

November 21-23, 2016
Kentucky Waterfowl Ground Counts

Due to the Thanksgiving Holiday and staff being on leave, some areas were not surveyed this week.

Duck numbers are still lower than normal, but we have picked up new birds since last week. The cold weather has finally started and the ducks are starting to trickle in.

Overall, most of the states wetlands are still in relatively good shape, considering the lack of rain in last 2 months

Kentucky's 2016-17 duck and goose seasons open Thursday, November 24. The first duck and goose season segment will close on Sunday, November 27th. The second segment of duck and season will open December 5th and the duck season will remain open until Sunday, January 29th. The second segment of the goose season will remain open until Wednesday, February 15, 2017. Good luck to all waterfowl hunters and remember to be safe whenever you are out pursuing the resource this hunting season.

Location	Number	Species Composition	Comments
Ballard WMA			
Barren River Lake	Not surveyed		
Birdsville Island	Not surveyed		
Kentucky/Barkley Lakes	3,000 ducks per lake at survey points. 25 CA geese on Barkley	50/50 mix of dabblers and Divers. Dabblers are 90% Gadwall and GW Teal. 10% Mallards and Shoveler. Divers are mostly Scaup and Bufflehead.	Water levels at winter pool. Most islands and mud flats are exposed. No aquatic vegetation seen.
Duck Island	3,800 ducks 75 Canada Geese	95% Mallards, GW Teal, Gadwall. 5% Wigeon, Pintail and Shoveler.	Current water levels on the island are ideal. We have a good source of water stockpiled in the north impoundment and will gravity flow into the central as needed. The central level will be brought up slowly to maximize availability of foraging resources for the waterfowl moving through. The lakes have been staying very

			near winter pool, resulting in large areas of exposed mudflats... especially on Lake Barkley.
Boatwright WMA			
Doug Travis WMA	250 ducks	70% Mallards, 30% wood ducks.	All wells are running, but river levels are dropping.
Cave Run Lake			
Clear Creek WMA	Not surveyed		
Peabody WMA	135 Ducks 242 Canada Geese	65% Gadwall, 25% Mallard, 10% Teal.	Due to lack of rainfall, most moist soil units are dry.
Sloughs WMA	7000 Ducks 6000 WF Geese 350 Snows 85 CA Geese 23 Swans	85% Mallard, 15% Teal, Shoveler, Black Duck, Gadwall, Wigeon and Wood Ducks.	Most of our Shallow water areas that can be mechanically pumped are where we would like them or close to where they need to be. Most natural sloughs where we do not have the ability to mechanically flood are very low, if not dry. There is rain in the forecast for tomorrow, but the inch of rain that is predicted will not do much to help fill up these natural sloughs.
Yellowbank WMA	210 Ducks	80% Mallards, 10% Wood Ducks, 10% Gadwall.	MSU's flooded by pumps are at 35% water capacity
Blue Grass Army Depot (all lakes and ponds)	129 ducks	55 Mallards, 47 Gadwall, 14 Black Ducks, 13 misc. Divers and Mergansers.	Moist Soil Unit is still dry.
Herrington Lake	2 road-killed raccoons		
Taylorsville Lake	No birds sited at survey locations.		MSUs units have not been pumped yet and a significant rain event is needed to allow us to pump from the salt river.

Cedar Cr./Dix R. WMA	Not surveyed		
Green River WMA	Not surveyed		