BRANCH OF WILDLIFE HEFUGES

NARRATIVE REPORT

ROUTING SLIP

۲.

Mr.	Salyer	
Mr.	Krunnes	uk

DATE Sept. 17, 1952

Mr.	DuMont	
Mis	e Baum	

Section of Operations:

Mr. Ball

Mr. Regan

Section of Habitat Improvement:

Mr. Briffith DEG

Mr.	Kubichek	

Mr. Stiles

Dr. Morley

Section of Land Management:

Mr. Ackerknecht

Mr. Davis

and the second states of the second states of the

Stenographers:

(m)		
/	 	

- ----

REFUGE Calhoun and Batchtown Refuges

PERIOD May - August 1952

CALHOUN AND BATCHTOWN REFUGES, Selinois NARRATIVE REPORT MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST, 1952

I. GENERAL

A. Weather Conditions:

This was a warmer summer than in 1951, with maximum temperatures higher in all four months than for the corresponding period a year ago. Minimum temperatures in June and July were slightly higher than in 1951. During most of the period the weather was very hot and humid.

Relative readings are shown below:

Month	Year	Maximum	Minimum	Precipitation
May	1951	90	43	2.46
	1952	91	43	2.03
June	1951	93	51	7.84
	1952	104	60	2.04
July	1951	96	57	4.83
	1952	102	61	4.11
August	1951	92	57	.64
	1952	95	53	
			1951 T	otal 15.77
			1952 T	

B. Water Conditions:

The river stages in Pool 26 during the month of May were higher than last year, but during the months of June and July the stages were lower, improving food and cover conditions. Fluctuation in pool levels due to dam manipulation was not bad in Pool 26. There was no drawdown in this pool during the period. A comparison of pool levels in Pool 26, compared to the same period in 1951, is shown in the following table:

Month	Year	High	Low	Difference
May	1951	22.9	15.5	7.4
	1952	24.6	14.9	9.7
June	1951	18.2	14.8	3.7
	1952	16.2	14.8	1.4
July	1951	27.5	17.3	10.2
	1952	16.0	14.8	.7
August	1951	15.3	14.1	1.4
	1952	15.8	14.9	2.6

In Pool 25 there was a drawdown throughout the period.

II. WILDLIFE

A. Migratory Birds:

1. Populations and Behavior: (a) Waterfowl:

During the first part of May a few scaup and coot were observed in the area, but by the middle of the month almost all ducks had gone north, except wood ducks and a few mallards that nested in the area.

The wood duck broods showed a big increase this year, with a count of 103 broods, compared with 36 broods last year.

Eight broods of mallards were observed this year, compared with two broods last year.

One brood of scaup was observed this year, compared with none last year.

A comparison of 1951 and 1952 is shown in the following table:

Species	Broods	Young	Year
Wood duck	36	289	1951
	103	828	1952
allards	2	16	1951
	8	64	1952
Scaup	1	8	1952
Totals	39	304	1951
	112	900	1952

By the first of August some blue-wing teal were arriving in the area. A few flocks of mallards were present, and wood ducks were common in almost all areas.

By the end of the period blue-wings were showing up in goodly numbers, while mallards were increasing. Wood ducks showed an increase over last year in most areas.

(b) Geese:

By the first of May all geese had left the area. None have been observed during the period.

(c) Swans:

No swans were observed during the period.

(d) Egrets:

Egrets started to come into this area about the first part of May and continued to increase during the period. Estimated peak concentration was 2,500 birds, compared with 2,000 last year. It is estimated 4,000 birds used the area during the period.

(e) Shorebirds:

Killdeer, plover, and yellow-legs are common in most of the areas and are about the same as last year. A few Wilson snipe were observed. There is no increase in this species in this area.

(f) Other Water Birds:

Blue heron showed an increase this year, with an estimated 200 birds using the area, compared with last year, when 158 birds were observed.

2. Food and Cover:

Food and cover is excellent in Pool 26. Swan Lake and most all the water areas are nearly solid with sago. American pondweed made a good showing in Stump Lake. Cutgrass made good growth in all the margin areas. Sagittaria is spotty along the marginal areas, but is good. Smartweed is good in the Glades and marginal areas of Stump and Swan Lakes. Corn is available in all the lowlands this year, and ducks are due for good feeding this fall. The Batchtown area does not look as good, as Pool 25 was down during the growing season. Only the high marginal areas have smartweed on them. There is little aquatic growth. The cornfields adjacent to the area are very good in all of the lowlands and will provide sufficient feed for the majority of dabblers.

B. Upland Game Birds:

None were observed on refuge lands. There is very little habitat for upland game birds.

C. Big Game Animals:

Two deer were observed in the Gilbert Lake area during the period.

D. Fur Animals: (a) Muskrats:

> Muskrat signs are more plentiful this period than last year, but the habitat is limited in this area for this species, as the fluctuation of the pools is too much for them. They do show an increase compared with last year.

(b) Mink:

Mink show some increase over last year, as water conditions have been better this period. More signs have been observed in the bottomlands than last year.

(c) Skunk:

No signs of skunk have been observed during this period. Habitat is limited for this species.

(d) Beaver:

Beaver signs are observed on most islands along the Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. This species is holding about the same as last period.

(e) Otter:

None observed.

(f) Raccoon:

Raccoon signs are more plentiful throughout the bottomlands. This species is on the increase in all the timbered areas.

(g) Foxes:

4.

Foxes are on the increase throughout the area, according to signs observed and information reported by farmers living close to the areas.

E. Predaceous Birds:

Red-tailed hawks are observed in almost all the areas along the river and appear to have increased.

Turkey vultures are numerous along the Illinois River. An estimated 50 birds used the area, compared with 39 last year.

F. Fish:

Both game fish and rough fish are plentiful. Fishing has been better this period, as the water conditions were improved over last year. Larger numbers of fishermen used the area than last year.

Commercial fishermen report good results during the period, and the price has held up, putting more pressure on rough fish.

III. REFUGE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

A. Physical Development:

All boundary lines have been reconditioned on the 6,400 acres of closed areas. Signs were replaced where needed, and boundary lines cut out. The entire line of the closed areas will be gone over before the season opens to catch any brush that might grow up to cover the signs. The area demanded lots of hard work to put in shape this time, as many of the steel posts had worked down into the Illinois River mud.

The 21-foot boat was painted during the period and put in the water.

B. Planting:

4. Cultivated Crops:

The nine share-crop permittees got their crops in, and the prospect of raising a crop looks good. We do not expect any high water this time of the year to overflow fields.

VI. PUBLIC RELATIONS

A. Recreational Use:

A larger number of people used the area during the period for swimming, camping, and boating as the summer was warmer than last year, and more people came out from the cities to get away from the heat. Boat liveries reported more business than last year as the water conditions were better. Pleasure boating on the Illinois and Mississippi Rivers was heavier than last year .

B. Refuge Visitors:

Dr. W. E. Green worked in the area during the period.

C. Refuge Participation:

Attended refuge conference meeting at Winona, Minnesota, on August 6 and 7.

E. Fishing:

Sport:

Sport fishing has been good nearly all of the time during this period. Many more fishermen used the area due to better water conditions on the Illinois River. Good catches of bass blue gill, and crappie were reported throughout the season.

Commercial:

Commercial fishing has been better than last year throughout the period as water conditions were more stable. The catfish run was good in July. Buffalo and carp came in well during May and June. The good fisherman is satisfied with the results. The price and demand were good.

VII. OTHER ITEMS

The Refuge Manager assisted Dr. Green in an examination of all War Department agricultural lands in Pools 22, 25, and 26 for the purpose of checking current status of these lands in connection with negotiations with the Corps of Engineers.

September 4, 1952

cting Regional Director SEP 8 1952

Superintendent of Refuges

WATERFOWL

	(1) Species	(2 First		(3 Peak Conc) entration	(4) Last S		(Young P	5) roduced	(6) Total
	(())				I			Broods	Estimated	Estimated
I.	Common Name Swans:	Munber	Date	Number	Date	Number	Date	Seen	Total	for perio
	Whistling swan	Buttunto	d munbor	at house in	pducad bas	ig as onesi.		d setuni	omite on re	DL9-
Γ.	Geeses	berrog*	1.5.1					The search	Steller.	
	Canada goose	The lest	return 1		to abecrea	aming me		boerned Th	ine rebor	300
	Cackling goose Brant		14.31					4 7 7 8 B		
	White-fronted goose	Ine Bros	pend street		beares has	Same TH'S T		in ter an	-	
	Snow goose Blue goose									
	Dire goose	Dorlod,	and the r		This col	ten goog too		resident	a me repa	
۰.	Ducks: Mallard				- 60		- 40			
	Black duck	872.8 pt	6/16	ocres 80, 10	7/25	40 TEN	7/22	8	64	75
	Gadwall	In addis	ten to tu		ded in an	a oruga ale		earning appa	attile andi	q po 8 ppe
	Baldpate Pintail									
	Green-winged teal	-		THEI	SUCTORS .			1.1.0	1.1.2.3	- and
	Blue-winged teal Cinnamon teal				1.2445	Hebenteig ph		Since P	Brite	
	Shoveller		1. 11	1999		19 - 19 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1		1.37	1 12 7	
	a set to share a set of the set o	8	5/10	1034	7/25	16	7/25	103	828	1104
	Wood duck		and the second sec		-			1111		
	Redhead	1 1 1 1	1 462.9							
	Redhead Ring-necked duck Canvas-back					Der usseruf		in parada	-	
	Redhead Ring-necked duck Canvas-back Scaup	8	6/26	10	6/26	gal n.8 ting	6/26	1	8	10
	Redhead Ring-necked duck Canvas-back Scaup Golden-eye Buffle-head	8	6/26	10	6/26	8	6/26	1	8	10
	Redhead Ring-necked duck Canvas-back Scaup Golden-eye	8	6/26	10	6/26	used by con	6/26	a colorado	8	10

(Sept.1950) Interior - Duplicating Section, Washington, D.C. 82449

	e		Total wa	terfowl usag	e during	period	11	89
IV. Code :			1		1124			
ercent of waterfowl area	covered		Peak wat	erfowl number	ers		1	.24
tes brood counts made			Areas us	ed by concer	ntrations	Calhoun a	nd Batchtow	n Refuge
ercent of area covered in	brood counts							
tal production:	e s/2e		Principa	l nesting an	reas this	season	B	70
Geese								
Ducks 900	e 5/30	1024	a\29	16	1/18	300	828	1106
Coots			Re	ported by _		A brank	Davie	
Present		INST	RUCTIONS					
(2) First seen:	reporting period given to those sp The first refuge : period, and the m	ecies of loc record for t	cal and Natio	uring the se	ance.	cerned in	the report	24
(3) Peak concen-	The greatest numb					•		
tration:			pecies presen	t in a limit	ted inter	val of tim	le .	
	The last refuge r period.	ecord for th						ng
(4) Last seen:		of young pro	ne species du oduced based rood counts s	ring the sea on observation	ions and a le on two	erned in t actual cou or more a	he reporti nts on rep reas aggre	re- gating

Note: Only columns applicable to the reporting period should be used. It is desirable that the <u>Summaries</u> receive careful attention since these ta are necessarily based on an alysis of the rest of the form.

Form NR-1A (Nov. 1945)	Refuge Calh		tehtown	(other	RATORY H than wa Months	tonfor1)	May	(S) .to	igust,1	(1) 9 4.52	
	(1)	(2		(3)			4)	1000	(5)	wob-bogal	(6)
Spi	ecies	First	Seen	Peak Num	bers	Last	Seen	Number	Productio Total #	n Total	Total Estimated
	<u>on Name</u> <u>d Marsh Birds</u> :	Number 2 10	<u>Date</u> 5/4 5/8	<u>Number</u> 2500 160	Date 7/21 7/24	Number 1000 160	Date 8/15 8/15	Colonies	<u>Nests</u>	Young	Number ed slow bearott 3 4000 200 word
 p in A.O.U.	ntrail ,A ban		sported b	PR DRS	DITOURT						
<u>Terns</u> : Gulls Terns	ds, Gulls and	1 00111554 50110915 10 0010992 10 13000 00 1500 00	5/4 5/4	edf gairub nevig ed 3000 fe 1500 fe 160 ene	5/4 5/4	s found in serms as " attention attention 10.10000000000000000000000000000000000	8/15 8/15	, Avoid g other spe e speces.	form, form, priat	:seice	gg (1) 5000 2500
Terns: Gulls Terns	ds, Gulls and	J nolfibba a boireq a b asiseqa oli3000 as mol500 bi (tpligirifa	al off	, "tern", during tern", during tern", during tern during tern tern tern tern tern tern tern tern	5/4 5/4	s found in erms as " attention attention I. <u>32,ten</u> II. <u>Doves</u> IV. <u>Predec</u>	0 Israe 000 seio Isroeg3 8/15 8/15 1	, Avoid g other spe e speces. ficance.	norder , mrol tsirq ingie		5000 2500
I. <u>Shorebird</u> <u>Terns</u> : Gulls Terns	ds, Gulls and	b selsed b s	ni off allinogen seodi of mo5/4 se ad 5/4 m secol do secol do page conc	edf gairub nevig ed 3000 fe 1500 fe 160 ene	flugae eguler bluoda 15/4 ma 5/4 l 5/4 l 18 anoe 19 anoe 19 anoe	s found is erms as " attention attention I. 25 ,ten II. 0 00000 IV. Predaction for the s	0 Isrene 000 seio Istong3 8/15 8/15 I	, Avoid g other spe a speces. floance. irst refug	form, form, form, taing for tail for the form	rst Seen:	5000 2500
Terns: Gulls Terns	ds, Gulls and ds Gulls and bas sectoring (bas sectoring bas sector ascerolingsas	to is a series of the series o	ni off nilitogen ezodi o mro 5/4 ve adt 5/4 re semiolida aemiolida aemiolida aemonolida baco conc	, "tern", edf gning of nevig ed edge ven edge 60000 (00000000000000000000000000000000	rilugee egular toluoda in 5/4 n 5/4 n 5/4 n 6 6 6 6 1 6 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	s found in erms as " attention I. 32 ,ten II. 01 0765 IV. <u>Predac</u> for the specie	d farane boo seid faiteg3 8/15 8/15 I biocer eg lo redmi	, Avoid g other spe e spaces. floance. irst refug reatest au	forder form,	rst Seen:	5000 2500
I. <u>Shorebird</u> <u>Terns</u> : Gulls Terns	ds, Gulls and ds, Gulls and dam bas isoof bas semicilia (as caberg bas sem semicilia .emi:	addition t a perion t apecies of apecies of apecies of apecies of apacies of apacies of apacies apecies of apacies apecies of apacies apecies of apacies apecies of apacies apecies of apacies apecies of apacies apecies appe	tto. In reportin ic those ic those ic those in \$20m thormes abiformes abon cond atted in assson co	, "tern", during the during the the given the given the sold to food the sold to the sold ant in a list	rilugae eguler blueda 15/4 ma 5/4 mi 5/4 mi 25/4 mi 25	s found in erms as " attention I. <u>35, ten</u> II. <u>01, ores</u> IV. <u>Predac</u> for the specie for the specie	d Isrene boo selo Isideg3 8/15 8/15 I biocer es fo redmi brocer e	, Avoid g other spe a spaces. floance. floance. irst refug ast refuge	order form, form, form, form, form, the l	rst Seen: ak Number	5000 2500 2500 250 250 250 250 250 250 2

	(1)	(2)			(3)		7		(5)		(6)
					SCHIE RUDI						orm NR-1A
III.	Doves and Pigeons: Mourning dove	deagaa	it and the test	owl)	aan waterf iontha of.			ictos ba	Calbom,	Rofug	Nov. 1945)
	White-winged dove	(5) Product		(4) Last Se	276	(3) Peak Numb	-	(2) First Se		(1) soles	
Barrie .	Predaceous Birds:	Number Total	late							1	
	Golden eagle Duck hawk Horned owl			1901	<u>20 23 80</u>		<u>- 0100</u>	190		on Name	. Water an
	Magpie Raven Crow	Large n	umbers	of crows	the second se	g period.	1 (4) a (a) a	a QL			ägreta Heren
								dis.	A Dennis		
				<u> </u>	INSTRUCT	IONS	Reporte	d by	Edward A	. Davis	
	(1) Species:	Use the correct order. Avoid	genera	l terms a	s "seagul!	A.O.U. Che 1", "tern"	, etc. :	In additi	on to the	birds lis	sted on
	(1) Species:		genera pecies . Spec	l terms a occurring ial atter s: I. <u>Wa</u> II. <u>Sh</u> III. <u>Do</u>	s "seagul on refugention shou	A.O.U. Che l", "tern" e during t ld be give arsh Birds Gulls and igeons (Co	, etc. he repor n to thos (Gaviifo <u>Terns</u> (lumbifor	In additi ting peri- se specie ormes to Charadrii nes)	on to the od should es of loca Ciconiifo formes) giformes a	birds lis be added 1 and Nat: rmes and (nd predace	sted on in appro- ional Gruiiformes eous
	0008	order. Avoid form, other sp priate spaces	genera pecies . Spec Group	l terms a occurring ial atter s: I. <u>Wa</u> II. <u>Sh</u> III. <u>Dc</u> IV. <u>Pr</u>	s "seagul on refug ntion shou ter and Ma orebirds, oves and P redaceous 1	A.O.U. Che l", "tern" e during t ld be give arsh Birds <u>Gulls and</u> <u>igeons</u> (Co <u>Birds</u> (Fal	, etc. he report n to those (Gaviife <u>Terns</u> (lumbiform coniform	In additi ting peri- se specie ormes to Charadrii nes) es, Strig	on to the od should es of loca Ciconiifo formes) giformes a Pass	birds lis be added l and Nat: rmes and (sted on in appro- ional Gruiiformes eous
	0008 0083	order. Avoid form, other sp priate spaces significance. The first ref	genera pecies . Spec Group uge rec	l terms a occurring ial atter s: I. <u>Wa</u> II. <u>Sh</u> III. <u>Dc</u> IV. <u>Pr</u> ord for t	as "seagul on refug ntion shou ater and Ma orebirds, oves and P redaceous 1 the specie	A.O.U. Che l", "tern" e during t ld be give <u>arsh Birds</u> <u>Gulls and</u> <u>igeons</u> (Co <u>Birds</u> (Fal s for the	, etc. : he report n to those (Gaviife <u>Terns</u> (lumbiforn coniform season c	In additi ting peri- se specie ormes to Charadrii nes) es, Strig oncerned	on to the od should as of loca Ciconiifo formes) giformes a Pass	birds lis be added 1 and Nat: rmes and (nd predace	sted on in appro- ional Gruiiformes eous
	(2) First Seen:	order. Avoid form, other sp priate spaces significance. The first ref	genera pecies . Spec Group uge rec number	l terms a occurring ial atter s: I. <u>Wa</u> II. <u>Sh</u> III. <u>Dc</u> IV. <u>Pr</u> ord for t	as "seagul on refug ntion shounder and Management orebirds, oves and P redaceous n the species present	A.O.U. Che l", "tern" e during t ld be give <u>arsh Birds</u> <u>Gulls and</u> <u>igeons</u> (Co <u>Birds</u> (Fal s for the sent in a	, etc. : he report n to those (Gaviife <u>Terns</u> (lumbiforn coniforn season c limited :	In additi ting peri- se specie ormes to Charadrii nes) es, Strig oncerned interval	on to the od should es of loca Ciconiifo formes) giformes a Pass of time.	birds lis be added 1 and Nat: rmes and (nd predace	sted on in appro- ional Gruiiformes eous
	 (2) First Seen: (3) Peak Numbers: 	order. Avoid form, other sp priate spaces significance. The first ref The greatest s	genera pecies Spec Group uge rec number ge reco	l terms a occurring ial atten s: I. <u>Wa</u> II. <u>Sh</u> III. <u>Dc</u> IV. <u>Pr</u> ord for t of the sp rd for th	as "seagul on refug ation shou ater and Ma orebirds, oves and P redaceous 1 the specie becies pres	A.O.U. Che 1", "tern" e during t ld be give <u>arsh Birds</u> <u>Gulls and</u> <u>igeons</u> (Co <u>Birds</u> (Fal s for the sent in a during th	, etc. : he report n to those (Gaviife <u>Terns</u> (f lumbiforn coniform season co limited : te season	In additi ting peri- se specie ormes to Charadrii nes) es, Strig oncerned interval concerne	on to the od should as of loca Ciconiifo formes) giformes a Pass of time. ad.	birds lis be added l and Nat: rmes and (nd predace eriformes	sted on in appro- ional Gruiiformes eous

3-1752 Form NR-2 (April 1946)	UPLAND GAME BIRDS Refuge Calhoun and Batchtown Months of May to August , 19/52										
(1) Species	(2) Density		(3 You Produ	ng	(4) Sex Ratio	(5) Removals		(6) Total	(7) Remarks	(1) (2)	
Common Name	Cover types, total acreage of habitat		Number broods obs'v'd.	Estimated Total	Percentage	Hunting	For Re- stocking	For Research	Estimated number using Refuge	Pertinent inform specifically re- List introduction	quested.
astra Laudoa	Nothing to report	under t	his.	foul: bols Figu ive	res seret bund	le,) Stan shar thar	rdwool to, tsed ooun	ed i	informition sminp, upla trase proin to. 7 should shearvation size of sam		*
	tons and sctual cou				.tadidad	albe	and a	v2020	in represen	TOUNG PRODUCED:	
. on	, etc. Include dat				+	Idal	bava.	11 80	bther spend	SEX RATIO:	
. 8108.608	rt period. This na fuge during certain	basi ed	a sait	ub e	when and an	teu -	odaur	Inde	t betraites	TOTAL	
Liso	a general second s				ternina popu formation ac					e REFERENCES e	

· Only columns applicable to the period covered should be used.

J.

6231

.

INSTRUCTIONS

Form NR-2 - UPLAND GAME BIRDS.*

(1) SPECIES:

Use correct common name.

(2) DENSITY:

÷.

Applies particularly to those species considered in removal programs (public hunts, etc.). Detailed data may be omitted for species occurring in limited numbers. Density to be expressed in acres per animal by cover types. This information is to be prefaced by a statement from the refuge manager as to the number of acres in each cover type found on the refuge; once submitted, this information need not be repeated except as significant changes occur in the area of cover types. Cover types should be detailed enough to furnish the desired information but not so much as to obscure the general picture. Examples: spruce swamp, upland hardwoods, reverting agriculture land, bottomland hardwoods, short grass prairie, etc. Standard type symbols listed in Wildlife Management Series No. 7 should be used where possible. Figures submitted should be based on actual observations and counts on representative sample areas. Survey method used and size of sample area or areas should be indicated under Remarks.

- (3) YOUNG PRODUCED: Estimated number of young produced, based upon observations and actual counts in representative breeding habitat.
- (4) SEX RATIO: This column applies primarily to wild turkey, pheasants, etc. Include data on other species if available.
- (5) REMOVALS: Indicate total number in each category removed during the report period.
- (6) TOTAL: Estimated total number using the refuge during the report period. This may include resident birds plus those migrating into the refuge during certain seasons.
- (7) REMARKS: Indicate method used to determine population and area covered in survey. Also include other pertinent information not specifically requested.
- * Only columns applicable to the period covered should be used.