

FIGURE 2. NUMBER OF STATE ENDANGERED SPECIES AT DPRWDP DURING THE BREEDING SEASON (1985 IS PRERESTORATION).

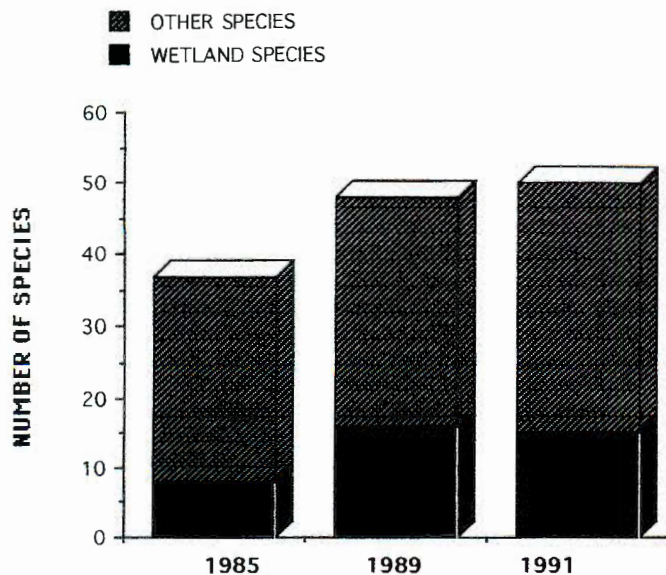


FIGURE 3. NUMBER OF SPECIES BREEDING AT DPRWDP: 1985 VS. 1990 AND 1991.

headed Blackbird. The open water character of the DPRWDP marshes is probably a major reason for their use by Yellowheaded Blackbirds and the Least Bittern.

In addition to these two state endangered species that nest at DPRWDP, three species endangered in Illinois visited the site to rest and/or feed during breeding season post-restoration censuses. A single Pied-billed Grebe was observed in Wetland #4 on June 5 in 1991. Small numbers, one to four individuals of Great Egrets fed and loafed in various wetlands

*'It appears that a field of dreams effect exists for wetland birds. If we build wetlands, birds will come.'*

throughout the summer months. Two immature Black-crowned Night-Herons on one occasion used the project site during the 1990 and 1991 breeding seasons.

Besides increasing the site's ability to support endangered species, restoration of wetlands has in general increased the site's habitat value for nesting birds. Table 1 indicates the total number of individuals of each species encountered during pre-restoration (1985) and post-restoration (1990 and 1991) breeding bird censuses. Restoration has resulted in an increase of approximately 30 percent in the total number of species nesting at DPRWDP