



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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DUCK HUNTERS IN CERTAIN STATES GET COMPENSATORY SHOOTING

The Fish and Wildlife Service today announced the issuance of an amendment to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act Regulations extending the 1953-54 hunting season for waterfowl and coot in those States in which shooting was curtailed during the prescribed season because of the unusual fire hazard.

Drought conditions in West Virginia and in portions of New York caused the closing of the waterfowl season to hunters as a forest fire prevention measure for a limited time ranging from 4 to 14 days.

The States so affected have been authorized to add to the end of their current season the number of days that hunters were not permitted afield because of State action. No season can be extended beyond January 10, 1954.

Director John L. Farley stated that it has been determined that these slight compensatory extensions are not likely to result in a heavier kill of the birds than was contemplated for the hunting season as originally scheduled.

The extended season for waterfowl and coot in New York, except on Long Island and that part of Westchester County lying south of the Hutchinson River Parkway, will be from December 16 to December 19, inclusive.

In West Virginia, the waterfowl and coot season will be extended from December 27, 1953 to January 9, 1954, inclusive. The woodcock season has been extended from December 1 to December 19.

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