

CELEBRATE CCC
ANNIVERSARY AT
WILDLIFE REFUGE

M. Zahner

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

C. C. C. boys, developing the Tule Lake Wildlife Refuge in Siskiyou and Modoc Counties of California, Clear Lake Migratory Bird Refuge in Modoc County California and Upper Klamath Wildlife Refuge in Klamath County, Oregon operated as a unit are making an invaluable contribution to the national wildlife restoration program, says Dr. Ira S. 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 Camp, at Tule Lake, is joining others throughout the nation this week (March 31 to April 5) in celebrating the anniversary and invites the public to visit the camp during the "open house" celebration on (insert date) to see the progress being made at these three 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, by becoming acquainted with them and their work, can see what beneficial effects camp training has in preparing them for good citizenship. It also learns of their contribution to the wildlife program."

The Tule Lake, Upper Klamath and Clear Lake Refuges in Southern Oregon and northern California are in a Bureau of Reclamation project under

the secondary jurisdiction of the Biological Survey. With C. C. C. help these refuges are being improved so that they will attract and support additional waterfowl and other wildlife. Areas within the refuges have been improved, land is being revegetated and water levels stabilized. These areas are excellent havens for nesting and migratory waterfowl and a favorite wintering ground for the cackling goose that breeds on the northwest coast of Alaska. Mallards, redheads, cinnamon teal, avocets, stilts and other shore birds gather here in great numbers and lesser snow geese, white fronted geese and Canada geese are also common.

The C. C. C. boys have been busy since October 21, 1935. They have completed 103 miles of truck trail and 13 1/2 miles of telephone line which tie the areas together. Five lookout towers furnish observation points in the refuges and more than 11,000 rods of fence protect them.

Excavation for levees, dikes and jettys, along with cribbing and filling, provide vital water control. Lake and pond development has been furthered by 5575 man days of labor.

Fire in a refuge not only destroys wildlife but the natural area resources. The Tule camp boys cleared 3330 acres of refuge land against fire hazards. 1962 acres were subject to pest control where grasshoppers were the worst offenders.

The large number of waterfowl using these refuges consume enormous quantities of food. To provide for their needs 690 pounds of grass, flower and shrub seed were gathered and more than 900 acres were planted to food and cover plants.

A cabin and an overnight dwelling have been constructed and two springs developed while 133 miles of the refuge boundaries were marked.

"All of these accomplishments," says Dr. Gabrielson, "help make the waterfowl and other wildlife at Tule, Clear Lake and Upper Klamath feel at home. The work here 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 restoration program. It lacked the means and man power to carry it out. Then emergency funds for buying refuges became available. About the same time C. C. C. help for developing the refuges was obtained. This was indeed a happy coincidence as the accomplishments on record to-day were only dreamed of 5 years ago."