

# Lower Oahe Waterfowl Access Areas 2017-18 Waterfowl Report

For the Week of December 11, 2017

## WALK-IN AREAS

There are no reports this week from the walk-in areas on waterfowl traffic.

## REGISTRATION AREA

The decoy only registration fields have hunters reporting back on mixed success. The birds were coming off of the water in the mornings last week then switched over to mainly an evening flight over the weekend when the temperatures were mild with very little wind with only a few birds moving in the morning, however the cooler, windy days help to get the birds moving in the mornings. Upland game hunting remains open in several areas, however hunters are reminded to watch for the signs designating the area as open or closed along with any waterfowl hunters that are in the field. Reminder to all hunters the access trails going into fields are for registered decoy hunters to get to their field only. These trails are not to be traveled by upland game hunters or waterfowl hunters out scouting.

**The Decoy-Only Registration trailer and fields will be closed to for drawing and hunting on Christmas Day and will re-open the day after Christmas with drawings taking place one hour before sunrise until the end of the season.**

## PASS-SHOOTING AREAS

Pass shooting opportunities in the canal in the Okobojo Creek area or the pits along Spring Creek and Nystrom Bay continue to be tough most days other than the windy ones since most of the birds sitting on the lake have been coming out high.

## SOLID AND STRIPED GREEN AREAS

The striped green area in Stanley County has been good depending on if the birds in the Pierre area decide to fly out further west of town. 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 continued to have birds sitting in the Cow and Okobojo Creek, with a few groups of hunters setting out decoys in the fields last week and weekend and having success. The striped and solid green area east of Grey Goose Road has not seen much for waterfowl traffic.

## SUMMARY

**The Decoy-Only Registration trailer and fields will be closed to for drawing and hunting on Christmas Day and will re-open the day after Christmas with drawings taking place each day one hour before sunrise until the end of the season.**

There was not an aerial survey conducted last week because of the poor weather conditions; however they are planning on flying this week as soon as the weather allows.

Hunters wanting to give the decoy only registration fields a try that do not have decoys can reserve one of the three decoy loaner trailers. These trailers are free of charge to reserve and use. You can reserve one of the trailers by going to the links below the link for this report and selecting one of them. This will take you to a doodle page where you will select the date you would like to reserve a trailer and typing your first and last name along with a phone number. The Doodle pages are updated on Sundays to allow reserving one of the trailers up to two weeks in advance.

The 28<sup>th</sup> Annual Youth Goose Hunt will be on January 5-7 2018 information can be found to the left of the link to this report.