

Progress Report of the Pittman-Robertson Waterfowl Habitat Improvement Program

The Pittman-Robertson program of waterfowl habitat development has made very satisfactory progress since its inception more than a year ago. Game Division personnel have now examined over eighty areas for possible construction of low head dams and dikes and there are many other areas still to be considered.

Further investigation of the projects originally proposed revealed that some could not be undertaken because of ownership complications. Preliminary engineering surveys of others disclosed that the number of acres flooded would not justify the cost of construction. Several projects were discarded when reports from our waterfowl specialist indicated that location and water conditions were such that few benefits would be derived. Fish specialists pointed out that impounding water on some streams might destroy important trout water. This eliminated additional projects.

A break-down of the projects considered to date list the following numbers in each category: Eleven have been definitely rejected because of trout possibilities or unsuitable waterfowl habitat, twenty-four have been temporarily put aside because of high cost or ownership difficulty, and twenty-five need further engineering data before a final decision is made. Two small beaver dams have been reconstructed with Game Division funds, and it is expected that projects listed below will be carried to completion under the Pittman-Robertson program.

Status of Pittman-Robertson Waterfowl Flooding Projects.

A. Projects completed except final grading:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|
| 1. Albion College Tract | Barry County |
|-------------------------|--------------|

B. Work Started:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| 2. Haymarsh Lake | Mecosta County |
| 3. Sawdell Lake | Lapeer County |
| 4. Muskrat Farm | Tuscola County |

C. Contract let -- work to start in spring:

- | | |
|---------------------|---------------|
| 5. French Farm Lake | Emmett County |
|---------------------|---------------|

D. Contracts to be advertised by April 15, 1949:

- | | |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| 6. Potagannissing River | Chippewa County |
| 7. Fur Farm | Clare County |
| 8. Chilson Pond | Livingston County |
| 9. Hosley Pond | Livingston County |

E. Final plans nearing completion:

- | | |
|--------------------|------------------|
| 10. Bear Creek | Roscommon County |
| 11. Molasses River | Gladwin County |

F. Preliminary plans completed:

- | | |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| 12. Hayward Lake | Menominee County |
| 13. Mud Lake | Marquette County |
| 14. Little Fox River | Schoolcraft County |
| 15. Nett River | Baraga County |
| 16. Mill Creek | St. Joseph County |

G. Preliminary plans nearing completion:

- | | |
|----------------|----------------|
| 17. Fish Point | Tuscola County |
| 18. Swan Creek | Allegan County |

H. Preliminary engineering requested:

- | | |
|----------------|-----------------------|
| 19. Grass Lake | Benzie County |
| 20. Petobago | Grand Traverse County |

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