



Fort Berthold Reservation  
Mandan, Hidatsa and Arikara Tribes  
Fish and Wildlife Division  
P.O. Box 1402, New Town, ND 58763  
Phone: (701) 627-4760 Fax: (701) 627-4743

## 2023-2024 SMALL GAME & FURBEARER PROCLAMATION

Pursuant to Chapter 18 of Title 9 of the Code of Law of the Three Affiliated Tribes (TAT) of the Fort Berthold Reservation, and the authority of the Three Affiliated Tribes Business Council: The Three Affiliated Tribes Fish & Wildlife Division hereby declares an open season in 2023 and 2024 on certain species of wildlife, as hereafter identified, to be taken with archery equipment and gun and for the harvest of certain furbearers.

Except as provided hereinafter or otherwise by law, no person shall hunt, trap, use a cable device (snare), kill, take, possess, or so attempt to hunt, trap, use a cable device, kill, take, or possess any small game, waterfowl, or furbearers or parts thereof.

This proclamation provides no authority for possession of live small game, waterfowl, or furbearers.

### 1. DEFINITIONS

In this Proclamation, the following definitions shall be used, unless the subject matter otherwise requires.

**“Upland game”** shall include sharp-tailed, sage and pinnated grouse (prairie chicken), Hungarian partridge, pheasants, ruffed grouse, and tree squirrels. **“Waterfowl”** shall include ducks, geese, swans, mergansers, and coots. **“Migratory game bird”** shall include ducks, geese, coots, mergansers, snipe, woodcock, cranes, swans, and doves. The Early September Canada Goose Season shall include those days proclaimed in August.

**“Reservation”** all lands within the exterior boundaries of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.

**“Allotted-Land”** is individually Indian-owned land held in trust by the United States.

**“Fee Patent Land”** is land within the exterior boundaries of the Fort Berthold Reservation, not held in trust or subject to restrictions or alienation and which is in private ownership.

**“Member”** is any person who is an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.

**“Non-Member”** is any person who is not an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.

**“Non-Indian”** is any person who is not an enrolled member of a federally recognized Indian tribe.

**“Non-Resident”** is any person who is not a resident of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation.

**“Non-Member Resident”** is any person who is living within the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation but is not an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.

**“Non-Member Non-Resident”** is any person who is not living within the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation and is not an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.

**“Daily bag limit”** means the maximum number of the particular game referred to in single or aggregate for which a bag limit is prescribed and that one hunter, legally licensed by this tribe, may take or kill for that species during a single hunting day, within the boundaries of this reservation.

**“Possession limit”** means the maximum number of the particular game referred (except waterfowl and migratory game birds) that a hunter, legally licensed by the Three Affiliated Tribes Fish & Wildlife, may have in his/her actual possession during any phase of any single hunting trip, venture, or expedition of more than one day. The possession limit at one’s personal permanent residence is unlimited. No more than a daily limit may be taken on any one day.

**“Possession limit for waterfowl and migratory game birds”** means the maximum number of migratory game birds of a single species or a combination of species permitted to be possessed by any one person

when lawfully taken in the United States in any one specified geographic area for which a possession limit is prescribed

**“Body gripping trap”** means a trap designed to allow the animal’s head, neck or torso to enter the trap opening and be held by compression of the jaws when sprung (example, Conibear).

**“Cable device”** means a noose used for restraining furbearers by the neck or body (example, snare).

**“Colony trap”** means an enclosure device designed to allow the capture of one or more furbearers in a single setting with one or more one-way entrances; cannot exceed twelve inches high or twelve inches wide or twelve inches in diameter by 36 inches long.

**“Enclosed foothold”** means a trap used for restraining furbearers by the foot with a push or pull-activated trigger located inside an enclosure and recessed from the opening; opening not to exceed 1 ¾ inches in height, width, or diameter.

**“Floating colony trap”** means an enclosure device designed to allow the capture of one or more furbearers in a single setting with one or more one-way entrances that are entirely above the water surface; entrances not to exceed eight inches high or eight inches wide or eight inches in diameter.

**“Foothold trap”** means a steel-jawed trap used for restraining furbearers by the foot (examples, longspring or coil spring trap).

**“Protective covering”** means a trap set covering of structural material (wire mesh, wood, plastic, metal) limiting access to the trap through an opening not to exceed eight inches high by eight inches wide.

**“Sight-exposed bait”** means any bait weighing in excess of one pound, composed of animal flesh, fur, hair, hide, entrails, or feathers placed in such a manner that it can be seen by a soaring hawk, owl, or eagle.

**“Water set”** means a trap or cable device which is set or staked in a manner to permit the trap, cable device or trapped animal to reach water.

## **2. GENERAL RULES AND REGULATIONS**

### **2.1 ELIGIBILITY**

**2.1.1 Minimum age** – There is no minimum age for hunting furbearers, but anyone under age 15 afield with firearms must be properly licensed and under direct supervision (must be able to have unaided verbal contact) of a parent, guardian, or adult authorized by their parent or guardian who meets the hunter education requirements and is properly licensed.

**2.1.2 Hunter education requirement** – Hunters born after December 31, 1961 must complete a certified tribal or state hunter education course and PRESENT the certification card earned to the license vendor in order to purchase a Fort Berthold hunting license. EXCEPTIONS: youth under age 12 if they have appropriate licenses and are accompanied by a parent or guardian, and Veterans of the United States Armed Forces that have been honorably discharged – persons applying for this exemption MUST present a copy of form DD214 to the TAT Fish & Wildlife office to be eligible.

**2.2 HOURS OF HUNTING** shall be prescribed by Central Daylight Time starting August 1, 2023 through November 4, 2023 and thereafter prescribed by Central Standard Time starting November 5, 2023.

Hours of hunting for all wildlife covered by this proclamation shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset each day, unless otherwise prescribed by proclamation. Sandhill crane and goose hunting during the regular season shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to 2 p.m. each day. Additionally, shooting hours for geese shall be one-half (½) hour before sunrise to sunset on Saturdays and Wednesdays from September 24, 2023 through November 26, 2023 and on Saturdays, Sundays and Wednesdays from November 27, 2023 through the end of each goose season. Hours for hunting mink, muskrat, and weasel with firearms and archery equipment shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset each day. Hours for hunting red and gray fox, bobcat, mountain lion, coyote,

beaver, raccoon and badger with firearms, archery equipment, and dogs shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset each day except for fox and coyote outlined in section 13.4. Beaver and raccoon may be taken at any hour of the day but only under the restrictions outlined in this proclamation. All trapping and cable device (snaring) seasons and raccoon and beaver hunting shall open at one-half hour before sunrise. Trapping or using a cable device is legal at any hour after the opening day.

### **3. TRAPS, FIREARMS, ARCHERY EQUIPMENT AND AMMUNITION.**

**3.1 Small Game:** Only firearms, no smaller than .410 caliber nor larger than 10 gauge, loaded with shot and capable of holding no more than three shells, and legal archery equipment may be used except as otherwise specified. Pistols may not be used to take migratory game birds. A bow must be pulled, held, and released by hand. Any release aid may be used providing it is hand operated, the shooter supports the draw weight of the bow, and the release is not attached to any part of the bow other than at the bowstring. Telescopic sights, range finding devices, battery-powered or electronically lighted sights or other electronic devices attached to the bow, or the arrow, are not permitted. Handheld range finding devices and lighted nocks are legal. Arrows capable of causing damage or injury to the animal in excess of that inflicted by the cutting edges of the broadhead, are prohibited while hunting small game with a bow (e.g., explosive arrow points, arrows tipped with drugs or chemicals, and pneumatic or hydraulic shafts are illegal). Arrows must be at least 24 inches long and have at least 2 untrimmed feathers or not less than 5 trimmed feathers when shooting at birds in flight.

**3.2 Crossbows** are illegal, except if disabled or handicapped (i.e. Paraplegics and/or having lost the use of one or both arms) and having a permit from the TAT Fish & Wildlife Department Director may use such firearm or archery equipment during the small game season. When permitted, crossbows must: a) have a peak draw weight of at least 75 pounds, b) be equipped with a working safety to prevent accidental firing, c) use arrows or bolts at least 14 inches in length, and d) crossbow hunters must comply with all other archery equipment regulations listed above.

**3.3 Non-Toxic Shot:** Possession or use of shot other than Federally approved non-toxic shot is prohibited while hunting ducks, geese, sandhill cranes, snipe, mergansers, and coots. Possession of "shot other than non-toxic shot" means in the gun, or in the pockets, or within reach while in the process of hunting ducks, geese, sandhill cranes, snipe, and coots.

#### **3.4 Cable Devices (Snares) Restrictions:**

- A metal or plastic tag must be attached to each cable device. This tag must display legibly the trapper's name, address, and telephone number.
- Written permission must be secured from the landowner prior to placing or setting cable devices on private land or Conservation PLOTS (**P**rivate **L**and **O**pen **T**o **S**portsmen); the grantor may determine the length of time permission is granted.
- Use of relaxing cable devices is permitted. One stop must be affixed to each cable device on land to prevent the loop from opening to a diameter greater than 12 inches.
- Cable devices cannot be placed or set in the field prior to the opening date and cannot remain in the field after the closing date of the cable device season for the respective species.
- All cable devices must be affixed to an immovable object solidly attached to the ground. The use of drags is prohibited.
- Cable devices must be set so that the bottom of the loop is no greater than 12 inches from the ground; or when the ground is snow covered, no greater than 12 inches above the bottom of an adult's footprint in the snow beneath the cable device with the full body weight on the foot.

- Cable devices must be constructed of single-strand (1x19) or multi-strand (7x7) or (7x19) carbon or stainless steel cable of one-sixteenth inch diameter or larger.
- Cable devices must possess a lock or breakaway device that allows the cable loop to disassemble at no more than 350 pounds pull.
- Individuals that are self-assembling cable devices from components must assume liability and responsibility for ensuring that the devices, locks or parts break or disassemble at 350 pounds pull or less.
- All individuals who use cable devices must register at the TAT Fish & Wildlife Department's office prior to participating. Registration can be done in person or called in. Registration includes providing name, address, phone number. Registration is free of charge. A fine will be assessed if failure to register.

### **3.5 Trap set restrictions:**

#### From September 1, 2023 through October 20, 2023:

Body gripping traps greater than eight inches inside jaw spread and all water sets, except for those using enclosed footholds, must –

- Be in four inches or more of water; or
- Be used in an upland set and recessed at least ten inches in a plastic, wood, or metal cubby with a maximum eighty square inch opening.

#### From October 22, 2023 through January 7, 2024:

Body gripping traps greater than eight inches inside jaw spread must –

- Be in four inches or more of water; or
- Be used in an upland set and recessed at least ten inches in a plastic, wood, or metal cubby with a maximum eighty square inch opening

#### From January 8, 2024 through March 15, 2024:

- No restrictions on placement.

#### From March 16, 2024 through May 10, 2024:

Foothold and body-gripping traps placed in or on the water, but not used on float sets, must –

- Have a protective covering; or
- Foothold traps not being used on a float set must be submerged underwater; or
- Body gripping traps less than eight inches inside jaw spread must have no more than two inches of the trap above the water surface.

Footholds that are not enclosed and body-gripping traps used on float sets must -

- have a protective covering May 1, 2024 through May 10, 2024

#### From May 11, 2024 through August 31, 2024:

- No restrictions on placement.

Written permission is required to trap or use a cable device on private land, including Conservation PLOTS (Private Land Open To Sportsmen); the grantor may determine the length of time permission is granted.

Any taken furbearer for which the season is closed or other protected species that is incidentally taken must be reported within twelve hours and turned over to the TAT Fish & Wildlife. A fine will be assessed if failure to report to TAT Fish & Wildlife.

All traps and cable devices (snares) are required to be checked at least every 24 hours.

**3.6 Exposed Baits:** It is illegal to place traps or cable devices (snares) within twenty-five feet of any sight-exposed bait.

- 4. AREAS CLOSED TO HUNTING** It shall be unlawful to hunt or pursue game in the following areas:
- 1) The buffalo pasture located in Unit #1 (Mandaree Area) known as Range Unit 904 in the Skunk Creek Bay Area—this unit is designated as a Wildlife Reserve Area and no hunting or trapping is allowed.

The MHA Tribal Ranch/Buffalo Project is NOT WITHIN the exterior boundaries of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation – tribal licenses are not valid outside the boundaries of the reservation.

It is unlawful to hunt or discharge a firearm within 440 yards of any occupied buildings, schools, medical facilities or residence.

**5. WANTON WASTE OF WATERFOWL, MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS, AND UPLAND GAME**

No person shall kill, cripple, waste, destroy, spoil, or abandon the edible flesh of any migratory game bird or upland game without making a reasonable effort to retrieve the bird/animal, and retain it in his/her actual custody, at the place where taken and between that place and either (a) his/her personal permanent residence, (b) taxidermist or (c) a common carrier. Edible flesh means the breast meat of any game bird or the hind legs and lower back of a squirrel.

- 6. IDENTIFICATION** One fully feathered wing or the fully feathered head of all waterfowl, snipe, crane, dove, and woodcock; and one leg and foot, or the fully feathered head, or the fully feathered wing of pheasants, Hungarian partridge, and all grouse shall remain attached to such game during transportation or shipment until it reaches the hunter’s legal residence or it is processed to be immediately consumed.

- 7. TRANSPORTATION AND STORAGE.** License holders must accompany their game, or parts thereof, (excluding hide) during transportation. Game may be shipped by common carrier in receipt of proper bill of lading. Except for legally gifted game, it is illegal to possess or transport another’s game animal or parts thereof (excluding hides) without the license holder accompanying or as otherwise permitted.

No person shall leave or store any game birds at any place other than that person’s legal residence unless each piece of game is tagged with the owner’s signature and address, date taken, number and species of game, and license number of the person who harvested the game. The packaging of game birds away from a person’s legal residence must be in a manner that the species and number of game birds in each package is easily determined.

Game may be gifted to another; however, nothing allows a person to exceed a daily limit. Any gifted game to be transported must be tagged with the harvester’s signature and address, date taken, number, sex, and species of game, and license number of the person who harvested the game. Termination of possession can only be accomplished by: 1) Gifting of legally harvested game. 2) By consuming the game.

No one may possess in the field, transport, or ship at any one time, more than a possession limit of upland game. No one may possess, store, transport or ship at any one time, more than a possession limit of migratory game birds.

- 8. LICENSES OR SPECIAL PERMITS** shall be issued for each season in a manner and form prescribed by the Director and in accordance with law. By purchasing a TAT hunting and/or fishing license(s) you agree to

abide by the Chapter 18 Codes. Hunting licenses are valid in either paper or electronic format. Licenses must be endorsed with hunter's signature at the bottom where indicated. All hunters must have their signed license(s) on their person – a signed digital copy may be accepted. Licenses are nontransferable. No person may give away, barter or sell an issued license.

**Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp, (hereafter, Federal Duck Stamp, or E-stamp):** No person 16 years of age or older shall hunt, kill, or take any duck, goose, or merganser, without having in his\her possession a federal duck stamp, or physical or electronic proof of federal e-stamp verification for the season. The federal e-stamp is valid for a period of 45 days from the date of purchase and once the 45 days have elapsed, the hunter must have in their possession a physical stamp validated by his\her signature written across the face thereof in ink.

## **9. AIRCRAFT, MOTOR-DRIVEN VEHICLES, AND LIGHTS**

It is illegal to locate, drive, concentrate, rally, raise, stir up, spot, or disturb game with all types of aircraft, manned or unmanned (including drones).

It is illegal to shoot with bow and arrow or firearm while in or on a motor-driven vehicle.

No person may carry a firearm with a cartridge in the chamber in or on a motor-driven vehicle while hunting. The entire cylinder of a revolver is considered the chamber, requiring the revolver to be completely unloaded. Handguns with removable magazines must have the magazine removed from the firearm if the magazine contains any loaded shells. It is illegal to carry any muzzleloading firearm in or on a motor-driven vehicle with a cap or primer in place or powder in the flash pan.

Use of artificial light, night vision, thermal vision, or infrared light for locating or hunting game is prohibited, except for beaver, raccoon, red fox, gray fox, and coyotes during the open night hunting season on the animal.

**10. MOTOR-DRIVEN VEHICLES AND AIRCRAFT IN THE TAKING OF FURBEARERS.** It is illegal to drive vehicles off established roads and trails during the deer gun season while attempting to take furbearers with firearms, archery equipment, and dogs. Aircraft may not be used to take coyotes, fox, or any other furbearer, without a special permit.

**11. LIMITS.** Unlimited numbers of any furbearer may be taken and possessed, unless otherwise specified. Limits on small game and waterfowl species are specified in the following sections.

## 12. SMALL GAME SEASONS

For detailed information on the limits and seasons for small game please refer to the table below:

SPECIES	SEASONS	DAILY BAG	POSSESSION LIMIT
Spring Wild Turkey	April 1, 2023—May 15, 2023	1	ONE BIRD PER TAG/SEASON
Crow (Fall)	Aug. 19, 2023 — Nov. 6, 2023	Unlimited	unlimited
Dove	Sept. 1, 2023 — Nov. 29, 2023	15	45
Hungarian Partridge	Sept. 2, 2023 — Jan. 7, 2024	3	12
Sharp-tailed Grouse	Sept. 9, 2023 — Jan. 7, 2024	3	12
Tree Squirrel	Sept. 9, 2023 — Feb. 28, 2024	4	12
Snipe	Sept. 9, 2023 — Dec. 3, 2023	8	24
Sandhill Crane	Sept. 16, 2023 — Nov. 12, 2023	3	9
Woodcock	Sept. 23, 2023 — Nov. 6, 2023	3	9
Fall Wild Turkey	Oct. 7, 2023 — Jan. 7, 2024	1	ONE BIRD PER TAG/SEASON
Pheasant (cocks only)	October 7, 2023 — Jan. 7, 2024	3	12
Spring Crow	Mar. 9, 2024 — April 21, 2024	Unlimited	unlimited
(2024) Spring Wild Turkey	April 6, 2024 — May 19, 2024	1	ONE BIRD PER TAG/SEASON

**12.1 CROWS** may be taken reservation-wide from August 19, 2023 through November 6, 2023 (Fall Season), and from March 9, 2024 through April 21, 2024 (Spring Season). There shall be no limit on the number of crows taken. In addition to the crow season, crows may be taken when committing or about to commit depredations as specified in federal law (50 CFR 21.43).

**12.2 DOVES** may be taken reservation-wide from September 1, 2023 through November 29, 2023. The daily limit shall be 15 and the possession limit 45. In addition to mourning doves, the bag limit includes Eurasian collared doves.

**12.3 SHARP-TAILED GROUSE** may be taken reservation-wide from September 9, 2023 through January 7, 2024. The daily bag limit shall be 3 and the possession limit 12.

**12.4 HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE** may be taken reservation-wide from September 2, 2023 through January 7, 2024. The daily bag limit shall be 3 and the possession limit 12.

**12.5 TREE SQUIRRELS** may be taken reservation-wide from September 9, 2023 through February 28, 2024. Tree squirrels may be taken with shotguns, rimfire and muzzleloading firearms, or with bow and arrows legal for the taking of upland game. The daily bag limit shall be 4 and the possession limit 12.

**12.6 SANDHILL CRANES** may be taken from September 16, 2023 through November 12, 2023. The daily bag limit shall be 3 cranes and the possession limit 9 cranes.

To hunt sandhill cranes each hunter must possess a small game license (except those under 16 years of age), and a \$5.00 sandhill crane hunting permit available from the TAT Game and Fish Department's office.

Sandhill cranes may be taken from a floating craft, excluding a sinkbox, if such craft is beached, or fastened within or tied immediately alongside any type of fixed hunting blind, or from such craft resting at anchor.

**12.7 SNIPE** may be taken reservation-wide September 9, 2023 through December 3, 2023. The daily bag limit shall be 8 and the possession limit 24.

**12.8 WOODCOCK** may be taken reservation-wide September 23, 2023 through November 6, 2023. The daily bag limit shall be 3 and the possession limit 9.

**12.9 PHEASANTS (Males)** may be taken reservation-wide from October 7, 2023 through January 7, 2024, with the following restrictions:

Youth Pheasant Season legally licensed members and non-members 15 years of age or younger may hunt pheasant reservation wide on September 23 and 24, 2023. An adult, at least 18 years of age, must accompany the youth pheasant hunter into the field. Any adult accompanying the youth into the field may not carry a firearm and may not hunt any species of wildlife. Bag, possession limit, and hunting hours shall be the same as during the regular season.

The daily bag limit shall be 3 and the possession limit 12.

**12.10 PINNATED GROUSE (Prairie Chicken)** season will be closed in 2023.

**12.11 RUFFED GROUSE** season will be closed in 2023.

**12.12 SAGE GROUSE** season will be closed in 2023.

**12.13 WILD TURKEYS** may be taken from the South Segment [Unit 4 (Twin Buttes Area)], West Segments [Unit 1 (Mandaree/Four Bears Areas)], and the East Segments [Unit 3 (Parshall/White Shield Areas)] of the Fort Berthold Reservation from April 1, 2023 through May 15, 2023 (SPRING SEASON) and October 7, 2023 through January 7, 2023 (FALL SEASON). The 2024 Spring Turkey season shall run from April 6, 2024 through May 19, 2024. The Season Limit will be one tom (Male) wild turkey per permit per season. Shooting hours are from ½ hour before sunrise to sunset.



## 13. FURBEARERS SEASONS

SPECIES	SEASON	DAILY BAG
<b><u>Badger/Coyote/Fox</u></b>		
<i>Hunting, trapping, pursue with dogs:</i>	Year-round	Unlimited
<i>Cable Devices:</i>	Nov. 20, 2023 to March 15, 2024	Unlimited
<i>Night hunting for coyote/fox</i>	Nov. 20, 2023 to March 15, 2024	Unlimited
<b><u>Beaver/Raccoon</u></b>		
<i>Hunting, trapping, underwater cable devices:</i>	Year-round	Unlimited
<i>Cable devices on land:</i>	Nov. 20, 2023 to March 15, 2024	Unlimited
<i>Cable devices on land within 50 ft of water:</i>	March 16, 2024 to May 10, 2024	Unlimited
<b><u>Prairie Dog</u></b>		
<i>Hunting:</i>	Year-round	Unlimited
<b><u>Mink/Muskrat</u></b>		
<i>Trapping:</i>	Oct. 21, 2023 to May 10, 2024	Unlimited
<i>Hunting &amp; cable devices</i>	Nov. 20, 2023 to May 10, 2024	Unlimited
<b><u>Weasel</u></b>		
<i>Trapping:</i>	Oct. 21, 2023 to March 15, 2024	Unlimited
<i>Hunting &amp; cable devices:</i>	Nov. 20, 2023 to March 15, 2024	Unlimited
<b><u>Bobcat</u></b>		
<i>Hunting/Trapping:</i>	Oct. 28, 2023 to March 15, 2024	2 cat/person/season
<i>Cable devices:</i>	Nov. 13, 2023 to March 15, 2024	2 cat/person/season
<b><u>Mountain Lion</u></b>		
<i>Hunting:</i>	Aug. 25, 2023 to March 31, 2024*	1 cat/person/season
<i>Pursue with dogs:</i>	Nov. 13, 2023 to March 31, 2024*	1 cat/person/season
<i>*Unless Quota of 10 is reached beforehand</i>		

**13.1 BEAVER AND RACCOON** may be taken with firearms, traps, pre-charged pneumatic air guns, underwater cable devices (snares), and archery equipment (including crossbows - if have a crossbow permit from TAT Fish & Wildlife Director) reservation-wide and year round. The season will officially close March 31 and reopen April 1 of each year. Cable devices may be used on land November 20, 2023 through May 10, 2024. From March 16, 2024 through May 10, 2024, cable devices must be within 50 feet of water, no greater than 4 inches off the ground and have a stop restricting loop size to 12 inches or less in diameter.

Beaver dams may be partially or completely dismantled when their presence causes property damage.

Raccoon may be pursued with dogs reservation-wide and year round.

Beaver and raccoon may be taken at any hour of the day, while hunting on foot, with the aid of artificial light, night vision, thermal vision, or infrared light with a power source of not more than 6 volts. The artificial light must produce a red, green or amber color, except when taking a raccoon treed or at bay.

### **13.2 WEASEL, MINK, AND MUSKRAT.**

**13.2.1 Weasel** may be taken reservation-wide with traps from October 21, 2023 through March 15, 2024. Cable devices (snares) may be used reservation-wide from November 20, 2023 through March 15, 2024. Weasels may be hunted reservation-wide with rimfire cartridges or pre-charged pneumatic air guns of .22 caliber or smaller and archery equipment (including crossbows – if have a crossbow permit from TAT Fish & Wildlife Director) from November 20, 2023 through March 15, 2024.

**13.2.2 Muskrat and Mink** may be taken reservation-wide with traps from October 21, 2023 through May 10, 2024. From March 16, 2024 through May 10, 2024 non-floating colony traps must be under at least two inches of water and trapping on the outside of any muskrat house or structure of any size is prohibited; traps may be placed completely inside a muskrat house or structure of any size; except when used on float sets, foothold traps must be submerged under water at all times or have a protective covering; body-gripping traps used in a water set can have no more than two inches of the trap above water or a protective covering. From May 1, 2023 through May 10, 2023, float sets must have a protective covering. Cable devices (snares) may be used reservation wide from November 20, 2023 through May 10, 2024. From March 16, 2024 through May 10, 2024, using cable devices on the outside of any muskrat house or structure of any size is prohibited. Muskrat and mink may be hunted reservation-wide with rimfire cartridges or pre-charged pneumatic air guns of .22 caliber or smaller and with archery equipment (including crossbows – if have a crossbow permit from TAT Fish & Wildlife Director) from November 20, 2023 through May 10, 2024.

Muskrat huts may be opened for insertion of traps or cable devices (snares), however, the huts must be restored to their approximate original condition to prevent freeze-up.

**13.3 BOBCATS** may be harvested using firearms, pre-charged pneumatic air guns, archery equipment or traps, from October 28, 2023 through March 15, 2024. They can also be harvested with the use of a cable device (snare) from November 13, 2023 through March 15, 2024. Hunters must contact a local game warden, biologist or the TAT Fish & Wildlife office to report their harvest within 12 hours and make arrangements to have the bobcat tagged. The entire bobcat, including the head, must be presented for inspection and tagging. Legally taken animals will be returned to the hunter following analysis so that the pelt may be removed. The carcass shall be returned to the TAT Fish & Wildlife Department after the pelt has been removed by the hunter or taxidermist and the carcass shall remain the property of the TAT Fish & Wildlife Department. No person, taxidermist, or fur dealer shall possess or purchase an untagged bobcat. When any part of the animal is mounted, if the tag is removed from the pelt, the tag must be securely fastened to the back or bottom of the mount and remain there.

### **13.4 RED FOX, GRAY FOX, COYOTE AND BADGER**

**13.4.1 Day Hunting Season.** Red Fox, gray fox, coyote and badger may be taken with firearms, pre-charged pneumatic air guns, archery equipment (including crossbows – if have a crossbow permit from TAT Fish & Wildlife Director), and dogs reservation-wide and year-round. Hunting

hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset each day. The season will officially close March 31 and reopen April 1 of each year.

**13.4.2 Night Hunting Season.** Red Fox, gray fox, and coyote may be taken with firearms and pre-charged pneumatic air guns at any hour during the night hunting season from November 20, 2023, through March 15, 2024. Beginning January 1, 2024, hunters can also use archery equipment (including crossbows— if have a crossbow permit from TAT Fish & Wildlife Director) for night hunting of red fox, gray fox, and coyotes. Any person who engages in the hunting of red fox, gray fox, or coyotes during the time from one-half hour after sunset to one-half hour before sunrise, must hunt exclusively on foot.

**13.4.3 Trapping Season.** Red fox, gray fox, coyote and badger may be taken with traps reservation-wide and year-round. The season will officially close March 31 and reopen April 1 of each year. Cables devices (snares) may only be used reservation-wide from November 20, 2023 through March 15, 2024.

**13.5 MOUNTAIN LIONS** may be hunted using firearms and archery equipment from August 25, 2023 through March 31, 2024. Pursuing with dogs is allowed only from November 14, 2023 through March 31, 2024. Any legal firearm or archery equipment currently allowed for furbearers is legal. The limit for mountain lions is one animal per hunter per season. Any mountain lion, other than kittens (kitten defined as a mountain lion with visible spots) or females accompanied by kittens, may be harvested during the season. Hunters must contact a local game warden, biologist or the TAT Fish & Wildlife office to report their harvest within 12 hours and make arrangements to have the mountain lion tagged. The entire mountain lion, including the head, must be presented for inspection and tagging. Legally taken animals will be returned to the hunter following analysis so that the pelt may be removed. The carcass shall be returned to the TAT Fish & Wildlife Department after the pelt has been removed by the hunter or taxidermist and the carcass shall remain the property of the TAT Fish & Wildlife Department. The use of traps or cable devices (snares) to take mountain lions is prohibited. A quota of 10 mountain lions will be allowed in this season.

Once this quota is reached, the season will be closed immediately. The TAT Fish & Wildlife Department will inform the public through press releases and/or public service announcements. Mountain lions taken at any time in protection of human life and the person killing or catching a mountain lion under these conditions must report the kill or catch within twelve hours and surrender the mountain lion to the Department and it will remain the property of the TAT Fish & Wildlife Department.

**13.6 FISHER** season closed in 2023-2024.

**13.7 RIVER OTTER** season closed in 2023-2024

**13.8 PROTECTED FURBEARERS.** The season for Canada lynx (*Lynx canadensis*), gray wolf (*Canis lupus*), swift fox (*Vulpes velox*), black bear (*Ursus americanus*), wolverine (*Gulo gulo*), American marten (*Martes americana*), and river otter (*Lontra canadensis*) shall remain closed.

**13.9 CLOTHING REQUIREMENTS.** All furbearer hunters are required to wear orange clothing while the Deer Gun season is in progress. Legal orange clothing is a head covering and outer garment above the waistline of solid daylight fluorescent orange color totaling at least 400 square inches.

## 14. WATERFOWL SEASONS

SPECIES	SEASONS	DAILY BAG	POSSESSION LIMIT
Canada Geese	Aug. 15, 2023—Sept. 15, 2023 (Early) Sept. 23, 2023 – Dec. 21, 2023	15 8	Three times the daily limit.
Light Geese	Sept. 23, 2023 – Dec. 29, 2023	50	Unlimited
Ducks	Sept. 23, 2023 – Dec. 3, 2023 Dec. 9, 2023 – Jan. 7, 2024	6	<i>*See Ducks and Mergansers restrictions below</i>
Mergansers	Sept. 23, 2023 – Dec. 3, 2023 Dec. 9, 2023 – Jan. 7, 2024	5	<i>*See Ducks and Mergansers restrictions below</i>
Coots	Sept. 23, 2023 – Dec. 3, 2023 Dec. 9, 2023 – Jan. 7, 2024	15	45
White-Fronted Geese	Sept. 23, 2023 – Dec. 3, 2023	3	Three times the daily limit.

**14.1 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS:** TAT members must have a Tribal Waterfowl Habitat License and a Federal Duck Stamp. Non-TAT members must have a Tribal Conservation Permit (if permanent residence is out of the state of North Dakota), a Tribal Waterfowl Habitat License, and a Federal Duck Stamp.

**14.2 GEESE SPECIES INFORMATION:** The season length and bag limit shall be separate for Canada geese, white-fronted geese and light geese. Canada geese include all Canada geese and any other geese except white-fronted geese and light geese. Light geese include snow geese (including blue geese) and Ross's geese.

**14.3 DUCKS AND MERGANSER SPECIES/SEX RESTRICTIONS:** Season Dates - September 23, 2023 through December 3, 2023. The daily bag limit shall be 6 ducks total. The daily limit may not include more than: 5 mallards of which only 2 may be female, 1 scaup, 3 wood duck, 1 pintail, 2 redhead, 2 canvasback. In addition to the daily bag limit of ducks listed above, an additional 2 bluewinged teal may be taken from September 23, 2023 through October 8, 2023. The daily limit for mergansers shall be 5 of which no more than 2 may be a hooded merganser. The daily limit for coots shall be 15. The possession limit for ducks, coots, and mergansers shall be three times the daily bag limit

**14.4 FEDERAL REGULATIONS:** Restrictions— No person shall take migratory game birds with the aid of baiting. An area is considered baited for 10 days after the removal of bait. It is not necessary for a hunter to need to know an area is baited to be in violation. Possession Limits—No person shall possess more than (1) one daily bag limit while in the field or while returning from the field to one's car, home, hunting camp, etc. One fully feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds being transported between the field and their final destination.

**14.5 BOATS:** Ducks, Coots, Mergansers, and geese may be taken from a floating craft, excluding a sink box, if such is beached or fastened within or tied immediately alongside any type of fixed hunting blind or from a craft that is resting at anchor.

**14.6 ELECTRONIC AND RECORDED CALLS.** Possession or use of an electronic or recorded call is prohibited while hunting waterfowl.

**14.7 YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING SEASON.** Legally licensed hunters 15 years of age or younger may hunt ducks, coots, mergansers and geese reservation-wide on September 9 and 10, 2023. An adult, at least 18 years of age, must accompany the youth hunter into the field. The adult may not hunt ducks, geese, coots, or mergansers. Shooting hours for the Youth Waterfowl Hunting Season shall be one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. The daily bag limit, including species restrictions and all other regulations that apply to the regular duck and goose hunting seasons shall apply to this special season with the exception that bonus bluewinged teal are not available.

## 15. LICENSE FEES

### MEMBERS OF THE THREE AFFILIATED TRIBES:

One who is enrolled with the Three Affiliated Tribes

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Small Game	\$10.00/person \$0.00/Seniors 55+
Turkey (Spring & Fall)	\$10.00/person \$0.00/Seniors 55+
Furbearer	\$10.00/person \$0.00/Seniors 55+
Waterfowl	\$10.00/person \$0.00/person 55+
Small Game/Furbearer Combo	\$18.00/person

### SPOUSES OF ENROLLED MEMBERS:

One who is not an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes but is legally married to an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes.

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***All Non-TAT enrolled members who do not reside in North Dakota must obtain an annual conservation permit along with other licenses.***

Conservation Permit	\$20.00/person/annual
Small Game	\$20.00/person
Turkey	\$25.00/person
Furbearer	\$20.00/person
Small Game/Furbearer Combo	\$35.00/person
Waterfowl	\$15.00/person
Small Game/Waterfowl Combo	\$28.00/person

**NON-MEMBER RESIDENTS:**

*One who is living within the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Reservation but is not an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes*

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***For the following fees, disabled veterans subtract \$10.00 from the regular price of all licenses except for the waterfowl habitat and furbearer permits.***

Small Game/Upland Habitat	\$50.00/person
Turkey	\$50.00/person
Furbearer	\$50.00/person
Small Game/Furbearer Combo	\$90.00/person
Waterfowl Habitat <i>(Need to purchase Fed. Duck Stamp)</i>	\$30.00/person
Small Game/Waterfowl Combo	\$70.00/person
Sportsman Package <i>(Small Game/Upland Habitat, Furbearer, &amp; Waterfowl)</i>	\$120.00/person

**NON-MEMBER NON-RESIDENTS:**

*One who is neither an enrolled member of the Three Affiliated Tribes nor lives within the boundaries of the Fort Berthold Indian Reservation*

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***For the following fees, disabled veterans subtract \$10.00 from the regular price of all licenses except for the waterfowl habitat and furbearer permits.***

***All Non-TAT Enrolled members who do not reside in North Dakota must obtain an annual conservation permit along with other licenses.***

Conservation Permit	\$20.00/person/annual
Small Game/Upland Habitat	\$100.00/person
Turkey	\$100.00/person
Furbearer	\$75.00/person
Small Game/Furbearer Combo	\$150.00/person
Waterfowl Habitat <i>(Need to purchase Fed. Duck Stamp)</i>	\$30.00/person
Small Game/Waterfowl Combo	\$120.00/person
Sportsman Package <i>(Small Game/Upland Habitat, Furbearer, Waterfowl and conservation permit)</i>	\$200.00/person

Revenue from the sale of licenses is used for conservation management programs.

*Pursuant to Chapter 18-6-1 Tribal Proclamations Have Force of Law—Penalty: Any tribal proclamation issued at the request of the Natural Resources Board or the Director of the Tribal Fish & Wildlife Division shall have the force of law. Any persons violating a provision of such order or proclamation is guilty of a misdemeanor and shall be fined for not more than five hundred (\$500.00). In addition to any fine imposed in this chapter, the person shall be subject to forfeiture of his license, the privilege to hunt and fish for a period of one year, and confiscation of his vehicle, guns, boat, fishing equipment or anything used in connection with the violation.*

**PLEASE NOTIFY THE FORT BERTHOLD FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS.**

**CALL 627-4760 BETWEEN 8 AM AND 4:30 PM MONDAY THRU FRIDAY.**

**After hours please call that TAT Police Department 627-3617**

**NOTIFY THE TAT FISH & WILDLIFE DIVISION OF ANY VIOLATIONS**

**“All information is confidential.”**