

NORTHERN AND INLAND AREAS DUCK SHOOTING SEASON
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On April 18, 1969, the proclamation renewing the open season for wild ducks in the areas of the State other than the parts of the State that lie within the boundaries of the South-West and Eucla Land Divisions, was published in the Government Gazette. It opens to duck shooting the areas within the boundaries of the Eastern, North-West and Kimberley Land Divisions for the period from 5.00 a.m., January 1, 1969 to 7.00 p.m., December 31, 1970.

The Western Australian Wild Life Authority recommended to the Minister that the open season for wild ducks should be for the duration of that period. It considered representations made by various observers and Honorary Wardens for the introduction of a closed season in the Kimberley Land Division. Questionnaires had been sent to a number of persons to obtain their opinions on when breeding takes place in the Kimberleys and when they thought the season should be opened. The Authority resolved that further information was required and that no alteration be made in these Land Divisions except to exclude fauna sanctuaries or other important refuges known to the Department. Parry's Lagoon and its associated waters were closed last year and will remain closed as a result of this proclamation.

The only two changes from the previous proclamation are that the use of any boat, raft, launch or other type of boat which is powered by any type of motor or is powered by any other means other than by hand, be not permitted for the taking of wild duck. The second is the deletion of the Burdekin Duck or White-headed Shelduck from the list of wild ducks that may be taken during the open season. This particular species is considered to be the rarest of all our wild ducks. Serious consideration will be given before the proclamation is renewed to delete the names of other rare ducks from the open season.

#### Other Restrictions

Wild ducks are not to be kept in captivity.

The sale of wild ducks is forbidden.

A person shall not drive any bird over shooters by means of motor vehicles, aircraft, power boats or other means.

Eggs of any wild duck shall not be taken for any purpose.

Bag Limit

15 ducks per person per day.

Illegal Means of Capture

That a person shall not take any wild duck by any means other than a shotgun, provided that this restriction shall not prohibit a person who is a native, within the meaning of the Native Welfare Act, 1905-1954, from using any native artifact in the taking of wild ducks.