



### **December 16, 2025 Weekly Waterfowl Report**

Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries, and Parks

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The following report is a compilation of public and private land reports and habitat assessments during the week ending December 14, 2025.

Jackson, MS – Last week Mississippi experienced a transition from mild temperatures early in the week to cold conditions into the weekend. The majority of shallow flooded habitat iced over, causing ducks to congregate towards deeper water or shift further south. The Delta of Mississippi will be under a mild, stable weather pattern through most of next week. Rainfall this week and early next week should help maintain shallow water in moist-soil units and low areas, but significant rainfall will still be needed to raise water levels in many areas. Predicted rainfall should keep existing habitat usable, though it may not significantly flood new areas.

Temperatures are forecasted to remain above seasonal norms, with mild days and cool but not harsh, overnight lows over the next week. These conditions are not ideal for triggering large migrations from the Midwest. Duck movements here in Mississippi will likely be limited to daily feeding flights, with less mid-day movement due to comfortable conditions.

Winds are expected to be generally light to moderate, favoring consistent shooting conditions but reducing the likelihood of strong weather-driven flight days. Morning hunts should be most productive, especially where food and shallow water overlap. Waterfowl will likely be heavily feeding to rebuild energy reserves after two days of icy conditions. Overall hunting conditions should be fair to good, particularly on managed WMAs and private properties with dependable water. Success will hinge on scouting and concealment rather than weather advantage.

The December aerial waterfowl survey is currently under way, and survey results will be posted on MDWFP's website and social media platforms. For more information regarding waterfowl in Mississippi, visit our website at [www.mdwfp.com/waterfowl](http://www.mdwfp.com/waterfowl) or

call us at (601) 432-2199. The Waterfowl Program web page lists links to hunting and habitat information for WMAs and other public lands throughout the state.

**Table 1:** Duck harvest and WMA visits **reported for this past week and compared to the same timeframe over the past 5 years.** We are currently working to get the WMA user and harvest data for individual WMAs from the new license system. Once this issue is resolved, we will resume reporting weekly WMA waterfowl harvest numbers as we have in past years. Note: this data does not necessarily represent the total number of hunters and harvest for all WMAs. Hunters are reminded of the requirement to check in prior to hunting and to check out upon leaving the WMA.

<b>Year</b>	<b>WMA Visits</b>	<b>Harvest</b>	<b>Avg. Harvest/Day</b>
<b>2025</b>	<b>2331</b>	<b>2160</b>	<b>0.93</b>
<b>2024</b>	<b>1724</b>	<b>1887</b>	<b>1.09</b>
<b>2023</b>	<b>1204</b>	<b>1957</b>	<b>1.63</b>
<b>2022</b>	<b>789</b>	<b>1107</b>	<b>1.40</b>
<b>2021</b>	<b>1066</b>	<b>1577</b>	<b>1.48</b>
<b>2020</b>	<b>1263</b>	<b>1881</b>	<b>1.49</b>