



# Proposed Hunting Regulations 2025-2027 Seasons

**Game Management Section**

# Why are we here?

The General Assembly declares that the state's wildlife resources shall be managed in accordance with sound principles of wildlife management, using all appropriate tools, including hunting, fishing, and the taking of wildlife (OCGA 27-1-3).

The purpose of these public meetings is to:

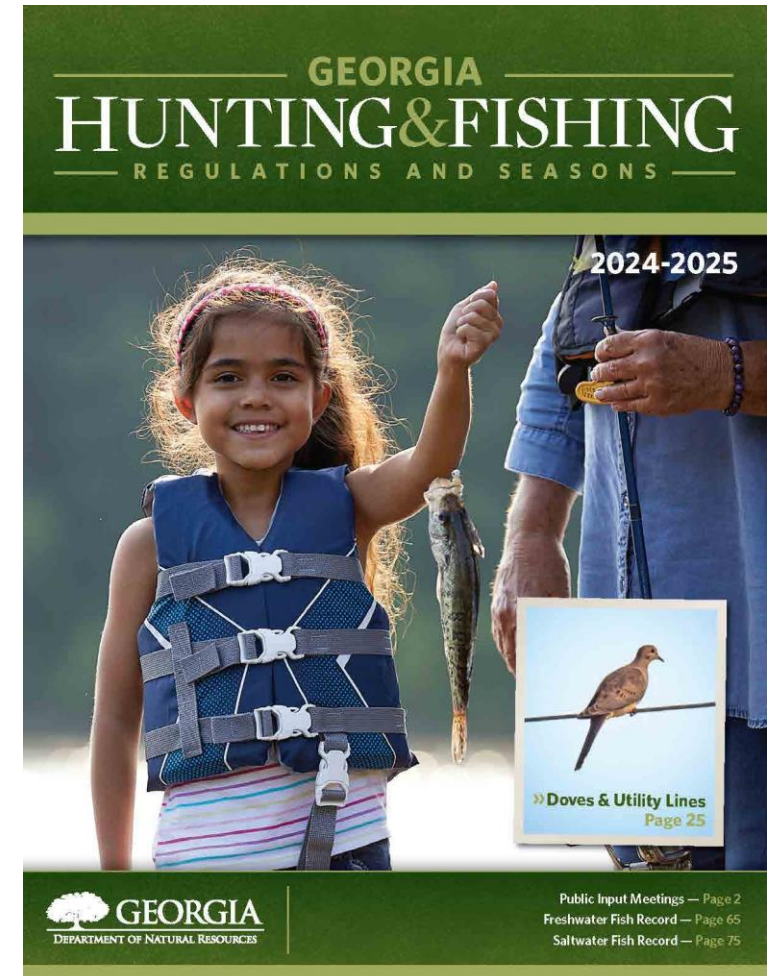
- 1) Encourage public participation;
- 2) Obtain input for consideration; and
- 3) Exchange information.

# Regulations Process and Timeline

The process for development of hunting regulations:

- Jan - Public Input
- Feb - Develop Proposals
- Mar- Review by DNR Board
- Apr - Public Notice & Hearings
- May- DNR Board Action
- Jun - Develop Popular Guide
- July- Distribution to Public

*OCGA 50-13-1 and SOS Rule 590-2-1*



# Regulatory Objectives

1. Biologically Appropriate & Scientifically Sound
  2. Responsive to Public Desires within Biological Appropriateness
- Strive for Simplicity & Flexibility
    - Minimize challenges for Recruitment, Retention & Reactivation (R<sup>3</sup>)



# Timeline & Process



- Jan - Public Input
- Feb - Develop Proposals
- March - Board Briefing
- April - Public Comment
- May - Board Action
- June - Popular Guide Development
- July - Popular Guide Available



# Major Changes – Legislation

- Rules governing hunting and fishing are either **statutory** (state law) or **regulatory**. State laws are passed by the legislature. Regulations are passed by the Board of Natural Resources within statutory authority.
- No bills were passed last session that significantly impact hunting
  - HB 927 Hunter pink did not pass

*[www.legis.ga.gov](http://www.legis.ga.gov)*



# Proposed Changes – Statewide Regulations

- Currently, WRD has only 1 hunting regulation change that impacts the entire state. The US Fish and Wildlife Service has shortened the early teal season by 6 days due to declines in the blue-winged teal population. The opening date and bag limits will remain the same.
- 9 day teal season: Sept 13 – 21, 2025



# Wildlife Management Areas

- We will propose some tweaks to the hunting regulations for some WMAs (date shifts, quota changes, etc.)
- These can be viewed on our website at <https://georgiawildlife.com/regulations/meetings> after the March DNR Board meeting
- Input relative to all proposed changes - [gm.comments@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:gm.comments@dnr.ga.gov)
- Got questions about a specific WMA? Contact the region office for the best response (contact info on our website)



# Thank You For Your Participation & Support



## Our Mission:

Conserve and promote fishing, hunting and wildlife resources through management, education, and scientific research.

Send input to [gm.comments@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:gm.comments@dnr.ga.gov) until January 31, 2025.

[www.georgiawildlife.com/regulations/meetings](http://www.georgiawildlife.com/regulations/meetings)