

Attn: FWS-HQ-MB-2017-0028

ID: LFG-2018-0027

Public Comments Processing

Division of Policy

Performance and Management Programs

United States Fish and Wildlife Service

MS: BPHC

5275 Leesburg Pike

Falls Church, VA 22041

June 19th, 2018

Re: Docket Number, FWS-HQ-MB-2017-0028

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service proposes special migratory bird hunting regulations for certain Tribes on Federal Indian Reservations, off-reservation trust lands, and ceded lands for the 2018-19 migratory bird hunting season. It should be noted that for the 2018-19 hunting season, The United States Fish and Wildlife Service received requests from twenty-three (23) Tribes and Indian organizations. In this proposed rule, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service respond to twenty-three (23) requests and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service also evaluates anticipated requests for 6 Tribes from whom we usually hear but from whom we have not yet received proposals. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service does actively solicit regulatory proposals from other tribal groups that are interested in working cooperatively for the benefit of waterfowl and other migratory game birds. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service does encourage Tribes to work with the federal governmental body, for the purpose as to developing agreements for management of migratory bird resources on tribal lands. The proposed frameworks for flyway regulations were published in the Federal Register on February 2, 2018 (83 FR 4964). As previously discussed, no action is required by Tribes wishing to observe migratory bird hunting regulations established by the State(s) where they are located. The proposed regulations for the twenty-nine (29) Tribes that meet the established criteria or have recently proposed seasons that are a part of this agenda item.

So, in conclusion, I am hoping that the United States Fish and Wildlife Service will allow the Tribes that are on Federal Indian Reservations, to be allowed to do what they want to do on their land. As far as this agenda item is concerned, the proposals that certain Tribes on the Federal Indian Reservations have already made do meet the established criteria and I believe that should thus constitute the United States Fish and Wildlife Service approving its special migratory bird hunting regulations, in which are supported by certain Tribes on Federal Indian Reservations. Please respect the Native American Indians and their views, customs, traditions and all of the requests that they make.

Respectfully,

Isaiah X. Smith¹


¹ www.isaiahxsmith.com