

SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS

400 WEST KEMP AVENUE | WATERTOWN, SD 57201

Outdoor Report

The week of November 28, 2016

Clark County



Fishing Report:

Casey's Slough: Fishing has been hit or miss. Anglers are catching walleye and perch from the rocks pitching jigs and minnows when they are biting.

Reid Lake: Closed to boating until December 31, 2016.



Hunting Report:

Geese: There are a good number of snow geese that have move into the area over the weekend. There are still good numbers of Canada geese around the area as well.

Duck: With the colder temps, more ducks have begun to move into the area. Most are found around the bigger bodies of water, as many of the smaller bodies of water have begun to freeze over.

Deer: Deer season continues to be difficult and now with the loss of snow, things have become even more difficult. Hopefully, the change in weather this week will help deer hunters out.

Pheasant: Pheasants have begun to group up around food and cover. Hunters are averaging around 2 birds.

Swan: As of this past weekend there were still a good number of swans around, but they seem to be moving out of the area pretty fast with the colder temps.

Codington County



Fishing Report:

No Fishing activity this week in the county due to cold weather and ice on the shorelines.



Hunting Report:

Geese: A large influx of geese has pushed into the area over the Thanksgiving weekend. Most of the geese are light geese but there are some Canada geese in the mix as well. Decoy hunters and pass shooters have had the best success they had all year with the high bird numbers and windy wet weather.

Duck: Duck hunting has been excellent for the field hunters and it should stay that way until the end of the season.

Deer: Deer hunting activity was quite a bit slower in the second week of ERD season. Most hunters bagged their deer in the first weekend making for fewer sportsmen on the landscape last week. With the fresh snow and colder temps, it should be getting easier to fill those last minute youth and archery tags.

Pheasant: The weather has made pheasant hunting the best it has been all year. Public land and private land are offering good opportunity to the few hunters we have seen in the county.

Swan: Quite a few swans on Long Lake and Grass Lake.

Day County



🧠 Fishing Report:

Waubay Lake: Little activity over the past week, a few late season fishermen were chasing perch and walleye with very limited success reported from the majority of anglers.



Hunting Report:





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Geese: The snow geese have moved into several areas throughout the county. Flocks in excess of +10,000 birds have been observed daily throughout the county.

Ducks: The northern migration of ducks over the past several weeks has been very erratic. The peak migration of ducks this year is like nothing hunters have experienced in years past. Hunter opportunity remains consistent with large flocks of mallards found throughout the county utilizing what open water is available.

Deer: Deer hunters have harvested above average sized bucks thus far those holding out for a trophy will more than likely have an opportunity after/during this week's winter weather.

Pheasant: Pheasant hunters have had success hunting dense cover near water and available food sources. Many hunters have been reporting 1-2 bird per person harvests.

Swan: Several small flocks of swans have been observed in a few locations throughout the county.

Hamlin County



Fishing Report:

No Fishing activity this week in the county due to cold weather and ice on the shorelines.



Hunting Report:

Geese: Most of the geese we are seeing in the area are snow geese. We have seen some Canada geese mixed in as well. Hunters are having great success both in the fields and pass shooting.

Duck: Duck hunting was excellent over the Thanksgiving weekend. Looking at the forecast, we should hold birds and have good hunting right up to the last day of the season next week.

Deer: Very little deer hunting activity over the Thanksgiving weekend. Most hunters filled ERD tags last week which made for fewer hunters on the landscape.

Pheasant: Colder temps and moisture have made for the best pheasant hunting we have seen so far this year.

Swan: Seeing some swans around 3-buck and smaller sloughs between Bryant and Hazel.

Marshall County



Fishing Report:

No fishing activity has been observed.



Hunting Report:

Geese: The goose numbers have increased. The majority of geese are located on bigger bodies of water and are feeding in harvested corn fields.

Duck: The duck numbers in the county have increased significantly. The cold snap froze up small wetlands most of the birds are on big water and are feeding in harvested corn fields.

Deer: The deer are moving really good in the evening close to sunset. I have observed a few decent sized groups of deer in the western portion of the county. Good luck and be safe.

Pheasant: The majority of the birds have been found in the western portion of the county. The pheasants have transitioned over to utilizing winter cover.





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Swan: After the last cold snap, the majority of swans have left the area.

