New Jersey Outdoors

June, 1971

Time and the Outdoors

By John Madson

We've been taken to task for a comment that "time is the most important item in outdoor recreation." The most critical item, a friend writes, is outdoor quality.

Maybe so. But what he really means is quality outdoors that people have time to reach. Good outdoors we got plenty of. It's time that's in short supply.

There are vast sweeps of quality open space that go begging because they're so far away. Sportsmen could probably afford to drive there, even if they felt they couldn't afford to fly and take the equipment they needed. But who can drive from New Jersey to Alaska and back during a two-week vacation?

Of course, there are always guys who buck the system.

Anyone who wants to punish himself can find quality outdoor recreation without too much expense. However, most men would rather miss some faraway hunting and fishing than a weekend's sleep.

Time is the reason that good outdoor recreation is so badly needed near cities. A sportsman in Newark has more public, high-quality outdoor recreation than he can ever use. Trouble is, it's in Montana and Colorado. He may go there in July for two weeks, but where can he go on an October weekend after the kids are in school?

This is the biggest single advantage of good shooting preserves. They provide quality shooting within easy driving distance of large cities, in densely-settled countrysides where other public shooting is almost nil. You don't buy just sport on a shooting preserve. You buy time. A pheasant preserve near Newark, N. J., doesn't offer a thing that you can't find in South Dakota—but it offers it near Newark.

It has been said that the modern American man has more leisure time than ever before. It may have been a sociologist who said that, but it sure wasn't a sportsman. Just because a man is paid for a 40-hour week doesn't mean that he spends much of the other 128 hours hunting and fishing. Not as much as he'd like to, by a long shot. There are many drains on our time supply—social life, church work, kids, house, civic stuff. Not to mention TV. Most sportsmen must budget their time, or even steal time, for the outdoors. The nearer that outdoors is to his home, and the less travel time it costs, the happier the sportsman.

One of the biggest jobs of conservation agencies is to provide good outdoor recreation where it is most needed. Such agencies are actually buying time for the sportsman—time in the form of recreation areas nearer his home.

But there's a limit to what the sportsman can expect, and to what the agencies should try to provide for him. There is a breaking point at which the conservation agency must stop buying time, and the sportsman must begin to spend more time. For his future sport will depend not only on spending more money on fish and game resources, but on the amount of time that he's willing to spend to enjoy them. #

New Jersey Outdoors

New Jersey Outdoors is published by the State of New Jersey Division of Fish, Game, and Shell Fisheries of the Department of Environmental Protection in the interest of the natural resources of fisheries and wildlife and the betterment of hunting and fishing in New Jersey.

In This Issue

Cover—"Musky Catch"—*Harry Grosch*

Although it is one of New Jersey's rarer fresh water game fish, the muskellunge is one of our most prized catches. Robert Neville of Hainesville took the 17-pound musky shown on the cover from the Delaware River on October 17, 1969, on a worm. The fish was 38.8 inches long and had a girth of 18 inches. When he landed the musky, Mr. Neville first though that he had a pike and was ready to cut its head off and clean it. However, his fishing buddy, fortunately, suggested that they have it checked and weighed. More on muskies in this issue.

Vol. 21, No. 9 **June, 1971**

Publication Office: The Division of Fish, Game, and Shell Fisheries

P. O. Box 1809, Trenton, New Jersey 08625

Editor: R. Adams

Second-class postage paid Trenton, N. J. 08608, and additional mailing office.

Published monthly, except July, August, and September, this volume.

Subscription: $3.00 a year, by check or money order, payable to New Jersey Outdoors. Cash is forwarded at senders risk. No stamps please.

Change of address: Should be reported directly to the Editor. Send both old and new address. The Post Office will not forward copies unless forwarding postage is provided by subscriber. Copies not delivered through failure to send change of address six weeks in advance cannot be replaced.

Feeding the birds is laudable and pleasant. But, it does not entitle anyone to a medal for distinguished service as a conservationist

Nice gestures
do not solve

Big Problems

By Ernest Swift

Art from National Wildlife Federation

In December of 1935, President Franklin D. Roosevelt announced that a North American Wildlife Conference would be held in Washington, D. C. on February 3-7, 1936, and stated his reason for calling this conference:

"My purpose is to bring together individuals, organizations, and agencies interested in the restoration and conservation of wildlife resources. My hope is that through this conference a new cooperation between public and private interests, and between Canada, Mexico and this country, will be developed; that from it will come constructive proposals for concrete action; that through these proposals existing State and Federal governmental agencies and conservation groups can work cooperatively for the common good."

This announcement was in reality the beginning of the National Wildlife Federation.

However, in probing through historical data to discover the first embryo of creative thought that finally developed into a full-blown organization, the credit for the idea that became the National Wildlife Federation must go to Jay "Ding" Darling. For many years Darling had deplored the general lack of unity in programs relating to wildlife, but he also had faith that if people were given facts, purpose and leadership, they would arrive at the correct decisions and follow their decisions with action.

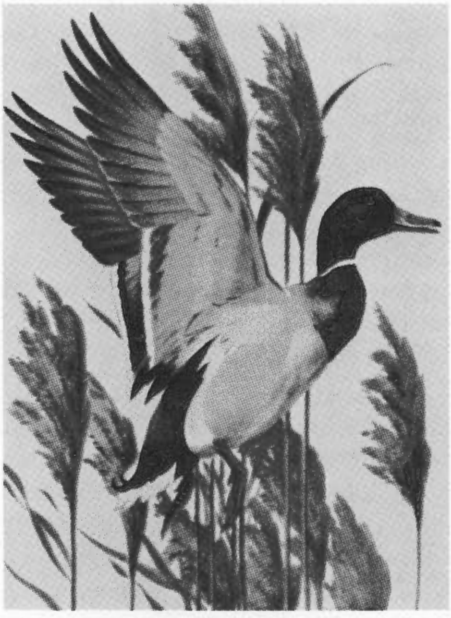
While Darling was still head of the old Biological Survey, and even though the country was plagued with its worst depression, he recognized that the time was right for a big organizational step, and so he suggested to Secretary of Agriculture, Henry Wallace, that President Roosevelt be asked to call a National Congress of Conservation, Darling was a man who wanted action today, not tomorrow. His idea was approved.

All the forces of government were marshalled to give the conference dignity and success. It was developed by a citizens' committee with F. A. Silcox, Chief of the Forest Service, as chairman. Two

. . . *Big Problems*

members of that committee, Elliot Barker of New Mexico and Ira Gabrielson, were still on the battle line until recently.

It was an era when many burning issues were being discussed, and there were demands for a new evaluation of the conservation effort. A prolonged drouth and the depression had resulted in the es-



The drought had brought waterfowl to a dangerous low

tablishment of the CCC camps, and the drouth had brought the migratory waterfowl population to a dangerous low.

As early as 1921, a bill had been introduced in Congress which provided that duck hunters purchase a $1.00 license through their local post office. It was turned down by Congress, principally because there was no unified and all-out public support.

In 1929, Congress passed the Norbeck-Andresen Bill, known as the Migratory Bird Conservation Act. It was a fine gesture, but Congress failed to appropriate the moneys authorized in the bill.

Finally, the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act was passed in March of 1934, 13 years after the idea had been suggested to Congress. The Coordination Act was passed the same year, but it would be a long time before its provisions began to show results.

The point of this brief historical review is to show that the problems of 25 and 30 years ago are the problems of today, and that, although research and management techniques have improved, it was the evangelistic dedication of an earlier generation that helped save what we have today. It is also of benefit for affiliates, associate members, and other supporters of the Federation to know something of the early history of their organization.

A few excerpts of Chairman Silcox's remarks show the seriousness of purpose of the first "North American," which is further indicated by the fact that nearly 2,000 people attended:

"We are assembled here in common effort to help and restore and conserve the vanishing wildlife resources of a continent. This is a serious purpose. It has wide spread

scientific interest and significance. Its esthetic, spiritual, and recreational values are enormous. It affects the social and economic welfare of some 150,000,000 people of three nations."

Then, "Ding" Darling, the old evangelist, the man who had conceived the idea of a Federation, and who for years worked so diligently to see it succeed, came to the podium and stated:

"It is a nice thing to go a-fishing. It is pleasant to go into the fields with rod and gun, but there is something of deeper significance in this meeting, which has heretofore been entirely ignored, and it is time to emphasize the fundamental economic factors which bear upon the relation of wildlife resources to our material prosperity.

"Wealth will continue to exist on this continent only so long as the natural resources of our soil and water continue to yield up their riches. When these are gone, prosperity, standards of living and happiness among our people will vanish with them.

"Devices of civilization, machines, money, and credit require a constant flow of raw materials from the land or they cease to function. To place all our bets on our industrial genius alone without covering the real source of wealth — natural resources — is to bet on the jockey and leave the horse entirely out of our calculations. Our carelessness and apathy toward these basic facts have been notorious on this continent, and among our rich endowment of natural resources no element has been so completely ignored and so heedlessly allowed to vanish as our wealth in the wildlife field. It has been the neglected step-child of our family circle, forced to live on the crumbs from an opulent table, the servant of all and the responsibility of none, undernourished and exhausted by the universal demands placed upon it and subsisting on incidental charity.

Wealth depends on the yield of our natural resources

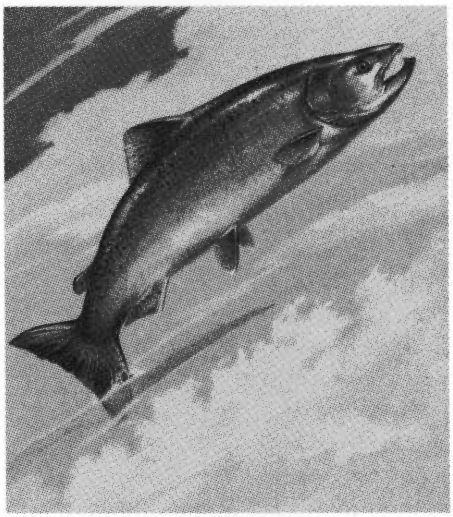
"Nature's rich storehouses have been gutted. Man can no longer turn to it for the necessities of life when his self-generated hysteria threw the ingenious substitutes of money, banks, and industry out of gear. Nature's cushion was no

. . . *Big Problems*

longer there to break the fall when our artificial structures crashed. If nature's pantry had been wisely guarded the relief rolls would have been a fraction of their present astonishing magnitude. . . .

"We might not be so critical of industrial exploitation if it would give some evidence of weighing the value of wildlife resources against the profits of random industrial promotion. We might be reconciled to bidding farewell to the wildlife resources if we could be shown that by its elimination the public received a greater profit. . . .

"We can lay no claim to the title 'conservationists' or even Yankee



The greatest loss has been in the area of development

intelligence if in trading off our endowment of natural resources we make a bad bargain. . . .

"Over capitalization of drainage, power, and irrigation projects has cost this country a pretty penny. We have cried to Heaven over the iniquities of the promoter who foisted the watered stock on the unsuspecting public, but we have remained apathetic and silent to the fact that probably the greatest loss of all was the destruction of natural resources in the area of development.

"Putting out honey cups for the humming birds and suet for the wintering cardinals is a laudable and pleasant contribution; passing fervent resolutions protesting against the nonexistence of fish in our streams and birds in our uplands; buying a hunting license for a dollar and a half and subscribing to an outdoor magazine, are all desirable in their way, but they do not entitle anyone to a medal for distinguished service as a conservationist. We have been doing all these things for a generation and according ourselves honorary mention as good citizens."

That last paragraph can well be read and read and read again. It is just as true today as at the time Darling made the statement. It is why conservation is still a stepchild in our civilization. Nice little gestures do not solve big problems, and the big problems become more complex and bring the nation closer to the brink of possible danger. Unlimited public funds is not the answer, making conservation a spectator sport is not the answer, but individual citizen responsibility *is* the answer. #

Bass Are a Good Bet

Contrary to the thinking of many anglers, both largemouth and smallmouth bass in New Jersey are active feeders most of the time. Biologists' studies show that they feed both during daylight and at night. The trick is to learn their most active feeding periods, where they're likely to be found, and the types of lures to which they will probably respond.

According to fishing information compiled by fishing experts, most bass angling success results from fishing the period of two hours before dark until about two hours after the sun has set. This has proven to be prime bass fishing time. Of course, during the hottest part of summer night fishing is best—often extending through early morning hours.

Another important thing to remember about bass is that they live in almost every conceivable kind of water, so long as its quality is sufficient to support adequate marine life. This means that bass will be found in almost every kind of situation. Sometimes they are located along lake and stream edges, seeking shelter and food among water weeds and underwater rocks or logs.

Other times bass will be found in concentrations along both deep and shallow underwater bars of gravel or mud. Here they find sufficient food at certain times of the day . . . even preferring special locations at certain times of the year.

Lures and baits for bass cover almost every conceivable type. Dead or inactive baits have little appeal to bass. They prefer their prey to be alive and lively. Plugs, flies, and spinners used for bass fishing cover every imaginable type and size. The kind used depends upon the type of water, size of fish, and—often—time of year.

Fall and spring, or during night at summer, are good times for plastic worms for largemouths. Cool water is a good bet for spinner lures. This is especially true during spring when fishing for smallmouths in streams. Daybreak and dark are top-water lure times, and quiet, warm water is a good time to fish popin' bugs with a fly rod.

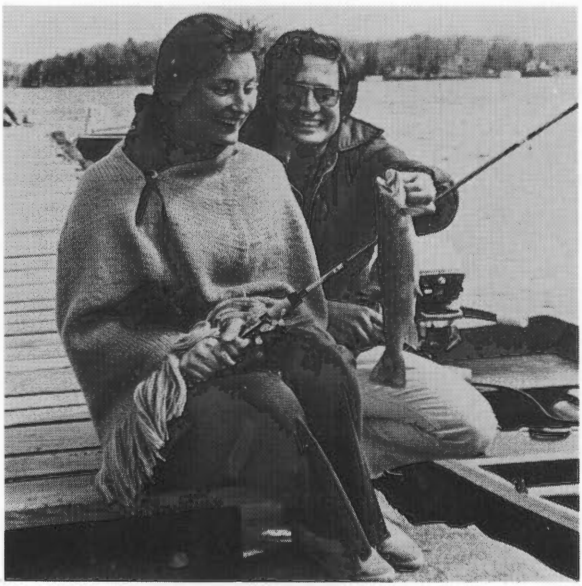
If you're a novice at bass angling, invest in a book about bass fishing. You'll be surprised how quickly your fishing talents and success will improve. #

Kiddies who bring, as a priceless cup,
Something dead that a wave washed up.
Well, it's each to his taste, and a taste to each;
Shall we saunter down to the bathing beach?

—Ogden Nash

Opening Day—official tour

Officials, on the opening of trout season tour on April 10, approve of a good string of trout taken at Saxton Falls on the Musconetcong River. From left to right, Assemblymen Martin E. Kravarik and John Ewing, Director Russell A. Cookingham, and Commissioner Richard J. Sullivan admire this fine catch.



Deputy Attorney General Stephen L. Gordon, Fish and Game Counsel, and Mrs. Gordon seem justifiably pleased with their fine brown trout caught at Lake Hopatcong

Photos by Harry Grosch

Steven Tczap, President of the State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, and his son Peter, age 12, with the 16-inch brownie Peter landed at Lake Hopatcong

At Lake Hopatcong, below, Robert Williams, Superintendent of Fish Hatcheries; Phillip Alampi, Secretary of Agriculture; Joseph L. Alampi, Fish and Game Council; and Steve Lant, President of the Knee Deep Club

Hints for Pond Builders

More than two million private land users have built ponds for recreation, wildlife, livestock water, irrigation, fish production, and fire protection. A new USDA publication, "Ponds for Water Supply and Recreation," gives hints for developing successful ponds.

Agriculture Handbook 387, prepared by the Soil Conservation Service, describes what to look for during preliminary site selection, detailed site studies, construction, erosion control, and pond maintenance.

Some factors in site selection are:

- do not build where failure of the dam structure will mean loss of life or heavy damage to property.
- locate the pond where the largest storage volume can be obtained with the least amount of earthfill.
- locate livestock ponds in or near each pasture or grazing unit, to avoid making livestock travel long distances.
- locate where drainage from farmsteads, feed lots, or sewage lines will not reach and pollute the water.
- check for buried pipelines or cables that could be broken or punctured by excavating equipment.
- avoid sites under power lines; the wire might come within reach of fishing rods held by someone standing on top of the dam.

Preliminary site studies also should consider the adequacy of the drainage area and its protection from silt and soil erosion; minimum pond depth; amount of storm runoff; and adequacy of the pond size for its intended uses.

The prospective pond builder is urged to consult local engineers and local Soil Conservation Service employees for detailed information on engineering and erosion control aspects of dam and pond building.

Single copies of "Ponds for Water Supply and Recreation," AH-387, are available free from the Office of Information, U. S. Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C., 20250, or from SCS offices located in most county seats. #

Hike in Duck Stamp Cost

Like your grocery store bill, the cost of managing migratory game birds goes up. Thinking along these lines Michigan Congressman John D. Dingell and five colleagues have introduced House of Representatives Bill 701 which amends the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp Act of 1934. The legislation authorizes the Secretary of the Interior to up the duck stamp anty to somewhere between $3-$5. The bill has been referred to the House Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries. #

Conservation Semantics

From the School of Conservation a discussion of the court-banned, one-day, Great Swamp deer hunt that goes far beyond that one hunt

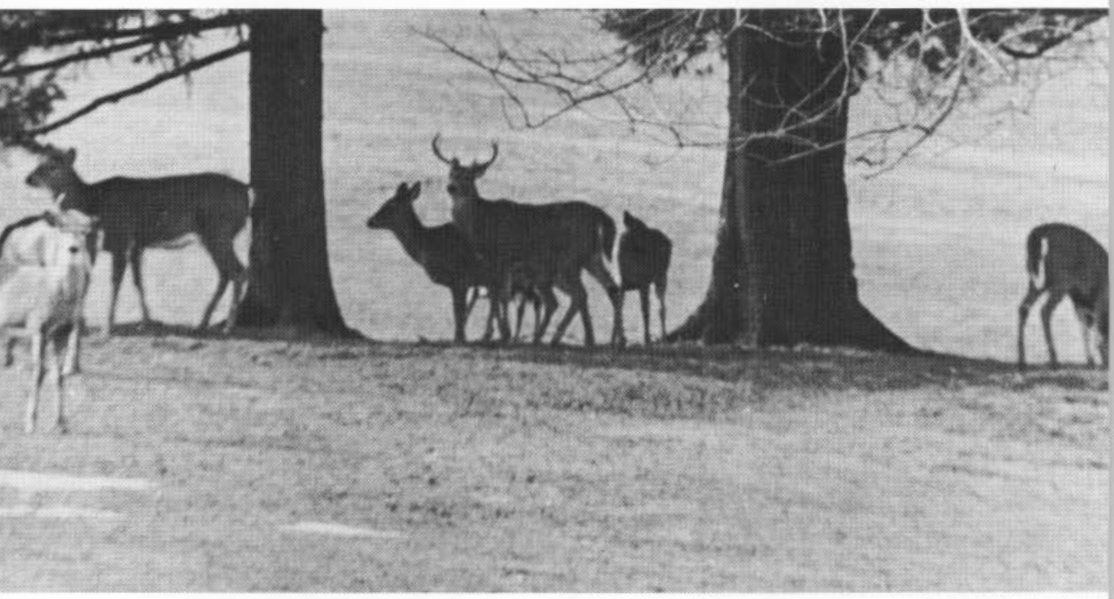
The words "conservation" and "ecology" seem to have been "in" words of the 1960's. Though coined long before the dawn of the last decade these words did not achieve wide use until man at long last began to view his life relative to a finite earth with finite resources. In spite of the *popular* use of the words, some questions exist concerning their proper use and understanding.

A professional wildlife biologist has charged our education systems with "the failure to teach the true meanings of conservation and ecology." George W. Gavutis, Jr., Refuge Manager of the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge near Morristown, New Jersey, made this statement in an open letter addressed to Mr. Cortland Parker, Editor of the Bernardsville News in Bernardsville, New Jersey. The letter dated, November 27, 1970, was written to express Mr. Gavutis' concern for letters opposed to the Great Swamp Deer Hunt which were appearing in the local newspapers at the time.

On Saturday, December 19, 1970, a one-day deer hunt was scheduled as a management measure in the Great Swamp National Wildlife Refuge. The hunt was planned at the recommendation of professional wildlife biologists and approved by the United States Department of the Interior. The purpose of the hunt was to cull 150 deer from the 4,700 acre refuge to prevent the deer population from destroying its habitat. The number of animals to be culled was above and beyond the 250 deer estimated as the carry-ing capacity of the refuge. The proposed control measure was deemed necessary because man has effectively removed all natural predators of the deer from the refuge area. Thus, the "predators" on December 19 were to be licensed hunters selected randomly (by computer) to eliminate those animals least fit to survive in the refuge habitat. The culling of the "least fit" by the hunters would come about as naturally as with any predator, since the "most fit" were expected to seek shelter in the dense shrub of the refuge habitat which have proven impenetrable to generations of hunters.

The hunt was to be staged in complete accordance with the refuge, which, in the words of Mr. Gravutis, is "to preserve an ecologically balanced wild plant and animal community for people to see and enjoy." Mr. Gravutis suggested

that to eliminate the controlled thinning of the deer in the refuge would be making them 'sacred cows' and creating a deer park at the expense of dozens of other plant and animal species . . ." Without predation by man or beast, and good ecological foresight with respect to the refuge? To preserve the balance and diversified nature of the refuge eco-system, or to preserve the deer at the expense of this ecosystem? In light of the above-stated information, the choice seems obvious. But, to a great many people lacking or unwilling to accept this information, the choice seemed not so obvious.



To eliminate the controlled thinning of deer in the refuge would be making them sacred cows and creating a deer park

"hunger, disease, and parasites are left to cull the herd by means of mass die-offs and poor reproduction. Unfortunately, these factors only exert control after it is too late for the deer's environment. Although the deer are capable of recovering to normal numbers within a few years the damaged plant species may take several decades to recover."

What then, is good conservation

On December 16, 1970, just three days before the hunt was scheduled to occur, two organizations, one local and one with national reputation, succeeded in temporarily barring the hunt through a staying order granted by a federal judge. Although one of the organizations argued that it was not opposed to the hunt, but to the hunting meth-

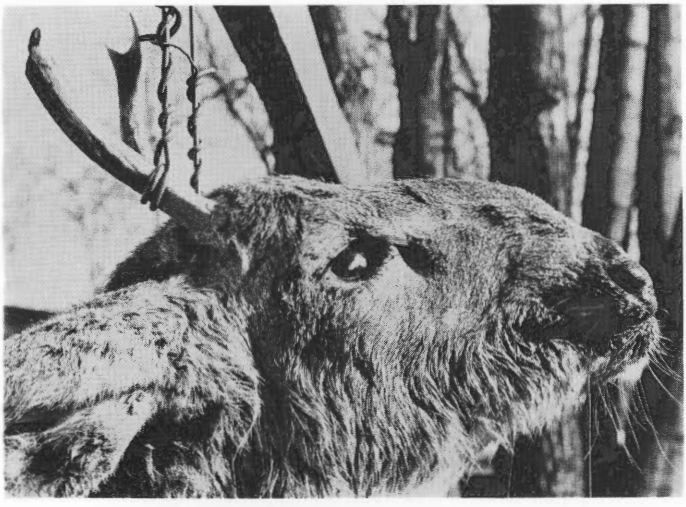
od (it prefers national park rangers — using systematic hunting methods — to licensed hunters), much of the publicity surrounding the controversy led the public to conclude that the *hunt itself* was bad, in the interest of good conservation. Some 10,000 New Jerseyans signed petitions opposing the hunt and their motives were not likely based on mere opposition to the hunting methods. Regardless of the motives of the individuals or groups opposed to the hunt, the issue became so bogged in a quagmire of uncertainties and misunderstandings that the hunt has not yet been allowed to occur, and will not likely be allowed for some time in the future. As a result, wildlife biologists familiar with the refuge area are predicting severe damage to the swamp habitat by the burgeoning population of deer.

Perhaps some lessons are here to be learned. Possibly, such incidents could be averted were people trained to think ecologically and to develop sound conservation attitudes. Could it be that we as educators are at fault for failing to generate such attitudes? The people opposed to the Great Swamp Deer Hunt were mostly well-intentioned individuals who excercised their right to express themselves on a matter of public concern. From a conservation point of view, this is commendable, and we certainly need more of such public concern if we are to effectively manage what remains of our pre-

Hunger, disease, and parasites are left to cull the herd by means of mass die-offs and poor reproduction

cious resource heritage. But, also, from the conservation standpoint, many of those who opposed the hunt lacked the trained insights and understandings needed to assess the overall effect of the hunt (or lack of the hunt) on the entire swamp ecosystem. Conservation, like most of life's disciplines, cannot sacrifice long-term losses for short-term gains. When a balanced community of natural resources is jeopardized to benefit *one* of those resources, then serious problems are sure to arise. Perhaps we need to take the time to re-define just what we mean by "conservation." Perhaps we need to take the time to open our eyes to the real lessons of ecology. Perhaps we cannot afford *not* to take the time.

A final point. To demonstrate concern for the welfare of our natural resources, we hire specialists at various government levels to analyze resource problems and to recommend solutions to these problems. We call these specialists geologists, soil scientists, foresters, wildlife biologists, ecologists etc. To openly and consistently refute the judgement of these specialists is to deny ourselves, and possibly others, the benefits of services which *we* have hired them to conduct. In the end, we hurt ourselves as well as those who are earnestly trying to do their job. Perhaps in our effort to promote enlightened attitudes in conservation and ecology , we, as educators, should also seek to promote healthier respect for those who are employed as professional conservationists. #



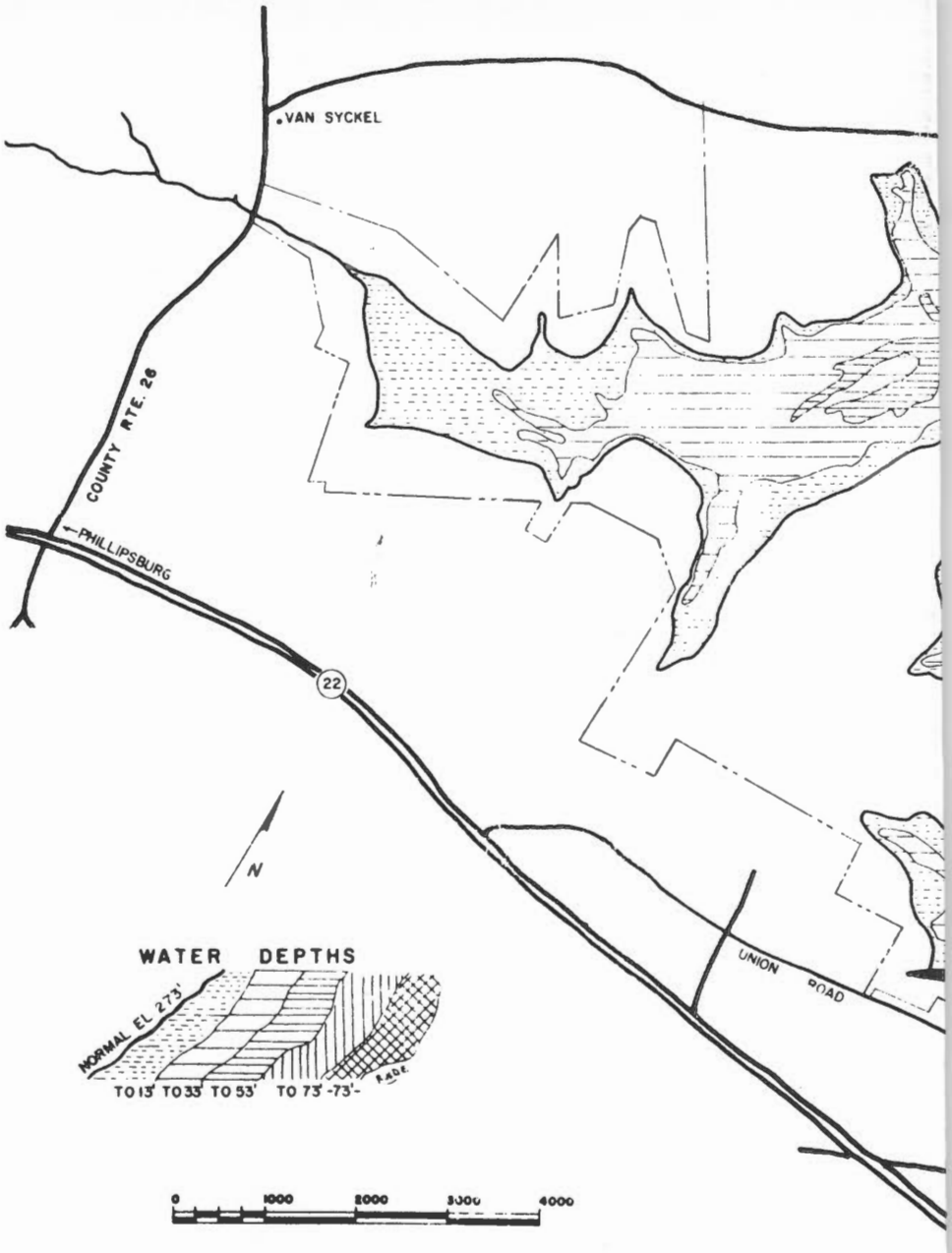
The professional conservationist knows all too well the ugliness of unhealthy wildlife and, through years of study and work, the potential problems

Bald eagles mate for life and often use the same nest for many years, adding to the structure each year.

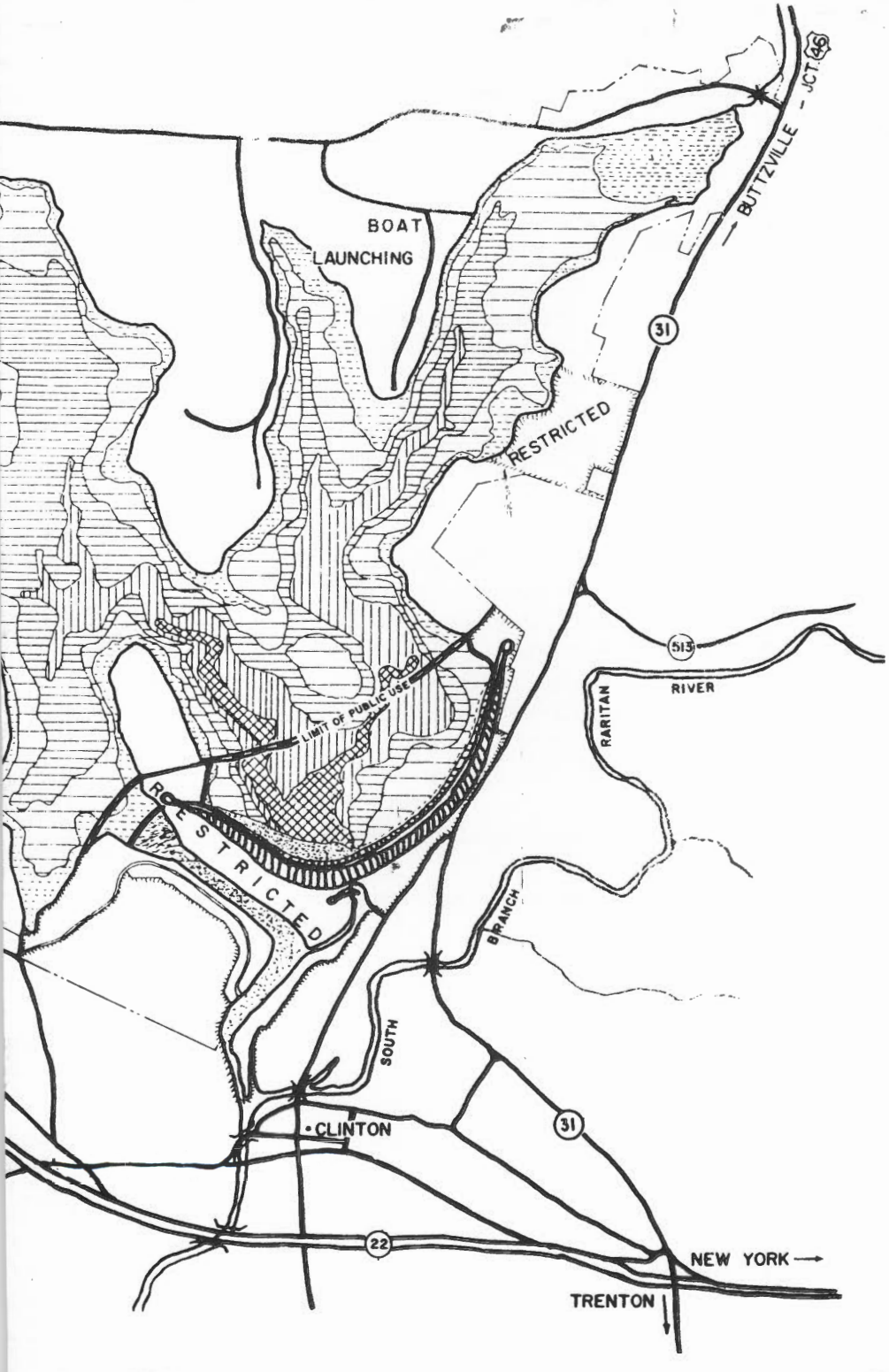
Rules and Regulations—

Spruce Run Reservoir

1. The posting of signs, distribution of advertisements, soliciting, selling, or attempting to sell any product is forbidden without prior written authorization.
2. Hunting, trapping, and field trials, or the carrying of firearms or bows and arrows is permitted in accordance with State Fish, Game, and Shell Fisheries regulations with the exception of posted special use areas and designated restricted areas.
3. The consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
4. It is unlawful to abuse, mutilate, injure, remove, or destroy any living plant or any structures or other physical features or properties on this area.
5. Waste material must be placed in receptacles provided. The burning or dumping of refuse is prohibited.
6. Annoying or objectionable conduct is not permitted.
7. Maximum vehicular speed is 35 miles per hour except where otherwise posted. All mechanically propelled vehicles shall be restricted to and only operated on roads.
8. Parking of vehicles is restricted to designated parking areas only.
9. Fishing is permitted subject to Fish, Game, and Shell Fisheries regulations except in restricted areas.
10. That portion of the Spruce Run Reservoir area designated for recreational development will be closed to all types of use except boat launching. Camping, picnicking, ball playing, skin diving, scuba diving, etc. are prohibited at this time.
11. Swimming and wading are prohibited.
12. All pets must be leashed and under the direct control and supervision of its owner at all times; however, when dogs are being utilized for hunting purposes during the legal hunting season, they need not be leashed. It is not permitted to leave a pet unattended.
13. A $10 annual boat launching permit is available and can be purchased at the area. A fee of $1 per boat per day shall be charged for the launching of all boats. All launching shall be limited to designated areas.
14. The operator of any vessel shall have in his possession an annual boat launching permit or a boat launching ticket and will be required to show the permit or ticket if requested by an officer of the department.



Spruce Run Reservoir Area


BOAT
LAUNCHING
BUTTZVILLE - JCT
46
31
RESTRICTED
513
RIVER
RARITAN
LIMIT OF PUBLIC USE
RESTRICTED
SOUTH
BRANCH
CLINTON
31
22
NEW YORK
TRENTON

. . . *Spruce Run Reservoir*

15. The maximum length of any boat, including sail boats, shall be 18 feet. The use of boats shall conform to acceptable operating and safety standards. Vessels using the waters of the reservoir shall be limited to a maximum height of 25 feet above the water line due to the clearance under the high tension wires crossing Mulhockaway Branch.
16. Motor boats on Spruce Run will be limited to a maximum capacity of 10 horsepower, and all water craft shall be operated so as not to produce a visible wake.
17. All sail boats are required to stop at the designated rigging area for purposes of rigging prior to proceeding to the launch area. Rigging is not permitted on the boat launching ramp.
18. All refuse, including garbage, cans, bottles, waste paper, etc. must be stored in a durable container with tight fitting cover for subsequent disposal on shore at designated disposal sites.
19. All water craft shall be equipped and operated in accordance with the New Jersey Boating Laws, Rules and Regulations as published by the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection.
20. One life preserver is required for each individual occupying space in all boats. No boats are to be permitted on the reservoir unless equipped with Coast Guard approved life preservers.
21. Water craft with marine toilets are not permitted to operate on Spruce Run Reservoir.
22. Water craft must be kept out of all areas designated as restricted areas and so marked.
23. Swimming, diving from water craft, water skiing, aquaplaning, or the towing of surfboards or any other similar device is prohibited.
24. All boating on the reservoir is to be discontinued when wind velocities reach or exceed twenty-five (25) miles per hour. A storm warn-flag will be displayed at the launching site when this condition exists.
25. The number of boats permitted on the reservoir at any one time shall not exceed 200.
26. Boat storage:
    a. The boat storage area is located in the immediate vicinity of the park area and so designated by appropriate signs (Boat Storage Area).
    b. Boats stored at this area are not to remain in the water overnight but must be removed from the water and stored on the land area so designated as the boat storage area.

c. A limited number of seasonal boat storage spaces are available from April 1 through October 31. Charges for each boat stored shall be at the rate of $20 per season beginning April 1 through October 31. Boat storage is not permitted from November 1 to March 31.

d. Boats stored on double capacity trailers which occupy a single boat storage unit will pay the standard rate equal to that of a single boat.

e. The State of New Jersey assumes no responsibility for the protection of any boat or other water craft, trailer, equipment, etc. stored at this area.

27. Ice skating, ice boating, sledding, snowmobiling, and other similar winter sports and ice related activities are prohibited at this time. Motorized vehicles are prohibited on the ice.
28. Ice fishing is permitted.
29. Ground fires or charcoal fires are prohibited at this time.
30. Commencing November 1, the boat launching area will continue to remain open without supervisory personnel, including the Marine Patrol, on a 7-day week basis until such time as the reservoir freezes. During the period of the duck hunting season, boats may be launched for either fishing or hunting purposes from Monday through Saturday inclusive; on Sundays boats may be launched for recreational and fishing purposes only.

Consult the Compendiums of New Jersey Fish Laws and Game Laws for the regulations concerning fishing and hunting on Spruce Run Reservoir.

If You Are Changing Your Address

Please fill out this form and send it to NEW JERSEY OUTDOORS, P. O. Box 1809, Trenton, New Jersey 08625, so that you will continue to receive your copies of the magazine without interruption. (NEW JERSEY OUTDOORS cannot be forwarded by the post office; therefore, we need your new address in advance. Allow six weeks for processing.)

Name .....

OLD ADDRESS .....

Post Office ..... State ..... Zip Code .....

NEW ADDRESS .....

Post Office ..... State ..... Zip Code .....

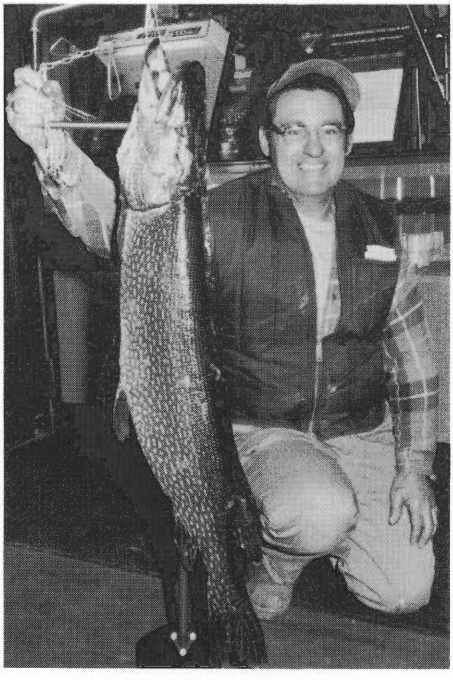
State Record Fish

Since the last published listing of state record fresh water fish, two new records, rainbow trout and northern pike, have displaced former records. In addition, a new category, muskellunge, has been added.

New Record Northern Pike

The new state record northern pike was taken by Edward Kistner, of Paramus, from Lake Wawayanda on January 9, 1971. The big pike weighed in at 21 pounds and was 41½ inches long and 18½ inches in girth.

Here is Mr. Kistner's account of his catch: We set our tip-ups at 7:30 a.m. and had them spaced from shallow to deep water. After having no flags for the first two hours, I moved one tip-up to about six feet of water. I re-baited with a fresh shiner and reset the tip-up. About three quarters of an hour later I had my first flag. After running to the tip-up and breaking the ice, I saw that the line was running off my spool at a terrific rate. In hopes of a good fish, I let him run for a few seconds and then set the hook. I knew I had a good-sized fish. I gently eased him toward the six-inch hole in the ice and could see that he was big. After six attempts I got his head through the hole. My son and nephew grabbed the head and held him as I lifted him out of the water. After we got the fish on the ice, we figured that it took us about 15 minutes from the time of setting the hook until the actual landing.

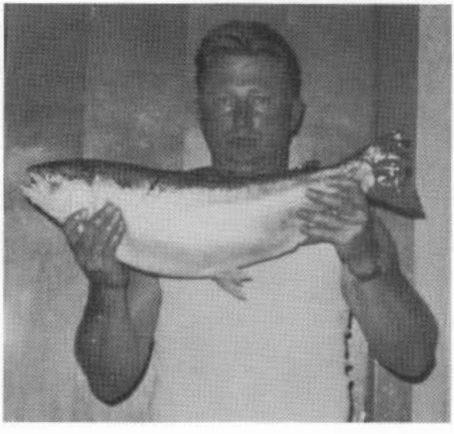


Edward Kistner with his state record, 21-pound northern pike from Lake Wawayanda

New Jersey State All-tackle Records

Fresh Water

Species	*Angler*	*Year*	*Weight* lbs.	oz.	*Where Caught*
Brook Trout *Salvelinus fontinalis*	George J. Hornung	1956	6	8	Lake Hopatcong
Brown Trout *Salmo trutta*	Howard Devore	1964	16	11	Greenwood Lake
Rainbow Trout *Salmo gairdneri*	Richard Ruis, Sr.	1970	8	5½	Round Valley Res.
Salmon (landlocked) *Salmo salar*	John A. Mount	1951	8	0	New Wawayanda Lake
Smallmouth Bass *Micropterus dolomieui*	Earl H. Trumpore	1957	6	4	Delaware River
Largemouth Bass *Micropterus salmoides*	Logan B. Whitesell	1960	10	12	Mt. Kimble Lake
Chain Pickerel *Esox niger*	Frank McGovern	1957	9	3	Lower Aetna Lake
Calico Bass *Pomoxis nigromaculatus*	William Hanna	1961	3	5½	Alloway Lake
Rock Bass *Ambloplites rupestris*	Harold Webb	1968	1	2¼	Lake Hopatcong
Channel Catfish *Ictalurus punctatus*	William Otten	1918	28	0	Greenwood Lake
White Perch *Morone americana*	Robert Huber	1950	2	8	Lake Hopatcong
Yellow Perch *Perca flavescens*	Dr. C. C. Abbot	1865	4	3½	Bordentown
Bluegill *Lepomis macrochirus*	Silas Matthew, Jr.	1956	2	0	Farm Pond, Wantage Twp.
Walleyed Pike *Stizostedion vitreum*	Stanley Norman	1934	12	12¾	Delaware River
Striped Bass (landlocked) *Morone saxatilis*	Mrs. Albert Beebe	1952	23	8	Union Lake
Brown Bullhead *Ictalurus nebulosus*	Robert Dorf	1966	22	15	Spring Lake
Northern Pike *Esox lucius*	Edward Kistner	1971	21	0	Lake Wawayanda
Muskellunge *Esox masquinongy*	John Fleming	1970	19	0	Delaware River



New Record Rainbow

A new state record rainbow trout was taken from Round Valley Reservoir, on September 13, 1970, by Richard Ruis, Sr., of Passaic. The prize rainbow was 25½ inches long with a girth of 16¾ inches and weighed 8 pounds and 5½ ounces. Mr. Ruis took the fine trophy on a Miller at six o'clock in the evening.

Richard Ruis, Sr. with his record rainbow trout of 8 pounds and 5½ ounces

Regulations for Recognition of New Jersey State Record Fish

1. Fish must be caught on sporting tackle, hooked, and landed by entrant.

2. All aspects of catch must conform to state law.

3. Length of fish should be measured from tip of jaw (with mouth closed) to tip of tail; girth, around fish at thickest portion.

4. An affidavit from the angler must be submitted on the above points and on the line test used.

5. Fish must be weighed on certified scale of a recognized sporting goods store, meat or fish market, fishing tournament, or other scales acceptable to conservation officer. An affidavit attesting veracity of scales and weight must be furnished by store manager, tournament director, or conservation officer.

6. A clear 8-inch x 10-inch black and white, glossy photograph of fish and angler *must be furnished.* In the case of freshwater fish, a yardstick must be held next to fish so as to clearly show length.

7. If any doubt exists regarding species, a statement from a state fisheries biologist must be sent, or fish preserved so as to permit inspection.

8. In the event fish is cleaned before weighing, only dressed weight will be counted.

9. Cooperation of angler is asked in submitting a brief account of how fish was caught, including type of lure and method of fishing used. It is understood that this information and picture may be used in NEW JERSEY OUTDOORS and state publicity, but angler's right to furnish information to news media is not otherwise restricted.

10. The above information, or other inquiries regarding record fish, should be sent to: Information and Education Section, Division of Fish, Game and Shell Fisheries, Box 1809, Trenton 08625. This Section will answer all inquiries and recognize clearcut Record Fish. In case of doubt, final decision will be made by the Fish and Game Council.

Efforts will be made to establish records for species not currently recognized. Anglers are especially urged to submit noteworthy catches of these species.

To submit information concerning possible record fish you may either use the forms on the following two pages or obtain forms from the Trenton office.

The muskellunge data has been added to the records this listing. Other species for which fresh water records are sought include eel and carp.

State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Fish, Game, and Shell Fisheries

Application for Recognition of New Jersey State Record Fish

TO: Information and Education Section
N. J. Division of Fish, Game, and Shell Fisheries
P. O. Box 1809
Trenton, N. J. 08625

I submit the following described fish for consideration as a New Jersey State Record: (Must be clearly printed or typewritten.)

Species _____ (Subject to verification by state biologist. Please attach information as to where fish may be inspected).

Date caught _____ Time _____ (approximate)

Place caught _____ _____
(name of water) (nearest town)

_____ _____
(boat, captain, if any and port) (county)

Weight _____ pounds, _____ ounces

Length _____ inches (tip of jaw-mouth closed to tip of tail) Girth _____ inches (thickest portion)

Line test used _____ Type of line _____

Type of rod _____ Reel _____ Lure _____

I certify that the fish was caught on sporting tackle, hooked and landed by me, and that all aspects of the catch conformed to state law.

Subscribed and Sworn before me _____ Signature of Applicant

this _____ day of _____ _____ Name printed or typewritten

_____ _____ Address

Notary Public of N. J.
My Commission expires _____ City & Zip Code

_____

Enclosed herewith, find a certification of weight, clear 8-inch x 10-inch black and white glossy photo of myself and fish (with yardstick for freshwater species), and an account of how I caught the fish. It is understood that this picture and information may be used in state publicity (particularly **NEW JERSEY OUTDOORS**), but my rights to furnish this information to news media is not otherwise restricted.

_____ Signature of applicant

State of New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection

Division of Fish, Game, and Shell Fisheries

Certification of Weight of Proposed New Jersey State Record Fish

Must be printed or typewritten

I hereby certify that on _____,
(date)

I weighed a _____ that was brought in for weighing
(fish species)

by _____. I found the weight to be
(name of angler)

_____pounds _____ounces.

I am a (check one)

_____ Sporting goods store manager.

_____ Meat, fish or grocery market manager.

_____ Director or weighmaster of a recognized fishing tournament.

_____ Other weighing agent approved by conservation officer.
(Officer must sign here)

_____

I further certify that the scales on which the fish was weighed were tested and their accuracy certified within the 12 months prior to this weigh-in by the Superintendent of Weights and Measures of _____ County.

_____ Signature of person weighing fish

_____ Name printed or typewritten

_____ Address (preferably business)
(Street)

_____
(Town and/or post office)

_____
(Zip Code)

Subscribed and sworn before me this _____ day of _____

_____
Notary Public of N. J.
My Commission expires

New State Record

Musky

By Buddy Grucela
Easton Express Outdoors Writer

In the spring of 1965 the Pennsylvania Fish Commission decided to introduce into the Delaware River the largest and fastest growing fresh water fish, the mighty muskellunge.

The number was to be 50,000 musky fry per year for five consecutive years This consignment of future fresh water tigers was then divided among the counties of Wayne, Pike, Monroe, Northampton, and Bucks, each receiving 10,000.

At first this program received very little response. In fact those who did show an interest felt that the muskellunge would eat all the other fish with the walleye and bass being their first victims. Shad fishermen shuddered at the idea of these monsters gulping down and gorging themselves on the young shad during their fall migration to the sea.

Fish Commission biologists stressed that only the muskellunge grow large enough to catch and eat some of the large coarse fish such as suckers and carp. Because of their faster growth, they more quickly become capable of catching these larger coarse fish which tend to over-populate the waters.

John Fleming of Phillipsburg with his state record muskellunge that weighed 19 pounds

. . . *Musky*

Stocking Forgotten

This explanation seemed to satisfy most and the entire matter was either dropped or forgotten, at least for the time being. Besides, all this excitement over the stocking of one-inch fish didn't make much sense. Bass buffs snickered at the sight of this puny little critter and cherished the possibility that the entire program would be a five county chum line for the smallmouth bass.

Those who favored the idea of hooking into one of these fresh water barracuda weren't too enthusiastic. Since it takes on the average between four or five years for the muskellunge to reach the legal limit of 30 inches. The females, at four years of age, are usually about six inches longer than a male of the same age. The females usually spawn for the first time at four years of age or about 30 inches. Three-year olds seldom exceed 25 inches.

However, yearly stockings continued and interest began to mount. Then in November 1967 a musky measuring 30 inches and weighing 6 pounds was caught at Dingman's Ferry by John Vitell of Sparta, N. J. The spring of 1968 produced musky No. 2, which measured 32 inches in length and weighed 7½ pounds. The date was March 27, the place was Shawnee, the angler was Dick Frensky of Greenawalds. His bait was a lamprey eel. That year Pike County recorded two more catches in the 30-inch class, both were confirmed by District Waterways Patrolman, Michael P. Badner. During the 1969 season, things were quiet and information or confirmation of catches became scarce.

Tempo Pick Up

Then this past year area fishermen from both sides of the Delaware River began to pick up the tempo. A big musky was sighted at Sandts Eddy swirling and going into V shaped maneuvers. Another was observed along the wall at Municipal Beach above Easton. Several others were seen in the Martins Creek area in lazy subsurface movement.

But this is the way with muskies, as the saying goes—you don't fish for muskies, you hunt them. This type of fishing requires perseverance. Creel censuses have shown that it takes between 75 to 150 hours to catch a muskellunge on good musky waters.

First In Area

On the night of August 19, 1970, New Jersey angler John Fleming, Phillipsburg, became the first to record a musky catch from our section of the Delaware River—a 41½-inch, 19-pounder.

The battle began at 6:30 p.m. in the Hummer's Beach area and ended an hour and 15 minutes later with Fleming landing the musky, while his buddy, John Streader of Easton, aided the cause with a convincing body press. A side note to this wrestling match was the expected, "Where's the net?" and the usual response, "In the car—of course!"

Witnesses say that Streader returned with the net at a speed that Jim Thorpe would have been proud of. But somebody failed to mention that you don't net big muskies, you gaff them. The result was evident, Mr. Musky zipped through the mesh, became entangled and with a display of power left the aluminum frame in the shape of a pretzel.

A witness who viewed the episode said that he swears that all three somehow fell ashore and that there was a time when he wasn't sure who was going to emerge the winner.

All-in-all, Fleming has captured himself a real prize, one that will win him a membership to the Husky Musky Club, an organization of musky fishermen who have bagged a musky of 40 inches or better.

Perhaps veteran musky men would be interested in knowing that this feat was accomplished on an 8-pound test line, and without the security of a wire leader. A small red worm proved to be a tasty morsel.

The musky's girth was 17 inches. #

Trolling's Line Of Trouble

Trolling can cause even the best behaved of fishing lines to act like a teen-ager doing the twist. To prevent twisted and fouled lines caused by trolling, here are a few ideas that lessen this ever present problem.

It's important to realize that nearly all lures will revolve while being towed underwater. But, they do not all turn in the same direction.

Before chucking a lure over the transom, check its natural direction of spin by dragging the plug or piece of hardware alongside for a few seconds. Do this with several different lures. When the time comes to snap on a new one, select a model that revolves in the opposite direction.

Swivels should always be used between line and lure. They help some, but do not prevent twist. Keels or keel sinkers rigged ahead of the plug are far more effective in eliminating problems.

Keels have another value that is seldom recognized. Bright metal styles often call attention to the trailing bait or lure and result in a greater number of strikes. They also reduce short striking incidents, particularly when long eels or pork rinds are used.

At intervals remove the plug and allow the line to run free for a few minutes. Do this again while cruising back to the dock at day's end.

The twist may be okay for the kids, but let's keep it out of fishing. #

The Broad-winged Hawk

Species:

Broad-winged Hawk—*Buteo platypterus*

General Characteristics:

A small, heavy bodied buteo, the size of a crow; 14-18 inches; dark brown on the back, with a reddish breast and streaked belly; a heavily banded tail; the immature less distinct, with a streaked breast. Wings broad and rounded; tail short and rounded. The voice is a shrill, piercing "p weeeeeeee" or "keeeeeeee" whistle.

Life History:

Eastern United States and southern Canada are the summer breeding grounds. These hawks winter in Central and South America, occasionally in southern Florida.

Range:

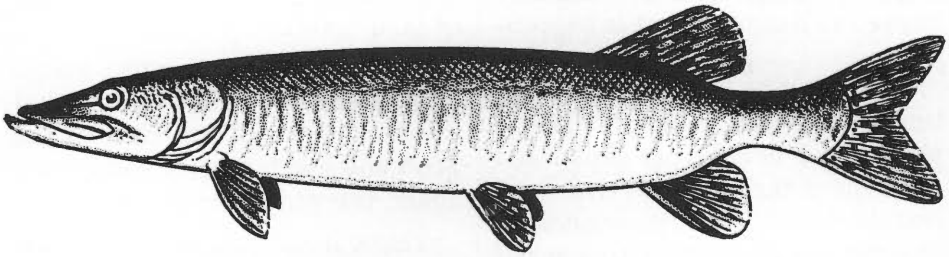
The broad-winged hawk prefers the extensive big woods rather than open country, not only to nest but to hunt. The nests are located in trees of several kinds, both evergreens and hardwoods, at moderate distances from the ground, 25 to 40 feet. The nest is about a foot and a half to two feet wide, about 5 to 12 inches deep, and is constructed of twigs and sticks, with the central cavity lined with chips of bark and occasionally with sprigs of green leaves. Usually two eggs are laid, but occasionally one or three, rarely four, make up the clutch. The incubation period is between 21 and 25 days. Both parents assist in incubation. After hatching, the young require about 30 to 40 days to become fledged and ready to leave the nest. They are still attended for a short period by the parent birds after they leave the nest. This hawk is another which qualifies as beneficial as its diet consists of mice, rats, shrews, red squirrels, an occasional rabbit, an occasional bird, and many toads, snakes, and assorted insects such as moth larvae, grasshoppers, locusts, and beetles. The broad-winged hawk usually hunts by sitting quietly on a tree branch and scanning the surrounding ground for potential prey, but occasionally soars in broad circles. In the spring migration, it is usually seen in New Jersey from mid-March to mid-April. In the fall, it usually passes through the state in late September to the end of October.

This is another hawk which is seen far less frequently than in the recent past, and because it is beneficial, as well as becoming scarce, it should not be killed. #

Fur, Fin and Campfire

By BILL BERO

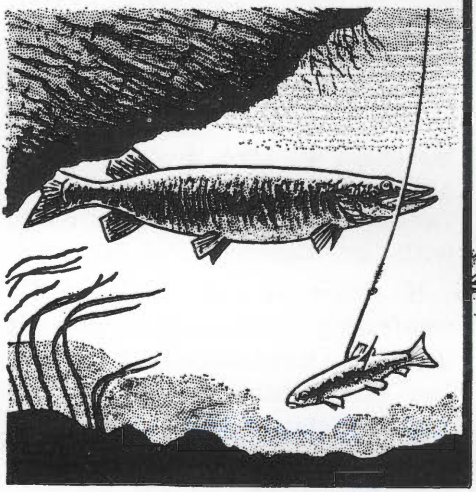
MUSKELLUNGE



MUSKIES ARE FOUND IN SHALLOW OF LAKES AND RIVERS. THEY AVERAGE 8 TO 10 LBS. BUT CAN REACH 70 LBS.

COLD WATER FISH, THEY GO TO THE DEPTHS AND FEED IN THE EARLY MORNING AND LATE EVENING, WILL ATTACK ANYTHING THAT MOVES IN THEIR AREA.

CAN BE CAUGHT STILL FISHING WITH SUCKERS AND LIVE CHUBS.



MUSKIES ARE ALSO CAUGHT BY CASTING AND TROLLING WITH LARGE SPOONS, PLUGS AND SPINNER LURES.

The muskellunge is considered to be the most prized of all fresh water game fish, even in its native waters. Here in New Jersey, where it is the result of artificial introduction, it is becoming one of our most coveted trophy fish.

Instinct vs. Mother Love

Now they've done it—discredited mother love and disparaged parental good judgement. It shouldn't happen to a duck. But it is happening.

According to long standing sentiment, it's mama duck's job to shelter and protect her brood and to prepare them for survival in a hostile world. But dispassionate observation shows that this is *not* for the birds.

U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service biologists report that once hatching is accomplished, the mother duck is nothing but a liability to the family. Jerry Stoudt, working in Saskatchewan, found that pintail broods were better off without a mother. And over in Alberta, Allen Smith noted the same thing to be true with mallards. Broods orphaned at an early age made a better go of it than did those having the 'advantage' of maternal guidance.

It's a low blow for motherhood, but those are the facts and here are some reasons why: Hen mallards are a foot-loose lot and do a good bit of wandering from pot-hole to pot-hole. Young birds follow the hen, of course, and these excursions over ground make them vulnerable to predators. But a brood without a mother seldom leaves the pond until grown to flight stage. They avoid pitfalls of land travel.

Also, the mother hen is a worrisome sort and, aside from normal wanderings, any disturbance at the pond and she heads for land. And again, the young get in trouble.

Young ducklings, with and without mothers, behave differently, too. Those 'with' seem to develop a false sense of security. They wander widely over the pond, make sorties into tall vegetation and peep regularly to keep in touch. But the constant 'yapping' puts them in touch with hungry vermin hiding in the shadows, as well as with mama and one another. And they get picked off regularly on these noisy ventures afar. But orphans hang together and keep their mouths shut. And when trouble crops up, they dive or hide in aquatic vegetation. It proves to be far safer than running to the shore with the 'sagacious' old hen.

So there you are. It's hardly comforting information and it leaves one less thing that we can be *for*. But biological facts are biological facts. #

New Jersey State Museum Publications

The publications program of the New Jersey State Museum involves three main series of research publications which may be ordered by writing to the New Jersey State Museum, Cultural Center, Trenton, N. J. 08625. With order, enclose check or money order for amount of publication(s). PLUS 25 CENTS each to cover postage and handling, payable to "Treasurer, State of New Jersey."

State Museum Bulletins—a published series of popular reference handbooks devoted to New Jersey's natural history, the sciences and the arts.

Bulletin 3—A Natural Library by Glenn L. Jepsen. Trenton: October, 1949 (8 pages, 4 halftones). Fossil fish found during excavation for Firestone Library, Princeton, N. J. ..... .15

Bulletin 4—New Jersey's Geologic Past by Carroll Lane Fenton. Trenton: June, 1951; revised September, 1962 (8 pages, 7 halftones). ..... .15

Bulletin 6—A New Jersey Mastodon by Glenn L. Jepsen. Trenton: May 1959; revised, 1960; third printing, 1962; revised, 1964 (20 pages, 6 halftones, 1 drawing, 2 maps, diagram). ..... .50

Bulletin 7—The Lampreys and Sharks of New Jersey by Henry W. Fowler, Trenton: June 1959: reprint, 1968 (11 pages, 8 plates, 25 species). ..... .50

Bulletin 8—Mammals of New Jersey by Lois Meir Shoemaker. Trenton: June, 1962; second edition, 1963 (i-vi, 20 pages, 16 drawings). ..... .25

Bulletin 9—Wildflowers Along New Jersey Highways and Byways by Lois Meir Shoemaker. Trenton: June, 1964 (i-vi, 25 pages, color insert (9 species), 16 halftones). ..... .50

Bulletin 10—Shrubs and Vines of New Jersey by Lois Meir Shoemaker, Trenton: April, 1965 (i-vi, 53 pages, 97 plant drawings) ..... .75

Bulletin 11—An Unspoiled Bit of Atlantic Coast by William E. Martin. Trenton: February, 1970 (20 pages, 18 halftones). ..... .75

Bulletin 12—Bridges of Vision: The Art of Prints and The Craft of Printmaking by Burton Wasserman. Trenton: June, 1970 (52 pages, 9 halftones, 5 drawings, and glossary). 1.50

Bulletin 13—The Hawks of New Jersey by Donald S. Heintzelman. Trenton: December, 1970 (104 pages, 2 maps, 4 tables, 39 halftones, 47 drawings). 1.75

State Museum Investigations—a scientific series based on research and field work in the natural sciences and the humanities.

Investigations 1—A Fossil Sea-Turtle from New Jersey by Donald Baird. Trenton: December, 1964 (26 pages, 9 figures, chart). ..... .75

Investigations 2—The Scarlet Tanager by Kenneth W. Prescott, Trenton: June, 1965. Studies in the Life History of the Scarlet Tanager (i-xii, 160 pages, 2 color plates, map, 5 halftones, 12 tables, 9 figures). 2.50

State Museum Reports—Devoted to extensive New Jersey research and surveys.

Report No. 1—New Jersey's Indians by Dorothy Cross. Trenton: June, 1965, first printing; 1970, second printing (i-vi, 102 pages, 17 drawings, 2 maps, 15 halftones). 2.00

Report No. 2—The Pine Barrens: A Preliminary Ecological Inventory by Jack McCormick. Trenton: December, 1970 (104 pages, 9 maps, 1 table, 23 halftones). 2.75

The State Museum Annual Reports, issued from 1905 to 1911, are comprehensive, basic surveys on the State's natural history.

1911 Crustacea of New Jersey by Henry W. Fowler: MacCrellish & Quigley, 1912 (651 pages, 105 plates). 10.00

PLEASE SEND THE FOLLOWING MUSEUM PUBLICATIONS

TITLE	PRICE	POSTAGE
TOTAL		

NAME .....

ADDRESS .....

CITY ..... STATE ..... ZIP CODE .....

Please make check or money order payable to Treasurer, State of New Jersey, and address order to New Jersey State Museum, West State Street, Trenton, N. J. 08625, attention: Publications

Guide to the

Swan Bay Tract

The Swan Bay Fish and Wildlife Management Area is located on the Mullica and Wading Rivers in Burlington County. In March 1968, the State Green Acres Program acquired the 771 acres and turned the area over to the Division for administration. The tract is managed primarily for trapping and waterfowl hunting.

Upland Game

There is limited upland game hunting. Species present include grouse, cottontail, and squirrel.

Waterfowl

There is good waterfowl hunting as this area is principally composed of salt marsh, bounded on one side by the Mullica River and on the other side by the Wading River. The principal species present included greenwing teal, black ducks, mallards, and geese. There is a launching area for car top boats on a branch of Turtle Creek leading into the Mullica River.

Deer

There is fair opportunity for deer hunting in the upland sites, as well as the edge of the marsh.

Fishing

The Mullica River offers excellent striped bass fishing in the spring and fall, with some fishing during the summer. The white perch fishing is fair to excellent in the creeks and rivers.

Trapping

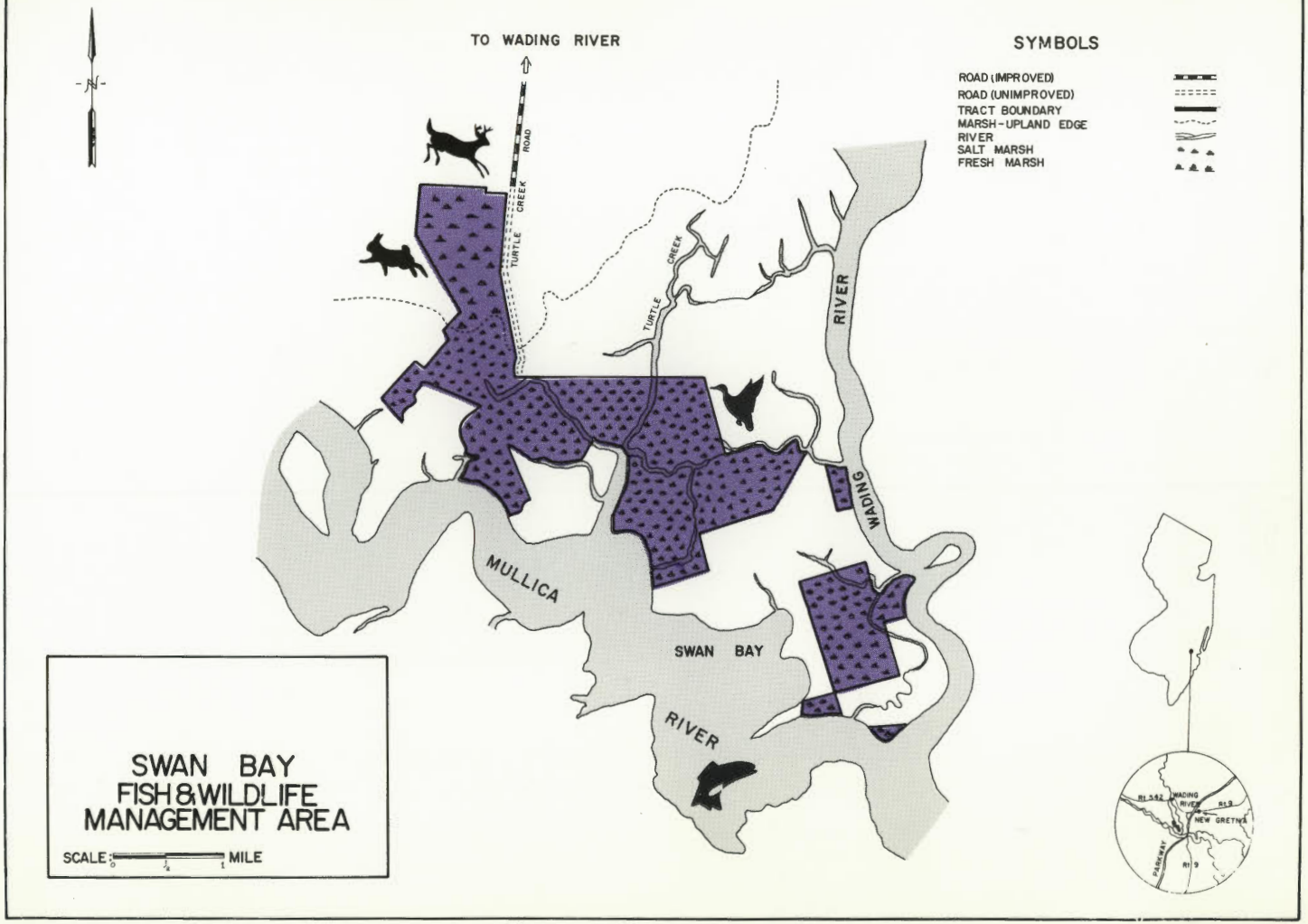
Muskrats and mink offer excellent trapping on the marshes of the area. It is one of the better tracts for this type of recreation. #

Fishy Fishery positions

The Washington Post reports some governmental ironies in names of officials holding federal positions dealing with fisheries.

Fred Fish, for example, held down a position with the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries. Other fish agency officials have included Leo Sturgeon, Bill Salmon, Moses Pike, and Richard Croker.

An then there's the recently appointed administrator of the new National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). His name is Howard Pollock. #


TO WADING RIVER
SYMBOLS
ROAD (IMPROVED)
ROAD (UNIMPROVED)
TRACT BOUNDARY
MARSH-UPLAND EDGE
RIVER
SALT MARSH
FRESH MARSH
N
TURTLE CREEK ROAD
TURTLE CREEK
WADING RIVER
MULLICA
SWAN BAY
RIVER
SWAN BAY
FISH & WILDLIFE
MANAGEMENT AREA
SCALE: 0 1/4 1 MILE
RT 542
WADING RIVER
RT 9
NEW GRETNA
PARKWAY
RT 9

New Jersey Outdoors
P. O. Box 1809
Trenton, N. J. 08625

Second class postage paid at Trenton, N. J. and additional office.

Do not *touch!*

The young of wildlife, especially fawns and baby raccoons, make tempting pets.

But, they are better off if left with their mothers.

(No, few are actually orphans. The mother is usually nearby.)

(Also, it is illegal to pick up and keep such wildlife for pets.)