

Newfoundland & Labrador **HUNTING** & Trapping Guide



Minister's Message

I am pleased to share the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture's game and fur management plan for the upcoming season. The 2025-26 Hunting and Trapping Guide includes summaries of dates, regulations, quotas and other valuable information designed to guide your participation in the upcoming season.

I am happy to report that current population trends for most of our game and furbearer species are stable, and harvest quotas require only minimal changes for the 2025-26 season, including:

- Extending the season of Caribou Management Areas 71 and 80.
- Extending the fall black bear season to November 30 and improving access to opportunities by amalgamating management areas into regional areas.
- Adding a Trapper's Beaver Licence outside of the Trapline System.
- Break-away devices on neck snares used for trapping furbearers will become mandatory for all trappers on the island of Newfoundland.



We continue to focus on the status of caribou populations throughout the province. While harvest quotas have not changed significantly for caribou on the island of Newfoundland, the George River Caribou Herd and Boreal Caribou populations in Labrador remain closed due to their conservation status and limited recovery.

It is heartening to see that hunting and trapping remain near and dear to the hearts of Newfoundlanders and Labradorians. Along with the essential contribution hunting and trapping make to food self-sufficiency, these traditional outdoor pursuits have a tremendous impact on our mental and physical well-being. The continued cultural importance of these activities serves as a reminder of who we are, and the value we place on our shared natural resources.

Wildlife management is a collaborative effort. Wildlife professionals rely on the practices of hunting and trapping to help regulate wildlife populations. These activities, carefully managed, help mitigate habitat degradation, wildlife competition, and conflict with humans.

We monitor the health and status of the province's wildlife by establishing and maintaining research and management protocols, and analyzing the valuable information provided by hunters and trappers through jawbone submissions, hunter returns, carcass collections and other research programs.

Thank you to the people who share this important information with us every season.

I am also grateful to the many rod and gun clubs, non-government organizations, local businesses and volunteers who encourage and promote safe and responsible outdoor activities for youth and adults. Programs and opportunities that encourage responsible participation in hunting and trapping activities are vital to the management and conservation of our wildlife resources, and your work is deeply appreciated.

The Provincial Government's wildlife staff, resource enforcement officers and regional services teams are steadfast in their commitment to conserve and protect our wildlife resources and raise awareness of our shared responsibilities and values for wildlife and biodiversity in our great province. Their work to promote safe, knowledgeable and responsible hunting and safety practices is crucial, and I thank them for it.

I wish you all a safe and successful hunting and trapping season.

Honourable Lisa Dempster

Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture

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Licence Fees

Licence Type	Price (Cdn)	Payment Methods/Restrictions
Moose		
Resident	\$52.00	Pay online.
Resident Senior	\$33.80	
Non-Resident	\$502.00	Available through licenced outfitter only.
Woodland Caribou (Newfoundland)		
Resident	\$52.00	Pay online.
Resident Senior	\$33.80	
Non-Resident	\$675.00	Available through licenced outfitter only.
Black Bear		
Resident Application	\$39.00	Pay online.
Resident Senior Application	\$25.35	
Non-Resident	\$150.00	Available through licenced outfitter only.
Small Game/Coyote /Wolf (Shooting Licence)		
Resident	\$10.00	All licences available at Government Service Centers or local vendor only.
Resident Senior	\$6.50	
Non-Resident (Canadian-Citizen)	\$50.00	
Non-Resident (Non-Canadian Citizen)	\$100.00	Youth under 16
Youth Small Game Snaring Only	Free	
Ptarmigan (Shooting Licence)		
Resident	\$10.00	All licences available at Government Service Centers or local vendor only.
Resident Senior	\$6.50	
Non-Resident	\$50.00	
(Canadian-Citizen)		
Non-Resident	\$100.00	
(Non-Canadian Citizen)		
Trapper		
General Licence	\$15.00	Pay online
General Licence (Senior)	\$9.75	
Beaver Trapline-Island	\$15.00	
Beaver Trapline-Island (Senior)	\$9.75	

Guide		
General Licence	\$15.00	Pay online
Resident Senior	\$9.75	
Migratory Game Bird Permit		
Canadian Resident	\$17.00	Available at Canada Post Outlets or online at https://www.permis-permits.ec.gc.ca/en/
Non-Canadian	\$17.00	

NOTE:

1. Licences sold through vendor outlets and/or Government Service Centres are subject to an additional \$3.00 fee at the time of purchase.
2. All licence fees are non-refundable and subject to change.
3. Prices do not include HST.
4. Licence fees for seniors apply to those aged 65 and older.
5. If submitting cheque or money order, please make payable to Newfoundland Exchequer Account.

New for 2025-26**Moose**

On the Island of Newfoundland, a total quota of 27,515 moose licenses including 19,165 either sex, 7,890 male only and 460 not-for-profit are available for this coming hunting season. This represents an overall decrease of 75 licenses compared to the 2024-25 season. Thirteen moose management areas (MMA) have quota adjustments. The breakdown of changes is available in the Island Moose Section.

In Labrador, a total quota of 373 either sex moose licenses are available. This represents an increase of three licenses compared to the 2024-2025 season. Three MMA's have quota adjustments. The breakdown of changes is available in the Labrador Moose Section

Caribou (Island)

On the Island of Newfoundland, a total quota of 612 caribou licences including 353 Either Sex and 259 Male Only are available. This represents an increase of 16 licences compared to the 2024-25 season. Quotas have been adjusted in two caribou management areas (CMA) which include the new CMA 80 (Upper Grey Island). A new season date is established for CMA 71 (Lower Grey Island) and CMA 80 which opens September 14 and closes November 22, 2025. The breakdown of changes is available in the Island Caribou Section.

Black Bear (Island)

Beginning in the spring of 2025, former Black Bear Management Areas on the island of Newfoundland will be consolidated into newly established regional Black Bear Management Areas (BBMA) to enhance opportunities for hunting and to improve harvest return information that supports black bear management. Additionally, all fall black bear management zones that are open to hunting will have season dates extended by one week, now closing November 30, 2025. For more information, please refer to the Island Black Bear Management Area section.

Survey Advisory to Big Game Applicants

Moose and caribou management area surveys conducted during the winter of 2025 may potentially influence quotas once the results are analyzed. Any changes to quotas will be announced prior to the big game licence draw.

Big Game Area Maps

Big game area paper maps will no longer be mailed out with the moose/caribou and black bear licence package. Online maps are available for print or download by clicking [here](#) and provide a legal description of big game moose, caribou and black bear management area boundaries that hunters may use for reference purposes and to report harvest information. For more information, please contact the Wildlife Division.

Reminder – Online Applications Only

The big game licence application process for the resident moose/caribou draw and black bear, trapper and guide licences are available online only. Applicants will be notified electronically via email when the big game online applications become available, and the big game draw is completed. Applicants must have an online account to log into the Department of Fisheries, Resources and Agriculture Wildlife Information Management System (WIMS) portal. For further information about our online services, please contact the Wildlife Division at 709-637-2025/709-729-2630 or by email at wildlifelicense@gov.nl.ca. Include your name, Newfoundland and Labrador Driver's Licence/Photo ID and telephone number.

Ptarmigan Survey (Island)

A targeted study hunter attitudes regarding ptarmigan harvesting will be conducted through a mail-out survey, sent to a group of license holders on the Island of Newfoundland. These surveys offer wildlife managers a clearer picture of harvest and harvest activity and provide an opportunity for hunters to share feedback. The Ptarmigan Shooting License was separated from the Small Game License in efforts to improve ptarmigan management and to enhance direct engagement of ptarmigan hunters participating in the activity.

Participation in the survey will be completely voluntary and anonymous. Participants will have an opportunity to participate in a prize draw.

Heavy Metal Monitoring

A monitoring program is under development to assess the levels of heavy metals that may have accumulated in harvested big game animals and examine how these concentrations vary across the Island of Newfoundland. Elevated levels of heavy metals in meat or organs can pose health risks for humans if consumed in large quantities, making routine monitoring important.

Hunters may be asked for voluntary submissions of biological samples from harvested black bears, moose, and caribou, such as liver and kidney, to test for heavy metals. Incentives similar to cooperating hunter crests will be available for those who participate in the program.

NOTICE TO TRAPPERS

Breakaway Devices (Island)

Use of breakaway devices added to neck snares will become mandatory on the Island of Newfoundland starting in the 2025-26 trapping season for terrestrial furbearers such as lynx, fox, coyote and wolf. These measures are being implemented to reduce incidental captures of moose and caribou. More information is available in the Trapping Practices to Avoid Non-Target Species section. Breakaways must cause the snare loop to disassemble when 340 kilograms or less of static force is applied.

Beaver Trapline Licensing System (Island)

Beginning in 2025-26, trappers who are not assigned a beaver trapline can apply for a trapper's beaver licence. Under this licence a trapper can trap a maximum of 5 beaver from areas where there are no assigned beaver traplines and no other beaver trapping restrictions exist. Beaver traplines that are vacant at the start of the trapping season will be included for the entire season on a general areas list that will then be made available to holders of a trapper's beaver licence. A person who is currently assigned a beaver trapline and continues to hold a valid beaver trapline licence and engages in active trapline activities required as part of the licence conditions will not be impacted by this change. More information is available in the General Information for Trappers section.

General Information for All Hunters

New Applicants for the Big Game Licence Draw

To be eligible for the annual big game draw, new applicants must have completed the **Canadian Firearms Safety Course and Hunter Education Course** or transferred hunter certification credentials from another jurisdiction on or before **November 30** of the previous year. Outdoor Identification Card applications must be accompanied by proof of completion of a recognized hunter training course.

Canadian Firearms Safety Course/Hunter Education (CFSC/HE) Course

Individuals wishing to hunt game with a firearm (including bows) in Newfoundland and Labrador are required to complete the CFSC/HE Course. In person courses are offered through College of the North Atlantic. Some exceptions may apply for those who have completed other recognized hunter training programs in other North American provinces, territories or states.

The Newfoundland and Labrador Hunter Education course is also available online at: [HUNTERcourse.com](https://huntercourse.com). and new hunters must also complete the in-class Canadian Firearms Safety Course (Non-Restricted).

IMPORTANT NOTICE:

This guide is neither a legal document, nor a complete collection of current hunting and trapping regulations or firearms laws. It is an abbreviated guide issued for the convenience of hunters and trappers. The Wild Life Act and Regulations should be consulted for interpreting and applying the law. Please contact your nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture (FFA) office for more information.

Outdoor Identification Card (OIC)/Temporary Outdoor Identification Cards (TOIC)

An OIC is issued to residents who have completed the CFSC/HE Course or have previously completed the Hunter Capability Test or the Canadian Firearms Safety Course (in Newfoundland and Labrador only) before April 1996. The OIC, along with the appropriate hunting licence must be in your possession while hunting with firearms. The OIC is proof that a hunter has met the province's requirements to hunt game with a firearm.

- A Temporary Outdoor Identification Card (TOIC) is issued to individuals who have just passed the CFSC/HE course or those individuals who have lost their OIC.
- Individuals who require a replacement OIC can visit the nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office for a TOIC and an application for a replacement OIC.
- Applications are also available online at gov.nl.ca/ffa/licenses-permit-and-fees/

Problem Moose on Farms

- Holders of a valid moose hunting licence may be authorized by a wildlife officer to assist farmers in removing problem moose from farms. If you are interested in participating, please call a regional Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office. Licence holders will be contacted in the order their calls are received. You may be called to a farm to either remove a moose shot by a wildlife officer or asked to hunt on the farm according to instructions from the conservation officer and farmer.
- Persons with disabilities not able to participate in the CFSC/HE Course or persons with disabilities who are eligible to hunt big game and are registered for the Program for Hunters with a Disability may become eligible to receive a problem moose from farms or moose that is euthanized by a conservation officer. Priority access to this moose meat is managed by the regional or district Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office where the problem moose occurs. Persons interested in problem moose must be eligible for the Program for Hunters with a disability and hold a big game license or provide a medical note from a doctor. For more information or to add your name to a priority list, please contact your nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office.

Not-for-Profit Moose Licences

- There are moose licences available to registered not-for-profit (NFP) and charitable organizations through the Wildlife Division. Organizations may utilize qualified resident hunters to secure meat for charities and service groups that use it for fundraising purposes and food sharing programs.
- Successful applicants will also be automatically added to the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture Problem Moose on Farms list in their region and will be contacted directly when a problem moose is identified in their chosen Management Area (possibly before the opening of the regular big game season). NFP licence holders are strongly encouraged to make every effort to avail of this program if contacted to do so.
- Registered not-for-profit and charitable organizations must apply by close of business 4:30 p.m. on the deadline date. Applications received after this date will not be considered. For applications, information about the NFP, application guidelines, and additional information on completing your application, visit the online Hunting and Trapping Guide.
- Eligible applicants who did not receive a provincial NFP moose licence in the previous year will be given priority in the NFP draw process.

- NFP applicants are required to identify and only permit up to four eligible hunters to hunt to behalf of the organization. Eligible hunters can only be identified on one NFP application per season. Names cannot be added or changed after the application deadline date.
- Additional NFP moose licences are also available through Parks Canada in Gros Morne National Park and Terra Nova National Park. Contact Parks Canada for more information.

Sharing the Harvest

Licences to donate wild game can be obtained from the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture . This action results from consultation with the Community Food Sharing Association – an umbrella organization representing 54 registered food banks operating in the province. All registered food banks are eligible for the special permit. Hunters may donate meat directly to participating food banks. All donated moose and caribou must be processed at a government-licenced meat processing facility. Home butchered or processed wild game is not considered acceptable for donation to food banks.

Registered food banks wishing to apply for a permit should contact Wildlife Division officials at: 709-637-2025. For more information on receiving or donating, email wildlifelicense@gov.nl.ca

How Do I Get A Licence?

- Resident moose licences for Newfoundland and Labrador and resident caribou licences for the island of Newfoundland are only available through the Wildlife Division's big game draw process.
- Resident black bear licences for the island of Newfoundland and Labrador are available through an online application process. Apply online by logging on with your user name and password at www.wildlife.gov.nl.ca or applications may also be printed by clicking here.
- Resident small game/coyote/wolf and ptarmigan licences are available at vendor outlets throughout the province. Resident hunters must provide identification, such as a Newfoundland and Labrador Driver's Licence, to the vendor at the time of purchase.
- Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permits are available through Canada Post Offices at local offices or online at <http://www.permis-permits.ec.gc.ca/> and are valid throughout Canada (additional hunting licences may be required to hunt migratory game birds in other provinces).

Age Requirements

A person must be 12 years of age or older to hunt with a firearm for small game, migratory waterfowl and coyotes. To hunt big game, a person must be 16 years of age by August 31 in the year for which the licence is valid. Persons under 16 years of age may also purchase licences to take small game and furbearers by snaring or trapping only. See Youth Hunting and Trapping Licences for more information.

Federal Firearms Regulations

- In addition to the Wild Life Regulations, the Firearms Act and Regulations require licencing of all firearms owners. A firearms licence is also required to purchase ammunition.
- For the purpose of hunting small game, migratory game birds or coyotes with firearms in this province, hunters aged 16 and 17 may hunt while under the immediate and direct supervision of a person who can lawfully possess firearms (i.e. has a valid Possession Only Licence or Possession and Acquisition Licence). Youth aged 16 and 17 may also apply for a Minor's Licence. For Information on Minor's Possession Licence applications call 1-800-731-4000 ext. 5013

- For more information about federal firearms regulations and licences/permits, please contact the RCMP's Canadian Firearms Program at 1-800-731-4000 or visit their website at: rcmp-grc.gc.ca/cfp-pcaf/index-eng.htm

Transportation of Firearms

- A permit to transport firearms is required during a closed season or without a valid hunting licence. Permits are available at local Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture offices.
- Rod and Gun Clubs and firearm businesses (gunsmiths) may apply for annual firearms transport permits by contacting the Wildlife Division at: 709-637-2006.

Online Services

- Many of the services provided by the Wildlife Division, such as submitting big game applications and payments, renewing licences, and submitting licence returns can be accessed online at www.wildlife.gov.nl.ca provided you have your login identification and password. To request information concerning your login identification and password, contact the Wildlife Division at: 709-637-2025, 709-729-2630, or email wildlifelicence@gov.nl.ca
- Check out our website at www.gov.nl.ca/ffa for more information on hunting, trapping, angling and guiding.

Residents

A resident of Newfoundland and Labrador is:

- A Canadian citizen who has lived in this province for six consecutive months immediately preceding their application for a licence.
- A person, other than a Canadian citizen, who has lived in this province for 12 consecutive months immediately preceding their application for a licence.
- While stationed in the province, a member of the Canadian Forces or the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).
- While stationed outside the province, a member of the Canadian Forces or the RCMP who was born in the province; or
- A person ordinarily a resident of the province who leaves to attend a recognized educational institution and intends to return upon completion of studies at the institution concerned.
- If your residency status has changed you must notify the Wildlife Division immediately. It is an offence for non-residents to apply for and receive a resident licence.

Note: Members of the Canadian Forces and RCMP are required to provide proof of their military/police status to the Wildlife Division when filing an application for resident licences. An Outdoor Identification Card Application and/or letter from commanding officer may be requested to confirm their status from time-to-time during routine file maintenance.

Non-residents

- A non-resident Canadian is a person who is a Canadian citizen but is not a resident of Newfoundland and Labrador.
- A non-resident alien is a person who is not a Canadian citizen.
- General information and regulations found in this Guide are applicable to non-residents.
- Non-resident hunters must possess a valid non-resident hunting license.

- For the purposes of non-resident hunting in Newfoundland and Labrador it is required that non-residents meet equivalent standardized hunter education training requirements that is satisfactory to the minister of FFA as per the Wild Life Regulations. Furthermore, while hunting, non-resident hunters must carry a corresponding hunter education certificate, card or official government document from a state, province/ territory, country or similar credentials that is provided from a recognized service provider that states they have completed a hunter and firearm education training course or program and must present this information immediately upon request of a wildlife officer.
- Non-resident big game hunters are required to be accompanied by licenced guides. Guides are supplied by licenced outfitters. Non-resident small game, coyote, wolf or waterfowl hunters do not require guides.
- Non-resident big game licences (bear, moose, caribou) are only available through licensed outfitters.
- Non-resident small game/coyote/wolf shooting licences are available through vendor outlets. Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permits are available through Canada Post Offices or online.
- Hunters must declare all game entering the United States from Canada. American hunters should obtain the necessary forms at U.S. Customs when leaving the United States.
- Hunters must possess a game export permit to take game out of the province. Export permits are available free of charge from all Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture offices and licenced outfitters.
- Non-resident black bear hunters may require a Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) permit to transport black bear parts outside Canada.
- Non-residents arriving at a Canada Customs port must declare all firearms. For further information, contact the Canadian Firearms Program at: 1-800-731-4000 or by visiting: www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/cfp-pcaf/index-eng.htm.
- A non-resident cannot apply for a licence or priority pool advancement in the resident big game licence draw.
- For a list of outfitters and complete information on non-resident hunting, contact the Department of Tourism, Culture, Art and Recreation by phone at: 1-800-563-6353 (inside North America) or 1-709-729-2830 (outside North America), or by visiting: www.newfoundlandlabrador.com/thingstodo/hunting.

Guide Licences

- First-time applicants must include, along with their guide licence application and proof of Canadian residency status, a valid emergency first aid certificate and proof of completion of a recognized Firearms Safety/Hunter Education Course and boat safety course or equivalent. Alternatively, applicants may include proof of completion of a recognized guide training program. Applicants must be 18 years of age or older.
- New guide applicants and renewal applicants should expect a minimum of 10 business days for an application to be processed. Applications received during the hunting or angling season will not be given additional priority. Those wishing to receive a guide licence should submit their request well in advance of the season. New applications may take 4-6 weeks for validation.
- Applications are available online or from the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture or Wildlife Division offices.
- Renewal payments may be made online at: www.wildlife.gov.nl.ca or by contacting the Central Cashier's Office at: 729-3042 or P.O. Box 8700, St. John's, NL, A1B 4J6. Canadian citizens living in other provinces who are registered as a Newfoundland and Labrador Guide may only renew a Guide Licence by contacting the Central Cashier's Office and providing their Guide Registration Number.

Replacement Licences

- If your hunting licence and/or tags have been lost, damaged or stolen, you must get a replacement licence and/or tags before you continue hunting.
- Replacement big game licences and/or tags are available from any Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture Regional or District Office or Wildlife Division office. Return any part of the original licence and/or tags in your possession. An affidavit describing the circumstances of the loss must be completed and signed by a Justice of the Peace, Commissioner for Oaths or Notary Public.
- Replacement small game/coyote/wolf shooting licences are available from the vendor (at no cost) where you purchased your original licence. Keep your licence return and record the date of purchase and the vendor's name and address. An affidavit describing the circumstances of the loss must be completed and signed by a Justice of the Peace, Commissioner for Oaths or Notary Public. Bring these to the vendor and they will issue a replacement licence.

Samiajj Miawpukek Reserve (Conne River)

Hunters are advised that permission is required to access the Reserve. Contact the Miawpukek First Nation at: 1-866-882-2470 or go to: www.mfngov.ca for more information.

Maps

Maps in this publication are prepared for reference only. The Wild Life Act and Regulations should be consulted for all purposes of interpreting and applying the law. For detailed maps and legal boundary descriptions visit: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/public-education/wildlife/hunting/boundary/>, or write to the Wildlife Division, P.O. Box 2007, Corner Brook, NL A2H 7S1.

Marked Animals

- Many big game animals and wolves have been ear-tagged and/or have had radio collars affixed to them. Ear tags may be made of light plastic or metal. Radio collars are generally white or black in colour. Because of the cost associated with animal capture and marking and the value that these animals have in monitoring programs, hunters are asked not to harvest these animals. However, hunters who harvest these animals must return the radio collar and lower jawbone (in the case of a big game animal). A \$50.00 reward will be offered for the return of radio collars.
- For more information on marked wildlife, please contact the Wildlife Division.

Injured or Diseased Animals

Please report any observations of injured or diseased wildlife to the nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office. If a big game animal harvested by you appears to be diseased or was previously injured, the entire carcass must be brought to a local Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office for inspection. In most cases, it is only possible to determine that an animal has a serious disease or infection by examining the entire carcass. Hunters are advised that a replacement licence may only be issued if a big game animal is found to be unfit for consumption because of disease or previous injury and the entire carcass has been submitted for disposal.

Health Canada Advisories

- Health Canada advises that some big game animals treated with immobilizing drugs may be unsuitable for human consumption. All big game animals captured using immobilizing drugs have been marked with

a radio collar or ear tag or both. If you happen to harvest a collared or ear-tagged animal, contact the Wildlife Division immediately at: 637-2398 for advice on the suitability for consumption.

- The Wildlife Division, after consultation with Health Canada, recommends the public not eat the liver or kidneys of moose or caribou. The cadmium contained in one meal of either liver or kidney, combined with a person's normal consumption of cadmium in other foods, would likely be more than the weekly allowable intake of cadmium as recommended by the World Health Organization.

Akami-Uapishk^u-KakKasuak-Mealy Mountains National Park Reserve

Within the national park reserve boundary, small game, waterfowl hunting and fur-bearer trapping by eligible persons will continue to be permitted under the authority of a valid provincial licence. To determine eligibility and obtain more information concerning other activities inside the national park reserve boundary, please consult the Parks Canada website at: <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/nl/mealy> or contact the Parks Canada office in Happy Valley Goose Bay at: (709) 896-2394 or email: pc.mealys.pc@canada.ca.

Big Game Collection Program

Moose/Caribou Jawbone Collection

Successful big game hunters will be required to submit the lower jawbone of a moose or caribou that has been harvested under their licence. A jawbone tag will be included in your big game licence package. Please indicate the sex of the animal you have harvested on the tag. Jawbone drop boxes will be established in 48 locations throughout the province.

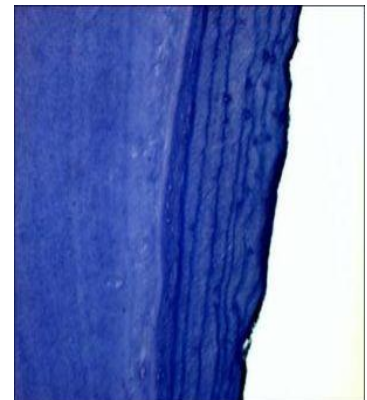
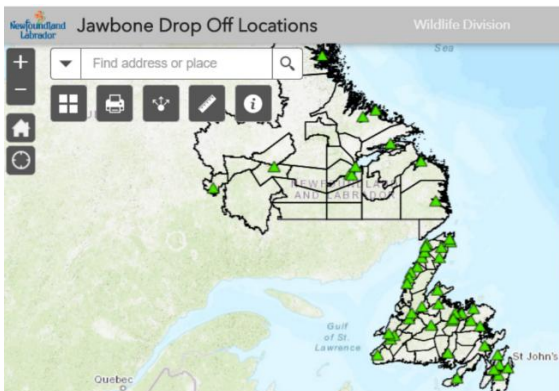


Figure 1: Cementum age is read by counting the layers of growth from each year.

Wear aging estimates are based on the visible wear of the molar teeth. Cementum age interpretation involves counting the layers of bony material deposited each year on the root of the tooth. These layers appear like rings on a tree as depicted below. Incisor teeth, which are extracted from the lower jawbone and analyzed, give us an accurate age. Knowing the age structure of animals can help determine the health and status of the population. For example, hunters often harvest yearling and two-year old moose, while few calves and old animals are harvested. Other than calves, the age distribution is assumed to resemble the age of the moose population. If there are many young and prime breeding animals present, the population is probably increasing. If there are many older animals, it is likely that birth rates are low, and the population is declining.

When you submit your jawbones, please keep the following in mind:

- A properly cleaned jawbone is important for getting accurate measurements.
- A properly cleaned jawbone is important for getting accurate measurements.
- Remove as much skin and flesh as possible.
- Keep in a well-ventilated, cool area.
- Do not wrap in plastic to avoid the growth of bacteria.
- Firmly attach the jawbone tag before submitting and remember to punch out the tab that indicates the sex of the animal harvested.
- **Samples should not be mailed.**



This photo is a moose jawbone received at the wildlife laboratory during Fall 2021. The animal is a yearling indicated by the tooth eruption pattern. The hunter has also indicated that a **male** has been harvested by punching out the correct tab on the jawbone tag.

Please punch out the sex of your harvest.

Bear Premolar Collection Program

Please submit premolar teeth from your harvested black bears.

The Wildlife Division is requesting successful black bear hunters submit the upper premolar teeth from harvested bears.

- The information from the collection will help form management decisions, evaluate black bear populations and hunting trends, and provide insight on the age structure and reproductive success of bears in our province.
- Similar to obtaining the age from moose and caribou, black bears are aged using cementum analysis by microscope examination. The layers of cementum (bony material) deposited each year on the root of a tooth, like rings in a tree, are counted. Additionally, for female bears reproductive success can also be evaluated as a double band of cementum is laid down during cub years



How to submit premolars?

- Fill out all information on the Cooperating Black Bear Hunter Tooth Submission Form found with your bear license.
 - Please send your completed sheet with teeth in the envelope provided with your licence to: Wildlife Division Laboratory, Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, 120-132 Main Street P.O. Box 280, Pasadena, NL.
- Tape dry premolar teeth to the submission form and place in the envelope found with your black bear license. Place the envelope in the mail.
- **Cooperating hunters will receive a “Cooperating Big Game Hunter” crest as well as an age report for your harvested bear(s).**

DO NOT SUBMIT BEAR SKULLS OR BEAR JAWBONES: PLEASE SUBMIT PREMOLAR TEETH ONLY AS SKULLS WILL BE DISCARDED.

Please collect the upper premolar teeth (see pictures)

If you can't find the upper premolars, collect the lower jaw premolars.

1. The premolar teeth we need are the very small teeth immediately behind the upper and lower canine teeth (see pictures).
2. Extraction is easily done just after the bear has been harvested when the jaw is still pliable. Use a screwdriver or knife blade to push the gum down and away from the tooth.
3. Gently loosen the tooth by slowly rocking back and forth. Pull the tooth out with pliers or pry it out using the canine as a lever.



Be careful not to break the tooth off at the gum line, the whole tooth, including the root, is needed for age interpretation.

4. If you break the root of an upper premolar or these teeth are gone or cannot be extracted, please try the lower premolars located immediately behind the lower canine.

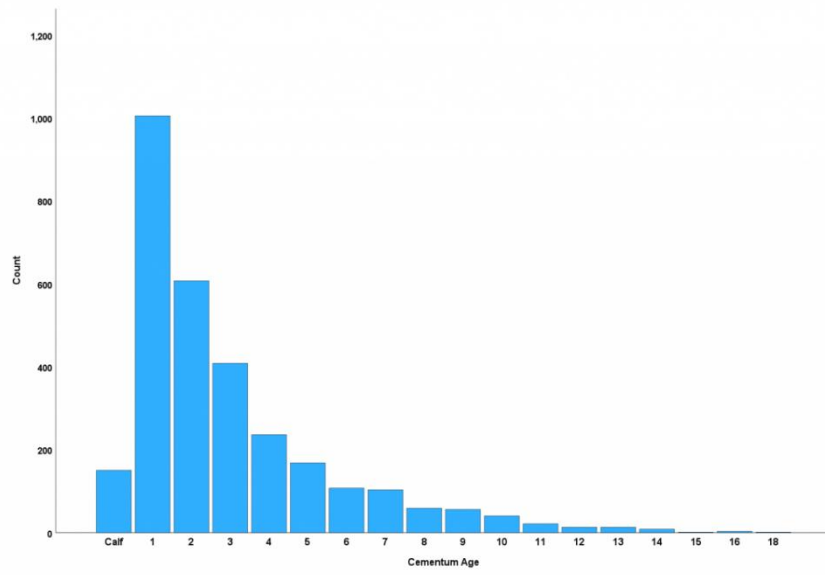
Please call the wildlife division laboratory at 709 686 5546 or email wildlifelab@gov.nl.ca for help if required.

Removing these teeth and cutting into the gum does not impact taxidermy work or your mount.

Results

Cooperating hunters from the 2023-24 Island Moose Season enabled the collection of the information represented in this graph. The oldest moose was interpreted at 18 years old. This information is taken from extracted and analyzed moose jawbone teeth.

The greater the participation in these programs the more accurate estimates become. In 2023-24 Island return rates for moose and caribou jawbones were 20% and 30%, respectively. Our goal is 30% or higher, increased cooperation will help better manage.



2023-24 Insular NL Moose Cementum Age

Cooperating Big Game Hunter Crests

Hunters that submit a lower jawbone from a harvested big game animal will receive a cooperating big game hunter crest as a token of appreciation (partner licences will receive two crests). The efforts of hunters to supply data through jawbone submissions are essential to establish the health and status of moose and caribou populations throughout the province. Thanks to the hunting public, age and growth records in the provincial jawbone database represent one of the largest datasets known among North American wildlife management agencies, amassing over 176,000 entries.



Canadian Firearms Safety and Hunter Education Course

In Newfoundland and Labrador, a person must pass both the Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC) and the Hunter Education (HE) Course to become eligible to apply for resident hunting licences and to hunt game with a firearm. Participants may take these courses starting at age 12 with parental consent.

Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC)

The Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC) teaches participants the basics of firearms safety and the laws related to firearms storage, handling and transportation. These are basic skills that every hunter, trapper, recreational shooter or gun collector should know. This course consists of one day of classroom instruction followed by a written and practical test. By successfully completing the CFSC a person is eligible to apply for a Possession and Acquisition Licence (PAL) to obtain non-restricted firearms.

Regulations under the Firearms Act require individuals to obtain a PAL to possess and acquire firearms. Applications for firearms licences are issued by the Canadian Firearms Program- Royal Canadian Mounted Police (CFP-RCMP).

Minors Under 18

Conditions exist under the Firearms Act to allow minors less than 18 years of age to obtain a Minor's Possession Licence. Instead of obtaining a Minor's Possession Licence, a minor may use firearms while under the immediate and direct supervision of a fully licensed adult.

For further information about minors licensing or to obtain a firearms licence application, contact the CFP at 1.800.731.4000 or online at www.rcmp-grc.gc.ca/cfp.

Hunter Education Course

The Hunter Education Course teaches participants basic concepts of wildlife conservation and management, hunting laws, hunter ethics and responsibility, outdoor safety and survival techniques and other skills used for hunting. The duration of this course is 6.5 hours followed by a written exam. By completing the Hunter Education Course, in addition to the CFSC, participants meet the requirement to obtain provincial resident licences to hunt with a firearm or bow.

Other recognized hunter education training courses may also be accepted for new residents moving into the province. Contact the Wildlife Division at 709.637.2025 for more information or visit us online at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa>.

Qualified resident hunters in Newfoundland and Labrador will receive an Outdoor Identification Card (OIC) from the Wildlife Division. Hunters must carry their OIC, along with the appropriate hunting licence, while hunting with a firearm. Hunters travelling to other parts of Canada should carry their OIC as proof of completing Hunter Education training requirements.

Online Hunter Education

For information on the content of the Hunter Education Course or to complete your certification course, please visit <https://www.huntercourse.com/canada/newfoundlandandlabrador>. The Canadian Firearms Safety Course is also a requirement for hunter certification if you are completing your Hunter Education online.



Official Newfoundland and Labrador Hunter Safety Course

Take this online-only course endorsed by the province of Newfoundland and Labrador to complete the hunter education component of your certification.
HUNTERcourse.com is a delegated provider for the province of Newfoundland and Labrador.



[Start Your Course](#)



Approved By
Province of Newfoundland
and Labrador

Register For a Classroom Course

Visit <https://www.cna.nl.ca/> to find a campus near you or call Toll Free 1-888-982-2268 or Email corporatetraining@cna.nl.ca

Course Fees

Canadian Firearms Safety Course (CFSC)	\$91
Hunter Education Online Course	\$59
Hunter Education Classroom Course (HE)	\$59
CFSC + HE Combined Classroom Course	\$150
Minors Canadian Firearms Safety Classroom Course	\$53
Minors Hunter Education Classroom Course	\$15
Minors CFSC+HE Classroom Course	\$68

All fees are subject to HST.

Youth Hunting and Trapping Licences

- Beginning at age 12, a youth may hold a licence to shoot small game, fur-bearing animals, and coyotes. Youth may hold a licence to shoot big game beginning at 16.
- The regulations require youth to have the consent of a parent or person who has custody of the youth to purchase a licence.
- Where required, a youth must also be accompanied by a Designated Adult while hunting, taking or killing animals by shooting.

Small Game/Coyote/Wolf and Waterfowl Shooting Licences

Youth aged 12 and under 16 may be issued a licence to shoot small game, coyotes, wolves, and wild birds permitted to be harvested under the authority of a Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit during an open season. Requirements include:

- A licence to shoot small game, coyotes and wolf shall not be issued to a youth aged 12 and under 16 without written consent of a parent or person who has custody of the youth and must be presented to local vendor outlets at the time of purchase.
- The consent must be carried by the youth or the designated adult while using firearms to hunt small game, wolves, or coyotes, or while hunting under the authority of a Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit.
- Youth must be accompanied by a Designated Adult when operating a shooting licence.
- A Designated Adult who is not the parent or person who has custody of the youth must be designated in writing.
- Youth must complete required hunter and firearms training courses and trapper education courses.
- Youth and the Designated Adult must also possess an Outdoor Identification Card or equivalent document (e.g. Hunter Certification Card from another jurisdiction).
- Small Game Licences for snaring only are available to youth under 16 years of age shall be marked “not valid for shooting”.

Big Game Licences

Youth at age 16 and under 18 may obtain a licence to shoot big game during an open season. Requirements include:

- Big game licence applications processed by the Wildlife Division involve conditions to provide a Consent Form before a licence can be issued to a Youth. Therefore, possession of the licence itself, once issued, acts as implied consent.
- Youth must carry written Consent Form signed by a parent or person who has custody of the youth for big game licences issued through a vendor (e.g., Labrador Black Bear or non-resident big game licence sold by an outfitter).
- Youth must be accompanied by a Designated Adult. You can download the form here: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/files/wildlife-trapping-youth-hunter-or-trapper-consent-adult-designation-form.pdf>
- A Designated Adult who is not the parent or person who has custody of the youth must be designated in writing.
- Youth must complete required hunter and firearms training courses.
- Big Game Licence Applications for Moose/Caribou issued through the draw process will be mailed automatically to a youth who turns age 16 before August 31 and once they complete the required hunter and firearm training courses.
- Licence applications for black bear may be obtained up until the close of the hunting season.
- A written consent of parent or person who has custody of the youth aged 16 and under 18 must be provided when submitting a big game licence application by mail. Online applications cannot be processed unless a Consent Form is on file with the Wildlife Division. Consent Forms may be faxed to (709)637-2099 or emailed to wildlifelicense@gov.nl.ca
- Youth and the Designated Adult must also possess an Outdoor Identification Card or equivalent document (e.g., Hunter Certification Card from another jurisdiction).

General Trapper Licence

- A licence to shoot fur bearing animals shall not be issued to a youth aged 12 and under 16 without written consent of a parent or person who has custody of the youth. Youth under age 12 and youth that are not permitted to use a firearm for the purposes of dispatching fur bearing animals are not required to obtain consent to purchase a General Trapper Licence.

- A written consent of parent or person who has custody of the youth aged 12 and under 16 must be provided when submitting a General Trapper Licence application by mail. Online applications cannot be processed unless a Consent Form is on file with the Wildlife Division. Consent Forms may be faxed to (709)637-2099 or emailed to wildlifelicense@gov.nl.ca
- General trapper licence applications processed by the Wildlife Division involve conditions to provide the Consent Form before a licence can be issued to a Youth. Therefore, possession of the General Trapper Licence itself, once issued, acts as implied consent.
- General Trapper Licence Applications may be processed up until the close of the trapping seasons.
- Youth and the Designated Adult must also possess an Outdoor Identification Card or equivalent document (e.g., Hunter Certification Card from another jurisdiction).

General Information

- Youth aged 16 and under 18 may continue to be issued a licence to shoot small game, coyote, wolves, fur bearing animals and wild birds permitted to be harvested under the authority of a Migratory Game Bird Permit during the open season without consent to purchase a licence.
- Youth aged 16 and under 18 may obtain their own Federal Minor's Firearm Possession Licence to use firearms.
- A youth at 16 and 17 who holds a valid small game, coyote, wolves, trapping licence or Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit noted in this category and who does not possess a Minor's Firearms Possession Licence is required to be accompanied and supervised by a fully licenced adult.

Designated Adult

A Designated Adult must meet the following criteria:

- is a person who is over the age of 18.
- is not prohibited from carrying, transporting, possessing or using a firearm or from being a designated adult; and
- is eligible for the same type of licence under which the youth is hunting, taking or killing an animal by shooting.

While accompanying the youth, a Designated Adult shall:

- remain at arm's length of the youth and be able to take control of the firearm if necessary.
 - not accompany and supervise more than two youths at one time.
 - carry evidence of his or her eligibility to hold the same type of licence as the youth (e.g., possess an Outdoor Identification Card or similar document); and
 - if not the parent or person who has custody of the youth, provide a designation in writing signed by a parent or person who has custody of the youth (carried by the youth or Designated Adult).
- <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/files/wildlife-trapping-youth-hunter-or-trapper-consent-adult-designation-form.pdf>

Injured Animals

- A Designated Adult may shoot or dispatch an animal that has been injured by a youth for the purposes of assisting the youth and shall keep the youth in sight at all times.
- A Designated Adult is not required to keep the youth in sight at all times where the Designated Adult is pursuing an animal that has been injured by the youth.

- With respect to Migratory Game Birds, the Designated Adult would also be required to hold a valid Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit in addition to the Outdoor Identification Card or similar document.

Youth Consent/ Designated Adult Forms

For more information or to obtain a copy of a [Consent/Designate Adult Form](#), contact your nearest Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture Office or email wildlifelicense@gov.nl.ca or write your own Youth Consent/Designated Adult Form that uses the same language as presented in the pdf from.

Persons with Disabilities

Program for Hunters with a Disability

- All first-time hunters, including those hunters who have not previously completed a hunter training course or program recognized by the Minister, including a person who has a disability affecting hunting activities, shall, before becoming eligible for a big game licence draw, complete the Canadian Firearm Safety and Hunter Education Course, or similar hunter training course or program in another jurisdiction that is recognized by the Minister.
- For the purposes of the Wild Life Regulations, a person who is legally blind may be exempted from the standard practical testing in the Canadian Firearm Safety and Hunter Education Course which requires vision to perform if he or she provides a certificate from a health care provider certifying that he or she is legally blind.
- A person who is legally blind who completes the Canadian Firearms Safety and Hunter Education Course may apply for and receive a big game licence but is not entitled to possess or use a firearm for the purpose of hunting.
- A hunter with a disability who receives a big game licence, shall in the case of person who is legally blind, and may in the case of a person with a disability affecting hunting, specify one designated hunter to shoot and retrieve the type and sex of big game animal named on the licence of the hunter with a disability provided that the;

(a) designated hunter keeps the hunter with a disability within sight or within 800 meters of the hunter with a disability;

(b) designated hunter possesses the licence and tags of the hunter with a disability at all times while hunting for that hunter with a disability.

- “Disability affecting hunting activities” means a permanent impairment or other permanent medical condition which, in the opinion of a health care provider, restricts a person’s ability to perform the activities of hunting, including shooting and retrieving a big game animal. General examples of hunting activity may include but is not limited to: walking and negotiating various outdoor terrain, streams, rivers or ponds; carrying, holding, operating and/or discharging a firearm or drawing a bow; and, lifting or carrying animal parts or equipment which may be in excess of 100 pounds.
- “Designated hunter” means a person who has completed a hunter training course or and is specified by a hunter with a disability to shoot and retrieve a big game animal of the type and sex named on the licence of the hunter with a disability but does not include a person who is prohibited by the court from possessing a firearm or holding a big game licence.
- “Hunter with a disability” means a person who holds a valid big game licence issued by the Minister and has a disability affecting hunting activities as prescribed in the Wild Life Regulations.

- A designated hunter is not required to keep the hunter with a disability within sight when the designated hunter is in pursuit of an animal that he or she has injured.

How to Apply

1. If you already receive applications for the resident big game licence draw and have a Hunter Certificate Number you may apply for the PHAD by completing an application form, available online: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/hunting-trapping-guide/2025-26/persons-with-disabilities/> and forwarding it to the Wildlife Division's, Licencing Section at the address below, or;
2. New big game licence applicants not presently receiving an application for the resident big game licence draw may submit the PHAD application form after completing the Canadian Firearm Safety and Hunter Education Course.

Note: A person who is registered with the Wildlife Division as a "Hunter with a Disability" will receive an Outdoor Identification Card (OIC) with a code "D" or "DN" on the card; D means disability affecting hunting and DN means legally blind. Replacement OIC cards are available upon request.

For more information, please telephone (709) 637-2025 or Email: wildlifelicence@gov.nl.ca

Mailing Address: Wildlife Division, P.O. Box 2007, Corner Brook, NL, A2H 7S1

Regulation Summaries

This section contains a summary of regulations you must know when hunting in Newfoundland and Labrador. This summary is neither a legal document nor a complete collection of current hunting regulations or firearm laws. It is an abbreviated guide issued for the convenience of hunters. The Wild Life Act and Regulations, <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/public-education/wildlife/hunting/rgactord/> should be consulted for interpreting and applying the law. Contact a Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture Office if you have any questions.

DEFINITIONS

- "Hunting" means chasing, pursuing, worrying, following after or on the trail of or searching for, or lying in wait for wildlife whether or not the wildlife is then or later captured, injured or killed. "Hunt" and "hunter" have corresponding meanings.
- "Open Season" means any period during which it is lawful to hunt, take, or kill, or attempt to hunt, take, or kill wildlife under the provision of the Wild Life Act and Regulations.
- "Closed Season" means any period during which hunting, taking, or killing of wildlife is prohibited.
- "Firearm" means a device by which a missile is discharged by means of an explosive propellant or by compressed air or by a spring and includes sporting guns of all calibres, automatic or autoloading guns, repeating guns, pump guns, set guns, swivel guns, punt guns, rifles, pistols and revolvers of every description, crossbows, longbows and compound bows.

GENERAL

It is unlawful:

- to hunt, take or kill any wildlife except during open seasons;
- to hunt, take, or kill any wildlife without a valid licence;

- for a resident to hunt with a firearm unless you possess an Outdoor Identification Card or jurisdictional equivalent in the case of a non-resident;
- to make a false statement or supply false information when applying for a licence;
- to complete an application form for a big game licence on behalf of another person, without the permission of that person;
- to apply for a licence/pool advancement if you have been prohibited, by a court, from possessing a firearm;
- to apply for a licence/pool advancement if you have been prohibited, by a court, from holding a licence;
- for a resident to apply for a licence with a non-resident;
- to hunt without your licence and/or tags on your person;
- to hunt on a licence belonging to someone else (unless designated either by a disabled hunter authorized through the Program for Hunters and Anglers with a Disability or under a NFP licence to do so);
- to transfer your licence to another person; and
- to hunt on a licence which has been changed, altered or defaced in any manner.

LICENCE RETURNS

- Big game returns must be submitted within seven days of the season closing date or within seven days of the date of kill.
- Small game, coyote and trapping returns must be submitted within seven days of the season closing date.

PRODUCTION OF LICENCES – CHECKSTATIONS

If requested by a conservation officer, a person shall not refuse or neglect to produce or permit the examination of game licences and tags, permissions, consents and other documentation required to be carried under these regulations, or firearms and ammunition and wildlife.

BAG LIMIT

It is unlawful to exceed the bag limits as stated in the Annual Hunting Orders. These can be viewed at http://assembly.nl.ca/legislation/sr/reg_512.htm

FIREARMS, AMMUNITION

It is unlawful:

- to discharge or handle a firearm while hunting without exercising reasonable care for the safety of other persons;
- to carry, transport or possess firearms or ammunition during a closed season in any area frequented by wildlife, unless you have a permit to transport (these are available from Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture offices). A person travelling to a hunting area may, if he/she holds the proper game licence, transport a firearm or ammunition if the firearm is cased or securely wrapped and tied;
- to carry, transport or possess firearms or ammunition during an open season for shooting in any area frequented by wildlife, unless you have a valid game licence and/or permit;
- to carry, transport or possess, in any area frequented by wildlife, any pump or autoloading shotgun unless it is plugged or altered so that it cannot carry more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined;
- to hunt with any fully automatic rifle (semi-automatic or autoloading rifles may be used);

- to possess in any camp, tent or summer cottage, any firearm during closed season, unless you have a permit;
- to carry, transport or possess a loaded firearm in or on, or discharge a firearm from, any aircraft, motor vehicle, snow machine, or all-terrain vehicle. A firearm is considered to be loaded if there is a live shell or cartridge in the chamber or magazine and the magazine is attached to the firearm in its usual position;
- to use or possess, in any area frequented by wildlife, any ammunition that has been cut, ringed or altered in any way;
- for a licenced hunter to carry or possess more than one firearm unless each extra firearm is cased or securely wrapped and tied;
- to discharge a firearm (including bows or crossbows) within 1000 meters of a school, playground or athletic field or within 300 meters of a dwelling;
- to discharge a firearm or hunt on most community pastures during the period May 1 to November 30 inclusive (for information on pasture locations <http://www.assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/Regulations/rc980056.htm> or contact your nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office; and
- to discharge a firearm (including bows or crossbows) within 1000 meters of a commercial woodcutting operation that has been clearly marked by signs stating "No Hunting".

BOWS AND ARROWS

It is unlawful:

- to hunt any wildlife with an arrow tipped with poison or a drug; and
- to hunt any wildlife with an arrow equipped with barbed or explosive arrowheads.

Hunting at Night

It is unlawful to hunt any game with night lights of any description.

Dogs

It is unlawful to take a dog unleashed or to allow a dog to run in any area frequented by wildlife from April 1 to August 31 inclusive, except in designated field trial/dog training areas and during designated times. A conservation officer may destroy any dog found to be harassing wildlife. For information on field trial/dog training areas, contact your nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office or visit <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/wildlife/dog-training-areas/>.

WOUNDED ANIMALS

- Any person who kills, cripples, or wounds any game animal shall make all reasonable efforts to retrieve that animal.
- Notwithstanding the requirement under these regulations to hold a valid licence in order to hunt, take or kill wildlife with a firearm, a designated adult may shoot an animal that has been injured by youth hunting under a valid licence for the purpose of assisting the youth. The designated adult shall keep the youth in sight at all times, except when it is necessary to pursue the injured animal.

AIRCRAFT (INCLUDING DRONES) AND VEHICLES

It is unlawful:

- to chase or harass any wildlife with any aircraft, motor vehicle, boat, snow machine or all-terrain vehicle of any type;
- to hunt any wildlife with, or possess any loaded firearm on, any aircraft, motor vehicle, snow machine or all-terrain vehicle of any type. Such vehicles may be used for transportation to and from a hunting area and for transporting any game taken, except where restrictions apply to the use of all-terrain vehicles; and
- to use any aircraft to search for or locate any wildlife for hunting on your own behalf or on behalf of any other person.

GUIDES

It is unlawful:

- to act as a guide without a valid guide licence;
- for a guide, while so employed, to kill or take game;
- for a guide, while so employed, to accept meat in payment or partial payment for services rendered;
- to hunt/shoot wildlife or to angle while acting as a guide, except to demonstrate casting and hooking of fish.

EXPORT OF GAME

If you have a valid hunting licence and an export permit, you may export or take out of the province any game legally taken. Export permits are available free from any Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office. Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada Regulations prohibit the use of used burlap or other used bags. Use new wrapping material only.

PROHIBITION OF WASTE

It is an offence to allow harvested wild game that is suitable for food to be destroyed, wasted or spoiled.

HUNTING FROM ROADS

It is unlawful:

- under the Highway Traffic Act to operate a vehicle in a manner that impedes the normal movement of traffic to discharge a firearm from a vehicle; and
- to discharge a firearm from or across any railway bed, highway, public or private road.

WILDERNESS RESERVE ENTRY PERMITS

It is unlawful to enter the Avalon Wilderness Reserve or the Bay du Nord Wilderness Reserve without an entry permit. A person who holds a valid big game licence for a moose, caribou or black bear management area that is inside a Wilderness Reserve does not require a Wilderness Reserve Entry Permit. For more information on Wilderness Reserve Entry Permits, contact the Natural Areas Program of the Department of Environment and Climate Change at 709.637.2081 or visit <https://www.gov.nl.ca/eccm/natural-areas>.

ALL-TERRAIN VEHICLES (ATVS)

It is unlawful for a person to use or operate an ATV vehicle outside an approved area, except:

- A person who holds a valid big game licence and, as permitted by the licence, has killed a moose, caribou or bear may use or operate an ATV outside an approved area for the purpose of transporting the animal from the place where it was killed. This does not apply to wilderness, ecological or wildlife reserves or National Parks. Hunters are asked to be conscious of this if applying for a licence in management areas which include these areas.
- A person other than the licence holder may use or operate an ATV for the purpose of transporting an animal from the place where it was killed, but the licence holder shall remain in the immediate area.
- A moose or caribou shall be properly tagged as required before an ATV is to be used or operated.
- A person shall not use or operate an ATV more than five times to and from the place where the animal was killed. When traveling from the place where the animal was killed, a portion of the animal shall be on the ATV or on a trailer being towed by the ATV.
- Where more than one ATV is used or operated in relation to the transporting of a single animal the total number of trips for all the ATVs shall not exceed five.
- A person shall not carry, transport or have in his or her possession a firearm while using or operating an ATV for the purposes noted above.
- For more information, please visit <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/public-education/forestry/recreation/atv/>

SMALL GAME

AGE REQUIREMENTS

- Youth less than 16 years of age may obtain a youth snaring licence to take small game by snaring only.
- Individuals must be 12 years of age or older and have completed the Canadian Firearms Safety/Hunter Education Course or similar training recognized by the Minister of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture in order to hunt with a firearm or bow.
- Further conditions apply to and more information is in the Youth Hunting and Trapping Licences section.

FIREARMS, AMMUNITION

It is unlawful:

- to hunt small game using a shotgun that can hold more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined, or to use a shotgun shell loaded with a single bullet.
- Small game (excluding ducks, geese and snipe) may be harvested using a rim-fire rifle not greater than a 22 (Note: this includes .17 rim fire calibers such as the 17 HMR)

BOW AND ARROWS

It is unlawful:

- to hunt small game with a long bow, recurve bow or compound bow unless it has at least 10 kilograms (22 lbs.) pull at full draw.
- or with a crossbow unless it has 68 kilograms (150 lbs) pull at full draw.
- to hunt small game with a long bow, recurve bow, compound bow or crossbow unless the arrow is tipped with a blunt small game tip designed to kill by shock. Practice or field tips are not permitted.

SNARES

It is unlawful:

- to set snares for small game until the first day of the open season. Snares must be removed on or before the last day of the open season;
- for any person to set snares to take or kill wild birds, except the holder of a small game licence for ptarmigan and grouse for an area open to this activity;
- to use a net of any kind to take or kill any small game; to use a fish hook or snare equipped with a fish hook to take or kill any small game; and on the island; and
- to set snares for small game using snare wire other than 22 gauge brass or six-strand braided wire (also known as picture cord).

DOGS

It is unlawful, while hunting small game with a dog, to allow the dog to harass any big game animal.

SALE OF SMALL GAME

- Snowshoe hare and grouse legally taken under licence may be sold to anyone during the open season and within seven days thereafter.
- Ptarmigan may only be sold if you have a selling permit and the buyer has a Wild Meat Service Licence. Selling permits are available free from the Wildlife Division. Please contact 709.637.2025 for more information.

BIG GAME

- **Age Requirements:** To apply for a big game licence you must be 16 years of age or older by August 31 in the year that the licence is valid. For more information, see Youth Hunting and Trapping Licences section.
- **Licence Limit:** A person who holds a big game licence issued through the draw process may hold only one big game licence to shoot a moose or one big game licence to shoot a caribou in a 12-month period ending April 30.

CO-APPLICANT LICENCE

- Each member of a co-applicant licence is considered to be the holder of that licence.
- Members of the co-applicant licence may carry firearms and hunt, provided they are in the immediate area of and within sight of each other while they are hunting.
- As a member of a co-applicant licence, you may hunt alone provided you possess the licence and tags.
- Only the persons named on a co-applicant licence are eligible to hunt with that licence.

FIREARMS, AMMUNITION

It is unlawful:

- unless you hold a valid big game license, to possess firearms and ammunition suitable for hunting big game;
- to hunt big game (moose, caribou or black bear) with any rifle smaller than a .243 caliber or .22 calibre rifle or any rifle (including muzzle loaders) using ammunition with a bullet weight of less than 100 grains

or a muzzle energy less than 1500 foot pounds. For this regulation .22 calibre includes .218, .219, .220, .222, .22-250, .223, .224 and .225 calibre rifles;

- to hunt big game with a slug with any shotgun smaller than 20 gauge;
- to hunt big game with or carry in any area frequented by wildlife, full metal cased non-expanding bullets commonly known as service ammunition; and
- to hunt big game with a firearm using any ammunition other than a single bullet or ball.

BOW AND ARROWS

It is unlawful:

- to hunt big game with a long bow, recurve bow or compound bow and arrow unless the bow has at least 20 kilograms (44 lbs.) pull at full draw or with a crossbow and arrow unless it has at least 68 kilograms (150lbs) pull at full draw; and
- to hunt big game unless the hunting arrows are tipped with a metal hunting head with two or more sharpened cutting edges.

HUNTING HOURS

It is unlawful to hunt big game earlier than one-half hour before sunrise or later than one-half hour after sunset on any day (firearms must be cased or securely wrapped and tied outside of legal hunting hours).

SNARES

It is unlawful to use traps, pitfalls or snares of any description to hunt big game (licensed black bear hunters may snare black bears using Aldrich foot snares or similar devices designed to capture and hold bears by the foot and must be set in a covered “cubby set”. The set must be clearly marked with a warning sign indicating that a bear snaring device is set in the “cubby”).

Note: Effective January 1, 2023, big game black bear hunters must also possess a trapper licence to set foot holding devices for black bear

DOGS

It is unlawful to use a dog for hunting (tracking, following or pursuing) big game.

SWIMMING ANIMALS

It is unlawful to hunt or molest any big game animal while it is swimming.

PROOF OF SEX OR AGE

The holder(s) of a male-only licence must leave the scrotum of the animal attached to one hind quarter as proof of sex. Note: the testicles and penis may be removed, if desired, but the scrotum must remain attached to the carcass until the animal is transported to the hunter’s home. If a calf is harvested on a male-only or calf or female-only or calf licence, hunters must retain the jawbone of their kill as proof of age. The holder(s) of a female-only licence must retain the head of their kill as proof of sex.

USE OF TAGS – TRANSPORT OF BIG GAME

- The tags issued with a big game licence must be attached and locked on the animal before it is removed from the place of kill, defined as, the area included in a 10-metre (33 ft.) radius from where the animal is dispatched by the hunter.
- It is unlawful to possess or transport big game unless the tags are attached and locked to the quarters between the tendon and the leg bone. In rare cases, a tag may be faulty and fail to lock. If this occurs, contact the nearest wildlife office immediately.
- It is an offence to transport meat with an unlocked tag, a replacement tag will be issued and must be affixed before the meat is moved from the actual site of the kill.
- Big game tags that have been damaged, lost or stolen must immediately be reported to a wildlife officer. It is an offence to transport or move a big game animal from the place of kill unless the tag has been properly affixed to the animal. Replacement tags may be acquired by contacting your nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office.
- A big game animal must be removed from the place of kill on or before the closing date of the season. If you cannot remove the animal by that date, you must get a permit to transport game in closed season from your nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office.
- You must fill in and forward your licence return to the Wildlife Division within seven days of the date of kill or within seven days after the close of the season if no kill is made. If you do not take an animal, you must also return the unused tags issued with the licence.

GIFTS OF GAME

If you wish to give game meat to friends or family, you must provide a signed note indicating the licence number, quantity of game meat, date and the names of the people involved. The individual receiving the game meat must possess the note until the meat is used or consumed.

POSSESSION OR SALE OF BIG GAME

You may possess big game meat only if you hold a valid licence or if you have been freely given the meat by a valid licence holder. If you are not the licence holder, you must get written proof that you acquired the meat from a licence holder and you must show this proof if requested by a wildlife officer. You can only sell big game meat if you have a valid selling permit (available free from the Wildlife Division) and the buyer has a valid Wild Meat Service Licence. Permits may only be acquired during the open season or within seven days after the season closes.

COLD STORAGE

A person may not accept or store any untagged big game or big game parts in a commercial, company or private cold storage, bait depot or other freezer unless the person requesting storage provides a signed document containing the licence number the game was harvested under, date of harvest, names of those involved and the quantity of game being stored.

COYOTES AND WOLVES

REMINDER

Centre-fire rifles not greater than .225 calibre may only be used for wolves and coyotes on the island portion of the province outside of the open big game fall season.

COYOTE SHOOTING LICENCE

The coyote shooting licence is combined with the small game licence. During the open shooting season for coyotes, hunters may use centre-fire rifle calibres up to and including a.225 or shotguns using shot size (#2 or larger).

- There are no bag limits for coyotes.
- Rim-fire rifles not greater than .22 caliber may be used for small game hunting and may also be used to shoot coyotes during the period that small game seasons are open.
- Centre-fire rifles not greater than .225 calibre may be used except in the island portion of the province during the open big game moose season (**September 13 – December 31, 2025**).

WOLF SHOOTING LICENCE

The wolf shooting licence is combined with the small game and coyote shooting licence. During the open shooting season for wolf, hunters may use centre-fire rifle calibres up to and including a.225 or shotguns using shot size (#2 or larger).

- A Small Game/Wolf/Coyote Shooting Licence has a bag limit of one wolf.
- Centre-fire rifles not greater than .225 calibre may be used, except in the island portion of the province during the open big game moose season (**September 13 – December 31, 2025**).
- Hunters should not shoot wolves that have been marked with radio collars and/or ear tags.

The lower jawbone or complete skull of all harvested wolves must be submitted to a Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office by **May 15, 2026**.

ADDITIONAL OPPORTUNITIES TO HARVEST COYOTES

Holders of a valid big game licence (moose, caribou or black bear) may harvest coyotes during the open season for those species and in the management area for which their licence is valid (licences become invalid when tags have been filled). Hunters must use firearms and ammunition that the big game licence authorizes them to possess.

Trappers who hold a valid trapping licence may also shoot lynx, fox and coyote using rifles up to .225 calibre during the period when trapping seasons for these species are open, except on the island during the big game moose season (**September 13 – December 31, 2025**).

WOLF AND COYOTE-WOLF HYBRID CARCASS COLLECTION PROGRAM

The occurrence of the gray wolf (from Labrador) and wolf-coyote hybrid has been documented by Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture on the island portion of the province. To assist with further monitoring of the occurrence and distribution of coyotes, wolves or wolf-coyote hybrids within the province (including Labrador), hunters and trappers are being asked to submit the entire canid carcass to the nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture. A \$25 fee will be paid to each hunter or trapper for submitting carcasses. Each carcass will be tagged with a unique registration number that is used to identify where and when the animal was harvested and to assist the Department with further genetic analysis. Harvesters will be required to provide their full name and address for payment and administrative purposes. For more information, please contact your nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office.

Addition efforts to encourage hunters and trappers to submit canid carcasses have also been supported by the Newfoundland and Labrador Outfitters Association (NLOA). The NLOA's Canid Incentive Program works in conjunction with the Wildlife Division's Carcass Collection Program. Hunters and trappers who submit canid carcasses to the Wildlife Division may be eligible for an additional \$35 from the NLOA by submitting harvest information directly to the NLOA. Forms for this program are available at the time of dropping off canid carcasses to your nearest Forestry/Wildlife Office.

Migratory Game Birds

The following is a summary of the Migratory Birds Regulations as they apply in Newfoundland and Labrador. Migratory game birds (ducks, geese, snipe) and murre are managed by the Federal Government under the Migratory Birds Convention Act. For complete information on the Migratory Birds Convention Act and Migratory Birds Regulations, contact the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) or visit: <https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/migratory-game-bird-hunting/regulations-provincial-territorial-summaries/newfoundland-labrador.html>

LICENCE REQUIREMENTS

To hunt migratory game birds and murre, you must possess a valid Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit.

AGE REQUIREMENTS

To hunt migratory game birds in Newfoundland and Labrador, you must be 12 years of age or older. Please refer to the Youth Hunting and Trapping Licence section for more information.

FIREARMS, AMMUNITION

It is unlawful:

- to hunt migratory game birds using a shotgun that can hold more than three shells in the magazine and chamber combined;
- to hunt migratory game birds with a rifle or shotgun shell loaded with a single bullet;
- to hunt migratory game birds with any shotgun larger than a 10 gauge;
- while hunting migratory game birds, to possess more than one shotgun unless each shotgun in excess of one is unloaded and cased or securely wrapped and tied; and
- to hunt migratory game birds using any shot other than non-toxic shot (except murre).

AIRCRAFT, VEHICLES, BOATS

It is unlawful:

- to shoot migratory game birds from any aircraft, sailboat, power boat, aircraft or motorized vehicle, or any vehicle to which a draught animal is attached; and
- to use a boat, aircraft or motor vehicle to disturb migratory game birds in order to drive them toward a hunter. It is permitted to retrieve dead or injured birds by the use of a power boat.

Decoys: It is unlawful to use live birds as decoys or to use recorded bird calls when hunting migratory game birds.

Bag Limits: Information concerning seasons and bag limits is available at the time of purchase of your Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit at a Canada Post Outlet.

Wounded Birds: It is unlawful to kill, cripple or wound a migratory game bird without immediately making all reasonable efforts to retrieve it.

HUNTING HOURS

It is unlawful to hunt migratory game birds earlier than one-half hour before sunrise or later than one-half hour after sunset on any day.

BAIT RESTRICTIONS

It is unlawful in this province:

- to deposit bait in any place during the period beginning 14 days before the first day of the open season and ending on the day immediately following the last day of the open season; and
- to hunt migratory game birds within 400 metres of any place where bait has been deposited unless the place has been free of bait for at least seven days.

POSSESSION AND TRANSPORT

It is unlawful:

- to possess or transport a migratory game bird unless at least one wing with its feathers remains attached to the bird. The wing and feathers may be removed when the bird is prepared for immediate cooking or after the bird is stored at the owner's residence;
- to ship or transport a package containing migratory birds, unless the package or container is clearly marked with the name and address of the shipper, the Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit number under which the birds were taken, and the exact contents of the package;
- to possess a carcass of a migratory game bird belonging to or taken by another person, unless the carcass has attached to it a tag or note that is signed by the holder of the Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit under which the bird was taken that indicates the name and address of the permit holder, the Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit number and the date the bird was taken; and
- to possess any shot other than non-toxic shot for the purpose of hunting migratory game birds (this does not apply to murre hunting).

Egg and Nests: It is unlawful to take, injure or destroy the eggs or nests of migratory birds at any time.

Sale of Migratory Game Birds: It is unlawful to buy or sell any migratory game bird. This includes the buying or selling of murre.

Provincial Regulations: While hunting migratory game birds, you must also abide by all provincial hunting regulations.

YOUTH WATERFOWLING

Hunters who are minors (less than 18 years old) may now hunt with a Youth MGBH permit. The Youth MGBH permit, as well as the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation stamp, can be obtained through the online purchasing system, free of charge at: <https://www.permis-permits.ec.gc.ca/en/PurchaseHuntingPermit>.

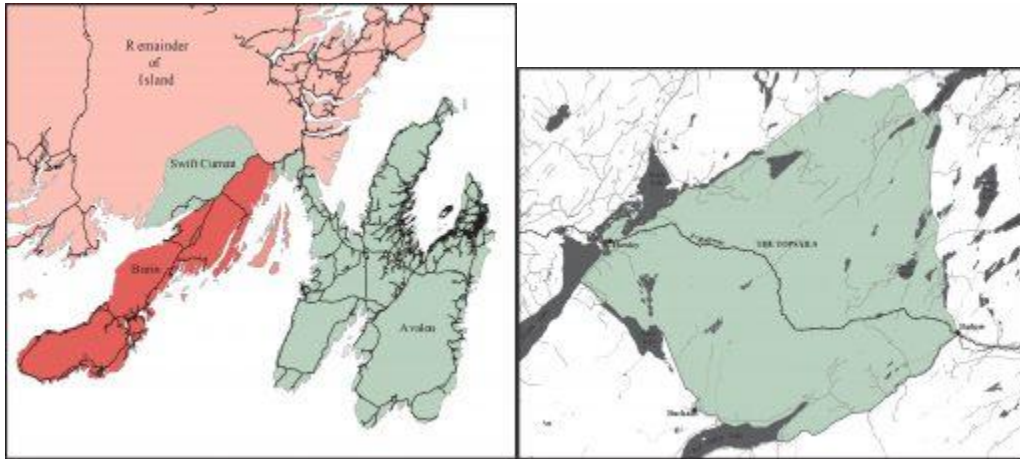
The Youth MGBH permit provides young hunters with the opportunity to practice their skills under the supervision of an adult mentor (in possession of a MGBH Permit) throughout the full Open season and the special conservation season and provides Youth MGBH Permit holders with their own daily bag and possession limits.

Mentors must possess their own MGBH permit, must have held such a permit in a previous year, and may accompany no more than two youth hunters. Mentors may carry a firearm and may hunt. For more information on the new rules pertaining to hunting migratory game birds in the modernized Migratory Birds Regulations, 2022, please consult the Migratory Game Bird Hunting web page.

Island Small Game

Willow and Rock Ptarmigan (combined)

Zone	Shooting Season	Snaring Season	Daily Bag/ Possession Limit Bag Limit 6, not more than 3 rock ptarmigan
Avalon/Swift Current	Sept 20-Nov 9/25	Oct 04/25-Mar 08/26	Possession 12, not more than 6 rock ptarmigan
Burin	Sept 20-Nov 9/25	CLOSED	Bag Limit 6, not more than 3 rock ptarmigan Possession 12, not more than 6 rock ptarmigan
The Topsails	Sept 20-Nov 16/25	Oct 04/25-Mar 08/26	Bag Limit 6, not more than 3 rock ptarmigan Possession 12, not more than 6 rock ptarmigan
Remainder of Island	Sept 20-Dec 07/25	Oct 04/25-Mar 08/26	Bag Limit 12, not more than 6 rock ptarmigan Possession 24, not more than 12 rock ptarmigan



Note: Bell Island is closed to snaring of ptarmigan

Ruffed and Spruce Grouse

Zone	Shooting Season	Snaring Season	Daily Bag/ Possession Limit
Island of Newfoundland	Sept 20-Dec 28/25	Oct 04/25-Mar 08/26	20/40

Note: Bell Island is closed to snaring of grouse

Snowshoe Hare

Zone	Shooting Season	Snaring Season	Daily Bag/ Possession Limit
Great Island	Oct 04-Dec 28/25	Oct 04-Dec 28/25	40
Little Bay Islands	Oct 04-Nov 02/25	Oct 04-Nov 02/25	40
Bell Island	Closed	Closed	-
Remainder of Island	Oct 04/25-Mar 08/26	Oct 04/25-Mar 08/26	40

Note: Bell Island is closed to shooting and snaring of snowshoe hare.

Red Squirrel

Zone	Shooting Season	Snaring Season	Daily Bag/ Possession Limit
Great Island	Oct 04-Dec 28/25	N/A	N/A
Little Bay Islands	Oct 04-Nov 02/25	N/A	N/A
Bell Island	Closed	Closed	-
Remainder of Island	Oct 04/25-Mar 08/26	N/A	N/A

Island Caribou

Area	Season
Island (61, 62, 64, 66, 67, 68, 76, 77, 78, 79)	Sept. 13, 2025 – Dec. 7, 2025
Merasheen (70)	Sept. 13, 2025 – Oct. 5, 2025
Lower Grey Islands (71) Upper Grey Island (80)	Sept. 13, 2025 – Nov. 30, 2025
Fogo Island (72)	Sept. 13, 2025 – Oct. 12, 2025
Zones 63, 65, and 69 are Closed	

- Bow hunting season begins August 30, 2025 in CMAs excluding 70, 71 & 72, and does not include cross bows.
- Hunters are advised against harvesting adult male caribou during the peak of the rut, generally the first three weeks of October, due to the possibility of the meat being unpalatable.
- It is unlawful for a person to allow harvested wild game that is suitable for food to be destroyed, wasted or spoiled.

Island Moose

Moose	Season	Areas
Island	Sept. 13, 2025 – Dec. 31, 2025	1-2B, 3-28, 29-101
Gros Morne National Park	Sept. 20/25-Jan. 25/26	2E: Zone 1
	Oct. 18/25-Jan. 25/26	2E: Zone 2
	Nov. 15/25-Jan. 25/26	2E: Zone 3
	CLOSED	2E: Zone 4
Terra Nova National Park	Oct. 14/25 – Jan. 31/26	28A

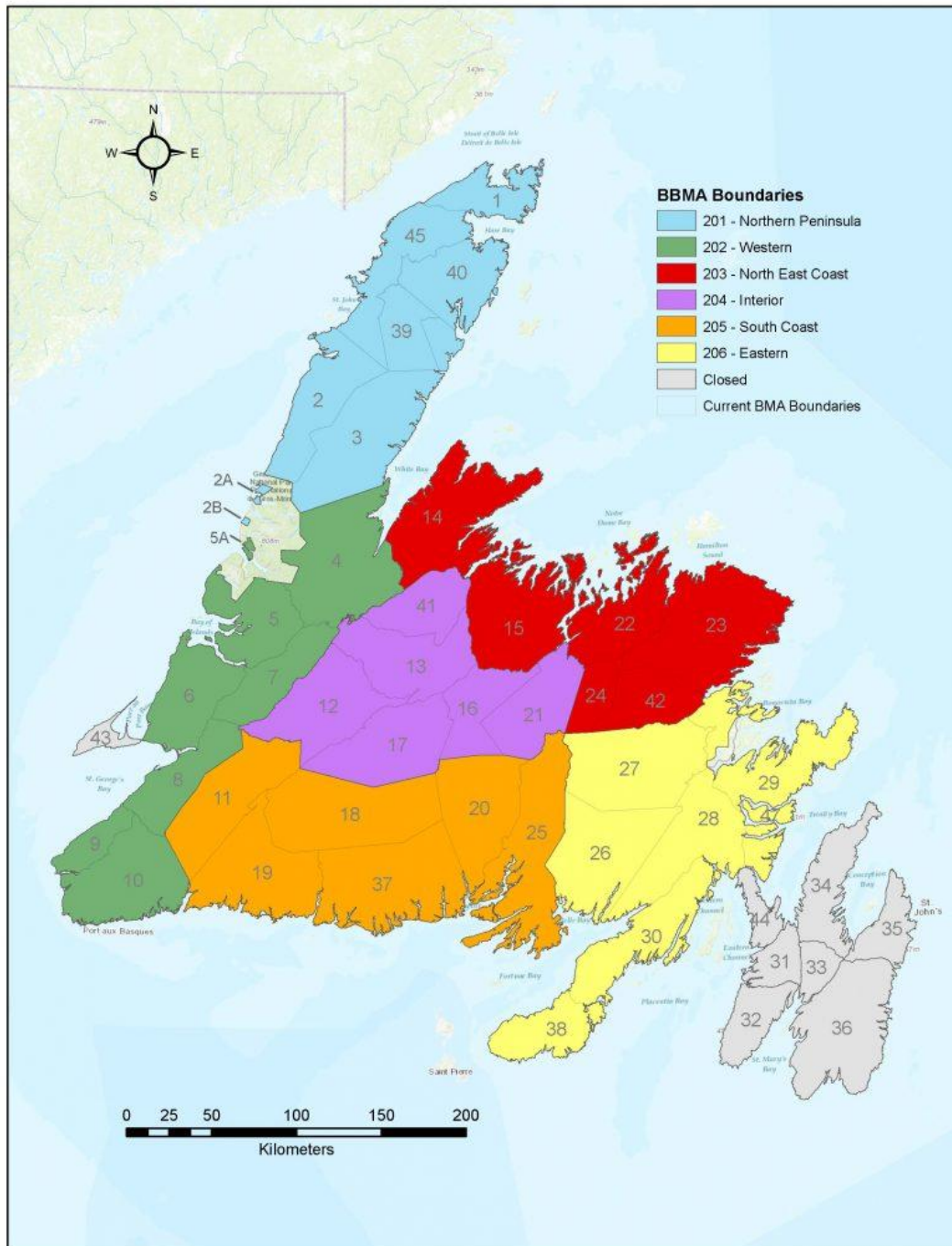
- 370 Charitable/Not-for-Profit Licences are issued by the Wildlife Division, 90 are issued by Parks Canada
- Bow hunting begins August 30, 2025 (Note: this does not include cross bows) for areas opening on September 13, 2025

ADVISORY

Over 75 per cent of meat spoilage cases that are reported occur as a result of improper handling or field care by the hunter. A replacement licence will only be issued if an animal is found to be unfit for consumption because of disease or previous injury and the entire carcass has been submitted for disposal. Contact your nearest Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office for more information.

Island Black Bear

Black Bear	Season	Areas
Fall 2025	Sept. 13 – Nov. 30	All Open Areas
Spring 2025	May 1 – July 15	All Open Areas



Please Note: Map is for general reference, refer to the BBMA online maps for detailed information.

Licence Returns and Reporting Harvest

When filling out 2025 Licence returns to report a harvest, please include the relevant MMA map and appropriate block information to complete your return. Maps are available through the links in the online table.

Important Notes:

- A valid black bear licence may be used for both the spring and fall 2025 season.

- Bag limits remain at two black bears per licence. Hunters may either harvest two bears in spring, two in fall, or one in each season.
- Female bears (sows) with cubs may not be harvested.
- Black bear hunters may apply for additional licences if they wish to harvest more than two black bears.
- The fall bow hunting season on the island of Newfoundland begins on August 30, 2025 (Note: this does not include cross bows). There is no preseason bow hunt for the spring season.
- Licenced black bear hunters are permitted to trap black bears using Aldrich foot snares or similar devices (designed to capture and hold bears by the foot) set in a covered “cubby set”. The set must be checked daily and clearly marked with a warning sign indicating that a bear snaring device is set in the cubby.
- Black bear hunters must possess a valid big game black bear licence and a valid trapping licence to set foot hold trapping devices for black bear.
- Note that for licencing purposes for the 2025 spring Black Bear season, individuals who possess a 2024-25 General Trapper’s Licence and a 2025 Black Bear Licence will be permitted to use Aldrich foot holding traps or similar devices for harvesting Black bear. A person who intends on using these trapping devices during the 2025 fall Black Bear season will be required to purchase a 2025-26 General Trapper’s Licence which will be available during the normal trapper application/licence processing period in July.
- Apply for your 2025 Resident Black Bear licence online by visiting wildlife.gov.nl.ca.

Labrador Small Game

Species Management Zone	Shooting Season	Snaring Season	Bag/Possession Limits
Ptarmigan All of Labrador	Oct 01/25-Apr 20/26	Oct 1/25- Mar 31/26	25 / 50
Ruffed and Spruce (combined) Labrador Southern Zone	Oct 01/25-Apr 20/26	Oct 1/25- Mar 31/26	25 / 50
Labrador Northern Zone	Oct 01/25-Apr 20/26	Oct 01/25- Mar 31/26	No limit
Snowshoe Hare All of Labrador	Oct. 01/25 to Apr. 20/26	Oct 1/25- Mar 31/26	No Limit
Arctic Hare All of Labrador	Oct 01/25-Apr 20/26	Oct 1/25- Mar 31/26	No Limit
Porcupine All of Labrador	Oct. 1/25 to Mar. 31/26	N/A	1/1

Red Squirrel All of Labrador	Oct. 1/25 to Apr. 20/26	N/A	No Limit
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Note: Hunters must possess a Ptarmigan Shooting Licence to harvest ptarmigan by shooting.

Labrador Inuit Settlement Area

Non-beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement are required to get permission from the Nunatsiavut Government to access Labrador Inuit Lands unless your interests are accommodated under the Agreement.

Labrador Moose

Moose	Season	Areas
Labrador	Sept. 13, 2025 – Mar. 8, 2026	All Open Areas

Bow hunting begins August 30, 2025 (Note: this does not include cross bows).

Labrador Black Bear

Black Bear Management Area	Fall 2025 Season	Spring Season
Labrador (excludes National Parks)	August 10, 2025 to November 30	April 1, 2026 to July 13, 2026

REGULATIONS

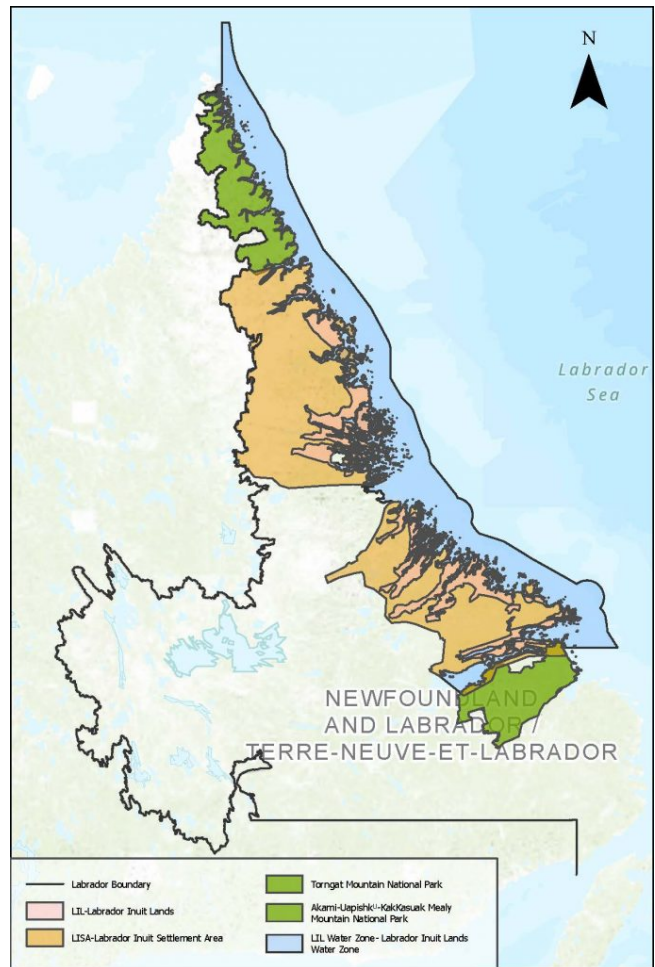
- Licenced black bear hunters are permitted to trap black bears using Aldrich foot snares or similar devices (designed to capture and hold bears by the foot) set in a covered “cubby set”. The set must be checked daily and clearly marked with a warning sign indicating that a bear snaring device is set in the cubby.
- Black bear hunters must possess a valid big game black bear licence and a valid trapping licence to set foot hold trapping devices for black bear.
- Apply for your 2025 Resident Black Bear licence online by visiting wildlife.gov.nl.ca.

Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement

“Labrador Inuit Settlement Area” refers to Labrador Inuit Settlement Area outside the Labrador Inuit Lands and the Torngat Mountains National Park.

The Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement (Agreement) between the Labrador Inuit Association, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador, and the Government of Canada came into effect on December 1, 2005. This Agreement establishes two categories of land the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (Settlement Area) and Labrador Inuit Lands. The Settlement Area consists of 72,520km² of land and an adjacent ocean area of 45,690km² referred to as the Zone and includes Labrador Inuit Lands and the Torngat Mountains National Park. Labrador Inuit Lands consists of 15,800km² of Inuit-owned land.

The Agreement outlines conditions for individuals who hunt, trap and fish within the Settlement Area and for non-beneficiaries to access Labrador Inuit Lands for harvesting purposes. Non-beneficiaries are required to get permission in the form of a permit from the Nunatsiavut Government to pursue any activities inside Labrador Inuit Lands unless your interests are accommodated under the Agreement.



For further information respecting access to Labrador Inuit Lands, please contact the Nunatsiavut Government's Department of Lands and Natural Resources by mail at P.O. Box 909, Station B, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL, A0P 1E0, by telephone at 709.896.8582, by fax at 896-2610, or via their website at www.nunatsiavut.com.

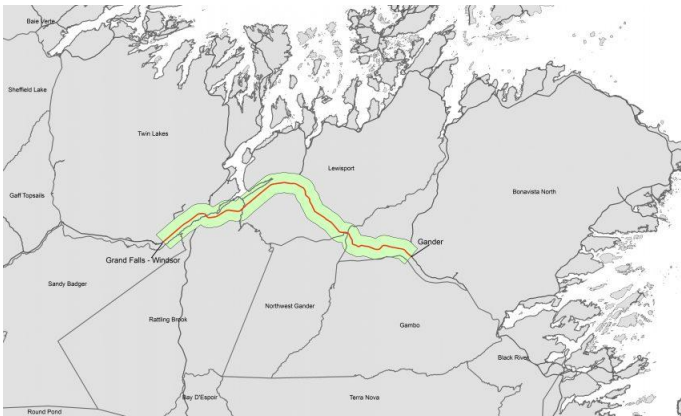
For further information on interests accommodated under the Agreement or other changes resulting from the Agreement, please contact the Wildlife Division, Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture by phone at 709-896-5107 or by fax at 896-0188. The Agreement, including more detailed maps of the Settlement Area, Labrador Inuit Lands and the Torngat Mountains National Park can be found online at <https://www.gov.nl.ca/exec/iar>.

Moose Reduction Zones

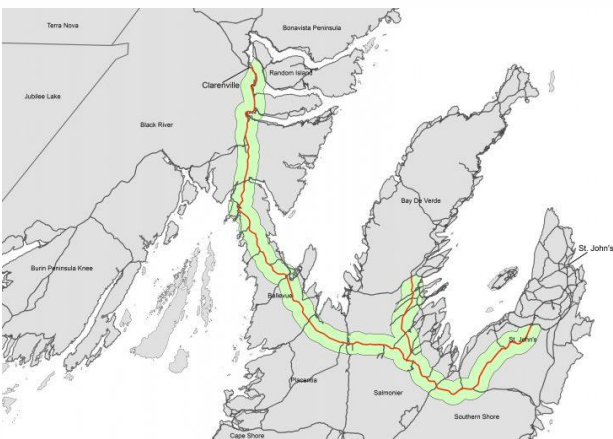
The Moose Reduction Zone (MRZ) project was established in 2015 to study the effects of directed moose hunting and adaptive moose management strategies that could potentially address Moose Vehicle Collisions (MVCs) on our highways.

The project was implemented in two locations: the Avalon MRZ – Moose Management Area 100 and the Central Newfoundland MRZ – Moose Management Area 101. Each MRZ is a unique and separate moose management area (MMA) that is a maximum six kilometres wide by approximately 268 km and 98 km long respectively and excludes the actual traveled portion of any roadway or highway. These study areas were selected based on the reported rates of MVCs as determined by the Department of Transportation and Infrastructure. A total quota of 1000 either sex licences has been allocated for these MRZs that eligible resident big game hunters may apply for as part the 2024 annual big game licence draw; 600 licences are available for the Avalon MRZ and 400 licences for the Central MRZ.

The Avalon MRZ and the Central MRZ opens **September 13, 2025** and closes **December 31, 2025**. Hunters who hold a valid licence for an MMA that overlaps with a portion of an MRZ are permitted to hunt the portion of the MRZ that is within their MMA boundary; including during the pre-season bow hunt.



Central MRZ (MMA 101)



Avalon MRZ (MMA 100)

Note: MRZ maps are for general reference purposes only. For further information on maps and boundaries visit <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa> or contact a FFA office nearest you

As a hunter, your cooperation and participation in this project is very important. While this project involves studying the direct effects of using hunting to reduce moose populations in the MRZs, it is also especially important that hunters travelling along any section of highway or roadway in search of moose recognize that existing traffic and hunter safety laws must be observed at all times. Please be safe and hunt responsibly. Hunters who are successful in receiving a licence in a MRZ through the big game draw will also receive additional information with their licence that will outline other essential details concerning moose hunting in the MRZs and how to report their activities as part of their participation in the project. For more information about sample collection, please call 709.637.2025

Moose Population Management in Terra Nova and Gros Morne National Parks 2025-26

Parks Canada is seeking the assistance of qualified moose hunters to participate in an ecosystem health program to manage moose populations in Terra Nova and Gros Morne National Parks. The purpose of the program is to allow the forests in these national parks to continue to recover from the damaging effects of moose over browsing.

Twenty-five (25) licences will be available in Terra Nova National Park and five hundred (500) in Gros Morne National Park. In addition, both parks will make not-for-profit (NFP) licences available to registered NFP organizations. A total of (15) and (75) NFP licences will be available for Terra Nova National Park and Gros Morne National Park, respectively.

Licences for both national parks (MMA 28A and MMA 2E) will be issued through the existing provincial draw system. If you are successful in the draw for one of these areas, in addition to your provincial licence and tags, you will receive a separate package containing your Superintendent's permit from Parks Canada together with an area map and additional information. For the purpose of the licencing draw and pool status, these MMAs will be treated the same as all others and standard provincial licencing fees will apply. For more information on NFP licences contact Parks Canada.

Before applying for a national park licence, please note that there are differences between provincial hunting regulations and what is permissible under this ecosystem management program in a national park. For example:

- Moose is the only species permitted for hunting. Hunting licences for other species are not valid in national parks.
- Open fires and tree cutting are prohibited.
- Failure to comply with regulations may result in charges under the *Canada National Parks Act*.

TERRA NOVA NATIONAL PARK (MMA 28A)

There is a single MMA (28A) for Terra Nova National Park with one hunting zone identified within this area:

- Zone 1 – Shared Access Area (opens Tuesday, **October 14, 2025**). This area allows visitor and hunter access simultaneously, and includes most areas of the park.
- Zone 1 will close on Sunday, **January 31, 2026**.
- A description of Zone 1, as well as all closed areas, will be identified in hunter information packages, on our website (<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/nl/terranova/nature/forets-forests/harv>), and through in-park signage.

- Applications for not-for-profit licences for Terra Nova National Park must be received by 4:30 pm on **August 15, 2025**. Application forms can be obtained by contacting John Gosse (Parks Canada) at 709-533-3204 or john.gosse@pc.gc.ca.

Important Information for Hunters in Terra Nova National Park:

- There may be construction projects ongoing within Terra Nova National Park during the hunting season. Hunting is NOT permitted within construction zones. Construction zones and work areas throughout the Park may change daily. Please pay close attention to posted signs and call 709-533-2801 or visit our website (<https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/nl/terranova/nature/forets-forests/harv>) for up-to-date information.
- A 20-metre no hunting roadside buffer will remain in effect along the Trans-Canada Highway and Route 301 (to the community of Terra Nova). A 50-metre buffer will remain in effect alongside Route 310 (Eastport Peninsula).
- The use of motorized watercraft on inland waterways, as well as all-terrain vehicles (ATVs) and snowmobiles within Terra Nova National Park, is prohibited for any purpose, including carcass retrieval.
- There are few access roads within Terra Nova National Park. Public highways, community and service roads, and boat accessible coastline generally provide motorized access only to the margins of the MMA.
- In the interest of public safety and to allow for visitor use, NOT ALL areas within the MMA are open to hunting. These areas are indicated on the map for MMA 28A and are also marked by signage in the Park. Moose harvesters are responsible for knowing which areas are closed and must refrain from hunting within these areas.
- Back-country camping is permitted at designated campsites. Moose harvesters are required to register with the Park if they are overnighing in back-country areas. Coordinates of all backcountry campsites will be available in the information package.

GROS MORNE NATIONAL PARK (MMA 2E)

- There is a single MMA for Gros Morne National Park that will be divided into three hunting zones. Each hunting zone has a different opening date. Your MMA 2E licence and tags are valid in all zones:
 - Zone 1 (opens Saturday, **September 20, 2025**). This zone is limited to backcountry areas greater than 2 km from park highways.
 - Zone 2 (opens Saturday, **October 18, 2025**). This zone includes the majority of the remainder of the park and is accessible by road.
 - Zone 3 (opens Saturday, **November 15, 2025**). This zone surrounds the Killdevil Camp and areas adjacent to heavily-used park trails.
- All zones close on **January 25, 2026**.
- There will be ongoing construction projects within Gros Morne National Park during the hunting season. Hunting is NOT permitted within 1 km of construction zones. Construction zones and work areas throughout the park may change daily. Please pay close attention to posted signs and
- Call 709-458-2417 or visit our website <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/nl/grosmorne/bulletins> for up-to-date information.
- Applications for not-for-profit licences for Gros Morne National Park must be received by 4:30 pm on **August 15, 2025**. Late applications will not be considered. Application forms can be obtained by contacting Gros Morne National Park.

Important Information for Hunters in Gros Morne National Park:

- All-terrain vehicle (ATV) use, including for carcass retrieval, is prohibited.
- There are few access roads within the national park. Public highways, community roads, and boat-accessible coastline generally provide motorized access only to the margins of the MMA.
- Hunters may use snowmobiles to access areas of Gros Morne National Park for the purpose of harvesting a moose. Successful applicants will receive a permit to use a snowmobile in Gros Morne National Park, however certain restrictions apply; for example, some areas of the park are closed to all snowmobiling and snowmobiling can only occur when there is adequate snow cover. Call 709-458-2417 or visit our website <https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/nl/grosmorne/bulletins> for up-to-date information.
- Hunters may use motorized/non-motorized boats to access the MMA in accordance with park regulations.
- Hunter information packages that will be mailed before the start of the season will contain more information such as maps and relevant operational details.

For more information:

Terra Nova National Park: 709-533-2801 • Gros Morne National Park: 709-458-2417
www.pc.gc.ca/foresthealth

Coyotes and Wolves

Species	Zone	Shooting Season	Bag Limit
Coyote	Province-wide	Sept 13/25 – July 15/26	N/A
Wolf	Island	Oct 15/25 – Mar 31/26	1
	Labrador South*	Nov 1/25 – Mar 31/26	
	Labrador North	Oct 15/25 – Mar 31/26	

*Centre-fire rifles not greater than .225 calibre may be used except during the open big game moose season (**September 13 – December 31, 2025**) on the island portion of the province for wolf and coyote.

**Labrador South Wolf Shooting Zone coincides Labrador South Trapping Zone.

Note: In Labrador, all wolf skulls must be submitted to the Wildlife Division office in Happy Valley - Goose Bay no later than **May 15, 2026**. As well, hunters are being asked to submit the entire carcass of a wolf or coyote to the nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office. A \$25 fee will be paid to each hunter or trapper for submitting carcasses.

ATTENTION HUNTERS

It is punishable by law;

- to chase or harass any wildlife with any aircraft, motor vehicle, boat, snow machine or all-terrain vehicle of any type;
- to hunt any wildlife with, or possess any loaded firearm on, any aircraft, motor vehicle, snow machine or all-terrain vehicle of any type.
- Such vehicles may be used for transportation to and from a hunting area and for transporting any game taken, except where restrictions apply to the use of all-terrain vehicles.

Wolf and Coyote-Wolf Hybrid Carcass Collection Program

The occurrence of the grey wolf (from Labrador) has been documented by Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture on the island portion of the province. To assist with further monitoring of the occurrence and distribution of coyotes or wolves within the province (including Labrador), hunters and trappers are being asked to submit the entire canid carcass to the nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office. A \$25 fee will be paid to each hunter or trapper for submitting carcasses. Each carcass will be tagged with a unique registration number that is used to identify where and when the animal was harvested and to assist the Department with further genetic analysis work. Harvesters will be required to provide their full name and address for payment and administrative purposes. For more information, please contact your nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office.

Addition efforts to encourage hunters and trappers to submit canid carcasses is also being supported by the Newfoundland and Labrador Outfitters Association (NLOA). The NLOA's Canid Incentive Program works in conjunction with the Wildlife Division's Carcass Collection Program. Hunters and trappers who submit canid carcasses to the Wildlife Division may be eligible for an additional \$35 from the NLOA by submitting harvest information directly to the NLOA. Forms for this program are available at the time of dropping off canid carcasses to your nearest Forestry/Wildlife Office.

General Information for Trappers

NOTICES

Breakaway Devices (Island)

Use of breakaway devices added to neck snares will become mandatory on the island of Newfoundland starting in the 2025-26 season trapping for terrestrial furbearers such as lynx, fox, coyote and wolf. Breakaways must cause the snare loop to disassemble when 340 kilograms or less of static force is applied. These measures are being implemented to reduce incidental captures of moose and caribou.

More information is available in the Trapping Practices to Avoid Non-Target Species section.

Beaver Trapline Licensing System (Island)

Beginning in 2025-26, trappers who are not assigned a beaver trapline can apply for a trapper's beaver licence. Under this licence a trapper can trap a maximum of 5 beaver from areas where there are no assigned beaver traplines and no other beaver trapping restrictions exist. Beaver traplines that are vacant at the start of the

trapping season will be included for the entire season on a general areas list that will then be made available to holders of a trapper's beaver licence. A person who is currently assigned a beaver trapline and continues to hold a valid beaver trapline licence and engages in active trapline activities required as part of the licence conditions will not be impacted by this change.

AGREEMENT ON INTERNATIONAL HUMANE TRAPPING STANDARDS (AIHTS)

The AIHTS sets performance standards for traps used in the harvest of eight species of furbearers in Newfoundland and Labrador. All trappers are required to use trap types for certain species that have been regulated for use under the Agreement. To see a list of traps currently certified for Newfoundland and Labrador check the Fur Bearing Animals and Coyote Trapping and Shooting Order, Newfoundland and Labrador.

ONGOING RESEARCH ON HUMANE KILLING NECK SNARES FOR CANIDS

On behalf of Canadian provinces and territories, the Trap Research and Development Committee (TRDC) of the Fur Institute of Canada coordinate various activities to determine whether killing and restraining trapping methods, as defined in the AIHTS, are in compliance with the established animal welfare criteria relevant to trapping twelve Canadian wild furbearers. Part of this effort is dedicated toward continuous refinement of trapping systems and field systems for enhanced animal welfare. A current initiative is the evaluation of various designs of killing neck snares for canids (coyote, wolf) to evaluate their level of effectiveness in terms of animal welfare and capture performance. The work of the TRDC will lead to the development of the best trap design and trapping techniques for canids using killing neck snares. Results of this work are anticipated to be available within the next year and will inform provincial best trapping practices. Current guidance on best trapping practices and ways to avoid capture of non-target species can be found online: https://fur.ca/wp-content/uploads/2015/10/best_trapping_practices-July-2018.pdf.

Notices

BREAKAWAY DEVICES

Current best practices involving the use of breakaway devices being added to neck snares will become mandatory on the island of Newfoundland starting in the 2025-26 season for trapping terrestrial furbearers such as lynx, fox, coyote and wolf. These measures are being implemented to reduce incidental captures of moose and caribou. These measures are being announced now to provide trappers with ample opportunity to modify existing snares or replace equipment as necessary.

Breakaways must cause the snare loop to disassemble when 340 kilograms or less of static force is applied.

Trapper Education Course

- All new trappers must complete the Trapper Education Course. For information on courses to be held in your area, contact the Newfoundland and Labrador Trappers Association by phone at 709.691.0268 or by email at nltrappers@hotmail.com. Course fees: Adults \$150, Age 17 and under \$80.
- There is no age restriction for participation in the Trapper Education Course; however, minors must provide a consent form and/or be accompanied by a parent/guardian.
- If you complete a trapper education course after **August 20, 2025** you are not guaranteed to receive a trapper's licence for the 2025-26 season.
- Only licenced trappers may harvest furbearers and participate in trapping activities.

Newfoundland and Labrador Trappers Association (NLTA)

The NLTA welcomes new members and invites existing members to renew their memberships. A one-year membership costs \$30. For further information, contact the NLTA at P.O. Box 215, Chapel Arm, NL, A0B 1L0, by phone at 709.691.0268 or by email at nltrappers@hotmail.com

Beaver

- Beaver are managed through a combination of general beaver trapping areas available to holders of a trapper's beaver licence and a beaver trapline system on the Island of Newfoundland. Only trappers that have been approved to hold a trapline can legally be issued a beaver trapline licence to trap beaver in their assigned area.
- A trapper cannot hold both a beaver trapline licence and a trapper's beaver licence at the same time.
- Beaver trapline boundaries and availability information is now available online at the following link: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/ffa/public-education/wildlife/trapping/maps/>
- General areas that will be made available to holders of a trapper's beaver licence will be added to the link above before the licence application recommended renewal date in August. At the start of the beaver trapping season (October 20), any traplines that are still vacant will be added to the link above and available for beaver trapping under this licence. Beaver trapline holders are required to harvest a minimum of five beavers per season unless justification is presented otherwise. If not carried out, the trapline may be cancelled and assigned to another trapper.
- Trapper's beaver licence holders may only harvest a maximum of 5 beaver per season under this licence.
- Should a beaver trapper choose not to harvest beaver on their trapline due to low population levels, provide this information in writing to the Wildlife Division (attention: Beaver Trapline). Regulations permit the temporary closure of a trapline to allow the population to recover. Unless it can be shown that a trapper was responsible for the population decline, the trapper who held the trapline prior to closure can be reassigned once it reopens.
- A harvest of five beaver does not necessarily reflect proper utilization of the trapline. Trappers are advised that an appropriate harvest equates to one beaver per active beaver lodge on their trapline. High beaver densities and increasing problem complaints may result in cancellation of a trapline if sufficient numbers of animals are not harvested.
- Beaver trappers are reminded that each year many complaints are received about damaged property, flooded culverts and roadways and the presence of beavers in water supplies. Nuisance beavers must often be removed in the spring and summer when pelts are not prime. Beaver trappers are asked to focus efforts on these potential problem areas.
- Pelt stamping will continue to be delivered through Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture offices in an effort to accommodate trappers, particularly those living in remote areas. Regulations require that all beaver be pelted and stamped by fourteen days after the season closes.
- Beaver trappers are responsible for completing and submitting the Beaver Data Information Form enclosed with your licence. Send them to the Wildlife Division (attention: Beaver Trapper).
- It is illegal for beaver trappers to accept beavers or unregistered beaver pelts caught under someone else's beaver trapping licence. This jeopardizes the management strategy for beavers. General trappers must surrender accidentally caught beavers to the registered trapline owner or a Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office.

Lynx Skins and Carcasses

- On the island of Newfoundland, all lynx harvested during an open season must be registered at a Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office. Skins must be stamped by **February 10, 2026**.
- On the island of Newfoundland, all lynx (pelt and carcass) trapped accidentally during the closed season or in a closed area must be turned in to a Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office within seven days of capture.

Wolves

Labrador trappers are required to submit either the entire skull or lower jawbone of harvested wolves. The information gathered will aid in better understanding the biology of wolves. These can be submitted to your nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office. Contact the Wildlife Division office in Happy Valley-Goose Bay for more information. Skulls must be submitted by **May 15, 2026**.

Non-beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement are required to get permission to access Labrador Inuit Lands unless your interests are accommodated under the Agreement.

Newfoundland Marten

- To avoid conflicts with the threatened Newfoundland marten, best management practices outline the techniques, trap types and areas where trapping can occur by categorizing various trap types permitted in these areas. See Best Practices for Newfoundland Marten for approved methods.
- Marten which are accidentally trapped or snared on the island must be immediately turned over to the nearest Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office. Information on the date and location of capture, along with the method of capture, will be requested.

Application Deadlines

- There is no deadline for receipt of general trapper's or beaver trapline licence applications, however, to receive a licence prior to the start of the trapping season applications and payments must be received by **August 29, 2025**. Applications and payments received after these dates will be processed as soon as possible.
- Beaver trapline licence renewals must be received by **October 5, 2025**, or your trapline may be forfeited.

How Do I Get A Licence?

Trapper licence renewal is now available as an online service only. Eligible trappers must have an online account to log into the Department's Wildlife Information Management System (WIMS) portal. For further information about our online services, please contact the Wildlife Division at 709-637-2025/709-729-2630 or by email at wildlifelicense@gov.nl.ca. Please include your name, NL Driver's Licence/NL Photo ID and telephone number in your email correspondence.

When applying and providing payment please allow 48 hours for payments to go through. If you are concerned about your payment going through, please contact the Wildlife Division through the means listed above.

Trapping in the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (LISA)

The Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement specifies that before a non-Inuit resident of Labrador residing outside of LISA can trap in LISA, they must demonstrate that they held a commercial trapping license on June 25, 2001, and trapped there traditionally. Non-Inuit living inside LISA must have held a commercial trapping license on December 1, 2005. **Both these groups of non-Inuit may harvest furbearers in Labrador Inuit Lands without the consent of the Nunatsiavut Government.**

Upon the recommendation of the Torngat Wildlife and Plants Co-management Board, the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture may issue a commercial trapping license to other individuals to trap in the LISA as set out in the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement. These individuals are required to seek the

consent of the Nunatsiavut Government to access Labrador Inuit Lands. Please refer to the section entitled “Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement” in this guide.

Online Services

Many of the services provided by the Wildlife Division, such as submitting trapping licence applications and payments, and submitting licence returns can be accessed online at www.wildlife.gov.nl.ca, provided that you have your login identification and password.

Firearms Regulations for Trappers

- In Labrador, holders of a general trapper’s licence may use firearms to harvest furbearers during the trapping season.
- On the island of Newfoundland, Trappers who hold a valid trapping licence may also shoot lynx, fox and coyote (including wolf-coyote hybrids) using centerfire rifles up to .225 calibre during the period when trapping seasons for these species are open, except during the big game moose season (**September 13 – December 31, 2025**) on the island.
- Holders of trapper’s licences are also permitted to use a rim-fire rifle to dispatch live furbearers caught in traps.
- Trappers can only use firearms if they have completed the Trapper Education Course and the Canadian Firearms Safety and Hunter Education Course, have in their possession an Outdoor Identification Card, and possess a valid General Trapper’s Licence. Visit here for more information concerning youth trapping licences: <https://www.gov.nl.ca/hunting-trapping-guide/2025-26/youth-hunting-and-trapping-licences/>.

Closed Areas

All Provincial and National Parks and listed Ecological Reserves are closed to trapping, except as permitted by specific regulation or Land Claims Agreement (<https://www.gov.nl.ca/hunting-trapping-guide/2025-26/labrador-inuit-land-claims-agreement/>). Additional areas that are closed to trapping are listed at the end of this guide. For specific boundary descriptions, contact the Wildlife Division office.

Fur Sales and Permits

Fur Export Licences must be acquired by trappers who send furs directly to companies, agents, or buyers outside the province. A Fur Export Permit is also required for each shipment. Licences are available from the Wildlife Division. Permits are available at Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture offices.

Trappers typically sell their pelts at fur auctions. Top and average prices for well prepared, seasoned skins are usually higher when goods are sold by auction as opposed to a fur buyer.

Fur Buyer Agents

Fur Harvesters Auction Inc.

Newfoundland Agent

Sheldon Mosher

102 Fudges Rd. Corner Brook

A2H 2C8

Fur Harvesters Auction Inc.

Labrador Agent

Jim Shouse

P.O. Box 483, Stn. C

Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL

A0P 1C0

Phone: 896-1036

Trappers providing furs to auctions/agents should note that:

- Fur dealers may offer cash advances to trappers submitting furs for auction.
- When shipping to Fur Harvesters Auction Inc. use the addresses as listed above. Some trappers choose to ship their fur direct to the mainland. There is no advantage to this practice since: a) commission rates are the same (11%) whether you ship direct or via a local agent; and b) persons who ship direct must go through the trouble of obtaining an export licence. Therefore, it is more convenient to ship via the local fur auction agents.
- If you choose to ship directly to the mainland to a fur auction or fur buyer, please remember that an export licence is required for each shipment. It is an offence under the Wild Life Act and Regulations to ship furs directly out of the province without an export licence.
- When dealing with auction companies/agents or buyers within the province, trappers need only maintain their own individual records of furs being processed for auction.

Island

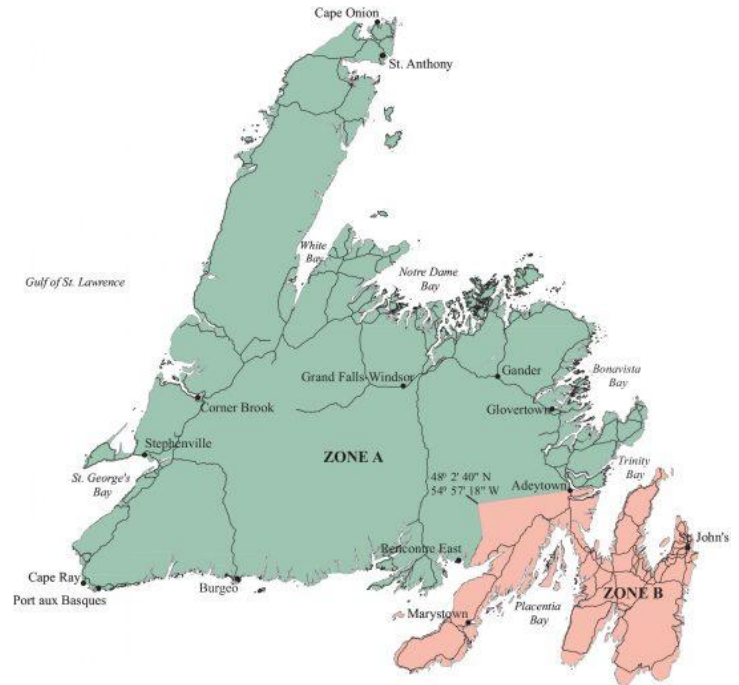
Species	Trapping Season
Beaver	Oct 20/25 – April 15/26
Muskrat	Oct 20/25 – Mar 15/26
Otter	Oct 20/25 – Mar 15/26
Mink	Nov 1/25 – Feb 28/26
Coyote	Oct 20/25 – Feb 1/26
Fox, Coloured	Oct 20/25 – Feb 1/26
Fox, White	Oct 20/25 – Feb 1/26
Lynx	Zone A-Jan 1/26– February 1/26 Zone B- Jan 15/26– February 1/26
Wolf	Oct 20/25 – Feb 1/26
Ermine (weasel)	Oct 20/25 – Feb 28/26
Squirrel	Oct 20/25 – Feb 28/26

*Trappers who hold a valid trapping licence may also shoot lynx, fox and coyote using rifles up to .225 calibre during the period when trapping seasons for these species are open except during the big game moose season (September 13 – December 31, 2025) on the island of Newfoundland.

Lynx Zones (Island):

Lynx zone descriptions and specific boundary descriptions are available by contacting the Wildlife Division office or visit:

<https://assembly.nl.ca/Legislation/sr/regulations/rc180071.htm>



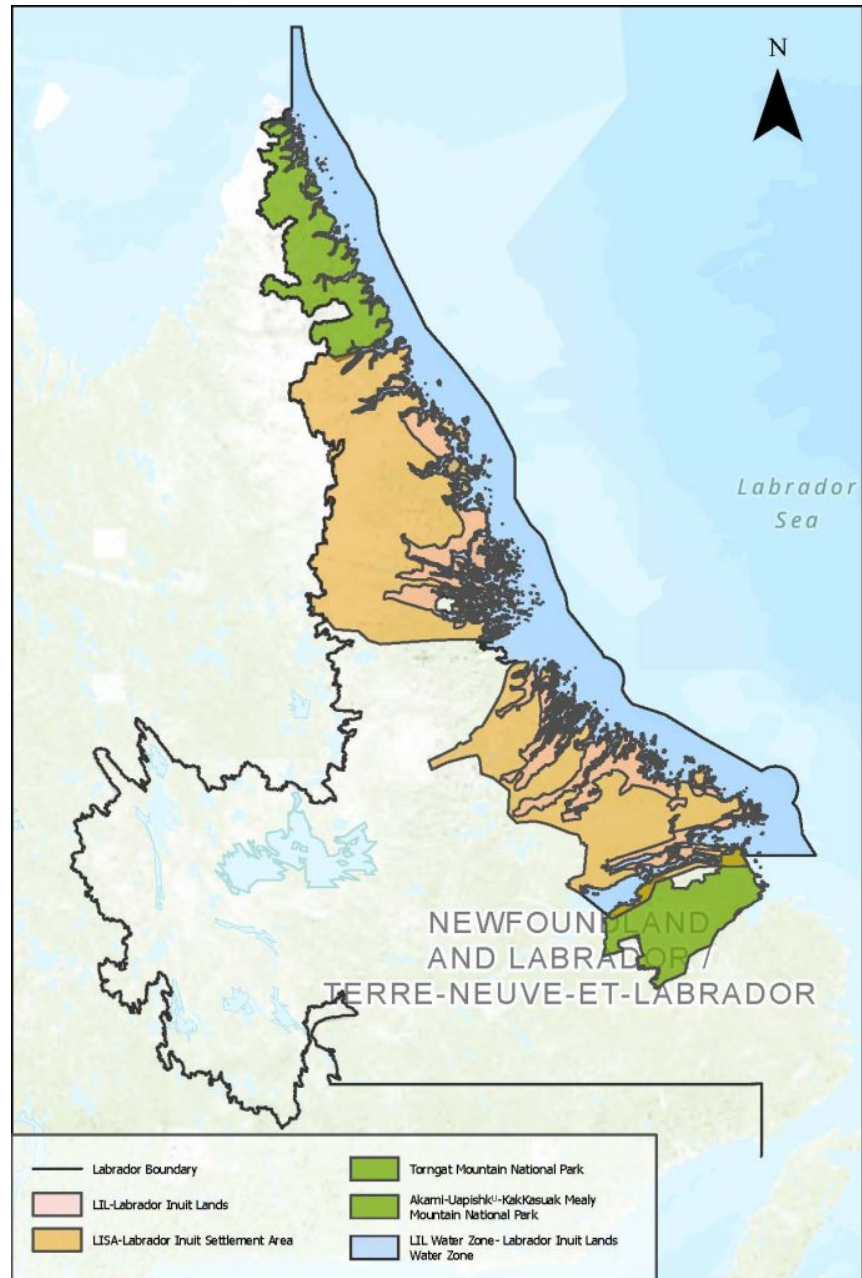
Labrador

Species	Labrador North	Labrador South
Beaver	Oct 15/25 – May 31/26	Oct 15/25 – May 31/26
Muskrat	Oct 5/25 – May 31/26	Oct 15/25 – May 31/26
Otter	Oct 15/25 – March 31/26	Oct 15/25 – March 20/26
Mink	Nov 1/25 – March 31/26	Nov 1/25 – March 20/26
Coyote	Oct 15/25 – March 31/26	Nov 1/25 – March 20/26
Fox, Coloured	Oct 15/25 – March 31/26	Nov 1/25 – March 20/26
Fox, White	Oct 15/25 – May 31/26	Nov 1/25 – March 20/26
Lynx	Oct 15/25 – March 31/26	Nov 1/25 – March 20/26
Wolf	Oct 15/25 – April 30/26	Nov 1/25 – April 30/26
Ermine (weasel)	Oct 15/25 – March 31/26	Nov 1/25 – March 20/26
Squirrel	Oct 15/25 – March 31/26	Nov 1/25 – March 20/26
Marten	Oct 15/25 – March 31/26	Nov 1/25 – March 20/26
Fisher	No Open Season	No Open Season
Wolverine	No Open Season	No Open Season

Labrador North Fur Zone: All that area of Labrador, including offshore islands, lying north of a line commencing at a point on the coast at 54 degrees north latitude, then west along 54 degrees north latitude to its intersection with 62 degrees west longitude, then north along 62 degrees west longitude to 55 degrees north latitude and then west along 55 degrees north latitude to its intersection with the Labrador – Quebec border.

Labrador South Fur Zone: All the remainder of Labrador not described in the Labrador North Fur Zone.

For information respecting the harvesting of fur-bearers in the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area please refer to the section entitled “Trapping in the Labrador Inuit Settlement Area (LISA)”



Closed Areas

Hunting is prohibited in Salmonier Nature Park, Pippy Park and all Provincial Parks throughout the province, with the exception of waterway Provincial Parks. Hunting is prohibited in National Parks, except as permitted by specific regulations or Land Claims Agreement. Hunting is prohibited in Migratory Bird Sanctuaries and Seabird Ecological Reserves with the exception of Lawn Islands Archipelago Provisional Ecological Reserve (migratory game bird hunting only). Unless otherwise indicated, all big game hunting on the island of Newfoundland, and all moose hunting in Labrador is prohibited on offshore islands.

Special Notice

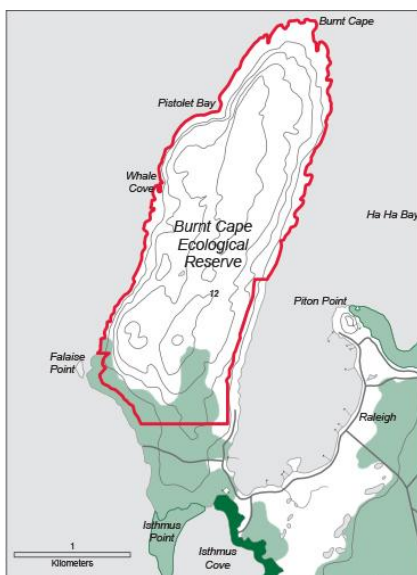
There are special conditions for the T'Railway Provincial Park; Hunting and trapping are both prohibited inside the boundary of T'Railway Provincial Park (this is generally defined as 25 feet from each side of the centerline of the rail-bed in most areas). Hunting, trapping and snaring is prohibited inside the boundary of the T'Railway Provincial Park. Hunters and trappers may transport firearms under the authority of a valid hunting licence along the T'Railway Provincial Park, however, it is unlawful to discharge a firearm or set traps inside the Park boundary.

Hunting is permitted within the Main River Waterway Provincial Park in accordance with permits and licenses issued under the Wild Life Act or the Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994 (Canada) or regulations made under these Acts.

Please contact Provincial Parks for more information at 709.637.2040 or info@parksnl.ca or visit www.parksnl.ca

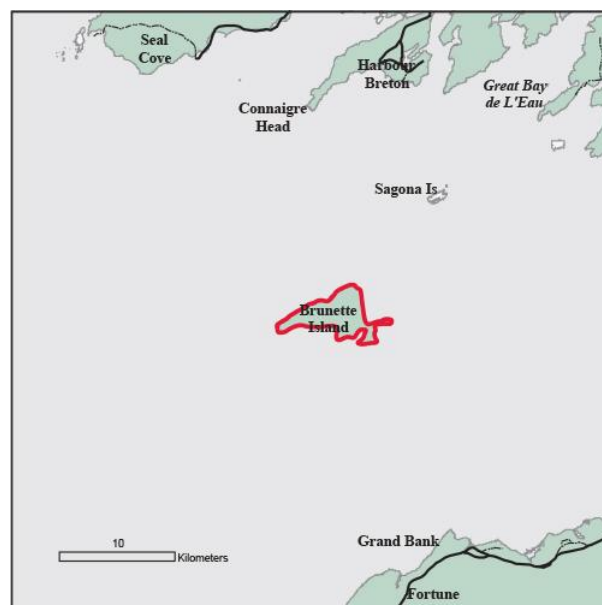
There are some Ecological and Wilderness Reserves which do not have prohibitions on hunting. These include Watts Point Ecological Reserve, Table Point Ecological Reserve, Redfir Lake-Kapitagas Channel Ecological Reserve, West Brook Ecological Reserve, Little Grand Lake Provisional Ecological Reserve, Bay du Nord Wilderness Reserve and the Avalon Wilderness Reserve. A person who holds a valid big game licence for a moose, caribou or black bear management area that is inside a Wilderness Reserve does not require a Wilderness Reserve Entry Permit. Within Mistaken Point Ecological Reserve, a permit is required to access the Fossil Protection Zone. For more information, contact the Natural Areas Program of the Department of Environment and Climate Change at (Tel) 709.637.4066 or naturalareas@gov.nl.ca or visit <https://www.gov.nl.ca/eccm/natural-areas/>.

The following areas are also subject to hunting, shooting, snaring and/or trapping prohibitions (see maps for further details):



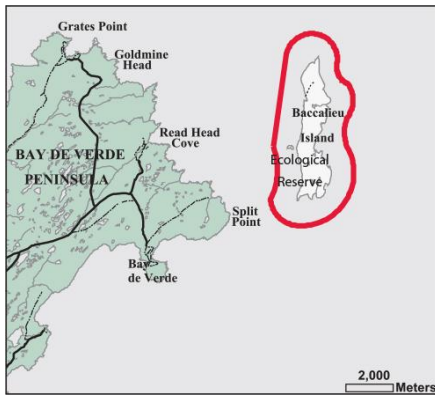
Map 1 - Burnt Cape Ecological Reserve

Closed to Shooting (except sea ducks and murre), snaring and trapping.



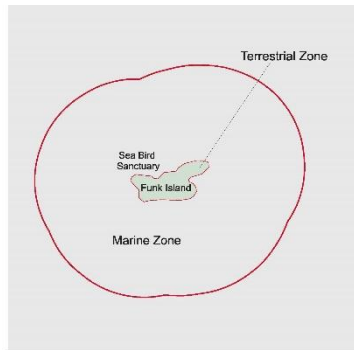
Map 2 - Brunette Island, Fortune Bay

Closed to Shooting, snaring, and trapping



Map 3 - Baccaieu Island Ecological Reserve

Closed to shooting, snaring and trapping



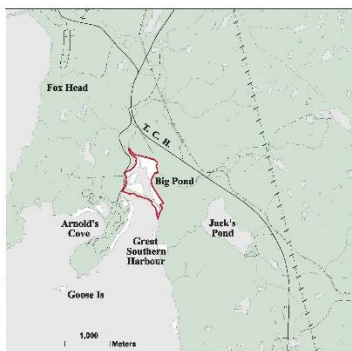
Map 4 - Funk Island Ecological Reserve

Closed to shooting, snaring and trapping.



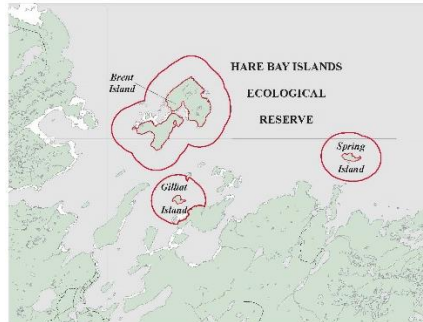
Map 5 - Gannet Islands Ecological Reserve

Closed to shooting, snaring and trapping



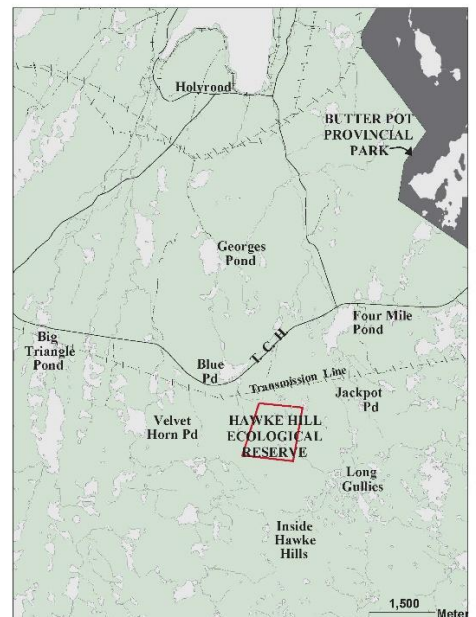
Map 6 - Great Southern Harbour Closed Area

Closed to shooting, snaring and trapping.



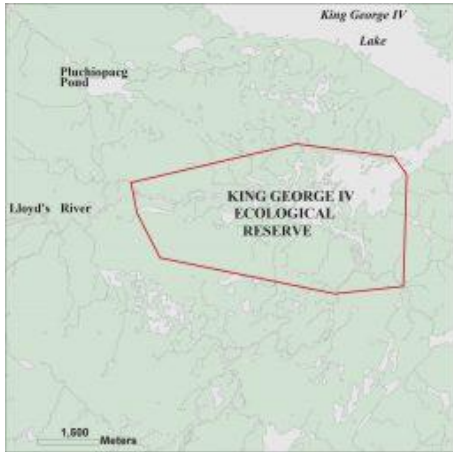
Map 7 - Hare Bay Islands Ecological Reserve

Closed to shooting, snaring and trapping.

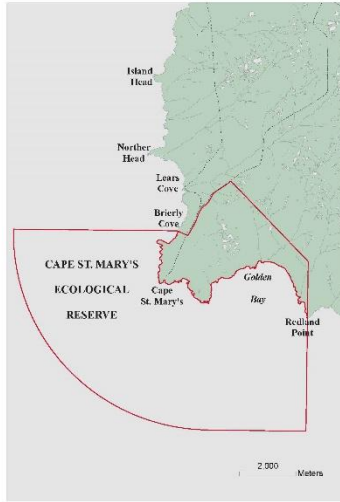


Map 8 - Hawke Hill Ecological Reserve

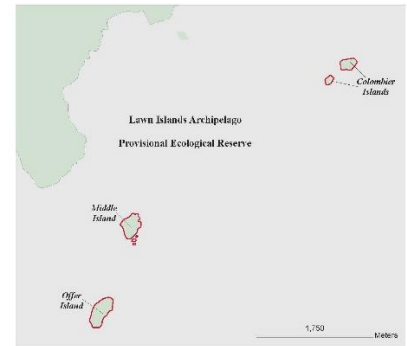
Closed to shooting, snaring and trapping.



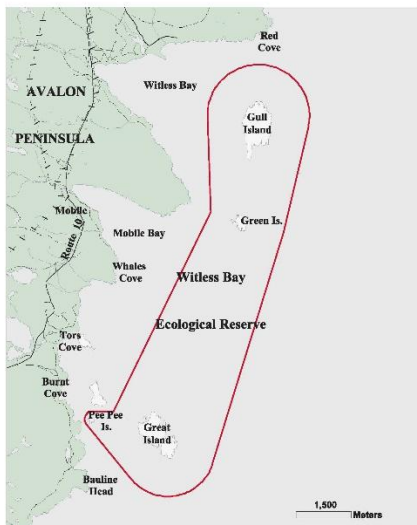
Map 9 – King George IV Ecological Reserve
Closed to shooting, snaring and trapping



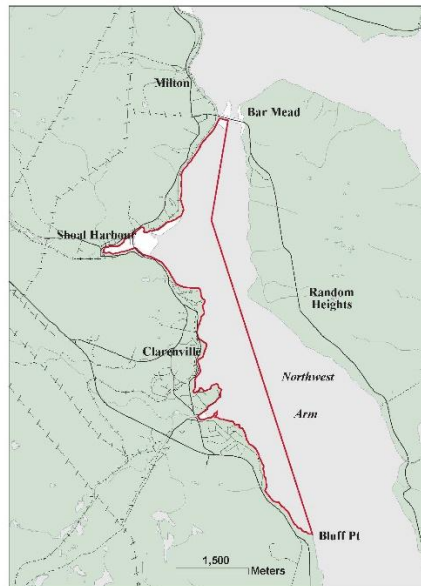
Map 10 – Cape St. Mary's Ecological Reserve
Closed to shooting, snaring and trapping.



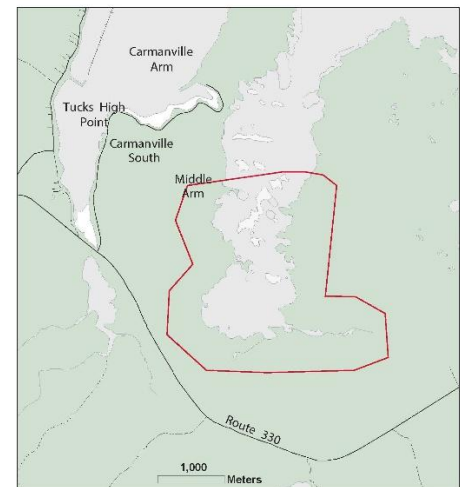
Map 11 – Lawn Islands Archipelago Provisional Ecological Reserve
Closed to shooting (except migratory game birds), snaring and trapping



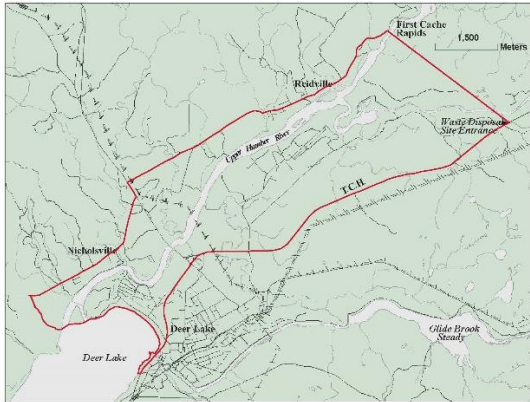
Map 12 – Witless Bay Ecological Reserve
Closed to shooting, snaring, and trapping



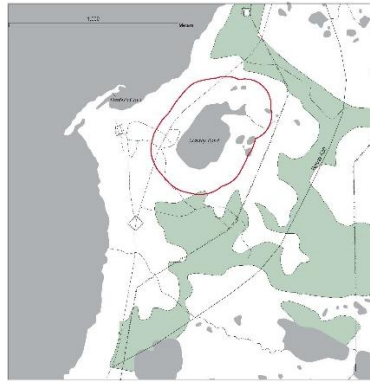
Map 13 – Clarenville Canada Goose Area
Closed to shooting.



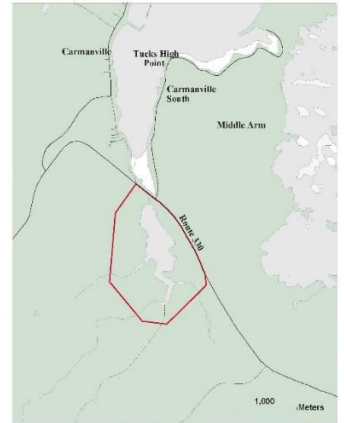
Map 14 – Middle Arm, Carmanville Closed Area
Closed to shooting



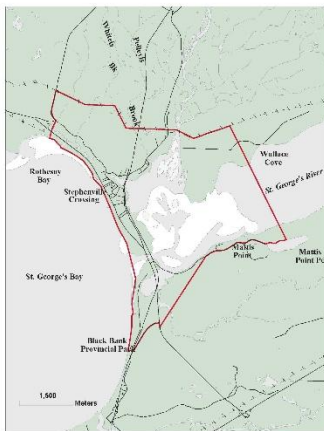
Map 15 – Reidville-Deer Lake Closed Area / *Cormack
Closed to shooting



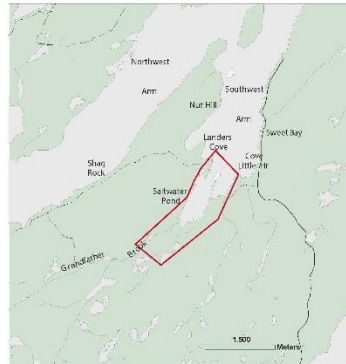
Map 16 – Marshy Pond, Daniel's Harbour Closed Area
Closed to shooting.



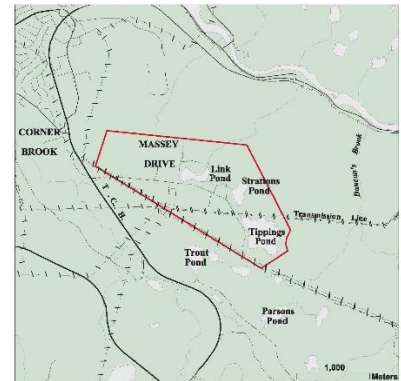
Map 17 – Carmanville Pond Closed Area
Closed to shooting.



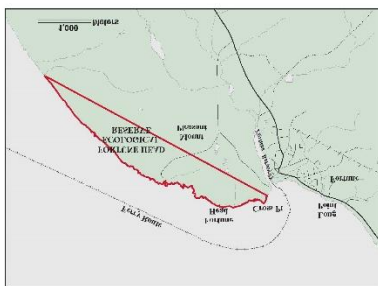
Map 18 – St. George's River, Stephenville Crossing Closed Area
Closed to shooting.



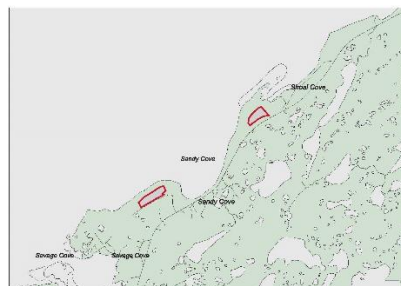
Map 19 – Saltwater Pond, Sweet Bay Closed Area
Closed to shooting.



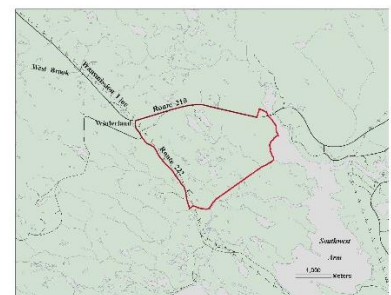
Map 20 – Massey Drive Local Development Area
Closed to shooting.



Map 21- Fortune Head Ecological Reserve
Closed to shooting, snaring, and trapping.



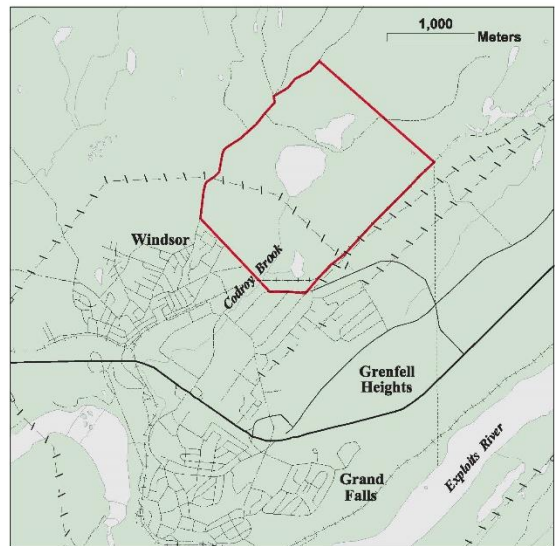
Map 22 – Sandy Cove Ecological Reserve
Closed to shooting, snaring, and trapping.



Map 23 – Winterland EcoMuseum
Closed to shooting



Map 25 – Kelly’s Island
Closed to shooting and snaring



**Map 27 – Coduoy Brook, Grand Falls-Windsor
Closed Area**
Closed to shooting.

- Glover Island Public Reserve
- Little Grand Lake Wildlife Reserve
- Main River Study Area
- Pine Marten Study Area

The threatened Newfoundland Marten may be impacted by non-targeted mortality caused by legal trapping of furbearing species. Best management practices are designed to allow trapping techniques which minimize impact on marten, particularly in areas where marten populations are most prevalent, or recovery efforts have the greatest potential.

Category One Areas

In Category One areas, traps must be set in such a manner as to avoid the capture of non-target species, specifically the Newfoundland Marten. This applies to the Pine Marten Study Area, Main River Study Area, Little Grand Lake Wildlife Reserve (LGL) and the Glover Island Public Reserve. The LGL Provisional Ecological Reserve is closed to all trapping except for beaver.

Prohibited Traps in this category would include:

- All land-based traps (including leg hold and conibear sets or dry land).
- All land-based locking neck snares (fox/lynx/coyote).

Note: Category One areas are closed to all small game snaring (including LGL Provisional Ecological Reserve).

TABLE 1: PERMITTED TRAPS IN CATEGORY ONE AREA

Trap Type and Target Species	Regulated Setting Requirements
Beaver Conibear	Trap jaws shall remain completely submerged requiring target species to dive.
Beaver Submarine Cage	Cage shall be completely submerged.
Beaver Snare Pole	Snares shall be completely submerged.
Ermine (weasel) or Squirrel Rat Trap	Victor Rat Trap, whether baited or not, shall be completely enclosed inside a wooden box with a 1.5" hole at one end.
Fox or Coyote or Lynx Restraining Neck Snare	<p>Wire shall be 3/32" or greater.</p> <p>A 360 degree swivel is required at the attachment point.</p> <p>The stop on the loop shall be fastened so that the loop will close to a minimum 8" circumference.</p> <p>The snare shall be fastened to an immovable object, no drags.</p> <p>The snare may be set with or without the use of bait.</p> <p>This is a live holding device and requires a daily trap check.</p> <p>The snare shall include a breakaway device to cause the snare loop to disassemble when 340 kilograms or less of static force is applied.</p>
Mink Conibear	Floating Mink Box – Trap shall be set in the entrance of a floating wooden box, whether or not the trap is baited, and the entrance to the box shall be completely submerged.
Otter or Mink or Muskrat Conibear	Trap jaws shall be completely submerged requiring target species to dive.
Otter or Mink or Muskrat Submarine Cage	The cage shall be completely submerged.

Beaver or Otter or Muskrat or Mink Slide-lock Drowner	<p>The trap shall be a foothold type with a slide lock attached.</p> <p>The trap shall be placed at least five feet from the shoreline or on a semi-submerged log with no land-based access.</p> <p>The water shall be sufficiently deep so as to ensure drowning.</p> <p>The trap may be set with or without the use of bait.</p>
Squirrel Pole	Snares shall use 16 pound test snare wire attached to a horizontal or leaning pole, snares 3/4"-1" above the pole and having a 1.5" - 1.75" diameter loop. No bait shall be used.

Category Two Areas

Snares/traps found in this category acknowledge the potential for accidental harvest but mitigate for marten mortality. This applies to the Red Indian Lake, Northwest Grand Lake, Terra Nova and Charlottetown Enclave modified snaring and trapping areas (MSTA). Additional Category Two areas may be considered by the Department Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture in the future to help facilitate marten recovery.

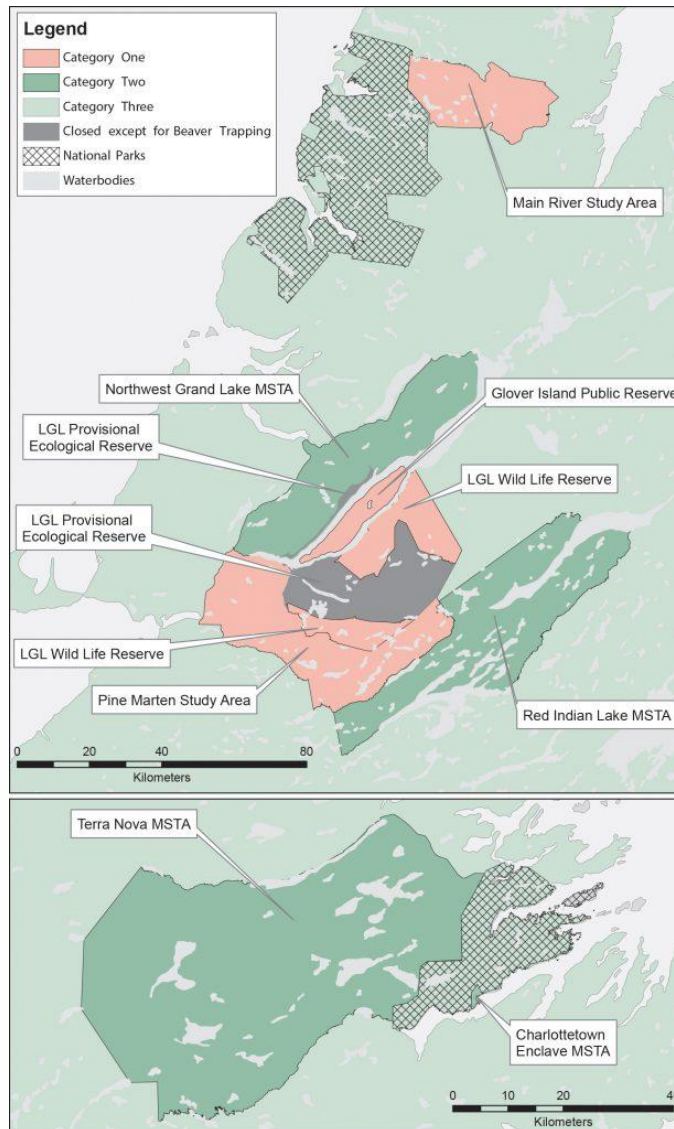
Prohibited Traps in this category would include: All land-based traps.

Table 2: Permitted Traps in Category Two Areas

Trap Type and Target Species	Regulated Setting Requirements
All those listed in Table 1	All corresponding regulated setting requirements in Table 1
Fox, Coyote or Lynx Killing Neck Snare	<p>The snare shall be equipped with lock. The snare can be baited or not.</p> <p>The snare shall include a breakaway device to cause the snare loop to disassemble when 340 kilograms or less of static force is applied.</p>

Category Three Areas

Category Three allows the use of all legal snaring/trapping devices, including those listed under Categories One and Two, but also all other legal traps. Category Three areas would reflect all other land bases not covered under Category One or Two.



Penalties for Wildlife Offences

Penalties for Offences Involving Moose or Caribou

The minimum penalties upon conviction for an offence relating to moose or caribou are:

- for a first offence, a fine of \$1,000 or imprisonment for not less than one month and the court shall make an order prohibiting the person from holding a moose or caribou licence for a period of five years;
- for a second offence within five years, a fine of \$3,000 and imprisonment for not less than one month and the court may, depending upon the circumstances, permanently prohibit the person from holding a moose or caribou licence;
- wildlife, firearms, and vehicles may be forfeited.

Please read the Regulation Summaries for Big Game in Hunting and Trapping Guide carefully. If you are not sure that your planned hunting methods are legal, contact a Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture office. A mistake could cost you \$1,000 and five-years' hunting privileges.

Penalties for Offences Involving Inland Fish

A person who contravenes a provision of or a requirement or obligation imposed upon him or her under the Wild Life Act; contravenes an order made under the Wild Life Act; or fails to observe or fulfil a condition attached to a licence or permit issued to him or her under the Wild Life Act that relates to fish is guilty of an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of not more than \$5,000 or to imprisonment for a term of not more than six months or to both the fine and imprisonment.

Penalties for Offences Involving Threatened and Endangered Species

Under the Endangered Species Act, a person who disturbs, harasses, injures, or kills an individual of a species designated as threatened, endangered, or extirpated; or a person who captures, possesses, buys, sells or trades a specimen of a species designated as threatened, endangered or extirpated or part of it and anything derived from it; or a person who disturbs the residence of an individual of a species designated as threatened, endangered or extirpated is liable:

- a. for the first conviction, to a fine not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$50,000, or to imprisonment for a term of not more than three months, or to both;
- b. for a second conviction, to a fine of not less than \$2,000 and not more than \$100,000, or to imprisonment for a term of not more than six months, or to both;
- c. for a third and subsequent conviction, to a fine of not less than \$4,000 and not more than \$200,000, or to imprisonment for a term of not more than 12 months, or to both.

Where a corporation is convicted of an offence, the corporation is liable:

- a. for the first conviction, to a fine not less than \$2,000 and not more than \$100,000;
- b. for a second conviction, to a fine not less than \$4,000 and not more than \$200,000; and
- c. for a third and subsequent conviction, to a fine of not less than \$8,000 and not more than \$400,000.

Hunting in National Parks and National Historic Sites

It is illegal to hunt, traffic in, or possess wildlife taken in Gros Morne National Park, Terra Nova National Park and Torngat Mountains National Park or in the National Historic Sites of L'Anse aux Meadows, Port au Choix, Cape Spear, Castle Hill, and Signal Hill in Newfoundland and Labrador, except as permitted by specific regulation or Land Claims Agreements. Beneficiaries of the Labrador Inuit Land Claims Agreement and the Nunavik Inuit Land Claims Agreement have the right to harvest in the Torngat Mountains National Park subject to the terms of these Agreements.

Persons convicted of hunting may face severe fines, prison sentences, a criminal record and/or other sanctions. For information on National Park and National Historic Sites regulations please contact Parks Canada.

To report emergencies and National Park violations on Parks Canada's lands in Newfoundland and Labrador call 1-877-852-3100.

Penalties for Offences Involving Migratory Game Birds

Penalties for offences under the Migratory Birds Convention Act state that every person or vessel that contravenes any regulation is liable:

- a. on conviction on indictment, to a fine of not more than \$1,000,000 or to imprisonment for a term of not more than three years, or to both; and
- b. on summary conviction, to a fine of not more than \$300,000 or to imprisonment for a term of not more than six months, or to both.

Please contact the Canadian Wildlife Service for more information or to report illegal activity related to endangered species or migratory birds.

Outreach Programs

Youth Hunter/Angler Skills Workshops

The Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, Wildlife Division, partners with local Rod and Gun Clubs to offer hunting/angling skills workshops and events for youth age 12 to 17. These events provide youth with the opportunity to enhance their knowledge and skills in a safe environment with qualified instructors and volunteers. Youth participants must be accompanied by a parent or guardian.



Youth Dream Adventure Newfoundland and Labrador

The Youth Dream Adventure provides young people of our province a chance to win an inclusive trip to an incredible destination here at home, building from the Atlantic Provinces Youth Hunting and Fishing Exchange. This program is intended to engage local experts in outdoor pursuits (angling, hunting, etc.) that youth may not otherwise have opportunity to encounter and provide them with an exceptional opportunity. These experiences will help develop interest and involvement in outdoor activities and offer skills development at the same time.

A youth winner (aged 12-17) is chosen by random draw from all those who have participated in the provincial Firearms Safety/Hunter Education Course or other outdoor skills events sanctioned by the Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture each year.

Significant support has been received for this program each year, including consistent support from the Newfoundland and Labrador Outfitters Association and individual outfitters, the Newfoundland and Labrador Trappers Association and Conservation Officers Association, Rod and Gun Clubs and local businesses.



This past year Noah Thomas was sent to the Great Northern Peninsula with Faron and Donna Caines of Caines Outdoor Adventures for a moose hunt, he was a first-time big game hunter and brought his older brother Ashton along as his guardian.

Thanks to our 2024 Sponsors

- Caines Adventure Outfitters
- Newfoundland and Labrador Outfitters Association
- Newfoundland and Labrador Trappers Association
- Upper Humber Rod and Gun Association
- St. John's Rod and Gun Club
- Gander Rod and Gun Club
- Northwest Arm Rod and Gun Club
- Notre Dame Rod and Gun
- Friends of Salmonier Nature Park
- Long Range Outdoors
- Blue Ridge Inc.
- Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture, Wildlife Division

For more information, contact:

Department of Fisheries, Forestry and Agriculture Wildlife Division

P.O. Box 2007

Corner Brook, NL A2H 7S1

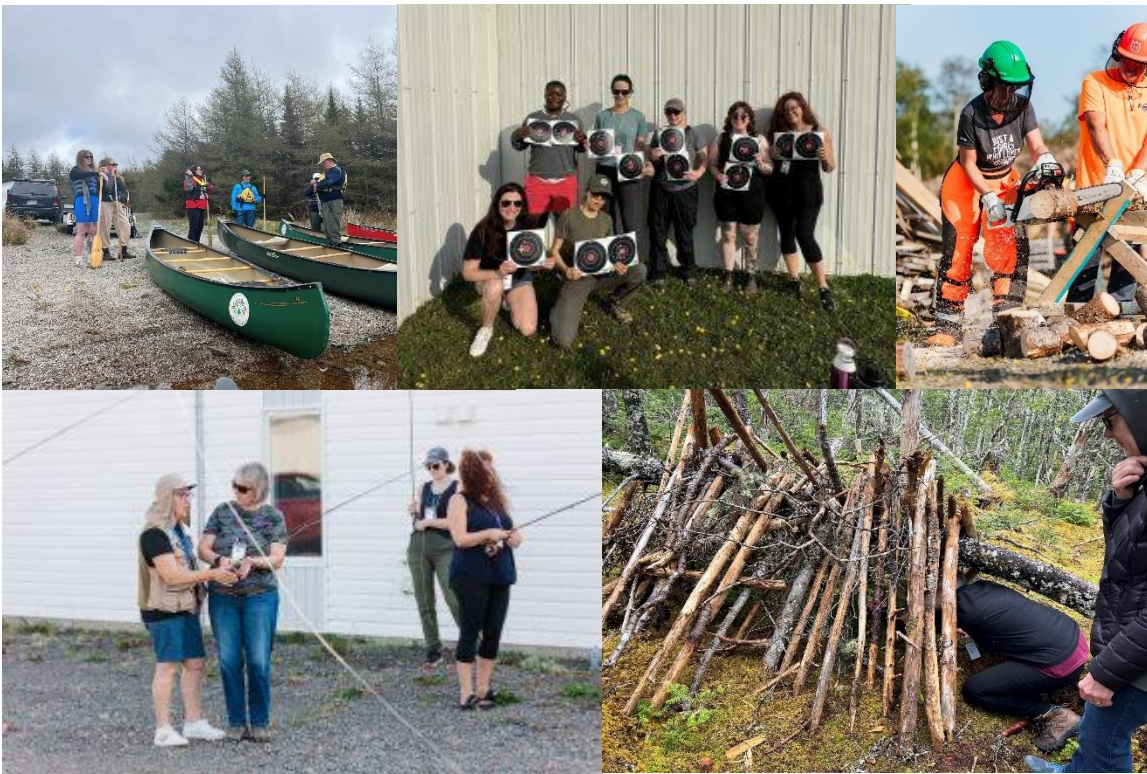
Ph: 637-2006 or email: nathanspence@gov.nl.ca

Becoming an Outdoors Woman (BOW)



BOW Program Offers Women Opportunity to Expand Outdoor Skills

Do you identify as a woman who is interested in gaining confidence in outdoor pursuits and getting more in tune with our natural environment? The goal of the BOW program is to provide women (aged 18 and over) the opportunity to learn skills that will encourage them to participate in outdoor recreational pursuits. Participants learn and improve their outdoor skills with the guidance of experienced and enthusiastic instructors in a non-threatening, comfortable atmosphere. All classes are at an introductory level and all equipment is provided. BOW is for women of all ages and fitness levels.



Contact

Forestry and Wildlife Branch Offices

Corner Brook

Wildlife Division/Licencing

192 Wheeler's Rd
P.O. Box 2007
Corner Brook, NL
A2H 7S1
709.637.2025 (Tel)
709.637.2099 (Fax)
Email: wildlifelicense@gov.nl.ca

Gander Regional Office

133 Airport Blvd.
P.O. Box 2222
Gander, NL A1V 2N9
709.256.1450 (Tel)
709.256.1459 (Fax)

Goose Bay Wildlife

15 Cherrywood Drive
P.O. Box 3014, Stn. B
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL
A0P 1E0
709.896.7930 (Tel)
709.896.0188 (Fax)

St. John's Wildlife Division/Licencing

Provincial Agriculture Bldg., 308 Brookfield Rd.
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6
709.729.2630 (Tel)
709.729.0751 (Fax)

Salmonier Nature Park

Route 90, Holyrood
Mailing Address:
Provincial Agriculture Bldg., 204 Brookfield Rd.
P.O. Box 8700
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6
709.229.7888(Tel)
salmoniernaturepark@gov.nl.ca

Enforcement and Resource Services Branch Offices

Provincial Headquarters

115 Riverside Drive
Corner Brook, NL, A2H 2N2

709.637.2971 (Tel)
709.637.2975 (Fax)

Western Regional Office

1 Massey Drive
Massey Drive, NL A2H 7A9
709.637.8088 (Tel)
709.639.1377 (Fax)

Eastern Regional Office

P.O. Box 8700
21 Hallett Crescent
St. John's, NL A1B 4J6
709.729.2192 (Tel)
709.729.2375 (Fax)

Labrador Regional Office

1 Kessessaskiou Street
Mail: P.O. Box 3014, Station "B"
Happy Valley-Goose Bay, NL A0P 1E0
709.896.7973 (Tel)
709.896.7986 (Fax)

Report Poaching anonymously

Toll Free: 1.877.820.0999
Website: stoppoaching.ca

Forestry and Wildlife District Offices (Area Code 709)

To report any animal related emergencies, please call 685-7273.

Baie Verte 673-3821
Bay D'Espoir 882-2200
Bishop's Falls 258-5334
Cape Broyle 729-4180
Carbonear 729-4180
Cartwright 938-7362
Churchill Falls 925-3179
Clareville 466-7439
Gambo 674-4625
Heart's Content 729-4180
Lewistown 535-2706
Massey Drive 637-2370
Millertown 673-3821
North West River 497-8479
Paddy's Pond-St. John's 729-4180

Pasadena 686-2071
Pollards Point 686-2071
Port Hope Simpson 938-7362
Port Saunders 861-3502
Red Bay 938-7362
Roddickton 457-2300
Salmonier 729-4180
Southern Bay 462-3491
Springdale 673-3821
St. Anthony 454-8435
St. George's 646-3720
Wabush 282-6881
Whitbourne 729-4180
Wings Point 676-2260
Winterland 279-3980

Terra Nova National Park
709.533.2801 (Tel)

Torngat Mountains National Park
709.922.1290 (Tel)

To report incidents in national parks and sites
1-877-852-3100 (Toll Free)

Additional Contact Information

Tourism, Culture, Arts and Recreation

Parks Division: 709.637.2040 (Tel)
Email. info@parksnl.ca

Newfoundland and Labrador Outfitters Association

1.866.470.6562 (Toll Free)

Central Cashier's Office

P.O. Box 8700, St. John's, NL
A1B 4J6
709.729.3042 (Tel)

RCMP Canadian Firearms Program

7 Pippy Place, PO Box 8218
St. John's, NL
A1B 3N4
1.800.731.4000 (Toll Free)

Newfoundland and Labrador Trapper's Association

709.592.2416 (Tel)

Canadian Wildlife Service (NL)

Mt. Pearl 709.772.5585 (Tel)
Corner Brook 709.637.4377 (Tel)

Parks Canada

Gros Morne National Park
709.458.2417 (Tel)



Your Province. Your Resources. It's your call to make.

**Report Suspected Illegal Activity to
the Resource Enforcement Division**

1.877.820.0999

stoppoaching.ca




Newfoundland
&
Labrador