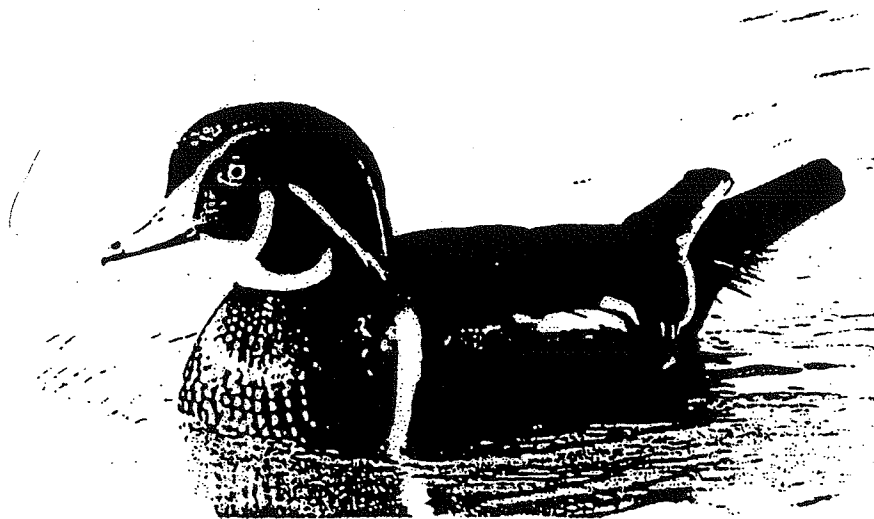


WOOD DUCK RESTORATION PROGRAM

2004 REPORT



DEERING CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Wood Duck Nesting Program 2004 Report

The wood duck hatch for the year of 2004 was very similar to that observed in 2003. A total of fifty-four Deering Conservation Commission nesting boxes were checked as well as two Ducks Unlimited boxes at Fulton Pond. A total of six boxes were lost due to deterioration of the boxes, high water, or wind. Two new boxes were installed at a new beaver dam location in West Deering. Two boxes were unchecked. One box (#15) at the Weare Border Pond could not be reached due to low water resulting from a beaver dam failure. The shell ice on Gerini Brook prohibited the checking of box #35.

The fifty-six boxes checked revealed that a total of twenty-one boxes were utilized by wood ducks. No evidence of hooded merganser usage was found this year. The hatched to unhatched egg ratio was sixty-four percent hatched and thirty-six percent unhatched which was fairly consistent with last years results and would be considered to be on the low end of average.

There appeared to be little evidence of density strife, which results in large quantities of eggs, which are abandoned. Only two boxes displayed a large concentration of unhatched eggs and no hatched eggs.

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 2004, the Deering Conservation Commission has constructed and refurbished wood duck nesting boxes throughout the Town of Deering. This program has persisted for seventeen 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 seventeen years!

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%
04	109 / 62	171	64% / 36%

BOX USAGE

HATCH YEAR	TOTAL BOX AVAILABILITY	BOXES USED	BOXES UNUSED	% USAGE
03	62	21	41	34%
04	56	21	35	38%

CONSERVATION COMMISSION WOOD DUCK BOX PROGRAM

ID	1 ST	LOCATION	USAGE	USAGE	USAGE	USAGE	USAGE	USAGE	USAGE	USAGE	USAGE	NOTES
NO.	YEAR		98-99	99-00	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05			
01	95	HUNTER'S POND	M 15/0	NU	M 15/0	WD 2/2	WD 7/0	NU	LOST			
02	95	HUNTER'S POND	WD 13/2	WD 10/1	NU	NU	WD 5/0	WD 4/0	WD 8/2			
03	95	JOHNSON'S POND	NU	WD 5/3	WD 0/20	WD 3/1	NU	NU	NU			
04	95	JOHNSON'S POND	WD 12/0	WD 7/2	WD 12/2	NU	WD 9/2	WD 0/11	WD 6/0			
05	96	WILKINS CEMETARY	NU	WD 0/6	NU	NU	WD 8/0	WD 5/1	WD 6/1			
06	00	LEAD MINE	--	NEW	NU	WD 6/0	NU	NU	NU			
07	94	LEAD MINE	WD 3/0	WD 11/0	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU			
08	97	JOHNSON'S POND	NU	LOST	OPEN	OPEN	NEW	LOST	OPEN			
09	94	LEAD MINE	NEW	NU	NU	WD 0/7	NU	NU	NU			
10	96	LEAD MINE	WD 5/0	WD 16/2	WD 8/2	WD 12/0	WD 0/11	NU	NU			
11	97	LEAD MINE	NEW	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	WD 9/0			
12	96	WILKINS CEMETARY	WD 4/0	WD 0/4	WD 4/1	WD 14/1	WD 10/0	WD 5/4	WD 5/3			
13	00	LEAD MINE NORTH	--	NEW	NU	NU	WD 0/10	NU	LOST			
14	05	COBBETT'S BEAVER PD	--	--	--	--	--	--	NEW			
15	95	WEARE BORDER POND	WD 7/0	WD 5/3	M 12/0	WD 9/0	WD 5/1	WD 6/3	UC			can't reach in water
16	96	RESERVOIR MARSH	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU			
16A	03	RESERVOIR MARSH	--	--	--	--	--	NEW	WD 4/1			
17	95	LEAD MINE SOUTH	WD 4/2	NU	NU	NU	M 0/4	WD 9/0	WD 6/0			
18	95	NORTH CORNER	OPEN	WD 5/0	NU	NU	NU	NU	LOST			
18A	02	GLEN ROAD POND	--	--	--	--	NEW	M 8/0	NU			in water
19	95	LEAD MINE SOUTH	NU	NU	WD 0/3	NU	WD 0/9	NU	NU			hornets nest
20	92	LAZY BROWN	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU	NU			
21	01	LEAD MINE	--	--	OPEN	NU	WD 0/5	NU	LOST			
22	05	COBBETT'S BEAVER PD	--	--	--	--	--	--	NEW			
23	95	PLEASANT POND ROAD	NU	WD 0/11	NU	NC	NU	WD 0/2	NU			
24	00	PLEASANT POND ROAD	NU	NEW	WD 0/1	NC	WD 6/0	NU	NU			
25	00	PLEASANT POND ROAD	NU	NEW	M 10/1	NC	LOST	NU	NU			in water
26	94	JOHNSON'S POND	WD 0/8	WD 0/12	LOST	OPEN	NEW	M 4/0	WD 5/1			
27	00	JOHNSON'S POND	OPEN	NEW	WD 0/9	WD 10/0	NU	NU	NU			in water
28	00	JOHNSON'S POND	OPEN	NEW	M 13/1	WD 13/1	M 0/4	M 0/1	WD 0/14			
29	95	POLING'S MARSH	NU	NU	WD 7/1	WD 6/0	WD 4/0	WD 3/0	NU			no 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	USAGE	USAGE	NOTES
NO.	YEAR		98-99	99-00	00-01	01-02	02-03	03-04	04-05			
30	90	HUNTER'S POND	WD 11/1	NU	NU	WD 12/1	WD 8/0	WD 4/0	WD 7/1			
31	90	HUNTER'S POND	WD 0/13	NU	WD 9/0	WD 11/3	WD 0/13	WD 0/17	WD 13/0			
32	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
33	94	POLING'S MARSH	WD 10/0	M 15/0	WD 4/0	WD 4/0	NU	LOST	OPEN			
34	02	AIRPORT MARSH	--	--	--	NEW	NU	NU	NU			
35	02	AIRPORT MARSH	--	--	--	NEW	NU	NU	UC			
36	94	FULTON POND	NU	WD 6/1	NU		WD 0/8	NU	WD 4/4			
37	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
38	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
39	94	PATTERN BROOK	NU	NU	WD 0/1	NU	WD 0/8	NU	NU			
40	94	GLEN ROAD POND	NU	NU	WD 0/6	NU	NU	NU	NU			
41	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
42	94	PALMER'S MARSH	NU	NU	M 3/0	NU	UC	UC	LOST			
43	94	PATTERN MARSH	NU	NU	WD 0/17	WD 12/0	NEW	WD 11/0	WD 6/0			
44	94	PATTERN MARSH	NEW	WD 5/0	NU	LOST	NEW	NU	NU			
45	94	CLIFTON'S CAMP	NU	NU	WD 0/8	WD 4/0	WD 0/7	NU	NU			repaired
46	94	PLEASANT POND ROAD	NU	WD 5/0	NU		NU	LOST	OPEN			
47	97	LILY POND	WD 5/0	WD 5/0	WD 4/0	NU	WD 0/8	NU	WD 8/1			
47A	03	LILY POND	--	--	--	--	--	NEW	WD 0/11			
48	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
49	97	LILY POND	WD 5/1	WD 0/11	NU	M 16/1	WD 0/13	WD 4/2	WD 6/1			
50	95	HUNTER'S POND	NU	WD 5/0	WD 9/5	NU	M 2/0	LOST	OPEN			
51	94	DRISCOLL CART ROAD	WD 5/0		WD 10/1	WD 0/6	WD 1/1	WD 11/0	WD 8/18			
52	91	AUDUBON EAST	NU	M 0/13	WD 6/0	WD 4/0	WD 4/0	WD 6/0	WD 5/0			
53	91	AUDUBON EAST	WD 6/0	M 11/1	WD 0/1	WD 4/0	WD 0/9	WD 6/2	WD 4/0			
54	95	LEAD MINE SOUTH	NU	NU	NU		NU	LOST	OPEN			
55	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
56	91	KARL'S MARSH	NU	WD 11/0	WD 5/2	NU	NU	NU	NU			
57	91	BLACK FOX POND	NU	NU	WD 12/0	M 0/10	NU	NU	NU			
58	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			
59	--	OPEN	--	--	--	--	--	--	--			

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[illegible]

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