

# **LIGHT GOOSE CONSERVATION ORDER**

Information provided in this section pertains only to the Spring Light Goose Conservation Order in South Dakota. The previous section reported only on the regular season.

The 2009 Light Goose Conservation Order covered 14 February - 3 May statewide. This was the 11<sup>th</sup> year the conservation order was offered. The daily bag was 20 geese with an unlimited possession limit. To hunt light 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 Spring Light Goose or a nonresident Youth Spring Light Goose license. Hunters were not required to possess a federal waterfowl stamp to participate in the conservation order.

Harvest surveys were sent to both resident and nonresident hunters. In 2009, there were a projected 6,516 license holders who hunted at least one day for light geese during the conservation order dates (2,895 residents, 3,621 nonresidents). From the survey responses, there were a projected total of 116,949 light geese harvested.

The average days hunted by all hunters projected to a total of 30,776 recreation days for the conservation order. The average season bag from hunters reporting use of electronic callers was 18.2 for residents and 19.4 for nonresidents. The average season bag from hunters reporting use of unplugged shotguns was 16.6 for residents and 19.8 for nonresidents. The average season bag for hunters reporting after sunset hunting was 4.9 for residents and 7.1 for nonresidents. Approximately 5.5% of resident hunters and 8.6% of nonresident hunters reached the daily bag limit at least once.

Brown, Kingsbury and Clark counties were identified by the most hunters (32% of all respondents combined) as the areas they hunted most.

Comparison of the 1999 - 2009 Conservation Order light goose harvests:

Year	<i>Resident Hunters</i>			<i>Nonresident Hunters</i>		
	<i>Number Hunters</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>Total Days Hunted</i>	<i>Number Hunters</i>	<i>Harvest</i>	<i>Total Days Hunted</i>
1999	7,059	80,856	40,487	1,571	14,257	4,678
2000	3,908	45,687	24,189	2,159	23,230	7,528
2001	4,172	31,913	18,180	2,063	22,462	7,309
2002	7,270	88,190	41,856	2,084	34,537	8,547
2003	3,546	43,898	22,823	1,739	26,184	8,198
2004	3,727	52,756	20,169	2,301	37,028	8,907
2005	4,136	71,545	26,427	2,617	44,852	11,161
2006	3,764	51,027	21,767	3,150	48,520	13,262
2007	2,480	39,343	13,323	2,808	57,212	9,970
2008	3,330	45,995	18,925	3,271	61,142	12,406
2009	2,895	38,184	15,173	3,621	78,765	15,063

## **CONS ORDER LIGHT GOOSE HARVEST PROJECTIONS FOR 2009**

Last Revised: 27 July 09

	Resident	Non Residents
CONSERVATION ORDER LIGHT GOOSE Licenses Sold *3*	12,528	3,789
<b>Projected ACTIVE CONS ORDER LIGHT GOOSE HUNTERS</b>	<b>2,895</b>	<b>3,621</b>
Number Sampled for Survey	1,900	598
Number Responded to Survey	1,428	407
Responded and Participated in Season	<b>330</b>	<b>389</b>
Responded but DID NOT HUNT	1,098	18
<b>Survey Response Rate</b>	<b>75.2%</b>	<b>68.1%</b>

**TOTAL LIGHT GOOSE HARVEST CONSERVATION ORDER = 116,949**

### Late Season (Conservation Order) 2/14 - 3/10 Period:

No. Hunters Reporting Light Goose Days	173	68
Total Reported Light Goose Hunted Days	618	222
<b>Average Days Hunted Light Geese</b>	<b>3.57</b>	<b>3.26</b>
Total Reported Light Geese Bagged	1,257	933
<b>Average Light Goose Bag for Season</b>	<b>7.27</b>	<b>13.72</b>
<b>Projected Days Light Goose Hunting</b>	<b>5,419</b>	<b>2,064</b>
<b>Projected No. Light Goose Hunters</b>	<b>1,518</b>	<b>633</b>
<b>Projected Light Goose Bag</b>	<b>11,036</b>	<b>8,685</b>

**TOTAL LIGHT GEESE HARVESTED 2/1 - 3/10 = 19,721**

### Late Season (Conservation Order) 3/11 - 5/3 Period:

No. Hunters Reporting Light Goose Days	246	350
Total Reported Light Goose Hunted Days	1,173	1,398
<b>Average Days Hunted Light Geese</b>	<b>4.77</b>	<b>3.99</b>
Total Reported Light Geese Bagged	3,095	7,527
<b>Average Light Goose Bag for Season</b>	<b>12.58</b>	<b>21.51</b>
<b>Projected Days Light Goose Hunting</b>	<b>10,294</b>	<b>12,999</b>
<b>Projected No. Light Goose Hunters</b>	<b>2,158</b>	<b>3,258</b>
<b>Projected Light Goose Bag</b>	<b>27,148</b>	<b>70,080</b>

**TOTAL LIGHT GEESE HARVESTED 3/11 - 5/8 = 97,228**

Reported Number of Hunters Using Electronic Callers	86	280
Reported Harvest by Hunters Using Electronic Callers	1,565	5,441
Reported Number of Hunters Using Unplugged Shotguns	164	293
Reported Harvest by Hunters Using Unplugged Shotguns	2,726	5,810
Reported Number of Hunters Hunting After Sunset	57	107
Reported Harvest by Hunters Hunting After Sunset	277	758
<b>Projected Number of Hunters Using Electronic Callers</b>	<b>754</b>	<b>2,607</b>
<b>Average Season Bag for Hunters Using Electronic Callers</b>	<b>18.20</b>	<b>19.43</b>
<b>Projected Harvest by Hunters Using Electronic Callers</b>	<b>13,723</b>	<b>50,654</b>
<b>Projected Number of Hunters Using Unplugged Shotguns</b>	<b>1,439</b>	<b>2,728</b>
<b>Average Season Bag for Hunters Using Unplugged Shotguns</b>	<b>16.62</b>	<b>19.83</b>
<b>Projected Harvest by Hunters Using Unplugged Shotguns</b>	<b>23,916</b>	<b>54,096</b>
<b>Projected Number of Hunters Hunting After Sunset</b>	<b>500</b>	<b>996</b>
<b>Average Season Bag for Hunters Hunting After Sunset</b>	<b>4.86</b>	<b>7.08</b>
<b>Projected Harvest by Hunters Hunting After Sunset</b>	<b>2,430</b>	<b>7,052</b>

\*3\* Numbers of resident licenses sold are based on the number of migratory bird certificates in the 2009 database purchased prior to April

## Light Goose Conservation Order Hunter and Harvest Distribution by County 2009

COUNTY	HUNTER DISTRIBUTION				HARVEST DISTRIBUTION				Birds/Hunter **
	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *	# Reported	# Projected	% of Total	# Proj w/ Unk *	
Minnehaha	16	145	2.5	165	384	3,505	3.3	3,846	24.2
Pennington	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Brown	82	743	13.0	848	1,713	15,636	14.7	17,156	21.0
Beadle	33	299	5.2	341	896	8,179	7.7	8,974	27.4
Codington	22	199	3.5	227	199	1,816	1.7	1,993	9.1
Brookings	24	218	3.8	249	487	4,445	4.2	4,877	20.4
Yankton	38	344	6.0	393	539	4,920	4.6	5,398	14.3
Davison	3	27	0.5	31	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Lawrence	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Aurora	6	54	0.9	62	14	128	0.1	140	2.4
Bennett	1	9	0.2	10	0	0	0.0	0	0.0
Bon Homme	16	145	2.5	165	411	3,752	3.5	4,117	25.9
Brule	8	73	1.3	83	68	621	0.6	681	8.5
Buffalo	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Butte	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Campbell	2	18	0.3	21	34	310	0.3	340	17.2
Charles Mix	14	127	2.2	145	124	1,132	1.1	1,242	8.9
Clark	55	498	8.7	568	1,152	10,516	9.9	11,538	21.1
Clay	11	100	1.8	114	125	1,141	1.1	1,252	11.4
Corson	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Custer	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Day	32	290	5.1	331	993	9,064	8.5	9,945	31.3
Deuel	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Dewey	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Douglas	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Edmunds	21	190	3.3	217	548	5,002	4.7	5,488	26.3
Fall River	3	27	0.5	31	70	639	0.6	701	23.7
Faulk	10	91	1.6	104	91	831	0.8	912	9.1
Grant	2	18	0.3	21	1	9	0.0	10	0.5
Gregory	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Haakon	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Hamlin	14	127	2.2	145	148	1,351	1.3	1,482	10.6
Hand	2	18	0.3	21	4	37	0.0	41	2.1
Hanson	2	18	0.3	21	20	183	0.2	201	10.2
Harding	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Hughes	3	27	0.5	31	2	18	0.0	20	0.7
Hutchinson	13	118	2.1	135	243	2,218	2.1	2,434	18.8
Hyde	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Jackson	1	9	0.2	10	128	1,168	1.1	1,282	129.8
Jerauld	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Jones	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Kingsbury	62	562	9.8	641	1,369	12,496	11.7	13,711	22.2
Lake	34	308	5.4	352	567	5,176	4.9	5,679	16.8
Lincoln	2	18	0.3	21	1	9	0.0	10	0.5
Lyman	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
McCook	17	154	2.7	176	238	2,172	2.0	2,383	14.1
McPherson	2	18	0.3	21	17	155	0.1	170	8.6
Marshall	6	54	0.9	62	175	1,597	1.5	1,752	29.6
Meade	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Mellette	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Miner	10	91	1.6	104	233	2,127	2.0	2,334	23.4
Moody	5	45	0.8	51	46	420	0.4	461	9.3
Perkins	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Potter	5	45	0.8	51	40	365	0.3	400	8.1
Roberts	5	45	0.8	51	17	155	0.1	170	3.4
Sanborn	3	27	0.5	31	31	283	0.3	311	10.5
Spink	23	208	3.6	237	352	3,213	3.0	3,525	15.4
Stanley	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Sully	5	45	0.8	51	32	292	0.3	320	6.5
Tripp	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Turner	10	91	1.6	104	41	374	0.4	410	4.1
Union	5	45	0.8	51	91	831	0.8	912	18.5
Walworth	2	18	0.3	21	33	301	0.3	330	16.7
Ziebach	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Shannon	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Todd	0	0	0.0	0	0	0	0.0	0	0
Unk/Unreported	89	807	-	-	1,135	10,360	-	-	12.8
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>719</b>	<b>6,516</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>6,514</b>	<b>12,812</b>	<b>116,949</b>	<b>100%</b>	<b>116,948</b>	<b>17.95</b>

Last Revised: 21 October 2009

\* Includes unknown county projection values by assuming unknown county values are distributed the same as reported county values. Total values may be different due to rounding.

\*\* Calculation uses "# projected" values without correction for unknown/unreported county values.