

*Kirtland's Plover
Committee*

2609 Jefferson
Midland, Michigan
January 28, 1960

Dear Chairman:

Annual meeting time is nearing again. As has been the practice for several years, we wish to compile brief reports from each committee. In order to get them mimeographed for distribution at the annual meeting, your report should be sent to Monica Evans, Kalamazoo College, Kalamazoo, no later than February 20, 1960.

May I suggest that you consider for inclusion in your report what you feel the membership should know concerning your committee, its actions, its problems or projects under consideration, and any projected future activities? In other words it should be a progress report of 1959.

Sincerely yours,

Mark

Mark A. Wolf, President
The Michigan Audubon Society

NAW:me

REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON KIRTLAND'S WARBLER PRESERVE

Three tracts of State forest lands have been set aside by the Michigan State Conservation Department, to be managed for the benefit of the Kirtland's Warbler. These tracts are in Ogemaw, Oscoda, and Crawford counties. Since a great many of the trees are soon due to be harvested on the Oscoda County tract, work has been done only on the Ogemaw and Crawford County tracts. In both of these, there are already limited amounts of small jack-pines and a small population of nesting Kirtland's Warblers. On both of these tracts there are also extensive grasslands and a considerable amount of these grasslands have been planted with jack-pines and other conifers. The plantings were made in strips with untouched grasslands between them in order to produce the semi-open kind of forest we believe required by the Kirtland's Warbler.

The new plantings had a successful first season. So everything is proceeding in a most encouraging fashion. However, just now there is nothing to do but wait. It will probably be at least four more years before the new plantings are large enough to attract nesting Kirtland's Warblers. At that time the plantings will vastly increase the suitable acreage on these tracts.

Respectfully submitted by

COMMITTEE ON THE KIRTLAND'S WARBLER PRESERVE

H. F. Mayfield, Chairman
L. H. Walkinshaw
A. J. Berger
Fenn Holden
Verne Dockham
Douglas Middleton

*Copies to →
3/22/60*

February 8, 1960

Harold Mayfield:et

*Sent to Monica Evans
Kalamazoo College
Kalamazoo Mich.
2/8/60*

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE
LOWER MICHIGAN NATIONAL FORESTS
CADILLAC, MICHIGAN

July 21, 1960

IN REPLY REFER TO:

2650

Mr. Harold Mayfield
R.F.D. River Road
Waterville, Ohio

Dear Mr. Mayfield:

The U. S. Forest Service, under its program of multiple use land management, is interested in the preservation of the Kirtland's Warbler.

Since this warbler is specific in its habitat, and at present its best habitat is found within the Huron National Forest, we believe that the Forest Service is in an excellent position to adjust forest management practices on portions of its area to maintain a relatively stable population.

We have discussed setting up a Kirtland's Warbler management area with John Byelich, Michigan Department of Conservation, and with Mr. Vern Dockham. Mr. Dockham assisted us in selecting a potential management area in the vicinity of Mack Lake. We are now investigating the possibility and feasibility of setting up such an area, and whether or not such a management area would preserve nest habitat. There is also some concern about whether or not such dedication of management practices might eventually create such public interest in the bird to the point where excessive use would be a detriment to the population.] mo!

Mr. Dockham suggested that we write you concerning our proposed plans. We would appreciate all the assistance we can obtain before we establish such an area.

If a management plan is written we will include some basic information about the bird, its history, data on the 1951 census, effects of recent fires on Warbler populations, research done on the bird to date, and the effect intensive fire control might have on eliminating the birds' habitat.

We understand you have written a book on the Kirtland's Warbler. Undoubtedly much of the information we desire would be available in this new book. We would appreciate knowing when you expect the book to be published.

We expect to examine several potential sites in the near future. If



you desire, we will be glad to keep you informed on the progress of this project.

Please feel free to contact us if any questions develop.

Very truly yours,

L. A. POMMERENING
Forest Supervisor


By, U. M. MARTTILA, Acting

cc: John Byelich
Verne Dockham
R.O.

