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New Jersey

Outdoors



VOL. 12, NO. 6 *P.B. A.D.* DIVISION OF FISH AND GAME

DECEMBER, 1961



Merry Christmas
to you

from all
of us



Cyphar

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

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AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT**

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Cover—"CAPE MAY BUCK"

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Editor: **Bob Adams**

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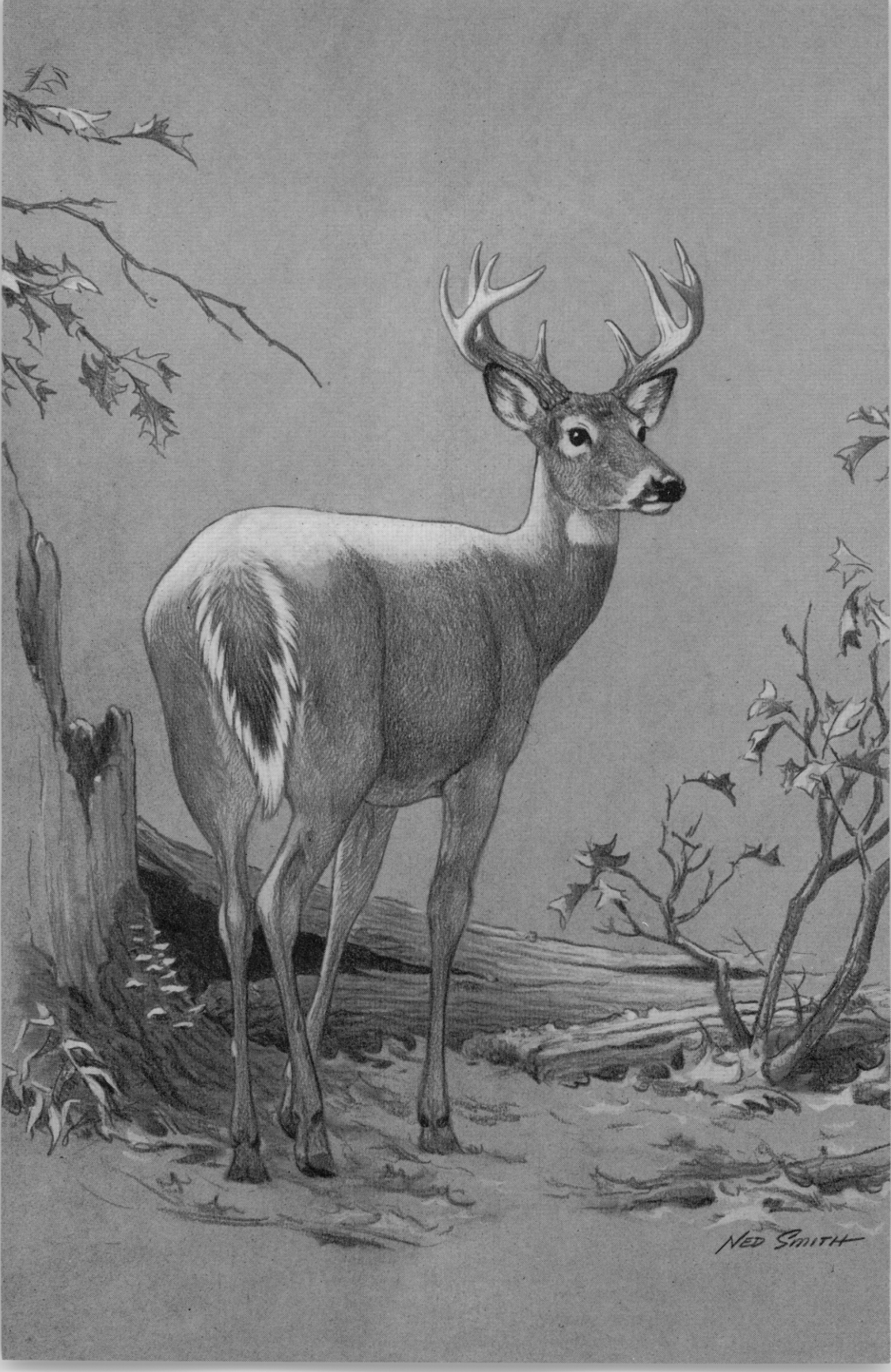
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NED SMITH

December incidents

in the lives of

SIX BUCKS

By NEAL HERON

THE SIX DAYS of the regular deer season in New Jersey were eventful days for six bucks in widely scattered sections of the state. For some of the bucks they were days of uncertainty; for others they were days of finality.

The Woods Buck

The alert ten-pointer paused at the edge of an old-growth oak woods in the flat lands of central Jersey. It was well after dawn. But, the buck had not heard a single gun boom in the nearby fields. Several weeks of upland gunning season had conditioned him to the frequent crack of nitro. Now the silence was ominous.

Yet, men were in the woods. The buck could sense their presence. He saw a group of hunters skirting the woods; he heard an occasional probing whistle; and, he smelled tobacco and gun oil. The buck was much too uneasy to continue his morning feeding. Instead he stood almost motionless for many minutes. Only his brown and white tail flicked nervously.

About ten minutes before the sun rose—men would say it was shortly after seven a. m. on opening day of the deer season—a shot shattered the stillness. As though triggered by the initial blast, guns near and far spoke sporadically. Intuition seemed to warn the buck that the heavy concussions were made by something more than field loads. Still the buck held his position.

Then sounds of stealthy rustlings and the muffled cracklings moved toward him. Close upon the sounds of the approaching men came the strong scent of woolen-clothed hunters just commencing to perspire; the waxy odor of fresh shotgun shells; and, the clean pungence of unfired guns.

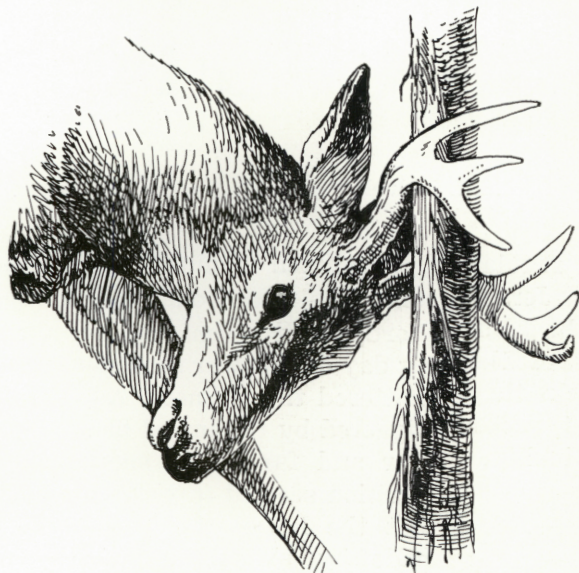
With a start the buck stiffened to the unemotional memory of the last time he scented these warnings. On that day, about a year ago, he had tarried to see what brought the strange smells and had almost paid with his life.

By this day however, experience

. . . Six Bucks

had etched its pattern. Without even raising his tail the great stag faded into the depths of the big woods. Here he would remain in

curiosities. Then, as the deer increased, he tolerated them as innocuous, free-loading boarders; eventually, when they became numerous, he came to detest the deer as unwanted pests with insatiable



*The buck thrashed
the small tree*

seclusion until many days after the last deer hunter had left his border-land feeding grounds.

The Estate Buck

Along the edge of a thicket on a private estate in northeast Jersey a sleek, eight-point buck indifferently nibbled a few red maple shoots. He was not particularly hungry after heavily browsing on yew trees and other choice shrubs of the land owner. For two seasons the buck had grown fat, and even careless, living in the lush, protected confines of the estate.

At one time, maybe 25 years ago, when the deer were few in numbers, the estate owner welcomed and enjoyed the deer as

appetites. The proprietor nevertheless, persisted in protecting his not-so-welcome beasties from open hunting. Finally, with another deer season approaching he relented and invited friends to hunt his lands on this Tuesday.

The buck did notice a bit more activity about the grounds and heard strange sounds early on this day. But, he paid scant heed. Being well-fed and secure, he was feeling his oats. Possibly he still carried memories of the recent rutting period. At any rate he began to hook and rub savagely a newly planted ornamental sapling.

So intent was the buck in his noisy mock-battle with his expen-

sive, but defenseless, opponent, that he failed to hear the approach of the hunter. The buck flailed and whacked the small tree; the hunter eased up to within 30 yards. The buck never even heard the shot.

The Piney Buck

With a sharp snort the piney woods buck leaped from his day bed. But, he did not bound away; he kept his place in his scrub oak covert. There was no mistaking what he had heard. It was the stealthy movement of a party of men down-wind on the woods road.

From the sounds filtering to him the buck knew what was taking place, out of sight and beyond his scenting powers. As the Indian file of hunters from the South Jersey deer club trekked along the logging road, men were dropping off at

his strategy planned—he had survived three previous seasons of drives.

As the men on stand on the road were now quiet, and since they were down-wind, he could not tell exactly where each one was waiting. Thus if he attempted to escape in that direction he would be at a serious disadvantage.

But, coming from the other direction, with the wind and making a great din, the drivers were easily tracked on his private brand of radar. He would use his scrub oak cover and the intervening pine tree boles as a screen. Unless a hunter stumbled directly to his hideaway, he was safe.

The uproar of the drive quickly grew. Added to its general noise was the crack and crackle of break-

*Tail pressed down
he sneaks off*



strategic locations to take stands for the deer drive to come.

Within a short time the buck heard the start of the drive with its rising and falling clamor of hoots and shouts. The buck had

ing twigs and brush as the hunters rapidly approached. Keeping ever so low, the buck almost crouched behind his cover. As the nearest hunter passed bellowing on his way; the buck practically crawled

. . . Six Bucks

around to the protected side of the scrub and, tail pressed down, he pussy-footed off and away. He knew of a trackless cedar swamp that even the deer drives seldom penetrated.

The Farm Buck

The farm buck was much younger than his size and six-point antlers might indicate. This was only

the adjacent fields or orchards where he had become a downright nuisance to the hardworking farmer and his farm neighbors.

Although the farmer and his two boys had not, because of the press of pre-winter chores, been able to hunt the first three days of the season, they were out in force this early afternoon. The farmer took to a tree stand in the south wood lot; his younger son



*He froze, raised
his white flag*

his second season of experience with deer hunters. During the previous hunting season he had not even rated a shot by hunters. But, this year few gunners would have passed him by. He was a prime and desirable target for any of New Jersey's deer hunters.

The wood lots and farmed fields in the rolling hills of central Jersey had been good to him. He had only to travel from his bed ground in the woods to bountiful fodder in

climbed into one at the far end of an osage orange row. The older son was already ambling through the known daytime haunts of the farm's deer herd, trying to stir up something.

The six-pointer of the hedgerows heard, then shortly after saw, the young farmer nonchalantly walking toward his bed. As on many past occasions when the farm folks disturbed his slumbers, the young buck now rose indifferently and

stretched. Alert, but not panicky, he quick-stepped out of the woods. He headed for the corner where the osage orange row provided a runway to his alternate bedding grounds.

The buck stepped along high and openly at a brisk pace, oblivious to the omnipresent scent of farm people. Too late, much too late, he froze, raised his white flag in alarm, as he heard the metallic click of the gun's safety.

The Bay Buck

Way down south in one of the mixed woods bathed by the warm, moist air of Delaware Bay, the fork-horn buck was still recuper-

antlered bucks prevalent in his intended domain. As a consequence he had lost battles, harems, and weight.

The lost battles were now history. The gone harems were but memories. But, the weight was being rapidly regained. The buck fed almost continuously during his waking hours. Already he was again plump and full of life; but, he was still insatiably hungry.

The hunter from the town was able to get away from his job shortly after noon on Friday and with haste took to the woods. His favorite stand was on an old oak

HENRY
TOM HENRY



*And the fork-horn
kept browsing*

ating from the recent tribulations of the rutting period. It had been his misfortune to encounter more than one of the long-tined, heavy

stump thickly shielded by coppice sprouts. Although he had little real hope of seeing a deer move in the early afternoon brightness, the

. . . Six Bucks

hunter stood patiently, but distractedly.

First his ears picked up the occasional but definite snap of twigs—no squirrel. Then, his eyes followed the progress of a movement in a sprout thicket. A swaying, a twitching of the dog-hair growth seemed to move steadily toward him. It could mean only a feeding deer. Was it a buck?

From behind a screening cluster of saplings and green briars the head of the fork-horn materialized. The buck greedily kept chewing and browsing. Just as he started to clip off a bud-laden twig the 12 pellets of the buckshot load were on their way.

The Forest Buck

For five days the forest buck had eluded the deer hunters—the tobacco-smoking sitters, “still hunters” making infernal rackets, a couple of poorly organized drives, and a good number of trail stompers. Not once had he been forced to run from his last-resort lair in the jumble of windfalls deep in the white pines and hemlocks on the mountain top in the northern country.

Early on opening day of deer season the buck had one moderately close call when he almost walked into a man sitting on a rock ledge. But, the cold morning air had carried to him a powerful draft of the intruder’s nervously puffed cigarette. After that, memories of past Decembers had been enough to cause the monarch to make dead

certain that he was back in his blow-down refuge long before the grey of dawn.

But, today, last day of the deer season, when more hunters than ever were in the forest, the old buck was uneasy. He hunkered down, hugging the brown needles beneath the thick second growth pines. All through the day he barely twitched an ear as stalkers, several drives, and whispering, but clumping, parties passed his sanctuary.

As the day drew toward evening and shadows commenced to flow out from the hemlock groves, the hunters were less to be scented and heard. The great white-tailed one raised his head, arched his neck—it felt good to move. Maybe the hunt was over for the day. And besides he was now conscious of being hungry. He rose stiffly, stretched one and then another hind leg.

Precisely placing his feet in the faint run leading into his refuge, the buck cautiously made his way out toward the community run that ran to the old, abandoned apple orchard. Then, a sinister glint of sun rays on a shiny gun barrel struck his eyes.

The hunter had seen the buck a couple of times during his regular Saturday grouse hunts on the mountain. All the day he had probed every possible hiding place he could find. Finally, he had painstakingly traced the buck’s outsize tracks to the inconspicuous trail going to the blow-down.

Inch by inch, minute by minute,

the hunter threaded his way toward the jumble of logs and pines—and the moving buck. The unexpected flush of a grouse from a near-

The reflection of light from the gun metal started the great buck. He wheeled and leaped powerfully over the nearest down tree, putting



He wheeled and leaped powerfully over the nearest down tree

by hemlock compelled the hunter to turn and half raise his gun in reflex action. And, the dying sun found the polished blue of his gun.

a plumed pine of many branches between himself and danger. His white tail flash may, or may not, have been seen by the hunter. #

THE USE OF BUCKSHOT FOR DEER

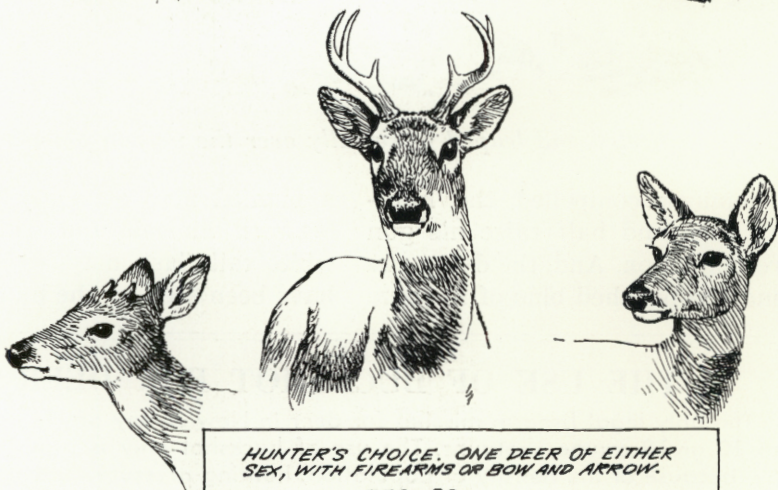
The only legal firearm missiles for deer in New Jersey are buckshot fired from 10 or 12 gauge shotguns. The use of buckshot only is required, essentially, because of the density of population, hunting pressure, and the built-up nature of our state. Truly, it is somewhat regrettable that we can not use rifles for deer. But, safety must be considered. However, buckshot can be mighty effective for deer hunting as attested by the annual firearms harvest of over 6,000 deer in New Jersey. The secret, if there be such a thing, of using buckshot on deer is to use the heaviest safe load in a reliable gun and preferably keep all shots within 35 yards, or at the very most 50 yards.

HUNTING SEASONS open in NEW JERSEY during DECEMBER 1961

DEER

ONLY THOSE HAVING ANTLER AT LEAST
THREE INCHES LONG. WITH FIREARMS
OR BOW AND ARROW.

DEC. 11-16



HUNTER'S CHOICE. ONE DEER OF EITHER
SEX, WITH FIREARMS OR BOW AND ARROW.

DEC. 20

NEB
SMITH

FOR DETAILS ON LAWS IN FULL REFER TO "COMPENDIUM OF GAME LAWS".

There is No Excuse for Breaking the

DEER LAWS

They are neither complicated nor numerous

By WILLIAM P. COFFIN, *Chief Conservation Officer*

MANY INQUIRIES are received by the Division of Fish and Game asking for clarification of R.S. 23:4-45 popularly referred to as the Cased Gun Law.

This statute is one to protect New Jersey's deer herd and it is reproduced below.

R.S. 23:4-45 (Amended June 4, 1959). No person shall hunt for, pursue, stalk or shoot at wild deer, except by daylight on the days designated by the State Fish and Game Code. No person or persons shall throw or cast the rays of any illuminating device which is affixed to a vehicle or which is portable, on any highway, road, field, woods or marsh wherein deer may reasonably be expected to be found, while having in his or their possession or control any firearm, weapon or other instrument which may be used to kill deer unless such firearm, weapon or other instrument is contained in a closed and fastened case, securely tied package, or carried in the luggage compartment of a vehicle; provided, however, the foregoing shall not apply to a duly constituted law enforcement officer while in the actual performance of his duties as such officer.

In simple language this means that during the hours of darkness, when car headlights will shine deer areas, no firearm or weapon of any kind may be carried in that part of a vehicle that is designed to accommodate passengers unless that firearm or weapon is in a case or is securely wrapped and tied as a package. The firearm or weapon may be carried in the trunk or luggage compartment without being cased or wrapped as a package.

This amendment was requested when it became obvious that enforcement was seriously handicapped with toothless laws. The deer jacker had changed his method of operation, and he was utilizing the tools of the age. The officers were endeavoring to stymie the deer jacker with laws that were adequate when enacted in 1912. Since its adoption the section has been used against 77 persons. With the results of 70 found guilty, 5 found not guilty and 2 skipped jurisdiction.

The regular 1961 shotgun deer season will commence at 7:00 a.m. on Monday, December 11, and terminate the following Saturday at 5:00 p.m. There will have been entirely too many does shot and too

. . . Deer Laws

many offenses committed against the deer act. Many of the offenders will not be apprehended but it is estimated that approximately 400 persons from all walks of life will have been found violating the deer act in some manner.

These will be offenses of stupidity and greed. The regulations controlling deer hunting are not complicated or numerous. They are clearly worded in the compendiums of game laws that are available to all hunters. In fact the pamphlet is given to each person buying a license. Too many individuals are not content with existing rules as they are written and published for their guidance. If hunters will accept the wording of the compendium and not endeavor to find "loopholes" they will have happier hunting hours and they will not carry the added pressure burden of wondering if their actions are proper. The person who hunts for deer in New Jersey needs only to follow these simple rules.

Be properly licensed and display number in a conspicuous manner.

Use 10 or 12 gauge gun — capable of holding not more than 3 shells.

Load with buckshot only—carry buckshot only—no solid ball or slugs.

Shoot at bucks only—antlers must be 3 inches or longer.

Hunt daylight hours—7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. daily.

Dogs may not be used for any purpose.

Tag the deer and report the kill to Trenton.

In 1961 there is scheduled a special one-day deer season. This is a state-wide deer-of-either-sex day. It is set down for Wednesday, December 20. All the regulations established for the regular shotgun season are applicable to this one day.

The archer who killed a deer during the regular archery season may not kill another deer on this day with bow and arrow.

The shotgun hunter who killed a deer during the regular shotgun season may not kill another deer on this day with a shotgun.

The person who has killed a deer with bow and arrow and also with shotgun may not kill another deer on this day.

A person may legally kill two deer during 1961. He may not kill three deer during 1961. It is permissible to kill one deer, in a legal manner, with each of two available licenses, firearm or bow and arrow.

All deer killed on this date (December 20) must be tagged and immediately taken to an official checking station set up by the Division of Fish and Game. Here a second tag will be affixed to the carcass. A person in possession of a deer killed on December 20 to which the check station tag has not been affixed in addition to the regular tag, will be subject to a penalty of \$100 as prescribed in R.S. 23:4-48. The deer must also be reported to Trenton in the usual manner.

Check stations will be located at:

County	Station Locations
Atlantic	Butler's Esso Station, Route 30, east of Egg Harbor City
Bergen	Passaic or Morris locations
Burlington	Bass River Marina, Route 9, ½ mile north of New Gretna Atsion Mansion, Route 206—7 miles north of Hammonton Red Lion Esso Station, Junction Routes 70 and 206
Cape May	Tuckahoe Public Shooting Grounds, Route 585, 2 miles southeast of Tuckahoe
Camden	Rees Esso Station, Route 30, Atco
Cumberland	Daniels American Oil Co., Route 47, South Millville
Essex	Morris, Somerset locations
Gloucester	Camden, Burlington or Atlantic locations
Hunterdon	Flemington Fair Grounds, Route 69, Flemington Clinton Public Shooting Grounds
Mercer	Smith and Van Dyke Circle Esso, Route 69, Pennington Circle, Pennington
Middlesex	Mercer or Somerset locations
Monmouth	Danis Esso Station, Junction Routes 33 and 34, Collingswood Circle
Morris	Wharton Esso Station, North Main Street, Wharton Long Valley Post Office, Long Valley
Ocean	Colliers Mills Public Shooting Grounds, 1 mile east of Route 539 on New Egypt-Colliers Mills Road Claytons Log Cabin, Intersection Routes 72 and 539, 10 miles west of Manahawkin
Passaic	Newfoundland Esso Station, 336 Styles Court, Pompton Lakes
Salem	Atlantic or Cumberland locations
Somerset	Texaco Service Station, Route 206 and Lammington Road, Bedminster State Police Barracks, Route 22, Somerville
Sussex	Farmland Milk Bar, Routes 206 and 15, Ross Corner, Augusta Flat Brook Public Shooting Grounds
Union	Morris and Somerset locations
Warren	Blairstown Esso Station, Route 94, Blairstown Rockport State Game Farm

Reservoir Site Restrictions

The rapid progress of construction at the reservoir sites of Round Valley and Spruce Run makes it necessary to further clarify the amount of land that will be open to hunting in those areas. In order to maintain a flexible construction schedule it will be necessary to close the Round Valley-Spruce Run reservoir sites to hunting during the 1961 hunting season.

Hunting is to be restricted to the Clinton Public Shooting and Fishing Grounds area which adjoins the Spruce Run reservoir site north and west of the Van Syckle-Union Road. The licensed hunters in New Jersey will have access to the excellent hunting afforded by the Clinton grounds and in this way will not interfere with the accelerated pace of construction that is being maintained to complete the reservoir sites.

The Clinton area will be adequately posted with signs signifying that the area is open to hunting during the hunting season. Licensed hunters are requested to comply with the regulations as they pertain to the Spruce Run and Round Valley reservoir sites.

#

STATISTICAL METHOD

IN FISH AND GAME RESEARCH

By CHARLES W. WRIGHT, *Biometric Analyst*

UNDER THE STRESS of modern civilization, many desirable species of wildlife can no longer maintain themselves in adequate numbers to assure satisfactory hunting and fishing. If fish and game are to remain a part of our natural resources, they must be guarded by sound management policies and procedures. How do sound wildlife policies and procedures evolve? Only through scientific investigation and planned studies.

Never-ending Task

Managing fish and game resources is an incessant task of meeting new problems as they arise in growing and changing conditions. The development of new crops, new farm machinery, new industries, social and economic programs, and a host of other changes create problems in wildlife management. The demand for wildlife and the capacity of areas to provide it all require careful consideration. Therefore, we must constantly keep up our studies, investigations, and experiments to meet these growing and changing con-

ditions. When these are neglected, we revert to opinionated views, unfounded theories, guesswork, speculation, and dictation.

Need for Research

Ira Gabrielson in 1944, when Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, said: "We should realize, and should endeavor to make others understand, that research must be as continuous as management. All of the great successful industries in this country maintain permanent research laboratories without the findings of which they could not improve their processes and products nor add to them. Our advantages over the enemy in this war are due almost entirely to research in American industry. Research in the infinitely more complex field of wildlife management is of the utmost importance."

The "Experts"

There was a time when many sportsmen believed that other Divisional activities were more important than devoting time and money to the learning about fish and game. Let us quote from Dr.

Clarence Cottam in 1959 when Assistant Director of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

"... when the regulations do not entirely satisfy such an individual, he is offended and condemns the officials who draft the regulations as impractical swivel-chair brass who know nothing of the field conditions and little of the resource they are regulating. These so-called 'authorities' apparently conclude that because they use or harvest wildlife or fish, they are experts in the field. Obviously, this attitude is as absurd as to assume that the individual who receives the services of a doctor, engineer, or any other specialist, automatically becomes endowed with profound knowledge and skill in that particular field . . ."

The Facts

But that day is rapidly passing. Organized sportsmen and farmers now are requesting scientifically determined facts from the staffs of state and federal wildlife agencies. Here in New Jersey, the need for any regulation by the Fish and Game Council with reference to fish and game must be determined on the basis of scientific investigation and research. This requirement is met by statute. Public interest is not only desirable but essential. However, complex and technical problems cannot be resolved by popular vote and legislation.

Statistical Method

We hear much these days about statistics, or more properly, statis-

tical method. Just where does it fit into scientific investigation? Why and where is it used? Statistical method is a tool of research, proceeding through careful observation, logical inference, critical judgment, and accurate verification. These are based on *measurement* which may be considerations such as weights, enumerations, comparisons, or classifications. Without measurement, observa-



Research is of the utmost importance

tions and findings lack precision no matter how meticulous the labor in collecting this information.

Condense and Analyze

All scientific investigators are called upon to deal with masses of data based upon such measurements. Because of this volume, determination of their true significance becomes increasingly complicated and difficult. It is necessary to condense and analyze these data in order that the elements of the problem may be distinguished and their significance

. . . Statistical Method

evaluated. Statistical method has been designed to facilitate the condensation and analyses of such masses of data. It organizes the facts and arranges them in a form suitable for proper study. It establishes bases for judgments regarding the relationships involved in the data, often so complex as to be otherwise incomprehensible. It enables us to study and describe averages, differences, and relationships in a precise manner. It assists in formulating experimental designs by controlling and manipulating certain important influences, and to



We do better with statistical method

make sound inferences with reference to the reliability of the observed differences and relationships. It enables us to distinguish between those that are real and those that are only apparent.

Principles Not New

The principles of statistical method are not new. Millions of people every day use some of its

fundamentals in the common affairs of life without having the least knowledge of statistical theory. For example, in our efforts to secure the most for our money in items we purchase, we check the level, range, and average of the prices asked. Without realizing it, we have made use of statistical method. Many other examples could be cited to show the close relationship between statistical method and much of our everyday behavior.

Widely Accepted

It is a basic part of the scientific thinking in the fields of automotive and mechanical engineering, pharmaceutical products, chemistry, metallurgy, steel, textiles, market research, public health, insurance, meteorology, sociology, and biology to name but a few of our major industries. Its widely adapted use is strong indication of its need and value, and should dispel any doubt or skepticism as to its efficiency and validity.

What It Tells

It is a powerful adjunct to the wildlife biologist, offering optimum standards for the assessment of data, eliminating deception, and yielding principles of experimental design with measurable error. It makes possible the experimenting with a great diversity of combinations of factors and influences involved in many problems. In short, it tells the biologist when it is safe to say definitely one thing or another, and when judgment should be reserved.

Some of the important problems

of state conservation departments in which statistical method is being used are in properly designing investigational projects and surveys; in drawing sound inferences from data collected on many phases of conservation activities; in conducting population censuses of many species of wildlife including fish; in determining state-wide harvests of fish and game; in examination of food and cover conditions, and assisting in improvement of these facilities; in evaluation of habitat plantings; in investigating relationship between food and cover conditions and climatic factors; in studies of population dynamics; and, in experimental vegetational studies.

Examples

There are innumerable fish and wildlife investigational projects being conducted throughout the United States utilizing statistical design and analysis. More specifically, a few might be mentioned.

Methods of estimating dove kill are being worked out statistically, and are sponsored jointly by the Wildlife Management Institute, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and the Welder Wildlife Foundation. Applications of statistical design are being made to specified biological problems involving fish and wildlife, and provision made for statistical consultation on existing

research in the states of Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and Virginia. Statistical aid is being given to the design of investigations and harvest estimates in Michigan. Waterfowl research and management studies are being conducted in Alabama.

Fish population censuses, rate of exploitation, movement, depth distribution of game fishes, seasonal oxygen and temperature profiles are being studied statistically in Tennessee. Censuses and harvest estimates of big game animals, upland game birds, and fur animals are being conducted statistically in Utah, in addition to big game range use studies. Statistics is being used in deer censuses, production studies, harvest and hunter distribution studies, and range appraisal in West Virginia. And in New York, it is being used in the studies of distribution, home ranges, age criteria, and harvest of bear.

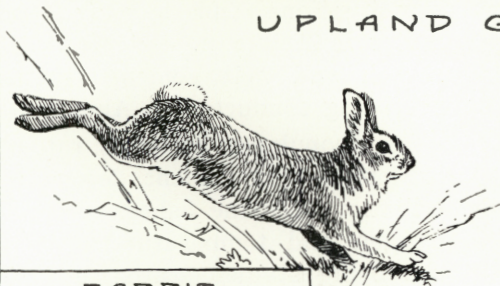
Responsibility

Adequate management and conservation of our state's fish and game resources is not the responsibility of professional workers in the field alone, but the duty and privilege of every citizen of New Jersey. Let's increase our ability to collect and interpret facts scientifically. We may be able to do without statistical method, but we won't do so well. #

HOW MUCH BLOOD: The Division uses a ten percent sample of hunters in its wildlife harvest estimate. The president of a hunter's club, obviously having little faith in statistical method, recently said to Biometric Analyst Wright that he would believe the results of the study if the sample were 51 percent. Statistician Wright quietly asked him if he would be willing to give his doctor 51 percent of his blood for a blood sample.

HUNTING SEASONS open in NEW JERSEY during DECEMBER 1961

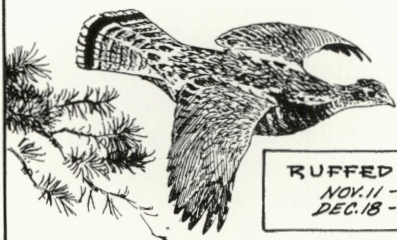
UPLAND GAME



RABBIT
NOV. 11 - DEC. 9
DEC. 18 - DEC. 30 *



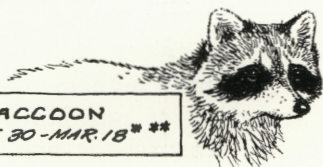
FOX (F)
NOV. 11 - APRIL 30 * **



RUFFED GROUSE
NOV. 11 - DEC. 9
DEC. 18 - FEB. 3 *



RINGNECK PHEASANT
NOV. 11 - DEC. 9



RACCOON
SEPT. 30 - MAR. 18 ** **



SQUIRREL
NOV. 11 - DEC. 9
DEC. 18 - FEB. 3 *

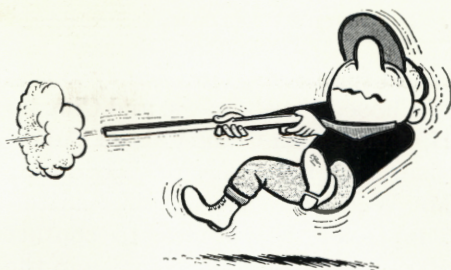


QUAIL
NOV. 11 - DEC. 9
DEC. 18 - FEB. 3 *

* EXCEPT DECEMBER 20
(F) CONSULT COMPENDIUM

** EXCEPT DURING FIREARM DEER SEASON
OR HUNTER'S CHOICE DEER SEASON.

FOR DETAILS ON LAWS IN FULL REFER TO "COMPENDIUM OF GAME LAWS".



SIGN DAMAGE

Ocean County Engineer Lawrence F. Wagner has expressed concern over an increasing practice of some hunters in taking shots at county highway signs in various wooded areas of the county. These signs are placed on these roads and intersections for a specific purpose of informing the motoring public as to their whereabouts, or as a safety measure, warning of dangerous curves, crossings, etc. They are rendered useless with one blast from a shotgun.

"I feel," the county engineer said, "that all sportsmen's clubs and similar organizations should run a drive during the 1961 hunting season to acquaint their memberships with the folly of this practice. I believe it must be being done by either newly licensed young hunters or by others who enter the woods just to shoot their shotguns for target practice in the event they are frustrated insofar as capturing any game animals or birds.

"If organized clubs of sportsmen would impress upon their members the fact that this useless discharging of their firearms, as an act of

vandalism, may bring repercussions in tighter restrictions in New Jersey's game laws governing the use of shotguns along roadways in the wooded areas of the state, perhaps this 'target practice,' which destroys highway signs could be curtailed. Then too, experienced hunters belonging to these clubs, could take it upon themselves to report any such acts of vandalism to the Division of Fish and Game authorities."

Mr. Wagner also pointed out that the destruction of these signs is a costly method of target shooting. Each sign, he said, by the time it is installed at a certain location, costs the county upwards of \$20.00. During each hunting season Ocean County is forced to replace quite a large number of these, and I know that this county is not alone in experiencing this expensive nuisance. I do not have the figures for the entire state, but I believe, if other counties have the same trouble we do, signs destroyed each year must run into the hundreds.

Freeholder George F. Makin, chairman of the committee on

. . . Sign Damage

roads for the Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders, and Charles H. Cox, Ocean County Road Supervisor, said they were in accord with Mr. Wagner's views on this matter. They said they intend to contact all law enforcement agencies in the county, and request action be taken against offenders who might be apprehended during the upland game season.

Mr. Makin also stated that he feels such vandalism is entirely uncalled for. "The State requires youngsters to pass certain firearms tests before being issued an initial license to hunt game in New Jersey," he said, "and I feel a point could be well taken by game authorities in issuing a warning to all hunters that their license could be revoked if a person is caught willfully causing damage to county or personal property." #



EXPENSIVE TARGETS—

About 50 cents worth of shotgun shells, plus irresponsible hunters, spell out almost \$100. in damage to these four highway signs for the Ocean County road department. (In all fairness though, it must be added that all shooting damage to signs is not caused by hunters. A good part of it is caused by plinkers, joyriders with guns, and other assorted miscreants.)



MORE ABOUT THE COVER —

The extraordinary rack on the buck shown on this month's cover, and in the photograph at the left, was collected by Palmer Holmes of Cold Spring during the 1960 season. The buck, which he downed with one shot from his single-shot, 34-inch barrel, 12-gauge shotgun, was Palmer's first deer in almost 30 years of hunting. At the lucky time Palmer was hunting with the Leni Lenape Sportsman's Club to whom he has donated the mounted head. Conservation Officer William Nevins of Cape May County, who provided the photograph and information about the deer, reports that there are plenty of other big bucks in the county.

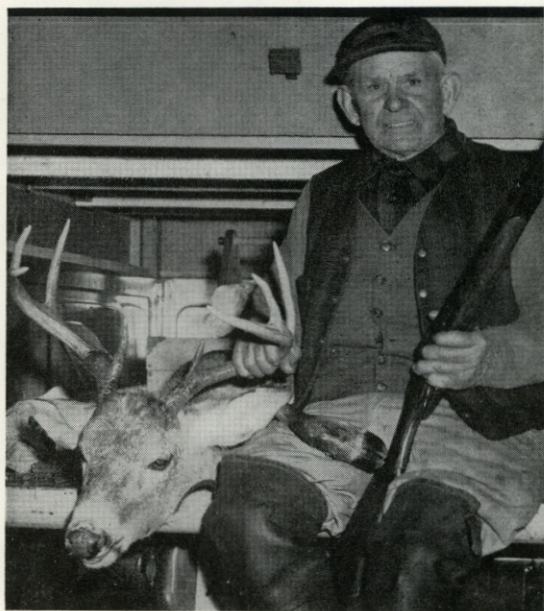


BIG BUCKS AND GOOD RACKS

New Jersey Continues to Produce Fine Trophies

The two magnificent bucks above were taken in Ocean County. The buck on the left, with 11 points and weight of 143 pounds, was downed by Clinton J. Matthews of Lakewood. The 24-pointer, weighing 173 pounds, was killed by William Arie of Toms River.

The splendid trophy on the lower right was bagged by Harry Clark, 81-year old charter member of the Feather Duster Hunt Club of Livingston. Mr. Clark got the big deer with one shot in the North Brunswick area on the last day of the 1960 season. The buck took first prize in a popular big buck contest.



WANTED!



WANTED IN THE INTEREST OF WILDLIFE CONSERVATION IN NEW JERSEY. IT SHALL BE ILLEGAL TO POSSESS, TAKE, KILL OR ATTEMPT TO KILL A BEAR OR TURKEY.

500 COONS

vs

30,000 ears of
CORN

from a letter . . .

DEAR SIR:

Our friend Dr. B. was told by the proprietor of a roadside stand in Warren County that he expected sweet corn from a fertile four-acre patch planted on the uplands near his stand two weeks in advance of the regular season.

This summer Doc stopped for his corn and was told that there wasn't one ear left from that four-acre patch for the raccoons ate every ear. On the way home, Doc did a little figuring. The normal number of stalks of sweet corn on four acres would be between 16,000 and 24,000. If half the stalks had two ears and the number of stalks were 20,000 then the raccoons ate 30,000 ears in the twenty days that the corn was making kernel. So the raccoons ate an average of 1,500 ears a day.

I am not a raccoon. But I could not eat more than three ears of corn; and, I do not think a raccoon could either. So it looks like 500 raccoons ate corn in the field every day for three weeks and that's a lot of raccoons!

Doc asked the proprietor if the corn in the bottomlands along the Delaware River were destroyed. The man said the corn there was perfect, for the raccoons never came near the river.

Regards,
HANK

COUNCIL HIGHLIGHTS

OCTOBER MEETING

The open session of the regular monthly meeting of the Fish and Game Council was held in Trenton on October 10. Vice-Chairman Onkst presided and Mr. Gross represented the Director, since the Chairman and Director were attending a special meeting on the Green Acres Program in Princeton. In addition to the Council, and staff, the following attended: John Russack, Edward Jackson, and Roy H. Williams.

Legislation

The following shows the result of Council deliberations concerning proposed bills to be submitted to the 1962 legislature as Council-sponsored measures:

No. 1.—Concerns introduction into the state of any wild fish, wild bird, or wild mammal. Councilman Kelly moved that this proposed bill be sent back to the staff for such changes and alterations that are necessary to protect the state against nutria that are presently in the state, as well as to prevent the introduction of any exotic species in the future, without license. This was seconded by Councilman Frome. The motion was carried.

No. 2—Amending the Pollution Law (23:5-28) and repealing Sections 23:9-18 and 23:9-52—Approved by the Council.

No. 3—Amending the act providing penalties for removal of vegetation, etc., from state-owned lands and prohibiting discarding of refuse on such lands—Approved by Council.

No. 4—Repealing Sections 23:4-21 and 23:4-53—To be withdrawn.

No. 5—Respecting the taking of bait fish and providing license therefor—Councilman Kelly moved that the age be 18 rather than 16 years. There was no second to the motion.

Councilman McNeel moved that the non-resident fee be raised to \$50.00. This was second by Councilman Frome. The motion was carried.

Councilman Lunsford moved that the resident fee be changed from \$10 to \$20. This was second by Councilman McCloskey. On raise of hands, four voted in favor and five opposed. The motion failed to pass.

Councilman McNeel moved to set a \$50.00 minimum and \$100.00 maximum penalty. This was second by Councilman McCloskey. Councilman Lunsford requested that the penalty motion also include provision for confiscation of fishing gear. Councilman McNeel and McCloskey accepted the amendment. The motion was carried.

No. 6—Amendment to uniform net regulations—increasing mesh size of fykes with leaders. Councilman Lunsford moved that this be accepted as written. Councilman Frome seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

No. 7—Concerning possession of firearms by unnaturalized, foreign

. . . Council Highlights

born persons and repealing Sections 23:4-31 through 23:4-35. Councilman Lunsford moved to accept this as written. Councilman McCloskey seconded. Councilman Kelly was of the opinion that hunting privileges should be made reciprocal with nations which afford our citizens the same privilege. On raise of hands, five voted in favor of the motion and four opposed. The motion was passed.

No. 8—Makes the dove a game bird—Councilman McNeel moved that it be accepted as written. This was seconded by Councilman Lunsford. The motion was passed unanimously.

No. 9—Respecting fishing in Hudson River and amending Section 23:9-115. Councilman Lunsford moved acceptance. This was seconded by Councilman McNeel. The motion was carried.

No. 10—Concerns acquisition of lands by this department by gift, devise, purchase, or use of power of eminent domain—Councilman Lunsford moved that this be accepted. The motion was seconded by Councilman Frome and was carried.

No. 11—Amendment to Public Health Law on pollution—Councilman Frome moved acceptance. Councilman McNeel seconded the motion. The motion was carried.

No. 12—Concerning Sunday waterfowl hunting—Councilman Lunsford moved acceptance as written and Councilman McNeel seconded. Five voted in favor and three opposed. The motion was carried.

No. 13—Respecting hunting of deer; penalties—Mr. Kelly stated that the provision "and whether or not he has been prosecuted for a penalty for the violation, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor" deprives a man of his day in court. Mr. Coffin stated that making them guilty of a misdemeanor and taking the case up before the Grand Jury is an aid in eliminating habitual violators. This proposed bill will be held over for revision.

No. 14—Regulates taking of shad in Delaware River, Bay, and their tributaries where the tide ebbs and flows, within the jurisdiction of this state. Councilman Bohm objected to the \$25.00 fee for each staked gill net. The bill will be held over for more thorough discussion with the Marine Fisheries Committee and re-submission to the Council.

The Council held over, pending receipt of further information, bill concerning shooting preserve license for mallard ducks. This has been requested because of the increased number of preserves under the mallard system.

The Council held over, pending receipt of further information, proposed legislation to legalize use of falcons in hunting.

Councilman Onkst read to the Council a letter received by Chairman McCormick from Mr. George Schilder, Recording Secretary of the Northwest Gun Club in Vineland, dated October 2, 1961, in which the club went on record relative to the good work that has been done by Mr. L. G. MacNamara.

Request was made that the Director reply to Mr. Schilder's letter.

Crab Populations

Mr. Onkst read to the Council a letter received by Chairman McCormick from Mr. Neal Munch of the Ocean County Fish and Game Protective Association, dated October 6, 1961, concerning fluctuation in blue claw crab populations. The Council requested that the Director write to Mr. Munch thanking him and his Association for their interest and assuring him that we will follow up on his request.

Law Enforcement

Chief Coffin stated that the Conservation Officers have been busy with stocking of fish and birds and in distributing compendiums. A great deal of time is being devoted to operation of the Hunter Safety Program, which apparently is running more smoothly than in former years.

Radio base stations are in operation. There was an engineering problem at Netcong, and R.C.A. has sent a man in to straighten it out.

The Council discussed with Mr. Coffin the need for additional enforcement personnel. Mr. Coffin felt we could justify to the Budget Office the need for additional positions, but it was a matter of finding additional funds to cover same. Consideration is being given to hiring Deputies on a "pay as you go" basis. Mr. Coffin stated that funds could be obtained to pay for their services but the difficulty is to provide necessary transportation. The Director and Mr. Coffin are further studying the problem in order to find a satisfactory solution.

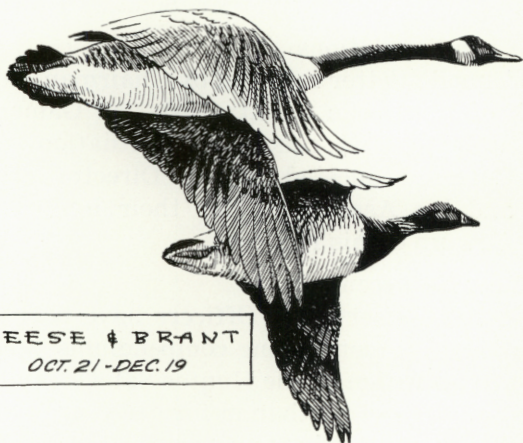
Hunter Safety

Mr. Kelly inquired as to reciprocal state Hunter Safety certifications and felt that we should recognize certifications of accredited National Rifle Association Instructors of other states. Mr. Coffin stated that this is being done and letters to that effect have been sent to the New Jersey Hunter Safety Instructors as well as all the license issuing agents. They have also been instructed to accept certifications from the military.

The Division of Fish and Game notes with sorrow the passing of Councilman George C. Onkst, Vice-Chairman of the Fish and Game Council. The Council members and the Division personnel mourn the loss of Councilman Onkst who was sincerely dedicated to conservation.

HUNTING SEASONS open in NEW JERSEY during DECEMBER 1961

MIGRATORY BIRDS



GEESE & BRANT
OCT. 21 - DEC. 19



DUCKS
NOV. 21 - DEC. 30

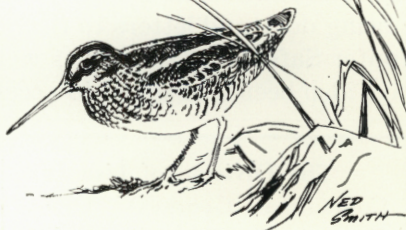


MERGANSERS - (AMERICAN &
RED-BREADED)
NOV. 21 - DEC. 30

WILSON SNIPE
NOV. 11 - DEC. 9



COOT
NOV. 21 - DEC. 30



FOR DETAILS ON LAWS IN FULL REFER TO "COMPENDIUM OF GAME LAWS".

Brant a la Underhill

Here is a recipe for preparing brant that Division Director Underhill uses with great success. Wild brant, one of New Jersey's most numerous waterfowl, is sometimes something less than palatable when cooked by usual methods. This recipe, however, yields a dish, hot or cold, that is delicious.

Skin and dissect out the breasts of the birds, removing all fat and bones. Soak the clear fillets in a bowl of well-salted, cold water overnight (about 12 hours) in the refrigerator.

Pour bland cooking oil to a depth of one-half inch into a dutch oven, or other covered, heavy pan, and heat well. In the oil fry two onions (for six brant breasts; or 12 halves) until well browned. Drain and dry the breasts and quickly sear them in the oil on both sides.

Next, place a layer of the seared breasts in the dutch oven; sprinkle with pepper, poultry seasoning, and sage. Add your favorite red cooking wine to almost cover the layer of breasts. Repeat until all the breasts are in the pan. Finally add enough wine to bring the level to one-half the depth of the pan and toss in a couple of bay leaves. Simmer 30 to 40 minutes.

Remove the meat and make gravy as desired. The clear meat may be served hot and sliced, or cold as hors d'oeuvres.

Brigantine Refuge Shooting

Public shooting areas for waterfowl on the Brigantine National Wildlife Refuge will be open to licensed hunters during the 1961 waterfowl season, through a cooperative arrangement between the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Sports Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Division of Fish and Game.

Public Shooting Area No. 1 is located east of Broad Creek and Area No. 2 is located immediately north of Brigantine Channel. Both areas will be adequately marked with posters proclaiming the areas to be open to public waterfowl hunting.

Access to Area No. 1 can be made by car-top boat from Scott's Ditch Landing which can be reached via Leeds Point Road and following signs erected to furnish directions for reaching the landing. Those hunters who have car-top or trailer-carried boats will find satisfactory conditions for launching at Scott's Ditch Landing.

Additional commercial water transportation facilities are available to those hunters who do not own small boats or who wish to avail themselves of transportation in larger craft to public shooting Area No. 1.

Captain Wilbur Leeds, 1329 New York Road, Oceanville, N. J., will operate a 28 foot power skiff to and from Area No. 1. He can be contacted by telephone at Milton 1-9767.

Captain John (Buddy) Hayes and Captain Charles (Reds) Turner will operate a 36 foot power skiff to and from public hunting Area No. 1. The address of Captain Hayes is R.D. No. 1, Box 242, Absecon, N. J., and he can be contacted by telephone at Milton 1-9526 or 1-9767.

Both boats will leave Motts Creek Landing one hour before sunrise to transport hunters to Area No. 1 and will pick up hunters at a half hour before sunset. Transportation at other hours to and from the shooting area can be arranged with the captains of the respective boats. #

HUNTERS—Make this choice!



**SHOOT ONLY
DRAKES**



**SPARE THE HENS
TO NEST NEXT YEAR**

"CALL YOUR SHOT"

There's a law laid down in billiards
Which the sportsman now employs,
When the ducks head up into the wind,
And come to the decoys:
NAME YOUR BIRD and KNOW THE SPECIES,
And always take the drake.
"CALL YOUR SHOT!"

Before the marshlands' drainage,
When the big flights came along,
We brought in all that we could kill
And never thought it wrong:
Before our modern firearms,
And ducking clubs to boot,
There was one restriction only,
"Are they close enough to shoot?"

Now our wildlife experts tell us,
Who study trends and flight,
Our scientists and naturalists
Whom we trust to put us right,
That we must have a limit,
And not shoot into the flock;
CUT DOWN OUR CRIPPLING LOSSES;
Increase our breeding stock.
And under new restrictions,
When the birds come down this Fall,
SHOOT WITHIN A CERTAIN LIMIT
Or, we may not shoot at all.

So, to keep the wildlife flying
In the days and years to come,
Keep your head, know what you're doing,
"CALL YOUR SHOT!"

Bill Baxter

HUNTER'S CHOICE DEER SEASON

Firearms or Bow and Arrow

Duration: December 20 (Wednesday)

Bag limit: One deer of either sex, any age.

A person who has taken one deer under Bow and Arrow License and one deer under Firearm License in the regular seasons provided will not be eligible to hunt on December 20.

Hunting hours: December 20, 7:00 A.M. EST, to 5:00 P.M. EST, with gun or bow and arrow.

The regular deer tag issued with the hunting license must be affixed to the carcass of any deer legally killed on December 20, 1961, before it is transported to a Division checking station. The occupant of a farm who actually resides thereon, or the immediate members of his family who also reside thereon, who may hunt on their own land without license, and military personnel not required to be licensed shall make and affix a tag immediately as provided by law and transport the deer to the checking station.

Such deer shall be taken immediately to an official Division of Fish and Game checking station where the deer will be specially tagged by Division personnel.

Any person having in possession a deer killed on December 20, 1961 after 7:00 p.m. to which a checking station tag has not been affixed, in addition to the regular tag, will be subject to the penalties prescribed in R. S. 23:4-48.

All deer killed on December 20, 1961, must be reported by card to Trenton in the usual manner. #



Three teenage Hackettstown boys hunting near the state game farm at Rockport on the first day of the last small game season used presence of mind and resistance to temptation when they prevented the possible escape of hundreds of pheasants from the farm's pens. The boys, Billy Hartzell, Joe DeWitt, and Donald Boyce, startled a buck deer which ran blindly into the wire fence of the pen, tore a large hole in it, ran through the pen and out the other side, ripping another hole. The lads could have let the fat, grain-fed breeders escape and easily shot a bagful. Instead, two of them stood by the holes to keep the birds in while the third ran and summoned Superintendent Buntain. Such good deeds revive our confidence in our fellow man.

VIOLATORS ROUNDUP

AUGUST, 1961

<i>Defendant</i>	<i>Offense</i>	<i>Penalty</i>
Norman C. Guest, 29 Whippany Ave., W. Paterson	Fish no license	20
Harry Smalley, 323 - 4th Ave., Bell Mawr	Fish no license	20
Mrs. Wm. M. Dale, 10 Brookside Avenue, Somerville	Fish no license	20
Christin Patterson, 10 Brookside Ave., Somerville	Fish no license	20
John E. Jones, Lord Stirling Rd., Basking Ridge	Fish no license	20
LeRoy Wilson, R.D. 6, Bridgeton	Poss. striped bass	10
Michele Cappola, 41 Campbell Avenue, Havertown, Pa.	Fish no license	20
Charles Tomasko, 7 Brook Meade Dr., Erlton	Fish no license	20
Eugene Moxley, Jr., 800 Forest Ave., Westfield	Fish no license	20
Arthur Cooper, Penna Avenue, Extension, Flemington	Fish closed waters	20
Ambrose Frayer, 66 Enos Avenue, Trenton	Fish closed waters	20
Henry Page, 129 Monmouth St., Trenton	Fish closed waters	20
Lewis Hynson, 2012 Harris St., Chester, Pa.	Fish closed waters	20
Thomas James, 128 Buttonwood St., Mt. Holly	Fish no license	20
Robt. Lee Thomas, 1619 Olive St., Phila., Pa.	Fish no license	20
Louise Tucker, 936 N. 12th St., Phila., Pa.	Fish no license	20
Peter McCallion, 49 W. Clymer Ave., Sellerville, Pa.	Fish no license	20
Charles Knight, Jr., 538 Montgomery Ave., Haverford, Pa.	Fish no license	20
Raymond Scott, R.D. 1, Franklinville, Monroeville	Fish no license	20
Joe Bennet, Elwood	Loaded gun in auto	20
Harvey Katz, R.D. 1, Box 354, Old Bridge	Fish no license	20
Warren Cook, 1 Fairview Terr., Wayne	Illegal poss. pickerel	20
Edward J. Manning, 117 Baldwin St., Bloomfield	Fish no license	20
Lonah Faulks, 48 Hawthorne Avenue, E. Orange	Illegal poss. large mo. bass	20
Henry Koehler, 156 Harrison St., Passaic	Fish no license	20
Wilber Alston, 14 Holsman St., Paterson	Angle closed waters	20
Charlie Costello, Rt. 46, Rockaway	Illegal poss. large mo. bass	20
Willie Benjamins, 212 Morris Ave., Newark	Illegal poss. large mo. bass	20
John Urynowicz, 28 Ellen Dr., Rockaway	Fish no license	20
Harvey Katz, R.D. 1, Box 354, Old Bridge	Trout closed season	20
Harvey Katz, R.D. 1, Box 354, Old Bridge	Angle closed waters	20
Lawrence Osterberg, 78 James St., So. River	Trout closed waters	20
Lawrence Osterberg, 78 James St., So. River	Angle closed waters	20
Joseph Csuti, 11 Salem Ave., Carteret	Fish no license	20
Michael Farkas, 34 Roosevelt Ave., Carteret	Fish no license	20
Cornlis Vanneele, 108 Essex Ave., Metuchen	Fish no license	20
Geo. J. Hutchinson, 29 Main St., Bridgeboro	Duck closed season	20
Larry Hemminger, 509 Dela Ave., Riverside	Duck closed season	20
Mildred Johnson, Retreat Rd., Vincentown	Fish no license	20
Frederick Sturtevant, Rt. 206, Rd. 3, Mt. Holly	Fish no license	20
Charles Jones, 1334 Rodman St., Phila., Pa.	Fish no license	20
Herman Whitely, 306 N. 11th St., Camden	Fish no license	20
George Liggett, River Rd. R.F.D., Mays Landing	Fish no license	20
Garry Kamphouse, Jr., 326 W. Clinton St., Haledon	Fail to exhibit lic.	20
Robt. Beal, Rainbow Park, Bridgeton	Fish no license	20
Gerald Dell'Aringa, 815 S. East Ave., Vineland	Fish no license	20
Crown Central Petroleum Corp., 450 S. Front St., Elizabeth	Pollution	500
Daniel Engers, 48 Columbia St., W. Orange	Fish no license	20
Frank Uber, 1296 Bright St., Hillside	Fish no license	20
Candido Rosa, 1109 A Broad St., Newark	Fish no license	20
Charles Davis, 108 Chadwick Ave., Newark	Fish no license	20
Paul Martin, 25 Reservoir Ave., Dover	Illegal poss. pickerel	20
Stanley Paryski, 8-59 Forest St., Fairlawn	Angle closed waters	20

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TRENTON, N. J.



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FOR EVERY 100 SUBSCRIPTIONS

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Will Present a Deer

**FOR EVERY 100 SUBSCRIPTIONS to the Magazine
Submitted BY CLUBS THIS YEAR DURING THE**

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2. Subscriptions are not restricted to a club's membership.
3. Subscriptions may be either new or renewals.
4. Each subscription counts as one point.
5. Subscriptions for more than one year count one point per year.
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