



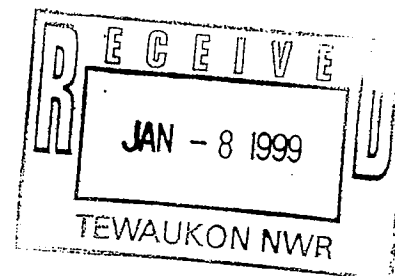
LOUISIANA STATE UNIVERSITY

AND AGRICULTURAL AND MECHANICAL COLLEGE

School of Forestry, Wildlife and Fisheries
College of Agriculture

To: Sandra Sechanic
Tewaukon National Wildlife Refuge

From: Michael J. Hoff
Louisiana State University
The Delta Waterfowl Foundation



Date: January 4, 1999

Subject: Results from the 1998 field season.

Dear Sandra,

Thank you for issuing me the permits that I needed to make the 1998 field season a great success. Also thank you for allowing me to use the trailer before I was able to find permanent housing. The Tewaukon area, especially the WPA's around the Forman area, proved to be the best area for finding waterfowl nests in 1998. However, nest success of these nests fluctuated greatly between areas. I have included a spreadsheet that contains the information for all the WPA's that I searched.

As I mentioned nest success varied greatly among WPA's. The Holt area had the highest Mayfield nest success estimate at 26.4%. The Anderson/Evanson and Bauer areas had the largest sample sizes (44 and 43 respectively) and resulted in Mayfield estimates of 12.6% and 12.2%. On the attached spreadsheet there are several areas that I have not included Mayfield estimates because their sample sizes were too small to get reliable estimates. Further, on several areas we were only able to locate a couple of nests so I included their information but no summary statistics. The lowest nest success recorded during this study occurred at the Smith/Tanner WPA with a Mayfield estimate of only .1%. This area had a fairly good sample size and nests were not difficult to find but the area was not very productive.

Overall the nest success for control WPA's was 25.6% apparent and 10.9% Mayfield while the totals for Rick Seversons trapped area were 58.5% apparent and 35.0% Mayfield. Rick indicated that he had some difficulty trapping the Lisbon area due to the number of domestic dogs and cats but his results were still very encouraging. Rick removed 42 Raccoons, 50 Skunks, 30 Foxes, 40 mink, 11 badger, and 1 weasel for a total removal of 174 predators. Of the species listed above the number of mink that Rick removed was more than double the mink removed from the other 4 sites during this study. Given Ricks relatively low numbers of other species and high harvest of mink followed by good nesting success it seems possible that mink in your area during good water years may be more detrimental to nesting hens than previously thought. This is speculation but given the results from Ricks area it seems feasible.

Sandra Thank you again for your assistance and support. If you have any questions or feel I haven't addressed something adequately please contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael J. Hoff
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Results for Tewaukon WPA's - 1998

Saunders - T131N R56W Sect. 31sw.			
Number unsuccessful	9	Number	
Exposure Days	140.5	of Nests	Species
	n = 13	8	BWT
Daily survival	0.935943	2	Mallards
Mayfield nest success	9.86%	3	Gadwall
Number Abandoned	1		
Number successful	4		
Number destroyed	8		
Apparent success	30.77%		

Palenky/Widmer - T132N R58W Sect. 4se.			
Number unsuccessful	8	Number	
Exposure Days	133.5	of Nests	Species
	n = 10	5	BWT
Daily survival	0.940075	1	Mallards
Mayfield nest success	11.50%	2	Shov
		2	Gadwall
Number Abandoned	1		
Number successful	2		
Number destroyed	7		
Apparent success	20.00%		

Olson - T130N R56W Sect. 14se.			
Number unsuccessful	10	Number	
Exposure Days	131	of Nests	Species
	n = 12	6	BWT
Daily survival	0.923664	1	Mallards
Mayfield nest success	6.21%	5	Gadwall
Number Abandoned	1		
Number successful	2		
Number destroyed	9		
Apparent success	16.67%		

Anderson/Evanson - T130N R56W Sect. 2.			
Number unsuccessful	34	Number	
Exposure Days	592.5	of Nests	Species
	n= 44	35	BWT
Daily survival	0.942616	5	Mallards
Mayfield nest success	12.64%	2	Shov
		2	Gadwall
Number Abandoned	3		
Number successful	10		
Number destroyed	31		
Apparent success	22.73%		

Holt - T134N R58W Sect. 10ne.			
Number unsuccessful	12	Number	
Exposure Days	321.5	of Nests	Species
	n= 21	1	Pintails
Daily survival	0.962675	6	BWT
Mayfield nest success	26.41%	9	Mallards
		1	Shov
Number Abandoned	1	4	Gadwall
Number successful	9		
Number destroyed	11		
Apparent success	42.86%		

Weaver/Coit/Schiffner -T134N R58W Sect. 26se and 27sw.			
Number unsuccessful	10	Number	
Exposure Days	122	of Nests	Species
	n= 13	1	Pintails
Daily survival	0.918033	5	BWT
Mayfield nest success	5.01%	2	Mallards
		3	Shov
Number Abandoned	2	2	Gadwall
Number successful	3		
Number destroyed	8		
Apparent success	23.08%		

Smith/Tanner - T133N R58W Sect. 5 s.

Number unsuccessful	19	Number of Nests	Species
Exposure Days	105.5		
	n = 22	13	BWT
Daily survival	0.819905	4	Mallards
Mayfield nest success	0.10%	1	Shov
		4	Gadwall
Number Abandoned	3		
Number successful	3		
Number destroyed	16		
Apparent success	13.64%		

Bauer - T131N R58W Sect. 12ne / T131N R57W Sect. 7nw.

Number unsuccessful	31	Number of Nests	Species
Exposure Days	533		
	n = 43	31	BWT
Daily survival	0.941839	5	Mallards
Mayfield nest success	12.28%	3	Shov
		1	GWT
Number Abandoned	6	3	Gadwall
Number successful	12		
Number destroyed	25		
Apparent success	27.91%		

T136N R58W Sect. 28 s.

Number unsuccessful	16	Number of Nests	Species
Exposure Days	253		
	n = 21	16	BWT
Daily survival	0.936759	3	Mallards
Mayfield nest success	10.16%	2	Gadwall
Number Abandoned	2		
Number successful	5		
Number destroyed	14		
Apparent success	23.81%		

Kenyon/Kenyon - T134N R58W Sect. 15 w.				
Number unsuccessful	12	Number		
Exposure Days	170	of Nests	Species	
	n = 16	1	Pintails	
Daily survival	0.929412	10	BWT	
Mayfield nest success	7.71%	2	Mallards	
		2	Shov	
Number Abandoned	4	1	Gadwall	
Number successful	1			
Number destroyed	11			
Apparent success	7.69%			

Olson/BN - T130N R56W Sect. 25se.				
Number Abandoned	1	4	BWT	
Number successful	3	1	Mallards	
Number destroyed	3	2	Gadwall	
Apparent success	42.86%			

Dick - T134N R58W Sect. 3se.				
Number Abandoned	2	3	BWT	3 Depredated
Number successful	1	1	Shov	Successful
Number destroyed	1			
Apparent success	25.00%			

Buckmiller - T133N R58W Sect. 4nw.				
Number Abandoned	2			
Number successful	1	4 BWT	4 Depredated	
Number destroyed	5	1 Mallards	Depredated	
Apparent success	12.50%	3 Gadwall	2 Depredated	1 Successful

Wiltse/Kaspari - T135N R54W Sect. 4nw.	
1 BWT	Depredated
1 MALLARD	Successful

Compson - T135N R54W Sect. 6se and 7ne.

1 BWT	Depredated
1 BWT	Successful

Even - T130N R56W Sect. 5se.

1 BWT	Successful
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Strander/Skonseng - T135N R58W Sect. 26nw.

2 BWT	2 Successful
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Total for all Tewaukon WPA areas searched.

Summary section		Number of Nests Species
Number unsuccessful	177	
Exposure Days	2884.5	
	n= 241	
Daily survival	0.938638	
Mayfield nest success	10.90%	
		3 Pintails
		152 BWT
		37 Mallards
		15 Shov
		1 GWT
Number Abandoned	29	0 Scaup
Number successful	61	0 Wigeon
Number destroyed	151	33 Gadwall
Apparent success	25.63%	

Total for the Lisbon Trapped Area

Summary section		Number of Nests Species
Number unsuccessful	112	
Exposure Days	3785.5	
	n= 270	
Daily survival	0.970413	
Mayfield nest success	34.95%	
		21 Pintails
		142 BWT
		59 Mallards
		10 Shov
		6 GWT
Number Abandoned	23	0 Scaup
Number successful	158	0 Wigeon
Number destroyed	89	32 Gadwall
Apparent success	58.52%	