



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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BASIC MIGRATORY BIRD HUNTING REGULATIONS AMENDED

The Department of the Interior announced amendments to the basic migratory bird hunting regulations which will become effective prior to the opening of the 1961-62 hunting seasons.

The revised regulations will limit the total number of birds a hunter may take in one day and the total number he may possess by prescribing an "aggregate daily bag limit" and an "aggregate possession limit". In the past it was possible for a hunter to legally take a daily bag limit on the same day in each of two or more States or areas for which a separate daily bag limit had been prescribed. Under revised regulations a hunter's "aggregate daily bag limit" will be equal to but may not exceed the largest number of birds he can legally take in any one of the States or areas in which he takes birds in any one day.

In order to curb the wanton waste of migratory game birds through the killing of less desirable species for "target practice" with no effort being made to retrieve or utilize such birds, a new regulation requires a hunter to make a reasonable effort to retrieve any migratory game bird killed by him and include such bird in his daily bag limit.

Other changes approved include a clarification of "termination of possession" by hunters; the addition of the use of artificial decoys and manually or mouth-operated bird calls to the list of permitted hunting methods; the addition of the pistol to the list of prohibited hunting methods; the exportation of lawfully taken and possessed birds; and the importation of red-billed pigeons.

The open season dates, shooting hours, bag and possession limits, and special restrictions on species will be announced later in the summer.

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