



BRANCH OF WILDLIFE REFUGES NARRATIVE REPORTS

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MISS BAUM \_\_\_\_\_

MR. GRIFFITH \_\_\_\_\_

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MR. DUKONT PAD \_\_\_\_\_

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Habitat Improvement

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MR. STILES WBS \_\_\_\_\_

MR. KUBICHEK \_\_\_\_\_

Stenographers

REFUGE CRESCENT LAKE & NORTH PLATTE

PERIOD SEPTEMBER-DECEMBER 1955

CRESCENT LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

AND

NORTH PLATTE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

REFUGE NARRATIVE REPORT

September, October, November, December

1955

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*                                     *
*                                     *
*   Lloyd R. Ramelli, Refuge Manager   *
*                                     *
*   Marvin R. Kaschke, Refuge Clerk      *
*                                     *
*   (Vacant) Maintenance Man          *
*                                     *
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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

ELLSWORTH, NEBRASKA

# N A R R A T I V E   R E P O R T

## CRESCENT LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Period ending December 31, 1955

### I. GENERAL

#### A. Weather Conditions:

Warm weather continued during the month of September with temperatures recorded in the high 80's and 90's. No killing frost was recorded during that month. On October 7 we had our first bad freeze that stopped the growth of all plant life. This month continued with warm daytime temperatures. November was quite different with our low temperature for this period being recorded during that month. We also had our first large snow fall with 5 inches being recorded the 12th. This snow was heavy and did not blow. December started much the same way, which, lead every one to believe it might be a long hard winter. Blizzard conditions the 2nd and 3rd partially blocked roads and covered all vegetation so feeding was began by most of the ranchers. The cold temperatures lasted until the middle part of the month when it began warming up and by the end of the period we had very little snow.

Information in the following table was obtained from our weather station records.

	<u>Precipitation</u>	<u>Snow</u>	<u>Max.</u>	<u>Min.</u>
September	1.80	tr	96	32
October	.52	.50	87	20
November	.67	5.75	63	-11
December	.65	.19	57	-10

#### B. Water Conditions:

Ground water remained about the same as have been recorded during the past years. The water level has risen since the last report due to cooler weather and less evaporation.



The lakes froze over solid the 14th of November and have not been open since.

C. Fires:

There were no fires to report in this period.

## II. WILDLIFE

### A. Migratory Birds:

#### 1. Populations and Behavior:

Water fowl populations were down considerably over those of the corresponding period of the past year. Days use for 1954 was 1,347,000 as compared to 886,200 for this period. The greatest difference in species affected were Mallards with a drop of 300,000 days, Pintail decreased 160,000 days while use by Green-winged teal lessened 57,000 days and Scaup use lowered 62,000 days. On the opposite side of the ledger appreciable increases occurred in the instance of Blue-winged teal that showed a gain of 61,000 days use with lesser increases by Shoveler, Redhead, Canvasback. American Merganser increased by 31,000 days use this year. Canadian Geese increased from 16,000 days use to 31,000. We did not note Snow or White-fronted geese during the period.

In addition to fewer numbers of the species in which the greatest decreases occurred, the birds moved south several weeks sooner, the most of these stopping in the North Platte Valley.

Hunting success in the sandhills was propertimate to these variables in populations. Briefly, our duck season was only fair while the goose hunting was the best it has been for years.

These data should not be confused with the duck and goose populations and hunting success of the North Platte River which lies 30 miles to our south. There, Mallards and duck hunting in general was well above average as was goose hunting.

#### Canadian Goose Flock:

One adult goose died of natural causes leaving our flock at 139 adult pinioned birds. The flock is in good condition.

The geese acquired from Missouri of a year ago have settled down and mingle freely with our older birds. This, we hope, will induce them to reconcile themselves to this locality and mate.

Of the goslings of the year, we conservatively know that at least 15 took wing. Four of these began flying early, were noted from time to time at considerable distances from the refuge. They left early during the season and insofar as we know have not returned. At least 11 fliers moved in and out and undoubtedly as far as the Platte River. By the end of the season there were 8 left which are now with our captive flock.

We have not been able to band any of these birds. After several futile attempts they have become only the more wary.

Whooping Crane: have been again reported in the vicinity on several occasions. To date we have not been able to verify these reports, however, we are reasonably certain that we have been host to this bird at different times.

## 2. Food and Cover:

While food and cover can be said to be adequate for existing populations, there is little doubt but what our nesting and migrating populations could be considerably increased by the removal of carp from Island and Crane Lakes. At the present time these once productive lakes are nearly barren of any waterfowl use. This is not mere theory but a means of management based on production and use on our carp free lakes and from the increased waterfowl use of Hackberry Lake after it was treated at the Valentine Refuge.

## 3. Disease:

We had no outbreaks of disease during the period.

## B. Upland Game Birds:

Sharp-tailed Grouse: have possibly held their own since last year. From all appearance 1954 was a peak year for our native grouse.

Prairie Chicken: are frequently noted during patrols but do not appear to be making appreciable gains since last year.

Ring-necked Pheasant:



has enjoyed another fruitful year. This make the second year they have noticeably increased. At the present there are flocks of 100 each at headquarters area and the Island Lake. Lesser sized flock are found on Crane Lake and from Swan north to Smith Lakes. Occassional birds are found over the valley and lake areas of the rest of the refuge.

2. Food and Cover: are adequate for present populations.

3. Disease: was not observed.

#### C. Big Game:

##### 1. Populations and Behavior:

Rocky Mountain Mule Deer: are doing very well. In fact so well that much of our headquarters shrubbery stands in mute shambles, evidencing the fact that we have a deer problem.

Antelope: have been making some use of the refuge but not as extensively as the winter months last year. Like the ducks, they tended to drift south easily where they are a source of trouble on the wheat fields of the north table lands.

Elk: as a matter of interest and record we are noting that a young elk bull was observed on Phillips flat in the east end of the refuge. After considering all sources we believe this to be a clear case of trespass by one of "Buffalo" ~~Cennors~~strays. This animal had to travel at least 150 miles over area very unbecoming to an elk to get here. We suspect it left by the same devious route by which it came.

2. Food and Cover: are adequate.

3. Disease: One fine buck deer was lost to what appeared to be weed poisoning.

#### D. Fur Animals, Predators and Mammals:

Muskrat: remain at a very low ebb. Their populations appear to have correspondingly decreased with the receding lake levels and water table since the high water year of 1951.

Coyotes: are becoming more common. While they are not noted

every time we go out, we have seen as high as 12 during a day.

Raccoon: are the greatest hazard to our captive goose flock. While no known cases of adult birds as having been lost, they are a menace to nesting birds. //

#### E. Predaceous Birds:

Great horned Owls: are common while American rough-legged hawk are the most abundant predaceous bird. Golden eagles, Bald Eagles, Marsh hawk and Prairie Falcon are occasionally noted. An occasional pheasant or grouse falls as their prey during winter months. American magpies are common.

#### F. Fish:

Due money restrictions Crane Lake has not been treated for the removal of carp. This should be accomplished during the spring months if at all possible as this lake is valueless to waterfowl until we can clean it.

Nothing has developed at Smith Lake since the last report. Little can be done until high water returns to delute the alkali. Feeling has died down but I am still "apprehended" and asked why we "didn't want the fishermen in there".

### III REFUGE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

#### A. Physical Development and Maintenance:

General maintenance of equipment again lead all other activities around the refuge. Following is a list of the major highlights of our work during this period.

A load of wheat was hauled from the Mingo Refuge in Missouri and planted in goose pasture along the shores of Lake Minatare.

Weekly and quarterly wells were read as necessary.

Weeds were mowed and burned and lawns watered when time allowed.

Signs were posted and taken down as certain conditions called for.

Cattle were counted on and off grazing areas as necessary.

Telephone lines were rebuilt for the first 10 or 12 mi. south from Antioch.



A load of corn, for our captive goose flock, was hauled from the Sand Lake Refuge in South Dakota.

The west side of quarters #1 was scrapped and painted.

Coal was hauled from Oshkosh for fuel in quarters #1.

The Refuge was flown, bird counts were taken and grazing units were checked.

All vehicles had a complete motor tune up.

During the hunting season patrolling was done as necessary.

#### IV ECONOMIC USE

##### A. Grazing :

All permittees but one have turned in on their winter permits at the end of the year. Grazing tabulations indicate 28,463.36 AUMs were utilized during 1954 while 1955 resulted in 28,772.57 units utilized with a revenue of \$43,153.45 reverting to the service.

The ranges are in good condition and with the snow we have received we are in good shape until the spring rains take over.

##### B. Trapping:

Due to low populations of muskrat and the cheapness of fur we cannot hope to get a trapper considering the expense of trapping our lakes.

#### V FIELD INVESTIGATION

##### A. Gimlet Enclosure:

Our grazing and haying program to reduce and open the choked out marsh continues with good success.

##### B. Weed Control:

We apparently got a good kill on the patch of leafy spurge on Island Lake. It is hoped this pest will end with this one infestation.

RECORDED  
INDEXED

A total of 700 lbs. of borasque was used on 1/4 acre of leafy spurge. Several treatments of 24D were used as green plants sprouted up before the borasque took effect. This prevented reseeding by these plants.

*No cost data*

## VI PUBLIC RELATIONS

### A. Recreational Use:

Public use on this refuge consisted of the following man days during 1955.

Fishermen	900
Picnics	250
Bird watchers	100
Sightseers	725
	<u>1975</u> (man days)

The failure of bass fishing at Smith Lake reduced our visitors to a fraction of that we could normally expect with good fishing available.

Isolation and poor roads are directly responsible for the comparatively few people that visit us.

Several groups such as the Oshkosh Rotary, church groups and school classes visited the refuge. Their program was to catch a mess of our stunted bulheads and then have a fish fry at the headquarters grounds. Since the bulheads will always bite, all were guaranteed a fry after sightseeing.

### B. Refuge Visitors:

The following officials made visits during the period.

- 9/20/55 W. Eckdahl SCS Range meeting.  
H. Kruska County Agent Range meeting.
- 9/20-21 Geo. Wiseman FWS, Refuge Mgr., Range meeting.
- 9/27-28 K. Krunn FWS, Refuge Mgr, deliver surplus.  
Ireland FWS, Refuge Clerk " " .
- 12/4 W. Stemmerjohn FWS, Predator Control.

### C. Refuge Participation:

The manager attended weekly meetings of the Oshkosh Rotary Club and monthly meetings of the Oshkosh Chamber of Commerce as a member. Short talks were given from time to time concerning refuge and general wildlife questions.

In addition the following meetings were participated in.

- 10/4/55 Attend Western Nebr. Sportmans Association meeting at Morrill. Give 20 min talk on fish status of Smith Lake Attendance 65.
- 10/7 Attend Range Society meeting field demonstration and banquet at Crawford.
- 10/18 Future Farmers at Oshkosh 1 hour talk on refuge program and farmers place in wildlife Mgt.
- 10/21 Goodview Community Club show slides and talk 2 hours on Crescent Lake and North Platte Refuges.
- 11/9 Western Nebr. Sportsmens Association at Gering give brief talk and answer questions on hunting and fishing.
- 12/1 Chappell Rotary give talk on hunting and future prospects. Attendance 51.
- 12/9 Gering Lions talk on waterfowl status, answer questions. Attendance 43.
- 12/9 Western Nebr. Sportsmans Assoc. at Scottsbluff talk on values of goose pasture plantings at Minatare and fish prospects at Crescent Lake.

### D. Violations:

There were no apprehensions made during the period.

## VII OTHER ITEMS

### A. Items of Interest:

Mr. Marvin Kaschke was appointed to the clerks position. We greeted him with copiously filled baskets. In the absence of a maintenance man he has had more than his share of outside



work. He has made excellent progress in both capacities.


The road from Oshkosh to Rackett was begun, then closed down for the winter. Some progress was made but much remains before this project is completed.

Garden County has finally got an oil well. Needless to say this touched off endless speculation with leasing going on at a furious rate. With the opening of part of the refuge to oil prospecting we are subject to a lot of "oily" problems.

Sections I and III were prepared by Mr. Kaschke. All typing and assembling of this report is to his credit.

B. Photographs: were taken by the mgr. during normal course of duties.

Respectfully submitted

  
Lloyd R. Ramelli  
Refuge Manager

Date: January 26, 1956

Approved: 

WATERFOWL

REFUGE Crescent Lake

MONTHS OF September TO December, 1955

(1) Species	(2) Weeks of reporting period									
	9/3 1	9/10 2	9/17 3	9/24 4	10/1 5	10/8 6	10/15 7	10/23 8	10/29 9	11/5 10
Swans:										
Whistling										
Trumpeter										
Geese:										
Canada								100	150	1500
Cackling										
Brant										
White-fronted										
Snow										
Blue										
Other										
Ducks:										
Mallard	2000	1800	3000	4000	3500	3000	3500	3000	2000	1000
Black										
Gadwall	700	700	1000	1000	1500	1500	1500	1200	800	100
Baldpate	75	250	250	250	250	250	300	500	200	100
Pintail	4000	3000	3000	2000	2000	2000	2000	1000	200	50
Green-winged teal	450	750	750	750	1000	1200	2000	1500	500	100
Blue-winged teal	7000	4000	2500	500	100	100	100	100		
Cinnamon teal	16									
Shoveler	1600	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	500	100		
Wood										
Redhead	500	1000	500	500	500	500	500	250	250	50
Ring-necked										
Canvasback	125	250	250	250	250	1000	2500	2000	50	50
Scaup	225	225	100	100	100	100	250	250	500	100
Goldeneye										
Bufflehead									50	200
Ruddy	1000	1000	1000	2000	2500	2000	1000	500	50	50
Other Am Merganser	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	- - - -	10	200
Coot:	2000	2000	2000	3000	4000	4500	4000	3000	1500	1000



**WATERFOWL**  
(Continuation Sheet)

REFUGE Crescent Lake

MONTHS OF September TO December, 19 55

(1) Species	(2) Weeks of reporting period								(3) Estimated waterfowl days use	(4) Production Broods: Estimated seen: total
	11/12 11	11/19 12	11/26 13	12/3 14	12/10 15	12/17 16	12/24 17	12/31 18		
<b>Swans:</b>										
Whistling										
Trumpeter										
<b>Geese:</b>										
Canada	3000	500	500	25					31,000	
Cackling										
Brant										
White-fronted										
Snow										
Blue										
Other										
<b>Ducks:</b>										
Mallard	1500	50	50	50	50	50	50	50	200,300	
Black										
Gadwall									70,000	
Baldpate									16,500	
Pintail									134,500	
Green-winged teal	150								63,500	
Blue-winged teal									100,000	
Cinnamon teal										
Shoveler									67,500	
Wood										
Redhead									31,500	
Ring-necked										
Canvasback									49,000	
Scaup									13,500	
Goldeneye										
Bufflehead	100								2,400	
Ruddy	100								76,000	
Other										
Am Merganser	2500	3500	50	50					61,500	
<b>Coot:</b>									205,000	

(over)



	(5) Total Days Use	(6) Peak Number	(7) Total Production
Swans	:	:	:
Geese	31,000	:	:
Ducks	886,200	:	:
Coots	205,000	:	:

## SUMMARY

Principal feeding areas \_\_\_\_\_

Principal nesting areas \_\_\_\_\_

Reported by \_\_\_\_\_

## 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 Crescent LakeMonths of September to December 1955

(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	summer	res	summer	res	1	9/15				10
Western Grebe	"	"	"	"	1	9/25				75
White Pelican	"	"	"	"	2	10/10				300
Double Crested Cormorant	"	"	"	"	1	9/30				1500
Great Blue Heron	"	"	"	"	2	11/10				750
Am Egret	"	"	"	"	1	9/10				30
Black Crowned Night Heron	"	"	"	"	1	10/10				75
Am Bittern	"	"	"	"	1	9/20				20
Virginia Rail	"	"	"	"	1	9/15				15
II. <u>Shorebirds, Gulls and Terns:</u>										
Killdeer	"	"	"	"	1	9/30				100
Upland Plover	"	"	"	"	1	9/15				10
Western Willet	"	"	"	"	2	9/15				10
Ring-billed Gull	"	"	"	"	750	10/5				2500
Forsters Tern	"	"	"	"	1	9/30				10
Black Tern	"	"	"	"	1	9/12				15
Avocet	"	"	"	"	6	11/1				50

(over)



(1)	(2)		(3)		(4)		(5)			(6)
III. <u>Doves and Pigeons:</u>										
Mourning dove	summer resident				1	9/15			250	
White-winged dove										
IV. <u>Predaceous Birds:</u>										
Golden eagle	4	1/1/55	4		4	12/31/55			750	
Duck hawk										
Horned owl	25	1/1/55	25		25	12/31/55			3000	
Magpie	50	1/1/55	50		50	12/31/55			6000	
Raven										
Crow										
Red tailed Hawk	1	8/15/55	15	9/10-10/15	1	10/20			250	
Am Rough-legged Hawk	1	8/10/55	50	8/15-10/10	1	12/31/55			750	
Marsh Hawk	15	9/1/55	150	9/10-10/1	10	12/31/55			3000	
Prairie Falcon	5	9/1/55	15	9/5-10/1	5	12/31/55			750	
Bald Eagle	1 pair noted intermittently throughout period								100	
Reported by.....										

Lloyd R. Ramelli

#### 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.



UPLAND GAME BIRDS

1613

Refuge Crescent Lake Months of September to December, 1944 55

(1) Species	(2) Density	Acres per Bird	(3) Young Produced	(4) Sex Ratio	(5) Removals	(6) Total	(7) Remarks
Common Name	Cover types, total acreage of habitat		Number broods obs'd. Estimated Total	Percentage	Hunting For Re- stocking For Research	Estimated number using Refuge	Pertinent information not specifically requested. List introductions here.
Ring-necked Pheasant	40,000					350	
Sharp-tailed Grouse	40,000					1000	
Prairie Chicken	40,000					200	

## INSTRUCTIONS

Form NR-2 - UPLAND GAME BIRDS.\*

- (1) SPECIES: Use correct common name.
- (2) DENSITY: Applies particularly to those species considered in removal programs (public hunts, etc.). Detailed data may be omitted for species occurring in limited numbers. Density to be expressed in acres per animal by cover types. This information is to be prefaced by a statement from the refuge manager as to the number of acres in each cover type found on the refuge; once submitted, this information need not be repeated except as significant changes occur in the area of cover types. Cover types should be detailed enough to furnish the desired information but not so much as to obscure the general picture. Examples: spruce swamp, upland hardwoods, reverting agriculture land, bottomland hardwoods, short grass prairie, etc. Standard type symbols listed in Wildlife Management Series No. 7 should be used where possible. Figures submitted should be based on actual observations and counts on representative sample areas. Survey method used and size of sample area or areas should be indicated under Remarks.
- (3) YOUNG PRODUCED: Estimated number of young produced, based upon observations and actual counts in representative breeding habitat.
- (4) SEX RATIO: This column applies primarily to wild turkey, pheasants, etc. Include data on other species if available.
- (5) REMOVALS: Indicate total number in each category removed during the report period.
- (6) TOTAL: Estimated total number using the refuge during the report period. This may include resident birds plus those migrating into the refuge during certain seasons.
- (7) REMARKS: Indicate method used to determine population and area covered in survey. Also include other pertinent information not specifically requested.

\* Only columns applicable to the period covered should be used.



3-1753  
Form NR-3  
(June 1945)

BIG GAME

Refuge Crescent Lake

Calendar Year 1955

(1) Species	(2) Density	(3) Young Produced	(4) Removals				(5) Losses			(6) Introductions		(7) Estimated Total Refuge Population		(8) Sex Ratio
Common Name	Cover types, total Acreage of Habitat	Number	Hunting	For Re- stocking	Sold	For Research	Predation	Disease	Winter Loss	Number	Source	At period of Greatest use	As of Dec. 31	
Rocky Mountain Mule Deer	500 acres browse 40,000 acres grass land.	12						1	(known)			55	40	
White-tailed Deer	" "	?										1	?	
Antelope	" "	25										350	75	

Remarks:

Reported by \_\_\_\_\_



# INSTRUCTIONS

## Form NR-3 - BIG GAME

- (1) SPECIES: Use correct common name; i.e., Mule deer, black-tailed deer, white-tailed deer. It is unnecessary to indicate sub-species such as northern or Louisiana white-tailed deer.
- (2) DENSITY: Detailed data may be omitted for species occurring in limited numbers. Density to be expressed in acres per animal by cover types. This information is to be prefaced by a statement from the refuge manager as to the number of acres in each cover type found on the refuge; once submitted, this information need not be repeated except as significant changes occur in the area of cover types. Cover types should be detailed enough to furnish the desired information but not so much as to obscure the general picture. Examples: spruce swamp, upland hardwoods, reverting agriculture land, bottomland hardwoods, short grass prairie, etc. Standard type symbols listed in Wildlife Management Series No. 7 should be used where possible. Figures submitted should be based on actual observations and counts on representative sample areas. Survey method used and size of sample area or areas should be indicated under Remarks.
- (3) YOUNG PRODUCED: Estimated total number of young produced on refuge.
- (4) REMOVALS: Indicate total number in each category removed during the year.
- (5) LOSSES: On the basis of known records or reliable estimates indicate total losses in each category during the year.
- (6) INTRODUCTIONS: Indicate the number and refuge or agency from which stock was secured.
- (7) TOTAL REFUGE POPULATION: Give the estimated population of each species on the refuge at period of its greatest abundance and also as of Dec. 31.
- (8) SEX RATIO: Indicate the percentage of males and females of each species as determined from field observations or through removals.

DISEASE

Refuge Crescent Lake

Year 1955

Botulism

Lead Poisoning or other Disease

Period of outbreak N

Kind of disease N

Period of heaviest losses O

Species affected O

Period of heaviest losses N

Species affected N

Period of heaviest losses E

Species affected E

Losses:

	Actual Count	Estimated
(a) Waterfowl	_____	_____
(b) Shorebirds	_____	_____
(c) Other	_____	_____

Number Affected Species	Actual Count	Estimated
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Number Hospitalized      No. Recovered      % Recovered

Number Recovered \_\_\_\_\_

(a) Waterfowl	_____	_____
(b) Shorebirds	_____	_____
(c) Other	_____	_____

Number lost \_\_\_\_\_

Source of infection \_\_\_\_\_

Areas affected (location and approximate acreage) \_\_\_\_\_

Water conditions \_\_\_\_\_

Water conditions (average depth of water in sickness areas, reflooding of exposed flats, etc.)

Food conditions \_\_\_\_\_

Condition of vegetation and invertebrate life \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks \_\_\_\_\_

## FISH

...Year 1955....

Species	Relative Abundance	Sport Fishing		Commercial Fishing		Restocking		Number removed for Restocking
		Man days Fishing	Number Taken	No. of Permits	Pounds Taken	Number Stocked	Area Stocked	
Bullhead <sup>1</sup>	44	500	5000					
Crappiel	07	25	50					
Carp <sup>1</sup>	49							
Black Bass <sup>2</sup>		4000	0					

## REMARKS:

2. Smith Lake. all fishing done on first day of Season. No fish taken.



3-1757

Form NR-7

(April 1946)

PLANTINGS  
(Marsh - Aquatic - Upland)

Refuge Crescent Lake Year 1945

Species	Location of Area Planted	Rate of Seeding or Planting	Amount Planted (Acres or Yards of Shoreline)	Amount & Nature of Propagules	Date of Plant- ing	Survival	Cause of Loss	Remarks
Sweet Clover	Unit 16b	500	60 acres		April	Fair	Standing Water	
Crested Wheat		500	60 acres		April	Fair	Standing Water	

## TOTAL ACREAGE PLANTED:

Marsh and aquatic.....  
 Hedgerows, cover patches..... **60**  
 Food strips, food patches.....  
 Forest plantings.....

CULTIVATED CROPS

Refuge Crescent Lake Year 1955

Permittee (If farmed by refuge personnel, so indicate)	Permit No.	Unit or Loca- tion	Crops Grown	Avg. Yield per Acre	Permittee's Share		Government's Share or Return				Compensatory Services, or Cash Revenue
					Acres	Bu. Har- vested	Harvested		Unharvested		
							Acres	Bu.	Acres	Bu.	
N O N E											

Summary of Crops Grown:	Crop	Acreage	Permittee's Share		Government's Share				Total Revenue
			Acres	Bushels	Harvested		Unharvested		
					Acres	Bu.	Acres	Bu.	
									\$_____
Interior Duplicating Section, Wash.D.C.									



DIRECTIONS FOR PREPARING FORM NR-8  
CULTIVATED CROPS

Cultivated Crops Report Form NR-8 should be prepared on a calendar-year basis for all crops harvested or utilized during the calendar year and submitted with the December 31 refuge report.

Permittee - List each permittee separately. If lands of the refuge are farmed by refuge personnel or hired labor, this should be indicated in the Permittee column.

Permit No. - List the number of the Special Use Permit issued to the individual.

Use or location - The Unit No. or name specified in the Economic Use Plan should be listed in this column.

Crops Grown - A separate line of the form should be used for each crop grown by each permittee or by refuge personnel. This is important, since if each crop grown by each operator is not specifically enumerated, the report will be of no value for statistical purposes.

Average Yield per Acre - It is important that the average yield per acre of each crop grown by each operator should be shown.

Permittee's Share - Only the number of acres harvested or utilized by the permittee for his own benefit should be shown under the Acres column, and only the number of bushels of farm crops harvested by the permittee for himself should be shown under the Bushels Harvested column. It is requested that all crops harvested be reduced to bushels wherever possible, or, as in the case with the harvesting of seed such as that of sweet clover, alfalfa, bromegrass, etc., the total harvested crop in pounds may be shown. Timothy, alfalfa, or other hay harvested by the permittee should be shown on Form NR-10 and should not be shown in the Permittee's Share column.

Government's Share or Return - Harvested - Show the number of bushels harvested for the Government and the acreage from which this share is harvested, both for grain raised by refuge personnel and by permittees. Unharvested - show the exact number of acres of crops allowed to remain unharvested as food and cover for wildlife. An estimate of the number of bushels of grain that is available for the wildlife in such unharvested crops should be shown in the Bushels column.

Compensatory Services, or Cash Revenue - Show other services received by the Government in cooperative farming activities, the number of acres of food strips planted for wildlife, the amount of wildlife crops not otherwise reported that are planted by cooperators for the Service, or the cultivation of wildlife plantations. If the permit is on a fee basis, the total cash revenue received by the Service.



\*See instructions on back.

## REFUGE GRAIN REPORT

This report should cover all grain on hand, received, or disposed of, during the period covered by this narrative report.

**Report all grain in bushels.** For the purpose of this report the following approximate weights of grain shall be considered equivalent to a bushel: Corn (shelled)—55 lb., corn (ear)—70 lb., wheat—60 lb., barley—50 lb., rye—55 lb., oats—30 lb., soy beans—60 lb., millet—50 lb., cowpeas—60 lb., and mixed—50 lb. In computing volume of granaries, multiply the cubic contents (cu. ft.) by 0.8 bushels.

- (1) List each type of grain separately and specifically, as flint corn, yellow dent corn, square deal hybrid corn, garnet wheat, red May wheat, durum wheat, spring wheat, proso millet, combine milo, new era cowpeas, mikado soy beans, etc. Mere listing as corn, wheat, and soybeans will not suffice, as specific details are necessary in considering transfer of seed supplies to other refuges. Include only domestic grains; aquatic and other seeds will be listed on NR-9.
- (3) Report all grain received during period from all sources, such as transfer, share cropping, or harvest from food patches.
- (4) A total of columns 2 and 3.
- (6) Column 4 less column 5.
- (7) This is a proposed break-down by varieties of grain listed in column 6. Indicate if grain is suitable for seeding new crops.
- (8) Nearest railroad station for shipping and receiving.
- (9) Where stored on refuge: "Headquarters granary," etc.
- (10) Indicate here the source of grain shipped in, destination of grain transferred, data on condition of grain, unusual uses proposed.





HAYING AND GRAZING

Refuge.....Crescent Lake.....Year 19455

Permittee	Permit No.	Unit or Location	Actual Acreage Utilized	Animal Use Months	Tons of Hay Harvested	Period of Use From - To	Rate	Total Income	Remarks
Roundborg, Don	20585	18	2100	332.00		1/1-2/28/55	1.50	498.00	Winter grazing
Eldred, E. M.	22161	1	1300	2545.73		1/1-4/14/55	1.50	3818.60	
Dietlein, Geo J	20594	5	1360	596.48		1/1-2/24/55	1.50	894.72	
Peterson, Janet	20598	6	2870	1117.53		1/1-2/11/55	1.50	1676.30	
Peterson, Clarence	20597	6a	860	1595.33		1/21-4/11/55	1.50	2393.50	
Peterson, Mary	20599	6b	570	1260.00		1/1-3/1/55	1.50	1890.00	
Keller, W. H.	20596	8	260	482.17		1/1-4/15/55	1.50	723.26	
Eldred, E. M.	20600	9	330	200.00				297.00	
Keller, W. H.	20595	10	1300	195.85		1/1-2/6/55	1.50	293.78	
Douglas, Earl	20588	11	320	252.81		1/9- /25/55	1.50	379.22	
Douglas, Earl	20589	12	1375	820.13		1/1-3/11/55	1.50	1230.20	
Emerson, Dean	20590	13	4000	1537.93		1/1-4/15/55	1.50	2306.90	
Sherfey, J. E.	20592	15	520	532.00		1/1-4/15/55	1.50	798.00	
Bandy, J. L.	20593	19	1940	1182.23		1/1-3/30/55	1.50	1773.33	
Rounsberg, Don	22162	21	180	801.77		1/12-4/9/55	1.50	1202.66	On-and-Off permit
Briscoe, W. H.	20591	Gimlet	300	242.67		1/1-4/14/55	1.50	364.01	
Dietlein, Geo & Son	22168	2	1000	482.42		6/1-11/4/55	1.50	723.63	
Dietlein Geo J	22167	3	840	352.71		6/1-10/18/55	1.50	529.07	
Keller W. H.	22169	7	1620	481.16		6/3-10/12/55	1.50	721.74	
Douglas, Earl	22166	14a	5000	1569.77		6/1-10/11/55	1.50	2354.66	
Emerson, Dean	22165	14b	4360	1314.42		7/1-11/5/55	1.50	1971.63	
Eldred, E. V.	22170	16	5000	1219.02		6/4-10/28/55	1.50	2878.53	
Sherfey et al	22171	16b	3800	1243.71		6/2-10/10/55	1.50	1865.57	
Rounsberg, Don	22173	17	560	199.34		6/2-9/27/55	1.50	299.01	

Totals:

Acreage grazed.....

Animal use months.....

Total income Grazing.....

Acreage cut for hay.....

Tons of hay cut.....

Total income Haying.....

Continued

HAYING AND GRAZING

Refuge Crescent Lake Year 1945

Permittee	Permit No.	Unit or Location	Actual Acreage Utilized	Animal Use Months	Tons of Hay Harvested	Period of Use From - To	Rate	Total Income	Remarks
Rounsberg, Don	22174	18	2100	1202.40		6/2-12/31/55	1.50	1803.60	Summer & Winter
Sutton, LeRoy	22172	20	640	250.00		6/1-3/31/56	1.50	375.00	On and Off
Eldred, E. V.	22175	22	640	150.00		6/1-3/31/56	1.50	225.00	On and Off
Eldred, E. M.	22178	1	1300	464.52		12/20-31/55	1.50	696.78	Winter grazing
Dietlein Geo	24781	5	1360	630.70		10/24-12/31/55	1.50	946.05	
Peterson, Janet	22177	6	2870	93.78		12/28-31/55	1.50	140.67	
Peterson, Clarence	22179	6a	850	186.67		12/23-31/55	1.50	280.01	
Peterson, Mary	22176	6b	570	636.94		11/27-12/31/55	1.50	955.41	
Keller, W. H.	24787	8	260	6.45		12/7-31/55	1.50	9.68	
Eldred E. M.	24784	9	330	200.00		9/16/54-4/15/56		297.00	On and Off
Keller W. H.	24786	10	1300	596.77		7/29-12/31/55	1.50	895.16	
Douglas, Earl	24783	11	320	644.17		10/26-12/31/55	1.50	966.26	
Douglas, Earl	24782	12	1375	168.39		12/4-15/55	1.50	252.59	
Emerson, Dean	22164	13	4000	1459.35		6/1-12/31/55	1.50	2189.03	
Sherfey, J. E.	24788	15	520	194.67		11/21-12/31/55	1.50	292.01	
Bandy, J. L.	24785	19	1940	494.73		7/16-12/31/55	1.50	742.10	
Rounsberg, Don	24789	21	180	not used to date			1.50		
Briscoe, W. H.	22180	Gimlet	300	135.85		10/18-12/31/55	1.50	203.78	

Totals:

Acreage grazed..... Animal use months 28772.57 Total income Grazing 43,153.45  
Acreage cut for hay..... Tons of hay cut..... Total income Haying.....



TIMBER REMOVAL

Refuge Crescent Lake Year 1955

Permittee	Permit No.	Unit or Location	Acreage	No. of Units Expressed in B. F., ties, etc.	Rate of Charge	Total Income	Reservations and/or Diameter Limits	Species Cut
	N O N E							

Total acreage cut over..... Total income.....

No. of units removed B. F. .... Method of slash disposal.....

Cords.....

Ties.....



# NORTH PLATTE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

## REFUGE NARRATIVE REPORT

Period ending December 31, 1955

### I. GENERAL

#### A. Weather Conditions:

Generally speaking, the weather conditions at this area are the same as those covered under the Crescent Lake report.

#### B. Water Conditions:

The prospects for a good water year are better than they have been for several seasons. By mid-December the snowpack in Wyoming and Colorado was reported to have been greater than that received the past winter. Unless considerable more storm falls this will not bring the various Panhandle reservoirs back to normal since the past 2 irrigation seasons have drawn reserves to the floor.

The past year saw irrigation needs taken care of but without well spaced summer rains many crops would have been lost for the lack of water.

#### C. Fires:

There were no fires to report.

### II. WILDLIFE

#### A. Migratory Birds:

##### 1. Populations and Behavior:

While ducks seemed to pass the Crescent Lake Refuge by this period, they made up for it at this refuge. Last year we had a peak of 25,000 Mallards as compared to 50,000 this year. And not only were there more birds, but sizeable populations remained, using the ice and small area of open water until well

into January. Likewise Green-winged teal remained longer and in greater numbers. Mallards spent a total of 990,000 bird days during the same period of 1954 as compared to 1,833,000 days this year while Green-wings spent 350,000 days as compared to 540,000 this year.

Population behavior was peculiar in that we did not see pintail, shoveller, redhead, canvasback or coot as during former years. Undoubtedly some of these birds were hidden in the hordes of Mallards.

The earlier duck season helped to swell refuge use since ducks make comparatively little use of the refuge until the season begins. This, followed by the later closing date amounted to at least 3 weeks of more intensive refuge use.

Canadian goose populations were up considerably, only 1200 days use as compared to 20,200 this year.

## 2. Food and Cover:

Food and cover are lacking as usual on irrigation reservoirs. The wheat planted by refuge personnel for geese formed the bulk of vegetation found. Small animal life such as various crustaceans supply a limited amount of food as the water lowers.

## 3. Disease:

There were no signs of disease noted.

## B. Upland Game Birds:

Ring-necked pheasants are common but not abundant. The surrounding farm lands lure any surplus birds produced.

Sharp-tailed Grouse are occasionally noted, particularly on the north side of Lake Alice.

Food and Cover are sufficient for existing populations.

## C. Upland Game Animals:

Rocky Mountain Mule Deer populations remain at 15 animals.

## D. Fur Animals, Predators:

Little sign of any mammals of this category are observed.

E. Predaceous Birds:

American magpie are very numerous but due to the lack of nesting birds little damage is done on the refuge. However these magpies are a considerable factor in nesting predation of pheasants in the farm areas outside our area.

Crows are common but do little damage as in the instance of the magpies.

F. Fish:

There has been no improvement in fishing success. Carp continue to flourish to the detriment of all game fish.

The state plans on continuing their carp seining program during the winter months.

### III. REFUGE DEVELOPMENT

A. Physical Development:

Signs were replaced and repaired as needed.

The goose pasture was again planted to wheat. A sufficient amount of pasture was produced to supply the goose populations with the forage they needed, however seed germination and forage production was not as good as we have grown during past years.

### IV. ECONOMIC USE

Economic use is regulated and administered by the Bureau of Reclamation and the Pathfinder Irrigation District.

### V. PUBLIC RELATIONS

A. Recreational Use:



Lake Minatare continues to be a major recreational attraction as indicated by the following table for the year of 1955.

<u>Activity</u>	<u>Days Use</u>
Watersports	25,000
Picnicing	30,000
Sightseeing	75,000
Fishing	7,500
Wintersports	1,000
Total	138,500

B. Refuge Visitors:

Refuge personnel spent a total of 54 days on the refuge during the past period. The unusual amount of hunting activity and waterfowl populations required more time than usual.

Mr McCole, State Warden patrols the refuge frequently during his travels. We have had excellent cooperation from him.

Mr Wm McClure and Harlan Morgen, US Game Agents patrolled the refuge on several occasions during November.

C. Refuge Participation:

These Activities have been covered under the Crescent Lake Section of this report.

D. Violations:

There were no apprehensions made that warranted prosecution.

Respectfully submitted

*Lloyd R. Ramelli*  
Lloyd R. Ramelli  
Refuge Manager

Date: January 26, 1956

Approved: *Ree Durum*

WATERFOWL

REFUGE North Platte

MONTHS OF September TO December, 1955

(1) Species	(2) Weeks of reporting period									
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
<u>Swans:</u>										
Whistling										
Trumpeter										
<u>Geese:</u>										
Canada									50	50
Cackling										
Brant										
White-fronted										
Snow										
Blue										
Other										
<u>Ducks:</u>										
Mallard	100	100	500	750	750	50	5000	8000	15,000	30,000
Black										
Gadwall										
Baldpate									500	100
Pintail										
Green-winged teal						250	3000	3000	5,000	10,000
Blue-winged teal										
Cinnamon teal										
Shoveler										
Wood										
Redhead										
Ring-necked										
Canvasback										
Scaup									200	200
Goldeneye										
Bufflehead										
Ruddy										
Other										
<u>Coot:</u>										

WATERFOWL  
(Continuation Sheet)

REFUGE North Platte

MONTHS OF September TO December, 1955

(1) Species	(2) Weeks of reporting period								(3) Estimated waterfowl days use	(4) Production Broods: Estimated seen: total	
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18			
<b>Swans:</b>											
Whistling											
Trumpeter											
<b>Geese:</b>											
Canada											
Cackling	750	750	500	500	250	50			20,200		
Brant											
White-fronted											
Snow											
Blue											
Other											
<b>Ducks:</b>											
Mallard	50,000	25,000	25,000	25,000	20,000	20,000	18,000	18,000	1,833,000		
Black											
Gadwall											
Baldpate	50								4,500		
Pintail											
Green-winged teal	10,000	10,000	12,000	12,000	5,000	5,000	1,000	1,000	540,000		
Blue-winged teal									675		
Cinnamon teal											
Shoveler											
Wood											
Redhead											
Ring-necked											
Canvasback											
Scaup	200	100	50						8,700		
Goldeneye											
Bufflehead											
Ruddy											
Other											
<b>Coot:</b>											

(over)



	(5)	(6)	(7)
	Total Days Use	Peak Number	Total Production
Swans	:	:	:
Geese	20,200	:	:
Ducks	2,386,875	:	:
Coots	:	:	:

# SUMMARY

Principal feeding areas

Principal nesting areas

Reported by

## 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 North PlatteMonths of September to December 1955

(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	50	4/25	150	5/1-9/30	2	9/25				500
Western Grebe	25	4/20	100	5/1-10/5	1	10/15				100
Double crested Cormorant	2	4/8	25	5/1-10/5	3	10/5				50
Great Blue Heron	1	4/6	25	5/1-10/15	1	10/20				30
Sandhill Crane	20,000 passed over refuge 10/1-20/55									

(over)



(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
III. <u>Doves and Pigeons</u> : Mourning dove White-winged dove					
IV. <u>Predaceous Birds</u> : Golden eagle Duck hawk Horned owl Magpie Raven Crow					
		20	1/1-12/31/55		5,000
		500	1/11-12/31/55		100,000
		50	1/1-12/31		10,000
Reported by _____					

Lloyd R. Ramelli

#### 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.



UPLAND GAME BIRDS

1613

Refuge North Platte

Months of September to December, 1945

Form NR-2 - UPLAND GAME BIRDS

(1) Species	(2) Density		(3) Young Produced		(4) Sex Ratio	(5) Removals			(6) Total	(7) Remarks
Common Name	Cover types, total acreage of habitat	Acres per Bird	Number broods obs.'v'd.	Estimated Total	Percentage	Hunting	For Re- stocking	For Research	Estimated number using Refuge	Pertinent information not specifically requested. List introductions here.
Ring-necked Pheasant	3,000								75	
Sharp-tailed Grouse	3,000								10	

## INSTRUCTIONS

### Form NR-2 - UPLAND GAME BIRDS.\*

- (1) SPECIES: Use correct common name.
- (2) DENSITY: Applies particularly to those species considered in removal programs (public hunts, etc.). Detailed data may be omitted for species occurring in limited numbers. Density to be expressed in acres per animal by cover types. This information is to be prefaced by a statement from the refuge manager as to the number of acres in each cover type found on the refuge; once submitted, this information need not be repeated except as significant changes occur in the area of cover types. Cover types should be detailed enough to furnish the desired information but not so much as to obscure the general picture. Examples: spruce swamp, upland hardwoods, reverting agriculture land, bottomland hardwoods, short grass prairie, etc. Standard type symbols listed in Wildlife Management Series No. 7 should be used where possible. Figures submitted should be based on actual observations and counts on representative sample areas. Survey method used and size of sample area or areas should be indicated under Remarks.
- (3) YOUNG PRODUCED: Estimated number of young produced, based upon observations and actual counts in representative breeding habitat.
- (4) SEX RATIO: This column applies primarily to wild turkey, pheasants, etc. Include data on other species if available.
- (5) REMOVALS: Indicate total number in each category removed during the report period.
- (6) TOTAL: Estimated total number using the refuge during the report period. This may include resident birds plus those migrating into the refuge during certain seasons.
- (7) REMARKS: Indicate method used to determine population and area covered in survey. Also include other pertinent information not specifically requested.

\* Only columns applicable to the period covered should be used.



3-1753  
Form NR-3  
(June 1945)

BIG GAME

Refuge North Platte

Calendar Year 1955

(1) Species	(2) Density	(3) Young Produced	(4) Removals				(5) Losses			(6) Introductions		(7) Estimated Total Refuge Population		(8) Sex Ratio
Common Name	Cover types, total Acreage of Habitat	Number	Hunting	For Re- stocking	Sold	For Research	Predation	Disease	Winter Loss	Number	Source	At period of Greatest use	As of Dec. 31	
Rocky Mountain Mule Deer												15	15	

Remarks:

Reported by \_\_\_\_\_



# INSTRUCTIONS

Form NR-3 - BIG GAME

- (1) SPECIES: Use correct common name; i.e., Mule deer, black-tailed deer, white-tailed deer. It is unnecessary to indicate sub-species such as northern or Louisiana white-tailed deer.
- (2) DENSITY: Detailed data may be omitted for species occurring in limited numbers. Density to be expressed in acres per animal by cover types. This information is to be prefaced by a statement from the refuge manager as to the number of acres in each cover type found on the refuge; once submitted, this information need not be repeated except as significant changes occur in the area of cover types. Cover types should be detailed enough to furnish the desired information but not so much as to obscure the general picture. Examples: spruce swamp, upland hardwoods, reverting agriculture land, bottomland hardwoods, short grass prairie, etc. Standard type symbols listed in Wildlife Management Series No. 7 should be used where possible. Figures submitted should be based on actual observations and counts on representative sample areas. Survey method used and size of sample area or areas should be indicated under Remarks.
- (3) YOUNG PRODUCED: Estimated total number of young produced on refuge.
- (4) REMOVALS: Indicate total number in each category removed during the year.
- (5) LOSSES: On the basis of known records or reliable estimates indicate total losses in each category during the year.
- (6) INTRODUCTIONS: Indicate the number and refuge or agency from which stock was secured.
- (7) TOTAL REFUGE POPULATION: Give the estimated population of each species on the refuge at period of its greatest abundance and also as of Dec. 31.
- (8) SEX RATIO: Indicate the percentage of males and females of each species as determined from field observations or through removals.

DISEASE

Refuge North Platte

Year 19.55

Botulism

Lead Poisoning or other Disease

Period of outbreak N

Period of heaviest losses O  
N

Losses: E

	Actual Count	Estimated
(a) Waterfowl	_____	_____
(b) Shorebirds	_____	_____
(c) Other	_____	_____

Number Hospitalized	No. Recovered	% Recovered
(a) Waterfowl	_____	_____
(b) Shorebirds	_____	_____
(c) Other	_____	_____

Areas affected (location and approximate acreage) \_\_\_\_\_

Water conditions (average depth of water in sickness areas, reflooding of exposed flats, etc.) \_\_\_\_\_

Condition of vegetation and invertebrate life \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks \_\_\_\_\_

Kind of disease N  
O

Species affected N  
E

Number Affected Species	Actual Count	Estimated
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____

Number Recovered \_\_\_\_\_

Number lost \_\_\_\_\_

Source of infection \_\_\_\_\_

Water conditions \_\_\_\_\_

Food conditions \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks \_\_\_\_\_

Refuge North Platte

Year 195

Species	Relative Abundance	Sport Fishing		Commercial Fishing		Restocking		Number removed for Restocking
		Man days Fishing	Number Taken	No. of Permits	Pounds Taken	Number Stocked	Area Stocked	
Carp	91.0							
Wall-eyed Pike	2.0	25,000						
Northern Pike	1.0	500						
Trout	1.0	1,000						
White Bass	.5	500						
Perch	2.5	1,000						
Catfish	1.0	1,000						
Bulhead	1.0	1,000						
Very few fish are taken from these carp infested waters.								

REMARKS:



3-1757

Form NR-7

(April 1946)

PLANTINGS  
(Marsh - Aquatic - Upland)

Refuge North PlatteYear 1946

Species	Location of Area Planted	Rate of Seeding or Planting	Amount Planted (Acres or Yards of Shoreline)	Amount & Nature of Propagules	Date of Planting	Survival	Cause of Loss	Remarks
Whea t	North side Lake Minitare	10 bu/acre	20 acres		Sept 1& 2	Fair	Poor germination	Planted as duck & goose pasture

## TOTAL ACREAGE PLANTED:

Marsh and aquatic.....  
Hedgerows, cover patches.....  
Food strips, food patches..... **20**.....  
Forest plantings.....

CULTIVATED CROPS

Refuge North Platte Year 1955

Permittee (If farmed by refuge personnel, so indicate)	Permit No.	Unit or Loca- tion	Crops Grown	Avg. Yield per Acre	Permittee's Share		Government's Share or Return				Compensatory Services, or Cash Revenue
					Acres	Bu. Har- vested	Harvested		Unharvested		
							Acres	Bu.	Acres	Bu.	
N O N E											

Summary of Crops Grown:	Crop	Acreage	Permittee's Share Acres Bushels	Government's Share Harvested Acres Bu.	Unharvested Acres Bu.	Total Revenue \$
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Interior Duplicating  
Section, Wash.D.C.

_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____	_____



DIRECTIONS FOR PREPARING FORM NR-8  
CULTIVATED CROPS

Cultivated Crops Report Form NR-8 should be prepared on a calendar-year basis for all crops harvested or utilized during the calendar year and submitted with the December 31 refuge report.

Permittee - List each permittee separately. If lands of the refuge are farmed by refuge personnel or hired labor, this should be indicated in the Permittee column.

Permit No. - List the number of the Special Use Permit issued to the individual.

Use or location - The Unit No. or name specified in the Economic Use Plan should be listed in this column.

Crops Grown - A separate line of the form should be used for each crop grown by each permittee or by refuge personnel. This is important, since if each crop grown by each operator is not specifically enumerated, the report will be of no value for statistical purposes.

Average Yield per Acre - It is important that the average yield per acre of each crop grown by each operator should be shown.

Permittee's Share - Only the number of acres harvested or utilized by the permittee for his own benefit should be shown under the Acres column, and only the number of bushels of farm crops harvested by the permittee for himself should be shown under the Bushels Harvested column. It is requested that all crops harvested be reduced to bushels wherever possible, or, as in the case with the harvesting of seed such as that of sweet clover, alfalfa, bromegrass, etc., the total harvested crop in pounds may be shown. Timothy, alfalfa, or other hay harvested by the permittee should be shown on Form NR-10 and should not be shown in the Permittee's Share column.

Government's Share or Return - Harvested - Show the number of bushels harvested for the Government and the acreage from which this share is harvested, both for grain raised by refuge personnel and by permittees. Unharvested - show the exact number of acres of crops allowed to remain unharvested as food and cover for wildlife. An estimate of the number of bushels of grain that is available for the wildlife in such unharvested crops should be shown in the Bushels column.

Compensatory Services, or Cash Revenue - Show other services received by the Government in cooperative farming activities, the number of acres of food strips planted for wildlife, the amount of wildlife crops not otherwise reported that are planted by cooperators for the Service, or the cultivation of wildlife plantations. If the permit is on a fee basis, the total cash revenue received by the Service.





## REFUGE GRAIN REPORT

This report should cover all grain on hand, received, or disposed of, during the period covered by this narrative report.

**Report all grain in bushels.** For the purpose of this report the following approximate weights of grain shall be considered equivalent to a bushel: Corn (shelled)—55 lb., corn (ear)—70 lb., wheat—60 lb., barley—50 lb., rye—55 lb., oats—30 lb., soy beans—60 lb., millet—50 lb., cowpeas—60 lb., and mixed—50 lb. In computing volume of granaries, multiply the cubic contents (cu. ft.) by 0.8 bushels.

- (1) List each type of grain separately and specifically, as flint corn, yellow dent corn, square deal hybrid corn, garnet wheat, red May wheat, durum wheat, spring wheat, proso millet, combine milo, new era cowpeas, mikado soy beans, etc. Mere listing as corn, wheat, and soybeans will not suffice, as specific details are necessary in considering transfer of seed supplies to other refuges. Include only domestic grains; aquatic and other seeds will be listed on NR-9.
- (3) Report all grain received during period from all sources, such as transfer, share cropping, or harvest from food patches.
- (4) A total of columns 2 and 3.
- (6) Column 4 less column 5.
- (7) This is a proposed break-down by varieties of grain listed in column 6. Indicate if grain is suitable for seeding new crops.
- (8) Nearest railroad station for shipping and receiving.
- (9) Where stored on refuge: "Headquarters granary," etc.
- (10) Indicate here the source of grain shipped in, destination of grain transferred, data on condition of grain, unusual uses proposed.





TIMBER REMOVAL

Refuge North Platte

Year 1955

Permittee	Permit No.	Unit or Location	Acreage	No. of Units Expressed in B. F., ties, etc.	Rate of Charge	Total Income	Reservations and/or Diameter Limits	Species Cut
N O N E								

Total acreage cut over.....

Total income.....

No. of units removed B. F. ....

Method of slash disposal.....

Cords.....

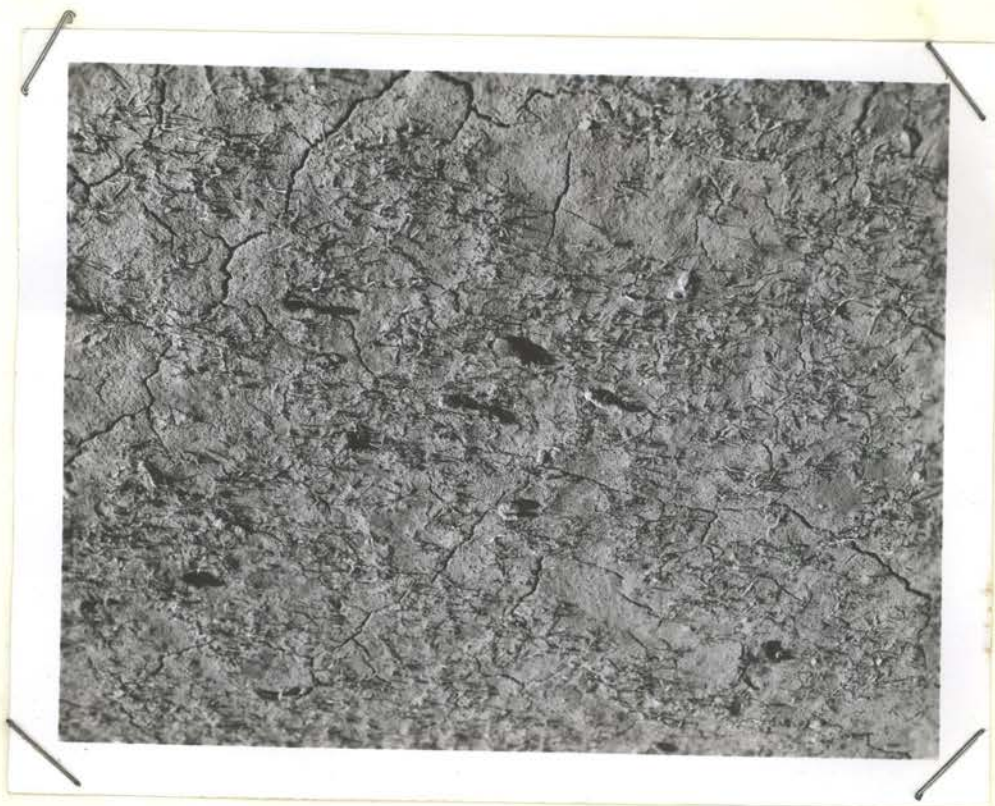
Ties.....



Planting Goose Pasture - Lake Minatare.



Goose Pasture land Lake Minatare.



Goose pasture, at end of season.





Lake Alice - at winter level.



Some of our deer damage at Crescent Lake.