



Photo by Carl Greiner ©

Norris Camp News

News from the Red Lake Wildlife Management Area Headquarters
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources – Wildlife Section

Issue 40 ~ November 2018



Photo by Lyle Lauber ©

Red Lake WMA Master Plan Seeking Public Input

The Minnesota Department of Natural Resources is seeking citizen input on the Red Lake Wildlife Management Area (WMA) master plan update. The master plan guides the overall management goals for habitat for the unit's brushlands, peatlands, wetlands, and forests, which provide habitat for a wide variety of wildlife species. The plan was last updated in 1980.

You are invited to provide input via an online questionnaire designed to help generate ideas and identify potential planning issues and areas of concern. Input will be taken through December 19, 2018. A second opportunity for public input will be next spring after a draft master plan is ready for review.

Red Lake WMA, located in Beltrami and Lake of the Woods counties, includes 324,000 acres of state Wildlife Management Area and contains the headwaters of three different river systems and a pristine area of peatlands. Red Lake WMA is one of eight WMAs currently classified as a major unit.

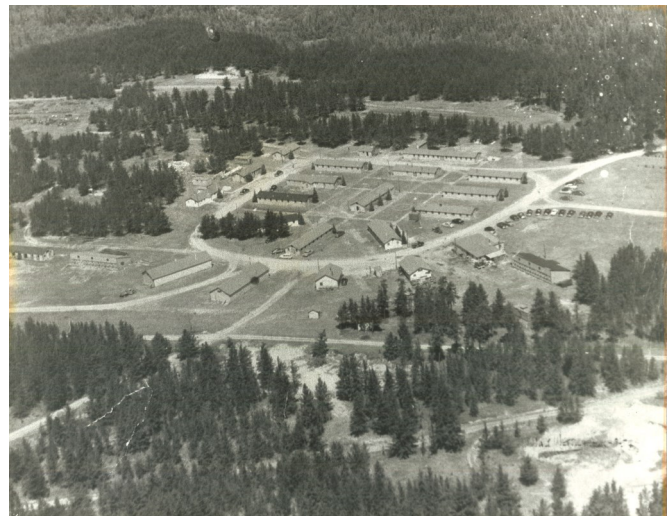
If you would like to participate in the questionnaire, please visit this website:

<http://bit.ly/RedLakeWMAInput>

For more information on Red Lake WMA, visit dnr.state.mn.us/wmas

Historical Society Grant Awarded for Norris Camp

A \$55,000 grant has been awarded to the MN DNR for Norris Camp. This Minnesota Historical and Cultural Heritage Grant will be used to develop a historic structures report where the 14 historic buildings will be assessed to help guide preservation planning. The report will also include recommendations for work that is needed on each of the buildings. This is a pre-development grant from the Minnesota Historical Society and this project will be followed by another grant request to complete some of the recommended work on the buildings.



Above: A 1950 aerial view of Norris Camp

Norris Camp was accepted in to the National Register of Historic Places in 1994. It served as a Civilian Conservation Corp, Works Progress Administration, and finally a Resettlement Administration Camp from 1935 to 1942. Since that time, it has been the headquarters for the MN DNR Section of Wildlife's Red Lake WMA.

There will be more information provided in the next newsletter as work on this grant progresses.

Friends of Norris Camp

Treasurer's Report

by June Foss

Account Balance = \$7,372.09 on 11/29/2018

Thanks so much to the following people for donations they've made since October 2018:

Dan Moss, Jeff Moss and Tim Bettcher



2018 Hunting Season Update

Overall, deer registration declined 14% through the third weekend of rifle season for the 100 series permit areas, including the Red Lake WMA area. Total deer registration in all permit areas and seasons also decreased 6% through the third weekend of firearm season. There will likely continue to be some late registration, but it looks like the number of deer harvested will decrease from 2017.

In deer permit area 111, which includes most of Red Lake WMA, registration was also down 6% through the third weekend of the firearm season for all seasons. Overall, the ratio of bucks to antlerless deer harvested remained similar, despite a change from lottery to hunter choice designation.

However, the number of bucks taken was slightly lower than in 2017 and the number of antlerless deer taken was slightly higher, suggesting that some hunters were happy to harvest an antlerless deer instead of trying to harvest a buck.

Expectations for the 2018 grouse season were lower than in 2017 because of decreases in spring drumming counts. Despite this, most bird hunters in the Beltrami Island area were more satisfied than in years' past as there seemed to be more grouse in the woods. A drier than normal chick-rearing season likely contributed to increased survival and recruitment of young birds.



CONTACT

For more INFORMATION

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