

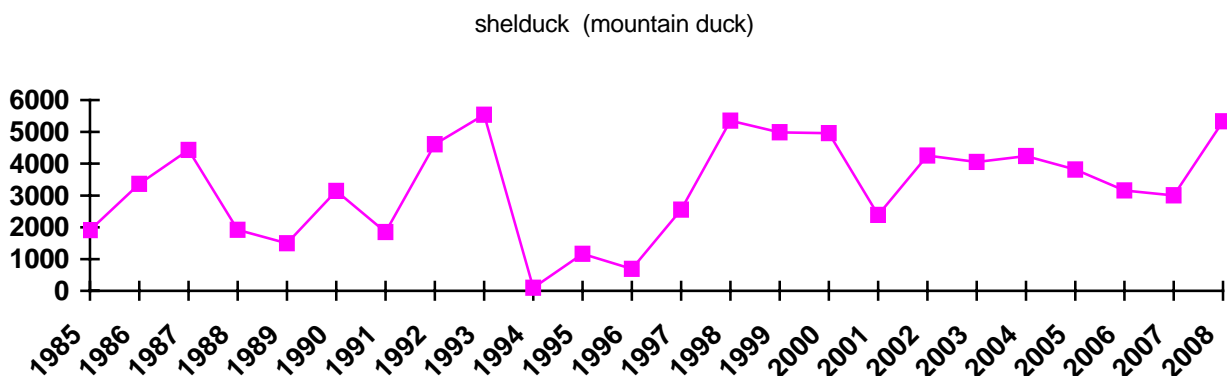
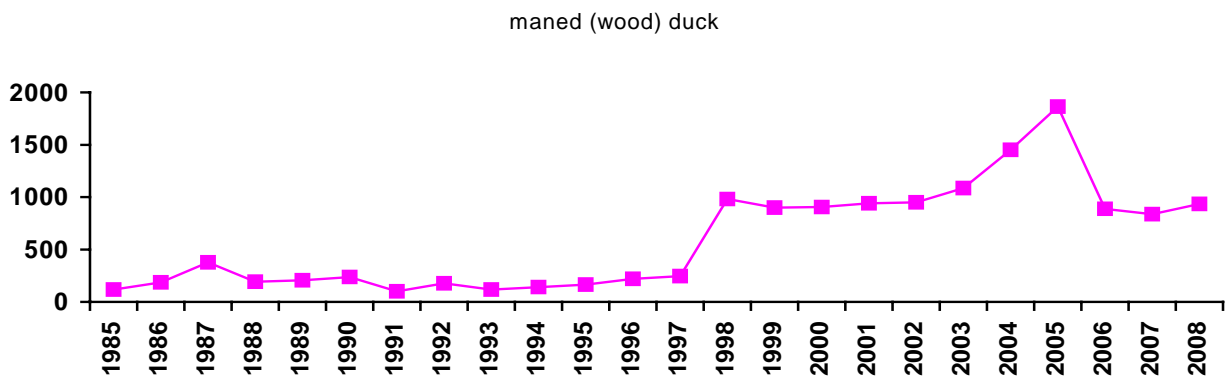
Monitoring duck population trends

Five species of native duck namely; black duck, mountain duck, wood duck, chestnut teal and grey teal are hunted in Tasmania during an open season usually held from early March to early June. In order to assist in management of the harvest of these species and the management of other non harvested waterbird species, there is a need to monitor their population trends.

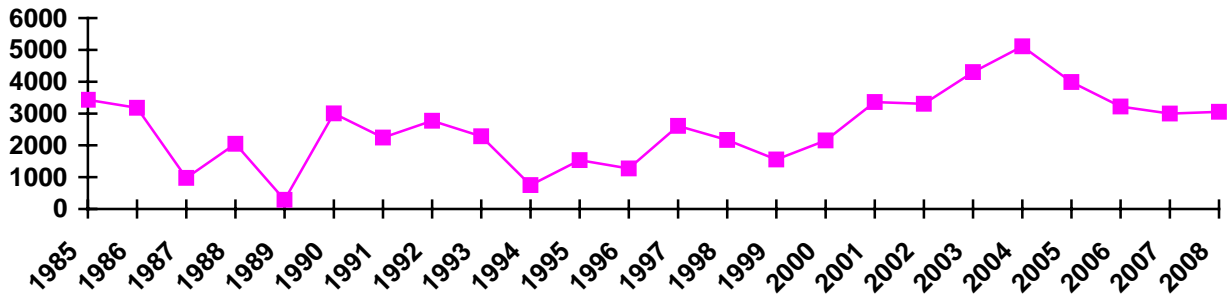
Each year since 1985, in February, the Department carries out a statewide count of waterbirds with assistance from the Parks and Wildlife Service and many volunteers. These counts are not an attempt to count all of the ducks in the state but rather to get an index of trends in the populations.

A sample of 80 wetlands, of a variety of types, (eg farm dams to estuaries) are counted and the number of ducks seen gives an indication of whether the populations have moved up or down. This information is then put into graphs, which indicate trends in the populations. As part of the Department's policy of providing information to the general public, these graphs are now being published on this website.

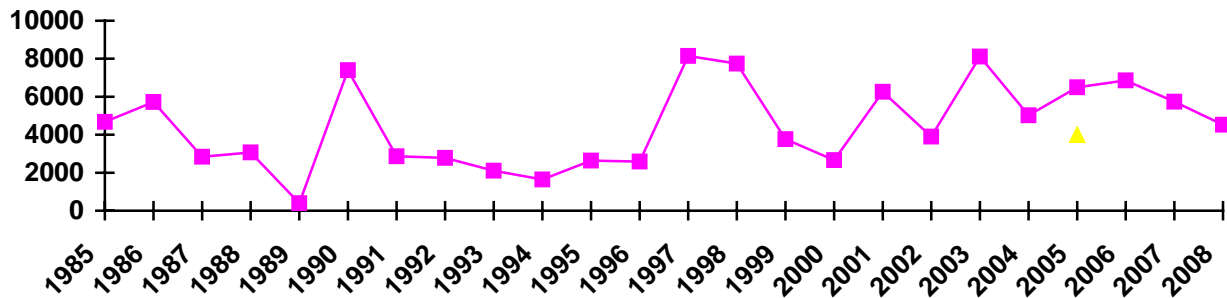
Results of the 2008 February counts



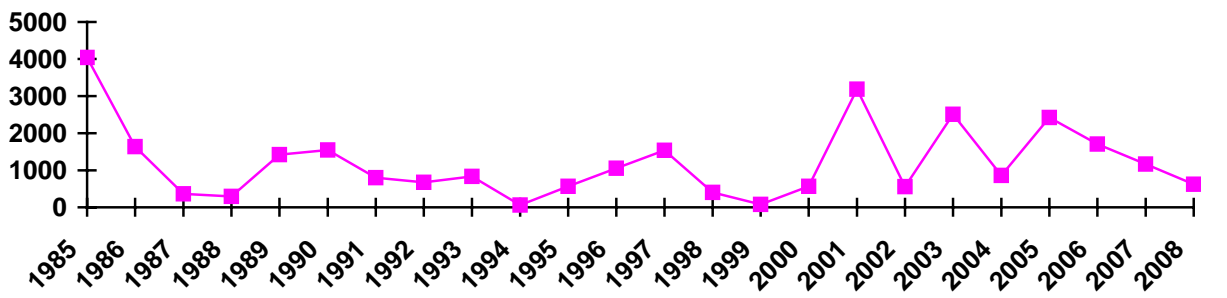
black duck



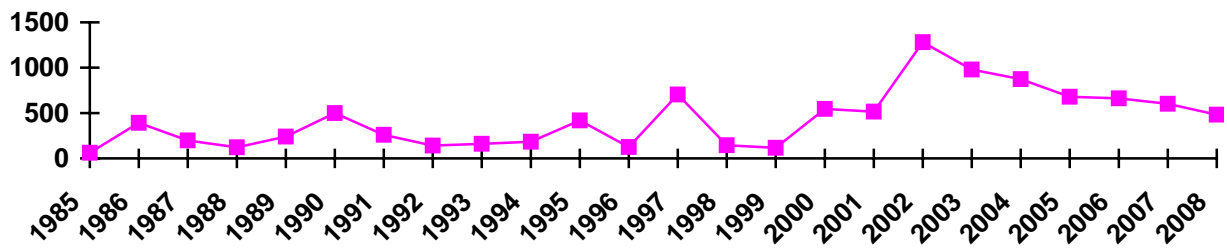
chestnut teal



grey teal



shovelers



black swans

