

**WEST VIRGINIA  
SECRETARY OF STATE  
NATALIE E. TENNANT  
ADMINISTRATIVE LAW DIVISION**

Form #5

Do Not Mark In This Box

2012 AUG 31 PM 5:18

OFFICE WEST VIRGINIA  
SECRETARY OF STATE

**NOTICE OF AGENCY ADOPTION OF A PROCEDURAL OR INTERPRETIVE RULE  
OR A LEGISLATIVE RULE EXEMPT FROM LEGISLATIVE REVIEW**

AGENCY: Dept. of Commerce, Div. of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Section TITLE NUMBER: 58

CITE AUTHORITY: 20-1-17(7) and 29A-1-3(c)

RULE TYPE: PROCEDURAL \_\_\_\_\_ INTERPRETIVE \_\_\_\_\_

EXEMPT LEGISLATIVE RULE X

CITE STATUTE(S) GRANTING EXEMPTION FROM LEGISLATIVE REVIEW

29A-1-3(c)

AMENDMENT TO AN EXISTING RULE: YES X NO \_\_\_\_\_

IF YES, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING AMENDED: 57

TITLE OF RULE BEING AMENDED: Waterfowl Hunting Rule

IF NO, SERIES NUMBER OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

TITLE OF RULE BEING PROPOSED: \_\_\_\_\_

THE ABOVE RULE IS HEREBY ADOPTED AND FILED WITH THE SECRETARY OF STATE. THE  
EFFECTIVE DATE OF THIS RULE IS September 1, 2012

Angel R. Moore  
Authorized Signature

**TITLE 58  
LEGISLATIVE RULE  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

**SERIES 57  
WATERFOWL HUNTING RULE  
(EXEMPT RULE)**

**SUMMARY:**

*Series 57* revises the current Waterfowl Hunting Rule. This rule prescribes the open seasons and the bag, size, age, weight and sex limits with respect to hunting waterfowl in West Virginia. The rule will become effective September 1, 2012. Revisions to this rule change the bag limit, and opening and closing dates for the 2012-2013 waterfowl hunting season.

**CIRCUMSTANCES:**

This rule establishes the opening and closing dates for waterfowl hunting as directed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Rule Title: \_\_\_\_\_

3. **Explanation of above estimates (including long-range effect):**  
Please include any increase or decrease in fees in your estimated total revenues.

No Impact

### MEMORANDUM

Please identify any areas of vagueness, technical defects, reasons the proposed rule would not have a fiscal impact, and/or any special issues not captured elsewhere on this form.

This rule makes minor changes to the waterfowl hunting season dates and bag limits for the 2012-2013 season.

Date: 8/31/2012

Signature of Agency Head or Authorized Representative

Angel R. Moore

APPENDIX B  
**FISCAL NOTE FOR PROPOSED RULES**

Series 57, Waterfowl Hunting Rule

Rule Title: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Type of Rule:  Legislative  Interpretive  Procedural  
 Agency: Division of Natural Resources, Wildlife Resources Section  
 Address: 324 Fourth Avenue  
So. Charleston, WV 25303  
 Phone Number: 304-558-2771 Email: billie.j.shearer@wv.gov

**Fiscal Note Summary**

Summarize in a clear and concise manner what impact this measure will have on costs and revenues of state government.

There is no change anticipated to the administrative expenditures as a result of this rule.

**Fiscal Note Detail**

Show over-all effect in Item 1 and 2 and, in Item 3, give an explanation of Breakdown by fiscal year, including long-range effect.

FISCAL YEAR			
Effect of Proposal	Current Increase/Decrease (use "-")	Next Increase/Decrease (use "-")	Fiscal Year (Upon Full Implementation)
1. Estimated Total Cost	0.00	0.00	0.00
Personal Services			
Current Expenses			
Repairs & Alterations			
Assets			
Other			
2. Estimated Total Revenues	0.00	0.00	0.00

Series 57, Waterfowl Hunting Rule

Rule Title: \_\_\_\_\_

**TITLE 58  
LEGISLATIVE EXEMPT RULE  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
DIVISION OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

**SERIES 57  
WATERFOWL HUNTING RULE**

**§58-57-1. General.**

1.1. Scope. -- This regulation establishes the open seasons and the bag, size, age, weight, and sex limits for the hunting of waterfowl in West Virginia.

1.2. Authority. -- W. Va. Code §§29A-1-3(c) and 20-1-17(7).

1.3. Filing Date. -- August 31, 2012.

1.4. Effective Date. -- September 1, 2012.

1.5. Seasons in General. -- All seasons are subject to change under the provisions of W. Va. Code §20-1-7(7). Opening and closing dates are inclusive and the time periods are prevailing time unless otherwise noted in these regulations. Sunday hunting is legal under the provisions of W. Va. Code §20-2-5.

**§58-57-2. Definitions.**

2.1. All terms shall have the meanings prescribed in the Code of State Regulations, Title 58, Series 58 "Special Waterfowl Hunting Regulations" (58CSR58).

**§58-57-3. General Provisions.**

3.1. Closed Season. -- No person may take waterfowl during the closed season.

3.2. Shooting or Falconry Hours. -- No person may take waterfowl except during the hours open to shooting or falconry as prescribed in these regulations.

3.3. Daily Bag Limit. -- No person may take more than the daily bag limit of any waterfowl.

3.4. Field Possession Limit. -- No person may possess more than the daily bag limit of any waterfowl while in the field or while returning from the field to one's car, hunting camp, home, or other place.

3.5. Wanton Waste. -- All waterfowl killed or crippled must be retrieved if possible and retained in the custody of the hunter in the field.

3.6. Custody of Birds of Another. -- No person may receive or have in his/her custody waterfowl belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged.

3.7. Possession of Live Birds. -- No person may at any time, or by any means, possess or transport live waterfowl taken under 50 C.F.R. Part 20 or under these regulations. Wounded birds reduced to possession must be immediately killed and included in the daily bag limit.

**§58-57-4. Open Shooting and Falconry Seasons.**

4.1. Duck Seasons.

4.1.a. Except as provided in 4.1.d. the first segment of this season opens on October 1, ~~2011~~ 2012 and closes on October ~~8, 2011~~ 13, 2012.

4.1.b. Except as provided in 4.1.d. the second segment of this season opens on November ~~14, 2011~~ 5, 2012 and closes on November ~~19, 2011~~ 10, 2012.

4.1.c. Except as provided in 4.1.d. the third segment of this season opens on December ~~14, 2011~~ 17, 2012 and closes on January ~~28, 2012~~ 26, 2013.

4.1.d. There is no open season for harlequin ducks, eiders, whistling ducks, or mottled ducks.

4.2. Merganser Seasons. Merganser seasons are the same as the duck seasons established in Section 4.1 of this rule.

4.3. Coot Seasons. Coot seasons are the same as the duck seasons established in Section 4.1 of this rule.

4.4. Gallinule Seasons. ~~Gallinule seasons are the same as the duck seasons established in Section 4.1 of this rule.~~

4.4.a. Except as provided in 4.1.d. the first segment of this season opens October 1, 2012 and closes on October 13, 2012.

4.4.b. Except as provided in 4.1.d. the second segment of this season opens December 17, 2012 and closes on January 26, 2013.

4.5. Canada Goose Seasons.

4.5.a. The first segment of this season opens on October 1, ~~2011~~ 2012 and closes on October ~~29, 2011~~ 27, 2012.

4.5.b. The second segment of this season opens on ~~December 12, 2011~~ November 5, 2012 and closes on ~~January 31, 2012~~ November 10, 2012.

4.5.c. The third segment of this season opens on December 17, 2012 and closes on January 31, 2013.

4.6. Snow Goose and Blue Goose Seasons. Snow goose and blue goose seasons are open on the same days as the Canada goose seasons established in Section 4.5 of this rule.

4.7. Brant Season. This season opens on December ~~14, 2011~~ 17, 2012 and closes on January ~~28, 2012~~ 26, 2013.

4.8. Swan Season.

4.8.a. There is no open season for swans.

**§58-57-5. Shooting and Falconry Hours.**

5.1. Ducks, Mergansers, Coots, Gallinules, Canada Geese, Snow and Blue Geese, and Brant.

5.1.a. Shooting and falconry hours are from thirty (30) minutes before sunrise until sunset.

**§58-57-6. Shooting Bag and Possession Limits.**

6.1. Ducks.

6.1.a. The bag limit is six (6) ducks in aggregate per day and may include:

6.1.a.1. Only one (1) black duck;

6.1.a.2. No more than four (4) long tailed duck (old squaw);

6.1.a.3. No more than four (4) mallards only two (2) of which may be hens;

6.1.a.4. No more than two (2) scaup;

6.1.a.5. No more than two (2) pintail;

6.1.a.6. No more than two (2) redheads;

6.1.a.7. No more than three (3) wood ducks;

6.1.a.8. No more than four (4) scoters; and

6.1.a.9. No more than one (1) canvasback

6.1.b. The possession limit is twelve (12) ducks in aggregate and may include:

6.1.b.1. No more than two (2) black ducks;

6.1.b.2. No more than eight (8) long tailed duck (old squaw);

6.1.b.3. No more than eight (8) mallards only four (4) of which may be hen mallards;

6.1.b.4. No more than four (4) scaup;

6.1.b.5. No more than four (4) pintails;

6.1.b.6. No more than four (4) redheads;

6.1.b.7. No more than six (6) wood ducks;

6.1.b.8. No more than eight (8) scoters; and

6.1.b.9. No more than two (2) canvasback.

6.2. Mergansers.

6.2.a. The bag limit is five (5) mergansers in aggregate per day and may include only two (2) hooded mergansers.

6.2.b. The possession limit is ten (10) mergansers in aggregate and may include no more than four (4) hooded mergansers.

6.3. Coots.

6.3.a. The bag limit is fifteen (15) coots per day.

6.3.b. The possession limit is thirty (30) coots.

6.4. Gallinules.

6.4.a. The bag limit is fifteen (15) gallinules per day.

6.4.b. The possession limit is thirty (30) gallinules.

6.5. Canada Goose.

6.5.a. The bag limit is five (5) Canada geese per day.

6.5.b. The possession limit is ten (10) Canada geese.

6.6. Snow Geese and Blue Geese.

6.6.a. The bag limit is five (5) snow and blue geese in aggregate per day.

6.6.b. The possession limit is ten (10) snow and blue geese in aggregate.

6.7. Brant.

6.7.a. The bag limit is two (2) brant per day.

6.7.b. The possession limit is four (4) brant.

**§58-57-7. Falconry Bag and Possession Limits.**

7.1. The bag limit for falconry hunting is three (3) migratory game birds in the aggregate per day.

7.2. The possession limit for falconry hunting is six (6) migratory game birds in the aggregate.

**§58-57-8. Youth Waterfowl Hunting Season.**

8.1. The youth waterfowl hunting season for taking ducks, geese, coots, mergansers and gallinules is open on September ~~24, 2011~~ 22, 2012 and on November ~~5, 2011~~ 3, 2012.

8.2. The bag and possession limit for the youth waterfowl season is the same as the regular season daily bag limits listed in §58-57-6.