



**U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
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FEDERAL DOVE SEASONS  
 CHANGED IN 14 STATES

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Federal open seasons on mourning doves have been changed in 14 States by amendments to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act regulations adopted on September 25 by Secretary Wallace and approved yesterday (Sept. 26) by President Roosevelt.

The changes were recommended by the Biological Survey to obtain better cooperation with State and local agencies in enforcement of Federal game laws and, in some cases, to curtail dove shooting during State seasons on quail. Though more satisfactory to the sportsmen and local enforcement agencies, the new regulations provide for fewer days of hunting than formerly allowed and are thus expected to further dove conservation this year in a two-fold way.

In Colorado the season, which opened on September 1, will close on September 30, instead of on December 15.

In Delaware, Virginia, Kentucky, Tennessee, Arkansas, Oklahoma, and New Mexico the season will close on December 15 instead of on January 5. The opening date in these States was September 21.

In Alabama a split season has been provided for 3 southwestern counties — Mobile, Baldwin, and Washington — September 21 to September 30 and November 1 to January 31. Elsewhere in the State the season remains September 21 to January 5.

Split seasons also have been provided in 3 States: Georgia, September 21 to October 20 and November 20 to January 31; Florida, September 21 to September 30 and November 20 to January 31; and Mississippi, September 21 to October 5 and November 20 to January 31. In each of these States the season was formerly September 21 to January 5.

Zones conforming to the provisions of State laws have been provided in Texas and California. In a southern zone of California, comprising fish and game districts 4,  $4\frac{1}{2}$ , and  $4\frac{3}{4}$  as defined by State law, dove shooting will be permitted from September 21 to October 31, and in the remainder of the State the season will be September 21 to September 30. The Federal season for California was formerly September 21 to January 5.

The northern-zone season in Texas is September 21 to October 31 and the southern, December 1 to January 16, instead of September 21 to January 5 for the entire State as formerly provided.

In Illinois, Missouri, Minnesota, Nebraska, Kansas, Utah, Nevada, Idaho, and Oregon the season is unchanged, closing on December 15. In Maryland, North Carolina, South Carolina, Louisiana, and Arizona also the season remains as formerly, closing on January 5.

Following the provisions of the State law, the Federal regulations describe the northern zone of Texas as follows: "That portion of Texas north or northerly of a line beginning at the Rio Grande west of Del Rio, thence to Del Rio, thence east along Southern Pacific Railway to San Antonio, thence along International-Great Northern Railway to Austin, thence east along Houston & Texas Central Railway to Brazos River, thence north up Brazos River to where Beaumont branch of Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railway crosses said River, thence east along Gulf, Colorado & Santa Fe Railway to intersection with Houston East & West Texas Railway at Cleveland, thence along Houston East & West Texas Railway to the Louisiana border except the counties of Bastrop, Brazos, Burleson, Fayette, Grimes, Lee, Limestone, Milam, Montgomery, Robertson, San Jacinto, Smith, Washington, and Wood."