

MONTHLY ACTIVITY REPORT
Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge
November 2003

I. Highlights

- (G8) Elk numbers increased at the end of the month with at least two herds of 250 to 350 animals in each.

II. Weather

The month was wetter than normal with 1.16 inches of precipitation from 13.8 inches of snow, compared to the average of .73 inches. Temperatures were normal with a mean of 26.8° Fahrenheit and extremes of 52° Fahrenheit and -3° Fahrenheit.

III. Activities and Accomplishments

- (D1) Lanier finalized Refuge reply comments on CCP public comments and forwarded them to the RO.
- (D1) Timberman, Lanier and Johnson met with Laubhan and Droege, USGS and King, Regional Biologist, RO to start developing a biological monitoring plan for the CCP implementation.
- (E6) Several items of concern raised from a safety inspection completed in August, 2003, by a Regional Office Safety Team, were addressed. Others are ongoing and will be completed by this spring.
- (E6) Follett completed the paperwork to refund two grazing permittees grazing fees and 2109 for Safety Kleen to come and remove contaminant barrels.
- (F7) Lanier met with several grazing permittees to finalize grazing agreements for the year.
- (H17) Timberman and Lanier worked LE during the big game hunts.
- (H5) Timberman and Lanier met with Locke, Goss, Uhland and Emmons, RO to review and plan T21 sites and visitor services projects for next summer.
- (I6) The Refuge received the following items: rural mailbox, office furniture (file cabinet, two bookcases and a cradenza), waders, various office supplies, radon detectors, Carsonite posts and battery and fluorescent light recycling boxes.
- (I6) Bilbeisi prepared all equipment for snow removal and Colvin brought in all signs for the winter.

- (I1) Materials were delivered for the new toilet at the Fisherman's parking area. The facility should be installed next spring.
- (J1) Follett printed quad maps of Jackson County for Partners for Wildlife.
- (J3) A contractor from Granby, CO removed scrape metal from the Refuge for recycling.
- (J3) Johnson attended a meeting on the new water user fees that the State of Colorado is implementing this year.
- (J3) Timberman attended congressional meetings at Alamosa, CO.
- (J3) Lanier met with BLM personnel to look at and discuss options for getting a pump going on the Illinois river just north of the office.
- (J3) Timberman met with Auble, USGS and Self, Wildlands Restoration Volunteers to discuss willow planting to be done next year in conjunction with the exclosure study. They plan to bring a group of 60 volunteers to help with the planting.
- (J3) Follett and Lanier took part in a Regional AO conference call.
- (J3) Timberman and Lanier met with OMP to discuss ongoing commitment to work together and support continued projects to enhance wildlife habitats in North Park.
- (J3) Timberman attended a meeting of the North Park Natural Resources Community Group. This group is exploring ways to utilize the natural resources of North Park and help future generations have viable employment in North Park.
- (J3) Lanier wrote a letter of support for the Nature Conservancy's pursuit of a Conservation Easement on Brinkers land.
- (PA) Timberman and Lanier traveled to Pathfinder NWR to tour the refuge and meet with Wyoming Audubon regarding the direction of management for the Refuge and the involvement of Audubon.

IV. Problems

- (I5) The Satellite dish started having connection problems and had to be repaired.

V. Public Relations

(H7) Johnson presented a talk on birds to the 16 Walden Elementary fourth graders.

OMP - Timberman (1)

NPHPP - Lanier (1)

Submitted by: Pam Johnson
Wildlife Biologist