

1 Game That May Be Hunted or Killed - Duration of the 2024/25 Season

Species	Season Duration (dates inclusive)	Daily Bag Limit	Hunting Area
Grey/mallard duck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	8	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	8	All areas
Pūkeko	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	10	All areas
Black swan	4 May to 30 Jun 2024	3	All areas
Brown quail	Closed season	0	All areas
California quail	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	10	All areas
Cock pheasant	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	2	All areas

2 Shooting Hours

6.15am to 6.00pm.

3 Decoy Limit

No limit.

4 Special Conditions

- 4.1 No person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, within the Hawke's Bay region with any magazine extensions on a shotgun of 10 gauge or smaller (including 12, 16, 20, 28, .410).
- 4.2 Magazine shotguns must be restricted in such a way that the shotgun is incapable of holding more than two shells in the magazine, with no more than 3 shells in the magazine and chamber combined at any one time.
- 4.2 Any game bird licence holder who has a Department of Conservation authorisation to take or kill wildlife for the purpose of hawking or falconry may hunt with an Australasian Harrier (*Circus approximans*) to take game birds. This is subject to the season length and bag limit for game birds specified in clause 1 of this notice for this Region and subject to any conditions imposed by the Director-General of Conservation under such a permit.

HUNTING IN THE HAWKE'S BAY

The Hawke's Bay Fish and Game region is defined by river catchments, extending north to the Mohaka, west to the Ngaruroro, and southwest to encompass the Tukituki systems, with the southern border reaching the Tautane Stream just south of Cape Turnagain.

WATERFOWL

The mallard, grey duck and hybrids are the most popular game birds of the region. These species respond well to calling and decoying and can be found on most of the region's rivers, streams, dams and lakes. Shoveler are a transient population for most of the season and are renowned for their fast flying and elusiveness.

There are extensive hunting opportunities in the riverbeds of the region. Access is good and well-marked with signs.

A little time spent checking out backwaters pre-season can pay dividends during the season.

Paradise shelduck are wide-spread and can be hunted successfully in most locations. Low-lying farmland with water nearby is ideal for hunting using silhouette decoys. If you want to target parries, the pasture lands and riverbeds are a good place to start. Most landowners are only too happy for hunters to target parries on pasture if they are approached and asked first.

The Hawke's Bay region administers a number of Controlled Shooting Areas throughout the region. Periodically vacancies arise, creating a wetland enhancement and shooting opportunity for local shooters. If you want to shoot this season but don't have anywhere to hunt, give our local Fish and Game office a call.

UPLAND GAME

Hawke's Bay hosts a good population of ring-necked pheasant and varying numbers of California quail, with the best results achieved in scrubby river margins and forestry plantations with blocks of young trees. Pheasants are predominantly hunted in our major river systems with the Waipawa, Tukituki, Ngaruroro and Tutaekuri normally well worth a look. The best hunting is generally where good cover and watering opportunities are found (i.e. river basins), especially where these areas border orchards and/or assorted cropping areas. For most of these areas a dog is recommended as an easy way to cover ground effectively.

A COUPLE OF THINGS TO REMEMBER

Access is a privilege not a right so if in doubt, please ask! Landowners frequently have paradise duck and swan problems and often appreciate flocks being dispersed by hunters. Often, they might offer the opportunity to shoot a vacant pond. In any case the personal courteous approach is by far your best bet.

Please do not leave the bodies or parts of shot game on the hunting ground. If carcasses are left in the field, it can encourage unwanted predators as well as ill feeling from other hunters and the non-hunting public. Please make yourself familiar with the Closed Game Areas and Wildlife Refuges scattered throughout Hawke's Bay.

WILDLIFE REFUGES

1. The bed of the Tuki Tuki River between Waimarama Bridge and a line running from the north of the Mangangara Stream to the road at the southwestern corner of Section 9 and 15 in the Te Mata Survey District (8km upstream of the Waimarama Bridge)
2. Lakes Tutira, Orakei, and Waikopiro and certain surrounding land
3. Horseshoe Lake, Elsthorpe
4. The property of R H, J R, and T R Hartree, Puketitiri
5. The Westshore Ponds 6. The spit south of the mouth of the Ngaruroro River
6. Rakautana Forest, Waikoau
7. Pauhanui Bush, Gwavas Station, Tikokino Bay

CLOSED GAME AREAS

1. Waitangi Estuary:
 - a. Downstream of Clive Bridge.
 - b. From 200m above State Highway 2 downstream on Ngaruroro and Tūtaekurī Rivers.
 - c. Horseshoe and New wetland (upstream side of railway between Ngaruroro and Tūtaekurī backwash).
 - d. From Awatoto south along the coast to (but not including) the left bank of the Tukituki River.
 - e. Grange Creek wetland (right bank of the Tukituki River near pathway and bridge).
2. Whakatu from Flowerlands (near pathway) upstream to Whakatu Railway Bridge.
3. Ruahapia from State Highway 2 downstream for 200m.

4. Havelock North from below The Figgery (Napier Rd) upstream to Louisa Stream (Herehere Wetland).
5. Pukahu on the Karamū Stream from 500m below St Georges Road upstream to the Awanui-Irongate confluence.
6. Pekapeka Wetland from carpark downstream to Stock Road.

For further information on these areas within the Hawke's Bay Fish and Game Region where hunting is prohibited see <https://www.hbrc.govt.nz/hawkes-bay/open-spaces/about/>

POACHING PROBLEMS?

We have set up a **0800 POACHING** (0800-762-244) number. If you witness any offending let us know as soon as possible.

WETLAND CREATION

For information and advice on wetland creation contact the staff at your local Fish & Game offices. Wetlands in the Hawke's Bay Region are now rare. In some parts less than 1% of the original wetlands remain. The Habitat Trust fund is one source of funding for enhancement, purchase or development of wetlands. If you have a proposal to create or enhance a large area of wetland, we may be able to assist you obtaining some funding.

LICENCES

You can now order your game licence through our website www.fishandgame.org.nz