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For release on date
Clear Lake C. C. C. Camp
celebrates anniversary of
C. C. C.

FOURTH ANNIVERSARY
OF CCC IS CELEBRATED
AT CLEAR LAKE REFUGE

U. S. Biological Survey
Congratulates Boys
on "Good Job"

Civilian Conservation Corps boys doing development work on the Clear Lake Bird Refuge, in Modoc County, California, have done a good job, says Ira S. Gabrielson, Chief of the U. S. Biological Survey, in congratulating them on the fourth anniversary of the C. C. C.

The Clear Lake camp is celebrating today (fill in date and brief explanation of special exercises to be held).

C. C. C. boys on 17 wildlife refuges are contributing man-power for the Biological Survey's nation-wide refuge program, says Chief Gabrielson. They are, in general, doing two important things: making the areas more attractive to the birds and making the refuges easier to administer.

One of these areas, the Clear Lake Refuge, was established by Executive Order of January, 1912. Its 33,840 acres has long been a mecca of mallards, red-heads, cinnamon teal, avocets, stilts, and other shore birds. It is also a favorite wintering ground for the cackling goose, lesser snow geese, whitefronted geese, and Canada geese occur on these refuges in large numbers.

Together with the Tule Lake and Upper Klamath Refuges nearby, at the height of the fall migration last year, it was estimated that there were 150,000 geese of all kinds and 205,000 ducks using the three refuges. The nesting population for the three is conservatively estimated at 36,000 ducks

of all kinds, and 4,000 Canada geese, in addition to many other birds not waterfowl.

The C. B. C. boys' accomplishments make these wild creatures feel at home on the Clear Lake Refuge, says Gabrielson, and enable the survey to carry on their work in wildlife conservation here. The boys began work at Clear Lake in October, 1935, and a resume of their work since that time includes the following.

They have constructed a sturdy vehicle bridge, an overnight cabin, two contact stations; they have erected 9,515 rods of fence, 14 miles of telephone line and almost 57 miles of truck trail. They have developed two springs. They have built three cattle guards and laid 18 rods of stone wall. They have, in the levee, dike, and jetty work done, moved 260,000 cubic yards of rock and soil.

Other work performed by the camp's man-power includes the removal of fire hazards on eight acres of refuge lands, the excavation of 6,000 cubic yards of material for cribbing, filling, etc., and 2,646 square yards of fine grading and road sloping. The boys also collected 675 pounds of grass, flower, and shrub seed, besides planting 147 acres to food and cover for wildlife. Altogether, they devoted 2,325 man days to lake and pond development and other wildlife activities. In addition, this camp gave insect pest control treatment to 1,332 acres of the refuge area, marked 66 miles of boundary, and completed many other lesser projects undertaken in the development of the refuge.

Although they constructed a large number of nesting islands for waterfowl, still there is a great deal to be done before the area will be made ideal for wildlife from a physical standpoint. The efforts of the Camp will continue to be devoted to work along the same lines they have followed in the past.

"All this work," says Gabrielson, "is part of the restoration of our American wildlife, an invaluable resource of great benefit to all Americans. The next time you may see a wedge of Canada geese passing high overhead, or hear their thrilling 'honks', you can say to yourself, 'Well, it may be that those 'honkers' are up there because the U. S. G. boys have been doing a good job down at the Clear Lake Bird Refuge'."