



# The United States Fish and Wildlife Service Cultural Resources CCC History Project

## The CCC at Work on the Refuges

### Minorities and Veterans CCC

Out of all the Civilian Conservation Corps Camps in the Refuge system, only three of those were segregated African American Camps. During the 1930's the Jim Crow Laws which emphasized the segregation of African Americans and Caucasian Americans was standard practice. In the early years of the CCC, some camps were integrated, but after public opinion and local complaints, in 1935 Robert Fletcher, the Director of the Civilian Conservation Corps deemed segregation was the best option. Even with the African Americans at segregated camps, they still received equal pay and housing. Out of the 143 CCC segregated Camps, 3 of them are on the refuge systems: Bombay Hook, White River, and St. Marks (no information available).

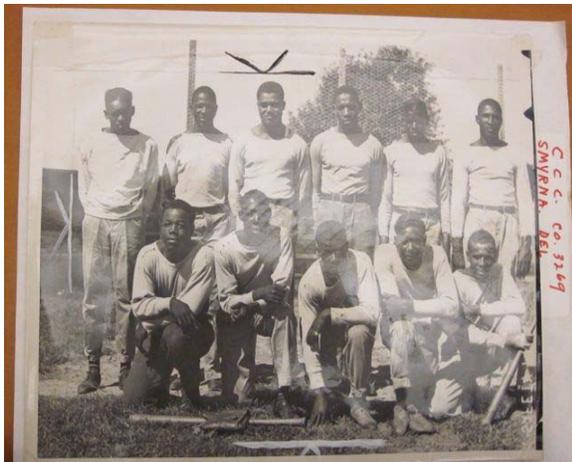


Figure1. Men of Bombay Camp

### Bombay Hook

Bombay Hook's C Enrollees focused on cleared

wood swamps, dike, causeway to separate Shearneck and Finis pools, created three freshwater impounds, planted trees, headquarters buildings, boathouse, marine railway, observation tower, and manager and patrolman's houses. Bombay Hook was the only segregated unit in Delaware.



Figure 2. White River's Floating Camps.

### White River

While set apart from other Refuge CCC Camps as a segregated camp, White River was also the only CCC Camp that was a floating camp. Floating camps were created by using former Corps of Engineers quarterboats and having the CCC Enrollees man them throughout the Rivers surrounding the Refuge. This was the easiest way for the C Enrollees to maneuver over the refuge and have access to sites Inaccessible by land.

You may contact Mr. Eugene Marino ([Eugene\\_marino@fws.gov](mailto:Eugene_marino@fws.gov)), USFWS Archaeologist at 703-358-2173 for more information about the USFWS Cultural Resources Program. You may also visit <http://www.fws.gov/historicpreservation> for additional information on the USFWS museum property program. Photos courtesy of USFWS