

Sport hunting in Québec 2018-2020

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Sport hunting - Main rules April 1st, 2018 to March 31, 2020

This publication presents the main sport hunting rules in Québec from April 1, 2018 to March 31, 2020. It contains regulatory information that every hunter must know, namely the regulations in effect, the seasons when hunting is allowed, the related restrictions and the maps of hunting zones. The information presented in this publication does not replace the official texts of the statutes and regulations, just as the zone maps which this publication contains do not replace the regulatory maps of the hunting zones.

Any change made during the year to the regulatory information found in this publication will give rise to a press release. These press releases may be accessed in the News section of the publication Sport Hunting in Québec - Main rules. This publication also contains the list of wildlife registration stations as well as other useful information for hunters.

Main new measures

- All caribou sport hunting is closed.
- The opening date for hunting of certain small game species has been brought forward in Area 26.
- The special standards for moose hunting in the Werh Sees Indohoun and Eastmain sectors have been abolished, and the general rules for Area 22 have been reintroduced.
- With a handful of exceptions, non-residents must use the services of an outfitter, ZEC or wildlife reserve to hunt moose (see the "Non-Residents" section).

Changes in this publication are indicated with an icon  or are highlighted in grey.

ATTENTION: It is possible that, after the publication of these rules, hunting practices change in the wake of an agreement between the Québec government and an Aboriginal nation or an Aboriginal community, represented by its band council. Indeed, in its resolutions of March 20, 1985 and May 30, 1989, the National Assembly formally recognized Québec's 11 Aboriginal nations and their specific rights within the framework of the legislation in force. The Québec government opted to negotiate with the Aboriginal nations in order to conclude agreements to better define and clarify the exercising of their activities. This approach hinges at once on the historic legitimacy and importance for Québec society of establishing with the Aboriginal peoples harmonious relations centred on mutual respect and trust. To obtain additional information on possible modifications, please contact the Department Customer Services at the MFFP or one of its regional offices.

General regulations

Québec's territory is divided into 29 areas. Area 25 is solely a fishing area. There are 28 hunting areas, i.e. areas 1 to 24, and 26 to 29. In several instances, the areas are subdivided to apply specific rules pertaining to a species. Hunters must abide by the hunting rules that apply in the area and the requirements applicable to the territories where they wish to hunt. Hunting zones maps are available in the Department website.).

Definitions

Firearm: Rifle, shotgun and muzzle-loading firearms, depending on the species.

Muzzle-loading firearm: The terms muzzle-loading shotgun and muzzle-loading rifle have different meanings for moose, white-tailed deer and bear hunting. Please consult the "Authorized arms and ammunition" table for additional information.

Antlerless deer: A white-tailed deer doe or buck without antlers, or with antlers measuring less than 7 cm (i.e. including calves).

To hunt: To pursue, chase, worry, stalk, mutilate, call, track, lie in wait for or search for an animal or attempt to do so, while in possession of an arm, or to shoot, kill or capture an animal, or attempt to do so.

To trap: To capture or attempt to capture a fur-bearing animal by means of a trap.

Moose: Includes a male or female moose, or a calf.

Moose with antlers: A moose with antlers measuring at least 10 cm.

Adult female moose: A female moose over one year of age.

Calf: A male or female moose under one year of age.

Resident: Any person who is domiciled in Québec and who has lived there for at least 183 days during the year preceding his hunting activities or application for a licence or certificate.

Right to hunt

Anyone has the right to hunt in accordance with the law, although such a right does not give a hunter priority of use of a public territory to the detriment of other outdoor enthusiasts nor does it grant him exclusive use of the territory. Furthermore, it is prohibited to deliberately hinder someone who is hunting legally and has legitimately accessed the territory. It should be noted that hinder can, among other things, mean:

- preventing access by a hunter to hunting sites to which he legally has access;
- damaging a hunter's lookout or blind;
- disturbing or frightening an animal by a human, animal or other presence or through noise or an odour;
- rendering ineffective bait, a lure, or implement intended to hunt an animal.

The right to hunt may not under any circumstances limit the right of ownership. A landowner may enjoy his property as he sees fit and grant or refuse access to his property to a hunter who makes such a request.

Users must share the territory in a spirit of harmonious cohabitation and ethical behaviour.

Licences and certificate: answers to my questions

What conditions govern hunting?

You must hold a hunting licence to hunt in Québec. To obtain a licence to hunt with a firearm, crossbow or bow, a resident must hold the hunter's certificate corresponding to the hunting implement used, except for an initiation licence.

It should be noted that the information that appears on the back of the certificates was modified in 2007. Accordingly, code "F" no longer allows hunting with a crossbow; code "A" or code "B" is compulsory to hunt with this arm.

How to obtain a hunter's certificate?

To obtain a hunter's certificate, any Québec resident must be at least 12 years of age, have received the appropriate training for the hunting arm that he plans to use, i.e. a firearm (code "F"), a crossbow (code "B") or a crossbow and a bow (code "A"), and have passed the requisite examinations. The courses required to obtain a certificate can be taken at any time of the year, except starting the fourth weekend in September until the second weekend in November. To obtain additional information on the courses, please contact a regional office of the Department or the Fédération québécoise des chasseurs et pêcheurs, by telephone at 1 888 523-2863 or by email (info@fedecp.qc.ca) or through one of its affiliated associations.

Hunting licence

In order to hunt, a young person or adult must hold the appropriate hunting licence and carry it with him. A young person or a student may, however, hunt by virtue of an adult's licence (see the section entitled "Notion of family, age required to hunt and initiation licence on page 8"). To obtain a hunting licence for residents, you must reside in Québec within the meaning of the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife (chapter C-61.1) and hold a valid hunter's certificate on which the code corresponds to the type of hunting implement that you intend to use, i.e. code "F" for a firearm, code "B" for a crossbow, and code "A" for a crossbow and a bow (see the exception to this rule in the section entitled "Initiation licence"). It is not necessary to hold a hunter's certificate to obtain a licence to snare snowshoe hares, Arctic hares or eastern cottontail rabbits, to hunt leopard frogs, green frogs and American bullfrogs or to hunt certain species of small game with a bird of prey.

To obtain a wild turkey hunting licence for resident, you must hold an attestation issued following a course on wild turkey hunting. To obtain additional information on the course, please contact the Fédération québécoise des chasseurs et pêcheurs at 1 888 523-2863 or by email (info@fedecp.qc.ca).

To obtain a hunting licence for non-residents, the applicant must be a non-resident and at least 12 years of age.

The hunting licence is personal. Hunting licences must be signed by the person issuing them and the licence holder. The hunting licence holder must indicate his name, address and date of birth on the back of the licence when such information does not appear on the front of it or if the information is inaccurate.

At the request of a wildlife protection officer or wildlife protection assistant, anyone who is hunting must show his hunting licence.

It is prohibited to obtain the same hunting licence more than once, except under the conditions stipulated in the section entitled "Replacement of a lost, stolen or unusable licence". A hunter may obtain more than one white-tailed deer hunting licence in Area 20 (Île d'Anticosti). There is no limit on the purchase of licences.

The holder of a resident's hunting licence must use the hunting arm that corresponds to the code on his hunter's certificate, except for the initiation licence.

Where to obtain hunting licences?

Hunting licences are sold by sales agents, usually sporting goods, hardware or convenience stores. Licences may also be sold by certain outfitters, in some controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) and in wildlife reserves. To find a sales agent in your region, please contact a regional office of the Department or consult the list on its Web site at <http://www3.mffp.gouv.qc.ca/faune/permis/region.asp>.

Federal hunting licences for migratory birds may be obtained via the Environment and Climate Change Canada website, at Canada Post Offices and from some independent suppliers.

Hunting licence expiry date?

A hunting licence expires at the end of the hunting period in respect of the animal for which it was issued or when the transportation coupons have been removed or should have been removed (see the section entitled "Attaching transportation coupons and punching out the licence"). An antlerless deer hunting licence or an adult female moose hunting licence expires at the end of the hunting period in respect of the animal for which it was issued. It also expires when it is punched out or should have been or the transportation coupon has been removed from the regular licence or should have been. The small game hunting licence and the licence to hunt small game with a bird of prey expire on the expiry date indicated on the licence.

Can I replace my licence that has been lost, stolen or rendered unusable?

In the event of the loss or theft of a licence or if the licence is rendered unusable, you must, if you wish to continue to hunt, obtain a replacement licence at a nominal cost. Replacement licences are available from the licence sales agents of the Department.

The "Moose, correction of area" hunting licence may not be used to replace a moose hunting licence. It is issued solely under the conditions and in the cases stipulated.

Types of hunting licences and species concerned

Big game

The big game that may be hunted includes white-tailed deer, moose and black bear. A specific hunting licence exists for each species. More than one licence may cover a given species. The licences are indicated below.

- **White-tailed deer** (except Area 20, Île d'Anticosti): The licence holder may also hold an antlerless deer hunting licence and an antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing).
- **Deer without antlers** (random draw): To obtain the licence, you must register for a random draw. Only residents may hold the licence. Subject to certain rules pertaining to the family (see the section entitled "Young people and big game hunting"), the licence is only valid if the holder also holds a valid regular white-tailed deer hunting licence. During a period when only hunting antlered deer is allowed, the holder of an antlerless deer hunting licence may only hunt antlerless deer in the area, portion of the area or the territory indicated on the licence. In wildlife reserves, outfitting operations with exclusive rights and certain zecs, specific provisions apply (see the sections entitled "Sharing of the antlerless deer hunting licence and Hunting white-tailed deer in a group" in the appendix). The same individual may possess an antlerless deer hunting licence and an antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing) (see the section entitled "Bag limits"). To obtain additional information, please consult the brochure that accompanies the registration forms for the random draw that takes place in the spring (see the section entitled "Random draws") and which indicates where the licences are awarded.
- **Deer without antlers** (1st killing) (random draw): The licence includes a transportation coupon. It is awarded by random draw solely in some parts of areas and is only valid for the part of the area indicated on it. The winner of the random draw for such a licence must obtain it from a hunting licence sales agent at the price stipulated. The licence may be used only if the holder also possesses a valid regular white-tailed deer hunting licence, i.e. a licence from which the transportation coupon has not been removed. When the transportation coupon of the regular licence is removed, the antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing) is deemed to have expired. The holder of the licence is authorized to kill an antlerless deer in the part of the area indicated on the licence and to attach to it the transportation coupon that is part of the licence. Under his regular hunting licence, the hunter may subsequently kill a second deer in an area (with the exception of Area 20) when hunting is permitted, bearing in mind the applicable regulations, and attach to it the transportation coupon from the regular hunting licence. If the holder of an antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing) first kills an antlered deer in the area indicated on his licence or a deer (with or without antlers) in another area, he must attach to it the transportation coupon of his regular licence and will, consequently, lose the privilege of killing a second deer. A young person between 12 and 17 years of age or a student between 18 and 24 years of age in possession of a valid student card may hunt under an antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing) according to the procedures mentioned in the section entitled "Young people and big game hunting".
- To determine the parts of areas where this antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing) will be issued, please consult the brochure that accompanies the registration forms for the random draw of the Sépaq, which takes place in the spring of every year, and which indicates where the licences are awarded. The antlerless deer hunting licence, which, in past years, was issued in certain areas, will continue to be issued in the areas that are indicated in the brochure concerning the random draw. The licence, which is accompanied by a regular white-tailed deer hunting licence, continues to allow for the killing of only one white-tailed deer with or without antlers during a period in which only the killing of an antlered deer is normally allowed. The antlerless deer hunting licence does not entitle the holder to kill two white-tailed deer. The same individual may possess an antlerless deer hunting licence and an antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing) (see the section entitled "Bag limits"). To obtain additional information, please consult the brochure that accompanies the registration forms for the random draw that takes place in the spring (see the section entitled "Random draws") and which indicates where the licences are awarded.

- **White-tailed deer**, Area 20 (Île d'Anticosti) and **antlerless white-tailed deer**, Area 20 (Île d'Anticosti): The licences are only valid in Area 20.
- **White-tailed deer antler restriction (AR)**. This licence is solely valid in zones 6 North and 6 South and does not include a transportation coupon. The licence may be used only if the holder also possesses a valid regular white-tailed deer hunting licence. The licence is individual and may not be shared with a young person between 12 and 17 years of age or a student between 18 and 24 years of age. However, it is possible for a young person or a student who possesses an antler restriction hunting licence to use the valid regular white-tailed deer hunting licence of an adult (see the section Young people and big game hunting).
- **Moose**: The licence is valid for a single area and in all wildlife reserves, outfitting operations with exclusive rights and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) where hunting is subject to quotas.
- **Moose, correction of area**: applies solely to hunters when **the area number recorded on the licence is incorrect. It is prohibited to use this licence to change the hunting area.**
- **Adult female moose (random draw)**: To obtain the licence, you must register for a random draw. Only residents may possess the licence. Subject to certain rules pertaining to the family (see the section entitled "Young people and big game hunting"), the licence is only valid if the holder also possesses a valid regular hunting licence. It applies solely to Area 1 or certain wildlife territories (wildlife reserves or controlled harvesting zones (ZECs)). It should be noted that the adult female moose hunting licences for Area 1 are not valid in a wildlife reserve. However, they may be used in a controlled harvesting zone (ZEC), except the Zec Casault, or in an outfitting operation with exclusive rights in this area. Consequently, a licence associated with a wildlife reserve or a controlled harvesting zone (ZEC) must be used in the territory in respect of which it was issued. It is not valid throughout the hunting area. In Area 1 and in the territories where the licence is required, the holder may hunt adult female moose. New procedures governing the licence have been adopted in the wildlife reserves. To obtain additional information, please consult the brochure (available in May) that accompanies the registration forms for the random draw that takes place in the spring (see the section entitled "Random draws") and which indicates where the licences are awarded.

Wild turkey

This licence allows Wild turkey hunting is only authorized in the spring. It is permitted from one-half hour before sunrise until noon. To hunt wild turkey, the attestation confirming completion of a course on wild turkey hunting. Moreover, you must carry the licence and attestation with you. The attestation is not required for non residents.

Small game

The species of small game that may be hunted are the following birds and mammals:

Red-winged blackbird	Rock ptarmigan	Wolf	Raccoon	Sharp-tailed grouse
American crow	Willow ptarmigan	Groundhog	Red fox	Brown-headed cowbird
Coyote	Eastern cottontail	House sparrow	Patched fox	
Common starling	Arctic hare	Grey partridge	Silver fox	
Ruffed grouse	Snowshoe hare	Common grackle	Spruce grouse	

The migratory birds deemed to be game pursuant to the 1994 Migratory Birds Convention Act.

Small game also includes quail, northern bobwhite, pheasant, black francolin, rock partridge, chukar partridge, red-legged partridge, rock dove, and guinea fowl, which may be kept in captivity without a licence and released in the wild.

The following licences are required to hunt small game.

- **Small game** (firearm, crossbow and bow): An individual may also snare hares and rabbits under a resident's hunting licence.
- **Migratory birds**: To hunt migratory birds, an individual must possess a federal migratory bird hunting licence and a provincial small game hunting licence and have both licences in his possession when hunting.
- **Hares and eastern cottontail rabbits (snare)**: The hunter's certificate is not required to obtain this licence. Only residents may possess the licence.
- **Hunting small game with birds of prey**: It is now possible to hunt certain species of small game with a bird of prey. The hunter's certificate is not required to obtain this licence. Subject to certain rules related to the family, the licence is required for anyone who hunts with a bird of prey, as indicated in the section entitled "Hunting with birds of prey". It is available from the regional offices of the Department.

Frogs

Only leopard frogs, green frogs and American bullfrogs may be hunted. A frog hunting licence is required to hunt frogs but the hunter's certificate is not required obtain the licence. Only residents may possess the licence.

Species protected at all times

It is prohibited to hunt species in respect of which licences are not issued and periods or means of hunting are not determined, in particular birds of prey and reptiles (snakes and turtles).

Come hunt with me!

The advent of the hunting season means setting off in the woods to engage in your favourite leisure activity and experience nature. Why not take advantage of this period of relaxation to invite your children, spouse, friends, a brother-in-law or sister-in-law to learn about hunting?

In this way, you can transmit your know-how, develop a new closeness with these individuals, experience unforgettable moments in nature and enjoy the pleasure of savouring together the products of your hunting. This is an ideal opportunity to draw closer to them and encourage them to enjoy with you from year to year this experience and become seasoned hunters. Since the Department, like you, wants to prepare the next generation of hunters in Québec, it has adopted three regulatory measures to make hunting more accessible:

1. an initiation licence for adults and young people who do not possess a hunter's certificate (of the claims);
2. the broadening of the notion of family to include students between 18 and 24 years of age;
3. the application to big game hunting of rules related to the family in respect of young people and students between 18 and 24 years of age.

To obtain information? Toll-free telephone

- On the initiation licence: 1 866 4CHASSE (1 866 424-2773)
- On the notion of family: 1 877 346-6763

Area licence to hunt moose

The moose hunting licence, which is usually valid for a single area, is also valid for all wildlife reserves, outfitting operations with exclusive rights (see the section entitled "Outfitting operations") and controlled harvesting zones (ZECs) in which such hunting is subject to quotas. At the present time, access is limited only in the Baillargeon ZEC (Area 1).

Before he signs his licence, the hunter is responsible for ensuring that the area number that he chose and the date of purchase are correctly recorded. Restrictions apply in most areas concerning the use of a licence according to the date of its purchase (see the table below).

An individual may purchase a licence at any time or use a valid licence purchased after the deadline for participating in hunting subject to quotas in a wildlife reserve, an outfitting operation with exclusive hunting rights or in a sector subject to quotas in a controlled harvesting zone (ZEC). The individual may write the area number of his choice on the licence. After he has hunted in this type of territory, the licence holder may, if he has not bagged any game, continue to hunt in the area indicated on his licence.

However, a resident or non-resident who uses the services of an outfitter without exclusive hunting rights may purchase a licence at any time or use a valid licence purchased after the deadline. On the other hand, the hunting area indicated on his or her licence must correspond to the area in which the outfitter without exclusive rights may offer its services. After hunting in this type of territory, a person who purchased his or her licence after the deadline may not continue to hunt in the area indicated on the permit, even if he or she has not bagged any game, unless the hunt in which he or she takes part is subject to a quota and takes place in a wildlife reserve, in the area in which an outfitter with exclusive rights may offer its services, or in a limited access area of a ZEC.

When the area number recorded on a regular moose hunting licence is incorrect, the licence holder may obtain a "Moose, correction of area" hunting licence, issued once a year, provided that he satisfies the following conditions:

1. if he possesses a hunter's certificate bearing code "F", the date of issue of the incorrect licence must neither have authorized its holder to hunt moose during the firearm hunting period nor the muzzle-loading firearm hunting period in the wrong area;
2. if he possesses a hunter's certificate bearing code "A" or is a resident who possesses an initiation licence for moose, the date of issue of the incorrect licence must not have authorized him to hunt moose during any hunting period in the wrong area;
3. if he possesses a hunter's certificate bearing the code "B", the date of issue of the incorrect licence must not have authorized him to hunt moose during either the crossbow and bow hunting period or during the firearm hunting period or the muzzle-loading firearm hunting period in the wrong area;
4. in the case of a non-resident, the date of issue of the incorrect licence must not have authorized him to hunt moose during any hunting period in the wrong area.

If a "Moose, correction of area" hunting licence is requested for an area or part of an area in which the period for hunting moose with firearms is open, the licence may only be used if the date of issue of the incorrect licence is prior to the date of opening of the hunting period in the area in respect of which the "Moose, correction of area" hunting licence has been requested.

To obtain a "Moose, correction of area" hunting licence, the holder of a regular moose hunting licence must not have used the licence to participate in a hunting activity in a wildlife reserve, in an outfitting operation with exclusive rights or in a controlled harvesting zone (ZEC) to which access is subject to quotas. Moreover, when the holder of such a licence on which the area is incorrect also possesses an authorization for a person with a disability that allows him to hunt with a crossbow during a bow hunting period in the wrong area, the holder is deemed to have been authorized to hunt during the bow hunting period in this area.

Deadlines for obtaining a moose hunting licence [Note 1](#)

For the areas mentioned below, a resident or a non-resident must purchase his licence before midnight on the date indicated if he wishes to use it during the firearm hunting period.

Zones	Last day of purchase	
	2018	2019
1 Note 2 2 Note 2	October 12	October 18
3 and 4	October 12	October 11
The western part of Area 10 (Area 10 licence) and western part of Area 11 (Area 11 licence), 12, 13 Note 3 , 15, 26, 27	October 5	October 11
17	September 28	October 4
14, 16, 18, 22, 28	September 21	September 27
The southern part of Area 19 and Area 29	September 14	September 20
5, 6, 7, 8, 9, the eastern part of Area 10 (Area 10 licence), the eastern part of Area 11 (Area 11 licence) and Area 20	No deadline	No deadline

Note 1 : A licence may be purchased at any time to participate in hunting subject to quotas in a wildlife reserve, an outfitting operation with exclusive hunting rights and in an outfitting operation without exclusive rights (see the section entitled Outfitter establishments) or, as the case may be, in a sector subject to quotas in a controlled harvesting zone (ZEC). Currently, only Zec Baillargeon is in a controlled harvesting zone. **Note 2** : For the muzzle-loading firearm hunting period in Area 1 and Area 2, the deadline does not apply. **Note 3** : For the muzzle-loading firearm hunting period in the Zec Dumoine, the Zec Kipawa, the Zec Maganasipi or the Zec Restigo (Area 13 licence), the deadline does not apply.

Notion of family, age required to hunt and initiation licence

Definitions

The following definitions apply only to this section.

- **A certificate appropriate to the arm used** means that a hunter's certificate bearing code "F" authorizes hunting with a firearm (including an air rifle), that a hunter's certificate bearing code "B" authorizes hunting with a crossbow, and that a hunter's certificate bearing code "A" authorizes hunting with a crossbow or a bow. **Hunting with a crossbow is no longer permitted under code "F"**.
- **Spouse** refers to the de facto spouse who has been living with another person in a marriage relationship for at least one year and two people legally married to each other.
- **A young person**, unless indicated otherwise, refers, on the one hand, to an individual between 12 and 17 years of age and, on the other hand, to a student between 18 and 24 years of age in possession of a valid student card.
- **Non-resident's hunting licence** refers to a valid or expired hunting licence for a non-resident that was issued between April 1 and March 31.

Basic rules

- An individual who hunts under his own hunting licence must carry the licence with him but is not obliged to carry his hunter's certificate.
- A young person or a student who wishes to hunt in zone 6 North or 6 South must possess an antler restriction hunting licence. However, the individual may use the valid regular white-tailed deer hunting licence of an adult.
- A resident who hunts under the licence of an adult must also carry with him the certificate appropriate to the arm used and his attestation in the case of wild turkey hunting.
- The quantity of game killed by all of the individuals hunting under a given licence must not exceed the licence holder's authorized bag limit.

- When a hunter must be accompanied, this means accompanied by another person 18 years of age or over who possesses a certificate appropriate to the arm used or a non-resident's hunting licence. The holder of an initiation licence must be accompanied by a resident at least 25 years of age who possesses a certificate appropriate to the arm used. The accompanying person may accompany only one holder of an initiation licence at any one time.
- Hunting under the licence of an adult does not authorize hunting in a wildlife reserve, an outfitting operation or a controlled harvesting zone (ZEC) without possessing the appropriate authorization. Please contact the managers of the territories to obtain additional information in this respect.

Important: A hunter who accompanies the holder of an authorization for a person with a disability may not take advantage of the authorization and must abide by the rules in force for the period during which he is hunting.

May two spouses hunt under the same licence?

A small game hunting licence, a licence to hunt with a bird of prey, a frog hunting licence and a hare snaring licence authorize the holder and the latter's spouse to hunt under the licence. This does not apply to the federal migratory bird hunting licence or to provincial hunting licences that include one or several transportation coupons.

- The spouse must carry the licence with him or her when the holder is not present.

At what age and under what conditions may a young person hunt?

- To hunt with a firearm, a crossbow or a bow, an individual must be at least 12 years of age and, in the case of residents, hold a certificate appropriate to the arm used, except in the case of an initiation licence. There is no minimum age to snare hares, hunt certain frogs or hunt with a bird of prey.
- To hunt with a crossbow or a bow, a young person between 12 and 15 years of age must be accompanied (see the section entitled "Basic rules");
- To hunt with a firearm, a young person between 12 and 17 years of age must be accompanied (see the section entitled "Basic rules"). Other obligations must be observed pursuant to the Federal firearms Act.
- To hunt, a young person must be a hunting licence holder or hunt under the licence of an adult (see the following paragraph).

May a young person hunt under an adult's licence?

A young person may hunt all game under an adult's licence according to either situation indicated below:

- the adult accompanies the young person and carries his licence. If he is hunting small game, the young person may also be accompanied by the adult's spouse, who must then carry the licence in question. If the licence holder or his spouse are residents, they must also hold the certificate appropriate to the arm used;
- the young person carries the hunting licence of one of his parents or the spouse of one of them. The obligation to be accompanied always applies according to the young person's age (see the section entitled "At what age and under what conditions may a young person hunt?").

A young resident who hunts under the licence of an adult must either carry with him the hunter's certificate appropriate to the arm used, or his initiation licence, regardless of the kind, and abide by the attendant conditions. A young person hunting under the licence of an adult must comply with the annual bag limit for the species. If the transportation coupon is used by the young person, the adult cannot purchase a new licence. To hunt migratory birds, a young person must always hold the federal migratory bird hunting licence, except during Waterfowler Heritage Day.

Young people and big game hunting

Provided that he abides by the aforementioned rules, a young person may hunt big game under the licence of an adult, i.e. an adult who accompanies him, a parent or the latter's spouse, as indicated below, insofar as the adult's regular hunting licence is still valid:

- a young person hunts big game under the regular hunting licence of an adult. If he kills an animal, he must attach to it the transportation coupon of the licence. Neither the young person nor the adult may subsequently hunt this species, unless the licence includes two transportation coupons. In the case of a moose, the young person must ensure, on the same day the animal is killed, that the number of additional transportation coupons is attached to the animal corresponding to the established annual bag limit;
- the young person holds a regular hunting licence and hunts antlerless deer under the antlerless deer hunting licence (random draw) of an adult whose regular hunting licence is valid. If the young person kills an antlerless deer, he must attach the transportation coupon from his own licence and punch out the adult's antlerless deer hunting licence. Only the adult may continue to hunt deer under his regular hunting licence and according to the rules in force for the period during which he is hunting (his antlerless deer hunting licence is obviously no longer valid);
- the young person wins an antlerless white-tailed deer hunting licence (random draw) but wishes to hunt under the regular hunting licence of an adult rather than obtain his own licence. In this case, if he wishes to take advantage of his antlerless deer hunting licence, he must first apply for an attestation confirming that he holds an antlerless white-tailed deer hunting licence (random draw) from the Direction des affaires législatives et des permis in the Department (880, chemin Sainte-Foy, bureau RC-100, Québec (Québec) G1S 4X4; telephone: 418 521-3960). If he kills an animal, he must attach to it the transportation coupon from the adult's hunting licence. Neither the young person nor the adult may subsequently hunt white-tailed deer;
- the young person hunts antlerless deer under an antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing) of an adult whose regular hunting licence is valid. If he kills an antlerless deer, he must attach to it the transportation coupon from the adult's antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing), which is obviously no longer valid. The adult may continue to hunt deer under his regular hunting licence and the young person under the adult's regular hunting licence or his own regular hunting licence and according to the rules in force for the period during which they are hunting;

- the young person is hunting white-tailed deer under the regular hunting licence of an adult but holds an antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing) (random draw). If he kills an antlerless deer in the area indicated on the antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing), he must attach to it the transportation coupon from this licence. The adult may continue to hunt deer under his regular hunting licence and the young person under the adult's regular hunting licence or his own regular hunting licence and according to the rules in force for the period during which they are hunting. If a young person kills a first deer under a regular hunting licence, he may not subsequently kill a second deer under an antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing);
- The young person holds an antler restriction hunting licence to hunt white-tailed deer in zones 6 North or 6 South but wishes to use the regular hunting licence of an adult instead of obtaining his own regular hunting licence. If he kills an animal, he must attach to it the transportation coupon from the adult's regular hunting licence. Neither the young person nor the adult may subsequently hunt white-tailed deer;
- the young person hunts a female moose under the female moose hunting licence (random draw) of an adult but holds a regular hunting licence. If he kills a female moose, he must attach to it the transportation coupon from his own licence and punch out the adult's female moose hunting licence. He must then ensure that he attaches to the animal on the same day it was killed the number of additional transportation coupons corresponding to the established annual bag limit. The female moose hunting licence is obviously no longer valid;
- the young person wins a female moose hunting licence (random draw) but wishes to hunt under the regular hunting licence of an adult rather than obtain his own licence. In this case, if he wishes to take advantage of his female moose hunting licence, he must first apply for an attestation confirming that he holds a female moose hunting licence (random draw) from the Direction des affaires législatives et des permis Department (880, chemin Sainte-Foy, bureau RC-100, Québec (Québec) G1S 4X4; telephone: 418 521-3960). If he kills an animal, he must attach to it the transportation coupon from the adult's hunting licence and must then ensure on the same days as the animal is killed that he attaches to the animal the number of additional transportation coupons corresponding to the established annual bag limit. The female moose hunting licence is obviously no longer valid. Neither the young person nor the adult may subsequently hunt moose.

Hunting wild turkeys and young people

A young person who has in his possession his attestation of completion of the course on wild turkey hunting may hunt wild turkey under an adult's wild turkey hunting licence, i.e. an adult who accompanies him, a parent or the latter's spouse. The attestation is not required for non residents. If he kills a turkey, he must attach to it the transportation coupon of the adult's licence.

May a child under 12 years of age hunt under an adult's licence?

Except for the antler restriction hunting licence (see "Basic rules"), a child under 12 years of age may hunt with a bird of prey, snare hares or hunt certain frogs under the licence of a person 18 years of age or over according to either situation indicated below:

- the child engages in the activity under a resident's small game hunting licence, a frog hunting licence, a licence for hunting with a bird of prey or snaring of a person at least 18 years of age who accompanies him and carries with him the appropriate licence. The child may also be accompanied by the licence holder's spouse who is at least 18 years of age. The spouse must have in his or her possession the licence in question;
- the child carries with him the resident's small game hunting licence, the frog hunting licence, the licence for hunting with a bird of prey or snaring of one of his parents or the spouse of one of his parents.

Note: A young person may also engage in these activities according to both formulas.

Waterfowler Heritage Day - Migratory birds

On Waterfowler Heritage Day, a young person between 12 and 17 years of age who has in his possession the appropriate hunter's certificate may hunt migratory birds without a licence. The young person must be accompanied by an individual 18 years of age or over who holds a small game hunting licence and a migratory bird hunting licence. During the day, the individual 18 years of age or over may neither have in his possession nor use a firearm when he is accompanying the young person, nor may he accompany more than two young people at one and the same time. Students between 18 and 24 years of age may not hunt on Waterfowler Heritage Day. To obtain additional information on Waterfowler Heritage Day, please contact the Environment and Climate Change Canada at 1 800 668-6767.

Initiation licence - initiation to hunting among non-certified individuals

A resident at least 12 years of age who has never held a hunter's certificate may, in a given year and once in his lifetime, obtain all classes of hunting licences. When the individual hunts, he benefits from the same privileges and is subject to the same obligations as a regular hunter but must be accompanied by a resident at least 25 years of age who holds a certificate appropriate to the arm used. The holder of a hunter's certificate may only accompany one uncertified person at one and the same time. To obtain the licence, please call 1 866 4CHASSE (1 866 424-2773) or for Québec City and vicinity, 418-521-3905. In the case of wild turkey hunting, the holder of an initiation licence is not obliged to possess the attestation of completion of the course on wild turkey hunting, contrary to the accompanying person.

Important: A hunter who accompanies the holder of an authorization for a person with a disability **may not take advantage** of the authorization and must abide by the rules in force for the period during which he is hunting.

A fluorescent orange garment is compulsory

All hunters engaged in hunting, guides or other individuals accompanying them must wear in a way that is visible at all times and from any angle **a fluorescent orange garment** that covers at least 2 580 continuous cm² (400 square inches) of the wearer's back, shoulders and chest. **They must ensure that the garment remains visible at all times and from any angle, even when they are carrying a backpack.**

However, the garment is not compulsory in the following cases:

- when hunting American crow, wild turkey, rock dove or migratory birds;
- when hunting white-tailed deer or black bear during the season in which only bow or crossbow hunting is permitted;
- when hunting frogs or when snaring hares and eastern cottontail rabbits;
- when hunting coyotes, wolves and foxes (silver, patched or red) from December 1 to March 31;
- when hunting small game with a bird of prey, when no participant possesses an arm; when hunting using a bow or crossbow in a hunting sector reserved exclusively for bows or crossbows in a wildlife territory and when all the hunters are using a bow or crossbow while hunting in a sector of an outfitting operation with exclusive hunting rights.

Hunting and travelling at night

Hunting at night, i.e. half an hour after sundown and until half an hour before sunrise, is prohibited, except to snare hares and eastern cottontail rabbits, hunt frogs and hunt raccoons with hunting dogs in Areas 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8 .

Moreover, during the period between an hour and a half after sundown and an hour and a half before sunrise, an individual in possession of a spotlight and a firearm, a crossbow or a bow in an area where big game is present is, in the absence of evidence to the contrary, presumed to be hunting at night.

Sunrise and sunset

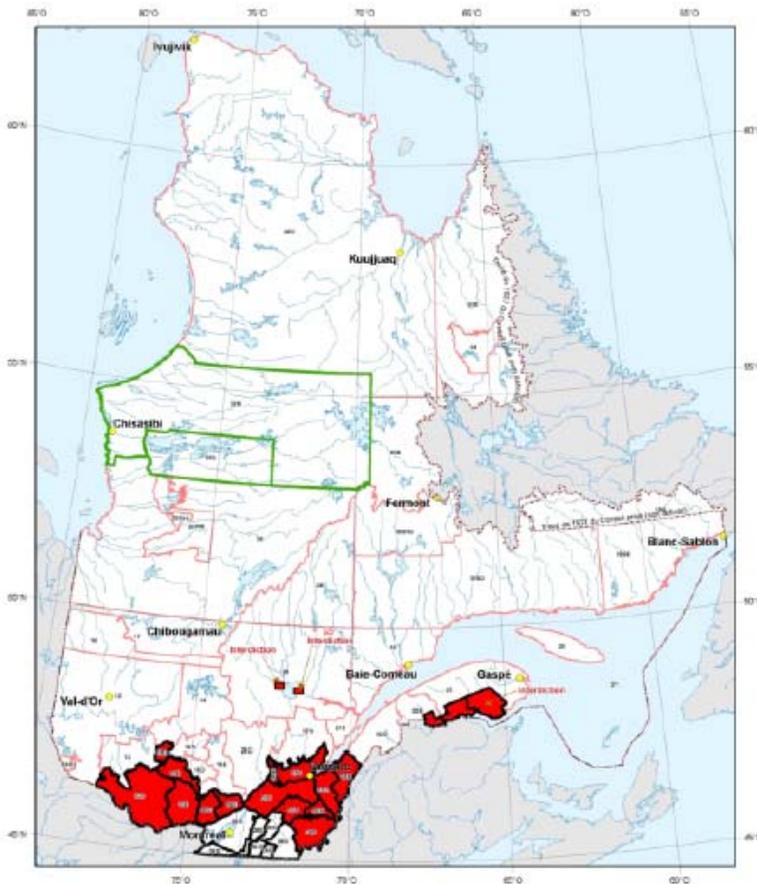
or www.nrc-cnrc.gc.ca/eng/services/hia/sunrise-sunset.html. The latter reference provides information according to **Eastern Standard Time**.

GPS provides sunrise and sunset times.

It is prohibited to:

- use a spotlight at night to detect an animal in an area where big game is present;
- white-tailed deer, moose and black bear at night using a spotlight;
- hunt using night vision equipment;
- be in possession at night in an area where game is present of loaded firearm or an armed crossbow without a reasonable excuse, unless the hunter is engaging in a hunting activity that is permitted.

Shooting from public road



First prohibition  Sectors A and B of Area 22.

It is prohibited to shoot an animal being on any road open to vehicular traffic and to shoot toward or across such a road. In addition, on the stretch of road located between the Cree community of Chisasibi and the kilometre 62 marker, no person may fire from the road or from any area located within 22.86 metres of either side, measured from the centre of the road. Along the stretch of that road located between marker 62 and marker 88, near the junction with the James Bay road, no person may fire from the road or from any area located within two kilometres of either side, measured from the road shoulder.

Second prohibition  In Areas 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, and the eastern part of Area 26, part of Area 27 (the white-tailed deer sector), the part of Route de Vauvert located between Pont de la Peinture and the bridge erected at the junction of lots 11 and 12 of Rang 6 of Racine Township, in the municipality of Dolbeau-Mistassini and for the part of Chemin de la Pointe-Taillon situated between the intersection of Route 169 and that of Rang 3 west (Area 28) and in the municipalities of the MRC d'Avignon and the MRC de Bonaventure (part of Area 1 and the eastern part of Area 2).

It is prohibited to shoot an animal from a public road, including a 10-metre strip beyond the shoulder on either side and to shoot toward or across such a road.

Third prohibition  **In the case of small game only:** in Areas 3, 4, 7, 9, 10, 11, and the eastern part of Area 26, part of Area 27 (the white-tailed deer sector), the part of Route de Vauvert located between Pont de la Peinture and the bridge erected at the junction of lots 11 and 12 of Rang 6 of Racine Township, in the municipality of Dolbeau-Mistassini and for the part of Chemin de la Pointe-Taillon situated between the intersection of Route 169 and that of Rang 3 west (Area 28) and in the municipalities of the MRC d'Avignon and the MRC de Bonaventure (part of Area 1 and the eastern part of Area 2).

The hunter and the small game must not, however, be located less than 100 m from a building intended to house people, shelter animals or store items. The prohibition to shoot an animal from a public road, including on a 10-m strip beyond the shoulder on either side of the road and to shoot toward or across such a road in the areas mentioned does not apply to a small game hunter when he uses:

- a shotgun with cartridges having pellets less than 5.6 mm in diameter;
- a muzzle-loading or breech-loading shotgun or rifle, without a casing, with pellets less than 5.6 mm in diameter for shotguns and bullets 9.14 mm or less in diameter (.36) for rifles;
- a bow or a crossbow.

Attention: Wild turkey is not small game.

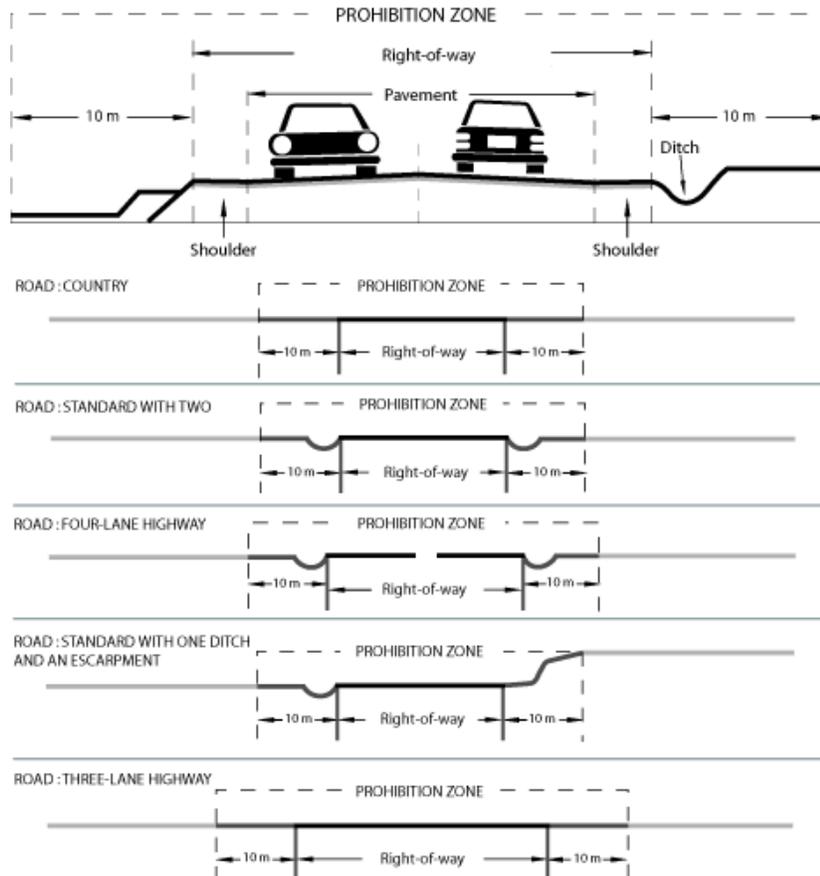
EXCEPTIONS

The prohibition to shoot an animal from a public road, including on a 10-m strip beyond the shoulder on either side of the road and to shoot toward or across such a road does not apply to individuals who are hunting in controlled harvesting zones (ZECs), wildlife reserves, outfitting operations with exclusive hunting rights, the Seigneurie du Lac-Mitis (Area 2), part of the Seigneurie Nicolas-Rioux (Area 2) and the Société en commandite Kenauk Nature X S.E.C (Area 10).

DEFINITIONS

The following definitions apply to the abovementioned prohibitions.

- **Public road:** any road that is maintained by a municipality, a government or one of its agencies and that offers one or more driving surfaces open to public road vehicle traffic, except for roads subject to administration by the Ministère des Forêts, de la Faune et des Parcs, the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques or the Ministère de l'Agriculture, des Pêcheries et de l'Alimentation or maintained by one of them;
- **Building:** any construction intended to house people, shelter animals or store items.



Vehicles, aircraft and boats

It is prohibited to:

hunt down, injure or deliberately kill an animal using a vehicle, an aircraft or a motorboat;

- hunt migratory birds using an aircraft, a sailboat or a motorboat, an automobile or a vehicle pulled by a work animal.
- Hunting migratory birds from a motorboat is permitted only when the motor is stopped and the boat has ceased to move. However, a motorboat may be used to look for a dead or injured migratory bird;
- to be in or on any motorized land vehicle whatsoever, an aircraft or a trailer pulled by a vehicle and:
 - at any time to be in possession of an armed crossbow (see note) or a firearm containing an unfired cartridge placed in the chamber, the loader or the magazine when the latter is attached to the firearm or, in the case of a muzzle-loading firearm, containing powder and a bullet in the chamber, and a detonator in the shaft, or powder in the pan;
 - to shoot with a firearm, a crossbow or a bow from such a vehicle, aircraft or trailer;
 - be in possession at night of an unloaded firearm, a bow or an unloaded crossbow except if the arms are stored in a closed case or placed in the trunk of the vehicle or the hold of the aircraft.

Moreover, the hunter must abide by the provisions in the Federal Firearms Act mentioned.

Note: To ensure safety, during transportation, the string of the crossbow must never be connected to the firing mechanism, even if there is no bolt in the groove.

Authorized arms and ammunitions

Big game

Hunting implement	Moose	White-tailed deer, black bear
Rifles	Rifles of a calibre equal to or greater than 6 mm (.243) used with centre-fire cartridges	Rifles of a calibre equal to or greater than 6 mm (.243) used with centre-fire cartridges
Shotguns	10 or 12-gauge shotguns used with slug cartridges	10, 12, 16 or 20-gauge shotguns used with shells loaded with slugs or shot of a diameter equal to or greater than 7.6 mm (1 Buck or SG or .30)
Black powder and modern powder firearm <i>Note A Note B</i>	Muzzle-loading or breech-loading rifles and shotguns, without a casing, of a gauge or calibre equal to or greater than 12.7 mm (.50), used with a single bullet	Muzzle-loading or breech-loading rifles and shotguns, without a casing, of a gauge or calibre equal to or greater than 11 mm (.45) used with slugs or shot equal to or greater than 7.6 mm in diameter (1 Buck or SG or .30)
Bows	Bows with a torque of at least 18 kg (40 lb.) within a draw of 0 to 71 cm (28 in.)	Bows with a torque of at least 18 kg (40 lb.) within a draw of 0 to 71 cm (28 in.)
Crossbows <i>Note C</i>	Crossbows with a torque of at least 54 kg (120 lb.) and equipped with a safety catch The bolt must have a length of at least 40 cm (16 in.), including the tip	Crossbows with a torque of at least 54 kg (120 lb.) and equipped with a safety catch The bolt must have a length of at least 40 cm (16 in.), including the tip
Arrows and bolts	Arrows and bolts must have a cutting diameter of at least 22 mm (7/8 in.)	Arrows and bolts must have a cutting diameter of at least 22 mm (7/8 in.)

Wild turkey

Hunting implement	Wild turkey
Rifles	None
Shotguns	10, 12, 16 or 20-gauge shotguns: No. 4, 5 or 6 shot cartridges <i>Note E</i>
Black powder and modern powder firearm	Muzzle-loading and breech-loading firearms, without a casing, used with No. 4, 5 or 6 shot <i>Note E</i>
Bows	All
Crossbows <i>Note C</i>	All
Arrows and bolts	Arrows and bolts with a cutting diameter of at least 22 mm (7/8 in.)

Small game

Hunting implement	Small game Small game (except coyotes, wolves, marmots, red fox, migratory birds)	Coyotes, wolves, marmots, red fox	Migratory birds
Rifles	Rifles with rimfire cartridges	All	None
Shotguns	Shotguns: cartridges with pellets 5.6 mm <i>Note D</i> or less in diameter	All	10-gauge shotguns or smaller: non-toxic shot (pellets or buckshot) - no more than three cartridges in the weapon
Air RIFLES	.177 or greater calibre air rifles with a velocity of at least 152.4 m per second (500 feet per second)	None	None

Black powder and modern powder firearm	Muzzle-loading or breech-loading shotguns or rifles, without a casing, used with shot less than 5.6 mm Note D in diameter for shotguns and with shot equal to or less than 9.14 mm in diameter for rifles	All	10-gauge shotguns or smaller: non-toxic shot (pellets or buckshot)
Bows	All	All	All
Crossbows Note C	All	All	None
Arrows and bolts	All	All	All

Note A : When white-tailed deer and black bear are hunted during the period reserved for muzzle-loading firearms, crossbows and bows, the expression muzzle-loading firearm refers to single-barrel muzzle-loading shotguns and muzzle-loading rifles of a calibre equal to or greater than 11 mm (.45), used with only one bullet at a time. The same is true of muzzle-loading firearms used during the white-tailed deer hunting period with shotguns in Area 7. **Note B** : When moose is hunted during the period reserved for muzzle-loading firearms, crossbows and bows, the expression muzzle-loading firearm refers to single-barrel muzzle-loading shotguns and muzzle-loading rifles of a calibre equal to or greater than 12.7 mm (.50), used with only one bullet at a time. This hunting period only exists in Areas 1 and 2, the eastern part of Area 10 in the Zec Dumoine, the Zec Kipawa, the Zec Maganasipi and the Zec Restigo. **Note C** : The use of crossbow is prohibited for hunting in Areas 17, 22, 23 and 24. **Note D** : 4 Buck, F or AAA or smaller shotgun shells are permitted to hunt small game. **Note E** : 10, 12, 16 or 20-gauge shotguns using shotgun shells between 2.60 mm and 3.40 mm in diameter, muzzle-loading or breech-loading rifles and shotguns using shot between 2.60 mm and 3.40 mm in diameter are also permitted. No. 4, 5 or 6 cartridges are permitted, as are crossbows and bows and bolts and arrows with a cutting diameter of at least 22 mm (7/8 in.). **Note F** : Laser-guided sights are permitted for hunting.

Hunting implement and special devices

Other authorized hunting implements

Snares are authorized solely to hunt snowshoe hares, Arctic hares and eastern cottontail rabbits in certain areas. Clubs, gates, darts, spoon-nets, pits, hooks and hands are the only implements authorized to hunt leopard frogs, green frogs and American bullfrogs.

Laser-guided sights are permitted for hunting.

Electronic devices to call an animal are now authorized for hunting. The same is true of in-ear sound amplifiers that amplify sound to facilitate listening. **However, recordings of bird calls are prohibited to hunt migratory birds, except for snow geese.**

Non-toxic shot

bronze-iron shot, tungsten-iron shot, tungsten-iron-nickel-copper shot, tungsten-nickel-iron shot and tungsten-polymer shot.

Only non-toxic shot is permitted to hunt migratory birds deemed to be game throughout Québec. Only the possession of non-toxic shot is permitted to hunt migratory birds deemed to be game. These restrictions do not apply to hunting American woodcock.

In National Wildlife Areas, only non-toxic shot may be owned and used to hunt any migratory bird that is deemed to be game.

To obtain additional information on hunting migratory birds, please contact the Canadian Wildlife Service at 1 800 668-6767.

It is prohibited to:

- hunt any animal using traps or snares. However, hares and eastern cottontail rabbits may be snared in certain areas;
- hunt using a means or electronic or other device that makes it possible to detect or indicate the immediate presence of an animal to hunt it. However, an in-ear sound amplifier that amplifies sound to facilitate listening is authorized;
- hunt using a living animal as a decoy;
- use a device that enables the hunter to trigger or discharge an arm without activating himself;
- use a poison, an explosive, a toxic substance or an electrical discharge to hunt;
- use tracer bullets and hard-point military-type bullets and bullets with non-flattening tips to hunt;
- hunt while under the influence of alcohol;
- hunt migratory birds:
 - with more than one shotgun; each additional shotgun must be unloaded and disassembled or unloaded and stored in a case;
 - with a shotgun that can contain more than three cartridges;
 - using live decoys;
 - using recorded bird calls (except for snow geese);
 - with a slug cartridge.

To obtain additional information on hunting migratory birds, please contact the Environment and Climate Change Canada at 1 800 668-6767.

Federal legislation governing firearms and hunters

Several provisions in the Firearms Act directly affect hunters. Here is a summary, for information purposes, of the main rules concerning the firearms used to hunt pursuant to the federal statute and its regulations.

It is prohibited to:

- point, without lawful excuse, a firearm, loaded or unloaded, at another person;
- use, carry, handle, ship or store, without lawful explanation, any firearm or ammunition in an ill-considered or reckless manner with regard to the life or safety of others;
- sell, exchange, give, transfer or deliver a firearm to a person, unless that person presents, for examination, his valid possession and acquisition licence. Furthermore, the person who sells or gives the arm must be the holder of a valid licence and inform the authorities of the transfer;
- become the owner of a firearm without being the holder of a valid possession and acquisition licence;
- lend a firearm to a person unless this person produces for scrutiny his valid possession-only licence or a possession and acquisition licence authorizing him to possess this class of firearm;
- borrow a firearm without being the holder of a possession and acquisition licence authorizing him to possess this class of firearm, unless under the immediate supervision of the lawful lender;
- be in possession of a crossbow designed or altered to be fired by the action of one hand or a crossbow that has a length not exceeding 500 mm. Such a crossbow is deemed to be prohibited arm.

According to the statutory regulations of the Criminal Code, certain high-capacity cartridge magazines are prohibited, regardless of the class of firearm to which they belong. Most cartridge magazines designed for semi-automatic, centre-fire shoulder arms contain a maximum of five cartridges. There is no limit on the capacity of a cartridge magazine for semi-automatic rim-fire shoulder arms or other shoulder arms that are not semi-automatic.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, anyone who legally possesses a firearm may lend it to a person who does not hold a possession-only licence or a possession and acquisition licence, provided that the person uses the firearm accompanied by the lender or legal owner and under his direct, immediate supervision.

To obtain a possession and acquisition licence, an individual must be at least 18 years of age and prove that he has passed an examination or successfully completed an approved course concerning firearms legislation and safety rules pertaining to the handling and use of firearms. To obtain additional information on the courses, please contact the Fédération québécoise des chasseurs et pêcheurs at 1 888 523-2863, by email (info@fedecp.qc.ca), or through an affiliated association.

To purchase or receive ammunition, an individual must present his possession and acquisition licence. A minor must present a minor licence.

To obtain an application form for a possession and acquisition licence, please call the Canadian Firearms Centre at 1 800 731-4000. You can also contact an office of the Sûreté du Québec.

A firearm may only be loaded or handled loaded in a location where firing such a firearm is legally permitted.

Since January 1, 2001, to carry a firearm without restrictions, a non-resident must possess a firearms licence or a 60-day possession licence or a customs declaration in lieu of the possession licence and the registration certificate in the case of non-residents who enter Canada with their own firearms (fees apply). A non-resident may obtain ammunition with these documents.

Certain specific conditions apply when an individual crosses the Canadian border with a firearm. The following provisions do not apply to an individual who uses or handles firearms within the framework of hunting activity when the activity is legal, nor to an individual who hunts at a given location on a vehicle when it is legal to do so from the vehicle and at the location (see the section entitled "Vehicles, aircraft and boats").

Definition: The Storage, Display, Transportation and Handling of Firearms by Individuals Regulations defines a vehicle as "any conveyance that is used for transportation by water, land or air." The definition also therefore includes non-motorized vehicles. It applies to the three following paragraphs of the Regulation, which concern this publication:

- A firearm must be transported unloaded. However, muzzle-loading firearms may be transported loaded between hunting locations if the firing cap or the flint has been removed (this rule applies to all forms of transportation, whether by vehicle or otherwise).
- When a firearm is transported in a vehicle that is not under the direct supervision of a person 18 years of age or over or a licence holder it must be unloaded and stored in the trunk or another similar, well-locked compartment. In the absence of such a compartment, the firearm must be unloaded and out of sight, and the vehicle must be securely locked.
- In remote wilderness areas, a firearm may be transported in a vehicle that does not lock and has no trunk or other similar compartment and is not under the immediate supervision of a person 18 years of age or over or a licence holder, provided that the firearm is unloaded, out of sight and equipped with a locking safety device that prevents it from firing.

A stored firearm must comply with the following conditions:

- it must be unloaded;
- the firearm must be equipped with a key or combination-operated locking safety mechanism that keeps the firearm from discharging, or made non-operational by taking off the bolt or recoil slide, or be kept in a locked container or room of strong enough construction to avoid being easily forced open. This condition does not apply if the firearm is stored in a remote wilderness area;

- the firearm must not be kept close to ammunition unless the ammunition is stored with or without the firearm in a container or compartment that is kept locked and of strong enough construction to avoid being easily forced open. This condition does not apply if the firearm is stored in a remote wilderness area.

Note: A wooded area located on the outskirts of a city or town is not deemed to be a wilderness area. A firearm that is displayed must comply with the following conditions:

- it must be unloaded;
- the firearm must be made non-operational using a key or combination-operated locking safety mechanism that keeps the firearm from discharging or must be kept under lock and key in a container, compartment or room that cannot be easily forced open;
- the firearm must not be displayed with the ammunition that it can fire nor be placed near such ammunition.

To obtain additional information on firearms legislation in general, please consult the Firearms Act or contact the Canada Firearms Centre at 1 800 731-4000. You can also contact an office of the Sûreté du Québec.

Safety first

Hunting is practiced with arms designed to properly kill game. The arms must be handled very cautiously to reduce the risk of accidents. For example, the telescopic sight of a firearm should never be used to locate or identify a target. Instead, binoculars, which are designed for this purpose, should be used. Moreover, bear in mind that the most basic safety rule is to never point a firearm in another person's direction, even at a distance. Pointing a firearm at a person may lead to judicial proceedings.

An Act to protect persons with regard to activities involving firearms R.S.Q. C. P-38.0001

The Act to protect persons with regard to activities involving firearms affects hunters. The Québec legislation covers, among other things, the possession of firearms on the grounds and in the buildings of an educational institution and a day care centre and on public transit or school transportation, except taxis. Consequently, hunters must become acquainted with the legislative and regulatory provisions and ensure that they abide by them.

To obtain additional information, please contact an office of the Sûreté du Québec.

Crossbows

Although a crossbow is handled in a manner similar to a firearm, it must be remembered that a crossbow is nothing more and nothing less than a bow mounted on a stock. The same hunting techniques therefore apply to bows and crossbows. Indeed, the arms have a similar range, i.e. one that is reduced and highly sensitive to an accurate assessment of distances. Accordingly, a hunter must practice shooting before hunting to become thoroughly familiar with the arm, its capabilities and its limitations. The main difference between the two hunting implements is, above all, that it is easier to learn to shoot with a crossbow than with a bow. By respecting the crossbow's shooting range, a shooter will obtain satisfactory hit results for hunting in less time than with a bow.

Moreover, it is very important for hunters to bear in mind that the crossbow, like any other hunting implement, is an arm that must be handled with the utmost caution: a loaded crossbow must be handled in the same way as a loaded firearm. Special attention must also be paid to obstacles that might impede the course of the crossbow's limbs when shooting.

An animal shot with a crossbow is killed in the same manner as with a bow, i.e. through a hemorrhage caused by the arrow. In the case of big game, the hunter must, therefore, wait from 30 minutes to several hours after firing the arrow, depending on the part of the animal's body that was hit. This period allows the animal to lie down and die. The area around the heart, the liver and the lungs are the ideal points of impact. The head and the neck are not satisfactory targets. As is the case for bow hunting, the tip of the arrow must be razor-sharp.

Lastly, except in Areas 17, 22, 23 and 24, crossbow hunting is always permitted during a firearm hunting period.

To **hunt with a crossbow**, a resident must hold a **hunter's certificate** bearing code "A" or code "B". Despite the information that appears on the back of the certificate, since 2007 **code "F" does not permit crossbow hunting**.

Bag limits

White-tailed deer

antlerless deer under an antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing, random draw) in the part of an area indicated on the licence may subsequently kill a second white-tailed deer under a regular licence by complying with the rules in force in the period during which he is hunting.

An antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing) may only be used if the holder also possesses a valid regular white-tailed deer hunting licence.

In Area 20 (Île d'Anticosti), there is no bag limit. In wildlife reserves and outfitting operations with exclusive rights, specific provisions apply (see the sections entitled "Sharing an antlerless deer hunting licence" and "Hunting white-tailed deer in a group" in the appendix).

Moose

In a given year, one moose for two hunters may be killed in all areas where moose hunting is permitted. In the Bas-Saint-Laurent, Bras-Coupé-Désert, Casault, Chapais, des Nymphes, Lesueur, Mitchinamecus, Petawaga, Pontiac, Rivière-Blanche and Saint-Patrice ZECs, the bag limit is one moose for three hunters. In all the other ZECs, the bag limit is the same as the area limit, i.e. one moose for two hunters.

During hunting subject to quotas in a wildlife reserve (hunting rights usually awarded by random draw), the limit is usually one moose per single group (composed of two, three or four hunters participating in the same hunting expedition), or two moose per double group (composed of four, five, six, seven or eight hunters participating in the same hunting expedition). A young person between 12 and 17 years of age or a student between 18 and 24 years of age who holds a moose hunting licence or complies with the rules stipulated in the section entitled "**Notion of family, age required to hunt and initiation licence**", may be part of a single group as a fifth hunter. A member of the group who kills a moose must immediately attach his or her transportation coupon to the animal and ensure that another person from the same group also attaches a transportation coupon on the same day. These two people must cease to hunt as soon as their transportation coupons have been attached to the animal killed. The other people participating in the same hunting expedition may continue to hunt, **provided the group's bag limit has not been reached**.

Once the group's limit has been reached, all members of the group must cease hunting, even if they still have transportation coupons on their licences. The expedition members who have not used their coupons may use their licences for another hunt in the area shown on the licence, in a wildlife reserve, in the territory of an outfitter with exclusive rights, or in a ZEC where such hunting is limited. At the present time, access is limited only in the Baillargeon ZEC.

Black bear

A hunter may kill two black bears per year. However, the second bear must necessarily be killed in Area 10 in the fall.

Wild turkey

A hunter may kill two bearded wild turkeys per year. However, the second turkey must necessarily be killed in one of the following areas: 4, 5, 6, 8 or 10. The hunter may kill both turkeys during the same half-day of hunting.

Small game

Certain small game species are subject to bag and possession limits. Accordingly, for all grouse and gray partridge, the bag limit is a maximum of five per day and the total possession limit is 15. For all ptarmigan, the bag limit is a maximum of 10 per day and the total possession limit is 30.

In Area 8, for all species of Eastern cottontail rabbit and snowshoe hare, the bag limit is a maximum of five per day and, on Île du Havre Aubert (Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Area 21), a limit of two snowshoe hares per day applies.

Snaring Eastern cottontail rabbits and hares is prohibited in Area 21, on Île d'Orléans (Area 27) and the Îles-de-la-Madeleine (Area 21).

To determine the bag and possession limits on migratory birds depending on the species, please consult Environment and Climate Change Canada Migratory Birds Hunting Regulations or call 1 800 668-6767. Except on Waterfowler Heritage Day, a migratory bird hunting licence holder may reach the daily catch limit on migratory birds even if he is hunting under the provincial small game hunting licence of another person.

For the other species of small game, there is no bag limit.

Transportation, registration and exportation

Attachment of coupons and punching of the licence

As soon as a hunter kills a white-tailed deer, a moose, a black bear or a wild turkey, he must remove from his licence the appropriate transportation coupon and attach it to the animal. Moreover, when he kills an antlerless deer under an antlerless deer hunting licence (random draw) or an adult female moose under an adult female moose hunting licence (random draw), he must punch out in the appropriate place the hunting licence awarded by random draw for this category of animal. When he kills an antlerless deer under an antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing, random draw), he must remove from the licence the transportation coupon and attach it to the antlerless deer. In wildlife reserves, outfitting operations with exclusive rights and certain zecs, specific rules may apply to white-tailed deer (see the sections entitled "Sharing an antlerless deer hunting licence" and "Hunting white-tailed deer in a group" in the appendix). Specific rules may apply to moose in wildlife reserves (see the section entitled "Sharing an adult female moose hunting licence" in the appendix).

In the case of a moose, the hunter must ensure, on the same day that the animal is killed, that the number of additional transportation coupons is attached to the animal corresponding to the established annual bag limit (see the section entitled "Bag limits"). Any additional coupon must come from the hunting licence of an individual who is legally entitled to hunt moose using a permitted arm during this period and in this area, in this outfitting operation with exclusive rights (see page 30), or in this controlled harvesting zone (ZEC) where hunting this species is subject to quotas and who has participated in the hunting expedition during which the animal was killed. Moreover, in the case of a moose killed in a controlled harvesting zone (ZEC), any additional coupon must come from the licence of an individual who, before the animal was killed, paid the requisite fee to hunt moose in the ZEC and registered when he entered the ZEC.

During moose hunting subject to quotas in a wildlife reserve, and regardless of whether the group is a single group or a double group, the hunter who kills the animal must ensure that another transportation coupon from the hunting licence of a person in the same group, as defined in the section entitled "Bag Limit", is attached to the animal on the day it is killed. The people whose transportation coupons are attached to the animal are then deemed to have reached their annual bag limit for moose.

In the wildlife reserves, a single group of four hunters may accept a fifth hunter, provided he or she is a young person or a student (see "Young people and big game hunting"). The same applies to a double group of seven or eight hunters, who may accept no more than two additional hunters on the same conditions. If the additional hunter holds a moose hunting licence, he or she may place the transportation coupon from that licence on the animal killed, just like any other group member. If the additional hunter does not hold a moose hunting licence and is hunting under the licence of an adult in the group, as stipulated in the section entitled "Young people and big game hunting", he or she will be deemed to have attained his or her moose bag limit and may not participate in the registration of another moose during the current year.

A hunting licence is no longer valid when the transportation coupon(s) has/have been removed **or if/they should have been removed or, in the case of an antlerless deer hunting licence or a female moose hunting licence, when it is punched out or should have been punched out**. Specific procedures may apply to white-tailed deer hunting in wildlife reserves, outfitting operations with exclusive rights and certain zecs (see the sections entitled "Sharing an antlerless deer hunting licence" and "Hunting white-tailed deer in a group") and moose hunting in wildlife reserves (see the section entitled "Sharing an adult female moose hunting licence").

When a young person kills big game or a wild turkey under the regular licence or the antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing) of an adult, he must attach to it the transportation coupon of the licence under which he was hunting and ensure that he abides by subsequent obligations such as the registration of the game in his own name.

When the licence expires, i.e. when all of the transportation coupon have been removed, neither the adult nor the young person may again hunt the animal indicated on the coupon during that year. When a young person kills an antlerless deer under the antlerless deer hunting licence of an adult, he must punch out the licence under which he was hunting and ensure that he abides by subsequent obligations such as the registration of the antlerless deer in his own name. Once the licence has been punched out, it expires. The same rule applies to the female moose hunting licence.

Transport and registration of game

Within 48 hours of leaving a hunting site, a hunter who has killed a white-tailed deer, a moose, a black bear or a wild turkey must present in person his licence and register the animal with a person, a corporation or an association authorized by the MFFP. **At that time, he must declare the calibre of the firearm used and the licence plate number of the vehicle used to transport the game**, then allow the punching of the transportation coupon(s) and, in the case of a male moose, allow the marking of the antlers. In the case of a moose, the hunter must also present the hunting licence from which the transportation coupons were attached to the animal. Specific procedures may apply to white-tailed deer hunting in wildlife reserves and outfitting operations with exclusive rights (see the sections entitled "Sharing an antlerless deer hunting licence" and "Hunting white-tailed deer in a group") and moose hunting in wildlife reserves (see the section entitled "Sharing an adult female moose hunting licence").

A hunter who has killed big game or a wild turkey must, upon request of a wildlife protection officer, have the officer register it immediately.

Any wild turkey that is killed must be transported and shown whole, whether eviscerated or not, at a registration station.

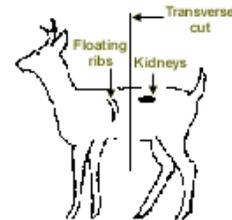
A hunter who kills a black bear must at the time of registration show the animal's carcass or pelt.

Any moose killed must be transported and produced whole or in identifiable quarters at a registration station.



In the case of a moose produced in quarters, the hunter must also produce and make accessible the full head, failing which, he must produce and make accessible the full lower jaw and, in the case of a male, the antlers attached to the calvarium or to a part thereof.

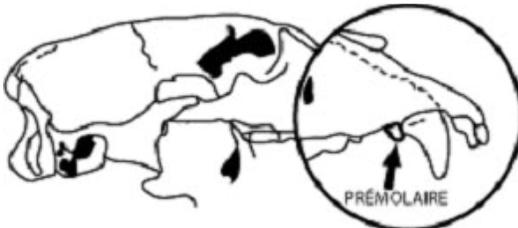
A white-tailed deer killed must be transported to a registration station and produced whole or in two approximately equal parts separated transversally along the floating ribs or the kidneys (see the diagram). **Furthermore, when the deer is divided in two, the hunter must present both parts without removing the head and the external genital organs (scrotum or vulva) from either part of the animal.**



A hunter must pay the applicable fee for registering animal.

Following registration, the hunter must ensure that the transportation coupons remain attached to the animal until it is cut up or stored or, in the case of a black bear, until its pelt is dressed.

To facilitate the management of black bear, all hunters are asked to provide, at the time of registration, the two upper premolars (see the diagram) and to indicate the date and exact location of capture, the animal's sex and the presence or absence of milk.



PREMOLAR

The premolars are located directly behind the canines. They can easily be removed in the following manner:

- use a sharp knife to free the tooth from the gum;
- thrust the tip of the knife into the gum between the canine and the premolar and dislodge the tooth with a slight twisting motion;
- neither wash nor boil the teeth.

The operation is identical for both premolars. To avoid confusing one animal with another one, for each black bear captured, put the two teeth and the information requested in a single envelope. The premolars are not always apparent in older animals.

Registration stations

During the hunting period, big game or wild turkey may be registered at wildlife registration stations authorized by the Department. Moreover, registration can be completed in certain regional offices of the Department that report to the Direction générale de la protection de la faune.

To obtain additional information on the location, dates and operating hours of the registration stations, please contact the Department's customer service department at 1 877 346-6763 or contact one of its regional offices.

Exporting

The punched transportation coupon allows a hunter to transport outside Québec a big game animal or a part thereof, including the pelt. However, in the case of a black bear, a CITES export permit is usually required to transport the animal or part of it outside Canada.

Furthermore, to export raw fur outside Québec, an individual other than a non-resident must, in respect of the product of his own hunting activities, hold a dealer's licence or a tanner's licence and obtain the export form issued by the Department.

Killing big game by mistake

While it is the hunter's responsibility to properly identify the animal that he is shooting or ensure that the members of a given hunting expedition or moose hunting group can communicate with each other when one of them shoots an animal, every year during the hunting period and as a result of mistaken identification or the misinterpretation of a situation, hunters kill big game by mistake.

The following cases are the most frequent:

- a hunter kills more animals than the bag limit authorizes;
- a hunter kills an antlerless white-tailed deer or a female moose or moose calf when he is not authorized to do so;
- the hunters in a given hunting expedition kill more moose than the bag limit authorizes;
- during hunting subject to quotas in a wildlife reserve, the hunters in a given group kill more moose than the bag limit authorizes.

Here are the procedures that the Department has implemented to deal with such cases with the intention of making hunters aware of their responsibilities and detecting cases of poaching. Consequently, when a hunter kills big game by mistake and complies with the procedures indicated below, he will benefit from a presumption of due diligence and the case will be handled unjudicially.

1. When the big game killed by mistake is an antlerless white-tailed deer, a female moose or a calf the hunting of which is prohibited or in respect of which the hunter does not hold a special licence awarded by random draw, he must immediately remove the transportation coupon from his hunting licence, attach it to the animal and cease hunting the species in question since his licence is no longer valid. In the case of a moose, the hunter does not have to ensure that the stipulated number of additional transportation coupons are attached to the animal on the day it was killed. The Department is not seeking to penalize the other members of the hunting expedition or group for the mistake. However, the moose hunting expedition will end if it no longer includes the requisite minimum number of individuals. A new expedition may then be assembled with other hunters so that hunting may continue. In the case of a group of hunters in a wildlife reserve, the other members must immediately stop hunting if the number of individuals required to form a group is not reached.
2. A hunter must do what is necessary to avoid abandoning or wasting the animal's edible flesh by eviscerating it, storing it and properly transporting it until it is registered with a wildlife protection officer.
3. The hunter must register the animal with a wildlife protection officer. To this end, he must promptly call **S.O.S. Braconnage** at **1 800 463-2191**.
4. The hunter must relinquish the animal to the wildlife protection officer at the time of registration.

However, cases of poaching that stem from intentional or irresponsible behaviour by hunters will be subject to investigation by wildlife protection officers and will be handled as stipulated by law. Cases of accidental killing, for example, killing two animals with a single bullet, will be handled in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the section entitled "Accidental killing", page 22.

Wild turkey

Wild turkey hunting is permitted in the spring in areas 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 15, 26 and 27 of Québec. However, it is prohibited in the fall. To obtain a wild turkey hunting licence, a hunter must, in addition to possessing a hunter's certificate, hold an attestation that confirms that he took a course on wild turkey hunting. The attestation requirement does not apply to non-residents.

To obtain information on this course, please contact the Fédération québécoise des chasseurs et pêcheurs at 418 878 8999 or at 1 888 523-2863.

Wild turkey hunting is permitted from one-half hour before sunrise until noon. To hunt wild turkey, a hunter must possess a wild turkey hunting licence and the attestation of completion of the course on wild turkey hunting. The attestation does not apply to the non residents.

The hunting implements authorized are 10, 12, 16 or 20-gauge shotguns using shells loaded with shot ranging from 2.60 to 3.40 mm in diameter; muzzle-loading or breech-loading shotguns or rifles, without a casing, used with shot ranging from 2.60 to 3.40 mm in diameter are also permitted. No. 4, 5 or 6 cartridges are authorized. Crossbows and bows and bolts and arrows with a cutting diameter of at least 22 mm (7/8 in.) are also permitted.

Only bearded wild turkey may be hunted and the bag limit is two turkeys per year. A hunter may kill the turkeys during the same half-day of hunting, provided that the second turkey comes necessarily from Area 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 or 10.

A young person may hunt wild turkey under the wild turkey hunting licence of an adult (an adult accompanying him, a parent or the latter's spouse). He must carry with him the certificate appropriate to the arm used and his wild turkey hunting attestation and, as the case may be, his valid student card (the attestation does not apply to the non residents). If he kills a turkey, he must then attach to it the transportation coupon from the adult's licence and comply with subsequent obligations such as the registration of the game in his own name.

In the case of wild turkey hunting, the holder of an initiation licence is not obliged to possess the attestation of completion of the course on wild turkey hunting, contrary to the accompanying person.

A hunter who kills a wild turkey must immediately remove the transportation coupon that is part of his licence and attach it to the turkey. Within 48 hours of leaving a hunting site, he must present in person his licence and register the animal with a person, a corporation or an association authorized by the MFFP. He must declare at that time the calibre of the firearm and the licence plate number of the vehicle used to transport the game. Following the registration, the hunter must ensure that the transportation coupon remains attached to the animal until it is cut up or stored.

Any wild turkey that is killed must be transported and shown whole, whether eviscerated or not, at a registration station.

A hunter who has killed a wild turkey must, upon request of a wildlife protection officer, have the officer register it immediately.

During the hunting period, wild turkey may be registered at wildlife registration stations authorized by the MFFP.

It is not necessary to wear a fluorescent orange garment to hunt wild turkey.

Since wild turkey is not defined as small game, provisions governing shooting from public roads fully apply to it.

The use of a dog to hunt wild turkey is prohibited.

It is prohibited to lure a wild turkey to hunt it.

The wild turkey may be kept in captivity without a licence and released into the wild. However, it is prohibited to release it in Areas 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9 and 10.

Black bear baiting periods

In the case of a black bear, food may not be placed to lure the bear between July 1 and August 15 in Areas 16, 17, the southern part of Area 19, 23, 24 and 29, nor between July 1 and August 31 in Areas 1 to 15, 18, and 26 to 28.

Useful information on moose hunting and notions of shipping

The following features are intended as guides; when in doubt, don't shoot!

Antlers: antlers are the only sure indicator that the animal is a bull. If the antlers are not apparent, it may be a cow or calf.

During the seasons when hunting calves is prohibited, a moose with antlers measuring 10 cm or more may be hunted.

During the seasons when only hunting antlerless moose is permitted, hunting moose with antlers of less than 10 cm is also permitted.

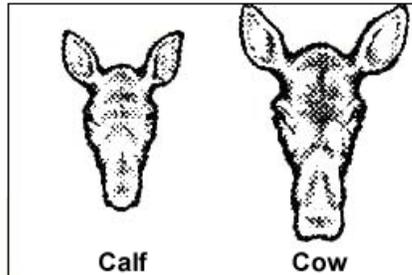
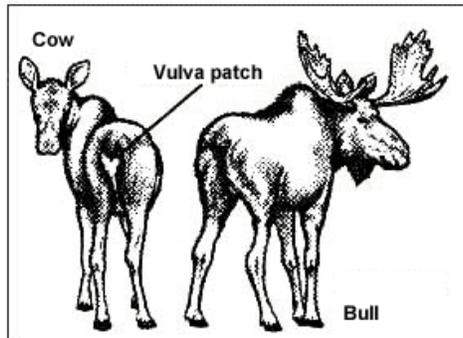
Vulva patch: female moose usually have a triangular patch of whitish hair under the tail and extending toward the vulva.

Size: the top of the back hump of an adult moose is from 1.5 to 1.8 metres (about the full height of a human), while a calf rarely exceeds 1.2 metres (chest height of a human).

The calf face viewed head-on appears triangular in shape, with the nose being more pointed compared to that of the rectangular adult shape.

Head shape: a calf's head seen in profile appears shorter than that of an adult moose. Adults tend to have overhanging, bulbous noses as opposed to the finely featured noses of calves.

Behaviour: calves are recognizable by their affectionate behaviour toward their mother and by the fact that they are rarely alone. When a cow with one or two calves is disturbed, the calves move toward the cow and sometimes touch noses with her, closely following behind her as she moves away. Yearlings, which are sometimes seen with older cows, are more independent.



The notion of a moose hunting expedition

Abiding by the notion

For several years, hunters have had to participate in an expedition to hunt moose. It should be noted that the obligations related to the notion of an expedition have not been modified since 1996.

The clarifications that follow do not cover all possible situations. However, hunters who observe these limitations will ensure that they comply with the notion of a moose hunting expedition.

The beginning of a moose hunting expedition

A moose hunting expedition begins with the simultaneous presence at a given hunting site during the hunting period of a minimum of two people who have agreed to hunt together and who hold moose hunting licences appropriate to the type of hunting implement used and the hunting area and hunting period in question.

Continuation of the expedition

A hunting expedition continues as long as one person who is part of it is hunting moose on the hunting site at a given time day after day. It is the hunter's responsibility to ensure that the transportation coupon of another licence holder who has participated in the expedition can always be attached to the moose on the day that it is killed.

The conclusion of an expedition

A hunting expedition ends when a moose is killed or when none of the hunters in the hunting expedition has engaged in moose hunting during a day on the hunting site. In the latter instance, before the hunters resume hunting, they must form a new expedition as indicated above.

- During the duration of the expedition, when an individual uses his home, it is comparable to the hunting camp and the route taken to go hunting is comparable to the hunting site.
- This information on the notion of an expedition is valid everywhere, except in wildlife reserves, where the notion of the group applies (see the section entitled "Bag limits").
- In controlled harvesting zones (ZECs), the information applies bearing in mind the other specific provisions stipulated in the regulation (see the section entitled "Attaching transportation coupons and punching out the licence"), in the obligation for three people to have in certain cases participated in the expedition (see the section entitled "Bag limits"). In controlled harvesting zones (ZECs), the hunting site corresponds to the sector or the site recorded on the proof of registration.

Random draws

Random draws are held each year for big game. Only resident hunters may register for two types of random draw, either to obtain a hunting licence subject to quotas (adult female moose, deer with antlers, deer without antlers [1st killing]) or to hunt in a wildlife reserve.

The winners of a hunting licence subject to quotas will have the opportunity to hunt the animal indicated on the licence at the site indicated. Hunters who obtain access to a wildlife reserve may hunt moose or white-tailed deer in the sectors reserved for them. The Société des établissements de plein air du Québec (Sépaq) usually manages the draws. The following table indicates the registration periods and dates of the random draws.

A licence obtained in a random draw for antlerless deer in Zone 27 West can only be used **south of the ZECs, wildlife reserves and Montmorency Forest.**

Name of the draws	Registration periods	Draw
Moose and white-tailed deer in wildlife reserves	From December to January 15	Late January
Female moose hunting licence	From the end of April to May 31	Mid-June
Antlerless deer hunting licence and antlerless deer hunting licence (1 st killing)	From the end of April to May 31	Mid-June

Specific rules apply to each draw. To obtain additional information, please contact Sépaq at 418 890-6527 or 1 800 665-6527. To obtain information on hunting trips in the Réserve faunique Duchénier, please call 418 735-5222. To contact the Réserve faunique de Dunière, please call 418 756-6174 or 1 888 730-6174 (toll free).

Nighttime searches for injured big game and the use of a dog

Are nighttime searches for injured big game permitted?

Once a hunter has shot a big game animal, he usually allows some time to elapse, depending on which part of the animal was hit, before searching for it. This lapse of time allows hemorrhage to do its work and the animal is often found dead several hundred metres from where it was shot. However, the search may continue until nightfall, after legal hunting hours. How may a hunter legally look at night for a big game animal that he has shot?

The clarifications that follow do not cover all possible situations. However, by observing these limits, hunters will ensure that they proceed legally with this type of search.

According to the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife, to hunt "means to pursue, chase, worry, stalk, mutilate, call, follow after, lie in wait for or search for an animal or attempt to do so, while in possession of an arm, or to shoot, kill or capture an animal or attempt to do so, except by trapping it." It also stipulates that "[n]o person may abandon the edible flesh of a big game animal he has killed while hunting, except bear's flesh." Moreover, the Act prohibits hunting big game at night with a spotlight and the use of a spotlight at night to detect the presence of an animal in a place frequented by big game.

The search at night for an injured big game animal must comply with these legal provisions. Consequently, it may neither be conducted using a spotlight nor when the hunter is in possession of an arm. Since the use of a spotlight is prohibited, the use of another lighting device such as a battery- or gas-powered lantern is appropriate under the circumstances. The device will enable the hunter to follow traces of the injured animal and, possibly, find it if it is dead or sufficiently weakened to be unable to flee.

To facilitate the task of the hunters, the use of a flashlight or a headlamp whose power source is a direct current of not more than 6 V **is permitted** during such a nighttime search.

If, during the search, the hunters realize that the animal is fleeing ahead of them, they must wait longer. They should note where they saw the most recent signs of the animal's passage and turn back, even if it means waiting for sunrise to resume the search at the site.

What about searches once the hunting period has ended?

If a search continues after the closing of the hunting period, the same principle applies: the search must be conducted without arms.

Use of a dog to locate an injured big game animal

A hunter may have difficulty finding a big game animal that he has shot. In some instances, he must even resign himself to abandoning the search given the insufficient traces left by the injured animal. Is the use permitted of a dog trained to find an injured big game animal?

As we noted earlier, according to the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife, to hunt "means to pursue, chase, worry, stalk, mutilate, call, follow after, lie in wait for or search for an animal or attempt to do so, while in possession of an arm, or to shoot, kill or capture an animal or attempt to do so, except by trapping it."

Furthermore, the Act prohibits allowing a dog to roam in a place frequented by big game. The Regulation respecting hunting only allows the use of a dog to hunt small game. The legislation and the regulations make no mention of using a dog to search for a big game animal injured or killed by a hunter.

The search is not deemed to be a hunting activity, provided that the participants are not in possession of an arm. Moreover, the dog used cannot be deemed to be wandering since the specific objective is to find, following its master's orders, a big game animal that has been injured and is probably dead. Consequently, a dog trained for this purpose may be used under such circumstances.

By complying with the conditions indicated in the section entitled "Nighttime searches for injured big game animals", a hunter may also use a dog at night or after the closing of the hunting period.

To obtain additional information on the search for injured big game animals, please consult the website of the Association des conducteurs de chiens de sang du Québec.

Hunting with dogs

Training, field trials and hunting

The use of a dog to hunt small game is permitted. Training or field trials of hunting dogs (retrievers, pointers and flushers and trackers) using an animal other than a moose, black bear, white-tailed deer or muskox are permitted from July 1 to April 1 provided that the person practising those activities is not in possession of a weapon.

The hunter must be present during a hunting activity with hunting dogs. In addition, the hunter must verify his dog and make sure it wears a collar at all times, bearing the owner's name and telephone number.

Training and field trials of hunting dogs of the Beagle breed, dogs that specialize in hare and rabbit hunting, are permitted during the entire year on a wooded lot other than land in the domain of the State, with the permission of the owner and where the person practising those activities is not in possession of a weapon. Training and field trials of hunting dogs carried out using quail, northern bobwhites, pheasants, black francolins, rock partridges, chukar partridges, red-legged partridges, rock doves and guinea fowl are permitted year-round. Hunting is permitted during such activities, provided that the latter take place on private land and outside a winter concentration area of big game. Furthermore, the person who is hunting must hold a small game hunting licence.

During any training or field trials of hunting dogs, other than retrievers or pointers and flushers, the owner or custodian of a dog must be present. He must watch the dog and ensure that the dog wears at all times a collar displaying the owner's name and telephone number.

The use of a sound communication system between the hunter and his or her dog, or a GPS emitter carried by the dog, is permitted during hunting activities.

It is prohibited to:

- use a dog to hunt white-tailed deer, moose, black bear **or wild turkey**;
- allow a dog to roam in an area frequented by big game;
- engage in training or field trials of hunting dogs carried out using an animal or to hunt with a dog in Area 20 (Île d'Anticosti).

Hunting raccoons at night

Raccoons may be hunted at night in Areas 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, provided the hunter uses a .22 calibre lateral-fire rifle and is accompanied by a hound-type dog that wears a collar at all times bearing the name and telephone number of its owner.

The hunter must also indicate before 4 p.m. to the Direction de la protection de la faune responsible for the region in question the date and place where he intends to hunt, the name of the individuals accompanying him and the person responsible for the group, and the number of his hunter's certificate. Moreover, during this activity, the use is permitted of a flashlight or a headlamp whose power source is a direct current of not more than 6 V.

Hunting with birds of prey

Hunting with birds of prey is permitted in Québec, except in Areas 17, 22, 23 and 24.

To hunt with birds of prey, the hunter must hold a licence to hunt small game with a bird of prey and a hawker's or an apprentice hawker's licence. The following types of birds of prey that are legally kept in captivity must be used for this type of hunting: goshawks, buzzards, kestrels, hawks, falcons or a hybrid of any of the species.

Furthermore, anyone who holds a licence to hunt small game with a bird of prey may engage in this type of hunting **if the individual is accompanied by the holder of a hawker's licence.**

The hunter or the hawker who accompanies him must, when engaging in hunting activities, remain at all times in contact with the bird of prey and, to this end, he must equip it with a transmitter and possess a receiver that enables him to locate the bird of prey.

The following species may be hunted with birds of prey: all birds that are deemed to be small game, hares, Eastern cottontail rabbits and woodchucks. The hunting period is the same as the hunting period with firearms for each species. However, hunting with birds of prey is permitted year-round to hunt quail, northern bobwhite, pheasant, black francolin, rock partridge, chukar partridge, red-legged partridge, rock dove and guinea fowl.

To obtain a licence to hunt small game with a bird of prey, you must contact a regional operations branch of the Department.

An individual who hunts migratory birds deemed to be game with a bird of prey must hold a licence to hunt certain small game with a bird of prey and the federal migratory bird hunting licence and must carry both licences when hunting.

Sale, purchase and possession of game and fur

Sale and purchase of game and fur

The sale, exchange and purchase of bear gallbladders and bile is prohibited. Moreover, it is prohibited to sell, purchase or exchange the flesh of white-tailed deer (except if it comes from a game ranch), moose, ruffed grouse, rock ptarmigan, willow ptarmigan, gray partridge, spruce goose, and sharp-tailed grouse. The purchase, sale or exchange of migratory birds is also prohibited.

The sale, exchange and purchase of the flesh of any other animal that has been killed legally are permitted from the third day after the opening of hunting in respect of the animal until the 15th day after such hunting ends, except for the flesh of leopard frogs, green frogs and American bullfrogs, the sale and purchase of which is permitted year-round.

A resident hunter is not obliged to possess either a dealer's licence or a tanner's licence to sell or tan the furs that are the product of his own hunting activities.

Possession of animals or fur

The possession of bear gallbladders removed from the carcass of the animal is prohibited. Anyone who transports or has in his possession an animal (or part of an animal) or raw fur must, at the request of a wildlife protection officer or a wildlife protection assistant, identify himself and indicate the source of the animal or fur.

The possession of whole carcasses or any part of the brain, the spine, the eyes, the retropharyngeal lymph nodes, the tonsils, the testicles and the internal organs of cervids, except caribous, killed outside Québec is prohibited. The prohibitions do not apply to the following anatomical parts:

- deboned meat;
- skinned large pieces that are without pieces of spine or the head attached;
- hide with fat removed or tanned;
- antlers without velvet;
- disinfected calvaria without skin, meat or tissues attached;
- teeth without meat or tissues attached;
- any part mounted by a taxidermist.

Accidental killing

holding the appropriate licence. This also applies to an animal whose killing is prohibited during the period in question or that was killed using an unauthorized hunting implement.

The Department wishes to emphasize that it is the hunter's responsibility to properly identify the animal that he is shooting and to ensure that members of a given hunting expedition or a member of a group of moose hunters can communicate with each other when one of them shoots an animal. A hunted animal may not be deemed to be killed accidentally as a result of mistaken identification or the erroneous interpretation of a situation, for example, killing a female moose or an antlerless white-tailed deer under the pretext that the hunter thought it was a male moose or moose calf, or the killing of more animals than the permissible limit during a hunting expedition (see the section entitled "Killing big game by mistake").

Anyone who finds or accidentally captures an animal must immediately release the animal if it is alive and unharmed following species: muskox, wolverine, caribou, white-tailed deer, cougar, coyote, wild turkey, Canada lynx, bobcat, North American opossum, moose, polar bear, black bear, grey fox and birds of prey and the animal is injured or dead.

Moreover, it is prohibited to possess a migratory bird covered by the Migratory Birds Convention Act of 1994 unless the individual holds a licence issued for this purpose. To obtain additional information on migratory birds, please contact the Environment and Climate Change Canada at 1 800 668-6767.

Compensation for accidents

A hunting licence holder who is injured (permanent total disability or total loss of a limb or total, incurable loss of an eye) directly stemming from legal hunting for recreational purposes or his beneficiaries if he dies, may, under certain conditions, receive a lump-sum indemnity ranging from \$2 500 to \$5 000. To obtain additional information, please contact the Department at 418 627-8688.

Hunting by a person with a disability

Anyone suffering from a persistent, significant physical impairment that prevents him from hunting in accordance with the Act respecting the conservation and development of wildlife may be authorized to disregard certain provisions in the Act under conditions determined by the Department. The authorizations apply solely to the holder and are of two kinds:

- the authorization to be in a vehicle or a stopped trailer or on such a vehicle or trailer and to be in possession of an armed crossbow or a loaded firearm and to shoot a firearm, a bow or a crossbow from the vehicle or trailer. The authorization covers an individual whose physical impairment prevents him from moving around otherwise than by means of a wheelchair or any other similar means;
- the authorization to engage in crossbow hunting during the period in which only bow hunting is permitted, except in Areas 17, 22, 23 and 24. This authorization covers an individual whose physical impairment prevents him from using a hunting bow in a repeated, effective manner while hunting and practising.

To obtain the authorizations, you must obtain the Explanatory document for applicants and health professionals and the "Hunting authorization application for handicapped person" and the "Certificate of physical deficiency" forms. The applicant must have a physician, an occupational therapist or a physiotherapist fill out the latter form and send it to the nearest regional office of the Department. The documents are also available from the regional offices of the Department.

Important: A hunter who accompanies the holder of an authorization for a person with a disability **may not take advantage** of the authorization and must abide by the rules in force for the period during which he is hunting.

Specific rules applicable to non-residents

A non-resident is not obliged to possess a hunter's certificate to obtain a hunting licence or an attestation to hunt wild turkey. He may hunt indiscriminately with a firearm, a crossbow or a bow the species deemed to be game. However, he must use the hunting implements authorized for each of the species according to the hunting periods in force.

A non-resident is subject to certain restrictions concerning the purchase of hunting licences and access to certain territories or hunting areas according to the game hunted. The restrictions are indicated below.

- **All species:** A non-resident who wishes to hunt north of the 52nd parallel or east of the Rivière Saint-Augustin in the southern part of Area 19 must use the services of an outfitter, although these services need not necessarily include lodging.
- **➤➤ Moose:** A non-resident is subject to the measure that applies to the area licence. He is also subject, in the same way as a resident, to the rule whereby he must purchase his licence before midnight on the date indicated if he wishes to use it during the firearm hunting period. Furthermore, he is not permitted to hold a female moose hunting licence (random draw). In order to hunt moose south of the 52nd parallel, the non-resident must use at least two services offered by an outfitter, including lodging, or hunting in a controlled harvesting zone (zec) or in a wildlife reserve, except in the following cases:
 - he is a member of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police or the Canadian Armed Forces and performs his duties in Québec or lived in Québec immediately before establishing his residence outside Québec for the performance of his duties;
 - he is a member of a diplomatic mission or consular post established in Québec, including as a member of the service personnel;
 - he is accompanied by a member of his immediate family who is a resident who holds a valid or expired moose hunting licence, provided, in the latter case, that it was issued between April 1 and March 31 of the current year. Members of the holder's immediate family are his grandparents, parents, brothers, sisters, spouse, children and grandchildren, and the children and grandchildren of his spouse.

- **White-tailed deer:** A non-resident may neither hold an antlerless deer hunting licence (random draw) nor an antlerless deer hunting licence (1st killing, random draw).
- **Black Bear and American woodcock:** A non-resident must use at least two services offered by an outfitting operation, including accommodation, unless he hunts the species in a wildlife reserve or a controlled harvesting zone (ZEC). What is more, if he hunts black bear in an outfitting operation without exclusive rights in Area 13 and Area 16, he must, in addition to his regular black bear hunting licence, hold a special licence issued by the operator of the outfitting operation.
- **Wild turkey:** A non-resident may hunt wild turkey without holding the attestation required of resident hunters.
- **Small game:** A non-resident may hunt species deemed to be small game. However, he is not permitted to obtain a licence to hunt frogs or to snare hares and Eastern cottontail rabbits.

In addition to abiding by the provisions stipulated in the section entitled "Transportation, registration and export", a non-resident must register the big game animal at a registration station before he leaves Québec.

A punched transportation coupon serves as authorization to transport outside Québec a white-tailed deer, a moose or a black bear, or part of such an animal, including the fur or part of the fur.

A non-resident may, without possessing a dealer's licence or a tanner's licence or an export form, export outside Québec raw fur from the product of his own hunting activities. However, if he wishes to sell or tan such fur, he must obtain a licence issued for this purpose in the case of the product of his own hunting activities.

When a non-resident between 12 years and up to and including 15 years of age hunts with a crossbow or a bow, he must be accompanied by a person at least 18 years of age who holds a valid or expired non-resident's hunting licence that was issued between April 1 and March 31 or the hunter's certificate appropriate to the type of hunting implement (see also the section entitled "Notion of family, age required to hunt and initiation licence").

When a non-resident between 12 years and up to and including 17 years of age hunts with a firearm, he must be accompanied by a person at least 18 years of age who holds a valid or expired non-resident's hunting licence that was issued between April 1 and March 31 or the hunter's certificate appropriate to the type of hunting implement (see also the section entitled "Notion of family, age required to hunt and initiation licence").

Lastly, black bear and wolf are covered by the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES). For this reason, when they are exported outside Canada, the animals and the parts thereof and products derived therefrom must be accompanied by a CITES export permit for entry to be permitted to the importing country.

The permit can be obtained from:

Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) Environment and Climate Change Canada Canadian Wildlife Service Ottawa, Ontario K1A 0H3

Telephone: 819 997-1840 or 1 800 686-6767; Fax: 819 953-6283; Website: www.cites.ec.gc.ca

However, a resident of Canada or the United States who personally exports from Canada or imports into Canada in his personal luggage a black bear or a part thereof that is the product of his own hunting activities, provided that the bear or part thereof is fresh, frozen or salted, does not require a CITES export permit. If the bear or a part thereof is stuffed, dressed or otherwise preserved, or if it is transported by a person other than the hunter who killed it, a CITES export permit is required.

Lastly, a non-resident must declare his hunting weapon when he goes through Canadian customs (see the section entitled "Federal legislation governing firearms and hunters").

Special rules applicable in certain territories

In Québec, hunting occurs both on lands in the domain of the State and on lands in the private domain. Special wildlife management provisions apply to certain portions of such lands.

Private lands and wildland urban interface

Anyone who wishes to hunt on private property must obtain the owner's permission to do so. Moreover, in the wildland urban interface, the hunter must take into account the presence of other individuals when hunting.

Private lands covered by a hunting accessibility agreement

Certain landowners in the Bas-Saint-Laurent, Centre-du-Québec, Chaudière-Appalaches, Estrie and Montérégie regions have concluded an agreement with the Department for the purpose of managing wildlife and access to it by hunters. On such lands, the Department brings proceedings against individuals who hunt without the landowner's authorization. The same is true of hunting on land covered by an agreement concluded between a landowner and an association or a body whose objective is to facilitate access by hunters to private lands, and is recognized as such by the Department, for the purposes of wildlife accessibility. To obtain additional information, please contact the regional office concerned.

ZECs

A controlled harvesting zone (ZEC) is a hunting and fishing ground whose management is delegated to a non-profit organization that individuals can join by becoming a member of it. To hunt there, you must register and abide by the dates, times and sites or sectors indicated in the registration document. You must carry with you the registration document and show it, upon request, to a wildlife protection officer, a wildlife protection assistant or an area warden. The document may also be placed in view on the vehicle dashboard. Lastly, you must return the document when you leave the territory and declare all of the game killed. To obtain additional information, please contact the organization that manages the controlled harvesting zone (ZEC) that you wish to visit.

The managing organization of a controlled harvesting zone (ZEC) may, in a hunting sector, prohibit small game hunting (except migratory birds) using a firearm, a crossbow or a bow during the moose hunting period and prohibit black bear hunting during a part of the season or during all of the season stipulated in the area in which the ZEC is located. Furthermore, the use of an all-terrain vehicle for recreational purposes may be prohibited there during a moose or white-tailed deer hunting period, except when the vehicle is used to haul the carcass of such an animal. To obtain additional information, please contact Zecs Québec at 1 866 567-0235. You can also contact the organization that manages the ZEC that you wish to visit.

Outfitter establishments

Outfitting operations are private enterprises that offer accommodation and services or equipment for recreational hunting activities. Some operations possess exclusive hunting rights in determined territories. You must then obtain permission from the outfitter to hunt there. The Seigneurie Mitis (eastern part of Area 2), the Seigneurie Nicolas-Rioux (western part of Area 2) and the Seigneurie Kenauk Nature X (eastern part of Area 10) usually benefit from regulatory provisions that apply to outfitting operations with exclusive rights. To obtain additional information, please contact the Fédération des pourvoiries du Québec at 1 800 567-9009. You can also contact the outfitting operation that you wish to visit.

Wildlife reserves

To hunt in a wildlife reserve, you must usually make a reservation. You must also obtain a right of access and abide by the dates, times and sites mentioned on it. You must carry with you the right of access and show it, upon request, to a wildlife protection officer, a wildlife protection assistant or an area warden. The document may also be placed in clear view on the vehicle dashboard. Upon leaving the reserve, the hunter must report on his hunting and indicate the game killed, as the case may be. To carry hunting implements in this type of territory, the hunter must hold a right of access that authorizes him to hunt there.

When a right of access is required and there is no agent to issue it, everyone must fill out the form available at the reception centre of the wildlife reserve and deposit in the appropriate place accompanied by the access fee set by regulation. In this instance, the completed form takes the place of the right of access.

When accommodation is not available in a cabin, a right of access to hunt small game or snare hares in a wildlife reserve authorizes a child under 18 years of age accompanied by the holder of parental authority to hunt.

To hunt an animal other than a black bear in a sector access to which is subject to quotas in a wildlife reserve, an individual must be a resident and have been selected by random draw. If places remain after the random draw, anyone, whether a resident or a non-resident, may hunt there once he makes a reservation. Anyone may also hunt there if he is accompanying a person selected by random draw or who made a reservation. To hunt black bear in a sector access to which is subject to quotas, everyone must make a reservation.

Some wildlife reserves offer sectors in which hunting is subject to quotas exclusively for bow or crossbow hunting. It is prohibited to carry a firearm in these sectors and bowhunters and crossbowmen are not obliged to wear a fluorescent orange garment to hunt the permitted species. A wildlife reserve may also reserve sectors in which hunting is not subject to quotas exclusively for bow or crossbow hunting.

To obtain additional information, please contact the Société des établissements de plein air du Québec (Sépaq), which manages the activities of most wildlife reserves, at 418 890-6527 or 1- 800 665-6527.

To contact the Réserve faunique Duchénier, please call 418 735-5222 or visit the reserve's website (www.reserve-duchenier.com). To contact the Réserve faunique de Dunière, please call 418 756-6174 or 1 888 730-6174 (toll free).

Wildlife sanctuaries

The conditions governing the use of resources in a wildlife sanctuary are established with a view to preserving wildlife habitat or the habitat of a wildlife species. In this type of territory, hunting may be regulated in a specific manner:

- in the Refuge faunique de la Grande-Île (Area 7), hunting is prohibited from April 1 to July 31;
- in the Refuge faunique de Pointe-du-Lac (Area 7), from September 25 to December 26, it is prohibited to hunt, enter the territory, travel in it or engage in any activity there;
- in the Refuge faunique de la Rivière-des-Mille-Îles (Area 8) and the Refuge faunique de Deux-Montagnes (Area 8), hunting is prohibited;
- in sectors B and C of the Refuge faunique Pierre-Étienne-Fortin (Area 8), hunting is prohibited from June 20 to July 20;
- in the Refuge faunique de l'Île-Laval (Area 18), hunting is permitted in accordance with the conditions governing access to the territory;
- in the Refuge faunique de la Pointe-de-l'Est (Îles-de-la-Madeleine, Area 21), hunting is permitted in accordance with the conditions governing access to and travel in the territory;
- in the Refuge faunique de l'Îlet-aux-Alouettes (Area 27), hunting is prohibited from April 1 to July 15;
- in the Refuge faunique des Battures-de-Saint-Fulgence (Area 21 and Area 28), hunting is prohibited in sector A, except to search for an injured animal. In sector B, a hunter may use a stationary or floating hide during the migratory bird hunting season provided that it is dismantled or removed after hunting. A hunter may travel otherwise than by off-road vehicle in the refuge during hunting periods to access his hunting sites or to bring back the animals hunted. During the migratory bird hunting season, a hunting dog does not have to be kept on a leash.

Nature reserves

A nature reserve is a private property protected by a conservation agreement concluded between a landowner and the Québec Minister of Développement durable, Environnement et Changements climatiques (MDDELCC). Its recognition is intended to guarantee the maintenance of natural characteristics that justify the interest in preserving the property. The reserve is regulated by provisions in the Natural Heritage Conservation Act.

In a nature reserve, wildlife harvesting activities may be subject to more restrictive measures than those stipulated in provincial regulations. Before you travel on this private property, you must obtain the owner's permission and find out about the specific measures in force. To obtain additional information, please contact the MDDELCC at 1 800 561-1616.

Migratory bird sanctuaries and National Wildlife Reserves

The Environment and Climate Change Canada manages migratory bird sanctuaries and National Wildlife Areas. Hunting and the possession of certain hunting implements are permitted there under certain conditions. To obtain additional information, please contact the Canadian Wildlife Service at 1 800-463-4311.

The Nord-du-Québec region

Hunters in Areas 17, 22, 23 and 24 must comply with the Act respecting hunting and fishing rights in the James Bay and New Québec territories. The territories are subdivided into three categories. To hunt on Category I and Category II lands, you must obtain, in addition to the requisite hunting licence, an authorization from the Cree, Inuit or Naskapi authorities concerned.

In these areas, only hunting with firearms and bows is permitted. Crossbow hunting and hunting using a bird of prey are, therefore, prohibited.

Territories where hunting is prohibited

Hunting is prohibited in the northern part of Area 19, in a national park (provincial or federal), a forest station or an ecological reserve. Hunting is also prohibited in the Réserve faunique Assinica and the Réserve faunique des Lacs-Albanel-Mistassini-et-Waconichi (Area 22) and in the following game reserves: Le sanctuaire de la Grosse-Île (Area 3) and Le sanctuaire de chasse du parc de la Gatineau (Area 10).

Furthermore, hunting is not authorized in the following territories:

- Charles-B.-Banville, Estcourt, Ixworth and Parke (Area 2);
- Drummondville (territory located in Saint-Majorique and Drummondville) (Area 7);
- Bois de Belle-Rivière (Area 8);
- Centre touristique et éducatif des Laurentides (located in Saint-Faustin-Lac-Carré) (Area 9);
- Lac la Blanche (Area 10);
- part of the Canton d'Aiguebelle and the Canton de Destor (Area 13);
- part of the Réserve de biodiversité des Lacs-Vaudrey-et-Joannès (Area 13);
- the Centre d'études et de recherche Manicouagan (Area 18);
- the Réserve écologique de la Matamec (southern part of Area 19);
- Mont-Sainte-Anne (Area 27);
- Les Palissades (Areas 27);
- Massif de Petite-Rivière-Saint-François (Area 27);
- Chute-à-Michel (Cégep de Saint-Félicien) (Area 28).

Territories where hunting is restricted

Hunting is more restricted at the following five locations than in the area in which the territories are located:

- in sectors 1, 2 and 3 of the **Parc régional de la seigneurie du Lac-Matapédia (Area 1)**, crossbow and bow hunting, frog hunting, small game hunting with a bird of prey and hare snaring are permitted, but hunting with firearms is prohibited there;
- in the **Macpès territory (Area 2)**, hunting small game and black bear with a crossbow and a bow, hare snaring, small game hunting with a bird of prey and frog hunting are permitted, but hunting with a firearm is prohibited. Hunting white-tailed deer with a crossbow and a bow is authorized there from September 24 to October 7 in 2016 and from September 30 to October 13 in 2017 and hunting moose with a crossbow and a bow is permitted there from September 24 to October 2 in 2016 and from September 30 to October 8 in 2017;
- in the **Montagne de Rigaud territory (Area 8)**, white-tailed deer hunting is permitted during the crossbow and bow hunting period only. The territory is bounded on the north by the Ottawa River and the Lac des Deux Montagnes; on the east by the eastern boundary of Route 201 and Montée Lavigne and its continuation to Lac des Deux Montagnes; to the south by the southern limit of Chemin Sainte-Marie, Chemin du Deuxième-Rang and Montée Cardinal that runs to Ontario; and to the west by the Québec-Ontario border;
- in a **portion of the Canal de Beauharnois and the adjacent lands (Area 8)**, hunting is prohibited from September 22 to December 26 in 2018 and from September 21 to December 26 in 2019;
- small game hunting, including migratory birds, is prohibited on the **foreshore of Île-aux-Oies and on a portion of the foreshore of Île Sainte-Marguerite (Comté de Montmagny) (Area 3)**.

Protection of wildlife habitats and motor vehicle traffic in fragile environments

Protection of wildlife habitats

Hunters are reminded that wildlife habitats are protected by law. Accordingly, it is prohibited for anyone to engage without authorization in an activity likely to modify a biological, physical or chemical element specific to the habitat of an animal or a fish. This may mean, for example:

- pouring oil, gasoline or any other toxic waste or substance in any place, but especially in the habitat of fish, in a lake, a marsh, a swamp, a flood plain or a watercourse;
- fording, in a motor vehicle, such water bodies or travelling along a bank or shoreline;
- building, on such water bodies, a dam that, in addition to impeding the free movement of fish, may alter its habitat;
- removing or depositing gravel or rocks in the bed of such a watercourse or engaging in backfilling there. Remember that even small projects can damage fish habitat.

If you witness such acts, report them to a wildlife protection officer by calling S.O.S. Braconnage at 1 800 463-2191 or go to a wildlife protection office of the Department. Bear in mind that any environment where there is water, even periodically (for example, in the spring), may be vital for fish. To obtain additional information on the applicable regulations, please contact an office of the Department.

Motor vehicle traffic in fragile environments

Motor vehicle traffic in certain fragile environments is also regulated. It should be noted that it is prohibited to travel:

- with a motor vehicle on dunes in the Québec public domain;
- with a motor vehicle, other than a snowmobile:
 - on the beaches, offshore bars, in marshes and swamps situated on the littoral of the St. Lawrence River (downstream from Pont Laviolette), its estuary, the Gulf of Saint Lawrence, Baie-des-Chaleurs and the islands found thereon. However, this restriction does not prevent the exercising of activities related to hunting carried on legally, travel on trails designed for this purpose and built in accordance with the legislation, or access to private property;
 - in peat bogs in the domain of the State situated south of the St. Lawrence River, the estuary and Gulf of St. Lawrence, except to bring back a big game animal killed during an authorized hunting activity.

To find out about regulations applicable to motor vehicle traffic in fragile environments, please consult the Ministère du Développement durable, de l'Environnement et de la Lutte contre les changements climatiques, which administers such regulations, at 1 800 561-1616.