



January 13, 2026, 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 January 11, 2026.

Jackson, MS – As we continue to push through the month of January, warm weather conditions have been the norm. Many waterfowl hunters have become discouraged and think that mother nature is playing a cruel trick. It's not often that hunters find themselves swatting mosquitoes during the second week of January in Mississippi. However, there are still reports of successful hunting trips despite the recent warm weather. Waterfowl abundance has increased on several Wildlife Management areas recently, likely because available water has remained limited across much of the Delta during this dry period.

This week, much of north Mississippi will transition from warm, variable conditions to colder, more seasonable winter weather. Early in the week, cloudy, wet conditions have dominated and as the week progresses, rain chances diminish and colder air moves in. By the end of the week, daytime highs will be in the mid 40's with lows dipping into the 20's at night. This is the more typical January winter waterfowl hunters have been waiting for.

Gadwall, northern shoveler, and green winged teal dominate the harvest on many public and private land hunts. However, above-average numbers of northern pintails have been observed and reported by hunters. Large numbers of white-fronted geese and snow geese have been reported in much of the northern half of the Delta. Late winter duck hunting in heavily pressured areas requires hunters to become more adaptive and detail oriented than earlier in the season. As waterfowl hunters continue to hunt educated ducks, success can depend on changing things up. Reducing calling, improving concealment, and using smaller decoy spreads of different species can be effective. Colder temperatures later this week are expected to have birds moving around more in search of energy resources, so hunting success could see an increase soon.

The early January aerial waterfowl survey is still underway, as significant weather delays have been experienced over the last 10 days. Survey results will be posted on MDWFP's website and social media platforms as soon as they're available. For more information regarding waterfowl in Mississippi, visit our website at 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 over the past week for WMAs where harvest of at least one bird was reported. Note: While the WMA visits and waterfowl harvest numbers below are lower than usual for weekly totals, the average harvest per WMA visit provides an index of waterfowl hunting effort and harvest for each listed WMA. Hunters are reminded of the requirement to check in prior to hunting and to check out upon leaving the WMA.

WMA	WMA Visits	Harvest	Avg. Harvest/Day
Bienville WMA	4	3	0.75
Black Prairie WMA	1	1	1.00
Canal Section WMA	35	18	0.51
Caney Creek WMA	6	4	0.67
Charlie Capps WMA	15	7	0.47
Choctaw WMA	4	1	0.25
Divide Section WMA	12	5	0.42
Howard Miller WMA	67	124	1.85
John Bell Williams WMA	1	1	1.00
John W. Starr WMA	3	6	2.00
Lake George WMA	29	41	1.41
Mahannah WMA	161	98	0.61
Malmaison WMA	58	65	1.12
Mason Creek WMA	4	1	0.25
Muscadine Farms WMA	61	79	1.30
Nanah Waiya WMA	8	3	0.38
Okatibbee WMA	16	10	0.63
O'Keefe WMA	49	50	1.02
Old River WMA	12	4	0.33
Pascagoula WMA	52	14	0.27
Pearl River WMA	20	9	0.45
Phil Bryant WMA	21	20	0.95
Sandy Creek WMA	1	2	2.00
Shipland WMA	18	14	0.78
Sky Lake WMA	13	15	1.15
Sunflower WMA	114	125	1.10
Trim Cane WMA	3	1	0.33
Tuscumbia WMA	16	4	0.25

Twin Oaks WMA	10	21	2.10
Upper Sardis WMA	7	3	0.43
Ward Bayou WMA	41	13	0.32
William C. (Billy) Deviney WMA	49	19	0.39
Yockanookany WMA	6	1	0.17
Totals	936	782	0.84