



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
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FEDERAL BAG LIMITS REDUCED

The Federal daily bag limits on a number of migratory game birds have been reduced under an amendment to the migratory-bird treaty act regulations adopted by the Secretary of Agriculture and approved by the President on March 8. Hunters who formerly enjoyed a limit of not to exceed 25 Wilson snipe or jacksnipe a day may take only 20 under the new regulations, when the fall shooting season arrives. The limit on sora has been reduced from 50 birds a day to 25, and on rails and gallinules except sora a bag limit is prescribed of 25 in the aggregate of all kinds but not more than 15 of any one species. A daily bag limit of 25 is fixed for coots. The season on black-bellied and golden plovers is closed indefinitely. These reductions and close seasons apply throughout the country, regardless of any State law which may allow greater privileges.

In addition to the above, changes were made in the open season for hunting waterfowl in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, New Mexico, eastern Washington, and the counties of Nantucket and Dukes in Massachusetts. In Illinois, Indiana, and Kentucky the open season was changed from September 16 to December 31 to the period October 1 to January 15; in New Mexico from October 1 to January 15, to the period October 16 to January 31; in eastern Washington from September 16 to December 31, to the period October 1 to January 15, and in the counties of Nantucket and Dukes in Massachusetts from September 15 to December 31 (which will continue as the open season for the remainder of the State of Massachusetts) to the period October 1 to January 15. These seasons apply to waterfowl (including ducks, geese, and brant), and to coots, gallinules, and Wilson snipe or jacksnipe, but the close season continues on wood ducks, eider ducks, and swans.

All the amendments were recommended by the Bureau of Biological Survey of the Department of Agriculture and concurred in by the advisory board, migratory-bird treaty act, before being adopted by the Secretary of Agriculture.