

## **Code of Federal Regulations**

### **Title 50, Chapter I, Subchapter B, Part 20**

#### **Subpart H—Federal, State, and Foreign Law**

##### **§20.71 Violation of Federal law.**

No person shall at any time, by any means or in any manner, take, possess, transport, or export any migratory bird, or any part, nest, or egg of any such bird, in violation of any act of Congress or any regulation issued pursuant thereto.

##### **§20.72 Violation of State law.**

No person shall at any time, by any means or in any manner, take, possess, transport, or export any migratory bird, or any part, nest, or egg of any such bird, in violation of any applicable law or regulation of any State.

##### **§20.73 Violation of foreign law.**

No person shall at any time, by any means, or in any manner, import, possess, or transport, any migratory bird, or any part, nest, or egg of any such bird taken, bought, sold, transported, possessed, or exported contrary to any applicable law or regulation of any foreign country, or State or province thereof.

## 50 CFR § 20.11 - What terms do I need to understand?

### § 20.11 What terms do I need to understand?

For the purpose of this part, the following terms shall be construed, respectively, to mean and to include:

**(a) *Migratory game birds*** means those migratory birds included in the terms of conventions between the United States and any foreign country for the protection of migratory birds, for which open seasons are prescribed in this part and belong to the following families:

- (1) Anatidae (ducks, geese [including brant] and swans);
- (2) Columbidae (doves and pigeons);
- (3) Gruidae (cranes);
- (4) Rallidae (rails, coots and gallinules); and
- (5) Scolopacidae (woodcock and snipe).

A list of migratory birds protected by the international conventions and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act appears in § 10.13 of this subchapter.

#### **(b) *Seasons*** -

(1) ***Open season*** means the days on which migratory game birds may lawfully be taken. Each period prescribed as an open season shall be construed to include the first and last days thereof.

(2) ***Closed season*** means the days on which migratory game birds shall not be taken.

#### **(c) *Bag limits*** -

(1) ***Aggregate bag limit*** means a condition of taking in which two or more usually similar species may be bagged (reduced to possession) by the hunter in predetermined or unpredetermined quantities to satisfy a maximum take limit.

(2) ***Daily bag limit*** means the maximum number of migratory game birds of single species or combination (aggregate) of species permitted to be taken by one person in any one day during the open season in any one specified geographic area for which a daily bag limit is prescribed.

(3) ***Aggregate daily bag limit*** means the maximum number of migratory game birds permitted to be taken by one person in any one day during the open season when such person hunts in more than one specified geographic area and/or for more than one species for which a combined daily bag limit is prescribed. The aggregate daily bag limit is equal to, but shall not exceed, the largest daily bag limit prescribed for

any one species or for any one specified geographic area in which taking occurs.

**(4) Possession limit** means the maximum number of migratory game birds of a single species or a combination of species permitted to be possessed by any one person when lawfully taken in the United States in any one specified geographic area for which a possession limit is prescribed.

**(5) Aggregate possession limit** means the maximum number of migratory game birds of a single species or combination of species taken in the United States permitted to be possessed by any one person when taking and possession occurs in more than one specified geographic area for which a possession limit is prescribed. The aggregate possession limit is equal to, but shall not exceed, the largest possession limit prescribed for any one of the species or specified geographic areas in which taking and possession occurs.

**(d) Personal abode** means one's principal or ordinary home or dwelling place, as distinguished from one's temporary or transient place of abode or dwelling such as a hunting club, or any club house, cabin, tent or trailer house used as a hunting club, or any hotel, motel or rooming house used during a hunting, pleasure or business trip.

**(e) Migratory bird preservation facility** means:

**(1)** Any person who, at their residence or place of business and for hire or other consideration; or

**(2)** Any taxidermist, cold-storage facility or locker plant which, for hire or other consideration; or

**(3)** Any hunting club which, in the normal course of operations; receives, possesses, or has in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person for purposes of picking, cleaning, freezing, processing, storage or shipment.

**(f) Paraplegic** means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs, usually due to disease of or injury to the spinal cord.

**(g) Normal agricultural planting, harvesting, or post-harvest manipulation** means a planting or harvesting undertaken for the purpose of producing and gathering a crop, or manipulation after such harvest and removal of grain, that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**(h) Normal agricultural operation** means a normal agricultural planting, harvesting, post-harvest manipulation, or agricultural practice, that is conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

**(i) Normal soil stabilization practice** means a planting for agricultural soil erosion control or post-mining land reclamation conducted in accordance with official recommendations of State Extension Specialists of the Cooperative Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture for agricultural soil erosion control.

**(j) Baited area** means any area on which salt, grain, or other feed has been placed, exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered, if that salt, grain, or other feed could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over areas where hunters are attempting to take them. Any such area will remain a baited area for ten days following the complete removal of all such salt, grain, or other feed.

**(k) Baiting** means the direct or indirect placing, exposing, depositing, distributing, or scattering of salt, grain, or other feed that could serve as a lure or attraction for migratory game birds to, on, or over any areas where hunters are attempting to take them.

**(l) Manipulation** means the alteration of natural vegetation or agricultural crops by activities that include but are not limited to mowing, shredding, discing, rolling, chopping, trampling, flattening, burning, or herbicide treatments. The term *manipulation* does not include the distributing or scattering of grain, seed, or other feed after removal from or storage on the field where grown.

**(m) Rice ratooning** means the agricultural practice of harvesting rice by cutting the majority of the aboveground portion of the rice plant but leaving the roots and growing shoot apices intact to allow the plant to recover and produce a second crop yield.

**(n) Post-disaster flooding** means the destruction of a crop through flooding in accordance with practices required by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation for agricultural producers to obtain crop insurance under the Federal Crop Insurance Act (7 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) on land on which a crop was not harvestable due to a natural disaster (including any hurricane, storm, tornado, flood, high water, wind-driven water, tidal wave, tsunami, earthquake, volcanic eruption, landslide, mudslide, drought, fire, snowstorm, or other catastrophe that is declared a major disaster by the President in accordance with section 401 of the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act (42 U.S.C. 5170)) in the crop year -

- (1) In which the natural disaster occurred; or
- (2) Immediately preceding the crop year in which the natural disaster occurred.

**(o) *Natural vegetation*** means any non-agricultural, native, or naturalized plant species that grows at a site in response to planting or from existing seeds or other propagules. The term *natural vegetation* does not include planted millet. However, planted millet that grows on its own in subsequent years after the year of planting is considered *natural vegetation*.

**(p) *Resident Canada geese*** means Canada geese that nest within the lower 48 States and the District of Columbia or that reside within the lower 48 States and the District of Columbia in the months of April, May, June, July, or August.

[53 FR 24290, June 28, 1988, as amended at 64 FR 29804, June 3, 1999; 71 FR 45986, Aug. 10, 2006; 72 FR 46407, Aug. 20, 2007; 84 FR 28773, June 20, 2019; 84 FR 38885, Aug. 8, 2019]

## 50 CFR § 20.20 - Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program.

### **§ 20.20 Migratory Bird Harvest Information Program.**

**(a) Information collection requirements.** The collections of information contained in § 20.20 have been approved by the Office of Management and Budget under 44 U.S.C. 3501 et seq. and assigned clearance number 1018-0015. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. The information will be used to provide a sampling frame for the national Migratory Bird Harvest Survey. Response is required from licensed hunters to obtain the benefit of hunting migratory game birds. Public reporting burden for this information is estimated to average 2 minutes per response for 3,300,000 respondents, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Thus the total annual reporting and record-keeping burden for this collection is estimated to be 112,000 hours. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Service's Information Collection Clearance Officer at the address provided at 50 CFR 2.1(b).

**(b) General provisions.** Each person hunting migratory game birds in any State except Hawaii must have identified himself or herself as a migratory bird hunter and given his or her name, address, and date of birth to the respective State hunting licensing authority and must have on his or her person evidence, provided by that State, of compliance with this requirement.

**(c) Tribal exemptions.** Nothing in paragraph (b) of this section shall apply to tribal members on Federal Indian Reservations or to tribal members hunting on ceded lands.

**(d) State exemptions.** Nothing in paragraph (b) of this section shall apply to those hunters who are exempt from State-licensing requirements in the State in which they are hunting.

**(e) State responsibilities.** The State hunting licensing authority will ask each licensed migratory bird hunter in the respective State to report approximately how many ducks, geese, doves, and woodcock he or she bagged the previous year, whether he or she hunted coots, snipe, rails, and/or gallinules the previous year, and, in States that have band-tailed pigeon hunting seasons, whether he or she intends to hunt band-tailed pigeons during the current year.

## 50 CFR § 20.61 - Importation limits.

### **§ 20.61 Importation limits.**

No person shall import migratory game birds in excess of the following importation limits:

#### **(a) Doves and pigeons.**

(1) From any foreign country except Mexico, during any one calendar week beginning on Sunday, not to exceed 25 doves, singly or in the aggregate of all species, and 10 pigeons, singly or in the aggregate of all species.

(2) From Mexico, not to exceed the maximum number permitted by Mexican authorities to be taken in any one day: **Provided**, That if the importer has his Mexican hunting permit date-stamped by appropriate Mexican wildlife authorities on the first day he hunts in Mexico, he may import the applicable Mexican possession limit corresponding to the days actually hunted during that particular trip.

#### **(b) Waterfowl.**

(1) From any foreign country except Canada and Mexico, during any one calendar week beginning on Sunday, not to exceed 10 ducks, singly or in the aggregate of all species, and five geese including brant, singly or in the aggregate of all species.

(2) From Canada, not to exceed the maximum number permitted to be exported by Canadian authorities.

(3) From Mexico, not to exceed the maximum number permitted by Mexican authorities to be taken in any one day: **Provided**, That if the importer has his Mexican hunting permit date-stamped by appropriate Mexican wildlife authorities on the first day he hunts in Mexico, he may import the applicable Mexican possession limit corresponding to the days actually hunted during that particular trip.

[40 FR 36346, Aug. 20, 1975]

## 50 CFR § 20.62 - Importation of birds of another.

### **§ 20.62 Importation of birds of another.**

No person shall import migratory game birds belonging to another person.

## 50 CFR § 20.63 - Species identification requirement.

### **§ 20.63 Species identification requirement.**

No person shall import migratory game birds unless each such bird has one fully feathered wing attached, and such wing must remain attached while being transported between the port of entry and the personal abode of the possessor or between the port of entry and a migratory bird preservation facility.

[41 FR 31537, July 19, 1976]

## 50 CFR § 20.64 - Foreign export permits.

### **§ 20.64 Foreign export permits.**

No person shall import, possess or transport, any migratory game birds killed in a foreign country unless such birds are accompanied by export permits, tags, or other documentation required by applicable foreign laws or regulations.

## 50 CFR § 20.65 - Processing requirement.

### **§ 20.65 Processing requirement.**

No person shall import migratory game birds killed in any foreign country, except Canada, unless such birds are dressed (except as required in § 20.63), drawn, and the head and feet are removed: *Provided*, That this shall not prohibit the importation of legally taken, fully feathered migratory game birds consigned for mounting purposes to a taxidermist who holds a current taxidermist permit issued to him pursuant to § 21.24 of this chapter and who is also licensed by the U.S. Department of Agriculture to decontaminate such birds.

## 50 CFR § 20.66 - Marking of package or container.

### **§ 20.66 Marking of package or container.**

No person shall import migratory game birds via the Postal Service or a common carrier unless the package or container has the name and address of the shipper and the consignee and an accurate statement of the numbers of each species of birds therein contained clearly and conspicuously marked on the outside thereof.