

Distribution of the Wilson's Snipe

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WILSON'S SNIPE

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service is preparing a map of the breeding distribution and abundance of the Wilson's Snipe (Jack Snipe). This species nests, at least sparingly, in almost all parts of Canada as well as in parts of the northern United States.

The areas of greatest abundance during the nesting season are primarily in the far north, so there are many gaps in our knowledge of the snipe's distribution.

Since the Wilson's Snipe is a game species locally both in the United States and Canada, both countries are interested in completing the picture of its distribution and abundance. In the States the hunting season on this species was closed following a severe freeze which killed

large numbers of snipe on their Gulf Coast wintering grounds in the winter of 1940. In 1953 a short season was again declared, but the Fish and Wildlife Service, in order to assure that the snipe received adequate protection, is anxious to keep abreast of its distribution and of any change in abundance both on its nesting ground and in its wintering areas.

If you know of any nesting localities of the Wilson's Snipe, you can contribute materially by writing to Fred G. Bard, Provincial Museum, Regina, and stating the places and, if possible, the dates on which snipes have been observed during the nesting season (mid-May to late July). Mr. Bard will consolidate the reports and send a copy to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Canadian Wildlife Service.