

Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge

Bloomington, Minnesota
Fiscal Year 1999



Great blue heron. Photo by D.
Bohlke.

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INTRODUCTION

Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) was established in 1976 to preserve the Lower Minnesota River Valley. It resulted from the effort of a local citizen group, specifically, the Friends of the Minnesota Valley.

The Refuge, located in the Twin Cities metro area of Minnesota, is linear and extends 34 miles along the Minnesota River (Map 1). It currently encompasses 10,514 acres in eight separate units. The Refuge Mission is to restore and manage the ecological community of the Lower Minnesota River Valley and its watershed while providing environmental education and wildlife dependent recreation. The Refuge is a green belt of large marsh areas bordered by grain terminals, highways, residential areas, office buildings, and farm fields.

The wetland habitat includes fens, seeps, and marshy lakes along the cottonwood-lined Minnesota River. The valley's bluffs rise about 150 feet above the floodplain and the habitat ranges from prairie to oak savannah to oak dominated forests.

Wetlands are thick with sedge meadow, cattail, and river bulrush. Water lilies, duckweed, and pondweeds thrive in open water areas. More than 250 species of birds use the area either year round or during migration. About 150 species nest in the valley. Bald eagles use the area for nesting, resting, and feeding. The avian diversity is complemented by at least 50 species of mammals and 30 species of reptiles and amphibians.

Forested areas on the floodplain are dominated by silver maple, willow, cottonwood, and elm. Small willows, dogwoods, and alders line forest edges. Inside the woods, there is a carpet of nettles with occasional river bank grape. Hillside forests include an over story of ash, elm, oak, and other trees, with dogwood, chokecherry, and other shrubs beneath.

Shrubs such as sumac, hazel, and prickly ash encroach on the dry grasslands. Remnant prairies and savannas provide nesting habitat for dabbling ducks, wild turkeys, and a variety of songbirds. Native prairie grasses include big and little bluestem, switch grass, and Indian grass.

The focal point of the Refuge is the Visitor Center, which features an 8,000 sq. ft. exhibit space, a 125-seat auditorium, a 1/4 mile loop hiking trail to the river valley, two multipurpose classrooms, a bookstore, and an observation deck. Environmental education and interpretation opportunities are conducted from this facility. Recreational activities such as hiking, cross-country skiing, hunting, and fishing occur in many areas of the Refuge.

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The Refuge also manages a 13-county Wetland Management District (WMD) that extends from Chisago County north of the Twin Cities to Blue Earth County south of Mankato (Map 2). Within the WMD, the Service manages 3,122 acres of Waterfowl Production Areas (WPA's) and over 1,230 acres of wetland, habitat, and Farmers Home Administration (FmHA) easements. Outside of the metro area, the historic land use is intensive agriculture, mainly corn and soybeans. Most of the wetlands in the WMD have been drained or altered for agriculture. Remnant habitats found throughout the area include tallgrass prairie, prairie pothole, floodplain forest, upland forest, and oak savanna. As the population of the Twin Cities increases, much of this area is being converted to suburban homes, hobby farms, and recreational areas.

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Highlights

- ★ Two river otters were observed on Peterson Pond in November. (1a)
- ★ A total of 273 acres of cropland were restored to native prairie on WPAs located in Blue Earth, Carver, Rice, and Sibley counties. (2a)
- ★ Wetland restoration efforts on Refuge lands focused primarily on WPAs which resulted in 95 wetlands basins restored totaling 76 wetland acres. (2b)
- ★ Refuge private lands biologists provided technical assistance to more than 150 landowners and organizations regarding wetland and prairie restoration projects. (5c)
- ★ The culmination of a 20-year effort to acquire the Kelley tract was finalized in the summer of 1999. The Kelley tract was key to connecting the Visitor Center to the rest of the Long Meadow Lake Unit. Visitors are now able to walk over four miles upstream along the river and connect to the Bass Ponds and Old Cedar trail systems which cover over four miles. (6g)
- ★ Over 1,300 visitors attended 142 interpretive programs offered by Refuge staff and volunteers. Popular programs included Craig Mandel's "Bird Watching Trek" and Ed Moyer's "Sky Dance". (7a)
- ★ The refuge has completed four major steps in the CCP process: pre-planning, initiating public involvement and scoping, reviewing the vision statement and goals, and determining significant issues. (8a)
- ★ The Refuge was very busy during the summer with the addition of the ten temporary employees from a variety of programs including Career Awareness Institute (CAI), Youth in Natural Resources (YNR), Student Career Experience Program (SCEP), and University of Wisconsin-River Falls student internship program. They completed many maintenance, public use and biology projects on the Refuge. (8b)

Appendix

1. The first of the two main parts of the report is a description of the work done during the year. This is divided into two sections, one dealing with the work done in the field and the other with the work done in the laboratory.
2. The second part of the report is a summary of the results of the work done during the year. This is divided into two sections, one dealing with the results of the field work and the other with the results of the laboratory work.
3. The third part of the report is a discussion of the results of the work done during the year. This is divided into two sections, one dealing with the results of the field work and the other with the results of the laboratory work.
4. The fourth part of the report is a conclusion. This is divided into two sections, one dealing with the results of the field work and the other with the results of the laboratory work.
5. The fifth part of the report is a list of references. This is divided into two sections, one dealing with the results of the field work and the other with the results of the laboratory work.
6. The sixth part of the report is a list of figures. This is divided into two sections, one dealing with the results of the field work and the other with the results of the laboratory work.
7. The seventh part of the report is a list of tables. This is divided into two sections, one dealing with the results of the field work and the other with the results of the laboratory work.
8. The eighth part of the report is a list of appendices. This is divided into two sections, one dealing with the results of the field work and the other with the results of the laboratory work.
9. The ninth part of the report is a list of acknowledgments. This is divided into two sections, one dealing with the results of the field work and the other with the results of the laboratory work.
10. The tenth part of the report is a list of indexes. This is divided into two sections, one dealing with the results of the field work and the other with the results of the laboratory work.

Climate

The climate of the Minneapolis-St. Paul area is predominantly continental. Seasonal temperature variations are quite large and range from -30 degrees to over 100 degrees. The growing season is 166 days. Because of this favorable growing season, all crops generally mature before the autumn freeze occurs.

The Twin Cities lie near the northern edge of the influx of moisture from the Gulf of Mexico. Severe storms such as blizzards, freezing rain (glaze), tornadoes, wind and hail storms do occur. The total annual precipitation is important. Even more significant is its proper distribution during the growing season. During the five month growing season, May through September, the major crops produced are corn, soybeans, small grains and hay. During this period the normal rainfall is over 16 inches, approximately 65 percent of the annual precipitation. Winter snowfall is nearly 48 inches. Winter recreational weather is excellent because of the dry snow. These conditions exist from about Christmas into early March. Snow depths average 6 to 8 inches in the city and 8 to 10 inches in the suburbs during this period.

Climatological review - 1999

Temperatures (in Farenheit)

Average daily maximum

Actual

57.2

Normal

54.3

Average daily minimum

38.6

35.3

Highest recorded:

99° on July 25th

Lowest recorded:

-22° on January 9th

Precipitation (in inches)

Total for the year

30.56

28.32

Greatest in 24 hours

2.16 on July 26th

Snowfall (in inches)

Seasonal total, 1998-99

56.5

56.5

Greatest in 24 hours

12.5 on March 8th

1

Monitoring and Studies

1.a. Surveys and Censuses

Significant wildlife occurrences at Minnesota Valley NWR in FY1999 are summarized below.

Two river otters were observed on Petersen Pond in November. A grey fox and two kits were seen around the Visitor Center during the summer and early fall. Migrating summer tanagers were observed at the Bass Ponds in May. One adult and one immature Cooper's hawk used the Visitor Center bird feeders as a hunting area in late summer and early fall. In fact, an immature Cooper's hawk was killed after flying into a Visitor Center window. An osprey was sighted at Long Meadow Lake in April.

Bald eagles have nested on the Long Meadow Lake Unit since 1986. We lost the nest and female bald eagle during a spring wind storm in 1998 and although we continue to have eagle activity in the area, a new nest was not located. However, a nest was found at nearby Fort Snelling State Park. Although eagles were incubating at the Wilkie Unit nest located near the great blue heron colony and at the Rapids Lake Unit, no fledglings were confirmed. In addition, we received reports that no activity was seen in the Opus Marsh nest where in 1998, both the female and young perished in a hail storm.

Peregrine falcons continue to utilize the hacking box located on the smoke stack of the Black Dog Power Plant which is surrounded by the Black Dog Unit of the Refuge. One female falcon and two male falcons were fledged from this location in 1999.

Great blue heron production at the Wilkie Unit was an estimated 296 nestlings (Table 1). This estimate is higher than last year's estimate of 178 nestlings (low estimate due to over 450 birds being killed in spring storms), but is much lower than average. The normal production of the colony is 576 nestlings (average production from 1990-1997). Although this year's estimate is lower, it is difficult to assess whether the colony is declining from just one year's data. We will take a closer look at the estimate next year. Although we need to further assess great blue heron production, there has been an increase in the number of other colonial bird species in the colony. The actual number of double-crested cormorants increased from 30 to 43 nestlings, and great egrets increased from 61 to 140 nestlings. In addition, black-crowned night heron nestlings

collected from 2000-2002

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ALL INFORMATION CONTAINED HEREIN IS UNCLASSIFIED DATE 05-01-2001 BY 60322 UCBAW

1. The first of these is the fact that the Commission has not yet received any information from the Government of the United States regarding the activities of the Committee for the Liberation of the Americas (CLA) in the United States. The Commission is therefore unable to determine whether the CLA is a legitimate organization or a subversive one.

the 1950s and 1960s. The 1950s and 1960s were a period of rapid growth and development for the city. The 1950s saw the construction of the new city hall and the new city court house. The 1960s saw the construction of the new city auditorium and the new city library. The 1970s saw the construction of the new city police station and the new city fire station. The 1980s saw the construction of the new city water treatment plant and the new city sewer treatment plant. The 1990s saw the construction of the new city parking garage and the new city transit center. The 2000s saw the construction of the new city convention center and the new city sports arena. The 2010s saw the construction of the new city office building and the new city hotel. The 2020s saw the construction of the new city government center and the new city cultural center.

1. The first step is to identify the problem. This involves understanding the situation and the goals that need to be achieved.

1. The first of these is the fact that the *U.S. Constitution* is a document of the people, and not of the government. It is the people who have the right to alter or amend it, and not the government. This is the principle of popular sovereignty, and it is the foundation of the entire system of government in the United States.

increased from four to six and two green heron nestlings were observed. Since 1996, we have seen a continual increase of diversity within this colony.

Table 1. Wilkie Great Blue Heron Nestling Production Estimates from 1990-1999.

Survey Year	Winter # of Trees w/Nests	Usable # of Nests	# Nestlings Per Nest	Estimated # of Nests Used	Estimated Nestling Production
1990	276	702	1.25	357	446
1991	230	716	1.40	246	347
1992	233	629	1.78	299	533
1993	233	604	1.89	421	796
1994	459	741	1.59	459	730
1995	301	766	1.42	536	762
1996	291	665	1.60	332	531
1997	247	654	1.35	340	459
1998	291	776	1.30	137	178
1999	251	610	1.50	197	296

Due to a mild winter season, ice conditions on Refuge lakes and marshes were unsafe. Therefore, only one lake (Blue Lake) was surveyed for muskrat activity by a field biology class from Normandale Community College. They counted 150 houses with 72.5% of them being considered active houses. Using the data and assumptions of litter size and survival rates, they forecasted the Fall 1999 muskrat population of Blue Lake to be 580 muskrats. If this holds true, this population will be the highest seen since the survey has been conducted (see Table 2). Last year (1998) only 31 houses were counted and the estimated population was 84.

Table 2. Estimated fall muskrat population on three Wilkie Unit lakes.

	1991	1992	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997	1998	1999
Blue	196	213	133	117	116	49	166	84	580
Fisher	50	204	154	103	90	167	364	No data	No data
Rice	370	11	102	0	39	12	20	No data	No data

1. The first of these is the fact that the system is not a simple one, but a complex one, involving many different factors and many different people.

2. The second of these is the fact that the system is not a static one, but a dynamic one, which is constantly changing and evolving. This is because the system is constantly being influenced by new information and new ideas, and because the system is constantly being modified and improved.

3. The third of these is the fact that the system is not a closed one, but an open one, which is constantly interacting with the outside world. This is because the system is constantly receiving input from the outside world, and because the system is constantly providing output to the outside world.

4. The fourth of these is the fact that the system is not a simple one, but a complex one, involving many different factors and many different people. This is because the system is constantly being influenced by new information and new ideas, and because the system is constantly being modified and improved.

Waterfowl and Waterbirds

The following information reflects trends observed in 1999.

Winter

Black Dog Lake is the most significant waterfowl wintering area on the Refuge due to open water created from warm water discharge of the Black Dog Power Plant. This area is primarily used by mallards with a total of 7,100 observed during the monthly winter counts in 1999. The one time peak count of 4,700 occurred in late December. Canada geese and common mergansers also were present. In January, over 500 Canada geese and six snow geese were observed using the lake.

Spring

Spring migration numbers were hard to determine due to flooding throughout April and May. However, in March we were able to survey all Refuge sites and 18 species were observed. The most abundant species were ring-necked ducks, American coots, scaup, and canvasbacks. Although high water during early May prevented staff from obtaining an accurate count, it appeared migratory species were scarce by mid-May (a few ruddy ducks were present along with Canada geese, mallards and wood ducks).

Summer

Mallards, wood ducks, Canada geese, and occasionally blue-winged teal nest on the Refuge. The only large concentration of birds was on Big Rice Lake near the hunting blind. In late August, 1,000 blue-winged teal were observed on this lake. We continue to observe a lot of great blue heron and great egret feeding activity on Rice Lake in late August.

Fall

Abnormally warm temperatures throughout November caused the Fall waterfowl migration to be uneventful on the Refuge. Although we received a wide variety of species in October and November (11 species), the total numbers of birds was low. Most notable stopovers were 500 tundra swans on Fisher Lake in mid-November and over 600 wood ducks on Fisher Lake on November 3rd (over 1,700 mallards were also present on Fisher Lake). The tundra swans appeared in late October and were still present by November 29. The most numerous migratory species appearing in mid-October through mid-November were northern pintails, American wigeon, and northern shovelers. Most Refuge lakes were frozen over by December 1st. It is also important to note that an injured trumpeter swan was rescued from Chaska Lake in November.

Gypsy Moths

Ten gypsy moth traps remain on the Refuge at the request of the U.S. Forest Service. According to their report, no gypsy moths were captured on the Refuge.

1940s

The 1940s and 1950s were a period of rapid growth and development for the United States. The economy was strong, and the country was expanding its influence around the world. The 1960s and 1970s were a period of social and political change. The civil rights movement was in full swing, and the Vietnam War was raging. The economy was slowing down, and the country was facing a series of challenges.

1960s

The 1960s and 1970s were a period of social and political change. The civil rights movement was in full swing, and the Vietnam War was raging. The economy was slowing down, and the country was facing a series of challenges. The 1980s and 1990s were a period of economic growth and technological advancement. The economy was strong, and the country was expanding its influence around the world.

1980s

The 1980s and 1990s were a period of economic growth and technological advancement. The economy was strong, and the country was expanding its influence around the world. The 2000s and 2010s were a period of economic growth and technological advancement. The economy was strong, and the country was expanding its influence around the world.

2000s

The 2000s and 2010s were a period of economic growth and technological advancement. The economy was strong, and the country was expanding its influence around the world. The 2020s and 2030s are a period of economic growth and technological advancement. The economy is strong, and the country is expanding its influence around the world.

2020s

The 2020s and 2030s are a period of economic growth and technological advancement. The economy is strong, and the country is expanding its influence around the world.

1.b. Studies and Investigations

Biologists from Northern States Power Company (NSP) completed a two-year study of the fish, invertebrate, and plant communities of Black Dog Lake as part of their discharge permit requirements. The Long Meadow Lake Unit was also sampled as a control site. A final copy of the report was given to the Refuge for our records. One notable observation was that northern pike and bowfin were present in Long Meadow Lake in the spring but not in the summer. This may reflect the use of the highly vegetated slough as a spawning and nursery area for that time of year.

Refuge staff have been working with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources (DNR) on completing habitat cover mapping of each Refuge unit. Staff and volunteers are classifying the habitat according to the DNR's Minnesota Land Cover Classification System. Coded maps are being digitized by DNR staff and copies of all the GIS information will be given to the Refuge at the completion of the project.

The American Medical Association is a non-profit corporation organized for the purpose of promoting the interests of the medical profession and the public. It is the largest and most influential of the medical organizations in the United States. The Association is composed of more than 70,000 members, including physicians, dentists, and other health care professionals. The Association's primary concern is the advancement of the medical profession and the improvement of the health of the American people. It accomplishes this through a variety of activities, including the publication of the Journal of the American Medical Association, the holding of annual meetings, and the provision of educational and research programs. The Association also advocates for the interests of the medical profession before Congress and the courts. The Association's headquarters are located in Chicago, Illinois.

The Association's Journal of the American Medical Association is one of the most widely read and influential medical journals in the world. It is published weekly and contains a wide variety of articles, including original research, clinical reports, and reviews. The Journal is read by physicians and other health care professionals throughout the world. The Association also publishes a number of other journals, including the American Journal of Surgery, the American Journal of Obstetrics and Gynecology, and the American Journal of Roentgenology. The Association's journals are available to its members at a special rate. The Association also publishes a number of books and pamphlets on a variety of medical topics. The Association's publications are available to its members at a special rate. The Association's headquarters are located in Chicago, Illinois.

2

Habitat Restoration

2.a. Wetland Restoration

On-Refuge

Wetland restoration efforts on Refuge lands focused primarily on WPAs. These efforts resulted in 95 wetlands basin restored totaling 76 wetland acres. Focus areas and highlights of this year's work included: 1) restoration of 9 basins for 12 acres at Cobb River WPA in Blue Earth County; 2) restoration of 30 wetlands totaling 38 acres at Perbix WPA in Carver County; 3) restoration of 10 basins for 16 acres at Erin Prairie WPA in Rice County; and 4) restoration of a diverse class of 46 wetland basins encompassing 76 acres on WPAs in Blue Earth, Carver, Rice, and Sibley counties.

Off-Refuge

Through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife program (PFFW), off-refuge restoration work took place on state, county, and private property. The product of these restoration efforts included 44 wetlands totaling over 202 wetland acres. These projects were aided by partnerships with more than 40 different conservation clubs, non-governmental organizations, private landowners, the Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS), private corporations, and various Soil and Water Conservation Districts. These collaborations continue to be the impetus that drives the PFFW program. Dollars from these partners have been matched with several different grant sources including Challenge Cost Share, Clean Water Action Plan, Conservation Partner, Prairie Pothole Joint Venture, Metropolitan Council (MET), and North American Wetland Conservation Act Grants (NAWCA). These contributed funds, matched with grant dollars, provided approximately 40% of the total funds needed to restore these wetlands.

Highlights of the PFFW program on private lands in 1999 included: 1) restoration of a 35-acre prairie pothole complex on the Brooks property in Carver County; 2) restoration of a 12-acre wetland complex with 5 basins on the privately owned Oelfke property located in Sibley County, 3) restoration of a 25-acre prairie pothole complex on private property in Sibley County; 4) restoration of six wetlands totaling 17 acres on FmHA tracts in Chisago County; and 5) restoration of 7 basins for 10 acres on Steven's property in Watertown Township, Carver County.

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- Although the Bureau for Food and Wildlife Management (BWM) is affiliated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, it is not a part of the Service. The Bureau is an independent organization that was established in 1966. It is a non-profit organization that is dedicated to the conservation of wildlife and their habitats. The Bureau's primary focus is on the conservation of the world's endangered species and their habitats. It does this by providing technical assistance and funding to other organizations and governments. The Bureau also conducts research and monitoring of the world's endangered species and their habitats. It is a unique organization that plays a vital role in the conservation of the world's wildlife.

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In addition, Refuge staff continued to focus on projects located within Sand and Bevens Creek watersheds in the Lower Minnesota River Watershed. Sand Creek flows directly into the Louisville Swamp Unit and the Bevens Creek watershed flows into the Minnesota River just upstream of the Rapids Lake Unit. These watersheds have been designated as critical by Refuge staff and been the focus of several NAWCA and MET grants. To date, Refuge staff and partners have restored 242 wetlands for more than 700 acres; 29 upland sites to native grass totaling more than 900 acres; and more than 20 riparian corridors via bioengineering techniques totaling more than 10,000 linear feet. The Refuge has also purchased WPAs and easements within these watersheds that have permanently protected over 800 acres of habitat.



Photo 1. Ecklund wetland restoration in Carver County. Photo by M. Malling

2.b. Upland Restoration

On-Refuge

Partnerships with many different clubs and non-governmental organizations contributed more than \$50,000 for native prairie restoration. A total of 273 acres of cropland were restored to native prairie on WPAs located in Blue Earth, Carver, Rice, and Sibley counties. Seeding was accomplished by Refuge staff and cooperative agreements with farmers. Native seed composition included the following species, listed in descending order: big bluestem, Canada wild rye, Indian grass, switch grass, little bluestem, and side oats grama. These were seeded in conjunction with more than 30 species of forbs including species such as: compass plant, bergamot, wild garlic,

butterfly weed, vervain, and prairie blazingstar. The native prairie restoration showcase property this year was Erin Prairie WPA in Rice County. Erin Prairie WPA is 130 acres and when combined with the adjacent Lick Wildlife Management Area (WMA) and Cihak FWS Habitat Easement, 350 acres are in permanent protection in this section. This area provides important migration, breeding, nesting, and feeding habitat for waterfowl, shorebirds, and other wildlife. In addition, this complex provides important water quality benefits to the Sand Creek in the Lower Minnesota River Watershed.



Photo 2. Native grass restoration at Perbix WPA. Photo by M. Malling.

Off-Refuge

Refuge staff, through the PFFW program, provided seed and technical assistance to more than 10 private landowners. Over 73 acres of native grasses were restored on private land in Carver, Rice, and Sibley counties. Planting was accomplished utilizing a native grass drill for fluffy grasses while broadcasting more than 30 species of forbs. This forb component promotes more diversity and habitat for a host of species including songbirds and insects. Showcase properties this year included the Luskey and Oelfke tracts in Sibley County. These tracts located in the High Island Watershed, provide important water quality benefits, critical wildlife habitat for a host of species, and strengthen and foster new partnerships with the local community.



Photo 3. Conservation Reserve Program restoration in Rice County. Photo by M. Malling.

2.c. Deepwater/Riverine Restoration

Off-Refuge

Riparian Restoration

Riparian work focused on more than 15 sites totaling 10,200 linear feet. These privately-held, eroded corridors are located along various riparian corridors including Bevens Creek, Carver Creek, Minneopa Creek and the LeSueur River. They were restored via bioengineering practices including resloping, reshaping, cedar tree revetments, willow fascines, willow stakes, planting native shrubs to revegetate riparian areas, native grass seeding, and installing fence exclosures. Fencing projects were designed to restrict cattle crossing through the riparian corridors which improves the water quality. Team work and partnerships were essential for the completion of these stream bank stabilization projects. A strong cooperative partnership with local Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCD), NRCS, watershed districts, and private landowners was instrumental for accomplishing these projects. Many of the projects were accomplished through cooperative agreements between Refuge and SWCD offices. Funds were generated by FWS through grants and contributed funds from local conservation clubs. To date, Minnesota Valley NWR and its partners have completed 22 riparian restorations totaling over 119 acres in the 13-county Wetland Management District.



Photo 4. Russell riparian project before restoration (note eroding banks). Photo by M. Malling.



Photo 5. Russell riparian project during restoration (note electrified waterway). Photo by M. Malling

3

Habitat Management

3.a. Water Level Management

Attempts to do early spring drawdowns on Fisher, Rice and Rapids Lake were again hampered by Minnesota River flooding. A partial, mid-summer drawdown was accomplished on Rice Lake with limited response by vegetation. This was the first year of management since completion of the Corp of Engineers Environmental Management Program project to facilitate drawdowns. Fisher Lake continues to respond to partial spring drawdowns from the last two years. Wild rice is spreading and waterfowl use was relatively high throughout the year. Rapids Lake water levels were held high throughout the fall waterfowl migration in order to flood the basin edge where food production was most successful. No active management was conducted on Blue Lake, however, and work is progressing on the construction plans for new water control structures. Dike repair was performed on Rapids Lake and Continental Grain Marsh. Both projects will help to keep small river bounces out of the wetlands. In addition, two water control structures on Fisher Lake were upgraded.

3.b. Moist Soil Management

No active management was conducted on moist soil units. Fisher, Chaska, and Old Cedar Units are scheduled for rehabilitation in 2000. Peterson Pond greentree reservoir was flooded in September but due to an abnormally dry fall it did not retain the amount of water we had hoped for.

3.c. Graze/Mow/Hay

Nothing to report

3.d. Farming

The Eichten FmHA easement and Perbix WPA were farmed through cooperative agreements to prepare the areas for native grass seeding in the 2000 field season.

3

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR

WASHINGTON, D. C.

Very respectfully,
The Secretary of the Interior,
Washington, D. C.
Dear Sir:
I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 10th inst. in relation to the application of the National Park Service for the purchase of the land in the State of California, known as the "Carmel" land, and to inform you that the same has been referred to the proper authorities for their consideration.

Very respectfully,
The Secretary of the Interior.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
The Secretary of the Interior.

Very respectfully,
The Secretary of the Interior.

Very respectfully,
The Secretary of the Interior.

Very respectfully,
The Secretary of the Interior.

I am, Sir, very respectfully,
Your obedient servant,
The Secretary of the Interior.

Very respectfully,
The Secretary of the Interior.

3.e. Forest Management

Cedar trees were removed from the Rapids Lake Unit as part of an oak savannah restoration project. In addition, woody vegetation was removed with a hydroaxe from the Louisville Swamp Unit oak savanna restoration area. The oak savanna restoration site is on an intensive tree removal and burning schedule in an effort to encourage native grasses and forbs to repopulate the understory of the oaks. When completed, the Louisville site will cover over 50 acres and the Rapids Lake site will cover 200 acres.

Refuge staff met with staff from the DNR Forestry Division to develop plans for restoring 150 acres of former agricultural land in the Refuge to native hardwood forest. The majority of the land, 141 acres, is within the floodplain. The fields will be planted in widely spaced modules of seedling oak species. The modules will encompass approximately 40% of the field. The area between the modules, 60% of the land base, will be allowed to revert through natural plant succession. The long term result will hopefully be a hardwood floodplain forest with a wide diversity of native tree species.

A nine-acre upland field on the Rapids Lake Unit will be planted to a variety of native hardwood tree and shrub species.

Annual plantings of approximately 25 acres of former agricultural lands within the floodplain will be conducted by Refuge volunteers beginning in the late spring or early summer of the year 2000 until all fields are complete. Partners in funding include a private forestry supply business that will provide mats and tubes at cost.

3.f. Fire Management

The 1999 prescribed burning season was characterized by uncooperative winds. This limited our burning to four Refuge units and two WPAs for a total of 38 and 78 acres, respectively. Acreage included seeded natives, grasses, oak savanna and a reforestation project. In the spirit of partnerships, the Refuge fourteen member crew assisted the DNR Parks division with burns on state park lands in the Minnesota River Valley. The partnership has proven to be an asset for the Refuge and the State. New partnerships continue to be forged to take advantage of limited resources and a narrow window of opportunity for spring burning.

3.g. Pest Plant Control

With the continued spread of leafy spurge, Canada thistle, and purple loosestrife on the Refuge, we continue to utilize as many tools as possible to give native plants a competitive edge.

Aphthona sp. beetles continue to thrive on leafy spurge sites. Pam Deerwood and staff from the United States Department of Agriculture continue to monitor the release of beetles to control leafy spurge on the Refuge. Beetles have been released on the Upgrala, Bloomington Ferry, and Wilkie units. Most species of beetles are thriving on the Upgrala sites, and we hope to collect

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from these sites next year and redistribute to other Refuge areas that are infested with leafy spurge.

We continued using Gallerucella sp. beetles as a biological control for purple loosestrife. We released 5,040 beetles at three Refuge sites (Hogback Pond, Youth Fishing Pond, and Cedar Pond). Previously released beetles appear to be overwintering at our other release locations, however, we have not seen a dramatic decrease in the coverage of purple loosestrife at these sites. We do observe leaf damage to the plants, and will continue to monitor the progress of these beetles according to the protocol outlined by Cornell University. We will also work with State weed control specialists to determine whether we need to supplement our current release sites with additional beetles.

On weed infested areas of the Refuge and WMD that are not being treated with biological methods we continue to use mechanical and chemical methods to control the weed populations. In FY 99 we mowed 470 acres of weeds and the purchase of a truck mounted spray unit enabled us to spray 77 acres of Canada thistle.

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[illegible]

1. On 12/15/77, the following information was received from the FBI New York Office regarding the activities of the Black Liberation Army (BLA) in the New York City area. The information was obtained from a confidential source who has provided reliable information in the past. The source stated that the BLA is currently active in the New York City area and is planning to carry out a series of bombings in the near future. The source also stated that the BLA is currently recruiting members and is seeking individuals who are willing to engage in violent activities. The source further stated that the BLA is currently operating out of a hideout in the New York City area and is planning to move to another location in the near future. The source also stated that the BLA is currently in contact with other groups and is seeking to establish a network of support. The source further stated that the BLA is currently planning to carry out a series of bombings in the New York City area and is seeking individuals who are willing to engage in violent activities. The source also stated that the BLA is currently operating out of a hideout in the New York City area and is planning to move to another location in the near future. The source further stated that the BLA is currently in contact with other groups and is seeking to establish a network of support.

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4

Fish and Wildlife Management

4.a. Bird Banding

Nothing to report

4.b. Disease Monitoring and Treatment

Nothing to report

4.c. Reintroductions

Nothing to report

4.d. Nest Structures

A component of the private lands staff efforts is the distribution of wood duck and bluebird boxes to private land owners. An estimated 40 wood duck boxes, 20 bluebird boxes, and 20 nest cylinders were erected on privately held lands. Participating landowners also receive literature on current practices involving placement and care of these boxes. The boxes themselves are constructed by local Boy Scout troops with supplies being provided by the Refuge. Refuge staff, Minnesota Waterfowl Association and the Boy Scouts, additionally, have worked together to construct 50 mallard nesting cylinders to be placed on WPAs and other private land restorations.

Refuge staff efforts are being initiated and implemented to enhance partnerships with local conservation and service organizations encouraging them to do supportive maintenance on WPAs regionally. An Adopt-a-WPA program will be initiated with two local clubs in 2000.

4.e. Pest, Predator, and Exotic Animal Control

A special use permit was issued to Dr. Jim Cooper from the University of Minnesota for the removal of Canada geese in the Bass Ponds area of the Refuge. The purpose of this action is to reduce Canada goose population within the vicinity of the Twin Cities International Airport however, only one goose was removed by Dr. Cooper this year. Metro Mosquito Control was permitted to sample Refuge waters for mosquito larvae.

PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE

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In order to explain the many problems we encountered in the bordering areas, we created the concept of *SAZ* (the *suburbanization area*). It is a concept that is not used in any other countries and has not yet been defined in any of the world's urban planning literature. It is a concept that is not used in any of the world's urban planning literature.

INVESTMENT BANKING SHOULD HAVE NO POLITICAL PART AND

1. The first step is to identify the problem. This involves understanding the current situation and the goals that need to be achieved.

The Refuge continued to manage its population of whitetail deer in cooperation with the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources. In FY99 the pre-sharps shooting figures reflected approximately 24 deer per square mile. In order to maintain the recommended figure of 15 to 25 animals per square mile, the DNR issued the Refuge a permit to remove 45 deer. With the assistance of state and local law enforcement officers, Refuge officers removed 44 animals (28 female and 16 male) from the Bloomington and Burnsville sides of the Minnesota River.

5

Coordination Activities

5.a. Interagency Coordination

Refuge staff worked with staff from the Metropolitan Council's Environmental Services Division on the construction of a spillway on the Black Dog Trail near Black Dog Park. The Refuge provided the materials and the Council conducted the installation. The trail is the top of a dike that serves as a cover for a sewer line, a pedestrian trail, and holds the water of 10 acres of wetlands. The dike/trail had washed out several times in recent years and threatened the integrity of the sewer line during the most recent large storm event.

The Lower Minnesota Watershed District began installing a bank stabilization demonstration project on the Minnesota River during the year. Seven different erosion control techniques, including (bio-engineering) were installed on several hundred feet of baldly eroded river bank adjacent to the Black Dog Unit. The various techniques will be evaluated to assess their effectiveness over time.



Photo 6. Bank stabilization on the Minnesota River. Photo by T. Schreiner.

5.b. Tribal Coordination

The Red Lake Nation assisted Refuge staff with the annual Youth Fishing day event in June. They sent youth to participate in the event and provided the lunch as well.

5.c. Private Land Activities

Refuge private lands biologists provided technical assistance to more than 150 landowners and organizations regarding wetland and prairie restoration projects. More than 55 private landowners signed wildlife management agreements resulting in the restoration of 203 wetland acres. The private lands staff has contributed to Refuge and statewide efforts by providing educational assistance to the station's Environmental Education program attending public meetings, authoring more than ten grant applications, presenting topics to various groups, and assisting organizations in education and restoration of the Minnesota River Watershed. The staff plays an active part in working with other agencies including participating in screening committees for the State's Reinvest-In-Minnesota and Farm Service Agency's Conservation Contract easement program, assisting with SWCD's wetland restoration program, delineating lands for FWS fee-title acquisition and easement programs, and delineating lands for Wetland Reserve Program (WRP) easements in cooperation with NRCS.

6

Resource Protection

6.a. Law Enforcement

Law enforcement issues continue to be a challenge for Refuge staff. Of the 114 incidents recorded in FY99, 81 citations were issued for hunting, fishing, and drug type violations including possession of marijuana, crack cocaine and hashish. Fishing violations, however, decreased dramatically and we are hopeful that this trend will continue.

The most notable incident occurred on January 8, 1999 when Refuge Officer Hjelmgren contacted an individual who was sitting in his vehicle in the Old Cedar Parking lot. Officer Hjelmgren believed that the individual was in the process of cleaning his marijuana. An investigation revealed the suspect to be in possession of approximately two ounces of marijuana, a pistol grip shotgun, and a pipe bomb which was discovered under the drivers seat. The Bloomington bomb squad was called and utilizing a robot, removed the pipe bomb from the vehicle. The pipe bomb was destroyed on the scene and the suspect was arrested and charged by the Bloomington Police Department.

FY99 was also the first year that statistics were kept on the continuing problems associated with dumping and vandalism. The cost of removing dumped items from the Refuge was over \$8,300 and costs associated with vandalism exceeded \$6,600. In addition to these costs, during 1999 vandals started a contractor's backhoe on the Rapids Lake Unit that was being used for some gas line right of way work. The key had been left in the ignition by the contractor for the gas company. The vandals proceeded to use the backhoe to cause about \$15,000 worth of damage to the Unit, ripping doors off two Refuge pole barns, smashing in parts of the pole barns and digging random holes in the gravel road in the maintenance area. Fortunately nothing was stolen and the contractor's insurance paid for the repairs.

Other continuing problems include dogs off leash, the use of mountain bikes on closed trails and resource collection. The dog off leash problems appears to have decreased over the past year due to increased warnings and awareness of all Refuge staff. The mountain bike issue is being addressed within the Comprehensive Conservation Plan meetings.



SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

WASHINGTON, D.C.

On 10/10/77, the Secretary of Defense received a letter from the Secretary of the Department of the Army, dated 10/10/77, regarding the proposed acquisition of the Army's surplus inventory of small arms and accessories. The letter stated that the Army's surplus inventory of small arms and accessories is estimated to be worth approximately \$100 million and that the Army is currently reviewing the inventory to determine the best method of disposal.

The most serious problem in the disposal of the Army's surplus inventory of small arms and accessories is the lack of a coordinated effort between the Army and the Department of Defense. The Army is currently reviewing the inventory to determine the best method of disposal, but the Department of Defense is not currently reviewing the inventory. This lack of coordination is causing a delay in the disposal of the inventory and is resulting in a loss of revenue for the Department of Defense.

The Secretary of Defense is currently reviewing the proposed acquisition of the Army's surplus inventory of small arms and accessories. The Secretary is currently reviewing the inventory to determine the best method of disposal. The Secretary is currently reviewing the inventory to determine the best method of disposal. The Secretary is currently reviewing the inventory to determine the best method of disposal.

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10/10/77



Photo 7. Vandalism to storage building at Rapids Lake Unit. Photo by R. Schultz

6.b. Permits and Economic Use Management

A Right of Way (ROW) permit was granted to the City of Arden Hills to allow an outlet pipe from a storm sewer treatment pond to Round Lake. The project is part of a project to widen Trunk Highway 96 along the north boundary of the Round Lake Unit.

A ROW permit was granted to the Metropolitan Council Environmental Services Division for a pipe outlet to Blue Lake on the Wilkie Unit. The pipe will outlet ground water which needs to be pumped to keep the lower areas of the Blue Lake Waste Water Treatment Plant from flooding. The project is being done in anticipation of a projected 5-10 foot increase in the average water table in the area of the plant when the pumping of groundwater from a nearby gravel pit is discontinued. The Council agreed to upgrade existing water control structures on Fisher and Blue Lakes to handle the increased flow more efficiently. Water table levels are projected to permanently raise from 1-24 inches within over 40% of the Wilkie Unit by the summer of 2000. This rise is expected to improve wetland habitat conditions, especially wet meadow, in the unit by more closely resembling historic ground water levels.

Special Use Permits Issued

Metro Mosquito Control District	Sample waters for larvae
Mike Tucker	Nuisance Beaver Control
Mike Tucker	Nuisance Beaver Control
Tom Belter	Building Removal Redhead WPA
Larry Mueller	Plant Shrubs Perbix WPA
Joe Luskey	Plant Food Plot Mud Lake WPA
WSB and Associates	River Bank Stabilization
John Strahm	Filming at Bass Ponds
Dr. Jim Cooper	Remove Nuisance Canada Geese-Bass Ponds
Jim Malec	Filming Wood Ducks at Wilkie Unit
Dr. Dwain Warner	Wildlife Resource Appraisal- Long Meadow Lake
Glenn Miller	Minnegasco Pipeline Repair
Patrick Moore	Capable Partners - Upgrala Hunt
Dr. Poly Fry	Filming at Louiseville Swamp and Rapids Lake unit
Jason Howard	Conduct Predator Survey
Ollie Sieberg	Use of ATV for disabled hunting on Cobb WPA
Fred Campbell	Gather soil and water quality data-Old Freeway Landfill.
Joe Grove	Install Spillway on Black Dog South Trail
Roger Anderson	Access across Rapid Lake Unit
Travis Durkin	Burger Brothers - Demonstrate canoeing skills

Economic Use Management

The following cooperative farming agreements were issued to private citizens to plant row crops on agricultural fields on Refuge managed lands. These agreements were issued to prepare seed beds for grass seeding.

Kevin Lundquist	Rapids Lake unit	12 ac. field corn	55 acres soybeans
Ed Eichten	Longnecker FmHA	7 ac. soybeans	

6.c. Contaminant Investigation

Approximately 40 gallons of cyclohexane were allowed to reach a storm sewer inlet that outlets into Hogback Pond within the Bass Ponds area. The spill occurred early on August 26, 1999 during a fire in a chemical storage area at the VTC facility located on Old Shakopee Road.

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REPORTING OF DISCLOSURE

by the fact that the two main groups of the population, the "indigenous" and the "non-indigenous" are both represented in the "indigenous" group. The "indigenous" group is the one that is most affected by the economic crisis, and the "non-indigenous" group is the one that is least affected. The "indigenous" group is the one that is most affected by the economic crisis, and the "non-indigenous" group is the one that is least affected.

Designation	Number of Candidates	Number of Electors	Number of Seats
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2. <i>Special</i>	10	10	10
3. <i>Reserve</i>	10	10	10
4. <i>Emergency</i>	10	10	10
5. <i>Other</i>	10	10	10
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and we will continue to work closely with the U.S. Department of Justice and the FBI to ensure that the investigation is thorough and that the justice system is properly served. We will continue to work closely with the U.S. Department of Justice and the FBI to ensure that the investigation is thorough and that the justice system is properly served.

Refuge staff attended a meeting with VTC and city officials to review the incident and recommend procedural changes that would alleviate chemicals reaching a storm sewer inlet if a similar event occurs in the future. Refuge staff were surprised to find the chemical storage area had no containment facilities even though it was recently constructed. Refuge staff encouraged VTC and the city to work out something that would contain the materials into the future. No adverse effects to wildlife were detected in Hogback Pond.

Baseline data for Long Meadow and Black Dog Lakes was entered into the CAP (Contaminant Assessment Process) data base during the year. The information should provide a basis for further evaluation of potential contaminant problems. The assessment is based on documenting existing information for watersheds and air sheds in the target area to evaluate potential contaminant-related impacts to resources of primary interest to the land manager.

6.d. Contaminant Cleanup

During 1999, work continued on the cleanup of the recently purchase Mittelstad Farms (Rapids Lake Unit) with the removal of scrap metal, leftover hazardous materials such as paints, chemicals, pesticides, herbicides and everything else that accumulates over 50 years of farming. The contracting process began to remove building foundations and 3 wells were sealed on the unit. Approximately 10 tons of scrap metal was consolidated for removal under the contract.

One building site was cleaned up on the Redhead WPA. After testing was completed for asbestos and none found the Green Isle Fire Department assisted by burning down an old barn on the WPA. Foundations were removed and a parking lot will be installed in 2000.

A contract for the cleanup of the Boe property including building removal, well sealing and foundation removal was put out for bids and work was completed in November of 1999.

6.e. Water Rights Management

Nothing to report

6.f. Cultural Resource Management

As part of the CCP Process, the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge's Cultural Resource Management Plan (CRMP) was completed in June 1999 by Anthony Godfrey of U. S. West Research, Inc. It acts both as an overall cultural resources planning and long term management document. Besides the standard summary of prior studies and copies of pertinent laws, the CRMP will help us make future resource management decisions. It will also help us develop a Programmatic Agreement between the Refuge and the State Historic Preservation Officer.

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General Comments

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6.g. Land Acquisition Support

The highlight of the year was the culmination of a 20-year effort to acquire the Kelley tract which is located near the Visitor Center. The Kelley tract was key to connecting the Visitor Center to the rest of the Long Meadow Lake Unit. Visitors are now able to walk over four miles upstream along the river and connect to the Bass Ponds and Old Cedar trail systems. Before the acquisition, visitors were only able to do a 1/4 mile Hillside Loop Trail. The Conservation Fund and the Friends of the Minnesota Valley assisted with the purchase of the tract.

During the year, two WPAs were acquired including the 400-acre Howard Farm WPA in Blue Earth County and the 137-acre Dodge Center Creek WPA in Steele County. The Refuge is also working closely with two local Minnesota Pheasants chapters who are in the process of buying two tracts of land totaling 274 acres which will be donated to the Refuge as WPAs.

The Refuge also purchased a 57-acre habitat easement that protects several wetlands restored through the Partners for Fish and Wildlife Program. During the year, several other easements and WPA offers totaling 637 acres were signed and will be accepted during FY2000.

6.h. Threats and Conflicts

A variety of completed or proposed projects during the reporting period in or near the Lower Minnesota River Valley potentially threaten the biological and aesthetic values of the Refuge. These projects are:

Scott County Highway 27

Yet another round of interagency and public meetings concerning the construction of Scott County Highway 27 through the Savage Fen Wetland Complex was initiated during 1999. A final "no build decision" was announced by the DNR in March of 1998 for the preferred alignment that would use the existing haul road from the sand pit on the bluff. The City of Savage was awarded a Legislative Commission on Minnesota Resources grant to study additional alternative alignments. Efforts continue to work with citizens and officials of private and public entities to get consensus on a holistic approach to the management of the wetland complex in the future. The Refuge has over 200 acres of fee title lands within the complex.

Stormwater Runoff

Refuge staff met with City of Bloomington officials in an attempt to resolve the issue of adverse effects from storm water runoff to Refuge wetlands. Storm sewers convey solid waste, contaminated sediments and large amounts of water to wetlands in the Bass Ponds area of the Long Meadow Lake Unit. City officials agreed to attempt to address the issue of trash near the outfall of the storm sewers in the short term. Negotiations continue to solve the more damaging long term water quality and quantity problems through a process called Alternative Urban Review Assessment.

The first of these is the fact that the Commission has not yet received any information from the Member States regarding the implementation of the measures proposed in the White Paper. This is a serious matter, as the Commission is unable to monitor the progress of the implementation of the measures proposed in the White Paper. The Commission is therefore unable to assess the effectiveness of the measures proposed in the White Paper. The Commission is therefore unable to assess the effectiveness of the measures proposed in the White Paper.

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Conclusion

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Golf Improvement Center

During 1998, Service staff conferred with officials from the City of Chanhassen, the DNR, and the developers of a 40-acre Golf Improvement Center proposed to be constructed adjacent to the Upgrala Unit. Night lighting, ball nets and point runoff were the major concerns. The project was approved but without night lighting and other amenities desired by the developer. Refuge staff informed city officials that this kind of development is inconsistent with the "spirit" of the enabling legislation for the Refuge and State Recreation Area. During 1999, the City approved all the amenities when the owners went back asking for the improvements that were denied in the original application. Refuge staff provided comments recommending the City uphold the original conditions.

Amphitheaters

Three proposals for the construction of 20,000-seat amphitheaters were filed during 1999. Two are proposed next to the Refuge and all three are to be located either in or on the bluff of the Lower Minnesota River Valley. Both proposals remain viable, but the one gathering the most attention is near the Louisville Swamp Unit. Preliminary review indicates potential for adverse impacts such as traffic congestion and noise and ground water contamination. There has been a groundswell of local support against the project. Refuge staff provided a position statement at the request of a local homeowners association. Refuge staff are awaiting the release of a draft environmental assessment before making official statements.

Blue Lake Wastewater Treatment Plant Ground Water Relief Project

This plant is surrounded on two sides by the Wilkie Unit. Plans are to install large capacity pumps to keep the treatment plant facilities from flooding and to pump water to Blue Lake. Refuge concerns include pumping effects on Fisher and Blue Lakes. The Council agreed to rehabilitate or replace water control structures on the two lakes to more efficiently handle the increased flow. The increased water table is expected to be beneficial to the establishment and maintenance of wet meadow and other non-depressional wetland communities in the Unit.

Flying Cloud Airport Expansion

The project proposed by the Metropolitan Airport Commission will significantly increase the number of jet flights over the Upgrala Unit of the Refuge. Concerns include the increased noise factor for Refuge users and wildlife as well as an increased risk of bird strikes. Negotiations continue as of this writing.

Minneapolis - St. Paul Airport Expansion

This project proposed by the Metropolitan Airports Commission (MAC) involves the construction of a new north-south runway. The flight path will extend directly over the Bass Ponds, the focus area for environmental education and interpretation as well as public use on the Refuge. Numerous meetings were held with MAC and the Federal Aviation Agency (FAA) during 1998 to address the compensation for the loss of the constructive use of the most vital area on the Refuge. A final settlement of approximately \$26 million was granted to the Service for the loss of constructive use of the Bass Ponds, Long Meadow and Black Dog Units from severe and

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repeated noise from low level flight by large passenger jets. Negotiations continue for a settlement for other related losses.

Plans are to develop a Resource Protection Plan which will set guidelines to be used to more effectively identify, track and manage the threats and conflicts to Refuge resources over the long term. Our strategy in the past has been to react to threats as they occur. We hope to develop a plan whereby the Refuge can be proactive in dealing with threats to Refuge lands. A working group formed during the development of the Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) has made recommendations on how to develop this plan.

Mosquito Control

During late summer, the Metropolitan Mosquito Control District (MMCD) requested to treat a portion of the Chaska Unit with adulticides after a case of LaCrosse Encephalitis was reported and verified near the Unit. A long standing Refuge policy restricts any type of treatment, except in the case of an emergency where there is a real and imminent threat to human health.

Consultation with officials from the Minnesota Health Department confirmed that the breeding site for the disease bearing mosquito was undoubtedly a dump of tires adjacent to the home of the infected child. Based on this information, Refuge management prohibited treatment of Refuge lands.

After some unsuccessful political maneuvering by mosquito district officials, meetings were held and it was agreed that the Refuge would issue a permit to allow MMCD personnel to survey the forest areas on the Chaska Unit. The area within ½ mile of the initial infection site were sampled for the presence of natural breeding cavities used by the disease carrying mosquitos. Any activity to eliminate discovered cavities would need the approval of the Refuge manager.

Also during late summer, MMCD personnel treated portions of Fort Snelling State Park without any notification. This event prompted state officials to present a legislation amendment that would require approval to treat state lands. This amendment was approved for a two year period.

Mountain Biking

Presently, biking is allowed on all Refuge areas except specific trails constructed on erosion prone and/or wetland soils. Refuge use by mountain bikes has steadily increased in recent years. The 1997 Refuge Improvement Act clearly limits appropriate public use on Refuges to wildlife-dependent uses only. This has raised concern among the mountain biking community. Organized mountain biking groups were well represented and very vocal during public meetings held recently as part of the Comprehensive Conservation Planning process. The Refuge manager attended an informational meeting for biking groups at a local outdoor sports retail outlet.

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There have been several reported near miss collisions reported between hikers and mountain bikers on Refuge trails and some are exhibiting gully erosion because of ruts from the bike tire treads. A complete ban on biking on this Refuge is not possible because state legislation established a State Trail which, when completed, will traverse three Refuge units. At a minimum, the Refuge needs to provide access from our trail heads to the State Trail.



Photo 8. Erosion on Bluff Trail.
Photo by R. Schultz.

7

Public Education and Recreation

7.a. Provide Visitor Services

Approximately 221,000 people visited the Refuge and 17,600 visited the Visitor Center this year. The Visitor Center was open Tuesday through Sunday, from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Refuge staff provided information services and bookshop sales at the center. From September through May, the following groups used the Visitor Center to host monthly evening meetings: Native Plant Society, Minnesota Nature Photography Club, and the Minnesota River Valley Audubon Club. The Refuge provides a liaison for each group, which average 60-90 visitors each meeting. The Refuge offers all of the Big Six recreational opportunities which are hunting, fishing, wildlife observation and photography, and environmental education and interpretation.

Hunting

Various types of hunting are allowed in selected units of the Refuge. Portions of the Upgrala Unit and all of the Louisville Swamp and Rapids Lake Units are open to archery deer hunting. The Louisville Swamp Unit south of the middle road is open to waterfowl, small game, and spring turkey. In addition, all of the WPAs and the Rapids Lake Unit are open to public hunting in accordance with state hunting regulations. A total of 45,192 visits were made to the Refuge in pursuit of wildlife-dependent recreation. Hunting, fishing and trapping accounted for 22,312 of the visits.

Young Waterfowlers Program

A total of 15 youth and 14 mentors participated in the Young Waterfowlers Program, a cooperative program between the Refuge and the Minnesota Waterfowl Association. The 20 hour program teaches youth how to hunt waterfowl safely and ethically. Other than the actual hunt, the virtual hunter trainer system was the favorite activity for the youth. The large 8'x10' screen with interactive hunting videos provides excellent training for the youth. Youth also received instruction on duck and goose calling, firearms safety and shooting, and waterfowl biology and identification. Fisher, Blue, Long Meadow, and Chaska Lakes were used for the youth hunt in late September. All mentors and youth reported excellent hunting with several limits harvested, including Canada geese.

7

Public Relations and Administration

For the year 1964

The Public Relations and Administration course is designed to provide students with a comprehensive understanding of the principles and practices of public relations and administration. The course covers a wide range of topics, including the history of public relations, the role of public relations in organizations, and the various techniques used in public relations. Students will also learn about the principles of administration, including the functions of management, the organization of an enterprise, and the methods of controlling an organization. The course is designed to be both theoretical and practical, with a strong emphasis on the application of the principles learned in the classroom to the real world of public relations and administration.

Summary

The Public Relations and Administration course is a comprehensive study of the principles and practices of public relations and administration. The course covers a wide range of topics, including the history of public relations, the role of public relations in organizations, and the various techniques used in public relations. Students will also learn about the principles of administration, including the functions of management, the organization of an enterprise, and the methods of controlling an organization. The course is designed to be both theoretical and practical, with a strong emphasis on the application of the principles learned in the classroom to the real world of public relations and administration.

Conclusion

The Public Relations and Administration course is a comprehensive study of the principles and practices of public relations and administration. The course covers a wide range of topics, including the history of public relations, the role of public relations in organizations, and the various techniques used in public relations. Students will also learn about the principles of administration, including the functions of management, the organization of an enterprise, and the methods of controlling an organization. The course is designed to be both theoretical and practical, with a strong emphasis on the application of the principles learned in the classroom to the real world of public relations and administration.

For the year 1964

A wild game recognition dinner was held on January 23, 1999 for the participants and supporters of the Young Waterfowlers Program class of 1998. A total of 60 people attended the event and dined on a variety of dishes including bear, antelope, grouse, and duck.

A Firearms Training and Hunter Education course was sponsored by the Refuge and held during August at the Visitor Center. Refuge staff participated as instructors after becoming certified by the DNR. Since a firearms safety certificate is required in order to participate in the Young Waterfowlers program, we offered the course to increase participation in the waterfowl program.

Waterfowl Hunting for Sportsmen and Sportswomen With Disabilities

Another successful year was realized in the hunting programs for people with disabilities. Eleven physically challenged and six able-bodied people participated in 11 hunts harvesting 32 ducks and 19 geese.

The Capable Partners organization was granted a special use permit which included guidelines for conducting the hunt. The Refuge provided and maintained the facilities which included two blinds, a boat dock and an access road. Capable Partners handled reservations and conducted the hunts. The facility is located on the north shore of Rice Lake within the Upgrala Unit. Participants in the program also joined in the festivities during the Young Waterfowler wild game recognition dinner held during January.

Fishing

The Refuge offers a variety of fishing opportunities for anglers. The most popular spots are from the banks of the Minnesota River in the Long Meadow Lake and Black Dog Units where catfish and carp are the most common catch. The Bass Ponds also offers several spots for anglers to try their luck. Over the past few years there has been a significant increase in the use of the Refuge for fishing by immigrants. Hispanics, in particular, are the most common type of fisherperson found on the banks of the river in addition to Russians and Hmong. Refuge officers have made it a point to inform the users of the Minnesota River about the dangers of eating the fish that are caught in those areas. Spanish fishing regulations as well as consumption advisories are available to assist us with informing the public.

Youth Fishing Day

The Refuge hosted its seventh annual Youth Fishing Day at the Bass Ponds for inner city and community youth. Over 650 people attended the event including 200 inner-city youth and kids involved with The Golden Eagle program and Red Lake Nation. Twenty five experts and volunteers educated the participants on proper and ethical fishing techniques. Many partners provided funds to make this a successful event. A walleye lunch was provided by Red Lake Nation. Each child from the inner city also took home educational literature and their own rod and reel.

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1. The first step is to identify the problem. This involves understanding the current situation and the goals that need to be achieved.

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Photo 9. A captive audience for Fish Day. Photo by R. Schultz.

Wildlife Observation and Photography

The Refuge is a popular destination for bird watchers from all over the metro area. The Bass Ponds and Old Cedar avenue are two areas that receive heavy use especially during the migration periods. The Minnesota Valley Audubon chapter meets at the Visitor Center once a month in addition to birding on the various units.

Photographer Dr. Scott Sharkey is one of the original contributors to the twelve minute slide show that has been featured in the Visitor Center auditorium for ten years. During the development of the new Refuge brochure, Dr. Sharkey opened his personal collection of approximately ten thousand slides to provide compelling wildlife photos for it. He recently premiered an incredible show which was comprised entirely of sides taken over a seven year period around Opus Marsh on the Bloomington Ferry Unit. His surreal slides of nesting least bittern chicks provided irrefutable evidence of that species' nesting status on the Refuge. Dr. Sharkey's scientific background, photographic competence, and articulate presentations place him in a unique category. In addition to serving on the Friends of the Minnesota Valley board and listing his property on the heritage registry, Dr. Sharkey is the Refuge's first volunteer marsh warden.

Environmental Education and Interpretation

Approximately 12,000 students/teachers, from pre-school to high school, attended environmental education programs on the Refuge. Staff hosted and/or participated in ten educator workshops reaching approximately 400 people. Over 1,300 visitors attended 142 interpretive programs offered by Refuge staff and volunteers. Popular programs were Craig Mandel's "Bird Watching Trek" and Ed Moyer's "Sky Dance".

Preschool Program

Our Preschool Program served over 2,400 children along with more than 700 adults. Program topics include: migration, habitat, tracks, squirrels, and trees.

K-3 Curriculum

The newest addition to the Environmental Education programming offers teachers five days of activities, with one activity involving an on-site visit to the Refuge. Three curriculum, Insects, Birds, and Habitats, were developed by Kathryn Cassem, Park Ranger.

Partnership Schools

Partnership between the Refuge and our cultural diversity schools remain the same. We are trying to encourage more cultural diversity schools to come out to the Refuge and witness the connection with wildlife and habitat in their own backyard. We are happy to have a partnership with the Minnesota School of Environmental Studies (SES), also known as the Zoo School. There are currently eight schools and one Native American Community Center that are involved in the Refuge's partnership school program.

Big River Journey

Over 1,700 students (4th-6th grade) from twenty-one elementary schools participated in the Big River Journey. During the two hour paddle boat trips, students learn about the Mississippi River and it's watershed through six learning stations. Refuge staff and volunteers teach students about the birds and their adaptations at one of the stations. Big River Journey is coordinated by Mississippi National River and Recreation Area (National Park Service) and includes 16 river trips in May and four teacher workshops in February.

State Envirothon

The Refuge hosted the 1999 State Envirothon at the Visitor Center. Over 100 high school students participated in this outdoor and hands-on science competition. Refuge staff prepared and presented at the wildlife station. Other stations included; soils, aquatics/water quality, forestry, and prescribed burning. Peterson/Rushford High School won the competition and advanced to the National Envirothon in California.

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Photo 10. Park Ranger Bradley gives instructions at Envirothon. Photo by S. McDonald.

Scouting

The Refuge Explorer Post, now in its 7th year, attracts high school students interested in resource management and attempts to introduce them to worthwhile service projects. In FY 1999, six Eagle Scouts worked on the refuge. Tim Pipkorn built 50 bird feeder kits and 50 kits for bird houses with donated materials and hardware. He then wrote assembly instructions and made an instructional video! Another eagle scout candidate assisted our biologist with predator scent post surveys. More than 300 Boy and Girl Scouts earned Watching Wildlife Patches on the Refuge during the year. Finally, merit badge programs and orientations were given for a variety of scout groups.

Ecommunities

Staff participated in the sixth annual Ecommunity Festival at the Mall of America, October 15th - 16th. This two-day festival teaches kids and adults about recycling and respecting the environment. Refuge staff hosted an activity station on endangered species. Twenty-one organizations and retailers participated in the event, which reached over 4,500 children, parents, and shoppers.

National Wildlife Week

Each year, Refuge staff visit local schools during National Wildlife Week in April. This year, 2,660 students were contacted during the week. The theme of this year's week was "Nature's Web: Keep the Wild Alive". Staff from the Twin Cities Field Office assisted during many of the assemblies, adding diversity and an endangered species focus to the programs.

Resource Library

The Region 3 Resource Library is located in the Refuge's Administrative/Visitor Center building. The purpose of the library is to distribute a variety of materials to USFWS field offices, educators, and conservation agencies. Services provided for FY99:

Video/film requests: 530

Information/resource requests: 213

USFWS displays use: 33

Educational Kits use:

Prairie Trunk	12
Project Wet Trunk	1
Suitcase for Survival	14
Songbird Trunk	21
Enviroscape Model	1
Wetland Trunk	8
Wolf Box	13
Zebra Mussel	1
Total	71

Art Gallery Exhibits

Nine gallery exhibits were displayed for six weeks each in fiscal year 1999. Approximately 200 individual art pieces were hung. The Refuge held its first ever juried show which was coordinated by intern, Kari Lennartson. Approximately 15 artists submitted works for this juried show.

The exhibits included:

- "Where Land and Water Meet," color photos by photographer, Francine Corcoran.
- "From a Child's Eye," paintings and sculpture, by the students of Nature's Palette Art Gallery, Hastings, MN
- "Minnesota River: Faces and Places," oil paintings by Michelle Thelen
- "Icy Waters - Rocky Shores," oil pastels, soft pastels, and pencil by Nancy Lamberger
- "Wetlands and Landscapes," chalk pastel by Marilyn Ganje-Fling
- "Earth Smart," Juried show of mixed media, coordinated by Kari Lennartson
- "Development and Wildlife," oil paintings of Mark Bautch
- "Death and Life Cycles," mixed media by Elizabeth Greenbaum
- "Minnesota Flora," watercolor by Agnes Fine

1. The first part of the report is a general introduction to the project. It describes the purpose of the study, the scope of the work, and the organization of the report.

2. The second part of the report is a detailed description of the methodology used in the study. This includes a discussion of the data sources, the sampling method, and the statistical techniques used to analyze the data.
3. The third part of the report is a presentation of the results of the study. This includes a discussion of the descriptive statistics, the results of the hypothesis tests, and the confidence intervals.
4. The fourth part of the report is a discussion of the implications of the findings. This includes a discussion of the strengths and limitations of the study, and suggestions for future research.
5. The fifth part of the report is a conclusion. This summarizes the main findings of the study and provides a final statement on the overall results.
6. The sixth part of the report is a list of references. This includes a list of all the sources cited in the report.
7. The seventh part of the report is an appendix. This includes any additional information that is relevant to the study but is not included in the main body of the report.
8. The eighth part of the report is a glossary. This includes a list of all the terms used in the report and their definitions.
9. The ninth part of the report is a bibliography. This includes a list of all the sources cited in the report.
10. The tenth part of the report is a list of figures. This includes a list of all the figures included in the report.

11. The eleventh part of the report is a list of tables. This includes a list of all the tables included in the report.

Appendix A: Data

1. The first table in the appendix is a table of the raw data. This table contains all the data collected during the study.
2. The second table in the appendix is a table of the summary statistics. This table contains the mean, standard deviation, and other summary statistics for each variable.
3. The third table in the appendix is a table of the results of the hypothesis tests. This table contains the test statistics, p-values, and confidence intervals for each hypothesis test.
4. The fourth table in the appendix is a table of the results of the confidence intervals. This table contains the lower and upper bounds of the confidence intervals for each parameter.
5. The fifth table in the appendix is a table of the results of the regression analysis. This table contains the regression coefficients, standard errors, and other statistics for each regression model.
6. The sixth table in the appendix is a table of the results of the factor analysis. This table contains the factor loadings, communalities, and other statistics for each factor.
7. The seventh table in the appendix is a table of the results of the cluster analysis. This table contains the cluster membership, centroid coordinates, and other statistics for each cluster.
8. The eighth table in the appendix is a table of the results of the discriminant analysis. This table contains the discriminant function coefficients, discriminant scores, and other statistics for each discriminant function.
9. The ninth table in the appendix is a table of the results of the principal component analysis. This table contains the principal component loadings, eigenvalues, and other statistics for each principal component.
10. The tenth table in the appendix is a table of the results of the correspondence analysis. This table contains the correspondence analysis scores, chi-square statistics, and other statistics for each correspondence analysis.

Special Events

The Refuge staff coordinated six special events on the Refuge. Over 5,000 people participated in the following six special events:

National Wildlife Refuge Week

Refuge staff coordinated three events and a variety of interpretive programs for the 1998 National Wildlife Refuge Week. Two evening events were hosted at the Visitor Center during the week and an outdoor celebration, "Great Fall Adventure", was hosted at Bass Ponds on Saturday, October 17th. The evening events included; "An Evening with Teddy Roosevelt" impersonation by Steve Stark of Fargo, ND on Tuesday, October 13th and "The Secret Life of the Minnesota River Valley" a slide presentation by Scott Sharkey of Bloomington, MN on Thursday, October 15th. The "Great Fall Event" included bird walks, goose and duck calling, canoeing, wildlife viewing, and critters from the Minnesota Zoo Mobile. Approximately 300 people enjoyed the week long events.

International Migratory Bird Day

In partnership with the Como Zoo and the National Park Service, about 3,444 people received information about migratory birds during International Migratory Bird Day on Saturday May 8, 1999. Over 750 children became "Winning Warblers" by gathering habitat dots to complete a Certificate of Survival and claim a poster award during the day



Photo 11. Park Ranger Endrizzi with her kestrel Jordan at IMBD. Photo by E. Moyer.

Earth Day

On April 22, 1999, the Minnesota Valley National Wildlife Refuge celebrated Earth Day with approximately 160 volunteers from the Minnesota School for Environmental Studies, the Psycho-social Learning Center, the Airport Hilton, and several other individuals. Staff and volunteers picked up litter, cleaned out gutters, and swept parking lots at the Visitor Center, Bass Ponds, Russell A. Sorenson Landing on Lyndale Avenue, and Old Cedar. Our two dumpsters were overflowing with the collected trash. At the end of the day, the refuge hosted a barbeque for all the volunteers. In spite of some wet weather, the day was a great success!

Junior Duck Stamp Program

Approximately 800 entries were received for the 1999-2000 competition. Sara Stack, a North St. Paul High school student from Maplewood, Minnesota won this year's Best-of-State with her acrylic painting of a pair of lesser scaup. Approximately 500 guests attended the awards ceremony at the Minnesota School of Environmental Studies in Apple Valley on April 17, 1999. Sara went on to take second place in the National Competition. Sara, accompanied by her father and her teacher were invited to Washington, D.C. where they were honored for their accomplishments. The ceremony took place during the judging of the Federal Duck Stamp Program. Judie Miller, coordinator of the program also was invited to Washington D.C. and participated in the ceremonies.



Photo 12. Minnesota Best-of-Show, "Scaup at Rest", acrylic by Sara Stack, age 18, North St. Paul HS. Photo by J. Miller.

A traveling exhibit consisting of 36 pieces of art representing the first, second, and third place winners was on display throughout Minnesota through December 1999. The MN exhibit was on display at the State Capital, several waterfowl and nature festivals and events, the state fair, and several galleries. In total, the exhibit was at 12 sites/events reaching a viewing audience of 100,000.

Volunteers contributed 140 hours to the Junior Duck program. Sources for actual dollars included \$5000 from the Minnesota Waterfowl Association, \$500 from Hadley Companies, and \$4000 from USFWS Challenge Cost Share. Other contributors included Bridgeman's Restaurants Inc., Jim Hautman, Artist, Joe Hautman, Artist, Roger Preuss, Artist, in conjunction with Wildlife America, MN School of Environmental Studies, and the National Duck Stamp Collectors Society

Also of note is that Rebecca Latham, Best-of-Show winner from 1998-1999 entered the adult Federal Duck Stamp Competition. She took tenth place in the competition. First place was won by Adam Grimm. Adam is the first prior Junior Duck Stamp winner to take the coveted title. Adam won fourth place in the Junior competition in 1996.



Photo 13. Sara Stack, her parents and great-grandmother, admiring her win at the Junior Duck Stamp Ceremony. Photo by J. Miller.

7.b. Outreach

Several years of effort culminated with the printing of the new general brochure which represents hours of writing, editing, layout, and photography. Forty thousand copies of this full color center fold, center stapled brochure were produced and printed for a cost of about 38 cents per copy. It has been nominated for a National Association for Interpretation Publications Award.

Refuge staff and volunteers reached over 10,000 people through off-site presentations and special events hosted on the Refuge. There were 36 news releases issued on topics ranging from the Comprehensive Conservation Planning (CCP) meetings to special events to law enforcement issues such as the leash law. We also issued ten public service announcement for special events and the CCP.



Photo 14. Park Ranger Moyer on a canoe adventure.
Photo by S. McDonald.

8

Planning and Administration

8.a. Comprehensive Conservation Planning

The Refuge has completed four major steps in the CCP process: pre-planning, initiating public involvement and scoping, reviewing the vision statement and goals, and determining significant issues. Throughout the pre-planning stage, the refuge developed its public involvement plan, identified compliance requirements, created its work plan, and acquired necessary information such as GIS maps and data. Seven public open houses were held up and down the Minnesota River throughout the spring to involve the public and to help the Refuge identify significant issues. Approximately 250 people attended. Over 85 comment cards were also received from the public. The staff reviewed and revised the 1991 Refuge vision, mission, and goals this fall. We determined that smaller working groups will be necessary to further our public involvement and scoping and identification of significant issues. There will be five working groups with approximately 75 people in attendance. This will occur the beginning of next fiscal year.

8.b. General Administration

REFUGE FUNDING - FY'99

Refuge Operations	1261	\$1,165,660
Volunteer Program	1261	7,800
Challenge Grant Programs	1261	38,000
Refuge Contaminants	1261-3C14	43,000
Maintenance Management	1262	192,000
Private Lands	1121	126,500
NAWMP Projects	1234	14,000
Fire Management	9251	36,249
Prescribed Fire	9263	26,050
Migratory Bird Conser.	3110	5,000
Resource Center	various	<u>52,800</u>
TOTAL		\$1,707,059.00

Contributed Funds

7201-0083	General Purpose (Refuge)	315
7201-0243	Various	474
7201-0362	Jr. Duck Stamp Program	5,541
7201-0364	Habitat Restoration	56,400
7201-0422	Savage Fen	2061
7208-3032	Scott and LeSueur Wetlands	21,900
7201-c310	Community Sportsman	5,000

Room Reservation Funds Collected in FY99

6351-0000	Room Reservation Fund	7980
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REFUGE STAFFING

The Refuge hired two permanent and three temporary employees. Jill Torres was hired in February as a Permanent Full-Time Park Ranger. She has previous experience with the National Park Service in California. She has been the lead person in completing the CCP and is also part of the Environmental Education & Interpretation team. Tom Marcouiller was hired on as a Permanent Seasonal Maintenance Worker. After volunteering for and working a temporary position for the Fish and Wildlife Service, it's nice to get him hired into a permanent position. Katy Fitzgerald was hired in February to fill the two-year term Biological Sciences Technician position that was vacated by Anita Grover last year. She comes to us from Maryland and works with private lands. Tracy Fifarek and Jane Thorson were hired in May as temporary Biological Sciences Technicians. Although limited funding prevented us from keeping both on board past the end of October, we were able to extend Tracy through the end of Fiscal Year 2000. She also works primarily with the private lands program.

Besides those that didn't have a choice in the matter (temporary employees & summer interns), only two employees left Minnesota Valley this fiscal year. Andy Mitzel, Park Ranger/Volunteer Coordinator, transferred to the Department of Defense in March and Chris Kessenich, SCEP Student, resigned to take a full-time Conservation Warden position with the Great Lakes Indian Fish and Wildlife Commission.

In other personnel matters, Chris Kane completed his three-month law enforcement training at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Georgia, bringing the number of commissioned Refuge officers to four. Juancarlos Giese will continue to work for the Refuge during his holiday and summer breaks and we are also optimistic that a new Volunteer Coordinator will be hired and on board by the end of the calendar year.

The following is a list of the entire Minnesota Valley staff for Fiscal Year 1999, including their title, current grade and report date.

Permanent Full Time

NAME	TITLE	GRADE	REPORT DATE	STATUS
Boyd, Lonnie	Maintenance Worker	WG-7	11/13/94	
Bradley, Jim	Park Ranger	GS-7	11/15/92	
Collier, Linda	Administrative Technician	GS-6	10/01/95	
Endrizzi, Deanne	Park Ranger	GS-7	09/09/90	
Franke, Dean	Maintenance Worker	WG-9	03/30/97	
Gaunitz, Debbie	Refuge Operations Specialist	GS-9	06/21/98	
Hjelmgren, Jim	Park Ranger - LE	GS-9	09/14/97	
Kane, Chris	Bio-Science Technician	GS-7	07/24/94	
Kerr, Tom	Refuge Operations Specialist	GS-12	04/05/92	
Malling, Mike	Wildlife Biologist	GS-7	04/27/97	
McDonald, Sue	Park Ranger	GS-7	12/07/97	
Miller, Judith	Park Ranger	GS-11	06/28/92	
Mitzel, Andy	Park Ranger	GS-6	08/03/97	Transfer to DOD
Moyer, Ed	Park Ranger	GS-7	11/14/82	
Newbrough, Dawn	Administrative Officer	GS-9	07/05/98	
Samuels, Vickie	Park Ranger	GS-7	08/28/90	
Schreiner, Terry	Refuge Operations Specialist	GS-12	07/21/85	
Schultz, Richard D.	Refuge Manager	GS-14	10/16/94	
Sherry, Vicki	Wildlife Biologist	GS-9	03/20/94	
Torres, Jill	Park Ranger	GS-9	02/01/99	
Wassather, Roy	Maintenance Worker	WG-9	07/28/91	

1. The first settlers of the United States were the Native Americans.	2. The first European settlers of the United States were the Pilgrims.	3. The first President of the United States was George Washington.	4. The first capital of the United States was Philadelphia.
5. The first Constitution of the United States was written in 1787.	6. The first Bill of Rights was passed in 1791.	7. The first Supreme Court of the United States was established in 1789.	8. The first President to die in office was William Henry Harrison.
9. The first President to be elected by the people was Andrew Jackson.	10. The first President to be elected by the people was Abraham Lincoln.	11. The first President to be elected by the people was Franklin D. Roosevelt.	12. The first President to be elected by the people was Dwight D. Eisenhower.
13. The first President to be elected by the people was John F. Kennedy.	14. The first President to be elected by the people was Lyndon B. Johnson.	15. The first President to be elected by the people was Richard Nixon.	16. The first President to be elected by the people was Gerald R. Ford.
17. The first President to be elected by the people was Jimmy Carter.	18. The first President to be elected by the people was Ronald Reagan.	19. The first President to be elected by the people was George H. W. Bush.	20. The first President to be elected by the people was Bill Clinton.
21. The first President to be elected by the people was George W. Bush.	22. The first President to be elected by the people was Barack Obama.	23. The first President to be elected by the people was Donald Trump.	24. The first President to be elected by the people was Joe Biden.

Permanent Part-Time Appointments

NAME	TITLE	GRADE	REPORT DATE	STATUS
Cassem, Kathryn	Park Ranger	GS-7	07/24/94	

Permanent Seasonal Appointments

NAME	TITLE	GRADE	REPORT DATE	STATUS
Marcouiller, Tom	Maintenance Worker	WG-6	4/18/99	

Permanent Intermittent Appointments

None

Temporary/Term Appointments

NAME	TITLE	GRADE	REPORT DATE	STATUS
Fifarek, Tracy	Biological Sciences Tech.	GS-5	05/03/99	
Fitzgerald, Katy	Biological Sciences Tech.	GS-5	02/01/99	
Thorson, Jane	Biological Sciences Tech.	GS-5	05/17/99	Expiration of Appt.

SCEP/CAI Students

NAME	TITLE	GRADE	REPORT DATE	STATUS
Antonio, Alisha	Biological Sciences Aid.	GS-3	06/13/99	Expiration of Appt.
Giese, Juancarlos	Student Trainee (Biology)	GS-3	06/06/99	
Kessenich, Chris	Student Trainee (Biology)	GS-3	06/06/99	Resigned
Troendle, Aleisha	Biological Sciences Aid.	GS-3	06/13/99	Expiration of Appt.

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1. 1990年12月15日，在《人民日报》发表署名文章《中国要警惕“新左派”的泛滥》，指出“新左派”泛滥的根源是“中国改革不彻底”。

1. The first step in the process is to identify the problem or issue that needs to be addressed. This involves gathering information and understanding the context of the problem.

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Journal of Management Inquiry 16(4)

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1. The first part of the document is a letter from the President of the United States to the Congress, dated January 3, 1862. It is a message of condolence to the people of the State of California, who have been afflicted by a severe drought and famine. The President expresses his sympathy for the suffering and his hope that the Congress will take prompt action to relieve the distress.

2. The second part of the document is a report from the Secretary of the Interior, dated January 10, 1862. It contains information regarding the land claims of the State of California, and the progress of the survey of the public lands. The report also mentions the discovery of gold in the State, and the measures taken to regulate the mining industry.

3. The third part of the document is a report from the Secretary of the Treasury, dated January 15, 1862. It contains information regarding the public debt, and the measures taken to manage the finances of the Government. The report also mentions the discovery of gold in the State, and the measures taken to regulate the mining industry.

4. The fourth part of the document is a report from the Secretary of the War, dated January 20, 1862. It contains information regarding the military operations in the State, and the progress of the campaign against the rebels. The report also mentions the discovery of gold in the State, and the measures taken to regulate the mining industry.

5. The fifth part of the document is a report from the Secretary of the Navy, dated January 25, 1862. It contains information regarding the naval operations in the State, and the progress of the campaign against the rebels. The report also mentions the discovery of gold in the State, and the measures taken to regulate the mining industry.

6. The sixth part of the document is a report from the Secretary of the State, dated January 30, 1862. It contains information regarding the diplomatic relations of the State, and the progress of the campaign against the rebels. The report also mentions the discovery of gold in the State, and the measures taken to regulate the mining industry.

7. The seventh part of the document is a report from the Secretary of the Education, dated February 5, 1862. It contains information regarding the public schools, and the progress of the campaign against the rebels. The report also mentions the discovery of gold in the State, and the measures taken to regulate the mining industry.

8. The eighth part of the document is a report from the Secretary of the Agriculture, dated February 10, 1862. It contains information regarding the public lands, and the progress of the campaign against the rebels. The report also mentions the discovery of gold in the State, and the measures taken to regulate the mining industry.

9. The ninth part of the document is a report from the Secretary of the Commerce, dated February 15, 1862. It contains information regarding the public lands, and the progress of the campaign against the rebels. The report also mentions the discovery of gold in the State, and the measures taken to regulate the mining industry.

10. The tenth part of the document is a report from the Secretary of the Labor, dated February 20, 1862. It contains information regarding the public lands, and the progress of the campaign against the rebels. The report also mentions the discovery of gold in the State, and the measures taken to regulate the mining industry.

Volunteer, Career, and Work Programs

Student Career Experience Program

The Student Career Experience Program (SCEP) is a federal program that provides positions for college students enrolled in a four year degree program. The program provides job training for the students while they attend college and assists them in finding employment within the Fish and Wildlife Service upon graduation. Chris Kessenich and Juancarlos Giese performed a variety of projects including habitat mapping, oak savanna monitoring, and maintenance projects for the Refuge.

East Side Neighborhood Services

Virginia Richmond continues to assist Refuge staff through the Neighborhood Services program which pays her salary and provides transportation to and from work. Ginny assists the administrative staff with various tasks including daily mail sorting, filing, and data entry projects.

Career Awareness Institute

The Career Awareness Institute is a federal program that provides paid training and skills development in fisheries and wildlife biology, landscape ecology, conservation biology, and other aspects of natural resource management. The program includes a two week academic phase and a seven week work assignment at a selected field station. Aleisha Troendle (University of Wisconsin - River Falls) and Alisha Antonio (Fort Lewis College, Durango, CO) attended the National Conservation Training Center session and spent the summer assisting the station biologist with various projects including oak savanna monitoring, purple loosestrife beetle monitoring, and habitat mapping.

University of Wisconsin - River Falls Student Intern Program

The Refuge hired six student interns to assist with maintenance projects on the Refuge and throughout the Wetland District. Carol Fagerlin, Sarah Hachey, Dana Peterson, Rachael Booth, Chris Valentine, and Scott Wentz spent ten weeks working on projects such as posting, parking lot construction, and general maintenance projects.

Volunteer Program

In spite of the vacant volunteer coordinator position, Refuge volunteers provided over 6,000 hours for items such as special events, interpretive programs, visitor center desk coverage, and general maintenance projects.

Tree Trust

Twin Cities Tree Trust once again tackled several much needed public use projects. This organization has been our sole source for support in the completion of new and the rehabilitation of existing public use projects over the last 16 years. The only cost to the Refuge is for the materials. The projects completed or initiated during the time period are as follows:

10/10/1911

Received from the
The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been
admitted to the office of the Secretary of the Board of Health
since the last meeting of the Board. The names are given in
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The following is a list of the names of the persons who have been
admitted to the office of the Secretary of the Board of Health
since the last meeting of the Board. The names are given in
alphabetical order of their surnames. The names of the persons
who have been admitted to the office of the Secretary of the
Board of Health since the last meeting of the Board are given
in the following list.

10/10/1911

- Constructed a fishing pier facility on Hogback Fishing Pond.
- Completed the trail by-pass under New Cedar Avenue bridge.
- Trimmed and removed downed trees from Bluff Trail.
- Installed water bars on Visitor Center Trail.



Photo 15. Water bars installed on Hillside trail before backfilling to grade. Photo by T. Schreiner.

8.c. Major Construction and Maintenance Projects

The Minnesota Department of Transportation (MNDOT) began the replacement of the highway 169 bridge that crosses the Minnesota River and connects the Wilkie Unit to the Bloomington Ferry unit. The old vehicle bridge was removed and replaced with a smaller pedestrian bridge. Upon completion of the project in FY2000, the DNR will take over management of the bridge as part of the state trail system.

The Visitor Center carpeting was replaced in the two classrooms, the gallery, and the stairs leading to the administration offices.

A post and rail parking lot was constructed on the Upgrala Unit. The completion of the lot was instrumental in reducing the amount of dumping that was occurring in the area. Crews from all several agencies cooperated to remove over 12 dump truck loads of garbage, tires, appliances and brush were from this multiple ownership area that includes Refuge, DNR, Scott County and DOT land.

With assistance from Regional Office surveyors the Long Meadow Lake Unit boundaries were properly posted throughout the Bloomington area. In addition, several WPA's and easements were posted as well.

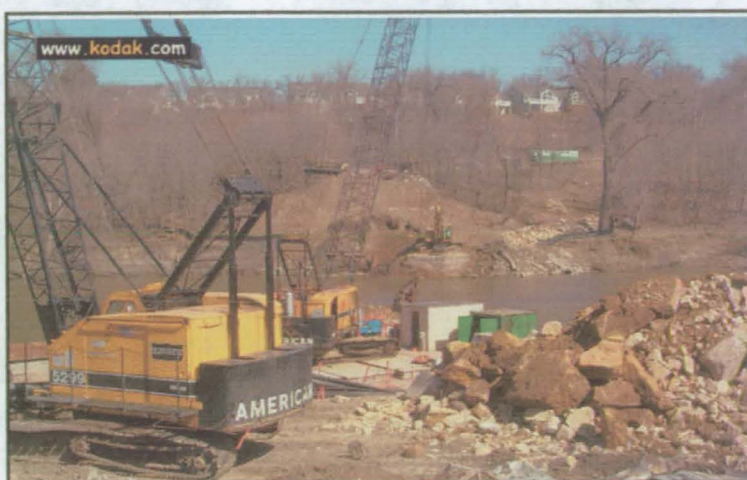


Photo 16. Bloomington Ferry bridge replacement in progress. Photo by R. Schultz.

Refuge Comprehensive Accomplishment Report - FY 99

Minnesota Valley NWR

OrgCode: 32590

State(s): MN

Type: NWR

3

MONITORING AND STUDIES

1.a. Surveys & Censuses

Inputs:	Outputs:	Outcomes:
\$16 1260 funds (\$K)	# of wildlife surveys conducted 8	TE: 10%
\$5 Other funds (\$K)	# of habitat surveys conducted 3	WF: 15%
\$21 Total funds (\$K)	% of effort off-refuge 0	OMB: 15%
83 1260 Staff Days		HEC: 25%
35 Other Staff Days		IAF: %
118 Total Staff Days		SDA: %
153 Volunteer Hours		RFW: 15%
		PED: 10%
		PRC: 10%

Although a spring storm in 1998 destroyed most of the great blue heron nestling production, the colony produced over 400 nestlings, which is close to the average production of the colony. Since staff is currently restoring the oak savannahs at Rapids Lake and Louisville Swamp units, no habitat surveys were conducted. However, the Minnesota School for Environmental Learning conducted a baseline vegetation survey on an old field in the Long Meadow Lake Unit which is scheduled for restoration.

1.b. Studies and Investigations

Inputs:	Outputs:	Outcomes:
\$9 1260 funds (\$K)	# of studies conducted 2	TE: %
\$1 Other funds (\$K)	% of effort off-refuge 0	WF: %
\$10 Total funds (\$K)		OMB: %
30 1260 Staff Days		HEC: 50%
5 Other Staff Days		IAF: %
35 Total Staff Days		SDA: %
250 Volunteer Hours		RFW: 50%
		PED: %
		PRC: %

The NSP staff presented their report from the invertebrate, vegetation, and fish studies that were conducted on the Black Dog Unit. This data will be helpful in the long term management of Black Dog Lake.

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State(s): MN

Type: NWR

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HABITAT RESTORATION

2.a. Wetland Restoration

Inputs:	Outputs:	Outcomes:
\$73 1260 funds (\$K)	# of refuge acres restored 75	TE: 10%
\$13 Other funds (\$K)	# of off-refuge acres restored 202	WF: 60%
\$86 Total funds (\$K)	# acres of new wetlands .7	OMB: 10%
300 1260 Staff Days		HEC: 10%
80 Other Staff Days		IAF: 10%
380 Total Staff Days		SDA: 15%
75 Volunteer Hours		RFW: 65%
		PED: 10%
		PRC: 10%

Some of the major wetland restoration projects that were completed in FY99 include 11.6 acres on Cobb WPA, 38.1 acres on Perbix WPA, 17 acres on the Salokar FmHA easement, 56 acres on the Cook property, and the final two restorations were completed on Redhead WPA. Over 30 partners including landowners, local conservation organizations, government agencies such as the NRCS and Soil and Water Conservation District Offices, DNR, and NAWCA grant funds were used to complete these restorations. As in previous years the emphasis is placed on the

2.b. Upland Restoration

Inputs:	Outputs:	Outcomes:
\$68 1260 funds (\$K)	# of refuge acres restored 273	TE: 5%
\$3 Other funds (\$K)	# of off-refuge acres restored 73	WF: 60%
\$71 Total funds (\$K)		OMB: 20%
240 1260 Staff Days		HEC: 10%
20 Other Staff Days		IAF: 10%
260 Total Staff Days		SDA: 10%
190 Volunteer Hours		RFW: 75%
		PED: 10%
		PRC: 10%

Refuge staff worked to restore native grasses on several WPA's including Perbix (75 acres), Cobb (64 acres), and Erin Prairie (74 acres). Refuge staff worked in partnership with several local Minnesota Pheasants chapters which provided assistance with seeding and funding for several WPAs. Also completed was a 20 acre oak savannah restoration on the Oelfke easement and 30 acres of prairie on private land in Carver County. This work was supported by contributions from local conservation organizations and a NAWCA and Metropolitan Council grant.

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2.c. Riverine Restoration

Inputs:	Outputs:	Outcomes:
\$8 1260 funds (\$K)	miles of refuge rivers restored 0	TE: 5%
Other funds (\$K)	miles of non-refuge rivers rest. 2	WF: 20%
\$8 Total funds (\$K)	# riverine projects completed 13	OMB: 15%
30 1260 Staff Days		HEC: 50%
0 Other Staff Days		IAF: 20%
30 Total Staff Days		SDA: 15%
400 Volunteer Hours		RFW: 60%
		PED: 10%
		PRC: 5%

Thirteen restorations were completed through cooperative agreements with the Carver and Scott County Soil and Water Conservation Districts. The refuge paid part of the cost of the restoration while the SWCDs and Minnesota Conservation Corps crews provided labor and supplies. Riparian restorations are concentrated in the lower Minnesota River watershed to provided water quality benefits as well as habitat benefits to the refuge.

2.d. Deepwater/Coral Reef Restoration

Inputs:	Outputs:	Outcomes:
\$0 1260 funds (\$K)	# refuge deepwater acres restored 0	TE: %
\$0 Other funds (\$K)	# refuge coral reef acres restored 0	WF: %
\$0 Total funds (\$K)	# off-refuge deepwater acres rest. 0	OMB: %
0 1260 Staff Days	miles of marine shoreline restored 0	HEC: %
0 Other Staff Days	# deepwater/coral reef projects 0	IAF: %
0 Total Staff Days		SDA: %
0 Volunteer Hours		RFW: %
		PED: %
		PRC: %

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Type: NWR

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HABITAT MANAGEMENT

3.a. Water Level Management

Inputs:		Outputs:		Outcomes:
\$22	1260 funds(\$K)	# new acres to be managed	1108	TE: 10%
\$4	Other funds(\$K)	# new units to be managed	16	WF: 30%
\$26	Total funds(\$K)			OMB: 30%
75	1260 Staff Days			HEC: 10%
25	Other Staff Days			IAF: %
100	Total Staff Days			SDA: %
0	Volunteer Hours			RFW: %
				PED: 10%
				PRC: 10%

3.b. Moist Soil Management

Inputs:		Outputs:		Outcomes:
	1260 funds(\$K)	# new acres to be managed	20	TE: %
	Other funds(\$K)	# new units to be managed	2	WF: 85%
	Total funds(\$K)			OMB: 15%
15	1260 Staff Days			HEC: %
0	Other Staff Days			IAF: %
15	Total Staff Days			SDA: %
0	Volunteer Hours			RFW: %
				PED: %
				PRC: %

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3.c. Graze/Mow/Hay			Outcomes:
Inputs:	Outputs:		
\$0 1260 funds(\$K)	# acres mowed/hayed	0	TE: %
\$0 Other funds(\$K)	# acres grazed	0	WF: %
\$0 Total funds(\$K)	# AMUs supported	0	OMB: %
0 1260 Staff Days			HEC: %
0 Other Staff Days			IAF: %
0 Total Staff Days			SDA: %
0 Volunteer Hours			RFW: %
			PED: %
			PRC: %

3.d. Farming			Outcomes:
Inputs:	Outputs:		
\$6 1260 funds(\$K)	# acres farmed	32	TE: 10%
Other funds(\$K)	% cooperatively farmed	100	WF: 30%
\$6 Total funds(\$K)			OMB: 20%
25 1260 Staff Days			HEC: 10%
0 Other Staff Days			IAF: %
25 Total Staff Days			SDA: %
0 Volunteer Hours			RFW: 10%
			PED: 10%
			PRC: 10%

The Eichten FmHA easement and Perbix WPA were farmed to prepare the areas for native grass seedings in the 2000 field season.

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3.e. Forest Management	Outcomes:
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State(s): MN

Type: NWR

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3.e. Forest Management

Inputs:		Outputs:		Outcomes:
\$8	1260 funds(\$K)	# acres harvested	20	TE: 10%
\$5	Other funds(\$K)	# acres treated	0	WF: %
\$13	Total funds(\$K)			OMB: 20%
10	1260 Staff Days			HEC: 50%
20	Other Staff Days			IAF: %
30	Total Staff Days			SDA: %
250	Volunteer Hours			RFW: 10%
				PED: 10%
				PRC: %

Cedar trees were removed from the Rapids Lake Unit as part of an oak savannah restoration project. In addition, woody vegetation was removed with a hydroaxe from the Louisville Swamp unit oak savanna restoration area. The oak savanna restoration site is on an intensive tree removal and burning schedule in an effort to encourage native grasses and forbs to repopulate the understory of the oaks. When completed, the Louisville site will cover over 50 acres and the Rapids Lake site will cover 200 acres.

3.f. Fire Management

Inputs:		Outputs:		Outcomes:
\$36	1260 funds(\$K)	# refuge prescribed burn acres	116	TE: 10%
\$14	Other funds(\$K)	# off-refuge prescribed burn acres	0	WF: 30%
\$50	Total funds(\$K)	# refuge prescribed burns conducted	6	OMB: 20%
150	1260 Staff Days	# wildfires suppressed	0	HEC: 20%
85	Other Staff Days			IAF: %
235	Total Staff Days			SDA: %
0	Volunteer Hours			RFW: 10%
				PED: 5%
				PRC: 5%

Unfavorable wind directions and above normal rainfall in the month of April and May contributed to the low number of prescribed burns that were completed in FY99. Several new prairie plantings as well as the Louisville Oak Savannah restoration site were burned.

3.g Pest Plant Control

Outcomes:

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3.g Pest Plant Control		Outcomes:
Inputs:	Outputs:	TE: %
\$33 1260 funds(\$K)	# acres treated 557	WF: %
\$6 Other funds(\$K)	# refuge acres infested 2800	OMB: %
\$39 Total funds(\$K)	# acres treated chemically 77	HEC: 100%
140 1260 Staff Days	# acres treated mechanically 470	IAF: %
35 Other Staff Days	# acres treated biologically 10	SDA: %
175 Total Staff Days		RFW: %
0 Volunteer Hours		PED: %
		PRC: %

The purchase of a truck mounted spray unit enabled Refuge staff to spray three times as many acres of thistle than in past years.

Approximately 5040 purple loosestrife beetles were released on the Hogback pond, the youth fishing pond, and Cedar pond. The refuge is also a Minnesota Department of Agriculture nursery site for leafy spurge beetles. Starting in FY 2000, the refuge will be increasing our efforts to monitor and control exotic species.

FISH AND WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

4.a. Bird Banding		Outcomes:
Inputs:	Outputs:	TE: %
\$0 1260 funds(\$K)	# waterfowl banded 0	WF: %
\$0 Other funds(\$K)	# other birds banded 0	OMB: %
\$0 Total funds(\$K)		HEC: %
0 1260 Staff Days		IAF: %
0 Other Staff Days		SDA: %
0 Total Staff Days		RFW: %
0 Volunteer Hours		PED: %
		PRC: %

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4.b Disease Monitoring and Treatment

Inputs:

\$0 1260 funds (\$K)
\$0 Other funds (\$K)
\$0 Total funds (\$K)
0 1260 Staff Days
0 Other Staff Days
0 Total Staff Days
0 Volunteer Hours

Outputs:

outbreaks monitored 0
mortalities documented 0
% effort off-refuge

Outcomes:

TE: %
WF: %
OMB: %
HEC: %
IAF: %
SDA: %
RFW: %
PED: %
PRC: %

4.c. Reintroductions

Inputs:

\$0 1260 funds (\$K)
\$0 Other funds (\$K)
\$0 Total funds (\$K)
0 1260 Staff Days
0 Other Staff Days
0 Total Staff Days
0 Volunteer Hours

Outputs:

mammals released 0
birds released 0
reptiles/amphibians released 0
fish released 0
other animals released 0

Outcomes:

TE: %
WF: %
OMB: %
HEC: %
IAF: %
SDA: %
RFW: %
PED: %
PRC: %

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4.d. Nest Structures

Inputs:

\$11 1260 funds(\$K)
\$2 Other funds(\$K)
\$13 Total funds(\$K)

30 1260 Staff Days
10 Other Staff Days
40 Total Staff Days
36 Volunteer Hours

Outputs:

bird nest structures erected 40
bird nest structures maintained 80

Outcomes:

TE: %
WF: 80%
OMB: 20%
HEC: %
IAF: %
SDA: %
RFW: %
PED: %
PRC: %

Refuge staff continue to work with private landowners to encourage them to put up wood duck boxes and mallard nest strutures on restored wetlands. Through the private lands program staff also give landowners bluebird boxes and bat houses.

4.e. Pest, Predator & Exotic Animal Control

Inputs:

\$0 1260 funds(\$K)
\$0 Other funds(\$K)
\$0 Total funds(\$K)

0 1260 Staff Days
0 Other Staff Days
0 Total Staff Days
0 Volunteer Hours

Outputs:

mammals removed 0
birds removed 0
reptiles/amphibians removed 0
exlusionary fenced areas maint. 0
acres treated for insects 0

Outcomes:

TE: %
WF: %
OMB: %
HEC: %
IAF: %
SDA: %
RFW: %
PED: %
PRC: %

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COORDINATION ACTIVITIES

5.a. Interagency Coordination

Outcomes:

Inputs:	Outputs:			
\$76 1260 funds(\$K)	# acres affected	3000	TE:	10%
Other funds(\$K)	% effort for uplands	50	WF:	10%
\$76 Total funds(\$K)	% effort for wetlands	40	OMB:	10%
402 1260 Staff Days	% effort for deepwater/riverine	10	HEC:	20%
0 Other Staff Days			IAF:	%
402 Total Staff Days			SDA:	%
0 Volunteer Hours			RFW:	10%
			PED:	20%
			PRC:	20%

Refuge staff continue to work with many local government agencies to protect and restore the lower Minnesota River watershed. The refuge works closely with 2 adjacent state parks, the DNR wildlife managers in our 13 county WMD as well as many local cities and county agencies. We continue to address stormwater and urban development issues adjacent to the refuge in an effort to protect refuge waters and lands.

5.b. Tribal Coordination

Outcomes:

Inputs:	Outputs:			
\$0 1260 funds(\$K)	# acres affected	0	TE:	%
\$0 Other funds(\$K)	% effort for uplands	0	WF:	%
\$0 Total funds(\$K)	% effort for wetlands	0	OMB:	%
0 1260 Staff Days	% effort for deepwater/riverine	0	HEC:	%
0 Other Staff Days			IAF:	%
0 Total Staff Days			SDA:	%
0 Volunteer Hours			RFW:	%
			PED:	%
			PRC:	%

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5.c. Private Land Activities (excluding restoration)

Inputs:		Outputs:		Outcomes:
\$58	1260 funds (\$K)	# landowners assisted	250	TE: 10%
\$10	Other funds (\$K)	# acres affected	1560	WF: 30%
\$68	Total funds (\$K)	% effort for uplands	60	OMB: 20%
250	1260 Staff Days	% effort for wetlands	35	HEC: 20%
60	Other Staff Days	% effort for deepwater/riverine	5	IAF: %
310	Total Staff Days			SDA: %
0	Volunteer Hours			RFW: 20%
				PED: %
				PRC: %

Refuge staff continue to promote partnerships through the private lands program in an effort to restore and protect wetland, riparian and prairie habitat in the 13 county wetland district. Although the emphasis is on the lower Minnesota River watershed, we also work closely with landowners in the Cannon River and Mississippi River watersheds. Refuge staff work closely with many private conservation organizations to accomplish our goals.

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RESOURCE PROTECTION

6.a. Law Enforcement			Outcomes:
Inputs:	Outputs:		
\$223 1260 funds(\$K)	# incidents documented	114	TE: %
Other funds(\$K)	# NOVs & State citations issued	81	WF: 20%
\$223 Total funds(\$K)	# cases assisted	5	OMB: 10%
400 1260 Staff Days	# miles of boundary posted/maint.	24	HEC: 10%
Other Staff Days			IAF: %
400 Total Staff Days			SDA: %
8 Volunteer Hours			RFW: 20%
			PED: 10%
			PRC: 30%

6.b. Permits & Economic Use Management			Outcomes:
Inputs:	Outputs:		
\$9 1260 funds(\$K)	# permits issued	23	TE: %
Other funds(\$K)	# special uses reviewed	38	WF: 20%
\$9 Total funds(\$K)			OMB: 10%
45 1260 Staff Days			HEC: 50%
0 Other Staff Days			IAF: %
45 Total Staff Days			SDA: %
0 Volunteer Hours			RFW: 20%
			PED: %
			PRC: %

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6.c. Contaminant Investigations			Outcomes:
Inputs:	Outputs:		
\$11 1260 funds (\$K)	# investigations underway	1	TE: %
Other funds (\$K)	# investigations completed	2	WF: %
\$11 Total funds (\$K)	# water quality studies underway	2	OMB: %
45 1260 Staff Days	# air quality studies underway	0	HEC: 25%
0 Other Staff Days			IAF: %
45 Total Staff Days			SDA: %
0 Volunteer Hours			RFW: 75%
			PED: %
			PRC: %

As part of the Contaminant Assessment Program, Refuge staff worked with the Twin Cities Ecological Services Office to collect background information on contaminant threats to the Long Meadow Lake and Black Dog Units of the Refuge. Due to the large volume of stormwater (over 23 stormwater outlets into Long Meadow Lake) entering refuge wetlands, this is a major resource challenge for managing bottomland wetlands.

6.d. Contaminant Cleanup			Outcomes:
Inputs:	Outputs:		
\$6 1260 funds (\$K)	# cleanups underway	0	TE: %
Other funds (\$K)	# cleanups completed	2	WF: %
\$6 Total funds (\$K)	# spills responded to	2	OMB: %
15 1260 Staff Days			HEC: 25%
0 Other Staff Days			IAF: %
15 Total Staff Days			SDA: %
0 Volunteer Hours			RFW: 75%
			PED: %
			PRC: %

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6.e. Water Rights Management			Outcomes:
Inputs:	Outputs:		
\$0 1260 funds (\$K)	% effort for identification	0	TE: %
\$0 Other funds (\$K)	% effort for protection	0	WF: %
\$0 Total funds (\$K)	% effort for quantification	0	OMB: %
0 1260 Staff Days	% effort for adjudication	0	HEC: %
0 Other Staff Days			IAF: %
0 Total Staff Days			SDA: %
0 Volunteer Hours			RFW: %
			PED: %
			PRC: %

6.f. Cultural Resource Management			Outcomes:
Inputs:	Outputs:		
\$0 1260 funds (\$K)	# of investigations conducted	1	TE: %
\$0 Other funds (\$K)	# of sites documented	0	WF: %
\$0 Total funds (\$K)	# of museum property items maint.	0	OMB: %
0 1260 Staff Days			HEC: %
0 Other Staff Days			IAF: %
0 Total Staff Days			SDA: %
0 Volunteer Hours			RFW: %
			PED: %
			PRC: %

Through the CCP process, a contractor completed an overview of the archeological resources on the refuge.

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6.g. Land Acquisition Support

Inputs:		Outputs:		Outcomes:
\$49	1260 funds (\$K)	# of tracts involved	17	TE: 10%
\$5	Other funds (\$K)	# of acres involved	4655	WF: 30%
\$54	Total funds (\$K)			OMB: 20%
220	1260 Staff Days			HEC: 20%
30	Other Staff Days			IAF: %
250	Total Staff Days			SDA: %
0	Volunteer Hours			RFW: 10%
				PED: %
				PRC: 10%

In July 1999, the Service was able to acquire the 845 acre Kelley tract located in the Long Meadow Lake Unit. This key parcel of land connects the visitor center to the rest of the unit. Now visitors can walk from the visitor center and hike on trails that connect with the Minnesota River bottoms. Negotiations for this tract of land have been ongoing for years. The refuge is also actively acquiring lands in the Wetland Management District.

PUBLIC EDUCATION AND RECREATION

7.a. Provide Visitor Services

Inputs:		Outputs:		Outcomes:
\$355	1260 funds (\$K)	% effort for hunting	5	TE: %
\$44	Other funds (\$K)	% effort for fishing	5	WF: 10%
\$399	Total funds (\$K)	% effort for wildlife obs/photog.	15	OMB: 5%
1,525	1260 Staff Days	% effort for education/interp.	70	HEC: %
260	Other Staff Days	% effort for non-priority use	5	IAF: %
1,785	Total Staff Days			SDA: %
3,449	Volunteer Hours			RFW: 5%
				PED: 40%
				PRC: 40%

Approximately 12,000 visitors attended Environmental Education programs (from pre-school to high school). Staff hosted or participated in 10 educator workshops reaching 400 people. Approximately 1,300 visitors attended Interpretive programs presented by staff and volunteers. Staff also work closely with 7 partner schools providing close support for environmental programming.

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7.b. Outreach			Outcomes:
Inputs:	Outputs:		
\$188 1260 funds (\$K)	# participants (groups)	4000	TE: %
Other funds (\$K)			WF: %
\$188 Total funds (\$K)	# people viewing off-site exhibits	200000	OMB: %
	# news releases issued	36	HEC: %
750 1260 Staff Days	# TV/radio spots	10	IAF: %
0 Other Staff Days			SDA: %
750 Total Staff Days	# of other special events	6	RFW: %
1,269 Volunteer Hours			PED: 75%
			PRC: 25%

Six major special events were coordinated and hosted by Refuge staff including International Migratory Bird Day, Youth Fishing Day, Junior Duck Stamp program, Earth Day, Young Waterfowlers, and National Wildlife Refuge Week. These events drew over 105,000 visitors to the Refuge.

The Junior Duck stamp exhibit travelled throughout the state of Minnesota and was viewed by over 100,000 people at 11 different sites including the Natural

PLANNING AND ADMINISTRATION

8.a. Comprehensive Conservation Planning			Outcomes:
Inputs:	Outputs:		
\$51 1260 funds (\$K)	% of CCP completed this year	25	TE: 10%
\$8 Other funds (\$K)			WF: 10%
\$205 Total funds (\$K)	% completion overall	25	OMB: 10%
	# of stations covered	1	HEC: 30%
160 1260 Staff Days			IAF: %
45 Other Staff Days			SDA: %
205 Total Staff Days			RFW: 10%
0 Volunteer Hours			PED: 15%
			PRC: 15%

The Refuge has completed four major steps in the CCP process: pre-planning, initiating public involvement and scoping, reviewing the vision statement, and determining significant issues. Seven public open houses were held at various locations throughout the district which were attended by approximately 250 people.

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8.b. General Administration		Outcomes:
Inputs:	Outputs:	TE: %
\$101 1260 funds (\$K)		WF: %
Other funds (\$K)	% station funds spent on maint. 15	OMB: %
\$101 Total funds (\$K)		HEC: %
330 1260 Staff Days		IAF: %
Other Staff Days		SDA: %
330 Total Staff Days		RFW: %
133 Volunteer Hours		PED: %
		PRC: %

During the year the refuge also employed 2 SCEP students, 2 Career Awareness
Institute students, 2 Youth in Natural Resource students, and 6 interns from the
University of Wisconsin.

TOTALS: Minnesota Valley NWR

Inputs:	5,270 1260 Staff Days	Staff FTEs Used: 23.0
\$1,417 1260 (\$K)	710 Other Staff Days	Volunteer FTEs Used: 3.0
\$120 Other (\$K)	5,980 Total Staff Days	
\$1,537 Total (\$K)	6,213 Volunteer Hours	

Volunteer Services Report

FISCAL YEAR 99

Station Information

Station: **Minnesota Valley NWR**

OrgCode: 32590

1. Number of volunteers by age:	Under 18	18-35	36-61	Over 61	TOTAL
	<u>10</u>	<u>38</u>	<u>33</u>	<u>2</u>	<u>83</u>

2. Number of hours by Activity Category

Monitoring & Studies

Surveys & Censuses	<u>153</u>
Studies & Investigations	<u>250</u>

Habitat Restoration

Wetland Restoration	<u>75</u>
Upland Restoration	<u>190</u>
Riverine Restoration	<u>400</u>
Deepwater/Coral Reef Restoration	<u>0</u>

Habitat Management

Water Level Management	<u>0</u>
Moist Soil Management	<u>0</u>
Graze/Mow/Hay	<u>0</u>
Farming	<u>0</u>
Forest Management	<u>250</u>
Fire Management	<u>0</u>
Pest Plant Control	<u>0</u>

Fish & Wildlife Management

Bird Banding	<u>0</u>
Disease Monitoring & Treatment	<u>0</u>
Reintroductions	<u>0</u>
Nest Structures	<u>36</u>
Pest, Predator & Exotic Control	<u>0</u>

Coordination Activities

Interagency Coordination	<u>0</u>
Tribal Coordination	<u>0</u>
Private Lands Activities (ex.restoration)	<u>0</u>

Resource Protection

Law Enforcement	<u>8</u>
Permits & Economic Use Management	<u>0</u>
Contaminant Investigation	<u>0</u>
Contaminant Cleanup	<u>0</u>
Water Rights Management	<u>0</u>
Cultural Resource Management	<u>0</u>
Land Acquisition Support	<u>0</u>

Public Education & Recreation

Provide Visitor Services	<u>3449</u>
Outreach	<u>1269</u>

Planning & Administration

Comprehensive Conservation Planning	<u>0</u>
General Administration	<u>133</u>

Provisions Unique to Alaska

Subsistence	<u> </u>
Public Access	<u> </u>
Manage Comm./Subsistence Fisheries	<u> </u>
Manage Private Lands	<u> </u>
Navigability Determinations	<u> </u>

Total Hours 6213

Operation Costs (\$K)

Operations (Supplies, Materials, Equipment, Uniforms, etc.)	<u>\$1.0</u>
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Travel/Transportation, Per Diem, Housing/Utilities (etc.)	<u>\$0.0</u>
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Volunteer Services Report

FISCAL YEAR 99

Station Information

Station: **Minnesota Valley NWR**

OrgCode: 32590

Other (Staff/Volunteer Training, Recruitment, Recognition)

\$1.0

TOTAL \$2.0

Staff Time/Salary for Administration of Program

Staff Time (Days) _____

Staff Salaries (\$K) _____

Volunteer Highlights

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Special Recognition

Volunteer interpreter Craig Mandel became the first volunteer at Minnesota Valley to exceed 2,000 hours of service to the Refuge. Craig's specialty is leading interpretive bird walks which have attracted up to 50 people for one program. His knowledge of the subject, enthusiasm for the Refuge, and talent for making his programs interesting for all ages attribute to the high numbers of visitors that attend his programs.

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Recommendations to improve the volunteer program:

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