DRUMMOND FLATS WMA ASSESSMENT

Ducks Unlimited is working with the Oklahoma Department of Wildlife Conservation (ODWC) and the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to complete an environmental assessment on restoration options for Drummond Flats WMA. The environmental assessment is in progress and should be completed in 2020. Once completed, design alternatives will be selected and implemented to improve wetland management on the WMA. Drummond Flats WMA covers 5,000 acres in western Garfield county. Drummond Flats is a historic overflow basin at the confluence of Turkey Creek, Elm Creek, and Salt Creek, and is predominately wetland habitat with some surrounding upland habitat.

PACKSADDLE WMA

Ducks Unlimited is working with ODWC to improve the Bosner Marsh on Packsaddle Wildlife Management Area. Through the installation of a water delivery pipeline and dirt work, we will enhance waterfowl habitat and management capacity on 36 acres in 2 wetland units. DU provided engineering and design services, with funding for the project from ODWC and Newfield Exploration. Packsaddle WMA covers 19,659 acres in Ellis County. Located in the mixed grass prairie, it is a mixture of rolling sand hills and wooded bottoms with the South Canadian River as its southern boundary.
STATE CAMPAIGN UPDATE & SPONSOR SPOTLIGHT

Oklahoma’s Campaign Committee secured 7 new Life Sponsors and 3 upgrades and 3 new Feather Society members in 2018. Oklahoma sponsors understand that giving to Ducks Unlimited is the soundest investment they can make for the future of wetlands, waterfowl and waterfowl hunting.

Mike Dwyer is one of OKDU’s dedicated sponsors. A native of Lawton, Oklahoma, Mike now lives in Tulsa. He became engaged with DU in the late 1980s when he experienced his first goose hunt. He has served as a chairman and remains an active committee member. He and his wife, Georgene, are Sponsors in Perpetuity. For Mike, giving back to the resource he enjoys as a hunter is what brings him to DU.

“I try to get people to understand that DU is not just for duck hunters,” he explained. “DU is for anyone who loves the resources that God has given us and shares a passion to preserve, protect, and restore those resources.”

Shane's life is centered around his faith, family, football and (water)fowl. He offers this perspective for other volunteers, “If you surround yourself with a good committee and people who care, you will be successful as a chapter. If each chapter does their part, we can and will make a huge difference. It’s kind of like playing the lottery – you can’t win if you don’t buy a ticket. For DU, if we don’t try, there’s no chance to make a difference for wetlands and waterfowl conservation.”

FUNDRAISING UPDATE & VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Volunteers are the heartbeat of Ducks Unlimited, and Oklahoma has some of the best. Oklahoma boasts more than 7,900 members, including 637 dedicated volunteers who hosted 56 events in 2018, raising more than $877,000 to support DU’s conservation mission. Those dollars enable DU to complete extensive conservation work in Oklahoma and on the breeding grounds that produce Oklahoma’s waterfowl.

Shane Lemons is one of OKDU’s dedicated volunteers. This Oklahoma native and 4-year DU volunteer chairs South Central Oklahoma Chapter committee. As an avid waterfowler who has shared his passion with his two sons, Shane sees his engagement with DU as a way to ensure the future of waterfowling and preserve the heritage of those who came before us. He also sees the broader impact of DU’s conservation projects.

“If you and your children want to continue to enjoy the outdoors and waterfowl hunting, you need to be willing to give of yourself in terms of time and money,” Mike said. “It’s rewarding to know you are contributing to the preservation of this wonderful sport. Doing so through DU is a great way to pool the resources of many toward making a difference most of us could not make individually.”

OKLAHOMA BY THE NUMBERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>2018</th>
<th>CUMULATIVE</th>
<th>ODWC’s cumulative contributions to DU for habitat conservation in Canada: $1,768,000.</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>56 events</td>
<td>38,040 acres conserved</td>
<td>(Information through 1/1/19)</td>
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<tr>
<td>$877,367 raised</td>
<td>$19,988,147 invested</td>
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Ducks Unlimited conserves, restores, and manages wetlands and associated habitats for North America’s waterfowl. These habitats also benefit other wildlife and people.

Visit us online at www.ducks.org/oklahoma