

## memorandum

DATE: September 10, 1986

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: Refuge Manager, Clarence Cannon NWR, Annada, MO

SUBJECT: 1986-87 Annual Trapping Plan

TO: Regional Director, Twin Cities, MN (RE-*10/23/86* *OK* OCT 3 1986)

This document represents the annual trapping proposal for Clarence Cannon NWR and the Delair and Gardner Divisions of the Mark Twain NWR.

Annual Trapping AssessmentClarence Cannon NWR

Populations of beaver and muskrat remain high and beyond the level where they begin interfering with refuge objectives by reducing water manipulation efficiency via dike excavation and blocked ditches and water control structures (see Map A). Many manhours and heavy-equipment hours were expended this year in removing several beaver dams and debris from several blocked water control structures.

Several qualified trappers have expressed an interest in trapping the area during the upcoming season.

Delair Division

Populations of furbearers remain at an acceptable level. There has been little to no interference to the area's waterways by either beaver or muskrat over the past year. A total of 106 wood ducks were hatched in manmade nest boxes without a single nest lost to furbearers.

There has been no public interest expressed to trap the Delair Division, an area closed to public use.

Gardner Division

Populations of furbearers remain at an acceptable level. The area lacks active water control structures and water management capabilities. There has been little to no detrimental effects to the area's waterways by beaver or muskrat over the past year. Wood duck loss to raccoon depredation is unknown.

Local interest to trap the Gardner Division is increasing. It is the understanding of managers that unauthorized trapping has occurred on the U.S. Corps of Engineers-owned land in recent years.



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## Status of Relevant Populations and Habitat Conditions

### Clarence Cannon NWR

The beaver population is estimated to be between 26 and 30 animals exceeding the acceptable population level of 10-15. The muskrat population is estimated to be between 180-200 animals exceeding the acceptable population level of 100-150.

Attempts to properly drain green-tree reservoirs this past spring were hampered by muskrat and beaver activity in key sections of the main ditch. As a result, pin oak, as well as other important tree species, were adversely affected (see Map A).

### Delair Division

It is estimated that 13-18 beaver and 30-40 muskrat inhabit the division currently without detriment to management objectives.

### Gardner Division

This area is inundated by fluctuating river levels several times a year. The furbearer population, therefore, fluctuates and accurate estimates of the population levels remain unknown. Evidence of beaver, muskrat and raccoon is prevalent and populations of these species are thought to be high.

## Trapping Proposal

### Clarence Cannon NWR

Trapping for target species will be conducted during FY 87. One trapper, or one party of trappers, will be selected by the Refuge Manager. Announcement and processing of permit applications will be conducted according to the Refuge Trapping Plan.

Trapping methods, equipment, season, and hours will be in accordance with State regulations and refuge special permit conditions outlined in the Trapping Plan. In addition, no firearms will be permitted on the refuge.

Trapping will cease after quotas are reached or at the discretion of the Refuge Manager. Quotas for the FY 87 season are as follows:

Beaver - 20 animals  
Muskrat - 80 animals

### Trapping seasons:

Beaver - Nov. 20 - Mar. 31  
Muskrat - Nov. 20 - Jan. 5

See Map A for assigned trapping areas.

### Delair Division

Because furbearer populations are at acceptable levels and the area is closed to public use, it is recommended that no trapping permits be issued for FY 87.

### Gardner Division

For the purpose of providing permittees with a quality wildlife-oriented recreational experience utilizing a renewable resource, trapping will be permitted on the Gardner Division during FY 87 (see Map B). Announcement and processing of permit applications will be conducted by and through the Mark Twain NWR office according to the Refuge Trapping Plan.

Trapping quotas, methods, equipment, season and hours will be in accordance with State regulations and refuge special permit conditions outlined in the Refuge Trapping Plan with the following amendments and/or exceptions:

- 2) Permittee is required to report all animals taken to the Refuge Manager at the close of the season.
- 6) The use of boats is permitted.

Additional restrictions that apply to all but the Bear Creek Unit are:

- 10) The area is closed to public use from October 1 through January 31, except for authorized trapping. Therefore, activities must be limited to those associated with a trapping operation. Activities are further restricted to a land area not to exceed five feet beyond the normal pool waterline. Refer to trapping permit map.
- 11) Trapping is prohibited within and along interior waterways (i.e. Long Island Lake, Mossy Lake, White Chute, etc.). Refer to trapping permit map.
- 12) Trappers are prohibited from carrying firearms.

Trapping seasons for the Gardner Division are:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Dates (Inclusive)</u>
Raccoon, Opossum, Skunk, Weasel, Mink, Muskrat	Nov. 15 - Dec. 29
Fox, Coyote	Nov. 25 - Dec. 29
Beaver	Nov. 15 - Feb. 28

Administrative Cost

The trapping program administered by Clarence Cannon NWR is a no-fee, trapper-take-all system. There will be no monetary gain realized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Costs are limited to staff salaries required to process applications, inspect trapping activities and conduct general administration for an estimated 100 manhours or \$1,060.00.

*Ross Adams*

Ross Adams

TRAPPING PLAN

Clarence Cannon National Wildlife Refuge

Prepared by: Bradley W. McKinney Date: 9-10-86  
(Assistant Refuge Manager)

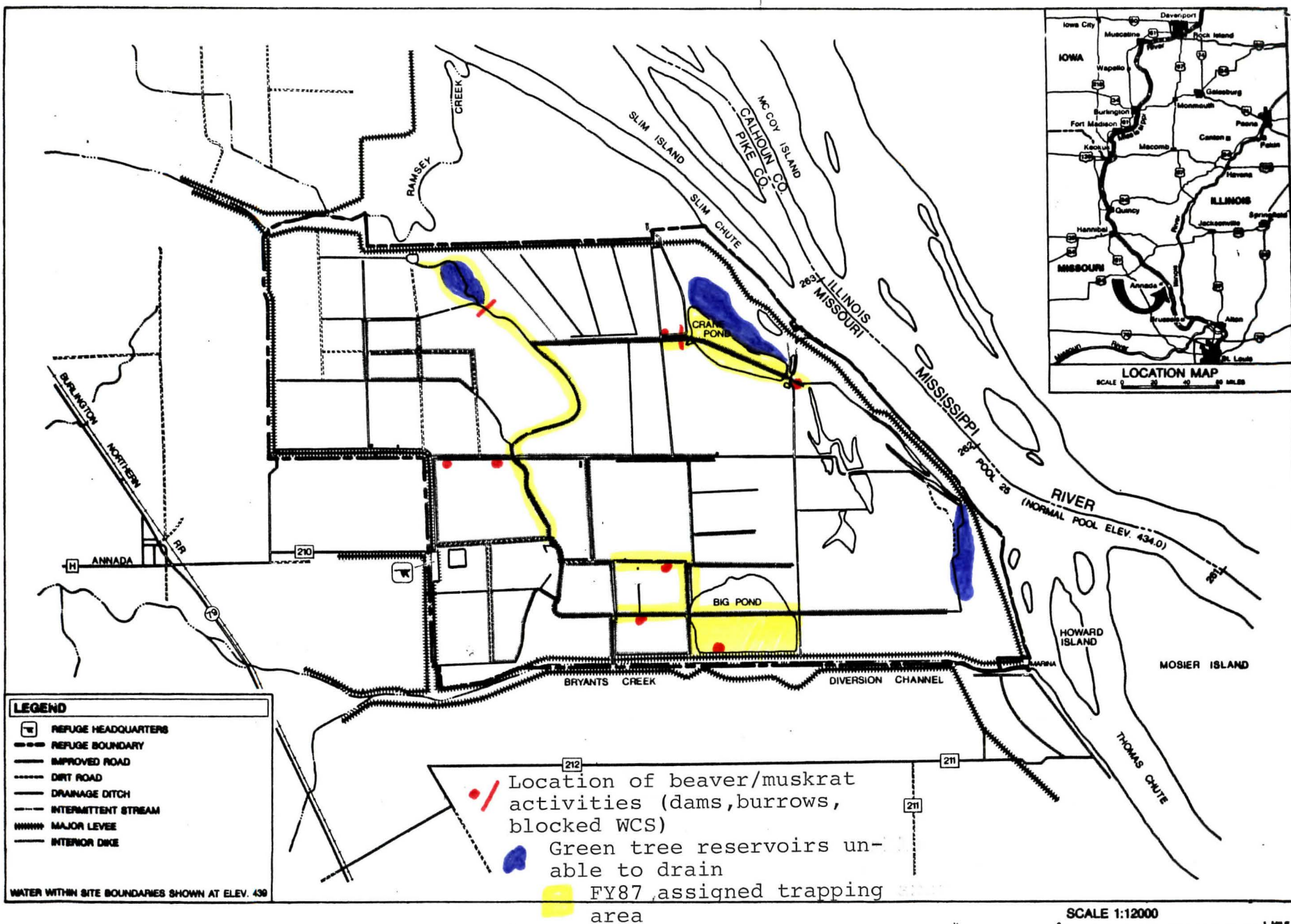
Submitted by: M. Ross Adams Date: 9-12-86  
(Refuge Manager)

Concurrence: Robert H. Shattuck Date: 10/01/86  
(Project Leader, Mark Twain NWR) 10/01/86  
Gregory C. Casper

Approved: John W. Elch Date: 10/23/86  
(RF-2 Supervisor)

[Signature] Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Assistant Regional Director)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Regional Director)



# CLARENCE CANNON N.W.R.

MARK TWAIN NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR





# GARDNER DIVISION

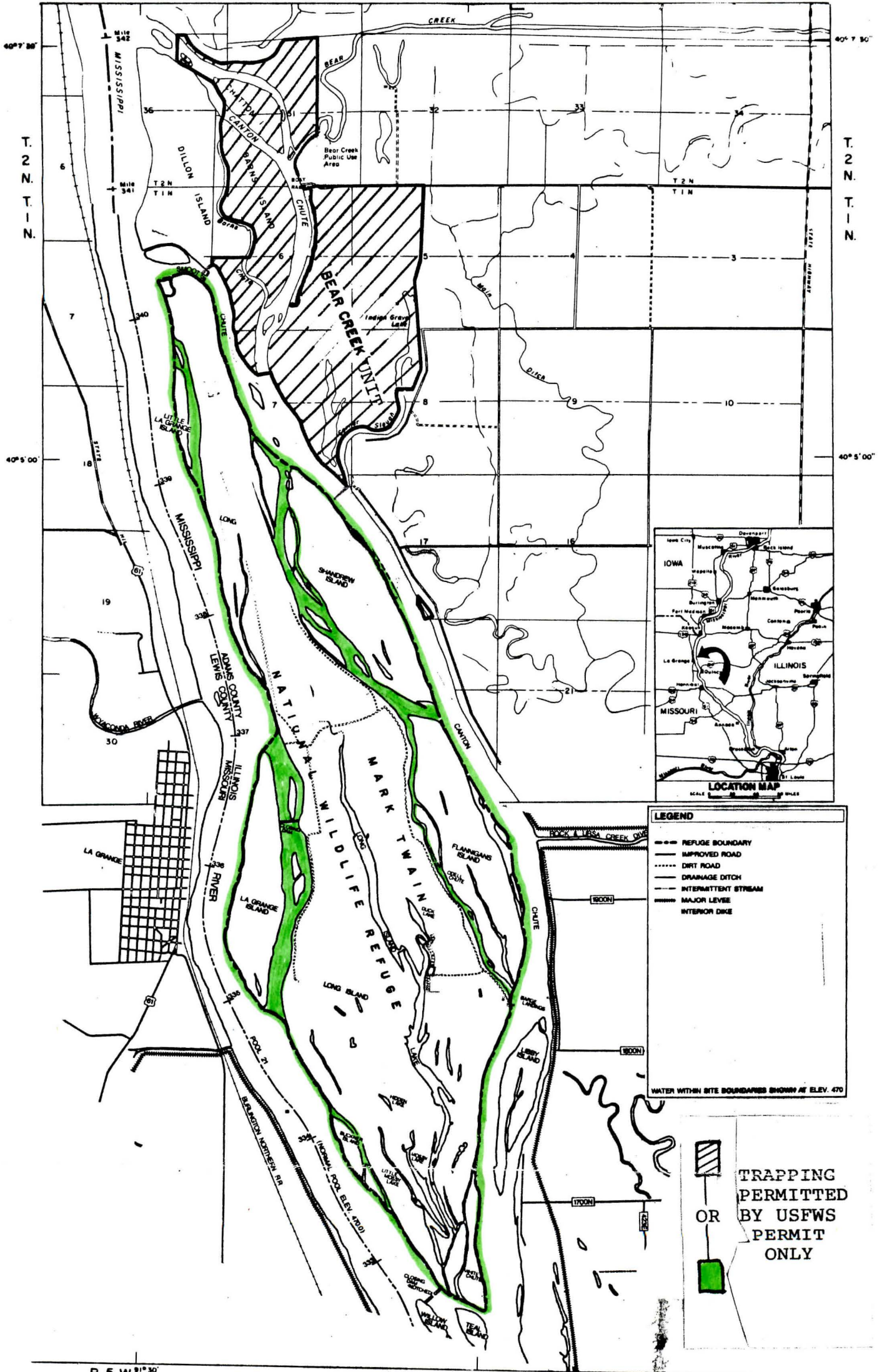
## MARK TWAIN NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE ADAMS COUNTY, ILLINOIS

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

R. 10 W. R. 9 W.

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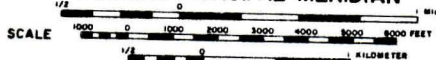
UNITED STATES  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE



R. 5 W. 91° 30'  
COMPILED IN REALITY FROM INFORMATION  
SUPPLIED BY USGS

MINNEAPOLIS, MINN MARCH, 1986

FOURTH PRINCIPAL MERIDIAN



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31 32 33 34 35 36

TOWNSHIP  
DIAGRAM

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MAP B