

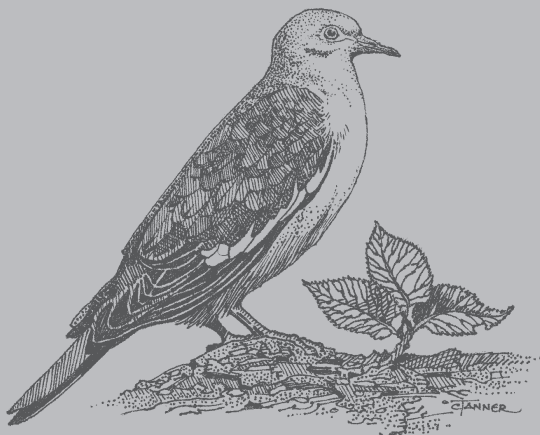
AMENDED SEPT. 8, 2012

Arizona

**Dove and
Band-tailed
Pigeon**

Regulations

2012-2013



Arizona Game and Fish Department

5000 W. Carefree Highway
Phoenix, Arizona 85086

(602) 942-3000
www.azgfd.gov



RECENT CHANGES:

Open Areas

Recent law changes will provide an increase to dove hunting access compared to recent years. Many open, undeveloped, uninhabited desert areas on state trust and public lands within city limits are now open to legal dove hunting.

Before these laws were amended, hunters could not hunt in many of these open desert areas within city limits because state law prohibited shooting within their boundaries.

Hunters are cautioned that these changes do not allow hunting in developed communities or neighborhoods. **It is still unlawful per state law to discharge a firearm while hunting within 1/4 mile of an occupied building, or to trespass on posted private lands.** These laws have not changed and will be enforced.

For descriptions of the new legal hunting areas, **carefully read the notes section in these dove regulations.** To further assist hunters and inform citizens a reference map of the open and closed areas, frequently asked questions, and details on the amended law can be found on the Arizona Game and Fish Department's website at www.azgfd.gov/dove.

White-wing Dove Limit

The daily bag limit for white-wing dove in the early season is now 10 birds. The total bag limit is still 10 birds in aggregate.

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Synopsis of Federal Regulations Applicable to Migratory Bird Hunting

Federal regulations regarding bird hunting are described in the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). These can be found at www.gpoaccess.gov/cfr/index.html. The regulations below can be found at 50 CFR 20.21 unless otherwise noted. An electronic version of these regulations can be found by downloading this booklet as a PDF at www.azgfd.gov/rules.

WEAPON – Migratory game birds may be taken only with a 10 gauge or smaller shotgun capable of holding not more than three shells unless it is plugged with a one-piece filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so the gun's total capacity does not exceed three shells. Birds may also be taken by falconry or by bow and arrow, or crossbow.

MOTOR-VEHICLE RESTRICTIONS – No person may take migratory game birds from or by means, aid, or use of any motor vehicle, motor-driven land conveyance, or aircraft of any kind. Special regulations govern handicapped hunters.

WATERCRAFT RESTRICTIONS – Migratory game birds may not be taken from or by means of any watercraft or other craft having a motor attached, or any sailboat, unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled, and its progress there from has ceased. A watercraft under power may be used to retrieve dead or crippled birds but no shooting is permitted while the watercraft is underway. No person shall take migratory game birds by means or aid of any motor driven land, water, or air conveyance, or any sailboat used for the purpose of or resulting in the concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up of any migratory bird.

DECOYS, CALLS AND BAITING – Migratory game birds may not be taken by the use or aid of live decoys, recorded or electronically amplified bird calls or recorded or electrically amplified imitations of bird calls or sounds. It is illegal to take birds by the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is or has been baited. An area is considered baited for 10 days after the complete removal of all bait. It is legal to take migratory game birds, except waterfowl, coots and cranes, on or over lands or areas that are not otherwise baited areas, and where grain or other feed has been distributed or scattered solely as the result of manipulation of an agricultural crop or other feed on the land where grown, or solely as the result of a normal agricultural operation.

RETRIEVAL AND TAGGING – No person shall kill or cripple any migratory game bird without making a reasonable effort

HUNTERS: MOURNING DOVE WING COLLECTION

Arizona is cooperating with the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service in collecting mourning dove wings from hunters this year. Randomly selected hunters will be asked to save one wing from each dove during the first week of the season and mail the wings (postage free) to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service. Data from the wings will be used to estimate annual productivity of the dove population, and will be used in helping to establish hunting regulations in the future.

SHOTGUN SHELLS ARE LITTER, PICK THEM UP.

All hunters are responsible for cleaning up after themselves. Shell casings (shotshell hulls) and associated debris constitute litter and must be picked up and packed out.

Littering while hunting or fishing are revocable violations, and a conviction can result in the loss of hunting privileges for up to five years.

It only takes a few minutes at the end of the hunt to pick up, which keeps the area clean for other users, protects wildlife, and will help preserve Arizona's dove hunting tradition for future generations.



FOR YOUTH HUNTERS

In an effort to introduce kids and beginners to hunting, the Arizona Game and Fish Department is collaborating with sportsmen's groups, gun clubs, and conservation organizations, to host mentored, hands-on hunting camps and events throughout the season and across the state. These programs offer an excellent way to learn about hunting in a structured and supportive manner. The dove hunting opportunities include:

SEPT. 1-2: ROBBINS BUTTE JUNIOR'S DOVE HUNT

- Dove hunting just for kids at a Game and Fish wildlife area managed for migratory birds, breakfast provided.
- Location: Buckeye, Robbins Butte Wildlife Area
- Hosted by: Game and Fish, Chandler Rod and Gun Club
- Information: www.azgfd.gov/dove

SEPT. 6 & 8: C.J. BILLER MEMORIAL BEGINNER'S DOVE HUNT AND TRAINING

- Classroom instruction about hunting doves, shotguns, firearm safety, followed by a real dove hunt on Saturday.
- Location: Mesa, Game and Fish regional office
- Hosted by: Game and Fish, Youth Outdoors Unlimited
- Register: www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com

DEC. 8-9, 2013: PICKET POST SMALL GAME HUNTING CAMP

- Learn to hunt dove, quail, rabbits, outdoor skills, campout, food provided.
- Location: Superior area, Unit 37B
- Hosted by: Youth Outdoors Unlimited, Game and Fish
- Register: www.youthoutdoorsunlimited.com

The Arizona Game and Fish Department supports and promotes introducing children to the American tradition of hunting. It is important that future generations learn how hunting plays a significant role in the conservation and management of wildlife. Arizona Game and Fish offers a wide variety of juniors-only hunting and shooting programs. These programs are designed to get children in the field with a parent, guardian, or mentor who can focus completely on the child, and provide the guidance needed to teach the next generation of hunters how to be responsible and ethical conservationists.

For a listing of other mentored camps offered this season, including small game and big game hunting camps, see page 24-26 of the 2012-13 Arizona Hunting and Trapping Regulations or visit, www.azgfd.gov/outdoorskills.

SUNRISE/SUNSET 2012-2013

(Times shown are for central Arizona. Figure up to nine minutes earlier for eastern areas, nine minutes later for western areas.)

DATE	RISE	SET
Sept. 1	6:03	6:53
Sept. 5	6:05	6:48
Sept. 10	6:09	6:41
Sept. 15	6:12	6:34
Sept. 20	6:15	6:27
Sept. 25	6:19	6:20
Sept. 30	6:22	6:13
Oct. 1	6:23	6:12
Oct. 5	6:26	6:07
Oct. 10	6:30	6:00
Oct. 15	6:33	5:54
Oct. 20	6:37	5:48
Oct. 25	6:42	5:43
Oct. 30	6:46	5:38
Nov. 1	6:48	5:36
Nov. 5	6:51	5:32
Nov. 10	6:56	5:29
Nov. 15	7:00	5:25
Nov. 20	7:05	5:23
Nov. 25	7:10	5:21
Nov. 30	7:14	5:20
Dec. 1	7:15	5:20
Dec. 5	7:18	5:20
Dec. 10	7:22	5:21
Dec. 15	7:25	5:22
Dec. 20	7:28	5:24
Dec. 25	7:31	5:27
Dec. 30	7:32	5:30
Jan. 1	7:32	5:31
Jan. 5	7:33	5:34

One Feathered Wing

Sportsmen should note that one feathered wing must be left attached to all migratory game birds, including collared-doves, until they reach their final destination.

Littering While Hunting

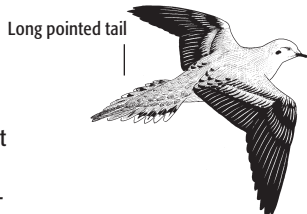
All hunters are responsible for cleaning up after themselves. Shell casings (shotshell hulls) and associated debris constitute litter and must be picked up and packed out. All camp areas must be left clean.

Dove Bands

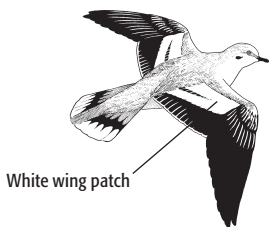
Since 2003, Arizona has been banding mourning doves as part of a nationwide effort to improve mourning dove management. The hunter is a critical link in this mourning dove banding study. Banded doves have a numbered band and phone number. If you harvest a banded mourning dove please call 1(800) 327-BAND (2263) to report it or go online at www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl. Hunters can keep the bands and will be provided a certificate identifying the age, sex, date and location the bird was banded.

Legal Game Doves (May Be Hunted During Open Season)

MOURNING DOVE Slightly smaller than the white-winged dove. Mourning doves may fly with white-winged doves, but can be distinguished by their more rapid wing beat, more erratic flight path and pointed tail. In fall, the highest densities are found in desert agricultural areas, around water sources and desert areas where annual plants and seeds are abundant.

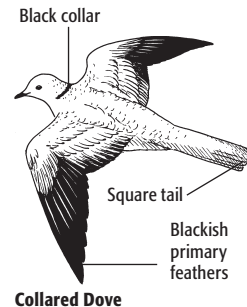


WHITE-WINGED DOVE Somewhat larger than a mourning dove with a white bar on the upper wing surface and a long, moderately rounded tail. The range of white-winged doves generally coincides with the distribution of the saguaro cactus.



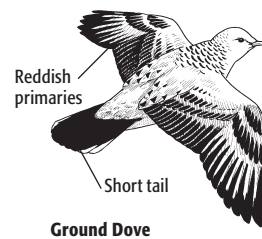
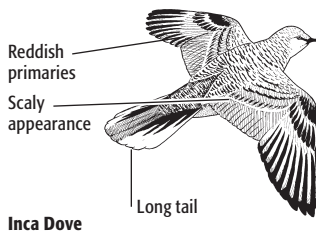
Legal Game Doves (May Be Hunted During Open Season)

COLLARED DOVE Collared doves are larger than both the native white-winged and mourning doves. They have a black collar on the top part of the neck, pale gray coloration, and dark primary feathers. These doves are an introduced species that have recently expanded their range into Arizona. Originally native on the Indian subcontinent, this bird was introduced to the Bahamas in the 1970s and quickly spread to Florida. They are widely distributed in Arizona.



Protected Birds (May Not Be Hunted)

INCA DOVE AND GROUND DOVE: *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 with a long tail that has white margins. Ground dove has a short, round dark tail. Common summer resident in the better watered valleys, mostly south of the Mogollon Rim.



Dove Notes:

- BAG LIMIT:** Ten (10) Mourning and White-winged Doves per day in the aggregate. **POSSESSION LIMIT:** Twenty (20) Mourning and White-winged Doves in the aggregate after opening day, of which no more than ten (10) doves may be taken in any one day.
- BAG LIMIT:** Ten (10) Mourning Doves per day. **POSSESSION LIMIT:** Twenty (20) Mourning Dove after opening day, of which no more than ten (10) may be taken in any one day.
- EURASIAN COLLARED DOVE BAG AND POSSESSION LIMIT:** Unlimited.
- FALCONRY BAG LIMIT:** Three (3) per day. Note: The aggregate falconry bag limit of all migratory game birds is three (3), comprised of any combination of migratory game bird species for which a general season, that includes falconry as a legal method of take, or a falconry-only season is open. Falconers should consult Commission Orders 19, 20, 21, and 22 for season dates and open areas. The falconry bag limit is not in addition to the firearms bag limits. **FALCONRY POSSESSION LIMIT:** Six (6) in the aggregate of all migratory game birds in season (Commission Orders 19 through 22) after opening day, of which no more than three (3) may be taken in any one day.
- SELECTION OF HUNTERS:** A limited portion of the wildlife area will be restricted to junior hunters only. Shooting stations will be assigned on a first-come, first served basis unless there are more people desiring to participate than available shooting stations, then a drawing will be held at 4:45 a.m. Hunters must check in prior to hunting and check out following completion of their hunt at the Game and Fish Department check station.
- The Bill Williams River, Cibola, Imperial, Buenos Aires, Havasu and San Bernadino National Wildlife Refuges are open to dove hunting **EXCEPT** for posted portions. A fee may be required for hunting on National Wildlife Refuges, see refuge regulations.
- The following Pima County parks and preserves are open to hunting: A-7 Ranch in Units 32 and 33, Oracle Ridge Property in Unit 33, Six Bar Ranch in Unit 33, Emperita Ranch in Unit 34B, Bar V Ranch in Unit 34B, Sands Ranch in Unit 34B, Clyde Ranch in Unit 34B, Diamond Bell Ranch in Unit 36A, Marley Ranch in Units 36A and 36B, Rancho Seco in Units 36A and 36B, Kings 98 Ranch in Unit 36C, Old Hayhook Ranch in Unit 36C, Verdugo in Unit 36C, Bee Ranch in Unit 37A, Mordka Ranch in Unit 37A, Buckelew Ranch in Unit 37A, Carpenter Ranch in Unit 37A, Cochise Canyon Ranch in Unit 37A, Lords Ranch in Unit 37A, and Tortolita Mountain Park in Unit 37A. Hunting is not permitted in County Parks within 1/4 mile of any developed picnic area, developed camp ground, shooting range, occupied building, boat ramp, or golf course. Developed areas do not include trails.
- The following parks in Maricopa County are open to hunting using shotgun shooting shot when the season coincides with a quail season: Lake Pleasant, White Tank Mountains, McDowell Mountain, and Estrella Mountain Regional parks. Hunting in parks opened by the Commission Order is not permitted within 1/4 mile of any developed picnic area, developed camp ground, shooting range, occupied building, boat ramp, or golf course. Developed areas do not include trails.
- Robbins Butte Wildlife Area – **EXCEPT** as authorized in this Commission order for the September Juniors-Only Dove season, the following area is closed to all taking of wildlife during the September dove season: Beginning at the junction of the Robbins Butte main access road and the road which runs northeasterly from the orange irrigation pump, which lies approximately 1/2 mile west of US Hwy 85; northeasterly 1-1/4 mile along posted fenceline to the southerly edge of the active channel of the Gila River; southwesterly 2-1/2 miles along the southerly edge of the active channel of the river to the south center section line of Section 21; south 1 mile along posted center section line and east edge of dirt road to approximately the center of Section 28 and the intersection of the north edge of a dirt road; east 3/4 mile along posted north edge of road to a cattleguard; north 1/4 mile along posted fenceline to the north edge of Robbins Butte main access road; easterly 1-1/2 miles along the posted north edge of the Robbins Butte main access road to the point of beginning; all in T1S, R4W, Gila and Salt River Base and Meridian, Maricopa County, Arizona.
- The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermillion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
- Falconry hunting is not permitted on National Wildlife Refuges.
- Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 4 East.
- Hunting is not permitted in Unit 36B in the following described area: in the posted portion of Sopori Ranch south of Arivaca Road in Sections 14 and 15, Township 20 South, Range 11 East. The remainder of Sopori Ranch is open to hunting.
- Hunting is not permitted in Unit 37A in the following described area in the Town of Marana: beginning at the intersection of Sanders Road and Avra Valley Road; north on Sanders Road to the Santa Cruz River; southeast along the Santa Cruz River to the Central Arizona Project Canal; southwest along the Central Arizona Project Canal to Avra Valley Road; west on Avra Valley Road to the intersection of Sanders Road.
- Hunting is not permitted in Units 25M and 37A in the following described area in the Town of Eloy: beginning with the intersection of Cornman Road and LaPalma Road; south on LaPalma Road to Milligan Road; west on Milligan Road to Overfield Road; north on Overfield Road to Cornman Road; east on Cornman Road to LaPalma Road.
- Hunting is not permitted in Units 43A and 44B in the following described area in the Town of Quartzsite: Sections 15, 16, 17, 20, 21, 22, 23, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35, Township 4 North, Range 19 West and Sections 2, 3, and 4, Township 3 North, Range 19 West.

17. Hunting is not permitted in Units 25M, 26M, and 47M in the following described area: beginning at the junction of I-17 and Loop 303; west and south on Loop 303 to Bell Road; west on Bell Road to the Beardsley canal; south on the Beardsley canal to Indian School Road; west on Indian School Road to South Jackrabbit Trail; south on South Jackrabbit Trail to Tuthill Road; south on Tuthill Road to the Gila River; east along the Gila River to 115th Avenue/Salt River junction; east along the Salt River to 51st Avenue; south on 51st Avenue to Pecos Road; east on Pecos Road to the I-10/Loop 202 junction; east, north, and then west on the Loop 202 to Gilbert Road; north on Gilbert Road to AZ Highway 87; east on AZ Highway 87 to Fort McDowell Road; north on Fort McDowell Road to Rio Verde Drive; west on Rio Verde Drive to Dynamite Road; west on Dynamite Road to Pima Road; north on Pima Road to Cave Creek Road; west and south on Cave Creek Road to Deer Valley Road; west on Deer Valley Road to 7th Street; north on 7th Street to Happy Valley Road; west on Happy Valley Road to I-17; north on I-17 to the Loop 303. Base and Meridian Wildlife Area falls within the boundary described above but is open to hunting. County islands within this boundary are also open to hunting provided the hunter does not discharge a firearm within ¼ mile of an occupied farmhouse, residence, cabin, lodge, or building without permission of the owner or resident. Privately held lands within county islands may be closed by the landowner.
18. Hunting is not permitted in Unit 25M in the following described area in the City of Maricopa: that portion of the city east of Green Road, south of Smith Enke Road, and east of the Cobblestone subdivision and that portion of the city north of Farrell Road and west of White and Parker Road.
19. A portion of Unit 47M is closed to hunting. Hunting is not permitted in the following area of Unit 47M: an unincorporated portion of land west of Loop 202 (San Tan Freeway) known as the Elliot and Hawes County Island in Section 16, Township 1 South, Range 7 East.
20. In Units 11M and 38M, the private property within municipal boundaries is closed to hunting.

HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM: As required by A.R.S. 17-333.03 and R12-4-203, dove hunters age 16 and older shall have in their possession an Arizona Migratory Bird Stamp which will validate their license for the federal Harvest Information Program. The Arizona Migratory Bird Stamp may be obtained, for a cost of \$4.50 on or after July 1, from any Arizona Game and Fish Department office or wherever hunting licenses are sold.

Dove: Commission Order 19

GENERAL DOVE

Open Areas do not include areas within municipal parks, municipal preserves, county parks, county preserves, airports, golf courses, or posted water treatment facilities (except as specifically opened in this Commission Order) or areas closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Sep 1 - Sep 15, 2012	(1,4,6,7,9,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20)	Open Areas Statewide (refer to the notes for some restrictions)	Any Mourning or White-winged dove
Nov 23, 2012 - Jan 6, 2013	(2,3,4,6,7,8,10,11,12,13,14,15,16,17,18,19,20)	Open Areas Statewide (refer to the notes for some restrictions)	Mourning dove and Eurasian collared dove
Sep 1, 2012 - Aug 31, 2013	(3,6,7,10,11,12,13,14,15,17,17,18,19,20)	Open Areas Statewide (refer to the notes for some restrictions)	Any Eurasian collared dove

LAWFUL TAKING DEVICE: Shotgun, bow and arrow, or crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-304 or by falconry. **Pneumatic weapons are lawful for the take of Eurasian collared doves.**

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license plus a Migratory Bird Stamp (A Migratory Bird Stamp is not required for Eurasian collared doves). Falconers must be licensed pursuant to R12-4-422 or exempted pursuant to R12-4-407.

SHOOTING HOURS: One-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

JUNIORS-ONLY DOVE

Open Areas do not include areas within municipal parks, municipal preserves, county parks, county preserves, airports, golf courses, or posted water treatment facilities (except as specifically opened in this Commission Order) or areas closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Sep 1 - Sep 2, 2012	(1,3,5,9)	Robbins Butte Wildlife Area	Mourning dove, White-winged dove, and Eurasian collared dove

LAWFUL TAKING DEVICE: Shotgun, bow and arrow, or crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-304. **Pneumatic weapons are lawful for the take of Eurasian collared doves.**

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license required for participants age 14 through 17; participants under 14 need not be licensed if accompanied by a licensed adult as prescribed in ARS 17-335. Participants age 16 and older must possess a Migratory Bird Stamp (not required for Eurasian collared doves).

SHOOTING HOURS: One-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

ELIGIBLE HUNTERS: Pursuant to R12-4-318 persons are eligible to participate up to and throughout the calendar year of their 17th birthday.

FALCONRY-ONLY DOVE

Open areas do not include any area closed to hunting under A.R. S. Sections 17-101, 17-303, and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-801, R12-802, and R12-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Sep 16 - Nov 1, 2012	(4,9,10,11)	Open areas statewide (excluding National Wildlife Refuges)	Mourning dove, White-winged dove, and Eurasian collared dove

LAWFUL TAKING DEVICE: Falconry as prescribed in R12-4-318 and R12-4-101.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license plus a Migratory Bird Stamp. Falconers must be licensed pursuant to R12-4-422 or exempted pursuant to R12-4-407.

HAWKING HOURS: One-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

Band-tailed Pigeon: Commission Order 20

GENERAL BAND-TAILED PIGEON

Open Areas do not include areas within municipal parks, municipal preserves, county parks, county preserves, airports, golf courses, or posted water treatment facilities (except as specifically opened in this Commission Order) or areas closed to hunting under A.R.S. Sections 17-303 and 17-304 or Commission Rules R12-4-301, R12-4-801, R12-4-802 and R12-4-803.

Season Dates	Notes	Open Areas	Legal Wildlife
Sep 7 - Sep 30, 2012	(1,2,3)	Open Areas Statewide	Any Band-tailed Pigeon

LAWFUL TAKING DEVICE: Shotgun, bow and arrow, or crossbow as prescribed in R12-4-304 or by falconry.

LICENSE REQUIRED: Any valid hunting license plus a Migratory Bird Stamp. Falconers must be licensed pursuant to R12-4-422 or exempted pursuant to R12-4-407.

SHOOTING HOURS: One-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

BAG LIMIT: Five (5) Band-tailed pigeons per day.

POSSESSION LIMIT: Ten (10) Band-tailed pigeons after opening day, of which no more than five (5) may be taken in any one day.

FALCONRY BAG LIMIT: Three (3) per day. Note: The aggregate falconry bag limit of all migratory game birds is three (3), comprised of any combination of migratory game bird species for which a general season, that includes falconry as a legal method of take, or a falconry-only season is open. Falconers should consult Commission Orders 19, 20, 21 and 22 for season dates and open areas. The falconry bag limit is not in addition to the firearms bag limits.

FALCONRY POSSESSION LIMIT: Six (6) in the aggregate of all migratory game birds in season (Commission Orders 19 through 22) after opening day, of which no more than three (3) may be taken in any one day.

Band-tailed Pigeon Notes:

- HARVEST INFORMATION PROGRAM:** As required by A.R.S. 17-333.03 and R12-4-203, band-tailed pigeon hunters age 16 and older shall have in their possession an Arizona Migratory Bird Stamp which will validate their license for the federal Harvest Information Program. The Arizona Migratory Bird Stamp may be obtained, for a cost of \$4.50 on or after July 1, from any Arizona Game and Fish Department office or wherever hunting licenses are sold.
- The Grand Canyon-Parashant, Vermillion Cliffs, Sonoran Desert, Ironwood Forest, and Agua Fria National Monuments are open to hunting.
- Hunting is not permitted in Unit 26M in the following described area: Those private lands lying just north of the Town of Cave Creek in Sections 10, 11, 12, 14 and 15 of Township 6 North, Range 3 East.