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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR INFORMATION SERVICE

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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HUNTING DATES ANNOUNCED FOR DOVES, WOODCOCK, RAILS AND GALLINULES

The hunting dates selected by the States for the shooting of doves, rails, gallinules, woodcock, and band-tailed pigeons, during the 1958-59 season, were announced today by Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton.

These amended regulations contain the specific dates for each State's season, together with bag and possession limits. As announced on July 18, the "outside dates" for these species were: mourning doves, September 1 through January 15; rails and gallinules, September 1 through January 10; woodcock, October 1 through January 20, and band-tailed pigeons, September 1 through January 10. Within these sets of dates the various State game departments could select their own hunting seasons for these birds.

One deviation from the original framework appears in the amended regulations. The results of a white-winged dove population survey in Texas have now become available and they indicate that these birds are sufficiently abundant to warrant an open season in 21 counties along the southerly border of Texas on September 14 and 16, from 2 p.m. to sunset.

The open seasons by States, the bag and possession limits, and the exceptions to the usual shooting hours of one-half hour before sunrise to sunset are listed below. The waterfowl season for Alaska is also included. However, since State game departments are permitted to adopt regulations which may be more restrictive than the Federal regulations, persons who plan to hunt these birds should first obtain a copy of their current State regulations.

OPEN SEASONS AND LIMITS ON DOVES AND WILD PIGEONS

Mourning Doves:

Alabama ^{1/} ^{2/}	Oct. 1-31 and Nov. 29-Jan. 1.
Arizona ^{2/}	Sept. 1-28 and Dec. 13-Jan. 3.
Arkansas ^{1/}	Sept. 1-Oct. 5 and Dec. 17-Jan. 15.
California ^{2/}	Sept. 1-30.
Colorado	Sept. 1-Oct. 20.
Delaware ^{1/}	Sept. 26-Oct. 31 and Nov. 21-Dec. 19.
Florida ^{1/}	Oct. 4-Nov. 2 and Nov. 27-Dec. 31.
Georgia ^{1/}	Sept. 15-Oct. 4 and Dec. 2-Jan. 15.
Idaho	Sept. 1-15.
Illinois ^{1/}	Sept. 1-Nov. 4.
Kansas	Sept. 1-Oct. 20.
Kentucky ^{1/}	Sept. 1-Nov. 4.
Louisiana ^{1/}	Sept. 1-15 and Nov. 27-Jan. 15.
Maryland ^{1/}	Sept. 16-Oct. 30 and Dec. 17-Jan. 5.
Mississippi ^{1/}	Sept. 10-29 and Nov. 27-Jan. 10.
Missouri	Sept. 1-Oct. 10 and Nov. 10-19.
Nevada	Sept. 1-Oct. 20.
New Mexico ^{2/}	Sept. 1-Oct. 20.
North Carolina ^{1/}	Sept. 6-Oct. 4 and Dec. 11-Jan. 15.
Oklahoma	Sept. 1-Oct. 20.
Oregon	See footnote ^{4/} .
Pennsylvania ^{1/}	Sept. 1-Nov. 4.
Rhode Island ^{1/}	Nov. 1-Dec. 31.
South Carolina ^{1/}	Sept. 15-Oct. 9 and Dec. 6-Jan. 14.
Tennessee ^{1/}	Sept. 1-Oct. 23 and Dec. 20-31.
Texas ^{1/} and ^{2/}	See footnote ^{3/} .
Utah	Sept. 1-14.
Virginia ^{1/}	Sept. 15-Nov. 10 and Dec. 27-Jan. 3.
Washington	Sept. 1-30.
West Virginia ^{1/}	Oct. 17-Dec. 20.

In States not listed above, there is no open season.

^{1/} Shooting hours in States indicated, 12 o'clock noon until sunset except on dept. 14 and 16 in Texas when the shooting hours will be from 2 p.m. until sunset.

^{2/} In Alabama the daily bag and possession limit is 10 mourning doves. In Arizona the daily bag limit is 10 mourning doves and 25 white-winged doves, and the possession limit is 10 mourning and 25 white-winged doves. In California, the daily bag and possession limit on mourning and white-winged doves is 10, singly or in the aggregate of both kinds. In New Mexico, the daily bag limit will be 10 mourning doves or 10 white-winged doves or 10 in the aggregate of both kinds with 20 in possession singly or in the aggregate. In Texas the daily bag limit on mourning and white-winged doves is 10, singly or in the aggregate of both kinds, and the possession limit is 20 of which not more than 10 may be white-winged doves.

3/ Texas: Mourning doves in Val Verde, Kinney, Uvalde, Medina, Bexar, Comal, Goliad, Travis, Williamson, Milam, Robertson, Leon, Houston, Cherokee, Nacogdoches, and Shelby Counties and all counties north and west thereof, Sept. 1-Oct. 20; in the rest of State (but not including Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, Zapata, Webb, Maverick, Dimmit, La Salle, Jim Hogg, Brooks, Kenedy, and Willacy Counties), Oct. 1-Nov. 19; in these latter counties Sept. 14 and Sept. 16 and from Oct. 1-Nov. 17.

4/ Oregon: Mourning doves in Hood River, Jefferson, Sherman, Wasco, and all counties west of the Cascade Summit except Jackson County, Sept. 1-28. In Jackson County and all other counties east of the Cascade Summit except those named above, Sept. 1-14.

The daily bag limit for mourning doves is 10 and the possession limit is 20 in all States except those specified in footnote 2/.

White-winged Doves:

Arizona Sept. 1-28 and Dec. 13-Jan. 3.

California:

Counties of Imperial, Riverside and San Bernardino, Sept. 1-30
(Season closed in remainder of State.)

New Mexico

Sept. 1-Oct. 20.

Texas^{1/}

Counties of Brewster, Brooks, Cameron, Culberson, Dimmit, El Paso, Hidalgo, Hudspeth, Jeff Davis, Jim Hogg, Kenedy, Kinney, La Salle, Maverick, Presidio, Starr, Terrell, Val Verde, Webb, Willacy, and Zapata, Sept. 14 and 16.

(Season closed in remainder of State.)

^{1/} The daily bag and possession limit for white-winged doves in Arizona, California, New Mexico, and Texas is covered in the preceding footnote 2/.

Band-tailed Pigeons:

California:

Counties of Del Norte, Humboldt, Lassen, Mendocino, Modoc, Shasta, Siskiyou, Tehama, and Trinity, Oct. 1-31.

Remainder of State, Dec. 11-Jan. 10.

Oregon

Sept. 1-28.

Washington

Sept. 1-30.

Daily bag and possession limit is 6, except in Oregon where the seasonal limit is 30.

OPEN SEASONS AND LIMITS ON RAILS, GALLINULES AND WOODCOCK

	<u>Rails and Gallinules</u> (except coots)	<u>Woodcock</u>
<u>Atlantic Flyway States</u>		
Connecticut	Sept. 1-Oct. 20	Oct. 25-Nov. 29
Delaware	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Nov. 21-Dec. 30
Florida	Sept. 13-Nov. 16	Dec. 13-Jan. 11
Georgia	Sept. 10-Nov. 18	Dec. 12-Jan. 20
Maine	Sept. 20-Nov. 28	Oct. 1-Nov. 8
Maryland	Sept. 1-Oct. 20	Nov. 15-Dec. 24
Massachusetts	Oct. 20-Dec. 28	Oct. 20-Nov. 28
New Hampshire	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Oct. 1-Nov. 9
New Jersey	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Oct. 18-Nov. 26
New York ^{1/}		
Counties of:		
Nassau	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Nov. 1-24
Suffolk	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Nov. 1-24
Remainder of State	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Oct. 16-Nov. 24
North Carolina	Sept. 10-Nov. 18	Nov. 27-Jan. 5
Pennsylvania	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Oct. 15-Nov. 22
Puerto Rico	Dec. 15-Feb. 12	Closed Season
Rhode Island	Oct. 1-Dec. 9	Nov. 1-Dec. 10
South Carolina	Sept. 13-Nov. 21	Dec. 12-Jan. 20
Vermont	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Oct. 1-Nov. 9
Virginia	Sept. 13-Oct. 31	Nov. 17-Dec. 26
West Virginia	Oct. 17-Dec. 25	Oct. 17-Nov. 25

^{1/} New York: The shooting hours during which woodcock may be taken shall be a.m. to 5 p.m. on the first day of the respective seasons and from 7 a.m. to p.m. on each day thereafter.

Mississippi Flyway States:

Alabama	See footnote ^{1/}	Dec. 12-Jan. 20
Arkansas	Nov. 2-Jan. 10	Dec. 1-Jan. 9
Illinois	Closed season	Nov. 15-Dec. 24
Indiana	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Oct. 25-Dec. 3
Iowa	Closed season	Closed season
Kentucky	Nov. 20-Jan. 10	Nov. 20-Dec. 29
Louisiana	Oct. 4-Dec. 12	Dec. 12-Jan. 20
Michigan: ^{2/}		
Zone 1 and 2	Oct. 1-Dec. 9	Oct. 1-Nov. 9
Zone 3	Oct. 1-Dec. 9	Oct. 20-Nov. 9
Minnesota	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Oct. 1-Nov. 9
Mississippi	Oct. 1-Dec. 9	Dec. 10-Jan. 18
Missouri	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Nov. 10-Dec. 19
Ohio	Sept. 1-Nov. 8	Oct. 1-Nov. 8
Tennessee	Nov. 7-Jan. 10	Nov. 27-Jan. 5
Wisconsin	Oct. 1-Dec. 9	Oct. 1-Nov. 9

1/ The seasons for hunting rails and gallinules in Alabama will be established at a later date.

2/ Michigan: Zones for hunting woodcock are as defined by State law, order, or regulations of the Michigan Department of Conservation.

Central Flyway States

Colorado	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Closed season
Kansas	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	" "
Montana	Closed season	" "
Nebraska	Oct. 4-Dec. 12	Oct. 4-Nov. 12
New Mexico	Nov. 2-Jan. 10	Closed season
North Dakota	Oct. 1-Dec. 9	Oct. 1-Nov. 9
Oklahoma	Oct. 1-Dec. 9	Nov. 23-Jan. 1
South Dakota	Closed season	Closed season
Texas	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Dec. 8-Jan. 16
Wyoming	Closed season	Closed season

Daily bag and possession limits for rails (other than sora) and gallinules in the Atlantic flyway is 15 daily and 30 in possession, singly or in the aggregate. in the Mississippi and Central flyways, the daily bag limit is 15 and the possession limit is 15. Bag and possession limits for sora are 25. Daily bag and possession limits for woodcock remain at four with the possession limit at eight.

REGULATIONS FOR ALASKA

The seasons throughout Alaska for ducks, geese, coots, and brant will be from September 1 through December 3; for Wilson's snipe, from September 1 through October 15.

Daily bag limits for ducks will be seven, with 14 in possession. In Wildlife management Units 8, 9, 10, and 16 through 26, the daily bag limit for old-squaw, harlequin, scoter, and eider ducks and American and red-breasted merganser ducks will be 10 singly or in the aggregate, and the possession limit will be 20 singly or in the aggregate of all kinds of such ducks. These limits may be taken and possessed in addition to the previously mentioned limits for other ducks. In units 1 to 7 and 11 to 15, both inclusive, the bag limits on American and red-breasted merganser ducks are five daily and 10 in possession, singly or in the aggregate of both kinds, which limits may be in addition to the limits previously mentioned for other ducks.

The daily bag limit for geese is five of which not more than three may be species other than snow geese and the possession limit is 10 of which not more than six may be species other than snow geese. Bag and possession limits for spots are 15; daily bag limit for brant, three, possession limit, six. Daily bag and possession limit for Wilson's snipe, eight.

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