Small Game and Upland Game Bird Regulations
Small Game & Upland Game Bird Regulations

• Recommend all small game and upland game birds to be taken from an elevated platform using all lawful methods of take
  – Current method is with shotgun/archery only

• Request by the NRC at February Meeting
Small Game & Upland Game Bird Regulations

• Expands hunters’ choice for method of take
• Increases uses for existing elevated platforms
• No biological impact
• Simplifies regulations
Thank You
2020-21 Elk Regulations

Chad Stewart, Deer and Elk Management Specialist
Wildlife Division
April 16, 2020
Elk Program Goals

• 500-900 Elk
• 2019 Elk survey
  – 1,196 estimated animals (95% CI: 930-1,492)
  – 1,173 estimated in 2018
  – 1,158 estimated in 2017
• Elk outside core:
  – potential bTB crossover and agricultural damage
## State Elk Hunter Success Rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Fall</th>
<th>Winter</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>71.7</td>
<td>79.1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>63.3</td>
<td>80.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>67.0</td>
<td>82.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>68.0</td>
<td>92.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>78.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015</td>
<td>86.0</td>
<td>92.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2016</td>
<td>85.0</td>
<td>94.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>74.0</td>
<td>84.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>68.0</td>
<td>78.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>71.0</td>
<td>89.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2015-2019 Avg</td>
<td>76.8</td>
<td>87.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### State Elk Hunter Success Rates (2010-2019)

- **Fall**
- **Winter**

0 20 40 60 80 100


**Fall**

**Winter**

- **0**
- **20**
- **40**
- **60**
- **80**
- **100**
Historic Quotas and Demand

• 2019
  - ~37,000 applicants
  - +5,100 applicants for chance only
  - Odds to draw
    • Any elk tag: 0.16%
    • Antlerless elk tag: 0.81%
# Nuisance Elk Reports

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<td>58</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Landowners</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>16</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proposed boundary changes
Collared elk locations (2016-2019) in relation to elk hunting zones
Draft Elk Hunt Boundary 2020
Summary: Proposed boundary changes

- Elk units F & G (December) redefined and renamed H & I
- Closed boundary in September now matches EMU H & I
  - Provides consistency between seasons
2020 & 2021 Proposed License Quotas

- Increase of 60 state licenses
- 260 licenses
  - 100 licenses in September
    - 70 antlerless
    - 30 either sex
  - 160 licenses in December
    - 110 antlerless
    - 50 either sex
Season Dates and License Quotas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hunt Period 1</th>
<th>Hunt Period 2</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sept. 1-4, 2020</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dec. 12-20, 2020</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Aug. 31 - Sept. 3, 2021</strong></td>
<td><strong>Dec. 11-19, 2021</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sept. 18-21, 2020</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Sept. 17-20, 2021</strong></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Oct. 2-5, 2020</strong></td>
<td><strong>Oct. 1-4, 2021</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Any Elk</th>
<th>Antlerless</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>X</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>30</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Unit Any Elk Antlerless

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Any Elk</th>
<th>Antlerless</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>H</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>70</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>110</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Tribal Licenses

• The 2007 Inland Consent Decree authorizes the five 1836 Treaty Tribes to issue licenses equal to 10% of state issued elk licenses, rounded up.
  – Issuance of 26 tribal licenses associated with proposed quotas
  – Issuance of 1 tribal license associated with 3 Pure Michigan Hunt winners
Thank You

www.michigan.gov/elk
2020-21 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Seasons

Barbara Avers, Waterfowl and Wetland Specialist
Schedule

- *Dec. 10, 2019 = Proposed Frameworks
- Dec. 16, 2019 = Waterfowl Workgroup
- Feb. 1, 2020 = CWAC
- *Feb. 25, 2019 = Final Frameworks
- March 19, 2020 = NRC for Information
- April 16, 2020 = NRC for Action
- *April 30, 2020 = Season Selections Due
Canada Goose Population Status

- Mississippi Flyway temperate-breeding geese long-term increasing trend
- Subarctic-nesting geese stable but variable
- Michigan Canada geese near top of goal range
2020 Goose Season
Federal Framework
2020 Goose Season Federal Framework

- Season length and outside dates
  - Maximum 107 days
  - Between Sept. 1 - Feb. 15

- 4 segments allowed
2020 Goose Federal Frameworks – Bag Limits

• **Canada daily limits:**
  - Maximum 5 birds Sept. 1-30
  - Maximum 3 birds remainder of season

• **White-fronted daily limits:**
  - Maximum 5 birds in aggregate with dark geese

• **Brant daily limits:**
  - Maximum 1 bird in aggregate with dark geese

• **Snow, blue, Ross’ daily limits:**
  - Maximum 20 birds

Possession limits 3X daily limit
2020 Michigan Goose Season Recommendations
2020 Goose Season Recommendations Season Dates and Bag Limits – North Zone

• Sept. 1-30
  – Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 1 of which can be a brant
  – Light goose daily limit = 20

• Oct. 1 – Dec. 16
  – Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 3 of which can be Canada geese and 1 of which can be a brant
  – Light goose daily limit = 20
2020 Goose Season Recommendations Season Dates and Bag Limits – Middle Zone

- **Sept. 1-30**
  - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 1 of which can be a brant
  - Light goose daily limit = 20

- **Oct. 1 – Dec. 16**
  - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 3 of which can be Canada geese and 1 of which can be a brant
  - Light goose daily limit = 20
2020 Goose Season Recommendations Season Dates and Bag Limits – South Zone

- Sept. 1-30
  - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 1 of which can be a brant
  - Light goose daily limit = 20

  - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 3 of which can be Canada geese and 1 of which can be a brant
  - Light goose daily limit = 20
2020 Goose Season Recommendations – GMUs

- Allegan County
  - Sept. 1-30
    - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 1 of which can be a brant
    - Light goose daily limit = 20
  - Nov. 7-14; Nov. 26-Dec. 6; and Dec. 19 – Feb. 14, 2021
    - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 3 of which can be Canada geese and 1 of which can be a brant
    - Light goose daily limit = 20
2020 Goose Season Recommendations – GMUs

- Muskegon County Wastewater
  – Oct. 17 – Dec. 22
  - Dark goose aggregate daily limit = 5, only 3 of which can be Canada geese and 1 of which can be a brant
  - Light goose daily limit = 20
2019 Duck Population Status

- Mid-Continent duck populations down slightly from 2018
- Mid-continent mallards similar to 2018
- Michigan total duck and mallard estimates down from 2018
2020 Duck Season
Federal Framework

- Liberal season
  - Maximum 60 days
  - Between Saturday nearest Sept. 24 and January 31
  - Maximum 6 birds per day
- Possession limit 3X daily limit
- Seasons set by Zone
- One split per Zone
2020 Duck Season
Federal Framework – Daily Limits

- 6 ducks combined
  - Mallard
    - Maximum 4 birds
    - Maximum 2 hens
  - Wood duck
    - Maximum 3 birds
  - Redhead, Canvasback, & American black duck
    - Maximum 2 birds
  - Scaup
    - 2 for 45 days and 1 for 15 days
  - Northern pintail
    - Maximum 1 bird
  - All other ducks
    - 6 birds

- 5 mergansers combined
  - Maximum 2 hooded mergansers
2020 Michigan Duck Season Recommendations
2020 Early Teal Season Recommendation

- Sept. 1 – 16 Statewide
- Daily limit 6 teal
- Possession 3X
- Hunting hours begin at sunrise
2020 Youth Season Recommendations

• Remain 3rd weekend in September (Sept. 19-20)
• Daily and possession limits same as regular waterfowl seasons
Veterans and Active-Duty Waterfowl Hunt
Recommendations

• New opportunity
• 2 days in addition to regular duck seasons
• Hold concurrently with Youth Season (September 19-20)
• Bag limits for Youth Season apply
3-Year Stable Opening Dates

- **North Zone – last Saturday in Sept.:**
  - 2019 = Sept. 28
  - 2020 = Sept. 26
  - 2021 = Sept. 25

- **Middle Zone – 1st Saturday in Oct.:**
  - 2019 = Oct. 5
  - 2020 = Oct. 3
  - 2021 = Oct. 2

- **South Zone – 2nd Saturday in Oct.:**
  - 2020 = Oct. 10
  - 2021 = Oct. 9
2020 Duck Season Recommendations – Dates

- North Zone
  - Sept. 26 – Nov. 22
  - Nov. 28 – 29

- Middle Zone
  - Oct. 3 – Nov. 29
  - Dec. 12 – 13

- South Zone
  - Oct. 10 – Dec. 6
  - Dec. 26 – Dec. 27
2020 Duck Season Recommendations – Daily Limits

- Maximum allowed under Federal Frameworks
- Scaup:
  - North Zone: Sept. 26 to Nov. 9 (2-bird limit), Nov. 10 - 22 (1-bird limit), and Nov. 28 - 29 (1-bird limit)
  - Middle Zone: Oct. 3 to Nov. 16 (2-bird limit), Nov. 17 – Nov. 29 (1-bird limit) and Dec. 12 – Dec. 13 (1-bird limit)
  - South Zone: Oct. 10 - 25 (1-bird limit), Oct. 26 to Dec. 6 (2-bird limit), and Dec. 26 - 27 (2-bird limit)
2020 Falconry Season Recommendations

• Same dates as gun hunting
• Additional days for ducks, mergansers, coots, and moorhens:
  – Feb. 24 – Mar. 10, 2021
• No change to daily bag limits
• Possession limits 3X daily limit
Duck Hunting Zones and Splits for 2021-25 Seasons

North Waterfowl Hunt Zone

Middle Waterfowl Hunt Zone

South Waterfowl Hunt Zone

(Rev. 2008 Feb. - MLS)
Process

- January – June, 2019 submit proposals
- July 1, 2019 proposals due
- July 22, 2019 Waterfowl Workgroup meeting to review proposals
- August 10, 2019 CWAC meeting to discuss proposals
- August – December, 2019 solicit input on submitted proposals
  - Online waterfowl hunter survey
- December 16, 2019 Waterfowl Workgroup meeting
- February 1, 2020 CWAC meeting
- March 19, 2020 NRC (Information)
- April 16, 2020 NRC (Action)
- July 1, 2020 deadline for changes
- Implement 2021-22 hunting season (for 21-25 seasons)
Duck Hunting Zones and Splits for 2021-25 Seasons

• 3 proposals evaluated:
  – Eastern UP (move the area east of I-75 in the UP to the Middle Zone)
  – Saginaw Bay (move the area north of M-25 into the Middle Zone)
  – Northwestern LP (move the area west of US-131 into the South Zone OR move the area west of US-31 into the South Zone)
Online Waterfowl Hunter Survey

• Available Oct. 10 - Nov. 8
• Sent to 85,522 emails (RSS and Gov Delivery)
• 2,705 responses (3.16% response rate)
• Questions asked about:
  – Waterfowl hunting activity
  – Type of land hunted
  – Preferred hunting zone and region
  – Opinions about the 2018 duck hunting season
  – Opinions about season structure
    • 77% support 3 zones with split season
  – Preference for hunting zone configurations in 3 regions
2021-25 Waterfowl Hunting Zone Recommendation

• Move Saginaw Bay to the Middle Zone using M-25 as the dividing line between Middle and South Zones
  • Support from survey
    – 62% of Saginaw Bay hunters lose hunting opportunity late in season because of weather
    – Preference for this change in all zones and regions
  • Support from Saginaw Bay waterfowl hunting groups
  • Support from DNR managed waterfowl hunting area staff and SE Regional staff
Thank You