



Outdoor Report

The week of December 4, 2017

- Track the waterfowl in the area with the GFP hunting opportunity thunderstorm map online at <http://gfp.sd.gov/hunting/waterfowl/migration/default.aspx>. This map is updated every Thursday afternoon and should provide a good indicator of duck and goose activity in your area of interest.

Aberdeen Area

Fishing Report:



No fishing activity has been observed.



Hunting Report:

Pheasant: Hunters have had to put in time to find pheasants. Hunters that are willing to walk found some birds. Hunters have had the best luck hunting cattail sloughs.

Duck: The ducks are starting to migrate out of the area. A few smaller flocks can be found in the Putney Slough area and Scatterwood area. Scouting is the key to success. The duck season closes on December 12.

Goose: There are still a few Canada geese in the Putney Slough and Scatterwood areas. Most of the snow geese have migrated out of Brown County. The Canada goose season closes on December 17 and the snow goose season closes on January 12.

Deer: The East River Deer season closed on December 3rd. The antlerless deer season opens on Dec 30-Jan 7, 2018 for antlerless deer licenses only. Any deer tags are not valid for the antlerless deer season.

Clark County

Fishing Report:



Ice fishing is not recommended at this time.



Hunting Report:

Waterfowl: There are still a few good pockets of waterfowl in the area. They are primarily found around the larger bodies of water.

Swans: There are still a few swans left around the area.

Deer: With the fresh snow, deer should be on the move. Archery and Muzzleloader seasons are still open.

Pheasant: Hunters are finding some success, now that the crops have come out. Hunters are averaging 1.5 to 2 birds per hunter.

Codington County

Fishing Report:



Kampeska: Warm, windy temperatures have opened up some water allowing folks to fish open water over the long weekend. Anglers caught a few walleye and northern pike at the inlet near Luncker's.



Hunting Report:

Pheasants: This week's snowfall should help pheasant hunters tremendously. Last weekend was very tough on both hunters and dogs. Dry, warm conditions have made it tough to flush birds.

Geese: Snow geese continue to be the main target when talking about goose hunting. The Henry and Long Lake area have been holding a lot of birds along with Goose Lake. Canada goose hunting has been pretty quiet this week.

Deer: The final week of deer season was pretty tough for the hunters who had not filled an ERD tag yet. Warm mild conditions did not have the deer moving during legal shooting hours unfortunately. Look for this last snowfall to group up some does making it easier for youth hunters to fill those tags.

Ducks: Duck hunting opportunity is getting pretty sparse as we enter the last week of the season. Only a few mallards left on places such as Long and Goose Lake.

Day County

Fishing Report:





SOUTH DAKOTA DEPARTMENT OF GAME, FISH AND PARKS

400 WEST KEMP AVENUE | WATERTOWN, SD 57201

Very little fishing activity observed in the county.



Hunting Report:

Canada Goose: There are still some geese concentrated on the bigger bodies of water.

Duck: There are still some ducks in the area also concentrating on the bigger bodies of water. The best duck flights have been in the late afternoon.

Deer: Deer activity is starting to slow now with the rifle season being done. There is still some good deer activity in the morning and evenings.

Pheasant: This cold weather is getting the birds more concentrated in dense cover. Hunters are having luck walking thick sloughs and shelter belts.

Hamlin County



Fishing Report:

No fishing pressure observed in the area.



Hunting Report:

Waterfowl: Most of the larger lakes have blown open due to the wind. Plenty of birds are still around in the western half of the county for sportsmen to take advantage of.

Deer: It was a successful east river deer season. Plenty of memories were made. Archery and Youth continue with colder temperatures to move in it will keep the deer moving in the morning and evening hours.

Pheasant: Public lands have been hit hard by hunters this year. The numbers of birds harvested on public ground have increased with most of the crops out. With colder temps and snow moving in it should bunch the birds up more to allow for more successful hunts.

Marshall County



Fishing Report:

Thin Ice conditions exist across the county. Please use extreme caution.

No fishing activity has been observed in the county.



Hunting Report:

Pheasant: Majority of the birds are located in the western portion of the county. Hunters focusing efforts near harvested fields seem to be having the best success.

Deer: Deer activity has slowed. The deer are moving in the early morning and evenings.

Goose: A few pockets of geese in the eastern portion of the county.

Duck: Very few groups of ducks remain in the county.

Be sure to obtain permission before entering private land, good luck and be safe!



Park Report:

Fort Sisseton State Park is having their Frontier Christmas this Saturday, December 9. Celebrate the season in classic frontier fashion with rustic crafts, bread ornaments, sleigh rides and caroling. The event runs from 10am to 4pm with lunch being served from 11am to 2pm. Park Entrance license is required.

Be sure to check out the event calendar at <http://gfp.sd.gov/calendar.aspx> to see other events in the area.

Park entrance licenses are required year-round. The 2018 Park Entrance Licenses are available at a number of local licensing agents. Gift cards are also available from your local park office and make great gifts for the holidays.

Reminder electricity in the campground stays on year-round and the cabins have heat, so there are still camping opportunities to be had.

