

ROUTING SLIP

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE REFUGES

DATE: 6-25-41

✓ MR. SALYER

① ✓ ~~MRS. WOODIN~~ *NBW*✓ ~~MR. BLAIR~~ *all*

MRS. CARVIN

✓ ~~MR. DUMONT~~ *AD*

SECTION OF HABITAT IMPROVEMENT:

Mr. Kubichek

~~Mr. Smith~~ *RNT*~~Mr. Griffith~~ *KEG*~~Miss Cook~~ *wc*

SECTION OF OPERATIONS:

Mr. Bell

✓ ~~Mr. Krummes~~ *WY*② ✓ ~~Mrs. Watkins~~ *WY*

Mrs. Kricur

SECTION OF ERA:

✓ ~~Mr. Regan~~ *JHJR*✓ ~~Dr. Bourn~~ *WSB*

Mrs. Fishman

✓ SECTION OF LAND MANAGEMENT:

~~Mr. Ranshaw~~ *WY*~~Mr. Anderson~~ *WY*

STENOGRAPHERS:

Miss Price

✓ ~~Miss Whorley~~ *WY*

✓ SECTION OF STRUCTURES:

~~Mr. Taylor~~ *WY*~~Mr. Anderson~~ *WY*

REMARKS:

*Pablo Montezuma**February - April 1941*

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W.W.

I. GENERAL.

A. Weather Conditions.

As Pablo and Ninepipe Reservoirs are so few miles apart the same weather records are used for each one.

The following weather chart is compiled from records of the U.S.I.I.S. weather station at St. Ignatius, Montana:

	Precipitation	Max. Temp.	Min. Temp.
February	.51	56	16
March	.38	68	15
April	<u>1.37</u>	<u>80</u>	<u>23</u>
Total	2.26	Extremes-80	15

Chart for the same period one year ago:

February	2.03	57	2
March	1.38	67	21
April	<u>1.76</u>	<u>74</u>	<u>19</u>
Total	5.17	Extremes-74	2

B. Water Conditions.

The ice on Pablo Reservoir began breaking up in early March. Before this time the only open water was a small pool below the dyke apparently caused by seepage.

The level of this reservoir remained constant during the winter. There was not spring run-off enough to make

any appreciable difference. In late April the U.S.I.T.S. got their pump at Flathead Lake repaired and started pumping into the reservoir. By the end of the quarter the water level was raised to 3199. The crest of the reservoir is 3212.

A chart showing water level comparisons with last year follows:

End	Guage Readings	
End of:	1941	1940.
February	3196.2	3198.3
March	3195.6	3199.0
April	3199.0	3208.8

II. WILDLIFE.

A. Waterbirds.

1. Populations and behavior.

An occasional small flock of geese or a few ducks in the small seepage pool were about the only signs of waterfowl seen on this area until the ice began leaving the reservoir, but with the open water in early March the scene changed.

(a) Species

Horned Grebe--The first spring record of this species was seen on April 16, 1941 when one lone bird was in evidence.

Whistling Swan--Twenty eight of these birds were seen on March 11, 1941 and fifty-seven were noted on March 13. On March 18 eighty were on the area. Two birds are still on the area at the end of this quarter.

Canada Goose--On March 11, 1941 a count indicated approximately 1,475 of these birds which was by far the largest group I had seen since last fall. However, the 13 of March there was an estimated 2,500 on the area. On the 29 there were only 100 left. There were five lesser Canada Geese in this group.

Mallard--February 25, 1941 forty; March 7, eight hundred; and again on March 11 and estimate of eight hundred was made.

Baldpate--Thirty were noted on March 11.

Pintail--An estimated 1,500 were on the area on March 11. On March 31 sixty-five were counted.

Redhead--March 11, 1941 fifteen were noted while on the 31 only four were seen.

Canvasback--March 11, 1941 ninety; March 31, eighteen.

American Golden Eye--March 7, 1941 twenty-

three; March 11, twenty-five; March 31, nine.

Ruddy--The first Ruddy's of the season were seen on April 25, 1941.

American Merganser--Fifty-two were noted on March 7; sixty on March 11. These birds are frequently seen, in small numbers, along the irrigation ditches.

B. Upland-game Birds.

1. Populations and behavior.

Pheasants are very plentiful on this area. They came through the winter in fine condition. No large concentrations occurred during the winter as feed was readily available at all times.

D. Predators.

Though an occasional coyote was seen during the winter there has been no indication of any serious predation from this or other sources.

There has been no control work done here during this quarter.

E. Fish.

1. General Conditions.

Conditions would seem generally good for the fish in this reservoir, though, as no one has fished the area and no investigations made very little is

really known about it.

III. REFUGE DEVELOPMENT AND MAINTENANCE.

A. Physical Development

1. No development work has been done on this area during this quarter--general maintenance and patrol work only has been accomplished.

B. Plantings.

2. Crops.

No refuge crops are being grown this year on the area. However, the Indian Council has leased the crop land.

IV. PUBLIC RELATIONS.

A. Recreational Uses.

2. Fishing.

No fishing has been done on this area during this quarter.

4. Number of Visitors.

Mr. Mushbach spent some time on the area on two occasions.

V. ECONOMIC USES OF REFUGE.

E. Fur Harvest.

1. A few muskrats were taken during this quarter:

Permit No.	Name of Permittee	No. of Rats Taken
2	Baptiste Pichette	32

VII. OTHER ITEMS.

A. General.

A pigeon hawk was seen on the area on February 25.

B. Photographs.

Only two of the pictures taken during this quarter are used in this report.



Ice piled along the dyke with the outlet structure in the background. Taken March 18, 1941. Roll No. 3 Exposure No. 5.



Swan on the pool west of headquarters buildings.
Taken March 21, 1941. Roll No. 3. Exposure No. 6

Respectfully submitted,

Ancil O. Talmage

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Under Refuge Manager



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