

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 20

RIN 1018-AE14

Migratory Bird Hunting; Early Seasons and Bag and Possession Limits for Certain Migratory Game Birds in the Contiguous United States, Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule prescribes the hunting seasons, hours, areas, and daily bag and possession limits of mourning, white-winged, and white-tipped doves; band-tailed pigeons; rails; moorhens and gallinules; woodcock; common snipe; sandhill cranes; sea ducks; early (September) waterfowl seasons; migratory game birds in Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands; and some extended falconry seasons. Taking of migratory birds is prohibited unless specifically provided for by annual regulations. This rule permits taking of designated species during the 1997-98 season.

DATE: This rule is effective August 29, 1997.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Paul R. Schmidt, Chief, Office of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, ms 634-ARLSQ, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240 (703) 358-1714.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Regulations Schedule for 1997**

On March 13, 1997, the Service published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 39712) a proposal to amend 50 CFR part 20. The proposal dealt with the establishment of seasons, limits, and other regulations for migratory game birds under §§ 20.101 through 20.107, 20.109, and 20.110 of subpart K. On June 6, 1997, the Service published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 31298) a second document providing supplemental proposals for early- and late-season migratory bird hunting regulations frameworks and the proposed regulatory alternatives for the 1997-98 duck hunting season. The June 6 supplement also provided detailed information on the 1997-98 regulatory schedule and announced the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings.

On June 27, 1997, the Service held a public hearing in Washington, DC, as

announced in the March 13 and June 6 **Federal Registers** to review the status of migratory shore and upland game birds. The Service discussed hunting regulations for these species and for other early seasons. On July 23, 1997, the Service published in the **Federal Register** (62 FR 39712) a third document. This document contained the final regulatory alternatives for the 1997-98 duck hunting season and the proposed early-season frameworks for the 1997-98 season.

On August 7, 1997, the Service held a public hearing in Washington, DC, as announced in the March 13, June 6, and July 23 **Federal Registers** to review the status of waterfowl. Proposed hunting regulations were discussed for late seasons. On August 20, 1997, (62 FR 44229), the Service published a fifth document on migratory bird hunting. The document contained final frameworks for early migratory bird hunting seasons from which wildlife conservation agency officials from the States, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands selected early-season hunting dates, hours, areas, and limits. On August 25, 1997, the Service published a sixth document (62 FR 45078) on migratory bird hunting. The sixth document dealt specifically with proposed frameworks for the 1997-98 late-season migratory bird hunting regulations. The final rule described here is the seventh in the series of proposed, supplemental, and final rulemaking documents for migratory game bird hunting regulations and deals specifically with amending subpart K of 50 CFR 20. It sets hunting seasons, hours, areas, and limits for mourning, white-winged, and white-tipped doves; band-tailed pigeons; rails; moorhens and gallinules; woodcock; common snipe; sandhill cranes; sea ducks; early (September) waterfowl seasons; mourning doves in Hawaii; migratory game birds in Alaska, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands; youth waterfowl hunting day; and some extended falconry seasons.

NEPA Consideration

NEPA considerations are covered by the programmatic document, "Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement: Issuance of Annual Regulations Permitting the Sport Hunting of Migratory Birds (FSER 88-14)," filed with EPA on June 9, 1988. The Service published a Notice of Availability in the June 16, 1988, **Federal Register** (53 FR 22582). The Service published its Record of Decision on August 18, 1988 (53 FR 31341). Copies of these documents are available

from the Service at the address indicated under the caption ADDRESSES.

Endangered Species Act Consideration

As in the past, the Service designs hunting regulations to remove or alleviate chances of conflict between migratory game bird hunting seasons and the protection and conservation of endangered and threatened species. Consultations were conducted to ensure that actions resulting from these regulatory proposals will not likely jeopardize the continued existence of endangered or threatened species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of their critical habitat. Findings from these consultations are included in a biological opinion and may have modified some regulatory measures previously proposed. The final frameworks here reflect any such modifications. The Service's biological opinions resulting from its Section 7 consultation are public documents available for public inspection in the Service's Division of Endangered Species and Office of Migratory Bird Management, at the address indicated under the caption ADDRESSES.

Executive Order (E.O.) 12866

This rule is economically significant and was reviewed by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under E.O. 12866.

Congressional Review

In accordance with Section 251 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (5 U.S.C. 8), this rule has been submitted to Congress and has been declared major. Because this rule establishes hunting seasons, this rule qualifies for an exemption under 5 U.S.C. 808(1); therefore, the Department determines that this rule shall take effect immediately.

Regulatory Flexibility Act

These regulations have a significant economic impact on a substantial number of small entities under the Regulatory Flexibility Act (5 U.S.C. 601 et seq.). In the March 13, 1997, **Federal Register**, the Service reported measures it took to comply with requirements of the Act. One measure was to prepare a Small Entity Flexibility Analysis (Analysis) in 1996 documenting the significant beneficial economic effect on a substantial number of small entities. The Analysis estimated that migratory bird hunters would spend between \$254 and \$592 million at small businesses in 1996. Copies of the Analysis are available upon request from the MBMO.

Paperwork Reduction Act

The Department examined these regulations under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3507(d)). Under the Act, information collections must be approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB). The Service uses the various information collection requirements contained in this rule to develop future migratory game bird hunting regulations. Specifically, the information collection requirements of the Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program have been approved by OMB and assigned clearance number 1018-0015. This information is used to provide a sampling frame for voluntary national surveys to improve Service harvest estimates for all migratory game birds in order to better manage these populations. OMB approval for the Sandhill Crane Harvest Questionnaire, 1018-0023, has expired and has been submitted to OMB for reinstatement. The information from this survey is used to estimate the magnitude, the geographical and temporal distribution of harvest, and the portion it constitutes of the total population. The Service will not collect this information until OMB approval has been obtained and a **Federal Register** notice published. Additionally, no person may be required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB number.

Regulations Promulgation

The rulemaking process for migratory game bird hunting must, by its nature, operate under severe time constraints. However, the Service intends that the public be given the greatest possible opportunity to comment on the regulations. Thus, when the proposed rulemaking was published, the Service established what it believed were the longest periods possible for public comment. In doing this, the Service recognized that when the comment period closed time would be of the essence. That is, if there were a delay in the effective date of these regulations after this final rulemaking, the States and Territories would have insufficient time to establish and publicize the necessary regulations and procedures to implement their decisions. The Service therefore finds that "good cause" exists, within the terms of 5 U.S.C. 553(d)(3) of the Administrative Procedure Act, and these regulations will, therefore, take effect immediately upon publication. Accordingly, with each conservation agency having had an opportunity to participate in selecting the hunting seasons desired for its State or Territory on those species of migratory birds for which open seasons are now prescribed, and consideration having been given to all other relevant matters presented, certain sections of title 50, chapter I, subchapter B, part 20, subpart K, are hereby amended as set forth below.

Unfunded Mandates Reform Act

The Service has determined and certifies in compliance with the requirements of the Unfunded Mandates Act, 2 U.S.C. 1502 *et seq.*, that this rulemaking will not impose a cost of \$100 million or more in any given year on local or State government or private entities.

Civil Justice Reform—Executive Order 12988

The Department, in promulgating this rule, has determined that these regulations meet the applicable standards provided in Sections 3(a) and 3(b)(2) of Executive Order 12988.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 20

Exports, Hunting, Imports, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Transportation, Wildlife.

Dated: August 21, 1997.

William L. Leary,

Acting Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

PART 20—[AMENDED]

For the reasons set out in the preamble, title 50, chapter I, subchapter B, Part 20, subpart K of the Code of Federal Regulations is amended as follows.

1. The authority citation for Part 20 is revised to read as follows:

AUTHORITY: 16 U.S.C. 703-712 and 16 U.S.C. 742 a-j.

BILLING CODE 4310-55-F

Note. The following annual hunting regulations provided for by §20.101 through 20.106 and 20.109 of 50 CFR 20 will not appear in the Code of Federal Regulations because of their seasonal nature.

2. Section 20.101 is revised to read as follows:

§20.101 Seasons, limits, and shooting hours for Puerto Rico and the Virgin Islands

Subject to the applicable provisions of the preceding sections of this part, areas open to hunting, respective open seasons (dates inclusive), shooting and hawking hours, and daily bag and possession limits for the species designated in this section are prescribed as follows:

Shooting and hawking hours are one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

CHECK COMMONWEALTH REGULATIONS FOR AREA DESCRIPTIONS AND ANY ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS.

(a) Puerto Rico

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
Doves and Pigeons			
Zenaida, white-winged, and mourning doves	Sept. 6-Nov. 4	10	10
Scaly-naped pigeons	Sept. 6-Nov. 4	5	5
Ducks	Nov. 15-Dec. 22 & Jan. 10-Jan. 26	6	12
Common Moorhens	Nov. 15-Dec. 22 & Jan. 10-Jan. 26	6	12
Common Snipe	Nov. 15-Dec. 22 & Jan. 10-Jan. 26	8	16

Restrictions: In Puerto Rico, the season is closed on the ruddy duck, white-cheeked pintail, West Indian whistling duck, fulvous whistling duck, masked duck, purple gallinule, American coot, and Caribbean coot, white-crowned pigeon and plain pigeon.

Closed Areas: Closed areas are described in the August 20, 1997, Federal Register.

(b) Virgin Islands

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
Zenaida doves	Sept. 1-Sept. 30	10	10
Ducks	CLOSED		

Restrictions: In the Virgin Islands, the seasons are closed for ground or quail doves, pigeons, ruddy duck, white-cheeked pintail, West Indian whistling duck, fulvous whistling duck, masked duck, and purple gallinule.

Closed Areas: Ruth Cay, just south of St. Croix, is closed to the hunting of migratory game birds.

3. Section 20.102 is revised to read as follows:

§20.102 Seasons, limits, and shooting hours for Alaska

Subject to the applicable provisions of the preceding sections of this part, areas open to hunting, respective open seasons (dates inclusive), shooting and hawking hours, and daily bag and possession limits for the species designated in this section are prescribed as follows:

Shooting and hawking hours are one-half hour before sunrise until sunset. Area descriptions were published in the August 20, 1997, Federal Register.

CHECK STATE REGULATIONS FOR AREA DESCRIPTIONS AND ANY ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS.

Area Seasons	Dates
North Zone	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Gulf Coast Zone	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Southeast Zone	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Pribilof & Aleutian Islands Zone	Oct. 8-Jan. 22
Kodiak Zone	Oct. 8-Jan. 22

Special Tundra Swan Season: In Unit 22, there will be a tundra swan season from September 1 through October 31 with a season limit of 1 tundra swan per hunter. This season is by registration permit only. Up to 300 permits may be issued. In Unit 18, there will be a tundra swan season from September 1 through October 31 with a limit of 3 tundra swans per hunter. This season is by registration permit only; hunters may be issued up to 3 successive permits, one at a time, upon filing a harvest report. Up to 500 permits may be issued. In Unit 23, there will be an experimental tundra swan season from September 1 through October 31, with a season limit of 3 tundra swans per hunter. This season is by registration permit only; hunters may be issued up to 3 successive permits, one at a time, upon filing a harvest report. Up to 500 permits may be issued.

4. Section 20.103 is revised to read as follows:

§20.103 Seasons, limits, and shooting hours for doves and pigeons.

Subject to the applicable provisions of the preceding sections of this part, areas open to hunting, respective open seasons (dates inclusive), shooting and hawking hours, and daily bag and possession limits for the species designated in this section are prescribed as follows:

Shooting and hawking hours are one-half hour before sunrise until sunset except as otherwise noted. Area descriptions were published in the August 20, 1997, **Federal Register**.

CHECK STATE REGULATIONS FOR AREA DESCRIPTIONS AND ANY ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS.

(a) Doves

Note: Unless otherwise specified, the seasons listed below are for mourning doves only.

	Season Dates	Bag	Possession
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EASTERN MANAGEMENT UNIT

Alabama

North Zone

12 noon to sunset

Sept. 13 only &
Dec. 26-Jan. 10

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South Zone

12 noon to sunset

Sept. 14-Oct. 26

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Delaware

12 noon to sunset

Sept. 1-Sept. 27

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Daily Bag and Possession Limits

Area	Ducks(1)	Dark Geese(2)(3)	Light Geese (2)	Brant	Common Snipe	Sandhill Cranes(4)
North Zone	10-30	4-8	3-6	2-4	8-16	3-6
Gulf Coast Zone	8-24	4-8	3-6	2-4	8-16	2-4
Southeast Zone	7-21	4-8	3-6	2-4	8-16	2-4
Pribilof and Aleutian Islands Zone	7-21	4-8	3-6	2-4	8-16	2-4
Kodiak Zone	7-21	4-8	3-6	2-4	8-16	2-4

(1) In State Game Management Units (Units) 1-26 (Statewide), the basic bag limits may include not more than 1 canvasback daily, 3 in possession. In addition to the basic daily bag and possession limits, a daily bag limit of 15 and a possession limit of 30 is permitted singly or in the aggregate of the following species: scoter, king and common eider, oldsquaw, harlequin ducks, and common and red-breasted mergansers. The season is closed for Steller's and spectacled eiders. In Units 6(D) and 7, the season for harlequin ducks will be October 1 through December 16, and bag limits are 2 daily, 6 in possession. The season is closed Statewide for Steller's and spectacled eiders.

(2) Dark geese include Canada and white-fronted geese. Light geese include snow geese and Ross' geese. Separate limits apply to brant and emperor geese. The season for emperor geese is closed Statewide.

(3) In Units 9(E) and 18, dark goose limits may include no more than 1 Canada goose daily, 2 in possession. In Units 5 and 6, the taking of Canada geese is only permitted from September 28 through December 16. In Units 8 and 10 (except Unimak Island), and the Middleton Island portion of Unit 6, the taking of Canada geese is prohibited. In Units 1-26 (Statewide), the taking of Aleutian Canada geese and emperor geese is prohibited. In Unit 9(d) and the Unimak Island portion of Unit 10, the limits for dark geese are 6 daily and 12 in possession.

(4) In Unit 17, the daily bag limit for sandhill cranes is 2 and the possession limit is 4.

Falconry: The total combined bag and possession limit for migratory game birds taken with the use of a falcon under a falconry permit is 3 per day, 6 in possession, and may not exceed a more restrictive limit for any species listed in this subsection.

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
Florida (1) 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Oct. 4-Oct. 27 Nov. 15-Nov. 30 & Dec. 13-Jan. 11	12 12 12	24 24 24
Georgia Zone 1 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 6 only Sept. 7-Oct. 5 & Nov. 27-Nov. 29 & Dec. 10-Jan. 15	12 12 12 12	24 24 24 24
Zone 2 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 27 only Sept. 28-Oct. 26 & Nov. 27-Nov. 29 & Dec. 10-Jan. 15	12 12 12 12	24 24 24 24
Illinois sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1-Oct. 14 & Nov. 1-Nov. 16	15 15	30 30
Indiana 11 a.m. to sunset sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1-Oct. 16 & Nov. 7-Nov. 16 & Nov. 27-Nov. 30	15 15 15	30 30 30
Kentucky 11 a.m. to sunset sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1-Sept. 30 & Oct. 4-Oct. 27 Nov. 27-Dec. 2	15 15 15	30 30 30
Louisiana 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 6-Sept. 7 & Oct. 18-Oct. 19 & Dec. 13-Dec. 14 Sept. 8-Sept. 14 & Oct. 20-Nov. 17 & Dec. 15-Jan. 11	12 12 12 12 12 12	24 24 24 24 24 24
Marland 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1-Oct. 21 Nov. 17-Nov. 22 & Dec. 22-Jan. 3	12 12 12	24 24 24
Mississippi North Zone South Zone	Sept. 6-Sept. 27 & Oct. 11-Nov. 9 & Dec. 27-Jan. 3 Sept. 20-Oct. 11 & Nov. 15-Nov. 30 & Dec. 20-Jan. 10	15 15 15 15 15 15	30 30 30 30 30 30
North Carolina 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1-Sept. 6 Sept. 7-Oct. 4 & Nov. 24-Nov. 29 & Dec. 17-Jan. 15	12 12 12 12	24 24 24 24
Ohio 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 15-Oct. 14 & Oct. 31-Nov. 29 Sept. 1-Oct. 11 Nov. 1-Nov. 29	15 15 12 12	30 30 24 24
Pennsylvania 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 13-Oct. 5 Oct. 18-Dec. 3	12 12	24 24
Rhode Island 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1-Sept. 6 Sept. 7-Oct. 4 & Nov. 22-Nov. 29 & Dec. 19-Jan. 15	12 12 12 12	24 24 24 24
South Carolina 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1 only Sept. 2-Sept. 27 & Oct. 11-Oct. 25 & Dec. 20-Jan. 6	15 15 15 15	30 30 30 30
Tennessee 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset			

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
Texas (cont)			
South Zone	Sept. 20-Nov. 3 & Dec. 26-Jan. 5	15	30
Special Area		15	30
(Special Season)			
12 noon to sunset	Sept. 6-Sept. 7 & Sept. 13-Sept. 14	10	20
Remainder of the		10	20
South Zone	Sept. 20-Nov. 7 & Dec. 26-Jan. 5	15	30
		15	30
Wyoming	Sept. 1-Oct. 19	15	30
WESTERN MANAGEMENT UNIT			
Arizona (5)	Sept. 1-Sept. 14 & Nov. 20-Jan. 4	10	20
		10	20
California (6)	Sept. 1-Sept. 15 & Nov. 8-Dec. 22	10	20
		10	20
Idaho	Sept. 1-Sept. 30	10	20
Nevada (6)	Sept. 1-Sept. 30	10	20
Oregon	Sept. 1-Sept. 30	10	20
Utah	Sept. 1-Sept. 30	10	20
Washington	Sept. 1-Sept. 15	10	20
OTHER POPULATIONS			
Hawaii (7)	Nov. 1-Nov. 30 & Dec. 6-Dec. 28 & Jan. 1-Jan. 19	10	10
		10	10
		10	10

(1) In Florida, the daily bag limit is 12 mourning and white-winged doves in the aggregate, of which not more than 4 may be white-winged doves. The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

(2) In New Mexico, the daily bag limit is 15 and the possession limit is 30 mourning and white-winged doves in the aggregate.

(3) In South Dakota, shooting hours are from sunrise to sunset.

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
Virginia			
12 noon to sunset	Sept. 1-Sept. 27	12	24
1/2 hour before sunrise	Oct. 4-Nov. 1 & Dec. 24-Jan. 6	12	24
to sunset		12	24
West Virginia			
12 noon to sunset	Sept. 1 only	12	24
1/2 hour before sunrise	Sept. 2-Oct. 4 & Oct. 27-Nov. 8 & Dec. 19-Jan. 10	12	24
to sunset		12	24
CENTRAL MANAGEMENT UNIT			
Arkansas	Sept. 1-Sept. 28 & Oct. 11-Oct. 19 & Dec. 13-Jan. 4	15	30
		15	30
Colorado	Sept. 1-Oct. 30	15	30
Kansas	Sept. 1-Oct. 30	15	30
Missouri	Sept. 1-Oct. 30	15	30
Montana	Sept. 1-Oct. 30	15	30
Nebraska	Sept. 1-Oct. 30	15	30
New Mexico (2)	Sept. 1-Sept. 30 & Dec. 1-Dec. 30	15	30
		15	30
North Dakota	Sept. 1-Oct. 30	15	30
Oklahoma	Sept. 1-Oct. 30	15	30
South Dakota (3)	Sept. 1-Oct. 17	15	30
Texas (4)			
North Zone	Sept. 1-Oct. 30	15	30
Central Zone	Sept. 1-Oct. 19 & Dec. 26-Jan. 5	15	30
		15	30

(4) In Texas, the daily bag limit is 15 mourning, white-winged, and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, of which no more than 6 may be white-winged doves and 2 may be white-tipped doves. Possession limits are twice the daily bag limit.

During the special season in the Special White-winged Dove Area of the South Zone, the daily bag limit is 10 mourning, white-winged, and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, of which no more than 5 may be mourning doves and 2 may be white-tipped doves. Possession limits are twice the daily bag limit.

(5) In Arizona, during September 1 through 14, the daily bag limit is 10 mourning and white-winged doves in the aggregate, of which no more than 6 may be white-winged doves. During November 20 through January 4, the daily bag limit is 10 mourning doves. The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit. See State regulations for restrictive shooting hours in certain areas.

(6) In the areas of California and Nevada open to white-winged dove hunting, the daily bag limit is 10 and the possession limit is 20 mourning and white-winged doves in the aggregate.

(7) In Hawaii, the season is only open on the island of Hawaii. The daily bag and possession limits are 10 mourning and lace-necked doves in the aggregate. Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise through one-half hour after sunset. Hunting is only permitted on weekends and State holidays.

(b) Band-tailed Pigeons

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
<u>Arizona</u> (1)	Oct. 15-Oct. 24	5	10
<u>California</u>			
North Zone	Sept. 20-Sept. 28	2	2
South Zone	Dec. 20-Dec. 28	2	2
<u>Colorado</u> (1)	Sept. 1-Sept. 30	5	10
<u>New Mexico</u> (1)			
North Zone	Sept. 1-Sept. 20	5	10
South Zone	Oct. 1-Oct. 20	5	10
<u>Oregon</u>	Sept. 15-Sept. 23	2	2
<u>Utah</u> (1)	Sept. 1-Sept. 30	5	10

(1) Each band-tailed pigeon hunter must have either a band-tailed pigeon hunting permit or a special bird permit stamp issued by the respective State.

5. Section 20.104 is revised to read as follows:

§20.104 Seasons, limits, and shooting hours for rails, woodcock, and common snipe.

Subject to the applicable provisions of the preceding sections of this part, areas open to hunting, respective open seasons (dates inclusive), shooting and hawking hours, and daily bag and possession limits for the species designated in this section are prescribed as follows:

Shooting and hawking hours are one-half hour before sunrise until sunset except as otherwise noted. Area descriptions were published in the August 20, 1997, Federal Register.

CHECK STATE REGULATIONS FOR AREA DESCRIPTIONS AND ANY ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS.

Note: States with deferred seasons may select those seasons at the same time they select waterfowl seasons in August. Consult late-season regulations for further information.

	Sora and Virginia Rails	Clapper and King Rails	Woodcock	Common Snipe
Daily bag limit	25 (1)	15 (2)	3	8
Possession limit	25 (1)	30 (2)	6	16

ATLANTIC FLYWAY

<u>Connecticut</u> (3)	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Oct. 18-Nov. 15	Oct. 18-Nov. 15
<u>Delaware</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Oct. 20-Nov. 1 & Nov. 24-Dec. 10	Nov. 24-Jan. 31
<u>Florida</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Dec. 20-Jan. 18	Nov. 1-Feb. 15
<u>Georgia</u>	Sept. 17-Nov. 25	Sept. 17-Nov. 25	Jan. 2-Jan. 31	Nov. 15-Feb. 28
<u>Maine</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 6-Nov. 4	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
<u>Maryland</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Sept. 1-Nov. 3	Oct. 25-Nov. 14 & Jan. 2-Jan. 10	Sept. 17-Nov. 28 & Dec. 15-Jan. 17
<u>Massachusetts</u> (4)	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Closed	Deferred	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
<u>New Hampshire</u>	Closed	Closed	Oct. 6-Nov. 4	Sept. 15-Nov. 4
<u>New Jersey</u> (5) North Zone	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Oct. 10-Oct. 18 & Nov. 1-Nov. 15	Sept. 26-Jan. 10
South Zone	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Nov. 8-Nov. 22 & Dec. 19-Dec. 27	Sept. 26-Jan. 10
<u>New York</u> (6)	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 6-Nov. 4	Sept. 1-Dec. 16

	Sora and Virginia Rails	Clapper and King Rails	Woodcock	Common Snipe
North Carolina	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Dec. 19-Jan. 17	Nov. 14-Feb. 28
Pennsylvania	Sept. 1-Nov. 1	Closed	Oct. 25-Nov. 8	Oct. 25-Nov. 29
Rhode Island (7)	Sept. 13-Nov. 21	Sept. 13-Nov. 21	Nov. 6-Dec. 5	Sept. 13-Dec. 5 & Dec. 20-Jan. 11
South Carolina	Sept. 13-Sept. 20 & Oct. 13-Dec. 13	Sept. 13-Sept. 20 & Oct. 13-Dec. 13	Jan. 2-Jan. 31	Nov. 14-Feb. 28
Vermont	Deferred	Deferred	Deferred	Deferred
Virginia	Sept. 15-Sept. 27 & Oct. 8-Dec. 3	Sept. 15-Sept. 27 & Oct. 8-Dec. 3	Nov. 1-Nov. 15 & Dec. 20-Jan. 3	Oct. 8-Oct. 11 & Oct. 21-Jan. 31
West Virginia	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Closed	Oct. 20-Nov. 18	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY				
Alabama (8)	Sept. 6-Sept. 14 & Nov. 19-Jan. 18	Sept. 6-Sept. 14 & Nov. 19-Jan. 18	Dec. 18-Jan. 31	Nov. 14-Feb. 28
Arkansas	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Nov. 15-Dec. 14 & Jan. 3-Jan. 17	Nov. 8-Feb. 22
Illinois (9)	Sept. 6-Nov. 14	Closed	Oct. 1-Nov. 14	Sept. 6-Dec. 21
Indiana (10)	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 10-Nov. 23	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Iowa (11)	Sept. 6-Nov. 14	Closed	Oct. 4-Nov. 17	Sept. 6-Nov. 30
Kentucky	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 18-Dec. 1	Sept. 17-Nov. 2 & Nov. 27-Jan. 25
Louisiana	Sept. 20-Sept. 28 & Nov. 8-Jan. 7	Sept. 20-Sept. 28 & Nov. 8-Jan. 7	Dec. 18-Jan. 31	Nov. 8-Feb. 22
Michigan (12)	Sept. 15-Nov. 14	Closed	Sept. 20-Nov. 3	Sept. 15-Nov. 14
Minnesota	Sept. 1-Nov. 4	Closed	Sept. 20-Nov. 3	Sept. 1-Nov. 4
Mississippi	Oct. 12-Dec. 20	Oct. 12-Dec. 20	Dec. 18-Jan. 31	Nov. 14-Feb. 28
Missouri	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 15-Nov. 28	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Ohio	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 16-Nov. 29	Sept. 1-Nov. 29 & Dec. 8-Dec. 24
Tennessee	Deferred	Closed	Oct. 11-Nov. 24	Nov. 14-Feb. 28
Wisconsin	Deferred	Closed	Sept. 20-Nov. 3	Deferred
CENTRAL FLYWAY				
Colorado	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Closed	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Kansas	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 17-Nov. 30	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Montana	Closed	Closed	Closed	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Nebraska (13)	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Sept. 20-Nov. 3	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
New Mexico	Deferred	Deferred	Deferred	Deferred
North Dakota	Closed	Closed	Sept. 20-Nov. 2	Sept. 20-Dec. 14
Oklahoma	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Nov. 15-Dec. 29	Oct. 1-Jan. 15
South Dakota (14)	Closed	Closed	Closed	Sept. 1-Oct. 31
Texas	Sept. 13-Sept. 21 & Nov. 8-Jan. 7	Sept. 13-Sept. 21 & Nov. 8-Jan. 7	Deferred	Deferred
Wyoming	Sept. 13-Nov. 16	Closed	Closed	Sept. 13-Dec. 14
PACIFIC FLYWAY				
Colorado	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Closed	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Idaho	Closed	Closed	Closed	Oct. 4-Jan. 17
Montana	Closed	Closed	Closed	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
New Mexico	Deferred	Deferred	Deferred	Deferred
Wyoming	Sept. 13-Nov. 16	Closed	Closed	Sept. 13-Dec. 14

NOTE: For all other States in the Pacific Flyway, snipe seasons have been deferred and no seasons are prescribed for woodcock and rails.

(1) The bag and possession limits for sora and Virginia rails apply singly or in the aggregate of these species.

(2) All bag and possession limits for clapper and king rails apply singly or in the aggregate of the two species and, unless otherwise specified, the limits are in addition to the limits on sora and Virginia rails in all States. In Connecticut, Delaware, Maryland, and New Jersey, the limits for clapper and king rails are 10 daily and 20 in possession.

(3) In Connecticut, the daily bag and possession limits may not contain more than 1 king rail.

(4) In Massachusetts, the sora bag limit is 5 daily and 10 in possession; the Virginia rail bag limit is 10 daily and 20 in possession.

(5) In New Jersey, the season for king rails is closed by State regulation.

(6) In New York, seasons for sora and Virginia rails and common snipe are closed on Long Island.

(7) In Rhode Island, the sora and Virginia rails bag limit is 5 daily and 10 in possession, singly or in the aggregate; the clapper and king rail bag limit is 5 daily and 10 in possession, singly or in the aggregate; the common snipe bag limit is 5 daily and 10 in possession.

(8) In Alabama, the rail limits are 15 daily and 15 in possession, singly or in the aggregate.

(9) In Illinois, shooting hours are from sunrise to sunset.

(10) In Indiana, the sora and Virginia rail limits are 15 daily and 15 in possession, singly or in the aggregate.

(11) In Iowa, the limits for sora and Virginia rails are 12 daily and 24 in possession.

(12) In Michigan, the season opens concurrently with the duck season in certain areas.

(13) In Nebraska, the rail limits are 10 daily and 20 in possession.

(14) In South Dakota, the snipe limits are 5 daily and 15 in possession.

6. Section 20.105 is amended by revising paragraphs (a) through (l) to read as follows:

§20.105 Seasons, limits, and shooting hours for waterfowl, coots, and gallinules.

Subject to the applicable provisions of the preceding sections of this part, areas open to hunting, respective open seasons (dates inclusive), shooting and hawking hours, and daily bag and possession limits for the species designated in this section are prescribed as follows:

Shooting and hawking hours are one-half hour before sunrise until sunset, except as otherwise noted. Area descriptions were published in the August 20, 1997, Federal Register.

CHECK STATE REGULATIONS FOR AREA DESCRIPTIONS AND ANY ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS.

Note: States with deferred seasons may select those seasons at the same time they select waterfowl seasons in August. Consult late-seasons regulations for further information.

(a) Common Moorheens and Purple Gallinules

	Season Dates	Bag	Limits	Possession
ATLANTIC FLYWAY				
Delaware	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	15	30
Florida (1)	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	15	30
Georgia	Deferred	--	--	--
Maine	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	15	30
New Jersey	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	15	15	30
New York	Closed	--	--	--
Long Island	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	15	30
Remainder of State				
North Carolina	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	15	15	30
Pennsylvania	Sept. 1-Nov. 1	15	15	30
South Carolina	Sept. 13-Sept. 20 & Oct. 13-Dec. 13	15	15	30
Virginia	Deferred	--	--	--
West Virginia	Deferred	--	--	--
MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY				
Alabama	Sept. 6-Sept. 14 & Nov. 19-Jan. 18	15	15	15
Arkansas	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	15	30
Indiana	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	10	10	20
Kentucky	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	15	30
Louisiana	Sept. 20-Sept. 28 & Nov. 8-Jan. 7	15	15	30
Michigan	Deferred	--	--	--
Minnesota	Deferred	--	--	--

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
Mississippi	Oct. 12-Dec. 20	15	30
Ohio	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	30
Tennessee	Deferred	--	--
Wisconsin	Deferred	--	--
CENTRAL FLYWAY			
New Mexico	Deferred	--	--
Oklahoma	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	30
Texas	Sept. 13-Sept. 21 & Nov. 8-Jan. 7	15	30
Wyoming	Deferred	--	--
PACIFIC FLYWAY			
All States	Deferred	--	--

NOTE: Notwithstanding the provisions of this Part 20, the shooting of crippled waterfowl from a motorboat under power will be permitted in Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, Connecticut, New York, Delaware, Virginia and Maryland in those areas described, delineated, and designated in their respective hunting regulations as special sea duck hunting areas.

(c) Early (September) Duck Seasons.

Note: Unless otherwise specified, the seasons listed below are for teal only.

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
<u>ATLANTIC FLYWAY</u>			
Florida (1)	Sept. 20-Sept. 24	4	8
<u>MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY</u>			
Alabama	Sept. 6-Sept. 14	4	8
Arkansas (2)	Sept. 13-Sept. 21	4	8
Illinois (2)	Sept. 6-Sept. 14	4	8

(b) Sea Ducks (scoter, eider, and oldsquaw ducks in Atlantic Flyway).

Within the special sea duck areas, the daily bag limit is 7 scoter, eider, and oldsquaw ducks, singly or in the aggregate, of which no more than 4 may be scoters. Possession limits are twice the daily bag limit. These limits may be in addition to regular duck bag limits only during the regular duck season in the special sea duck hunting areas.

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
Connecticut	Deferred	--	--
Delaware	Sept. 18-Jan. 20	7	14
Georgia	Deferred	--	--
Maine	Deferred	--	--

(d) Special Early Canada Goose Seasons:

		Limits	
Season Dates	Bag	Possession	
ATLANTIC FLYWAY			
Connecticut	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	5	10
Delaware	Sept. 1-Sept. 15	5	10
Maine	Sept. 8-Sept. 25	5	10
Maryland	Sept. 2-Sept. 15	5	10
Eastern Unit	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	5	10
Western Unit			
Massachusetts (1)	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	5	10
Central Zone	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	5	10
Coastal Zone	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	5	10
Western Zone	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	3	6
New Hampshire (1)	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	5	10
Early-Season Hunt Unit			
New Jersey	Sept. 2-Sept. 30	5	10
New York	Closed
Lake Champlain Zone	Sept. 1-Sept. 25	5	10
Northeastern Zone	Sept. 1-Sept. 25	5	10
Western Zone	Sept. 1-Sept. 15	5	10
Montezuma Zone	Sept. 1-Sept. 25	5	10
Southeastern Zone	Sept. 1-Sept. 25	5	10
Long Island Zone (2)	Sept. 2-Sept. 30	5	10
North Carolina (3)	Sept. 2-Sept. 20	3	6
Northeast Hunt Unit	Sept. 2-Sept. 30	3	6
Rest of State			
Pennsylvania	Sept. 1-Sept. 25	5	10
Southeast Hunt Area	Sept. 1-Sept. 25	3	6
Rest of State			
Rhode Island	Sept. 11-Sept. 25	5	10
South Carolina	Sept. 13-Sept. 27	4	8
Early-Season Hunt Unit (1)			
CENTRAL FLYWAY			
Indiana (2)	Sept. 1-Sept. 9	4	8
Iowa (3)	Sept. 20-Sept. 24	--	--
North Zone	Sept. 20-Sept. 24	--	--
South Zone			
Kentucky (4)	Sept. 17-Sept. 21	4	8
Louisiana	Sept. 20-Sept. 28	4	8
Mississippi	Sept. 13-Sept. 21	4	8
Missouri (2)	Sept. 13-Sept. 21	4	8
Ohio (2)	Sept. 6-Sept. 14	4	8
Tennessee (4)	Sept. 13-Sept. 17	4	8
Colorado	Sept. 6-Sept. 14	4	8
Kansas	Sept. 13-Sept. 21	4	8
New Mexico	Sept. 13-Sept. 21	4	8
Oklahoma	Sept. 20-Sept. 28	4	8
Texas	Sept. 13-Sept. 21	4	8
(1) In Florida, the daily bag limit is 4 wood ducks and teal in the aggregate. The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.			
(2) Shooting hours are from sunrise to sunset.			
(3) In Iowa, the September season is part of the regular season, and limits will conform to those set for the regular season.			
(4) In Kentucky and Tennessee, the daily bag limit is 4 wood ducks and teal in the aggregate, of which no more than 2 may be wood ducks. The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.			

(1) In Florida, the daily bag limit is 4 wood ducks and teal in the aggregate. The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

(2) Shooting hours are from sunrise to sunset.

(3) In Iowa, the September season is part of the regular season, and limits will conform to those set for the regular season.

(4) In Kentucky and Tennessee, the daily bag limit is 4 wood ducks and teal in the aggregate, of which no more than 2 may be wood ducks. The possession limit is twice the daily bag limit.

		Limits	
Season Dates	Bag	Possession	
PACIFIC FLYWAY			
California Humboldt County	Sept. 6-Sept. 14	2	2
Idaho East Canada Goose Zone (1) Nez Perce County	Sept. 1-Sept. 15 Sept. 6-Sept. 12	2 4	4 8
Oregon Northwest Zone Southwest Zone East Zone	Sept. 6-Sept. 19 Sept. 6-Sept. 12 Sept. 6-Sept. 12	5 3 3	10 6 6
Washington Southwest Zone East Zone Remainder of State	Sept. 6-Sept. 12 Sept. 6-Sept. 12 Sept. 6-Sept. 12	3 3 3	6 6 6
Wyoming (1)(7)	Sept. 1-Sept. 7	2	4 per season
(1) State permit required.			
(2) See State regulations for additional information.			
(3) In North Carolina, the season is closed in Currituck and Dare Counties.			
(4) In Michigan, the season is closed in Huron, Saginaw, and Tuscola Counties.			
(5) In Mississippi, the season is closed on Roebuck Lake in Leflore County.			
(6) Additional restrictions apply in some areas. See State regulations.			
(7) Shooting hours are sunrise to sunset.			
(e) Regular Goose Seasons:			
Note: Bag and possession limits will conform to those set for the regular season.			
Season Dates			
MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY			
Wisconsin Exterior Zone: North Duck Zone Horicon Zone Collins Zone			Sept. 27-Sept. 30 Sept. 20-Sept. 30 Sept. 20-Sept. 30
CENTRAL FLYWAY			
South Dakota (2)	Sept. 6-Sept. 15	2	4
Virginia	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	5	10
West Virginia	Sept. 4-Sept. 13	3	6
MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY			
Alabama	Sept. 6-Sept. 14	5	10
Illinois Northeast Zone North Zone Central Zone	Sept. 1-Sept. 14 Sept. 6-Sept. 14 Sept. 6-Sept. 14	5 2 2	10 10 10
Indiana	Sept. 1-Sept. 15	5	10
Iowa North Zone	Sept. 13-Sept. 14	2	4
Michigan Upper Peninsula Lower Peninsula (4)	Sept. 1-Sept. 10 Sept. 1-Sept. 15	5 5	10 10
Minnesota Twin Cities Metro Zone Two Goose Zone Five Goose Zone	Sept. 6-Sept. 15 Sept. 6-Sept. 15 Sept. 6-Sept. 15	5 2 5	10 4 10
Mississippi (5)	Sept. 1-Sept. 15	5	10
Ohio (6)	Sept. 1-Sept. 15	4	8
Tennessee Middle Tennessee Zone Cumberland Plateau Zone East Tennessee Zone	Sept. 6-Sept. 10 Sept. 2-Sept. 15 Sept. 2-Sept. 15	2 5 5	4 10 10
Wisconsin Early-Season Subzone A Early-Season Subzone B	Sept. 2-Sept. 15 Sept. 2-Sept. 15	5 3	10 6

(f) Youth Waterfowl Hunting Day

The following seasons are open only to youth hunters. Youth hunters must be accompanied into the field by an adult at least 18 years of age. This adult can not duck hunt but may participate in other open seasons.

Definitions

Youth Hunters: Includes youths 15 years of age or younger.

The Atlantic Flyway: Includes Connecticut, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Vermont, Virginia, and West Virginia.

The Mississippi Flyway: Includes Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Mississippi, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, and Wisconsin.

The Central Flyway: Includes Colorado (east of the Continental Divide), Kansas, Montana (Blaine, Carbon, Fergus, Judith Basin, Stillwater, Sweetgrass, Wheatland, and all counties east thereof), Nebraska, New Mexico (east of the Continental Divide except that the Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation is in the Pacific Flyway), North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming (east of the Continental Divide).

The Pacific Flyway: Includes the States of Arizona, California, Colorado (west of the Continental Divide), Idaho, Montana (including and to the west of Hill, Chouteau, Cascade, Meagher, and Park Counties), Nevada, New Mexico (the Jicarilla Apache Indian Reservation and west of the Continental Divide), Oregon, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming (west of the Continental Divide including the Great Divide Basin).

Note: Bag and possession limits will conform to those set for the regular season.

Season DatesATLANTIC FLYWAY

<u>Connecticut</u>	Ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules	Deferred
<u>Delaware</u>	Ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules	Oct. 25
<u>Florida</u>	Ducks, gallinules, and coots	Jan. 24
<u>Georgia</u>	Ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules	Nov. 15
<u>Maine</u>	Ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules	Sept. 20
<u>Maryland (1)</u>	Ducks, mergansers and coots (2)	Oct. 25

Season Dates

<u>Massachusetts</u>	Ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules	Deferred
<u>New Hampshire</u>	Ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules	Deferred
<u>New Jersey</u>	Ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules	Sept. 27
<u>New York</u>	Ducks, mergansers and coots	Nov. 30
	Long Island Zone	Sept. 27
	Lake Champlain Zone	Sept. 28
	Northeastern Zone	Sept. 28
	Southeastern Zone	Oct. 12
	Western Zone	
<u>North Carolina</u>	Ducks, mergansers and coots	Jan. 24
<u>Pennsylvania</u>	Ducks, mergansers, coots and moorhens	Oct. 4
	Statewide	
<u>Rhode Island</u>	Ducks, mergansers and coots	Nov. 22
<u>South Carolina (3)</u>	Ducks, mergansers and coots	Jan. 24
<u>Vermont</u>	Ducks, mergansers and coots	Sept. 27
	Statewide	Deferred
<u>Virginia</u>	Ducks, mergansers and coots	
<u>MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY</u>		
<u>Alabama</u>	Ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules	Jan. 24
	Statewide	
<u>Arkansas</u>	Ducks, mergansers and coots	Deferred
<u>Illinois</u>	Ducks, mergansers and coots	Sept. 27
	North Zone	Oct. 11
	Central Zone	Nov. 1
	South Zone	

Season Dates	
<p>Indiana Ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules North Zone South Zone Ohio River Zone</p> <p>Iowa Ducks, mergansers and coots Statewide</p> <p>Kentucky Ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules Statewide</p> <p>Louisiana</p> <p>Michigan Ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules Statewide</p> <p>Minnesota Ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules</p> <p>Mississippi</p> <p>Missouri</p> <p>Ohio</p> <p>Tennessee</p> <p>Wisconsin Ducks, mergansers, coots and gallinules Statewide</p> <p>CENTRAL FLYWAY</p> <p>Colorado Ducks, mergansers and coots</p> <p>Kansas (4) Ducks, mergansers and coots High Plains Low Plains Early Zone Late Zone</p>	<p>Oct. 11 Nov. 1 Nov. 8</p> <p>Sept. 27</p> <p>Oct. 11 Deferred</p> <p>Sept. 20</p> <p>Sept. 20 Deferred Deferred Deferred Deferred</p> <p>Sept. 27</p> <p>Sept. 27</p> <p>Sept. 27 Oct. 18</p>
<p>Montana Ducks, mergansers and coots</p> <p>Nebraska (5) Ducks, mergansers and coots Statewide</p> <p>North Dakota Ducks, mergansers and coots Statewide</p> <p>Oklahoma</p> <p>South Dakota Ducks, mergansers and coots Statewide</p> <p>Wyoming Ducks, mergansers and coots Statewide</p> <p>PACIFIC FLYWAY (6)</p> <p>Arizona</p> <p>California Ducks Northeastern Zone Colorado River Zone Southern Zone Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone Balance-of-State Zone</p> <p>Colorado Ducks and coots</p> <p>Idaho Ducks and coots Statewide</p> <p>Montana Ducks and coots</p> <p>Nevada Ducks, coots and moorhens Clark and Lincoln Counties Rest of State</p>	<p>Sept. 27</p> <p>Sept. 20</p> <p>Sept. 27 Deferred</p> <p>Sept. 27</p> <p>Sept. 27</p> <p>Deferred</p> <p>Sept. 27 Deferred Jan. 24 Jan. 24 Jan. 24</p> <p>Sept. 27</p> <p>Sept. 27</p> <p>Sept. 27</p> <p>Jan. 24 Sept. 27</p>

	Season Dates	Bag	Limits
CENTRAL FLYWAY			
Colorado (1)	Oct. 4-Nov. 30	3	6
Kansas (1)(2)	Deferred	--	--
Montana			
Regular Season Area (1)	Oct. 4-Nov. 30	3	6
Special Season Area (3)	Sept. 13-Sept. 21	1 per season	
New Mexico			
Regular Season Area (1)	Oct. 31-Jan. 31	3	6
Middle Rio Grande Valley Area (3)(4)(5)	Oct. 25-Oct. 26 & Dec. 13-Dec. 14 & Jan. 3-Jan. 4	2 2 2	2 2 2
Southwest Area (3)(4)(5)	Dec. 20-Dec. 21	2	4
North Dakota (1)	Sept. 6-Nov. 2	3	6
Oklahoma (1)	Deferred	--	--
South Dakota (1)	Sept. 27-Nov. 23	3	6
Texas (1)	Deferred	--	--
Wyoming			
Regular Season Area (1)	Sept. 13-Nov. 9	3	6
Riverton-Boysen Unit (3)(5)	Sept. 20-Sept. 28	1 per permit	
Big Horn and Park Counties (3)(5)	Sept. 20-Sept. 22	1 per permit	
PACIFIC FLYWAY			
Arizona (3)			
	Oct. 30-Nov. 1 & Nov. 3-Nov. 5 & Nov. 7-Nov. 9 & Nov. 11-Nov. 13 & Nov. 15-Nov. 17	2 per season 2 per season 2 per season 2 per season 2 per season	
Idaho	Sept. 1-Sept. 15	1 per season	

	Season Dates
Oregon Ducks and coots Statewide	Sept. 27
Utah Ducks and coots Statewide	Sept. 27
Washington Ducks and coots Statewide	Oct. 4
Wyoming Ducks and coots	Sept. 27

(1) In Maryland, the accompanying adult must be at least 21 years of age and possess a valid Maryland hunting license (or be exempt from the license requirement). This accompanying adult may not shoot or possess a firearm.

(2) In Maryland, the special season is closed on canvasbacks.

(3) In South Carolina, the bag limit of 6 may not exceed 1 black duck, mottled duck, or female mallard in the aggregate.

(4) In Kansas, the adult accompanying the youth must possess any licenses and/or stamps required by law for that individual to hunt waterfowl.

(5) In Nebraska, see State regulations for additional information on the daily bag limit.

(6) In the Pacific Flyway, the daily bag limit for ducks includes mergansers.

7. Section 20.106 is revised to read as follows:

§20.106 Seasons, limits, and shooting hours for sandhill cranes.

Subject to the applicable provisions of the preceding sections of this part, areas open to hunting, respective open seasons (dates inclusive), shooting and hawking hours, and daily bag and possession limits on the species designated in this section are as follows:

Shooting and Hawking hours are one-half hour before sunrise until sunset, except as otherwise noted. Area descriptions were published in the August 20, 1997, Federal Register.

	Season Dates	
<u>Oregon</u>		
Ducks and coots	Sept. 27	
Statewide		
<u>Utah</u>		
Ducks and coots	Sept. 27	
Statewide		
<u>Washington</u>		
Ducks and coots	Oct. 4	
Statewide		
<u>Wyoming</u>		
Ducks and coots	Sept. 27	

(1) In Maryland, the accompanying adult must be at least 21 years of age and possess a valid Maryland hunting license (or be exempt from the license requirement). This accompanying adult may not shoot or possess a firearm.

(2) In Maryland, the special season is closed on canvasbacks.

(3) In South Carolina, the bag limit of 6 may not exceed 1 black duck, mottled duck, or female mallard in the aggregate.

(4) In Kansas, the adult accompanying the youth must possess any licenses and/or stamps required by law for that individual to hunt waterfowl.

(5) In Nebraska, see State regulations for additional information on the daily bag limit.

(6) In the Pacific Flyway, the daily bag limit for ducks includes mergansers.

7. Section 20.106 is revised to read as follows:

§20.106 Seasons, limits, and shooting hours for sandhill cranes.

Subject to the applicable provisions of the preceding sections of this part, areas open to hunting, respective open seasons (dates inclusive), shooting and hawking hours, and daily bag and possession limits on the species designated in this section are as follows:

Shooting and Hawking hours are one-half hour before sunrise until sunset, except as otherwise noted. Area descriptions were published in the August 20, 1997, *Federal Register*.

CHECK STATE REGULATIONS FOR AREA DESCRIPTIONS AND ANY ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS.

Note: States with deferred seasons may select those seasons at the same time they select waterfowl seasons in August. Consult late-season regulations for further information.

These limits apply to falconry during both regular hunting seasons and extended falconry seasons -- unless further restricted by State regulations. The falconry bag and possession limits are not in addition to regular season limits. Unless otherwise specified, extended falconry for ducks does not include sea ducks within the special sea duck areas. Only extended falconry seasons are shown below. Many States permit falconry during the gun seasons. Please consult State regulations for details.

For ducks, mergansers, coots, geese, and some moorhen seasons; additional season days occurring after September 30 will be published with the late-season selections. Some States have deferred selections. Consult late-season regulations for further information.

Extended Falconry Dates

ATLANTIC FLYWAY

Florida

Mourning and white-winged doves
Oct. 28-Nov. 14 &
Dec. 1-Dec. 12 &
Jan. 12-Jan. 18

Rails
Nov. 10-Dec. 16

Woodcock
Nov. 24-Dec. 19 &
Jan. 19-Mar. 10

Common moorhens
Nov. 10-Dec. 15

Maryland

Mourning doves
Oct. 22-Nov. 16 &
Dec. 14-Dec. 21 &
Dec. 25-Dec. 27

Rails
Nov. 9-Dec. 16

Woodcock
Oct. 1-Oct. 24 &
Nov. 15-Nov. 28 &
Dec. 14-Jan. 1

Pennsylvania

Mourning doves
Oct. 13-Oct. 31 &
Dec. 1-Dec. 18

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
Montana			
Special Season Area (3)	Sept. 13-Sept. 14 & Sept. 20-Sept. 21	1 per season 1 per season	
Utah (3)(6)	Sept. 6-Sept. 14	1 per season	
Wyoming			
Bear River Area (3)(5)	Sept. 1-Sept. 7	1 per permit	
Salt River Area (3)(5)	Sept. 1-Sept. 7	1 per permit	
Eden-Farson Area (3)(5)	Sept. 1-Sept. 7	1 per permit	

(1) Each hunter participating in a regular sandhill crane hunting season must obtain and carry in his possession while hunting sandhill cranes a valid Federal sandhill crane hunting permit available without cost from conservation agencies in the States where crane hunting seasons are allowed. The permit must be displayed to any authorized law enforcement official upon request.

(2) Shooting hours are sunrise to 2:00 p.m.

(3) Hunting is by State permit only.

(4) The seasonal bag limit is 2 in the Middle Rio Grande Valley Area and 4 in the Southwest Area.

(5) Shooting hours are sunrise to sunset.

8. Section 20.109 is revised to read as follows:

§20.109 Extended seasons, limits, and hours for taking migratory game birds by falconry.

Subject to the applicable provisions of the preceding sections of this part, areas open to hunting, respective open seasons (dates inclusive), hawking hours, and daily bag and possession limits for the species designated in this section are prescribed as follows:

Hawking hours are one-half hour before sunrise until sunset except as otherwise noted. Area descriptions were published in the August 20, 1997, Federal Register. For those extended seasons for Ducks, Mergansers, and Coots, area descriptions were published in the September 27, 1996, Federal Register (61 FR 50738) and will be published again in a September 1997 Federal Register.

CHECK STATE REGULATIONS FOR AREA DESCRIPTIONS AND ANY ADDITIONAL RESTRICTIONS.

Daily bag limit 3 migratory birds, singly or in the aggregate.

Possession limit 6 migratory birds, singly or in the aggregate.

Extended Falconry Dates		Extended Falconry Dates
Virginia		
Doves	Sept. 28-Oct. 3 & Dec. 9-Dec. 23 & Jan. 7-Jan. 22	
Rails	Sept. 28-Oct. 7 & Dec. 22-Jan. 17	
Woodcock	Nov. 16-Dec. 19 & Jan. 4-Jan. 31	
MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY		
Illinois		
Mourning doves	Oct. 15-Oct. 31 & Nov. 17-Dec. 16	
Rails	Nov. 15-Dec. 21	
Woodcock	Sept. 1-Sept. 30 & Nov. 15-Dec. 16	
Indiana		
Mourning doves	Oct. 17-Nov. 6 & Jan. 1-Jan. 26	
Woodcock	Sept. 20-Oct. 9 & Nov. 24-Jan. 4	
Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1) North Zone	Sept. 23-Sept. 30	
Michigan		
Rails and snipe	Sept. 7-Sept. 14 & Nov. 15-Dec. 12 & Mar. 1-Mar. 10	
Ducks, mergansers, coots, and moorhens (1) Woodcock	Sept. 7-Sept. 30 Sept. 7-Sept. 19 & Nov. 4-Dec. 12 & Mar. 1-Mar. 10	
Minnesota		
Rails, snipe, and woodcock		Nov. 5-Dec. 16
Ducks, mergansers, coots, and moorhens (1)		Sept. 1-Sept. 30
Missouri		
Mourning doves		Oct. 31-Dec. 16
Ducks, mergansers, and coots		Sept. 13-Sept. 21
Tennessee		
Mourning doves		Sept. 28-Oct. 10 & Oct. 26-Nov. 25
Ducks (1)		Sept. 18-Sept. 30
Wisconsin		
Rails, snipe, moorhens, and gallinules (1)		Sept. 1-Sept. 30
Woodcock		Sept. 1-Sept. 19
Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1)		Sept. 13-Sept. 30
CENTRAL FLYWAY		
Montana (2)		
Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1)		Sept. 24-Oct. 3
New Mexico (2)		
Doves		Oct. 1-Nov. 5 & Nov. 28-Nov. 30 & Dec. 31-Jan. 7
Band-tailed pigeons North Zone		Sept. 21-Dec. 16
South Zone		Oct. 21-Jan. 15
Sandhill cranes Regular Season Area		Oct. 17-Oct. 30

Extended Falconry Dates	
North Dakota	
Ducks, mergansers, and coots	Sept. 25-Sept. 26 & Sept. 28-Oct. 3
Snipe	Sept. 1-Sept. 19
South Dakota	
Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1)	Sept. 4-Sept. 12
High Plains	
Low Plains	Sept. 4-Sept. 26 & Sept. 28-Sept. 30
North & Middle Zones	
South Zone	Sept. 8-Sept. 26 & Sept. 28-Sept. 30
Texas	
Mourning and white-winged doves	Nov. 8-Dec. 24
Rails and gallinules	Oct. 2-Nov. 7
Wyoming	
Rails and snipe	Sept. 1-Sept. 12
Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1)	Sept. 18-Sept. 26
PACIFIC FLYWAY	
Arizona	
Doves	Sept. 15-Oct. 31
Idaho	
Mourning doves	Nov. 1-Jan. 16
New Mexico	
Doves	Oct. 1-Nov. 5 & Nov. 28-Nov. 30 & Dec. 31-Jan. 7
Band-tailed pigeons	Sept. 21-Dec. 16
North Zone	
South Zone	Oct. 21-Jan. 15
Oregon (3)	
Mourning doves	Oct. 1-Dec. 16
Band-tailed pigeons	Sept. 1-Sept. 14 & Sept. 24-Dec. 16
Utah	
Mourning doves and band-tailed pigeons	Oct. 1-Dec. 16
Washington	
Mourning doves	Oct. 1-Dec. 31
Wyoming	
Rails and snipe	Sept. 1-Sept. 12

(1) Additional days occurring after September 30 will be published with the late-season selections.

(2) In Montana and New Mexico, the bag limit is 2 and the possession limit is 6.

(3) In Oregon, no more than 1 pigeon daily in bag or possession.