

BEGIN CONSERVATION PROJECT

Wildlife Club to Erect Dam in PL Watershed

The Pine Lake Wildlife Club is presently taking the first step in what will eventually result in a \$15,000-\$20,000 improvement project in the Pine Lake watershed area, it was revealed this week.

The local Club is now receiving bids for 5,535 cubic yards of earth fill, which will be used for construction of a dam across a large ravine that enters the middle portion of Upper Pine Lake from the west.

This dam is being built for the purpose of eliminating the infiltration of silt into the Upper Lake. This silt problem has existed at Upper Pine for some time, but has become even more prevalent the past couple of years.

The ravine being dammed extends from the Eldora-Steamboat road east to Upper Pine, a distance of about one-half mile. The ravine is located southwest of the Pine Lake Wildlife clubhouse.

Financial assistance in construction of the dam, to be erected about 500 feet east of the Eldora-Steamboat Rock road, will be received from the State Conservation Commission and the Agricultural Conservation Program. The dam will be 26 feet high from the bottom of the gully, which is close to 40 feet wide.

PLAN FOUR MORE DAMS

Plans are also being made at the present time for construction of four more dams on branches of the same ravine in the watershed area. Two of the dams will be erected on the John Janssen farm, one will be erected on the Chris Schaa farm which is located where the old airport originally stood, and the other on the Rosa Riley farm, which is operated by Schaa.

These latter four dams,

which are being built by the individual farmers themselves, will be for gully control as well as silt containment. State Conservation Commission and ACP financial assistance will also be obtained for construction of these four dams.

It is likely that other erosion control dams will be constructed in the watershed area during the next few years, reports Cal Moore of the Hardin County Soil Conservation Service.

These conservation improvements tie in very well with the Upper Pine Lake improvement project, which will consist of raising the existing Upper Pine dam to increase the size of the lake. It is hoped that the local projects will speed along the release of state appropriations for the latter improvement.

Members of the Wildlife Club who are heading up the erosion control committee are Gene Farmer, Gene Stechell, Duane Wilson and Moore.

Everett Pierce of the State Conservation Commission has also been assisting with surveying operations and other preliminary work on the project. The actual plans are drawn up by the local Soil Conservation Service.

Sealed bids on the project will be received until 2 p. m. July 15. A notice to bidders is being carried in today's Hardin County Index.