

THE MARYLAND WILDLIFE ADVISORY COMMISSION
MINUTES – MARCH 20, 2019

Chairman Compton called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Approval for the March 20, 2019 Meeting Agenda

- Motion:
 1. Commissioner Gulbrandsen moved to accept the March 20, 2019 Wildlife Advisory Commission Meeting Agenda.
 2. Commissioner Gregor seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.

Approval for Minutes from January 16, 2019 Meeting

- Motion:
 1. Commissioner Gulbrandsen moved to approve the February 27, 2019 meeting minutes as presented.
 2. Commissioner Schroyer seconded.
 3. All in favor. Motion passed.

Natural Resource Police Recognition of Donation

- Colonel Robert K. “Ken” Ziegler, Jr. and Major Charles “Chip” Vernon expressed gratitude for the donations from the Maryland Bowhunter Society and the Western Maryland Sportsmen’s Coalition to allow the purchase of robotic deer decoys.
- Chairman Compton added that the idea for the donations came from a conversation among the members of the Wildlife Advisory Commission.
- The members of the Commission were able to see how the robotic deer decoy worked.

Migratory Game Bird Proposals – Commission’s Vote Required – Presentation given by Waterfowl Game Bird Project Leader Josh Homyack.

- Mr. Homyack handed out the Amended Proposed Maryland Migratory Game Bird Seasons and Bag Limits for the 2019-2020 Hunting Year to the Commission. [ATTACHMENT A]
- Mr. Homyack gave a presentation on the public comments on Migratory Game Bird Proposals along with the proposals recommendations for the Commission to vote. [ATTACHMENT B]
- Nearly 70 individuals attended the public meeting.
- The Commission voted on the complete package of Migratory Game Bird Proposals.
- Early Waterfowl Seasons
 1. Staff received few comments on the Special Teal Season, Eastern Zone Resident Canada Goose Season, and the Western Zone Resident Canada Goose.
 2. No questions and no comments from the Commission.
- Regular Duck Hunting Season
 1. With the minimum mallard bag limit going from 4 to 2 and pintail going from 2 to 1, the proposed season structure is the same as online, except, the proposed season end date is January 31.
 2. No questions and no comments from the Commission.
- Black Duck Season (within the Regular Duck Season)
 1. Staff received public questions about why Maryland does not have the Black Duck Season during the week-long October season. Maryland selects the dates to protect Maryland’s resident black ducks that are potentially nesting. There are other states that also keep the Black Duck Season closed during October.

2. Commissioner Gulbrandsen asked if that same method can be effective towards the mallard population since it is a local population that we are trying to protect.
 - a. Maryland has very few nesting mallards so it would be of limited value to close the mallard season during October. Most of the mallards harvested are coming from northern states and southern Canada.
- Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days
 1. Staff received public comments about moving the youth waterfowl hunting days to November. The federal framework prohibits youth waterfowl hunting days during the regular duck season so staff cannot hold a youth waterfowl hunting day during the November split when the regular season is open.
 2. No questions and no comments from the Commission.
- AP Canada Goose Hunting Season
 1. Staff received a wide range of public comments on the AP Canada goose hunting season.
 2. Many hunters and guides suggested taking out the February dates and adding the dates to January to allow the AP Canada goose season to overlap the regular duck season.
 3. Staff amended the AP Canada Goose Season dates because of the public comments received and moved the dates from February to December and January.
 4. The AP Canada Goose alternatives presented to the Migratory Game Bird Advisory Committee (MGBAC) were outlined to the Commission in the Power Point slide presentation.
 5. Commissioner Weinberg asked if staff received many comments about retaining the February dates for the AP Canada goose hunting season.
 - a. Staff did receive some comments about retaining the February dates (to go as late as possible within the federal frameworks).
 - b. Staff also received comments about having no split for the AP Canada goose season. The disadvantage of not having a split is that it excludes the Christmas and New Year's holidays when the youth and families are spending time together in the field.
 - c. Staff also received comments to keep it the same as proposed...hunters liked the original way.
 6. Commissioner Weinberg asked if staff received comments from professional waterfowl guides as far as which options the guides like as a consensus.
 - a. Staff expressed that this recommendation would be something that the majority of guides would like to see.
 - b. Staff held a conference call Tuesday, March 19, with the members of the MGBAC and outlined the recommendation. There were 7 of 9 members on the conference call. The vote was unanimous on this recommendation.
- Atlantic Flyway Resident Population (AFRP) Canada Goose Hunting Season
 1. Staff indicated that the AFRP Season remains nearly similar as it has in the past. Staff vetted questions about band return data and AFRP zone and AP zone.
 2. No questions and no comments from the Commission.
- Atlantic Brant Hunting Season
 1. Staff informed the Commission that the Brant season has been reduced from 60 days to 30 days season. Brant along AP Canada geese are high latitude nesters, and all had a poor reproduction year for the same reasons that staff previously pointed out in past meetings. There are not many Brant hunters in Maryland.
 2. No questions and no comments from the Commission.
- Light Goose Hunting Season
 1. No questions and no comments from the Commission.
- Light Goose Conservation Order Season

1. Commissioner Weinberg asked if there are extra days during the Conservation Order Season.
 - a. Yes, there are extra days as well as hunters may use unplugged shotguns and e-calls.
 - b. The Conservation Order Season cannot run during other seasons openings with the exception of the Special Sea Duck Season.
2. Commissioner Weinberg asked if there is a limit on the number of days under the federal frameworks.
 - a. There are no federal frameworks for the Conservation Order Season.
- Special Sea Duck Hunting Season
 1. Staff received one comment about shifting the season a week later.
 2. No questions and no comments from the Commission.
- Mourning Doves Season
 1. Staff received very little comment.
 2. No questions and no comments from the Commission.
- Woodcock Season
 1. No questions and no comments from the Commission.

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

- The Migratory Game Bird Advisory Committee is an appointed body by the Governor like the Wildlife Advisory Commission.
- It is a nine member committee.
- Ladd Johnson is the Chair of the Migratory Game Bird Advisory Committee.
- Staff members have a really great relationship with the members of the Migratory Game Bird Advisory Committee (MGBAC).
- The members of the MGBAC meet face-to-face at least once a year. It is usually in September.
- If staff needs MGBAC any other time, it is through a conference call, and it is the same if the members of MGBAC needs staff.
- Game Bird Section Leader Harvey summarized the MGBAC Proposals Process.
 1. In regards to the AP Canada Goose, staff outlined the three options to the MGBAC members and then staff arranged a conference call with the MGBAC members to get input from MGBAC members.
 2. Once staff received the MGBAC members input, staff presented that input to the WAC members in January prior to submitting that information to the public.
 3. After staff had the public meetings and online comments forum ended, staff summarized the comments to the MGBAC, and staff modified the proposals based on feedback from the public and the input from members of MGBAC.
- Motion:
 1. Commissioner Keithley moved to accept the Migratory Game Bird Proposals as presented by Waterfowl Project Leader Josh Homyack and Game Bird Section Leader Bill Harvey.
 2. Commissioner Schroyer seconded.
 3. Discussion:
 - a. Commissioner Weinberg expressed that the changes to the AP Canada Goose Season will impact significantly people's way of life for a period of time. We have had two birds and 50 days for a long time (17 to 18 years). For example, in Dorchester County, there is a charitable organization, the Grand National Waterfowl Association, that has been going on for 30 some years. They have a charitable hunt that brings people from all over the country to participate. It has always been held in November. It has also always been a Friday duck hunt and the goose season would come in on that Saturday

for people to participate in the goose hunt. The goose hunt has been declining because Maryland does not have that many geese that time of the year. Again, it is something that has been going on for a long time. The charitable event raises money for scholarships and now the event has to change.

- b. Commissioner Weinberg indicated that what was presented at the March 20 WAC meeting is a good compromise, and staff did a good job. Commissioner Weinberg added that it was a tough decision to make. Commissioner Weinberg concluded by indicating that he supports the recommendations.
4. All in favor. Motion passed.

2019 Legislative Session Update – Presentation given by Associate Director Glenn Therres.

- Associate Director Therres handed out the “Summary of 2019 Proposed Legislation – Wildlife and Heritage Service (as of March 19, 2019)”. [ATTACHMENT C]
- There were 13 House Bills and 12 Senate Bills that were wildlife related. There are 14 bills that were cross-filed.
- There are two House bills, HB0054 and HB1221, that failed and three Senate bills, SB0293, SB0557, and SB0760 failed. As of March 19, 2019, eight of the House bills have passed in the House and are now in the Senate. There are three bills that passed the Senate and are now in the House.
- Associate Director Therres provided a summary of the bills to the Commission.
- The Commission can review natural resources related bills by going to <http://mgaleg.maryland.gov/webmga/frm1st.aspx?tab=home>, then click on By Broad Subject, where you can select Natural Resources (M1) or Hunting and Fishing (M2); this will provide the list of all bills under the Department’s jurisdiction or hunting and fishing section.

Break

Maryland Farm Bureau Update – No representative from the Maryland Farm Bureau in attendance.

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

- NRP made a large illegal deer case during the week of March 20. NRP seized five racks that were from a violation in the last two years. Prior to that, the individual had 300 to 400 antlers that the individual had accumulated over the last 34 years.
- Major Ingerson will be attending the April 17 Wildlife Advisory Commission to discuss the new NRP Whistleblower Program with the members of the Commission.

Old Business – No Old Business.

New Business

- Call for the Conservationist, Employee, and Farmer of the Year Nominations.
 1. Chairman Compton reminded the members of the Commission to reach out to any organizations for nominations and to submit nominations of the Conservationist, Employee, and Farmer to Ms. Tracey Spencer.

Adjournment

- The meeting was adjourned at 11:33 A.M.
The next meeting will be held at 10:30 A.M. on Wednesday, April 17, 2019 in the Tawes State Office Building, C-1 Conference Room; Annapolis, Maryland.

Attendance

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

**PROPOSED
MARYLAND MIGRATORY GAME BIRD SEASONS AND BAG LIMITS
FOR THE 2019-20 HUNTING YEAR
(AMENDED)**

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. 2 - Sept 14

Western Zone Sep. 2 - Sept 25

Daily Bag Limit: Eight in both zones. Possession limit is three 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 – Sep. 30

Daily Bag Limit: Six blue-winged or green-winged teal, singly or in aggregate. The possession limit is three 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 Season Dates Oct. 12 - Oct. 19
 Nov. 16 - Nov. 29
 Dec. 16 - Jan. 31

Black Duck Nov. 16 - Nov. 29
 Dec. 16 - Jan. 31

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

Note: In the designated sea duck zone, sea ducks may only be taken during the special sea duck season dates (Nov. 2 - Jan. 10).

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 five-bird daily bag limit (no more than four long-tailed ducks, four scoters or four 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 four scoters, four eiders or four long-tailed ducks) and possession limits.

Proposed Season Dates: Nov. 2 - Jan. 10

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

YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING DAYS

Federal Framework: States may select two days per duck-hunting zone, designated as “Youth 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 fourteen 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.

Proposed Season Dates: Nov. 2 and Feb. 8

Daily Bag and Possession Limits: The daily bag limit of ducks (including mergansers) is six. The six-duck limit shall consist of no more than five sea ducks (no more than four long-tailed ducks, four scoters or four eiders), two mallards (no more than one hen mallard), three wood ducks, two scaup, one pintail, two redheads, two hooded mergansers, two canvasbacks, two black ducks, one fulvous tree duck and one mottled duck. All other species of ducks (except harlequin duck) may be taken up to the six-duck limit. In addition, youth hunters may take one Canada goose in the Atlantic Population Hunt Zone or five Canada Geese in the Late Resident Canada Goose Hunt Zone, two brant, 25 light geese and fifteen 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 of age, who 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 CANADA GEESE

Federal Framework: AP Zone: A 30-day season may be held between November 15 and February 5, with a one-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. 21, 2019 - Jan. 4, 2020
Jan. 17, 2020 - Feb. 5, 2020

Dec. 20, 2019 - Jan. 4 2020
Jan. 14, 2020 – Jan. 31, 2020

Bag Limit: One 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 five-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into three segments.*

Proposed Season Dates: Nov. 23 - Nov. 29
 Dec. 16 - Mar. 10

Daily Bag Limit: five 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 30-day season between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and January 31, with a two-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into two segments.*

Proposed Season Dates: Dec. 28 - Jan. 31

Daily Bag Limit: two 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, 2019 - Nov. 29, 2019
 Dec. 16, 2019 - Feb. 8, 2020

Oct. 1, 2019 - Nov. 29, 2019
Dec. 16, 2019 - Jan. 31, 2020
Feb. 8, 2020

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: Dec. 2, 2019 - Dec. 14, 2019
Feb. 10, 2020 - Apr. 15, 2020

Dec. 2, 2019 - Dec. 14, 2019
Feb. 1, 2020 - Feb 7, 2020
Feb. 10, 2020 – Apr. 15, 2020

Daily Bag Limit: No Limit, no possession limit

RP 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; 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. 2 - Oct. 19
Oct. 26 - Nov. 29
Dec. 21 - Jan. 10

Daily Bag Limit: Fifteen 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. 2 - Nov. 21

Daily Bag Limit: Ten per day (No more than one 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. 2 - Nov. 21

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. 30 - Jan 31

Daily Bag Limit: Eight per day

WOODCOCK

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

Proposed Season Dates: Oct. 24 - Nov. 29
Jan. 11 - Jan. 25

Daily Bag Limit: Three per day

For additional information on population status, regulations, where to hunt, and more go the DNR Waterfowl Page at http://www.dnr.maryland.gov/wildlife/Hunt_Trap/waterfowl/index.asp.

Proposed Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons for 2019-20



Early Waterfowl Seasons

Special Teal Season

Federal Framework: 16 days between Sept. 1-30
Proposed Dates: Sept. 16 – Sept. 30

Recommend approval
as proposed

Eastern Zone Resident Canada Goose

Federal Framework: 15 days between Sept. 1-15
Proposed Dates: Sept. 2 – 14
Daily Bag: 8/day

Western Zone Resident Canada Goose

Federal Framework: 25 days between Sept. 1-25
Proposed Dates: Sept. 2 – 25
Daily Bag: 8/day

“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)

Proposed Season

Oct. 12 - Oct. 19
Nov. 16 - Nov. 29
Dec. 16 - Jan. 31

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, 2 scaup, 2 canvasbacks, 2
hooded mergansers, 2 black ducks (during black
duck season), 1 mottled duck, and 1 fulvous tree
duck.

Recommend approval
as proposed



Black Duck Season (within Regular Duck Season)

Federal Framework

60-day season with a
2-bird daily bag limit.

Proposed Season

Nov. 16 - Nov. 29
Dec. 16 - Jan. 31

Daily Bag Limit: 2

No open season in October provides protection to Maryland's breeding black duck population. Migrant stocks begin arriving in early November.

Recommend approval
as proposed



Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days

Federal Framework: States can hold 2 youth 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. 2 and Feb. 8

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.

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

Recommend approval
as proposed



AP Canada Goose Hunting Season

Federal Framework

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

Daily Bag Limit 1 per day

Proposed Season

Dec. 21 - Jan. 4

Jan. 17 - Feb. 5

AMENDED DATES:

Dec. 20, 2019 - Jan 4, 2020

Jan. 14, 2020 - Jan. 31, 2020

Daily Bag Limit

1 per day

Recommend approval
with modification
(dates in red)

AP Alternatives Presented to MGBAC 1/8/2019

- 1) Dec. 21, 2019 – Jan. 4, 2020; Jan. 17, 2020 – Feb. 5, 2020
- 2) Nov 28, 2019 – Nov. 29 2019; Dec. 21, 2019 – Jan. 22, 2020
- 3) Nov 28, 2019 – Nov. 29, 2019; Jan. 4., 2020 – Feb. 5, 2020

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. 23 - Nov. 29

Dec. 16 - Mar. 10

Daily Bag Limit 5 per day

Recommend approval
as proposed



Atlantic Brant Hunting Season

Federal Framework

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

Proposed Season

Dec. 28 - Jan.31

Daily Bag Limit 2

Recommend approval
as proposed



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 - Nov. 29
Dec. 16 - Feb. 8

Amended Dates:

Oct 1, 2019 – Nov. 29, 2019

Dec. 16, 2019 – Jan. 31, 2020

Feb. 8, 2020

Daily Bag Limit 25
No Possession Limit

Recommend approval
with modification
(dates in red)



Light Goose Conservation Order Season

Proposed CO Season

Dec 2. - Dec. 14

Feb. 10 – Apr. 15

AMENDED DATES:

Dec. 2, 2019 – Dec. 14, 2019

Feb. 1, 2020 – Feb. 7, 2020

Feb. 10, 2020 – Apr. 15, 2020

Daily Bag Limit No Limit

Hunters may use unplugged shotguns and e-calls

Shooting hours extended to 1/2 hour after sunset

Participants must possess a Snow Goose Conservation Order Hunting Season Permit.

Recommend approval
with modification
(dates in red)



Special Sea Duck Hunting Season

(Sea Duck Zone only)

Federal Framework

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

Daily Bag Limit: 5 but no more than 4 scoters, 4 long-tailed ducks, 4 eiders

Proposed Season

Nov. 2 - Jan. 10

Proposed Daily Bag Limit: 5 but no more than 4 scoters, 4 long-tailed ducks, 4 eiders

Recommend approval
as proposed



Mourning Doves

Federal Framework

- 90 day season between Sept. 1 – Jan. 15
- 15 birds/day
- No more than 3 season segments

Proposed Season

- Sept. 2 – Oct. 19
Oct. 26 – Nov. 29
Dec. 21 – Jan. 10
- 15 birds/day

Recommend approval
as proposed



Woodcock

Federal Framework

- 45 season between Oct. 1 - Jan. 31
- 3 birds/day
- No more than 2 season segments

Proposed Season

- Oct. 24 - Nov. 29
- Jan. 11 - Jan. 25
- 3 birds/day

Recommend
approval as
proposed



**Summary of 2019 Proposed Legislation
Wildlife and Heritage Service
(as of March 19, 2019)**

<u>Number / Chapter</u> <u>(Cross File / Chapter)</u> ▲	<u>Title</u>	<u>Primary Sponsor</u>	<u>Status</u>	<u>Original House and Hearing Dates</u>	<u>Opposite House and Hearing Dates</u>
HB0054	Natural Resources - Lands Formed by Excavation Materials - Transfer of Authority	<u>Chair, Environment and Transportation Committee</u>	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation	Environment and Transportation 2/6/2019 - 1:30 p.m.	
HB0199	Wicomico County - Deer Hunting - Sundays	Wicomico County Delegation	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Environment and Transportation 3/8/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB0242	Cecil County - Natural Resources - Hunting	Cecil County Delegation	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Environment and Transportation 3/8/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB0401 (SB0923)	Harford County - Hunting - Deer Management Permits	Harford County Delegation	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Environment and Transportation 2/20/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB0618 (SB0889)	Dorchester County - Sunday Hunting - Deer Bow Hunting Season	Delegate Adams	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Environment and Transportation 3/8/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB0619 (SB0890)	Dorchester County - Sunday Hunting - Deer Muzzle Loader Season	Delegate Adams	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Environment and Transportation 3/8/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB0620 (SB0888)	Dorchester County - Sunday Hunting - Deer Firearms Season	Delegate Adams	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Environment and Transportation 3/8/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB0728	State Parks and Forests - Hunting - Use of Off-Road Vehicles	Delegate Beitzel	In the Senate - Hearing 3/26 at 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 2/22/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/26/2019 - 1:00
HB1110 (SB0140)	Washington County - Archery Hunting - Safety Zone	Delegate Parrott	In the House - First Reading Environment and Transportation	Environment and Transportation	
HB1194 (SB0760)	Natural Resources Protection Program of 2019	Delegate Lierman	In the Senate - First Reading Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Environment and Transportation 3/6/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs
HB1221	Natural Resources - Hunting - Sundays	Delegate Anderton	In the House - Unfavorable Report by Environment and Transportation	Environment and Transportation 3/6/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	
HB1356	Talbot County - Turkey Hunting - Sundays	Delegate Mautz	In the House - First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations	Rules and Executive Nominations	
HB1378 (SB0293)	Natural Resources - Sunday Hunting - Migratory Game Birds	Delegate Anderton	In the House - First Reading House Rules and Executive Nominations	Rules and Executive Nominations	

SB0095	Natural Resources – Recreational License Donation Program and Fund – Revisions	Senator Simonaire	In the House - Hearing 3/20 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/5/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/20/2019 - 1:00 p.m.
SB0140 (HB1110)	Washington County - Archery Hunting - Safety Zone	Washington County Senators	In the House - Hearing canceled	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/5/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation
SB0155	Recreational License Donation Program - Grants to Eligible Sponsor Organizations and Program Extension	Senator Simonaire	In the Senate - Hearing 2/05 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/5/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	
SB0293 (HB1378)	Natural Resources - Sunday Hunting - Migratory Game Birds	Senator Bailey	In the Senate - Unfavorable Report by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs; Withdrawn	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/12/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	
SB0390	Natural Resources – Sunday Hunting – St. Mary’s County	Senator Bailey	In the House - Hearing 3/27 at 1:00 p.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/19/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	Environment and Transportation 3/27/2019 - 1:00 p.m.
SB0557	Public Health – Tick-borne Disease Interagency Workgroup	Senator Eckardt	In the Senate – Unfavorable Report; Withdrawn.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/19/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	
SB0760 (HB1194)	Natural Resources - Whistleblower Program - Establishment	Senator Klausmeier	In the Senate - Unfavorable Report by Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 2/27/2019 - 1:00 p.m.	
SB0888 (HB0620)	Dorchester County - Sunday Hunting - Deer Firearms Season	Senator Eckardt	In the Senate - Hearing 3/12 at 10:00 a.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/12/2019 - 10:00 a.m.	
SB0889 (HB0618)	Dorchester County - Sunday Hunting - Deer Bow Hunting Season	Senator Eckardt	In the Senate - Hearing 3/12 at 10:00 a.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/12/2019 - 10:00 a.m.	
SB0890 (HB0619)	Dorchester County - Sunday Hunting - Deer Muzzle Loader Season	Senator Eckardt	In the Senate - Hearing 3/12 at 10:00 a.m.	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/12/2019 - 10:00 a.m.	
SB0923 (HB0401)	Harford County - Hunting - Deer Management Permits	Senator Gallion	In the Senate - Third Reading Passed (45-0)	Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs 3/12/2019 - 10:00 a.m.	
SB1005	Baltimore County - Hunting - Deer Management Permits	Senator Salling	In the Senate - First Reading Senate Rules	Rules	