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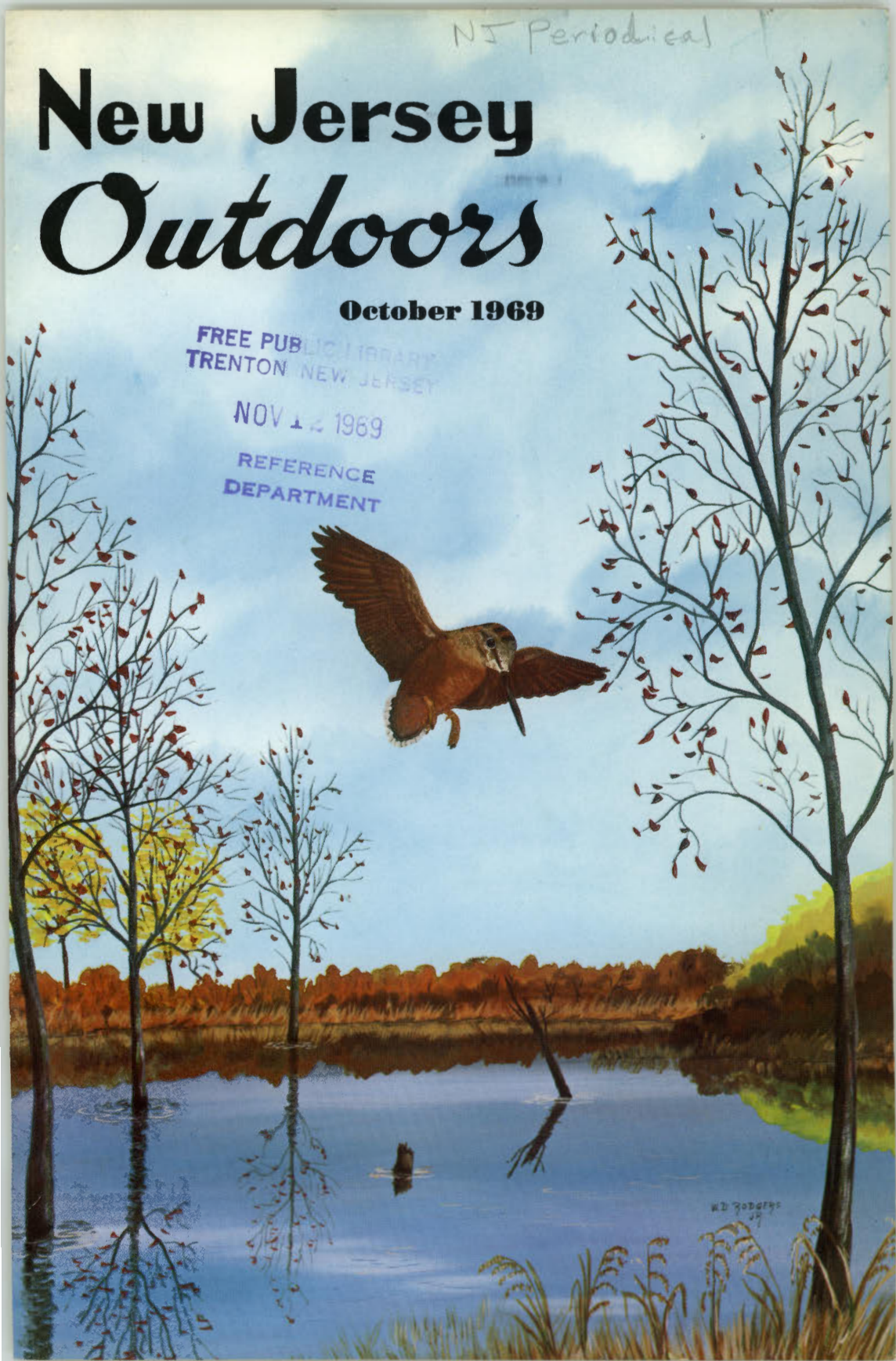
# New Jersey *Outdoors*

October 1969

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DEPARTMENT



# Dear Lord

This is the Invocation given by The Rev. Ernest Gordon, Captain of The 93rd Highlanders (or Thin Red Line), now Dean of the Princeton University Chapel, at the Mercer County Area Ducks Unlimited Dinner on October 11, 1968:

Dear Lord, we are glad that you created such a good world. In thankfulness for it, help us to be better stewards of its riches. We thank you for the ample provision of wild life, which beautifies creation as well as supplying meat for our tables. Grant that we shoot just enough for our table and a brace or two for our neighbors. Prevent us from destroying what you have created so graciously, and help us to work for the preservation of Thy handiwork and for the betterment of the animal kingdom. This we ask in the Name of Him who loved nature so dearly and who, in so short a time, achieved so much for us all, even Jesus Christ, our Saviour. Amen.





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# New Jersey Outdoors

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in the interest of conservation and restoration of wildlife and  
the betterment of hunting and fishing in New Jersey.

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### Cover—"The Woodcock"—W. D. Rodgers, Jr.

The woodcock is a member of the shorebird family that seldom sees the shore. In fact hunters have come to regard the timberdoodle, as he is known, to be an upland game bird. With the first frosts some of the woodcock, which are a migratory species, start moving south. However, birds are usually present in numbers in New Jersey well into November. For more on the woodcock see page 3 and the inside back cover.

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*The woodcock is a real natural oddity—Its eyes are set high on its head with its ears located just below the eyes. And its long bill can be used with the skill of a surgeon's forceps to probe the ground for its favorite food, the worm*



# Metropolitan Longbills

By Howard Brant, Outdoor Editor

Newark Star Ledger

Photographs by Harry Grosch

**A**ccording to the census-taker, the minute Garden State called New Jersey is the most densely populated state in the Union, averaging about 809 persons per square mile with a population of some 6,000,000 people.

Small wonder its wildlife population has a rough road to hoe as the onrush of this populace and the expansion of industry daily eliminates prime hunting covers, with wildlife literally being forced to vacate as civilization advances.

While it's true some ringneck pheasants still manage to multiply on their own in the rolling hill country of a few central tier counties and some bobwhite quail manage to thrive in its southern zone and a scattering of ruffed grouse reproduce in the few remaining laurel thickets, for the most part, ringnecks and quail are annually liberated by the Division of Fish and Game on its State Wildlife Management Areas to furnish sport for the ever-increasing number of upland hunters; and more and more remaining cover is daily being acquired by private hunting clubs, who also supplement their diminishing game supply by the liberation of various game birds.

But despite the artificiality and the

so-called put-and-take methods forced upon Garden State hunters, there still manages to survive amid this bustling metropolis one single and truly wild bird, and one that offers superb hunting for those gunners who take the time and patience to ply alder thickets and bog country, where the little gamester, the American woodcock, thrives.

Although generally not considered an upland bird, for that little will-o'-the-wisp known as the woodcock is actually a member of the snipe family, it is a grand little game bird in its own right and is fast becoming one of our most popular game birds. And every fall this migratory gamester filters through the Garden State on its annual southern migration, and in recent years, in quantities to amaze the most veteran of gunners.

But with the influx of heavy hunting pressures, ardent woodcock hunters guard this success-story passionately. As one veteran longbill gunner said, "Grouse are at a low ebb and I don't care for hunting the pen-reared quail and ringnecks the State liberates. But come fall, when woodcock flights pour through the state, that's hunting in its finest. I don't think the average hunter

### . . . Metropolitan Longbills

realizes how good Jersey woodcock hunting can be, but please don't tell anyone. I've hunted and followed woodcock all my life and gunned them from the alder tangles of New Brunswick, Canada, south, but have had my finest longbill hunting here, in the Garden State."

Woodcock hunters, while secretive in their endeavors are also a highly specialized breed of individuals, known for their selectivity and outstanding sportsmanship and who love to watch good bird dogs at work.

The American woodcock's scientific name is "philohela," meaning "swamp lover." For swamps are where the

longbill seeks its prime source of food—earthworms. Using its long bill with the skill of a surgeon's forceps, it probes the bog country for worms (hence the name bogsucker) until the ground freezes, then departs for warmer climes.

Woodcock are shy, solitary creatures, who have grown accustomed to people and the inroads of civilization and can thrive in such an environment. Although many people live within a few yards of excellent woodcock habitat, many have never seen one, such is their elusiveness.

The little longbill, weighing about six ounces on the average, is mottled brown in coloration which makes them quite invisible when they freeze mo-

*Woodcock cover is tough shooting cover and a lightning-fast scattergun is desired. Most longbill gunners prefer the lightweight 20 gauge in either the side-by-side or over and under*



### . . . Metropolitan Longbills

a single season than most Jersey nim-

his finger toward the thicket and said to his dog, "In there—where do you think you are going?"



the importance of good bird dogs for longbill hunting, the pair diligently spends hours daily working these young pups, training them in the ways of the woodcock.

That takes time and patience, but in an era of hard-pressed covers and heavy gunning pressures, to be consistently successful, one must work at it every moment. Today's hunting is highly competitive and as in all sports, only top-notch competitors reap the harvest.

When hunting woodcock you must be extremely thorough. Look for the tell-tale "chalk" marks and "splashings"—typical woodcock sign. And don't pass up spotting any "drill" marks either. Expert timberdoodle

hunters know whether these signs are fresh or a day or two old and hunt the cover accordingly.

When major flights do trickle from the far north into Jersey covers, woodcock usually have an uncanny knack of returning to the same covers as in previous years. So if you find some good covers and they are not overly disturbed between hunting seasons, you can rest assured you'll again find birds in the same locations come the fall hunting seasons.

As a general rule, female woodcock are much larger in size than the male and the hen usually sports a longer bill. The female also migrates at a slightly earlier period than the male, consequently during the early season



*A woodcock dog must know how to retrieve or many birds will be lost in the heavy foliage and cover of the color-splashed autumn woodlands*

## ***. . . Metropolitan Longbills***

many more hen birds will be contained in the uplanders bag.

While the little longbills first love is the moist bog country, come fall, seek them too on northern hillsides covered with alders, birches and pine. And since northern slopes are usually damper than southern exposures, always hunt them on this side of the cover. But since the longbills prime choice is alders, never pass up working an area that contains this type cover.

As woodcock are found in relatively heavy cover, the hunter requires a fast-handling scattergun. Lightweight doubles are still very much in use by woodcock addicts as well as the over and under.

Since shots are chiefly at close range, open bored weapons are a must. Many woodcock gunners prefer their side-by-side and over and under's choked with an improved cylinder "first" barrel and a modified choke for the "second" barrel.

Short barrels make for excellent handling in thick brush and inasmuch as the longbill is small and delicate, size 9 shot will tumble it every time. As regard to gauge, the question is age old and arguments pro and con could last for days. But today we do see many hunters tending toward the petite 20 gauge, because it is lightweight and makes for rapid handling in dense cover.

When a woodcock flushes from cover it usually towers straight up, 'til it clears the undergrowth or tree-tops, then makes a rapid change and starts its familiar erratic flight. It does not

fly too far either when flushed and if you keep a sharp eye on it, you will be able to flush it again.

During the height of their autumn migration, woodcock can be found throughout many portions of the Garden State. But the early season areas and some of the finest longbill gunning occurs along the upper Delaware River in the counties of Sussex and Warren. Here, the little birds can find an ample supply of worms along the myriad of pot-holes, alder thickets and bogs adjacent to the waters of the upper Delaware.

While there usually is a good "native" supply of birds here that winter over, they are normally gunned out the first few days of the hunting season, but covers here are ideal and birds quickly replenish these covers when the flights begin trickling southward in October.

Woodcock hunters "in the know," can actually follow the flights as they traverse the State from northern tier to its southern portions. Good longbill hunting is found as the season progresses in Hunterdon County in the central tier area as well as in Passaic and Middlesex, thence to Monmouth county and southward.

Some of the most fantastic woodcock gunning imaginable occurs during the end of the season in Cape May County, where mass flights of longbills pitch-in, waiting for the right wind conditions to enable them to traverse Delaware Bay to continue their southern journey.

Cape May gunners reluctantly describe this late fall hunting as something out of this world. Often times





*Take a boy hunting too—Russell Spinks, Wildlife Manager of the Flatbrook Wildlife Management Area, Sussex County, and his son Teddy, display an early morning's bag of longbills bagged in a Sussex County alder tangle during the peak of the autumn migration*

bird-dogs are not even required, as longbills can be readily flushed.

Sure, the Garden State, situated within sight of the concrete city and its vast metropolis of skyscrapers is a hectic area and although game birds in their natural state are rapidly disappearing as the years march on, we still have some of the finest woodcock hunting available.

You don't have to travel to the alder thickets of Canada and New England or to follow these gamesters to their Louisiana wintering grounds—come fall and the first full moon, they arrive here in force—and when you find a few likely looking alder covers and carefully hunt them—you might be surprised at what you will find. #



*Deer in restraining box being tagged with metal tags and colored plastic streamer*



*Tagged deer in restraining box ready for release*



# Have Tag, Will Travel

## Deer Tagging - 1969

By William E. Shoemaker  
Bureau of Wildlife Management

DURING THE PAST YEAR, personnel from the Bureau of Wildlife Management of the New Jersey Division of Fish and Game have been attempting to capture, tag, and release wild deer in various sections of the state. The basic reasoning behind these endeavors is the investigation of deer movements. Sound management programs are dependent upon such information as: How far do deer travel from wintering areas to summer range? Do travel distances vary between deer of different age and sex? And, do all deer return to the same wintering area, year after year? It will not be surprising to discover that our present deer herds do not recognize county lines. We hope to evaluate present deer habitat management and to develop new and better methods of manipulating seasonal habitat. All of these endeavors, however, are dependent upon close cooperation between, sportsmen, biologists, and interested individuals.

A total of 181 individual deer have been captured, tagged, and released since January, 1969. Most deer were marked with metal cattle tags in each ear, and colored plastic streamers in one ear. Due to their size at the time of capture, fawns were tagged with small clip tags. Deer were captured and tagged by three different methods;

box trapping, hoop netting of newly-born fawns, and utilizing Cap-Chur equipment and immobilizing drugs. The 181 deer were captured in Burlington, Ocean, Warren, and Hunterdon Counties. Box traps were set in wintering areas and baited with apple pumice. Upon entering the trap the deer tripped a wire which dropped both doors and trapped the animal inside. Most deer remained relatively calm following capture and were easily removed and tagged. To remove a deer from the trap a reducing plate was fastened to one end of the trap together with a restraining box. The deer was transferred to the restraining box, held in an especially designed yoke, tagged, weighed, and released. The entire tagging operation took less than ten minutes. Another successful method of marking substantial numbers of wild deer was the capturing of newly born fawns. This method was restricted mainly to farming areas where hay fields predominated. Most fawns were found along field edges adjacent to woodland borders. Single does were first spotted in the fields. If they had apparently fawned, areas adjacent to their location were searched. When fawns were spotted, they were captured by casting a large diameter hoop net over them. A small

. . . Have Tag



*Deer being shot with Cap-Chur dart gun employing an immobilizing drug to facilitate capture and handling*



*Weighing trapped deer in restraining box. Note the trap*





*Hoop net being cast  
over a fawn to be tagged*

*Deer, below, with tags  
and colored streamers  
commencing its travels  
in high gear*



### . . . Have Tag

metal tag was then clipped into each ear and the fawn was released at the capture site. A total of 28 newly-born fawns were captured and tagged by this method in Hunterdon and Morris Counties. The use of immobilizing drugs to capture wild deer was investigated during 1969. Deer were baited into an area from which they could be shot with a drugged dart. They were tagged while under the drug influence

and returned to their normal habitat as soon as the drug effect wore off. Six wild deer were captured and tagged using this method. Although much experimental work utilizing semi-wild deer was carried out on this phase of the capture operation this year, only limited field work on wild deer was carried out. The experimental work carried out in 1969 should enable the Bureau to capture substantial numbers of wild deer in future years utilizing drugs and Cap-Chur equipment.

It should be emphasized that this is a cooperative program. Its success is solely dependent upon the cooperation of those who recover marked deer. If maximum results are to be obtained from this study it is imperative that the Wildlife Management Bureau receive the following information from any tagged deer recovered:

- 1) Both numbered ear tags
- 2) Date recovered (month, day, year)
- 3) Recovered by
  - a) name
  - b) permanent mailing address
- 4) Where recovered:
  - a) local area
  - b) distance and direction from nearest town
  - c) county
  - d) State
- 5) How did hunter or finder obtain deer? (shot with gun, shot with bow, car kill, dog kill, other—explain)
- 6) Remove and return lower jaw of deer.

All of the above data should be legibly recorded and packed with both ear tags and the lower jaw and be sent to:

State of New Jersey  
Division of Fish and Game  
Post Office Box 1809  
Trenton, N.J. 08625

Upon receipt of the above information the Division will provide the co-operator with information as to the original capture of the deer involved. #

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*Hunting grounds and fishing waters belong to us all. Don't be a thief, robbing the country of its natural beauties by leaving your litter all around. Keep New Jersey's great outdoors clean and attractive.*



# The Marsh Hawk

## Species:

*Circus cyaneus hudsonius*

## General Characteristics:

A medium sized hawk, with a relatively long tail which has a conspicuous white rump patch. Wings are long and round at tips. Usually flies low over open marshes or fields. Total length 18-24 inches; females noticeably larger than males, and are brownish, while the adult males are bluish.

## Range:

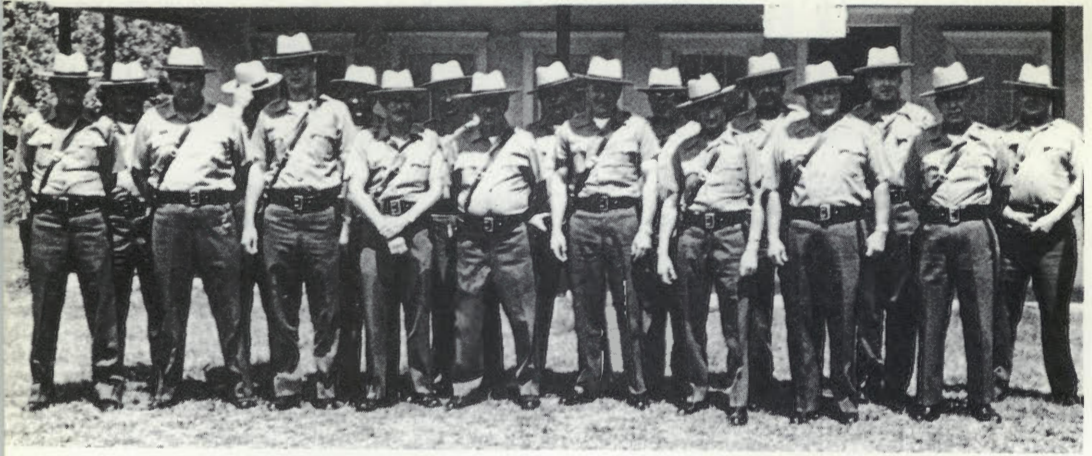
United States. Found year around in N.J., especially over the salt marshes and upland marshes and meadows. Does migrate southward in winter.

## Life History:

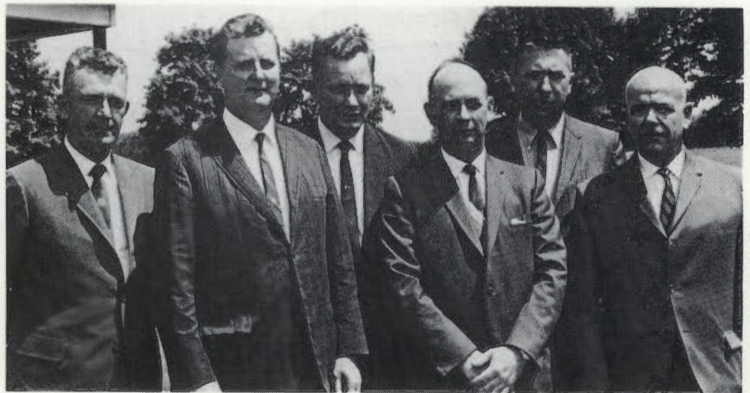
The marsh hawk nests on or close to the ground in a nest built up of sticks, grass and twigs, usually located in heavier cover such as *Iva* (High Tide Bush) or *Phragmites* (Reed) on the salt marsh, or in taller vegetation in fresh water marshes. The clutch is usually 4, 5 or 6 eggs with the commonest number being 5. The period of incubation is about 21 days, with eggs hatching apparently in the order laid, so that the young are hatched on successive days, frequently resulting in loss of the youngest chicks because of more aggressive behavior of older birds. The time from hatching to flight seems to be about 30 to 35 days. Items of food include mice, rats and other small mammals, frogs and snakes, insects, small birds and young of larger birds, but on the whole is to be considered a beneficial hawk and should not be molested. It is also protected by law. The largest single item of food by number or bulk seems to be the meadow mouse. The marsh hawk is an exception to usual hawk behavior in that it flies low over the ground, and in that it commonly perches on the ground, even roosting at night on the ground. #



*The conspicuous white rump patch serves to identify the marsh hawk*



*The Division conservation officers, above, who participated in the intensive law enforcement workshop, left, conducted by representatives from the Federal Bureau of Fisheries and Wildlife, below. (Left to right, Snow, Brown, Halstead, Parker, Kirkland, and Van Weelden)*





## Conservation Officer Workshop

New Jersey Fish and Game Conservation Officers participated in an intensive Law Enforcement Workshop conducted by representatives of the Federal Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, Division of Management and Enforcement. It was held for two four-day sessions, June 10-13 and 17-20, on the grounds of the Italian-American Sportsmen's Club, Trenton. Sessions ran from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., with a break only for lunch in the Club's restaurant.

Approximately half the State Conservation Officer force attended each of the four-day sessions. The smaller groups permitted better discussion and left half the force to patrol the State's streams and woods.

Topics covered during the Workshop covered the full range of modern conservation law enforcement. Introductory remarks explained the history of Federal-State cooperation, including the original Lacey Act of 1900, controlling interstate shipment of wildlife, and the significant Migratory Bird Act of 1918.

Proper gathering, handling and presentation of evidence received great stress from various angles. These included Court rules and decisions regarding admissibility, collection and preservation of evidence and modern aids to investigation, such as land and aerial photography.

Legal methods of arrest, interrogation and search were discussed fully. Preparation of reports and testifying in Court were also treated, and two training films illustrated key points.

The final morning was devoted to practicing techniques of apprehension and investigation in simulated cases. An examination was given, and certificates will be presented to all the officers who passed. An opportunity to discuss and evaluate the workshop was given before adjournment.

U.S. Game Management Agent-in-Charge of Delaware, Robert O. Halstead, who coordinated the Workshop with New Jersey's Agent Howard W. Brown and State officials, said that similar workshops have been held in several northeastern states. Another program, with greater emphasis on field work is contemplated.

Other U.S. Game Management Agents who gave instruction in their fields of special knowledge included: Bruce W. Parker of Vermont, William D. Snow of Maine (a pilot and photographic specialist), James W. VanWeelden of Massachusetts and David C. Kirkland of Delaware. Messages were received from the national Chief of Management and Enforcement, Charles H. Lawrence and northeast Regional Supervisor Rex C. Tice.

State Fish and Game Director Lester G. MacNamara said, "This workshop promises to be one of the most valuable parts of our stepped-up program of in-service training. Veteran officers received a worthwhile refresher, as well as expert advice on recent Court decisions, while our newer men were properly introduced to the intricacy and range of enforcing laws to protect New Jersey fish and wildlife resources."

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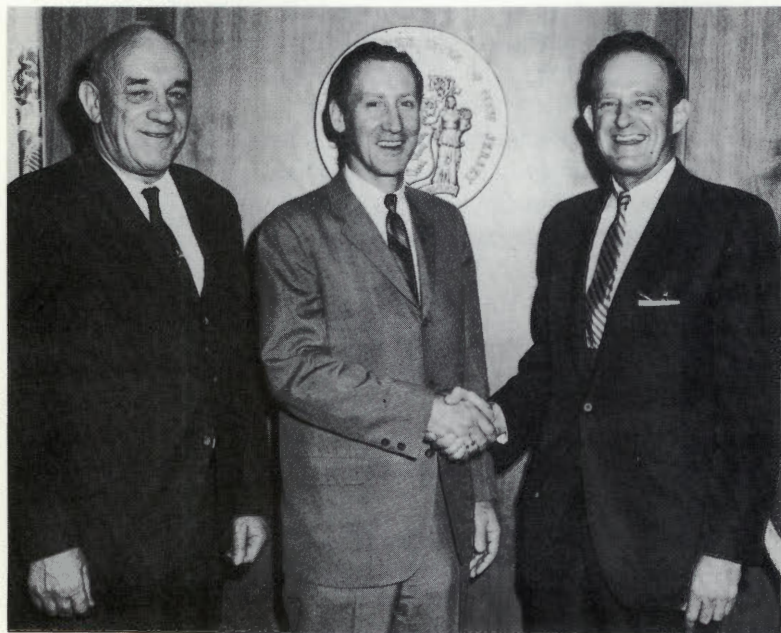
## Councilman Faunce Sworn In

Randle N. Faunce of Delanco was sworn in as a member of the New Jersey Fish and Game Council by Commissioner Robert A. Roe of the State Department of Conservation and Economic Development. Councilman Faunce will fill the unexpired term of the late Raymond G. Wilson as a Representative of southern New Jersey sportsmen. He was recommended for the post by the State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs prior to his nomination by Governor Richard J. Hughes and confirmation by the State Senate.

A lifelong Burlington County resident, he has been active in the County and State Federations of Sportsmen's Clubs for the past 15 years. He served as President of the State Federation last year and was President of the County Federation for three terms, among many other offices.

He was Chairman of the State Federation's Archery Committee in the mid-fifties, when bowhunting regulations were revised and the basis for the bow and arrow safety training program was established. Before becoming State President, he headed the Federation's Land Conservation Study Committee, promoting the opening of many thousands of acres of land to wider recreational use.

Councilman Faunce is a member of the Executive Committee of the Pine Barrens Advisory Council named by the Burlington and Ocean County Free-



*Director MacNamara, Councilman Faunce, and Commissioner Roe*



holders and is active in the FOCUS Conservation Society of New Jersey. As a member of the Sportsmen-Industry Conservation Council, he is seeking closer liaison with the business community in matters of conservation. His special interest in Wharton State Forest and surrounding pinelands resulted in a clean-up program of the Canoe Rivers, providing outdoor enthusiasts with more enjoyable recreation.

He is a principal stockholder and General Manager of Drink Atoast Co., Inc., a beverage concern, which has been his occupation since his honorable discharge from the Air Force in 1945. He is married and the father of two boys and a girl.

His conservation concern is expressed nationally through associate membership in the National Wildlife Federation and the National Rifle Association. He is also active in a number of sportsmen's groups in his area.

His interest in hunting and fishing began as a youth, and he took up bow-hunting in 1952. He hunts deer, small game and waterfowl and enjoys both fresh water and surf angling.

The Fish and Game Council is made up of 11 members who serve without pay. Six are recommended by the State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs, three by the State Agricultural Convention, and two are chosen from the commercial fishing industry; the sportsman and farmer representatives are divided equally between three 7-county regions. Present members, with the expiration date of their current terms, include: Sportsmen; James V. Stabile of Mendham ('73); Charles E. Webber of Westwood ('73); Ralph Allocca of Colts Neck ('71); Al Toth of North Brunswick ('72); Joseph L. Alampi of Franklinville ('71); Councilman Faunce ('70); Farmers: Fred Space of Beemerville ('71); Raymond Baker of Deans ('73); G. Albert Reid of Linwood ('70); Commercial Fishermen: Raymond T. Richardson of Port Monmouth ('72) and Joseph Schollenberger of Holmdel ('72). #

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### **Trappers Association Meeting**

*The New Jersey Trappers Association will hold its Fall Meeting at Space's Wild Animal Farm, Beemerville, Sussex County, on Sunday, October 5. There will be trap and fur displays and contests with prizes. An old-fashioned, outdoor chicken barbecue will be served. Tickets should be obtained in advance. All trappers and sportsmen are invited. For additional information contact: A. Monto, R.D. 2, Box 318, Newton, N. J. Phone (201) DU 3-1182.*

*Since there is pending and proposed local and state legislation that could lead to the ban of trapping in New Jersey, the Trappers Association urges all trappers and sportsmen to attend this meeting to learn of the facts concerning such legislation.* #

# New Jersey 1969 Migratory Bird Regulation Supplement

(See Game Compendium for additional regulations)

	Open Seasons (Both Dates Incl.)	Bag Limits	Notes and Exceptions
Sora, Virginia rails		25 daily or in possession, singly or in aggregate.	Time of hunting waterfowl and migratory birds except woodcock is ½ hour before sunrise to sunset (E.S.T.).
King, clapper rails	Sept. 1 - Nov. 8	5 daily; 10 possession, singly or in aggregate.	Daily bag limit on ducks other than mergansers may not include more of the following species than (a) 2 wood ducks (b) 1 canvasback or 1 redhead; (c) 2 black ducks. Possession limit may not include more than (a) 4 wood ducks; (b) 1 canvasback or 1 redhead; (c) 4 black ducks.
Gallinules		15 daily; 30 possession.	*Extra scarp bag of 2 daily, 4 possession, in addition to regular bag on ducks in that area east of Garden State Parkway from New York State line to Cape May.
Sea ducks—scoter, eider, old-squaw	Sept. 25 - Jan. 10	7 daily; 14 possession, singly or in aggregate.	Sea duck area defined as east of high tide line along Atlantic Ocean shore from Sandy Hook Point south to Cape May Point and transversely across mid-point of each inlet to high tide line on each side of each inlet.
Geese	Oct. 18 - Jan. 2	3 daily; 6 possession.	Federal stamp required for ducks and geese for anyone over 16 years of age.
Brant	Oct. 25 - Jan. 2	6 daily or possession.	No open season on swan, snow goose, doves.
Ducks	Split Season: Oct. 18 - Oct. 25 Nov. 21 - Dec. 27	*3 daily; 6 possession. 5 daily; 10 possession of which not more than 1 daily and 2 possession may be hooded.	Waterfowl hunting on Delaware River is governed by state boundaries and restricted to respective seasons.
Mergansers—American, redbreasted, hooded			
Coot (crow duck)		10 daily; 20 possession.	
Wilson snipe or jacksnipe	Oct. 18 - Dec. 6	8 daily; 16 possession.	
Woodcock	Oct. 4 - Dec. 6 Except closed Nov. 7. Reopen 9:00 A.M. Nov. 8.	5 daily; 10 possession.	Special \$3.00 stamp required through Nov. 6. Shooting hours sunrise to sunset (E.S.T.).

This 1969 Migratory Bird Hunting Regulation Supplement is presented merely for your convenience in planning vacations and hunting trips.

**Consult Migratory Bird Regulations, Compendium, and Game Laws for details and laws in full.**



## **Moratorium on all applications for**

# **Riparian Lands**

## **of the State of New Jersey**

Commissioner Robert A. Roe of the New Jersey State Department of Conservation and Economic Development has announced that a moratorium has been declared and all action suspended until January 1, 1970, on all applications for purchase, lease, and use of riparian lands of the State of New Jersey involving multiple development or uses of such riparian lands fronting on coastal tidal waters and waterways from Sandy Hook to Cape May. This directive was adopted by the Resource Development Council in concert with and as approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development, State of New Jersey.

*In view of extensive and intensive governmental capital expenditures, scientific environmental engineering studies and research of unprecedented scope and depth that have been and are being undertaken, no applications for the purchase, lease or use of riparian lands which are held in public trust for all of the people of the State of New Jersey involving multiple development or use of such riparian lands fronting on coastal tidal waters and waterways from Sandy Hook to Cape May will be considered, approved or issued in this formally declared "priority survey area," as provided by law, until January 1, 1970 when it is estimated that the Department of Conservation and Economic Development will have developed and completed a fully coordinated, interrelated comprehensive environmental master plan and natural resource preservation and development program specifically as it relates to those lands and natural resources that are under the State's jurisdiction and in the fullest coordination and co-operation with the coastal counties and communities so affected.*

To implement and carry out this program, the Department of Conservation and Economic Development will formally establish a Division of Oceanography and Marine Sciences in the Office of the Commissioner which will have the responsibility to coordinate all programs relating to New Jersey's estuarine and offshore ocean environment, oceanographic research and conservation measures of marine resources relating thereto and promulgate State policies for coordinated development of these offshore natural resources of the continental shelf within our State's jurisdiction, all commensurate with the integrity of the marine natural resource environment.

In further implementing this program, substantive evaluation shall be

## . . . Riparian Lands

conducted on the *State's retaining all mineral, gas, and oil rights* that may prevail on State riparian lands and particular emphasis will be placed on the *State establishing permanent and inviolate Marine Coastal Environmental Protective Zones.*

A full text of the resolution follows:

IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND RESOLVED that a moratorium be declared and all action suspended until January 1, 1970 on all applications for purchase, lease and use of riparian lands of the State of New Jersey involving multiple development or uses of such riparian lands fronting on coastal tidal waters and waterways from Sandy Hook to Cape May; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the foregoing directive was adopted by the Resource Development Council in concert with and as approved by the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development, State of New Jersey based on the facts, considerations, findings and determinations as hereinafter set forth; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that as provided for in NJSA 13:1B-13.2 of the Meadowland Act (Chapter 404, Laws of 1968) the Legislature directs that the Department of Conservation and Economic Development nee the State Resource Development Council "is hereby directed to undertake title studies and surveys of meadowlands throughout the State and to determine and certify those lands which it finds are State-owned lands. In undertaking its studies and surveys the council shall divide its work into such a number of surveys as it shall determine is advisable and it shall establish the priority in which such surveys shall be undertaken. . . . During the period of time between the initiation of a project and the publication of the map and study delineating the State-owned lands within the survey area, the council shall make no conveyances, leases or transfers of any riparian land within the survey area"; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the coastal tidal waters and waterways from Sandy Hook to Cape May is hereby formally declared a priority "survey area" as provided for under the Meadowlands Act; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that in carrying out this mandate, the conservation and economic development of our natural resources truly establishes the environmental posture and characteristics of our State and in view of the fact that the State of New Jersey is now the most urban State in the nation and the continuing exploding population growth is creating an ever-mounting pressure on our natural resources along with the enormous competition for the use of our land which clearly brings into sharp focus the delicate balance between conservation and economic development and the vital necessity of the interrelationship of the two objectives; and

WHEREAS, the fundamental responsibility of the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development and the Resource Development Council of the State of New Jersey, in the exercise of their quasi-judicial jurisdiction, authority and responsibility, is to conserve and protect the estate of the people of New Jersey including riparian lands and natural resources and to promote, preserve and protect the effective use and economic development of these resources for the overall health, welfare and best interests of all of the citizens of New Jersey as provided for under the aegis and mandate of the Constitution of the State of New Jersey and those particular powers, authorities and jurisdictions assigned to the Commissioner of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development as delineated in NJSA 13:1B-1 et seq. and more specifically under legislative findings as set forth in NJSA 13:1B-5.1 (b) wherein the Legislature found and determined that: ". . . The public services and facilities which the State Government provides, especially those of education, recreation, conservation of resources, water storage, highways, industrial development, agriculture, and many others have a definite impact both on each other and on the sound development and redevelopment of the State and its regions. Further, the planning and construction of such facilities and the provisions of such services should be directly related to each other and to a comprehensive view of State development objectives. This impact has created and will continue to create a need to undertake the task of achieving fuller coordination of the activities of the several State departments including the preparation of long range capital improvement programs"; and

WHEREAS, the Resource Development Council, as duly constituted under the Di-



vision of Resource Development of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development of the State of New Jersey, with the prerequisite authority, jurisdiction and responsibility as provided for by NJSA 13:1B-7 et seq. which provides, amongst other responsibilities, that "no riparian leases or grants shall hereafter be allowed except when approved by at least a majority of the Resource Development Council and signed by the Chairman of the Council; and no such leases or grants shall hereafter in any case be allowed except when approved and signed by the Governor and the Commissioner of Conservation and Economic Development"; and

WHEREAS, the Constitution of the State of New Jersey provides and insures that the rents, issues, profits and fiscal emoluments derived from those lands held in public trust for the benefit of the School Fund, as so designated by Statute, are forever and perpetually set aside and redound to the educational opportunities of the free school system for all of the children of the residents of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, more specifically, in the Legislative findings of the Meadowlands Act (Chapter 404, Laws of 1968) "that insofar as meadowlands are State-owned lands they are an asset of the fund for the support of free public schools whose integrity may not be impaired; that while the State, in the name of the people, has an obligation to assert its interests in meadowlands that are clearly State-owned, it has an equal obligation to establish a framework within which private owners may assert their interests and take title to meadowlands that are privately-owned; that these areas need special protection from air and water pollution and special arrangements for the provision of facilities for the disposal of solid waste; that the necessity to consider the ecological factors constituting the environment of the meadowlands and the need to preserve the delicate balance of nature must be recognized to avoid any artificially imposed development that would adversely affect not only this area but the entire State"; and

WHEREAS, the vast potential and import of these natural resources, in addition to being critically important to the ocean-oriented shore-tourist-resort industry of New Jersey exceeding \$2.5 billion dollars per year, are particularly important from the point of view that our future source of water supply, food, minerals, energy sources, potential oil and gas reserves and other critically important elements intimately involved in this region of the State's jurisdiction. In large measure, the future economic vitality of our coastal counties and New Jersey as a whole will depend upon the proper development and management of these yet untapped and uncommitted substantive marine resources and those other resources of the submerged land of the continental shelf; and

WHEREAS, in derogation of the foregoing objectives the coastal region of New Jersey and its inherent irreplaceable natural resources contained within this project survey area have been subjected over the years to deterioration through a vast array of conflicting interests, uses and abuses in disregard of the critical import of the environment and the essential ecological balance of these natural resources to such a degree that the very health, safety and economic vitality of the region are threatened and in serious jeopardy; and

WHEREAS, the danger of this situation is clearly manifested in recent years, particularly in part, as follows:

1. The proposed program of the United States Department of Defense in disposing of highly toxic poisonous gases in the coastal area of the State;
2. The ever-increasing use of our coastal waters for offshore dumping and disposal of waste chemicals and other obnoxious material with its additional inherent danger of transporting these materials through our coastal municipalities and over our State's waterways;
3. The advent and construction of nuclear power generating stations along the coast as it relates to thermal pollution of the bays and waterways and other environmental intrusions;
4. Highly critical sewerage pollution of the bays, waterways and estuarine areas which scientific study indicates has contributed to the development of the "red tide" (micro-organism) off the coast of New Jersey necessitating the closing of recreation beaches with substantive economic loss to the region;
5. This pollution factor has necessitated the closing of extensive clam and shellfish producing areas along the coast with related economic losses to the commercial fisheries as well as to those citizens dependent upon this natural resource for their livelihood;
6. The highly accelerated development taking place in this coastal region, in some areas at a particularly feverish pace, is rapidly destroying forever the estuarine, tidal, meadow and marsh lands which, in fact, are the nursery and propagating areas of our commercial and sports fisheries resources;
7. The present proposal to build an oil pipeline terminal off our coastal shore area

## **. . . Riparian Lands**

- with super structures approximately 44-feet high demands the most serious study and consideration before any approval is granted, if at all, not only as it relates to the obvious potential hazards of oil leaking from this facility polluting our beaches but also the import of this intrusion on the aesthetic character of the coastal area—all relating to the present and future economic vitality of our coastal communities;
8. The burgeoning problem of solid waste disposal, both industrial and domestic, in effect, using the estuarine and marshland areas as a "garbage pail," filling in and destroying these lands cannot continue to be tolerated and alternative methods must be developed and utilized; and

WHEREAS, the State Division of Fish and Game of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development has further reported and declared that:

1. The coastal marshes of New Jersey are an important ecological zone.
2. The coastal marshes in their natural condition contain a biotype that is a major contribution to the food chain of shellfish and fish of our estuaries and offshore waters.
3. These marshes in their natural condition constitute a valuable habitat for waterfowl and many species of birds, both resident and migratory.
4. Diking, filling and ditching that have been carried out over the years have had an unfavorable effect upon the biotype of these areas.
5. Man-made changes have resulted in ecological changes that have contributed to the production of undesirable insects.
6. The unrestricted use of pesticides on the coastal marshlands is detrimental to a broad spectrum of organisms.
7. The production of oyster seed beds and the oyster crop that at one time was estimated at \$6 million per year are closely related to the biotype on the coastal wetlands.
8. Commercial fishing has decreased and is no longer profitable, and sport fishing has become degraded with pollution being a contributing factor.
9. Commercial fishing and sport fishing have a high recreational and economic value for the shore areas; and

WHEREAS, in spite of the fact that the Federal, State, County and Municipal Governments have been expending and investing tens of millions of dollars over the years on numerous related public works and programs affecting this region, in large measure, they have not been carried out in full coordination in an overall master plan of regional development based specifically on the capability of the natural resources and environment to assimilate and support the development without being in serious conflict with goals and objectives to be achieved in the public interest; and

WHEREAS, this situation is clearly manifested, particularly in part as follows:

1. Since the great coastal storm of 1962 governmental agencies have jointly expended approximately \$40 million in shore reclamation, restoration, beach improvement and protective works, all essential to the economic vitality of the region. Many of the built-up and developed areas that were totally wiped out as a result of this catastrophic storm have been allowed to be rebuilt in hurricane-prone sections and areas of the coastal region and in a number of instances directly on, and destroying ocean beach sand dunes widely regarded as essential to be kept in their natural state in part for erosion control and in order to insure hurricane and seawater flood protection to the coastal communities.
2. Since the Public Referendum of 1961 governmental agencies under the State's Green Acres Open Space Land Conservation Program with matching grants-in-aid from Federal Government programs have invested over \$100 million in an herculean effort to set aside open space land throughout the State critically essential to preserve the integrity of the environment of the State, thousands of acres of which have been preserved in the coastal regions including marshlands, wetlands and estuarine and beachfront areas. The uncoordinated accelerated development of this coastal area is, in large measure, rapidly negating the purpose and value of this investment in "open space environmental protective lands."
3. Millions of dollars have been expended by governmental agencies and private lagoon developers on dredging of coastal waterways to accommodate the commercial and pleasure boating public resulting in some instances in excavated material being indiscriminately deposited and disposed of on wetlands and estuarine areas and also on productive shellfish beds—all in conflict with the preservation and optimum yield potential of these natural resources.



4. Multi-millions of dollars are being expended and invested by governmental agencies in the construction and improvement of much-needed transportation arteries throughout this coastal region to accommodate the enormous increased demand and need to serve the recreational opportunities and enjoyment of the coastal areas by the people of the State. As obviously essential as these transportation facilities are, however, their construction and location must be more intimately and directly coordinated to help ensure and safeguard the integrity of the shore area and coastal environment lest they contribute and serve to further compound the deterioration of the natural resources of this area.

WHEREAS, in further recognition of the extreme severity of the sewerage pollution problem throughout the State, including the coastal areas, wherein one area in the northern part of the State is presently under court injunction suspending any further building and development until the sewerage disposal problem is resolved, the Legislature has authorized the submission of a referendum to the electorate at the General Election this November on the question of issuance of State bonds to finance State aid of approximately \$240 million to local governments and regional agencies for improvement and expansion of regional sewerage treatment facilities. The plant site location of, and the areas to be serviced by these new regional sanitary sewerage disposal facilities, essential as they are, must be carefully planned and coordinated within this coastal region in order to insure that the location, construction, maintenance and operation of these facilities, particularly as they relate to the quality of the effluent therefrom and the ultimate method and particular location of disposal of the effluent so that they do not further serve to cure one problem and, in effect, contribute to the over-nutritionalization of aquatic biota and weed growth, thus materially adding to the eutrophication (suffocation of marine life through oxygen depletion) process in the bays, waterways and estuaries of the State; and

WHEREAS, the major source of potable water supply for this coastal region is almost entirely dependent on the groundwater resources, the supply of which in some areas, due to overpumping of these coastal groundwaters, has been placed in serious jeopardy of salt water intrusion. A number of engineering studies in many areas of the southern part of the State have already been concluded. Additional engineering studies are underway to ascertain the full potential yield of the groundwater and surface waters of this area of our State. Solutions to these problems are being studied, particularly as they relate to development of groundwater supplies further inland, recharge reservoirs or possibly water desalination facilities along the coastal areas. It is obvious that with the explosive growth of the shore area and the commensurate increasing need of adequate potable water resources to accommodate this situation that a comprehensive regional water supply and water management program must be adopted in order to insure that these water resources are not irreparably depleted or destroyed; and

WHEREAS, illustrating the breadth and scope of the ongoing engineering and scientific research and evaluation of the capabilities of the natural resources of the area, the Bureau of Navigation of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development is engaged in an extensive cooperative beach erosion study with the Army Corps of Engineers along the entire State oceanfront from Sandy Hook to Cape May for the purpose of developing an overall integrated regional program involving the protection, preservation and use of the oceanfront beaches; the improvement of the coastal inlets; the augmentation and preservation of the diminished natural littoral sand supply along the coast including establishment of a Coastal Shore Protection Zone and location of sand replenishment sources to offset the deficit of coastal littoral material; and the protection of the interior coastal lagoon and waterway areas from storm tidal flooding; and

WHEREAS, the Army Corps of Engineers is conducting a study for the full implementation of the New Jersey Intracoastal Waterway as authorized by the Congress which will require economic and ecological basis for realization of this far-reaching improvement for the benefit of commercial and recreational boating; and

WHEREAS, the various agencies within the Department of Conservation and Economic Development are cooperating with the Army Corps of Engineers in developing essential planning for control of obnoxious seaweeds and other aquatic weed growth in the tidal waterways including specifically the Barnegat Bay-Metedeconk area; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Conservation and Economic Development has initiated research and investigational studies to appraise the several values of the coastal wetlands, particularly those of an ecological nature, as outlined as follows:

1. A recurring survey to establish the acreage of coastal wetlands from Ocean County south and to record the acreage of the area lost to housing development, diking, filling and ditching.
2. Project 15-R-11. A research project instituted under the Dingell-Johnson Act with



## **. . . Riparian Lands**

the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Sport Fish and Wildlife cooperating. This project encompasses a study in the Great Bay area of the striped bass and fluke and deals respectively with eggs and larvae, juveniles, their entrance into the estuary, the migration and harvest of the species.

3. Project 3-78-R2 financed under PL 88-309 with the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Commercial Fisheries cooperating. This project includes a physical-chemical, biological, and economic evaluation of the major estuaries. The project is now operative in the Great Bay area and is based at the Nacote Creek Marine Research Station on Nacote Creek adjacent to Great Bay. This project will furnish information on pollution and sources of pollution, micro and macro-organisms in the bay and an economic evaluation of the use of the resource.
4. Project AFS-2-3, funded under PL 89-304, is an anadromous fish study in the Delaware River Basin in cooperation with Delaware, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey, U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife, and the Delaware River Basin Commission. This is a study on a broad spectrum that will evaluate the effect of the Tocks Island dam on the shad run, the possibility of encroaching saline waters over the oyster seed beds, the effects of reduced river flows on adjoining coastal wetlands, and the pesticidal and nuclear content of micro and macro-organisms of the estuary and marsh. The findings will relate also to the thermal pollution effect in the coastal waterways as for example the Oyster Creek-Barnegat Bay area.
5. Project W-28-R-19 is a research project operated under the Pittman-Robertson Act in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife studying migratory bird populations on the salt marsh, their production and harvest, migration and habitat, and the effects of water levels in the Manahawkin-Tuckerton marshes.
6. Project 34-R-15. A research project under the Pittman-Robertson Act in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Sport Fish and Wildlife. This is an intensive study from Ocean City south of salt marsh ecology including coastal impoundments on the salt marsh areas. This project includes the control of obnoxious or undesirable vegetation.
7. Project W-46-R-5. A research project under the Pittman-Robertson Act in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Interior, Bureau of Sport Fish and Wildlife. This is a banding program carried on largely on the coastal marshes from Barnegat Bay to Cape May.
8. A special study on migratory birds other than waterfowl operated under funds made available by a special appropriation from Congress in the Tuckerton meadows. This project deals mainly with the clapper rail, with census methods stressed; and

WHEREAS, the Shell Fisheries Division of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development, in concert with Rutgers the State University, is researching and has established a pilot plant test program to evaluate and determine the economic feasibility of establishing a clam depuration process for the purification of coastal water clams; and

WHEREAS, the Shell Fisheries Division of the Department of Conservation and Economic Development, the State Health Department and Rutgers the State University are pursuing a joint cooperative program for the transplantation of clams from polluted waters to coastal areas not yet destroyed or condemned to reclaim the economic value of this natural resource for the people of the State of New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the foregoing capital expenditures and investments, considerable additional expenditures have also been undertaken at all levels of government for the purpose of planning and studying land use development—residential, industrial and commercial—in this coastal region, including, as indicated, a host of detailed scientific engineering and natural resource research and evaluation programs, the technical and scientific findings of which have either been totally ignored or not effectively utilized and interrelated to the land use, zoning, planning and development of the area; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of the people of this coastal region and the State of New Jersey that the area be developed in recognition of the vital import of the environmental integrity of these natural resources of the project survey area free from polluted lakes and water supply, free from soot-laden air, free from urban sprawl and congestion, and free from ugliness and desecration; and

WHEREAS, the complex demands and the services required to accommodate the



population expansion and projected growth and development of this area, particularly as they relate to public utilities, sewerage disposal, water supply, electrical energy transmission, highway and transportation facilities, and other improvements regional in character, can only be effectively resolved and developed through intergovernmental regional action;

NOW, THEREFORE, in view of such extensive and intensive governmental capital expenditures, scientific environmental engineering studies and research of unprecedented scope and depth, no applications for the purchase, lease or use of riparian lands which are held in public trust for all of the people of the State of New Jersey involving multiple development or use of such riparian lands fronting on coastal tidal waters and waterways from Sandy Hook to Cape May will be considered, approved or issued in this formally declared "priority survey area," as provided for by law, until January 1, 1970 when it is estimated that the Department of Conservation and Economic Development will have developed and completed a fully coordinated, interrelated comprehensive environmental master plan and natural resource preservation and development program specifically as it relates to those lands and natural resources that are under the State's jurisdiction and in the fullest coordination and cooperation with the coastal counties and communities so affected.

To implement and carry out this program, the Department of Conservation and Economic Development will formally establish a Division of Oceanography and Marine Sciences in the Office of the Commissioner which will have the responsibility to coordinate all programs relating to our estuarine and offshore ocean environment, oceanographic research and conservation measures of marine resources relating thereto and promulgate State policies for coordinated development of New Jersey's offshore natural resources of the continental shelf within our State's jurisdiction, all commensurate with the integrity of the marine natural resource environment.

In further implementing this program, substantive evaluation shall be conducted on the State's retaining all mineral, gas and oil rights that may prevail on State riparian lands and particular emphasis will be placed on the State establishing permanent and inviolate Marine Coastal Environmental Protective Zones. #

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## Information Wanted

Last March 29, 1969, a private plane left Atlantic City at night, carrying six passengers for Teterboro Airport. The plane never arrived and to this day the plane or passengers have not been seen or heard from. Various searches have been fruitless. However, it is hoped that with the forthcoming hunting seasons, sportsmen utilizing the more remote areas of the state might come up with a clue. The families of the missing passengers would be most appreciative of any information forthcoming. Such information should be forwarded to the Ridgefield Memorial Post #7502 V.F.W. and brought to the attention of Edward Reehill, Chaplain. #

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# Yellow Birch

(*Betula alleghaniensis*)

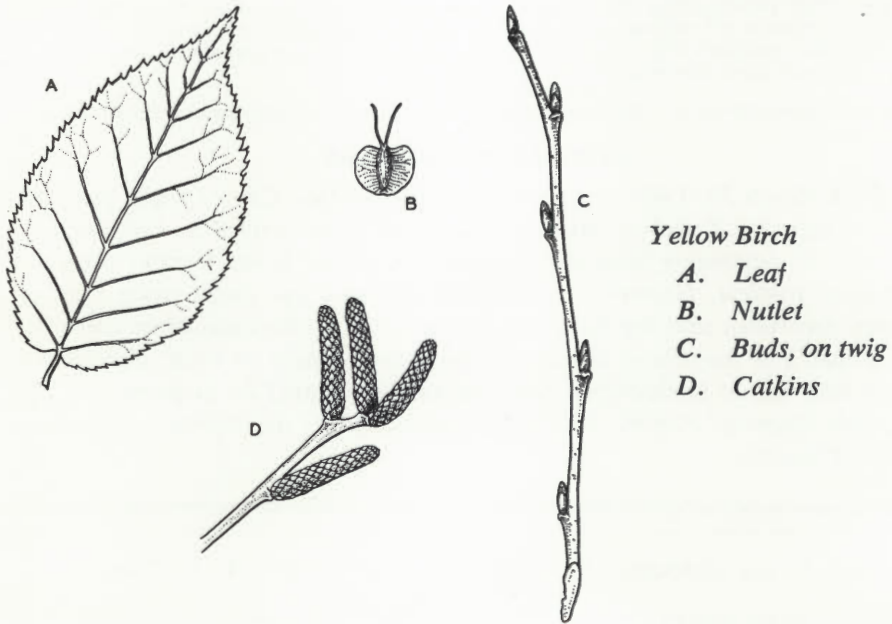
Yellow birch is generally found in rich woods on the moist lower slopes and along streams where it sometimes forms pure stands.

## Range:

Newfoundland, southern Quebec, southern Ontario, Minnesota, and north-eastern Iowa; east through northern Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio; and south through the Allegheny Mountains to northern Georgia.

## Leaves:

Simple, alternate, singly, or appear to grow in pairs. They are 3 to 4 inches long and 1½ to 2 inches wide. They are doubly serrate and have



Yellow Birch

- A. Leaf
- B. Nutlet
- C. Buds, on twig
- D. Catkins

a rounded to somewhat heart-shaped base. (See figure A.) The top surface is dark green and smooth. The lower surface is yellowish green with tufts of fine pubescence in the axils of the principal veins.

## Twigs:

Slender, aromatic, wintergreen taste, brown, smooth to silvery gray covered with elongated horizontal lenticles. The buds are one-fourth inch



long, sharp pointed, and covered with downy overlapping scales. (See figure C.) Bark on older trees is yellowish bronze and peels off in thin, papery, horizontal scales.

**Flowers:**

Male and female flowers are borne in catkins separately on the same tree. Male flowers are formed in the fall. In the spring they elongate to about 3 inches. (See figure D.) Female flowers are formed in the spring. They are about two-thirds of an inch long, light red on top, and green on the bottom.

**Fruit:**

An erect, short-stalked conelet 1 to 1½ inches long with each scale bearing a single, small, oval-winged nutlet, which bears at its apex two persistent stigmas. (See figure B.)

**Uses:**

This is the most important species of the birch family. The wood is used for furniture, flooring, interior trim, veneer, and fuel. The tree grows to a height of 60 to 80 feet and 2 to 3 feet in diameter. #

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

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*Yellow birch leaves and twigs are browsed by deer, and young trees and sprouts are eaten by deer and rabbits. Beaver relish the yellow birch twigs and bark. Squirrels and grouse feed on the buds and fruit.*

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## **Public Relations Section—3.7% of budget**

The Public Relations section is concerned with informing the public about New Jersey hunting and fishing opportunities and educating present and future generations in conservation of fish and wildlife, sportsmanship and outdoor living.

Educational programs in fiscal 1968 included 58 sessions at the State School of Conservation, Stokes State Forest; 66 teacher workshop sessions and school programs; and 107 illustrated talks presented to youth, civic and sportsmen's groups. Exhibits were prepared and manned for 13 fairs and shows.

Over 150 news releases were issued to newspapers, radio stations, and other media. Periodic radio programs were prepared.

Numerous photographs were taken in both color and black and white for use in conjunction with all the above media.

Live animals are cared for and used in displays.

State fish records are maintained and a trophy deer competition has been initiated. #

# Council Highlights

## July Meeting

The open session of the regular monthly meeting of the Fish and Game Council was held in Trenton on July 8. The Council members present included Acting Chairman Space, members Alampi, Allocca, Baker, Faunce, Schollenberger, Stabile, Richardson, and Webber. Councilman Faunce was sworn in as a Fish and Game Councilman in Commissioner Roe's office.

## Animals in Captivity

A magazine article describing the poor conditions under which animals are sometimes maintained in captivity was called to the attention of the Council. Chairman Space suggested that this would be a matter for the Game Committee to take under advisement, and he noted that Pennsylvania has a very good law that regulates the type of enclosures required for keeping various animals in captivity.

## Fisheries Management

Bruce Pyle, Assistant Chief, represented the Bureau of Fisheries Management during Chief Hayford's absence on vacation. The question of whether it was necessary and in the interest of good management to continue to rear and stock bass was discussed. Mr. Pyle stated that, through research conducted on this species, it has been established that the stocking of bass under normal conditions is not necessary and is not considered good fisheries management. This discussion led to the conclusion that there is a definite need to formulate guidelines to be followed in setting up the programs of the Division.

The Council also discussed with Mr. Pyle the extent to which the Water Quality Act was applicable in maintaining trout waters in streams on which impoundments have been built. In order to reach a clearer understanding of the scope of the Water Quality program and ensure the continuance of proper fishery environment, it was suggested that the Fisheries Committee should meet with the Water Policy and Supply Council. Director MacNamara is to contact Director Shanklin and make arrangements for an evening meeting, if possible.

## Law Enforcement

District Conservation Officer John O'Dowd reported that conservation officers recently completed a very interesting and beneficial 4-day workshop on law enforcement, with courses presented by Federal personnel. As a result of this program, relationships between Federal and State enforcement personnel are greatly improved and should contribute to closer liaison and greater efficiency in the conduct of enforcement procedures.



### **Public Relations**

The activities of the Public Relations Section were reviewed by William Peterman, Supervisor, who advised that the initial measurement of old deer heads under the Record Program was conducted at Clinton and proved rather disappointing to the Public Relations Section due to the public's lack of interest in submitting specimens. Another session was to be conducted at the Colliers Mills Fish and Wildlife Management Area to give people in southern New Jersey an opportunity to present their specimens for measuring. It was the feeling that perhaps more publicity should have been directed towards announcing the program and also that news releases should give some information regarding the minimum measurements that a deer head should possess in order to compete in the Record Program.

### **Wildlife Management**

George Alpaugh, Chief of the Bureau of Wildlife Management, reported that clapper rail adults continue to decrease over last year's population, but production appears good and should provide better rail hunting in New Jersey than was present during the fall of 1968.

### **Coastal Patrol**

A report by Newman Mathis, Chief, indicated that the Coastal Patrol issued a summons to a non-resident for fishing with a drifting gill net in the Raritan Bay, and the defendant pleaded guilty and paid a fine of \$50. Two summonses were issued for the possession of two under-sized lobsters for which a fine of \$40 was paid.

### **Hunter Safety**

Councilman Richardson called attention to the lack of uniformity in the conducting of safety courses by Hunter Safety Instructors and the need for the instructors in each county to get together and establish standard procedures and to be given some guidance in what is expected of them in carrying out the hunter safety program.

Chairman Space appointed a committee of Councilman Webber from North Jersey, Councilman Allocca from Central Jersey, and Councilman Faunce from South Jersey to study the matter, contact the local conservation officers, and submit recommendations before the next Council meeting on the best means of getting the instructors together and making improvements in the presentation of the training courses, as well as operation of the entire program.

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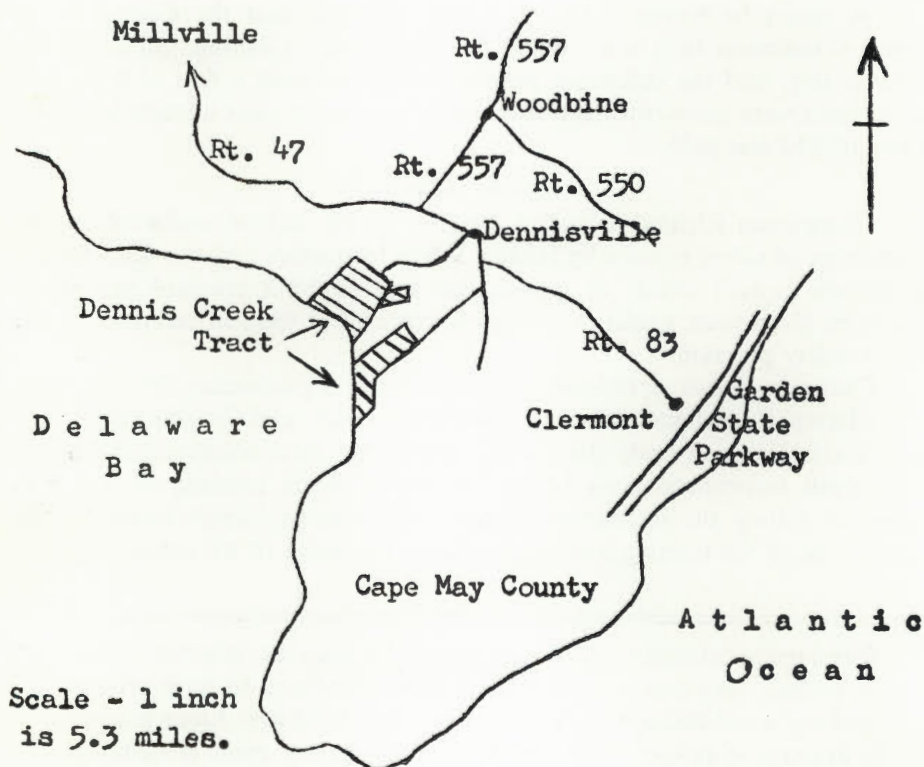
Sporting opportunities depend on respect for property, whether public or private. Sportsmen should always seek permission to hunt private land and avoid damage to crops, livestock and buildings. Litter is costly in terms of private lands closed, time and money spent in cleaning up public areas, and destruction of habitat and natural beauty.

## Dennis Creek Tract

The Dennis Creek Fish and Wildlife Management Area is located in Cape May County and comprises about 4,635 acres of tidal marsh. This tract is bounded on the south by Dennis Creek, on the west by Delaware Bay, on the north by Belleplain State Forest, and on the east by Jake's Landing Road.

Waterfowl hunting is the primary activity of this tract and some of the best muskrat trapping in southern New Jersey can be found in this area. There is a boat launching site on Dennis Creek which provides access to Delaware Bay.

To reach the Dennis Creek Tract, drive to Woodbine, which is located at the junction of Route 550 and Route 557 in the center of Cape May County. From Woodbine, take Route 557 south about four miles to Route 47; turn left and proceed about two miles; take the first right on Jake's Landing Road; and, then proceed two miles to the entrance of the tract. #

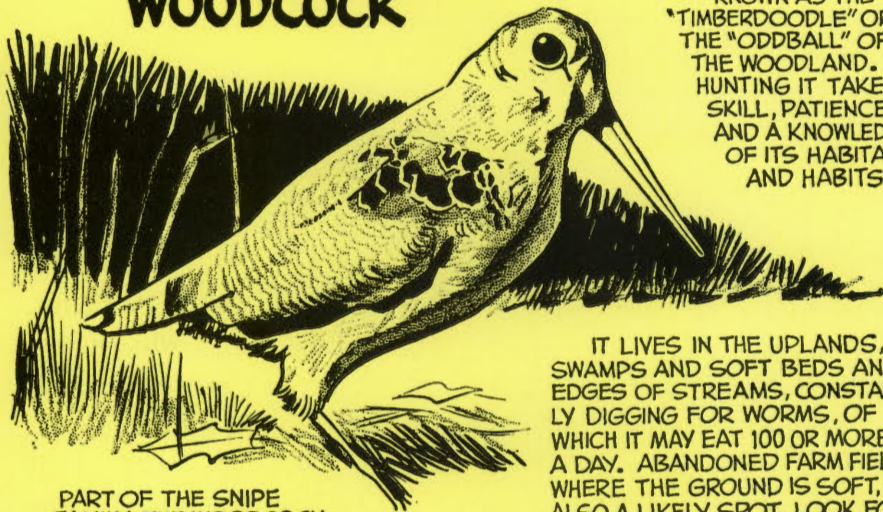




# Fur, Fin *and* Campfire

By JACK SHERIDAN

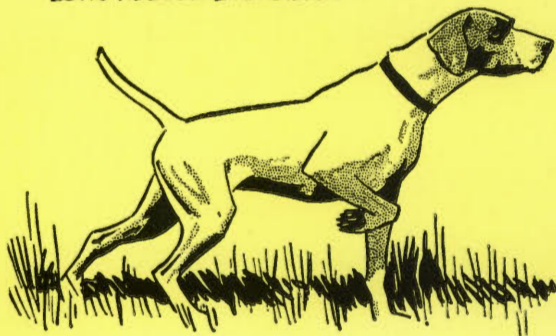
## WOODCOCK



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