



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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SERVICE MAKES PRELIMINARY REPORT ON DUCK SCORECARDS

Early returns from duck hunters who have already filled in and returned the scorecards printed in many outdoor magazines, state conservation magazines and newspapers in cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior bear out official predictions that waterfowl have fallen into a marked decline.

In the northern zone, which includes Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Michigan, Minnesota, Wisconsin, and North and South Dakota, where the shooting season has ended, 72 percent of the hunters who have sent in scorecards to date reported less ducks than last year, 28 percent the same or more. The average number of ducks killed by each hunter daily was 1-1/2, total for the season 13, with the loss of 4 through crippling and failure to retrieve.

In reporting preliminary findings obtained by these purely voluntary reports by individual gunners, Service Director Albert M. Day said: "So far, the results of this campaign have been most gratifying. I want all duck hunters to know that their records and recommendations are being carefully tabulated. Following the close of shooting in all zones I plan to make a thorough report. In the meanwhile, I hope all duck hunters will fill in the scorecards and mail them to the Fish and Wildlife Service, Merchandise Mart, Chicago 54, Ill."

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