

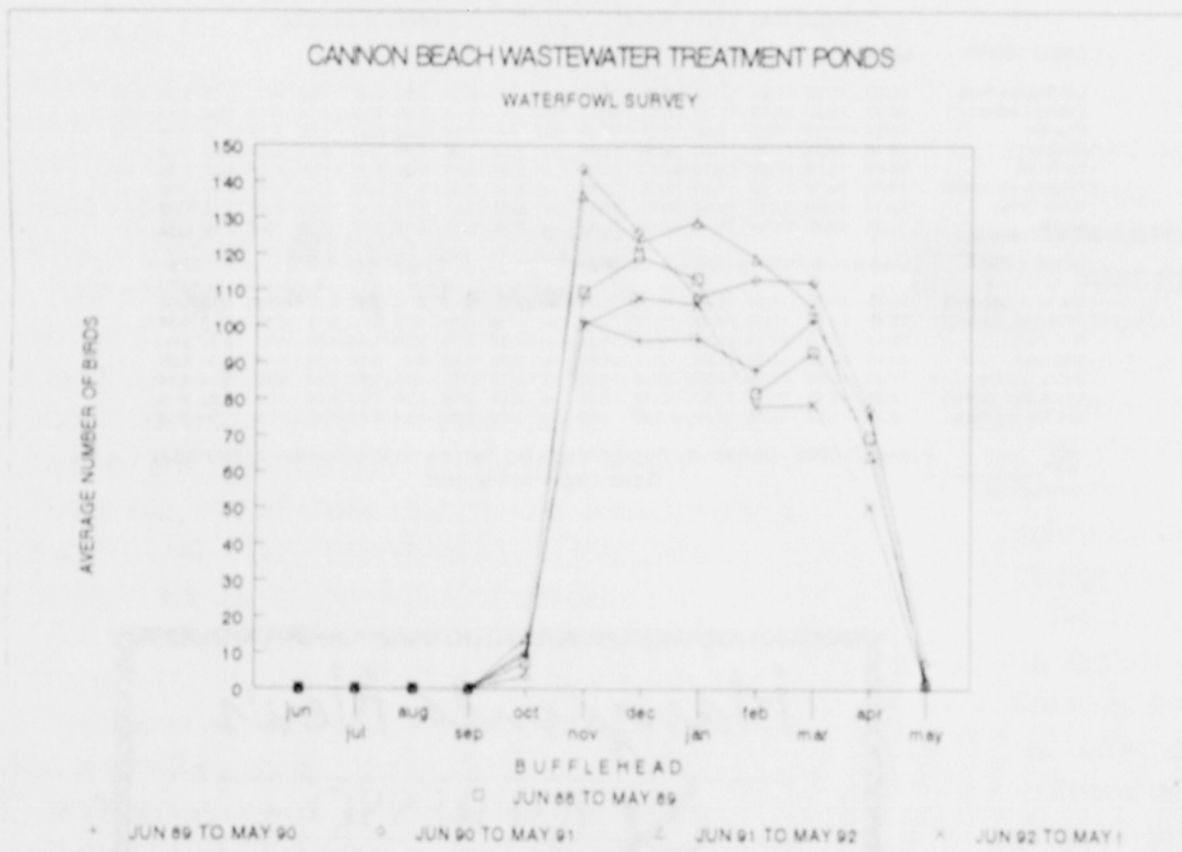
SHOVELER

Large shovel-shaped bill, short neck. Breeding male has green head, lower neck and breast snow white, belly and flanks chestnut but white in front of black tail. Females, molting males and juveniles are drab and mottled, under wings show light cobalt blue inner forewing with a white band separating it from metallic green spectrum.



SCAUP

Medium sized duck. Male is white below and light with wavy gray lines above, head, breast and tail are black with green sheen on head, long white wing stripe. Female is dull brown with white facial patch encircling base of bill.



BUFFLEHEAD

Smallest North American duck. Breeding male white with shiny black back, large white patch on head against green and purple glossed black forehead and nape. Female dark overall with pale breast, blackish head with white oval below and behind eye.

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offer a tiny oasis to many of them. Don found it encouraging to learn that there were solutions to problems which fit within the framework of all living things.

Occasionally, a rare visitor would find its way to the ponds and bring rise to an amusing comment in the count log. This was Don's way of subtly flaunting. No one was less apt to flaunt than Don, but he could not resist a tiny jab now and then. Having seen the ducks advance over the years in both kind and numbers, it appeared that most local duck species were, indeed, receptive to the treatment ponds. Bill Canessa continues the counts today. With the original question of the birds' receptiveness to the ponds now answered, the counts continue for a variety of reasons. The users of the data still find it useful and consistency is an important aspect of any long term data set. Aside from that, I'm certain the Bill would contend that the ponds are simply a wonderful place to be, and the ducks

have become welcome and familiar friends to him.

Other common visitors to the ponds are the Mallard, Wigeon, Teal (Green Wing, Blue Wing and Cinnamon), American Coot, Goldeneye, Ruddy Duck, Common Merganser, Canada Goose and Tundra Swan.

Recently, the Donald E. Thompson Memorial Viewing Platform was erected on the northwest corner of the sewer treatment ponds, now the Thompson Marsh. City staff and council wished to demonstrate their appreciation for Don's monumental contribution to Cannon Beach, its residents and the migratory water fowl. Those present at its completion, including Don's wife Violet, felt comfortable that Don would approve fully of the design and concept. We took note, however, that he might have taken exception to our not finding some incidental use for the tiny lumber scraps created by the platform construction. As we climbed the freshly completed steps to the viewing area to drink a toast with some of Don's home made beer, Cedar Waxwings buzzed our heads. We were looking out at the end product of Don's curiosity and persistence, feeling perhaps the same attraction and embrace as that sensed by a passing bufflehead.

Ron Logan

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