

Victorian public land hunting maps FAQ

Q. What are the Victorian public land hunting maps?

The Victorian public land hunting maps are a new map set showing where game and pest animal hunting is permitted on public land in Victoria.

The hunting maps use data extracted from the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning's land administration systems to provide information on the status of public land in Victoria and whether game and pest animal hunting is permitted in these areas in line with existing government policy.

Q. How do I access the hunting maps?

The hunting maps can be accessed through different platforms on the Game Management Authority website.

More to Explore is an online interactive mapping tool that provides access to a range of information via different map layers. Information detailing where game and pest animal hunting is permitted on public land in Victoria is now available as separate layers through More to Explore. The guide on how to use the hunting layers in More to Explore can be found on <http://www.gma.vic.gov.au/hunting/new-hunting-maps>.

Webmaps provide a streamlined and accessible alternative to More to Explore. Individual webmaps are available for duck, stubble quail, hog deer, sambar deer, other deer and pest animals. The guide on how to use the hunting webmaps can be found on <http://www.gma.vic.gov.au/hunting/new-hunting-maps>.

Q. Can I access the hunting maps on a mobile device?

The hunting maps can be accessed on a mobile device however, these products have not been optimised for use with mobile devices. DELWP is undertaking further work to integrate the hunting data into the DELWP More to Explore app.

Maps accessed through the More to Explore platform can be exported as an image that can be geo-referenced and used on compatible applications such as Avenza. DELWP however recommends using the maps through the provided platforms to ensure users are accessing the most up-to-date information.

Q. How do I use the hunting maps?

How to guides are available on the Game Management Authority website.

Q. What information is included on the hunting maps?

The hunting maps seek to provide a guide for licensed hunters wishing to hunt game (deer, duck and stubble

quail) and established pest animals on public land in Victoria.

Other hunting related information is also provided by the maps, such as:

- whether hunting can occur in an area with the use of dogs
- whether hunting in an area is seasonal, balloted or all-year round.
- seasonal closures of areas to hunting
- whether an area is subject to a lease or licence that hunters should be aware of.

Q. What information is not included on the hunting maps?

The hunting maps do not provide information on various things that hunters need to be aware of, including:

- hunting on private land
- firearms restrictions
- relevant hunting restrictions such as season dates, hunting methods, bag limits, game licence requirements

While Victoria's land classification system may allow hunting in these areas, firearms laws will always take precedence. For example, if it is not safe to hunt in an area due to a nearby populous place, people, property or because it would result in using a firearm in a dangerous manner then hunting should not occur in that location.

The Game Management Authority is responsible for regulating all game hunting activity in Victoria. Visit their website www.gma.vic.gov.au for information regarding hunting in Victoria, including current laws, licensing, firearms safety, hunting methods and season dates,


Q. Do the maps provide information on real time hunting restrictions?

A layer will be available on the hunting maps to show hunting areas that have been closed on a seasonal basis.

There are however a range of possible real-time restrictions that hunters need to be across, including:

- annual variations in the duck hunting season dates
- closures of wetlands to hunting, either seasonally or urgently
- management activities such as planned burns

It is the responsibility of hunters to always check season dates and the status of an area before hunting there.



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Q. Has any public land been excluded from the maps?

The hunting maps exclude public land that falls within urban areas and some other categories of public land such as coastal waters and water frontages. Work will continue to improve data in respect of some public land categories relevant to hunting and DELWP will look to include these areas in future versions of the hunting data.

Some of the exclusions from the hunting data may have the effect of removing areas where hunting has occurred, and it is considered safe to undertake this activity. If you think there is an error or issue with the maps please provide this feedback through the feedback tool. *Information on how to provide feedback can be found below*

Q. I think I have identified an error/issue with the hunting maps, what can I do?

The hunting map data has been developed by processing attributes from publicly available data. The primary source is PLM25 which uses data derived from multiple sources within DELWP.

DELWP endeavours to ensure the hunting maps are accurate as possible however, in some cases, there may be errors with how an area is represented on the maps due to the underlying data and the complex rules that have been applied.

The hunting maps and other associated information are intended to support hunters in making a decision on where to hunt, however, it remains the responsibility of hunters to ensure that they are hunting in an area where hunting is permitted.

Information about the areas open to hunting is available from a wide range of sources, including GMA publications and staff, the GMA Customer Service Centre, the Department of Environment, Land, Water and Planning, Parks Victoria, hunting organisations, parish plans, private landowners and Victoria Police.

If you think you have identified an issue or error on the maps you can contact your local land manager or use the feedback link provided. To help investigate the issue please provide the latitude and longitude for the location along with an image or description of the issue.