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PERMANENT ADMINISTRATIVE ORDER

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CHAPTER 635

DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

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ARCHIVES DIVISION SECRETARY OF STATE & LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL

FILING CAPTION: Amendments Regarding Harvest of Game Birds, Season Dates, Open Areas, Bag Limits and Regulations

EFFECTIVE DATE: 04/27/2026

AGENCY APPROVED DATE: 04/24/2026

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RULES:

635-008-0155, 635-045-0000, 635-051-0000, 635-052-0000, 635-053-0000, 635-054-0000, 635-060-0000

AMEND: 635-008-0155

NOTICE FILED DATE: 02/26/2026

RULE SUMMARY: These amended rules will establish Oregon's 2026-2027 hunting seasons for game birds in a manner to maintain their numbers at optimum levels and prevent their serious depletion while providing optimum recreational benefits for present and future generations of Oregon's citizens. Additionally, amends rules specific to areas owned, managed, or controlled by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Proposed amendments to Summer Lake Wildlife Area rules will to improve consistency between the Big Game Hunting and Game Bird Hunting regulations in regards to restriction on hunting game mammals with a firearm during some game bird hunting seasons. The Commission may decide to adopt staff recommended proposed rule and rule amendments as proposed in attachment 3, or the Commission may decide to modify the proposed rules or not adopt some or any of the proposed rule amendments.

CHANGES TO RULE:

635-008-0155

Summer Lake Wildlife Area (Lake County) ¶

The Summer Lake Wildlife Area is open to wildlife-oriented public use compatible with the goals and objectives contained in the 2007 (updated 2021) Summer Lake Wildlife Area Management Plan unless otherwise excluded or restricted by the following rules: ¶

- (1) Posted Refuges are closed to all entry during any waterfowl hunting season authorized at the Wildlife Area and during the seven days prior to opening day of the Zone 2 duck season, except to retrieve lawfully taken wildlife. Motor vehicle access along the Wildlife Viewing Loop, which goes through a posted refuge, is permitted except during any waterfowl season authorized at the wildlife area and during the seven days prior to opening day of the Zone 2 duck season. ¶
- (2) Entering any portion of the Wildlife Area south of Thousand Springs Lane (Lake County Road 4-17), except the Foster Place unit and open roads and campgrounds, seven days prior to Zone 2 waterfowl season (see game bird regulations for specific dates) is prohibited. ¶
- (3) Discharging firearms is prohibited except as authorized during game bird and game mammal hunting seasons, between September 1 and January 31 and during the Veterans and Active Military Personnel Waterfowl hunt. ¶
- (4) Discharging firearms into and hunting in posted refuges, campgrounds and safety zones is prohibited. ¶
- (5) Centerfire rifles and handguns are prohibited for game mammal hunting except on that portion of the wildlife area west of Hwy. 31. ¶
- (6) No person shall hunt game mammals with a firearm east of Hwy. 31 during any ~~game bird~~ pheasant, quail or waterfowl hunting seasons open on the wildlife area. ¶
- (7) No person shall possess or use any shot other than federally-approved nontoxic shot at any time, except for big game hunters using buckshot or slugs. ¶
- (8) No person shall leave decoys set out overnight (8 pm to 4 am). ¶
- (9) All hunters must obtain a daily hunt permit (available at Headquarters 1.3 miles south of the town of Summer Lake) which must be possessed at all times by users. Daily permits for 2 consecutive days are allowed. Check-out at the end of the day or following 2 consecutive days is required. ¶
- (10) Trapping is prohibited. ¶
- (11) Motorized vehicle travel is only allowed on open roads, campgrounds or parking areas. ¶
- (12) Bullgate and Windbreak dikes and the Work Road are closed to motor vehicles from March 15 to August 15, during any waterfowl season authorized at the Wildlife Area, during the three days prior to any youth waterfowl hunting days and during the seven days prior to opening day of the Zone 2 duck season. ¶
- (13) Operating boats with gas-powered motors is prohibited. ¶
- (14) Camping or leaving vehicles unattended is prohibited except on areas designated for that use, and shall not exceed a total of 14 days during any 30 day period, ¶
- (15) ODFW Wildlife Area Parking Permit required.

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146

AMEND: 635-045-0000

NOTICE FILED DATE: 02/26/2026

RULE SUMMARY: These amended rules will establish Oregon's 2026-2027 hunting seasons for game birds in a manner to maintain their numbers at optimum levels and prevent their serious depletion while providing optimum recreational benefits for present and future generations of Oregon's citizens. Additionally, amends rules specific to areas owned, managed, or controlled by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Proposed amendments to Summer Lake Wildlife Area rules will to improve consistency between the Big Game Hunting and Game Bird Hunting regulations in regards to restriction on hunting game mammals with a firearm during some game bird hunting seasons. The Commission may decide to adopt staff recommended proposed rule and rule amendments as proposed in attachment 3, or the Commission may decide to modify the proposed rules or not adopt some or any of the proposed rule amendments.

CHANGES TO RULE:

635-045-0000

Purpose ¶

- (1) The purpose of these rules is to list definitions pursuant to hunting seasons for big game and game birds.¶
 - (2) The documents entitled "~~2025-2026~~ Oregon Game Bird Hunting Regulations," and "2026 Oregon Big Game Regulations", are incorporated by reference into these rules. These documents are available at hunting license vendors and regional, district and headquarters offices of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife.¶
- [Publications: Publications referenced are available from the agency.]
Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146, 496.162
Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146, 496.162

AMEND: 635-051-0000

NOTICE FILED DATE: 02/26/2026

RULE SUMMARY: These amended rules will establish Oregon's 2026-2027 hunting seasons for game birds in a manner to maintain their numbers at optimum levels and prevent their serious depletion while providing optimum recreational benefits for present and future generations of Oregon's citizens. Additionally, amends rules specific to areas owned, managed, or controlled by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Proposed amendments to Summer Lake Wildlife Area rules will to improve consistency between the Big Game Hunting and Game Bird Hunting regulations in regards to restriction on hunting game mammals with a firearm during some game bird hunting seasons. The Commission may decide to adopt staff recommended proposed rule and rule amendments as proposed in attachment 3, or the Commission may decide to modify the proposed rules or not adopt some or any of the proposed rule amendments.

CHANGES TO RULE:

635-051-0000

Purpose ¶

(1) The purpose of these rules is to establish dates, areas and other restrictions for hunting game birds pursuant to ORS Chapter 496.¶

(2) The document entitled "20256-20267 Oregon Game Bird Hunting Regulations," is incorporated by reference into these rules.¶

[Publications: Publications referenced are available from the agency.]

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146, 496.162

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146, 496.162

AMEND: 635-052-0000

NOTICE FILED DATE: 02/26/2026

RULE SUMMARY: These amended rules will establish Oregon's 2026-2027 hunting seasons for game birds in a manner to maintain their numbers at optimum levels and prevent their serious depletion while providing optimum recreational benefits for present and future generations of Oregon's citizens. Additionally, amends rules specific to areas owned, managed, or controlled by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Proposed amendments to Summer Lake Wildlife Area rules will to improve consistency between the Big Game Hunting and Game Bird Hunting regulations in regards to restriction on hunting game mammals with a firearm during some game bird hunting seasons. The Commission may decide to adopt staff recommended proposed rule and rule amendments as proposed in attachment 3, or the Commission may decide to modify the proposed rules or not adopt some or any of the proposed rule amendments.

CHANGES TO RULE:

635-052-0000

Purpose ¶

(1) The purpose of these rules is to establish season dates, areas, bag limits, and other restrictions for migratory upland game birds pursuant to ORS Chapter 496.¶

(2) The document entitled "2025~~6~~-2026~~7~~ Oregon Game Bird Hunting Regulations," is incorporated by reference into these rules.¶

[Publications: Publications referenced are available from the agency.]

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146, 496.162

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146, 496.162

AMEND: 635-053-0000

NOTICE FILED DATE: 02/26/2026

RULE SUMMARY: These amended rules will establish Oregon's 2026-2027 hunting seasons for game birds in a manner to maintain their numbers at optimum levels and prevent their serious depletion while providing optimum recreational benefits for present and future generations of Oregon's citizens. Additionally, amends rules specific to areas owned, managed, or controlled by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Proposed amendments to Summer Lake Wildlife Area rules will to improve consistency between the Big Game Hunting and Game Bird Hunting regulations in regards to restriction on hunting game mammals with a firearm during some game bird hunting seasons. The Commission may decide to adopt staff recommended proposed rule and rule amendments as proposed in attachment 3, or the Commission may decide to modify the proposed rules or not adopt some or any of the proposed rule amendments.

CHANGES TO RULE:

635-053-0000

Purpose ¶

(1) The purpose of these rules is to establish season dates, bag limits, areas and other restrictions for hunting upland game birds pursuant to ORS Chapter 496.¶

(2) The document entitled "2025~~6~~-2026~~7~~ Oregon Game Bird Hunting Regulations," is incorporated by reference into these rules.¶

~~(3) Notwithstanding the provisions of the 2025-26 Oregon Game Bird Hunting Regulations, the 2025 Sage grouse controlled hunt permit numbers for the controlled hunt areas listed on page 21 and Table 1 (see attached table) are as follows:¶~~

[Publications: Publications referenced are available from the agency.]

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146, 496.162

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146, 496.162

AMEND: 635-054-0000

NOTICE FILED DATE: 02/26/2026

RULE SUMMARY: These amended rules will establish Oregon's 2026-2027 hunting seasons for game birds in a manner to maintain their numbers at optimum levels and prevent their serious depletion while providing optimum recreational benefits for present and future generations of Oregon's citizens. Additionally, amends rules specific to areas owned, managed, or controlled by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Proposed amendments to Summer Lake Wildlife Area rules will to improve consistency between the Big Game Hunting and Game Bird Hunting regulations in regards to restriction on hunting game mammals with a firearm during some game bird hunting seasons. The Commission may decide to adopt staff recommended proposed rule and rule amendments as proposed in attachment 3, or the Commission may decide to modify the proposed rules or not adopt some or any of the proposed rule amendments.

CHANGES TO RULE:

635-054-0000

Purpose ¶

(1) The purpose of these rules is to establish season dates, bag limits, areas and other restrictions for hunting ducks, geese, coots, Wilson's snipe and crow pursuant to ORS Chapter 496.¶

(2) The document entitled "2025~~6~~-2026~~7~~ Oregon Game Bird Hunting Regulations," is incorporated by reference into these rules.¶

[Publications: Publications referenced are available from the agency.]

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146, 496.162

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146, 496.162

AMEND: 635-060-0000

NOTICE FILED DATE: 02/26/2026

RULE SUMMARY: These amended rules will establish Oregon's 2026-2027 hunting seasons for game birds in a manner to maintain their numbers at optimum levels and prevent their serious depletion while providing optimum recreational benefits for present and future generations of Oregon's citizens. Additionally, amends rules specific to areas owned, managed, or controlled by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. Proposed amendments to Summer Lake Wildlife Area rules will to improve consistency between the Big Game Hunting and Game Bird Hunting regulations in regards to restriction on hunting game mammals with a firearm during some game bird hunting seasons. The Commission may decide to adopt staff recommended proposed rule and rule amendments as proposed in attachment 3, or the Commission may decide to modify the proposed rules or not adopt some or any of the proposed rule amendments.

CHANGES TO RULE:

635-060-0000

Purpose and General Information ¶¶

(1) The purpose of these rules is to describe the requirements and procedures for controlled hunts pursuant to ORS Chapter 496.162.¶¶

(2) The documents entitled "~~2025-2026~~²⁰²⁶⁻²⁰²⁷ Oregon Game Bird Hunting Regulations," and "2026 Oregon Big Game Regulations," are incorporated by reference into these rules. These documents are available at hunting license agents and regional, district, and headquarters offices of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife. ¶¶

[Publications: Publications referenced are available from the agency.]

Statutory/Other Authority: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146, 496.162

Statutes/Other Implemented: ORS 496.012, 496.138, 496.146, 496.162