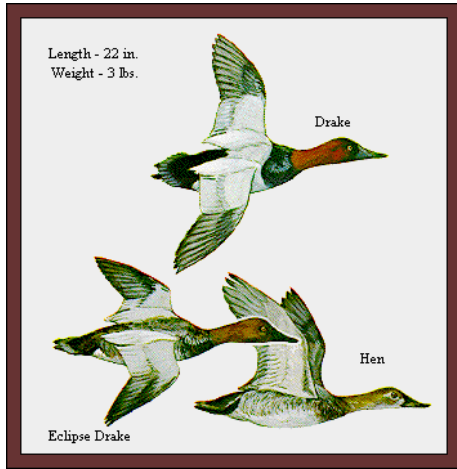


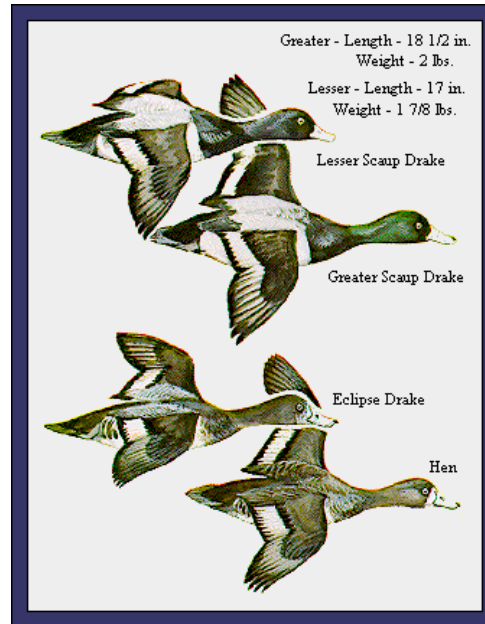
Can You Distinguish Between.....

C
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Canvasbacks are powerful, direct fliers. The sloping profile of the head and bill are distinctive. The feet are extended beyond the tail. The white belly contrasts with the dark chest and the rump. Young birds and females may fly alone or in small groups.

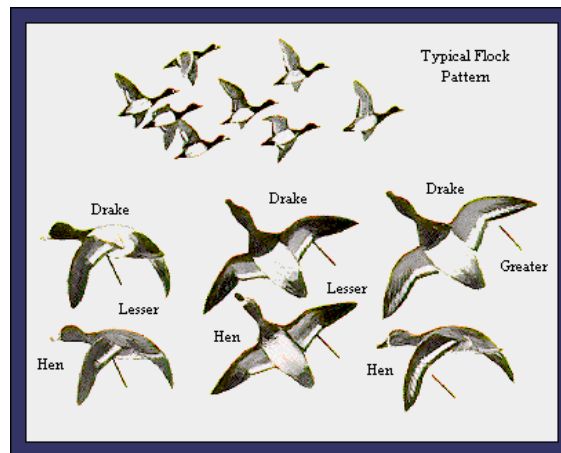
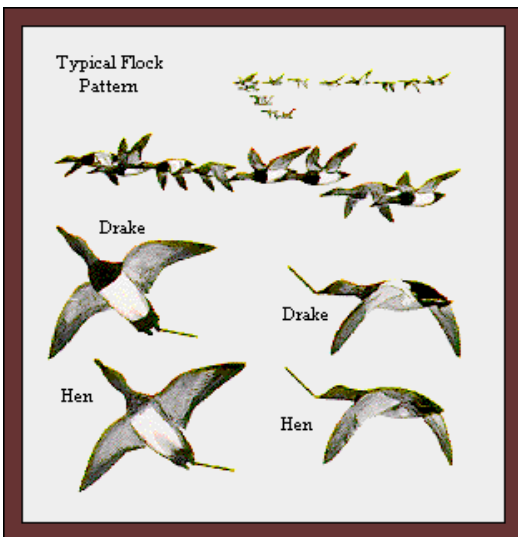
S
c
a
u
p



Scaups migrate late, sometimes just before freeze up. Flock movements are rapid, often erratic, usually in compact groups. Hens are silent; drake lesser scaup purr.

Waterfowlers..... Know Your DUCKS!

**There is NO
Canvasback Hunting
Season this Year and
the Scaup bag limit
has been reduced.**



The King of Ducks is a 16 minute video available on DVD or at: www.Briceprairieconservation.org
This brochure is also available at this website.

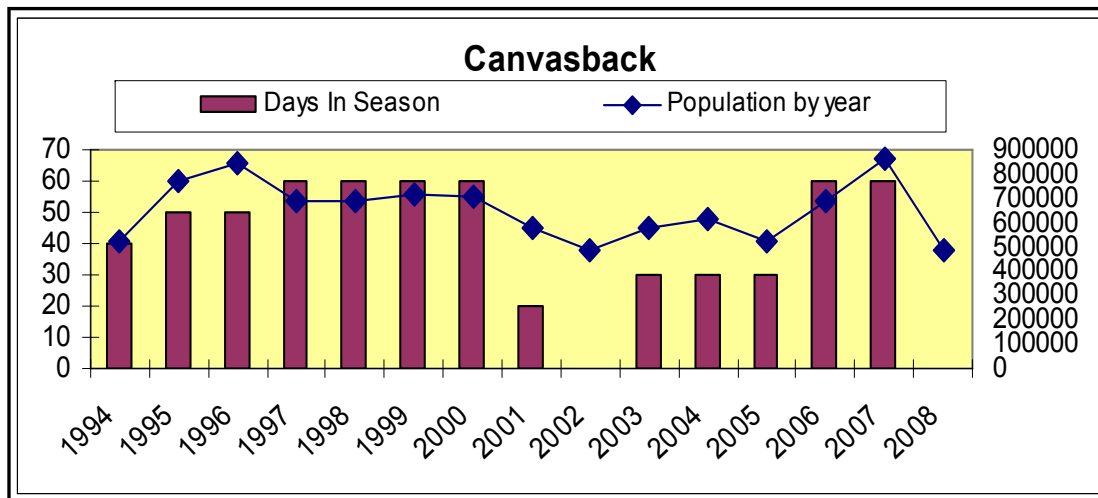
Changes in Hunting Season

There will be no canvasback season this year. Spring surveys in the prairies and parklands of the U.S. and Canada indicate numbers have dropped from the 2007 estimate of 865,000 canvasbacks to an estimated 489,000 birds in 2008.

There is also concern about pintail and scaup numbers. Population estimates for these two species are low in recent years. In response the scaup season in the Mississippi Flyway states have been changed (see state regulations).

Below average winter and spring precipitation in breeding areas and cold spring temperatures resulted in poor habitat conditions. In fact, the number of ponds counted this year in prairie and parkland Canada was down 39% from 2007.

The following contributed to the printing of this brochure: Brice Prairie Conservation Association, Holmen Rod and Gun Club, La Crosse County Conservation Alliance, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, Wisconsin Waterfowl Association (Mississippi River Chapter) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.



Waterfowl Identification

The heritage of waterfowl hunting is founded on the hunter being skilled at identification on the wing and in the hand.

- Learning waterfowl identification through visits to the marsh, videos and publications can make your season more enjoyable. (see front of this brochure)
- Help Others!
Tell Other Waterfowlers when canvasbacks, pintails and scaup are in the area. Teach others identification skills.

2008 Scaup Season by State

- IowaNov. 1-20 = 2 scaup bag w/1 scaup bag the rest of duck season
- MinnesotaOct. 25-Nov. 13 = 2 scaup bag w/1 scaup bag the rest of duck season
- Wisconsin
North ZoneOct. 18-Nov. 6 = 2 scaup bag w/1 scaup the rest of duck season
- South ZoneNov. 1-20 = 2 scaup bag w/1 scaup the rest of duck season
- Illinois
North ZoneNov. 4-23 = 2 scaup bag w/1 scaup the rest of the duck season
- CanvasbackClosed in the Mississippi Flyway

How you can help...

- Expect to see canvasbacks, pintail and scaup through the waterfowl season!
Over 75 percent of the canvasbacks in North America use the Mississippi Flyway during migration. Canvasbacks, pintails and scaups may arrive before the opening of the waterfowl season and remain in the area until freeze up.
- Know your ducks!
Being able to identify waterfowl in flight is important and contributes to a more enjoyable hunting experience. If you can't identify waterfowl take the time and learn. Canvasbacks in flight can easily be confused with pintails, redheads, ring-necked ducks and scaup (bluebills) - species all found on the Upper Mississippi River.

Canvasback on the Upper Mississippi River

During fall migration, canvasbacks prefer a diet of plant and animal foods which are often found in open water areas. In 2007 Canvasback numbers peaked at 284,885 primarily on Pools 7, 8, 9 and 13.

- Help protect waterfowl and report violations to:
- Minnesota DNR 1.800.652.9093
 - Wisconsin DNR 1.800.847.9367
 - Iowa DNR 1.800.532.2020
 - Illinois DNR 1.877.236.7529
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- Winona District (Pools 4-6) 1.507.494.6211
 - La Crosse District (Pools 7-8) 1.608.783.8404
 - McGregor District (Pools 9-11) 1.563.873.3423 (ext 3)
 - Savanna District (Pools 12-14) 1.815.273-2732 (ext. 14)