

ANIMAL	METHOD OF TAKE	SEASON	LOCATION RESTRICTIONS AND FOOTNOTES	SHOOTING HOURS	TAGS/STAMPS	DAILY LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT	STATS <sup>1</sup>	RESOURCES	
Quail	Shotgun <sup>2</sup>	September 12 - January 31 (Depends on individual zones. Consult DFG regulations.)	<h2>HUNTING: A BRIEFING</h2> <p>A handy look at the regulations for hunting various species in Northern California, with details about game species, season dates, special restrictions, tag and stamp requirements, daily and season possession limits, permitted weapons and ammunition, and Department of Fish and Game statistics on bag rates, as well as informational resources.</p> <p><b>FOOTNOTES</b></p> <p>1. Source: DFG 2007 hunter survey, amounts are estimates.</p> <p>2. Shotguns must be 10 gauge or smaller, capable of holding no more than three shells, shot size no larger than BB.</p> <p>3. Two male pheasants may be taken by shotgun per day on the first two days of season, three males per day afterward.</p> <p>4. Two pheasants may be taken with these methods per day on the first two days of season, three per day afterward; not more than one female per day.</p> <p>5. Crows may not be taken within the boundaries of the Trinity and Mendocino national forests south of Highway 36, or north and east of a line beginning at the mouth of the Eel River; south along the Eel River to the town of Alton; east on Highway 36 from the town of Alton to Highway 89 west of Chester; south and east on Highways 89 and 395 to Interstate 15 near Hesperia; south on Interstate 15 to Interstate 10; and east on Interstate 10 to the California-Arizona border.</p> <p>6. Seven are allowed in the daily limit, with no more than two hen mallards, two pintail, one canvasback, two redhead, three scaup.</p> <p>7. Eight geese are allowed in the daily limit, and no more than six white geese or six dark geese, of which four may be white-fronted. In the Sacramento Valley Special Management Area (see map on page D6), hunters may take no more than two white-fronted geese per day through Dec. 14, and none afterward.</p> <p><b>MORE FOOTNOTES BELOW</b></p>	Thirty minutes before sunrise to sunset.	Valid hunting license and upland game stamp required. Upland stamp costs \$8.40.	10	20	530,000 taken in 2007 – about 4 per every 3 hunting days.	Quail Forever	
	Archery	August 15 - September 4								
	Falconry	August 15 - September 28								
Chukar	Shotgun <sup>2</sup>	October 17 - January 31					6	12	37,000 taken in 2007 – about 2 per every 3 hunting days.	
	Archery	August 15 - September 4								
	Falconry	August 15 - February 28								
<b>GROUSE</b>	Shotgun <sup>2</sup>	September 12 - 13				Hunting by permit only.	2 per day, 2 per season in Lassen zones. 1 per day, 1 per season in Inyo - Mono zones.		47 taken in 2007 – about 1 per every 8 hours of hunting.	
Sage grouse	Falconry	November 7 - January 5								
Sooty or blue grouse, ruffed grouse	Shotgun <sup>2</sup>	September 12 - October 12				Valid hunting license and upland game stamp required. Upland stamp costs \$8.40.	2 – all of one species or mixed.	Double the daily bag limit.	8,500 taken in 2007 – 1 per every 4 hunting days	Ruffed Grouse Society
	Archery	August 15 - September 4								
	Falconry	August 15 - February 28								
Ptarmigan	Shotgun <sup>2</sup>	September 12 - 20				2 per day, 2 per season.		Not available.		
	Archery	August 15 - February 28								
Fall turkey	Falconry, archery, shotgun (10 gauge or smaller, capable of holding no more than three shells, shot size no larger than 2), air rifles (.20 caliber or greater)	November 14 - 29				1 of either sex, per season.		7,000 taken in 2007 – about 1 per every 5 hunting days.	National Wild Turkey Federation	
Pheasant	Shotgun <sup>2</sup>	November 14 - December 27		8 a.m. to sunset.		See footnote 3.	Double the daily bag limit.	103,000 taken in 2007 – about 3 per every 4 hunting days.	Pheasants Forever	
	Archery	November 14 - January 12				See footnote 4.				
	Falconry	August 15 - February 28								
American crow	Falconry, archery, shotgun (10 gauge or smaller, capable of holding no more than three shells)	December 5 - April 7	See footnote 5.	Thirty minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.	Valid hunting license required.	24	48	Not available		
<b>WATERFOWL</b>										
Ducks	Falconry, archery, shotgun <sup>2</sup>	October 24 - January 31	Dates shown are for Balance of State Zone – consult detailed regulations for Northeastern, Southern California, Colorado River and Southern San Joaquin Valley zones. Consult regulations for special youth-only hunt days. Falconry season is Oct. 24 - Feb. 7, with a daily limit of three and possession limit of six.	Thirty minutes before sunrise to sunset (except when hunting on or adjacent to waters of Morro Bay, where it's 7 a.m. to sunset).	Valid hunting license, federal and state duck stamps, Harvest Information Program stamp required. Federal stamp costs \$15. State stamp is \$17.85. HIP stamp is free.	See footnote 6.	Double the daily bag limit.	2.7 million taken in 2007 – about 9 per every 4 hunting days.	California Waterfowl, Delta Waterfowl, Ducks Unlimited	
Scaup		November 7 - January 31								
Geese		October 24 - January 31								
Coots/moor hens		October 24 - January 31								
Black brant		November 17 - December 13								
						25	25	19,000 in 2007 – 1 per hunting day.		
						2	Double the daily bag limit.	Not available.	The Black Brant Group	
<b>DOVES</b>										
Mourning and white-winged		September 1 - 15 November 14 - December 28	<b>MORE FOOTNOTES</b> 8. Cottontails and brush rabbits may not be taken in a portion of San Joaquin County between Stockton and Tracy – see state regulations for detailed boundary description. 9. In all counties except Alameda, Colusa, Contra Costa, Imperial, Inyo, Kings, Los Angeles, Mendocino, Merced, Mono, Monterey, Orange, Riverside, Sacramento, San Benito, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, San Joaquin, San Luis Obispo, San Mateo, Santa Barbara, Santa Clara, Santa Cruz, Stanislaus, Ventura, Yolo. Squirrel hunting is allowed in Kern County only east of Interstate 5. <b>ONE MORE FOOTNOTE BELOW</b>		Valid hunting license, upland game stamp and Harvest Information Program stamp required.	10	Double the daily bag limit.	1.9 million in 2007 – 13 per 3 hunting days.		
Eurasian collared						No limit.		25,000 in 2007 – 6 per 5 hunting days.		
Snipe		October 17 - January 31			Upland stamp costs \$8.40. HIP stamp is free.	8	16	11,000 in 2007 – 3 per 2 hunting days.		
Band-tailed pigeon		September 12 - 27 in north December 19 - 27 in south				2	4	13,000 in 2007 – about 1 per hunting day.		
<b>RABBITS</b>										
Brush, cottontail, pigmy, hare	Shotgun <sup>2</sup> , air rifles, rifles, pistols, box traps (only in San Diego and Orange counties)	July 1 - January 31	See footnote 8.	Thirty minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.	Valid hunting license required.	5	10	71,000 cottontails taken in 2007 – about 1 per every hunting day.		
	Falconry	February 1 - March 21								
Jack rabbits	Shotgun <sup>2</sup> , air rifles, rifles, pistols, box traps (only in San Diego and Orange counties), falconry	Year-round.				No limit.		Nearly 79,000 taken in 2007 – about 1 per every hunting day.		
Deer	Archery	July 11 - October 25	Seasons vary depending on zones – consult DFG regulations for details.	Thirty minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.	Valid hunting license and tag required; tags may be purchased for most zones, but special zones east of the Sierra require special tags awarded by lottery in June. First tag costs \$27.55; second, \$34.40.		Generally, one buck – forked horn or better – per tag. Generally, two tags are allowed, though more may be purchased through special fundraising programs.	33,367 taken in 2007	California Deer Association, Mule Deer Foundation, Mendocino Blacktail Association	
	Rifle, archery, muzzleloader, shotgun (firing slugs), crossbow	August 8 - November 29								
Tree squirrels	Archery, falconry	August 1 - September 11	See footnote 9. <b>ONE MORE FOOTNOTE</b> 10. In all counties except Imperial, Inyo, Los Angeles, Mono, Orange, Riverside, San Bernardino, San Diego, San Francisco, Santa Barbara and Ventura. Squirrel hunting is allowed in Kern County only east of Interstate 5.	Thirty minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.	Valid hunting license only.	4	4	53,000 taken in 2007 – about 2 per every 3 hunting days.		
	Shotgun <sup>2</sup> , air rifles, rifles, pistols	September 12 - January 31	See footnote 10.							
Black bear	Rifle, archery, muzzleloader, shotgun (firing slugs)	August 8 - December 27	Seasons vary depending on zones – consult DFG regulations for details.	Thirty minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.	Valid hunting license and bear tag required. Bear tag costs \$40.45.		One adult bear per season.	2,200 taken in 2007, about 1 for every 100 hunting days.		
<b>SPECIAL HUNTS</b>										
Elk	Rifle, archery, muzzleloader	August 11 - January 3	Special hunt seasons depend on zones. Consult DFG regulations.	Thirty minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.	Valid hunting license and tag required; tags for elk, antelope and bighorn sheep are limited and awarded by a lottery in June.	One per tag (specifications vary by hunt zone).		Not available.	Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation	
Antelope		August 8 - September 13								
Nelson bighorn sheep		August 15 - February 21								
Bobcat	Trapping	November 24 - January 31		Thirty minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.	Trapping license required.	No limit.		Not available.		
	Hunting	October 15 - February 28			Valid hunting license, tag required. Tags cost \$14.70.	One per tag. Five tags per season allowed.				
Wild pig	Rifle, archery, muzzleloader, shotgun (firing slugs)	Year-round		Thirty minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.	Valid hunting license, tag required. Tags cost \$19.70.	One per tag.	No limit.	20,000 taken in 2007 – about 1 per every 10 hunting days.		
			<b>CREDITS</b> Sources: California Department of Fish and Game, research for The Bee by Holly A. Heyser Graphic by <b>ROBERT DORRELL</b> rdorrell@sacbee.com							