



2024 Application for Bird Release in Conjunction with Individual Dog Training

Dog training is defined as the noncommercial act of a person(s) instructing a hunting dog(s) to follow scent, point or flush birds, retrieve and respond to related verbal and nonverbal commands to improve the dog's performance in hunting wildlife or field trials. Merely exercising or conditioning a dog is not training. "Group training" means training involving 10 or more people and their associated hunting dogs (field trial license required). "Field Trial" means any hunting dog trial held under the rules of a dog or kennel club for the purpose of gaining points toward a hunting dog championship; including any sanctioned practice or training trial where there is organized competition; and any hunt test or other performance event in which hunting dogs compete against an accepted standard. If you are interested in group training or a field trial, additional information and an application can be obtained at the following link (if link doesn't work cut and paste it into your browser): <http://cpw.state.co.us/aboutus/Pages/SWL-Applications.aspx>

Please keep in mind that the Bird Release for Individual Dog Training doesn't cover group training or field trial activities. If you are interested in group training or field trial activities, you will need to apply for a Field Trail license.

Privately owned game birds, domestic birds, or feral birds may be released for individual dog training with a valid Bird Release in Conjunction with Dog Training Permit at Cobb Lake Unit of Wellington State Wildlife Area and Banner Lakes State Wildlife Area. Training is allowed year round on the Cobb Lake Unit of Wellington State Wildlife Area and February 1st - August 31st on the portion south of Colorado Hwy 52 on Banner Lakes State Wildlife Area. No permit is required if no release of birds (privately owned game birds, domestic birds, or feral birds) will occur in conjunction with individual dog training. A [valid hunting or fishing license](#) OR SWA pass is required for everyone 16 or older accessing any state wildlife area. For more information, read the [frequently asked questions](#).

Permits cost \$20 and can be issued for one or both State Wildlife Areas. To obtain a permit, complete and submit the application and required payment. Applications can be turned in at any Colorado Parks and Wildlife office, but most are expected to be received at the Fort Collins Office or the Northeast Regional Office in Denver. The address for submitting applications by mail can be found on the last page of this application. Permits will be issued from the Northeast Regional Office in Denver and will take 5-7 business days to process.

Criteria for Approval/Denial

1. Irresolvable conflict with other wildlife-related recreational activities, including established hunting or fishing seasons.
2. Compliance with application requirements and other applicable regulations.
3. Applicant's failure to comply with previous dog training permit conditions.

Permit Conditions may include, but are not limited to:

1. Number of people training, and types of training being performed.
2. Maximum number of hunting dogs.
3. Specific portion of the property to be used.
4. Any other condition intended to avoid or reduce conflict with other wildlife-related recreational activities.

Permit Dates and Requirements:

1. **Permits are valid from April 1st, 2024 – March 31st, 2025. 2024 permits expire March 31st, 2025.**
2. The permit holder must be present and participate during any training activity where birds are being released, and must have a copy of this permit in their possession. No more than 9 people are allowed to participate in an individual dog training day. More than 9 people will require a field trial license.
3. **Application for 2024 Permits:** To obtain your 2024 permit, please submit your application at least 30 days prior to the first training day. Please allow 5 to 7 business days for your permit to be issued.

Site Requirements:

1. **Cobb Lake:** Bird releases at the Cobb Lake Unit of Wellington SWA for individual dog training are allowed year-round.
2. **Banner Lakes:** Bird releases at Banner Lakes for individual dog training are only allowed south of Colorado 52, and only from February 1st through August 31st.
3. Horses may not be used during individual dog training.

Bird Release Requirements:

1. No more than 25 birds may be released on any day. Shooting is only allowed on the day the birds are released. Shooters can only take the species released, and may shoot no more than the number released by species.
2. Game birds must be purchased from a licensed dealer and the permittee must have a receipt for the birds to be released in their possession on the day of release. All other wildlife importation/release regulations apply.
3. Non-toxic shot is required when shooting mallard ducks.
4. The designated shooter(s) must be in possession of a valid Colorado small game license.
5. All birds which are shot must be retrieved, removed from the property, and prepared for human consumption. Birds not shot become property of the state.

Copies of the bird release regulations can be obtained at (if links don't work cut and paste them into your browser):

<http://cpw.state.co.us/Documents/RulesRegs/Regulations/Ch08.pdf>

<http://cpw.state.co.us/Documents/RulesRegs/Regulations/Ch09.pdf>



Permit #: _____
Spreadsheet: _____
Email: _____
Drive: _____
OFFICIAL USE ONLY

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Primary Permittee Name:		Permit Year: 2024	
Address:	Street Address or PO Box Number:		
	City:	State:	Zip Code:
Phone Numbers:	Home :	Cell :	Work:
E-mail Address:			
Property Where Bird Release is to Occur			
Note: The \$20 fee covers both properties. Mark both if you will be training at both.			
1. Banner Lakes SWA, S of Colorado Hwy 52 ONLY Note: February 1 st through August 31 st only		2. Cobb Lake Unit, Wellington SWA Note: Year-round releases allowed	
Species & Number of Birds to be Released (Species allowed include ring-necked pheasants, Gambel's quail, scaled quail, bobwhite quail, chukar, gray partridge and mallard ducks. Note: No more than 25 birds may be released per day):			
Types of Training to be Conducted: Check or list all that apply.			
Steadiness		Retrieving	
Flushing		Other (List)	
Other (List)		Other (List)	

How to Apply:

Mail or Bring Application (with \$20 permit fee per application) to:

Colorado Parks & Wildlife
 Northeast Regional Office
 6060 Broadway, Denver, CO, 80216
 Attn: Bird Release/Dog Training Permits

OR

Colorado Parks & Wildlife
 Fort Collins Office
 317 W. Prospect, Ft Collins, CO, 80526
 Attn: Bird Release/Dog Training Permits

At the present time, credit cards can only be accepted if you pay in person. If mailing your application, please pay by check or money order. Permits are issued by the Northeast Regional Office in Denver. Permits are not issued by the property technician. Please provide us an email address so that we can save paper by emailing your permit. If you don't have an email address, please let us know and your permit will be sent by U.S. mail. Processing time is 5-7 business days, so please plan accordingly. If you have further questions, please contact Chasta LaBass at (303) 291-7246 or dnr_cpw_birdrelease@state.co.us.