



FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT A FEDERAL SPECIAL PURPOSE SALVAGE PERMIT

A Federal Migratory Bird Special Purpose Salvage permit will authorize you to collect dead migratory birds, nests, eggs and parts from the wild that you had no part in the killing or death thereof, for wildlife conservation education purposes. You should review Title 50 Parts 10, 13 and 21.27 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR). **You are responsible for reviewing and understanding these regulations before you request and accept a permit.** These regulations can be found on our website at: [Migratory Bird Permit Memorandum series](#)

1. Can I salvage migratory birds for personal use?

No. This permit does not allow anyone to salvage or possess migratory birds for personal use. All migratory birds salvaged must be transferred to a public scientific or educational institution, zoological park, museum or scientific society as defined in 50 CFR 10 or a Migratory Bird Special Purpose Possession permit issued under 50 CFR 21.27.

2. Do I need to tag the migratory birds I salvage?

Yes. Each migratory bird salvaged must be tagged. Each tag should include the following information:

- (a) Date and location specimen salvaged, and
- (b) Name of person who salvaged the specimen
- (c) The permit number under which the specimen was salvaged must be recorded in the permanent accession record.

3. How long may I retain birds in my possession before transferring them to a designated repository?

All migratory birds salvaged must be deposited with a repository designated on your permit within 6 months of acquisition and/or by December 31 of that calendar year.

4. Do I need additional authorization to salvage migratory birds on Federal or State lands or private property?

Yes. This permit does not authorize you to salvage specimens on Federal or State lands or other public or private property without additional prior written authorization, permission, or permits from the appropriate Federal or State agency, landowner, or custodian.

5. Do I need a State permit to salvage migratory birds?

Your Federal salvage permit is not valid unless you are also in compliance with State requirements. This means that if your State requires you to have a permit to salvage birds, you must hold a valid State permit in order for your Federal permit to be valid. It is your responsibility to make sure you comply with State permit requirements.

6. Who are the personnel identified on my permit and what are they authorized to do?

- (a) **Principal Officer.** For permits issued to organizations, a Principal Officer is identified on the permit. The Principal Officer is the person in charge of the organization and is responsible for the application and any permitted activities.
- (b) **Primary Contact.** The Primary Contact is the person in the organization who is available to answer questions about the application or permitted activities. This person may be the same or different than the Principal Officer. The Primary Contact is not listed on the permit unless the individual is also listed as a subpermittee.
- (c) **Subpermittee.** A subpermittee is an individual authorized to conduct some or all of the permitted activities without the permittee present. You must identify any subpermittees in your application. Your subpermittees must have either a copy of your permit that identifies them as a subpermittee, or a copy of your permit and a letter from the Permittee (Principal Officer) listing activities (including location and duration) they are authorized to conduct. The permittee is responsible for ensuring subpermittees are trained and adhere to the conditions of your permit. Subpermittees must be at least 18 years of age. Individuals younger than 18 may assist you, but must have a permittee or subpermittee present when conducting activities.

7. What is required to transfer my permit to a new location?

Any address change or other circumstances that affect your permit must be reported to your Regional Migratory Bird Permit Office in writing within 10 days so your permit can be amended. (See 50 CFR 13.23)

8. Will I be required to keep records of my activities?

Yes. You must maintain accurate records, legibly written or reproducible in English, of operations on a calendar-year basis. Your records should include the species that is salvaged, date salvaged, the city or county and State where the bird was salvaged and the final disposition of the specimen.

9. Will anyone inspect my records or salvage activities?

By accepting a Federal Special Purpose Salvage permit, you authorize an agent of the Service to enter your premises at any reasonable hour to inspect the wildlife you hold, your books and records. (See 50 CFR 13.47)

10. Will I be required to submit an annual report of activities?

Yes. The report form can also be found on our website at: [3-202-3 Annual Report Form](#). This report must be completed and submitted to your issuing office by January 31 of each year.

11. How do I renew my permit?

If you wish to renew your permit, you must submit a renewal application to your Regional Migratory Bird Permit Office at least 30 days prior to the expiration of your permit and include a copy of your current State permit, if one is required. If we receive your renewal request at least 30 days prior to the expiration of your permit, your permit will remain valid beyond the expiration date for the activity authorized on your permit until a decision on your renewal is made. If we receive your renewal request fewer than 30 days prior to expiration of your permit and we are unable to process your request before the expiration date, your permit will expire and you will no longer be covered for your activity. If you allow your permit to expire before requesting renewal, you may be required to submit a new application. (See 50 CFR 13.22 and 13.11(c))
(3-200-10a)