

Release - Immediate

August 26, 1931.

Conservation of Our Waterfowl

BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

A Proclamation

The long-continued and severe drought of the past two years has inflicted not only economic hardships by seriously curtailing crop and stock production, but also has resulted in an emergency condition as regards the present and future safety and abundance of the waterfowl of the continent. In large areas of the United States and Canada, through lack of the water on breeding grounds essential to rearing the young birds, the drought has entailed widespread destruction among the former hordes of the wild fowl that migrate to our several States.

This devastation has constituted so great a menace to our wild-life resources and to their future enjoyment by our people as to impel the Secretary of Agriculture to adopt a regulation compatible with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (40 Stat. 755), whereby during the coming fall there will be an open hunting season on these birds of only one month.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, HERBERT HOOVER, President of the United States of America, do hereby urge that all persons take cognizance of this emergency, and I call upon all game and conservation offic-

cial, State and local, all members of game-protective organizations, landowners, sportsmen, and public-spirited citizens generally to lend their cooperation to effect full observance of this regulation, to the end that adequate numbers of waterfowl may return to their breeding grounds next spring and that there may be no repetition of the calamity of extermination that has already overtaken some species of our American birds.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the seal of the United States to be affixed.

DONE at the City of Washington this
25th day of August, in the year of
our Lord nineteen hundred and thirty-
one, and of the Independence of the
United States of America the one
hundred and fifty-sixth.

Herbert Hoover

By the President:

William R. Castle
Acting Secretary of State.