

MONTHLY REPORT OF ACTIVITIES

Fish Springs Refuge

June 24, 1965

I. INTRODUCTION

Temperatures ranged from 90° to 46° with a daily average high of 80° for the month. 1.04" of rain was recorded during a four day period, however evaporation averaged .42" daily. Spring production total 35 c.f.s. this period compared to a high of 38.6 c.f.s. during March. All pool levels are dropping as evaporation and transpiration increase.

June census shows total duck count to be double that of the previous two summers. Refuge population this month was 1,245 ducks and 64 Canada geese. This is an increase of 2-3 times as many mallard, gadwall, pintail, shoveler, redhead, canvasback, ruddy, and Canada geese as last year's corresponding period. Of interest is the recording of seven canvasback broods to date. 38 goslings have been sighted in the wild with 21 goslings produced by the captive flock. As of this writing no reoccurrence of last year's perosis outbreak has been noted.

II. ACTIVITIES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Initial development and planting of 40 acres was completed under S & M. Drainage and irrigation ditches dug in farm slough with units prepared for planting.

Airboat picked up at Ouray Refuge and overhauled for refuge use. Complete major overhaul accomplished on #2 Onan. Routine maintenance performed on vehicles and equipment along with safety checks. Salt cedar control continued with about 50 seedlings removed. Dove banding started with a total of 65 birds banded and June brood counts completed. Approximately 200 trees and shrubs were planted in and around the refuge headquarters area. This served the dual purpose of replacing last year's mortality in the protective shelterbelt surrounding the headquarters as well as the opportunity to join in the region's Beautification Week. Student trainee Striegler reported for duty on June 4 and he is a welcome addition to the staff.

III. PROBLEMS - Nothing unusual.

IV. PUBLIC RELATIONS

A summer biology class of 50 high school students from Toccole, Utah were given a tour of the refuge and a talk on the purpose of the refuge and related waterfowl management. Delta, Utah's Youth Group of nine girls visited the refuge and were given a tour by the refuge clerk and manager.

Robert G. Yoder
Refuge Manager