

WATERFOWL
SPRING MIGRATION RECORDS
on the
SENEY MIGRATORY WATERFOWL REFUGE

Submitted by:-

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INTRODUCTION - The purpose of this paper is to compare the numbers of waterfowl using the Seney Refuge area during the spring of 1937 with the numbers recorded during the spring of 1936. For ease of representation and comparative interpretation, graphs comparing the two years, by species, have been drawn up and are enclosed. The black lines in the graphs indicating the dates of arrival and numbers seen during the spring flight of 1936, the red lines indicating the dates of arrival and numbers observed during the 1937 spring flight. In most cases a leveling off of the flight line, at the end of the migration period, indicates the numbers of remaining resident birds.

All counts are from the authors original field notes and represent numbers seen of a species. These figures can be taken to represent the migrants using only that portion of the refuge included in Unit I which has a water acreage of about 3000 acres. This area, to date, represents the only portion of the area that has been flooded in the water impounding and rehabilitation program.

Although a decided increase in most species is shown in the graphs these records cannot be used as ^{an} indication of such marked increase in general waterfowl numbers. During the spring of 1936, the dike system in Unit I was not complete and the only water areas available were the spring beaver ponds and lakes, so no real rest ground was afforded the migrating flocks.

With the added impetus given the planting program this spring and the general biological activities on the refuge, the demparative

figures offered by the 1938 spring flight on the refuge area should prove very interesting.

SPECIES - Graphs comparing the 1936 and 1937 spring flights will be found for the following species:-

Canada Goose - *Branta canadensis canadensis*

Common Mallard - *Anas platyrhynchos platyrhynchos*

Common Black Duck - *Abas rubripes tristis*

Baldpate - *Mareca americana*

American Pintail - *Dafila acuta tzitzihoa*

Green-winged Teal - *Nettion carolinense*

Blue-winged Teal - *Querquedula discors*

Greater Scaup Duck - *Nyroca marila*

Lesser Scaup Duck - *Nyroca affinis*

Wood Duck - *Aix sponsa*

Ring-necked Duck - *Nyroca collaris*

Canvasback - *Nyroca valisineria*

American Golden-eye - *Glaucionetta clangula americana*

Hooded Merganser - *Lophodytes cucullatus*

Buffle-head - *Charitonetta albeola*

CANADA GOOSE - *Branta canadensis canadensis*

Migration on - Seney Migratory Waterfowl Refuge

1936 ———
1937 ———















