



**Montana Fish,
Wildlife & Parks**

Montana Department of
Fish, Wildlife & Parks
1420 East Sixth
Helena, MT. 59620
406-444-2535

Confederated Salish
& Kootenai Tribes
P. O. Box 278
Pablo, MT. 59855
406-675-2700



2015-16 HUNTING SEASONS, SHOOTING HOURS AND LIMITS

PHEASANTS, GRAY PARTRIDGE AND MIGRATORY WATERFOWL

FLATHEAD INDIAN RESERVATION

Gray Partridge

Hunting Season: September 1, 2015 through
January 1, 2016

Shooting Hours: Sunrise through sunset of each
day within the listed hunting season

Limits: 8 partridge daily and 32 partridge in
possession after the fourth day of the hunting
season.

Pheasant

Hunting Season: October 10, 2015 through
January 1, 2016

Shooting Hours: Sunrise through sunset of
each day within the listed hunting season

Limits: 3 cock pheasants daily and 9 cock
pheasants in possession after the third day
of the hunting season

Ducks, Mergansers and Coots

Hunting Season: October 3, 2015 through
January 10, 2016 and January 16, 2016 through
January 20, 2016. Hunting season for Scaup will
end on December 27, 2015.

Shooting Hours: Sunrise through sunset of
each day from October 3, 2015, through
January 1, 2016 and one- half hour before
sunrise through sunset of each day from
January 2, 2016 through January 20, 2016.
A split season closure of all waterfowl
hunting from January 11 through January
15, 2015 will also be in effect.

Limits: 7 ducks and/or mergansers daily.
Possession limit: May not exceed three times
the daily bag limit. Daily bag limit shall not
include more than 2 female mallards, 2
pintails, 2 redheads, and 1 canvasback and 3
scaup. Both limits are 25 birds for coots.

Geese

Hunting Season: October 3, 2015 through
January 10, 2016 and January 16, 2016
through January 20, 2016.

Shooting Hours: Sunrise through sunset of
each day from October 3, 2015, through
January 1, 2016 and one- half hour before
sunrise through sunset of each day from
January 2, 2016 through January 20, 2016.
A split season closure of all waterfowl
hunting from January 11 through January
15, 2015 will also be in effect.

Limits: 4 dark geese (Canada geese) daily 20
light geese (snow, blue, Ross') daily. The
possession limit may not exceed three times
the daily bag limit.

Taking of trumpeter swans, tundra swans,
harlequin ducks, common loons, sandhill
cranes and all species of grouse is prohibited
on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Legal Ammunition

Lead shot is prohibited for hunting pheasants,
gray partridge, and migratory waterfowl.
Only federally-approved non-toxic shot,
including steel, bismuth-tin, tungsten-bronze,
tungsten-iron, tungsten-matrix, tungsten-
nickel-iron, tungsten-polymer, tungsten-tin-
bismuth and tungsten-tin-iron, and tungsten-
iron-copper is legal for use on the Flathead
Indian Reservation.

Special Youth Pheasant and Waterfowl Hunting Days

Special Youth Pheasant and Waterfowl Hunting Days are scheduled for September 26-27, 2015 to encourage youth participation in waterfowl hunting and conservation. Legally licensed hunters 12-15 years of age may hunt pheasants and legal species of ducks, mergansers and geese on these dates. Youth hunters must be accompanied in the field by a non-hunting adult at least 18 years of age. The adult may not hunt pheasants or the species listed above on these days, but may participate in other open hunting seasons during these days. Bag and possession limits, shooting hours, hunter education requirements and all other applicable regulations that apply during the regular hunting seasons shall apply.

BE BEAR AWARE!!!

Grizzly and black bears inhabit the Mission Valley, especially the areas east of U. S. Highway 93. Bears are also occasionally observed in areas adjacent to Ninepipe and Kicking Horse Reservoirs. Bears generally use heavy cover along streams and wetlands, but may also be found in open fields and shrub thickets. Hunters should be cautious when entering dense cover that limits visibility to avoid surprising a bear. If a bear, bear tracks or bear sign is observed, please report the observation to the Tribal Fish and Wildlife Conservation Office at (406) 675-2700 or (406) 675-4700, or the Ninepipe Wildlife Management Area at (406) 644-2510, or the National Bison Range at (406) 644-2211. To receive information on avoiding bear confrontations, please contact the Tribal Wildlife Management Program at (406) 883-2888 or germainew@cskt.org.

These regulations are adopted in addition to other applicable regulations listed within the 2015-2016 Flathead Indian Reservation Fish, Wildlife and Recreation Regulations.

©TOM ROSTER'S 2013 NONTOXIC SHOT LETHALITY TABLE©						
Proven Nontoxic Shot Loads For Waterfowl & Upland Game Birds¹ <i>Load Velocity: 1,225 - 1,600 FPS</i>	Typical Shooting Range of Activity (Yards)	Most Effective Nontoxic Shot Size(s) For Birds Listed Under ACTIVITY At The Distances Listed In The Second Column	Minimum Load Weight (Ounces)	Minimum Pellet Hits Needed on Lethal Areas for Clean Kills	Minimum Pattern Count Needed at Any Distance for Clean Kills (# of Pellets in 30" Circle)	Most Effective Choke(s) (Given in Lead Shot Choke Designations)
ACTIVITY						
Large Geese At Long Range Giant, Western, Atlantic and Interior Canadas	50-65 50-70	Steel BBB to T HEVI-Shot 2 to B	1-1/4 1-1/2	1-2 1-2	50-55 50-55	Improved Modified Improved Modified, Full
Large Geese Over Decoys	35-50 35-50	Steel BB to BBB HEVI-Shot 2 to B	1-1/4 1-1/2	1-2 1-2	50-55 50-55	Improved Cylinder, Modified Improved Cylinder, Modified
Medium/Small Geese Long Range Snow, White-fronted, Lesser Canadas	50-65 50-65	Steel BB to BBB HEVI-Shot 2	1-1/4 1-1/2	1-2 1-2	60-65 60-65	Improved Modified Improved Modified, Full
Medium/Small Geese Over Decoys	35-50 35-50	Steel 2 to BB HEVI-Shot 4 to 2	1-1/8 1-1/4	1-2 1-2	60-65 60-65	Light Modified, Modified Improved Cylinder, Modified
Large Ducks At Long Range Mallard, Black, Pintail, Goldeneye, Gadwall	45-65 45-65	Steel 2 to 1 HEVI-Shot 4	1-1/8 1-1/4	1-2 1-2	85-90 85-90	Improved Modified, Full Improved Modified, Full
Large Ducks Over Decoys	20-45 20-45	Steel 6 to 2 HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1 1-1/8	1-2 1-2	85-90 85-90	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds) I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)
Medium Ducks Over Decoys Wigeon, Scaup, Shoveler	20-45 20-45	Steel 6 to 3 HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1 1-1/8	1-2 1-2	115-120 115-120	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds) I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)
Small Ducks Over Decoys Teal, Ruddy, Bufflehead	20-45 20-45	Steel 6 to 4 HEVI-Shot 6	1 1-1/8	1-2 1-2	135-145 135-145	Mod. (20-35 Yds), Full (35-45 Yds) Mod. (20-35 Yds), Full (35-45 Yds)
Ring-Necked Pheasants	20-50 20-50	Steel 3 to 2 HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1 1-1/8	2-3 2-3	90-95 90-95	I.C. (20-30 Yds), Mod. (30-50 Yds) I.C. (20-30 Yds), Mod. (30-50 Yds)
Turkeys (Head and Neck Shots)	20-40	Steel 4	1-1/4	3-4	210-230	Full or Extra Full
Northern Bobwhite Quail	20-30	Steel 7	5/8	1-2	170-190	Imp. Cyl., Light Modified
Swatter Load For Wounded Birds	20-30	Steel 7 to 6	1	1	175	Improved Modified, Full

This table summarizes Tom Roster's analyses to date of the waterfowl lethality data bases for certain of the 16 U.S. steel versus lead waterfowl shooting tests run between 1988 & 1982 & one steel-only pheasant shooting test plus lethality data bases for ammunition companies for birds taken with nontoxic shotshell loads Roster tested for them & the CONSEP organization. Note: Steel #BBB (.190") and HEVI-Shot #2 (.150") have exhibited the best all-around performance for taking geese; steel #3 (.140") and HEVI-Shot #4 (.130") the best all-around performance for taking ducks; and steel #2 and HEVI-Shot #4 the best all-around performance for taking ring-necked pheasants.
¹These findings are derived from testing 3" 20 gauge; 2 1/2", 3" and 3 1/2" 12 gauge; and 3 1/2" 10 gauge steel loads; plus 3" 20 gauge and 2 1/2" and 3" 12 gauge HEVI-Shot loads.
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SUNRISE AND SUNSET LEGAL SHOOTING TIMES

FLATHEAD INDIAN RESERVATION

2015 - 2016 BIRD HUNTING SEASONS

DATE	<u>September</u>		<u>October</u>		<u>November</u>		<u>December</u>		<u>January</u>	
	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.	Rise A.M.	Set P.M.
01	6:55	8:16	7:35	7:16	7:18	5:20	8:00	4:49	8:21	4:58
02	6:57	8:14	7:36	7:14	7:20	5:19	8:01	4:49	8:21	4:59
03	6:58	8:12	7:37	7:12	7:21	5:17	8:03	4:49	8:21	5:00
04	6:59	8:10	7:39	7:10	7:23	5:16	8:04	4:48	8:21	5:01
05	7:01	8:08	7:40	7:08	7:24	5:15	8:05	4:48	8:21	5:02
06	7:02	8:06	7:41	7:06	7:26	5:13	8:06	4:48	8:21	5:03
07	7:03	8:04	7:43	7:04	7:27	5:12	8:07	4:48	8:21	5:04
08	7:04	8:02	7:44	7:02	7:29	5:10	8:08	4:48	8:20	5:05
09	7:06	8:00	7:45	7:00	7:30	5:09	8:09	4:47	8:20	5:06
10	7:07	7:58	7:47	6:59	7:31	5:08	8:10	4:47	8:20	5:08
11	7:08	7:56	7:48	6:57	7:33	5:07	8:11	4:47	8:19	5:09
12	7:10	7:54	7:50	6:55	7:34	5:05	8:12	4:47	8:19	5:10
13	7:11	7:52	7:51	6:53	7:36	5:04	8:13	4:48	8:18	5:11
14	7:12	7:50	7:52	6:51	7:37	5:03	8:14	4:48	8:18	5:13
15	7:14	7:48	7:54	6:49	7:39	5:02	8:14	4:48	8:17	5:14
16	7:15	7:46	7:55	6:47	7:40	5:01	8:15	4:48	8:16	5:15
17	7:16	7:44	7:57	6:46	7:42	5:00	8:16	4:48	8:16	5:17
18	7:17	7:42	7:58	6:44	7:43	4:59	8:16	4:49	8:15	5:18
19	7:19	7:40	7:59	6:42	7:44	4:58	8:17	4:49	8:14	5:19
20	7:20	7:38	8:01	6:40	7:46	4:57	8:18	4:50	8:13	5:21
21	7:21	7:36	8:02	6:38	7:47	4:56	8:18	4:50		
22	7:23	7:34	8:04	6:37	7:49	4:55	8:19	4:51		
23	7:24	7:32	8:05	6:35	7:50	4:54	8:19	4:52		
24	7:25	7:30	8:07	6:33	7:51	4:54	8:20	4:52		
25	7:27	7:28	8:08	6:32	7:53	4:53	8:20	4:53		
26	7:29	7:26	8:09	6:30	7:54	4:52	8:20	4:53		
27	7:30	7:24	8:11	6:28	7:55	4:52	8:21	4:54		
28	7:31	7:22	8:12	6:27	7:57	4:51	8:21	4:54		
29	7:32	7:20	8:14	6:25	7:58	4:50	8:21	4:55		
30	7:33	7:18	8:15	6:23	7:59	4:50	8:21	4:56		
31			8:17	6:22			8:21	4:57		