



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
INFORMATION SERVICE

*Office  
list  
12/9/52*

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

DEC 9 1952

For Immediate Release

HUNTING SEASON FINDS GEESE MORE PLentiful

Above average numbers of wild geese have migrated into National wildlife refuges this fall, according to an announcement today by Albert M. Day, Director of the Fish and Wildlife Service.

Summarizing reports from a number of the refuges, where migrating waterfowl congregate, the Director described conditions as follows:

Bombay Hook Refuge, Delaware: For the period of November 11 to 25, the population of Canada geese was estimated at 5,000 birds, or double that of last year during the same period. Hunting success for geese in the vicinity was reported to have increased tenfold.

Tishomingo Refuge, Oklahoma: Between November 9 and 15 an estimated 13,850 Canada geese, 1,000 white-fronted geese, 100 snow geese and 50 blue geese were counted.

Tennessee Refuge, Tennessee: Between the 2nd and 8th of November, approximately 3,100 Canada geese were observed as against 1,100 during the same period last year. The period of November 17 to 27 showed an estimated 130 per cent increase of Canada geese over last year's count for the same period.

Mattamuskeet Refuge, North Carolina: Close to 100,000 geese were reported to be present in the refuge area on December 4, as compared with an estimated peak concentration last year of 70,000 birds.

Crab Orchard Refuge, Illinois: Census figures for November 16 to 21 revealed approximately 37,000 Canada geese and 750 blue and snow geese on the refuge during that period. The period of October 25 to November 12 showed a heavy migration and a tremendous build-up of geese in southern Illinois. It was estimated that the kill in this area might reach an all-time high of over 30,000 geese.

Horicon Refuge, Wisconsin: An estimated total of 14,000 geese were present on the refuge on November 4.

White River Refuge, Arkansas: For the period of November 2 to 8, an estimated 74 per cent increase of geese over last year's count during the same period was reported.

Lacassine Refuge, Louisiana: Between October 26 and November 1, approximately 20,000 geese were observed on the refuge. The birds were spreading out through the entire area.

Delta Refuge, Louisiana: An estimated increase of 135 per cent over last year's goose count for the period of October 25 to November 2 was reported.

Wheeler Refuge, Alabama: For the period of November 2 to 8, populations of approximately 6,000 Canada geese and 100 snow geese were reported.

Santee Refuge, South Carolina: On November 1 there were approximately 60 per cent more geese on the refuge than on the same date last year.