



Delta Marsh History Initiative

In its heyday, Delta Marsh attracted people from all over the world and from all walks of life. Generations of farmers, fishermen, hunters and trappers who resided close to the marsh found themselves in the company of the British royal family, and later, movie stars, television personalities and even astronauts. Today the marsh is just as famous but it has seriously deteriorated since the 1960s due to the effects of unfavourable water levels, a destructive fish species, overgrowth by cattails, and contamination from sewage, agricultural fertilizers and pesticides.

Why is Delta Marsh important?

Delta Marsh is designated officially as a Wetland of International Significance, a Heritage Marsh, and an Important Bird Area. As such, many people and organizations are keenly interested in restoring the marsh to its former magnificence. By making people aware of the rich history and cultural importance of the area, we believe that support for conservation of Delta Marsh, and other similarly degraded wetlands throughout the province, will grow. The Delta Marsh story, as part of the heritage of all Manitobans, must be preserved for the benefit of future generations.

What are we doing?

A group of people who share an interest in the area, the Delta Marsh History Initiative, is preparing to write a book. This book will include histories of the prominent people and organizations of the marsh, encompassing a full range of views from cottage and lodge owners, hunters, fishers, trappers, birdwatchers, beach-goers, scientists, tourists, and others.

How can you help?

- provide photographs, reminiscences, family stories, or any other information pertaining to Delta Marsh
- let us know about people you know who have information about Delta Marsh
- contribute your time to help collect and organize information, contact people, and prepare the book
- make a tax-deductible donation to help with costs of the project

How to contact us

Delta Marsh History Initiative
% Delta Marsh Field Station (University of Manitoba)
Box 38, R.R. #2
Portage la Prairie, Manitoba R1N 3A2
(204) 857-8637 fax: (204) 857-4683 toll-free in Manitoba: (800) 432-1960 ext. 7469
e-mail: delta_marsh@umanitoba.ca

Steering Committee Members

Barry Bills	857-3020
Maurice Blanchard	857-3807
Shirley Christianson	239-6903
Heidi den Haan	239-4287
Denzil Gamble	274-2457
Gary Garrioch	339-6929
Gordon Goldsborough	474-7469
Bob Jones	239-1803
Shirley Love	857-8120
Winnie Pauch	857-7498
Glen Suggett	945-7763
Don Wilkinson	239-6315