

December 12, 1944
(dictated 12/6/44)

Mr. William Grimmer
State Conservation Department
Madison 2, Wisconsin

Dear Bill:

Albert Gastrow has drawn up a tentative not yet complete quail census for Prairie du Sac, and I have sent copies to you, to Cyril Kabat, and to Paul Errington. I will send you any further revision as soon as it is available.

I checked up on Gastrow's work two weeks ago, and everything is going satisfactorily.

The tentative estimate of 206 quail is almost the same as last year, when the fall count was 217. The summer gain this year was 66%, as compared with 210% last year. All of these figures are, of course, provisional, and will be slightly changed if the final count changes.

It is clear that the red fox high still continues at Prairie du Sac, that there is a new high in skunks, and that an extraordinary amount of fall plowing has taken place. Should the winter be severe, this may produce heavy losses later.

The quail banding work is starting this week, and a set of new traps has been built for the purpose. In addition, a new check area near Black Earth will be censused, trapped, and banded. All trapping and banding work will be in charge of Russell Turk, who is being carried by the University.

Yours sincerely,

Aldo Leopold

cc Errington
Kabat