

WLF 419 - Waterfowl and Wetlands Ecology and Management
Lecture 17 – Waterfowl Administration
Next Time – North American Waterfowl Management Plan

Abridged History of Waterfowl Administration/Harvest Management

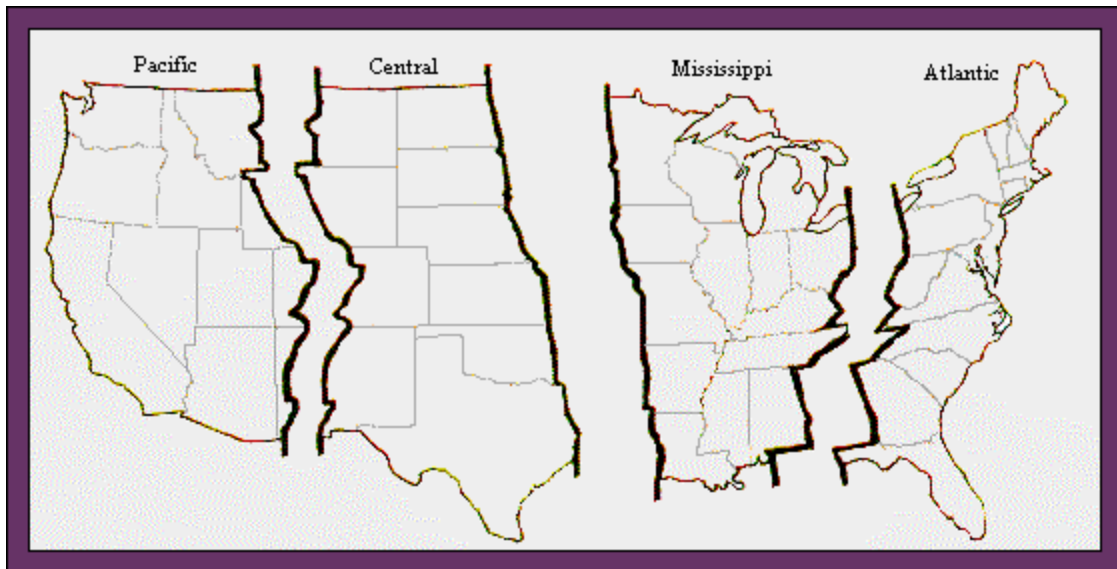
Pre 1930's

- Waterfowl abundant and human abundance was low
- Liberal Harvest
 - Market Hunting
 - Excessive
 - Extinction – Labrador Duck
- 1900 – Game and Wild Bird Preservation and Disposition Act (Lacey Act)
 - Introduction of Exotics
 - Interstate transport of illegal harvest
- 1913 – Migratory Bird Law
 - Waterfowl harvest in federal control
 - Harvest regulations
 - Closed hunting for non-game birds
 - Closed spring harvest
- 1916 - Migratory Bird Treaty
 - International Protection
 - U.S. and Canada
 - Specific regulations
- 1917 – Migratory Bird Convention Act, 1918 – Migratory Bird Treaty Act
 - Authorized policing power and penalties
 - Mexico (1936), Japan (1972), Russia (1978)
- 1929 – Migratory Bird Convention Act
 - Funds for acquisition of refuge habitats
 - NWR system

1930-50

- Dust Bowl
- Waterfowl Abundance Low
- Jay “Ding” Darling
 - Cartoonist
 - Chief of what is now USFWS

- Cooperative Wildlife Research Units
 - 1934 - Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act
 - Monies for Migratory Bird Conservation Fund
 - First Duck Stamp
- 1937 – Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act
 - Pittman-Robertson Act
 - State funding through excise tax
- 1937 – Ducks Unlimited
- Flyways
 - Administrative Units
 - Flyway Councils
 - Flyway Technical Committees



- Monitoring initiated
 - mid-winter surveys

1951-75

- More extensive monitoring
 - Banding
 - May and July Surveys
- Flyway Councils
 - Refined geographic component to management
 - Development Process for waterfowl Regulations

- Regulations tracked populations, however, effects of management actions on population size were not known
- Start of Land-management Policies
 - 1961 - Wetlands Loan Act
 - 1958 - Waterfowl Production Areas
- National Environmental Policies
 - 1973 - Endangered Species Act
- International
 - 1971 – Ramsar Convention

1976-1993

- More quantitative methods to assess relationship between management actions and population dynamics
 - additive and compensatory mortality
 - CONFOUNDING - regulations (harvest) tracks population size
 - Uncertainty about relationship between management actions and population size remained
- 1985 – Food Security Act
 - Conservation Reserve Program
 - Swampbusters
- 1986 – North American Waterfowl Management Plan
- 1990 – Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act (Farm Bill)
 - Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP)

1994 – Present

- Adaptive Harvest Management
- Subsistence Harvest
- Baiting