

**VERMONT FISH & WILDLIFE  
DEPARTMENT**

**2020 WATERFOWL BAG LIMIT  
AND POSSESSION LIMIT  
REPORT**

Submitted to:  
Vermont General Assembly House Committee on  
Natural Resources, Fish, & Wildlife,

And

The Senate Committee on  
Natural Resources & energy

Submitted by:  
Louis Porter, Commissioner  
Vermont Fish and Wildlife Department  
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## Waterfowl Program Legislative Report – 2020

### 1. Public Meeting Summaries

- a. 3/10/20 Whitehall, NY: 3 board members, 4 staff, and 14 public
- b. 3/12/20 Winooski, VT: 2 board members, 7 staff, and 30 public

The Department also received 9 comments via email and phone calls. We initiated a Facebook live stream this year to accommodate the public that wanted to attend but had concerns with the COVID pandemic building up. We averaged a total of 30 viewers throughout the Facebook live stream and peaked at around 50 viewers during the breakout session.

### 2. Migratory Bird Hunting Seasons and Bag Limits

#### 2020-2021 VERMONT MIGRATORY GAME BIRD HUNTING SEASONS (regulations in effect September 1, 2020 through April 23, 2021)

Species	<u>Lake Champlain Zone</u>	<u>Interior Vermont Zone</u>	<u>Connecticut River Zone</u>
<b>Ducks, Coots and Mergansers</b>	Oct. 10 – Nov. 1 Nov. 21 – Dec. 27	Oct. 10 – Dec. 8	Oct. 6 – Nov. 8 Nov. 17 – Dec. 12
<b>Scaup</b>	Oct. 10 – Oct. 29 (2 birds daily) Oct. 30 – Nov. 1 & Nov. 21 – Dec. 27 (1 bird daily)	Oct. 10 – Oct. 29 (2 birds daily) Oct. 30 – Dec. 8 (1 bird daily)	Oct. 6 – Nov. 8 Nov. 17 – Dec. 12 (1-bird daily)
<b>Canada Geese</b>	Sept. 1 – Sept. 25 Oct. 10 – Nov. 8	Sept. 1 – Sept. 25 Oct. 10 – Nov. 8	Sept. 1 – Sept. 25 Oct. 6 – Nov. 8 Nov. 17 – Dec. 12
<b>Snow Geese (includes blue geese)</b>	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2020  Feb. 26 - Mar. 10, 2021  Mar.11 – Apr 23, 2021	Oct. 1 - Dec. 31, 2020  Feb. 26 - Mar. 10, 2021  Mar.11 – Apr 23, 2021	Oct. 6 – Dec. 12  Mar. 11-Apr 23, 2021 applies to land , not CT River waters
<b>Brant</b>	Oct. 10 – Nov. 28	Oct. 10 – Nov. 28	Oct. 6 – Nov. 8 Nov. 17 – Dec. 2
<b>Woodcock</b>	Statewide	Oct. 1 – Nov. 14	
<b>Common Snipe</b>	Statewide	Oct. 1 – Nov. 14	

Youth Waterfowl Hunting Weekend – September 26 & 27

## BAG LIMITS

The daily bag limit is the maximum number of birds of each species that any person may take (or possess in the field) during any one day. The possession limit is three times the daily bag limit for all waterfowl species except snow geese.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Daily Limit</u>	<u>Possession Limit</u>
Ducks *	6	18
Scaup	2/1	6/3
Mergansers **	5	15
Coot	15	45
Canada Geese		
September season		
Lake Champlain Zone	8	24
Interior Vermont Zone	8	24
Connecticut River Zone	5	15
Oct. - Dec. season		
Lake Champlain Zone	2	6
Interior Vermont Zone	2	6
Connecticut River Zone	2	6
Snow Geese	25	No limit
Mar. 11 – Apr. 24, 2020	15	No limit
Brant	2	6
Woodcock	3	9
Common Snipe	8	24

\* The daily limit of 6 ducks may include no harlequin, and no more than 2 mallards (1 of which may be hens), 2 black duck, 3 wood ducks, 1 pintail, 2 canvasback, 2 redheads, 2/1 scaup, 4 scoters, 4 eiders, and 4 long-tailed duck.

\*\* The daily limit of 5 mergansers is in addition to the regular duck bag, and together may include no more than 2 hooded mergansers.