

## **STATEMENT OF REASONS**

### **CHAPTER 14**

#### **MIGRATORY GAME BIRD HUNTING SEASONS AND LIGHT GOOSE CONSERVATION ORDER**

W. S. § 23-1-302 directs and empowers the Commission to fix seasons and bag limits, open, shorten or close seasons on any species or sex of wildlife except predatory animals, predacious birds, protected animals and protected birds.

The Department proposes to amend Wyoming Game and Fish Commission Regulation Chapter 14, Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons and Light Goose Conservation Order to establish annual hunting seasons, limitations and bag limits for the 2026/2027 migratory game bird and light goose hunting seasons. The Department sets migratory game bird and light goose conservation order hunting seasons annually based on cooperative management efforts with the U.S Fish and Wildlife Service, public input and annual harvest data. The entire Chapter 14, Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons and Light Goose Conservation Order regulation is open for public comment and may be modified through this rule making process, provided edits to this rule are within the approved federal framework for waterfowl seasons.

At the time of this filing, the 2026/2027 federal framework for waterfowl hunting seasons is not available. Any proposed changes to this regulation shall be made available for public comment on the Department website. An updated draft of 2026/2027 Chapter 14, Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons and Light Goose Conservation Order regulation proposal shall be available at all in-person public meetings and through online Department presentations. All proposed changes to this regulation shall be posted on the Department website in March for additional public comment.