



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
BUREAU OF SPORT FISHERIES AND WILDLIFE

Federal Building, Fort Snelling  
Twin Cities, Minnesota 55111

IN REPLY REFER TO:

P&A (PM)

January 15, 1974

Mr. Harold F. Mayfield, Chairman  
Kirtland's Warbler Advisory Committee  
9235 River Road  
Waterville, Ohio 43566

Dear Mr. Mayfield:

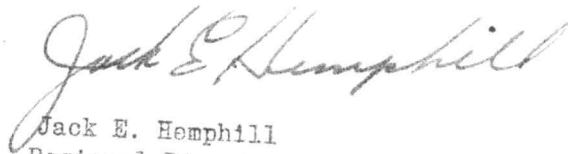
Thank you for your letter of December 21 in which you indicated that the cowbird control program appears to be reversing the decline of the endangered Kirtland's warbler. You may rest assured that program activity directed to the recovery of this species to a secure, viable population will remain one of our higher priorities.

While it would be foolhardy now to flatly state that the energy crisis will not curtail our activities when the cowbird trapping season begins in early May, we are proceeding on the assumption that sufficient gasoline will be available. Funds are available for us to give this cowbird reduction program the full attention it deserves. We are now recruiting for two summer assistants to aid in trap tending. We believe we will have the capability to operate all the traps that were in service last year plus the new ones that may be added, with a possible exception of the one new trap on Fletcher Burn southwest of Grayling. Because of the extensive travel required to service this trap on our route, some extra assistance might be valuable in this instance. We will locate and set up the trap on Fletcher Burn and will supervise and train the selected trap tender as necessary. Mr. Shake will work closely with you and other cooperators in finding this individual.

We appreciate the cooperation we have received from you and the Michigan Audubon Society as well as other State and Federal agencies. We believe that the promising recovery of the Kirtland's warbler as demonstrated to date is a fine example of what can be achieved by many individuals cooperating to achieve a mutual goal. It is unfortunate that the shadow of the energy crisis has fallen over the Kirtland's warbler recovery program and necessitated a committee meeting on short notice. Perhaps as we adjust our day to day operations to conform to a reduced utilization of non-renewable resources, we will find that a full committee meeting will still be possible prior to the initiation of the cowbird trapping season. We too feel that there is a lot to be gained by having the input of many people interested

and knowledgeable in the Kirtland's warbler. We are particularly anxious that the valuable nesting data that has been collected in recent years by Larry Walkinshaw will be collected again this coming season. We will keep in touch with him to make certain that there is no break in the continuity of this information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Jack E. Hemphill". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name.

Jack E. Hemphill  
Regional Director

cc: Dr. Lawrence Walkinshaw, Route #2, Box 204L Timberlane  
Lake Wales, Florida 33853  
State Supervisor Winters, Columbus, Ohio