

Ervington

June 4, 1932

Mr. Wm. Schmenke  
Fish and Game Commission  
Des Moines, Iowa

Dear Bill:

I have examined the prairie chicken map with much interest and am pleased that you should do such a good job on your first venture of this sort.

Since you ask me for suggestions, the following occur to me:

(1) The township should be specified by number or name.

(2) The drainage channels should differentiate between permanent water:                      , springs:                      , and dry channels:                      .

(3) Your stippling to indicate hummock swamp looks all right on the tracing but is so light that it is in danger of disappearing on a blueprint. The remedy would be heavier dots.

(4) You have a few impossible arrangements of hachures to indicate topography. If you will remind me the next time I am over there, we can sit down and rehearse the principles of hachuring and contouring.

(5) The power line is omitted. The usual symbol for power and telephone lines is this:

(6) I take it that you aim to indicate the cover and food improvements by color on the blueprints. In that event you are right in omitting them from the tracing.

I would appreciate your sending me a blueprint when available.

My own present hunch is that the power line constitutes a more or less serious handicap for this area, and it might be well to examine alternative locations in that region before spending any money, having Bowers do the preliminary work such as locating booming grounds and making censuses of breeding colonies. I hope, however, that some kind

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of a start can be made on a prairie chicken program this year.

I am sending a copy of this to Errington and Dr. Boone for their information. I take it you will show this letter to Bode for his information.

With best regards,

Yours sincerely,

ALDO LEOPOLD

P. S. The tracing is being returned under separate cover.

A.L.