

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

## Fish and Wildlife Service

## 50 CFR Part 20

RIN 1018-AC79

**Migratory Bird Hunting; Supplemental Proposals for Migratory Game Bird Hunting Regulations; Notice of Meetings.**

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Proposed rule; supplemental.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (hereinafter the Service) proposed in an earlier document to establish annual hunting regulations for certain migratory game birds. This supplementary document further describes proposed changes from 19940995 hunting regulations and provides additional information that will facilitate establishment of the 19950996 hunting regulations. This document also announces the meetings of the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee.

**DATES:** The Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee will meet to consider and develop proposed regulations for early seasons on June 20, 21, and 22, and for late seasons on August 1, 2, and 3. Public hearings on proposed early- and late-season frameworks will be held at 9:00 a.m. on June 22 and August 3, 1995, respectively. The comment period for proposed migratory bird hunting-season frameworks for Alaska, Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and other early seasons will end on July 21, 1995, and for late-season proposals will end on September 4, 1995.

**ADDRESSES:** Meetings of the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee will be held in room 200 of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Arlington Square Building, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia. Public hearings will be held in the Auditorium of the Department of the Interior Building, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC. Written comments on the proposals and notice of intention to participate in either hearing should be sent to the Chief, Office of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior, ms 634—ARLSQ, 1849 C Street, NW., Washington, DC 20240. Comments received will be available for public inspection during normal business hours in room 634, ARLSQ Building, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Arlington, Virginia.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Paul R. Schmidt, Chief, Office of Migratory Bird Management, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, (703) 358091714.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:****Regulations Schedule for 1995**

On March 24, 1995, the Service published in the **Federal Register** (60 FR 15642) a proposal to amend 50 CFR part 20. The proposal dealt with the establishment of seasons, limits, and other regulations for migratory game birds under §§ 20.101 through 20.107, 20.109, and 20.110 of subpart K. This document is the second in a series of proposed, supplemental, and final rules for migratory game bird hunting regulations. Comment periods on this second document are specified above under **DATES**. Early-season frameworks will be proposed in late June and late-season frameworks in early August. Final regulatory frameworks for early seasons are scheduled for publication on or about August 16, 1995, and those for late seasons on or about September 25, 1995.

On June 22, 1995, a public hearing will be held in Washington, DC, to review the status of migratory shore and upland game birds and waterfowl hunted during early seasons and the recommended hunting regulations for these species.

On August 3, 1995, a public hearing will be held in Washington, DC, to review the status of waterfowl and recommended hunting regulations for regular waterfowl seasons, and other species and seasons not previously discussed at the June 22 public hearing.

**Announcement of Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee Meetings**

The meeting on June 20 is to review information on the current status of migratory shore and upland game birds and to develop 19950996 migratory game bird regulations recommendations for these species plus regulations for migratory game birds in Alaska, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands; special September waterfowl seasons in designated States; special sea duck seasons in the Atlantic Flyway; and extended falconry seasons. The June 21 meeting is to ensure that the Service's regulations recommendations are developed with the benefit of full consultation on the above issues.

The meeting on August 1 is to review information on the current status of waterfowl and to develop 19950996 migratory game bird regulations recommendations for regular waterfowl seasons and other species and seasons not previously discussed at the early

season meetings. The August 2 meeting is to ensure that the Service's regulations recommendations are developed with the benefit of full consultation on the above issues.

In accordance with Departmental policy regarding meetings of the Service Migratory Bird Regulations Committee that are attended by any person outside the Department, these meetings will be open to public observation. Members of the public may submit to the Director written comments on the matters discussed.

**Announcement of Flyway Council Meetings**

Service representatives will be present at the following meetings of Flyway Councils:

Atlantic Flyway—July 270928, Charleston, West Virginia (Holiday Inn, Charleston House)

Mississippi Flyway—July 290930, Green Bay, Wisconsin (Mid-way Best Western Motel)

Central Flyway—July 270928, Custer, South Dakota (Blue Bell Lodge and Resort - Custer State Park)

Pacific Flyway—July 28, Reno, Nevada (Peppermill Hotel)

Although agendas are not yet available, these meetings usually commence at 8:30 a.m. on the days indicated.

**Review of Public Comments**

This supplemental rulemaking describes changes which have been recommended based on the preliminary proposals published on March 24, 1995, in the **Federal Register**. Only those recommendations that would require either new proposals or substantial modification of the preliminary proposals to facilitate effective public participation are included herein. Those that support or oppose but do not recommend alternatives to the preliminary proposals are not included, but will be considered later in the regulations-development process. The Service will publish responses to proposals, written comments, and public-hearing testimony when final frameworks are developed.

The Service seeks additional information and comments on the recommendations contained in this supplemental proposed rule. These recommendations and all associated comments will be considered during development of the final frameworks.

New proposals and modifications to previously described proposals are discussed below. Wherever possible, they are discussed under headings corresponding to the numbered items in the March 24, 1995, **Federal Register**.