

10/13/2016 Barber/McClain/Witt	Sandusky Bay/ Marshes	Pickereel Creek WA	Toussaint Marsh	Magee Marsh WA	Metzger Marsh WA	Ottawa NWR	Cedar Point NWR	Navarre Marsh NWR	Darby NWR	Maumee Bay	Western Lake Erie	Big Island	Killdeer Plains	Mercer/ Grand Lake	Mosquito Creek	Killbuck Marsh	Funk Bottoms	Species Total
Mallard	3,712	165	203	285	0	70	152	75	15	0	0	80	187	880	400	300	75	6,599
Black Duck	70	0	5	5	0	15	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	105	15	0	215
Gadwall	0	0	0	0	0	30	425	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	80	0	0	535
Wigeon	795	0	195	225	0	275	875	0	0	0	0	5	0	0	55	0	0	2,425
Green Winged Teal	2,350	0	0	0	0	600	700	950	0	0	0	0	0	0	270	0	175	5,045
Blue Winged Teal	550	0	0	0	0	200	0	0	0	0	0	85	5	0	0	50	0	890
Northern Shoveler	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Northern Pintail	355	0	60	5	0	200	3,675	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4,295
<b>Total Dabblers</b>	<b>7,832</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,390</b>	<b>5,827</b>	<b>1,025</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>20,004</b>
Redhead	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carwasback	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Scaup	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,270	0	0	0	0	0	0	2,270
Ringneck	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Ruddy Duck	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Goldeneye	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Divers</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,270</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,270</b>
<b>Total Ducks</b>	<b>7,832</b>	<b>165</b>	<b>463</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>1,390</b>	<b>5,827</b>	<b>1,025</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2,270</b>	<b>170</b>	<b>192</b>	<b>880</b>	<b>910</b>	<b>365</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>22,274</b>
Canada Goose	1,187	130	112	191	12	261	97	345	30	100	0	162	531	1,142	540	820	0	5,660
Snow Goose	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Geese</b>	<b>1,187</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>112</b>	<b>191</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>261</b>	<b>97</b>	<b>345</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>162</b>	<b>531</b>	<b>1,142</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>820</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5,660</b>
Trumpeter/Tundra Swan	44	29	3	24	6	72	33	0	5	0	0	40	7	0	2	2	0	267
Mute Swan	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Total Swans</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>29</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>72</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>40</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>267</b>
<b>Total Waterfowl</b>	<b>9,063</b>	<b>324</b>	<b>578</b>	<b>735</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>1,723</b>	<b>5,957</b>	<b>1,370</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>	<b>2,270</b>	<b>372</b>	<b>730</b>	<b>2,022</b>	<b>1,452</b>	<b>1,187</b>	<b>250</b>	<b>28,201</b>

The Ohio Division of Wildlife flew the aerial waterfowl survey 13 October 2016, surveying the Lake Erie marshes and several inland wildlife areas. Total waterfowl numbers were approximately 89% higher than the last survey (4 October 2016), but about 13% lower than this time last year. Duck numbers are building, with this survey yielding 111% more ducks than the last survey. This survey documented the arrival of more American green-winged teal, while blue-winged teal numbers have decreased with cooler temperatures pushing them southward. Another highlight of this survey was the arrival of the first diving ducks on Lake Erie. However, many of these birds were several miles from shore, making them inaccessible to hunters during this weekend's waterfowl season opener in the Lake Erie Marsh Zone.

When hunting this weekend, remember two concepts that will make you more successful in the field: visibility and motion. Increased visibility and motion of your decoys can make your spread appear more realistic to passing waterfowl. Well painted decoys, spinning wing decoys, and jerk strings are several ways hunters can incorporate these essential elements. On the other hand, decreased visibility and motion by you, the hunter, is also vital to increasing your success. Good camouflage, well-brushed blinds, and sitting still are elements that will increase your odds of success this waterfowl season. Ducks and geese can see much better and farther than we can, especially in low-light conditions. Since their eyes are on the sides of their head rather than the front, waterfowl have monocular vision, in comparison to our binocular vision. As a result, they lack depth perception, but have an extremely large field of view. While we have to turn our heads to see to the side or behind us, waterfowl have an almost 360 degree field of view. So, when that flock of ducks flies past you this weekend, don't move, because there is a good chance they can still see you. Good luck hunting this weekend in the Lake Erie Marsh Zone, and be safe out there.