*Human*Dimensions
Research Program

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Results of the 2000-2001 Illinois Waterfowl Hunter Survey

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SPORT FISH & WILDLIFE RESTORATION

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WILDLIFE HARVEST AND

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STATE OF ILLINOIS

PROJECT NUMBER: W-112-R-10
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ABSTRACT

The final response rate for Illinois waterfowl hunters to the 2000-2001 Illinois Waterfowl Hunter Survey was 1,857 (70.9%). Hunters reported spending 1,119,048 days afield, a decrease of 24% from the record high 1,472,301 days for the 1999-2000 license year. Waterfowl harvest decreased 10% from 783,195 birds during 1999-2000 to 708,092 during 2000-2001. Duck harvest estimates were as follows: 271,903 mallards, 58,604 wood ducks, and 166,834 other ducks. A total of 38,597 teal were harvested during the early September teal season. Goose hunters harvested 128,387 Canada geese during the regular Canada goose season.

OBJECTIVE

To survey waterfowl (duck, goose, and coot) hunters annually to determine their activities, harvest, characteristics, attitudes, and opinions.

METHODS

A total of 4,822 migratory bird hunters were sampled from the population of Illinois migratory bird hunters registered with the federal Harvest Information Program (HIP). From this initial sample, 2,351 hunters responded to the 2000-2001 Illinois Waterfowl Hunter Survey. This sample represented all migratory bird hunters (including dove hunters) in Illinois and consisted of an estimated 54.3% waterfowl hunters. Of the 2,351 completed surveys received, 1,857 (79%) were from respondents who hunted waterfowl in Illinois during the 2000-2001 seasons. The final response rate for Illinois waterfowl hunters to the 2000-2001 Illinois Waterfowl Hunter Survey was therefore 70.9%. After the season, hunters were mailed a 12-page self-administered questionnaire and a letter of explanation (Appendices A and B). The

questionnaire addressed days afield, harvest, and attitudes toward specific issues related to waterfowl seasons, limits, and management practices. Hunters received a follow-up postcard 10 days after the questionnaire, thanking them for returning their survey questionnaire and reminding nonrespondents to return the completed questionnaire. Nonrespondents received a second questionnaire 10 days after the postcard reminder, followed 10 days later with another postcard. Estimates of number of hunters, days afield, and waterfowl harvested (and confidence intervals) were computed following the procedures outlined in Anderson et al. (1998). Coded data were entered and analyzed using SPSS 6.0. Because the initial sample was "contaminated" with non-waterfowl migratory bird hunters, the long-term (1988-1998) average (87.4%) for percent of respondents hunting waterfowl was used to calculate total waterfowl hunters in 2000-2001.

SEASON LENGTHS AND BAG LIMITS

Hunters enjoyed a 16-day early (September) teal season with a 4-bird daily bag limit, a 14-day/2-bird (or 5-bird) early (September) Canada goose season, a 60-day/6-bird duck season, and a 127,000 statewide Canada goose quota (season dates and lengths varied according to zone). See Appendix C for details of season dates, legal shooting hours, and bag limits.

RESULTS

Waterfowl Harvest and Days Afield

The number of waterfowl hunters decreased from 58,003 during the 1999-2000 season to 56,954 during the 2000-2001 season, which represents a 1.8% decrease in hunters (Table 1). Hunters reported spending 1,119,048 days afield in 2000-2001, a decrease of 24% from the

record high 1,472,301 days afield in 1999-2000. Waterfowl harvest decreased 10% from 783,195 during 1999-2000 to 708,092 during 2000-2001. One-third (34%) of the hunters hunted ducks only, whereas 23% hunted geese only, and 43% hunted both ducks and geese (Table 2).

Teal

The number of early (September) teal hunters decreased 26% from 20,036 during 1999-2000 to 14,733 during 2000-2001 (Table 3). Days afield by teal hunters also decreased, from 74,170 during 1999-2000 to 52,229 during 2000-2001, which represents a 30% decrease. The 2000-2001 hunters harvested 38,597 blue-winged teal (*Anas discors)*/green-winged teal (*A. crecca*), a decrease of 30% from the previous year's harvest. Teal hunters averaged 3.55 days afield in 2000-2001, and they harvested an average of 0.74 teal per hunter per day and 2.62 teal per hunter per season (Table 4).

Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service allowed Illinois and the other states to have 2 Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days in 2000-2001. In previous years, beginning in 1996, only 1 day was designated specifically for youths. Thus, the youth hunting program gained substantially in 2000-2001, with 6,815 adults taking 10,107 youths waterfowl hunting (Table 5). In 1999-2000, an estimated 5,505 adults and 8,113 youths participated in the youth hunting program. The youth waterfowl (ducks, geese, and coots combined) harvest increased from 7,035 birds in 1999-2000 to 9,308 in 2000-2001.

Ducks

Total duck hunters decreased by 8,040 (16%), from 51,850 hunters during 1999-2000 to 43,810 during 2000-2001 (Table 6). Duck hunters spent 621,542 days afield during 2000-2001, a decrease of 28% from the 860,368 days reported during 1999-2000. Mallards (*Anas platyrhynchos*) harvested decreased 39,422 (13%) from 311,325 during 1999-2000 to 271,903 during 2000-2001. Harvest of wood ducks (*Aix sponsa*) declined by 11,326 ducks (16%) to 58,604 during the 2000-2001 season. Harvest of other ducks decreased by 14,816 (8.2%) to 166,834 ducks during the 2000-2001 season. Total duck harvest during 2000-2001 was 497,341, 12% less than the 562,905 reported for 1999-2000. Coot (*Fulica americana*) harvest decreased 40%, from 3,654 for the 1999-2000 season to 2,206 for 2000-2001. Duck harvest per hunter per day increased from 0.65 for 1999-2000 to 0.80 for 2000-2001, and duck harvest per hunter per season increased from 10.86 for 1999-2000 to 11.36 for 2000-2001 (Table 7). The duck harvest rates for 2000-2001 were the highest recorded since the Illinois Waterfowl Hunter Survey was initiated in 1981.

Geese

Statewide, 13,289 hunters participated in the early (September) Canada goose season during 2000-2001 (Table 8). The majority of hunters (6,908) were active in the Central Zone. The hunters harvested 15,897 Canada geese throughout Illinois during the early season, with more then half (8,774) being taken in the Central Zone. From 1999-2000 to 2000-2001, the number of September Canada goose hunters decreased 22% (from 16,945 to 13,289), their days afield decreased 26% (from 64,881 to 47,831), and their harvest of Canada geese decreased 21% (from 20,223 to 15,897).

Illinois goose hunters numbered 37,593, and they spent 383,367 days afield, during the regular goose season in 2000-2001 (Table 9). These hunters harvested 128,387 Canada geese during the regular goose season (statewide quota was 127,000). They also harvested 16,356 other geese (of which 14,797 were snow/blue geese, *Chen caerulescens*), for a total combined goose harvest of 144,743 birds. The Southern Illinois Quota Zone lead the state in number of goose hunters (9,849) and number of Canada geese harvested (35,815) (Table 10). However, the Central Quota Zone accounted for the most goose hunting days afield (95,467). Canada goose harvest during the regular season is presented by waterfowl zone and county in Table 11.

Conservation Order Season for Snow/Blue Geese

Twelve percent (6,834) of Illinois' waterfowl hunters participated in the 2000 Conservation Order Season for snow/blue geese (Table 12). Forty-five percent of these hunters were active in the South Zone, 49% were active in the Central Zone, and 6% were active in the North Zone.

In comparison, 10% (5,695) of Illinois' waterfowl hunters participated in the 2001 Conservation Order Season for snow/blue geese. Forty percent of these hunters were active in the South Zone, 55% were active in the Central Zone, and 5% were associated with the North Zone. These hunters reported harvesting 30,236 snow/blue geese statewide, with about half (15,852) being taken in the South Zone. An additional 13,467 geese were harvested in the Central Zone.

The 2001 Conservation Order Season snow/blue goose hunters frequently utilized electronic calls (59%), unplugged shotguns (53%), and after-sunset hunting (60%) (Table 13). The most commonly used hunting tactic was the deployment of decoys on land, which was often

used by 71% of the hunters. However, almost half (47%) of the hunters often engaged in pass shooting, and 38% often attempted to sneak/creep on snow/blue geese.

Hunter Behavior and Attitudes

Areas Hunted

Ninety percent of the duck hunting days afield in 2000-2001 occurred on public areas with no fee (47%) or on noncommercial (private) areas (43%) (Table 14). The duck harvest was proportional, 47% and 43%, respectively. For goose hunting days afield, 55% occurred on noncommercial (private) areas, 25% on public areas with no fee, and 16% on commercial areas. The distribution of goose harvest on these areas was 56%, 18%, and 23%, respectively.

Types of Nontoxic Shot

Almost all of Illinois' waterfowl hunters (95%) used steel shot during the 2000-2001 season (Table 15). However, 18% of the hunters used bismuth shot at least part of the time and 13% used 1 or more of the tungsten shots (tungsten-steel, tungsten-molymer, tungsten-matrix).

Duck Hunting Regulations

About half (51%) of the duck hunters statewide prefer that the 2001-2002 duck season begin on the same dates as the 2000-2001 season (Table 16). However, 47% of the duck hunters in the South Zone prefer that the season begin on a later date. Of those hunters who prefer a later opening date, 49% felt that 1 week later was about right, whereas 50% wanted more than a 1-week delay. Of those who prefer an earlier date, 70% wanted 1 week earlier and 29% wanted the season moved up more than 1 week. With a 60-day season, 53% of the state’s duck hunters

prefer a Thursday opening over a Saturday opening. This feeling prevailed in the North Zone (57%) and in the South Zone (62%), but not in the Central Zone (49%) (Table 17). If the season has to be reduced to 45 days, a plurality of hunters (40%) prefer taking 7-8 days from both the beginning and the end of the season (Table 18).

Overwhelming majorities of the duck hunters prefer that the boundaries that separate the North and Central Zone (90%) and the Central and South Zones (89%) remain unchanged (Table 19). If zone boundaries are changed, 59% of the duck hunters thought it important to have hunter input via public meetings (Table 20). In addition, 51% of the hunters felt that the Illinois Waterfowl Hunter Survey was an important vehicle for determining the new boundaries.

Majorities of duck hunters (54%), September Canada goose hunters (59%), and all waterfowl hunters (54%), prefer opening the early teal season on September 1—concurrently with early Canada goose season--and running for 16 days (Table 21). However, a majority of the early teal hunters (52%) prefer a September 8 opening--1 week after opening of the early Canada goose season--and running for 16 days.

The vast majority of waterfowl hunters (86%) support continuing with the 2-day youth waterfowl hunting program next year (Table 22).

Rotating-Wing Decoys

Battery-operated rotating wing decoys were used by 61% of duck hunters statewide in 2000-2001 (Table 23). The practice was most common in the Central Zone, where 69% of duck hunters used these decoys. Of the hunters who used rotating-wing decoys, 37% always, 48% often, and 15%, rarely did so. Almost all (96%) duck hunters thought rotating-wing decoys were effective at least part of the time. Nearly two-thirds (62%) of the hunters felt it moderately/very

important to use rotating-wing decoys in order to compete with other hunters (Table 24). Similarly, 62% of the hunters thought rotating-wing decoys moderately/very important in providing an advantage over traditional decoys.

Of those duck hunters who did not use rotating-wing decoys, 55% believed they were too expensive; 55% also expressed a preference for using traditional duck hunting methods (Table 25). If rotating-wing decoys are found to increase duck harvest and lead to shorter seasons, most (60%-76%) duck hunters would support prohibiting their use.

September Canada Goose Season

When asked to give reasons for participating in the September Canada goose season, an overwhelming majority of hunters (89%) listed "to extend my hunting opportunities" as moderately/very/extremely important (Table 26). Majorities of the hunters also listed "to hunt geese while teal hunting" (54%), "to improve my shooting" (54%), and "to decrease local goose populations" (53%) as moderately/very/extremely important.

If Illinois is given enough of a quota for Canada geese, majorities of goose hunters (53%-78%) prefer having a 9-15 day September Canada goose season (Table 27). When presented with possible tradeoffs between having a September Canada goose season, a larger quota, and longer or shorter seasons, majorities of goose hunters prefer continuing with a 9-15 day September season (Table 28).

Regular Goose Season

Vast majorities of goose hunters in the North (84%) and Central Zones (71%) rejected the idea of having a split goose season (Table 29). However, if a split season is adopted,

majorities of hunters in these zones (66% and 55%, respectively) prefer that the season encompass the first 9 days of the duck season, close, and then reopen at a later date. In the South Zone, a plurality of hunters (46%) would like to see the goose season open after Thanksgiving and run straight through the closing date (Table 30).

In the Southern Illinois Quota Zone, majorities of hunters (72%), their days afield (58%), and goose harvest (70%) took place on commercial (fee charged, public or private) areas (Table 31). The percentages for non-commercial areas were 37%, 42%, and 30%, respectively.

Characteristics of Waterfowl Hunters

Waterfowl hunters who were active in Illinois during the 2000-2001 season were primarily in-state residents (93.5%). The remaining 6.5% were non-residents--i.e., were residents of other states. Resident hunters averaged 45 years of age, with 46% of them being between 31 and 50 years old. They have hunted waterfowl for an average of 23 years, and the vast majority of them (84%) hunt waterfowl every year. Sixty percent of residents hunted on private land, and 38% hunted on public land, during the 2000-2001 season. Twenty-one percent of resident hunters reported hunting waterfowl in another state during 2000-2001, with the states most frequently visited being Arkansas, Wisconsin, Missouri, and North Dakota. The vast majority of resident waterfowl hunters (84%) felt the telephone system for registering with the Harvest Information Program (HIP) was easy or very easy to use. Additional information relating to the characteristics of Illinois waterfowl hunters is summarized in Table 32.

Reasons for Hunting

Sportspersons are attracted to waterfowl hunting for a variety of reasons. These reasons

are enumerated in Tables 33 and 34.

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Table 1. Summary of Illinois Migratory Waterfowl Stamps purchased, hunter activity, and waterfowl harvest in Illinois from 1981 through 2000 hunting seasons.

Season (Year)	Stamps Purchased	Hunters	Days Afield	Waterfowl Harvested[a]
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)[b]	60,371	814,918	354,194
1988[c]	53,498 (4,350)	53,450	644,056	264,316
1989[c]	55,693 (3,570)	55,709	749,033	322,359
1990[c]	55,009 (2,390)	55,152	708,391	270,796
1991[c]	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
1996	62,417 (545)	56,956	836,793	376,248
1997	59,961 (480)	54,715	881,030	401,236
1998	54,550 (450)	50,288	795,561	471,072
1999	63,782 (350)	58,003	1,472,301	783,195
2000	62,701 (330)	56,954	1,119,048	708,092

[a]Teal, ducks, coots, geese, and early (September) Canada geese combined. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service suspended the September teal season in 1988 through 1991.
[b]Stamps purchased for commercial art purposes. These stamps were not included in the numbers to the left.
[c]Estimates of waterfowl hunters and days afield for these years reduced to 92.48% - 96.48% of the original estimates. Estimates of waterfowl (teal, ducks, coots, and geese combined) harvested reduced to 94.54% - 97.74% of 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 2000 seasons.

Season (Year)	Percentage Who Hunted: Ducks Only	Geese Only	Both Ducks and Geese	Percentage Who Were: 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
1996	36	23	41	77	64
1997	39	22	39	78	61
1998	48	17	35	83	52
1999	27	11	62	89	73
2000	34	23	43	77	66

Table 3. Summary of teal harvest and hunter activity during the September teal season in Illinois from 1981 through 2000.

Year	Hunters	Days Afield	Number of Teal
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[a]	------	------	------
1989[a]	------	------	------
1990[a]	------	------	------
1991[a]	------	------	------
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
1996	8,964	22,825	11,565
1997	11,819	32,179	22,005
1998	10,307	33,049	21,270
1999	20,036	74,170	55,199
2000	14,733	52,229	38,597

[a]The September teal season was suspended by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during these years.

Table 4. Rates of teal harvest and hunter activity during the September teal season in Illinois in 1981 through 2000. Legal shooting hours were 7 am to 4 pm in 1981-1987 and 1992, and sunrise to sunset in 1993-2000.

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[a]	----	----	----	----
1989[a]	----	----	----	----
1990[a]	----	----	----	----
1991[a]	----	----	----	----
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
1996	9/4	2.55	0.51	1.29
1997	9/4	2.72	0.68	1.86
1998	16/4	3.21	0.64	2.06
1999	16/4	3.70	0.74	2.75
2000	16/4	3.55	0.74	2.62

[a]The September teal season was suspended by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service during these years.

Table 5. Waterfowl harvest and hunter activity during the Youth Waterfowl Hunting Day(s) in Illinois, 1996-2000.

Characteristic	1996[a]	1997[a]	1998[a]	1999[a]	2000[b]
Adult hunters who took ≥ 1 youths afield	2,749	3,163	3,343	5,505	6,815
Youth hunters participating	4,353	4,322	5,142	8,113	10,107
Youth days afield	4,353	4,322	5,142	8,113	14,079
Mean youths per hunting party	1.58	1.37	1.54	1.47	1.48
Waterfowl Harvest					
Total Ducks	3,171	3,451	4,159	5,835	8,388
Ducks per youth per day	0.73	0.80	0.81	0.72	0.60
Total Coots	230	387	208	629	38
Coots per youth per day	0.05	0.09	0.04	0.08	<0.01
Total Geese[c]	----	----	289	571	882
Geese per youth per day	----	----	0.06	0.07	0.06

[a]1 day.
[b]2 days.
[c]Could not hunt geese during Youth Waterfowl Hunting Day in 1996 and 1997.

Table 6. Summary of duck and coot harvests and hunter activity during the regular duck season in Illinois from 1981 through 2000.

Season (Year)	Hunters	Days Afield	Ducks Harvested				Coots
			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[a]	43,233	381,985	119,149	23,743	42,836	185,728	1,936
1989[a]	43,841	407,478	133,128	28,065	63,073	224,266	2,049
1990[a]	38,759	350,119	112,370	33,253	51,562	197,185	2,287
1991[a]	42,911	393,247	177,221	49,556	80,793	307,570	1,101
1992	39,272	362,275	124,112	34,280	58,035	216,427	3,275
1993	40,941	366,656	134,334	39,906	43,360	217,600	1,445
1994	44,447	475,264	137,263	44,683	64,998[b]	246,944	3,880
1995	42,499	482,620	230,505	47,155	99,632[b]	377,292	3,386
1996	44,219	460,517	163,311	38,783	82,431[b]	284,525	3,286
1997	42,587	514,934	145,533	44,678	100,950[b]	291,161	3,935
1998	41,755	517,372	200,030	57,393	129,439[b]	386,862	2,920
1999	51,850	860,368	311,325	69,930	181,650	562,905	3,654
2000	43,810	621,542	271,903	58,604	166,834	497,341	2,206

[a]Estimates of duck hunters, days afield, 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.
[b]Includes 3,760 canvasback in 1994, 5,393 in 1995, 4,348 in 1996, 5,800 in 1997, 3,948 in 1998, 4,977 in 1999, and 4,231 in 2000.

Table 7. Rates of duck harvest and hunter activity during the regular duck season in Illinois from 1981 through 2000.

Year	Season Length/ Bag Limit[b]	Days Afield Per Hunter	Duck Harvest Per Hunter[a]	
			Per Day	Per Season
1981	50/10(4,2)	12.85	0.48	6.17
1982	50/10(4,2)	12.38	0.51	6.26
1983	50/10(4,2)	12.91	0.62	8.00
1984	50/10(4,2)	12.20	0.59	7.14
1985	40/5(3,1)	10.84	0.57	6.17
1986	40/5(3,1)	11.91	0.59	7.08
1987	40/5(3,1)	10.80	0.52	5.59
1988	30/3(2,1)	8.84	0.49	4.30
1989	30/3(2,1)	9.29	0.55	5.12
1990	30/3(2,1)	9.03	0.54	4.90
1991	30/3(2,1)	9.16	0.72	6.57
1992	30/3(2,1)	9.22	0.57	5.22
1993	30/3(2,1)	8.96	0.58	5.21
1994	40/3(2,1)	10.96	0.51	5.47
1995	50/5(4,1)	11.36	0.74	8.40
1996	50/5(4,1)	10.41	0.58	6.03
1997	60/6(4,2)	12.09	0.57	6.84
1998	60/6(4,2)	12.39	0.75	9.27
1999	60/6(4,2)	16.59	0.65	10.86
2000	60/6(4,2)	14.19	0.80	11.36

[a]Excludes ducks harvested coincidentally to goose hunting.
[b]The Point System was used in 1981-1987. A maximum of 10 ducks (4 mallards, 2 hens) was allowed in 1981-1984, and a maximum of 5 ducks (3 mallards, 1 hen) was allowed in 1985-1987. The Conventional (Straight) System was used in 1988-2000.

Table 8. Canada goose harvest and hunter activity during the early September Canada goose season in Illinois, 1997 through 2000.

		Waterfowl Zone					
		Northeast[a]	North[b]	Central[b]	South	Unknown	Total
Hunters	1997	3,438	2,139	5,768	-----	420	11,765
	1998	3,158	1,679	5,915	677	552	11,981
	1999	3,758	2,247	9,869	693	378	16,945
	2000	3,274	2,136	6,908	971	0	13,289
Days Afield	1997	11,039	6,952	15,890	-----	1,107	34,988
	1998	10,552	5,339	18,247	1,880	1,304	37,322
	1999	11,779	10,016	39,768	2,625	693	64,881
	2000	9,378	8,018	27,078	3,357	0	47,831
Canada Geese	1997	5,405	2,216	3,774	-----	48	11,443
	1998	3,125	1,059	3,046	384	238	7,852
	1999	6,624	2,500	10,491	491	117	20,223
	2000	4,143	2,048	8,774	932	0	15,897

[a]Cook, Du Page, Grundy, Kane, Kankakee, Kendall, Lake, McHenry, and Will counties (bag limit = 5).
[b]Excluding those counties in the Northeast Zone (bag limit = 2).

Table 9. Summary of goose harvest and hunter activity during the regular goose season in Illinois from 1981-82 through 2000-01.

Season (Year)	Hunters	Days Afield	Number of Geese Harvested		
			Canada Geese	Other Geese	Total
1981	23,610	132,610	44,302 (6,312)[a]	3,082 (1,719)[a]	47,384 (8,031)[a]
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[b]	34,456	251,176	72,550 (3,871)	1,832 (350)	74,382 (4,221)
1989[b]	39,459	329,369	91,379 (2,988)	1,715 (182)	93,094 (3,170)
1990[b]	40,459	346,036	67,127 (1,515)	1,319 (97)	68,446 (1,612)
1991[b]	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)
1996	36,582	339,253	65,864 (2,527)	4,939[c](114)	70,803 (2,641)
1997	33,498	295,107	61,282 (4,772)	7,572[d](438)	68,854 (5,210)
1998	26,343	202,676	43,222 (2,463)	4,290[e](305)	47,512 (2,968)
1999	42,246	464,769	119,611 (1,846)	14,568[f](152)	134,179 (1,998)
2000	37,593	383,367	128,387 (1,406)	16,356[g] (0)	144,743 (1,406)

[a]Number of geese harvested coincidentally to duck hunting.
[b]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.
[c]Includes 4,063 snow/blue geese.
[d]Includes 5,941 snow/blue geese.
[e]Includes 3,734 snow/blue geese.
[f]Includes 12,220 snow/blue geese.
[g]Includes 14,797 snow/blue geese.

Table 10. Goose harvest and hunter activity by zones in Illinois, 2000-01 regular season.

Zone	Hunters	Days Afield	Canada Geese	Snow/Blue Geese	Other Geese	Total Geese
Southern Quota	9,849	68,999	35,815	428	245	36,488
Rend Lake Quota	1,831	13,733	6,130	4,632	92	10,854
North Non-Quota	3,576	35,468	8,395	16	38	8,449
North Quota	4,467	38,453	14,705	76	0	14,781
Central Non-Quota	9,366	82,833	24,661	2,332	558	27,551
Central Quota	9,128	95,467	20,193	3,286	352	23,831
South Non-Quota	5,618	47,554	18,075	4,027	274	22,376
Unknown	83	860	413	0	0	413
Total	37,593[a]	383,367	128,387	14,797	1,559	144,743

[a] The total is less than the sum of the above values because some hunters were active in >1 zone.

Table 11. Harvest of Canada geese by waterfowl zone and county during the regular goose season in Illinois in 1998-99 through 2000-01. Due to rounding to whole numbers, discrepancies may occur in these data.

County	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	Mean
North Waterfowl Zone				
Boone	13	502	321	279
Bureau[a]	166	549	344	353
Carroll	305	1,133	917	785
Cook	543	888	1,406	946
DeKalb	53	362	352	256
Du Page	358	865	1,009	744
Jo Daviess	26	105	61	64
Kane	1,245	4,323	3,562	3,043
Kendall	185	1,694	642	840
LaSalle[b]	67	474	459	333
Lake	821	5,970	4,219	3,670
Lee	146	724	397	422
McHenry	993	4,989	4,555	3,512
Ogle	371	467	214	351
Rock Island[a]	93	281	306	227
Stephenson	26	456	61	181
Whiteside	212	841	1,009	687
Will[b]	411	1,176	898	828
Winnebago	821	1,636	2,369	1,609
North Non-Quota	2,960	9,638	8,395	6,998
North Quota	3,893	17,797	14,705	12,132
North Zone Total	6,853	27,435	23,101	19,130
Central Waterfowl Zone				
Adams	66	1,752	1,070	963
Brown	0	70	183	84
Bureau[a]	165	549	344	353
Calhoun	79	1,168	948	732
Cass	0	23	46	23
Champaign	93	467	1,697	752
Christian	278	210	1,330	606
Clark[c]	40	29	69	46
Coles	53	245	245	181
Cumberland	53	129	46	76
DeWitt	66	561	306	311
Douglas	79	0	15	31
Edgar	0	234	31	88
Ford	40	93	0	44
Fulton	2,503	14,651	7,246	8,133
Greene	53	152	76	94
Grundy	212	958	1,269	813
Hancock	0	631	260	297
Henderson	106	304	413	274

Table 11. Continued – page 2.

County	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	Mean
Central Waterfowl Zone (continued)				
Henry	185	1,063	611	620
Iroquois	199	806	107	371
Jersey	146	292	122	187
Kankakee	305	1,367	734	802
Knox	583	2,313	1,743	1,546
LaSalle[b]	132	963	932	676
Livingston	172	386	183	247
Logan	0	269	31	100
Macon	172	210	535	306
Macoupin	185	619	2,201	1,002
Madison	212	1,157	4,036	1,802
Marshall	238	397	168	268
Mason	185	1,157	1,376	906
McDonough	0	608	61	223
McLean	13	3,493	596	1,367
Menard	40	584	290	305
Mercer	119	502	336	319
Monroe	132	117	107	119
Montgomery	0	234	1,024	419
Morgan	185	970	994	716
Moultrie	26	339	428	264
Peoria	331	1,262	290	628
Piatt	199	23	0	74
Pike	106	900	994	667
Putnam	53	210	275	179
Rock Island[a]	92	280	305	226
Sangamon	79	140	1,467	562
Schuyler	40	210	459	236
Scott	0	222	183	135
Shelby	0	549	413	321
St. Clair[c]	450	1,455	2,553	1,486
Stark	13	12	46	24
Tazewell	159	1,215	1,269	881
Vermillion	119	794	1,208	707
Warren	13	105	214	111
Will[b]	821	2,387	1,823	1,677
Woodford	106	596	1,146	616
Central Non-Quota	4,152	21,578	24,661	16,797
Central Quota	5,548	28,854	20,193	18,198
Central Zone Total	9,700	50,432	44,854	34,995

Table 11. Continued – page 3.

County	1998-99	1999-00	2000-01	Mean
South Waterfowl Zone				
Bond	40	93	92	75
Clark[c]	39	29	69	46
Clay	0	292	61	118
Clinton	66	491	504	354
Crawford	172	35	15	74
Edwards	66	12	31	36
Effingham	0	47	367	138
Fayette	755	1,157	1,574	1,162
Gallatin	26	12	382	140
Hamilton	66	234	92	131
Hardin	0	0	0	0
Jasper	185	339	642	389
Johnson	318	105	183	202
Lawrence	13	0	183	65
Marion	53	876	1,712	880
Massac	53	210	290	184
Perry	1,324	2,933	2,094	2,117
Pope	0	0	0	0
Pulaski	583	257	688	509
Randolph	1,390	1,063	3,088	1,847
Richland	13	70	92	58
Saline	569	58	2,140	922
St. Clair[c]	450	1,454	2,553	1,486
Wabash	119	386	31	179
Washington	66	175	229	157
Wayne	0	82	275	119
White	159	397	688	415
South Non-Quota	6,528	10,807	18,075	11,803
Rend Lake Quota Zone	3,496	5,912	6,130	5,179
Southern IL Quota Zone	16,605	24,769	35,815	25,730
South Zone Total	26,629	41,488	60,020	42,712
Unknown	40	256	413	236
Statewide Total	43,222	119,611	128,387	97,073

[a]50% in North Zone and 50% in Central Zone.
[b]33% in North Zone and 67% in Central Zone.
[c]50% in Central Zone and 50% in South Zone.

Table 12. Please answer the following questions about snow goose hunting in Illinois. Please note: "Snow geese" also includes Ross' and Blue geese.

Did you hunt snow geese during the 2000 conservation order season (after Canada goose season closed)?

Yes 12%[a] (6,834 hunters)

If "Yes," in which zone did you hunt?

North	6%
Central	49%
South	45%

Did you hunt snow geese during the 2001 conservation order season (after Canada goose season closed)?

Yes 10%[a] (5,695 hunters)

If "Yes," in which zone did you hunt?

North	5%
Central	55%
South	40%

How many total snow geese did you harvest?

North Zone	31
Central Zone	13,467
South Zone	15,852
Unknown	886
Statewide	30,236

Which of the following past seasons did you hunt snow geese?

Spring 2000 conservation season	71%	(3,801 hunters)
1999-00 regular season	41%	(2,192 ")
Spring 1999 conservation season	46%	(2,469 ")
1998-99 regular season	27%	(1,470 ")
1997-98 regular season	24%	(1,276 ")
1996-97 regular season	17%	(888 ")

[a] Percentage of 2000-01 waterfowl hunters.

Table 13. Please indicate which of the following methods you used to hunt snow geese **during the 2001 conservation order season** (Illinois).

Electronic calls	59%[a]
Unplugged shotgun	53%
Hunting from sunset to ½ hour after sunset	60%

How often did you use the following techniques when hunting snow geese during the conservation order season?

	Often	Rarely	Never
Sneaking/creeping	38%[a]	15%	47%
Decoying over water	31%	13%	55%
Decoying over land	71%	11%	18%
Pass shooting	47%	21%	33%
Battery operated rotating-wing decoys	7%	5%	88%

[a]Percentage of snow goose hunters.

Table 14. Waterfowl hunting activity on public and private lands in Illinois 2000-01[a] (n=2,351).

Type of Area	Total Counties[b]	Days Hunted				Harvest			
		Ducks	%	Geese	%	Ducks	%	Geese	%
Public Area No Fee	75	225,781	47	73,411	25	178,364	47	20,223	18
Public Area with Daily Fee	30	10,800	2	10,876	4	8,754	2	3,730	3
Commercial (daily, weekly, or seasonal fee)	45	38,826	8	48,053	16	24,030	8	24,656	23
Noncommercial (private club or private land no fee)	92	205,731	43	164,272	55	166,696	43	60,716	56

[a]Total days and harvest do not equal totals reported in previous tables due to missing data for areas hunted.
[b]For itemized list of counties hunted and number of hunters per county, see Appendixes D-G.

Table 15. Which of the following shot types did you use during the 2000 waterfowl season? Check all that apply (Illinois 2000-01).

	Percentage Response
Steel	95%
Bismuth	18%
Tungsten	13%
Other	<1%

Table 16. When would you prefer duck season to begin for the 2001-2002 season? Assume a **60-day season** (Illinois).

	Statewide	North Zone	Central Zone	South Zone
Earlier	22%	32%	22%	16%
Same as 2000-01	51%	50%	55%	37%
Later	27%	18%	23%	47%
If "Earlier," how much?				
1 week	70%	49%	71%	61%
More than 1 week	29%	49%	28%	37%
Undefined	1%	2%	1%	2%
If "Later," how much?				
1 week	49%	45%	57%	36%
More than 1 week	50%	55%	42%	62%
Undefined	1%	0%	1%	2%

Table 17. Which would you prefer for the starting day of duck season with a 60-day season (Illinois 2000-01)?

	Statewide	North Zone	Central Zone	South Zone
Start on Thursday	53%	57%	49%	62%
Start on Saturday	47	43	51	38

Table 18. Assuming a **45-day season**, what would you prefer for the reduction of the 2001-2002 duck season (Illinois)?

	Statewide	North Zone	Central Zone	South Zone
Take all 15 days from the beginning of the season	38%	35%	34%	53%
Take all 15 days from the end of the season	22%	23%	23%	20%
Take 7-8 days from both the beginning and end of the season	40%	42%	43%	27%

Table 19. What is your opinion of the current boundaries for duck hunting in Illinois (2000-01)?

	Stay The Same	Move North	Move South
North/Central Zone	90%	3%	7%
Central/South Zone	89%	7%	4%

Some areas located near zone boundaries contain shallow water and freeze earlier than other waters in the zone. Do you support moving these areas into zones that have earlier seasons to allow hunters opportunity to hunt in years when early freezing occurs?

Yes	42%
No	58%

If you answered "Yes," would you support the proposed changes in the question above if they resulted in complex zone lines based on county or township roads?

Yes	73%
No	27%

Table 20. Every 5 years states are allowed to draw new zone boundaries. How do you think this process should be done (Illinois 2000-01)?

	Most Important 1	2	3	4	Least Important 5
Hunter input at public meetings	39%	20%	16%	11%	14%
Waterfowl hunter advisory committees	23%	21%	25%	16%	14%
Illinois DNR should decide	14%	13%	19%	22%	32%
Leave the boundaries where they are	48%	7%	9%	9%	27%
Illinois waterfowl hunter survey	26%	25%	22%	17%	9%

Table 21. For **early teal season**, which of the following would you prefer (Illinois 2000-01)?

	Percentage Response
All Waterfowl Hunters	
Open September 1 with goose season and running for 16 days	54%
Open September 8 one week after goose season and running for 16 days	46%
Duck Hunters	
Open September 1 with goose season and running for 16 days	54%
Open September 8 one week after goose season and running for 16 days	46%
September Teal Hunters	
Open September 1 with goose season and running for 16 days	48%
Open September 8 one week after goose season and running for 16 days	52%
September Canada Goose Hunters	
Open September 1 with goose season and running for 16 days	59%
Open September 8 one week after goose season and running for 16 days	41%

Table 22. Do you support continuing the second day for Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days next year (Illinois 2000-01)?

	Percentage Response
Yes	86%
No	14%

Table 23. Did you use a battery-operated rotating-wing decoy while duck hunting in 2000-2001 (Illinois)?

	Statewide	North Zone	Central Zone	South Zone
Yes	61%	40%	69%	59%
How often did you use a battery-operated rotating wing decoy?				
Always	37%	24%	41%	34%
Often	48%	49%	47%	49%
Rarely	15%	27%	12%	17%
How effective do you feel rotating-wing decoys are in bringing ducks into shooting range?				
Not effective	4%	7%	3%	5%
Effective less than ½ time	20%	25%	18%	23%
Effective about ½ time	42%	37%	43%	44%
Effective more than ½ time	28%	27%	30%	24%
Effective all the time	6%	4%	6%	4%

Table 24. Please indicate the importance of the following reasons why you use rotating-wing decoys by circling the appropriate number (1 for Not Important to 4 for Very Important) (Illinois 2000-01).

	Not Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important
To compete with other hunters using them	23%	16%	23%	39%
To bring birds into shooting range	6%	15%	30%	49%
They provide an advantage over traditional decoys	12%	25%	38%	24%
They add movement to my decoys	4%	6%	27%	63%
To avoid skybusting	29%	9%	16%	47%
To lure in difficult birds	14%	20%	31%	36%

Table 25. If you **do not use** rotating-wing decoys, what are your reasons for not doing so? Please check all that apply (Illinois 2000-01).

	Statewide	North Zone	Central Zone	South Zone
They're against my sense of fair chase	26%	26%	26%	25%
They're too expensive	55%	49%	55%	65%
I don't approve of any mechanical devices for duck hunting	24%	25%	24%	21%
Too much extra equipment to carry	28%	26%	28%	31%
I prefer traditional duck hunting methods	55%	56%	57%	50%
Others	6%	9%	5%	4%
If rotating-wing decoys are found to increase duck harvest and lead to 30-day duck seasons would you support prohibiting their use? (2000-2001 season was 60 days)				
Yes	74%	74%	73%	76%
If rotating-wing decoys are found to increase duck harvest and lead to 45-day duck seasons would you support prohibiting their use? (2000-2001 season was 60 days)				
Yes	62%	64%	60%	64%

Table 26. How important are the following as reasons why you hunt geese during the September Canada Goose Season (Illinois 2000-01)?

	Not Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important	Extremely Important
To sharpen my calling skills	36%	15%	24%	16%	9%
To extend my hunting opportunities	6	4	16	29	44
To scout for fall goose hunting	43	17	20	11	9
To work my dog	45	7	12	18	18
To hunt geese while teal hunting	36	10	16	16	22
To hunt geese in warmer weather	54	12	14	9	11
Because geese are easier to shoot	63	15	16	3	3
To decrease the local goose population	33	14	17	14	22
To focus on duck hunting during the regular season	51	17	19	8	5
To improve my shooting	32	14	23	15	16

Table 27. When our Canada goose quotas were large enough for maximum season length (107 days) Illinois offered a 9-15 day September season with the remaining days in the regular season. If we are given enough of a quota, which of the following would you prefer? (Remaining days will be part of regular season Oct.-Jan.). Sample sizes are in parentheses (2000-01).

	September Goose Hunters	Regular Season Goose Hunters	All Goose Hunters			
			NZ	CZ	SZ	Statewide
	(474)	(1,289)	(301)	(700)	(424)	(1,384)
15 day September season	54%	31%	52%	36%	18%	33%
9 day September season	24%	22%	23%	24%	18%	22%
4 day September season	8%	8%	7%	8%	8%	8%
2 day September season	2%	2%	1%	2%	3%	2%
No September season	12%	37%	17%	30%	53%	35%

Table 28. Geese harvested during the September season do not count towards our quota. If Illinois eliminated the September Canada goose season it is possible 3-4 years later this would allow for a larger quota during the regular season (Oct.-Jan.). In the meantime (without the September season), geese shot during the regular season may otherwise have been shot in September, causing regular season quotas to be reached earlier. Given this information, what is your opinion about continuing the September Canada goose season? Sample sizes are in parentheses (2000-01).

	September Goose Hunters	Regular Season Goose Hunters	All Goose Hunters			
			NZ	CZ	SZ	Statewide
	(472)	(1,368)	(298)	(691)	(419)	(1,367)
Continue to offer a 9-15 day September season	82%	55%	79%	60%	38%	57%
Discontinue the September season	18%	45%	21%	40%	62%	43%

Table 29. Would you prefer a split goose season in Illinois (2000-01)?

	North Zone Goose Hunters	Central Zone Goose Hunters
Yes	16%	29%
No	84%	71%
How would you prefer the split goose season to run compared with duck season?		
First weekend with duck, then close and later reopen goose season	34%	45%
9 days (includes first 2 weekends with duck) then close and later reopen goose season.	66%	55%

Table 30. For the **South Zone**, which would you prefer for the opener for Canada goose season for fall 2001? (Season must close January 31) (Illinois 2000-01).

	Rend Lake Quota Zone	Southern IL Quota Zone	Remainder of South Zone	Entire South Zone
Split season: open with duck for 4 days, reopen after Thanksgiving (same as 2000)	17%	21%	26%	22%
Open season similar to 1999 (after Thanksgiving and run straight through closing date)	50%	42%	52%	46%
Open in mid-December and run straight through closing date	33%	37%	22%	32%

Table 31. If you hunted in the **Southern Illinois Quota Zone** in 2000-01, what type of areas did you hunt?

County	Hunters	Days Afield	Geese Harvested
Non-commercial area	37%	42%	30%
Commercial area	72	58	70

Table 32. The following questions are important to help us understand more about the people involved in waterfowl hunting in Illinois. Please tell us something about yourself by checking the responses that apply (2000-01).

What is your county of residence?

Residents of Illinois	1,736 (93.5%)[a]
Non-residents	121 (6.5%)[a]

Please give your age.	Residents	Non-residents
Mean	45 years	47 years
Distribution:		
≤15 years	2%	2%
16-20 "	4%	1%
21-30 "	12%	10%
31-40 "	21%	23%
41-50 "	25%	26%
51-60 "	21%	18%
61-64 "	5%	9%
≥65 "	10%	12%

How many years have you hunted waterfowl?

	Residents	Non-residents
Mean	23 years	25 years
Distribution:		
≤5 years	19%	14%
6-10 "	13%	9%
11-20 "	18%	21%
21-30 "	20%	27%
31-40 "	15%	14%
≥41 "	14%	14%

How many years have you hunted waterfowl in Illinois?

	Residents	Non-residents
Mean	22 years	11 years
Distribution:		
1-5 years	21%	44%
6-10 "	13%	23%
11-20 "	20%	20%
21-30 "	19%	7%
31-40 "	15%	4%
≥41 "	12%	2%

Which of the following describes how often do you hunt waterfowl?

	Residents	Non-residents
Every year	84%	85%
Most years	12%	9%
Some but not most years	5%	6%

Table 32. Continued – page 2.

If you don't hunt every year, do you buy an Illinois Duck Stamp each year?

	Residents	Non-residents
Yes	69%	33%

Where did you hunt most often during 2000-2001?

	Residents	Non-residents
Private land	60%	76%
Public land	38%	19%
Both	2%	5%

How would you rate yourself as a waterfowl hunter?

	Residents	Non-residents
Novice	13%	6%
Intermediate	48%	46%
Advanced	39%	48%

How does the amount of waterfowl you harvest compare with other hunters you know?

	Residents	Non-residents
Much less	19%	13%
Slightly less	21%	20%
Same	32%	29%
Slightly more	22%	27%
Much more	6%	11%

Did you hunt waterfowl in a state other than Illinois during the 2000-01 waterfowl season?

	Residents	Non-residents
Yes	21%	78%
Number of states:		
1	82%	66%
2	14%	27%
≥3	4%	7%
States/countries most frequently visited:		
Arkansas	15%	
Wisconsin	14%	
Missouri	12%	
North Dakota	10%	
Indiana	8%	
Iowa	7%	
Canada	7%	
Others[b]	28%	

Table 32. Continued – page 3.

Did you make any equipment for waterfowl hunting?

	Residents	Non-residents
Yes	33%	27%
Types of equipment:		
Blinds/pits	42%	32%
Decoys	37%	41%
Boats	5%	16%
Calls	4%	5%
Decoy weights	4%	2%
10 others	8%	4%

Approximately how many days do you spend preparing for waterfowl hunting ("preparing" includes training dogs, working on boats, decoys, etc., scouting areas to hunt, etc.)?

	Residents	Non-residents
None	6%	6%
1-10 years	38%	40%
11-20 "	19%	14%
21-30 "	11%	10%
31-40 "	7%	7%
≥41 "	18%	23%

Do you belong to any national, state, or local waterfowl hunting/waterfowl conservation organizations?

	Residents	Non-residents
Yes	62%	70%
Number of organizations:		
1	78%	71%
2	15%	17%
≥3	7%	12%
Name of organizations:		
Ducks Unlimited	71%	66%
Delta Waterfowl	5%	9%
Waterfowl USA	5%	7%
Migratory Waterfowl Hunters	4%	1%
Tri-County Duck and Goose	4%	0%
Illinois Waterfowl Alliance	4%	0%
Others	8%[c]	16%[d]

Table 32. Continued – page 4.

Please rate the ease of using the telephone to register with the Harvest Information Program (HIP).

	Residents	Non-residents
Very easy	36%	27%
Easy	48%	44%
Hard	9%	18%
Very hard	2%	8%
Didn't use	5%	3%

Did you hunt doves, woodcock, snipe, or rails during the 2000-2001 season?

	Residents	Non-residents
Yes	66%	43%

[a]See Appendix H.
[b]25 other states.
[c]16 other organizations.
[d]5 other organizations.

Table 33. **Attitudes Toward Waterfowl Hunting**. Please rate the following reasons why you hunt on a scale of "Not Important" to "Extremely Important" (Illinois 2000-01).

	Not Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important	Extremely Important
Waterfowl hunting is a central part of my life	4%	10%	22%	27%	37%
To learn about wildlife	6	12	28	33	21
To control waterfowl populations	22	18	26	20	14
To harvest waterfowl	8	16	34	25	17
Waterfowl hunting is a fun activity	1	1	7	27	64
To share my experience with friends	3	4	13	32	48
To feel close to nature and the land	2	4	17	33	44
To get away from day-to-day life	3	4	13	29	51
To remain a part of the heritage of waterfowl hunting	3	4	15	29	49
To share my skills and knowledge with others	5	9	24	28	34
For the independence	10	10	26	26	28
To share my experience with family	6	10	19	25	40
To observe wildlife	1	3	17	35	45
To maintain a rural American tradition	6	9	19	27	39
For the challenge	3	5	16	31	45
To provide meat for myself and family	28	20	27	12	13
To work with my dog	38	8	12	16	26
Waterfowl hunting is my favorite activity	5	10	21	24	39
To develop my skills	6	9	29	29	27
To maintain a family tradition	19	15	20	20	26
To interact with other hunters	7	7	20	32	34
To spend time outdoors	<1	1	7	26	66

Table 34. Please state if you agree or disagree with the following statements by circling the number that matches your response (Illinois 2000-01).

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Not Sure	Agree	Strongly Agree
Hunting is one of the most important activities in my life.	1%	4%	4%	35%	56%
I spend a lot of time in the off-season planning for the hunt.	2	12	9	47	31
I am disappointed when I have no game to show for my efforts.	22	45	10	17	6
I plan vacation time around hunting seasons.	6	12	5	38	39
Some of my best days of hunting have been when I come home empty-handed.	4	14	13	44	25
I try to have the best hunting equipment available.	2	18	13	45	23
Hunting determines much of my lifestyle.	4	20	13	38	25
Waterfowl hunting is a test of skill.	1	3	8	50	37
My closest friends are hunters.	1	6	6	42	45
I spend a lot of time before the season scouting the area I will hunt.	5	23	15	40	17
I enjoy introducing new people to the sport.	3	8	14	48	27
It is important to have equipment for different hunting conditions.	1	2	5	51	42
Seeing waterfowl is important for a satisfying hunt.	1	7	5	47	40
Having the right equipment is an important part of the hunt.	1	3	6	55	35
I would rather go hunting than do any other recreation activity.	1	9	13	29	48
If I cannot find anyone to hunt with me I will often hunt alone.	4	13	6	40	37
I am disappointed if I do not get any shooting at waterfowl while hunting.	15	39	16	24	6
I hunt waterfowl for the challenge.	2	8	10	54	27
It takes skill to be a successful waterfowl hunter.	1	2	6	48	43

Illinois Waterfowl Hunter Survey

2000 – 2001 Season

ALL RESPONSES ARE CONFIDENTIAL

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!

Postage-paid return envelope provided

Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Division of Wildlife Resources
and the
Illinois Natural History Survey

The Department of Natural Resources is requesting disclosure of information that is necessary to accomplish the statutory purpose as outlined under the Illinois Compiled Statutes, The Wildlife Code, Chapter 520. Disclosure of information is voluntary.

Please take 30 minutes of your time to complete this questionnaire. Your responses will tell us more about Illinois waterfowl hunters and important issues concerning waterfowl hunters in Illinois.

Section 1. Waterfowl Harvest and Days Afield. Please complete this questionnaire for the past hunting season (September 2000 - March 2001). **Include only the waterfowl harvested** and **days hunted IN ILLINOIS. List only your own hunting activities**. Count part of a day as a whole day.

1. Did you hunt waterfowl in Illinois during the 2000-2001 season?

_____ Yes (Please report harvest in following tables)

_____ No (please go to **question 3**)

DUCK HUNTING

- **Note: DO NOT include September teal season here**
- **DO NOT include days if ducks were killed while goose hunting**

County	Number of Days Hunted	Teal (exclude Sept. season)	Mallards	Wood Ducks	Canvas-backs	Other Ducks	Coots	Ducks downed but not retrieved

GOOSE HUNTING

- **Note: DO NOT include September goose season here**
- **DO NOT include days if geese were killed while duck hunting**

County	Number of Days Hunted	Canada Geese (exclude Sept. seas.)	Snow /Blue Geese (reg. season only)	White-fronted (Specklebelly) Geese	Other Geese (Brant, etc.)	Geese downed but not retrieved

2. Please list the counties, days hunted and harvest for the following types of areas.

	County	Days Hunted		Harvest	
		Ducks	**Geese**	**Ducks**	**Geese**
Public Area No Fee	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
Public Area with Daily Fee	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
Commercial (daily, weekly, or seasonal fee)	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____
Noncommercial (private club or private land no fee)	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____	_____ _____ _____

3. When would you prefer duck season to begin for the 2001-2002 season? Assume a **60-day season**.

_____ earlier How much earlier? _____ 1 week _____ more than 1 week

_____ same as 2000

_____ later How much later? _____ 1 week _____ more than 1 week

4. Assuming a **45-day season,** what would you prefer for the reduction of the 2001-2002 duck season?

_____ take all 15 days from the beginning of the season

_____ take all 15 days from the end of the season

_____ take 7-8 days from both the beginning and end of the season

5. Which would you prefer for the starting day of duck season with a 60-day season?

_____ Thursday _____ Saturday

6. For **early Teal season**, which of the following would you prefer? (**Note:** Goose must close September 15)

_____ Opening September 1 with goose season and running for 16 days

_____ Opening September 8 one week after goose season and running for 16 days

7. Did you hunt teal during the 2000 September teal season? _____ Yes _____ No

7a. If "Yes," please state how many days you hunted and teal harvested in the 2000 September teal season.

_____ Days hunted _____ Teal harvested

8. Did you take a youth hunting during the 2000 Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days?

_____ Yes _____ No

8a. If you answered "Yes," how many youths did you take? _____ youths

8b. Did you hunt <u>both</u> of the Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days? _____ Yes _____ No

If "No," which day did you hunt? _____ first day only _____ second day only

8c. How many waterfowl did the youth harvest?

_____ ducks 1st day _____ geese 1st day _____ coots 1st day

_____ ducks 2nd day _____ geese 2nd day _____ coots 2nd day

9. Do you support continuing the second day for Youth Waterfowl Hunting Days next year?

_____ Yes _____ No

10. Which of the following shot types did you use during the 2000 waterfowl season? Check all that apply.

_____ steel _____ bismuth

_____ tungsten _____ other (please list): _____

<u>Section 2. Duck Hunting</u> Please answer the following questions regarding **duck hunting in Illinois.**

1. What is your opinion of the current boundaries for duck hunting in Illinois? (<u>See enclosed map</u>) Circle the answer that matches your response.

	<u>Stay the Same</u>	<u>Move North</u>	<u>Move South</u>
North/Central Zone	1	2	3
Central/South Zone	1	2	3

2. Some areas located near zone boundaries contain shallow water and freeze earlier than other waters in the zone. Do you support moving these areas into zones that have earlier seasons to allow hunters opportunity to hunt in years when early freezing occurs?

_____ Yes _____ No

2a. If you answered "Yes," would you support the proposed changes in question 2 above if they resulted in complex zone lines based on county or township roads?

_____ Yes _____ No

3. Every 5 years states are allowed to draw new zone boundaries. How do you think this process should be done? **Please rate "1" for most important "5" for least important**.

_____ hunter input at public meetings _____ waterfowl hunter advisory committees

_____ Illinois DNR should decide _____ leave the boundaries where they are

_____ Illinois Waterfowl Hunter Survey

Section 3. Rotating-Wing Decoys Please answer the following questions about your use of rotating-wing decoys. **Note**: "Rotating wing decoy" refers to decoys that sit on poles and wings rotate by battery power.

1. Did you use a battery-operated rotating-wing decoy while duck hunting in 2000-2001?

_____ Yes _____ No (Please go to **question 2**)

1a. How often did you use a battery-operated rotating wing decoy?

_____ Always _____ Often _____ Rarely

1b. How effective do you feel rotating-wing decoys are in bringing ducks into shooting range? Please circle the number that matches your response.

Not Effective	Effective less than ½ time	Effective about ½ time	Effective more than ½ time	Effective all the time
1	2	3	4	5

2. If you **do not use** rotating-wing decoys, what are your reasons for not doing so? Please check all that apply.

_____ They're against my sense of fair chase

_____ They're too expensive

_____ I don't approve of any mechanical devices for duck hunting

_____ Too much extra equipment to carry

_____ I prefer traditional duck hunting methods

_____ Other (Please identify): _____

3. If rotating-wing decoys are found to increase duck harvest and lead to 30-day duck seasons would you support prohibiting their use? (2000-2001 season was 60 days)

_____ Yes _____ No

4. If rotating-wing decoys are found to increase duck harvest and lead to 45-day duck seasons would you support prohibiting their use? (2000-2001 season was 60 days)

_____ Yes _____ No

5. Please indicate the importance of the following reasons why you use rotating-wing decoys by circling the appropriate number.

	Not Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important
To compete with other hunters using them	1	2	3	4
To bring birds into shooting range	1	2	3	4
They provide an advantage over traditional decoys	1	2	3	4
They add movement to my decoys	1	2	3	4
To avoid skybusting	1	2	3	4
To lure in difficult birds	1	2	3	4

Section 4. September Canada Goose Season Please answer the following questions regarding **September goose hunting in Illinois.**

1. Did you hunt Canada geese during the September season (September 2 – 15, 2000)?

_____ Yes (please go to **question 2**) _____ No (please go to **question 3**)

2. If you answered "Yes" for question 1, please give the number of days, county or counties, and harvest for September Canada Goose season.

Early Canada Goose Season

Days Hunted	County	Geese Harvested

3. When our Canada goose quotas were large enough for maximum season length (107 days) Illinois offered a 9-15 day September season with the remaining days in the regular season. If we are given enough of a quota, which of the following would you prefer? (Remaining days will be part of regular season Oct.-Jan.)

_____ 15 day September season _____ 2 day September season

_____ 9 day September season _____ No September season

_____ 4 day September season

4. How important are the following as reasons why you hunt geese during the September Canada Goose Season? Please circle the appropriate response.

	Not Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important	Extremely Important
To sharpen my calling skills	1	2	3	4	5
To extend my hunting opportunities	1	2	3	4	5
To scout for fall goose hunting	1	2	3	4	5
To work my dog	1	2	3	4	5
To hunt geese while teal hunting	1	2	3	4	5
To hunt geese in warmer weather	1	2	3	4	5
Because geese are easier to shoot	1	2	3	4	5
To decrease the local goose population	1	2	3	4	5
To focus on duck hunting during the regular season	1	2	3	4	5
To improve my shooting	1	2	3	4	5

5. Geese harvested during the September season do not count towards our quota. If Illinois eliminated the September Canada goose season it is possible 3-4 years later this would allow for a larger quota during the regular season (Oct.-Jan.). In the meantime (without the September season), geese shot during the regular season may otherwise have been shot in September, causing regular season quotas to be reached earlier. Given this information, what is your opinion about continuing the September Canada goose season?

_____ Continue to offer a 9-15 day September season

_____ Discontinue the September season

Section 5. Regular Goose Season Please answer the following questions regarding **regular season (Oct. – Jan.) goose hunting in Illinois.**

1. Would you prefer a split goose season in Illinois?

_____ Yes

_____ No

1a. If "Yes," please check the zone(s) you would like to see have a split goose season.

_____ North

_____ Central

1b. How would you prefer the split goose season to run compared with duck season?

_____ first weekend with duck, then close and later reopen goose season

_____ 9 days (includes first 2 weekends with duck) then close and later reopen goose season

2. If you hunted in the **Southern Illinois Quota Zone** in 2000-2001, what type of areas did you hunt?

Area	Days Hunted	Geese Harvested
Non-commercial Area (No charge, public or private)	_____	_____
Commercial (Fee charged, public or private)	_____	_____

3. For the **South Zone**, which would you prefer for the opener for Canada goose season for fall 2001? (Season must close January 31)

_____ split season: open with duck for 4 days, reopen after Thanksgiving (same as 2000)

_____ open season similar to 1999 (after Thanksgiving and run straight through closing date)

_____ open in mid-December and run straight through closing date

Section 6. Snow Goose Hunting Please answer the following questions about snow goose hunting in Illinois
Please note: "Snow geese" also includes Ross' and Blue geese.

1. Did you hunt snow geese during the **2000 conservation order season** (after Canada goose season closed)?

   _____ Yes _____ No

   1a. If "Yes," in which zone did you hunt? _____ North _____ Central _____ South

2. Did you hunt snow geese during the **2001 conservation order season** (after Canada goose season closed)?

   _____ Yes _____ No

   2a. If "Yes," in which zone did hunt? _____ North _____ Central _____ South

3. How many total snow geese did you harvest? _____ snow geese

4. Please indicate which of the following methods you used to hunt snow geese **during the 2001 conservation order season** and your harvest using each method.

	Used	Did Not Use
Electronic Calls	1	2
Unplugged shotgun	1	2
Hunting from sunset to ½ hour after sunset	1	2

5. How often did you use the following techniques when hunting snow geese during the conservation order season?

Hunting Technique	Often	Rarely	Never
Sneaking/creeping	1	2	3
Decoying over water	1	2	3
Decoying over land	1	2	3
Pass Shooting	1	2	3
Battery-operated rotating-wing decoys	1	2	3

6. Which of the following past seasons did you hunt snow geese? Please check all that apply.

   _____ spring 2000 conservation action _____ 1999-2000 regular season

   _____ spring 1999 conservation action _____ 1998-99 regular season

   _____ 1997-98 regular season _____ 1996-97 regular season or before

Section 7. Attitudes Toward Waterfowl Hunting Please rate the following reasons why you hunt on a scale of "Not Important" to "Extremely Important". Circle the number that matches your response.

	Not Important	Slightly Important	Moderately Important	Very Important	Extremely Important
Waterfowl hunting is a central part of my life	1	2	3	4	5
To learn about wildlife	1	2	3	4	5
To control waterfowl populations	1	2	3	4	5
To harvest waterfowl	1	2	3	4	5
Waterfowl hunting is a fun activity	1	2	3	4	5
To share my experience with friends	1	2	3	4	5
To feel close to nature and the land	1	2	3	4	5
To get away from day-to-day life	1	2	3	4	5
To remain a part of the heritage of waterfowl hunting	1	2	3	4	5
To share my skills and knowledge with others	1	2	3	4	5
For the independence	1	2	3	4	5
To share my experience with family	1	2	3	4	5
To observe wildlife	1	2	3	4	5
To maintain a rural American tradition	1	2	3	4	5
For the challenge	1	2	3	4	5
To provide meat for myself and family	1	2	3	4	5
To work with my dog	1	2	3	4	5
Waterfowl hunting is my favorite activity	1	2	3	4	5
To develop my skills	1	2	3	4	5
To maintain a family tradition	1	2	3	4	5
To interact with other hunters	1	2	3	4	5
To spend time outdoors	1	2	3	4	5

Section 8. Waterfowl Hunting Experience The following questions are important to help us understand more about the people involved in waterfowl hunting in Illinois. Please tell us something about yourself by checking the responses that apply.

1. What is your county of residence? _____ County

2. Please give your age. _____ years

3. How many years total have you hunted waterfowl? _____ years

4. How many years have you hunted waterfowl in Illinois? _____ years

5. Which of the following describes how often do you hunt waterfowl? Choose one.

_____ every year _____ most years _____ some but not most years

5a. If you don't hunt every year, do you buy an Illinois Duck Stamp each year?

_____ Yes _____ No

6. Where did you hunt most often during 2000-2001? _____ Private land _____ Public land

7. How would you rate yourself as a waterfowl hunter?

_____ Novice _____ Intermediate _____ Advanced

8. How does the amount of waterfowl you harvest compare with other hunters you know?

_____Much less _____Slightly less _____Same _____Slightly more _____Much more

9. Did you hunt waterfowl in a state other than Illinois during the 2000-2001 waterfowl season?

_____ Yes What state(s) did you hunt? _____

_____ No

10. Do you make any equipment for waterfowl hunting?

_____ Yes Please identify: _____

_____ No

11. Approximately how many days do you spend preparing for waterfowl hunting ("preparing" includes training dogs, working on boats, decoys, etc., scouting areas to hunt, etc.)?

_____ none _____ 11-20days _____ 31-40 days

_____ 1-10 days _____ 21-30 days _____ More than 40 days

12. Do you belong to any national, state, or local waterfowl hunting/waterfowl conservation organizations?

_____ Yes Please identify: _____

_____ No

13. Please rate the ease of using the telephone to register with the Harvest Information Program (HIP).

_____Very easy _____ Easy _____Hard _____Very hard _____Didn't use

14. Did you hunt doves, woodcock, snipe, or rails during the 2000-2001 season? _____ Yes _____No

Please state if you agree or disagree with the following statements by circling the number that matches your response.

	Strongly Disagree	Disagree	Not Sure	Agree	Strongly Agree
Hunting is one of the most important activities in my life.	1	2	3	4	5
I spend a lot of time in the off-season planning for the hunt.	1	2	3	4	5
I am disappointed when I have no game to show for my efforts.	1	2	3	4	5
I plan vacation time around hunting seasons.	1	2	3	4	5
Some of my best days of hunting have been when I come home empty-handed.	1	2	3	4	5
I try to have the best hunting equipment available.	1	2	3	4	5
Hunting determines much of my lifestyle.	1	2	3	4	5
Waterfowl hunting is a test of skill.	1	2	3	4	5
My closest friends are hunters.	1	2	3	4	5
I spend a lot of time before the season scouting the area I will hunt.	1	2	3	4	5
I enjoy introducing new people to the sport.	1	2	3	4	5
It is important to have equipment for different hunting conditions.	1	2	3	4	5
Seeing waterfowl is important for a satisfying hunt.	1	2	3	4	5
Having the right equipment is an important part of the hunt.	1	2	3	4	5
I would rather go hunting than do any other recreation activity.	1	2	3	4	5
If I cannot find anyone to hunt with me I will often hunt alone.	1	2	3	4	5
I am disappointed if I do not get any shooting at waterfowl while hunting.	1	2	3	4	5
I hunt waterfowl for the challenge.	1	2	3	4	5
It takes skill to be a successful waterfowl hunter.	1	2	3	4	5

COMMENTS

RETURN ENVELOPE IS PROVIDED – POSTAGE-PAID
THANK YOU FOR YOUR TIME AND ASSISTANCE!
Your input will help us understand more about hunters and hunting in Illinois.

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources receives federal assistance and therefore must comply with federal 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 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 S. Second St., Springfield, IL 62701-1787, (217) 782-7616 or the Officer of Human Resources, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Washington, D.C. 20240.

Appendix B

Dear Waterfowl Hunter,

You are one of a select group of waterfowl hunters asked to provide information about your hunting activities during the 2000-2001 season. . Please complete and return the enclosed questionnaire about your waterfowl harvest and activities in Illinois during the 2000-2001 waterfowl hunting season **even if you were not successful.**

The information you and other selected hunters furnish our biologists is vital for proper waterfowl management and allows us to safeguard waterfowl populations while maximizing hunting opportunities.

This survey is limited to those hunters selected. Please take 15 minutes to complete the enclosed questionnaire. A postage-paid envelope is provided for returning the questionnaire to us.

Thank you for your time and assistance.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey M. Ver Steeg
Chief, Wildlife Resources

DUCKS & EARLY CANADA GEESE

SPECIES	DATES (Inclusive)	HOURS	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Teal	Sept. 2-Sept. 17 (Statewide)	Sunrise to Sunset	4	8
Ducks	**North Zone** Oct. 19-Dec. 17	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	**6** (See section on Bag Limits)	2 x daily bag limit
Mergansers	**Central Zone** Oct. 28-Dec. 26		5 (See section on Bag Limits)	2 x daily bag limit
Coots	**South Zone** Nov. 9-Jan. 7		15	30
Early Canada Geese	Sept. 2-Sept. 15 (Northeast Zone only)		5[a]	10
Early Canada Geese	Sept. 2-Sept. 15 (North, Central & South Zones[b])		2[a]	4

[a] Daily bag limit is five in Northeast Canada Goose Zone and two in the South Zone and that portion of the North & Central Zones outside the Northeast Canada Goose Zone.
[b] Includes Rend Lake and Southern IL Quota Zones.

YOUTH WATERFOWL HUNTING DAYS*

SPECIES	DATES	HOURS	DAILY BAG LIMIT
Ducks	**North Zone** Oct. 7-8 **Central Zone** Oct. 14-15 **South Zone** Oct. 28-29	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	**6** (See section on Bag Limits)
Mergansers			5 (See section on Bag Limits)
Coots			15
Canada Geese			2
Snow Geese			20
White-fronted Geese			2
Brants			1

***Youth Waterfowl Hunting Day Regulations**

1. Youth hunters must be 15 years of age or younger and must have a hunting license and HIP registration number unless hunting on property where they reside.
2. Only geese, ducks, mergansers and coots may be taken in addition to other game in season.
3. An adult at least 18 years of age must accompany the youth hunter into the field. This adult cannot hunt geese, ducks, coots or mergansers but can participate in other open seasons.

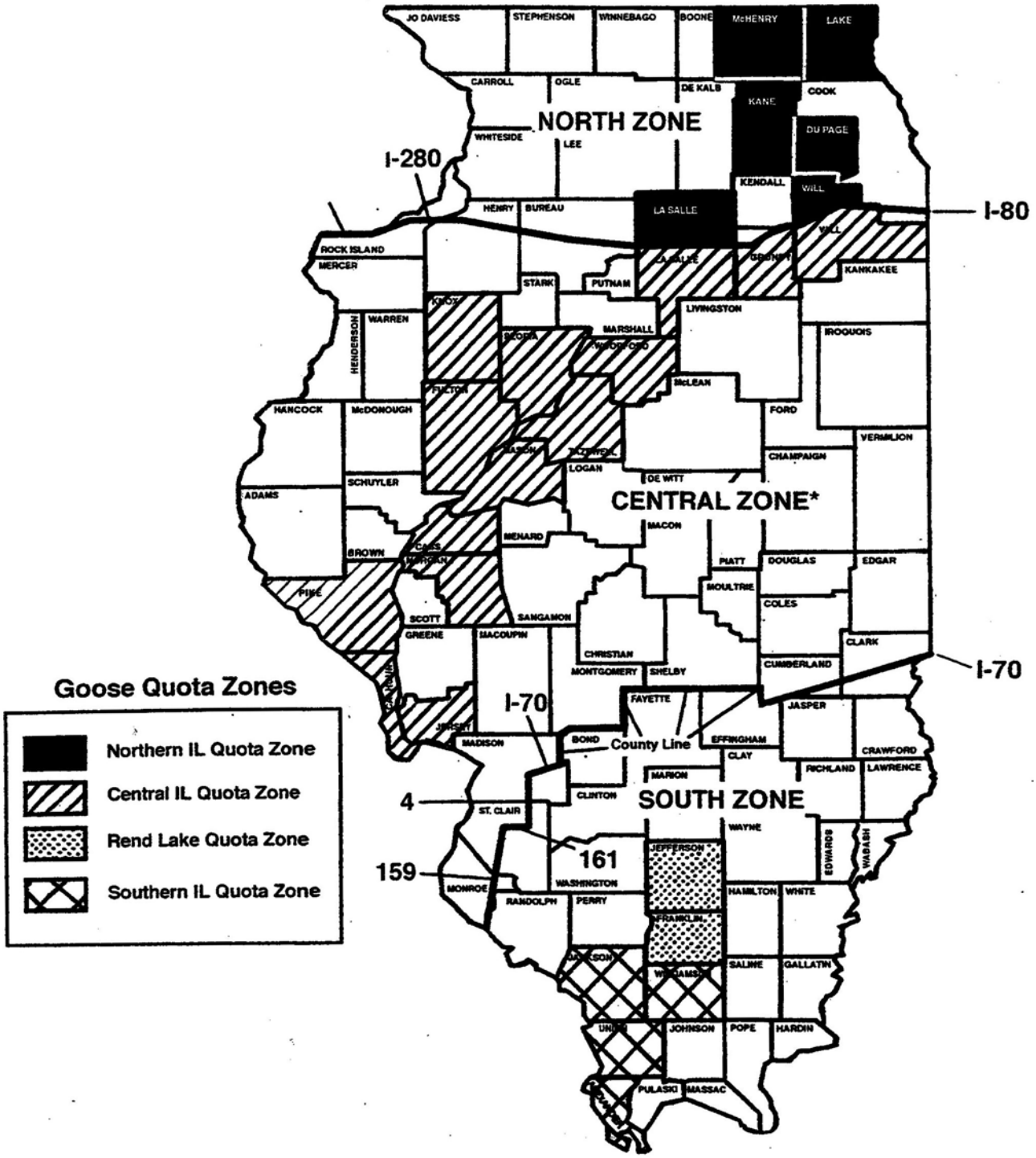
Bag Limit - DUCKS - Bag limits on ducks are established by a conventional bag limit as follows: The basic daily bag limit shall be 6 ducks of any species, (except mergansers); however, no more than 4 shall be mallards (no more than 2 hen mallards) and not more than 3 scaup, 2 wood ducks, 2 redheads, and not more than 1 pintail, 1 black duck and 1 canvasback. The daily bag limit for all mergansers is 5, only 1 of which may be a hooded merganser. The possession limit for ducks and mergansers is twice the daily bag limit.

GEESE	DATES (Inclusive)	HOURS	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSESSION LIMIT
Canada Geese (a)		1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	3	10
North & Northern IL Quota Zone	Oct. 19-Jan. 17			
Central & Central IL Quota Zone	Oct. 28-29 & Nov. 4-Jan. 31		2, except Dec. 1-Jan. 31 bag limit is 3	
South Zone	Nov. 9-12 & Nov. 24-Jan. 31	1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	2, except Jan. 1-Jan. 31 bag limit is 3	
Southern IL & Rend Lake Quota Zone		1/2 hour before sunrise to 3 p.m(b)		
Snow/Blue & Ross' Geese and Brant (a)		1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	20 Snow/Blue & Ross' Geese 1 Brant	Unlimited Snow/Blue & Ross' Geese 2 Brant
North & Northern IL Quota Zone	Oct. 19-Jan. 17			
Central & Central IL Quota Zone	Oct. 28-Jan. 31			
South Zone	Nov. 9-Jan. 31			
Southern IL & Rend Lake Quota Zone	Nov. 9-Jan. 31	1/2 hour before sunrise to 3 p.m(b)		
White-fronted Geese (a)		1/2 hour before sunrise to sunset	2	4
North & Northern IL Quota Zone	Oct. 24-Jan. 17			
Central & Central IL Quota Zone	Nov. 7-Jan. 31			
South Zone	Nov. 9-Jan. 31			
Southern IL & Rend Lake Quota Zone	Nov. 9-Jan. 31	1/2 hour before sunrise to 3 p.m(b)		

(a) The DNR will close the Canada goose, snow/blue and Ross' goose, brant and white-fronted goose season early in a quota zone and the entire zone within which a quota zone lies by giving 48 hours notice when quotas are reached in a quota zone. Call toll-free, 1-877-249-3679 for information on season closures. Entire zones will be closed as the following quota zones reach their quotas, respectively: Northern Illinois Quota Zone will close the North Zone; Central Illinois Quota Zone will close the Central Zone; Rend Lake Quota Zone AND Southern Illinois Quota Zone combined will close the South Zone.

(b) During Jan. 29, 30 and 31 hunting hours end at sunset.

Illinois Waterfowl Zones



Appendix D

Number of waterfowl hunters per county who used public areas with no fee (n=2,351).

County	Number of Hunters	County	Number of Hunters
Fulton	58	Alexander	7
Calhoun	52	Bond	7
Fayette	38	Macon	7
Will	32	Peoria	7
Jefferson	30	Henderson	6
Jersey	29	Jasper	6
Cass	27	Pike	6
Marshall	27	Johnson	5
Madison	26	McHenry	5
Mason	25	Pulaski	5
Moultrie	24	Mercer	4
Whiteside	24	Perry	4
Woodford	24	Coles	3
Williamson	23	DuPage	3
Carroll	22	Lee	3
Clinton	22	Menard	3
Jackson	19	Putnam	3
Lake	19	Winnebago	3
LaSalle	17	Effingham	2
Shelby	17	Hancock	2
Franklin	16	McDonough	2
Tazewell	16	McLean	2
Christian	15	Macoupin	2
Randolph	14	Morgan	2
Cook	13	Ogle	2
JoDaviess	13	Vermilion	2
Union	13	Clark	1
Kankakee	11	Hamilton	1
Massac	11	Hardin	1
Rock Island	11	Iroquois	1
St Clair	11	Kendall	1
Adams	10	Knox	1
Grundy	10	Monroe	1
Marion	10	Richland	1
Bureau	9	Saline	1
DeWitt	9	Stephenson	1
Sangamon	9	White	1
Montgomery	8		

Appendix E

Number of waterfowl hunters per county who used public areas that had daily fees (n=2351).

County	Number of Hunters	County	Number of Hunters
Union	56	Jackson	1
Knox	23	LaSalle	1
Fulton	22	Marion	1
Peoria	17	St Clair	1
Williamson	13	Stark	1
Christian	8	Will	1
Putnam	8		
Sangamon	5		
Vermilion	4		
Lake	3		
Moultrie	3		
Tazewell	3		
Clinton	2		
Mason	2		
Shelby	2		
Woodford	2		
Alexander	1		
Bureau	1		
Carroll	1		
Cass	1		
DeWitt	1		
Franklin	1		
Grundy	1		
Hancock	1		

Appendix F

Number of waterfowl hunters per county who used commercial areas which had daily, weekly, or seasonal fees (n=2351).

County	Number of Hunters	County	Number of Hunters
Williamson	71	Fayette	3
Union	52	Jackson	3
Alexander	33	Kankakee	3
Fulton	23	Putnam	3
McHenry	23	Adams	2
Jefferson	11	Effingham	2
Lake	9	Knox	2
Mason	9	Bureau	1
Will	8	Cass	1
Kane	7	DuPage	1
Marion	6	Hancock	1
Perry	6	Henderson	1
Woodford	6	Jersey	1
Monroe	5	LaSalle	1
Pulaski	5	Macoupin	1
St Clair	5	Madison	1
Franklin	4	Marshall	1
Pike	4	Montgomery	1
Randolph	4	Morgan	1
Grundy	4	Shelby	1
Calhoun	3	Tazewell	1
Carroll	3	Whiteside	1
Clinton	3		

Appendix G

Number of waterfowl hunters per county who used noncommercial waterfowl areas such as private club or private land with no fees (n=2,351).

County	Number of Hunters	County	Number of Hunters	County	Number of Hunters
Fulton	68	Marshall	10	Jasper	4
Williamson	55	Winnebago	10	Moultrie	4
Mason	52	Carroll	9	Washington	4
McHenry	39	DuPage	9	Effingham	3
Will	39	Jefferson	9	Livingston	3
Woodford	39	Kankakee	9	McLean	3
Lake	32	Boone	8	Massac	3
Kane	29	Champaign	8	Menard	3
St. Clair	27	Henderson	8	Mercer	3
Bureau	24	Johnson	8	Pulaski	3
Union	24	Macon	8	Rock Island	3
Fayette	22	Montgomery	8	Stephenson	3
LaSalle	21	Morgan	8	Clay	2
Randolph	21	Peoria	8	Gallatin	2
Putnam	20	Clinton	7	Jersey	2
Alexander	19	Marion	7	Shelby	2
Madison	19	Schuyler	7	Clark	1
Perry	19	Bond	6	Crawford	1
Pike	19	Cook	6	Cumberland	1
Cass	16	DeKalb	6	Edgar	1
Franklin	16	Hancock	6	Edwards	1
Jackson	16	Henry	6	JoDaviess	1
Macoupin	16	Lee	6	Logan	1
Tazewell	15	Saline	6	McDonough	1
Grundy	14	Brown	5	Richland	1
Knox	13	Kendall	5	Scott	1
Calhoun	11	Ogle	5	Vermilion	1
Greene	11	Whiteside	5	Wabash	1
Monroe	11	Christian	4	Warren	1
Sangamon	11	Coles	4	White	1
Adams	10	Iroquois	4		

Appendix H

Number of waterfowl hunters by county (Illinois residents) or state (non-residents) of residence.

County	Number of Hunters	County	Number of Hunters	County	Number of Hunters
Cook	141	Calhoun	12	Ford	3
Madison	98	Effingham	12	Alexander	2
Tazewell	83	Franklin	12	Crawford	2
St. Clair	79	Marion	12	Cumberland	2
Peoria	73	Menard	12	Edgar	2
Sangamon	73	Henry	11	Edwards	2
DuPage	70	Schuyler	11	Hamilton	2
Will	60	Livingston	10	Iroquois	2
LaSalle	46	Lee	9	Lawrence	2
Lake	44	Morgan	9	Pulaski	2
Adams	34	Pike	9	Stark	2
Williamson	33	Putnam	9	Wabash	2
Jackson	32	Stephenson	9	White	2
Macon	32	Washington	9	Clark	1
Macoupin	31	Bond	8	Clay	1
Fulton	30	Douglas	8	Gallatin	1
Mason	29	Greene	8	Hardin	1
McHenry	26	Henderson	8	Piatt	1
Champaign	21	Knox	8	Pope	1
Marshall	21	Logan	8	Warren	1
Winnebago	21	Moultrie	8	Wayne	1
Woodford	21	Saline	8	Richland	0
Bureau	20	McDonough	7	Total	1,736
Kane	20	Ogle	7		
Whiteside	20	Randolph	7	Non-residents	
Franklin	19	Vermilion	7		
Rock Island	19	DeKalb	6	Missouri	34
Cass	18	Hancock	6	Indiana	30
Montgomery	18	Kendall	6	Kentucky	19
Clinton	17	Massac	6	Iowa	14
Jersey	17	Scott	6	Tennessee	8
Kankakee	16	Shelby	6	Ohio	4
Fayette	15	JoDaviess	5	Georgia	3
Monroe	15	Johnson	5	Wisconsin	3
Carroll	14	Mercer	5	Virginia	2
Christian	14	Brown	4	California	1
Perry	14	Coles	4	Florida	1
Union	14	Jasper	4	Michigan	1
Grundy	13	Boone	3	North Carolina	1
McLean	13	DeWitt	3	Total	121