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Natural History

# ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

## DIVISION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES

### WATERFOWL PROGRAM

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#### ILLINOIS WATERFOWL HARVEST, HUNTER ACTIVITY, AND ATTITUDES TOWARD TEAL/DUCK/GOOSE REGULATIONS AND GOOSE HARVEST MONITORING SYSTEM, PLUS AGES OF HUNTERS, 1995-96 SEASON

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**Abstract:** Purchasers of the previous year's (1994) Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamp were sampled via mail questionnaire to obtain information on waterfowl harvest, hunter activity, and attitudes toward selected issues, during the 1995 season (60,564 stamps were sold in 1995). Of 2,675 respondents (68% response), 414 (15%) did not purchase a stamp again in 1995. Thus, the sample size was reduced to 2,261 respondents, 88% of which hunted waterfowl in Illinois in 1995-96. An estimated 55,454 hunters (4% more than in 1994) expended 884,328 days afield (8% more than in 1994) and harvested 498,854 waterfowl (50% more than in 1994). The ratio of duck hunters to goose hunters was 1.15:1 in 1995-96. During the September teal season, 9,123 hunters spent 24,865 days afield and harvested 19,731 teal (59% more than in 1994). During the regular duck season (increased from 40 to 50 days), 42,499 hunters expended 482,620 days afield and harvested 377,292 ducks (53% more than in 1994) and 3,386 coots. Among duck hunters, 40% used private areas, 27% used public areas, and 33% used both types of areas. During the experimental early September giant Canada goose season in 9 northeastern counties (Region 2), 2,591 hunters spent 9,502 days afield and harvested 2,784 Canada geese. During the regular goose season, 37,060 hunters devoted 367,341 days afield to harvest 92,478 Canada geese (36% more than in 1994) and 3,183 other geese. The Canada goose harvest included 35,414 taken in the Southern Illinois Quota Zone, 5,877 taken in the Rend Lake Quota Zone, 5,902 taken in North Quota Zone Counties, and 15,684 taken in Central Quota Zone Counties, which collectively accounted for 68% of the statewide harvest. The estimated goose harvest in the North and Central Quota Zone Counties was 25% less than the harvest recorded for these counties via the phone-in monitoring system. In the Southern Illinois Quota Zone, 48% of the Canada goose harvest occurred in Williamson county. In the Rend Lake Quota Zone, 70% of the Canada goose harvest took place in Jefferson County. Statewide, 58% of the goose hunters used private areas, 11% used public areas, and 31% used both types of areas. Among goose hunters, 4,988 (13%) hunted (or planned to hunt) snow geese during the late (to March 10) season in Illinois. The harvests of Canada geese by county, zone, and region are presented in Appendix A.

Majorities of the teal hunters liked the dates used for the September teal season (67%) and were supportive of the idea of dividing the state into zones for teal hunting (63%). Majorities of the duck hunters supported the dates used for the regular duck season (60%) and opposed changing legal shooting time from 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunrise (63%). Majorities of the goose hunters preferred having 3 Canada geese in the daily bag (71%) and supported the current phone-in Canada goose harvest monitoring system in the North and Central Waterfowl Zones (50%). Majorities of duck and goose hunters supported the concept of a September Canada goose hunting season (North and Central Zones) (64-86%); voted for having 3 basic waterfowl hunting zones in the state (66-70%); were satisfied with the current locations of the boundaries that separate the North, Central, and South Waterfowl Zones (58-68%); and were concerned about Federal baiting regulations (60-61%). Bismuth shot was used (tried) by 4% of the duck hunters and 5% of the goose hunters. Illinois waterfowl hunters averaged 41 years of age following the 1995 season.

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The purpose of this study was to collect information via mail questionnaire from a systematic sample of waterfowl hunters in Illinois following the 1995-96 hunting season. Data were obtained for waterfowl harvest, hunter activity, and attitudes of hunters toward selected hunting regulations and other subjects. The questionnaire used for the 1995-96 season (Fig. 1) was similar to those employed in previous years (Anderson 1983, 1984, 1985, 1986, 1987, 1988, and 1989; Anderson and Williamson 1990, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994; Anderson et al. 1995, 1996).

#### METHODS AND MATERIALS

The mailing list for the 1995-96 questionnaire was compiled by systematically selecting stubs from the sales of 36,540 of the previous year's (1994) Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamps. The stamps were printed with matching (i.e., same I.D. numbers) stubs attached. Vendors were instructed to write each stamp purchaser's name and mailing address on the stub, and to return

the stubs to the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Permit Office in Springfield. Persons on the mailing list were notified via letter postmarked 23 October 1995 that they would receive a questionnaire at the close of the hunting season. The notice included a form for keeping records of hunting activity and waterfowl harvested (Fig. 2).

Methods used to mail the 1995-96 Illinois Waterfowl Hunter Survey questionnaire and to process data from returned questionnaires were similar to those employed in previous years (Anderson 1983). On 19 January 1996, the questionnaire and a cover letter (Figs. 1 and 3) were mailed to 3,966 purchasers (3,483 residents and 483 non-residents) of the Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamp. Non-respondents were mailed 2nd and 3rd copies of the questionnaire and accompanying letters (Figs. 4 and 5) on 4 March and again on 11 April, respectively. As of 3 June 1996, 2,675 usable questionnaires were returned for a response rate of 68%. In 1986-1994, when the mailing lists were comparable to the 1995-96 list, response rates were 70-75%.

Procedures used to estimate numbers of hunters, days afield, waterfowl harvested, cripples lost, and confidence intervals were as described in the final report for the 1984 survey (Anderson 1986), with the following exceptions. The adjustment factors for stamp-exempt hunters were changed from 1.182 to 1.085 for duck hunters, from 1.218 to 1.087 for goose hunters, and from 1.200 to 1.086 for all waterfowl hunters (Anderson 1986:7). These changes were necessary because, beginning in 1994, senior ( $\geq 65$  years) hunters were no longer exempt from purchasing the Illinois

Migratory Waterfowl Stamp. The adjustment factors accounted for the number of stamp-exempt hunters relative to the number of stamp-purchasing hunters. Thus, the latter covered hunters 16-64 years of age in 1981-1993 and hunters  $\geq 16$  years (i.e., included seniors) in 1994 and 1995. The 1995-96 estimates of waterfowl harvest and hunter activity were based on a sales of 60,564 of the 1995 Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamps.

#### SEASON LENGTHS AND BAG LIMITS

Illinois' early teal season took place on 9-17 September 1995, and the daily bag limit was any aggregate of 4 blue-winged or green-winged teal. Legal shooting hours were from sunrise to sunset.

The regular duck season was increased from 30 days in 1993 to 40 days in 1994 to 50 days in 1995. The bag limit was 5 ducks (4 mallards) per day using the Conventional System (from 3 ducks [2 mallards] in 1993 and 1994), and legal shooting time was 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset (Fig. 6).

For Canada geese, the 1995 season length was 93 days (51 days in 1994) in the North Zone and Central Zone. These seasons were continuous. The Canada goose harvest monitoring system implemented in 18 counties in the North and Central Zones in 1994 was continued in 1995 (Fig. 6). Goose hunters in these counties were required to obtain a special permit (Fig. 7), which was issued free with purchase of the Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamp. Canada goose hunters were required to report Canada geese harvested daily utilizing a toll-free phone number (1-800-

WETLAND) in these select counties. The quotas were 22,014 Canada geese for the North Quota Zone Counties and 35,168 for the Central Quota Zone Counties. Procedures for calculating the quotas are described in a document prepared by the DNR's Waterfowl Program (Anonymous 1994).

The Canada goose season extended for 89 days (51 days in 1994) in the South Waterfowl Zone. In the Southern Illinois and Rend Lake Quota Zones, the seasons were 89 days or when 62,691 and 17,830 Canada geese were harvested, respectively. The statewide quota was 172,600 Canada geese (109,600 in 1994). The bag limit was 3 Canada geese per day (2 in 1994) statewide.

The early (September) Canada goose season was offered in 9 counties (Cook, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kendall, Kankakee, Lake, McHenry, and Will) in northeastern Illinois in 1995. The dates for this season were 1-14 September, and the bag limit was 5 Canada geese per day. Legal shooting hours were 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset.

## FINDINGS

Of the 2,675 respondents to the questionnaire, 414 (15%) did not purchase an Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamp again in 1995. The other 2,261 respondents purchased an average of 1.16 stamps each: 91% purchased 1 stamp, 8% purchased 2 stamps, 1% purchased 3-5 stamps, and <1% purchased  $\geq 6$  stamps. Of the 2,261 stamp purchasers, 1,990 (88%) hunted waterfowl in Illinois during the 1995 season.

## Waterfowl Harvest and Hunter Activity

An estimated 55,454 waterfowl hunters (4% more than in 1994) were active in Illinois during the 1995 season (Table 1). They spent 884,328 days afield (8% more than in 1994) and harvested 498,854 waterfowl (50% more than in 1994).

Of the 55,454 hunters who were active in 1995, 33% hunted ducks only, 23% hunted geese only, and 44% hunted both ducks and geese (Table 2). It is noteworthy that the percentage of waterfowl hunters who pursued ducks decreased from an average of 88% in 1981-1987 to an average of 77% in 1988-1995. Conversely, the percentage of waterfowl hunters who pursued geese increased from an average of 42% in 1981-1987 to an average of 70% in 1988-1995 (Table 2).

September Teal Season. An estimated 9,123 hunters spent 24,865 days afield, and harvested 19,731 teal during Illinois' 9-day September teal season in 1995 (Table 3). There were more teal hunters (2,309), more days afield (6,981), and more teal harvested (6,117) in Administrative Region 1B than in any other region. Region 3A was a close 2nd in all three categories. Three-fourths (75%) of the teal hunters were active in the same county in which they hunted most during the regular duck season.

The 1995 estimates for teal hunters, days afield, and teal harvested were 13-59% greater than comparable estimates for 1994 (Table 4). However, teal harvest and hunting activity were, on the average, 44-54% less in 1992-1995 than in 1984-1987. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) suspended the September season during the 4 years from 1988 to 1991.



Hunter success rates during the September season in 1995 were 0.79 teal per hunter per day afield and 2.16 teal per hunter per season. Success rates in previous years ranged from 0.51 to 0.83 teal per hunter per day afield and from 1.32 to 2.31 teal per hunter per season (Table 5).

The FWS estimated that Illinois' September teal harvest increased from 7,650 birds in 1994 to 10,710 birds in 1995 (Martin and Padding 1996).

Regular Duck Season. An estimated 42,499 individuals hunted ducks during the regular duck season in Illinois in 1995 (Table 6). These hunters harvested 377,292 ducks in 482,620 days afield. There were more duck hunters (11,320), more days spent afield (138,789), and more ducks harvested (117,218) in Region 1B than in any other region. Compared to the previous year, the number of duck hunters decreased 4%, days afield increased 2%, and duck harvest increased 52% in 1995 (Table 7).

The 377,292 ducks harvested in Illinois in 1995 included an estimated 230,505 mallards, 47,155 wood ducks, and 99,632 other ducks (including 5,393 canvasback). The FWS estimated that 267,269 total ducks were harvested in the state during the regular duck 1995 season, which included 154,107 mallards, 28,357 wood ducks, and 84,805 other ducks (including 2,913 canvasback) (Martin and Padding 1996). The FWS estimates indicated that duck harvest increased 21% in Illinois, 58% in the Mississippi Flyway, and 46% in the United States, from 1994 to 1995.

Statewide, hunter success rates were 0.74 duck per hunter per day afield and 8.40 ducks per hunter per season in 1995.

(Table 8). From 1981 to 1994, success rates ranged from 0.48 to 0.72 duck per hunter per day afield and from 4.30 to 8.00 ducks per hunter per season. Based on these comparisons, the 1995 season was a highly successful year for duck hunters in Illinois.

Two-thirds (66%) of the duck hunters were active in a single county, 24% were active in 2 counties, and 10% were active in  $\geq 3$  counties. Similarly, 53% of the duck hunters were active in their county of residence and 31% were active only in their county of residence. Statewide in 1995, 40% of the duck hunters were active on private areas, 27% were active on public areas, and 33% were active on both types of areas (n=1,485).

Coot Hunting. The coot harvest was estimated at 3,386 birds in Illinois in 1995, 13% less than the estimated harvest for 1994 (Tables 6 and 7). The FWS estimated the Illinois coot harvest at 1,054 birds for the 1995 season, up 2% from that agency's estimate for 1994 (Martin and Padding 1996).

September Giant Canada Goose Season. This experimental early Canada goose hunting season took place on 1-14 September in 9 counties in northeastern Illinois. An estimated 2,591 hunters spent 9,502 days afield, and harvested 2,784 Canada geese during this early season. Kane, Lake, McHenry, and Will counties accounted for 78% of the harvest. In 1991, when the last experimental September season was offered, an estimated 3,953 hunters spent 11,635 days afield and harvested 3,510 Canada geese.

Regular Goose Season. An estimated 37,060 goose hunters were active during the regular goose season in Illinois in 1995-

96, and they spent 367,341 days afield (Table 10). Among these hunters, 58% used private areas, 11% used public areas, and 31% used both types of areas (n=1,282). The Southern Illinois Quota Zone (Alexander, Jackson, Union, and Williamson counties), located in Region 5, accounted for 43% of the goose hunters and 30% of the days afield. The Rend Lake Quota Zone (Franklin and Jefferson counties), also in Region 5, accommodated 11% of the hunters and 8% of the days afield. The remainder of the state was associated with 63% of the hunters and 62% of the days afield. Statewide, the number of goose hunters and their days afield increased 67% and 247%, respectively, from 1985 to 1995 (Table 11).

There were an estimated 95,661 geese harvested during the regular goose season in Illinois in 1995-96, which included 92,478 Canada geese and 3,183 other geese (Table 10). The Canada goose harvest increased 36% between 1994-95 and 1995-96 (Table 11). The FWS estimated that 101,524 Canada geese, 4,884 other geese, and 106,408 total geese were taken in the state in 1995-96 (Martin and Padding 1996).

Canada goose harvest in the Southern Illinois Quota Zone was tabulated (via daily registration forms) at 35,414 birds during the 1995-96 season (Whitton 1996a). This represents 38% of the statewide harvest of Canada geese during the regular goose season. In the Rend Lake Quota Zone, an estimated 5,877 Canada geese (6% of state's total harvest) were taken. This estimate was 20% less than the projected harvest (i.e., projected from the reported harvest on public hunting areas) of 7,375 Canada geese

for the entire Rend Lake Quota Zone (Whitton 1996b).

The Canada goose harvest in the 18 North and Central Quota Zone Counties was estimated at 21,586 birds (Tables 12 and 13). In comparison, the phone-in monitoring system tabulated a harvest of 28,744 Canada geese in these counties (Table 13). Thus, the two procedures--the mail-questionnaire survey and the phone-in monitoring system--produced Canada goose harvest estimates for the 18 Quota Counties that differed by 25% in 1995-96.

It is noteworthy that 24 of Illinois' 102 counties were covered by a Canada goose harvest monitoring system during the 1995-96 season. These included 18 counties in the North and Central Zones, the 2 counties comprising the Rend Lake Quota Zone, and the 4 counties comprising the Southern Illinois Quota Zone. Collectively, these 24 counties accounted for 68% of the Canada goose harvest in Illinois in 1995-96 (Table 14). The harvests of Canada geese by county, zone, and administrative region in 1993-1995 are presented in Appendix A.

Statewide, hunters experienced an overall success rate of 0.25 goose per hunter per day afield and 2.47 geese per hunter per season in 1995-96 (Table 10). In the Southern Illinois Quota Zone, success was 0.32 and 2.26 geese, respectively. Similarly, hunter success was 0.22 and 1.48 geese at Rend Lake, and 0.21 and 2.12 geese in the remainder of the state. In comparison, statewide success rates ranged from 0.15 to 0.32 goose per hunter per day afield and from 0.95 to 2.63 geese per hunter per season in 1981 through 1994 (Table 15).

According to information reported by goose hunters in the

Southern Illinois Quota Zone, 43% of the days afield in that zone occurred in Williamson County, 26% in Alexander County, 20% in Union County, and 11% in Jackson County (Table 16). Similarly, 48%, 25%, 19%, and 9% of the Canada goose harvest took place in these counties, respectively. For the Rend Lake Quota Zone, 54% of the days afield and 70% of the Canada goose harvest occurred in Jefferson County. The remaining days afield (46%) and Canada goose harvest (30%) were associated with Franklin County.

Crippling Losses. Crippling losses (birds knocked down but not retrieved) were estimated at 86,834 ducks, 18,391 geese, and 1,085 coots in Illinois during the 1995-96 hunting season (Table 17). These estimates, which are considered to be indices and not actual numbers, equate to 23.0 ducks, 19.2 geese, and 32.0 coots lost per 100 harvested. The 1995 crippling rates are among the lowest recorded in Illinois since the Illinois Waterfowl Hunter Survey was initiated in 1981.

Nationwide crippling rates for ducks and geese during the 1995 season, as measured via hunter questionnaire surveys conducted by the FWS, were similar to, or lower than, the rates that prevailed in the 1950's and 1960s (Table 18).

Bismuth Shot. When asked whether they used bismuth shot for any of their waterfowl hunting in Illinois during the 1995-96 season, 3.8% (n=1,457) of the duck hunters and 4.9% (n=1,282) of the goose hunters answered in the affirmative.

#### Attitudes and Opinions of Hunters

Dates and Splits for September Teal Season. A majority

(67%) of the teal hunters thought the dates selected for the September teal season in 1995 (September 9-17) were about right (Table 19). This sentiment prevailed in all waterfowl zones and administrative regions in the state.

A majority (63%) of the teal hunters also supported the idea of dividing the state into zones for purposes of setting the dates for the September teal season (Table 20). This preference predominated in all waterfowl zones.

Dates and Shooting Time for Regular Duck Season. According to responses to question #20, majorities (63-67%) of the duck hunters in the North and Central Waterfowl Zones thought the dates used for the regular duck season in 1995 were about right (Table 21). Although a plurality (47%) of the duck hunters in the South Zone expressed these same feelings, 42% thought the season was too early.

Majorities (61-69%) of the duck hunters in all zones were opposed to changing legal shooting time from 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunrise (Table 22). Over the years, duck hunters have consistently exhibited a preference for beginning legal shooting time at 1/2 hour before sunrise: 74% in 1981, 65% in 1988, 63% in 1989, and 76% in 1992 (Anderson 1983, Anderson and Williamson 1990, 1991, 1994).

September Canada Goose Season. Majorities (64-86%) of the hunters in the North and Central Waterfowl Zones were supportive of having a Canada goose hunting season in their county of residence, in the county where they goose hunt most, and in the county where they duck hunt most (Tables 23-25). Hunters in the

South Waterfowl Zone were less than enthusiastic about this early season: their support was 38%, 50%, and 45%, respectively.

Goose Harvest Monitoring System in North and Central Zones.

The goose harvest monitoring system implemented in the North and Central Waterfowl Zones in 1994-95 was continued in 1995-96. With this system, goose hunters in selected counties in each zone must daily report, via toll-free telephone number, their harvest of Canada geese. When the harvest quota is reached in these counties, the Canada goose season is closed throughout the zone. The alternative is a system that requires all goose hunters in each zone to report their Canada goose harvest. The survey indicated that 50-54% of the goose hunters preferred the monitoring system that is in place, which requires hunters in selected counties to report their goose harvest. One-fourth (23-25%) of the hunters voted for the alternative system, and the remaining (21-27%) hunters did not have an opinion (Table 26). Thus, those hunters who indicated a preference favored the current monitoring system by a margin of 2 to 1.

Number of Canada Geese in Daily Bag. Majorities (70-78%) of goose hunters throughout the state preferred regulations that allow a limit of 3 Canada geese per day during the regular goose season (Table 27). Almost all of the remaining hunters (19-25%) chose a limit of 2 Canada geese per day.

Number of Waterfowl Zones and Zone Boundaries. A majority (70%) of the duck hunters thought that Illinois should be divided into 3 basic zones for purposes of setting the waterfowl hunting seasons (Table 28). These sentiments, which were echoed by goose

hunters, were consistent throughout the state.

Majorities (60-75%) of the duck hunters and goose hunters in each zone thought the locations of the boundaries that divided the North, Central, and South Waterfowl Zones in 1995-96 were about right (Tables 29 and 30). Hunters who were active in the boundary counties (i.e., the counties in which the boundaries were located) were also supportive (58-68%) of the present locations of the boundaries.

Federal Baiting Regulations. Majorities (60-61%) of the duck hunters and goose hunters expressed (some or great) concern about the Federal baiting regulations (Tables 31 and 32). Interestingly, 20% of the hunters said they didn't know enough about the regulations to express a view.

#### Ages of Stamp Purchasers and Waterfowl Hunters

The average age of 1995 Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamp purchasers was 41.5 years (Table 33). The stamp purchasers who hunted ducks averaged 40.4 years and those who hunted geese averaged 39.8 years. More than one-half (53-55%) of the stamp purchasers/waterfowl hunters were between 31 and 50 years of age. Senior ( $\geq 65$  years) hunters accounted for 8% of both the stamp purchasers and waterfowl hunters. Junior ( $\leq 15$  years) hunters are under represented in Table 33 because they were not required to purchase a state waterfowl stamp. However, the proportionate numbers of junior hunters was estimated to equate to 8.5% (duck hunters), 8.7% (goose hunters), and 8.6% (all waterfowl hunters) of the stamp-purchasing ( $\geq 16$  years) hunters (Anderson et al.



1996:3-4). If juniors are included in the age distribution, all of the percentages must be adjusted accordingly.

## DISCUSSION

Because of improved water and habitat conditions in prairie Canada and the northern U.S., the fall flight of ducks increased from 59 million in 1993 to 71 million in 1994 to 80 million in 1995 (Canadian Wildlife Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service 1994 and 1995). As a result, the duck seasons in Illinois and other Mississippi Flyway states were extended from 30 days in 1988-1993 to 40 days in 1994 to 50 days in 1995. The daily bag limit was increased from 3 ducks (2 mallards) in 1988-1994 to 5 ducks (4 mallards) in 1995.

In response to the longer duck seasons, the number of days afield devoted to duck hunting increased 30% from 1993 to 1994 and 2% from 1994 to 1995 (Table 7). The number of duck hunters also increased (+9%) from 1993 to 1994; however, their numbers decreased (-4%) from 1994 to 1995. The duck harvest increased (+13% and +53%) in both years. The increase in duck harvest in 1994 was caused by an increase in hunting activity, whereas the increase in 1995 was due primarily to increases in hunter success (Table 8).

The 1995-96 goose hunting season was one of the best on record in terms of the number of geese harvested and hunter success (Tables 11 and 15). An estimated 95,661 total geese, including 92,478 Canada geese, were harvested during the regular goose season. When the September season is included (Table 9),

the estimates increase to 98,445 total geese and 95,262 Canada geese. These impressive numbers were manifested, in part, by the long (89-93 days) goose seasons that were awarded to the DNR for expanding Illinois' Canada goose harvest monitoring capabilities beginning in 1994.

The Canada goose harvest monitoring system implemented in the North and Central Waterfowl Zones was in effect in 18 counties in both 1994-95 and 1995-96 (Fig. 6). Goose hunters in these counties had to obtain a special permit (issued free with purchase of the Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamp), which was used to record each goose harvested immediately after it was reduced to the bag. In addition, the hunters had to daily report the number of Canada geese they harvested via a toll-free phone number. With this monitoring system, harvests tabulated for Canada geese were within 1% of estimates produced by the mail-questionnaire survey for the Quota Counties in 1994-95 (Anderson et al. 1996). However, agreement was not as good in 1995-96: the phone-in monitoring system recorded 28,744 Canada geese harvested in the Quota Counties whereas the estimate produced by the mail-questionnaire survey was 21,586 geese, a difference of 25% (Table 13). It appears that, in 1995-96, the mail-questionnaire survey underestimated the Canada goose harvest in the 18 Quota Counties in northern and central Illinois.

When waterfowl hunters were asked to express their opinions about having an early (September) Canada goose hunting season, those in the North and Central Waterfowl Zones were supportive. Majorities (64%-86%) of these hunters voted for the September

season in their county of residence, in the county where they goose hunt most, and in the county where they duck hunt most (Tables 23-25). Clearly, these hunters--especially those in northern Illinois--are in favor of the September Canada goose hunting season. For hunters in the South Waterfowl Zone, the attitude was different: only 38% (county of residence), 50% (county goose hunt most), and 45% (county duck hunt most) supported the September season. To the extent that attitudes and opinions are the overriding factors, we recommend expanding the early (September) Canada goose hunting season to all of the North and Central Waterfowl Zones in Illinois.

Occasionally, various groups of waterfowl hunters ask the DNR to move the boundaries that separate the North and Central Waterfowl Zones, and the Central and South Zones, further north or further south. These hunters believe that, by changing the boundary and thereby "moving" their waterfowling area to a different zone, their hunting will improve. When polled, majorities (60-71%) of the duck hunters in each zone, as well as in the counties where the boundaries were located, thought the present locations of the boundaries were about right (Table 29). Goose hunters expressed the same views, with 58-75% supporting the present locations of the boundaries (Table 30). It appears that waterfowl hunters throughout each zone, as well as in the boundary counties, are highly satisfied with the locations of the zone boundaries as they existed during the 1995-96 waterfowl season.

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Table 1. Summary of Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamps purchased, hunter activity, and waterfowl harvest in Illinois from 1981 through 1995 hunting seasons.

Season (Year)	Stamps Purchased	Hunters	Days Afield	Waterfowl Harvest <sup>a</sup>
1981	61,929	63,652	874,730	413,264
1982	57,691	58,766	795,807	392,897
1983	56,162	58,240	815,523	475,601
1984	55,250	56,533	748,390	420,357
1985	55,670	56,899	699,113	392,253
1986	59,734	61,876	887,446	467,164
1987	58,803 (5,550) <sup>b</sup>	60,371	814,918	354,194
1988 <sup>c</sup>	53,498 (4,350)	53,450	644,056	264,316
1989 <sup>c</sup>	55,693 (3,570)	55,709	749,033	322,359
1990 <sup>c</sup>	55,009 (2,390)	55,152	708,391	270,796
1991 <sup>c</sup>	58,421 (2,130)	59,038	855,279	406,854
1992	51,261 (1,395)	51,274	714,550	292,535
1993	50,976 ( 995)	51,340	682,498	326,446
1994	57,543 ( 955)	53,226	816,185	332,803
1995	60,564 ( 665)	55,454	884,328	498,854

<sup>a</sup>Teal, ducks, coots, and geese combined. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service suspended the September teal season in 1988 through 1991.

<sup>b</sup>Stamps purchased for commercial art purposes. These stamps were not included in the numbers to the left.

<sup>c</sup>The estimates of waterfowl hunters and days afield for these years have been reduced to 92.48% - 96.48% of the original estimates. The estimates of waterfowl (teal, ducks, coots, and geese combined) harvested have been reduced to 94.54% - 97.74% of the original estimates. See last paragraph of the METHODS section, in Anderson and Williamson (1994) for explanation.

Table 2. The percentage of waterfowl hunters who hunted ducks, and the percentage who hunted geese, in Illinois from 1981 through 1995 seasons.

Season (Year)	Percentage Who Hunted:			Percentage Who Were:	
	Ducks Only	Geese Only	Both Ducks and Geese	Duck Hunters	Goose Hunters
1981	63	14	23	86	37
1982	59	11	30	89	31
1983	55	13	32	87	45
1984	60	12	28	88	40
1985	61	10	29	90	39
1986	51	13	36	87	49
1987	47	14	39	86	53
1988	36	19	45	81	64
1989	29	21	50	79	71
1990	27	30	43	70	73
1991	26	27	47	73	74
1992	31	24	45	76	69
1993	30	20	50	80	69
1994	30	17	53	83	70
1995	33	23	44	77	67



Table 3. Teal harvest and hunter activity, by administrative regions, during the September teal season in Illinois in 1995 (n=2,261).

Administrative Region <sup>a</sup>	Number of Hunters	Days Afield		Teal Harvest		
		Number	Per Hunter	Total	Per Day Afield	Per Hunter
1A	862	1,974	2.29	1,547	0.78	1.79
1B	2,309	6,981	3.02	6,117	0.88	2.65
2	668	1,502	2.25	502	0.33	0.75
3A	2,281	6,564	2.88	5,671	0.86	2.49
3B	501	1,307	2.61	641	0.49	1.28
4	1,140	2,920	2.56	2,480	0.85	2.18
5	1,224	3,338	2.73	2,662	0.80	2.17
Unknown	138	279		111		
Entire state	9,123	24,865	2.73	19,731 <sup>b</sup>	0.79	2.16

<sup>a</sup>See Figure 8.

<sup>b</sup>The 95% confidence interval is  $\pm 5,274$ .

Table 4. Summary of teal harvest and hunter activity during the September teal season in Illinois from 1981 through 1995.

Year	Hunters	Days Afield	Teal Harvest
1981	14,802	38,586	22,946
1982	14,863	41,856	28,785
1983	13,295	39,475	29,355
1984	14,158	39,481	32,730
1985	13,852	36,521	29,260
1986	15,449	40,241	30,375
1987	12,297	32,582	23,193
1988 <sup>a</sup>			
1989 <sup>a</sup>			
1990 <sup>a</sup>			
1991 <sup>a</sup>			
1992	7,696	18,265	12,069
1993	6,474	16,722	8,562
1994	8,062	20,341	12,436
1995	9,123	24,865	19,731

<sup>a</sup>The September teal season was suspended by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during these years.

Table 5. Rates of teal harvest and hunter activity during the September teal season in Illinois in 1981 through 1995.

Year	Season Length/ Bag Limit	Days Afield Per Hunter	Teal Harvest Per Hunter	
			Per Day	Per Season
1981	9/4	2.61	0.59	1.55
1982	9/4	2.82	0.69	1.94
1983	9/4	2.97	0.74	2.21
1984	9/4	2.79	0.83	2.31
1985	9/4	2.64	0.80	2.11
1986	9/4	2.60	0.75	1.97
1987	9/4	2.65	0.71	1.89
1988 <sup>a</sup>				
1989 <sup>a</sup>				
1990 <sup>a</sup>				
1991 <sup>a</sup>				
1992	9/4	2.37	0.66	1.57
1993	9/4	2.58	0.51	1.32
1994	9/4	2.52	0.61	1.54
1995	9/4	2.73	0.79	2.16

<sup>a</sup>The September teal season was suspended by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during these years.

Table 6. Duck and coot harvest and hunter activity, by administrative regions, during the regular duck season in Illinois in 1995 (n=2,261).

Administrative Region <sup>a</sup>	Number of Hunters	Days. Afield			Duck Harvest		
		Number	Per Hunter	Total	Per Day Afield <sup>b</sup>	Per Hunter <sup>b</sup>	Coot Harvest
1A	3,115	27,424	8.80	23,549	0.81	7.15	70
1B	11,320	138,789	12.26	117,218	0.80	9.82	599
2	5,618	54,014	9.61	29,610	0.51	4.89	376
3A	9,763	127,191	13.03	99,702	0.77	9.98	1,491
3B	1,919	21,222	11.06	13,475	0.62	6.85	571
4	3,588	38,828	10.82	27,646	0.68	7.33	42
5	6,703	73,483	10.96	64,824	0.79	8.67	223
Unknown	473	1,669		1,268			14
Entire State	42,499	482,620	11.36	377,292 <sup>d,e</sup>	0.74	8.40	3,386 <sup>f</sup>

<sup>a</sup>See Figure 8.

<sup>b</sup>Excludes ducks harvested coincidentally to goose hunting.

<sup>c</sup>Ducks harvested coincidentally to goose hunting.

<sup>d</sup>The 95% confidence interval is  $\pm 41,930$ .

<sup>e</sup>Includes 230,505 mallards, 47,155 wood ducks, and 99,632 other ducks (including 5,393 canvasback).

<sup>f</sup>The 95% confidence interval is  $\pm 2,858$ .

Table 7. Summary of duck and coot harvests and hunter activity during the regular duck season in Illinois from 1981 through 1995.

Season (Year)	Hunters	Days Afield	Duck Harvest			Coot Harvest	
			Mallards	Wood Ducks	Other Ducks		Total
1981	54,744	703,534	170,972	72,065	94,947	337,984	4,950
1982	52,220	646,394	163,439	61,706	101,989	327,134	5,905
1983	50,440	651,409	220,317	72,237	110,862	403,416	10,472
1984	49,715	606,325	182,132	52,955	120,016	355,103	7,702
1985	51,362	556,800	168,549	51,216	97,155	316,920	5,773
1986	53,588	638,090	201,676	65,414	112,490	379,580	7,372
1987	51,704	558,172	155,783	58,488	74,748	289,019	2,694
1988 <sup>a</sup>	43,233	381,985	119,149	23,743	42,836	185,728	1,936
1989 <sup>a</sup>	43,841	407,478	133,128	28,065	63,073	224,266	2,049
1990 <sup>a</sup>	38,759	350,119	112,370	33,253	51,562	197,185 ( 7,144) <sup>b</sup>	2,287
1991 <sup>a</sup>	42,911	393,247	177,221	49,556	80,793	307,570 (25,815)	1,101
1992	39,272	362,275	124,112	34,280	58,035	216,427 (11,501)	3,275
1993	40,941	366,656	134,334	39,906	43,360	217,600 ( 4,320)	1,445
1994	44,447	475,264	137,263	44,683	64,998	246,944 ( 4,026)	3,880
1995	42,499	482,620	230,505	47,155	99,632 <sup>c</sup>	377,292 (20,470)	3,386

<sup>a</sup>The estimates of duck hunters, days afield, and ducks and coots harvested for these years have been reduced to 92.48% - 96.48% of the original estimates. See last paragraph of the METHODS section in Anderson and Williamson (1994) for explanation.

<sup>b</sup>Ducks harvested coincidentally to goose hunting.

<sup>c</sup>Includes 5,393 canvasback.

Table 8. Rates of duck harvest and hunter activity during the regular duck season in Illinois from 1981 through 1995.

Year	Season Length/ Bag Limit <sup>b</sup>	Days Afield Per Hunter	Duck Harvest Per Hunter <sup>a</sup>	
			Per Day	Per Season
1981	50/10(4)	12.85	0.48	6.17
1982	50/10(4)	12.38	0.51	6.26
1983	50/10(4)	12.91	0.62	8.00
1984	50/10(4)	12.20	0.59	7.14
1985	40/5 (3)	10.84	0.57	6.17
1986	40/5 (3)	11.91	0.59	7.08
1987	40/5 (3)	10.80	0.52	5.59
1988	30/3 (2)	8.84	0.49	4.30
1989	30/3 (2)	9.29	0.55	5.12
1990	30/3 (2)	9.03	0.54	4.90
1991	30/3 (2)	9.16	0.72	6.57
1992	30/3 (2)	9.22	0.57	5.22
1993	30/3 (2)	8.96	0.58	5.21
1994	40/3 (2)	10.69	0.51	5.47
1995	50/5 (4)	11.36	0.74	8.40

<sup>a</sup>Excludes ducks harvested coincidentally to goose hunting.

<sup>b</sup>The Point System was used in 1981-1987. A maximum of 10 ducks (4 mallards) was allowed in 1981-1984, and a maximum of 5 ducks (3 mallards) was allowed in 1985-1987. The Conventional (Straight) System was used in 1988-1995.

Table 9. Canada goose harvest and hunter activity, by county, during the experimental early (September) Canada goose season in northeastern Illinois in 1995.

County	Hunters	Days Afield	Canada Geese
Cook	139	529	361
DuPage	84	223	103
Grundy	111	195	39
Kane	390	1,477	528
Kankakee	111	195	0
Kendall	84	251	116
Lake	641	2,424	619
McHenry	529	1,895	528
Will	418	1,728	490
Unknown	84	585	0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>2,591</b>	<b>9,502</b>	<b>2,784</b>

Table 10. Goose harvest and hunter activity, by zones and administrative regions, during the regular goose season in Illinois in 1995-96 (n = 2,261).

Zone or Administrative Region <sup>a</sup>	Hunters	Days Afield		Goose Harvest				Per Day Per Afield <sup>b</sup>	Per Hunter <sup>c</sup>
		Number	Per Hunter	Canada Geese	Other Geese	Total Geese	Afield <sup>b</sup>		
Southern IL Quota Zone	15,939	109,592	6.98	35,414 ( 155) <sup>c</sup>	709 ( 0)	36,123 ( 155)	0.32	2.26	
Rend Lake Quota Zone	4,124	27,670	6.71	5,877 ( 13)	232 ( 0)	6,109 ( 13)	0.22	1.48	
Remainder of State									
1A	1,728	11,843	6.85	3,544 ( 567)	77 ( 26)	3,621 ( 593)	0.26	1.75	
1B	9,251	83,483	9.02	15,490 (1,804)	348 ( 90)	15,838 (1,894)	0.17	1.51	
2	6,130	42,020	6.85	8,841 ( 786)	155 ( 13)	8,996 ( 799)	0.20	1.34	
3A	3,873	27,391	7.07	4,974 ( 400)	206 ( 64)	5,180 ( 464)	0.17	1.22	
3B	1,560	12,483	8.00	3,209 ( 64)	103 ( 0)	3,312 ( 64)	0.26	2.08	
4	2,564	26,388	10.29	5,864 ( 155)	490 ( 52)	6,354 ( 207)	0.23	2.40	
5 <sup>d</sup>	2,759	24,521	8.89	8,750 ( 13)	863 ( 0)	9,613 ( 13)	0.39	3.48	
Unknown	334	1,950		515 ( 77)	0 ( 0)	515 ( 77)			
Total	23,295 <sup>e</sup>	230,079	9.98	51,187 (3,866)	2,242 (245)	53,429 (4,111)	0.21	2.12	
Entire State	37,060 <sup>e</sup>	367,341	9.91	92,478 (4,034)	3,183 (245)	95,661 <sup>f</sup> (4,279)	0.25	2.47	

<sup>a</sup>See Figure 8.

<sup>b</sup>Excludes geese harvested coincidentally to duck hunting.

<sup>c</sup>Number of geese harvested coincidentally to duck hunting.

<sup>d</sup>Excludes Southern Quota Zone and Rend Lake Quota Zone.

<sup>e</sup>The totals are less than the sums of the above values because some hunters were active in >1 zone and/or region.

<sup>f</sup>The 95% confidence interval is ±9,561.



Table 11. Summary of goose harvest and hunter activity during the regular goose season in Illinois from 1981-82 through 1995-96.

Season (Year)	Hunters	Days Afield	Goose Harvest		
			Canada Geese	Other Geese	Total
1981	23,610	132,610	44,302 ( 6,312) <sup>a</sup>	3,082 (1,719)	47,384 ( 8,031)
1982	24,058	107,557	29,574 ( 4,968)	1,499 ( 710)	31,073 ( 5,678)
1983	26,199	124,639	31,395 ( 4,325)	962 ( 577)	32,357 ( 4,902)
1984	22,426	102,583	23,147 ( 2,859)	1,675 ( 593)	24,822 ( 3,452)
1985	22,160	105,792	37,976 ( 5,248)	2,324 ( 753)	40,300 ( 6,001)
1986	30,327	200,291	45,535 (11,348)	2,625 ( 832)	48,160 (12,180)
1987	32,246	224,164	36,103 ( 3,563)	1,525 ( 499)	37,628 ( 4,062)
1988 <sup>b</sup>	34,456	251,176	72,550 ( 3,871)	1,832 ( 350)	74,382 ( 4,221)
1989 <sup>b</sup>	39,459	329,369	91,379 ( 2,988)	1,715 ( 182)	93,094 ( 3,170)
1990 <sup>b</sup>	40,459	346,036	67,127 ( 1,515)	1,319 ( 97)	68,446 ( 1,612)
1991 <sup>b</sup>	43,692	450,807	92,239 ( 1,245)	2,434 ( 70)	94,673 ( 1,315)
1992	35,253	334,010	59,352 ( 2,679)	1,412 ( 170)	60,764 ( 2,849)
1993	35,489	299,120	93,361 ( 1,260)	1,314 ( 82)	94,675 ( 1,342)
1994	37,090	320,580	67,790 ( 1,895)	1,753 ( 77)	69,543 ( 1,972)
1995	37,060	367,341	92,478 ( 4,034)	3,183 ( 245)	95,661 ( 4,279)

<sup>a</sup>Number of geese harvested coincidentally to duck hunting.

<sup>b</sup>The estimates of goose hunters and days afield for these years have been reduced to 92.48% - 96.48% of the original estimates. The estimates for geese harvested have not been reduced. See last paragraph of the METHODS section in Anderson and Williamson (1994) for explanation.

Table 12. Canada goose harvest and hunter activity in quota counties in the North and Central Quota Zone Counties in Illinois during the 1995-96 season.

Zones and Quota Counties	Hunters		Days Afield	Canada Geese
	Successful <sup>a</sup>	Total		
<b>North Zone</b>				
DuPage	223	279	1,533	1,018
Kane	474	892	6,855	1,108
Lake	613	975	7,746	1,791
McHenry	585	1,114	6,743	1,418
LaSalle <sup>b</sup>	84	139	1,923	150
Will <sup>b</sup>	167	251	2,229	417
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,146</b>	<b>3,650</b>	<b>27,029</b>	<b>5,902</b>
<b>Central Zone</b>				
Calhoun	223	474	3,093	309
Cass	167	195	1,644	309
Fulton	2,397	3,316	44,277	8,802
Jersey	56	251	1,310	219
Knox	446	1,031	6,910	670
Mason	390	836	8,137	1,058
Morgan	111	195	2,313	657
Peoria	307	696	7,551	889
Pike	195	334	3,873	567
Tazewell	111	306	2,341	503
Woodford	84	223	1,616	232
LaSalle <sup>c</sup>	111	279	3,818	300
Will <sup>c</sup>	334	474	4,430	834
Grundy	167	474	5,127	335
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,099</b>	<b>9,084</b>	<b>96,440</b>	<b>15,684</b>

<sup>a</sup>Harvested  $\geq 1$  Canada geese.

<sup>b</sup>North of I-80.

<sup>c</sup>South of I-80.

Table 13. Canada goose harvest in the North and Central Quota Zone Counties in Illinois in 1995-96 as determined by a phone-in monitoring system and by mail questionnaire survey.

<u>Zones</u>	<u>Phone-in Monitoring System</u>	<u>Mail Questionnaire Survey</u>	<u>Percentage Difference</u>
North Zone Quota counties	11,649	5,902	-49
Central Zone Quota counties	17,095	15,684	-8
Both Zones Quota counties	28,744	21,586	-25

Table 14. Canada goose harvest by zones in Illinois during the 1995-96 season.

Geographical Zones and Quota Zones	Canada Geese	
	Number	Percentage
North Waterfowl Zone		
Quota counties	5,902	51
Other counties	5,632	49
Total	11,534	100
Central Waterfowl Zone		
Quota counties	15,684	59
Other counties	11,005	41
Total	26,689	100
South Waterfowl Zone		
Rend Lake Quota Zone	5,877	11
Southern Quota Zone	35,414	66
Other counties	12,451	23
Total	53,742	100
Entire state		
Quota zones	62,877	68
Other counties	29,088	31
Unknown	513	1
Total	92,478	100

Table 15. Rates of goose harvest and hunter activity during the regular goose season in Illinois in 1981-82 through 1995-96.

Year	Season Length/ Bag Limit <sup>a</sup>	Days Afield Per Hunter	Goose Harvest Per Hunter	
			Per Day	Per Season
1981	50/2	5.62	0.30	1.67
1982	40/1-2	4.47	0.24	1.06
1983	35-40/1-2	4.76	0.22	1.05
1984	20-25/1-2	4.57	0.21	0.95
1985	20-31/1-2	4.77	0.32	1.55
1986	40-50/1-2	6.60	0.18	1.19
1987	40-50/2	6.95	0.15	1.04
1988	50/2	7.29	0.28	2.04
1989	56-60/2	8.35	0.27	2.28
1990	70/3	8.55	0.19	1.65
1991	84-90/3	10.32	0.21	2.14
1992	79/2	9.47	0.17	1.64
1993	46/2	8.43	0.31	2.63
1994	51/2	8.64	0.21	1.82
1995	89-93/3	9.91	0.25	2.47

<sup>a</sup>For Canada geese. The bag limit does not take into consideration restrictive regulations that were in effect in the Tri-County Zone (in Fulton, Knox, and Henry counties), or the Fulton-Knox County Zone, in some years.

Table 16. Distribution of Canada goose harvest and hunter activity by county in the Southern Illinois and Rend Lake Quota Zones during the 1995-96 season. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

County	Hunters	Days Afield	Canada Goose Harvest
<u>SOUTHERN ILLINOIS QUOTA ZONE</u>			
	(519)	(3,512)	(2,588)
Alexander	25.8%	25.7%	25.1%
Union	32.9	20.4	18.7
Jackson	11.4	11.0	8.6
Williamson	40.3	42.9	47.6
<u>REND LAKE QUOTA ZONE</u>			
	(138)	(820)	(399)
Franklin	55.1%	46.2%	30.3%
Jefferson	55.1	53.8	69.7

Table 17. Summary of the number of ducks, geese, and coots that were crippled (knocked down but not retrieved) in Illinois from 1981 through 1995 seasons.

Year	Ducks		Geese		Coots	
	Total	Per 100 Bagged	Total	Per 100 Bagged	Total	Per 100 Bagged
1981	104,216	30.8	12,573	26.5	1,717	34.7
1982	82,287	25.2	5,868	18.9	1,595	27.0
1983	96,907	24.0	7,627	23.6	2,947	28.1
1984	84,665	23.8	5,711	23.0	3,236	42.0
1985	100,191	31.6	15,918	39.5	2,357	40.8
1986	145,283	38.3	20,699	41.5	2,770	37.6
1987	98,155	34.0	18,375	48.8	2,013	74.7
1988 <sup>a</sup>	65,856	35.5	22,730	30.6	1,020	52.7
1989 <sup>a</sup>	66,150	29.5	21,696	23.3	1,083	52.9
1990 <sup>a</sup>	59,007	29.9	23,895	34.9	868	38.0
1991 <sup>a</sup>	74,932	24.4	27,164	28.7	301	27.3
1992	68,027	31.4	18,631	32.1	1,450	45.7
1993	62,250	28.6	21,067	22.3	813	40.0
1994	65,266	26.4	16,234	23.3	1,167	30.1
1995	86,834 <sup>b</sup>	23.0	18,391 <sup>b</sup>	19.2	1,085 <sup>b</sup>	32.0

<sup>a</sup>The estimates of ducks, geese, and coots crippled for these years have been reduced to 92.48% - 96.48% of the original estimates. The estimates for number of geese crippled per 100 bagged have been similarly reduced. See last paragraph of the METHODS section in Anderson and Williamson (1994) for explanation.

<sup>b</sup>The 95% confidence intervals were  $\pm 7,094$  for ducks,  $\pm 2,193$  for geese, and  $\pm 1,583$  for coots.

Table 18. Summary of the number of waterfowl that were crippled (knocked down but not retrieved) per 100 birds retrieved in the United States from 1952 through 1995 seasons. Data from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Migratory Bird Management, Hunter Questionnaire Surveys.

Year	Ducks	Geese	Coots
1952	27.9	22.9	--- <sup>a</sup>
1953	22.5	16.1	---
1954	23.0	17.1	---
1955	23.6	19.9	---
1956	23.3	16.8	---
1957	21.8	17.6	---
1958	23.3	19.6	---
1959	20.2	19.9	---
1960	23.0	17.9	---
1961	22.1	17.9	---
1962	22.6	17.5	---
1963	23.8	18.6	---
1964	23.8	17.9	---
1965	23.5	18.6	---
1966	22.4	16.1	---
1967	22.0	15.9	---
1968	23.2	16.1	---
1969	22.5	14.4	---
1970	21.1	15.3	---
1971	22.1	15.4	28.2
1972	22.4	15.5	29.6
1973	21.9	14.8	29.2
1974	21.5	14.3	29.1
1975	20.3	13.0	28.9
1976	19.4	14.2	26.8
1977	20.5	14.9	28.9
1978	20.2	15.7	29.0
1979	20.3	14.3	27.1
1980	19.2	12.9	30.9
1981	19.4	13.2	22.7
1982	19.2	15.2	27.7
1983	19.4	14.4	23.7
1984	19.5	14.2	30.4
1985	19.7	14.0	24.3
1986	20.1	15.7	32.5
1987	24.5	20.5	27.5
1988	23.9	16.3	31.0
1989	22.5	15.9	32.1
1990	23.4	16.4	30.4
1991	24.3	17.1	28.1
1992	24.1	17.1	30.6
1993	22.7	14.9	27.6
1994	20.7	14.4	20.7
1995	17.9	15.1	20.6

<sup>a</sup>No data for 1952-1970.



Table 19. Attitudes of teal hunters toward dates for the September teal season in Illinois. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the question,

"The dates for the 1995 teal season were September 9-17. How do you feel about using similar dates (September 7-15) for the 1996 teal season?"

Responses by Waterfowl Zones

	<u>North</u> (55)	<u>Central</u> (203)	<u>South</u> (60)	<u>Entire State</u> (323)
Too early	25%	17%	25%	20%
About right	53	71	68	67
Too late	13	6	3	6
No opinion	9	6	4	7

Responses by Administrative Regions

	<u>1A</u> (31)	<u>1B</u> (82)	<u>2</u> (24)	<u>3A</u> (80)	<u>3B</u> (18)	<u>4</u> (41)	<u>5</u> (42)
Too early	19%	16%	25%	20%	17%	15%	31%
About right	55	69	54	71	61	85	59
Too late	13	10	8	5	22	0	5
No opinion	13	5	13	4	0	0	5

Table 20. Attitudes of teal hunters toward zoning Illinois for September teal hunting (1995). Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the question,

"Are you supportive or unsupportive of the idea of dividing the state into zones for purposes of setting dates for the September teal season? For example, the season dates might be September 1-9 in the North Zone, 8-16 in the Central Zone, and 15-23 in the South Zone."

Responses by Waterfowl Zones

	<u>North</u> (55)	<u>Central</u> (203)	<u>South</u> (61)	<u>Entire State</u> (324)
Supportive	51%	69%	57%	63%
Unsupportive	18	9	18	13
No opinion	31	22	25	24

Responses by Administrative Regions

	<u>1A</u> (31)	<u>1B</u> (83)	<u>2</u> (24)	<u>3A</u> (79)	<u>3B</u> (18)	<u>4</u> (41)	<u>5</u> (43)
Supportive	48%	66%	63%	67%	72%	56%	65%
Unsupportive	23	12	8	10	6	10	19
No opinion	29	22	29	23	22	34	16

Table 21. Attitudes of duck hunters toward the dates for the regular duck season in Illinois. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the question,

"The dates for the 1995 duck season were October 14-December 2 (North Zone), October 28-December 16 (Central Zone), and November 4-December 23 (South Zone). Assuming the season will be 50 days long again in 1996, what do you think about using similar dates (October 12-November 30, October 26-December 14, and November 2-December 21, respectively) in 1996?"

Responses by Waterfowl Zones

	<u>North</u> (257)	<u>Central</u> (864)	<u>South</u> (307)	<u>Entire State</u> (1,434)
Too early	22% <sup>a</sup>	18%	42%	23%
About right	67	63	47	60
Too late	7	15	8	13
No opinion	4	4	3	4

Table 22. Attitudes of duck hunters toward changing legal shooting time during the regular duck season in Illinois. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the question,

"How do you feel about changing legal shooting time during the regular duck season from 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunrise?"

Responses by Waterfowl Zones

		<u>North</u> (265)	<u>Central</u> (909)	<u>South</u> (300)	<u>Entire State</u> (1,487)
Strongly support	1	25%	23%	16%	22%
	2	6	5	6	6
	3	8	10	9	9
	4	10	7	9	8
Strongly oppose	5	51	55	60	55

Responses by Administrative Regions

		<u>1A</u> (109)	<u>1B</u> (399)	<u>2</u> (198)	<u>3A</u> (338)	<u>3B</u> (68)	<u>4</u> (127)	<u>5</u> (235)
Strongly support	1	25%	28%	25%	18%	27%	21%	15%
	2	8	5	4	5	3	6	6
	3	8	11	10	8	7	9	9
	4	14	6	6	7	9	9	9
Strongly oppose	5	45	50	55	62	54	55	61

Table 23. Attitudes of waterfowl hunters toward having an early (September) Canada goose season in their county of residence (Illinois 1995). Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the question,

"The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced that Illinois (and other Mississippi Flyway states) may have an early (September) Canada goose hunting season in any and/or all counties in the state. To have this experimental season, the Department of Natural Resources must agree to (1) allow no more than 15 days of hunting, (2) begin the season no earlier than September 1 and end it no later than September 15, (3) allow no more than 5 Canada geese in the daily bag limit, and (4) monitor hunter activity and goose harvest in each county. The purpose of this early season is to increase hunting pressure on local (resident) Canada geese, which have increased to nuisance proportions in some areas. With these facts in mind, are you supportive or unsupportive of having an early (September) Canada goose hunting season in the counties listed below?"

Responses by Waterfowl Zones

	<u>North</u> (395)	<u>Central</u> (986)	<u>South</u> (255)	<u>Entire State</u> (1,712)
Supportive	82%	66%	38%	65%
Unsupportive	9	21	45	21
Undecided	9	13	17	14

Responses by Administrative Regions

	<u>1A</u> (89)	<u>1B</u> (415)	<u>2</u> (333)	<u>3A</u> (237)	<u>3B</u> (131)	<u>4</u> (228)	<u>5</u> (203)
Supportive	72%	64%	88%	64%	74%	55%	35%
Unsupportive	13	22	7	20	15	30	48
Undecided	15	14	5	16	11	15	17

Table 24. Attitudes of waterfowl hunters toward having an early (September) Canada goose hunting season in the county where they goose hunt most (Illinois 1995). Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the question,

"The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced that Illinois (and other Mississippi Flyway states) may have an early (September) Canada goose hunting season in any and/or all counties in the state. To have this experimental season, the Department of Natural Resources must agree to (1) allow no more than 15 days of hunting, (2) begin the season no earlier than September 1 and end it no later than September 15, (3) allow no more than 5 Canada geese in the daily bag limit, and (4) monitor hunter activity and goose harvest in each county. The purpose of this early season is to increase hunting pressure on local (resident) Canada geese, which have increased to nuisance proportions in some areas. With these facts in mind, are you supportive or unsupportive of having an early (September) Canada goose hunting season in the counties listed below?"

Responses by Waterfowl Zones

	<u>North</u> (179)	<u>Central</u> (471)	<u>South</u> (105)	<u>RLOZ<sup>a</sup></u> (135)	<u>SIOZ<sup>b</sup></u> (510)	<u>Entire State</u> (1,182)
Supportive	86%	70%	50%	53%	53%	62%
Unsupportive	7	23	36	33	33	26
Undecided	7	7	14	14	14	12

Responses by Administrative Regions

	<u>1A</u> (49)	<u>1B</u> (251)	<u>2</u> (165)	<u>3A</u> (100)	<u>3B</u> (47)	<u>4</u> (71)	<u>5</u> (72)
Supportive	76%	71%	89%	62%	85%	52%	47%
Unsupportive	12	23	6	24	13	39	36
Undecided	12	6	5	14	2	9	17

<sup>a</sup>Rend Lake Quota Zone.

<sup>b</sup>Southern Illinois Quota Zone.

Table 25. Attitudes of waterfowl hunters toward having an early (September) Canada goose hunting season in the county where they duck hunt most (Illinois 1995). Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the question,

"The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced that Illinois (and other Mississippi Flyway states) may have an early (September) Canada goose hunting season in any and/or all counties in the state. To have this experimental season, the Department of Natural Resources must agree to (1) allow no more than 15 days of hunting, (2) begin the season no earlier than September 1 and end it no later than September 15, (3) allow no more than 5 Canada geese in the daily bag limit, and (4) monitor hunter activity and goose harvest in each county. The purpose of this early season is to increase hunting pressure on local (resident) Canada geese, which have increased to nuisance proportions in some areas. With these facts in mind, are you supportive or unsupportive of having an early (September) Canada goose hunting season in the counties listed below?"

Responses by Waterfowl Zones

	<u>North</u> (223)	<u>Central</u> (775)	<u>South</u> (257)	<u>Entire State</u> (1,265)
Supportive	79%	64%	45%	62%
Unsupportive	10	22	37	23
Undecided	11	14	18	15

Responses by Administrative Regions

	<u>1A</u> (94)	<u>1B</u> (337)	<u>2</u> (171)	<u>3A</u> (286)	<u>3B</u> (57)	<u>4</u> (110)	<u>5</u> (200)
Supportive	73%	62%	82%	59%	88%	56%	41%
Unsupportive	14	23	9	25	9	30	40
Undecided	13	15	9	16	3	14	19

Table 26. Attitudes of goose hunters toward the type of Canada goose harvest monitoring system preferred in the North and Central Waterfowl Zones in Illinois. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the question,

"The Department of Natural Resources has implemented a Canada goose harvest monitoring system in 6 counties in the North Zone and 14 counties in the Central Zone. Goose hunters in these counties must daily report the Canada geese they harvest by calling a toll-free telephone number. When (and if) the quota of Canada geese is reached in the monitored counties in the North Zone, Canada goose hunting is closed throughout the North Zone. The same rule applies to the Central Zone. With this system, both monitored and unmonitored counties can have a more liberal goose season, but the season must close in all counties if the quota is reached in the monitored counties. The alternative is to require all goose hunters in all counties in the North and Central zones to report their goose harvest via the toll-free telephone number. With this system, 100% of the Canada goose harvest is monitored, but it is more expensive and all goose hunters are impacted. Which type of Canada goose harvest monitoring system do you prefer?"

	<u>North Zone</u>		<u>Central Zone</u>	
	<u>Quota</u> <u>Counties</u> (107)	<u>All</u> <u>Counties</u> (194)	<u>Quota</u> <u>Counties</u> (327)	<u>All</u> <u>Counties</u> (501)
The monitoring system used in 1995-96 which requires goose hunters in some counties in the North and Central zones to daily report their Canada goose harvest. When the harvest quota is reached in these counties, the Canada goose season is closed throughout the zone.	50%	50%	54%	50%
A monitoring system which required all goose hunters in all counties in the North and Central zones to report their Canada goose harvest. When the harvest quota is reached, the Canada goose season is closed throughout the zone.	24	23	25	25
No opinion	26	27	21	25



Table 27. Attitudes of goose hunters toward the number of Canada geese that should be allowed in the daily bag limit in Illinois (1995-96). Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the question,

"What is your preference for the number of Canada geese that should be allowed in the daily bag limit during the regular goose hunting season in Illinois?"

Responses by Waterfowl Zones

	<u>North</u> (194)	<u>Central</u> (513)	<u>South</u> (113)	<u>RLOZ<sup>a</sup></u> (139)	<u>SIOZ<sup>b</sup></u> (549)	<u>Entire State</u> (1,285)
1 goose	0%	1%	0%	1%	<1%	<1%
2 geese	25	27	19	23	26	27
3 geese	73	70	78	74	72	71
No opinion	2	2	3	2	2	2

Responses by Administrative Regions

	<u>1A</u> (56)	<u>1B</u> (275)	<u>2</u> (177)	<u>3A</u> (108)	<u>3B</u> (50)	<u>4</u> (75)	<u>5</u> (79)
1 goose	0%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
2 geese	34	31	22	20	26	27	15
3 geese	64	66	76	78	72	72	81
No opinion	2	2	2	2	2	1	4

<sup>a</sup>Rend Lake Quota Zone.

<sup>b</sup>Southern Illinois Quota Zone.

Table 28. Attitudes of waterfowl hunters toward the number of zones Illinois should use for setting the duck and goose hunting seasons. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the question,

"Excluding goose quota zones, the State of Illinois was divided into three basic zones (North, Central, and South) for purposes of setting the dates for the regular duck and goose hunting seasons in 1995-96 (see map on first page). In your opinion, how many basic zones should Illinois use for setting these hunting seasons?"

Responses by Waterfowl Zones

	<u>North</u>	<u>Central</u>	<u>South</u>	<u>Entire State</u>
Duck hunters	(258)	(895)	(298)	(1,464)
No zones	2%	3%	1%	2%
2 "	10	12	7	10
3 "	69	69	71	70
4 "	7	6	14	8
No opinion	12	10	7	10
Goose hunters	(196)	(492)	(113)	(1,261)
No zones	7%	3%	2%	3%
2 "	10	12	12	10
3 "	62	69	71	66
4 "	7	9	11	10
No opinion	14	7	4	11

Table 29. Attitudes of duck hunters toward the location of the boundaries that divide the North, Central, and South Waterfowl Zones in Illinois. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the question,

"What is your opinion of the boundaries that separated the three basic zones used for setting the 1995-96 duck and goose hunting seasons?"

Zones and counties where hunted		<u>Present location is about right</u>	<u>Should be moved further north</u>	<u>Should be moved further south</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
North Zone/Central Zone Boundary					
North Zone hunters					
In boundary counties <sup>a</sup>	(56)	70%	2%	16%	12%
All counties	(267)	64	3	13	20
Central Zone hunters					
In boundary counties <sup>a</sup>	(88)	74	3	13	10
All counties	(800)	67	4	9	20
Central Zone/South Zone Boundary					
Central Zone hunters					
In boundary counties <sup>b</sup>	(43)	60	23	5	12
All counties	(782)	64	9	5	22
South Zone hunters					
In boundary counties <sup>b</sup>	(80)	71	10	13	6
All counties	(289)	62	10	13	15

<sup>a</sup>Cook, Will, Kendall, Grundy, LaSalle, Bureau, Henry, and Rock Island.

<sup>b</sup>Clark, Cumberland, Jasper, Effingham, Fayette, Bond, Madison, St. Clair, Monroe, and Randolph.

Table 30. Attitudes of goose hunters toward the location of the boundaries that divide the North, Central, and South Waterfowl Zones in Illinois. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the question,

"What is your opinion of the boundaries that separated the three basic zones used for setting the 1995-96 duck and goose hunting seasons?"

<u>Zones and counties where hunted</u>	<u>Present location is about right</u>	<u>Should be moved further north</u>	<u>Should be moved further south</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
<b>North Zone/Central Zone Boundary</b>				
<b>North Zone hunters</b>				
In boundary counties <sup>a</sup> (28)	64%	0%	25%	11%
All counties (158)	63	3	13	21
<b>Central Zone hunters</b>				
In boundary counties <sup>a</sup> (52)	75	4	13	8
All counties (391)	68	3	11	18
<b>Central Zone/South Zone Boundary</b>				
<b>Central Zone hunters</b>				
In boundary counties <sup>b</sup> (16)	63	25	0	12
All counties (387)	65	9	4	22
<b>South Zone hunters</b>				
In boundary counties <sup>b</sup> (50)	66	8	16	10
All counties (138)	58	14	11	17

<sup>a</sup>Cook, Will, Kendall, Grundy, LaSalle, Bureau, Henry, and Rock Island.

<sup>b</sup>Clark, Cumberland, Jasper, Effingham, Fayette, Shelby, Montgomery, Bond, Madison, St. Clair, Monroe, and Randolph.

Table 31. Attitudes of duck hunters toward federal baiting regulations (Illinois 1995). Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the question,

"The federal (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) baiting regulation prohibits the hunting of ducks and geese on areas where grain or feed (including seeds of natural vegetation) has been exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered. Which of the following statements best describes your feelings or level of concern about this regulation?"

Responses by Administrative Regions

	<u>1A</u> (107)	<u>1B</u> (381)	<u>2</u> (202)	<u>3A</u> (340)	<u>3B</u> (66)	<u>4</u> (125)	<u>5</u> (236)
Little concern	24%	18%	22%	17%	14%	22%	23%
Some concern	22	25	22	22	32	26	27
Great concern	34	32	35	47	42	32	30
Unfamiliar <sup>a</sup>	20	25	21	14	12	20	20

Responses by Type of Area

	<u>Private</u> (1,063)	<u>Public</u> (880)	<u>All Areas</u> (1,470)
Little concern	18%	21%	20%
Some concern	25	24	24
Great concern	38	38	36
Unfamiliar <sup>a</sup>	19	17	20

<sup>a</sup>Not familiar enough with the regulation to properly answer this question.

Table 32. Attitudes of goose hunters toward federal baiting regulations (Illinois 1995-96).  
Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Responses to the question,

"The federal (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) baiting regulation prohibits the hunting of ducks and geese on areas where grain or feed (including seeds of natural vegetation) has been exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered. Which of the following statements best describes your feelings or level of concern about this regulation?"

	Responses by Administrative Regions and Zones								
	1A (56)	1B (271)	2 (183)	3A (109)	3B (47)	4 (74)	5 (80)	RLQZ <sup>a</sup> (143)	SIOZ <sup>b</sup> (556)
Little concern	14%	23%	23%	14%	17%	24%	20%	20%	18%
Some concern	25	22	24	22	28	28	23	31	25
Great concern	45	35	31	51	38	33	41	33	36
Unfamiliar <sup>c</sup>	16	20	22	13	17	15	16	16	21

	Responses by Type of Area		
	Private (1,133)	Public (535)	All Areas (1,293)
Little concern	19%	20%	20%
Some concern	25	26	25
Great concern	36	37	36
Unfamiliar <sup>c</sup>	20	17	19

<sup>a</sup>Rend Lake Quota Zone.

<sup>b</sup>Southern Illinois Quota Zone.

<sup>c</sup>Not familiar enough with the regulation to properly answer this question.

Table 33. The ages of Illinois Migratory Stamp purchasers and waterfowl hunters in 1995-96. Sample sizes are in parentheses.

Category	Stamp Purchasers			All Stamp Purchasers
	Hunted Ducks	Hunted Geese	Hunted Ducks and/or Geese	
Mean (years)	(1,519) 40.4	(1,323) 39.8	(1,978) 40.8	(2,246) 41.5
Distribution (percentage of stamp purchasers)				
≤15 years	0.1 <sup>a</sup>	0.1 <sup>a</sup>	0.1 <sup>a</sup>	0.1
16-20 "	2.9	3.1	2.7	2.7
21-30 "	17.2	17.6	15.6	15.6
31-40 "	27.4	27.3	26.1	26.1
41-50 "	27.1	27.5	27.2	27.2
51-60 "	15.0	16.1	16.1	16.1
61-64 "	3.6	2.6	3.9	3.9
≥65 "	6.7	5.1	8.3	8.3

<sup>a</sup>Junior (<15 years) hunters were exempt from the Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamp. The proportionate numbers of juniors were estimated to equate to 8.5% (duck hunters), 8.7% (goose hunters), and 8.6% (all waterfowl hunters) of stamp-purchasing (≥16 years) hunters (Anderson et al. 1996:3-4). If juniors are included in the age distribution, all of the percentages must be adjusted accordingly.

1995-96 ILLINOIS WATERFOWL HUNTER SURVEY

**INSTRUCTION**

To properly manage Illinois' waterfowl resources, the Department of Natural Resources needs information about waterfowl hunters, their hunting activities, and their opinions on selected issues.

Please answer the questions on the following pages for your waterfowl hunting activities during the 1995-96 season.

If you did not hunt waterfowl in Illinois during the 1995-96 season, answer the first three questions and return this form.

Report only your kill. DO NOT report the kill of others with whom you may have hunted.

Write in the number of days on which you hunted ducks and the number of days on which you hunted geese. Include your unsuccessful days.

If you hunted both ducks and geese at the same time, count the day toward your primary target -- that is, primarily ducks or primarily geese. DO NOT count the hunt as a day of duck hunting and also as a day of goose hunting.

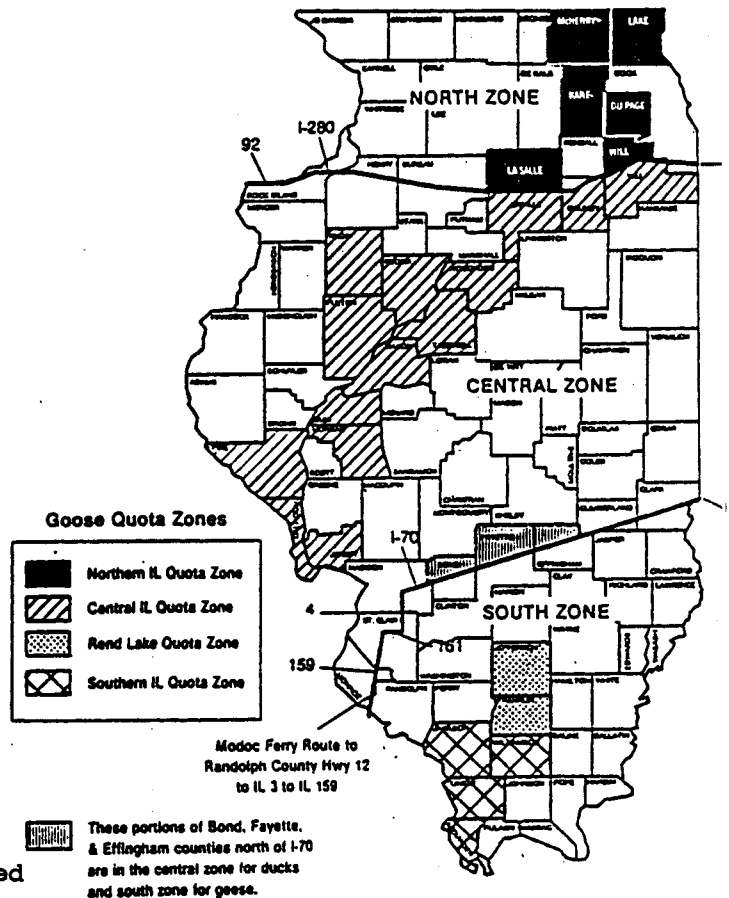
If you can't remember the exact figures, give your best estimate.

Your responses are strictly confidential and will never be associated with your name. Since you are part of a small, randomly selected group, your participation and your opinions are very important.

When completed, insert questionnaire into the self-addressed envelope and mail. POSTAGE IS PREPAID

Thank you for your cooperation

Figure 1. The questionnaire used for the 1995-96 Illinois Waterfowl Hunter Survey.



Your comments are welcome but please write them on a separate sheet of paper to receive proper attention



1995-96 ILLINOIS WATERFOWL HUNTER SURVEY  
(see instructions on first page)

GENERAL INFORMATION

1. How old were you on your last birthday?.....\_\_\_\_\_ years
2. How many 1995 Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamps did you purchase for your personal use (do not include Federal Stamps).....\_\_\_\_\_
3. Did you hunt waterfowl (ducks, geese, and/or coots) in Illinois during the 1995-96 season? (circle number for appropriate answer)  

Yes.....1                      No.....2

SEPTEMBER TEAL SEASON

4. How many different days did you hunt teal during the September teal season in Illinois in 1995?.....\_\_\_\_\_
5. In which county did you hunt teal most in Illinois in 1995?...\_\_\_\_\_
6. How many teal did you personally harvest (kill and retrieve) during the September teal season in Illinois in 1995?.....\_\_\_\_\_

REGULAR DUCK SEASON

7. How many different days did you hunt ducks during the regular duck season in Illinois in 1995? (NOTE: If you killed all your ducks coincidental to goose hunting, leave this space blank).....\_\_\_\_\_
8. In which county or counties did you hunt ducks during the regular duck season in Illinois in 1995?.....County hunted most \_\_\_\_\_  

Second most.....\_\_\_\_\_

Third most.....\_\_\_\_\_
9. List the number of ducks and coots you personally harvested during the regular duck season in Illinois in 1995. DO NOT include birds killed in other states or countries.

I personally killed and retrieved:	I knocked down in sight but could not retrieve:
Mallards _____	Ducks _____
Wood Ducks _____	Coots _____
Other Ducks _____	
Coots _____	

10. Did the "other ducks" you harvested include any canvasbacks? (circle number for appropriate number)

Yes.....1                      No.....2

10a. If "Yes", how many?.....\_\_\_\_\_

**EARLY CANADA GOOSE SEASON IN NORTHEASTERN ILLINOIS**

NOTE: This special experimental season took place on September 1-14 in the following 9 counties only: Cook, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will.

11. Did you hunt Canada geese during the early Canada goose season in northeastern Illinois in 1995?

Yes.....1                      No.....2

12. If "Yes", a. How many different days did you hunt?.....\_\_\_\_\_

b. How many Canada geese did you personally harvest?.....\_\_\_\_\_

c. In which county did you hunt most? (circle one)

Cook	DuPage	Grundy	Kane	Kankakee
Kendall	Lake	McHenry	Will	

**REGULAR GOOSE SEASON**

13. List the number of days you hunted geese and the number of geese you personally harvested during the regular goose season in Illinois in 1995-96. DO NOT include geese listed in question 12b above. (NOTE: If you killed all your geese coincidental to duck hunting, leave the number of days blank)

	<u>Days</u>	<u>Canada Geese</u>	<u>Other Geese</u>
*In Southern Quota Zone (see map).....	_____	_____	_____
*In Rend Lake Quota Zone (see map)....	_____	_____	_____
*Other areas (write in name of each county): a. _____	_____	_____	_____
b. _____	_____	_____	_____
c. _____	_____	_____	_____

14. If you goose hunted in the Southern Illinois Quota Zone, how many days did you hunt and how many geese did you harvest in each county?

	<u>Days</u>	<u>Canada Geese</u>	<u>Other Geese</u>
Alexander.....	_____	_____	_____
Union.....	_____	_____	_____
Jackson.....	_____	_____	_____
Williamson.....	_____	_____	_____

15. If you goose hunted in the Rend Lake Quota Zone, how many days did you hunt and how many geese did you harvest in each county?

	<u>Days</u>	<u>Canada Geese</u>	<u>Other Geese</u>
Franklin.....	_____	_____	_____
Jefferson.....	_____	_____	_____

16. How many geese did you knock down in sight but neither you nor anyone else could retrieve in Illinois in 1995-96? . . . . . \_\_\_\_\_

17. Did you (or do you plan to) hunt snow geese during the late (Feb. 10-27 in South Zone and Feb. 26-Mar. 10 in Central Zone) season in Illinois?

Yes.....1      No.....2      Undecided.....3

YOUR OPINIONS

18. The dates for the 1995 teal season were September 9-17. How do you feel about using similar dates (September 7-15) for the 1996 teal season?

Too early...1      About right...2      Too late...3      No opinion...4

19. Are you supportive or unsupportive of the idea of dividing the state into zones for purposes of setting dates for the September teal season? For example, the season dates might be September 1-9 in the North Zone, 8-16 in the Central Zone, and 15-23 in the South Zone. (circle number for appropriate answer)

Supportive.....1      Unsupportive.....2      Undecided.....3

20. The dates for the 1995 duck season were October 14-December 2 (North Zone), October 28-December 16 (Central Zone), and November 4-December 23 (South Zone). Assuming the season will be 50 days long again in 1996, what do you think about using similar dates (October 12-November 30, October 26-December 14, and November 2-December 21, respectively) in 1996? (circle appropriate answer for the zone you hunt most)

	<u>Too Early</u>	<u>About Right</u>	<u>Too Late</u>	<u>No opinion</u>
North Zone.....	1.....	2.....	3.....	4.....
Central Zone....	1.....	2.....	3.....	4.....
South Zone.....	1.....	2.....	3.....	4.....

21. How do you feel about changing legal shooting time during the regular duck season from 1/2 hour before sunrise to sunrise? (circle number for appropriate answer: 1 = strongly support to 5 = strongly oppose)

Strongly support					Strongly oppose
1	2	3	4	5	

22. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has announced that Illinois (and other Mississippi Flyway states) may have an early (September) Canada goose hunting season in any and/or all counties in the state. To have this experimental season, the Department of Natural Resources must agree to (1) allow no more than 15 days of hunting, (2) begin the season no earlier than September 1 and end it no later than September 15, (3) allow no more than 5 Canada geese in the daily bag limit, and (4) monitor hunter activity and goose harvest in each county. The purpose of this early season is to increase hunting pressure on local (resident) Canada geese, which have increased to nuisance proportions in some areas. With these facts in mind, are you supportive or unsupportive of having an early (September) Canada goose hunting season in the counties listed below? (circle appropriate answer for all that apply)

	<u>Supportive</u>	<u>Unsupportive</u>	<u>Undecided</u>
*In your county of residence.....	1.....	2.....	3.....
*In the county where you goose hunt most....	1.....	2.....	3.....
*In the county where you duck hunt most....	1.....	2.....	3.....

23. The Department of Natural Resources has implemented a Canada goose harvest monitoring system in 6 counties in the North Zone and 14 counties in the Central Zone. Goose hunters in these counties must daily report the Canada geese they harvest by calling a toll-free telephone number. When (and if) the quota of Canada geese is reached in the monitored counties in the North Zone, Canada goose hunting is closed throughout the North Zone. The same rule applies to the Central Zone. With this system, both monitored and unmonitored counties can have a more liberal goose season, but the season must close in all counties if the quota is reached in the monitored counties. The alternative is to require all goose hunters in all counties in the North and Central zones to report their goose harvest via the toll-free telephone number. With this system, 100% of the Canada goose harvest is monitored, but it is more expensive and all goose hunters are impacted. Which type of Canada goose harvest monitoring system do you prefer? (circle number for appropriate answer)

- \*The monitoring system used in 1995-96, which requires goose hunters in some counties in the North and Central zones to daily report their Canada goose harvest. When the harvest quota is reached in these counties, the Canada goose season is closed throughout the zone.....1
- \*A monitoring system which required all goose hunters in all counties in the North and Central zones to report their Canada goose harvest. When the harvest quota is reached, the Canada goose season is closed throughout the zone.....2
- \*No opinion.....3

24. What is your preference for the number of Canada geese that should be allowed in the daily bag limit during the regular goose hunting season in Illinois? (circle number for appropriate answer)

1 Canada goose      2 Canada geese      3 Canada geese      4 No opinion

25. Excluding goose quota zones, the State of Illinois was divided into three basic zones (North, Central, and South) for purposes of setting the dates for the regular duck and goose hunting seasons in 1995-96 (see map on first page). In your opinion, how many basic zones should Illinois use for setting these hunting seasons? (circle number for appropriate answers for ducks and geese)

	<u>None</u>	<u>2 Zones</u>	<u>3 Zones</u>	<u>4 Zones</u>	<u>No Opinion</u>
For ducks....	1.....	2.....	3.....	4.....	5.....
For geese....	1.....	2.....	3.....	4.....	5.....

26. What is your opinion of the boundaries that separated the three basic zones used for setting the 1995-96 duck and goose hunting seasons? (circle number for appropriate answer for each boundary)

	<u>Present</u>	<u>Should be</u>	<u>Should be</u>	<u>No</u>
	<u>location is</u>	<u>moved further</u>	<u>moved further</u>	<u>Opinion</u>
	<u>about right</u>	<u>north</u>	<u>south</u>	
Boundary between North and Central Zones.....	1.....	2.....	3.....	4.....
Boundary between Central and South Zones.....	1.....	2.....	3.....	4.....

26a. In which zone did you hunt ducks and/or geese most during the 1995-96 season? (circle number for appropriate answers for ducks and geese)

Ducks:	North Zone...1	Central Zone...2	South Zone...3
Geese:	North Zone...1	Central Zone...2	South Zone...3

27. The federal (U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service) baiting regulation prohibits the hunting of ducks and geese on areas where grain or feed (including seeds of natural vegetation) has been exposed, deposited, distributed, or scattered. Which of the following statements best describes your feelings or level of concern about this regulation? (circle number for appropriate answer)

- \*The federal baiting regulation is of little concern to me.....1
- \*The federal baiting regulation is of some concern to me.....2
- \*The federal baiting regulation is of great concern to me.....3
- \*I am not familiar enough with the federal baiting regulation to properly answer this question.....4

27a. Did you hunt ducks and/or geese on private areas, public areas, or both private and public areas?(circle appropriate answers for ducks and geese)

Ducks:	Private...1	Public...2	Both private and public...3
Geese:	Private...1	Public...2	Both private and public...3

28. Did you use bismuth shot for any of your duck and/or goose hunting in Illinois during the 1995-96 season? (circle appropriate answers for ducks and geese)

For ducks:	Yes.....1	No.....2
For geese:	Yes.....1	No.....2

Thank you for your cooperation  
POSTAGE IS PREPAID

**DEAR WATERFOWL HUNTER:**

The Department of Natural Resources needs your cooperation and assistance to determine the harvest of waterfowl in Illinois during the approaching hunting season. Please keep an accurate record of the number of days you hunt, the number and kinds of waterfowl you harvest, and the number of waterfowl you knock down but cannot retrieve.

**DO NOT MAIL THIS CARD**

After the 1995-96 hunting season (in late January), we will send you a questionnaire to fill out and return to us. This information will assist the Department of Natural Resources in the proper management of our waterfowl resources. Thank you for your cooperation.

Printed by authority of the State of Illinois 4.5M - 10/95



The Illinois Department of Natural Resources receives Federal financial assistance and therefore must comply with anti-discrimination laws. In compliance with the Illinois Human Rights Act, the Illinois Constitution, Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the U.S. Constitution. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, sex, national origin, age or disability. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity or facility, please contact the Equal Employment Opportunity Officer, Department of Natural Resources, 524 South Second Street, Springfield, IL 62701-1787, 217-782-7616 or the Office of Human Resources, U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. 20240. Illinois Department of Natural Resources information is available to the hearing impaired by calling DNR's Telecommunications Device for the Deaf: 217-782-9175. The Illinois Relay Number is 800-525-0844.

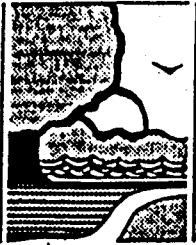
IL 422-0582

**MY PERSONAL HUNTING RECORD (1995-96)**

Date of Hunt	I Shot Nothing	Number I Killed and Retrieved			Number I Knocked Down, but Lost		
		Ducks	Geese	Coots	Ducks	Geese	Coots

Season Totals \_\_\_\_\_

Figure 2. The pre-season notice that was sent to persons on the mailing list for the 1995-96 Illinois Waterfowl Hunter Survey.



ILLINOIS  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**NATURAL RESOURCES**

524 South Second Street, Springfield 62701-1787

Jim Edgar, Governor ● Brent Manning, Director

Dear Fellow Sportsman:

You are one of a select group of Illinoisans asked to furnish information on your waterfowl hunting activities during the past hunting season.

The information supplied by you and other selected hunters is vital to the management of our waterfowl resources: (1) to safeguard waterfowl populations, (2) to grant maximum waterfowl hunting opportunity to license holders, and (3) to maintain an attractive level of hunter success.

The information you provide is used to better understand the welfare of the various waterfowl populations. These statistics include distribution of total harvest, number of hunters, and hunting success.

Your reply is very important, even if you did not hunt waterfowl or were not successful. Only a limited number of waterfowl hunters can be contacted, therefore, your response is urgently needed.

Please take a few minutes and fill out the parts of the questionnaire that apply to you. If you do not remember exact figures, please give your best estimate.

Drop the completed questionnaire in the mail. Postage is prepaid.

Yours for better waterfowling.

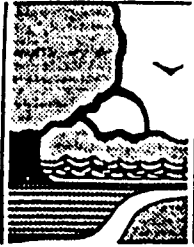
Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Ver Steeg  
Chief

Division of Wildlife Resources

JMV:WLA:lc  
Enclosure  
W1

Figure 3. The letter that accompanied the first mailing of the questionnaire.



ILLINOIS  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**NATURAL RESOURCES**

524 South Second Street, Springfield 62701-1787

Jim Edgar, Governor ● Brent Manning, Director

Dear Fellow Sportsman:

Recently we mailed you a Waterfowl Hunting Questionnaire, and requested that you fill out and return it as soon as possible. We have not received your form at this time -- perhaps because you have misplaced the questionnaire or haven't found time to complete it and return it to us.

We are enclosing another questionnaire which we hope you will complete and return to us. If you have already returned a questionnaire, please discard this one. The information supplied by you and other waterfowl hunters being sampled will be of great value to the Department of Natural Resources in better directing the management of Illinois' waterfowl resources.

Please fill out the questionnaire completely and return it even if you did not hunt waterfowl, or were not successful.

Postage is prepaid for returning the completed questionnaire. Your prompt attention will be sincerely appreciated.

Thank You.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Ver Steeg  
Chief

Division of Wildlife Resources

JMV:WLA:lc  
Enclosure  
W2





ILLINOIS  
DEPARTMENT OF  
**NATURAL RESOURCES**

524 South Second Street, Springfield 62701-1787

Jim Edgar, Governor ● Brent Manning, Director

Dear Fellow Sportsman:

This letter is to remind you that we still would like to receive a report of your waterfowl hunting activities for the past season. We don't like to keep bothering you, but this information is very important which only you can supply.

Another copy of the questionnaire is enclosed. We hope you will complete it and return it as soon as possible. If you have already returned a questionnaire, please discard this one. Your response is needed--even though you did not hunt waterfowl or had an unsuccessful season.

Postage is prepaid for returning the questionnaire. Just fill it out and drop in the mail. Please help us complete this survey by sending your questionnaire now. Your prompt attention will be greatly appreciated.

Thank You.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Ver Steeg  
Chief

Division of Wildlife Resources

JMV:WLA:1c  
Enclosure  
W3

# 1995 WATERFOWL HUNTING INFORMATION

## Non-Toxic Shot Required Statewide

New Regulations Effective 1/1/95

SPECIES	DATES (a) (inclusive) (Statewide)	HOURS	DAILY LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Teal	Sept. 9 - Sept. 17	Sunrise to Sunset	4	8
Ducks	North Oct. 14 - Dec. 2	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset		2 x daily bag limit
	Central Oct. 28 - Dec. 16		6 (See section on Bag Limits)	2 x daily bag limit
	South Nov. 4 - Dec. 23		15	30
Early Canada Geese (Northern Zone only)	Sept. 2 - Sept. 7			
All zones start at 1/2 hour before sunrise				
Open				
Closing				
Canada Geese (b)	Oct. 14 - Jan. 14, 1998			
White-fronted Geese (c)	Oct. 14 - Jan. 28, 1998			
Central and Central II. Quota Zone	Oct. 14 - Dec. 22			
Canada Geese (b)	Oct. 28 - Jan. 28, 1998			
White-fronted Geese (c)	Oct. 28 - Jan. 28, 1998 & Feb. 26 - Mar. 10, 1998			
South, Rend Lake and Southern II. Quota Zone	Oct. 28 - Jan. 5, 1998	3 p.m. in Quota Zone (d)	Sunset in South Zone	30 only (e) Canada geese (f) 4 white-fronted geese and 4 brants
Canada Geese (b)	Nov. 4 - Jan. 31, 1998	Sunset in South Zone		
White-fronted Geese (c)	Nov. 4 - Jan. 31, 1998			
White-fronted Geese (c)	Feb. 10 - Feb. 27, 1998	Sunset		
White-fronted Geese (c)	Nov. 23 - Jan. 31, 1998	3 p.m. in Quota Zone (d) Sunset in South Zone		

(a) The Department of Natural Resources will close the Canada goose season earlier than dates listed above in a quota zone **and the zone in which a quota zone is reached by giving 48 hours notice when quotas established by federal regulations are reached in a quota zone. Early zones will be closed as follows: (1) 1/2 hour before sunrise in the Northern Zone, (2) 1/2 hour before sunrise in the Central and Central II. Quota Zones, (3) 1/2 hour before sunrise in the Southern II. Quota Zone, and (4) 1/2 hour before sunrise in the South Zone. This arrangement allowed Illinois to have liberal seasons and limits for Canada geese statewide, rather than just in Quota Zones.**

(b) Show geese include both geese and Ross' geese.

(c) White-fronted geese include both species.

(d) During the last days of Canada goose season closing time is sunset.

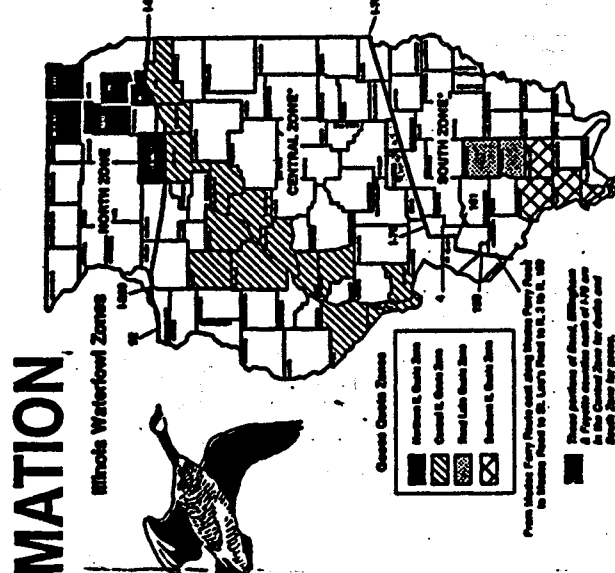
(e) Note: Tagging of Canada geese requires (1) a daily bag limit (b) longer (greater). Other tagging regulations still apply. See "Tagging Requirements" section in the 1995 Waterfowl Hunting Information Brochure.

**WATERFOWL HUNTING ZONES**

**Northern Zone** - The portion of the State north of a line running east from the Iowa border along Illinois Route 82 to U.S. Interstate 280, east along U.S. Interstate 200 to U.S. Interstate 80, then east along U.S. Interstate 80 to the Indiana border.

**Central Zone** - That portion of the State south of the northern zone boundary to the Missouri Ferry Route on the Mississippi River and east along the Missouri Ferry Route to Modoc Road to St. Leo's Road to Illinois Route 152, then north to Illinois Route 181, then north to Illinois Route 4, then north to U.S. Interstate 70. For duck hunting, the Central/South Zone boundary then continues east along I-70 to the Indiana border. The Central Zone for geese is the same as for ducks, except that all of Bond, Fayette & Effingham counties are excluded from the Central Goose Zone.

**Southern Zone** - The south zone for ducks extends from the southern boundary of the central duck zone south to the remainder of the state. The south zone for geese extends from the southern boundary of the central goose zone south to the remainder of the state and includes all of Bond, Effingham and Fayette counties.



**GOOSE QUOTA ZONES**

**PERMIT REQUIRED TO HUNT CANADA GEESE IN THE NORTHERN & CENTRAL II. QUOTA ZONES.**  
(See 80 Waterfowl Hunting Information Card for details.)

Northern II. Quota Zone: DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry, and those portions of LaSalle and Will counties north of I-60.

Central II. Quota Zone: Calhoun, Cass, Fulton, Jersey, Knox, Mason, Morgan, Peoria, Pike, Tazewell, and Woodford, and those portions of Grundy, LaSalle and Will counties south of I-60.

Southern II. Quota Zone - Alexander, Jackson, Union, and Williamson counties.

Rend Lake Quota Zone - Franklin and Jefferson counties.

Northeast Canada Goose Zone - Cook, DuPage, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will counties. This zone only applies during the September Canada goose season.

**IF YOU WANT TO HUNT WATERFOWL IN ILLINOIS AND YOU ARE**

YOU NEED	When	Ill.	Ill. & Other	Ill. & Canada	Canada	Stamp	Law
Hunting License	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Waterfowl Stamp	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
State Quota Stamp	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Waterfowl Stamp	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

\* For the purposes of this section, "Illinois DP" - distributed American waters and stamps in the State of Illinois are required for hunting Canada geese in the State of Illinois. The Illinois DP is required for hunting Canada geese in the State of Illinois. The Illinois DP is required for hunting Canada geese in the State of Illinois.

\*\* Does not include agent's fee which may be 50c or 75c.

A State Habitat Stamp is NOT required to hunt waterfowl.

**LICENSES, STAMPS, AND PERMITS**

Hunters must have a current, valid hunting license and Federal and State Migratory Waterfowl Stamps in their possession at all times when afield. All required State stamps must be signed or affixed on the hunting license in the appropriate space. Federal stamps must be signed in ink across the face of the stamp. Please refer to the 1994-95 Digest of Hunting & Trapping Regulations for exemptions and further information.

**Annual Fees (including agent's fees):**

- Resident Hunting License.....\$ 7.50
- Non-resident Hunting License.....\$28.75-\$50.75
- 5 day/regular.....\$ 4.00
- State Waterfowl Stamp and State Waterfowl Hunting License.....\$ 4.00
- Canada Goose Hunting Permit for Northern and Central II. Quota Zones\*.....\$10.50
- Federal Waterfowl Stamp.....\$19.25
- Sportsman's License (Hunt/fish).....\$ 4.00

\* Does not include agent's fee which may be 50c or 75c.

A State Habitat Stamp is NOT required to hunt waterfowl.

Figure 6. Hunting regulations in effect during the regular duck and goose hunting seasons in Illinois in 1995-96.

## 1995 ILLINOIS PERMIT TO HUNT CANADA GEESE IN THE NORTHERN & CENTRAL ILLINOIS QUOTA ZONES

This permit authorizes the person named below to hunt and possess Canada geese in accordance with State and Federal waterfowl regulations. This permit must be in possession of the person named below while hunting Canada geese. Failure to possess this permit while hunting in designated counties is a Class B misdemeanor punishable by fines of up to \$500 and could result in revocation of your hunting license for up to five years. This permit and permit number are not transferable. It is unlawful to be in possession of another person's goose permit while hunting Canada geese.

Permittee's Name _____
Date of Birth (Month, Day, Year) _____
Signature of Permittee _____

**Northern Illinois Quota Zone:** DuPage, Kane, Lake, McHenry and those portions of LaSalle and Will Counties north of I-80.

**Central Illinois Quota Zone:** Calhoun, Cass, Fulton, Jersey, Knox, Mason, Morgan, Peoria, Pike, Tazewell, Woodford, and those portions of LaSalle, Will and Grundy Counties south of I-80.

This permit is valid only when all information requested on both sides is completed with signature affixed.

Illinois Department of Natural Resources

IL 422-0870

Immediately upon taking possession of a Canada goose during seasons starting after September 30 in the Northern and Central Illinois Quota Zones you must validate below by slitting or punching the zone (C=Central, N=Northern) and date of kill. Slit or punch one date for each Canada goose taken on that date.  
You must also report each Canada goose killed by calling toll free: 1-800-WET-LAND (938-5263) (TDD accessible) from a touch tone phone within 24 hours of the kill.

Have this card handy when calling.  
If you have problems with this system, please call the Division of Wildlife Resources at (217)762-6384 from 8:30 a.m.-5:00 p.m., Monday-Friday.

1995 ILLINOIS WATERFOWL STAMP NO. **013896**

MONTH		DATE																																																													
<b>OCT</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31																
	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N															
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C														
<b>NOV</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N												
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C												
<b>JAN</b>	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30	31
	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N	N										
	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C	C										

Figure 7. The permit required to hunt Canada geese in 18 Quota Zone Counties in the North and Central Waterfowl Zones during the 1995-96 season (see Fig.6).

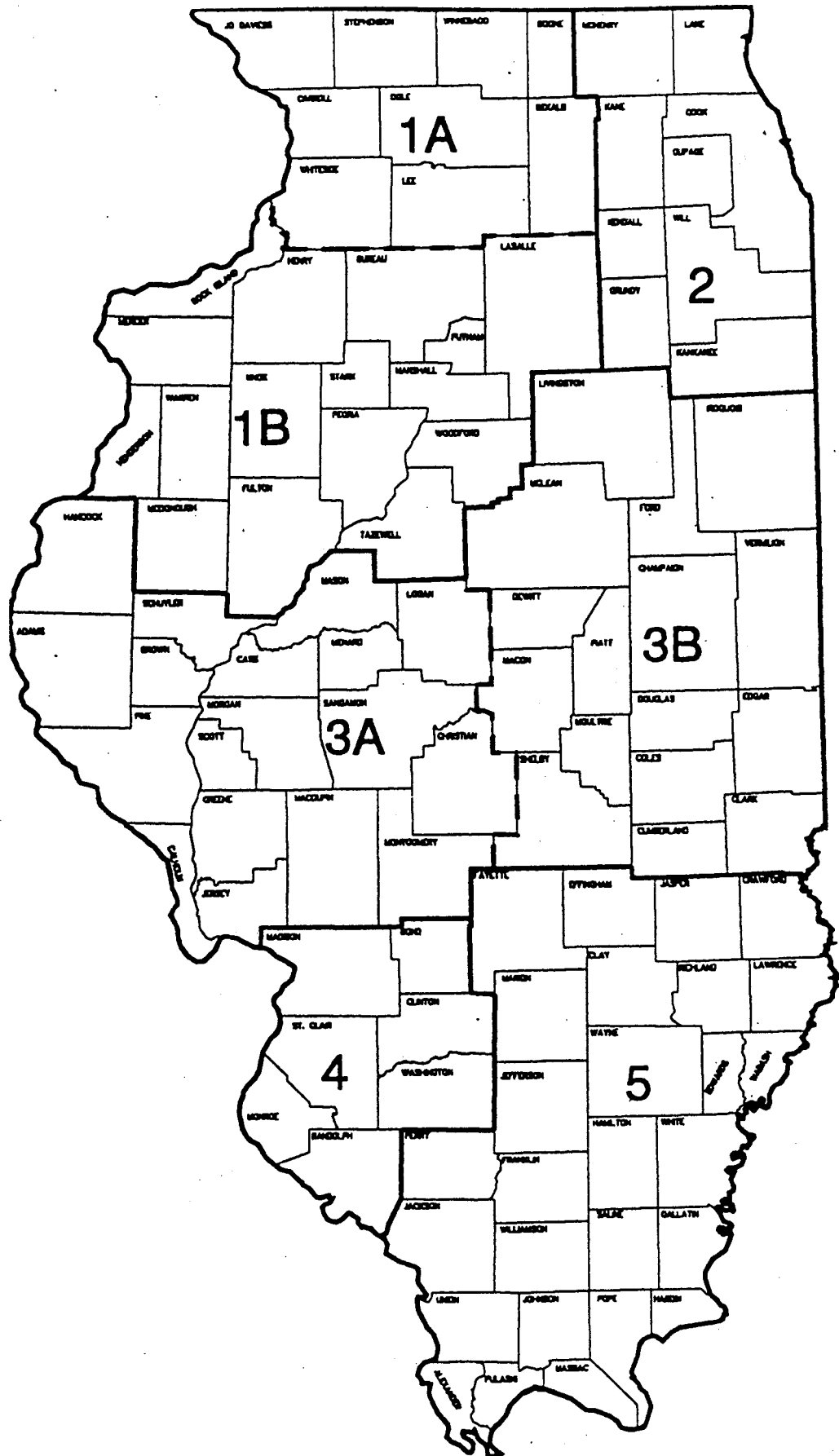


Figure 8. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources Administrative Regions.

Appendix A

Harvests of Canada geese by county, zone, and administrative region in Illinois during the 1993-1995 season.

Table A1. Harvest of Canada geese by waterfowl zone and county during the regular goose season in Illinois in 1993-1995. Due to rounding to whole numbers, some small discrepancies may occur in these data.

County	1993	1994	1995	Mean
<b>North Waterfowl Zone</b>				
Boone	55	64	0	40
Bureau <sup>a</sup>	247	432	425	368
Carroll	137	206	451	265
Cook	479	271	1,070	607
DeKalb	96	77	116	96
DuPage	2,765	541	1,018	1,441
JoDaviess	110	26	39	58
Kane	1,820	1,585	1,108	1,504
Kendall	96	206	387	230
LaSalle <sup>b</sup>	292	120	150	187
Lake	7,228	1,379	1,791	3,466
Lee	260	52	296	203
McHenry	3,738	2,591	1,418	2,582
Ogle	68	39	129	79
Rock Island <sup>a</sup>	165	181	206	184
Stephenson	41	168	52	87
Whiteside	370	412	348	377
Will <sup>b</sup>	703	232	417	451
Winnebago	643	799	2,113	1,185
North Zone Total	19,313	9,381	11,534	13,409
<b>Central Waterfowl Zone</b>				
Adams	110	180	528	273
Brown	137	39	0	59
Bureau <sup>a</sup>	247	432	425	368
Calhoun	903	296	309	503
Cass	68	322	309	233
Champaign	27	258	0	95
Christian	96	477	64	212
Clark <sup>c</sup>	55	0	20	25
Coles	96	64	13	58
Cumberland	0	0	0	0
DeWitt	439	142	193	258
Douglas	14	26	39	26
Edgar	0	39	0	13
Ford	27	103	116	82
Fulton	7,844	5,026	8,802	7,224
Greene	82	90	245	139
Grundy	767	245	335	449
Hancock	41	142	0	61
Henderson	397	335	296	343
Henry	589	516	464	523

Table A1 - continued.

Table A1. - Continued page 2.

County	1993	1994	1995	Mean
Central Waterfowl Zone (continued)				
Iroquois	27	0	26	18
Jersey	438	129	219	262
Kankakee	397	528	464	463
Knox	1,548	992	670	1,070
LaSalle <sup>b</sup>	584	240	300	375
Livingston	151	516	1,031	566
Logan	14	90	26	43
Macon	0	129	39	56
Macoupin	178	593	284	352
Madison	520	309	619	483
Marshall	123	129	1,005	419
Mason	82	554	1,058	565
McDonough	0	26	541	189
McLean	96	219	309	208
Menard	0	180	39	73
Mercer	164	528	77	256
Monroe	110	129	348	196
Montgomery	110	26	77	71
Morgan	643	271	657	523
Moultrie	41	103	206	117
Peoria	369	516	889	591
Piatt	68	52	0	40
Pike	630	258	567	485
Putnam	27	155	52	78
Rock Island <sup>a</sup>	165	181	206	184
Sangamon	96	232	219	182
Schuyler	82	13	283	126
Scott	0	206	90	99
Shelby	27	0	451	159
St. Clair <sup>c</sup>	870	780	1,218	956
Stark	288	77	168	178
Tazewell	411	838	503	584
Vermilion	41	450	747	413
Warren	0	129	77	69
Will <sup>b</sup>	1,406	464	834	901
Woodford	972	309	232	504
Central Zone Total	22,617	19,083	26,689	22,796

Table A1 - continued.

Table A1. - Continued page 3.

County	1993	1994	1995	Mean
<b>South Waterfowl Zone</b>				
Bond	0	168	0	56
Clark <sup>c</sup>	55	0	20	25
Clay	0	0	103	34
Clinton	1,109	387	335	610
Crawford	0	26	0	9
Edwards	0	0	39	13
Effingham	0	0	0	0
Fayette	685	2,126	1,418	1,410
Gallatin	0	26	0	9
Hamilton	0	13	0	4
Hardin	0	0	0	0
Jasper	315	0	644	320
Johnson	41	0	580	207
Lawrence	41	90	0	44
Marion	219	52	206	159
Massac	260	52	387	233
Perry	465	1,378	3,183	1,675
Pope	164	0	77	80
Pulaski	233	206	451	297
Randolph	862	438	1,508	936
Richland	0	168	64	77
Saline	178	528	361	356
St. Clair <sup>c</sup>	870	780	1,218	956
Wabash	14	52	155	74
Washington	14	52	619	228
Wayne	123	180	1,070	458
White	0	0	13	4
Subtotal	5,648	6,722	12,451	8,274
Rend Lake Quota Zone	8,927	6,573	5,877	7,126
Southern IL Quota Zone	36,679	25,956	35,414	32,683
South Zone Total	51,254	39,251	53,742	48,082
Unknown	177	75	513	255
Statewide Total	93,361	67,790	92,478	84,543

<sup>a</sup>50% in North Zone and 50% in Central Zone.

<sup>b</sup>33% in North Zone and 67% in Central Zone.

<sup>c</sup>50% in Central Zone and 50% in South Zone.



Table A2. Harvest of Canada geese by administrative region and county during the regular goose season in Illinois in 1993-1995. Due to rounding to whole numbers, some small discrepancies may occur in these data.

County	1993	1994	1995	Mean
<b>Administrative Region 1A</b>				
Boone	55	64	0	40
Carroll	137	206	451	265
DeKalb	96	77	116	96
Jo Daviess	110	26	39	58
Lee	260	52	296	203
Ogle	68	39	129	79
Stephenson	41	168	52	87
Whiteside	370	412	348	377
Winnebago	643	799	2,113	1,185
Region 1A Total	1,780	1,843	3,544	2,389
<b>Administrative Region 1B</b>				
Bureau	494	864	850	736
Fulton	7,844	5,026	8,802	7,224
Henderson	397	335	296	343
Henry	589	516	464	523
Knox	1,548	992	670	1,070
LaSalle	876	360	450	563
Marshall	123	129	1,005	419
McDonough	0	26	541	189
Mercer	164	528	77	256
Peoria	369	516	889	591
Putnam	27	155	52	78
Rock Island	330	362	412	367
Stark	288	77	168	178
Tazewell	411	838	503	584
Warren	0	129	77	69
Woodford	972	309	232	504
Region 1B Total	14,432	11,162	15,488	13,694
<b>Administrative Region 2</b>				
Cook	479	271	1,070	607
DuPage	2,765	541	1,018	1,441
Grundy	767	245	335	449
Kane	1,820	1,585	1,108	1,504
Kankakee	397	528	464	463
Kendall	96	206	387	230
Lake	7,228	1,379	1,791	3,466
McHenry	3,738	2,591	1,418	2,582
Will	2,109	696	1,251	1,352
Region 2 Total	19,399	8,042	8,842	12,094

Table A2 - continued.

Table A2. - Continued page 2.

County	1993	1994	1995	Mean
<b>Administrative Region 3A</b>				
Adams	110	180	528	273
Brown	137	39	0	59
Calhoun	903	296	309	503
Cass	68	322	309	233
Christian	96	477	64	212
Greene	82	90	245	139
Hancock	41	142	0	61
Jersey	438	129	219	262
Logan	14	90	26	43
Macoupin	178	593	284	352
Mason	82	554	1,058	565
Menard	0	180	39	73
Montgomery	110	26	77	71
Morgan	643	271	657	523
Pike	630	258	567	485
Sangamon	96	232	219	182
Schuyler	82	13	283	126
Scott	0	206	90	99
Region 3A Total	3,710	4,098	4,974	4,261
<b>Administrative Region 3B</b>				
Champaign	27	258	0	95
Clark	110	0	40	50
Coles	96	64	13	58
Cumberland	0	0	0	0
DeWitt	439	142	193	258
Douglas	14	26	39	26
Edgar	0	39	0	13
Ford	27	103	116	82
Iroquois	27	0	26	18
Livingston	151	516	1,031	566
Macon	0	129	39	56
McLean	96	219	309	208
Moultrie	41	103	206	117
Piatt	68	52	0	40
Shelby	27	0	451	159
Vermilion	41	450	747	413
Region 3B Total	1,164	2,101	3,210	2,158

Table A2 - continued.

Table A2. - Continued page 3.

County	1993	1994	1995	Mean
<b>Administrative Region 4</b>				
Bond	0	168	0	56
Clinton	1,109	387	335	610
Madison	520	309	619	483
Monroe	110	129	348	196
Randolph	862	438	1,508	936
St. Clair	1,740	1,560	2,436	1,912
Washington	14	52	619	228
Region 4 Total	4,355	3,043	5,865	4,421
<b>Administrative Region 5</b>				
Clay	0	0	103	34
Crawford	0	26	0	9
Edwards	0	0	39	13
Effingham	0	0	0	0
Fayette	685	2,126	1,418	1,410
Gallatin	0	26	0	9
Hamilton	0	13	0	4
Hardin	0	0	0	0
Jasper	315	0	644	320
Johnson	41	0	580	207
Lawrence	41	90	0	44
Marion	219	52	206	159
Massac	260	52	387	233
Perry	465	1,378	3,183	1,675
Pope	164	0	77	80
Pulaski	233	206	451	297
Richland	0	168	64	77
Saline	178	528	361	356
Wabash	14	52	155	74
Wayne	123	180	1,070	458
White	0	0	13	4
Subtotal	2,738	4,897	8,751	5,462
Rend Lake Quota Zone	8,927	6,573	5,877	7,126
Southern IL Quota Zone	36,679	25,956	35,414	32,683
Region 5 Total	48,344	37,426	50,041	45,270
Unknown	177	75	513	255
Statewide Total	93,361	67,790	92,478	84,543