

MRS. JULIUS C. PETER
307 RIDGEMONT ROAD
GROSSE POINTE FARMS 36, MICHIGAN

Nov 18/19

Dear Senator Hart.

When I heard you (in the front row at the Michigan Audubon meeting) in Grand Rapids, I was impressed by your sincere & long time interest in conservation.

Enclose copy of an article from the North Woods Call, published at Rosebush Mich. calling attention to a new danger threatening our wonderful Michigan bird, the

MP

Kirtlands Warbler

It nests only in the Tuck
Penic in the Rio Grayling
Area. The Occidental Road
Commission is going to put
a black top road thru this
nesting area, and only the
U.S. Forest Service can stop

it. Will you please use your
influence with the Service
to this end

Cordially

Orville M. Peter

Mrs. Talus

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... on the river. Some of these fishermen said property owners have

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Warblers lose nests to road

Permitive approval has been given to construct a road through the Kirland's warbler management area of the Iron National Forest.

Constructed by the Osceola County Road Commission, the new blacktop road is expected to cut through the southeast corner of the rare warbler's nesting area. The U.S. Forest Service can deny the county permission to route the road through the warbler nesting area. A Forest Service biologist has reviewed the plans.

The Kirland's warbler nests only in fork pines in the Mio-Graying area of Michigan.

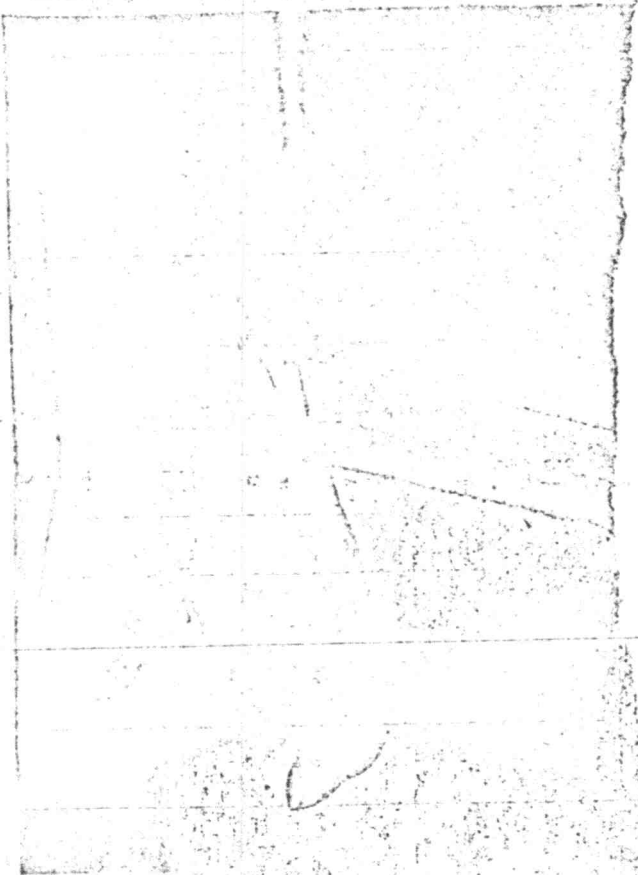
The North Woods Call expects to have more detailed information for next week's edition.

Houghton Lake pike marshes puzzle fish men

Houghton Lake's mammoth pike rearing marshes will be the subject of serious biological sleuthing this spring as DNR fish managers try to find out why millions of baby pike are disappearing.

The north and south unit rearing marshes should raise between 1.4 and 3.5 million fingerling pike each spring for release into Houghton Lake. Instead, the best production so far has been about 60,000 fingerlings.

DNR wildlife fish chief Gary Schmieke admits he is baffled. Especially after last year, when no more than 29,000 fingerlings swam out of the marsh into Houghton Lake.



AS WINTER WADLES INTO SPRING many north country families are reluctantly preparing to say goodbye to the feathered visitors who have cheered the cold months. Bird flocks that have been the busiest place around many homes, will soon be nearly vacant as birds begin migrating and nesting.

Based on experience at the state's other artificial pike rearing marshes, biologists expect each acre of marsh to produce at least 2,000 fingerlings. As many as 5,000 fingerlings per acre isn't uncommon, Schmieke said.

Both the south unit and the north unit of the Houghton Lake rearing marshes are slightly more than 350 acres in size. Figuring a minimum of 2,000 fingerlings per acre, and up to 5,000, the Houghton Lake marshes should be good for from 1.4 to 3.5 million each spring.

Because the survival of fingerlings is low once they are out of the marsh and into the lake, Schmieke says a million or

snagging. Bird men who heard the still unconfirmed rumor reacted with a warning that such wide open snagging

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MEDIA FORNANCE comes to end

The three month alliance between the Michigan Deer Hunters Association and DNR game biologists has ended. MEDIA president Willard Musolf of Osceola last week announced the association will participate in no more cooperative programs with the department.

DNR game men, Musolf charged, have failed to live up to their promises. He further charged that the lumber industry is influencing the department's deer management policy. The lumber companies, he said, want forests managed to produce timber, not deer.

The MEDIA, Musolf said, has returned to its traditional position that a hunt to antlerless hunting is the only way to save the deer herd.

more a year are needed to give Houghton Lake excellent pike fishing.

The failure of the north unit marsh was unavoidable last year, Schmieke said. Game division construction work on the water control structure for the marsh--which is flooded for waterfowl in the fall--delayed releasing the fingerlings last spring until they were nearly six inches long.

If pike fingerlings are not released from the rearing marshes by the time they are 3 1/2 inches long, they turn cannibalistic and up to 90% of them will be eaten in two weeks, Schmieke explained.

But this doesn't answer why the south unit marsh only produced 28,000 fingerlings last year. Or why the most it has produced in a single year since it was opened seven years ago is about 55,000.

Schmieke suspects several possibilities: 1) The marshes are so vast that fingerlings in the areas most distant from the gates do not find their way out when the water is drained; 2) The poison used each year to kill predator fish in the marshes is not effective enough, leaving a large number of survivors to prey on the pike fry.

He is sure that some pike are lost due to both of these factors. But he does not

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United States Senate

March 25, 1970

Respectfully referred to:

Congressional Liaison
U.S. Forest Service
Department of Agriculture

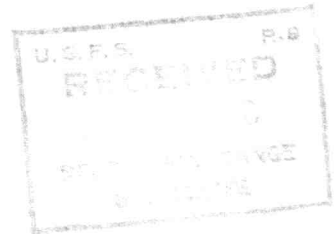
Because of the desire of this office to be responsive to all inquiries and communications, your consideration of the attached is requested. Your findings and views, in duplicate form, along with return of the enclosure, will be appreciated by

Mrs. Julius C. Peter
307 Ridgemont Road
Grosse Pointe Farms, Michigan

U.S.S.

Joseph Bartell, M.S.
15052 Artesian Road
Detroit, Michigan

March 19, 1970



Senator Phillip A. Hart
433 Federal Building
Detroit, Michigan

Dear Senator Hart:

This is to alert you that a new highway is going to be constructed through the Kirtland Warbler Management Area near Mack Lake.

The new road will connect state highways 33 and 65. It will go through Section 12 of the management area, the section in the southeast corner of the sanctuary. The road will intersect about a three-quarter mile stretch of the bird's habitat. The surface will be hard and about twenty-five feet wide. It is planned to support medium-speed traffic, at fifty miles per hour, with wide sweeping curves. The road will be built by the U. S. Forest Service and Oscoda County.

In a conversation with Dr. A. Ammons of the Department of Natural Resources, I was informed that the State Highway Department and the Department of Natural Resources felt that if it had to be built at all, the road should be constructed further east so as not to infringe on the sanctuary.

Apparently the justification for building the new road is to reduce traffic on an existing hard surface road that runs through the sanctuary. If one road is too many, why build a second.

Your thoughts and assistance in the matter will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Joseph Bartell
Joseph Bartell

