

September 20, 2021

Joseph S. Larson, Ph.D Chairman Fisheries and Wildlife Board c/o Director of MassWildlife Mass. Division of Fisheries and Wildlife 1 Rabbit Hill Road Westborough, MA 01581

Dear Chairman Larson,

The Massachusetts Conservation Alliance supports the proposed changes to CMR 3.02(6) as written.

We support regulatory simplifications in the proposed regulations including the removal of the special regulations for Northeast District Management Area, removing the cocks only zone east of 495 and on the Cape Islands and the removal of the seasonal bag limits on quail and pheasant. These changes will make the regulation less confusing.

We ask that you consider expanding the season dates beyond the traditional end of November closing. Reopening the season after shotgun deer season would provide new benefits to offset the increased costs of the new stamp. Expanding the season may not be feasible given the time constraints of the current regulatory changes. We encourage the Board to investigate options for an expanded season in the near future.

Sincerely,

Joseph Afonso
Co-chairman
Mass Conservation Alliance
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Paul E. Johnson
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