

**ADVISORY COUNCIL ON WILDLIFE & FRESHWATER FISH  
MINUTES**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 2008**

**Richardson and Robbins Building Auditorium  
89 Kings Highway, Dover, Delaware, 19901  
Phone 302-739-9912, FAX 302-739-6157**

**ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Edward A. Montague, Chair  
J. Richard Berry, Vice Chair (Absent)  
David J. Healey  
Garrett H. Arai (Absent)  
Terry Higgins (Absent)  
Ted Palmer  
Al Townsend  
Raymond F. Burris  
Wayne G. Steele

**DIVISION OF FISH & WILDLIFE**

Greg Moore  
Pat Emory  
Joe Rogerson  
Rob Hossler  
Karen Kennedy  
John Webb  
Matt DiBona

**PUBLIC**

24 Visitors

Taped micro-cassettes of this meeting are available for listening at the Richardson & Robbins Building in Dover. For further information contact the Wildlife Section. The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Chairman Montague.

**Agenda Item 1. Approval of Minutes (Chairman Montague).**

A motion was made and voted unanimously to approve the June 24, 2008 minutes as written.

**Agenda Item 2. Status of Waterfowl Video (Greg Moore).**

Greg Moore showed a U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service DVD regarding the status of waterfowl for 2008. The video was 24 minutes long.

**Agenda Item 3. Setting of Waterfowl Season Dates 2008-2009 (Greg Moore, Rob Hossler & Matt DiBona).**

Mr. Moore distributed copies of the Proposed Waterfowl Season Dates for 2008-2009 which were discussed at the January and February Advisory Council meetings. He also distributed copies of a handout entitled, "Delaware's Waterfowl Seasons – How They Are Set" to the Council members and audience.

Mr. Moore began his review by presenting the early season migratory bird hunting season selections. Because of the early summer Federal due date, these seasons have already been submitted. Therefore, this review is for information purposes only. Mr. Moore reviewed dove, resident Canada goose, early teal, the youth hunt, sea duck, rail, snipe and woodcock seasons as adopted at the February Advisory Council Meeting and subsequently submitted to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service as Delaware's selections.

Two changes were noted; the dove daily bag limit was increased from 12 to 15 per day and the resident goose season was expanded to end on September 25<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Moore noted the September 1<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> resident goose season would be experimental for three (3) years to document the harvest of migrant Canada

geese during the September season. Migrant Canada geese cannot comprise more than 10% of the harvest during this season. Mr. Moore also noted that liberal methods would not be implemented for the resident Canada goose season.

Mr. Moore followed with the proposed late season selections offered by the Division. The proposed seasons did not differ from the base seasons selected in February with the exception that the brant season had to be adjusted based upon a more liberal season framework offered by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service and that, canvasback season is closed. A special Scaup hybrid season was also included to allow the take of two (2) Scaup during a portion of the regular duck season.

After discussions, the Council passed unanimously all of the late recommended waterfowl seasons for 2008 – 2009. Listed below are the seasons adopted by the Council and submitted to the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service.



## 2008 – 2009 Proposed Migratory Game Bird Seasons for Delaware

**Dove** Sept. 1 – Sept. 27 ½ hr. before sunrise to sunset  
Oct. 20 – Nov. 1 ½ hr. before sunrise to sunset  
Dec. 12 – Jan. 10 ½ hr. before sunrise to sunset  
Limit: 15

**Resident Canada Geese** Sept. 1 – Sept. 25  
½ hr. before sunrise to sunset  
No liberal hunting options  
Limit: 15

**Early Teal** Sept. 18 – Sept. 27  
Hours: Teal season will be open all day (1/2 hr. before sunrise to sunset) in limited geographic areas. These areas are coastal areas from south of the C&D Canal to Lewes east of Routes 13, 113/113A & 1.  
Limit: 4

**Youth Hunt** Oct. 4  
Bag may include ducks, mergansers, coots, moorhens, Canada geese, snow geese and brant.  
Standard limits apply.

**Ducks** Oct. 24 – Nov. 11  
Nov. 24 – Dec. 6  
Dec. 19 – Jan. 24

Daily limit of 6 ducks (except mergansers), may include 1 black duck; 4 mallards including no more than 2 hen mallards; 1 pintail; 3 wood ducks; 2 red heads; 1 mottled duck; 1 fulvous whistling duck; 4 scoters. **Canvasback season is closed.** The possession limit is 2 times the daily bag

limit. **Scaup:** The daily bag limit will be 1 per day except for the period Jan. 2 - Jan. 24 when the daily limit will be 2 per day.

**Snow Goose** Oct. 13 – Nov. 13  
Nov. 24 – Jan. 24  
Jan. 26 – Mar. 9 (Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat. Only)  
Limit: 15

March 10 – April 30 This option depends upon U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service implementation of Snow Goose Conservation Order. Daily bag will be unlimited if this order is implemented.

**Bombay Hook** Oct. 13 - Jan. 23  
Feb. 4 – March 6 (Mon., Wed., & Fri. Only)  
Limit: 15

**Brant** Nov. 24 – Jan. 31  
Limit: 3

**Migrant Canada Geese** Nov. 24 – Dec. 6  
Dec. 19 – Jan. 26  
Limit: 2

**Coots & Mergansers** Same season dates as ducks

**Rail/King, Clapper** Sept. 5 – Nov. 13 Limit: 10  
**Sora, Virginia** Limit: 25  
**Gallinules, Moorhens** Limit: 15

**Woodcock** Nov. 24 – Dec. 13  
Dec. 23 – Jan. 1  
Limit: 3

**Snipe** Nov. 24 – Dec. 13  
Dec. 23 – Jan. 1  
Limit: 8

**Sea Ducks** Sept. 23 – Jan. 24  
Limit: 7 (no more than 4 scoters)

**Agenda Item 4. 4H Shooting Sports Waterfowl Hunt (Director Pat Emory, Jim Kimble & Bud Shilling).**

Director Pat Emory announced that Mr. Jim Kimble and Mr. Bud Shilling had requested to use state owned blinds at Little Creek for their 4H Youth Shooting Sports Education event.

Mr. Kimble and Mr. Shilling provided a schedule and stated that 25 youth had signed up for the event.

After discussion, the Council recommended that the Division allow them the use of the blinds at the North Little Creek impoundment on Saturday, November 1<sup>st</sup>. The Division agreed.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

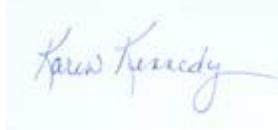
Greg Moore announced that the Susquehanna River Wetland Trust is selling a patch for \$5.00. The money from this patch will go to support research on snow goose/brant with the proceeds going to the Arctic Goose Joint Venture.

**AGENDA FOR THE 9/30/08 ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING**

1. Antique Weapons – (Mr. Garcia).
2. Land Acquisition - (Phil Carpenter).
3. Lead Contaminants & Hunting - (Matt DiBona).
4. Snow Goose Hunting on State Lands - (Ken Reynolds).
5. Back Tag – (Director Pat Emory/Enforcement).
6. National Retriever Trial Conflicts with Deer Hunting – (Director Pat Emory).

There being no further business, a motion was made, seconded and carried that the meeting be adjourned at 8:45 PM.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Karen Kennedy". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above the typed name.

Karen Kennedy  
Recording Secretary