Hunting Rules and Regulations in NL and Labrador

Migratory Birds

Link for NL hunting guide


• Hunting on sundays is permitted after Oct. 6

• Need to know how to identify from a picture big game organisms!!

• Migratory birds (Ducks, Geese and Snipe)
  • Turres and Murres

To get a Migratory Bird Licence

1. Go to a post office $20 (this covers birds for all Canada)

Season

2 types of ducks - Freshwater and Saltwater

1st Saturday in September for fresh water ducks and Last Saturday in September for Salt water ducks - then go to early December.

• Ducks Bag limit - 6 for each category of duck (salt and fresh) = 12/day
• Geese Bag limit - 5/day BUT in Quebec 20/day
• Snipe Bag limit - 5/day
• Turres/Murres bag limit - 20/day

• Use a 12 gauge gun
• Aboriginals who are card carrying members can hunt ducks and geese up to the spring, once spring hits this is nesting season til the end of May (NO HUNTING - now illegal for them).... although Aboriginals can collect eggs for consumption.
Bird Identification:

1. Geese (Canada Geese, Snow Geese, Brant Geese)

A. Canada Goose -
   - Male and female look the same so can’t determine the sex - have to go internal.
   - In Western part of Canada - bigger (called greater Canada Goose) Average about 18lbs.
   - In Eastern part of Canada - smaller (called Lesser Canada Goose) Average about 12 lbs.
   - Black necks with a white patch.

B. Snow Goose -
   - Male and female look the same so can’t determine the sex - have to go internal
   - Pure white, but have the black wing tips

C. Brant Goose -
   - Male and female look the same so can’t determine the sex - have to go internal
   - Look like a loon but have a longer neck - dark brown feathers and strip in front part of neck.
2. Ducks  
(Green Wing Teal, Black Duck, Golden Eye Duck, Barrows Golden eye Duck, Merganser Duck, Eider Duck)

1. Green Wing Teal -

- Fresh water duck.
- Tender and sweetest meat.
- Smallest duck about the size of a robin.
- Many times as a hunter you will miss this duck as they can sometimes fit in between the shot of your gun.
- Male - brightly colored - green patch on head around the eye, head region is a rusty red color and a stripe of white on the chest.
- Female - camouflaged to blend in with environment - brownish feathers.

Male  
Female

2. Black Duck-

- Largest Duck found in Labrador West.
- Smartest - hard to creep up on them in the wild.
- About 7 lbs
- Male - Black and grey feathers with a patch of metallic blue on the wing. Yellow beak.
- Female - almost the same coloration - but the metallic blue patch is not as big.
- For both sexes - the underside of the wing is composed of silver feathers, so when they take off for flight, hunters will see a silver grey/black “Flash”.

Male  
Female
3. **Golden Eye Duck** -
   - These ducks are on Migratory hunt.
   - Yellow Eye, black and white body with a white patch by the bill
   - No need to differentiate sexes.

   ![Golden Eye Duck](image)

4. **Barrows Golden Eye Duck** -
   - Illegal to hunt, they are a protected species. Different white shaped patch

   ![Barrows Golden Eye Duck](image)

5. **Merganser Duck** -
   - Fish eating duck so meat tastes like fish.
   - This duck has teeth
   - Male - long slender reddish bill, black head with a white body
   - Female - brown feather body with reddish rusty head.

   ![Merganser Duck](image)
6. **Eider Duck** -

- Salt Water duck
- Largest of the ducks
- Most luxurious down feathers (Eider-down).
- Black tips on wings when seen in flight.
- Male - Black with white back
- Female - Brown camouflage.

Male & Female

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**Turre/Murres** -

- Seabird
- Hunt from boat and shoot
- Have a late fall season
- 20/day bag limit
- Black head, grey body with a white underbelly.

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**Snipe** -

- Long slender bill, long legs with beige feathers.
- Small
- Bag limit 5/day