

CHAPTER 6240
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
MIGRATORY BIRDS

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6240.0100 DEFINITIONS.

Subpart 1. **Scope.** The terms used in this chapter have the meanings given them in this part.

Subp. 2. **In the field.** "In the field" means at or between the place where taken and either:

- A. the person's automobile or principal means of land transportation;
- B. the person's abode or temporary or transient place of lodging;
- C. a migratory bird preservation facility;
- D. a post office; or
- E. a common carrier facility.

Subp. 3. **Migratory game birds.** "Migratory game birds" means coots, gallinules, sora and Virginia rails, American woodcock, common snipe, and migratory waterfowl.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.731; 97B.803*

History: *18 SR 83*

6240.0200 GENERAL RESTRICTIONS FOR TAKING AND POSSESSION OF MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS.

Subpart 1. **Shooting hours.** Shooting hours for migratory game birds are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except as follows:

- A. on the opening day of the duck season, shooting hours for all migratory game birds, except woodcock, are 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m.; and
- B. from the opening day of the migratory waterfowl season to the Friday nearest October 19, shooting hours end at 4:00 p.m.

Subp. 2. **Possession limits.** The possession limit is twice the daily limit, except for rails where the daily and possession limits are the same. All restrictions specific to a species or gender apply.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.731; 97B.803*

History: *18 SR 83*

MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS**6240.0300 TAKING OF WOODCOCK.**

Subpart 1. **Open season.** Woodcock may be taken from September 1 to November 4.

Subp. 2. **Daily limit.** A person may not take more than five woodcock per day during the open season.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.731*

History: *18 SR 83*

6240.0400 TAKING OF RAILS.

Subpart 1. **Open season.** Sora and Virginia rails may be taken from September 1 to November 4. King rails may not be taken or possessed.

Subp. 2. **Daily and possession limit.** A person may not take more than 25 rails in aggregate per day or possess more than 25 rails in aggregate.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.731*

History: *18 SR 83*

6240.0500 TAKING OF WILSON'S SNIPE.

Subpart 1. **Open season.** Wilson's snipe (Jacksnipe) may be taken from September 1 to November 4.

Subp. 2. **Daily limit.** A person may not take more than eight Wilson's snipe per day during the open season.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.731*

History: *18 SR 83*

REGULAR GOOSE SEASON

6240.0700 TAKING GEESE IN WEST CENTRAL GOOSE ZONE.

The West Central Goose Zone is the area lying within the following boundary: Beginning at the intersection of State Trunk Highway (STH) 29 and U.S. Highway 212; thence West along U.S. Highway 212 to U.S. Highway 59; thence South along U.S. Highway 59 to STH 67; thence West along STH 67 to U.S. Highway 75; thence North along U.S. Highway 75 to County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 30, Lac qui Parle County; thence West along CSAH 30 to County Road 70, Lac qui Parle County; thence West along County Road 70 to the west boundary of the state; thence North along the west boundary of the state to the point due south of the intersection of STH 7 and CSAH 7, Big Stone County; thence due North to said intersection; thence North along CSAH 7 to CSAH 6, Big Stone County; thence East along CSAH 6 to CSAH 21, Big Stone County; thence South along CSAH 21 to CSAH 10, Big Stone County; thence East along CSAH 10 to CSAH 22, Swift County; thence East along CSAH 22 to CSAH 5, Swift County; thence South along CSAH 5 to U.S. Highway 12; thence East along U.S. Highway 12 to CSAH 17, Swift County; thence South along CSAH 17 to CSAH 9, Chippewa County; thence South along CSAH 9 to STH 40; thence East along STH 40 to STH 29; thence South along STH 29 to the point of beginning.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.803*

History: *18 SR 83*

6240.0800 WEST CENTRAL GOOSE ZONE PERMIT PROCEDURES.

Subpart 1. **Permit requirement.** A person must have a valid permit issued by the commissioner to take geese in the West Central Goose Zone or to possess or transport geese taken in those zones.

Subp. 2. **Application process and fee.** Application for the permit must be made by mailing or delivering a West Central Special Goose Hunt application to Lac qui Parle WMA. During the season, permits can also be purchased at the Lac qui Parle Wildlife Management Area headquarters and at selected license agents in the West Central Goose Zone. A \$3 application fee must accompany each application.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97A.401*

History: *18 SR 83*

6240.0900 TAKING GEESE IN LAC QUI PARLE GOOSE ZONE.

The Lac qui Parle Goose Zone is the area lying within the following boundary: Beginning at the intersection of U.S. Highway 212 and County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 27, Lac qui Parle County; thence along CSAH 27 to CSAH 20, Lac qui Parle County; thence along CSAH 20 to State Trunk Highway (STH) 40; thence along STH 40 to STH 119; thence along STH 119 to CSAH 34, Lac qui Parle County; thence along CSAH 34 to CSAH 19, Lac qui Parle County; thence along CSAH 19 to CSAH 38, Lac qui Parle County; thence along CSAH 38 to U.S. Highway 75; thence along U.S. Highway 75 to STH 7; thence along STH 7 to CSAH 6, Swift County; thence along CSAH 6 to County Road 65, Swift County; thence along County Road 65 to County Road 34, Chippewa County; thence along County Road 34 to CSAH 12, Chippewa County; thence along CSAH 12 to CSAH 9, Chippewa County; thence along CSAH 9 to STH 7; thence along STH 7 to Montevideo; thence along the municipal boundary of Montevideo to U.S. Highway 212; thence along U.S. Highway 212 to the point of beginning.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97A.401; 97B.803*

History: *18 SR 83*

6240.1000 TAKING GEESE IN SOUTHEAST GOOSE ZONE.

The Southeast Goose Zone is comprised of Isanti, Chisago, Washington, Anoka, Hennepin, Carver, Scott, Ramsey, Dakota, Rice, Goodhue, Wabasha, Winona, Olmsted, Dodge, Steele, Freeborn, Mower, Fillmore, and Houston counties.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.803*

History: *18 SR 83*

EARLY GOOSE SEASONS**6240.1200 SPECIAL PROVISIONS ON TAKING GEESE DURING EARLY SEASONS.**

Subpart 1. **Taking near water.** Taking Canada geese during the early seasons is prohibited on or within 100 yards of all surface waters, except on those described or shown on a map provided by the commissioner.

Subp. 2. **Taking on public roads and rights-of-way.** Taking Canada geese on public roads and their rights-of-way is prohibited during the early seasons, except in the Southwest Border Canada Goose Zone.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.803*

History: *18 SR 83*

6240.1500 TAKING GEESE IN TWIN CITIES METROPOLITAN CANADA GOOSE ZONE.

Subpart 1. **Open season.** Canada geese may be taken in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Canada Goose Zone during the ten-day period beginning September 1.

Subp. 2. **Daily limits.** A person may not take more than four Canada geese per day during the early season.

Subp. 3. **Zone description.** The Twin Cities Metropolitan Canada Goose Zone is described as follows:

A. All of Hennepin and Ramsey Counties.

B. In Anoka County, all of Columbus Township lying south of County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 18, Anoka County; all of the cities of Ramsey, Andover, Anoka, Coon Rapids, Spring Lake Park, Fridley, Hilltop, Columbia Heights, Blaine, Lexington, Circle Pines, Lino Lakes, and Centerville; and all of the city of Ham Lake except that portion described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of CSAH 18, Anoka County, and U.S. Highway 65, thence east along CSAH 18 to the eastern boundary of Ham Lake, thence north along said boundary to the north boundary of Ham Lake, thence west along said

boundary to U.S. Highway 65, thence south along U.S. Highway 65 to the point of beginning.

C. In Carver County, all of the cities of Victoria, Chaska, Chanhassen, and Carver and the Townships of Chaska and Laketown, and portions of the cities of Cologne, Waconia, Mayer, and Watertown, and the Townships of Dahlgren, Benton, Waconia, and Watertown lying north and east of the following described line:

Beginning on U.S. Highway 212 at the southwest corner of the city of Chaska, thence west to State Trunk Highway (STH) 284, thence north on STH 284 to County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 10, thence north and west on CSAH 10 to CSAH 30, thence north and west on CSAH 30 to STH 25, thence east and north on STH 25 to CSAH 10, thence north on CSAH 10 to the Carver County line, thence east to the Hennepin County line.

D. In Scott County, all of the cities of Shakopee, Savage, Prior Lake, and Jordan, and all of the Townships of Jackson, Louisville, St. Lawrence, Sand Creek, Spring Lake, and Credit River.

E. In Dakota County, all of the cities of Burnsville, Eagan, Mendota Heights, Mendota, Sunfish Lake, Inver Grove Heights, Apple Valley, Lakeville, Rosemount, Farmington, Hastings, Lilydale, West St. Paul, and South St. Paul, and all of the Township of Nininger.

F. In Washington County, all of the cities of Cottage Grove, St. Paul Park, Newport, Woodbury, White Bear Lake, Oakdale, Landfall, Lake Elmo, Pine Springs, Willernie, Birchwood, Mahtomedi, Dellwood, Forest Lake, Marine, Stillwater, Oak Park Heights, Bayport, Hugo, Lakeland, Lakeland Shores, St. Croix Beach, St. Mary's Point, Afton, and Hastings; all of the Townships of Gray Cloud Island, May, Grant, Stillwater, Baytown, Denmark, and West Lakeland, and that portion of Forest Lake Township lying south of State Trunk Highway (STH) 97 and CSAH 2, Washington County, and those portions of New Scandia Township lying south of STH 97, and of a line drawn due east from the intersection of STH 97 and STH 95 to the east boundary of the state.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.803*

History: *18 SR 83*

6240.1600 TAKING GEESE IN SOUTHWEST BORDER GOOSE ZONE.

Subpart 1. **Open season.** Canada geese may be taken in the Southwest Border Canada Goose Zone during the ten-day period beginning September 1.

Subp. 2. **Daily limits.** A person may not take more than two Canada geese per day during the early season.

Subp. 3. **Zone description.** The Southwest Border Canada Goose Zone is all of Martin County and that portion of Jackson County south and east of U.S. Highway 60.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.803*

History: *18 SR 83*

6240.1700 TAKING GEESE IN FERGUS FALLS/ALEXANDRIA CANADA GOOSE ZONE.

Subpart 1. **Open season.** Canada geese may be taken in the Fergus Falls/Alexandria Canada Goose Zone during the ten-day period beginning September 1.

Subp. 2. **Daily limit.** A person may not take more than two Canada geese per day during the early season.

Subp. 3. **Zone description.** The Fergus Falls/Alexandria Canada Goose Zone is described as follows:

Beginning at the intersection of State Trunk Highway (STH) 55 and STH 28; thence east on STH 28 to County State Aid Highway (CSAH) 33, Pope County; thence north along CSAH 33 to CSAH 3, Douglas County; thence north along CSAH 3 to CSAH 69, Otter Tail County; thence north along CSAH 69 to CSAH 46, Otter Tail County; thence east along CSAH 46 to the eastern boundary of Otter Tail County; thence north along the east boundary of Otter Tail County to CSAH 40, Otter Tail County; thence west along CSAH 40 to CSAH 75, Otter Tail County;

thence north along CSAH 75 to STH 210; thence west along STH 210 to STH 108; thence north along STH 108 to CSAH 1, Otter Tail County; thence west along CSAH 1 to CSAH 14, Otter Tail County; thence north along CSAH 14 to CSAH 44, Otter Tail County; thence along CSAH 44 to CSAH 35, Otter Tail County; thence along CSAH 35 to STH 108; thence along STH 108 to CSAH 19, Wilkin County; thence along CSAH 19 to STH 55; thence along STH 55 to the point of beginning.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97B.803*

History: *18 SR 83*

6240.1800 EARLY GOOSE HUNT APPLICATION AND PERMIT.

Subpart 1. Application process. Permits are required to take Canada geese during the early seasons. A person may obtain a permit by submitting an application, provided by the commissioner, to the address indicated on the form. The application deadline is August 1.

Subp. 2. Application fee. An applicant must submit a \$3 fee for each application: A separate application and fee is required for each hunt.

Subp. 3. Possession of permit required. A person participating in the early Canada goose hunting season must possess a permit validated for the zone in which they are hunting.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97A.401*

History: *18 SR 83*

LATE GOOSE SEASON

6240.1900 LATE SEASON FOR TAKING GEESE.

Subpart 1. Daily limit. A person may not take more than two Canada geese per day during the late season.

Subp. 2. Public roads. Taking Canada geese from public roads and their rights-of-way is prohibited in the Twin Cities Metropolitan Canada Goose Zone during the late season established by this part.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97A.401; 97B.803*

History: *18 SR 83*

MIGRATORY WATERFOWL FEEDING AND RESTING AREAS

6240.2000 MIGRATORY WATERFOWL FEEDING AND RESTING AREA RESTRICTIONS.

Subpart 1. Entry restrictions. A person may not enter a posted migratory waterfowl feeding and resting area during the open migratory waterfowl season with watercraft or aircraft propelled by a motor, except as provided in subparts 2 to 4.

Subp. 2. Department employees in performance of their duties. The restriction in subpart 1 does not apply to uniformed employees of the department and other agents of the commissioner while in the performance of their official department duties.

Subp. 3. Disabled or handicapped persons. A disabled or handicapped person, under permit from the commissioner, may use an electric motor of less than 30 pounds thrust. A permit is not required for the lakes listed in subpart 4.

Subp. 4. Use of electric motors. On the lakes listed in items A to I, a person may use an electric motor of less than 30 pounds thrust within the designated migratory waterfowl feeding and resting area during the open waterfowl season:

- A. Beltrami county: Puposky Lake, Little Puposky Lake;
- B. Carver county: Tiger Lake;
- C. Jackson county: South Heron Lake, North Heron Lake;
- D. Kandiyohi county: Wagonga Lake, Lake Lillian;
- E. McLeod county: Bakers Lake, Unnamed Lake, in T. 114 N., R. 29W, S. 28;
- F. Polk county: Turtle Lake; and

G. Traverse county: Mud Lake.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97A.095*

History: *18 SR 83*

6240.2100 DESIGNATED MIGRATORY WATERFOWL FEEDING AND RESTING AREAS.

Subpart 1. **Designation of entire lakes.** The following lakes are designated as migratory waterfowl feeding and resting areas:

Name	Location	County
A. Bakers Lake	T.114N; R.29W	McLeod
B. Bear Lake	T.101N; R.22W	Freeborn
C. Big Rice Lake	T.140, 141N; R.26W	Cass
D. Cottonwood Lake	T.106N; R.25W	Blue Earth
E. Diamond Lake	T.110N; R.23W	Le Sueur
F. Dora Lake	T.110N; R.23W	Le Sueur
G. Lake Johanna	T.123N; R.36W	Pope
H. Lake Lillian	T.117N; R.33, 34W	Kandiyohi
I. Little Puposky Lake	T.149N; R.33, 34W	Beltrami
J. Mud Lake	T.131N; R.43W	Otter Tail
K. Mud Lake	T.114N; R.26W	Sibley
L. Nelson Lake	T.124N; R.38W	Pope
M. Oakleaf Lake	T.110N; R.26W	Nicollet
N. Pleasant Lake	T.113N; R.23W	Scott
O. Puposky Lake	T.149N; R.33, 34W	Beltrami
P. Rice Lake	T.148, 149N; R.27W	Itasca
Q. Sanborn Lake	T.112N; R.23W	Le Sueur
R. Scotch Lake	T.110N; R.25W	Le Sueur
S. Squaw Lake	T.148, 149N; R.27W	Itasca
T. Tiger Lake	T.115N; R.26W	Carver
U. Turtle Lake	T.148N; R.39W	Polk
V. Unnamed Lake	T.114N; R.29W; S.28	McLeod
W. Upper Rice Lake	T.145N; R.36, 37W	Clearwater
X. Wagonga Lake	T.118, 119N; R.34, 35W	Kandiyohi
Y. Washington Lake	T.114N; R.26W	Sibley

Subp. 2. **Marsh Lake, Big Stone, Lac qui Parle, and Swift counties.** The following portion of Marsh Lake in Big Stone, Lac qui Parle, and Swift counties is designated as a migratory waterfowl feeding and resting area:

That portion of the lake lying east and southeast of a line beginning at the point where the west section line of Section 10, Township 120 North, Range 44 West, meets the lake water line; thence running southeast approximately 370 rods to the southwest corner of Egret Island located in Section 15, Township 120 North, Range 44 West; thence running southeast approximately 340 rods to a point where the east section line of Section 22, Township 120 North, Range 44 West, intersects the water line of the south shore of the lake.

Subp. 3. **Lake Lizzie, Otter Tail county.** All that portion of Lake Lizzie in Otter Tail county in Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9, Township 136 North, Range 42 West is designated as a migratory waterfowl feeding and resting area.

Subp. 4. **Pelican Lake, St. Louis county.** All that portion of Pelican Lake in St. Louis county within the following described area is designated as a migratory waterfowl feeding and resting area:

From the iron pipe located at the northeast corner of Section 27, Township 65 North, Range 20 West, 2000 feet south 34 degrees west to starting point; thence proceed 5600 feet south 52 degrees east; thence 6200 feet south 37 degrees west; thence 7360 feet north 9 degrees east; thence 6840 feet north 62 degrees east closing at starting point encompassing an area of 1160 acres.

Subp. 5. South Heron Lake, Jackson county. That part of Heron Lake known as South Heron Lake in Jackson county except those portions described as follows is designated as a migratory waterfowl feeding and resting area except during the early Canada goose season:

That part of the lake lying northwest of a straight line beginning at the state-owned access on the west shore in Section 15, Township 103 North, Range 37 West; thence running northeast to the point of the peninsula on the east side of the inlet to Okabena and Division Creeks located in Section 10, Township 103 North, Range 37 West; also that part lying south of a straight line beginning at Burmeisters Point in Section 13, Township 103 North, Range 37 West; thence running west to Sandy Point in Section 24, Township 103 North, Range 37 West.

Subp. 6. North Heron Lake, Jackson county. That part of Heron Lake known as North Heron Lake in Jackson county except those areas known as Winzer Bay and North Marsh is designated as a migratory waterfowl feeding and resting area.

Subp. 7. Lake Christina, Grant and Douglas counties. All of Lake Christina in Grant and Douglas counties except that part lying south of a straight line beginning at the east terminus of the north line of Government Lot 3, Section 12, Township 130 North, Range 41 West, at the water's edge of Lake Christina; thence running east to the water's edge at the northwest point of the peninsula of Government Lot 1, Section 8, Township 130 North, Range 40 West, that projects into said lake is designated as a migratory waterfowl feeding and resting area.

Subp. 8. Mud Lake, Traverse county. All that portion of Mud Lake in Traverse county within the following described area is designated as a migratory waterfowl feeding and resting area:

Beginning at the point where the Bois de Sioux River enters the bed of Mud Lake north of Reservation Dam; thence northeast along the west boundary of Minnesota to a point due west of the farthest north portion of Lewis Point; thence east to said point on Lewis Point; thence southeast along the shoreline of Mud Lake defined by the prevailing water level to the point of beginning.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97A.095*

History: *18 SR 83*

COMMON CROW

6240.2300 COMMON CROW SEASON.

Subpart 1. Open dates. Common crows may be taken from July 1 through November 1.

Subp. 2. Bag limits. Common crows may be taken and possessed without limit during the open season. Common crows taken must be retrieved and removed from the field.

Subp. 3. Eligibility to take common crows. Residents and nonresidents may take common crows with legal firearms, bow and arrow, and by falconry without a license.

Subp. 4. Open zone to take common crows. Common crows may be taken statewide during the prescribed dates and hours.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97A.731*

History: *18 SR 83*

6240.2400 METHODS OF TAKING COMMON CROW.

Subpart 1. Taking common crows by firearms. A person may take common crows with a shotgun not larger than ten gauge or with a handgun or rifle of any caliber.

Subp. 2. Use of electronic calls and radios. Common crows may be taken by the use or aid of recorded or electronically amplified calls or sounds. Electronic devices may not be left unattended.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97A.731*

History: *18 SR 83*

6240.2500 TAKING COMMON CROWS IN DEPREDATION SITUATIONS.

Subpart 1. Taking common crows when causing damage. Persons may take common crows statewide at any time of year when found committing or about to commit depredations

upon ornamental or shade trees, agricultural crops, livestock or wildlife, or when concentrated in such numbers and manner as to constitute health problems or other nuisances.

Subp. 2. **Disturbance of nests and eggs.** Common crows' nests and eggs may not be disturbed at any time.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97A.731*

History: *18 SR 83*

6240.2600 TAKING COMMON CROWS IN WATERFOWL PRODUCTION AREAS, GAME REFUGES, AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS.

Common crows may be taken on federal waterfowl production areas that are open to hunting. Common crows may also be taken within state game refuges open to small game hunting, except those refuges closed to waterfowl hunting. Common crows may be taken during the open season between September 1 and the last day of February within wildlife management areas, unless otherwise closed to hunting.

Statutory Authority: *MS s 97A.731*

History: *18 SR 83*