

*M. J. Periodical*

# New Jersey

# Outdoors

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# WHAT IS A SPORTSMAN?



**SPORTSMAN:** "One who in sports is fair and generous; who has recourse to nothing illegitimate; a good loser and a graceful winner." --- WEBSTER

...**HE IS A MEAT HUNTER IF HE HUNTS JUST TO PUT MEAT ON THE TABLE - NOT A SPORTSMAN!**

...**IF HE HUNTS OUT OF SEASON HE IS NOT A SPORTSMAN!**

...**SHOULD HE TAKE MORE THAN THE LEGAL LIMIT HE IS A VIOLATOR AND NOT A SPORTSMAN!**

...**IF HE TRESPASSES TO HUNT AND ABUSES THE RIGHTS AND LANDS OF OTHERS HE IS NOT A SPORTSMAN!**

...**IF HE HUNTS AND KILLS IN ANY WAY ILLEGAL HE IS NOT A SPORTSMAN!**

**A LICENSE TO HUNT IS NOT A RIGHT BUT A PRIVILEGE... DON'T ABUSE THIS PRIVILEGE...  
BE A SPORTSMAN!**

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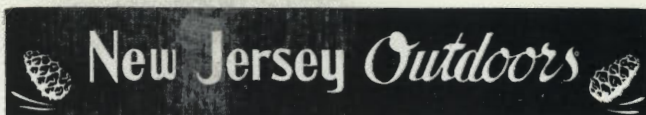
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#### Cover—"Squirrel's View"—Harry Grosch

This month's cover picture shows the view  
the squirrel has of the squirrel hunter.  
This hunter is wisely using binoculars to  
help spot his quarry. For more on hunting  
the gray squirrel in our state see page 3.

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*Bob Craig and Bill Boote try hunting the King of the Treetops*



# Hunting the King of the Treetops

By Edward J. Golden  
Bureau of Wildlife Management  
Photographs by Harry Grosch

**G**ROUSE hard to find, rabbits holing up, pheasants out of range, why not give the gray squirrel, Old Bushytail, a go. He is one of our most abundant and underharvested small game animals. He is active in almost all types of weather, except for the most adverse conditions. Most of all, no great distance must be travelled to hunt the "King of the Treetops."

To hunt squirrels, no special hunting equipment or dog are necessary. All the hunter needs is a license, shotgun, and shells.

Don't let the simplicity of equipment be misleading. In the wilds, the gray squirrel is hardly the kind of fellow found in a city park. The wild squirrel is quite wary and shy. This is even more so when disturbed or shot at by a hunter. Many times Old Bushytail will see the hunter approach before the hunter sees him and the squirrel will give the characteristic warning bark to the other squirrels.

Another cutie the squirrel pulls is the disappearing act when he goes up a tree and almost blends with the tree. With no escape possible, he continually circles the tree always a little ahead of the hunter. A trick such as this has made many a hunter feel a little foolish.

## How?

Now don't let these squirrely antics scare you away from hunting the bannertail. Due to the large population of gray squirrels in New Jersey, they can be bagged by using a few simple methods. There are two methods mainly used in hunting the squirrel. The first method is sitting and waiting the rascal out. The other method used is walking slowly, trying to see the squirrel and get close enough for a shot.

### *Sitting*

If you are a little lazy like myself and like to sit back, relax and enjoy the fresh autumn fragrance, sitting is for you. As would be imagined, sitting and waiting for the squirrel to come to the hunter requires some patience. If you have ever hunted this fellow, you know he has the patient-bursting quality of running up, down, and across limbs barely out of shotgun range.

### . . . King of the Treetops

This gives the hunter the urge to get off his seat and make a full-fledged charge, hoping to get a quick shot. Needless to say, this usually ends in failure with a much wiser squirrel and, we hope, a more patient hunter.

#### *Stalking*

On the other hand, there is stalking or sneaking up on Mr. Squirrel. If one wants to prove his prowess as a woodsman, this can be quite enjoyable being able to catch Old Bushytail napping on a limb or busily chewing on a



*Since squirrels are abundant, the seasons for them have been extended*

nut. I, myself, usually prove my ability by creating a racket and causing a lot of squirrels to exercise their vocal chords, barking a warning to others of an invader. For the lithe of foot, this again can be an enjoyable way to hunt. For some clodhoppers like myself, old deaf squirrels do exist.

If you are a deer hunter, the methods in which squirrels are hunted are also used in deer hunting. Therefore, when sitting and stalking squirrels, the deer hunter will be able to practice his patience at sitting longer and improve



his ability to move quietly through the woods. When deer season rolls around, this practice will prove to be quite handy. Since deer and squirrels many times inhabit the same areas, squirrel hunting might also aid the deer hunter in locating his prize buck.

### **When?**

The best time to hunt for squirrels is usually in the early morning or late afternoon. Although some squirrels are usually active throughout the day, they are especially active on a warm, sunny, fall day. Many times squirrels can be seen playing tag, or running up and down trees on the sunny days. This type of day is also an excellent time to walk up on a bushytail snoozing on a limb. After heavy rain and many times during a drizzle, squirrels are also quite active. During this time, they can be seen gathering nuts and feeding. Again, this gives the stalker an ideal time to sneak through the quiet woods. One of the few occasions on which squirrels will be inactive is on windy days. If they are out on windy days, they will usually be on the ground rather than in the trees. Squirrels would rather romp in a heavy rain than on a windy day. This is probably due to the treacherous conditions of swaying limbs. The limbs are a vital thoroughfare for squirrels going from tree to tree.

### **Where?**

The gray squirrel is found throughout most of New Jersey's woods. Whether it be a small woodlot or a large forest, the bannertail will more than likely be an inhabitant. The squirrels prefer near mature and mature hardwoods, particularly oaks and beeches. They also will be found in immature and shrubby areas, but not in the same number as in the mature forests. Year after year, a mature stand of black oaks will many times produce top flight squirrel hunting. The squirrels also like corn. Where there is corn near the woods, you will usually find old bushytail present, getting his share of the crop.

For better hunting success a few preseason scouting trips for locating squirrels would be a good idea. Leaf nests are usually an indication that squirrels are in the area. Freshly cracked nuts is a sure sign. As mentioned previously, the squirrels eat corn. Therefore, it would be beneficial to check out fields close to wooded areas. Keep in mind when searching for squirrels that they sometimes will migrate from one area to another. So, plan your scouting schedule as close to the season as possible.

### **Management**

Due to the gray squirrels' abundance, the seasons have been extended to give the hunter more time to hunt squirrels. Since the population appears not to be affected, the long season will no doubt be continued.

With the long seasons and sporting quality of the gray squirrel, the hunter has an excellent opportunity to match his ability with a true King of the Treetops.

#

# *Hunter Success*

## **An Estimate of the Wildlife Harvest in New Jersey During 1966-1967**

*By* William M. Smith  
Bureau of Wildlife Management

This report pertains to the sixteenth annual survey of the small game harvest in New Jersey during the fiscal year 1966-67. It is based on a postcard survey in cooperation with the sportsmen of the state.

### **Type of Survey**

The estimate of the harvest of eight small game species during the 1966-67 hunting season in New Jersey was obtained from response to questionnaires mailed by the Division of Fish and Game to a systematic sample (with a random start) of resident and non-resident licensed firearm hunters in the state.

### **Sample Frame**

Hunters' names were obtained from the stubs of resident and non-resident firearm hunting licenses. These licenses were purchased during the calendar year of 1965. The frame can be used for two successive annual surveys, after which time sample size is reduced and randomness impaired, making it desirable to construct a new frame. This survey is the first "Estimate of Wildlife Harvest" to be conducted from the 1965 sample list. It is the second time this sample list has been used for mail survey information.

### **Questionnaire Form**

The 1966-67 survey follows the form of past surveys with one exception; clapper rail has been added to the survey. The survey now includes eight small game species, namely rabbit, squirrel, pheasant, quail, grouse, duck, brant, and clapper rail. The questionnaire recipient was asked to reply affirmatively or negatively as to whether he purchased a firearm hunting license in 1966 and whether he used the license. He was requested to state whether or not he hunted deer with a firearm. The recipient was also asked to state the number he bagged of each game species listed. A separate column was provided to allow for check-marking of species hunted in New Jersey, whether or not he actually bagged any game.

### **Sample Size**

Questionnaires were mailed to 7,000 hunters selected as stated. The sample was approximately 4.6 percent of the total resident and non-resident firearm licenses purchased during 1966 (resident 151,429; non-resident 2,379; total 153,808).



A reply in some form was received from 2,731 of the 7,000 hunters and trappers with whom contact was attempted. Of the total cards (7,000) one hundred and one or 1.44 percent of the cards were returned by postal authorities as undelivered for stated reasons. This percentage may be compared with 1.23 percent for the 1965-66 survey.

### **Mailing Date and Response Acceptance Interval**

The questionnaires were mailed to the sample hunters near the close of the extended seasons in early 1967. Responses were accepted for 30 days, after which time they were excluded from the calculations because of the probable presence of excessive memory bias.

### **Non-purchasers of 1966 Hunting Licenses**

The number of persons who did not purchase a 1966 license totaled 360, or 13.2 percent of the 2,731 hunters with whom contact was successful. This percentage may be compared with 20.2 percent in the 1965-66 survey (two-year old list), and 13.8 percent in the 1964-65 survey (one-year old list).

### **Response to the Sample**

A response from 2,371 people of the 6,076 licenses contacted provided the requested information or 39.0 percent of the sample (one-year old list). In the 1965-66 survey (second year list) the response was 33.6 percent. In 1964-65 the response was 53.9 percent (one-year old list).

### **Non-Use of Licenses Purchased**

Within the sample, 34 licenses purchased were not used. Therefore, approximately 1.4 percent of the 2,371 respondents who purchased licenses in 1966 failed to use them. Consequently, the participating respondents were 2,337 or 1.5 percent of the total licensed hunters. Projecting the percentages to the total population of 153,808 licensed hunters, leaves a working population of 151,655 active licensees. In 1965-66 the respondents who purchased and failed to use their licenses totaled 2.0 percent.

### **Hunting of Game Species Not Listed on Questionnaire**

There were 20 people or 0.9 percent of the 2,337 respondents who did not hunt any of the eight species of game listed. Projecting this number (20) to the total active hunters (151,655), it was estimated that 1,402 persons hunted non-listed species only, or trapped furbearers.

### **Number of Deer Hunters in the State**

The number of firearm deer hunters in the state totaled 73.2 percent or 110,708 hunters. This may be compared with 109,740 hunters in 1965-66. Of the 110,708 deer hunters, 10,627 hunted exclusively for this species.

### **Trapping Furbearers**

As in last year's survey, no inquiry was made as to the harvest of furbearers. The only question asked was whether the licensee used this license for hunting,

trapping, or both. It was estimated that approximately 454 persons used their licenses exclusively for trapping. The persons who used their licenses for both were estimated to have numbered 4,246 or 2.8 percent of the total number of licensees. Therefore, there were about 4,700 licensed trappers in New Jersey in 1966. In comparison, 7,425 trappers were estimated in 1965, 3,887 in 1964, 5,700 in 1963, and 6,695 in 1962.

### **Statistical Treatment of the Response Data**

Treatment of the response data was conducted by methods described by Charles W. Wright in the 1960-61 "Estimate of Wildlife Harvest, Statistical Report No. 25."

### **Distribution of 1966-67 Small Game Harvest by Species**

#### ***Rabbit***

The estimated rabbit harvest in 1966 totaled 346,140 (plus or minus 9,615 at the 95 percent probability level) rabbits, or 9,060 less than in 1965. This was a decrease of 2.5 percent over 1965.

The mean seasonal take per hunter was  $3.78 \pm 0.19$  as compared with  $3.81 \pm 0.24$  in 1965.

A total of 96,150 licensed individuals hunted rabbits. This number was 60 less than in 1965 when 96,210 rabbit hunters were present in New Jersey. Of the total number of hunters in the state, 64 percent were rabbit hunters; in comparison, 64 percent of participating licensees hunted rabbits in 1965. In 1966 rabbits were the third most popular game species, being exceeded only by deer and pheasants.

The distribution of harvest among rabbit hunters in 1966 is compared with that of 1965 as follows:

Season Bag Per Hunter	1966		1965	
	No. of Rabbit Hunters	Percent of all Rabbit Hunters	No. of Rabbit Hunters	Percent of all Rabbit Hunters
0	22,622	23.53	23,755	24.69
1-4	43,960	45.72	43,053	44.75
5-9	18,749	19.50	18,183	18.90
10-24	10,702	11.13	11,132	11.57
25-50	96	0.10	77	0.08
over 50	21	0.02	10	0.01
	96,150	100.00	96,210	100.00

#### ***Pheasant***

The survey indicates that the pheasant harvest in 1966 was 232,940 plus or minus 7,765 at the 95 percent probability level.

The data shows that this number (232,940) represents a 10.0 percent increase over 1965 when 211,820 pheasants were harvested.

The mean seasonal take per hunter was  $2.44 \pm 0.08$  birds. In 1965 the mean seasonal take was  $2.40 \pm 0.09$  birds.



The total number of pheasant hunters in the state was 97,060, as compared with 95,910 in 1965. Sixty-four percent of all licensed hunters sought pheasants in 1966, 63 percent in 1965, 62 percent in 1964, 70 percent in 1963, and 76 percent in 1962.

The distribution of the harvest among pheasant hunters in 1966 compared with that of the previous year as follows:

Season Bag Per Hunter	1966		1965	
	No. of Pheasant Hunters	Percent of all Pheasant Hunters	No. of Pheasant Hunters	Percent of all Pheasant Hunters
0	33,486	34.50	34,279	35.74
1-4	46,045	47.44	45,078	47.00
5-9	12,492	12.87	11,624	12.12
10-19	4,950	5.10	4,843	5.05
20-30	87	0.09	86	0.09
	97,060	100.00	95,910	100.00

### *Squirrels*

An estimated 169,245 squirrels were harvested in the 1966-67 season (plus or minus 12,920 at the 95 percent probability level). This was an increase of 23,130 or 15.8 percent.

The mean seasonal take per hunter was  $3.32 \pm 0.21$  as compared with  $2.70 \pm 0.25$  in 1965.

The estimated total number of squirrel hunters in the state was 54,595, as compared with 54,115 in 1965-66. Thirty-six percent of all hunters used their licenses for squirrels. In 1965, approximately 36 percent were found to be squirrel hunters. Squirrels have remained in third place in small game popularity since 1953 when the survey was initiated.

The distribution of the harvest among squirrel hunters in 1966-67 is compared with that of 1965-66 as follows:

Season Bag Per Hunter	1966-67		1965-66	
	No. of Squirrel Hunters	Percent of all Squirrel Hunters	No. of Squirrel Hunters	Percent of all Squirrel Hunters
0	15,303	28.03	17,599	32.52
1-4	24,235	44.39	24,932	46.07
5-9	10,646	19.50	8,352	15.44
10-19	3,570	6.54	3,150	5.82
20-29	765	1.40	70	0.13
30+	76	0.14	12	0.02
	54,595	100.00	54,115	100.00

### *Quail*

The quail harvest in 1966-67 was estimated to have been 114,350 birds (plus or minus 4,395 at the 95 percent probability level) or a decrease of 650

(0.6 percent) over 1965. The mean seasonal take per hunter was  $2.72 \pm 0.15$ , as compared with  $2.71 \pm 0.21$  in 1965-66.

The total number of quail hunters in the state was estimated to have been 43,980 as compared with 46,600 the previous year. Approximately 29 percent of all those who purchased licenses and hunted, sought quail, as compared to 30 percent in 1965 and 31 percent in 1964.

The distribution of the harvest among quail hunters in 1966-67 is compared with that of the previous year as follows:

Season Bag Per Hunter	1966-67		1965-66	
	No. of Quail Hunters	Percent of all Quail Hunters	No. of Quail Hunters	Percent of all Quail Hunters
0	16,915	38.46	17,065	36.62
1-4	16,475	37.46	18,845	40.44
5-9	7,705	17.52	7,717	16.56
10-24	2,880	6.55	2,964	6.36
25+	5	0.01	9	0.02
	43,980	100.00	46,600	100.00

### *Ducks*

It was estimated that 79,920 ducks (plus or minus 7,735 at the 95 percent probability level) were harvested in 1966, an increase of 10,170 (14.5 percent) over 1965. In 1965, the total harvest was 69,750 birds.

The estimated mean seasonal take per hunter was  $3.16 \pm 0.35$ , as compared with  $2.93 \pm 0.43$  the previous year.

The total number of duck hunters was estimated to have been 25,780, an increase of 1,730 over 1965. Approximately 17.5 percent of all those individuals who purchased and used their firearm hunting licenses, hunted ducks. In 1965, approximately 17 percent hunted ducks.

The distribution of the harvest among duck hunters in 1966-67 is compared with that of 1965 as follows:

Season Bag Per Hunter	1966-67		1965-66	
	No. of Duck Hunters	Percent of Duck Hunters	No. of Duck Hunters	Percent of Duck Hunters
0	6,316	24.50	6,494	27.00
1-4	12,129	47.05	11,891	49.44
5-9	5,370	20.83	4,257	17.70
10-14	1,642	6.37	1,152	4.80
15-24	315	1.22	217	0.90
25+	8	0.03	39	0.16
	25,780	100.00	24,050	100.00

### *Grouse*

The 1966-67 estimated harvest of grouse totaled 43,370 (plus or minus



3,940 at the 95 percent probability level). This was a decrease of 7,890 birds over the 1965 estimated grouse harvest.

The mean seasonal take per hunter was  $1.15 \pm 0.13$  as compared with  $1.17 \pm 0.15$  in 1965.

It was estimated that about 26 percent of the hunters used their licenses for hunting grouse in 1966-67, compared with 32 percent in 1964.

The total number of grouse hunters was approximately 39,430.

The distribution of the harvest among grouse hunters in 1966-67 is compared with that of 1965-66, as follows:

Season Bag Per Hunter	1966-67		1965-66	
	No. of Grouse Hunters	Percent of Grouse Hunters	No. of Grouse Hunters	Percent of Grouse Hunters
0	20,480	51.94	25,403	54.51
1-4	16,450	41.72	17,998	38.62
5-9	2,240	5.68	2,682	5.76
10-14	252	0.64	503	1.08
15+	8	0.02	14	0.03
	39,430	100.00	46,600	100.00

### *Brant*

The survey data showed that the number of brant harvested in New Jersey in 1966-67 was approximately 25,475 birds (plus or minus 5,305 at the 95 percent probability level). This was an increase of 3,525 birds over the 1965 estimated brant harvest.

The mean seasonal bag per hunter was  $2.40 \pm 0.59$  as compared with  $2.25 \pm 0.60$  in 1965. It was estimated that the total number of brant hunters was 10,615 or 860 more than the previous year.

Approximately 7 percent of the 1966 hunters used their licenses for hunting brant.

The distribution of the harvest among brant hunters in 1966 is compared with that of 1965 as follows:

Season Bag Per Hunter	1966-67		1965-66	
	No. of Brant Hunters	Percent of Brant Hunters	No. of Brant Hunters	Percent of Brant Hunters
0	3,086	29.09	3,574	36.64
1-4	5,661	53.33	4,542	46.56
5-9	1,479	13.93	1,190	12.20
10-14	321	3.03	371	3.80
15-19	61	0.58	74	0.76
20-29	6	0.03	3	0.03
30+	1	0.01	1	0.01
	10,615	100.00	9,755	100.00

### Estimated Amount of Game Bagged in 1966-67

The estimated amount of game bagged by hunters in New Jersey, the number of hunters, and the seasonal bag per hunter are represented in Tables 1, 2, and 3, respectively.

**Table 1. Wildlife Harvest by Licensed Hunters in New Jersey, as Estimated by Mail Questionnaire Sample Survey.**

Species	Estimated Harvest		Change from 1965-66		
	1966-67	1965-66	Increase	Decrease	Percent
Rabbit.....	346,140	335,200		9,060	2.5
Pheasant.....	232,940	211,820	21,120		10.0
Squirrel.....	169,245	146,115	23,130		15.8
Quail.....	114,350	115,000		650	0.6
Duck.....	79,920	69,750	10,170		14.5
Grouse.....	43,370	51,260		7,890	15.3
Brant.....	25,475	21,950	3,525		16.0
Clapper Rail.....	7,960	—	—	—	—

**Table 2. Estimated Total Number of Licensed Hunters in New Jersey by Game Species for three years.**

Species	1966-67	1965-66	1964-65
Deer.....	110,708	109,740	108,746
Pheasant.....	97,060	95,910	94,925
Rabbit.....	96,150	96,210	97,199
Squirrel.....	54,595	54,115	56,178
Quail.....	43,980	46,600	47,080
Grouse.....	39,430	46,600	33,414
Duck.....	25,780	24,050	22,779
Brant.....	10,615	9,755	9,112
Clapper Rail.....	3,790	—	—

**Table 3. Estimated Mean Seasonal Bag Per Licensed Hunter in New Jersey.**

Species	1966-67	1965-66	1964-65
Rabbits.....	3.78 ± 0.19	3.81 ± 0.24	3.56 ± 0.17
Squirrels.....	3.32 ± 0.21	2.70 ± 0.25	3.35 ± 0.15
Ducks.....	3.16 ± 0.35	2.93 ± 0.43	2.76 ± 0.25
Quail.....	2.72 ± 0.15	2.71 ± 0.21	2.07 ± 0.13
Pheasants.....	2.44 ± 0.08	2.40 ± 0.09	1.86 ± 0.09
Brant.....	2.40 ± 0.59	2.25 ± 0.60	3.61 ± 0.23
Clapper Rail.....	2.16 ± 0.55	—	—
Grouse.....	1.15 ± 0.13	1.17 ± 0.15	1.18 ± 0.01

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# Boys and Birds

## How Youths at the Ocean Residential Group Center Help Raise Pheasants for You

*By Ulysses R. Thayer*

*Photographs by Harry Grosch*

WHEN YOU GO hunting this fall, you are probably hoping to bag a handsome, hefty cock pheasant. If you find your pheasant on one of the many public shooting grounds in southern New Jersey, you will probably be indebted to a group of youths assigned to the Ocean Residential Group Center, located on the Forked River State Game Farm.

### **A New Step**

To appreciate this, you may want to hark back briefly to a clear fall day in 1963 when a new step in inter-departmental cooperation in conservation of human and natural resources was begun. Its significance is illustrated by the fact that the Governor of New Jersey, Richard J. Hughes, two cabinet members, Commissioner Robert A. Roe of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development and Dr. Lloyd McCorkle, Commissioner of Institutions and Agencies, and high-ranking members of the State Board of Control, Fish and Game Council, and Department staffs

all journeyed to the historic game farm to dedicate the attractive modern brick building. Game Farm Superintendent Philip T. Grant will tell you it was one of the proudest days of his career.

### **Other Centers**

Soon thereafter, the doors were opened to house 20 youthful offenders aged 16-17 recommended by the juvenile courts. You have probably read of the excellent success of New Jersey's first such group center at Highfields in Mercer County in rehabilitating such youths. Successful cooperation with the Division of Fish and Game was instituted at another center in Warren County, with the youths journeying daily to the state fish hatchery for their work program.\*

### **Mutual Benefit**

Both Departments felt that an even closer working relationship would benefit both the youths and the Division of Fish and Game worksite. After much discussion and planning, the Ocean Residential Group Center was

\* Recently, vacations and sickness left the hatchery short-handed for several weeks. Superintendent Robert Williams praised the cooperation of the Warren boys' work Supervisor, Carl Meichsner, noting, "Many of the boys who had performed specific duties were so well acquainted with these duties that they were quite informative and helpful to a permanent employee suddenly assigned work which was unfamiliar to him."

## . . . Boys and Birds

located right on the game farm tract. You may wonder how this has worked out, and Commissioner Roe feels, "We ought to be advising people of the overall conservation work in this field of rehabilitation. It's good!"

### **Meaningful Participation**

If you paid a visit to the farm on a spring day when the pheasant eggs are hatching, several things would

should be meaningful and of their value to the bird rearing effort. Even the chore of chasing crows from the breeder pens helps game bird production, and its value is explained to the youths. He remembers times when the boys have helped out over their cherished weekends.

### **Positive Philosophy**

If you talked to Vincent J. Regan, Superintendent of the Group Center, his praise of the farm staff's coopera-



*Superintendent Grant explains the breeding of quality game birds*

strike you. You would hear the boys singing and joking as they went about their tasks. You would note that they participate in virtually all phases of the farm's operation. Superintendent Grant would tell you of his conviction that the tasks assigned the youths

tion would reflect pride in the program's success. The percent of boys who get in trouble after completing their three- to four-month stay has dropped to where it is only 12 percent, remarkably low by institutional standards. He attributes much of this



to the positive philosophy of Superintendent Grant and the staff. He says the farm has not only provided a necessary work site, but also "conservation personnel have made an investment, beyond mere supply and demand. Rather, they daily implement opportunities for leadership, self-fulfillment, creativity, and sharing with management. Such doctrine is beyond

The problems encountered during the work day are carried in to the nightly discussion groups at the center. Work conflicts and frank talk help in understanding the boys' problems, leading to an adjustment from anti-social to pro-social habits and attitudes. The center's philosophy is not permissive, but is positive in its attitude toward the youths. Superinten-



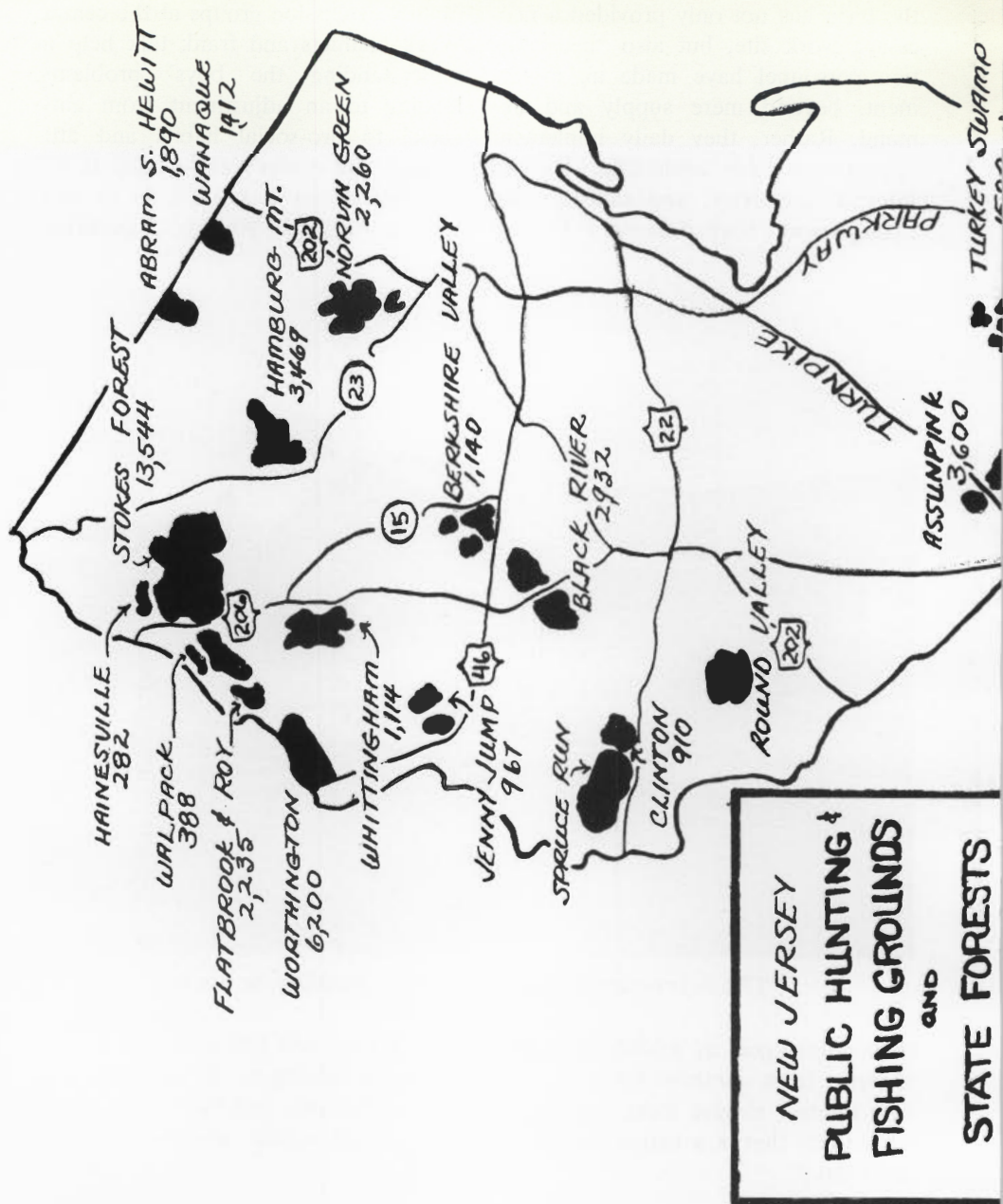
*The boys return to the Group Center building for lunch*

their official goal as wildlife managers. It stems from common sense and sincere interest to give more meaning to an activity that is a major part of the boy's day."

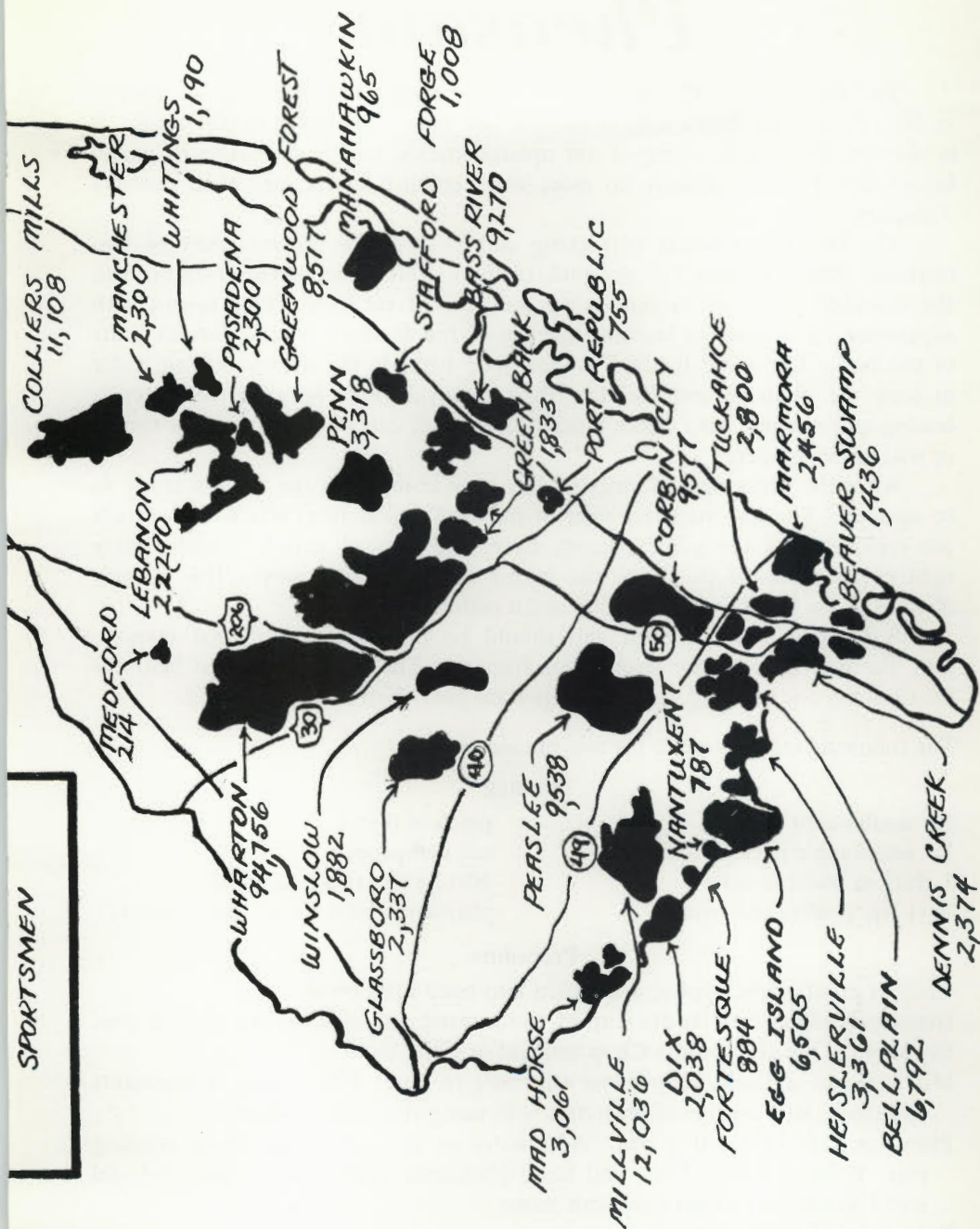
dent Regan will tell you of the value of power sharing by the peer group of farm personnel, and their contribution as high-character models for the youths. #

---

**The Division plans to liberate about 60,000 pheasants raised on the game farms this year.**







## How to roast

# Pheasant

The Ring-necked Pheasant is one of the most prized small game species in New Jersey, as shown with a harvest last year of nearly 233,000 birds. It is also one of the best eating of our upland species, whether a native or game-farm bird. There is actually no more work entailed in cleaning than dressing a chicken.

The first step consists of picking and this can be accomplished by two methods. Many employ the dry pick method, which necessitates picking with the so-called grain, so as not to rip the skin of the bird. This comes with experience, of course, in learning the lay of the feathers on the various parts of the bird. The other method as described here, is the use of boiling water to soak the plumage and facilitate their removal. Just be sure the water is boiling and not just hot. After plucking, the bird can be singed with a candle or wad of newspaper.

After the plucking and singeing has been completed, the bird is ready to be cleaned. The first step is a vent in the anal region from which the entrails are removed and the giblets, heart, liver, and gizzard saved. Another very light cut is made in the V of the breast to remove the crop. This is very obvious, if the bird has been feeding and it contains corn.

Soaking is recommended and should be the next step. Upon completion, the bird is ready for cooking or freezing. The recipe described below is for roasting, one of many ways this important game bird can be prepared.

The following recipe is made for *two* pheasants.

### Stuffing

½ small onion peeled	pinch of thyme
½ small apple peeled (optional)	salt and pepper
1 chicken boullion cube	10-12 slices of white bread
½-1 tsp. poultry seasoning	pheasant giblets (heart, liver, gizzard)

### Procedure

Chop or grind onion, apples, and giblets into good sized bowl.

Dissolve boullion cube in one cup of warm water and place in flat dish or pan.

Dip slices of bread in broth. Chop and add to giblet mixture.

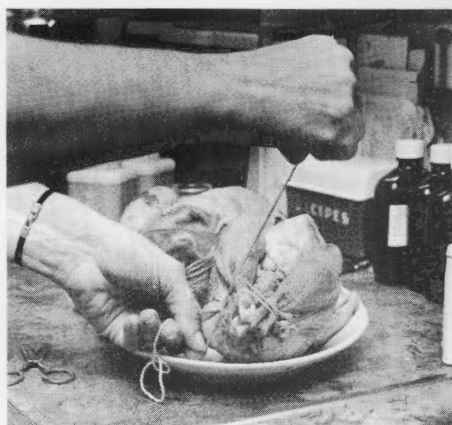
Mix well and add salt, pepper and seasoning to taste. Fill cavities of pheasants and truss. Rub outside of pheasants with margarine and salt them.

Place on rack in roasting pan. Add water to just cover bottom of roasting pan. Bake at 350°. Prick and baste pheasants from juices in pan and add water as needed to keep pheasants moist.

Bake 1½ to 2 hours until pheasants brown and fork tender.

Remove stuffing from birds, carve, and serve.





*Dunking the pheasant in boiling water, left, helps make plucking the feathers easier*

*Singeing, above, to remove the down*

*Trussing the birds, left, before placing them in the oven*

*Good eating ahead*



# The Black-tailed Jack Rabbit

## Species:

*Lepus californicus*

## General Characteristics:

Total length about 23 or 24 inches, tail 3 to 3¼ inches, hind foot 5 to 5¼ inches, ear from notch 4 to 4¼ inches. White rump patch with black on tail. Our largest rabbit often weighing more than three times as much as a cottontail.

## Dentition:

$$\begin{array}{r} 2-0-3-3 \\ 1-0-2-3 \\ \hline =28 \end{array}$$

## Range:

This long-legged, long-eared cousin of the cottontail is not native to New Jersey, but has been imported from western states and released on several locations in the state. It is usually found on open fields in the flatter sec-



*The black-tailed jack rabbit is a large brown rabbit with a white rump and a black topped tail*

tions of New Jersey, such as the potato fields of Monmouth County and parts of central Hunterdon County, and perhaps elsewhere. Not usually found in woody or hilly sections.

## Life History:

Jack rabbits have from two to four young in a litter and may have several litters a year. The adults do not make burrows, but live in forms



or nests on the surface in which the young are born. Young jacks are born with a well-developed coat of hair, their eyes are open, and they are more precocious than cottontails. Jack rabbits depend on camouflage and speed rather than cover and holes. Their forms are frequently in the open, and they will often remain motionless while a man walks by, mistaking the rabbit for a rock. Jacks are fast runners, can easily outrun the average dog, but are coursed by greyhounds in some western states.

#### **Environmental Resistance:**

*Weather*—Cold weather probably has little effect on jack rabbits in New Jersey, but excessive rainfall during spring and summer may drown newly born jacks.

*Predators*—Probably few in New Jersey. Horned owls may take a few. Some are killed by vehicles on roads.

*Parasites*—Fleas, ticks, bot fly larvae (warbles), tape worms, tape worm cysts, several species of round worms, coccidia, and flatworms or flukes.

*Farm practices*—Large, open fields are the principal location for jacks.

*Hunting*—Jacks are hunted in several places in New Jersey by gangs of men, somewhat similar to deer hunting. Jacks can also be closely approached on occasion, but it takes keen eyes to detect one crouched in its form. It provides good sport, but limited distribution in the state restricts the number of hunters who can enjoy it.

#### **Management:**

The only management practiced in New Jersey for the jack rabbit is an occasional release of imported stock.

#



**KEEP HUNTING A SAFE SPORT**



# Barnegat

## Valuable Wetlands Preserved

Myriad forms of life depend on wetlands, like the area above along the New Jersey shore. A few miles south, development (shown opposite) has dealt destruction to habitat for waterfowl and spawning areas for fish, while adding potential pollution to Barnegat Bay. The life or death choice posed by these two pictures faces all coastal states, including New Jersey.

Fortunately, the choice has been made that the first area will be saved, even as the second has been lost. The above picture shows a portion of the 5,000-acre Barnegat National Wildlife Refuge, recently authorized by the Migratory Bird Conservation Commission.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of the Department of the Interior has arranged long-term leases on nominal terms with the American Telephone and Telegraph Company, which owns much of the acreage. Acquisition of the remainder will be financed with funds from the sale of federal duck stamps to waterfowl hunters.

The area is adjacent to New Jersey's Manahawkin Public Shooting Grounds, one of the wetland areas preserved over the years with state hunting license monies. Division of Fish and Game Director Lester G. MacNamara joined the Migratory Bird Commission in formal authorization of the refuge.

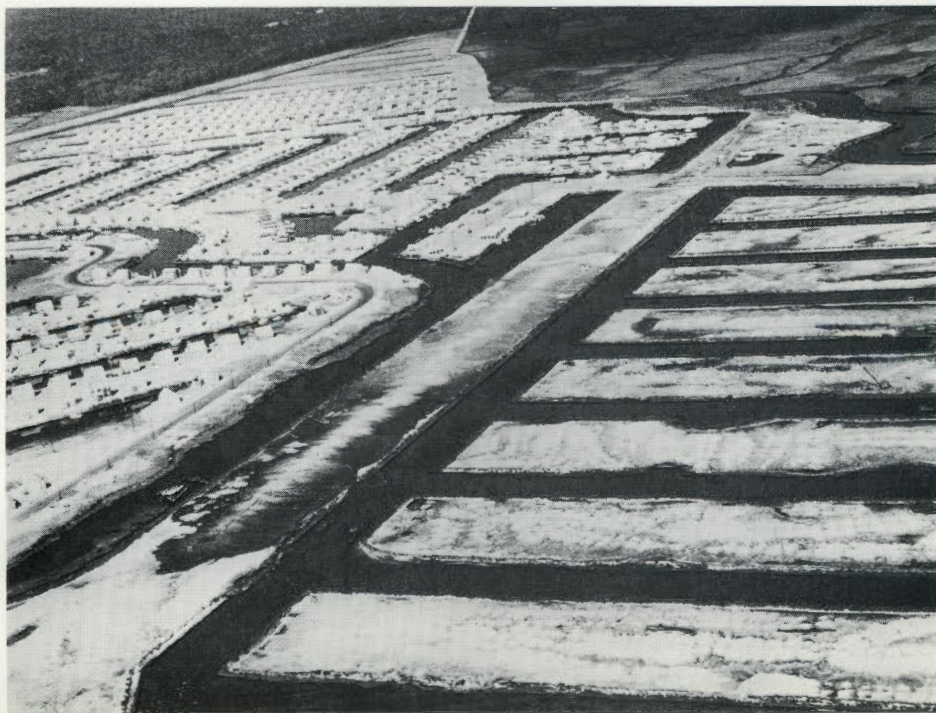


The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife plans to preserve the Barnegat marshes just as they are. As part of the estuarine system, these wetlands supply nourishment to many forms of life on which fish as well as waterfowl depend. Scientists are just beginning to understand fully the complex ecological relationship between marshes, food chains, and valuable marine resources. Up to 40 percent of the area will be open to public hunting, providing recreation for New Jersey sportsmen as well as continuing utilization of the entire refuge by migratory waterfowl.

New Jersey's dense population has brought heavy pressure for exploitation of marshes through development. Over 24,000 acres were lost between 1954 and 1964. State authorities have been aware of the long-range necessity of preserving the resource values of wetlands. Commissioner Robert A. Roe has placed top priority on coastal wetland acquisition by the Green Acres Program. Even prior to Green Acres, areas such as the famous Tuckahoe tract were acquired with license monies, and federal refuges, such as Brigantine, were encouraged.

The economic importance of preserving wetlands is stressed in the federal announcement of the Barnegat Refuge. The state's 1964 commercial catch of fish and shell fish was worth \$9 million. New Jersey has a large share of the Atlantic coast's four million salt water anglers, who spend over \$100 each annually on sport fishing. Clearly even the flow of "fast bucks" to developers of homes like those pictured, depends less on the quality of the dwellings than on an environment near fresh sea breezes, clean beaches, and opportunities for healthy recreation. Certainly New Jersey has an economic justification in preserving estuarine zones vital to Garden State marine resources. #

—Commonwealth Photographers, Inc.



# Post Oak

(*Quercus stellata*)

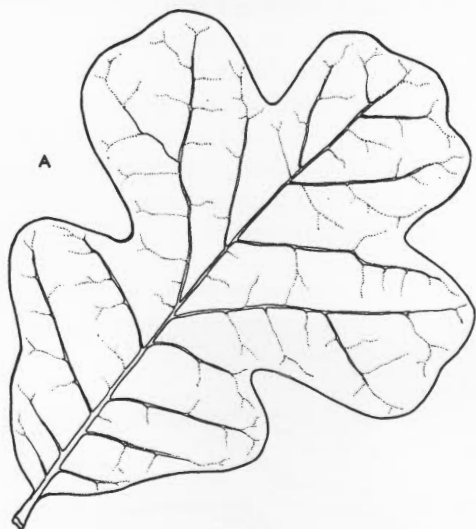
Post oak, sometimes called iron oak, is commonly found on dry rocky, gravelly, or sandy areas. Although it is closely related to the white oak, it grows on poorer soils.

## Range:

Southern New England, southeastern New York, Pennsylvania, west to Nebraska, and south to southern Texas and northern Florida.

## Leaves:

This oak is easy to identify because the leaf shape is quite different from all other oaks. Leaves are alternate, five-lobed, and shaped like a cross. (See figure A.) Each leaf is 4 to 6 inches long and 3 to 4 inches



Post Oak

A. Leaf

B. Twig, with  
acorns and buds

wide. It is thick and leathery in texture with the upper surface deep green and shiny and the lower surface dull green and covered with rusty hairs. The star-shaped hairs were considered when the species was named "stellata."

## Twigs:

Stout, covered with rusty hairs when young. The buds are broadly ovate, stubby, about one-eighth of an inch long, and about equally as



wide. They are covered with reddish-brown hairy scales. (See figure B.) Bark on older trees is similar to that of white oak, except it is darker and rougher with more longitudinal ridges.

#### Flowers:

Male and female are borne on the same tree, usually in May. The 4- to 6-inch-long male flowers appear in catkins, and the reddish female flowers are borne on short or sessile spikes.

#### Fruit:

An acorn that matures in 1 year. It is one-half to two-thirds of an inch long, borne singly or in pairs, sessile or on a very short stalk, and longitudinally striped with dark brown. The acorn rests in a cup that is one-third of its length. The cup is thin and covered with flat wooly scales. (See figure B.)

#### Uses:

This tree is of commercial value. It is durable when used for fence posts. In the past, ship builders preferred the wood for its great strength. It is used for flooring, tight cooperage, ties, and generally where white oak is acceptable.

Post oak grows 50 to 60 feet tall and 1 to 2 feet in diameter. Because of its shaggy appearance, it is not too desirable for ornamental purposes.

#

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

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## Goose vs. Photographer

"You should see the picture Harry didn't get!", Outdoor writer U. R. Thayer said with emphatic contradiction, on his return from visiting Residential Group Center activities at Forked River State Game Farm. He told the following story:

"After lunch, with the pheasant hatch safely off, Superintendent 'Phip' Grant had time to show us his own stock of ornamental pheasants. These rare and beautiful birds are worth a visit to the farm in themselves.

"Then, with a sly smile, Phip remarked, 'I want you to meet my pet goose.' He walked onto the front lawn of his house, and the bird walked over to meet him. It nestled in his arm with obvious affection.

"As Harry approached the bird turned and started to fly at him. Harry retreated, and the goose subsided. 'I've got to get a picture of this,' Harry said, and re-entered the yard with camera poised.

"This time, the bird's attack was more furious, and Harry's retreat so sudden that he tumbled. After recovering his equilibrium and camera shade, Harry did get two pictures of the goose starting its flight. But, the sight of Harry perched, legs akimbo, with the goose on top, its beak clamped on the leather camera strap, would have made the picture of the century, especially if you know Harry."

#

Ed. Note: If you know Ulysses, you know that somewhere is hidden a picture of the goose and another victim.



# Council Highlights

## **August Meeting**

The open session of the regular monthly meeting of the Fish and Game Council was held in Trenton on August 8. In addition to the Council members and Division personnel present the following persons attended: John Briel, Bill Backus, and Edmond Shuler.

## **Beaver and Otter Seasons**

Many letters have been received, principally from women, opposing the beaver and otter trapping season scheduled for January, 1968. Director MacNamara has responded to these letters, explaining the Council's reasons for establishing this season, and his reply was read to the Council. This matter is to be placed before the Game Committee for their consideration when future seasons are being set.

## **Wawayanda Tract**

Reference also was made to the Lake Wawayanda Tract, a large area containing a good deer population and many waterfowl, which is open to bow hunting only. By motion of Councilman Alampi, seconded by Councilman Richardson, and passed, the Council requested Director MacNamara to contact Commissioner Roe and endeavor to have as much of this area as possible open to public hunting.

## **Hunter Safety**

The Council noted with pleasure a letter received from the Boy Scouts of America commending Conservation Officer George Aber for the assistance and cooperation he extended to their ranger in presenting hunter safety instructions to 117 boys. The Council extended their commendations to Mr. Aber for his fine efforts.

## **Marine Fisheries**

Councilman Richardson reported on his attendance at a meeting of the Biological Committee of the Atlantic States Marine Fisheries Commission when plans were made for fishery research in the Middle Atlantic Bight to be carried on jointly by the United States and Soviet Russia. Each nation will supply a research vessel and the various states will contribute the services of their biologists.

## **Coastal Patrol**

Newman Mathis, Chief of the Coastal Patrol, advised that patrol was maintained along the entire coast. Dragging activities had increased in the southern end of the state and vessels were checked for license and distance and found to be operating legally. Clam boats working along the beach were also

## **. . . Council Highlights**

checked for license and catch. Draggers emanating from Compton Creek had been operating in New York waters and no problems had been encountered in the Raritan Bay area. Fish docks and businesses were checked along the coast. Sportsmen were having success taking striped bass inside Barnegat Inlet. Menhaden fishing had increased in Delaware Bay and vessels had been checked for license and legal catch. A sportsman representative personally witnessed the operations of the menhaden vessels and was enlightened by his observations.

Captain Mathis stated that a complaint regarding early morning dragging in the vicinity of Romer Shoals was unfounded because this activity was witnessed by our coastal patrol and was taking place in New York waters.

### **Public Relations**

William Peterman, Supervisor of Public Relations, reported that the fair circle had started and exhibits had been installed at the Burlington County Fair and the Cumberland County Fair. Personnel of his unit arranged and assisted in conducting almost 400 youngsters on tours of the Hackettstown hatchery and the Rockport Game Farm.

### **Wildlife Management**

George Alpaugh, Chief of the Bureau of Wildlife Management, reported that pheasants and quail at the three State Game Farms were in excellent condition. While deer damage complaints received had been as numerous as last year, the resulting damage was not as great, probably due to wet weather. The Wildlife Control Representatives had been kept especially busy handling complaints of raccoon damage to corn. Land acquisition under the Green Acres program was continuing. The Assunpink Tract should provide some excellent hunting this year.

Councilman Wilson requested that Whites Bogs be stocked with pheasants and quail, and Mr. Alpaugh advised that this tract was assigned to the Division of Parks and not to the Division of Fish and Game. If it is open to hunting, he will place it on our stocking list.

### **Law Enforcement**

In the absence of Chief Coffin, who was ill, Mr. John C. O'Dowd, District Conservation Officer, reported on the activities of the Law Enforcement Unit and stated that the Conservation Officers received many complaints of raccoon damage and numerous reports of fishkills.

### **Prospectown Lake**

Councilman Wilson advised that he had received a report that the fishing facility provided at Prospectown Lake for anglers in wheelchairs was rated as one of the best on the eastern coast.

#

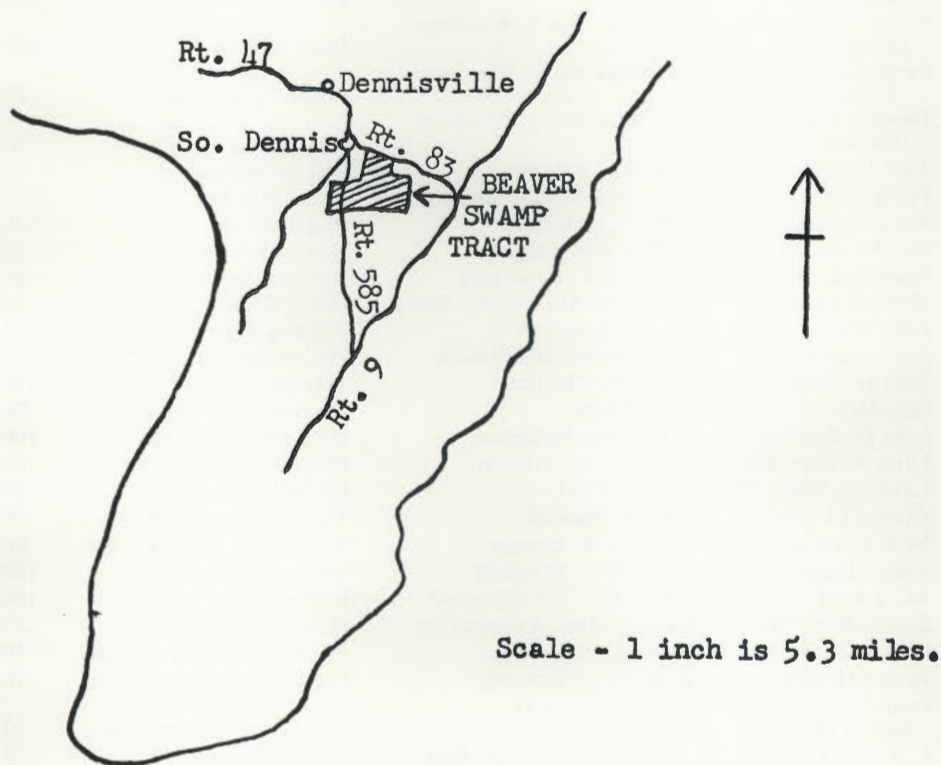


# Beaver Swamp Tract

The Beaver Swamp Public Shooting and Fishing Grounds is located in Dennis and Middle Townships, Cape May County, and comprises about 1,400 acres of upland and impoundments. The tract is bounded on the north by Route 83, on the west by South Dennis, and on the east by woodlands west of Route 9.

There is an old mill pond on the tract which offers excellent pickerel, catfish, and sunfish fishing. The woodlands support a large deer herd, quail, and rabbits. There is some muskrat trapping in the wetland areas.

To reach this tract, drive to Dennisville and thence south on Route 47. The southern sector of this tract can be reached from Route 585, and the northern boundary is located on Route 83 about 2 miles west of South Dennis. #



# Violators Roundup

<i>Defendant</i>	<i>Offense</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
Charles Hill, 1812 So. Park Ave., Haddon Heights	Hunt no license	20.
Dennis Booth, 2nd Ave., Milage Rd., Mays Landing	Illegal missile	100.
Albert Hopkins, P.O. Box 58, New Egypt	Loaded gun in auto	20.
Albert Hopkins, P.O. Box 58, New Egypt	Uncased weapon	100.
Charles M. Moore, H.C. 2 Parachute Loft, Naval Air Station, Lakehurst	Uncased weapon	100.
Charles M. Moore, H.C. 2 Parachute Loft, Naval Air Station, Lakehurst	Loaded gun in auto	20.
Alex G. Poliotzes, Apt. 2-B, 800 Regional Ct., Flemington	Poss. deer closed season	100.
William Schwing, 207 64th St., West New York	Illegal firearm	20.
George Snedecher, R.D. No. 4, Box 511, Princeton	Poss. deer illegally	100.
James Horan, 347 Palisade Ave., Cliffside Park	Illegal firearm	20.
Isadore Padula, 284 Adelaide St., Belleville	Discharge firearm across county road	20.
James Flood, P.O. Box 647, Hamburg	Hunt no license	20.
Frederic Coverdale, Box 86, R.D. No. 1, Woodbine (Eldora)	Uncased weapon	100.
Frederic Coverdale, Box 86, R.D. No. 1, Woodbine (Eldora)	Illegal missile	100.
Frederic Coverdale, Box 86, R.D. No. 1, Woodbine (Eldora)	Hunt deer closed season	100.
Frederic Coverdale, Box 86, R.D. No. 1, Woodbine (Eldora)	Loaded gun in auto	20.
Frederic Coverdale, Box 86, R.D. No. 1, Woodbine (Eldora)	Hunt w/aid of lights	20.
John H. Willoughby, Station Rd., Asbury	Fail to display tag	5.
Frank C. Erkhardt, R.D. No. 1, Box 324, Blairstown	Illegal missile	100.
Bruce W. Erkhardt, R.D. No. 1, Columbia	Illegal missile	100.
Ray Brown, 32 Evergreen Rd., New Egypt	Hunt before hours	20.
Rodney H. Morrison, 20 Shore Rd., Oceanport	Hunt no license	20.
Howard Yocum, 488 Buttonwood Ave., Maple Shade	Illegal firearm	20.
John Wytupek, 222 Morse St., Camden	Tag not displayed	5.
Paul Anderson, 326 Taylor Ave., So. Hackensack	Dis. firearm w/in 300 ft.	20.
William Holsterod, 39 River Rd., Chatham	Transport deer w/out tag	100.
Otto Mett, 1703 Ratzer Rd., Wayne	Tip-ups not marked	20.
John D. Creamer, Hands Mill Rd., Belleplane	Hunt deer closed season	100.
Larry Vukson, 2409 Columbia Ave., Trenton	Illegally poss. deer	100.
Lawrence Sihou, 29 Church St., Lodi	Unplugged shotgun	20.
George La Point, 97 Barber St., Newark	Tip-ups not marked	20.
Nick Vierack, 140 Rollinson St., W. Orange	Tip-ups not marked	20.
Joseph Bacque, 55 Westervelt Ave., Plainfield	Uncased weapon	100.
Miles A. Warnish, 181 Maple Ave., No. Plainfield	Uncased weapon	100.
Dennis Ford, 1615 N. Arkansas Ave., Atlantic City	Hunt before hours	20.
William Titus, 106 Hughes Lane, Watchung	Use bait in fly fish stretch	20.
Robert Higgins, 967 Somerset St., Watchung	Use bait in fly fish stretch	20.
Louis Magersky, Jr., 325 Bonnie Burn Rd., Scotch Plains	Use bait in fly fish stretch	20.
Lawrence F. Parisi, 252 Grant Ave., Cliffside Park	Fish no license	20.
John Rudenbaker, Jr., No. Lenola Rd., Cinnaminson	Tag not displayed	5.



<i>Defendant</i>	<i>Offense</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
Dennis Marshall, R.D. Greenwich, Bridgeton	Illegal firearm	20.
Dennis Marshall, R.D. Greenwich, Bridgeton	Loaded gun in auto	20.
Nick Myronowsky, Box 59, Cape May Ave., Estell Manor	Uncased weapon	100.
Rev. John Hayes, 243 Jackson Rd., Mays Landing	Loaded gun in auto	20.
Thomas Disbrow, Jr., 995 Kensington Ave., Plainfield	Hunt no license	20.
Thomas Disbrow, Jr., 995 Kensington Ave., Plainfield	Kill duck closed season	20.
Thomas Disbrow, Jr., 995 Kensington Ave., Plainfield	Kill duck closed season	20.
Thomas Disbrow, Jr., 995 Kensington Ave., Plainfield	Dis. firearm w/in 300 ft.	20.
Harold Saharic, 325 Bath Ave., Long Branch	Hunt no license	20.
Joseph Jacoby, 306 S. Fellowship Rd., Maple Shade	Illegal firearm	20.
Mrs. John H. Cothers, 7 Cedar Lane, R.D. 2, Mt. Holly	Gun on Sunday	20.
Earl G. McCoy, 702 Parry Ave., Palmyra	Illegal poss. deer parts	100.
Michael Potishnok, 308 Sherwood Ave., Paterson	Tip-ups not marked	20.
Arthur Decker, Highland Rd., R.F.D., Butler	Tip-ups not marked	20.
Harold Quackenbush, R.F.D. No. 3, Macopin Rd., Newfoundland	Tip-ups not marked	20.
Edward Orlosky, 309 Hollywood Ave., Hillside	More than 5 tip-ups to ice fish	20.
Timothy Sullivan, Box 304, Highland Mills, N. Y.	Tip-ups not marked	20.
Randolph Coulter, Main St. (40) Cedarville	Dis. firearm upon road	20.
Warren Brewin, Jr., 17A Stratford Garden Apts., Stratford	Tag not displayed	5.
John D. Creamer, Hands Mill Rd., Belleplane	Illegal missile	100.
Clifford Huber, 50 West 3rd St., Bridgeton	Hunt pheasant closed season	20.
Clifford Huber, 50 West 3rd St., Bridgeton	Hunt no license	20.
Clifford Huber, 50 West 3rd St., Bridgeton	Loaded gun in auto	20.
Joseph Dragon, 10 Catherine St., Carteret	Use more than 5 tip-ups to fish	20.
Joseph A. Dragon, 10 Catherine St., Carteret	Use more than 5 tip-ups to fish	20.
Emile J. Schettino, 44 Bonn Pl., Weehawken	Tip-ups not marked by user	20.
Dominick Spanpanato, 79 Walepond Rd., Oakhurst	Hunt no license	20.
John Anderson, 115 Reading Ave., Oaklyn	Kill illegal deer	100.
Dominic Scola, 501 First Ave., Bellmawr	Hunt w/out proper license	20.

The thoughts of most sportsmen in New Jersey are now centered on hunting. However, for that large number of outdoorsmen who only fish and do not hunt the month of November offers some of the best fishing of the year. The seasons are open for most species in most waters, with a few exceptions such as trout in the Delaware River between New Jersey and Pennsylvania. (Consult Fish Laws and Compendium for details.) The master fisherman knows that fall is *the* time to catch smallmouth bass and walleyes in particular and that it is the time to try for those big hold-over trout in lakes and rivers. Maybe the sportsman whose thoughts turn to the woods and fields, comes fall, should not forget the lakes and streams.

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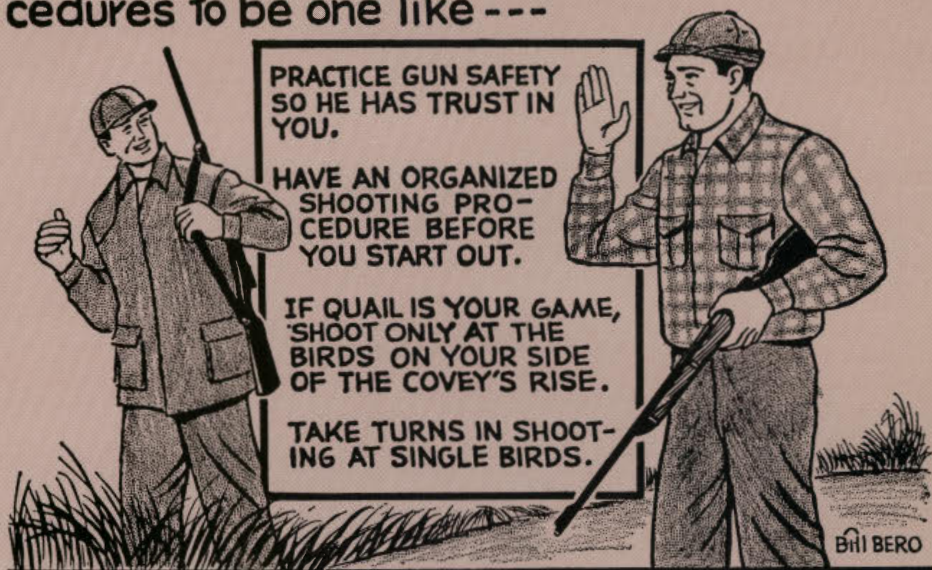


# Fur, Fin *and* Campfire

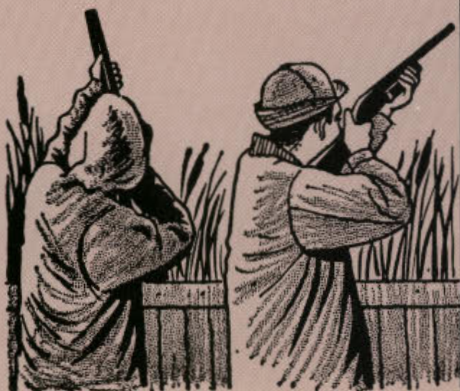
By BILL BERO

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