

**Fish and Wildlife Service Manual
Amendments Regarding Delegation for Eagle Permits**

Purpose: This document amends all of the listed Service Manual chapters as described below in order to give both the Assistant Director – Migratory Birds and the Regional Directors all of the authorities of the Director regarding eagle permits. It removes the limitations on their authority to issue permits for the lethal take of bald and golden eagles.

032 FW 7, Fish and Wildlife Permits and Licenses

034 FW 6, Refuges and Wildlife

720 FW 1, Policies and Responsibilities of the Migratory Bird Program

724 FW 1, Authorities, Objectives, and Responsibilities for Migratory Bird Permits

Actions:

Actions for 032 FW 7, Fish and Wildlife Permits and Licenses

(1) Remove:

“7.3 Eagle Permits. Regional Directors’ authority in 7.1 does not include permits for the killing of bald or golden eagles.”

(2) And renumber sections 7.4 and 7.5 as 7.3 and 7.4.

Action for 034 FW 6, Refuges and Wildlife

(1) Amend Section 6.5 as follows:

“6.5 Bald Eagle Protection Act. The Assistant Director may exercise all of the authority of the Director regarding eagle permits ~~which does not include the killing of bald or golden eagles.~~”

Action for 720 FW 1, Policies and Responsibilities of the Migratory Bird Program

(1) Amend Section 1.3.A as follows:

“A. The Assistant Director, Migratory Birds has oversight responsibility and the lead role for policy development and coordination for implementing the Migratory Bird Program. The Assistant Director may exercise the authority of the Director regarding permits, ~~except for permits that allow lethal take of bald or golden eagles (see 034 FW 6).~~ The Assistant Director serves as the Chair of the Service’s Regulation Committee, which makes recommendations to the Director about annual hunting regulations.”

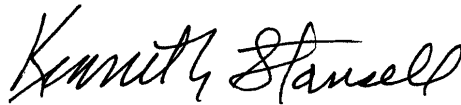
Actions for 724 FW 1, Authorities, Objectives, and Responsibilities for Migratory Bird Permits

(1) Amend Section 1.5.A as follows:

“A. The Assistant Director - Migratory Birds has oversight responsibility and the lead role for implementing the migratory bird permit program. The Assistant Director may exercise all the authority of the Director regarding permits ~~except for permits that allow lethal take of bald or golden eagles (034 FW 6).~~”

(2) Amend Section 1.5.C. as follows:

“C. Regional Directors are responsible for administering all permitting activities. ~~except lethal take of bald or golden eagles, the authority for which has not been delegated from the Director (032 FW 7).~~ [ADD:] Regional Directors may not further delegate their permit authority for bald and golden eagles without prior written authorization from the Director.”



Acting DIRECTOR

Date: September 8, 2008