

of seven, which could include no more than one hen eider and four of any one species unless otherwise noted above.

For geese, the Tribe requests a season between September 13 to September 27, 2003, and November 1, 2003, through February 28, 2004, with a daily bag limit of 5 Canada geese during the first period and 3 Canada geese during the second period. They propose a daily bag limit of 15 snow geese.

For woodcock, the Tribe proposes a season between October 18 and November 29, 2003, with a daily bag limit of three.

The Tribe currently has 22 registered tribal hunters and estimates harvest to be no more than 40 geese, 50 mallards, 50 teal, 50 black ducks, and 50 of all other species combined. Tribal members hunting on the Reservation will observe all basic Federal migratory bird hunting regulations found in 50 CFR part 20. Hunters will be required to register with the HIP program.

The Service proposes to approve the request for special migratory bird hunting regulations for the Wampanoag Tribe of Gay Head.

*(z) White Earth Band of Ojibwe, White Earth, Minnesota (Tribal Members Only)*

The White Earth Band of Ojibwe is a federally-recognized tribe located in northwest Minnesota and encompasses all of Mahnomen County and parts of Becker and Clearwater Counties. The reservation employs conservation officers to enforce migratory bird regulations. The Tribe and the Service first cooperated to establish special tribal regulations in 1999.

For the 2003–04 migratory bird hunting season, the White Earth Band of Ojibwe request a duck and merganser season to start September 13 and end December 14, 2003. For ducks, they request a daily bag limit of 10 including no more than 2 mallards and 2 canvasback. The merganser daily bag limit would be 5 with no more than 2 hooded mergansers. For geese, the Tribe proposes a September 1 to December 14, 2003, season with a daily bag limit of five geese.

For coots, dove, rail, woodcock, and snipe, the Tribe proposes a September 7 to December 31, 2003, season with daily bag limits of 20 coots, 25 doves, 25 rails, 10 woodcock, and 10 snipe. Shooting hours are one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset. Nontoxic shot is required.

Based on past harvest surveys, the Tribe anticipates harvest of 1,000 to 2,000 Canada geese and 1,000 to 1,500 ducks. The White Earth Reservation Tribal Council employs four full-time

Conservation Officers to enforce migratory bird regulations.

We propose to approve the White Earth Band of Ojibwe's requested 2003–04 special migratory bird hunting regulations for this year.

*(aa) White Mountain Apache Tribe, Fort Apache Indian Reservation, Whiteriver, Arizona (Tribal Members and Nontribal Hunters)*

The White Mountain Apache Tribe owns all reservation lands, and the Tribe has recognized full wildlife management authority. The White Mountain Apache Tribe has requested regulations that are essentially unchanged from those agreed to since the 1997–98 hunting year.

The hunting zone for waterfowl is restricted and is described as: the length of the Black River west of the Bonito Creek and Black River confluence and the entire length of the Salt River forming the southern boundary of the reservation; the White River, extending from the Canyon Day Stockman Station to the Salt River; and all stock ponds located within Wildlife Management Units 4, 5, 6, and 7. Tanks located below the Mogollon Rim, within Wildlife Management Units 2 and 3 will be open to waterfowl hunting during the 2003–04 season. The length of the Black River east of the Black River/Bonito Creek confluence is closed to waterfowl hunting. All other waters of the reservation would be closed to waterfowl hunting for the 2003–04 season.

For nontribal and tribal hunters, the Tribe proposes a continuous duck, coot, merganser, gallinule, and moorhen hunting season, with an opening date of October 11, 2003, and a closing date of January 25, 2004. The Tribe proposes a separate pintail season, with an opening date of October 11, 2003, and a closing date of December 10, 2003. The season on canvasback is closed. The Tribe proposes a daily duck (including mergansers) bag limit of seven, which may include no more than two redheads, one pintail (when open), and seven mallards (including no more than two hen mallards). The daily bag limit for coots, gallinules, and moorhens would be 25, singly or in the aggregate.

For geese, the Tribe is proposing a season from October 11, 2003, through January 25, 2004. Hunting would be limited to Canada geese, and the daily bag limit would be three.

Season dates for band-tailed pigeons and mourning doves would run concurrently from September 3 through September 17, 2003, in Wildlife Management Unit 10 and all areas south of Y–70 in Wildlife Management Unit 7,

only. Proposed daily bag limits for band-tailed pigeons and mourning doves would be 3 and 10, respectively.

Possession limits for the above species are twice the daily bag limits. Shooting hours would be from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset. There would be no open season for sandhill cranes, rails, and snipe on the White Mountain Apache lands under this proposal. A number of special regulations apply to tribal and nontribal hunters, which may be obtained from the White Mountain Apache Tribe Game and Fish Department.

We propose to approve the regulations requested by the Tribe for the 2003–04 season.

*(bb) Yankton Sioux Tribe, Marty, South Dakota (Tribal Members and Nontribal Hunters)*

On May 28, 2003, the Yankton Sioux Tribe submitted a waterfowl hunting proposal for the 2003–04 season. The Yankton Sioux tribal waterfowl hunting season would be open to both tribal members and nontribal hunters. The waterfowl hunting regulations would apply to tribal and trust lands within the external boundaries of the reservation.

For ducks (including mergansers) and coots, the Yankton Sioux Tribe proposes a season starting October 9, 2003, and running for the maximum amount of days allowed under the final Federal frameworks. The Tribe indicated that if the Service decided to close the canvasback season, the Tribe would close theirs. Daily bag and possession limits would be 6 ducks, which may include no more than 5 mallards (no more than 2 hens), 1 canvasback (if open), 2 redheads, 3 scaup, 1 pintail, or 2 wood ducks. The bag limit for mergansers is 5, which would include no more than 1 hooded merganser. The coot daily bag limit is 15.

For geese, the Tribe has requested a dark geese (Canada geese, brant, white-fronts) season starting October 29, 2003, and closing January 31, 2004. The daily bag limit would be three geese (including no more than one whitefront or brant). Possession limits would be twice the daily bag limit.

For white geese, the proposed hunting season would start October 29, 2003, and run for the maximum amount of days allowed under the final Federal frameworks. Daily bag and possession limits would be the maximum as those allowed under Federal frameworks.

All hunters would have to be in possession of a valid tribal license while hunting on Yankton Sioux trust lands. Tribal and nontribal hunters must comply with all basic Federal migratory