

Texas special light goose conservation season

Purpose and authority: This is a summary of rules adopted by the Texas Parks & Wildlife Commission under authority of the Texas Parks and Wildlife Code, Chapter 64, Subchapter C for the taking of migratory game birds. This "conservation season" is a management action implemented to resolve ecological problems associated with overabundant light

goose populations that winter in the Central and Mississippi Flyways. Once population numbers return to within normal objective levels, these special harvest regulations will be revoked.

This document describes recent changes in regulations for taking light geese (snow, blue, Ross'), including closed areas and season closures for other migra-

tory bird seasons. It is a companion document to the publications "2000-01 Texas Hunting Regulations for Ducks, Mergansers, Coots and Geese" and "Texas Parks and Wildlife Outdoor Annual 2000-01". All regulations in these original publications remain unchanged except those listed herein. Where rules listed herein are in conflict with those in the previous publications, these rules prevail. Readers should refer to the original publications for definitions, zone boundaries and other regulations.

LIGHT GOOSE CONSERVATION SEASON
Eastern Goose Zone: Jan. 22, 2001-April 1, 2001.
Western Goose Zone: Feb. 12, 2001-April 1, 2001.

SHOOTING HOURS
One-half hour before sunrise until one-half hour after sunset.

BAG, POSSESSION LIMIT
There is no bag or possession limit during the light goose conser-

vation season.

METHODS

In addition to the means and methods described in the original publications, the following means and methods are legal for taking light geese during the conservation season:

- Shotguns capable of holding more than three shells.
- Electronic calling devices.

TAGGING REQUIREMENTS

A person may give, leave, receive or possess legally taken light geese or their parts, provided the birds are accompanied by a Wildlife Resource Document from the person who killed the birds. The WRD is not required if the possessor lawfully killed the birds; the birds are transferred at the personal residence of the donor or donee; or the possessor also possesses a valid hunting license, a valid waterfowl stamp and is HIP certified.

SEASON, AREA CLOSURES

During the light goose conser-

vation seasons, no cranes or waterfowl other than light geese may be taken. Falconry season will remain open.

The extended Canada goose season in the Eastern Zone will close at sunset on Jan. 21, 2001, and the dark goose season in the Western Zone will close at sunset Feb. 11, 2001. Crane seasons will close at sunset in Zone A on Feb. 11, 2001; in Zone B, Jan. 21, 2001; and in Zone C, Jan. 11, 2001.

In addition, after March 10, 2001, it is unlawful to take light geese in Refugio, Calhoun and Aransas Counties on the seaward side of a line beginning at the Gulf of Mexico at Port O'Connor (including Pelican Island), thence northwest along State Hwy. 185, then southwest along State Hwy. 35 to Aransas Pass, thence southeast along State Hwy. 361 to the Port Aransas Channel, thence east along the Corpus Christi Channel, thence southeast along the Aransas Channel to the Gulf of Mexico. This closure does not apply to the Guadalupe Delta Wildlife Management Area.

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home.

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Contact Hunter's Lodge by writing P.O. Box 512, Eagle Lake, Texas 77434; call 281-262-1219; web site: www.elc.net/huntlodge or e-mail: huntlodge@elc.net.

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