

1983

1983 Annual Report Nebraska Game and Parks Commission

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1983 ANNUAL REPORT



Nebraska
Game and Parks Commission

PURPOSE

Husbandry of state's wildlife, park and outdoor recreation resources in the best long-term interests of the people.

GOAL 1: To plan for and implement all policies and programs in an efficient and objective manner.

GOAL 2: To maintain a rich and diverse environment in the lands and waters of Nebraska.

GOAL 3: To provide outdoor recreation opportunities.

GOAL 4: To manage wildlife resources for maximum benefit of the people.

GOAL 5: To cultivate man's appreciation of his role in the world of nature.

Eugene T. Mahoney was appointed to a six-year term as director of the Game and Parks Commission, effective July 22, 1976. He was appointed to his second term which began April 22, 1982.



TABLE OF CONTENTS

Administration	5	Outdoor Education Division	34
Budget & Fiscal	7	Parks	36
Engineering	14	Planning & Programming	45
Fisheries Division	17	Realty	47
Information & Education	21	Resource Services	49
Law Enforcement	23	Wildlife	51
Operations and Construction	31		

NEBRASKA GAME AND PARKS COMMISSION

COMMISSIONERS

District I Charles E. Wright, Lincoln
District II. C. Mickey Skinner, Omaha
District III Dr. Tim Biga, Norfolk
District IV Earl Hultman, Sutton
District V. Richard Prasch, Lexington
District VI Neal Keller, Brewster
District VII Stan Juelfs, Kimball

DIRECTOR

Eugene T. Mahoney

ASSISTANT DIRECTORS

W. Rex Amack
William J. Bailey, Jr.
Dale R. Bree

DIVISION CHIEFS

Administration Larry Morris
Budget and Fiscal Lyle D. (Jack) Hanna
Engineering Frank Bunker
Fisheries Robert Thomas
Information and Education James MacAllister
Law Enforcement Don Schaepler
Operations and Construction Earl Johnson
Parks Charles Duncan
Planning and Programming Delvin M. Whiteley
Resource Services Harold K. Edwards
Wildlife Ken Johnson

ADMINISTRATION DIVISION

Administration provides support services for the various organizational units within the Commission through the following offices and functions: (1) Personnel, (2) Purchasing and Inventory, (3) Internal Audit, (4) In-service Training, (5) Aircraft Operations, (6) Word Processing, (7) Maintenance and the telephone switchboard of the central office buildings, and (8) staff assistants and secretarial and clerical personnel in the district offices. Assistance is also provided to the Director's office.

Personnel

Functions of Personnel include administration of payroll, worker's compensation, retirement, insurance, accident reports, performance evaluations, personnel records and preparation of personal services portion of the agency's operational budget.

The agency hired 25 new permanent employees in 1983 (19 of these were former temporary employees) and nine employees were promoted to higher positions. Total turnover for 1983 was 4.6% (19 employees).

Classification reviews by the State Department of Personnel resulted in ten position reclassifications.

Numerous letters on employment possibilities and career information were received and answered. Personnel also interviewed and tested many applicants throughout the year. Replies were given to personnel surveys regarding salaries, benefits, personnel turnover, positions, sex of employees and location of employees.

Personnel conferred with the Office of Risk Management on several Worker's Compensation cases. There were a total of 102 personal injury on-the-job accidents reported in 1983. Medical bills resulting from occupational injuries cost the State \$108,484.44 in 1983; Worker's Compensation paid to employees and/or dependents totalled \$240,511.86.

Game and Parks Commission employees were involved in 32 motor vehicle accidents.

PAYROLLS: Permanent — Total gross wages paid: \$7,341,320.34
Average number of employees per month: 411

Temporary — Total gross wages paid: \$2,049,499.73
Average number employees per payroll: 310
Largest payroll: 688
Smallest payroll: 54

In-Service Training

In-Service training is devoted to bettering present performance and to preparing employees for positions of higher responsibility. To achieve this purpose, training efforts are directed primarily to meeting specialized needs of individual staff members who enroll in a variety of short courses, seminars and workshops. Broad-based training needs are met through in-house workshops for groups of employees.

During the year, employees were enrolled in workshops, short courses and specialized college-level course work through the tuition assistance program. Examples of training include safety, animal ecology, economics, parasitology, biostatistics, horticulture, experimental design, entomology, computer science and a clerical seminar.

Aircraft Operations

The Super Cub airplane was flown a total of 229.05 hours during 1983. These hours consisted of 238.05 hours daytime flying and 9.00 hours nighttime flying.

There were 101 flights scheduled for the aircraft during 1983. Of this number of flights 21 were cancelled because of bad weather conditions.

The cost of operation of the aircraft for 1983 was \$6,293.95. This does not include depreciation and insurance. This averages out to \$26,435 per hour of operation.

The aircraft was used for various surveys, counts, antelope depredation complaints and fish and game law enforcement.

	Hours	Cost
90015 waterfowl survey	48.85	\$1,291.35
90015 deer survey	5.10	134.82
90015 antelope survey	64.15	1,695.81
90015 muskrat survey	1.85	48.90
70000 antelope depredation	8.70	229.98
1370-336-70000 whooping crane	.65	17.18
1370-336-70000 hawk and eagle survey	28.15	744.15
1370-336-70000 tern survey	3.60	95.17
11011 Fort Robinson (looked for sheep)	3.15	83.47
2332-59 checked drainage fisheries	4.80	126.89
2332-40 law enforcement	69.05	1,826.23

Purchasing and Inventory

Activities relating to purchasing and inventory include:

- (1) An aggressive program in inventory record keeping including up-to-date records on current purchases and undertaking of computerization of all purchases of equipment prior to July, 1976.
- (2) Control and records of service contracts with emphasis on monetary savings.
- (3) Streamlining of purchases of materials and supplies of value under \$300 to expedite field needs and reduce paper work.
- (4) Purchase of gasoline and diesel fuel in the Lincoln area. Instituted purchase of gasoline for the Lincoln bulk tank at trailer price, which is cheaper, rather than tank wagon price.
- (5) Increase in use of contracts developed by the Department of Administrative Services resulting in a monetary savings for purchase of those items under contract.
- (6) Increased emphasis on disposal of surplus property.
- (7) Worked toward better utilization of vehicles permanently leased from the Transportation Services Bureau.
- (8) Increased utilization of office supplies from Department of Administrative Services Central Stores.

BUDGET AND FISCAL DIVISION

The Budget and Fiscal Division includes four sections: (1) Permits, which encompasses the fiscal administration of issuing boating certificates, operating of the Customer Service Center in the Lincoln Headquarters Building, Accounts Receivable, and Permits Accounting Departments; (2) Fiscal Accounting, which prepares all voucher payments for the agency and maintains various files and reports connected with the fiscal accounting of all expenditures for the agency; (3) Audits and Cost Center Accounting, which encompasses audits of all political subdivisions and maintenance of Area Cost Center Expenditure Accounting; (4) Budget Section includes preparation and daily maintenance of the agency's budget and financial resources, including investment of funds.

Administration of all functions and duties of the division is performed by the Division Chief and his administrative staff.

Major functions of the Budget and Fiscal Division include: (1) maintaining all fiscal records in accordance with state and federal laws; (2) maintaining area cost accounting on income and expenditures for internal control of the Commission; (3) administering fiscal operation and control of federal programs; (4) administering the fiscal control of issuing State Boating Certificates; (5) issuing all hunting and fishing permits to vendor accounts; (6) receiving, depositing, and maintaining accounts receivable records on all funds received by the Commission; (7) preparing the Commission's annual budgets; (8) preparing and maintaining the Commission's fiscal and operating budgets; (9) performing audits of federal programs relating to participating subdivisions; (10) administering an internal program of forms control, including development of forms and defining their purpose, use and retention, and (11) performing other administrative functions as assigned by the Board of Commissioners, Director and/or Assistant Directors.

FINANCIAL STATEMENT

December 31, 1982 — Cash and General Fund Appropriations on Hand:

Game Cash (Fund No. 2332)		2,372,299.28
State Park Cash (Fund 2333)		1,297,879.13
Nebraska Habitat Cash (Fund 2334)		2,822,449.86
Niobrara State Park Special Cash (Fund 2336)		842,598.13
Nebraska Snowmobile Cash (Fund 2337)		40,012.69
NORDA Cash (Fund 2338)		1,558,971.70
Federal Fund 4332; includes Lands and Water Conservation Fund, Bureau of Reclamation (8972), Boating and Historical Grants		282,446.42
General Fund (Fund 1000)	3,278,681.70	
Less amount lapsed	36,045.12	3,242,636.58
Capital Construction (Fund 3000)		365,368.19

Total Cash and General Fund Appropriations on hand December 31, 1982

12,824,661.98

Cash Revenue and Appropriations Received During 1983:

Game Cash		7,921,997.67
Park Cash		3,121,192.16
Nebraska Habitat Cash		1,652,017.58
Niobrara State Park Special Cash		79,628.34
Nebraska Snowmobile Cash		14,961.84
NORDA Cash		1,836,907.70
Federal Fund 4332; includes Lands and Water Conservation Fund, Bureau of Reclamation (8972), Boating, Historical Grants, and Jobs Bill SBA		1,036,197.87
General Funds		5,806,026.00
Capital Construction Funds		400,000.00

Total Cash and General Fund Appropriations Received During 1983:

21,868,929.16

Total expended by Fund Type:

Game Cash	6,928,518.60
State Park Cash	2,845,793.85
Nebraska Habitat Cash	2,278,347.86
Niobrara State Park Special Cash	.00
Nebraska Snowmobile Cash	11,956.94
NORDA Cash	1,952,509.37
Federal Fund 4332, includes Lands and Water Conservation Fund, Bureau of Reclamation (8972), Boating, Historical Grants, and Jobs Bill SBA	1,195,334.15
General Funds	5,902,269.18
Capital Construction Funds	294,399.68

Total Expenditure During 1983: 21,409,129.63

December 31, 1983 Cash and General Fund Appropriation on hand:

Game Cash (Fund 2332)	3,365,778.35
Park Cash (Fund 2333)	1,573,277.44
Nebraska Habitat Cash (Fund 2334)	2,196,119.58
Niobrara State Park Special Cash (Fund 2336)	922,226.47
Nebraska Snowmobile Cash Fund (Fund 2337)	43,017.59
NORDA Cash (Fund 2338)	1,443,370.03
Federal Fund 4332, includes Land and Water Conservation Fund, Bureau of Reclamation (8972), Boating, and Historical Grants	123,310.14
General Funds (1000)	3,146,393.40
Capital Construction (Fund 3000)	470,968.51

Total Cash and General Fund Appropriations on hand December 31, 1983 13,284,461.51

STATE GAME FUND INCOME

Hunting Activities	3,264,185.50
Fishing Activities	2,304,820.00
Federal Reimbursement	1,143,388.61
NEBRASKAland Magazine	
Subscriptions	461,635.03
Advertising	22,587.98
	484,223.01
Calendars, books, slides, etc.	62,306.77
Sale of Surplus Property	79,373.36
Land Lease and Crop Income	127,499.78
Boating Permits	230,119.92
Incidentals	22,441.56
Liquidated and Property Damage	31,184.77
Interest Earned — Investments	279,303.88
Fund Transfers — Workman Comp. Claims	(107,034.50)
Cash Gifts	185.01

Total Game Cash Fund Income 7,921,997.67

STATE PARK CASH FUND INCOME

Park Entry Permits	1,106,217.00
Ice Fishing Shelters	185.00
Property Damage	925.25
Interest Earned — Investment	146,651.62
Camping Fees, Cabin Lots, etc.	382,791.22
Rent of Cabins	382,249.70
Concession Leases and Sales by Lessee	56,714.07
Incidentals	3,826.16
Swimming Pool Admission	55,231.32
Entrance Admission — Arbor Lodge	18,749.40
Rent of Recreation Equipment — Horses, Boats, etc.	152,178.24
Concession Sales, Leases and Agency facilities	93,323.26
Cafe — Fort Robinson	161,039.17
Cookouts — Chadron	3,848.66
Cafe — Platte River	196,138.76
Cash Gifts	343,245.12
Sale of Surplus Property	1,520.98
Federal Reimbursements	84,003.45
Fund Transfers — Workman Comp. Claims	(67,646.22)

Total Park Cash Fund Income

3,121,192.16

STATE PARK CASH FUND INCOME by Areas

Alexandria	116.00
Arbor Lodge	22,139.42
Ash Hollow	2,676.11
Box Butte	1,340.00
Branched Oak	33,032.04
Brownville	200.00
Buffalo Bill Ranch	7,135.83
Chadron	96,466.25
Champion	46.80
Enders	1,003.90
Fort Atkinson	515.85
Fort Hartsuff	1,463.66
Fort Kearny	4,244.14
Fort Robinson	507,336.24
Fremont	34,248.14
Indian Cave	14,042.35
Johnson Lake	40,746.53
Kearney County Recreation Area	9,151.00
Lake McConaughy	68,507.51
Lake Minatare	2,640.60
Lewis and Clark	3,276.49
Louisville	48,569.46
Medicine Creek	9,619.55
Memphis	228.28
Merritt Reservoir	3,532.64
Morman Island	16,914.25
Niobrara	36,149.25
Pawnee	14,169.66
Platte River	362,451.01
Ponca	89,407.93
Red Willow	4,692.25
Rock Creek Station	609.04
Sherman Reservoir	8,291.78
Swanson	6,484.37
Two Rivers	19,686.54
Victoria Springs	11,334.98
Windmill	22,040.78

Sub-Total by Areas

1,504,510.63

Federal Reimbursements	84,003.45	
Park Entry Permits	1,106,217.00	
Donations	343,245.12	
Other Non-Area Income, Interest, Fund Transfers to Workman Comp., Etc.	83,215.96	
Total State Park Cash Fund Income		3,121,192.16
SPECIAL CASH FUNDS		
NEBRASKA HABITAT CASH FUND		
Habitat Stamps 158,347	1,187,602.50	
Interest Earned — Investments	207,663.79	
Federal Reimbursements	240,908.44	
Incidentals	.00	
Cash Gifts	8,607.01	
Crop/Pasture	3,684.87	
Sale of Surplus Property	3,550.97	1,652,017.58
NIOBRARA STATE PARK SPECIAL CASH FUND		
Interest Earned — Investments	79,628.34	79,628.34
NEBRASKA SNOWMOBILE CASH FUND		
70% of fee, less issuing fee	10,717.55	
Interest Earned — Investments	4,244.29	14,961.84
NORDA CASH FUND		
One Cent Tax on Cigarettes	1,597,665.35	
Interest Earned — Investments	144,236.66	
Federal Reimbursement	97,530.72	
Sale of Surplus Property	614.18	
Fund Transfers — Workmen Comp. Claims, etc.	(3,139.21)	1,836,907.70
Land and Water Conservation Fund, Bureau of Reclamation, Historical Grants, and Boating		1,036,197.87
Total Cash Income Received During 1983		15,662,903.16
1983 EXPENDITURES		
PURPOSE OF EXPENDITURE — OPERATIONAL COSTS		
Program: 310, State Water Plan		
General Fund		1,438.05
Program: 330, Habitat Development		
Habitat Cash	1,416,979.46	1,416,979.46
Program: 336, Wildlife Conservation, Enforcement, Promotion and Development		
Subprogram 01, Enforcement		
General Fund	284,549.11	
Game Cash	1,435,580.96	
Park Cash	154,090.40	1,874,220.47
Subprogram 02, Information and Education		
General Fund	256,157.69	
Game Cash	1,195,317.19	
Park Cash	91,567.59	1,543,042.47

Subprogram 04, Game			
General Fund	124,949.31		
Game Cash	669,846.72	794,796.03	
Subprogram 05, Fish			
General Fund	191,014.16		
Game Cash	1,441,272.01	1,632,286.17	
Subprogram 06, Resource Services			
Game Cash	990,847.39	990,847.39	
Subprogram 10, Outdoor Recreation			
General Fund	.00		
Game Cash	175,709.13	175,709.13	
PROGRAM: 336 Summary			
General Fund		856,670.27	
Game Cash		5,908,573.40	
Park Cash		245,657.99	7,010,901.66
PROGRAM: 337, Agency Administration			
General Fund		381,771.67	
Game Cash		838,472.25	
Park Cash		245,074.62	
Habitat Cash		43,451.94	1,508,770.48
PROGRAM: 549, Park Administration			
General Fund		2,541,400.00	
Park Cash		1,320,724.58	
NORDA Cash		1,192,327.15	
Federal Funds — SBA		210,600.00	5,265,051.73
PROGRAM: 550, Federal Aid and Planning			
General Fund		241,627.41	
Game Cash Fund		94,586.00	336,213.41
PROGRAM: 617, Engineering, Area Maintenance and Snowmobile			
General Fund		1,879,361.78	
Game Cash		13,355.61	
Park Cash		509,702.63	
NORDA Cash		336,021.94	
Snowmobile Cash		11,956.94	2,750,398.90
PROGRAM: 628,, Credit Card Discount			
Game Cash		437.43	
Park Cash		1,722.81	2,160.24
TOTAL EXPENDITURES, OPERATIONAL COSTS			18,291,913.93

Area of Expenditure	3000 Capital Constr. Fund	2332 Game Cash Fund	2333 Park Cash Fund	2334 Habitat Cash Fund	2338 Norda Cash	4000 Federal Fund	Total
Acq. Habitat Land				800,841.75			800,841.75
Improvements and Renovation							
Jack Sinn Memorial				1,400.00			1,400.00
Pawnee Prairie				9,446.00			9,446.00
Twin Oaks				6,228.71			6,228.71
Chadron			6,119.00				6,119.00
Fort Robinson			6,800.00		5,772.17		12,572.17
Indian Cave					308,289.12	95,501.83	403,790.95
Platte River			230,844.31		12,954.66		243,798.97
Fort Atkinson					17,832.86		17,832.86
Rock Creek Station			41,945.13		2,993.81		44,938.94
Branched Oak			31,421.27			246,969.91	278,391.18
Dead Timber			17,372.56				17,372.56
Louisville			4,187.10				4,187.10
Johnson Lake			2,510.90				2,510.90
Lake McConaughy			19,496.04				19,496.04
Medicine Creek			7,258.60			6,917.07	14,175.67
Memphis			1,782.92				1,782.92
Pawnee					846.00		846.00
Pelican Point					16,452.02		16,452.02
Red Willow	55.52					38.15	93.67
Schramm	3,010.71				2,983.81	845.45	6,839.97
Sherman						1,365.00	1,365.00
Swanson						93.66	93.66
Two Rivers			153,173.39				153,173.39
Windmill					8,507.81		8,507.81
Rec. Areas, General					47,528.02		47,528.02
Canoe Sites, General		6,622.50					6,622.50
Alexandria		5,868.23					5,868.23
Arcadia		1,128.00					1,128.00
Big Alkali		4,100.00					4,100.00
Burchard Lake		4,417.08					4,417.08
Cornhusker		7,918.00					7,918.00
Elwood Reservoir		3,369.73					3,369.73
Gilbert Baker		2,540.00					2,540.00
Hedgefield		225.75					225.75
Kinter's Ford		1,698.80					1,698.80
Osage		5,678.68					5,678.68
Schilling		2,801.02					2,801.02
Schlagel Creek		1,441.44					1,441.44
Swan Creek		2,334.38					2,334.38
Twin Lakes		3,504.64					3,504.64
Wilson's Creek		1,098.55					1,098.55
Yankee Hill		2,601.44					2,601.44
Wildlife Mgmt. Areas, General		4,284.19					4,284.19
Alliance Dist. Office		7,921.63					7,921.63
North Platte District Office		3,077.00					3,077.00
Rock Creek Hatchery		462.85					462.85
Subtotal — Agency Projects	3,066.23	73,093.91	522,911.22	817,916.46	424,160.28	351,731.07	2,192,879.17
Political Subdivisions	291,333.45					633,003.08	924,336.53
TOTAL	294,399.68	73,093.91	522,911.22	817,916.46	424,160.28	984,734.15	3,117,215.70

ENGINEERING DIVISION

The Engineering Division is an "in-house" Architectural and Engineering service that provides professional, technical services to Agency Client Divisions, at their request for any and all proposed Capital Construction and improvement projects on Game and Parks Commission areas throughout the State.

The Division functions similar to an independent, private, professional consulting firm. The staff consists of professional Architects, Engineers, Surveyors, Inspectors and support staff that provide all services usually and customarily associated with those professions.

Typical activities include, but are not limited to: preparation of feasibility studies, preliminary designs, cost estimates, construction plans and specifications, and contract administration of all projects under construction. Related activities include legal land and topographic surveys, field inspections, preparation of formal presentation drawings, model buildings and miscellaneous drafting services.

The Engineering Division also acts as the Game and Parks Commission's representative when contracting the services of outside consultants for professional expertise, as required by the Commission. As a service to local municipalities, projects funded by the Heritage Conservation Recreation Service through the Game and Parks Commission Planning and Programming Division are reviewed by the Engineering Division for compliance with local and State codes and statutory regulations for funding authority.

A brief summary of 1983 projects in which the Engineering Division was involved, listed by area, includes:

ALEXANDRIA WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: Existing terraces were reshaped.

ARBOR LODGE STATE HISTORICAL PARK: A feasibility study was undertaken and a preliminary design prepared for a Greenhouse.

BRANCHED OAK STATE RECREATION AREA: Existing roads were reshaped and finished with asphalt surfacing and over 100 camper pads were provided with electrical hookups.

BRIDGEPORT STATE RECREATION AREA: Existing contaminated water well was replaced with a new potable well.

BLUE WING WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: Property was surveyed for permanent boundaries and marked.

BESSEY RANGER DISTRICT, NEBRASKA NATIONAL FOREST: Additional wildlife watering wells with windmills were constructed.

CALAMUS RESERVOIR: Planning for the construction of recreational facilities at the new reservoir were undertaken, as well as preliminary sketch designs for a possible new fish hatchery at the base of the dam.

CENTRAL OFFICE: Minor repairs to the asphalt driveways and parking lots were conducted and miscellaneous energy improvement studies were undertaken.

CHALKMINE STATE WAYSIDE AREA: Engineering conducted a study to determine the structural stability of the mine.

CORNHUSKER FARM WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: Some electrical improvements were accomplished on the area residence.

DEAD TIMER STATE RECREATION AREA: Existing camper pads were provided with electrical hookups and additional area lights were installed along with miscellaneous electrical improvements.

FORT ROBINSON STATE PARK: A park shelter was provided with an electrical system and lights. A study was conducted to raise the height of the dam for increased water storage on Gilbert Baker Pond.

HALL COUNTY: A survey locating section corners near Commission property was undertaken.

HICKORY RIDGE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: Existing terraces were reshaped and a water diversion outlet structure was built.

INDIAN CAVE STATE PARK: Engineering awarded a contract through their consultant, The Schemmer Associates, Inc., for new campground support facilities. Some minor improvements to the park water treatment plant were undertaken.

LEWIS AND CLARK STATE RECREATION AREA: Engineering did a study to determine if the existing electrical system was sufficient for the Weigand well.

MORMON ISLAND STATE WAYSIDE AREA: A feasibility study to improve the park road system was conducted.

NIOBRARA STATE PARK: Preliminary planning for the new park's utility system was initiated.

NORTH PLATTE DISTRICT OFFICE: Shop doors were replaced with new steel overhead doors.

OAK GLEN WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: A survey to establish permanent boundary markers was undertaken.

OSAGE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: A legal survey to establish boundaries of an area addition was accomplished. Engineering also reviewed proposals for basement wall repairs in the North residence and the construction of a new garage.

PAWNEE STATE RECREATION AREA: An area light was installed at the Northeast boat ramp and swimming beach parking areas.

PLATTE RIVER STATE PARK: This area continues to be a center for construction activity and improvements. During 1983 the water system was improved and expanded to tent camping areas; Owen Landing was remodeled to improve the function and traffic flow; numerous buildings were equipped with new gutters and downspouts; Mallet Lodge was improved with carpeting on the main floor; some new equipment was purchased and installed in the Scott Lodge kitchen; a wood frame fence was designed and built to enclose the maintenance area; the Stable was improved by additional flat concrete work; and a study for additional flood protection at the river well was undertaken.

PLATTE VALLEY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: A legal survey to assist in land trade was accomplished.

ROCK CREEK STATE HISTORICAL PARK: Engineering Division Architects prepared preliminary designs for a Visitor Center.

ROCK CREEK HATCHERY: A preliminary plan for improvements to the Hatchery aeration facility was prepared.

SCHILLING WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA: Engineering initiated services of a consulting hydrologist to study drainage problems and provide estimate of costs.

TWO RIVERS STATE RECREATION AREA: Staff Engineers contracted the asphalt resurfacing of existing park roads and prepared plans and specifications for the remodeling of the Administration Building.

WILDMILL STATE WAYSIDE AREA: The existing water system was improved and a new irrigation system was built. A new hot water heater was specified and installed in the shower building.

Renovation and energy improvements on Capital Facilities under the Building Renewal Act (L.B. 309) has continued during 1983. Projects undertaken and/or completed include repairs to the Alliance District Office; restoration and reconstruction of the garden walls at Arbor Lodge S.H.P.; complete repair of the Branched Oak S.R.A. Superintendent's Residence; shingle and basement repairs on Buffalo Bill Ranch S.H.P. at North Platte; and complete restoration and repair of the old Champion Mill building near Imperial, Nebraska.

Other Game and Parks Commission areas utilizing L.B. 309 funds for repair and renovation included Fort Hartsuff S.H.P. and Fort Robinson S.P., where the Post Playhouse was completely rewired and Brick No. 16 benefited from some minor roof repairs. Both Fremont and Johnson Lake S.R.A.'s had repairs completed on various buildings, while the Lincoln Headquarters Building received funding and saw a project involving energy improvements for the connecting bridge between Buildings "A" and "B".

FISHERIES DIVISION

Fisheries Division is responsible for maintenance, development and regulations on use of renewable fisheries resources through its five sections: administration, management, production, research, and the aquarium center.

The administration section plans, organizes, directs, and controls approved programs, policies and operational procedures of the Division. Special permits issued during 1983 include: Missouri River Commercial Fishing, 165; Bait Vendors, 252; Non-Resident Fish Dealers, 7; Commercial Put & Take, 4; Private Fish Culturist, 24.

Fish Population Surveys

Fish population surveys on lakes and streams were conducted on many waters across the state during 1983. Those waters included:

District I

University Lake, Sioux County; Box Butte Reservoir, Dawes County; Kilpatrick Lake, Box Butte County; Island Lake — Crescent Lake (NWR), Garden County; Fort Robinson State Park Ponds, Dawes County; Kimball Reservoir (Oliver Reservoir, Kimball County, NW Bridgeport Pit, Morrill County; Smith Lake, Sheridan County; Lake Minatare, Scotts Bluff County; Blue Lake, Crescent Lake NWR, Garden County; Cochran Lake, Scotts Bluff County; Agate Pond, Sioux County; Isham Reservoir, Sheridan County; Walgren Lake, Sheridan County; White Clay Creek, Sheridan County; Otter-Clear-Lonergan Creeks, Keith County; Nine Mile Creek, Scotts Bluff County.

District II

Hackberry Lake, Cherry County; Pelican Lake, Cherry County; Dads Mule-Punchbowl Lakes, Cherry County; Dewey Lake, Cherry County; Victoria Springs, Custer County; Melham Lake, Custer County; Hull Lake, Boyd County; Cub Creek Reservoir, Keya Paha County; Merritt Reservoir, Cherry County; Long Pine Creek, Brown County; Oak Creek, Rock County; Gracie Creek, Loup County; Plum Creek, Brown County; Snake River, Cherry County.

District III

Maskenthine, Stanton County; Dept. of Roads Pond, Nance County; Grove Lake, Knox County; Fremont SRA No. 2 - No. 20W Dodge County; Fremont Anglers Club, Dodge County; Buckskin Hills, Dixon County; Vulcraft Corp. Pond, Madison County; Sigma Farms Lake, Platte County; Summit Reservoir, Burt County; Schuyler City Lake, Colfax County; Missouri River.

District IV

Lake Ogallala, Keith County; Wellfleet Lake, Lincoln County; Sherman Reservoir, Sherman County; Arnold State Lake, Custer County; Rock Creek Lake, Dundy County; Interstate Lakes, Lincoln-Dawson-Buffalo Counties; Sutherland Reservoir, Lincoln County; Lake Maloney, Lincoln County; Johnson Lake, Gosper County; Harlan Reservoir, Harlan County; Swanson Reservoir, Hitchcock County; Red Willow Reservoir, Frontier County; Medicine Creek Reservoir, Frontier County; Enders Reservoir, Chase County; Otter Creek, Keith County; Lonergan Creek, Keith County.

District V

Wagon Train Lake, Lancaster County; Stagecoach Lake, Lancaster County; Yankee Hill Lake, Lancaster County; Conestoga Lake, Seward County; Cottontail Lake, Lancaster County; Meadowlark Lake, Lancaster County; Buckley Lake 3F, Jefferson County; Cub Creek Lake 9B, Jefferson County; Merganser, Lancaster County; Red Cedar, Saunders County; Wilson 2X, Otoe County; Clatonia 3A, Gage County; Glen Cunningham Lake, Douglas County; Standing Bear Lake, Douglas County; North and South Diamond Lakes, Gage County; Big Indian 11A, Gage County; Campbell-Fiala Pond, Seward County; Jenny Newman Lake, Cass County; Pawnee Prairie Pond, Pawnee County; Defrain Pond, Jefferson County; Biba Pond, Fillmore County.

Renovations

During 1983 the Fisheries Division completed renovation of eight state-owned bodies of water and several farm ponds across the state.

Habitat Improvement

Habitat improvement work was done at 13 lakes across the state. This included working with interested groups to place discarded Christmas trees, cedar trees, discarded vehicle tires and aeration systems in various lakes.

Fish Tagging

Fish tagging programs were continued across the state to help determine population estimates, harvest estimates and growth rates. This year the program involved tagging Lake McConaughy strain rainbow trout and walleye.

Fish Stockings

A total of 7,347,699 fish were stocked in state waters during 1983.

District I: 416,516 fish + 93 gallons of crayfish + 3 gallons of minnows; District II: 506,249 fish + 3 introductions of glass shrimp, crayfish and bullfrog tadpoles; District III: 3,886,420 fish + 32 gallons of minnows + 10,000 bullfrog tadpoles; District IV: 809,154 + 95 gallons of minnows + 290 gallons of crayfish + 13,032 bullfrog tadpoles; District V: 1,729,360 fish.

Aquatic Vegetation Control

Efforts were made to control aquatic vegetation in several waters across the state during 1983. Among these waters were: Chadron State Park Pond, Cherry Creek Pond, Ice House Diversion Pond, Kimball Reservoir, Pibel Lake, Rock Creek State Lake, Esther Newman Lake at Platte River State Park, Two Rivers Carp Lake.

Two Rivers

Two Rivers Trout Lake near Venice was once again in operation throughout 1983. The put-and-take fee fishing facility was open a total of 168 days and provided a total of 77,491 hours of fishing for visitors. There were 146,748 rainbow trout stocked during the year and 99,169 were recorded harvested by fishermen. There were a total of 31,295 fishing tags sold at Two Rivers during 1983.

FISH PRODUCTION SECTION

The fish production section is primarily responsible for producing and/or procuring fish to stock Nebraska's waters under current management. The program goal is to provide the species, numbers and sizes of fish requested for stocking by the management and research sections. During 1983, five production facilities were operated with 19 permanent employees assisted by seasonal temporary people. All installations function as public use facilities and receive considerable visitation. School groups are very noticeable during the spring.

Cold water production space is largely devoted to the Two Rivers catchable trout program. A total of 151,450 (69,029 lbs.) rainbow trout were used in this single program. Remaining trout production consisted of maintaining a McConaughy rainbow variety broodstock, wild trout egg production, and McConaughy variety supplemental stocks. Domestic trout production utilized Boulder, Wigwam, and DeSmet varieties of rainbow procured as eggs from the state of Wyoming.

Warmwater production was again excellent for most species in 1983. The development of techniques for intensive culture of largemouth bass, tiger musky, and threadfin shad were continued through 1983. Continued interest in these programs will surely dictate additional efforts in 1984.

No major capital development projects were started in 1983. However, initial discussions and negotiations were begun relative to the cooperative transfer of Crawford National Fish Hatchery operations to the state of Nebraska, planned for July 1, 1984.

Fish Reared and Stocked by Nebraska Hatcheries

Species	Fry	Fingerling	Intermediate	Adult
McConaughy Rainbow Trout		131,410	58,100	
Domestic Rainbow Trout		69,854	74,000	63,439
Northern Pike	2,500,000	84,200		
Walleye		929,902	87,001	
Smallmouth Bass		25,102		
Largemouth Bass		301,656	34,621	
Bluegill		1,044,975		100
Channel Catfish		172,584	131,233	
Blue Catfish		273,072		
Muskelunge		16,452	2,686	
Tiger Musky		14,014	4,275	
Hybrid Stripper		386		
Rock Bass		49,983		
Redear Sun Fish		53,000		
Glass Shrimp		200,000		
Minnnows		354,000		

Fish Received From Other States and Federal Hatcheries for Rearing or Stocking

Species	Eggs/Fry	Fingerling	Intermed	Adult	Source
White Amur	200,000				Arkansas
Hybrid Amur	200,000				Florida
Hybrid Stripers	140,000				Kansas
Channel Catfish	522,000				Oklahoma
Blue Catfish	559,000				Texas
Tiger Musky	67,000				Iowa
Domestic Rainbow Trout	453,955				Wyoming
Domestic Rainbow Trout				13,920	Crawford NFH
Brown Trout		13,700		38,834	Crawford
Brook Trout			3,350	2,736	Crawford
Walleye		545,200			Gavins Point NFH
Blue Catfish		156,655 (fry from Texas)			Gavins Point NFH
Bluegill		390,600			Gavins Point NFH
Threadfin Shad				15,000	Illinois
Redear Sunfish		220,000			Illinois
Spottail shiners				8,000	South Dakota

Fish Transferred to Other Agencies

Species	Egg/Fry	Fingerling	Intermediate	Adult	Destination
McConaughy Rainbow Trout	125,758		1,200		Wyoming
McConaughy Rainbow Trout	53,041				Virginia
Walleye	10,000,000				Illinois
Walleye	5,000,000				Texas
Walleye	1,000,000				Florida
Walleye	20,000,000(green)				Gavins Point NFH
Channel Catfish		226,186			Wyoming
Northern Pike	9,000,000				Gavins Point NFH
White Amur			11,144		Colorado
White Amur			4,350		Kansas
Channel Catfish		23,000			Kansas
Brook Silversides				500	Wyoming
Gizzard Shad				1,450	Wyoming

INFORMATION AND EDUCATION DIVISION

Information and Education has three basic purposes: (1) to communicate with both internal and external publics, (2) to develop reciprocal understanding and goodwill with all publics regarding appreciation and utilization of the state's natural resources, and (3) to provide informational, educational, and support services for Commission activities to carry out these goals, the division had field representatives stationed at three district offices and maintained a metro office in Omaha in addition to the central office staff.

Lincoln Office

Carrying on a vital news program is an important function of the division. Releases were geared to local usage on an "affected" area basis, plus statewide, all-media releases on items of statewide interest. Numerous personal appearance programs were presented.

The Art Section provided illustrations for a wide range of purposes, with about 50 percent of its time devoted to artwork and layout for NEBRASKAland Magazine. This includes about three major pieces of art per month, plus several small illustrations, as well as supervising the complete format of the magazine through all stages of production. The section is also responsible for design of other Commission brochures and pamphlets, and illustrations for slide shows and television productions. The staff painted showcards, designed booths and signs for use at the State Fair and other events requiring display materials.

During the year, Publications wrote, edited and supervised production of a variety of pamphlets and brochures for other divisions and I & E use, as well as handling dissemination of news. Some of these publications are done annually, such as the hunting, boating, and fishing guides. Others are revised, updated, and reprinted as needed, and still others are one-time publications.

The Commission again published the NEBRASKAland Calendar of Color under an agreement with Colonial Press of Omaha, which provided for that company to print and distribute the calendars and pay a royalty to the Commission.

NEBRASKAland Magazine published 11 super issues in 1983. The combined January-February issue was a 148-page special on "Nebraska's Rivers", which featured the state's 14 most noteworthy rivers and detailed their importance to people, animals and aquatic life. Some of the subjects included in other issues were hunting, fishing, many wildlife species and various areas across the state. Subscriptions continued to increase and print orders averaged over 63,000 per month. In addition, advertising revenue totaled about \$12,000.

The Printing Section handles the printing of all Commission materials that are not done commercially, plus running labels for mailing lists retained on the addressograph. During 1983 this section ran close to 1,150 jobs, requiring over 10.5 million sheets of paper.

The Mail Section handled 223,465 pieces of mail during 1983, and postage amounted to \$60,234.26 plus \$11,000.92 for 101,130 pieces of bulk mail. In the interest of speed and economy, the division used the United Postal Service. UPS charges were \$18,098.61 for 11,947 pieces.

In 1983 some 1,908 black and white photo exposures and 49,888 color exposures were made. In addition to NEBRASKAland, they were used to illustrate various Commission publications and slide series and for requests for illustrative materials received from numerous firms in the public relations and publishing fields. Some 1,925 rolls of film were processed and 848 prints made ranging from contact size to 11 x 14.

In its 29th year, the Outdoor Nebraska weekly radio program was broadcast on an average of 41 radio stations in Nebraska, Iowa and Kansas. The 15-minute program features interviews with Commission staff and other specialists, emphasizing the need for public awareness of the changing environment and important conservation management principles.

The television and film unit produced spot TV and radio announcements which aired on stations across the state. Various types of film were also furnished to the Omaha and North Platte offices for

personnel there who did broadcasts over their local stations. The division also presented a weekly "Outdoor Nebraska" TV Show on the ETV network.

Other major efforts included the "Know Nebraska Tours" co-sponsored by the Omaha World Herald and displays at the Nebraska State Fair, selected county fairs across the state, various sports shows, and presented programs on Commission-related subjects for a variety of groups and organizations.

LAW ENFORCEMENT

The responsibilities of the Law Enforcement Division and its Conservation Officers are many and varied. Most persons are of the opinion that obtaining compliance with the laws and regulations pertaining to the management, protection and use of wildlife summarize the duties of the Conservation Officers, however, this is only the beginning. In some aspects, "people management" has reached such proportions that in many eyes this is the primary duty. The observance and watchfulness of the conduct, safety and welfare of human beings engaged in the activities pertaining to wildlife, boating or using the areas and facilities provided in the state park system are basic and are all a part of the officers daily routine. However, many of the participants of these outdoor activities need protection against themselves and in many instances they have to be protected from those individuals who have activities.

Conservation Officers are also called upon by other law enforcement agencies to assist in the investigation and/or apprehension of subjects involved in various unlawful acts. In addition to the law enforcement activities the operation of the Department two-way radio communications system is also a function of this Division.

Additional responsibilities of the Conservation Officer require him to perform many duties which are of a non-enforcement nature, especially those of an educational or informational nature in which he can assist both youth and adults — it is through these outlets and programs that the major portion of the fishing, hunting, boating and outdoor public is served. Officers conduct and take part in teaching boating and hunter safety courses and in programs for sportsmen groups, youth groups, churches, school, civic organizations, radio and television programs, exhibits at fairs, various community functions, and sports and vacation shows. During 1983 Officers presided at 460 meetings and various groups in addition to taking part in the numerous sports, home and travel shows, fairs, radio and television shows. Officers also make or assist in making investigations and surveys concerning populations of wildlife, the management of fish, game, game animals, game birds, migratory birds, other species of wildlife, the stocking or transplanting of fish and game and pollution problems. As a part of their field activities Officers contacted and checked 30,237 hunters, 61,183 fishermen, 704 trappers, they inspected 19,082 boats, 61,630 miscellaneous contacts were made the majority of which were on our State Park areas and 3,482 complaints were investigated.

During 1983 the Law Enforcement Division had a maximum compliment of 58 Conservation Officers, consisting of 1 Division Chief, 1 Assistant Chief, 6 District Supervisors and 50 Officers. Personnel Changes were as follows:

February 15, 1983	James Newcome terminated employment.
May, 1983	A. Raymond Frandsen transferred from Sidney to Lexington.
May 2, 1983	William Krause was employed and stationed in Auburn.
May 16, 1983	R. Scott Brandt was employed and stationed in Kimball
August 31, 1983	N.J. Kampsnider retired.
October 15, 1983	Ben Rutten transferred from Resource Services Division and was stationed in Hastings, NE.

Officers drove a total of 1,431,561 miles in their patrol vehicles. The average mileage per gallon of gasoline for the total miles driven was 13.53 per gallon of gasoline. The average cost per mile of vehicle operation was 11.48 cents per mile — this figure represents all fuel, oil, grease, tires, services, repairs and special equipment.

A total of 4,829 arrests were made during 1983 compared to 5,343 arrests made in 1982. There were 5,173 offenses. Of the total number of arrests 4,675 were found guilty by the courts. The conviction percentage of the total number of arrests and citations issued is 96.81 percent and the conviction percentage for the total number of arrests actually brought to trial is 99.73 percent. These percentages not only reflect the high efficiency on the part of the Officers, but also shows the excellent cooperation of Nebraska's prosecutors and courts.

Officers operated snowmobiles a total of 757 miles. The average mileage per gallon of gasoline for the total miles driven was 5.20 per gallon of gasoline. The average cost per mile of snowmobile operation was 1.25 cents per mile.

OPERATION GAME THIEF REPORT

During 1983 an additional forty-eight (48) O.G.T. investigations were initiated and resulted in twenty-eight (28) additional arrests and \$2,307.00 in fines and costs and \$4,950 in liquidated damages. These additions brought the O.G.T. totals at the end of 1983 to:

100 investigations initiated
 47 investigations resulting in arrests
 63 total arrests consisting of 35 deer cases, 1 turkey case,
 11 upland game cases, 7 furbearer cases, 5 waterfowl cases
 and 1 fish case (3 valid cases dismissed).

\$5,191.00 in fines and costs
 \$10,665.00 in liquidated damages returned to the Game Fund

\$3,200 in rewards had been paid by the end of 1983 on twelve (12) big game cases, one (1) small game case and two (2) furbearer cases. There were an additional ten (10) reward payments pending.

Operation Game Thief has proved to be an excellent program that functions well. Information has been provided on cases that would not have been solved otherwise and, although half of the informants don't want a reward, the added incentive of the reward has definitely contributed to this.

The end of 1983 saw an accelerated promotional effort for Operation Game Thief and, as more people are made aware of it, we can expect interest in and results from the program to increase.

VIOLATIONS BY CATEGORY

Small Game	
Hunting with aid of artificial light	
from or attached to a vehicle	22
Loaded shotgun in or on a vehicle	272
Hunting, without a permit	105
Hunting in closed season	41
Hunting without a habitat stamp	72
No sex or species identification	52
Hunting or shooting from a public road	37
Hunting without permission/trespassing	43
Overbag limit of game	23
Accessory to game violation	6
Nonresident in possession of resident hunting permit	3
Shooting game birds with rifle	1
No pet/game farm/fur buyer permit	1
Hunting from a vehicle	6
Illegal possession of game animals	4
False information to obtain a permit	1
Failure to display permit	1
No hunter safety card	1
Wanton waste	3
Use of illegal weapon / device	1
Failure to appear	2
Fleeing to avoid arrest	1
False information to an officer	2
Hunting within 200 yards of a dwelling	4
	704

Migratory Birds	
Loaded shotgun in or on a vehicle	10
Hunting without a permit	16
Hunting in closed season	28
Hunting without a habitat stamp	26
No sex or species identification	4
Hunting or shooting from a public road	9
Hunting without permission/trespassing	7
Hunting waterfowl with unplugged shotgun	40
Hunting waterfowl without a migratory waterfowl stamp	33
Overbag limit of birds	14
Accessory to violation	1
Using lead shot in a steel shot zone	6
Taking protected species	3
Hunting in an illegal or closed area	4
Shooting game birds with a rifle	2
Hunting from a vehicle	6
Illegal possession of game birds	5
Possession of protected nongame birds	6
Use of illegal weapon / devices	1
Selling game	1
	222
Antelope	
Hunting in closed season	1
Hunting without a habitat stamp	3
Overbag limit of game	1
Insufficient or no hunter orange	2
Wanton waste	1
Failure to appear	1
	9
Deer;	
Hunting with artificial light from vehicle	14
Loaded shotgun in vehicle	1
Hunting without a permit	10
Hunting in closed season	22
Hunting without a habitat stamp	26
Hunting or shooting from a public road	10
Hunting without permission/trespassing	22
Overbag limit of game	4
Accessory to game violation	3
Hunting in an illegal or closed area	6
Illegal possession of game animal	17
False information to obtain permit	2
Borrowing or loaning a permit	7
Insufficient or no hunter orange	12
Failure to tag game	32
Checking game in wrong unit	1
Failure to check game	12
Hunting with a high power rifle during deer season w/o deer permit	6
Failure to cancel permit	3
Use of illegal weapon/devices	1
Apply for and obtain more than two archery/rifle permits	3
False information to an officer	1
Miscellaneous	2
	217

Turkey	
Loaded shotgun in or on a vehicle	17
Hunting without a permit	4
Hunting in closed season	7
Hunting without a habitat stamp	2
Hunting or shooting from a public road	1
Hunting without permission/trespassing	11
Overbag limit of game	6
Accessory to game law violation	2
Hunting in an illegal or closed area	6
Illegal possession of game	1
Failure to tag game	8
Checking game in wrong unit	2
Failure to check game	3
	70
Furbearers	
Hunting with aid of artificial light from or attached to a vehicle	79
Loaded shotgun in or on a vehicle	2
Trapping without a permit	36
Trapping in closed season	15
Trapping without a habitat stamp	8
Trapping without permission/trespassing	3
Accessory to game law violation	2
No pet/game Farm/fur buyer permit	5
Illegal possession of game	2
Illegal bait sets	2
Incomplete or no fur or game records	3
Use of illegal weapons/devices	3
Failure to appear	1
Fleeing to avoid arrest	1
Hunting within 200 yards of dwelling	1
	163
Fish & Bullfrogs	
Fishing without a permit	777
Fishing without permission/trespassing	8
Overbag limit	49
Accessory to fish violation	1
Nonresident fishing on resident permit	5
Fishing in an illegal or closed area	1
Shooting fish with rifle	1
Failure to display permit	1
Illegal use of traps	1
Use of illegal weapons/devices	17
Possession of illegal size game fish	36
Illegal number or type of hook and/or line	35
Snagging fish	10
Seining in closed area	3
Failure to appear	3
False information to an officer	3
Miscellaneous	9
	960

Boating	
Improperly equipped vessel	436
Speeding or causing excessive wake or skiing in restricted area	31
No boat registration/symbols/improper registration, etc.	119
Failure to wear life jacket below Gavins Point Dam	13
Towing skier without mirror or observer	21
No life jacket on child under 12	5
No lights on boat after sundown	13
Skiing without a life jacket	3
Boating in a restricted area	4
Failure to stow ski rope	1
Reckless operation of boat	2
Entering unauthorized area	1
Failure to appear	2
Miscellaneous	1
	652

Traffic	
No registration/no or expired license plates or inspection sticker	5
No drivers license	3
Failure to stop at a stop sign	1
Driving while on suspension	2
	11

Parks	
Shooting from a public road	1
No park entry sticker	1,636
Entering, driving or swimming in an unauthorized area	189
Littering	49
Drinking alcoholic beverages on state property	47
Minor in possession of alcoholic beverages	47
Speeding, careless or reckless driving of a vehicle	10
No registration/no or expired license plates or inspection sticker	8
Pets on beach or at large in a state park	12
Possession of a controlled substance	17
Failure to appear	7
Destruction of state property	2
No drivers license	2
Criminal or malicious mischief	1
False information to an officer	1
Driving while intoxicated	2
Procuring alcoholic beverage for a minor	5
Disturbing the peace	3
Failure to stop at a stop sign	1
Indecent exposure	7
Unauthorized camp fire	6
Miscellaneous	3
	2056

Snowmobilers	
Hunting from a snowmobile	1
No snowmobile registration/symbols/improper registration/etc.	33
Carry uncased firearm on a snowmobile	5
	39

Miscellaneous	
Hunting or shooting from a public road	3
Trespassing	1
Use of illegal weapon/devices	3
Entering, driving or swimming in unauthorized area	1
Littering	25
Minor in possession of alcoholic beverage	6
Possession of a controlled substance	10
Failure to appear	3
No drivers license	1
Criminal or malicious mischief	1
False information to an officer	1
Driving while intoxicated	1
Procuring alcoholic beverage for a minor	1
Failure to stop at a stop sign	1
Obstructing an officer	1
Contributing to the delinquency of a minor	2
Driving while on suspension	1
Miscellaneous	2
	65
Miscellaneous Big Game	
Holding bobcat after legal possession time	1
Miscellaneous	1
	2
Nongame-Birds	
Taking protected species	1
Possession of protected nongame animals	2
	3
STATEWIDE TOTALS	5,173

1983 STATEWIDE SUMMARY

Small game	704
Migratory birds	222
Antelope	9
Deer	217
Turkey	70
Furbearers	163
Fish & bullfrogs	960
Boating	652
Traffic	11
Parks	2,056
Snowmobile	39
Miscellaneous	65
Miscellaneous big game	2
Nongame birds	3
	5,173

	1977	1978	1979	1980	1981	1982	1983
Total Fines	\$ 85,761.00	\$ 97,495.00	\$128,725.00	\$166,372.00	\$176,791.50	\$178,668.00	\$159,750.00
Total Costs	\$ 26,553.52	\$ 24,071.77	\$ 26,632.74	\$ 43,178.94	\$ 47,239.23	\$ 81,623.48	\$ 88,450.03
Total Liq. Dam.	\$ 17,890.00	\$ 20,715.00	\$ 17,420.00	\$ 26,255.00	\$ 22,377.00	\$ 25,416.66	\$ 31,796.97
Grand Totals	\$130,204.52	\$142,281.77	\$172,777.74	\$235,805.94	\$246,407.73	\$285,708.14	\$279,997.00

Arrests Issued	3379	2954	3230	5405	5324	5343	4829
Not Guilty**	7	10	12	34	40	13	15
Cases Dismissed	58	73	98	67	74	118	119
No Complaint Filed	39	9	19	37	57	43	13
Total Convictions:	3275	2862	3101	5267	5153	5169	4682

Year	Total Arrests & Summons Issued	Total Convictions	Percentage of Total Arrests
1963	2000	1943	97.15
1964	1943	1904	97.99
1965	1921	1897	98.82
1966	1971	1930	97.91
1967	1799	1768	98.27
1968	1767	1743	98.64
1969	1909	1859	97.38
1970	2520	2492	98.89
1971	2642	2580	97.65
1972	2735	2702	98.79
1973	2491	2418	97.07
1974	3130	3048	97.38
1975	3220	3152	97.89
1976	3314	3233	97.56
1977	3379	3275	96.92
1978	2954	2862	96.81
1979	3230	3101	96.00
1980	5405	5267	97.45
1981	5324	5153	96.79
1982	5343	5169	96.74
1983	4829	4675	96.81

1983 OPERATION COSTS FOR THE AGENCY RADIO COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

The following are costs for the operation of the statewide agency radio communication system. The system consists of a network of bases and mobile repeaters which allow radio communications between district offices, from mobiles to offices and from mobile to mobile. The costs below do not include individual division costs for operation or replacement of mobile radio equipment.

Base/repeater maintenance contract with Mid-Nebraska Systems	\$10,010.55
Base/repeater maintenance contract with Shaffer Communications	\$ 995.50
Other base/repeater service and repairs not covered by contract	\$ 4,773.51
*UHF radio control link between Lincoln Office and Beaver Crossing tower	\$10,014.93

SUB TOTAL \$25,794.49

Tower and antenna service/repair by Altus Enterprise, Inc. (at contract rates)	\$ 4,277.85	
Other tower and antenna service/repair	\$ 63.00	
Telephone line rent and electricity to tower sites	\$ 2,488.92	
Tower rental for coax, antennas and equipment space	\$10,315.00	
SUB TOTAL		\$17,144.77
Total cost for operation of agency radio system		\$42,939.26

The UHF control link (*) was purchased (under budget authority) to replace telephone lines between the two sites with the dual purpose of reducing long term costs and lincreasing reliability of this important communications link. Other such improvements should be considered for the near future. The agency radio system is at a point where major unpredictable expenditures may be required to replace antennas and coax or to purchase equipment to limit interference. Actual relocation of transmitters may be necessary in some cases to maintain a useable link or relay.

1983 COSTS FOR OPERATION OF LAW ENFORCEMENT DIVISION MOBILE RADIOS & EMERGENCY VEHICLE EQUIPMENT

These costs do not include purchase of new or replacement equipment as authorized in the division budget.

Mobile radio and emergency equipment reparis and maintenance (including PA/sirens, scanners & red lights)	\$ 4,103.55	
Installation and removals of mobile radios and emergency equipment (including PA/sirens, scanners & red lights)	\$ 4,235.45	
Total division cost for repair/maintenance and transfer of mobile radios and emergency equipment		\$ 8,339.00

OPERATIONS AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION

The Operations and Construction Division is responsible for providing the necessary personnel and equipment to assist other agency divisions with maintenance, construction, engineering and transportation services.

Division organization is divided into three sections with basic responsibility described as follows:

Maintenance: The Lincoln Maintenance Section provided daily supervision and maintenance to seven Salt Valley Areas — Branched Oak, Pawnee, Conestoga, Bluestem, Olive Creek, Stagecoach, Wagon Train; and three District V Recreation Areas — Alexandria, Rockford, Memphis; and five Wayside Areas — Blue River, Blue Valley, Crosstrails, Little Nemaha, and Pioneer.

By legislative action, all of the above wayside areas with the exception of Blue River were transferred to the Department of Roads. Therefore 1983 is the last year for maintenance activity on these areas. Blue River has been redesignated as a recreation area and will remain as a Game and Parks Commission facility area. In addition to these recreation and wayside areas, refuse pickup and latrine cleaning were provided at Wildwood Twin Lakes, Yankee Hill, Killdeer, Hedgefield, and Branched Oak Wildlife Areas. Employees of the Lincoln Maintenance Section worked many hours of overtime, much of it night time and weekend duty, to maintain an excellent level of quality at our facilities for the visiting public.

Construction: The Construction Section provided equipment operators, carpenters, plumbers, electricians, and concrete finishers to build and repair numerous projects at agency areas. Road maintenance responsibilities are assigned to this section also, with personnel and equipment designated specifically to road maintenance headquartered at Lincoln, McCook, North Platte, Fort Robinson, and Sherman County. During 1983, 208 miles of gravel and dirt roads were maintained — a marked reduction from 1982 due mainly to heavy spring rains that held up construction efforts. Late 1983 was the start of two major projects — the Caboose Park at Two Rivers and a Visitor Center and Campground at Rock Creek Station. Both are scheduled to be completed during 1984 and are destined to be influential to future parks programs.

Engineering: The Engineering Section provided a regular engineering inspection of agency facilities and areas reporting needs and providing corrective solutions. In addition to providing inspection of Force Account construction and maintenance projects during 1983, the Operations and Construction Engineering Section provided substantial inspection to agency contract projects.

Transportation and Equipment: The Operations and Construction Division provided a wide variety of equipment, air compressors, water pumps, tree spades, stump cutters, tar kettles, tractors, trucks, and loaders to other divisions and area superintendents for temporary use to complete approved projects.

Bulk purchases of maintenance supplies were purchased and delivered to the Lincoln Maintenance Shop, inventoried and transported to the major areas of the agency system. Gasoline and diesel fuel were provided for agency vehicles from the division's pumps at 3001 "Y" Street. During 1983, 74,960 gallons of gasoline and 22,610 gallons of diesel fuel were dispensed to Game and Parks' vehicles.

New equipment purchased during 1983 included:

(1) 3/4 Ton Pickup w/tool boxes; (2) 3/4 Ton Pickups for cleaning trucks; (1) Medium Duty Diesel Tractor (Kubota); (1) Medium Duty Flatbed Truck w/hoist and winch; (1) 55,000 GVW Dump Truck; (1) Gasoline Pump; (1) Earth Compactor; (1) Dynatel Cable Locator; (1) Pneumatic Paving Breaker; (3) One-Ton Crew Cab Truck Chassis; (1) Steam Cleaner; (2) Swimming Pool Chlorinators.

During 1983 the Operations and Construction Division maintained a staff of 38 full time employees and 67 seasonal temporary personnel. Inmate crews from the penitentiary and reformatory were again utilized on numerous projects with primary assignments at Platte River State Park, Schramm, Rock Creek

Station, and Branched Oak. Several employees were hired through the Work Release Program of the Nebraska Correctional System and assigned to jobs with the Construction Section. The Division staff operated from offices and shops located at 2200 North 33rd, 3019 Apple Street, and 3001 "Y" Street in Lincoln, Nebraska. Outstate personnel and equipment were headquartered at North Platte, McCook, Fort Robinson, Sherman County, Platte River State Park, and Fort Atkinson.

Major Force Account projects and services provided to various areas during 1983 include:

AK-SAR-BEN AQUARIUM: Re-grade and surface with crushed rock all interior roads and parking lots; correct minor drainage problems.

ARBOR LODGE STATE HISTORICAL PARK: Set up and install playground equipment.

ASH HOLLOW STATE HISTORICAL PARK: Replace septic tank and drain lines at Superintendent's Residence.

BASSWAY STRIP WILDLIFE AREA: Haul fill to repair flood damaged road and use of dozer to level rip-rap along Platte River bank line adjacent to main area.

BIG ALKALI WILDLIFE AREA: Construct, haul, and install double latrine unit for camping area.

BLUE BLUFFS and SHADY TRAIL WILDLIFE AREAS: Re-locate toilet units at both areas, landscape, correct drainage problems, grade road and parking lots.

BLUE RIVER RECREATION AREA: Haul 1,200 cubic yards of fill and 500 tons of rip-rap to repair flood damage to camping area access road.

BOWMAN LAKE RECREATION AREA: Completely re-build and surface with gravel all interior roads and parking lots.

BRANCHED OAK RECREATION AREA: Waterproof and re-paint the exterior and interior walls of the two shower latrine buildings located at the Middle Oak Creek Campground.

BUFFALO BILL HISTORICAL PARK: Construct duck pond along area creek and remove silt and cattails from other portions of creek to improve flow and drainage problems.

BURBACH AREA: Construct drainage ditches along main road and north to lake shore to improve water runoff. Re-grade and surface interior roads.

CARPENTER SHOP: Construct and deliver 20 double unit toilets for general park areas.

CENTRAL OFFICE: Construct and install picture frames, cabinets, and storage shelves at various office. Relocate map in Realty office and construct storage cabinets in Parks office. Provide equipment and labor to accomplish snow removal on all parking lots and sidewalks.

CHADRON STATE PARK: Construct and surface parking lot adjacent to C.C.C. shelter and picnic area.

CRYSTAL LAKE: Haul and place rip-rap along the Blue River for bank stabilization and flood protection.

CHALKMINE RECREATION AREA: Haul fill to block selected entrances to the main tunnel of the mine and construct terraces above mine entrance on Happy Jack Hill to control water runoff.

EAST ODESSA WILDLIFE AREA: Use of dozer and motor grader to repair flood damaged dikes.

ELWOOD RESERVOIR: Re-grade road and parking area re-surfacing with oversized mud rock.

FORT KEARNY HISTORICAL PARK: Repair sub-floor and install new vinyl covering in the bathroom and utility room at Assistant Superintendent's residence. Removal of logs from front of bike trail bridge crossing at the Platte River East of Fort Kearny.

FORT ROBINSON STATE PARK: Construct and surface parking area west of Park Lodge; construct and install new kiosk for park visitor registration; repair stagecoach wheels; install water line and hydrants to horse stables; relocate old gas station building to shop area; remove and destroy 10,000 gallon underground gas tank from dismantled station; clean out and renovate all Grey Bull Ponds installing new outlet structure on Pond No. 4.

FREMONT RECREATION AREA: Re-grade and surface with gravel and mud rock the main boat ramp parking area at Victory Lake.

HAYES CENTER WILDLIFE AREA: Install 18" CMP to correct drainage problems and re-grade interior roads and parking lots.

INDIAN CAVE STATE PARK: Haul hay from Sherman County Recreation Area and railroad ties from Lincoln to be used for erosion control along roads at Indian Cave Campground. Replace septic tank and sewer lines at Superintendent's Residence.

LAKE McCONAUGHY RECREATION AREA: Haul and install double unit toilets at Martin Bay area; clean sand and debris from boat ramp at Cedar Vue Campground.

LOUISVILLE RECREATION AREA: Install new roof on trailer residence of Assistant Superintendent and construct five new picnic shelters.

MEMPHIS RECREATION AREA: Final construction for the completion of the Memphis Diversion Dam structure and waterway.

MORMON ISLAND RECREATION AREA: Haul and landscape 1,500 cubic yards of fill for final grading around maintenance headquarters at east area.

NORTH PLATTE HATCHERY: Install five new drain lines from hatchery ponds; refurbish drain structures as needed.

PLATTE RIVER STATE PARK: Division construction crews completed the following projects at Platte River Park — wall partitions in the basement of Scott Lodge; installation of doors and privacy walls between kitchen and shower in the Red Barn; installation of additional three rail pasture fence; pouring concrete for Stable walkway; scrape and paint Red Barn; remodel Decker Creek Lodge basement area; repair washouts and correct drainage problems at Stable; construct and install benches at swimming pool; fabricate and install overflow structure for Newman Lake; construction of equipment storage building; installation of redwood fence around maintenance yard; concrete low water crossing to ford Deck Creek; update and revise watermains and pumps; finish construction of connecting bridge between tower and Scott Lodge; extension of drainage culvert through archery range; paint swimming pool; install drinking fountain and hydrant at Scott Lodge.

PONCA STATE PARK: Renovate office entry with construction of retaining walls, privacy screens, and handicapped entry facilities.

RIVERVIEW MARINA: Removal of silt from boat ramp and installation of boat dock.

ROCK CREEK HATCHERY: Use dragline to clean Rock Creek and specified settling basins; general road and dike maintenance.

SHERMAN COUNTY RECREATION AREA: Major re-building of interior roads and parking areas to both the wildlife areas and park areas; installation of a trailer residence for Area Superintendent.

TWO RIVERS RECREATION AREA: Replace entire septic system serving the Superintendent's Residence tank, lateral and lines, construction of 400' of five foot wide sidewalk at the trout lake.

VALENTINE HATCHERY: Repair of dikes and ponds washed out during unusually heavy rain storm.

OUTDOOR EDUCATION DIVISION

The Outdoor Education Division conducts a broad and varied educational program for publics of all ages, including:

- 1) Adult skill development and resource appreciation workshops;
- 2) The state's mandatory Hunter Education Program;
- 3) Boating Safety Program;
- 4) Wildlife education programs in schools.

Outdoor Education Workshops

Fifty-one evening workshops were presented statewide, attended by approximately 4200 outdoor enthusiasts. Workshop topics ranged from hunting various species (emphasizing safety and resource respect) to fishing, canoeing and family camping. Workshops were free and open to the general public. The Omaha World-Herald, co-sponsor of the workshop program, provided extensive advertising for all workshops.

Informational surveys completed by participants at some workshops revealed that most participants:

- 1) Developed new, lifetime skills as a result of attending the workshop.
- 2) Increased their awareness of Nebraska's public lands and recreational areas.
- 3) Gained a new appreciation of our natural resources.

One new workshop, Fishing the Missouri River, was presented in Omaha's Kiewit Conference Center and attracted over 400 participants.

Hunter Education Program

The Hunter Education Program grew in 1983 to a AAA status in the evaluation program conducted by the International Association of Fish and Wildlife agencies. Each year this program affords every state and province an opportunity to compile a self evaluation for the scrutiny of the International's Hunter Education Committee. A structured scoring system allows this committee a means by which it may grade each program. Nebraska's program has come from "A" to "AA", to the top category "AAA".

One very important scoring boost for this year's "AAA" was the instructor survey which proved to be a very valuable tool in analyzing the program.

A majority of those surveyed indicated they would like the course to be longer and that more emphasis should be put on survival and game identification.

Another consensus was that a newsletter should be reestablished. All in all, the majority thought course content was fine, but that it should be expanded and also that the student exam could be longer.

Instructor workshops numbered 11 and 74 new instructors were certified. Game and Parks conducted 3 additional workshops for archery instructors. These workshops produced 27 archery instructors.

Special activities included the 1983 State High School Trap Shoot and the 1983 State High School Silhouette Shoot at Pressey.

Hunting accidents were up in 1983. Four fatalities and 13 non-fatal accidents were recorded this reporting period. Even with this increase, the past 5 year total indicates a drop in hunting accidents.

A total of 7,610 students were certified in the Program during 1983.

Boating Safety Program

In 1983, Nebraska registered 51,100 boats, down about 3,000 from the 1982 total. There were 18 boating accidents involving a total of 23 boats in 1983, an increase of three accidents over 1982, however, involving 2 less boats than last year. Injuries in 1983 totalled 11, down 4 from 1982. Fatalities numbered 2, the same as 1982. Property damage resulting from the accidents was \$44,495.00, an increase of over \$21,000 from last year. The most common accident, as last year, was "collision with another vessel" with carelessness or inattention remaining the major cause.

The boat safety program has been directed primarily toward youth groups and schools. An effort was made to work with teachers across the state, encouraging them to use our program in their classes. We presently have four boat dealer's cooperation in this by keeping a supply of material on hand locally that can be picked up when needed, rather than writing Lincoln.

The boat safety kit was put together in 1983 and has been well received, with a major Insurance Company giving a 10% credit for successful completion of the course. Hundreds of boating safety kits have been sent out and the tests are now being returned for issuance of the Certificate.

Numerous canoe safety classes and boat and water safety talks were given to a wide variety of groups including 4-H, Scouts, Civic-groups, clubs and businesses.

Wildlife Education for Youth

Wildlife education efforts were directed toward both teachers and their classes. Numerous programs were presented at schools where several classes could be brought together for the purpose of explaining the needs and dynamics of wildlife communities. Outdoor Education staff also worked with students and teachers in outdoor classrooms on a variety of field trips.

Wildlife education programs were presented to teachers during State Teachers Convention.

Other Activities

The Outdoor Nebraska radio program is produced by the Division and subscribed to by 43 stations across the state, including four neighboring stations in Shenandoah, Iowa; Phillipsburg, Kansas; Wray, Colorado and Gregory, South Dakota.

Division staff assisted in the Outdoor Nebraska television program through taped, outdoor education workshops.

Miscellaneous speaking programs during the year totalled 114 with audiences ranging from school students to civic organizations and sportsmen's clubs. Over 4,000 people were addressed in this effort.

PARKS DIVISION

The Division of State Parks is responsible for the administration and operation of Nebraska's system of state park areas. These responsibilities relate to visitor contact functions, day-to-day park housekeeping chores, planning and programming improvements, and providing the necessary resource protection and enhancement measures to assure quality outdoor recreation experiences for future generations of park users.

State park areas are scattered throughout Nebraska and offer a variety of outdoor recreation opportunities to all its citizens. Opportunities vary from area to area. Some parks contain modern campgrounds and cabins, swimming pools and offer trailrides, while at others the visitor may enjoy the cultural interpretation of a historical site or place. Still other opportunities include primitive camping in the Pine Ridge country and backpack hiking along the Missouri River.

The 92 areas comprising the State Park system fall into the following four classifications. Also listed is the acreage data by classification.

STATE PARKS — are public use areas containing statewide significant scenic, scientific and/or historical values and being of sufficient size to allow adequate development without infringing upon the primary values.

STATE RECREATION AREAS — possesses resource values primarily associated with the active outdoor recreation pursuits, day use activities and camping. All the state's major water oriented areas are of this classification.

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

STATE WAYSIDE AREAS — are small tracts located along main traveled highways, at points of scenic or historical interest where possible. These areas are developed specifically to afford the traveler a safe place to stop and to rest, to picnic and camp overnight.

Areas	Quantity	Water or Marsh Acres	Land Acres	Total Acreage
State Parks	6	17	28,702.64	28,719.64
State Recreation Areas	59	75,440.65	30,795.65	106,236.30
State Wayside Areas	18	37.85	216.06	253.91
State Historical Parks	9	0	1,725.14	1,725.14
TOTALS	92	75,495.50	61,439.49	136,934.99

Park personnel also maintain the recreation facilities on 12 Wildlife Management Areas.

Park Planning

Planning involves preparing graphic designs and cost estimates to provide the ideas and information necessary to solve particular park needs and prepare capital budgets. In 1983 plans were prepared for a Caboose Park at Two Rivers Recreation Area, Camp Owen cabins at Platte River State Park, Keller State Recreation Area at Ainsworth, and the Cozad Interchange Area at Cozad. Continuing planning work and coordination was performed for the relocation of Niobrara State Park, Calamus State Recreation Area and Papio Site 20.

Park Horticulture and Landscape Program

The landscaping needs of our park system received a substantial boost from a Federal work program for the unemployed which our agency administered. Over \$60,000 was spent on trees and shrubs which were distributed to various areas. Each area hired individuals to take care of these new plants and other landscape needs on their parklands. In all, about 40 individuals were hired. The aerial bucket truck was manned with people under this program and a fair amount of arbor work was accomplished on a number of parks. The work would not have been done without this program. Overall, this Federal program was a considerable boost to the horticulture needs of our park system.

Branched Oak Lake State Recreation Area and Ash Hollow State Historical Park have nurseries which furnish plant materials to our areas. Everything from small bare root, container or machine dug trees and shrubs can be produced for any area requesting the plants. Many thousands of plants go out to our areas each year from these two nurseries;

Through our propagation facilities, we are selecting and producing better plant materials for our state lands. Both native and introduced plants are being propagated by a variety of methods at our greenhouses in Lincoln, Arbor Lodge and Ash Hollows.

Sign Shop

We processed 479 different jobs in 1983. A lot of time was involved with custom and special signs over our usual run of signs. A special entrance sign was designed for location and area, at Indian Cave which involved routing, cutout letters, painting and scotchlite. The stagecoach at Fort Robinson was refinished with decals, stripping and hand lettering, and trams at Platte River State Park were identified with decals and hand lettering. Three special sandblasted logos went to Platte River State Park.

The Oregon Trail set the theme for two plex-glass maps for the Parks Division's State Fair display. Fourteen native prints on plates mounted on posts line the trail at Platte River State Park. Sixty-seven engraved brass plates for Arbor Lodge marking donated trees. Layouts and blanks were made for a Fitness Trail at Fort Kearny.

Some 3,418 special signs were made for other Commission divisions.

Snowmobile Trail Cash Fund

Of the fees collected for each snowmobile registration, 75% is deposited in the Nebraska Snowmobile Trail Cash Fund. These funds are used by the Game and Parks Commission for operation, maintenance, enforcement, planning, establishment, and marking of snowmobile trails throughout the State and for purchase or lease of property for such purposes.

In 1981 the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission established a Snowmobile Land Leasing Program to provide additional lands for public snowmobiling in addition to those trails established and maintained 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 lease sites. Applications for snowmobile lease sites are then forwarded to be reviewed by the Snowmobile Advisory Board. The Board presents its recommendations to the Commission for those applications which should be funded or rejected.

Private lands are leased for the period beginning December 1 through April 30 and the current rates have been established at \$2 per acre or \$100 per mile of trail 100 feet in width. For the 1981-82 season we had two areas totaling 1,268 acres and 4 corridor miles. A third trail was added during the 1982-83 season bringing the total number of acres available for public use to 3,128 acres. During the 1983-84 season two additional trails were added and previously leased trails were expanded providing a total of 6,844 acres of private land that was made available to the snowmobiling public.

Personnel

The 92 park areas are maintained and operated by a permanent park staff of 119 people. Distribution of these positions is shown in the following listing:

Item	No. of Areas	Manned Park Areas	Unmanned Park Areas	Permanent Positions	Temporary Positions
State Parks	6	6	--	25	329
Historical Parks	9	7	2	14	79
Recreation Areas	52	17	35]	65	226
Wayside Areas	25	2	23]		
Central Office	--	--	--	9	4
Horticulture	--	--	--	3	5
Sign Shop	--	--	--	3	1
Total	92	32	60	119	662

Only 32 park areas are staffed with on-site personnel and these areas utilize 78 of the permanent field positions. The remaining 26 field positions are assigned other recreation areas and 7 park maintenance crews to attend 60 unmanned areas' housekeeping tasks.

Some 662 temporary seasonal workers assisted the parks' staff during the recreation season. Additional summer help was obtained from several Federal employment programs that were available to this agency. Because of cuts in the Federal budget, various programs were reduced or not funded. Inmate labor crews were a great help to this Division on several areas around the State. A number of areas also utilized the volunteer services of local groups and the military.

Capital Improvements

The source of funding capital improvements underwent a major change July 1, 1978. The improvement dollars are now derived from the park entry permit and NORDA (Park Cash Funds) instead of State General Fund dollars. Heritage Conservation and Recreation Service revenue sharing (Land and Water Fund) has had considerable impact on the park system development. Federal reimbursements for the last two calendar years on previously authorized projects are \$1,142,786 for 1979, \$1,297,399 for 1980, \$460,161 for 1981 and \$423,262 for 1982. For 1983 we received only \$84,003.

New capital construction monies authorized by program for FY 83/84 are as follows:

Program Area	Appropriated
900 Park Areas -- General	0
966 Calamus	\$125,000
967 State Parks	-0-
968 State Historical Parks	50,000
969 State Recreation Areas	35,000
Total	\$210,000

309 Projects

In addition to capital projects, many park structure renovations were accomplished through the Building Renewal Program. Areas receiving Building Renewal Funds (309 Projects) area as follows:

Fort Robinson	\$ 5,375
Two Rivers	11,500
Johnson Lake	15,188
Schramm Park	1,900
Buffalo Bill Ranch	19,200
Branched Oak	23,500
Lake McConaughy	6,500
Ponca	71,000
Total	\$154,163

Operations and Maintenance

Park and Recreation Areas are administered under two separate programs. Program 549 provides funding for administration, operation and maintenance of Parks, Historical Parks and Recreation Areas offering improved facilities and resident maintenance crews. Program 617 funds park crews to maintain the system's lessor developed, unmanned areas and the Operations Division which plays a supporting role to all park crews when maintenance and construction projects exceeds the capabilities of park crews.

1982-83 Budget Authority

	Program 549	Program 617
General Fund Appropriation	\$2,422,270	\$1,460,359
Cash Fund Appropriation	2,781,683	1,121,952
Total Appropriation	\$5,203,953	\$2,582,311

1982-83 Expenditures

Personal Services (Permanent)	\$1,481,831	\$ 724,539
Personal Services (Temporary)	1,037,164	529,519
Personal Services (Benefits)	375,718	181,062
Operating Expenses & Supplies	1,537,020	659,698
Travel	24,507	21,571
Capital Outlay (Equipment)	277,518	50,225
Encumbrances	369,600	169,648
Tree Planning Program	80,000	
Total Disbursements	\$5,183,358	\$2,336,262

1981-82 Budget Authority

	Program 549	Program 617
General Fund Appropriation	\$2,261,731	\$1,513,898
Cash Fund Appropriation	2,486,428	913,121
Total Appropriation	\$4,748,159	\$2,427,019

1981-82 Expenditures

Park Administration, Snowmobile, Operations and Maintenance

Personal Services (Permanent)	\$1,426,128	\$ 709,442
Personal Services (Temporary)	988,891	459,497
Personal Services (Benefits)	321,590	152,197
Operating Expense	599,941	231,813
Operating Supplies	815,194	427,112
Travel	44,990	35,441
Capital Outlay (Equipment)	327,890	165,621
Encumbrances	155,303	46,636
Total Disbursements	\$4,679,927	\$2,227,759

1980-81 Budget Authority

	Program 549	Program 617
General Fund Appropriation	\$1,995,548	\$1,677,636
Cash Fund Appropriation	1,968,778	476,256
Total Appropriation	\$3,964,326	\$2,153,892

1980-81 Expenditures

Park Administration, Snowmobile, Operations and Maintenance

Personal Services (Permanent)	\$1,221,345	\$ 636,063
Personal Services (Temporary)	925,500	388,892
Personal Services (Benefits)	261,298	119,238
Operating Expense	559,382	191,738
Operating Supplies	751,079	469,483
Travel	42,764	37,590
Capital Outlay (Equipment)	141,815	234,265
Encumbrances	116,510	46,665
Total Disbursements	\$4,019,693	\$2,123,934

Visitations

Accurate counts of park visitors are difficult achievements. It is especially difficult in Nebraska's park system since almost 2/3 of the public-use areas are unmanned, with many areas undeveloped and only a few having a single park entrance.

An estimated 7,852,799 people visited the state park areas during 1983. There are 42 reporting stations in the system and they contribute most of the total visitor count. The remaining 50 areas are credited with conservative lump sum visitor estimates.;

Estimated Park Visitor Counts

Area	81	82	83
Arbor Lodge SHP	138,797	140,671	158,500
Ash Hollow SHP	67,700	69,700	51,300
Bluestem SRA	180,000	175,000	176,000
Box Butte SRA	66,000	66,000	77,947
Branched Oak SRA	750,000	758,000	765,000
Bridgeport SRA	158,000	150,000	73,865
Buffalo Bill Ranch SHP	43,033	45,625	47,605
Chadron SP	228,516	204,520	186,579
Champion Mill SHP	2,000	2,500	2,500
Conestoga SRA	145,000	145,000	144,500
Dead Timber SRA	75,630	75,020	80,790
Enders Reservoir SRA	59,220	64,880	66,080
Fort Atkinson SHP	36,525	38,025	37,950
Fort Hartsuff SHP	31,580	28,425	26,215
Fort Kearny SHP	86,221	81,943	73,075
Fort Robinson SP	376,997	330,798	353,287
Fremont SRA	632,400	600,825	611,250
Indian Cave SP	120,105	108,027	118,504
Johnson Lake SRA	414,990	459,360	372,080
Kearney County SRA	158,935	154,578	143,912
Lake McConaughy SRA	385,017	353,895	480,248
Lake Minatare SRA	256,872	265,137	242,040
Lewis & Clark SRA	377,714	238,558	203,543
Louisville SRA	227,666	210,333	246,688
Medicine Creek SRA	123,540	128,031	146,280
Merritt Reservoir SRA	182,777	161,225	134,924
Mormon Island SWA	254,991	271,808	220,250
Niobrara SP	148,467	135,665	148,265
Olive Creek SRA	25,000	26,500	26,400
Pawnee SRA	700,000	715,000	716,500
Platte River SP		92,832	195,809
Ponca SP	203,949	205,519	189,381
Red Willow SRA	174,000	175,529	172,923
Rock Creek Station SHP	8,604	11,945	18,780
Schramm Park SRA	153,880	82,450	110,360

(cont)

Estimated Park Visitor Counts, Cont.

Area	81	82	83
Sherman Reservoir SRA	201,000	220,075	221,500
Stagecoach SRA	14,000	14,500	14,700
Swanson Reservoir SRA	88,862	45,910	49,440
Two Rivers SRA	225,201	255,803	212,204
Victoria Springs SRA	48,800	46,725	33,600
Wagon Train SRA	36,000	37,500	38,250
Windmill SWA	58,525	65,950	53,775
50 Unmanned Non-Reporting Areas	410,000	410,000	410,000
TOTAL	8,076,514	7,869,787	7,582,799

Area	1982-Units Registered	1982-No. of Campers	1983-Units Registered	1983-No. of Campers
Ash Hollow SHP	702	2,061	331	967
Branched Oak SRA	5,596	19,586	6,987	24,454
Chadron SP	3,149	10,006	2,870	8,905
Fort Robinson SP	4,758	15,010	4,859	15,348
Fremont SRA	7,629	23,396	7,227	22,985
Indian Cave SP	4,670	11,353	3,214	7,258
Johnson Lake SRA	11,651	37,772	8,172	31,154
Kearney County SRA	4,378	13,375	4,111	12,025
Lake McConaughy SRA	7,123	22,620	7,947	26,993
Louisville SRA	7,108	34,109	7,440	25,637
Medicine Creek SRA	1,670	6,680	1,586	5,551
Mormon Island SWA	4,622	13,900	3,469	10,036
Niobrara SP	1,257	2,858	1,703	2,606
Pawnee SRA	2,330	7,810	2,462	8,235
Platte River SP	218	898	401	2,292
Ponca SP	3,555	12,361	2,954	10,705
Red Willow SRA	501	1,434	443	1,122
Swanson SRA	138	360	134	469
Two Rivers SRA	3,918	14,914	3,597	10,964
Victoria Springs SRA	1,033	2,802	948	2,844
Windmill SWA	3,496	10,499	3,827	10,347
TOTALS	79,502	263,804	74,682	240,897

The above counts are taken at campgrounds where camper registration is required. A camping unit averaged about 2.92 people per camping party. If the average duration of a visit by a camper is 3 days, then it can be calculated that the above campgrounds accounted for 653,469 general camping days during 1983.

Income

While most park activities are fee free, certain areas do charge for various activities and services. Camping, lodging, swimming and trail rides are typical activities for which fees are charged. Other park income is derived from restaurant and concession sales, and leases for cabin sites, conservation practices and concession sites. Monies generated from these sources are returned to the park cash fund to help support park maintenance programs. The following listing shows the income producing areas and dollars generated in total and by the various activities. Park entry permit dollars are not included in these figures. Individual area incomes not shown are included in miscellaneous income.

Area	Lodging & Cabins	Camping Income	Swimming Pool	Trail Rides	Misc. Services
Alexandria SRA		1,030.89			
Arbor Lodge SHP					22,139.42
Ash Hollow SHP		775.59			1,899.88
Box Butte SRA					
Branched Oak SRA		29,651.22			
Brownville SRA					
Buffalo Bill SHP					6,813.06
Chadron SP	52,327.02	10,529.62	8,843.23	10,979.56	13,430.11
Champion SHP					46.80
Enders SRA					
Fort Atkinson SHP					515.85
Fort Hartsuff SHP					1,463.66
Fort Kearny SHP					4,218.96
Fort Robinson SP	197,650.21	27,031.56	9,956.52	44,956.44	224,099.63
Fremont SRA		33,056.12			
Indian Cave SP		6,829.21		6,995.84	50.70
Johnson Lake SRA		40,746.53			
Kearney County SRA		9,151.00			
Lake Maloney SRA					
Lake McConaughy SRA		41,940.12			
Lake Minatare SRA					
Lewis & Clark SRA					
Louisville SRA		47,868.32			
Medicine Creek SRA		6,280.20			
Memphis SRA					
Merritt SRA					
Mormon Island SWA		16,772.63			
Niobrara SP	23,594.18	3,606.93	3,703.68	3,636.86	
Pawnee Lake SRA		12,778.18			
Platte River SP	76,544.75	5,633.75	20,162.44	25,827.70	234,282.37
Ponca SP	36,457.44	20,744.06	11,456.79	19,144.29	
Red Willow SRA		2,143.20			
Rock Creek SHP					609.04
Schramm Park SRA					
Sherman SRA					
Swanson SRA		228.71			
Two Rivers SRA		17,719.42	1,108.66		
Victoria Springs SRA	3,629.24	5,204.37			2,501.37
Windmill SWA		21,706.78			
Miscellaneous Areas					
TOTALS	390,202.84	361,428.41	55,231.32	111,540.69	512,070.85

Private Cabin Lease	Private Concession Lease	Misc. Income	Total Facility Income	1982 Park Income	1981 Park Income
	75.00		1,105.89	75.00	75.00
			22,139.42	19,536.35	20,687.00
		.64	2,676.11	1,605.75	1,358.00
		1,340.00	1,340.00		
480.00	2,867.51	33.31	33,032.04	26,606.30	13,103.00
	200.00		200.00	200.00	200.00
	322.77		7,135.83	6,409.69	5,607.00
		356.71	96,466.25	81,446.06	81,558.00
			46.80		
1,003.93			1,003.93	889.25	981.00
			515.85	363.75	
			1,463.66	1,452.21	
		25.18	4,244.14	4,738.47	4,396.00
	3,356.61	285.27	507,336.24	470,432.22	500,968.00
	1,143.88	48.14	34,248.14	26,715.12	27,135.00
		166.60	14,042.35	15,858.84	17,479.00
			40,746.53	18,393.56	22,330.00
			9,151.00	8,389.37	7,954.00
		32.77	32.77		
5,820.00	20,672.39	75.00	68,507.51	59,920.39	49,805.00
1,340.00	1,300.60		2,640.60	1,993.00	1,859.00
	3,276.49		3,276.49	3,070.22	2,841.00
	701.14		48,569.46	21,693.75	18,517.00
760.00	2,579.35		9,619.55	8,649.98	4,037.00
	282.28		282.28	390.03	488.00
	3,532.64		3,532.64	8,059.69	2,582.00
	101.84	39.78	16,914.25	18,289.72	17,237.00
	1,607.60		36,149.25	35,831.74	32,545.00
	198.79	202.80	13,179.77	7,472.94	6,259.00
			362,451.01	86,561.72	
	1,605.35		89,407.93	81,147.42	91,073.00
440.00	1,681.91	427.14	4,692.25	5,421.17	3,027.00
			609.04		
				9.26	
4,523.36	3,768.42		8,291.78	8,903.15	6,509.00
504.00	5,751.66		6,484.37	2,755.81	2,559.00
	858.46		19,686.54	21,520.44	22,895.00
			11,334.98	9,198.29	8,906.00
	334.00		22,040.78	19,492.63	17,940.00
				93.94	8,322.00
14,871.29	56,218.69	3,033.34	1,504,597.43	1,083,587.23	1,001,232.00

In addition to income generated from facilities and services, a number of installations provide services and informational material generating income for other cash funds within the agency. Many areas vend hunting, fishing, and park permits, trout tags, habitat stamps, and publications such as Nebraskaland and the Fish and Waterfowl Identification books. Income generated by these services are shown below by area and by the cash fund they supplement.*

Area	Game Fund	Habitat Fund	Park Permit	Park Income	Total Facility Income
Alexandria SRA				1,105.89	1,105.89
Arbor Lodge SHP	311.30	7.50	467.00	22,139.42	22,925.22
Ash Hollow SHP	311.85	7.50	181.00	2,676.11	3,176.46
Box Butte SRA				1,340.00	1,340.00
Branched Oak SRA	1,433.50	67.50	12,477.00	33,032.04	47,010.04
Brownville SRA				200.00	200.00
Buffalo Bill SHP	148.89		21.00	7,135.83	7,305.72
Chadron SP	1,084.85	52.50	15,616.00	96,466.25	113,219.60
Champion SHP				46.80	46.80
Enders SRA			250.00	1,003.93	1,253.93
Fort Atkinson SHP	136.75	15.00		515.85	667.60
Fort Hartsuff SHP	205.93		45.00	1,463.66	1,714.59
Fort Kearny SHP	524.75			4,244.14	4,768.89
Fort Robinson SP	1,968.00	315.00	30,030.00	507,336.24	539,649.24
Fremont SRA	716.50		45,347.00	34,248.14	80,311.64
Indian Cave SP			17,889.00	14,042.35	31,931.35
Johnson Lake SRA	747.50	37.50	15,786.00	40,746.53	57,317.53
Kearney County SRA	306.50	45.00	10,243.00	9,151.00	19,745.50
Lake Maloney SRA				32.77	32.77
Lake McConaughy SRA	6,669.00	97.50	27,061.00	68,507.51	102,335.01
Lake Minatare SRA			518.00	2,640.60	3,158.60
Lewis & Clark SRA				3,276.49	3,276.49
Louisville SRA	7,028.50	420.00	47,560.00	48,569.46	103,577.96
Medicine Creek SRA			176.00	9,619.55	9,795.55
Memphis SRA				282.28	282.28
Merritt SRA				3,532.64	3,532.64
Mormon Island SWA	920.00	45.00	20,190.00	16,914.25	38,069.25
Niobrara SP	3,978.00	997.50	6,786.00	36,149.25	47,910.75
Pawnee SRA				13,179.77	13,179.77
Platte River SP	1,385.25	45.00	57,056.00	362,451.01	420,937.26
Ponca SP	1,575.00	217.50	2,019.00	89,407.93	111,390.43
Red Willow SRA			243.00	4,692.25	4,935.25
Rock Creek SHP				609.04	609.04
Schramm Park SRA			5,647.00		5,647.00
Sherman SRA			90.00	8,291.78	8,381.78
Swanson SRA				6,484.37	6,484.37
Two Rivers SRA	109,036.00	582.50	39,742.00	19,686.54	169,047.04
Victoria Springs SRA	1,803.00	382.50	2,742.00	11,334.98	16,262.48
Windmill SWA	1,870.50	315.00	11,173.00	22,040.78	35,399.28
Miscellaneous Areas	53.00	22.50	199.00		274.50
TOTALS	142,214.57	3,672.50	369,554.00	1,504,597.43	2,020,038.50

PLANNING AND PROGRAMMING DIVISION

This division's major responsibilities include administration of the major federal grant programs; comprehensive planning; special studies; local planning review; water resource project monitoring; and environmental review of all federally assisted developments in the state.

Land and Water Conservation Fund

The Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965 provides 50% federal grants-in-aid to the various states and their political subdivisions for comprehensive planning, acquisition and development of public outdoor recreation areas. The Land and Water Conservation Fund is supported by a portion of the user fee on federal areas, tax on motor boat fuels, the sale of surplus property and revenues from off-shore oil leases. The major source is from off-shore leases, about 85 percent.

Although no federal funds were received in fiscal year 1982, funding was resumed in 1983. In addition to our regular allocation for 1983, Nebraska received a supplemental allocation of \$477,000 from a "Jobs Bill" passed by the Congress. The 25% grant for local government projects was not reinstated so all project grants are now on the basis of 50% federal and 50% local funds.

Over the past eighteen years, the federal government, state and local communities have invested more than \$64.5 million in new and improved outdoor recreation facilities under this program in Nebraska.

Federal Aid In Sport Fish and Wildlife Restoration

The Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act of 1937 and the Federal Aid in Sport Fish Restoration Act of 1950 are companion programs which provide financial assistance to the states and territories for restoration activities. These programs are administered by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The Sport Fish Restoration Program is supported by a 10 percent excise tax on fishing rods, creels, reels, baits and lures. The Wildlife Restoration Program is funded by an 11 percent excise tax on arms and ammunition.

To participate in these programs, the state must assent to the provisions of the acts. Work previously approved is performed at state expense, after which 75 percent of the state's costs are reimbursed from the appropriate federal aid funds.

During 1983, these two programs made about \$2.1 million available to Nebraska for: (1) fish and wildlife surveys and inventories, (2) research, (3) land acquisition, (4) development, (5) maintenance, (6) technical assistance and (7) hunter safety training.

Federal Aid for Commercial Fisheries

The Commercial Fisheries Research and Development Act of 1964 is administered by the National Marine Fisheries Service and provides financial assistance to the states for activities designed to monitor or develop commercial fishing. Nebraska annually receives \$19,000 from this program.

Comprehensive Planning

Maintenance work has been carried on for the State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), as outlined in the Planning agreement and the Action Program published and circulated for draft review in 1983. Participation was continued in the Nebraska Annual Social Indicators Survey (NASIS); results were made available to other divisions, especially as it relates to fishing, boating and camping. This public participation data will be used in the revision of the SCORP Policy Plan in 1984. Information requests were answered and A-95 reviews were continued. Technical assistance efforts and participation in trail studies were other ongoing activities. Land and Water Conservation Fund programming received emphasis, following restoration of stateside funding of LWCF projects by Congressional action. Responses were prepared for various questionnaires and technical assistance inquiries.

Ongoing general activities included participation in various trail studies and review of project plans and proposals circulated by Policy Research Office. The National Planners Conference, held March 1983 at Washington, D.C., was also attended.

Resource Monitoring

Opportunities for recreation, fish and wildlife features are present in most multipurpose resource management projects. The various federal and state construction agencies responsible for these projects usually request assistance from Game and Parks Commission staff members in order to evaluate as many potential benefits as possible. Project proposals of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Soil Conservation Service, Bureau of Reclamation, Nebraska Natural Resources Commission, and Nebraska Department of Roads were reviewed during the year.

Nebraska continues to participate in the Missouri River Coordination Committee (along with representatives of the states of Missouri and Iowa) to address environmental concerns pertaining to the channelized Missouri — Sioux City to St. Louis. The Missouri National Recreation River (Yankton to Ponca) advisory group held several meetings during the year.

Game and Parks Commission personnel served on two task forces of the state water planning process: Water Use Efficiency; and Integrated Management of Ground Water and Surface Water.

Several Soil Conservation Service small watershed (Public Law 83-566) projects, Natural Resources District proposals in a number of communities throughout the state, several power line corridor studies, and numerous state/county highway projects are among the ongoing activities requiring Game and Parks Commission participation.

Impacts of deploying the proposed MX missile system were discussed in meetings between U.S. Air Force representatives and resource management agency personnel from Wyoming and Nebraska. In addition to these conferences, portions of detailed economic/environmental impact reports were reviewed.

REALTY DIVISION

The Realty Division was involved in land acquisition, appraisals, lease renewals, payment and cancellations, appraisal reviews, negotiations and public hearings during 1983.

Appraisal Review

Review of land appraisals for political subdivisions seeking federal aid was accomplished for ten communities.

Appraisals

Ten appraisals were completed during 1983 calendar year. Five of these tracts were turned down. The remaining five are either acquired or still in negotiations.

Acquisitions

Title to the following tracts is now vested in the State and were acquired under the Habitat Bill as Wildlife Management Areas. Appraisal and negotiations for some of these areas may have been done in 1982, however title to the property was received in 1983.

Area Name	Acres
Addition to Wood Duck	240.00
Greenvale	160.00
Bluebill	80.00
Martin's Reach	90.00
Oak Glen	458.00

A seven acre tract was purchased as an addition to Ft. Atkinson State Historical Park.

Public hearings were held on all of the acquisitions in compliance with 25-2502, 25-2504, and 25-2505, Revised Statutes of Nebraska, 1943.

In Lieu of Tax Payments

In lieu of tax payments were made to the following counties. The total amount spent for in lieu of tax payments was \$22,471.26.

County	Total
Antelope	464.92
Cherry	78.18
Clay	403.65
Dodge	1,547.42
Fillmore	368.92
Hall	90.00
Hamilton	954.62
Jefferson	5.87
Johnson	5,496.24
Keya Paha	292.94
Knox	975.02
Lancaster	2,446.47
Lincoln	995.62
Madison	1,803.93
Nance	171.46
Otoe	476.24
Phelps	21.08
Platte	741.80
Richardson	438.77
Seward	2,918.50
Sheridan	597.38
Stanton	478.28
Webster	167.19
York	536.76

Leases

The Game and Parks Commission currently leases 18 storage and work areas and 10 tracts of land. One storage lease was cancelled and replaced with a new storage area.

Twenty-two canoe campsite leases are maintained at various points along the Calamus, Dismal, Elkhorn, Missouri, North Platte, and Republican Rivers across the State.

We have 17 radio towers in use across the State. We own three of the towers and lease the remaining 14.

RESOURCE SERVICES DIVISION

The Resource Services Division administers a variety of projects throughout the state, with major emphasis on habitat development, maintenance, and improvement. The task of developing and maintaining lands and facilities on all State Wildlife Management Areas requires considerable effort by the entire division; and the Nebraska Wildlife Habitat Plan continues to grow each year.

Although development and management of wildlife lands and the Private Lands Habitat Program receive major emphasis, division personnel are involved with a diversity of activities including: the management of captive waterfowl production flocks and elk-buffalo herds; controlled hunting areas; fowl cholera control; land reconnaissance and acquisition; the provision of facilities for sporting dog training and field trials; and coordination and assistance with other governmental agencies, groups and individuals.

As an extension of the Habitat Program, the division distributed 116,100 trees to farmers and ranchers for habitat planting during 1983. In addition, the division distributed 600 5-pound bags of seed mixtures for youth or youth groups to plant for wildlife food plots.

Public Land Habitat Improvements:

The ongoing Cooperative Roadside Seeding Program accounted for an estimated 1,582 acres of land being seeded by participating counties in 1983. Approximately \$55,610 was paid direct to these counties for the purchase of grass and legume seed used in establishing valuable roadside nesting cover.

A relatively new program for 1983, the Living Snowfence Program, encourages the establishment of living snowfences along selected state and county roadsides. Parties to this new program include the Commission, the State Department of Roads (D.O.R.) and County Highway Departments. To date some \$35,271 has been paid direct to counties and \$10,020 to D.O.R. for their respective program efforts. Assuming all plantings to be successful, approximately 12.5 miles of living snowfence will result.

The agency again coordinated efforts with the U.S. Forest Service for various habitat development and protective projects. Habitat has been developed and protected on McKelvie, Bessey, and Pine Ridge Forest Service lands. Over \$115,000 has been expended to date on these areas. Habitat development and protection includes: tree and shrub plantings, small wildlife watering installations, grass and legume plantings, and fencing projects.

At Harlan County Reservoir, the Corps of Engineers and the Game and Parks Commission coordinated efforts for fencing various habitat plots on the area. In addition, numerous tree and shrub plantings and grass and legume seedings have been completed. To date, the Commission has expended approximately \$572,525 on Wildlife Habitat Improvements on the Harlan County area.

Another coordinated effort the Commission is involved with has seen to date some \$116,000 expended for habitat improvement, including pumping water into selected basins on Fish and Wildlife Service lands. Work done primarily on Waterfowl Production Areas is accomplished through a 3-way agreement with the Commission, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the University of Nebraska Forestry, Fisheries and Wildlife Department.

Wildlife Management Area personnel completed numerous improvements on approximately 5,000 acres of land located on State Wildlife Management Areas. These improvements included: tree and shrub plantings, grass and legume seedings, sweet clover and oats seedings, and food and cover plantings of various agricultural crops.

The Private Lands Habitat Program:

The Private Lands Habitat Program was designed to create new habitat and to enhance or protect existing habitat through contracts with landowners under a cost sharing arrangement between the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission and the Natural Resources Districts.

Of the 24 Natural Resources Districts in the state, 23 have signed agreements to establish local programs using the Commission's 75% cost share. As of December 31, 1983, a total of 2,326 cooperators were enrolled in the program. These cooperators enrolled a total of 49,352 acres of land in various practices of the Private Lands Program.

Wildlife Land Acquisition:

One phase of the Nebraska Wildlife Habitat Plan is directed toward the acquisition of valuable wildlife lands. During the year, numerous land reconnaissances were performed by division personnel. Land recons are presented to a habitat screening committee which assigns acquisition priorities to the subject tracts.

During 1983, a total of 1,027 acres of wildlife lands were acquired in five tracts as follows:

Name	County	Acres	Cost
Oak Glen	Seward	458	\$323,000
Martin's Reach	Hall	89	79,000
Bluebill	Fillmore	80	80,000
Greenvale	Knox	160	64,000
Wood Duck addition	Stanton	240	180,000

WILDLIFE DIVISION

The Wildlife Division develops management programs for game and nongame wildlife including big game, upland game, waterfowl, furbearers, nongame animals and birds, and endangered wildlife in the best interest of the people.

Research projects are involved in a variety of studies aimed at gathering information to assist in development of management programs. Research expertise is provided to other divisions such as Resource Services and Law Enforcement.

Management programs are designed to insure adequate safeguards to protect the resource while providing maximum hunting, trapping and recreational use.

Division personnel gather pre-season and post-season population data, determine productivity, collect harvest information, conduct banding studies, document habitat changes and estimate their impact on wildlife, gather baseline population information on nongame species, develop practices to protect threatened species and study non-native species to determine their suitability for introduction in Nebraska. The division is responsible for monitoring private game farm operations, controlled shooting areas, falconry operations and pheasant stocking programs through the game farm operation at Wilcox and the day-old chick cooperator program.

Research Programs

The time of death study was continued for deer, pheasants and geese using the eye fluid technique and electrical stimuli.

A pheasant sexing technique using breast bone measurement was continued for use in law enforcement cases. Work continued on a cooperative study with Fisheries research personnel pertaining to genetic marking of walleye and northern pike in the Missouri River above Lewis and Clark Lake.

Other activities included routine hair, blood and tissue identification for law enforcement and serving as a consultant on chemistry and wildlife disease related problems for all divisions.

Management Programs

Nongame and Endangered Species

A study of wintering bald eagles was continued. Objectives were to document communal roosts; determine food habits; determine population status, trends and age structure, and to develop management recommendations for protection of essential wintering areas.

Field studies were conducted in western Nebraska to determine production and nesting requirements of the prairie falcon, golden eagle and ferruginous hawk. Banding of nestlings was conducted to determine mortality and movements.

Barn owl restoration through artificial nest box construction and placement and release of captive reared birds was continued.

Reported sightings of black-footed ferrets, whooping cranes and swift fox were recorded and attempts made to verify observations. Several reports documenting sites used by whooping cranes were prepared. A mail survey was sent to landowners located within the range of the swift fox in an effort to solicit reports of sightings.

Bobcat carcasses collected through mandatory tagging of legally harvested animals were analyzed for age and reproductive performance.

Fourteen falconry and 21 coyote aerial shooting permits were issued in 1983.

Intensive research was conducted on least tern nesting colonies located on the Missouri River. Data was used to develop management recommendations that would insure protection of nesting sites. Aerial and ground surveys were made on portions of the Niobrara and Platte Rivers to determine breeding population size and to check production.

Artificial nest and roost boxes were attached to trees in Indian Cave State Park in an attempt to survey the status and occurrence of the threatened flying squirrel.

Several hundred consultations were conducted with various state agencies so as to insure their actions would not jeopardize endangered or threatened species.

Big Game

Table 1 shows season dates and success for the 1983 big game seasons. Deer continued to increase in numbers as indicated by the increase in hunting success. Antelope permits were increased and additional sandhill areas were reopened due to an increasing population.

Table 1. 1983 Big Game Harvest Summary

Species	Season	Dates	Number of Permits	Harvest	Success
Deer	Archery	Sept. 15-Dec. 31*	12,276	3,207	26%
	Firearm	Nov. 12-Nov. 20	35,285	24,950	71%
Antelope	Archery	Aug. 20-Dec. 31**	135	21	16%
	Firearm	Sept. 24-Oct. 2	1,071	885	83%
Turkey	Spring Archery	Apr. 1-May 8	823	102	12%
	Spring Shotgun	Apr. 16-May 8***	5,087	1,693	33%
	Fall Archery	Oct. 1-Nov. 11	461	91	20%
	Fall Shotgun	Oct. 22-Nov. 11***	5,274	2,805	53%

* Archery season closed during firearm season

** Archery season closed during firearm seasons for deer and antelope

*** Niobrara and Verdigre Units split into Early and Late seasons

Deer

Deer numbers continued to increase in most areas of the state. Rifle permits and success are shown in Table 2. The best deer unit continued to be the Frenchman in the southwest. This was a record kill with statewide harvest of 24,950 and 71 percent success.

Archery permits number 12,276 and success remained high at 26 percent.

Table 2. Firearm Deer Permits, Harvest & Success, 1983.

Management Unit	Permits		Either Sex		Harvest		Success	
	1982	1983	1982	1983	1982	1983	1982	1983
Blue	2888	3404	60	60	2043	2524	71	74
Buffalo	1717	1895	40	60	1201	1436	70	76
Calamus East	1310	1513	30	40	716	945	55	62
Calamus West	1317	1508	40	50	922	1028	70	68
DeSoto Early*	100	100	100	100	58	58	58	58
DeSoto Late*	--	100	--	100	--	24	--	24
Elkhorn	2376	2579	20	40	1138	1589	48	62
Frenchman	1843	2185	40	80	1530	1917	83	88
Gifford*	100	75	100	100	40	37	40	49
Keya Paha	2006	2014	50	80	1314	1479	66	73
Loup East	1732	1955	40	50	996	1275	58	65
Loup West	1516	1717	40	60	1064	1263	70	74
Missouri	2333	2458	30	40	1321	1559	57	63
Pine Ridge	2753	3010	30	50	1651	2032	60	68
Plains	1002	1106	20	30	676	784	68	71
Platte	1635	1837	40	60	1154	1477	71	80
Republican	1630	1993	60	50	1284	1473	79	74
Sandhills	2503	2716	40	50	1687	1857	67	68
Upper Platte	853	859	20	30	555	628	65	73
Wahoo	1997	2260	60	70	1318	1565	66	69
Totals	31611	35285						

*Muzzleloader only Seasons.

Antelope

Table 3 lists units open and success for the 1983 rifle antelope season. Total success and permit sales were up slightly from 1982.

The 1983 archery antelope hunting success was 16 percent, with 21 antelope taken by 135 permittees. This was the highest kill of record.

Table 3. Antelope Permits, Harvest and Success for 1983

Management Unit	Permits		Harvest		Success	
	1982	1983	1982	1983	1982	1983
Banner	258	261	209	223	81	85
Box Butte	109	111	79	81	72	73
Brown	50	25	20	18	40	72
Cherry	55	152	45	114	82	75
Cheyenne	43	40	35	31	81	78
Dismal	--	25	--	16	--	64
Garden	51	53	36	37	71	70
North Sioux	306	403	253	365	84	91
TOTALS	872	1070	701	885	80	83

Turkey

Turkey populations remain high in the Verdigre and Niobrara units. Spring harvest was 1693 birds while the fall harvest was 2805.

Turkey archery permit sales were 823 for the spring season and 461 for the fall. Harvest was 102 birds in the spring and 91 birds in the fall.

Table 4. Spring Turkey, Harvest & Success for 1983.

Management Unit	Permits Issued		Harvest		Percent Success	
	1982	1983	1982	1983	1982	1983
Central	--	40	--	25	--	63
Niobrara Early	800	800	293	330	37	41
Niobrara Late	785	800	228	210	29	26
Ponca	50	140	30	41	60	29
Rock Creek	--	27	--	12	--	44
Round Top	1750	1750	509	466	29	27
Southeast	29	40	14	12	48	30
Southwest	205	210	72	69	35	33
Verdigre Early	603	603	297	265	49	44
Verdigre Late	600	602	226	224	38	37
Wildcat	75	75	26	39	35	52
TOTALS	4907	5087	1701	1693	35	33

Table 5. Fall Turkey, Harvest & Success for 1983.

Management Unit	Permits Issued		Harvest		Percent Success	
	1982	1983	1982	1983	1982	1983
Halsey	--	50	--	24	--	48
Niobrara Early	800	900	405	474	51	53
Niobrara Late	612	774	259	413	42	53
Round Top	1937	2000	891	977	46	49
Southwest	100	101	49	53	49	52
Verdigre Early	602	701	326	417	54	59
Verdigre Late	600	700	326	413	54	59
Wildcat	49	48	26	34	53	71
TOTALS	4700	5274	2282	2805	49	53

Upland Game

Table 6 shows the upland game seasons for 1983.

Table 6. 1983 Upland Game Seasons.

Species	Opened	Closed	Daily Bag	Possession
Cottontail rabbit	Sept. 1	Feb. 29	7	21
Squirrel	Aug. 1	Jan. 31	7	21
Grouse	Sept. 17	Nov. 30	3	9
Pheasant	Nov. 5	Jan. 31	3	9
Quail	Nov. 5	Jan. 15	6	18
Hungarian partridge	Nov. 5	Jan. 15	3	9

Pheasant — The summer rural mail carrier survey indicated a 27 percent decrease in the statewide pheasant population. The season was extended 15 days from 1982, closing January 31. Hatching peak was very late. Heavy snow and record low temperatures greatly reduced hunting activity after Thanksgiving.

Quail — Summer surveys indicated a 14 percent decrease in the quail population. Hatching peak appeared to be latest on record.

Hungarian Partridge — This was the third partridge season in Nebraska with the area open expanded to the entire state. There appears to be little change in the range of this bird at the present time.

Grouse — Spring breeding ground survey results showed a 12 percent increase in the grouse breeding population from 1982. Prairie chickens showed a 13 percent increase while sharpshooters were up 12 percent.

Cottontail Rabbit — Summer surveys indicated a 13 percent decrease in rabbit numbers over 1982.

Squirrel — Squirrel numbers remain fairly stable.

Furbearers

Table 7 shows the season dates for taking furbearers and bobcats.

Table 7. Furbearer Seasons for 1983-84.

Species	Opens	Closes	Limits
Mink	Nov. 5	Jan. 31	None
Muskrat	Nov. 5	Mar. 31	None
Beaver	Nov. 25	Mar. 31	None
Bobcat	Dec. 15	Jan. 31	None
Raccoon & Opossum	Nov. 5	Jan. 7	None

The 1983 harvest survey is not available at this writing. Due to reduced fur prices the total value of the 1983 harvest should be greatly reduced from 1982. Extreme cold and heavy snow fall during December also contributed to an expected reduction in furbearers harvested.

Migratory Birds

Table 8 shows the seasons for migratory birds for the 1983-84 seasons.

Table 8. Migratory Bird Seasons, 1983-84.

Species	Inclusive Dates	Daily Bag Limits	Possession Limit	Open Area
Duck	Oct. 22 - Dec. 20	100 pt.	2 bags	Low Plains*
	Oct. 1 - Nov. 29	100 pt.	2 bags	Zones 1 & 2
	Oct. 8 - Oct. 23	100 pt.	2 bags	Low Plains*
	Oct. 29 - Jan. 3			Zones 3 & 4
Light Goose	Oct. 1 - Dec. 25	5	10	High Plains
Dark Goose	Oct. 8 - Dec. 25	See Attached Information		Statewide
	Oct. 1 - Dec. 11			North Unit*
	Oct. 18 - Dec. 28			East Unit
	Nov. 7 - Dec. 28			Central Unit
Sandhills Special Canada Season	Nov. 5 - Dec. 11	1 Canada by special permit		Panhandle
Coot	Same as duck	15	30	See map
Dove	Sept. 1 - Oct. 15	12	24	Statewide
Snipe	Sept. 1 - Dec. 15	8	16	Statewide
Rail	Sept. 1 - Nov. 9	10	20	Statewide
Woodcock	Sept. 15 - Nov. 18	5	10	Statewide

Waterfowl

Avian cholera again caused considerable losses in the spring migration of ducks and geese in south-central Nebraska. Between February 23 and April 5, 3,677 carcasses of geese and ducks were picked up from the rainwater basins.

Winter banding operations resulted in banding 3,765 mallards (4,000 quota) at eight locations. This banding effort is needed to evaluate the Low Plains season. A total of 307 moulting adult and flightless young Canada geese were banded in the sandhills.

Duck breeding population in the sandhills was up 94 percent from 1982 and production appears to be excellent due to improved habitat conditions.

Production of Canada geese at Sac resulted in the release of 74 goslings in the sandhills and 99 goslings released in the North Platte Valley in Scotts Bluff County.

Mourning Dove

The coo county survey indicated a 10 percent decrease in the 1983 dove breeding population. The hunting season remained at 45 days with bag limits of 12 daily and 24 in possession.

Game Farm

Pheasants

The game farm at Sac produced 5,049 pheasant chicks. Of these, 4,762 were released at eight weeks of age on state areas in eastern Nebraska. Cooperators (144) received 14,200 day old pheasant chicks. These birds were raised to eight weeks of age and released.

Permits

The number of pet permits increased from 448 in 1982 to 513 in 1983. Commercial game farm permits also increased from 194 in 1982 to 208 in 1982.

Shooting Preserves

Nine controlled shooting preserves were licensed in the state.

Salvage Permits

Beginning November 1, 1983, people who hit a deer or antelope with a vehicle were allowed to get a Salvage Permit which permitted them to keep the meat. From November 1 through December 31, 433 such permits were issued for deer and none for antelope.

The first part of the paper is devoted to a discussion of the general principles of the theory of the structure of the atom. It is shown that the structure of the atom is determined by the laws of quantum mechanics, which are based on the principle of the conservation of energy and the principle of the conservation of momentum.

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