



U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Region 7 - Alaska

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News

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Reopening of the Comment Period for Proposed 2009 Subsistence Migratory Bird Harvest Regulations in Alaska

We, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, are reopening the public comment period on the Proposed 2009 Subsistence Migratory Bird Harvest Regulations in Alaska until March 12, 2009. If you submitted comments previously, you do not need to resubmit them because we have already incorporated them into the public record and will consider them in preparation of our final determination. The proposed regulations would enable the continuation of customary and traditional subsistence uses of migratory birds in Alaska and prescribe regional information on when and where the harvesting of birds may occur. In addition, there are 5 changes being proposed for the North Slope region to protect a species listed under the Endangered Species Act. Measures proposed include emergency closure provisions to allow the Service's Alaska Regional Director to close any or all parts of the season during the Steller's eider nesting period should take of Steller's eiders occur. In addition, the agency proposes enforcing shooting hours, establishing buffer zones around roads leading into and out of Barrow, and requiring hunters to show harvested birds when approached by federal officials. These proposed regulations are accessible at <http://alaska.fws.gov/ambcc/news.htm>.

ADDRESSES: You may submit written comments by one of the following methods:

- Federal eRulemaking Portal: <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- U.S. mail or hand-delivery: Public Comments Processing, Attn: RIN 1018-AW29; Division of Policy and Directives Management; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Suite 222; Arlington, VA 22203. We will not accept e-mail or faxes. We will post all comments on <http://www.regulations.gov>. This generally means that we will post any personal information you provide us.

The mission of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service is working with others to conserve, protect and enhance fish, wildlife, plants, and their habitats for the continuing benefit of the American people. We are both a leader and trusted partner in fish and wildlife conservation, known for our scientific excellence, stewardship of lands and natural resources, dedicated professionals, and commitment to public service. For more information on our work and the people who make it happen, visit www.fws.gov.