

Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission
Proclamation 16-31

Duck, Goose and Crane Hunting Seasons and Regulations

Pursuant to the authority granted by Title 70 Tennessee Code Annotated and Section 70-4-107 thereof, the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission hereby proclaims the following migratory bird hunting regulations effective August 1, 2016.

Section I. Hunting Seasons -
Seasons close at the end of legal shooting hours on the closing date listed.

Species	Season Opens	Season Closes
Ducks, Coots, and Mergansers		
Reelfoot Duck Zone (The Reelfoot Duck Zone includes the waters of Reelfoot Lake.)	Nov. 12 Dec. 3	Nov. 13 Jan. 29, 2017
Remainder of State	Nov. 26 Dec. 3	Nov. 27 Jan. 29, 2017

**Youth Waterfowl Hunting
Season***

The two Saturdays immediately following the close of the duck, coot and merganser season, in both the Reelfoot Duck Zone and Remainder of State.

Feb. 4 and Feb. 11, 2017

* Federal regulations allow only youth waterfowl hunters from 6-15 years of age to participate. An adult at least 21 years of age must accompany the youth hunter into the field and must remain in a position to take control of the hunting device. This adult may not duck hunt, but may participate in other open seasons. Geese, coots, gallinules, moorhens and ducks may be taken by youths during the Youth Waterfowl Season.

Section I. Hunting Seasons (Continued)

Species	Season Opens	Season Closes
White-fronted Geese	Nov. 26 Dec. 3	Nov. 27 Feb. 11, 2017
Canada Geese		
Northwest Canada Goose Zone*	Oct. 8 Nov. 12 Dec. 3	Oct. 12 Nov. 13 Feb. 11, 2017
* Includes Lake, Obion, Weakley Counties; and Dyer County, excluding that portion south of Hwy 104; and Gibson County excluding that portion bounded on the south by Hwy 104 and on the west by Hwy 45W.		
Statewide Canada Goose Zone**	Oct. 8 Nov. 26 Dec. 3	Oct. 25 Nov. 27 Jan. 29, 2017
** Includes all counties or portions of counties not included in the Northwest Canada Goose Zone.		
Brant	Nov. 26 Dec. 3	Nov. 27 Jan. 29, 2017
Blue, Snow, and Ross' Geese i.e. "Light geese" Standard Federal Regulations Apply	Nov. 26 Dec. 3	Nov. 27 Feb. 11, 2017
LIGHT GOOSE CONSERVATION SEASON for Blue, Snow, and Ross' Geese	Feb. 12, 2017	March 10, 2017

A **Light Goose Conservation Season Permit** and valid hunting license (from any state) are required for all hunters over 16 years of age to participate in this season.

The following Conservation Season Provisions are allowed during this season only: unplugged shotguns, electronic calls, shooting 30 min before official sunrise and shooting until 30 min after official sunset and no daily bag or possession limit.

Section I. Hunting Seasons (Continued)

Species	Season Opens	Season Closes
Sandhill Cranes*	Nov. 26 Dec. 3	Nov. 27 Jan. 1, 2017

* Hunting is permitted South of Interstate 40 and east of State Highway 56 only.

* 400, 3-permit packets will be issued by handheld draw on or near the Hiwassee WMA. A type 001 Hunting & Fishing License and type 005 waterfowl license are required to enter the Sandhill Crane draw. Leftover permits will be available on a first come basis at regional offices. Permits are invalid until proof of passing a bird identification test the year the permit is obtained and permit is signed by the individual.

Section II. Shooting Hours - Sandhill crane hours are from sunrise to 3:00pm EST. For all other migratory game bird species, hours are ½ hour before sunrise to sunset daily, unless otherwise noted.

Section III. Daily Bag and Possession Limits

Daily Bag Limit: The maximum number of migratory game birds of a single species or combination (aggregate) of species permitted to be taken by one person in any one day during the open season in any one specified geographic area for which a daily bag limit is prescribed.

Possession Limit: The maximum number of birds that could have legally been taken in three (3) days, except on opening day and the second day of the season when the possession limit is the daily bag limit and two times the daily bag limit, respectively.

Ducks and Mergansers

The daily bag limit of ducks is 6 which may include no more than 4 mallards (no more than 2 of which may be a female), 3 wood ducks, 3 scaup, 2 pintails, 2 canvasbacks, 2 redheads, 1 black duck.

The daily bag limit of merganser is 5, only 2 of which may be hooded mergansers.

Species	Daily Bag	Possession
Coots	15	45
Snow, Blue and Ross's Geese i.e. "Light geese" - <u>Regular Season</u>	20	No Possession Limit, except on opening day and the second day of the season when the possession limit is the daily bag limit and two times the daily bag limit, respectively.
Snow, Blue and Ross's Geese i.e. "Light geese"- <u>Conservation Season</u>	No daily bag	No Possession Limit

Section III. Daily Bag and Possession Limits (Continued)

Species	Daily Bag	Possession
White-fronted Geese	2	6
Brant	2	6
Canada Geese	3	9

Sandhill Cranes The daily bag, season bag and possession limit is 3 cranes.

Harvested cranes must be accompanied by a completed kill tag and be checked in by the end of the calendar day of harvest by mailing completed business reply card provided with the permit. Also, hunters must fill out and return a post-season survey, also provided with permit. Failure to return the post-season survey will be a violation of this Proclamation.

Section IV. Repeal of Prior Proclamations

This proclamation repeals Proclamation No. 15-20.

Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission

Chairman

I certify that this is an accurate and complete copy of a proclamation lawfully promulgated and adopted by the Tennessee Fish and Wildlife Commission on the ___ day of April 2016.

Secretary

Subscribed and sworn to before me this the _____ day of _____ 2016.

Notary Public

My commission expires: _____

Proclamation No. 16-31 received and recorded this _____ day of _____ 2016; to be effective the _____ day of _____ 2016.

Tre Hargett, Secretary of State