

Following the public comment period, the ensuing revisions are desired related to the proposed amendments to DE Admin Code 3900 Wildlife. The requested revisions are indicated in yellow highlight along with a preceding brief description for each requested change.

- 2.2.1 Adjust the minimum draw weight for a longbow:
... or any longbow with a minimum pull less than **[35 30]** pounds.
- 2.2.2 Remove the manufacturer date for crossbows:
Crossbows used for deer hunting must have a minimum pull weight of 125 pounds **[, be manufactured after 1980,]** and have a mechanical safety. Crossbows may be equipped with a scope.
- 2.4.1 Fix a typo related to when foothold traps can be set:
Notwithstanding statutes ~~§ 703 and 788~~ of Title 7 **7 Del.C. §§703 and 788**, it shall be unlawful for any person to set a foothold trap at any time in this State, except from **[December November]** 1 through March 20. The use of toothed or serrated jawed traps is prohibited.
- 2.5 Clarify the caliber of pellet guns that may be used to hunt gray squirrels:
Gray Squirrel. Hunting gray squirrels with a .17 through .22 caliber rimfire ~~or pellet firearm with a rifled barrel,~~ **[, a pellet gun not larger than .177 caliber,]** or muzzle-loading rifle not larger than .36 caliber is permitted south of the Chesapeake and Delaware Canal.
- 2.12.2 Clarify a typo related to what constitutes an unloaded muzzleloader:
Notwithstanding subsection 2.1.12.1, a muzzleloading rifle or pistol shall be considered **[loaded unloaded]** if there is not powder and ball, bullet or shot loaded in the bore. If there is powder and ball, bullet, or shot loaded in the bore, a muzzleloading rifle or pistol shall not be considered loaded if the cap, primer, or priming powder (in a flintlock) is removed.
- 3.2 Rename the old squaw duck to its currently accepted name as the long-tailed duck:
Scoters, eiders and **[old]** ~~squaw ducks~~ long-tailed **[ducks]**
- 4.7.1 Extend the gray squirrel season to end on the last day of February:
Season. Gray squirrel may be hunted in accordance with the statutes and regulations of the State of Delaware governing the hunting of gray squirrel: from September 15 (~~September 14, if September 15 is a Sunday~~) through the first **[second Saturday in last day of]** February.

- 4.9.1 Extend the pheasant season to end on the last day of February:
Season. Male pheasant may be hunted in accordance with the statutes and regulations of the State of Delaware governing the hunting of pheasant: from the Monday that immediately precedes Thanksgiving through the first **[second Saturday in last day of]** February
- 4.10.2 Extend the Pen-raised Released Quail Season to the last day of February:
~~Limit. It shall be unlawful for any person to take more than six (6) quail in any one day.~~ Pen-raised Released Quail Season. Pen-raised and released bobwhite quail may be hunted in accordance with the statutes and regulations of the State of Delaware governing the hunting of bobwhite quail: from the Monday that immediately precedes Thanksgiving through the **[second Saturday last day]** of February
- 4.20 Allow Hungarian partridges to be harvested when pheasants may be harvested:
Chukar **[and Hungarian Partridge]**. Chukars **[and Hungarian Partridge]** may be hunted during the lawful season to hunt pheasants.
- 5.3.1 Expand the shotgun calibers authorized for turkey hunting:
It shall be unlawful for any person to use any firearm to hunt wild turkeys, except a 10, 12, 16, **[or 20 gauge 20, 28, or .410 gauge]** shotgun
- 7.1.1.4 Fix a typo to remove the word “persons”:
Kill any antlered deer without first purchasing a Delaware Resident Combination Hunter’s Choice Deer tag and Quality Buck Deer Tag, a Delaware ~~Non-Resident~~ Nonresident Antlered Deer Tag, or a ~~Non-Resident~~ Nonresident Quality Buck Deer Tag except that **[persons]**, residents and nonresidents, exempt from purchasing a hunting license shall be entitled to take one Hunter’s Choice deer Deer Tag or one Nonresident Antlered Deer Tag, respectively, at no cost.
- 7.1.4 Remove reference to the cost of additional antlerless deer tags:
Notwithstanding subsection 7.1.1 of this section, a person may purchase Antlerless Deer Tags **[for \$10 each]** to kill or take additional antlerless deer during the open season. Hunters may take additional antlerless deer on Antlerless Deer Damage Tags at no cost.
- 7.3.3 Clarify when muzzle-loading pistols may be used:
Muzzle-loading Pistols. A single shot muzzle-loading pistol of .42 caliber or larger using a minimum powder charge of 40 grains may be used to provide the coupe-

de-grace on deer during the ~~[primitive firearm season deer season described within subsection 7.5.3 of this regulation]~~.

- 7.5.1 Delete unnecessary text following previously proposed revisions:
Shotgun Seasons. ~~[Deer may be hunted with shotgun in accordance with the statutes and regulations of the State of Delaware governing the hunting of deer: from the Friday in November that precedes Thanksgiving by thirteen (13) 13 days through the second Saturday succeeding said Friday;]~~ and from the Saturday that precedes the third Monday in January through the following Saturday in January.
- 7.5.4 Correct section numbering for crossbow seasons
~~[7.5.5]~~ 7.5.4 Crossbow Seasons.
- 8.3.5 Correct misspelling of “water”:
It shall be unlawful for any person to crab or fish on or from any dike or ~~[wa-ter water]~~ control structure or within any impoundment administered by the Division.
- 8.8 Fix typos and improper spacing:
Geocaching
Online geocache and letterbox descriptions, such as those on geocaching.com or letterboxing.org must include information about access during hunting seasons and provide a link to Delaware Division of Fish and Wildlife ~~[Hunting Information.Geocache hunting information. Geocache]~~ and letterbox contents must be suitable for all ages.
- 16.2.3 Request to italicize all scientific names in this section and fix typos found within several species names and formatting related to superscripts:
~~[Carpenter Frog Frog, Carpenter]~~ (*Lithobates virgatipes*)
Owl, ~~[Short-earedBR Short-eared^{BR}]~~ (*Asio flammeus*)
Tern, ~~[CommonBR Common^{BR}]~~ (*Sterna hirundo*)
Tern, ~~[Forster'sBR Forester's^{BR}]~~ (*Sterna forsteri*)
Warbler, ~~[Hooded BR Hooded^{BR}]~~ (*Setophaga citrina*)
~~[Bat, Tri-colored (Perimyotis subflavus)]~~
~~[Bat, Tri-colored (Perimyotis subflavus)]~~
Snake, Eastern Searlet Scarletsnake ~~[(Cemophora coccinea) (Cemophora coccinea)]~~
Watersnake, Redbelly Plain-bellied (*Nerodia erythrogaster*~~[erythrogaster]~~)

20.0 Multiple changes being made to clarify requirements for releasing gamebirds:

Game Bird Releases

(Penalty Section 7 Del.C. §103(d))

20.1 ~~Permit for releasing game birds~~

20.1.1 All persons ~~possessing or~~ releasing 25 or fewer domestically raised quail, chukar partridge, Hungarian partridge and pheasants into the wild must obtain a permit from the Division. **[This permit is free unless releasing more than 25 total birds. If releasing 25 or fewer, in aggregate, annually, a Gamebird Release Permit is required. If releasing 25 or fewer, in aggregate, annually, a Gamebird Breeders Permit is required.]**

20.2 ~~Banding Released Game Birds.~~

20.2.1 All domestically raised quail, chukar partridge, Hungarian partridge and pheasants must be leg banded with a Division approved band have an auxiliary marker affixed to each bird before being released into the wild. All auxiliary markers must be yellow. ~~Person~~ Persons herein must report the number of birds ~~banded~~ marked and released, **[and]** the type of bird released (quail, chukar partridge, Hungarian ~~partridge~~ partridge, or pheasant) **[and the release date and location]**.

20.3 Anyone that releases **[game birds into the wild for the purposes of being hunted, domestically raised quail]** must provide the location of the release to the Division and obtain approval prior to releasing any birds.

24.0 Fix a copy and paste error for the boundary description for wildlife management zone 7:

~~Zone 7 – [For the purposes of hunting and reporting harvests (if required), the following descriptions shall delineate the boundaries of Delaware's Wildlife Management Zones: Land bordered north by Route 12, south by Route 16, east by Route 13, and west by the Maryland state Line.]~~