

Monthly Report of Activities
Fish Springs Refuge
June 1968

I. Introduction

Mean maximum and minimum temperatures during May were 72.1 and 96.6 degrees. The extremes were 91 and 29. A total of .85 inches of precipitation was recieved, bringing the years total to 2.59 inches. This compares with 3.88 inches at this time last year.

Spring production during June was recorded at 33.64 c.f.s. This is an increase of 2.20 c.f.s. over May.

Seventeen pairs of Canada Geese with 44 young were seen. Broods of Mallards, Gadwalls, Shovelers, Redheads, Canvasbacks and Ruddy Ducks were also recorded. The total number of ducks seen on the marsh during the June census was 2,196, a drop of just over one-thousand birds from May. This is probable due to nesting which is in full swing at this time. Species totals for the June census are as follows:

Canada Geese	97	G.W. Teal	3	Ring-necked	3
Mallard	351	B.W. Teal	43	Canvasback	26
Gadwall	181	Cinn Teal	474	Bufflehead	4
Baldpate	7	Shoveler	116	Ruddy	66
Pintail	215	Redhead	705	R.B. Merg.	2
				Coot	1378

Other sightings during the month included one Common Loon, a flight of 113 White Pelicans, one Whistling Swan, four White-faced Ibis and a possible sighting of an albino Grebe.

II. Activities and Accomplishments

The refuge staff was increased by three with the addition of summer student employees. Roughly ten miles of road edges were burned to control weeds which interfere with road maintenance. Two miles of ditches were cleaned of smother weeds which blew into them. Three hundred pounds of Alkali Bulrush seed was hand broadcast over seven acres of mudflats and pool edges. The exterior woodwork of all buildings in the residence-headquarters complex was painted. The monthly safety meeting was held soon after the summer employees arrived. Routine checks and maintenance of Refuge property was continued.

III. Problems

None

IV. Public Relations

79 recreational visits were recorded during May. Camping and picnicking are becoming more popular here as the weather gets nicer and more people learn how to get here. One economic and two official visits were also recorded.

Robert G. Yoder, Refuge Manager