



Wetlands America Trust

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... SPECIAL REPORT ...

Dave and Marg Grohne Waterfowl Production Area

In recognition of a lifetime of philanthropic support, leadership and service to Ducks Unlimited and Wetlands America Trust, Dave and Marg Grohne were honored by Ducks Unlimited and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service with the official dedication of a 1,380 acre waterfowl production area in the heart of the Missouri Coteau in North Dakota. Parcels like this regularly attract over 100 pairs of breeding ducks per square mile when the landscape has water from snowmelt or spring precipitation.

As one of the country's most ardent supporters of Ducks Unlimited's conservation efforts in the Prairie Pothole Region, Dave exemplifies the highest ideals of leading by example. Naming federal lands in honor of private citizens is rarely done, and it is a high honor for both the Grohnes and Ducks Unlimited to have their name forever identified with one of the jewels of the Coteau.

The dedication of the waterfowl production area was conducted June 20, 2017, with several WAT trustees, DU board members, DU senior staff and partners from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in attendance. All three of WAT's presidents—Jim Kennedy, John Childs and Steve Maritz—attended as well as DU Chairman Paul Bonderson, DU President Rogers Hoyt and past presidents George Dunklin and John Tomke. Retired DU conservation staff members Jim Ringelman and Joe Satrom, who worked with Dave over the over years, also attended.

The dedication took place on a perfect day in the prairies . . . 70 degrees, bright sun, high clouds and a slight breeze. Steve Adair, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Regional Director Noreen Walsh, Dan Thiel, John Childs and Steve Maritz made presentations and thanked Dave and Marg for their philanthropic support of our work on the prairies. Dave made very heartfelt comments to conclude the dedication.

Following the dedication, Jim Kennedy presented an original painting by noted artist Jerry Raedeke, depicting mallards in a prairie pothole, to Dave and Marg.

We would like to extend a special thanks to all the trustees who were able to attend this wonderful event.

Thanks,

Dan



Steve Adair, Director of Operations for DU's Great Plains Region welcomes everyone to the dedication.



Dave and Marg



Dave and Marg Grohne cairn



Jim Kennedy, former WAT President, presented Dave and Marg with an original painting by Jerry Raedeke.



Former WAT President, John Childs acknowledges Dave Grohne's philanthropy and vision for conserving the prairies.



WAT Trustees with Dave and Marg



Officers and members of the DU Board of Directors attending the dedication



DU staff from the Great Plains and National Headquarters with Dave and Marg