

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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MEXICAN MIGRATORY GAME BIRD IMPORTATION REGULATION TO BE CHANGED

Mexican export regulations will limit the number of waterfowl, doves, and pigeons that can be imported from that country by U.S. hunters according to a proposed regulation change by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

The proposal, published in the Federal Register on July 16, 1975, means that in many instances, U.S. hunters could import larger numbers of birds killed in Mexico than previously.

The number of migratory game birds that can be imported into the United States from most countries is set by Federal regulation. However, the government of Mexico is a signatory to a bilateral treaty with the United States for the protection of migratory birds and has recently enacted domestic legislation regulating the export of migratory game birds.

Under the proposed change, the United States would honor the Mexican regulations, and would not impose additional restrictions on the import of migratory game birds from Mexico. However, any person who imports them in excess of the Mexican exportation limit would still be in violation of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

The Mexican law authorized a maximum possession and export limit equal to a three-day bag limit. A check-in system in Mexico is being established for U.S. hunters entering the country for extended periods in which they may register their presence. This would allow them to qualify for the maximum export limit.

Interested persons having comments on this proposal are invited to submit them in writing to the Director (FWS/LE), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, P.O. Box 19183, Washington, D.C. 20036. All comments received no later than 15 days after publication in the Federal Register will be considered.

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