

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

FOREST SERVICE

4065
~~2320~~

5-25-65

ESTABLISHMENT REPORT

G O L D L A K E B O G

NATURAL AREA



DESIGNATION ORDER

GOLD LAKE BOG NATURAL AREA

By virtue of the authority vested in me by Regulation U-4 of the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture, I hereby designate as the Gold Lake Bog Natural Area the lands described in the following report by Alvin Sorseth, dated April 28, 1965; said lands shall hereafter be administered as a natural area subject to the said regulations and instructions thereunder.

Aug. 10, 1965
Date

D. W. Greeley
Acting Chief

ESTABLISHMENT REPORT FOR THE
GOLD LAKE BOG NATURAL AREA

Willamette National Forest, Oregon

Introduction

Gold Lake and the surrounding area is presently being managed in accordance with the Waldo Lake Recreation Area Plan.

During 1962, it became apparent that the bog and the surrounding area to the northeast of Gold Lake should be considered for classification as a Natural or Botanical Area.

Accordingly, there were two field trips conducted in July 1962 to the area for the purpose of appraisal and evaluation.

1. On July 12, G.S. Meagher and D.F. Costello of the Pacific Northwest Forest and Range Experiment Station plus A.L. Sorseth, Oakridge District Ranger, and R.L. Worstall, Recreation Staffman for the Willamette National Forest, visited the area. Their reports are filed as follows:
 - a. 2320 - dated 2/12/62, prepared by G.S. Meagher and D.F. Costello.
 - b. 2150 - dated 7/18/62, prepared by A.L. Sorseth.
2. On July 23, Dr. John Rumley of Montana State College accompanied by Larry Worstall and Glen Chumnd of the Willamette National Forest visited the area. Worstall's report is dated 7/26/63 with a file designation of 2150. Dr. Rumley did not submit a report.

In addition to these field trips, district personnel discussed the flora and fauna of this area with Dr. James Kezar, Department of Biology at the University of Oregon.

On the basis of the above reports and discussions, we recommend that the Gold Lake Bog Natural Area, as delineated on the accompanying map, be classified under Regulation U-4. The highest use that can be made of this area would be for scientific and educational purposes.

Analysis of the Area

The boundaries of this area of approximately 463 acres are shown on the attached map. These boundaries are on a combination of land line subdivisions and topographic features.

Beginning where the proposed Waldo Lake Road, No. 204, intersects the section line between Sections 19 & 20. Proceed south on the section line between Sections 19 & 20 and 29 & 30 to Gold Lake; proceed along the shore of Gold Lake in a southeasterly direction until the east-west line dividing the north and south halves of Section 29 is crossed; proceed east along the dividing line of Section 29 to the Maiden Peak Trail; proceed along the Maiden Peak Trail in a northeasterly direction, to Skyline Creek; proceed down Skyline Creek in a northwesterly direction to a point where the creek intersects the section line between Sections 28 & 29; proceed north along the section line between Sections 28 & 29 and 20 & 21 to the southernmost 1/16 corner between Sections 20 & 21; proceed west along the 1/16 line across Section 20 to the Waldo Lake Road; proceed in a southwesterly direction along the Waldo Lake Road to the section line between Sections 19 & 20 and the beginning point.

Physical Conditions

This area ranges in elevation from 4800 feet to 5400 feet. Three small ponds within the bog total 4 acres. It is theorized that the area was developed in the Pleistocene Age. The bog area gradually converts to open grassland at the northeast side of the area. Upper Salt Creek, Skyline Creek, and Ray Creek all drain into the bog.

Timber and Cover Type

The timbered area, which comprises approximately 59% of the area, is in the Upper Forest Association. The predominating species are Engelmann spruce, lodgepole pine, silver fir, noble fir, mountain hemlock, and Douglas-fir.

The following figures are taken from data collected during the 1962 Willamette Forest inventory and relate to the South Willamette Working Circle, Upper Forest Resource Association:

Average yield per acre per year = 321 board feet
Number of acres of timber land = 272 acres

Average yield per year = 87,312 board feet
Approximate timber volume = 10,608 M board feet

The area could support an allowable cut of approximately 87,300 board feet per year.

There are seven known species of carnivorous plants in the State of Oregon. The Gold Lake Bog area contains five species of this type plant. They are as follows:

- | | | |
|--|---|-------------------------------|
| Long leaved sundew | - | <i>Drosera longifolia</i> |
| Round leaved sundew | - | <i>Drosera Rotundifolia</i> |
| Mountain bladderwort | - | <i>Utricularia intermedia</i> |
| Lesser bladderwort | - | <i>Utricularia minor</i> |
| (this plant is rarely found in the Cascades) | | |
| Common bladderwort | - | <i>Utricularia vulgaris</i> |

Scheuchzeria palustris (no common name) is also found in the bog. To date the only other area that this plant has been observed is in a bog near Horse Creek in the Three Sisters Wilderness Area.

Other plants found, which are also common to other bogs are: bog laurel, peat moss sphagnum, sedge (cotton grass) and bog buckbean.

It is believed that this area supports one of the best examples of sphagnum bog habitat in the central Cascades.

Wildlife

This area provides summer range for Roosevelt Elk, black-tail deer and mule deer. Other wildlife that inhabit the general area are black bear, beaver, martin, mink, weasel, raccoon, bob-cat, coyote, porcupine, varying hare, golden mantled ground squirrel and meadow mice.

A badger was observed by one of the groups that visited the area. Prior to this observance it was believed that badger did not inhabit the area west of the Cascade Summit. Photographs of this animal are attached.

Gold Lake is stocked with Rainbow Trout.

Birds that are common to the area include sooty grouse, mountain quail, morning doves, band-tailed pigeons, mallard and wood ducks.

Two species of frogs inhabit the bog. Cascade frog (*Rana cascadae*) is found near the exterior of the bog whereas the western spotted frog (*Rana pretiosa*) frequents the interior of the bog. These two species are closely related and are probably genetically compatible. Studies are presently being undertaken to determine if these species actually do cross to produce a hybrid.

The Northwestern tree toad (*Hyla regilla*) also may be found in the general area.

Values of the Area

The primary value of this area will be for scientific and educational purposes. Gold Lake itself receives high recreation use; however, most of this activity takes place near the southwest side of the lake - a distance of approximately one-half mile. The open grasslands above the bog have served in the past as a base camp for hunters in the late fall.

Camping in the area will be prohibited under Regulation U-6. Signs will be placed at suitable locations to inform the public of this restriction. The area could contribute 87,300 board feet annually to the allowable cut of the South Willamette Working Circle.

Recommended Management Policy

We recommend that the proposed Gold Lake Bog Natural Area, comprising approximately 463 acres, be designated under the provision of Regulation U-1.

The area is not to be promoted for recreational purposes and will be kept in its present natural condition.

We recommend that the Maiden Peak Trail be maintained from the Gold Lake Road to the Skyline Trail. Trail-side zone will be maintained on the south side of the Maiden Peak Trail.

Grazing use by domestic animals should be prohibited and no timber will be cut for commercial purposes.

It is our belief that the proposed boundary will provide adequate protection to the plant associations from outside influences. A staff compass and chain survey will be conducted, along with posting the boundary, when the area is approved.

A road-side zone will be maintained along the Waldo Lake Road adjacent to the area.

Hydrologic features of the bog will be given maximum protection possible through (a) maintenance of a uniform water level in Gold Lake proper through protection of the lake outlet, and (b) by giving maximum protection to the natural drainage features of the fresh water marsh which adjoins the bog on the upstream side.

It is possible that the springs indicated on the map will be tapped as a water supply for the Gold Lake Campground. These springs have no effect on the bog as they drain directly into the lake. We recommend that the springs remain outside the proposed boundary in order that they may be used for this purpose if necessary.

Beaver have been quite prominent in the past although their population has decreased considerably in the last few years. At times, the Oregon State Game Commission has removed beaver dams in the main channel to allow access for spawning rainbow trout from Gold Lake. Since the dams appear to be a natural feature of major importance in maintaining a high water level in the marsh as well as the bog, they should be retained. Trapping of beaver in the area should be prohibited. Close cooperation with the Oregon State Game Commission is needed in carrying out these decisions.

April 28, 1965
(Date)

Alvin L. Sorseth
Forester

APPROVED:

May 6, 1965
(Date)

D. R. Libbey
Forest Supervisor

May 25, 1965
(Date)

Philip M. Briedel
Director

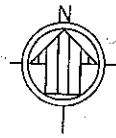
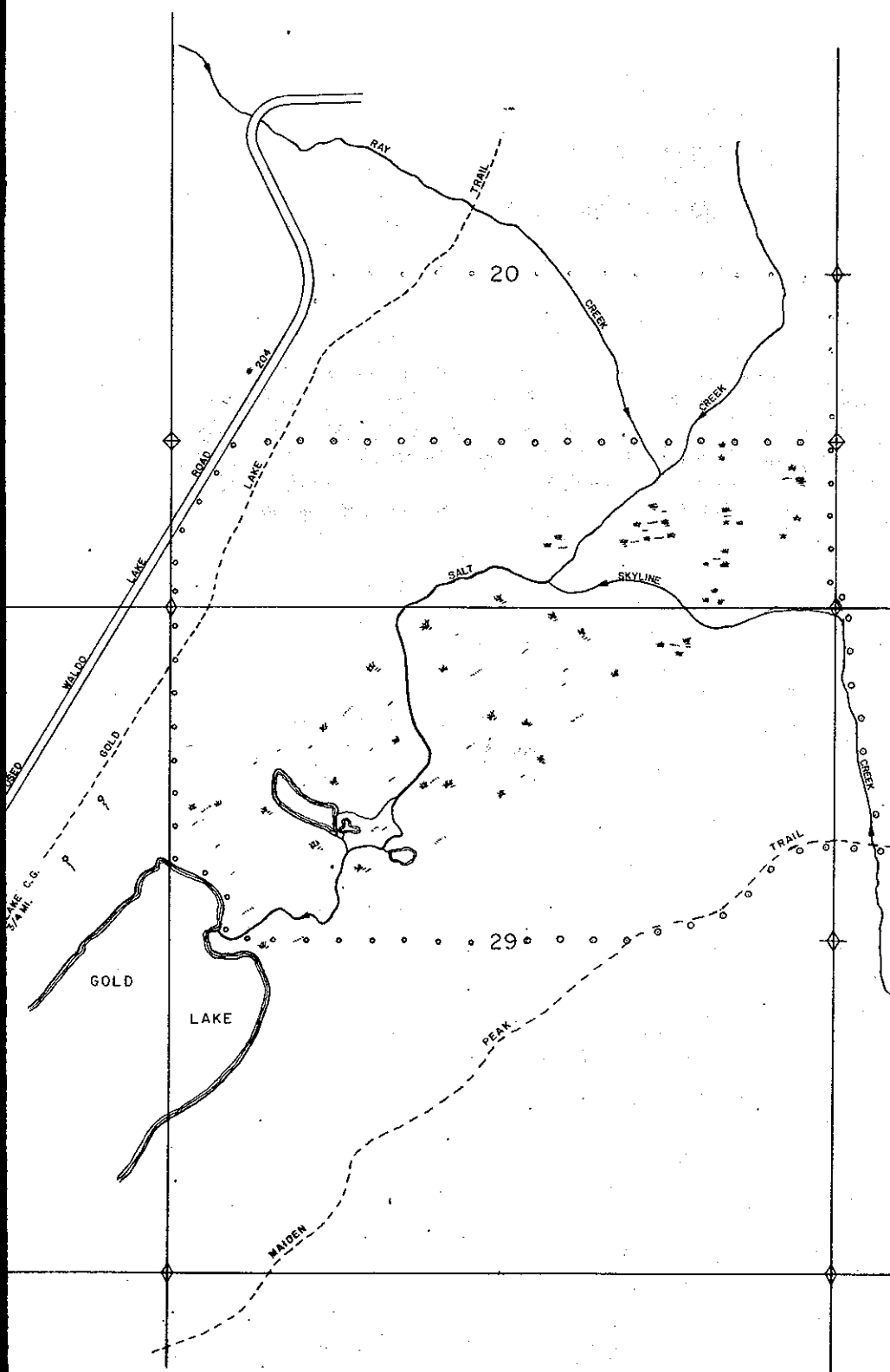
May 25, 1965
(Date)

J. Herbert Stone
Regional Forester

By virtue of the authority vested in me by Regulation U-4 of the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture, I hereby designate as the Gold Lake Bog Natural Area the lands described in the preceding report by Alvin Sorseth, dated April 28, 1965; said lands shall hereafter be administered as a natural area subject to the said regulations and instructions thereunder.

(Date)

Chief
U.S. Forest Service



**NATURAL
GOLD LAKE BOTANICAL AREA**

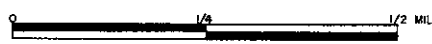
Sec. 20 & 29, T 22 S, R 6 E, W. M.

TIMBER & COVER TYPE

Timber	272 acres
Open marsh & grassland	191 acres
Total	463 acres

- LEGEND —**
- o o Boundary botanical area
 - * * * Open grassland & marsh
 - ♀ Spring
 - - - Trail
 - ◆ Section & 1/4 corner
 - ◆ 1/16 Corner

SCALE

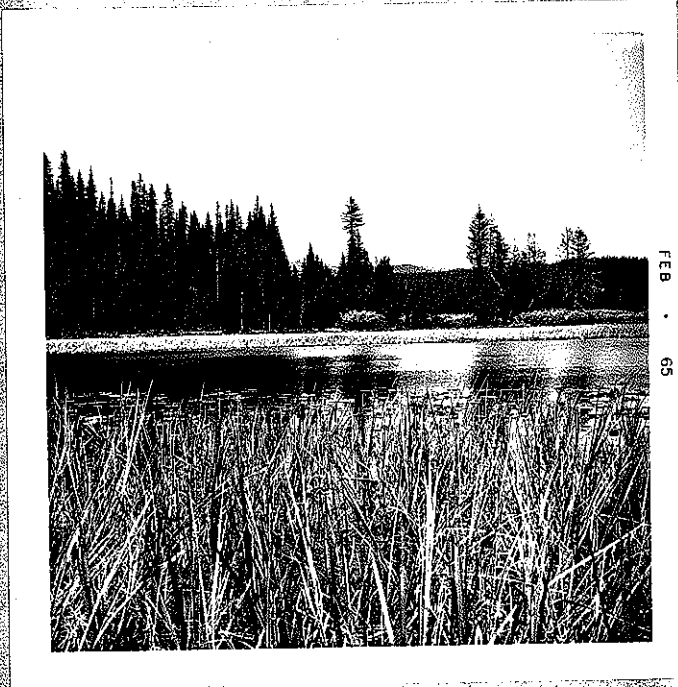


DATE: 3-8-63
DRAWN BY: E. B. COLLARD



FEB • 65 •

Bog Flora



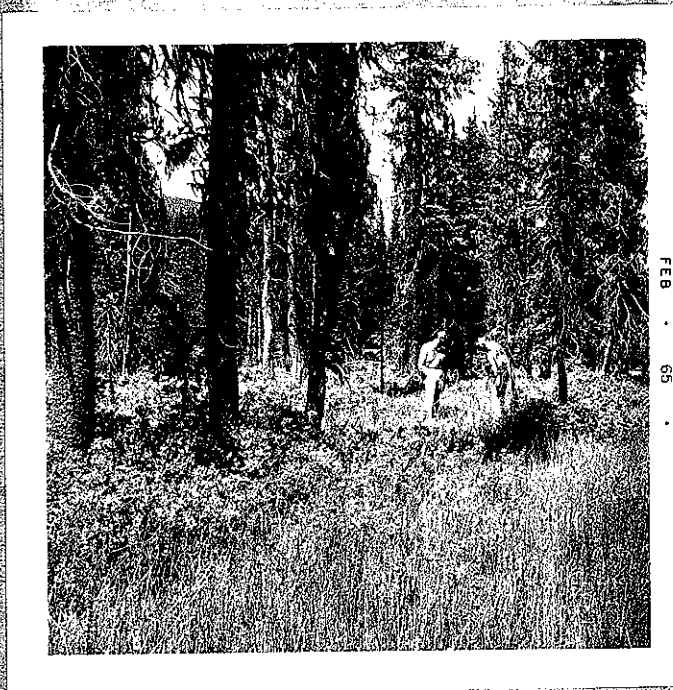
FEB • 65

Pond within
bog area



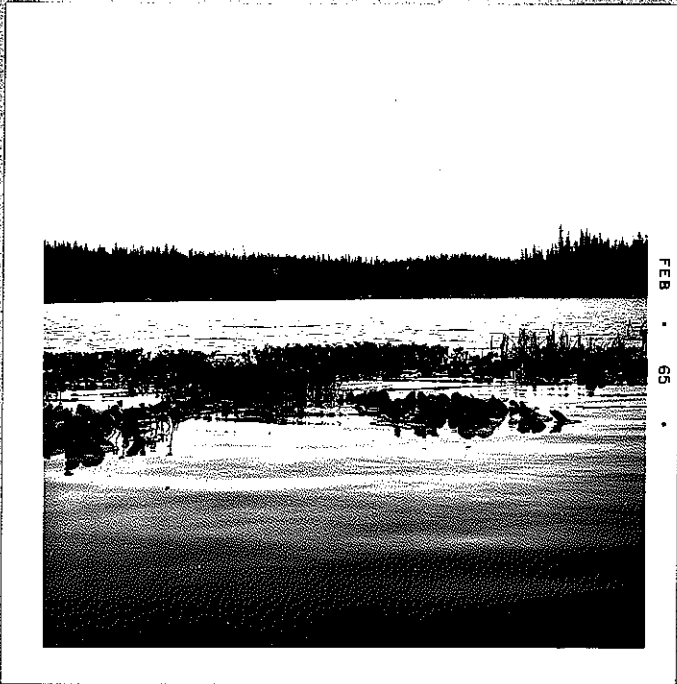
FEB . 65 .

Timber type denoting
Upper Forest Association

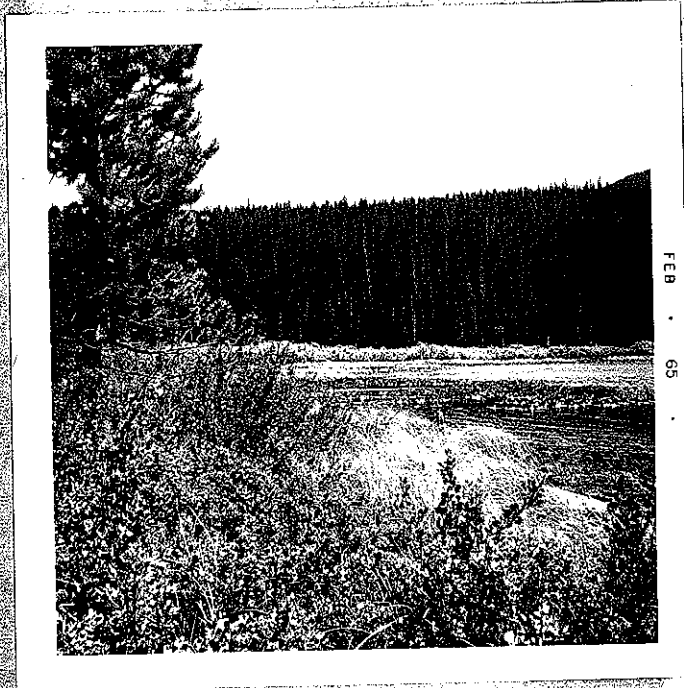


FEB . 65 .

Openings with
Engelmann Spruce



Looking south to
Diamond Peak



Small pond with
bog area and
timber type



FEB

65

Small carnivorous
plant



FEB

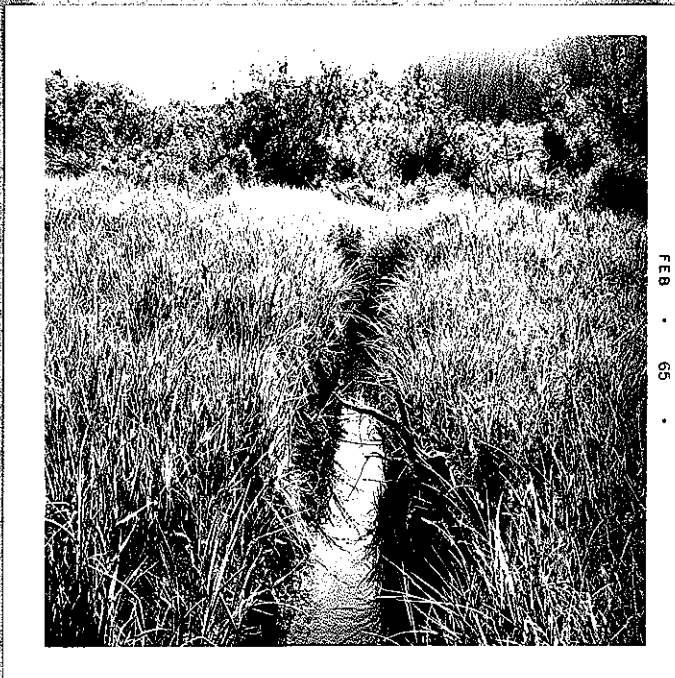
65

Bog Flora



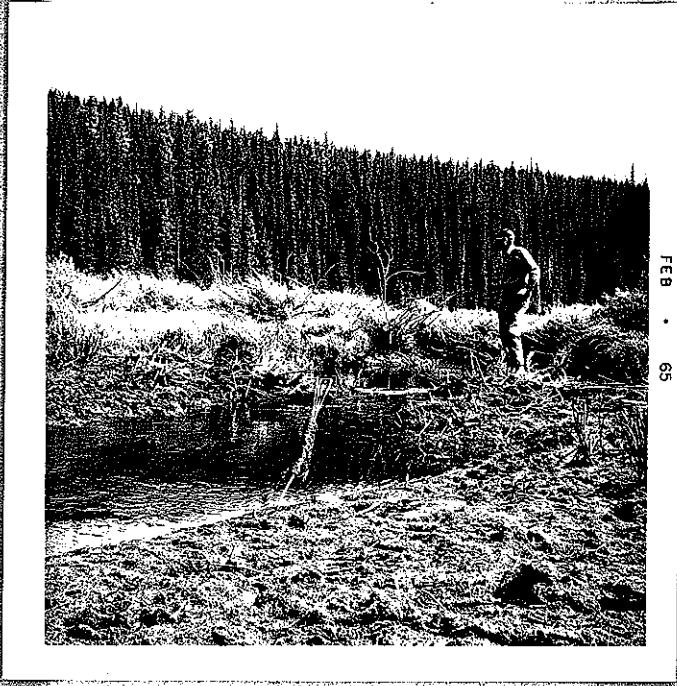
FEB • 65

Beaver dam

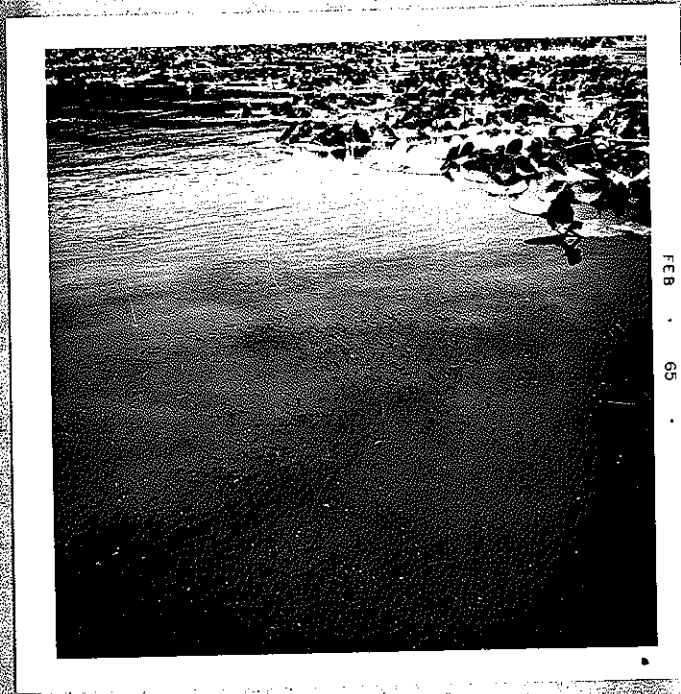


FEB • 65

Beaver runway



Beaver dam removed
by Oregon
State Game
Commission



Tadpoles and
pond lilies