

Narrative Report Routing Slip

Mr. Salyer _____

Mr. ~~Ackerknecht~~ DA

Mr. Crawford _____

Administrative Services

Miss Baum _____

Operations

Mr. ~~Fermanich~~ 7

Mr. ~~Regan~~ VR

Public Use

Mr. DuMont _____

Mr. Kubichek _____

Mr. ~~Stollberg~~ 90

Resource Management

Dr. Morley _____

Mr. Hickok _____

Wildlife Management

Mr. Banko B

Mr. Stiles _____

Mr. Goldman _____

Refuge HUTTON LAKE

Period Jan. - Apr. 1961

N A R R A T I V E R E P O R T

HUTTON LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

January, February, March, April
1961

REFUGE PERSONNEL

Refuge Manager. Wayne E. Gueswel
Refuge Clerk Vera M. Collins

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
Fish and Wildlife Service
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife
Laramie, Wyoming

NARRATIVE REPORT
January, February, March, April
1961

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NARRATIVE REPORT
January, February, March, April
1961

Hutton Lake National Wildlife Refuge
Laramie, Wyoming

* * * * *

I. GENERAL

A. Weather Conditions.

Weather data contained in the following table was obtained from the University of Wyoming weather station, Laramie.

		Precipitation		Max.	Min.	Mean	Normal
	Snowfall	This Month	Normal	Temp.	Temp.	Temp.	Temp.
Jan.	3.5"	0.26"	0.40"	51	-28	25.0	22.0
Feb.	3.2	0.28	0.43	57	4	28.0	23.7
March	14.4	1.17	0.73	57	6	30.8	29.6
April	10.7	0.96	1.36	66	12	37.1	38.4
	31.8"	2.67"	2.92"	66	-28	30.2	28.4

It will be noted in the table above that total precipitation for the period was again below normal, with March the only month above normal.

Since Laramie is situated on the plains, with surrounding mountains, both temperature and wind velocity vary a great deal within a few miles. In January, the University weather station recorded a low of 28 degrees below zero, while the Airport, which is nearer the refuge, recorded a chilly 40 degrees BELOW zero. Laramie had the dubious honor of being the cold spot of the nation.

In spite of the low temperatures, the winter has seemed milder than usual, due to the less-than-normal wind through March. Contrary to the usual pattern, much of the wind activity occurred at night with the days cold, clear and sunny. April was a windy month with the average overall wind velocity at 12.2 m.p.h., with gusts up to 57 m.p.h. Besides being cold and unpleasant, April's winds dried much of the precious moisture from the top soil.

B. Habitat Conditions.

1. Water.

A very small trickle of water was entering the refuge through the Sand Creek structure at the beginning of the period. However, it petered out early in January and did not commence again until March 15th. At this time, Rush, Hoge and Hutton Lakes were dry. We received about two c.f.s. from March 15th until the Sand Creek and Hoge Dike openings were dozed shut on April 22nd by our eager neighbors. During this period, Rush and George Lakes were filled; Creighton was raised about three feet; and Hoge was filled to a depth of nearly two feet.

We were mighty happy to get every drop received but watched with just a wee bit of emotion as our friends began irrigating meadows before snow and ice had completely disappeared. Small ponds were spread over much of their hayland and frost was yet present just below the surface of drier sites. Nevertheless, it's their water and they ain't gonna let it get away!

2. Food and Cover.

In this section of Wyoming, nearly all lands are under ranch-type operations and no appreciable amount of farming is practical. Consequently, we are, at present, depending almost entirely upon aquatic plants as a source of waterfowl food. Under these conditions little or no food is available until the ice cover disappears from the lakes. This did not occur until after mid-April this year. It appears that establishment of refuge food plots may lengthen the season of waterfowl use in the Hutton Lake area. The Laramie River, which is open several weeks longer than the refuge lakes and passes within approximately a mile of the refuge, would serve as a source of open water. We hope to try a few acres of experimental planting this season.

No grazing occurred on the refuge during the winter months. Range conditions have been good.

II. WILDLIFE

A. Migratory Birds.

No swans or geese were observed on the refuge but several whistlers and a small flock of Canadas were reported on Lake Hattie during latter March and April. Lake Hattie, a large lake, is situated about ten miles northwest of the refuge.

Ducks began arriving nearly a month earlier than last year. However, numbers have been disappointingly low. Weekly totals have averaged nearly 50 percent below those of last year with the greatest decrease noted in redhead numbers. Estimated total duck days use is about 37 percent below that of last year.

Again this period, use by dabblers showed much less decrease than did divers. In fact, gadwall, baldpate, and green-winged teal increased somewhat. However, shovelers, which reached 300 a year ago, have not yet arrived this spring. Ruddys continued to hold their lead over last year while lesser scaup held relatively steady. Our most serious downfall has occurred with redhead and canvasback populations. Redhead use dropped nearly 72 percent and use by canvas dipped about 60 percent below that of a year ago.

We have two possible explanations for the sharp drop in redhead and canvasback use this period. One: according to several more-reliable observers, use at Lake Hattie by these species has been not only earlier but much heavier than normal. Since the larger Lake Hattie was de-iced by strong winds weeks before our smaller refuge ponds, it's very possible that the larger flights were lured away from the refuge. Two: maybe there just ain't as many birds as there used to be.

Coot use also has dropped sharply this period. This we can stand. Total use days amounted to about 4,800 which is near 60 percent below that of last year.

A few water and marsh birds and charadriiformes arrived late in the period. The bulk of these birds usually arrives during early May.

Mourning doves have not yet made an appearance. Their arrival seems to be a bit overdue.

B. Upland Game Birds.

None observed.

C. Big Game Animals.

Although pronghorns probably used the refuge intermittently during the period, none was observed by the writer.

No mule deer were seen on refuge lands.

D. Fur Animals, Predators, Rodents, and Other Mammals.

Prairie dog numbers appear to be somewhat lower than last year. Sightings have been only occasional.

Muskrats, too, seem to be declining in force. Two animals were seen during the reporting period. Perhaps the series of dry years and periodically dry lake beds at Hutton has caused them to seek more dependable waters.

With jackrabbit carcasses bringing 55¢ to 60¢ each at a local mink farm, much hunting occurred during the winter. Also, this species could well be at a low point cyclically because very few white-tailed jackrabbits can be found in this part of the Laramie Plains. Less than half a dozen have been using Hutton. Cottontails are common over much of the refuge.

Tracks observed during the period indicate not more than two animals make up our coyote population. Badgers have not been seen but their diggin's give 'em away. Total refuge population is probably not more than two.

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

Our first marsh hawk arrived early in March and the population has increased to five birds at the close of the period.

Occasionally a red-tailed, Swainson's, rough-legged, or sparrow hawk was seen hunting on the refuge.

One great horned owl first appeared on the refuge on January 3. This solitary individual chose a hump of spoil near the north slice canal at Hoge Dike and could be found at this spot most any time of day through March. No mate or nest could be found--maybe why he left.

Two golden eagles, one an immature bird, used the refuge off and on. An adult bird was present most of the winter.

Several magpies wintered on and near the refuge. Two common crows were first seen early in April and are still with us at the close of the period.

Numbers and species of this entire category have been near normal.

F. Other Birds.

Nothing to report.

G. Fish

If any fish were present last fall they were probably winter-killed.

III. REFUGE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE

A. Physical Development.

Because of adverse weather and frozen soil conditions, relatively little physical development was accomplished. Much of the period was spent on soil and moisture, construction, and other development plans.

A supply of fire tools was purchased for caches at Hutton.

A five-drawer map file was purchased and metal stand constructed for it. The unit is not only more handy but also much more attractive than the two cardboard boxes it replaced.

The duck trap at George Lake was disassembled, repaired with new wire, and reassembled.

A frame and six-foot double gate were constructed to be placed in the north slice of Hoge Dike. The concrete portion of the control structure will be poured as soon as water conditions permit. The structure will relieve us of that annual task of removing about ten cubic yards of earth with ye old idiot stick. The plug is dozed into the opening each spring by our neighbors.

A four-foot Parshall measuring flume was purchased to be placed below the above structure.

B. Plantings.

None.

C. Collections and Receipts.

None

D. Control of Vegetation.

See Planned Burning.

E. Planned Burning.

Two attempts were made to open the dense stand of bulrush in Rush Lake. After succeeding in burning over a total of ten or fifteen acres, both attempts were snuffed by snow storms. However, this may give some indication as to the value of burning.

F. Fires.

No fires occurred on the refuge proper during the period. One fire was started just west of the refuge and was crawling rather swiftly toward it but was squelched by ranchers, Laramie's rural fire truck, and one half of the refuge crew before reaching the refuge. A few acres of meadow and four stacks of hay were consumed.

IV. RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

A. Grazing.

No grazing by livestock occurred on Hutton or Bamforth Refuges during the period.

V. FIELD INVESTIGATION OR
APPLIED RESEARCH

A. Banding.

None.

B. Snow Retention.

A few comments on our snow retention experiment may be of interest. As previously reported, approximately 1300 feet of snow fencing was erected at several locations on Hutton to

determine the feasibility of such a tool to fill small ponds, recharge small ground reservoirs, and accomplish localized range improvement.

To sum up the winter's results very briefly, refuge snow fences didn't stop a flake. However, instead of being discouraged, we are yet optimistic. State Highway Department and Union Pacific Railroad fences created large drifts (see photos). Some factors that need further study are: angle of fence to prevailing winds, design of fence, and topographical locations.

VI. PUBLIC RELATIONS

A. Recreational Uses.

During winter months there is very little recreational use of Hutton Lake Refuge except for a few hardy individuals whose fervor for Indian artifacts cannot be cooled by Wyoming wintry winds.

B. Refuge Visitors.

<u>When:</u>	<u>Who:</u>	<u>What:</u>	<u>Why:</u>
Jan. 23	Ed Cornelius	PARC trapper	Report on coyote control
Jan. 25	George Barclay	Regional Supervisor, R.O., Albuquerque	Official visit
Jan. 25	Willie Garner	Engineer, R.O., Albuquerque	Water control structure survey & water rights
Feb. 8	Oscar Olson	IWLA State director	Discussion of legislation
Feb. 21	Marion Needham	Pastor, Nazarene Church	General interest & loan of film.
Mar. 2	Leonard Johnson	Rancher, Laramie	Grazing at Bamforth
Mar. 10	Roe Meyer	USGMA, Cheyenne	Courtesy
Mar. 17	Bob Boulter	ASC Office Mgt.	Courtesy

<u>When:</u>	<u>Who:</u>	<u>What:</u>	<u>Why:</u>
Mar. 17	Ralph Dark	Contractor, Laramie	Pathfinder construction
Mar. 21	Mike Kiernan	Univ. Student	Summer employment information
Mar. 29	Hugh F. Frazier	GSA, PBS, Denver	Routine visit
Apr. 8	Burton Marson	Pres., State Chapt. IWLA	Legislative proposals
Apr. 26	Richard Lake	Contractor, Laramie	Headgate construction.

C. Refuge Participation

In January, a "Show Me" Elk Studies meeting was attended in Rock Springs, Wyoming. Another Elk Studies meeting was attended in Laramie at the University in April. The public has become very interested in the elk management problems, especially those at Yellowstone Park where herd reduction is necessary.

A legislative meeting was attended in Cheyenne while the legislature was in session. The meeting was called by the Izaak Walton League and Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs and was attended by State Game and Fish personnel, outfitters, stockmen, and State legislators of the Game and Fish Committee. Purpose of the meeting was to air opinions concerning proposed legislation by represented organizations before the legislative Game and Fish Committee. Purpose of the Refuge Manager's attendance was to learn the status of the enabling act.

The film, "Behind the Flyways" has been shown to several groups. In February the film was shown to a group of Boy Scouts and a short talk on flyway management was given. In March the film was shown to the Carbon County Conservation Club, Sinclair, Wyoming, and a talk was given on the procedures for setting hunting seasons and bag limits. The film was also shown to the local chapter of IWLA, Laramie, and was loaned to the Nazarene Church group. We were gratified at the interest shown and the questions asked after each showing of the film.

A talk on the refuge system and its purposes was given to the Lion's Club, Wheatland, Wyoming

Interagency meetings of the State Game and Fish Department were attended in Lander and Laramie during April.

The State Convention of the Izaak Walton League was attended in Newcastle on April 14 and 15. Monthly meetings of the local chapter were also attended.

Again this year this office assisted in judging the essays of the Junior High Division in the Youth Conservation Essay Contest. The theme for the essays was "Multiple Use of Our Natural Resources."

D. Hunting.

No hunting allowed.

E. Violations.

None.

VII. OTHER ITEMS

A. Items of Interest.

Mrs. Collins received a Superior Performance award for performance "above and beyond" during the absence of a refuge manager in April, May, June and July of 1960. (See clipping) During this four-month period, refuge activities were conducted in a commendable manner--not advisable for refuge managers to let this happen too often.

Wyoming still does not have an enabling act which provides for expenditure of duck stamp funds in the state. It seems that Mr. John Q. Wyoming has a hazy idea that the enabling act would be solely for the establishment of refuges rather than for the use of duck stamp funds. Also, there is much bitter opposition to any additional federal land ownership. It appears that there is an increasing awareness and knowledge of the refuge program. It is possible that with added effort in our public education program and the support of several groups, an enabling act will be passed when the next legislature convenes.

Credit for preparing Sections IA and VI of this report is due Mrs. Collins.

B. Photographs.

Attached.

Submitted by:

May 10, 1961

Wayne E. Gueswel
Wayne E. Gueswel
Refuge Manager

Reviewed by:

John L. Gathin
g Regional Director

5/17/61

3-1750
Form NR-1
(Rev. March 1953)

WATERFOWL

REFUGE Hutton Lake

MONTHS OF January 1 TO April 30, 1961

(1) Species	(2) Weeks of reporting period									
	1/3 1	1/12 2	1/19 3	1/26 4	2/1 5	2/6 6	2/14 7	2/23 8	2/28 9	3/6 10
Swans:										
Whistling										
Trumpeter										
Geese:										
Canada										
Cackling										
Brant										
White-fronted										
Snow										
Blue										
Other										
Ducks:										
Mallard										
Black										
Gadwall										
Baldpate										
Pintail									28	
Green-winged teal										
Blue-winged teal										
Cinnamon teal										
Shoveler										
Wood										
Redhead										
Ring-necked										
Canvasback										
Scaup										
Goldeneye										
Bufflehead										
Ruddy										
Other										
Coot:										

3 -1750a

Cont. NR-1

(Rev. March 1953)

WATERFOWL
(Continuation Sheet)

REFUGE Hutton LakeMONTHS OF January 1 TO April 30, 1961

(1) Species	(2) Weeks of reporting period								(3) Estimated waterfowl days use	(4) Production : Broods: Estimated : seen : total	
	3/16 11	3/21 12	3/31 13	4/5 14	4/10 15	4/19 16	4/24 17	18			
Swans:											
Whistling											
Trumpeter											
Geese:											
Canada											
Cackling											
Brant											
White-fronted											
Snow											
Blue											
Other											
Ducks:											
Mallard	200	30	175	345	250	138	140		8,946		
Black											
Gadwall			2	150	135	77	54		2,926		
Baldpate				87	75	55	30		1,729		
Pintail	400	45	425	485	295		55		12,131		
Green-winged teal	75			305	270	145	75		6,090		
Blue-winged teal											
Cinnamon teal											
Shoveler											
Wood											
Redhead			2	56	330	200	130		5,026		
Ring-necked											
Canvasback			7	28	40	92	85		1,764		
Scaup			19	83	155	453	300		7,070		
Goldeneye											
Bufflehead				16	20	24	20		560		
Ruddy						37	135		1,204		
Other											
Coot:			4	10	154	295	230		4,851		
					(over)						

	(5)	(6)	(7)	SUMMARY
	Total Days Use	Peak Number	Total Production	
Swans	None	:	:	Principal feeding areas
Geese	None	:	:	Creighton, George, Rush,
Ducks	47,446	1,570	:	and Hoge Lakes.
Coots	4,851	295	:	Principal nesting areas
				Reported by
				Wayne E. Gueswel, Refuge Manager

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).

Interior Duplicating Section, Washington, D. C.
1953

3-1751

Form NR-1A
(Nov. 1945)MIGRATORY BIRDS
(other than waterfowl)

Refuge..... Months of..... to..... 195.....

(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	1	4/21	2	4/24	Still Present					5
Great Blue Heron	1	4/18	1		1	4/18				1
American Bittern	1	4/24	1		1	4/24				1
II. <u>Shorebirds, Gulls and Terns:</u>										
Killdeer	2	4/24	2		Still Present					5
California Gull	28	4/5	35	4/10	Still Present					150

(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	Present	1	Still Present		2
Duck hawk					
Horned owl	1 1/3	1	1 3/31		1
Magpie	Present	5 2/28	Still Present		12
Raven					
Crow	2 4/5	2	Still Present		6
Red-tailed Hawk	1 3/31	1	1 4/5		1
Swainson's Hawk	1 4/5	1	1 4/19		1
Rough-legged Hawk	1 3/21	1	1 4/5		2
Marsh Hawk	1 3/9	5 4/24	Still Present		10
Sparrow Hawk	1 4/18	1	Still Present		2
Reported by <u>Wayne E. Gueswel</u> , Refuge Manager					

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.

Form NR-2
(April 1946)

UPLAND GAME BIRDS

Refuge Hutton Lake

Months of January 1 to April 30, 19 61

[illegible]

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.

3-1754
Form NR-4
(June 1945)

SMALL MAMMALS

Refuge Hutton Lake

Year ending April 30, 61

(1) Species	(2) Density		(3) Removals					(4) Disposition of Furs					(5) Total Popula- tion	
Common Name	Cover Types & Total Acreage of Habitat	Acres Per Animal	Hunting	Fur Harvest	Predator Control *	For Re- stocking	For Re- search	Share Trapping			Total Refuge Furs Shipped	Furs Donated	Furs Destroyed	
								Permit Number	Trappers Share	Refuge share				
Coyote	Greasewood dominated flats, grassland, marsh lowland, and lake bottoms - 1900 acres	950		See	Remarks									2
Badger	Grassland and grease- wood flats, marsh lowland - 1600 acres													2
Prairie Dog	Grassland and grease- wood flats - 1400 acres	14												100
Wyoming Ground Squirrel	Grassland and grease- wood flats - 1400 acres	7												200
Muskrat	Marsh and Water - 400 acres	10												40
* List removals by Predator Animal Hunter														

* List removals by Predator Animal Hunter

REMARKS: Two animals were taken immediately outside the refuge boundary by local PARC trapper because of predation on neighbor's sheep. No complaints after the two animals were removed.

Population estimates based on field observations.

Reported by Wayne E. Gueswel, Refuge Manager

INSTRUCTIONS

Form NR-4-- **SMALL MAMMALS** (Include data on all species of importance in the management program; i. e., muskrats, beaver, coon, mink, coyote. Data on small rodents may be omitted except for estimated total population of each species considered in control operations.)

- (1) **SPECIES:** Use correct common name. Example: Striped skunk, spotted skunk, short-tailed weasel, gray squirrel, fox squirrel, white-tailed jackrabbit, etc. (Accepted common names in current use are found in the "Field Book of North American Mammals" by H. E. Anthony and the "Manual of the Vertebrate Animals of the Northeastern United States" by David Starr Jordan.)
 - (2) **DENSITY:** Applies particularly to those species considered in removal programs. 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, bottom land 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) **REMOVALS:** Indicate the total number under each category removed since April 30 of the previous year, including any taken on the refuge by Service Predatory Animal Hunter. Also show any removals not falling under headings listed.
 - (4) **DISPOSITION OF FUR:** On share-trapped furs list the permit number, trapper's share, and refuge share. Indicate the number of pelts shipped to market, including furs taken by Service personnel. Total number of pelts of each species destroyed because of unprimeness or damaged condition, and furs donated to institutions or other agencies should be shown in the column provided.
 - (5) **TOTAL POPULATION:** Estimated total population of each species reported on as of April 30.
- REMARKS:** Indicate inventory method(s) used, size of sample area(s), introductions, and any other pertinent information not specifically requested.

B A M F O R T H R E F U G E

Because of the slight amount of wildlife usage, census records were not maintained for Bamforth Refuge during the period.

Bamforth Lake has been very low.



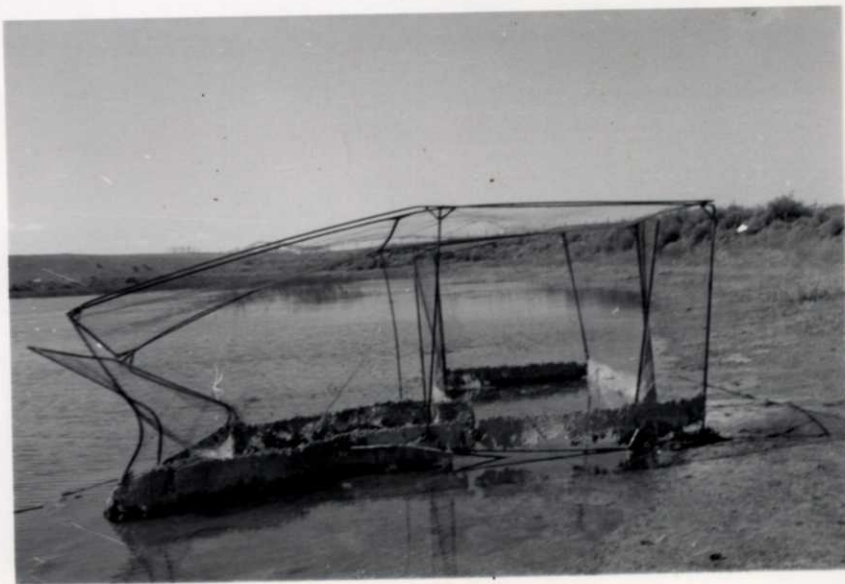
Mrs. Vera Collins, left, is shown receiving a Superior Performance award of \$150 from Wayne Gueswel, Refuge Manager of the United States Fish and Wildlife Service. In a letter from the regional director in Albuquerque, Mrs. Collins was cited for performing duties above that expected of her position. In the absence of a refuge manager she conducted waterfowl censuses and investigations, obtained informal bids and supervised construction activities, hired a crew to erect snow fences and maintain boundary fences. Due to her efforts activities continued smoothly with no interruption. Mrs. Collins has been with the Wildlife Service two years and was formerly with the registrar's office at the University of Wyoming.

Laramie Boomerang - 4/4/61



North slice of Hoge Dike after being dozed shut by our neighbors. This dam, about five feet in height, must be removed before the refuge can receive water. As soon as water conditions permit a new water control structure will be installed.

R 10, #18.



Duck trap after being caught in ice and before repair.
R-10, #4



After repair.
R-10, #16

Rush Lake showing dense stand of bulrush before burning,.....
R-8, #5

.....after burning,.....
R-9, #15

.....and after flooding. This looks much better to
us--we hope it appeals to the ducks.
R-10, #17





The State favors this portable-type structure but some picket-type fences are used effectively. Refuge fences are of picket type.
R-9, #8



Resulting drift below state highway fence near refuge. Water from a well-packed drift of this size would do much toward filling a small pond.
R-9, #14



THE JOB IS NEVER FINISHED
UNTIL THE PAPER WORK IS DONE