

United States Department of the Interior

FISH & U.S. FISH & WIDLIPF SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Division of Migratory Bird Management 10815 Loblolly Pine Dr., Laurel, MD 20708 1-800-419-2965 (phone) 301-497-5981 (fax)

<PrintDate>

SF010490 [SF010490] JOHN Q. PUBLIC 1881WATERFOWL SURVEY DR. LAUREL, MD 20708

Dear John Public:

Each year, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife service conducts the Waterfowl Parts Collection Survey, in which we ask selected hunters to send us one wing from each duck and the tail feathers and wing tips from each goose that they shoot during the hunting season. This provides us with crucial information on species, age, and sex composition of waterfowl harvest across the U.S. Participants are typically sampled from hunters that participate in our Migratory Bird Harvest (MBHS) Diary Survey. This year, we are supplementing that sample by asking HIP registrants who indicated that they are waterfowl hunters to participate. We are requesting your help in this important national monitoring program. Volunteering to send us these parts from the birds that you bag will provide us with the information we need for sound management of waterfowl harvest.

Biologists will examine your specimens to determine the bird's species, age, and sex. This information is vital to helping us better manage our waterfowl resource. For example, the specimens that hunters contribute will allow us to estimate the number of young-of-the-year birds that were harvested, which tells us how successful the birds were during the nesting season. After we have examined all of the duck wings and goose tail feathers and wing tips next spring, we will send you a species, sex and age report on all the waterfowl parts that we received from you.

If you will be able to send us wings from the birds that you bag, please provide the information requested below and return this letter in the postage-paid envelope. Please return it by **07/12/2013**, so that we can send your postage-paid wing envelopes in time for the hunting season.

If you have any questions, please email us at <u>MigratoryBirdHarvestSurveys@fws.gov</u>, or call us at 1-800-419-2965 between 7:00 am and 4:00 pm, Eastern time. Again, thank you for your help.

Sincerely, Khristi Wilkins Chief, Branch of Harvest Surveys

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. 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. Information is natained 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 information collection unless it displays a currently valid OMB control number. This information collection as been approved by OMB and assigned OMB Control No. 1018-0023. We estimate that it will take you about 1 minute to read the instructions and check the box at the bottom of the letter. Comments on this form should be mailed to the Information Collection Clearance Officer, Mail Stop 2042-PDM, U.S.Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Form 3-165A Rev 06/12 0MB No. 1018-0023 APPROVAL EXPIRES APR 14, 2014

_____ Yes, I will be able to send you one wing from each duck and the tail feathers and wing tips from each goose that I shoot this upcoming hunting season.

The number of ducks and geese I usually bag is: _____1-10 _____11-20 ____ more than 20.

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