



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Office of Information

Press Service



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October 13, 1926.

PRESIDENT INCREASES AREA
OF WILD LIFE RESERVATION

Executive Order Adds to Upper Mississippi
Refuge Many Acres of Vacant Lands
Subject to Overflow

By Executive order of October 2, 1926, President Coolidge authorized the reservation of several tracts of marsh and overflow public lands, to be included in the Upper Mississippi River Wild Life and Fish Refuge, administered by the Bureau of Biological Survey in cooperation with the Bureau of Fisheries. The new refuge was authorized by Congress two years ago, to extend along both sides of the Mississippi River from Rock Island, Ill., to Wabasha, Minn., a distance of approximately 300 miles, and about one year ago the President by Executive order included in it all islands owned by the United States within the limits of the reservation but formerly withheld from public entry for the use of the War Department in connection with possible improvements of navigation on the Upper Mississippi. The new order adds approximately 960 acres to the refuge, among which are a number of small islands and overflow areas along the mainland on either side of the river. The tracts in the State of Illinois comprise 224 acres; in Iowa, 321 acres; in Minnesota, 146 acres; and in Wisconsin, 268 acres. The issuance of the Executive order of October 2 was on recommendation of Secretaries Work and Jardine. Additional overflow areas suitable for the birds and other wild life on the refuge are being surveyed and acquired by gift and purchase through the office of the Biological Survey at Winona, Minn., in charge of W. T. Cox, Superintendent of the refuge.