

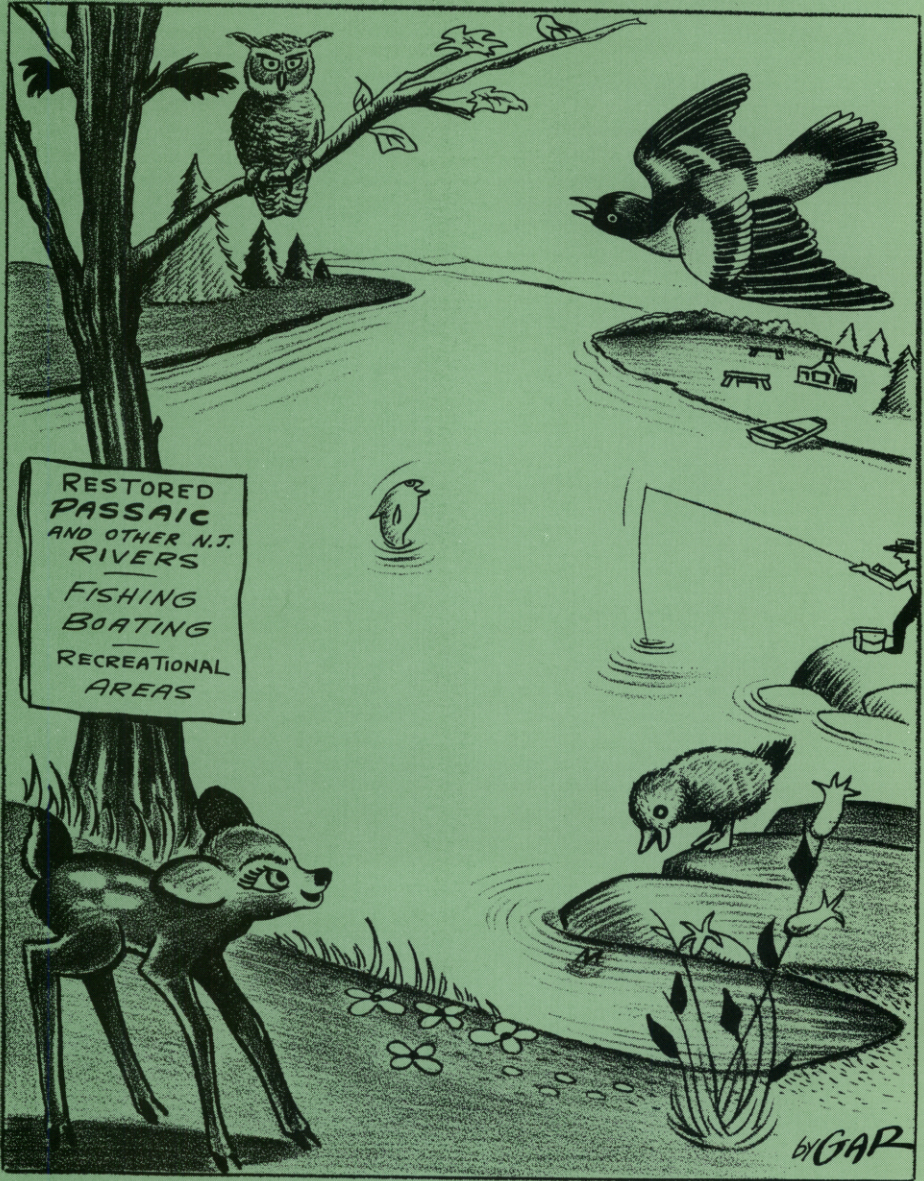
*NJ F & G Fish & Game*

# New Jersey *Outdoors*

**August, 1971**



ONLY YOU CAN MAKE IT HAPPEN



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# New Jersey *Outdoors*

New Jersey *Outdoors* is published monthly by the 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.

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### Cover — "Electrofishing" — *Harry Grosch*

Two members of a four-man crew of Division fisheries biologists utilizing electrofishing apparatus to sample the fish population in a trout stream. Electrofishing is a means of collecting fish which is of particular value in streams and, to a limited extent, in standing waters. For more on electrofishing see page 7 of this issue.

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## **Sportsmen and**

# **The New Ecology**

These days it's hard to pick up a newspaper, thumb through a magazine, listen to the radio, watch television, or look at the world around us without being reminded of the problems of environmental pollution. For those to whom it wasn't already obvious, the new ecology movement has done an excellent job of creating an awareness among the general public of the degree to which we have damaged, and are continuing to harm, our land, air, and waters. Even more important, it is having some real success in forcing polluters to take remedial measures to reverse the trend.

To America's sportsmen and the various private and governmental agencies who have long been concerned with conservation and sound management of open spaces, fish and wildlife resources, these new recruits to the cause are welcome allies. Hunters and fishermen have been fighting for clean air and water for generations. Their concern stems from the fact that the time they spend in the out-of-doors has made them far more aware of the problems than most of their fellow citizens.

Sportsmen are becoming concerned, however, at the degree to

which the new environmentalists are assuming a protectionist rather than a sound-use concept about fish and wildlife. In their zeal for maintaining the ecological balance, many of them have taken the position that any killing of fish and game is an evil to be condemned.

While this "reverence-for-life" philosophy is ideologically understandable—at least by the pure theoretician—it is biological nonsense. As any game biologist could explain to them, wildlife cannot be stockpiled. The determining factor in the life span of most species is the carrying capacity of the land on which they live.

Aside from migratory species such as waterfowl, most upland game birds and animals spend their entire lives in fairly small areas of land ranging from a few acres to a few square miles. Even big game animals, which migrate from high country in the summer to lower areas in the winter, are confined to a relatively restricted area. The number of wildlife a given area can support relates directly to the kind of natural cover and food available. Once the carrying capacity of the range has been reached (and this can be fairly accurately predicted), disease, starvation, and

predation take over to apply natural controls, reducing the populations to what the area can support.

That these natural methods are often cruel hardly needs to be reported to a sportsman or game management expert who has seen the results. Thus these people understand that hunting is a far more humane method of control. Hunting regulations, which are promulgated by professional game biologists, are really designed to harvest some of the surplus that is otherwise destined to die of starvation or predation.

It's hardly news that man is the greatest predator of all species. His whole history has been one of trying to tame nature, and hunting has always been a part of this

struggle. Now that we have become acutely aware that we have mastered our environment to the point where we are ruining it, it's important to remember that in spite of the apparent contradiction, hunting under proper controls is really a constructive and not a destructive activity. It is also vital for the new environmentalists to recognize that sportsmen, who for generations have devoted time, effort and money to fighting pollution, preventing or slowing down the destruction of open spaces, and developing programs for sound wildlife management, are their strongest allies. The two groups should work together, not at cross-purposes. #

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### Statistics Show Ways to Curb Wildlife-Auto Mishaps

Statistics from Germany show there may be procedures that can be taken to reduce damages and injury from accidents involving wildlife and automobiles.

Records on wildlife-auto accidents in Germany show that four out of five accidents occur where there are no road signs giving advance warning of the possibility. Two out of three accidents involving deer occur during the breeding season, and the most dangerous time of day is dusk, when one third of the accidents occur.

Germany experiences some 300,000 road accidents a year involving wild animals. An average of 30 people are killed and about 2,000 are injured. Wildlife losses include 60,000 deer and 120,000 hares. Property damage amounts to roughly 50 million Marks (\$14¼ million).

The German statistics total a lot of injury and death to both people and wildlife, especially for a country about the size of Oregon. Contributing factors, however, include the 65 million human population and liberal driving laws. #

---

The obvious conclusion for us in New Jersey, where some 3,000 deer are killed annually in accidents, is for drivers to watch for deer warning signs and be especially careful during the rutting season and toward evening. #

**State Record  
established for**

# *Carp*

On May 28, 1971, John A. Pisa of Willingboro landed a carp weighing 41 pounds and 2 ounces to establish a state record for carp. John was fishing with corn meal bait in the Delaware River near Beverly in Burlington County when he tied into the monster that proved to be 37 inches in length and 30½ inches in girth. The fish was weighed by weighing agent William McNinney of Beverly who was approved by Conservation Officer Everett Carmelia.

Here is John Pisa's account of his accomplishment:

To start with, I think that the carp is a very wary fish, especially the bigger or older ones. I have fished the Delaware River for years and sat and watched the lunkers jump right in front of me. When they would leap clear out of the water, I could see the size of the monsters.

I am willing to wager right now that somewhere in the Delaware River there is a carp that could take over the United States record. I have seen some break that looked to be over 50 pounds to me. I would very much like to see someone from New Jersey break the existing national record of 55 pounds.

And, I have a very strong feeling that someday someone will do just that.

My method of carp fishing is very simple and my corn meal bait is easy to make, incidently.

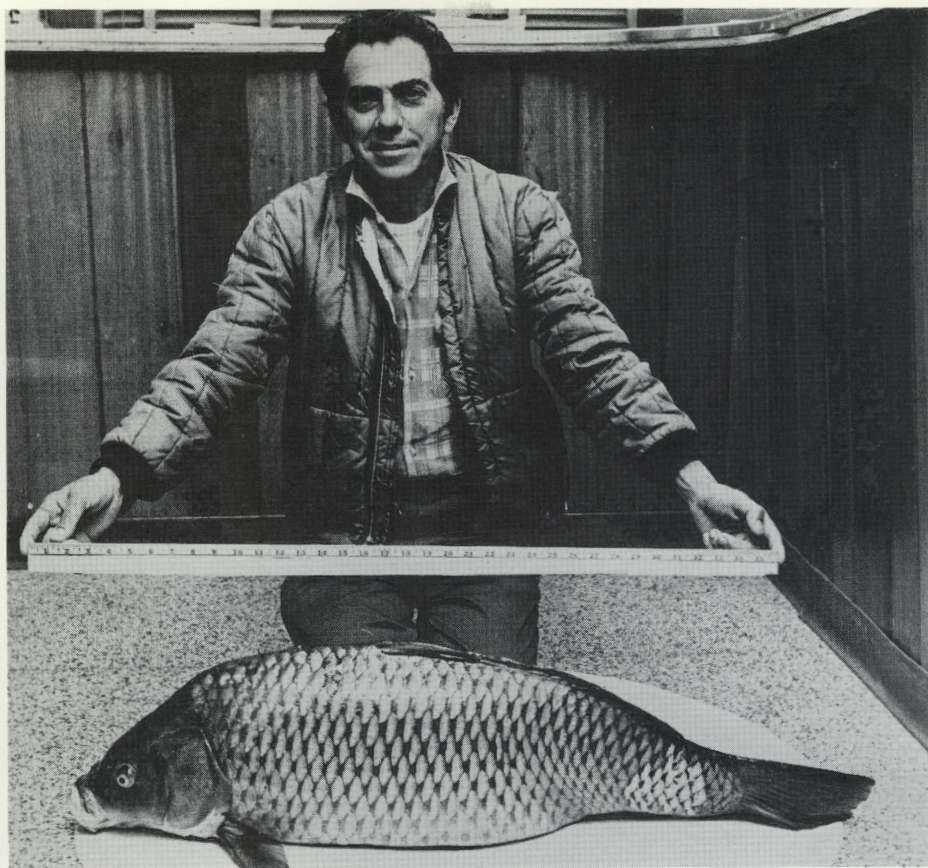
When I caught the big carp I was using a medium action rod, a spin reel, a one ounce sinker, and a number two hook. I put the bait on the hook in a teardrop shape so that it would cover the whole hook, shank and all.

After I cast I set the rod up against a prop and let patience take over. Most of the time when a carp picks up the bait, the line will go slack.

As soon as the line went slack when this big carp took the bait, I picked up the rod and gave him more slack. When he started swimming away and took up all the free slack, I set the hook.

After that it was like being hooked onto a submarine.

The monster made two very long runs. The first one was straight out and before I could turn him he took all but about 20 feet of my line. Then I worked him about three quarters of the way back before he decided to go upriver about the same distance. At this point he



—Larry Savich

John A. Pisa of Willingboro with the new state record carp weighing 41 pounds and 2 ounces which he caught in the Delaware River near Beverly on May 28 this year.

broke water and I turned him again. I reeled him in within about 20 feet of me where he broke water again.

Here I thought I lost him because the line went slack. I reeled in fast and found that I still had him. After that he made three or four shorter runs. But, I had him tired out. Finally, I got him to

shore, hooked my small gaff in his mouth, and pulled him out of the water. Altogether it took me about 18 or 20 minutes to land the fish.

I know that carp are not generally considered to be game fish. But, when you tie into one that is big enough, the carp will test any fisherman's ability with the rod and reel.

#



*A four man crew is most often used in stream electrofishing. Two men carry the electrodes or paddles (the handles of which are encased in rubber to prevent shocks) while one man nets the stunned fish and the other operates the generator and handles the 300 feet of cable. With larger streams additional electrode handlers and netters are employed. A small, gas-operated generator produces a current of about two amperes which is passed through the cable to the electrodes. This cable enables the generator to remain at a fixed location and provides a standard sampling distance of 600 feet (300 feet downstream and 300 feet upstream from the generator)*

# *Electrofishing*

## **and its use in sampling stream-fish populations**

*By* Robert H. Soldwedel,  
Bureau of Fisheries Management

*Photographs by* Harry Grosch

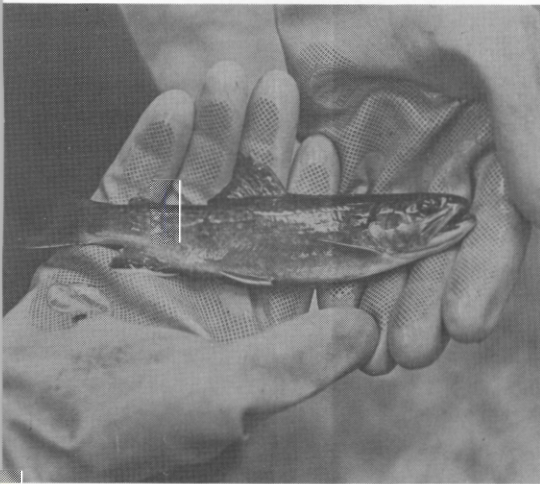
Determining the fish population of a stream presents quite a different problem than determining the fish population of a lake. In most cases the old standby lake survey techniques such as seining and gill-netting are impractical. Fish traps are very involved and rotenoning is very final. Thus, there exists the need to enable investigators to sample fish populations without destroying them.

Electrofishing, which does not harm the fish, was developed for this purpose and came into widespread use on streams by the Bureau of Fisheries in the late 1950s. Currently, one of the major uses of the electrofishing technique is to sample all the streams of the state to provide information by which to classify them as "trout" or "non-trout" waters. The goal of this classification is to preserve the quality of our state's "trout" streams, perhaps one of our most important programs to date. A great deal of our trout research also hinges on an accurate method of stream sampling.

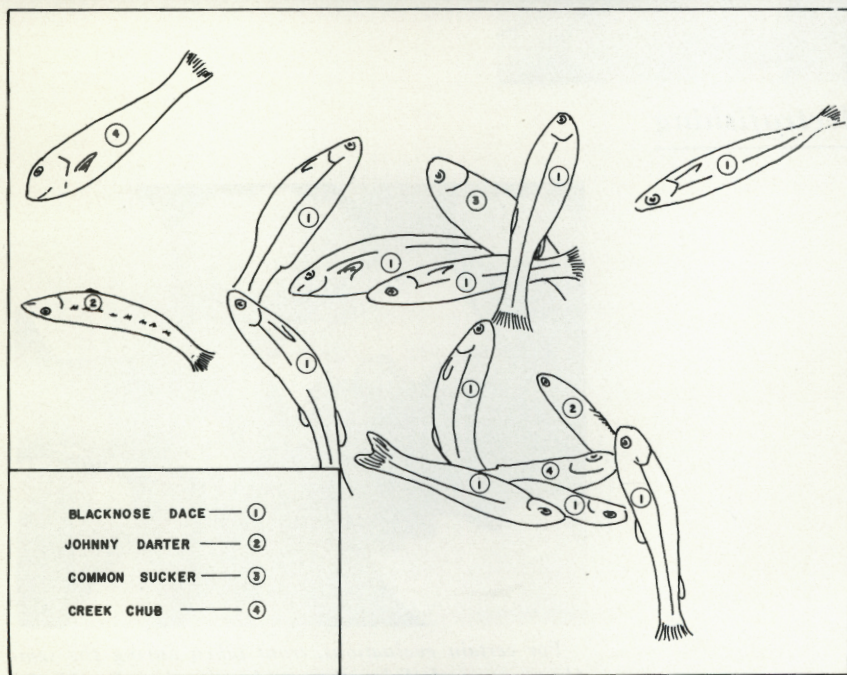


*The size of the electrical field in the water around the electrodes varies from stream to stream depending upon the conductivity of the water. A field with a radius of about 5 feet would be average. The strength of the field is normally enough to stun the fish and turn them "belly-up" at which time they are netted. Movement of the field is continuously upstream. This aids in the capture of the immobilized fish as the stream flow sweeps them to the netters. The "stunning" effect on the fish lasts but a few seconds and the fish suffer no damage. Rubber gloves and waders protect the crew from the electrical field*

### ... Electrofishing



*The classification of a stream is based upon the fish population which is found to inhabit it. It is felt that the stream's water conditions, such as temperature and dissolved oxygen, will play a great part in determining which fish species the stream will be able to support. Summer is the time of the year that stream conditions are most critical for trout, and it has been chosen as the time to survey in order to make the classifications as accurate as possible. When trout reproduction, such as this fingerling brookie, are found the stream is classified as "Trout Production." If adult trout are found or if the population is made up primarily of "trout associated species" the stream receives the classification of "Trout Maintenance." When bass, pickerel, or other typically warmwater species are found, the stream is classified as "Non-Trout"*

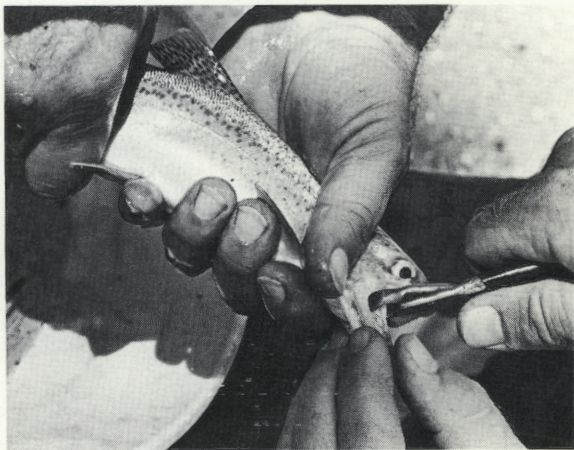


Some very common, but seldom noticed, "trout associated species" are pictured here. This sample from Spruce Run Creek in Hunterdon County includes blacknose dace, Johnny darter, common sucker, and creek chub. Other trout associated species are slimy sculpin, longnose dace, and fallfish. Species that rarely occur with trout include largemouth bass, chain pickerel, white crappie, and yellow perch



*In addition to stream classification, electrofishing is also used as a research tool. Accurate data is kept on the species of fish taken and their sizes and weights. Annual surveys of the same areas can trace changes in the fish populations which help to evaluate the fishery or determine the effect of various management techniques such as stocking, habitat improvement, or reclamation. A change in the fish population may also indicate pollution or some other instance of stream degradation. Once these population trends have been analyzed and plotted, corrective measures may be applied where needed*

### . . . Electrofishing

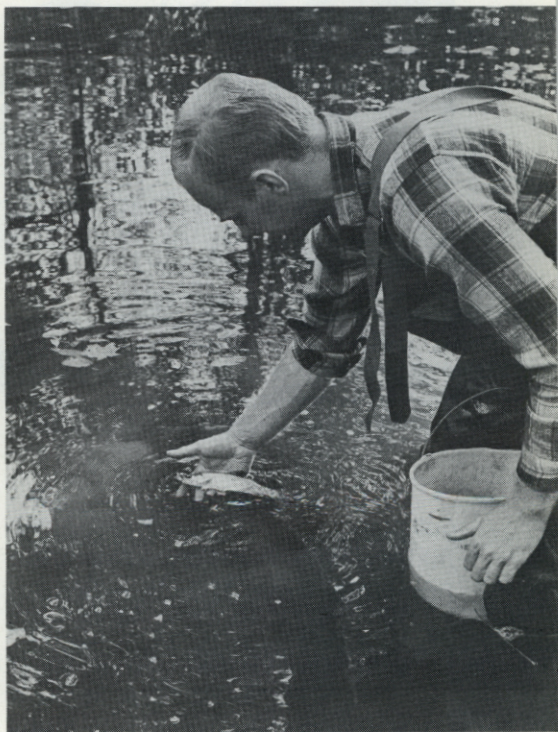


*For certain evaluations, trout taken during the sampling are marked for future identification. In this instance a small pair of pliers is used to affix the metal jaw tag to the lower mandible of the trout. This trout has been immobilized by the use of an anesthetic to facilitate the operation and reduce harm to the fish. Experience has shown that the trout do not suffer and seldom lose such tags*



*This trout now has an identity. Its size and place of capture have been recorded along with its tag number. If it is recaptured in a future survey it will be possible to determine its growth and if it has gone upstream or down. It is also possible that the fish will be caught by an angler, who, we hope, will send us information on the tag number, date, total length, and place of its capture. This information will enable us to evaluate our stockings and the conditions of the fishery, which will ultimately lead to better angling for the sportsman*

*One of the greatest advantages of electrofishing as compared to many other sampling techniques, such as gillnetting or using rotenone, is that desirable species, such as this rainbow trout taken in the survey, may be released alive while the undesirable species can be removed. This is important to the researcher as it enables future evaluations to be made on the captured fish, to the angler who has not had a prospective catch sacrificed to the cause of research, and of course, to the trout*

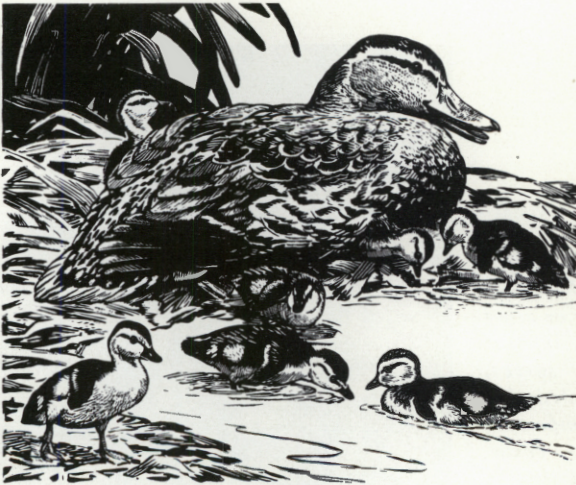


# The Making of a Game Crop

This month is when it becomes apparent that a population explosion has taken place in the land. Not the much publicized, much-debated build-up of people, but a quieter, less-talked-about kind. Now is when wildlife young—hatched, whelped, or just plain born in the days and weeks past—are making themselves known as they venture afield in the summer sun of good old New Jersey. With a little patience, anyone who gets

census-taker. The average brood of young ring-necked pheasants and ruffed grouse, for example, runs to about 11 young. Our occasional wild turkey mothers cluck to some 12 offspring. And Ma Bobwhite keeps busy with about 14 little Bobs. Among waterfowl, families average from 6 for Canada geese up to 11 for the mallard and teal.

All these, incidentally, raise only one brood a year, regardless of what old Uncle Zeke down the road



*Average broods of young games birds and waterfowl do vary. This hen mallard happens to have seven ducklings. She could easily have had 11 little ones*

out in the country can get some inkling of how his area's wildlife fared this year. If he's a hunter, he can judge roughly what next fall's game crop will be.

Here are some figures as a yardstick for the do-it-yourself game

may say. Those little birds you sometimes see late in the season—squealers, maybe you call 'em—aren't a second or third batch turned out by one hen. They're simply persistence paying off—the last and successful try by a hen whose

earlier nests were broken up. And, one more point. The above figures on brood size represent total success. It never happens in Nature. If half these numbers reach maturity, you can count on a bumper game crop.

Rabbits and many squirrels usually shuck out two or more batches of young a year, with the cottontail taking the honors with a possible 3-4 litters. At the other end of the scale, the black bear brings off its young only every other year, but makes up for it, in part, by generally turning out twins.

The number of youngsters produced depends on many things besides the immediate problems of nest or litter destruction by weather or predators. Long-lived, large game animals, like deer and the larger predators, normally have fewer young than small, short-

lived prey species. Range conditions are important, too. More and healthier fawns are born to deer where herds have sufficient, high-quality food than where ranges are overstocked and overbrowsed. Even soil fertility is reflected in reproduction. Bigger, stronger broods and litters are turned out on good soil than on marginal land—convincing evidence that good game management starts with good land management.

All in all it's quite a story the young'uns tell. A story of the state of the soil, of the quality and quantity of food on the land, of predator and prey, good weather or bad, and of next fall's harvestable surplus of game. So, bend an ear, and an eye, to the story this summer. You'll be reading the punch line to Nature's best seller, "The Making of a Game Crop." #

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## Birds and Bugs

In any reckoning of animal values, songbirds score high for their tireless warfare on insects. But game birds deserve a little credit, too.

Most game species feed largely on vegetative matter in adult life. But during the first few months of existence, their diet is almost exclusively insects.

Up to the age of 10 or 12 weeks, the young of quail, pheasants, and grouse spend most of their waking hours in pursuit of bugs. It could be more than accidental that some

of the densest pheasant populations occur in areas offering bonanza supplies of grasshoppers, crickets, or some other equally available insect.

Ducks, also, start life as insectivores and continue to feed heavily, if not exclusively, on insects and related materials until they are half grown. Rapid growth requires a high level of protein which animal tissues provide. It is doubtful that our common game birds could survive and multiply in the absence of insects. #

# *Snow Damage at Rockport*

The surprise snow storm last April 6 caused considerable damage to the Division's pheasant farm located a few miles west of Hackettstown in Warren County. The storm, which started as rain in the evening, turned to snow and deposited about six inches of wet snow on the



Superintendent Duncan Buntain of the Division's Rockport game farm surveys the damage to the farm's holding pens caused by six inches of wet snow last April 6.

pens. Approximately six acres of pens were totally destroyed and another two to three acres partially damaged.

The Bureau of Wildlife Management announced that, since the hatching and rearing seasons were fast approaching at the time, repairs were undertaken as quickly as time, manpower, and funds permitted. Personnel stated that the facility would still be capable of producing 21,000 birds this season. #

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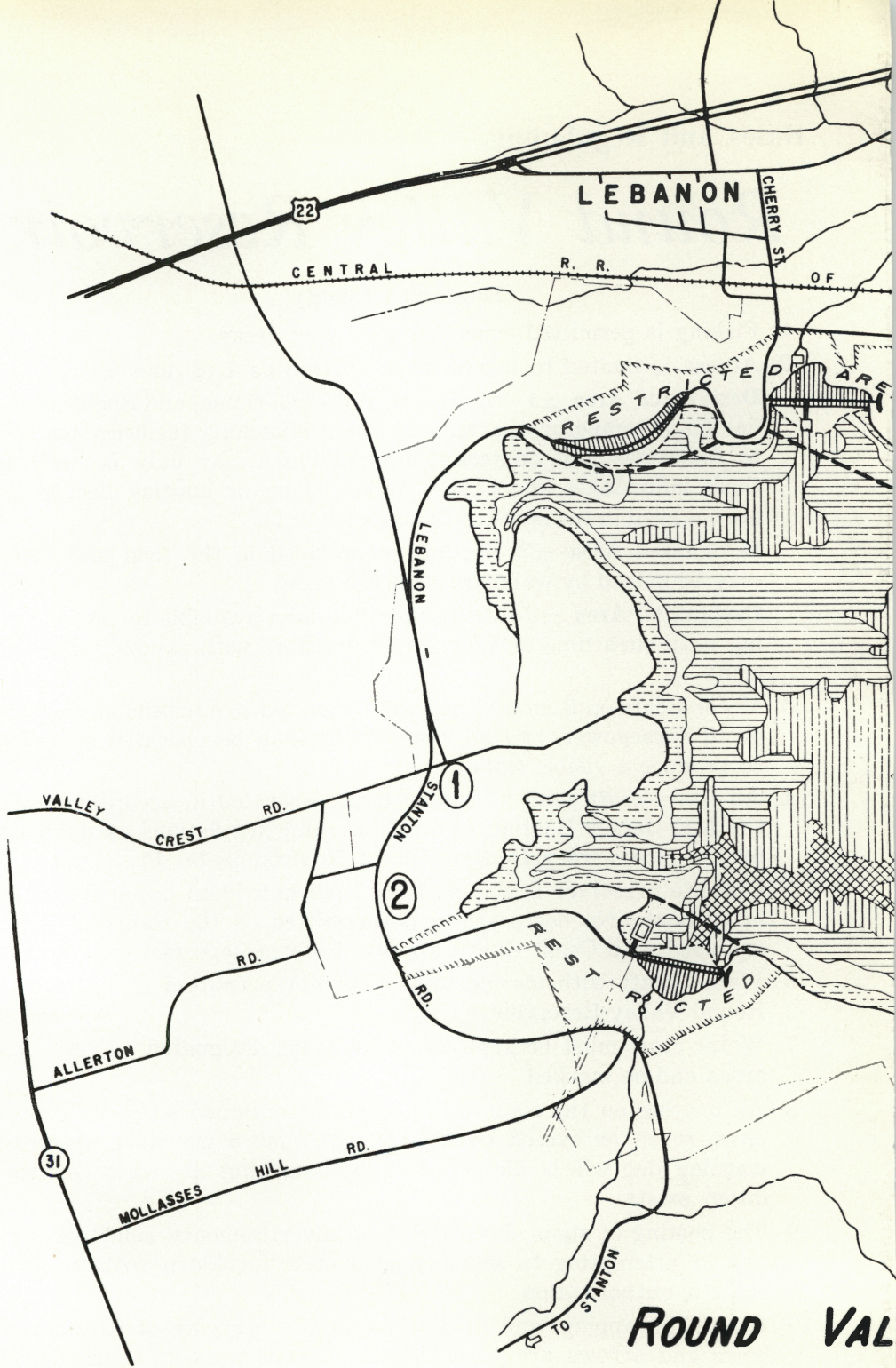
One accessory every boater-photographer should own is a lens shade to keep the glare out of the camera eye, thus insuring sharper photographs. For those who like compactness, there are collapsible lens shades to fit the skipper's pocket. #

## Rules and Regulations—

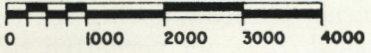
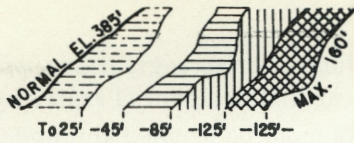
# Round Valley Reservoir

### Hunterdon County

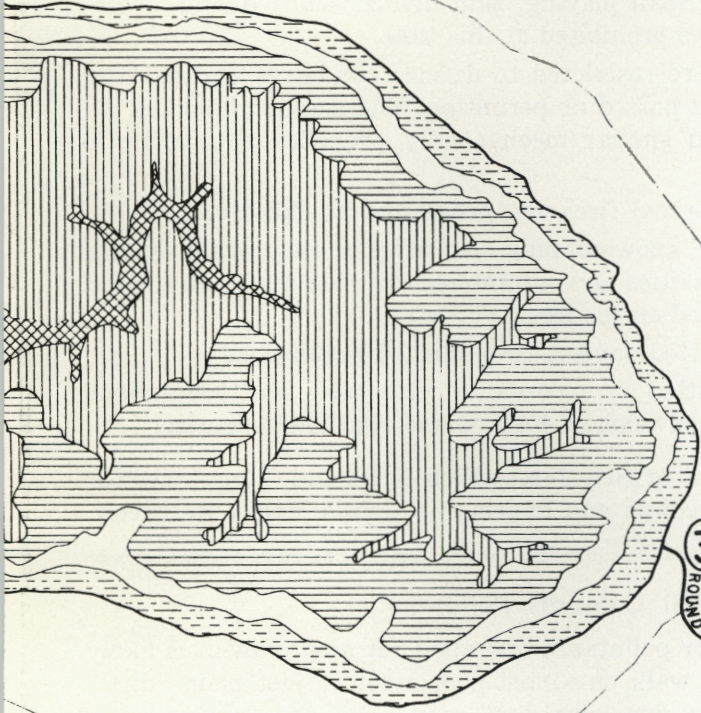
1. Fishing is permitted except in restricted areas.
2. Access is limited to locations designated as 1, 2, and 3.  
**Designated Area #1**--The Division of Fish, Game, and Shellfisheries has made temporary parking and boat launching facilities available to fishermen and hunters. These facilities may only be used by those individuals who have a valid fishing or hunting license and are engaged in the sport of fishing or hunting.  
**Designated Area #2**--Parking is provided in the field and access may be gained by walking to the reservoir.  
**Designated Area #3**--Limited parking area available for shore fishing until such time as such would interfere with campsite development.
3. Motor Boats on Round Valley 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.
4. 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.
5. 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.
6. Water Craft with marine toilets are not permitted to operate on Round Valley Reservoir.
7. Water craft must be kept out of all areas designated as restricted areas and so marked.
8. All boating on the reservoir is to be discontinued when wind velocities reach or exceed twenty-five (25) miles per hour. A storm warning flag will be displayed at the launching site when this condition exists.
9. The posting of signs, distribution of advertisements, soliciting, selling, or attempting to sell any product is forbidden without prior written authorization.
10. Hunting, trapping, and field trials, or the carrying of firearms or bows and arrows are permitted in accordance with Fish, Game.



WATER DEPTHS



NEW JERSEY



3 ROUND

VALLEY RD

TO WHITEHOUSE STA. ↗

RD.

DREAHOOK TO RT. 523 ↘

**RESERVOIR**

August, 1971

and Shellfisheries regulations with the exception of posted special use areas and designated restricted areas.

11. 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.
12. The consumption or possession of alcoholic beverages is prohibited.
13. 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.
14. Waste material must be placed in receptacles provided. The burning or dumping of refuse is prohibited.
15. Annoying or objectionable conduct is not permitted.
16. Camping, picnicking, ball playing, skin diving, scuba diving, swimming, wading, etc. are prohibited at this time.
17. All motor vehicles are restricted to defined roadways and parking lots unless otherwise posted or permitted. The use of minibikes, all terrain vehicles, and similar mechanically propelled equipment is prohibited.
18. Ground fires or charcoal fires are prohibited at this time.
19. Ice skating, sledding, snowmobiling, and other similar winter sports and ice related activities are prohibited at this time. Motorized vehicles are prohibited on the ice.
20. Ice boating is permitted subject to published regulations.
21. Ice fishing is permitted in accordance with rules and regulations promulgated by the Division of Fish, Game, and Shellfisheries.

Consult the Compendiums of New Jersey Fish Laws and Game Laws for regulations concerning fishing and hunting on **Round Valley Reservoir**.

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### Soil Combats Pollution

The ultimate cure for pollutants that spoil our environment is likely to be the very earth we walk on—most people call it just plain “dirt”. The concept of “cleaning dirt with dirt” may seem odd. But soil, the term used by all soils men, has an amazing capacity for recycling many of the most troublesome waste of today’s society.

Controlled disposal of wastes from animals, humans, and plants can actually improve soil structures and productivity. However, all such dumping must be a scientific choice of sites based on the particular kind of soil involved. Soils vary widely in their ability to absorb pollutants without creating a hazard or nuisance. #

## Bringing 'Em In

How do you boat a fish everytime . . . well, almost everytime?

The insolent slap of a tail as a fish slips over the net rim and breaks for freedom has caused more than one angler to develop symptoms of a persecution complex. It's mighty discouraging to lose a hefty specimen after a long battle that brings him this close to the taxidermist.

But it's a recognized fact that boating a fish is a difficult task, and a great many potential record-breakers have become fiction rather than fact. So, here are a few simple rules that may save you a disappointing experience.

First, select a long-handled net of sufficient size to accommodate the fish you seek. Small nets carried when wading are not adequate because they force you to lean far over the gunwale.

A tired fish remains fairly docile unless suddenly frightened by any quick movement, so never lurch or wave your arms unnecessarily. When the fish is held on the surface by a tight line, a mere shake can snap a leader.

Always put the net in the water before the fish is brought into landing position, then pull him head first over it and lift. This avoids a lunge which usually causes the fish to break again. Lift smoothly, and, in one motion, bring the netted fish over into the boat.

Boating a fish is the crucial step. It's not difficult, but it requires patience in playing the fish until he's tired, and then wielding the net calmly. There'll be plenty of time for excitement later. #



### A Black Chuck

*I have lived and hunted in New Jersey for a long time. But, the strangest thing I have ever come across is this black, or melanistic, woodchuck, which was shot in the Wantage area of Sussex.*

—Costas Megariotis



—Rose Marie  
Dr. William E. Di Santo with his new state record wahoo which weighed 93 pounds and 10 ounces. The Doctor was fishing on his family boat the "Sweet-pea" out of Cape May when he landed the prize catch.

## How my Dad caught the new state record

# Wahoo

By Yvonne Di Santo

It was eleven p.m., August 29, 1969. We called the Cape May Coast Guard for the weather forecast and found that the conditions were favorable for the remainder of the night and the next day. Dad gave us the go-ahead for our fishing trip and we left our Cape May home for Cape Island Marina, four blocks away. Our station wagon was loaded with our family, Dad and Mom, Virginia 15, Billy 13, Debbie 12, Mark 8, and Angela 6. I am Yvonne and 16 years old. My cousins, Joe Di Santo 15 and Rose Marie Leech 16, were also along. There were loads of grub and various baits—from Ballyhoo, eels, squid, large and small mullet and Spanish Mackerel.

We stopped at the ice machine and added 50 pounds of ice for the baits to our load. Finally, about 11:15, we pulled into the East Basin. Everybody grabbed a bag and carried it to the boat. Daddy made one last check of everything on the boat to see if we were in ship-shape. The Loran, spotlight, radio refrigerator, and lights all checked

out. When I heard him yell up to me on the bridge, "crack the starboard engine!", I turned the key and "rinng" went the alarm with enough noise to wake those on the dock who were about to bed down. But, then when that diesel engine went off, they were knocked out of bed. When Dad was satisfied it was running smoothly, he shouted "crack the port side!" Now we had twice the racket. Dad closed the hatches and climbed the ladder to the bridge and took the wheel. I hurried to release the bow lines and Ginny and Billy were on the stern.

We headed out of the slip and proceeded out of the Marina, past the Coast Guard Station, counting the buoys along the way. Then we swung to course 155°, slowly heading out of the inlet. Once we left the inlet our course was 170°. On went the spotlight projecting its beam down and ahead to spot floating objects. The throttle was advanced to 2,000 r. p. m.'s.

Daddy did most of the steering during the night, while we took

## ... Wahoo

shifts looking for floating debris and lights from other vessels. He took a Loran bearing every hour or two to be sure he would reach the area he desired. He likes to fish ledges and little bumps on the chart.

Along about 4:00 p. m., I took the wheel for a while and Dad proceeded to rig the baits and make lures. You should see how he rigs the baits! He handles them with such care and gentleness; you would think he was operating on one of his patients. He even has a special set of instruments just for rigging baits. (I forgot to tell you that he sharpens all the hooks before starting.) He does such a good job on the baits that I can never tell which ones are rigged after he has them all salted and iced.

Then Dad takes over the controls and steered until daylight, when I took over again. Now it was time to put out the outriggers and set the rods in the holders. Dad made one last check on the lines, taking care there were no frays. Ginny placed the baits in a convenient area so that they could be reached in a second's notice.

When Dad was satisfied that we were in the right area, he shouted, "take her down", and I slowly pulled the throttles down to 1000 r. p. m.'s. Daddy, Ginny, and Mommy attached the baits to the lines and adjusted them to the desired positions trailing behind the boat.

They sure looked good; just like they were swimming. Then Dad put a small rod out with a feather for dolphin.

The ship to shore radio was on and I was listening to the conversations between the other boats, "they had one up . . . got him on . . ." Then suddenly, there he was, the dorsal fin was up high and looking for a fight. I yelled down to Dad, "watch out for the starboard outrigger!" and the line flew out of the holder and Dad had him on. He settled down to a nice fight when suddenly, up came another fish on the flat line. Ginny dropped a ballyhoo to him and bang! We now had two on. Mommy and Billy took in the other rods and cleared the cockpit for action. Dad got his in first, a white marlin, and then billed Ginny's.

Okay! Get those lines out again. Three hours passed, trolling and enjoying the sun. Most of the kids were up now. We had a couple of other fish up but lost them. Then out went the dolphin rod and Billy reeled in a nice 25-pound dolphin.

I heard over the radio that there were a lot of fish being caught to the south of us, so off we went. Twenty minutes later . . . Yee Gads! What a havoc ! ! Fish up all over the place. We tagged two marlin and lost a couple more. Then I yelled to Dad, "keep on your toes. Something is off to the port side." I made a circle with the boat, but nothing. Before I could get around for the second circle, two other

boats were coming just where I wanted to go. I hit the throttle to turn faster and headed over the same spot. Only, this time out went the outrigger. What a scream that reel made! It was going so fast that I had to hit the throttle and chase it so all the line wouldn't go out of the reel. By this time, Daddy had the rod and was adjusting the reel. Golly! What a fantastic job. I thought that line would break but he knew just how much drag to put on him.

There were so many boats around that it was quite a job trying to prevent our fish from being cut off. I had to do some sharp turning, but Dad responded well and had the fish under control. Fifteen minutes had passed and we still didn't know what was on. Dad said he pulled like a tuna, but he stayed on top and was jerking as if he wanted to dive. I put the boat in a circle, so that there was a bow in the line. Thirty-five minutes later he started to yield a little. We have a large rockaway fighting chair, but Dad wanted to stand up and fight him. Ten minutes later, I finally was able to get a glimpse of him. I saw a silvery flash and then came the stripes on his body. I yelled, "It's a wahoo!!" And golly did it look big." As it came closer, it started to thrash on top of the water. Away went the camera grinding the action by Debby. Ginny was getting out the large and small gaffs and set up the tail rope in position. Then she put gloves on Dad's hands. Dad eased

the fish over to the port side of the stern, but the fish was thrashing too much to gaff him. He was taking extreme care with the drag and told Ginny to wet his gloves and put pressure on the reel, slowing the fish. Dad didn't waste any time. He put the rod in the fishing chair and took hold of the leader and followed the fish with the gaff as if he were going to give an injection. Then suddenly, Dad made one fast swipe with the gaff and there was nothing but white water all around the stern. Dad was holding on with all he had and couldn't lift the fish over the stern. Mommy and Ginny went over to help him. I was getting extremely anxious on the bridge and told Debby to keep taking the action. Then there it was. Like a flash over the stern and what action!! The fish started to snap. What a set of jaws. I could hear the snapping of teeth clear up on the bridge. Mommy ran into the cabin for the fish just missed her leg. And there was Daddy standing there with that fish wiggling and snapping on the end of the gaff. He shouted, "Open the fish box and push it over here!!" I knew what was on his mind, so I took the clutches out of gear and went down to help him. Ginny was letting line out of the reel so that he could manipulate the fish into the box. Debby was taking pictures. Mommy and I pushed the box over and Daddy needed help to lift the fish in the box.

Maybe that wasn't something. We have a five-foot box, two foot

## . . . Wahoo

wide, and we were supposed to get this wild fish that was trying to bite everybody in sight. Daddy said that as soon as he got his head in the box, put the lid on and sit on it. So up on the fighting chair, I stood to give Dad more leverage when we lifted. "Ginny," Dad said, "soon as we get him in the box, you loop the tail rope around his tail and pull tight on the gin pole's rope. That will stop him from thrashing." "O.K." she said and Daddy said, "Now lift !!"

Then Dad had to hit him on the head, he broke the bat and had to use a hammer to quiet him. The only part of him that fit in the box was his head and gills.

The kids were all jumping up and down, cheering and yelling with glee. Dad had a grin on his face, not from ear to ear, but as far as his temples. Then he said, "That thing must weigh one hundred pounds and the darned thing had to hit the smallest rod we had out !!"

Well, now we headed for home as I pushed up the throttles to 2,500 r.p.m.'s and headed her at 355°. It was a pretty good day. One wahoo about 100 pounds, three marlin in the boat and two tagged, and a 28-pound dolphin.

It would probably be almost dark when we got home, but just enough time to fuel up, get fresh supply of bait, grab a quick supper, and start out all over again. #

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The new state record wahoo taken by Dr. William E. Di Santo was 93 pounds and 10 ounces in weight, 74 inches in length, and 34 inches in girth. Dr. Di Santo caught the fish while fishing on his family boat the "Sweetpea" out of Cape May at approximately 3:00 p.m. on August 30, 1969. The catch was made in the Atlantic Ocean off shore between Baltimore and Washington Canyons while using 30-pound test line and a ballyhoo for bait. #

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### Careless Pheasant

Jack Snipe, the editorial writer for **Shooting Times & Country Magazine** in Great Britain, relates the following true story: "A chap had a pheasant fly into his window, breaking a large sheet of glass. He notified his insurance company and received by return of post one of those idiotic forms which equal, if they do not excel, those much-maligned forms put out by government departments. To the first question: 'Give Particulars of Accident,' he answered: 'Pheasant flew through window.' The second question was: 'What in your opinion, was the cause of the accident?' He gave the succinct reply: 'Careless flying.' I assume his claim was accepted." #

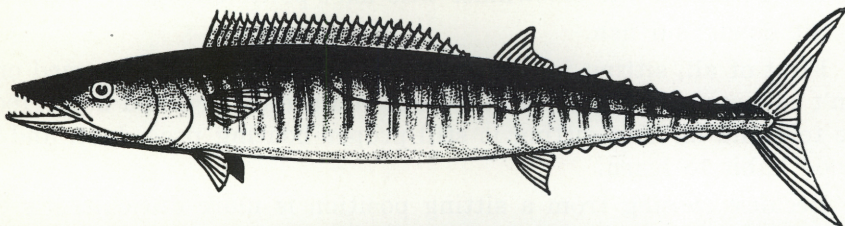
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# Fur, Fin <sup>and</sup> Campfire

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By BILL BERO

## WAHOO



WAHOO, ONE OF THE STRONGEST AND FASTEST SWIMMERS, IS ONE OF THE PRIZE GAME FISHES SOUGHT BY ANGLERS IN THE GULF STREAM AND IN THE WEST INDIES.

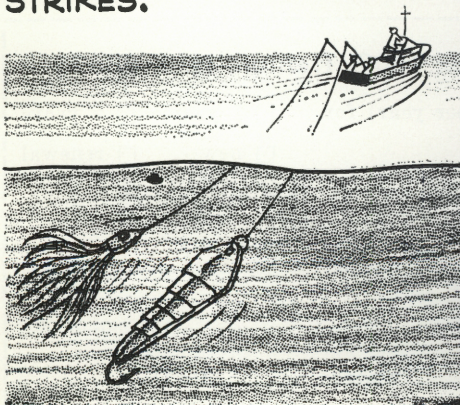
THEY ARE STEEL BLUE WITH SILVER WHICH RUBS OFF ON THE FINGERS.

THEY HAVE BEAKLIKE UPPER JAW, LONG, LOW DORSAL FIN.

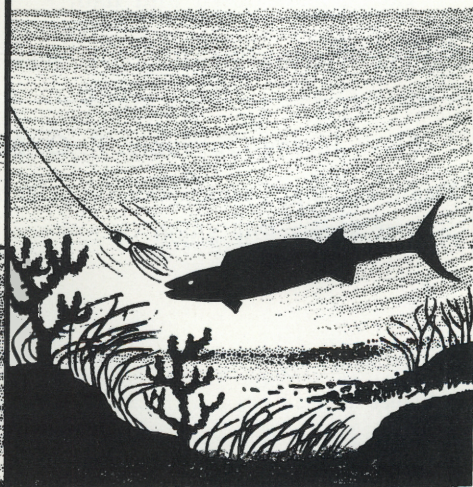
THEY AVERAGE 15 TO 20 LBS. BUT GO UP OVER 150 POUNDS.

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DEEP TROLLING IS THE BEST METHOD, USING FEATHERS OR SPOONS. AND USE A WIRE LEADER. KEEP A STIFF DRAG ON THE LINE, FOR THE WAHOO IS LIKE A TORPEDO WHEN IT STRIKES.



BEST PLACE TO GET ONE IS OFF THE OUTER REEFS IN THE DEEP WATER.



*One of the coolest known forms of light is that of the firefly.*

## Sit Down and Fish

There's one in every crowd.

He braces himself with both feet widespread, winds up like a sand lot hurler, and says, "Lay down, I'm going to cast."

Even worse is the sidewinder who isn't polite enough to warn you.

Sit down and fish.

First of all, sitting in a boat is safer. Modern broad-beamed craft aren't as tippy as canoes, and the boat you are using could be perfectly safe to stand in. But sitting is still proper boating procedure, and it's a good habit to learn.

Because casting from a sitting position is more difficult, it's considered one way to tell the difference between an experienced angler and a neophyte. It requires correct wrist action, and the more accurate overhand cast. Sit down and cast, and you'll learn to handle your equipment better.

In addition to boating safety and correct casting techniques, a posterior on a boat cushion can literally mean more fish on the stringer. Fish spook easily, and they can see a man standing in a boat more readily than they can a sitting fisherman.

In observing the world from their watery habitat, fish are restricted to a view between 90 and approximately 37 degrees. As a rule, a standing fisherman falls within this field of vision, and appears as a dancing, distorted monster. On the other hand, a low silhouette boat can approach within several yards of fish without spooking them.

So . . . sit down and fish.

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## Hunting is More Fun If You're in Shape

As most other people, hunters are not always in top physical condition when the season for their sport rolls around.

Too many hunters take to the field on opening day of the hunting season without giving any thought to getting into shape for long hikes. Sportsmen could spare themselves a lot of aches, pains and possibly a heart attack by doing some pre-seasonal exercises.

Start taking daily walks in your hunting boots several weeks before the season opens, increasing the distance until your legs and wind are in condition for the type of hunting that you'll be doing.

To get arm and shoulder muscles in shape for carrying a seven or eight-pound shotgun, hunters should set up a daily routine of exercise.

It's always a good idea to have a physical examination by your family doctor.

As with any other sport, hunting will be a lot more fun if you get in shape. #

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## About Federal Fish Hatcheries

The Interior Department's Fish and Wildlife Service feels its fish hatcheries and stocking programs, which provide many thousands of trout annually for stocking New Jersey waters, are better than they used to be. The difference today lies in programs which accomplish what attempts before 1950 so often failed to do: Improve the quality of U. S. fishing.

Species today are evaluated according to their needs and environmental conditions under which they're most likely to survive. Hatchery improvements include sophisticated diets, additional disease and parasite research control, increased water quality rearing ponds, and hardier brood stock providing more adaptable fish.

"Today, managers of Federal facilities weigh environmental situations before attempting to stock fish," said Dr. Leslie L. Glasglow, former Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Fish, Wildlife, Parks and Marine Resources. "The idea is to plant fish where they will best thrive." #

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On small boats, the soft spot for sleeping is atop an air mattress. It offers considerable comfort and, when deflated and rolled up, doesn't require much storage space. Before leaving on a cruise, check it out for leaks. #

## Atlantic Salmon and the Way it Might Have Been

“. . . the Fish Commissioners' greatest source of gratification was on account of the large number of Atlantic salmon which ascended the Delaware in the spring of 1896. In the report of the Commissioners for 1895, they announced 'the almost certainty' that their efforts to stock the Delaware River with Atlantic salmon had been successful.

"What the Commissioners announced in their report for 1895 as almost a certainty they now feel justified in pronouncing that their efforts to make a salmon river out of the Delaware an assured success.

"For the first time in the history of Philadelphia, Atlantic salmon were plentiful in all its large hotels and high grade restaurants. 'Delaware Salmon' signs were displayed almost daily in the windows of the latter places, and one well-known restaurateur informed an inquiring gentleman that he could get more of this fish than he could use.

"As in 1895, the majority of the Atlantic salmon caught weighed from 12 to 15 pounds, but there was a marked increase in the number of fish from 25 to 30 pounds.

"It is on this evidence that the Commissioners base their declaration of success, and they feel the greater gratification in the outcome because prior to 1870 there is not the slightest evidence to show that this, the most eagerly sought for food and game fish, ever had a home in the Delaware. #

—1896 Pennsylvania Report of State  
Commissioners of Fisheries

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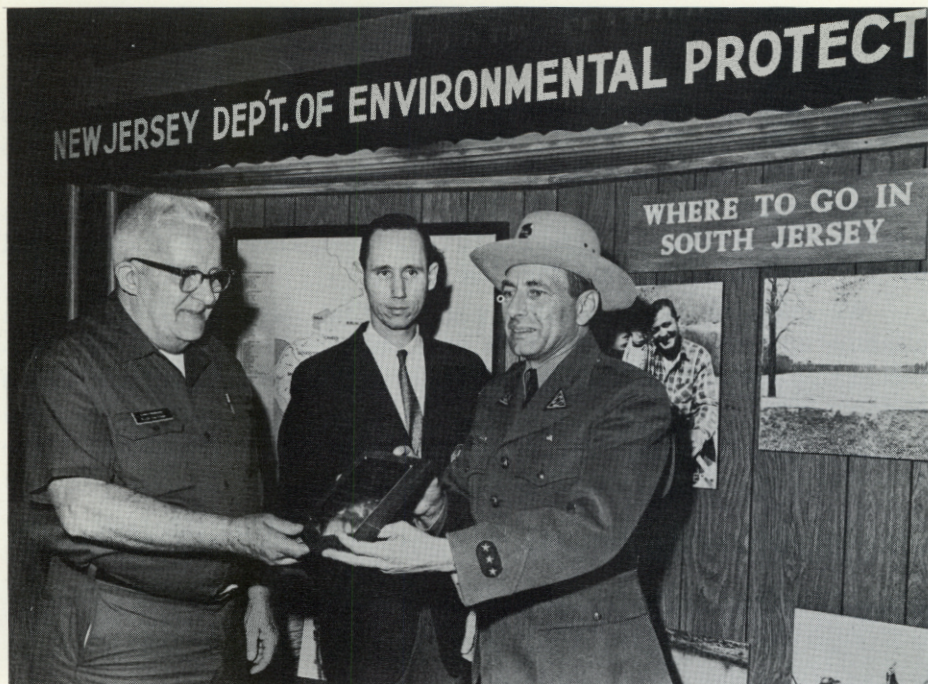
The above account of the Atlantic salmon in the Delaware River in the past gives us an idea of what fishing could be like were it not for pollution and dams. Also, it should remind us that the salmon is currently of vital international concern because of the high seas commercial fishing for them that could decimate the remaining salmon stocks. #

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### Fried Catfish

2 lbs. skinned catfish fillets or steaks	
2 tablespoons lemon juice	1 teaspoon salt
1 egg, beaten	Dash pepper
1 tablespoon milk	1 cup dry bread crumbs

Thaw fillets if frozen. Cut into serving-size portions. Sprinkle with lemon juice and let stand 15 minutes. Combine egg, milk, salt, and pepper. Dip fish in egg mixture and roll in crumbs. Fry in deep fat, 350 degrees F., for three to five minutes or until fish is golden brown and flakes easily when tested with a fork. Drain on absorbent paper. Serve with hush puppies and tartar sauce. #



### Division Wins "Outstanding" Award for 1971

The Division was awarded top place for the "outstanding state agency exhibit" at the 1971 Philadelphia Sport, Camping, Vacation, and Travel Show. Here Ed Kaufolz, center, presents the award to Everett MacKinnon of the Public Relations Unit, left, and Conservation Officer Charles Torluccio.

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## Scouts Save Fishing Area

Prior to this fishing season the owners of Schadlers Pond at Pennsgrove were having trouble with littering and had put up barricades to keep the public out of the property. Since this is one of the two ponds in which we stock trout in Salem County, we were very concerned. We approached the owners who were quick to agree that the problem was due mostly to parkers and not to fishermen. Therefore, they allowed us to stock the pond again for this season.

We made an effort to find a group that might be interested in cleaning up the pond and the area as a public service. Luckily we contacted Cub Scout Pack Number 230 of Pennsville and Boy Scout Troop Number 38 of Woodstown. The members of these two organizations did an excellent job of policing the area and deserve the thanks of the sportsmen and the Division. #

—Winfield Jess,  
Conservation Officer



*Cub Scout Pack Number 230 of Pennsville and Cub Master James Robinson with some of the refuse they collected at Schadlers Pond in Salem County this season*



*Troop Number 38, Boy Scouts of America, of Woodstown with a portion of the four truck loads of trash they hauled away from Schadlers Pond this spring*

## Pick of the Pig

A lure can be decorated in many ways to make it more enticing and more effective.

Of all the "additives" that can be combined with regular offerings, nothing beats a hunk of pork.

Regardless of the species being sought, this particular adornment will work miracles from the seashore, through the warm water areas, to the haunts of the arctic grayling.

The pork rind, is available in shapes, sizes, and colors specifically designed to arouse the feeding instincts of nearly every fish that swims. From bluegills to muskies, sails to salmon, a chunk of pork has been the downfall of many a reluctant battler.

Strips of this artificial-natural bait may be attached to practically all lures. They are deadly as eels hooked to weedless spoons or jigs. Matchstick-thin strips tailing a spinner give that added strike-producing wiggle. Some pork comes in the form of "pills," apparently imitating bite-size salmon eggs that summon trout so well. For certain occasions, mere shavings, called "flicks," impaled on a plain hook will do the trick with bluegill, yellow perch, and crappie.

Versatility of pork rind is overshadowed only by durability. No bait has its staying power, the ability to remain fresh hour after hour. None matches its toughness when combating short strikes and fouling. And you can't lose it during a cast.

Pork may not always be the best bait, but it certainly merits a reserved niche in every tackle box. #

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## Save That Old Lure

Outdoorsmen get as sentimental about a favorite fishing lure as they do about the fine bird dogs and trusted shotguns. And the more big fish they catch on the battered veteran plug, the more they worry about it. With every cast they risk having some greedy lunker break the line and carry the lure off to his own underwater trophy room. Some fishermen are finding the answer by mounting the favorite "old bait," and retiring it from active duty while there is still time.

One Provident fisherman retired his bass lures as soon as they caught a largemouth bigger than four pounds. He mounted each lure on a small plaque of varnished plywood and hung it in his trophy room.

But perhaps the best idea we've heard for mounting retired lures comes from a bass fisherman who luckily caught two bass totaling 21 pounds in one day of good fishing. Today that veteran lure is mounted in a beautiful mahogany frame with textured back. It's a decorator piece with memories. #

# Beaver Swamp Tract

The Beaver Swamp Fish and Wildlife Management Area in Cape May County is interlaced with swamps, dense forest, creeks, and small ponds. It is situated at the head of Sluice Creek between South Dennis and Swainton and is accessible from Routes 585, 83, and 9. The area, which is approximately 2,700 acres, was acquired under the Green Acres program.

## Upland Game

Squirrel, quail, cottontail rabbit, and woodcock hunting are available. Establishing wildlife food patches should increase the populations of the squirrels, quail, and rabbits and insure better hunting.

## Deer

The area presently supports an excellent deer herd and provides good hunting for both bowmen and firearms hunters.

## Fishing

Fishing is good for eastern chain pickerel, or pike. Proposed impoundments should improve the fresh water angling prospects.

## Waterfowl

Wood duck, teal, black duck, and mallard are harvested on the tract at present. Food areas for geese and other waterfowl are being planned. #

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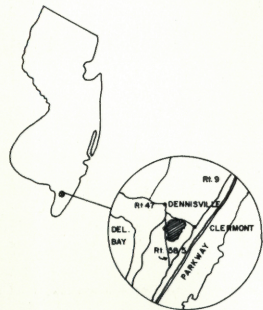
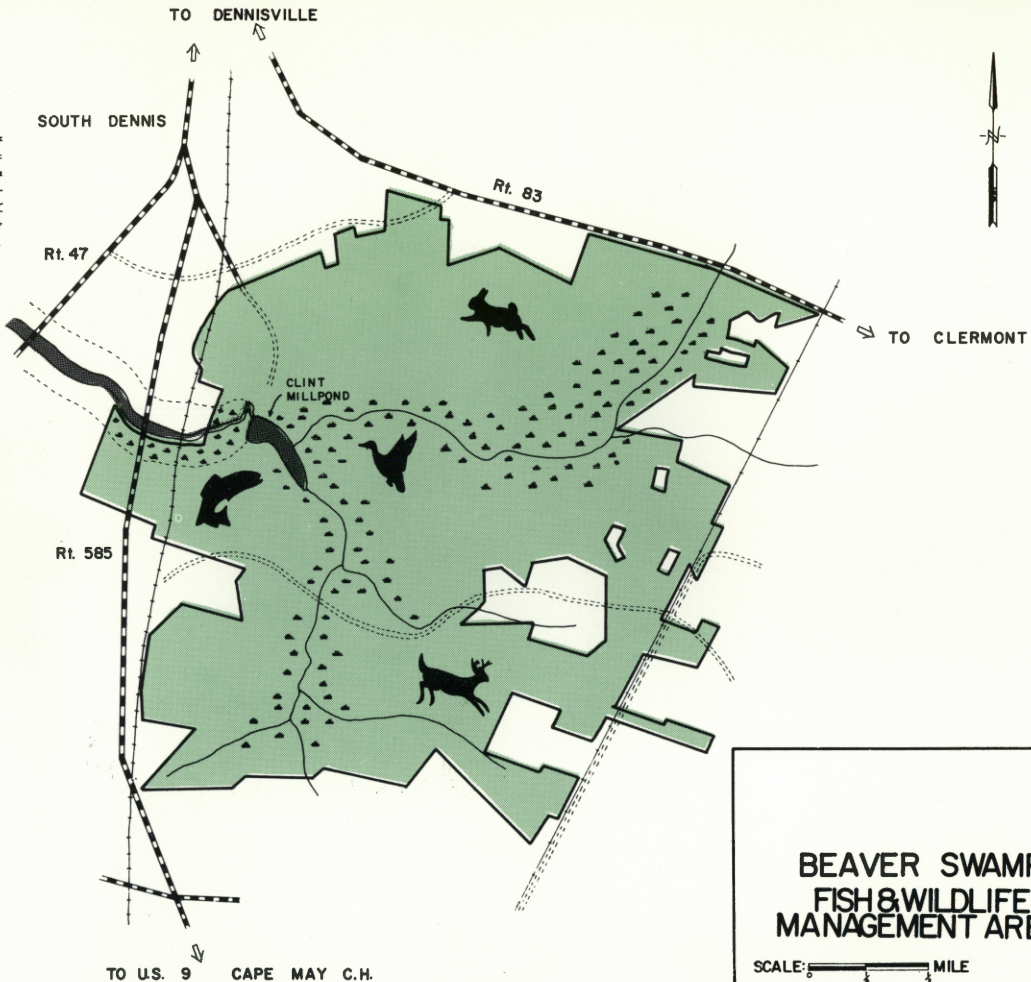
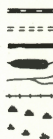
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