

## NDG&F August 18th Newsletter

### SAH Accepting Goose Meat

The North Dakota Community Action Sportsmen Against Hunger program is again accepting donations of goose meat taken during the early Canada goose season. However, Canada geese can only be accepted through Aug. 31.

Similar to last year, hunters can bring in their goose meat to participating processors. However, hunters must remove the breast meat from the birds before processors can accept them.

Hunters can clean their geese at home prior to delivery to a processor, but breast meat brought from home without a wing or head attached to the meat, must be accompanied by written information that includes the hunter's name, address, signature, hunting license number, date taken and species and number taken.

Hunters may also deliver geese directly from the field to a processor, but identification must remain attached to the bird until in possession of the processor.

Since no goose carcasses or feathers are allowed inside processing plants, hunters must be able to ensure proper disposal and clean-up of carcasses.

The list of [participating processors](#) is available on the North Dakota Game and Fish Department website at [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov).

Hunters interested in donating are encouraged to call processors before dropping off geese, to have a clear understanding of how goose breasts will be accepted and the processor's hours of operation.

For more information, visit the CAPND website at [www.capnd.org](http://www.capnd.org), or contact Sarah Hasbargen at 701-232-2452

### Van Eeckhout, Hildebrand in Fishing Hall of Fame

State Game and Fish Department employee Gene Van Eeckhout, and the late Dean Hildebrand, former agency director, were recent inductees into the North Dakota Fishing Hall of Fame.

Van Eeckhout, southeast district fisheries supervisor and 38-year veteran of the Department, was cited for his unselfish dedication to his job and community.

"It is truly special to be recognized with this group of people," Van Eeckhout said. "I have known or had the pleasure of working with 18 out of the 23 who are in the Hall of Fame."

Hildebrand, a life-long ambassador of the state's natural resources, was the Game and Fish director from 1996 until his retirement in 2005. One of the major accomplishments he was instrumental in developing during his tenure was Save Our Lakes, a program that focuses on restoring at-risk fisheries. Dean's wife, Joey, said, "I feel extremely honored because I know he's looking down at this and enjoying every minute of it."

The North Dakota Fishing Hall of Fame is located in Garrison.

## **Deer Archery Season Opens Aug. 29**

North Dakota's deer archery season opens Friday, Aug. 29 at noon, and bowhunters are reminded that deer bow licenses and accompanying tags are only available through electronic purchase.

Bowhunters can buy a license online at the State Game and Fish Department website, [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov); by calling 800-406-6409; or at license vendors in [counties that are linked to the Game and Fish Department's online licensing system](#). Hunters who purchase bow licenses online should allow for several days to receive their tag in the mail.

Bowhunters must follow all regulations of the managing agency when using tree stands on public hunting areas, including displaying the owner's name, address and telephone number on tree stands left unattended on Game and Fish wildlife management areas.

In addition, hunting big game over bait is prohibited on both public and private land in deer unit 3C west of the Missouri River, and all of units 3E1, 3E2, 3F1 and 3F2.

The archery season is open through Jan. 4, 2015. Hunters should refer to the 2014 deer hunting guide for season information and regulations.

## **Fall Turkey Season Set**

North Dakota's fall turkey season is set with 3,805 licenses available to hunters, 215 fewer than last year.

Prospective hunters, including gratis applicants, can apply online, or print out an application to mail, at the State Game and Fish Department website, [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov). Paper applications will be available by Aug. 22 from Game and Fish offices, county auditors and license vendors. The deadline for applying is Sept. 3. Applications are also accepted at the department's toll-free licensing line, 800-406-6409. A service fee is added for license applications made over the phone.

Only North Dakota residents are eligible to apply in the first lottery. Nonresidents can apply for fall turkey licenses that are still available following the first lottery.

An experimental hunting season will continue for the USDA-ARS Northern Great Plains Research Lab in Mandan. A maximum of 30 licenses will be available. These licenses will be available at the Game and Fish Department once a person first obtains a permit from USDA-ARS.

An experimental turkey bow hunting season will continue within the city of Bismarck to help control a growing population of birds in residential areas. A maximum of 25 licenses will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis to individuals who are licensed to bow hunt deer within the city. These licenses will be available at the Game and Fish Department in Bismarck once a person has a valid city archery permit.

A maximum of 75 turkey licenses are available for a concurrent experimental bow season on the North Dakota Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation land south of Bismarck. Licenses will be available at the Game and Fish Department after a person receives an access permit from NDDOCR.

A maximum of 45 turkey licenses will be issued for a concurrent experimental bow season for the city of Fargo and specific surrounding areas. Licenses will be distributed to those licensed to bow hunt deer within the city limits of Fargo, and will be available at the Game and Fish headquarters in Bismarck after a person has received a valid city archery permit.

Hunting units 21 (Hettinger and Adams counties) and 53 (Divide and Williams counties) will remain closed to fall turkey hunting in 2014 because of low turkey numbers.

The fall wild turkey season extends from Oct. 11 through Jan. 4, 2015.

### **Agencies Prohibit Hunting over Bait**

Hunters are reminded that hunting big game over bait is prohibited on all state owned or managed wildlife management areas, all U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service national wildlife refuges and waterfowl production areas, U.S. Forest Service national grasslands, and all North Dakota state school, state park and state forest service lands.

The governor's proclamation relating to chronic wasting disease also includes a provision that prohibits hunting big game over bait on both public and private land in deer unit 3C west of the Missouri River, and all of units 3E1, 3E2, 3F1 and 3F2.

In addition, any firearms, equipment or accessories used by hunters on Private Land Open To Sportsmen acreage may not be left unattended and must be removed when the hunter leaves the area. This includes, but is not limited to, guns, blinds, stands, baits, scents and decoys. This means a hunter cannot place bait on PLOTS prior to or during the season and leave it there. Any bait would have to be brought to the PLOTS with the hunter the same day and taken out with the hunter the same day he/she leaves. Hunting over bait is defined as the placement and/or use of baits for attracting big game and other wildlife to a specific location for the purpose of hunting. Bait, in this case, includes grain, seed, mineral, salt, fruit, vegetable nut, hay or any other natural or manufactured food placed by an individual. Bait does not include agricultural practices, gardens, wildlife food plots, agricultural crops, livestock feeds, fruit or vegetables in their natural location such as apples on or under an apple tree, or unharvested food or vegetables in a garden.