

Waterfowl Survey for the week of

October 15, 2009

Survey Areas	Ducks				Geese		
	Total	Mallards	Other Dabblers	Divers	Total	Dark	Light
Spirit Lake Areas	2300	34%	44%	22%	8100	100%	0%
Ruthven Areas	1200	24%	66%	10%	600	100%	0%
Ingham Areas	700	10%	76%	13%	2300	100%	0%
Black Hawk Lake	400	15%	85%	0%	200	100%	0%
Bays Branch Areas	2100	21%	79%	0%	5800	100%	0%
Rice Lake Areas	1900	50%	40%	10%	3100	100%	0%
Big Marsh	No Report - For information contact (515) 532-2765						
Sweet Marsh	4300	14%	85%	1%	2300	100%	0%
Green Island	4600	70%	30%	0%	2800	100%	0%
Princeton	400	16%	74%	10%	100	100%	0%
Lake Odessa Areas	17000	22%	78%	0%	1100	100%	0%
Coralville Areas	1300	22%	78%	0%	100	100%	0%
Otter Creek	1500	41%	59%	0%	300	100%	0%
Saylorville Areas	1000	20%	80%	0%	800	100%	0%
Red Rock	5300	9%	91%	0%	600	100%	0%
Rathbun Areas	8800	18%	82%	0%	1300	100%	0%
Lake Icaria	100	0%	100%	0%	300	100%	0%
Union County Areas	300	24%	69%	7%	400	100%	0%
Lake Sugema	400	32%	68%	0%	400	100%	0%
Missouri River Oxbows	600	34%	66%	0%	3800	100%	0%
Riverton/Forney	24400	9%	91%	0%	1700	100%	0%
Total	77600	20%	79%	1%	35200	100%	0%

Weather and migrations during the survey period:

Weather this past week was unseasonably cold and wet. High temps in N Iowa did not exceed 45, except on Sunday. Normal highs would be near 60. Hunters were greeted with good waterfowling weather on the Oct. 10 opener; temperatures in the mid 20's and winds from the northwest winds at 15 mph. Sunday's temps were as low as 20 in parts of north Iowa and hunters had to break ice on small wetlands. Hunting pressure was lower than usual and success was highly variable; limits on some areas while hunters averaged a duck or 2 on others. Green-winged teal, gadwall, mallards, and shovelers dominated the bag. Cold temperatures persisted through the week. Temps dipped to the lower 20's in north Iowa on the 13th and ice covered small and shallow wetlands. On Wednesday, parts of north Iowa accumulated up to 2 inches of snow. The cold weather and ice appeared to push wood ducks and teal south, but also brought an influx of diving ducks. This was most notable on the Upper Mississippi River where diving ducks increased from near zero to 156,000 (120,000 cans) in a week. South Zone areas also picked up ducks this past week, which should bode well for the opener in this weekend.