California

HUNTING DIGEST

2010 upland game and waterfowl

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CALIFORNIA
DEPARTMENT
FISH&GAME

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California HUNTING DIGEST

2010 upland game

State of California
Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger

Natural Resources Agency
Secretary Lester A. Snow

Department of Fish and Game
Director John McCamman

Fish and Game Commission
President Jim Kellogg
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Commissioner Jack Baylis

Acting Executive Director Jon Fischer

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An alternate communication format is available upon request. If reasonable accommodation is needed contact the California Department of Fish and Game at (916) 322-8911 or the California Relay (Telephone) Service for the deaf or hearing-impaired from TDD phones at (800) 735-2929.

This booklet is intended as a guide for hunters. It does not replace the California Hunting Regulations. For more detailed information concerning regulations, consult the California Hunting Regulations, available at any DFG office (see page 5 for phone numbers), or online at www.dfg.ca.gov/regulations/index.html.

This publication is partially paid for through the sale of advertising. DFG neither endorses products or services listed nor accepts any liability arising from the use of products or services listed.

Hunting licenses are sold at the following DFG offices and at authorized license agents statewide. You can also take a hunter education course online! For more information, visit: www.dfg.ca.gov/huntered/. To find a license agent near you, visit:

www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/index.html

Eureka Field Office
619 Second Street
Eureka, CA 95501
P(707) 445-6493
EurekaLicenseOffice@dfg.ca.gov

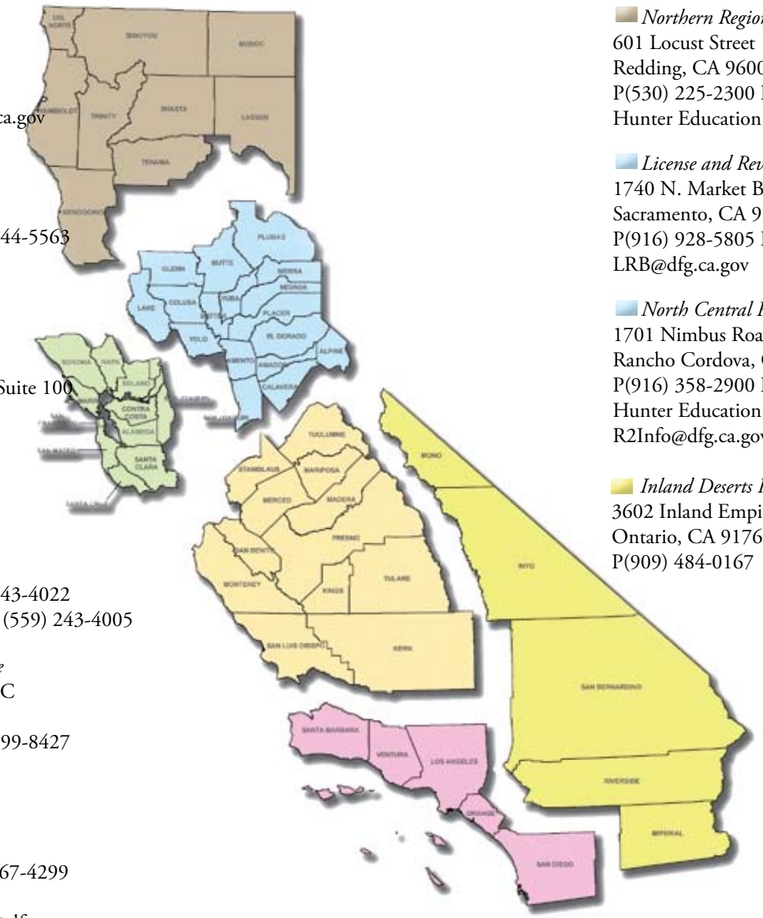
Bay Delta Region
7329 Silverado Trail
Napa, CA 94558
P(707) 944-5500 F(707) 944-5563
Hunter Education Classes:
(707) 944-5548
DeltaLicense@dfg.ca.gov

Marine Region
20 Lower Ragsdale Drive, Suite 100
Monterey, CA 93940
(831) 649-2870
AskMarine@dfg.ca.gov

Central Region
1234 East Shaw Avenue
Fresno, CA 93710
P(559) 243-4005 F(559) 243-4022
Hunter Education Classes: (559) 243-4005

Los Alamitos Field Office
4665 Lampson Ave., Suite C
Los Alamitos, CA 90720
P(562) 342-7100 P(562) 799-8427

South Coast Region
4949 Viewridge Avenue
San Diego, CA 92123
P(858) 467-4201 F(858) 467-4299
Hunter Education Classes:
(760) 947-8859 SDOffice@dfg.ca.gov



Northern Region
601 Locust Street
Redding, CA 96001
P(530) 225-2300 F(530) 225-2381
Hunter Education Classes: (530) 225-2003

License and Revenue Branch
1740 N. Market Blvd.
Sacramento, CA 95834
P(916) 928-5805 F(916) 419-7587
LRB@dfg.ca.gov

North Central Region
1701 Nimbus Road
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
P(916) 358-2900 F(916) 358-2912
Hunter Education Classes: (916) 351-0833
R2Info@dfg.ca.gov

Inland Deserts Region
3602 Inland Empire Blvd. Ste. C220
Ontario, CA 91764
P(909) 484-0167

HUNTING GUIDE SERVICES

For a list of licensed California hunting guides, visit: www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/hunting/hunting.html. Click on the "Publications and Lists" tab.

CALIFORNIA HUNTING LAWS AND REGULATIONS

The full text of California's hunting regulations can be found in Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, and in the California Fish and Game Code. Both can be found on the DFG Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/regulations/index.html. Printed copies of the regulations are also available at DFG offices and license agents.

When WEEDS Move IN UPLAND BIRDS Move OUT!

Steve Maslowski, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Wild turkey

Steve Dewey, Utah State University, Bugwood.org

Yellow star thistle (top) and medusahead (bottom)

REPORT IT!

Report infestations of weeds and other invasive species to the appropriate agencies.

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT:
CALIFORNIA STATE OFFICE 916-978-4400
TDD 916-978-4419

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF
FISH AND GAME invasives@dfg.ca.gov

www.blm.gov/weeds

Noxious weeds and other invasive species replace native plants and destroy upland bird habitat.

Most invasive and noxious weeds are not suitable for upland bird forage; upland birds will leave areas infested by weeds and invasive species in search of better habitat.

- The estimated damage from invasives worldwide totals $1.4 trillion—5 percent of the global economy.
- Weeds and invasive species can be transported by wind, water, boats, vehicles, wildlife, and YOU!

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Learn to identify invasive and noxious weeds in your area.
- Clean boats, vehicles, animals, and equipment before leaving home and your hunting location.
- Check your clothing and equipment for weed seeds.
- Avoid traveling through, camping, or hunting in weed-infested areas.
- Stay on established roads and trails.

STOP AQUATIC HITCHHIKERS!
Prevent the transport of nuisance species.
Clean all recreational equipment.
www.ProtectYourWaters.net

FICMNEW: Federal Interagency Committee for the Management of Noxious and Exotic Weeds
www.fs.fed.us/ficmnew

The ABCs of Wildlife Areas and Federal Refuges

Type A and B Wildlife Areas These are the high quality waterfowl/pheasant areas with check stations that are located throughout the state. As a rule, hunting is on Saturdays, Sundays, and Wednesdays during waterfowl season, and some are open during the September dove season. The Type A areas require a daily pass ($17.75), a 2-day pass($30.20), or a Type A season pass ($140.20). The Type B areas require the Type A or B season pass ($46.75). Other types of hunting such as dove, deer, and rabbits are also available on many of these areas.

The Type A areas include: Colusa NWR, Delevan NWR, Sacramento NWR, Sutter NWR, Gray Lodge WA, Yolo Bypass WA, Upper Butte Basin WA (Howard Slough, Little Dry Creek and Llano Seco Units), Grizzly Island WA (also see Type B list), Los Banos WA, Mendota WA, Volta WA, San Luis NWR, Merced NWR, North Grasslands WA (China Island, Gadwall and Salt Slough Units), Imperial WA (Wister Unit), Kern NWR, Salton Sea NWR, and San Jacinto WA.

The Type B areas include: Grizzly Island WA (Gold Hills, Goodyear Slough, and Island Slough Units), Ash Creek WA, Butte Valley WA, Honey Lake WA, Shasta Valley WA, and Willow Creek WA.

Type C Wildlife Areas These are the majority of the wildlife areas and there is no fee charged for hunting these areas. Hunting is usually allowed any day of the week during legal season (with some exceptions) and permits are not needed except for the busy days, e.g., the first nine days of the spring turkey hunt at the Spenceville and Daugherty Hill Wildlife Areas or a Sat., Sun., Wed., schedule such as at the Clifton Court Forebay. There are dozens of Type C wildlife areas located throughout the state where hunters can hunt rabbits, dove, tree squirrels, deer, quail, wild turkey, and waterfowl. Read the California Hunting and Other Public Uses on State and Federal Areas for more information on the hunting/fishing opportunities available on the many wildlife areas. DFG Regional Offices listed on page 5.

2010 - 2011 Upland Game Seasons

species	season dates	daily bag limit	possession limit
Pheasant	Nov. 13 - Dec. 26	2 males per day for first 2 days of the season; 3 males per day after first 2 days of the season.	Double daily bag
Archery Only	Nov. 13 - Jan. 11	2 pheasants per day for first 2 days of the season; 3 pheasants per day after first 2 days of the season. Daily archery bag may contain not more than 1 female pheasant.	Double
Falconry Only	Aug. 21 - Feb. 28	2 pheasants per day for first 2 days of the season; 3 pheasants per day after first 2 days of the season. The daily falconry bag may contain birds of either sex. Hawking hours are sunrise to sunset.	Double
Quail: Zone Q1 (Mountain Quail Only)	Sep. 11 - Oct. 15	10	20
Zone Q1 (All Quail)	Oct. 16 - Jan. 30		
Zone Q2	Sep. 25 - Jan. 30		
Zone Q3	Oct. 16 - Jan. 30		
Archery Only	Aug. 21 - Sep. 10		
Falconry Only	Aug. 21 - Feb. 28		
Chukar	Oct. 16 - Jan. 30	6	12
Archery Only	Aug. 21 - Sep. 10		
Falconry Only	Aug. 21 - Feb. 28		
Sage Grouse (hunting by permit only)		The California Department of Fish and Game is not proposing a hunt.	
Falconry Only			
Sooty/Ruffed Grouse	Sep. 11 - Oct. 11	2; All of one species or mixed	Double daily bag
Archery Only	Aug. 21 - Sep. 10		
Falconry Only	Aug. 21 - Feb. 28		
Ptarmigan	Sep. 11 - 19	2 per day or season	
Falconry Only	Aug. 21 - Feb. 28		
Wild Turkey (Spring)	Mar. 26 - May 1	1 bearded	3 per person
Wild Turkey (Fall)	Nov. 13 - 28	1 either sex	1 per person
Dove	Sep. 1 - 15 / Nov. 13 - Dec. 27	10; All of one species or mixed	Double daily bag
Band-tailed Pigeon	Sep. 18 - 26 North Dec. 18 - 26 South	2	4
American Crow	Dec. 4 - Apr. 6	24	48
Tree Squirrel	Sep. 11 - Jan. 30	4	4
Archery/Falconry Only	Aug. 7 - Sep. 10		
Rabbits & Varying Hare	Jul. 1 - Jan. 30	5	10
Falconry Only	Jan. 31 - Mar. 20		
Jackrabbits	Open all year	No limit	No limit
Snipe	Oct. 16 - Jan. 30	8	Double daily bag

2010 - 2011 Waterfowl Hunting Season Summary

area	species	season dates	daily bag & possession limits
All Zones	Coots & Moorhens	Concurrent w/duck season	25/day. 25 in possession
Northeastern Zone	Ducks	Oct 9 - Jan 21	7/day, which may include: 7 mallards but no more than 2 females, 2 pintail, 1 canvasback, 2 redheads, 3 scaup. Possession limit double the daily bag.
	Scaup	Oct 9 - Jan 2	
	Geese	Oct 9 - Jan 16	8/day, which may include: 6 white geese, 6 dark geese no more than 4 white-fronted geese, 2 Large Canada geese, 1 Small Canada goose. Possession limit double the daily bag.
Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone	Ducks	Oct 9 - Oct 31and Nov 13 - Jan 30	7/day, which may include: 7 mallards, no more than 2 females, 2 pintail, 1 canvasback, 2 redheads, 3 scaup. Possession limit double the daily bag.
	Scaup	Nov 13 - Jan 30	
	Geese	Oct 23 - Jan 30	8/day, which may include: 6 white geese, 6 dark geese, no more than 4 white-fronted geese. Possession limit double the daily bag.
Colorado River Zone	Ducks	Oct 22 - Jan 30	7/day, which may include: 7 mallards, no more than 2 hen mallards or Mexican-like ducks, 2 pintail, 1 canvasback, 2 redheads, 3 scaup. Possession limit double the daily bag.
	Scaup	Nov 6 - Jan 30	
	Geese	Oct 22 - Jan 30	6/day, which may include up to 6 white geese, up to 3 dark geese. Possession limit double the daily bag.
Southern California Zone	Ducks	Oct 23 - Jan 30	7/day, which may include: 7 mallards, no more than 2 females, 2 pintail, 1 canvasback, 2 redheads, 3 scaup. Possession limit double the daily bag.
	Scaup	Nov 6 - Jan 30	
	Geese	Oct 23 - Jan 30	8/day, up to 6 white geese, up to 3 dark geese. Possession limit double the daily bag.
Balance of State Zone	Ducks	Oct 23 - Jan 30	7/day,which may include: 7 mallards, no more than 2 females, 2 pintail, 1 canvasback, 2 redheads, 3 scaup. Possession limit double the daily bag.
	Scaup	Nov 6 - Jan 30	
	Geese	Oct 23 - Jan 30	8/ day, which may include: 6 white geese, 6 dark geese, no more than 4 white-fronted geese. Possession limit double the daily bag.
	Large Canada Geese	Oct 2 - Oct 6 and Oct 23 - Jan 30	

continued next page

2010 - 2011 Waterfowl Hunting Season Summary

continued

special area	species	season dates	daily bag & possession limits
North Coast	All Canada Geese	Nov 6 - Jan 30 and Feb 20 - Mar 10; except large Canada geese which cannot be taken beyond Jan 30	6/day, only 1 may be a Large Canada goose. Possession limit double the daily bag.
Humboldt Bay South Spit	All species	Closed during brant season	
Sacramento Valley	White-fronted geese	Oct 23 - Dec 14	2/day. Possession limit double the daily bag.
Morro Bay	All species	Open in designated areas only	Waterfowl season opens concurrently with brant season.
Martis Creek Lake	All species	Closed until Nov 16	
Northern Brant	Black Brant	Nov 7 - Dec 6	2/day. Possession limit double the daily bag.
Balance of State Brant	Black Brant	Nov 13 - Dec 12	2/day. Possession limit double the daily bag.
Imperial County	White Geese	Nov 6 - Jan 30 and Feb 12 - Feb 27	6/day. Possession limit double the daily bag.

youth waterfowl hunting days	species	season dates	daily bag & possession limits
Northeastern Zone	Same as regular season	Sept 25 - 26	Same as regular season
Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone		Feb 5 - 6	
Southern California Zone		Feb 5 - 6	
Colorado River Zone		Feb 5 - 6	
Balance of State Zone		Feb 5 - 6	

falconry of ducks	species	season dates	daily bag & possession limits
Northeastern Zone	Same as regular season	Oct 9 - Jan 21	3/ day, possession limit 6
Balance of State Zone		Oct 23 - Feb 6	
Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone		Oct 9 - Oct 31 and Nov 13 - Feb 2	
Southern California Zone		Oct 23 - Feb 4	
Colorado River Zone	Ducks only	Oct 22 - Feb 3	

Waterfowl Zones

This map should serve only as a guide to the general locations of waterfowl zones. It is your responsibility to become familiar with the exact boundaries. Detailed legal descriptions of waterfowl zones and special management areas are provided in Section 502 in the 2010-2011 Regulation booklet.

General Hunting Info

Q Who needs a hunting license?

A California hunting license is required for any person taking birds or mammals. Hunters must carry licenses and be prepared to show them on request. To be valid, the hunting license must be signed and filled out completely.

Q What do I need to do to get my hunting license?

Resident, nonresident, and junior hunters must present ONE of the following when applying for an Annual California Hunting License or Two-Day Nonresident Hunting License as proof of meeting California's hunter education requirements:

- An Annual California Hunting License issued in any prior year;
- A Two-Day Nonresident California Hunting License issued after the 1999/2000 license year;
- A written declaration that states that the applicant had a California hunting license in any prior year, but that license is now lost or destroyed;
- A California certificate of hunter education completion or equivalency with a unique number imprinted on it (ex: AA00000) or a California hunter education certificate with no unique number imprinted and a California hunter education validation stamp affixed;
- A certificate of successful completion of a California-approved hunter education course from any state or province; or
- A current hunting license or a hunting license issued in either of the two previous years from any state, province, European Country or South Africa.

Q What is the minimum age requirement to purchase a hunting license?

There is no minimum age requirement for purchasing a hunting license if the applicant can show proof of the hunter education. However, hunter education instructors generally ask that students be at least 10 years of age. Students must be able to read, write and understand the questions given on the written test required to complete the course. Check with a hunter education instructor in your area for his/her minimum age requirement.

Q Where do I purchase a hunting license?

Hunting licenses are available from most License Agents and most DFG License Sales Offices.

Q Can I purchase a hunting license online?

Not at this time, but the DFG's Automated License Data System (ALDS)will offer online license sales by the fall of 2011.

Q How do I replace a lost or destroyed current hunting license?

You may obtain a Duplicate Hunting License by surrendering your current year's Application for Duplicate to most License Agents and most DFG License Sales Offices and paying the appropriate fee. If you lose your Application for Duplicate or Duplicate Hunting License, you must purchase a new license at full fee. If you lose any additional stamps or tags, they must be purchased again at full fee. (Fish and Game Code, Section 1053b).

Q Can I purchase a hunting license for my friend?

Yes. You must show your friend's California hunting license from any previous license year or his/her hunter education certificate as proof of meeting California's hunter education requirements. You must also fill in his/her address on the license application. Your friend must fill in the remaining license information and sign the license before hunting (California Code of Regulations Title 14, Section 705).

Q Do I have to complete a Harvest Information Program (HIP) Survey?

Yes. If you plan to hunt migratory game birds (ducks, geese, coots, dove, band-tailed pigeon, snipe, gallinules, or black brant) you must complete a HIP survey and affix a free HIP Stamp to your California Hunting License. HIP surveys and stamps are available through some License Agents and most DFG License Sales Offices. Hunters may be cited for hunting migratory game birds without a HIP stamp affixed to their license.

Q Is there a reduced-fee hunting license?

The following licenses and permits are available to hunters who meet specific eligibility criteria: a reduced-fee disabled veteran's hunting license; a permit for disabled archers that allows the use of a crossbow during archery season; and a permit that allows visually disabled hunters to use a scope while hunting with a muzzleloader. For more information about these items, contact your local DFG license sales office or visit the DFG website at www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/hunting/huntdescrip.html.

Q What game mammals can be hunted?

Deer, elk, pronghorn antelope, wild pig, black bear, Nelson bighorn sheep in the areas described in subsection 4902(b) of the Fish and Game Code, hares, rabbits (except for riparian brush rabbits), and tree squirrels.

Q What game birds can be hunted?

Dove, quail, grouse, ptarmigan, chukar, pheasant, wild turkey, duck, goose, coot, moorhen, and jacksnipe.

Q What "nongame" species can be hunted?

Nongame birds and mammals may not be taken, except for the following species which may be taken with a hunting license:

- English sparrow, starling, coyote, weasel, skunk, opossum, mole, and rodent (excluding tree and flying squirrels, and those listed as furbearers, endangered or threatened species) may be taken at any time of the year and in any number.
- Fallow, sambar, sika, and axis deer may be taken only concurrently with the general deer season.
- Aoudad, mouflon, tahr, and feral goat may be taken all year.
- American crow may only be taken during crow season.
- Bobcat may only be taken during bobcat season.

Q What furbearers can be hunted?

Badger, gray fox, muskrat, mink, beaver, and raccoon.

For complete regulations describing seasons, bag limits, and methods of take, consult the hunting regulations on the Fish and Game Commission website:

www.fgc.ca.gov

Costs include a five percent license agent handling fee and $4.00 nonrefundable processing fee for deer and bear tag applications. License Year runs July 1, 2010–June 30, 2011.

hunting licenses

Resident, age 16 and over ~ $41.50
Nonresident ~ $144.65
Two-Day Nonresident ~ $41.50
Junior (resident/nonresident), under age 16 ~ $10.75
Disabled Veteran* ~ $6.25
Duplicate (annual licenses only) ~ $9.20

hunting stamps

Upland Game Bird Stamp** ~ $8.40
California Duck Stamp** ~ $18.10
Federal Duck Stamp*** ~ $8.40

hunter education

Hunter Education Equivalency Exam ~ $47.50
Duplicate Hunter Education Certificate ~ $5.25

reservation applications

One-Choice ~ $1.30
Five-Choice ~ $6.55

hunting passes & permits

Type-A Season Pass ~ $140.20
Type-B Season Pass ~ $46.75
Type-A One-Day Entry Permit ~ $17.75
Type-A Two-Day Pass ~ $30.20
No pass required for Type C areas

use passes

Annual Use Pass ~ $20.75
Daily Use Pass ~ $4.00

Use passes are required on some wildlife areas and ecological reserves for non-consumptive users. Refer to individual wildlife area regulations in Section 551q for requirements. Purchase use passes at the area entrance or headquarters.

* Available from DFG offices only.
** Not required for junior license holders.
*** Required for hunters 16 and older.

General Hunting Info continued

Hunter Education Classes

There are no age restrictions for hunter education classes but most instructors recommend a minimum age of 10. Classes include at least 10 hours of instruction in a wide range of topics, such as hunting ethics, wildlife conservation and management, safe firearms handling, first aid, survival, wildlife identification, and care of game. There is a minimal fee to cover the instructor's out-of-pocket expenses. For information on upcoming classes, or to to start your hunter education training online, visit the DFG website at www.dfg.ca.gov/huntered/.

To find a hunter education class in your area, call one of the numbers listed on the regional contact map, found on page 5.

Hunter Education Equivilency Exams

Hunter education equivalency exams are given by appointment at DFG regional offices for a fee. (California equivalency certificates may not be accepted as evidence of hunter education in some states.)

Duplicate Hunter Education Certificates

Duplicate hunter education certificates can be issued to any person who completed and passed a hunter education class after 1989. The DFG does not have records before this date. If the class was completed prior to 1989, the hunter should contact the original instructor, club, or organization where the course was taught to obtain a duplicate. If the hunter is unable to obtain a duplicate through these means, they will have to repeat the course. There is a fee for a duplicate certificate. Contact your nearest DFG office for additional information.

Archery Training

DFG recommends participation in the National Bowhunter Education Foundation's archery training course for all persons using archery equipment. Please contact your nearest DFG regional office or www.nbef.org for information on class availability.

HUNTING AT CALIFORNIA'S LICENSED GAME BIRD CLUBS

If you are interested in a pheasant hunting opportunity that provides higher success rates and a longer season, consider hunting on a Licensed Game Bird Club, or LGBC. These are privately owned land areas where domestically reared game birds are released to provide additional hunting opportunities.

If you would like more information about hunting on an LGBC, please contact one of the clubs or DFG at 1740 N. Market Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95834, (916) 928-5849, SPU@dfg.ca.gov.

COUNTY	CLUB NAME	ADDRESS	PHONE	ACRES
Butte	Ccf Hunting Club	4229 Kathy Ln, Chico, Ca 95973	(530) 894-5555	773
Butte	Wright Pheasant Club	1145 Richins Ave, Gridley, Ca 95948	(530) 846-6410	1280
Colusa	Colusa Indian Community Outdoor Adventure	3730 Highway 45, Colusa, Ca 95932	(530) 682-3176	4003
Glenn	Gaines Afton Ranch	P.O. Box 132, Durham, Ca 95938	(530) 518-8626	280
Glenn	Thunder Hill Pheasant Club	5150 Highway 162, Willows, Ca 95988	(530) 934-2146	1200
Humboldt	Northcoast Outfitters Pheasant Club A	P.O. Box 28, Loleta, Ca 95551	(707) 733-5613	30
Kern	4 Seasons Hunting	9101 Camino Media, Bakersfield, Ca 93311	(661) 805-5787	450
Kern	Kern River Hunt Club	7908 Calle Torcido, Bakersfield, Ca 93309	(760) 378-3437	1030
Kern	Pine Mountain Hunt Club	21220 94th St, California City, Ca 93505	(760) 793-2987	800
Kern	Lc National Sportsman Foundation Club 1	P.O. Box 107, New Cuyama, Ca 93254	(661) 750-1053	400
Kern	Lc National Sportsman Foundation Club 1	P.O. Box 107, New Cuyama, Ca 93254	(661) 750-1053	400
Lassen	Five Dot Pheasant Club	P.O. Box 99, Milford, Ca 96121	(530) 253-3164	420
Lassen	Pit River Hunting Preserve	24765 Cassel Fall River Rd, Fall River, Ca 96028	(530) 336-7386	500
Lassen	4b Game Bird Club	460 305 Lake Crest Dr, Janesville, Ca 96114	(530) 253-3410	500
Lassen	Big Valley Pheasant Club	P.O. Box 119, Nubieber, Ca 96068	(530) 224-1142	407
Los Angeles	High Desert Hunt Club	P.O. Box 1000, Lebec, Ca 93243	(888) 425-4868	26000
Los Angeles	Antelope Valley Sportsmans Club	45408 160th St W, Lancaster, Ca 93536	(661) 724-1291	1250
Los Angeles	High Desert Hunt Club	P.O. Box 1000, Lebec, Ca 93243	(888) 425-4868	26000
Los Angeles	Antelope Valley Sportsmans Club	45408 160th St W, Lancaster, Ca 93536	(661) 724-1291	1250
Madera	Ace High Adventures	24877 Road 10, Chowchilla, Ca 93610	(559) 665-1977	40
Merced	Mike Tuppers Rooster Ranch	P.O. Box 366, Gustine, Ca 95322	(209) 667-0483	3833
Modoc	Moore Hunt Club	P.O. Box 57, Lookout, Ca 96054	(530) 294-5586	500
Placer	Birds Ltd	P.O. Box 646, Cool, Ca 95614	(530) 823-9310	2780
Placer/Sutter	Garcias Hunting Preserve Inc	P.O. Box 1257, Loomis, Ca 95650	(916) 652-2395	5300
Riverside	Four Winds Pheasant Club	2806 May Ave, Redondo Beach, Ca 90278	(310) 370-2238	155
San Benito	Quarter Circle Cross, Inc	P.O. Box 1392, Hollister, Ca 95024	(831) 637-0328	2915
San Benito	Rs Bar	10255 Old Hernanadez Rd, Paicines, Ca 95043	(831) 386-0300	18000
San Benito	Rs Bar	10255 Old Hernanadez Rd, Paicines, Ca 95043	(831) 386-0300	18000
San Diego	San Diego Sportsmans Club	9935 Via De Oro, Spring Valley, Ca 91977	(619) 729-4876	500
San Diego	Palomar Hunt Club Inc	26439 Highway 76, Santa Ysabel, Ca 92070	(760) 782-3000	5260
San Joaquin	Woody's On The River	660 Geer Ct, Modesto, Ca 95354	(209) 404-8125	680
Shasta	Stillwater Sportsmans Club	7010 Hunting Club Rd, Anderson, Ca 96007	(530) 365-6845	900
Siskiyou	G & G Pheasant Shoot	P.O. Box 116, Gazelle, Ca 96034	(530) 435-2309	752
Siskiyou	Rising Sun Hunt Preserve	8300 Holzhauser Rd, Dorris, Ca 96023	(530) 397-3621	1080
Siskiyou	Rising Sun Hunt Preserve	8300 Holzhauser Rd, Dorris, Ca 96023	(530) 397-3621	1080
Solano	Birds Landing Hunting Preserve	2099 Collinsville Rd, Birds Landing, Ca 94512	(707) 374-5092	1100
Solano	Suisun Marsh Hunting Preserve	P.O. Box 698, Fairfield, Ca 94533	(707) 425-4158	1632
Sonoma	Black Point Sports Club	7711 Lakeville Hwy, Petaluma, Ca 94954	(707) 763-0076	1000
Sutter	Old Pheasant Club, The	4906 Pleasant Grove Rd, Pleasant Grove, Ca 95668	(530) 701-6969	980
Sutter	South Butte Game Bird Club	6790 S Butte Rd, Sutter, Ca 95982	(530) 674-1064	4500
Tehama	Egcg Hunt Club, Llc	393 Mountain View Ave, San Rafael, Ca 94901	(415) 367-5640	40
Tehama	Clear Creek Sports Club 2	P.O. Box 658, Chico, Ca 95927	(530) 520-9464	320
Tehama	Red Bank Outfitters	P.O. Box 8295, Red Bluff, Ca 96080	(530) 529-9435	2500
Tulare	Guns & Roosters Hunting Club	31661 Road 160, Visalia, Ca 93292	(559) 798-1966	650
Tulare	Guns & Roosters Hunting Club	31661 Road 160, Visalia, Ca 93292	(559) 798-1966	650
Yolo	Quail Point Preserve	P.O. Box 848, Knights Landing, Ca 95645	(530) 735-6217	1710
Yolo	Raahauges Pheasant Hunting Club	P.O. Box 408, Dunnigan, Ca 95937	(530) 724-0552	661

Laws & Regulations

The laws and regulations as they pertain to hunting resident small game and migratory game birds are summarized on the following pages from the California Fish and Game Code (FGC), the California Penal Code (PC) and Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations (T14). The summaries are intended only as a guide and not a replacement for the complete laws and regulations. To access the entire California Fish and Game Code and Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations, visit the DFG website at www.dfg.ca.gov/enforcement. For the complete California Penal Code, go to www.leginfo.ca.gov.

General Terminology

Possession: Every game bird, game mammal, furbearer, or nongame animal taken under the authority of a hunting or trapping license shall be immediately killed and become a part of the daily bag limit.

Bag Limit: The maximum limit, in number or amount, of birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, or amphibians that may lawfully be taken by any one person during a specified period of time.

Possession Limit: The maximum limit, in number or amount, of birds, mammals, fish, reptiles, or amphibians that may be lawfully possessed by one person.

Migratory Game Birds

- Dabbling Ducks: American black duck, American wigeon, blue-winged teal, cinnamon teal, gadwall, green-winged teal, mallard, mottled duck, northern pintail, northern shoveler, wood duck.
- Diving Ducks: canvasback, common merganser, greater scaup, lesser scaup, hooded merganser, red-breasted merganser, redhead, ring-necked duck, ruddy duck.
- Sea Ducks: Barrow's goldeneye, black scoter, bufflehead, common eider, common goldeneye, Harlequin duck, king eider, long-tailed duck, surf scoter, white-winged scoter.
- American coot.
- Common moorhen.
- Black Brant.
- Dark geese: Canada geese, cackling geese, Aleutian geese and white-fronted geese ("specklebelly").
- Large Canada geese: western Canada geese ("honker") and lesser Canada geese ("lessers").
- Small Canada geese (about the size of a mallard): cackling geese and Aleutian geese. Both are white-cheeked geese nearly identical in appearance to large Canada geese. Aleutian geese have a thin white neck ring and Cackling geese have dark breasts. Both species have a high-pitched cackle as opposed to the deeper "honking".
- White geese: Ross' geese and snow geese.
- Western mourning dove.
- White-winged dove.
- Band-tailed pigeon.
- Common snipe.

Resident Small Game: Chinese spotted doves, Eurasian collared-doves, ringed turtle-doves of the family *Columbidae*, California quail and varieties thereof, Gambel's or desert quail, mountain quail and varieties thereof, sooty grouse and varieties thereof, ruffed grouse, sage grouse (sage hens), white-tailed ptarmigan, Hungarian partridges, red-legged partridges, including the chukar and other varieties, ring-necked pheasants and varieties, and wild turkeys of the order Galliformes; and the following game mammals: jackrabbits and varying hares (genus *Lepus*), cottontail rabbits, brush rabbits, pygmy rabbits (genus *Sylvilagus*), and tree squirrels (genus *Sciurus* and *Tamiasciurus*). T14-257.

Condor Range: The geographic area where lead projectiles are prohibited when hunting big game and non-game. To assist hunters in understanding and visualizing affected areas, the lead prohibition area is also known as deer hunt zones D7, D8, D9, D10, D11, D13, and most (but not all) of the South A zone.

Junior Hunting License: A reduced-fee license for hunters who are under age 16 on the first day of the license year (July 1). FGC 3031.

License Year: A 12-month period beginning July 1 and ending June 30. FGC 3037.

Upland Game Bird Stamp or Validation: Any adult hunting license holder taking resident game birds including Chinese spotted doves, Eurasian collared-doves, ringed turtle doves of the family *Columbidae*; California quail and varieties thereof, Gambel's or desert quail, mountain quail and varieties thereof, sooty, ruffed, and sage grouse, white-tailed ptarmigan, Hungarian partridges, red-legged partridges including the chukar and other varieties, ring-necked pheasants and varieties, and wild turkeys of the order Galliformes; and migratory game birds including common snipe, western mourning doves, white-winged doves, and band-tailed pigeons must have a current California Upland Game Bird Validation in possession or have a current California Upland Game Bird Stamp affixed to their hunting license. T14-313, FGC 3682, FGC 3682.1.

California Duck Stamp or Validation: Any adult hunting license holder taking ducks, geese, or brant must have a current state California Duck validation in possession or have a current California Duck Stamp affixed to their license. T14-510, FGC 355, FGC 3700, FGC 3700.1, Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Federal Duck Stamp: Any person aged sixteen years or older taking any migratory waterfowl must have in his or her immediate possession an unexpired Federal migratory-bird hunting and conservation stamp validated by his or her signature in ink across the face of the stamp prior to any taking of such birds. T14-509, FGC 355, FGC 366.

Projectile: Defined as any bullet, ball, sabot, slug, buckshot, or other device that is expelled from a firearm through a barrel by force. T14-353.

Resident: Any person who has resided continuously in California for six months immediately before the date of application for a license, tag, or permit; persons on active duty with the armed forces of the United States or an auxiliary branch; or Job Corps enrollees. FGC 70.

Season: That period of time during which resident and migratory game birds, game mammals, and fur-bearing mammals may be taken. All dates are inclusive. T14-258.

Shooting Time: Legal California time for the date specified. For example: during the days when California is on Pacific Daylight Saving Time, Pacific Daylight Saving Time is intended; when California is legally on Pacific Standard Time, Pacific Standard Time is intended. When reference is made to sunrise or sunset time, such reference is to the sunrise or sunset time at the location of the hunter. T14-250.5.

Shooting Hours: The shooting hours for all resident small game mammals shall be one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. T14-310. The shooting hours for all upland game birds, except for pheasants and the spring wild turkeys season, shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. The shooting hours for pheasants shall be from 8:00 a.m. to sunset. The shooting hours for the spring wild turkey season shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to 4:00 p.m. T14-310.5.

Take: Hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill or attempt to hunt, pursue, catch, capture, or kill. FGC 86.

Method of Take Definitions

Legal Methods of Take for Resident Small Game:

- Shotguns 10 gauge or smaller using shot shells only and incapable of holding more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined. If a plug is used to reduce the capacity of a magazine to fulfill the requirements of this section, the plug must be of one-piece construction incapable of removal without disassembling the gun. Shotgun shells that contain shot size larger than No. BB may not be used or possessed, except that shot size larger than No. 2 may not be used or possessed when taking wild turkey. All shot shall be loose in the shell.
- Muzzle-loading shotguns.
- Falconry.
- Bow and arrow.
- Air rifles firing pellets and powered by compressed air or gas (0.20 caliber minimum for taking wild turkey); and firearm rifles and pistols for taking rabbits and squirrels, except in Los Angeles County.
- In San Diego and Orange counties only, rabbits may be taken at any time during the open season by means of box traps. Such traps shall not exceed 24 inches in any dimension, shall be tended at least once every 24 hours, and shall show the name and address of the trap owner. All rabbits taken under this section shall be immediately killed and become a part of the daily bag limit.
- Coursing dogs may be used to take rabbits.
- Pistols and revolvers may be used to take sooty and ruffed grouse in those counties only and for the season described in Section 300(a)(1)(E).
- Crossbows, except for provisions of Section 354(d) and (g).
- Dogs may be used to take and retrieve resident small game. 311

Bow and Arrow Defined: A bow is any device consisting of a flexible material having a string connecting its two ends and used to propel an arrow held in a firing position by hand only. Bow includes long bow, recurve or compound bow. A legal arrow is a broad head type blade that will not pass through a hole seven-eighths inch in diameter. Mechanical/retractable broad heads shall be measured in the open position. No arrow with an explosive head or with any substance that would tranquilize or poison any animal may be used. T14-354.

Crossbow Defined and Restrictions: Any device consisting of a bow or cured latex band or other flexible material (commonly referred to as a linear bow) affixed to a stock, or any bow that utilizes any device attached directly or indirectly to the bow for the purpose of keeping a crossbow bolt, an arrow or the string in a firing position. A crossbow is not archery equipment and cannot be used during the archery deer season. Crossbow bolts with a broad head type blade that will not pass through a hole seven-eighths inch in diameter shall be used. No bolt with an explosive head or with any substance that would tranquilize or poison any animal may be used. T14-354.

Muzzleloading Rifle Defined: Rifle in which the charge and projectile are loaded from the muzzle. This includes wheellock, matchlock, flintlock or percussion type, including "in-line" muzzleloading rifles using black powder or equivalent black powder substitute, including pellets, with single projectile loaded from the muzzle and at least .40 caliber in designation. T14-353(a).

Related Terms and Definitions

Baited Area: Any area where shelled, shucked or unshucked corn, wheat or other grains, salt, or other feed whatsoever capable of luring, attracting, or enticing such birds or mammals is directly or indirectly placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered. Such area shall remain a baited area for ten days following complete removal of all such corn, wheat or other grains, salt, or other feed.

Exceptions:

(1) The taking of domestically reared and released game birds on licensed pheasant clubs and other licensed game bird clubs;
(2) The taking of resident game birds and mammals on or over standing crops, flooded standing crops (including aquatics), flooded harvested croplands, grain crops properly shocked on the field where grown, or grains found scattered solely as the result of normal agricultural planting or harvesting;
(3) The taking of resident game birds and mammals on or over any lands where shelled, shucked or unshucked corn, wheat or other grain, salt, or other feed have been distributed or scattered as the result of bona fide agricultural operations or procedures, or as a result of manipulation of a crop or other feed on the land where grown for wildlife management purposes, provided that manipulation for wildlife management purposes does not include the distributing or scattering of grain or other feed once it has been removed from or stored on the field where grown.

Harass: An intentional act which disrupts an animal's normal behavior patterns, which includes, but is not limited to, breeding, feeding, or sheltering. T14-251.1.

Public Road or Other Way Open: This includes any roads, dirt or otherwise, trails, open fields, parking lots, etc., open to public access. FGC 2006.

It is Illegal to...

- Take game mammals and resident game birds except as permitted by regulations. T14-250.
- Hunt any game bird or mammal without having the required licenses, tags and/or stamps in possession (FGC 1054.2); change, mutilate, or transfer any license, tag, or stamp; or have in possession while hunting any license belonging to another person. FGC 1052.
- Possess a firearm while hunting during archery season. T14-354(h).
- Pursue, drive, herd, or take any bird or mammal from any type of motor-driven air or land vehicles, motorboat, airboat, sailboat, or snowmobile, except when the motor is off and/or the sails furled and it is drifting, beached, moored, resting at anchor, or is being propelled by paddle, oar or pole. T14-251.
- Harass, herd, or drive any game or non game mammal or furbearing mammal. T14-251.1.
- Take game birds or mammals within 400 yards of any baited area. This does not apply to the taking of mammals on or over standing crops, croplands, or grains found scattered solely as the result of normal agricultural operations or procedures. T14-257.5.
- Intentionally discharge a firearm or release an arrow or crossbow bolt from a bow or crossbow upon or across any highway, road, or other way open to vehicular traffic. T14-354(e), FGC 3004(b).
- Nock or fit the notch in the end of an arrow to a bowstring or crossbow string in a ready-to-fire position while in or on any vehicle. T14-354(i).
- Hunt with bow or crossbow that will not cast a legal hunting arrow, except flu-flu arrows, a horizontal distance of 130 yards. T14-354(f).
- Hunt game from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise. T14-352.
- Use an artificial light to assist in taking any game bird or game mammal. FGC 2005.

•Deposit, permit to pass into, or place where it can pass into the waters of the state, or to abandon, dispose of, or throw away, within 150 feet of the high water mark of the waters of the state, any cans, bottles, garbage, rubbish, or the viscera or carcass of any dead mammal, or the carcass of any dead bird. FGC 5652.

• Fail to send a complete written report to the Department within 48 hours after killing or wounding while hunting, any human being, or domestic animal belonging to another, or after witnessing such killing or wounding. FGC 12151.5.

• Use a shotgun larger than 10 gauge for the taking of any game bird or game mammal, or a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined. FGC 2010; T14-311 and 353(b).

• It is unlawful to use devices that are electronically-powered, or activated by anything other than natural wind, to directly or indirectly cause rotation of decoy wings or blades that simulate wings, when attempting to take waterfowl between the start of the waterfowl season and November 30.

• Possess a firearm while in the field engaged in archery hunting during an archery season. T14-311, T14-354(h).

• Use live decoys when attempting to take resident game birds. T14-311.

• Possess a machine gun, silencer, or shotgun with barrel less than 18 inches in length, or rifle with barrel less than 16 inches in length. PC 12020.

• Possess in any State Game Refuge any bird or mammal or part thereof, or any weapon capable of taking any bird. FGC 10500. However, possession of firearms or bows and arrows by persons traveling through game refuges on a public highway or other public thoroughfare or right of way is permitted when the firearms are taken apart or encased and unloaded, and the bows are unstrung. FGC 10506. (National Parks and Monuments have special regulations regarding the possession of weapons, game and the running of hunting dogs. Check with federal officials before entering these areas.)

• Damage other's property while hunting. FGC 2004.

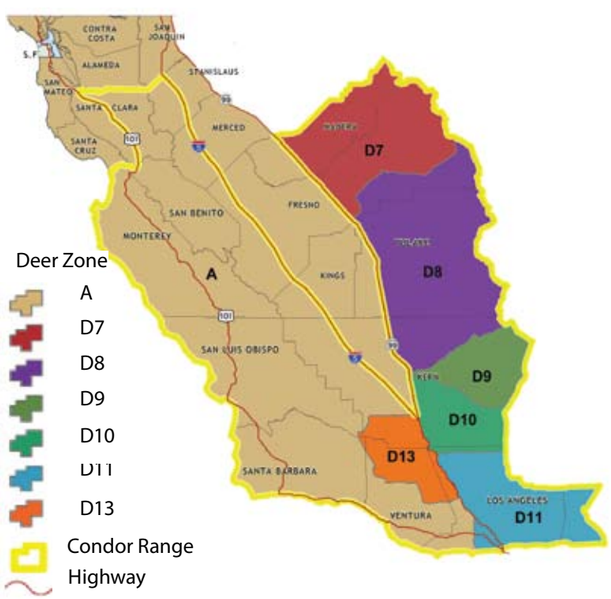
• Sell or barter game taken under authority of a hunting license. FGC 3039.

• Use electronic or mechanically-operated calling or sound-reproducing devices when attempting to take migratory game birds. T14-507.

• Use electronic or mechanically-operated spinning blade devices or spinning wing decoys when attempting to take waterfowl between the start of waterfowl season and November 30. For the purposes of this regulation, wind-powered spinning blade devices and kites are not prohibited. T14-507.

• Use live decoys when attempting to take migratory game birds. T14-507.

Hunting in California Condor Range



It is illegal to use any projectile that contains more than one percent lead for hunting big game or nongame within the range of the California condor. This includes all projectiles from any legal firearm, including centerfire rifles, shotguns, pistols, and revolvers, as well as muzzleloading rifles and rimfire firearms. A list of non-lead legal ammunition for hunting in the condor range can be found on the DFG Web site at www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/condor/. The Commission prohibited the possession of lead projectiles, and a firearm capable of firing such projectiles, while big game or nongame hunting within the specified range. Otherwise, lead projectiles may be possessed. Lead bullets for .22 rimfire or smaller firearms are legal when sport hunting for small game mammals but prohibited for nongame animals in condor range under the current adopted regulations. Hunters can legally hunt jackrabbit, cottontail, and tree squirrel using lead projectiles, but not ground squirrels in the same area. Part of the reasoning for this is that, unlike nongame animals that are hunted and usually left in the field, game species must be retrieved and not wasted. The geographic area where lead is prohibited is also known as deer hunt zones D7, D8, D9, D10, D11, D13, and most (but not all) of the South A zone (see map).

Safety Issues

It is always unlawful to: Place on, or carry or possess a loaded rifle or shotgun in a vehicle or conveyance or its attachments on any public road or other way open to the public; hunt while intoxicated; shoot at any game bird from a powerboat, sailboat, motor vehicle, or aircraft while under power or still moving from use of sail or motor; or shoot any firearm from or upon a public road or highway. It is unlawful to possess a loaded rifle or shotgun in any vehicle or conveyance or its attachments that is standing on or along or is being driven on or along any public highway or other way open to the public. A rifle or shotgun shall be deemed to be loaded for the purposes of this section when there is an unexpended cartridge or shell in the firing chamber but not when the only cartridges or shells are in the magazine. The provisions of this section shall not apply to peace officers or members of the armed forces of this state or the United States, while on duty or going to or returning from duty. FGC 2006, FG 3001, T14 215(1), PC 374(c)

Except as provided in subdivision (b), (c) or (d), every person who carries a loaded firearm on his or her person or in a vehicle while in any public place or on any public street in an incorporated city or in any public place or on any public street in a prohibited area of unincorporated territory is guilty of a misdemeanor. A firearm shall be deemed to be loaded for the purposes of this section when there is an unexpended cartridge or shell, consisting of a case which holds a charge of powder and a bullet or shot, in, or attached in any manner to, the firearm, including, but not limited to, in the firing chamber, magazine, or clip thereof attached to the firearm; except that a muzzle-loader firearm shall be deemed to be loaded when it is capped or primed and has a powder charge and ball or shot in the barrel or cylinder. PC 12031.

It is unlawful for any person, other than the owner, person in possession of the premises, or a person having the express permission of the owner or person in possession of the premises, to hunt or to discharge while hunting, any firearm or other deadly weapon within 150 yards of any occupied dwelling house, residence, or other building or any barn or other outbuilding used in connection therewith. The 150-yard area is a "safety zone." FGC 3004(a).

Trespassing Issues

If the land you hunt on is not your own, it belongs to someone else. Make sure you have a legal right to be there. Contact the owner or person who administers the property, and secure written permission to hunt. A hunting license does not entitle you to enter private property.

"It is unlawful to enter any lands under cultivation or enclosed by a fence, belonging to, or occupied by, another, or to enter any uncultivated or unenclosed lands, including lands temporarily inundated by waters flowing outside the established banks of a river, stream, slough, or other waterway, where signs forbidding trespass are displayed at intervals not less than three to the mile along all exterior boundaries and at all roads and trails entering such lands, for the purpose of discharging any firearm or taking or destroying any mammal or bird, including any waterfowl, on such lands without having first obtained written permission from the owner of such lands, or his agent, or the person in lawful possession thereof. Such signs may be of any size and wording, other than the wording required for signs under Section 2017, which will fairly advise persons about to enter the land that the use of such land is so restricted." FGC 2016.

Harassment of Hunters

The Fish and Game Code outlaws "hunter harassment" or interfering with another person who is lawfully hunting, trapping, shooting, fishing or engaging in falconry. The first offense is an infraction; the second offense within a two-year period is a misdemeanor. Interference means any action that physically impedes, hinders, or obstructs the lawful pursuit of any of the above-mentioned activities, including, but not limited to, actions taken for the purpose of frightening away animals from the location where the lawful activity is taking place. FGC 2009.

Lacey Act

Transporting illegally taken game across state lines is a violation of the federal Lacey Act (T16, US Code 1406). Such transport, if done in connection with commercial activity, may be classified as a felony.

Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact

The Interstate Wildlife Violator Compact (IWVC) is an agreement between 26 states, that allows for the reciprocal recognition of hunting, fishing, and trapping license suspensions. If your license privileges have been suspended by another state, the suspension may be recognized here in California. For example, if your sport fishing, hunting or trapping privileges have been suspended in Colorado for five years, your privileges may also be suspended for five years in California or any of the states participating in the IWVC. The purchase of licenses or tags during the term of the suspension is a violation of the law and may result in prosecution. Licenses or tags purchased prior to or during a suspension are not refundable. For further information contact the Department of Fish and Game's Law Enforcement Division, 1416 9th Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, (916) 653-4094.

GAME BIRDS

California offers a dazzling array of bird hunting opportunities.

How many of the species on the following four pages have you put in your bag?

Quail

California has three native species of quail; the California (valley) quail, the mountain quail and the Gambel's quail. There is not a county in the State without at least one species.

California Quail: This bird was selected by the California Legislature in 1931 as the official state bird. Males are about 9 ½ to 11 inches long, and are more colorful than females. Males have a black throat circled with a white line; the top of the head is dark brown with a plume of short black curved feathers set at a cocky angle. A chestnut patch is in the middle of the stomach, the breast is scaled, and flanks are brownish gray sharply streaked with white. California quail are found throughout California except deserts and the higher elevations of the Sierra Nevada.

Mountain Quail: This is the largest native quail in North America. Both sexes look alike. They have a long, slender, erect black plume of two feathers, the throat is chestnut bordered with white, the breast, upper back and head are bluish gray, and flanks chestnut with broad white stripes. Mountain quail are found throughout California's higher elevations.

Gambel's (Desert) Quail: This bird is a close relative of the California quail but occurs only in desert areas. The male, often referred to as a redhead quail, has a rust-red cap with black plume, black throat with a white border, gray upper breast, black stomach patch, and chestnut flanks sharply streaked with white. Females look similar, but lack the black throat and stomach patch and have a shorter plume.

Chukar

The chukar is a stocky bird, only 13 to 15 inches long but weighing approximately 1 ½ pounds for males and 1 pound for females. Plumage coloration is the same in both sexes. The upper parts are brownish-olive, with a black band across the forehead, through the eye, and around under the buffy white throat. The flanks are heavily barred with black and chestnut. The adult male has a short, blunt spur, which is usually absent in the females. The chukar, a member of the red-legged partridge family, originated in southern Asia and southeastern Europe. Today chukars are found in much of the semiarid and arid areas of California. Chukars generally prefer rocky open hills and flats where the annual rainfall is 5 to 10 inches. Birds will collect around water sources but will disperse shortly after the first rains in the fall.

White-tailed Ptarmigan

The white-tailed ptarmigan, a member of the grouse family, is native to many western states. It was introduced to California from Colorado in 1971 and 1972. Today ptarmigan can be found along the crest of the Sierra Nevada in Alpine, Fresno, Madera, Mariposa, Mono and Tuolomne counties.

In the fall both sexes are a pale cinnamon color with fine spotting of brownish black on the back. In the winter both sexes are pure white except for a black bill, eyes and claws.

Pheasant

The ring-necked pheasant, native to eastern Asia, was first introduced to California in the early 1880s. Today it is one of the most popular game birds in California.

Pheasant are strong fliers, and when they burst into flight from cover, sometimes with a loud cackling sound, they can startle even a veteran hunter. The birds can reach speeds of over 45 miles per hour.

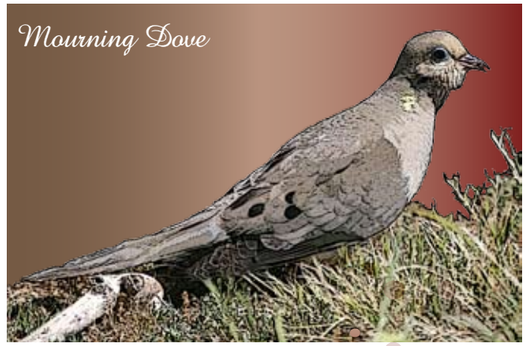
Ideal pheasant habitat is fields of cultivated seed crops such as rice, wheat, and barley. Most of what they eat is weed seed or waste seed left over after harvest. Pheasant occur in almost every county in California, but the heart of the pheasant area is the Sacramento/San Joaquin Valley.

Crow

The American crow is one of the most familiar birds to hunters and non-hunters alike. They are abundant throughout North America, congregating in large groups in both urban and rural areas.

Although they are legally classified as a non game bird, crows are managed under the federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act and can only be taken by hunters during crow season.

Dove

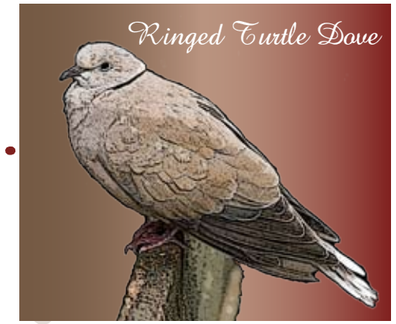


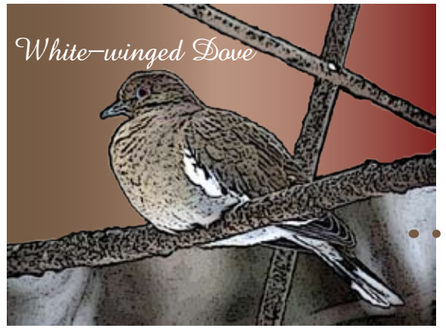
Mourning Dove: The most popular dove species among hunters, the mourning dove is named for its mournful-sounding call. It's also sometimes called a turtle dove.

Mourning doves breed and reside in all 58 California counties. Both sexes are approximately 11 ½ to 12 ¾ inches long with a rather nondescript brownish coloration. The tail is long, with the outer tail feathers shorter and tipped with white, graduating to long central feathers.

Preferred habitat is the open woodland, prairies, desert and agricultural areas. Doves require water daily, and their numbers may be restricted in the drer regions because of a water shortage.

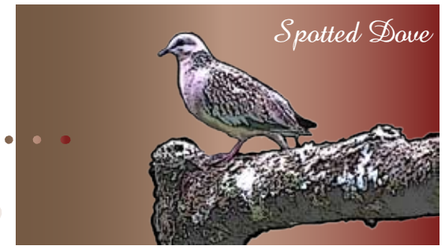
Ringed Turtle Dove: Native to southern Europe and southern Asia, the ringed turtle dove can be found throughout much of southern California. This bird can be identified by its sandy plumage and black crescent on the back of its neck. Although this species can be legally hunted during dove season, it is rarely seen in the hunter's bag.

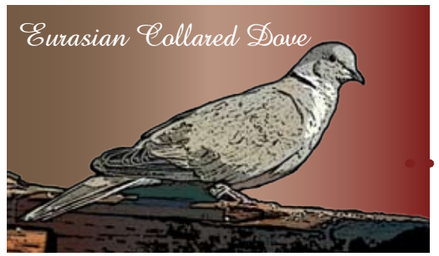




White-winged Dove: The white-winged dove is found in the arid southeastern part of California during the summer, leaving for southern wintering grounds in Mexico early in the fall. This bird is grayish-brown, the wings are dusky with a large white patch, and the underparts are grayish with a brownish breast. The tail is more rounded than that of the mourning dove and is tipped with a white band.

Spotted Dove: This dove is native to part of Pakistan, India, Ceylon, Burma, and southeastern China. It was released or escaped from a privately owned aviary about 1914 in the Los Angeles area and has since spread into Santa Barbara, Kern, Riverside, and San Diego counties. This species is brownish-gray above with brownish underparts. The coloration is similar to the mourning dove but it is slightly larger and has a tail broadly tipped with white and a broad black collar with white spots on the back of the neck.





Eurasian Collared Dove: This dove originates from the super-continent of Eurasia. Introduced into the Bahamas during the 1970s, the Eurasian collared dove moved up through the islands and into Florida, eventually spreading west into California.

Eurasian collared doves are significantly larger than a mourning dove, about a foot long (11 to 12 inches) and a little over a foot (14 inches) in wingspan and they weigh about 5 to 6 ounces. They are a solid sandy gray color with very dark gray outer-edge wing feathers (called the primaries). The medium-long square tail is distinctly different from a mourning dove.

Band-tailed Pigeon

The band-tailed pigeon is the only native wild pigeon in California. It occurs statewide west of the Sierra Nevada crest, but is found mainly in the mountainous and foothill regions of our coniferous and hardwood forests.

Sexes are similar in color and size. They are approximately 14 to 16 inches long and more stockily built than the mourning dove. Colors are very similar to the feral domestic pigeons so commonly seen in cities and around farms, but band-tailed pigeons have a broad tail band, bordered by a narrow black band.

Sage Grouse

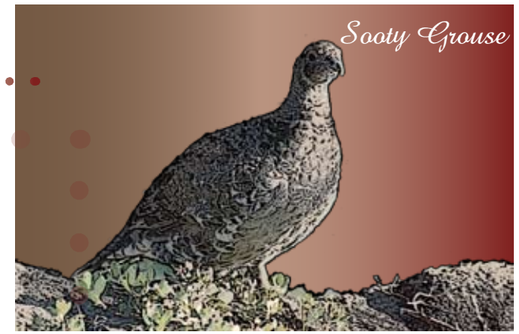
Sage Grouse: The sage grouse, or sage hen as it is commonly called, is the largest native grouse in North America. Males are 26 to 30 inches long, and females are 21 to 33 inches long.

During their courtship displays, males inflate two air sacs along the neck and upper chest, which are often enormous, and make a punk-de-punk-punk sound as air is expelled.

Sage grouse are found in eastern Siskiyou, Modoc, and Lassen counties, and along the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada in Alpine, Mono, and Inyo counties.

Sooty Grouse: This bird is a mountain dweller, found in the north coastal counties and in the Sierra Nevada and Tehachapi mountains. Although its distribution is widespread, it is not abundant anywhere in its range.

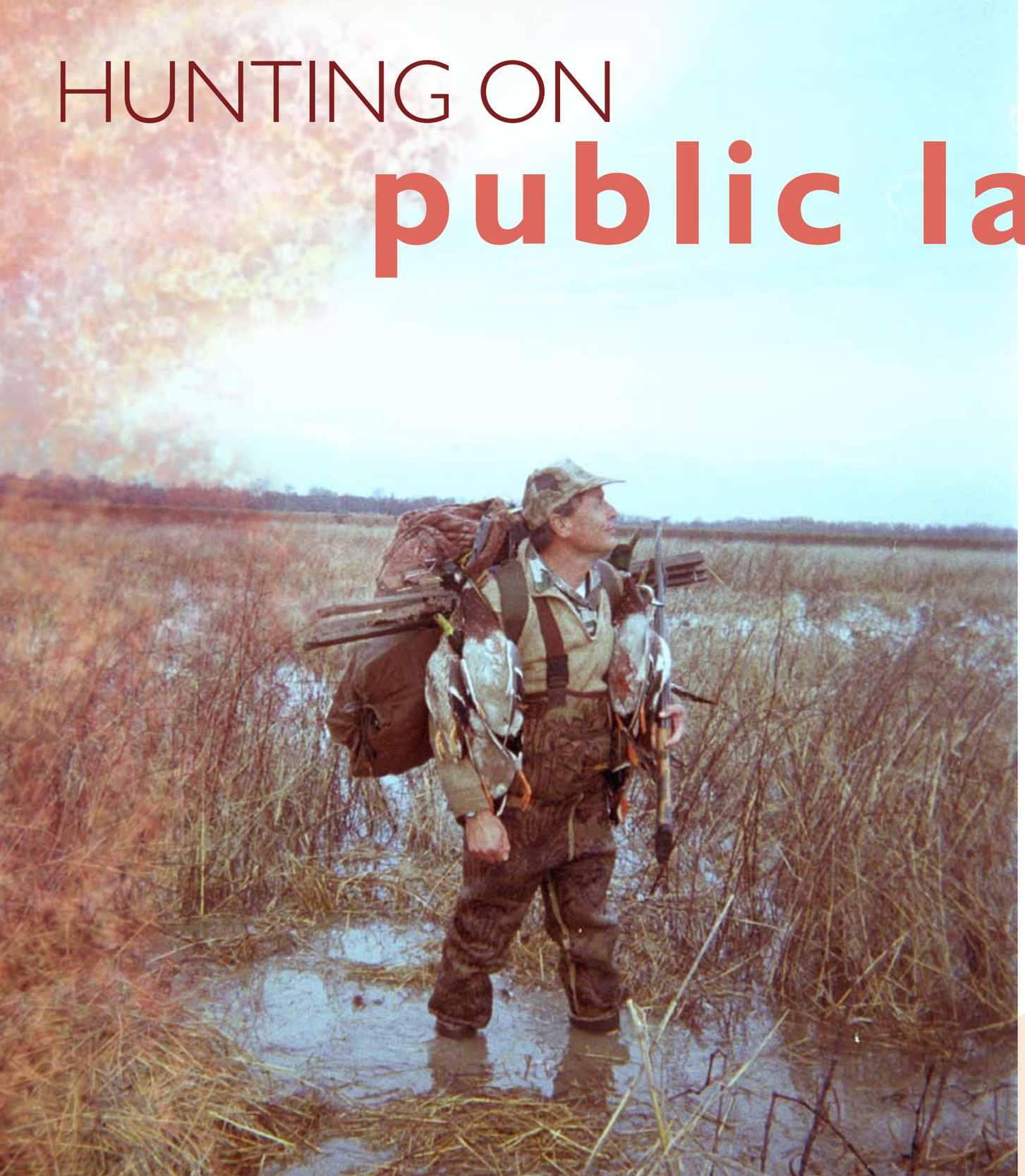
The sooty grouse is smaller than the sage grouse; males are about 15 ½ to 19 inches long and it can be distinguished from the sage grouse by its round tail.



Ruffed Grouse: Although native to California, the ruffed grouse is found only in the northwestern corner of the state. This is the southern tip of its range along the Pacific coast.

Ruffed grouse are similar in size to blue grouse; males are about 15 ½ to 19 inches in length but they are reddish-brown in color. Black feathers form a ruff on each side of the neck thus the name, ruffed grouse.

HUNTING ON public lands



At nearly 164,000 square miles, California is the third-largest state in the U.S. About half the state is publicly owned. With a little bit of research, that can translate into plenty of good hunting opportunities.

On the next 5 pages is a list of most of the public lands in California where hunting is allowed, along with a contact phone number and a list of potential game species that can be found.*

Please note that appropriate hunting tags, stamps, and licenses must be in possession, and all hunting laws and regulations must be followed when hunting anywhere in California.

Many lands have area-specific restrictions, so be sure to review the regulations for any area you plan to hunt.

* Areas that are landlocked by private land, have no wildlife value or are managed for sensitive species have not been included.

Federal Land Management Agencies

U.S. Forest Service (USFS) and Bureau of Land Management (BLM) administered lands make up a major component of the public land available for hunting in California. While the national forests generally have fairly well-defined boundaries, land grant programs in the 1800s and early 1900s created a checkerboard pattern of public and private land ownership that still exists in some of the national forests today. BLM lands consist of very large management units and many small scattered areas. Areas that are surrounded by private property and do not have public access are not listed in this guide. DFG is currently engaged in multiple projects to gain public access for hunting on all suitable public lands.

United States Bureau of Land Management (BLM)
Federal Office Building
2800 Cottage Way Sacramento, CA 95825 (916) 978-4400
www.blm.gov/wo/st/en.htmlwww.blm.gov

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)
Federal Office Building
Division of Resources Management
Land Resources Branch (MP-450)
2800 Cottage Way Sacramento, CA 95825 (916) 978-5266
www.usbr.gov/

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS)
Region1Office
911 NE 11th Ave., Eastside Federal Building
Portland, OR 97232-4181 (503) 231-6118
www.fws.gov/

National Park Service (NPS)
Pacific West Region
One Jackson Center
1111 Jackson Street, Suite 700 Oakland, CA 94607 (510) 817-1300
www.nps.gov/index.htm

U.S. Forest Service (USFS)
1323 Club Drive Vallejo, CA 94592 (707) 562-8737
www.fs.fed.us/r4/htnf/

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE)
South Pacific Division
1455 Market Street San Francisco, CA 94103-1398 (415) 503-6514
www.recreation.gov/

California Army National Guard
HQ Camp Roberts ATTN: Hunting and Fishing Program
Camp Roberts, CA 93451-5000
Recorded Information (805) 238-8167
www.calguard.ca.gov/CpRbts/Pages/default.aspx

Fort Hunter Liggett, U.S. Army
Environmental Division
(831) 386-3310 - Recorded update
(831) 386-2677 - Weekend staff or voice mail
email: HuntNFish@liggett-emh1.army.mil
www.liggett.army.mil/sites/fishhunt/hunting.asp

State Land Management Agencies

Although most "huntable" state lands are administered by DFG, there are some hunting opportunities on lands managed by the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE) and the California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR).

California Department of Fish and Game (DFG)
License and Revenue Branch
1740 N. Market Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95834 (916) 928-5805
www.dfg.ca.gov/about/hunting

California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE)
1416 Ninth Street
P. O. Box 944246 Sacramento, CA 94244-2460 (916) 653-5123
www.fire.ca.gov

California Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR)
1416 Ninth Street
P.O. Box 942896 Sacramento, CA 95814 (916) 653-6995
www.parks.ca.gov

Northern Region

Serving Del Norte, Humboldt, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama and Trinity counties

DFG

Ash Creek Wildlife Area	(530) 294-5824
Bass Hill Wildlife Area	(530) 254-6644
Big Lagoon Wildlife Area	(707) 445-6493
Biscar Wildlife Area	(530) 254-6644
Butte Valley Wildlife Area	(530) 398-4627
Cantara/Ney Springs Wildlife Area	(530) 225-2300
Cinder Flats Wildlife Area	(530) 225-2300
Dales Lake Ecological Reserve	(530) 597-2201
Doyle Wildlife Area	(530) 254-6644
Dutch Flat Wildlife Area	(530) 225-2300
Eel River Wildlife Area	(707) 445-6493
Elk River Wildlife Area	(707) 445-6493
Fay Slough Wildlife Area	(707) 445-6493
Honey Lake Wildlife Area	(530) 254-6644
Horseshoe Ranch Wildlife Area	(530) 459-3926
Lake Earl Wildlife Area	(707) 487-0601
Mad River Slough Wildlife Area	(707) 445-6493
Merrill's Landing Wildlife Area	(530) 225-2300
Mouth of Cottonwood Creek Wildlife Area (Archery and Shotgun Only)	(530) 527-8917
Pine Creek Wildlife Area	(530) 254-6363
Shasta Valley Wildlife Area	(530) 459-3926
Silver Creek Wildlife Area	(530) 254-6363
Surprise Valley Wildlife Area	(530) 233-3581
Tehama Wildlife Area	(530) 597-2201
Waukell Creek Wildlife Area	(707) 445-6493
Willow Creek Wildlife Area	(530) 254-6644

CAL FIRE

Jackson Demonstration State Forest	(707) 964-5674
Latour Demonstration State Forest	(530) 225-2438

DPR

Harry A. Merlo State Recreation Area	(707) 488-2169
Tolowa Dunes State Park	(707) 465-2145

BLM

Bureau of Land Management, Surprise Field Office	(530) 279-6101
Bureau of Land Management, Redding Field Office	(530) 224-2100
Bureau of Land Management, Arcata Field Office	(707) 825-2300

USFWS

Clear Lake National Wildlife Refuge	(530) 667-2231
Humboldt Bay National Wildlife Refuge	(530) 667-2231
Lower Klamath National Wildlife Refuge	(530) 667-2231
Modoc National Wildlife Refuge	(530) 233-3572
Tule Lake National Wildlife Refuge	(530) 667-2231
Upper Klamath National Wildlife Refuge	(530) 667-2231

NPS

Whiskeytown National Recreation Area	(530) 246-1225

USFS

Klamath National Forest	(530) 842-6131
Lassen National Forest	(530) 257-2151
Modoc National Forest	(530) 233-5811
Shasta - Trinity National Forest	(530) 226-2500
Six Rivers National Forest	(707) 442-1721

USACE

Lake Mendocino Recreation Area	(707) 467- 4200

North Central Region

Serving Alpine, Amador, Butte, Calaveras, Colusa, El Dorado, Glenn, Lake, Nevada, Placer, Plumas, Sacramento, San Joaquin, Sierra, Sutter, Yolo and Yuba counties

DFG

Antelope Valley Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Cache Creek Wildlife Area & Recreation Area (DFG & BLM)	(916) 358-2900
Clear Lake Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Colusa Bypass Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Coon Hollow Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Crocker Meadow Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Daugherty Hill Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Feather River Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Fremont Weir Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Gray Lodge Wildlife Area	(530) 846-7500
Hallelujah Junction Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Heenan Lake Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Hope Valley Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
North Table Mountain Ecological Reserve	(916) 358-2900
Oroville Wildlife Area	(530) 538-2236
Red Lake Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Sacramento River Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Smithneck Creek Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Spenceville Wildlife Area	(530) 538-2236

Sutter Bypass Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Truckee River Wildlife Area (Archery/Shotgun Only)	(916) 358-2900
Upper Butte Basin Wildlife Area	(530) 982-2169
Warner Valley Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
CAL FIRE	
Boggs Mountain Demonstration State Forest	(707) 928-4378
DPR	
Auburn State Recreation Area	(530) 885-4527
Lake Oroville State Recreation Area	(530) 538-2200
BLM	
Cache Creek Natural Area	(707) 468-4000
Indian Valley Wildlife Area (DFG) / Recreation Area (BLM)	(707) 944-5500
Cedar Roughs Wilderness Area*	(707) 468-4000
Cow Mountain Recreation Area	(707) 468-4000
Indian Valley / Walker Ridge	(707) 468-4000
Knoxville Recreation Area	(707) 468-4000
USFWS	
Colusa National Wildlife Refuge	(530) 934-2801
Delevan National Wildlife Refuge	(530) 934-2801
Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge	(530) 934-2801
Sutter National Wildlife Refuge	(530) 934-2801
USFS	
Eldorado National Forest	(530) 622-5061
Mendocino National Forest	(530) 934-3316
Plumas National Forest	(530) 283-2050
Stanislaus National Forest	(209) 532-3671
Tahoe National Forest	(530) 265-4531
Toiyabe National Forest	(775) 882-2766
USACE	
Black Butte Lake	(530) 865-4781

**Non-mechanized access only.*

Bay Delta Region

Serving Alameda, Contra Costa, Marin, Napa, Sacramento, San Mateo, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, San Francisco, San Joaquin, Solano, Sonoma, and Yolo counties

DFG

Bair Island Ecological Reserve	(707) 944-5500
Canada de los Osos Ecological Reserve *	(707) 944-5500
Cedar Roughs Wildlife Area/Wilderness (DFG, BLM) **	(707) 944-5500

** All hunting on this area is by special drawing only. For details visit: www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/uplandgame/gamebird/ or call (916) 445-3418.*
*** Non-mechanized access only.*

Clifton Court Forebay	(707) 944-5500
Decker Island Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
Eden Landing Ecological Reserve *	(707) 944-5500
Grizzly Island Wildlife Area (DFG)	(707) 425-3828
Knoxville Wildlife Area (DFG) & Recreation Area (BLM)	(707) 944-5500
Lake Sonoma Wildlife Area (DFG, USACE)	(707) 944-5500
Lower Sherman Island Wildlife Area	(707) 944-5500
Miner Slough Wildlife Area	(707) 944-5500
Napa/Sonoma Marshes Wildlife Area	(707) 944-5500
Petaluma Marsh Wildlife Area	(707) 944-5500
Point Edith Wildlife Area	(707) 944-5500
Putah Creek Wildlife Area	(707) 944-5500
Rector Reservoir Wildlife Area	(707) 944-5500
Rhode Island Wildlife Area	(916) 358-2900
San Pablo Bay Wildlife Area	(707) 944-5500
Tomales Bay Ecological Reserve	(707) 944-5500
White Slough Wildlife Area	(707) 944-5500
Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area	(530) 757-2461
DPR	
Franks Tract State Recreation Area	(916) 777-6671
USFWS	
Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge	(510) 792-0222
San Pablo Bay National Wildlife Refuge	(510) 792-0222

**Duck and goose hunting on specified dates only. Call Reserve for details.*

Central Region

Serving Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, Mariposa, Merced, Monterey, San Benito, San Luis Obispo, Stanislaus, Tulare, and Tuolumne counties

DFG

Big Sandy Wildlife Area	(831) 649-2870
Canebrake Ecological Reserve Access *	(559) 243-4014
Carrizo Plains Ecological Reserve	(831) 649-2870
Cottonwood Creek Wildlife Area	(209) 826-0463
Kinsman Flat Wildlife Area	(559) 243-4005
Little Panoche Reservoir Wildlife Area	(209) 826-0463
Los Banos Wildlife Area	(209) 826-0463
Mendota Wildlife Area	(559) 655-4645
Monache Meadow Wildlife Area	(559) 243-4005
Morro Bay Wildlife Area	(831) 649-2870

**Quail and chukar hunting is by special drawing only. For details visit: www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/uplandgame/gamebird/ or call (916) 445-3418.*

Moss Landing Wildlife Area	(831) 649-2870
North Grasslands Wildlife Area	(209) 826-0463
O'Neill Forebay Wildlife Area	(209) 826-0463
Pleasant Valley Ecological Reserve	(559) 243-4014
San Luis Reservoir Wildlife Area	(209) 826-0463
South Fork Wildlife Area *	(559) 243-4005
Stone Corral Ecological Reserve	(559) 243-4014
Volta Wildlife Area (Shotgun/Archery Only)	(209) 826-0463
West Hilmar Wildlife Area	(209) 826-0463
CAL FIRE	
Mountain Home Demonstration State Forest	(559) 539-2855
DPR	
San Luis Reservoir State Recreation Area	(209) 826-1197
BLM	
Black Mountain Wilderness	(760) 252-6000
Carrizo Plain National Monument	(661) 391-6000
Chimney Peak Wilderness	(661) 391-6000
Clear Creek & Condon Peak Management Area	(831) 630-5000
Coalinga Mineral Springs National Recreation Trail	(831) 630-5000
Curry Mountain Area	(831) 630-5000
Domeland Addition Wilderness	(661) 391-6000
El Paso Mountains Area	(760) 384-5400
Griswold Hills Management Area	(831) 630-5000
Chuckwalla Mountains Wilderness	(661) 391-6000
Joaquin Ridge Management Area	(831) 630-5000
Kiavah Wilderness	(661) 391-6000
Laguna Mountain Management Area	(831) 630-5000
Merced River Canyon—archery only	(916) 985-4474
Owens Peak Wilderness	(760) 384-5400
Panoche Hills Management Area	(760) 384-5400
Rand Mountain Management Area (Shotguns only)	(760) 384-5400
Red Hills Recreation Area	(916) 985-4474
Sacatar Trail Wilderness	(661) 391-6000
San Joaquin River Gorge Management Area	(559) 855-3492
South Fork American River no rifles	(916) 941-3101
Temblor /Caliente Mountain Range	(661) 391-6000
Tumey Hills Management Area	(831) 630-5000
Williams Hill Management Area	(831) 630-5000
FWS	
Kern National Wildlife Refuge	(661) 725-2767
Salinas River National Wildlife Refuge	(510) 792-0222
San Luis National Wildlife Refuge Complex	(209) 826-3508

**Pheasant hunting is for apprentice juniors only, by special drawing. For details visit: www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/uplandgame/gamebird/ or call (916) 445-3418.*

USFS	
Los Padres National Forest	805) 968-6640
Sequoia National Forest	559) 784-1500
Sierra National Forest	(559) 297-0706
Stanislaus National Forest	(209) 532-3671
USACE	
Eastman Lake	(559) 689-3255
Hensley Lake	(559) 673-5151
Pine Flat Lake	(559) 787-2589
Success Lake	(559) 784-0215
US ARMY	
Camp Roberts	(805) 238-8167
Fort Hunter Liggett	(831) 386-2677

South Coast Region

Serving Los Angeles, Orange, San Diego, Santa Barbara, and Ventura counties

DFG	
Boden Canyon Ecological Reserve	(858) 467-4201
Coal Canyon Ecological Reserve	(858) 467-4201
Hollenbeck Canyon Wildlife Area	(858) 467-4201
Otay Mountain Ecological Reserve	(858) 467-4201
Rancho Jamul Ecological Reserve *	(858) 467-4201
San Felipe Valley Wildlife Area	(858) 467-4201
Walker Canyon Ecological Reserve	(858) 467-4201
BLM	
Otay Mountain Wilderness	(760) 833-7100
USFS	
Angeles National Forest	(626) 574-1613
Cleveland National Forest	(858) 673-6180
Los Padres National Forest	805-968-6640

**Hunting on Rancho Jamul E.R. is by special drawing only. For details visit: www.dfg.ca.gov/wildlife/hunting/uplandgame/gamebird/ or call (916) 445-3418.*

Inland Deserts Region

Serving Imperial, Inyo, Mono, Riverside, and San Bernardino counties

DFG

Baldwin Lake Ecological Reserve	(909) 484-0167
Buttermilk Country Wildlife Area	(760) 872-1171
By Day Creek Ecological Reserve	(760) 872-1171
Camp Cady Wildlife Area	(760) 872-1171
Cartago Wildlife Area	(760) 872-1171
East Walker River Wildlife Area	(760) 872-1171
Fish Slough Ecological Reserve	(760) 872-1171
French Valley Wildlife Area (Shotgun only)	(760) 200-9174
Green Creek Wildlife Area	(760) 872-1171
Imperial Wildlife Area	(760) 359-0577
Indian Joe Springs Ecological Reserve	(760) 872-1171
Kelso Peak and Old Dad Mtns. Wildlife Area	(760) 872-1171
Marble Mountains Wildlife Area	(760) 872-1171
Oasis Spring Ecological Reserve	(909) 484-0167
Palo Verde Ecological Reserve	(760) 922-1738
Pickel Meadow Wildlife Area	(760) 872-1171
Piute Creek Ecological Reserve	(760) 872-1171
River Springs Lakes Ecological Reserve	(760) 872-1171
Saline Valley Ecological Reserve	(760) 872-1171
San Felipe Creek Ecological Reserve	(909) 484-0167
San Jacinto Wildlife Area	(951) 928-0580
Slinkard-Little Antelope Wildlife Area (DFG) and West Slinkard Valley Management Area (BLM)	(760) 872-1171
West Mojave Desert Ecological Reserve	(760) 872-1171
West Walker River Wildlife Area	(760) 872-1171

DPR

Perris Reservoir State Recreation Area	(951) 950-5600
Providence Mountains State Recreation Area	(760) 928-2586

CDPR

Picacho State Recreation Area	(760) 996-2963

BLM

Barstow Field Office, Bureau of Land Management	(760) 252-6000
El Centro Field Office, Bureau of Land Management	(760) 337-4400
Afton Canyon Management Area	(760) 252-6000
North Algodones Dunes Area	(760) 337-4400
Bristol Mountains Wilderness	(760) 326-7000
Chuckwalla Mountains Wilderness	(760) 251-4800
Inyo Mountains Wilderness	
Argus Range Wilderness	(760) 384-5400
Coso Range Wilderness	(760) 384-5400
Malpais Mesa Wilderness	(760) 384-5400
Juniper Flats Management Area	(760) 252-6000
Kingston Range Wilderness Area	(760) 326-7000
Mesquite Wilderness Area	(760) 326-7000
Needles Field Office, Bureau of Land Management	(760) 326-7000
North Mesquite Wilderness Area	(760) 326-7000
Old Woman Mountains Wilderness Area	(760) 326-7000
Ord Mountain Route Network	(760) 252-6000
Orocopia Mountains Area	(760) 833-7100
Santa Rosa and San Jacinto Mountains National Monument	(760) 833-7100
Jacumba Mountains Wilderness	(760) 337-4400
Inyo Mountains Wilderness (BLM)	(760)-872-5000
Whipple Mountains Wilderness	(760) 326-7000
Chemehuevi Mountains Wilderness	(760) 326-7000
Piute Mountains Wilderness	(760) 326-7000
Old Woman Mountains Wilderness	(760) 326-7000
Turtle Mountains Wilderness	(760) 326-7000

NPS

Mojave National Preserve	

USFWS

Cibola National Wildlife Refuge	(928) 857-3253
Imperial National Wildlife Refuge	(928) 783-3371
Sonny Bono Salton Sea National Wildlife Refuge	(760) 348-5278

USFS

Inyo National Forest	(760) 873-2400
San Bernardino National Forest	(909) 382-2600
Humboldt - Toiyabe National Forest	(760) 932-7070

NPS

Mojave National Preserve	(760) 733-4456

Calling all Ptarmigan Hunters

Have you been hunting white-tailed ptarmigan lately? If not, have you seen any white-tailed ptarmigan lately? DFG wants to document recent ptarmigan sightings in California, as well as determine how many people hunt these elusive alpine dwellers.

The white-tailed ptarmigan, Lagopus leucura, is the smallest bird in the grouse family. Adults are 12 to 13 inches long, making them roughly the same size as the common pigeon. The average weight is 12 to 15 ounces.

In winter, this bird is pure white except for a black beak and eyes. In summer, it has a mottled and barred brown head, breast, and back with white wings, belly, and tail.

Ptarmigan are found in the mountains of western United States, Canada and Alaska. They were introduced to California in 1971 and 1972 into alpine (above the tree line) habitats in the Sierra Nevada at Eagle Peak and Twin Lakes, Mono County. Today ptarmigan occupy areas of Alpine County, extreme eastern Fresno, Madera, Mariposa, and Tuolumne counties, and extreme western Mono County. White-tailed ptarmigan prefer areas with rock cover and low alpine shrubs.

DFG established a hunting season for white-tailed ptarmigan in 1989 and awarded a limited number of hunting permits through a lottery drawing. The lottery was discontinued by the third season due to very low hunter interest. In fact, ptarmigan are apparently seldom hunted in California; in its mailing to a random sample of California hunters, the DFG's annual Game Take Hunter Survey consistently records very few ptarmigan hunters.

The next white-tailed ptarmigan season in California runs Sept. 10-18, 2011. The bag and possession limit is two per day or season.

Report White-Tailed Ptarmigan Observations to:

Jesus R. Garcia
California Department of Fish & Game
1812 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95811
(916) 445-3709 - Phone
(916) 445-4048 - Fax
Jgarcia@Dfg.Ca.Gov

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www.dfg.ca.gov/ocal

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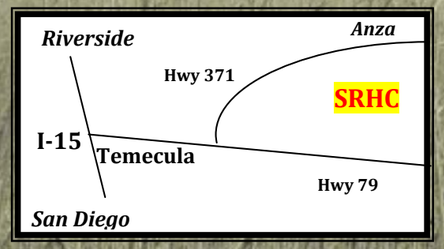
- ✓Dog Training
- ✓Overnight Camping



(951) 212-0183

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