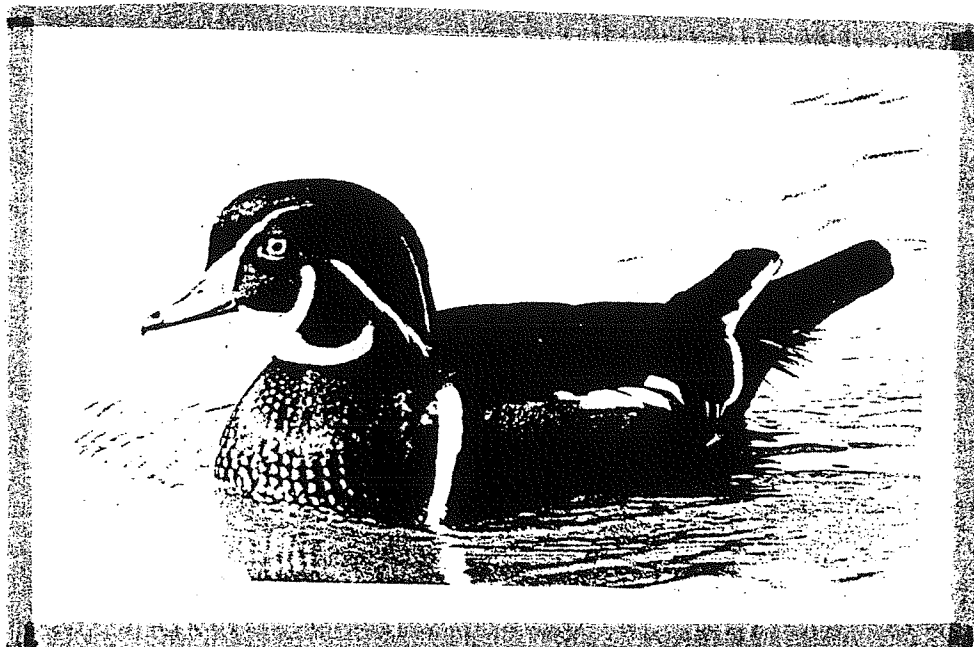


WOOD DUCK RESTORATION PROGRAM

2001 REPORT



WOOD DUCK PROGRAM 2001 REPORT

The 2001 hatch year was a good year to date. Due to the warm winter, some areas never froze solid enough to check boxes. As a result, we have only checked 54 of the 64 boxes. The count was at 153 hatched and 43 unhatched eggs. The year 2001 percentage of hatched to unhatched eggs of 78% to 22% is close to the expected percentage (contrasted to the 2000 year percentage of 54% to 46 %).

There are currently about 64 active box locations and only 6 were lost to date. The trees at older, productive locations, no longer will support boxes, so we have focused on using more pipe. About 21 boxes are installed on pipe and 2 additional locations for pipes are planned for 2002. With the cost of new pipe prohibitive, we are looking for sources of salvage or donated pipe.

Although it is interesting to look at statistics, it is difficult to draw firm conclusions. At Hunter's Pond boxes that had, high-unhatched egg counts in 2000 (0/21,0/12) have percentages that are more normal in 2001 (12/1,11/3). We suspect that some weather event (like a very high heat day) caused individual ducks to abandon eggs and start new clutches in different boxes. One way to understand this is as follows. Each year the number of successful hatched eggs is staying close to the average of 150 (1998/144, 1999/162, 2000/142, 2001/153). Each year the number of unhatched eggs varies greatly from the average of 67 (1998/29, 1999/80, 2000/119, 2001/43). We can infer that the number of ducks is about the same, and that the amount of food is about the same. What changes is how many clutches it takes to fledge this years ducklings. Clutch sizes under six eggs usually indicate diminished food sources, while clutch sizes of 10 or more indicate amply food.

The first batch of replacement boxes with the new side cleanouts and predator guards were introduced in 1994 and will be 9 years old this year. On average, we anticipate about a 10-year life for each box and about a 10% loss rate per year for boxes on trees. The use of pipe has substantially reduced box loss and extended box life. Some of the original plywood and hemlock boxes are getting toward the end of their useful life, but the pine board boxes are holding up nicely.

The policy of replacing and adding boxes to high yield areas, and not replacing boxes in no yield areas is nearly complete. We have plans for a few new West Deering locations this year. Some boxes take 3 to 4 years before ducks get familiar enough with them to use them. We are approaching full capacity (no additional boxes needed) for our program and now are concentrating on maintaining what we have.

DUCK02.DCC

MAR.2002

**DEERING
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION**

WOOD DUCK BOX PROGRAM EGG COUNT SUMMARY

HATCH YEAR	HATCHED/ UNHATCHED EGGS	TOTAL EGGS	% HATCHED/ UNHATCHED
94	70 / 23	93	67% / 33%
95	119 / 36	155	70% / 30%
96	135 / 68	203	70% / 30%
97	119 / 58	177	67% / 33%
98	144 / 29	173	83% / 17%
99	162/ 80	242	67% / 33%
00	142/119	261	54% / 46%
01	153/43	196	78%/22%

for 54 boxes checked to date, 10 to go

Duck02.DOC 2/25/2002

CONSERVATION COMMISSION WOOD DUCK BOX PROGRAM

TOTAL EGG COUNT [94-95yr 70/23] [95-96yr 119/36] [96-97yr 135/68] [97-98yr 119/50]

WD=wood duck M=merganser ## = hatched eggs / unhatched eggs USAGE = nest yr/check box yr
 NU= not used OPEN= box number not assigned LOST= box missing

ID #	1st yr	LOCATION	Usage* 94-95	Usage 95-96	Usage 96-97	Usage 97-98	Usage 98-99	Usage 99-00	Usage 00-01	Usage 01-02	
1	95	HUNTER'S POND				NEW	M15/0	NU	M 15/0	WD 2/2	
2	95	HUNTER'S POND				NEW	WD13/2	WD10/1	NU	NU	PINE NEEDLES
3	95	JOHNSON'S POND				NEW	NU	WD 5/3	WD 0/20	WD 3/1	
4	95	JOHNSON'S POND				NEW	WD12/0	WD 7/2	WD 12/2	NU	
5	96	WILKINS CEMETARY	O	WD 1/15	0	WD0/17	NU	WD 0/6	NU	NU	
6	94/00	LEAD MINE	O	WD 3/0	0	?	WD1/0	LOST/NEW	NU	WD 6/0	
7	94	LEAD MINE	WD 4/2	WD 3/0	WD 4/0	?	WD3/0	WD11/0	NU	NU	NEEDS PG
8	97	JOHNSON'S PD		WD 5/0	NEW	NU	NEW	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	
9	94	LEAD MINE	WD 5/1	WD 5/0	LOST	?	WD5/0	WD16/2	NU	WD 0/7	
10	(96)	LEAD MINE	WD 5/0	WD 4/0	WD 2/3	?	WD5/0	WD16/2	WD 8/2	WD 12/0	COYOTE, DEER
11	-97	LEAD MINE			NEW	?	NEW	NU	NU	WD 14/1	BOX #13
12	96	WILKINS CEMETARY	WD 4/0	WD 0/11	O	WD8/0	WD4/0	WD 0/4	WD 4/1	WD 14/1	
13	(96)/00	LEAD MINE N.	WD 0/1	GONE	WD 8/0	NU	NU	NU / NEW	NU	NU	
14	96	RESERVOIR MARSH	O	0	M 9/0	WD9/1	WD7/0	LOST/NEW	LOST	LOST	PIPE & BOX LOST
15	95	WEARE BORDER PD	GONE	0	M 7/1	WD6/0	WD7/0	WD 5/3	M 12/0	WD 9/0	
16	96	RESERVOIR MARSH	WD 4/1	WD 11/3	O	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	
17	95	LEAD MINE S.	NEW	0	WD 4/1	?	WD4/2	NU	NU	NU	BEAVER
18	95	NORTH CORNER	NEW	0	O	LOST	OPEN	WD5/0	NU	NU	
19	95	LEAD MINE S.	NEW	O	WD 2/0	?	NU	NU	WD 0/3	NU	
20	92	LAZY BROWN	WD 6/0	WD 3/0	0	?	NU	NU	NU	NU	
21	01	LEAD MINE	NEW	O	M 6/0	WD7/2	WD4/0	LOST	OPEN	NU	SNOWSHOE HARE &
22	95	PLEASANT PD RD	NEW	M 5/1	M 8/1	M10/0	M8/0	WD8/0	WD 7/4		PARTRIDGE
23	95	PLEASANT PD RD	NEW	M 5/0	LOST	WD6/0	NU	WD0/11	NU		
24	93/00	PLEASANT PD RD	WD 4/1	WD 10/0	WD 7/0	NU	NU	NU / NEW	WD 0/1		
25	93/00	PLEASANT PD RD	O	O	O	NU	NU	LOST/NEW	M 10/1		
26	94	JOHNSON'S PD	O	WD 1/2	M 9/1	WD9/0	WD0/8	WD 0/12	LOST	OPEN	
27	90/00	JOHNSON'S PD	WD 0/16	WD 2/0	WD 6/0	LOST	OPEN	NEW	WD 0/9	WD 10/0	ONE HERON NEST
28	94/00	JOHNSON'S PD	WD 4/1	WD 6/1	WD 0/10	LOST	OPEN	NEW	M 13/1	WD 13/1	
29	95	POLING'S MARSH	GONE	WD 4/0	WD 13/1	WD1/7	NU	NU	WD 7/1	WD 6/0	SHAKY, NEED PIPE
(YR)=REPAIR YEAR TOTAL THIS PAGE			36/23	63/33	85/25	56/29	83/11	67/44	80/40	#18BOX = 75/22	

CONSERVATION COMMISSION WOOD DUCK BOX PROGRAM

WD=wood duck M=merganser ## = hatched eggs / unhatched eggs USAGE = nest year/check box year
 NU= not used OPEN= number not assigned

ID #	1st Yr LOCATION	Usage 94-95	Usage 95-96	Usage 96-97	Usage 97-98	Usage 98-99	Usage 99-00	Usage 00-01	Usage 01-02	
30	90 HUNTER'S PD	O	O	WD 11/1	WD11/1	WD11/1	NU	NU	WD 12/1	
31	90 HUNTER'S PD	M 5/0	M 10/1	WD 10/0	NU	WD0/13	NU	WD 9/0	WD 11/3	2 DEAD CHICKS
32	92 RESERVOIR MARSH	O	O	O	NU	NU	LOST	WD 0/5		
33	94 POLING'S MARSH	WD 8/0	WD 12/0	WD 0/12	WD4/0	WD10/0	M15/0	WD4/0	WD 4/0	
34	2 AIRPORT MARSH	O	WD 8/0	O	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	NEW	
35	2 AIRPORT MARSH	WD 4/0	O	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	NEW	
36	94 FULTON PD	WD 3/0	WD 4/0	WD 0/16	NU	NU	WD 6/1	NU		
37	(96) DUDLEY BR. MARSH	O	O	O	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	
38	97 HUNTER'S POND	O	GONE	NEW	WD0/18	OPEN	NEW	WD 0/21	NU	
39	94 PATTERN BROOK	O	O	WD 4/0	NU	NU	NU	WD 0/1	NU	
40/18a	94 GLEN RD PD	O	O	NEW	WD6/0	NU	NU	WD 0/6	NU	
41	94 PALMER'S MARSH	O	O	O		NU	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	
42	94 PALMER'S MARSH	O	O	O		NU	NU	M 3/0	NU	
43	94 PATTERN MARSH	O	M 5/0	WD 0/12	WD11/0	NU	NU	WD 0/17	WD12/0	
44	94 PATTERN MARSH	WD 6/0	WD 5/1	WD 0/1	NU	NEW	WD5/0	NU	LOST	
45	94 CLIFTON'S CAMP	O	O	WD 4/2	NU	NU	NU	WD 0/8	WD 4/0	
46	94 PLEASANT PD ROAD	O	O	O	NEW	NU	WD5/0	NU		
47	97 LILY PD			NEW	NU	WD5/0	WD 5/0	WD 4/0	NU	P.G. CHEWED
48	97 DUDLEY BROOK S.			NEW	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	
49	97 LILY PD			NEW	NU	WD5/1	WD0/11	NU	M 16/1	
50	95 HUNTER'S PD	NEW	WD 12/1	WD 11/2	M18/0	NU	WD 5/0	WD 9/5	NU	PINENEEDLES
51	94 DRISCOLL CART RD	NEW	O	O	O	WD5/0	WD 10/1	WD 10/1	WD 0/6	
52	91 AUDUBON EAST	O	?	WD 5/0	NU	NU	M0/13	WD 6/0	WD4/0*	*MOUSE DROPPINGS
53	91 AUDUBON EAST	WD 8/0	?	O	NU	WD6/0	M11/1	WD 0/1	WD4/0*	ESTIMATE ONLY
54	95 LEAD MINE S.	NEW	O	NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU		
55	91 AUDUBON	?	?	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN	
56	91 KARL'S MARSH	?	?	O	0/6	NU	WD11/0	WD 5/2	NU	PLEATED WOODPECKER
57	91 BLACK FOX PD.	?	?	O	NU	NU	WD12/0	WD12/0	M 0/10	SCAT
58	91 BLACK FOX PD.	?	?	O	NU	NU	NU	NU	LOST	
(YR)=REPAIR YEAR TOTAL THIS PAGE		34/0	56/3	45/45	50/25	37/15	63/26	62/67	#18BOX=67/21	

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CONSERVATION COMMISSION WOOD DUCK BOX PROGRAM

WD=wood duck M=merganser #/# = hatched eggs / unhatched eggs USAGE = nest year/check box year

NU= not used OPEN=number not assigned

ID #	1st Yr	LOCATION	Usage 94-95	Usage 95-96	Usage 96-97	Usage 97-98	Usage 98-99	Usage 99-00	Usage 00-01	Usage 01-02										
59	91	BLACK FOX PD.	?		0		NEW	NU	NU	LOST										
60	98	WEARE BORDER PD	?	0		NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU										
61	98	WEARE BORDER PD	?	0		NEW	WD10/2	M 16/1	NU	WD 11/0										
62	98	?	?	0		NEW				OPEN										
63	98	?	?	0		OPEN		OPEN		OPEN										
64	96	BLACK FOX PD.		NEW	WD 5/0	NU	WD4/0	WD10/0	NU	NU										
65	96	SONNEY'S MARSH		NEW	0	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU										
66	96	BLACK FOX PD.		NEW	0	0/2	WD2/0	NU	OPEN	NU										
67	96	BLACK FOX PD.		NEW	0	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU										
68	96	BLACK FOX PD.		NEW	WD 0/8	NU	NU	M0/9	NU	NU										
69	96	BLACK FOX PD.		NEW	0	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU										
70	96	DOPHY'S MEADOW		NEW	0	NU	NU	NU	NU	LOST										
71	96	DOPHY'S MEADOW		NEW		NU	NU	NU	NU	NU										
72	97	HUNTER'S POND				NEW	M13/2	WD 6/0	WD 0/12	LOST										
73	97	DUDLEY BR MARSH S.				NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU										
74	97	2ND NH TURNPIKE				NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU										
75	97	GERINI MARSH				NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU										
76	97	LONGWOOD OXBOW				NEW	NU	OPEN	OPEN	OPEN										
77	97	GREEN BRIDGE				NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU										
78	97	CENTRAL RANGWAY				NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU										
79	97	CENTRAL RANGWAY				NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU										
80	99	TUBBS RD PD				NU	NEW		LOST	OPEN										
81	97	TUBBS RD PD				NEW	WD8/1		LOST	OPEN										
65A	97	TUBBS RD PD				NEW			NU											
51A	OLD	DUDLEY BR MARSH S							NU											
(YR)=REPAIR YEAR TOTAL THIS PAGE					5/8	13/4	24/3	32/10	0/12	#14BOX=11/0										

OFF TREE-REHUNG