

## 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 (FSES 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	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
<b>EASTERN MANAGEMENT UNIT</b>			
<b>Alabama</b>			
North Zone	Sept. 13 only & Dec. 26-Jan. 10	15 15	15 15
	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	15	15
South Zone	Sept. 14-Oct. 26 Oct. 4-Nov. 21 & Dec. 26-Jan. 15	12 12	12 12
<b>Delaware</b>			
	Sept. 1-Sept. 27 Oct. 20-Nov. 1 & Dec. 12-Jan. 10	12 12	24 24

**Daily Bag and Possession Limits**

Area	Dark		Light Geese (2)	Brant	Common Sandhill Snipe Cranes (4)	
	Ducks (1)	Geese (2) (3)			Snipe	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 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	Bag	Limits	Possession
<b>Florida (1)</b> 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Oct. 4-Oct. 27	12	24	24
	Nov. 15-Nov. 30 & Dec. 13-Jan. 11	12	24	24
		12	24	24
<b>Georgia</b> Zone 1 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 6 only	12	24	24
	Sept. 7-Oct. 5 & Nov. 27-Nov. 29 & Dec. 10-Jan. 15	12	24	24
		12	24	24
Zone 2 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 27 only	12	24	24
	Sept. 28-Oct. 26 & Nov. 27-Nov. 29 & Dec. 10-Jan. 15	12	24	24
		12	24	24
<b>Illinois</b> sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1-Oct. 14 & Nov. 1-Nov. 16	15	30	30
		15	30	30
<b>Indiana</b>	Sept. 1-Oct. 16 & Nov. 7-Nov. 16 & Nov. 27-Nov. 30	15	30	30
		15	30	30
		15	30	30
<b>Kentucky</b> 11 a.m. to sunset sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1-Sept. 30 & Oct. 4-Oct. 27	15	30	30
	Nov. 27-Dec. 2	15	30	30
		15	30	30
<b>Louisiana</b> 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 6-Sept. 7 & Oct. 18-Oct. 19 & Dec. 13-Dec. 14	12	24	24
		12	24	24
		12	24	24
<b>Marxland</b> 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1-Oct. 21	12	24	24
	Nov. 17-Nov. 22 & Dec. 22-Jan. 3	12	24	24
		12	24	24
<b>Mississippi</b> North Zone South Zone	Sept. 6-Sept. 27 & Oct. 11-Nov. 9 & Dec. 27-Jan. 3	15	30	30
		15	30	30
	Sept. 20-Oct. 11 & Nov. 15-Nov. 30 & Dec. 20-Jan. 10	15	30	30
<b>North Carolina</b> 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1-Sept. 6	12	24	24
	Sept. 7-Oct. 4 & Nov. 24-Nov. 29 & Dec. 17-Jan. 15	12	24	24
		12	24	24
<b>Ohio</b>	Sept. 15-Oct. 14 & Oct. 31-Nov. 29	15	30	30
		15	30	30
<b>Pennsylvania</b> 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1-Oct. 11	12	24	24
	Nov. 1-Nov. 29	12	24	24
<b>Rhode Island</b> 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 13-Oct. 5	12	24	24
	Oct. 18-Dec. 3	12	24	24
<b>South Carolina</b> 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1-Sept. 6	12	24	24
	Sept. 7-Oct. 4 & Nov. 22-Nov. 29 & Dec. 19-Jan. 15	12	24	24
		12	24	24
<b>Tennessee</b> 12 noon to sunset 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1 only	15	30	30
	Sept. 2-Sept. 27 & Oct. 11-Oct. 25 & Dec. 20-Jan. 6	15	30	30
		15	30	30

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
<b>Texas (cont)</b>			
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 South Zone	Sept. 20-Nov. 7 & Dec. 26-Jan. 5	15	30
Wyoming	Sept. 1-Oct. 19	15	30
<b>WESTERN MANAGEMENT UNIT I</b>			
Arizona (5)	Sept. 1-Sept. 14 & Nov. 20-Jan. 4	10	20
California (6)	Sept. 1-Sept. 15 & Nov. 8-Dec. 22	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
<b>OTHER POPULATIONS</b>			
Hawaii (7)	Nov. 1-Nov. 30 & Dec. 6-Dec. 28 & Jan. 1-Jan. 19	10	10
		10	10
		10	10

  

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

(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.

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**

Connecticut (3)	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Oct. 18-Nov. 15	Oct. 18-Nov. 15
Delaware	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Oct. 20-Nov. 1 & Nov. 24-Dec. 10	Nov. 24-Jan. 31
Florida	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Dec. 20-Jan. 18	Nov. 1-Feb. 15
Georgia	Sept. 17-Nov. 25	Sept. 17-Nov. 25	Jan. 2-Jan. 31	Nov. 15-Feb. 28
Maine	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 6-Nov. 4	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Mainland	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Sept. 1-Nov. 3	Oct. 25-Nov. 14 & Jan. 2-Jan. 10	Sept. 17-Nov. 28 & Dec. 15-Jan. 17
Massachusetts (4)	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Closed	Deferred	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
New Hampshire	Closed	Closed	Oct. 6-Nov. 4	Sept. 15-Nov. 4
New Jersey (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
New York (6)	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 6-Nov. 4	Sept. 1-Dec. 16

(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 face-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	Bag	Limits Possession
Arizona (1)	Oct. 15-Oct. 24	5	10
California North Zone	Sept. 20-Sept. 28	2	2
South Zone	Dec. 20-Dec. 28	2	2
Colorado (1)	Sept. 1-Sept. 30	5	10
New Mexico (1) North Zone	Sept. 1-Sept. 20	5	10
South Zone	Oct. 1-Oct. 20	5	10
Oregon	Sept. 15-Sept. 23	2	2
Utah (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 issued by the respective State.

	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
<b>MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY</b>				
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

  

	Sora and Virginia Rails	Clapper and King Rails	Woodcock	Common Snipe
Tennessee	Deferred	Closed	Oct. 11-Nov. 24	Nov. 14-Feb. 28
Wisconsin	Deferred	Closed	Sept. 20-Nov. 3	Deferred
<b>CENTRAL FLYWAY</b>				
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
<b>PACIFIC FLYWAY</b>				
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.

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

(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.

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
Maryland	Deferred	--	--
Massachusetts	Deferred	--	--
New Hampshire	Sept. 15-Dec. 30	7	14
New Jersey	Sept. 20-Jan. 20	7	14
New York	Oct. 6-Jan. 20	7	14
North Carolina	Deferred	--	--
Rhode Island	Oct. 10-Jan. 20	7	14
South Carolina	Deferred	--	--
Virginia	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
ATLANTIC FLYWAY			
Florida (1)	Sept. 20-Sept. 24	4	8
MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY			
Alabama	Sept. 6-Sept. 14	4	8
Arkansas (2)	Sept. 13-Sept. 21	4	8
Illinois (2)	Sept. 6-Sept. 14	4	8

	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	--	--

(1) The season applies to common moorhens only.

(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
	Bag	Possession			
<b>ATLANTIC FLYWAY</b>					
Connecticut	5	10	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	5	10
Delaware	5	10	Sept. 1-Sept. 15	5	10
Maine	5	10	Sept. 8-Sept. 25	5	10
Mainland Eastern Unit	5	10	Sept. 2-Sept. 15	5	10
Western Unit	5	10	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	5	10
Massachusetts (1)					
Central Zone	5	10	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	5	10
Coastal Zone	5	10	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	5	10
Western Zone	3	6	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	3	6
New Hampshire (1)					
Early-Season Hunt Unit	5	10	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	5	10
New Jersey	5	10	Sept. 2-Sept. 30	5	10
New York					
Lake Champlain Zone	5	10	Closed	5	10
Northeastern Zone	5	10	Sept. 1-Sept. 25	5	10
Western Zone	5	10	Sept. 1-Sept. 25	5	10
Montezuma Zone	5	10	Sept. 1-Sept. 15	5	10
Southeastern Zone	5	10	Sept. 1-Sept. 25	5	10
Long Island Zone (2)	5	10	Sept. 2-Sept. 30	5	10
North Carolina (3)					
Northeast Hunt Unit	3	6	Sept. 2-Sept. 20	3	6
Rest of State	3	6	Sept. 2-Sept. 30	3	6
Pennsylvania					
Southeast Hunt Area	5	10	Sept. 1-Sept. 25	5	10
Rest of State	3	6	Sept. 1-Sept. 25	3	6
Rhode Island	5	10	Sept. 11-Sept. 25	5	10
South Carolina					
Early-Season Hunt Unit (1)	4	8	Sept. 13-Sept. 27	4	8
<b>CENTRAL FLYWAY</b>					
Indiana (2)	4	8	Sept. 1-Sept. 9	4	8
Iowa (3)					
North Zone	--	--	Sept. 20-Sept. 24	--	--
South Zone	--	--	Sept. 20-Sept. 24	--	--
Kentucky (4)	4	8	Sept. 17-Sept. 21	4	8
Louisiana	4	8	Sept. 20-Sept. 28	4	8
Mississippi	4	8	Sept. 13-Sept. 21	4	8
Missouri (2)	4	8	Sept. 13-Sept. 21	4	8
Ohio (2)	4	8	Sept. 6-Sept. 14	4	8
Tennessee (4)	4	8	Sept. 13-Sept. 17	4	8
Colorado	4	8	Sept. 6-Sept. 14	4	8
Kansas	4	8	Sept. 13-Sept. 21	4	8
New Mexico	4	8	Sept. 13-Sept. 21	4	8
Oklahoma	4	8	Sept. 20-Sept. 28	4	8
Texas	4	8	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.

	Season Dates	Bag	Limits Possession
<b>PACIFIC FLYWAY</b>			
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			
<b>MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY</b>			
Virginia	Sept. 2-Sept. 25	5	10
West Virginia	Sept. 4-Sept. 13	3	6
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
<b>CENTRAL FLYWAY</b>			
South Dakota (2)	Sept. 6-Sept. 15	2	4
Season Dates			
Sept. 27-Sept. 30 Sept. 20-Sept. 30 Sept. 20-Sept. 30			

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

**Season Dates**

**ATLANTIC FLYWAY**

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

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

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

**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

Marland 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) Salt River Area (3)(5) Eden-Farson Area (3)(5)	Sept. 1-Sept. 7 Sept. 1-Sept. 7 Sept. 1-Sept. 7	1 per permit 1 per permit 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
<b>Virginia</b>		
Doves	Sept. 28-Oct. 3 & Dec. 9-Dec. 23 & Jan. 7-Jan. 22	Rails, snipe, and woodcock Ducks, mergansers, coots, and moorhens (1)
Rails	Sept. 28-Oct. 7 & Dec. 22-Jan. 17	Mourning doves
Woodcock	Nov. 16-Dec. 19 & Jan. 4-Jan. 31	Ducks, mergansers, and coots
<b>MISSISSIPPIELYWAY</b>		
<b>Illinois</b>		
Mourning doves	Oct. 15-Oct. 31 & Nov. 17-Dec. 16	Ducks (1)
Rails	Nov. 15-Dec. 21	<b>Wisconsin</b>
Woodcock	Sept. 1-Sept. 30 & Nov. 15-Dec. 16	Rails, snipe, moorhens, and gallinules (1) Woodcock
<b>Indiana</b>		
Mourning doves	Oct. 17-Nov. 6 & Jan. 1-Jan. 26	Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1)
Woodcock	Sept. 20-Oct. 9 & Nov. 24-Jan. 4	<b>CENTRAL ELYWAY</b>
Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1) North Zone	Sept. 23-Sept. 30	<b>Montana (2)</b> Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1)
<b>Michigan</b>		
Rails and snipe	Sept. 7-Sept. 14 & Nov. 15-Dec. 12 & Mar. 1-Mar. 10	Doves
Ducks, mergansers, coots, and moorhens (1)	Sept. 7-Sept. 30	Band-tailed pigeons North Zone South Zone
Woodcock	Sept. 7-Sept. 19 & Nov. 4-Dec. 12 & Mar. 1-Mar. 10	Sandhill cranes Regular Season Area
		Oct. 1-Nov. 5 & Nov. 28-Nov. 30 & Dec. 31-Jan. 7
		Sept. 21-Dec. 16 Oct. 21-Jan. 15
		Oct. 17-Oct. 30

	Extended Falconry Dates
<b>New Mexico</b>	
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
<b>Oregon (3)</b>	
Mourning doves	Oct. 1-Dec. 16
Band-tailed pigeons	Sept. 1-Sept. 14 & Sept. 24-Dec. 16
<b>Utah</b>	
Mourning doves and band-tailed pigeons	Oct. 1-Dec. 16
<b>Washington</b>	
Mourning doves	Oct. 1-Dec. 31
<b>Wyoming</b>	
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.

	Extended Falconry Dates
<b>North Dakota</b>	
Ducks, mergansers, and coots	Sept. 25-Sept. 26 & Sept. 28-Oct. 3
Snipe	Sept. 1-Sept. 19
<b>South Dakota</b>	
Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1) High Plains	Sept. 4-Sept. 12
Low Plains North & Middle Zones	Sept. 4-Sept. 26 & Sept. 28-Sept. 30
South Zone	Sept. 8-Sept. 26 & Sept. 28-Sept. 30
<b>Texas</b>	
Mourning and white-winged doves	Nov. 8-Dec. 24
Rails and gallinules	Oct. 2-Nov. 7
<b>Wyoming</b>	
Rails and snipe	Sept. 1-Sept. 12
Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1)	Sept. 18-Sept. 26
<b>PACIFIC FLYWAY</b>	
<b>Arizona</b>	
Doves	Sept. 15-Oct. 31
<b>Idaho</b>	
Mourning doves	Nov. 1-Jan. 16