DRAFT

FLATHEAD INDIAN RESERVATION

PHEASANTS, GRAY PARTRIDGE AND MIGRATORY WATERFOWL

2019 - 20 HUNTING SEASONS, SHOOTING HOURS AND LIMITS

Upland Game Birds

Gray Partridge

Hunting Season: **September 1, 2019 through January 1, 2020**

Shooting Hours: Legal sunrise through legal sunset of each day within the listed hunting season

Daily Bag Limit: 8 gray partridge

Possession Limit: May not exceed 32 partridge in possession after the fourth day of the hunting season

Pheasant

Hunting Season: October 12, 2019 through January 1, 2020

Shooting Hours: Legal sunrise through legal sunset of each day within the listed hunting season

Daily Bag Limit: 3 male pheasants

Possession Limit: May not exceed 9 male pheasants in possession after the third day of the hunting season

Eurasian Collared Dove – Eurasian Collared Doves are an introduced and rapidly-increasing species in many areas of the United States. The hunting season for Eurasian Collared Doves is year round, with no daily bag limits or possession limits. Legal shooting hours are from legal sunrise to legal sunset each day. Hunters should be thoroughly familiar with and be able to identify this species from native Mourning Doves, American Kestrels and other species of similar size and characteristics which are protected on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Special Youth Pheasant and Waterfowl Hunting Days

Special Youth Pheasant and Waterfowl Hunting Days, may be scheduled annually for a two-day weekend period prior to the opening day of pheasant and migratory waterfowl hunting seasons to encourage youth participation in pheasant and waterfowl hunting and conservation. Legally licensed hunters 12-15 years of age may hunt pheasants and legally huntable species of migratory waterfowl on these dates if accompanied in the field by a non-hunting adult at least 21 years of age. Prospective hunters must possess a current valid Tribal Conservation Permit and valid Bird Hunting Stamp.

Youths 10 and 11 years of age that are certified as Apprentice Hunters under Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks' Apprentice Hunter Program and who have a Mentor who meets all criteria of the program may also hunt during the Special Youth Pheasant and Migratory Waterfowl Days, as well as during the general hunting season for both. In addition, bag and possession limits, shooting hours, hunter education all other applicable regulations that apply during the regular hunting seasons shall apply.

Migratory Waterfowl

Taking of Swans (Trumpeter Swans and Tundra Swans) is prohibited in western Montana, including the Flathead Indian Reservation. Hunters should be certain of the identification of targeted birds to avoid violations.

Ducks, Mergansers and Coots

Hunting Season: September 28, 2019 through January 5, 2020 and January 11, 2020 through January 15, 2020.

A split season closure of all waterfowl hunting from January 6, 2020 through January 10, 2020 will also be in effect.

The hunting season for scaup is September 28, 2019 through December 22, 2019.

Shooting Hours: Legal sunrise through legal sunset of each day during the open hunting season from September 28, 2019 through January 1, 2020 and one-half hour before legal sunrise through legal sunset of each day during the open hunting season from January 2, 2020 through January 15, 2020.

Daily Bag Limit: 7 ducks and/or mergansers and shall not include more than 2 female mallards, 1 pintail, 2 redheads, 2 canvasbacks and 3 scaup. The daily and possession limit for coots is 25.

Possession limit: The limit of ducks and mergansers and coots may not exceed three times the daily bag limit.

Geese

Hunting Season: September 28, 2019 through January 5, 2020 and January 11, 2020 through January 15, 2020.

A split season closure of all waterfowl hunting from January 6, 2020 through January 10, 2020 will also be in effect.

Shooting Hours: Legal sunrise through legal sunset of each day during the open hunting season from September 28, 2019 through January 1, 2020 and one-half hour before legal sunrise through legal sunset of each day during the open hunting season from January 2, 2020 through January 15, 2020.

Daily Bag Limit: 4 dark geese (Canada geese) and 20 light geese (snow, blue, Ross')

Possession Limit: The possession limit for geese may not exceed three times the daily bag limit.

Species Closed to Hunting on the Flathead Indian Reservation

Taking of migratory birds is regulated by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. Pheasants, gray partridge, Eurasian collared doves and migratory waterfowl (ducks, mergansers, geese and coots) are the only avian species which can be legally harvested. Taking of trumpeter swans, tundra swans, harlequin ducks, common loons, sandhill cranes, wild turkeys, mourning doves, white-tailed ptarmigan and all species of grouse, as well as any other birds not listed in these regulations is prohibited on the Flathead Indian Reservation.

Legal Age for Hunters

No bird hunting stamp shall be issued to a non-member under the age of eighteen (18) years of age unless he or she presents to the Permit seller a Hunter Education Certificate issued by an approved hunter safety course.

Hunters 16 years of age or older must also have federal migratory bird stamps in their possession while hunting migratory waterfowl (ducks, mergansers, and geese) and coots.

Legal Means of Taking, Firearms, Ammunition and Other Regulations

For all permitted upland and migratory waterfowl species, only shotguns not larger than 10 gauge incapable of holding more than three shells are considered legal firearms. Only federally-approved non-toxic shotshell shot types legal for use in shotguns for migratory bird and upland gamebird hunting on the Reservation are allowed. Lead shot is prohibited for bird hunting. 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 Reservation.

Hunting gray partridges, pheasants and migratory waterfowl which hunting involves bait is prohibited. However, use of artificial decoys to hunt migratory waterfowl shall not be deemed a taking involving bait. Leaving artificial floating decoys (with line connection) unattended is prohibited.

Use of electronic calls for upland and migratory bird hunting is prohibited.

Use of aircraft, including motorized drones, in any hunting activity is prohibited.

It is unlawful to shoot firearms from or across public roadways and/or public rights of way.

It is unlawful to discharge a firearm while hunting within 150 yards of a residence.

Use of a motor or engine propelled boat or watercraft to hunt waterfowl is lawful only when all motion caused by such motor or engine as ceased. A boat motor may be no larger than 15 horse power except on Flathead Lake upstream from Kerr Dam.

Pheasants and gray partridge taken on Reservation lands shall be field dressed in such a manner as to retain at least one fully feathered wing and one foot attached to the body. One fully-feathered wing must be left on field-dressed migratory waterfowl.

Hunters must stop at established check stations if a check station is on the hunter's route of travel. Your cooperation in this information retrieval process will aid in enhancing resource management practices.

The National Bison Range, Ninepipe National Wildlife Refuge and Pablo National Wildlife Refuge are closed to hunting.

An annual fall bird hunting closure of Tribal lands in the Millie's Woods area is in effect from September 1st to December 1st of each year.

Hunters are expected to determine ownership of lands where they hunt prior to doing so and to obtain permission from applicable landowners prior to hunting.

Emergency Watercraft Regulations

All watercraft must stop at Inspection Stations for examination for aquatic invasive species.

All watercraft from outside the Flathead Drainage must be inspected and cleared before being placed in Reservation waters. All watercraft, trailers and water-based equipment must be clean and dry on all surfaces before launching in Reservation waters.

Felt-soled waders are prohibited.

Recreationists must dry dogs to prevent the movement of mussel larvae in wet fur.

Only hand-propelled or electronic, non-trailered watercraft (kayaks, canoes, rafts and paddleboards are permitted on Reservation waters, with the exception of Flathead Lake and the lower Flathead River. Use of motorized watercraft or trailers are prohibited on all other Reservation waters.

Trumpeter Swan Reintroduction

The Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes, U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, are restoring Trumpeter Swans on the Flathead Indian Reservation. Trumpeter swans are the largest waterfowl species, with a wingspan of up to seven feet. Hunters may encounter trumpeter swans in the field. Some, but not all, trumpeter swans in this project are fitted with a red neck collar and a red leg band with a white alpha-numeric code for identification of individual swans. Hunters are reminded that no harvest of any swans of any species is allowed on the Flathead Indian Reservation. Few snow geese occur on the Flathead Indian Reservation, so hunters should be careful in identifying snow geese and swans. Please report any observations of marked swans, including neckband identification numbers by calling (406) 675-2700, extension 7278. The cooperation of hunters in this project is greatly appreciated.

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 near Ninepipe and Kicking Horse Reservoirs, often in heavy cover along streams and wetlands, but may also be found in open fields and shrub thickets. Be cautious when entering 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 Dispatch Office at (406) 675-4700.

Tom Roster's 2016 Nontoxic Shot Lethality Table

Tom Roster's 2016 Nontoxic Shot Lethality Table is provided to assist bird hunters in selecting proven nontoxic loads for waterfowl and upland gamebirds. Recommendations are based upon Mr. Roster's extensive research on the use of appropriate loads for selected species of waterfowl and upland gamebirds. His research and results are widely recognized by wildlife managers and hunters as the authoritative source on the subject.

TOM ROSTER'S 2016 NONTOXIC SHOT LETHALITY TABLE©

Proven Nontoxic Loads For Waterfowl, Doves, & Upland Game Birds[1] *Vel. Range Tested: 1,225 – 1,700 FPS* ACTIVITY	Observed Hunters' Typical Shooting Range During 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) at Distance (Given in Lead Shot Choke Designations)
Large Geese At Long Range	50-65	Steel BBB to T	1-1/4	1-2	50-55	Improved Modified
Giant, Western, Atlantic and Interior Canadas	50-70	HEVI-Shot 2 to B	1-1/2	1-2	50-55	Improved Modified, Full
Large Geese Over Decoys	35-50	Steel BB to BBB	1-1/4	1-2	50-55	Improved Cylinder, Modified
	35-50	HEVI-Shot 2 to B	1-1/2	1-2	50-55	Improved Cylinder, Modified
Medium/Small Geese Long Range	50-65	Steel BB to BBB	1-1/4	1-2	60-65	Improved Modified
Snow, White-fronted, Lesser Canadas	50-65	HEVI-Shot 2	1-1/2	1-2	60-65	Improved Modified, Full
Medium/Small Geese Over Decoys	35-50	Steel 2 to BB	1-1/8	1-2	60-65	Light Modified, Modified
	35-50	HEVI-Shot 4 to 2	1-1/4	1-2	60-65	Improved Cylinder, Modified
Large Ducks At Long Range	45-65	Steel 2 to 1	1-1/8	1-2	85-90	Improved Modified, Full
Mallard, Black, Pintail, Goldeneye, Gadwall	45-65	HEVI-Shot 4	1-1/4	1-2	85-90	Improved Modified, Full
Large Ducks Over Decoys	20-45	Steel 6 to 2	¾ - 1	1-2	85-90	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1-1/8	1-2	85-90	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)
Medium Ducks Over Decoys	20-45	Steel 6 to 3	1	1-2	115-120	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)
Wigeon, Scaup, Shoveler	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1-1/8	1-2	115-120	I.C. (20-35 Yds), Mod. (35-45 Yds)
Small Ducks Over Decoys	20-45	Steel 6 to 4	1	1-2	135-145	Mod. (20-35 Yds), Full (35-45 Yds)
Teal, Ruddy, Bufflehead	20-45	HEVI-Shot 6	1-1/8	1-2	135-145	Mod. (20-35 Yds), Full (35-45 Yds)
Ring-Necked Pheasants	20-50	Steel 3 to 2	1	2-3	90-95	I.C. (20-30 Yds), Mod. (30-50 Yds)
	20-50	HEVI-Shot 6 to 4	1-1/8	2-3	90-95	I.C. (20-30 Yds), Mod. (30-50 Yds)
Turkeys (Head and Neck Shots)	20-40	Steel 4; HEVI-Shot 6	1-1/4	3-4	210-230	Full or Extra Full
Mourning Doves	20-45	Steel 8 to 7	⅝ -¾	1-2	200-210	IC-8's/LM-7's (20-30 Yds); Mod>30 Yd
	20-45	HEVI-Shot 7½	3/4	1-2	200-210	I.C. (20-30 Yds); Light Mod (30-45 Yd)
Northern Bobwhite Quail	20-30	Steel 8 to 7	⅝ -¾	1-2	200-210	Imp. Cyl., Light Modified
Swatter Load For Wounded Birds	20-30	Steel 7 to 6	1	1	175	Improved Modified, Full

NOTE: The pellets in the steel shot loads listed in this table were traditional, highly spherical ball-shaped pellets of ~ 7.86 g/cc density and 90-95 DPH hardness. The HEVI-Shot pellets were of 12.0 g/cc density and are harder than traditional steel pellets.

This table summarizes Tom Roster's analyses to date of the lethality data bases for certain of the 16 U.S. steel vs lead waterfowl & dove shooting tests published between 1968 & 2014 & one steel-only pheasant shooting test (1999) plus lethality data bases owned by ammunition companies for birds taken with nontoxic shotshell loads Roster tested for them & the CONSEP Org.

Note: Steel #BBB (.190") & HEVI-Shot #2 (.150") have exhibited the best all-around performance for taking geese; steel #3 (.140") & HEVI-Shot #4 (.130") the best all-around performance for taking ducks; steel #2 & HEVI-Shot #4 (.130") the best all-around performance for taking ring-necked pheasants; & steel 7's (.100") the best all-around performance for taking doves.

[1]These findings are derived from testing 2¾" 28 gauge; 3" 20 ga.; 2¾", 3" & 3½" 12 ga.; & 3½" 10 ga. steel loads; plus 2¾" 28 ga.; 2¾" & 3" 20 ga.; and 2¾" & 3" 12 ga. HEVI-Shot loads.

© Copyright 2016 by Tom Roster. For answers to questions on this table contact: Tom Roster, 1190 Lynnewood, Klamath Falls, OR, USA 97601. tomroster@charter.net

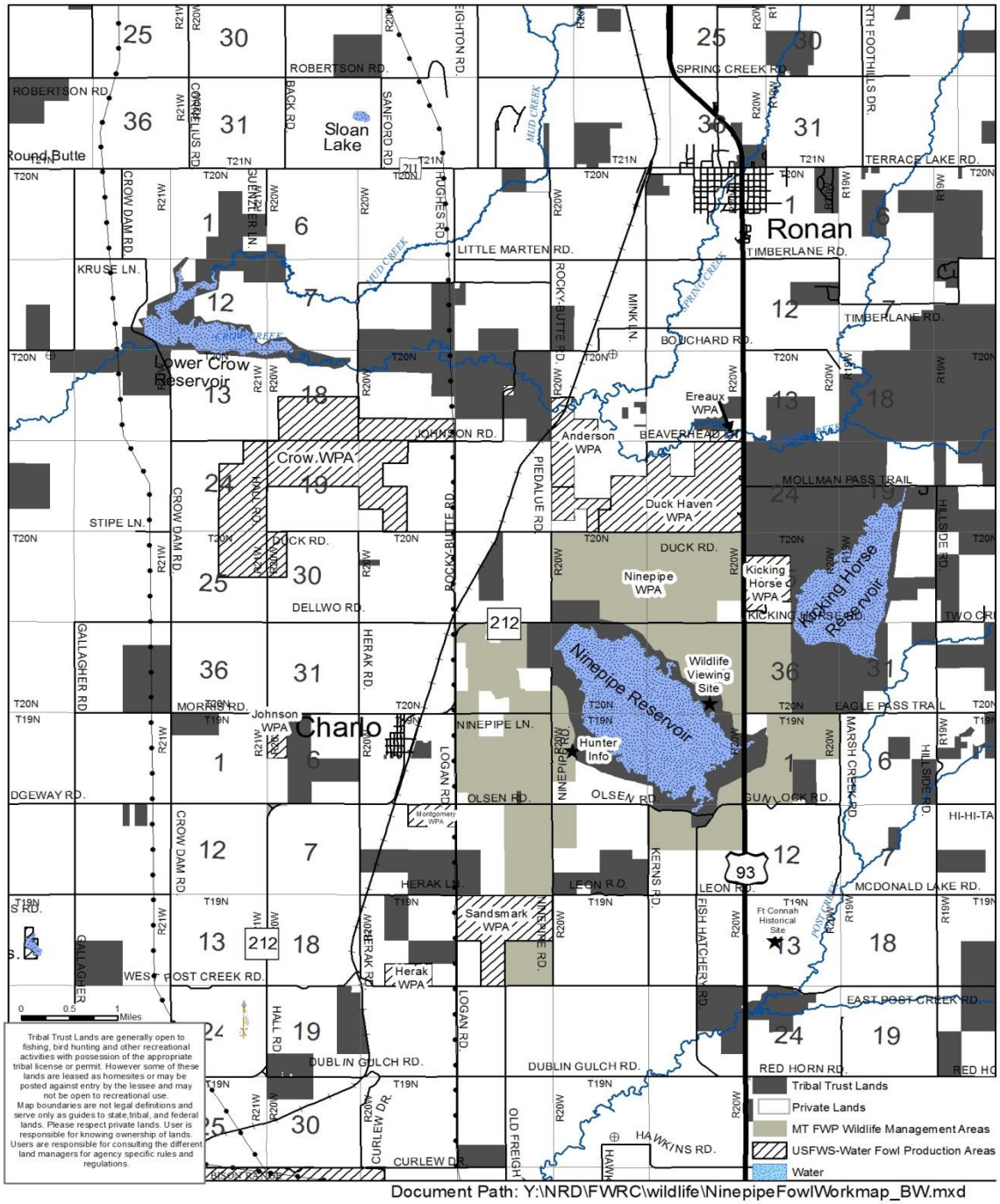
LEGAL SUNRISE AND SUNSET SHOOTING TIMES

2019 - 2020 FLATHEAD INDIAN RESERVATION PHEASANT, GRAY PARTRIDGE AND MIGRATORY WATERFOWL HUNTING SEASON

This table, including adjustments for daylight savings time, are the official sunrise and sunset times adopted by the Tribal Council of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes and the Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks Commission.

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

Land Ownership in the Ninepipe-Kicking Horse Area



Document Path: Y:\NRD\FWRC\wildlife\NinepipeFowlWorkmap_BW.mxd

Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks

Region One Office

490 North Meridian Road

Kalispell, Montana 59901

(406) 752-5501

Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes

Division of Fish, Wildlife, Recreation and Conservation

P. O. Box 278

Pablo, Montana 59855

(406) 675-2700, ext. 7200