27 – 31 January 2020 DUCK MIGRATION FORECAST

Michael L. Schummer, Roosevelt Waterfowl Ecologist, SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry, 1 Forestry Drive, Syracuse, NY 13210

HEADLINES:

1) Mild conditions early in the week are followed by a cold front Tuesday through Friday, in the Atlantic Flyway.
2) WSI conditions where most mallards and black ducks are currently distributed are not great enough for the coming week to cause further movements in the last week of season.
3) For dabbling ducks other than mallards and black ducks, WSI values predict additional movements into southern latitudes for the coming week.

WEATHER OVERVIEW: Temperatures varied widely throughout last week and into the coming week. Snow cover in eastern North America continues to increase, but areas as far north as Pennsylvania remain snow free.

WEEKLY SPECIES SUMMARY: Our WSI predicts little movement of mallards and black ducks out of mid-latitudes. In contrast, gadwall, shoveler, wigeon and green-winged teal are predicted to make movements into southern latitudes throughout the coming week.

As a reminder, peak abundance of ducks and their decline thereafter are often closely-related, as such, during migration hunters may wish to target times when our WSI predicts that ducks are transitioning from increasing in abundance (color coded RED), to decreasing abundance in your area (color coded BLUE). Our WSI values are an approximation based on 20+ years of data from 20+ location in the Mississippi and Atlantic Flyways. As such, we suggest maintaining a log-book while using the WSI thresholds to determine when to hunt in your area because we publish average conditions which vary greatly geographically.

WSI COLOR CODES: We report WSI values and color code each day by species and location as **little to no migration (YELLOW), increasing abundance (RED), and decreasing abundance (BLUE).** WSI models and thresholds differ among species, so the values by location will differ among some species.

MALLARD AND BLACK DUCK (WSI threshold = 5)

		Manitoba	*North Dakota*	*Michigan*	*Iowa*	*Ohio*	*Tennessee*	*Ontario*	*New York*	*DC*	*North Carolina*
Month	**Day**	**Churchill**	**Devils Lake**	**Green Bay**	**Des Moines**	**Columbus**	**Memphis**	**Ottawa**	**Syracuse**	**Washington**	**Charlotte**
1	20	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	22	7	-9	Frozen out, no more forecast	12	2	0
1	21				14	6	-8		7	1	0
1	22				6	2	-8		6	0	-3
1	23				7	-3	-7		5	-3	-6
1	24				9	-5	-7		0	-7	-10
1	25				11	-3	-6		0	-8	-6
1	26				10	-2	-6		1	-5	-6
1	27	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	11	0	-6	Frozen out, no more forecast	3	-5	-6
1	28				14	1	-6		8	-4	-6
1	29				14	1	-5		12	-2	-5
1	30				12	1	-5		11	-2	-4
1	31				10	-1	-5		7	-3	-6

PINTAIL (WSI threshold = -4)

		Manitoba	*North Dakota*	*Michigan*	*Iowa*	*Ohio*	*Tennessee*	*Ontario*	*New York*	*DC*	*North Carolina*
Month	**Day**	**Churchill**	**Devils Lake**	**Green Bay**	**Des Moines**	**Columbus**	**Memphis**	**Ottawa**	**Syracuse**	**Washington**	**Charlotte**
1	20	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	11	4	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	2	1
1	21					11	3			3	1
1	22					8	-4			2	-3
1	23					-3	-8			-3	-6
1	24					-6	-8			-8	-11
1	25					-3	-5			-9	-7
1	26					-2	-8			-6	-7
1	27	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	0	-7	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	-6	-6
1	28					3	-9			-4	-7
1	29					4	-4			-2	-6
1	30					4	-5			-2	-5
1	31					-1	-6			-4	-7

GADWALL (WSI threshold = -7)

		Manitoba	*North Dakota*	*Michigan*	*Iowa*	*Ohio*	*Tennessee*	*Ontario*	*New York*	*DC*	*North Carolina*
Month	**Day**	**Churchill**	**Devils Lake**	**Green Bay**	**Des Moines**	**Columbus**	**Memphis**	**Ottawa**	**Syracuse**	**Washington**	**Charlotte**
1	20	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	-5	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	-4	-8
1	21						-3			-1	-5
1	22						-5			0	-5
1	23						-4			-2	-4
1	24						-4			-2	-4
1	25						-4			-3	-5
1	26						-4			-3	-5
1	27	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	-5	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	-4	-5
1	28						-6			-4	-6
1	29						-6			-5	-7
1	30						-7			-5	-7
1	31						-6			-5	-7

SHOVELER (WSI threshold = -9)

		Manitoba	*North Dakota*	*Michigan*	*Iowa*	*Ohio*	*Tennessee*	*Ontario*	*New York*	*DC*	*North Carolina*
Month	**Day**	**Churchill**	**Devils Lake**	**Green Bay**	**Des Moines**	**Columbus**	**Memphis**	**Ottawa**	**Syracuse**	**Washington**	**Charlotte**
1	20	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	-5	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	-4	-8
1	21						-3			-1	-5
1	22						-5			0	-5
1	23						-4			-2	-4
1	24						-4			-2	-4
1	25						-4			-3	-5
1	26						-4			-3	-5
1	27	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	-5	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	-4	-5
1	28						-6			-4	-6
1	29						-6			-5	-7
1	30						-7			-5	-7
1	31						-6			-5	-7

WIGEON and GREEN-WINGED TEAL (WSI threshold = -10)

		Manitoba	*North Dakota*	*Michigan*	*Iowa*	*Ohio*	*Tennessee*	*Ontario*	*New York*	*DC*	*North Carolina*
Month	**Day**	**Churchill**	**Devils Lake**	**Green Bay**	**Des Moines**	**Columbus**	**Memphis**	**Ottawa**	**Syracuse**	**Washington**	**Charlotte**
1	20	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	-5	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	-4	-8
1	21						-3			-1	-5
1	22						-5			0	-5
1	23						-4			-2	-4
1	24						-4			-2	-4
1	25						-4			-3	-5
1	26						-4			-3	-5
1	27	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	-5	Frozen out, no more forecast	Frozen out, no more forecast	-4	-5
1	28						-6			-4	-6
1	29						-6			-5	-7
1	30						-7			-5	-7
1	31						-6			-5	-7