

Regulations protect visitors and resources.



The refuges are open to the public daily during daylight hours. Check refuge bulletin boards for specific open areas. All wildlife and plants are protected and disturbance is prohibited.

Searching for and removing artifacts or historical objects is prohibited except as authorized.

Pets must be leashed, except for the use of dogs during bird hunting seasons.

Camping, fires, fruit harvesting and horseback riding are not permitted.

Firearms, ammunition, projectile firing devices, bows and arrows, and explosives are prohibited, except as authorized during hunting seasons. Obtain hunting regulations from the Refuge office.

Operation of motor vehicles or bicycles off designated public roads is prohibited. Parking is permitted in designated areas only.

Other refuges in Western Oregon.

In addition to the three Willamette Valley refuges, four national wildlife refuges are located along the Oregon coast. Cape Meares and Bandon Marsh Refuges are located on the mainland, while Three Arch Rocks and Oregon Islands Refuges are located offshore. Administration of the valley and coastal refuges is from the complex Office at William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge, Route 2, Box 208, Corvallis, OR 97333 Phone: 503-757-7236.



Various seabirds and marine mammals abound on Oregon coastal islands.

For more information contact:

Refuge Manager
Willamette Valley and Oregon Coastal Refuge Complex
Route 2, Box 208
Corvallis, OR 97333

As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has responsibility for most of our nationally owned public lands and natural resources. This includes fostering the wisest use of our land and water resources, protecting our fish and wildlife, preserving the environmental and cultural values of our national parks and historical places, and providing for the enjoyment of life through outdoor recreation. The Department assesses our energy and mineral resources and works to assure that their development is in the best interests of all our people. The Department also has a major responsibility for American Indian reservation communities and for people who live in island territories under United States administration.



UNITED STATES
DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

RF13590-1

JANUARY, 1983

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Willamette
Valley

National
Wildlife Refuges
Oregon



Dusky Canada geese feeding on winter grasses.



A closer look at a dusky Canada goose.

Refuges for dusky Canada geese and others...

The Willamette Valley Refuges were established in the mid-1960's because of a decline of a unique race of goose—the dusky Canada goose. Increasingly intensive agriculture and urban sprawl greatly reduced the winter habitat of this goose which traditionally wintered in this area.

Except for a few stragglers, the whole population of dusky Canada geese winters in Oregon's Willamette Valley and along the lower Columbia River. The usually mild, rainy winter climate has long been an ideal environment for wintering waterfowl. The lesser Canada goose has a much broader winter range and thus does not depend on the valley as heavily for its survival.

During spring and summer the medium-sized dark brown dusky Canada goose nests on the Copper River Delta of southeastern Alaska.

The three Willamette Valley Refuges are located near or at traditional goose concentration points, and were purchased with money from the sale of "duck stamps."



The Copper River Delta, Alaska, where dusky Canada geese nest in the summer....



Farming for wintering waterfowl.

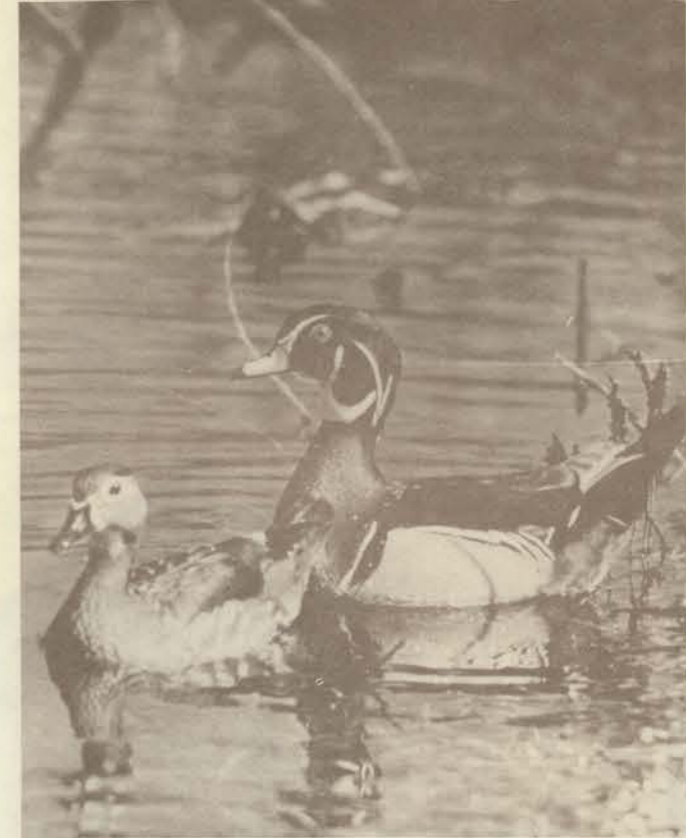
Intensive Management

The Refuges are managed to meet these three objectives in order of importance:

1. **To maintain wintering habitat for dusky Canada geese and other waterfowl.** Crops such as ryegrass, sudan grass, cereal grains, and corn are grown to provide waterfowl with food and to minimize wildlife damage to neighboring farm crops. Local farmers till the Refuge fields under cooperative agreements on a share basis. Ponds and dikes have been built to attract waterfowl.
2. **To provide protection and habitat for wildlife species other than waterfowl.** Unfarmed upland areas, riparian woodlands, hedgerows between fields, open water, marshes, and farm fields support a large diversity of wildlife. Deer, foxes, hawks, herons and owls are among the species supported on these Refuges.
3. **To provide opportunities for environmental education and wildlife-oriented recreation.** The general public and school groups have a unique opportunity to view large concentrations of geese and other wildlife and to learn of their habitat needs. Hunting, wildlife observation, photography and hiking are permitted where they do not adversely affect the wildlife populations.

The Refuge is zoned to control visitor disturbance to wildlife. The zones include: 1. **Open areas**—visitor uses allowed all year, 2. **Seasonally open areas**—public entry allowed during specified time periods only, 3. **Areas where hunting is permitted during specified seasons**, 4. **Areas closed to public entry year-round** are **Finley shop area and railroad lease areas**. Complete information concerning open areas and refuge hunting is available from the Refuge Complex office.

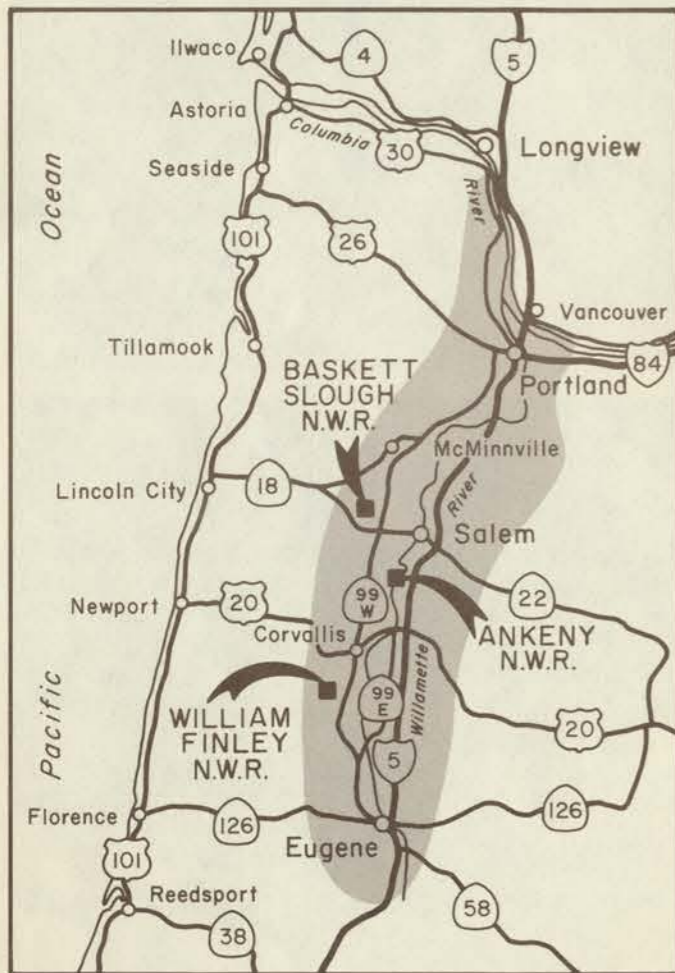
Wood Ducks are frequently seen on the marshes.



Great blue heron—one of the 200 species of wildlife on the Refuges.

Willamette Valley National Wildlife Refuges

Willamette Valley



Visitor Enjoyment

Observe and photograph wildlife—The Willamette Valley Refuges are good places to observe and photograph wildlife where they live. Because many species are less afraid of cars than people, good viewing is often possible from a vehicle on refuge roads.

Environmental Education—Many school classes and other groups visit the three refuges to learn of the needs of wildlife and their habitat. These experiences help students and others to gain a conservation awareness and appreciation of wildlife.


Hunting is permitted on the three refuges from late August to mid-January. Complete information concerning hunting is available from the Refuge Complex office.


Trail Walking is permitted in open areas. Check refuge signs to be certain which areas are open.


A Self-Guided Trail is open year-round at William L. Finley National Wildlife Refuge.


Information Kiosk Outdoor interpretive displays describe the interesting wildlife and other features of the Refuge.


Information is available at the Refuge Complex office, 503-757-7236.


 **Unshaded Areas**—Open to public use year around.

 **Shaded Areas**—Open to wildlife observation and hiking from May through September. Some zones are open to deer, waterfowl and upland game hunting from late August to mid-January (consult manager or hunting leaflet for current dates and zones.)


 **Areas Closed to Public Use**—Year Round

 **Refuge Boundary**

 **Roads (Open to Public)**

 **Walking Trails**

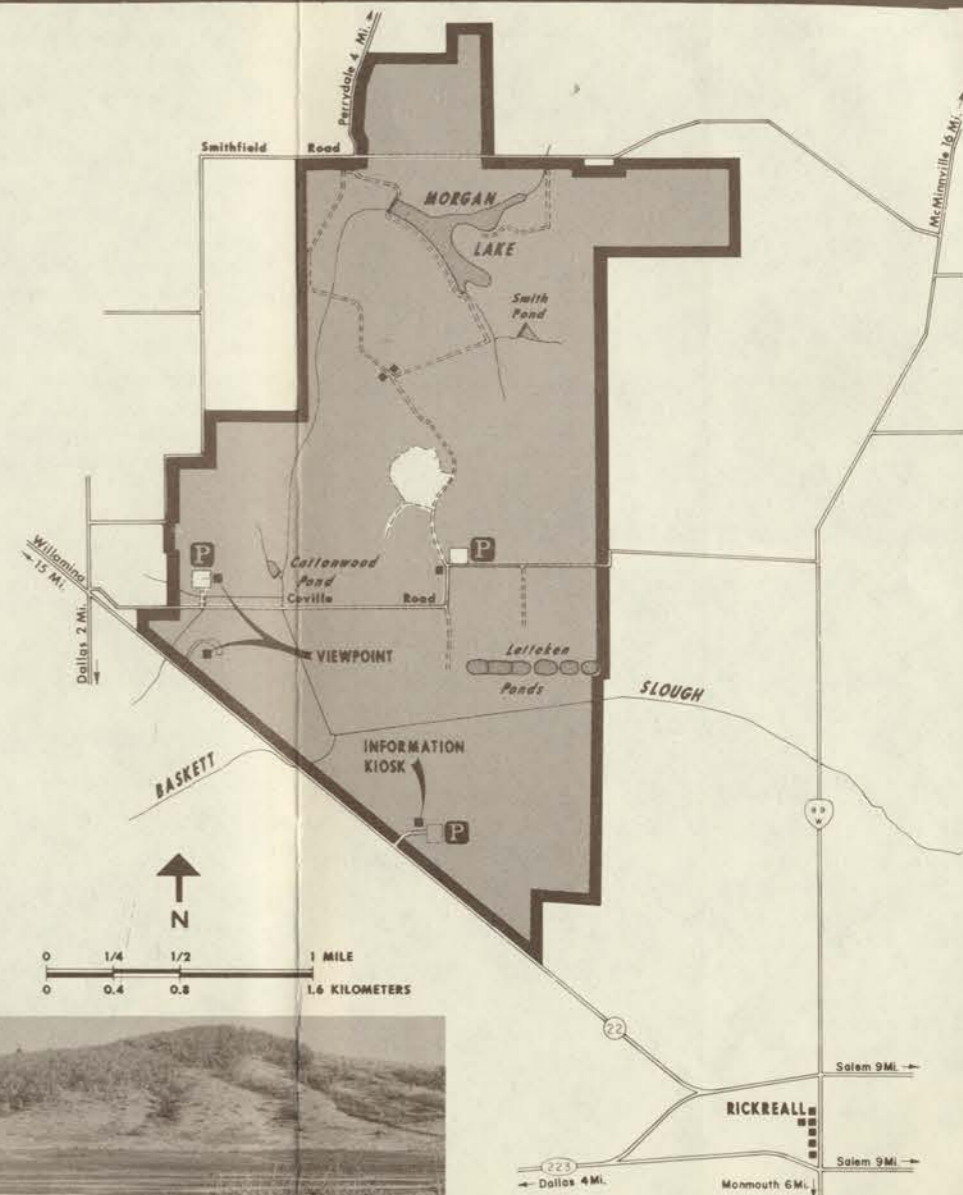
 **Dikes**

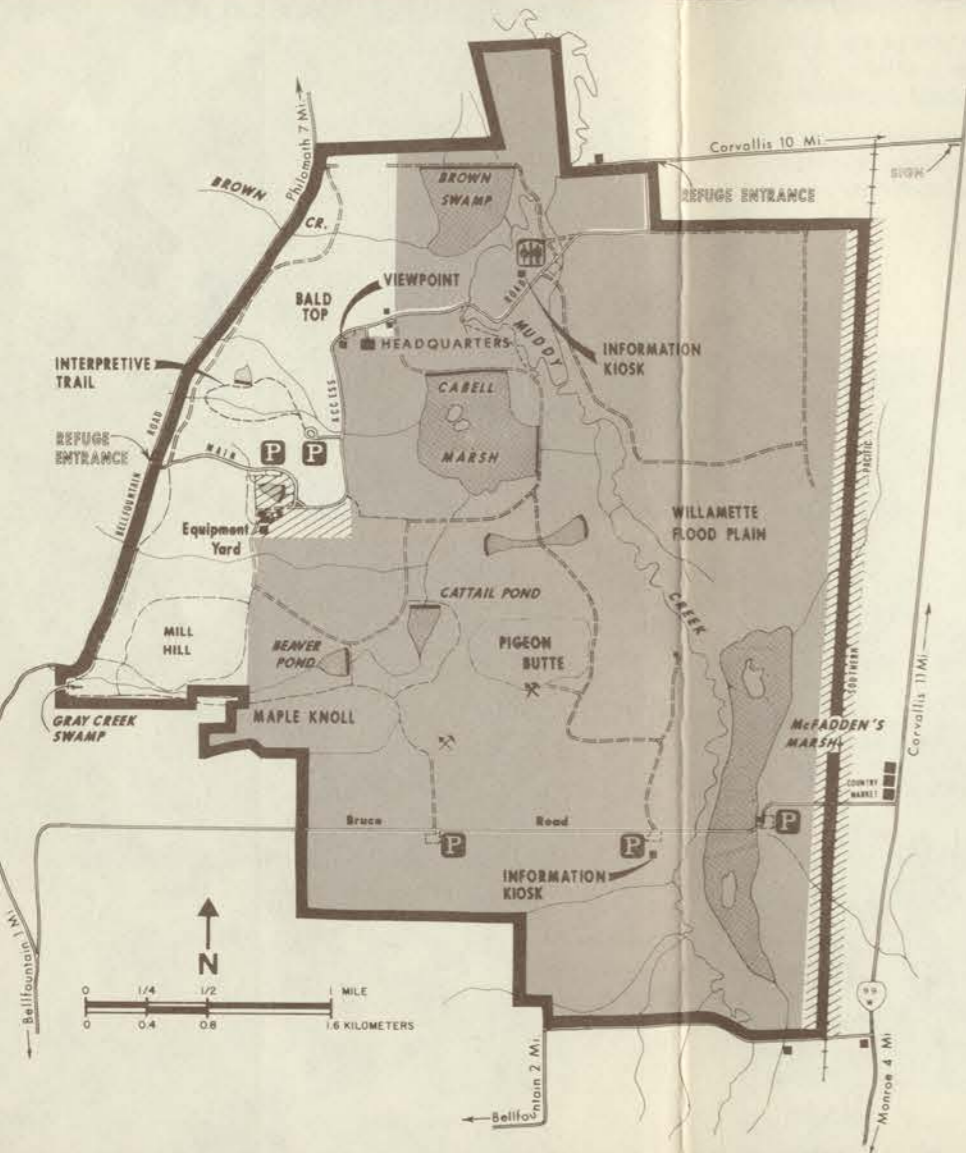
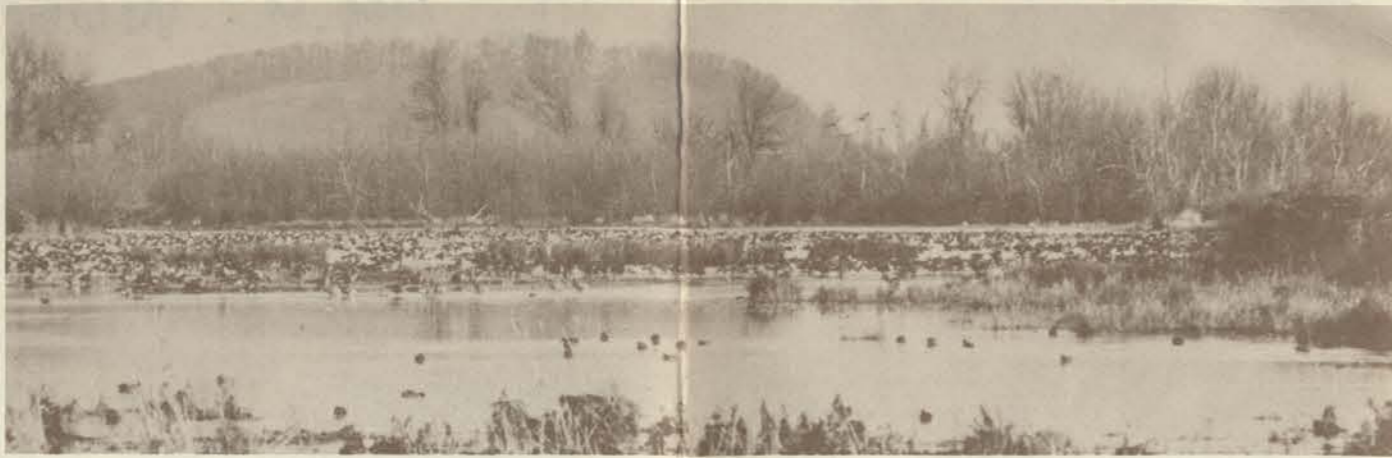
 **Walking Trails & Patrol Roads**

BASKETT SLOUGH NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

This 2,492 acre area, embracing an ancient lake bed surrounded by oak-studded rolling hills, offers visitors an opportunity to observe many forms of wildlife a short distance from population centers. The area was named after George J. Baskett, an early thoroughbred horse rancher.

Waterfowl of many types are abundant at Baskett Slough Refuge. Because of the presence of a large body of water (Morgan Lake) and a more northerly location, geese and ducks utilize the Refuge for about six weeks longer than at William L. Finley or Ankeny Refuges. During various seasons of the year, nearly 200 other species of wildlife may be seen at Baskett Slough.



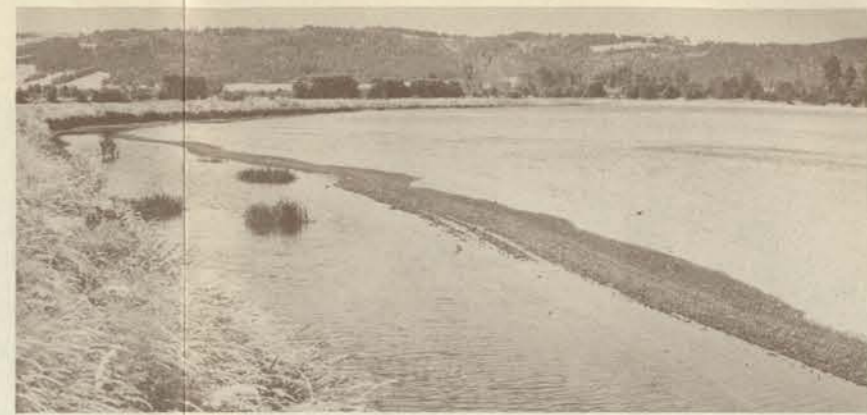


WILLIAM L. FINLEY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

The 5,325 acres of this Refuge encompass cleared farm fields separated by hedgerows of broadleaf trees which blend into the Douglas fir on the foothills.

The Refuge was named for William L. Finley, an early naturalist who persuaded President Theodore Roosevelt to create the first national wildlife refuges.

In addition to geese, several species of ducks visit Finley Refuge during migration. Wood ducks and hooded mergansers are summer nesters. Other species frequently seen are ruffed grouse, ring-necked pheasants, California and mountain quail, mourning doves, and black-tail deer.



ANKENY NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE

Ankeny Refuge, named for an early dairy farmer, is situated in the bottomlands of the Central Willamette Valley, immediately northeast of the confluence of the Santiam and Willamette Rivers. Most of the 2,796 acres consist of cleared farm fields, broken up by hedgerows of berry tangles, wild rose, hawthorne, and ash.

In addition to many types of waterfowl, nearly 200 other species of wildlife may be seen on the Refuge during various seasons of the year.

