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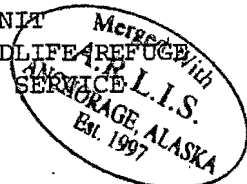
AMCHITKA 1980  
WATERFOWL BANDING REPORT,

by Patricia J. Heglund

Key Words: Waterfowl  
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ADAK, ALASKA  
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## AMCHITKA 1980 WATERFOWL

### BANDING REPORT

Patricia J. Heglund

Waterfowl banding on Amchitka Island, Alaska was conducted between 5 August and 6 October 1980. Five traps were constructed and set for a total of 195 trap days. The banding project was terminated on 6 October, coinciding with the shutdown of the Amchitka facility.

Three types of traps were used; Cloverleaf, Square Funnel and a modification of the square funnel called the Amchitka Triangle (see illustration 1). The cloverleaf trap on Clevenger Lake proved unsatisfactory. The entrances provided an easy escape for the ducks and they were not adjustable to changing water levels. The Amchitka Triangle trap also proved unsatisfactory in that the design funneled the birds toward the trap entrance whereby the birds could escape. The most satisfactory trap proved to be the Square Funnel as by design most birds could not find the entrance once trapped. All traps were approached from the side to flush the captured birds away from the trap entrance. The entrances were then plugged to prevent escape.

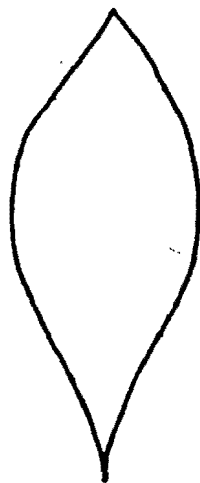
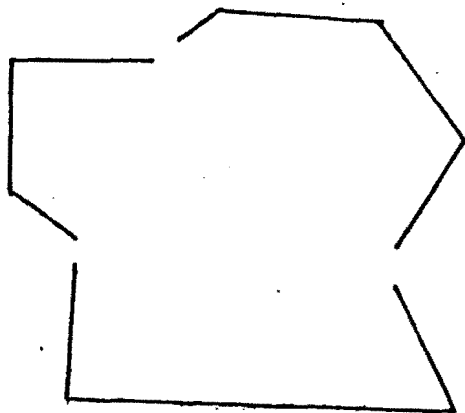
Traps were constructed using a variety of materials. One by two welded wire was the most adequate for the trap sides. Welded wire caused less injury to captured birds than chicken wire. Trap roofs were constructed using chickenwire. The Jones Lake trap was constructed of 2' by 3' welded wire backed by an outer layer of chickenwire. Traps were of varying height; Rifle Range being the highest at 6' and Fox Runway being the lowest at 18". Moderate harassment by eagles was recorded at the Fox Runway trap.

The traps were baited with a mixture of old goose feed, barley, corn, millet and wheat. The old goose feed tended to rot quickly and was seldom eaten.

All traps with the exception of Silver Salmon were located partly on land and partly in water. Birds were retrieved from the traps using a hand net and then placed in a holding crate. From the crate each bird was measured, weighed and banded.

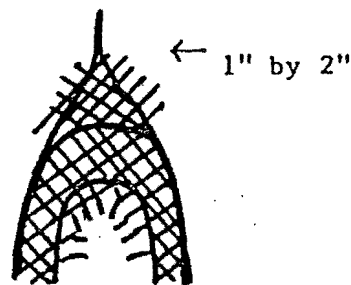
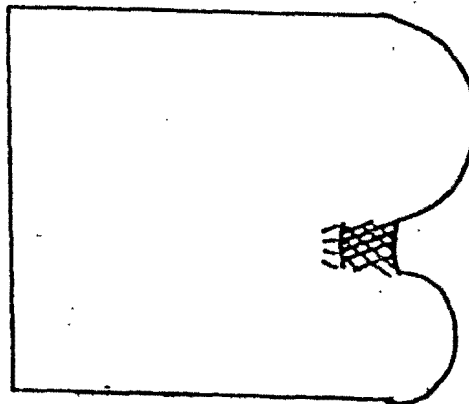
Illustration 1. 1980 Waterfowl Trap Designs.

CLOVERLEAF



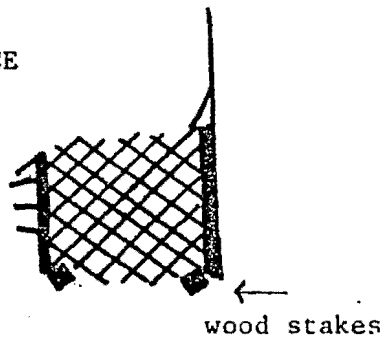
TRAP ENTRANCE

SQUARE FUNNEL

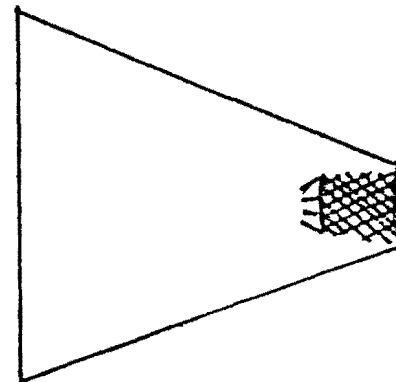


chickenwire  
spokes

TRAP ENTRANCE



AMCHITKA TRIANGLE



The data collected on all birds consisted of species, sex age, wing length, tail length, culmin I, culmin II, diagonal tarsus, total tarsus and weight. Ducklings were classified according to the stage of plumage development as described in Wildlife Management Techniques (1969).

Illustration 2 gives trap locations. Several teal were caught and banded inside the Bridge Creek goose pen. Table 1 shows the comparative success of each trap. Table 2 summarized the numbers and species of waterfowl banded on Amchitka for 1977-1980.

Eight birds were recaptured in 1980 (see table 3). Information on where and when they were banded has been included. The small number of recaptures suggest that we may not be banding large enough numbers of birds to overcome annual mortality and show up in subsequent years.

TABLE 1  
AMCHITKA TRAP RESULTS 1980

	Bridge Creek	Fox Runway (Amchitka Triangle)	Jones Lake (Square funnel)	Rifle Range (Square funnel)	Clevenger (Cloverleaf)	Silver Salmon (Amchitka Triangle)
Eurasian green-winged teal	7	22	44	47	75	1
Mallard	-	15	8	1	-	-
Pintail	-	10	25	34	3	50
Scaup	-	-	30	-	-	6
Garganey	-	-	-	1	-	-
Totals	7	47	107	83	78	58

TABLE 2  
SUMMARY OF WATERFOWL BANDING ON AMCHITKA 1977-1980

	<u>1977</u>	<u>1978</u>	<u>1979</u>	<u>1980</u>
Eurasian green-winged teal	178	145	167	189
Garganey teal	4	2	2	1
Mallard	43	53	13	24
Greater scaup	61	35	13	36
Tufted duck	-	1	-	-
Pintail	70	5	3	122
European wigeon	4	-	-	-
Red-breasted merganser	1	3	-	-
Shoveler	1	-	-	-
Common eider	4	-	-	-
White-fronted goose	1	-	-	-
TOTALS	367	244	198	372

TABLE 3  
1980 RECAPTURES

BAND NO.	SPECIES	SEX	LOCATION OF RECAPTURE	DATE	PLACE OF BANDING	AGE	DATE
756-14242	Greater scaup	F	Jones Lake	8-9-80	Jones Lake	AHY	7-31-78
775-97930	Eurasian green-winged teal	F	Clevenger	8-26-80	Sewage Lagoon	HY	10-22-78
604-72941	Eurasian green-winged teal	M	Rifle Range	8-29-80	Clevenger	HY	8-10-79
514-2538?	Eurasian green-winged teal	F	Jones Lake	9-8-80	Not enough numbers reported		
514-25229	Eurasian green-winged teal	F	Clevenger	9-10-80	Fox Runway	HY	8-29-77
724-30513	Eurasian green-winged teal	F	Clevenger	9-20-80	Clevenger	HY	8-27-80
775-97816	Eurasian green-winged teal	F	Clevenger	8-26-80	Constantine Harbor	HY	10-3-77