

JUN 21 1988

FWS/ARW-RF1

Memorandum

To: Refuge Manager, Necedah National Wildlife Refuge  
From: Regional Refuge Supervisor, RF1  
Subject: Necedah Hunting Plan

The Necedah Hunting Plan is approved as submitted. The plan was reviewed by Tom Worthington and his comments are attached. The plan is well thought out and well written.

You should proceed with plans to implement a refuge permit system if the state is unwilling to administer such a system. Tom Worthington can provide suggestions if necessary.

Please note Tom's comment regarding the collection of a recreation user fee if the waterfowl hunt will require blinds and a permit system.

/s/ John W. Ellis

John W. Ellis

Attachment

RF1:TLarson:mm:6/17/88:x3701

HUNTING PLAN

Amendment #2

NECEDAH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Necedah, Wisconsin

June 30, 2000

Submitted by: *David Offenberg* Date: *7/6/00*

Approved by: *Larry A. Wargowsky* Date: *7/6/00*

Concurrence: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

## I. Introduction

The Necedah National Wildlife Refuge is entirely contained within Wisconsin Deer Management Unit 56, except for a few small parcels in Unit 53 east of State Highway 80. The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources (WI-DNR) predicts a generally expanded deer population statewide due to several mild winters and abundant quality habitat. In an effort to control this expanding deer population, the Wisconsin DNR has proposed an expanded deer season for the Fall 2000 Hunting Season in 97 of the 129 Deer Management Units. This includes both Units 53 and 56. This Hunting Plan Amendment will examine each of these proposals and their implications for the Refuge in terms of harvest, hunter safety, disturbance to other non-target species, impacts to other recreational users and whether participation is desired.

## II Conformance with Statutory Authorities

No changes for this amendment.

## III. Statement of Objectives

The hunting program at Necedah NWR is a management tool as well as an opportunity for wildlife-oriented recreation. Objectives in the Refuge Hunting Program are:

1. To maintain healthy wildlife populations at levels compatible with refuge habitat.
2. To establish a hunting program compatible with refuge objectives.
3. To use renewable resources.
4. To provide safe, quality hunting opportunities.
5. To provide the opportunities for the development of wildlife/wildlands appreciation and sportsmanship.
6. To minimize conflicts between the hunting and non-hunting publics.

These closely parallel the Service hunting program objectives which are to promote public understanding and increase public appreciation for America's natural resources, manage wildlife populations at a sustainable level, and to provide opportunities for high quality recreational and educational experiences.

The Service policy on hunting on refuge lands states:

The Refuge System provides important opportunities for compatible wildlife-dependent recreational activities. Hunting is an integral part of a comprehensive wildlife management program and the National Wildlife Refuge System Improvement Act of 1997 identifies it as a priority public use of the Refuge System. Hunting programs will

be of the highest quality and conducted in a safe and cost-effective manner. Hunting programs will be planned in consultation with appropriate State agencies and implemented in accordance with applicable State regulations, to the extent practicable.

The quality of the refuge hunting experience must also be considered in the decision making process. A quality hunting experience is one that:

1. Considers safety for hunters and other visitors.
2. Encourages the highest standards of ethical behavior.
3. Is available to a broad spectrum of the hunting public.
4. Contributes positively to population management of resident or migratory species.
5. Reflects positively on the System.
6. Provides hunters uncrowded conditions.
7. Provides reasonable challenge and opportunities for taking.
8. Creates minimal conflict with other priority wildlife-dependent recreational uses or refuge operations.

#### IV Assessment

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources uses a Sex-Age-Kill model for estimating deer populations in the state. As part of this formula the WI-DNR has 91 Aging Stations statewide that collect age and sex ratios of hunter take during the opening weekend of gun deer season. Additionally, WI-DNR employees participate in a Summer Deer Observation Survey, which is a log of observed buck/doe ratios and fawns/doe observed from July 1<sup>st</sup> to September 1<sup>st</sup>.

For the Central Wisconsin area which includes Necedah NWR, the WI-DNR has an goal of 30 deer/mi<sup>2</sup> at the beginning of the winter season. The winter herd has not been at this level since the 1996 - 97 winter. The Department estimates that winter mortality is around 10% during an average winter, 25% during a severe winter, and has been well below the 10% average for at least the past three years of mild winter conditions. The predicted deer population estimate at the end of the year 2000 hunting season in Central Wisconsin is 54 deer/mi<sup>2</sup>, if hunter take in the year 2000 is the same as in 1999. For this reason, the Department has set up the special Zone T hunts described in the following section, which are designed to harvest additional antlerless deer..

V. Description

The deer hunting opportunities are regulated within regular state seasons. The refuge is divided into 7 Hunting Zones. Areas 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7 are open for early bow season, gun season, muzzleloader season, and late bow season. Area 3 is managed as a waterfowl sanctuary and is not open for the early bow season, but opens for the remaining deer seasons, beginning with the regular gun season which traditionally opens the Saturday before Thanksgiving Day.

The Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources has designated both Units 53 and 56 as "Zone T" Units, and has proposed the following regulations for Zone T Units throughout the state:

**Free Antlerless Permits:** Two Free Zone T Antlerless Permits will be issued to hunters with the purchase of an archery or gun deer license. Hunters that purchase their deer-related licenses before early May will receive two free permits per license in the mail in July. Hunters who purchase their license after the first part of May will receive their free permits at the point of sale. Permits are valid for all deer seasons (archery, early firearm, late firearm, gun, muzzleloader) and are valid in any Zone T unit (access to state park Zone T units is limited by the Hunter's Choice/Bonus drawing).

**Early antlerless-only firearm hunt Oct. 26 - 29:** Archery season will remain open in the Zone T units during these four days but is restricted to the harvest of antlerless deer. All hunters, with the exception of waterfowl hunters, are required to follow blaze orange requirements when hunting during this time. Deer harvested with a firearm during this hunt must be registered by 5 p.m. on October 30, 2000. Antlerless deer tagged with an archery back tag must be harvested with a bow, antlerless deer tagged with a gun back tag must be harvested with a firearm, or with a bow. Free bonus antlerless permits can be used with either deer license.

**Late antlerless-only firearm hunt Dec. 7 - 10:** Archery season will also remain open in the Zone T units during these four days but is restricted to the harvest of antlerless deer. The same blaze orange requirements as in the above 4-day October hunt apply to this time period. Deer harvested with a firearm during this hunt must be registered by 5 p.m. on December 11, 2000. Antlerless deer tagged with an archery back tag must be harvested with a bow, antlerless deer tagged with a gun back tag must be harvested with a firearm, or with a bow. Free bonus antlerless permits can be used with either deer license.

**Nov. 18 - 26 Gun Season and Nov. 27 - Dec. 3 Muzzleloader Season:** Either-sex deer hunting is allowed using a gun deer license in **ZONE T UNITS ONLY**. No special permits are required, free antlerless permits not used during previous seasons are valid for use to harvest additional antlerless deer.

**Extended Archery Deer Season:** The early archery season will be extended from November 13 - 16, 2000 in Zone T units. Archers may harvest either-sex deer during this time period using an archery back tag, or antlerless deer using free antlerless deer permits or bonus antlerless permits.

VI Measures taken to avoid conflicts with other management objectives

**Biological conflicts:** In considering refuge participation in the special Zone T hunts the primary consideration should be to the purpose for which the refuge was established and any conflict with enabling legislation. It is determined that any hunting in Area 3 of the refuge prior to the regular gun deer season is an unnecessary disturbance of fall migrating waterfowl, cranes, and other migratory birds. To prevent disturbance to waterfowl and other birds during their critical fall migration, Area 3 will not be open to hunting prior to the regular gun season.

**Social conflicts:** There are several public user groups present during the proposed Zone T hunts. The majority of non-hunting users would be present during the proposed October early antlerless-only firearm hunt. RMIS public use data over a five year average from 1995 - 1999 is as follows:

**October**

Total number of visitors: 21,070

Interpretation and nature observation visits: 20,831

Hunting visits: 1,485

Big game visits: 305

**December**

Total number of visitors: 4,494

Interpretation and nature observation visits: 4,500

Hunting visits: 4,044

Big game visits: 197

The Refuge Manager and refuge staff have made a determination that participation in an October gun deer season with uncontrolled hunter numbers may present a safety hazard to other refuge visitors, and without including Area 3 as an open zone, in all likelihood, would not significantly reduce the refuge deer population. As seen by the December visitor numbers, it is possible for the refuge to participate in the regular gun deer season and muzzleloader hunt (with relaxed either-sex license restrictions), the late antlerless-only firearm hunt, refuge-wide with little impact to non-hunter visitors during this time frame. The non-hunter visits during December is less than one-quarter of the visitors for October. The extended archery deer season can also be utilized in Hunt Zones 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, and 7 with little impact to other user groups and allow for a slightly increased harvest during that period.

The Refuge will make a diligent effort to inform the public about non- participation in the October antlerless-only firearms season and will advertise participation in the remaining Zone T proposals. The staff will also strongly advise Refuge visitors to wear blaze orange during the October 26 - 29 dates. The Refuge staff will issue news releases, will publish information in the Refuge newsletter, will post flyers at local restaurants, motels, and sport shops, will post information on the refuge web page, will erect visible signs at all vehicular points of entry, and will maintain a visible law enforcement presence to educate the hunting public about open deer hunting zones and dates.



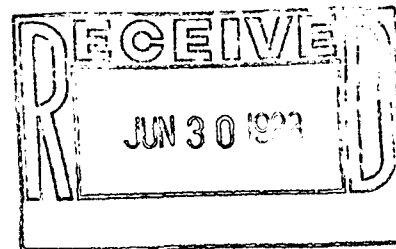
IN REPLY REFER TO:

# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

MINNESOTA VALLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE  
4101 East 80th Street  
Bloomington, Minnesota 55425

June 30, 1988



## Memorandum

To: Regional Refuge Supervisor (RFl)

From: Regional Biologist (RB1)

Subject: Necedah Hunting Plan

I have reviewed the subject plan and it is well organized and thorough. The refuge staff have made a commendable effort to incorporate reviews and comments by personnel from the Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources, and although it differs on minor points, the resulting plan is compatible with the hunting program of the state. It does appear at this time that if the bucks-only permit program is implemented for the first two days of the deer season it will have to be operated by the refuge staff.

*Jan Eldridge*  
Jan Eldridge By *Ek.*





# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
FEDERAL BUILDING, FORT SNELLING  
TWIN CITIES, MINNESOTA 55111



IN REPLY REFER TO:

FWS/ARW-WSS-TS

JUN 14 1988

## Memorandum

To: Regional Refuge Supervisor (RF1)  
From: Outdoor Recreation Planner  
Subject: Necedah Hunting Plan

I have reviewed the Necedah Hunting Plan and found it to be well thought out and written.

I agree that Necedah has a problem with the crowding of deer hunters on the opening weekend and support the staff's proposal to limit the numbers of participants by implementing a permit system. Fish and Wildlife Service guidelines for deer hunter density (1 hunter/40-50 acres), while not absolute standards, should be considered in the evaluation and planning of refuge hunting programs. Necedah densities of 1/16 on opening weekend are outside the range of what the Service normally considers a "quality" hunt.

It is the policy of the Service to plan and conduct hunting programs that provide participants with reasonable harvest opportunities, uncrowded conditions, fewer conflicts between hunters, relatively undisturbed wildlife, and limited interference from or dependence on mechanized aspects of the sport (8 RM 5.5).

To achieve this goal, refuges may require limiting the number of participants. While the Service generally does not encourage requiring permits, circumstances such as the crowding problem at Necedah, may warrant such a control over the activity.

If the state cannot or will not handle the processing of the deer hunting permits and permit selection, then the refuge will have to accept that added burden.

If the refuge does implement the waterfowl hunt with required blinds and a permit system, the refuge should also collect a recreation user fee for hunt blind reservations. Information about initiating a recreation user fee program is found in 5 RM 17.12B. Please have the staff contact me if they have any questions about recreation user fees.

*Tom Worthington*  
Tom Worthington

## memorandum

DATE: May 12, 1988

COPY TO:  
ATTN OF: Project Leader, Necedah NWR, Necedah, WI

SUBJECT: Draft Hunting Plan

TO: Regional Refuge Supervisor, USFWS, Twin Cities, MN (REF)

5/16/88

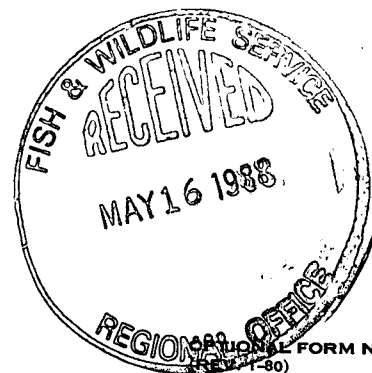
Enclosed is the latest draft and hopefully the final revision of the Refuge Hunting Plan for your review and approval.

The August 6, 1987, version of this draft plan was recently reviewed by local Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources officials. Their comments have been considered carefully and have been incorporated into this version as much as possible. Generally, they received the draft plan in a favorable manner. However, they were most concerned with our proposed implementation of the refuge permit system which would be required only on the opening two days of the deer gun season. Attached are their comments regarding this portion of the plan.

We have not yet approached the DNR officials in Madison concerning whether or not they would be interested in administering the permit selection system for us. Local DNR officials are cool to this proposal as the computers used in the selection system are located in Madison. These may already be overworked with the statewide antlerless, or hunter's choice, permit system.

We propose that the DNR continue to administer the antlerless deer, or hunter's choice, permit selection system for refuge hunts as they have in the past. In other words, a State issued deer hunter's choice permit for Unit #56 would be honored as a permit to hunt on this refuge. This controls the size of the herd on the refuge and the DNR has been doing a good job in this regard. However, the problem is limiting the uncontrolled numbers of hunters who can only legally hunt bucks because they were unsuccessful at the hunter's choice permit drawing. If the state is not able or willing to handle a permit system limiting the number of buck only hunters, then we should be prepared to do this as a Fish and Wildlife Service function.

*Thomas S. Sanford*  
Thomas S. Sanford





State of Wisconsin

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Sandhill-Meadow Valley Work Unit  
Box 156  
Babcock, WI 54413

Carroll D. Besadny  
Secretary

December 4, 1987

Tom Sanford  
Necedah National Wildlife Refuge  
Star Route West, Box 386  
Necedah, WI 54646

0	1	2	3	4	5
1	2	3	4	5	6
2	3	4	5	6	7
3	4	5	6	7	8
4	5	6	7	8	9
OTHER					
File			Pitch		

RECEIVED

DEC 6 1987

NECEDAH NWR

Dear Tom:

Its simple, its succinct, it blends well with your primary objective, and should be easily understood by hunters. I know you and your staff put in time on the hunt plan and it shows.

My initial knee-jerk reaction to deer hunting by permit on day 1 and 2 is luke warm to cool. The problems as I view them are:

1. Getting the word out to people from such a wide area.
2. Making provisions for the numerous large (8 plus members) groups that traditionally hunt the refuge. Some are working on their third decade and third generation of hunting on the property.
3. Enforcement over such a large area could be a problem. Fort McCoy is of similar size but the base has a different use history.

I share your concern for safety and desire to provide a hunting experience that is also enjoyable. Considering the fact that hunting accidents show no clear density or land ownership trend our perception must be tempered. The mere presence of a lot of hunters does not necessarily mean there will be a lot of accidents. Our situation may in fact heighten the hunters awareness and concern for safety.

During the past 14 years we've been conducting hunter density transects on MVWA. They show that during this period there has been relative stability in hunter numbers. They also show that the "boundary country" is more popular than the west side. My contacts with these hunters has indicated that tradition plays a very important role in selecting a place to hunt. I also feel that newcomers equals quitters.

Our most pressing crowding problem occurs along access routes. Hunters do not distribute themselves very well. If selected access points were opened perhaps some of the roadside crunch would be reduced. MVWA has more town road access than NWR. Look at the attached map and see what you think about opening those selected routes for the 10 day period.

On Sandhill we received adverse comments regarding interference and safety at hunter densities of 21 hunters per square mile. Hunters have a different level of expectation here but it does illustrate that hunt quality perceptions are extremely subjective.

If you do decide that a 2-day permit system must be implemented I recommend you use the application request employed by Ft. McCoy. Your mailing cost would be \$700-1000.00 but it would give you the opportunity to provide more explanatory material. I am not familiar with the Trempleau NWR permit system but I'm afraid at this point I could not volunteer much assistance in handling permits for NWR.

Area "D" north of Finley Road should be left status quo. It is similar to the remainder of MVWA in its public road per square mile ratio and appeared able to accomodate the 200 plus people who chose to hunt there.

Other options to consider for limiting participation without permits would include:

1. Access trail (mowed trails) development. These have been used by hunters on MVWA to get back into the "boonies". Areas that never saw hunters now get at least some pressure.
2. Parking lot development - size of lots and roadside parking restrictions can physically direct people away from crowded areas and into more lightly hunted zones. I wish I could say we've done it by design but it has happened by accident on MVWA and Wood County WA.

Getting cars off the roadway for parking purposes really reduces the potential for hunters to use them as shooting lanes. If you can't see down the road from your vehicle you won't see deer crossing and you can't shoot at what you don't see.

Limiting opening weekend participation to 1800-2000 hunters would certainly put a cap on hunting pressure. There are areas (parks and Trempleau) where this technique is used. These are, however, areas that were opened to hunting and not open areas that were restricted.

I have played the devils advocate. We are probably within a decade or so of really coming to grips with the same question. How long can we afford to allow unregulated access for deer hunting on central and southern properties? License sales have continued to increase so evidently the customer is still buying the product. We both know that restricted access hunts do provide a satisfying experience to the participant. If your program is a success it could serve as a model for others. If it is not we can learn from it. If the "distribution solution" does not work or is otherwise unworkable, regulation by permit may be your only acceptable alternative.

Tom Sanford

December 4, 1987

3

The small game, archery and especially waterfowl options you have outlined appear workable as proposed. I realize it would be limited but including furbearer trapping as an accepted activity in those zones open to waterfowl and small game hunting (F,G,H,C) would be easy to administer and could improve harvest on beaver. The bulk of your managed trapping program occurs in Zone B and was addressed by that plan.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment. I can assure you the hunting public appreciates the work you have done so far.

Sincerely,



Ned C. Norton  
Superintendent

NCN:ft

CEDAH  
fuge/10/11

INSTRUCTIONS TO SENDER:  
REMOVE YELLOW COPY FOR YOUR FILE.  
SEND REMAINDER OF FORM INTACT WITH CARBONS TO PERSON ADDRESSED.

m Santad-Nur

FROM:

NED Norton - SHMV

SUBJECT MESSAGE

- Don't it drive you nuts when people refer to attachments that aint there?

Well - here are the two that I was talking about.

I enjoyed reviewing the plan and I think the public is going to like it as well.

SIGNED

*[Signature]*

DATE

12/9/07

RECEIVED

DEC 10 1907

RECEIVED NW

0	1	5
1	6	
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4	9	
OTHER		
Site	Pitch	

SIGNED

DATE



2. Controlled Deer Gun Hunt - All refuge Areas, except the No Hunting Area A.

See attached!  
Not observed next door  
(Meadow Valley Wildlife Area)

"State requires 1/20 for  
damage abatement qualification."

"Don't agree! Many hunters  
have been hunting here for years.  
Some groups are working on 3rd  
generation - 25+ years on this  
property (NWR + MVWA). The  
number of new comers is  
surprisingly small, it is my  
impression that quarters  
new comers in our  
area."

"Improved distribution by  
allowing more drive in  
access may solve this problem.  
Opening the selected roads (all  
are pretty durable) only for the  
FRI - SUN 10 DAY period  
would reduce much of the  
roadside crunch on Spedway  
hol etc. (See attached). You  
will still have the "big block  
characteristic that makes the  
NWR the great place to hunt  
that it is but I feel you can do this more easily than hunt by  
permit. Cover all refuge roads by "no hunt or no shoot from"  
rule and you've got it in hand."

a. The Problem - For years uncontrolled numbers of hunters, coming from all over the state, have crowded the refuge only on the opening two days of the deer gun season. The number of hunters has gradually increased over the years to an estimated 2,660 on opening day in 1986. This amounts to about one hunter for every 16 acres, if they were equally distributed over the refuge. Acreage per hunter, of course, is much smaller within 1/4 mile of refuge roads where hunters tend to congregate. Even if they distribute themselves equally over the refuge, hunter density is more than twice the suggested hunter density standard of one hunter per 40 acres. Refuge Managers and many hunters (but certainly not all hunters) have expressed their concerns regarding hunter safety and hunting quality caused by the existing high hunter densities.

{ It is expected that without a control program to limit hunter numbers, hunter numbers will continue to increase in the future. More and more hunters are finding it difficult to find a place to hunt, where they have a reasonable chance of getting a deer, as more and more private lands are becoming unavailable to them. More turn to the refuge each year as it is more convenient than driving another 200 miles to northern Wisconsin where deer numbers and success chances are less than in central Wisconsin.

b. The Solution - In an attempt to solve the trend of increasing numbers of deer gun hunters and the resulting increased hazard to their safety and to also improve the quality of hunting on the refuge, a refuge permit system will be established. Refuge permits will be required only on the opening two days of the deer gun season. Permits required only on the first two days of the deer gun season will resolve the problem of controlling hunter numbers only when it is necessary. Hunter demand after the first two days of the nine-day season does not warrant the continuation of the permit requirement for control of hunter numbers.

DATA SHEET (BOND)  
FORM 9500-25

GUN DEER CAR COUNTS  
TRANSECT #2 - MEADOW VALLEY

NE Zone  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

10 mi<sup>2</sup>

(SEE BOND DEER FOR MAP)

DATE	OBSERVER	T END	T BEGIN	M E TOTAL	PRECIP	TEMP	CARS	Adj *	HUNTERS/ CAR	TOTAL HUNTERS	HUNT 100
11-23-74											
11-24-74	HAUG	720	630	075	0		151		2.5	377.5	37
11-22-75	NOWICKI	1000	900	100	0	230	185			461	46
11-23-75	I	1000	855	105	0	220	147			367.5	36
11-20-76	NOWICKI	910	800	110	0	140	165			413	41
11-21-76	I	905	810	055	0	220	132			330	33
11-19-77	NOWICKI	910	800	110	0	200	157			393	39
11-20-77	I	915	800	115	RAIN	450	122			304	30
11-18-78	NOWICKI	1010	915	055	0	270	179			446	44
11-19-78	I	1000	830	130	0	110	148			370	37
11-17-79	NOWICKI	0930	0815	0120	0	500	166			415	41
11-18-79	NOWICKI	0910	0800	0110	0	500	142			355	35
11-22-80	NOWICKI	9:25	8:05		0	380	151		2.5	378	37
11-23-80	"	9:15	8:00		0	370	136		2.5	340	34
11-22-81	NOWICKI	9:05	7:45	120	0		162		2.5	405	40
11-22-81	I	9:00	7:45	115	0		142		2.5	355	35
11-20-82	NOWICKI	9:05	7:45	1:20	RAIN	500	165	241.13		413	41
11-21-82	NOWICKI	9:05	7:50	1:15	0	40	143			358	35
11-19-83	NOWICKI	9:10	7:50	1:20	RAIN	500	147			367	36
11-20-83	"	9:00	7:15	1:45	RAIN	480	122			305	30
11-17-84	NOWICKI	9:10	7:50	1:20	0	200	286 ÷ 2	143	2.5	715	71
11-18-84	NOWICKI				0	190	239 ÷ 2	119	2.5	597	59
11-23-85	NOWICKI	9:15	7:45	1:30	0	150	320 ÷ 2	160	2.5	400	40
11-24-85	NOWICKI	9:15	7:50	1:25	0	-30	247	121	2.5	304	30
11-22-86	NOWICKI	9:30	8:15	1:15	0	200	337	168.5	2.5	421.3	42
11-23-86	NOWICKI	9:00	7:45	1:15	0	200	263	131.5	2.5	328.7	32
11-21-87	NOWICKI	9:10	7:55	1:05	0	360	321	160	2.5	401	40
11-22-87	NOWICKI	9:00	8:00	1:00	0	370	279			348	34

(over)



Only figures I have for opening day hunters on ~~WVWA~~  
are for 1977 (2000<sup>+</sup>) and 1978 (2100<sup>+</sup>) (Hansen memo)

Note: density on MVWA little changed during past  
13 years (Range 36-46/mi.<sup>2</sup>) ( $\bar{X} = 43/\text{mi.}^2$ ) = (1 HUNTER/14.8 AC.)

This transect includes west boundary, Turkey track, & ~~sp~~ ~~pr~~ ~~je~~  
and should be a good reflection of your side as well.

# NECEDAH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

JUNEAU COUNTY, WISCONSIN

*Roads to open for  
deer hunting only!*



## LEGEND GENERAL

- PUBLIC ROAD
- ROAD/TRAIL
- DITCH
- REFUGE BOUNDARY
- WATERFOWL IMPOUNDMENT
- CAMPGROUNDS
- MEADOW VALLEY WILDLIFE AREA

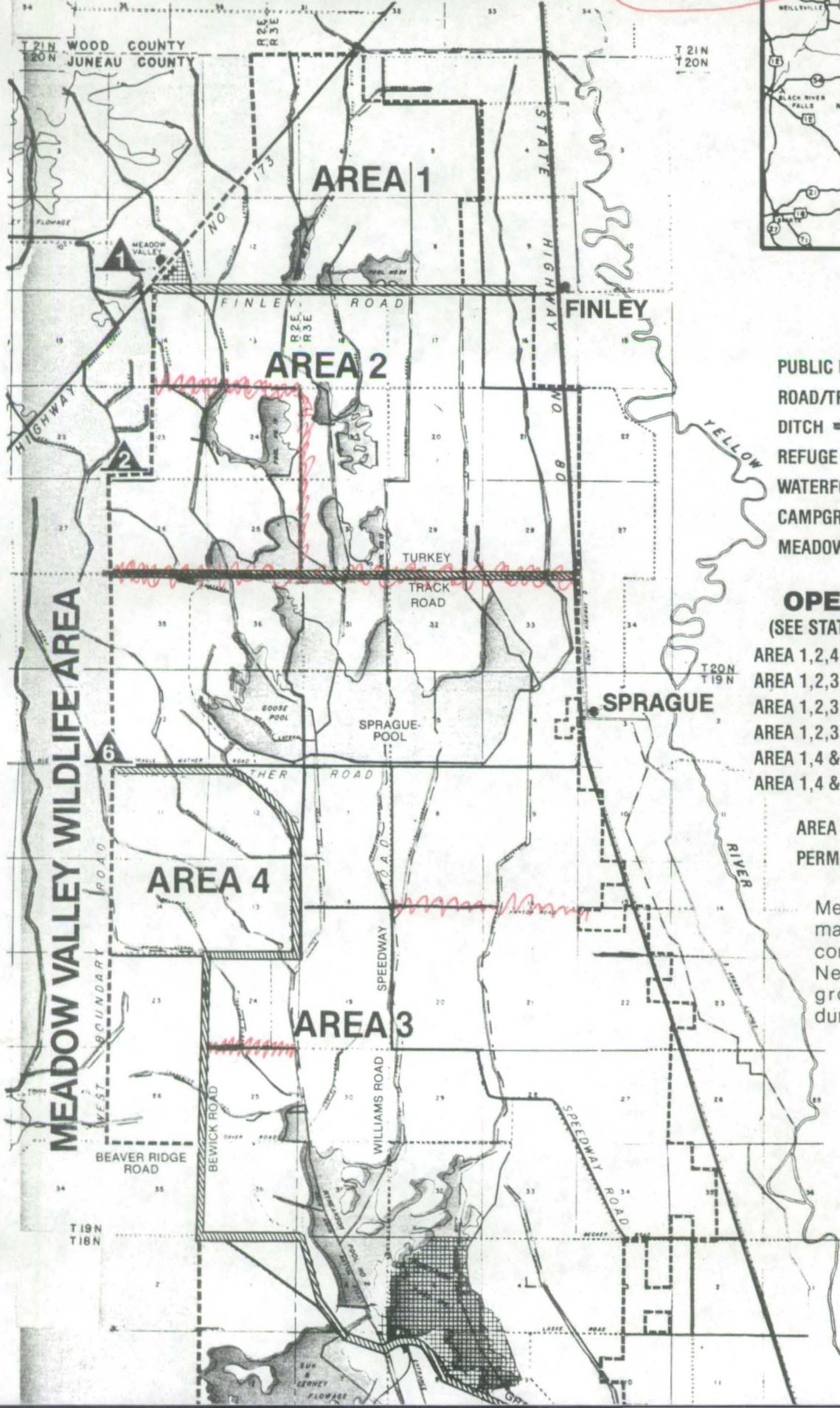
## OPEN HUNT AREAS

(SEE STATE REGULATIONS FOR DATES)

- AREA 1, 2, 4 & 5 - EARLY BOW DEER
- AREA 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 - GUN DEER
- AREA 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 - LATE BOW DEER
- AREA 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 - SPRING WILD TURKEY
- AREA 1, 4 & 5 - MIGRATORY GAME BIRDS
- AREA 1, 4 & 5 - SMALL GAME

- AREA BOUNDARY
- PERMANENT CLOSED AREA

Meadow Valley Wildlife Area managed by the State of Wisconsin, located west of the Necedah NWR, has campgrounds which are open during the hunting season.





2. Controlled Deer Gun Hunt - All refuge Areas, except the No Hunting Area A.

- a. The Problem - For years uncontrolled numbers of hunters, coming from all over the state, have crowded the refuge only on the opening two days of the deer gun season. The number of hunters has gradually increased over the years to an estimated 2,660 on opening day in 1986. This amounts to about one hunter for every 16 acres, if they were equally distributed over the refuge. Acreage per hunter, of course, is much smaller within 1/4 mile of refuge roads where hunters tend to congregate. Even if they distribute themselves equally over the refuge, hunter density is more than twice the suggested hunter density standard of one hunter per 40 acres. Refuge Managers and many hunters (but certainly not all hunters) have expressed their concerns regarding hunter safety and hunting quality caused by the existing high hunter densities.

Says who?

It is expected that without a control program to limit hunter numbers, hunter numbers will continue to increase in the future. More and more hunters are finding it difficult to find a place to hunt, where they have a reasonable chance of getting a deer, as more and more private lands are becoming unavailable to them. More turn to the refuge each year as it is more convenient than driving another 200 miles to northern Wisconsin where deer numbers and success chances are less than in central Wisconsin.

- b. The Solution - In an attempt to solve the trend of increasing numbers of deer gun hunters and the resulting increased hazard to their safety and to also improve the quality of hunting on the refuge, a refuge permit system will be established. Refuge permits will be required only on the opening two days of the deer gun season. Permits required only on the first two days of the deer gun season will resolve the problem of controlling hunter numbers only when it is necessary. Hunter demand after the first two days of the nine-day season does not warrant the continuation of the permit requirement for control of hunter numbers.

"What are your counts showing?"

"Our car count info has shown a levelling off of density. Perhaps hunters are regulating themselves after a certain density is achieved."

GENERAL COMMENTS  
ON THE CONTROLLED DEER GUN HUNT PROPOSAL

1. "You will probably only move your unsuccessful (permit applicants) hunters over to Meadow Valley Area thereby causing even more crowding on some of our already crowded spots for the opener."
2. "If you don't restrict hunters to certain areas by permit, they'll still 'gang-up' around parking areas and other access points. (They do at Sandhill Wildlife Area.)"
3. "Deer kill will probably go down in direct response to fewer hunters on opening weekend when 80% of the deer are killed."
4. "Would like to see results of an interview survey done at refuge opening weekend of deer gun season to see how many hunters think crowding exists. Maybe tolerance is greater than we think!"
5. "You'd probably want to keep hunter numbers around 20-25/square mile at the outset. It's important that we maintain an adequate kill. You can always go up or down depending on the results. The problem is more of 'an equal distribution' of hunters than anything else. How do we get them away from those damned cars?"
6. "While we'd be more than happy to assist in permit selection at the local level, I doubt very much if Madison licensing people would be looking for more work. Especially in the fall due to hunter choice permits, etc.  
  
a) Would you like to get into a preferential permit selection system? I. e., hunter who is not selected one year would have preference the next year.  
  
We've handled Sandhill Area applications for years at the local level because the Madison office 'begged off.'  
  
Madison may be concerned about too much DNR involvement lest it sound like a DNR program."
7. "As long as Area D is posted as being part of the refuge proper, it should probably be included in the gun permit process."

HUNTING PLAN

NECEDAH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE  
Necedah, Wisconsin

May 13, 1988

Submitted by: Don S. DeFord Date: 8-13-88

Concurrence: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Approval: John W. Thi Date: 6/21/88

## Table of Contents

	<u>Page</u>
I. Introduction	
A. Location and General Description . . . . .	3
B. History. . . . .	4
II. Conformance with Statutory Authorities. . . . .	8
III. Statement of Objectives . . . . .	9
IV. Assessment. . . . .	11
V. Description of Hunting Program	
A. Areas of the Refuge that Support Populations of the Target Species . . . . .	14
B. Areas to be Opened to the Public . . . . .	14
C. Species to be Taken, Hunting Periods . . . . .	14
D. Justification for Permit, if One is Required . . . . .	14
E. Procedures for Consultation and Coordination with State (If refuge regulations regarding species to be taken and permitted methods of taking are to be more restrictive or more liberal than State regulations, a justification must be provided.) . . . . .	16
F. Methods of Control and Enforcement (Identify Check Stations). . . . .	18
G. Funding and Staffing Requirements for the Hunt . . . . .	18
VI. Measures Taken to Avoid Conflicts With Other Management Objectives	
A. Biological Conflicts . . . . .	22
B. Public Use Conflicts . . . . .	22
C. Administrative Conflicts . . . . .	23

## VII. Conduct of the Hunt

A. Refuge-Specific Hunting Regulations. . . . .	23
B. Anticipated Public Reaction to the Hunt. . . . .	23
C. Hunter Permit Application Procedures . . . . .	24
D. Hunter Permit Selection Process. . . . .	24
E. Media Selection for Announcing and Publicizing the Hunt . . . . .	25
F. Hunter Orientation and Pre-hunt Scouting . . . . .	25
G. Hunter Requirements	
1. Age . . . . .	25
2. Allowable Equipment . . . . .	25
a. Hunting Dogs . . . . .	25
b. Sporting Arms and Ammunition . . . . .	25
c. Motorized Vehicles . . . . .	25
d. Boats. . . . .	25
e. Blinds . . . . .	26
3. Use of Open Fires . . . . .	26
4. Camping . . . . .	26
5. Licenses and Permits. . . . .	26
6. Reporting Harvest . . . . .	26
7. Hunter Training and Safety. . . . .	26

VIII. Appendix. . . . .	27
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## I. Introduction

### A. Location and General Description

The Necedah National Wildlife Refuge is located in central Wisconsin, about 180 miles southeast of the Twin Cities and 150 miles northwest of Milwaukee. It is about four miles west of Necedah, Wisconsin, and north of State Highway 21. All but three acres of the 43,656 acres are located in Juneau County.

The Necedah National Wildlife Refuge is located within an area known as the Great Central Wisconsin Swamp, the largest swamp in the state (7,800 square miles). Runoff flows through the refuge in a northwest to southeasterly direction with the discharges from incoming tributaries and local drainage being collected by the Little Yellow River just south of Necedah and ultimately into the Wisconsin River. A natural topographic fall of 50 feet occurs from north to south across the refuge. The refuge contains approximately 11,200 acres of wetlands, including 5,100 acres of open marsh in 20 impoundments; 5,900 acres of natural sedge marsh and shrub swamp; and 200 acres of old drainage ditches or channelized streams. In addition 28,600 acres are terrestrial habitat, including 50 acres of cropland; 6,400 acres of grassland; 21,600 acres of oak-jack pine forest and brush lands; and 550 acres of building sites, roads, parking areas, etc.

Since designation as a wildlife refuge in 1939, marsh restoration programs have been implemented. Water control structures and vegetation planting have created the 20 pools as feeding areas for waterfowl.

In 1965, a prairie restoration program was begun to improve the nesting habitat for waterfowl and marsh and shorebirds. Waterfowl have been stopping at the refuge in large numbers during migration times. Over 230 species of birds use Necedah during some part of the year. Hunting for white-tail deer, Canada geese, upland game, berry picking, sport fishing, and fur trapping are the principle consumptive uses. Forestry programs are active, emphasizing wildlife openings. Prescribed burning is used in an attempt to maintain prairies. Water level manipulation is used to encourage the growth and wildlife utilization of moist soil and aquatic plants.

Necedah had over 92,700 visits during 1986. Wildlife observation was the most frequent form of public use.



## B. History

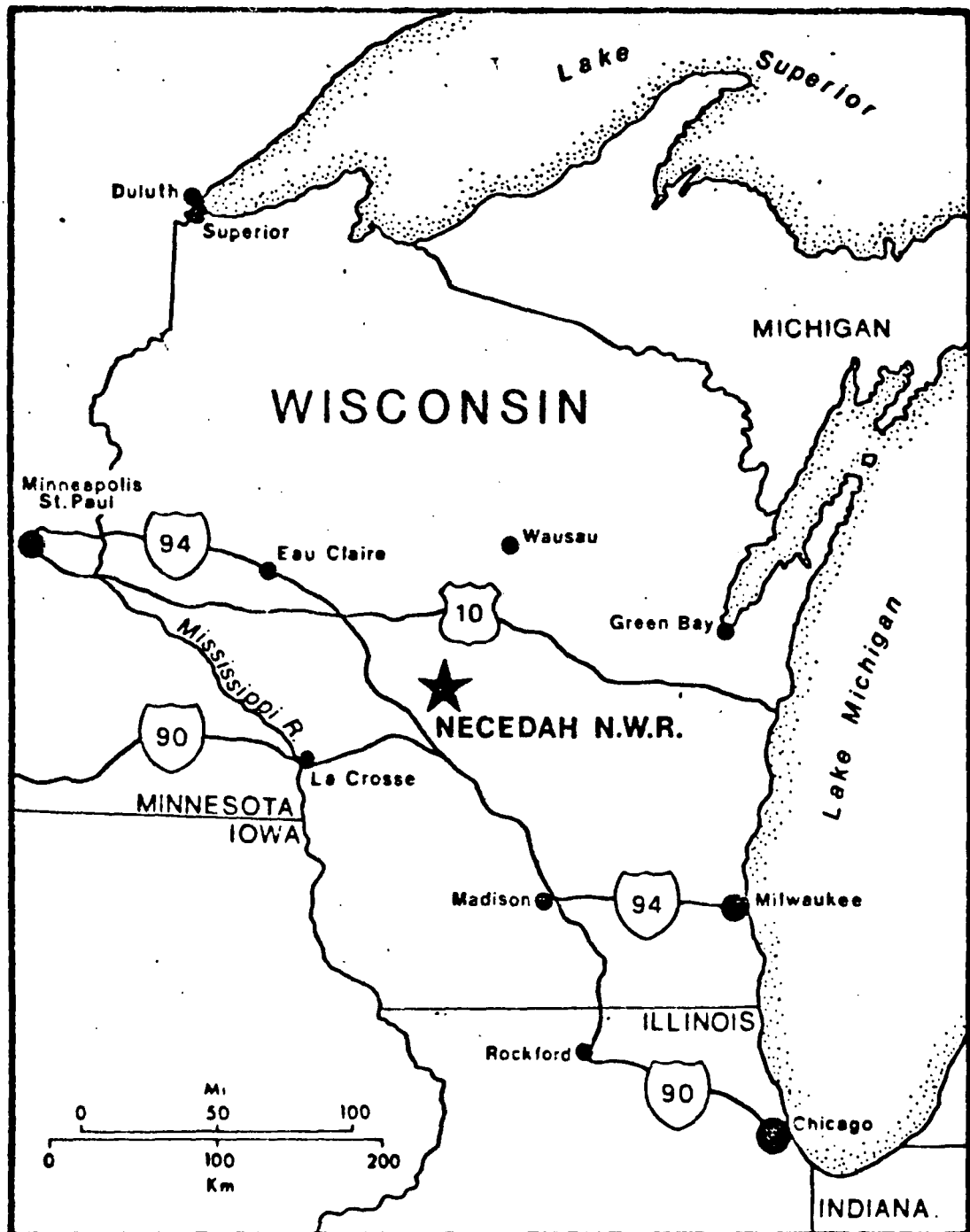
The name Necedah is a Winnebago word meaning "Land of Yellow Waters." This likely came from the rivers and creeks in the area taking on a yellowish color due to the mineral content and rock color. The land in and around the refuge once was a vast open peat bog with some low wooded islands. White settlers arriving in about 1850 began logging, draining, and farming the land. Peat fires occasionally burned uncontrolled. Much destruction of the natural system converted the soils to near sterile sands and the vegetation turned to scrub timber. Many farmsteads were abandoned for richer prospects. Designation as a refuge in 1939 began the process of returning the orientation to wildlife values.

Refuge lands were acquired under the National Industrial Recovery Act of 1933 and the Emergency Relief Appropriation Act of 1935. Executive Order Number 7908, June 8, 1938, transferred all right, title, and interest in these lands to the Secretary of Agriculture for use, administration, and disposition in accordance with provisions of Title III of the Bankhead-Jones Farm Tenant Act of 1937.

Executive Order Number 8065, by Franklin D. Roosevelt on March 14, 1939, established the Necedah Migratory Waterfowl Refuge and ordered that the lands acquired by the United States and certain intermingled public lands within the described area "...would be reserved and set apart as a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife." During 1940, the Necedah Migratory Waterfowl Refuge became known as the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge under administration of the Department of Interior.

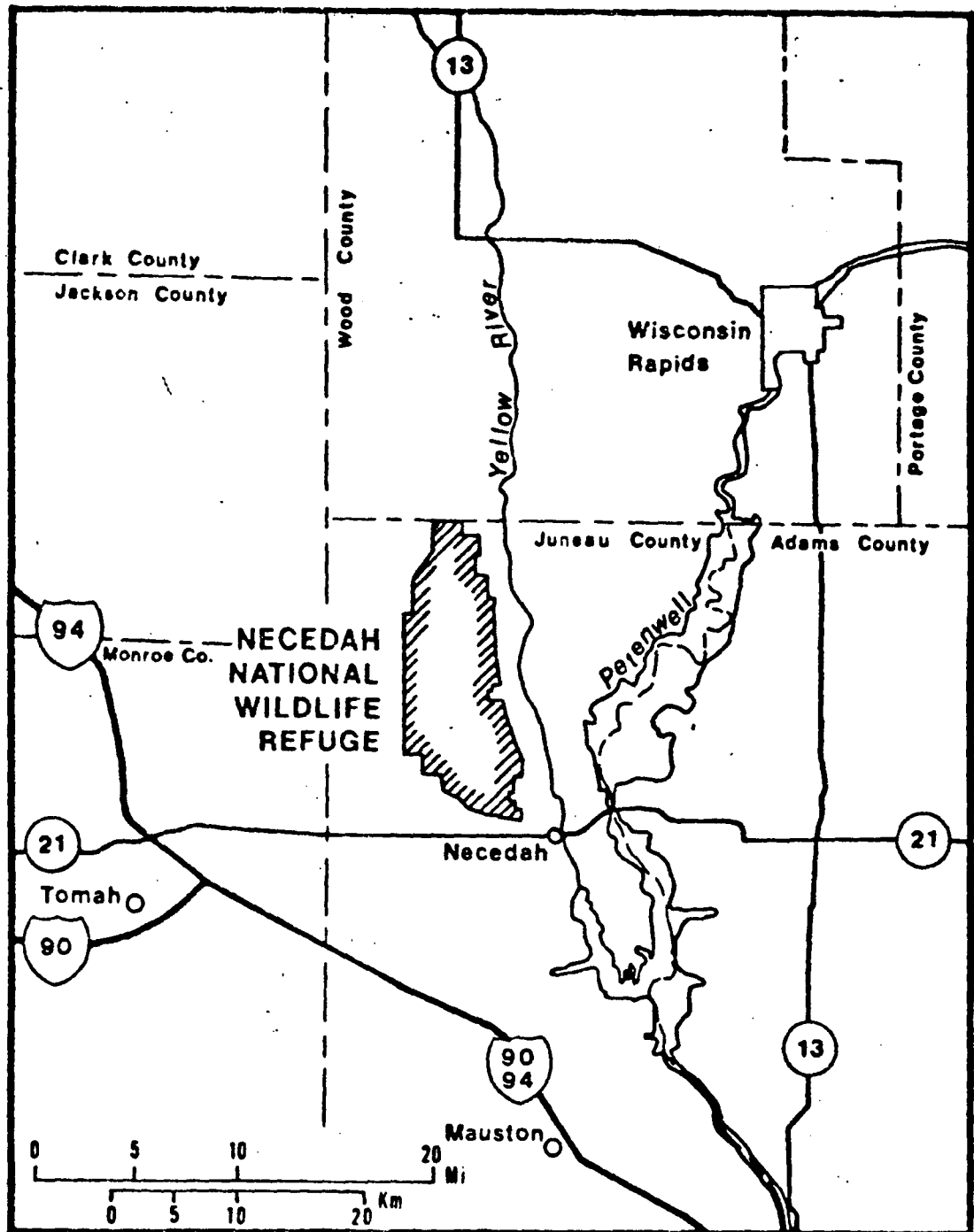
Figures 1, 2, and 3 illustrate the Refuge's regional and local orientation.

Figure 1

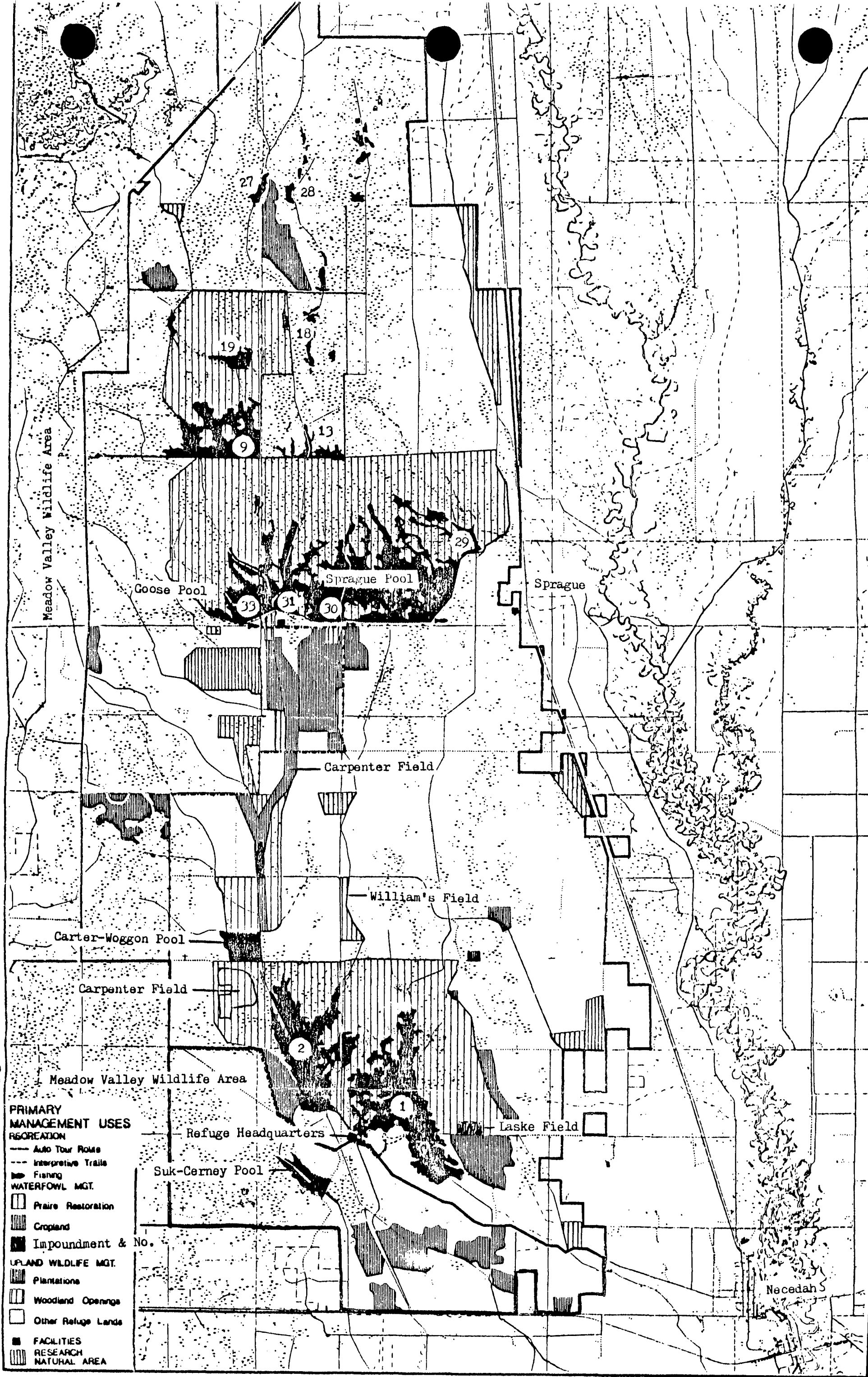


Necedah National Wildlife Refuge  
Regional Orientation

Figure 2



Necedah National Wildlife Refuge  
Local Orientation



# NECEDAH

## NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

PREPARED BY:  
OWEN AYRES & ASSOCIATES

## II. Conformance with Statutory Authorities

### Legal Overview

The Recreational Use of Fish and Wildlife Conservation Area Act of 1962 approved hunting as a valid form of wildlife recreation on national wildlife refuges. This public law authorized such recreation provided it did not interfere with the area's primary purpose and funds are available. The effects of hunting on refuges were examined in the Final Environmental Statement on the Operation of the National Wildlife Refuge System (1976). Public hunting was determined to be "an acceptable and desirable form of wildlife-oriented recreation" provided it was compatible with refuge objectives and was a quality program.

Additional legal guidance on a federal level has been established for the hunting of migratory birds. The most significant laws directing such hunting on refuges include the Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918, the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act, the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966, and the Fish and Wildlife Improvement Act of 1978. The acts provide regulatory guidelines and additional direction for hunting of migratory birds. An Environmental Statement on Migratory Bird Hunting was prepared in 1975. The impacts of migratory bird hunting were examined. The statement recommended that annual regulations continued to be issued permitting and regulating the sport hunting of certain migratory birds.

In order to notify the public of the hunting program on a refuge, the refuge must also submit a brief description of their hunting program and regulations to the Federal Register. Refuges open to hunting are also listed in the Code of Federal Regulations.

### Planning Documents

Although hunting is regarded as an acceptable form of wildlife-oriented recreation on a national wildlife refuge by the previously mentioned laws, a refuge must submit a formal hunting plan and have it approved before hunting can actually occur on the refuge. Direction for designing a hunting program comes not only from federal and state laws, but from the Refuge System Manual and the refuge Master Plan. The Manual states the Fish and Wildlife Service's policies, objectives, and general requirements for a quality hunting program. The Manual also provides a format in which to write the hunting plan. The refuge Master Plan focuses specifically on the individual refuge. This Master Plan identifies the refuge's goals, objectives, and resources, and recommends how to achieve the goals and objectives. Whether or not to permit hunting is usually one of the many items addressed in the Master Plan. The public is encouraged to and usually has provided input into the refuge Master Plan, as well as the hunting plan.

The initial opening of a refuge to hunting and the refuge's first Hunting Plan must first be approved by the Central Office in Washington, D. C. An annual Hunting Program must be submitted and approved by the Regional Refuge Supervisor. Any amendments to the Hunting Plan must be concurred by the Regional Refuge Supervisor and approved by the Regional Director.

### III. Statement of Objectives

#### A. Refuge Objectives

Necedah Migratory Waterfowl Refuge was established in 1939. The enabling legislation ordered that the land "...would be reserved and set apart as a refuge and breeding ground for migratory birds and other wildlife." To accomplish this function, the refuge has identified four major objectives:

1. To restore and maintain varied habitat types for all wildlife, with emphasis on habitat requirements of threatened and endangered species.
2. To maintain nesting and migration habitat for waterfowl.
3. To encourage and manage for all compatible types of wildlife-oriented recreation.
4. To manage the timber resource consistent with wildlife, aesthetic, and economic values.

#### B. Hunting Program Objectives

The hunting program at Necedah is a management tool as well as an opportunity for wildlife-oriented recreation. It has been designed to achieve the following objectives:

1. To be compatible with refuge objectives.
2. To maintain healthy wildlife populations at levels compatible with refuge habitat.
3. To use renewable resources.
4. To provide safe, quality hunting opportunities.
5. To provide the opportunities for the development of wildlife/wildlands appreciation and sportsmanship.
6. To minimize conflicts between the hunting and non-hunting publics.

### C. Hunting Program Relationship to Refuge Objectives

The hunting program at Necedah has been designed to support refuge objectives by serving as a management tool as well as an opportunity for wildlife-oriented recreation. The program has been developed to minimize potential conflicts with refuge objectives.

The most significant use of hunting as a management tool involves maintaining deer populations at levels compatible with the habitat. This prevents destruction of refuge habitat because of overuse; prevents high population buildups which could overflow to adjacent private lands causing crop depredations; and reduces the chances for starvation, spread of diseases, and other forms of mortality like vehicle/wildlife collisions.

The present program provides an estimate of 10,800 hunter visits with over 52,200 hours of hunting opportunities on the refuge. The importance of this opportunity increases as more and more private land becomes closed to hunting. Necedah NWR is one of only a few public hunting areas that are greater than 2,000 acres and within a 2 1/4 hour drive for 1 1/3 million people.

The hunting program may create two potential conflicts with refuge objectives. The first possible conflict involves bald eagles, a threatened species. An average of 35 bald eagles migrate through the refuge during the hunting season. These eagles spend most of their time in Area B of the refuge that is closed to hunting prior to the nine-day deer gun hunt. To date, no eagles have been known to have been shot on the refuge, nor has any harassment been observed. Since only steel shot is permitted statewide for waterfowl hunting, and because the eagles only stay on the refuge for a short time, secondary lead poisoning in eagles is considered unlikely. Eagles generally are present as long as waterfowl are present. When waterfowl leave at freeze-up, eagles also make an exodus. Freeze-up usually occurs just prior to or during the traditional time for the deer gun hunt in late November. Should the eagles ever be significantly disturbed because of the hunting program, corrective action would be taken immediately.

The second possible conflict concerns the non-hunting public. This conflict is minimal because most hunting and non-hunting activities occur in separate areas or at separate times. This separation of activities is designed to reduce disturbances to hunters, to reduce perceived disturbances to non-hunters and to reduce

potential safety problems for the non-hunters during periods of high hunter densities. For the reasons just identified, Environmental Education and Interpretive activities in Area A will be restricted during the short deer gun hunt that occurs around Area A. The purpose of this hunt is to control the deer population on the refuge. The number of non-hunting visitors who would use Area A during this hunt is estimated at fifty. The biological benefits of this short hunt outweigh the inconvenience to the non-hunting visitors. Also recognized is the existence of an aesthetic disturbance to the non-hunters using the refuge during the hunting season. To reduce this disturbance, public use activities on the interpretive foot trail, tower overlook, and waterfowl observation along the Bewick Dike (located between Goose and Sprague Pools) have been designed to occur in areas closed to hunting at the time of the most demand for waterfowl observation. Unfortunately about one half of the thirteen mile long auto tour route is the boundary between areas open to hunting and areas closed to hunting. Thus, the non-hunting public using the tour route will be exposed to some aesthetic disturbance caused by hunters. Most of this disturbance will occur along the road where hunters park their vehicles. However, most actual hunting activities will be back in the woods out of sight of the road.

#### IV. Assessment

- A. Current hunter densities and hunting effects on hunted species are shown in the table on the following page.
- B. Other factors considered in assessing the hunting program include:
  - 1. Wildlife populations are present in numbers sufficient to sustain optimum population levels for priority objectives other than hunting.
  - 2. With current refuge management of impounded waters, timber harvest of the woodlands, and prescribed burning of the prairie restoration areas, it is felt that habitat diversity is maintained so that there is insignificant competition for habitat between target species and other wildlife.
  - 3. With the exception of the raccoon and its effects on marsh birds, none of the target species is judged to provide unacceptable levels of predation on other wildlife forms.



OVERVIEW OF CURRENT HUNTER DENSITIES  
AND HUNTING EFFECTS ON HUNTED SPECIES

Species	Estimated Current Population*	Estimated Desired Populations*	Estimated Current Harvest	Estimated Current Hunter Density** (One Time Use)		Suggested Hunter Density Standards*** (Hunters/Acre)
				Opening	Mid-	
Coot	1,000	3,000	50			1/10
Ducks	20,000	35,000	100	1/4	1/9	1/10
Geese	15,000	7,000	150	1/3	1/21	1/10
Woodcock	3,000	6,000	60	1/300	1/1200	1/50
Rail (Sora)	100	500	10			1/50
Snipe	200	500	10			1/50
Cottontail Rabbit	500	2,000	50	1/800	1/1200	1/50
Squirrel	10,000	10,000	400	1/800	1/1200	1/10
Ruffed Grouse	1,200	2,300	350	1/200	1/800	1/50
Wild Turkey	35	400	2	1/2800	1/4200	1/50
White-tail Deer	1,700	1,700				
Archery			35	1/130	1/260	1/40
Gun			650	1/16	1/140	1/40

\* Estimate based on fall peak population.

\*\* Estimate hunter density during opening weekend and during mid-season. Hunter density is based on total acreages in area open to hunting except hunter density for waterfowl, which is based on total of hunted areas (1,250 acres geese, 130 acres ducks) in Areas C and D.

\*\*\* In accordance with the National Wildlife Refuge System public use capacity standards.

1986 - HUNTING USE

<u>Month</u>	<u>Upland Game</u>		<u>Small Game</u>		<u>Migratory Birds</u>		<u>Big Game*</u>		<u>Other Game</u>	
	<u>Visits</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Visits</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Visits</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Visits</u>	<u>Hours</u>	<u>Visits</u>	<u>Hours</u>
January	20	80	10	40						
February			10	20						
March										
April	200	600								
May	175	650								
June										
July										
August										
September	100	30	120	100	100	400	200	900		
October	400	1,600	100	300	1,020	2,975	450	1,600		
November	300	1,200	180	720	125	500	6,890	37,020	5	760
December	<u>100</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>100</u>	<u>400</u>	<u>      </u>	<u>      </u>	<u>250</u>	<u>1,000</u>	<u>30</u>	<u>500</u>
TOTALS	1,295	4,930	430	1,600	1,245	3,875	7,790	40,520	35	1,260
TOTAL HUNTER VISITS		<u>10,800</u>	TOTAL HUNTER HOURS		<u>52,185</u>					

\* Includes both bow and gun hunting.

V. Description of Hunting Program

- A. Areas of the Refuge that Support Populations of the Target Species. All hunt areas of the refuge support huntable populations of deer, turkeys, and the other upland game birds and animals mentioned as target species. The most important migrating goose habitat is located within the Closed Area B which provides no permitted migratory bird hunter opportunity. The best migratory bird hunting opportunity is within Areas C and D. Little migratory bird hunting opportunity will be provided in Areas F and G, primarily because of reduced availability of marsh habitat. All species not specifically mentioned in the refuge hunting regulations are protected and may not be legally killed.
- B. Areas to be Opened to the Public. All areas, except Area A, will be open to hunting at specific times for specific species. See Appendix A, Refuge Hunting Map and Regulations.
- C. Species to be Taken and Hunting Periods. See Appendix A, Refuge Hunting Map and Regulations.
- D. Justification for Permit Requirements.
  1. Controlled Waterfowl Hunt - Area C.
    - a. The Problem. For years, hunters have overcrowded a small portion of the refuge boundary creating a firing line. The resulting competition, "sky busting," and arguments over who shot the bird, greatly distract from the quality of the hunt.
    - b. The Solution. In an attempt to solve this firing line problem and improve the quality of hunting, a controlled hunting area will be established along the 3 1/2 mile boundary, Area C. Fifty spaced hunting blind sites will be established, and hunting of waterfowl will be allowed to take place only from an official blind within the controlled hunting area.

Refuge permits will be apportioned to hunters through a lottery-drawing of applicants prior to the opening of the goose hunting season. These permits will be required prior to noon only on the highest demand days (the opening day of the goose season, and the first four Saturdays and Sundays of the goose season). No refuge permits will be required at any other time, even though the duck season opens prior to the goose season, because traditional hunting demand does not warrant it.

2. Controlled Deer Gun Hunt - All Refuge Areas, Except the No Hunting Area A.

- a. The Problem. For years uncontrolled numbers of hunters, coming from all over the state, have crowded the refuge only on the opening two days of the deer gun season. The number of hunters has gradually increased over the years to an estimated 2,660 on opening day in 1986. This amounts to about one hunter for every sixteen acres, if they were equally distributed over the refuge. Acreage per hunter, of course, is much smaller within 1/4 mile of refuge roads where hunters tend to congregate. Even if they distribute themselves equally over the refuge, hunter density is over twice the suggested hunter density standard of one hunter per forty acres. Refuge managers and many hunters (but certainly not all hunters) have expressed their concerns regarding hunter safety and hunting quality caused by the existing high hunter densities.

It is expected that without a control program to limit hunter numbers, hunter numbers will continue to increase in the future. More and more hunters are finding it difficult to find a place to hunt, where they have a reasonable chance of getting a deer, as more and more private lands are becoming unavailable to them. More turn to the refuge each year as it is more convenient than driving another 200 miles to northern Wisconsin where deer numbers and success chances are less than in central Wisconsin.

- b. The Solution. In an attempt to solve the trend of increasing numbers of deer gun hunters and the resulting increased hazard to their safety and to also improve the quality of hunting on the refuge, a refuge permit system will be established. Current state antlerless, or hunter's choice, deer permits for State Hunt Unit #56 will be honored as a special permit to hunt on the refuge. Buck only hunters will be required to possess a special refuge permit only on the first and second days of the deer gun season. Permits required only on the first two days of the deer gun season will resolve the problem of controlling hunter numbers only when it is necessary. Hunter demand after the first two days of the nine-day season does not warrant the continuation of the permit requirement for control of hunter numbers.

E. Procedures for Consultation and Coordination with State

Hunting is permitted within the framework of applicable State Regulations. The State has been contacted during the development of the hunting program and will be again whenever significant changes are planned. Most regulations contained within the hunting plan are believed compatible with or are more restrictive than state regulations. State DNR personnel will be requested to review this plan and meet with refuge personnel afterwards to discuss their concerns and anticipated problems, and to offer suggestions that will lead to the improvement of the program without conflicts with State regulations.

The State managed Meadow Valley Wildlife Area, located adjacent to the refuge, also has a problem of attracting uncontrolled numbers of hunters on the opening two days of the deer gun season. State managers have expressed their concerns regarding this problem. However, by State law, they cannot "limit" hunter numbers on the public hunting area. The State currently administers a permit selection system for a limited quota of antlerless deer locally and also administers general deer hunting permit selection systems on the Trempealeau National Wildlife Refuge and on several state parks. Thus, the State may be in a better position to manage the deer hunt permit system for the Necedah Refuge as well. State officials will be contacted in the attempt to work out the details of a cooperative permit selection process.

When refuge regulations regarding species to be taken and permitted methods of taking are to be more restrictive or more liberal than State regulations, a justification is to be provided. None of the refuge regulations, methods of taking, or species to be taken (as proposed in the plan) are more liberal than the State regulations.

Several of the refuge regulations, however, will be more restrictive. These include:

1. Refuge Special Hunting Permit Requirements. Refuge hunting permits will be required in addition to State-required hunting licenses to hunt:
  - a. Waterfowl within the Controlled Waterfowl Hunting Area (Area C) on high demand days only during the goose season (opening day and the first four Saturdays and Sundays of the goose season).

- b. Deer in all refuge open hunting areas only during the first two days of the deer gun season.

Both of these permit requirements are designed to limit the number of hunters only on the highest demand days in order to provide safe, quality hunting opportunities and to minimize conflicts between hunters.

2. Delayed Opening Date for Small Game Hunting in Area B.  
By opening this area to hunting of small game on a date several weeks after the regular State opening date, the number of open hunting days will be less and thus is more restrictive than State regulations. This is necessary in order to prevent hunter disturbance of waterfowl within the "Closed Area" until after the fall freeze-up and the local waterfowl migration is essentially over. Thus, after the migration, small game hunting can be allowed in this large area without causing a conflict with the refuge primary purpose of waterfowl management.
3. Roadside Hunting Restrictions. Refuge regulations concerning roadside hunting with rifle and/or shotgun and slugs is more restrictive than that of State regulations. More restrictive refuge regulations are needed because state law limits discharging firearms from within 50 feet of public roads. "Public roads" does not cover "refuge roads." State law limits hunting within 50 feet of paved roads. More restrictive refuge regulations concerning hunting are necessary because state law does not cover refuge gravel roads. More restrictive refuge regulations concerning hunting with or discharging long-range shotgun/slugs and big game rifles is designed solely for the purpose of creating a safer hunt by eliminating the worst safety hazard created by hunters shooting at deer as they cross roads and trails. Only long, straight-lined roads and trails that are shown on the refuge hunting map are covered for these restrictions. Meandering logging roads and skid trails are not covered by these refuge road hunting restrictions and are not shown on the refuge hunting map.

For comparison purposes, the following State roadside hunting regulations are a direct quote taken from the 1986 "Wisconsin Hunting Regulations" brochure:

"It is illegal to:

- discharge a firearm or shoot an arrow from a bow or bolt from a crossbow from or across a highway or within 50 feet of the roadway's center."

"The above prohibition applies to all public roads which are either paved or indicated on a current Department of Transportation highway map except unpaved fire lanes. However, anyone hunting small game with a muzzleloader or shotgun loaded with shot size BB or smaller are excluded from the above prohibition if the roadway is unpaved (dirt, sand, or gravel)."

"- hunt within 50 feet from the centerline of concrete or blacktopped public roads or to the existing fence, whichever distance is shorter."

F. Methods of Control and Enforcement.

Deer gun hunting and goose hunting programs create most of the public demand and provide the most hunter opportunity. Both of these hunting programs will be monitored through the permit system. It will provide an indication of and control the number of hunters. It will require pre-hunt hunter contact with refuge personnel providing the opportunity for the refuge staff to hand out or distribute any available refuge maps and special hunting regulations. In addition, there will be random law enforcement checks by refuge staff as well as by the Wisconsin DNR Conservation Officers.

There will be no check stations, but there will be entry points where hunters will be able to park as well as obtain information from kiosks and leaflets.

G. Funding and Staffing Requirements for the Hunt.

The cost of the hunting program is estimated to be \$21,966 initially and \$22,250 annually. This program will account for approximately 9.5% of the total current refuge budget annually. An average of \$2 will be spent per hunter visit. Following is a breakdown of anticipated estimated costs divided into "initial" and "annual" needs.

1. Initial Program Costs - 1987

Upland Game Hunt Program

Boundary posting - Public hunting areas:

"Public Hunting Area" signs and posts around Areas E, F, G, and H.

(35 mi. x 8 signs/mile x \$5/sign) + (35 mi.  
x 8 posts/mile x \$5/post) = \$2,800

Labor: 2 hrs/mi. x 35 mi. x \$6/hr. = 420

Total cost to post public hunting areas boundaries \$3,220

Controlled Waterfowl Hunt Program

## Boundary posting - Controlled Waterfowl Hunt Area C:

"Controlled Waterfowl Hunt Area C - Permit  
Required" signs around Area C.

(16 mi. x 8 signs/mile x \$5/sign) + (16 mi.  
x 8 posts/mile x \$5/post) =

\$1,280

Labor: 2 hrs./mi. x 16 mi. x \$6/hr. =

192

Total cost to post Area C boundary

\$1,472

## Blind location - Direction sign posting:

From 15 parking lots x average of 2 signs/lot

x \$10/sign =

\$ 300

Labor: ½ hr./sign x 30 signs x \$6/hr. =

90

Total cost to post blind directional signs

\$ 390

## Blind number sign posting:

50 blinds x 1 sign/blind x \$6/sign =

\$ 300

Labor: ¼ hr./sign x 50 signs x \$6/hr. =

75

Total cost to post blind number signs

\$ 375

## Build hunting blinds (5 wood posts and 25' snow fence each)

Materials: \$50/blind x 50 blinds =

\$2,500

Labor: 1 hr./blind x 50 blinds x \$6/hr. =

300

Total costs for blinds

\$2,800

Parking lots - Develop and construct 15 new parking  
lots to accommodate 10 cars or less each, grass  
sod surfaced, cleared of brush and trees and  
stumps, and signs indicating the blind numbers  
each parking lot serves.

15 lots x 2 hr./lot x \$111/hr. dozer time =

\$3,330

15 lots x 1 blind no. sign/lot x \$15/sign =

225

Total cost for new parking lots

\$3,555

Deer Gun and Deer Bow Hunt Programs

## Parking lots - Develop and construct 30 new parking

lots to accommodate 10 cars or less each, grass-sod  
surfaced, cleared of brush, trees, and stumps:

30 lots x 2 hr./lot x \$111/hr. dozer time =

\$6,660

General Hunting Program

## Boundary posting - Closed Areas - Area B:

"Closed Area" signs added to existing sign posts  
around Area B and along both sides of public  
roads within Area B.

40 mi. x 1 side of road x 8 signs/mi.

x \$5/sign =

\$1,600

12 mi. x 2 sides of road x 8 signs/mi.

x \$5/sign =

960

Labor: 1 hr./mi. x 1 side of road x 64 mi.

x \$6/hr. =

384

Total cost to post Area B

\$2,944



Boundary posting - No Hunting Area - Area A:  
 "No Hunting Area" signs added to existing  
 sign posts around Area A:  
 6 mi. x 1 side of road x 16 signs/mi.  
     X \$5/sign = \$ 480  
 Labor: 2 hr./mi. x 6 mi. x \$6/hr. = 72  
 Total cost to post Area A \$ 550

---

TOTAL INITIAL COSTS OF ALL HUNT PROGRAMS \$21,966  
 TOTAL HOURS INITIAL LABOR - 346 hours

## 2. Annual Program Costs

Law Enforcement: (See chart on following page) \$16,500

Deer check station: (none) 0

Migratory bird hunt check station: (none) 0

### Public information:

Publishing refuge hunting map/regulations  
 6,000 x 7¢/each 420

Processing public inquiries via mail and  
 in person - 60 hrs. x \$8.24/hr. = 500

Planning - 30 hrs. x \$15.63/hr. = 470

### Hunting permit selection, processing, and distribution:

Deer gun permits (if issued by Wisconsin  
 DNR 0

Deer gun permits (2,000 each) (if issued  
 by refuge personnel) 40 hrs. x \$8.24/hr.  
 + \$70 misc. = 400

Controlled waterfowl hunt permits (500 ea.)  
 40 hrs. x \$8.24/hr. + \$70 misc. = 400

### Maintenance of signs, hunting blinds (50 each), trails, parking lots:

80 hrs. x \$13.25/hr. + \$500 misc. = 1,560

Materials: 1,500

### Harvest Surveys:

30 hrs. x \$15.96/hr. = 500

---

TOTAL COST OF HUNTING PROGRAM ANNUALLY \$22,250

TOTAL HOURS - 1,270 hours

# ANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT COSTS: 1987 ESTIMATE

<u>Season</u>	<u>Weekends</u>	<u>Weekdays</u>
Deer Bow (early)	14 hrs./weekend x 4 weekends = 56 hours 56 hrs. x \$15.63 = \$875	8 hrs./week x 9 weeks = 72 hours 72 hrs. x \$15.63 = \$1,125
Deer Bow (late)	14 hrs./weekend x 1 weekend = 14 hours 14 hrs. x \$15.63 = \$219	4 hrs./week x 4 weeks = 16 hours 16 hrs. x \$15.63 = \$250
Deer Gun	36 hrs./weekend x 2 weekends = 72 hours 72 hrs. x \$15.63 = \$1,125	40 hrs./week x 1 week = 40 hours 40 hrs. x \$15.63 = \$625
Small Game	16 hrs./weekend x 7 weekends = 224 hours 224 hours x \$15.63 = \$3,500	12 hrs./week x 18 weeks = 216 hours 216 hrs. x \$15.63 = \$3,376
Migratory Birds	20 hrs./weekend x 7 weekends = 140 hours 140 hrs. x \$15.63 = \$2,188	20 hrs./week x 7 weeks = 140 hours 140 hrs. x \$15.63 = \$2,188

TOTALS            506 hours weekend work + 484 hours weekday work = 990 hours

990 (Total LE hours) - 200 (Overtime hours) = 790 (Regular hours)

790 hours x \$15.63\* = \$12,347 Regular labor costs

200 hours x \$20.76\*\* = \$ 4,152 Overtime costs

TOTAL LE LABOR COST    \$16,499

\* Based on an average of LE personnel cost to the refuge (salary + benefits).

\*\* Based on an average of LE personnel cost to the refuge (overtime, salary + benefits).

## Personnel Costs

	<u>Regular</u>	<u>Overtime</u>
GS-12	19.98	26.54
GS-09	14.01	18.29
GS-09	15.96	20.99
GS-11	14.96	20.18
WG-09	13.25	17.78
AVERAGE	15.63	20.76

VI. Measures Taken to Avoid Conflicts with Other Management Objectives.

A. Biological Conflicts.

The hunting program may create a possible conflict involving bald eagles, a threatened species. However, the statewide requirement of steel shot for waterfowl hunting should reduce the possible conflict of secondary lead poisoning of eagles on the refuge in general.

Eagles frequent waterfowl concentrations in the refuge closed area (Area B) until freeze-up in the fall when waterfowl depart on migration. Most eagles depart with the waterfowl and thus are not likely to cause a conflict with the hunting program after the closed Area B is open to deer gun and upland game hunting in late November. Should the eagles ever be significantly disturbed because of the hunting program, corrective action would be taken immediately.

In order to avoid hunting program conflicts with waterfowl use of the refuge, two measures will be taken. First, closed area boundaries around Area B and open hunting area boundaries will be designed to prevent waterfowl disturbance on all prime waterfowl concentration areas within the refuge and the major Canfield flight lanes between the Ryneerson Pools on the south and the Sprague Pool area. Secondly, the proposed delayed opening date for allowing hunting within the closed area (Area B) is designed to prevent hunter disturbance of waterfowl there until the migration is essentially over and marsh habitat will most likely be frozen over (in late November).

B. Public Use Conflicts.

1. Sport fishing will be prohibited on the Suk-Cerney Pool in the Controlled Waterfowl Hunt Area C during the waterfowl hunting season.
2. Spaced hunting blind site locations and refuge hunting permits will be required in the controlled waterfowl hunt area on the opening day of the goose season, and the first four open Saturdays and Sundays of the goose season to control hunter numbers and to eliminate the "firing line" situation and the resulting hunter conflicts over space to hunt and fights over downed birds.
3. Refuge deer gun hunt permits will be required to control the ever increasing number of deer gun hunters on the refuge at a given time. Recent deer gun hunter counts on the refuge on the opening weekend are

estimated at over 2,600 and rising. Some hunters have expressed that they no longer hunt the refuge because they feel they are likely to be shot by one of the too many hunters. Refuge personnel feel hunter numbers should be limited to about 2,000 hunters at the most to effectively control the deer herd and to maintain a safe quality hunt.

4. Refuge roadside shooting restrictions on the use of rifles and shotgun-and-slugs are designed to eliminate the safety hazard among hunters using roads and trails for access purposes. History has shown that many hunters establish their deer stands along long straight-line stretches of refuge roads and fire break trails in wooded country with the intention of shooting at deer as they cross these roads. Most of these hunters will use scoped rifles for long range shooting and will purposely pick sites where they can see for long distances. Since these same roads and trails are heavily used for walking access to the back country, nearly all hunters are vulnerable to carelessly fired bullets for long distances. Large numbers of cars are parked at the head end of these trails which creates another problem with stray bullets fired down roads into parking areas where hunters congregate.

C. Administrative Conflicts.

The pre-season refuge hunting permittee selection system has been proposed in this plan to eliminate the high cost and manpower requirements that would otherwise be necessary to operate a hunter check station, to select permittees, and issue hunting permits on a daily basis.

VII. Conduct of the Hunt.

A. Refuge Specific Hunting Regulations.

1. General refuge hunting regulations - See Appendix A, "Hunting Map and Refuge Regulations" (on back of map).
2. Controlled waterfowl hunt area regulations for Area C - See Appendix B, "Area C - Controlled Waterfowl Hunting Area" (both sides).

B. Anticipated Public Reaction to the Hunt.

The current hunting program has never been considered a controversial issue. Most comments received are from hunters rather than from those who object to hunting in general. Most hunters comment on their concern that

the refuge will further restrict existing hunter opportunities on the refuge. By implementing the proposed refuge hunting permit requirements in the Controlled Waterfowl Hunting Area during the goose season and on the first two days of the deer gun season, hunting opportunities will indeed be reduced - not by area, species hunted, or length of the hunting season, but only by limiting the number of hunters that can be accommodated.

Hunters in general will be compensated for the above loss of hunting opportunity by the planned opening of Areas G, F, and H to archery deer, upland game, and migratory bird hunting for the full length of the State seasons. This hunting opportunity did not exist previously.

In addition, the proposed opening of Area B to small game hunting following the close of the deer gun season provides a significant 60 day increase in hunting opportunity that did not exist before.

C. Hunter Permit Application Procedures.

1. Permit application instructions are listed on Appendix C, "Permit Application Instructions - Controlled Waterfowl Hunting Area C."
2. Permit application for the controlled waterfowl hunt in Area C is shown in Appendix D.

D. Hunter Permit Selection Process.

Properly completed permit applications returned to the refuge between the dates listed on the application instructions will be entered in a drawing. Permittees will be selected and assigned permit dates and blind numbers as per applicant's choice in the order that the applications are pulled at the drawing.

Once selected, the box on the middle portion of the application (See Appendix D) will be stamped with hunting permit, blind number, and date (See Appendix E) and returned to the applicant Hunter #1.

Note that very little clerical work, typing, etc., is necessary in this permit issuance system. Most of the necessary work is done by the applicant on pre-addressed forms that are easily separated and returned to the applicant.

E. Media Selection for Announcing and Publicizing the Hunt

An informed hunter is germane to a safe, quality hunting program. The hunting regulations and types of hunting will be published in the Federal Register and in the state game synopsis. A news release on refuge hunting opportunities will be sent to nearby cities. The hunting program will be further explained by refuge staff at public meetings and special programs such as National Hunting and Fishing Days. At each main entrance to the refuge, there will be a hunting map and list of regulations on display and hunting leaflets will be available at major hunter parking lots. Hunters requiring additional information can contact a refuge staff member during the week at the main office or a refuge law enforcement officer on the weekend during the hunting season.

F. Hunter Orientation and Pre-hunt Scouting

No formalized hunter orientation program is planned for immediate implementation.

Deer hunters and turkey hunters are especially encouraged to pre-hunt scout refuge hunt areas so they become familiar with hunt area boundaries as well as to locate the game they are seeking. Pre-hunt scouting is permitted as mentioned in the Refuge General Hunting Regulations - see Appendix A.

G. Hunter Requirements

1. Age - Same as required by State regulations.
2. Allowable Equipment
  - a. Hunting dogs are permitted and encouraged in open hunting areas only during the open hunting seasons.
  - b. Sporting arms and ammunition - All sporting arms and ammunition is permitted in accordance with State regulations. Shot shells containing lead shot are prohibited for use in waterfowl hunting.
  - c. Motorized vehicles - All motorized vehicles, including ATV's, snowmobiles, motor bikes, are restricted to township roads or refuge roads designated as open for such use.
  - d. Boats with motors up to 10 hp are permitted only on the Suk Cerney Flowage. Hand-propelled boats are permitted on the Goose and Sprague Pools only during the deer gun season.

- e. Blinds - The use of official government blinds will be required to hunt waterfowl only in the Controlled Waterfowl Hunting Area C. Otherwise, the use of permanent blinds or the construction or use of blinds, tree stands, platforms, or ladders that are nailed or screwed to trees are prohibited. Portable tree stands may be used, but must be removed at the close of shooting hours each day.
- 3. Use of Open Fires - Open fires are prohibited. However, gasoline or propane camp stoves are permitted in parking areas.
- 4. Camping - Overnight camping and overnight parking are not permitted on the refuge. Camping sites are available for fall use on the adjacent Meadow Valley Wildlife Management Area. (See map in Appendix A for locations.)
- 5. License and Permits - State hunting licenses, hunting stamps, special hunting permits, and carcass tags are required according to State regulations. In addition, refuge hunting permits will be required to hunt deer on the first two days of the deer gun season and to hunt waterfowl until noon in the refuge Controlled Waterfowl Hunting Area C on the opening day of the goose season, on the second opening day of the goose season if the season is split, on Veteran's Day, and on each of the first four (4) open Saturdays and Sundays of the goose season. No refuge permit will be required at other times. Refuge hunting permits will be awarded by lottery drawings held prior to the beginning of the goose season and prior to the beginning of the deer gun season.
- 6. Reporting Harvest - A hunt report will be requested of all waterfowl hunters hunting in Area C. Report forms will be available at the refuge office, or adjacent to hunting information signs located at key hunting parking lots, and will be furnished to all refuge hunt permittees with their permit. See Appendix F, "Waterfowl Hunt Report."
- 7. Hunter Training and Safety - Hunter Safety training courses will be required only in accordance with State regulations.

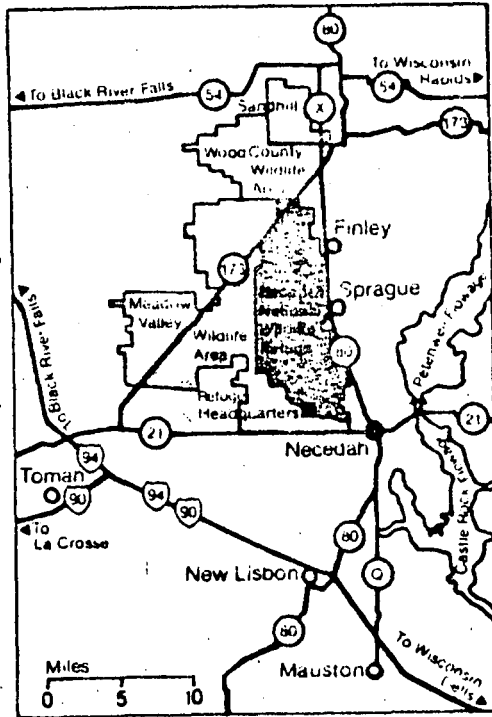
VIII. Appendix

- A. Refuge Hunting Map and Regulations
- B. Area C - Controlled Waterfowl Hunting Area Map and Regulations
- C. Permit Application Instructions (for Area C)
- D. Controlled Waterfowl Hunt Application Card  
(Note: Will be photocopied on heavy paper)
- E. Hunting Permit Stamp for Application Card
- F. Waterfowl Hunt Report



# HUNTING MAP

REGULATIONS ON BACK SIDE OF MAP



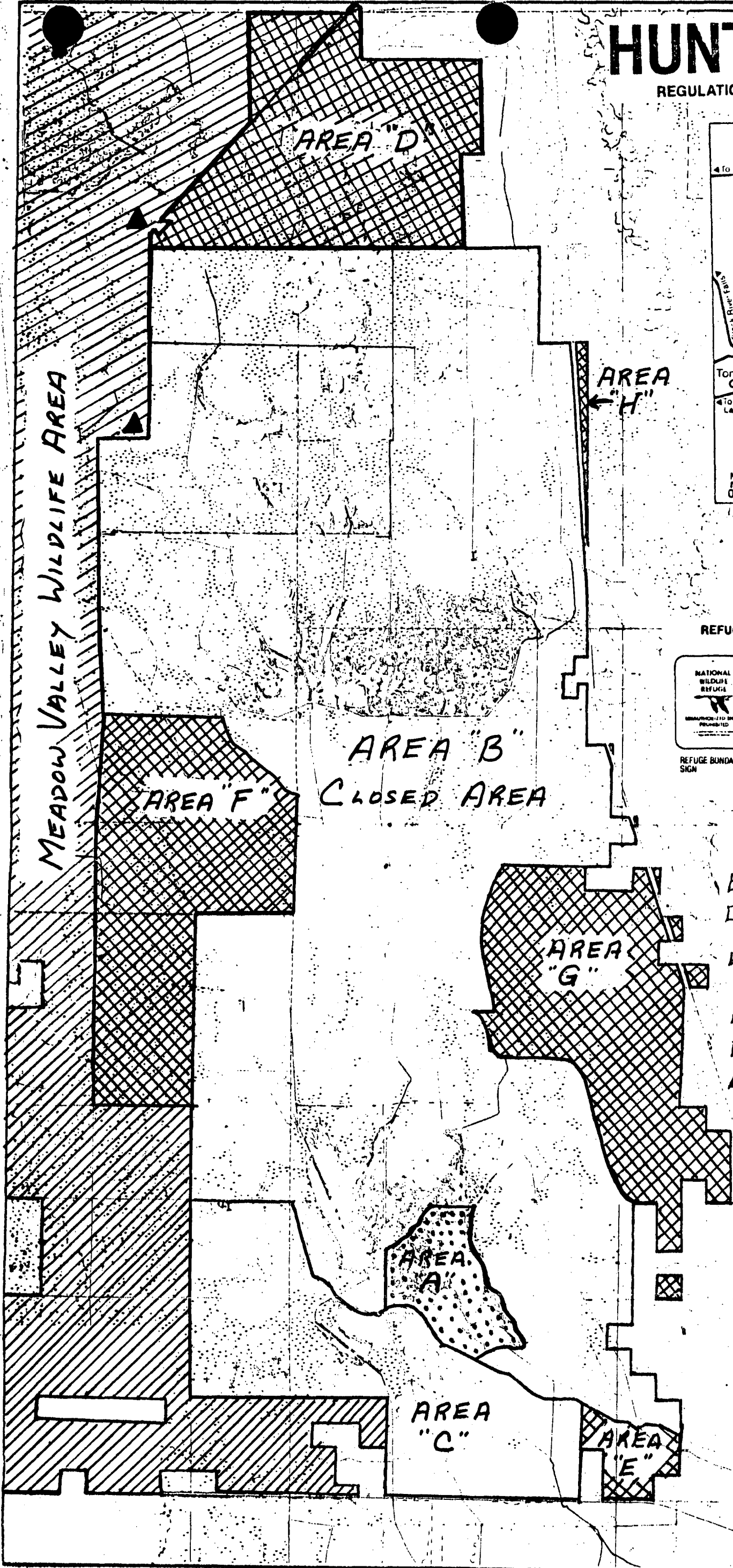
VICINITY MAP

## REFUGE SIGNS — KNOW THEIR MEANING



## KEY

- ☐ SANCTUARY AREA - NO TRESPASSING
- ☐ CLOSED AREA - NO HUNTING PRIOR TO DEER GUN SEASON
- ☐ CONTROLLED WATERFOWL HUNTING AREA - PERMIT REQUIRED DURING GOOSE SEASON
- ☐ PUBLIC HUNTING AREA - FEDERAL
- ☐ PUBLIC HUNTING AREA - STATE
- ▲ Campground



## NECEDAH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

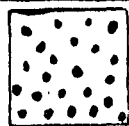
U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR



PREPARED BY:  
OWEN AYRES & ASSOCIATES  
1978

HUNTING REGULATION 1987  
Necedah National Wildlife Refuge  
Necedah, Wisconsin

Portions of the Necedah National Wildlife Refuge are open to limited hunting of legal game species, subject to current State and Federal regulations and the following special regulations and provisions. Signs are posted throughout the refuge which identify the hunting areas delineated on the map on the reverse side of this leaflet.



Area "A"  
No Hunting Zone

- No hunting at any time.
- No trespassing off designated roads and foot-trails.



Area "B"  
Closed Area

- Closed to hunting and trespassing,  
EXCEPT: Open to deer gun hunting (Refuge Permit required only on the first two days of the firearms season).

Open to hunting of ruffed grouse, squirrel, cottontail rabbit, and raccoon beginning on the day after the close of the deer gun season through the end of the applicable State seasons.

Open to bow deer hunting (late season only).

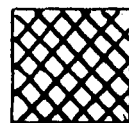
Open to wild turkey hunting (spring season).



Area "C"  
Controlled Waterfowl  
Hunting Area (Permit  
Required during Goose  
Season)

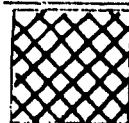
- Open to hunting of waterfowl, coot, rails, snipe, woodcock, ruffed grouse, squirrels, cottontail rabbit, and raccoon, EXCEPT:  
During the first two days of the deer gun season; Special refuge hunting permits are required to enter this area until 12:00 noon on each of the following days: opening day of the goose hunting season; second opening day if goose season is split; and each of the first four (4) open Saturdays and Sundays of the goose season. No refuge permit is required at other times. Permits are awarded by a lottery drawing held prior to the beginning of the goose season. Waterfowl hunting at all times is permitted only from government-designated blinds. Contact Refuge Manager for additional Special Regulations concerning hunting within this area.

- Open to deer bow hunting - both early and late seasons.
- Open to deer gun hunting (Refuge permit required only on first two days).
- Open to wild turkey hunting - Spring season.



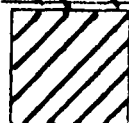
Areas "E," "F," "G,"  
and "H."  
Public Hunting Area

- Open to deer gun hunting, EXCEPT refuge permits are required only on first two days.
- Open to bow deer hunting, both early and late seasons.
- Open to hunting of waterfowl, coot, rails, snipe, woodcock, ruffed grouse, squirrels, cottontail rabbit, and raccoon, EXCEPT on first two days of the deer gun season.
- Open to wild turkey hunting - Spring season.



Area "D"  
Public Hunting Area

- Open to the hunting of all legal game species according to State seasons and regulations, EXCEPT refuge deer gun permits are required only on the first two days of the deer gun season.



Meadow Valley Wildlife  
Area - State Public  
Hunting Area

- Open to the hunting of all legal game species according to State seasons and regulations.

#### SPECIAL REGULATIONS

Except for the above named species, all other wildlife species (including coyote) are protected and may not be killed.

Hunting with a loaded rifle or shotgun-and-slug within 100 feet of the centerline of all paved or graveled roads and straight-line trails that are shown on the map on the reverse side, or discharging these weapons from, across, down, or alongside these roads and trails within the exterior boundaries of the refuge is prohibited. Target or practice shooting is not permitted.

The construction or use of blinds, tree stands, platforms, or ladders that are nailed or screwed to trees are prohibited. Portable tree stands may be used, but must be removed from the tree at the close of shooting hours each day and removed from the refuge at the close of the season.

Motorized vehicles are restricted to township roads. Vehicles parked so as to block gates are subject to being towed away at owner's expense. (Access must be maintained for emergency, fire, and patrol vehicles.)

Overnight camping, overnight parking, and open fires are not permitted on the refuge. Camping sites are available for fall use on the adjacent Meadow Valley Wildlife Management Area. (See map for locations.)

Unarmed deer hunt permittees may enter Area B to scout out evidence of deer activity and locate their hunting stand on the day prior to the deer gun season.

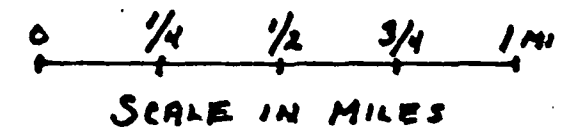
Only unarmed turkey hunt permittees are allowed to enter the refuge Area B to scout out turkey signs and locate their hunting stands. Hunters may begin scouting on the Saturday immediately prior to the opening date listed on their State Turkey Hunt Permit.

Copies of current regulations and hunting permit applications are available at the refuge headquarters. For further information, contact Refuge Manager, Necedah National Wildlife Refuge, Star Route West, Box 386, Necedah, WI 54646. Telephone: 608/565-2551.

# AREA "C" - CONTROLLED WATERFOWL HUNTING AREA

## NECEDAH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

NECEDAH, WI.



AREA "B"  
CLOSED AREA

REFUGE BOUNDARY  
SIGN - BOUNDARY  
PROHIBITION

SANCTUARY AREA -  
OFF LIMITS TO  
THE PUBLIC UNLESS  
OTHERWISE SPECIFIED

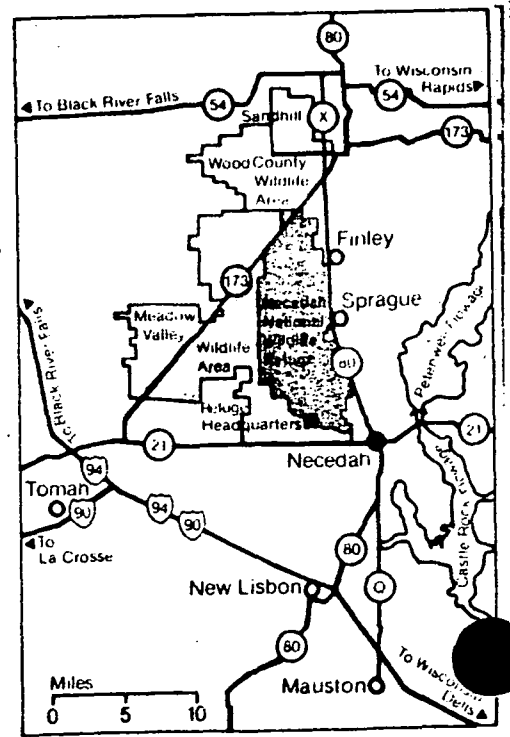
HUNTER  
PARKING  
AREA

DIRECTION TO  
HUNTER BLIND

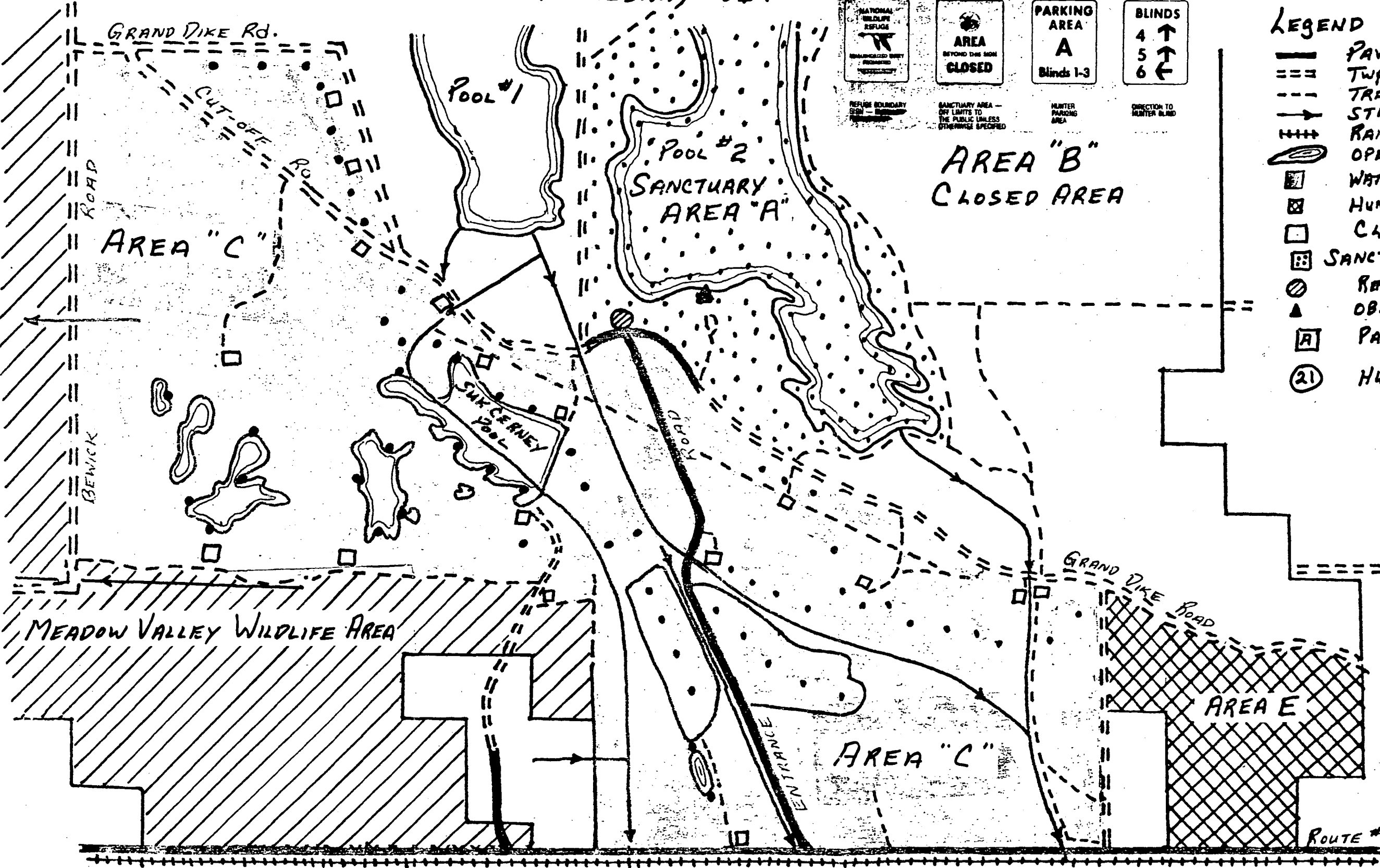
### LEGEND

- PAVED ROAD
- TWP. ROAD - GRAVEL
- TRAIL
- STREAM OR DITCH
- RAILROAD
- OPEN WATER
- WATERFOWL HUNT AREA - PERMIT REQUIRED
- HUNTING AREA - NO PERMIT REQUIRED
- CLOSED AREA
- SANCTUARY AREA - NO TRESPASSING
- REFUGE HEADQUARTERS
- OBSERVATION TOWER
- PARKING AREA
- HUNTING BLIND SITE

### VICINITY MAP



ROUTE #21 TO NECEDAH 2 MI →



U. S. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

NECEDAH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE  
Necedah, Wisconsin 54646

AREA C - CONTROLLED WATERFOWL HUNTING AREA

Area C, or Controlled Waterfowl Hunting Area, as shown on the reverse side is open to hunting of migratory waterfowl, rails, coots, gallinules, snipe, woodcock, ruffed grouse, wild turkey, deer, squirrels, cottontail rabbit, and raccoon, subject to current State and Federal regulations and the following special regulations and provisions:

1) PERMITS - Refuge hunting permits will be required to enter the controlled waterfowl hunting area until 12:00 noon on each of the following days: opening day of the goose hunting season; second opening day if the goose season is split; Veteran's Day; and each of the first four (4) open Saturdays and Sundays of the goose season. No refuge permit is required to hunt upland game or in-season migratory game birds prior to the opening of the goose season. No refuge permit is required to hunt the above species, including geese, on weekdays or non-holidays during the goose season. Nor are refuge permits required after noon on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays during the goose season. Refuge permits will allow hunting of waterfowl, coots, rails, and snipe only. Permits are awarded by a lottery drawing prior to the beginning of the goose hunting season.

The permit, when required, must be retained with the party at all times while hunting. The names of all armed occupants of the blind must be written on the permit and the register sheet at the refuge headquarters prior to hunting. No more than one gun per permittee is allowed in the blinds. Up to three persons not named on the permit may accompany the permittee, however, they must be unarmed and must stay with the permittee at all times. Until noon, refuge permittees must continue to hunt only from the same numbered blind as shown on their permit. After noon, they may move to any unoccupied blind.

2) PERMIT APPLICATIONS - Application forms are available after August 15 by contacting the refuge office. Applications will be accepted beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and must be postmarked no later than \_\_\_\_\_. Successful applicants must confirm permit reservations with the refuge office no later than two (2) days, but no more than four (4) days, prior to their permit day. Permit reservations not confirmed will be redistributed on a first come/first serve basis to interested parties who appear at the refuge headquarters during the period from 1:00 PM to 3:30 PM on the afternoon of the day prior to the scheduled permit day.

3) BLINDS - Waterfowl hunting, with or without a refuge permit, is permitted only from Government-designated hunting blinds. Blinds are limited to one party of no more than four hunters. Each blind site is comprised of a numbered three- or four-sided gunning box (blind). Waterfowl hunters are required to hunt from inside the blind, except when in active pursuit of downed and crippled waterfowl. In such a case, the hunter may fire at only the crippled bird. No "jump" shooting allowed.

Blind sites are assigned at the time of the lottery drawing from those still available and from those indicated by hunter preference on his permit application. Any person without a refuge permit may enter and use for the rest of the day any unoccupied blind after noon on Saturdays, Sundays, and holidays, or at any time on weekdays or non-holidays. At least one hunter in the party must remain at the blind site at all times, otherwise unoccupied blind sites become available to other hunters.

4) BOATS - Boats are recommended, but not required, to reach blind numbers \_\_\_\_\_ in the Suk Cerney Pool. Outboard motors of 10 HP or less may be used on Suk Cerney Pool. All boats must have applicable safety equipment, as required by State law, on board at all times.

5) PARKING - Hunting blinds are numbered to correspond with similarly numbered vehicle stalls in the parking areas. A hunter or hunting party must park their car in the vehicle stall having the same number as the blind number shown on their refuge permit. Entry and use of a designated hunting blind is prohibited except when waterfowl hunter's vehicle is parked in the correspondingly numbered parking stall. During the times when refuge hunting permits are required, one copy of the permit must be placed on the dashboard of the permittee's vehicle in such a manner as to be visually inspected while the vehicle is occupying a designated parking stall.

All trailers, except boat and dog transport trailers, are prohibited in parking areas. No hunting blind or parking stall may be occupied between one hour after the close of daily shooting hours and 3:00 AM the next morning. Use of the same hunting blind or parking stall for two consecutive days is prohibited through the first 10 days of the goose season.

Hunters, when requested by Federal or State enforcement officers, must display for inspection all game, hunting equipment, and ammunition.

Hunters are reminded that Title 50 Code of Federal Regulations (50 CFR 27.81) prohibits persons from entering or remaining in any national wildlife refuge when under the influence of alcohol to a degree that may endanger oneself or other persons. This regulation will be strictly enforced.

Hunters are requested to remove all trash and spent ammunition from the blind prior to leaving the blind.

Camping, open fires, target or practice shooting, defeathering of waterfowl, and littering are prohibited in the hunting area and parking lots. Fishing is prohibited in the Suk Cerney Pool during the waterfowl hunting season.

A hunt report is requested of all hunters. Report forms are available at the refuge office or adjacent to hunting information signs located at several hunting parking areas.

Copies of current regulations are available at the refuge headquarters. For further information, contact Refuge Manager, Star Route West, Box 386, Necedah, WI 54646. Telephone: 608/565-2551.

## PERMIT APPLICATION INSTRUCTIONS

Controlled Waterfowl Hunting Area - Area C  
Necedah National Wildlife Refuge

- A. Application forms are available by contacting the refuge office at the address stated in "E" below.
- B. Hunters may apply individually, or as a party not to exceed four (4) hunters. If the intent is to hunt as a party, do not send individual applications for each member of the party, or they will be considered as individual applications.
- C. Hunters are allowed to submit only one application for permits valid for up to two preferred dates. Hunters may be awarded up to two permits, but valid on separate dates. Applicants whose names appear on more than one application will be disqualified from the permit selection process.
- D. The full name, address, zip code, and date of birth of each hunter must be typed or printed in black ink on the application and with the preferred hunt date, one alternate hunt date, and choices of blind sites. Full names are to be used, NO initials. Special designations, such as Jr. or Sr., are to be included if applicable.
- E. Completed application cards and receipt cards are to be self-addressed to Hunter #1, stamped for postage, folded on the designated dotted lines, enclosed in a business size envelope, and mailed to:  
  
Controlled Waterfowl Hunt  
Necedah National Wildlife Refuge  
Star Route West, Box 386  
Necedah, WI 54646
- F. Applications will be accepted beginning \_\_\_\_\_ and must be postmarked no later than \_\_\_\_\_.
- G. Successful individual applicants are permitted up to 3 unarmed non-hunting, or non-shooting, guests to fill the blind on their applicable permit date.
- H. On successful group applications, only Hunter #1 on the application card will be notified of the group's success. If the group or individual is unsuccessful, the application card will be marked "SORRY" and returned to the individual who stamped and self-addressed the card. Only those cards which have been stamped and self-addressed will be returned.
- I. Successful applicants (Hunter #1) must arrange to confirm the permit reservation by contacting the refuge office (Phone: 608/565-2551) during regular business hours (7:30 AM to 4 PM) during the period 2 to 4 days immediately prior to the hunt date. Confirmation will not be accepted on the day before the hunt date or afterwards. Confirmation not received during this period invalidates the permit. Permit reservations not confirmed will be redistributed on a first come/first serve basis to interested parties who appear at the refuge headquarters during the period from 1 PM to 3:30 PM on the afternoon of the day prior to the scheduled permit day.

**CONTROLLED WATERFOWL HUNT APPLICATION CARD - 1987**  
 (Clearly print in black ink or type all information on both sides.)

**PREFERRED DATES**

Mark (1) for first choice and (2) for second choice  
 days during the goose season on which you can  
 hunt. **LIMIT CHOICE TO TWO DAYS.**

- ( ) Opening Day (If weekday)  
 ( ) First open Saturday  
 ( ) First open Sunday  
 ( ) Second open Saturday  
 ( ) Second open Sunday  
 ( ) Third open Saturday  
 ( ) Third open Sunday  
 ( ) Fourth open Saturday  
 ( ) Fourth open Sunday  
 ( ) Veteran's Day  
 ( ) Will accept any available open Saturday  
 ( ) Will accept any available open Sunday

**PREFERRED BLINDS**

Designate blind numbers in order of preference  
 If all of the first five choices have been  
 assigned to applicants drawn previous to yours,  
 you will be assigned to the next numerically  
 available blind if you have marked that you  
 will accept any available blind.

First Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
 Second Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
 Third Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fourth Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
 Fifth Choice \_\_\_\_\_  
 Will accept any available blind \_\_\_\_\_

-----Fold here-----

Hunter #1 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Hunter #2 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Hunter #3 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

Hunter #4 Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 Birthdate \_\_\_\_\_

DO NOT WRITE IN BOX BELOW.

**RESERVED  
 FOR  
 PERMIT  
 STAMP**

-----Fold here-----

**RECEIPT FOR 1987 CONTROLLED WATERFOWL HUNT APPLICATION (Optional)**

\_\_\_\_ Your application has been accepted and will be entered in the drawing.

\_\_\_\_ Your application has NOT been accepted for the following reasons:

\_\_\_\_ Application not complete.

\_\_\_\_ Application illegible, or not typed or printed in black ink.

\_\_\_\_ Date(s) of birth must be completed.

\_\_\_\_ Application postmarked after deadline date \_\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_ Your application is being disqualified because of the following: \_\_\_\_\_

**RECEIPT WILL BE RETURNED ONLY IF SELF-ADDRESSED AND POSTAGE IS PAID ON THE REVERSE SIDE.**

Applicant: Hunter #1 Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Fold on dotted lines, insert in long envelope, and mail to:

Controlled Waterfowl Hunt  
Necedah National Wildlife Refuge  
Star Route West, Box 386  
Necedah, WI 54646

Necedah National Wildlife Refuge  
Star Route West, Box 386  
Necedah, WI 54646

Place  
22¢  
Postage  
Here

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

Necedah National Wildlife Refuge  
Star Route West, Box 386  
Necedah, WI 54646

Place  
22¢  
Postage  
Here

\_\_\_\_\_  
Applicant's Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address

\_\_\_\_\_  
City

\_\_\_\_\_  
State

\_\_\_\_\_  
Zip

Administrative Note: The following will be made into a stamp for stamping into the block set aside for that purpose on the Controlled Waterfowl Hunt Application for successful applicants. The blind number and date will be filled in as applicable also.

## HUNTING PERMIT

Controlled Waterfowl Hunting Area - Area C  
Necedah National Wildlife Refuge

Valid for Blind No. \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_.  
(Date)

NOTICE: Hunter #1 must arrange to confirm permit reservation by contacting the refuge office (Phone: 608/565-2551) during regular business hours (7:30 AM to 4 PM) during the period 2 to 4 days immediately prior to the hunt date. Confirmation will not be accepted on the day before the hunt nor after. Confirmation not received during this period invalidates this permit.



WATERFOWL HUNT REPORT -- Necedah National Wildlife Refuge

Permit No. \_\_\_\_\_ Permit date \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Blind hunted from \_\_\_\_\_

No. of hunters in party \_\_\_\_\_ Total No. of Hours hunted \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of geese killed and bagged by hunting party \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of geese crippled and lost by hunting party \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of ducks killed and bagged by hunting party \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of ducks crippled and lost by hunting party \_\_\_\_\_

Was a dog used to retrieve birds? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: (Please give us your comments regarding this hunt.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Each year, waterfowl hunters who returned this completed Hunt Report will automatically be mailed application forms the following year.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_WATERFOWL HUNT REPORT -- Necedah National Wildlife Refuge

Permit No. \_\_\_\_\_ Permit date \_\_\_\_\_

No. of Blind hunted from \_\_\_\_\_

No. of hunters in party \_\_\_\_\_ Total No. of Hours hunted \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of geese killed and bagged by hunting party \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of geese crippled and lost by hunting party \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of ducks killed and bagged by hunting party \_\_\_\_\_

Total number of ducks crippled and lost by hunting party \_\_\_\_\_

Was a dog used to retrieve birds? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

Remarks: (Please give us your comments regarding this hunt.) \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Each year, waterfowl hunters who returned this completed Hunt Report will automatically be mailed application forms the following year.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_ Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Administrative Note: This form is to be issued with Waterfowl Hunt Permit, and will be available to non-permittees at sites adjacent to hunting information signs and at most popular parking sites.

NOTE: To be copied on heavy-weight paper.

Report will automatic-

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
NECEDAH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE  
STAR ROUTE WEST, BOX 386  
NECEDAH, WISCONSIN 54646

OFFICIAL BUSINESS  
PENALTY FOR PRIVATE USE, \$300

POSTAGE AND FEES PAID  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
INT-428



Necedah National Wildlife Refuge  
Star Route West, Box 386  
Necedah, WI 54646

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