

Mr. Gabrielson }
Mr. Henderson }

This is the drought
story we released to
the A.P. yesterday.

AKES
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WCH 6/7/36
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For Press Service from Biological Survey

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(not numbered)

DUCKS SUFFERING FROM DROUGHT

Young wild ducks, many of them only a few weeks old, are suffering from lack of food and water in the drought area, particularly in the Dakotas, according to reports received by U. S. Biological Survey. Many shallow ponds and sloughs that were filled with water last spring when the ducks returned from the South have been dried-up, and others have very little water left.

"When this occurs the ducks and their young begin to search elsewhere for food and water," the Bureau explained. "The young, unable to fly, usually perish after leaving the nesting grounds. In cases of severe drought the sun also destroys much of the natural cover for ducks."

In view of the serious condition of wild ducks in the last few years, the Biological Survey is keeping a close eye on the fate of the ducks during the present drought. Field men have been ordered to make special reports to the Washington office on conditions of ducks in the nesting areas of the Plains States, and officials are considering the effect that drought disaster may have on the waterfowl populations.

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