

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## Fish and Wildlife Service

## 50 CFR Part 20

RIN 1018-AE93

**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 1998-99 season.

**DATES:** This rule is effective on September 1, 1998.

**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 1998**

On March 20, 1998, the Service published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 13748) 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 May 29, 1998, the Service published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 29518) a second document providing supplemental proposals for early- and late-season migratory bird hunting regulations frameworks and the proposed regulatory alternatives for the 1998-99 duck hunting season. The May 29 supplement also provided detailed information on the 1998-99 regulatory schedule and announced the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee and Flyway Council meetings.

On June 25, 1998, the Service held a public hearing in Washington, DC, as

announced in the March 20 and May 29 **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 17, 1998, the Service published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 38700) a third document specifically dealing with proposed early-season frameworks for the 1998-99 season. The July 17 supplement also established the final regulatory alternatives for the 1998-99 duck hunting season for all States except Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee. On August 5, 1998, the Service published in the **Federal Register** (63 FR 41926) a fourth document dealing specifically with the final regulatory alternatives for the 1998-99 duck hunting season for the States of Alabama, Arkansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, and Tennessee.

On August 6, 1998, the Service held a public hearing in Washington, DC, as announced in the March 20, May 29, and July 17 **Federal Registers**, to review the status of waterfowl. Proposed hunting regulations were discussed for late seasons. On August 28, 1998, 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, 1998, the Service published a sixth document (63 FR 45350) on migratory bird hunting. The sixth document dealt specifically with proposed frameworks for the 1998-99 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 Considerations**

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 regulations would 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 caused modification of some regulatory measures previously proposed. The final frameworks reflect any 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 MBMO, at the address indicated under the caption **ADDRESSES**.

**Regulatory Flexibility Act**

In the March 20, 1998, **Federal Register**, the Service reported measures it took to comply with requirements of the Regulatory Flexibility Act. One measure was to update the 1996 Small Entity Flexibility Analysis (Analysis) documenting the significant beneficial economic effect on a substantial number of small entities. The 1996 Analysis estimated that migratory bird hunters would spend between \$254 and \$592 million at small businesses. The Service has updated the 1996 Analysis with information from the 1996 National Hunting and Fishing Survey. Nationwide, the Service now estimates that migratory bird hunters will spend between \$429 and \$1,084 million at small businesses in 1998. Copies of the 1998 Analysis are available upon request from the Office of Migratory Bird Management.

**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. E.O. 12866 requires each agency to write regulations that are easy

to understand. The Service invites comments on how to make this rule easier to understand, including answers to questions such as the following: (1) Are the requirements in the rule clearly stated? (2) Does the rule contain technical language or jargon that interferes with its clarity? (3) Does the format of the rule (grouping and order of sections, use of headings, paragraphing, etc.) aid or reduce its clarity? (4) Would the rule be easier to understand if it were divided into more (but shorter) sections? (5) Is the description of the rule in the SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION section of the preamble helpful in understanding the proposed rule? What else could the Service do to make the rule easier to understand?

Send a copy of any comments that concern how this rule could be made easier to understand to: Office of Regulatory Affairs, Department of the Interior, Room 7229, 1849 C Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20240. Comments may also be e-mailed to: Exsec@ios.doi.gov.

#### **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.

#### **Paperwork Reduction Act**

The Service examined these regulations under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. The various recordkeeping and reporting requirements imposed under regulations established in 50 CFR Part 20, Subpart K, are utilized in the formulation of 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 (expires 08/31/1998). The renewal clearance packet was submitted to OMB July 22, 1998. 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. The information collection requirements of the Sandhill Crane Harvest Questionnaire have been approved by OMB and assigned clearance number 1018-0023 (expires 09/30/2000). 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 may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number.

#### **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.

#### **Takings Implication Assessment**

In accordance with Executive Order 12630, these rules, authorized by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, do not have significant takings implications and do not affect any constitutionally protected property rights. These rules will not result in the physical occupancy of property, the physical invasion of property, or the regulatory taking of any property. In fact, these rules allow hunters to exercise privileges that would be otherwise unavailable; and, therefore, reduce restrictions on the use of private and public property.

#### **Federalism Effects**

Due to the migratory nature of certain species of birds, the Federal government has been given responsibility over these species by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act. The Service annually prescribes frameworks from which the States make selections and employs guidelines to establish special regulations on Federal Indian reservations and ceded lands. This process preserves the ability of the States and Tribes to determine which seasons meet their individual needs. Any State or Tribe may be more restrictive than the Federal frameworks at any time. The frameworks are developed in a cooperative process with the States and the Flyway Councils. This allows States to participate in the development of frameworks from which they will make selections, thereby having an influence on their own regulation. These rules do not have a substantial direct effect on fiscal

capacity, change the roles or responsibilities of Federal or State governments, or intrude on State policy or administration. Therefore, in accordance with Executive Order 12612, these regulations do not have significant federalism effects and do not have sufficient federalism implications to warrant the preparation of a Federalism Assessment.

#### **Government-to-Government Relationship With Tribes**

In accordance with the President's memorandum of April 29, 1994, "Government-to-Government Relations with Native American Tribal Governments" (59 FR 22951) and 512 DM 2, we have evaluated possible effects on Federally recognized Indian tribes and have determined that there are no effects.

#### **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.

#### **List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 20**

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

Dated: August 25, 1998.

**Donald Barry,**

*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  
continues to read as follows:

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

**BILLING CODE** 4310-55-P

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
<b>Doves and Pigeons</b>			
Zenaida, white-winged, and mourning doves	Sept. 5-Nov. 2	10	10
Scaly-naped pigeons	Sept. 5-Nov. 2	5	5
Ducks	Nov. 14-Dec. 21 & Jan. 9-Jan. 25	6	12
Common Moorhens	Nov. 14-Dec. 21 & Jan. 9-Jan. 25	6	12
Common Snipe	Nov. 14-Dec. 21 & Jan. 9-Jan. 25	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 28, 1998, 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 28, 1998, 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

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 300 permits may be issued. Season evaluation to adhere to guidelines for experimental seasons as described in the Pacific Flyway Management Plan for the Western Population of (Tundra) swans.

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 28, 1998, 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
<b>EASTERN MANAGEMENT UNIT</b>			
<b>Alabama</b>			
North Zone	Sept. 12 only & Dec. 26-Jan. 10	15	15
	1/2 hour before sunrise	15	15
South Zone	Sept. 13-Oct. 25	15	15
	12 noon to sunset	12	12
	Oct. 3-Nov. 20 & Dec. 26-Jan. 15	12	12
<b>Dalavata</b>			
	Sept. 1-Sept. 26	12	24
	1/2 hour before sunrise	12	24
	Oct. 19-Oct. 31 & Dec. 7-Jan. 9	12	24
<b>Florida (1)</b>			
	Oct. 3-Oct. 26	12	24
	1/2 hour before sunrise	12	24
	Nov. 14-Nov. 29 & Dec. 12-Jan. 10	12	24

Area	Daily Bag and Possession Limits				
	Ducks(1)	Dark Geese(2)(3)	Light Geese (2)	Brant	Common Sandhill 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 (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 Steiler'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 3 Canada geese daily, 6 in possession. In Units 5 and 6, the taking of Canada geese is only permitted from September 28 through December 16. In Unit 10 (except Unimak Island), 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. In the Middleton Island portion of Unit 6, the taking of Canada geese is by special permit only, with a daily bag and possession limit of 1.

(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.

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 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. In Unit 23, there will be an

		Limits				Limits	
		Bag	Possession	Bag	Possession		
Season Dates				Season Dates			
<u>Georgia</u>							
Zone 1							
12 noon to sunset	Sept. 5 only	12	24				
1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 6-Oct. 4 & Nov. 26-Nov. 28 & Dec. 10-Jan. 15	12	24				
Zone 2							
12 noon to sunset	Sept. 26 only	12	24				
1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 27-Oct. 25 & Nov. 26-Nov. 28 & Dec. 10-Jan. 15	12	24				
<u>Illinois</u>							
sunrise to sunset	Sept. 1-Oct. 14 & Nov. 7-Nov. 22	15	30				
<u>Indiana</u>							
	Sept. 1-Oct. 16 & Nov. 6-Nov. 15 & Nov. 26-Nov. 29	15	30				
<u>Kentucky</u>							
11 a.m. to sunset	Sept. 1-Sept. 30 & Oct. 3-Oct. 26	15	30				
1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Nov. 26-Dec. 1	15	30				
<u>Louisiana</u>							
12 noon to sunset	Sept. 5-Sept. 6 & Oct. 17-Oct. 18 & Dec. 12-Dec. 13	15	30				
1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 7-Sept. 13 & Oct. 19-Nov. 6 & Dec. 14-Jan. 10	15	30				
<u>Marvland</u>							
12 noon to sunset	Sept. 1-Oct. 21	12	24				
1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Nov. 16-Nov. 21 & Dec. 21-Jan. 2	12	24				
<u>Mississippi</u>							
North Zone							
	Sept. 5-Sept. 26 & Oct. 10-Nov. 8 & Dec. 26-Jan. 2	15	30				
South Zone							
	Sept. 26-Oct. 17 & Nov. 14-Nov. 29 & Dec. 19-Jan. 9	15	30				
<u>North Carolina</u>							
12 noon to sunset	Sept. 5-Sept. 11	12	24				
1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 12-Oct. 10 & Nov. 23-Nov. 28 & Dec. 19-Jan. 14	12	24				
<u>Ohio</u>							
	Sept. 15-Oct. 14 & Oct. 30-Nov. 28	15	30				
<u>Pennsylvania</u>							
12 noon to sunset	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	12	24				
<u>Rhode Island</u>							
12 noon to sunset	Sept. 12-Oct. 4	12	24				
1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Oct. 17-Dec. 2	12	24				
<u>South Carolina</u>							
12 noon to sunset	Sept. 5-Sept. 7	12	24				
1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 8-Oct. 10 & Nov. 21-Nov. 28 & Dec. 19-Jan. 13	12	24				
<u>Tennessee</u>							
12 noon to sunset	Sept. 1 only	15	30				
1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 2-Sept. 27 & Oct. 10-Oct. 24 & Dec. 19-Jan. 5	15	30				
<u>Virginia</u>							
12 noon to sunset	Sept. 5-Sept. 26	12	24				
1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Oct. 3-Nov. 3 & Dec. 25-Jan. 9	12	24				

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
<b>Texas (cont)</b>			
Remainder of the South Zone	Sept. 25-Nov. 8 & Dec. 26-Jan. 9	15	30
Wyoming	Sept. 1-Oct. 30	15	30
<b>WESTERN MANAGEMENT UNIT</b>			
Arizona (5)	Sept. 1-Sept. 15 & Nov. 20-Jan. 3	10	20
California (6)	Sept. 1-Sept. 15 & Nov. 14-Dec. 28	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. 7-Nov. 29 & Dec. 5-Dec. 27 & Jan. 1-Jan. 18	10	10
		10	10
		10	10
<p>(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.</p> <p>(2) In New Mexico, the daily bag limit is 15 and the possession limit is 30 mourning and white-winged doves in the aggregate.</p> <p>(3) In South Dakota, shooting hours are from sunrise to sunset.</p> <p>(4) In Texas, the daily bag limit is 15 mourning, white-winged, and white-tipped doves in the aggregate, of which no more than 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.</p>			
<b>West Virginia</b>			
12 noon to sunset	Sept. 1 only	12	24
1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	Sept. 2-Oct. 3 & Oct. 26-Nov. 7 & Dec. 17-Jan. 9	12	24
		12	24
		12	24
<b>CENTRAL MANAGEMENT UNIT</b>			
Arkansas	Sept. 5-Sept. 27 & Oct. 10-Oct. 25 & Dec. 19-Jan. 8	15	30
		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)			
North Zone	Sept. 1-Oct. 30	15	30
South Zone	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. 16	15	30
Texas (4)			
North Zone	Sept. 1-Oct. 30	15	30
Central Zone	Sept. 1-Oct. 18 & Dec. 26-Jan. 6	15	30
		15	30
South Zone	Sept. 25-Nov. 8 & Dec. 26-Jan. 5	15	30
Special Area	Sept. 5-Sept. 6 & Sept. 12-Sept. 13	10	20
(Special Season) 12 noon to sunset		10	20

(5) In Arizona, during September 1 through 10, 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 3, 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	Bag	Limits Possession
<u>Arizona</u>	Oct. 2-Oct. 9	5	10
<u>California</u>			
North Zone	Sept. 19-Sept. 27	2	2
South Zone	Dec. 19-Dec. 27	2	2
<u>Colorado</u>	Sept. 1-Sept. 30	5	10
<u>New Mexico</u>			
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>	Sept. 1-Sept. 30	5	10

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 28, 1996, 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	Coffinon Snipe
Daily bag limit	25 (1)	15 (2)	3	8
Possession limit	25 (1)	30 (2)	6	16
<b>ATLANTIC FLYWAY</b>				
<u>Connecticut</u> (3)	Sept. 1-Nov. 7	Sept. 1-Nov. 7	Oct. 17-Nov. 14	Oct. 17-Nov. 14
<u>Delaware</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Oct. 19-Oct. 31 & Nov. 23-Dec. 9	Nov. 23-Jan. 31
<u>Florida</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Dec. 19-Jan. 17	Nov. 1-Feb. 15
<u>Georgia</u>	Sept. 19-Nov. 27	Sept. 19-Nov. 27	Dec. 19-Jan. 17	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. 9	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Oct. 26-Nov. 14 & Jan. 4-Jan. 13	Sept. 16-Nov. 27 & Dec. 14-Jan. 16
<u>Massachusetts</u> (4)	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	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. 7	Sept. 1-Nov. 7	Oct. 14-Nov. 6	Sept. 25-Jan. 9
South Zone	Sept. 1-Nov. 7	Sept. 1-Nov. 7	Nov. 7-Nov. 21 & Dec. 18-Dec. 26	Sept. 25-Jan. 9
<u>New York</u> (6)	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 6-Nov. 4	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
<u>North Carolina</u>	Sept. 5-Nov. 13	Sept. 5-Nov. 13	Dec. 18-Jan. 16	Nov. 14-Feb. 28
<u>Pennsylvania</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 24-Nov. 7	Oct. 24-Nov. 28
<u>Rhode Island</u> (7)	Sept. 12-Nov. 20	Sept. 12-Nov. 20	Nov. 6-Dec. 4	Sept. 12-Dec. 4
<u>South Carolina</u>	Sept. 7-Oct. 11 & Nov. 2-Dec. 6	Sept. 7-Oct. 11 & Nov. 2-Dec. 6	Jan. 2-Jan. 31	Nov. 14-Feb. 28
<u>Vermont</u>	Deferred	Deferred	Deferred	Deferred
<u>Virginia</u>	Sept. 9-Oct. 24 & Nov. 2-Nov. 25	Sept. 9-Oct. 24 & Nov. 2-Nov. 25	Oct. 31-Nov. 14 & Dec. 19-Jan. 2	Oct. 7-Oct. 10 & Oct. 20-Jan. 30

	Sora and Virginia Rails	Clapper and King Rails	Woodcock	Common Snipe
West Virginia	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 19-Nov. 17	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
<b>MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY</b>				
Alabama (8)	Sept. 5-Sept. 20 & Nov. 25-Jan. 17	Sept. 5-Sept. 20 & Nov. 25-Jan. 17	Dec. 18-Jan. 31	Nov. 14-Feb. 28
Arkansas	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Nov. 14-Dec. 13 & Jan. 2-Jan. 16	Nov. 7-Feb. 21
Illinois (9)	Sept. 5-Nov. 13	Closed	Oct. 17-Nov. 30	Sept. 5-Dec. 20
Indiana (10)	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 9-Nov. 22	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Iowa (11)	Sept. 5-Nov. 13	Closed	Oct. 3-Nov. 16	Sept. 5-Nov. 30
Kentucky	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 17-Nov. 30	Sept. 16-Nov. 1 & Nov. 26-Jan. 24
Louisiana	Sept. 12-Sept. 27 & Nov. 7-Dec. 30	Sept. 12-Sept. 27 & Nov. 7-Dec. 30	Dec. 18-Jan. 31	Nov. 7-Feb. 21
Michigan (12)	Sept. 15-Nov. 14	Closed	Sept. 19-Nov. 2	Sept. 15-Nov. 14
Minnesota	Sept. 1-Nov. 4	Closed	Sept. 19-Nov. 2	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. 15-Nov. 28	Sept. 1-Nov. 28 & Dec. 9-Dec. 26
Tennessee	Deferred	Closed	Oct. 31-Dec. 14	Nov. 14-Feb. 28
Wisconsin	Deferred	Closed	Sept. 19-Nov. 2	Deferred
<b>CENTRAL FLYWAY</b>				
Colorado	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Closed	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Kansas	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Oct. 16-Nov. 29	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Montana	Closed	Closed	Closed	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Nebraska (13)	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Sept. 19-Nov. 2	Sept. 1-Dec. 16

	Sora and Virginia Rails	Clapper and King Rails	Woodcock	Common Snipe
New Mexico	Oct. 10-Dec. 18	Closed	Closed	Oct. 10-Jan. 17
North Dakota	Closed	Closed	Sept. 19-Nov. 1	Sept. 19-Nov. 29
Oklahoma	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Nov. 14-Dec. 28	Oct. 1-Jan. 15
South Dakota (14)	Closed	Closed	Closed	Sept. 1-Oct. 31
Texas	Sept. 12-Sept. 27 & Oct. 24-Dec. 16	Sept. 12-Sept. 27 & Oct. 24-Dec. 16	Dec. 18-Jan. 31	Oct. 17-Jan. 31
Wyoming	Sept. 12-Nov. 15	Closed	Closed	Sept. 12-Dec. 13
<b>PACIFIC FLYWAY</b>				
Colorado	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed	Closed	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
Idaho	Closed	Closed	Closed	Oct. 3-Jan. 16
Montana	Closed	Closed	Closed	Sept. 1-Dec. 16
New Mexico	Oct. 13-Jan. 17	Closed	Closed	Oct. 13-Jan. 17
Wyoming	Sept. 12-Nov. 15	Closed	Closed	Sept. 12-Dec. 13

**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.

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
<u>New Jersey</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 7	10	20
<u>New York</u> <u>Long Island</u> <u>Remainder of State</u>	Closed Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	30
<u>North Carolina</u>	Sept. 5-Nov. 13	15	30
<u>Pennsylvania</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	30
<u>South Carolina</u>	Sept. 7-Oct. 11 & Nov. 2-Dec. 6	15	30
<u>Virginia</u>	Deferred	--	--
<u>West Virginia</u>	Deferred	--	--
<u>MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY</u>			
<u>Alabama</u>	Sept. 5-Sept. 20 & Nov. 25-Jan. 17	15	15
<u>Arkansas</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	30
<u>Indiana</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	30
<u>Kentucky</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	30
<u>Louisiana</u>	Sept. 12-Sept. 27 & Nov. 7-Dec. 30	15	30
<u>Michigan</u>	Deferred	--	--
<u>Minnesota</u>	Deferred	--	--
<u>Mississippi</u>	Oct. 12-Dec. 20	15	30
<u>Ohio</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	30
<u>Tennessee</u>	Deferred	--	--
<u>Wisconsin</u>	Deferred	--	--

- (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 rail limits are 15 daily and 15 in possession. The season on Virginia rails is closed.
- (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 (f) 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 28, 1998, 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	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
<u>ATLANTIC FLYWAY</u>			
<u>Delaware</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	30
<u>Florida (1)</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	30
<u>Georgia</u>	Nov. 21-Jan. 19	15	30
<u>Maine</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	30

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
New Jersey	Sept. 18-Jan. 20	7	14
New York	Oct. 6-Jan. 20	7	14
North Carolina	Deferred	--	--
Rhode Island	Oct. 9-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
<b>ATLANTIC FLYWAY</b>			
Delaware (1)(2)	Sept. 10-Sept. 19	4	8
Florida (3)	Sept. 20-Sept. 24	4	8
Georgia	Sept. 19-Sept. 27	4	8
Maryland (1)	Sept. 12-Sept. 22	4	8
North Carolina (1)	Sept. 10-Sept. 19	4	8
South Carolina (5)	Sept. 18-Sept. 26	4	8
Virginia (1)	Sept. 10-Sept. 19	4	8
<b>MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY</b>			
Alabama	Sept. 5-Sept. 20	4	8

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
<b>CENTRAL FLYWAY</b>			
New Mexico Zone 1	Oct. 10-Oct. 25 & Oct. 29-Jan. 17	1	2
Zone 2	Oct. 13-Jan. 17	1	2
Oklahoma	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	15	30
Texas	Sept. 12-Sept. 27 & Oct. 24-Dec. 16	15	30
Wyoming	Deferred	--	--
<b>PACIFIC FLYWAY</b>			
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	Nov. 21-Jan. 19	7	14
Maine	Deferred	--	--
Maryland	Deferred	--	--
Massachusetts	Deferred	--	--
New Hampshire	Sept. 15-Dec. 30	7	14

(5) In South Carolina, shooting hours are from sunrise to noon.  
 (6) In Iowa, the September season is part of the regular season, and limits will conform to those set for the regular season.

(7) 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.

(d) Special Early Canada Goose Seasons.

	Season Dates	Bag	Limits	Possession
<b>ATLANTIC FLYWAY</b>				
Connecticut North Zone	Sept. 1-Sept. 4 & Sept. 8-Sept. 25	5	5	10
Delaware	Sept. 1-Sept. 15	5	5	10
Maine	Sept. 8-Sept. 25	3	3	6
Maryland Eastern Unit Western Unit	Sept. 1-Sept. 15 Sept. 1-Sept. 25	5 5	5 5	10 10
Massachusetts (1) Central Zone Coastal Zone Western Zone	Sept. 8-Sept. 25 Sept. 8-Sept. 25 Sept. 8-Sept. 25	5 5 3	5 5 3	10 10 6
New Hampshire	Sept. 8-Sept. 25	3	3	6
New Jersey	Sept. 1-Sept. 30	5	5	10
New York Lake Champlain Zone Northeastern Zone Western Zone Montezuma Zone Southeastern Zone Long Island Zone (2)	Sept. 8-Sept. 15 Sept. 1-Sept. 25 Sept. 1-Sept. 25 Sept. 1-Sept. 15 Sept. 1-Sept. 25 Sept. 1-Sept. 30	2 5 5 5 5 5	2 5 5 5 5 5	4 10 10 10 10 10
North Carolina (3) Northeast Hunt Unit Rest of State	Sept. 1-Sept. 20 Sept. 8-Sept. 30	3 3	3 3	6 6

	Season Dates	Bag	Limits	Possession
Arkansas (4)	Sept. 12-Sept. 27	4	4	8
Illinois (4)	Sept. 5-Sept. 20	4	4	8
Indiana (4)	Sept. 1-Sept. 16	4	4	8
Iowa (6) North Zone South Zone	Sept. 19-Sept. 23 Sept. 19-Sept. 23	-- --	-- --	-- --
Kentucky (7)	Sept. 16-Sept. 20	4	4	8
Louisiana	Sept. 12-Sept. 27	4	4	8
Mississippi	Sept. 12-Sept. 27	4	4	8
Missouri (4)	Sept. 5-Sept. 20	4	4	8
Ohio (4)	Sept. 1-Sept. 16	4	4	8
Tennessee (7)	Sept. 12-Sept. 16	4	4	8
<b>CENTRAL FLYWAY</b>				
Colorado	Sept. 5-Sept. 13	4	4	8
Kansas Low Plains High Plains	Sept. 12-Sept. 27 Sept. 12-Sept. 20	4 4	4 4	8 8
New Mexico	Sept. 19-Sept. 27	4	4	8
Oklahoma Low Plains High Plains	Sept. 12-Sept. 27 Sept. 12-Sept. 20	4 4	4 4	8 8
Texas	Sept. 12-Sept. 27	4	4	8

(1) Area restrictions. See State regulations.

(2) In Delaware, the shooting hours are from 1/2 hour before sunrise to 10:00 a.m.

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

(4) Shooting hours are from sunrise to sunset.

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
Pennsylvania Southeast Hunt Area Rest of State	Sept. 1-Sept. 25 Sept. 1-Sept. 25	5 3	10 6
Rhode Island	Sept. 11-Sept. 25	5	10
South Carolina Early-Season Hunt Unit	Sept. 12-Sept. 26	4	8
Vermont Lake Champlain Zone Interior, Vermont Zone: Bennington, Rutland, & Windsor Counties Rest of Zone	Sept. 8-Sept. 15 Sept. 8-Sept. 15 Sept. 8-Sept. 15	2 5 2	4 10 4
Virginia	Sept. 1-Sept. 4 Sept. 8-Sept. 25	5 5	10 10
West Virginia	Sept. 1-Sept. 12	3	6
MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY			
Alabama	Sept. 5-Sept. 15	5	10
Illinois Northeast Zone North Zone Central Zone South Zone	Sept. 1-Sept. 15 Sept. 1-Sept. 15 Sept. 1-Sept. 15 Sept. 1-Sept. 15	5 2 2 2	10 10 10 10
Indiana	Sept. 1-Sept. 15	5	10
Iowa North Zone	Sept. 12-Sept. 13	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. 5-Sept. 15 Sept. 5-Sept. 15 Sept. 5-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 East Tennessee Zone	Sept. 5-Sept. 9 Sept. 1-Sept. 15	2 5	4 10
Wisconsin Early-Season Subzone A Early-Season Subzone B	Sept. 1-Sept. 15 Sept. 1-Sept. 15	5 3	10 6
CENTRAL FLYWAY			
South Dakota (2)	Sept. 5-Sept. 15	4	8
PACIFIC FLYWAY			
California Humboldt County	Sept. 5-Sept. 13	2	2
Idaho East Canada Goose Zone (1)(2) Nez Perce County	Sept. 1-Sept. 15 Sept. 5-Sept. 11	2 4	4 8
Oregon Northwest Zone Southwest Zone East Zone	Sept. 5-Sept. 18 Sept. 5-Sept. 11 Sept. 5-Sept. 11	5 3 3	10 6 6
Washington Statewide	Sept. 8-Sept. 14	3	6
Wyoming (1)	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.

(e) Regular Goose Seasons.

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

	Season Dates
<u>MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY</u>	
Michigan (1)	Sept. 19-Oct. 4
Wisconsin Horicon Zone Collins Zone	Sept. 19-Sept. 30 Sept. 19-Sept. 30

(1) In Michigan, season dates for the Muskegon Wastewater, Saginaw County, Allegan County, Tuscola/Huron Goose Management Units in the South Zone will be established in the late-season regulatory process.

(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, Ferris, 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
<u>ATLANTIC FLYWAY</u>	
Connecticut	Deferred
Delaware Ducks, geese, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules	Oct. 24
Florida	Deferred
Georgia Ducks, geese, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules	Nov. 14
Maine Ducks, mergansers, and coots Statewide	Sept. 19
Maryland (1) Ducks, snow geese, mergansers and coots	Oct. 3
Massachusetts	Deferred
New Hampshire	Deferred
New Jersey Ducks, geese, brant, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules Statewide	Sept. 26
New York Ducks, mergansers and coots Long Island Zone Lake Champlain Zone Northeastern Zone Southeastern Zone Western Zone	Oct. 25 Sept. 27 Sept. 27 Sept. 27 Sept. 27
North Carolina	Deferred
Pennsylvania Ducks, mergansers, coots and moorhens Statewide	Sept. 26
Rhode Island Ducks, mergansers and coots	Nov. 7
South Carolina Ducks, mergansers and coots	Jan. 23

	Season Dates		Season Dates
<u>Vermont</u> Ducks, mergansers and coots Statewide	Sept. 27	<u>Wisconsin</u> Ducks, geese, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules Statewide	Sept. 19
<u>Virginia</u>	Deferred	<b>CENTRAL FLYWAY</b>	
<u>West Virginia</u> Ducks, geese, mergansers, coots, moorhens, and gallinules Statewide	Sept. 19	<u>Colorado</u> Ducks, dark geese, mergansers and coots	Sept. 26
<b>MISSISSIPPI FLYWAY</b>		<u>Kansas</u> (3) Ducks, dark geese, mergansers and coots High Plains Low Plains Early Zone Late Zone	Sept. 26 Oct. 3 Oct. 17
<u>Alabama</u> Ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules Statewide	Jan. 23	<u>Montana</u> Ducks, geese, mergansers and coots	Sept. 26
<u>Arkansas</u>	Deferred	<u>Nabaska</u> (4)	Deferred
<u>Illinois</u>	Deferred	<u>New Mexico</u> Ducks, mergansers, coots, and moorhens North Zone South Zone	Oct. 3 Oct. 10
<u>Indiana</u> Ducks, geese, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules North Zone South Zone Ohio River Zone	Oct. 10 Nov. 7 Nov. 7	<u>North Dakota</u> Ducks, geese, mergansers and coots Statewide	Sept. 26
<u>Iowa</u> Ducks, Canada geese, mergansers and coots Statewide	Sept. 26	<u>Oklahoma</u>	Deferred
<u>Kentucky</u>	Deferred	<u>South Dakota</u> (5) Ducks, Canada geese, mergansers and coots Statewide	Sept. 26 Deferred
<u>Louisiana</u>	Deferred	<u>Texas</u>	Deferred
<u>Michigan</u> Ducks, geese, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules Statewide	Sept. 19	<u>Wyoming</u> Ducks, dark geese, mergansers and coots Statewide	Sept. 26
<u>Minnesota</u> (2) Ducks, geese, mergansers, coots, moorhens and gallinules	Sept. 19	<b>PACIFIC FLYWAY</b> (6)	
<u>Mississippi</u>	Deferred	<u>Arizona</u>	Deferred
<u>Missouri</u>	Deferred		
<u>Ohio</u>	Deferred		
<u>Tennessee</u>	Deferred		

(5) In South Dakota and Idaho, the limit for Canada geese is 1.  
 (6) In the Pacific Flyway, the daily bag limit for ducks includes mergansers.  
 (7) In Washington, the bag limit for Canada geese is 4.  
 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 28, 1998, *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.

	Season Dates	Bag	Possession
<b>CENTRAL FLYWAY</b>			
Colorado (1)	Oct. 3-Nov. 29	3	6
Kansas (1)(2)	Deferred	--	--
Montana Regular Season Area (1) Special Season Area (3)	Oct. 3-Nov. 29 Sept. 12-Sept. 20	3	6 1 per season
New Mexico Regular Season Area (1) Middle Rio Grande Valley Area (3)(4)(5)	Oct. 31-Jan. 31 Oct. 24-Oct. 25 & Dec. 12-Dec. 13 & Jan. 2-Jan. 3	3 2 2 2	6 2 2 2
Southwest Area (3)(4)(5)	Dec. 19-Dec. 20	2	4
North Dakota (1)	Sept. 5-Nov. 1	3	6
Oklahoma (1)	Deferred	--	--
South Dakota (1)	Sept. 26-Nov. 22	3	6

	Season Dates
<b>California</b> Ducks Colorado River Zone Southern Zone Southern San Joaquin Valley Zone Balance-of-State Zone	Jan. 23 Jan. 23 Jan. 23 Jan. 23
<b>Colorado</b> Ducks, dark geese and coots	Sept. 26
<b>Idaho (5)</b> Ducks, Canada geese, and coots Statewide	Sept. 26
<b>Montana</b> Ducks, geese, and coots	Sept. 26
<b>Nebraska</b> Ducks, geese, coots, moorhens, and gallinules Clark and Lincoln Counties Rest of State	Jan. 23 Sept. 26
<b>Oregon</b> Ducks, geese, and coots Statewide	Sept. 26
<b>Utah</b> Ducks, geese, and coots Statewide	Sept. 26
<b>Washington (7)</b> Ducks, Canada geese, and coots Statewide	Sept. 26
<b>Wyoming</b> Ducks, dark geese, and coots	Sept. 26

(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 Minnesota, the goose limit is 1 goose.  
 (3) In Kansas, the adult accompanying the youth must possess any licenses and/or stamps required by law for that individual to hunt waterfowl.  
 (4) In Nebraska, see State regulations for additional information on the daily bag limit.

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 28, 1998, Federal Register. For those extended seasons for Ducks, Mergansers, and Coots, area descriptions were published in the September 27, 1997, Federal Register (62 FR 50738) and will be published again in a September 1998 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.

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. 27-Nov. 13 &  
Nov. 30-Dec. 11 &  
Jan. 11-Jan. 17

Rails

Nov. 10-Dec. 16

Woodcock

Nov. 24-Dec. 18 &  
Jan. 18-Mar. 10

Common moorhens

Nov. 10-Dec. 15

	Season Dates	Limits	
		Bag	Possession
<b>Texas (1)</b>			
Zone A	Nov. 7-Feb. 7	3	6
Zone B	Nov. 28-Feb. 7	3	6
Zone C	Jan. 2-Feb. 7	3	6
<b>Wyoming</b>			
Regular Season Area (1)	Sept. 12-Nov. 8	3	6
Riverton-Boysen Unit (3)	Sept. 19-Sept. 30	1 per season	
Big Horn and Park Counties (3)	Sept. 19-Sept. 30	1 per season	
<b>PACIFIC FLYWAY</b>			
<b>Arizona (3)</b>			
	Oct. 29-Oct. 31 & Nov. 2-Nov. 4 & Nov. 6-Nov. 8 & Nov. 10-Nov. 12 & Nov. 14-Nov. 16	2 per season 2 per season 2 per season 2 per season 2 per season	
<b>Idaho (3)</b>	Sept. 1-Sept. 15	1 per season	
<b>Montana</b>			
Special Season Area (3)	Sept. 12-Sept. 13 & Sept. 19-Sept. 20	1 per season 1 per season	
<b>Utah (3)</b>	Sept. 5-Sept. 13	1 per season	
<b>Wyoming</b>			
Bear River Area (3)	Sept. 1-Sept. 7	1 per season	
Salt River Area (3)	Sept. 1-Sept. 7	1 per season	
Eden-Farson Area (3)	Sept. 1-Sept. 7	1 per season	

(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.

	Extended Falconry Dates	Extended Falconry Dates
<b>Maryland</b>		
Mourning doves	Oct. 22-Nov. 15 & Dec. 13-Dec. 20 & Jan. 3-Jan. 6	
Rails	Nov. 10-Dec. 16	
Woodcock	Oct. 1-Oct. 25 & Nov. 15-Nov. 27 & Dec. 13-Jan. 3	
<b>Pennsylvania</b>		
Mourning doves	Nov. 10-Dec. 16	
<b>Virginia</b>		
Doves	Sept. 27-Oct. 2 & Dec. 9-Dec. 24 & Jan. 10-Jan. 24	
Rails	Oct. 25-Nov. 1 & Dec. 23-Jan. 20	
Woodcock	Nov. 15-Dec. 18 & Jan. 3-Jan. 31	
Canada geese	Sept. 5-Sept. 7	
<b>MISSISSIPPI</b>		
<b>ILLINOIS</b>		
Mourning doves	Oct. 15-Nov. 6 & Nov. 23-Dec. 16	
Rails	Nov. 14-Dec. 20	
Woodcock	Sept. 1-Oct. 16 & Dec. 1-Dec. 16	
<b>Indiana</b>		
Mourning doves		Oct. 17-Nov. 5 & Jan. 1-Jan. 27
Woodcock		Sept. 19-Oct. 8 & Nov. 23-Jan. 3
Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1) North Zone		Sept. 23-Sept. 30
<b>Michigan</b>		
Rails and snipe		Sept. 7-Sept. 14 & Nov. 15-Dec. 12 & Mar. 1-Mar. 10
Ducks, mergansers, coots, and moorhens (1)		Sept. 7-Sept. 30
Woodcock		Sept. 7-Sept. 18 & Nov. 3-Dec. 12 & Mar. 1-Mar. 10
<b>Minnesota</b>		
Woodcock		Sept. 1-Sept. 18 & Nov. 5-Dec. 16
Rails and snipe		Nov. 5-Dec. 16
<b>Missouri</b>		
Mourning doves		Oct. 31-Dec. 16
Ducks, mergansers, and coots		Sept. 5-Sept. 20
<b>Tennessee</b>		
Mourning doves		Sept. 28-Oct. 9 & Oct. 26-Nov. 28
Ducks (1)		Sept. 17-Sept. 30

	Extended Falconry Dates	Extended Falconry Dates
<b>Wisconsin</b>		
Rails, snipe, moorhens, and gallinules (1)	Sept. 1-Sept. 30	
Woodcock	Sept. 1-Sept. 18	
Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1)	Sept. 12-Sept. 30	
<b>CENTRAL FLYWAY</b>		
<b>Montana (2)</b>		
Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1)	Sept. 23-Sept. 30	
<b>New Mexico (2)</b>		
Doves North Zone	Oct. 31-Nov. 5 & Nov. 28-Jan. 7	
South Zone	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	
<b>North Dakota</b>		
Ducks, mergansers, and coots	Sept. 21-Oct. 2	
Snipe	Sept. 1-Sept. 18	
<b>South Dakota</b>		
Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1) High Plains	Sept. 4-Sept. 12	
Low Plains North & Middle Zones	Sept. 4-Sept. 25 & Sept. 27-Sept. 30	
South Zone	Sept. 7-Sept. 25 & Sept. 27-Sept. 30	
<b>Texas</b>		
Mourning and white-winged doves	Nov. 9-Dec. 25	
Rails and gallinules	Dec. 17-Jan. 22	
Woodcock	Feb. 1-Mar. 10	
<b>Wyoming</b>		
Rails and snipe	Sept. 1-Sept. 11	
Ducks, mergansers, and coots (1)	Sept. 18-Sept. 27	
<b>PACIFIC FLYWAY</b>		
<b>Arizona</b>		
Doves	Sept. 16-Nov. 1	
<b>Idaho</b>		
Mourning doves	Nov. 1-Jan. 16	
<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	

Extended Falconry Dates

	Extended Falconry Dates
<b>Dragon (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. 11

- (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.