

1st February 2024

Dear SAFGA Member,

On behalf of the SAFGA delegates to CHASA we would like to bring to your attention information of Hunting related matters for those that hunt in both South Australia & Victoria.

1. CHASA Media Release - 2024 Duck and Quail Season.
2. Victoria State Government – Media Release, Continuing Recreational Duck Hunting in Victoria.
3. The South Australia Government Gazette.



Announcement of the 2024 Duck and Quail Season!

Open Duck season from 16th March 2024 to 30 June 2024.

Bag Limit of 10

The species to which the open season applies is limited to the following:

- grey teal (*Anas gracilis*)
- chestnut teal (*Anas castanea*)
- Pacific black duck (*Anas superciliosa*)
- Australian shelduck (mountain duck) (*Tadorna tadornoides*)
- maned (wood) duck (*Chenonetta jubata*)
- pink-eared duck (*Malacorhynchus membranaceus*)
- hardhead (*Aythya australis*).

Open Quail Season 27th April 2024 to 28th July 2024

Bag Limit 15.

PRESS RELEASE

Announcement of 2024 Duck and Quail Season

The Conservation and Hunting Alliance of South Australia congratulates the Malinauskas Government on the announcement of the 2024 duck and quail hunting season. It is an affirmation of the right of all South Australians to harvest healthy wild food sustainably.

“After three La Nina years populations of game birds are at the highest level they have been for over a decade and we are looking forward to harvesting duck and quail as traditional, free range food. None of the species hunted are under any threat and all species hunted are listed as “**of least concern**” by the International Union for Conservation and Nature. (IUCN)” said Mr. Graham Stopp, CHASA chairman.

A recent Government Review into duck and quail hunting found the activity was sustainable and should continue. The Review recognised the hunting community’s involvement in the conservation and management of wetlands as well as it’s role in controlling feral pests.

The Review summary stated that duck and quail hunting “is more than just a sport or recreational activity, but a tradition that is intergenerational, and cultural, as well as a philosophical, moral and lifestyle choice which is related to the “field to plate” ethos. “

“We are satisfied that our hunting lifestyle has been scrutinised by an independent body and found to be a valuable and sustainable way of life for our members and First Nations people. We remain committed to improving animal welfare out comes and will work closely with Government to implement the recommendations of the Review.” Said Mr. Stopp.

All hunters;

1. hold a current Firearms Licence
2. have passed a firearms safety test
3. have passed a waterfowl identification test
4. hold a current Hunting Permit

Once again, CHASA would like to commend the Malinauskas Government for making a science based decision. The majority of South Australians support the Ethical & Sustainable Harvesting of wildfowl for food.

Media Release

Steve Dimopoulos MP
Minister for Environment
Minister for Tourism, Sport and Major Events
Minister for Outdoor Recreation



Monday, 29 January 2024

CONTINUING RECREATIONAL DUCK HUNTING IN VICTORIA

Recreational duck and quail hunting will continue in Victoria with important changes to ensure it remains safe, sustainable and responsible.

The Victorian Government today announced its response to Parliament's *Inquiry into Victoria's recreational native bird hunting arrangements* – confirming its position has not changed, and recreational duck and quail hunting will continue with common-sense changes.

The Government will accept seven of the Select Committee's eight recommendations in full or in principle. While the Committee did not reach consensus in its report, the views of more than 10,000 Victorians and organisations were heard in the biggest response to a Parliamentary inquiry ever in Victoria.

Recreational duck and quail hunting is a legitimate activity, and it matters to thousands of Victorians who love the great outdoors, but it needs to proceed safely and sustainably. That's why we're introducing common-sense changes to make hunting even more responsible from 2025, including:

- Improving hunters' knowledge and skill by making education and training for hunters mandatory
- Stricter compliance levels, including further penalties for hunters breaking the rules
- Banning the use of lead shot for quail hunting
- Implementing the Waterfowl Wounding Reduction Action Plan, to reduce the risk of wounding, and
- Greater recognition of Traditional Owners' knowledge of hunting and land management

To guide the length and conditions of each duck season, the science-based Adaptive Harvest Management process will be implemented from 2025 – making sure that it's always science that guides the season.

After record-high native bird breeding in recent years due to the significant rainfall Victoria has received, the Victorian game duck population increased by almost three-fold.

Minister for Outdoor Recreation, Steve Dimopoulos has today accepted the Game Management Authority's (GMA) recommendations for a 2024 duck season commencing on Wednesday 10 April 2024 and ending on Wednesday 5 June 2024, inclusive.

Hunting start times will be delayed to 8:00am for the entire season. With a daily bag limit of six ducks per day, the Blue-winged Shoveler and Hardhead cannot be hunted for the 2024 season due to their threatened status. Determinations will be made as part of normal seasonal arrangements about sites where duck hunting will be prohibited.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Outdoor Recreation Steve Dimopoulos

"Duck hunting is a legitimate activity – but more than that, it supports regional communities and economies."

"Our position has not changed and we're supporting recreational duck and quail hunting to continue in a safe, sustainable and responsible way with minimal harm to our environment."

"We thank everyone who contributed to the Inquiry – the process was about listening to different perspectives, and that's exactly what we've done."



THE SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT GAZETTE

PUBLISHED BY AUTHORITY

ADELAIDE, THURSDAY, 1 FEBRUARY 2024

NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE ACT 1972

Open Season for the Taking of Specified Species of Protected Animals—Ducks

PURSUANT to Section 52 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972, I, the Hon Joe Szakacs MP, A/Minister for Climate, Environment

and Water, being the Minister for the Crown to whom the administration of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 is for the time being

committed, declare an Open Season for the taking of specified species of protected animals as set out in this notice.

1. Specified Species

The species to which the open season applies is limited to the following:

- grey teal (*Anas gracilis*)
- chestnut teal (*Anas castanea*)
- Pacific black duck (*Anas superciliosa*)
- Australian shelduck (mountain duck) (*Tadorna tadornoides*)
- maned (wood) duck (*Chenonetta jubata*)
- pink-eared duck (*Malacorhynchus membranaceus*)
 - hardhead (*Aythya australis*).

2. Open Season Dates and Times

Subject to other provisions of this notice, the open season for the species identified in Clause 1 is Saturday 16 March 2024 until

Sunday 30 June 2024 inclusive, and the specified species of protected animal listed in Clause 1 may only be taken in the period

between sunrise and sunset on any given day of the open season.

Refer to Clause 6 for further restrictions to open season dates in Game Reserves.

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3. Prohibition Against Taking Eggs

A person shall not take eggs of any species listed in Clause 1 during the open season.

4. Bag Limit

On any day of the open season, a person shall not take more than ten (10) ducks made up of any combination of the following species:

- grey teal (*Anas gracilis*)
- chestnut teal (*Anas castanea*)
- Pacific black duck (*Anas superciliosa*)
- Australian shelduck (mountain duck) (*Tadorna tadornoides*)
- maned (wood) duck (*Chenonetta jubata*)
- pink-eared duck (*Malacorhynchus membranaceus*)
- hardhead (*Aythya australis*).

5. Area of the State

The open season in relation to the species of protected animal listed in Clause 1 applies to the whole of South Australia, excluding:

- all reserves and sanctuaries constituted under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972, other than those game reserves specified in Clause 6 below; and
- all wilderness protection areas and all wilderness protection zones constituted under the Wilderness Protection Act 1992; and
- all sanctuary zones within any marine park established under the Marine Parks Act 2007.

6. Open Season in Game Reserves

6.1. Subject to the further restrictions contained in this clause, open season (including Clause 2, Clause 3 and Clause 4 restrictions)

applies in relation to Chowilla Game Reserve, Moorook Game Reserve, Loch Luna Game Reserve, Currency Creek Game

Reserve, Lake Robe Game Reserve, Mud Islands Game Reserve, Poocher Swamp Game Reserve, Bucks Lake Game Reserve

and Tolderol Game Reserve.

6.2. Restrictions apply to the dates of the open season for Chowilla Game Reserve, Moorook Game Reserve and Loch Luna Game

Reserve from those specified in Clause 2.

6.2.1. Chowilla Game Reserve

The specified species in Clause 1 may only be taken in Chowilla Game Reserve between sunrise and sunset on the

following specified open season dates:

- Saturday 16 March 2024
- Sunday 17 March 2024
- Saturday 23 March 2024
- Sunday 24 March 2024
- Saturday 6 April 2024
- Sunday 7 April 2024
- Saturday 4 May 2024
- Sunday 5 May 2024
- Saturday 11 May 2024
- Sunday 12 May 2024
- Saturday 18 May 2024
- Sunday 19 May 2024
- Saturday 15 June 2024
- Sunday 16 June 2024
- Saturday 22 June 2024
- Sunday 23 June 2024
- Saturday 29 June 2024
- Sunday 30 June 2024

6.2.2. Moorook Game Reserve and Loch Luna Game Reserve

The specified species in Clause 1 may only be taken in Moorook Game Reserve and Loch Luna Game Reserve

between sunrise and sunset on the following specified open season dates:

- Saturday 16 March 2024
- Sunday 17 March 2024
- Saturday 23 March 2024

- Sunday 24 March 2024
- Saturday 6 April 2024
- Sunday 7 April 2024
- Saturday 4 May 2024
- Sunday 5 May 2024
- Saturday 11 May 2024
- Sunday 12 May 2024
- Saturday 18 May 2024
- Sunday 19 May 2024
- Saturday 25 May 2024
- Sunday 26 May 2024
- Saturday 1 June 2024
- Sunday 2 June 2024
- Saturday 15 June 2024
- Sunday 16 June 2024
- Saturday 22 June 2024
- Sunday 23 June 2024
- Saturday 29 June 2024
- Sunday 30 June 2024

6.3. Area restrictions are imposed for the open season in relation to the specified species of protected animal listed in Clause 1 in

game reserves as follows:

6.3.1. Chowilla Game Reserve

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The open season applies to the whole reserve, subject to the following exclusions:

- a) for safety reasons, all of the area within a 500 metre radius centred upon the Chowilla Homestead, shearing

shed, Lock 6 on the River Murray, the Chowilla Creek Regulator, Pipeclay Weir, Slaney Weir and Coombool Outstation (homestead) including any portion of creeks or waterbodies within 500 metres of these sites.

6.3.2. Moorook Game Reserve

The open season applies to the whole reserve, subject to the following exclusions:

- a) the western boundary of Sections 474, 475 and 476, Hundred of Moorook, County of Albert, adjacent to the

Kingston-Loxton Highway; and

b) an area of Wachtels Lagoon being the land and water contained within and bounded by a line commencing at

E 442748, N 6210926, then south-easterly to E 443079, N 6210458, then south-easterly to E 443268, N 6209307, then westerly to E 442454, N 6209208, then north-easterly to E 441377, N 6209958, then northeasterly to the point of commencement.

All lines/points are geodesics based on the Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 (GDA94).

6.3.3. Loch Luna Game Reserve

The open season applies to all creeks and associated backwaters of the reserve, subject to the following exclusions:

- a) a 500 metre radius of any house or outbuilding, and within 300 metres of any road or bridge; and
- b) for safety reasons, the open season does not apply to all of the area within 500 metres radius of the homestead

of Section 706 McIntosh Division Hundred of Cobdogla Irrigation Area.

6.3.4. Tolderol Game Reserve

The open season applies to the whole reserve, subject to the following exclusions:

- a) the area of Tolderol Game Reserve being the land and water west of a line commencing at E 332052, N 6084977, south to E 332014, N 6083738.

All lines/points are geodesics based on the Geocentric Datum of Australia 1994 (GDA94).

6.3.5. Bucks Lake Game Reserve, Currency Creek Game Reserve, Lake Robe Game Reserve, Mud Islands Game Reserve

and Poocher Swamp Game Reserve

The open season applies to the whole of each reserve.

7. 2024 Hunter Survey

7.1. Pursuant to Regulation 9 of the National Parks and Wildlife (Hunting) Regulations 2011 all 2024 duck open season hunting

permit holders are required to complete and lodge a hunting survey in accordance with the instructions specified in the survey

form supplied with their 2024 duck open season hunting permit.

Dated: 24 January 2024

HON JOE SZAKACS MP

A/Minister for Climate, Environment and Water

NATIONAL PARKS AND WILDLIFE ACT 1972

Open Season for the Taking of Specified Species of Protected Animals—Stubble Quail

PURSUANT to Section 52 of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972, I, the Hon Joe Szakacs MP, A/Minister for Climate, Environment

and Water, being the Minister for the Crown to whom the administration of the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 is for the time being

committed, declare an open season for the taking of stubble quail (*Coturnix pectoralis*) as set out in this notice.

1. Open Season Dates and Times

Subject to other provisions of this notice, the open season for the taking of stubble quail (*Coturnix pectoralis*) will start on Saturday 27

April 2024 and end on Sunday 28 July 2024 inclusive. Stubble quail may only be taken in the period between sunrise and sunset on

any given day of the open season.

Refer to Clause 6 for further restrictions to open season dates in Game Reserves.

2. Prohibition Against Taking Eggs

A person shall not take stubble quail (*Coturnix pectoralis*) eggs during the open season.

3. Bag Limit

On any day of the open season, a person shall not take more than fifteen (15) stubble quail (*Coturnix pectoralis*).

4. Area of the State

The open season in relation to stubble quail (*Coturnix pectoralis*) applies to the whole of South Australia excluding:

- 4.1. all reserves and sanctuaries constituted under the National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972; and
- 4.2. all wilderness protection areas and all wilderness protection zones constituted under the Wilderness Protection Act 1992;

and

- 4.3. all sanctuary zones within any marine park established under the Marine Parks Act 2007.

5. 2024 Hunter Survey

Pursuant to Regulation 9 of the National Parks and Wildlife (Hunting) Regulations 2011 all 2024 quail open season hunting permit

holders are required to complete and lodge a hunting survey in accordance with the instructions specified in the survey form supplied

with their 2024 quail open season hunting permit.

Dated: 24 January 2024

HON JOE SZAKACS MP

A/Minister for Climate, Environment and Water

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(Conservation and Hunting Alliance of South Australia)