

1999

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission 1999 Annual Report

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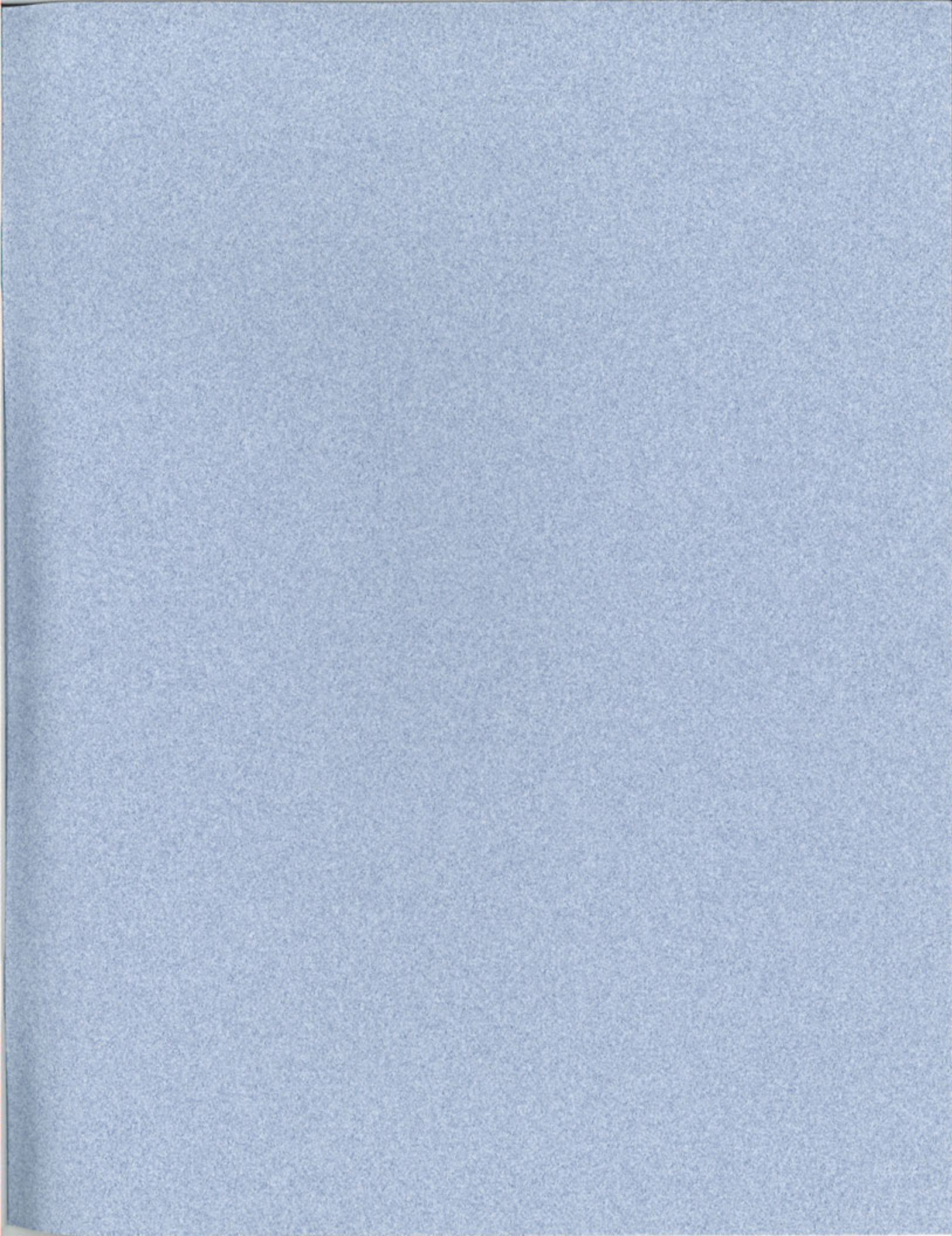
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The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission



1999 Annual Report



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308-763-2940 / fax 308-763-2943

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524 Panzer St. / P.O. Box 508
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Norfolk, NE 68701-2267
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District IV

301 E. State Farm Rd.
North Platte, NE 69101-0430
308-535-8025 / fax 308-535-8028

District VI

1617 First Ave.
Kearney, NE 68847-6057
308-865-5310 / fax 308-865-5309

Commissioners

District 1

Thomas "Tip" O'Neill Jr., Lincoln
1/15/1996-1/15/2001

District 2

Woody Egermayer, Omaha
1/16/1997-1/15/2002

District 3

John Miller, Blair
1/28/1998-1/15/2003

District 4

William Berryman, Kearney
2/28/1995-9/7/1999

District 5

Daniel Wallen, McCook
2/28/1995-1/15/2000

District 6

Rob Coupland, Valentine
9/7/1997-9/7/2002

District 7

Connie Lapaseotes, Bridgeport
11/3/1994-1/15/1999

Administration

Rex Amack, Director
Assistant Directors:
Noelyn Isom
Roger Kuhn
Kirk Nelson

PURPOSE

The Nebraska Game and Parks Commission is charged with managing and controlling the state's wildlife, parks and outdoor recreational resources in the best long-term interest of the people.

To accomplish that purpose, the Commission strives to plan and implement its policies and programs efficiently and objectively; maintain a rich and diverse environment in Nebraska's lands and waters; provide outdoor recreation opportunities; manage wildlife resources for the maximum benefit of the people, and strive to help Nebraskans appreciate their roles in the natural world.

Contents

| | |
|---------------------------------------|----|
| Administration | 2 |
| Budget and Fiscal | 3 |
| Engineering | 8 |
| Federal Aid | 10 |
| Fisheries | 11 |
| Information and Education | 14 |
| Law Enforcement | 16 |
| Operations & Construction | 18 |
| Outdoor Education | 20 |
| Realty & Environmental Services | 23 |
| State Parks | 25 |
| Wildlife | 34 |

This publication is condensed individual division's annual reports. Complete version of division reports may be obtained by contacting the individual division at the Game and Parks Commission, 2200 N. 33rd St., P.O. Box 30370, Lincoln, NE 68503-0370.

VISIT US ON THE INTERNET

www.ngpc.state.ne.us/

Printed on recycled paper with soy ink.

ADMINISTRATION

This division provides support services to all divisions through: Personnel, internal audit, in-service training, aircraft operations, word processing, headquarters maintenance, drug and alcohol reports, telephone switchboard, and district staff assistants.

Liaison with the Nebraska Legislature is a major duty, as is providing assistance to the Director's Office and settling claims against the Commission. There were 22 claims in 1999.

HEADQUARTERS ADDITION

1999 was the completion of the first addition to the Commission's Central Office in Lincoln, since the complex was built in 1971. A 1,500 square foot loading dock was added to the west side of the administration building at a cost of \$220,000. While this addition benefits all divisions, it will ease a space and loading problem that has plagued the Information & Education Division almost since the building was constructed.

LEGISLATION

A significant piece of legislation (LB176) was passed on behalf of the Commission during the 1999 session. What started out as two bills was combined into one 84-page bill that:

- requires 14 and 15-year-olds to pass a boating safety course before operating a personal watercraft. It becomes

effective May 1, 2000;

- increased some mandatory fines;
- allows selling of permits via the Internet;
- created the Captive Wildlife Permit;
- plus many other minor housekeeping changes to the Game Laws.

PERSONNEL

Personnel duties include payroll, Workers Compensation, retirement, insurance, performance planning, personnel records, and preparation of the personal services portion of the agency's operational budget. The labor contract between the State and the Nebraska Association of Public Employees/American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (NAPE/AFSCME) Local 61 covers 226 agency employees. The State Law Enforcement Bargaining Council (SLEBC) represents approximately 48 agency employees. Personnel serves as liaison to the Department of Administrative Services Employee Relations Division.

There were 44 permanent employees hired in 1999, and 26 employees were promoted/reclassified. Turnover for 1998 was 5.5% (25 employees). Numerous letters on employment possibilities and career information were received and answered. Staff also handled various surveys regarding salaries, benefits and personnel turnover.

Personnel coordinates with the Office of Risk Management on Workers Compensation cases. The Workers Compensation assessment for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1999, came to \$349,926.91.

PAYROLLS

Permanent Employees

Total gross wages: \$14,583,358.25
Average number per payroll: 450
(Includes SLEBC settlement for back pay for period 7-1-97 - 1/31/99)

Temporary Employees

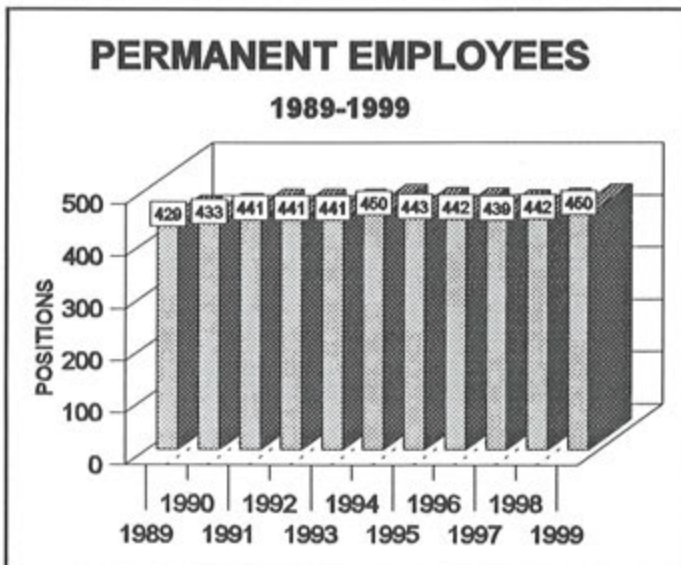
Total gross wages: \$4,589,379.27
Average number per payroll: 502
Largest payroll: 955 employees
Smallest payroll: 147 employees

IN-SERVICE TRAINING

To help improve performance and help prepare employees for higher responsibility, in-service training is directed toward meeting the specialized needs of individual staff members who enroll in various of short courses, seminars and workshops. Broad-based training needs are met through in-house workshops for employee groups.

MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENTS

Commission employees were involved in 24 motor vehicle accidents, up 3 from 1998 (+14.3%), but still 11.1% below the 27 accidents recorded in 1997.



New loading/storage dock is first addition to headquarters building since the complex was built in 1971.

BUDGET & FISCAL

This division has four sections, whose duties include:

1. **Permits Section** issues big-game permits; consigns hunting, fishing, park permits and stamps to agents; issues boating certificates to county treasurers; receives, receipts, deposits and accounts for all monies collected.
2. **Accounts Payable and Cost Accounting Section** processes payments of operating expenses, employee expense documents; conducts audits; prepares monthly reports for Commission review; prepares all tax forms required by the Department of Revenue; distributes costs to appropriate areas for internal cost accounting; and maintains financial records for federal grants.
3. **Purchasing and Inventory Section** procures or coordinates procurement of materials, supplies, equipment and services and maintains an inventory system for agency-owned equipment.
4. **Budget Section** prepares the budget, monitors financial resources, assesses fiscal impact of proposed legislation, insures expenditures are in accord with the budget and applicable rules and regulations, and maintains financial records of capital projects.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

January 1, 1999, General Fund Appropriation and Cash on Hand:

| | | |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| Cowboy Trail Fund (2328) | | \$ 124,217.91 |
| Environmental Trust Fund (2329) | | 15,923,655.64 |
| State Game (Fund 2332) | | |
| Includes Lifetime Hunt | 1,344,439.75 | |
| Includes Lifetime Fish | 943,669.75 | |
| Other | <u>10,480,905.19</u> | 12,769,014.69 |
| State Park Cash Revolving Fund (2333) | | 6,793,011.73 |
| Nebraska Habitat Fund (2334) | | 4,497,669.38 |
| Non-game and Endangered Species Cash Fund (2335) | | 360,605.02 |
| Nebraska Snowmobile Trail Cash Fund (2337) | | 110,599.32 |
| Nebraska Outdoor Recreation Development Fund (2338) | | 2,776,485.69 |
| Trail Development Assistance Fund (2339) | | 67,392.81 |
| Nebraska Aquatic Habitat Fund (2341) | | 1,776,967.28 |
| Federal Fund (4332) | | |
| Bureau of Reclamation (8972) | | 265,660.22 |
| National Recreation Trails Fund (4333) | | 0.10 |
| General Fund (1000) | 5,924,879.10 | |
| Less Amount Lapsed | <u>135,219.15</u> | <u>5,789,659.95</u> |

Total General Fund Appropriations & Cash on hand January 1, 1999 **51,254,939.74**

General Fund Appropriations & Cash Received during 1999

| | | |
|---|----------------------|---------------------|
| Cowboy Trail Fund (2328) | | 18,990.63 |
| Environmental Trust Fund (2329) | | 9,043,748.85 |
| State Game Fund (2332) | | |
| Includes Lifetime Hunt | 171,697.00 | |
| Includes Lifetime Fish | 161,817.00 | |
| Other | <u>15,369,477.21</u> | 15,702,991.21 |
| State Park Cash Revolving Fund (2333) | | 13,489,984.66 |
| Nebraska Habitat Fund (2334) | | 3,807,591.95 |
| Non-game & Endangered Species Fund (2335) | | 129,489.90 |
| Nebraska Snowmobile Trail Cash Fund (2337) | | 15,100.64 |
| Nebraska Outdoor Recreation Development Fund (2338) | | 1,503,714.27 |
| Trail Development Assistance Fund (2339) | | 3,957.75 |
| Nebraska Aquatic Habitat Fund (2341) | | 2,119,410.42 |
| Federal Fund (4332) | | |
| Bureau of Reclamation (8972) | | 1,324,814.23 |
| National Recreation Assistance Trails Fund (4333) | | 94,890.10 |
| General Fund (1000) | | <u>9,533,412.04</u> |

Total General Fund Appropriations & Cash Received during 1999 **\$ 56,788,096.65**

Expenditures by Fund Type during 1999

| | | |
|--|--|----------------------|
| Cowboy Trail Fund (2328) | | 367.17 |
| Environmental Trust Fund (2329) | | 9,699,193.05 |
| State Game Fund (2332) | | 14,547,289.70 |
| State Park Cash Revolving Fund (2333) | | 14,001,786.60 |
| Nebraska Habitat Fund (2334) | | 3,679,200.28 |
| Non-game & Endangered Species Fund (2335) | | 117,359.58 |
| Nebraska Snowmobile Trail Cash Fund (2337) | | 0.00 |
| Nebraska Outdoor Recreation Development Cash Fund (2338) | | 1,072,567.35 |
| Trail Development Assistance Fund (2339) | | 0.00 |
| Nebraska Aquatic Habitat Fund (2341) | | 1,182,510.64 |
| Federal Fund (4332) | | |
| Bureau of Reclamation (8972) | | 1,163,037.52 |
| National Recreation Assistance Trails Fund (4333) | | 94,890.20 |
| General Fund (1000) | | <u>9,813,637.44</u> |
| Total Expenditures during 1999 | | 56,371,839.53 |

End of the Year Fund Balances for 1999:

| | | |
|--|----------------------|---------------------|
| Cowboy Trail Fund (2328) | | 142,841.37 |
| Environmental Trust Fund (2329) | | 15,268,211.44 |
| State Game Fund (2332) | | |
| Includes Lifetime Hunt | 1,516,136.75 | |
| Includes Lifetime Fish | 1,105,486.75 | |
| Other | <u>11,303,092.70</u> | 13,924,716.20 |
| State Park Cash Revolving Fund (2333) | | 6,281,209.79 |
| Nebraska Habitat Fund (2334) | | 4,626,061.05 |
| Non-game & Endangered Species Fund (2335) | | 372,735.34 |
| Nebraska Snowmobile Trail Cash Fund (2337) | | 125,699.96 |
| Nebraska Outdoor Recreation Development Cash Fund (2338) | | 3,207,632.61 |
| Trail Development Assistance Fund (2339) | | 71,350.56 |
| Nebraska Aquatic Habitat Fund (2341) | | 2,713,867.06 |
| Federal Fund (4332) | | |
| Bureau of Reclamation (8972) | | 427,436.93 |
| National Recreation Trails Fund (4333) | | 0.00 |
| General Fund (1000) | | <u>5,509,434.55</u> |

Total General Fund Appropriation & Cash Balance Remaining on December 31, 1999 **\$ 52,671,196.86**

1999 EXPENDITURES

OPERATIONAL COSTS

| | | |
|---|------------------------|-------------------------|
| Program 162 – Environmental Trust | \$ 9,699,193.05 | |
| Program 330 – Habitat Development | | |
| State Game Fund | 32,287.66 | |
| Nebraska Habitat Fund | <u>2,235,927.53</u> | 2,268,215.19 |
| Program 336 – Wildlife Conservation | | |
| Sub-Program 01 – Enforcement | | |
| General Fund | 603,174.78 | |
| State Game Fund | 2,998,698.87 | |
| State Park Cash Revolving | <u>622,050.77</u> | 4,223,924.42 |
| Sub-Program 02 – Information & Education | | |
| State Game Fund | 1,810,557.84 | |
| State Park Cash Revolving | <u>449,938.53</u> | 2,260,496.37 |
| Sub-Program 04 – Game | | |
| State Game Fund | 3,364,351.69 | |
| Federal | <u>37,317.31</u> | 3,401,669.00 |
| Sub-Program 05 – Fish | | |
| State Game Fund | 3,345,387.88 | |
| Aquatic Habitat Fund | 375.73 | |
| Federal | <u>317,867.99</u> | 3,663,631.60 |
| Sub-Program 10 – Outdoor Education | | |
| General Fund | 99,904.74 | |
| State Game Fund | 787,595.60 | |
| State Park Cash Revolving | <u>9,675.96</u> | 897,176.30 |
| Sub-Program 16 – Non-Game & Endangered Species | | |
| General Fund | 329,858.33 | |
| Non-Game & Endangered Species Fund | 117,359.58 | |
| Federal | <u>59,404.16</u> | 506,622.07 |
| PROGRAM 336 – SUMMARY | | |
| General Fund | 1,032,937.85 | |
| State Game Fund | 12,306,591.88 | |
| State Park Cash Revolving | 1,081,665.26 | |
| Non-Game & Endangered Species Fund | 117,359.58 | |
| Aquatic Habitat Fund | 375.73 | |
| Federal | <u>414,589.46</u> | 14,953,519.76 |
| Program 337 – Agency Administration | | |
| General Fund | 660,776.09 | |
| Cowboy Trail Fund | 367.17 | |
| State Game Fund | 1,675,774.55 | |
| State Park Cash Revolving | 740,756.52 | |
| Habitat Cash | 110,794.43 | |
| Aquatic Habitat | <u>31.27</u> | 3,188,500.03 |
| Program 338 – Niobrara Scenic River Local Management Council | | |
| General Fund | 50,000.00 | 50,000.00 |
| Program 549 – Park Administration & Operation | | |
| General Fund | 5,119,799.06 | |
| State Park Cash Revolving | 9,146,642.75 | |
| Ne. Outdoor Rec. Dev. Fund | <u>3,070.02</u> | 14,269,511.83 |
| Program 550 – Planning & Trails Coordination | | |
| General Fund | <u>413,523.82</u> | 413,523.82 |
| Program 617 – Engineering, Area Maintenance & Snowmobile | | |
| General Fund | 2,536,600.62 | |
| State Game Fund | 62,518.99 | |
| State Park Cash Revolving | 2,047,699.11 | |
| Snowmobile Trail Cash Fund | 0.00 | |
| Aquatic Habitat Fund | <u>37,895.25</u> | 4,684,713.97 |
| Program 628 – Credit Card Discount | | |
| State Game Fund | 15,614.88 | |
| State Park Cash Revolving | 45,299.59 | <u>60,914.47</u> |
| TOTAL OPERATION COSTS – 1999 | | \$ 49,588,092.12 |

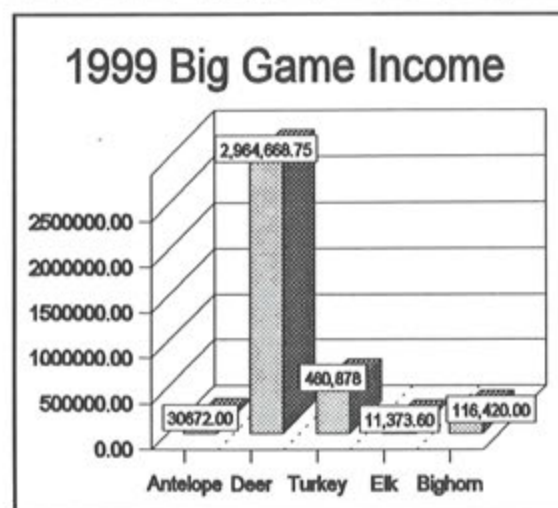
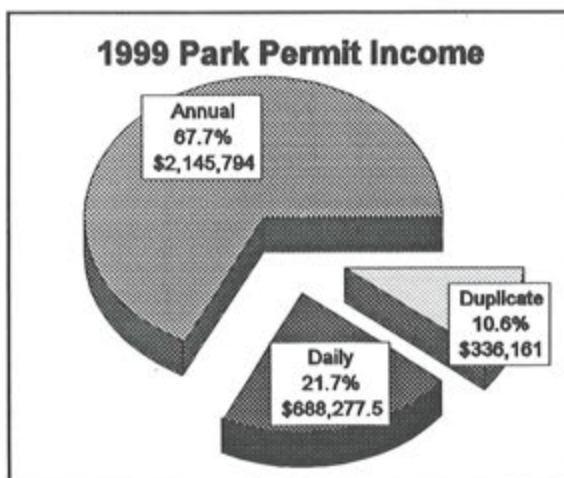
1999 REVENUE

| | | |
|---|------------------|-------------------------|
| Cowboy Trail Fund | | |
| Trail Fees | 9,256.33 | |
| Interest Earned – Investments | 7,554.30 | |
| Land Lease/Easements | 1,500.00 | |
| Other | 680.00 | |
| Total Cowboy Trail Cash Fund | | \$ 18,990.63 |
| Environmental Trust Fund | | |
| Transferred Income | 8,180,785.00 | |
| Interest | 862,613.85 | |
| Other | 350.00 | |
| Total Environmental Trust Fund | | 9,043,748.85 |
| State Game Cash Fund Income | | |
| Hunting Activities (Lifetime Hunt) | 6,478,563.32 | |
| Fishing Activities (Lifetime Fish) | 3,088,529.21 | |
| Big Horn Sheep Application Fee | 35,220.00 | |
| State & Local Reimbursements | 7,817.88 | |
| Federal Reimbursements | 3,555,066.50 | |
| NEBRASKALand Magazine | | |
| Subscriptions | 580,288.45 | |
| Advertising | <u>15,519.49</u> | 595,807.94 |
| Calendars, books, slides, etc. | 119,045.10 | |
| Sale of surplus property | 79,469.99 | |
| Land leases and crop income | 73,873.27 | |
| Boating registrations | 617,518.29 | |
| Incidentals | 45,708.30 | |
| Liquidated and property damage | 97,193.98 | |
| Interest earned on investments | 781,278.75 | |
| Cash gifts | 10,102.01 | |
| Grants, Other Agencies (federal & state) | 123,447.57 | |
| Entrance Admissions | 18,553.14 | |
| Total State Game Fund | | 15,702,991.21 |
| State Park Cash Revolving Fund Income | | |
| Park Entry Permits | 3,184,198.00 | |
| Ice Fishing Shelter | 15.00 | |
| Property & Liquidated Damages | 5,401.26 | |
| Interest earned on investments | 383,274.16 | |
| Camping fees, cabin lots, etc. | 1,980,598.23 | |
| Rental of cabins & lodge rooms | 3,070,623.81 | |
| Concession leases and sales by lessee | 110,338.12 | |
| Swimming pool admissions | 217,175.61 | |
| Entry admissions | 285,940.15 | |
| Use fees (trail rides, etc.) | 613,590.05 | |
| Concession sales, leases and agency facilities | 524,467.08 | |
| Food Service – Fort Robinson | 195,473.84 | |
| Cookout Income – all areas | 25,454.86 | |
| Food Service – Platte River | 80,847.47 | |
| Food Service – Mahoney | 1,289,277.43 | |
| Cash gifts | 259,314.48 | |
| Sale of surplus property | 177,848.18 | |
| Adjustments to prior fiscal year | 3,685.79 | |
| Catering | 417,982.91 | |
| Grocery store & snack items | 429,624.50 | |
| Rental items (linen, dishes, tables) | 5,245.21 | |
| Incidentals | 35,101.97 | |
| Gratuities | 70,011.27 | |
| Grants | 123,193.48 | |
| Federal reimbursement | 11,508.00 | |
| Total Park State Park Cash Revolving Fund | | 13,489,984.66 |
| Nebraska Habitat Fund Income | | |
| Habitat Stamps | 1,598,764.00 | |
| Waterfowl Stamp | 1,485.13 | |
| Interest earned on investments | 281,178.15 | |
| Federal reimbursements | 1,450,166.74 | |
| Incidentals | 22,198.75 | |
| Cash gifts | 379,148.60 | |
| Crop/Pasture | 62,480.02 | |
| Grants | 16,951.95 | |
| Sale of surplus property | 15,220.61 | |
| Total Habitat Cash Fund | | 3,807,591.95 |
| Non-Game & Endangered Species Cash Fund Income | | |
| Cash gifts | 450.00 | |
| Federal reimbursements | 28,445.76 | |
| Interest earned on investments | 21,597.58 | |
| Non-game donations | 77,078.81 | |
| Grants | 637.50 | |
| Incidentals-adjustments to prior fiscal year | 1,282.27 | |
| Total Non-Game & Endangered Species Cash Fund | | 129,489.90 |
| Nebraska Snowmobile Cash Fund Income | | |
| 75% of registration fee, less issuing fee | 8,334.48 | |
| Interest earned on investments | 6,766.16 | |
| Total Nebraska Snowmobile Cash Fund | | 15,100.64 |
| Ne. Outdoor Recreation Development Cash Fund | | |
| Portion of Nebraska Tobacco Products Tax | 1,237,381.70 | |
| Interest earned on investments | 166,361.80 | |
| Surplus Property | 338.77 | |
| Federal Reimbursement (FEMA) | 99,632.00 | |
| Total Ne. Outdoor Recreation Development Cash Fund | | 1,503,714.27 |
| Trail Development Assistance Fund Income | | |
| Interest earned on investments | 3,957.75 | |
| Total Trail Development Assistance Cash Fund | | 3,957.75 |
| Aquatic Habitat Fund | | |
| Aquatic Stamp | 1,055,610.00 | |
| Interest earned on investments | 129,928.50 | |
| Federal reimbursement | 312,198.24 | |
| Grants | 603,950.98 | |
| Incidentals | 17,724.70 | |
| Total Aquatic Habitat Cash Fund | | 2,119,410.42 |
| Federal Funds | | |
| Bureau of Reclamation, etc. | 1,324,814.23 | |
| National Recreation Trails Fund, etc. | 94,890.10 | |
| Total Federal Funds without reimbursements | | 1,419,704.33 |
| Total Cash & Federal Income Received during 1999 | | \$ 47,254,684.61 |

1999 CAPITAL EXPENDITURES

| Area of Expenditure | 2332 Game Cash | 2333 Park Cash | 2334 Habitat Cash | 2338 NORDA Cash | 2341 NE Aquatic Habitat | 4332 Federal Funds | 4333 Rec. Trail Funds | Total |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|--------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| LAND ACQUISITION | | | | | | | | |
| Acq of Habitat Lands | 7,985.32 | | 1,230,308.32 | | | | | 1,238,293.64 |
| IMPROVEMENTS & RENOVATIONS | | | | | | | | |
| Chadron | | | | 35,913.61 | | | | 35,913.61 |
| Fort Robinson | | 18,250.54 | | 138,486.08 | | | | 156,736.62 |
| Mahoney | | 184,486.87 | | 8,060.54 | | | | 192,547.41 |
| Niobrara | | | | 291,168.49 | | | | 291,168.49 |
| Platte River | | 1,644.42 | | 68.03 | | | | 1,712.45 |
| Ponca | | 28,664.62 | | 380.16 | | | | 29,044.78 |
| Smith Falls | | | | 65,000.00 | | | | 65,000.00 |
| Arbor Lodge | | 25,294.45 | | | | | | 25,294.45 |
| Buffalo Bill Ranch | | | | 26,475.00 | | | | 26,475.00 |
| Fort Kearny SHP | | | | 15,897.49 | | | | 15,897.49 |
| Park Areas – General | | | | 100,229.34 | | | | 100,229.34 |
| Branched Oak | 8,874.80 | | | 46,673.97 | 243,334.57 | | | 298,883.34 |
| Buffalo Bill | | | | 26,529.17 | | | | 26,529.17 |
| Calamus | | 39,519.15 | | | | | | 39,519.15 |
| Conestoga | | | | 190.62 | | | | 192.62 |
| Dead Timber | | | | 5,000.00 | | | | 5,000.00 |
| Enders | | 65,000.00 | | | | 106,550.00 | | 171,550.00 |
| Fort Kearny SRA | | 32,714.64 | | | | | | 32,714.64 |
| Fremont | | | | 27,437.00 | | | | 27,437.00 |
| Johnson Lake | | | | 3,950.00 | | | | 3,950.00 |
| Lake Minatare | | | | | 124,802.09 | | | 124,802.09 |
| Lake Maloney | | 120,372.00 | | | | | | 120,372.00 |
| Lake McConaughy | | 8,090.50 | | 34,743.40 | | | | 42,833.90 |
| Lake Ogallala | | | | | 41,563.32 | | | 41,563.32 |
| Lewis & Clark | | 91.44 | | 148,428.13 | | | | 148,519.57 |
| Louisville | | 54,758.66 | | 40,366.44 | 5,659.08 | | | 100,784.18 |
| Medicine Creek | 4,750.00 | 57,716.99 | | | | | | 62,466.99 |
| Memphis | | 7,835.87 | | | 15,577.93 | | | 23,413.80 |
| Merritt | | 170,600.00 | | | | | | 170,600.00 |
| Mormon Island | | 28,919.57 | | 13,612.20 | | | | 42,531.77 |
| Olive Creek | | | | | 143,667.84 | | | 143,667.84 |
| Pibel Lake | 58.96 | 58.97 | | | | | | 117.93 |
| Sherman | 4,068.50 | | | 6,048.99 | 191,447.86 | | | 201,565.35 |
| Smith Lake | | | | | 6,591.21 | | | 6,591.21 |
| Stagecoach | | | | 190.63 | | | | 190.63 |
| Swanson | | 16,145.54 | | | | 82,861.22 | | 99,006.76 |
| Victoria Springs | | | | 2,620.16 | | | | 2,620.16 |
| Two Rivers | | | | | 4,709.07 | | | 4,709.07 |
| Verdon Lake | | | | | 99,802.23 | | | 99,802.23 |
| Wagon Train | 232.71 | 232.72 | | 2,008.63 | 68,026.19 | | | 70,500.25 |
| Windmill | | 462.04 | | | | | | 462.04 |
| Wildlife Areas – General | 31,279.80 | | | | | | | 31,279.80 |
| Cedar Canyon | 6,000.00 | | | | | 36,367.80 | | 42,367.80 |

| Area of Expenditure | 2332 Game Cash | 2333 Park Cash | 2334 Habitat Cash | 2338 NORDA Cash | 2341 NE Aquatic Habitat | 4332 Federal Funds | 4333 Rec. Trail Funds | Total |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|----------------------|---------------------|-------------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------------|---------------------|
| Clear Creek | 600.00 | | | | | | | 600.00 |
| Cottonwood-Steverson | 23,014.93 | | | | | | | 23,014.93 |
| Davis Creek | 9,245.93 | | | | | | | 9,245.93 |
| Deep Well | | | 97,060.00 | | | | | 97,060.00 |
| Divoky | 3,852.84 | | | | | | | 3,852.84 |
| Grove Lake | 3,712.00 | | | | | | | 3,712.00 |
| Grove Trout | 3,700.00 | | | | | | | 3,700.00 |
| Larkspur | 9,074.00 | | | | | | | 9,074.00 |
| Long Pine | | 19,440.00 | | | | | | 19,440.00 |
| Meridian | 19,701.15 | | | | | | | 19,701.15 |
| Metcalf | 4,000.00 | | | | | | | 4,000.00 |
| Narrows | 4,641.55 | | | | | | | 4,641.55 |
| Osage | 15,112.17 | | | | | | | 15,112.17 |
| Plum Creek | 2,138.24 | | | | | | | 2,138.24 |
| Prairie Wolf | | | 5,110.00 | | | | | 5,110.00 |
| Rock Creek | 50,000.00 | | | | | | | 50,000.00 |
| South Pine | 7,452.96 | | | | | | | 7,452.96 |
| Swan Creek | 3,056.37 | | | | | | | 3,056.37 |
| Fisheries – Statewide | 10,000.00 | | | | | | | 10,000.00 |
| Central Office | 194,091.84 | 59,424.38 | | | | | | 253,516.22 |
| District III | 2,995.00 | | | | | | | 2,995.00 |
| District IV | 612.56 | | | | | | | 612.56 |
| District V – Fisheries | 32.18 | | | | | | | 32.18 |
| Aquarium | 7,385.00 | | | | | | | 7,385.00 |
| Valentine Nat'l Wildlife Refuge | 16,832.93 | | | | | 9,594.73 | | 26,427.66 |
| Aquatic Habitat Restoration – General | | | | | 199,027.00 | | | 199,027.00 |
| Trail Assistance | | | | | | | 3,429.82 | 3,429.82 |
| City of Kearney Aquatic Habitat Program | | | | | | 311,799.67 | | 311,799.67 |
| Cowboy Trail | | | | | | 113,974.77 | 91,460.38 | 205,435.15 |
| White River Trail | | | | 30,019.25 | | 86,150.00 | | 116,169.25 |
| ADA Improvements | | | | | | 1,149.87 | | 1,149.87 |
| TOTAL | 454,501.74 | 939,723.37 | 1,332,478.32 | 1,069,497.33 | 1,144,208.39 | 748,448.06 | 94,890.20 | 5,783,747.41 |



1999 DEER / ANTELOPE / ELK / TURKEY / BIGHORN PERMITS

| TYPE OF PERMIT | LANDOWNER | NONRESIDENT | RESIDENT | TOTAL PERMITS | INCOME |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------|------------|---------------|----------------|
| Archery Antelope | 2 | 19 | 324 | 345 | \$ 9,359.00 |
| Firearm Antelope | 109 | 0 | 904 | 1,013 | 21,313.00 |
| Total Antelope | 111 | 19 | 1,228 | 1,358 | 30,672.00 |
| Archery Deer | 133 | 1,343 | 14,661 | 16,137 | 529,120.25 |
| Firearm Deer | 11,678 | 4,069 | 76,258 | 92,005 | 2,435,548.50 |
| Total Deer | 11,811 | 5,412 | 90,919 | 108,142 | 2,964,668.75 |
| Archery Elk | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Firearm Elk | 19 | 0 | 40 | 59 | 4,905.60 |
| Elk Applications (\$5.50 each) | 37 | 0 | 1,139 | 1,176 | 6,468.00 |
| Total Elk Income | | | | | 11,373.60 |
| Bighorn Sheep | 0 | Auction: 1 | Lottery: 1 | 2 | 76,500.00 |
| Bighorn Application Fee (\$20) | 0 | 0 | 1,996 | | 39,920.00 |
| Total Bighorn Sheep Income | | | | | 116,420.00 |
| Fall Turkey - Archery | 11 | 57 | 641 | 709 | 14,019.50 |
| Fall Turkey - Firearm | 274 | 197 | 4,434 | 4,905 | 87,562.00 |
| Spring Turkey - Archery | 19 | 329 | 2,650 | 2,998 | 62,968.25 |
| Spring Turkey - Firearm | 664 | 1,460 | 12,483 | 14,607 | 296,328.25 |
| Total Turkey | 968 | 2,043 | 20,208 | 23,219 | 460,878.00 |
| Grand Total | 12,946 | 7,475 | 115,531 | 135,952 | \$3,584,012.35 |

Permit Fees: Landowner - Turkey, \$8.25; Deer & Antelope, \$11; Elk, \$22.40; Nonresident - Turkey, \$56; Deer, \$150.00; Antelope, \$112; Resident - Turkey, \$16.75; Deer & Antelope, \$22.25; Elk, \$112; Bighorn Sheep, cost of permit covered by application fee.

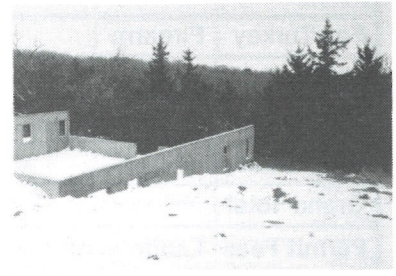
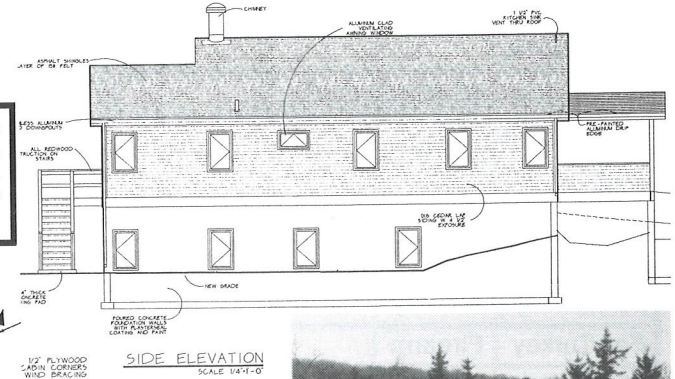
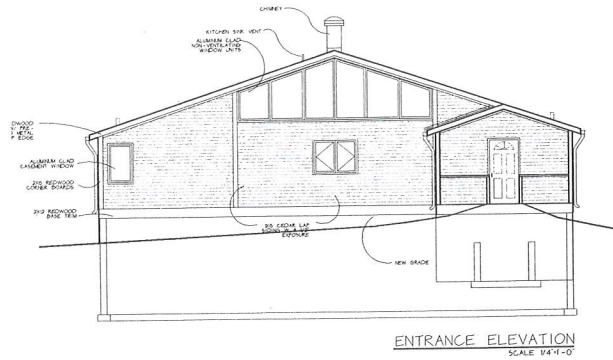
1999 PERMITS & STAMPS SOLD

| TYPE OF PERMIT | NUMBER SOLD* | AMOUNT* |
|-----------------------|--------------|------------------|
| Resident Fish | 136,405 | \$1,739,163.75 |
| 3-Day Resident Fish | 3,272 | 26,994.00 |
| Resident Hunt | 61,427 | 583,556.50 |
| Res. Fish-Hunt Combo | 45,733 | 994,692.75 |
| Nonresident Hunt | 27,015 | 1,485,825.00 |
| Nonres. Annual Fish | 6,894 | 241,290.00 |
| 3-Day Nonres. Fish | 21,808 | 234,436.00 |
| Aquatic Habitat Stamp | 207,400 | 1,037,000.00 |
| Resident Fur Harvest | 5,438 | 91,086.50 |
| Habitat Stamp | 156,331 | 1,563,310.00 |
| Annual Park Permit | 153,271 | 2,145,794.00 |
| Daily Park Permit | 275,311 | 688,277.50 |
| Duplicate Park Permit | 48,023 | 336,161.00 |
| Total | 1,148,328 | \$ 11,167,587.00 |

*1999 calendar year figures based on data available as of March 20, 2000.



In 1999, Engineering completed preliminary evaluations, cost estimates, designs, construction documents, construction observations, land surveys, and construction survey on 124 projects throughout the state.



ENGINEERING

Engineering Division's duties are similar to those of private engineering, architectural and surveying firms — providing professional, technical and planning assistance to the agency.

Goals & Objectives

- Develop appropriate design solutions for engineering and architectural projects.
 - ◆ Draw plans and write specifications for bidding construction projects.
 - ◆ Administer construction contracts, conduct inspections, and write reports.
 - ◆ Select and work with private consulting firms hired to assist the Commission.
 - ◆ Furnish Cadastral surveys, prepare legal descriptions and provide construction survey layouts for agency projects.
 - ◆ Produce construction specifications and handle record management.
- Engineering and architectural designs are prepared for both new and repair capital construction projects, for competitive bidding and to facilitate construction. Surveying is done to establish a legal boundary for newly purchased areas or gather elevations for new construction.



SCALE: 1" = 60'

PONCA STATE PARK
(INCLUDING PROPOSED DAM SITE)
RECREATIONAL RIVERS
RESEARCH AND EDUCATION CENTER

FEDERAL AID

This division coordinates the agency's federal aid programs and oversees the Commission's in-house library.

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act (Pittman-Robertson Act) and its companion program for Sport Fish Restoration (Dingell-Johnson Act) provide financial assistance to state for wildlife and fish restoration activities.

An 11% manufacturers' excise tax on hunting firearms, ammunition, handguns and archery equipment fund P-R programs, while a 10% excise tax on fishing equipment, artificial bait, lures and flies fund D-J activities.

The federal government through the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service apportions these funds to the states based on land area/water mass and the number of hunting and fishing permits sold. In 1999, these programs provided over \$6 million to Nebraska via reimbursements of 75% of state expenditures on activities such as fish and wildlife surveys and inventories, research, land acquisition, development and maintenance, technical assistance, hunter education training and aquatic resource education.

Your purchase of hunting and fishing equipment and motorboat fuels supports Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration and boating access facilities.



Nebraska hosted the Regional Federal Aid Coordinators meeting in April at Eugene T. Mahoney State Park. More than 20 coordinators from eight states (North Dakota, South Dakota, Kansas, Colorado, Wyoming, Utah, Montana, and Nebraska) participated along with USFWS staff.

In October, NGPC staff joined USFWS officials to tour federal aid projects in south-central Nebraska, including the Southwest Reservoirs, new land acquisitions, and cooperative motorboat access and aquatic habitat projects with the cities of Kearney and Grand Island.

COMMISSION LIBRARY

The library continues to work closely with the Nebraska Library Commission, Fish and Wildlife Reference Service, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, and many other agencies to provide information and research to agency staff, students, faculty, and the public.

The library does searches via the Online Computer Library Center (OCLC), which is funded by the Nebraska Library Commission until June 2000. Other online search is done on the Wildlife Worldwide, Fish and Fisheries Worldwide, Fish and Wildlife Reference Service, Library of Congress and many other Internet searches. Over 200 wildlife and fisheries searches were completed as well as other topic requests.

Cataloging of new books and journal recording continued with periodic notification of staff of additional items. The librarian attended the Natural Resource Information Council Conference in Saskatoon, Sask. This is a group of wildlife and fisheries librarians from the U.S. and Canada. This selective conference provides invaluable networking as well as being instructional and informative. It frequently supplies items free to NGPC personnel that would otherwise involve a cost.

FISHERIES

ADMINISTRATION

- 3,937 Master Angler awards issued.
- New state hook-and-line records for black crappie, green sunfish, saugeye (walleye x sauger), wiper (striped bass x white bass) and river carpsucker and grass carp.
- Awarded new records for surface spearing of shortnose gar and grass carp.
- Recognized new underwater spear fishing record for spotted bass and green sunfish.
- Issued new state archery records for shortnose gar, common carp and grass carp.
- Issued the following permits: 199 Disabled Fishing; 235 Bait Vendor; 92 Missouri River commercial fishing; 56 Private Aquaculturist; 15 Nonresident Fish Dealer; and 3 Commercial Put and Take.
- Added fish stocking records, Master Angler awards and pictures of Master Angler fish to the agency website.
- Developed a marketing program to increase fishing permit sales in 2000.

AQUATIC HABITAT PROGRAM

- Completed placing rock habitat in Lake Minatare (Scottsbluff County) along Lighthouse Point to provide substrate for fish food production, cover for small fish and spawning habitat (primarily for walleye).
- Completed dam upgrade, outlet replacement, basin excavation, island construction, shoreline stabilization and fish renovation at Pibel Lake (Wheeler County).
- Completed the first of several jetties to protect the shoreline and promote growth of aquatic vegetation at Willow Creek (Pierce County).
- Completed basin excavation, shoreline stabilization, outlet replacement, aeration and fish renovation at Benson Park Pond in Omaha.
- Continued aeration of Lake Ogallala (Keith County).
- Completed the first of two years of hydraulic dredging at Smith Lake (Sheridan County).



Steve Lytle with new state record wiper

- Began basin excavation, jetty construction, offshore breakwater construction, island construction, outlet modification and sediment pond construction at Olive Creek and Wagon Train reservoirs (Lancaster County).
- Began design and engineering on Summit Lake (Burt County), Rock Creek Lake (Dundy County), Lake Maloney Holding Pond (Lincoln County), Lake Ravenna (Buffalo County), Memphis Lake (Saunders County) and the remaining jetties on Willow Creek Lake (Pierce County).

MOTORBOAT ACCESS & NEW RESERVOIR CONSTRUCTION

- Completed new or improved motorboat access facilities at eight sites.
- Planned motorboat access developments and improvements at 22 sites for 2000 and 2001.
- Participated in planning for construction of Weeping Water 7G, Lake Wanahoo, Powder Creek and Dam Site 6 Public Recreation Area.

MANAGEMENT SECTION

- Assessed fish communities in 101 reservoirs, lakes and ponds.
- Assessed fish communities in 17 coldwater streams.
- Conducted angler creel surveys on 21 water bodies.
- Renovated six water bodies with rotenone to remove existing fish communities.
- Tagged 2,975 rainbow trout in Lake

Ogallala with reward tags, 851 of which (29%) were returned, with 88% coming from fish caught in the lake and 12% coming from fish taken from the North Platte River or Sutherland Supply Canal.

- Monitored catches of black bass at club tournaments reported by bass clubs.
- Hosted and chaired the North Central Division American Fisheries Society's (NCDAFS) Centrarchid (sunfishes) Technical Committee at the AK-Sar-Ben Aquarium.
- Chaired the NCDAFS Esocid (pikes) Technical Committee.

URBAN FISHERIES PROGRAM

- Provided fish, technical assistance and fish community evaluations and sponsored regulation changes for 23 cities, plus several Commission lakes.
- Organized and conducted fishing clinics in conjunction with the Aquatic Education program.
- Developed a brochure describing available program activities that is being distributed statewide.
- Developed a page (updated quarterly) on the agency's website to provide information on program activities.



Nebraska Urban Fisheries Program

- Gave presentations on activities at the Nebraska Parks and Recreation Department's annual conference; the Conservation Education Conference, the Nebraska-Iowa American Fisheries Society meeting; and two agency staff meetings.
- Developed articles on the program for *NEBRASKAland Magazine*, *Trail Tales*, and *Outdoor Nebraska*.

PRODUCTION SECTION

- Produced approximately 7.1 million fish (over 225,000 pounds) consisting of 16 species for 228 Nebraska water bodies. Included were catchable rain-

bow trout and channel catfish for kids fishing events and the new Urban Fishing Program.

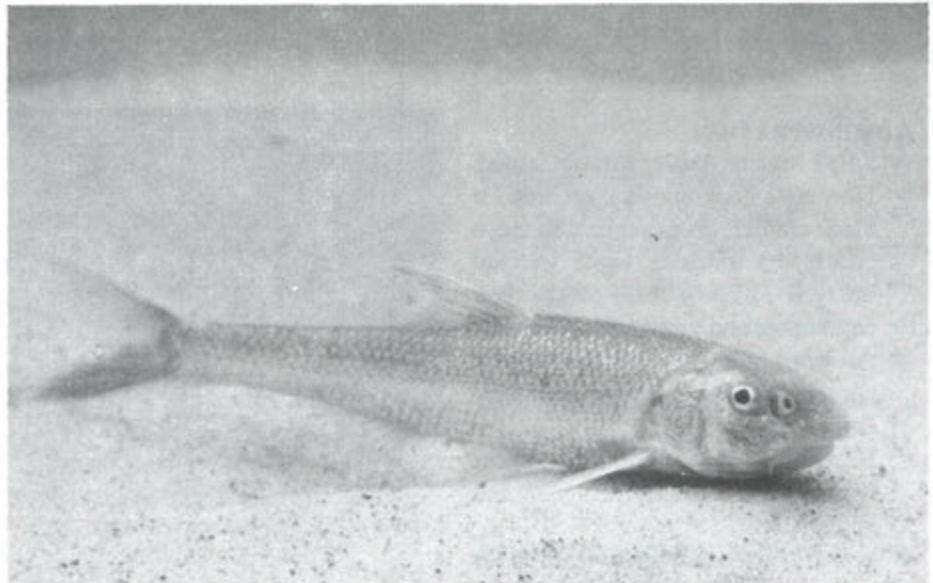
- ☛ Celebrated the 75th anniversary of operation at Rock Creek State Fish Hatchery with an open house and a kid's fishing day.
- ☛ Hosted the Coolwater Fish Culture Workshop at Kearney.
- ☛ Assisted District 3 and 5 with brushing projects for lakes.
- ☛ Assisted with the construction of three boat ramps at the Valentine National Wildlife Refuge.

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES SECTION

- ☛ Represented the agency on the Missouri River Natural Resource Committee (MRNRC) which developed a Missouri River Environmental Assessment Program (MOREAP), marketed it to Congressional leaders and got it included in U.S. Senator Bob Kerrey's "Missouri River Valley Improvement Act of 1999".
- ☛ Served on the steering Committee for and gave a presentation at the third Annual Missouri River Basin Conference.
- ☛ Represented the agency on Mississippi River Inter-jurisdictional Fisheries Association (MICRA) subcommittee on paddlefish and sturgeon and helped coordinate a pallid sturgeon tagging study on the lower Platte River.
- ☛ Served on a technical committee and chaired a Platte River pallid sturgeon subcommittee to ensure more water in the central and lower Platte River for threatened and endangered species as per a 1997 agreement among governors of Nebraska, Colorado and Wyoming and the U.S. Department of the Interior.
- ☛ Provided input on Missouri River mitigation. Legislation in 1999 increased the water acreage ceiling for mitigation by over 118,000 acres.

WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM

- ☛ Coordinated agency consultation and comments with Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) and Central



Sicklefin chub

Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District (CNPPID) concerning adequate flow to North Platte River weir pools below Lake Ogallala.

- ☛ Represented the agency on the Environmental Account Committee for year 2000 priority releases from Lake McConaughy for Platte River endangered species needs.
- ☛ Represented the agency on the Platte River New Depletions Committee to develop a plan for offsetting future depletions to Central Platte River flows, including depletions caused by future groundwater withdrawals.
- ☛ Represented the agency on the Cooperative Hydrology Study Technical Committee as a Nebraska Environmental Trust grant partner to develop a groundwater hydrology model to assess effects of groundwater use on Platte River flows.
- ☛ Participated in the development of pallid sturgeon research plans for mitigation of small depletions from lower Platte River flows.
- ☛ Organized and hosted Region 2 In-stream Flow Council (IFC) meeting.
- ☛ Served as Region 2 IFC Director and represented north-central states at the IFC Executive Committee Meeting.
- ☛ Participated in meetings with Management and Research on causes of and solutions to poor water quality and trout mortality in Lake Ogallala.

MISSOURI RIVER PROGRAM

- ☛ Sampled fish communities in both the channelized and unchannelized sections of Missouri River. Key species included channel catfish, flathead catfish and sturgeon (as part of a MICRA project) and paddlefish (also as part of a MICRA study). Sturgeon and paddlefish were also tagged.
- ☛ Continued to assess the channel catfish population in the unchannelized lower Missouri River by monitoring a catfish tournament.
- ☛ Conducted paddlefish angler opinion survey regarding the permit system.
- ☛ Monitored paddlefish archery and snagging seasons, conducted a post card survey and retrieved rostrums from drop boxes to be examined for injected tags.
- ☛ Sampled fish communities in the restored chute at Hamburg Bend, Nebraska's first mitigation site, and on the adjacent channelized Missouri River. Found increased numbers of several key benthic (bottom-living) minnows. These pivotal prey species were found in greater numbers in the chute than have been collected over three decades in the river.
- ☛ Collected two sicklefin chubs, only the second and third specimens collected in 30 years of sampling the Missouri River.
- ☛ Collected 10 sturgeon chubs, a species now listed as a state and federal endangered species.
- ☛ Held a public meeting regarding

proposed regulation changes on the Missouri River.

- ☛ Attended the MICRA Sturgeon and Paddlefish Committee meeting, the MRNRC Fish Tech Section meeting and the third Annual Missouri River Conference.
- ☛ Contributed to stories on Missouri River habitat degradation and needs with the New York Times, Washington Post, American Rivers and the British Broadcasting Company.

RESEARCH SECTION

- ☛ Funded an assessment of fish communities in 30 Sandhill lakes, conducted and completed by South Dakota State University (SDSU).
- ☛ Completed field work for a southwest reservoirs outdoor recreation users survey.
- ☛ Used Global Positioning System (GPS) to map land use and facilities of three southwest reservoirs.
- ☛ Initiated aquatic habitat evaluation, conducted by the University of Nebraska-Lincoln (UNL), of in-lake structures placed in Branched Oak Reservoir.
- ☛ Developed an estimate of duplicate fishing permits sold for federal aid.
- ☛ Coordinated development of plans for circulation and oxygen budget studies to be conducted by the UNL at Lake Ogallala.
- ☛ Served on graduate committees for six MS students at UNL and one PhD student at SDSU.



Aerial view of Pibel Lake during rehabilitation.

LAKES AND RESERVOIRS PROGRAM

- ☛ Marked over 2.6 million walleye fry with oxytetracycline (OTC) as part of an evaluation of walleye stocking.
- ☛ Examined over 2,000 walleye otoliths from young-of-the-year walleye collected in the fall to determine the portion of the year class contributed by stocking and the portion due to natural reproduction.
- ☛ Compiled data from five Nebraska Walleye Association tournaments.
- ☛ Coordinated genetic evaluation of Round Lake walleye, a self-sustaining population in the Sandhills that has not been stocked for over 30 years. Round Lake walleye were found to be of similar genetic stock to that found in reservoirs throughout Nebraska.

RIVERS AND STREAMS PROGRAM

- ☛ Completed field work associated with the Turkey Creek watershed development project.

- ☛ Completed the initial run of maps for the Tri-state (Nebraska-Colorado-Wyoming) Platte River fish distribution project.
- ☛ Assisted in developing new ecoregion maps for Nebraska.
- ☛ Coordinated information released regarding the first record of a zebra mussel found in Nebraska.
- ☛ Completed the second year of the 100th Meridian Nuisance Species Transport Risk Assessment.
- ☛ Developed a river catfish database.

COMPUTER PROGRAMING & SUPPORT

- ☛ Completed new, improved versions of PC Minnow and WinFin and exported software to four states.
- ☛ Developed a standard survey library database.
- ☛ Completed a tracking program for trout at Two Rivers Trout Lake.
- ☛ Held a computer training workshop for Fisheries and Wildlife divisions.

INFORMATION & EDUCATION

The information arm of the agency, I&E provides service to other divisions as well as to the public. I&E publishes *NEBRASKAland Magazine*, *Trail Tales*, *Outdoor Nebraska*, the annual hunting, fishing and boating guides, numerous brochures, pamphlets and other printed materials; produces TV and radio shows and news spots, and designs exhibits for state parks and other Commission areas, State Fair, and sports & travel shows.

ART PROJECTS

Staff artists designed and laid out the popular *Trail Tales* for fourth graders, the ever-popular *NEBRASKAland Calendar*, the *Outdoor Planner* for Project WILD, the *CRP-MAP Atlas*. This book of county maps shows private CRP lands, as well state and federal lands open to hunting.

Diverse other publications included a variety of parks pamphlets, the annual hunting, fishing and boating guides, and big game information. Artists also prepared signs and exhibits for State Fair, five out-of-state sport shows and State Fair, plus several shows and smaller mall exhibits in Nebraska.

NEBRASKAland MAGAZINE

In 1999, *NEBRASKAland Magazine* published nine 52-page regular issues and a 190-page special issue – *The Wild Game Cookbook*, produced as the combined August-September issue. Spiral-bound, the 6 by 9-inch, vinyl-covered cookbook included 158 recipes contributed by readers and gleaned from other published sources, as well as tips on field care, aging game, enhancing flavors and selecting kitchenware.

In addition to a wide variety of articles on hunting, fishing, natural history, parks and outdoor recreation, regular issues of the magazine carried several notable features including the 18-page “*Platte Valley Playground*” in the January-February issue, which was overprinted for broad distribution to tourists in the lower Platte Valley region, where two state parks and two state

recreation areas are focal points for a burgeoning tourism industry. In the same issue, “*The Blizzard of '49*” used 10 pages of old photos contributed by readers to commemorate the 50th anniversary of that massive storm. Other stories noted the 125th anniversary of Fort Robinson, examined the return of buffalo to the Plains, followed a 1919 army caravan across the state, and taught pheasant hunters to “Think Like a Rooster.”

NEBRASKAland articles were reprinted by several publications and used in several university and public school classes. The magazine had 38,284 subscribers, and renewals remain at about 70%. Newsstand distribution has increased to 2,700 copies per issue.

The magazine is also featured on the agency Website, and subscriptions can be ordered there.

NEBRASKAland catalog sales totaled \$87,909.55 in 1999, including \$17,002 in miscellaneous products; \$48,411 in calendar and magazine sales, and \$22,495 in permits. This is down slightly from the \$90,911 in 1998.

The *Outdoor Nebraska* tabloid, carrying timely information and news features, was included with the April and October issues, as well as being distributed through a network of permit vendors and other distributors.

TV & RADIO

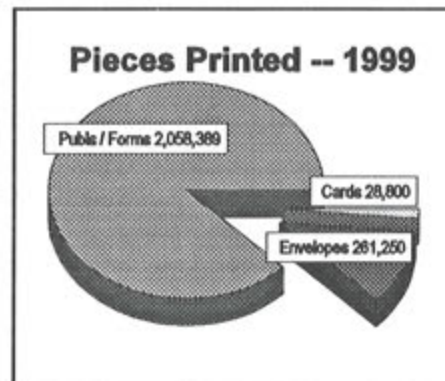
The *Outdoor Nebraska* TV program completed its third season on the Nebraska Educational Television Network in April. According to NETV research, the program continues to rank among the most popular shows on the network. Funding was provided in part by the Nebraska Game and Parks Foundation.

The show continues to be rated as one of the best in the U.S. and Canada. It ranked third among all states and provinces in the Association for Conservation Information (ACI) competitions in 1997 and 1998! The 1999 season will be judged in July 2000.

Efforts to educate the public are supplemented by periodic video news re-

leases to commercial stations and by responding to video requests from the media. TV and other I&E staff also make occasional live appearances on television and radio.

The *Outdoor Nebraska* radio show airs weekly on 42 stations in Nebraska and one in Iowa. The radio show can now also be heard over the Commission's Web site.



PUBLICATIONS

Printing and publishing manages the production of more than 450 different brochures and pamphlets, various other agency publications and hundreds of forms for a variety of uses.

Publications range from full-color brochures to one and two-color pamphlets, stationery and short-run technical publications. I&E staff provides assistance to other divisions to determine the best way to produce a project.

The agency print shop produced 563 jobs, including pamphlets, booklets, envelopes, news releases, surveys, cards, park tickets, camping registrations, various forms, and numerous other items. This required 2,058,389 sheets of paper; 28,800 cards; 261,250 envelopes totaling 2,348,439 sheets and 6,135,808 press impressions. This included 37 jobs requiring 2 or 3 colors and ranged from print runs of 250 to 75,000.

NEWS PROGRAM

About 300 news stories were issued as specials or in a weekly packet to newspapers, radio and TV stations, magazines and other outdoor media.

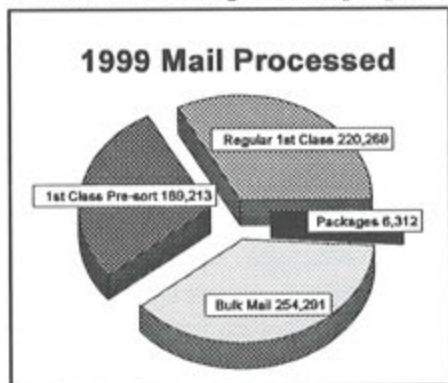
News is also transmitted electronically to the Associated Press, several

daily newspapers and the Nebraska Press Association's bulletin board, which acts as a wire service to weekly papers in the state. News items are also featured on the agency Website.

GPC NEWS, the employee newsletter informs and educates staff on various aspects of agency work. Produced by I&E, most articles are written by employees from all divisions. Other news department duties include: Coordinating the Outdoor Alley exhibit at the State Fair and producing the permit agent newsletter.

MAIL & SHIPPING

I&E handled 670,695 pieces of outgoing mail and packages during the year, down from 827,964 in 1998, but comparable to the 673,692 pieces processed in 1997. Cost for mailing & shipping was \$281,013.16 compared to \$288,256.92 in 1998. Cost averaged 41.9¢ per piece.



First class pre-sort resulted in savings of \$4,730.33 for 189,213 pieces. Total outgoing mail processed: Regular mail, including pre-sort, 409,482 pieces at \$183,666.45; bulk, 254,901 pieces at \$70,935.95; UPS and other package services, 6,312 packages at \$26,410.76.

There were 3,644 general information requests compared to 2,848 filled in 1998. Information packets were sent to 14,099 nonresident hunters.

HABITAT STAMP CONTEST

Armando Villarreal, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln student from Imperial won the Adult Division of the 22nd annual Habitat Stamp Art Contest with an illustration of wild turkeys, which is featured on the 2000 Habitat Stamp.

About 1,000 students entered the three categories in the Youth Division.

Selections of their art are featured in an exhibit displayed at locations across the state. The Omaha Fish and Wildlife Club again donated contest awards: \$200 to the adult winner and \$50 to each youth winner: Austin Dudzinski, Omaha, Primary; Erin Pickett, Omaha, Junior; Erin Borg, Falls City, Senior.

PHOTO LIBRARY

The photo library received about 200 requests for images for Commission use, including *NEBRASKAland Magazine*, various Commission publications, news releases, slide shows and programs.

Numerous requests were also processed for other government agencies, advertising agencies, publishing companies, and public relations firms across the country. A total of \$2,792.76 was received from commercial users.

Photo supplied 600 rolls of 36-exposure Fujichrome film to staff photographers. Film provided primarily to other divisions included: Color print film – 200 rolls of 12 exposures and 300 rolls of 24 exposures; 200 rolls of 24 exposure and 120 rolls of 36 exposure Ektachrome. Film totaled 43,200 exposures.

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Division information officers are located at Alliance, North Platte, and Omaha to provide information to regional media, also handling local programs and area articles and photos for *NEBRASKAland Magazine*.

District I – Alliance

Duties of the Panhandle public information officer include assignments for *NEBRASKAland Magazine*, local and statewide news releases and media contacts with the area's 17 newspapers, 14 radio and 2 TV stations.

Other responsibilities included programs, information requests, workshops, and acting as news director for the Pressey High School State Championship Silhouette Shoot and National Cornhusker Trap Shoot. Workshop instruction included the rifle marksmanship class at Becoming an Outdoors-Woman, youth creative arts workshops at the Wildcat Hills Nature Center at Gering and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Nebraska Junior Duck Stamp judging.

Counter sales at the District I office totaled \$189,521.22, with big game permit sales of \$132,168.50 during 1999. That compares to \$199,023.41 in 1998, with big game permit sales of \$146,412.50.

District IV – North Platte

The public information officer serves as manager of the district office, supervising the staff assistant, providing support to front office staff with issuing permits, over the counter information, and other public relations. Permit sales and other receipts totaled \$389,280.73 for 1999, up \$25,053.32 (6%) from 1998 and 24.9% from the \$314,418.15 in sales for 1997.

The District IV PIO contributes six or more articles to *NEBRASKAland Magazine* and directs the National Cornhusker High School Trap Shoot. The 30th annual shoot in May registered over 774 senior and junior high school shooters. Activities include a weekly on-location TV news feature, *Nebraska Outdoors*. Originating in September 1986, it airs on Wednesdays on the 6 p.m. news. Other duties include participation in seasonal radio shows, local news releases, Hunter Education, Project Wild and Becoming an Outdoors-Woman.

Omaha Metro Office

This office is open seven days a week from March-October and Monday-Friday the rest of the year. Space is shared with the Department of Economic Development's Division of Travel & Tourism in the Information Center at 1212 Bob Gibson Blvd.

An average of 312 people per day visited the center. Counter sales totaled \$417,278.26, up \$50,287.22 (12.1%) from 1998, an all-time high. Big game permits accounted for \$263,249.50, up \$44,033.96 (16.9%) from 1998.

Staff continues statewide and local public relations efforts, and nearly 30 stations carried radio, TV and media-related programs each week, including personal appearances. Metro staff also coordinated such special events as the Omaha Bass Show, Omaha Sports Show and provided support for other agency programs, projects and functions.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

Law Enforcement personnel are highly motivated and dedicated to the natural resources they help manage and protect and to those who use and enjoy them. This division, as with other law enforcement entities, is governed and directed in many of its duties specifically by State Statutes.

Conservation officers are "peace officers of the state with the powers of sheriffs" (NRS 37-603). Along with this status come myriad responsibilities, including a wide array specifically relating to fish, wildlife, boating and parks law enforcement, as well as traffic (on areas under Commission control) and general criminal law enforcement.

One of the primary charges for conservation officers is included in State Statute 37-604, which directs: "It shall be the duty of all conservation officers . . . to make prompt investigation of and arrests for any violations of the Game Law observed or reported by any person . . ."

In 1999, conservation officers investigated 4,779 complaints, issuing 848 written warnings and 3,709 citations to appear in court for violations of law. These statutory responsibilities along with training requirements for all

peace officers direct the many activities of conservation officers, but do not paint the complete picture of being a Nebraska conservation officer.

In the course of their duties as natural resources peace officers, conservation officers are the most visible representatives of the Game and Parks Commission. In 1999, they checked 56,806 fishermen; 31,642 hunters; 504 trappers; 28,477 boaters and 56,792 parks users. They made 21,371 law enforcement contacts for other purposes. While making these contacts officers routinely answer questions and provide resource and legal information. In addition, they answer innumerable telephone inquiries, and questions while eating lunch in the local café. Officers presented 528 programs on a variety of topics relating to the Commission and its programs and responsibilities in 1999. They attended an additional 1,074 meetings, representing agency interests.

A conservation officer's duties cover a wide range of things, such as assisting with wildlife population surveys for quail, pheasant, grouse, deer, waterfowl, eagles, turkeys, fisheries and others. Officers are called upon for the first response to fish kill com-

| TOTAL ARRESTS BY CATEGORY | |
|---------------------------|-------|
| ANTELOPE | 6 |
| BOATING | 623 |
| DEER | 385 |
| FISH & BULLFROGS | 1,460 |
| FUR BEARERS | 110 |
| MIGRATORY BIRDS | 294 |
| MISCELLANEOUS | 110 |
| PARKS | 1,213 |
| PERMIT REVOCATION | 16 |
| SMALL GAME | 325 |
| SNOWMOBILES | 7 |
| STATE AREAS | 99 |
| TRAFFIC | 27 |
| TURKEY | 125 |

This chart is based on individual charges and should not be compared to arrest totals.

plaints and are routinely detailed to "baby sit" whooping cranes to prevent their disturbance each spring and fall as they spend time in Nebraska during their migrations.

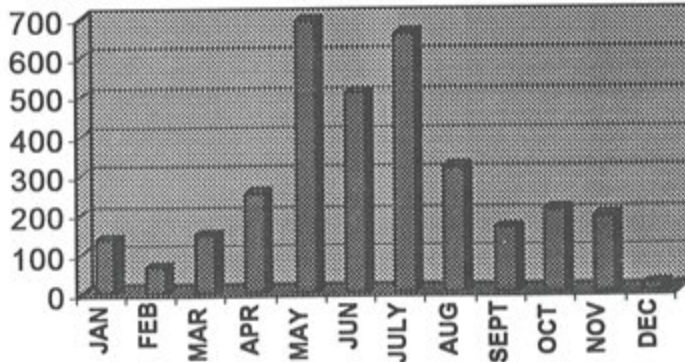
Officers also assist with many other agency functions such as checking captive wildlife permit applicants and permittees, checking fur buyers, investigating permit vendor applicants, checking current vendors, collecting funds due the agency, and checking on wildlife rehabilitation permittees among others. Officers are frequently called upon for their expertise in such programs as Becoming an Outdoors-Woman, the Cornhusker High School Trap Shoot, the Pressey Silhouette Rifle Shoot for junior high and high school students, and Aquatic Education workshops and programs, as well as many others. Officers assist at many sports shows annually in-state and in other states including the Omaha and Lincoln sports shows, and the BASS Federation Show. The conservation officer in the gray and green is a recognized symbol of outdoor education in all corners of Nebraska.

OPERATION GAME THIEF

Similar to Crime Stoppers, Operation Game Thief is a cooperative effort of the Nebraska Wildlife Protectors Association and the Game and Parks Commission. The OGT program entered its 19th year in 1999. Reports to OGT initiated 77 investigations that resulted in 22 citations, with assessments of \$1,955 in fines and court costs and \$13,500 in liquidated damages. That compares to \$2,305 in fines and costs in 1998 and liquidated damages of \$7,775. During 1999, rewards of \$1,075 were paid in 10 cases, and rewards are pending in 4 others. Of the 1999 investigations, 24 are still pending disposition. The hotline (1-800-742-7627) operates 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Law Enforcement Division handles calls from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Monday-Friday, and the Nebraska State Patrol Crime Stoppers fields calls after hours, weekends and holidays.

1999 ARREST SUMMARY

Arrest totals from November and December are incomplete



The many aspects of being a conservation officer require working irregular hours, on weekends and many holidays, and being away from home for days at a time. Officers spent 820 nights away from home on duty in 1999. All of this presents a challenge for officers and their families to maintain an appropriate semblance of a normal family and social life. The job also requires the active involvement and support of the spouses since they are often the ones who answer the phone when the officer is working and the one who must take up the slack at family and social functions. Enough thanks cannot be given to the spouses and families for their sacrifices so officers can fulfill the requirements of their jobs.

Training remains a high priority in the Law Enforcement Division. Much is mandated by statute due to the status of conservation officers as Nebraska peace officers. A variety of other training is necessary, because of the nature of the officer's duties, which are a mixture of law enforcement, public relations and biology among others.

Our Field Training Officer program, involves 13 weeks of structured on-the-job training for new officers after they complete the required 12-week basic law enforcement officer certification training at the Nebraska Law Enforcement Training Center.

Field indoctrination includes training and practical experience applications in many facets of the C.O.'s job, ranging from wildlife management principles to backing boat trailers and public relations.

The division's central office staff, in addition to managing and supporting the overall division operation, performs a number of functions including:

- Overseeing the Operation Game Thief program with its 24-hour hotline and maintaining a cooperative relationship with the civilian reward-fund-raising—the Nebraska Wildlife Protectors Association.
- Providing extensive record-keeping support to the Hunter Education program.
- Management of the agency two-way radio communications system, utilized by all divisions to enhance field operations efficiency and effectiveness.
- Assisting Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks divisions in formulation of statutory language recommendations and drafting Commission regulations.
- Providing input at scores of meetings on agency programs and cooperative endeavors.
- Providing information technology support services to other divisions particularly in the area of database structure and management.
- Issuing resident and nonresident fur buyer permits.
- Handling the issuing of permits and serving as liaison (in conjunction with Wildlife Division staff) for wildlife rehabilitation organizations.

To accomplish all of these tasks the Law Enforcement Division has a complement of 59 personnel, including the division administrator, assistant administrator, administrative secretary, staff assistant, staff conservation officer, 6 district supervisors and 48 conservation officers.

Conservation officers need to be highly mobile to perform their duties across Nebraska's 77,358 square miles and 93 counties. Officers utilize a variety of transportation forms including the standard 4-wheel-drive pickup (the CO's "office"), aircraft, all-terrain-vehicles, airboats, canoes, kayaks, motor boats, personal water craft and snowmobiles, as well as a lot of walking and occasional horseback patrols. In 1999, conservation officers drove 1,527,355 miles using 101,232 gallons of gasoline, and they patrolled 1,418 hours by boat.

We look forward to the future and to the upcoming Centennial for Nebraska Conservation Officers in 2001 with renewed dedication and commitment to the state's resources and our constituents.

OPERATIONS & CONSTRUCTION

Operations provides administrative, engineering, construction, maintenance and related work for repair, renovation and construction of buildings, roads, parking lots, lakes and underground utilities, as well as daily supervision and maintenance of unmanned recreation areas in the Lincoln maintenance district.

Duties fall into six basic categories:

1. Recreation Area Maintenance – mowing, painting, building repair, garbage pickup, landscaping and tree planting.
2. Recreation Area Management – collecting fees, enforcing regulations and traffic control.
3. Utilities – construct and repair electric, water and sewer services.
4. Heavy Equipment – road maintenance, lake dredging, dam building, material and equipment hauling, welding and fabricating.
5. Building & Trades – building construction and repair, cabinet-making, concrete work and roofing.
6. Purchasing & Contracts – write specifications for materials and equipment, let small contracts to supplement force account work.

The division has 27 full-time positions, all of which are filled. During 1999, \$446,554.00 was expended for 84 seasonal, temporary employees.



Dredging at Smith Lake SRA was 50% complete with removal of 65,500 cubic yards of material in this Aquatic Habitat project.

Transportation & Equipment

Various equipment, such as air compressors, water pumps, tree spades, stump cutters, tractors, and loaders, was lent to superintendents for temporary use.

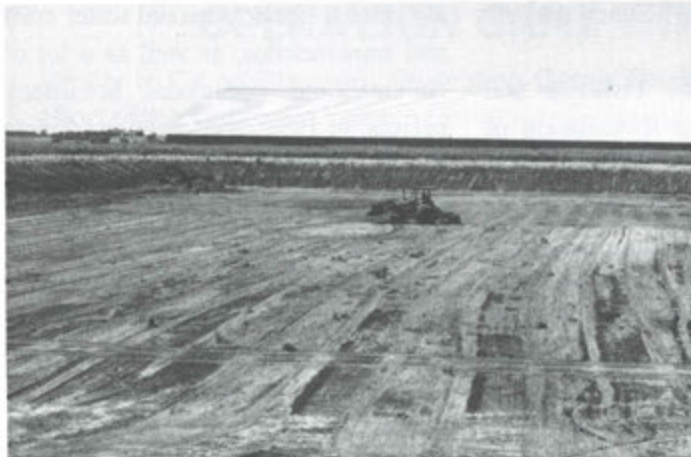
Bulk supply purchases were delivered to the Lincoln shop, inventoried, and relayed to major park areas. Gasoline and diesel fuel were provided for agency vehicles from pumps at 3001 Y St. During the year 28,643 gal. of gasohol; 25,159 gal. of diesel; 69 qt. of oil, and 51 gal. of antifreeze were dispensed to agency vehicles. Average cost for gasohol was 91.2¢ per gal. (compared to 78.6¢ per gal. in 1998) and 64.4¢ for diesel, compared to 51.8¢ last year. Equipment repairs cost \$95,800, up \$10,700 from \$85,100 in 1998.

Equipment Purchased

Equipment included: two 4 x 2 utility vehicles, three 65hp tractors, two ½-ton pickups, one ¾-ton 4 x 2 pickup, one ¾-ton 4 x 4 pickup, three 72-in. mowers, one welder and three computers.

Eugene T. Mahoney State Park

A two-bedroom deluxe cabin and Ice Rink/Activity Center facilities were built. The sewage lagoon was repaired. A picnic shelter was converted to a storage building. Chlorine pumps were installed on three wells; a picnic shelter was relocated, and water leaks in cabins were repaired. Other construction included theater sets, cashier counter and display racks in Kiewit Lodge.



Repairing the third cell of the wastewater lagoon was major effort at Eugene T. Mahoney State Park.



Aerator installed on trout lake at Two Rivers SRA was specially designed by agency engineer, Dwight Hanson.

OPERATIONS & CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS COMPLETED IN 1999

| | |
|-----------------------------|--|
| Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium | Stripped and reroofed the superintendent's residence, shop and second story mechanical room of the aquarium. |
| Arnold SRA | Administrative order from Health Department required installation of a chlorinator for public drinking water. |
| Branched Oak Lake SRA | Moved 60,000 cubic yards of dirt to start construction of West Campground at Area 1; installed chlorinator to well in Area 1; repaired boat ramps at Areas 4, 5 and 11. |
| Buffalo Bill Ranch SHP | Cleared 20 acres of Russian Olive trees from northeast area; added fill and re-graded camping areas. |
| Calamus Reservoir SRA | Purchased and installed 19,000 sq. ft. of Geoweb surface barrier to protect Nunda Shoal shoreline. |
| Central Office | Built a wetland south of east parking lot and surfaced overflow area along north end of that parking lot with limestone chips. |
| Cheyenne SRA | Removed old shingles and installed asphalt shingles on latrine building (309 funds) |
| Conestoga SRA | Constructed new 25-pad campground, with electric service, and surfaced with crushed rock. |
| Cowboy Trail | Removed trees, brush and other debris from bridges at Neligh and Oakdale. |
| Crystal Lake SRA | Removed shingles from the boathouse and re-roofed with asphalt shingles (309 funds). |
| Dead Timber SRA | Removed tree stumps, old fence line and brush as final clean up of 1998 tornado. |
| State Fairgrounds | Cut 10- foot opening through Old Town to Outdoor Alley. Extensive painting and cleanup. Provided night security during fair. |
| Father Hupp WMA | Used heavy equipment to clear channels and add water control structures. |
| Fisheries | Constructed five new offices for District IV fisheries personnel at northeast storage complex on N. 56 th St. |
| Fort Atkinson SHP | Installed new asphalt shingles on latrine, shop and garage (309 funds). |
| Fort Robinson State Park | Replaced 300 feet of sidewalk, re-wired horse barns, and completed improvements to Mare Barn Yearling Annex. Painted buildings and interior rooms as time permitted. |
| Fremont Lakes SRA | Installed air line and diffusers into Lake No. 3. Placed rip-rap along shoreline of Lake No. 10. |
| Grove Trout Rearing Station | Installed cable and control panel for Omega float alarm system. Hauled 1,300 tons of broken concrete from feed lot for use as bank stabilization and dike construction. |
| Indian Cave State Park | Constructed access road to the Missouri River Boat Camp and surfaced it with crushed rock. Removed wood shingles and installed new asphalt shingles on six picnic shelters (309 funds). |
| Lake McConaughy SRA | Land leveling work on approximately 2 acres. Thunder Bay – Hauled in additional fill and regraded site for Visitor Center. |
| Lewis & Clark SRA | Installed trailer dump, sewer lines, manholes and lift pumps at Weigand area. Did grade work for additional parking and future boat ramp at Marina Area. |
| Louisville SRA | Rip-rapped Platte River shoreline in Area 1 to control erosion caused by the high river flows. Installed aerators on Lake No. 3. |
| Eugene T. Mahoney SP | Constructed two-bedroom deluxe cabin and Activity Center / Ice Rink facilities. Repaired third cell of sewage lagoon. Converted picnic shelter to storage building. Installed chlorine pumps on three wells. Constructed theater sets, plus cashier counter and display racks in Kiewit Lodge. Relocated picnic shelter. Repaired water leaks in cabins. |
| Memphis SRA | Constructed new double unit pit toilet. |
| Merritt Reservoir SRA | Purchased 1,000 tons of class C rip-rap for shoreline stabilization. Capital funding project. |
| Metcalf SRA | Used heavy equipment to construct a fire guard for controlled burn. |
| Mormon Island SRA | Performed emergency repairs on the 4-in. main that supplies all area water. |
| Narrows WMA | Assisted with the burning and clean up of old buildings and other area debris. |
| Niobrara SP | Installed chlorinator on area's primary water well. |
| Parks General | Built 25 double-unit pit toilets. Made improvements to the N. 56 th St. storage building for Horticulture Section. |
| Pawnee SRA | Constructed a 150-ft. by 10-ft. high wood fence as sound barrier for the blue rock shooting area. |
| Pintail WMA | Excavated to grade 1,000 feet of 20-ft. wide ditch. |
| Platte River SP | Repaired culvert and eroded drainage area on creek below superintendent's residence. Provided earth cover and stabilization for primary electric service and 4-in. water main. Installed new pressure pumps on park water supply system. |
| Ponca SP | Trenched in utility lines to horse barn. Installed valves and filter basket for swimming pool. |
| Randall Schilling WMA | Cleaned out interior road ditches and re-graded roads. |
| Smith Lake SRA | Aquatic Habitat dredging project is 50% completed with 65,500 cubic yards of material removed from the lake. |
| Stagecoach SRA | Constructed new 30-pad campground, complete with electrical service. Constructed two double-unit pit toilets. |
| Summit Lake SRA | Installed new trailer dump station. |
| Two Rivers SRA | Installed specially-designed aerator on trout lake. Corrected percolation problems in septic field serving Caboose Park. Repaired interiors of cabooses (4, 8 and 10). Repaired bathroom in assistant superintendent's residence. |
| Wagon Train SRA | Constructed new 28-pad campground, complete with electrical service. Constructed a double-unit pit toilet. |
| Windmill SRA | Re-shingled shower- latrine building and picnic shelter with asphalt shingles (309 funds). |

OUTDOOR EDUCATION

CONSERVATION EDUCATION CONFERENCE

In February of even numbered years the division sponsors a Conservation Education Conference for statewide volunteers who assist with the Youth Fishing, Hunter Education, Project WILD and Boater Education programs. No conference was held this year, however, planning has started for the 2000 conference, which will be held in Kearney.

AK-SAR-BEN AQUARIUM OUTDOOR EDUCATION CENTER

The aquarium was the field trip destination of 312 groups, accounting for 14,033 individuals. Most of these visitors were school groups.

The "Big Blue Catfish," on display since May of 1997, is still the focal point for visitors. A high percentage of visitors ask if we still have this fish. There are continuing reports of film clips being shown of the fish, giving us ongoing national recognition.

Water Works, an annual event for 5th grade students from Douglas and Sarpy Counties, provides day-long instruction about the wise use of our water resources. It was attended by 1,600 students, who were instructed by 100 volunteers.

A variety of adult workshops were held with the most popular being an antler scoring workshop where hunters bring in their trophies to see if they qualify for any awards. The Cornhusker Fly Fishers and the Schramm Park Photography Club meet here monthly. Ruth Green, Ray and Janet Korpi continued to volunteer and conduct bird-banding workshops monthly from September through April.

Youth Fishing Program

The Youth Fishing program sponsored 235 statewide clinics that attracted 14,187 young anglers, who wanted to learn more about fishing. The aquatic education program also organized youth fishing events for the

statewide Free Fishing Day. The school Aquatic Education program provided 208 different materials to 79 statewide instructors for classroom use. An trunk filled with aquatic education materials was developed for K-12 students and is available to teachers for classroom use.

Other Activities

In addition to regular duties, other aquarium projects included:

- Reprinting the *Common Fishes of Nebraska* book;
- Produced a new *Fish of Nebraska* poster;
- Sold 3,914 deer permits, 300 turkey permits and 12 archery antelope permits;
- Had total sales in excess of \$180,100;
- Operated a deer check station for 117 days, checking more than 750 deer;
- Answered lake management questions from public;
- Weighed and certified state record and Master Angler fish;
- Issued Deer Salvage tags as needed
- Participated in the Outdoor Skills Camp at Halsey.

PROJECT WILD

A partnership with the Folsom Children's Zoo and the Lincoln Public Schools was continued under a new grant from Phillips Petroleum. This endeavor allows work with inner-city, culturally diverse schools to create greater awareness of urban wildlife and wildlife habitats by using Project WILD-trained high school students as mentors. The venture has been used by Project WILD as a national example of WILDLife diversity education.

Two facilitator training sessions were held in partnership with Project WET and Project Learning Tree, bringing some 50 new facilitators into the volunteer circle. Writing confer-

ences were conducted to develop correlations of all three programs with the state standards for science, math, social studies, and language arts. This will provide a much-needed document for educators when completed in 2000.

Trail Tales, the agency's wildlife and conservation publication for fourth graders received expanded usage. A survey of teachers was completed and provided substantial information for future planning needs. High marks for education benefits and use were also provided by the survey.

Awards received included The Wildlife Society's Conservation Education Award, the Gallery of Superb Printing Award and the Bronze International Award for Superb Printing.

New ideas and offers for stories continued to be received and will be incorporated in future issues.

BOATING SAFETY

The boating program has a wide range of duties and responsibilities with three major areas of responsibilities:

Administration - Boat registration data entry and monitoring, new legislation for boating safety, and general overseeing of the program budget.

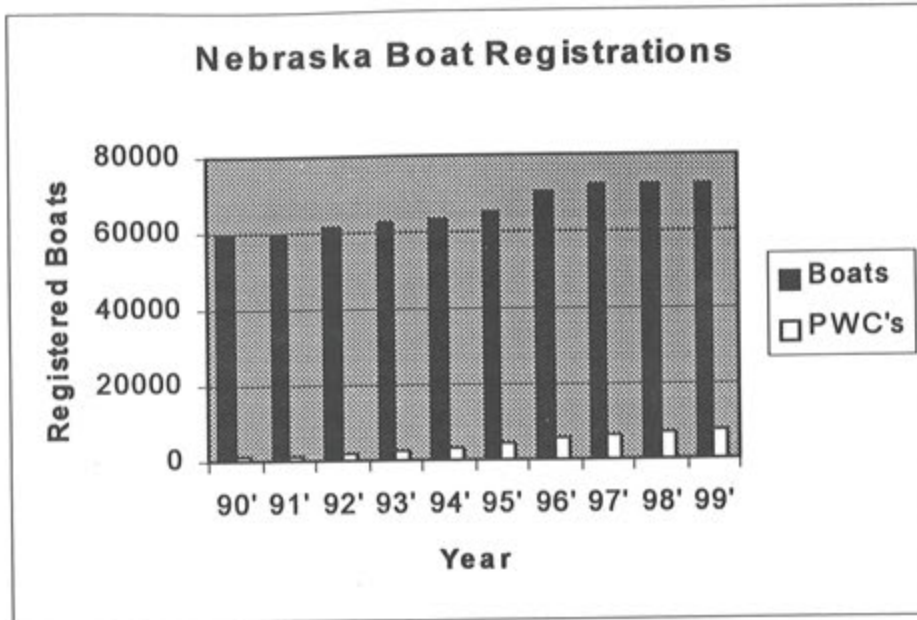
Boating Safety Education - Certification of instructors, distribution of education materials, certification of students, and certification of education classes.

Boating Law Enforcement - Patrols, accident investigation, and safety examinations.

Administration

Boats are registered by the county treasurer of the county of residence of the owner, who report the registrations to the Commission. Nebraska began titling of boats in 1997. Registrations have grown from 59,631 in 1990 to 72,156 in 1999.

Of particular interest is the increase in Personal Water Craft (PWC) registrations from 1,014 in 1990 to 7,716 in



1999. Nationally PWC registrations in 1999 averaged 10% of the total boat registrations. Nebraska PWC registrations made up 11% of the total. Nebraska ranks 38th nationally in total boat registrations.

Legislation passed in 1999 requires boating safety education for personal water craft operators between 12-16 years of age. Some changes were in the Boat Act as a result. The Commission is charged with adopting rules and regulations clarifying and defining mandatory education.

The Commission also establishes boating rules for private and municipal waters. In addition the city requests, the Commission determines rules for boating on a number of restricted open waters in the state.

Boating Safety Education

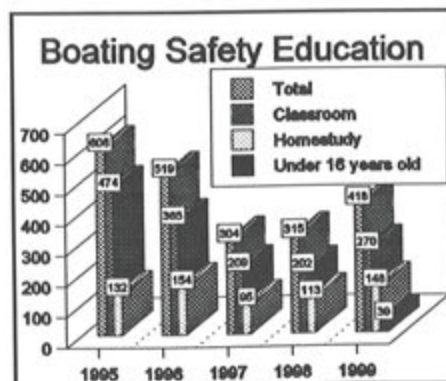
In 1999 Nebraska's Boating Safety Education program certified 418 students compared to 315 in 1998. Of these, 270 students attended a minimum of six hours formal class with a proctored exam (202 in 1998) while 148 students successfully completed the home-study course (113 in 1998). Thirty-nine students were under 16 years of age.

There were 686 volunteer boating safety instructors in the state, only about a dozen were active. With passage of the mandatory education re-

quirement for PWC operators under the age of 16, the work of re-certifying instructors for the PWC safety course began. The core of the instructor group comes from the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, the U.S. Power Squadron, law enforcement officers, and public school teachers.

Nebraska boating safety classes include a high percentage of female students. However, accident reports indicate that males are overwhelmingly the majority of boat operators.

In 1999 the program featured "Burt the Boat," as an educational aid. "Burt" has been a guest at various schools across the state, as well as various boat shows, boating safety classes, and other events in an effort to enhance boating safety awareness.. As a result of the appearances "Burt" was the recipient of the coveted "Most Creative Overall" award by the Kids Explore program. While attending this



program, "Burt" was in contact with over 8,000 children under 16 years of age in a single weekend.

Law Enforcement

Law enforcement officers from various agencies enforce boating laws, but Commission Conservation Officers do approximately 99% of the boating law enforcement throughout the state.

Enforcement of boating laws was stepped by extra patrols on selected problem waters across the state. Assistance was also provided with boat accident investigations. As a part of the new mandatory boat education law, fund were provided for the addition of one full-time and a half-time person.

It is estimated that only 10-15% of the non-fatal accidents are reported. Reporting of minor property damage accidents is especially low. However, we believe all fatal and a vast majority of serious injury boating accidents in Nebraska are reported.

Accidents in 1999 remained consistent at 56 (same as 1998), involving 79 boats (84 boats in 1998), causing 42 personal injuries requiring medical assistance (37 in 1998), and 4 fatalities (the same as in 1998). At least one personal watercraft was involved in 30 of the 56 accidents, representing 54% compared to 66% in 1998. Thirteen accidents were reported at Fremont SRA, the most reported from any single location in the state.

HUNTER EDUCATION

During 1999 Hunter Education trained 7,359 students – 6,612 in firearm and 747 in bow hunter education. All instruction was provided by volunteers who conducted 448 classes with 93 in bow and 355 in firearm safety. Instructors donated 15,799 hours to help insure the future of hunting and that shooting sports in Nebraska are safe and conducted in an ethical manner.

Last year a total of 11 firearm hunting related accidents were reported to the Commission, including one fatality. This compares to 13 accidents in 1998,

with two fatalities. In 1999 eight accidents involved a shotgun, one rifle, and two handguns. Injuries were self-inflicted in four incidents, and the victim was shot by someone else in seven occurrences. As in the past in Nebraska, the major cause of these accidents was the shooter covering the victim while swinging on a game bird or animal. This reinforces the need to insure you are aware of your target and what is beyond it and to shoot only in your zone of fire.

In 1999 the Hunter Education program added 120 firearm and 37 bow hunter instructors to the list of approximately 1,000 active instructors. During the year classes were offered across the state in every month of the year. However, most classes are offered in the fall – August through December. There is also a peek in March for those wishing to participate in spring turkey hunting.

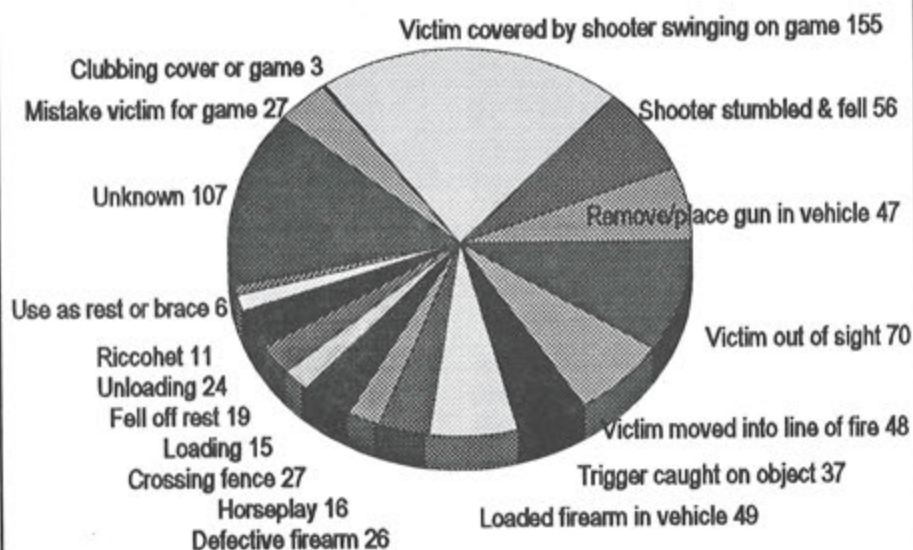
The Hunter Education program costs the citizens of Nebraska absolutely nothing in additional taxes. The \$212,528.10 budget was reimbursed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service by returning tax dollars collected by the federal government on the sale of firearms and ammunition.

Ten archery ranges have been constructed with help from the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. Plans call for the construction of two new archery ranges in 2000. One will be located near Tecumseh on NRD property and one will be near Pilger on NRD property. These will be constructed by local archery clubs and the NRD's with assistance from Game and Parks.

The Hunter Education program also assisted with the Cornhusker State Trapshoot at Doniphan and the Nebraska Small Bore Metallic Silhouette Championship at the Pressey WMA, south of Broken Bow.

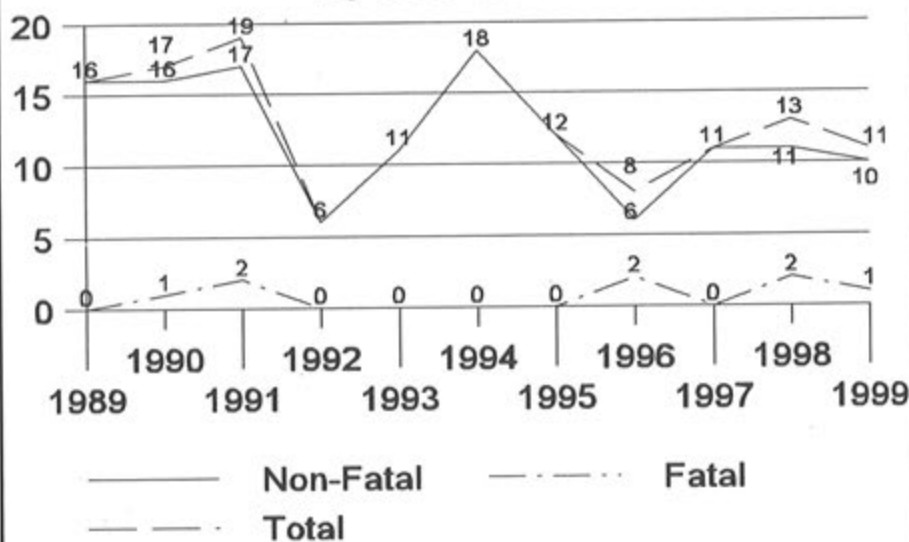
Causes of Hunting Accidents

Nebraska – 1958-1999



Nebraska Hunting Accidents

By Year 1989-99



REALTY / ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

ENVIRONMENTAL SERVICES

Staff members evaluated potential impacts of project proposals by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Nebraska Natural Resources Commission, the Nebraska Department of Roads, Municipalities, consultants and private individuals.

The "404" Permit Program, administered by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, offers Game and Parks Commission (along with other agencies and individuals) the opportunity to evaluate proposed developments affecting streams and wetlands. Recommendations to reduce or eliminate adverse effects on fish and wildlife habitat are sent to the Corps for their consideration in the permit process. Beginning in 1997, staff has reviewed preliminary zoning and other proposed development actions from the City of Lincoln and Lancaster County Planning Department.

Continuing from 1998, staff is still active in a cooperative agreement with Colorado, Wyoming and the Department of the Interior – the MOA and Platte River Endangered Species Partnership. It addresses the needs of four threatened and endangered species using the Central Platte River region by developing and implementing a Recovery Implementation Program.

Nebraska continues to participate in the Missouri River Fish & Wildlife Mitigation Project (with Iowa, Kansas and Missouri) dealing with environmental concerns involving the channelized Missouri River from Sioux City to St. Louis. The Corps of Engineers, with assistance from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the four state conservation agencies, evaluated land/water units having potential for improving habitat for fish, migratory waterfowl, furbearers and other wildlife. Possible sites for restoration are



Newly acquired Plum Creek Valley Wildlife Management Area encompasses 1,320 acres in Brown County.

valuated and ranked within the Commission and consensus recommendations forwarded to the Corps. Chute restorations (flow-through), dike modifications and removal, and water-level controls are among the features under consideration for the project. The Corps has acquired 7,100 acres for projects in Nebraska. The Langdon Bend project is under construction. Projects are planned at Blackbird/Tieville/Upper Decatur bends, Hole-In-The-Rock, Kansas Bend, Middle Decatur Bend, Rush Bottom Bend, Soldier Bend and Tobacco Island.

NGPC is a sponsor and member of the board of "Back to the River" project, which will develop a regional plan for the Missouri River corridor from the mouth of the Platte River to just north of Blair. The project will facilitate many activities in the corridor including, but not limited to, recreation access, trails, habitat restoration, education, historic preservation and interpretation.

Considerable time was spent on development of an Interlocal Cooperative Agreement for the Pallid Sturgeon study of the Lower Platte River. The agreement involves 15 parties – the Commission, (8) Natural Resource

Districts, NARD, Central Public Power and Irrigation District, Nebraska Public Power District, LPPD, NLPP & ID, and Twin Loups Reclamation District. The agreement came about through an effort made to help determine how much depletion to the Lower Platte could be made without adversely affecting the pallid sturgeon and sturgeon chub. The University of Nebraska-Lincoln is conducting a five-year study to identify habitat needs of the two species and determine if more development can be allowed.

Staff also serves on the wetland Mitigation Bank Review Team, with representatives from USACE, NRCS, Federal Highway Administration, US Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of Economic Development and Environmental Protection Agency. Mitigation banks are a form of regional mitigation which encourage development of larger-scale wetland complexes . . . which can be managed better and be maintained in perpetuity for the benefit of the general public.

Participation is ongoing in the Lower Platte Corridor Alliance, an umbrella organization of state and local agencies with the mission to foster the development and implementation of

locally drawn strategies, actions, and practices to protect and restore the vitality of the river's resources. A feasibility study is underway examine how to reduce flood damage, perform environment restorations and identify additional water resource plans/projects that could be used by other federal, state and local agencies. The four main components of the study include the Plattsmouth Chute Project, which the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission may sponsor; the Glasshoff Island Project, Sand Creek Restoration Project and the Western Sarpy County Levee Project.

Ongoing activities include several small watershed projects, NRD proposals in a number of communities, power line corridor studies, and airport facility developments. Technical assistance was also provided to consulting engineering firms during preliminary design stages of waste water treatment facilities and construction work plans of rural electric cooperatives.

GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS

GIS is a powerful set of computer mapping and analysis tools. The division uses this technology to create, manage, display and analyze a number of spatial databases. Realty and Environmental Services is responsible for providing GIS support for the agency and represents the Commission at various inter-agency groups such as the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture, Lower Platte River Corridor Alliance, and the Surface Water Framework Data Working Group. The Commission is also a voting member of the Nebraska GIS Steering Committee.

GIS services and technical support are provided to the Wildlife, Fisheries, Parks, Information & Education and Administration divisions. Tasks of project coordination, data acquisition, technical support, and software and hardware maintenance are the responsibility of Realty and Environmental Services Division.

Existing agency databases are used to create new maps for whooping crane sighting data, bald eagle roost and nest sites, fish distributions, and element occurrence data, turkey distributions, as requested. GIS data is used to create published maps for deer units, elk units, and waterfowl hunting for use by hunters. Realty and Environmental Services maintain approximately 12 gigabytes of geographic data. An upcoming project will allow agency personnel to access this data for their project uses.

GIS is being used to create resource management plans for the Republican River basin as part of an agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation. This will involve inventory of existing conditions and analysis. Initial GPS data has been collected by temporary employees and will be converted to GIS databases.

A mapping project involving the Commission, Colorado Division of Wildlife, and Wyoming Game and Fish Department created a series of maps to display current and historical fish species distribution in the Platte River basin. A statewide breeding bird atlas for publication was created with GIS technologies from observation databases and will be published soon.

As part of a cooperative effort with the Rainwater Basin Joint Venture, a

digital database is being created to catalog historical wetlands data gathered in the 1950s & 60s. This data has been digitized, and temporary employees and agency staff have compiled attribute information. Providing this data in digital form will allow easier access to the data and greater analytical capabilities. Editing and quality assurance on this data will be conducted in the coming months.

Within the Realty Division, GIS is being used to maintain property records and enter survey data into digital databases and to record new land acquisitions. The GIS records are linked to a land database maintained by the Realty Division. Maps for Commission hearings are produced from GIS databases and the existing state property map will be reprinted to meet demand.

NEW LAND PURCHASES

The division was involved in land acquisitions, appraisals, appraisal reviews, lease renewals, lease payments and cancellations, negotiations, and public hearings.

- Appraisal Reviews – nine Fish and Wildlife reviews.
- Appraisals – Nine appraisals were completed.
- Acquisitions – The Commission acquired nine tracts totaling 2,661.6 acres (see chart).

| 1999 COMMISSION ACQUISITIONS | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|
| State Park Areas | | |
| AREA | COUNTY | ACRES |
| Eugene T. Mahoney State Park | Cass | 7.18 |
| Wildlife Management Areas | | |
| Divoky Acres | Saline | 160.00 |
| Deep Well | Hamilton | 160.00 |
| Hickory Ridge | Johnson | 194.20 |
| Plum Creek Valley | Brown | 1,320.00 |
| Bufflehead | Buffalo | (-4.26) |
| Pressey | Custer | 52.10 |
| Prairie Wolf | Nance | 10.32 |
| Jack Sinn Memorial | Lancaster | 80.00 |
| TOTAL | | 2,162.66 |

STATE PARKS

Parks is responsible for administration and operation of Nebraska's system of state park areas. Responsibilities involve visitor contacts, day-to-day park housekeeping chores, planning and programming improvements, providing necessary resource protection, and enhancement measures to assure quality outdoor recreation experiences for park-goers now and in the future.

The 86 state park areas located across Nebraska fall into four categories and offer a variety of outdoor recreation, with opportunities varying from area to area. Some areas have modern campgrounds, cabins, swimming pools and trail rides, while at others visitors may enjoy the cultural interpretation of a historic site or structure. Still other opportunities include boating and fishing at Nebraska's many lakes, primitive camping in the Pine Ridge country and backpacking along the Missouri River.

STATE PARKS are public use areas of statewide significance with scenic, scientific and/or historical values and large enough to allow adequate development without infringing upon the primary values.

RECREATION AREAS possess resource values primarily associated with active outdoor recreation pursuits, day-use activities and camping. All the state's major water-oriented areas come under this classification.

HISTORICAL PARKS are sites of notable historical significance to the State of Nebraska.

RECREATION TRAILS are linear corridors of statewide or regional significance, valuable for non-motorized recreational use. They may be equipped with appropriate amenities and support facilities.

Personnel help with maintaining 21 wildlife management areas, walleye egg harvesting, check stations, tours, sports shows and law enforcement.

| Areas | No. of Areas | Water or Marsh | Land Acres | Total Acres |
|-------------------|--------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| State Parks | 8 | 101 | 30,001 | 30,102 |
| Rec. Areas | 66 | 66,863 | 33,769 | 100,632 |
| Historical Parks | 11 | 0 | 2,387 | 2,387 |
| Recreation Trails | 1 | 0 | 4,121 | 4,121 |
| TOTALS | 86 | 66,964 | 70,278 | 137,242 |

PARK PLANNING

Park planning strives to solve specific park design problems through preparation of graphic designs, descriptive narratives and preliminary cost estimates for various park developments.

Digital maps usable as handouts, web maps and planning documents were completed for five more areas including two of the Southwest Reservoirs. Production of these maps is made possible by aerial photos created from the Digital Ortho Photo Quads provided online by the Nebraska Natural Resources Commission. The NRC now has complete state coverage.

Planning work was done for Branched Oak, Lewis & Clark, Fremont and Dead Timber state recreation areas; Fort Robinson, Mahoney and Ponca state parks; Arbor Lodge State Historical Park, and the Cowboy Trail. Work was also done on Lake Wanhoo, north of Wahoo.

SIGN SHOP

Routed and/or silk-screened signs were made for entrance, regulatory and directional use on a number areas.

These included: Eugene T. Mahoney and Ponca state park; Summit Lake, Medicine Creek, Swanson and Lake McConaughy state recreation areas; the Cowboy Trail, and Fisheries' District V office.

Other activities included a new trail sign system at Two Rivers SRA; commemorative banners and signs for Fort Robinson's 125th anniversary; the

agency's area at the State Fair; cleaned, refurbished and installed new decal IDs five Law Enforcement boats; created new decal system for new Boating's new patrol boat, as well as color graphics and decals for Boater Ed's remote-controlled "Burt the Boat."

SNOWMOBILE TRAIL FUND

In 1981, the agency established a Snowmobile Land Leasing program, using the Nebraska Snowmobile Trail Cash Fund to provide lands for public snowmobiling to supplement established trails on state recreation areas.

The land-leasing program is administered in cooperation with the Nebraska State Snowmobile Association (NSSA). Affiliated clubs initiate contact with landowners for proposed land sites, and application for lease sites are then reviewed by the Snowmobile Advisory Board. The board presents its recommendations to the Commission for those applications.

Private lands are leased from December 1 through April 30, and the current rates were established at a maximum of \$2 per acre or \$100 per corridor mile of trail 100 feet in width. For the 1999-2000 season, no acres of private land were leased.

HORTICULTURE & LANDSCAPE PROGRAM

This marked the 25th anniversary of the agency's horticulture program. Its mission is "To promote planting and proper care of trees, shrubs and wildflowers in landscapes of Park System."

Staff made much progress with tree-trimming and related arboriculture work at Mahoney and Platte River state parks; Fort Kearny, Ash Hollow and Arbor Lodge SHPs; Champion Mill, Pawnee, Fremont, Johnson Lake, Lake McConaughy, Bowman, Sherman, Schramm, Lewis & Clark and Victoria Springs SRAs.

A number of landscape projects were undertaken at various park areas.

Six major ones included: finish grading, turf seeding, erosion control and tree and shrub plantings at four Quail Run cabins at Mahoney SP; design and initial landscaping at the new Activity Center at Mahoney; landscaping four cabins at Niobrara SP; landscape seeding turf and prairie areas at Buffalo Bill Ranch SHP and Conestoga SRA, and initial seeding at the Lake McConaughy visitor center and museum.

Many trees and shrubs were again produced in parks nurseries for use on agency lands, including 1,100 shade trees in root-control bags, 1,500 landscape grade shrubs, and 500 shade tree seedlings. Many of these were used to landscape the new campground on the south side of Branched Oak Lake.

STATE RECREATION TRAILS

Recreational trails are linear corridors established to provide recreational opportunities for hiking, biking, horseback riding and cross country skiing. At present, Nebraska has only one state recreational trail, the Cowboy Recreation and Nature Trail.

When completed this trail will also be the nation's longest rails-to-trails conversion, stretching from Norfolk to Chadron – a distance of 321 miles and covering over 3,800 acres.

The Cowboy Trail was a gift to the State of Nebraska under provisions of Federal Railbanking Statutes, which allows for former railroad corridors to be held in trust as future transportation corridors. In the meantime, these corridors are designed by law for use as recreational corridors.

The Nebraska Legislature accepted the donation from the Rails-to-Trails Conservancy by legislative act in 1993 and assigned administration to the Commission. To date 47 miles of trail have been opened to the public, with over \$3 million in federal funds used to facilitate bridge decking, trail surfacing and historical preservation projects.

HAPPENINGS

- ✓ At Long Pine SRA, Ainsworth Middle School students constructed a nature trail, and a new footbridge was installed to aid access to the east side of Long Pine Creek.
- ✓ East half of the South Shore campground at Branched Oak was opened to the public with 77 pads, approximately 12 tent sites; a coin-op shower latrine, and underground electrical. Pedestals will be installed. Branched Oak hosted the 3-day "Nebraska Open" Archery Tournament in May. The west half got underway with site work completed by year's end.
- ✓ 39 electrical hookups were installed in Nunda Shoals at Calamus. The ramp was widened and a new Superdeck dock was installed at Valley View. A 270-foot breakwater was built to protect the Nunda Shoal fish cleaning station. Bureau of Reclamation provided \$52,000 for geoweb, geotextile and rock. Twin Loup Irrigation District donated 1,200 cubic yards of broken concrete.
- ✓ 26 camping pads with electrical hookups installed at Conestoga.
- ✓ A new shop replaced the one destroyed by the tornado at Dead Timber, using the Building Insurance Fund.
- ✓ A new coin-op shower was constructed at Enders.
- ✓ Construction began on the replica Sutler's Store at Fort Atkinson using donated funds.
- ✓ Fort Hartsuff celebrated 125th anniversary as a military post on Labor Day weekend with period activities sponsored by the Valley County Historical Society and a costume ball.
- ✓ Kyle Karschner, a seasonal employee at Fort Kearny, passed away from a heart defect. His Scout troop constructed a memorial shelter and dedicated it to him.
- ✓ Fort Robinson celebrated its 125th anniversary in June with Native American interpretations, cavalry

re-enactments, polo matches, horse races and a barbecue. Work continues on upgrading facilities including new stalls, electrical service, roofing and general upgrading of interiors and furnishing cabins.

- ✓ The Grand Island maintenance shop burned in January and was rebuilt using the Building Insurance Fund. A number of supplies were lost.
- ✓ A new coin-op shower was opened at Lake Maloney.
- ✓ December 11 was the official groundbreaking for the new visitor center/office complex for Lake McConaughy. A second aeration system has been installed in Lake Ogallala to help eliminate stratification problems in the lake. Playground equipment was installed at the lakes.
- ✓ Five cabins at Lewis & Clark were completed, and reservations will be accepted for the 2000 season. The sewer system was connected to the lagoon adjacent to the Burbach area. A new parking lot for boaters was added at Weigand.
- ✓ A new water line was installed on the east end of Louisville SRA, and new playground equipment was installed in the picnic area.
- ✓ Electricity was connected at the 37 additional pads in the Trail 4 campground at Medicine Creek.
- ✓ Coin-op shower house was installed in the Cedar Bay area at Merritt, and the asphalt road was completed to the Snake River ramp. The main road there was resurfaced.
- ✓ Repairs were completed at the residence at Mormon Island, which caught fire in July, apparently from defective wiring. Most of the roof burned, and the home suffered water and smoke damage. The Building Insurance Fund paid the cost.
- ✓ Four new cabins were completed and opened for use at Niobrara. The park also had a late archery deer season for the first time.
- ✓ A sound wall was built at Pawnee to help reduce noise from the blue rock range.

- ✓ Renovation at Pibel Lake was completed, and the lake is refilling.
- ✓ New septic systems were installed at Platte River for the maintenance shop, Evergreen, Blue Heron and Golden Eagle cabins.
- ✓ Ponca debuted a park naturalist program offering a variety of environmental education programs. A section of river front was stabilized by the Corps of Engineers to offer a safer boating and fishing access. A 540-acre tract of land was purchased by the Conservation Fund with a donation from the Richard King Mellon Foundation. The tract is adjacent to the northwest corner of the park and plans are being formulated for the development and utilization of this area.
- ✓ A memorial picnic shelter was constructed at Riverview Marina by family and friends of Dale Smith, a long-time campground host.
- ✓ Construction began at Stagecoach on a 40-unit campground with electrical hookups.
- ✓ A trailer dump station was installed at Summit Lake.
- ✓ A coin-op shower building was constructed at Swanson and will open in 2000.
- ✓ Construction began on a 25-unit campground at Wagon Train with electrical hookups.
- ✓ Construction was completed on a 650-foot breakwater / bridge / trail project at Willow Creek SRA. New equipment was installed in the playground, with funding matched by the local NRD.

PERSONNEL

Park's administration, horticulture, landscape and the sign shop have a staff of 21 permanent and 9 seasonal employees. The 86 park areas are maintained by a permanent staff of 144 people. Distribution of these positions is shown in the table.

There are 49 park and recreation areas staffed by resident personnel with a total of 122 permanent field

| PARK PERSONNEL BY REGION | | | | | |
|--------------------------|------------|--------------|-------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| REGION | # OF AREAS | MANNED AREAS | OTHER AREAS | PERMANENT EMPLOYEES | TEMPORARY POSITIONS |
| Northwest Region | 20 | 10 | 10 | 20 | 197 |
| Central Region | 46 | 23 | 23 | 58 | 149 |
| Eastern Region | 20 | 16 | 4 | 66 | 465 |
| Total | 86 | 49 | 37 | 144 | 811 |

positions. Staff from these areas also maintain 8 satellite areas. The remaining 22 field positions are assigned to other recreation areas and park maintenance crews to maintain the 29 unmanned areas and one recreation trail. Some 811 temporary seasonal employees assist the permanent parks' staff during the main recreation season.

In addition, several areas used the volunteer services of local groups, military units and Campground Hosts. Green Thumb and AARP members were utilized at several areas. Indian Cave, Two Rivers and Schramm Park utilized a 13-man AmeriCorp crew. Lewis & Clark benefitted from the efforts of an inmate labor crew from a federal minimum security installation.

VISITATIONS

Accurate counts of park visitors are difficult to achieve. Most areas have multiple accesses and nearly half of the park and recreation areas are unmanned. The 53 reporting areas contribute most of the visitor counts. Thirty-two areas are credited with conservative lump sum visitor estimates. One area was closed to public access for development during this reporting period. **Tables show on pp. 28-29 visitation by area and the annual lodging and camping report.**

INCOME

Camping, lodging, swimming and trail rides are typical activities for which fees are charged. Other park income is derived from restaurant and concession sales, leases for cabin sites, conservation practices, shelter rentals and private concession leases.

Monies generated from these sources are returned to the Park Cash Fund to help support park programs. Park areas also vend hunting and fishing permits, habitat stamps, aquatic habitat stamps, publications and other items purchased for resale. Income from these activities are deposited to their respective funds. Certain goods, services and facilities are subject to applicable sales tax, state and county lodging taxes. Park cash income is also received through Lincoln, Omaha and district offices, Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium and private permit agents.

Park Cash income from all sources totaled \$13,231,737 less liability accounts and adjustments of \$287,241 for a total of \$13,518,978. The listing below shows the income producing categories and the following pages show area income generated by activity and the total dollars generated for all activities at that area.

- ✓ **Resale** -- Souvenirs, fish food, buffalo, advertising, park publications, grocery store, snacks, gas and oil
- ✓ **Food** -- Restaurants, cookouts
- ✓ **Catering** -- Catering for various functions
- ✓ **Camping** -- Campground sites,, camping coupons, electric hookups
- ✓ **Lodging** -- Lodge, cabins, group facilities, employee rent, advanced deposits, refunds, stall rental, tepees, picnic shelters
- ✓ **Marina Lease** -- Wet slips, docks, buoys
- ✓ **Concessions** -- Private concession agreements at 2% of gross sales
- ✓ **Swimming Pools** -- admissions, annual passes

| VISITATION | JAN | FEB | MAR | APR | MAY | JUNE | JULY | AUG | SEPT | OCT | NOV | DEC | TOTAL |
|------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|
| Arbor Lodge SHP | 500 | 500 | 1,000 | 15,000 | 20,000 | 21,000 | 22,000 | 22,000 | 30,000 | 60,000 | 2,000 | 1,000 | 195,000 |
| Ashfall SHP | 443 | 491 | 736 | 1,280 | 3,208 | 4,404 | 4,864 | 4,432 | 2,643 | 1,604 | 706 | 486 | 25,296 |
| Ash Hollow SHP | 1,000 | 875 | 1,300 | 2,200 | 4,000 | 7,500 | 8,650 | 7,500 | 1,675 | 1,500 | 1,300 | 1,200 | 38,700 |
| Bluestem SRA | 804 | 948 | 1,325 | 2,320 | 6,492 | 9,421 | 10,294 | 9,836 | 8,452 | 6,224 | 2,146 | 921 | 59,183 |
| Bowring Ranch SHP | 0 | 0 | 60 | 0 | 1,281 | 3,273 | 2,216 | 1,736 | 525 | 20 | 10 | 10 | 9,131 |
| Box Butte SRA | 1,225 | 1,358 | 2,037 | 3,542 | 8,876 | 12,187 | 13,461 | 12,264 | 7,315 | 4,438 | 1,953 | 1,344 | 70,000 |
| Branched Oak SRA | 17,325 | 19,894 | 32,874 | 65,355 | 92,151 | 127,501 | 101,202 | 168,854 | 67,249 | 30,572 | 22,375 | 19,320 | 764,672 |
| Bridgeport SRA | 475 | 527 | 790 | 1,373 | 3,441 | 4,725 | 5,219 | 4,755 | 2,836 | 1,721 | 757 | 521 | 27,140 |
| Buffalo Bill SHP | 0 | 0 | 0 | 860 | 2,782 | 6,508 | 7,218 | 5,688 | 2,720 | 776 | 0 | 1,130 | 27,682 |
| Calamus SRA | 2,800 | 2,800 | 2,975 | 5,600 | 37,150 | 61,950 | 84,025 | 66,591 | 38,427 | 3,640 | 896 | 2,467 | 309,321 |
| Chadron SP | 3,000 | 3,000 | 3,500 | 11,300 | 38,500 | 69,350 | 87,700 | 73,900 | 34,600 | 10,200 | 11,000 | 3,000 | 349,050 |
| Champion Mill SHP | 760 | 1,176 | 750 | 1,575 | 2,187 | 2,590 | 2,000 | 2,625 | 962 | 610 | 525 | 700 | 16,460 |
| Conestoga SRA | 2,316 | 2,745 | 2,451 | 7,338 | 13,035 | 14,370 | 13,410 | 10,413 | 9,759 | 5,538 | 2,592 | 2,307 | 86,274 |
| Dead Timber SRA | 500 | 500 | 1,000 | 1,000 | 3,000 | 4,000 | 5,000 | 4,000 | 3,500 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 500 | 26,000 |
| Enders SRA | 1,313 | 1,274 | 1,470 | 1,680 | 7,297 | 9,923 | 9,075 | 5,163 | 6,650 | 1,257 | 1,575 | 1,663 | 48,340 |
| Eugene T. Mahoney SP | 60,900 | 46,725 | 45,850 | 73,500 | 95,375 | 113,050 | 144,550 | 127,750 | 101,500 | 91,350 | 52,850 | 49,505 | 1,002,905 |
| Fort Atkinson SHP | 305 | 400 | 700 | 1,825 | 5,350 | 6,850 | 6,550 | 7,250 | 7,250 | 7,400 | 1,930 | 405 | 46,215 |
| Fort Hartsuff SHP | 25 | 100 | 500 | 900 | 2,750 | 6,000 | 6,000 | 4,350 | 4,250 | 1,050 | 500 | 100 | 26,525 |
| Fort Kearny SHP | 20 | 400 | 7,446 | 3,000 | 8,250 | 12,450 | 16,000 | 12,370 | 2,725 | 600 | 400 | 30 | 63,691 |
| Fort Kearny SRA | 200 | 800 | 4,800 | 6,000 | 12,625 | 26,265 | 15,350 | 34,000 | 13,700 | 2,100 | 280 | 80 | 116,200 |
| Fort Robinson SP | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,750 | 14,223 | 35,222 | 108,056 | 95,284 | 58,067 | 28,392 | 14,195 | 4,203 | 3,847 | 366,239 |
| Fremont SRA | 10,250 | 12,500 | 34,675 | 36,350 | 112,300 | 135,650 | 141,300 | 125,250 | 112,000 | 89,100 | 23,600 | 12,500 | 845,475 |
| Indian Cave SP | 1,106 | 1,925 | 4,875 | 16,695 | 24,255 | 20,020 | 18,550 | 16,975 | 28,885 | 35,535 | 10,820 | 2,300 | 181,941 |
| Johnson Lake SRA | 1,085 | 701 | 3,778 | 4,001 | 31,735 | 60,488 | 58,411 | 51,929 | 17,622 | 7,730 | 2,241 | 470 | 240,191 |
| Lake Maloney SRA | 300 | 1,800 | 3,000 | 3,600 | 30,000 | 90,000 | 24,500 | 15,750 | 6,000 | 3,500 | 1,800 | 400 | 180,650 |
| Lake McConaughy SRA | 8,059 | 15,166 | 15,432 | 22,814 | 66,041 | 77,295 | 158,168 | 146,787 | 78,477 | 11,753 | 8,849 | 5,561 | 614,402 |
| Lake Minatare SRA | 403 | 2,212 | 275 | 800 | 15,550 | 18,998 | 20,150 | 12,000 | 8,455 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 78,843 |
| Lewis & Clark SRA | 3,447 | 4,032 | 4,032 | 9,544 | 34,156 | 35,311 | 49,059 | 42,685 | 24,776 | 11,518 | 6,737 | 3,766 | 229,063 |
| Louisville SRA | 1,200 | 1,200 | 2,400 | 3,000 | 30,000 | 62,500 | 84,000 | 99,000 | 32,500 | 30,000 | 3,600 | 1,500 | 350,900 |
| Medicine Creek SRA | 962 | 3,850 | 3,307 | 2,817 | 14,262 | 12,600 | 14,700 | 13,125 | 11,025 | 5,600 | 4,900 | 3,517 | 90,665 |
| Merritt Reservoir SRA | 2,000 | 1,020 | 1,173 | 1,690 | 18,500 | 21,000 | 35,753 | 26,723 | 21,485 | 2,005 | 3,689 | 1,700 | 136,738 |
| Mormon Island SRA | 3,000 | 5,000 | 5,000 | 6,000 | 30,000 | 60,000 | 60,000 | 45,000 | 25,000 | 8,000 | 5,000 | 2,000 | 254,000 |
| Niobrara SP | 3,587 | 7,525 | 7,131 | 9,475 | 19,915 | 26,873 | 31,175 | 25,585 | 16,807 | 13,501 | 6,379 | 6,230 | 174,183 |
| Olive Creek SRA | 114 | 187 | 258 | 377 | 489 | 462 | 471 | 326 | 294 | 189 | 110 | 104 | 3,381 |
| Oliver Reservoir SRA | 510 | 566 | 848 | 1,475 | 3,696 | 5,075 | 5,606 | 5,107 | 3,046 | 1,848 | 813 | 560 | 29,150 |
| Pawnee SRA | 4,086 | 5,358 | 11,220 | 45,774 | 71,820 | 58,725 | 70,734 | 51,132 | 25,605 | 13,767 | 6,366 | 5,370 | 369,957 |
| Platte River SP | 3,836 | 4,389 | 8,370 | 11,397 | 26,190 | 73,235 | 93,968 | 78,934 | 36,503 | 31,282 | 19,885 | 10,145 | 398,134 |
| Ponca SP | 500 | 3,500 | 3,500 | 8,700 | 55,000 | 57,000 | 60,000 | 50,000 | 22,000 | 20,000 | 2,700 | 1,800 | 284,700 |
| Red Willow SRA | 980 | 315 | 858 | 2,258 | 4,543 | 5,824 | 9,275 | 3,703 | 9,100 | 4,970 | 2,100 | 525 | 44,451 |
| Rock Creek Station SHP | 175 | 525 | 1,575 | 2,800 | 7,525 | 7,770 | 7,525 | 7,000 | 7,000 | 5,950 | 2,625 | 1,400 | 51,870 |
| Schramm Park SRA | 1,225 | 1,358 | 2,037 | 3,542 | 8,876 | 12,187 | 13,461 | 12,264 | 7,315 | 4,438 | 1,953 | 1,344 | 70,000 |
| Sherman SRA | 1,225 | 1,138 | 1,050 | 5,250 | 16,800 | 18,991 | 11,798 | 4,200 | 4,200 | 3,150 | 2,100 | 750 | 70,652 |
| Smith Falls SP | 50 | 75 | 150 | 500 | 3,452 | 15,469 | 28,501 | 23,783 | 5,147 | 1,000 | 200 | 50 | 78,377 |
| Stagecoach SRA | 527 | 588 | 740 | 989 | 2,702 | 4,324 | 4,621 | 4,937 | 4,810 | 2,985 | 1,508 | 1,167 | 29,898 |
| Summit SRA | 1,000 | 1,000 | 2,000 | 2,500 | 30,000 | 30,000 | 27,000 | 20,000 | 3,000 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 1,000 | 120,500 |
| Sutherland SRA | 600 | 600 | 2,800 | 1,500 | 21,000 | 12,000 | 1,500 | 1,500 | 600 | 1,200 | 900 | 1,800 | 46,000 |
| Swanson SRA | 810 | 1,750 | 900 | 1,300 | 5,950 | 10,500 | 10,200 | 7,500 | 7,500 | 1,500 | 1,050 | 600 | 49,560 |
| Two Rivers SRA | 3,120 | 7,500 | 14,200 | 25,095 | 40,384 | 43,220 | 46,964 | 34,072 | 29,424 | 10,800 | 11,400 | 10,800 | 276,979 |
| Victoria Springs SRA | 75 | 200 | 150 | 250 | 1,600 | 9,000 | 10,500 | 7,000 | 2,000 | 300 | 400 | 50 | 31,525 |
| Wagon Train SRA | 728 | 814 | 762 | 806 | 1,302 | 1,221 | 1,466 | 1,658 | 1,664 | 1,121 | 461 | 314 | 12,317 |
| Wildcat Hills SRA | 238 | 263 | 395 | 687 | 1,722 | 2,364 | 2,611 | 2,379 | 1,419 | 861 | 379 | 261 | 13,579 |
| Willow Creek SRA | 5,250 | 7,500 | 8,750 | 10,500 | 31,500 | 35,000 | 36,750 | 30,039 | 26,250 | 7,700 | 6,475 | 3,500 | 209,214 |
| Windmill SRA | 800 | 850 | 1,000 | 1,200 | 6,000 | 8,250 | 9,800 | 8,500 | 6,750 | 2,000 | 1,400 | 950 | 47,500 |
| 33 Unmanned Areas | 5,775 | 6,402 | 9,603 | 16,698 | 41,844 | 57,453 | 63,459 | 57,816 | 34,485 | 20,922 | 9,207 | 6,336 | 330,000 |
| Monthly Total | 162,434 | 187,822 | 269,558 | 480,255 | 1,212,081 | 1,720,178 | 1,872,044 | 1,676,203 | 996,274 | 602,020 | 260,645 | 179,306 | 9,618,819 |

| Fee Campgrounds | Registrations | Participants | Camping Days | Ave. Part. Registration | Ave. Days Participant |
|------------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------|
| Alexandria SRA | 1,667 | 2,707 | 7,339 | 1.62 | 2.71 |
| Arnold SRA | 141 | 342 | 825 | 2.43 | 2.41 |
| Alkinson SRA | 187 | 497 | 1,084 | 2.66 | 2.18 |
| Bluestem SRA | 1,719 | 5,581 | 17,242 | 3.25 | 3.09 |
| Box Butte SRA | 669 | 2,059 | 4,959 | 3.08 | 2.41 |
| Branched Oak SRA | 12,688 | 51,016 | 146,138 | 4.02 | 2.86 |
| Bridgeport SRA | 971 | 2,869 | 7,309 | 2.95 | 2.55 |
| Buffalo Bill SRA | 87 | 270 | 575 | 3.10 | 2.13 |
| Calamus SRA | 6,738 | 22,009 | 56,470 | 3.27 | 2.57 |
| Chadron SP | 3,754 | 8,591 | 19,564 | 2.29 | 2.28 |
| Champion Lake SRA | 40 | 95 | 226 | 2.38 | 2.38 |
| Cheyenne SRA | 179 | 442 | 896 | 2.47 | 2.03 |
| Conestoga SRA | 1,190 | 3,649 | 10,596 | 3.07 | 2.90 |
| Cottonwood Lake SRA | 163 | 400 | 824 | 2.45 | 2.06 |
| Crystal Lake SRA | 378 | 1,071 | 2,616 | 2.83 | 2.44 |
| Dead Timber SRA | 395 | 1,369 | 3,087 | 3.47 | 2.25 |
| E. T. Mahoney SP | 7,578 | 24,609 | 87,538 | 3.25 | 3.56 |
| Enders SRA | 1,825 | 5,914 | 19,274 | 3.24 | 3.26 |
| Fort Kearny SRA | 4,306 | 11,791 | 28,017 | 2.74 | 2.38 |
| Fort Robinson SP | 3,661 | 9,746 | 20,425 | 2.66 | 2.10 |
| Fremont SRA | 7,601 | 26,865 | 78,555 | 3.53 | 2.92 |
| Gallagher Canyon SRA | 612 | 1,194 | 4,056 | 1.95 | 3.40 |
| Indian Cave SP | 6,583 | 18,788 | 48,329 | 2.85 | 2.57 |
| Johnson Lake SRA | 6,412 | 11,634 | 41,245 | 1.81 | 3.55 |
| Keller Park SRA | 632 | 1,750 | 4,284 | 2.77 | 2.45 |
| Lake Mac (prim) | 14,402 | 44,194 | 139,279 | 3.07 | 3.15 |
| Lake Mac SRA | 3,460 | 10,723 | 30,043 | 3.10 | 2.80 |
| Lake Maloney SRA | 3,867 | 6,670 | 14,148 | 1.72 | 2.12 |
| Lake Minatare SRA | 4,073 | 9,967 | 23,324 | 2.45 | 2.34 |
| Lake Ogallala SRA | 3,855 | 12,279 | 35,549 | 3.19 | 2.90 |
| Lewis & Clark SRA | 4,144 | 14,054 | 41,703 | 3.39 | 2.97 |
| Long Pine SRA | 452 | 1,457 | 3,661 | 3.22 | 2.51 |
| Louisville SRA | 9,685 | 29,055 | 58,110 | 3.00 | 2.00 |
| Medicine Creek SRA | 2,228 | 12,612 | 27,252 | 5.66 | 2.16 |
| Memphis SRA | 1,035 | 3,204 | 8,099 | 3.10 | 2.53 |
| Merritt SRA | 4,282 | 13,069 | 37,090 | 3.05 | 2.84 |
| Mormon Island SRA | 3,254 | 8,504 | 18,916 | 2.61 | 2.22 |
| Niobrara SP | 2,264 | 5,082 | 13,782 | 2.24 | 2.71 |
| Olive Creek SRA | 80 | 235 | 504 | 2.94 | 2.14 |
| Oliver Reservoir SRA | 1,919 | 3,996 | 11,879 | 2.08 | 2.97 |
| Pawnee SRA | 5,366 | 16,674 | 44,461 | 3.11 | 2.67 |
| Pelican Point SRA | 86 | 232 | 496 | 2.70 | 2.14 |
| Pibel Lake SRA | 19 | 51 | 122 | 2.68 | 2.39 |
| Ponca SP | 2,179 | 7,287 | 19,892 | 3.34 | 2.73 |
| Red Willow SRA | 795 | 3,017 | 6,461 | 3.79 | 2.14 |
| Rock Creek Lake SRA | 285 | 749 | 2,099 | 2.63 | 2.80 |
| Rock Creek Station SHP | 1,858 | 2,933 | 7,680 | 1.58 | 2.62 |
| Rockford Lake SRA | 527 | 1,779 | 5,038 | 3.38 | 2.83 |
| Sherman SRA | 1,451 | 4,613 | 10,676 | 3.18 | 2.31 |
| Smith Falls SP | 962 | 6,567 | 17,361 | 6.83 | 2.64 |
| Stagecoach SRA | 421 | 1,278 | 3,153 | 3.04 | 2.47 |
| Summit SRA | 965 | 3,305 | 8,346 | 3.42 | 2.53 |
| Sutherland SRA | 738 | 1,572 | 3,377 | 2.13 | 2.15 |
| Swanson SRA | 1,394 | 3,792 | 7,696 | 2.72 | 2.03 |
| Two Rivers SRA | 4,314 | 14,495 | 39,878 | 3.36 | 2.75 |
| Victoria Sprints SRA | 780 | 2,114 | 5,502 | 2.71 | 2.60 |
| Wagon Train SRA | 376 | 1,105 | 2,613 | 2.94 | 2.36 |
| War Axe SRA | 70 | 166 | 345 | 2.37 | 2.08 |
| Wildcat Hills SRA | 37 | 86 | 191 | 2.32 | 2.22 |
| Willow Creek SRA | 2,641 | 9,409 | 24,380 | 3.56 | 2.59 |
| Windmill SRA | 2,569 | 6,899 | 16,189 | 2.69 | 2.35 |
| TOTAL | 157,009 | 478,482 | 1,300,788 | 3.06 | 2.72 |

INCOME, cont.

- ✓ **Boats & Recreational Equipment** -- Paddle boats, golf, archery, hay-rack, buggy, Conestoga, stage-coach, bicycles
- ✓ **Trail Rides** -- Horseback trail rides
- ✓ **Land Lease** -- Private cabins, club sites, crop and pasture, right-of-way, ice fishing shelters, lease to other agencies and other land leases
- ✓ **Vending** -- Vending machines, pay phones, pay showers, Laundromat
- ✓ **Admissions** -- Arbor Lodge, Kountze Theater, museums, entertainment



- ✓ **Fees & Adjustments** -- Cash gifts, liquidated damages, refunds, surplus, federal and state reimbursements
- ✓ **Miscellaneous** -- Collection fees, tips, personal phone, Linens, towels, bedding, tablecloths
- ✓ **Park Permits** -- All annual, duplicate and daily permits
- ✓ **Game Fund** -- All game permits, stamps, trout tags, game resale, *NEBRASKAland* magazine
- ✓ **Habitat Fund** -- Habitat stamps, habitat resale, habitat patch
- ✓ **Aquatic Fund** -- Aquatic Habitat stamps, federal reimbursements, gifts, interest



- ✓ **Other Funds** -- Includes income and refunds for Cowboy Trail, Snowmobile, NORDA, Trail Development Assistance Fund, Recreational Trail Fund, Non-Game and Endangered Species and federal grants.

| CABINS | Registrations | Participants | Cabin Days | Ave. Part. Per Regis. | Ave. Days Per Part. |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Chadron SP | 907 | 3,467 | 11,216 | 3.82 | 3.24 |
| E T Mahoney (Cabins) | 5,150 | 31,136 | 99,438 | 6.05 | 3.19 |
| E T Mahoney (Lodge) | 4,927 | 23,633 | 65,712 | 4.80 | 2.78 |
| Fort Rob (Cabins) | 1,499 | 10,471 | 30,990 | 6.99 | 2.96 |
| Fort Rob (Lodge) | 1,266 | 2,880 | 6,043 | 2.27 | 2.10 |
| Niobrara SP | 1,192 | 5,169 | 18,067 | 4.34 | 3.50 |
| Platte River SP | 3,092 | 16,631 | 49,613 | 5.38 | 2.98 |
| Ponca SP | 649 | 2,650 | 9,261 | 4.08 | 3.49 |
| Two Rivers SRA | 340 | 1,559 | 4,454 | 4.59 | 2.86 |
| Victoria Springs SRA | 88 | 301 | 896 | 3.42 | 2.98 |
| TOTALS | 19,110 | 97,897 | 285,690 | 5.12 | 3.02 |



CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS

New capital construction authority by program for FY 98/99 for 549 and 617 includes:

| PROGRAM | AREA | PARK CASH | NORDA | GENERAL |
|--------------|---------------------------|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------|
| 900 | Park Areas - General | \$ 140,625 | \$ 100,000 | |
| 901 | Deferred Maintenance | | 200,000 | |
| 902 | Trail Development | | | 150,000 |
| 967 | Chadron State Park | 100,000 | | |
| 967 | Eugene T. Mahoney SP | | 180,000 | |
| 967 | Fort Robinson SP | 53,000 | 175,000 | |
| 967 | Niobrara SP | | 185,000 | |
| 969 | Branched Oak SRA | 161,000 | | |
| 969 | Buffalo Bill SRA | | 10,000 | |
| 969 | Calamus SRA | 344,900 | | |
| 969 | Lake McConaughy SRA | | 261,000 | |
| 969 | Lewis & Clark SRA | | 120,000 | |
| 969 | Louisville SRA | | 100,000 | |
| 969 | Medicine Creek SRA | | 3,400 | |
| 972 | Administration Facilities | 91,250 | | |
| 975 | Emergency Facility Repair | | 100,000 | |
| 983 | Buffalo Soldier Barracks | 500,000 | | |
| TOTAL | | \$1,390,775 | \$1,434,400 | \$ 650,000 |

OPERATIONS/MAINTENANCE

State parks, recreation areas and recreation trails are administered under three separate programs. Program 549 provides funding for administration, operation and maintenance of Parks, Historical Parks, Recreation areas offering improved facilities and resident management and maintenance personnel. Program 550 provides funding for Recreational Trails. Program 617-09 funds park crews to maintain the system's lesser developed, unmanaged areas and the Operations Division which plays a supporting role to all park crews when maintenance and construction projects exceed their capabilities. The Operations Division also receives funding through the Game Fund. See tables at right.

309 PROJECTS

In addition to capital projects, many park structure renovations are accomplished through the Building Renewal Program. Areas and authorized Renewal Funds (309 Projects) follow:

| AREA | AUTHORITY |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Buffalo Bill SRA | 15,000 |
| Chadron SP | 2,700 |
| E. T. Mahoney SP | 317,000 |
| Fort Hartsuff SHP | 19,250 |
| Fort Robinson SP | 98,400 |
| Lake Minatare SRA | 6,000 |
| Platte River SP | 16,550 |
| Red Willow SRA | 15,000 |
| Windmill SRA | 30,560 |
| TOTAL | \$ 520,460 |

| 1998-00 Budget Authority | Program 549 | Program 550 | Program 617 |
|----------------------------|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| General Fund Appropriation | \$ 4,804,187 | | \$ 1,913,061 |
| Cash Fund Appropriation | 9,531,450 | 415,368 | 1,957,965 |
| Total | \$14,335,637 | \$ 415,068 | \$ 3,871,026 |

| 1998-00 Budget Authority | Program 549 | Program 550 | Program 617 |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| General Fund Appropriation | \$ 4,595,6576 | \$ 391,944 | \$ 1,851,757 |
| Cash Fund Appropriation | 8,781,256 | | 1,884,354 |
| Total | \$ 13,376,913 | \$ 391,944 | \$ 3,736,111 |

| FY 1998-99 INCOME AND EXPENDITURES | | | | | |
|------------------------------------|--------------|------------------|---------------|-------------|---------------|
| Area | Expenses | Income From Area | Profit & Loss | Capital | Income Grants |
| Chadron SP | \$ 285,723 | \$ 292,069 | \$ 6,346 | \$ 17,931 | |
| Fort Robinson SP | 1,631,424 | 1,296,916 | (334,508) | 202,669 | |
| Indian Cave SP | 324,290 | 274,561 | (149,729) | 393,522 | 295,242 |
| E. T. Mahoney SP | 4,336,296 | 5,401,883 | 1,065,587 | 359,536 | |
| Niobrara SP | 410,393 | 268,259 | (142,134) | 385,710 | |
| Platte River SP | 973,041 | 714,647 | (258,394) | 71,232 | |
| Ponca SP | 295,737 | 188,258 | 1,074,790 | 22,332 | 12,067 |
| Smith Falls SP | 114,095 | 77,012 | (37,084) | 0 | |
| Arbor Lodge SHP | 285,291 | 90,453 | (194,838) | 14,319 | |
| Ash Fall SHP* | 4,477 | 17,184 | 12,707 | 0 | |
| Ash Hollow SHP | 121,697 | 10,361 | (111,336) | 0 | |
| Bowring SHP | 118,836 | 5,817 | (113,019) | 0 | |
| Buffalo Bill Ranch SHP | 201,882 | 39,534 | (162,348) | 0 | |
| Champion Mill SHP | 57,309 | 2,265 | (55,044) | 0 | |
| Fort Atkinson SHP | 150,648 | 12,564 | (138,084) | 0 | |
| Fort Hartsuff SHP | 147,940 | 10,178 | (137,762) | 0 | |
| Fort Kearny SHP | 231,103 | 125,062 | (106,041) | 47,999 | |
| Rock Creek Station SHP | 150,687 | 37,427 | (113,260) | 0 | |
| Calamus SRA | 186,461 | 81,705 | (104,756) | 4,216 | |
| Dead Timber SRA | 73,939 | 7,017 | (66,922) | 0 | |
| Enders SRA | 124,399 | 32,542 | (99,857) | 0 | |
| Fremont SRA | 294,376 | 256,329 | (38,047) | 45,163 | |
| Johnson Lake SRA | 205,224 | 89,807 | (115,417) | 14,157 | |
| Lake McConaughy SRA | 669,952 | 323,407 | (346,545) | 141,641 | |
| Lake Minatare SRA | 138,494 | 65,120 | (73,374) | 51,561 | |
| Lewis & Clark SRA | 409,136 | 252,589 | (156,547) | 112,964 | |
| Louisville SRA | 218,322 | 196,537 | 21,785 | 82,921 | |
| Medicine Creek SRA | 152,194 | 49,488 | (102,706) | 19,116 | |
| Mormon Island SRA | 114,124 | 66,545 | (47,579) | 38,445 | |
| Red Willow SRA | 81,280 | 27,460 | (53,820) | 0 | |
| Schramm Park SRA | 56,385 | | (56,385) | 0 | |
| Sherman SRA | 178,408 | 68,215 | (110,193) | 8,089 | |
| Southwest Res.-- Gen. | 23,723 | 2,528 | (21,195) | 0 | |
| Summit SRA | 80,935 | 8,120 | (72,815) | 0 | |
| Swanson SRA | 127,980 | 32,258 | (95,723) | 18,069 | |
| Two Rivers SRA | 360,853 | 261,216 | (99,636) | 2,563 | |
| Victoria Springs SRA | 86,987 | 35,918 | (51,069) | 4,799 | |
| Wildcat Hills Nature Center | 101,900 | 22,199 | (79,701) | 0 | |
| Willow Creek SRA | 98,664 | 39,800 | (58,864) | 0 | |
| Windmill SRA | 122,346 | 46,011 | (76,335) | 1,127 | |
| Cowboy Trail | 214,675 | 8,541 | (206,134) | 361,630 | 388,268 |
| Total for Areas | \$13,961,627 | \$10,737,802 | (\$3,223,825) | \$2,421,711 | \$ 695,577 |

The table on the left summarizes park income and expenses for fiscal year 1998-99. It includes all income deposited by area. Park cash income was also generated through Lincoln office, district offices, Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium, Omaha office, maintenance districts and all permit agents.

Column 1 -- Only area name listed, includes satellites managed by area, i.e. Indian Cave, Brownville & Verdon;

Column 2 -- Expenses include salaries, benefits, supplies, equipment, mileage, capital expenses;

Column 3 -- Income produced on that area(s) from all sources, i.e. lodging, camping, park entry permits, docks, and hunt & fish licenses, etc.;

Column 4 -- Income less expenditures *permits reported through agent for calendar year 1996;

Column 5 -- Includes all Capital expenditures.

NOTE

This report includes all income deposited by areas. Park cash income was also generated through Lincoln office, district offices, Ak-Sar-Ben Aquarium, maintenance areas and all permit agents.

| 1998-99 EXPENDITURES | | | |
|----------------------------|----------------------|-------------------|---------------------|
| Type | Program 549 | Program 550 | Program 617 |
| Personal Serv. Permanent | \$ 3,341,001 | \$ 73,988 | \$ 1,139,077 |
| Personal Serv. Temporary | 3,344,861 | 20,060 | 641,863 |
| Overtime & Other wages | 91,784 | 0 | 14,271 |
| Personal Serv. Benefits | 1,209,052 | 19,506 | 354,710 |
| Operating Exp. & Supplies | 5,209,037 | 61,473 | 1,075,224 |
| Travel | 16,667 | 2,781 | 24,141 |
| Equipment | 649,298 | 91,259 | 697,366 |
| Credit Cards | 92,626 | | 682 |
| Total Disbursements | \$ 13,954,326 | \$ 266,067 | \$ 3,947,334 |

| 1999 INCOME SUMMARY | RESALE INCOME | FOOD SERVICE | CATER | CAMPING | LODGING & FACILITIES | MARINA LEASE | CONCESS | SWIMMING POOL | TRAIL RIDES | BOATS/GOLF REC EQUIP | LAND LEASE | VENDING MACHINES | ADMISSIONS |
|------------------------|---------------|--------------|-----------|-------------|----------------------|--------------|----------|---------------|-------------|----------------------|------------|------------------|------------|
| ALEXANDRIA SRA | | | | 8,621 | | | 496 | | | | | | |
| ARBOR LODGE SHP | 7,196 | | | | 1,965 | | | | | | | 228 | 56,332 |
| ARNOLD SRA | | | | 751 | | | | | | | | | |
| ASH HOLLOW SHP | 5,689 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| ATKINSON LAKE SRA | | | | 1,165 | | | | | | | | | |
| BLUESTEM SRA | | | | 10,863 | | | | | | | | | |
| BOWMAN LAKE SRA | | | | 163 | | | | | | | | | |
| BOWRING RANCH SHP | 1,902 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| BOX BUTTE SRA | | | | 4,239 | | | | | | | 5 | | |
| BRANCHED OAK SRA | | | | 131,345 | | | 5,204 | | | | | 2,295 | |
| BRIDGEPORT SRA | | | | 3,718 | | | | | | | | | |
| BROWNVILLE SRA | | | | 684 | | | | | | | | | |
| BUFFALO BILL SHP | 13,131 | | | | | | 545 | | 7,555 | | | 108 | |
| BUFFALO BILL SRA | | | | 1,012 | | | | | | | | | |
| CALAMUS SRA | | | | 74,164 | | | | | | | | | |
| CHADRON MAINT | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CHADRON SP | 12,021 | 917 | 175 | 41,783 | 138,065 | | 17 | 13,940 | 14,884 | 11,629 | | 712 | |
| CHAMPION LAKE SRA | | | | 105 | | | | | | | | | |
| CHAMPION MILL SHP | 369 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CHEYENNE SRA | | | | 507 | | | | | | | | | |
| CONESTOGA SRA | | | | 8,491 | | | | | | | | | |
| COTTONWOOD LAKE SRA | | | | 517 | | | | | | | | | |
| CRYSTAL LAKE SRA | | | | 2,560 | | | | | | | | | |
| DEAD TIMBER SRA | | | | 3,919 | | | | | | | | | |
| ENDERS SRA | | | | 16,231 | | | | | | | 9,700 | | |
| EUGENE T. MAHONEY SP | 501,882 | 1,269,277 | 345,801 | 208,929 | 1,742,356 | | 10,345 | 144,246 | 100,859 | 215,677 | | 23,818 | 229,003 |
| FORT ATKINSON SHP | 3,822 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FORT HARTSUFF SHP | 4,972 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FORT KEARNY SHP | 17,442 | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| FORT KEARNY SRA | | | | 66,657 | 100 | | | | | | | | |
| FORT ROBINSON SP | 112,130 | 218,410 | 52,588 | 55,611 | 469,155 | | 3,563 | 14,593 | 59,755 | 52,975 | | 675 | |
| FREMONT SRA | | | | 143,874 | 640 | | 2,330 | | | | | 5,195 | |
| GALLAGHER CANYON SRA | | | | 1,715 | | | | | | | | | |
| INDIAN CAVE SP | 9,725 | | | 99,765 | 250 | | 924 | | 15,406 | 6,284 | | 2,336 | 605 |
| JOHNSON LAKE SRA | | | | 63,126 | | | | | | | | | |
| KELLER PARK SRA | | | | 5,899 | | | | | | | | | |
| LAKE MALONEY SRA | | | | 16,744 | | | | | | | | | 1,540 |
| LAKE MCCONAUGHY SRA | | | | 217,149 | | | 31,417 | | | | 50 | 13,685 | |
| LAKE MINATARE SRA | 279 | | | 22,246 | 14 | 180 | | | | | 15,020 | 143 | |
| LEWIS & CLARK SRA | 97,031 | | | 77,828 | | 47,821 | 1,229 | | | | 5 | 7,607 | |
| LINCOLN MAINT | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| LONG PINE SRA | | | | 2,429 | | | | | | | | | |
| LOUISVILLE SRA | | | | 134,735 | 884 | | 1,322 | | | | | 3,409 | |
| MEDICINE CREEK SRA | | | | 30,558 | | 450 | 2,346 | | | | 5,620 | | |
| MEMPHIS SRA | | | | 4,868 | | | 313 | | | | | | |
| MERRITT SRA | | | | 23,864 | | | 9,780 | | | | | 4,349 | |
| MORMON ISLAND SRA | | | | 36,836 | | | | | | | | 73 | |
| NIORARA SP | 22,557 | | | 23,392 | 207,885 | | 4,276 | 9,330 | 14,506 | 10,796 | 1,364 | 1,875 | |
| OLIVE CREEK SRA | | | | 279 | | | | | | | | | |
| OLIVER SRA | | | | 7,481 | | | | | | | | | |
| PAWNEE SRA | | | | 70,865 | | | 1,111 | | | | 5 | | |
| PELICAN POINT SRA | | | | 515 | | | | | | | | | |
| PIBEL LAKE SRA | | | | 133 | | | | | | | | | |
| PLATTE RIVER SP | 48,595 | 81,841 | 19,419 | | 414,341 | | | 21,495 | 50,146 | 26,185 | | 33 | |
| PONCA SP | 20,395 | 608 | | 39,382 | 80,196 | | | 13,572 | 21,374 | 580 | | | |
| RED WILLOW SRA | | | | 14,875 | | 1,192 | 2,730 | | | | 2,800 | | |
| RIVERVIEW MARINA SRA | | | | 3,416 | | | | | | | | | |
| ROCK CREEK STATION SHP | 2,841 | | | 16,984 | 75 | | 173 | | | 735 | | | |
| ROCKFORD LAKE SRA | | | | 2,551 | | | | | | | | | |
| SHERMAN SRA | | | | 5,710 | | | 5,635 | | | | 51,364 | 773 | |
| SMITH FALLS SP | 15,709 | | | 29,470 | 2,962 | | | | | | | 3,068 | |
| SOUTHWEST GEN | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| STAGECOACH SRA | | | | 1,766 | | | | | | | | | |
| SUMMIT SRA | | | | 6,080 | | | | | | | | | |
| SUTHERLAND SRA | | | | 2,141 | | | | | | | | | |
| SWANSON SRA | | | | 9,387 | | | 3,845 | | | | 4,225 | | |
| TWO RIVERS SRA | 2,164 | | | 61,923 | 33,416 | | 759 | | | 975 | 198 | 34 | |
| UNION PACIFIC SRA | | | | 307 | | | | | | | | | |
| VALENTINE MAINT | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| VERDON LAKE SRA | | | | 273 | | | | | | | | | |
| VICTORIA SPRINGS SRA | 201 | | | 11,535 | 9,778 | | | | | 2,645 | | | |
| WAGON TRAIN SRA | | | | 1,795 | | | | | | | | | |
| WALGREN LAKE SRA | | | | 1,104 | | | | | | | | | |
| WAR AXE SRA | | | | 216 | | | | | | | | | |
| WILDCAT HILLS MAINT | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| WILDCAT HILLS SRA | 2,559 | | | 149 | 75 | | | | | 625 | | 153 | |
| WILLOW CREEK SRA | | | | 44,090 | | | | | | | 1,679 | 216 | |
| WINDMILL SRA | | | | 34,686 | | | | | | | | 306 | |
| COWBOY TRAIL SRT | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| RECREATION TRAILS GEN | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| TOTAL PARK INCOME | 902,611 | 1,571,054 | 417,983 | 1,914,175 | 3,102,155 | 49,843 | 88,360 | 217,176 | 284,485 | 329,105 | 92,035 | 72,630 | 285,940 |
| AQUARIUM | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| OMAHA OFFICE | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| DISTRICT OFFICES | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
| CENTRAL OFFICE | 1,003 | | | 85 | | | | | | | 492 | | |
| TOTALS | \$903,613 | \$1,571,054 | \$417,983 | \$1,914,260 | \$3,102,155 | \$49,843 | \$88,360 | \$217,176 | \$284,485 | \$329,105 | \$92,527 | \$72,630 | \$285,940 |

| 1999 INCOME SUMMARY | FEES, TORTS ADJUSTMENTS | MISC | TOTAL |
|------------------------|----------------------------|----------|--------------|
| ALEXANDRIA SRA | | 10 | 9,127 |
| ARBOR LODGE SHP | 3,343 | | 69,064 |
| ARNOLD SRA | | | 751 |
| ASH HOLLOW SHP | | | 5,689 |
| ATKINSON LAKE SRA | | | 1,165 |
| BLUESTEM SRA | | | 10,863 |
| BOWMAN LAKE SRA | | | 163 |
| BOWRING RANCH SHP | 18 | | 1,920 |
| BOX BUTTE SRA | | | 4,244 |
| BRANCHED OAK SRA | 446 | 10 | 139,300 |
| BRIDGEPORT SRA | | | 3,718 |
| BROWNVILLE SRA | | | 684 |
| BUFFALO BILL SHP | | 10 | 21,349 |
| BUFFALO BILL SRA | | | 1,012 |
| CALAMUS SRA | | | 74,164 |
| CHADRON MAINT | | | |
| CHADRON SP | 240 | 14 | 234,398 |
| CHAMPION LAKE SRA | | | 105 |
| CHAMPION MILL SHP | | | 369 |
| CHEYENNE SRA | | | 507 |
| CONESTOGA SRA | | | 8,491 |
| COTTONWOOD LAKE SRA | | | 517 |
| CRYSTAL LAKE SRA | | | 2,560 |
| DEAD TIMBER SRA | | | 3,919 |
| ENDERS SRA | | 40 | 25,971 |
| EUGENE T. MAHONEY SP | 2,873 | 66,512 | 4,861,578 |
| FORT ATKINSON SHP | | | 3,822 |
| FORT HARTSUFF SHP | 0 | | 4,972 |
| FORT KEARNY SHP | | | 17,442 |
| FORT KEARNY SRA | 10 | | 66,767 |
| FORT ROBINSON SP | 160,557 | 6,441 | 1,206,452 |
| FREMONT SRA | 1,528 | 11 | 153,578 |
| GALLAGHER CANYON SRA | | | 1,715 |
| INDIAN CAVE SP | | 62 | 135,357 |
| JOHNSON LAKE SRA | | | 63,126 |
| KELLER PARK SRA | | | 5,899 |
| LAKE MALONEY SRA | 16 | | 18,300 |
| LAKE MCCONAUGHY SRA | 768 | 70 | 263,139 |
| LAKE MINATURE SRA | 0 | 10 | 37,891 |
| LEWIS & CLARK SRA | 388 | 173 | 232,083 |
| LINCOLN MAINT | | | |
| LONG PINE SRA | | | 2,429 |
| LOUISVILLE SRA | 24 | 70 | 140,444 |
| MEDICINE CREEK SRA | 113 | 4 | 39,091 |
| MEMPHIS SRA | | | 5,181 |
| MERRITT SRA | 1 | | 37,994 |
| MORMON ISLAND SRA | 2 | 13 | 36,923 |
| NIORARA SP | 896 | | 296,876 |
| OLIVE CREEK SRA | | 10 | 289 |
| OLIVER SRA | | 26 | 7,506 |
| PAWNEE SRA | 182 | 50 | 72,213 |
| PELICAN POINT SRA | | | 515 |
| PIBEL LAKE SRA | | | 133 |
| PLATTE RIVER SP | 734 | 2,484 | 665,273 |
| PONCA SP | 12,234 | 10 | 188,350 |
| RED WILLOW SRA | | | 21,597 |
| RIVERVIEW MARINA SRA | | | 3,416 |
| ROCK CREEK STATION SHP | | 20 | 20,829 |
| ROCKFORD LAKE SRA | | | 2,551 |
| SHERMAN SRA | 134 | | 63,616 |
| SMITH FALLS SP | 52 | 10 | 51,271 |
| SOUTHWEST GEN | | | |
| STAGECOACH SRA | 457 | | 2,223 |
| SUMMIT SRA | | 10 | 6,090 |
| SUTHERLAND SRA | | | 2,141 |
| SWANSON SRA | | | 17,457 |
| TWO RIVERS SRA | 409 | 10 | 99,888 |
| UNION PACIFIC SRA | | | 307 |
| VALENTINE MAINT | 265 | | 265 |
| VERDON LAKE SRA | | | 273 |
| VICTORIA SPRINGS SRA | 47 | 20 | 24,227 |
| WAGON TRAIN SRA | | | 1,795 |
| WALGREN LAKE SRA | | | 1,104 |
| WAR AXE SRA | | | 216 |
| WILDCAT HILLS MAINT | 1,582 | | 1,582 |
| WILDCAT HILLS SRA | 14 | 10 | 3,585 |
| WILLOW CREEK SRA | 54 | 30 | 46,069 |
| WINDMILL SRA | | | 34,991 |
| COWBOY TRAIL SRT | | | |
| RECREATION TRAILS GEN | | | |
| TOTAL PARK INCOME | 187,388 | 76,140 | 9,590,879 |
| AQUARIUM | | 3 | 3 |
| OMAHA OFFICE | | 23 | 23 |
| DISTRICT OFFICES | 19,847 | 89 | 19,935 |
| CENTRAL OFFICE | 790,969 | | 792,548 |
| TOTALS | \$998,204 | \$76,254 | \$10,403,388 |

| PARK INCOME | PARK PERMITS | GAME FUND | HABITAT FUND | AQUATIC FUND | GRAND TOTAL | OTHER FUNDS | TOTAL |
|----------------|-----------------|--------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|--------------|
| 9,127 | | | 629 | | 9,756 | | 9,756 |
| 69,064 | 19,988 | 804 | 100 | 80 | 90,036 | 27 | 90,062 |
| 751 | | | | | 751 | | 751 |
| 5,689 | 5,608 | 217 | 27 | 40 | 11,581 | 72 | 11,652 |
| 1,165 | | | | | 1,165 | | 1,165 |
| 10,863 | | | | | 10,863 | | 10,863 |
| 163 | | | | | 163 | | 163 |
| 1,920 | 1,603 | 353 | 10 | 20 | 3,906 | | 3,906 |
| 4,244 | | | | | 4,244 | | 4,244 |
| 139,300 | 46,514 | 19,666 | 122 | 590 | 206,192 | 55 | 206,248 |
| 3,718 | | | | | 3,718 | | 3,718 |
| 684 | | | | | 684 | | 684 |
| 21,349 | 18,531 | 341 | 21 | 10 | 40,251 | | 40,251 |
| 1,012 | | | | | 1,012 | | 1,012 |
| 74,164 | 17,107 | 2,651 | 600 | 1,065 | 95,587 | 199 | 95,785 |
| | | | | | | 311 | 311 |
| 234,398 | 37,328 | 38,830 | 3,850 | 990 | 315,395 | 69 | 315,464 |
| 105 | | | | | 105 | | 105 |
| 369 | 1,347 | 475 | | 80 | 2,272 | 24 | 2,296 |
| 507 | | | | | 507 | | 507 |
| 8,491 | | 795 | | | 9,286 | | 9,286 |
| 517 | | | | | 517 | | 517 |
| 2,560 | | | | | 2,560 | | 2,560 |
| 3,919 | 2,665 | 399 | 80 | 110 | 7,173 | | 7,173 |
| 25,971 | 3,392 | 189 | 110 | 60 | 29,721 | 17 | 29,738 |
| 4,861,578 | 498,278 | 9,496 | 1,080 | 2,795 | 5,373,227 | 135 | 5,373,362 |
| 3,822 | 7,982 | 923 | 40 | 180 | 12,948 | 286 | 13,234 |
| 4,972 | 4,112 | 995 | 20 | 15 | 10,114 | | 10,114 |
| 17,442 | | 239 | 9 | | 17,690 | 537 | 18,227 |
| 66,767 | 44,784 | 653 | 40 | 245 | 112,488 | | 112,488 |
| 1,206,452 | 62,330 | 36,177 | 4,870 | 1,305 | 1,311,134 | 436 | 1,311,571 |
| 153,578 | 120,519 | 697 | 80 | 235 | 275,109 | | 275,109 |
| 1,715 | | | | | 1,715 | | 1,715 |
| 135,357 | 43,507 | 836 | 80 | 165 | 179,945 | 928 | 180,873 |
| 63,126 | 21,414 | 1,299 | 90 | 385 | 86,313 | | 86,313 |
| 5,899 | | | 30 | | 5,929 | | 5,929 |
| 18,300 | | | | | 18,300 | | 18,300 |
| 263,139 | 76,539 | 13,685 | 930 | 4,760 | 359,052 | 185 | 359,238 |
| 37,891 | 26,998 | 2,649 | 40 | 980 | 68,557 | | 68,557 |
| 232,083 | 31,161 | 3,309 | 190 | 1,080 | 267,823 | | 267,823 |
| | 91 | 32 | 20 | 5 | 148 | 254 | 402 |
| 2,429 | | | | | 2,429 | | 2,429 |
| 140,444 | 69,037 | 6,448 | 120 | 2,265 | 218,314 | | 218,314 |
| 39,091 | 3,613 | 3,400 | 3 | 10 | 46,117 | 889 | 47,006 |
| 5,181 | | | | | 5,181 | | 5,181 |
| 37,994 | 741 | 38 | 10 | 15 | 38,798 | | 38,798 |
| 36,923 | 24,285 | 689 | 60 | 270 | 62,227 | | 62,227 |
| 296,876 | 26,495 | 4,657 | 580 | 695 | 329,304 | 204 | 329,508 |
| 289 | | 245 | | | 534 | | 534 |
| 7,506 | | | | | 7,506 | | 7,506 |
| 72,213 | 35,578 | 3,674 | 40 | 165 | 111,670 | | 111,670 |
| 515 | | | | | 515 | | 515 |
| 133 | | | | | 133 | | 133 |
| 665,273 | 61,562 | 840 | 80 | 200 | 727,955 | | 727,955 |
| 188,350 | 29,632 | 3,330 | 330 | 600 | 222,243 | 87 | 222,330 |
| 21,597 | 4,381 | 2,555 | 60 | 125 | 28,718 | | 28,718 |
| 3,416 | | | | | 3,416 | | 3,416 |
| 20,829 | 9,394 | 395 | 130 | 60 | 30,807 | | 30,807 |
| 2,551 | | | | | 2,551 | | 2,551 |
| 63,616 | 3,498 | 692 | 1,531 | 185 | 69,522 | 26 | 69,548 |
| 51,271 | 16,190 | 220 | 40 | 75 | 67,796 | 98 | 67,894 |
| | 2,348 | 414 | 185 | 155 | 3,102 | | 3,102 |
| 2,223 | | 154 | | | 2,377 | | 2,377 |
| 6,090 | 763 | 66 | 40 | 15 | 6,974 | | 6,974 |
| 2,141 | | | | | 2,141 | | 2,141 |
| 17,457 | 1,883 | 4,011 | 130 | 60 | 23,540 | | 23,540 |
| 99,888 | 80,502 | 83,422 | 1,290 | 10,620 | 275,722 | 35 | 275,757 |
| 307 | | | | | 307 | | 307 |
| 265 | | | | | 265 | | 265 |
| 273 | | | | | 273 | | 273 |
| 24,227 | 8,223 | 2,251 | 490 | 485 | 35,676 | | 35,676 |
| 1,795 | | 264 | | | 2,059 | | 2,059 |
| 1,104 | | | | | 1,104 | | 1,104 |
| 216 | | | | | 216 | | 216 |
| 1,582 | | | | | 1,582 | 11 | 1,593 |
| 3,585 | 8,007 | 10,389 | 610 | 325 | 22,916 | | 22,916 |
| 46,069 | 1,371 | 78 | 60 | 20 | 47,598 | 8 | 47,606 |
| 34,991 | 13,204 | 1,054 | 290 | 380 | 49,919 | | 49,919 |
| | | | | | | 25,258 | 25,258 |
| | | | | | | 280,455 | 280,455 |
| 9,590,879 | 1,492,498 | 264,993 | 19,148 | 31,920 | 11,399,438 | 310,607 | 11,710,045 |
| 3 | 34,059 | 337,183 | 27,414 | 9,113 | 407,773 | | 407,773 |
| 23 | 18,353 | 155,857 | 9,117 | 1,668 | 185,017 | 45 | 185,062 |
| 19,935 | 88,587 | 1,179,016 | 46,865 | 11,490 | 1,345,893 | 2,413 | 1,348,306 |
| 792,548 | 1,550,718 | 13,781,684 | 3,707,933 | 2,065,220 | 21,898,103 | 11,933,235 | 33,831,338 |
| \$10,403,388 | \$3,184,215 | \$15,718,733 | \$3,810,477 | \$2,119,410 | \$35,236,224 | \$12,246,300 | \$47,482,524 |

WILDLIFE

GOAL

Stewardship of the state's wildlife resources in the best long-term interests of the people and the resource.

Wildlife focuses on four main areas: Research and Inventory, Resource Management, Habitat Management, and Education in its effort to manage the state's wildlife resources. Balancing the desires of the public with the limitations of the resource is a challenging endeavor.

A total of \$7.5 million dollars was expended in 1999.

WHERE DID THE MONEY COME FROM?

Wildlife's expenditures came nearly equally from the Game Cash Fund (46.3%) and the Habitat Cash Fund (46.5%). The Game Cash Fund derives its monies primarily from licenses sales and Federal Aid reimbursements. The Habitat Cash Fund revenues are derived from Habitat Stamp sales and Federal Aid reimbursements.

Other funding sources included: 4.3% from General Fund, primarily for salaries and benefits of Nongame, Threatened & Endangered (T&E), and Heritage staff; 1.5% from the nongame income tax checkoff; 1.3% from federal agency grants other than Pittman-Robertson & Dingle-Johnson aid. Wildlife projects received about \$2.8 million in PR-DJ reimbursements, while the Environmental Trust added \$225,000 for CRP MAP.

WHERE DID THE MONEY GO?

\$1.3 million – Acquisition of new wildlife management areas.

\$2.3 million – Habitat and public use facilities on WMAs.

- Contracts for trash removal, habitat establishment--\$127,000
- Supplies and materials, like seed, trees, fencing, etc.--\$198,000
- Replacement equipment – trucks,

- tractors, ATVs, etc.--\$258,000
- Repair, maintenance of equipment, property--\$69,000
- Utilities--\$44,600
- Noxious weed control--\$86,000
- In-lieu of tax payments--\$189,000
- Lease payments for managed lands --\$20,000

\$1.6 million – Private and other public land habitat and access enhancements.

- USFWS/COE/FS lands--\$35,000
- RP MAP--\$330,000
- RP upland habitat initiative--\$93,000
- Shelterbelts--\$63,000
- Wetland efforts--\$155,000
- County roadside seeding--\$34,000
- Riparian restoration--\$30,000
- WHIP--\$425,000

\$1.2 million – Research and Resource Management.

- Big Game Management--\$256,000
- Natural Heritage--\$208,000
- Waterfowl Management--\$170,000
- Upland Game Management--\$110,000
- Nongame/T&E Birds--\$109,000
- Forensics and DNA--\$105,000
- Diversity-Watchable Wildlife (\$65,000)

\$1.1 million – Administrative and vehicle support services including with regulation and permit coordination.

- Vehicle fuel & upkeep--\$464,000
- Workers Comp--\$65,000
- Education Outreach--\$25,000
- Computer/web support (\$42,000)
- Regulation & Permit Coordination --\$77,000

RESEARCH, INVENTORY & RESOURCE MANAGEMENT

Ongoing inventory and analysis of wildlife populations and habitat resources, as well as season setting, harvest regulation, accessibility issues, statutory and regulatory action are encompassed in these areas. Research and monitoring activities are critical in

determining basic management efforts. While many routine game surveys dominate research and monitoring activities, outside funding was actively sought and received for investigations of both hunted and non-hunted wildlife as well as natural habitat community assessment projects.

Recognizing we can't do it alone, the division partnered with various natural resource-related organizations in new and ongoing projects, including the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Army Corp of Engineers, University of Nebraska, Environmental Trust, Safari Club International, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pheasants Forever, The Nature Conservancy, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Ducks Unlimited, International Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies, U.S. Geological Survey, Rocky Mountain Elk Foundation, National Wild Turkey Federation, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation, Nebraska Department of Agriculture and the Nebraska Game and Parks Foundation.

Bighorn Sheep management plan and habitat and translocation studies were begun with a goal of establishing "a self-sustaining, free-ranging population in all historic, suitable habitat in the state." Open houses were held for public input, and habitat suitability of the Wildcat Hills for bighorn was assessed. A study was initiated with Colorado State University to



assess such efforts and comparative ecology of subject animals, funded by proceeds of the bighorn sheep permit auction and lotteries and by Safari Club International. One auction and one lottery permit were issued in 1999. Both hunters bagged a mature full-curl ram. More than \$250,000 has been raised over the last two years from the four permits issued.

Wild Turkey – A biologist, funded jointly with the National Wild Turkey Federation, began a 12-month program, working with staff to develop a turkey research and management plan for Nebraska. About 18,500 persons purchased 23,117 permits and harvested about 10,000 turkeys during 1999 spring and fall archery and shotgun seasons. Spring season is by far the most popular, with 69% of the individuals hunting spring only, 19% hunt fall only, and 12% hunt both seasons. Shotgun success averaged 46% in spring and 50% in the fall.



Deer – Some 108,146 deer hunters spent an estimated 700,000 recreation days pursuing their sport during 1999 archery, firearm, muzzleloader and special seasons. Success rates were: archery 28%, muzzleloader 32%, regular firearm 57%, and special seasons 46%. Concerns over the size of herds, especially in the southeast, along with landowner depredation complaints and vehicle collision reports, led to another year of liberalized permitting. Over 8,000 more permits were issued compared to 1998. Efforts to increase harvest in target areas prompted the first public shotgun/muzzleloader deer hunting on water well fields owned by the City of Lincoln and Nebraska National Guard.



| 1999 Deer Harvest | | |
|-------------------|--------------|---------|
| Season | Permits Sold | Harvest |
| Archery | 16,137 | 4,504 |
| Nov. Firearm | 69,771 | 39,399 |
| Muzzleloader | 15,047 | 4,797 |
| Special Seasons | 7,825 | 3,525 |
| Totals | 108,146 | 52,225 |

Over 327 landowners were contacted about crop depredation complaints. Depredation permits were

issued to qualified landowners. Staff continues to work with landowners and hunters trying to balance the need for herd control with tolerance of the hunter numbers in the field.

| Five-Year Deer Harvest Results | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------|---------|--------------|
| | Rifle | Archery | Muzzleloader |
| 1995 | 37,542 | 4,451 | 3,128 |
| 1996 | 35,670 | 4,472 | 3,585 |
| 1997 | 43,261 | 4,148 | 4,104 |
| 1998 | 40,276 | 4,102 | 4,235 |
| 1999 | 39,399 | 4,504 | 4,797 |



Antelope – Based on aerial surveys, pronghorn numbers reached near goal levels in all but the Box Butte Unit, where they were about 25% low. Hunter demand is consistently higher than permits available, which are set to manage populations and reduce depredation problems. Some 1,358 hunters took 687 pronghorns, with success rates of 10% for archery, 52% for muzzleloader, and 66% for firearm.

Elk – Nebraska's relatively small elk herd draws considerable interest from viewers and hunters. In 1999 over 1,100 persons applied for the 40 permits authorized in 3 units, plus 19 landowner permits were issued. Harvest included 6 bulls, 12 cows and 1 calf. Those with permits for the Boyd Unit are allowed, under an agreement with South Dakota, to hunt in part of Gregory County, SD, and 3 elk were taken there by Nebraska permittees.



Waterfowl Management. Continued concern about the overabundance of the mid-continent population of lesser snow geese and their impact on Arctic habitats was



forefront again in 1999. Special measures, such as a Conservation Order and use of electronic calls and

unplugged shotguns, were put into place by the USFWS to increase harvest of lesser snow geese. Although the use of electronic calls and unplugged shotguns was allowed in Nebraska, USFWS authority for conducting a Conservation Order came too late to implement. Later in the year, a federal court injunction forced the USFWS to withdraw those measures until an Environmental Impact Statement was written. Wildlife staff continued to work with USFWS on the biology and ecology of migratory birds in the Rainwater Basin during an experimental late-winter snow goose season in 1998, looking to improve survey methods on distribution and abundance of light geese in the Basin and assisting U.S. Geological Survey staff and the University of Nebraska with studies on physiological condition and food habits of northern pintails and white-fronted and snow geese. Harvest data indicated some 7,200 hunters (10% nonresidents) took an estimated 109,300 light geese in Nebraska in the 1999 late-winter season. Hunters averaged 4.5 days in the field and harvested 3.4 birds a day.

Upland Game – Nest success plays a large role in fall populations of upland game birds. So, identifying the habitat conditions necessary to provide high nest success is a top priority. In 1999, Nebraska took the lead in analyzing data collected as part of a cooperative project among Nebraska, Kansas, and South Dakota to study habitat factors in the High Plains. Nearly 3,500 artificial nests with two chicken eggs were placed in green wheat, fallow wheat, and CRP fields and observed; habitat conditions near the nests were measured. Thus far, analyses indicate lower nest success in Nebraska than in South Dakota and Kansas, and CRP had little effect on success.



Nebraska has one of the largest, most stable greater prairie chicken

populations in the nation. Although prairie chickens are usually associated with the Sandhills, remnant populations in the southeast have increased over the past 15 years. To monitor this growth, staff have mapped prairie chicken breeding grounds in Johnson and Pawnee counties and recently established permanent spring breeding ground survey routes there and in three other southeast counties. Somewhat surprisingly, the average number of males observed along the Johnson county route has been the largest of any route in the state, including those in the Sandhills. Information is being used to evaluate the potential for a prairie chicken hunting season in this currently closed area and will allow monitoring population changes related to habitat changes.

Furbearers – Depressed fur prices apparently contributed to lower harvest of furbearers. While mange was reported in some coyote populations, no significant decline in any furbearer populations has been detected. While the bobcat harvest was down slightly from the 97-98 season, despite low prices and age structure of harvested animals, it appears the bobcat population is in overall good health.

Heritage Program, Nongame, Threatened & Endangered Species – With less than 10% (1% if insects are included) of the state's wildlife being monitored and managed as game species, it is appropriate and necessary to devote time and effort to the management of the other 90% of the state's natural heritage.



Perhaps one of the most critical was the review and development of recommendations for updating of the state's Threatened and Endangered (T&E) Species list. The Non-game and Endangered Species Conservation Act (NESCA) recognizes the importance of preserving Nebraska's natural heritage. Updating the T&E list, last revised in 1985, is critical and involved thousands of hours of record reviews, surveys and public meetings. It's important that we check our own backyard when reviewing T&E habitat and rare community types. A contractor finished a search of records and site visits to the state's wildlife management areas to determine the presence of threatened or endangered species habitats and/or examples of high quality natural community types. Identification is a critical first step to ensure future management practices do not have a detrimental affect to these valuable rare resources.

Least Tern and Piping Plover – The Protection Program got underway in 1999. With funds from the Nebraska Environmental Trust, National Fish and Wildlife Foundation and Nongame Check-off, a contract was established with the University of Nebraska Cooperative Extension Service in an effort to protect nesting colonies of endangered least terns and threatened piping plovers at sand pits along the lower Platte River. Activities included developing partnerships with local sand and gravel companies like Lyman-Richey Corp. and Western Sand and Gravel Co.; monitoring nesting activity; erecting and evaluating predator fences; and a public outreach program.



Nongame Birds – A contract with the University of Nebraska was established to develop a Nebraska Nongame Bird Conservation Plan, working with Commission staff.

The plan will identify priority species and associated habitats and will ultimately guide future nongame bird research, inventory, conservation and management activities in Nebraska.

Species DNA Analysis – Careful examination of DNA, the genetic building blocks of an organism, can help determine and preserve the uniqueness of a species' characteristics. Insuring genetic diversity is often the key to a species' survival. Several DNA investigations culminated in 1999 – work on the Ute Ladies Tresses orchid, American Burying Beetle, Saltmarsh Tiger Beetle, mid-Continent sandhill crane populations and wild turkeys. Genetic investigations also assisted law enforcement cases through identification of species and individual animals.

HABITAT MANAGEMENT

Habitat management involves both public and private lands and is geared to providing wildlife and natural communities with all the necessities for survival. Helping wildlife where they live is a major activity. Efforts are ongoing to improve habitat and optimize recreational access. Next to weather, habitat is the most important aspect of viable wildlife populations. Nebraska has approximately 49.4 million acres of land and water within its boundaries and around 97% of this is in private ownership. The agency manages approximately 162,000 acres as wildlife management areas (roughly 0.33% of the state).

Wetland Enhancements – Wetland habitats, especially those in the Rainwater Basin, have long been pinpointed because of their benefits to migratory waterfowl and indigenous species. Protecting and enhancing existing wetlands, while restoring damaged or lost wetlands and slowing down the loss of

Five Year Furbearer Harvest Results

| | Muskrat | Beaver | Mink | Raccoon | Opossum | Coyote | Red Fox | Bobcat | Badger |
|---------|---------|--------|-------|---------|---------|--------|---------|--------|--------|
| 1994-95 | 32,718 | 19,357 | 4,442 | 150,695 | 8,015 | 28,679 | 3,647 | 242 | 1,874 |
| 1995-96 | 24,110 | 14,039 | 2,218 | 130,697 | 9,683 | 26,765 | 3,036 | 278 | 1,624 |
| 1996-97 | 71,472 | 27,823 | 5,188 | 231,986 | 18,517 | 36,443 | 4,941 | 360 | 2,224 |
| 1997-98 | 57,010 | 25,267 | 4,236 | 252,525 | 22,839 | 36,213 | 5,053 | 410 | 3,093 |
| 1998-99 | 40,145 | 20,359 | 3,057 | 174,238 | 19,223 | 28,794 | 3,760 | 396 | 2,284 |

other wetland habitats, have been emphasized in the Wetland Initiative Program (WIP). Directed at private lands, WIP saw a record 22 projects completed in 1999, restoring and enhancing more than 2,500 acres of wetlands and associated uplands. This tripled the previous high and brought the program total to 72 projects covering more than 4,000 acres. Several innovative management practices were either implemented or accelerated on the WMAs. Noting that Nebraska's prairie wetlands historically received a series of natural disturbances, practices of disking, prescribed burning, rotational grazing, interseeding and pumping either singularly or in combination with one another were applied to many of the state-owned wetlands.



CRP-MAP – Because of demand for quality places to hunt and opportunities created by the USDA Conservation Reserve Program, NGPC joined with Pheasants Forever and the Nebraska Environmental Trust to establish the Conservation Reserve Program-Management Access Program (CRP-MAP). In place since 1997, it provides improved habitat on CRP lands offering public access for walk-in hunting. While only 19,800 acres were enrolled the first year, 1999 saw over 116,000 acres signed up. This nearly doubles the amount of land open to hunting without the need of separate permission. The program, with its atlas of lands enrolled, is quite popular with hunters and landowners alike.

Changes to other Habitat Program offerings – Plans and discussions took



off as the Habitat Partners section worked with existing partners like NRDS, NRCS, PF, USFWS and others to improve the effectiveness and delivery of numerous program offerings. A new umbrella program called Wild Nebraska is taking shape. It will address many of the functions of existing programs, like Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program, Shelterbelt Program, Food Plot Program, Roadside Seeding Program, CRP-MAP, WIP, Upland Habitat Initiative, Seasonal Habitat Improvement Program, etc. "Activities" will target specific habitat needs and allow for improved partnering opportunities with other governmental and non-governmental organizations.

1999 Program Highlights

- Wildlife Habitat Improvement Program (WHIP): 1,628 cooperators enrolled over 28,000 acres
- Shelterbelt Program: over 76 acres of shelterbelts established
- Food Plot Program: over 1,000 bags of seed distributed statewide
- Roadside Seeding Program: over 600 acres & 190 miles of roadsides seeded statewide
- Riparian Lands Joint Venture: over 179 acres enrolled
- CRP-Upland Habitat Initiative: 127 of the over 525 total contracts were implemented in 1999
- Technical Assistance: over 1,000 contacts made with landowners for habitat assistance

Improving Partnering efforts – The division continued to improve partnering relationships with other resource agencies. While the Wild Nebraska effort is achieving benefits in this regard, other activities like providing basic wildlife biological training to NRCS staff will contribute to better equipped professionals in the field. The division contributes to several NRCS positions directly involved with program and habitat improvement practice implementation.



EDUCATIONAL EFFORTS

An education component is intertwined among most of activities. A well-informed public is basic to support for Nebraska's wildlife and recreational resources. In cooperation with other divisions and/or other outside agency partnering efforts, wildlife staff were involved with various educational efforts:

- Waterfowl Youth Hunting
- Dove Youth Hunts
- Pheasant Youth Hunts
- Spring Migration Guide
- Present findings and gathered information at national meetings
- Conducted school and public service presentations
- Staffed fairs, sport shows and ag-days around the state to disseminate information
- Computer homepage development and enhancement

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