



Louisiana Waterfowl Alliance

To: Louisiana Wildlife and Fisheries Commission

Date: August 6, 2015

Subject: Proposed Hunting Regulations Changes

The Louisiana Waterfowl Alliance (LWA) is a statewide organization of waterfowl hunters dedicated to the future of waterfowl habitat and the quality of duck and goose hunting in our state. We wish to express our concern with the proposal being surfaced; calling for changes in increased bag limits and season lengths to Louisiana hunting regulations, for the white-fronted goose, more widely known as the "Specklebelly" in Louisiana.

We urge the Commission to thoroughly review the possible impacts of any such liberalized hunting regulations and consideration of the changes in migration and weather patterns which directly affect the number of birds coming to our state, BEFORE rushing to a decision which could ultimately result in a dramatic decline in the quality of Spec hunting for our lifetime.

While LWA is typically supportive of increased hunter opportunities in combination with the prudent use and sustainability of the resource, we feel we must question the timing of this proposal, considering the documented, significant decline in the number of Specs wintering in our state. While nationwide numbers have shown increases, we are deeply concerned that allowing the harvest of more birds in Louisiana will only exacerbate the problem.

The members of LWA and its affiliates look forward to further discussion with you on this topic, and at this time, we thank the Commission for the opportunity to express our concerns.

Respectfully,

Board of Directors of
Louisiana Waterfowl Alliance

You can learn more about the LWA at www.louisianawaterfowl.org.

