

NARRATIVE REPORT ROUTING SLIP

REFUGE

BURFORD LAKE

PERIOD

May - August 1962

CHIEF'S OFFICE: ~~Mr. Gillette~~ *g*

~~Mr. Aelerskusch~~ *W*

~~Mr. Fernandez~~ *e*

Mr. Goldman

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT: Mr. Banko

Mr. Stiles

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT: Dr. Morley

Mr. Stollberg

Mr. Lamb

OPERATIONS: ~~Mr. Hickok~~

~~Mr. Egan~~ *W*

PUBLIC USE: ~~Mr. Duffert~~ *PA*

Mr. Monson *g*

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES: Miss Baum

BURFORD LAKE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

NARRATIVE REPORT

MAY, JUNE, JULY, AUGUST

1962

PERSONNEL

Charles R. Bryant, Refuge Manager
Robert C. Brown, Assistant Refuge Manager
Margaret I. Gardner, Clerk-Typist

CONTENTS

	Page
I. GENERAL	1
II. WILDLIFE.	1-2-3
III. REFUGE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE. . .	3
IV. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT	3
V. FIELD INVESTIGATION OR APPLIED RESEARCH	4

NR FORMS

I. GENERAL

A. Weather Conditions.

No official weather data is available for the Burford Lake Area. This summer's period has been rather dry, in view of last year's "wet" summer. The numerous summer showers failed to materialize this year. Temperatures followed the normal warm pattern.

B. Habitat Conditions.

1. Water.

Both Burford and Hayden Lakes held good water levels throughout the period. The normal summer evaporation loss did cause a drop in the lake levels by the end of the period.

2. Food and Cover.

Heavy growths of submerged aquatics were produced in both lakes, largely Sago and Horned Pondweeds. The growth of aquatics, submerged and emergents, was not quite as abundant as the year before. The hard winter and cool spring period probably account for this decrease in aquati production. Good stands of Bulrush were established nearly all the way around Burford Lake. Hayden Lake's normally dense stands were just making a come-back after being worked over by the hard winter and ice action.

II. WILDLIFE

A. Migratory Birds.

The summer build-up of waterfowl on the lakes followed fairly close to the normal pattern this year. During May, approximately 900 ducks and 2,500 Coot were utilizing the natural foods of both lakes. Toward the end of June a slight decrease in numbers was observed with a further decrease being noted during July. This was not the normal pattern of a slow build-up. This unusual decrease caused the cooperative banding program of State and Fish and Wildlife personnel to be canceled this year. The populations were estimated at the end of July, to be 500 ducks and 1,000 Coot. By the end of the period, duck numbers were up to about 800 and Coot numbers jumped

to about 5,000. A percentage breakdown on the populations at the end of the period follows: 75% Coot, 5% Mallard, 6% Gadwall, 4% Widgeon, 3% Pintail, 7% Redhead, Ruddy, Shoveller and Greenwing, Bluewing, Cinnamon Teal.

Waterfowl production again failed to materialize on the area. Nesting cover around the margins appeared sufficient. Coot production was good as evidenced by the many broods observed. Also, a few Ruddy and Grebe broods were seen.

Other water and shorebirds utilizing the area in small numbers were the Avocet, Killdeer, Black-crowned Night Heron, Herring Gull and Spotted Sandpiper.

Mourning Dove numbers were about normal for the lake area, a few.

B. Upland Game Birds.

None observed during this period.

C. Big Game Animals.

The lakes continued to draw many deer, from the surrounding hillsides, to water.

D. Fur Animals, Predators, Rodents and Others.

Muskrats continued to use the lakes and appeared to be on the increase.

Cottontails and Jackrabbits were seen on occasions in the surrounding safe brush, but numbers remain low.

The one beaver family continued to homestead the small area of Burford Lake on the east side.

E. Hawks, Eagles, Owls, Crows, Ravens and Magpies.

No eagles or owls were observed in the area this period. Redtailed, Marsh and Sparrow Hawks continued to visit the area off and on, in very small numbers. Crows, Ravens and Magpies were observed in few numbers also, which is normal for the lake area.

F. Fish.

Fish are not present in the lakes, except for a few minnows.

G. Reptiles.

One Bullsna ke was observed in all of the visits to the area.

H. Diseases.

None to report on this period.

III. REFUGE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

A. Physical Development and Maintenance.

No maintenance was attempted this period. Fence repair and water-gap construction is scheduled for the next period, if water conditions are favorable.

B., C., D., E., and F.

These are not applicable to this area.

IV. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

A. Grazing.

Light grazing with 70 A.U.M.'s is permitted from the 15th of August and through the next seven months. Approximately 30 head were grazing the fenced area at the end of the period.

B. Haying.

None permitted within the fenced area.

C. Hunting.

None permitted this period.

D. Other Uses.

This does not apply to this area.

V. FIELD INVESTIGATION OR APPLIED RESEARCH

A. Banding Operations.

No banding was attempted this summer, as a sufficient number of ducks was not present.

B. Photographs.

Sorry, none this period.

Respectfully submitted:


Dated: September 7, 1962

Robert C. Brown
Assistant Refuge Manager

Reviewed by:


Charles R. Bryant
Refuge Manager

Reviewed by:


Acting Regional Director

3 -1750a

Cont. NR-1

(Rev. March 1953)

W A T E R F O W L
(Continuation Sheet)

REFUGE Burford Lake Wildlife Management AreaMONTHS OF May TO August, 1962

(1) Species	(2) Weeks of reporting period								(3) Estimated waterfowl days use	(4) Production Broods: Estimated seen : total	
	: 7/1-14	: 7/15-21	: 7/22-28	: 7/29-8/4	: 8/5-11	: 8/12-18	: 8/19-25	: 8/26-31			
	: 11	: 12	: 13	: 14	: 15	: 16	: 17	: 18			
Swans:											
Whistling											
Trumpeter											
Geese:											
Canada											
Cackling											
Brant											
White-fronted											
Snow											
Blue											
Other											
Ducks:											
Mallard	150	200	200	200	200	200	200	550	25,550		
Black											
Gadwall	200	250	250	250	250	250	250	300	26,250		
Baldpate	60	150	150	150	150	150	150		8,610		
Pintail	50	100	100	100	100	100	100	50	9,450		
Green-winged teal	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	20	870		
Blue-winged teal	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	60	1,245		
Cinnamon teal	10	20	20	20	20	20	20	10	1,735		
Shoveler	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	10	14,500		
Wood											
Redhead	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	20	3,570		
Ring-necked											
Canvasback											
Scaup									1,700		
Goldeneye											
Bufflehead											
Ruddy	20	20	20	20	20	20	20	4	1,840	3	25
Other											
Coot:	1,000	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200	3,200	19,150	394,950	15	85
				(over)							

	(5) Total Days Use	(6) Peak Number	(7) Total Production	SUMMARY
Swans				Principal feeding areas <u>Both lakes.</u>
Geese				
Ducks	95,320	1,024	25	Principal nesting areas <u>Bulrush stands.</u>
Coots	394,950	19,150	85	
				Reported by <u>Robert C. Brown</u>

INSTRUCTIONS (See Secs. 7531 through 7534, Wildlife Refuges Field Manual)

- (1) Species: In addition to the birds listed on form, other species occurring on refuge during the reporting period should be added in appropriate spaces. Special attention should be given to those species of local and national significance.
- (2) Weeks of Reporting Period: Estimated average refuge populations.
- (3) Estimated Waterfowl Days Use: Average weekly populations x number of days present for each species.
- (4) Production: Estimated number of young produced based on observations and actual counts on representative breeding areas. Brood counts should be made on two or more areas aggregating 10% of the breeding habitat. Estimates having no basis in fact should be omitted.
- (5) Total Days Use: A summary of data recorded under (3).
- (6) Peak Number: Maximum number of waterfowl present on refuge during any census of reporting period.
- (7) Total Production: A summary of data recorded under (4).

3-1751
Form NR-1A
(Nov. 1945)

MIGRATORY BIRDS
(other than waterfowl)

Refuge Burford Lake Management Area

Months of May to August 1962

(1) Species	(2) First Seen		(3) Peak Numbers		(4) Last Seen		(5) Production			(6) Total
Common Name	Number	Date	Number	Date	Number	Date	Number Colonies	Total # Nests	Total Young	Estimated Number
I. <u>Water and Marsh Birds:</u>										
Eared Grebe	12	5/16	150	5/31	6	8/29				
Pied-billed Grebe	4	5/16	60	8/29	60	8/29				
Great Blue Heron	2	5/16	2	5/16	1	5/31				
Black-crowned Night Heron	2	5/16	2	7/18	2	7/18				
American Bittern	1	7/18	1	7/18	1	7/18				
II. <u>Shorebirds, Gulls and Terns:</u>										
Killdeer	6	5/16	8	7/18	6	8/29				
Spotted Sandpiper	1	5/31	4	7/18	4	7/18				
Wilson Phalarope	5	8/29	5	8/29	5	8/29				
Avocet	6	6/13	8	6/22	8	7/18				
Forster's Tern	1	8/29	1	8/29	1	8/29				
Black Tern	2	5/31	2	5/31	2	5/31				
Herring Gull	30	5/16	30	5/16	12	8/29				

(over)

(1)	(2)		(3)		(4)	(5)		(6)
III. <u>Doves and Pigeons:</u>								
Mourning dove	10	5/16	20	7/18	10	8/29		
White-winged dove								
IV. <u>Predaceous Birds:</u>								
Golden eagle								
Duck hawk								
Horned owl								
Magpie	3	5/31	6	7/18	2	8/29		
Raven	2	6/13	3	8/29	3	8/29		
Crow								
Red-tailed Hawk	1	6/13	1	6/22	1	7/18		
Marsh Hawk	1	5/31	1	6/22	1	7/18		
Sparrow Hawk	4	5/16	4	5/29	4	5/29		
Turkey Vulture	6	8/29	6	8/29	6	8/29		
Reported by						Robert C. Brown		

INSTRUCTIONS

- (1) Species: Use the correct names as found in the A.O.U. Checklist, 1931 Edition, and list group in A.O.U. order. Avoid general terms as "seagull", "tern", etc. In addition to the birds listed on form, other species occurring on refuge during the reporting period should be added in appropriate spaces. Special attention should be given to those species of local and National significance. Groups: I. Water and Marsh Birds (Gaviiformes to Ciconiiformes and Gruiformes)
 II. Shorebirds, Gulls and Terns (Charadriiformes)
 III. Doves and Pigeons (Columbiformes)
 IV. Predaceous Birds (Falconiformes, Strigiformes and predaceous Passeriformes)
- (2) First Seen: The first refuge record for the species for the season concerned.
- (3) Peak Numbers: The greatest number of the species present in a limited interval of time.
- (4) Last Seen: The last refuge record for the species during the season concerned.
- (5) Production: Estimated number of young produced based on observations and actual counts.
- (6) Total: Estimated total number of the species using the refuge during the period concerned.