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EMERGENCY CONSERVATION WORK  
Office of the Director  
Washington, D. C.

July 20, 1934.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE PRESS

RELEASE TO AFTERNOON PAPERS, WEDNESDAY, JULY 25, 1934.

Wildlife, as well as man and the forests, is sharing in the benefits of the Civilian Conservation Corps program, primarily through the improvement of refuge areas, according to information submitted today by the Bureau of Biological Survey to Robert Fechner, Director of Emergency Conservation Work.

"CCC camps have been located on five refuges administered by the Biological Survey for ducks, geese, and other valuable species," the Biological Survey report states. "These refuges are the Swanquarter Migratory Bird Refuge, 15,000 acres of land and marsh just off Pamlico Sound in North Carolina; the St. Marks Migratory Bird Refuge, a 35,000-acre area along the shores of Apalachee Bay in Florida; the Blackwater Migratory Bird Refuge, near Cambridge, Maryland; the Crescent Lake Migratory Bird Refuge, nearly 40,000 acres of land and water in the sandhill region of Garden County, Nebraska; and the Niobrara Big Game Reserve, along the Niobrara River, near Valentine, Nebraska.

"Two problems have long confronted officials administering these refuges -- how to make the areas most suitable for the birds and how to administer them most economically and efficiently. CCC workers are helping to solve both problems.

"By providing feeding areas and ponds the workers are making the refuges more attractive to the birds, and by cutting firebreaks they are reducing the hazards to wildlife.

"To facilitate administration of the refuges the CCC camps are constructing

truck trails and foot trails and are in other ways making the areas more accessible. They are building lookout towers, establishing telephone lines where needed, and improving buildings and grounds at headquarters.

"When the CCC finishes its work we shall have refuges almost idealistic for their purpose from the standpoint of physical development. This work will reduce the cost of future maintenance."

CCC camps working in forests have also included wildlife in their plans for conservation, according to Biological Survey naturalists who have investigated the work in Eastern forests at the request of the Forest Service.

The work of the CCC in thinning stands and promoting sprout growth by severing trunks will, for instance, tend to increase browse for deer and rabbits, and by leaving beech trees that are defective from the standpoint of timber the workers have given special consideration to the food requirements of deer, bears, squirrels, raccoons, opossums, and birds. These were the findings of a biologist of the Bureau sent into the Allegheny National Forest, in Pennsylvania to investigate wildlife conditions.

"From a strictly timber-production standpoint, the removal of all badly defective beech trees would be justified," the investigator reported. "In recognition of their game-food value, however, the policy now in force on the forest provides for the leaving of four large-crowned beech trees per acre, even though they may interfere with the proper development of valuable young growth."

Such recognition of the value of wildlife as a forest resource, will reduce but little the quality and quantity of timber products and will encourage an important recreational asset. Game, the Biological Survey points out, is also a forest crop and a source of profit while timber is growing to marketable size.

Date

Title

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Stanley P. Young and H.P. Sheldon holding 1934-35 duck stamp design by J.N. Darling

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Picture released to newspapers and widely  
used.