

DEPARTMENT of the INTERIOR

news release

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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SIGNIFICANT WATERFOWL HUNTING CHANGES PROPOSED

Several significant changes in next autumn's waterfowl hunting regulations have been proposed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

They include:

- The opening of snow goose hunting in the Atlantic Flyway for the first time since 1931.
- The opening of Atlantic brant hunting in the Atlantic Flyway for the first time since 1972.
- An additional harvest of redhead ducks in selected areas of the country where population increases have been substantial.
- The closing of Canada goose hunting in parts of California to protect the endangered Aleutian Canada goose on its wintering grounds.

Public comments are invited on these proposals, which are being published in the Federal Register. Comments should be addressed to Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior (Attention: Migratory Bird Management), Washington, D.C. 20240. Comments received through August 25 will be considered.

The Fish and Wildlife Service proposal also included recommended "frameworks" for season length, shooting hours, and bag limits on migratory waterfowl hunting.

Final hunting season framework regulations will be published in the Federal Register after the public comment period ends and after the individual State governments review and comment on the proposal. Within the final framework regulation, State game authorities can establish their own individual limits.

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