

ROUTING SLIP

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE REFUGES

DATE: 9/20 1945

MR. SALYER  
MR. ELMER  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SECTION OF HABITAT IMPROVEMENT:

Mr. Griffith REG 10-8  
~~Dr. Bourn~~ WSB 11/13  
~~Miss Cook~~ JWC 9-21

SECTION OF OPERATIONS:  
Mr. Regan JWR 9/28  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Baum \_\_\_\_\_

SECTION OF LAND MANAGEMENT:

~~Mr. Krummel~~ WK 10/20  
Mr. DuPont MD 10/1  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

SECTION OF STRUCTURES:  
Mr. Taylor WT 9/27  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

STENOGRAPHERS:

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

REMARKS:

Montezuma  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Narrative Report  
\_\_\_\_\_  
May-August 1945  
\_\_\_\_\_

Return to: \_\_\_\_\_

Montezuma National Wildlife Refuge  
Seneca Falls, New York  
May - August, 1945

I - GENERAL

A - Weather Conditions were tabulated as follows:

<u>Period</u>	<u>Rain</u>	<u>Max. T.</u>	<u>Min. T.</u>
May	4.60	82	36
June	5.03	90	36
July	3.54	95	50
August	2.05	90	52
Totals	15.22	95	36

Nearly half of the normal year's precipitation was received during this period. A cyclone occurred but its effects on the refuge were limited to the removal of composition shingles from buildings and the upheaval of some large trees.

B - Water Conditions were abnormal during May, June and July with levels remaining high in the pools and the river as a result of continued rains. Main pool was maintained during the period at as nearly planned level of 382.5 as possible. At the end of the period the level was .05 feet below pool.

II - WILDLIFE

A - Migratory Birds seem to have benefitted by the increased open water resulting from cattail areas dying in the main pool. About 100 acres were killed out by muskrat activity and maintained water levels. A very good population of ducks was present during August. Waterfowl food and cover seem to be ideal and no indication of disease has been seen.

More mourning doves have been seen this season than in any period in the history of the refuge. This cannot be accounted for unless nesting conditions were less inviting this year in their usual places.

B - Upland Game Birds (pheasants) fared not so well due to the wet season and heavy toll during the past winter. Only 1 or 2 broods are believed to have survived. Similar conditions apparently exist thruout the State and there would be no object in having an open season.

C - Big Game Animals (deer) are slightly less numerous than last year. This is to be expected as a result of the open season in the County last fall on both doe and buck. However, a herd of 25 has been observed in crop fields north of the main pool.

D - Fur Animals, Predators, etc - Muskrats continue on the increase altho some shifts in concentrations are taking place as a result of the cattail areas killed out. Fringes of the pools are now becoming populated while dead houses stand in the deeper portions.

It is believed the equivalent of last year's removal can be expected. Plans were formed for the live trapping and shipment of beaver from the refuge during September.

Raccoon, possum and mink have large populations. Coon signs, tracks and activities are everywhere. Entire fields of corn are destroyed by coon. <sup>The</sup> Duck banding traps are surrounded by coon tracks and we expect difficulty as soon as we start banding operations. <sup>what has been done in the past would not have been disrupted by 5000 coons.</sup> We believe the raccoon population approximates 1000. A few red fox are seen and should be included in the predator trapping but their numbers are not great.

F - Fish populations are fairly considerable and several thousand pounds of carp, bullheads, catfish and suckers have already been removed by the commercial fishermen. A few northern pike, pickerel and panfish have been released back into the adjacent Clyde River.

### III REFUGE DEVELOPMENT and MAINTENANCE

A - Physical - Damage to roofs of all buildings from a cyclone was repaired, eave troughs were repaired, ridge rolls, pipes and flashing were painted and repaired. Sections of tower hand rails were replaced and all were painted. Motor overhauls were completed on 3 trucks and minor repairing and maintenance performed on all 4 trucks including welding and repairs on the dump truck. The dump truck and the Caterpillar 22 were given paint jobs. The Caterpillar 32 was placed in a shop and completely overhauled but was not completed for about 2 months.

40 to 50 loads of dirt were hauled with the dump truck in filling holes and repairing the dikes and filling holes in the recreational area.

A channel was cut with the bulldozer at the White Brook equalizer to carry the spring flood flow farther from the tow of the dike. Stumps and rotten logs were pushed into the borrow channel from the foot of the storage pool dike. Trees and shrubs were cut from the entire dike where necessary, about 1000 woodchuck holes were gassed and all the dike slopes were completely mowed.

B - Plantings were not made this period but those made in the past both aquatic and upland have resulted in good stands. Corn and buckwheat constitute the cultivated crops and appear to be very good.

D - Stock Receipts consisted of 300 lbs smartweed seed, 500 lbs millet seed and 10 lbs of Eleocharis seed, all of which arrived in good condition.

### IV ECONOMIC USE

A - Grazing - Only 1 permit was issued for grazing a few head of dry stock. After a short period of use the old fence could not be maintained and the permittee discontinued the use.

B - Haying - consisted of a permit to cut 3 tons of poor hay near the headquarters. This resulted in the maintenance of the grass area as well as in improved public relations.



## MIGRATORY BIRDS

Refuge MontesumaMonths of May to August, 1945

1612

(1) Species	(2) First Observed		(3) Became Common	(4) Peak Concentration		(5) Last Observed		(6) Young Produced			(7) Total
	Number	Date		Number	Date	Number	Date	No. Broods Obsvd.	Avg. Size	Esti- mated Total	
piebilled grebe				800	8/16						400
herring gull				300	6/30						500
rallard				1000	8/15			12	6	200	2000
black duck				1200	8/15			15	5	400	2400
green wing teal				10	8/1						10
blue wing teal				125	8/25			10	9	100	200
pintail				200	5/12						500
wood duck				1000	8/31						1800
American bittern				50	8/30						50
great blue heron				300	8/15						300
American egret				1	7/15						1
black crowned night heron				50	7/20						100
Florida gallinule				1000	8/12			25	6	500	1000
American coot				500	7/15	25	8/6	20	7	300	500
mourning dove				100	7/20						100

REMARKS: (Pertinent information not specifically requested)

## INSTRUCTIONS

Form NR-1 - MIGRATORY BIRDS (Include species in families Gaviidae through Strigidae; also doves and woodcocks)\*

In case a resident form occurs, such as mottled duck on the Gulf Coast, use only the columns that apply.

- (1) SPECIES: Use correct common names as found in the A.O.U. Check List, 1931 Edition, and list in A.O.U. order. General terms are to be avoided, such as "scaup", "teal", etc.; use "green-winged teal" or "lesser scaup".
- (2) FIRST OBSERVED: The first refuge record for the species during spring migration, fall migration, wintering, or summering, and the number observed. In the case of resident species this column may be disregarded.
- (3) BECAME COMMON: The date the species became common on the refuge.
- (4) PEAK CONCENTRATION: The greatest number of the species present on any one date or limited interval of time.
- (5) LAST OBSERVED: The last refuge record for the species during the spring or fall migration, wintering, or summering, and the numbers observed exclusive of obvious cripples or non-migrants.
- (6) YOUNG PRODUCED: Estimated number of young produced based upon 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 are to be omitted.
- (7) TOTAL: Estimated total number of the species using the refuge during the period. This figure may or may not be more than that used for peak concentrations, depending upon the manner in which birds come through; i.e., in waves or all at once. On refuges representing the terminus of the flight lane, the figures would probably be the same in many cases.

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

Refuge MontezumaMonths of Julyto August, 1945

(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	Hunting	For Re- stocking		
Ring-necked pheasant	Revert. Agric.	16	1	2					75	Pertinent information not specifically requested. List introductions here.  Hardly any broods in the State; hunting season closed.
	Grass-Brush	12							25	

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.