



## **2020 Migratory Game Bird Hunting Season Public Input Summary**

We would like to thank everyone that reached out to the WDNR to provide public input, whether that was via phone call, email, online input tool or attending a meeting or hearing. We have seen significant increases in public input the last 3 years compared to what we historically had received from waterfowl hunters. This year with the inclusion of the online input tool we received 2,185 total comments. We want to thank all of you for reaching out to provide feedback on the 2020 migratory bird hunting season frameworks. Below is a summary of all the comments received, if you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact [Taylor Finger](#).

### **2020 Input Summary**

What Zone do you primarily hunt in? (Online input only; was not asked at meetings)

- 53% - South Zone (1093 comments)
- 32% - North Zone (666 comments)
- 14% - Mississippi River Zone? (297 comments)

Are you in favor of an early teal season?

- 70% - In favor of an early teal season (1535 comments)
- 30% - In opposition of an early teal season (649 comments)

How many days would you prefer for an early teal season?

- 29% - 0 days (649 comments)
- 12% - 7 days (253 comments)
- 35% - 9 days (769 comments)
- 8% - 12 days (176 comments)
- 13% - 15/16 days (286 comments)

Do you support the maximum of 6 ducks/day with the following limits: 4 mallards (see hen in future question), 3 wood ducks, 2 black ducks, 2 redheads, 1 pintail, 2 canvasbacks, 5 mergansers (2 hooded mergansers) and a 15 Coot daily bag limit?

- 90% - In support of proposed bag limit (1944 comments)
- 10% - Oppose some portion of the proposed bag limit (226 comments)

Do you support an increase in the hen mallard daily bag limit to 2 birds/day from 1 bird/day?

- 70% - In support of increasing the hen mallard bag limit to 2/day (1533 comments)
- 30% - In support of maintaining the hen mallard bag limit at 1/day (652 comments)

When would you like the restricted scaup season structured in each zone?

#### North Zone

- 47% - 1/day for 15 days in the first half part of the season and 2/day for 45 days for the final part of the season (859 comments)
- 33% - 2/day for 45 days in the first half part of the season and 1/day for 15 days for the final part of the season (604 comments)
- 19% - 1/60 days (352 comments)

#### South Zone

- 54% - 1/day for 15 days in the first half part of the season and 2/day for 45 days for the final part of the season (975 comments)
- 25% - 2/day for 45 days in the first half part of the season and 1/day for 15 days for the final part of the season (454 comments)
- 21% - 1/60 days (378 comments)

#### Miss. River Zone

- 52% - 1/day for 15 days in the first half part of the season and 2/day for 45 days for the final part of the season (886 comments)
- 24% - 2/day for 45 days in the first half part of the season and 1/day for 15 days for the final part of the season (407 comments)
- 24% - 1/60 days (401 comments)

Do you support the youth waterfowl hunt on Sept. 19<sup>th</sup> and Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>?

- 66% - In support of the youth waterfowl hunt on the proposed dates (1430 comments)
- 9% - In support of the youth waterfowl hunt on a different date (187 comments)
- 25% - Oppose the youth waterfowl hunt (552 comments)

What opening date do you prefer for the North Zone duck season?

#### Statewide Results (1534)

- 69% - September 26, 2020 (1058 comments)
- 22% - October 3, 2020 (341 comments)
- 5% - October 10, 2020 (81 comments)
- 4% - Other (54 comments)

#### North Zone Respondents Only Results (655)

- 65% - September 26, 2020 (426 comments)
- 24% - October 3, 2020 (156 comments)
- 6% - October 10, 2020 (38 comments)
- 5% - Other (35 comments)

Do you support a split in the North Zone duck season?

Statewide Results (1373 comments)

- 60% - Oppose a split in the duck season in the North Zone (826 comments)
- 40% - Support a split in the duck season in the North Zone (547 comments)

North Zone Respondents Only Results (517 comments)

- 64% - Oppose a split in the duck season in the North Zone (335 comments)
- 36% - Support a split in the duck season in the North Zone (182 comments)

Of those that supported a split in the North Zone, how many days would you prefer?

Statewide	North Zone Respondents Only
0 days - 825	0 days - 335
1 day - 13	1 day - 4
2 days - 2	4 days - 1
3 days - 2	5 days - 52
4 days - 3	6 days - 3
5 days - 180	7 days - 75
6 days - 7	8 days - 2
7 days - 202	9 days - 3
8 days - 10	10 days - 18
9 days - 18	Greater than 12 days - 71
10 days - 35	
11 days - 2	
12 days - 4	
Greater than 12 days - 71	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statewide Average = 3.0 days (1374 comments)</li> </ul>	Average North Respondents = 2.7 days (517 comments)

What opening date do you prefer for the South Zone duck season?

Statewide Results (1805 comments)

- 27% - September 26, 2020 (487 comments)
- 53% - October 3, 2020 (953 comments)
- 17% - October 10, 2020 (302 comments)
- 3% - Other (63 comments)

South Zone Respondents Only Results (1069 comments)

- 23% - September 26, 2020 (250 comments)
- 53% - October 3, 2020 (565 comments)
- 20% - October 10, 2020 (216 comments)
- 4% - Other (38 comments)

Do you support a split in the South Zone duck season?

Statewide Results (1588 comments)

- 22% - Oppose a split in the duck season in the North Zone (355 comments)
- 78% - Support a split in the duck season in the North Zone (1233 comments)

South Zone Respondents Only Results (917 comments)

- 22% - Oppose a split in the duck season in the North Zone (204 comments)
- 78% - Support a split in the duck season in the North Zone (713 comments)

Of those that supported a split in the South Zone, how many days would you prefer?

Statewide	South Zone Respondents Only
0 days - 354	0 days - 204
1 day - 6	1 day - 4
2 days - 2	2 days - 1
3 days - 3	3 days - 2
4 days - 9	4 days - 7
5 days - 562	5 days - 339
6 days - 26	6 days - 10
7 days - 295	7 days - 155
8 days - 14	8 days - 8
9 days - 37	9 days - 18
10 days - 71	10 days - 47
11 days - 2	11 days - 2
12 days - 35	12 days - 23
Greater than 12 days - 156	Greater than 12 days - 97
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statewide Average = 5.8 days (1572 comments)</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Average South Respondents = 5.8 days (917 comments)</li> </ul>

What opening date do you prefer for the Mississippi Zone duck season?

Statewide Results (1148 comments)

- 26% - September 26, 2020 (296 comments)
- 53% - October 3, 2020 (612 comments)
- 17% - October 10, 2020 (199 comments)
- 4% - Different (41 comments)

Miss. River Respondents Only Results (309 comments)

- 27% - September 26, 2020 (84 comments)
- 53% - October 3, 2020 (163 comments)
- 17% - October 10, 2020 (54 comments)
- 3% - Different (8 comments)

Do you support a split (closure) in the Mississippi Zone duck season?

Statewide Results (1059 comments)

- 25% - Oppose a split in the duck season in the Mississippi Zone (262 comments)
- 75% - Support a split in the duck season in the Mississippi Zone (797 comments)

Miss. River Respondents Only Results (277 comments)

- 15% - Oppose a split in the duck season in the Mississippi Zone (43 comments)
- 85% - Support a split in the duck season in the Mississippi Zone (234 comments)

Of those that supported a split in the Mississippi Zone, how many days would you prefer?

Statewide	Miss River Zone Respondents Only
0 days - 258	0 days - 43
1 day - 5	1 day - 1
2 days - 1	4 days - 1
3 days - 3	5 days - 85
4 days - 3	6 days - 5
5 days - 270	7 days - 50
6 days - 15	8 days - 1
7 days - 188	9 days - 14
8 days - 13	10 days - 11
9 days - 32	11 days - 1
10 days - 44	12 days - 29
11 days - 2	Greater than 12 days - 36
12 days - 70	
Greater than 12 days - 123	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statewide Average = 6.0 days (1017 comments)</li> </ul>	Average Miss River Respondents = 6.9 days (277 comments)

Do you support an Early Goose season (Canada and Light geese) on Sept. 1 – 15?

- 92% - Support early goose season as proposed (1971 comments)
- 8% - Oppose an early goose season/Different Season (161 comments)

Do you support a regular season Canada goose bag of 3 Canada geese/day?

- 89% - Support the proposed daily bag limit of 3 Canada geese/day (1781 comments)
- 11% - Support a different bag limit (increase/decrease) (223 comments)

Do you support a regular season Canada goose opener of Sept. 16 for the North and South Zones?

- 87% - Sept. 16, 2020 (1717 comments)
- 13% - Support a different opening date (252 comments)

Do you support a regular season Canada goose opener of Sept. 28 for the Mississippi River Zone?

Statewide Results (1766 comments)

- 51% - Oct. 3, 2019 (908 comments)
- 49% - Sept. 16, 2019 (858 comments)

Miss. River Zone Respondents Only Results (277 comments)

- 77% - Oct. 3, 2019 (212 comments)
- 23% - Sept. 16, 2019 (65 comments)

Do you support a split in the regular Canada goose season in the North Zone?

- 55% - Oppose a split in the North Zone regular Canada goose season (1220 comments)
- 45% - Support a split in the North Zone regular Canada goose season (733 comments)

Do you support a split in the regular Canada goose season in the South Zone during the duck season split?

- 66% - Support a split in the goose season in the South Zone during the duck season split (1166 comments)
- 34% - Oppose a split in the goose season in the South Zone during the duck season split (598 comments)

Do you support a 2<sup>nd</sup> split in the regular Canada goose season in the South Zone (Holiday Hunt Split)?

- 58% - Support a 2<sup>nd</sup> Holiday Hunt split (1025 comments)
- 42% - Oppose a 2<sup>nd</sup> Holiday Hunt split (731 comments)

Do you support a split in the regular Canada goose season in the Mississippi Zone during the duck season split?

- 71% - Support a split in the goose season in the Mississippi River Zone during the duck season split (1180 comments)
- 29% - Oppose a split in the goose season in the Mississippi River Zone during the duck season split (485 comments)

## **2021 – 2025 Zone Change Options**

What zone structure do you prefer for the 2021 – 2025 seasons?

- 40% - 3 zone/1 split (North, South, Lake Michigan/Green Bay; 825 comments)
- 33% - 3 zone/1 split (North, South, Mississippi River; 685 comments)
- 27% - 2 zone/2 splits (North and South; 551 comments)
- -- - Other (2 comments)

What North/South Boundary line to prefer for the 2021 – 2025 seasons?

- 46% - Hwy 64 (773 comments)
- 53% - Hwy 10 (890 comments)
- -- - Other (4 comments)