

## **LIGHT GEESE (regular season)**

Information provided in this section pertains only to the regular light goose season in South Dakota. The next section reports on the Spring Conservation order.

The 2009 light goose season covered 26 September - 20 December statewide and included snow, blue, and Ross' geese and all other geese except Canada geese, brant and white-fronted geese. The daily bag was 20 geese with an unlimited season possession limit. To hunt geese, residents were required to hold small game, 1-day small game, adult or junior combination, or youth small game licenses plus a migratory bird certification. Nonresidents were required to obtain a nonresident waterfowl license. All hunters age 16 and over were also required to obtain a federal waterfowl stamp.

In 2009, there were an estimated 5,031 hunters who hunted at least one day for light geese during the regular season (4,298 residents, 733 nonresidents). From survey responses, there was a projected harvest of 55,823 light geese (52,350 by residents, 3,473 by nonresidents).

When asked their satisfaction on the season, (1 being least satisfied, 7 being most satisfied), those respondents who reported hunting at least one day for light geese reported an average rating of 4.96 for residents and 5.24 for nonresidents. The average days hunted by all hunters (5.57 residents, 4.40 for nonresidents) projected to a total of 27,168 recreation days for the season.

### Comparison of the 2000 - 2009 regular season light goose harvests

Year	<i>Resident Hunters</i>					<i>Nonresident Hunters</i>				
	<i>Number Hunters</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>Ave Day Hunted</i>	<i>Ave Bag</i>	<i>Satisfaction</i>	<i>Number Hunters</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>Ave Day Hunted</i>	<i>Ave Bag</i>	<i>Satisfaction</i>
2000	7,643	49,680	5.64	6.50	4.52	804	1,198	4.29	1.49	4.51
2001	10,429	68,519	5.43	6.57	4.96	1,090	2,645	3.71	2.42	5.17
2002	9,091	66,819	5.53	7.35	4.75	1,134	2,633	3.44	2.32	4.86
2003	9,360	102,211	5.40	10.92	5.02	1,195	4,464	3.76	3.74	5.29
2004	7,471	64,848	5.68	8.68	4.35	861	1,898	4.00	2.20	4.45
2005	5,984	65,465	5.59	10.94	4.66	709	1,779	4.55	2.51	4.79
2006	6,316	80,213	6.12	12.70	5.00	1,315	6,522	4.12	4.96	5.14
2007	4,377	44,120	6.03	10.08	4.90	754	2,903	4.23	3.85	4.97
2008	5,165	58,055	5.51	11.24	5.24	849	5,422	4.15	6.39	5.23
2009	4,298	52,350	5.57	12.18	4.96	733	3,473	4.40	4.74	5.24

## **REGULAR LIGHT GOOSE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2009**

Last Revised: 24 May 2010

	Resident	Nonresident
<b>Residents, Regular Season:</b>		
No. Hunters Reporting Light Goose Days	386	-
Total Reported Light Goose Hunted Days	2,150	-
<b>Average Days Hunted Light Geese</b>	<b>5.57</b>	-
Total Reported Light Geese Bagged	4,701	-
<b>Average Light Goose Bag for Season</b>	<b>12.18</b>	-
<b>Projected Days Light Goose Hunting</b>	<b>23,940</b>	-
<b>Projected No. Light Goose Hunters</b>	<b>4,298</b>	-
<b>Projected Light Goose Bag</b>	<b>52,350</b>	-
<b>TOTAL RESIDENT LIGHT GOOSE HARVEST REGULAR SEASON = 52,350</b>		
<b>Nonresident 10-day and Season-long Licenses</b>		
No. Hunters Reporting Light Goose Days	-	157
Total Reported Light Goose Hunted Days	-	720
<b>Average Days Hunted Light Geese</b>	-	<b>4.59</b>
Total Reported Light Geese Bagged	-	781
<b>Average Light Goose Bag for Season</b>	-	<b>4.97</b>
<b>Projected Days Light Goose Hunting</b>	-	<b>2,961</b>
<b>Projected No. Light Goose Hunters</b>	-	<b>645</b>
<b>Projected Light Goose Bag</b>	-	<b>3,206</b>
<b>Nonresident 3-day Licenses</b>		
No. Hunters Reporting Light Goose Days	-	34
Total Reported Light Goose Hunted Days	-	103
<b>Average Days Hunted Light Geese</b>	-	<b>3.03</b>
Total Reported Light Geese Bagged	-	103
<b>Average Light Goose Bag for Season</b>	-	<b>3.03</b>
<b>Projected Days Light Goose Hunting</b>	-	<b>267</b>
<b>Projected No. Light Goose Hunters</b>	-	<b>88</b>
<b>Projected Light Goose Bag</b>	-	<b>267</b>
<b>TOTAL NONRESIDENT LIGHT GOOSE HARVEST REGULAR SEASON = 3,473</b>		
<b>TOTAL LIGHT GOOSE HARVEST REGULAR SEASON = 55,823</b>		
<b>Light Goose Hunter Mean Satisfaction Score *1*</b>	4.96	5.24

\*1\* Based on scale of 1-7 with 1=very dissatisfied & 7=very satisfied

### STATEWIDE REGULAR SEASON LIGHT GOOSE HARVEST, 1954-2009

