Department of the Interior

Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 20
Migratory Bird Hunting; Proposed Frameworks for Late-Season Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations; Proposed Rule
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service

50 CFR Part 20


RIN 1018–AZ80

Migratory Bird Hunting; Proposed Frameworks for Late-Season Migratory Bird Hunting Regulations

AGENCY: Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

SUMMARY: The Fish and Wildlife Service (hereinafter Service or we) is proposing to establish the 2014–15 late-season hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds. We annually prescribe frameworks, or outer limits, for dates and times when hunting may occur and the number of birds that may be taken and possessed in late seasons. These frameworks are necessary to allow State selections of seasons and limits and to allow recreational harvest at levels compatible with population and habitat conditions.

DATES: You must submit comments on the proposed migratory bird hunting late-season frameworks by September 2, 2014.

ADDRESSES: Comments: You may submit comments on the proposals by one of the following methods:

We will post all comments on http://www.regulations.gov. This generally means that we will post any personal information you provide us (see the Review of Public Comments and Flyway Council Recommendations section, below, for more information).


SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Regulations Schedule for 2014

On April 30, 2014, we published in the Federal Register (79 FR 24512) a proposal to amend 50 CFR part 20. The proposal provided a background and overview of the migratory bird hunting regulations process, and addressed the establishment of seasons, limits, and other regulations for hunting migratory game birds under §§20.101 through 20.107, 20.109, and 20.110 of subpart K. Major steps in the 2014–15 regulatory cycle relating to open public meetings and Federal Register notifications were also identified in the April 30 proposed rule.

Further, we explained that all sections of subsequent documents outlining hunting frameworks and guidelines were organized under numbered headings. Those headings are:

1. Ducks
   A. General Harvest Strategy
   B. Regulatory Alternatives
   C. Zones and Split Seasons
   D. Special Seasons/Species Management
      i. September Teal Seasons
      ii. September Teal/Wood Duck Seasons
      iii. Black ducks
      iv. Canvasbacks
      v. Pintails
      vi. Scaup
      vii. Mottled ducks
      viii. Wood ducks
      ix. Youth Hunt
      x. Mallard Management Units
      xi. Other
      2. Sea Ducks
      3. Mergansers
      4. Canada Goose
      A. Special Seasons
      B. Regular Seasons
      C. Special Late Seasons
      5. White-fronted Goose
      6. Brant
      7. Snow and Ross’s (Light) Geese
      8. Swans
      9. Sandhill Cranes
      10. Geese
      11. Moorhens and Gallinules
      12. Rails
      13. Snipe
      14. Woodcock
      15. Band-tailed Pigeons
      16. Mourning Doves
      17. White-winged and White-tipped Doves
      18. Alaska
      19. Hawaii
      20. Puerto Rico
      21. Virgin Islands
      22. Falconry
      23. Other

Subsequent documents will refer only to numbered items requiring attention. Therefore, it is important to note that we will omit those items requiring no attention, and remaining numbered items will be discontinuous and appear incomplete.

On June 4, 2014, we published in the Federal Register (79 FR 44580) a third document specifically dealing with the proposed frameworks for early-season regulations. In late August 2014, we will publish a rulemaking establishing final frameworks for early-season migratory bird hunting regulations for the 2014–15 season.

On July 30–31, 2014, we held open meetings with the Flyway Council Consultants, at which the participants reviewed the status of waterfowl and developed recommendations for the 2014–15 regulations for these species. This document deals specifically with proposed frameworks for the late-season migratory bird hunting regulations. It will lead to final frameworks from which States may select season dates, shooting hours, areas, and limits.

We have considered all pertinent comments received through August 1, 2014, on the April 30 and June 4, 2014, rulemaking documents in developing this document. In addition, new proposals for certain late-season regulations are provided for public comment. The comment period is specified above under DATES. We will publish final regulatory frameworks for late-season migratory game bird hunting in the Federal Register on or around September 20, 2014.

Population Status and Harvest

The following paragraphs provide preliminary information on the status and harvest of waterfowl excerpted from various reports. For more detailed information on methodologies and results, you may obtain complete copies of the various reports at the address indicated under FOR FURTHER
The 2014 estimate of ponds in Prairie Canada was 4.6 ± 0.2 million, which was similar to the 2013 estimate of 6.9 ± 0.2 million and 40 percent above the long-term average of 5.1 ± 0.03 million. The 2014 estimate of ponds in Prairie Canada was 4.6 ± 0.2 million. This estimate was similar to the 2013 estimate (4.6 ± 0.2 million) and 33 percent above the 1961–2013 average (3.5 ± 0.03 million). The 2014 pond estimate for the northcentral United States was 2.6 ± 0.1 million, which was similar to the 2013 estimate (2.3 ± 0.1 million) and 53 percent above the 1974–2013 average (1.7 ± 0.02 million).

Additional details of the 2013 Survey were provided in the July 31 Federal Register and are available from our Web site at http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/. NewsPublicationsReports.html.

Breeding Population Status

In the traditional survey area, which includes strata 1–18, 20–50, and 75–77, the total duck population estimate (excluding scoters [Melanitta spp.], eiders [Somateria spp. and Polysticta stelleri], long-tailed ducks [Clangula hyemalis], mergansers [Mergus spp. and Lophodytes], and wood ducks [Aix sponsa]) was 49.2 ± 0.8 [SE] million birds. This was a record-high count, represents an 8 percent increase from last year's estimate of 45.6 ± 0.7 million, and is 43 percent higher than the long-term average (1955–2013). Estimated mallard (Anas platyrhynchos) abundance was 10.9 ± 0.3 million, which was similar to the 2013 estimate, and 42 percent above the long-term average of 7.7 ± 0.04 million. Estimated abundance of gadwall (A. strepera; 3.8 ± 0.2 million) was similar to the 2013 estimate and 102 percent above the long-term average (1.9 ± 0.02 million). The estimate for American wigeon (A. americana; 3.1 ± 0.2 million) was 18 percent above the 2013 estimate of 2.6 ± 0.2 million and 20 percent above the long-term average of 2.6 ± 0.02 million. The estimated abundance of green-winged teal (A. crecca) was 3.4 ± 0.2 million, which was similar to the 2013 estimate and 75 percent above the long-term average of 4.9 ± 0.04 million. The estimate for northern pintail (A. acuta; 3.2 ± 0.2 million) was similar to the 2013 estimate and was 20 percent below the long-term average of 4.0 ± 0.04 million.

Abundance estimates of redheads (Aythya americana; 1.3 ± 0.1 million) and canvasbacks (A. valisineria; 0.7 ± 0.05 million) were similar to their 2013 estimates and were 85 percent and 18 percent above their long-term averages of 0.7 ± 0.01 million and 0.6 ± 0.01 million, respectively. Estimated abundance of scap (A. affinis and A. marila combined; 4.6 ± 0.3 million) was similar to the 2013 estimate and the long-term average of 5.0 ± 0.05 million.

The eastern survey area was restructured in 2005, and is now composed of strata 51–72. In the eastern survey area, estimated abundance of American black ducks (Anas rubripes) was 0.6 ± 0.04 million, which was similar to the 2013 estimate and the 1990–2013 average. The estimated abundance of mallards was 0.4 ± 0.1 million, which was similar to the 2013 estimate and the 1990–2013 average. Abundance estimates of green-winged teal (0.2 ± 0.04 million) and ring-necked ducks (Aythya collaris; 0.5 ± 0.1 million) were 19 percent and 22 percent below their 2013 estimates, and similar to their 1990–2013 averages, respectively.

Abundance estimates for goldeneyes (common [Bucephala clangula] and Barrow’s [B. islandica] combined) and mergansers were similar to last year’s estimates and their 1990–2013 averages.

Fall Flight Estimate

The midcontinent mallard population is composed of mallards from the traditional survey area (revised in 2008 to exclude mallards in Alaska and the Old Crow Flats area of the Yukon Territory), Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin, and is estimated to be 13.4 ± 1.3 million birds in 2014. This is similar to the 2013 estimate of 13.1 ± 1.2 million. See section 1.A. General Harvest Strategy for further discussion of the implications of this information for this year’s selection of the appropriate hunting regulations.

Status of Geese and Swans

We provide information on the population status and productivity of North American Canada geese (Branta canadensis), brant (B. bernicla), snow geese (Chen caerulescens), Ross’s geese (C. rossii), emperor geese (C. canagica), white-fronted geese (Anser albifrons), and tundra swans (Cygnus columbianus). Production of arctic-nesting geese depends heavily upon the timing of snow and ice melt, and spring and early summer temperatures.

In 2014, conditions in the arctic and boreal areas important for geese were variable. Conditions in the north-central Arctic were very poor for nesting as spring was very late, with snow cover persisting into July. By contrast, spring was early in many of the more southern regions in the Central Arctic. At Karrak Lake on the Queen Maude Gulf, ice breakup was 14 days earlier than average, so biologists expected above-average production by the snow and Ross’s geese, and Mid-continent white-fronted geese that nest there. Conditions in many areas of the eastern Arctic were favorable for breeding waterfowl. Spring phenology was early on Southampton and Bylot Islands, and excellent production by the greater snow goose that nest on Bylot was expected. Spring was slightly early on the Ungava Peninsula, and biologists predicted slightly above-average production of the Atlantic Population Canada geese that nest there. Spring was cold and wet in Newfoundland and Labrador, but the timing of nesting was normal, and the outlook for production of North Atlantic Population Canada geese was good.

Alaska experienced a very early, warm spring, with little or no flooding, so the outlook for the many goose and swan populations nesting there was excellent. The favorable conditions on Alaska’s Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta (YKD) were a welcome contrast to 2013, when a late
ice break-up and a storm-surge flood made for very poor production. Predicted production of Emperor geese, cackling Canada geese, and white-fronted geese should be much improved in 2014. On the Copper River Delta, the early phenology and the highest dusky Canada goose index in 20 years suggests an excellent year for this population. Of the Canada goose populations that migrate to the Mississippi Flyway, predicted production was above-average for the Eastern Prairie Population, but below-average for the Mississippi Valley and the Southern James Bay populations, the latter for the second year in a row. Indices of wetland abundance in the Canadian and U.S. prairies in 2014 continued to improve, with the exception of the eastern two-thirds of South Dakota and the Red River Valley in North Dakota. Although early spring was cold and wet in many goose nesting areas of the United States, the outlook for production was generally good. Breeding populations of most temperate-nesting geese remained high in 2014, despite efforts to reduce or stabilize them. Production and fall flights of temperate-nesting Canada geese over most of North America should be average in 2014.

Primary abundance indices increased for 9 goose populations and decreased for 11 goose populations in 2014 compared to 2013. Primary abundance indices for both populations of tundra swans (Eastern and Western) decreased in 2014 from 2013 levels. The following populations displayed significant positive trends during the most recent 10-year period (P < 0.05): Central Flyway Arctic Nesting—West Tier (formerly Short Grass Prairie), North Atlantic, and Aleutian Canada geese; Mid-continent, Western Central Flyway, and Western Arctic/Wrangell Island light geese; Eastern Population tundra swans; and the Pacific population of white-fronted geese. Only Atlantic Flyway Resident (AFRP) and Central Flyway Arctic Nesting—West Tier (formerly Tall Grass Prairie) Canada geese showed significantly negative 10-year trends.

The production of geese and swans in North America is variable, depending on the population and its breeding area.

Waterfowl Harvest and Hunter Activity

National surveys of migratory bird hunters were conducted during the 2012–13 and 2013–14 hunting seasons. Over 1.1 million waterfowl hunters harvested 15,704,500 (±6 percent) ducks and 3,191,200 (±6 percent) geese in 2013–14. Over 1 million waterfowl hunters harvested 13,716,400 (±6 percent) ducks and 3,360,400 (±6 percent) geese during the 2013–14 season. Mallard, green-winged teal, gadwall, blue-winged, and wood duck (Aix sponsa) were the 5 most-harvested duck species in the United States, and Canada goose was the predominant species in the goose harvest.

Review of Public Comments and Flyway Council Recommendations

The preliminary proposed rulemaking, which appeared in the April 30, 2014, Federal Register, opened the public comment period for migratory game bird hunting regulations. The supplemental proposed rule, which appeared in the June 4, 2014, Federal Register, discussed the regulatory alternatives for the 2014–15 duck hunting season. Late-season comments are summarized below and numbered in the order used in the June 4 Federal Register. We have included only the numbered items pertaining to late-season issues for which we received written comments. Consequently, the issues do not follow in successive numerical order.

We received recommendations from all four Flyway Councils. Some recommendations supported continuation of last year’s frameworks. Due to the comprehensive nature of the annual review of the frameworks performed by the Councils, support for continuation of last year’s frameworks is assumed for items for which no recommendations were received. Council recommendations for changes in the frameworks are summarized below.

We seek additional information and comments on the recommendations in this supplemental proposed rule. New proposals and modifications to previously described proposals are discussed below. Wherever possible, they are discussed under headings corresponding to the numbered items in the April 30 and June 4, 2014, Federal Register documents.

General

Written Comments: A commenter protested the entire migratory bird hunting regulations process, the killing of all migratory birds, and status and habitat data on which the migratory bird hunting regulations are based.

Service Response: Our long-term objectives continue to include providing opportunities to harvest portions of certain migratory game bird populations and to limit harvests to levels compatible with each population’s ability to maintain healthy, viable numbers. Having taken into account the zones of temperature and the distribution, abundance, economic value, breeding habits, and times and lines of flight of migratory birds, we believe that the hunting seasons provided for herein are compatible with the current status of migratory bird populations and long-term population goals.

Additionally, we are obligated to, and do, give serious consideration to all information received as public comment. While there are problems inherent with any type of representative management of public-trust resources, we believe that the Flyway-Council system of migratory game bird management has been a longstanding example of State-Federal cooperative management since its establishment in 1952. However, as always, we continue to seek new ways to streamline and improve the process.

1. Ducks

Categories used to discuss issues related to duck harvest management are:
(A) General Harvest Strategy, (B) Regulatory Alternatives, (C) Zones and Split Seasons, and (D) Special Seasons/Species Management. The categories correspond to previously published issues/discussion, and only those containing substantial recommendations are discussed below.

A. General Harvest Strategy

Council Recommendations: The Atlantic, Mississippi, Central, and Pacific Flyway Councils recommended the adoption of the “liberal” regulatory alternative.

Service Response: We continue to use adaptive harvest management (AHM) protocols that allow hunting regulations to vary among Flyways in a manner that recognizes each Flyway’s breeding-ground derivation of mallards. In 2008, we described and adopted a protocol for regulatory decision-making for the newly defined stock of western mallards (73 FR 43290; July 24, 2008). For the 2014 hunting season, we continue to believe that the prescribed regulatory choice for the Pacific Flyway should be based on the status of this western mallard breeding stock, while the regulatory choice for the Mississippi and Central Flyways should depend on the status of the redefined mid-continent mallard stock. We also recommend that the regulatory choice for the Atlantic Flyway continue to depend on the status of eastern mallards.

For the 2014 hunting season, we are continuing to consider the same regulatory alternatives as those used last year. The nature of the “restrictive,” “moderate,” and “liberal” alternatives has remained essentially unchanged.
since 1997, except that extended framework dates have been offered in the “moderate” and “liberal” regulatory alternatives since 2002 (67 FR 47224; July 17, 2002). Also, in 2003, we agreed to place a constraint on closed seasons in the Mississippi and Central Flyways whenever the midcontinent mallard breeding-population size (as defined prior to 2008; traditional survey area plus Minnesota, Michigan, and Wisconsin) was ≥ 5.5 million (68 FR 37362; June 23, 2003). This constraint subsequently was revised in 2008 to ≥ 4.75 million to account for the change in the definition of midcontinent mallards to exclude birds from Alaska and the Old Crow Flats of the Yukon Territory (73 FR 43293; July 24, 2008).

The optimal AHM strategies for midcontinent and western mallards for the 2014–15 hunting season were calculated using: (1) Harvest-management objectives specific to each mallard stock; (2) the 2014 regulatory alternatives; and (3) current population models and associated weights for midcontinent and western mallards. Based on this year’s survey results of 11.04 million midcontinent mallards (traditional survey area minus Alaska and the Old Crow Flats area of the Yukon Territory, plus Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan) and 4.63 million ponds in Prairie Canada, the prescribed regulatory choice for the Mississippi and Central Flyways is the “liberal” alternative. Similarly, based on an estimated 0.82 million western mallards (0.32 in California-Oregon and 0.50 in Alaska) the prescribed regulatory alternative in the Pacific Flyway is also “liberal.”

In 2013, mechanical problems and corresponding safety concerns with Service aircraft limited survey coverage, which precluded our ability to estimate breeding population sizes for the eastern strata of the Waterfowl Breeding and Population Habitat Survey (WBPHS). As a result, we were unable to update eastern mallard AHM model weights and derive an optimal harvest policy for 2014. Therefore, the 2014 eastern mallard AHM decision will be based on the 2014 eastern mallard population estimate and the optimal regulatory strategy derived for the Atlantic Flyway in 2012. Based on an estimated eastern mallard population of 0.86 million (0.22 and 0.63 million respectively in northeast Canada and the northeastern United States), the prescribed regulatory choice for the Atlantic Flyway is the “liberal” alternative. We note that in 2012, the eastern mallard observed breeding population was 0.84 million.

Therefore, we concur with the recommendations of the Atlantic, Mississippi, Central, and Pacific Flyway Councils regarding selection of the “liberal” regulatory alternative and propose to adopt the “liberal” regulatory alternative, as described in the June 4, 2014, Federal Register.

D. Special Seasons/Species Management

iii. Black Ducks


Service Response: In 2012, we adopted the International Black Duck AHM Strategy (77 FR 49868; August 17, 2012). The formal strategy is the result of 14 years of technical and policy decisions developed and agreed upon by both Canadian and U.S. agencies and waterfowl managers. The strategy clarifies what harvest levels each country will manage for and reduces conflicts over country-specific regulatory policies. Further, the strategy allows for attainment of fundamental objectives of black duck management: resource conservation, perpetuation of hunting tradition, and equitable access to the black duck resource between Canada and the United States while accommodating the fundamental sources of uncertainty, partial controllability and observability, structural uncertainty, and environmental variation. The underlying model performance is assessed annually, with a comprehensive evaluation of the entire strategy (objectives and model set) planned after 6 years. A copy of the strategy is available at the address FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT, or from our Web site at http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds/NewsPublicationsReports.html.

For the 2014–15 season, the optimal country-specific regulatory strategies were calculated in September 2013 using: (1) The black duck harvest objective (98 percent of long-term cumulative harvest); (2) 2014–15 country specific regulatory alternatives; (3) parameter estimates for mallard competition and additive mortality; and (4) 2013 estimates of 0.62 million breeding black ducks and 0.50 million breeding mallards in the core survey area. The optimal regulatory choices are the moderate package in Canada and the restrictive package in the United States.

iv. Canvasbacks

Council Recommendations: The Atlantic, Mississippi, Central, and Pacific Flyway Councils recommended a full season for canvasbacks with a 1-bird daily bag limit. Season lengths would be 60 days in the Atlantic and Mississippi Flyways, 74 days in the Central Flyway, and 107 days in the Pacific Flyway.

Service Response: Since 1994, we have followed a canvasback harvest strategy whereby if canvasback population status and production are sufficient to permit a harvest of one canvasback per day nationwide for the entire length of the regular duck season, while still attaining an objective of 500,000 birds the following spring, the season on canvasbacks should be opened. A partial season would be permitted if the estimated allowable harvest was below that associated with a 1-bird daily bag limit for the entire season. If neither of these conditions can be met, the harvest strategy calls for a closed season on canvasbacks nationwide. In 2008 (73 FR 43290; July 24, 2008), we announced our decision to modify the canvasback harvest strategy to incorporate the option for a 2-bird daily bag limit for canvasbacks when the predicted breeding population the subsequent year exceeds 725,000 birds. This year’s spring survey resulted in an estimate of 685,000 canvasbacks. This was similar to the 2013 estimate of 787,000 canvasbacks and 18 percent above the 1955–2013 average. The estimate of ponds in Prairie Canada was 4.6 million, which was also similar to last year’s estimate of 4.6 million and 33 percent above the long-term average. Based on harvest predictions using data through 2009, the canvasback harvest strategy predicts a 2015 canvasback population of 730,600 birds under a liberal duck season with a 1-bird daily bag limit and 671,000 with a 2-bird daily bag limit. Because the predicted 2015 spring canvasback population under a “liberal” 1-bird bag season is greater than 500,000, and the predicted population under a “liberal” 2-bird bag is less than 725,000, and since the recommended duck season under AHM is “liberal,” the harvest strategy stipulates that there should be a full canvasback season with a 1-bird daily bag limit.

v. Pintails

Council Recommendations: The Atlantic, Mississippi, Central, and Pacific Flyway Councils recommended a full season for pintails, consisting of a 2-bird daily bag limit and a 60-day season in the Atlantic and Mississippi
Flyways, a 74-day season in the Central Flyway, and a 107-day season in the Pacific Flyway.

Service Response: The current derived pintail harvest strategy was adopted by the Service and Flyway Councils in 2010 (75 FR 44856; July 29, 2010). For this year, an optimal regulatory strategy for pintails was calculated with: (1) An objective of maximizing long-term cumulative harvest, including a closed-season constraint of 1.75 million birds; (2) the regulatory alternatives and associated predicted harvest; and (3) current population models and their relative weights. Based on this year’s survey results of 3.22 million pintails observed at a mean latitude of 53.9 degrees and a latitude-adjusted breeding population of 3.79 million birds, the optimal regulatory choice for all four Flyways is the “liberal” alternative with a 2-bird daily bag limit.

vi. Scaup

Council Recommendations: The Atlantic, Mississippi, Central, and Pacific Flyway Councils recommended use of the “moderate” regulation package, consisting of a 60-day season with a 2-bird daily bag in the Atlantic Flyway, and an 86-day season with a 3-bird daily bag limit in the Pacific Flyway.

Service Response: In 2008, we adopted and implemented a new scaup harvest strategy (73 FR 43290 on July 24, 2008, and 73 FR 51124 on August 29, 2008) with initial “restrictive,” “moderate,” and “liberal” regulatory packages adopted for each Flyway. The 2014 breeding population estimate for scaup is 4.61 million, which is similar to the 2013 estimate of 4.17 million. Total estimated U.S. scaup harvest for the 2013–14 season was 0.33 million birds. An optimal regulatory strategy for scaup was calculated with an objective of achieving 95 percent of maximum long-term cumulative harvest and updated model parameters and their relative weights. Based on this year’s breeding population estimate of 4.61 million, the optimal regulatory choice for scaup is the “moderate” package in all four Flyways.

xi. Other

Council Recommendations: The Central Flyway Council recommended that two additional (bonus) blue-winged teal be allowed in the daily duck bag for the first 16 days of the regular duck season in the production States of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming.

The Mississippi Flyway Council recommended that two additional teal (blue-winged, green-winged, and cinnamon teal collectively) be allowed in the daily duck bag for the first 16 days of the regular duck season in the production States of Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. Impacts of both of these changes would be evaluated over the first 3 years, beginning with the 2014–15 hunting season.

Service Response: In the April 30 Federal Register, we stated that “any proposal to increase teal harvest, in order to be consistent with the intent of special regulations, should direct harvest primarily at blue-winged teal . . . .” The recent assessment of teal harvest potential indicated additional harvest for this species can be supported in most years, and we believe the proposal for bonus blue-winged teal will provide hunters increased opportunities with a very low likelihood of negative impacts to the blue-winged teal population. Further, we believe impacts to species other than blue-winged teal also are likely to be low. Thus, we support the Central Flyway Council’s recommendation to include bonus blue-winged teal in the regular season daily duck bag limit. We will work with the Flyway to develop appropriate evaluation techniques to monitor any potential effects.

We do not support the Mississippi Flyway Council’s recommendation to include all teal in the bonus bag limit. We have clearly stated that the focus of additional teal harvest should be directed at blue-winged teal, and do not support new special regulations that would target other species of waterfowl, including the other teal species. Although the teal harvest potential assessment indicated some additional harvest opportunity exists for both blue-winged and green-winged teal, the amount of additional opportunity for green-winged teal appears to be much lower than for blue-winged teal. For blue-winged teal, the optimal harvest rates predicted for the additive model were about 2–2.5 times higher than observed harvest rates, but the optimal harvest rate for green-winged teal was only 1.3–1.5 times higher than observed rates, suggesting less room for additional harvest opportunity for green-winged teal. Furthermore, the models used to assess the impacts of harvest on green-winged teal population size did not perform as well as the models used for blue-winged teal. Thus, we have less confidence in the results for green-winged teal. Improving the predictive ability of the green-winged teal models would require improvements to monitoring programs (e.g., banding, harvest, and/or abundance monitoring) beyond those that currently exist. Data were insufficient to assess the harvest potential for cinnamon teal.

Thus, beginning in the 2014–15 regular duck seasons, we propose that two bonus blue-winged teal be included for the first 16 days of the regular duck season of the Central and Mississippi Flyways when the blue-winged teal population estimate from the traditional survey area (i.e., strata 1–18, 20–50, and 75–77) is >4.7 million birds, and for the first 9 days when the blue-winged teal estimate is between 3.3 and 4.7 million. Bonus blue-winged teal will not be allowed when the blue-winged teal estimate is less than 3.3 million. In the Central Flyway, this regulation would be available only to the States of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming. In the Mississippi Flyway, this regulation would be available only to the States of Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin.

During the next 3 years, no additional expansion of teal hunting opportunity will be allowed. This will ensure that an evaluation of recently enacted additional teal hunting opportunities can proceed immediately and a comprehensive teal harvest strategy can be developed. The evaluation plan must be reviewed and supported by the Service’s Division of Migratory Bird Management, and the strategy vetted by the Harvest Management Working Group and approved by the Service.

Bonus birds of other species will only be considered after a rigorous assessment of the harvest potential of the species, adequate evaluations of the effects of the additional harvest associated with the bonus bag limit on the status of the species, and integration of the regulations into the applicable duck harvest management strategy(ies) in place at the time. Flyway[s] proposing such changes would be responsible for providing the resources for all necessary work.

We prepared an environmental assessment (EA) on the new teal hunting opportunities. Specifics of the five alternatives we analyzed and a copy of the EA can be found on our Web site at http://www.fws.gov/migratorybirds, or at http://www.regulations.gov.

4. Canada Geese

B. Regular Seasons

Council Recommendations: The Atlantic Flyway Council recommended that regulations for the North Atlantic Population of Canada geese (NAP) be liberalized per the NAP Canada Goose Management Plan and Hunt Strategy. The “liberal” season option would consist of a 70-day season with a 3-bird
daily bag limit and a framework between October 1 and February 15 for the high- and low-harvest NAP areas. The Council also recommended that the size of the closed area surrounding Santee National Wildlife Refuge and lands in close proximity to the refuge be reduced beginning with the 2014–15 hunting season. The area removed from the closed area would be managed as an Atlantic Flyway Resident Population harvest area with an 80-day season and 5-bird daily bag limit.

The Pacific Flyway Council recommended several changes to dark goose season frameworks:

1. Simplify goose frameworks in the Pacific Flyway by combining interior and coastal States frameworks into single frameworks for Canada geese and brant, white-fronted goose, and light goose. This would include:
   a. Increasing the season length for Canada geese in California, Oregon, and Washington from 100 to 107 days; and
   b. Changing the framework opening date for geese in California, Oregon, and Washington from the Saturday closest to October 1 to the Saturday closest to September 24.

2. In California, increase the bag limit for Canada geese from 4 to 10 per day, and in those zones where exceptions exist, increase the Canada goose bag limit from 6 to 10 per day.

3. In Oregon, increase the bag limit for Canada geese in the South Coast Zone on hunt days on or before the last Sunday in January from 4 to 6 per day.

4. In Oregon, remove bag limit restrictions for cackling and Aleutian geese in the Northwest and Northwest Special Permit Zones of not more than 3 per day within the overall Canada goose daily bag limit.

5. In Washington, remove the bag limit restriction for cackling geese in Area 2A and 2B (Southwest Washington Permit Zone) of not more than 3 per day within the overall Canada goose daily bag limit.

6. In Oregon and Washington, increase dusky Canada goose quotas from 90 to 165 geese in the Northwest Special Permit Zone of Oregon, and from 45 to 85 geese in Area 2A and 2B of Washington (Southwest Washington Permit Zone).

7. In Utah, Nevada, and Arizona, increase the daily bag limit from 3 to 4 Canada geese and brant, singly or in the aggregate.

8. In Utah, modify the Northern Utah Zone to include the Lomocopt State Wildlife Area and adjacent areas which were previously in the Remainder of State Zone.

9. In Utah, modify the descriptions of the Wasatch Front Zone and the Remainder of State Zone so that the Wasatch Front Zone is described by roads instead of county boundaries.

Service Response: We agree with the Atlantic Flyway Council’s recommendation concerning liberalization of the frameworks for NAP geese. The 3-year NAP breeding population mean (65,344) is above the 2001–05 level of 59,994 needed for liberalization. Further, the NAP breeding population has been slowly increasing for the past 5 years and NAP harvest in the United States is buffered to a large extent by the Atlantic Flyway Resident Population (AFRP). We also support the Council’s recommendation to reduce the closed area in South Carolina. The proposed reduction in the size of the closed area should continue to provide adequate protection for migrant Canada goose stocks associated with this area. Further, opening up some new areas to goose hunting will provide additional harvest opportunity to control abundant AFRP Canada geese.

We support the Pacific Flyway Council’s recommendations to increase the basic season length in California, Oregon, and Washington from 100 to 107 days, and to change the framework opening date in California, Oregon, and Washington. These recommendations are intended to simplify frameworks by establishing consistency in season lengths and opening dates for Canada goose, light goose, and white-fronted goose seasons throughout the Pacific Flyway south of Alaska. We do not expect the increased season length to significantly increase harvest as many areas in these States already have exceptions for a 107-day season length, or have combinations of youth hunting days, September seasons, and regular seasons which total 107 days.

We also support the Pacific Flyway Council’s recommendation to increase the daily bag limit in California from 4 to 6, depending on the zone, to 10 per day. Aleutian, cackling, and Western Canada goose represent the primary Canada goose populations inhabiting California, and are currently over population objectives identified in Flyway management plans. The current 3-year (2012–2014) average estimated number of Aleutian Canada geese is 145,780, well above the population objective of 60,000 geese. The current 3-year (2012–2014) average population estimate for cackling Canada geese is 265,281, and exceeds the population objective of 230,000 geese. Also, the 3-year (2012–2014) average population estimate for the Pacific population of western Canada geese is 249,890, and is nearly double the objective of 126,650 geese. However, the Flyway management plan indicates that the western Canada goose population segment (flock) objective for the California reference area is between 1,000 and 1,250 nesting pairs. The traditional survey area in the northwest portion of the California reference area indicates only 588 nesting pairs, but a broader survey over the California reference area indicates a current 3-year average breeding population estimate of 47,128 geese. We note that California has maintained more restrictive regulations in their Northeast Zone to protect the breeding population of western Canada geese there. While we support the recommendation, we also believe the Flyway management plan for the Pacific population of western Canada goose should be revised by 2016 to update the population objective if necessary and clarify the metric used to index the status of this population and prescribe harvest management regulations.

With regard to the Pacific Flyway Council’s recommendation to increase the daily bag limit in Oregon’s South Coast Zone on hunt days on or before the last Sunday in January from 4 to 6 per day, we concur. We note that Oregon’s South Coast Zone daily bag limit is already 6 Canada geese after the last Sunday in January. Increased bag limits in Oregon’s South Coast Zone are intended to increase harvest rates of Aleutian Canada geese, which exceed the Flyway population objective by more than two times.

We also support the Pacific Flyway Council’s recommendations to remove the daily bag limit restrictions specific to cackling and Aleutian Canada geese in Oregon’s Northeast and Northwest Special Permit Zones of not more than 3 per day, and to remove the daily bag limit restriction specific to cackling Canada geese in Washington’s Area 2A and 2B (Southwest Permit Zone) of not more than 3 per day within the basic daily bag limit of 4 Canada geese per day in these areas. As previously noted, the Aleutian Canada goose population is currently more than 2 times over the Flyway population objective, and the cackling Canada goose population also exceeds the Flyway population objective. The bag limit increases are intended to increase harvest rates of cackling Canada geese and address agricultural damage issues in Oregon and Washington. However, we note that long-term solutions to agricultural depredation issues will not be completely addressed through harvest regulations. Thus, we encourage the States in the Pacific Flyway to continue to work toward implementing other approaches for reducing agricultural
depredation as detailed in the Flyway’s Canada goose depredation plan.

We also support the Pacific Flyway Council’s recommendation to increase the dusky Canada goose quotas from 90 to 165 in Oregon’s Northwest Special Permit Zone, and 45 to 85 in Washington’s Area 2A and 2B (Southwest Permit Zone). The Flyway’s dusky Canada goose management plan specifies that Oregon’s and Washington’s harvest quotas will increase from 90 and 45 to 165 and 85, respectively, when the 3-year average population of dusky Canada geese exceeds 12,500 (Action level 1). The most current 3-year average population (2011–2014, no estimate was available in 2013) is 13,678. We do not expect change in the quotas to result in increased goose harvest. Oregon and Washington rarely exceed sub-area dusky quotas and do not exceed the current lower quotas. The status of dusky Canada geese continues to be a matter of concern and harvest restrictions have been in place to protect these geese throughout their range since the 1970’s. We continue to support the harvest strategy described in the Flyway management plan for this population.

We also support the Pacific Flyway Council’s recommendation to increase the daily Canada goose and brant bag limit from 3 to 4 singly or in the aggregate in Arizona, Nevada, and Utah. State restrictions have been imposed in those 3 States to help establish and build breeding population segments (flocks) identified by State reference areas in the Flyway management plan. However, the current 3-year average population estimate (2012–14) for the Rocky Mountain population of western Canada geese is 144,255, which is substantially above the Flyway population objective of 117,000 geese. The management plan for this population indicates that when the most recent 3-year average breeding population index is between 87,825 and 117,000 goose, minor harvest adjustments may be made for individual flocks and reference areas. Removal of the daily bag limit restrictions in Arizona, Nevada, and Utah will make their Canada goose bag limits the same as those in other interior Pacific Flyway States (Colorado, Idaho, and Montana), resulting in greater consistency throughout the Flyway.

Lastly, we support the Pacific Flyway Council’s recommendations to modify Utah’s Wasatch Front Zone and the remainder of State Zones. The proposed modifications would result in consistent regulations on other nearby wildlife management areas in the Northern Utah Zone, and we do not expect that this change would have any impact on goose harvest. Also, some hunters have had difficulty determining the boundary for the Wasatch Front Zone because the zone was defined based on county lines, which do not necessarily follow visible landmarks. This change in boundary description is more easily identifiable based on visible landmarks and should reduce uncertainty by sportsmen when afield.

5. White-Fronted Geese

**Council Recommendations:** The Pacific Flyway Council recommended increasing the daily bag limit from 6 to 10 per day in the Pacific Flyway except in Alaska, and expanding the framework opening outside dates in California, Oregon, and Washington from the Saturday closest to October 1 to the Saturday closest to September 24.

**Service Response:** We support the Pacific Flyway Council’s recommendations. The current 3-year average population estimate (2012–14) for Pacific white-fronted geese is 627,108, which is substantially above the Flyway population objective of 300,000 geese. Further, the population has shown an upward trend for nearly the last 30 years. As the number of Pacific white-fronted geese has increased, so have complaints of agricultural damage on wintering and staging areas. The bag limit increase should allow additional harvest of Pacific white-fronted goose while maintaining traditional Canada goose hunting opportunities. We do not expect a significant increase in Tule white-fronted goose harvest with the proposed bag limit increase as more restrictive frameworks remain in place in the Pacific Flyway to restrict harvest of Tule white-fronted goose (for example, California’s Sacramento Valley Special Management Area). Population estimates for Tule white-fronted geese indicate a stable population, and the current 3-year average population estimate (2012–14) is approximately 10,000 geese. While the Special Management Area is in place to restrict the harvest of Tule geese, the absolute number of Tule geese harvested remains very low (ranging from 40–173 per year). With regard to framework dates, moving the framework opening date ahead by 1 week is intended to simplify frameworks by aligning outside dates for white-fronted goose, Canada goose, and light goose seasons to allow consistency throughout the Pacific Flyway south of Alaska.

6. Brant

**Council Recommendations:** The Atlantic Flyway Council recommended a 30-day season with a 2-bird daily bag limit for the 2014–15 hunting season.

**Service Response:** The 2014 midwinter index (MWI) for Atlantic brant was 132,936. While the brant management plan allows for a 50-day season with a 2-bird daily bag limit when the MWI estimate falls between 125,000 and 150,000 brant, the hunt plan provides for consideration of factors other than population size in decisions about season length. The Council noted that the percentage of young in the brant fall flight in the previous 2 years was extremely low (6.5 percent and 3.7 percent) compared to the previous 10-year average of 17.6 percent, and preliminary information for 2014 suggests a third consecutive year of poor production. We concur with the Council’s conservative approach.

7. Snow and Ross’s (Light) Geese

**Council Recommendations:** The Pacific Flyway Council recommended several changes to light goose season frameworks:

1. Changing the framework opening date for light geese in California, Oregon, and Washington from the Saturday closest to October 1 to the Saturday closest to September 24;
2. Increasing the basic bag limit for light geese in California, Oregon, and Washington from 6 or 10 per day to 20 per day; and
3. Implementing a bag limit restriction for light geese in Oregon of 6 per day during all hunts occurring on or before the last Sunday in January.

**Service Response:** We support the Pacific Flyway Council’s recommendations to expand the framework opening outside dates for light geese in California, Oregon, and Washington. Moving the framework opening date ahead by 1 week is intended to simplify frameworks by aligning outside dates for white-fronted goose, Canada goose, and light goose seasons to allow consistency throughout the Pacific Flyway south of Alaska.

We also support the Pacific Flyway Council’s recommendations to increase the basic bag limit for light geese in California, Oregon, and Washington from 6 or 10 per day to 20 per day. Increasing the basic light goose bag limit in California, Oregon, and Washington will simplify frameworks by aligning bag limits for light geese to allow consistency throughout the Pacific Flyway south of Alaska. Additionally, three populations of light geese occur in
the Pacific Flyway and are above Flyway population objectives based on the most recent breeding population indices. The population estimate for the Western Arctic Population (WAP) of lesser snow geese was 451,000 in 2013, which is above the objective of 200,000 geese. Ross’s geese were estimated at 766,000 in 2012, and are above the objective of 100,000 geese. The population estimate for Wrangel Island snow geese was 160,000 in 2013, which is above the objective of 120,000 geese. The Council notes that the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) designated the WAP lesser snow goose and Ross’s geese as overabundant in 2014 based on the population’s long-term population growth, evidence of localized habitat degradation on the breeding grounds, low harvest rate, and high adult survival rate. Further, management prescriptions recommended in the WAP lesser snow goose and Ross’s goose management plans are meant to keep the populations within objective levels and prevent habitat degradation problems. The increase in daily bag limit is intended to slow the growth rate of WAP lesser snow goose and Ross’s geese.

Increasing bag limits on light geese has the potential for additional impacts to Wrangel Island snow geese. Wrangel Island snow geese winter primarily in British Columbia-Washington (60 percent) and California (40 percent), but some winter in Oregon. California is the winter terminus for all three populations of light geese. The number of light geese estimated to winter in California is approximately 1,000,000. Only about 5 percent of the wintering population is composed of Wrangel Island snow geese. We agree with the Council that the large portion of WAP lesser snow goose and Ross’s geese wintering in California serve as a buffer to the small portion of Wrangel Island snow geese wintering in California. Further, restrictive frameworks remain in place in Washington and Oregon to restrict harvest of Wrangel Island snow geese including a 4-bird daily bag limit for light geese in Washington’s and Oregon’s Northwest Permit zones. Also the Pacific Flyway Council recommended retaining the current daily bag limit of 6 light geese in Oregon on or before the last Sunday in January when light geese in the State are likely to be Wrangel Island snow geese.

With regard to implementing a bag limit restriction for light geese in Oregon of 6 per day on or before the last Sunday in January, we concur. Current evidence suggests most light geese in Oregon during fall and early winter are primarily Wrangel Island snow geese, but an influx of WAP lesser snow and Ross’s geese occurs during late winter as birds begin to move north toward breeding areas. A bag limit for light geese in Oregon of 6 per day on or before the last Sunday in January is similar to the 6-bird bag limit currently allowed for light geese in Oregon, and should retain protective measures for Wrangel Island snow geese at a time of the year when they make up the majority of light geese inhabiting Oregon.

Public Comments

The Department of the Interior’s policy is, whenever possible, to afford the public an opportunity to participate in the rulemaking process. Accordingly, we invite interested persons to submit written comments, suggestions, or recommendations regarding the proposed regulations. Before promulgating final migratory game bird hunting regulations, we will consider all comments we receive. These comments, and any additional information we receive, may lead to final regulations that differ from these proposals. You may submit your comments and materials concerning this proposed rule by one of the methods listed in the ADDRESSES section. We will not accept comments sent by email or fax. We will not consider hand-delivered comments that we do not receive, or mailed comments that are not postmarked, by the date specified in the DATES section. We will post all comments in their entirety—including your personal identifying information—on http://www.regulations.gov. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

Comments and materials we receive, as well as supporting documentation we used in preparing this proposed rule, will be available for public inspection on http://www.regulations.gov, or by appointment, during normal business hours, at the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Division of Migratory Bird Management, 5275 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, Virginia. For each series of proposed rulemakings, we will establish specific comment periods.

We will consider, but possibly may not respond in detail to, each comment. As in the past, we will summarize all comments we receive during the comment period and respond to them after the closing date in the preambles of any final rules.

Paperwork Reduction Act

This final rule does not contain any new information collection that requires approval under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). We may not conduct or sponsor and you are not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) control number. OMB has reviewed and approved the information collection requirements associated with migratory bird surveys and assigned the following OMB control numbers:


Other Required Determinations

Based on our most current data, we are affirming our required determinations made in the April 30, June 4, and July 31 proposed rules; for descriptions of our actions to ensure compliance with the following statutes and Executive Orders, see our April 30, 2014, proposed rule (79 FR 24512):
- National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Consideration;
- Endangered Species Act Consideration;
- Regulatory Flexibility Act;
- Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act;
- Unfunded Mandates Reform Act; and
- Executive Orders 12630, 12866, 12988, 13132, 13175, and 13211.

List of Subjects in 50 CFR Part 20

Exports, Hunting, Imports, Reporting and recordkeeping requirements, Transportation, Wildlife.


Dated: August 14, 2014.

Michael J. Bean,
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary for Fish and Wildlife and Parks.

Proposed Regulations Frameworks for 2014–15 Late Hunting Seasons on Certain Migratory Game Birds

Pursuant to the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and delegated authorities, the
Department of the Interior approved the following proposals for season lengths, shooting hours, bag and possession limits, and outside dates within which States may select seasons for hunting waterfowl and coots between the dates of September 1, 2014, and March 10, 2015. These frameworks are summarized below.

**General**

Dates: All outside dates noted below are inclusive.

Shooting and Hawking (taking by falconry) Hours: Unless otherwise specified, from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset daily.

Possession Limits: Unless otherwise specified, possession limits are three times the daily bag limit.

Permits: For some species of migratory birds, the Service authorizes the use of permits to regulate harvest or monitor their take by sport hunters, or both. In many cases (e.g., tundra swans, some sandhill crane populations), the Service determines the amount of harvest that may be taken during hunting seasons during its formal regulations-setting process, and the States then issue permits to hunters at levels predicted to result in the amount of take authorized by the Service. Thus, although issued by States, the permits would not be valid unless the Service approved such take in its regulations.

These Federally authorized, State-issued permits are issued to individuals, and only the individual whose name and address appears on the permit at the time of issuance is authorized to take migratory birds at levels specified in the permit, in accordance with provisions of both Federal and State regulations governing the hunting season. The permit must be carried by the permittee when exercising its provisions and must be presented to any law enforcement officer upon request. The permit is not transferrable or assignable to another individual, and may not be sold, bartered, traded, or otherwise provided to another person. If the permit is altered or defaced in any way, the permit becomes invalid.

**Flyways and Management Units**

**Waterfowl Seasons in the Atlantic Flyway**

In the Atlantic Flyway States of Connecticut, Delaware, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, New Jersey, North Carolina, and Pennsylvania, where Sunday hunting is prohibited statewide by State law, all Sundays are closed to all take of migratory waterfowl (including mergansers and coots).

**Special Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days**

Outside Dates: States may select 2 days per duck-hunting zone, designated as “Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days,” in addition to their regular duck seasons. The days must be held outside any regular duck season on a weekend, holidays, or other non-school days when youth hunters would have the maximum opportunity to participate. The days may be held up to 14 days before or after any regular duck-season frameworks or within any split of a regular duck season, or within any other open season on migratory birds.

Daily Bag Limits: The daily bag limits may include ducks, geese, tundra swans, mergansers, coots, moorhens, and gallinules and would be the same as those allowed in the regular season. Flyway species and area restrictions would remain in effect.

Shooting Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

Participation Restrictions: Youth hunters must be 15 years of age or younger. In addition, an adult at least 18 years of age must accompany the youth hunter into the field. This adult may not duck hunt but may participate in other seasons that are open on the special youth day. Tundra swans may only be taken by participants possessing applicable tundra swan permits.

**Atlantic Flyway**

**Ducks, Mergansers, and Coots**

Outside Dates: Between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and the last Sunday in January (January 25).

Hunting Seasons and Duck Limits: 60 days. The daily bag limit is 6 ducks, including no more than 4 mallards (no more that 2 of which can be females), 1 black duck, 2 pintails, 1 mottled duck, 1 fulvous whistling duck, 3 wood ducks, 2 redheads, 2 scaup, 1 canvasback, and 4 scoters.

Closures: The season on harlequin ducks is closed.

Sea Ducks: Within the special sea duck areas, during the regular duck season in the Atlantic Flyway, States may choose to allow the above sea duck limits in addition to the limits applying to other ducks during the regular duck season. In all other areas, sea ducks may be taken only during the regular open season for ducks and are part of the regular duck season daily bag (not to exceed 4 scoters) and possession limits.

Merganser Limits: The daily bag limit of mergansers is 5, only 2 of which may be hooded mergansers. In States that include mergansers in the duck bag limit, the daily limit is the same as the duck bag limit, only two of which may be hooded mergansers.

Coot Limits: The daily bag limit is 15 coots.

Lake Champlain Zone, New York: The waterfowl seasons, limits, and shooting hours should be the same as those selected for the Lake Champlain Zone of Vermont.

Connecticut River Zone, Vermont: The waterfowl seasons, limits, and shooting hours should be the same as
those selected for the Inland Zone of New Hampshire.

Zoning and Split Seasons: Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Maryland, North Carolina, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Virginia, and West Virginia may split their seasons into three segments; Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania, and Vermont may select hunting seasons by zones and may split their seasons into two segments in each zone.

Canada Goose

Season Lengths, Outside Dates, and Limits: Specific regulations for Canada geese are shown below by State. These seasons also include white-fronted geese. Unless specified otherwise, seasons may be split into two segments. In areas within States where the framework closing date for Atlantic Population (AP) goose seasons overlaps with special late-season frameworks for resident geese, the framework closing date for AP goose seasons is January 14.

Connecticut

North Atlantic Population (NAP) Zone: Between October 1 and February 15, a 70-day season may be held with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

Atlantic Population (AP) Zone: A 50-day season may be held between October 10 and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

South Zone: A special season may be held between November 15 and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

Massachusetts:

NAP Zone: A 70-day season may be held between October 1 and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit. Additionally, a special season may be held from January 15 to February 15, with a 5-bird daily bag limit.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between October 10 and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

New Hampshire: A 70-day season may be held Statewide between October 1 and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

New Jersey

Statewide: A 50-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

Special Late Goose Season Area: A special season may be held in designated areas of North and South New Jersey from January 15 to February 15, with a 5-bird daily bag limit.

New York

NAP Zone: Between October 1 and February 15, a 70-day season may be held, with a 3-bird daily bag limit in both the High Harvest and Low Harvest areas.

Special Late Goose Season Area: A special season may be held between January 15 and February 15, with a 5-bird daily bag limit in designated areas of Suffolk County.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25), except in the Lake Champlain Area where the opening date is October 10, and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

Western Long Island RP Zone: A 107-day season may be held between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and March 10, with an 8-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

South Carolina: In designated areas, an 80-day season may be held between October 1 and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

Virginia

SJB Zone: A 78-day season may be held between the first Saturday in October (October 4) and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

RP Zone: An 80-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

Rhode Island: A 70-day season may be held between October 1 and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit. A special late season may be held in designated areas from January 15 to February 15, with a 5-bird daily bag limit.

Pennsylvania

SJB Zone: A 40-day season may be held between November 15 and January 14, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between November 15 and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

Additional, a special late season may be held between January 15 and February 15, with a 5-bird daily bag limit.

SJB Zone: A 78-day season may be held between the first Saturday in October (October 4) and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

RP Zone: An 80-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between October 1 and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

West Virginia: An 80-day season may be held between October 1 and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between the first Saturday in October (October 4) and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

RP Zone: An 80-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

SJB Zone: A 78-day season may be held between the first Saturday in October (October 4) and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

RP Zone: An 80-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between October 1 and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

SJB Zone: A 78-day season may be held between the first Saturday in October (October 4) and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

RP Zone: An 80-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

SJB Zone: A 78-day season may be held between the first Saturday in October (October 4) and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

RP Zone: An 80-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

SJB Zone: A 78-day season may be held between the first Saturday in October (October 4) and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

RP Zone: An 80-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

SJB Zone: A 78-day season may be held between the first Saturday in October (October 4) and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

RP Zone: An 80-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

SJB Zone: A 78-day season may be held between the first Saturday in October (October 4) and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

RP Zone: An 80-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

SJB Zone: A 78-day season may be held between the first Saturday in October (October 4) and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

RP Zone: An 80-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

SJB Zone: A 78-day season may be held between the first Saturday in October (October 4) and February 15, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.

RP Zone: An 80-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and March 10, with a 5-bird daily bag limit. The season may be split into 3 segments.

AP Zone: A 50-day season may be held between the fourth Saturday in October (October 25) and February 5, with a 3-bird daily bag limit.
season between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and January 31, with a 2-bird daily bag limit. States may split their seasons into two segments.

**Mississippi Flyway**

**Ducks, Mergansers, and Coots**

Outside Dates: Between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and the last Sunday in January (January 25).

Hunting Seasons and Duck Limits: The season may not exceed 60 days, with a daily bag limit of 6 ducks, including no more than 4 mallards (no more than 2 of which may be females), 1 mottled duck, 1 black duck, 2 pintails, 3 wood ducks, 1 canvasback, 3 scaup, and 2 redheads. In addition to the daily limits listed above, the States of Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin may include an additional 2 blue-winged teal in the daily bag limit in lieu of selecting an experimental September teal season during the first 16 days of the regular duck season in each respective duck hunting zone.

Merganser Limits: The daily bag limit is 5, only 2 of which may be hooded mergansers. In States that include mergansers in the duck bag limit, the daily limit is the same as the duck bag limit, only 2 of which may be hooded mergansers.

Coot Limits: The daily bag limit is 15 coots.

Zoning and Split Seasons: Alabama, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, and Wisconsin may select hunting seasons by zones.

In Alabama, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Louisiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio, Tennessee, and Wisconsin, the season may be split into two segments in each zone.

In Arkansas and Mississippi, the season may be split into three segments.

**Geese**

Split Seasons: Seasons for geese may be split into three segments.

Season Lengths, Outside Dates, and Limits: States may select seasons for light geese not to exceed 107 days, with 20 goose daily between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and March 10; for white-fronted geese not to exceed 74 days with 2 geese daily or 88 days with 1 goose daily between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and the Sunday nearest February 15 (February 15); and for brant not to exceed 78 days, with 2 brant daily or 107 days with 1 brant daily between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and January 31. There is no possession limit for light geese. States may select seasons for Canada geese not to exceed 92 days with 2 geese daily or 78 days with 3 geese daily between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and January 31 with the following exceptions listed by State:

- **Arkansas**: The season may extend to February 15.
- **Indiana**: The Late Canada Goose Season Area: A special Canada goose season of up to 15 days may be held during February 1–15 in the Late Canada Goose Season Zone. During this special season, the daily bag limit cannot exceed 5 Canada geese.
- **Iowa**: The season for Canada geese may extend for 107 days. The daily bag limit is 3 Canada geese.
- **Michigan**: The framework opening date for all geese is September 11 in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan and September 16 in the Lower Peninsula of Michigan. Southern Michigan Late Canada Goose Season Zone: A 30-day special Canada goose season may be held between December 31 and February 15. The daily bag limit is 5 Canada geese.
- **Minnesota**: The season for Canada geese may extend for 107 days. The daily bag limit is 3 Canada geese.
- **Missouri**: The season for Canada geese may extend for 85 days. The daily bag limit is 3 Canada geese.
- **Tennessee**: The season for Canada geese may extend to February 15.

**Horicon Zone**: The framework opening date for all geese is September 16.

Central Flyway

**Ducks, Mergansers, and Coots**

**Outside Dates**: Between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and the last Sunday in January (January 25).

Hunting Seasons: High Plains Mallard Management Unit (roughly defined as that portion of the Central Flyway which lies west of the 100th meridian): 97 days. The last 23 days must run consecutively and may start no earlier than the Saturday nearest December 10 (December 13).

Remainder of the Central Flyway: 74 days.

Bag Limits: The daily bag limit is 6 ducks, with species and sex restrictions as follows: 5 mallards (no more than 2 of which may be females), 3 scaup, 2 redheads, 3 wood ducks, 2 pintails, and 1 canvasback. In Texas, the daily bag limit on mottled ducks is 1, except that no mottled ducks may be taken during the first 5 days of the season. In addition to the daily limits listed above, the States of Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, and Wyoming may extend the time for selecting an experimental September teal season, may include an additional daily bag and possession limit of 2 and 6 blue-winged teal, respectively, during the first 16 days of the regular duck season in each respective duck hunting zone. These extra limits are in addition to the regular duck bag and possession limits.

Merganser Limits: The daily bag limit is 5 mergansers, only 2 of which may be hooded mergansers. In States that include mergansers in the duck daily bag limit, the daily limit may be the same as the duck bag limit, only two of which may be hooded mergansers.

Coot Limits: The daily bag limit is 15 coots.

Zoning and Split Seasons: Colorado, Kansas (Low Plains portion), Montana, Nebraska, New Mexico, Oklahoma (Low Plains portion), South Dakota (Low Plains portion), Texas (Low Plains portion), and Wyoming may select hunting seasons by zones.

In Colorado, Kansas, Montana, New Mexico, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, Texas, and Wyoming, the regular season may be split into two segments.

**Geese**

Split Seasons: Seasons for geese may be split into three segments. Three-way split seasons for Canada geese require Central Flyway Council and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approval, and a 3-year evaluation by each participating State.

Outside Dates: For dark geese, seasons may be selected between the outside dates of the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and the Sunday nearest February 15 (February 15). For light geese, outside dates for seasons may be selected between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and March 10. In the Rainwater Basin Light Goose Area (East and West) of Nebraska, temporal and spatial restrictions that are consistent with the late-winter snow goose hunting strategy cooperatively developed by the Central Flyway Council and the Service are required.
Season Lengths and Limits

Light Geese: States may select a light goose season not to exceed 107 days. The daily bag limit for light geese is 50 with no possession limit.

Dark Geese: In Kansas, Nebraska, North Dakota, Oklahoma, South Dakota, and the Eastern Goose Zone of Texas, States may select a season for Canada geese (or any other dark goose species except white-fronted geese) not to exceed 107 days with a daily bag limit of 8. For white-fronted geese, these States may select either a season of 74 days with a bag limit of 2 or an 88-day season with a bag limit of 1.

In Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, and Wyoming, States may select seasons not to exceed 107 days. The daily bag limit for dark geese is 5 in the aggregate. In the Western Goose Zone of Texas, the season may not exceed 95 days. The daily bag limit for Canada geese (or any other dark goose species except white-fronted geese) is 5. The daily bag limit for white-fronted geese is 1.

Pacific Flyway

Ducks, Mergansers, Coots, Common Moorhens, and Purple Gallinules

Outside Dates: Between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and the last Sunday in January (January 25).

Hunting Seasons and Duck and Merganser Limits: Concurrent 107 days. The daily bag limit is 7 ducks and mergansers, including no more than 2 female mallards; 2 pintails, 1 canvasback, 3 scaup, and 2 redheads. For scaup, the season length is 86 days, which may be split according to applicable zones/split duck hunting configurations approved for each State.

The season on coots, common moorhens, and purple gallinules may be between the outside dates for the season on ducks, but not to exceed 107 days.

Coot, Common Moorhen, and Purple Gallinule Limits: The daily bag limit of coots, common moorhens, and purple gallinules are 25, singly or in the aggregate.


Colorado, Montana, and New Mexico may split their seasons into three segments.

Colorado River Zone, California: Seasons and limits should be the same as seasons and limits selected in the adjacent portion of Arizona (South Zone).

Geese

Season Lengths, Outside Dates, and Limits:

Canada geese and brant: Except as subsequently noted, 107-day seasons may be selected with outside dates between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and the last Sunday in January (January 25). In Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, and Utah, the daily bag limit is 4 Canada geese and brant in the aggregate. In California, Oregon, and Washington, the daily bag limit is 4 Canada geese. For brant, Oregon and Washington may select a 16-day season and California a 30-day season. Days must be consecutive. Washington and California may select hunting seasons for up to two zones. The daily bag limit is 2 brant and is in addition to other goose limits. In Oregon and California, the brant season must end no later than December 15.

White-fronted geese: Except as subsequently noted, 107-day seasons may be selected with outside dates between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and March 10. The daily bag limit is 10.

Light geese: Except as subsequently noted, 107-day seasons may be selected with outside dates between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and March 10. The basic daily bag limit is 20.

Split Seasons: Unless otherwise specified, seasons for geese may be split into up to 3 segments. Three-way split seasons for Canada geese and white-fronted geese require Pacific Flyway Council and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service approval and a 3-year evaluation by each participating State.

California: The daily bag limit for Canada geese is 10.

Balance-of-State Zone: A Canada goose season may be selected with outside dates between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and March 10. In the Sacramento Valley Special Management Area, the season on white-fronted geese must end on or before December 28, and the daily bag limit is 3 white-fronted geese. In the North Coast Special Management Area, hunting days that occur after the last Sunday in January should be concurrent with Oregon’s South Coast Zone.

Idaho

Zone 2: Idaho will continue to monitor the snow goose hunt that occurs after the last Sunday in January in the American Falls Reservoir/Fort Hall Bottoms and surrounding areas at 3-year intervals.

New Mexico: The daily bag limit for Canada geese and brant is 3 in the aggregate.

Oregon: The daily bag limit for light geese is 6 on or before the last Sunday in January.

Harney and Lake County Zone: For Lake County only, the daily white-fronted goose bag limit is 1.

Northwest Zone: For geese, outside dates are between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and March 10. The season may be split into 3 segments.

Northwest Special Permit Zone: For geese, outside dates are between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and March 10. The daily bag limit of light geese is 4.

South Coast Zone: A Canada goose season may be selected with outside dates between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and March 10. The daily bag limit is 6. Hunting days that occur after the last Sunday in January should be concurrent with California’s North Coast Special Management Area. The season may be split into 3 segments.

Utah: A Canada goose and brant season may be selected in the Wasatch Front and Washington County Zones with outside dates between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and the first Sunday in February (February 1).

Washington: The daily bag limit is 4.

Area 1: Outside dates are between the Saturday nearest September 24 (September 27) and the last Sunday in January (January 25).

Areas 2A and 2B (Southwest Permit Zone): Regular goose seasons may be split into 3 segments. A special late goose season may be held between the Saturday following the close of the general goose season and March 10. In the Southwest Permit Zone Area 2B (Pacific County), the daily bag limit may include 1 Aleutian goose.

Area 4: The season may be split into 3 segments.

Wyoming: The daily bag limit for Canada geese and brant is 3 in the aggregate.

Permit Zones

In Oregon and Washington permit zones, goose seasons must end upon attainment of individual quotas of dusky Canada geese allotted to the designated areas of Oregon (165) and Washington (85). The September Canada goose season, regular goose season, any special late Canada goose season, and any extended falconry season, combined, must not exceed 107
days, and the established quota of dusky Canada goose must not be exceeded. Hunting of geese in those designated areas will be only by hunters possessing a State-issued permit authorizing them to do so. In a Service-approved investigation, the State must obtain quantitative information on hunter compliance with those regulations aimed at reducing the take of dusky goose. If the monitoring program cannot be conducted, for any reason, the season must immediately cease.

Swans

In portions of the Pacific Flyway (Montana, Nevada, and Utah), an open season for taking a limited number of swans may be selected. Permits will be issued by the State and will authorize each permittee to take no more than 1 swan per season with each permit. Nevada may issue up to 2 permits per hunter. Montana and Utah may only issue 1 permit per hunter. Each State’s season may open no earlier than the Saturday nearest October 1 (October 4). These seasons are also subject to the following conditions:

Montana: No more than 500 permits may be issued. The season must end no later than December 1. The State must implement a harvest-monitoring program to measure the species composition of the swan harvest and should use appropriate measures to maximize hunter compliance in reporting bill measurement and color information.

Utah: No more than 2,000 permits may be issued. During the swan season, no more than 10 trumpeter swans may be taken. The season must end no later than the second Sunday in December (December 14) or upon attainment of 10 trumpeter swans in the harvest, whichever occurs earliest. The Utah season remains subject to the terms of the Memorandum of Agreement entered into with the Service in August 2001, regarding harvest monitoring, season closure procedures, and education requirements to minimize the take of trumpeter swans during the swan season.

Nevada: No more than 650 permits may be issued. During the swan season, no more than 5 trumpeter swans may be taken. The season must end no later than the Sunday following January 1 (January 4) or upon attainment of 5 trumpeter swans in the harvest, whichever occurs earliest.

In addition, the States of Utah and Nevada must implement a harvest-monitoring program to measure the species composition of the swan harvest. The harvest-monitoring program must require that all harvested swans or their species-determinant parts be examined by either State or Federal biologists for the purpose of species classification. The States should use appropriate measures to maximize hunter compliance in providing bagged swans for examination. Further, the States of Montana, Nevada, and Utah must achieve at least an 80-percent compliance rate, or subsequent permits will be reduced by 10 percent. All three States must provide to the Service by June 30, 2015, a report detailing harvest, hunter participation, reporting compliance, and monitoring of swan populations in the designated hunt areas.

Tundra Swans

In portions of the Atlantic Flyway (North Carolina and Virginia) and the Central Flyway (North Dakota, South Dakota [east of the Missouri River], and that portion of Montana in the Central Flyway), an open season for taking a limited number of tundra swans may be selected. Permits will be issued by the States that authorize the take of no more than 1 tundra swan per permit. A second permit may be issued to hunters from unused permits remaining after the first drawing. The States must obtain harvest and hunter participation data. These seasons are also subject to the following conditions:

In the Atlantic Flyway
—The season may be 90 days, between October 1 and January 31.
—In North Carolina, no more than 5,000 permits may be issued.
—In Virginia, no more than 600 permits may be issued.

In the Central Flyway
—The season may be 107 days, between the Saturday nearest October 1 (October 4) and January 31.
—In the Central Flyway portion of Montana, no more than 500 permits may be issued.
—In North Dakota, no more than 2,200 permits may be issued.
—In South Dakota, no more than 1,300 permits may be issued.

Area, Unit, and Zone Descriptions

Ducks (Including Mergansers) and Coots

Atlantic Flyway

Connecticut

North Zone: That portion of the State north of I–95.
South Zone: Remainder of the State.

Maine

North Zone: That portion north of the line extending east along Maine State Highway 110 from the New Hampshire-Maine State line to the intersection of Maine State Highway 11 in Newfield; then north and east along Route 11 to the intersection of U.S. Route 202 in Auburn; then north and east on Route 202 to the intersection of I–95 in Augusta; then north and east along I–95 to Route 15 in Bangor; then east along Route 15 to Route 9; then east along Route 9 to Stony Brook in Baileyville; then east along Stony Brook to the United States border.

Coastal Zone: That portion south of a line extending east from the Maine-New Brunswick border in Calais at the Route 1 Bridge; then south along Route 1 to the Maine-New Hampshire border in Kittery.

South Zone: Remainder of the State.

Massachusetts

Western Zone: That portion of the State west of a line extending south from the Vermont State line on I–91 to MA 9, west on MA 9 to MA 10, south on MA 10 to U.S. 202, south on U.S. 202 to the Connecticut State line.

Central Zone: That portion of the State east of the Berkshire Zone and west of a line extending south from the New Hampshire State line on I–95 to U.S. 1, south on U.S. 1 to I–93, south on I–93 to MA 3, south on MA 3 to U.S. 6, west on U.S. 6 to MA 28, west on MA 28 to I–195, west to the Rhode Island State line; except the waters, and the lands 150 yards inland from the high-water mark, of the Assonet River upstream to the MA 24 bridge, and the Tinton River upstream to the Center St.-Elm St. bridge shall be in the Coastal Zone.

Coastal Zone: That portion of Massachusetts east and south of the Central Zone.

New Hampshire

Northern Zone: That portion of the State east and north of the Inland Zone beginning at the Jct. of Rte. 10 and Rte. 25A in Orford, east on Rte. 25A to Rte. 25 in Wentworth, southeast on Rte. 25 to Exit 26 of Rte. I–93 in Plymouth, south on Rte. I–93 to Rte. 3 at Exit 24 of Rte. I–93 in Ashland, northeast on Rte. 3 to Rte. 113 in Holderness, north on Rte. 113 to Rte. 113–A in Sandwich, north on Rte. 113–A to Rte. 113 in Tamworth, east on Rte. 113 to Rte. 16 in Chocorua, north on Rte. 16 to Rte. 302 in Conway, east on Rte. 302 to the Maine-New Hampshire border.

Inland Zone: That portion of the State south and west of the Northern Zone, west of the Coastal Zone, and includes the area of Vermont and New Hampshire as described for hunting reciprocity. A person holding a New
Hampshire hunting license which allows the taking of migratory waterfowl or a person holding a Vermont resident hunting license which allows the taking of migratory waterfowl may take migratory waterfowl and coots from the following designated area of the Inland Zone: the State of Vermont east of Rte. I–91 at the Massachusetts border, north on Rte. I–91 to Rte. 2, north on Rte. 2 to Rte. 102, north on Rte. 102 to Rte. 253, and north on Rte. 253 to the border with Canada and the area of NH west of Rte. 63 at the MA border, north on Rte. 63 to Rte. 12, north on Rte. 12 to Rte. 12–A, north on Rte. 12A to Rte 16, north on Rte. 16 to Rte. 135, north on Rte. 135 to Rte. 3, north on Rte. 3 to the intersection with the Connecticut River.

Coastal Zone: That portion of the State east of a line beginning at the Maine-New Hampshire border in Rollinsford, then extending to Rte. 4 west to the city of Dover, south to the intersection of Rte. 108, south along Rte. 108 through Madbury, Durham, and Newmarket to the junction of Rte. 85 in Newfields, south to Rte. 101 in Exeter, east to Interstate 95 (New Hampshire Turnpike) in Hampton, and south to the Massachusetts border.

New Jersey

Coastal Zone: That portion of the State seaward of a line beginning at the New York State line in Raritan Bay and extending west along the New York State line to NJ 440 at Perth Amboy; west on NJ 440 to the Garden State Parkway; south on the Garden State Parkway to the shoreline at Cape May and continuing to the Delaware State line in Delaware Bay.

North Zone: That portion of the State west of the Coastal Zone and north of a line extending west from the Garden State Parkway on NJ 70 to the New Jersey Turnpike, north on the turnpike to U.S. 206, north on U.S. 206 to U.S. 1 at Trenton, west on U.S. 1 to the Pennsylvania State line in the Delaware River.

South Zone: That portion of the State not within the North Zone or the Coastal Zone.

New York

Lake Champlain Zone: That area east and north of a continuous line extending along U.S. 11 from the New York-Canada International boundary south to NY 9B, south along NY 9B to U.S. 9, south along U.S. 9 to NY 22 south of Keeseville; south along NY 22 to the west shore of South Bay, along and around the shoreline of South Bay to NY 22 on the east shore of South Bay; southeast along NY 22 to U.S. 4, northeast along U.S. 4 to the Vermont State line.

Long Island Zone: That area consisting of Nassau County, Suffolk County, that area of Westchester County southeast of I–95, and their tidal waters.

Western Zone: That area west of a line extending from Lake Ontario east along the north shore of the Salmon River to I–81, and south along I–81 to the Pennsylvania State line.

Northeastern Zone: That area north of a continuous line extending from Lake Ontario east along the north shore of the Salmon River to I–81, south along I–81 to NY 31, east along NY 31 to NY 13, north along NY 13 to NY 49, east along NY 49 to NY 365, east along NY 365 to NY 28, east along NY 28 to NY 29, east along NY 29 to NY 22, north along NY 22 to Washington County Route 153, east along CR 153 to the New York-Vermont boundary, exclusive of the Lake Champlain Zone.

Southeastern Zone: The remaining portion of New York.

Pennsylvania

Lake Erie Zone: The Lake Erie waters of Pennsylvania and a shoreline margin along Lake Erie from New York on the east to Ohio on the west extending 150 yards inland, but including all of Presque Isle Peninsula.

Northwest Zone: The area bounded on the north by the Lake Erie Zone and including all of Erie and Crawford Counties and those portions of Mercer and Venango Counties north of I–80.


South Zone: The remaining portion of Pennsylvania.

Vermont

Lake Champlain Zone: The U.S. portion of Lake Champlain and that area north and west of the line extending from the New York border along U.S. 4 to VT 22A at Fair Haven; VT 22A to U.S. 7 at Vergennes; U.S. 7 to VT 78 at Swanton; VT 78 to VT 36; VT 36 to Maquam Bay on Lake Champlain; along and around the shoreline of Maquam Bay and Hog Island to VT 78 at the West Swanton Bridge; VT 78 to VT 2 in Alburg; VT 2 to the Richelieu River in Alburg; along the east shore of the Richelieu River to the Canadian border.

Interior Zone: That portion of Vermont east of the Lake Champlain Zone and west of a line extending from the Massachusetts border at Interstate 91; north along Interstate 91 to US 2; east along US 2 to VT 102; north along VT 102 to VT 253; north along VT 253 to the Canadian border.

Connecticut River Zone: The remaining portion of Vermont east of the Interior Zone.

Mississippi Flyway

Alabama

South Zone: Mobile and Baldwin Counties.

North Zone: The remainder of Alabama.

Illinois

North Zone: That portion of the State north of a line extending west from the Indiana border along Peotone-Beecher Road to Illinois Route 50, south along Illinois Route 50 to Wilmington-Peotone Road, west along Wilmington-Peotone Road to Illinois Route 53, north along Illinois Route 53 to New River Road, northwest along New River Road to Interstate Highway 55, south along I–55 to Pine Bluff-Lorenzo Road, west along Pine Bluff-Lorenzo Road to Illinois Route 47, north along Illinois Route 47 to I–80, west along I–80 to I–39, south along I–39 to Illinois Route 18, west along Illinois Route 18 to Illinois Route 29, south along Illinois Route 29 to Illinois Route 17, west along Illinois Route 17 to the Mississippi River, and due south across the Mississippi River to the Iowa border.

Central Zone: That portion of the State south of the North Duck Zone line to a line extending west from the Indiana border along I–70 to Illinois Route 4, south along Illinois Route 4 to Illinois Route 161, west along Illinois Route 161 to Illinois Route 158, south and west along Illinois Route 158 to Illinois Route 159, south along Illinois Route 159 to Illinois Route 3, south along Illinois Route 3 to St. Leo’s Road, south along St. Leo’s Road to Modoc Road, west along Modoc Road to Modoc Ferry Road, southwest along Modoc Ferry Road to Levee Road, southeast along Levee Road to County Route 12 (Modoc Ferry entrance Road), south along County Route 12 to the Modoc Ferry route and southwest on the Modoc Ferry route across the Mississippi River to the Missouri border.

South Zone: That portion of the State south and east of a line extending west from the Indiana border along Interstate 70, south along U.S. Highway 45, to Illinois Route 13, west along Illinois Route 13 to Greenbriar Road, north on Greenbriar Road to Sycamore Road, west on Sycamore Road to N. Reed Station Road, south on N. Reed Station Road to Illinois Route 13, west along Illinois Route 13 to Illinois Route 127, south along Illinois Route 127 to State
Forest Road (1025 N), west along State Forest Road to Illinois Route 3, north along Illinois Route 3 to the south bank of the Big Muddy River, west along the south bank of the Big Muddy River to the Mississippi River, west across the Mississippi River to the Missouri border.

South Central Zone: The remainder of the State between the south border of the Central Zone and the North border of the South Zone.

Indiana

North Zone—That part of Indiana north of a line extending east from the Illinois border along State Road 18 to U.S. 31; north along U.S. 31 to U.S. 24; east along U.S. 24 to Huntington; southeast along U.S. 224; south along State Road 5; and east along State Road 124 to the Ohio border.

Central Zone—That part of Indiana south of the North Zone boundary and north of the South Zone boundary.

South Zone—That part of Indiana south of a line extending east from the Illinois border along U.S. 46; south along U.S. 41; east along State Road 58; south along State Road 37 to Bedford; and east along U.S. 50 to the Ohio border.

Iowa

North Zone—That portion of Iowa north of a line beginning on the South Dakota-Iowa border at Interstate 29, southeast along Interstate 29 to State Highway 175, east along State Highway 175 to State Highway 37, southeast along State Highway 37 to State Highway 183, northeast along State Highway 183 to State Highway 141, east along State Highway 141 to U.S. Highway 30, and along U.S. Highway 30 to the Illinois border.

Missouri River Zone—That portion of Iowa west of a line beginning on the South Dakota-Iowa border at Interstate 29, southeast along Interstate 29 to State Highway 175, and west along State Highway 175 to the Iowa-Nebraska border.

South Zone—The remainder of Iowa.

Kentucky

West Zone: All counties west of and including Butler, Daviess, Ohio, Simpson, and Warren Counties.

East Zone: The remainder of Kentucky.

Louisiana

West: That portion of the State west and north of a line beginning at the Arkansas-Louisiana border on LA 3; south on LA 3 to Bossier City; then east along I–20 to Minden; then south along LA 7 to Ringgold; then east along LA 4 to Jonesboro; then south along U.S. Hwy 167 to its junction with LA 108; west on LA 106 to Oakland; then south on U.S. Hwy 165 to junction with U.S. Hwy 190 at Kinder; then west on U.S. Hwy 190/ LA 12 to the Texas State border.

East: That portion of the State east and north of a line beginning at the Arkansas-Louisiana border on LA 3; south on LA 3 to Bossier City; then east along I–20 to Minden; then south along LA 7 to Ringgold; then east along LA 4 to Jonesboro; then south along U.S. Hwy 167 to Lafayette; then southeast along U.S. Hwy 90 to the Mississippi State line.

Coastal: Remainder of the State.

Michigan

North Zone: The Upper Peninsula.

Middle Zone: That portion of the Lower Peninsula north of a line beginning at the Wisconsin State line in Lake Michigan due west of the mouth of Stony Creek in Oceana County; then due east to, and easterly and southerly along the south shore of Stony Creek to Scenic Drive, easterly and southerly along Scenic Drive to Stony Lake Road, easterly along Stony Lake and Garfield Roads to Michigan Highway 20, east along Michigan 20 to U.S. Highway 10 Business Route (BR) in the city of Midland, easterly along U.S. 10 BR to U.S. 10, easterly along U.S. 10 to Interstate Highway 75/U.S. Highway 23, northerly along I–75/U.S. 23 to the U.S. 23 exit at Standish, easterly along U.S. 23 to the centerline of the Au Grès River, then southerly along the centerline of the Au Grès River to Saginaw Bay, then on a line directly east 10 miles into Saginaw Bay, and from that point on a line directly northeast to the Canadian border.

South Zone: The remainder of Michigan.

Minnesota

North Duck Zone: That portion of the State north of a line extending east from the North Dakota State line along State Highway 210 to State Highway 23 and east to State Highway 39 and east to the Wisconsin State line at the Oliver Bridge.

South Duck Zone: The portion of the State south of a line extending east from the South Dakota State line along U.S. Highway 212 to Interstate 494 and east to Interstate 94 and east to the Wisconsin State line.

Central Duck Zone: The remainder of the State.

Missouri

North Zone: That portion of Missouri north of a line running west from the Illinois border at Lock and Dam 25; west on Lincoln County Hwy. N to Mo. Hwy. 79; south on Mo. Hwy. 79 to Mo. Hwy. 47; west on Mo. Hwy. 47 to I–70; west on I–70 to the Kansas border.

Middle Zone: The remainder of Missouri not included in other zones.

South Zone: That portion of Missouri south of a line running west from the Illinois border on Mo. Hwy. 74 to Mo. Hwy. 25; south on Mo. Hwy. 25 to U.S. Hwy. 62; west on U.S. Hwy. 62 to Mo. Hwy. 53; north on Mo. Hwy. 53 to Mo. Hwy. 51; north on Mo. Hwy. 51 to U.S. Hwy. 60; west on U.S. Hwy. 60 to Mo. Hwy. 21; north on Mo. Hwy. 21 to Mo. Hwy. 72; west on Mo. Hwy. 72 to Mo. Hwy. 32; west on Mo. Hwy. 32 to U.S. Hwy. 65; north on U.S. Hwy. 65 to U.S. Hwy. 54; west on U.S. Hwy. 54 to U.S. Hwy. 71; south on U.S. Hwy. 71 to Jasper County Hwy. M (Base Line Blvd.); west on Jasper County Hwy. M (Base Line Blvd.) to CRD 40 (Base Line Blvd.); west on CRD 40 (Base Line Blvd.) to the Kansas border.

Ohio

Lake Erie Marsh Zone: Includes all land and water within the boundaries of the area bordered by Interstate 75 from the Ohio-Michigan line to Interstate 280 to Interstate 80 to the Erie-Lorain County line extending to a line measuring two hundred (200) yards from the shoreline into the waters of Lake Erie and including the waters of Sandusky Bay and Maumee Bay.

North Zone: That portion of the State north of a line beginning at the Ohio-Indiana border and extending east along Interstate 70 to the Ohio-West Virginia border.

South Zone: The remainder of Ohio.

Tennessee

Reelfoot Zone: All or portions of Lake and Obion Counties.

State Zone: The remainder of Tennessee.

Wisconsin

North Zone: That portion of the State north of a line extending east from the Minnesota State line along U.S. Highway 10 into Portage County to County Highway HH, east on County Highway HH to State Highway 66 and then east on State Highway 66 to U.S. Highway 10, continuing east on U.S. Highway 10 to U.S. Highway 41, then north on U.S. Highway 41 to the Michigan State line.

Mississippi River Zone: That area encompassed by a line beginning at the intersection of the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway and the Illinois State line in Grant County and extending northerly along the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway
to the city limit of Prescott in Pierce County, then west along the Prescott city limit to the Minnesota State line.

South Zone: The remainder of Wisconsin.

Central Flyway

Colorado (Central Flyway Portion)

Northeast Zone: All areas east of Interstate 25 and north of Interstate 70.

Southeast Zone: All areas east of Interstate 25 and south of Interstate 70, and all of El Paso, Pueblo, Huerfano, and Las Animas Counties.

Mountain/Foothills Zone: All areas west of Interstate 25 and east of the Continental Divide, except El Paso, Pueblo, Huerfano, and Las Animas Counties.

Kansas

High Plains Zone: That portion of the State west of U.S. 283.

Early Zone: That part of Kansas bounded by a line from the Nebraska-Kansas State line south on K–128 to its junction with U.S.–36, then east on U.S.–36 to its junction with K–199, then south on K–199 to its junction with Republic County 30 Rd, then south on Republic County 30 Rd to its junction with K–148, then east on K–148 to its junction with Republic County 50 Rd, then south on Republic County 50 Rd to its junction with Cloud County 40th Rd, then south on Cloud County 40th Rd to its junction with K–9, then west on K–9 to its junction with U.S.–24, then west on U.S.–24 to its junction with U.S.–281, then north on U.S.–281 to its junction with U.S.–36, then west on U.S.–36 to its junction with U.S.–183, then south on U.S.–183 to its junction with U.S.–54, then west on U.S.–54 to its junction with U.S.–283, then north on U.S.–283 to its junction with the Nebraska-Kansas State line, then east along the Nebraska-Kansas State line to its junction with K–128.

Late Zone: That part of Kansas bounded by a line from the Nebraska-Kansas State line south on K–128 to its junction with U.S.–36, then east on U.S.–36 to its junction with K–199, then south on K–199 to its junction with Republic County 30 Rd, then south on Republic County 30 Rd to its junction with K–148, then east on K–148 to its junction with Republic County 50 Rd, then south on Republic County 50 Rd to its junction with Cloud County 40th Rd, then south on Cloud County 40th Rd to its junction with K–9, then west on K–9 to its junction with U.S.–24, then west on U.S.–24 to its junction with U.S.–281, then north on U.S.–281 to its junction with U.S.–36, then west on U.S.–36 to its junction with U.S.–183, then south on U.S.–183 to its junction with U.S.–54, then west on U.S.–54 to its junction with U.S.–283, then north on U.S.–283 to its junction with the Nebraska-Kansas State line, then east along the Nebraska-Kansas State line to its junction with K–128.

Montana (Central Flyway Portion)


Zone 2: The remainder of Montana.

Nebraska

High Plains—That portion of Nebraska lying west of a line beginning at the South Dakota-Nebraska border on U.S. Hwy. 183; south on U.S. Hwy. 183 to U.S. Hwy. 20; west on U.S. Hwy. 20 to NE Hwy. 7; south on NE Hwy. 7 to NE Hwy. 91; southeast on NE Hwy. 91 to NE Hwy. 3; southeast on NE Hwy. 3 to NE Hwy. 40; south on NE Hwy. 40 to NE Hwy. 47; south on NE Hwy. 47 to NE Hwy. 23; east on NE Hwy. 23 to U.S. Hwy. 283; and south on U.S. Hwy. 283 to the Kansas-Nebraska border.

Zone 1—Area bounded by designated Federal and State highways and political boundaries beginning at the South Dakota-Nebraska border west of NE Hwy. 26E Spur and north of NE Hwy. 12; those portions of Dixon, Cedar and Knox Counties north of NE Hwy. 12; that portion of Keya Paha County east of U.S. Hwy. 183; and all of Boyd County. Both banks of the Niobrara River in Keya Paha and Boyd counties east of U.S. Hwy. 183 shall be included in Zone 1.

Zone 2—The area south of Zone 1 and north of Zone 3.

Zone 3—Area bounded by designated Federal and State highways, County Roads, and political boundaries beginning at the Wyoming-Nebraska border at the intersection of the Interstate Canal; east along northern borders of Scotts Bluff and Morrill Counties to Broadwater Road; south to Morrill County Rd 94; east to County Rd 135; south to County Rd 88; southeast to County Rd 151; south to County Rd 80; east to County Rd 161; south to County Rd 76; east to County Rd 165; south to County Rd 167; south to U.S. Hwy. 26; east to County Rd 171; north to County Rd 68; east to County Rd 183;
south to County Rd 64; east to County Rd 189; north to County Rd 70; east to County Rd 201; south to County Rd 60A; east to County Rd 203; south to County Rd 52; east to Keith County Line; east along the northern boundaries of Keith and Lincoln Counties to NE Hwy. 97; south to U.S. Hwy 83; south to E Hall School Rd; east to N Airport Road; south to U.S. Hwy. 30; east to Merrick County Rd 13; north to County Rd O; east to NE Hwy. 14; north to NE Hwy. 52; west and north to NE Hwy. 91; west to U.S. Hwy. 281; south to NE Hwy. 22; west to NE Hwy. 11; northwest to NE Hwy. 91; west to U.S. Hwy. 183; south to Round Valley Rd; west to Sargent River Rd; west to Sargent Rd; west to Millburn Rd; north to Blaine County Line; east to Loup County Line; north to NE Hwy. 91; west to North Loup Spur Rd; north to North Loup River Rd; east to Pleasant Valley/Worth Rd; east to Loup County Line; north to Loup-Brown county line; east along northern boundaries of Loup and Garfield Counties to Cedar River Road; south to NE Hwy. 70; east to U.S. Hwy. 281; north to NE Hwy. 70; east to NE Hwy. 14; south to NE Hwy. 39; southeast to NE Hwy. 22; east to U.S. Hwy. 81; southeast to U.S. Hwy. 30; east to U.S. Hwy. 75; north to the Washington County line; east to the Iowa-Nebraska border; south to the Missouri-Nebraska border; south to Kansas-Nebraska border; west along Kansas-Nebraska border to Colorado-Nebraska border; north and west to Wyoming-Nebraska border; north to intersection of Interstate Canal; and excluding that area in Zone 4. Zone 4—Area encompassed by designated Federal and State highways and County Roads beginning at the intersection of NE Hwy. 8 and U.S. Hwy. 75; north to U.S. Hwy. 136; east to the intersection of U.S. Hwy. 33 and the Stearns County Line; south to the intersection with U.S. Hwy. 283; east to U.S. Hwy. 33; south to U.S. Hwy. 75; north to the Washington County line; east to the Iowa-Nebraska border; south to the Missouri-Nebraska border; south to Kansas-Nebraska border; west along Kansas-Nebraska border to Colorado-Nebraska border; north and west to Wyoming-Nebraska border; north to intersection of Interstate Canal; and excluding that area in Zone 4. NE Hwy. 66; west to Polk County Rd C; north to NE Hwy. 92; west to U.S. Hwy. 30; west to Merrick County Rd 17; south to Hordlake Road; southeast to Prairie Island Road; southeast to Hamilton County Rd T; south to NE Hwy. 66; west to NE Hwy. 14; south to County Rd 21; west to County Rd K; south to U.S. Hwy. 34; west to NE Hwy. 12; south to U.S. Hwy. 1–10; west to Gunbarrel Rd (Hall/Hamilton county line); south to Gilpin Rd; west to U.S. Hwy. 281; south to U.S. Hwy. 34; west to NE Hwy. 10; west to Kearney County Rd R and Phelps County Rd 742; west to U.S. Hwy. 283; south to U.S. Hwy 34; east to U.S. Hwy. 136; east to U.S. Hwy. 133; north to NE Hwy. 4; east to NE Hwy. 10; south to U.S. Hwy. 136; east to NE Hwy. 14; south to NE Hwy. 8; east to U.S. Hwy. 81; north to NE Hwy. 4; east to NE Hwy. 15; south to U.S. Hwy. 136; east to NE Hwy. 103; south to NE Hwy. 8; east to U.S. Hwy. 75. New Mexico (Central Flyway Portion) North Zone: That portion of the State north of I–40 and U.S. 54. South Zone: The remainder of New Mexico. North Dakota High Plains Unit: That portion of the State south and west of a line from the South Dakota State line along U.S. 83 and I–94 to ND 41, north to U.S. 2, east to the Williams/Divide County line; then north along the County line to the Canadian border. Low Plains Unit: The remainder of North Dakota. Oklahoma High Plains Zones: The Counties of Beaver, Cimarron, and Texas. Low Zones 1: That portion of the State east of the High Plains Zone and north of a line extending east from the Texas State line along OK 33 to OK 47, then east along OK 47 to U.S. 183, south along U.S. 183 to I–40, east along I–40 to U.S. 177, north along U.S. 177 to OK 33, east along OK 33 to OK 18, north along OK 18 to OK 51, west along OK 51 to I–35, north along I–35 to U.S. 412, west along U.S. 412 to OK 132, then north along OK 132 to the Kansas State line. Low Zones 2: The remainder of Oklahoma. South Dakota High Plains Zone: That portion of the State west of a line beginning at the North Dakota State line and extending south along US 83 to U.S. 14, east on U.S. 14 to Blunt, south on the Blunt-Canning Rd to SD 34, east and south on SD 34 to SD 50 at Lee’s Corner, south on SD 50 to I–90, east on I–90 to SD 50, south on SD 50 to SD 44, west on SD 44 across the Platte-Winner bridge to SD 47, south on SD 47 to U.S. 18, east on U.S. 18 to SD 47, south on SD 47 to the Nebraska State line. North Zone: That portion of northeastern South Dakota east of the High Plains Unit and north of a line extending east along U.S. 212 to the Minnesota State line. South Zone: That portion of Gregory County east of SD 47 and south of SD 44; Charles Mix County south of SD 44 to the Douglas County line; south on SD 50 to Geddes; east on the Geddes Highway to U.S. 281; south on U.S. 281 and U.S. 18 to SD 50; south and east on SD 50 to the Bon Homme County line; the Counties of Bon Homme, Yankton, and Clay south of SD 50; and Union County south and west of SD 50 and I–29. Middle Zone: The remainder of South Dakota. Texas High Plains Zone: That portion of the State west of a line extending south from the Oklahoma State line along U.S. 183 to Vernon, south along U.S. 283 to Albany, south along TX 6 to TX 351 to Abilene, south along U.S. 277 to Del Rio, then south along the Del Rio International Toll Bridge access road to the Mexico border. Low Plains North Zone: That portion of northeastern Texas east of the High Plains Zone and north of a line beginning at the International Toll Bridge south of Del Rio, then extending east on U.S. 90 to San Antonio, then continuing east on I–10 to the Louisiana State line at Orange, Texas. Low Plains South Zone: The remainder of Texas. Wyoming (Central Flyway portion) Zone C1: Big Horn, Converse, Goshen, Hot Springs, Natrona, Park, Platte, and Washakie Counties; and Fremont County excluding the portions west or south of the Continental Divide. Zone C2: Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Niobrara, Sheridan, and Weston Counties. Zone C3: Albany and Laramie Counties; and that portion of Carbon County east of the Continental Divide. Pacific Flyway Arizona Game Management Units (GMU) as follows: South Zone: Those portions of GMUs 6 and 8 in Yavapai County, and GMUs 10 and 12B–45.
North Zone: GMUs 1–5, those portions of GMUs 6 and 8 within Coconino County, and GMUs 7, 9, 12A.

California

Northeastern Zone: In that portion of California lying east and north of a line beginning at the intersection of Interstate 5 with the California-Oregon line; south along Interstate 5 to its junction with Walters Lane south of the town of Yreka; west along Walters Lane to its junction with Easy Street; south along Easy Street to the junction with Old Highway 99; south along Old Highway 99 to the point of intersection with Interstate 5 north of the town of Weed; south along Interstate 5 to its junction with Highway 89; east and south along Highway 89 to Main Street Greenville; north and east to its junction with North Valley Road; south to its junction of Diamond Mountain Road; north and east to its junction with North Arm Road; south and west to the junction of North Valley Road; south to the junction with Arlington Road (A22); west to the junction of Highway 89; south and west to the junction of Highway 70; east on Highway 70 to Highway 395; south and east on Highway 395 to the point of intersection with the California-Nevada State line; north along the California-Nevada State line to the junction of the California-Nevada-Oregon State lines; west along the California-Oregon State line to the point of origin.

Colorado River Zone: Those portions of San Bernardino, Riverside, and Imperial Counties east of a line extending from the Nevada State line south along U.S. 95 to Vidal Junction; south on a road known as “Aqueduct Road” in San Bernardino County through the town of Rice to the San Bernardino-Riverside County line; south on a road known in Riverside County as the “Desert Center to Rice Road” to the town of Desert Center; east 31 miles on I–10 to the Wiley Well Road; south on this road to Wiley Well; southeast along the Army-Milpitas Road to the Blythe-Brawley, Davis Lake intersections; south on the Blythe-Brawley paved road to the Ogilby and Tumco Mine Road; south on this road to U.S. 80; east 7 miles on U.S. 80 to the Andrade-Algodones Road; south on this paved road to the Mexican border at Algodones, Mexico.

Southern Zone: That portion of southern California (but excluding the Colorado River Zone) south and east of a line extending from the Pacific Ocean east along the Santa Maria River to CA 166 near the City of Santa Maria; east on CA 166 to CA 99; south on CA 99 to the crest of the Tehachapi Mountains at Tejon Pass; east and north along the crest of the Tehachapi Mountains to CA 178 at Walker Pass; east on CA 178 to U.S. 395 at the town of Inyokern; south on U.S. 395 to CA 58; east on CA 58 to I–15; east on I–15 to CA 127; north on CA 127 to the Nevada State line.

Southern San Joaquin Valley Temporary Zone: All of Kings and Tulare Counties and that portion of Kern County north of the Southern Zone.

Balance-of-State Zone: The remainder of California not included in the Northeastern, Southern, and Colorado River Zones, and the Southern San Joaquin Valley Temporary Zone.

Idaho

Zone 1: All lands and waters within the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, including private in-holdings; Bannock County; Bingham County, except that portion within the Blackfoot Reservoir drainage; Caribou County within the Fort Hall Indian Reservation; and Power County east of State Highway 37 and State Highway 39.

Zone 2: Adams, Bear Lake, Benewah, Blaine, Bonner, Bonneville, Boundary, Butte, Camas, Clark, Clearwater, Custer, Franklin, Fremont, Idaho, Jefferson, Kootenai, Latah, Lemhi, Lewis, Madison, Nez Perce, Oneida, Shoshone, Teton, and Valley Counties; Bingham County within the Blackfoot Reservoir drainage; Caribou County, except the Fort Hall Indian Reservation; and Power County west of State Highway 37 and State Highway 39.


Nevada

Northeast Zone: All of Elko and White Pine Counties.


South Zone: All of Clark and Lincoln County.

Oregon

Zone 1: Clatsop, Tillamook, Lincoln, Lane, Douglas, Coos, Curry, Josephine, Jackson, Linn, Benton, Polk, Marion, Yamhill, Washington, Columbia, Multnomah, Clackamas, Hood River, Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow and Umatilla Counties.

Zone 2: All of Box Elder, Cache, Daggett, Davis, Duchesne, Morgan, Rich, Salt Lake, Summit, Unitah, Utah, Wasatch, and Weber Counties, and that part of Tooele County north of I–80.

Zone 2: The remainder of Utah.

Washington

East Zone: All areas east of the Pacific Crest Trail and east of the Big White Salmon River in Klickitat County.

Columbia Basin Mallard Management Unit: Same as East Zone.

West Zone: All areas to the west of the East Zone.

Wyoming

Snake River Zone: Beginning at the south boundary of Yellowstone National Park and the Continental Divide; south along the Continental Divide to Union Pass and the Union Pass Road (U.S. F.S. Road 600); west and south along the Union Pass Road to U.S. F.S. Road 605; south along U.S. F.S. Road 605 to the Bridger-Teton National Forest boundary; along the national forest boundary to the Idaho State line; north along the Idaho State line to the south boundary of Yellowstone National Park; east along the Yellowstone National Park boundary to the Continental Divide.

Balance of State Zone: Balance of the Pacific Flyway in Wyoming outside the Snake River Zone.

Geese

Atlantic Flyway

Connecticut

AP Unit: Litchfield County and the portion of Hartford County west of a line beginning at the Massachusetts border in Suffield and extending south along Route 159 to its intersection with Route 91 in Hartford, and then extending south along Route 91 to its intersection with the Hartford/Middlesex County line.

AFRP Unit: Starting at the intersection of I–95 and the Quinnipiac River, north on the Quinnipiac River to its intersection with I–91, north on I–91 to I–691, west on I–691 to the Hartford County line, and encompassing the rest of New Haven County and Fairfield County in its entirety.

NAP H-Unit: All of the rest of the State not included in the AP or AFRP descriptions above.

South Zone: Same as for ducks.

North Zone: Same as for ducks.

Maine

Same zones as for ducks.

Maryland

Resident Population (RP) Zone: Garrett, Allegany, Washington, Frederick, and Montgomery Counties; that portion of Prince George’s County
west of Route 3 and Route 301; that portion of Charles County west of Route 301 to the Virginia State line; and that portion of Carroll County west of Route 31 to the intersection of Route 97, and west of Route 97 to the Pennsylvania line.

AP Zone: Remainder of the State.

Massachusetts

NAP Zone: Central and Coastal Zones (see duck zones).

AP Zone: The Western Zone (see duck zones).

Special Late Season Area: The Central Zone and that portion of the Coastal Zone (see duck zones) that lies north of the Cape Cod Canal, north to the New Hampshire line.

New Hampshire

Same zones as for ducks.

New Jersey

North: That portion of the State within a continuous line that runs east along the New York State boundary line to the Hudson River; then south along the New York State boundary to its intersection with Route 440 at Perth Amboy; then west on Route 440 to its intersection with Route 287; then west along Route 287 to its intersection with Route 206 in Bedminster (Exit 18); then north along Route 206 to its intersection with Route 94; then west along Route 94 to the tollbridge in Columbia; then north along the Pennsylvania State boundary in the Delaware River to the beginning point.

South: That portion of the State within a continuous line that runs west from the Atlantic Ocean at Ship Bottom along Route 72 to Route 70; then west along Route 70 to Route 206; then south along Route 206 to Route 36; then west along Route 36 to Route 322; then west along Route 322 to Route 55; then south along Route 55 to Route 533 (Buck Road); then south along Route 533 to Route 40; then east along Route 40 to Route 55; then south along Route 55 to Route 552 (Sherman Avenue); then west along Route 552 to Carmel Road; then south along Carmel Road to Route 49; then east along Route 49 to Route 555; then south along Route 555 to Route 553; then east along Route 553 to Route 649; then north along Route 649 to Route 670; then east along Route 670 to Route 47; then north along Route 47 to Route 548; then east along Route 548 to Route 49; then east along Route 49 to Route 50; then south along Route 50 to Route 9; then south along Route 9 to Route 625 (Sea Isle City Boulevard); then east along Route 625 to the Atlantic Ocean; then north to the beginning point.

New York

Lake Champlain Goose Area: The same as the Lake Champlain Waterfowl Hunting Zone, which is that area of New York State lying east and north of a continuous line extending along Route 11 from the New York-Canada International boundary south to Route 9B, south along Route 9B to Route 9, south along Route 9 to Route 22 south of Keeseville, south along Route 22 to the west shore of South Bay along and around the shoreline of South Bay to Route 22 on the east shore of South Bay, southeast along Route 22 to Route 4, northeast along Route 4 to the New York-Vermont boundary.

Northeast Goose Area: The same as the Northwestern Waterfowl Hunting Zone, which is that area of New York State lying north of a continuous line extending from Lake Ontario east along the north shore of the Salmon River to Interstate 81, south along Interstate Route 81 to Route 31, east along Route 31 to Route 13, north along Route 13 to Route 49, east along Route 49 to Route 365, east along Route 365 to Route 28, east along Route 28 to Route 29, east along Route 29 to Route 22 at Greenwich Junction, north along Route 22 to Washington County Route 153, east along CR 153 to the New York-Vermont boundary, exclusive of the Lake Champlain Zone.

East Central Goose Area: That area of New York State lying inside of a continuous line extending from Interstate Route 81 in Cicero, east along Route 31 to Route 13, north along Route 13 to Route 49, east along Route 49 to Route 365, east along Route 365 to Route 28, east along Route 28 to Route 29, east along Route 29 to Route 22 at Greenwich Junction, north along Route 22 to Washington County Route 153, east along CR 153 to the New York-Vermont boundary, exclusive of the Lake Champlain Zone.

Lake Champlain Goose Area: The same as the Lake Champlain Waterfowl Hunting Zone, which is that area of New York State lying east and north of a continuous line extending along Route 11 from the New York-Canada International boundary south to Route 9B, south along Route 9B to Route 9, south along Route 9 to Route 22 south of Keeseville, south along Route 22 to the west shore of South Bay along and around the shoreline of South Bay to Route 22 on the east shore of South Bay, southeast along Route 22 to Route 4, northeast along Route 4 to the New York-Vermont boundary.

West Central Goose Area: That area of New York State lying within a continuous line beginning at the point where the northerly extension of Route 269 (County Line Road on the Niagara-Orleans County boundary) meets the International boundary with Canada, south to the shore of Lake Ontario at the eastern boundary of Golden Hill State Park, south along the extension of Route 269 and Route 269 to Route 104 at Jeddo, west along Route 104 to Niagara County Route 271, south along Route 271 to Route 31E at Middleport, south along Route 31E to Route 31, west along Route 31 to Griswold Street, south along Griswold Street to Ditch Road, south along Ditch Road to Foot Road, south along Foot Road to the north bank of Tonawanda Creek, west along the north bank of Tonawanda Creek to Route 93, south along Route 93 to Route 5, east along Route 5 to Criftenden-Murrays Corners Road, south on Criftenden-Murrays Corners Road to the NYS Thruway, east along the Thruway 90 to Route 98 (at Thruway Exit 48) in Batavia, south along Route 98 to Route 20, east along Route 20 to Route 19 in Pavilion Center, south along Route 19 to Route 63, southeast along Route 63 to Route 246, south along Route 246 to Route 39 in Perry, northeast along Route 39 to Route 20A, northeast along Route 20A to Route 20, east along Route 20 to Route 364 (near Canandaigua), south and east along Route 364 to Yates County Route 18 (Italy Valley Road), southwest along Route 18 to Yates County Route 34, east along Route 34 to Yates County Route 32, south along Route 32 to Steuben County Route 122, south along Route 122 to Route 53, south along Route 53 to Steuben County Route 74, east along Route 74 to Route 54A (near Pulteney), south along Route 54A to Steuben County Route 87, east along Route 87 to Steuben County Route 96, east along Route 96 to Steuben County Route 114, east along Route 114 to Schuyler County Route 23, east and southeast along Route 23 to Schuyler County Route 28, southeast along Route 28 to Route 409 at Watkins Glen, south along Route 409 to Route 14, south along Route 14 to Route 224 at Montour Falls, east along Route 224 to Route 228 in Odessa, north along Route 228 to Route 79 in Mecklenburg, east along
Route 79 to Route 366 in Ithaca, northeast along Route 366 to Route 13, northeast along Route 13 to Interstate Route 81 in Cortland, north along Route 81 to the north shore of the Salmon River to shore of Lake Ontario, extending generally northwest in a straight line to the nearest point of the International boundary with Canada, south and west along the International boundary to the point of beginning.

Hudson Valley Goose Area: That area of New York State lying within a continuous line extending from Route 4 at the New York-Vermont boundary, west and south along Route 4 to Route 149 at Fort Ann, west on Route 149 to Route 9, south along Route 9 to Interstate Route 87 (at Exit 26 in Glens Falls), south along Route 87 to Route 29, west along Route 29 to Route 147 at Kimball Corners, south along Route 147 to Schenectady County Route 40 (West Glenville Road), west along Route 40 to Touareuna Road, south along Touareuna Road to Schenectady County Route 59, south along Route 59 to State Route 5, east along Route 5 to the Lock 9 bridge, southwest along the Lock 9 bridge to Route 5S, southeast along Route 5S to Schenectady County Route 58, southwest along Route 58 to the NYS Thruway, south along the Thruway to Route 7, southwest along Route 7 to Schenectady County Route 103, south along Route 103 to Route 406, east along Route 406 to Schenectady County Route 99 (Windy Hill Road), south along Route 99 to Dunnsville Road, south along Dunnsville Road to Route 397, southwest along Route 397 to Route 146 at Altamont, southeast along Route 146 to Main Street in Altamont, west along Main Street to Route 156, southeast along Route 156 to Albany County Route 307, southwest along Route 307 to Route 85A, southwest along Route 85A to Route 85, south along Route 85 to Route 443, southeast along Route 443 to Albany County Route 301 at Clarksville, southeast along Route 301 to Route 32, south along Route 32 to Route 23 at Cairo, west along Route 23 to Joseph Chadderdon Road, southeast along Joseph Chadderdon Road to Hearts Content Road (Greene County Route 31), southeast along Route 31 to Route 32, south along Route 32 to Greene County Route 23A, east along Route 23A to Interstate Route 87 (the NYS Thruway), south along Route 87 to Route 28 (Exit 19) near Kingston, northwest on Route 28 to Route 209, southwest on Route 209 to the New York-Pennsylvania boundary, southeast along the New York-Pennsylvania boundary to the New York-New Jersey boundary, southeast along the New York-New Jersey boundary, to Route 210 near Greenwood Lake, northeast along Route 210 to Orange County Route 5, northeast along Orange County Route 5 to Route 105 in the Village of Monroe, east and north along Route 105 to Route 32, northeast along Route 32 to Orange County Route 107 (Quaker Avenue), east along Route 107 to Route 9W, north along Route 9W to the south bank of Moodna Creek, southeast along the south bank of Moodna Creek to the New Windsor-Cornwall town boundary, northeast along the New Windsor-Cornwall town boundary to the Orange-Dutchess County boundary (middle of the Hudson River), north along the county boundary to Interstate Route 84, east along Route 84 to the Dutchess-Putnam County boundary, east along the county boundary to the New York-Connecticut boundary, north along the New York-Connecticut boundary to the New York-Massachusetts boundary, north along the New York-Massachusetts boundary to the New York-Vermont boundary, north to the point of beginning.

Eastern Long Island Goose Area (NAP High Harvest Area): That area of Suffolk County lying east of a continuous line extending due south from the New York-Connecticut boundary to the northernmost end of Roanoke Avenue in the Town of Riverhead; then south on Roanoke Avenue (which becomes County Route 73) to State Route 25; then west on Route 25 to Peconic Avenue; then south on Peconic Avenue to County Route (CR) 104 (Riverleigh Avenue); then south on CR 104 to CR 31 (Old Riverhead Road); then south on CR 31 to Oak Street; then south on Oak Street to Potunk Lane; then west on Stevens Lane; then south on Jessup Avenue (in Westhampton Beach) to Dunn Road (CR 89); then due south to international waters.

Western Long Island Goose Area (RP Area): That area of Westchester County and its tidal waters southeast of Interstate Route 95 and that area of Nassau and Suffolk Counties lying west of a continuous line extending due south from the New York-Connecticut boundary to the northernmost end of the Sunken Meadow State Park; then south on the Sunken Meadow Parkway to the Sagtikos State Parkway; then south on the Sagtikos Parkway to the Robert Moses State Parkway; then south on the Robert Moses Parkway to its southernmost end; then due south to international waters.

Central Long Island Goose Area (NAP Low Harvest Area): That area of Suffolk County lying between the Western and Eastern Long Island Goose Areas, as defined above.

South Goose Area: The remainder of New York State, excluding New York City.

Special Late Canada Goose Area: That area of the Central Long Island Goose Area lying north of State Route 25A and west of a continuous line extending northward from State Route 25A along Randall Road (near Shoreham) to North Country Road, then east to Sound Road and then north to Long Island Sound and then due north to the New York-Connecticut boundary.

North Carolina

SJB P Hunt Zone: Includes the following Counties or portions of Counties: Anson, Cabarrus, Chatham, Davidson, Durham, Halifax, Montgomery (portion east of NC 903), Rowan, Stanly, Union, and Wake.

RP Hunt Zone: Includes the following Counties or portions of Counties: Alamance, Alleghany, Alexander, Ashe, Avery, Beaufort, Bertie (that portion south and west of a line formed by NC 45 at the Washington Co. line to U.S. 17 in Midway, U.S. 17 in Midway to U.S. 13 in Windsor, U.S. 13 in Windsor to the Hertford Co. line), Bladen, Brunswick, Buncombe, Burke, Caldwell, Carteret, Caswell, Catawba, Cherokee, Clay, Cleveland, Columbus, Craven, Cumberland, Davie, Duplin, Edgecombe, Forsyth, Franklin, Gaston, Gates, Graham, Granville, Greene, Guilford, Halifax (portion west of NC 903), Harnett, Haywood, Henderson, Hertford, Hoke, Iredell, Jackson, Johnston, Jones, Lee, Lenoir, Lincoln, McDowell, Macon, Madison, Martin, Mecklenburg, Mitchell, Montgomery (portion that is east of NC 109), Moore, Nash, New Hanover, Onslow, Orange, Pamlico, Pender, Person, Pitt, Polk, Randolph, Richmond (all of the county with exception of that portion that is south of NC 73 and west of U.S. 220 and north of U.S. 74), Robeson, Rockingham, Rutherford, Sampson, Scotland, Stokes, Surry, Swain, Transylvania, Vance, Warren, Watauga, Wayne, Wilkes, Wilson, Yadkin, and Yancey.

Northeast Hunt Unit: Includes the following Counties or portions of Counties: Bertie (that portion north and east of a line formed by NC 45 at the Washington County line to U.S. 17 in Midway, U.S. 17 in Midway to U.S. 13 in Windsor, U.S. 13 in Windsor to the Hertford Co. line), Camden, Chowan, Currituck, Dare, Hyde, Pasquotank, Perquimans, Tyrrell, and Washington.
Pennsylvania

Resident Canada Goose Zone: All of Pennsylvania except for SJBP Zone and the area east of route SR 97 from the Maryland State Line to the intersection of SR 194, east of SR 194 to intersection of U.S. Route 30, south of U.S. Route 30 to SR 441, east of SR 441 to SR 743, east of SR 743 to intersection of I–81, east of I–81 to intersection of I–80, and south of I–80 to the New Jersey State line.

SJBP Zone: The area north of I–80 and west of I–79 including in the city of Erie west of Bay Front Parkway to and including the Lake Erie Duck zone (Lake Erie, Presque Isle, and the area within 150 yards of the Lake Erie Shoreline).

AP Zone: The area east of route SR 97 from Maryland State Line to the intersection of SR 194, east of SR 194 to intersection of U.S. Route 30, south of U.S. Route 30 to SR 441, east of SR 441 to SR 743, east of SR 743 to intersection of I–81, east of I–81 to intersection of I–80, south of I–80 to New Jersey State line.

Rhode Island

Special Area for Canada Geese: Kent and Providence Counties and portions of the towns of Exeter and North Kingston within Washington County (see State regulations for detailed descriptions).

South Carolina

Canada Goose Area: Statewide except for the following area:

East of U.S. 301: That portion of Clarendon County bounded to the North by S–14–25, to the East by Hwy 260, and to the South by the markers delineating the channel of the Santee River.

West of U.S. 301: That portion of Clarendon County bounded on the North by S–14–26 extending southward to that portion of Orangeburg County bordered by Hwy 6.

Vermont

Same zones as for ducks.

Virginia

AP Zone: The area east and south of the following line—the Stafford County line from the Potomac River west to Interstate 95 at Fredericksburg, then south along Interstate 95 to Petersburg, then Route 460 (SE) to City of Suffolk, then south along Route 32 to the North Carolina line.

SJBP Zone: The area to the west of the AP Zone boundary and east of the following line: the “Blue Ridge” (mountain spine) at the West Virginia-Virginia Border (Loudoun County-Clarke County line) south to Interstate 64 (the Blue Ridge line follows county borders along the western edge of Loudoun-Fauquier-Rappahannock-Madison-Greene-Albemarle and into Nelson Counties), then east along Interstate Rt. 64 to Route 15, then south along Rt. 15 to the North Carolina line.

RP Zone: The remainder of the State west of the SJBP Zone.

Mississippi Flyway

Alabama

Same zones as for ducks, but in addition:

SJBP Zone: That portion of Morgan County east of U.S. Highway 31, north of State Highway 36, and west of U.S. 231; that portion of Limestone County south of U.S. 72; and that portion of Madison County south of Swancott Road and west of Triana Road.

Arkansas


Illinois

North Zone: That portion of the State north of a line extending west from the Indiana border along Interstate 80 to I–39, south along I–39 to Illinois Route 18, west along Illinois Route 18 to Illinois Route 29, south along Illinois Route 29 to Illinois Route 17, west along Illinois Route 17 to the Mississippi River, and due south across the Mississippi River to the Iowa border.

Central Zone: That portion of the State south of the North Goose Zone line to a line extending west from the Indiana border along I–70 to Illinois Route 4, south along Illinois Route 4 to Illinois Route 161, west along Illinois Route 161 to Illinois Route 158, south and west along Illinois Route 158 to Illinois Route 159, south along Illinois Route 159 to Illinois Route 3, south along Illinois Route 3 to St. Leo’s Road, south along St. Leo’s road to Modoc Road, west along Modoc Road to Modoc Ferry Road, southwest along Modoc Ferry Road to Levee Road, southeast along Levee Road to County Route 12 (Modoc Ferry entrance Road), south along County Route 12 to the Modoc Ferry route and southwest on the Modoc Ferry route across the Mississippi River to the Missouri border.

South Zone: Same zones as for ducks.

Indiana

Same zones as for ducks but in addition:

Special Canada Goose Seasons

Late Canada Goose Season Zone: That part of the State encompassed by the following Counties: Steuben, Lagrange, Elkhart, St. Joseph, La Porte, Starke, Marshall, Kosciusko, Noble, De Kalb, Allen, Whiteley, Huntington, Wells, Adams, Boone, Hamilton, Madison, Hendricks, Marion, Hancock, Morgan, Johnson, Shelby, Vermillion, Parke, Vigo, Clay, Sullivan, and Greene.

Iowa

Same zones as for ducks.

Kentucky

Western Zone: That portion of the State west of a line beginning at the Tennessee State line at Fulton and extending north along the Purchase Parkway to Interstate Highway 24, east along I–24 to U.S. Highway 641, north along U.S. 641 to U.S. 60, northeast along U.S. 60 to the Henderson County line, then south, east, and northerly along the Henderson County line to the Indiana State line.

Pennyroyal/Central Flyway: Butler, Daviess, Ohio, Simpson, and Warren Counties and all counties lying west to the boundary of the Western Goose Zone.

Louisiana

Same zones as for ducks.

Michigan

North Zone—Same as North duck zone.

Middle Zone—Same as Middle duck zone.

South Zone—Same as South duck zone.

Tuscola/Huron Goose Management Unit (GMU): Those portions of Tuscola and Huron Counties bounded on the south by Michigan Highway 138 and Bay City Road, on the east by Colwood and Bay Port Roads, on the north by Kilmarnagh Road and a line extending directly west off the end of Kilmarnagh Road into Saginaw Bay to the west boundary, and on the west by the Tuscola-Bay County line and a line extending directly north off the end of the Tuscola-Bay County line into Saginaw Bay to the north boundary.

Álgael County GMU: That area encompassed by a line beginning at the junction of 136th Avenue and Interstate Highway 196 in Lake Town Township and extending easterly along 136th Avenue to Michigan Highway 40, southerly along Michigan 40 through the city of Álgael to 108th Avenue in Trowbridge Township, westerly along 108th Avenue to 46th Street, northerly along 46th Street to 109th Avenue, westerly along 109th Avenue to I–196 in
Casco Township, then northerly along I–196 to the point of beginning.

Saginaw County GMU: That portion of Saginaw County bounded by Michigan Highway 46 on the north; Michigan 52 on the west; Michigan 57 on the south; and Michigan 13 on the east.

Muskegon Wastewater GMU: That portion of Muskegon County within the boundaries of the Muskegon County wastewater system, east of the Muskegon State Game Area, in sections 5, 6, 7, 8, 17, 18, 19, 20, 29, 30, and 32, T10N R14W, and sections 1, 2, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 24, and 25, T10N R15W, as posted.

Special Canada Goose Seasons

Southern Michigan Late Season

Canada Goose Zone: Same as the South Duck Zone excluding Tuscola/Huron Goose Management Unit (GMU), Allegan County GMU, Saginaw County GMU, and Muskegon Wastewater GMU.

Minnesota

Same zones as for ducks but in addition:

Rochester Goose Zone: That part of the State within the following described boundary: Beginning at the intersection of State Trunk Highway (STH) 247 and County State Aid Highway (CSA) 4, Wahasha County; thence along CSAH 4 to CSAH 10, Olmsted County; thence along CSAH 10 to CSAH 9, Olmsted County; thence along CSAH 9 to CSAH 22, Winona County; thence along CSAH 22 to STH 74; thence along STH 74 to STH 30; thence along STH 30 to CSAH 13, Dodge County; thence along CSAH 13 to U.S. Highway 14; thence along U.S. Highway 14 to STH 57; thence along STH 57 to CSAH 24, Dodge County; thence along CSAH 24 to CSAH 13, Olmsted County; thence along CSAH 13 to U.S. Highway 52; thence along U.S. Highway 52 to CSAH 12, Olmsted County; thence along CSAH 12 to STH 247; thence along STH 247 to the point of beginning.

Missouri

Same zones as for ducks.

Ohio

Lake Erie Goose Zone: That portion of Ohio north of a line beginning at the Michigan border and extending south along Interstate 75 to Interstate 280, south on Interstate 280 to Interstate 80, and east on Interstate 80 to the Pennsylvania border.

North Zone: That portion of Ohio north of a line beginning at the Indiana border and extending east along Interstate 70 to the West Virginia border excluding the portion of Ohio within the Lake Erie Goose Zone.

South Zone: The remainder of Ohio.

Tennessee

Southwest Zone: That portion of the State south of State Highways 20 and 104, and west of U.S. Highways 45 and 45W.

Northwest Zone: Lake, Obion, and Weakley Counties and those portions of Gibson and Dyer Counties not included in the Southwest Tennessee Zone.

Kentucky/Barkley Lakes Zone: That portion of the State bounded on the west by the eastern boundaries of the Northwest and Southwest Zones and on the east by State Highways 13 from the Alabama State line to Clarksville and U.S. Highway 79 from Clarksville to the Kentucky State line.

Wisconsin

Same zones as for ducks but in addition:

Horicon Zone: That portion of the State encompassed by a boundary beginning at the intersection of State 23 and State 73 and moves south along State 73 until the intersection of State 73 and State 60, then moves east along State 60 until the intersection of State 60 and State 83, and then moves north along State 83 until the intersection of State 83 and State 33 at which point it moves east until the intersection of State 33 and U.S. 45, then moves north along U.S. 45 until the intersection of U.S. 45 and State 23, at which point it moves west along State 23 until the intersection of State 23 and State 73.

Exterior Zone: That portion of the State not included in the Horicon Zone.

Mississippi River Subzone: That area encompassed by a line beginning at the intersection of the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway and the Illinois State line in Grant County and extending northerly along the Burlington Northern & Santa Fe Railway to the city limit of Prescott in Pierce County, then west along the Prescott city limit to the Minnesota State line.

Central Flyway

Colorado (Central Flyway Portion)

Northern Front Range Area: All areas in Boulder, Larimer and Weld Counties from the Continental Divide east along the Wyoming border to U.S. 85, south on U.S. 85 to the Adams County line, and all lands in Adams, Arapahoe, Broomfield, Clear Creek, Denver, Douglas, Gilpin, and Jefferson Counties.

North Park Area: Jackson County.

South Park and San Luis Valley Area: All of Alamosa, Chaffee, Conejos, Costilla, Custer, Fremont, Lake, Park, Rio Grande and Teller Counties, and those portions of Saguache, Mineral and Hinsdale Counties east of the Continental Divide.

Remainder: Remainder of the Central Flyway portion of Colorado.

Eastern Colorado Late Light Goose Area: That portion of the State east of Interstate Highway 25.

Nebraska

Dark Geese

Niobrara Unit: That area contained within and bounded by the intersection of the South Dakota State line and the eastern Cherry County line, south along the Cherry County line to the Niobrara River, east to the Norden Road, south on the Norden Road to U.S. Hwy 20, east along U.S. Hwy 20 to NE Hwy 14, north along NE Hwy 14 to NE Hwy 59 and County Road 872, west along County Road 872 to the Knox County Line, north along the Knox County Line to the South Dakota State line. Where the Niobrara River forms the boundary, both banks of the river are included in the Niobrara Unit.

East Unit: That area north and east of U.S. 81 at the Kansas-Nebraska State line, north to NE Hwy 91, east to U.S. 275, south to U.S. 77, south to NE 91, east to U.S. 30, east to Nebraska-Iowa State line.

Platte River Unit: That area north and west of U.S. 81 at the Kansas-Nebraska State line, north to NE Hwy 91, west along NE 91 to NE 11, north to the Holt County line, west along the northern border of Garfield, Loup, Blaine and Thomas Counties to the Hooker County line, south along the Thomas-Hooker County lines to the McPherson County line, east along the south border of Thomas County to the western line of Custer County, south along the Custer-Lincoln County line to NE 92, west to U.S. 83, north to NE 92, west to NE 61, south along NE 61 to NE 92, west along NE 92 to U.S. Hwy 26, south along U.S. Hwy 26 to Keith County Line, south along Keith County Line to the Colorado State line.

Panhandle Unit: That area north and west of Keith-Deuel County Line at the Nebraska-Colorado State line, north along the Keith County Line to U.S. Hwy 26, west to NE Hwy 92, east to NE Hwy 61, north along NE Hwy 61 to NE Hwy 2, west along NE 2 to the corner formed by Garden-Grant-Sheridan Counties, west along the north border of Garden, Morrill, and Scotts Bluff Counties to the intersection of the Interstate Canal, west to the Wyoming State line.

North-Central Unit: The remainder of the State.
Light Geese
Rainwater Basin Light Goose Area: The area bounded by the junction of NE Hwy. 92 and NE Hwy. 15, south along NE Hwy. 15 to NE Hwy. 4, west along NE Hwy. 4 to U.S. Hwy. 34, west along U.S. Hwy. 34 to U.S. Hwy. 283, north along U.S. Hwy. 283 to U.S. Hwy. 30, east along U.S. Hwy. 30 to NE Hwy. 92, east along NE Hwy. 92 to the beginning.
Remainder of State: The remainder portion of Nebraska.
New Mexico (Central Flyway Portion)
Dark Geese
Middle Rio Grande Valley Unit: Sierra, Socorro, and Valencia Counties.
Remainder: The remainder of the Central Flyway portion of New Mexico.
North Dakota
Missouri River Canada Goose Zone: The area within and bounded by a line starting where ND Hwy 6 crosses the South Dakota border; thence north on ND Hwy 6 to I–94; thence west on I–94 to ND Hwy 49; thence north on ND Hwy 49 to ND Hwy 200; thence north on Mercer County Rd. 21 to the section line between sections 8 and 9 (T146N–R87W); thence north on that section line to the southern shoreline to Lake Sakakawea; thence east along the southern shoreline (including Mallard Island) of Lake Sakakawea to U.S. Hwy 83; thence south on U.S. Hwy 83 to ND Hwy 200; thence east on ND Hwy 200 to ND Hwy 41; thence south on ND Hwy 41 to U.S. Hwy 83; thence south on U.S. Hwy 83 to I–94; thence east on I–94 to U.S. Hwy 83; thence south on U.S. Hwy 83 to South Dakota border; thence west along the South Dakota border to ND Hwy 6.
Rest of State: Remainder of North Dakota.
South Dakota
Canada Geese
Unit 1: the Counties of Campbell, Marshall, Roberts, Day, Clark, Codington, Grant, Hamlin, Deuel, Walworth, that portion of Dewey County north of Bureau of Indian Affairs Road 8, Bureau of Indian Affairs Road 9, and the section of U.S. Highway 212 east of the Bureau of Indian Affairs Road 8 junction, that portion of Potter County east of U.S. Highway 83, that portion of Sully County east of U.S. Highway 83, portions of Hyde, Buffalo, Brule, and Charles Mix Counties north and east of a line beginning at the Hughes-Hyde County line on State Highway 34, east to Lees Boulevard, southeast to the State Highway 34, east 7 miles to 350th Avenue, south to Interstate 90 on 350th Avenue, south and east on State Highway 50 to Geddes, east on 285th Street to U.S. Highway 281, north on U.S. Highway 281 to the Charles Mix-Douglas County boundary, that portion of Bon Homme County north of State Highway 50, that portion of Fall River County west of State Highway 71 and U.S. Highway 385, that portion of Custer County west of State Highway 79 and north of French Creek, McPherson, Edmunds, Kingsbury, Brookings, Lake, Moody, Miner, Faulk, Hand, Jerauld, Douglas, Hutchinson, Turner, Lincoln, Union, Clay, Yankton, Aurora, Beadle, Davison, Hanson, Sanborn, Spink, Brown, Harding, Butte, Lawrence, Meade, Pennington, Shannon, Jackson, Mellette, Todd, Jones, Haakon, Corson, Ziebach, McCook, and Minnehaha Counties.
Unit 2: Remainder of South Dakota.
Unit 3: Bennett County.
Texas
Northeast Goose Zone: That portion of Texas lying east and north of a line beginning at the Texas-Oklahoma border at U.S. 81, then continuing south to Bowie and then southeasterly along U.S. 81 and U.S. 287 to I–35W and I–35 to the juncture with I–10 in San Antonio, then east on I–10 to the Texas-Louisiana border.
Southeast Goose Zone: That portion of Texas lying east and south of a line beginning at the International Toll Bridge at Laredo, then continuing north following I–35 to the juncture with I–10 in San Antonio, then easterly along I–10 to the Texas-Louisiana border.
West Goose Zone: The remainder of the State.
Wyoming (Central Flyway Portion)
Dark Geese
Zone G1: Big Horn, Converse, Hot Springs, Natrona, Park, and Washakie Counties; and Fremont County excluding those portions south or west of the Continental Divide.
Zone G1A: Goshen and Platte Counties.
Zone G2: Campbell, Crook, Johnson, Niobrara, Sheridan, and Weston Counties.
Zone G3: Albany and Laramie Counties; and that portion of Carbon County east of the Continental Divide.
Pacific Flyway
Arizona
North Zone: Game Management Units 1–5, those portions of Game Management Units 6 and 8 within Coconino County, and Game Management Units 7, 9, and 12A.
South Zone: Those portions of Game Management Units 6 and 8 in Yavapai County, and Game Management Units 10 and 12B–45.
California
Northeastern Zone: In that portion of California lying east and north of a line beginning at the intersection of Interstate 5 with the California-Oregon line; south along Interstate 5 to its junction with Walters Lane south of the town of Yreka; west along Walters Lane to its junction with Easy Street; south along Easy Street to its junction with Old Highway 99; south along Old Highway 99 to the point of intersection with Interstate 5 north of the town of Weed; south along Interstate 5 to its junction with Highway 89; east and south along Highway 89 to main street Greenville; north and east to its junction with North Valley Road; south to its junction of Diamond Mountain Road; north and east to its junction with North Arm Road; south and west to the junction of North Valley Road; south to the junction with Arlington Road (A22); west to the juncture of Highway 89; south and west to the juncture of Highway 70; east on Highway 70 to Highway 395; south and east on Highway 395 to the point of intersection with the California-Nevada State line; north along the California-Nevada State line to the juncture of the California-Nevada-Oregon State lines west along the California-Oregon State line to the point of origin.
Colorado River Zone: Those portions of San Bernardino, Riverside, and Imperial Counties east of a line extending from the Nevada border south along U.S. 95 to Vidal Junction; south on a road known as “Aqueduct Road” in San Bernardino County through the town of Rice to the San Bernardino-Riverside County line; south on a road known in Riverside County as the “Desert Center to Rice Road” to the town of Desert Center; east 31 miles on I–10 to the Wiley Well Road; south on this road to Wiley Well; southeast along the Army-Milpitas Road to the Blythe, Brawley, Davis Lake intersections; south on the Blythe-Brawley paved road to the Ogilby and Tumco Mine Road; south on this road to U.S. 80; east 7 miles on U.S. 80 to the Andrade-Algodones Road; south on this paved road to the Mexican border at Algodones, Mexico.
Southern Zone: That portion of southern California (but excluding the Colorado River Zone) south and east of a line extending from the Pacific Ocean east along the Santa Maria River to CA 166 near the City of Santa Maria; east on CA 166 to CA 99; south on CA 99 to the crest of the Tehachapi Mountains; west on CA 44; south along the crest of the Tehachapi Mountains to CA
178 at Walker Pass; east on CA 178 to U.S. 395 at the town of Inyokern; south on U.S. 395 to CA 58; east on CA 58 to I–15; east on I–15 to CA 127; north on CA 127 to the Nevada border.

Imperial County Special Management Area: The area bounded by a line beginning at Highway 86 and the Navy Test Base Road; south on Highway 86 to the town of Westmoreland; continue through the town of Westmoreland to Route S26; east on Route S26 to Highway 115; north on Highway 115 to Weist Rd.; north on Weist Rd. to Flowing Wells Rd.; northeast on Flowing Wells Rd. to the Coachella Canal; northwest on the Coachella Canal to Drop 18; a straight line from Drop 18 to Frink Rd.; south on Frink Rd. to Highway 111; north on Highway 111 to Niland Marina Rd.; southwest on Niland Marina Rd. to the old Imperial County boat ramp and the water line of the Salton Sea; from the water line of the Salton Sea, a straight line across the Salton Sea to the Salinity Control Research Facility and the Navy Test Base Road; southwest on the Navy Test Base Road to the point of beginning.

Balance-of-State Zone: The remainder of California not included in the Northeastern, Southern, and the Colorado River Zones.

North Coast Special Management Area: The Counties of Del Norte and Humboldt.

Sacramento Valley Special Management Area: That area bounded by a line beginning at Willows south on I–5 to Hahn Road; easterly on Hahn Road and the Grimes-Arbuckle Road to Grimes; northerly on CA 45 to the junction with CA 162; northerly on CA 45/162 to Glenn; and westerly on CA 162 to the point of beginning in Willows.

Colorado (Pacific Flyway Portion)

West Central Area: Archuleta, Delta, Dolores, Gunnison, LaPlata, Montezuma, Montrose, Ouray, San Juan, and San Miguel Counties and those portions of Hinsdale, Mineral, and Saguache Counties west of the Continental Divide.

State Area: The remainder of the Pacific Flyway Portion of Colorado.

Idaho

Canada Geese, White-fronted Geese, and Brant

Zone 1: All lands and waters within the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, including private in-holdings; Bannock County; Bingham County, except that portion within the Blackfoot Reservoir drainage; Caribou County within the Fort Hall Indian Reservation; and Power County east of State Highway 37 and State Highway 39.

Zone 2: Adams, Bear Lake, Benewah, Blaine, Bonner, Bonneville, Boundary, Butte, Camas, Clark, Clearwater, Custer, Franklin, Fremont, Idaho, Jefferson, Kootenai, Latah, Lemhi, Lewis, Madison, Nez Perce, Oneida, Shoshone, Teton, and Valley Counties; Bingham County within the Blackfoot Reservoir drainage; Caribou County, except the Fort Hall Indian Reservation; and Power County west of State Highway 37 and State Highway 39.


Light Geese

Zone 1: All lands and waters within the Fort Hall Indian Reservation, including private in-holdings; Bannock County; Bingham County east of the west bank of the Snake River, west of the McTucker boat ramp access road, and east of the American Falls Reservoir, except that portion within the Blackfoot Reservoir drainage; Caribou County within the Fort Hall Indian Reservation; and Power County below the American Falls Reservoir, and within the Fort Hall Indian Reservation.

Zone 2: Bingham County west of the west bank of the Snake River, east of the McTucker boat ramp access road, and west of the American Falls Reservoir, except the American Falls Reservoir, and those lands and waters within the Fort Hall Indian Reservation.


Zone 4: Adams, Bear Lake, Benewah, Blaine, Bonner, Bonneville, Boundary, Butte, Camas, Clark, Clearwater, Custer, Franklin, Fremont, Idaho, Jefferson, Kootenai, Latah, Lemhi, Lewis, Madison, Nez Perce, Oneida, Shoshone, Teton, and Valley Counties; Caribou County, except the Fort Hall Indian Reservation; Bingham County within the Blackfoot Reservoir drainage.

Montana (Pacific Flyway Portion)

East of the Divide Zone: The Pacific Flyway portion of the State located east of the Continental Divide.

West of the Divide Zone: The remainder of the Pacific Flyway portion of Montana.

Nevada

Northeast Zone: All of Elko and White Pine Counties.


South Zone: All of Clark and Lincoln County.

New Mexico (Pacific Flyway Portion)

North Zone: The Pacific Flyway portion of New Mexico located north of I–40.

South Zone: The Pacific Flyway portion of New Mexico located south of I–40.

Oregon

Southwest Zone: Those portions of Douglas, Coos, and Curry Counties east of Highway 101, and Josephine and Jackson Counties.

South Coast Zone: Those portions of Douglas, Coos, and Curry Counties west of Highway 101.

Northwest Special Permit Zone: That portion of western Oregon west and north of a line running south from the Columbia River in Portland along I–5 to OR 22 at Salem; then east on OR 22 to the Stayton Cutoff; then south on the Stayton Cutoff to Stayton and due south to the Santiam River; then west along the north shore of the Santiam River to I–5; then south on I–5 to OR 126 at Eugene; then west on OR 126 to Greenhill Road; then south on Greenhill Road to Crow Road; then west on Crow Road to Territorial Hwy; then west on Territorial Hwy to OR 126; then west on OR 126 to Milepost 19; then north to the intersection of the Benton and Lincoln County line; then north along the western boundary of Benton and Polk Counties to the southern boundary of Tillamook County; then west along the Tillamook County boundary to the Pacific Coast.

Lower Columbia/N. Willamette Valley Management Area: Those portions of Clatsop, Columbia, Multnomah, and Washington Counties within the Northwest Special Permit Zone.

Tillamook County Management Area: All of Tillamook County. The following portion of the Tillamook County Management Area is closed to goose hunting beginning at the point where Old Woods Rd crosses the south shores of Horn Creek, north on Old Woods Rd to Sand Lake Rd at Woods, north on Sand Lake Rd to the intersection with McPhillips Dr., due west (~200 yards) from the intersection to the Pacific coastline, south on the Pacific coastline to Neskonlith Creek, east along the north shores of Neskonlith Creek and then Hawk Creek to Salem Ave, east on Salem Ave in Neskonlith to Hawk Ave, east on Hawk Ave to Hwy 101, north on Hwy 101 to Resort Dr., north on Resort Dr. to a point due west of the south shores of Horn Creek at its confluence.
with the Nestucca River, due east (~80 yards) across the Nestucca River to the south shores of Horn Creek, east along the south shores of Horn Creek to the point of beginning.

Northwest Zone: Those portions of Clackamas, Lane, Linn, Marion, Multnomah, and Washington Counties outside of the Northwest Special Permit Zone and all of Lincoln County.


Harney and Lake County Zone: All of Harney and Lake Counties.

Malheur County Zone: All of Malheur County.

Utah

Northern Utah Zone: That portion of Box Elder County beginning the Weber-Box Elder county line, north along the Box Elder county line to the Utah-Idaho State line; west on this line to Stone, Idaho-Snowville, Utah road; southwest on this road to the Locomotive Springs Wildlife Management Area boundary; west, south, east, and then north along this boundary to the county road; east on the county road, past Monument Point and across Salt Wells Flat, to the intersection with Promontory Road; south on Promontory Road to a point directly west of the northwest corner of the Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge boundary; east along a line to the northwest corner of the Refuge boundary; south and east along the Refuge boundary to the southeast corner of the boundary; northeast along this boundary to the Perry access road; east on the Perry access road to I–15; south on I–15 to the Weber-Box Elder county line.

Wasatch Front Zone: Boundary begins at the Weber-Box Elder county line at I–15; east along Weber county line to US–89; south on US–89 to I–84; east and south and along I–84 to I–80; south along I–80 to US–189; south and west along US–189 to the Utah County line; southeast and then west along this line to I–15; north on I–15 to US–6; west on US–6 to SR–36; north on SR–36 to I–80; north along a line from this intersection to the southern tip of Promontory Point and Promontory Road; east and north along this road to the causeway separating Bear River Bay from Ogden Bay; east on this causeway to the southwest corner of Great Salt Lake Mineral Corporations (GSLMC) west impoundment; north and east along GSLMC’s west impoundment to the northwest corner of the impoundment; directly north from this point along an imaginary line to the southern boundary of Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge; east along this southern boundary to the Perry access road; northeast along this road to I–15; south along I–15 to the Weber-Box Elder county line.

Washington County Zone: All of Washington County.

Remainder-of-the-State Zone: The remainder of Utah.

Washington

Area 1: Skagit, Island, and Snohomish Counties.

Area 2A (Southwest Permit Zone): Clark County, except portions south of the Washougal River; Cowlitz County; and Wahkiakum County.

Area 2B (Southwest Permit Zone): Pacific County.

Area 3: All areas west of the Pacific Crest Trail and west of the Big White Salmon River that are not included in Areas 1, 2A, and 2B.


Area 5: All areas east of the Pacific Crest Trail and east of the Big White Salmon River that are not included in Area 4.

Brant

Pacific Flyway

California

North Coast Zone: Del Norte, Humboldt and Mendocino Counties.

South Coast Zone: Balance of the State.

Washington

Puget Sound Zone: Skagit County.

Coastal Zone: Pacific County.

Swans

Central Flyway

South Dakota: Aurora, Beadle, Brookings, Brown, Brule, Buffalo, Campbell, Clark, Codington, Davison, Deuel, Day, Edmunds, Faulk, Grant, Hamlin, Hand, Hanson, Hughes, Hyde, Jerauld, Kingsbury, Lake, Marshall, McCook, McPherson, Miner, Minnehaha, Moody, Potter, Roberts, Sanborn, Spink, Sully, and Walworth Counties.

Pacific Flyway

Montana (Pacific Flyway Portion)

Open Area: Cascade, Chouteau, Hill, Liberty, and Toole Counties and those portions of Pondera and Teton Counties lying east of U.S. 287–89.

Nevada

Open Area: Churchill, Lyon, and Pershing Counties.

Utah

Open Area: Those portions of Box Elder, Weber, Davis, Salt Lake, and Toole Counties lying west of I–15, north of I–80, and south of a line beginning from the Forest Street exit to the Bear River National Wildlife Refuge boundary; then north and west along the Bear River National Wildlife Refuge boundary to the farthest west boundary of the Refuge; then west along a line to Promontory Road; then north on Promontory Road to the intersection of SR 33; then north on SR 33 to I–84; then north and west on I–84 to State Hwy 30; then west on State Hwy 30 to the Nevada–Utah State line; then south on the Nevada–Utah State line to I–80.