



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Division of Migratory Bird Management
Branch of Harvest Surveys
10815 Loblolly Pine Dr.
Laurel, Maryland 20708
Phone 301-497-5980 Fax 301-497-5981

In Reply Refer To:
FWS/DMBM

Dear Migratory Bird Hunter:

We need your help. To better understand the population status and reproductive success of woodcock, rails, and band-tailed pigeons, we need to know the percentage of these species that are young-of-the-year birds. Immature birds have distinctive wing feathers that let us distinguish them from adults by examining wings. You can help by donating **one** wing from each woodcock, rail, and/or band-tailed pigeon that you bag this season.

Enclosed are envelopes to be used to mail us the wings. Use an inner envelope and a single pre-addressed mailing envelope for up to five wings from a single day's hunt. If you bag more than five birds (eg., rails) during one hunt, please use additional set(s) of envelopes. Before you mail your wings, fill in the entire lower left portion of the mailing envelope. **Please help us keep the mail clean by following the directions on the back of this letter.**

We need wings from birds killed throughout the season, so please send them for as long as you hunt. If you run out of envelopes, send us the postcard that is enclosed in this package. **Do not** put the postcard in a wing envelope as these are not opened until the wings are examined in February. Due to the short duration of some seasons, the extra envelopes you request may not arrive until after the season closes. Please keep the information on when and where each bird was harvested with the correct wings so that you can report that important information accurately when the extra envelopes arrive. Also, please advise us if your address shown on the postcard is incorrect.

If you have any questions, please call us at 1-800-419-2965 between 7:00am – 4:00pm EST. Again, thank you for helping us better manage our shared migratory bird resource

Sincerely,

Kenneth D. Richkus, Chief
Branch of Harvest Surveys

Enclosures

PLEASE HELP KEEP THE MAIL CLEAN

Wet, bloody, or fly larvae-infested wings will damage other mail and create offensive odors. Postal workers might refuse to handle your envelopes if they are bloody, greasy, or smelly. This can be prevented if you:

- remove the wings as indicated on the pre-addressed mailing envelope.
- allow excess moisture or blood on wings to dry.
- keep flies away from the wings.
- wrap wings in paper towel - do **not** wrap in plastic as this speeds decay.
- use two envelopes for each wing or group of wings. Insert the wings in an **inner** envelope and seal the flap tightly; then place the inner envelope in the large pre-addressed **outer** (mailing) envelope.
- do **not** put more than five wings in an envelope
- mail envelopes promptly.

In accordance with the Privacy Act (5 U.S.C.522a) and the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. 3501), please note the following information. This study is authorized by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703 et seq.) The information that you provide will be used for estimating migratory bird hunter activity and harvest in the United States. It is our policy not to use your name for any other purpose. All names and identifying information will be removed when we compile the results, and only summary information will be reported. The information is maintained in accordance with the Privacy Act. Your response is voluntary. An agency may not conduct or sponsor, and a person is not required to respond to an information collection unless it displays a current valid OMB control number. The information collection has been approved by OMB and assigned the clearance number 1018-0023. We estimate that it will take you about 5 minutes to read the instructions, fill in the envelope, and mail the wing. Comments on this form should be mailed to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Mail Stop 222, Arlington Square, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington D.C. 20240.

MIGRATORY BIRD WING COLLECTION SURVEY

Thank you for your interest in participating in this survey. You have indicated that you may hunt one or more of the species/types of birds listed below this season. Please send in one wing from every bird you take this season, following the instructions below:

1. These envelopes are for the birds you take. Please do not give your envelopes to other hunters or send wings from birds they shoot.
2. Cut off the least damaged wing close to the body. Make certain any blood has drained away and the wing is dry and clean for mailing. DO NOT enclose wings in plastic as this speeds decay.
3. Put up to 5 wings, if taken the same date and place, in an inner envelope inside this outer envelope. Use additional set (s) of envelopes if you have more than 5 wings from birds bagged the same date and place.
4. Fill in the information below labeled "PLEASE COMPLETE".
5. Mail as soon as possible - **NO POSTAGE IS REQUIRED.**
6. Continue sending for the entire season.
7. Mail the postcard if you need more envelopes (do not put it in this envelope - that will delay it).
8. Please report all birds with **METAL LEG BANDS** to the Bird Banding Laboratory by calling **1-800-327-BAND** or www.reportband.gov


CUT HERE
↓

FROM

Name of Hunter

PLEASE COMPLETE

Please do not write in this block

PLEASE COMPLETE		Please do not write in this block			
Species	No. of wings	Species Code	Age/Sex Code	Molt code	Measurements, etc.
Woodcock (timberdoodle)					
Snipe					
Rails					
Gallinules (moorhens)					
Band-tailed pigeon					
Where Shot: State _____ County _____ Nearest Town _____		 B019053			
Date shot: _____ Month Day Year					

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
HARVEST SURVEYS SECTION
10815 LOBLOLLY PINE DRIVE
LAUREL, MARYLAND 20708-4028

OFFICIAL BUSINESS
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

PERISHABLE

BUSINESS REPLY MAIL
FIRST CLASS PERMIT NO. 12874 LAUREL, MD

POSTAGE WILL BE PAID BY DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR

TO: COOPERATIVE PARTS COLLECTION
COLEMAN NATIONAL FISH HATCHERY
ANDERSON, CALIFORNIA 96007-9724

NO POSTAGE
NECESSARY
IF MAILED
IN THE
UNITED STATES