

**STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE
WILDLIFE PROGRAM**

**FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION MEETING
August 3, 2012**

CONCISE EXPLANATORY STATEMENT

WAC 232-28-436 2012-13 Migratory waterfowl seasons and regulations.

A. Agency reason for adoption:

Waterfowl seasons and regulations are developed based on cooperative management programs among the states of the Pacific Flyway and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, considering population status and other biological parameters. The rule establishes waterfowl seasons and regulations to provide recreational opportunity, control waterfowl damage, and conserve the waterfowl resources of Washington.

B. Changes, if any, from the text of the proposed rule and reasons for difference:

Under the first section Ducks (Statewide), the restricted scaup season dates and bag limits have been removed due to increases in numbers of greater and lesser scaup, which are now above season liberalization thresholds.

Under the Goose Management Area 5 section, change the season date from October 13-17 to October 13-15 to comply with the 107-day, federal framework for geese.

Under the Geese (Falconry) section, Change the seasons dates for Goose Management Areas 3-5 from October 13-25 to October 13-14 to comply with the 107-day, federal framework for geese.

C. Agency responses to written and oral comments:

None.