

G. WILDLIFE

7. Other Migratory Birds

Neotropical Migrants

Refuge staff were involved with neotropical bird surveys during the month of June. ROS Skinner, with input from WB Skinner, selected two river routes to be included in the National Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) Program. The first route (Hather Creek) covered approximately 12 miles on Hather Creek and 13 miles on the Innoko River. The second route (Mud River) covered approximately 14 miles on the Mud River, and 11 miles on the Innoko River. Both routes were marked along the river banks with flagging the day before they were run and latitude/longitude locations were recorded. Sunrise for the Refuge is officially 3:30 a.m. so an early start was needed for each route. Both routes ran over the time limit set by the BBS, but except for the last few stops, bird singing seemed consistent throughout the routes. Plans for 1994 include a second year of the two established routes plus the establishment of a third route on the Iditarod River.



Relying on sight and song, BT Medeiros and ROS Skinner conduct the breeding bird survey along the river corridors. (PB 6/93, of course this photo wasn't staged)