

Lower Oahe Waterfowl Access Areas 2017-18 Waterfowl Report

For the Week of January 29, 2018

WALK-IN AREAS

The geese have continued to be around the walk-in fields in the Okobojo Creek area. There were a few groups setting out decoys in one of the walk in fields last week however there are no reports from the hunters on success. There continued to be birds coming over the walk-in fields west of Okobojo Creek that have been flying low giving the pass shooters some great opportunities.

REGISTRATION AREA

The decoy-only registration fields have seen good numbers of groups using the area with the weekends being busier than weekdays. After a week of the birds moving earlier in the mornings they switched an afternoon flight with only a few flocks coming out in the morning. The afternoon flight has seen larger flocks moving and flying high when coming out to feed. Some of the groups of hunters have continued to do well yet despite the late afternoon flight however several are reporting back of getting only a few birds per group.

PASS-SHOOTING AREAS

Reports from the pits and canal areas that have come in are that the birds that are coming out over the area are flying high unless the winds are blowing. Birds have continued to fly over the walk-in fields west of Okobojo Creek with some landing in the fields giving the pass shooters the opportunity to harvest a few birds.

SOLID AND STRIPED GREEN AREAS

The striped green area in Stanley County has slowed down some again however there are a few flocks sitting in the fields. 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 couple of groups setting up decoys in the field during the weekend, there were no reports of success. No reports from the striped and solid green area east of Grey Goose Road.

SUMMARY

Last week the birds went from an early morning flight to an afternoon flight making hunting more difficult for everyone since the late flight of birds has also resulted in them being in larger flocks and flying out high making it more difficult for the hunters. There were a couple of reports of some good pass shooting opportunities around the walk-in area west of Okobojo Creek. The striped green area in Stanley County has slowed some however the birds have been flying over it with some birds sitting in the field.

Reminder to Renew Hunting and Fishing Licenses

The South Dakota Game, Fish and Parks (GFP) wants to remind sportsmen and women that their fishing, small game, furbearer, predator/varmint and combination licenses expire on **January 31, 2018**.

The 2017-18 Federal Migratory Bird Hunting and Conservation Stamp remains valid until June 30, 2018.