

## ROUTING SLIP

DIVISION OF WILDLIFE REFUGES

DATE: 8-25 1941

✓ MR. SALYER yes ✓  
 ① ✓ ~~MRS. WOODIN~~ new  
 ✓ ~~MR. EIMER~~ [initials]  
 \_\_\_\_\_ MRS. GARVIN \_\_\_\_\_  
 ✓ ~~MR. DIBONT~~ PRD 10-25

## SECTION OF HABITAT IMPROVEMENT:

~~Mr. Kubichek~~ \_\_\_\_\_  
~~Mr. Smith~~ PRD  
~~Mr. Griffith~~ REG 3/31/42  
~~Miss Cook~~ zuc

## SECTION OF OPERATIONS:

✓  
~~Mr. Krummes~~ WK 3/31  
~~Mr. Gustafson~~ WB 4/10  
 ② ~~Miss Baum~~ WB  
 Mrs. Kricun \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION OF ERA:

~~Mr. Regan~~ WB 4/1/42  
~~Dr. Bourn~~ WB 4/9/42  
 Mrs. Fishman \_\_\_\_\_

## SECTION OF LAND MANAGEMENT:

✓  
~~Mr. Egan~~ B  
~~Mr. Ackenknecht~~ 10-30

## STENOGRAPHERS:

~~Miss Whorley~~ VW-10-29-41

## SECTION OF STRUCTURES:

✓  
~~Mr. Taylor~~ [initials]

## REMARKS:

Nine year Quarterly  
May - July 1941

Return to:

Pool  
Dev. filed

IN REPLY REFER TO

R  
Ninepipe

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

OFFICE OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR  
600 Weatherly Building  
Portland, Oregon

August 21, 1941

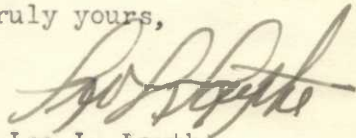
The Director  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto please find Quarterly Narrative Report covering activities on the Ninepipe National Wildlife Refuge for May, June, and July, 1941.

Well drilling activities were going on at Ninepipe during most of the quarter covered in this report. In order to hold expenses down to the minimum, it was necessary that Mr. Talmage, Refuge Manager, assist in every way possible with the well drilling. For this reason the report perhaps is not as detailed as it would have been had he had more time to spend on other work. However, it is believed that most of the work is covered in this report.

Very truly yours,

  
Leo L. Laythe  
Regional Director

Enc.



UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR  
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

OFFICE OF REGIONAL DIRECTOR  
600 Weatherly Building  
Portland, Oregon

Minneapolis

August 23, 1941

The Director  
Fish and Wildlife Service  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto please find Quarterly Narrative Report  
covering activities on the Minneapolis National Wildlife Refuge  
for May, June, and July, 1941.

Well drilling activities were going on at Minneapolis during  
most of the quarter covered in this report. In order to hold  
expenses down to the minimum, it was necessary that Mr. Talmage,  
Refuge Manager, assist in every way possible with the well drill-  
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Very truly yours,

Leo I. Layton  
Regional Director

Enc.



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*Law*

1. General.

A. Weather Conditions

During the past quarter the weather has been very favorable to wildlife.

A temperature and rainfall chart taken from records of the Indian Irrigation Service including comparisons with last year follows.

	Precipitation		Max. Temp.		Min. Temp.	
	1941	1940	1941	1940	1941	1940
May	2.38	.44	86°	87°	28°	31°
June	2.51	.96	94°	97°	39°	30°
July	.61	1.97	98°	98°	47°	48°

B. Water Conditions.

Due to an early spring and the co-operation of the I. I. S., Ninepipe reservoir was at its highest point of the season before the nesting of most of the birds was under way.

Water levels for this quarter as compared to last year follow.

	1941		1940
May 31	3006.9	May 28	3009.5
June 30	3006.7	June 20	3010.6
July 29	3001.7	July 31	3005.1

## 11. Wildlife

### A. Waterbirds.

#### 1. Populations and behavior

##### (a) Species.

Western Grebe--These birds are always in view on Ninepipe this season. An adult pair and their two young are frequently seen feeding close to the dyke, apparently paying little attention to the fishermen.

Piedbilled Grebe-- These birds are the most plentiful of the Grebe family here this summer.

Mallards--The first ducklings seen this season were noted on a pothole on the west side of Ninepipe on May 13. they were approximately one week old when first seen.

Redhead--The first young Redheads of the season were noted on May 27. These ducklings were only a few days old at this time.

Canada Goose--Three nests were found on the islands in Ninepipe on May 9. At the end of the quarter approximately 350 geese are using this area as a resting place, feeding in the nearby grain fields.

Great Blue Heron-- On July 14, two of these birds were seen eating small bullheads, stranded in a pothole by receding water. There is a small Heron rookery on an island in Flathead lake.

Coot-- Many of these birds nested on Ninepipe this season. The first young of the season were seen on May 15.

Avocet-- the first birds of the season were noted on May 1.

(b) Groups.

Bird counts and nest surveys have necessarily been neglected here this quarter due to the well drilling operations. On May 9, a survey of the islands in Ninepipe was made and many nests found. On one island, which is approximately 50' across, 10 nests were found. This was the largest number found on any of these islands. Of this number six were Mallard nests and one each of Pheasant, Canada Goose, Shoveller and Avocet. However, two of the Mallard nests had Shoveller eggs in them. Another island had four Mallard nests, one Shoveller nest containing seven Shoveller eggs and

four Mallard eggs, and one Canada Goose nest with six eggs. A total of 44 nests were found on the ten small islands visited.

2. Food and cover.

An early spring and a little more than average rainfall during May and June caused a heavy growth of vegetation, making plenty of cover for waterfowl and upland game bird nests.

Sago pondweed has made an excellent growth in the reservoir this summer.

B. Upland Game Birds.

Pheasants seem to have done exceptionally well here this summer. Many broods were hatched early and by the end of the quarter the young birds, males, are beginning to show color.

A pair of Hungarian Partridges hatched 15 young a short distance from the office. When last seen there were still 13 young in the group.

D. 2. Predator Control

No predators were taken during this quarter with the exception of four common cats.

III. Refuge Development and Maintenance.

A. Physical Development

The major project on this area during this quarter was the drilling of a well. The equipment was brought from Lake Mason on May 8, and Driller, Claude H.

*Frumer  
note stopped  
time*

Monroe, arrived on May 12. The machine was overhauled and actual drilling operations were started on June 20. A good flow of water was found at a depth of 444' on July 17.

Early in this quarter a small dam, flume and water wheel, to which was attached an old pump cylinder, were put into the inlet ditch east of the residence which has pumped the water necessary for drilling operations and for irrigating the lawn.

#### IV. Public Relations.

##### A. Recreational Uses.

##### 1. Recreation Areas.

Approximately 60 people have used the public picnic facilities here during the month since the fishing season opened.

##### 2. Fishing

The heavy growth of aquatic plants in the shallow waters has hampered the fishermen to such an extent that very few fish have been taken except from the dyke near the control structure.

At least 200 individuals have fished here during July with many excellent catches of bass being made.

#### 4. Officials Visitors

Official Visitors during this quarter include:

Messrs. Day and Jackson of the Washington office.

Mr. Hatch of the Portland office.

Kenneth Roahen of the Billings office.

Messrs. Mushbach and Olswold from the Bison Range.

Other visitors include:

Messrs. Sperry and Dexter of the Indian Irrigation Service.

Mr. O'Claire of the State Game Department.

R. H. Lambeth, Deputy State Game Warden.

Dr. Wm. Savery, Chairman, Department of Philosophy, University of Washington.

Dr. C. W. Waters, University of Montana, Missoula.

C. V. Muhlick, Nurseryman, University of Montana, Missoula.

Dick Morrison, Advertising Manager, The Missoulian, Missoula.

Numerous fishermen also stopped in to inquire regarding fishing.



The first rose to bloom at Ninepipe Headquarters  
Personal film



Canada Goose nest in crotch of fallen tree, after eggs  
hatched. Same nest as exp.# 5&6 roll # 2, in quarterly  
for Feb., Mar., & Apr. 1941. Taken May 3, 1941.



Canada Goslings on island in Flathead Lake. Taken 5/3/41.  
Exp. # 2



Same as above. Taken 5/3/41. Exp. # 3



Canada Goslings on island in Flathead Lake. Taken 5/3/41.  
Exp. # 4

Respectfully submitted.

*Ancil O. Talmage*  
Ancil O. Talmage  
Under Refuge Manager.



Canada Goose on island in Flathead Lake. Taken 5/8/41.  
Exp. # 4

Respectfully submitted,  
*Arnold C. Torgerson*  
Arnold C. Torgerson  
Under State Manager.

