

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT
Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge
October 1997

I. Highlights

- (E1) Maintenance Worker, Kim Mower resigned October 17th. A herd of 125 elk moved on to the refuge during the big game seasons.

II. Weather

The month was wet with 1.04 inches of precipitation from 7.5 inches of snow and some rain. Temperatures were near normal with an extreme high of 73 degrees Fahrenheit, an extreme low of -3 degrees Fahrenheit and an average of 40.0 degrees Fahrenheit. The Illinois River continues to flow at a higher than normal level and with most wetlands in excellent condition.

III. Activities and Accomplishments

- (I6) Ernie Husmann, RO, Denver and Merrill Aherends, WO completed a quarters inspection and also toured some MMS projects.
- (J3) Patten and Chuck Cesar, BLM traveled to the RO in Denver to meet with Ginger Price and Patty Fiedlerre to review Parshall flume needs for the Soap Creek acquisition.
- (J1) Lanier gave Mat from Ducks Unlimited a tour to look over N. P. Focus Group (Joint Venture) proposed ponds.
- (MT) Patten met with Peter Miller from Laramie, WY to field inspect some property for sale adjacent to Mortenson Lake NWR.
- (E7) Lanier surveyed a potential Partners for Wildlife project on the Murphy's land.
- (J1) Patten attended a Laramie Plains Action Group, (North Platte Joint Venture) meeting in Laramie, Wyoming.
- (H8) Waterfowl season opened the first of the month, with the opening weekend bring in approximately 150 hunters. The rest of the season was very quite with only a few hunters using the refuge.
- (I5) Several more fire replacement items were purchased with end of year monies, these include: a computer (giving everyone in the office a working model), a plotter, a scanner and a color printer.

- (J1) The refuge transported numerous loads of washed gravel to several different spring development sites for the Owl Mountain Partnership.
- (J3) Monte Shaul, Crescent Lake NWR, certified Rizor, Follett, Lanier, Stefanic and Husmann on all refuge heavy equipment.
- (I2) New exterior door locks were installed in Quarters #56 and several other small maintenance needs were taken care of.
- (HT) Several trips were made to Hutton and Mortenson Lake NWR's, to conduct waterfowl censuses, remove electric fence and check water levels.
- (E6) For the monthly safety meeting the video 'Electric Safety' was viewed.

IV. Problems

- (I2) The 220 outlets in Quarters #56 were lost during the month. We finally decided that the building had lost a power leg. This was caused about a two months earlier when we installed a water line for the temporary office and apparently nicked one of the underground power lines. Over time one line burned through effecting the 220 in the house. An electrician was called in, located the break and repaired it.

V. Public Relations

- (H7) Rizor, Follett, and Husmann spent the day at the Colorado State Park presenting a Project Wild program for approximately 70 Walden Elementary 4th, 5th, and 6th graders.
- (H7) Lanier gave a talk to Walden Elementary 1st graders on refuge work and wildlife.

OMP - Patten (1)

NPHPP - Lanier (1)

/s/ Pam Rizor
Wildlife Biologist