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DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

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FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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1963-64 HUNTING SEASONS ANNOUNCED BY INTERIOR DEPARTMENT FOR
CERTAIN MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

Specific dates for 1963-64 hunting seasons on mourning and white-winged doves, band-tailed pigeons, rails, gallinules, woodcock, and snipe in the various States; for certain sea ducks along the northeastern coast; and for waterfowl, coots, and cranes in Alaska, have been approved by Secretary of the Interior Stewart L. Udall after reviewing recommendations from State game administrators.

Public announcement of the actual opening and closing dates is being made by the States.

In approving the seasons, Secretary Udall pointed out that after extensive surveys by the Fish and Wildlife Service to determine the population status of the various species, the Interior Department establishes season lengths, shooting hours, bag limits, and outside dates within which all open seasons must fall. These outside dates are then forwarded to the States for their recommendations on specific open season dates best suited to each State.

Although a slight but continuing decline in mourning dove populations necessitated a small reduction in bag limits in the Eastern and Central Management units, bag limits and seasons on other species remained the same as last year or are more liberal, as in the case of woodcock and snipe.

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