

# Waterfowl Survey for the week of

December 10, 2009

Survey Areas	Ducks				Geese		
	Total	Mallards	Other Dabblers	Divers	Total	Dark	Light
Spirit Lake Areas	0	0%	0%	0%	22500	100%	0%
Ruthven Areas	100	100%	0%	0%	900	100%	0%
Ingham Areas	100	100%	0%	0%	2500	100%	0%
Black Hawk Lake	300	100%	0%	0%	800	100%	0%
Bays Branch Areas	0	0%	0%	0%	1600	100%	0%
Rice Lake Areas	200	100%	0%	0%	6100	100%	0%
Big Marsh	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%
Sweet Marsh	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%
Green Island	100	95%	5%	0%	400	100%	0%
Princeton	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%
Lake Odessa Areas	100	81%	3%	16%	600	100%	0%
Coralville Areas	0	0%	0%	0%	0	0%	0%
Otter Creek	0	0%	0%	0%	200	100%	0%
Saylorville Areas	100	0%	0%	0%	600	0%	0%
Red Rock	1000	100%	0%	0%	800	100%	0%
Rathbun Areas	1300	91%	0%	9%	3000	100%	0%
Lake Icaria	1000	100%	0%	0%	5000	100%	0%
Union County Areas	600	100%	0%	0%	10200	100%	0%
Lake Sugema	300	9%	0%	91%	1000	100%	0%
Missouri River Oxbows	300	91%	0%	9%	13000	100%	0%
Riverton/Forney	0	0%	0%	0%	200	100%	0%
<b>Total</b>	<b>4900</b>	<b>92%</b>	<b>0%</b>	<b>8%</b>	<b>69100</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>0%</b>

## Weather and migrations during the survey period:

Iowa wetlands continued to freeze and make substantial ice over the past week. Snow fell across much of northern Iowa on Dec. 3 and again across most of southern Iowa the evening of Dec. 6. These 1-2 inch accumulations, however, were minor compared to the snow that accumulated from the storm that entered the state on Tuesday, Dec. 8. By Wednesday night, 5-16" of snow covered the Iowa landscape, much of it being rearranged by 20-30 mph winds that gusted to 50 mph. Temperatures plummeted after the skies cleared. Most of the state awoke to subzero temps on Thursday morning, with some areas in western Iowa reaching double-digits below zero. The strong winds, coupled with the low temperatures, caused wind chills to drop to -30 and a wind chill advisory was issued for most of the state. The only open water areas remaining in the state are the southern reservoirs, small wind-swept areas on large lakes, artificial aeration holes, and flowing water (especially below dams). Ice was up to 4" thick on some north Iowa lakes as of Dec. 10.

With the exception of small groups of birds in urban areas, the vast majority of ducks have left Iowa for warmer climes. Canada goose numbers dropped in the northern half of the state as well, but increased on southern Iowa areas.