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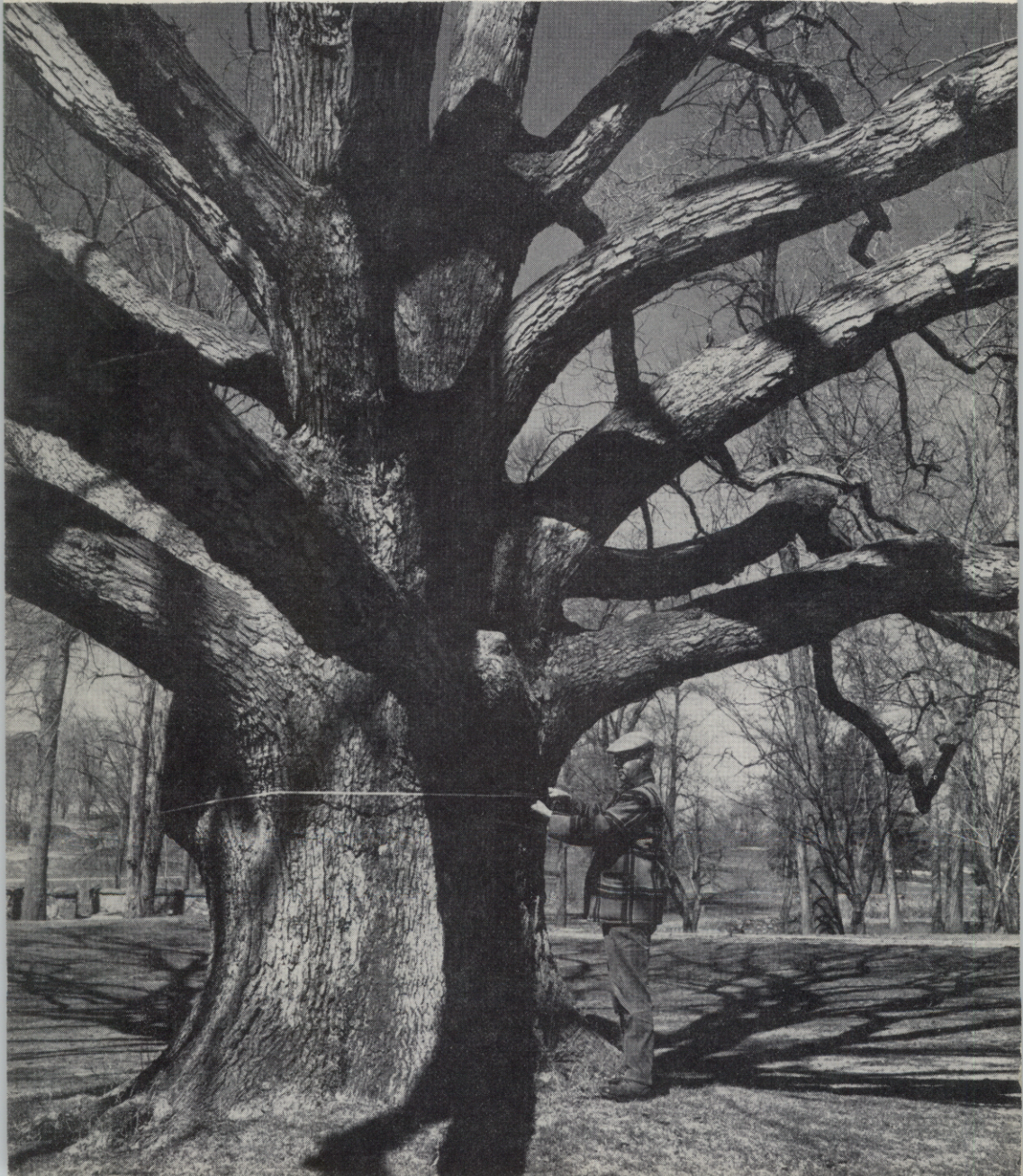
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DEPARTMENT

Vol. 16, No. 8

Division of Fish and Game

February, 1966



On the Block

Must Wildlife Administrators Be Chopping-Block "Turkeys"?

By Louis S. Clapper

Ambition, when directed in proper channels, is a good and necessary thing. It is the motivating force which sets our way of life out ahead of those nations which are dominated by collectivistic doctrines and approaches. The desire of individuals to get ahead and "be someone" has resulted in most of the finest accomplishments of the age.

To a considerable degree, professionals in the wildlife field are being denied the rights of legitimate ambition and pride of accomplishment. Potentially efficient administrators sometimes even reject advancement with the pertinent question: "Why should I become a Thanksgiving turkey?" What they mean is that advancement to positions of leadership or administration often results in necks being stretched on chopping blocks. This is not a healthy situation.

In the first eight months of one year, for example, eight states made changes in top wildlife administrative personnel, none of which were purely political of the type to be expected in some areas. Two replacements resulted from

death and two others were due to retirement. Four directors "resigned," under pressure or of their own volition, or were "relieved."

Some changes, of course, are inevitable and necessary but too many point up the disagreeable fact that the chair of director of game and fish is just about the hottest seat in state government.

The life of a game and fish director is not an easy one and difficulties often extend to his staff subordinates who administer specific activities such as fish management, game management, and law enforcement. All too often, wildlife agency administrators on both state and federal levels are pulled in several conflicting directions.

First off, the establishment and execution of policies are controversial. To cite an example, hunting regulations may run headlong into such issues as any-sex deer seasons, the fox-quail relationship, or an open squirrel gunning period during the "mulberry season." Individual sportsmen, "experts" in their own eyes, usually have unvarying positions on regulations which they expound vociferously. As a consequence, regulations of-

(Continued on Inside Back Cover)

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Cover—"The Braidburn Oak"—Bob A. Sidner

The Braidburn Oak being measured by Forester Santiago Porcella, III, of the Forestry Bureau. The 300-year old white oak is 69.5 inches DBH (diameter breast height) and is in Florham Park, Morris County. See page 16 for more

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The numbers of clapper rails on our marshes fluctuate noticeably. Clapper rail on its nest in New Jersey rail bird marsh

they go Up and Down

Population Dynamics of the Clapper Rail

By Fred Ferrigno, Sr.
Bureau of Wildlife Management

Photographs by the Author

IT HAS BEEN APPARENT among sportsmen, naturalists, and biologists that every so many years the numbers of clapper rail on our tidal marshes decrease substantially. When this occurs, the blame is usually placed on indiscriminate use of pesticides, over-shooting, pollution, or adverse flooding. Thanks to a unique census method developed by Schmidt and McLain (1951) while under the supervision of L. G. MacNamara, we are now in a position to keep tabs on clapper populations by use of relatively small census areas. This article deals with the ten-year results of one aspect, population dynamics, of this comprehensive study on two study areas in Cape May County.

Procedure

The field method used in the ten-year study was carried on in a consistent manner on two established study areas, Coneys and Keyes Areas, in Cape May County. Nests were located by searching methodically, on foot, the natural levee areas within the marsh simi-

lar to the manner described by Schmidt and McLain (1951). However, subsequent visits, which were shortened to a nine-day interval, were continued until all nesting had ceased. When a nest was found, a stake was placed nearby with a number which designated that particular nest. Each nest was closely observed until it was either destroyed or successfully hatched. Data was collected on most phases pertinent to the nesting biology of the clapper rail.

Production Trends

Figure 1 and Table 2 represent the production trends over the past ten years. The 1964 production was at a low level; it showed a 40.9 percent decrease when compared to 1963, and a 29.3 percent decrease from the past ten-year average. Relatively low periods of production occurred in 1955, 1956, 1959, 1960, and 1964. It appears that tidal destruction is somewhat responsible for below average success in 1955, 1960, and 1965. During these years initial nesting was

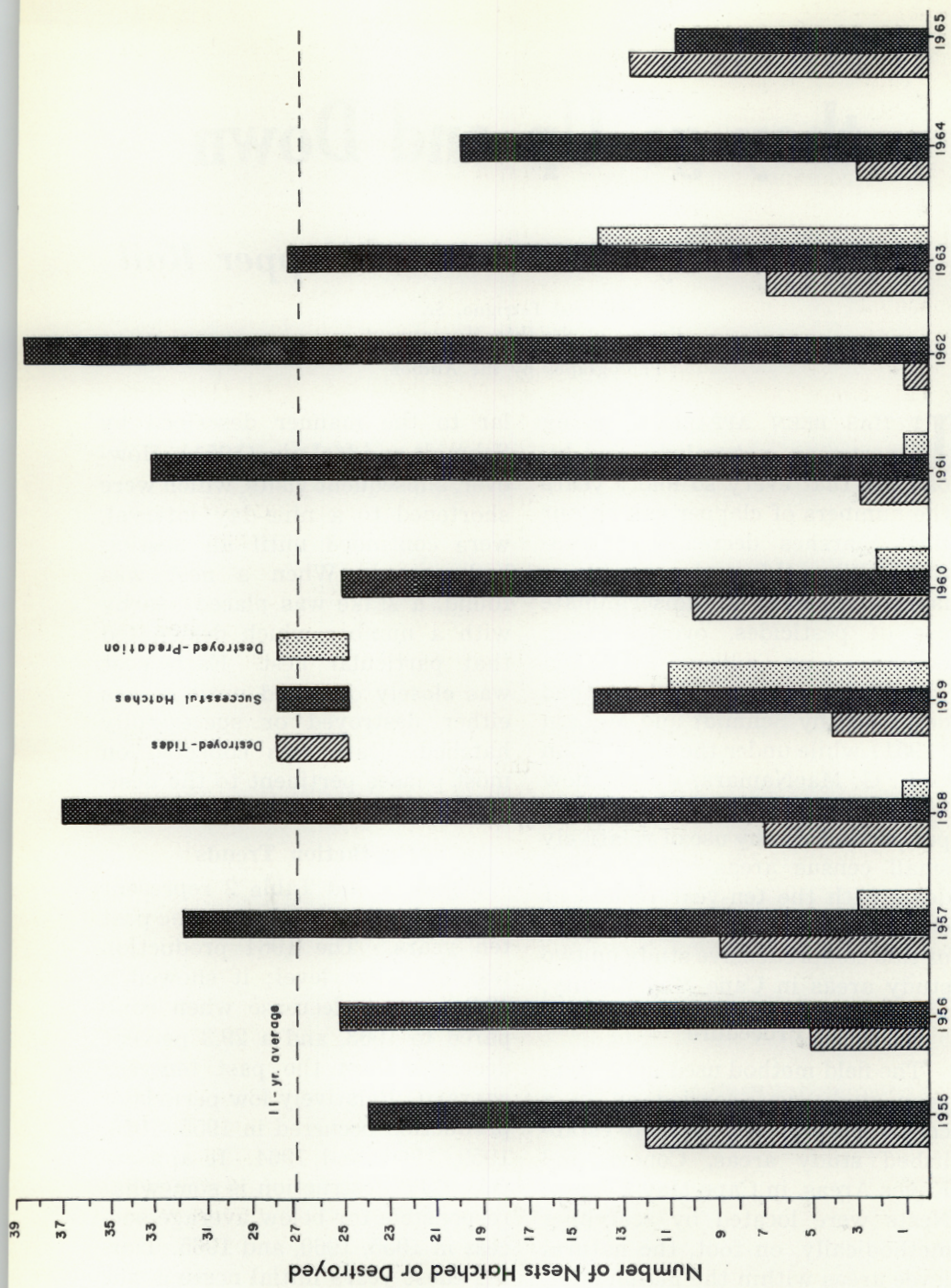


Fig. 1. Production Trends and Nest Losses of the Clapper Rail on Two Census Areas

... Up and Down

practically eliminated by destructive tides accompanied by strong northeasterly winds.

It is very possible that the heavy tidal destruction of 1955 reduced to a low level, the breeding population of the following year and this reduced population started the reproductive cycle over again. However, it is felt that several repeated years of ideal phenological conditions conducive to nesting success can result in territorial conflicts and a production crash (1959) due to over-population of clappers on their breeding grounds.

Predation

Prior to the 1963 study, it was this writer's personal opinion that if ideal weather and water conditions prevailed, bird predation would increase and production would drop substantially. Although the predation was evident, the predicted production crash was not as pronounced (Ferrigno, 1963). The mistake here was that competition for space, similar to 1959, was anticipated. The production drop did occur in 1963, but territorial conflict was nowhere near as severe. It is very possible that the social behavior, reduced production, and destruction of nests, will vary and depend upon the degree of crowding. There was a marked difference between the two over-populated years, 1959, and 1963.

Although clapper rail produc-

tion in the years 1958 and 1962 preceding the drop was similar, the cover which was so dense in 1958, accounted for excellent survival of young clappers (Ferrigno, 1958). Consequently, when the birds returned in 1959, competition for territories was so intensive that it resulted in interference with pairing, nest building, egg laying, incubation, and rearing of young. Field observations in 1959 illustrated excessive territorial conflict. Fighting was very noticeable; one clapper was observed maliciously destroying a nest, nests were fewer (Table 1-A), eggs destroyed had pierced holes with diameters similar to that of the clapper rail's bills, bird predation suddenly skyrocketed upward (Table 1-D), and successful nest hatches crashed to its lowest recorded level.

1963 Drop

Conditions were not the same in the 1963 drop; territorial competition seemed less severe, although it was definitely there. The number of nests (Table 1-B) did not decline as in 1958 and fewer nests were destroyed completely. However, there was evidence that 11 nests that had hatched had been partially destroyed prior to hatching. During the peak nesting period of June 6-14, there were only 17 nests under observation in 1959 and almost twice as many, 31, in 1963. Complete and partial destruction of nests may have made the difference here as adults were abundant during both years.

To offset this difference, partial-

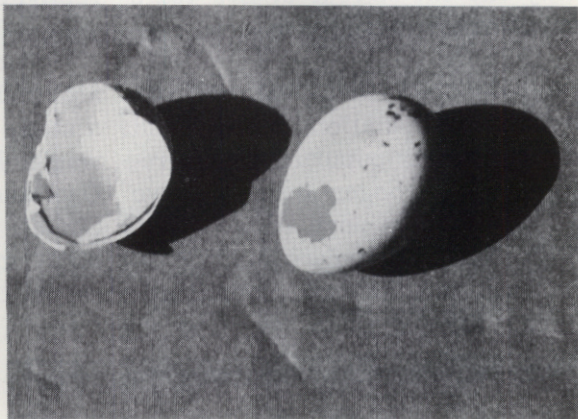
Table 1. Results of the clapper rail nest census over a ten-year period.

Area	1955	1956	1957	1958	1959	1960	1961	1962	1963	1964
(A) Number of Observed Nests										
Coneys	29	20	26	26	13	18	14	12	21	8
Keys	7	10	18	19	16	19	23	28	28	15
Totals	36	30	44	45	29	37	37	40	49	23
(B) Number Hatched Successfully										
Coneys	20	16	19	20	6	13	11	12	14	8
Keys	4	9	13	17	8	12	22	27	20	12
Totals	24	25	32	37	14	25	33	39	34	20
(C) Number Destroyed by Tides										
Coneys	9	4	5	5	2	4	2	0	2	0
Keys	3	1	4	2	2	6	1	1	5	3
Totals	12	5	9	7	4	10	3	1	7	3
(D) Number Destroyed by Predators										
Coneys	0	0	2	1	5	1	1	0	5	0
Keys	0	0	1	0	6	1	0	0	3	0
Totals	0	0	3	0	11	2	1	0	8	0
(E) Mean Number Linear Feet of Ditch/Success Nest										
Coneys	521	657	553	516	1,752	809	956	876	751	1,314
Keys	1,743	1,355	937	718	1,525	1,016	555	452	610	1,017
Totals	946	908	709	614	1,622	908	688	582	668	1,135
(F) Acres/Successful Hatch										
Coneys	3.05	3.81	3.21	3.05	10.18	4.69	5.55	5.08	4.36	7.63
Keys	4.57	3.55	2.46	1.88	4.00	2.66	1.45	1.19	1.60	2.66
Totals	3.88	3.72	2.91	2.51	6.74	3.72	2.82	2.38	2.74	4.65

... Up and Down

ly predatorized nests that had approximately 50 percent or more eggs destroyed, were considered as half of a successful hatch. This dropped the 1963 index of total successful hatches from 34 to 28 and predation up from 8 to 14.

*Typical appearance
of eggs destroyed by
clapper rails*



This is more realistic of actual conditions. Productivity in 1963, may have been even lower. Superimposed on the above condition was the necessity of using an inexperienced field worker who had difficulty in determining nests that had hatched or were destroyed by predators. With partially destroyed nests, it is even difficult for an experienced investigator to determine the degree of success unless there are observed chicks or evidence of feeding young in the nest.

The Young

In any event the population decline undoubtedly occurred in 1963 and this decline, in turn, should have started the breeding cycle

over again. The decrease in production in 1963 was attributed to crowding as a normal function of the population dynamics of the bird. However, the continued declining trend in 1964 and 1965 is indicative of the fact that other decreasing factors are presently acting to the detriment of the clap-

per. For some reason there is poorer survival of the young which is contributing to a smaller breeding stock the following year. Future investigations will be designed to determine whether this change is due to pesticides, over harvest, weather, or other natural conditions.

This population drop took place at an unfortunate time. The lack of cover as a result of several years of drought has contributed to heavier nest losses to flooding and this in turn has dropped populations to a very low level. It is hoped that with favorable weather, water, and cover conditions production trends will swing

... Up and Down

upward in the next few years. In the meantime reduced bag limits have been recommended.

Territorialism

The function of this territorial conflict is by no means detrimental to the bird. Our data show that only one out of four or five years is subjected to this territorial conflict. This conflict, which affects production for that year, actually regulates population density and prevents over-population. Therefore, the stronger birds survive this ordeal, the population is lowered to a level where fighting is reduced, and the bulk of their en-

of young. So overall, this concept of territorialism is very beneficial to the species.

Hunting Success

Hunting success has also been on a declining trend in 1963, 1964, and 1965. This substantiates the nesting studies. However, hunting prospects do not always reflect the reproduction success for a given year. Other factors such as an early exodus from the state, might also reflect hunting quality. Here a study of the clapper's migration would be of considerable value. Overland movements in Cape May County suggest that some adult birds may be leaving the state earlier than anticipated. Tempera-



Clapper rail nest censuses provide an ideal index of population and production

ergy is conserved for reproduction and family stability. This is extremely important for many species in the survival and rearing

tures were below normal in August of 1963 and 1964. Minimum temperatures dropped to the low 50's on ten days during August, 1964.

Being a warm weather bird such low temperatures may encourage earlier movements.

Hunting prospects are also difficult to predict during over-population years. In 1959, hunting was good despite the breeding failure.

drop in 1963, which lowered the population in 1964 and possibly lowered it even more in 1965. This decline came during a time when drought conditions were prominent. The lack of rainfall seriously reduced the tall salt marsh cord-

Table 2. Production trends of the clapper rail from 1955 to 1964.

Year	Number of Successful Hatches	Percent of Change	
		Compared with Previous Year	Compared with 10-Year Average (28.3)
1955	24	...	-19.3
1956	25	+ 4.2	-15.3
1957	32	+28.0	+ 8.5
1958	37	+15.6	+25.4
1959	14	-62.2	-52.5
1950	25	+78.6	-15.3
1961	33	+32.0	+11.8
1962	39	+18.2	+32.2
1963	34	-12.3	+15.3
1964	20	-40.9	-29.3

The abundance of adults provided excellent shooting. In 1963, it was just the opposite. Possibly, the poor hunting was due to a combination of low level production in addition to an earlier exodus.

Summary

According to the 10-year data collected from two study areas in Cape May County, it appears that clapper rail populations are not only affected by tides, but by territorialism as well. Phenologically speaking, a series of good nesting years will lead to a certain degree of crowding, which will reduce production for that year, and start the following year.

There are also indications that other decreasing factors are superimposed on the recent territorial

grass and this may lead to heavier nest losses and poorer survival of young and adult rails to natural and other causes. Since populations have dropped to very low levels, restrictions on the number of birds taken by hunters, should be imposed by the federal government. #

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Trapping

for sport and profit

By Mike Pappa,
New Jersey Trapper's Association

Trapping, is one of the most pleasant and, perhaps, most rewarding of all outdoor sports. Although trapping had an early beginning in this country, it is still in existence today. There is probably more trapping done nowadays than at any other time during the past. Thousands of trappers scattered all over the state are each season deriving both pleasure and profit from this outdoor activity.

An Art

Trapping is truly an art. The wild creatures become exceedingly wary. And, the trapper must try to outwit the natural instinct and acquired knowledge of these animals. This especially holds true for the fox which is a match for the most expert of trappers. To be successful the trapper must study the wild animals and their habits thoroughly, and he must also know and use the proven methods of trapping.

Preparations

The really successful trapper does lots of work before the season opens. During the fall, the trapper

should be out prospecting for fur signs. By the time the season opens, he should have all sets mentally located. Traps should be checked and repaired. New traps should be freed of foreign odors and treated. All equipment used should be cleaned and kept that way. Stretchers and fur boards should be made and skinning knives sharpened so no time will be lost when the fur shed begins to fill up.

Muskrats

New Jersey with its large population and relatively small land area still abounds with fur bearing animals. Muskrats are the most numerous and can be found throughout much of the state. They thrive best in sluggish streams and swamps which support abundant plant life. The vast marsh areas of Bergen County and the coastal marshes of South Jersey produce the bulk of New Jersey's muskrat harvest. It is not uncommon for some trappers to catch upwards of a thousand 'rats per season. These trappers, who

can be considered professionals, derive a good portion of their annual income from trapping.

Mink

Wherever muskrats are, mink also are usually present. These much-sought-after, beady-eyed, sleek rascals lurk mainly along the waterways, although they can be found elsewhere. Mink, while widespread, are far from plentiful. A thorough knowledge of their habits is necessary in order to take many travelling a creek. Even though some trappers manage to take thirty mink or better a season, I would venture to say that the majority of them are caught accidentally in muskrat sets.

Raccoon

The raccoon is on the increase in New Jersey. Coon tracks can be found in the mud along most any stream or lake. They have become especially plentiful in the corn-growing regions, where they

frequently make night raids in the farmer's corn fields. These corn-fed coons have been known to attain enormous size. Thus, it takes a good size trap to hold them.

Foxes

Foxes range from one end of the state, to the other but they are most plentiful in farming regions. The reds prefer the open fields, while the greys roam the wooded areas. Many trappers agree that to be able to trap foxes with consistency and in great numbers is to have achieved the peak of the trapping profession. One of the biggest thrills for a young trapper is to catch his first fox.

Skunks and Opossums

In New Jersey skunks and opossums are found everywhere, and they are trapped without difficulty. In fact, they become a nuisance when fox trapping as they will blunder into the set. Many times

*The author, Mike Pappa,
retrieving a nice mink*





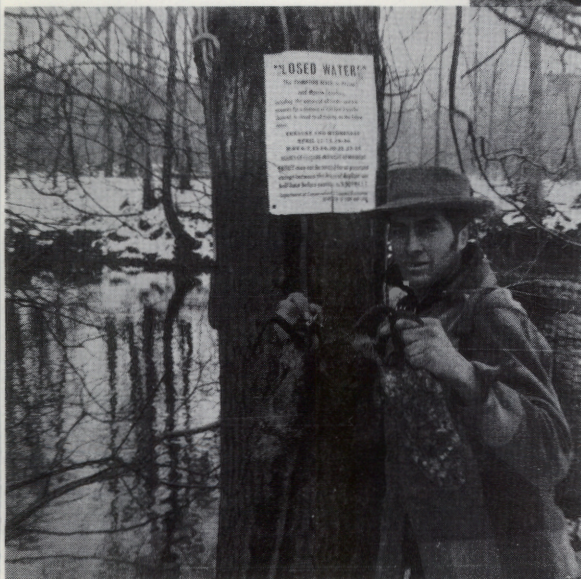
... Trapping for sport and profit



Wes Gross of Oradell, with a mixed catch of nicely handled pelts

S. A. Parish of Wharton, shown with part of his total catch of 75 foxes

C. Lanza of Vernon, right, with an extra large beaver which was taken during around the last open season



Art Monto, Field and Educational Director, New Jersey Trappers Association, left, shown with muskrats. This stream was prospected by Art while fall trout fishing

C. Lanza, right, with one day's catch of 88 muskrats taken from Bergen County meadows



... Trapping

it becomes necessary to thin down their population in order to do some serious fox trapping.

Beaver and Otter

Beaver and otter, which are currently on the closed list, are managing to hold their own. Every

Division of Fish and Game has set up laws governing when fur bearers can be taken to insure that they are harvested at the right time. But, it is up to the trapper to insure that these furs are handled in the proper manner. The improper handling of raw furs can reduce their value. If extra care



*Bob cat taken by
S. A. Parish
of Wharton*

so often beaver become too plentiful and cause damage by flooding a farmer's field or cutting down a prized apple tree. When they reach these heights in population, they are brought under control. State trappers will live-trap and move the trouble makers, or an open season will be declared, thereby allowing the trapper to harvest the surplus population.

The Furs

No matter what animals the trapper catches he can be sure, if they were caught in New Jersey, the furs are of fine quality. The

is exercised in the skinning and stretching of pelts, the trapper will be compensated for his additional time and effort.

Reminders

Remember, be fair with your fellow trapper. Don't steal his traps or molest his sets. Be considerate of the animals you trap by checking all sets daily and employing humane methods. Give the farmer on whose land you trap a fair shake. Don't damage his property. Only trap prime furs and don't over-trap an area, leave some seed for next year. #



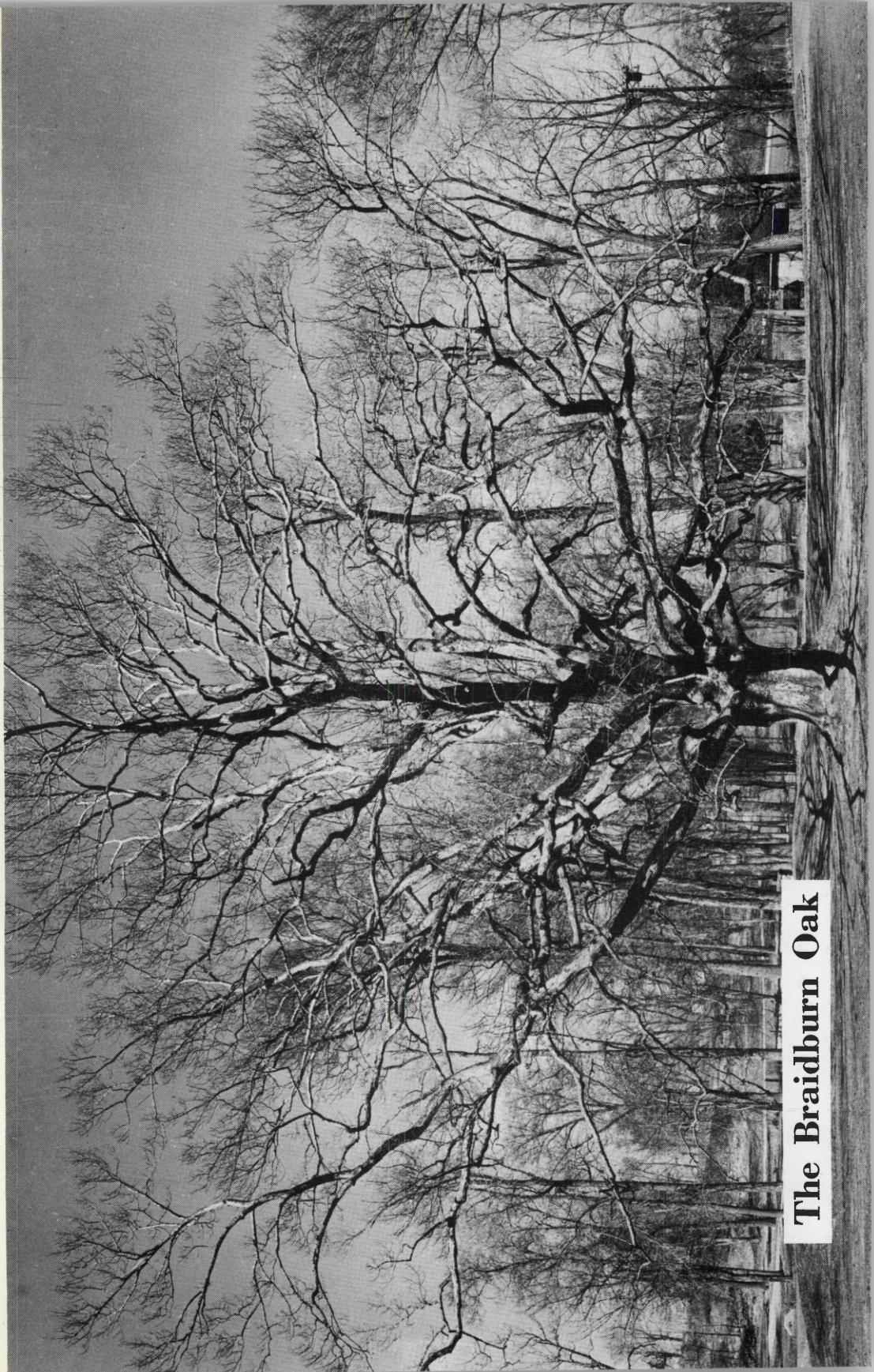
Snowy Owl—An Arctic Visitor

When I reported for work at Ethicon, Inc. (Route 22, Somerville) one morning, I was amazed to find that a snowy owl was perched on top of one of the light fixtures in the parking lot. The weather was a panic that morning. After our record dry summer, it was our first day of fog and generally drizzly conditions in months. Photographing a white owl; 1) on an overcast day, 2) against a featureless cloud background, 3) with barely adequate light, 4) in a drizzly rain, posed a bit of a photographic challenge. However I was fortunate enough to succeed in making several negatives which were of acceptable quality. As you can see, the bird was somewhat speckled with brown, probably a fairly young specimen.

—Rudy Kouhupt.

Pintails With Chilblains

When it comes to a "swift completion of appointed rounds," a duck isn't any slouch either. Waterfowl biologists working in the Northwest Territories report that neither snow nor ice stay the pintails and mallards from nesting duties. The first eggs are laid when ice is still in the process of breaking up and the four weeks of incubation includes some frosty nights. #



The Braidburn Oak

The White Oak

(*Quercus alba*)

The white oak grows in many types of soil. Sandy soils and mountain ridges will support this tree, but it grows largest on fertile bottom lands and moist, rich slopes.

Range:

It grows throughout the eastern United States from Maine to Minnesota and south to eastern Texas and northern Florida.

Leaves:

Alternate on the twig, 5 to 9 inches long and 2 to 4 inches wide. Usually they have 5 to 9 rounded lobes. The lobes are blunt at the end, and they are separated by deep round-based sinuses that extend $1/2$ to $2/3$ the distance from the tip to the midrib. The tips of white oak leaves are rounded; whereas all oak leaves belonging to the black oak group are bristle-tipped. The leaves are dark green above and pale green beneath. (See figure A.)

Twigs:

The twig has a star-shaped pith. It is greenish red to gray, medium in size and covered with tiny light lenticels.

The reddish brown terminal bud is about $1/8$ to $3/16$ of an inch long, and it usually has 2 or 3 smaller lateral buds clustered around it. (See figure B.)

One of the easiest ways to identify the white oak is by its white gray bark. It has shallow irregular scales that are easily rubbed off with the hand. The bark has a "soft feel." If the tree is an oak and the bark is light in color, you can be sure that it belongs to the white oak group.

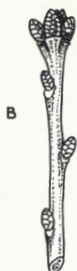
Flowers:

Usually flowers appear in May about the time leaves are one-third developed. Male and female flowers appear separately on the same tree, the former in catkins $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 inches long and the latter on short spikes.

Fruit:

An acorn borne singly or in pairs, maturing in one season. The acorn is attached to the twig by a short stalk. It is $1/2$ to $3/4$

← *The Braidburn Oak, showing its huge, spreading crown. This magnificent white oak is considered to be one of the finest in New Jersey. For more details see page one. Photograph by Bob A. Sidner*



White oak

A. Leaf

B. Twig

C. Acorn



... The White Oak

inch long, rounded, shiny, light brown and rests in a tiny cup that encloses it by about 1/4 its length. (See figure C.) The nut is sweet and edible. It was often boiled by the Indians for food. The acorns are important wildlife food.

The acorns start to sprout soon after they fall in autumn.

Uses:

White oak is considered one of the most important trees in the East. It grows 70 to 90 feet tall and often to 4 feet in diameter. Its main use is for lumber. Many houses have white oak floors. Oak is hard and durable, and it will take a good finish. Other uses include railroad ties, fuel wood, fence posts, and furniture. It is often used for making barrels and kegs. Ship builders like it for its great strength.

By Austin N. Lentz, *Extension Specialist in Farm Forestry*
Rutgers—The State University
Drawings by Aline Hansens

An interesting relationship exists between the white oak and the gray squirrel. Needless to say, the squirrel relishes the sweet meat of the acorns and consumes large quantities of the tree seeds. On the other hand, the oak depends to quite a degree on the squirrel for distribution and "planting" of the acorns. Since the acorns sprout in the fall and the little oaks often do not root deeply before winter, many of the wee trees would die during the freezing winter if the squirrels did not bury the acorns under leaves, earth, and forest duff. #

The Beaver

(*Castor canadensis canadensis*)

General Characteristics:

One of the largest rodents, the beaver when full-grown may be two feet long or more, not including the tail. The usual weight of the beaver is about 35 pounds, with a range of 30 to 60 pounds, occasionally more. When the beaver senses danger, it spans its paddle-like, scaly tail to warn other beavers. The broadly webbed hind feet, dark brown color, two chisel-like, ever-growing incisor teeth in each jaw, beautifully glossy, soft, thick coat, and broad head with powerful jaws, makes this mammal well adapted for existence in upland, wooded swamps. By patient gnawing, the beaver can cut through the trunk of trees as much as two feet in diameter. Man has hunted beavers eagerly for hundreds of years for its valuable fur.

Distribution:

The North American beaver, which is closely related to the now-scarce European beaver, is widely distributed over the northern hemisphere from Alaska, east to Labrador, and south to Mexico.



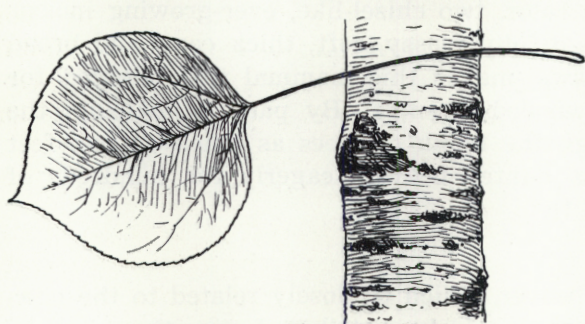
The beaver is one of the largest of the rodents

... The Beaver

Castor c. canadensis, the Canadian beaver, is the smallest of the eastern sub-species and sparsely populates some inland swamps throughout New Jersey.

Habits:

Beavers have long been known as the engineers of the animal kingdom. Their dams are cleverly built and are of remarkable strength, maintaining water deep enough around their lodges both in winter and the driest period of summer. In some locations,



Quaking aspen, a favorite food and building material of beaver

beavers prefer to burrow in the bank. When logs are too large to drag they cut canals, often hundreds of feet long, to facilitate transport to the dam site. Some of their food is stored in the lower chamber of the lodge or piled on the bottom of the pond where it is easily accessible under the ice. A roomy interior, with a dry platform, provides sleeping quarters and a place for occupants to feed on the bark of limbs dragged from the food pile.

Life History:

Mating takes place in late January or February. After a gestation period of approximately three months, each pair of beavers has from one to six (usually three or four) young born in April or May. The young, which are well furred and developed at birth, leave the lodge periodically to swim and feed. A colony usually consists of the two adults and their young of present and preceding years. Just before the birth of another litter, the two-year olds are driven out to establish new colonies, often miles away.

Food:

Tender twigs and bark of aspen, red maple, birch, willow, poplar, gum, magnolia, and other trees and shrubs.

Limiting Factors:

Populations of beavers could be affected in one way or another by floods, disease, over-trapping, landowner complaints, and the

clearing of banks and flood plains of streams. Man, with his traps, is the prime predator.

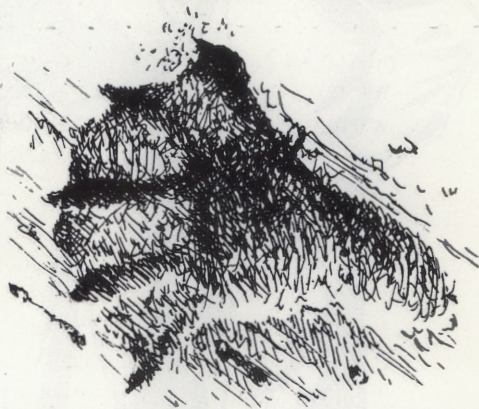
Economic Importance:

Beaver pelts are valuable and are made into beautiful coats and other precious fur pieces. At one time, the pelts were so common that they were used as a substitute for money. Usually only the under fur is used with the long, coarse, guard hairs being plucked out. The under fur was once much used for making hats, called "beavers." This animal sometimes damages valuable trees, crops, and roads either by direct contact or by flooding. In isolated places, beavers are beneficial, conserving top soil, stabilizing water levels, and providing homes for fish and wildlife. Beaver meat is good and the tail a special delicacy. A valuable by-product is castoreum, used for making perfumes, scent, and lures.

Management:

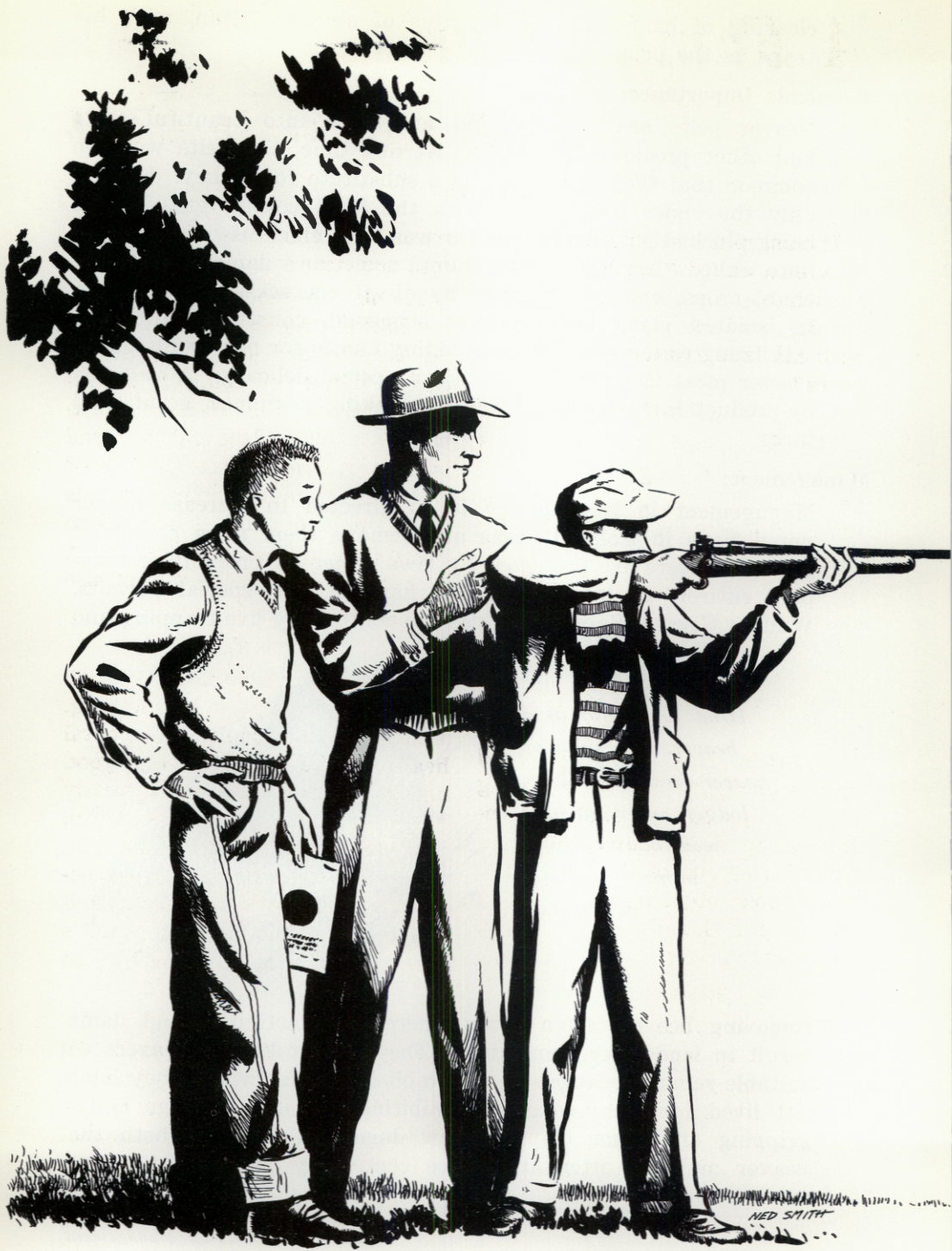
Management in New Jersey is so directed to increase beaver populations in isolated areas and remove them from complaint areas. Beavers are protected by laws either by prohibiting trapping entirely or by limiting the harvest with special permits. Wildlife Control Representatives are continually live-trapping and

*Hind foot print of a
beaver. The signs of
beaver—tracks, cuttings,
lodges, and dams—are
seen in a surprising
number of places
in the state*



removing beavers from areas where their activities and dams result in landowner complaints. They then take the beavers to suitable remote locations to re-establish colonies where they have not lived for many years. Prohibiting the use of large body-gripping and other traps by law during years when both the beaver and the otter are to be completely protected, is wise management.

*By Fred Ferrigno,
Bureau of Wildlife Management*



A Family Gun For Family Fun

By Joe Linduska

It must be a boy is born a hunter. How else can you explain the unquenchable desire for stalking, chasing, and collecting that begins with his first exposure to the outdoors?

Youth

The pint-sized hunter begins modestly with bugs, frogs, and pocket-sized snakes. And, as primitive skills develop and hunting interest sharpens, his thoughts turn to larger and more agile prey—and to his first sporting firearm. Yes, boys are born to the chase. There's no great need to instill or foster a trait that's instinctive in origin.

But there is much to be gained by encouraging and instructing young people in the use of modern-day recreational equipment. And for shooting sports, it goes beyond the obvious objective of safe and proper gun handling. Here are some reasons why.

Recreation

Have you noticed lately the sudden burst of interest in the outdoors? Have you wondered about the rash of president-and-governor-appointed commissions, national conferences, and government programs—all of them dealing with outdoor recreation? There's good

reason for this new emphasis on resource inventory and planning.

Thanks to modern technology, it's taking progressively less time, on the job and in the home, to earn a living and complete household chores. The 40-hour workweek is commonplace and the trend is towards even shorter periods of work. And this, of course, means more time for play. That's all to the good and to everyone's liking, providing there can be worthy use of leisure time.

Things To Do

There's no greater drudgery than having much time to do nothing. And the maintenance of mental health in the individual and good national morale depends greatly on having interesting, healthful, and pleasurable things to do. On this point, there is complete agreement by educators, physicians, and people in public service. That's why there's a concerted effort to enlarge on all recreational facilities.

People want and require things to do and places to play. And it's good business, both in terms of individual well-being and national spirit, to provide the means.

In pursuit of relaxation, Americans just naturally gravitate to

... Family Gun

field, forest, and water. And sporting firearms are an integral part of the outdoor scene. It used to be that hunting and fishing were rated as luxury activities. But not any more. The need periodically to escape high-pressure living has become basic to a healthful existence. And the shooting sports offer an easy means for pleasurable diversion for the entire family.

Compared with many forms of recreation, shooting for fun can be relatively inexpensive. A sporting firearm is a one-time investment, capable of hard use for many years. By starting modestly with the commonest of all calibers—the 22—you're in business for as little as the cost of a good pair of shoes. And ammunition to suit a variety of needs is reasonable.

For family participation, there is a variety of games to build skill and add competitive interest. Sporting arms manufacturers are glad to provide helpful literature.

Organizations

Organized groups lend opportunity for the development of rifle ranges, team shooting, and related activities. Any club concerned with outdoor sports will provide a rallying point for individuals of such common interests. And an inter-

ested and active organization of gun enthusiasts holds a key position in solving the problem of having places to hunt. A good example is a program such as *Hunt America Time*, conceived and sponsored by the Izaak Walton League. Encouraging good hunter-landowner relationships should be a national objective. It's evident, however, that improved understanding will result mainly from local effort.

Worthy Use

But the youth of today—that's where shooting sports stand best to contribute towards a *worthy use of leisure time*. A noted judge of a juvenile court has observed that he has never had appear for trial a boy who loved to hunt and fish. It would be asking a lot, of course, to expect that relationship always to hold. Nevertheless, it's a well-founded observation that healthful and constructive activities offer a sure diversion from mischief and criminal behavior. And what better way than to capitalize on the love of the outdoors that is part of the make-up of America's youth.

Yes, the boy is a born hunter. And encouraging that natural bent is to work with human nature, not against it. The rewards? Well, to restate an old cliché, "Teach a boy to hunt, and you'll never have to hunt for your boy." #

If you are between the ages of 14-21 and do not have a previous Hunting License you cannot obtain a current license unless you present a signed certificate showing you have successfully completed a course in Gun Safety. Do not wait until hunting season is here to get your certificate. Contact a Conservation Officer, the Division of Fish and Game Office, or any license issuing agent immediately and get the name and address of the Hunter Safety Instructor nearest you and take your course now.

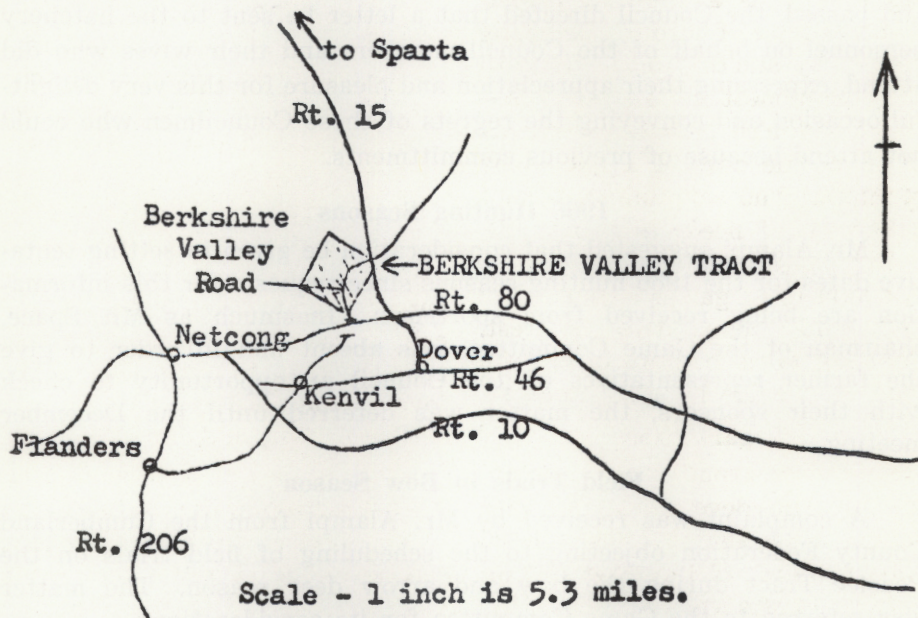
Guide to the

Berkshire Valley Tract

The Berkshire Valley Public Shooting and Fishing Grounds which consists of 1,140 acres is located in Roxbury and Jefferson Townships, Morris County, approximately three miles north of Kenvil.

The area is managed primarily for upland game and offers excellent pheasant and rabbit hunting. Other wildlife species present include grouse, squirrels, and deer.

To reach the Berkshire Valley Tract from the east, take Route 46 to Dover. Turn north on Route 15 and proceed approximately four miles to Berkshire Valley Road. Turn left on Berkshire Valley Road which runs through the tract. The boundaries of the tract are posted with Public Shooting Grounds signs. #



Hunt With a Dog

There is no greater sin, in the eyes of true sportsmen, than downing game and failing to pick it up. Whether you are after upland game, waterfowl, or big game, be sure you retrieve and use what you bag. In the case of birds and small animals such as rabbits, a good dog is a tremendous asset. He will find, flush, and **pick up** game that you might otherwise never even see. The breed isn't too important as long as it's a hunting species. It's the mark of a real conservationist and a good sportsman to hunt with a dog. Now's the time to buy your dog for next fall. #

Council Highlights

November Meeting

The open session of the regular monthly meeting of the Fish and Game Council was held in Trenton on November 16. In addition to the members of the Council and staff, the following persons were present: Edmond Shuler, John Russack, Ralph Allocca, Al Toth, John Seminsky, and John Deckert, Jr. Director MacNamara was not present at the open session.

Dinner at Hatchery

Members of the Council who attended the dinner held by the employees at the state fish hatchery expressed their enjoyment of this very fine affair. By motion of Mr. Cane, seconded by Mr. Marron and passed, the Council directed that a letter be sent to the hatchery personnel on behalf of the Council members and their wives who did attend, expressing their appreciation and pleasure for this very delightful occasion and conveying the regrets of those Councilmen who could not attend because of previous commitments.

1966 Hunting Seasons

Mr. Alampi suggested that consideration be given to setting tentative dates for the 1966 hunting seasons since requests for this information are being received from sportsmen. Inasmuch as Mr. Space, chairman of the Game Committee, was absent and in order to give the farmer representatives on the Council an opportunity to check with their sponsors, the matter was deferred until the December meeting.

Field Trials in Bow Season

A complaint was received by Mr. Alampi from the Cumberland County Federation objecting to the scheduling of field trials on the Peaslee Tract during the bow and arrow deer season. The matter was referred to the Game Committee for its consideration.

Marine Science Training

Senate bill 2439, introduced in Congress by Senator Pell of Rhode Island to authorize the establishment of sea grant colleges for programs of research training in the marine sciences, was recently discussed at a meeting attended by Mr. Richardson in Rhode Island. He recommended that New Jersey support this very worthwhile legislation which will provide opportunities for expanded marine research and

increase the educational facilities available for training in this scientific field. Mr. Richardson will obtain a copy of the bill for duplicating and sending to the Councilmen for their consideration and future action.

Sandy Hook Inlet

Mr. Richardson reported that President Johnson recently signed into law a bill enabling the construction of an inlet at Sandy Hook. It is his opinion that this inlet will be beneficial to the area by opening up the lower end of the bay and helping to relieve the pollution existing in that area.

Tocks Island Council

Mr. Marron reported that the Tocks Island Advisory Council was recently formed by the six communities in the Tocks Island area. Mr. Frank Dreschler was hired to administer the Council which will be working with the Corps of Engineers, the Park Service, and other agencies on matters relating to the development of this vast recreational area.

Firearms Legislation

Mrs. Godown urged that the Council members and the sportsmen be alert to any legislative action regarding firearms. Chairman Hart advised that any action at this time would be premature since no firearms bill has yet been introduced. However, the Council has gone on record in opposition to such legislation and every effort will be made to keep apprised of action in this regard.

Fisheries Management

Robert Hayford, Chief of the Bureau of Fisheries Management, reported that personnel of the Division of Geology recently spent some time at the hatchery gathering information on the water survey requested by the Council. They were preparing a written report and, if this report were received in sufficient time for the Council to review it prior to the next meeting, Mr. Hayford would request that the geologists appear at the meeting to explain their findings and answer questions.

Mr. Hayford reported that Fisheries personnel were to consult with the Superintendent of the Newark Watershed to determine whether it would be possible to reclaim fish from Echo Lake, then being drawn down for the purpose of excavating and increasing its capacity.

Law Enforcement

William P. Coffin, Chief Conservation Officer, reported that opening day of the small game season was relatively quiet and the conservation officers secured 57 apprehensions throughout the state. This is con-

. . . Council Highlights

siderably lower than the number of arrests made last year on opening day. It is believed that this decrease in violations resulted from the concerted enforcement effort carried out on the public shooting grounds on opening day of the 1964 season. Heavy hunting pressure was reported on the public shooting grounds with a good kill resulting.

Assistance by Sportsmen

Mr. Alampi inquired concerning sportsmen assisting in the liberation of game and was advised that such offers of assistance must be refused by Division personnel because of the liability involved. The operator of the vehicle would be liable for any claim resulting from injury to individuals not in the employ of the state and for this reason it is necessary to refuse offers from persons willing to assist in game liberations.

Coastal Patrol

Newman Mathis, Chief of the Coastal Patrol, reported there were no major problems on Raritan Bay during October. Party and head boats had been making good catches of fish and surf fishermen had been successful in catching striped bass. At the time there are no large concentrations of striped bass present along the coast. No problems had been encountered with draggers or seiners, and menhaden boats had ceased their operations for the season.

Wildlife Management

George Alpaugh, Chief of the Bureau of Wildlife Management, advised that reports from the field indicate that rabbits had definitely increased in the rabbit habitat areas and many hunters were pleased to know this. Waterfowl aerial survey flights were continuing and indications were that a good population of waterfowl was present.

Further report had been received regarding the duck mortality in Gloucester County referred to by Mr. Alpaugh at the October 19 Council meeting. Reports received from the Patuxent Research Laboratory indicated that they were unable to demonstrate the presence of either fowl cholera or Type C botulism in the ducks analyzed by them and they were unable to identify any cause for the mortality.

Mr. Alpaugh further reported that 1,106 deer were killed by bow and arrow hunters during 1965, which compares favorably with 1,115 killed by archers in 1964.

Mr. Alampi commended Mr. Alpaugh and the staffs of the Forked River and Rockport Game Farms on the excellent pheasants reared.

Mr. Marron inquired as to the practicality of continuing efforts

to rear bamboo partridges in captivity. Mr. Alpaugh advised that, while up to this time we have not been successful in getting these birds to reproduce in captivity, this year some changes in techniques will be made with the hope that reproduction will result. If these efforts fail, then consideration can be given to discontinuing our efforts in this regard.

Rabbits and Hares

Mr. Alpaugh reported that the rabbit rearing project carried on by the Division is primarily an experimental project with Dr. Richard Shope of the Rockefeller Institute of Medical Research in his work on cancer research. The work is done by the Division with the belief that any contribution made to this very worthwhile program is justifiable.

The success of a hunter in harvesting a snowshoe hare at Flat Brook was reported by Mr. Alpaugh. The Division purchased 200 of these hares for liberation as an experimental project.

Public Relations

William E. Peterman, Acting Supervisor of Public Relations, reported that work during October was more or less routine and no exhibits were displayed. Personnel took advantage of the opportunity to take vacation and overtime. Personnel of this unit spent twelve days during October at the New Jersey exhibit at the World's Fair. #

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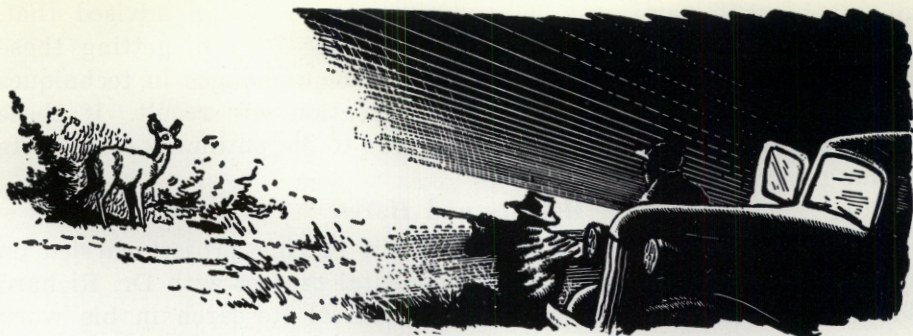
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Violators Roundup

<i>Defendant</i>	<i>Offense</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
William Ashman, Sr., 40 Florence Ave., Lauren Springs Garden	Take fish from fyne net w/o permission	50
Robert Del Rossi, Rt. #1, Port Norris	Fish no license	20
William Klucker, Carmel Rd., Millville	Fish no license	20
Alfred J. Gaboro, 18 E. Cliff St., Somerville	Fish closed waters	20
Clyde S. Havrilla, 987 Inman Ave., Rahway	Fish no license	20
Frank Barnes, 28 Southside Ave., South River	Hunt no license	20
Frank Barnes, 28 Southside Ave., South River	Illegal firearm	20
Raymond Pich, 15 Lowden St., Elizabeth	Fish closed waters	20
Martin Schroeder, 92 Swinth Ave., Newark	Fish closed waters	20
Marlin Carl, Main St., Whitehouse Station	Poss. Bass less than 9 inches	20
Donald De Haven, 1502 W. Ruscomb St., Philadelphia	Fish no license	20
Mrs. Donald De Haven, 1502 W. Ruscomb St., Philadelphia	Fish no license	20
John J. Friel, 530 Knorr St., Apt. 12A, Philadelphia	Fish no license	20
Anthony Brescia, 27 Runnemeade Rd., Clark	Fish no license	20
Ernest Lee Clark, Wisteria Ave., Box 139, Richland	Fish no license	20
Alfred Jensen, 42 D Bulger Ave., New Milford	Fish closed waters	20
Ronald Kopack, 34 Pleasant View Ave., Bloomingdale	Fish no license	20
Ronald Kopack, 34 Pleasant View Ave., Bloomingdale	Fish closed waters	20
Willi P. Heimann, 34 Pleasant View Ave., Bloomingdale	Fish no license	20
Willi P. Heimann, 34 Pleasant View Ave., Bloomingdale	Fish closed waters	20
Victor J. Troyano, 6 Fairfield Rd., Wayne	Fish no license	20
Woodrow Gunthrop, 27 Halsmon St., Paterson	Fish closed waters	20
Victor F. Masella, 2619 S. 115th St., Philadelphia	Fish no license	20
Walter W. Schulz, 2412 S. Sartain St., Philadelphia	Fish no license	20
Donald Lanterman, 7 Western Ave., Butler	Hunt no license	20
Calvin Rolle, N.W. Blvd. & N.Y. Ave., Newfield	Fish no license	20
John J. Young, 2711 W. Dauphin St., Philadelphia	Fish no license	20
Bernard M. Burke, Sr., 9805 Richlyn Dr., Perry Hall, Md.	Fish no license	20
Lowell Jones, 102 South 8th St., Newark	Fish no license	20
Albert Johnson, Jr., 225 Meeker Ave., Newark	Fish no license	20
Ronald Russomanno, 647 North 9th St., Newark	Fish no license	20
James R. Everett, 20 Ridgewood Ave., Newark	Fish no license	20
Michael Demauro, 105 Duke St., Kearny	Fish no license	20
Albert Rodgers, 171 Morris Ave., Newark	Fish no license	20
Clifford G. Brown, 16 Redcliff, Apt. 2-C, Highland Park	Fish closed waters	20
Anker Christensen, 1670 Gorges Rd., No. Brunswick	Fish closed waters	20
Alan Saunders, 603 Fourth Ave., No. Brunswick	Fish closed waters	20
Frank Kizlinski, 62 David St., South River	Fish closed waters	20
Mike Demling, 166 Whitehead Ave., South River	Fish closed waters	20
Alan W. Greaves, 147 Duer St., No. Plainfield	Fish no license	20
Andrew F. Babchak, 208 Grand St., Jersey City	Fish no license	20

<i>Defendant</i>	<i>Offense</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
Howard F. McManus, 1010 W. Green, Urbana, Illinois	Fish no license	20
James C. Hann, 148 Vine St., Bridgeton	Fish no license	20
George T. Saltmer, 3574 Miller St., Philadelphia	Fish no license	20
John F. Hopple, Lenz Ave., Pemberton	Fish no license	20
John H. Albert, Harrisonville Traylor Pk., Harrisonville	Fish no license	20
Charles T. Hopple, 115 Railroad Ave., Bordentown	Fish no license	20
Anthony Lack, Jr., R.D. #2, Bath, Pa.	Fish no license	20
Robert Hunter, 218 S. 35th St., Camden	Use rifle w/o permit	20
Robert B. Kerris, 42 S. Arlington Ave., E. Orange	Loaded firearm in vehicle	20
Ferdinand Andalora, Jr., 185 N. 13th St., Newark	Fail to display tag	5
Val F. Nunnenkamp, New Freedom Rd., Berlin	Fish closed waters	20
Charles D. Clark, 90 East Main St., Somerville	Fail to exhibit license	20
Gilbert W. Yeager, 41 Fenton Ave., Binghampton	Fish no license	20
Mike Anderer, 125 Elmwood Pl., Plainfield	Fish closed waters	20
Kenneth Abbruzzese, 136 Kaine Ave., So. Plainfield	Use worm for bait in fly stretch waters	20
Paul Verderosa, 192 Garden Dr., So. Plainfield	Use salmon eggs for bait in fly stretch waters	20
Trochim Filonov, 4026 N. Reese St., Philadelphia	Fish no license	20
Joseph Mastellone, 122 Fillbert St., Roselle Park	Fish no license	20
Thomas W. Marston, 2314 Armingo Ave., Philadelphia	Firearm in woods on Sunday	20
Robert B. Manley, 2512 E. Hagert St., Philadelphia 25	Firearm in woods on Sunday	20
Anthony Cascarelli, 121 Miller St., Elizabeth	Hunt no license	20
John Natale, 500 S. Washington Ave., Dunellen	Loaded firearm in vehicle	20
Anthony Cascarelli, 121 Miller St., Elizabeth	Hunt no license	20
Capt. Robert Bowles, Fort Miles Rd., Lewes, Del.	Take fish with purse seine other than menhaden	100
Alexander J. Londino, 34 La Gorce Rd., Burlington	Fish no license	20
William Marshall, 420 Albany Ave., Barrington	Fish no license	20
Thomas De Cicco, 16 Adams Circle, Hammonton	Fish no license	20
Michael Kalinosky, Mount Mill Road, Jamesburg	Possession raccoon	20
Edward Sarnoski, 80 Longwood Dr., Groveville	Fish no license	20
Ralph Salcone, 6848 Dicks Ave., Philadelphia	Fish no license	20
Richard R. Struble, 10 Carolina Ave., Port Monmouth	Carry rifle on Sunday	20
Rozzell Foster, 467 Atlantic Ave., Matawan	Fish no license	20
Edward W. Wackerman, Lows Hollow Rd., Stewartsville	Hunt no license	20
Anthony Blount, 249 Bergen St., Newark	Fish no license	20
John F. Gunn, 213 Drexel Ct., Runnemede	Angle closed waters	20
Enrico Di Crescenzo, 2361 S. 8th St., Camden	Angle closed waters	20
George Burroughs, 12 - 8th Ave., Absecon	Fish no license	20
Thomas J. Habingreither, Rancocas-Springside Rd., R.D. #1, Mt. Holly	Hunt no license	20
Thomas J. Habingreither, Rancocas-Springside Rd., R.D. #1, Mt. Holly	Kill protected bird	20
Wayne R. Byard, 24 Second St., Bordentown	Hunt no license	20
Ronald D. Stauffer, 518 Clarendon St., Vineland	Fish no license	20
George R. Wirtz, 243 Cupsaw Dr. W., Ringwood	Fish no license	20
Evangelist Hutson, Jr., 1233 N. 31st St., Philadelphia	Fish no license	20
Herbert Lee Hutson, 1233 N. 31st St., Philadelphia	Fish no license	20
Jack Markley, 1916 Fairfax Ave., Cherry Hill	Discharge firearm across county road	20
Alvin Hendricks, 241 Hathaway St., Wallington	Loaded firearm in vehicle	20
Brian P. Feerick, 7 Swarthmore Dr., Carteret	Fish no license	20
Marlin White, Mount Mill Rd., R.D. #2, Jamesburg	Possession of raccoon	20
Donald J. Vargo, 281 Madison Ave., Clifton	Fish no license	20
James E. Cernek, Box 37, Manahawkin	Illegal poss. wild deer	100
James E. Cernek, Box 37, Manahawkin	Illegal poss. wild deer	100

Bow Hunter Deer Harvest

New Jersey bow hunters bagged more than 1,100 deer for the second year in a row.

The total of 1,106 whitetails reported during the five week season was just nine short of last year's figure of 1,115, the highest since 1960. One black bear was also brought down by an archer in Sussex County.

The harvest was composed of 587 bucks and 519 does, compared to last year's figures of 573 bucks and 542 does. Deer of either sex were fair game during the bow and arrow season.

Hunterdon County, as usual, had the highest total, 275 deer, an increase of 47. The harvest rose sharply in the northwestern counties of Sussex and Warren, which have prime deer habitat, and in Monmouth County. Burlington and Ocean counties had the most substantial decreases.

County totals, with the change from last year, are as follows: Atlantic, 34 bucks and 43 does, down 9; Bergen, 1 doe, down 3; Burlington, 39 bucks and 55 does, down 86; Camden, 7 bucks and 3 does, down 10; Cape May, 6 bucks and 8 does, up 2; Cumberland, 15 bucks and 10 does, down 7; Essex, 1 doe, down 2; Gloucester, 2 bucks and 7 does, down 1; Hunterdon, 144 bucks and 131 does, up 47; Mercer, 50 bucks and 41 does, up 8; Middlesex, 14 bucks and 9 does, up 5; Monmouth, 26 bucks and 9 does, up 17; Morris, 60 bucks and 44 does, down 13; Ocean, 20 bucks and 27 does, down 50; Passaic, 4 bucks and 5 does, down 3; Salem, 8 bucks and 6 does, no change; Somerset, 54 bucks and 27 does, down 9; Sussex, 42 bucks and 37 does, up 44; and Warren, 62 bucks and 55 does, up 31. #

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(Continued from Inside Front Cover)

ten are comprises between biological realities and sportsmen's desires and these, in turn, may draw criticism.

Secondly, politicians such as state legislators or congressmen or other influential people may have pet projects or theories which conflict with sound resource management or are not in the best general public interest. Since those making the demands often hold legislative purse strings or other controls, the maintenance of necessary cordial relationships without compromise of principle is a ticklish and nerve-wracking task, one sometimes viewed as hopeless.

Finally, there are other situations which may make an administrator's task nearly intolerable. Factions or cliques may exist in his governing commission, the hunters and fishermen he serves might be at odds among themselves. Troubles can develop in relationships with other governmental agencies. Internal difficulties, such as an enforcement officer-biologist conflict, could add woes and worry. In the end, the director may wonder how he can do an efficient job, one in which he could have a pride of accomplishment.

This is the prospect which young, qualified, and ambitious professional wildlifers see ahead. Since there are relatively few job opportunities for fish or wildlife

biologists in private industry, the ambitious must seek top positions in state or federal agencies and attempt to stand the gaff or enter other fields of endeavor. Too many are choosing the latter course.

The man who can tight-rope walk his way along this chasm-bounded trail without emerging as a bloody, bowed, and beaten individual is of top administrative caliber, the type private industry is likely to gobble up at double or treble his agency salary. Again, the cause of conservation may suffer in the end. As it is, many top men currently in the field are "staying-on" principally due to their intense dedication.

Those who use the natural resources and benefit most from the work of professionals should make their tasks as pleasant and rewarding as possible. They can be shielded from special interest groups, from internal rivalries and conflicts, in order to be permitted to do their jobs as efficiently as possible. Regulations ought to be recognized for what they are—tools of wildlife management—and so accepted. Salaries should be at least somewhat compatible with responsibilities. Positions of administration must be made attractive enough to interest and attract potential, qualified successors if the wildlife conservation program is to have the necessary continuity of direction. #

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