

NEBRASKA ADMINISTRATIVE CODE

Last Approved Date: ~~November 8, 2012~~ October 7, 2013

Title 163 - Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

Chapter 4 - Wildlife Regulations

006 Coots, Ducks, Geese, Crow

The following regulations are prescribed by the Game and Parks Commission, State of Nebraska in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 37-314, 37-315, 37-405, 37-411, 37-428, 37-501, 37-508, 37-536, 37-563, 37-701. For purposes of these regulations, unless context otherwise requires, the definitions found in Chapter 37, sections 202 through 247 of the Game Law, are used. These regulations are effective following enactment by the Commission, approval by the Attorney General and Governor, and when five days have elapsed since filing with the Secretary of State.

For rules regarding season dates, bag limits, hunting zones, and Conservation Orders, see Nebraska Game and Parks Commission Order C06 on the Commission's website: outdoornebraska.gov.

~~006.01 HUNTING SEASONS~~

~~006.01A Ducks and Mergansers (Zone and Management Unit boundaries in 006.01A5)~~

~~006.01A1 Open Season:~~

~~Zone 1: October 12 through December 24, 2013.~~

~~Zone 2:~~

~~Low Plains: October 5 through December 17, 2013.~~

~~High Plains: October 5 through December 17, 2013, and January 5 through January 26, 2014.~~

~~Zone 3:~~

~~Low Plains: October 23, 2013 through January 4, 2014.~~

~~High Plains: October 23, 2013 through January 4, 2014, and January 5 through January 26, 2014.~~

~~Zone 4:~~

~~Low Plains: October 5 through December 17, 2013.~~

~~006.01A2 Daily Bag Limit: Conventional System — Six Ducks. — May include no more than: Five(5) mallards of which no more than two(2) can be females, one(1) mottled duck, two (2) pintails, two (2) canvasbacks, two(2) redheads, two (2) scaup (greater and lesser combined), and three(3) wood ducks.~~

~~Mergansers: A daily bag of five (5), only two (2) of which may be a hooded merganser.~~

~~006.01A3 Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag.~~

~~006.01A4 Shooting Hours: — 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.~~

~~006.01A5 Management Unit Boundaries~~

~~006.01A5a Low Plains: Eastern part of state: That portion of Nebraska lying east of a line beginning at the South Dakota Nebraska border on U.S. Hwy. 183, south on U.S. Hwy. 183 to U.S. Hwy. 20, west on U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 7, south on NE Hwy. 7 to NE Hwy. 91, southwest on NE Hwy. 91 to NE Hwy. 2, southeast on NE Hwy. 2 to NE Hwy. 92, west on NE Hwy. 92 to NE Hwy. 40, south on NE Hwy. 40 to NE Hwy. 47, south on NE Hwy. 47 to NE Hwy. 23, east on NE Hwy. 23 to U.S. Hwy. 283 and south on U.S. Hwy. 283 to the Kansas-Nebraska border.~~

~~006.01A5a(1) Zone 1: Area bounded by designated Federal and State highways~~

and political boundaries beginning at the South Dakota Nebraska border west of NE Hwy. 26E Spur and north of NE Hwy. 12; those portions of Dixon, Cedar and Knox Counties north of NE Hwy. 12; that portion of Keya Paha County east of U.S. Hwy. 183; and all of Boyd County. Both banks of the Niobrara River in Keya Paha and Boyd counties east of U.S. Hwy. 183 shall be included in Zone 1.

006.01A5a(2) Zone 2: The area south of Zone 1 and north of Zone 3.

006.01A5a(3) Zone 3: Area bounded by designated Federal and State highways, County Roads, and political boundaries beginning at the Wyoming Nebraska border at the intersection of the Interstate Canal; east along northern borders of Scotts Bluff and Morrill Counties to Broadwater Road; south to Morrill County Rd 94; east to County Rd 135; south to County Rd 88; southeast to County Rd 151; south to County Rd 80; east to County Rd 161; south to County Rd 76; east to County Rd 165; south to County Rd 167; south to U.S. Hwy. 26; east to County Rd 171; north to County Rd 68; east to County Rd 183; south to County Rd 64; east to County Rd 189; north to County Rd 70; east to County Rd 201; south to County Rd 60A; east to County Rd 203; south to County Rd 52; east to Keith County Line; east along the northern boundaries of Keith and Lincoln Counties to NE Hwy. 97; south to U.S. Hwy 83; south to E Hall School Rd; east to North Airport Road; south to U.S. Hwy. 30; east to Merrick County Rd 13; north to County Rd 0;

east to NE Hwy. 14; north to NE Hwy. 52; west and north to NE Hwy. 91; west to U.S. Hwy. 281; south to NE Hwy. 22; west to NE Hwy. 11; northwest to NE Hwy. 91; west to U.S. Hwy. 183; south to Round Valley Rd; west to Sargent River Rd; west to Sargent Rd; west to Milburn Rd; north to Blaine County Line; east to Loup County Line; north to NE Hwy. 91; west to North Loup Spur Rd; north to North Loup River Rd; east to Pleasant Valley/Worth Rd; east to Loup County Line; north to Loup Brown county line; east along northern boundaries of Loup and Garfield Counties to Cedar River Road; south to NE Hwy. 70; east to U.S. Hwy. 281; north to NE Hwy. 70; east to NE Hwy. 14; south to NE Hwy. 39; southeast to NE Hwy. 22; east to U.S. Hwy. 81; southeast to U.S. Hwy. 30; east to U.S. Hwy. 75; north to the Washington County line; east to the Iowa-Nebraska border; south to the Missouri-Nebraska border; south to Kansas-Nebraska border; west along Kansas-Nebraska border to Colorado-Nebraska border; north and west to Wyoming-Nebraska border; north to intersection of Interstate Canal; and excluding that area in Zone 4.

006.01A5a(4) Zone 4: Area encompassed by designated Federal and State highways and County Roads beginning at the intersection of NE Hwy. 8 and U.S. Hwy. 75; north to U.S. Hwy. 136; east to the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 136 and the Steamboat Trace (Trace); north along the Trace to the intersection with Federal Levee R-562; north along Federal Levee R-562 to the intersection with the Trace; north along the

~~Trace/Burlington — Northern — Railroad right of way to NE Hwy. 2; west to U.S. Hwy. 75; north to NE Hwy. 2; west to NE Hwy. 43; north to U.S. Hwy. 34; east to NE Hwy. 63; north to NE Hwy. 66; north and west to U.S. Hwy. 77; north to NE Hwy. 92; west to NE Hwy. Spur 12F; south to Butler County Rd 30; east to County Rd X; south to County Rd 27; west to County Rd W; south to County Rd 26; east to County Rd X; south to County Rd 21 (Seward County Line); west to NE Hwy. 15; north to County Rd 34; west to County Rd J; south to NE Hwy. 92; west to U.S. Hwy. 81; south to NE Hwy. 66; west to Polk County Rd C; north to NE Hwy. 92; west to U.S. Hwy. 30; west to Merrick County Rd 17; south to Hordlake Road; southeast to Prairie Island Road; southeast to Hamilton County Rd T; south to NE Hwy. 66; west to NE Hwy. 14; south to County Rd 22; west to County Rd M; south to County Rd 21; west to County Rd K; south to U.S. Hwy. 34; west to NE Hwy. 2; south to U.S. Hwy. I 80; west to Gunbarrel Rd. (Hall/Hamilton county line); south to Giltner Rd; west to U.S. Hwy. 281; south to U.S. Hwy. 34; west to NE Hwy. 10; north to Kearney County Rd R and Phelps County Rd 742; west to U.S. Hwy. 283; south to U.S. Hwy 34; east to U.S. Hwy. 136; east to U.S. Hwy. 183; north to NE Hwy. 4; east to NE Hwy. 10; south to U.S. Hwy. 136; east to NE Hwy. 14; south to NE Hwy. 8; east to U.S. Hwy. 81; north to NE Hwy. 4; east to NE Hwy. 15; south to U.S. Hwy. 136; east to NE Hwy. 103; south to NE Hwy. 8; east to U.S. Hwy. 75.~~

006.01A5b High Plains: That portion of Nebraska lying west of a line beginning at the South Dakota-Nebraska border on U.S. Hwy. 183; south on U.S. Hwy. 183 to U.S. Hwy. 20; west on U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 7; south on NE Hwy. 7 to NE Hwy. 91; southwest on NE Hwy. 91 to NE Hwy. 2; southeast on NE Hwy. 2 to NE Hwy. 92; west on NE Hwy. 92 to NE Hwy. 40; south on NE Hwy. 40 to NE Hwy. 47; south on NE Hwy. 47 to NE Hwy. 23; east on NE Hwy. 23 to U.S. Hwy. 283; and south on U.S. Hwy. 283 to the Kansas-Nebraska border.

006.01A5c Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

006.01B Coot Management Unit Boundaries as described in 006.01A5a through 006.01A5c.

006.01B1 Open Season:

Low Plains

Zones 1 and 2: To run concurrent with dates established in 006.01A1.

Zones 3 and 4: To run concurrent with dates established in 006.01A1.

High Plains:

To run concurrent with dates established in 006.01A1.

006.01B2 Daily Bag Limit: Fifteen (15).

006.01B3 Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag limit (30).

006.01B4 Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

~~006.01B5 Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.~~

~~006.01C Geese~~

~~006.01C1 Light Geese (Blue, Snow and Ross' Geese)
Zone boundaries are described in 006.01C1h.~~

~~006.01C1a Rainwater Basin Zone~~

~~006.01C1a(1) Open Season Dates: October 5, 2013 through January 1, 2014 and January 25 through February 9, 2014.~~

~~006.01C1b Prairie Zone~~

~~006.01C1b(1) Open Season Dates: October 5, 2013 through January 1, 2014 and January 25 through February 9, 2014.~~

~~006.01C1c Daily Bag Limit: Twenty (20).~~

~~006.01C1d Possession Limit: None.~~

~~006.01C1e Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.~~

~~006.01C1f Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.~~

~~006.01C1g Management Unit Boundaries~~

~~006.01C1g(1) Rainwater Basin Zone: The area contained within and bounded by the intersection of NE Hwy. 92 and NE Hwy. 15, south along NE Hwy. 15 to NE Hwy. 4, west along NE Hwy. 4 to U.S. Hwy. 34, west along U.S. Hwy. 34 to U.S. Hwy. 283, north along U.S. Hwy.~~

~~283 to U.S. Hwy. 30, east along U.S. Hwy. 30 to NE Hwy. 92, east along NE Hwy. 92 to the beginning.~~

~~006.01C1g(2) Prairie Zone: Remainder of the State.~~

~~006.01C2 Dark Geese (Canada, Brant and all other goose species except white fronted geese and those included as light geese) Unit boundaries are described in 006.01C2a(4), 006.01C2b(4), 006.01C2c(4), 006.01C2d(4) and 006.01C2e(4).~~

~~006.01C2a Niobrara Unit~~

~~006.01C2a(1) Open Season Dates: October 28, 2013 through February 9, 2014.~~

~~006.01C2a(2) Daily Bag Limit: Five (5) geese.~~

~~006.01C2a(3) Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag limit.~~

~~006.01C2a(4) Management Unit Boundary — The area contained within and bounded by the intersection of the South Dakota state line and the eastern Cherry County line, south along the Cherry County line to the Niobrara River, east to the Norden Road, south on the Norden Road to U.S. Hwy. 20, east along U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 14, north along NE Hwy. 14 to NE Hwy. 59 and County Road 872, west along County Line 872 to the Knox County line, north along the Knox County line to the South Dakota state line. Where the Niobrara River forms the boundary, both banks of the river are included in the Niobrara Unit.~~

~~006.01C2b East Unit~~

~~006.01C2b(1) Open Season Dates: October 28, 2013 through February 9, 2014.~~

~~006.01C2b(2) Daily Bag Limit: Five (5) geese.~~

~~006.01C2b(3) Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag limit.~~

~~006.01C2b(4) Management Unit Boundary — That area north and east of U.S. Hwy. 81 at the Kansas Nebraska state line, north to NE Hwy. 91, east to U.S. 275, south to U.S. Hwy. 77, south to NE Hwy. 91, east to U.S. Hwy. 30, east to the Nebraska Iowa state line.~~

~~006.01C2e Platte River Unit~~

~~006.01C2e(1) Open Season Dates: October 28, 2013 through February 9, 2014.~~

~~006.01C2e(2) Daily Bag Limit: Five (5) geese.~~

~~006.01C2e(3) Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag limit.~~

~~006.01C2e(4) Management Unit Boundary — That area north and west of U.S. Hwy. 81 at the Kansas Nebraska state line, north to NE Hwy. 91, west along NE Hwy. 91 to NE Hwy. 11, north to the Holt County line, west along the northern border of Garfield, Loup, Blaine and Thomas Counties to the Hooker County line, south along the Thomas Hooker County lines to the McPherson County line, east along the south border of Thomas County to the western line of Custer County, south along the Custer~~

~~Logan County lines to NE Hwy. 92, west to U.S. Hwy. 83, north to NE Hwy. 92, west to NE Hwy. 61, south along NE Hwy. 61 to NE Hwy. 92, west along NE Hwy. 92 to U.S. Hwy. 26, south along U.S. Hwy. 26 to the Keith County line, south along the Keith County line to the Colorado state line.~~

006.01C2d North Central Unit

~~006.01C2d(1) Open Season Dates: October 5, 2013 through January 17, 2014.~~

~~006.01C2d(2) Daily Bag Limit: Five (5) geese.~~

~~006.01C2d(3) Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag limit.~~

~~006.01C2d(4) Management Unit Boundary: That part of the state north of the Platte River, Panhandle and East units, and excluding that area described in 006.01C2a(4).~~

006.01C2e Panhandle Unit

~~006.01C2e(1) Open Season Dates: October 28, 2013 through February 9, 2014.~~

~~006.01C2e(2) Daily Bag Limit: Five (5) geese.~~

~~006.01C2e(3) Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag limit.~~

~~006.01C2e(4) Management Unit Boundary: That area north and west of the Keith-Deuel County line at the Nebraska Colorado state line, north along the Keith County line to U.S.~~

Hwy. 26, west to NE Hwy. 92, east to NE Hwy. 61, north along NE Hwy. 61 to NE Hwy. 2, west along NE Hwy. 2 to the corner formed by Garden Grant-Sheridan Counties, west along the north border of Garden, Morrill, and Scotts Bluff Counties to the intersection of the Interstate Canal, west to the Wyoming state line.

006.01C2f Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

006.01C3 White Fronted Geese

006.01C3a Open Season Dates: October 5 through December 13, 2013 and February 1-2, 2014.

006.01C3b Daily Bag Limit: Two (2) geese, EXCEPT ONE (1) goose during the February dates.

006.01C3c Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag.

006.01C3d Area Open: Statewide except federal or state refuges unless otherwise authorized.

006.01C4 Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

006.01D Crow

006.01D1 Open Season: October 1 through November 15 and January 20 through April 6.

006.01D2 Hours Open: 30 minutes before sunrise to 60 minutes after sunset except during waterfowl

~~seasons when hours are concurrent with waterfowl shooting hours.~~

~~006.01D3 Area Open: Statewide except federal or state refuges, unless otherwise authorized.~~

~~006.01D4 Daily Bag and Possession Limit: No limit.~~

~~006.01E Crow — Public Nuisance/Health Hazard Order~~

~~006.01E1 In Buffalo, Dawson, Franklin, Harlan, Kearney, Lincoln and Phelps counties, the crow is concentrated in such a manner and number as to constitute a public nuisance and a health hazard and may be taken using methods authorized during firearm and archery seasons during the period November 16 through January 19 in addition to the regular hunting season dates. Shooting hours shall be in accordance with the regular crow hunting season as specified in regulations. None of the birds taken pursuant to this section, nor their plumage, shall be sold or offered for sale.~~

~~006.01F 006.01 Youth Waterfowl Hunting Season~~

~~006.01F1 Eligibility: Youth 15 years of age or younger. Youth ages 12 through 15 must be accompanied by an adult at least 18 years old. Youth younger than 12 must be accompanied by an adult at least 19 years old who possesses a valid Nebraska Small Game Permit. In neither case, the adult will not be allowed to shoot ducks, geese, mergansers or coots.~~

~~006.01F2 Species: Ducks, Geese, Mergansers and Coots.~~

~~006.01F3 Season Dates: (Zones and Management Unit Boundaries as in 006.01A5).~~

~~Zone 1: October 5 through 6, 2013.~~

~~Zone 2: September 28 through 29, 2013.~~

~~Zone 3: October 19 through 20, 2013.~~

~~Zone 4: September 28 through 29, 2013.~~

~~006.01F4 Area Open: Statewide except federal or state refuges unless otherwise authorized.~~

~~006.01F5 Daily Bag Limit: Same as allowed in regular duck and merganser (006.01A2), coot (006.01B2) and goose (006.01C1, 006.01C2, 006.01C3) seasons.~~

~~006.01F6 Possession Limit: Same as allowed in regular duck and merganser (006.01A3), coot (006.01B3) and goose (006.01C1, 006.01C2, 006.01C3) seasons.~~

~~006.01F7 Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.~~

~~006.01G Early Teal Season~~

~~006.01G1 Species: Blue winged, Green winged, and Cinnamon Teal.~~

~~006.01G2 Season Dates (Open Season):~~

~~006.01G2a Low Plains Zone (described in 006.01G3a). Sixteen (16) consecutive days beginning the Saturday following Labor Day.~~

~~006.01G2b High Plains Zone (described in 006.01G3a). Nine (9) consecutive days beginning the Saturday following Labor Day.~~

006.01G3 Area Open: That portion of the state south and west of a line beginning from the Iowa border west along U.S. Hwy 30, to NE Hwy 61, north to NE Hwy 92 (just north of Kingsley Dam), west to U.S. Hwy 26 to U.S. Hwy. 385, north to NE Hwy. L62A, west to U.S. Hwy. 26, and then west to the Wyoming border, except federal or state refuges unless otherwise authorized.

006.01G3a

Low Plains Zone — That part of the Area Open described above (006.01G3) that lies east of a line which begins at the juncture of U.S. Hwy. 30 and NE Hwy. 47 in Dawson County; south on NE Hwy. 47 to NE Hwy. 23, east on NE Hwy. 23 to U.S. Hwy. 283, south on U.S. Hwy. 283 to the Kansas Nebraska border.

High Plains Zone — That part of the Area Open described above (006.01G3) that lies west of a line which begins at the juncture of U.S. Hwy. 30 and NE Hwy. 47 in Dawson County; south on NE Hwy. 47 to NE Hwy. 23, east on NE Hwy. 23 to U.S. Hwy. 283, south on U.S. Hwy 283 to the Kansas Nebraska border.

006.01G4 Daily Bag Limit: Six (6) birds singly or in the aggregate of only those species listed in 006.01G1.

006.01G5 Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag.

006.01G6 Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

006.02 Conservation Orders

The Commission may establish conservation orders or similar wildlife management activities for the conservation of

migratory bird populations provided such orders and/or activities are approved by the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or an authorized representative under 50 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 20.

006.02A Geese

006.02A1 Light Geese (Blue, Snow and Ross' Geese)
Zone boundaries are described in 006.01C1g.

006.02A1a Eligibility: Resident persons 16 years of age or older and all nonresidents, regardless of age, participating in a conservation order for the conservation of migratory bird populations shall possess a valid Nebraska Small Game Hunting Permit, valid Nebraska Habitat Stamp, valid Nebraska Migratory Waterfowl Stamp, a Federal Waterfowl Stamp, and shall be registered in Nebraska for the Harvest Information Program (HIP), provided the requirement for the Nebraska Migratory Waterfowl Stamp shall begin January 1, 2006.

006.02A1b Rainwater Basin Zone

006.02A1b(1) Conservation Order Dates: Beginning the first day after the termination date of the Platte River Unit (006.01C2c(1)) dark goose season and through April 1.

006.02A1b(2) Hunting of light geese is not permitted on all lands owned, controlled or managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, except: Harvard and Cottonwood Waterfowl Production Areas.

006.02A1b(3) Hunting of light geese is not permitted within 0.5 mile of an

area bounded by the outermost channel with flowing water on the north and south sides of the Platte River from:

February 10 February 17:
Between NE Hwy. Spur 10D (Shelton) to NE Hwy. 14;

February 18 March 10:
Between NE Hwy. Spur L24B (Overton) to NE Hwy. 14;

March 11 April 1:
Between U.S. Hwy. 281 to NE Hwy. 14, for that portion of the Platte River lying south of Interstate 80;

006.02A1b(4) Hunting of light geese is not permitted within 3.0 miles of an area bounded by the outermost channel with flowing water on the north and south sides of the Platte River for that portion of the Platte River lying south of Interstate 80;

March 11 April 1:
Between NE Hwy. Spur L24B (Overton) to U.S. Hwy. 281.

006.02A1c Prairie Zone

006.02A1c(1) Conservation Order Dates: Beginning the first day after the termination date of the Platte River Unit (006.01C2c(1)) dark goose season and through April 1.

006.02A1c(2) Hunting of light geese is not permitted within 3.0 miles of an area bounded by the outermost channel with flowing water on the north and south sides of the Platte River for

~~that portion of the Platte River lying south of Interstate 80;~~

~~March 11-April 1;~~

~~Between NE Hwy. Spur L24B (Overton) to U.S. Hwy. 281.~~

~~006.02A1d Daily Bag Limit: None.~~

~~006.02A1e Possession Limit: None.~~

~~006.02A1f Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.~~

~~006.02A1g Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.~~

~~006.02A1h Use of Recorded or Amplified calls: Permitted only as defined in 001.02A3 and 001.02A3a.~~

~~006.02A1i Baiting: Prohibited as described in 001.02A7.~~

~~006.02A1j Transporting: Same as defined in 001.02A9.~~

~~006.02A1k Live Decoys: Prohibited as described in 001.02A5.~~

~~006.02A1l Weapons Permitted: Same as those defined in State Statute 37-536 and prohibited in section 001.02A6. The use of shotguns capable of holding more than three shells in magazine and chamber combined: Permitted only as defined in 001.02A4a.~~

~~006.02A1m Nontoxic Shot: Same as those defined in 011.01 and 011.02.~~