

Lower Oahe Waterfowl Access Areas 2017-18 Waterfowl Report

For the Week of January 15, 2018

WALK-IN AREAS

Reports came in last week of several flocks of birds around the walk-in fields. The warm weather had opened up some areas on Lake Oahe with the birds moving back up into them.

REGISTRATION AREA

The decoy-only registration fields have been busy, with hunters doing well this past week and weekend despite the changing weather conditions that had the birds moving at different times and into different areas. The flight times have been the hardest thing for the hunters to predict. If you are experiencing issues with the map loading on the Lower Oahe portion of the GFP App on your phone you are still able to check the status of the fields on the website. They are working to resolve this issue and hope to have it fixed soon.

PASS-SHOOTING AREAS

Reports from a couple of the pass shooting areas came in over the weekend with Saturday being calm the birds were coming off of the water very high. Sunday's report from the area were that that winds helped some and hunters were able to harvest some birds when they waited for the lower flying flocks. There were a few reports of hunters doing well on ducks in the Peoria Flats and Nystrom Bay Areas, however duck season will be coming to a close on Thursday January 18.

SOLID AND STRIPED GREEN AREAS

The striped green area in Stanley County slowed down some this past week, with a few hunters setting out decoys over the weekend. No reports from them on success. Hunters are reminded to be considerate of those already in the field when arriving and leaving. The designated access trails in this area is allowed for dropping off and picking up equipment only. The solid green areas west of 1804 in the Cow and Okobojo Creek had a few groups setting up decoys in the fields over the weekend, with a couple reports of success. There are no reports from the striped and solid green area east of Grey Goose Road.

SUMMARY

The walk-in areas had good numbers of birds in and around some of the fields last week when the weather was warmer. The decoy-only registration fields have continued to be busy especially on the weekends with a few less groups coming out during the weekdays. Hunters have been reporting back on good success in most areas. Pass shooting opportunities improved this past week with reports of hunters getting geese and some ducks. The striped green area in Stanley County has been good most days however there were no reports from hunters this past week. The solid green areas in the Okobojo Creek area had a few groups setting out decoys with reports coming in on success. There are no reports from the solid and striped green areas east of Grey Goose Road.

Reminder the 2017-18 duck season will close on Thursday January 18.

There are no aerial waterfowl surveys scheduled at this time.

A Beginner's Goose Hunt will taking place on January 20-21 2018. This event is open to any beginner goose hunter; besides hunting they will be covering several topics throughout the weekend. Space is limited and registration is required. For more information about this event contact Maggie Lindsey, Education Services Coordinator at 605-223-7667.