

December 5 - 9, 2016
Kentucky Waterfowl Ground Counts

(Survey data not available for all locations. Updates will be posted when possible)

Winter conditions have finally arrived and waterfowl numbers are increasing daily on our WMA's. We are still dry on several of our management areas, but with a little luck, the rain will continue to fall. We are into our second segment of the waterfowl season, and there are still loads of ducks and geese being reported north of us. Get out and scout for areas with adequate water and keep an eye on the coming north winds! Good luck to all and remember to be safe.

Location	Number	Species Composition	Comments
Ballard WMA	35,900 ducks 50 CA Geese 6,500 WF geese	86% Mallard, 5% Gadwall, 4% GW teal, 2% Ring-neck, the remaining 3% is mix bag of wood duck, shoveler, wigeon, black duck and merganser.	We are pumping with wells where we can, have a pto-driven pump set up and pumping water from unit to unit where possible. Ohio River is finally high enough to pump from.
Boatwright WMA	2,000 ducks 15 CA geese	99% Mallard, 1% Wood Duck	Pumping water where possible. Habitat conditions are great minus water.
Birdsville Island	Not surveyed		
Kentucky/Barkley Lakes			
Duck Island	5,500 ducks	85% Mallard, 10% GW Teal, 5% pintail, gadwall and ringnecks.	Seeing good waterfowl use of the island with ideal water conditions. Overall use is generally similar to last year at this time. The central impoundment will continue to be monitored and we may raise the level a few tenths of a foot within the next 7 days. The lake level rise may be enough to allow pumping of the south impoundment.

Barren River Lake	760 Ducks	75% Divers (50% Scaup, 25% Ringnecks, 25% bufflehead, redhead, canvasback and ruddys) 25% Dabblers (Mallards, gadwall, black ducks, wood ducks, and pintails. Listed in order of abundance)	Peters Creek MSU 10% full, Long Creek- Calvert Springs and units adjacent to CS are 60% full, other units 0%
Doug Travis WMA	2,200 ducks	95% Mallards, 5% wood ducks & mixed dabblers.	All 3 wells running and area is 60% flooded and increasing slowly.
Cave Run Lake	No ducks sited at survey locations.		
Peabody WMA	186 Ducks 15 CA Geese	50% Mallard, 25% Gadwall and Wigeon, 25% mixed divers.	Rainfall totals have been insufficient to fill moist soil units.
Sloughs WMA	8,705 Ducks 7,250 WF Geese 9,250 Snows 97 CA Geese 63 Swans	75% Mallard, 25% gadwall, GW teal, pintail, Shoveler, and ringnecks.	Conditions remain relatively dry across the WMA. Around 90% of the Pond Creek wetland complex is still without water, with only small pockets now being inundated with recent rains. Similarly, around 25% of Muddy Slough also is dry.
Yellowbank WMA	365 Ducks	80% Mallards, 10% Wood Ducks, 5% Gadwall & 5% Black ducks.	MSU's flooded by pumps are at 50% water capacity. All other units are at 25% water capacity with rain events.
Blue Grass Army Depot (all lakes and ponds)	152 ducks 28 CA geese	77 Mallards, 31 Gadwall, 14 Black Ducks and 30 ringnecks.	
Herrington Lake	No birds sited at survey locations.		
Taylorville Lake	No ducks or geese observed while conducting waterfowl survey on the lake via boat.	Pump is still down, water level in lake has risen some but still 8" below winter pool.	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		