

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT
Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge
September 1997

I. Highlights

- (G1) Signs of fall are in the air, the willows started changing color and several fall migrants were observed, these include: sandhill cranes, eastern kingbirds, dark-eyed juncos and tree sparrows.

II. Weather

- (B) This month set a new record for the wettest September with 4.23 inches of precipitation, breaking the record set in 1961. Temperatures were several degrees warmer than average with an extreme high of 80 degrees Fahrenheit, an extreme low of 26 degrees Fahrenheit and an average of 52.6 degrees Fahrenheit. The Illinois river flows increased dramatically during the month, allowing the refuge to recharge many wetlands.

III. Activities and Accomplishments

- (E1) Mark Lanier, Refuge Operations Specialist, EOD on September 2nd. He transferred here from Bear River Migratory Bird Refuge.
- (E7) Patten and Lanier traveled to Steamboat Springs to meet with Bill Noonan, State Partners for Wildlife Coordinator and private landowner Donna Connor to field inspect possible riparian rehab and wetland development projects. Lanier also surveyed the potential project sites.
- (J3) Patten attended a Platte River Action Group meeting in Casper, WY and also participated in a tour of possible wetland enhancement sites on Pathfinder NWR.
- (H17) Patten and Lanier along with personnel from Browns Park NWR requalified under Steve Knode's, North Platte NWR, supervision.
- (H17) Patten and Lanier worked law enforcement for opening weekends of sage grouse and pronghorn antelope seasons.
- (I1) George Newman, RO Engineer met with staff to discuss needs of new building and to look a site locations.
- (J3) Patten traveled to Laramie, WY to attend a meeting of the Laramie Plains Action Group and tour potential wetland project sites.
- (E7) Patten and Lanier met with Cesar, BLM and private landowner Robert Murphy in regards to possible pond development.

- (J3) Stefanie and Huisman traveled to Saratoga NFH to assist with lake trout spawning activities.
- (E7) Patten and Lanier field inspected completed Partners for Wildlife ponds on Baller and Hampton.
- (E6) Stefanie chaired the monthly safety meeting, a demonstration on ATV 6X6 maintenance and safety was given.

V. Public Relations

OMP - Patten (1)

Lion's Club - Patten (1), Lanier (1)

NPHPP - Patten (2), Lanier (2)

Girl Scouts - Rizor (1)

/s/ Pam Rizor
Wildlife Biologist