

ROUTING SLIP

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE REFUGES

DATE: 12-4 1940☒ ~~MR. J. J. J. J.~~☒ ~~MRS. WOODEN~~ Nbw☒ ~~MR. ELMER~~ 9☐ MRS. GARVIN☒ ~~MR. DUMONT~~ PAD

SECTION OF HABITAT IMPROVEMENT:

☐ ~~Mr. Kubichek~~☐ ~~Mr. Smith~~ RKH☐ ~~Mr. Griffith~~ EEG☐ ~~Miss Cook~~ mc

SECTION OF OPERATIONS:

☒ ~~Mr. Bull~~☒ ~~Mr. Krimmes~~ WK☐ Mrs. Watkins☐ Mrs. Kricun

SECTION OF ERA:

☐ Mr. Regan ARR☒ ~~Dr. Bourn~~ WEB☐ Mrs. Fishman

SECTION OF LAND MANAGEMENT:

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STENOGRAPHERS:

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SECTION OF STRUCTURES:

☒ ~~Mr. Taylor~~ WVT☒ ~~Mr. J. J. J. J.~~ PAB

REMARKS:

Talcott Lake Quarterly
August - October 40Return to: Cook

Talcot Lake National Wildlife Refuge
Quarterly Narrative Report
August, September and October, 1940.

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United States Department of The Interior
Fish and Wildlife Service
Winona, Minnesota

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I. General

A. Weather Conditions:

Temperatures were about normal during the period. There were no killing frosts up to the end of the quarter. The week of August 24 to 31 was relatively cold and cloudy with frequent drizzling rains. Precipitation reported by the Laborer-Patrolman during the quarter was as follows:

| | Date | Precipitation (inches) |
|-----------|-------|------------------------|
| August | 3 | .5 |
| | 17 | .5 |
| | 24 | 2.5 |
| September | 9 | 1.0 |
| | Total | 4.5" |

Since there is no weather station on or near the Talcot Lake Refuge, accurate weather data are difficult to obtain.

B. Water Conditions:

Water has been low in the lake throughout the period. Water levels, in terms of comparison to the spillway, are shown as follows: (Weekly determinations)

| Date | Distance Below Spillway |
|-------------|-------------------------|
| August 3 | 8" |
| 10 | 8" |
| 17 | 8" |
| 24 | 7" |
| 31 | 3" |
| September 7 | 3" |
| 14 | 2" |
| 21 | 2" |
| 28 | 2" |
| October 5 | 3" |
| 12 | 3" |
| 19 | 4" |
| 26 | 4" |
| November 2 | 1" |

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II. Wildlife

A. Waterbirds:

Ducks: Several thousand ducks were using the Refuge at the end of the quarter. Mallards, teal, and pintails, as well as some canvasbacks were observed.

Numerous mallards, teal, and pintails were found on the area on August 1. On August 14, five groups of young teal, totalling forty-eight in all, were observed on one pot-hole. By September 7 the ducks were beginning to move in and continued in increasing numbers as the month progressed. One small pot-hole on the extreme northwest side of the Refuge harbored 150 mallards, teal, and shovellers on September 25.

Duck hunting in the vicinity was poor at the beginning of the season. Few northern ducks moved in until the middle of October, but by October 18 they were showing up well. On October 23 several thousand mallards, pintails, teal, and shovellers were observed, and the numbers held up well at the end of the quarter.

Geese: On October 23, a mixed flock of twenty snow, blue and Canada geese were observed on the area. These birds were still there at the end of the report period.

Pelicans: Three pelicans were observed on the lake on August 10, and on September 12 ten more were seen.

B. Upland-game Birds:

Pheasants: There are fairly large numbers of pheasants on the area. On August 10 thirty-two were counted along one-half mile of road in the Refuge. During the open season on the State Refuge many hunters obtained their limits of three birds. Hunting continued to be good throughout the season.

On September 4 the State of Minnesota released 150 pheasants on the Talcot Lake Refuge. The success of this stocking is problematical since the pheasant season opened on State land shortly after the birds were released.

Hungarian Partridge: There are a few Hungarian partridges on this Refuge.

C. Big-game Animals:

There are no big-game animals on this Refuge.

D. Fur-bearing Animals:

Three foxes have been observed on the Refuge. There are some signs of bank beavers although no animals have been seen. Mink and some muskrats occur along the river.

III. Refuge Development

A. Physical Development:

Four miles of fire break were plowed this quarter.

IV. Public Relations

A. Recreational Uses:

2. Fishing: There is some bullhead fishing on the Refuge.

3. Hunting:

There is no hunting on the Refuge proper. Poor duck hunting occurred on the nearby State Refuge until after the northern ducks came in on October 18.

Pheasant hunting on State land was good.

4. Visitors:

August 12. - F. C. Gillett, Regional Refuge Inspector

August 13 - Ray C. Steele, Upper Mississippi Refuge, and R. H. Smith, Washington, D. C.

August 26 - State Wardens Dethmers of Slayton, Minnesota and Olson of Windom, Minnesota.

September 6 - State Warden Stone of Cottonwood County, Minnesota.

September 12 - State Wardens Stone; Maxwell of St. James, Minnesota; and Kruger of New Ulm, Minnesota.

October 26 - W. E. Hall, District Engineer.



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