

SUPPLEMENTARY REPORT

Puyallup, Washington
March 25, 1935

Waterfowl Situation in the Pacific Northwest

Since we submitted, January 15, a preliminary report on the shooting survey of the past season for the coast country (mainly) of Washington and Oregon, additional data has come to hand. This we present herewith as being more complete in detail, though perhaps no more significant than the original information forwarded.

The following tabulations include reports received from 140 shooting organizations up to January 15 and, in addition, from 100 duck clubs that have sent in their returns since that date:

WASHINGTON			OREGON		
<u>Species</u>	<u>Numbers</u>	<u>Percent</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Numbers</u>	<u>Percent</u>
Mallard	24,459	37.95 %	Mallard	12,801	33.34 %
Widgeon	13,360	20.73 %	Widgeon	6,202	16.15 %
Pintail	12,534	19.45 %	Pintail	10,686	27.83 %
Teal (Green-wing)	12,073	18.73 %	Teal (Green-wing)	6,706	17.46 %
Bluebill	1,255	1.94 %	Bluebill	1,149	2.99 %
Spoonbill	624	0.96 %	Spoonbill	420	1.09 %
Canvasback	85	0.13 %	Canvasback	404	1.05 %
Goldeneye	23		Goldeneye	14	
Redhead	23		Redhead	5	
Brant	130		Brant	136	
Canada Goose	263		Canada Goose	167	
Snow Goose	<u>8</u>		Snow Goose	<u>42</u>	
Total, ducks	64,436		Total, ducks	38,387	
Total, geese and brant	401		Total, geese and brant	345	
Clubs reporting	128		Clubs reporting	112	

Grand total of ducks reported, 240 shooting groups cooperating	102,825
" " " Geese and Brant " " " "	746

Notes and Comments (for information the Migratory Waterfowl Advisory Board):

1. The requirement that holders of federal baiting permits report on the kill for each separate blind is next to impossible of accurate fulfillment, and the returns under present conditions are not sufficiently reliable to be of much value to conservation or law enforcement. The requirement is also prejudicial to securing cooperation in other reports from the shooting organizations.
2. It is very difficult to enforce a shooting regulation that permits some gunners to hold the field after 3 p.m., when all shooting must stop on baited premises. The shooting goes on merrily all about such premises until the regular closing time at sunset. The interests of conservation would be served and the ducks permitted to get an evening feed in security, if all shooting ceased at 3 p.m.
3. The new regulation permitting but three shots to a firearm might be amended by allowing no more than one gun for each shooter in a blind.
4. A possession-limit regulation should make it very difficult for a shooter to ship his limit each open day, or hold such limits by members of his family who are with him in the field and have licenses but do not shoot.
5. The preferential shooting of Mallards is becoming too serious for conservation of the breeding stock. The limit should be lowered considerably and thus force a larger bag of Widgeon, which are now more or less neglected by the gunner and are becoming locally destructive to seed crops (biennials) and in some cases to meadows and pastures.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Associate Biologist.