

## ROUTING SLIP

## DIVISION OF WILDLIFE REFUGES

DATE: 8-26 1940

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MR. SALYER

~~MRS. WOODEN~~~~MR. BLMER~~

MRS. GARVIN

~~MR. DUMONT~~

## DIVISION OF WILDLIFE REFUGES

NSWACEPAD

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## SECTION OF STRUCTURES:

~~Mr. Taylor~~ WV7~~Mr. Gustafson~~ WV

## REMARKS:

Talcot Lake Quarterly Report  
May-July 1940

Return to:

F. Cook

NARRATIVE REPORT  
TALCOT LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE  
MAY 1, 1940 THROUGH JULY 31, 1940.

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By Ray C. Steele  
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June  
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## I. General:

### A. Weather Conditions.

The weather has been very dry. The water was 8" below the spillway on July 31. Temperatures have averaged not far from normal, though the spring was late, with correspondingly late migrations. No weather station is maintained, but the following data <sup>are</sup> recorded from Winona. Talcot Lake is normally somewhat drier than the Upper Mississippi:

1940	Temperature			Normal	Precipitation-Inches	
	Max.	Min.	Mean		Total	Normal
May	94	31	59.1	59.6	: 2.83	4.06
June	95	46	69.2	68.8	: 4.76	4.07
July	103	50	77.1	73.4	: 1.08	3.70

### B. Water Conditions.

The water is lower than it was last year at this time.

## II. Wildlife:

### A. Waterbirds.

Waterfowl are about as last year though as previously mentioned the migrations were late and ran into this report period to some extent. The principal nesting birds are mallards, blue-wing teals, and pintails. There are no records of botulism.

Cover is developing fairly well, largely giant bur-reed, but aquatics are not making much progress and there



is some indication of a carp problem.

B. Upland-game birds.

Upland cover is making good progress, especially sweet clover. Large numbers of pheasants have hatched and are doing well, but it has not been possible to make an estimate of their numbers.

The Madelia State Game Farm liberated 120 young pheasants, 60 bob-white quail, and 40 chukkar partridges in June.

There is an increase in pheasants over last year, and an increase in quail, though in this climate we do not consider the quail seriously.

C. Big-game Animals.

One deer was seen on the Refuge, and two raccoons and three foxes. A single woodchuck was noted. Woodchucks have been very scarce in southern Minnesota during recent years. There is a small increase in predators and rodents, but only a desirable increase thus far.

D. Other Animals.

There is, thus far, very little fur around Talcot Lake. Muskrats are reasonably plentiful. There is a small beaver colony near the Refuge but none inside it thus far.

#### E. Fish.

Though the Government has thus far assumed no responsibility concerning fish, there is some public fishing. A few pike are taken, and bullhead fishing is good.

#### IV. Public Relations:

##### A. Recreational Uses.

There are no recreational uses and none permitted, except fishing, where the fishermen use boats on public water coming in from State lands.

There has been no labor employed at Talcot Lake during this report period except the regular custodian.



E. Fish.

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IV. Public Relations:

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