

EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE

The 2017 Early Fall Canada goose season was open from 2-30 September in the Unit 1 counties specified in the 2017 hunting guide, which included most of the state. However, nonresidents were prohibited from hunting in the counties of Beadle, Brookings, Hanson, Kingsbury, Lake, Lincoln, McCook, Miner, Minnehaha, Moody, Sanborn, Turner and Union during these dates. The daily bag limit was 15 geese and possession was 45. To hunt geese, residents were required to hold small game, 1-day small game, adult, senior or junior combination, or youth small game licenses plus a migratory bird certification. Nonresidents were required to obtain a nonresident waterfowl license. All hunters age 16 and over were also required to obtain a federal waterfowl stamp.

Resident hunters were surveyed utilizing the Migratory Bird Harvest Survey that is used to assess all migratory bird harvest for the year. Hunters were asked to break down how many geese they harvested during the Early Fall season out of the total number they harvested for the year. Nonresident hunters were surveyed using a separate Early Fall Canada Goose season survey.

In 2017, there were 26,876 hunters licensed to hunt the Early Fall Canada goose season (26,624 residents, 252 nonresidents). Approximately 22% (5,846) of the resident hunters and 84% (211) of the nonresident hunters were surveyed. The survey response rates were 60% for residents and 57% for nonresidents.

In 2017, there were a projected 3,226 hunters who hunted at least one day in Unit 1 during the Early Fall season. There were a projected 25,808 geese harvested.

Comparison of the 2008 - 2017 Early Fall Canada goose harvests

Year	Number Hunters	Harvest	Average Season Bag
2008	5,275	27,924	5.29
2009	6,157	39,275	6.38
2010	5,767	44,183	7.66
2011	5,417	50,361	9.30
2012	3,636	28,788	7.92
2013	4,528	29,887	6.60
2014	5,106	28,814	5.64
2015	3,883	20,735	5.34
2016	3,366	27,660	8.22
2017	3,226	25,808	8.00

EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2017

Last Revised: 25 May 2018

	Resident	Non Resident
EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE SEASON Licenses Sold *1*	26,624	252
Unique Licenseholders	26,618	252
Projected No. Early Fall Canada Goose Hunters	2,997	229
Number Sampled by Survey	5,846	211
Number Responded to Survey	3,482	120
Responded and Participated in Season	392	109
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	3,090	11
Survey Response Rate	59.6%	56.9%
No. Hunters Reporting Early Fall Canada Goose Days	392	109
Total Reported Early Fall Canada Goose Hunted Days	UNK	333
Average Days Hunted Canada Geese	UNK	3.06
Total Reported Canada Geese Bagged	3,101	1,001
Average Canada Goose Bag for Early Fall	7.91	9.18
Projected Days Canada Goose Hunting Early Fall	UNK	699
Projected No. Early Fall Canada Goose Hunters	2,997	229
Projected Canada Goose Bag	23,705	2,102
TOTAL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST EARLY FALL SEASON = 25,808		
Canada Goose Hunter Mean Satisfaction Score *2*	5.06	5.49

1 For residents: number of licenses based on # Migratory Bird Certificates in the 2017 GF79 database

For nonresidents: number of Nonresident Waterfowl licenses sold in GF79

2 Based on a scale of 1-7 with 1=very dissatisfied & 7=very satisfied

EARLY FALL CANADA GOOSE HARVEST, 1996-2017

