

INFORMATION FOR THE PRESS

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POSTERS IN POST OFFICES
TELL DUCK HUNTERS RULES
FOR HUNTING THIS SEASON

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Posters listing the opening dates in various States of the 30-day duck hunting season, bag limits, and other regulations will be displayed soon in post offices throughout the country. Seasons on rails, gallinules, woodcock, doves, and band-tailed pigeons also are listed by States on these posters.

Each fall the U. S. Biological Survey, which administers the migratory game bird regulations, prepares this poster for the convenience of sportsmen. The poster contains additional information on hunting regulations, Canadian waterfowl regulations, and local names of common species of ducks.

Many waterfowl hunters consult the posters while buying migratory bird hunting stamps, which are on sale at post offices at \$1 each. Possession of the stamp is required by law of every migratory waterfowl hunter over 16 years of age. The season this year on ducks, geese, Wilson's snipe (jacksnipe), and coot opens in the States in the northern zone October 9 and closes November 7. In the intermediate zone the season is November 1 to 30, and in the southern zone, November 27 to December 26. Dates are inclusive. No open season is allowed on snow geese and brant in States that border on the Atlantic coast, and no open season in any part of the United States on Ross's geese, wood ducks, ruddy ducks, canvasbacks, redheads, bufflehead ducks and swans.

The Federal seasons for taking migratory game birds may be shortened, however, by State law or regulation, and sportsmen are therefore urged to

communicate with their respective State game departments for information on late orders or regulations.

This year the Biological Survey will not issue its usual Farmers' Bulletin summarizing Federal and Canadian laws, and also State and Provincial laws and regulations that affect local species of small game, such as rabbits, squirrels, quails, and pheasants, and such trophy species as bear, moose, elk, deer, and other big-game.

In the majority of the States game commissions now fix open seasons and bag limits by order or regulation, and in order to avail themselves of the latest information on the status of wildlife resources most of the States defer announcing changes in seasons and bag limits until shortly before the opening or closing of a season. This has been found to be a sound conservation practice, but it makes the information available too late for the Biological Survey to publish a timely summary of the laws for sportsmen.

All States publish their game laws in convenient form for hunters and supply copies on request. The Biological Survey will continue to issue posters and other information concerning seasons and bag limits on migratory game birds, and on such other game as conditions make possible.