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GENERAL INFORMATION

Benton Lake
REFUGE

1. Address of Refuge P.O. Box 2624, Great Falls, Montana 59401.

2. A. Official refuge telephone number Russell 1; YR 6 - 2258 (mobile).

   B. Refuge Manager's residence telephone None.

3. County (ies) in which located Cascade, Chouteau & Teton.

4. Shopping center nearest to refuge headquarters Great Falls, Montana
   Population 60,000 Distance 14 miles
   Type of road to nearest city (miles of blacktop, gravel, dirt)
   Four miles blacktop, ten miles gravel.

5. Nearest city to sub-headquarters (state if applicable) Not Applicable
   Population Distance(s)
   Type of roads to city (miles of blacktop, gravel, dirt)
   Additional space for more than one sub-headquarters

6. Nearest city to refuge of more than 10,000 population Great Falls, Montana
   Population 60,000 Distance from refuge headquarters 14 miles Type of roads to city (miles of blacktop, gravel, dirt) Four miles blacktop, ten miles gravel.

7. Highway number on which refuge is located:
   Federal State Other Bootlegger Trail

8. Name of railroads servicing nearest city Great Northern

9. A. Nearest railway express office Great Falls.

   B. Nearest motor express line Great Falls.

10. A. Nearest railway freight office Great Falls.

    B. Nearest motor freight line Great Falls.

11. Nearest telegraph office Great Falls.

12. Name of airline(s) servicing nearest city Northwest, Western and Frontier - Great Falls.

13. Name of bus company(ies) servicing nearest city Greyhound and Intermountain - Great Falls.

14. Public grade school nearest refuge headquarters Benton Lake School District #72 Distance from refuge headquarters 7 miles

    Type of road to school gravel

    Size of school (one room, two rooms, etc.) 2 rooms

    School bus service Yes

    No x How close miles Other transportation None

15. Public grade school nearest sub-headquarters (state if applicable)

    Not Applicable Distance

    Type of road to school

    Size of school (one room, two rooms, etc.)

    School bus service Yes No

    How close miles Other transportation.

16. Public high school nearest refuge headquarters Great Falls

Distance 14 miles

Type of road Blacktop and gravel Size and type of school(1 room, 2 room, day or boarding) Class AA

School bus service Yes ___ No X

How close ___ miles Other ___.

17. Public high school nearest sub-headquarters (state if applicable)

Not Applicable

Distance ___ Type of road ___

Size and type of school (1 room, 2 room, day or boarding) ___

School bus service Yes ___ No ___ How close ___ miles

Other ___.

18. Nearest parochial schools from refuge headquarters Great Falls

Distance 14 miles Type(grade or secondary) Grade, Jr. High and High Faith Catholic.

19. Nearest church service to refuge headquarters

Great Falls - 14 miles.

20. List denomination of churches available and distance to each

All denominations in Great Falls, 14 miles

.

21. Television and radio reception Yes

Condition Fair to Good

Number of stations 2 TV 4 Radio Station origin Great Falls

.

22. Medical and dental services:

Location and distance of nearest doctor from refuge headquarters

Great Falls, 14 miles

Location and distance of nearest clinic (medical)

Great Falls

Location and distance of nearest hospital

Great Falls

Location and distance to nearest dentist

Great Falls.

23. General services of nearest cities from refuge headquarters:

Drug store location Great Falls

Grocery store location Great Falls

Department store location Great Falls

Theater location Great Falls.

24. Housing off refuge (state if applicable) Great Falls

Distance from refuge

Approximate cost of rent for 2 bedroom $100.00 per month

3 bedroom $125.00 per month

Other.

25. Weather data: Maximum temperature 103°

Minimum temperature -40° Annual

rainfall 14 inches Annual snowfall 54 inches

Elevation 3,650.

26. Fraternal organizations: Nearest town

Masonic Lodge Great Falls

Elk Lodge Great Falls

26. Fraternal organizations (continued)

	Nearest town
Moose Lodge	Great Falls
Eagles Lodge	Great Falls
Other	

27. Sportsmen's Organizations:

	Nearest Town
Izaak Walton League	
Wildlife Federation	Great Falls
Retriever Clubs	Great Falls
Other Archery Club	Great Falls
Gun Club	Great Falls

GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Benton Lake
REFUGE

1. Land Status	Acres	Subtotals
(In some instances this may differ from the official published area of the refuge, examples, Tule Lake, Lower Klamath)		
(a) Acquired by Purchase		148.0
(b) Acquired by Gift		
(c) Acquired by Primary withdrawal		12,235.0
(d) Acquired by Secondary withdrawal		
(e) Managed under Easement		
(f) Managed under Lease		
(g) Managed under License		
(h) Managed under Cooperative Agreement		
Totals		12,383.0

2. Cover Status (Refuge Lands Only)	Acres
(a) Timber (of commercial value)	
(b) Brush (non-commercial value--sage, mountain mahogany, willow, aspen, cottonwood, etc.)	
(c) Grass (meadow or prairie)	6,083.0
(d) Bareground	
(e) Open water	
(f) Marsh (area covered by emergents, scirpus, typha, etc.)	5,400.0
(g) Cropland tilled annually	900.0
Total	12,383.0

(This total must equal total in 1 above)

3. Other lands within exterior refuge boundary over which no control is exercised:

	Acres
(a) Other Federal (Name of Bureau or Agency)	
(1)	None
(2)	
(3)	
(b) State	
(c) County	
(d) Private	
(e) Other	

4. Management Status (Past Season)

	Acres
(a) Open to Waterfowl Hunting	2,000 (proposed)
(b) Open to Upland Game Bird Hunting	None
(c) Open to Big Game Hunting	None

5. Habitat acreages (Balance with NRIB)

	Acres
(a) Waterfowl Habitat	5,400.0
(b) Pheasant Habitat	1,200.0
(c) Quail Habitat	
(d) Chukar Habitat	
(e) Hungarian Partridge Habitat	1,200.0
(f) Sage Grouse Habitat	
(g) Sharptail Grouse Habitat	
(h) Ruffed Grouse Habitat	
(i) Deer Habitat	
(j) Antelope Habitat	7,000.0
(k) Elk Habitat	
(l) Moose Habitat	
(m) Mountain Sheep Habitat	
(n) Other	

BENTON LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE BIRD LIST

JANUARY 1, 1964

GAVIIDAE

Common Loon - *Gavia immer*

PODICIPEDIDAE

Red-necked Grebe - *Podiceps grisegena*
Eared Grebe - *Podiceps caspicus*
Pied-billed Grebe - *Podilymbus podiceps*

ARDEIDAE

Great Blue Heron - *Ardea herodias*
American Bittern - *Botaurus lentiginosus*

ANATIDAE

Whistling Swan - *Olor columbianus*
Western Canada Goose - *Branta canadensis moffitti*
Lesser Canada Goose - *Branta canadensis parvipes*
Snow Goose - *Chen hyperborea*
Mallard - *Anas platyrhynchos*
Gadwall - *Anas strepera*
Pintail - *Anas acuta*
Green-winged Teal - *Anas carolinensis*
Blue-winged Teal - *Anas discors*
Cinnamon Teal - *Anas cyanoptera*
American Widgeon - *Mareca americana*
Shoveler - *Spatula clypeata*
Redhead - *Aythya americana*
Ring-necked Duck - *Aythya collaris*
Canvasback - *Aythya valisineria*
Lesser Scaup - *Aythya affinis*
Common Goldeneye - *Bucephala clangula*
Bufflehead - *Bucephala albeola*
Ruddy Duck - *Oxyura jamaicensis*
Common Merganser - *Mergus merganser*

ACCIPITRIDAE

Red-tailed Hawk - Buteo jamaicensis
Swainson's Hawk - Buteo swainsoni
Rough-legged Hawk - Buteo lagopus
Ferruginous Hawk - Buteo regalis
Golden Eagle - Aquila chrysaetos
Bald Eagle - Haliaeetus leucocephalus
Marsh Hawk - Circus cyaneus
Prairie Falcon - Falco mexicanus
Sparrow Hawk - Falco sparverius

TETRAONIDAE

Sharp-tailed Grouse - Pedioecetes phasianellus

PHASIANIDAE

Ring-necked pheasant - Phasianus colchicus
Gray Partridge - Perdix perdix

RALLIDAE

American Coot - Fulica americana

CHARADRIIDAE

Killdeer - Charadrius vociferus

SCOLOPACIDAE

Common Snipe - Capella gallinago
Long-billed Curlew - Numenius americanus
Upland Plover - Bartramia longicauda
Spotted Sandpiper - Actitus macularia
Solitary Sandpiper - Tringa solitaria
Willet - Catoptrophorus semipalmatus
Greater Yellowlegs - Totanus melanoleucus
Lesser Yellowlegs - Totanus flavipes
Least Sandpiper - Frolia minutilla
Long-billed Dowitcher - Limnodromus scolopaceus
Marbled Godwit - Limosa fedoa

RECURVIROSTRIDAE

American Avocet - Recurvirostra americana

PHALAROPODIDAE

Wilson's Phalarope - Steganopus tricolor

LARIDAE

California Gull - Larus californicus
Ring-billed Gull - Larus delawarensis
Franklin's Gull - Larus pipixcan
Common Tern - Sterna hirundo
Black Tern - Chlidonias niger

COLUMBIDAE

Mourning Dove - Zenaidura macroura

STRIGIDAE

Short-eared Owl - Asio flammeus
Snowy Owl - Nyctea scandiaca
Burrowing Owl - Speotyto cunicularia

TYRANNIDAE

Eastern Kingbird - Tyrannus tyrannus

ALAUDIDAE

Horned Lark - Eremophila alpestris

CORVIDAE

Black-billed Magpie - Pica pica
Common Crow - Corvus brachyrhynchos

MOTACILLIDAE

Water pipit - Anthus spinoletta

STURNIDAE

Starling - Sturnus vulgaris

PLOCEIDAE

House Sparrow - Passer domesticus

ICTERIDAE

Western Meadowlark - Sturnella neglecta
Yellow-headed Blackbird - Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus
Red-winged Blackbird - Agelaius phoeniceus
Common Grackle - Quiscalus quiscula

FRINGILLIDAE

Lark Bunting - Calamospiza melanocorys
McCown's Longspur - Rhynchophanes mccownii
Chestnut-Collared Longspur - Calcarius ornatus

Benton Lake — Refuge

March 5, 1964 — Date

TYPES OF WILDLIFE

I. Birds (omit this section and forward birdlist, if available)

List

Dominant Species Mallard, Gadwall, Pintail
Number in peak concentration 50,000
Time of concentration Fall migration

II. Game Mammals

Types		Approximate Numbers
Antelope	residents	65