

Lower Oahe Waterfowl Access Areas 2015-16 Waterfowl Report

For the Week of January 4, 2016

WALK-IN AREAS

No reports again this week from the walk-in areas west and north of Okobojo Creek on waterfowl hunting success. With the low number of birds in the area it continues to be difficult to get a pattern on when and where the birds will fly.

REGISTRATION AREA

The number of birds between the Pierre area and Lower Oahe lands remains low making it difficult for the hunters. Flight times continue to vary from day to day with some birds moving mid-morning while others wait until mid-afternoon. The snow conditions in the area helped to get the birds moving out to feed but it continues to be difficult to get a good pattern on the birds that are in the area. Drawings for the decoy only registration field's takes place each day one hour before sunrise.

PASS-SHOOTING AREAS

Pass shooting continues to be difficult in the canal and pits areas, with the nicer weather and with the low number of birds it has been hard to get a pattern on them and find some low enough to harvest.

SOLID AND STRIPED GREEN AREAS

The striped green area in Stanley County had a few flocks flying over the fields last week. The snow cover in the city limits of Pierre and Ft. Pierre had some flocks moving out of town to feed.

SUMMARY

Hunter reports last week were coming in of seeing a small migration into the area and with the snow cover it is helped to get the birds to fly out to feed on a more regular basis. Hunters making plans to come out to hunt the decoy-only registration fields can check the maps on the Lower Oahe webpage to see what types of crops are in the fields along with the open or closed status of the fields.

No reports on any pass shooter success in the canal or pass shooting pit areas. The striped green area in Stanley County continued to see a flight last week however there were no hunter reports.

A reminder the 26th annual youth goose hunt will be going on this weekend January 8, 9, 10. The number of birds in the area remains low but all of the volunteers working the event continue to be busy making sure the kids will be getting into the fields and making every attempt to make the youth hunt a good experience for them. If you have any questions about the youth hunt give one of the people listed on the flier a call.