

TABLE 1. PRERESTORATION VS. POSTRESTORATION USE OF DPRWDP BY WATERFOWL DURING THE FIRST SEVEN WEEKS OF SPRING MIGRATION

<u>SPECIES</u>	<u>TOTAL NUMBER OF INDIVIDUALS SEEN</u>		
	1985	1990	1991
Pied-billed Grebe*	0	1	3
Great Blue Heron	0	1	2
Mute Swan	0	0	1
Canada Goose	5	365	132
Wood Duck	0	17	3
Green-winged Teal	0	26	155
American Black Duck	0	6	10
Mallard	4	102	139
Blue-winged Teal	4	6	66
Northern Shoveler	0	35	5
Gadwall	0	4	0
American Widgeon	0	6	0
Ring-necked Duck	0	13	12
Lesser Scaup	0	0	2
Common Goldeneye	0	12	0
Bufflehead	0	21	1
Hooded Merganser	0	2	0
American Coot	0	0	3
<u>TOTAL</u>	13	617	534

* = State Endangered Species

stop method recommended by the Illinois Department of Conservation. This method entails recording all birds seen or heard while slowly walking prescribed transects through the area being studied. The researcher using this method also pauses for five minutes at stops located along the transects and similarly records all birds seen or heard.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Wetlands restoration has tremendously increased this site's value to migrating waterfowl during the spring. The number of waterfowl species using the site increased by

approximately 400 percent during the seven-week post-restoration versus pre-restoration census period as shown in Table 1. Note that only three species of waterfowl were recorded in 1985 while 15 waterfowl species used the site in 1990 and 14 species used the site in 1991.

Similarly, and perhaps more dramatically, the table shows that the number of waterfowl individuals visiting the site during this same comparative census period increased by approximately 4,000 percent. Of particular note is the dramatic increase in numbers of Mallards, Blue-winged Teals, and Green-winged Teals.

No pre-restoration data concerning fall migration were gathered, so there is no basis for comparing post-restoration use of the site to that before wetland reconstruction commenced. However, Table 2 shows a viable population of migrating waterfowl during the post-restoration period of the project. Furthermore, the results of pre-restoration versus post-restoration censuses for spring migration and the breeding season indicate that it is reasonably safe to assume that wetland restoration at DPRWDP has increased usage of the site by wetland species during fall migration. It seems improbable that wetland restoration would