussion ensued on the following bills: HB0579, HB0594/SB0798, HB0615, SB0633/HB0856, and SB0798/HB0594.

Natural Resources Police Update – Presentation was given by Lieutenant Charles Fawley.

- Lt. Fawley outlined the NRP activity for February. NRP statewide issued 213 citations and 602 warnings. There was a total of 74 wildlife violations, 28 boating, 104 public lands, and 170 fisheries.
- The breakdown of the wildlife actions: 36 law violations, 36 wildlife regulations, 1 spotlighting/jacklighting, and 1 baiting.
- NRP is targeting trout fishing enforcements, fisheries violations, and getting gear up for the spring turkey season. NRP is actively involved in the permit inspections.
- Acquisition for a new helicopter is in the works for NRP. The former helicopter is very old.
- NRP received over 513 applications for the 2021 NRP Academy for 20 positions.
- Commissioner Michael asked Lt. Fawley about the status of getting NRP cases to the courts during COVID-19.
 1. Natural Resources cases are on hold during COVID-19 in some of our counties; except for criminal violations.

Maryland Farm Bureau Update – Presentation was given by Director of Government and Public Relations Colby Ferguson.

- Mr. Ferguson gave an update on HB1025 Pesticides – Carbofuran – Collection, Disposal, and Prohibition on Possession or Storage. The Carbofuran is what killed those bald eagles on Eastern Shore in 2015. Maryland Department of Agriculture (MDA) stopped doing their pesticides disposal program about 11 years ago. Farmers are stuck with these pesticides that they cannot use and dispose of legally. The bill was going to have DNR police look for Carbofuran on farms. There was a big discussion during the hearing, the bill will cause NRP to do something outside the NRP preview. MFB went to the sponsor and informed the sponsor that NRP does not need additional authority for a

wildlife case. NRP already has the authority if NRP is on a wildlife case, and NRP finds that there is a product that killed wildlife, NRP may confiscate the product.

- The MDA has rolled out their pesticides disposal program for farmers. It is available until September 1.
- Mr. Ferguson requested a copy of the final version of the Maryland Farm Bureau Nomination form. Ms. Spencer agreed to send it.

Old Business –

- Hunting License Trend Data and Pittman-Robertson (PR) Fund Discussion – Commission Members
 1. Commissioner Michael sent the proposed letter to the Commission before the meeting. The letter discusses the commission’s interest in lifting the hiring freeze so that WHS can maximize its PR funds. The members of the Commission reviewed the proposed letter.
 2. Commissioner Michael suggested that the fee for a resident license is another topic for a future agenda.
- Motion
 1. Commissioner Michael moved that the proposed letter to the DNR Secretary and the DBM Secretary be added to Wildlife Advisory Commission letterhead and sent.
 2. Commissioner Boyles Griffin seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.
 4. Members of the Commission expressed the excellent job that Commissioner Michael did in the letter.

New Business –

- Chairman Gregor reminded the Commission that it is that time of the year for the Call for Conservationist, Employee, and Farmer of the Year Nominations. Ms. Spencer will send an email to the Commission about the deadline for nominees.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 12:40 P.M.

The next meeting will be held at 10:30 A.M. on Wednesday, April 21, 2021, using Google Meet due to COVID-19.

Attendance

Members:	L. Compton, T. Gregor, S. Boyles Griffin, E. Gulbrandsen, S. Keithley, J. Michael, J. Schroyer, and C. Wagner
Absent:	R. Weinberg
Guest:	C. Ferguson and J. Plummer
Staff:	B. Eyler, C. Fawley, B. Harvey, J. Homyack, T. Larney, J. McKnight, P. Peditto, T. Spencer, and K. Stonesifer, and G. Therres

**Summary of 2021 Proposed Legislation
Wildlife and Heritage Service
(as of March 15, 2021)**

Number/ Chapter (Cross File) Total: 37	Title	Sponsor	Current Status	Org Committees & Hearings	Opp Committees & Hearings
HB0007	Venison Donation Expenses - Income Tax Credit and Grant Program	Delegate Luedtke	In the Senate - First Reading Budget and Taxation	Ways and Means 1/21/2021 - 1:30 PM	Budget and Taxation
HB0092	Procurement - Invasive and Nonnative Plant Species - Prohibition on Use of State Funds	Delegate Luedtke	In the House - Hearing 1/28 at 1:30 p.m.	Health and Government Operations 1/28/2021 - 1:30 PM	
HB0208 (SB0375)	Agriculture – Neonicotinoid Pesticides – Sale and Storage	Delegate Healey	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Environment and Transportation 1/29/2021 - 11:00 AM	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB0225 (SB0605)	Queen Anne's County - Natural Resources - Sunday Hunting	Delegate Arentz	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Environment and Transportation 2/03/2021 - 1:30 PM	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB0293 (SB0200)	Natural Resources - Organized Killing Contests - Restriction	Delegate Stein	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Environment and Transportation 1/15/2021 - 11:00 AM	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB0325 (SB0475)	Talbot County – Deer and Turkey Hunting – Sundays	Delegate Mautz	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Environment and Transportation 2/17/2021 - 1:30 PM	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB0344 (SB0072)	Open Meetings Act – Requirements for State Agencies and Local Boards of Elections (Maryland Transparency Act of 2021)	Delegate Korman	In the House - Hearing 2/11 at 4:00 p.m.	Health and Government Operations 2/11/2021 - 4:00 PM	
HB0472	Agriculture - Use of Glyphosate - Prohibition	Delegate Young, P.	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation; Withdrawn	Environment and Transportation 2/03/2021 - 1:30 PM	
HB0490	Montgomery County – Deer Management Permit Pilot Program MC 15–21	Montgomery County Delegation	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation; Withdrawn	Environment and Transportation	
HB0579	Snare Traps - Prohibition Against Sale or Possession - Alterations	Delegate Hornberger	In the House - Hearing 2/10 at 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 2/10/2021 - 1:30 PM	
HB0594 (SB0798)	Prohibition on Sale of Wildlife - Local Venison Donation Programs - Application	Delegate Fraser-Hidalgo	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation; Withdrawn	Environment and Transportation 2/10/2021 - 1:30 PM	
HB0615	Natural Resources - Sunday Deer Hunting - Prince George's County PG 402-21	Prince George's County Delegation	In the House - Hearing 2/26 at 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 2/26/2021 - 1:30 PM	

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HB0637 (SB0453)	Allegany County and Garrett County - Archery Hunting - Safety Zone	Allegany County Delegation	In the House - Hearing 3/16 at 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/16/2021 - 1:30 PM	
HB0802 (SB0356)	Calvert County - Sunday Hunting	Delegate Clark	In the House - Hearing 3/05 at 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/05/2021 - 1:30 PM	
HB0821	Natural Resources – Hunting Licenses – New Residents	Delegate Rose	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation; Withdrawn	Environment and Transportation	
HB0840 (SB0634)	Somerset County - Natural Resources - Sunday Hunting	Delegate Otto	In the House - Hearing 3/16 at 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/16/2021 - 1:30 PM	
HB0856 (SB0633)	Worcester County - Sunday Hunting - Game Bird and Game Mammal Seasons and Public Land	Delegate Hartman	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation; Withdrawn	Environment and Transportation	
HB0911	Natural Resources - Waterfowl Hunting - Susquehanna Flats	Delegate Lisanti	In the House - Hearing canceled	Environment and Transportation	
HB0928	Baltimore County - Archery Hunting - Safety Zone	Delegate Arikan	In the House - First Reading Environment and Transportation	Environment and Transportation	
HB1017 (SB0769)	Income Tax Credit for Venison Donation – Alterations, Extension, and Testing for Chronic Wasting Disease	Delegate Beitzel	In the House - Hearing 3/11 at 1:30 p.m.	Ways and Means 3/11/2021 - 1:30 PM	
HB1025	Pesticides – Carbofuran – Collection, Disposal, and Prohibition on Possession or Storage	Delegate Terrasa	In the House - Hearing 2/24 at 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 2/24/2021 - 1:30 PM	
HB1134 (SB0318)	Natural Resources - Fishing and Hunting Rights	Delegate Carey	In the House - Hearing 2/26 at 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 2/26/2021 - 1:30 PM	
HB1163 (SB0603)	Caroline County – Sunday Hunting – Deer Hunting Seasons	Caroline County Delegation	In the House - Hearing 3/16 at 1:30 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/16/2021 - 1:30 PM	
SB0072 (HB0344)	Open Meetings Act - Requirements for State Agencies and Local Boards of Elections (Maryland Transparency Act of 2021)	Senator Kagan	In the Senate - Hearing 2/02 at 2:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/02/2021 - 2:00 PM	
SB0200 (HB0293)	Natural Resources - Organized Killing Contests - Restriction	Senator Young	In the House - Hearing 3/24 at 1:30 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 1/21/2021 - 11:00 AM	Environment and Transportation 3/24/2021 - 1:30 PM
SB0318 (HB1134)	Natural Resources - Fishing and Hunting Rights	Senator Bailey	In the Senate - Hearing 2/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/10/2021 - 1:00 PM	

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SB0356 (HB0802)	Calvert County - Sunday Hunting	Senator Bailey	In the Senate - Hearing 3/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/10/2021 - 1:00 PM	
SB0375 (HB0208)	Agriculture – Neonicotinoid Pesticides – Sale and Storage	Senator Kagan	In the House - First Reading Environment and Transportation	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/10/2021 - 1:00 PM	Environment and Transportation
SB0453 (HB0637)	Allegany County and Garrett County - Archery Hunting - Safety Zone	Senator Edwards	In the Senate - Hearing 3/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/10/2021 - 1:00 PM	
SB0475 (HB0325)	Talbot County – Deer and Turkey Hunting – Sundays	Senator Eckardt	In the Senate - Hearing 3/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/10/2021 - 1:00 PM	
SB0603 (HB1163)	Caroline County - Sunday Hunting - Deer Hunting Seasons	Senator Hershey	In the Senate - Hearing 3/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/10/2021 - 1:00 PM	
SB0605 (HB0225)	Queen Anne's County - Natural Resources - Sunday Hunting	Senator Hershey	In the Senate - Hearing 3/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/10/2021 - 1:00 PM	
SB0633 (HB0856)	Worcester County - Sunday Hunting - Game Bird and Game Mammal Seasons and Public Land	Senator Carozza	In the Senate - Unfavorable Report by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs; Withdrawn	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	
SB0634 (HB0840)	Somerset County - Natural Resources - Sunday Hunting	Senator Carozza	In the Senate - Hearing 3/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/10/2021 - 1:00 PM	
SB0769 (HB1017)	Income Tax Credit for Venison Donation - Alterations, Extension, and Testing for Chronic Wasting Disease	Senator Hester	In the Senate - Special Order until 3/18 (Senator Guzzone) Adopted	Budget and Taxation 2/24/2021 - 12:00 PM	
SB0798 (HB0594)	Prohibition on Sale of Wildlife - Local Venison Donation Programs - Application	Senator Gallion	In the Senate - Hearing canceled	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	
SB0899	Natural Resources - Canada Geese - Bag Limits	Senator Bailey	In the Senate - Hearing 3/10 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/10/2021 - 1:00 PM	

Proposed Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons for 2021-22



Public Comment Summary

(in order of frequency of occurrence)

A total of 143 comments were received through the online forum. Comments received included:

- asking for an increase in AP Canada goose daily bag.
- asking for hunting into February (18 ducks; 4 geese).
- comments related to the placement of AP/RP Boundary.
- asking for Sunday hunting for Migratory Game Birds.
- expressing general approval of proposed seasons.
- asking for a Thanksgiving AP Canada goose segment.
- asking to eliminate October duck segment and use days later.
- expressing a desire to eliminate hunting seasons generally.
- implementing a tundra swan season.

“Regular” Duck Hunting Season

Federal Framework

60-day season between Saturday nearest Sept. 24 and January 31 with a daily bag limit of 6 ducks (species restrictions).

Eastern Zone Seasons	Western Zone Seasons
Oct. 16, 2021 - Oct. 23, 2021	Oct. 2, 2021 – Oct. 16, 2021
Nov. 13, 2021 - Nov. 26, 2021	Nov. 20, 2021 – Nov. 26, 2021
Dec. 15, 2021 - Jan. 31, 2022	Dec. 15, 2021 – Jan. 31, 2022

Daily Bag Limit:

6 per day (including mergansers) but no more than 5 sea ducks (4 long-tailed ducks, 4 scoters, 4 eiders), 2 mallards (1 hen), 3 wood ducks, 1 pintail, 2 redheads, 1 scaup*, 2 canvasbacks, 2 hooded mergansers, 2 black ducks (during black duck season), 1 mottled duck, and 1 fulvous tree duck.

- *Scaup hybrid season: Daily bag limit is 1 except between Jan.8, 2022 and Jan. 31, 2022 when 2 scaup per day may be harvested.*

Recommended action: Move forward with proposal as presented.

Maryland Duck Zones



Western Zone

Eastern Zone

Youth/Military Waterfowl Hunting Days



Federal Framework: States can hold 2 youth/military personnel days outside of regular duck season but within 14 days of the end framework dates (Sept. 21 and Jan. 31). Must be on weekends, holidays, or other non-school days.

Proposed Dates: Nov. 6, 2021 and Feb. 5, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: 6 ducks (certain species bag restrictions), 1 Canada goose in the AP Zone or 5 Canada geese in the late RP Zone, 2 brant, 25 light geese, and 15 coots. 2 scaup.

Requirements: Youth hunter must be 16 years of age or younger and accompanied by an unarmed adult at least 21 years old. The adult may assist in calling, setting decoys, and retrieving downed birds. Military veterans (as defined in Section 101 of title 38, United States Code) of any age and members of the armed forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on Active duty (other than for training) can participate in these two hunt days.

Recommended action: Move forward with proposal as presented.

AP Canada Goose Hunting Season

Two Canada geese are shown in flight against a clear blue sky. The geese are in profile, flying from left to right. The larger goose in the foreground is in full flight, with its wings spread wide, showing the dark feathers on the upper side and the lighter feathers on the lower side. Its head is turned slightly towards the viewer. A second, smaller goose is visible behind it, also in flight.

Federal Framework

A 30-day season between Nov. 15 and Feb. 5. Season may be divided into no more than 2 segments.

Proposed Season

Dec. 17, 2021 - Jan. 1, 2022

Jan. 13, 2021 – Jan. 31, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: 1 per day

Recommended action: Move forward with proposal as presented

Atlantic Flyway Resident Population Canada Goose Hunting Season (AFRP Zone)

Federal Framework

80-day season between Nov. 15 and Mar. 10

Daily Bag Limit: 5 per day

Proposed Season:

Nov. 20, 2021 - Nov. 26, 2021

Dec. 15, 2021 - Mar. 10, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: 5 per day

Recommended action: Move forward with proposal as presented.



Atlantic Brant Hunting Season

Federal Framework

50-day season between the Saturday nearest Sept. 24 (Sept. 27) and Jan. 31, with a 2-bird daily bag limit

Proposed Season: Nov. 17, 2021 - Nov. 26, 2021
Dec. 15, 2021 - Jan.31, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: 2 per day

Recommended action: Move forward with proposal as presented.



Light Goose Hunting Season

Federal Framework

107-day season between Oct. 1 and Mar. 10 with a 25-bird daily bag limit and no possession limit

Proposed Season:

Oct. 1, 2021 - Nov. 26, 2021

Dec. 13, 2021 - Jan. 31, 2022

Feb. 5, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: 25

No Possession Limit



Recommended action: Move forward with proposal as presented.

Light Goose Conservation Order Season

Nov. 29, 2021 – Dec. 11, 2021

Feb. 1, 2022 – Feb. 4, 2022

Feb. 7, 2022 – Apr. 15, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: No Limit

Recommended action: Move forward with proposal as presented.



Special Sea Duck Hunting Season

(Sea Duck Zone only)



Federal Framework

A 60 consecutive day season between Sept. 15 and Jan. 31

Proposed Season:

Oct. 30, 2021 - Jan. 7, 2022

Daily Bag Limit:

5, but no more than 4 scoters, 4 long-tailed ducks, 4 eiders.

Recommended action: Move forward with proposal as presented.

Mourning Doves



Federal Framework

90 day season between Sept. 1 – Jan. 31

15 birds/day

No more than 3 season segments

Proposed Season:

Sept. 1, 2021 – Oct. 16, 2022

Oct. 23, 2021 – Nov. 26, 2021

Dec. 17, 2021 – Jan. 8, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: 15 birds/day

Recommended action: Move forward with proposal as presented.

Woodcock



Federal Framework

45 season between Oct. 1 - Jan. 31

3 birds/day

No more than 2 season segments

Proposed Season:

Oct. 20, 2021 - Nov. 26, 2022

Jan. 10, 2022 - Jan. 22, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: 3 birds/day

Recommended action: Move forward with proposal as presented.

PROPOSED MARYLAND MIGRATORY GAME BIRD SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS FOR THE 2021-22 HUNTING YEAR

SPECIAL EARLY RESIDENT POPULATION CANADA GEESE

Federal framework: A 15-day special season may be held between September 1 – 15 in the Eastern zone and a 25-day season between September 1 - 25 in the Western zone.

Proposed Season Dates

Eastern Zone Sep. 1, 2021 - Sept 15, 2021

Western Zone Sep. 1, 2021 - Sept 25, 2021

Daily Bag Limit: 8 in both zones. Possession limit is 3 times the daily limit.

Eastern Hunt Zone: Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Harford, Kent, Queen Anne's, St. Mary's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester Counties; and that part of Anne Arundel County east of Interstate 895, Interstate 97 and Route 3; that part of Prince George's County east of Route 3 and Route 301; and that part of Charles County east of 301 to the Virginia line.

Western Hunt Zone: Allegany, Baltimore, Carroll, Frederick, Garrett, Howard, Montgomery and Washington Counties; and that part of Anne Arundel County west of Interstate 895, Interstate 97 and Route 3; that part of Prince George's County west of Route 3 and Route 301; and that part of Charles County west of 301 to the Virginia line.

Shotguns capable of holding more than 3 shells may be used. Shooting hours in both zones are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

SEPTEMBER TEAL SEASON

Federal framework: States may select a 16 day season to be held between September 1 and 30. Teal season may not run concurrently with other seasons (resident Canada goose) that allow special considerations such as modified shooting hours or unplugged guns.

Proposed Season Dates Sep. 16, 2021 - Sep. 30, 2021

Daily Bag Limit: 6 blue-winged or green-winged teal, singly or in aggregate. The possession limit is 3 times the daily bag limit.

September Teal Hunt Zone: Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Harford, Kent, Queen Anne's, St. Mary's, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester Counties; that part of Anne Arundel County east of Interstate 895, Interstate 97, Route 3; that part of Prince George's County east of Route 3 and Route 301; and that part of Charles County east of 301 to the Virginia line. Shooting hours for teal during this season are from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

DUCKS, COOTS and MERGANSERS

Federal Framework: A 60-day season may be held between the Saturday nearest September 24 and January 31.

Proposed **Eastern Zone** Season Dates Oct. 16, 2021 - Oct. 23, 2021
Nov. 13, 2021 - Nov. 26, 2021
Dec. 15, 2021 - Jan. 31, 2022

Black Duck Nov. 13, 2021 - Nov. 26, 2021
Dec. 15, 2021 - Jan. 31, 2022

The Eastern Duck Hunting Zone Description: That portion of the state not included in the Western Duck Hunting Zone

Proposed **Western Zone** Season Dates Oct. 2, 2021 - Oct. 16, 2021
Nov. 20, 2021 - Nov. 26, 2021
Dec. 15, 2021 - Jan. 31, 2022

Black Duck Nov. 20, 2021 - Nov. 26, 2021
Dec. 15, 2021 - Jan. 31, 2022

The Western Duck Hunting Zone Description: Allegany, Carroll, Garrett, Frederick and Washington counties; and: those portions of Baltimore, Howard, Prince George's, and Montgomery counties west of a line beginning at I83 at the Pennsylvania state line, following I83 south to the intersection of I83 and I695 (Outer Loop), south following I695 (Outer Loop) to its intersection with I95, south following I95 to its intersection with I495 (Outer Loop), and following I495 (Outer Loop) to the Virginia shore of the Potomac River

Duck Daily Bag and Possession Limits for Eastern and Western Duck Zones: The daily bag limit of ducks (including mergansers) is 6. The 6-duck limit shall consist of no more than 5 sea ducks (no more than 4 long-tailed ducks, 4 scoters or 4 eiders), 2 mallards (no more than 1 hen mallard), 3 wood ducks, 1 pintail, 2 redheads, 1 scaup*, 2 hooded mergansers, 2 canvasbacks, 2 black ducks (during black duck open season), 1 fulvous tree duck and 1 mottled duck. All other species of ducks (except harlequin duck) may be taken up to the 6-duck limit. The possession limit is three times the daily bag limit. In addition to the duck bag limit hunters may take 15 coots per day. No open season for harlequin ducks and swans.

*Scaup hybrid season: Daily bag limit is 1 except between Jan. 8, 2022 - Jan 31, 2022 when 2 scaup per day may be harvested.

Note: In the designated sea duck zone, sea ducks may only be taken during the special sea duck season dates (Oct. 30, 2021 - Jan. 7, 2022).

SEA DUCKS (Scoters, Long-tailed Duck and Eiders)

Federal Frameworks: A special 60-day season may be selected between September 15 and January 31 with a 5-bird daily bag limit (no more than 4 long-tailed ducks, 4 scoters or 4 eiders) within established sea duck hunting areas. This bag limit is in addition to the

limits applying to other ducks during the regular duck season. In all other areas, sea ducks may be taken only during the regular open season for ducks and are part of the regular duck season daily bag (not to exceed 4 scoters, 4 eiders or 4 long-tailed ducks) and possession limits.

Proposed Season Dates: Oct. 30, 2021 - Jan. 7, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: 5 (no more than 4 scoters, 4 long-tailed ducks or 4 eiders) per day

YOUTH, VETERAN, AND MILITARY WATERFOWL HUNTING DAYS

Federal Framework: States may select two days per duck-hunting zone, designated as “Youth, Veteran, and Military Waterfowl Hunting Days,” in addition to their regular duck seasons. The days must be held outside any regular duck season on a weekend, holiday or other non-school day when youth hunters would have the maximum opportunity to participate. The days may be held up to 14 days before or after any regular duck season framework, within any split of a regular duck season or within any other open season on migratory birds. New for the 2021-22 hunting season military veterans (as defined in Section 101 of title 38, United States Code) of any age and members of the armed forces on active duty, including members of the National Guard and Reserves on Active duty (other than for training) can participate in these two hunt days.

Proposed Season Dates: Nov. 6, 2021 and Feb. 5, 2022

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: The daily bag limit of ducks (including mergansers) is 6. The 6-duck limit shall consist of no more than 5 sea ducks (no more than 4 long-tailed ducks, 4 scoters or 4 eiders), 2 mallards (no more than 1 hen mallard), 3 wood ducks, 2 scaup, 1 pintail, 2 redheads, 2 hooded mergansers, 2 canvasbacks, 2 black ducks, 1 fulvous tree duck and 1 mottled duck. All other species of ducks (except harlequin duck) may be taken up to the 6-duck limit. In addition, youth hunters may take 1 Canada goose in the Atlantic Population Hunt Zone or 5 Canada Geese in the Late Resident Canada Goose Hunt Zone, 2 brant, 25 light geese and 15 coots. No open season for harlequin ducks and swans.

Any licensed hunter 16 years old or younger may participate during these one-day hunts. Youth of this age who are exempt from the Maryland hunting license requirements may also participate. Youth waterfowl hunters must possess a receipt showing they purchased a \$9 Maryland Migratory Game Bird Hunting Stamp. A Federal Migratory Hunting and Conservation Stamp is required of youth hunters who are 16 years old. Youth hunters must be accompanied by an adult at least 21 years old that holds a valid Maryland hunting license or is exempt from the hunting license requirements. The accompanying adult may call waterfowl, assist with decoys, and retrieve downed birds but may not possess a hunting weapon.

ATLANTIC POPULATION (AP) CANADA GEESE

Federal Framework: AP Zone: A 30-day season may be held between November 15 and February 5, with a 1-bird daily bag limit. These seasons also include white-fronted geese. Unless specified otherwise, seasons may be split into two segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Dec. 17, 2021 - Jan. 1, 2022
Jan. 13, 2022 - Jan. 31, 2022

Bag Limit: 1 per day

AP Zone: Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Harford, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, St. Mary's, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester Counties; and that portion of Carroll County east of Route 31 to the intersection of Route 97 and east of Route 97 to the Pennsylvania line; and that portion of Prince George's County east of Route 3 and Route 301; and that portion of Charles County east of Route 301 to the Virginia line.

AF RESIDENT POPULATION CANADA GEESE

Federal Framework: An 80-day season may be held between November 15 and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Nov. 20, 2021 - Nov. 26, 2021
Dec. 15, 2021 - Mar. 10, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: 5 per day*

RP Zone: Allegany, Frederick, Garrett, Montgomery, and Washington Counties; and that portion of Carroll County west of Route 31 to the intersection of Route 97 and west of Route 97 to the Pennsylvania line; and that portion of Prince George's County west of Route 3 and Route 301; and that portion of Charles County west of Route 301 to the Virginia line.

*Includes Canada geese, cackling geese and white-fronted geese singly or in aggregate.

ATLANTIC BRANT

Federal Framework: States may select a 50-day season between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and January 31, with a 2-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into two segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Nov. 17, 2021 – Nov. 26, 2021
Dec. 15, 2021 - Jan. 31, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: 2 per day

LIGHT GEESE

Federal Framework: States may select a 107-day season between October 1 and March 10, with a 25-bird daily bag limit and no possession limit. States may split their seasons into three segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Oct. 1, 2021 - Nov. 26, 2021
Dec. 13, 2021 - Jan. 31, 2022
Feb. 5, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: 25 per day** No possession limit.

**Includes greater and lesser snow geese and Ross's geese singly or in aggregate.

LIGHT GOOSE CONSERVATION ORDER

Federal Framework: *The conservation order allows new methods of taking light geese, allows shooting hours for light geese to end one-half hour after sunset and imposes no daily bag limits for light geese. Control activities may be conducted only when all waterfowl (including light goose) and crane hunting seasons, excluding falconry, are closed.*

Proposed Season Dates: Nov 29, 2021 - Dec. 11, 2021
 Feb. 1, 2022 - Feb. 4, 2022
 Feb. 7, 2022 - Apr. 15, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: No Limit, no possession limit

Hunt Area: Anne Arundel, Baltimore, Calvert, Caroline, Cecil, Dorchester, Harford, Howard, Kent, Queen Anne's, Somerset, St. Mary's, Talbot, Wicomico and Worcester Counties; and that portion of Carroll County east of Route 31 to the intersection of Route 97, and east of Route 97 to the Pennsylvania line; that portion of Prince George's County east of Route 3 and Route 301; and that portion of Charles County east of Route 301 to the Virginia line. The Special Sea Duck Zone is excluded from this hunt area.

Special Regulations during Light Goose Conservation Order Season:

(1) Participating hunters must possess a \$5 Snow Goose Conservation Order Hunting Season Permit while hunting light geese during this season; (2) Hunters may use shotguns capable of holding more than three shotshells; (3) Hunters may use electronic calls with recordings of light geese; and (4) Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset.

Note: Shooting hours for regular waterfowl seasons are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset except for (1) Resident Canada geese during September seasons when shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to one half hour after sunset, and (2) for light geese during the Light Goose Conservation Order Season when shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one half hour after sunset. All season dates are inclusive. There is no possession limit for light geese; for all other waterfowl, the possession limit is three times the daily bag limit. In the Atlantic Flyway States of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, North Carolina and Pennsylvania, where Sunday hunting is prohibited statewide by State law, all Sundays are closed to all take of migratory waterfowl (including mergansers and coots).

WEBLESS MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS (Doves, Rails, Snipe and Woodcock)

Note: The USFWS recently approved compensatory days for webless migratory game birds for states including Maryland, where Sunday hunting for migratory game birds is prohibited by state law. Prior to this change, Sundays counted against the maximum number of days in states where Sunday hunting is prohibited by state law. Beginning with the 2018-19 hunting season, the federal framework will allow a maximum number of hunting days, rather than calendar days for webless migratory game birds. States were granted compensatory days for waterfowl hunting seasons in 1997.

MOURNING DOVE

Federal Framework: States may select a 90-day season between September 1 and January 31 with a 15-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into three segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Sep. 1, 2021 - Oct. 16, 2021
Oct. 23, 2021 - Nov. 26, 2021
Dec. 17, 2021 - Jan. 8, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: 15 per day

KING AND CLAPPER RAIL

Federal Framework: States may select a 70-day season between September 1 and the last Sunday in January with a 10-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into two segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Sep. 1, 2021 - Nov. 20, 2021

Daily Bag Limit: 10 per day (No more than 1 King Rail)

SORA AND VIRGINIA RAIL

Federal Framework: States may select a 70-day season between September 1 and the last Sunday in January with a 25-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into two segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Sep. 1, 2021 - Nov. 20, 2021

Daily Bag Limit: 25 per day

COMMON SNIPE

Federal Framework: States may select a 107-day season between September 1 and January 31 with an 8-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into two segments.

Proposed Season Dates: Sep. 29, 2021 - Jan 31, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: 8 per day

WOODCOCK

Federal Framework: *States may select a 45-day season between October 1 and January 31 with a 3-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into two segments.*

Proposed Season Dates: Oct. 20, 2021 - Nov. 26, 2021
 Jan. 10, 2022 - Jan. 22, 2022

Daily Bag Limit: 3 per day

For additional information on population status, regulations, where to hunt, and more go the [DNR Waterfowl Page](#).