Consistent among forecasts is that October through December is predicted to have above average temperatures throughout eastern North America. This is a continuation of a relatively warm trend for 2018 with temperatures in eastern North America running 1 – 3°C above average for July – September. Further, there is a 50-55% chance of El Niño onset during the Northern Hemisphere fall 2018 (September-November), increasing to 65-70% during winter 2018-19. An El Niño year typically brings warmer than normal conditions to the prairies, Great Lakes, and Atlantic regions. It can intensify storms, and specifically the abundance of nor’easters, but the Great Lakes, with an epicenter around Michigan, can become unseasonably dry. However, an El Niño season is modified by the Arctic Oscillation (AO), which when it is negative phase, has a greater probability of producing a more severe than normal WSI, which promotes duck migration (Schummer et al. 2014). Thus, the AO forecast will be important to watch to determine likelihood of cold outbreaks and potential for WSI values that are great enough to promote duck migration. Overall, conditions suggest a long, and warmer than normal Fall season at mid-latitudes, which will delay duck migration to southern latitudes and there is potential for a milder than normal winter season, Dec 2018 – Jan 2019, especially if El Niño conditions occur.