

## NDG&F July 27th Newsletter

### Early Canada Goose Season Announced

North Dakota's early Canada goose season is set, and bag limits and licensing requirements are the same as last year.

The season will open Aug. 15 and continue through Sept. 15, except in the Missouri River Zone where the season ends Sept. 7. The early Canada goose season has a limit of 15 daily and 45 in possession.

Limits and shooting hours for the early season are different from the regular season. Shooting hours during the early season are one-half hour before sunrise to sunset daily.

Residents need a \$5 early Canada goose license and a general game and habitat license. Also, residents age 16 and older need a small game license. Nonresidents need only a \$50 early Canada goose license, and the license is valid statewide without counting against the 14-day regular season license.

A federal duck stamp for hunters age 16 and older, and Harvest Information Program certification, is required beginning Sept. 1.

Hunters who [purchase a license](#) through the North Dakota Game and Fish Department website at [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov), or instant licensing telephone number 800-406-6409, can easily get HIP certified. Otherwise, hunters can call 888-634-4798 and record the HIP number on their fishing, hunting and furbearer certificate. Those who registered to hunt the spring light goose season in North Dakota do not have to register with HIP again, as it is required only once per year.

Waterfowl rest areas, closed to hunting during the regular season, are open during the early season. Most land in these rest areas is private, so hunters may need permission to hunt.

The early hunting season is intended to reduce local Canada goose numbers. Despite liberalized regulations the past several years, with longer seasons, large bag limits and expanded shooting hours, the statewide population remains high, with numbers well above population goals.

For additional [information and regulations](#), hunters should refer to the Game and Fish Department website.

### Game Warden Pilot Exam Set for Aug. 21

The North Dakota Game and Fish Department has scheduled an examination to select candidates for the position of game warden pilot. The test is scheduled for Aug. 21 at 10 a.m., at the department's main office in Bismarck.

Applicants must register to take the exam no later than Aug. 19, by submitting an [online application](#) through the North Dakota State Job Openings website.

Game warden pilot applicants must have a commercial pilot's license for a single engine land with an instrument rating, and hold an FAA Class II medical certificate. Candidates also must have a minimum of

200 hours total flying time and have a clean record without any felony convictions. Applicants must be at least 21 years of age, have a valid driver's license and a current North Dakota peace officer license, or be eligible to be licensed.

Job duties include day and night flights, involving enforcement and administrative flight activities. Responsibilities also include enforcing game and fish laws and other related regulations.

Salary through training is \$3,800 per month. Upon successful completion of training, the salary is \$4,136 - \$6,894 per month. Wardens also receive the state benefits package, including travel allowance. Uniforms and other equipment are provided.

### **Swan Hunt Application Available Online**

The [online application](#) for North Dakota's 2015 tundra swan license lottery is available on the State Game and Fish Department's website, [gf.nd.gov](http://gf.nd.gov). The deadline for applying is Aug. 19.

Paper applications will be available the end of July from Game and Fish offices, county auditors and license vendors. Hunters can also apply by calling 800-406-6409. A service fee is added for license applications made by phone.

North Dakota residents and nonresidents are eligible to apply. The resident swan license is \$10, while the nonresident fee is \$30.

The statewide tundra swan hunting season is Oct. 3 – Jan. 3, 2016. A total of 2,200 licenses are available. Successful applicants will receive a tag to take one swan during the season. Since swans are classified as waterfowl, nonresidents may hunt them only during the period their nonresident waterfowl license is valid.