

NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION ORDER

Order C06: Coot, Duck, Goose, and Crow Hunting

Last Approved Date: March 20, 2020

C06 Coots, Ducks, Geese, Crow

The following Commission Order is prescribed by the Game and Parks Commission, State of Nebraska in accordance with Neb. Rev. Stat. §§ 37-314, 37-315, 37-405, 37-411, 37-428, 37-501, 37-508, 37-536, 37-563, 37-701. For purposes of this Order, unless context otherwise requires, the definitions found in Chapter 37, sections 202 through 247 of the Game Law, are used. This order is effective fifteen (15) days following enactment by the Commission and posting on the Commission's website.

C06.01 HUNTING SEASONS

C06.01A Ducks and Mergansers (Zone and Management Unit boundaries in C06.01A5)

C06.01A1 Open Season:

Zone 1: October 10 through December 22, 2020.

Zone 2:

Low Plains: October 3 through December 15, 2020.

High Plains: October 3 through December 15, 2020, and January 6 through January 27, 2021.

Zone 3:

Low Plains: October 24, 2020 through January 5, 2021.

High Plains: October 24, 2020 through January 5, 2021, and January 6 through January 27, 2021.

Zone 4:

Low Plains: October 3 through December 15, 2020.

C06.01A2 Daily Bag Limit: Conventional System - Six Ducks. May include no more than: Five(5) mallards of which no more than two(2) can be females, one(1) mottled duck, one (1) pintail, two (2) canvasbacks, two(2) redheads, one (1) scaup (greater and lesser combined), and three(3) wood ducks.

Mergansers: A daily bag of five (5), only two (2) of which may be a hooded merganser.

C06.01A3 Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag.

C06.01A4 Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

C06.01A5 Management Unit Boundaries

C06.01A5a Low Plains: Eastern part of state: That portion of Nebraska lying east of a line beginning at the South Dakota-Nebraska border on U.S. Hwy. 183, south on U.S. Hwy. 183 to U.S. Hwy. 20, west on U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 7, south on NE Hwy. 7 to NE Hwy. 91, southwest on NE Hwy. 91 to NE Hwy. 2, southeast on NE Hwy. 2 to NE Hwy. 92, west on NE Hwy. 92 to NE Hwy. 40, south on NE Hwy. 40 to NE Hwy. 47, south on NE Hwy. 47 to NE Hwy. 23, east on NE Hwy. 23 to U.S. Hwy. 283 and south on U.S. Hwy. 283 to the Kansas-Nebraska border.

C06.01A5a(1) Zone 1: Area bounded by designated Federal and State highways and political boundaries beginning at the South Dakota-Nebraska border west of NE Hwy. 26E Spur and north of NE Hwy. 12; those portions of Dixon, Cedar and Knox Counties north of NE Hwy. 12; that portion of Keya Paha County east of U.S. Hwy. 183; and all of Boyd County. Both banks of the Niobrara River in Keya Paha and Boyd counties east of U.S. Hwy. 183 shall be included in Zone 1.

C06.01A5a(2) Zone 2: The area south of Zone 1 and north of Zone 3.

C06.01A5a(3) Zone 3: Area bounded by designated Federal and State highways, County Roads, and political boundaries beginning at the Wyoming-Nebraska border at the intersection of the Interstate Canal; east along northern borders of Scotts Bluff and Morrill Counties to Broadwater Road; south to Morrill County Rd 94; east to County Rd 135; south to County Rd 88; southeast to County Rd 151; south to County Rd 80; east to County Rd 161; south to County Rd 76; east to County Rd 165; south to County Rd 167; south to U.S. Hwy. 26; east to County Rd 171; north to County Rd 68; east to County Rd 183; south to County Rd

64; east to County Rd 189; north to County Rd 70; east to County Rd 201; south to County Rd 60A; east to County Rd 203; south to County Rd 52; east to Keith County Line; east along the northern boundaries of Keith and Lincoln Counties to NE Hwy. 97; south to U.S. Hwy 83; south to E Hall School Rd; east to North Airport Road; south to U.S. Hwy. 30; east to NE Hwy. 47; north to Dawson County Rd 769; east to County Rd 423; south to County Rd 766; east to County Rd 428; south to County Rd 763; east to NE Hwy. 21; south to County Rd 761; southeast along Dawson County Canal; east to County Rd 444; south to U.S. Hwy. 30; east to U.S. Hwy. 183; north to Buffalo County Rd 100; east to NE Hwy. 40; east to NE Hwy. 10; north to County Rd 220 and Hall County Husker Highway; east to Hall County Rd 70; north to NE Hwy. 2; east to U.S. Hwy. 281; north to Chapman Rd; east to U.S. Hwy. 30; east to Merrick County Rd 13; north to County Rd O; east to NE Hwy. 14; north to NE Hwy. 52; west and north to NE Hwy. 91; west to U.S. Hwy. 281; south to NE Hwy. 22; west to NE Hwy. 11; northwest to NE Hwy. 91; west to U.S. Hwy. 183; south to Round Valley Rd; west to Sargent River Rd; west to Sargent Rd; west to NE Hwy. S21A; west to NE Hwy. 2; north to NE Hwy. 91; east to North Loup Spur Rd; north to North Loup River Rd; east to Pleasant Valley/Worth Rd; east to Loup County Line; north to Loup-Brown county line; east along northern boundaries of Loup and Garfield Counties to Cedar River Road; south to NE Hwy. 70; east to U.S. Hwy. 281; north to NE Hwy. 70; east to NE Hwy. 14; south to NE Hwy. 39; southeast to NE Hwy. 22; east to U.S. Hwy. 81; southeast to U.S. Hwy. 30; east to U.S. Hwy. 75; north to the Washington County line; east to the Iowa–Nebraska border; south to the Missouri–Nebraska border; south to Kansas–Nebraska border; west along Kansas–Nebraska border to Colorado–Nebraska border; north and west to Wyoming–Nebraska border; north to intersection of Interstate Canal; and excluding that area in Zone 4.

C06.01A5a(4) Zone 4: Area encompassed by designated Federal and State highways and County Roads beginning at the intersection of NE Hwy. 8 and U.S. Hwy. 75; north to U.S. Hwy. 136; east to the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 136 and the Steamboat Trace (Trace); north along the Trace to the intersection with Federal Levee R–562; north along Federal Levee R–562 to the intersection with Nemaha County Rd

643A; south to the Trace; north along the Trace/Burlington Northern Railroad right-of-way to NE Hwy. 2; west to U.S. Hwy. 75; north to NE Hwy. 2; west to NE Hwy. 50; north to U.S. Hwy. 34; west to NE Hwy. 63; north to NE Hwy. 66; north and west to U.S. Hwy. 77; north to NE Hwy. 92; west to NE Hwy. Spur 12F; south to Butler County Rd 30; east to County Rd X; south to County Rd 27; west to County Rd W; south to County Rd 26; east to County Rd X; south to County Rd 21 (Seward County Line); west to NE Hwy. 15; north to County Rd 34; west to County Rd H; south to NE Hwy. 92; west to U.S. Hwy. 81; south to NE Hwy. 66; west to Polk County Rd C; north to NE Hwy. 92; west to U.S. Hwy. 30; west to Merrick County Rd 17; south to Hordlake Road; southeast to Prairie Island Road; southeast to Hamilton County Rd T; south to NE Hwy. 66; west to NE Hwy. 14; south to County Rd 22; west to County Rd M; south to County Rd 21; west to County Rd K; south to U.S. Hwy. 34; west to NE Hwy. 2; south to U.S. Hwy. I-80; west to Gunbarrel Rd. (Hall/Hamilton county line); south to Giltner Rd; west to U.S. Hwy. 281; south to Lochland Rd; west to Holstein Ave.; south to U.S. Hwy. 34; west to NE Hwy. 10; north to Kearney County Rd R and Phelps County Rd 742; west to U.S. Hwy. 283; south to U.S. Hwy 34; east to U.S. Hwy. 136; east to U.S. Hwy. 183; north to NE Hwy. 4; east to NE Hwy. 10; south to U.S. Hwy. 136; east to NE Hwy. 14; south to NE Hwy. 8; east to U.S. Hwy. 81; north to NE Hwy. 4; east to NE Hwy. 15; south to U.S. Hwy. 136; east to Jefferson County Rd 578 Ave.; south to PWF Rd; east to NE Hwy. 103; south to NE Hwy. 8; east to U.S. Hwy. 75.

C06.01A5b High Plains: That portion of Nebraska lying west of a line beginning at the South Dakota-Nebraska border on U.S. Hwy. 183; south on U.S. Hwy. 183 to U.S. Hwy. 20; west on U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 7; south on NE Hwy. 7 to NE Hwy. 91; southwest on NE Hwy. 91 to NE Hwy. 2; southeast on NE Hwy. 2 to NE Hwy. 92; west on NE Hwy. 92 to NE Hwy. 40; south on NE Hwy. 40 to NE Hwy. 47; south on NE Hwy. 47 to NE Hwy. 23; east on NE Hwy. 23 to U.S. Hwy. 283; and south on U.S. Hwy. 283 to the Kansas-Nebraska border.

C06.01A5c Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

C06.01B Coot -- Management Unit Boundaries as described in C06.01A5a through C06.01A5c.

C06.01B1 Open Season:

Low Plains

Zones 1 and 2: To run concurrent with dates established in C06.01A1.

Zones 3 and 4: To run concurrent with dates established in C06.01A1.

High Plains:

To run concurrent with dates established in C06.01A1.

C06.01B2 Daily Bag Limit: Fifteen (15).

C06.01B3 Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag limit.

C06.01B4 Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

C06.01B5 Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

C06.01C Geese

C06.01C1 Light Geese (Blue, Snow and Ross' Geese) - Zone boundaries are described in C06.01C1h.

C06.01C1a Rainwater Basin Zone

C06.01C1a(1) Open Season Dates: October 3, 2020 through December 23, 2020 and January 16 through February 7, 2021.

Hunting is not permitted within 0.5 mile of an area bounded by the outermost channel with flowing water on the north and south sides of the Platte River from:

February 10-February 17:

Between NE Hwy. Spur 10D (Shelton) to NE Hwy. 14;

February 18-March 10:

Between NE Hwy. Spur L24B (Overton) to NE Hwy. 14;

March 11-April 5:

Between U.S. Hwy. 281 to NE Hwy. 14, for that portion of the Platte River lying south of Interstate 80.

C06.01C1b West Zone

C06.01C1b(1) Open Season Dates: October 3, 2020 through December 23, 2020 and January 16 through February 7, 2021.

C06.01C1c East Zone

C06.01C1c(1) Open Season Dates: October 3, 2020 through December 23, 2020 and January 16 through February 7, 2021.

C06.01C1d Daily Bag Limit: Fifty (50).

C06.01C1e Possession Limit: None.

C06.01C1f Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

C06.01C1g Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

C06.01C1h Management Unit Boundaries

C06.01C1h(1) Rainwater Basin Zone: The area contained within and bounded by the intersection of NE Hwy. 92 and NE Hwy. 15, south along NE Hwy. 15 to NE Hwy. 4, west along NE Hwy. 4 to U.S. Hwy. 34, west along U.S. Hwy. 34 to U.S. Hwy. 283, north along U.S. Hwy. 283 to U.S. Hwy. 30, east along U.S. Hwy. 30 to NE Hwy. 92, east along NE Hwy. 92 to the beginning.

C06.01C1h(2) West Zone: That area west of U.S. Highway 81, from the Nebraska-Kansas border to the Nebraska-South Dakota border, excluding the area contained within the Rainwater Basin Zone as described in C06.01C1h(1).

C06.01C1h(3) East Zone: The remainder of the state not included in the Rainwater Basin Zone (C06.01C1h(1)) or the West Zone (C06.01C1h(2)).

C06.01C2 Dark Geese (Canada, Brant and all other goose species except white-fronted geese and those included as light geese) - Unit boundaries are described in C06.01C2a(4), C06.01C2b(4), C06.01C2c(4), C06.01C2d(4) and C06.01C2e(4).

C06.01C2a Niobrara Unit

C06.01C2a(1) Open Season Dates: October 26, 2020 through February 7, 2021.

C06.01C2a(2) Daily Bag Limit: Five (5) geese.

C06.01C2a(3) Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag limit.

C06.01C2a(4) Management Unit Boundary -- The area contained within and bounded by the intersection of the South Dakota state line and the eastern Cherry County line, south along the Cherry County line to the Niobrara River, east to the Norden Road, south on the Norden Road to U.S. Hwy. 20, east along U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 14, north along NE Hwy. 14 to NE Hwy. 59 and County Road 872, west along County Line 872 to the Knox County line, north along the Knox County line to the South Dakota state line. Where the Niobrara River forms the boundary, both banks of the river are included in the Niobrara Unit.

C06.01C2b East Unit

C06.01C2b(1) Open Season Dates: October 26, 2020 through February 7, 2021.

C06.01C2b(2) Daily Bag Limit: Five (5) geese.

C06.01C2b(3) Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag limit.

C06.01C2b(4) Management Unit Boundary -- That area north and east of U.S. Hwy. 81 at the Kansas-Nebraska state line, north to NE Hwy. 91, east to U.S. 275, south to U.S. Hwy. 77, south to NE Hwy. 91, east to U.S. Hwy. 30, east to the Nebraska-Iowa state line.

C06.01C2c Platte River Unit

C06.01C2c(1) Open Season Dates: October 26, 2020 through February 7, 2021.

Hunting is not permitted within 0.5 mile of an area bounded by the outermost channel with flowing water on the north and south sides of the Platte River from:

February 10-February 17:

Between NE Hwy. Spur 10D (Shelton) to NE Hwy. 14;

February 18-March 10:

Between NE Hwy. Spur L24B (Overton) to NE Hwy. 14;

C06.01C2c(2) Daily Bag Limit: Five (5) geese.

C06.01C2c(3) Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag limit.

C06.01C2c(4) Management Unit Boundary - That area north and west of U.S. Hwy. 81 at the Kansas-Nebraska state line, north to NE Hwy. 91, west along NE Hwy. 91 to NE Hwy. 11, north to the Holt County line, west along the northern border of Garfield, Loup, Blaine and Thomas Counties to the Hooker County line, south along the Thomas-Hooker County lines to the McPherson County line, east along the south border of Thomas County to the western line of Custer County, south along the Custer-Logan County lines to NE Hwy. 92, west to U.S. Hwy. 83, north to NE Hwy. 92, west to NE Hwy. 61, south along NE Hwy. 61 to NE Hwy. 92, west along NE Hwy. 92 to U.S. Hwy. 26, south along U.S. Hwy. 26 to the Keith County line, south along the Keith County line to the Colorado state line.

C06.01C2d North Central Unit

C06.01C2d(1) Open Season Dates: October 3, 2020 through January 15, 2021.

C06.01C2d(2) Daily Bag Limit: Five (5) geese.

C06.01C2d(3) Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag limit.

C06.01C2d(4) Management Unit Boundary -- That part of the state north of the Platte River, Panhandle and East units, and excluding that area described in C06.01C2a(4).

C06.01C2e Panhandle Unit

C06.01C2e(1) Open Season Dates: October 26, 2020 through February 7, 2021.

C06.01C2e(2) Daily Bag Limit: Five (5) geese.

C06.01C2e(3) Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag limit.

C06.01C2e(4) Management Unit Boundary: - That area north and west of the Keith-Deuel County line at the Nebraska-Colorado state line, north along the Keith County line to U.S. Hwy. 26, west to NE Hwy. 92, east to NE Hwy. 61, north along NE Hwy. 61 to NE Hwy. 2, west along NE Hwy. 2 to the corner formed by Garden-Grant-Sheridan Counties, west along the north border of Garden, Morrill, and Scotts Bluff Counties to the intersection of the Interstate Canal, west to the Wyoming state line.

C06.01C2f Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

C06.01C3 White-Fronted Geese

C06.01C3a Open Season Dates: October 3 through December 6, 2020 and January 16 through February 7, 2021.

Hunting is not permitted within 0.5 mile of an area bounded by the outermost channel with flowing water on the north and south sides of the Platte River from:

February 10-February 17:

Between NE Hwy. Spur 10D (Shelton) to NE Hwy. 14;

February 18-March 10:
Between NE Hwy. Spur L24B (Overton) to NE Hwy. 14.

C06.01C3b Daily Bag Limit: Two (2) geese.

C06.01C3c Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag.

C06.01C3d Area Open: Statewide except federal or state refuges unless otherwise authorized.

C06.01C4 Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

C06.01D Crow

C06.01D1 Open Season: October 15 through December 15 and January 13 through March 14.

C06.01D2 Hours Open: 30 minutes before sunrise to 60 minutes after sunset except during waterfowl seasons when hours are concurrent with waterfowl shooting hours.

C06.01D3 Area Open: Statewide except federal or state refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

C06.01D4 Daily Bag and Possession Limit: No limit.

C06.01E Youth Waterfowl Hunting Season

C06.01E1 Eligibility: As specified in Nebraska Rules and Regulations, Title 163, Chapter 4, Section 006.01.

C06.01E2 Species: Ducks, Geese, Mergansers and Coots.

C06.01E3 Season Dates: (Zones and Management Unit Boundaries as in C06.01A5).

Zone 1: The Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding the start of the regular duck and merganser season as specified in C06.01A1.

Zone 2: The Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding the start of the regular duck and merganser season as specified in C06.01A1.

Zone 3: The Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding the start of the regular duck and merganser season as specified in C06.01A1.

Zone 4: The Saturday and Sunday immediately preceding the start of the regular duck and merganser season as specified in C06.01A1.

C06.01E4 Area Open: Statewide except federal or state refuges unless otherwise authorized.

C06.01E5 Daily Bag Limit: Same as allowed in regular duck and merganser (C06.01A2), coot (C06.01B2) and goose (C06.01C1, C06.01C2, C06.01C3) seasons.

C06.01E6 Possession Limit: Same as allowed in regular duck and merganser (C06.01A3), coot (C06.01B3) and goose (C06.01C1, C06.01C2, C06.01C3) seasons.

C06.01E7 Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

C06.01F Early Teal Season

C06.01F1 Species: Blue-winged, Green-winged, and Cinnamon Teal.

C06.01F2 Season Dates (Open Season):

C06.01F2a Low Plains Zone (described in C06.01F3a).
September 5 through September 20, 2020.

C06.01F2b High Plains Zone (described in C06.01F3a).
September 5 through September 13, 2020.

C06.01F3 Area Open: Within Management Units and Zones as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

C06.01F3a

Low Plains Zone - That area open described above in C06.01A5a.

High Plains Zone - That area open described above in C06.01A5b.

C06.01F4 Daily Bag Limit: Six (6) birds singly or in the aggregate of only those species listed in C06.01F1.

C06.01F5 Possession Limit: Three times the daily bag.

C06.01F6 Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to sunset.

C06.02 Conservation Orders

The Commission may establish conservation orders or similar wildlife management activities for the conservation of migratory bird populations provided such orders and/or activities are approved by the Director of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service or an authorized representative under 50 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 20.

C06.02A Geese

C06.02A1 Light Geese (Blue, Snow and Ross' Geese).

C06.02A1a Eligibility: Resident persons 16 years of age or older and all nonresidents, regardless of age, participating in a conservation order for the conservation of migratory bird populations shall possess a valid Nebraska Small Game Hunting Permit, valid Nebraska Habitat Stamp, valid Nebraska Migratory Waterfowl Stamp, a Federal Waterfowl Stamp, and shall be registered in Nebraska for the Harvest Information Program (HIP), provided the requirement for the Nebraska Migratory Waterfowl Stamp shall begin January 1, 2006.

C06.02A1b Rainwater Basin Zone – Zone boundaries as described in C06.01C1h(1).

C06.02A1b(1) Conservation Order Dates: Beginning the first day after the termination date of the Platte River Unit (C06.01C2c(1)) dark goose season and through April 5.

C06.02A1b(2) Hunting of light geese is not permitted on all lands owned, controlled or managed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, except: Harvard and Cottonwood Waterfowl Production Areas.

C06.02A1b(3) Hunting of light geese is not permitted within 0.5 mile of an area bounded by the outermost channel with flowing water on the north and south sides of the Platte River from:

February 10-February 17:

Between NE Hwy. Spur 10D (Shelton) to NE Hwy. 14;

February 18-March 10:

Between NE Hwy. Spur L24B (Overton) to NE Hwy. 14;

March 11-April 5:

Between U.S. Hwy. 281 to NE Hwy. 14, for that portion of the Platte River lying south of Interstate 80;

C06.02A1b(4) Hunting of light geese is not permitted within 3.0 miles of an area bounded by the outermost channel with flowing water on the north and south sides of the Platte River for that portion of the Platte River lying south of Interstate 80;

March 11-April 5:

Between NE Hwy. Spur L24B (Overton) to U.S. Hwy. 281.

C06.02A1c West Zone – Zone boundaries as described in C06.01C1h(2).

C06.02A1c(1) Conservation Order Dates: Beginning the first day after the termination date of the Platte River Unit (C06.01C2c(1)) dark goose season and through April 5.

C06.02A1c(2) Hunting of light geese is not permitted within 3.0 miles of an area bounded by the outermost channel with flowing water on the north and south sides of the Platte River for that portion of the Platte River lying south of Interstate 80;

March 11-April 5:

Between NE Hwy. Spur L24B (Overton) to U.S. Hwy. 281.

C06.02A1d East Zone – Zone boundaries as described in C06.01C1h(3).

C06.02A1d(1) Conservation Order Dates: Beginning the first day after the termination date of the Platte River Unit (C06.01C2c(1)) dark goose season and through April 15.

C06.02A1e Daily Bag Limit: None.

C06.02A1f Possession Limit: None.

Title 163
Chapter 4

C06.02A1g Shooting Hours: 30 minutes before sunrise to 30 minutes after sunset.

C06.02A1h Area Open: Within management units as delineated except federal or state sanctuaries and refuges, unless otherwise authorized.

C06.02A1i Use of Recorded or Amplified calls: Permitted only as defined in Nebraska Rules and Regulations, Title 163, Chapter 4, Sections 001.02A3 and 001.02A3a.

C06.02A1j Baiting: Prohibited as described in Nebraska Rules and Regulations, Title 163, Chapter 4, Sub-part 001.02A7 and Sub-part 001.01B9.

C06.02A1k Transporting: Same as defined in Nebraska Rules and Regulations, Title 163, Chapter 4, Section 001.02A9.

C06.02A1l Live Decoys: Prohibited as described in Nebraska Rules and Regulations, Title 163, Chapter 4, Section 001.02A5.

C06.02A1m Weapons Permitted: Same as those defined in State Statute 37-536 and as prohibited in Nebraska Rules and Regulations, Title 163, Chapter 4, Sub-part 001.02A6. The use of shotguns capable of holding more than three shells in magazine and chamber combined: Permitted only as defined in Nebraska Rules and Regulations, Title 163, Chapter 4, Sub-part 001.02A4.

C06.02A1n Nontoxic Shot: Same as those defined in Nebraska Rules and Regulations, Title 163, Chapter 4, Sections 011.01 and 011.02.