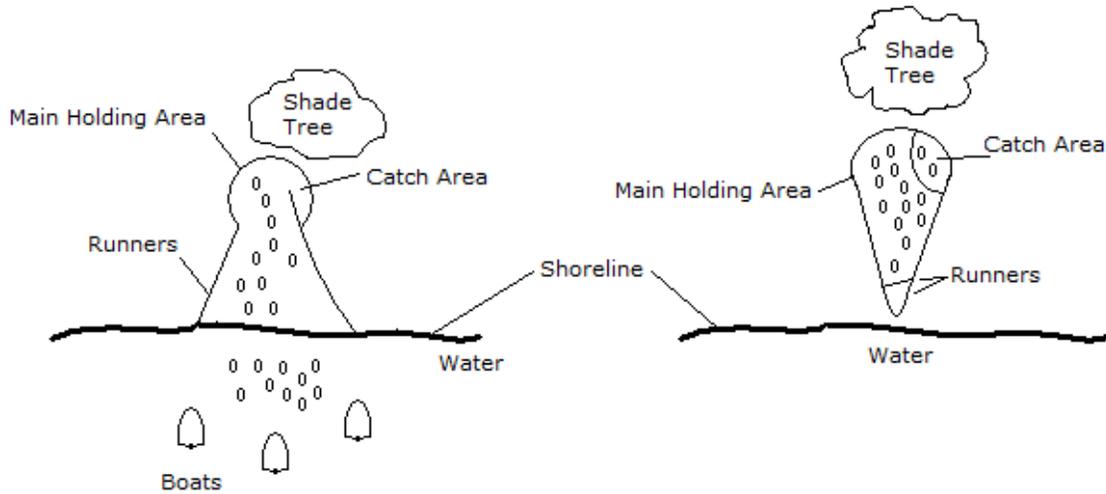


DNR Wildlife Division
Goose Pen



Stage One: Construction

- Pen is constructed of 4' high snow fence with stakes approximately ever 6'.
- There are three components to a pen:
 - 1) Main Holding Area, can be any shape, however semi-circle seems to work best. Needs to be about 10' in diameter.
 - 2) Runners, fencing of varying lengths, extending from the main holding area. Act as a funnel to herd the flock into the main holding area.
 - 3) Catch Area, small section of fencing which can be located anywhere along the main holding area. Used to isolate few geese at a time for ease of catching.
- The Catch Area must be accessible by truck, i.e. beach, boat launch, etc...

Stage Two: Capture

- On water, boats slowly surround and gently push the geese into the area between the runners.
- On land (i.e. golf courses), people walking slowly surround the flock and gently push the geese into the area between the runners
- Once the flock is between the runners, bring the ends of the runners together to enclose the flock.
- Authorized personnel will enclose a few geese into the catch area and hand them over the pen to be placed on the truck for transport.



CANADA GOOSE ROUND-UP/CAPTURING PROCEDURES

Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division

- The capture pen should be set up several days prior to the catch day, if possible. This gives the birds time to get used to the sight of the pen. The capture pen should be located in an area that is accessible to a truck. Usually a beach or boat launch is the best location for the pen. If the birds are to spend more than an hour in the pen, then every effort should be made to put the pen in a shady area. Large lakes or properties should build more than one pen so that birds do not have to driven a long distance. As a general rule, plan on one pen per every 50 birds.
- To create a capture pen, use several rolls (normally three 50' rolls) of snow fence or plastic barricade fence that is at least 4' high. Be sure that there are no broken slats in the snow fence, as geese can escape through a small hole. Stake fence securely every 6' using steel fence posts or rebar rod. If pen is on sand, the bottom must be securely staked, or birds will push under it and escape. The pen should be in a funnel or keyhole –shape with runners going into the water (see diagram on back).
- A catch area must be made by using a small section of fence, or by starting the fence at that location. Small numbers of birds can be run into this catch area and easily caught and handed over the side of the pen. If a catch area is not built into the pen, then a small “bubble” should be created along the side of the pen, which can serve the same purpose. If you prefer to build a large pen for 50+ birds, then you must incorporate a smaller inner pen with a catch area to avoid chasing the birds around a large pen, which causes undue stress. Multiple small pens are recommended over one large pen.
- The fence creating the pen must be able to be opened someplace along its length so that the catchers can enter.
- It will be necessary to capture the birds early in the morning (daybreak) on the assigned roundup day. There will be NO night-before roundups authorized.
- Use several boats to surround the flocks of birds and herd them SLOWLY towards the capture pen. Most of the birds will not be able to fly, since they are in molt. If any of the birds can still fly and break away from the group, let them go: stay with the group. Quietly push the birds into the pen. A couple of people on shore can close the pen once the birds are in.
- While the birds are in the capture pen(s), at least one person must be assigned to watch the birds at all times. In most instances, as long as there is no commotion around the pens, the birds remain quiet and calm. To minimize stress, the birds should be transported as soon as possible.
- Be sure human disturbance, especially small children and pets are kept away from the pens at all times.