



2019-2024 Hopi Hunting and Trapping Regulations



Photo Taken By: A. Piestewa

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INTRODUCTION

The Hopi Tribe Wildlife & Ecosystem Management Program (WEMP) of the Hopi Tribe's Department of Natural Resources (DNR) are pleased to offer hunting and trapping opportunities on the Hopi Reservation. These Regulations have been adopted by DNR and approved by the Hopi Tribal Council on **Wednesday, July 24, 2019** through **Resolution #H-055-2019** in accordance with and under the authority and scope of Hopi Tribal Ordinance #48 (Ordinance 48).

This approved regulation is applicable to the Hopi Indian Reservation lands north of Interstate 40 **ONLY** and **DOES NOT** include the Trust Lands within the Hopi 3 Canyon Ranches and other acquired lands: Hart/Drye, Clear Creek, Aja, and 26 Bar Ranch Lands located with Tribal and Arizona State Checkerboard held Trust Lands.

Only species and season dates specifically authorized in these Regulations may be hunted. Participation in these hunts is allowed only by obtaining the appropriate Hopi Tribal hunting permit(s) as described and required by these regulations. Permit fees collected will be deposited in the Hopi Tribal Ordinance #48 (Wildlife) Section 10.00 Wildlife Fund and used by DNR and WEMP to administer the hunting program and to manage and preserve the wildlife resource, including conducting surveys, providing funding for law enforcement activities and improving and enhancing habitat for wildlife.

By obtaining a permit, hunters and trappers agree to abide by all Hopi Tribal Laws, Codes and Ordinances and these Regulations.

Considering the free-range nature of wildlife, WEMP does not guarantee that any of the species covered by these regulations will be located or harvested in the permitted hunting area(s) during the scheduled season(s). The Hopi Tribe assumes no liability for hunter safety. Hunt at your own risk. Thank you for your interest and support.

Violations, Penalties and Enforcement Authority

In accordance with the Hopi Tribal Ordinance #48 the Hopi Law Enforcement Services (HLES) have the law enforcement authority to enforce these Regulations and all applicable Hopi Tribal Laws, Codes, and Ordinances.

DNR has the authority to impose the civil remedies described in Hopi Tribal Ordinance #48. Those civil remedies include suspension or revocation of the privilege to take wildlife, recovery of civil and/or punitive damages, and forfeiture. **Permits can be revoked immediately by law enforcement with probable cause to believe a violation of these regulations has occurred.**

In addition, criminal sanctions are available for violations of the Hopi Code enacted August 28, 2012. All fees, seizures, forfeitures and other fines and penalties assessed will be deposited in the Wildlife Fund in accordance with Hopi Tribal Ordinance #48.

Without limiting any available legal remedy of the Tribe, violation of the following General Regulations, Big Game Regulations, Other Hunting Regulations, Methods of Take or Field Regulations may result in the Tribe seeking an award for damages from the Hopi Tribal Courts pursuant to Hopi Tribal Ordinance #48 in an amount calculated to closely approximate the cost of providing equitable restitution to the Tribe for the damage caused by each violation.

In addition, violation of the following General Regulations, Methods of Take or Field Regulations may result in DNR seeking an award of Punitive Damages from the Hopi Tribal Courts pursuant to Hopi Tribal Ordinance #48 in the amount of \$50.00 to \$5,000.00, or more depending on the severity, or wanton, willful or malicious nature, of the violation.

1.0 General Regulations

1.1 General Requirements

All Hunters/Trappers:

1. Must be enrolled with the Hopi Tribe and have a Hopi Tribal enrollment number or card, or Certificate of Indian Blood (CIB) to apply for or purchase a Tribal Member Permit.
2. Members of Federally recognized and Canadian First Nation Tribes must provide documentation of their enrollment to apply for a Non-Hopi general elk hunt, depredation elk hunts and Non-Hopi minor elk permit.

3. Non-Tribal Members shall provide a valid State driver license and/or identification card to apply for and purchase a Non-Tribal hunting or trapping permit.
4. In accordance with historical Hopi traditional cultural teachings and values, women are encouraged to abstain from hunting.
5. **Shall not have been convicted of any wildlife violations by any State, Tribe or Canadian Providence within 5 years prior to the permit application deadline or be listed on the Wildlife Violator Compact list.**
6. **Shall not be a convicted felon where your rights to possess a firearm have been revoked or a current prohibited firearms possessor by any court order.**
7. **Big game hunt applicants must be in good standing with WEMP and must be current on their post-hunt reporting. See section 4.1 "Eligibility (Big Game Permits)" for more information.**
8. **Prior to issuing any permit, WEMP will submit identification information to law enforcement to verify eligibility to obtain an applicable Tribal Hunting and Trapping Permit. Please be aware there may be delays in processing permits.**
9. Must have a valid permit for the species and season which they are hunting and must carry their hunting permit and valid photo identification while hunting.
10. You may not hunt with a tag permit that has been removed from its adhesive backing or one that has had any of the date notches removed.

Minor Hunters:

1. Ages 14-17 years old (at the time of the hunt) may apply for minor permits.
2. May apply for a permit if they are 13 years old, however, they must turn 14 before they can hunt.
3. 14 years to 17 years old, must carry proof of having completed an approved hunter education course while in the field participating in the hunt.
4. From 13-17 years old may apply for a permit without having taken a hunter education course, **however the permit will not be issued, and they may not hunt until they have completed the course.**
5. Must be accompanied (within sight and hearing distance) by a responsible adult 18 years or older while hunting.
6. **ONLY** the permitted Minor hunter will be authorized to be in possession of the firearm.

1.2 Prohibited Firearms/Devices

A person may not use any weapon to take wildlife other than those expressly allowed by these Regulations.

A person may not use or possess while taking or attempting to take wildlife:

- A firearm capable of being fired fully automatically;
- Fully jacketed, tracer or armor piercing ammunition.
- Any device designed to silence, muffle or minimize the report of a discharged firearm;
- Any light enhancement device or aiming device that casts a visible beam of light. This does not include laser range finding equipment.
- Thermal imaging equipment or night vision equipment;

- Scopes or other aiming devices with self-illuminating reticles or other self-illuminating sights;
- a crossbow;
- arrows or other projectiles that are chemically treated or explosive;
- a mechanical device for holding a bow at any increment of draw;
- a release aid that is not hand held or that supports the draw weight of the bow; or
- a bow with an attached electronic range finding device or a magnifying aiming device.

1.3 Range Units and Other Areas Open

Designated Wildlife Protection Areas: Range Units 254, 263, 573 and the Blue Canyon area are open to hunting and trapping during the Hunting and Trapping seasons.

1.4 Closed Areas

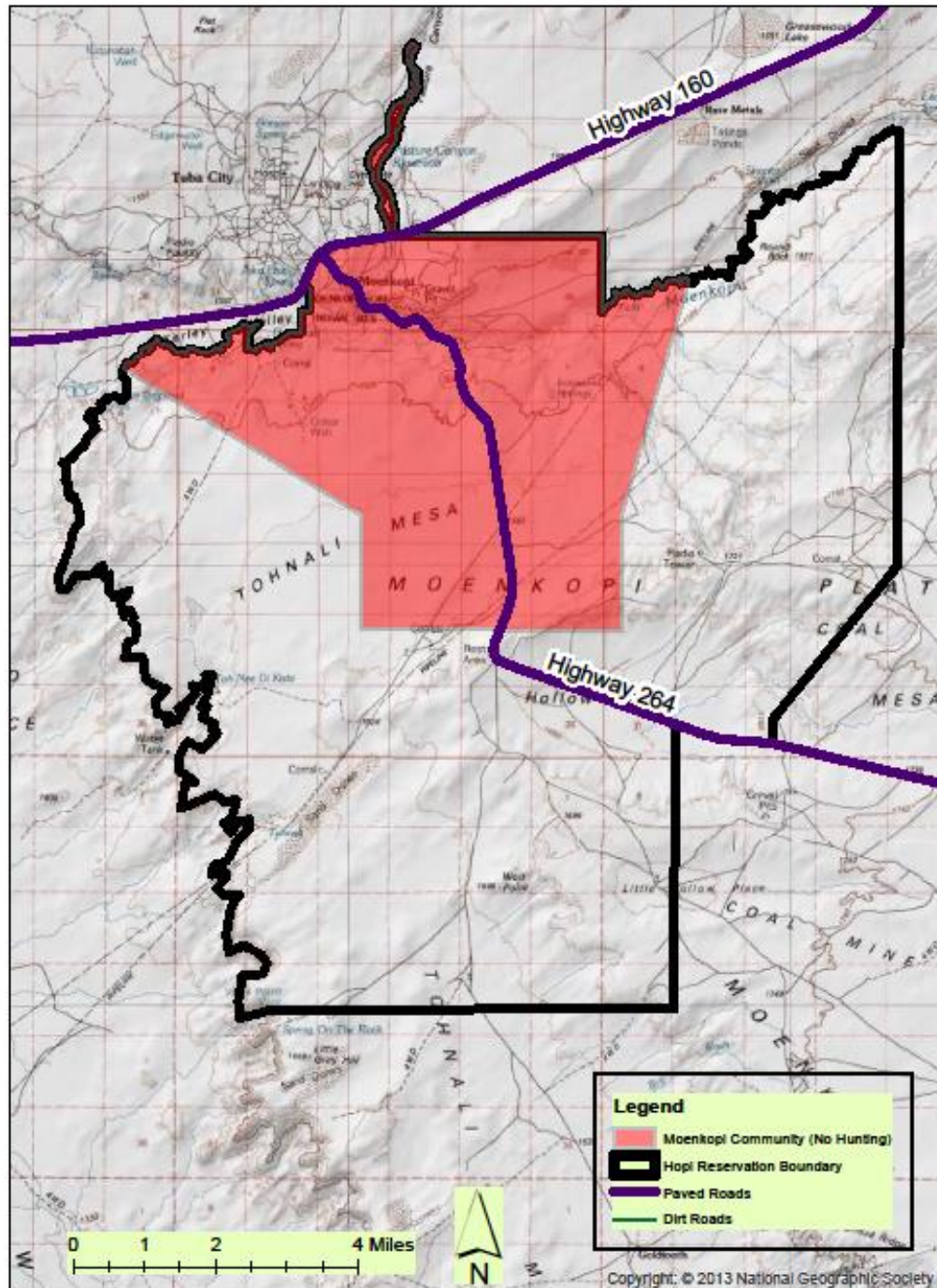
The Spider Mound Community (Yu Weh Loo Pahki) residential and community boundary area and Moenkopi residential areas including Pasture Canyon Park and Reservoir are closed to hunting and trapping. See map. Access roads leading to residences are closed to hunting access unless written permission is obtained from the resident. Residential road closure signs will be posted and signs indicating the Spider Mound residential and community area will be posted. The maps below are for visual reference only.

For further information and details on the closed areas in Spider Mound Community, please contact (928) 738-8201, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (MST).

For further information and details on the closed areas in Upper Moenkopi, please contact (928) 283-8051, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (MST).

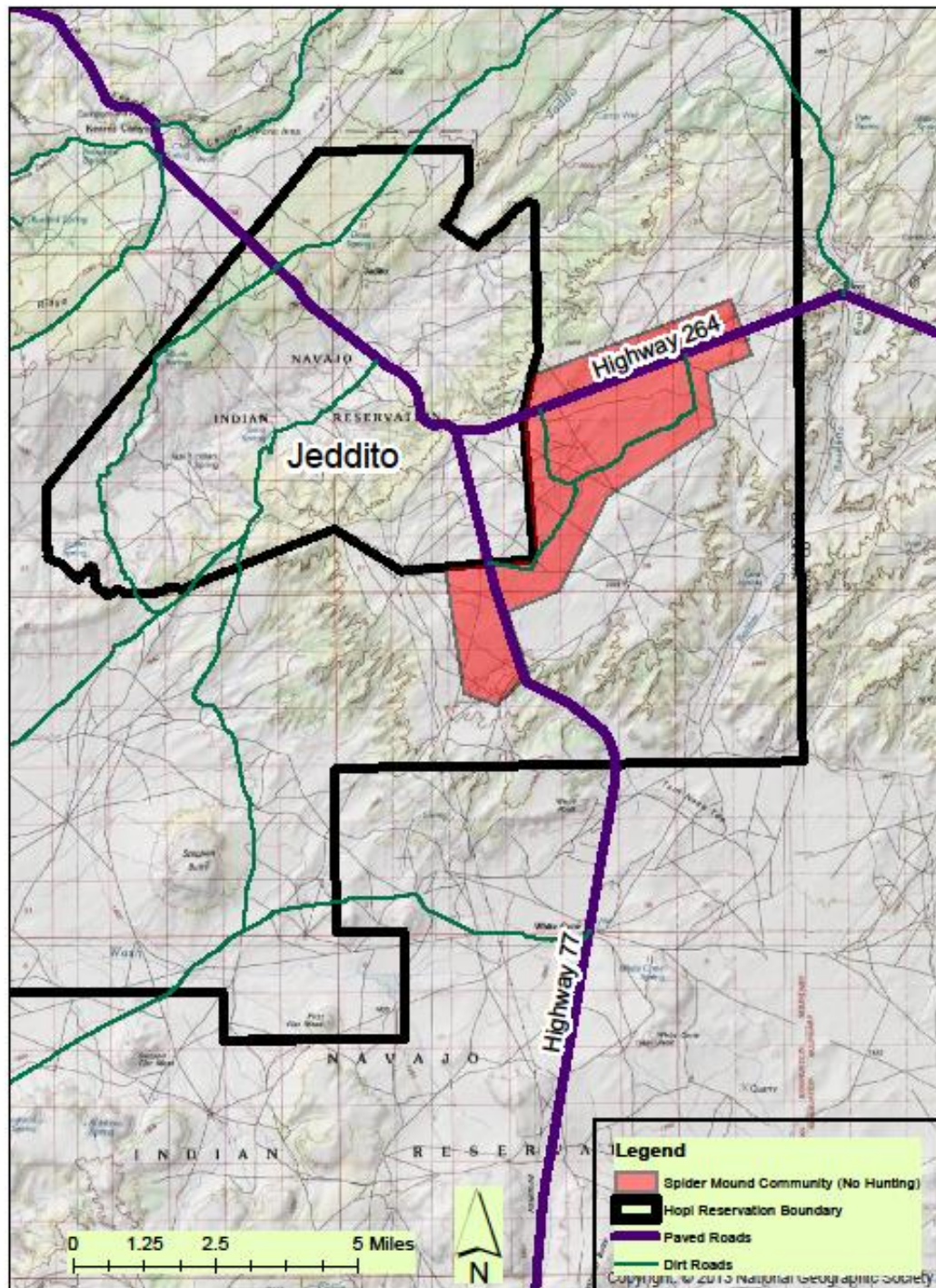
For further information on the closed areas in Lower Moenkopi community, please contact (928) 283-5212/5213, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (MST).

Moenkopi Community Area (NO HUNTING)



WEMP 2019

Spider Mound Community Area (NO HUNTING)



WEMP 2019

2.0 2019-2020 Hopi Big Game Hunting Permits

2.1 Archery Deer and Elk Permits

All archery deer and elk permits are available for purchase Over-the-Counter (OTC). No entry into any drawing is required. Any eligible person may purchase an archery permit and may use it to hunt only during the archery season using only archery equipment specifically authorized in these regulations. You may hunt in any Game Management Unit reservation-wide. You may harvest one antlered deer with an archery deer permit. You may harvest one any elk with an archery elk permit. **Permitted archery hunters are not required to attend the mandatory orientation.**

2.2 General Season Deer and Elk Permits

General season Elk and Deer permits are only available to Hopi Tribal members through the draw process and through the leftover permits process (See Current Hopi Hunting & Trapping Proclamations). Non-Hopi Tribal members enrolled with another federally recognized Tribe or Canadian First Nations Tribe are eligible to apply for Depredation Elk Permits and Leftover General Season Elk Permits including Minor Elk Permits. (See Current Hopi Hunting & Trapping Proclamations). Only eligible minors, ages 14-17 years old at the time of the hunt may apply for minor permits. If you obtain a general season deer or elk permit, you may harvest one animal of the species and sex specified on your permit and may hunt only during the dates and for the species specified on your permit. You may hunt using any legal method of take specifically authorized in these Regulations. **Hunters shall hunt only in the game management unit(s) specified on your permit. Hunting in a game management unit other than the game management unit specified on your permit is prohibited.**

2.3 Depredation Deer and Elk Permits

Should deer or elk become a nuisance and depredate crop fields, WEMP will consider a designated hunt designed to remove problem animals. These depredation hunts will have a specific location and season dates to address the crop depredation issue. Individuals may apply annually beginning on June 1st for the depredation pool to be placed on the list of potential hunters. WEMP will conduct a random drawing of potential hunters and notify successful applicants of their opportunity to purchase a depredation deer or elk permit. Successful applicants will have until the close of business the following day to purchase the permit at the WEMP office or the permit will be offered to another applicant.

2.4 Other Deer and Elk Permits

Ceremonial permits and crop owner depredation permits will be issued, free of charge, on a case-by-case basis for deer and/or elk. Contact WEMP for more information.

2.5 Mountain Lion Permits

A person may purchase one (1) mountain lion permit per season. Permits will be issued OTC at the WEMP office during regular business hours or by mail. Permits issued prior to the beginning of the season are valid for the entire mountain lion season or until filled. If you obtain a mountain lion permit after the beginning of the mountain lion season, it is valid beginning seven

(7) days from the date of purchase through the remainder of the season as specified on the permit or until filled.

You may hunt (call and shoot or pursue with dogs and shoot) a mountain lion with only a mountain lion permit. A valid Hopi hunting and trapping permit **AND** a mountain lion permit are required to trap a mountain lion.

3.0 Hunting and Trapping Permits, Trap Registration Number Permits, Bobcat Permits and Contest Permits.

Attention Tribal Members, per Hopi Tribal Ordinance #48 (Wildlife), Hunting and Trapping Permits are **NOT** required for Rabbits, Prairie Dogs and Squirrels however **bag and possession limits shall be observed**. Hopi Tribal Ordinance #48, Section 6.00 General Regulation, Sub-Section 6.12 Artificial Light applies for Ceremonial Hunts.

Per Hopi Tribal Ordinance #48, Sub-Section 7.23(A) Small Game Permits Non-Tribal members are required a permit for small game, furbearers, predator, upland and migratory game birds to hunt on the Hopi Reservation.

3.1 Hunting and Trapping Permits

Hunting and trapping permits will be sold OTC at the WEMP office during regular business hours, Monday through Friday or by mailing in your application, permit fee and processing fee. Hunting and Trapping Permits are available for purchase annually on July 1st and are valid through June 30th the following year. Hunting and trapping permits allow for take of all game animals covered by these regulations except for deer, elk and mountain lions although additional requirements must be met for the take of some species. (See notes below)

Only minors, age 14-17 years old, when hunting may apply for a minor Hunting and Trapping Permit. A Minor hunting and trapping permit expires on the holders 18th birthday, or at the end of the period specified on the permit, whichever occurs first.

Note:

- No permit is required for Tribal members for taking rabbits, prairie dogs and squirrels.
- A Hunting and trapping permit alone does not authorize take of bobcats. You must also purchase a separate bobcat permit for each bobcat taken. See bobcat permits below.
- A Hunting and Trapping Permit is required, in addition to a mountain lion permit, to trap a mountain lion. Hunting a mountain lion only requires a mountain lion permit.
- You must have a **Federal Migratory Bird Stamp (Duck Stamp)** in addition to your Hopi hunting and trapping permit in order to hunt waterfowl on the Hopi Reservation. Duck stamps may be purchased at any U.S. Post Office in the United States.

3.2 Trap Registration Number Permit

You will be assigned only one (1) permanent trap registration number permit that is valid for life. A trap registration number permit must be obtained at the WEMP office or by mail for a one-time

fee, before you can use any trap on the Hopi Reservation. The trap registration number must be permanently and legibly mark on each of the traps you use. You may not have more than one (1) registration number on your traps.

You must notify WEMP within thirty (30) days if you change your address or if your traps are stolen.

3.3 Bobcat Permits

In addition to a hunting and trapping permit, you must have a separate Hopi bobcat permit for each bobcat taken. Permits will be sold OTC on a first come, first served basis at the WEMP office or by mail. You may purchase up to ten (10) bobcat permits per day. You may take one (1) bobcat of either sex per valid permit. Bobcat permits are valid for the entire period specified on the permit or until filled.

3.4 Contest Permits (Non-Tribal-Members Only)

Any Non-Tribal member wishing to participate in a furbearer or bobcat hunting contest on the Hopi Reservation must first obtain a contest permit.

4.0 Obtaining Permits

4.1 Eligibility (Big Game Permits)

Big game hunt applicants must be in good standing with WEMP and must be current on their post-hunt reporting as required by these and past regulations. Good Standing means that an applicant has met Section 1.1 General Requirements and has completed any required post hunt survey by the deadline in the previous hunt year. Any individual that received a big game permit and failed to return their post-hunt survey by the survey deadline is ineligible to apply for a permit the following year.

4.2 Permit Purchase Process- Over-the-Counter Sales for Archery Deer and Elk, Hunting and Trapping Permits, Bobcat Permits, Mountain Lion Permits, and Trap Registration Number Permits.

- An application for permits and the appropriate fee must be submitted prior to purchasing a permit. Applications may be obtained by contacting the WEMP office.
- Permits may be obtained only in person at the WEMP office located in the Honahni Building of the Hopi Tribal Complex in Kykotsmovi, Arizona during regular business hours; Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (MST) or by mail with normal processing and mailing delay.
- Archery permit sales include the \$15.00 processing fee.
- **NO CASH** will be accepted.
- **ONLY checks, money orders or receipts from the Hopi Treasurer's Office for credit card payments** will be accepted as payment.
- Please make checks or money orders payable to: **The Hopi Tribe**
- A \$25.00 fee will be imposed on all returned checks.
- Applications and permit fees may be mailed to:

Hopi Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program
Attn: Permit Application
P.O. Box 123
Kykotsmovi, Arizona 86039

Include an additional \$5.00 processing fee when submitting an application(s) for OTC permits by mail. Permits will be mailed to the address on your application. Permits for OTC sales will be mailed immediately upon processing. All OTC permits you are allowed by these regulations to purchase in the same business day for which you submit applications and permit fees for, and are included in the same envelope, require only one \$5.00 processing fee.

4.3 General Season Deer and Elk Permits: Draw Process

- All general deer and elk permits must be obtained through the permit drawing.
- A **SEPARATE** and complete application package for deer and elk permits must be submitted. A complete package includes a properly completed application, the permit fee and application fee.
- Applications may be obtained at the WEMP office or requested by email.
- Applications and payments must be **received** by the deadline in order to be entered in the drawing. **Postmarks will not be accepted.**
- **NO CASH** will be accepted.
- **ONLY checks or money orders** will be accepted as payment. Checks and money orders used for payment of permit fees will be deposited at the end of the business week (Friday). **Make checks and money orders payable to: The Hopi Tribe**
- A **\$25.00 fee** will be imposed on all returned checks.
- Applications will be accepted prior to the deadline. Applications and payment can be mailed or hand delivered to:

Hopi Department of Natural Resources
Wildlife & Ecosystems Management Program
Honahni Building- Hopi Tribal Complex
Attn: Hopi Hunt Drawing
PO BOX 123
Kykotsmovi, AZ 86039

- Upon receipt of all submitted applications, applications will be assigned a random number for the drawing for each species applied for. Those applicants whose assigned random numbers are the lowest will receive permits.
- Up to four (4) hunt choices may be selected for each species (if available). If unsuccessful in obtaining a permit for first choice, applicants will be automatically entered in the drawing for their alternate choices, provided there are permits left over after hunters with lower choice numbers are drawn.
- Minors may apply for a minor and/or general permit by selecting those choices on the application and submitting full payment for a general permit. A refund of the difference will be issued if drawn for a minor permit.

4.4 Leftover Permits: Over the Counter (OTC) Sales

General deer and elk and minor deer and elk permits not sold during the drawing will be available for purchase at the WEMP office. See current year Hopi Hunting & Trapping Proclamation for details.

4.6 MANDATORY HUNTER ORIENTATION

Anyone who is successful in obtaining a general or a minor season deer or elk hunting permit shall attend the **MANDATORY HUNTER ORIENTATION**. See current year Hopi Hunting & Trapping Proclamation for details.

4.7 Sales Final

All permit sales are final. No refunds will be processed after a permit is issued. No permit transfer to another person is allowed for any reason.

4.8 Duplicate Permits

Lost or damaged deer and elk permits can be replaced for a **\$10.00 fee** but only prior to the start of the season for which the lost or damaged permit was issued. All other permits can be replaced for a **\$10.00 fee or the original permit cost, whichever is less**. A signed affidavit testifying that the permit was lost, destroyed, or stolen is required.

5.0 HOPI BIG GAME REGULATIONS

5.1 Mandatory Reporting/Tooth Submission- Deer and Elk Hunters

Completion of a post-hunt survey form is **MANDATORY** from all deer and elk permit holders regardless of participation or success. Surveys must be completed and returned to WEMP by 5 p.m. (MST) on the first Friday after your hunt ends. Please make note of numbers, species, sex, points on antlers, and location of deer and elk you encounter during your hunt.

All successful deer and elk hunters are also required to bring the middle two (2) incisor teeth of any harvested deer or elk to the WEMP office by 5 p.m. (MST) on the first Friday after your hunt ends. Remove both front teeth and place them in the envelope provided with your permit. Do not wrap teeth in anything prior to putting them in the envelope. A paper envelope is used so that the teeth can properly dry and prevent deterioration. The WEMP office is located at the Honahni Building in Kykotsmobi, Arizona and is open from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. (MST) Monday through Friday. **NOTE: Submitting teeth does not fulfil your mandatory harvest reporting requirement. You must also complete your harvest survey.**

Your participation in the tooth submission and post-hunt survey and the information you provide is appreciated and is vital to the success of the hunting program and accuracy of the information you provide is important. Please complete your survey as soon as possible after your hunt.

Failure to comply with these requirements shall result in the denial of future hunting privileges as determined by WEMP.

5.2 Mandatory Check-In- Mountain Lion Hunters/Trappers

All mountain lion hunters/trappers are required to check in their harvested mountain lion within 72 hours of harvest either by bringing the carcass to the WEMP office or by calling (928) 734-3671/3672/3673/3674 to arrange for WEMP to inspect the carcass at an alternative location. A tooth and DNA sample will be taken from the harvested animal. Your participation in check-in and the information you provide is appreciated and is vital to the success of the hunting and trapping program.

Failure to check-in mountain lions taken, or knowingly providing false information during check-in, may result in a civil penalty and five (5) year suspension of hunting, fishing and trapping privileges.

5.3 Annual Bag Limit- Deer and Elk

A person must have a valid permit for the species being taken.

Ceremonial permit harvests **do not** apply to annual bag limit. **Depredation permit harvests do apply to annual bag limit.**

Deer - A Tribal member may purchase no more than 1 deer permit per calendar year. The annual bag limit for deer shall be one (1) per calendar year, unless a crop owner is issued a Crop Owner Depredation Permit and harvests a deer using the issued permit, then the bag limit shall be two (2) deer. Ceremonial permits and depredation permits issued to crop owners are free of charge and do not apply toward permit purchase limits. Depredation permits issued to the public (non-crop owners) apply toward permit purchase limits.

Elk – A Tribal member over age 18 may purchase no more than two (2) elk permits per calendar year provided at least one (1) of the permits is an archery, general antlerless or depredation permit. The annual bag limit for elk shall be two (2) when a person has purchased two (2) elk permits. Non-Tribal members are limited to one (1) elk permit per calendar year.

5.4 Season Bag Limit- Mountain Lion

The season bag limit for mountain lion is one (1) mountain lion of either sex. (Spotted kittens or females accompanying spotted kittens may not be taken.)

5.5 Blaze Orange, Permit, ID Required

Hunters and anyone accompanying a permitted hunter, during a general season or minor deer or elk hunt shall wear at least 400 square inches of day-glow fluorescent blaze orange on their head, chest, and back while in the field. A camouflage pattern in hunter blaze orange meets this requirement. Blaze orange garments are not required during archery hunts.

Hunters shall have a valid permit for the species and season which they are hunting and must carry their hunting permit and valid photo identification while hunting.

You may not hunt with a tag permit that has been removed from its adhesive backing or one that has had any of the date notches removed. These permits are invalid.

5.6 Big Game Contests

A person may not enter or hold a big game contest that is based on big game or their parts.

5.7 Tagging Required

The carcass of big game shall be tagged with the permit/tag before the carcass is moved from or before the hunter leaves the site of kill.

A person shall not remove more than one notch indicating date and shall not tag more than one carcass using the same permit. The tag must remain with the largest portion of the carcass while in transport.

To tag a carcass, a person shall:

- Completely detach the permit from the adhesive backing;
- Completely remove the appropriate notches to correspond with the date the animal was taken; and
- Attach the permit to the carcass so that it remains securely fastened and visible.

5.8 Transporting Big Game within the Hopi Reservation

Evidence of sex must remain naturally attached to the carcass. Hunters must accompany the carcass of an animal they harvest while it is being transported and must have the permit, with notches removed to indicate the date the animal was taken, attached to the carcass.

A person who did not take the animal may transport it with a donation statement provided to them by the hunter who took the animal. (See 5.9 Donating Wildlife) It is unlawful for any person to possess or transport wildlife or parts of wildlife that has been unlawfully taken.

5.9 Donating Wildlife

Wildlife may not be donated or given to another individual in the field. A person may only donate or give wildlife or their parts to another person at:

- The residence of the donor or recipient;
- A meat locker; or
- A meat processing facility.

A written statement of donation shall be kept by the recipient with the wildlife or parts showing:

- The species and number of parts donated;
- The date of donation;
- The permit number of the donor; and
- The signature of the donor.

A person may donate the hide of a deer or elk to another person or organization at any place without a donation statement. A person may donate the hide of a mountain lion to another person or organization at any place with a donation statement only after the animal has been checked in by WEMP.

5.9 Roadkill Salvage Policy

Deer and elk injured or killed by vehicle collision may be donated and transferred by WEMP or HLES to the owner of the vehicle involved in the accident only. Roadkill carcasses will not be transferred to any other party. WEMP does not consider any carcasses of roadkill deer or elk to be fit for human consumption. See Roadkill Salvage Policy for more information.

5.10 Big Game Methods of Take

Lead Ammunition Restriction - It is unlawful to use or possess ammunition with projectiles containing more than 1 percent lead by weight and a firearm capable of firing that ammunition while taking or attempting to take **antlered deer during the General Season**. (The possession of ammunition with a projectile containing lead in excess of 1% by weight without possessing a firearm capable of firing the ammunition is not a violation of this section.)

Rifles - Centerfire rifles firing expanding projectiles may be used to take big game during the general seasons. Fully jacketed bullets are not allowed.

Shotguns - Shotguns of 20 gauge and larger firing only slugs may be used to take big game during the general seasons.

Handguns - Centerfire handguns firing expanding projectiles may be used to take big game during the general seasons. Fully jacketed bullets are not allowed.

Muzzle-loading Rifles - Muzzle-loading rifles may be used to take big game during the general seasons.

Archery Equipment - Archery equipment may be used during any big game hunt provided:

- bows shall have a minimum draw weight of 45 pounds;
- arrowheads shall have two or more sharp cutting edges;
- and arrows must weigh at least 300 grains.

A person who has obtained an archery big game permit shall:

- use only archery equipment authorized in this regulation (“Archery Equipment”) during the archery hunt to take the species authorized on the permit; and
- not possess or be in control of a rifle, handgun, shotgun or muzzleloader while in the field during an archery hunt.

Use of Bait - Deer and Elk may not be taken with the use of bait.

You may not use wildlife or their parts, except for white-bleached bones with no hide or flesh attached, as bait. However, you may use parts of legally taken furbearers as bait.

You may not set traps or trapping devices within thirty (30) feet of any exposed bait. If you use bait, you can be held responsible if it becomes exposed for any reason.

Dogs - A person may not use the aid of a dog to take, chase, harm or harass deer or elk. Dogs may be used to pursue mountain lions from thirty (30) minutes before official sunrise to thirty (30) minutes after official sunset, and only during the open seasons listed in these regulations and proclamations. (See Current Hopi Hunting & Trapping Proclamations for season dates and bag limits)

If you are the owner or handler of the dogs, you must have a valid permit for the animal you are pursuing in your possession while you are pursuing or harvesting that animal.

When dogs are used to pursue mountain lions, the permitted hunter who intends to take the animal must be present when the dogs are released. Then, the permitted hunter must continuously participate in the hunt until it ends.

Legal Traps - Mountain Lion

The holder of a valid Hunting and Trapping Permit **AND** a Mountain Lion Permit may set **up to six (6) traps** targeting a mountain lion. Traps may be used to take a mountain lion with the following restrictions:

Only long-spring, jump or coil-spring traps may be used to take mountain lions. Traps must have spacers on the jaws or offset jaws that leave an opening of at least 3/16 of an inch when the jaws are closed. Rubber-padded jaw traps and traps with jaw spreads less than 4 ½ inches are exempt from this requirement.

All traps used on the Hopi Reservation shall be permanently and legibly marked with the trapper's trap registration number. You may not have more than one trap registration number on your traps.

6.0 Hopi Hunting and Trapping Regulations (Other than Big Game)

6.1 Seasons

See annual Hopi Hunting & Trapping Proclamation for hunting and trapping season dates.

6.2 Permit Required

Mandatory Reporting - Bobcat Hunters/Trappers

All bobcat hunters/trappers are required to check-in their harvested bobcats with WEMP to have a permanent possession tag affixed either by bringing the bobcat(s) to the WEMP office or by calling (928) 734-3671/3672/3673/3674 and arranging for WEMP to inspect the bobcat(s) at an alternative location. The WEMP office is located at the Honahni Building in the Hopi Tribal Complex in Kykotsmovi, Arizona.

Bobcats harvested during the bobcat season must be checked in by the first Friday after the end of the bobcat season at 5 p.m. (MST). You may not buy, sell, trade or barter a green pelt from a bobcat that does not have a permanent tag affixed.

You must remove and clean the bobcat's lower jaw and attach a tag with the permit number corresponding jaw tag to the jaw for check in. Tooth samples will be collected from each harvested bobcat jaw to provide age data for population modeling. Cutting the jaw off behind the canine teeth is acceptable as only the incisor teeth are used for aging purposes.

Failure to check-in bobcats taken, or knowingly providing false information during check-in, may result in a civil penalty and five (5) year suspension of hunting, fishing and trapping privileges.

6.3 Bag Limits

The daily bag limit for cottontail and jackrabbits is ten (10) in aggregate.

The daily bag limit for prairie dogs and squirrels is ten (10) each.

The season bag limit for bobcats is one (1) bobcat of either sex **per valid permit** (you must have a separate bobcat permit for each bobcat harvested).

The season bag limit for all furbearers is unlimited.

The daily bag limit for scaled and Gambel's quail is ten (10) in aggregate.

The daily bag limit for Eurasian collared and mourning doves is fifteen (15) in aggregate.

See annual Hopi Hunting & Trapping Proclamation for daily bag limits for ducks and geese.

6.4 Possession Limits

The possession limits for rabbits, prairie dogs, squirrels, quail, doves, ducks, geese, and gallinules are three (3) times the daily bag limit.

6.5 Bobcat Tagging Required

The carcass or hide of bobcats shall be tagged with the WEMP permit/tag before the carcass is moved from or before the hunter leaves the site of kill.

A person may not remove more than one notch indicating date or sex and may not tag more than one carcass using the same permit. The bobcat permit must remain with the carcass or hide until the permanent possession tag is affixed.

To tag a carcass or hide, a person shall:

- Completely detach the carcass tag from the permit;
- Completely remove the appropriate tag notches to correspond with the date the animal was taken and the sex of the animal; and
- Attach the permit to the carcass so that it remains securely fastened and visible.
- You must remove and clean the bobcat's lower jaw and affix a tag to the jaw with the permit number. The jaw tag need not be affixed in the field, only prior to check-in.

You may **not** use a bobcat permit to hunt, trap or pursue bobcats after any of the notches have been removed from the permit/tag or the permit/tag has been removed from its adhesive backing.

Possession of an untagged green pelt or unskinned carcass is prima facie evidence of unlawful taking and possession.

6.6 Hunting and Trapping Methods of Take (Other than Deer, Elk and Mountain Lion)

A person who has obtained a Hunting and Trapping Permit and/or Bobcat Permit (as applicable) may use any method to take game (Except deer, elk and mountain lion), **except** that:

Prohibited Methods - Methods listed under section 1.2 "Prohibited Firearms/Devices" are prohibited.

Migratory Birds and Quail - Migratory birds and quail may only be taken with archery equipment and shotguns incapable of holding more than three (3) rounds unless it is plugged with one-piece filler that is incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so the gun's total capacity does not exceed three shells. **Lead shot shall not be used when taking waterfowl.**

Required Equipment (Trapping) - You must carry a catch-pole or other suitable device while trapping for releasing non-target wildlife from traps.

Dogs - Dogs may be used to take game, other than deer and elk, with the following limitations:

You may use dogs to pursue or harvest furbearers and bobcats from thirty (30) minutes before official sunrise to thirty (30) minutes after official sunset, and only during the open seasons listed in the regulations and proclamations. (See Current Hopi Hunting & Trapping Proclamations)

If you are the owner or handler of the dogs, you must have a valid permit for the animal you are pursuing in your possession while you are pursuing or harvesting that animal.

When dogs are used to pursue furbearers or bobcats, the permitted hunter who intends to take the animal must be present when the dogs are released. Then, the permitted hunter must continuously participate in the hunt until it ends.

Use of Bait - You may not use wildlife or their parts, except for white-bleached bones with no hide or flesh attached, as bait. However, you may use parts of legally taken furbearers as bait.

You may not set traps or trapping devices within thirty (30) feet of any exposed bait. If you use bait, you can be held responsible if it becomes exposed for any reason.

It is illegal to take migratory game birds by the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. An area is considered baited for ten (10) days after the complete removal of all bait.

It is legal to take doves on or over lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas, and where grain or other feed has been distributed or scattered solely as the result of manipulation of an agricultural crop or other feed on the land where grown, or solely as the result of a normal agricultural operation.

Decoys and Calls - Migratory game birds may not be taken by the use or aid of live decoys, recorded or electronically amplified bird calls or recorded or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds.

Traps - The holder of a Hunting and Trapping Permit and/or bobcat permit(s) (as applicable) may set traps to take furbearers and bobcats, if that person also holds a bobcat permit(s), with the following restrictions:

Only long-spring, jump or coil-spring traps may be used to take furbearers and bobcats. Traps must have spacers on the jaws or offset jaws that leave an opening of at least 3/16 of an inch when the jaws are closed. Rubber-padded jaw traps and traps with jaw spreads less than 4 ½ inches are exempt from this requirement.

All traps used on the Hopi Reservation shall be permanently and legibly marked with the trapper's Trap Registration Number. You may not have more than one Trap Registration Number on you traps.

6.7 Setting, Checking and Removing Traps and Removing Wildlife Caught in Traps

You may not set any trapping device, disturb or remove any trapping device, or kill or remove wildlife caught in a trap, unless you meet all of the following conditions:

- You possess a current hunting and trapping permit.
- You have been issued a Trap Registration Number, which is permanently marked on or attached to the trapping device.
- You have a valid bobcat permit in addition to a hunting and trapping permit if trapping bobcats. Otherwise, you must immediately release any trapped bobcat.
- You have a valid mountain lion permit in addition to a hunting and trapping permit if trapping a mountain lion. Otherwise, you must immediately release any trapped mountain lion.

Traps may not be set within ½ mile of any occupied residence without first obtaining permission from the person living there. To avoid trapping and farmer conflicts, trappers are encouraged to avoid placing traps within ½ mile of any cultivated, uncultivated and recently established agricultural fields.

All traps and trapping devices must be checked, and any animals removed, at least once every 72 hours.

You may not transport or possess live wildlife. Any animal found in a trap or trapping device must be killed or released to the wild immediately by the trapper.

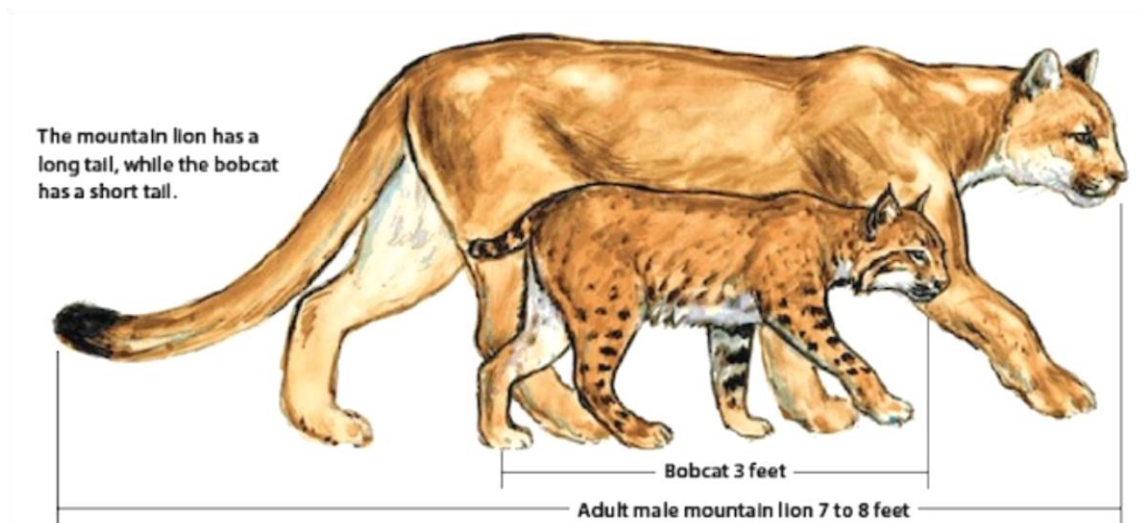
While performing their duties, authorized officers may seize all traps, trapping devices and wildlife used or held in violation of the rules in these Regulations. **If you see any illegally set trap or trapping device, notify HLES as soon as possible at (928) 734-7340.**

6.8 Prohibited Species

If you accidentally trap any wildlife out of season, without the appropriate permit; or any other non-target wildlife, you must release the animal immediately. If the animal perishes, the carcass remains the property of the Tribe and must be turned over to the WEMP.

Black-footed ferret, lynx and Mexican wolf are protected species under the Endangered Species Act. None of these animals are known to occur on Hopi. If you accidentally trap or capture one of these species, you must report it to WEMP within 24 hours.

KNOW THE DIFFERENCE!



Coyote (*Canis latrans*)

Ears are prominent, pointed, relatively long.



1-2 feet tall; 4 feet long with tail;
Front paw, 2.5 inches long x 2 inches wide

- Nose is more pointed
- Usually displays skittish behavior, tends to flee immediately
- Legs and feet are smaller, more delicate
- Weighs 20 - 35 pounds
- Fur color is very similar to wolves:
 - Grizzled gray, rust or buff
 - Rarely white or black

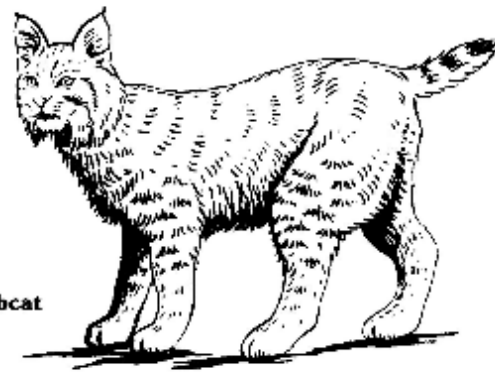
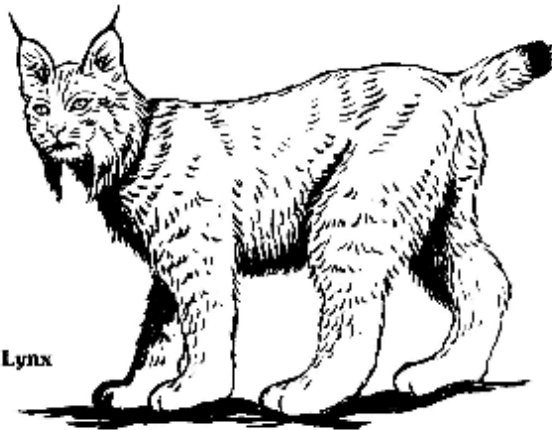
Mexican Wolf (*Canis lupus baileyi*)

Ears are more rounded, relatively short.



2-3 feet tall; 5 feet long with tail;
Front paw, 4.5 inches long x 3.5 inches wide

- Nose is broad
- Sometimes displays curious behavior and may not flee as quickly
- Legs are longer, more lanky; feet are larger
- Weighs 50 - 80 pounds
- Fur color is very similar to coyotes:
 - Grizzled gray, black, rust or buff
 - Not all white or all black
- Not all wolves have radio collars



Comparison of lynx and bobcat. Note the difference in size, length of ear tufts, and banding on tail.



Black-footed ferret

6.9 Transporting Furbearers and Bobcats

You may only possess and transport the carcasses or green pelts of furbearers or bobcats within the Hopi Reservation if you possess the appropriate permits. If you have harvested bobcat or mountain lion, they must be correctly tagged with the bobcat or mountain lion permit. (For more information on attaching mountain lion tags, see **Section 5.7** for mountain lion and **Section 6.4** for bobcat.)

6.10 Feathered Wing

One fully feathered wing must remain attached to the carcass of any migratory birds taken until the carcass reaches its destination.

6.11 Depredating Wildlife (Take Authorized)

The following species of wildlife may be taken anytime by a crop or domestic animal owner or a person working on their behalf when those species are actively depredating crops or domestic animals or are causing a nuisance by damaging private property or posing a threat to human safety: Bears, mountain lions, bobcats, coyotes, foxes, skunks, raccoons, gophers, squirrels, prairie dogs, crows and ravens. In no way may a crop or livestock owner bait or entice animals to an area in order to take them. Normal agricultural operations are not considered “baiting”.

No wildlife taken under this authorization may be sold. Carcasses of bears, mountain lions and bobcats shall be surrendered to The Hopi Tribe Wildlife and Ecosystems Management Program within 48 hours and become the property of the Hopi Tribe.

The Hopi Tribe WEMP has obtained a permit from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the taking of depredating crows and ravens under this provision. Contact WEMP for more information prior to taking depredating crows and ravens to be placed on the list of persons authorized to take these species under the permit.

7.0 Field Regulations

7.1 Possession of Firearms

It is unlawful for a "prohibited possessor" to possess a firearm. A prohibited possessor includes:

- A person found to constitute a danger to himself or others pursuant to a court order and whose court-ordered treatment has not been terminated;
- A person convicted of a felony and whose civil rights have not been restored; or
- A person who is currently serving a term of parole, work furlough, home arrest or release on any other basis or who is serving a term of probation or parole.

7.2 Aiding or Assisting Violator

It is unlawful for any person to aid or assist any other person in violating any provisions of these regulations. The penalty for violating this section is the same as for the regulation for which aid or assistance is given.

7.3 Littering While Hunting

It is unlawful to litter while hunting. Cartridge/shell casings are considered litter and should be picked up, packed out and disposed of properly.

7.4 Gate Closure

Hunters shall keep all gates closed, regardless of the initial status of the gate.

7.5 Illegal Take/Hunting

No person shall take or hunt any game for another person. No person shall attach or allow to be attached a permit or tag to a wildlife carcass that was not taken by the permit or tag holder.

7.6 Use of Vehicle and Aircraft

A person may not use any aircraft, including airplanes, helicopters or any other airborne vehicle or motorized aerial device (**including drones**), or any motorized terrestrial vehicle, including snowmobiles and other recreational vehicles to take wildlife.

No motorized cross-country travel is allowed. You must stay on existing roads only.

A person may not take wildlife being chased, harmed, harassed, rallied, herded, flushed, pursued or moved by an aircraft or any other vehicle or conveyance listed above.

A person may not use any type of aircraft, drone, or any other airborne vehicle or device from 48 hours before any deer or elk hunt begins through 48 hours after any deer or elk hunting season ends to:

- Transport a hunter or hunting equipment into a hunting area;
- Transport a big game carcass; or
- Locate, or attempt to observe or locate any wildlife.

Flying slowly at low altitudes, hovering, circling or repeatedly flying over a forest, field, woodland or rangeland where wildlife is likely to be found may be used as evidence of violation.

The provisions of this regulation do not apply to the operation of an aircraft in a usual manner, or landings and departures from improved airstrips where there is no attempt or intent to locate wildlife.

7.4 Areas and Instances where Shooting is Prohibited

It is unlawful to discharge a firearm or archery equipment while taking wildlife within 1/4 mile of an occupied house or other residence, shed, cabin, lodge or building, or any structure within which a domestic animal is kept or fed including barns and corrals without the permission of the owner or resident. All structures, including barns and sheds, are considered occupied for the purposes of this section.

A person shall not shoot any weapon from, across or onto any maintained road or two-track road. This includes the entire width of the road right of way. No part of a person's body may be in contact with any motorized vehicle while taking wildlife.

It is unlawful to shoot at power lines, signs or any other privately or publically owned equipment.

7.5 Shed Antlers

Naturally shed antlers may be gathered anytime by **Hopi Tribal members only**; however animals may not be pursued, disturbed or harassed in an attempt to gather antlers.

7.6 Unlawful Camping

It is unlawful for any person to camp within ¼ mile of any natural or man-made water source, Closed Areas and Designated Wildlife Protection Areas (R.U. 254, 263 & 573). Camping within Closed Areas may be allowed with written permission from residential homeowner (See 1.4 Closed Areas).

7.7 Harming or Harassing Livestock

It is unlawful for any person to intentionally harm or harass domestic livestock while hunting or trapping.

7.8 Damaging signs, fences or other equipment

It is illegal to shoot at, shoot, deface, damage, remove, or destroy any Tribal, Federal or State signs or placards, fences or other publically or privately owned equipment located on Hopi Lands.

7.9 Wounding

Hunters must follow up on every shot they make. Hunters must make an exhaustive effort to track and kill any wounded animal before continuing hunting. All wounded animals must be reported to WEMP within 24 hours and include that information on your post-hunt survey form.

7.10 Hunting Only Authorized Within Specified Game Management Units

Permitted hunters shall only hunt within the designated Hopi game management unit(s), as specified on the Permit. **Hunting in a game management unit other than the game management unit specified on your permit is prohibited.**

7.11 Wasting

It is unlawful to waste or permit to be wasted or spoiled any edible part of taken wildlife, except that the skinned carcass of a furbearer may be left in the field and does not constitute wasting.

7.12 Exhibition of Permit, Devices and Wildlife Required

Any person engaged in hunting must, upon demand of an authorized officer, exhibit their hunting permit, any device used for taking wildlife, and any wildlife in that person's possession.

7.13 Safe Firearm Handling

It is unlawful for any person to possess or be intoxicated by or under the influence of alcohol or any controlled substance while hunting. It is unlawful to handle or discharge any firearm in a careless or reckless manner or with wanton disregard for safety of humans or personal property.

Hunting permits will be confiscated immediately by Hopi Law Enforcement Services (HLES) for violation of this section.

7.14 Carrying Weapons In or On a Vehicle

A person may not carry a loaded weapon in or on a vehicle. A weapon is considered loaded if there is an unexpended round in the chamber.

Pistols and revolvers are also considered loaded when an unexpended round is in a position whereby the operation of any mechanism once causes a round to be fired.

A muzzleloader is considered loaded if it is capped or primed and has a charge and projectile(s) in the barrel.

Arrows carried in or on a vehicle must be in an arrow quiver or a closed case that completely encases the cutting edges of the arrowheads.

7.15 Accompanying Person Restriction

A person accompanying a deer or elk hunter, who does not possess a valid Hopi deer or elk hunting permit, Hopi hunting and trapping or Hopi mountain lion permit themselves, may not possess or be in control of a rifle, handgun, shotgun, muzzleloader or archery equipment while in the field accompanying the hunter.

DEFINITIONS

“Aircraft” means any contrivance used for flight, including gliding and unmanned aircraft. This includes airplanes, helicopters, ultralights, powered parachutes and drones.

“Antlered” means an animal having fully erupted antlers.

“Antlerless” means an animal that does not have antlers.

“Authorized Officer” means any certified officer of the Hopi Tribe’s Hopi Law Enforcement Services (HLES).

“Bag Limit” means the maximum number or amount of a particular species of wildlife, which may lawfully be taken by one person during a specific season and/or period of time.

“Bait” means any lure containing animal parts larger than one cubic inch, with the exception of white-bleached bones with no hide or flesh attached.

“Big Game” means any one of the following species of animals: deer, elk, antelope, bear, and mountain lion.

“Bobcat” means the species “Lynx rufus.”

“Carcass” means the dead body of an animal or parts thereof.

“Ceremonial Use” means using any wildlife or their by-products used for religious and ceremonial purposes.

“Crop” means agricultural plantings intended to be harvested for human consumption.

“Cross Country” means to travel over the countryside other than on a previously established road.

“Daylight Hours” means the period of time between one-half hour before official sunrise through one-half hour after official sunset.

“Device” means any net, trap, snare, salt lick, scaffold, deadfall, pit, explosive, poison or stupefying substance, crossbow, firearm, ammunition, bow and arrow, or other implement used for taking wildlife.

"Either Sex" means either sex may be taken.

“Exposed Bait” means bait that is visible from any angle.

"Field" for purposes of these regulations, means a location where the permitted species of wildlife is likely to be found. "Field" does not include a hunter's established campsite or the interior of a fully enclosed automobile or truck.

“Fully Jacketed Bullets” are bullets consisting of a soft core (usually made of lead) encased in a shell of harder metal, such as copper, gilding metal, cupronickel or less commonly a steel alloy and is commonly referred to as “full metal jacket” ammunition.

“Furbearers” The following mammals are furbearers:

1. All of the family Canidae including Coyote (*Canis latrans*), Gray Fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*), Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), Kit Fox (*Vulpes macrotis*), but excluding Mexican Gray Wolf (*Canis lupus*);
2. Bobcat (*Lynx rufus*);
3. American Badger (*Taxidea taxus*);
4. All of the Family Mephitidae including Striped Skunk (*Mephitis mephitis*) and Western Spotted Skunk (*Spilogale gracilis*);
5. All of the Family Procyonidae including Northern Raccoon (*Procyon lotor*) and Ringtail (*Bassariscus astutus*)

“Game” means any species named or otherwise addressed anywhere in these regulations that can be legally hunted.

“Green Pelt” means the untanned hide or skin of any furbearer, where flesh and meat is still evident.

“Guide” means a person who receives compensation for aiding or assisting another person in taking wildlife.

“Harass” means to shoot at, disturb, worry, molest, concentrate, harry, chase, drive, herd or torment.

“Hopi Member” means any enrolled member of the Hopi Tribe.

“Hopi Indian Reservation” means all lands exclusively reserved for, held in trust for (except those trust lands within the Hopi 3 Canyon Ranch lands and other acquired lands: Hart/Drye, Clear Creek, Aja, and 26 Bar), granted to, partitioned to, or otherwise conveyed to or held for the Hopi Tribe, including but not limited to District Six, Hopi Partitioned Lands, and the Administrative Unit around the Village of Moenkopi.

“Hopi Law Enforcement Services” (HLES) means the law enforcement entity within the Hopi Tribe.

“Hunting” means taking, pursuing, shooting, killing, capturing, trapping, snaring, or attempting to do any of these of any bird or mammal by any means.

“Migratory Game Birds” means waterfowl, as defined, and doves.

“Motorized Vehicle” means any machine used for human conveyance including, but not limited to:

- a) Passenger cars, trucks, and SUV’s
- b) aircraft;
- c) watercraft;
- d) off highway vehicles
- e) all-terrain vehicles; and
- f) snowmobiles

“Mountain Lion” or “Lion” means the species “Felis Concolor”, commonly known as cougar, puma, and catamount, also defined as a Big Game animal in Ordinance # 48.

“Native American Tribal Member” means any individual enrolled in any federally recognized Native American Tribe,

“Non-Hopi Member” means any individual not enrolled with the Hopi Tribe, including enrolled Federal recognized Native Americans Tribal and Canadian First Nations Tribal members.

“Permit” means a document that grants authority to engage in specific activities under this regulation or order of the Hopi Wildlife and Ecosystem Management Program, such as the authority to take a specific animal.

“Person” means an individual, corporation, company, partnership, association, trust, firm, tribal enterprise, government entity or other business organization or association.

“Possession” means actual or constructive possession.

“Projectile” is defined as any bullet, ball, sabot, slug, buckshot, arrow or other object which is expelled from a firearm or other implement by force.

“Released to the Wild” means to be turned loose from confinement.

“Scent” means any lure—composed of material of less than one cubic inch—that has a smell intended to attract animals.

“Sell” means to offer or possess for sale, barter, exchange, or trade, or the act of selling, bartering, exchanging, or trading.

“Spoiled” means impairment of the flesh of wildlife which renders it unfit for human consumption.

“Tag” means a card, label, or other identification object issued for attachment to the carcass of wildlife.

“Take or Taking” means to hunt, pursue, shooting, shooting at, netting, (including placing or setting any net or other capturing device) killing, injuring, capturing, snaring, or trapping, harass, possess, sell, purchase, angle, seine, alter or pollute habitat, act as a guide, , or otherwise restrict the movement of any wildlife or any attempt thereof.

“Trap” means any device designed and used to capture, kill or restrain animal without a person present.

“Trapping” means taking wildlife with any trap.

“Wasting” means to abandon taken wildlife or to allow taken wildlife to be spoiled or to be used in a manner not normally associated with its beneficial use.

“Waterfowl” means species of the family anatidae (ducks and geese), and the family rallidae (coots and moorhens).

“WEMP” means the Hopi Wildlife and Ecosystem Management Program.

“Wildlife” means vertebrate animals living in nature, except feral animals and domestic livestock.

“Wildlife Protection Area” means an area established by the WEMP and approved by the Tribal Council for special wildlife protection, research, or management practices.

Game Management Unit (GMU) Boundary Legal Descriptions

Unit 1

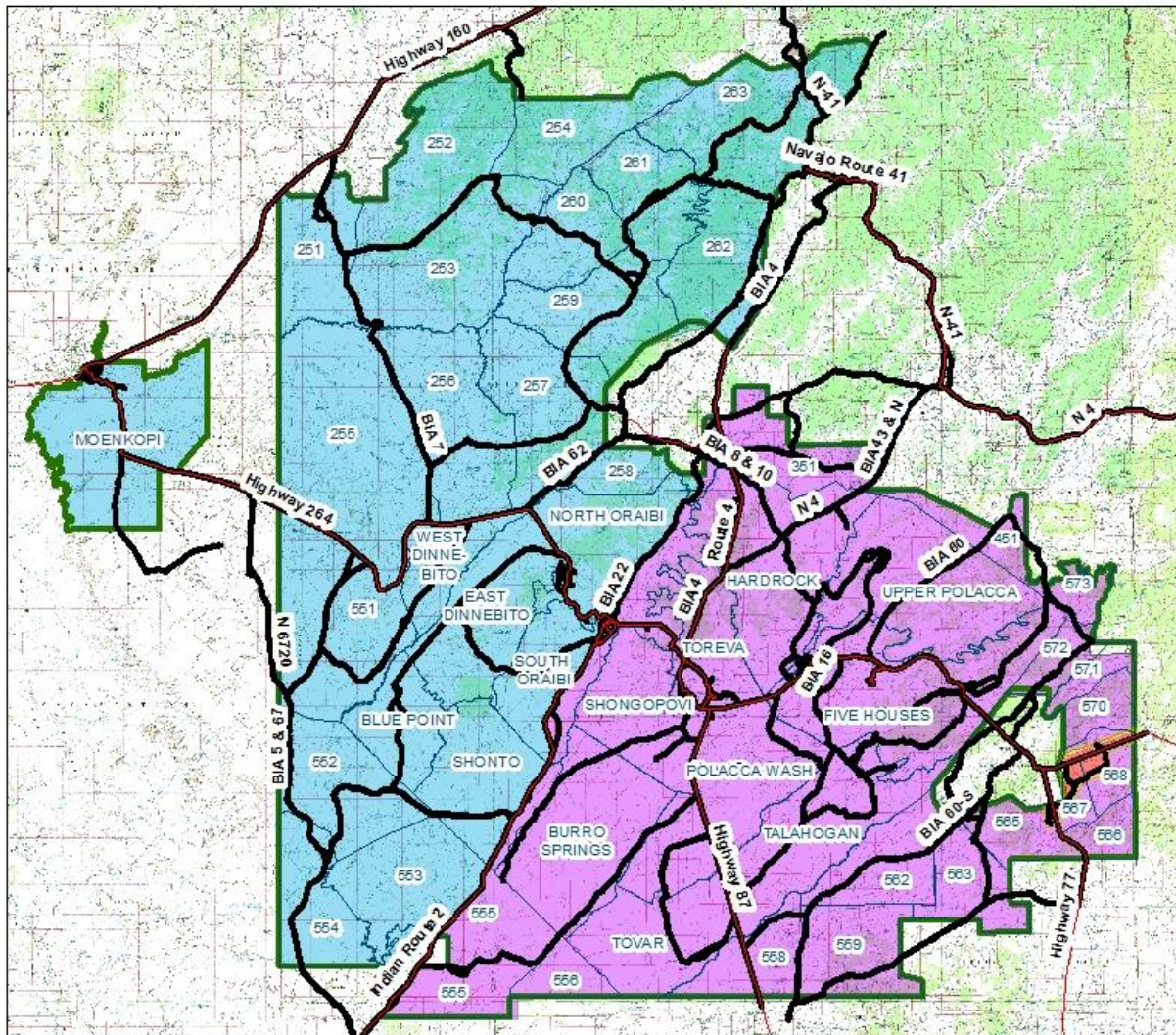
Beginning at the junction of BIA Route 22 and Arizona Hwy. 264; north along BIA Route 22 to the northern Hopi Reservation boundary; initially westerly following along the Hopi Reservation Boundary in a generally counter clockwise direction to the intersection of the southern Hopi Reservation Boundary and BIA Route 2; north along BIA Route 2 to the junction of BIA Route 2 and Arizona Hwy. 264; West along Arizona Hwy. 264 to the Junction with BIA Route 22.

Unit 2

Beginning at the junction of BIA Route 2 and Arizona Hwy. 264; initially easterly along Arizona Hwy. 264 to the junction with BIA Route 22 junction; north along BIA Route 22 to the Hopi Reservation boundary; east along the Hopi Reservation boundary in a generally clockwise direction to the intersection of the southern Hopi Reservation Boundary with BIA Route 2; north along BIA Route 2 to the junction with Arizona Hwy. 264.

More detailed individual GMU maps may be purchased from the Hopi Land Information Systems, by contacting their office at (928) 734-3651/3653/3654.

Hopi Game Management Units



Legend

- Secondary Roads
- Highways
- Range Units
- Hopi Reservation Boundary
- Spider Mound (No Hunting)

Hopi Game Management Units

- 1 (West)
- 2 (East)

0 4 8 16 Miles



WEMP 2014

Game Bird Identification

Quail Species



Gambel's Quail - Found throughout the state, this bird is often hunted in open desert country where they are more apt to run or flush than hold for a dog. The Gambel's jaunty, plumed topknot, carried by both sexes, makes for ready identification, along with the male's bright russet cap, black face and bib, and cream-colored belly marked with a black horseshoe. As with all species of quail, the young of the year can be distinguished through their first winter by their spotted secondary wing coverts. Adult males average only about 6 ounces; the slightly smaller females between 5.7 and 5.9 ounces.



Scaled Quail - The scaled quail is found primarily in the open country of eastern Arizona, this quail too is more likely to run than hold. Both sexes of this species display white, conical crests, hence the common name of "cottontop." The scaled appellation is appropriate, however, as the birds possess a distinctive scalloping on the breast, nape and belly. Otherwise, their overall color is tan above with a mixture of beige, grays, and whites below. A generally bigger bird than the Gambel's quail, adult male "scalies" average about 7.3 ounces, females 6.7 ounces.

Dove Species



Mourning Dove - This is the most common and widely occurring game bird in Arizona, and the mourning doves trim, streamlined body, accentuated by its tiny head and sharply tapered tail is familiar to even the most casual observer of birds. This dove can also be differentiated from its white-winged cousin by its overall brown color, a lack of white on all but the outer tail feathers, the presence of black spots on the upper wing surfaces, and the distinctive rattling whistle that is emitted by the bird's wing feathers when it takes flight. The more richly colored adult males can usually be distinguished at all times of the year from the browner females by their pinkish rose breasts, flecks of metallic green and other iridescence on the napes of their necks, and their slate blue crowns. Adult males weigh about 4.3 ounces, females about 4 ounces, with an occasional male weighing up to 6 ounces. Juvenile birds can be identified up to 4 or 5 months of age by the white tipping on the margins of their wing feathers.



Eurasian Collared Dove - The third largest dove/pigeon (~13 inches tall) found in Arizona following only the Rock Dove (the common city pigeon) and the Band-tailed Pigeon. These birds have a medium gray plumage with much darker primary flight feathers. The coloration is lighter in color on the underside. They have a prominent black collar around the back of their neck which is how their name is derived. They also have dark pink legs, a blackish colored beak, and have dark orange to reddish color iris. The tail is squared off to rounded edge which aids in identification when in flight. They have a very distinct calling pattern associated with them that has three parts. It is a cooing call where the duration of the second part is always longer in length than the first or third. The call has lilts and tones that are very different from that of a Mourning Dove. They also have a raspy screeching type call which can almost sound like a baby crying.

Waterfowl Species



American Wigeon - Male has white patch on top of head with iridescent green checkered pattern on sides of head. Wings have green speculum with white shoulder patch. American Wigeon are easily identified while flying because of the large white shoulder patch on the leading edge of the wing. Foot color is gray.

This elegant puddle duck is common throughout Arizona and prefers wetlands with abundant aquatic vegetation. Often Wigeon can be found using shorelines of wetlands where they graze on tender grass shoots. As grazers, these birds are also common visitors to golf courses and park ponds in Arizona's urban areas. This bird can be found in large flocks of thirty-five (35) plus birds seeking out resting and feeding areas along Arizona rivers, lakes and stock tanks. Wigeon are excellent to decoy and are less wary than mallard and pintail.



Blue Winged Teal - Similar to the cinnamon teal, both sexes have a powder blue shoulder patch on the wing. The male has a white crescent cheek patch near the bill. Both bill and foot color is dark gray to black.

Blue-winged teal are early migrants into Arizona and often migrate further south and are typically in their Mexican wintering grounds by October. Early season hunters will bag a few Blue winged teal which are often confused with cinnamon teal. The hens of the two species are virtually indistinguishable in the field.



Bufflehead - The males of this small duck appear to be black and white. The heads have an iridescent purplish/green heads. The female and immature males have a dull gray head with a white cheek patch. Foot color can be bluish gray to nearly pink.

Buffleheads are common throughout the state. The smallest of the divers, buffleheads prefer open water habitats with aquatic submergent vegetation and aquatic invertebrates. The mature male is readily identified, as its white breast stands out a quite a distance. This fast flyer often challenges the best of wing shooters as it fly's low over water. Buffleheads will remain on high country water often keeping potholes open even though ice is choking in. Many buffleheads are found on Arizona's lakes and reservoirs and this duck will be attracted to most decoy spreads. Buffleheads are cavity nesters and use holes in standing dead trees to raise their young.



Canada Goose - The male and female Canada geese have the same appearance, but are differentiated by the smaller size of the female.

Canada geese begin to arrive in Arizona in good numbers along the Colorado River in December. Other areas with significant numbers are the White Mountains around Alpine and Saint Johns. A large number of Canada geese also reside near Payson and Roosevelt Lake. Canada Geese prefer to feed near their loafing sites and select areas with green grass forage and grain. These birds are quite habitual and will return to feeding areas if not over harassed by humans. Scout the area and set up decoys pre-dawn and you will be rewarded. They are increasingly abundant in our urban centers because of their attraction to the water and grass parks and golf courses provide.



Canvasback - Canvasbacks possess a long sloping black bill as well as black feet. The wings are gray with white and gray vermiculation. The males have a reddish brown head on a white /gray body. Superficially, they resemble redheads but can be distinguished by much whiter backs and the sloping bill.

This largest of the Diving species of waterfowl has preference for large open water, deep reservoirs and lakes. Feeding on aquatic submergent vegetation, the canvasback is dependent on water quality that allows light penetration and growth of aquatic vegetation. Canvasbacks usually appear later in the season and will utilize higher elevation waters up until ice forces them south. Never abundant, their low but stable population size keeps the bag limit low (typically one (1) per day) most year.



Cinnamon Teal - Both sexes of this small duck have a powder blue shoulder patch on the wing. Males have a cinnamon color body with a bright red eye. Bills of both sexes are dark gray with the foot color being yellow/orange.

All teal are small ducks but this is the largest of the teal species. Cinnamon teal arrive early to the state. The cinnamon color of the drakes is quite impressive with a brilliant red eye. Cinnamon teal also nest in Northern Arizona and can be found along most river courses where emergent aquatic food plants exist. Large concentrations of cinnamon teal utilize the mudflats of larger reservoirs such as San Carlos and Roosevelt Lake. They are also found in small groups in mud tanks in lower elevations.



Common Merganser - The male of the species has a brilliant orange/red bill with an iridescent green head. The body appears white and black, but at closer look has iridescent green color throughout. The feet are reddish orange. The female has a reddish head with gray body. The bill is orange with orange feet. Both male and female have serrated teeth like points on the bill.

The largest of the mergansers, the common merganser is quite common in Arizona. Found on nearly all reservoirs and river courses in the State the merganser will dive for its food that consists of small fish. They can often be found in large groups along shore in our large reservoirs. The serrated bill on mergansers differentiates this duck from other puddle and diving species. Due to its diet the palatability of merganser flesh is poor.



Gadwall - Male has gray speckled head with a black rump patch. Both sexes have a white speculum with a cinnamon colored shoulder patch. Foot color is yellow/orange. At first glance, they are often misidentified as female mallards, but the dark hind-end differentiates them. In flight, the white patch on the back of the wing is distinctive.

Gadwall can be found throughout Arizona and can be identified as the only puddle duck possessing a white speculum on the wing. They are similar in size to pintail and usually prefer wetlands with aquatic submergent vegetation. Gadwall typically resides in flocks of less than ten (10) birds and decoy well.



Green-winged Teal - Male has a cinnamon colored head with a green stripe on the sides. Both sexes have a green speculum on the wing. Bill and foot color is gray to black. In flight, they appear as small, generally dark birds with a darting, erratic flight pattern.

Green wing teal the smallest of puddle ducks are common throughout Arizona. They are early arrivers to the state and can be found along river courses and reservoirs around the desert as early as September. This fast flying species offers excellent wing shooting and also decoys quite well. Although typically in flocks of ten or less, observations of several hundred in one flock are common along the Gila River west of Phoenix.



Mallard - Male has green head with olive green bill. Wings of both sexes have purplish/blue speculum and white underside.

Mallards, the largest of Arizona's puddle ducks are common to Arizona. Concentrations of mallards are typically found near agricultural grain fields that are situated near wetlands or river courses. The species nest throughout the high country of the state, namely in the White Mountains and Flagstaff area. Mallards are common on nearly all stock tanks throughout the desert and mountain country. Mallards are adaptable ducks and are common in urban areas. They have been known to form pairs and breed in backyards with swimming pools in Phoenix and Tucson. Mallards typically return to feeding areas so scout your hunting area to locate where the birds are feeding. A mallard call can be quite successful in luring this bird to decoy spreads.



Northern Pintail - Male has chocolate brown head with a slender white strip along the neck. The bill has powder blue strip on each side. Males have long black pointed feather at tail. Wings of both sexes have bronze speculum with gray underside. Foot color ranges from bluish gray to black. The long wings and neck make in flight identification certain with experience. Populations have declined significantly since the 1970's but have stabilized in the last two (2) decades. Because of this, bag limit restrictions are in effect and a 1 pintail bag limit is typical most years. Pintail usually begin arriving in Arizona in October and are found on most of the state's larger wetlands and lakes. This shallow water feeder prefers large open water as opposed to small potholes or stock tanks. Pintail are thought to be the wariest of puddle ducks requiring excellent concealment by the hunter. Pintail whistles are quite effective for attracting this duck into gunning range. Decoys are advisable, and it is recommended to have larger display of decoys.



Northern Shoveler - Males have green head with light blue shoulder patches on the wings. The bill of both sexes is spatulate (spoon shaped). The primary feathers on the wings have white shafts. Foot color is yellow/orange.

Shovlers or "spoonies" as they are called prefer open water habitats with invertebrates such as daphnia or midge larvae. Shovlers are easily decoyed and often land in a decoy spread even if the hunter is standing up taking a break. Shovlers can be found in large flocks of twenty (20) plus individuals and have a very characteristic "WHOOSH" as they swoop out of the sky to land on a wetland.



Redhead - Males have a reddish/brown head with a black chest. The body is gray with gray blue foot color. The wings are gray with a dull speculum.

Redheads are common in Arizona and locally nest in the Flagstaff and White Mountain regions. Slightly smaller than the canvasback they occupy similar habitats. Redheads prefer deep water with aquatic submergent vegetation and are usually found on larger reservoirs and lakes. Red heads can be found in flocks of up to twenty-five (25) individuals and will decoy very well. These fast flyers will often appear out of nowhere to inspect your decoy spread before turning and attempting to land.



Ring-necked Duck - The backs of Ring-necked ducks are dark gray to black. The bill of the male has a small ring around the tip. Close inspection will also reveal a brown ring around the neck hence the name. Both sexes have gray speculum with a tint of iridescent green and gray feet.

"Ringies" as they're called are found throughout Arizona on a variety of wetland habitats. Often found on stock tanks throughout the state, this small diver prefers deeper open water areas. This duck often occurs in large flocks up to fifty (50) birds. They are fast flyers and will decoy well.



Ruddy Duck - During the fall and winter months this duck will appear a dull gray/brown. The tail of both sexes has stiff characteristic that sticks up more than out when the duck swims. The bills of both sexes appear somewhat spatulate but not as obvious as the Shoveler.

Ruddy ducks are common in Arizona and will nest in some of the wetlands in the high country. These ducks typically prefer to dive rather than fly and hunters can usually approach the bird quite close before it dives to the safety of the water world only to resurface out of gunning range. This often overlooked duck as far as table fare can be quite good. Ruddies are typically found on large open water habitats and will form large flocks loafing on lakes and reservoirs during the fall and winter months.



Greater/Lesser Scaup - Both Scaup species have white speculums on the wings with it extending out towards the primaries on the greater Scaup. Also known as blue bills the scaup have a blue bill. Foot color is gray/black. Scaup have light colored backs with dark green/iridescent heads.

Both scaup species can be found in Arizona and utilize a variety of wetland habitats. Typically found on reservoirs and lakes scaup feed on aquatic submergent vegetation and invertebrate animals. Scaup will also utilize river courses in Arizona and are often found on stock tanks. This duck will decoy easily and typically will appear in small flocks of less than ten (10).