

MONTHLY ACITIVITY REPORT  
Arapaho National Wildlife Refuge  
March 2009

I.     Highlights

- (G1) Signs of spring included: red-winged blackbird, western meadowlark, Canada geese and assorted waterfowl.

II.    Weather

The month was warmer than normal with a mean of 29.7° F compared to the average mean of 26.2° F. Temperatures ranged from a high of 60° F to a low of 4° F. Precipitation was slightly lower than normal with .54 inches, from 5.6 inches of snow, compared to the average of .72 inches.

III.   Activities and Accomplishments

- (D5) Boyd assisted Hoogland, Prairie Dog Researcher, install his observation tours, this is the third year of the study.
- (F2) Johnson spent time opening headgates on the Illinois River in an effort to start filling wetlands.
- (F6) Johnson and Timberman participated in a conference call regarding 'A height-based approach for evaluating the effect of browsing' program that the Refuge is going to participate in.
- (F7) Thornburg, Timberman and Johnson met with grazing permittee Swift to discuss grazing permit and fencing.
- (F7) Timberman and Johnson met with Torma, BLM/OMP and Evans, grazing permittee to discuss potential habitat improvements on Soap Creek/Hackley tracts.
- (J3) Timberman registered for 'OUT8113' Working with Friends Organization. Carol Hunter, Granby, CO and Tim Banks, Laramie, WY will also attend. Carol is spearheading a Friends Group for Arapaho and Tim is spearheading one for the Laramie Plains Refuges and Pathfinder.
- (D2) Thornburg worked on the draft Hunt Plan and EA.
- (I2) Boyd spent most of the month constructing take-outs for Soap Creek; he also did some snow removal, repaired the sink in Qtrs #4 and hauled clay to Ward #3 to fix blow-out.

- (I4) The 08 Ford truck was taken to Laramie for recall work. The 06 Chevy also went to Laramie for a leak in the rear axial seal and new rear tires.
- (HT) Timberman met with members of Audubon, WY to discuss management and public use at Hutton Lake. An on-site meeting discussed improving some access roads, closing other roads, closing access during coldest winter months, and creating an accessible photography blind at Lake George and an observation platform overlooking Hoge Lake.
- (J3) Johnson met with Chuck Hundertmark to discuss information needed for an article about North Park colonial nesting birds.
- (J3) Timberman and Thornburg attended the CO/KS Zone meeting at Quivira NWR.
- (J3) Staff completed most of the required annual training.
- (J3) Timberman and Lennek attended Jackson County Outdoor Education Network meeting, in Walden. Final arrangements were made for Earth Day at North Park School, with Lindsey presenting a recycling program as part of the activities.
- (J3) Thornburg completed mid-year performance evaluations for staff.

#### IV. Public Relations

- (H7) Johnson and Lennek participated in a water program at Saratoga Elementary School, in Wyoming. This program was sponsored by Saratoga National Fish Hatchery. Approximately 150 students participated.

4-H - Lennek (1)

NP Sage Grouse – Johnson (1)

North Platte Basin – Thornburg (1)

Submitted by: /s/ Pam Johnson  
Wildlife Biologist