

**December 23, 2021**  
**Kentucky Waterfowl Ground Counts**

This is the ground count for December 27 through December 29, 2021. During the holiday season, some areas may not be surveyed.

Habitat conditions are still dry, but food is plentiful. Growing conditions this summer were favorable for both planted crops and moist soil plants. Most areas report ample food available for ducks this season. Water levels in hunt units are mostly right where we want them, but units that cannot be mechanically filled are dryer than normal. We are adding water where possible to keep adequate hunting water. Overall, wetland conditions and food availability are excellent.

Duck season will run until January 31, 2022. Goose season will remain open until February 15, 2022. The western zone youth hunt will be February 5-6, 2022. All bag limits remain the same as last season. Check out the waterfowl hunting [web page](#) for more details.

Good luck hunting and be safe out there. Enjoy your time afield.

<b>Location</b>	<b>Number</b>	<b>Species Composition</b>	<b>Comments</b>
Ballard <i>12/22/2021</i>	10,807 ducks 7,000 WF geese 6,500 Snow geese	93% Mallard 3% Wigeon 4% other species	There was a notable loss of ducks 3 days prior to the survey. Hunt water in most units, and pumping where possible. Moist soil and food plots are looking great.
Boatwright <i>12/22/2021</i>	3,912 ducks 11 CA geese 2 Snow geese	42% Mallard 38% ring-necked duck 13% scaup 6 % GW teal	Water levels are getting closer to where we want them in most units. There are still units without the ability to mechanically pump that are low. Moist soil and food plots all look great.
Duck Island <i>12/3/2021</i>	4,000 ducks 200 CA geese 200 WF geese	70% Mallard 10% pintail 10% Gadwall 10% GW teal, ring-neck, scaup canvasback, ruddy duck and wigeon.	Water levels are optimum. Habitat is good/excellent this year. Birds were spread out and in vegetation, so a really good view was not possible.
Doug Travis WMA <i>12/20/2021</i>	262 Ducks	99% Mallard	Heavy rains last week helped water conditions on the area. Well 2 remains inoperable.

Sloughs WMA <i>12/21/2021</i>	5,700 ducks 6,200 WF goose 3,500 Snow goose 100 CA goose  25 Tundra Swan	75% mallard 20% gadwall and widgeon 5% teal and ring-neck	The region picked up some rainfall from the last survey with habitat conditions improving. Water is available within all hunt units on the WMA and Jenny Hole. Birds are still concentrated around the refuge areas with water. Pond creek marsh has picked up some water and birds have started using the available habitat.
Peabody WMA <i>12/8/2021</i>	"kinda sparse"...		
Yellowbank WMA <i>12/6/2021</i>	550 Ducks	85% mallard 5% black duck 5% pintail 5% other dabbling ducks	Excellent moist soil plant response and row crops in most units. Moist-soil units are at 75% water capacity.
Barren River WMA <i>12/22/2021</i>	10 ducks 85 CA geese 56 Sandhill cranes	5 wood ducks	Peters Creek MSU 60% full. Long Creek- Calvert Springs main unit 80%, and units above and below the main spring 50-80%. MSUs off hwy 100 are 40-80% full, with corn and MSU plants in great condition.  Lake 530.9(+2.9) down 0.9 ft 3728cfs
Blue Grass Army Depot (all lakes and ponds)	Not surveyed		
Cave Run Lake <i>12/22/2021</i>	101 Ducks, 190 CA geese 123 coots	14 Mallard 33 Bufflehead 2 Ring-necked ducks 52 Ruddy ducks	Lake level – 725.2'