

Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge 1975 Woodcock Singing Ground Survey

Woodcock census routes were run on the Moosehorn National Wildlife Refuge from April 16 to May 28, 1975 according to the standard procedure for this method, but with the following exceptions:

1. Stops were made at 0.3 mile intervals instead of 0.4 mile intervals to assure location of singing males.
2. The entire refuge was censused; stops were made to within 0.4 miles of all points on the refuge--thus routes were not random. Most routes were run on foot or by bicycle.
3. Most routes were run twice.
4. Permanent stops were marked by two orange stakes at each point.
5. Many observers were used.
6. Dates were extended four days on both ends of the census period.

Because of the addition of 30 new routes, the total number of birds tallied was greater than the number of singing males tallied on the initial 18 driving routes in 1974. However, because most new routes were in unsuitable habitat, only twelve birds were tallied on the new routes, and only four of these were in new locations. The other eight were overlap birds recorded on adjacent routes.

On the 18 routes that were run in both 1974 and 1975 the results were:

Total Birds	<u>1974</u>	<u>1975</u>
	108	119

These figures compare favorably with refuge personnel census route tallies which show a similar slight increase in singing males (from 48 to 64).

In 1974, routes were run only once, but in 1975, 95 percent of all stops were run twice, and due to inconsistencies, some were run 3 or 4 times. Routes were run for a total of 94 observer-nights. Figure 1 shows that some routes were highly variable in the number of birds heard singing and others were quite constant. The minimum number of total birds heard on all the routes was 102; the maximum was 144. The values used in the tally were those felt to be most representative of the true conditions (good weather, same observer, close to previous year's tally).

CENSUS ROUTE INVENTORY

ROUTE NUMBER	BIRDS 1975	BIRDS 1974	TIMES RUN
1	9, 9	9	2
2	7, 4	6	2
3	9, 12	7	2
4	8, 15, 3	9	3
5	16, 18	18	2
6	4, 2, 6, 6	6	4
7	4, 4	5	2
8	2, 11, 7, 2	13	4
9	7, 6	8	2
10	3, 2	5	2
11	2, 3	2	2
12	2, 2	1	2
13	9, 10	6	2
14	11, 9	7	2
15	0, 0	0	2
16	0, 0	0	2
17	10, 11	5	2
18	3, 3	1	2
19	0, 0	NOT DONE	2
20	4, 3	" "	2
21	0, 0	" "	2
22	1, 1	" "	2
23	0, 0	" "	2
24	3, 3	" "	2
25	0, 0	" "	2
26	3, 3	" "	2
27	0, 0	" "	2
28	0, 0	" "	2
29	0, 0	" "	2
30	0, 0	" "	2

Census Route Inventory (Cont.)

ROUTE NUMBER	BIRDS 1975	BIRDS 1974	TIMES RUN
31	0,0	NOT DONE	2
32	1,0	" "	2
33	0,0	" "	2
34	0	" "	1
35	0,0	" "	2
36	0,0	" "	2
37	0	" "	1
38	0,0	" "	2
39	0,0	" "	2
40	0	" "	1
41	0,0	" "	2
42	0,0	" "	2
43	0,0	" "	2
44	0,0	" "	2
45	0	" "	1
46	0	" "	1
47	0	" "	1
48	0	" "	1
TOTAL	131	108	94

MINIMUM - 102

MAXIMUM - 144