



## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### INFORMATION SERVICE

UNITED STATES FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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#### FOUR MORE NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGES APPROVED FOR ACQUISITION

Establishment of four new National Wildlife Refuges with a total of 9,357 acres and the acquisition of 12,410 acres to be added to nine existing refuges (five in North Dakota) was approved June 18, by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission, according to Secretary of the Interior Fred A. Seaton, Chairman of the Commission.

One of the new refuges will be an experimental waterfowl production area. One, 1,089 acres in extent, will be leased. Of the land to be added to existing refuges, 21 acres will be leased.

The new refuges to be established are Troy Meadows National Wildlife Refuge, Morris County, New Jersey; Swan Island National Wildlife Refuge, Sagadahoc County, Maine; Fish Springs National Wildlife Refuge, Juab County, Utah; and the Day County Waterfowl Production Area in South Dakota.

Land purchases are paid for by duck stamp funds as such funds become available.

Troy Meadows involves one of the important remaining marshland areas in northern New Jersey and is a well known feeding and resting area for waterfowl during their migrations and a nesting area for blue-winged teal, black duck and shoveller. The area to be acquired is composed of 1,089 acres which will be leased.

The proposed Swan Island Refuge, in the Merrymeeting Bay area in southern Maine, is an important concentration area. The island contains 1,500 acres which will be purchased from the State of Maine.

The Fish Springs Refuge when complete will comprise 17,872 acres, of which 2,775 will be purchased and 14,097 acres will come from the public domain. An

available water supply will be utilized in keeping it an important resting area in the arid country as well as nesting grounds for migratory waterfowl. It is one of the few areas in the country which meets the requirements of the Greater Sandhill Crane and is the only nesting place for that bird in the State of Utah.

The Day County Waterfowl Production Area, 2,993 acres in Day County, South Dakota, is to be purchased by the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife as a demonstration area for increasing production of waterfowl. This area was selected because it represents as nearly as possible "typical pothole country" as found in parts of the States of North and South Dakota, Minnesota, and the Dominion of Canada.

Commission action in authorizing additional acquisitions for existing refuges follows:

Shell Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Mountrail County, North Dakota--1,227 acres;

Pretty Rock National Wildlife Refuge, Grant County, North Dakota--1,137 acres;

White Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Slope County, North Dakota--1,120 acres;

Stewart Lake National Wildlife Refuge, Slope County, North Dakota--1,370 acres;

McLean National Wildlife Refuge, McLean County, North Dakota--664 acres;

The Shiawassee National Wildlife Refuge in Saginaw County, Michigan--4,128 acres;

Big Lake National Wildlife Refuge in Mississippi County, Arkansas--1,371 acres.

The Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge in Noxubee, Oktibbeha, and Winston Counties, Mississippi, 1,310 acres, plus 21 acres to be leased.

The Chincoteague National Wildlife Refuge, in Accomack County, Virginia--62 acres.

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