

CELEBRATE CCC
ANNIVERSARY AT
WILDLIFE REFUGE

U. S. Biological Survey
Congratulates Boys
On "Good Job"

C.C.C. boys, developing the Mattamuskeet and Swanquarter Migratory Bird Refuges in Hyde County, North Carolina, are making an invaluable contribution to the national wildlife restoration program, says Dr. Ira N. Gabrielson, Chief of the U. S. Biological Survey. His congratulations to the camp personnel came on the fifth anniversary of the C.C.C.

The Mattamuskeet and Swanquarter camp is joining other camps throughout the nation this week (March 31 to April 5) in celebrating the anniversary and invites the public to visit the camp during an "open house" celebration on (insert date) to see the progress being made at these North Carolina wildlife refuges. Here the C.C.C. boys, under direction of the Biological Survey, are working to improve the refuges as they are at 31 other camps on refuges over the United States. They are making the refuges easier to administer and more attractive to wildlife.

"C.C.C. boys," says Dr. Gabrielson, "are familiar figures in many localities. The public is becoming acquainted with them and their work. It can see the beneficial effect camp training has in preparing them for good citizenship. It also learns about their contributions to the wildlife program."

The Mattamuskeet and Swanquarter Refuges, lying on and near Pamlico Sound on the eastern coast of North Carolina, are two of the selected areas which the Biological Survey is improving with C.C.C. help so that they will attract and support large number of waterfow and other wildlife.

Since July, 1933, the boys have constructed 11 miles of truck trail and 6 miles of foot trail and have erected headquarters buildings on a high ridge. 4 miles of telephone line serve the camp. 8,640 rods of new fence protect the area. Three lookout towers furnish observation points, and 16 miles of fire break will aid in controlling fires.

Black ducks breed at these refuges, and geese and swans visit them in great numbers as do osprey, great blue herons, laughing gulls and American and least bitterns.

The boys have constructed levees and jetties in developing ponds that will be attractive to both fish and birds. Channel cleaning, ditch digging and canal construction have further improved the sanctuary.

Redheads, mallards, and lesser scaup visit here in winter as do some green-winged teal and holdeneye, bufflehead and canvasback ducks.

To furnish an abundance of food for the resident and visiting waterfowl the boys have collected seed and planted 698 acres to food and cover.

"All of the accomplishments," says Dr. Gabrielson, "help make the waterfowl and other wildlife at Mattamuskeet and Swanquarter feel at home. This work will serve as a lasting monument to the C.C.C. Five years ago, when our wildlife resources, especially waterfowl, were in serious danger, the Biological Survey had a re-creation program. It lacked the means and man power to carry it out. Then emergency funds for buying refuge areas became available. About the same time C.C.C. help for development was obtained. This was indeed a happy coincidence as the accomplishments on record today were only dreamed of five years ago."