

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT
Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge
June, 1999

I. Highlights

- (G1) Unusual sightings for June included a black-necked stilt seen on Elk pond, a rough-legged hawk seen on the Hampton, and a mink seen near the in-road bridge.
- (G9) This year's first sighting of a sage grouse brood was reported on the 25th.
- (G3) This year's first sighting of a duck brood was reported on the 21st, a green-wing teal brood of 8 seen on East Fish Hatchery pond
- (HT) A Green-backed Heron, new species for Hutton Lake NWR, was spotted on Rush pond on the 15th.

II. Weather

- (B) June temperatures were very typical, ranging from a high of 79 degrees Fahrenheit to a low of 28 degrees Fahrenheit, with a mean of 53.2 degrees Fahrenheit (only 0.4 above normal). Precipitation was high for the third month in a row at 1.60 inches (60% above normal). The Illinois River maintained good flows.

III. Accomplishments

- (E1) Volunteer Diane Emmons entered on duty on June 1st. New project leader Greg Langer entered on duty on June 6 and spent the month familiarizing himself with the Arapaho NWR complex.
- (J3) Lanier, Stefanic, Follet, and Bilbeisi attended Basic Aviation Safety training in Denver. Lanier also attended Aviation Safety for Supervisors.
- (C) Lanier and Langer met with Kemps, refuge neighbors to the northeast, regarding the possible sale of their property.
- (F10) Rizor, Lanier, and Langer met with Don Stinton, County Weed Coordinator, to discuss weed abatement efforts this year.
- (J3) Rizor spoke with Carol Beidleman, from Falcon Press, giving her information about the Refuge for a Colorado birding sight book.
- (F7) Rizor and Lanier met with Blaine Evans to look over and discuss irrigation on the Soap Creek Unit.

- (J1) Jim Gammonly from the DOW looked over some Partner's for Wildlife projects he is doing a monitoring project on. Lanier and Pettie helped him locate the areas.
- (F2) Patti Fiedler, Division of Water Resources, RO, conducted water measurements on Soap Creek and the Lateral B ditch.
- (J3) Bilbeisi conducted equipment training for 3 fisheries employees.
- (G16) Three MAPS stations were held during the month with 49, 51, and 52 birds netted. Unusual birds caught included a western wood peewee, red breasted nuthatch, and an indigo bunting.
- (I3) Bilbeisi and the temps began putting a new roof on the Soap Creek house.
- (I6) Stefanic fixed a blowout in the Lateral B ditch for the BLM.
- (HT) Electric fence was put up at Hutton Lake, and waterfowl counts were done at both Hutton and Mortenson. Langer was given the tour of these two refuges as well as Bamforth NWR.

V. Public Relations

Owl Mountain sponsored a tour for the Nature Conservancy, they stopped by the refuge and Lanier discussed refuge operations with them.

Pettie wrote a news release to try to foster more private lands projects, and sent it into the newspapers in Jackson, Routt, and Grand Counties. As of yet, no response has been recieved from the advertisement.

The local newspaper ran an article regarding the addition of Langer to the staff.

OMP - Langer (1) Lanier (1)

Submitted by /s/ Todd C. Stefanic
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