



The Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge site in Minnesota was once valuable to waterfowl. Agricultural drainage of the wetlands and an invasion of carp that destroyed valuable waterfowl food plants in the remaining lakes and streams, severely reduced its value to wildlife. The drainage system has deteriorated and much of the area has reverted to nonagricultural use.

After World War II, local conservation groups became interested in restoring wildlife to the area and approached the Minnesota Conservation Department for assistance. State biologists examined the area, and referred it to the Interior Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife for consideration as a National Wildlife Refuge.

Development of the Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge will be aimed primarily at restoration of drained wetlands. This is expected to provide a waterfowl production, feeding, and resting complex comparable to any in the Lake States. Approximately 10,300 surface acres of water will be created by shallow impoundments. The upland areas will be managed for the production of supplemental waterfowl foods. Up to 40 percent of the Sherburne National Wildlife Refuge may also be opened to waterfowl hunting.

Members of the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission are Secretary Udall, Secretary of Agriculture Orville L. Freeman, Secretary of Commerce John T. Conner, United States Senator Roman L. Hruska of Nebraska, United States Senator Lee Metcalf of Montana, United States Representative Frank L. Karsten of Missouri, and United States Representative Silvio O. Conte of Massachusetts.

Ex officio members of the Commission, representing the States at the May 18 meeting, were: John A. Biggs, Director, Washington Department of Game; J. H. Standefer, Assistant Director, Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation; Wayne H. Olson, Commissioner, Minnesota Department of Conservation; Harry R. Woodward, Director, Colorado Game, Fish and Parks Department; and Glenn L. Bowers, Deputy Executive Director, Pennsylvania Game Commission.

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