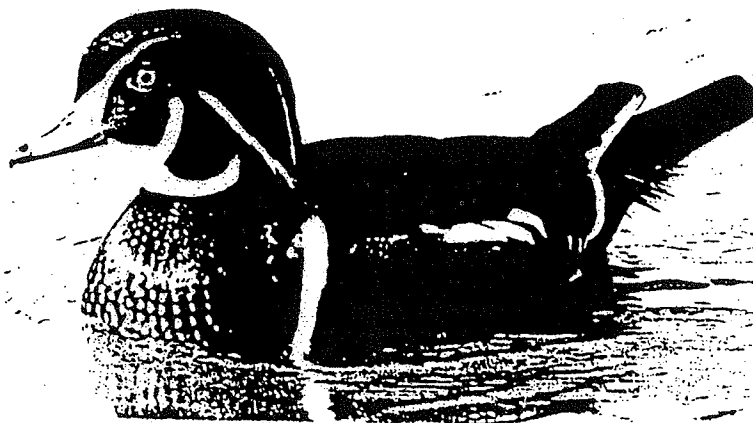


WOOD DUCK RESTORATION PROGRAM

2003 REPORT



DEERING CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Wood Duck Nesting Program 2003 Report

The wood duck hatch for the year of 2003 was dramatically improved from that of 2002. A total of sixty-two Deering Conservation Commission nesting boxes were checked as well as two Ducks Unlimited boxes on Fulton Pond. A total of five boxes were lost due to the deterioration of the trees holding them or wind damage. Two new boxes were installed to replace some of those lost.

The sixty-two boxes checked revealed that a total of twenty-one boxes were utilized by either wood ducks or hooded mergansers. The hatched to unhatched egg ratio of sixty-seven percent hatched to thirty-three percent unhatched rebounded significantly from that of last year and was close to the seventy percent hatched to thirty percent unhatched ratios we have experienced in the past.

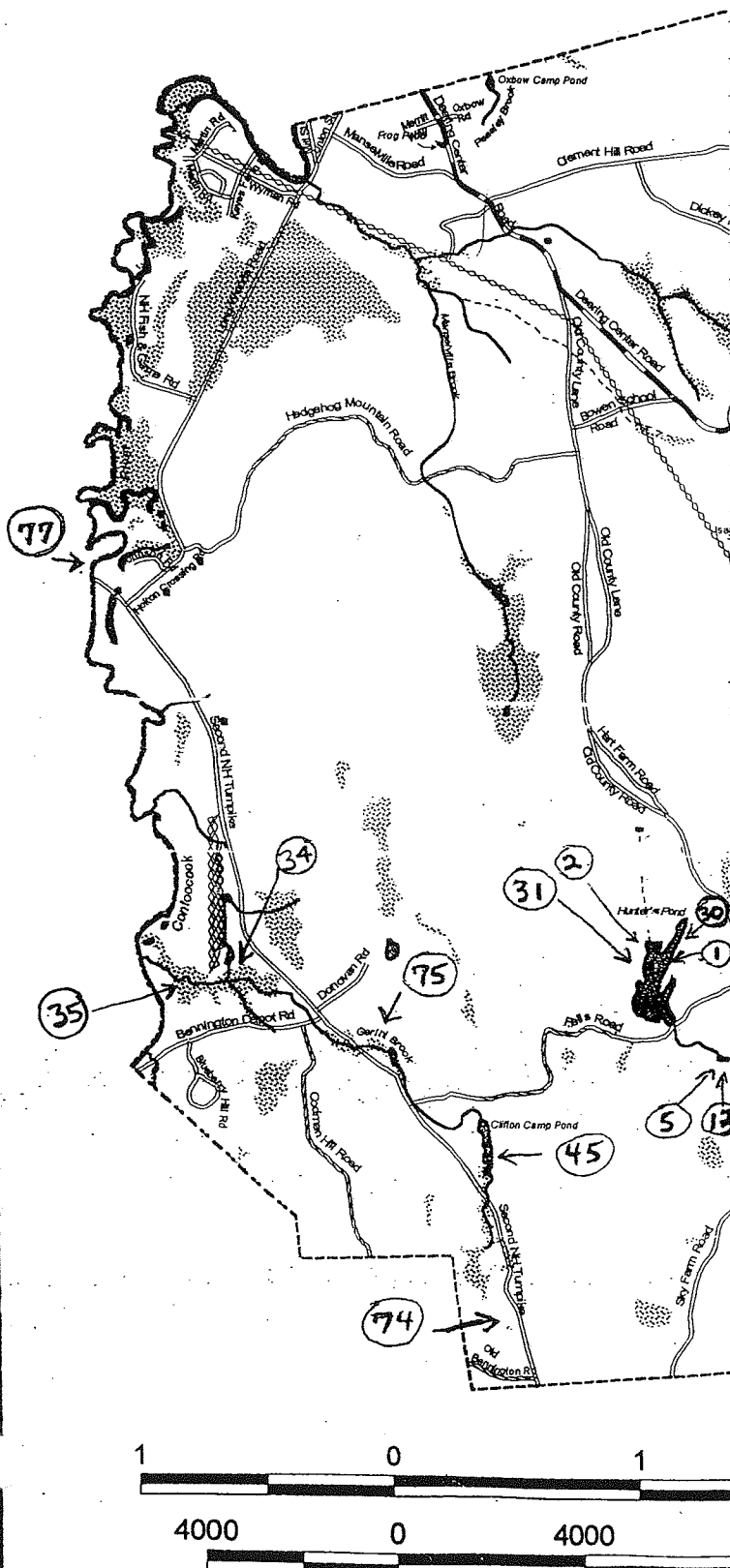
There appeared to be little evidence of the density strife, which resulted in the moderate egg dumping observed in 2002. The dry spring of 2002 resulted in less than normal breeding locations and strife between females over the use of those locations. Only two boxes displayed egg dumping in 2003 where eleven boxes displayed this phenomenon in 2002.

The Deering Conservation Commission initiated the Wood Duck Nesting Program in December of 1987 as a result of dramatic losses of wetlands and waterfowl habitat in the 1980's. The number of ducks in the Atlantic Flyway plummeted during this time period. The nesting boxes are an attempt to substitute artificial nesting sites for natural ones.

Between 1987 and 2003, the Deering Conservation Commission has constructed and refurbished wood duck nesting boxes throughout the Town of Deering. This program has persisted for sixteen years solely due to the dedication of those who participate in it. The construction, placement, and yearly checking of the boxes is time intensive. We would like to thank all those who have donated time and materials to keep this program operating for the last sixteen years!

WOOD DUCK BOX LOCATIONS 2001

w Hampshire



ID NO.	LOCATION
42	PALMER'S MARSH
43	PATTERN MARSH
44	PATTERN MARSH
45	CLIFTON'S POND
46	OPEN
47	LILY POND
47A	LILY POND
48	OPEN
49	LILY POND
50	OPEN
51	DRISCOLL CART ROAD
52	AUDUBON EAST
53	AUDUBON EAST
54	OPEN
55	OPEN
56	KARL'S MARSH
57	BLACK FOX POND
58	OPEN
59	OPEN
60	WEARE BORDER POND
61	WEARE BORDER POND
62	OPEN
63	OPEN
64	BLACK FOX POND
65	SONNEY'S MARSH
65A	OPEN
66	BLACK FOX POND
67	BLACK FOX POND
68	BLACK FOX POND
69	BLACK FOX POND
70	OPEN
71	DOPHY'S MEADOW
72	OPEN
73	DUDLEY BR MARSH S.
74	2 ND NH TURNPIKE
75	GERINI MARSH
76	OPEN
77	GREEN BRIDGE
78	CENTRAL RANGEWAY
79	CENTRAL RANGEWAY
DU1	FULTON POND
DU2	FULTON POND

CONSERVATION COMMISSION WOOD DUCK BOX PROGRAM

ID	1 ST YEAR	LOCATION	USAGE	98-99	99-00	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	NOTES
01	95	HUNTER'S POND	M 15/0	NU	M 15/0	NU	WD 2/2	WD 7/0	NU	In water
02	95	HUNTER'S POND	WD 13/2	WD 10/1	NU	NU	NU	WD 5/0	WD 4/0	
03	95	JOHNSON'S POND	NU	WD 5/3	WD 0/20	WD 3/1	NU	NU	NU	In water/moved
04	95	JOHNSON'S POND	WD 12/0	WD 7/2	WD 12/2	NU	NU	WD 9/2	WD 0/11	
05	96	WILKINS CEMETARY	NU	WD 0/6	NU	NU	NU	WD 8/0	WD 5/1	
06	99	LEAD MINE	--	NEW	NU	NU	WD 6/0	NU	NU	
07	94	LEAD MINE	WD 3/0	WD 11/0	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	
08	02	JOHNSON'S POND	--	--	--	--	--	NEW	LOST	
09	98	LEAD MINE	NEW	NU	NU	NU	WD 0/7	NU	NU	
10	96	LEAD MINE	WD 5/0	WD 16/2	WD 8/2	WD 12/0	WD 12/0	WD 0/11	NU	
11	98	LEAD MINE	NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	
12	99	LEAD MINE NORTH	--	NEW	NU	NU	NU	WD 0/10	NU	
13	96	WILKINS CEMETARY	WD 4/0	WD 0/4	WD 4/1	WD 14/1	WD 10/0	WD 5/4	2 dead ducks	
14	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
15	95	WEARE BORDER POND	WD 7/0	WD 5/3	M 12/0	WD 9/0	WD 5/1	WD 6/3		
16	96	RESERVOIR MARSH	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	In water	
16A	03	RESERVOIR MARSH	--	--	--	--	--	NEW		
17	95	LEAD MINE SOUTH	WD 4/2	NU	NU	NU	M 0/4	WD 9/0		
18	95	NORTH CORNER	NU	WD 5/0	NU	NU	NU	NU		
18A	02	GLEN ROAD POND	--	--	--	--	NEW	M 8/0		
19	95	LEAD MINE SOUTH	NU	NU	WD 0/3	WD 0/9	NU	NU		
20	92	LAZY BROWN	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU		
21	00	LEAD MINE	--	--	NEW	WD 0/5	NU	Needs patch		
22	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--		
23	95	PLEASANT POND ROAD	NU	WD 0/11	NU	UC	WD 0/2			
24	99	PLEASANT POND ROAD	--	NEW	WD 0/1	UC	WD 6/0			
25	99	PLEASANT POND ROAD	--	NEW	M 10/1	UC	NU			
26	02	JOHNSON'S POND	--	--	--	--	NEW	M 4/0		
27	99	JOHNSON'S POND	OPEN	NEW	WD 0/9	WD 10/0	NU			In water

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

CONSERVATION COMMISSION WOOD DUCK BOX PROGRAM

ID	1 ST YEAR	LOCATION	USAGE	USAGE	USAGE	USAGE	USAGE	USAGE	USAGE	NOTES
NO.			98-99	99-00	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04		
28	99	JOHNSON'S POND	OPEN	NEW	M 13/1	WD 13/1	M 0/4	M 0/1		
29	95	POLING'S MARSH	NU	NU	WD 7/1	WD 6/0	WD 4/0	WD 3/0		
30	90	HUNTER'S POND	WD 11/1	NU	NU	WD 12/1	WD 8/0	WD 4/0		
31	90	HUNTER'S POND	WD 0/13	NU	WD 9/0	WD 11/3	WD 0/13	WD 0/17		
32	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--		
33	94	POLING'S MARSH	WD 10/0	M 15/0	WD 4/0	WD 4/0	NU	LOST		
34	01	AIRPORT MARSH	--	--	--	NEW	NU	NU		
35	01	AIRPORT MARSH	--	--	--	NEW	NU	NU		
36	94	FULTON POND	NU	WD 6/1	NU	NU	WD 0/8	NU		
37	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--		
38	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--		
39	94	PATTERN BROOK	NU	NU	WD 0/1	NU	WD 0/8	NU		
40	94	GLEN ROAD POND	NU	NU	WD 0/6	NU	NU	NU		
41	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--		
42	94	PALMER'S MARSH	NU	NU	M 3/0	NU	UC	UC		
43	02	PATTERN MARSH	--	--	--	--	NEW	WD 11/0		
44	02	PATTERN MARSH	--	--	--	--	NEW	NU		
45	94	CLIFTON'S CAMP	NU	NU	WD 0/8	WD 4/0	WD 0/7	NU		
46	94	PLEASANT POND ROAD	NU	WD 5/0	NU	NU	NU	LOST		
47	97	LILY POND	WD 5/0	WD 5/0	WD 4/0	NU	WD 0/8	NU		
47A	03	LILY POND	--	--	--	--	--	NEW		
48	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--		
49	97	LILY POND	WD 5/1	WD 0/11	NU	M 16/1	WD 0/13	WD 4/2		
50	95	HUNTER'S POND	NU	WD 5/0	WD 9/5	NU	M 2/0	LOST		
51	94	DRISCOLL CART ROAD	WD 5/0		WD 10/1	WD 0/6	WD 1/1	WD 11/0		
52	91	AUDUBON EAST	NU	M 0/13	WD 6/0	WD 4/0	WD 4/0	WD 6/0		
53	91	AUDUBON EAST	WD 6/0	M 11/1	WD 0/1	WD 4/0	WD 0/9	WD 6/2		
54	95	LEAD MINE SOUTH	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	LOST		

WD = wood duck M = merganser # = hatched eggs/unhatched eggs USAGE = nest year/check box year
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CONSERVATION COMMISSION WOOD DUCK BOX PROGRAM

ID	1 ST YEAR	LOCATION	USAGE	98-99	USAGE	99-00	USAGE	00-01	USAGE	01-02	USAGE	02-03	USAGE	03-04	NOTES
55	--	OPEN	--	--	--	WD 11/0	WD 5/2	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
56	91	KARL'S MARSH	NU	NU	WD 11/0	WD 12/0	WD 12/0	NU	NU	M 0/10	NU	NU	NU	NU	
57	91	BLACK FOX POND	NU	NU	NU	NU	WD 12/0	NU	NU	M 0/10	NU	NU	NU	NU	
58	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
59	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
60	98	WEARE BORDER POND	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	WD 6/0	WD 11/0	WD 6/0	WD 5/1	WD 0/7	WD 12/0	
61	98	WEARE BORDER POND	WD 10/2	WD 10/2	M 16/1	NU	NU	NU	WD 11/0	WD 11/0	WD 5/1	WD 5/1	WD 12/0	WD 12/0	
62	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
63	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
64	96	BLACK FOX POND	WD 4/0	WD 4/0	WD 10/0	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	
65	96	SONNEY'S MARSH	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	
65A	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
66	96	BLACK FOX POND	WD 2/0	WD 2/0	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	flying squirrel
67	96	BLACK FOX POND	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	
68	96	BLACK FOX POND	NU	NU	M 0/9	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	M 4/0	NU	NU	NU	
69	96	BLACK FOX POND	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	
70	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
71	96	DOPHY'S MEADOW	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	brush needs trim
72	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
73	97	DUDLEY BR MARSH S.	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	
74	97	2 ND NH TURNPIKE	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	
75	97	GERINI MARSH	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	
76	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
77	97	GREEN BRIDGE	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	M 5/0	NU	
78	97	CENTRAL RANGWAY	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	
79	97	CENTRAL RANGWAY	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	
DU1		FULTON POND	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
DU2		FULTON POND	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	

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

WOOD DUCK BOX PROGRAM EGG COUNT SUMMARY

HATCH YEAR	HATCHED/ UNHATCHED EGGS	TOTAL EGGS	% HATCHED/ UNHATCHED
94	70 / 23	93	75% / 25%
95	119 / 36	155	77% / 23%
96	135 / 68	203	67% / 33%
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%
02	84 / 114	198	42% / 58%
03	103 / 50	153	67% / 33%

BOX USAGE

HATCH YEAR	TOTAL BOX AVAILABILITY	BOXES USED	BOXES UNUSED	% USAGE
03	62	21	41	34%

ASNH Deering Wildlife Sanctuary
WOOD DUCK NEST BOX RESULTS
Checked/cleaned out 14 January 2003

Duck box numbers in **bold** print.

Black Fox Pond

66- NU (not used); rodent droppings.

57- NU

64- NU

68- Lots of HOME (Hooded Merganser) egg shell fragments; virtually no down feathers.

69- NU

67- NU

Sonney's Marsh

65- NU

Karl's Marsh

56- NU

Dophy's Meadow

70- Looked for again this year... this box remains missing.

71- NU; brush clearing would be good.

Audubon East

53- WODU (Wood Duck); 9 unhatched eggs; no down feathers.

52- WODU; uncountable egg shell fragments; abundant down feathers.

Lazy Brown

20- NU; rodent nest.

Lead Mine Swamp

54- NU

11- NU

9- NU

6- NU

10- WODU; 11 unhatched eggs; virtually no down feathers.

13- WODU; 10 unhatched eggs; no down feathers.

17- HOME; apparently predated; 1 adult female wing and some assorted contour feathers;
a few crushed eggs.

19- WODU; 9 unhatched eggs; no down feathers.

MIKE MILLIGAN
SANCTUARIES MANAGER



AUDUBON SOCIETY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

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