

2006 Property Managers Report
for the
Douglas County Wildlife Management Area
presented at the
Friends of the Bird Sanctuary annual meeting, October 14, 2006

Accomplishments:

- **Tri-party agreement:** between FOTBS, Douglas County and the DNR was completed.
- **Fire break maintenance:**
 - Brush mowing: 9 miles
 - Disking: 3.5 miles
- **Habitat maintenance** by prescribed burning: 650 acres
 - Unit # 24: 320 acres, burned in the spring
 - Unit # 15/16: 330 acres, burned in the fall
- **North Country Trail:** completed by the National Park Service:
 - About 4.7 miles of trail
 - 1 campsite
- **Sharptailed Grouse:**
 - Spring population unchanged from previous year: 15 males
 - FOTBS: conducted annual survey on April 23
 - Observation blind: 9 + individuals/groups; reservations via FOTBS
- **Public use management:**
 - Maintained property and regulatory signs: Douglas County Wildlife Area; Dog Trial and Horse Trail; No ATV/Snowmobile; Dog Training Area.
 - Patrol and enforcement of trail use by DNR and Douglas County Sheriff Department
 - Kiosk: Preliminary design and construction discussion with FOTBS and DCFD. Selected location: Jct. of Bird Road & Puppy Course Trail
- **Dog Trials:** 6: 5 completed, 1 remaining

Issues/concerns:

- ATC power line project
- Enbridge pipeline expansion project
- Adjacent land use/changes: Bird Sanctuary Estates

Plans for the next year:

- Fire break maintenance by mowing and disking
- Habitat maintenance by prescribed burning:
 - Unit # 11: 490 acres
 - Unit # 14SW: 263 acres
 - Unit # 23: 520 acres
- Habitat management/restoration: timber sale in sections 22 and 23
- Kiosk: Construct

Respectfully submitted,
Fred Strand
Wildlife Manager, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources