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NEW BIRD REFUGES AUTHORIZED  
BY CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Lands for Inviolate Game Bird Sanctuaries  
to be Purchased by Biological Survey  
in Four States

The Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, of which Secretary Hyde of the Department of Agriculture is chairman, to-day (December 18) authorized purchases of lands by the Biological Survey for migratory game-bird refuges in Florida, California, North Carolina, and Nebraska, aggregating 73,780 acres. The cost to the Government will average \$5.38 an acre.

The four proposed refuges had been surveyed previously by biologists and land valuation experts of the Biological Survey, and the Department of Agriculture had approved their acquisition as units in the nationwide system of refuges authorized by Congress.

The new Florida refuge will extend about 12 miles along Apalachee Bay, in Wakulla, Jefferson, and Taylor Counties, and will be known as the St. Marks Migratory Bird Refuge. It will contain 13,981 acres.

The new purchases in California will add 8,982 acres to the Salton Sea Wild Life Refuge, created by Executive order of November 25, 1930. The purchase authorized, together with the public lands recently set aside by the President, will create a refuge of more than 24,715 acres for waterfowl and other migrants in the Imperial Valley.

The Swanquarter Migratory Bird Refuge will be established in North Carolina under the new authorization. This will consist of 11,778 acres in Hyde County, on Pamlico Sound, and together with intermingled areas of water will make an administrative unit of about 20,000 acres.

In the sandhills of western Nebraska the purchase of 39,038 acres is authorized for the establishment of a migratory bird refuge in an area resorted to by great numbers of waterfowl in the nesting season. This is in Garden County and will be known as the Crescent Lake Migratory Bird Refuge.

The Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, which was created by the act providing for a ten-year program of refuge acquisition consists of Secretary Hyde of the Department of Agriculture; Secretary Lamont of the Department of Commerce; Secretary Wilbur of the Department of the Interior; Senator Norbeck, of South Dakota; Senator Hawes, of Missouri; Representative Ackerman, of New Jersey; and Representative McReynolds, of Tennessee. Rudolph Dieffenbach, in charge of land acquisitions of the Bureau of Biological Survey, is secretary of the Commission.

The new purchases authorized, together with those previously approved by the Commission, and those established by Executive orders since the inception on July 1, 1929, of work under the Migratory Bird Conservation Act, make a total of 158,167 acres that will become inviolate sanctuaries for the conservation of migratory birds.

The ultimate objective is the establishment of one or more such refuges in each State of the Union. The Act authorizes annual appropriations for ten years for the purpose of carrying out this objective.

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