



U. S. Department of Agriculture
Office of Information



Release - Immediate.

HUNTERS MUST OBSERVE BOTH FEDERAL AND STATE GAME LAWS.

To Avoid Violations, Shooting Must Be Confined to the Time
During Which It Is Not Prohibited by Either Set of
Regulations.

Washington, D. C. In making their plans to shoot
migratory waterfowl, hunters will do well to note the dates of open sea-
sons under both Federal and State laws. This caution by the United States
N Department of Agriculture results from evidence of confusion in the minds
E of some sportsmen in regard to the opening of the season when the dates
W conflict under State and Federal laws.

S The Federal law and regulations limit the seasons before and after
which no one may shoot these birds. If a State law opens the season later
S or closes it earlier than the dates prescribed by the Federal regulations,
U the season in that State is just so much further shortened. Special at-
M tention is called to the fact that the Federal regulations do not au-
M thorize any one to hunt or kill migratory birds contrary to the State
A law.

R In certain States, as for example, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas,
Y Kentucky, Missouri, and South Dakota, the season for shooting migratory
waterfowl under the State law would open prior to the date of opening
under the Federal regulations were it not for the fact that the Federal
regulations supersede State laws in such case of conflict and prescribe
for these States September 16 as the beginning of the open season.

(Editors:- The additional details below are for publications
desiring more particulars.)

Under the migratory bird treaty act regulations it is lawful to hunt
waterfowl (except wood ducks, eider ducks, and swans, for which there is no
open season), rails, coot, gallinules, Wilson snipe or jacksnipe, black-bellied

and golden plovers, yellowlegs, woodcock and mourning or white-winged doves during the open seasons prescribed by the regulations. The several States, however, are authorized under the treaty act still further to protect migratory birds.

Under the treaty act and regulations the sale of all migratory birds, other than propagated waterfowl, is prohibited throughout the United States except for scientific or propagating purposes. Maximum bag limits are also prescribed and, when permitted by State law, two days limit of migratory birds may be shipped or transported from one State to another in a calendar week. Hunters are especially advised to familiarize themselves with the provisions of the new act and regulations, copies of which or other information concerning which may be had by communicating with the Bureau of Biological Survey, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

The organization of the department for enforcing the provisions of the new law is practically completed throughout the country, and the act grants the necessary police powers for its proper enforcement. The maximum penalties prescribed for violation of the provisions of the new act are \$500 fine or 6 months imprisonment, or both.