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**Digest**  
**MIGRATORY**  
**GAME BIRD**  
**Regulations**

STATE OF TEXAS

September, 1956



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Game and Fish Commission

Walton Building

Austin, Texas

## MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS

**Warning:** On the opening day of season, no person may possess any migratory game bird in excess of the daily bag limit.

Court may revoke hunting license and right to hunt for one year upon conviction for violating a migratory bird regulation.

May not hunt on land of another without permission of landowner or agent in charge.

**Federal Stamp:** No person over the age of 16 may hunt migratory waterfowl without a Federal stamp (procureable at Post Office).

**Five-Day Migratory Game Bird License:** Available to nonresidents or aliens. Fee \$5.00. Permits hunting migratory game birds only for five consecutive days, including date of issuance, without the \$25.00 nonresident hunting license.

**Non-Resident Hunting License:** Price \$25.00. Required of non-citizens of State or aliens, who do not have a five-day migratory game bird license. **Exceptions:** Persons under 16 years of age may hunt without this license.

**Resident Hunting License:** Price \$2.15. Required of Texas citizen who hunts outside county of residence. **Exceptions:** Citizen under 17 years of age or more than 64 years of age may hunt migratory birds without this license. "Citizen" includes any person except an alien who has been for more than six months immediately preceding application for license, a bona fide resident of Texas.

### OPEN SEASONS

Except on state game preserves, statutory state wildlife sanctuaries, United States wildlife sanctuaries, and on public roads and highways within the State, the open season for taking each of the herein named migratory game birds in the State of Texas or in that portion of same later referred to herein shall be as follows:

**"Ducks and Coots:** November 2, 1956, to January 15, 1957, both days inclusive; shooting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. No open season on black-bellied tree ducks.

**"Geese:** November 2 to December 31, 1956, both days inclusive; shooting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

**"Rails and Gallinules (except Coots):** September 1 to November 9, 1956, both days inclusive; shooting hours shall be one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

**"Mourning Doves:** In Val Verde, Kinney, Uvalde, Medina, Bexar, Comal, Hays, Travis, Williamson, Milam,

Robertson, Leon, Houston, Cherokee, Nacogdoches, and Shelby Counties, and all counties north and west thereof, September 1 to October 17, both days inclusive, from 12:00 o'clock noon to sunset; in remainder of State, October 12 to November 28, both days inclusive, from 12:00 o'clock noon to sunset. (These regulations do not apply to McMullen County and a portion of Kaufman County, which are regulated by special statutes.)

**“White-winged Doves:** There shall be no open season on white-winged doves.

**“Woodcock:** There shall be an open season December 8 to January 16, both days inclusive; shooting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

**“Wilson Snipe or Jacksnipe:** December 16, 1956, to January 15, 1957, both days inclusive; shooting hours shall be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

### BAG AND POSSESSION LIMITS

For the first day of the open season, a person shall be permitted to possess only one day's limit of the species of game taken on such opening day.

**“Ducks:** Daily bag limit on ducks is five (5) in the aggregate of all kinds, including in such limit not more than one (1) wood duck and not more than one (1) hooded merganser. Any person may possess not more than ten (10) ducks in the aggregate of all kinds, including not more than one (1) wood duck and not more than one (1) hooded merganser.

**“Geese:** The daily bag limit on geese and brant is five (5); provided such limit shall not contain more than two (2) Canada geese, or its subspecies or two (2) white-fronted geese, or one (1) of each. Possession limit is one (1) day's kill.

**“Rails and Gallinules (except Soras and Coots):** Fifteen (15) in the aggregate of all kinds, and any person may possess not more than fifteen (15) in the aggregate of all kinds.

**“Coots:** Ten (10), and any person may possess not more than ten (10).

**“Soras:** Twenty-five (25), and any person may possess not more than twenty-five (25).

**“Mourning or Turtle Doves:** Ten (10), and any person may possess not more than ten (10).

**“Woodcock:** Daily bag limit is four (4), possession limit is eight (8).

**“Wilson Snipe or Jacksnipe:** Daily bag limit and possession limit is eight (8).

## MEANS, METHODS AND DEVICES BY WHICH MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS MAY BE TAKEN

Migratory game birds, on which open seasons are specified in this proclamation, may be taken during such respective open seasons with a bow and arrow, or with a shotgun, not larger than ten gauge, fired from the shoulder, but they shall not be taken with or by means of any automatic-loading or hand-operated repeating shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, the magazine of which has not been cut off or plugged with a one-piece metal or wooden filler incapable of removal without disassembling so as to reduce the capacity of said gun to not more than three shells at one time in the magazine and chamber combined. They may be taken during the open season from land or water with the aid of a dog and from a blind, boat, or floating craft, except that they may not be taken from a sink box, power boat, sailboat, any boat under sail, and any craft or device of any kind towed by power boat, or sailboat, but nothing herein shall permit the taking of migratory game birds from or by means, aid or use of an automobile or aircraft of any kind or to permit the taking of waterfowl by means, aid or use of cattle, horses, or mules. Nothing in these regulations shall be construed to prevent a person from taking waterfowl from an outboard motor boat, when the motor is detached from the boat and it is placed inside of the boat, or when such motor boat is placed inside of or secured to any shooting blind.

“Waterfowl (except for propagating, scientific, or banding purposes under permit issued by the Game and Fish Commission), and mourning doves are not permitted to be taken by means, aid, or use, directly or indirectly, of corn, wheat, oats, or other grain or product thereof, salt, or any kind of feed whatever, placed, deposited, distributed, scattered, or otherwise put out, whereby such waterfowl or doves are lured, attracted, or enticed to, on or over the area where hunters are attempting to take them, but it is not intended to forbid the taking of such birds as are attracted by growing or standing crops of grain or by harvested grainfield so long as such crops are not manipulated or such fields have not been harvested by man or his agencies so as to cause such grain to be placed, deposited, scattered, or otherwise put out, as aforesaid; and in the taking of waterfowl, the use, directly or indirectly, of live duck or goose decoys is not permitted, regardless of the distance intervening between such live decoys and the position of the taker; nor shall anything in these regulations be deemed to permit the use of aircraft of any kind, or of a power boat, sailboat, or other floating craft or device of any kind, for the purpose of concentrating, driving, rallying, or stirring up waterfowl and coots.