

ONTARIO FEDERATION OF ANGLERS & HUNTERS



Ontario Conservation Centre

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Environment and Climate Change Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service
Wildlife Management and Regulatory Affairs Division
351 boul. St-Joseph, 15th floor
Gatineau QC
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To Director Ladanowski:

Subject: Proposals to amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations - 2024: consultation document, hunting seasons 2024-2025 and 2025-2026

The Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters (OFAH) is Ontario's largest, non-profit, fish and wildlife conservation-based organization, representing 100,000 members, subscribers and supporters, and 725 member clubs. We have reviewed the "Proposals to amend the Canadian Migratory Birds Regulations - 2024: consultation document, hunting seasons 2024-2025 and 2025-2026" and offer the following comments for consideration.

Black ducks

With the positive results of the last decade of Eastern Waterfowl Surveys (EWS) in mind, the OFAH is supportive of the proposed liberalization of the daily bag limit for Black Ducks in the Hudson-James Bay, Northern, Central, and Southern Hunting Districts.

Sandhill cranes

The recovery of Sandhill Cranes in Ontario and Quebec is a true conservation success story, and we are very supportive of the government's proposal to continue this positive momentum by opening a limited hunting season for these birds in select Ontario Districts and WMUs. Having exceeded historic recovery objectives by a significant extent, it is clear that Canada's Eastern population of Sandhill Cranes offer a sustainable opportunity for active management, scientific data collection, and recreation in our Province. We support restricting harvest to farmland only in Northern and Central District WMUs, in order to protect roost locations. The OFAH's only ask is that, conditional to the season's success and sustainability, CWS revisit the prospect of adding certain southern Ontario regions that experience high crane activity (e.g. WMUs 83A, 84, 90, etc.) to the season in the future.

Yours in Conservation,

Matthew Robbins
Fish & Wildlife Biologist

cc: Brigitte Collins, ECCC
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