

# 2009

## UPLAND GAME BIRDS

Montana Hunting Regulations



Montana Fish,  
Wildlife & Parks



**What's New?** See Page 2  
for Details and Reminders

Ring-necked pheasant *Phasianus colchicus*. Photo by Donald M. Jones

Apply for General Licenses, Special Licenses, and SuperTags Online: [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov)

## Regulations Adopted by FWP Commission

These regulations and final quotas were adopted under the authority granted to the Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission per MCA, Section 87-1-301 and are valid March 1, 2009 through February 28, 2010. These regulations were adopted by the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission on July 8, 2009. Joe Maurier, Director.

## Reminders

- Youth Only Special Pheasant Weekend Statewide is September 26-27, 2009, page 4.
- Lincoln County included in "general" fall season turkey hunting areas, page 5.
- In Gallatin, Mineral, Missoula, and Ravalli counties, fall turkey hunting is only by special permit, pages 5 and 6.
- In Lower Missouri and Upper Missouri units, fall turkey hunting is only by special permit, page 6.

## License Requirements Chart

<b>Prerequisite Licenses Required</b>	Residents must have a conservation, an upland game bird license and the hunting access enhancement fee to purchase a turkey license.					
	The resident sportsman's license includes both a conservation and an upland game bird license.					
	Nonresidents need only a conservation license and the hunting access enhancement fee to purchase an upland game bird license and/or a turkey license.					
<b>Resident/Nonresident Years of Age</b>	<b>License Required</b>					
	<b>Upland Game Bird</b>		<b>Turkey</b>		<b>Conservation</b>	
	Res: \$7.50	NonRes: \$110	Res: \$6.50	NonRes: \$115*	Res: \$8	NonRes: \$10
Resident: 12 - 14	No**		Yes		Yes	
Resident: 15 - 61	Yes		Yes		Yes	
Resident: 62+	No		Yes		Yes	
Resident: Montana FWP Certified Disabled	No		Yes		Yes	
Nonresident: 12 - 14		Yes		Yes		Yes
Nonresident: 15+		Yes		Yes		Yes
Resident Flathead Reservation Use Permit	A valid "Resident of the Flathead Reservation Use Permit" with a valid Flathead Reservation Bird Stamp will be honored by the state wherever hunting for upland or migratory birds is lawful in Montana					
* <b>Nonresident Turkey License Fee</b> - This license fee varies depending on whether the applicant holds a current years' upland game bird license. Cost without an upland game bird license = \$115. Cost with an upland game bird license = \$55.						
**Resident youth 12-14 years of age must have successfully completed a Montana Hunter Education Course to be eligible for the implied privilege of an upland game bird license.						
<b>Hunting Access Enhancement Fee</b> - This is an annual fee and will be charged at the time the hunter purchases his/her first hunting license, including upland and migratory bird. Cost = \$2 resident and \$10 nonresident.						
<b>Webless Migratory Birds</b> - Hunters are reminded a Conservation License and a Montana Migratory Bird License is required to hunt Mourning Doves, Sandhill Cranes and Common Snipe. Please check the Webless Migratory Bird Regulations for specific details.						

## General Regulations

**Your privacy is important to FWP** and the State of Montana. FWP will not allow access to your Social Security number, ALS number, phone number, age, date of birth, employer, height, weight, and eye and/or hair color.

### License Requirements –

- Reference license chart above. Licenses are available at all Fish, Wildlife & Parks offices, license providers throughout the state and online at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov) or [discoveringmontana.com](http://discoveringmontana.com). The license is valid March 1 through February of the following year.

- Permit Applications Available Online – hunters may apply for a fall turkey special permit online at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov). The hunter also has the option of applying by the deadline of July 30 at any FWP office or by submitting an application as specified in these regulations.

**Check Stations** – All hunters and anglers are required by law to stop as directed at all designated check stations on their way to and from hunting and fishing areas, even if they have no game or fish to be checked.

**Field Possession Limit** – No person shall possess more than one daily bag limit while in the field, or while returning from the field to one's vehicle, hunting camp, home, etc.

**2 Turn In Poachers. Enough is Enough! Make the call: 1-800-847-6668**

**Hunter Education** – If you were born after January 1, 1985, you are required to show proof of completion of a Montana hunter safety and education course or an approved hunter safety course from any other state or province prior to applying for or purchasing a hunting license, whether the hunting license is for a rifle or archery season.

**Hunter Orange Requirement** – Shooting another hunter while swinging the gun on an upland bird is the leading cause of hunting-related accidents in Montana. Although not required, it is strongly recommended that all bird hunters wear at least a hunter orange hat or cap to reduce the chance of an accident.

**Methods of Taking** – Authorized means of taking is listed under each upland game bird species group. The three-shell (shotgun) limit required for migratory birds does not apply to upland game birds.

**Prohibited Methods of Taking** – It is illegal for anyone to hunt or attempt to hunt any game animal or game bird:

- from any self propelled (that is, motorized) or drawn vehicle. Even if the vehicle is not moving, hunters must be off or out of the vehicle. Holders of the PTHFV are the exception to this;
- on, from, or across any public highway or the shoulder, berm, barrow pit or right-of-way of any public highway (the entire width between the boundary lines of every publicly maintained way when any part thereof is open to the use of the public for purposes of vehicular travel, in the State of Montana, MCA 61-1-202); or
- by the aid or with the use of any set gun, jacklight, spotlight or other artificial light, trap, snare, salt lick, or bait, MCA 87-3-101. Baiting shall mean the placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of corn, wheat, or other grain or food sources so as to constitute a lure or attraction.

**National Wildlife Refuges** – More restrictive regulations may apply to national wildlife refuges open to public hunting. For additional information on federal regulations, contact Special Agent-in-Charge, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, POB 25486, Denver Federal Center, Denver, Colorado 80225 303-234-4612.

**Non-Toxic Shot** – Hunters are reminded that non-toxic shot is required for the hunting of upland game birds on a federal refuge or waterfowl production area. Only federally approved non-toxic shot can be used on federal refuges (except CMR National Wildlife Refuge) and waterfowl production areas. If hunters have specific questions regarding this regulation, please contact the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.

**Recorded or Amplified Calls** – It is unlawful to use any recorded or electrically amplified bird or animal calls or sounds or imitations of bird or animal calls or sounds to assist in the hunting, taking, killing or capturing of any wildlife except predatory animals, MCA 87-3-108.

**Hunting Hours** – Authorized hunting hours for the taking of upland game birds begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset each day of the hunting season. See official sunrise-sunset tables in these regulations.

**Shooting Preserves (Private)** – To hunt upland game birds on a private shooting preserve, **resident** hunters must possess a valid upland game bird license and **nonresident** hunters must possess either a valid upland game bird license or a 3-day shooting preserve license.

**Transporting Upland Game Birds** – No person shall transport within the state any sage grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, mountain grouse or partridge unless one fully feathered wing is left naturally attached for species identification. The wing shall remain attached at all times while being transported from the place where taken until it has arrived at the permanent residence of the possessor.

If a hunter puts or leaves any game birds at any place or in the custody of another person, the birds should be tagged by the hunter with the following information: 1) the hunter's ALS number; 2) the hunter's signature; 3) the hunter's address; 4) the total number of birds involved, by species; and 5) the dates such birds were killed. Game birds should be tagged 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.

**Transporting Pheasants** – It is unlawful to possess or transport within the state any pheasant unless one leg and foot are left naturally attached for evidence of sex. The leg and foot shall remain attached at all times while being transported from the place where taken until it has arrived at the permanent residence of the possessor.

**Wanton Waste** – It is illegal to waste any part of any game animal, game bird, or game fish suitable for food.

Following are game bird parts "suitable for food."

- All birds that fall into the size category of the partridge or smaller, only the breasts must be retained.
- All birds larger than a partridge and up to the size category of, and including, pheasants and sage grouse, the breasts and the thighs must be retained.
- All turkeys: the breasts, thighs and wings must be retained.

**FWP Web site – [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov)** – The FWP Web site offers a variety of information to help you plan your hunt. You'll find maps, regulations, and links to Federal, state and local agencies. Also check [mt.gov](http://mt.gov), the official state Web site, for a wide variety of information on Montana.

To improve understanding of accidental dog captures in traps or snares, hunters should report such captures to the nearest FWP regional office within 48 hours. A Recreationist Guide to Releasing Traps and Snares is available on the FWP Web site.

## Hunter Access

It is your responsibility as a hunter in Montana to always know where you are, to know who owns the land, and to know what access restrictions apply. Always carry a map that clearly marks hunting boundaries, landownership, and travel restrictions. Maps may be obtained at most federal agencies such as U.S. Bureau of Land Management and U.S. Forest Service offices, as well as some sporting goods stores. Also, be sure to visit the FWP Web site for the Interactive Hunt Planner.

**Private Land** – Montana law requires permission for all hunting on private land. Even if the land is not posted, hunters must have permission from the landowner, lessee, or their agent before hunting on private property. Landowners may grant permission face-to-face, over the phone, in writing, or by posting signs that explain the type of hunting allowed—game species or sex—and under what conditions. Visit FWP's Web site for the Interactive Hunt Planner or visit <http://nr.is.state.mt.us> for assistance with land ownership.

**Block Management** – The Block Management program is a cooperative effort among private and some public landowners, FWP, and hunters. The program seeks to: 1) maintain public hunting access to private and isolated public lands; 2) help landowners manage public hunting and provide benefits to offset impacts like increased road maintenance and weed control; and 3) help FWP manage wildlife. Each FWP Region administers the Block Management Areas (BMAs) for its portion of the state. If you are interested in hunting a BMA, contact the regional office in the area you wish to hunt. Regional tabloids listing lands enrolled in the program are available annually on August 15, which is also the earliest date to reserve access to a BMA. For general information about block management, contact FWP at 406-444-2602.

Continued on page 4

**Railroad Access** – Railroads and railroad right-of-ways are private property and may not be hunted without permission. Consult the individual railroad for details.

**Public Land –**

- National Parks are closed to hunting.
- National Wildlife Refuge lands are closed except those areas designated open to public hunting. For hunting opportunities on National Wildlife Refuges or Federal Waterfowl Production Areas, inquire at the local refuge office.
- For hunting opportunities on federal lands such as U.S. Forest Service or U.S. Bureau of Land Management, inquire at the local federal office.
- Access to public lands through private land requires permission of the private landowner, lessee, or their agent.

**State School Trust Lands** – A \$2 fee paid when you purchase your conservation license, provides hunters access to legally accessible State School Trust Lands. These rules apply:

- On lands outside designated campgrounds there is a 2-day camping limit.
- Overnight (2 night) camping is allowed within 200 feet of a legal access point.
- Horses may not be kept on state land overnight.
- Motorized travel is only allowed on public roads or on roads designated as open.
- Designated roads signed as “open” to motorized vehicle use or the information as to which roads are designated as open is available from the DNRC Offices.
- Motorized use of other roads and trails and all off-road use is prohibited.
- Game retrieval is by foot or horse only.
- No open fires are allowed except in designated campground fire pits. Contained mechanical heat sources are allowed.
- Firearms may not be discharged within ¼ mile of an inhabited dwelling or outbuilding without permission of the inhabitant.
- State School Trust Lands within Block Management Areas (BMA) may have more liberal regulations. Consult the individual regulations for specific BMAs.
- Additional information regarding the rules, regulations, and restrictions governing these activities is available from FWP or contact DNRC at 406-444-2074.

**State Game Preserves:** State game preserves may or may not be open to limited hunting. For more information, contact a regional FWP office.

**State Wildlife Management Areas (WMA):** Wildlife Management Areas are generally open for hunting. They are closed to public entry, unless otherwise posted, from the day following the end of the general deer-elk season or December 1, whichever is later, to May 15 each year, as posted.

- Exceptions: Blackfoot-Clearwater WMA closes November 10; Kootenai Falls WMA is open year long; Porcupine (Gallatin), Dome Mountain, Bear Creek and Wall Creek WMAs open May 1.

**Tribal Land:** Hunters hunting upland game birds on Indian Reservations should check Indian Reservation regulations because season dates, bag limits, licensing requirements, shooting hours, legal species and shot shell requirements may differ from state regulations.

The State of Montana and the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes have entered into a cooperative management agreement on the Flathead Reservation. Please check for upland game bird regulations specific to the Flathead Reservation. For information call the Kalispell Fish, Wildlife & Parks at 406-752-5501 or the Tribes in Pablo at 406-675-2700.

## Species-Specific Hunting Regulations

### Mountain Grouse Season

*Means of taking: Blue (Dusky), Ruffed and Franklin's Grouse may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge; a long recurve or compound bow and arrow; a rifle; or a handgun. All other means of taking are prohibited.*

**Mountain Grouse -**

**Season Dates: Sep 01 - Dec 15**

Bag Limit: 3 in aggregate daily. Possession limit is four times the daily bag limit.

### Sharp-tailed Grouse Season

*Means of taking: Sharp-tailed Grouse may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge; a long recurve or compound bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.*

**Sharp-tailed Grouse - (Closed West of the Continental Divide)**

**Season Dates: Sep 01 - Jan 01**

Bag Limit: 4 daily. Possession limit is four times the daily bag limit.

### Sage Grouse Season

*Means of taking: Sage Grouse may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge; a long recurve or compound bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.*

**Sage Grouse - (Closed West of the Continental Divide)**

**Season Dates: Sep 01 - Nov 01**

Bag Limit: 2 daily. Possession limit is two times the daily bag limit.

### Partridge Season

*Means of taking: Hungarian and Chukar Partridge may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge; a long recurve or compound bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.*

*Note: Chukar partridge occur primarily in Carbon County.*

**Partridge -**

**Season Dates: Sep 01 - Jan 01**

Bag Limit: 8 in aggregate daily. Possession limit is four times the daily bag limit.

**Season Dates: Sep 01 - Jan 10**

Portion of Carbon County as described below. Bag Limit: 8 in aggregate daily. Possession limit is four times the daily bag limit.

Portion of Carbon County within the following described boundary: Beginning at the junction of Route 72 and the Wyoming-Montana state line, then northerly along said route to Bridger, then northerly along Hwy. 310 to Edgar, then east on the Edgar-Pryor Road to the Crow Indian Reservation boundary, then southerly and easterly along said boundary to the west shore of Big Horn Lake, then southerly along said shore to the Wyoming-Montana state line, then west along said state line to its junction with Route 72, the point of beginning.

## Youth Only – Special Pheasant Weekend

September 26-27, 2009 – Statewide

The FWP Commission is allowing two additional days to provide a special hunting opportunity to encourage youth participation in pheasant hunting. Legally licensed hunters age 12 through 15 may hunt pheasants statewide on these days. A nonhunting adult at least 18 years of age must accompany the youth hunter in the field. The bag limit, shooting hours, hunter safety requirements and all other regulations that apply to the regular pheasant season shall apply to this special season.

## Ring-necked Pheasant Season

*Means of taking: Pheasants may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge; a long recurve or compound bow and arrow. All other means of taking are prohibited.*

*Transporting Pheasants: It is unlawful to possess or transport within the state any pheasant unless one leg and foot are left naturally attached for evidence of sex. They shall remain attached until they arrive at the permanent residence of the possessor.*

### Ring Necked Pheasant -

**Season Dates: Oct 10 - Jan 01**

Bag Limit: 3 cock pheasants daily. Possession limit is three times the daily bag limit.

## Falconry Season

*Means of Taking: All areas open to hunting of upland game birds and/or migratory game birds by firearms shall be open to either-sex hunting of that species by falconry.*

*Falconry Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Year round sunrise/sunset tables are available at all FWP license providers and on the FWP Web site.*

### Falconry Season - (except Turkey)

**Season Dates: Sep 01 - Mar 31**

Bag Limit: 2 daily in aggregate and 6 in possession. Falconry limits are NOT in addition to other bag limits.

## Wild Turkey Season

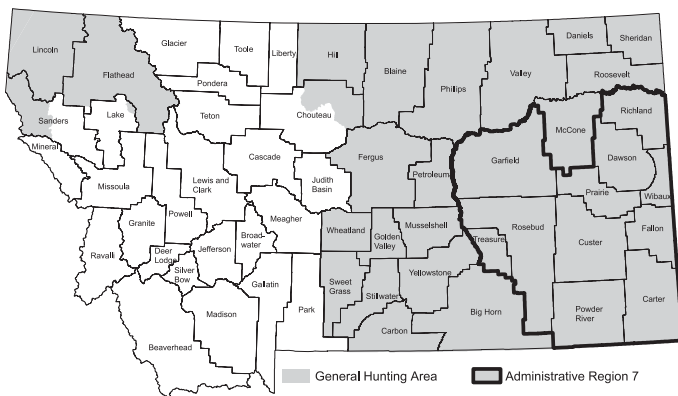
*Means of taking: Wild turkey may be taken with a shotgun not larger than a ten gauge; a long recurve or compound bow and arrow; a rifle; or a handgun. All other means of taking are prohibited.*

*Exception: In Flathead, Lake, Sanders and Lincoln Counties rifles and handguns may not be used.*

*Tagging: Immediately after harvesting your wild turkey, cut out the proper month and day from the license (if more than one date is cut, the license is invalid) and affix to the leg of the wild turkey.*

## Wild Turkey - General Fall Season

The following counties are open to all hunters who hold a valid current year fall turkey license: Chouteau, Fergus, Wheatland, Sweet Grass, Stillwater and Carbon counties and all counties lying east of these; and Lincoln County, Portion of Sanders County, and the Flathead Valley Area.



**Season Dates: Sep 01 - Jan 01**

Bag Limit: 2 wild turkey, either-sex. However, the total combined limit of the spring and fall seasons cannot exceed two turkeys per hunter. A hunter may harvest two male turkeys in the spring (as long as at least one of them is harvested in Admin Reg 7); OR one male turkey in the spring and one either-sex turkey in the fall; OR two either-sex turkeys in the fall (as long as at least one of them is harvested in Admin Reg 7).

Administrative Region 7 open to hunting includes: Garfield, Rosebud, Treasure, Prairie, Custer, Powder River, Richland, Dawson, Wibaux, Fallon and Carter counties.

Portion of Chouteau County open to hunting includes: that portion of FWP Region 6 in Chouteau County north of the Missouri and east of the Marias Rivers.

Portion of Sanders County (Western Portion) open to hunting includes: that portion of Sanders County lying within the following described boundary: Beginning where the Sanders-Mineral County line meets the Idaho border, then easterly along said line to Greenwood Hill, then northerly along the divide to Penrose Peak, Cherry Peak and Eddy Mountain, then northwesterly down ridge to the Clark Fork River and the mouth of Thompson River, then northeasterly up said river to USFS Trail 433, then northerly up said trail to Marmot Peak, then westerly along said trail to Mt. Headley and USFS Trail 528, then northerly up said trail to the Vermilion-Thompson River Divide, then northerly along said divide to the Sanders-Lincoln County line, then westerly along said line to the Idaho border, then south and southeasterly along said border to the Sanders-Mineral County line, the point of beginning.

Flathead Valley Area open to hunting includes: all of Flathead County and that portion of Lake County lying within the following described boundary: Beginning on the shoreline of Flathead Lake at the junction of the Flathead County Line, then easterly along the county line to the Swan Divide, then southerly along said divide to USFS Trail 10 in Section 36, T26N, R18W, then southwesterly along said trail to USFS Road 9508 Six Mile Road), then southerly along said road to Route 83, then southerly along said route to USFS Road 10229 (Porcupine Creek Road), then westerly and southerly along said road to the south boundary of T26N, the 6th Standard Parallel North, then west along said township line to the Flathead Indian Reservation boundary, then north and west along said boundary to the east shore of Flathead Lake, then north along the shore of said lake to the Flathead County line, the point of beginning.

Turkey are found primarily on private land and access is limited and difficult to obtain.

## Special Permit Application Process

- Applicants may apply for only one fall special turkey permit and in only one area of the state.
- Hunters must possess a fall special turkey permit, in conjunction with a valid fall turkey license, to hunt in fall special turkey permit hunting areas.
- The fall special turkey permit allows the hunter to hunt in the described area during the time period specified on the permit. Permit quotas listed in these regulations are tentative for 2009.
- Applicants must hold a 2009 Conservation License at the time of applying for a fall special turkey permit.

Hunters may apply for a fall special turkey permit:

- online at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov) no later than 11:45 p.m. MDT on July 30, OR
- over-the-counter at any FWP regional office, FWP area office, and/or the Helena Headquarters, OR
- by mail. Mailed applications must include the \$5 nonrefundable drawing fee and must be received by FWP Helena Headquarters no later than 5 p.m. MDT July 30. Applications are available at all FWP regional and area offices or may be downloaded from the FWP Web site at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov).
- Successful fall special turkey permit applicants will be notified by mail and will be required to purchase a valid fall turkey license before hunting.

## Special Permit Fall Turkey Hunting Areas

### Region 2

*Applicants must apply for either Mineral County, Missoula County or a Portion of Ravalli County-Bitterroot Valley Area..*

### Mineral County

**Special Permit Fall. Drawing Only. Apply by July 30.**

**282-50: 25 permits. Mineral County**

- Sep 01 - Jan 01 - Either-sex Turkey. Shotgun/Archery only. See Mineral County closure.

Visit [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov) 5

## **Region 2 – continued**

### **Missoula County**

**Special Permit Fall. Drawing Only. Apply by July 30.**

**283-50: 100 permits. Missoula County**

- Sep 01 - Jan 01 - Either-sex Turkey. Shotgun/Archery only.

### **— Portion of Ravalli County–Bitterroot Valley Area —**

**Special Permit Fall. Drawing Only. Apply by July 30.**

**285-50: 400 permits. Valid only in that portion of Ravalli County lying west of the Bitterroot River and north of Tin Cup Creek.**

- Sep 01 - Jan 01 - Either-sex Turkey. Shotgun/Archery only.

## **Region 3**

*Applicants must apply for either Park County or Region 3 Counties.*

### **Park County**

**Special Permit Fall. Drawing Only. Apply by July 30.**

**385-50: 30 permits. Park County.**

- Sep 01 - Jan 01 - Either-sex Turkey. Shotgun/Archery only.

**385-51: 2 permits. Park County. Only youth ages 12-15.**

- Sep 01 - Jan 01 - Either-sex Turkey. Only youth ages 12-15. Shotgun/Archery only.

### **Region 3 Counties**

**Special Permit Fall. Drawing Only. Apply by July 30.**

**365-50: 25 permits. Valid only in Lewis and Clark and Broadwater counties (Lower Missouri Unit).**

- Sep 01 - Jan 01 - Either-sex Turkey. Shotgun/Archery only.

**365-51: 2 permits. Valid only in Lewis and Clark and Broadwater counties (Lower Missouri Unit).**

- Sep 01 - Jan 01 - Either-sex Turkey. Only youth ages 12-15. Shotgun/Archery only.

**Special Permit Fall. Drawing Only. Apply by July 30.**

**375-50: 10 permits. Valid only in Gallatin County and portion of Madison County east of Madison River (Gallatin County Unit)**

- Sep 01 - Jan 01 - Either-sex Turkey. Shotgun/Archery only.

**375-51: 2 permits. Valid only in Gallatin County and portion of Madison County east of Madison River (Gallatin County Unit). Only youth ages 12-15.**

- Sep 01 - Jan 01 - Either-sex Turkey. Only youth ages 12-15. Shotgun/Archery only.

**Special Permit Fall. Drawing Only. Apply by July 30.**

**395-50: 20 permits. Valid only in Beaverhead, Silver Bow, and Jefferson counties, and Madison County west of Madison River (Upper Missouri Unit).**

- Sep 01 - Jan 01 - Either-sex Turkey. Shotgun/Archery only.

**395-51: 2 permits. Valid only in Beaverhead, Silver Bow, and Jefferson counties, and Madison County west of Madison River (Upper Missouri Unit). Only youth ages 12-15.**

- Sep 01 - Jan 01 - Either-sex Turkey. Only youth ages 12-15. Shotgun/Archery only.

## **Closed Areas – Upland Game Bird and Falconry**

**Wildlife Management Areas** with big game winter range are closed to public entry from the day following the end of the general deer/elk season or December 1, whichever is later, to May 15 each year, as posted. (Exception: Blackfoot-Clearwater WMA closes Nov. 10); Kootenai Falls WMA is open year long; Porcupine (Gallatin); Dome Mountain, Bear Creek and Wall Creek WMAs open May 1).

**State Game Preserves and National Parks** shall remain closed to hunting of upland game birds. For hunting privileges on **Indian Reservations and Federal Wildlife Refuges**, inquire at the local Indian Agency or Refuge office.

**That part of Montana lying west of the Continental Divide** is closed to the hunting of sage and sharp-tailed grouse.

**Helena Valley Regulating Reservoir (Lewis and Clark County):** Open to upland game bird hunting until the opening of the waterfowl season, then it will be closed to all hunting.

**The Bureau of Reclamation Regulating Reservoir** is located in Section 8, T10N, R2W in the Helena Valley, as posted.

**Freezout Lake Wildlife Management Area (Teton County):** Open to upland game bird hunting until the opening of the general waterfowl season, then it will be closed to all hunting in the following described portion of the Wildlife Management Area: SW 1/4 Section 19, Sections 29 and 30, T22N, R3W, W 1/2 Section 12, W 1/2 of E 1/2 Section 12, and that portion of Sections 13 and 24 within the posted boundary of the Freezout Lake Wildlife Management Area, T22N, R4W. The area closed will reopen November 20.

**Portion of Mineral County Closed to Turkey Hunting:** Beginning at the confluence of Fish Creek and the Clark Fork River, then easterly along said River to the Petty Creek Road (#489), then southerly along said road to its junction with the West Fork Petty Creek Road (#22), then westerly along said road to its junction with the Deer Creek Road (#7704) near Deer Peak, then westerly along said road to its junction with the Fish Creek Road (#343), then northerly along said road to its junction with the North Fork Fish Creek Road (#7750), then westerly along said road to its junction with the Trail Creek Road (#341), then northerly along said road to the Rivulet Road (#344), then easterly along said road to Fish Creek, then northerly along said creek to its confluence with the Clark Fork River, the point of beginning.

## **Avian Flu**

### **National Early Detection Effort**

- Avian influenza, or bird flu, is a common viral infection of wild birds, including waterfowl and shorebirds that rarely is passed on to people.
- Several years ago, a virulent form of bird flu—Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (H5N1)—emerged to sicken and kill domestic poultry in Asia, Africa and Europe.
- MONTANA WILDLIFE officials are contributing to the national effort to detect the possible arrival of the virulent strain of bird flu that could be brought to North America via migrating waterfowl.
- Part of that effort includes getting help from hunters by collecting samples from harvested waterfowl through routine hunter game checks.
- H5N1 is primarily a disease of birds, not humans. Should H5N1 be detected anywhere in North America, it would not signal the start of a human health crisis.

### **Common Sense Precautions**

- Viruses like H5N1 are shed from birds in fecal material and other body fluids; so avoid contact with these materials while plucking and cleaning birds.
- Do not harvest or handle wildlife that is obviously sick or found dead.
- Wear rubber gloves while cleaning game.
- Do not eat, drink or smoke while cleaning game.
- Wash hands with soap and water or alcohol wipes after handling game.
- Wash tools and work surfaces used to clean game with soap and water, then disinfect with a 10 percent solution of chlorine bleach—one part chlorine to 10 parts water.
- Separate raw meat, and anything it touches, from cooked or ready-to-eat foods to avoid contamination.
- Cook game meat thoroughly, to an internal temperature of at least 165 degrees Fahrenheit.

**For more information, visit [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov). Click “Avian Influenza”**

**6 Turn In Poachers. Enough is Enough! Make the call: 1-800-847-6668**

## 2009 Sunrise-Sunset Tables For Determining Hunting Hours



These tables, including adjustments for daylight savings time, are the official sunrise-sunset tables adopted by the Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Commission for hunting in Montana. Authorized hunting hours for the taking of upland game birds and falconry begin one-half hour before sunrise and end one-half hour after sunset each day of the hunting season. **(Do not utilize from other sources).**

### ZONE 1

**INCLUDES:** Flathead, Granite, Lake, Lincoln, Mineral, Missoula, Ravalli and Sanders Counties

Day	Sept		Oct		Nov		Dec		Jan	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
01	6:56	8:15	7:35	7:15	7:19	5:20	8:01	4:49	8:21	4:58
02	6:57	8:13	7:37	7:13	7:20	5:18	8:02	4:49	8:21	4:59
03	6:59	8:11	7:38	7:11	7:22	5:17	8:03	4:49	8:21	5:00
04	7:00	8:09	7:39	7:09	7:23	5:15	8:04	4:48	8:21	5:01
05	7:01	8:07	7:41	7:07	7:25	5:14	8:05	4:48	8:21	5:02
06	7:02	8:05	7:42	7:05	7:26	5:12	8:07	4:48	8:21	5:03
07	7:04	8:03	7:43	7:03	7:28	5:11	8:08	4:48	8:20	5:05
08	7:05	8:01	7:45	7:01	7:29	5:10	8:09	4:47	8:20	5:06
09	7:06	7:59	7:46	7:00	7:31	5:09	8:10	4:47	8:20	5:07
10	7:08	7:57	7:47	6:58	7:32	5:07	8:10	4:47	8:19	5:08
11	7:09	7:55	7:49	6:56	7:34	5:06	8:11	4:47	8:19	5:09
12	7:10	7:53	7:50	6:54	7:35	5:05	8:12	4:47	8:18	5:11
13	7:12	7:51	7:52	6:52	7:37	5:04	8:13	4:48	8:18	5:12
14	7:13	7:49	7:53	6:50	7:38	5:03	8:14	4:48	8:17	5:13
15	7:14	7:47	7:54	6:48	7:39	5:01	8:15	4:48	8:17	5:15
16	7:15	7:45	7:56	6:46	7:41	5:00	8:15	4:48	8:16	5:16
17	7:17	7:43	7:57	6:45	7:42	4:59	8:16	4:48	8:15	5:17
18	7:18	7:41	7:59	6:43	7:44	4:58	8:17	4:49	8:15	5:19
19	7:19	7:39	8:00	6:41	7:45	4:57	8:17	4:49	8:14	5:20
20	7:21	7:37	8:01	6:39	7:47	4:57	8:18	4:50	8:13	5:22
21	7:22	7:35	8:03	6:38	7:48	4:56	8:18	4:50	8:12	5:23
22	7:23	7:33	8:04	6:36	7:49	4:55	8:19	4:51	8:11	5:24
23	7:25	7:31	8:06	6:34	7:51	4:54	8:19	4:51	8:10	5:26
24	7:26	7:29	8:07	6:32	7:52	4:53	8:20	4:52	8:09	5:27
25	7:27	7:27	8:09	6:31	7:53	4:53	8:20	4:53	8:08	5:29
26	7:29	7:25	8:10	6:29	7:55	4:52	8:20	4:53	8:07	5:30
27	7:30	7:23	8:12	6:27	7:56	4:51	8:21	4:54	8:06	5:32
28	7:31	7:21	8:13	6:26	7:57	4:51	8:21	4:55	8:05	5:33
29	7:33	7:19	8:14	6:24	7:58	4:50	8:21	4:56	8:04	5:35
30	7:34	7:17	8:16	6:23	8:00	4:50	8:21	4:56	8:03	5:36
31			8:17	6:21			8:21	4:57	8:02	5:38

### ZONE 3

**INCLUDES:** Big Horn, Blaine, Carbon, Fergus, Golden Valley, Judith Basin, Musselshell, Petroleum, Phillips, Stillwater, Sweet Grass, Wheatland and Yellowstone Counties

Day	Sept		Oct		Nov		Dec		Jan	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
01	6:37	7:57	7:17	6:57	7:01	5:01	7:43	4:30	8:04	4:30
02	6:39	7:55	7:18	6:55	7:03	4:59	7:45	4:30	8:04	4:49
03	6:40	7:53	7:20	6:53	7:04	4:58	7:46	4:29	8:04	4:41
04	6:41	7:51	7:21	6:51	7:05	4:57	7:47	4:29	8:04	4:42
05	6:43	7:49	7:22	6:49	7:07	4:55	7:48	4:29	8:03	4:43
06	6:44	7:47	7:24	6:47	7:08	4:54	7:49	4:29	8:03	4:44
07	6:45	7:45	7:25	6:45	7:10	4:52	7:50	4:28	8:03	4:46
08	6:47	7:43	7:26	6:43	7:11	4:51	7:51	4:28	8:03	4:47
09	6:48	7:41	7:28	6:41	7:13	4:50	7:52	4:28	8:02	4:48
10	6:49	7:39	7:29	6:39	7:14	4:48	7:53	4:28	8:02	4:49
11	6:50	7:37	7:31	6:37	7:16	4:47	7:54	4:28	8:01	4:50
12	6:52	7:35	7:32	6:35	7:17	4:46	7:55	4:28	8:01	4:52
13	6:53	7:33	7:33	6:34	7:19	4:45	7:56	4:28	8:00	4:53
14	6:54	7:31	7:35	6:32	7:20	4:44	7:56	4:29	8:00	4:54
15	6:56	7:29	7:36	6:30	7:22	4:43	7:57	4:29	7:59	4:56
16	6:57	7:27	7:38	6:28	7:23	4:42	7:58	4:29	7:59	4:57
17	6:58	7:25	7:39	6:26	7:25	4:41	7:59	4:29	7:58	4:58
18	7:00	7:23	7:41	6:24	7:26	4:40	7:59	4:30	7:57	5:00
19	7:01	7:21	7:42	6:23	7:27	4:39	8:00	4:30	7:56	5:01
20	7:02	7:19	7:43	6:21	7:29	4:38	8:00	4:31	7:56	5:03
21	7:04	7:17	7:45	6:19	7:30	4:37	8:01	4:31	7:55	5:04
22	7:05	7:15	7:46	6:17	7:32	4:36	8:02	4:32	7:54	5:05
23	7:06	7:13	7:48	6:16	7:33	4:35	8:02	4:32	7:53	5:07
24	7:08	7:11	7:49	6:14	7:34	4:34	8:02	4:33	7:52	5:08
25	7:09	7:09	7:51	6:12	7:36	4:34	8:03	4:33	7:51	5:10
26	7:10	7:07	7:52	6:10	7:37	4:33	8:03	4:34	7:50	5:11
27	7:12	7:05	7:54	6:09	7:38	4:32	8:03	4:35	7:49	5:13
28	7:13	7:03	7:55	6:07	7:40	4:32	8:03	4:36	7:48	5:14
29	7:14	7:01	7:57	6:06	7:41	4:31	8:04	4:37	7:46	5:16
30	7:16	6:59	7:58	6:04	7:42	4:31	8:04	4:37	7:45	5:17
31			8:00	6:02			8:04	4:38	7:44	5:19

### ZONE 2

**INCLUDES:** Beaverhead, Broadwater, Cascade, Choteau, Deer Lodge, Gallatin, Glacier, Hill, Jefferson, Lewis & Clark, Liberty, Madison, Meagher, Park, Pondera, Powell, Silver Bow, Teton and Toole Counties.

Day	Sept		Oct		Nov		Dec		Jan	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
01	6:48	8:07	7:27	7:07	7:10	5:12	7:52	4:42	8:12	4:51
02	6:50	8:05	7:28	7:05	7:12	5:11	7:53	4:42	8:12	4:52
03	6:51	8:03	7:30	7:03	7:13	5:09	7:54	4:42	8:12	4:53
04	6:52	8:01	7:31	7:01	7:15	5:08	7:55	4:41	8:12	4:54
05	6:54	7:59	7:32	7:00	7:16	5:07	7:57	4:41	8:12	4:55
06	6:55	7:57	7:34	6:58	7:18	5:05	7:58	4:41	8:12	4:57
07	6:56	7:55	7:35	6:56	7:19	5:04	7:59	4:41	8:12	4:58
08	6:57	7:53	7:37	6:54	7:21	5:03	8:00	4:41	8:11	4:59
09	6:59	7:51	7:38	6:52	7:22	5:01	8:01	4:41	8:11	5:00
10	7:00	7:49	7:39	6:50	7:24	5:00	8:02	4:41	8:11	5:01
11	7:01	7:47	7:41	6:48	7:25	4:59	8:02	4:41	8:10	5:02
12	7:03	7:45	7:42	6:46	7:26	4:58	8:03	4:41	8:10	5:04
13	7:04	7:43	7:43	6:44	7:28	4:57	8:04	4:41	8:09	5:05
14	7:05	7:41	7:45	6:43	7:29	4:55	8:05	4:41	8:09	5:06
15	7:06	7:39	7:46	6:41	7:31	4:54	8:06	4:41	8:08	5:08
16	7:08	7:37	7:48	6:39	7:32	4:53	8:06	4:41	8:07	5:09
17	7:09	7:35	7:49	6:37	7:34	4:52	8:07	4:42	8:07	5:10
18	7:10	7:33	7:50	6:35	7:35	4:51	8:08	4:42	8:06	5:12
19	7:11	7:31	7:52	6:34	7:36	4:50	8:08	4:42	8:05	5:13
20	7:13	7:29	7:53	6:32	7:38	4:50	8:09	4:43	8:04	5:14
21	7:14	7:27	7:55	6:30	7:39	4:49	8:10	4:43	8:04	5:16
22	7:15	7:25	7:56	6:28	7:41	4:48	8:10	4:44	8:03	5:17
23	7:17	7:23	7:57	6:27	7:42	4:47	8:10	4:44	8:02	5:19
24	7:18	7:21	7:59	6:25	7:43	4:46	8:11	4:45	8:01	5:20
25	7:19	7:19	8:00	6:23	7:45	4:46	8:11	4:46	8:00	5:22
26	7:21	7:17	8:02	6:22	7:46	4:45	8:11	4:46	7:59	5:23
27	7:22	7:15	8:03	6:20	7:47	4:44	8:12	4:47	7:58	5:25
28	7:23	7:13	8:05	6:19	7:48	4:44	8:12	4:48	7:57	5:26
29	7:25	7:11	8:06	6:17	7:50	4:43	8:12	4:49	7:55	5:28
30	7:26	7:09	8:07	6:15	7:51	4:43	8:12	4:50	7:54	5:29
31			8:09	6:14			8:12	4:51	7:53	5:31

### ZONE 4

**INCLUDES:** Carter, Custer, Daniels, Dawson, Fallon, Garfield, McCone, Powder River, Prairie, Richland, Roosevelt, Rosebud, Sheridan, Treasure, Valley and Wibaux Counties

Day	Sept		Oct		Nov		Dec		Jan	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
01	6:24	7:42	7:02	6:43	6:45	4:48	7:27	4:18	7:47	4:27
02	6:25	7:40	7:04	6:41	6:47	4:47	7:28	4:18	7:47	4:28
03	6:26	7:38	7:05	6:39	6:48	4:45	7:29	4:18	7:47	4:29
04	6:28	7:36	7:06	6:37	6:50	4:44	7:30	4:17	7:47	4:30
05	6:29	7:34	7:08	6:35	6:51	4:42	7:31	4:17	7:47	4:31
06	6:30	7:32	7:09	6:33	6:52	4:41	7:32	4:17	7:46	4:32
07	6:32	7:30	7:10	6:31	6:54	4:40	7:33	4:17	7:46	4:34
08	6:33	7:28	7:12	6:29	6:55	4:38	7:34	4:16	7:46	4:35
09	6:34	7:26	7:13	6:27	6:57	4:37	7:35	4:16	7:46	4:36
10	6:35	7:24	7:14	6:25	6:58	4:36	7:36	4:16	7:45	4:37
11	6:37	7:22	7:16	6:24	7:00	4:35	7:37	4:16	7:45	4:38
12	6:38	7:20	7:17	6:22	7:01	4:33	7:38	4:17	7:44	4:40
13	6:39	7:18	7:18	6:20	7:03	4:32	7:39	4:17	7:44	4:41
14	6:40	7:16	7:20							

## FWP Contacts

### Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks State Headquarters

1420 East Sixth Avenue, PO Box 200701,  
Helena, MT 59620-0701 ..... **406-444-2535**  
Hunter Education ..... **406-444-3188**  
Wildlife Division ..... **406-444-2612**  
Enforcement Division ..... **406-444-2452**  
Parks Division (Montana State Parks) ..... **406-444-3750**  
Deer, elk, antelope, moose, bighorn sheep,  
mountain goat, and all special drawings ..... **406-444-2950**  
Resident and nonresident licensing for fishing,  
upland game birds, migratory birds,  
black bear, and mountain lion ..... **406-444-2535**  
Nonresident mailin list for deer and  
elk big game combination licenses  
and regulations ..... **406-444-2950**  
Telephone Device for the Deaf ..... **406-444-1200**

### Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks Regional Headquarters



#### REGION 1

490 N Meridian Rd  
Kalispell, MT 59901  
(406) 752-5501

#### REGION 2

3201 Spurgin Rd  
Missoula, MT 59804  
(406) 542-5500

#### REGION 3

1400 South 19<sup>th</sup> Ave  
Bozeman, MT 59718-5496  
(406) 994-4042

#### HELENA Area Res Office

(HARO)  
930 Custer Ave W  
Helena, MT 59620  
(406) 495-3260

#### BUTTE Area Res Office

(BARO)  
1820 Meadowlark Ln  
Butte, MT 59701  
(406) 494-1953

#### REGION 4

4600 Giant Springs Rd  
Great Falls, MT 59405  
(406) 454-5840

#### LEWISTOWN Area Res

Office (LARO)  
215 W Aztec Dr  
PO Box 938  
Lewistown, MT 59457  
(406) 538-4658

#### REGION 5

2300 Lake Elmo Dr  
Billings, MT 59105  
(406) 247-2940

#### REGION 6

54078 US Hwy 2 W  
Glasgow, MT 59230  
(406) 228-3700

#### HAVRE Area Res Office

(HVARO)  
2165 Hwy 2 East  
Havre, MT 59701  
(406) 265-6177

#### REGION 7

352 I-94 Business Loop  
PO Box 1630  
Miles City, MT 59301  
(406) 234-0900

## Contacts Outside Fish, Wildlife & Parks

### Montana State Agencies

Agriculture  
**406-444-3144**  
Guides & Outfitters  
**406-841-2373**  
Livestock  
**406-444-2976**  
State Lands  
**406-444-2074**  
Tourism  
**406-841-2870**

### Federal Agencies

US Department of  
Interior  
**202-208-3100**  
US Fish & Wildlife  
Service  
**406-449-5225**

### Land Maps

Bureau of Land Management  
**406-896-5000**  
Topographical (USGS)  
**888-275-8747**

### Tribal Lands

Blackfeet Reservation  
**406-338-7276**  
Crow Reservation  
**406-638-2601**  
Flathead Reservation  
**406-675-2700**  
Fort Belknap  
**406-353-2205**  
Fort Peck Reservation  
**406-768-5305**  
Northern Cheyenne Reservation  
**406-477-8844**  
Rocky Boy Reservation  
**406-395-4207**

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