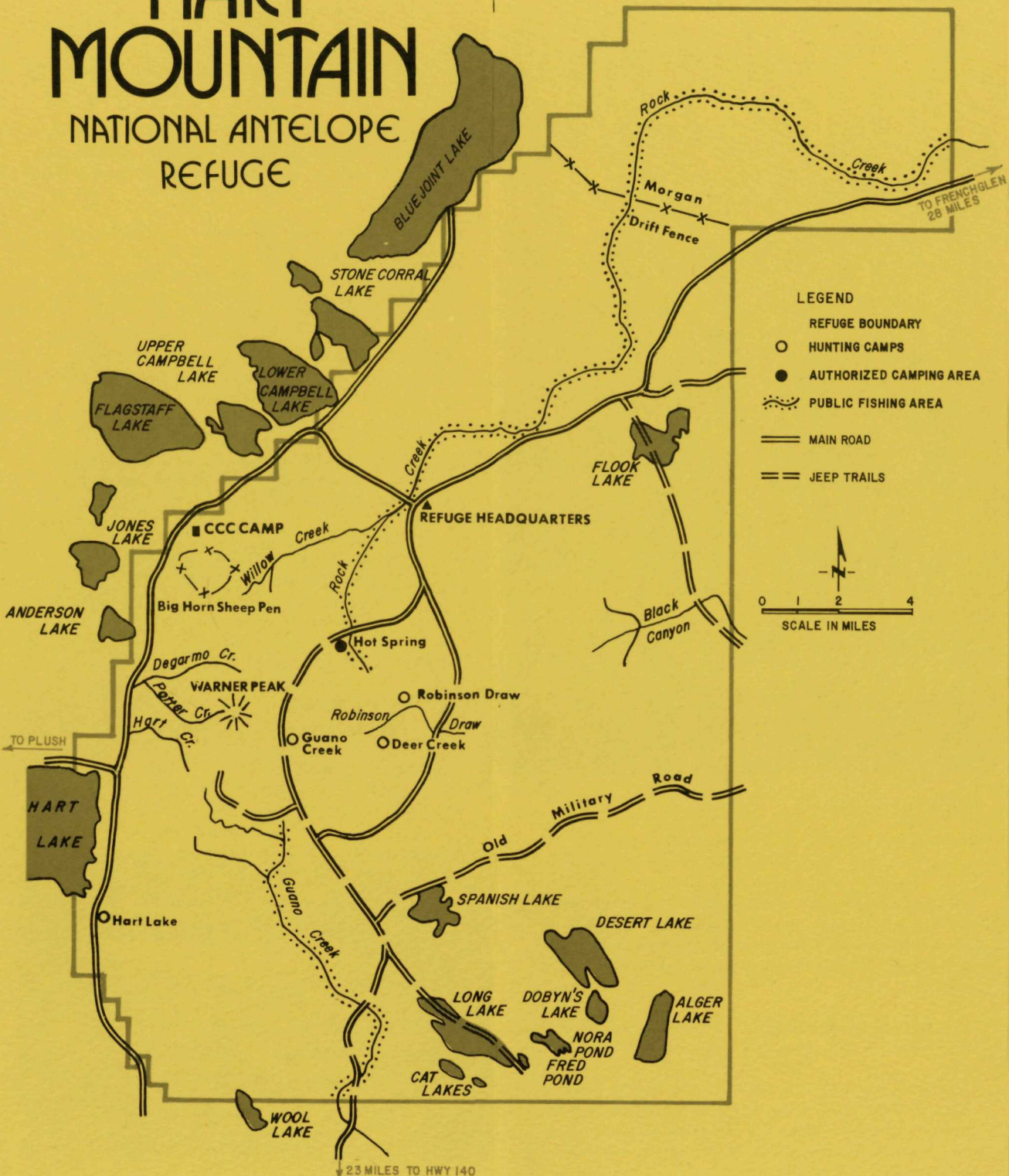
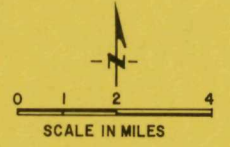


HART MOUNTAIN

NATIONAL ANTELOPE REFUGE



- LEGEND**
- REFUGE BOUNDARY
 - HUNTING CAMPS
 - AUTHORIZED CAMPING AREA
 - Public Fishing Area
 - == MAIN ROAD
 - - - JEEP TRAILS

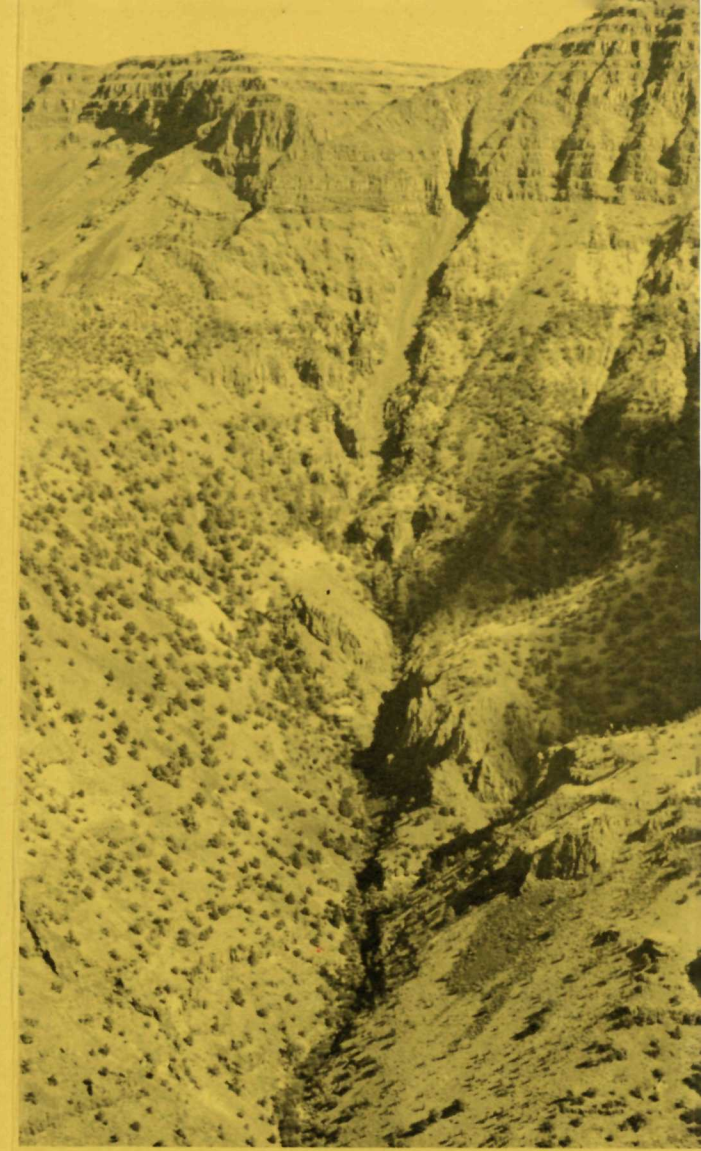


As the Nation's principal conservation agency, the Department of the Interior has basic responsibilities for water, fish, wildlife, mineral, land, park, and recreational resources. Indian and Territorial affairs are other major concerns of America's "Department of Natural Resources."

The Department works to assure the wisest choice in managing all our resources so each will make its full contribution to a better United States—now and in the future.



RL-80-R



HART MOUNTAIN

NATIONAL ANTELOPE REFUGE



THE REFUGE

The 275,000-acre Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge was established in 1936 to provide spring, summer and fall range for remnant antelope herds which usually winter in Catlow Valley, to the east, and on the Charles Sheldon Antelope Range about 35 miles southeast in Nevada.

Since then, the purposes of the refuge have been greatly expanded for the protection of this high-desert habitat, its native wildlife and for the enjoyment, education and appreciation of the public.

DESCRIPTION

Hart Mountain is a massive fault block ridge rising high above the surrounding rangelands to an elevation of 8,065 feet above sea level. The west side is precipitous, ascending abruptly some 3,600 feet from the floor of Warner Valley in a series of rugged cliffs, steep slopes and knifelike ridges. The face of the mountain is cut by several deep gorges. Hart, Potter and DeGarmo Canyons, the most rugged, extend from the valley floor to the top of the main ridge.

The east side of the mountain is less precipitous, descending in a series of hills and low ridges to the sagebrush-grass ranges typical of southeastern Oregon.

Hart Mountain has been called an oasis in the desert. It is well watered by many fine springs. Rising near the middle of the mountain, Rock Creek traverses a deep canyon in a northeasterly direction, emerging on the open range just above refuge headquarters. Guano, Stockade, and Goat Creeks, rising on the south end of the mountain, flow south and east into Guano Valley. Deer Creek, rising from the intermediate hills, flows east, gradually disappearing into the semi-arid rangeland soils.

WILDLIFE

Among the animals living in the short-sage, snowbrush, aspen and wild gooseberry of the higher elevations of Hart Mountain are mule deer, California bighorn sheep, conies or pikas, goshawks, mountain bluebirds and white-crowned sparrows.

In contrast, in the dunes, greasewood and saltgrass flats and shallow intermittent lakes of its semi-desert base, antelope, kangaroo rats, burrowing owls and sage sparrows are found along with such reptiles as rattlesnakes, bullsnakes, yellow-bellied racers and collared and leopard lizards.

Between these extremes, among the big and short sage, mountain mahogany and numerous kinds of bunch grasses are the animals for which the mountain is so well known. Bands of antelope roam the gently-sloping east face. California bighorn sheep have been re-established along the steep and rugged west wall and nearby Poker Jim Ridge. Also living in this vast area are mule deer, coyotes, bobcats, jackrabbits, cottontails, marmots, ground squirrels, nighthawks, red-shafted flickers and many other species of mammals and birds.



RECREATION

For those interested in wildlife and nature oriented recreation, Hart Mountain offers a variety of activities.

WILDLIFE OBSERVATION AND PHOTOGRAPHY are the most popular recreational activities on the refuge, accounting for nearly half the total refuge visits. A self-guided, 20-mile auto tour route is available to visitors.

FISHING is available in Rock and Guano Creeks and Warner Pond. An Oregon fishing license is required.

CAMPING is allowed year-round at the Hot Springs Camp, three miles south of refuge headquarters. Other camps are open during special refuge hunting seasons. Conditions are primitive. Campfires may be forbidden during periods of high fire danger.

ROCKHOUNDING is popular on Hart Mountain. Persons are limited to seven pounds of specimens. Blasting and digging are prohibited and all items of antiquity (Indian artifacts) are protected.

HIKING in the remote parts of the refuge is gaining popularity. Overnight wilderness camping is allowed by special permit obtained at refuge headquarters.

HUNTING. Special hunting seasons are occasionally held with emphasis placed on a quality experience and the need to preserve some of the finer traditions of the sport.

INFORMATION. Hart Mountain is located 65 miles northeast of Lakeview, Oregon. It can be reached by county roads from US-395 and Oregon Highway 140. The refuge is remote. Gasoline and groceries are available at Plush, 25 miles distance, and Adel, 45 miles distance. All tourist facilities are available in Lakeview. Mid-May through October is the best season to visit the refuge. Even then, road conditions may limit access to parts of the area.

Special regulations control public use. These regulations may be obtained at refuge headquarters or from the address listed below:

Regional Director, Region 1
U. S. Fish & Wildlife Service
Lloyd 500 Bldg., Suite 1692
500 N.E. Multnomah St.
Portland, Oregon 97232

For additional information, contact:

Refuge Manager
Sheldon-Hart Mountain National
Antelope Refuges
P. O. Box III
Lakeview, Oregon 97630

UNCLE JACOB'S HOMESTEAD

