UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Most or Flanagan - Int. 5634

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STATE 1962-63 WATERFOWL HUNTING DATES APPROVED BY INTERIOR

Specific 1962-63 migratory waterfowl hunting seasons, as selected by State game administrators within the framework prescribed by the Department of the Interior on August 16, 1962, have been approved by the Department and are being published in the Federal Register. State fish and game agencies have made public announcement of the dates selected.

Over two million copies of "A Digest of 1962-1963 Waterfowl Hunting Regulations" are being printed for distribution through post offices to hunters in connection with the sale of Federal duck stamps. The Digest, which contains essential information on waterfowl hunting regulations for each of the flyways, will be available late in September.

The framework issued by the Department of the Interior provides for bonus scaup ducks, complete protection for redheads and canvasback, and includes special regulations for mallard and black ducks. Surveys conducted by the Fish and Wildlife Service's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife indicate that the mallard breeding population this year is down 30 percent from last year. The breeding population for black ducks, the major species in eastern Canada and in the Atlantic Flyway, remained at the low level that has prevailed for the past five years.

The anticipated fall flights of geese and brant will be comparable to last year's. In view of the continuing healthy status of these birds, the Fish and Wildlife Service recommended that seasons remain generally unchanged from 1961.

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