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Jan. 13 Iowa Outdoors

1 message

Press Releases from the Iowa Department of Natural Resources

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<DNR.Media@dnr.iowa.gov>

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Reply-To: DNR.Media@dnr.iowa.gov

To: Iowa Association of County Conservation Boards <IACCB@mycountyparks.com>



IOWA OUTDOORS

IOWA DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES | CONSERVATION AND RECREATION DIVISION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: JANUARY 13, 2015www.iowadnr.gov | [facebook.com/iowadnr](https://www.facebook.com/iowadnr) | twitter.com/iowadnr | [pinterest.com/iowadnr](https://www.pinterest.com/iowadnr)

1. Iowa Deer Harvest Tops 101,000
2. Duck Hunters in Iowa Wisconsin and Michigan Find Success in Experimental Season
3. Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Commissions will meet Jointly Jan. 21
4. Natural Resource Commission to Meet Jan. 21 in Des Moines

IOWA DEER HARVEST TOPS 101,000

Iowa deer hunters reported harvesting about 101,500 deer in 2014, which is an increase from 99,414 harvested in 2013. Although this is a slight increase it is still 33 percent lower than the peak harvest of 150,552 reported in 2006.

Hunters reported harvesting 6 percent fewer does (47,079), 15 percent more bucks (44,495), and fewer button bucks and shed antlered deer, than last year. The reduction in doe harvest is part of the management plan to allow the herd to stabilize.

The harvest data will be added to population surveys and hunter and landowner input when officials with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources discuss seasons and regulations this spring.

The harvest increase is likely due to good weather during the first shotgun deer season and increased hunter success during the late muzzleloader season. Iowa's deer seasons closed January 10.

MEDIA CONTACT: Willie Suchy, Wildlife Research Supervisor, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 515-725-725-8449.

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DUCK HUNTERS IN IOWA WISCONSIN AND MICHIGAN FIND SUCCESS IN EXPERIMENTAL SEASON

Waterfowl hunters in Iowa, Wisconsin and Michigan participated in a special September teal season for the first time since 1969 as part of a three-year experiment authorized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS).

Teal hunting seasons are held in September as blue-winged teal are an early migrating duck, often having already left the state prior to the opening of the regular duck season. In Iowa, the special teal season was Sept. 6-21.

The experiment used trained observers to study hunters duck identification skills, participation and harvest. Data collected during the first experimental season in 2014 indicates hunters were successful in properly identifying ducks in 94 percent of opportunities.

"Our first year results give us confidence in promoting this opportunity for hunters again next season," said Orrin Jones, waterfowl research biologist with Iowa Department of Natural Resources' Wildlife Bureau.

The DNR has posted the first year results from the three year special September teal season experiment on its website at www.iowadnr.gov/teal

The three study states and Minnesota are part of a regional group that forms the production states of the Mississippi Flyway Council. The Mississippi Flyway Council is a coalition of 14 states, three provinces, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Canadian Wildlife Service which formulate management recommendations for migratory birds in central North America.

In 1971, the USFWS separated the Mississippi Flyway states into production states, of which Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan and Minnesota were classified, and nonproduction states – Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, Louisiana, Missouri, Ohio and Tennessee. Nonproduction states were allowed a special

September teal season while the production states were excluded from this opportunity in order to protect other duck species in production states from unintentional harvest. The southern, nonproduction states have benefited from an additional 440 days of waterfowl hunting that the northern production states.

The experimental teal season became a possibility due to the recent record high duck populations and a desire for more equitable distribution of harvest opportunity for the northern states.

MEDIA CONTACT: Orrin Jones, Waterfowl Research Biologist, Iowa Department of Natural Resources, 641-357-3517.

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ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AND NATURAL RESOURCES COMMISSIONS WILL MEET JOINTLY JAN. 21

DES MOINES – The Environmental Protection Commission and the Natural Resources Commission will meet jointly Wednesday, Jan. 21 at 10 a.m. at the Wallace Building fifth floor conference rooms at 502 E. Ninth St. in Des Moines. Each commission will present its annual report followed by reports of mutual interest from DNR staff. The joint meeting will conclude at 1 p.m.

Commissioners will gather prior to the joint meeting at the State Capitol from 7:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m. to meet with legislators.

Joint Meeting Agenda

- Introductions
- Director Remarks
- Annual Report NRC
- Annual Report EPC
- Good Earth/Blood Run State Park
- Resource Enhancement and Protection
- Financial and Business Assistance
- Nutrient Reduction Strategy
- General Discussion
- Adjourn at 1 p.m.

At 1:30 p.m. the Environmental Protection and Natural Resources commissions will reconvene in separate meeting rooms for their business meetings.

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NATURAL RESOURCE COMMISSION TO MEET JAN. 21 IN DES MOINES

DES MOINES – The Natural Resource Commission (NRC) of the Iowa Department of Natural Resources will meet 1:30 p.m., Jan. 21, in the fifth floor conference room, Wallace State Office Building, in Des Moines.

The meeting is open to the public.

Members of the NRC are Kim Francisco, Dennis Schemmel, Margo Underwood, Conrad Clement, Dr. Sally Prickett, Marcus Branstad and Phyllis Reimer. The Director of the DNR is Chuck Gipp.

The following is the agenda for the Jan. 21 meeting.

- Approve Agenda
 - *Consent Agenda
 - Contract with Pheasants Forever Inc.
 - Timber Sale Contract with Kendrick, Inc. for Lansing Wildlife Management Area
 - Management Agreement – Bruce Childs Access Area – Black Hawk County Conservation Board
 - Management Agreement – Steele Prairie – Cherokee County Conservation Board
 - Chapter 18 Lease – Dickinson County – Hans and Bernice Willadsen
 - Chapter 18 Lease – Dickinson County – Daniel D. Hummel
 - Transfer of Jurisdiction – Sioux Bend Wildlife Management Area – Pottawattamie County – Iowa Department of Transportation
 - Approve Minutes of Dec. 11 Meeting
 - Director Remarks
- *Contract with Pheasants Forever, Inc.
 - *Timber Sale Contract with Kendrick, Inc., for Lansing Wildlife Management Area
 - Contract with Des Moines Metropolitan Planning Organization
 - *Public Land Management Projects

- *Management Agreement – Bruce Childs Access Area – Black Hawk County Conservation Board
- *Management Agreement – Steele Prairie – Cherokee County Conservation Board
- *Chapter 18 Lease – Dickinson County – Hans and Bernice Willadsen
- *Chapter 18 Lease – Dickinson County – Daniel D. Hummel
- *Transfer of Jurisdiction – Sioux Bend Wildlife Management Area – Pottawattamie County – Iowa Department of Transportation
- Public Land Acquisition Projects
 - Palisades-Kepler State Park, Linn County – Estate of Jeanne E. Skalsky
 - Cedar Rock State Park, Buchanan County – Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation
- Small Construction Projects
- Construction Projects
 - Lake Macbride State Park and Pleasant Creek State Recreation Area – Fish Cleaning Stations
 - Red Haw State Park – Two Pit Latrines
 - Dolliver Memorial State Park – New Office/Storm Building
 - Lake Darling State Park – Design Guide Cabins (rebid)
- Donations
- Division Administrator Remarks
- General Discussion
- Upcoming NRC Date
 - Feb. 12, 9:30 a.m., Monthly Business Meeting

For a complete agenda, go to <http://www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/BoardsCommissions/NaturalResourceCommission.aspx>

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MICK KLEMESRUD Information Specialist

Iowa Department of Natural Resources



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Leading Iowans in Caring for Our Natural Resources.

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