



# DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## INFORMATION SERVICE

### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

For Release to PM's, AUGUST 12, 1959

#### HUNTING DATES ANNOUNCED FOR DOVES, WOODCOCK, RAILS, AND GALLINULES

Hunting dates chosen by the States for the shooting of doves, rails, gallinules, woodcock, and band-tailed pigeons during the 1959-60 season were announced today by the 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 by the Fish and Wildlife Service on July 14, the "outside dates" for these species were as follows: mourning doves, September 1 through January 15; rails and gallinules, September 1 through January 10; woodcock, October 1 through January 15; and band-tailed pigeons, September 1 through January 10. Within these sets of dates, the various State game departments could choose their own hunting seasons for these birds.

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. 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 MOURNING DOVES

##### Mourning Doves:

Daily bag limit, 10; daily possession limit, 20

Alabama 1/ 2/	Oct. 1-31, and Nov. 29-Jan. 1
Arizona 2/	Sept. 1-27, and Dec. 12-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. 18-Oct. 22, and Nov. 20-Dec. 19
Florida 1/	See footnote 3/
Georgia 1/	Sept. 16-Oct. 5, and Dec. 2-Jan. 15
Idaho	Sept. 1-15
Illinois 1/	Sept. 1-Nov. 4

Mourning Doves (Continued)

Kansas	Sept. 1-Oct. 20
Kentucky <u>1/</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 4
Louisiana <u>1/</u>	Sept. 5-20, and Nov. 26-Jan. 13
Maryland <u>1/</u>	Sept. 16-Oct. 30, and Dec. 17-Jan. 5
Mississippi <u>1/</u>	Sept. 9-28, and Dec. 2-Jan. 15
Missouri	Sept. 1-Oct. 10, and Nov. 10-19
Nevada	Sept. 1-Oct. 20
New Mexico <u>2/</u>	Sept. 1-Oct. 20
North Carolina <u>1/</u>	Sept. 12-Oct. 10, and Dec. 11-Jan. 15
Oklahoma	Sept. 1-Oct. 20
Oregon	Sept. 1-27
Pennsylvania <u>1/</u>	Sept. 1-Nov. 4
Rhode Island <u>1/</u>	Nov. 1-Dec. 31
South Carolina <u>1/</u>	Sept. 14-Oct. 10, and Dec. 3-Jan. 9
Tennessee <u>1/</u>	Sept. 1-Oct. 21, and Dec. 19-Jan. 1
Texas <u>1/ 2/</u>	See footnote <u>4/</u>
Utah	Sept. 1-27
Virginia <u>1/</u>	Sept. 15-Nov. 18
Washington	Sept. 1-30
West Virginia <u>1/</u>	Oct. 3-Dec. 5

States not listed above do not have open seasons.

1/ Shooting hours in States indicated, 12 o'clock noon until sunset except on Sept. 11, 13, and 15 in Texas, when the shooting hours are from 2:00 p.m. until sunset.

2/ In Alabama and Arizona the daily bag and possession limit is 10 mourning 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 on mourning and white-winged doves is 10 singly or in the aggregate of both kinds and the possession limit is 20 singly or in the aggregate of both kinds. 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/ Florida. Mourning doves in Hardee, De Soto, Highlands, Glades, Charlott Lee, Hendry, Collier, Okeechobee, Brevard, Volusia, St. Johns, Flagler, and that portion of Putnam County east of the St. John's River--November 26 to January 6; in the rest of the State, October 10 to November 1 and November 26 to January 6.

4/ Texas. Mourning doves in Val Verde, Kinney, Uvalde, Medina, Bexar, Coma Hays, 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 the 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. 11, 13, and 15 and from Oct. 1-Nov. 16.

OPEN SEASONS AND LIMITS ON WHITE-WINGED DOVES

White-winged Doves: Daily bag and possession limit, see footnote 1/  
below

Arizona Sept. 1-27, and Dec. 12-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. 11, 13, and 15

(Season closed in remainder of the State.)

1/ In Arizona the daily bag and possession limit is 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 on mourning and white-winged doves is 10 singly or in the aggregate of both kinds, and the possession limit is 20 singly or in the aggregate of both kinds. 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.

OPEN SEASONS AND LIMITS ON BAND-TAILED PIGEONS

Band-tailed Pigeons: Daily bag and possession limit, 6

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. 1-27

Washington Sept. 1-30

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. 24-Nov. 28
Delaware	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Nov. 20-Dec. 29
Florida	Sept. 5-Nov. 8	Dec. 12-Jan. 10
Georgia	Sept. 4-Nov. 12	Dec. 7-Jan. 15
Maine	Sept. 21-Nov. 28	Oct. 1-Nov. 9
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. 7	Oct. 17-Nov. 25
New York: <u>1/</u>		
Counties of:		
Nassau and Suffolk	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Nov. 1-13
Remainder of State	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Oct. 5-Nov. 13
North Carolina	Sept. 5-Nov. 13	Nov. 26-Jan. 4
Pennsylvania	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Oct. 15-Nov. 23
Rhode Island	Oct. 1-Dec. 9	Nov. 1-Dec. 10
South Carolina	Oct. 1-Dec. 9	Dec. 7-Jan. 15
Vermont	Sept. 1-Nov. 9	Oct. 1-Nov. 9
Virginia	Sept. 12-Oct. 31	Nov. 16-Dec. 25
West Virginia	Oct. 3-Dec. 11	Oct. 3-Nov. 11

1/ New York: The shooting hours during which woodcock may be taken shall be 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the first day of the respective seasons and from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. on each day thereafter.

Mississippi Flyway States:

Alabama	See footnote <u>1/</u> below	Dec. 7-Jan. 15
Arkansas	Nov. 2-Dec. 21	Dec. 1-Jan. 9
Illinois	Closed Season	Nov. 15-Dec. 24
Indiana	Sept. 1-Oct. 20	Oct. 26-Dec. 4
Iowa	Closed Season	Closed Season
Kentucky	Nov. 20-Jan. 8	Nov. 20-Dec. 29
Louisiana	Oct. 3-Nov. 21	Dec. 7-Jan. 15
Michigan <u>2/</u>		
Zone 1 and 2	See footnote <u>1/</u>	Oct. 1-Nov. 9
Zone 3		Oct. 20-Nov. 9
Minnesota	Sept. 1-Oct. 20	Oct. 1-Nov. 9
Mississippi	Oct. 1-Nov. 19	Dec. 7-Jan. 15
Missouri	Sept. 1-Oct. 20	Nov. 10-Dec. 19
Ohio	Sept. 1-Oct. 20	Oct. 1-Nov. 9
Tennessee	Nov. 22-Jan. 10	Nov. 26-Jan. 4
Wisconsin	See footnote <u>1/</u>	Oct. 1-Nov. 9

1/ The seasons for hunting rails and gallinules in Alabama, Michigan, and Wisconsin will be prescribed 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-Oct. 20	Closed Season
Kansas	Sept. 1-Oct. 20	Closed Season
Montana	Closed Season	Closed Season
Nebraska	Oct. 3-Nov. 21	Closed Season
New Mexico	Nov. 22-Jan. 10	Closed Season
North Dakota	Closed Season	Closed Season
Oklahoma	Oct. 1-Nov. 19	Nov. 23-Jan. 1
South Dakota	Closed Season	Closed Season
Texas	Sept. 1-Oct. 20	Dec. 7-Jan. 15
Wyoming	Closed Season	Closed Season

Daily bag and possession limits for rails 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. Daily bag and possession limits for woodcock remain at four with the possession limit at eight.

REGULATIONS FOR PUERTO RICO

Rails and gallinules, except coots, may be hunted in Puerto Rico from December 15 through February 12. The daily bag limit is 15 and the possession limit is 30. There is no open season on mourning doves in Puerto Rico.

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