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4 New Shot Types for Hunting Approved

21 March 2006 – *ATI Alldyne* – Huntsville, Alabama -- (Alper) - The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service recently approved four new nontoxic shot types for waterfowl and coot hunting in the United States. The approved shot types are:

- A formulation of tungsten-iron-copper-nickel shot, composed of 40-76 percent tungsten, 10-37 percent iron, 9-16 percent copper and 5-7 percent nickel.
- A formulation of iron-tungsten-nickel alloys composed of 20-70 percent tungsten, 10-40 percent nickel and 10-70 percent iron.
- A formulation of tungsten-bronze shot made of 60 percent tungsten, 35.1 percent copper, 3.9 percent tin and 1 percent iron.
- A formulation of tungsten-tin-iron shot composed of 58 percent tungsten, 38 percent tin and 4 percent iron.

Waterfowl can ingest expended lead shot and die from lead poisoning. Efforts to phase out lead shot began in the 1970s, and a nationwide ban on lead shot for all waterfowl hunting was implemented in 1991. Canada followed with a complete ban in 1999.

A study in the mid-1990s suggested that the nationwide ban in the United States on the use of lead shot for waterfowl hunting has had remarkable success. Six years after the ban, researchers estimated a 64 percent reduction in lead poisoning deaths of surveyed mallard ducks and a 78 percent decline in lead pellet ingestion. The study concluded that restrictions on lead shot have prevented the deaths of thousands of waterfowl.

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