

New Jersey *Outdoors*

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March, 1972

ecology: a wild idea

The 1972 Wildlife theme, "Ecology: A Wild Idea," focuses on the fact that wildlife is a part of the environmental crisis and is dependent upon quality natural surroundings. This year marks the 35th annual National Wildlife Week which is sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation and its affiliate the New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs.

The bald eagle, emblem of the United States, is in serious trouble. Its plight symbolizes the fate of 100 other American wildlife species threatened by extinction due to man's interference with the natural world.

The bald eagle is more than a decoration for dollar bills, postage stamps, and commercial advertising. It is a symbol of strength, freedom, and quality of life.

It may be a wild idea to believe we can reverse environmental destruction to protect the bald eagle and create a quality life for man, but this country was founded on the wild idea of independence, and not so long ago a wild idea took us to the moon. Ecology is another wild idea that will work.

The National Wildlife Federation and its 3 million members urge people throughout New Jersey to consider their relationship to the natural world and make personal commitments to help achieve environmental quality.

#



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New Jersey Outdoors

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Cover—"American Bald Eagle and Young"

National Wildlife Federation

The photograph of the mature American bald eagle and its young in the nest was taken by Frederick Kent Truslow. These two eagles share the conservation spotlight as they appear on the National Wildlife Federation's poster for the National Wildlife Theme for 1972. The eagles are the symbol of the theme, "Ecology: A Wild Idea." For more on the National Wildlife Theme for 1972 see the inside front cover.

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March comes in with a bluster

Lion and Lamb

But, spring is very near

By John Day

WITH A GREAT huffing and puffing, March, full of threats and bluster, presents a bold front, facing down all the little people of the wayside trails until they learn that he is just a "heap big smoke and no fire." The lion once more struts the outdoor stage. Then along will come mild-mannered but firm outriders of the vernal equinox to challenge this blow-hard, and the braggart will cave in, his bluff expertly called by a surging springtide that yields to no master.

Truly in March "the wind bloweth where it listeth." Sometimes when the blusterer works up a real indignation the mad winds tear along at a 50-mile clip, setting all the woods crazy. No wonder the March hare is mad. He lives in bedlam. He settles down in his form, full of apple-tree bark and succulent spring herbs from the brookside, ready to contemplate nature with drowsy contentment.

Suddenly along comes the searching blast, hurling his "form" high in the air, skittering its leaves far and wide, and leaving him practically denuded. The whipping trees howl like beagles on his trail. Twigs

and other debris rattle down out of the sky as if he were being pelted with buckshot. If he sets his cotton-tail white flag at half mast from fear and goes whooping through the brush in a mad frenzy, who can blame him?

In the threshing and winnowing of the woodlands as the March winds unleash their hard steel blasts none but the physically fit may survive. The last clinging leaves are stripped from the oaks,



*The
Rabbit*

and all chaff and debris expertly pruned from the forest. Those trees no longer fit for the struggle for existence are weeded out. The eye may not be able to pick these, but the gale finds them.

Now comes the spring housecleaning in the timberlands, when Nature is sweeping and picking up,

preparatory to laying new carpets, and getting new furnishing throughout. If any of the old furniture of the woodland is not able to stand the strain, it is rudely relegated to the woodpile. Without the mad March winds the forest would lose much of its fresh virility. Old deadwood would cumber the new growth and the wild melancholy of decay would prevail, just as it does in some swamps where sheltering hills and close growth shunt aside the gales.

The bullying March has his gentler side. He usually calls a halt to truculent posturing long enough to stand aside in humble awe as spring comes to the woodlands. The coming of springtime in the woods is one of the gentlest and sweetest adventures in the world. Sometimes there are heavy rains which fill all the little ravines with an overflow that quickly eats away the ice and snow, but usually the woodland streams open slowly and gradually.

March is like a shady politician—full of broken promises. Part of these promises is in the buds of hardwood trees and shrubs. Pussy-willows by a stream bank are persuasive. When the maple buds burst into an orange mist the countryman knows he is a step nearer spring. Winter fights a stern rear-guard action as the March winds talk big, but the vernal promise will soon become reality.

To the calculating scientist the vernal equinox is but one fleeting moment in the parade of the hours. To the countryman, eager for

planting time and the tremendous spiritual lift of the resurgent springtide, arrival of the long-awaited day closes the book on the big sleep of the winter countryside. There is a magical overnight change in the complexion of things. The hiker can almost feel the quickening tempo as he swings along the wayside trails.

Brushing aside the soothsayer's warning to beware the Ides of March, I took off for the woods to see if by chance the recent snows had lain long enough to record some of the night wanderings of the furred gentry. Sun and wind had reduced the white blanket to tattered shreds on the open hill-sides, but in the thickets and beneath the big trees the newspaper of the snow lay clearly printed for all who passed that way to read.

I had just entered a brambly thicket of wild apple when I came across the snow signature of a weasel. The bloodthirsty little killer had come down through the oaks on the ridge and had scoured the thicket nervously, testing every nook and cranny in a tireless



The Weasel

search for a midnight snack of deer mouse, or mole, or even rabbit. So far as I could tell, he had met with no luck and was probably then miles away, still driven by his insatiable lust for blood.

. . . Lion and Lamb

A short distance further on I crossed the fresh boot prints of another outdoorsman. His trail was interlaced by the galloping tracks of the beagle he had brought along to course for rabbits in the undergrowth.

Down through a shallow draw in the trees came the precise, unhurried trail of a hunting fox. I followed along for perhaps 200 yards, noting where the shrewd Reynard had stopped two or three times to test the breeze. He had apparently enjoyed a peaceful nap in the snow atop an ant hill, and at one point had done some aimless digging at the base of a small sapling.

There were the usual rabbit trails all through the thickets and after I got into the bigger timber, the tracks of gray squirrel showed up, usually in quick scamper from tree to tree. The bushy-tails scolded from safe highways high up, but they were careful not to show themselves and I did not press for any formal interviews.

A bright patch of new green, grassy growth stood out against the snow in a marshy stretch. A cordon of trails criss-crossed this area and at first I thought that a raccoon had shuffled about during the midnight hours. I followed the trail up over the bank and soon came to a den beneath a large flat rock which was plainly the handiwork of a ground hog.

The trail continued on up the hillside, even jumping up on a fall-

en log and traversing its length precisely in the manner of the 'coon. Soon the whistle pig came to another den where he had apparently visited for a while. Then on went the trail, leading me down into a deep ravine and up the other side to a third den beneath the roots of a giant beech.

No doubt that greenery in the marsh by the brook had drawn the woodchuck's attention. There's nothing like a mess of spring greens to satisfy the inner man. But it was the primal urge and not hunger, which had led him to go visiting in those dens on the wooded hillside. Under the tremendous pull of timeless instinct "neither rain, nor sleet, nor snow, nor gloom of night, shall stay these grizzled couriers from the completion of their appointed rounds."

A day or so ago I had the good fortune to encounter a small flock of cedar waxwings. They were sitting quietly in the top of an oak, apparently just enjoying each other's company. The light was good and I had an excellent view of their conspicuous crests and the yellow band field mark at the end of the tail. They observed me suspiciously until I got too close, then rose up with the timed precision of a fighting squadron and went away from there.

The cedar waxwings are the kid-gloved gentry of our feathered society. They are inclined to be rather exclusive, but their gentleness of manner and style and dignity of their dress have endeared

them to folks who follow the doings of the bird world. They are not endowed with much vocal ability. Their voices are slight and thin, perhaps are best described as saying "Sh-r-r-e-e" by a process of neatly rolling their "r's."

Sometimes a gentle flock of these socialites visit with us when the applesauce tree in the backyard is in full bloom. Ranged along the branches like a Japanese painting on silk they are truly a joy to behold as they hold quiet meeting. They have the charming habit of passing a rosy petal from one to another down a whole row of beaks and back again.

My favorite feathered songster, the song sparrow, serenaded me from the brookside thicket as I wandered back through his favored rocky glen. The countryman



*Song
Sparrow*

knows well the friendly song sparrow, who finds his way to every dooryard, every roadside tangle, every weedy wayside place. I prefer his simple song of faith over all the operatic performance of the thrushes.

He is not a springtime troubadour, forgetting that he knows how to sing during the remainder of the year. When my mother was a slip of a girl on the home farm she heard the song sparrow

by the spring house sing: "Jesus loves even me-me-me-me-me!" This morning as I spread a bag or two of lime on the truck patch below the house one of these trim little fellows perched atop a cherry sapling in the fence row, drooped his wings, and sent the same ecstatic melody heavenward.

He seems to have the distinct mission of making wastepiles glad. I have heard him sing in every month of the year, brightening his corner with the simple strains of the most cheerful music of the wayside. Perhaps it is because of his quiet dress and demeanor that he has been so wholly overlooked by the men who make literature. The country-side would not be the same without him.

There is a sudden indefinable joy at thought of winter's end. Perhaps it rises from an age-old fear of winter and the cold, a fear whose roots go back to a time when man's ancestors guarded their little winter fires with their lives.

March has had quite a history. Once it was the first month of the year. Then along came the Julian calendar and changed its status. The old Saxons called it the "lengthening month" because of the lengthening days. Shakespeare watched the English daffodils "take the winds of March in beauty." For better or for worse the bully boy March is with us again, and though the March winds and the March hare may both go mad again, we will have moments when the lamb of spring is very near. #

Potentially the Best

Prospectus for the 1972 Trout Season

By A. Bruce Pyle

Assistant Chief, Bureau of Fisheries Management

The 1972 New Jersey trout season is potentially the best in many years. This is because of a number of factors including hatchery production, the application of research findings to the trout program and regulation changes.

First, the crop of trout being produced at the Charles O. Hayford Fish Hatchery under Superintendent Robert Williams will be larger in their individual size because of the exceptionally large number that were carried over and will be stocked as two year olds rather than yearlings. This was made possible by a Fish and Game Council approved shift in hatchery operations that reduced the annual production quota and discontinued the production of the disease and loss prone brook trout. To make up for the reduced production, arrangements have been made to procure the additional trout required to meet our stocking quota from federal hatcheries in Pennsylvania, Massachusetts, and West Virginia. Reports from these hatcheries are that their fish also are of good size.

The importance of good size in trout is exemplified by the results of research which found that anglers realized an increased re-

turn of 5 percent for each one inch increment in length between 7 and 12 inches, the lengths that represent the bulk of hatchery production for stocking. Thus, in addition to having nicer sized fish to catch, anglers have increased opportunity to creel trout.

While this represents increased angling opportunity, to take advantage of it anglers will have to apply their best angling techniques. This is because a higher percentage of the stocking than in previous years will be composed of the more difficult to catch brown trout. The challenge should interest most anglers and it will be interesting to see how they respond to it.

There are a number of research findings that have been applied over recent years, each of which was of relatively minor significance in terms of the overall stocking program but collectively they are deemed to have improved trout angling opportunity considerably.

First, there was an adjustment of the species of trout stocked to conform with their tolerance to the acidity of waters. As a result brook trout, the most acid tolerant of the three trout species this state stocks, were scheduled to be the sole species stocked during the

early part of the stocking season in waters such as the Toms River, the North and South Branches of the Metedeconk, Birch Park Ponds, McGillards Creek, Assunpink Creek, Maurice River, Manantico Creek, and others. As the trout stocking season progresses the likelihood of extreme acidity decreases in these waters thus permitting the stocking of brown trout. Rainbow trout no longer are to be stocked in such waters. Thus, by stocking trout species based upon their ability to survive prevailing water conditions, more trout have been made available to the anglers.

Also, in many of these stream situations the species stocked are those which have been found to survive year-round in the drainages; such survival occurring despite the high percentage of trout taken by anglers in this largely "put-for-take" stocking program.

Secondly, there have been adjustments made in the stocking program to reduce the risk of high trout loss in waters such as the Manasquan and Shark Rivers and the Mingamahone, Ramanessen, Hockhocksens, Yellow, Willow, and Big Brooks. Research has found that trout stocked in these cannot adjust readily to the natural chemical characteristics of these waters at temperatures less than about 45°F. This is adjudged to be largely the result of the temperature oriented metabolic rate of the trout, and as temperatures rise to above 45°F. the probability of survival is as good as in other major

trout stocked streams of the state.

To provide for this phenomenon the stocking of these waters has been scheduled for as close to the opening of the trout season as possible when water temperatures usually are in excess of 45°F. This has substantially reduced the risk of trout loss and assured anglers of improved angling opportunity.

Incidentally the chemical conditions responsible for this phenomenon do not exist in waters subject on occasion to the influence of saline tides. Thus, it is possible to stock tidal waters, although it is not normally done except with surplus fingerling trout, without risk of unusual mortality due to this factor.

Research has also found that high streamflow conditions can act to cause major losses of pre-season stocked trout in all streams. Such high streamflows are a naturally recurring phenomenon that decrease in probability with time. A review of 36 years of streamflow records for the Big Flat Brook, for example, found that the probability of unacceptable flow conditions decreased almost 40 percent for the period April 1st to the opening of trout season as opposed to the period March 1st to the opening of trout season. The conditions which cause the trout loss (high water velocity coupled with inadequate sanctuary for the high numbers of trout stocked) do not exist in most lakes and ponds. Therefore, to insure better survival of stream-stocked trout and angling opportunity, adjustments were

. . . The Best

made in the stocking schedules that made lake stocking earlier and stream stocking later. This together with physical limitations on the numbers of stockings that can be made close to the season, was the reason that lakes such as Hopatcong, Farrington, Waywayanda, Pompton, Budd, Cranberry, Big Swartswood, and Musconetcong were closed this year to angling for the pre-season stocking period.

Studies of trout stocking practices in Round Valley and Spruce Run Reservoirs, the results of which are applicable at least in part to other similar waters in the state, have led to the development of procedures that not only provide for high initial returns and angling opportunity for stocked trout, but that also provide for excellent holdover trophy trout fisheries that such waters are capable of producing. Already a new state record rainbow trout has been caught from Round Valley Reservoir and indications are that the potential for producing large trout in good numbers in this and other two-story lakes and impoundments has not been fully realized. Since these studies have not quite been finalized their findings have not been widely applied to other waters. However, improvements have been made in the stocking programs of the two study reservoirs that should increase angler benefits substantially. The application of pertinent findings to other lakes

in subsequent years are expected to produce added benefits.

Regulation changes, such as the 5:00 P.M. opening for waters with closed and listed stocking dates and the removal from closure for stocking purposes of a large number of waters, are designed to increase angling opportunity and decrease unintentional violations of the law. Anglers with opportunity will be able in 1972 to fish a short time in the evening without seriously depleting the supply of stocked trout, and anglers the next day will still have adequate supplies of trout to fish for. This is expected to contrast substantially with the heavy angling effort and harvest of trout on reopening days of past years.

The 1971 removal of waters from the closed stocking list has provided angling opportunity in most areas of the state on practically every day of the week.

We in the Division are confident that these and other measures we have implemented have improved trout angling opportunity. We cannot, however, assure that they will substantially increase your individual angling success. While you might benefit, whether you do or not will be largely up to many other factors including your effort and proficiency, the effort and proficiency of other anglers, weather and water conditions, and so forth. The ultimate results in terms of your satisfaction are up to you and the angling conditions that God sees fit to provide. Good Luck! #

For places to fish

Waters Stocked With Trout

Trout fishermen may easily find a place to fish on opening day of trout season, and later, by referring to this list of waters stocked with catchable-size trout by the Division. This tentative list shows the number of catchable-size trout stocked or to be stocked by opening day of this season.

Pre-season Stocking —1972

Key to Abbreviations

S - Small waters — trout 7 to 9 inches
M - Medium waters — trout 7 to 10 inches
L - Large waters — trout 7 to 18 inches

Atlantic County

Birch Park Pond—Northfield	L	760
Hammonton Lake—Hammonton	L	760

Bergen County

Hackensack River—Old Tappan to Harrington Park	L	1,160
Hohokus Brook—Allendale to Ridgewood	S	280
Indian Lake—Little Ferry	M	600
Pond Brook—Oakland	S	50
Ramapo River—Mahwah to Oakland	L	4,100
Saddle River—Saddle River to Grove Street	L	1,800
Tienekill Creek—Closter	S	220
Whites Pond—Waldwick	M	360

Burlington County

Strawbridge Lake—Moorestown	L	580
Sylvan Lake—Burlington	L	800
Woolman's Lake—Mount Holly	L	580

Camden County

Big Lebanon Run—Turnersville	L	820
Grenlock Lake—Turnersville	L	520
Hopkins Pond—Haddonfield	L	460
Rowands Pond—Clementon	L	800
Square Circle Pond—Gibbsboro	L	580

Cape May County

Dennisville Lake—Dennisville	L	360
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Cumberland County

Cooper Mill Park Pond—Vineland	M	240
Manantico Creek—Millville	M	180
Mary Elmer Lake—Bridgeton	L	280
Maurice River—Jessup Bridge	L	600
Shaw's Mill Pond—Newport	L	580

Essex County

Branch Brook Park Pond—Newark	L	580
Diamond Mill Pond—Millburn Township	L	580
Verona Park Lake—Verona	L	580

. . . Waters Stocked

Gloucester County

Greenwich Lake—Gibbstown	L	1,000
Harrisonville Lake—Harrisonville	L	620
Iona Lake—Iona	L	735
Mullica Hill Lake—Mullica Hill	L	360
Raccoon Creek—Ewan to Swedesboro	L	140
Swedesboro Lake—Swedesboro	L	640

Hudson County

Hudson County Park Lake—North Bergen	L	580
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Hunterdon County

Alexandria Brook—Milford	S	200
Alexauken Creek—Mount Airy	M	360
Amwell Lake—Ringoes	L	220
Back Brook—Ringoes	S	280
Beaver Brook—Annandale	S	500
Capoolong Creek—Pittstown	M	940
Delaware-Raritan Canal—Raven Rock to Hunterdon County Line	L	1,520
Everittstown Brook—Everittstown	S	220
Frenchtown Brook—Frenchtown	S	405
Hakihokake Creek—Milford	S	200
Little York Brook—Little York	S	430
Lockatong Creek—Milltown	M	700
Milford Brook—Milford	S	310
Mt. Pleasant Brook—Mt. Pleasant	S	250
Mulhockaway Creek—Norton to Pattenburg	M	300
Musconetcong River—Route 31 to Delaware River	L	5,580
Prescott Brook—Round Valley	S	320
Raritan River, S. Br.—Hunterdon County Line to Three Bridges	L	6,680
Rockaway Creek, N. Br.—Mountainville to Whitehouse	L	320
Rockaway Creek, S. Br.—Lebanon to Whitehouse	S	280
Round Valley Reservoir—Lebanon	L	2,000
Spring Mills Brook—Milford	S	100
Spruce Run—Glen Gardner	M	720
Spruce Run Reservoir—Clinton	L	1,500
Sydney Brook—Sydney	S	250
Tetertown Brook—Tetertown	S	500
Wichecheoke Creek—Prallsville	S	320

Mercer County

Assunpink Creek—Windsor to Lawrence Station	L	500
Colonial Lake—Trenton	L	520
Delaware-Raritan Canal—Hunterdon County Line to Yardley Bridge	L	2,600
Stony Brook—Woodsville to Port Mercer	L	2,440

Middlesex County

Bissets Pond—South River	M	100
Farrington Lake—New Brunswick	L	1,180
Ireland Brook—Fresh Ponds	S	140
Lawrence Brook—Milltown	L	1,160
Roosevelt Park Lake—Metuchen	L	280
Sucker Brook—Iselin	S	360
Wigwam Pond—Jamesburg	L	280

Monmouth County

Big Brook—Marlboro	M	50
Englishtown Mill Pond—Englishtown	L	140
Garveys Pond—Nevasink	L	280
Hockhocks Brook—Tinton Falls	M	260
Manasquan River—Farmingdale to Allenwood	L	4,650
Mingamahone Brook—Farmingdale	S	420
Mohawk Pond—Red Bank	L	240

Pink Brook—Tinton Falls	S	75
Ramanesson Brook—Holmdel	M	760
Shadow Lake—Red Bank	L	580
Shark River—Hamilton	M	180
Spring Lake—Belmar	L	580
Takanassee Lake—Long Branch	L	280
Topenemus Lake—Freehold	L	360
Willow Brook—Holmdel	M	50
Yellow Brook—Colts Neck	M	310

Morris County

ABC Pond—Roxbury Township	M	120
Beaver Brook—Rockaway	M	420
Black River—Milltown to Hacklebarney State Park	L	1,320
Budd Lake—Budd Lake	L	360
Burnett Brook—Ralston	S	140
Burnham Park Lake—Morristown	L	280
Den Brook—Union Hill	S	100
Drakes Brook—Flanders	S	340
Electric Brook—Schooleys Mountain	S	120
Flanders Brook—Flanders	S	180
Gruendykes Mill Pond—Hackettstown	L	140
Guard Lock—Saxton Falls	L	440
Hibernia Brook—Hibernia	S	280
Indian Brook—Mendham	S & L	570
Kikeout Intake Reservoir—Butler	L	300
Lake Hopatcong—Lake Hopatcong	L	3,172
Lake Musconetcong—Netcong	L	360
Ledgewood Brook—Ledgewood	S	400
Mill Brook—Center Grove	S	500
Mt. Hope Pond—Mt. Hope	L	540
Musconetcong River—Sussex County Line to Hackettstown	L	4,320
Peapack Brook—near Gladstone	S	100
Pompton River—Rt. 23 to D.L. & W.R.R. Bridge, Lincoln Park	L	440
Raritan River, S. Br.—Rt. 46, Budd Lake to Hunterdon County Line	L	2,240
Reservoir Brook—Brookside	S	100
Rhinehart's Brook—Hacklebarney State Park	S	220
Rockaway River—Milton to Boonton	L	8,610
Speedwell Lake—Morristown	L	400
Stickle Brook—Boonton Township	S	120
Trout Brook—Hacklebarney State Park	S	100
Washington Valley Brook—Morristown	S	220

Ocean County

Metedeconk River, N. Br.—Georgia to Greenville	L	860
Metedeconk River, S. Br.—Bennett Mills to Lakewood	L	600
Prosperstown Lake—Prosperstown	M	400
Toms River, N. Br.—Holmansville	L	340

Passaic County

Barbour's Pond—Near Paterson	L	360
Belcher's Creek—West Milford	S	220
Cooley's Brook—Browns	S	100
Lafayette Pond—Hawthorne	M	320
Oldham Pond—North Haledon	L	360
Pequannock River—Smith Mills to Butler	L	800
Pompton Lake—Pompton Lakes	L	720
Pompton River—Pompton Lakes to Route 23	L	2,380
Ringwood Brook—Ringwood	M	100
Sheppards Lake—Thunder Mountain	L	360
Wanaque River—Greenwood to Pompton Lakes	L	2,800

Salem County

Hancock's Sand Wash Pond—Salem	L	260
Schadler's Sand Wash Pond—Penns Grove	L	400

. . . Waters Stocked

Somerset County

Harrison Brook—Liberty Corner	S	100
Lamington River—Burnt Mills	L	280
Passaic River—Basking Ridge to Dead River	L	1,500
Peapack Brook—Gladstone	M	350
Raritan River, N. Br.—Far Hills Jct. to S. Br. Raritan River	L	2,340
Raritan River, S. Br.—Neshanic Station to Dalrymple Bridge	L	1,220
Rock Brook—Zion	S	280
Toms Brook—Martinsville	S	220

Sussex County

Alms House Brook—Myrtle Grove	S	100
Andover Jct. Brook—Andover Jct.	M	180
Beaver Run Brook—Beaver Run	S	180
Bier's Kill—Shaytown	S	50
Big Flat Brook, upper—Saw Mill Lake to Route 206	S & L	740
Big Flat Brook, lower—Route 206 to Delaware River	L	7,200
Black Brook—Beaver Lake Mt.	S	100
Black Brook—McAfee	S	100
Clove River—Colesville to Sussex	M	480
Cranberry Lake—Cranberry Lake	L	360
Culver's Lake Brook—Branchville	S	100
Dragon Brook—Cranberry Lake	S	75
Dry Brook—Branchville	S	75
Glenwood Brook—Glenwood	S	75
Hardystonville Brook—Hardystonville	S	100
Hunts Lake Brook—Yellow Frame	S	100
Kymer's Brook—Andover	S	75
Lake Ocquittunk—Stokes State Forest	L	580
Little Flat Brook—Hainesville to Bevans	M	1,040
Lubbers Run—Lake Lackawanna	S & M	240
Mill Brook—Wantage Township	S	160
Musconetcong River—Lake Hopatcong to Sussex County Line	L	780
Neldon Brook—Swartswood	S	75
North Church Brook—Monroe	S	100
Papakating Creek—Pelletown to Sussex	M	420
Papakating Creek, W. Br.—McCoy's Corner	M	220
Parker Brook—Stokes State Forest	S	120
Paulinskill River—Lafayette to Stillwater	L	2,300
Pequest River—Springdale, Route 206 to Warren County Line	L	440
Quarry Brook—Sussex	S	100
Roy Spring Brook—Stillwater	S	100
Saw Mill Lake—High Point Park	L	580
Seneca Lake—Sparta Township	L	140
Shimers Brook—Montaque Township	S	120
Sparta Glen Brook—Sparta Glen	M	320
Sparta Jct. Brook—Sparta Jct.	S	100
Stony Brook—Stokes State Forest	S	100
Stony Lake—Stokes State Forest	M	400
Swartswood Lake—Swartswood	L	540
Tar Hill Brook—Lake Lenape	S	75
Trout Brook—Middleville	S	160
Tuttles Corner Brook—Tuttles Corner	S	100
Wallkill River—Sparta to Hamburg	S & L	1,740
Wawayanda Lake—Wawayanda Lake	L	360
Yellow Frame Brook—Yellow Frame	S	100

Union County

Ash Brook—Clark Township	S	140
Green Brook—Scotch Plains	S	220
Rahway River—Springfield to Rahway	L	3,200

Warren County

Allens Saw Mill Brook—Delaware	S	75
Barker's Mill Brook—Vienna	S	100
Bear Creek—Southtown	S	100
Beaver Brook—Hope to Pequest River	M	600
Blair Creek—Blairstown	M	160
Blair Lake—Blairstown	M	140
Buckhorn Creek—Roxburg	S	220
Dark Moon Brook—Johnsonburg	S	100
Delawanna Brook—Delaware	S	180
Dunnfield Creek—Dunnfield	M	520
Furnace Brook—Oxford	S	260
Honey Run—Hope Township	S	75
Jacksonburg Brook—Jacksonburg	M	280
Johnsonburg Creek—Johnsonburg	S	75
Lomison's Glen Brook—Lomison's Glen	S	100
Lopatcong Creek—Harmony to Phillipsburg	S	800
Lows Hollow Brook—Broadway	S	240
Mill Brook—Broadway	S	100
Mountain Lake—Buttsville	L	580
Muddy Run—Hope	S	100
Musconetcong River—Hackettstown to Route 31, Hampton	L	6,260
Paulinskil River—Stillwater to Hainesburg	L	4,900
Pequest River—Long Bridge to Belvidere	L	3,600
Pohatcong Creek—Mt. Bethel to Carpentersville	S & L	2,750
Pophandusing Creek—Hazen to Belvidere	S	420
Roaring Rock Brook—Brass Castle	S	260
Silver Lake—Hope	L	280
Trout Brook—Hackettstown	S	240
Trout Brook—Hope	S	75
Van Campens Brook—Millbrook	M	750

Kiwanis Ice Fishing Derby at Lake Hopatcong

Over 2,000 contestants entered the Jefferson Township Kiwanis Club Second Annual Scholarship Fund Ice Fishing Derby held at Lake Hopatcong on February 5 and 6.

Despite frigid temperatures and high winds that brought the chill factor down to 20 degrees below zero on the fifth, hardened ice fishermen challenged the weather by fishing the lee shores and coves. Even the snow on the sixth failed to daunt the frost bite anglers, intent on sport and, no doubt, the prospects of one of the 100 prizes offered.

John La Coutre of Lake Hopatcong took first place, a snowmobile, with his 9-pound 6½-ounce brown trout, which he landed on the sixth from 40 feet of water between Elba Point and River Styx Bridge. John used rod and reel and a live shiner through a hole chopped in the ice by his friend Jason Donaldson of Wayne. Incidentally, this is the largest brown trout ever reported taken from Lake Hopatcong, with the runner up 8 pounds, 13 ounces.

During the two days of the event eleven species of fish were taken, namely, brook trout, brown trout, pickerel, smallmouth bass, largemouth bass, white perch, yellow perch, bluegills, crappie, rock bass, and catfish. For more on the Derby see the next two pages.

—Harry Grosch



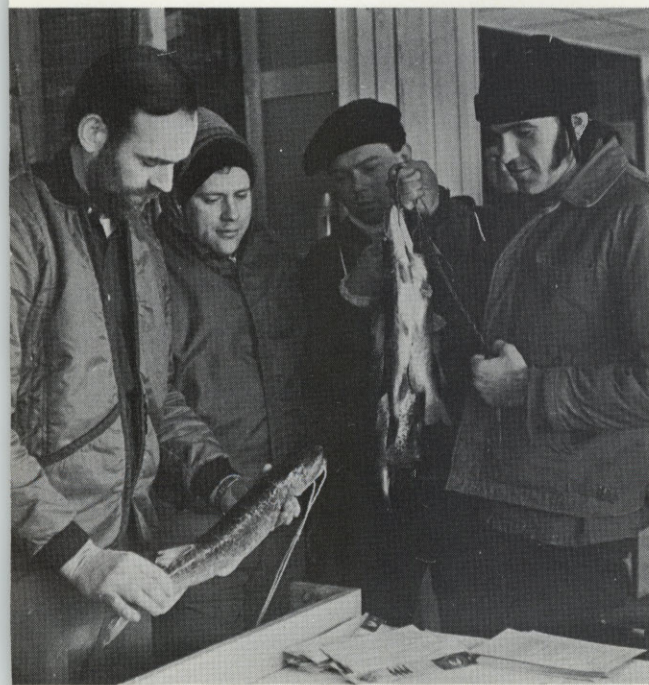
John La Coutre, first place winner in the Kiwanis Ice Fishing Derby at Lake Hopatcong, holds his 9-pound, 6½-ounce brown trout while sitting on his snowmobile prize. John Rarick, Derby Chairman, left, and John Moran, Co-chairman, right



Activities at the Jefferson Township Fire Department No. 2 and Rescue Squad pancake breakfast which was served during the Derby from five in the morning



Looking out over Lake Hopatcong from the Jefferson House, Nolan's Point



John Moran, checking in fish for John Kiseli of Woodport while George Bodi of Phillipsburg and Mike Sharo of Linden observe. John weighed in over 300 fish during the two-day event

Egg Island-Berrytown Tract

Cumberland County

The Egg Island-Berrytown Fish and Wildlife Management Area is located in Cumberland County, adjacent to the Delaware Bay. The tract comprises 6,600 acres of high-quality tidal marsh and some upland habitat.

With the exception of 353 acres purchased through the Green Acres Program and assigned to the Division, the remainder of the area was purchased with Federal Aid-to-Wildlife Funds.

The Bureau of Wildlife Management manages the tract primarily as a waterfowl hunting area. It is heavily utilized by waterfowl during the fall and winter months and numerous shore birds, such as willets, nest on the tract. It is also a study area for waterfowl brood production, clapper rail, and for mosquito-wildlife surveys.

Waterfowl

The Egg Island tidal marsh offers some of the best waterfowl hunting in the state. The tract is utilized by waterfowl such as black duck, gadwall, teal, widgeon, and shoveler. Good rail hunting is also found on the tract.

Fishing

Salt water fishing is very good on the area and in the immediate vicinity. The major species of fish taken are striped bass, white perch, weakfish, and drum. Some launching ramps and a few boat liveries are available in the immediate area.

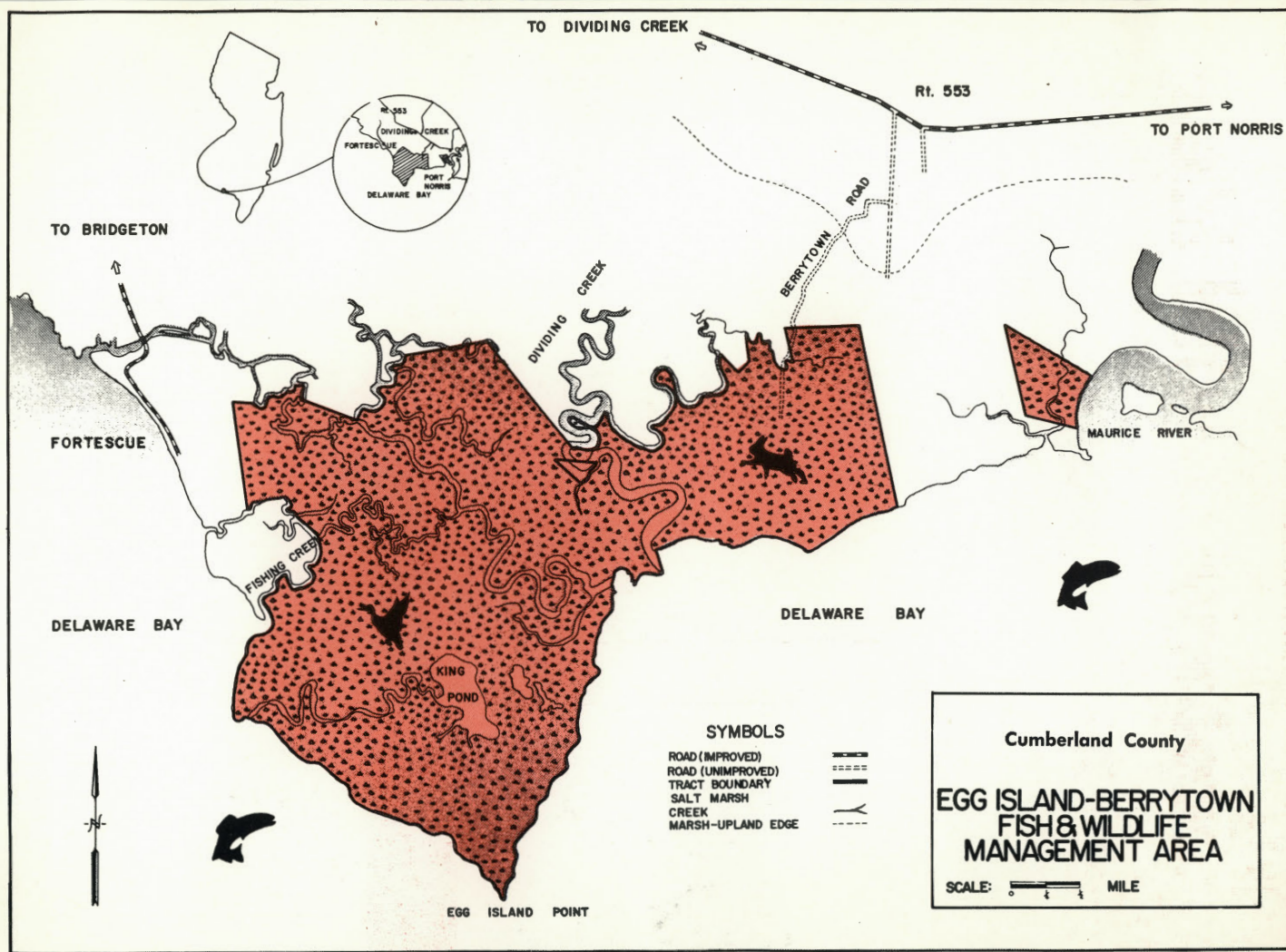
Upland Game

In the upland portion of the Berrytown tract some small game hunting opportunities are available. The native species of game found are cottontail rabbit, quail, fox, and some pheasant. The Division's stocking program also provides pre-season and in-season pheasant releases for additional hunting opportunities.

This area is being maintained for the licensed sportsmen of the state, although many citizens make use of the area for other forms of outdoor recreation. Its program is financed by the license money of the sportsmen.

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Remember to consult your Compendium of New Jersey Fish Laws, which includes regulations of the 1972 Fish Code, for the trout fishing rules. Among other notes to check are the special closed days under which designated waters are closed to all fishing on the days listed.



ecology: a wild idea



National Wildlife Theme-1972

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