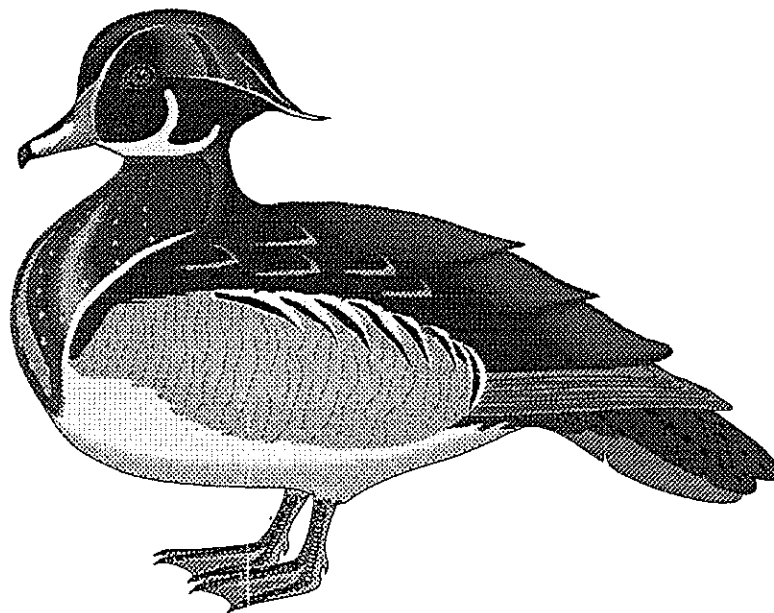


Western Newfoundland Model Forest Inc. and Ducks Unlimited Canada Nest Box Program, 1995/96.

GT



Glen J. Parsons, BSc., MSc.
Ducks Unlimited Canada
Area Manager, NF & LAB.
83B Midland Row
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Program Review

In 1995, Ducks Unlimited Canada delivered a province wide cavity nest box program sponsored by The Western Newfoundland Model Forest Inc.

Building and maintaining nest boxes are inexpensive ways to improve the breeding habitat for cavity nesting ducks (wood ducks, goldeneyes, mergansers, and buffleheads), as well as many other species of animals (kestrels, owls, flickers, starlings, woodpeckers, squirrels and even bats).

The costs of each nest box was estimated at \$15.00 at the initial stages of this program. Approximately 133 nest boxes , with a total construction costs of \$2000.00 was set as a goal. Through numerous meetings and phone calls with various hardware stores and small sawmill operations the cost of each nest box was reduced down to less than one half of the initial cost of each box. A total of 284 box kits were constructed for \$1997.68.

Due to the extremely low snow fall in most of the province, many of the nest boxes were not installed in the interior regions. Many of the boxes were placed near rivers and small ponds surrounding local communities. Many of the nest boxes have been constructed but have yet not been installed. These boxes will be installed later this Spring, when there is suitable access to recommended areas by canoe.

In my view, this program was a great success in many ways. It gave Scout groups and local naturalist a chance to learn about general concepts of conservation and wildlife in our province. This program increased the public awareness of Ducks Unlimited and the Western Newfoundland Model Forest in many communities in Newfoundland, and probably most importantly, this program improved the breeding habitat for cavity nesting animals in our area.

I hope that the Western Newfoundland Model Forest and Ducks Unlimited Canada can work together in other conservation programs in the near future.

WESTERN NEWFOUNDLAND MODEL FOREST & DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA NEST BOX PROGRAM.

Community	Number of Boxes	Group
St. Anthony	14	Ducks Unlimited Committee
Pasadena	20	Scouts
Deer Lake	10	Scouts
Stephenville	35	Ducks Unlimited Committee
Codroy	36	Local Naturalist
Springdale	16	Wildlife Dept.
Lewisporte	34	CWS & Scouts
Carmanville	15	Local Naturalist
Gander	30	Ducks Unlimited Committee
Glovertown	8	Local Naturalist
Clarenville	32	Wildlife Dept. & Scouts
Come By Chance	20	Conservation Corps
Marystown	14	Scouts
TOTAL	284	



Ducks Unlimited Canada

Figure 1. Map of nest box locations.



Program Segment Details Report For Ledger Date 9504 to 9505

Location: 2 06 3 59 NEWFOUNDLAND

Functions: 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10

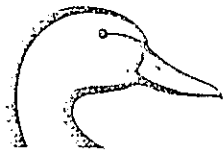
GL Area	GL Chart	Led Date	Doc Date	Ent Date	Description	Invoice- Jr Reference	Sec Contract	DU NA	Employee	Amount	
Other Nat. WOOD DUCK MODEL FOREST TRASS - Spent. WEST DOR LAND DEVELOPMENT & MANAGEMENT											
6-09	04-0812	9511	9510	951102	PARSONS/CONTRACT RIGHTS & 40	843570	851-0	OTH	93 R	E 3843570	380.00
6-09	04-0813	9509	9508	950906	PARSONS/SUPERVISION	40 843570			D	E 3843570	372.06
6-09	04-0813	9510	9509	951005	PARSONS/SUPERVISION	40 843570			D	E 3843570	380.00
TOTAL CONSTRUCTION:											
6-09	0542-01	9508	9508	950813	BUILDERS WORLD LIMITED	10 201647			D	E 3891546	126.66
6-09	0542-01	9509	9509	950905	Louis Brittett & Sons Lt	19 7755	851-0	OTH	D	E 4222333	77.18
6-09	0542-01	9511	9511	951123	PARSONS/CD/DOE	31 944669			93 R		19.99
6-09	0542-01	9502	9502	950220	T & G Woodworkers Ltd.	19 950125			93 R	E 4540661	706.75

End of Report - FCR1501

Construction Continued:

Materials - Petty Cash-	\$21.27
Materials - Petty Cash-	\$ 1.67
Materials - Petty Cash-	\$ 6.38
Materials - Builders World-	\$22.62
Materials - Builders Worls-	\$865.08
Contractor Charges - Labor / Electricity (see contract)	\$150.00

Total Project Costs.....\$1997.68



Ducks Unlimited Canada

March 3, 1995

Mr. Robert Mercer
General Manager
Western Newfoundland Model Forest
89 West Valley Road
Corner Brook, NF
A2H 2X4

Dear Mr. Mercer:

As a result of our brief, yet productive, meeting on March 1, 1995 on wetlands and forestry, I came to the conclusion that there is a lot of work to do to incorporate the importance of wetlands and concepts of wetlands habitat management into forestry. As a follow-up, I will arrange a meeting with Joanne Smyth to determine if/how a wetland component of the I.R.M. will evolve.

Nest Box Program

I was happy to hear that the Western Newfoundland Model Forest is promoting a Nest Box Program not unlike the program that Ducks Unlimited carries out in different communities throughout Newfoundland and Labrador. There are many areas in Newfoundland and Labrador that would certainly benefit from being involved in a nest box program. Nest boxes compensate for a lack of natural tree cavities and may be used by Wood Ducks, Mergansers and Goldeneye. Throughout the year, I receive many proposals from interested and concerned groups (i.e., Boy Scouts, cabin owners, naturalists) requesting support for a nest box program in their area, but, unfortunately, Ducks Unlimited can not provide funding for all of the proposals.

I would like to propose that the Ducks Unlimited area office in Corner Brook and the Western Newfoundland Model Forest work together to provide support for a provincial Nest Box Program. Ducks Unlimited can deliver and supervise this program and pay for the indirect expenses (administration/supervision costs). In my view, the Western Newfoundland Model Forest would be responsible for the funding to pay for the construction of the nest boxes.

May 25, 1995

Mr. Robert Mercer, General Manager
Western Newfoundland Model Forest
89 West Valley Road
Corner Brook, NF
A2H 2X4

Dear Mr. Mercer:

I am very pleased to hear the Western Newfoundland Model Forest is willing to work in cooperation with Duck Unlimited to support a Nest Box Program for cavity nesting waterfowl in Newfoundland and Labrador.

As stated in a previous letter to you, I receive many proposals from interested and concerned groups (Boy Scouts, cabin owners, etc.) requesting support for a Nest Box Program.

This summer I will meet with local volunteer groups from five to nine areas around Newfoundland and Labrador to recruit their involvement in this Provincial Nest Box Joint Venture. The target areas I have in mind for this project are Port-aux-Basques, Codroy Valley, Exploits River (Grand Falls-Windsor), Gander River (Gander), Terra Nova River, Clarenville-Shoal Harbour, Harbour Grace, Marystown and Quidi Vidi.

Each nest box costs approximately \$15.00 to construct and the number of boxes we can build will rely totally on the amount of funding provided by the Model Forest.

It is my intention to clearly label each nest box and any promo materials describing the Nest Box Program with the Western Newfoundland Model Forest and Ducks Unlimited names and logos.

This Provincial Nest Box Program Joint Venture between Ducks Unlimited and Western Newfoundland Model Forest will show Newfoundland and Labrador residents and visitors that both our organizations are working cooperatively in an effort to promote the conservation of wildlife in the Province.

Because of time constraints, would it be possible for you to deliver a contract to us by May 26, 1995?

Sincerely,

Glen J. Parsons
Area Manager
GJP/lmd

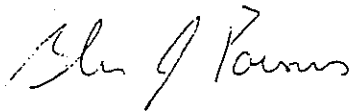
Mr. Robert Mercer
March 3, 1995
Page 2

This sort of program would certainly promote both the Western Newfoundland Model Forest and Ducks Unlimited in many communities throughout Newfoundland and Labrador. Both flags will be flown throughout the entire program to show Newfoundlanders and Labradorians that both organizations are working in a partnership to help enhance our environment.

Could you please get in contact with me to talk in more detail about this program.

Anxiously awaiting a favourable response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Glen Parsons".

Glen Parsons
Area Manager

NEST BOX BUILDING

INTRODUCTION	2
BACKGROUND INFORMATION	2
Wood Duck	2
Barrow's and Common Goldeneyes	3
Hooded Merganser	5
Common Merganser	6
Bufflehead	6
NEST BOX KIT ASSEMBLY INSTRUCTIONS	7
BUILD YOUR OWN NEST BOX	9
ON BEING A NEST BOX LANDLORD	10
Where Do I Put It?	10
When Should I Put it Up?	11
What Do I Need?	11
How Do I Put it Up?	12
What About Predators?	12
What to Do About Unwanted Tenants	13
Now What?	13
The Greenwing Nest Box Guardian	14
A GREENWING EXTRA	14
Build Your Own Backyard Bird Feeder	14
GREENWING NEST BOX GUARDIANS	16
NEST BOX ORDER FORM	18
NEST BOX USE RECORD SHEET	19

INTRODUCTION

Everywhere you go, people are talking about the environment and how humans are affecting the landscape around us. Usually we hear the bad news about pollution in our lakes and rivers, a species of plant or animal in danger of becoming extinct or loss of critical wildlife habitat. This can be very discouraging and make us want to throw up our hands and say "what can I do?". Well here is your chance to get involved in a project that does something positive for wildlife in your area and is a lot of fun too.

Building and maintaining a nest box is a simple and inexpensive way to improve the breeding habitat for cavity nesting ducks as well as the many other species of animals which may also use nest boxes. Over the last 50 years, tens of thousands of nest boxes have been erected and maintained by conservation organizations, government agencies, youth groups and scores of individuals. All this effort has made a difference. For wood ducks alone, it is estimated that 300,000 ducklings per year, or five percent of the fall population, is now reared in nest boxes of some kind.

Though most nest boxes are put up in an attempt to attract nesting wood ducks, many other species of wildlife benefit by using these artificial cavities. They include goldeneyes, mergansers, buffleheads, American kestrels, Screech owls, flickers, starlings, woodpeckers, squirrels and even bats. So you can see that with this much competition for nesting cavities, it is important for you to help out by putting up and maintaining as many nest boxes as possible. Whether you decide to put together the kit nest box, or want to build your own "from scratch", this package makes it easy for anyone to do. So good luck, get busy and remember, with a little effort you can make a difference.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Wood Duck

To many, wood duck drakes are the most beautiful of all the North American waterfowl. The male has a darkly iridescent metallic green and blue head with "slicked-back" crest, bright red eye, red-and-white coloured bill, chestnut breast, golden flanks, and a dark back. The female, a drab and browner version of the male, has a greyish head with crest, and a prominent white ring around dark brown eyes. Hens are more easily recognized by the distinctive "wee-ee-ee-k" call they make when disturbed.

Native to North America, the wood duck's breeding range extends from the deep south in Eastern North America, to southeastern New Brunswick, southern Quebec, Ontario and Manitoba. There is also a western population which nests from California to southern B.C. Preferred nesting habitat includes woodland ponds, beaver ponds, streams, swamps, forested bottomlands, and the treed edges of rivers and lakes. In fact, wood ducks are sometimes referred to as perching ducks because

of their habit of perching and nesting in trees.

Wood duck pairs begin to arrive in their Canadian breeding grounds in search of suitable nesting sites towards the end of April. They usually nest in the abandoned holes left by pileated woodpeckers, as well as cavities resulting from tree diseases, fire scars, and lightning, however nest boxes can also provide suitable nesting sites. Pairs will tend to return to the same area, even the same cavity, in which they had previously nested successfully. Female offspring may also return to the area where they were born. Where there are more wood ducks than nesting cavities, several hens may lay their eggs in the same nest. In an extreme example of "dump" nesting, five hens laid eggs in one cavity in a single day. It is not unusual to find up to 40 eggs in a dump nest. In such cases, the nests are usually abandoned.

Normally, a single hen will lay from 9-12 dull-white or brown-white eggs which are very similar to domestic chicken eggs. Once incubation begins, the males leave the area for communal roosting sites. After about 30 days the young hatch, all within a few hours of one another. Usually the same day, the hen will call chicks to jump from the nest to the ground or water below. Wood ducklings are born with sharp claws which help them to scramble up the inside to the opening of the cavity where they make their leap to the water or ground below. The female then leads her brood to the nearest water.

Though chicks are rarely injured by their introductory jump and tumble, the rest of the journey is a dangerous one. Many ducklings may be lost to predators, especially if the water is some distance away. In the eight to ten weeks it takes the young to reach flight stage, about half the chicks will die of natural causes including predation and disease.

Ducklings need a high protein diet for rapid growth. They start out life eating a wide variety of aquatic invertebrates, but as they get older they gradually eat more and more plant material. By the time they are six weeks old, the young are eating essentially the same things as the adults, about 90% plant matter. Depending on the area, this may include the stems, leaves, seeds or tubers of pondweeds, duckweeds, sedges, grasses and even acorns. This varied diet makes it possible for wood ducks to live in many different regions across North America.

By the first severe frost, wood ducks begin to head for their wintering grounds in the southeastern United States. Eastern populations winter in North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. Central populations head toward Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana and Texas. Western populations generally winter in California's Sacramento Valley area and south into parts of Mexico.

Barrow's and Common Goldeneyes

From a distance, even though you may recognize the bulbous head and whistling wings of a goldeneye, many people have trouble distinguishing between the two species which occur in Canada. One of the more reliable ways to tell a Barrow's goldeneye from a common goldeneye is to take into account where you find

it. Barrow's goldeneyes are usually found in Atlantic and Pacific coastal regions of northern U.S.A., Canada, Yukon and Alaska. As the name suggests, common goldeneye are more abundant. Though some winter in coastal regions, common goldeneye are rarely seen near oceans during breeding season. Instead, they breed in wooded areas throughout central regions of Canada and the northern U.S.A.

But if you are still not sure which goldeneye you're looking at, drakes (males) can be distinguished by looking at their distinctive black and white plumage. If you can get close enough, you'll note that drakes have a white patch between their eye and the base of their bill that is more circular in common goldeneye and more crescent-shaped in Barrow's. Positive identification of drakes is provided by the head feathers, which are iridescent green on the male common goldeneye and iridescent purple on the Barrow's male. With wings folded, larger white wing patches on the common goldeneye appear as a wide white strip while the smaller patches on the Barrow's appear as a series of spots. When it comes to the hens, though-- it's pretty well impossible to tell the species apart. Hens of both species are dark brown-coloured and so similar that the best way to identify them may be to look at the males they associate with.

Studies indicate that, like Canada geese, goldeneyes keep the same mate year after year, re-mating only if one of the pair dies. The stability of mated pairs is particularly surprising since males do not remain with females to raise the ducklings. Instead, like most drake ducks, they leave for summer molting areas shortly after the female begins incubating and do not return to the breeding grounds until the following spring. Drakes and hens of both species are territorial during the breeding season. In early spring, after pairs have migrated from coastal wintering areas to interior marshes, drakes in particular actively defend their nesting territories against intruders. This limits competition for food and ensures hens have the nutrition they need to produce large clutches of eggs.

Large broods can result when two hens accidentally lay eggs in the same nest. Since goldeneyes nest in tree cavities, they are dependant on the pileated woodpecker, the only bird that constructs holes large enough for them to enter. Thus, nest sites are often rare and two hens may inadvertently use the same cavity. Females line their nests with pure white down from their breasts. When all eggs have been laid (8-12 pale green to blue-green), the hen begins to incubate. As a result, ducklings normally all hatch within a day of one another (after about 30 days) making it possible for the entire brood to leave the nest within 36 hours to feed on nearby ponds. The female calls the ducklings out of the nest from the ground below the tree. Sharp claws help them to scramble up the inside of the cavity or nest box and out the exit. Although some nest sites are up to 30 metres above ground, most ducklings survive the jump with their tiny wings stretched out to help break their fall. Because nest sites are sparse, broods sometimes travel up to three miles overland to reach wetlands where ducklings instinctively dive like their parents to feed themselves. Their staple diet consists of aquatic insects, especially nymphs of

dragonflies and damselflies; crustaceans, especially crayfish, and some plant foods such as the seeds and tubers of pondweeds.

Hens are most aggressive after ducklings hatch. When two broods meet, hens typically fight each other, sometimes even attacking and killing ducklings from the other brood. But the broods often mix together during the fight, and this tends to prevent duckling mortalities. It's not uncommon for the winner to retire from the fight with both broods, or at least more ducklings than she had originally. This can result in up to 30 ducklings being defended by a single hen. The young first fly approximately two months after hatching.

Goldeneyes begin to move southward to their wintering grounds some time in October but may remain well into November. Barrow's goldeneye spend their winters primarily along the Atlantic and Pacific coastal regions while the Common goldeneye can be found anywhere where there is open water, from the southern edge of their nesting range all the way to California.

Hooded Merganser

Of the six species of saw-billed mergansers, only the smallest--the hooded merganser--occurs exclusively in North America. It has been called the fan-crested duck, hairyhead, little fish duck, little saw-bill duck, moss-head, tow-head, tree duck and even water pheasant. In fact, if we translate it's scientific name--*Lophodytes cuculatus*-- from the Greek and Latin, it means crested diver that is hooded. The trademark of the male hooded merganser is a black-bordered fan-shaped white crest that is raised in dramatic fashion during breeding displays. The white crest is contrasted by a black head, neck, back and tail while the underparts are white. By comparison, the female is rather plain, with a loose reddish brown crest, dark head, and greyish body.

(Hooded mergansers begin to move northward from their wintering grounds in the Pacific and Atlantic coastal regions in March or April before the ice has disappeared. Preferred nesting habitat includes swamps, wooded streams, ponds, and lakes of Alaska, Canada and parts of the U.S.A.) Females will nest in hollow trees at any height, as long as the entry hole and cavity is large enough. The female typically lays 10-12, white, almost round eggs which will hatch within 37 days. Shortly after hatching, the young ducklings will scramble out of the nest and leap to the ground where the female is waiting to lead them to the nearest body of water. It will take approximately 71 days before the young are able to fly.

Excellent divers, hooded mergansers feed in ponds and other quiet, clear waters catching small fishes, crayfishes and other crustaceans, aquatic insects such as caddisfly larvae, dragonfly nymphs, as well as snails, tadpoles, frogs, and even the roots and seeds of aquatic plants. By October or November, hooded mergansers begin winging their way southward to the wintering grounds on the Pacific coast from B.C. to Baja California, on the Atlantic coast from N.J. to Florida and on the Gulf Coast, south to Mexico.

Common Merganser

Also known as fish ducks, sawbills or goosanders, some people think common mergansers look more like a cross between a goose and a loon. They are definitely ducks, though -- one of the sleekest, fastest flying and largest duck species found in North America. They are often recognized by the way they fly in long trailing lines slightly above the water, and by the exhausting run along the water required to get their heavy bodies airborne. At a distance, males appear black and white. They have a dark black-green head with a black back, and white on the neck and underside. The bill in adult males is bright red as are its feet. Female and young common mergansers have silvery-grey on their backs, red-brown heads with tufted feathers that give a distinctly angular profile and white undersides. Females also have a red bill and feet although they are slightly duller than the males'.

Among the earliest ducks to fly north in spring, (common mergansers begin to arrive in nesting grounds as soon as the ice begins to melt.) Preferred habitat is most often in or near boreal forested areas on stream headwaters or marshy bays where small fish are plentiful. Nests are built in tree cavities or in bluffs and along rocky shorelines where trees are scarce. Nests in cavities are lined with weeds, grasses, rootlets and down from the female's breast. As soon as common mergansers arrive at their northern habitat areas in spring, they begin pairing and nesting. Once females begin to incubate eggs, males leave the area to undergo their summer moult. Females lay up to a dozen buff white or ivory yellow eggs and incubate them about four to five weeks depending on the latitude and climate.

Within a day or two of hatching, females coax their young from the nest by calling from the ground near the base of the tree or cliff where the nest is located. The young jump and flutter clumsily to the ground where they are gathered together by the mother and escorted to the water, usually within a hundred meters. Ducklings begin life feeding voraciously on insects and graduate over time to small fish as they develop their skills for catching them. The adaptation that makes them successful fishing birds is a long narrow bill edged with saw-like teeth -- hence the nickname sawbill.

It takes about two months before young birds can fly. Around the time well-grown young are developing their flight skills, the adult females desert them to undergo their own moult which takes about a month. Left behind, the broods often gather into groups of 20 or more. One of the last ducks to fly south, mergansers congregate in larger areas from late September to late October, and will often wait until freeze-up before moving on. Their wintering grounds cover virtually all of the United States ranging from the Great Lakes to just short of the Gulf of Mexico coastline and east west from the Atlantic to the Pacific.

Bufflehead

The bufflehead is one of our smallest and most beautiful ducks. The name is a variation of buffalo head, referring to the puffy appearance of their heads. Adult

- a floor (has 5 holes drilled in it)
- a roof (about twice the size of the floor)
- a back/mounting board with another small board already attached across the back of it
- a front (the one with the entry/exit hole) and
- 2 side pieces (the one with a rounded edge at one end will be the clean-out door).

It's best to work together in pairs or small groups. One person can hold the piece in place while some one else puts in the screws. Besides, it's a lot more fun to build something together with a fellow-Greenwinger. O.K. now that you're ready, it's time to start building.

1. Start by finding the piece which will be the back/mounting board of your nest box. It's the biggest one that already has a small board attached across it near the top. That small board is on the back and near the top of the box, on the side which will be up against the tree. When you attach the walls, bottom and roof, make sure they go on the side of the back board away from the small cross board.
2. Attach the permanent wall first, that's the side piece that doesn't have the edge rounded at one end. Lay the wall piece on its long edge on top of the back board flush with the side that has 3 holes drilled in it. Make sure that the bottom end of the wall lines up with the pencil mark on the back board. When you have the wall piece in position, screw it firmly in place, from the back, using three screws in the pre-drilled holes .
3. Now take the floor piece, lay it on its shorter edge and butt it firmly up against and flush with the bottom of the wall piece you just attached. Make sure the bottom is lined up with the pencil mark and then fasten it in place with 2 screws from the back.
4. Next, take the front piece and lay it on top of the wall and floor with the entry/exit hole at the end opposite to the floor. (Note: the side with the saw cuts goes on the inside of the box, this is done so that the ducklings have something to grip on to when they climb out of the box.) Just line up the front piece so that the bottom and side is flush with the floor and the wall and then screw it in place using the 6 holes provided.
5. Now it's time to attach the second wall which will also be a door to allow you to get into the box later in the fall when you want to clean it out. Notice that one end of the board has a rounded edge. Fit the door in place

3. Attach the permanent wall first. Lay the wall piece on its long edge on top of the back board flush with one side (Note: This depends on which side you want the clean-out door to be on. The diagram is for a right side door when you're facing the box). The bottom end of the wall should be 3" from the bottom of the back board. Screw or nail from the back of the box.
4. Drill about five, $\frac{1}{4}$ " drainage holes in the floor piece. Lay it on its shorter edge and butt it firmly up against, and flush with the bottom of the wall piece you just attached. Make sure the bottom of the floor piece is also 3" from the bottom of the backboard. Screw or nail from the back of the box.
5. Lay the front piece on top of the wall and floor with the screening to the inside of the box. Make sure the bottom and sides of the front piece are flush with the floor and wall and then fasten it in place from the front.
6. Now attach the second wall which will also be the clean-out door. At one end of this board, round off one of the edges. Fit the clean-out door in place so that the rounded edge is at the top and to the outside of the box. Allow the bottom edge of the door to extend past the floor a little so that you have a little handle to open the door with. Secure the door in place at the TOP ONLY with one screw or nail from the front and one from the back. The door will be held closed by 2 removable pins (nails) that are inserted in holes at the front and back near the bottom of the box. Close the door and drill holes at the front and back of the box, about 2" from the bottom. Insert the nails to keep the door closed.
7. Finally, put the roof piece on and fasten it in place, but be careful not to put any screws or nails into the top of the clean-out door otherwise it won't open!

Note: Boxes constructed of cedar or exterior grade plywood do not need to be painted. If you want to paint the box, pick a light, natural colour. Dark boxes can heat up to lethal temperatures in just a short time in direct sunlight. Boxes mounted out in the open should be painted white. Goldeneyes prefer boxes with black interiors.

ON BEING A NEST BOX LANDLORD

Where Do I Put It?

Now that you've built a few nest boxes, the question is where to put them up. It's not good enough to just stick them up in any old trees. The area you choose must be attractive to the species you hope will use the box. If it's cavity nesting

ducks you're after, then the wetland area you choose must be preferred nesting habitat for these species. Wood ducks, mergansers, goldeneyes, and buffleheads are all commonly found in wooded areas along streams, lakes, rivers and marshes (see background information). The best sites are on lakes, marshes or slow-moving rivers where there are lots of overhanging plants growing on gently sloping banks. The area should also have a good mix of open water, where ducklings can feed, along with dense stands of aquatic plants like cattails or bulrushes, where they can hide. Woodland ducks also like fallen trees and beaver or muskrat lodges which they use as loafing sites.

The presence of the species you want on or near the wetland you've selected is an obvious clue of a good location, but it is still a good idea to consult a local expert if you are not sure where to put up your boxes. Try calling your provincial Natural Resources department, a local Game and Fish club or a Ducks Unlimited field office. Be sure to get permission to enter private lands when you look for sites for your nest box and if you live in a city, don't overlook areas right in your own backyard. Wooded watercourses have proven to be excellent sites in many cities.

After you have selected an area, you have to decide on the best location for your nest boxes. Boxes can be mounted on wooden or metal poles above water, as long as they are well above spring flood levels (remember, exposed houses should be painted white). However, most nest boxes are mounted in trees alongside wetlands or waterways. When choosing a tree, make sure it is no farther than 800 meters from the nearest body of water. Choose relatively open stands of mature trees and try to select sheltered locations. If there are beavers around, avoid poplars or else you may find that all your beautiful houses have come tumbling down once the beavers get busy.

When Should I Put it Up?

The best time to put up your nest boxes is in late summer or early fall. You will not have to contend with hordes of mosquitos and black flies, it's not too hot and since the leaves are still out you can pick a location that won't be overgrown in summer. Furthermore, some studies suggest that wood ducks may scout out potential nests sites in the fall on their way south. If you want to erect your boxes in early spring, get them up before the second week in April so they're ready when the first pairs return.

What Do I Need?

Before you set out to put up your nest boxes, make sure you bring along the following:

- a bag of wood shavings for nesting material (preferably cedar)
- 4" spikes and a hammer
- a ladder
- a small hand saw

- some rope
- poles or stakes if houses are being mounted over water
- a map to record where you are setting up the boxes and
- some kind of eye protection to avoid being poked by branches.

How Do I Put it Up?

Before you put up the boxes make sure they all have about 10-15cm (4-6") of fresh wood shavings in the bottom. If you plan on using posts, pound them into the bottom until the posts are very solid. Otherwise, ice movement in the spring could knock them over. Nest boxes mounted over water should be 1-3 meters (3-8 feet) above spring water levels. If houses are in the open, face the entrance away from the direction of the prevailing winds. This will reduce the chance of rain and/or snow being driven into the entry hole. Whenever possible, face the entrance towards the nearest body of water.

If you are mounting the box in a tree, then it is a good idea to secure the ladder to the tree with a rope first. This will prevent the ladder from slipping while you are attaching the box. Nest boxes should be mounted approximately 5 meters (15 feet) off the ground but you can go as high as 10 meters (30 feet) if you aren't afraid of heights! Lower boxes are much easier to put up and maintain. Attach the box securely to the tree so that it won't move around when a hen tries to land. Nest boxes should be tilted forward slightly so the ducklings have an easier time getting out. Before coming down, clear away any overhanging branches so that there is a clear flight path to the entrance. Whenever possible, try to keep damage to living trees to a minimum. Your first boxes in an area should be about 50 meters apart but you can add more if you are getting good use.

Finally, record the nest box numbers and locations on a map so that in future years you can find the boxes again and keep annual records of their use.

What About Predators?

Remember that you're doing the birds no favour if a hen and her eggs are at greater risk in your box than they would be in a natural cavity. Successful nest box predators quickly learn that boxes provide an easy meal and will repeatedly raid vulnerable boxes. Stick to proven designs and placements that not only attract cavity nesting ducks, but keep predators and the elements at bay. There are a few things to keep in mind which will make your nest boxes safer from predators.

The dimensions of the elliptical entrance hole are crucial. The hole is big enough for the ducks to enter, but too small for an adult raccoon. The box should also be quite deep to prevent raccoons from reaching down from the entrance to grab the female or her eggs. If your boxes are mounted on wooden posts, an effective predator deterrent is an inverted sheet metal cone that goes around the post underneath the nest box. The only way to discourage egg-eating squirrels is to use cylindrical metal houses with conical roofs.

What to Do About Unwanted Tenants

There is no such thing! No matter what species of animal decides to take up residence in your nest box, be it a kestrel or a bufflehead or a flying squirrel, you should welcome it with open arms. Part of the fun and excitement of maintaining nest boxes is doing the detective work every year and trying to figure out what was living in the box. You're not just putting up nest boxes for wood ducks, you're providing high quality housing for all kinds of wildlife in your area. When you look at it that way, your nest box program will definitely be a big success.

Now What?

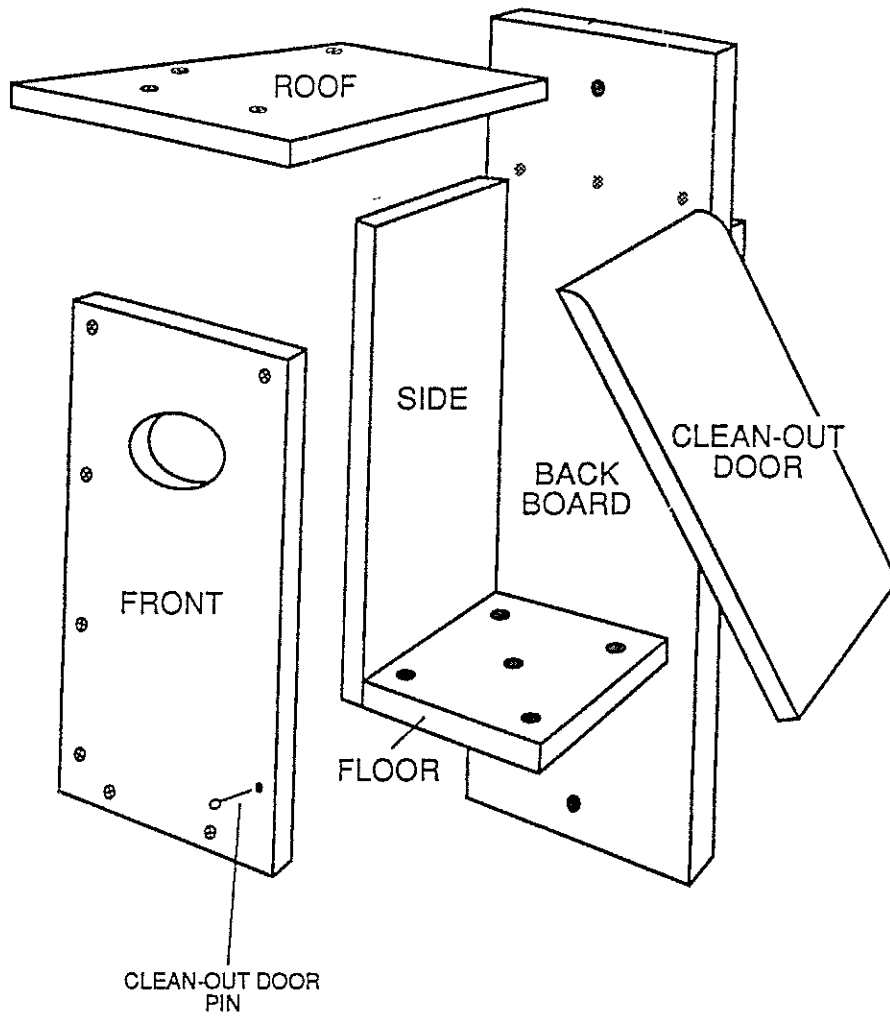
Now that you've built and put up some nest boxes you may think that you've done your good deed for wildlife and it's time to move on to something else. **Hold it right there!** A good landlord or landlady checks up on their properties once in a while to make sure everything is okay. You have to do the same with your nest boxes. To avoid disturbing any nests (females may abandon if disturbed), hold off checking your boxes until late August or September. If you want to check the box during the nesting season, approach it quietly and watch from a distance to see what is using it.

When it's time for the inspection, be sure to give the bottom of the box a few pokes with a long stick before taking a peek inside. You do not want to be surprised by an animal making a quick getaway when you are perched near the top of a ladder. Once the door is open, the detective work begins.

If your box is loaded with leaves, seeds, dry grasses and mushrooms it is, or has probably been used by a squirrel. As you clean out the material, look for other evidence near the bottom, because the squirrel may have taken over after the nesting season. If you find the remains of small mammals or birds (skulls, bones etc.), chances are American kestrels or Screech owls took up residence. Baskets of twigs or long grass means that you have had starlings as tenants. If you find a lot of soft feathers and a very small basket, then you probably had tree swallows. Both starlings and tree swallows tend to whitewash an area on the inside wall opposite to the entrance.

Down and fragments of egg shell mixed in with your original nesting material are good clues that indicate wood ducks, hooded mergansers, goldeneyes, or buffleheads have used the box. Any whole eggs you find may have been infertile or touched by frost. The colour of the eggs or fragments may help you to determine what species they are from (see background information). A box with 20 or more eggs was most likely an abandoned dump nest. A sure sign of a successful nest is the presence of opaque membranes mixed in with the eggshells. Count the number of membranes and you have a pretty good idea of how many ducklings hatched. Before you close up the box, be sure to restock its supply of shavings and make any necessary repairs.

Record all the inspection information you can on the nest box use sheet. This



3.11.20

UNIT PRICE AGREEMENT

CONTRACT NO. 6-69-50-95 PROJECT NAME Model Forest Nest Box Program

THIS AGREEMENT made in duplicate on the 15th day of August, 1995.

BETWEEN: Ducks Unlimited Canada, (hereinafter called the "Corporation").

- AND -

Walter Parsons (hereinafter call the "Contractor").

WITNESSETH that in consideration of the following the Corporation and Contractor agree as follows:

1. THE WORK: The Contractor hereby tenders and agrees to perform the following items of work, as described herein, in a good and workmanlike manner and in accordance with the attached Contract Documents.

1. Cutting and packaging materials used to make wood duck kits.

The Contractor shall commence work on or before the 1 st day of August, 1995; and complete same, as verified by the Corporation or its Engineer, on or before the 1st day of March, 1996. Time is of the essence in this Agreement.

2. CONTRACT DOCUMENTS: The following is an exact list of the attached Contract Documents referred to in Paragraph 1 hereof, which documents form part of and are to be read in conjunction with this Agreement.

TITLE FORM NUMBER NO. OF PAGES

General Conditions: _____
Special Provisions: _____

Specifications: _____

Plans: _____

3. PAYMENT: The Corporation shall pay the Contractor in accordance with the attached Schedule of Prices, for those items of work actually performed. As a condition precedent to the making of any payment, the Engineer shall first determine and certify the work actually done. All payments shall be subject to any and all applicable provincial or federal legislation relating to the work performed, and to the Contract Documents.
4. ADDRESSES FOR NOTICES: All communications and notices between the parties shall be directed to the following addresses:
 The Corporation at P.O. Box 430, Amherst, Nova Scotia, B4H 3Z5
 The Contractor at General Delivery, Main St. Glovertown, NF, AOG 2L0
 The Engineer at 89 West valley Rd., Corner Brook, Nf, A2H 2X4
5. This Agreement together with the Tender, the Special Provisions (if any), the General Conditions, the Plans and Specifications attached hereto or referred to herein constitutes the entire Contract between the parties.
6. This Agreement shall enure to the benefit of and be binding upon the parties hereto, their respective heirs, legal representatives, successors and assigns.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the parties hereto have executed this Agreement by their authorized representatives in that behalf, the day and year first above written.

 (Witness)

 (Contractor)

W.C.B.# _____ G.S.T.# _____
 (Seal)

DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

Donna Allen

Per: 

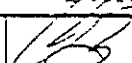
=====

FOR COMPANY USE ONLY

PROJECT NO. 6-69-50-95


 SECOND SIGNATURE WHEN REQUIRED

FILE NO. 50

A.M.	PE/PA/PB	P.M.	R.M.	C.E.
<u>7-1</u>		<u></u>		



Payment Requisition

53460

Ducks Unlimited Canada

<input type="checkbox"/>	GST Registration # _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	GST \$ _____
<input type="checkbox"/>	GST Code _____

Project Name Model Grant and 3rd Program
 Contractor Walter Lewis
 Address General Delivery, Gloverton, NF
 Postal Code A0G-2L0

Contract No. 6-67-50-15
 Progress Paymt. No. 01 Final: no / yes
 For Period Ending March 31/96
 File No. 50
 Vendor No. New

Unit price equipment rental > \$50,000.

Item	Description of Work/Equipment	Unit	Quantities				Unit Price	Extension
			Tender Estimate	This Estimate	Previously Reported	Total To Date		
1	Construct + Package wood duck kits - labour + electric expenses	day	20	20	-	20	7.5	150.00

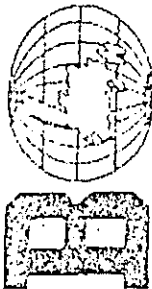
Holdback Release:	Requisition No.	Holdback	Extension Total	A	150.00
			Less Previous Charges to Project	B	-
			*Charge Project (A-B)	C	150.00
			Less Holdback _____ % (percent of C)	D	-
			Sub-total (C-D)	E	150.00
			Release Holdback Previous Periods	F	
			Amount of Payment (E+F)	G	150.00
	Total	F			

For Office Use Only:

GL Prov-Area	Prog-Seg	Landscape	Stage-cat.	Nap-Proc or Contract	GL Chart	Func.	Emp./ Unit/ Agmt. #	Amount	GST Code
6-67	50-01		-		541-00	01		150.00	1
-	-		-		-				
-	-		-		-				
-	-		-		-				
Total (*must be equal to line C above):									

White - Head Office, Yellow - Prov. Office, Pink - Area Office, Green - Contractor

A.M.	C.E.	H.O.	H.O.
67			



Builders World

406 O'CONNELL DRIVE
CORNER BUCKLE, NE 984 603
PHONE: 639-6700 FAX: 533-1159



NO-2042858 **INVOICE** 03/26/96 10:48 01

BUCKS UNLIMITED
500 MIDLAND ROW
TOSCONO, NJ
NEW JERSEY

SHIP 686 5730
TO: G A NEFFER
5734

ADD 1X0 MISC: WAIT FOR CALL PR 1686 5730
CUST PO: GLEN PERSONS

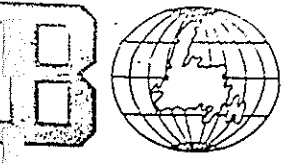
CUSTA: 4345.0900 DEL DATE: 03/26/96
709-656-5731

TERMS: NET 30TH M.F FROM: 0 4P-53180

LN	QTY	DESCRIPTION	ITEM #	UNITS	PRICE	AMOUNT
1	3	192724.41 SOL 16 P/OP WOTO PRES	150431248	EA	12.99	38.97
2	20	2" SOLV COM NAH	210100649	EA	.89	17.80
4	5	4" SOLV COM NAH	210100700	EA	.89	5.34

SUBTOTAL 721.25
 P 0
 G.S.T. 58.53
 P 0
 G.S.T. 60.20
 265.98

THANKS FOR STOPPING AT BUILDER'S WORLD!
WE APPRECIATE YOUR BUSINESS



Builders World Limited

409 O'CONNELL DRIVE
CORNER BROOK, NE 684 603
PHONE: 639-5700 FAX: 639-1159



0.4063066

CASH ORDER

03/20/94 15:36 01

639100100000

SOLD CASH
TO:

SHIP ***** REMEMBER *****
TO: NAME/ADDRESS/PHONE #

S- 1
C- 52
P- 35
W- 13
C- 1
P- 1

CUST#: 1.0000

TERMS: NET - CASH

#	QTY	SHIP B/O	DESCRIPTION	CATALOG#	UNITS	PRICE	AMOUNT
			3/8 FINISHED SELECT SPRUCE 4 X 4 JOIST		1	19.00	19.00

TOTAL: 22.62 PREVIOUS DEPOSIT: .00 DEPOSIT: .00 BALANCE: 22.62
PAID BY:

SUB-TOTAL: 19.00
D.S.T. 1.32
D.P.S.T. 2.42
TOTAL AMOUNT: 32.74

Net Bot Program

RECEIVED IN GOOD ORDER BY: _____ DATE: _____

PAID WITH US: _____ BETTER SERVICE - LOWER PRICES: _____

TRANSACTION REC
INTERAC DIRECT

1000 ST
1000 ST
QUEBEC QK
G1R 2K1B

TERM ID: 0202224
DID: 00155737
CARD N 451900855
ST TYPE: CASH
REC #000012

Débit
Charge
Somme
Cash gi
à To

*Peak Day
low 75 2000*

18-07-96
19.75 ST
1.24 11
2.23 2

27.17

* 1-35
000-1275



34115

C75B

No. _____

Date _____

Somme
Amour _____

Pour
For _____

Débité
Charge _____

Somme
Cash gi _____

à To _____



34115

19 9

TP

18-07-96
19.75 ST
1.24 11
2.23 2
27.17
* 1-35
000-1275

GNAT

MENTS
UCHER

No. _____

Date _____

Somme
Amour _____

Pour
For _____

Débité
Charge _____

Somme V.
Cash givei

à To _____

*Box Royan 50
- To - B-30*

EUTT'S IGA
5:23PM 02/19/96
002#9949 A 0001

GSTRST 1/2 \$0.75
GSTRST 1/2 \$2.59
GSTRST 1/2 \$1.99
MDS ST \$5.33
TAX1 \$0.37
TAX2 \$0.68

Débité
Charge
Somme V.
Cash givei

#1TTL \$6.38
CASH \$20.00
CHNG \$13.62

19 9

SIGNATURE



34115

9-23-95
 0007000#
 13 3
 1 20 3
 10*10...
 10 10 ST
 -1 34 1
 -2 47 2
 13 3
 23 01

* 12-48
 000-3524

35 M
 P. DATE
 7/7/05
 UNO
 23 01

Handwritten signature

MEMBER STORE
 P.O. BOX 1000
 GLOVERTON, W.VA.,
 26038-1000

MASTERCARD PURCHASE

STORE: 8006 TERM: 0001
 INVOICE NO: 2002148
 ACCOUNT NUMBER
 5191280020085891 M
 DATE-TIME 25/09/95 10:41 EXP. DATE 97/05
 AUTHORIZATION CODE 829824 AMOUNT \$19.99

SIGNATURE:

X
 I AGREE TO PAY THE FULL AMOUNT
 ACCORDING TO CARDHOLDER AGREEMENT.

THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING
 AT THE

Handwritten signature

Salas slip / Factura de venta

CURRENT SIGNATURE X
 SIGNATURE OF CLIENT
 106724432
 932 110 3282



5

099
 LEN
 PARSONS
 05/94-05/97 IC

5



Builders World Limited



TRANS CANADA HWY.
PASADENA, NF - A0L 1K0
PHONE 686-2008 FAX 686-2016

NO. 2016476

INVOICE

06/20/95 15:11 01

DUCKS UNLIMITED
89 WEST VALLEY RD.
CORNER BROOK
NFLD.

A2H 2X4

GST # R100688373
SHIP 51 MIDLAND ROW
TO: PUT IN DRIVEWAY

S- 2
P- 7
A-55
W- 2
C-52
P- 1

CUST#: 4345.0000 DEL DATE: 06/19/95
634-8194

TERMS: NET 30TH M.F

FROM: 0 4017949

LN#	QTY	DESCRIPTION	ITEM #	UNITS	PRICE	AMOUNT
1	5	1/2 DEGRADE PLYWOOD 4 X 8	03010010A	5	19.99 EA	99.95
2	48	1 X 3 01 STRAPPING	01011301A	48	.12 EA	5.76
3		4- 1 X 3 X 12 STRAPPING				

	SUBTOTAL	105.71
D	G. S. T.	7.40
D	P. S. T.	13.50
	TOTAL	126.61

THANKS FOR SHOPPING AT BUILDER'S WORLD!

INTEREST ON OVERDUE ACCOUNTS 2.5% MONTHLY



Introducing the Model Forest



The Model Forest Program is the first forest project of its kind in Canada and the world! It is a network of working sustainable forest management models designed to aid in the shift from traditional timber management to an integrated management approach guided by the principle of sustainable development.

CANADA'S TEN MODEL FOREST SITES



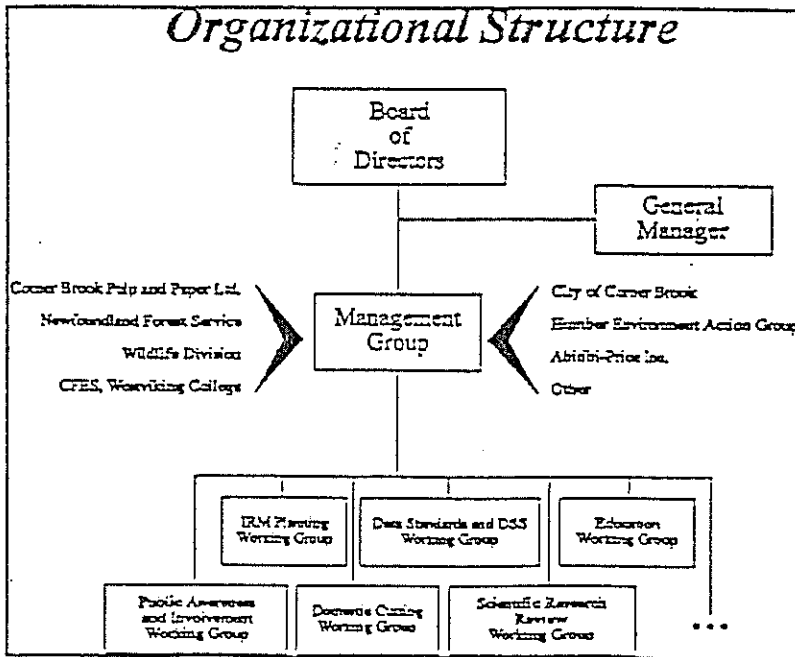
The Western Newfoundland Model Forest

(WNMF) is part of a network of ten model forest areas across Canada. The Model Forest is a step towards better management of our forests through cooperation of all resource users managers. The WNMF is comprised of mainly balsam fir forest and is the primary source of raw material for two of the province's three newsprint mills. This forest also provides many other values to the 35,000 residents of the Model Forest area. It has some of the most rich and varied wildlife habitat in the province including the only known concentration of the threatened Newfoundland pine marten. It is heavily used for many forms of recreation, serves as a supply of fuelwood and other timber for domestic use and it contains the water supply for many communities.

Goals of the Western Newfoundland Model Forest:

1. To develop an integrated resource management planning process for Newfoundland.
2. To integrate wildlife and timber management objectives.
3. To integrate water quality and timber management objectives.
4. To instill within the public a greater awareness of forest resource management.
5. To operate the Model Forest as a working forest.

Organizational Structure



The program is directed by the Canadian Forest Service with funding from Canada's Green Plan for a Healthy Environment.

For more information, write or call: Western Newfoundland Model Forest, 89 West Valley Road, Corner Brook, NF, A2H 2X4. Tel: (709) 634-6383 Fax: (709) 634-0255



Ducks Unlimited Canada

October 10, 1995

Mr. Frank Kavanagha
Scout Canada
15 L. Nova Road
St. John's, NF
A1B 1E7

Dear Mr. Kavanagha,

Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Western Newfoundland Model Forest have developed a cavity nest box program for Newfoundland and Labrador.

As you are probably aware, a few species of waterfowl nest in tree cavities (i.e., Wood Duck, Goldeneye, Mergansers). One problem these species face in Newfoundland and Labrador is the lack of suitable nesting habitat - some Goldeneye have tried to nest in stove funnels!

Ducks Unlimited and Western Newfoundland Model Forest have constructed over 300 cavity nest box kits to be placed near ponds and rivers in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Could Scouts Canada be of any assistance in the installation of these boxes. This project would show the importance of conservation of these waterfowl species to our youth. Please find enclosed more information about the nest box program.

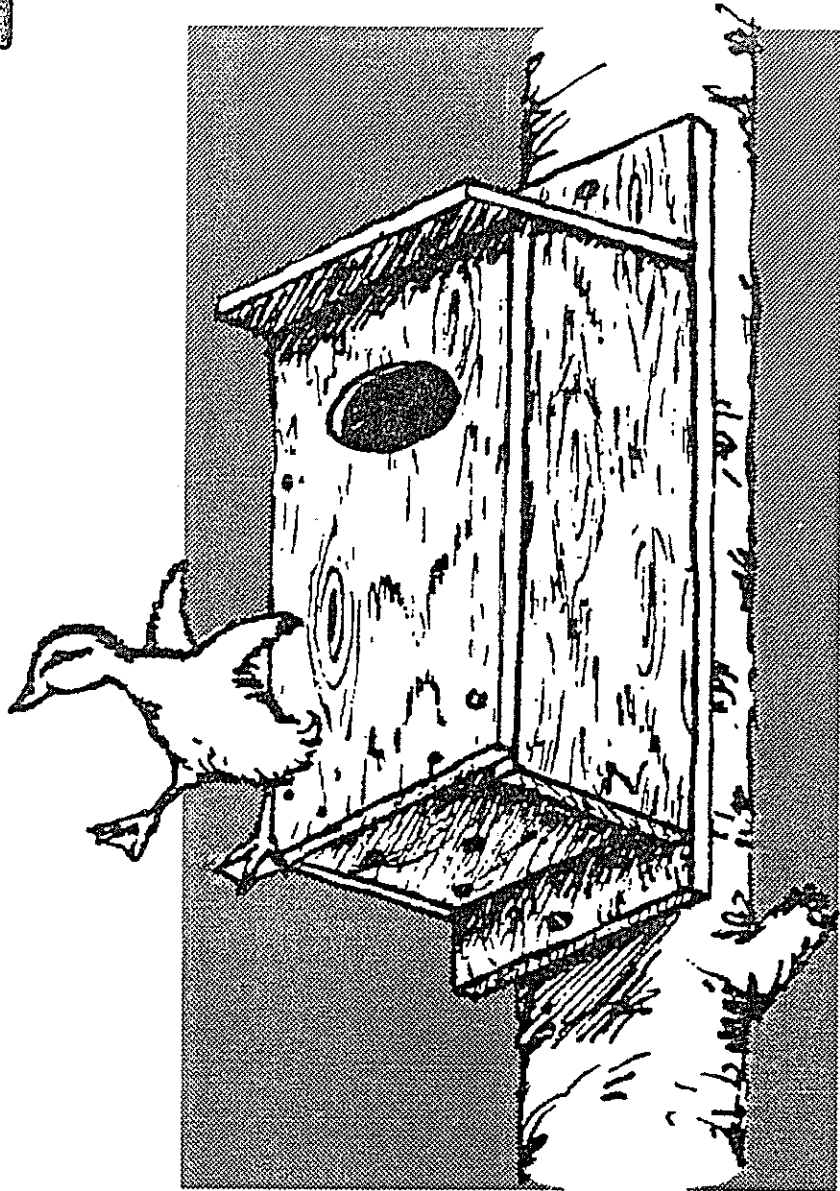
Looking forward to hearing from you soon

Sincerely yours,

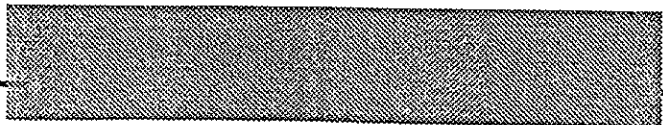
Glen Parsons
Area Manager/CSR

Glen

Encl



NEST BOX BUILDING



- 2.05 The Contractor covenants and agrees to declare and pay all taxes of any nature whatsoever which may be exigible in respect of any payment made or work done under this Agreement. The Contractor represents and warrants that the Contractor is, and will throughout the term of this Agreement, be a resident of Canada.

3. *Conditions of Performance*

- 3.01 Any information of a confidential nature to which the Contractor becomes privy as a result of this Agreement or the performance of the Work shall not be disclosed to any person without the consent of the Corporation, either during or after the term of this Agreement.
- 3.02 The Contractor hereby indemnifies and saves harmless the Corporation from and against all claims, damages, losses, costs, debt, expenses, actions, suits or any proceeding or liability of any nature whatsoever arising from anything done by or on behalf of the Contractor under this Agreement, and specifically arising out of any death or injury to persons or loss of or damage to property arising out of the acts or omissions of the Contractor or the servants or agents of the Contractor in the performance of their obligations under this Agreement.
- 3.03 The Contractor shall at all times comply with all applicable laws, ordinances, statutes, rules, regulations and orders of governmental and municipal authorities in the performance of its obligations under this Agreement.
- 3.04 Neither party hereto shall be responsible for the prevention of or delay in carrying out the provisions of this Agreement due to any cause beyond the foreseeable control of the affected party or its employees or agents, and in the event of delay for such cause, the Corporation may, in its discretion, terminate this Agreement or extend the time for performance of this Agreement.
- 3.05 The failure of the Corporation to insist upon or enforce in any instance strict performance by the Contractor of any of the terms of this Agreement or to exercise any rights herein conferred shall not be construed as a waiver or relinquishment to any extent of the Corporation's right to assert or to rely upon such terms, rights, on any future occasion.

4. *General*

- 4.01 This Agreement constitutes the entire agreement between the parties and supersedes all previous agreements, arrangements, communications or understandings, written or oral, relating to the work unless specifically incorporated herein.
- 4.02 Any notices, invoices or communications in connection with this Agreement shall be addressed as follows:

(a) in the case of the Corporation to:

Western Newfoundland Model Forest Inc.
89 West Valley Road
Corner Brook, NF
A1H 2X4

Attention: General Manager

Telecopier No. (709) 634-0255
Telephone No. (709) 634-6383

(b) in the case of the Contractor at:

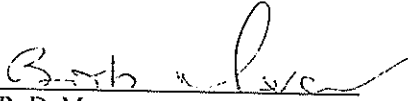
Ducks Unlimited Canada
89 West Valley Road
Corner Brook, Newfoundland
A2H 2X4

Attention: Mr. Glen Parsons

Telecopier No. 639-8158
Telephone No. 634-0025

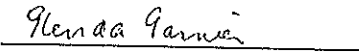
- 4.03 This Agreement shall be binding upon and enure to the benefit of the parties hereto and their respective heirs, executors, administrators, successor and assigns, provided that no part of this Agreement or its proceeds shall be assigned by either party without the prior written consent of the other party.
- 4.04 The Contractor is an independent Contractor and nothing herein and nothing done hereunder shall be deemed to create any employment relationship or any partnership or joint venture between the parties hereto.
- 4.05 No Member of the House of Commons or the Senate of Canada shall be admitted to any share or part of any contract, agreement, or commission made pursuant to this Agreement, or to any benefit to arise therefrom. No Federal officer directly responsible for the implementation of an initiative of the Western Newfoundland Model Forest Agreement shall be admitted to any share or part of any contract, agreement or commission made pursuant to such an initiative, or to any benefit to arise therefrom. The Contractor warrants that the Contractor is aware of this clause and that nothing will be done hereunder in violation of this clause.
- 4.06 This Agreement shall be governed in all its aspects by the law of the Province of Newfoundland and the laws of Canada applicable therein, and any actions, suits or proceedings arising out of this Agreement shall be brought in the courts of Newfoundland and not elsewhere.

SIGNED on behalf of the Corporation by:

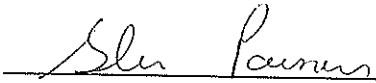


R. D. Mercer
General Manager
Western Newfoundland Model Forest Inc.

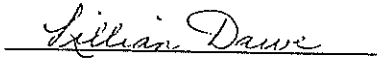
in the presence of:



SIGNED on behalf of the Contractor by:



in the presence of:



SCHEDULE "A"

DESCRIPTION OF WORK

TITLE: Nest Box Program

WORK COORDINATORS: DU Mr. Glen Parsons
Model Forest Mr. Bob Mercer

BACKGROUND:

If the WNMF is to be successful, it must promote activities that will result in a greater awareness of the forest ecosystem and the many complex interrelationships that exists within this system. Creating such an awareness amongst our youth will result in a better informed public and in the long term, will result in meaningful inputs into resource management decision making processes. To promote this objective the Western Newfoundland Model Forest has initiated an Environmental Action Fund for Youth Groups that provides funding for the construction of nest boxes to provide youth groups in and around the Western Newfoundland Model Forest with an opportunity to participate in environmental educational activities.

In consultation with Ducks Unlimited Canada the Western Newfoundland Model Forest will participate in a nest box construction project in such diverse areas as Port-aux-Basques, Codroy Valley, Grand Falls-Windsor (Exploits River), Gander (Gander River), Terra Nova River, Clarenville-Shoal Harbour, Harbour Grace, Marystown and Quidi Vidi. Ducks Unlimited Canada will recruit the involvement of local community groups, arrange for the construction and placement of nest boxes and ensure that local groups are reimbursed for agreed upon costs. Each nest box will cost approximately \$15.00.

The logos of Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Western Newfoundland Model Forest are to be prominently displayed on all nest boxes constructed under this agreement.

DELIVERABLES:

1. A final report stating in detail the number of nest boxes constructed, by what groups and other pertinent information.

SCHEDULE OF DELIVERABLES

February 15, 1996 Final Report.

SCHEDULE "B"

PAYMENT

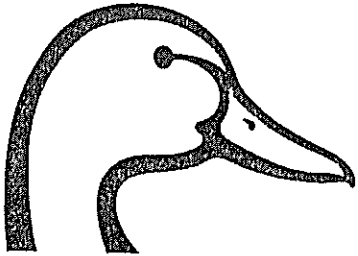
In consideration for coordinating the construction and placement of nest boxes at the agreed upon locations throughout Insular Newfoundland as per Schedule "A" the Corporation will advance to the Contractor up to \$2,000 with payment being made as follows:

1. \$2,000 upon final execution of this contract.

THIS PROJECT IS JOINTLY SPONSORED BY
DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA and **THE WESTERN
NEWFOUNDLAND MODEL FOREST**

For More Information Contact:

Ducks Unlimited Canada
89 West Valley Road
Comer Brook, NF
A2H-2X4
(709) 634-8154



DUCKS UNLIMITED CANADA

WESTERN
NEWFOUNDLAND



MODEL FOREST
NETWORK

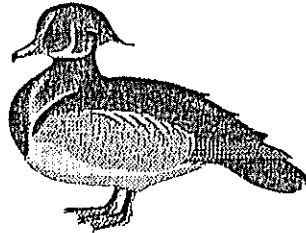
RÉSEAU DE
FORÊTS MODÈLES

THESE WATERFOWL MAY BE FOUND IN YOUR NEST BOX

WOOD DUCK

Preferred nesting habitat includes woodland ponds, streams, swamps and rivers.

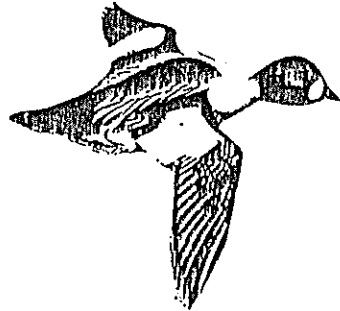
Wood ducks look for suitable nesting sites towards the end of April.



COMMON GOLDENEYES

Common Goldeneyes are rarely seen near oceans during breeding season, they breed in wooded areas throughout central regions of Canada.

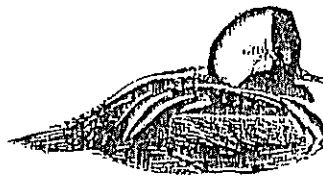
Goldeneyes keep the same mate year after year, re-mating only if one pair dies.



HOODED MERGANSER

Hooded Merganser begin to move northward from their wintering grounds in the Pacific and Atlantic coastal regions in March or April before the ice melts.

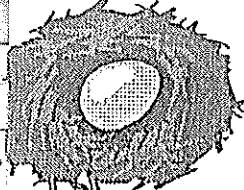
Preferred nesting habitat includes swamps, wooded streams, ponds, and lakes of Alaska, Canada and parts of the USA.



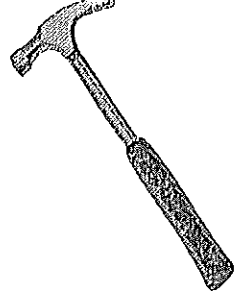
COMMON MERGANSER

Common Merganser begin to arrive in nesting grounds as soon as the ice begins to melt.

Preferred habitat is most often in or near boreal forested areas on stream headwaters or marshy bays where small fish are plentiful.



BUILD YOUR OWN NEST BOX



- Materials:**
- ✓ 25, 2" Nails
 - ✓ 2, 4" Nails (Placement of Box)
 - ✓ Hammer

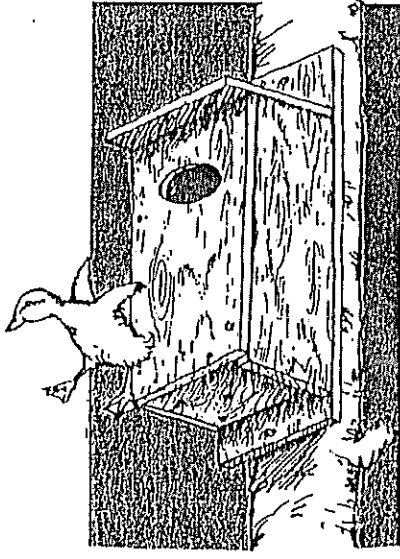
Instructions:

Start by finding the piece which will be the back/mounting board of your nest box. When you attach the walls, bottom and roof, make sure they go on the side of the back board.

Take side piece and nail it to the back board using three nails.

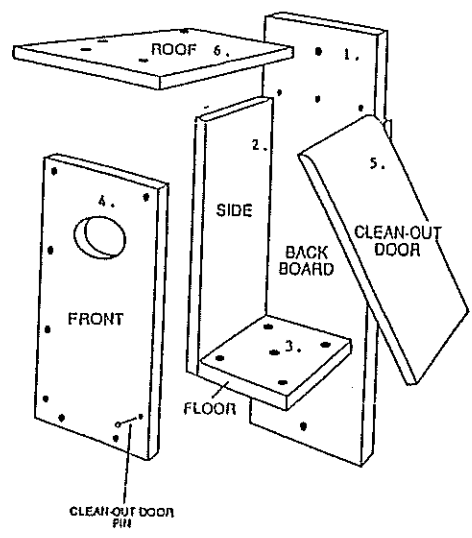
Take floor piece and nail it in place with 2 nails from the back.

Line up the front piece and lay it on top of the wall and floor with the entry/exit hole at the end opposite to the floor. Line up the front piece so that the bottom and side is level with the floor and the wall and then nail it in place using six nails.



Secure the door in place at the **Top Only** with one screw from the front and one from the back. The door will be held closed by 2 removable nails. Close the door and tack a nail at the front of the box near the bottom. Do not hammer the nail flush with the wood, this nail has to be removed each year to open the door and replace the old wood shavings in the box with new shavings.

Finally, put the roof piece on and nail it in place, but be careful not to put any nails into the top of the door otherwise it won't open! Four nails go into the top of the roof, and the last 3 nails go into the roof from the back of the box.



When should you put up your nest box?

Before you put up the nest box make sure they all have about 20cm of fresh wood shavings in the bottom for nesting material for the waterfowl nesting in your box.

The best time to put up your nest box is in late summer or early fall. Be sure to check and clean the shavings out of your box each Winter so that it will be ready for a nesting bird when Spring arrives.

Where you should put your nest box?

The area you choose must be attractive to the species you hope will use the box.

Most nest boxes are mounted in trees alongside wetland or waterways. Choose relatively open stands of mature trees and try to select sheltered locations.