



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Division of Publications
Press Service



Release - Immediate.

AUG 23 '21

8/24/21

NEW BIRD LAW PROHIBITS
GUIDES FROM MAKING KILL

A tendency to tighten the restrictions on the hunting of birds and big game is noted in the game laws for 1921, a summary of which, both Federal and State, has been compiled by the Biological Survey, of the United States Department of Agriculture, and published as Farmers' Bulletin 1235. Among the notable changes made during the present year was the amending of the migratory bird treaty act regulations with respect to bag limits.

This amendment provides that the daily bag limit of any person shall now include "all birds taken by any other person who for hire accompanies or assists him in taking migratory birds." This will put an end to the abuse of privileges under the regulations regarding the prescribed daily bag limits by persons who claim that birds were killed by guides accompanying them.

The Federal waterfowl season for California was fixed from October 1 to January 15, replacing the old season of October 16 to January 31, the season now being the same under both Federal and State laws. Regulation 9, governing the issuance of Federal scientific permits, was amended to permit the issuance of limited and special permits.

State legislation harmonized Federal and State laws on waterfowl and shore birds in Kansas and Oregon, and on waterfowl in Pennsylvania and Rhode Island; Washington prescribed a State-wide open season on all migratory game birds from October 1 to January 15, thus deviating from the Federal regulations, which supersede the State law, east of the Cascade Mountains, where it will now be possible to hunt migratory game birds only from October 1 to December 31, without violating either Federal or State law; in Idaho the open season on migratory game birds has been shortened under State law two weeks by opening October 1, instead of September 16, and extending to December 31.

Idaho, Kansas, Montana, Nebraska, Oregon, and Washington enacted legislation similar to the Federal regulation prohibiting hunting from airplanes. Colorado reduced the bag limit on ducks from 20 to 15 a day, while Kansas increased the limit from 20 to 25. In New Jersey reedbirds were protected at all times by being placed in the nongame class. The open season for woodcock was shortened 25 days in Michigan, two weeks in New York, and one month in Vermont. Doves were protected until 1924 in Colorado; and in Kansas an open season on them was provided from September 1 to October 15.

In general, seasons on big game were shortened and hunting further restricted. Buck laws were enacted in Michigan, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, South Dakota, Vermont, and in Washington east of the Cascades. Maine protected spike bucks and prescribed that one of the two deer allowed in the eight northern counties must be an antlered buck, and provided that in two of the counties only residents may hunt deer during the last two weeks of the open season. Bull moose were protected for five years in Maine.

The summary of the laws contains the provisions relating to seasons, licenses, limits, possession, sale, and export, thereby furnishing the reader a brief and convenient synopsis of the laws of each State, Territory, or Province of Canada. The migratory bird treaty, the treaty act, and regulations, as well as the Canadian Regulations also are appended. Copies of the bulletin, Game Laws for 1921, may be had free upon application to the United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.