STATE OF NEW YORK

1214

2019-2020 Regular Sessions

IN SENATE

January 11, 2019

Introduced by Sen. RITCHIE -- read twice and ordered printed, and when printed to be committed to the Committee on Environmental Conservation

AN ACT to amend the environmental conservation law, in relation to management of wildlife resources

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

Section 1. Subdivision 3 of section 11-0507 of the environmental conservation law is amended to read as follows:

3. No person shall willfully liberate within the state any wildlife except under permit from the department. The department may issue such permit in its discretion, fix the terms thereof and revoke it at pleasure. These provisions do not apply to migratory game birds, importation of which is governed by regulation of the department **or to the release of ring-necked pheasant or quail during the period August sixteenth to April fifteenth**.

§ 2. Paragraph b of subdivision 1 of section 11-0925 of the environmental conservation law, as added by chapter 432 of the laws of 1997, is amended to read as follows:

b. The operator of a special dog training area may at any time during the year train the operator's own dogs or the dogs of other persons on such area, and permit others to train dogs. The operator may hold field trials on wild game, or on liberated game, or on liberated artificially propagated game, or on led or confined game, or may in writing permit others to hold such trials, under such conditions as shall be agreed upon by the operator and such other person; but no game shall be taken by shooting at such field trial. No persons shall, on a special dog training area, train a dog, hold a field trial, enter accompanied by a dog, or permit a dog of which he is the owner or trainer to enter, except as provided in this section or in rules adopted pursuant hereto. A permit from the department must be obtained before liberation of any wildlife, **except for the release of ring-necked pheasant or quail during**

EXPLANATION--Matter in *italics* (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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the period August sixteenth to April fifteenth and such a permit may be withheld if, in the opinion of the department, granting it would endanger the health of native wildlife species.

§ 3. Paragraph b of subdivision 2 of section 11-0927 of the environmental conservation law is amended to read as follows:

b. A permit from the department is required for liberation of any wildlife. **This provision does not apply to release of ring-necked pheasant or quail during the period August sixteenth to April fifteenth.**

§ 4. Paragraphs c and c-1 and the closing paragraph of subdivision 2 of section 11-0903 of the environmental conservation law, paragraph c as amended and paragraph c-1 as added by chapter 366 of the laws of 2011 and the closing paragraph of subdivision 2 as amended by chapter 911 of the laws of 1990, are amended to read as follows:

c. pheasants [~~anywhere in the state other than Long Island~~];

[~~c-1. pheasants on Long Island, but only for those individuals who hold a junior license, and provided that such youth pheasant hunting days are held prior to the start of the open season as indicated in paragraph d of subdivision two of section 11-0905 of this title;~~]

Such open seasons and bag limits may be fixed for the entire state[~~, except on Long Island in the case of pheasants~~], or for any county or part thereof, giving due regard to abundance of the species and potential hunting pressure. The department may regulate the taking, possession and disposition of wild turkeys.

§ 5. Paragraphs d and e of subdivision 2 of section 11-0905 of the environmental conservation law, as amended by chapter 911 of the laws of 1990, are amended to read as follows:

d. Ring-necked pheasant	[~~Long Island November 1 through December 31. Elsewhere, fixed~~] **Fixed** annually by regulation	[~~Long Island, four birds in one day, thirty during season.~~] [~~Elsewhere, fixed~~] **Fixed** annually by regulation
e. Quail	[~~Orange, Putnam and Westchester counties, fixed~~] **Fixed** annually by regulation[~~; Long Island, November 1 through December 31~~]	~~Orange, Putnam and Westchester counties;~~ [~~four birds in one day,~~] ~~ten during season. Long Island, six birds in one day, forty during season~~] **Fixed annually by regulation**.

§ 6. This act shall take effect on the first of January next succeeding the date on which it shall have become a law.