

DECLARATION OF EMERGENCY

Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

In accordance with the emergency provisions of R.S. 49:953 of the Administrative Procedure Act, and under the authority of R.S. 56:115, the Secretary of the Department of Wildlife and Fisheries and the Wildlife and Fisheries Commission hereby adopts the following emergency rule.

The hunting season for ducks, coots and geese during the 2014-2015 hunting season shall be as follows:

DUCKS AND COOTS: 60 days

Coastal Zone: November 15 - Dec. 7

December 20 - January 25

West Zone: November 15 - December 14

December 20 - January 18

East Zone: November 22 - December 7

(Including December 13 - January 25

Catahoula Lake)

Youth Waterfowl Weekend - November 8-9 in the Coastal Zone, Nov. 8 and Jan. 24 in the West Zone, November 15 and Jan. 31 in East Zone.

Daily Bag Limits: The daily bag limit on ducks is 6 and may include no more than 4 mallards (no more than 2 of which may

be females), 1 canvasback, 1 mottled duck, 1 black duck, 3 wood ducks, 3 scaup, 2 redheads, and 2 pintails.

Daily bag limit on coots is 15.

Mergansers - The daily bag limit for mergansers is 5, only 2 of which may be hooded mergansers. Merganser limits are in addition to the daily bag limit for ducks.

Possession Limit - The possession limit on ducks, coots and mergansers is three times the daily bag limit.

GEESE:

LIGHT GEESE (SNOW, BLUE and ROSS') and WHITE-FRONTED GEESE

Coastal Zone: November 15 - December 14

(74 days) December 20 - February 1

West Zone: November 15 - December 14

(74 days) December 20 - February 1

East Zone: November 8 - December 7

(74 days) December 13 - January 25

Daily bag limit on light geese (snow, blue and Ross'): 20

Possession limit on light geese (snow, blue and Ross'): None

Daily Limit on white-fronted geese: 2

Possession Limit on white-fronted geese: 6

NOTE: During the open Canada goose season, the daily bag limit is 3 dark geese (White-fronted and Canada) no more than 2 of which may be White-fronted geese.

CANADA GEESE: CLOSED IN THE AREA DESCRIBED BELOW

Coastal Zone: November 15 - December 14

(73 days) December 20 - January 31

West Zone: November 15 - December 14

(73 days) December 20 - January 31

East Zone: November 8 - December 7

(74 days) December 13 - January 25

Daily Limit on Canada geese: 3 in aggregate with White-fronts

Possession limit on Canada geese: 9

NOTE: During the open Canada goose season, the daily bag limit is 3 dark geese (White-fronted and Canada) no more than 2 of which may be White-fronted geese.

The Canada goose Season will be open statewide except for a portion of southwest Louisiana. The closed area is described as follows: Beginning at the Texas State Line, proceeding east along Hwy. 82 to the Calcasieu Ship Channel, then north along the Calcasieu Ship Channel to its junction with the Intracoastal Canal, then east along the Intracoastal Canal to its juncture with LA Hwy. 82, then south along LA Hwy. 82 to its juncture with Parish Road 3147, then south and east along Parish Road 3147 to Freshwater Bayou Canal, then south to the Gulf of Mexico, then west along the shoreline of the Gulf of Mexico to the Texas State Line, then north to the point of beginning at LA Hwy. 82.

CONSERVATION ORDER FOR LIGHT GEESE (SNOW, BLUE AND ROSS'S) :

Coastal Zone: December 15 - December 19

February 2 - March 1

West Zone: December 15 - December 19

February 2 - March 1

East Zone: December 8 - December 12

January 26 - March 1

Only snow, blue and Ross's geese may be taken under the terms of the Conservation Order, which allows the use of electronic calls and unplugged shotguns and eliminates the daily bag and possession limits. During the Conservation Order, shooting hours begins one-half hour before sunrise and extends until one-half hour after sunset.

RAILS: November 15 - January 7

KING AND CLAPPER: Daily bag limit 15 in the aggregate, Possession 45.

SORA AND VIRGINIA: Daily bag 25 in the aggregate and possession 75.

GALLINULES: November 15 - January 7

Daily bag limit 15, Possession limit 45

SNIPE:

Coastal Zone: November 1 - December 7

December 20 - February 27

West Zone: November 8 - December 14

December 20 - February 27

East Zone: November 8 - December 7

December 13 - February 27

Daily bag limit 8, Possession limit 24

Shooting Hours: One-half hour before sunrise to sunset, except at the Spanish Lake Recreation Area in Iberia Parish where shooting hours, including the Conservation Order, end at 2 p.m.

EXTENDED FALCONRY SEASONS FOR RAILS AND GALLINULES:

STATEWIDE: November 3 - February 1

(16 days of the total season lengths for rails, gallinules and extended falconry seasons were used during the September teal season.)

EXTENDED FALCONRY SEASONS FOR DUCKS:

COASTAL ZONE: November 3 - February 1

WEST ZONE: November 3 - February 1

EAST ZONE: November 3 - February 1

A Declaration of Emergency is necessary because the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service establishes the framework for all migratory species. In order for Louisiana to provide hunting opportunities to the 200,000 sportsmen, selection of season dates, bag limits and shooting hours must be established and presented to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service immediately.

The aforementioned season dates, bag limits and shooting hours will become effective November 1, 2014 and extend through one-half hour after sunset on March 1, 2015.

Billy Broussard

Acting Chairman