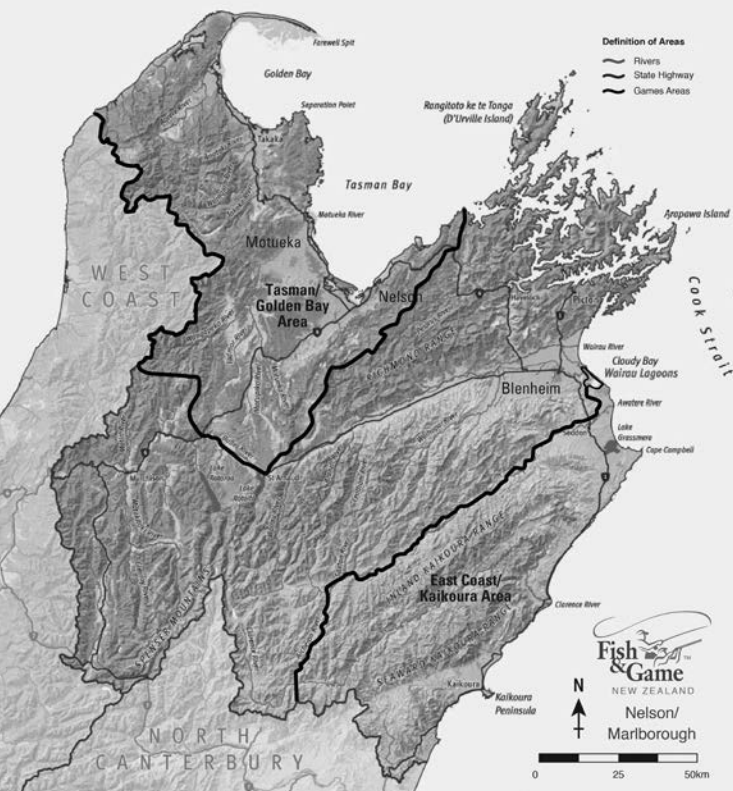


NELSON/MARLBOROUGH - Fish & Game Region⁸

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⁸ Reference to description: Gazette, No. 83, of 24 May 1990, at page 1861.

1 Game That May Be Hunted or Killed - Duration of 2024/2025 Season

<i>Species</i>	<i>Season Duration (dates inclusive)</i>	<i>Daily Bag Limit</i>	<i>Hunting Area</i>
Grey/mallard duck and any hybrid of those species	4 May to 28 Jul 2024	8	All areas
NZ shoveler duck	4 May to 28 Jul 2024	2	All areas
Paradise shelduck	4 May to 28 Jul 2024	10	All areas, except Tasman/Golden Bay area
	4 May to 28 Jul 2024	15	Tasman/Golden Bay area
Pūkeko	4 May to 28 Jul 2024	10	Except East Coast/Kaikoura & Tasman/Golden Bay area
	4 May to 27 Oct 2024	20	Tasman/Golden Bay area
	4 May to 28 Jul 2024	2	East Coast/ Kaikoura area only
	4 Jan 2025 to 23 Feb 2025	20	Tasman/Golden Bay area only
Black swan	4 May to 28 Jul 2024	10	All areas
	10 Aug to 25 Aug 2024	10	All areas
California quail	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	10	All areas
Cock pheasant	4 May and 5 May 2024	1	All publicly administered land
	1 Jun to 3 Jun 2024	1	
	22 and 23 Jun 2024	1	
	20 and 21 Jul 2024	1	
Cock pheasant	4 May to 28 Jul 2024	1	All privately owned land including Crown Forest Land
Chukar	4 May to 25 Aug 2024	2	All areas

2 Definition of Areas

2.1 Wairau Lagoons: That area defined as all open waters, islands and the peninsula between Chandlers Lagoon and Big Lagoon, south of the Wairau River mouth, including Te Aropipi Channel and south to the White Bluffs.

2.2 Tasman/Golden Bay area: The area west of the Bryant/Gordon Range, north of State Highway 63 from St Arnaud to Kawatiri Junction encompassing Tasman & Golden Bays.

2.3 East Coast/Kaikoura Area: The area to the south of the Awatere Valley/Molesworth Road and the Redwood Pass Road.

3 Shooting Hours

6.30am to 6.30pm during May, then 6.45am to 6.15pm until 25 August 2024. For the remaining pūkeko season, sunrise to sunset.

4 Decoy Limit

No limit.

5 Special Conditions

5.1 All permanent hunting stands/maimais used for the purposes of hunting of game on the Wairau Lagoons must be situated above the mean high-water level.

5.2 Moored camouflaged boats are permitted for hunting or killing game in the Wairau Lagoons, but shall not be within 200 metres of any other hunting stand.

5.3 No person may hunt or kill game birds, as specified, within the Nelson/Marlborough Fish and Game region with any magazine extensions on a shotgun of a bore smaller than 10 gauge (including 12, 16, 20, 28, .410).

HUNTING OPPORTUNITIES IN NELSON/ MARLBOROUGH

TASMAN/GOLDEN BAY/MURCHISON

Populations of mallard duck occur throughout this area, including coastal estuaries and lower country farm ponds. While most of the ducks are a mallard/grey (greylard) cross, there are reasonable populations of grey-type ducks in Golden Bay and the Murchison/Maruia area. Paradise shelduck can be found throughout this area in good numbers, especially on dairy farms in Golden Bay, Tasman and the Murchison area. Hunters are encouraged to approach owners of farms who are often willing to allow access in order to reduce the shelduck population. Black swans are in large numbers around Western Golden Bay, including Westhaven Inlet. There are high populations of pukeko in the Tasman/Golden Bay areas, and as a result of increases in the population and crop damage complaints in the past few years, the pukeko season length and area have been

extended to try to alleviate the problems in Nelson/Tasman/Golden Bay only. There are balloted hunting opportunities for Kainui Dam and Gibbs Road – please apply to the Richmond office.

With a cycleway nearby, those hunting the Pearl Creek and Neiman Creek on the Waimea Estuary and the mouth of the Riuwaka River are advised to use caution.

Hunters are advised not to hunt the area between Pugh Road and Brightwater, and the Waimea Park fishing facility and wetland, due to safety issues with high public use of these areas.

Upland game

Limited numbers of pheasant can be found scattered throughout orchards, foothills, forestry edges and river bermlands, particularly in the Waimea, lower Motueka plains and the Moutere. Populations of quail exist on bush/forestry margins, recently felled forest areas and rough land in the warm drier country throughout the district. This hunting is often challenging due to the thick scrub that makes any follow-up (after the initial flush) very difficult. NMF&G has an access agreement with forest management companies Tasman Pine Forests Ltd and OneFortyOne – contact the Richmond office for details.

MARLBOROUGH

The many rivers, streams, flats, estuaries, wetlands, and Marlborough Sounds offer excellent hunting opportunities. Mallards occur throughout the region, and paradise shelduck can be found in good numbers on farms with improved pasture or crops, including estuary margins and rivers adjacent to these farms. Black swans occur in moderate numbers in estuarine reaches. Two excellent public land waterfowl hunting areas close to Blenheim are the Wairau Lagoons and Para Wetland (see below). Top Valley Wetland is also available for balloted hunting opportunities.

Hunting The Wairau Lagoons

The Wairau Lagoons cover about 2000 hectares of saline marsh and mud flats between the Wairau River mouth and the Vernon Estate to the south. Besides the obvious main channels in the northern part of the lagoons and Te Aropipi Channel, which runs along inside the seaward Boulder Bank, few parts of the lagoons are more than a metre deep. The mud in some areas can be very deep, and care should be taken in unfamiliar areas. There is a large population of protected grey teal, and hunters must take care to positively identify their target. Access can be gained via the end of Hardings Road, off Redwood Pass Road (via permit only with strict access conditions - apply to Vaughan Lynn for gate code and access

rules), or from the Wairau Bar using a boat. A permit is required to hunt this area, which is now issued through the Richmond Fish & Game office on behalf of DOC Renwick. An access and information pamphlet is available from either Fish & Game office.

Para Wetland

Para Wetland is a Fish & Game owned wetland with several balloted hunting sites within the wetland. Hunters who wish to hunt the wetland on Opening Weekend are invited to make an application on a ballot form available from the Blenheim office before 31 March. Para Wetland is being developed to improve game bird hunting opportunities, and new sites are becoming available with time.

Upland game

The Marlborough high country offers some of the country's prime quail hunting, although much of this is on private land and requires permission from the landowner. Populations of quail can also be found scattered throughout most riverbeds, notably the Awatere, Wairau and Waihopai catchments, where broken cover



and scrublands exist. Marlborough District Council generally allow quail hunting in the Wairau above the Waihopai, but please check out maps on the Walking Access Commission website for private land boundaries before hunting. NMF&G have negotiated weekend access to some OneFortyOne forest blocks in Marlborough; contact the Richmond office.

Public land chukar hunting is available on Molesworth Station for a limited period, contact the Fish and Game Council office in Richmond for more information.

Farmers who hunt their own property under section 19 of the Wildlife Act 1953 are allowed to do so without having to purchase a licence, although they are subject to this notice and the Regulations. Those farmers who wish to do so can receive a current copy of the regional newsletter and national magazine. Contact the Nelson Fish and Game Council office to place your address on the mailing list.

