UTAH DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

UPLAND GAME AND TURKEY

GUIDEBOOK

UTAH DNR

2020-21

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Division offices

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801-538-4700

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Springville, UT 84663
801-491-5678

Northeastern Region
318 N Vernal Avenue
Vernal, UT 84078
435-781-9453

Northern Region
515 E 5300 S
Ogden, UT 84405
801-476-2740

Southeastern Region
319 N Carbonville Road, Ste A
Price, UT 84501
435-613-3700

Southern Region
1470 N Airport Road
Cedar City, UT 84721
435-865-6100

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Hurricane, UT 84737
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WHAT'S NEW?

COVID-19 and Utah's upland game and turkey hunts: Stay informed about COVID-19 pandemic-related changes that might affect your hunts. See the box on page 8 and visit *wildlife.utah.gov/covid*.

Apply for crane, grouse and swan hunts: You can apply for greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane, sharp-tailed grouse and swan permits in the same hunt drawing. The application period runs from July 1–16, 2020. To learn more, see page 11.

Hunt drawing for spring turkey permits: If you hope to hunt turkey on a limited-entry unit or CWMU in 2021, the application period runs from Dec. 1–28, 2020. See page 16 for more information.

Fee increases for nonresident hunters: License, permit and application fees for hunters who are not Utah residents will increase starting July 1, 2020. Many of those increased fees are listed in the tables on page 7. To see all of Utah's license and permit fees, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/licenses/fees.html*.

Change to permit surrender processes: Starting this year, if you need to surrender your greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane, sharp-tailed grouse or limited-entry wild turkey permit, you are strongly encouraged to do so at least 30 days before the season opens. The surrender process has changed and could result in the loss of previously accrued bonus/preference points. For details, see page 19 or visit *wildlife.utah.gov/refund*.

Changes to youth quail and pheasant hunts: There have been changes to the timing and duration of the youth quail and pheasant hunts. For details on all of the youth upland game hunts, please see page 14.

Later start to ptarmigan hunt: The ptarmigan season will start on Sept. 1 this

KNOW THE LAWS

This guidebook summarizes Utah's upland game and turkey hunting laws and rules. Although the guidebook is a convenient quick-reference document for these regulations, it is not an all-encompassing resource.

For an in-depth look at the state's upland game and turkey hunting laws and rules, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/rules*.

You can use the references in the guidebook—such as *Utah Code § 23-20-3* and *Utah Administrative Rule R657-6-4*—to search the Division's website for the detailed statute or rule that underpins the guidebook summary.

If you have questions about a particular rule, call or visit the nearest Division office.

Who makes the rules?

The Utah Wildlife Board passes the rules summarized in this guidebook.

There are seven board members, and each serves a six-year term. Appointed by the governor, board members are not Division employees.

The Division's director serves as the board's executive secretary but does not have a vote on wildlife policies.

Before board members make changes to wildlife rules, they listen to recommendations from Division biologists. They also receive input from the public and various interest groups via the regional advisory council (RAC) process.

If you have feedback or suggestions for board members, you can find their contact information online at *wildlife.utah.gov*.

Wildlife Board members

Randy Dearth
Wade Heaton
Karl Hirst
Donnie Hunter
Bret Selman

Byron Bateman, *Chair*
Kevin Albrecht, *Vice Chair*
Mike Fowlks, *Division Director & Executive Secretary*

year. See season dates and bag limits in the hunt table on page 38.

Longer sandhill crane hunt in Box Elder County: Starting in 2020, the sandhill crane hunt will last 60 days in the East Box Elder County unit. For details, season dates and bag limits, see the hunt tables that begin on page 41.

Brief WMA closures for sponsored pheasant hunts: This year, the Annabella and Pahvant wildlife management areas (WMAs)—and part of the Ogden Bay waterfowl management area—will be closed to the general public on Nov. 14, 2020 for organized, sponsored youth and beginner pheasant hunts. For details, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/upland-game-youth-hunts.html* later this summer.

Clarified tagging requirements: There are updated tagging requirements for greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane, sharp-tailed grouse or wild turkey. For details, see page 31.

Check all season dates: Season dates change every year. For details, see the tables that start on page 37 or the quick-reference calendar on the back cover.

Forfeit preference points for purchase of remaining permits: If you purchase a greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane or sharp-tailed grouse permit that's available after the hunt drawing in 2020, you will lose any preference points you've accrued for that species. To learn more about purchasing these permits, see page 13.

Hunting in Utah State Parks: Hunting of wildlife is allowed within the boundaries of all Utah State Park areas, except those areas and hunts specifically closed by the Utah Division of State Parks and Recreation in *Utah Admin. Rule R651-614*. For details, see page 25 or visit *stateparks.utah.gov/resources/hunting-at-state-parks*.

Nuisance squirrel removal: Although squirrels and other small rodents aren't considered upland game, you do have some options for removing nuisance animals. For details, see the information box on page 33.

And keep in mind

Hunting license required: You must have a valid Utah hunting or combination license before you can apply for or obtain a greater sage-grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, sandhill crane or wild turkey permit. You must also have a valid license in your possession while hunting any upland game species. You can buy your license from a license agent, a Division office or online at *wildlife.utah.gov*. You can also purchase your license by calling 1-800-221-0659.

Get a HIP number online: Registering in the Migratory Game Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) is mandatory if you plan to hunt migratory game birds—including American crow, band-tailed pigeon, mourning dove, sandhill crane or white-winged dove—during the 2020–2021 season. To register, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/uthip*. For more information, please see page 10.

Trial hunting program: People who haven't hunted may be able to try it for the first time without taking Hunter Education. For details, see the box on page 20.

Opportunities for youth: For detailed information on youth hunting opportunities and age requirements, please see the boxes on pages 14 and 17.

Upland Game Slam: This year, the Division is continuing the Upland Game Slam program. Hunters who join the program help improve upland hunting and earn prizes for harvesting various upland game species. For more information, see the box on page 12.

Don't lose your hunting and fishing privileges

If you commit a wildlife violation, you could lose the privilege of hunting and fishing in Utah. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources can suspend the license of anyone who knowingly, intentionally or recklessly violates wildlife laws. Your license can be suspended for a wildlife violation if:

- You are convicted.
- You plead guilty or no contest.
- You enter a plea in abeyance or diversion agreement.

Suspension proceedings are separate and independent from criminal prosecution. The Utah Division of Wildlife Resources may suspend your license privileges whether or not the court considers suspension in your criminal case. You will be notified of any action against your privilege after criminal proceedings conclude. And remember, if your license is suspended in Utah, you may not be permitted to hunt or fish in most other states. (Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/know-the-consequences.html* to see a map of participating states.)

Maps and boundaries on Utah Hunt Planner: The Utah Hunt Planner contains information on Utah's hunting units, including unit maps, boundary descriptions and species distributions. To learn more about the hunt planner, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/huntplanner*.

Walk-in Access program requirement: If you plan to hunt on Utah's Walk-in Access properties in 2020–2021, you'll need to obtain an authorization number. For details, see the information box on page 26.

Other permits available: Beginning July 30 at 8 a.m. MDT, you can obtain the free permits required for hunting band-tailed pigeon and white-tailed ptarmigan. Permits are available at *wildlife.utah.gov* and from license agents and Division offices.

Corrections: If errors are found in this guidebook after it is printed, the Division will correct them in the electronic copy that is posted at *wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks*.

Protection from discrimination: The Division receives federal financial assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, Title II of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, the U.S. Department of the Interior and its bureaus prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, disability or sex. If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility, or if you desire further information, please visit *www.doi.gov/pmb/eeo/public-civil-rights.cfm*.

Private lands: The Division cannot guarantee access to any private land. Under certain circumstances, you must obtain written permission from the landowner or the landowner's authorized representative before hunting on private lands. For more information, please see *Trespassing* on page 26.

Division funding: The Division is mostly funded by the sale of hunting and fishing licenses and through federal aid made possible by an excise tax on the sale of firearms and other hunting- and fishing-related equipment.

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KEY DATES

Grouse and sandhill crane application dates

Apply online	July 1, 2020
Application deadline	July 16, 2020
Drawing results available	Aug. 3, 2020
Remaining permits available	Aug. 13, 2020

Turkey application and purchase dates

Fall 2020 general-season permits available	Sept. 3, 2020
Limited-entry applications available online	Dec. 1, 2020
Application deadline	Dec. 28, 2020
Drawing results available	Jan. 7, 2021
Remaining limited-entry permits available	Feb. 25, 2021
Spring general-season permits available	Feb. 25, 2021

Three-day nonresident small game license

If you're not a resident of Utah and you'll only be in the state for a short time, you can hunt upland game without paying the full price for a nonresident license.

A three-day nonresident small game license is now available for $42. (Fees for nonresident licenses, permits and applications increased on July 1, 2020. See page 7 for details.)

You can purchase a three-day small game license online at *wildlife.utah.gov* or from license agents and Division offices.

Note: A three-day license does not allow you to apply for or obtain any Utah hunting permits.

FEES

Resident license fees

License	Fee
365-day hunting license (age 13 and under)	$11
365-day hunting license (ages 14–17)	$16
365-day hunting license (ages 18–64)	$34
365-day hunting license (age 65 and older)	$25
365-day hunting license for disabled veterans (see the box on page 10 for details)	$25.50
Multi-year hunting license (age 18 and older)	$33 per year, up to five years
365-day combination* license (ages 14–17)	$20
365-day combination* license (ages 18–64)	$38
365-day combination* license (age 65 and older)	$29
365-day combination* license for disabled veterans (see the box on page 10 for details)	$28.50
Multi-year combination* license (age 18 and older)	$37 per year, up to five years

** A combination license allows you to hunt or fish in Utah and also allows you to fish with a second pole.*

Boundary maps online

Looking for a map of your hunting area? Maps of all hunt boundaries, species distributions, Walk-in Access areas and wildlife management areas are available at *wildlife.utah.gov/huntplanner*.

Nonresident license fees

New this year: License, permit and application fees for nonresident hunters will increase starting July 1, 2020. The increased license fees are listed in the table below. For a complete list of Utah's license and permit fees, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/licenses/fees.html*.

License	Fee
3-day small game license (any age)	$42
365-day hunting license (age 17 and younger)	$29
365-day hunting license (age 18 and older)	$72
Multi-year hunting license (age 18 and older)	$71 per year, up to five years
365-day combination* license (age 17 and younger)	$33
365-day combination* license (age 18 and older)	$98
Multi-year combination* license (age 18 and older)	$97 per year, up to five years

** A combination license allows you to hunt or fish in Utah and also allows you to fish with a second pole.*

Upland game permit fees

New this year: License, permit and application fees for nonresident hunters will increase starting July 1, 2020. The increased fees are listed in the table below. For a complete list of Utah's license and permit fees, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/licenses/fees.html*.

Greater sage-grouse permit	$0†
Sandhill crane permit (resident)	$15†
Sandhill crane permit (nonresident)	$17†
Sharp-tailed grouse permit	$0†
Band-tailed pigeon permit	$0
White-tailed ptarmigan permit	$0

† There is a nonrefundable application or handling fee to obtain this permit. Residents will be charged $10, and nonresidents will be charged $15.

Resident turkey permit fees

Turkey limited-entry permit	$35§
Turkey general-season permit	$35
Turkey general-season permit (youth)	$25
CWMU turkey permit	$35§

Nonresident turkey permit fees

New this year: License, permit and application fees for nonresident hunters will increase starting July 1, 2020. The increased fees are listed in the table below. For a complete list of Utah's license and permit fees, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/licenses/fees.html*.

Turkey limited-entry permit	$115§
Turkey general-season permit	$115
CWMU turkey permit	$115§

§There is a nonrefundable application fee if you apply for this permit through the hunt drawing. Residents will be charged $10, and nonresidents will be charged $15.
If you obtain a permit that remains available after the drawing, the application fee does not apply.

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BASIC REQUIREMENTS

Are you planning to hunt upland game or wild turkey in Utah this year? Before you head into the field, make sure you meet Utah's hunter education and license requirements. And, if you plan to hunt migratory game birds, you must also obtain a Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration number. This section explains how to meet these requirements.

Are you old enough?

Utah Code § 23-19-11

In Utah, there are no age restrictions for upland game or turkey hunters. If you have passed a Division-approved hunter education course, then you can hunt upland game and turkey in Utah, regardless of your age.

Adults must accompany young hunters

Utah Code § 23-20-20

While hunting with any weapon, a person age 13 or younger must be accompanied by his or her parent, legal guardian or other responsible person who is 21 years of age or older and who has been approved by the parent or guardian.

A person who is 14 or 15 years old must be accompanied by a person 21 years of age or older while hunting with any weapon.

The Division encourages adults to be familiar with hunter education guidelines or to complete the hunter education course before accompanying youth into the field.

While in the field, the youth and the adult must remain close enough for the adult to see and provide verbal assistance to the young hunter. Using electronic devices, such as two-way radios or cell phones, does not meet this requirement.

Is hunter education required?

Utah Code § 23-19-11 & Utah Admin. Rule R657-23

If you were born after Dec. 31, 1965, you must provide proof that you've passed a hunter education course approved by the Division before you can apply for or obtain a hunting or combination license.

The only exception to this law is for individuals who are participating in the Division's Trial Hunting Program. You can find details about the program on page 20 or by visiting *wildlife.utah.gov/trial*.

How will COVID-19 affect the upland game and turkey hunts?

Although the COVID-19 pandemic has drastically affected all of our lives this year, there are currently no plans to close any of Utah's 2020-2021 upland game or turkey hunts.

With that said, there are federal, state and local regulations beyond our control, and we have no way to know exactly which regulations will be in place this fall.

You can learn about those regulations—and stay informed about any other pandemic-related changes—by visiting *wildlife.utah.gov/covid*.

We will also use email and our social media channels to communicate changes that may affect you and your hunt. Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/stay-connected.html* to sign up for email updates and to follow us on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube.

We hope you and your loved ones have fun, successful hunts during the upcoming seasons—stay safe out there!

Proof of hunter education

You can prove that you've completed hunter education by obtaining a hunter education card (called a "blue card" in Utah) or if you have a verified hunter education number on file with the Division. The number is assigned when you complete hunter education and your blue card is issued.

How to take hunter education

To get started, you should visit *wildlife.utah.gov/huntereducation*. You'll see links to various traditional and online hunter education courses. Follow the instructions on the website to obtain a hunter education registration certificate (required) and to register for a course online.

If you need assistance, please contact your local Division office or call 801-538-4727.

When you finish the course, your instructor will verify your course completion in the online hunter education system. At that point, you will be able to apply for or obtain permits in the Division's hunt drawings, and your hunter education registration certificate will become your hunting license.

Approximately four to six weeks after you complete the course, you will receive your blue card by mail.

You should also keep the following in mind:

- Hunters under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult while hunting.
- All hunting regulations, including season dates and bag limits, will apply.
- Hunters who are planning to hunt out of state should allow enough time for their hunter education card to arrive in the mail.

New to Utah?

If you become a Utah resident, and you've completed a hunter education course in another state, province or country, you must obtain a Utah blue card before you can buy a resident hunting license. You can obtain a Utah blue card at any Division office by providing proof that you've completed a hunter education course approved by the Division.

Do you have a license?

Utah Code §§ 23-19-1 and 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-54-3

You must possess a valid hunting license or a combination license to hunt upland game in Utah. You must also have one of these licenses before you can apply for or obtain a permit to hunt greater sage-grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, sandhill crane or wild turkey.

New this year: Starting July 1, 2020, all license, permit and application fees for non-resident hunters will increase. For details, see page 7 or visit *wildlife.utah.gov/licenses/fees.html.*

Here's the difference between a hunting license and a combination license:

- A hunting license allows you to hunt small game, including upland game and waterfowl.
- A combination license allows you to fish and hunt small game in Utah.

It costs less to buy a combination license than it does to buy separate hunting and fishing licenses.

Licenses are available at *wildlife.utah.gov* and from license agents and Division offices. You can also purchase a license by calling 1-800-221-0659. The line is staffed 24 hours a day, seven days a week. In addition to the fee for the license, you'll also be charged a $2 transaction fee for each item you buy.

You must carry your license and any applicable permits with you while you're hunting upland game, and you cannot alter, transfer or lend your license or permit to another person.

Do you have a HIP number?

50 CFR 20.20 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-3

In addition to your license, if you're hunting migratory game birds—American crow, band-tailed pigeon, mourning dove, sandhill crane or white-winged dove—you must obtain a Migratory Game Bird Harvest Information Program (HIP) registration number for Utah.

Obtain your HIP number online

To obtain a Utah HIP number, just visit *wildlife.utah.gov/uthip* from any computer, smartphone or tablet and complete a few brief questions.

You will need to provide information about any migratory game bird hunts you participated in during the 2019–2020 season.

When you complete the registration process, your new HIP number will appear on the screen. You can also choose to have it emailed to you.

Duck stamp not required

You do **not** need a federal duck stamp to hunt any of the species regulated in this guidebook, but you may need a HIP number for some species. You will need a federal duck stamp if you are going to hunt any species regulated in the *2020–21 Utah Waterfowl Guidebook*. See page 9 of the Waterfowl Guidebook for more information about duck stamp requirements.

If you need help while registering for a HIP number, please call any Division office (see page 2) from Mon.–Fri., 8 a.m.–5 p.m.

Once you've obtained your HIP number, you must write the number in the space provided on your current hunting license.

You can also enter and save your HIP number on the Utah Hunting and Fishing app. The app is available at *wildlife.utah.gov/mobileapp*.

Discounted licenses for disabled veterans

To thank our servicemen and servicewomen, the Division offers discounted hunting and combination licenses to Utah veterans who were disabled in the line of duty.

The discounted hunting license is $25.50, instead of the $34 full price. Likewise, the discounted combination license is $28.50, instead of the $38 full price. Either license is good for 365 days from the day you buy it. Discounted licenses are available from all Division offices listed on page 2.

To purchase a discounted hunting or combination license, you must be a Utah resident and have a qualifying service-connected disability of at least 20 percent.

To apply for a license online, please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/disabledvet* and complete the online form. If you need assistance, please call the nearest Division office.

If you choose to visit a Division office to purchase your license, simply bring the verification of service-connected disability documentation that the Department of Veterans Affairs issued to you.

For more information, please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/disabled* or call the nearest Division office.

HOW TO OBTAIN AN UPLAND GAME PERMIT

After you meet the basic hunting requirements (see page 8), you should determine whether you need any additional permits. There are a few upland game hunts that require you to obtain a separate permit before you can head into the field. This section outlines the types of permits available and explains how to apply for or obtain them. You'll also find information about group applications, preference points and the youth hunt drawing.

Types of permits

Utah Code §§ 23-19-1 and 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-4 and R657-6-5

You must obtain a permit if you want to hunt the following upland game species:

- Band-tailed pigeon
- Greater sage-grouse (a two-bird permit)
- Sandhill crane (a one-bird permit)
- Sharp-tailed grouse (a two-bird permit)
- White-tailed ptarmigan

For each of the above species, you may only obtain one permit.

Band-tailed pigeon and white-tailed ptarmigan permits are available at *wildlife.utah.gov*, and from license agents and Division offices, beginning July 30 at 8 a.m. MDT.

The permits for greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane and sharp-tailed grouse are available through the state's hunt drawing.

Applying for a permit (new)

Utah Admin. Rules R657-62-21 and R657-42-8

To hunt greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane or sharp-tailed grouse in Utah, you must draw a permit in the hunt drawing. You can apply for the drawing online at *wildlife.utah.gov* from July 1–16, 2020.

You must have a valid Utah hunting or combination license to apply for or obtain a greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane or sharp-tailed grouse permit. You must also have a valid hunting or combination license in order to hunt any upland game species. If your hunting license expires before the applicable hunting season ends, you'll have to buy a new license to hunt the remainder of the season.

New this year: As of July 1, 2020, all license, permit and application fees have increased for nonresident hunters. You can see the new nonresident fees on page 7.

And don't forget: You may also apply for a swan permit when you apply for grouse and crane permits in the hunt drawing. For details, see pages 11–14 of the *2020–21 Utah Waterfowl Guidebook*.

If you don't want to apply for a permit this year, but you want a better chance of drawing one next year, you can apply for a preference point instead.

Please note the following dates if you want to apply for permits or preference points.

July 1: Apply online for permits or preference points (new)

Beginning July 1, 2020, you can visit *wildlife.utah.gov* to apply for greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane and sharp-tailed grouse permits or preference points. You may apply for one permit or preference point per species each year.

Both residents and nonresidents may apply. Groups of up to four people may also apply. For more information, please see *Applying as a group* on page 12.

Application fees are charged to your credit or debit card when your application is processed. Your application can be rejected if your credit or debit card is invalid or refused. A permit fee is charged only if you are successful in drawing a permit. For a list of permit fees, see page 7.

New this year: As of July 1, 2020, all license, permit and application fees have increased for nonresident hunters. The application fee is $10 for residents and $15 for nonresidents. If you purchase your hunting or combination license during the application process, you'll also be charged a license fee. You won't be charged a permit fee unless you draw a permit that has a permit fee. (Some of the permits are free, except for the application fee.) You can see all the new nonresident fees on page 7.

You can use American Express, Discover, MasterCard and VISA credit or debit cards as payment. You can also use a pre-paid credit card. Please keep in mind that the Division is not responsible for any bank charges incurred for the use of credit or debit cards.

All credit or debit cards must be valid through September 2020. To change the credit or debit card associated with your application, call 1-800-221-0659 or visit *utah-hunt.com*.

July 16: Deadline for permit applications and preference points

Your application must be submitted through *wildlife.utah.gov* no later than 11 p.m. MDT on July 16, 2020. If you need help with your online application, please call any Division office before 5 p.m. MDT on July 16. A Division employee will be available to help you.

July 16: Deadline to withdraw and resubmit your application

Did you make a mistake in your online permit application? Simply withdraw your original online application and submit a new, correct application before 11 p.m. MDT on July 16, 2020.

You must have your confirmation number, your customer ID and your date of birth in order to withdraw your application. For each new application you submit, you will be charged a nonrefundable application fee.

If you need help with your online application, please call any Division office before 5 p.m. MDT on July 16, 2020.

Upland Game Slam program

The Division's Upland Game Slam program partners with multiple conservation organizations. Hunters who join the program contribute directly to funding upland game habitat projects and earn prizes for harvesting various upland game species. Goals of the program include:

- Encourage hunters to improve their upland game identification skills
- Help hunters learn more about upland game habitats and behavior
- Raise money for upland game-specific projects
- Create friendly competition among hunters

To learn more about the program, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/uplandslam*.

July 16: Deadline to withdraw your application

If you decide not to hunt, you can withdraw your online permit application until 11 p.m. MDT on July 16, 2020. Application fees are not refundable.

August 3: Drawing results available

You'll be notified of the drawing results by email on or before Aug. 3, 2020. You can also learn the drawing results by calling 1-800-221-0659 or by visiting *wildlife.utah.gov*.

Note: Drawing results are not final until you receive an official notification email. If you draw a permit, you'll receive your permit in the mail in August.

August 13: Remaining permits available (new)

If any permits remain after the hunt drawing, they will be available beginning Aug. 13, 2020. Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/uplandgame* in early August to see purchase times and locations. .

New this year: If you obtain a permit that remains available after the hunt drawing, you will **lose** any preference points you've accrued for that species.

Applying as a group

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-21

Instead of applying as an individual hunter, you and your friends and family can apply as a group for each of the following hunts:

- Greater sage-grouse
- Sandhill crane
- Sharp-tailed grouse

Up to four hunters—including both residents and nonresidents—can apply together for greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane and sharp-tailed grouse permits.

Important: If you're a youth and you want an opportunity to draw one of the permits reserved for youth, do **not** apply in a group with an adult. Up to **four youth hunters** can apply to hunt together in a **youth-only group**. This allows youth to hunt grouse or cranes with siblings, friends and cousins.

When you apply in a youth-only group for one of these hunts, all hunters must meet the age requirement for the application to be processed as a youth-only application.

For details on applying as a group for swan permits, see page 12 of the *2020–21 Utah Waterfowl Guidebook*.

Youth upland game drawing process

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-21

Fifteen percent of this year's greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane and sharp-tailed grouse permits are reserved for youth hunters.

You are considered a youth if you will be 17 years old or younger on July 31, 2020.

You can submit an application as an individual hunter or as a member of a youth-only group. For more information on applying as part of a youth-only group, see the column to the right.

Preference points (new)

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-9

Preference points are used to ensure that applicants who are unsuccessful—or who apply only for preference points for greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane and sharp-tailed grouse—will have an advantage in the next year's drawing for the respective permits.

A preference point is awarded for each unsuccessful greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane and sharp-tailed grouse application.

If you don't want to apply for a permit this year, but you want a better chance of drawing one next year, you can apply for a preference point instead. You will be charged a nonrefundable application fee for every preference point you apply for (limit one per species).

The application period is from July 1–16, 2020.

New this year: If you obtain a greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane or sharp-tailed grouse permit that remains available after the hunt drawing, you will **lose** any preference points you've accrued for that species.

How preference points work in the drawing

Starting with the highest point level, the drawing looks at the hunter's first choice. If a permit is available for the hunt, the permit is awarded. (In the case of a group application, permits are awarded if there are enough permits for the people in the group.) If permits

Youth hunts for upland game

Utah's youth upland game hunts are open to all youth who have a valid hunting license.

New this year: Some youth upland game hunts have changed this year. See below for details.

Youth chukar and gray partridge hunts

The youth chukar and gray partridge hunts will be held statewide Sept. 19–21, 2020. To participate in these hunts, you must be 17 years of age or younger on July 31, 2020.

For shooting hours, see page 45. For bag and possession limits, see the hunt tables that begin on page 37.

Youth quail hunt (new)

New this year: The youth quail hunt will be held statewide and will now begin the last Saturday of October. This year, it will run from Oct. 31–Nov. 2, 2020. By moving the youth hunt closer to the general quail opener, the Division hopes more youth will take advantage of this hunting opportunity.

To participate in the youth quail hunt, you must be 17 years of age or younger on July 31, 2020.

For shooting hours, see page 45. For bag and possession limits, see the hunt tables that begin on page 37.

Youth pheasant hunt (new)

New this year: The youth pheasant hunt will be held statewide, will begin the last Saturday of October and will be extended until the first Thursday of November. This year, it will run from Oct. 31–Nov. 5, 2020.

By moving the youth hunt closer to the general pheasant opener, the Division hopes more youth will take advantage of this hunting opportunity. The youth hunt extension should give more young hunters a chance to harvest birds.

To participate in this hunt, you must be 17 years of age or younger on July 31, 2020.

For shooting hours, see page 47. For bag and possession limits, see the hunt tables on the back cover.

Adult hunting partner

All hunters under the age of 16 must be accompanied by a person 21 years of age or older who has been approved by the youth's parent or legal guardian.

Additional hunt opportunities

Youth can take advantage of some additional hunt opportunities this year. A few sponsored youth and beginner pheasant hunts will be offered during the upland game season. For more information, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/uplandyouth*.

For more information about youth turkey hunts, please see the information box on page 17.

are not available, the application is skipped, and the first choice of the next person is considered.

After all first choices have been considered at that preference point level, the drawing will look at the first choices of hunters at the next-highest preference point level. After all the applicants' first choices have been considered, the drawing will look at everyone's second choices. This process continues in the same way for third, fourth and fifth choices. If you draw a permit, you will lose all of your preference points.

Preference points are averaged and rounded down when two or more applicants apply as a group. For example, if hunter A with three preference points and hunter B with zero preference points apply as a group, the preference points are averaged (1.5) and rounded down to one.

Eligibility to obtain a preference point

If you are eligible to obtain a greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane or sharp-tailed grouse permit, you are eligible to apply for a preference point for that hunt.

You cannot apply for both a permit and a preference point for the same species.

You cannot apply for a greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane or sharp-tailed grouse permit or a preference point if you are currently under wildlife license suspension.

Surrendering your permit (new)

If you need to surrender your greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane or sharp-tailed grouse permit—and your hunting season hasn't started—you should consider surrendering the permit as soon as possible. If you surrender early enough, you'll be able to keep your preference points.

New this year: If you surrender a permit at least 30 days before the start of the season, you'll get all of your previously accrued preference points back for that species, but you will not earn a point for the current year. **Important: If you surrender a permit less than 30 days before the season opens, you will lose all of your previously accrued preference points for that species, and you will not earn a point for the current year.**

To learn more about surrendering a permit, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/refund*.

Group surrender

New this year: If you obtain a greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane or sharp-tailed grouse permit through a group application—and then you decide to surrender it—you will not have your preference points reinstated unless your **entire** group meets the following conditions:

- All group members must surrender their permits
- Permit surrenders must occur at least 30 days before the start of the season

Note: Even if you meet the above conditions, you will not earn a point for the current year.

Important: If some of your group members surrender their permits **less than 30 days** from the season opener, **all** group members will lose **all** of their preference points for that species.

Members of the group may not surrender their permits individually unless the surrender occurs because of:

- Activation in the military
- An injury or illness that will prevent the individual from hunting
- Death

Permit refunds (new)

Utah Code § 23-19-38 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-42

The Division rarely issues refunds for permits, licenses or certificates of registration, but there are some exceptions. To see if you're eligible for a refund, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/refund*.

New this year: If you are eligible for a refund, you must submit all required forms and accompanying paperwork within 90 days of the season ending in order to qualify for a full refund.

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HOW TO OBTAIN A TURKEY PERMIT

After you meet Utah's hunter education and license requirements (see page 8), you can apply for or obtain a wild turkey permit. You must have a turkey permit before you can hunt turkeys in Utah. This section provides information about the different types of turkey permits, the permit application process, bonus points, applying with a group and important dates for turkey hunters.

Types of turkey permits

There are a variety of wild turkey permits available to hunters:

- Limited-entry permits (spring)
- General-season permits (spring and fall)
- Conservation permits (spring)
- Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU) permits (spring)
- Poaching-reported reward permits (spring)

You may obtain one permit for the spring season and up to three permits for the fall season.

Please remember that you must carry the turkey permit on your person while you're hunting. You cannot alter your permit or transfer it to another person.

Limited-entry permits

Limited-entry turkey permits are available through the state's turkey permit drawing.

You can enter the permit drawing by applying online at *wildlife.utah.gov* during the turkey application period, which will be open from Dec. 1–28, 2020.

If you are successful in the drawing, your limited-entry permit will authorize you to harvest one bearded turkey on a specific limited-entry area during the 2021 limited-entry season.

Most mature male turkeys have a beard, and about 20% of mature female turkeys have one too. Please see page 30 to learn what a beard looks like and where it's located on a turkey.

Fifteen percent of Utah's turkey limited-entry permits are reserved for young hunters (those who are 17 years old and younger by July 31, 2021). For more information on this opportunity for youth, see the information box on page 17.

If a youth obtains a limited-entry permit but does not harvest during the limited-entry season, he or she will be allowed to continue hunting during the spring general-season youth hunt and the spring general season. During the general-season hunts, the youth may hunt in the statewide general-season area.

For more information on the limited-entry areas, see page 39.

Turkey application period

The 2021 turkey application period will be open from Dec. 1–28, 2020. Here's what you need to know in order to apply for a turkey limited-entry permit or a bonus point (see page 18 for more information about bonus points):

- Before you can apply, you must have a valid Utah hunting or combination license. If you don't already have one of these licenses, you can buy one online when you apply.
- You can apply online at *wildlife.utah.gov* until 11 p.m. MST on Dec. 28.

If you need help with your online application, please call any Division office before 5 p.m. MST on Dec. 28, 2020. A Division employee will be available to help you.

Turkey hunting opportunities for youth

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-25 and R657-54-20

If you're a youth hunter, make sure you understand all of the opportunities you have to hunt and harvest a wild turkey.

You may obtain one permit for the spring season (limited-entry or general-season) and up to three permits for the fall season.

Limited-entry permits for youth

Fifteen percent of Utah's turkey limited-entry permits have been set aside for young hunters.

If you'll be 17 years old or younger on July 31, 2021, you'll be eligible for the youth permit drawing when you apply for your permit.

You can submit an application as an individual hunter or as a member of a youth-only group. For more information on applying as part of a youth-only group, see page 13.

With a turkey limited-entry permit, you can hunt only the region listed on your permit from April 10–29, 2021. And, if you don't harvest a turkey during the limited-entry season, you may participate in the spring general-season youth hunt and the spring general season. Once the general-season hunts begin, you may hunt in the statewide general-season area.

General-season permits and the youth-only hunt

If you're a youth who obtains a turkey general-season permit, you can participate in Utah's Youth Turkey Hunt from April 30–May 2, 2021. (See page 45 for shooting hours.) This hunt will be restricted to youth who are 17 years old or younger on July 31, 2021.

If you do not harvest a turkey during the youth hunt, you can continue to hunt during the turkey general season, which runs from May 3–31, 2021.

Fifteen percent of the fall general-season permits will also be set aside for youth. For more information about fall turkey permits, see page 19.

Youth under the age of 16 must be accompanied by an adult in the field. Please see page 8 for more information about this requirement.

For information on youth upland game hunts, please see the information box on page 14.

Applying as a group

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-25

Instead of applying as an individual hunter, you and your friends and family can apply as a group for limited-entry turkey permits.

Up to four hunters—including both residents and nonresidents—can apply together. If your group is successful in the drawing, all of the applicants in your group who have valid applications will receive a permit.

Important: If you're a youth and you want an opportunity to draw one of the wild turkey permits reserved for youth, do **not** apply in a group with an adult. Up to **four youth hunters** can apply to hunt together in a **youth-only group**. This allows youth to hunt wild turkeys with siblings, friends and cousins.

When you apply in a youth-only group for this hunt, all hunters must meet the age requirement for the application to be processed as a youth-only application.

Permit application fees (new)

Utah Code § 23-19-38 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-6

There is a nonrefundable application fee when you apply for a turkey limited-entry permit or a bonus point.

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wildlife.utah.gov

New this year: As of July 1, 2020, all license, permit and application fees have increased for nonresident hunters. You can see the new nonresident fees on page 7.

The nonrefundable application fee is $10 for residents and $15 for nonresidents. The application fee will be charged to your credit or debit card when your application is processed. Permit fees are charged later, if you are successful in the drawing. If you purchase your hunting or combination license during the application process, you'll also be charged a license fee.

You can use American Express, Discover, MasterCard and VISA credit or debit cards as payment. You can also use a pre-paid credit card. Your application can be voided if your credit or debit card is invalid or refused. Please keep in mind that the Division is not responsible for any bank charges incurred for the use of credit or debit cards.

All credit or debit cards must be valid through March 2021. To change the credit or debit card associated with your application, call 1-800-221-0659 or visit *utah-hunt.com*.

Remaining permits

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-14

Starting Feb. 25, 2021 at 8 a.m. MST, any remaining turkey limited-entry permits will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis. If available, these permits will be listed online at *wildlife.utah.gov/remaining-permits.html.*

Important: If you purchase a remaining limited-entry permit, you will lose any bonus points you've accrued for wild turkey.

Waiting periods

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-25

Waiting periods do not apply to turkey limited-entry permits.

Bonus points

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-8

A turkey bonus point system was started in 2000 to increase your chance of drawing a limited-entry turkey permit.

Here's a quick look at how your bonus points work in the drawing:

- Fifty percent of the permits for each limited-entry hunting unit are reserved for applicants who have the greatest number of bonus points.
- You receive a random drawing number for your current turkey application and a random drawing number for every turkey bonus point you have. Your lowest random number is then used in the drawing. (The lower your number, the better your chance at drawing a permit.)

How bonus points are earned:

- You receive a bonus point each time you're unsuccessful in drawing a limited-entry turkey permit.
- If you don't plan to hunt a turkey during the upcoming limited-entry season, you may apply for a bonus point only. Simply select the appropriate hunt choice code (TKY) on the application and pay the application fee.

Depredation hunts

When wild turkeys cause material damage to private property, the Division may hold hunts that are not listed in this guidebook. These hunts are called depredation hunts. They may occur on short notice, involve small areas and are often limited to only a few hunters.

To apply for the depredation hunter pool each year, you must visit *wildlife.utah.gov/depredation* between July 1 and January 31 to complete and submit an online application.

- You may apply for either a limited-entry turkey permit or a bonus point, but not both.

You cannot apply for or receive a bonus point if your hunting privileges are suspended for turkey or small game.

Once you draw a limited-entry or CWMU permit—or obtain a remaining limited-entry permit—you lose any bonus points you've accumulated. You'll start earning bonus points again the next time you apply for a limited-entry or CWMU turkey permit and are unsuccessful in that year's drawing.

Note: You will not lose your bonus points if you purchase a turkey general-season permit.

Surrendering your permit (new)

If you need to surrender your limited-entry wild turkey permit—and your hunting season hasn't started—you should consider surrendering the permit as soon as possible. If you surrender early enough, you'll be able to keep your bonus points.

New this year: If you surrender a limited-entry turkey permit at least 30 days before the start of the season, you'll get all of your previously accrued bonus points back, but you will not earn a point for the current year. **Important: If you surrender your permit less than 30 days before the season opens, you will lose all of your previously accrued bonus points, and you will not earn a point for the current year.**

To learn more about surrendering a permit, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/refund*.

Group surrender

New this year: If you obtain a limited-entry wild turkey permit through a group application—and then you decide to surrender it—you will not have your bonus points reinstated unless your **entire** group meets the following conditions:

- All group members must surrender their permits
- Permit surrenders must occur at least 30 days before the start of the season

Note: Even if you meet the above conditions, you will not earn a point for the current year.

Important: If some of your group members surrender their permits **less than 30 days** from the season opener, **all** group members will lose **all** of their bonus points for that species.

Members of the group may not surrender their permits individually unless the surrender occurs because of:

- Activation in the military
- An injury or illness that will prevent the individual from hunting
- Death

General-season permits

Utah Admin. Rule R657-54-20

Utah will again hold general-season turkey hunts in the fall of 2020. These hunts will be in addition to the spring general-season hunt of 2021. Here's what you need to know about obtaining permits for the general-season hunts.

Fall 2020 general-season hunts

This fall, you can obtain up to three general-season turkey permits. There will be a limited number of permits for four general-season turkey hunts in the following regions:

- Central Region
- Northern Region
- Southeastern Region
- Southern Region

Important: Only specified areas within each of these regions will be open to hunting during the fall. A permit allows you to hunt all

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of the specified areas within a region. These hunt areas are comprised of all or largely private property. To see hunt boundary maps, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/huntplanner* in August 2020.

Permits for the fall 2020 general-season turkey hunts will be available beginning Sept. 3, 2020. Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/uplandgame* in August to see purchase times and locations.

Fifteen percent of Utah's fall general-season turkey permits are reserved for youth (those who are 17 years old and younger by July 31, 2020). For more information on opportunities for youth, see the information box on page 17.

Keep in mind: Fall turkey hunts are designed to reduce turkey populations and address conflicts between turkeys and landowners. For this reason, female harvest is encouraged. If you obtain one or more permits for any of the fall turkey hunts, you may harvest any turkey, regardless of its sex. You do not need to harvest a bearded turkey.

Spring 2021 general-season hunt

Spring general-season permits will be available beginning at 8 a.m. on Feb. 25, 2021 at *wildlife.utah.gov* and from license agents and Division offices.

You may obtain a spring general-season turkey permit if you meet the basic hunting requirements (see page 8), and you didn't obtain a limited-entry turkey permit for the spring 2021 season.

Young hunters who obtain general-season turkey permits will have the opportunity to participate in the youth hunt. For details, see the information box on page 17.

Permit refunds

Utah Code § 23-19-38 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-42

The Division rarely issues refunds for licenses or permits, but there are some exceptions. To see if you're eligible for a refund, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/refund*.

Utah's Trial Hunting Program

Utah Admin. Rule R657-68

Have you ever wanted to bring your spouse, child or friend along on a hunt and give them a chance to try hunting? Now, they can join you on your next turkey or upland game hunt.

Utah's Trial Hunting Program allows anyone age 12 or older to try hunting for up to three years—while accompanied by a licensed hunter age 21 or older—before taking a Hunter Education course.

The program applies to hunts for many species, including wild turkeys and all upland game. To sign up for the program or to learn more about it, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/trial*.

New this year: If you are eligible for a refund, you must submit all required forms and accompanying paperwork within 90 days of the season ending in order to qualify for a full refund.

Important dates for turkey hunters

Utah Admin. Rule R657-62-25

Please note the following dates if you want to obtain a turkey limited-entry permit or a turkey general-season permit.

September 3: Fall 2020 general-season permits available (new)

Permits for the fall 2020 general-season turkey hunts will be available beginning Sept. 3, 2020. Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/uplandgame* in August to see purchase times and locations.

New this year: As of July 1, 2020, all license, permit and application fees have increased for nonresident hunters. You can see the new nonresident fees on page 7.

Please remember that license agents have different hours of operation. You should verify that an agent is open before you attempt to purchase a turkey general-season permit.

You can find a list of participating license agents at *wildlife.utah.gov/licenseagents*.

December 1: Apply online (new)

From Dec. 1–28, 2020, residents and nonresidents can apply for a turkey limited-entry permit, a CWMU permit or a bonus point at *wildlife.utah.gov*. You can also apply by calling any Division office.

New this year: As of July 1, 2020, all license, permit and application fees have increased for nonresident hunters. You can see the new nonresident fees on page 7.

To apply for a resident permit, you must be a resident on the date the permit is purchased. January 7, 2021 is considered the purchase date. Please see the definition of "resident" on page 59.

When applying for a turkey limited-entry permit, you may select up to five hunt choices. Please list your hunt choices in order of preference.

Remember, you may apply with a group for limited-entry permits. Up to four hunters—including both residents and nonresidents—can apply together. If your group is successful in the drawing, all of the applicants in your group who have valid applications will receive a permit.

December 28: Application deadline

Your application for a turkey limited-entry permit, a CWMU permit or a bonus point must be completed at *wildlife.utah.gov* and submitted no later than 11 p.m. MST on Dec. 28, 2020.

For assistance with your online application, you can call any Division office until 5 p.m. MST on Dec. 28, 2020. Please remember that you must have a hunting license or a combination license to apply for a permit or bonus point.

December 28: Deadline to withdraw and resubmit your application

Did you make a mistake in your online permit application? Simply withdraw your original online application and submit a new, corrected application before 11 p.m. MST on Dec. 28, 2020.

In order to withdraw your application, you must have the confirmation number from your original application. You must also have your customer ID and your date of birth. For each new application you submit, you will be charged an application fee.

If you need help resubmitting your online application, please call any Division office before 5 p.m. MST on Dec. 28, 2020.

December 28: Deadline to withdraw your application

If you decide not to hunt, you can withdraw your online permit application until 11 p.m. MST on Dec. 28, 2020. Application fees are not refundable.

January 7: Drawing results available

You'll be notified of the turkey drawing results on or before Jan. 7, 2021. You can also learn the drawing results by visiting *wildlife.utah.gov or* calling 1-800-221-0659.

Note: Drawing results are not final until you receive an official notification email. If you draw a turkey permit, you'll receive it in the mail by the middle of February.

Please be aware that if the debit card or credit card you used for payment is refused, the Division will attempt to contact you multiple times to obtain a valid card number. If you realize that your card number is no longer valid, please call 1-800-221-0659 or visit *utah-hunt.com* to provide a different card number.

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February 25: Spring general-season permits and remaining limited-entry permits available (new)

Any limited-entry permits remaining after the drawing—as well as the spring general-season permits—may be obtained beginning at 8 a.m. MST on Feb. 25, 2021 at *wildlife.utah.gov* and from license agents and Division offices.

Remaining limited-entry permits are available on a first-come, first-served basis. If you purchase a remaining limited-entry permit, you will lose any turkey bonus points you've accumulated.

Spring general-season permits will be available for purchase through May 31, 2021.

New this year: As of July 1, 2020, all license, permit and application fees have increased for nonresident hunters. You can see the new nonresident fees on page 7.

You can find a list of participating license agents at *wildlife.utah.gov/licenseagents*. Please remember that license agents have different hours of operation. You should verify that an agent is open before you attempt to purchase a remaining permit.

Additional turkey permits

In addition to limited-entry and general-season permits, other types of turkey permits are available.

Conservation permits

Utah Admin. Rule R657-41

You may obtain conservation permits in addition to any other turkey permit you've obtained.

Turkey conservation permits are available from nonprofit conservation organizations. The organizations usually sell the permits at fund-raising banquets. A list of organizations selling conservation permits for Utah's 2021 turkey season will be available at *wildlife.utah.gov* by late December 2020.

No drones allowed

Utah Code § 23-20-3

It is illegal to use drones while scouting or hunting protected wildlife in Utah.

Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit permits

Utah Admin. Rule R657-37

You can enjoy hunting turkeys on private property in Utah through the state's Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit (CWMU) program. Here's how the CWMU program works:

Private lands can become CWMUs if the landowners work with the Division to manage the land for turkeys. Private landowners who own land that qualifies as a CWMU are given permits they can sell to hunters. In return, the landowners agree to allow an equal number of public hunters—those who obtain CWMU permits through the state's drawing—onto their CWMUs to hunt.

You can obtain a CWMU permit in one of two ways: you can either apply for one in the turkey drawing, or you can contact a CWMU operator directly to inquire about purchasing a permit. For a list of CWMU operators, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/CWMU*.

For more information about obtaining a CWMU permit, contact the nearest Division office.

Poaching-reported reward permits

Utah Admin. Rule R657-51

If you provide information that leads to the arrest and successful prosecution of a person who has illegally taken any turkey, you may be eligible to receive a permit from the Division to hunt turkeys the following year.

FIELD REGULATIONS

While hunting upland game or turkey in Utah, you should know the requirements for carrying and using firearms, crossbows and archery tackle. You should also know the different hunting methods you may use and what you're required to do with any game you take.

Firearms, crossbows and archery tackle

50 CFR 20.21, Utah Code § 23-20-3 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-6, R657-6-7 and R657-54-4

Several rules apply to the types of firearms, crossbows, archery tackle and ammunition that you may use to take upland game and wild turkeys in Utah.

Upland game

You may hunt and harvest upland game with any of the following:

- Archery equipment, including a draw lock
- A crossbow
- A shotgun no larger than 10 gauge
- A handgun

Ammunition for shotguns and handguns must be one-half ounce or more of shot that ranges in size from no. 2 through no. 8.

The only exceptions to these rules are as follows:

- Sandhill crane may be taken only with nontoxic shot, but there's no restriction on the size of the nontoxic shot you may use (to learn more about nontoxic shot, please see the definition on page 58 of this guide).
- Migratory game birds (crows, doves, pigeons and cranes) may not be taken with a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells (one in the chamber and two in the magazine). Many shotguns can hold more than two shells in the magazine, but making these guns legal for crow, dove, pigeon and crane hunting is easy. An inexpensive item, called a "shotgun plug," comes with most shotguns, or you can purchase one at most sporting goods stores.
- Crows, doves, pigeons and cranes may not be taken with a handgun.
- Cottontail rabbit and snowshoe hare may be taken with any firearm that is not capable of being fired fully automatic.

In addition to the requirements above, you may NOT use either of the following:

- A firearm capable of being fired fully automatic
- Any light-enhancement device or aiming device that casts a visible beam of light

Wild turkey

You may hunt and harvest a turkey with any of the following:

- Archery equipment, including a draw lock, using broadhead-tipped arrows.
- A crossbow, using broadhead-tipped arrows or bolts.
- Any shotgun firing shot BB or smaller diameter.
- Rimfire firearms (**during the fall turkey season only**).

Loaded firearms in a vehicle

Utah Code §§ 76-10-502, 76-10-504, 76-10-505 and 76-10-523

You may not carry a loaded firearm in or on a vehicle unless you meet all of the following conditions:

- You own the vehicle or have permission from the vehicle's owner.
- The firearm is a handgun.
- You are 18 years of age or older.

A pistol, revolver, rifle or shotgun is considered to be loaded when there is an unexpended cartridge, shell or projectile in the firing position.

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wildlife.utah.gov

Are you allowed to possess a weapon?

Utah Code §§ 76-10-503 and 76-10-512

It is illegal under *Utah Code §§ 76-10-503* and *76-10-512* to possess or use a firearm, muzzleloader or any other dangerous weapon if you have been charged or convicted of certain offenses.

The purchase or possession of any hunting license, permit, tag or certificate of registration from the Division does not authorize the holder to legally possess or use a firearm, muzzleloader or any other dangerous weapon while hunting if they are otherwise restricted from possessing these weapons under Utah Code.

To determine whether you are allowed to possess a weapon, please review the Utah Code sections listed above or contact the law enforcement agency that oversees your case.

Pistols and revolvers are also considered to be loaded when an unexpended cartridge, shell or projectile is in a position whereby the manual operation of any mechanism once would cause the unexpended cartridge, shell or projectile to be fired.

A muzzleloading firearm is considered loaded when it is capped or primed and has a powder charge and ball or shot in the barrel or cylinder(s).

The firearm restrictions in this section do not apply to concealed firearm permit holders, provided the person is not utilizing the concealed firearm to hunt or take wildlife.

Hunter orange requirements

Although there are no regulations that govern what you should wear on an upland game or turkey hunt, your choice of clothing could affect your safety.

For Utah's upland game hunts, we strongly encourage you to wear hunter orange in the field. It will make you more visible to other hunters at a time of year when there are many different hunts in progress.

For Utah's turkey hunts, we discourage you from wearing hunter orange. Hunters sometimes mistake bright colors for the head of a turkey.

Areas with special restrictions

Although many areas are open to hunters, some areas are closed or have specific restrictions.

Areas closed to upland game hunting

Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-21

You may not hunt upland game in any area posted closed by the Division or in any of the following areas:

- Salt Lake International Airport boundaries as posted.
- Many Utah towns, cities and incorporated municipalities have laws that restrict hunting and the discharge of firearms within city limits. Contact the city's administrative office for specific laws and boundaries.
- All National Wildlife Refuges, unless declared open by the managing authority.
- The Goshen Warm Springs Wildlife Management Area (WMA) is closed to all hunting.
- The Annabella and Pahvant WMAs—and a portion of the Ogden Bay WMA—are closed to the general public on Nov. 14, 2020 for sponsored, organized youth and beginner pheasant hunts.
- Military installations, including Camp Williams, are closed to hunting and trespassing.
- All national wildlife refuges in Utah are closed to crow hunting.

Report banded or collared birds

The Division, Brigham Young University and Utah State University are conducting research on wild turkeys and many upland game species. As part of these ongoing studies, we've placed leg bands and radio transmitters on some of the animals.

You may legally harvest banded or collared birds as long as you follow state and federal hunting regulations. If you take a wild turkey or an upland game bird with a leg band or a radio transmitter, please report it at *wildlife.utah.gov/band*.

We will need to know when and where you harvested the bird (GPS coordinates preferred) as well as the number on the leg band.

The Division thanks you in advance for helping with these research projects!

Some waterfowl management areas are open, but they have weapon, ammunition and season restrictions. For detailed information, see page 35.

Areas closed to turkey hunting

Utah Admin. Rule R657-54-14

You may not hunt wild turkeys in any area posted closed by the Division or in any of the following areas:

- Salt Lake International Airport boundaries as posted.
- Many Utah towns, cities and incorporated municipalities have laws that restrict hunting and the discharge of firearms within city limits. Contact the city's administrative office for specific laws and boundaries.
- All state waterfowl management areas, except Brown's Park and Stewart Lake.
- All national wildlife refuges, unless they have been declared open by the managing authority. For example, Ouray National Wildlife Refuge is **only open to youth turkey hunters** during the 2021 turkey season.
- Military installations, including Camp Williams, are closed to hunting and trespassing.

State parks (new)

Utah Code § 76-10-508 and Utah Admin. Rule R651-614-4

New this year: Hunting of wildlife is allowed within the boundaries of all state park areas, **except** those areas and hunts specifically closed by the Utah Division of State Parks and Recreation in *Utah Admin. Rule R651-614*. For more information, visit *stateparks.utah.gov/resources/hunting-at-state-park*.

State laws regarding the possession and discharge of dangerous weapons apply in state park areas open to hunting. For information about discharging a dangerous weapon or firearm in a state park, see the *Areas where you cannot discharge a firearm* section below or review *Utah Code § 76-10-508*.

Areas where you cannot discharge a firearm

Utah Code § 76-10-508

You may not discharge a dangerous weapon, crossbow or firearm under any of the following circumstances:

- From a vehicle
- From, upon or across any highway
- At power lines or signs
- At railroad equipment or facilities, including any sign or signal
- Within Utah state park camp or picnic sites, overlooks, golf courses, boat ramps or developed beaches
- Without written permission from the owner or property manager, within 600 feet of:
  - A house, dwelling or any other building

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- Any structure in which a domestic animal is kept or fed, including a barn, poultry yard, corral, feeding pen or stockyard

Areas with motorized vehicle restrictions

Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-14

Motorized vehicle travel on all state wildlife management areas is restricted to county roads and improved roads that are posted open to vehicles.

Trespassing

Utah Code §§ 23-20-14 and 23-20-3.5

While taking wildlife or engaging in wildlife-related activities, you may not—without permission—enter or remain on privately owned land that is:

- Cultivated
- Properly posted
- Fenced or enclosed in a manner designed to exclude intruders

In addition, you may not:

- Enter or remain on private land when directed not to do so by the owner or a person acting for the owner.
- Obstruct any entrance or exit to private property.

"Cultivated land" is land that is readily identifiable as land whose soil is loosened or broken up for the raising of crops, land used for the raising of crops, or a pasture that is artificially irrigated.

"Permission" means written authorization from the owner or person in charge to enter upon private land that is cultivated or properly posted. Permission must include all of the following details:

- The signature of the owner or person in charge
- The name of the person being given permission
- The appropriate dates
- A general description of the land

Utah's Walk-in Access program

Utah Admin. Rule R657-56-13

The Walk-in Access (WIA) program provides hunters, anglers and trappers access to privately owned land, streams, rivers, ponds or reservoirs.

If you use Utah's Walk-in Access (WIA) properties, remember to obtain your annual WIA authorization number.

The Division issues authorization numbers to track the use of WIA properties throughout the year and to assess the program's value to the public.

To obtain your authorization number, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/walkinaccess* and click "Authorization numbers." Follow the instructions and obtain your number. You can also request a number by calling 1-800-221-0659.

Also, remember that WIA properties are private land and may have special restrictions on season dates, allowable activities, species and weapon types. Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/walkinaccess* for details.

"Properly posted" means that signs prohibiting trespass—or bright yellow, bright orange or fluorescent paint—are clearly displayed at all corners, on fishing streams crossing property lines, and on roads, gates and rights-of-way entering the land. Or, they are displayed in a manner that is visible to a person in the area.

You may not post private property you do not own or legally control or land that is open to the public as provided by *Utah Code § 23-21-4*. In addition, it is unlawful to take protected wildlife or its parts while trespassing in violation of *Utah Code § 23-20-14*.

You are guilty of a class B misdemeanor if you violate any provision described in this section. Your license, tag or permit privileges may also be suspended.

Participate in harvest surveys

After the upland game and turkey seasons end, the Division may ask you to participate in a harvest survey. Surveys are conducted online and by telephone.

Although these surveys are not mandatory, we encourage you to complete them, even if you didn't harvest. The surveys help the Division evaluate population trends, gauge harvest success and collect other valuable information.

Checkpoints and officer contacts

Utah Code §§ 23-20-25 and 77-23-104

To help the Division fulfill its responsibility as trustee and guardian of Utah's wildlife, Division conservation officers monitor the taking and possession of wildlife, and the required licenses, permits, firearms and equipment used for hunting. You should expect to encounter conservation officers and biologists in the field and at checkpoints.

If you're contacted by a conservation officer, you must provide the officer with the items he or she requests, including any licenses and permits required for hunting, any devices used to participate in hunting and any game that you've taken. These contacts allow the Division to collect valuable information about upland game and turkeys in Utah.

Hunters with disabilities

Utah Admin. Rule R657-12

Utah provides special hunting accommodations for people with disabilities. For a complete copy of these accommodations and what's required to qualify for them, please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/disabled* or call any Division office.

Hunting methods for upland game and turkey

Several rules apply to the methods you can use to hunt upland game and wild turkeys in Utah.

Baiting upland game and wild turkey

50 CFR 20.11 and 20.21, Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-13 and 54-9, Utah Code § 23-20-3

Baiting is an illegal activity that involves the spreading of shelled, shucked or unshucked grain, feed or salt to lure, attract or entice birds to an area for the purposes of hunting them. You may not hunt upland game or wild turkey by baiting, and you may not hunt in an area where you reasonably should have known that the area is or has been baited.

An area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the bait has been completely removed from the area.

You can take upland game or wild turkey on or over any of the following lands or areas, so long as these areas have not been baited:

- Standing crops or flooded standing crops (including aquatics)
- Standing, flooded or manipulated natural vegetation
- Flooded harvested croplands
- Lands or areas where seeds or grains have been scattered solely as the result of a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation or normal soil-stabilization practice
- From a blind or other place of concealment camouflaged with vegetation from agricultural crops, as long as such camouflaging does not result in the exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of grain or other feed

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- Standing or flooded standing agricultural crops where grain is inadvertently scattered solely as a result of a hunter entering or exiting a hunting area, placing decoys or retrieving downed birds

For example, a farmer working his land after harvesting a crop does not render his field "baited" — so long as the post-harvest manipulation of the farmer's field is a normal agricultural process. To see detailed information about normal agricultural processes, visit *go.usa.gov/chx5Q*. For the hunter, the presence of rows, piles or other concentrations of grain should raise questions about the legality of the area for upland game or wild turkey hunting.

In addition to the provisions above, you cannot take sandhill crane on or over lands where standing crops have been manipulated to distribute or scatter grain or other feed on the land where it was grown. You can take other upland game species and wild turkey on or over lands where standing crops have been manipulated to distribute or scatter grain or other feed on the land where it was grown, if the area is not otherwise baited.

This distinction is important primarily for wildlife food plots where seed or grain is not harvested as part of a normal agricultural process. For example, if a farmer were to mow a crop without first harvesting it, that field would be considered baited for sandhill crane, but it would not be considered baited for other upland game species or wild turkey.

Hunting dog field trials and training

Utah Admin. Rule R657-46

Many of today's hunting dog field trialers and trainers want to use game birds (waterfowl or upland game) in their dog-related pursuits.

To use live game birds in dog field trials and training, you must follow certain rules and regulations. Those rules are available at any Division office or in *Utah Admin. Rule R657-46* at *wildlife.utah.gov/rules*.

Commercial hunting areas

In addition to hunting Utah's wild upland game birds, you can also hunt pheasant, partridge and quail on commercial hunting areas (CHAs).

The CHA season runs from Sept. 1 to March 31. CHAs typically charge on a per-bird basis. Hunter education or trial-hunting authorization is required, but you do not need a hunting license to hunt on a CHA.

See *wildlife.utah.gov/uplandgame* for more information.

Using dogs to hunt

Utah Admin. Rules R657-6-20 and R657-54-13

Dogs may be used to locate and retrieve upland game or wild turkeys during open hunting seasons.

Although dogs are generally allowed on state wildlife and waterfowl management areas (WMAs), they are prohibited on many WMAs from March 10 to August 31 or as posted by the Division. You can see the complete list of WMAs that are seasonally closed to dogs in *Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-20*.

Live decoys and electronic calls

50 CFR 20.21 and Utah Admin. Rules R657-6-22 and R657-54-8

You may not take migratory game birds (crows, doves, pigeons or cranes) with:

- the use or aid of live birds as decoys; or
- recorded or electronically amplified migratory game bird calls or sounds, or recorded or electronically amplified imitations of migratory game bird calls or sounds.

Safety tips for turkey hunters

To stay safe during the turkey hunt, follow the recommendations of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTF):

- Select your calling spot in open timber rather than thick brush; turkeys are hesitant to walk into thick brush.
- Select a stump, tree trunk or rock—taller and wider than you are—to lean back against while calling; this will protect your back if another hunter moves in behind you.
- Eliminate the colors white, red, orange, black and blue from your hunting outfit; these are the colors of most gobblers.
- Listen for the alarm cries of birds or squirrels; these sounds can alert you when another hunter begins moving into your area.
- When nearby songbirds or your turkey go suddenly silent, take a careful look around. There's a good chance another hunter is moving in on your bird.
- Never move, wave or make turkey sounds to alert another hunter to your location. Remain still and speak in a loud, clear voice to announce your presence.

For more information about hunting wild turkeys, visit the NWTF's website at *nwtf.org*.

Likewise, you may not use live decoys, recorded turkey calls or sounds, or electronically amplified imitations of turkey calls to take wild turkeys.

Spotlighting

Utah Code §§§ 23-20-3, 76-10-504, 76-10-523 and Utah Admin. Rules R657-6-24 and R657-54-16

You may not use a spotlight, headlight or other artificial light to locate any protected wildlife while having in your possession a firearm or other weapon or device that could be used to take or injure protected wildlife.

The use of a spotlight or other artificial light in any area where protected wildlife are generally found is considered probable cause of attempting to locate protected wildlife.

The provisions of this section do not apply to you under the following conditions:

- You are using the headlights of a motor vehicle or other artificial light in a usual manner where there is no attempt or intent to locate protected wildlife.
- You are licensed to carry a concealed weapon, and you're not utilizing the concealed weapon to hunt or take wildlife.

Using falconry to hunt upland game

Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-12

If you're interested in using falconry to hunt upland game, you must obtain a hunting or combination license and a falconry certificate of registration (COR). Falconers who are interested in hunting band-tailed pigeon, greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane, sharp-tailed grouse or white-tailed ptarmigan must also obtain a permit for the bird(s) they wish to hunt.

The areas open and the bag and possession limits for falconry are the same as those listed in the hunt table (pages 37–44) and the *Wildlife Management Area Rules* (pages 35–36). The only differences are as follows:

- Falconers may take pheasants of either sex.
- The daily bag limit for mourning dove and white-winged dove is three birds and the possession limit is nine birds. If you have **any** migratory bird species in your daily bag limit, you may keep a maximum combined total of three birds.

Falconry season dates for upland game are as follows:

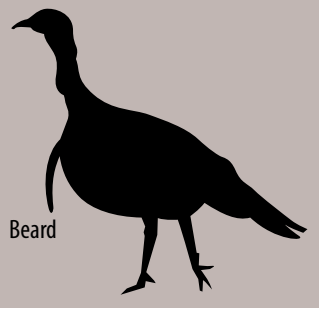
- All upland game—except American crow, band-tailed pigeon, mourning dove and white-winged dove—may be taken by falconry from Sept. 1, 2020 through Feb. 28, 2021.
- Band-tailed pigeon, mourning dove and white-winged dove may be taken by falconry from Sept. 1–Dec. 16, 2020.
- American crow may be taken by falconry from Sept. 1–30, 2020 and from Dec. 1, 2020–Feb. 28, 2021.
- Sandhill crane may be taken by falconry during the season listed on your permit, and the bag limit is one bird. See the hunt tables on page 41 for sandhill crane season dates.

For additional information, please see the Falconry Rule at *wildlife.utah.gov/falconry*.

What is a beard?

A cluster of hair-like feathers called a beard grows from the center of the chest on male turkeys. A small percentage of hens also grow a beard.

During the spring turkey-hunting seasons, the head and beard of a turkey must remain attached during transport to help conservation officers confirm the sex of the bird.



Using falconry to hunt wild turkey

Utah Admin. Rule R657-54-7

In order to hunt a wild turkey using falconry, a falconer must have a fall general-season turkey permit and follow the same rules and boundaries that apply to those who are hunting with archery tackle, a crossbow, an airgun or a shotgun.

A falconer may only release a raptor on a wild turkey during the fall hunting season listed on his or her permit. Using falconry to hunt a turkey during the spring is prohibited.

Sitting or roosting turkeys

Utah Admin. Rule R657-54-10

You may not take any turkey that is sitting or roosting in a tree.

Possession of upland game and turkey

Once you've harvested an upland game species or a wild turkey, several rules apply to the use of the game you've taken.

Waste of upland game or turkey

Utah Code § 23-20-8 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-18 , R657-54-15 and R657-54-18

You may not waste any upland game or turkey, or permit it to be wasted or spoiled. Waste means to abandon the game or to allow it to spoil or be used in a manner not normally associated with its beneficial use. For example, using the meat as fertilizer or for trapping bait is not considered a beneficial use of the meat.

In addition, you may not kill or cripple any upland game or turkey without making a reasonable effort to retrieve it. Any game you've wounded must be immediately killed and included in your bag limit.

Tagging requirements (new)

Utah Code § 23-20-30 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-16 and R657-54-11

You must tag the carcass of a greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane, sharp-tailed grouse or wild turkey immediately upon taking possession of the carcass.

To tag a carcass, completely detach the tag from the permit and completely remove the appropriate notches to correspond with the date the bird was taken. Then attach the tag to the carcass so that the tag remains securely fastened and visible.

Your tag also includes a notch that indicates the sex of the bird. You are only required to remove this notch if you harvested a turkey.

You may not remove more than one notch indicating the date the bird was taken, or tag more than one carcass using the same tag.

New this year: You may not hunt or pursue greater sage-grouse, sandhill crane, sharp-tailed grouse or wild turkey after **any** of the following activities have occurred:

- Shooting and retrieving the bird
- Detaching the tag from the permit
- Removing any of the notches from the tag

Identification of species and sex

Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-17 and R657-54-12

When you are transporting any upland game bird or migratory game bird, one fully feathered wing must remain attached to each bird you've taken. Keeping the wing attached allows wildlife officers and biologists to determine the species and sex of each bird.

When you are transporting a turkey during the spring seasons, both the head and beard of the turkey must remain attached to the bird. During the fall seasons, only the turkey's head must remain attached.

Hunter Mentoring program

The Utah Hunter Mentoring program allows any qualifying adult to share their hunting permits with resident youth.

Permits that are now eligible for sharing under the Hunter Mentoring program include all big game permits as well as black bear, cougar, turkey, greater sage-grouse and sharp-tailed grouse permits. Only swan and sandhill crane permits may not be shared because they are subject to conflicting federal regulations.

To learn more about program eligibility and requirements and to download the application form, visit *wildlife.utah.gov/mentoring*.

Possession of live upland game

50 CFR 20.38, Utah Code § 23-13-4 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-4 and R657-6-15

A hunting license does not give you authority to possess live upland game. You must immediately kill any upland game you've wounded and include it in your bag limit.

Donating and transporting upland game or turkey

50 CFR 20.36, 20.37 and 20.40 and Utah Code § 23-20-9

The following are the only places where you may donate, or give, upland game or turkey (or their parts) to another person:

- The residence of the donor
- The residence of the person receiving upland game, turkey or their parts
- A meat locker
- A storage plant
- A meat-processing facility

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If you donate upland game or turkey, a written statement of donation must be kept with the upland game or turkey (or their parts). That statement must include all of the following information:

- The number and species of wildlife or parts donated
- The date of donation
- The license or permit number of the donor
- The signature of the donor

In addition to the information required above, if you're donating migratory game birds, or another person is transporting migratory game birds for you, the birds must be tagged with your address and the dates the birds were killed. You must also tag any migratory game birds that have been left for cleaning, storage (including temporary storage), shipment or taxidermy services.

Game bird breeders and hobbyists

Utah Admin. Rule R657-4

Many people in Utah possess live game birds (waterfowl and upland game) in captivity.

Some people raise the birds as a hobby, while others exhibit the animals or use them to train hunting dogs or falcons. Nearly all of these activities require a Certificate of Registration (COR), a document that allows you to legally possess and use game birds.

Because game birds in Utah are classified as protected wildlife, rules and regulations govern their possession and use. If you are interested in possessing or using live game birds—or in obtaining a COR—please review the rules carefully.

For more information, please visit *wildlife.utah.gov/pdf/birdbreederinfo.pdf*

Shipping harvested migratory game birds

50 CFR 20.53 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-23

You may not ship migratory game birds (crows, doves, pigeons or cranes) unless you possess a shipping permit. Shipping permits are available from the Division offices listed on page 2. You must also write all of the following information on the outside of the package the birds are shipped in:

- Your name and address
- The name and address of the recipient
- The number and species of the birds contained in the package

Exporting harvested upland game or turkey from Utah

50 CFR 20.53 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-23 and R657-54-17

You may only export harvested upland game or turkey (or their parts) from Utah if one of the following conditions applies:

- You harvested the upland game or turkey and possess a valid license or permit corresponding to the tag.
- If you're not the person who harvested the upland game or turkey, you must obtain a shipping permit from the Division.

Importing harvested migratory game birds

50 CFR 20.61–20.66

For the complete list of rules governing the importation of migratory game birds harvested in another state or country, see the *Code of Federal Regulations 50 CFR 20.61* through *20.66*.

Here are some of the primary rules that apply:

- One fully feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds being transported between the point of entry and your home or to a migratory bird preservation facility (i.e., a facility where birds are taken to be cleaned and prepared for the table).
- You may not import migratory game birds harvested in any foreign country, except Canada, unless the birds are dressed (except as required in *CFR 20.63*), drawn and the head and feet are removed.
- You may not import migratory game birds that belong to another person.
- Federal bag and possession limits apply, regardless of the number of states or provinces you may have hunted in during your trip. For example, if you hunt doves in two states, the total number of doves you take cannot exceed a single federal bag or possession limit. (For example, if the federal bag limit is 10 doves, and you take eight doves in the first state and then travel to another state and hunt the same day, you can take only two doves in the second state.)

What about squirrels and other nuisance mammals?

Squirrels, chipmunks, marmots and other small mammals can sometimes cause nuisance issues for homeowners.

These species are not considered upland game. If you need to remove them to resolve a nuisance or depredation issue, there are no bag limits or seasonal closures, and no license is required. Please make an effort to identify the species before you remove it — some animals are protected.

Important: Pursuit or harvest of Abert's squirrel, spotted ground squirrel and Utah prairie dog are prohibited at all times. See page 34 for additional regulations specific to prairie dogs.

Store your digital license on the app

With our convenient Utah Hunting and Fishing app, you can now download your license to a smartphone or tablet.

If a conservation officer asks to see your license, you can produce the digital copy, which is just as valid as a paper license.

If you use the app, you will be able to easily see when your license expires.

You can also enter and save your HIP number on the app, so it's available when you need it.

The app is available for both Apple and Android devices. You can download it at *wildlife.utah.gov/mobileapp*.

Please remember that licenses are different from permits. If you have a permit for a specific hunt, you must carry it with you while hunting.

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PRAIRIE DOG HUNTING

Check the calendar and map before making plans to hunt prairie dogs.

Before you begin hunting prairie dogs, it's important to understand which species you're allowed to hunt and when you can hunt them. Utah is home to three prairie dog species:

- Utah prairie dogs in southwestern Utah
- Gunnison's prairie dogs in southeastern Utah
- White-tailed prairie dogs in northern and eastern Utah

Hunt closure—counties in southwestern Utah

You may **not** hunt Utah prairie dogs. They are protected under the Endangered Species Act and state law. Because Utah prairie dogs are the only species of prairie dog found in southwestern Utah, **all prairie dog hunting is closed year-round in the following counties:** Beaver, Garfield, Iron, Kane, Millard, Piute, Sanpete, Sevier, Washington and Wayne.

It is unlawful to pursue, hunt or kill Utah prairie dogs at any time without official federal and/or state permits or authorization. There is no recreational shooting of Utah prairie dogs.

Hunt closure—Coyote Basin

Coyote Basin, in northeastern Utah, is closed year-round to hunting of prairie dogs in order to protect the federally listed black-footed ferret. (Prairie dogs are the ferrets' primary food source.) You can find the specific boundary description for this closure in *Utah Admin. Rule R657-19-6*.

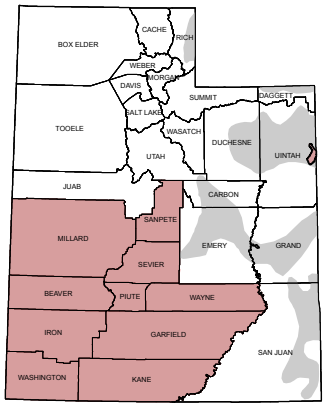
Hunt closure—seasonal

All prairie dog hunting is closed on public lands statewide from April 1, 2021 through June 15, 2021. This closure protects prairie dogs while they breed and raise their litters, giving their young a better chance of survival. During this period, hunting is still permitted on private lands for Gunnison's and white-tailed prairie dogs (except in areas subject to the year-round closure described above). Remember that all national parks are closed to hunting by federal law.

Open season dates

Subject to the closures noted above, the hunting season for white-tailed and Gunnison's prairie dogs runs from June 16, 2020 through March 31, 2021.

Prairie dog hunting



Closed to hunting year-round

Gunnison and white-tailed prairie dog distribution

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA RULES

Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-8 and R657-6-9

Certain state wildlife and waterfowl management areas and national wildlife refuges are intensively managed for upland game and waterfowl production. As such, each area has restrictions on the use of firearms, crossbows, archery tackle and ammunition. Please use the table below to help you understand the restrictions at each area you plan to hunt.

Wildlife Management Area or National Wildlife Refuge	May discharge a firearm, crossbow or archery tackle only during open hunting seasons.*	May discharge a firearm, crossbow or archery tackle only during open waterfowl hunting seasons.	May hunt upland game, only with a shotgun using nontoxic shot and only during waterfowl hunting seasons.
Bear River National Wildlife Refuge#			X
Bear River Trenton Property Parcel	X		
Bicknell Bottoms†		X	X
Blue Lake		X	X
Browns Park†	X		X
Bud Phelps	X		
Castle Dale	X		
Clear Lake‡	X		X
Desert Lake†	X		X
Farmington Bay		X	X
Harold S. Crane		X	X
Howard Slough		X	X
Huntington	X		
James Walter Fitzgerald	X		
Kevin Conway	X		
Locomotive Springs	X		X
Manti Meadows	X		X

** Specified hunting seasons are authorized by the Utah Wildlife Board. You can find information about the hunting seasons in Utah's hunting and fishing guidebooks. These guidebooks are available from license agents and Division offices and at* wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks.

† May hunt mourning dove with a shotgun using nontoxic shot and during the season dates listed on page 43.

‡ May hunt mourning dove with a shotgun using nontoxic shot from Sept. 1–14, 2020.

#National wildlife refuges have many unique regulations. Please visit their websites and know the regulations before you hunt.

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wildlife.utah.gov

Wildlife Management Area or National Wildlife Refuge	May discharge a firearm, crossbow or archery tackle only during open hunting seasons.*	May discharge a firearm, crossbow or archery tackle only during open waterfowl hunting seasons.	May hunt upland game, only with a shotgun using nontoxic shot and only during waterfowl hunting seasons.
Mills Meadows		X	X
Montes Creek	X		
Nephi	X		
Ogden Bay		X	X
Ouray National Wildlife Refuge#			X
Pahvant	X		
Powell Slough		X	X
Public Shooting Grounds		X	X
Redmond Marsh†	X		
Richfield	X		
Salt Creek		X	X
Scott M. Matheson Wetland Preserve	X		X
Stewart Lake†	X		X
Timpie Springs		X	X
Utah Lake Wetlands Preserve†			X
Vernal	X		
Willard Bay§	X		

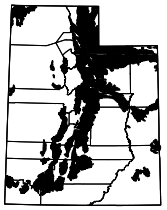
** Specified hunting seasons are authorized by the Utah Wildlife Board. You can find information about the hunting seasons in Utah's hunting and fishing guidebooks. These guidebooks are available from license agents and Division offices and at* wildlife.utah.gov/guidebooks.

† May hunt mourning dove with a shotgun using nontoxic shot and during the season dates listed on page 43.

§ Weapons are restricted to only shotguns and archery tackle on the Willard Bay WMA.

#National wildlife refuges have many unique regulations. Please visit their websites and know the regulations before you hunt.

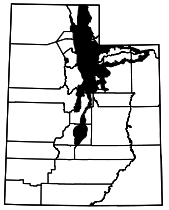
Grouse hunts



Dusky grouse

Dusky and ruffed grouse

- **Season dates:** Sept. 1–Dec. 31, 2020
- **Areas open:** Statewide.*
- **Bag limit:** 4 birds
- **Possession limit:** 12 birds
- **Notes:** Limits singly or in combination.

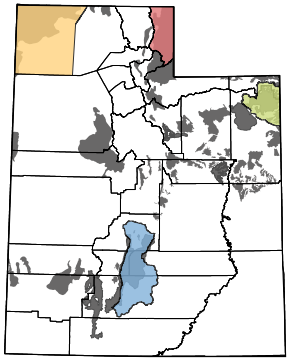


Ruffed grouse

Greater sage-grouse

- **Season dates:** Sept. 26–Oct. 18, 2020
- **Areas open:** Diamond, Blue Mountain (SG1000); Parker Mountain (SG1001); Rich County (SG1002) and West Box Elder County (SG1003).* Boundary maps are available online at *wildlife.utah.gov/huntplanner*.
- **Permit requirement:** A greater sage-grouse permit is required to participate in this hunt. Only 2 birds of either sex may be taken during the entire season.
- **Notes:** To apply for a preference point, use the code SAG in your online application.

Greater sage-grouse



- Diamond, Blue Mountain
- Parker Mountain
- Rich County
- West Box Elder County

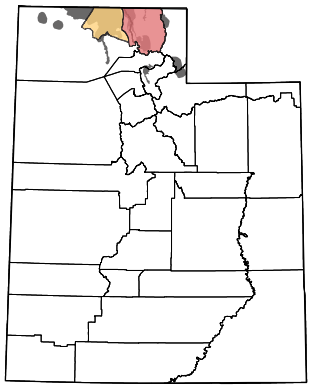
**Excludes closed areas and Native American trust lands • Red indicates areas of special note or significant changes.*

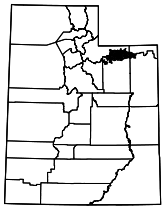
Utah Upland Game & Turkey • 2020–2021

wildlife.utah.gov

Sharp-tailed grouse

- **Season dates:** Sept. 26–Oct. 18, 2020
- **Areas open:** Northeast Box Elder County (ST1000) and Cache County (ST1001).* Boundary maps are available online at *wildlife.utah.gov/huntplanner*.
- **Permit requirement:** A sharp-tailed grouse permit is required to participate in this hunt. Only 2 birds of either sex may be taken during the entire season.
- **Notes:** This hunt is comprised of all or largely private property. Hunters should ideally acquire written permission from the landowner before obtaining a permit for this hunt. To apply for a preference point, use the code SHA in your online application.





White-tailed ptarmigan

- **Season dates:** Sept. 1–Oct. 31, 2020
- **Areas open:** Statewide.*
- **Bag limit:** 4 birds
- **Possession limit:** 12 birds
- **Permit requirement:** A free permit is required to participate in this hunt.

Turkey hunts

Wild turkey *(Fall general-season hunts)*

- **Season dates:** Oct. 1, 2020–Feb. 28, 2021 (Northern , Central and Southeastern) and Nov. 1, 2020–Feb. 16, 2021 (Southern)
- **Areas open:** Select areas within the Central, Northern, Southern and Southeastern regions. These hunt areas are comprised of all or largely private property. **Boundary maps are available online at *wildlife.utah.gov/huntplanner*.**
- **Permit requirement:** A wild turkey permit is required to participate in this hunt. During the season, you may take up to 3 turkeys of either sex, and you must have a separate permit for each bird you harvest. **Important:** Fall turkey hunts are designed to reduce turkey populations and address conflicts between turkeys and landowners. For this reason, female harvest is encouraged. You do **not** need to harvest a bearded turkey.
- **Notes:** Permits for the fall 2020 general-season hunts will be available starting Sept. 3, 2020

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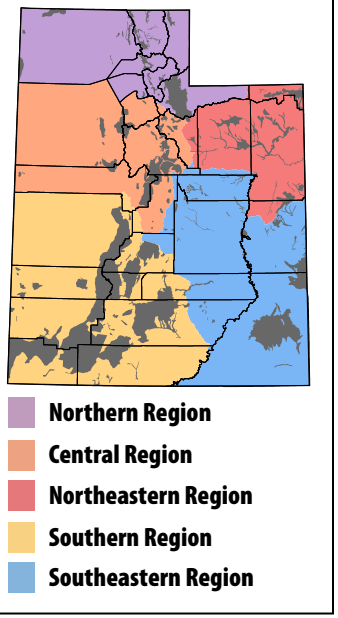
at *wildlife.utah.gov* and from license agents and Division offices. See page 19 for more information.

Wild turkey *(Limited-entry hunts)*

- **Season dates:** April 10–April 29, 2021
- **Areas open:** Central (TK1003), Northeastern (TK1004), Northern (TK1005), Southeastern (TK1006) and Southern (TK1007) regions.* **Boundary maps are available online at *wildlife.utah.gov/huntplanner*.**
- **Permit requirement:** The limited-entry hunt requires a wild turkey permit distributed through Utah's turkey drawing. See page 16 for more information. You may take only 1 bearded turkey within the season and boundary listed on your permit.
- **Notes:** To apply for a bonus point, use the code TKY in your online application. If you are a youth with a limited-entry permit and you don't harvest during the limited-entry season, you may continue to hunt during the youth hunt and the spring general-season hunt.



Wild turkey *(Spring general-season hunts)*

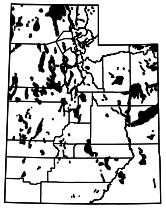
- **Season dates:** May 3–31, 2021
- **Youth hunt:** April 30–May 2, 2021. For more information about the youth hunt, see page 17.
- **Areas open:** Statewide.*
- **Permit requirement:** The spring general-season hunt requires a wild turkey permit that you can purchase over the counter. See page 20 for more information. You may take only 1 bearded turkey within the season on your permit.

Wild turkey *(CWMU hunts)*

- **Season dates:** The CWMU operator establishes the number of hunting days within the timeframe established by the Utah Wildlife Board for turkey hunting on CWMUs, April 10–May 31, 2021.
- **Areas open:** Pahvant Ensign (TK1018). Visit *wildlife.utah.gov/huntplanner* for maps and contact information.
- **Permit requirement:** The CWMU hunt requires a wild turkey permit distributed through Utah's turkey drawing. See page 22 for more information. During the hunting period established by the CWMU operator, you may take only 1 bearded turkey.

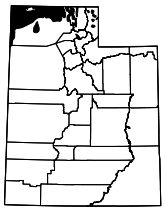
**Excludes closed areas and Native American trust lands • Red indicates areas of special note or significant changes.*

Partridge and pheasant hunts



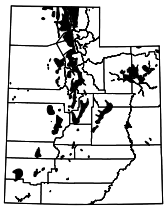
Chukar partridge

- **Season dates:** Sept. 26, 2020–Feb. 15, 2021
- **Youth hunt:** Sept. 19–21, 2020. For more information, see page 14.
- **Areas open:** Statewide.*
- **Bag limit:** 5 birds
- **Possession limit:** 15 birds
- **Notes:** Antelope Island is closed to all upland game hunting.



Gray (Hungarian) partridge

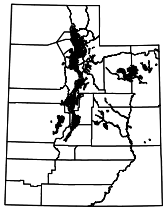
- **Season dates:** Sept. 26, 2020–Feb. 15, 2021
- **Youth hunt:** Sept. 19–21, 2020. For more information, see page 14.
- **Areas open:** Statewide.*
- **Bag limit:** 5 birds
- **Possession limit:** 15 birds



Ring-necked pheasant

- **Season dates:** Nov. 7–Dec. 6, 2020
- **Youth hunt:** Oct. 31–Nov. 5, 2020. **New this year:** The youth hunt has been moved and extended. For more information, see page 14.
- **Areas open:** Statewide.*
- **Bag limit:** 2 male birds
- **Possession limit:** 6 male birds
- **Notes:** Only males may be harvested. The Goshen Warm Springs WMA in Utah County is closed to all hunting. The Annabella and Pahvant WMAs—and part of the Ogden Bay WMA—are closed to the general public on Nov. 14, 2020 for sponsored, organized youth and beginner pheasant hunts.

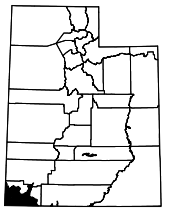
Quail hunts



California quail

California and Gambel's quail

- **Season dates:** Nov. 7–Dec. 31, 2020
- **Youth hunt:** Oct. 31–Nov. 2, 2020. **New this year:** The youth hunt has been moved to the week before the general season opens. For more information, see page 14.
- **Areas open:** Statewide.*
- **Bag limit:** 5 birds
- **Possession limit:** 15 birds
- **Notes:** Limits singly or in combination.



Gambel's quail

Scaled quail

- **Season dates and bag limit:** Closed statewide

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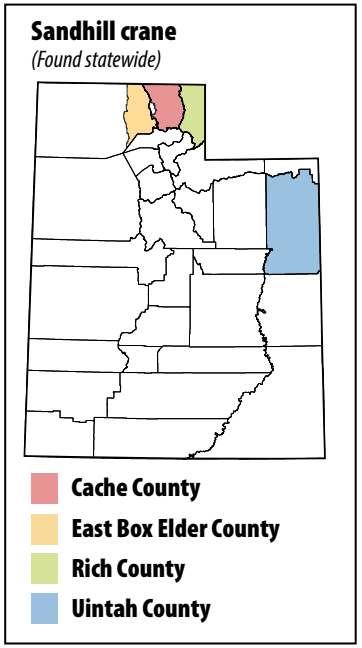
Sandhill crane hunts

Sandhill crane *(Cache and Rich counties)*

- **Season dates:** Sept. 5–13, 2020
- **Areas open:** Cache County (SC1001) and Rich County (SC1002).* Boundary maps are available online at *wildlife.utah.gov/huntplanner*.
- **Permit requirement:** A sandhill crane permit is required to participate in this hunt. During the season, you may take only 1 bird of either sex.
- **Notes:** To apply for a preference point, use the code CRA in your online application. Falconry season dates, possession limits and permit requirements are the same as those for other hunters.

Sandhill crane *(East Box Elder County)*

- **Season dates:** Sept. 5–Nov. 3, 2020 (expanded, 60-day hunt to try and reduce crop damage in the area)
- **Areas open:** East Box Elder County (SC1000).* Boundary maps are available online at *wildlife.utah.gov/huntplanner*.
- **Permit requirement:** A sandhill crane permit is required to participate in this hunt. During the season, you may take only 1 bird of either sex.
- **Notes:** Harold Crane, Public Shooting Grounds and Salt Creek WMAs are closed to sandhill crane hunting. Bear River National Wildlife Refuge is closed to sandhill crane hunting. To apply for a preference point, use the code CRA in your online application. Falconry season dates, possession limits and permit requirements are the same as those for other hunters.



Sandhill crane *(Uintah County)*

- **Season dates:** Oct. 3–22, 2020 (early), Oct. 23–Nov. 11, 2020 (middle) and Nov. 12–Dec. 1, 2020 (late)
- **Areas open:** Uintah County. There are three hunts: early (SC1003), middle (SC1004) and late (SC1005).* Boundary maps are available online at *wildlife.utah.gov/huntplanner*.
- **Permit requirement:** A sandhill crane permit is required to participate in this hunt. During the season, you may take only 1 bird of either sex.
- **Notes:** To apply for a preference point, use the code CRA in your online application. Falconry season dates, possession limits and permit requirements are the same as those for other hunters.

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Rabbit hunts

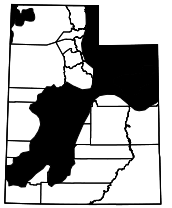
Cottontail rabbit (desert and mountain)

- **Season dates:** Sept. 1, 2020–Feb. 28, 2021
- **Areas open:** Statewide.*
- **Bag limit:** 10 rabbits
- **Possession limit:** 30 rabbits

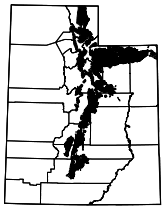
Black-tailed jackrabbit

Jackrabbit (black-tailed and white-tailed)

- **Season dates:** Year round
- **Areas open:** Statewide.*
- **Bag limit:** No limit
- **Possession limit:** No limit
- **Notes:** May be hunted without a license, using any weapon that you lawfully possess.



White-tailed jackrabbit



Snowshoe hare

- **Season dates:** Sept. 1, 2020–March 15, 2021
- **Areas open:** Statewide.*
- **Bag limit:** 5 hares
- **Possession limit:** 15 hares

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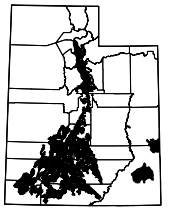
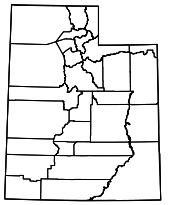
HUNT TABLES AND HABITAT MAPS

Pigeon and dove hunts



Band-tailed pigeon

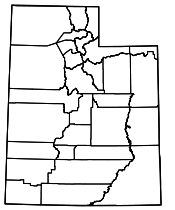
- **Season dates:** Sept. 1–14, 2020
- **Falconry season dates**: Sept. 1–Dec. 16, 2020
- **Areas open:** Statewide.*
- **Bag limit:** 2 birds
- **Possession limit:** 6 birds
- **Permit requirement:** A free permit is required to participate in this hunt.



(Found statewide)

Collared-dove (Eurasian and African)

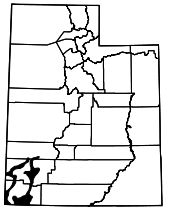
- **Season dates:** Year round
- **Areas open:** Statewide.*
- **Bag limit:** No limit
- **Possession limit:** No limit
- **Notes:** Collared-doves may be hunted without a license, year round, using any weapon that you lawfully possess. Collared-doves should remain fully feathered so they can be distinguished from mourning and white-winged doves. Any collared-doves taken during the dove season will not count as part of the combined dove bag and possession limits if they remain unplucked during transport.



Mourning dove
(Found statewide)

Mourning dove and white-winged dove

- **Season dates:** Sept. 1–Oct. 30, 2020
- **Falconry season dates:** Sept. 1–Dec. 16, 2020
- **Areas open:** Statewide.*
- **Bag limit:** 15 birds
- **Possession limit:** 45 birds
- **Falconry bag limit:** 3 birds
- **Falconry possession limit:** 9 birds (see page 29 for details)
- **Notes:** Limits singly or in combination. Collared-doves should remain fully feathered so they can be distinguished from mourning and white-winged doves.



White-winged dove

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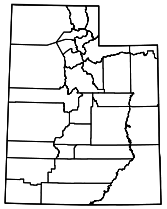
HUNT TABLES AND HABITAT MAPS

American crow hunts



(Found statewide)

American crow

- **Season dates:** Sept. 1–30, 2020 and Dec. 1, 2020–Feb. 28, 2021
- **Areas open:** Statewide.* All national wildlife refuges in Utah are closed to crow hunting.
- **Bag limit:** 10 birds
- **Possession limit:** 30 birds
- **Notes:** For tips that will help you identify crows—and avoid shooting blackbirds and ravens—see page 56.

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SHOOTING HOURS

Utah Admin. Rules R657-6-10

Shooting hours for all upland game species begin 30 minutes before official sunrise.

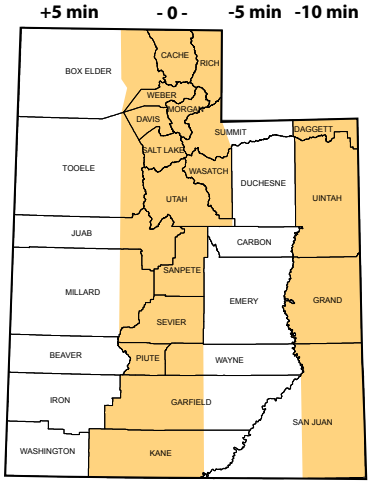
Shooting hours end at different times, depending on the species you're hunting:

- For pigeon, dove, crow and crane, shooting hours end at official sunset.
- For turkey and for all other upland game species, shooting hours end 30 minutes after official sunset.

Official sunrise and sunset times are different, depending on the day and your location. Please consult the table at the right and the time zone map below to learn the differences. You must also follow one other shooting-hour rule:

- You may not discharge a firearm on state-owned lands adjacent to the Great Salt Lake, on state waterfowl management areas or on federal refuges after official sunset or sooner than 30 minutes before official sunrise.

Time zone map



Official sunrise and sunset

DATE	September 2020		October 2020	
	Sunrise A.M.	Sunset P.M.	Sunrise A.M.	Sunset P.M.
1	6:55	7:59	7:25	7:08
2	6:56	7:57	7:26	7:07
3	6:57	7:55	7:27	7:05
4	6:58	7:54	7:28	7:04
5	6:59	7:52	7:29	7:02
6	7:00	7:51	7:30	7:00
7	7:01	7:49	7:31	6:59
8	7:02	7:47	7:32	6:57
9	7:03	7:46	7:33	6:56
10	7:04	7:44	7:34	6:54
11	7:05	7:42	7:35	6:52
12	7:06	7:40	7:36	6:51
13	7:07	7:39	7:37	6:49
14	7:08	7:37	7:38	6:48
15	7:09	7:35	7:39	6:46
16	7:10	7:34	7:40	6:45
17	7:11	7:32	7:42	6:43
18	7:12	7:30	7:43	6:42
19	7:13	7:29	7:44	6:40
20	7:14	7:27	7:45	6:39
21	7:15	7:25	7:46	6:37
22	7:16	7:24	7:47	6:36
23	7:17	7:22	7:48	6:35
24	7:18	7:20	7:49	6:33
25	7:19	7:18	7:51	6:32
26	7:20	7:17	7:52	6:31
27	7:21	7:15	7:53	6:29
28	7:22	7:13	7:54	6:28
29	7:23	7:12	7:55	6:27
30	7:24	7:10	7:56	6:25
31			7:57	6:24

Utah Upland Game & Turkey • 2020–2021

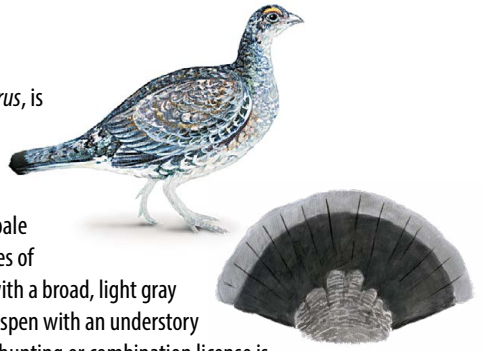
DATE	November 2020		December 2020		January 2021		February 2021	
	Sunrise A.M.	Sunset P.M.	Sunrise A.M.	Sunset P.M.	Sunrise A.M.	Sunset P.M.	Sunrise A.M.	Sunset P.M.
1	6:59	5:23	7:33	5:00	7:52	5:11	7:37	5:46
2	7:00	5:22	7:34	5:00	7:52	5:12	7:36	5:47
3	7:01	5:21	7:35	5:00	7:52	5:13	7:35	5:48
4	7:02	5:19	7:36	5:00	7:52	5:14	7:34	5:49
5	7:03	5:18	7:37	5:00	7:52	5:15	7:33	5:51
6	7:04	5:17	7:38	5:00	7:52	5:16	7:32	5:52
7	7:06	5:16	7:39	5:00	7:52	5:17	7:31	5:53
8	7:07	5:15	7:39	5:00	7:52	5:18	7:30	5:54
9	7:08	5:14	7:40	5:00	7:51	5:19	7:29	5:55
10	7:09	5:13	7:41	5:00	7:51	5:20	7:27	5:57
11	7:10	5:12	7:42	5:00	7:51	5:21	7:26	5:58
12	7:12	5:11	7:43	5:00	7:51	5:22	7:25	5:59
13	7:13	5:11	7:44	5:00	7:50	5:23	7:24	6:00
14	7:14	5:10	7:44	5:01	7:50	5:24	7:22	6:02
15	7:15	5:09	7:45	5:01	7:49	5:25	7:21	6:03
16	7:16	5:08	7:46	5:01	7:49	5:26	7:20	6:04
17	7:17	5:07	7:46	5:02	7:48	5:27	7:18	6:05
18	7:19	5:07	7:47	5:02	7:48	5:29	7:17	6:06
19	7:20	5:06	7:47	5:02	7:47	5:30	7:16	6:08
20	7:21	5:05	7:48	5:03	7:47	5:31	7:14	6:09
21	7:22	5:05	7:48	5:03	7:46	5:32	7:13	6:10
22	7:23	5:04	7:49	5:04	7:46	5:33	7:11	6:11
23	7:24	5:04	7:49	5:05	7:45	5:35	7:10	6:12
24	7:25	5:03	7:50	5:05	7:44	5:36	7:08	6:13
25	7:27	5:03	7:50	5:06	7:43	5:37	7:07	6:15
26	7:28	5:02	7:50	5:06	7:43	5:38	7:05	6:16
27	7:29	5:02	7:51	5:07	7:42	5:39	7:04	6:17
28	7:30	5:01	7:51	5:08	7:41	5:41	7:02	6:18
29	7:31	5:01	7:51	5:09	7:40	5:42		
30	7:32	5:01	7:51	5:09	7:39	5:43		
31			7:52	5:10	7:38	5:44		

DATE	March 2021		April 2021		May 2021	
	Sunrise A.M.	Sunset P.M.	Sunrise A.M.	Sunset P.M.	Sunrise A.M.	Sunset P.M.
1	7:01	6:19	7:10	7:53	6:26	8:24
2	6:59	6:20	7:09	7:54	6:24	8:25
3	6:58	6:21	7:07	7:55	6:23	8:26
4	6:56	6:23	7:06	7:56	6:22	8:27
5	6:55	6:24	7:04	7:57	6:21	8:28
6	6:53	6:25	7:02	7:58	6:19	8:29
7	6:52	6:26	7:01	7:59	6:18	8:30
8	6:50	6:27	6:59	8:00	6:17	8:31
9	6:48	6:28	6:57	8:01	6:16	8:32
10	6:47	6:29	6:56	8:02	6:15	8:33
11	6:45	6:30	6:54	8:03	6:14	8:34
12	6:43	6:31	6:53	8:04	6:13	8:35
13	6:42	6:33	6:51	8:05	6:12	8:36
14	7:40	7:34	6:50	8:06	6:11	8:37
15	7:39	7:35	6:48	8:07	6:10	8:38
16	7:37	7:36	6:47	8:08	6:09	8:39
17	7:35	7:37	6:45	8:10	6:08	8:40
18	7:34	7:38	6:44	8:11	6:07	8:41
19	7:32	7:39	6:42	8:12	6:06	8:42
20	7:30	7:40	6:41	8:13	6:06	8:43
21	7:29	7:41	6:39	8:14	6:05	8:44
22	7:27	7:42	6:38	8:15	6:04	8:45
23	7:25	7:43	6:36	8:16	6:03	8:46
24	7:24	7:44	6:35	8:17	6:03	8:47
25	7:22	7:45	6:34	8:18	6:02	8:48
26	7:20	7:46	6:32	8:19	6:01	8:48
27	7:19	7:47	6:31	8:20	6:01	8:49
28	7:17	7:49	6:29	8:21	6:00	8:50
29	7:15	7:50	6:28	8:22	6:00	8:51
30	7:14	7:51	6:27	8:23	5:59	8:52
31	7:12	7:52			5:59	8:52

SPECIES IDENTIFICATION

Dusky grouse

Weight: up to 3.5 pounds
Length: Male, 21 inches; Female, 18 inches



The dusky grouse, *Dendragapus obscurus*, is also known as the blue grouse, pine hen, pine grouse and fool hen. This bird is dark gray to blackish with mottled brown on the wings. The under parts are pale bluish-gray marked with white on the sides of the neck and flanks. The tail is dark gray with a broad, light gray terminal band. Open stands of conifer or aspen with an understory of brush are the preferred habitat. A valid hunting or combination license is required to hunt this species. For current bag limits and season dates, see page 37.

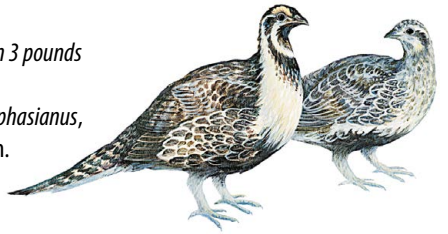
Ruffed grouse

Weight: 1–1.75 pounds
Length: 16–19 inches

The ruffed grouse, *Bonasa umbellus*, is also known as the willow grouse. This bird is brown or gray in appearance and the feathers on the head may be raised to form a crest. The sub-terminal band on the tail is often black or brown. Ideal habitat for these birds includes thickets of aspen, alder, willow, maple, and other deciduous shrubs and trees interspersed with conifers. May be heard "drumming" in the spring. A valid hunting or combination license is required to hunt this species. For current bag limits and season dates, see page 37.

Greater sage-grouse

Weight: Male, up to 7 pounds; Female, less than 3 pounds
Length: Male, 25–30 inches; Female, 20 inches



The greater sage-grouse, *Centrocercus urophasianus*, is also known as the sage-hen or sage-chicken. It is the largest North American grouse species. It is a grayish-brown bird with a dark belly and long, pointed tail feathers. The throat of the male is black, bordered with white at the rear. Yellow air sacs, covered with short, stiff, scale-like white feathers, are found on each side of the neck. The female has the same general appearance but lacks the air sacs and white collar and sides. These birds inhabit sagebrush plains, foothills and mountain valleys. Where there is no sagebrush, there are no sage-grouse. For season dates and special permit requirements, see page 37.

Sharp-tailed grouse

Weight: 1.5–1.75 pounds
Length: 20 inches

The sharp-tailed grouse, *Tympanuchus phasianellus*, is also known as the pin-tailed grouse. Both sexes are grayish-brown with black and buff markings. White spots on the primary wing feathers and the barred pattern of the wing are distinctive features. The undersides of the wings are buff-white, whereas the belly and under parts of the tail are white. Bunchgrass areas of the foothills and benches interspersed with deciduous shrubs are the preferred habitat. For season dates and special permit requirements, see page 38.

White-tailed ptarmigan

Weight: 12-15 ounces
Length: 12-15 inches

The white-tailed ptarmigan, *Lagopus leucurus*, is also known as the snow quail. This bird is pure white in the winter, and in the summer it has a mottled brown head, breast and back with white wings, belly and tail. This is an alpine species, a permanent resident of the high mountains above timberline, and is associated with willowy drainages. This species was introduced into the Uinta Mountains in 1976. For current bag limits, season dates and special permit requirements, see page 38.

Wild turkey

Weight: Male, up to 18 pounds; Female, less than 10 pounds
Length: Male, 48 inches; Female, 36 inches

The wild turkey, *Meleagris gallopavo*, is a large dark-colored bird that is expanding its range within Utah. There are two subspecies of wild turkey in Utah, the Merriam's wild turkey and the Rio Grande wild turkey. Merriam's were first introduced to Utah in 1952 and Rio Grande in 1984. Wild turkeys inhabit high-elevation ponderosa pine forests, oak tree forests, cottonwood tree bottoms, and pinyon/juniper habitats. Adult males are called toms or gobblers, one-year-old males are called jakes, adult females are called hens, and one-year-old females are called jennies. Chicks are called poults. For season dates and special permit requirements, see page 38.

Chukar partridge

Weight: up to 1.25 pounds
Length: 14–15 inches

The chukar partridge, *Alectoris chukar*, is also known as the chukar and the Indian chukar. Sexes are similar and have buff-gray backs and wings with gray-tinged cap, breast and rump. The bill, legs and feet are red. Chukars prefer steep, rocky, semi-arid slopes. Low shrubs and rocky outcrops provide loafing or escape cover. Rabbitbrush, sagebrush, saltbush and cheatgrass below the juniper tree belt seem to be preferred. The chukar is a native of the Middle East and Southern Asia. Efforts to establish this species in Utah began in 1951. A valid hunting or combination license is required to hunt this species. For current bag limits and season dates, see page 40.

Gray (Hungarian) partridge

Weight: 12–13 ounces
Length: 12–14 inches

The gray partridge, *Perdix perdix*, is also known as the Hungarian partridge, hun or European partridge. Gray is the predominant color, with the tail feathers a reddish-brown and very conspicuous in flight. It is generally found in grassland or mixed sage and grass, adjacent to cultivated lands. It occupies open rangeland in some high-mountain valleys. The gray partridge is a native of eastern Europe and western Asia. Present populations in northern and western Utah probably resulted from established populations in Idaho and Nevada. A valid hunting or combination license is required to hunt this species. For current bag limits and season dates, see page 40.

Ring-necked pheasant

Weight: Male, up to 3 pounds
Length: Male, 25–34 inches, tail may exceed 20 inches

The ring-necked pheasant, *Phasianus colchicus*, prefers agricultural and grain-producing regions. In Utah, the best populations are found in irrigated areas. Plumage of the male is gaudy and brilliant. Prominent characteristics are a greenish-blue head, a white ring around the neck, a pale bluish rump patch, and a long, pointed tail barred with black. Coloration of the female is drab, including a mottled blend of browns with buff and dusky markings. The ring-necked pheasant is a native of eastern Asia. It was first introduced to Utah in about 1890. A valid hunting or combination license is required to hunt this species. For current bag limits and season dates, see page 40.

California quail

Weight: 6–7 ounces
Length: 9–11.5 inches

The California quail, *Callipepla californica*, is also known as the valley quail. Males are olive gray with a grayish-blue breast. The buff-colored belly has a scaled appearance and is marked with an area of deep chestnut. The black throat and face are bordered with white. The most conspicuous characteristic is a short black plume that curves forward from the crown of the head. The female is more olive-brown, has a shorter brownish plume and lacks the male's distinctive markings on both the breast and face. This species inhabits brushy areas adjacent to cultivated lands, particularly along streams. They are often associated with urban areas and can be seen in backyards and neighborhoods. They were first introduced to Utah in 1869. A valid hunting or combination license is required to hunt this species. For current bag limits and season dates, see page 40.

Gambel's quail

Weight: 6–7 ounces
Length: 9–11.5 inches

The Gambel's quail, *Callipepla gambelii*, is similar to the California quail in size, shape, and coloration. The two can be distinguished by the reddish-brown crown and sides of the Gambel's quail. Males have a black throat and face that are bordered with white. The most conspicuous characteristic is a short black plume that curves forward from the crown of the head. The female is more olive-brown, has a shorter brownish plume and lacks the male's distinctive markings on both the breast and face. This bird inhabits brushy thickets of the Mojave Desert areas of southern Utah. A valid hunting or combination license is required to hunt this species. For current bag limits and season dates, see page 40.

MAY NOT BE HUNTED

Scaled quail

Weight: 6–7 ounces
Length: 10-12 inches

The scaled quail, *Callipepla squamata*, is only occasionally seen in southeastern Utah, in the Four Corners area. Southern Utah is just north of this species' range. The most distinguishing feature is the scaled breast, neck and nape, and the lack of a plume on the head (as seen in other Utah quail species). The head is topped with a white-tipped crest. Sexes are similar. The quail is native to the southwest desert grasslands, primarily the Chihuahuan Desert grasslands and the southern Great Plains.

Sandhill crane

Weight: up to 11 pounds
Length: 46 inches

The sandhill crane, *Grus canadensis*, is a large bird with long legs and neck. They are gray with a shade of brown. They fly with a straight neck and legs straight behind. This bird has a very distinctive voice that is a loud, wooden-sounding bugle with a rolling quality. It is often seen in agricultural fields, and it winters in marshes or farmlands. Cranes can be found in large numbers at a few habitual gathering places. This bird is sometimes confused with the great blue heron; the great blue heron flies with the neck in an S-shape, is smaller, and has a more blue-gray appearance. For season dates and special permit requirements, see page 41.

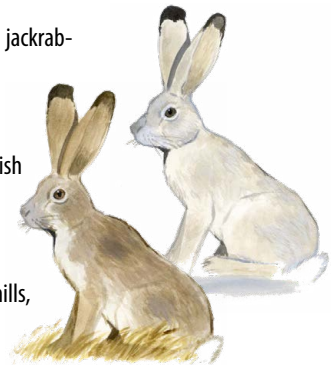
Cottontail rabbit (desert and mountain)

Weight: 2-3 pounds
Length: 16 inches

There are two cottontail rabbit species in Utah, the desert cottontail, *Sylvilagus audubonii*, and the mountain cottontail, *Sylvilagus nuttalli*. They are grayish or brownish on the back and sides with white bellies and the distinctive white tail. These species are widely distributed across Utah, from the desert areas up to the lower slopes of the mountains. Generally, desert cottontails occupy areas below 6,000 feet in elevation and mountain cottontails above 6,000 feet. Cottontails have relatively small ears. A valid hunting or combination license is required to hunt these species. For current bag limits and season dates, see page 42.

Jackrabbit (black-tailed and white-tailed)

Weight: 7-9 pounds
Length: 24-26 inches



There are two jackrabbit species in Utah, the black-tailed jackrabbit, *Lepus californicus*, and the white-tailed jackrabbit, *Lepus townsendii*. Both species have long ears that can be up to 7 inches long. The black-tailed jackrabbit is brownish gray with black on the rump and on top of the tail; it stays that color year round. They are found in the brushlands of the foothills, lower valleys and deserts. The white-tailed jackrabbit is light brownish gray in the summer with a completely white tail, and inhabits open areas in higher elevations. In the winter, this species turns white, similar to the snowshoe hare. This species is bigger than snowshoe hares and has longer ears. Hunting for these two species is year round, statewide, and does not require any license. For details and distribution maps, see page 42.

Snowshoe hare

Weight: 3-4 pounds
Length: 14 inches

The snowshoe hare, *Lepus americanus*, have large hind feet for their size. This species has short ears, 3-4 inches long. Snowshoe hares are dark brownish gray in the summer; the tail is brown on top and dusky beneath. They inhabit coniferous forests, interspersed with thickets of aspen, alder, and willow at higher mountain elevations. In the winter, this species turns completely white, except the black tips on each ear. Snowshoes are smaller, have shorter ears, and relatively larger hind feet than white-tailed jackrabbits. A valid hunting or combination license is required to hunt this species. For current bag limits and season dates, see page 42.

MAY NOT BE HUNTED

Pygmy rabbit

Weight: Less than 1 pound
Length: 10 inches

Pygmy rabbits, *Brachylagus idahoensis*, are the smallest rabbits in North America—half the size of the cottontail rabbits. Pygmy rabbits have a uniformly brown tail; they lack the distinctive white tail of the cottontail rabbits. They may appear tailless. They are grayish or brownish on the back, sides and tail. They prefer sagebrush habitats with deep soils, usually taller and thicker sagebrush. Hunters are most likely to run into pygmy rabbits in the northern and western half of Utah in sagebrush.

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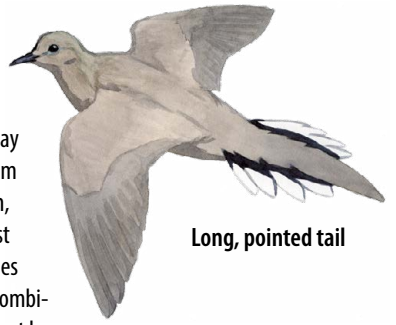
Band-tailed pigeon

Weight: 11-12 ounces
Length: 12-16 inches

The band-tailed pigeon, *Columbia fasciata*, is also known as the white-collared pigeon. The head, neck, breast and underparts are a purplish-gray fading to white towards the vent. A narrow white crescent forms a half collar on the nape of the neck. The upper tail is dark gray with a wide pale gray terminal band. The bill and feet are yellow. This bird is migratory and inhabits coniferous forests. The main concentration areas for Utah are the southern pine forests. They are similar in appearance to the Eurasian collared-dove, but differ in their habitats, and in their feet, bill and collar color. For current bag limits, season dates and special permit requirements, see page 43.

Mourning dove

Weight: 4-5 ounces
Length: 11-13 inches



Mourning doves, *Zenaida macroura*, are slightly smaller than white-winged doves. Mourning doves may fly with white-winged doves, but you can identify them by their more rapid wing beat, more erratic flight path, and especially the pointed tail. This species eats almost entirely seeds, preferring open fields, sunflower patches and agricultural areas near water. A valid hunting or combination license is required to hunt this species. For current bag limits and season dates, see page 43.

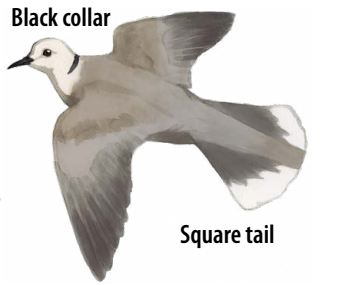
White-winged dove

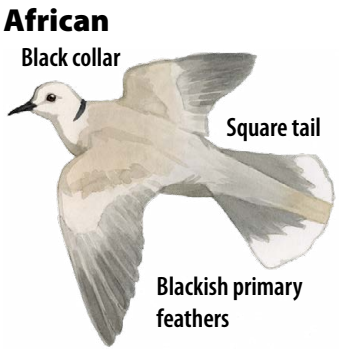
Weight: 4-6 ounces
Length: 11-13 inches

Larger than a mourning dove, the white-winged dove, *Zenaida asiatica*, has a long, moderately rounded tail. It also has a white bar on its upper wing surface with dark primary wing feathers. This species uses similar habitats to the mourning dove, but is less common in Utah, only occurring in the southwest part of the state during the summer months and early fall. A valid hunting or combination license is required to hunt this species. For current bag limits and season dates, see page 43.

Collared-dove (Eurasian and African)

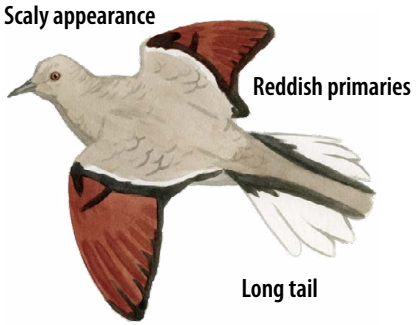
Weight: 6-8 ounces
Length: 12-14 inches

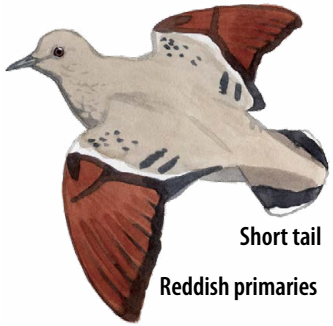




There are two species of collared-doves in Utah: the Eurasian, *Streptopelia decaocto*, and the African, *Streptopelia rosogrisea*. They are very similar in appearance, but the Eurasian doves are a pale gray color while the African doves are a lighter cream color. These collared-doves are exotic, invasive and have rapidly expanded their range in Utah. Currently, the Eurasian is much more common than the African. Both collared-doves are most often associated with suburban areas, and they are larger than Utah's native white-winged and mourning doves. Similar in appearance to band-tailed pigeons, collared-doves differ in their habitats and in their feet, bill and collar color. Both collared-dove species have a narrow black crescent that forms a half collar on the nape of the neck. They also have a broad, rounded tail with white tips, a black bill, dark pink feet and dark primary feathers. You can hunt both species statewide, throughout the year, without any type of license or permit.

MAY NOT BE HUNTED





Inca dove

Ground dove

Both Inca and ground doves are small birds, approximately half the size of a mourning dove. Both are gray and fly close to the ground with rapid wingbeats. The Inca has a scaly appearance and a long tail with white margins. The ground dove has a short, round, dark tail. Hunters are most likely to encounter these birds in southern Utah.

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wildlife.utah.gov

American crow

Weight: up to 2 pounds
Length: 15–19 inches

American crows, *Corvus brachyrhynchos*, average 17 inches tall. They are larger than blackbirds (9 inches) and smaller than common ravens (24 inches). Crows have square-shaped tails and small, flat bills. The top and bottom of the bill appear even in length. Crows beat their wings quickly and rarely glide. Their call is a quick, high-pitched "caw" that is repeated multiple times. Crows hop when they are on the ground. They are often found in large flocks in or near urban areas. For current bag limits and season dates, see page 44.

MAY NOT BE HUNTED

Ravens

Blackbirds

Common ravens are large birds with v-shaped tails and large, rounded bills. A raven's top bill is larger than its lower bill. Ravens are smooth, graceful flyers and often glide. Their call is a low and hoarse "croak" that is repeated once or twice. While on the ground, they walk smoothly. Ravens are often alone or in small groups. Ravens are usually found in rural areas.

Pay attention to the tail

American crows, which may be hunted, have square-shaped tails.

Ravens, which may not be hunted, have v-shaped tails.

DETERMINING A SPRING TURKEY'S AGE

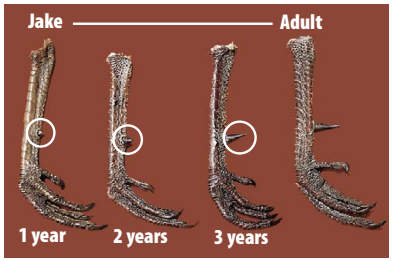
Juveniles, or jakes (sub-adult male turkeys less than one year old), can be distinguished from adult gobblers by the coloration (barring) on their wings, the length of their beards and spurs, and the shape of their tail feathers.

Wings

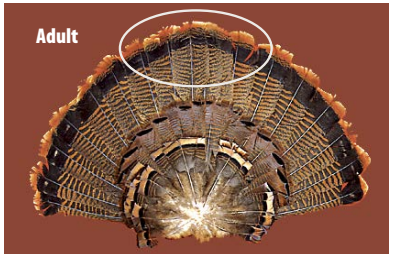
Adults have white barring to the tips of the two outermost wing feathers. These bars are absent at the tips of jakes' two outermost wing feathers. Also, the tips of the adults' two outermost feathers are more rounded than the tips of jakes' two outermost feathers.

Beards

Turkeys' beards (top) become longer as turkeys age.



Tail feathers



DEFINITIONS

50 CFR 20.11, Utah Code § 23-13-2 and Utah Admin. Rule R657-6-2

Bag limit means the maximum limit, in number or amount, of protected wildlife that one person may legally take during one day.

Bait means shelled, shucked or unshucked corn, wheat or other grain, salt or other feed that lures, attracts or entices upland game or wild turkey.

Baited area means the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for upland game to, on, or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them.

Baiting means the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing or scattering of salt, grain or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for birds to, on or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them.

Certificate of registration means a document issued under the Wildlife Resources Code, or any rule or proclamation of the Wildlife Board granting authority to engage in activities not covered by a license, permit, or tag.

CFR means the Code of Federal Regulations.

Cooperative Wildlife Management Unit means a generally contiguous area of land open for hunting small game, waterfowl or big game, which is registered in accordance with the rules and proclamations of the Wildlife Board.

Domicile means the place:

- where an individual has a fixed permanent home and principal establishment;
- to which the individual if absent, intends to return; and
- in which the individual and the individual's family voluntarily reside, not for a special or temporary purpose, but with the intention of making a permanent home.

To create a new domicile an individual must:

- abandon the old domicile; and
- be able to prove that a new domicile has been established.

Falconry means the sport of taking quarry by means of a trained raptor.

HIP means Migratory Game Bird Harvest Information Program.

Hunting means to take or pursue a reptile, amphibian, bird or mammal by any means.

Limited-entry permit means any permit obtained for a limited-entry hunt by any means, including conservation permits and sportsman permits.

Migratory game bird means, for purposes of this guidebook, American crow, band-tailed pigeon, mourning dove, white-winged dove and sandhill crane.

Nonresident means a person who does not qualify as a resident.

Nontoxic shot means soft iron, steel, copper-plated steel, nickel-plated steel, zinc-plated steel, bismuth, tungsten and any other shot types approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Lead, nickel-plated lead, copper-plated lead, copper and lead/copper alloy shot have not been approved.

Permit means a document, including a stamp, which grants authority to engage in specified activities under the Wildlife Resources Code or a rule or proclamation of the Wildlife Board.

Possession means actual or constructive possession.

Possession limit means the number of bag limits one individual may legally possess.

Resident means a person who:

- has a domicile (fixed permanent home and principal establishment) in Utah for six consecutive months immediately preceding the purchase of a license or permit, AND
- DOES NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.

An individual retains Utah residency if he or she leaves Utah to serve in the armed forces of the United States, or for religious or educational purposes, and does NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.

Members of the armed forces of the United States and dependents are residents as of the date the member reports for duty under assigned orders in Utah if:

- the member is NOT on temporary duty in Utah and does NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.
- the member presents a copy of his or her assignment orders to a Division office to verify the member's qualification as a resident.

A nonresident attending an institution of higher learning in Utah as a full-time student may qualify as a resident if the student has been present in Utah for 60 consecutive days immediately preceding the purchase of the license or permit and does NOT claim residency for hunting, fishing or trapping in any other state or country.

A Utah resident license or permit is invalid if a resident license for hunting, fishing or trapping is purchased in any other state or country. An individual DOES NOT qualify as a resident if he or she is an absentee landowner paying property tax on land in Utah.

Tag means a card, label or other identification device issued for attachment to the carcass of protected wildlife.

Take means to hunt, pursue, harass, catch, capture, possess, angle, seine, trap or kill any protected wildlife; or attempt any action referred to above.

Transport means to ship, carry, export, import, receive or deliver for shipment, conveyance, carriage, exportation or importation.

Upland game means pheasant, quail, chukar partridge, gray partridge, greater sage-grouse, ruffed grouse, dusky grouse, sharp-tailed grouse, cottontail rabbit, snowshoe hare, white-tailed ptarmigan, and the following migratory game birds: American crow, band-tailed pigeon, mourning dove, white-winged dove and sandhill crane.

Waste means to abandon protected wildlife or to allow protected wildlife to spoil or to be used in a manner not normally associated with its beneficial use.

Wild turkey as used in this rule means a wild, free-ranging turkey and does not include a privately-owned wild turkey, domestic turkey or wild-domestic hybrids.

Youth means a person who will be 17 years of age or younger on July 31.

2020–21 QUICK-REFERENCE CALENDAR

	Bag/Pos.	September	October	November	December	January	February
White-tailed ptarmigan (pg 38)	4/12	9/1	10/31	*Additional, free permit required*			
Band-tailed pigeon (pg 43)	2/6	9/1–9/14 *Additional, free permit required*					
Mourning and white-winged dove (pg 43)	15/45	9/1	10/30	*Falconry limits vary*			
Dusky and ruffed grouse (pg 37)	4/12	9/1			12/31		
American crow (pg 44)	10/30	9/1	9/30		12/1		2/28
Cottontail rabbit (pg 42)	10/30	9/1					2/28
Snowshoe hare (pg 42)	5/15	9/1					3/15
Sandhill crane (pg 41)	Permit req.	9/5		11/3	*Additional permit required; Seasons vary: check your permit*		
Greater sage-grouse (pg 37)	Permit req.		9/26	10/18 *Additional permit required*			
Sharp-tailed grouse (pg 38)	Permit req.		9/26	10/18 *Additional permit required*			
Chukar partridge (pg 40)	5/15		9/26				2/15
Gray (Hungarian) partridge (pg 40)	5/15		9/26				2/15
Ring-necked pheasant (pg 40)	2/6 males			11/7	12/6		
California and Gambel's quail (pg 40)	5/15			11/7	12/31		
Collared-dove (pg 43)	No limit	Open year round					
Jackrabbit (pg 42)	No limit	Open year round					

Wild turkey (see page 38-39 for hunting dates)