



*Obsolete*  
*8-26-74*

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
CHARLESTON 25305  
August 1, 1973

FILED IN THE OFFICE  
EDGAR F. HEISKELL III  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
THIS DATE 8/31/73

IRA S. LATIMER, Jr.  
Director

The Honorable Edgar F. Heiskell, III  
Secretary of State  
State Capitol Building  
Charleston, West Virginia 25305

Dear Secretary Heiskell:

Enclosed are two copies of the West Virginia Administrative Regulations covering the 1973-74 Hunting Seasons for Waterfowl and Other Migratory Game Birds, designated Series IX of Chapter 20-1. These regulations are effective September 1, 1973.

I hereby certify that the attached regulations are true and accurate copies of official regulations adopted by the Department of Natural Resources.

Sincerely,

Ira S. Latimer, Jr.  
Director

ISL:jrm  
Enclosures (2)  
cc: Mr. Charles W. Lewis  
Mr. Dan E. Cantner  
Colonel Raymond Eye

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EDGAR F. HEISKELL III  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
THIS DATE 9/31/73

WEST VIRGINIA ADMINISTRATIVE REGULATIONS  
Department of Natural Resources

Chapter 20-1  
Series IX  
(1973)

Subject: 1973-74 Hunting Seasons for Waterfowl and Other  
Migratory Game Birds

By virtue of the authority granted to the director of the Department of Natural Resources by Article 1, Chapter 20 of the Code of West Virginia, the following hunting seasons and regulations for waterfowl and other migratory game birds are hereby promulgated and shall become effective at 12:00 noon on September 1, 1973, and shall expire at sunset on January 19, 1974, unless otherwise amended or new regulations are issued by the director. All seasons, unless otherwise noted are statewide and subject to change. The opening and closing dates shall be inclusive, except as noted under exceptions. All time periods shall be prevailing time except as otherwise noted.

Section 1 - Opening and Closing Dates

- 1.01. Mourning doves - Split season - September 1 through October 5 and October 13 through November 16, 1973.
- 1.02. Sora and Virginia rails - October 13 - December 21.
- 1.03. Woodcock - October 13 - December 16.
- 1.04. Common snipe - October 13 - December 16.

1.05. Ducks - Split season - October 13 - October 20;  
December 14 - January 19, 1974.

1.06. Mergansers - Split season - October 13 - October 20;  
December 14 - January 19, 1974.

1.07. Coots - Split season - October 13 - October 20;  
December 14 - January 19, 1974.

1.08. Gallinules - October 13 - December 21, 1973.

1.09. Geese - October 13 - December 21, 1973.

Section 2 - Bag and Possession Limits

2.01. Mourning doves - bag limit 12 per day, 24 possession  
limit.

2.02. Sora & Virginia rails (in combination) - 25 per day,  
25 possession limit.

2.03. Woodcock - 5 per day, 10 possession limit.

2.04. Common Wilson's snipe - 8 per day, 16 possession  
limit.

2.05. Ducks - 4 per day, 8 possession limit. The daily  
duck bag limit of 4 can include only two (2) black ducks and  
two (2) wood ducks. The duck possession limit of 8 can include  
only four (4) black ducks and four (4) wood ducks. During the  
period October 13 - October 20, a hunter may also take two (2)  
blue-winged teal daily and have four (4) in possession. This  
extra limit is in addition to the regular duck bag limits. Also,  
hunters may take two (2) additional scaup (bluebills) on pools  
of navigation dams on the Ohio, Kanawha, and Monongahela Rivers  
only.

2.06. Mergansers - 5 per day, 10 possession limit. The daily merganser bag limit can include only one (1) hooded merganser, and the possession limit for hooded mergansers is two (2).

2.07. Coots - 15 per day, 30 in possession.

2.08. Gallinules - 15 per day, 30 in possession.

2.09. No open season on blue or snow geese, swans, king rails, brants, canvasbacks or redhead ducks.

2.10. Shooting hours are one-half ( $\frac{1}{2}$ ) hour before sunrise to sunset for all migratory birds except mourning doves which may only be hunted from noon (12:00 p.m. prevailing time) to sunset.

### Section 3 - General Regulations

3.01. Everyone who has attained the age of 16 years must have an unexpired Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp (commonly called a "Duck Stamp") on his person validated by his signature in ink across the face of the stamp to hunt ducks and geese.

3.02. A "Duck Stamp" is not needed to hunt doves, coots, rails, gallinules, snipe, or woodcock.

3.03. When hunting migratory birds you cannot use:

(a) A shotgun larger than 10-gauge, or one capable of holding more than three shells unless plugged with a one-piece filler which cannot be removed without disassembling the gun.

- (b) A trap, snare, net, crossbow, rifle, pistol swivel or machine gun.
- (c) Live birds as decoys.
- (d) Bait (shelled, shucked, or unshucked corn, wheat or other grain, salt, or other food) to lure or attract birds.
- (e) Electronic recordings or electrically amplified imitation of bird calls.
- (f) Livestock as a blind or means of concealment.
- (g) Any motor-driven land, water, or air conveyance or a sailboat to concentrate, drive, rally, or stir up waterfowl.

3.05. When hunting migratory birds you can use:

- (a) A motor boat as a shooting site if it is beached, resting at anchor, or tied to a hunting blind or other fixed object. However, rails may be taken from a boat with the motor attached when the motor is shut off, forward progress from power has ceased, and the boat is immobile or being propelled by paddle, oars, or pole.
- (b) Motor-driven boats to retrieve injured or dead birds, if you do not shoot.
- (c) A motorboat from which to shoot cripples after motor is shut off, anchor dropped, and forward motion has ceased.
- (d) Dogs for both flushing and retrieving waterfowl.
- (e) Long bow and arrow, or a shotgun not larger than 10-gauge and limited to three-shell capacity by construction

or by plugging, as described on preceding page.

(f) A blind or other type of concealment except a sinkbox or livestock.

3.06. One fully-feathered wing or head must remain attached to all migratory game birds, except doves, at all times while being transported from the place where taken until they have arrived at the personal abode of the possessor or a commercial preservation facility.

3.07. Any package or container in which birds are being transported by common carrier must have the name and address of the shipper and consignee, and an accurate statement of the numbers and kinds of birds contained therein conspicuously marked on the outside.

#### Section 4. Special State Regulations

4.01. Mason County, including the Ohio River to the North of the Kanawha River, shall be closed to hunting Canada Geese.

4.02. It is lawful to hunt waterfowl on the major waterways, lakes, and reservoirs of the State during the gun season for deer should the waterfowl season be open at that time.

#### 4.03. Special Regulations - McClintic Wildlife Station:

(a) A self-service hunter registration booth and game check point is open 24 hours a day at the headquarters building.

(b) A daily permit is required.

(c) Return of daily permit and presentation of all game killed is required on the day of the hunt.

(d) Hunting hours for all game will be from legal shooting time until 12:00 noon (prevailing time) each day in the migratory game bird area, during the early waterfowl season. This area is enclosed by a wire fence and so marked. This includes ponds 3, 7, 8, 9, 11, 17, 18 and 41.