

Fish Point Manager's Update

2016 Season - Week ending 11/27



Weather

High temperatures were in the low 40's with lows dropping down to the low 20's. N winds were steady at the beginning of the week but changed to S/SW by the weekend. We had wind and cloudy skies all week until Sunday afternoon.

Waterfowl Abundance

Mallard, Gadwall, and American Widgeon numbers bounced back when the ice melted in the refuge. Black duck numbers increased significantly and goose numbers decreased slightly since last week's count.

Hunting Conditions

Corn in most zones have 7ft to 9ft tall corn and should provide good cover and food, with the exception of zones 15, 17, and 20-23 which has little to no corn cover. Zone 20 has 4ft to 5ft tall corn. Zones 20-23 have hunting blinds to provide additional cover. All zones have small grains around them (Barley, Buckwheat, Japanese Millet and numerous moist soil plants) so there will be plenty of food for the waterfowl to feed on throughout the season. Water condition in zones 1-49, 58-69 very in depth from 6-30 inches and are currently at full pool. The corn seems to be holding up to the wind and the hunters relatively well and good cover and food can still be found in most zones. Due to the freezing temperatures over the last few days ice has begun to form around several of the hunting zone. Zones with water depths from of 12 to 18 inches have ice 1 to 2 inches thick, but most zones that are 24 to 36 inches deep have thin ice that can be broken up.

Hunter Numbers

Cold temperatures, snow/rain mixture and strong winds brought out 47 parties for P.M hunt on November 23rd.

Waterfowl Harvest

6352 hunters harvested 5057 ducks and 408 geese thus far this season.

What To Expect This Week

It will be mostly clear skies for the most of the week with S winds (5-20mph). Rain (30% chance) is predicted on Thursday and Sunday which should get the birds moving. Winds will stay out of the S for the majority of the week and temperatures will decrease to the 40's for the weekend with lows only getting down to the mid 30's at night.

Upcoming Events

Morning draws begin at 5:30 a.m. and afternoon drawing start at 11:00 a.m.

Other Comments

Deer hunt/pheasant hunting drawing will be held at 12pm on: **December 4th** (Hunting period Dec. 5th thru Dec. 11th), **December 11th** (Hunting Period Dec. 12th thru Dec. 18th), and **December 18th** (Hunting Period Dec. 19th thru Dec. 30th).