

MANAGEMENT PROGRAM  
Part 3

Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge  
Saginaw, Michigan

Submitted by:

*Joe W. Hardy*  
(Refuge Manager)

Date:

*Sept 20, 1985*

Concurrence:

(Senior Staff Biologist (WA))

Date:

(Regional Refuge Supervisor (RF1))

Date:

Approval:

(Asst. Regional Director (AW))

Date:

## Management Program Summary

Outputs: Wildlife maintenance and production

	<u>Objective Level</u>
Bald eagle (UD)	1,000
Canada goose maintenance (UD)	2,100,000
Dabbler duck maintenance (UD)	2,900,000
Diver duck maintenance (UD)	110,000
Tundra swan maintenance (UD)	25,000
Goose production (#)	150
Duck production (#)	750
Special recognition species (UD)	800,000
Great blue heron (UD)	72,000

Management Program

The current program involves water manipulation on approximately 2,200 acres of impoundments, crop farming by cooperators on approximately 1,400 acres, and prescribed burning and some mowing on about 500 acres of grassland. Maintenance of dikes and water control structures is by far the most costly and time consuming activity involved. In order to better meet wildlife objectives, plans are being made to modify present management in two areas: (1) approximately half of cropland will be converted to moist soil and grassland habitat and (2) selective cutting will be done to improve habitat in forested areas (present acreage approximately 3,500).

Outputs: Michigan Islands Wilderness Area preservation

Management Program

The current program involves protection of three small wilderness islands (total of twelve acres) from human disturbance. The islands are relatively isolated and the only public use allowed is under Special Use Permits for scientific and educational purposes. Visual inspections of the islands are made annually by aircraft; however, "on-the-ground" visits are made only on an infrequent and irregular basis.

Outputs: Public Use

	<u>Objective Level</u>
Wildlife observation	80,000 AH
Goose hunting	7,400 AH
Deer hunting	33,000 AH
Fishing	29,000 AH

Management Program

The current program involves the following:

- (1) Wildlife observation is provided by maintaining two hiking trails; the Waterfowl Trail (5 miles long) on the south side of the Shiawassee River and the Woodland Trail (approximately 4 miles) on the north side. The Waterfowl Trail contains one viewing platform and one photography blind. Both trails have directional signing and both begin at gravel parking lots.
- (2) Goose hunting is conducted by the Refuge under a controlled permit system. One check station, five parking lot/access points, about 40 blind sites and a decoy rental are provided in support of this activity. Pool 4 which is an area somewhat isolated from the rest of the Refuge is open to waterfowl hunting under a Cooperative Agreement with and administered by the Michigan DNR.
- (3) Deer hunting is permitted on a controlled basis with archery and muzzleloader hunts being the preferred methods of hunting. Shotgun hunting is allowed only when the deer herd grows too large.
- (4) Fishing is allowed on Refuge rivers but is not encouraged as most Refuge rivers fall under a public health advisory which warns people not to eat the fish.

# memorandum

DATE: September 19, 1985

REPLY TO  
ATTN OF: Refuge Manager, Shiawassee NWR

SUBJECT: Management Plan Part III *and Search & Rescue Plan*

TO: Asst. Regional Director, FWS, Twin Cities, MN (RF1)

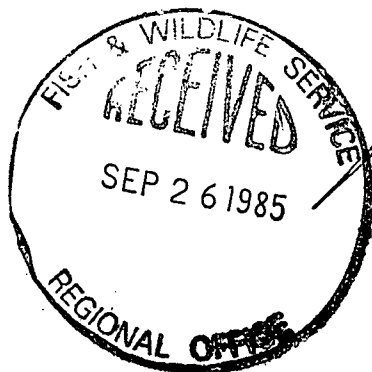
Subject plan <sup>5</sup><sub>1</sub> is hereby submitted for your review and approval.

*Lisa:*

*File in*

*front of first  
Chapter of Part III*

*We will not approve  
ab  
this  
same  
Dist.*



JOE W. HARDY

