

2007 Property Managers Report
for the
Douglas County Wildlife Management Area
presented at the
Friends of the Bird Sanctuary annual meeting, October 6, 2007

Accomplishments:

- **Fire break maintenance:**
 - Brush mowing: 6 miles
 - Disking: 1 miles
- **Habitat maintenance:** by prescribed burning:
 - Unit # 11: burned in the spring, 479 acres
- **Habitat Restoration:** a timber sale (237 acres) was established and sold in sections 22 & 23 with the sale to be completed by June 2008.
- **Sharptailed Grouse:**
 - Spring population increased from previous year: 28 males
 - Observation blind: 6 + individuals/groups; reservations via FOTBS
- **Public use management and facilities:**
 - Maintained property and regulatory signs: Douglas County Wildlife Management 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: Location: Jct. of Bird Road & Puppy Course Trail. Design completed. Ground site work completed: parking area graveled, boundary posts installed. Information facility near completion. There will be 4 'panels' for information, one each for: FOTBS, North County Trail, Douglas County Forestry Dept., and DNR.
 - Horse corral: completed by the Northwest Harness Club
- **Dog Trials:** 6: 5 completed, 1 remaining

Issues/concerns:

- Adjacent ATC power line project was completed.
- Adjacent Enbridge pipeline expansion project is nearly completed.
- 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 # 14SW: 263 acres
 - Unit # 23: 520 acres
- Habitat management/restoration: after the timber sale is completed in sections 22 and 23 firebreaks will be established and the area treated with a prescribed burn (probably in 2008) to restore the area to an early, open stage of pine barrens habitat.
- Kiosk: Complete
- Parking area: DCFD is considering the creation of a parking area for large truck-trailer units at the horse arena area which is to the northeast of the stables, kennels, and box cars.

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Strand

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