

GAME, FISH AND PARKS COMMISSION ACTION PROPOSAL

Goose Hunting Season

Chapter 41:06:16

Commission Meeting Dates:	Public Hearing	August 1, 2013	Watertown
	Finalization	August 1-2, 2013	Watertown

COMMISSION PROPOSAL HIGHLIGHTS

Light Geese

Statewide: September 28 – December 22, 2013

White-fronted Geese

Statewide: September 28 – December 8, 2013

Canada Geese (and Brant)

Unit 1: October 1 – December 16, 2013

Unit 2: November 2, 2013 – February 14, 2014

Unit 3: January 11-19, 2014

Daily Limits:

Canada geese: 5

Light geese: 20

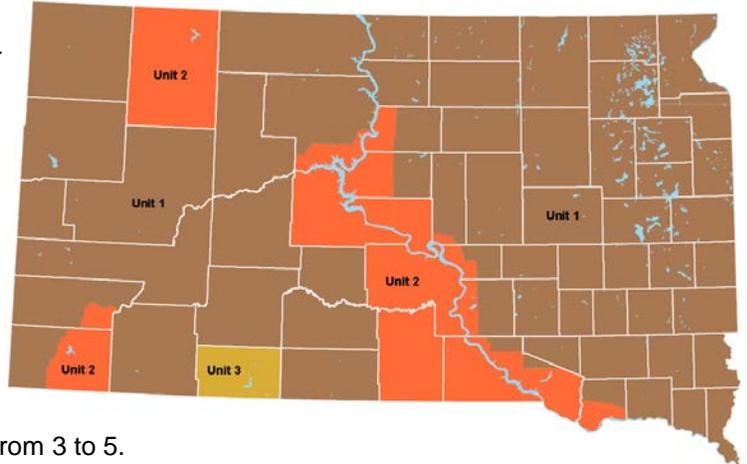
White-fronted goose: 2

Possession Limits:

Light geese: Unlimited

All other geese: Three times the daily limit.

Canada Goose Units



Recommended changes from last year:

1. Increase the Canada goose daily bag limit from 3 to 5.
2. Increase the white-fronted goose daily bag limit from 1 to 2.
3. Modify the white-fronted goose season from 86 to 72 consecutive days beginning the last Saturday of September.
4. Increase the possession limit for geese from two times (2x) the daily limit to three times (3x) the daily limit as recently approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

SUPPORTIVE INFORMATION

Canada goose daily bag limit increase is contingent upon approval from the Central Flyway Council and USFWS.

Federal framework establishes a season structure for white-fronted geese that includes either a daily bag limit of 1 with a maximum of 86 days or a daily bag limit of 2 with a maximum of 72 days. Department staff members have received comments from hunters and this recommended change would provide additional harvest opportunity for hunters and retains a season length that still overlaps with the peak migration of white-fronted geese through South Dakota.

Year	Canada Geese			Light Geese (fall season only)			White-fronted Geese		
	Res Hunters	NR Hunters	Geese Harvested	Res Hunters	NR Hunters	Geese Harvested	Res Hunters	NR Hunters	Geese Harvested
2008	13,463	2,483	103,449	5,165	849	63,477	903	343	1,767
2009	12,927	1,986	104,453	4,298	733	55,823	902	240	1,534
2010	13,552	2,198	129,628	4,031	551	36,259	985	261	891
2011	13,376	2,167	107,537	3,614	883	42,657	973	288	1,010
2012	13,715	2,277	98,872	4,113	726	55,171	1,685	440	3,485