

Media release

Friday, 31 March, 2017

Three hunting seasons set to open this weekend

Three hunting seasons are set to open in Victoria this Saturday for licensed game hunters.

Game Management Authority (GMA) Chief Executive Officer Greg Hyams said Stubble Quail, Hog Deer and the hound hunting for Sambar Deer seasons all open on 1 April.

“It is every hunter’s responsibility to ensure they know and follow the rules and regulations regarding each season.”

“Stubble Quail are mostly hunted on private property with permission from the landowner or manager and on 16 State Game Reserves that are also open to hunting,” Mr Hyams said.

“The daily bag limit is 20 birds per person and the season will close on 30 June.”

“Hog Deer hunting occurs along the Gippsland coast and on 6 State Game Reserves until April 30. Hunters must ensure they have obtained a pair of Hog Deer tags before they go hunting and can only take one male and one female deer per person.”

“All hog deer hunters must complete a return form at the end of the season and all harvested deer must be taken to a Hog Deer Checking Station to measure and record biological data.”

Information regarding the location of State Game Reserves, Hog Deer checking stations and how to order Hog Deer tags can be found on the Game Hunting Victoria phone App or at www.gma.vic.gov.au

“Hound hunting season also begins in eastern Victoria this weekend until the Thursday prior to Easter when it will close for a week and then resume until 30 November.”

“Hunters must respect land boundaries, only hunt in legal areas, ensure they do not hunt on or across roads, ensure their hounds are the correct breed and are registered and make sure they cover up any harvested animals during transport.”

GMA Game Officers will be active throughout private and public land across the state during the seasons to ensure hunters act in a safe and responsible manner.

Hunters are reminded they must be licensed, respect private property, adhere to bag limits and use firearms safely. For comprehensive information on the state’s hunting laws, hunters should refer to the Game Hunting in Victoria Manual or visit the GMA website www.vic.gov.au

The GMA strongly encourages hunters and the broader public to report any suspected illegal hunting activity to Crime Stoppers on 1800 333 000, the Customer Service Centre on 136 186 or via the GMA website.

Media contact: Nick Foster 0417 293 365