(7) provide notice to the Service in advance of conducting an action that is intended to take migratory birds, or annually report to the Service on the number of individuals of each species of migratory birds intentionally taken during the conduct of any agency action, including but not limited to hunting or marking, scientific collecting, taxidermy, and depredation control.

(8) minimize the intentionaltake of species of concern by: (i) delineating standards and procedures for such take; and (ii) developing procedures for the review and evaluation of take actions. With respect to intentionaltake, the MOU shall be consistent with the appropriate sections of 50 C.F.R. parts 10, 21, and 22.

(9) identify where unintentional take reasonably attributable to agency actions is having, or is likely to have, a measurable negative effect on migratory bird populations, focusing first on species of concern, priority habitats, and key risk factors. With respect to those actions so identified, the agency shall develop and use principles, standards, and practices that will lessen the amount of unintentional take, developing any such conservation efforts in cooperation with the Service. These principles, standards, and practices shall be regularly evaluated and revised to ensure that they are effective in lessening the detrimental effect of agency actions on migratory bird populations. The agency also shall inventory and monitor bird habitats and populations within the agency’s capabilities and authorities to the extent feasible to facilitate decisions about the need for, and effectiveness of, conservation efforts;

(10) within the scope of its statutorily-designated authorities, control the import, export, and establishment in the wild of live exotic animals and plants that may be harmful to migratory bird resources;

(11) promote research and information exchange related to the conservation of migratory bird resources, including coordinated inventorying and monitoring and the collection and assessment of information on environmental contaminants and other physical or biological stressors having potential relevance to migratory bird conservation. Where such information is collected in the course of agency actions or supported through Federal financial assistance, reasonable efforts shall be made to share such information with the Service, the Biological Resources Division of the U.S. Geological Survey, and other appropriate repositories of such data (e.g., the Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology);

(12) provide training and information to appropriate employees on methods and means of avoiding or minimizing the take of migratory birds and conserving and restoring migratory bird habitats;

(13) promote migratory bird conservation in international activities and with other countries and international partners, in consultation with the Department of State, as appropriate or relevant to the agency’s authorities;

(14) recognize and promote economic and recreational values of birds, as appropriate; and

(15) develop partnerships with non-Federal entities to further bird conservation.

(f) Notwithstanding the requirement to finalize an MOU within 2 years, each agency is encouraged to immediately begin implementing the conservation measures set forth above in subparagraphs (1) through (15) of this section, as appropriate and practicable.

(g) Each agency shall advise the public of the availability of its MOU through a notice published in the Federal Register.

Ssc. 4. Council for the Conservation of Migratory Birds. (a) The Secretary of Interior shall establish an interagency Council for the Conservation of Migratory Birds (Council) to oversee the implementation of this order. The Council’s duties shall include the following: (1) sharing the latest resource information to assist in the conservation and management of migratory birds; (2) developing an annual report of accomplishments and recommendations related to this order; (3) fostering partnerships to further the goals of this order; and (4) selecting an annual recipient of a Presidential Migratory Bird Federal Stewardship Award for contributions to the protection of migratory birds.

(b) The Council shall include representation, at the bureau director/administrator level, from the Departments of the Interior, State, Commerce, Agriculture, Transportation, Energy, Defense, and the Environmental Protection Agency and from such other agencies as appropriate.

Ssc. 5. Application and Judicial Review. (a) This order and the MOU to be developed by the agencies do not require changes to current contracts, permits, or other third party agreements.

(b) This order is intended only to improve the internal management of the executive branch and does not create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, separately enforceable at law or equity by a party against the United States, its agencies or instrumentalities, its officers or employees, or any other person.

William j. clinton.

§ 702. importation of eggs of game birds for propagation

The Secretary of the Interior shall have the power to authorize the importation of eggs of game birds for purposes of propagation, and he shall prescribe all necessary rules and regulations governing the importation of eggs of said birds for such purposes.

(June 3, 1902, ch. 983, 32 stat. 286; 1939 reorg. plan no. ii, § 4(f), eff. July 1, 1939, 4 f.r. 2731, 53 stat. 1433.)

Transfer of Functions

Transfer of functions of Secretary of agriculture to Secretary of the Interior by reorg. plan no. ii of 1939, see Transfer of Functions note set out under section 701 of this title.

Subchapter II—Migratory Bird Treaty

§ 703. Taking, killing, or possessing migratory birds unlawful

(a) In general

Unless and except as permitted by regulations made as hereinafter provided in this subchapter, it shall be unlawful at any time, by any means or by any person to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture, or kill, possess, offer for sale, sell, offer to barter, barter, offer to purchase, purchase, deliver for shipment, ship, export, import, cause to be shipped, exported, or imported, deliver for transportation, transport or cause to be transported, carry or cause to be carried, or receive for shipment, transportation, carriage, or export, any migratory bird, any part, nest, or egg of any such bird, or any product, whether or not manufactured, which consists, or is composed in whole or part, of any such bird or any part, nest, or egg thereof, included in the terms of the conventions between the United States and Great Britain for the protection of migratory birds concluded August 16, 1916 (39 Stat. 1702), the United States and the United Mexican States for the protection of migratory birds and game mammals concluded February 7, 1936, the United States and the Government of Japan for the protection of migratory birds and birds in danger of extinction, and their environment concluded March 4, 1972, and the convention between the...
United States and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the conservation of migratory birds and their environments concluded November 19, 1976.

(b) Limitation on application to introduced species

(1) In general

This subchapter applies only to migratory bird species that are native to the United States or its territories.

(2) Native to the United States defined

(A) In general

Subject to subparagraph (B), in this subsection the term "native to the United States or its territories" means occurring in the United States or its territories as the result of natural biological or ecological processes.

(B) Treatment of introduced species

For purposes of paragraph (1), a migratory bird species that occurs in the United States or its territories solely as a result of intentional or unintentional human-assisted introduction shall not be considered native to the United States or its territories unless—

(i) it was native to the United States or its territories and extant in 1918;

(ii) it was extirpated after 1918 throughout its range in the United States and its territories; and

(iii) after such extirpation, it was re-introduced in the United States or its territories as a part of a program carried out by a Federal agency.


AMENDMENTS


1974—Pub. L. 93–300 substituted "any part, nest, or egg of any such bird, or any product, whether or not manufactured, which consists, or is composed in whole or in part, of any such bird or any part, nest, or egg thereof" for "any part, nest, or egg of any such birds", and "and", the United States and the Government of Japan for the protection of migratory birds and their environments concluded August sixteenth, nineteen hundred and sixteen, or any part, nest, or egg of any such bird."


effective date

Effective Date of 1974 Amendment

Pub. L. 93–300, §3, June 1, 1974, 88 Stat. 190, provided that: "The amendments made by this Act [amending this section] shall take effect on the date on which the President proclaims the exchange of ratifications of the convention between the United States and the Government of Japan for the protection of migratory birds and in danger of extinction, and their environment, concluded March 4, 1972, or on the date of the enactment of this Act [June 1, 1974], whichever date is later."

Effective Date of 1986 Amendment

Act June 20, 1986, ch. 634, §3, 49 Stat. 1556, provided in part that the amendment by section 3 is effective as of the day aforesaid, meaning the day on which the President shall proclaim the exchange of ratifications of the convention between the United States and the United Mexican States for the protection of migratory birds and game mammals concluded Feb. 7, 1936, or on June 20, 1936, whichever date is later. Such proclamation was made on June 30, 1937. See section 1 of act June 20, 1936, ch. 634, 49 Stat. 1555.

Elimination of Barriers to Improve at-Risk Bridges


"(a) Temporary Authorization.—

(1) In general.—Until the Secretary of the Interior takes the action described in subsection (b), the take of nesting swallows to facilitate a construction project on a bridge eligible for funding under title 23, United States Code, with any component condition rating of 3 or less (as defined by the National Bridge Inventory General Condition Guidance issued by the Federal Highway Administration) is authorized under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.) before April 1 and August 31.

(2) Measures to Minimize Impacts.—

(A) Notification before taking.—Prior to the taking of nesting swallows authorized under paragraph (1), any person taking that action shall submit to the Secretary of the Interior a document that contains—

(i) the name of the person acting under the authority of paragraph (1) to take nesting swallows;

(ii) a list of practicable measures that will be undertaken to minimize or mitigate significant adverse impacts on the population of that species;

(iii) the time period during which activities will be carried out that will result in the taking of that species; and

(iv) an estimate of the number of birds, by species, to be taken in the proposed action.

(B) Notification after taking.—Not later than 60 days after the taking of nesting swallows authorized under paragraph (1), any person taking that action shall submit to the Secretary of the Interior a document that contains the number of birds, by species, taken in the action.

(b) Authorization of Take.—

(1) In general.—The Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation, shall promulgate a regulation under the authority of section 3 of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 704) authorizing the take of nesting swallows to facilitate bridge repair, maintenance, or construction—

(A) without individual permit requirements; and

(B) under terms and conditions determined to be consistent with treaties relating to migratory birds that protect swallow species occurring in the United States.

(2) Termination.—On the effective date of a final rule (promulgated) under this subsection by the Secretary of the Interior, subsection (a) shall have no force or effect.
“(c) SUSPENSION OR WITHDRAWAL OF TAKE AUTHORIZA-
TION.—If the Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Transportation, determines that the taking of nesting swallows carried out under the authority provided in subsection (a)(1) has a sig-
nificant adverse impact on swallow populations, the Secretary of the Interior may suspend that authority through publication in the Federal Register.”

PUBLICATION OF LIST

Pub. L. 108–447, div. E, title I, § 143(d), Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 3072, provided that: “(1) In general.—Not later than 90 days after the date of enactment of this section [Dec. 8, 2004], the Secretary of the Interior shall publish in the Federal Reg-
ister a list of all nonnative, human-introduced bird spe-
cies to which the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.) does not apply. As necessary, the Secretary may update and publish the list of species exempted from protection of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

“(2) PUBLIC COMMENT.—Before publishing the list under paragraph (1), the Secretary shall provide ade-
quately time for public comment.

“(3) EFFECT OF SECTION.—Nothing in this subsection shall delay implementation of other provisions of this section [amending this section and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section and section 710 of this title] or amendments made by this section that exclude nonnative, human-introduced bird species from the application of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.).”

RELATIONSHIP OF PUB. L. 108–447 TO TREATIES

Pub. L. 108–447, div. E, title I, § 143(d), Dec. 8, 2004, 118 Stat. 3072, provided that: “It is the sense of Congress that the language of this section [amending this section and enacting provisions set out as notes under this section and section 710 of this title] or amendments made by this section that exclude nonnative, human-introduced bird species from the application of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.) is appropriate for treaty purposes.

“(b) IDENTIFICATION OF MEASURES TO MINIMIZE IMPACT OF ACTIVITIES.—During the periods described in subsection (c), section 2 of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703) shall not apply to the incidental taking of a migratory bird by a member of the Armed Forces during a military readiness activity authorized by the Secretary of De-

“(c) PERIOD OF APPLICATION FOR INTERIM AUTHORITY.—The period described in this subsection is the pe-
riod beginning on the date of the enactment of this Act [Dec. 2, 2002] and ending on the date on which the Secretary of the Interior publishes in the Federal Register a notice that:

“(1) regulations authorizing the incidental taking of migratory birds by members of the Armed Forces have been prescribed in accordance with the require-
ments of this subsection;

“(2) all legal challenges to the regulations and to the manner of their promulgation (if any) have been ex-
hausted as provided in subsection (e); and

“(3) the regulations have taken effect.

“(d) INCIDENTAL TAKINGS AFTER INTERIM PERIOD.—(1) Not later than the expiration of the one-year period be-
ginning on the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of the Interior shall exercise the authority of that Secretary under section 3(a) of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 704(a)) to prescribe regulations to exempt the Armed Forces for the incidental taking of migratory birds during military readiness activities authorized by the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of the military department concerned.

“(2) The Secretary of the Interior shall exercise au-
thority under paragraph (1) with the concurrence of the Secretary of Defense.

“(e) LIMITATION ON JUDICIAL REVIEW.—An action seeking judicial review of regulations prescribed pursuant to this section or of the manner of their promulgation must be filed in the appropriate Federal court by not later than the expiration of the 120-day period begin-
ing on the date on which such regulations are published in the Federal Register. Upon the expiration of such period and the exhaustion of any legal challenges to the regulations pursuant to any action filed in such period, there shall be no further judicial review of such regulations or of the manner of their promulgation.

“(1) INCIDENT TAKING OF MIGRATORY BIRDS DURING MILITARY READINESS ACTIVITIES.—(i) In this sec-
tion the term ‘military readiness activity’ includes—

“(A) all training and operations of the Armed Forces that relate to combat; and

“(B) the adequate and realistic testing of military equipment, vehicles, weapons, and sensors for proper operation and suitability for combat use.

“(2) The term does not include—

“(A) the routine operation of installation operating support functions, such as administrative offices, military exchanges, commissaries, water treatment facilities, storage facilities, schools, housing, motor pools, laundries, morale, welfare, and recreation ac-

“(B) the operation of industrial activities; or

“(C) the construction or demolition of facilities used for a purpose described in subparagraph (A) or (B).”

ARTIC TUNDRA HABITAT EMERGENCY CONSERVATION


SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

“This Act may be cited as the ‘Arctic Tundra Habitat Emergency Conservation Act’.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS AND PURPOSES.

“(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

“(1) The winter index population of mid-continent light geese was 800,000 birds in 1969, while the total population of such geese is more than 5,200,000 birds today.

“(2) The population of mid-continent light geese is expanding by over 5 percent each year, and in the absence of new wildlife management actions it could grow to more than 6,800,000 breeding light geese in 3 years.

“(3) The primary reasons for this unprecedented population growth are—

“(A) the expansion of agricultural areas and the resulting abundance of cereal grain crops in the United States;

“(B) the establishment of sanctuaries along the United States flyways of migrating light geese; and

“(C) a decline in light geese harvest rates.

“(4) As a direct result of this population explosion, the Hudson Bay Lowlands Salt-Marsh ecosystem in Canada is being systematically destroyed. This eco-

“(5) The destruction of the Arctic tundra is having a severe negative impact on many avian species that breed or migrate through this habitat, including the following:
§ 704. Determination as to when and how migratory birds may be taken, killed, or possessed

(a) Subject to the provisions and in order to carry out the purposes of the conventions, referred to in section 703 of this title, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized and directed, from time to time, having due regard to the zones of temperature and to the distribution, abundance, economic value, breeding habits, and times and lines of migratory flight of such birds, to determine when, to what extent, if at all, and by what means, it is compatible with the terms of the conventions to allow hunting, taking, capturing, killing, possession, sale, purchase, shipment, transportation, carriage, or export of any such bird, or any part, nest, or egg thereof, and to adopt suitable regulations permitting and governing the same, in accordance with such determinations, which regulations shall become effective when approved by the President.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person to—

(1) take any migratory game bird by the aid of baiting, or on or over any baited area, if the person knows or reasonably should know that the area is a baited area; or

(2) place or direct the placement of bait on or adjacent to an area for the purpose of causing, inducing, or allowing any person to take or attempt to take any migratory game bird by the aid of baiting on or over the baited area.

(c) Federal framework closing date for hunting of ducks, mergansers, and coots.—

(1) Regulations relating to framework closing date.—

(A) In general.—In promulgating regulations under subsection (a) relating to the Federal framework for the closing date up to which the States may select seasons for migratory bird hunting, except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary shall, with respect to the hunting season for ducks, mergansers, and coots—

(i) subject to subparagraph (B), adopt the recommendation of each respective flyway...