

INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS



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WARN HUNTERS OF FEDERAL
LAW RESTRICTING SEASONS

As a warning to hunters who plan to shoot waterfowl in the Southeastern States, the Bureau of Biological Survey calls attention to the fact that no State has authority to extend open seasons on migratory birds beyond the period fixed for the area by Federal regulation.

In Louisiana, for example, the Federal regulations provide an open season on waterfowl beginning at noon on November 16 and ending at sunset on January 15, and the State law would permit waterfowl hunting from November 15 to February 15. Under provision of the migratory-bird treaty act, however, the Federal restriction supersedes the State action, and persons hunting waterfowl in Louisiana before or after the Federal season are thus liable to arrest and prosecution in Federal court.

Federal regulations provide an open season from November 16 to January 15 for hunting ducks, geese, brant, and coot in southeastern Texas and in Louisiana, Arkansas, Mississippi, Tennessee, Alabama, Georgia, South Carolina, North Carolina, Virginia, and Maryland, and in Florida from November 20 to January 15. The season however, remains closed on wood ducks, ruddy ducks, buffleheads, Ross's geese, and cackling geese, and, in the Atlantic Coast States, it is also closed on snow geese.

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