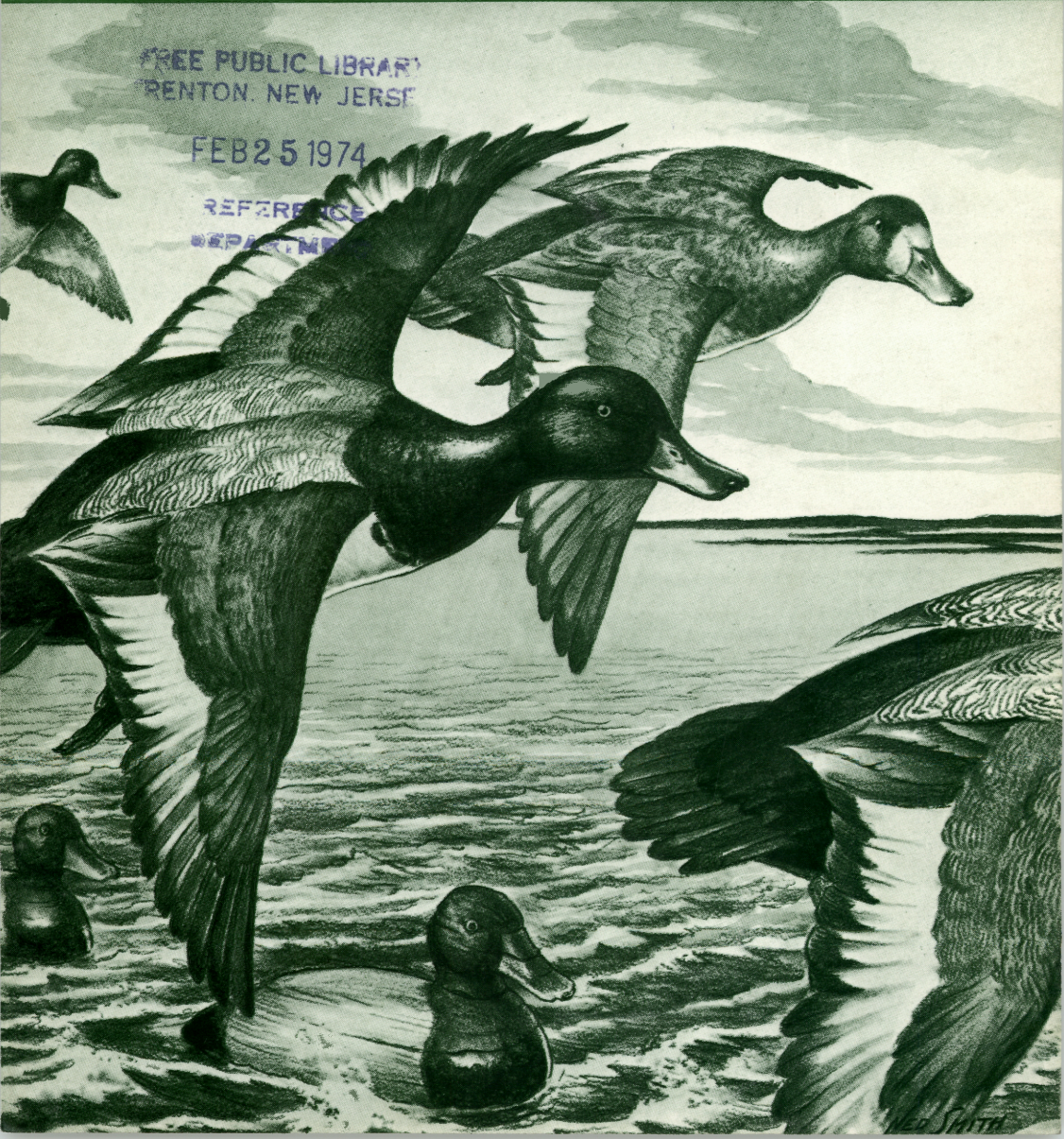


New Jersey *Outdoors*

November, 1973



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The Scoop on the Scaup

THERE ARE TWO main types of scaup: the greater and the lesser. Both species are found in New Jersey and were almost equal in numbers banded during the years of duck banding conducted by the Division and Federal biologists. The greater scaup is black with a white saddle. It is the only duck with a broad white wing stripe extending almost to the wing tip. About 18 inches long, they have bluish bills. The male has a black head, glossed with green. His back is gray and his sides are white. His primary feathers, breast, and tail are black. The female is dark brown with a sharply defined white patch around her bill.

Lesser Scaup

The lesser scaup is somewhat smaller than its cousin. It has a thinner neck, shorter wing stripe, and does not appear as bulky. The male has a purple gloss on his head (which may vary according to the angle of light). The head of the male lesser scaup is more angular than the greater.

Both types are found in lakes, ponds, rivers, bays, and often in the ocean. They collect in large rafts on bays in cold weather. The greater scaup seem to prefer larger bodies of fresh and salt water than the lesser scaup. Both types can be identified by their voices which sound just like their names—a discordant scaup, scaup.

Diving ducks, they feed on aquatic vegetation, crustacea, shellfish, and the like.

Ringneck Duck

While they are distinctive in appearance, some hunters may confuse either the greater or lesser scaup with the ringneck duck. The main differences, however, are that the ringneck has a gray patch on the upper wing surface, no white stripes, and a light band or bands across the bill. The female ringneck does not have the scaup's sharply defined white patch around her bill.

Their Ranges

The greater scaup is found on both coasts, along the Gulf of Mexico and in parts of the Central Flyway. The lesser scaup is found from Southern New England South, in the southern parts of the Mississippi and Central Flyways, along the length of the Pacific Flyway and down into Mexico.

Names of the Lesser

Both ducks are known by a variety of colloquial names in various parts of the country. Among those used for the lesser scaup are:

Continued on Page 24.

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Cover—"Scaup Coming In"—Ned Smith

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Curing the Venison

By Bob Bartnett

How to avoid the four major trouble spots after you get your deer

DAWN IS ETCHING the treetops along the east ridge. Your eyes strain to detect a sign of movement at the wood's edge across the small meadow.

You're well hidden. You're down wind. And you're cold, cramped, and beginning to have second thoughts about the deer stand you selected so carefully.

That's when it happens! Movement just inside the tree line.

Cautiously a doe picks her way into the clearing, staying close to cover.

You wait. You're conscious of your mouth being slightly dry, your palms sweating and your heart going into high gear. The seconds seem endless. But somehow you stay motionless and avoid detection.

Finally a handsome buck, who'd been watching unnoticed from the woods, decides it's safe and follows the doe into the meadow. With every muscle coiled for instant flight, he pauses and swings his magnificent rack, carefully appraising the scene for danger by sight, scent, and sound.

You pray that the wind doesn't shift and reveal your presence.

As if walking on eggs, the doe

starts toward you across the open ground. The buck watches intently—head high—and finally decides to follow.

After what seems an eternity, he's within range. From here on, you act instinctively.

The bark of the gun and the dropping of the buck are as one—a perfect shot!

All the work, preparation, and waiting have paid off. You've got your deer and it's a mighty good feeling—one that should provide happy memories for many years to come.

Unfortunately, however, during my 35 years of pursuing white tails, I've seen too many of these potentially happy memories turn sour when the end product reaches the dinner table.

The unhappy truth is:

Far too many "experienced" deer hunters know too little about what to do with this most sought after big game animal after they get it.

I reached this sad conclusion when my curiosity, coupled with an abhorrence of waste, prompted me to take a long hard look at a broad sampling of these unhappy endings.



In every case, I found the hunter had fallen short on one or more of four basic points between field dressing and the dinner table. I became firmly convinced also that these shortcomings are directly responsible, in most instances, for such adjectives as: gamey, tough, strong, wild-tasting, sour, etc., when they are applied to venison.

The four big trouble spots, as luck would have it, are easy to avoid, requiring little extra effort and only some basic knowledge of deer. In fact, the first two can be dealt with during field dressing—a process familiar to every deer hunter worthy of the name.

Trouble spot number one was the failure to sever the deer's car-

otid arteries as a routine part of the field dressing operation. This precaution assures proper “bleeding out” every time, and prevents blood from collecting between muscle layers where it can putrify and spoil the meat.

Although some mighty savvy deer hunters will argue this is necessary only when your prize has been downed by a shot to the head, neck, or spinal cord, if you forget just once, you’ve got a monumental pile of dog food for your efforts, at best.

The wisdom of permanently incorporating this step into the field dressing routine was brought home to me the hard way some years ago, when I was hunting with Stan-

. . . *Venison*

ley Oleniacz, mayor of Glen Gardner, and long-time deer stalker.

Stan made a classic shot on a running white tail in heavy cover. But the buck's momentum carried it over the edge of a steep drop-off, which terminated in a dry wash some 50 feet below.

To add to the problem, it was late in the day and we were faced with traveling a considerable distance before reaching our car.

After climbing down to Stan's deer and discovering he had severed the spinal cord, we concentrated our efforts on a speedy trip out with his prize, racing against darkness.

While Stan scouted the wash for a more gradual ascent, I hastily went to work dressing out the deer. Unfortunately, in those days, I was one of the hunters who only cut the carotid arteries when absolutely necessary. And, in the rush to beat the descending sun, I simply forgot.

You can easily guess the rest. That moment of forgetfulness did both of us out of many pleasurable hours around the dinner table, not to mention the dampening of a happy memory and the utter waste—a classic case in point for severing the carotid arteries every time!

The cutting of these arteries takes less than a minute, once you've positioned the deer on its back with head and shoulders slightly elevated.

Using a well-honed knife with a blade of at least six inches, plunge it to the hilt where the neck and chest meet. Withdraw the knife in a sharp slicing motion, while keeping the blade tilted toward the animal's spine.

I prefer a big filleting knife, honed razor sharp, but any blade of the proper length will do the job.

Next comes trouble spot number two—easily avoided, yet one that if neglected or done carelessly, causes more tainted venison, in my opinion, than any other common goof committed during field dressing: the removal of the tarsal and metatarsal glands from the inside and outside of the deer's hind legs.

The need for extreme care in avoiding contact with the secretions from these pear-shaped musk glands becomes evident, once the hunter realizes their oily emissions are frequently spread throughout large areas of the deer's hair as it makes its way through heavy foliage, underbrush, and thickets.

Generally, taint occurs if the hunter is careless after getting musk on his hands and knife, and if he fails to cut away any meat that comes into contact with the animals hair, after its belly has been opened.

One hunter questioned during my investigation solemnly told me he always cut out all four musk glands before dressing-out his deer. But further interrogation re-

vealed he never bothered to concern himself about contamination from his infected knife and hands.

Here's a simple way to avoid such problems that's quick and easy:

Pack a pair of kitchen-variety rubber gloves, two hunting knives, and an extra plastic food bag (large enough to contain the gloves and one hunting knife for the return trip), when you're getting together your field kit.

The gloves are worn only during actual removal of the musk glands, the second step in the field dressing operation. The same knife is used as was previously employed in the severing of the carotids.

When the operation has been completed, carefully strip off the gloves, turning them inside out in the process. They can then be used to handle and wrap the contaminated knife for storage in the plastic bag, while the hands remain sufficiently clean to safely carry out the remainder of the field dressing.

Should you happen to find yourself without any rubber gloves, it's possible to improvise a make-shift pair from two large plastic bags, by securing them around your wrists with rubber bands or cord.

Admittedly, despite all precautions, there's always an exception: contamination from the intestinal secretions that follow a gut shot. And frankly, there are only two ways to handle this situation.

Aside from the obvious—passing up any shot that doesn't afford a chance for a reasonably clean kill—the only other solution is fast field dressing, followed by a thorough washing of the body cavity with lots of clean water.

And unless you're packing a rain barrel for a canteen or down your deer near a lake or stream, you've got real trouble.

When field dressing is complete and you've taken all necessary steps to dissipate the deer's body heat (as well as routine protections against blow flies and birds, if called for), you're ready to start thinking about trouble spot number three—the meat curing operation.

This is what makes venison tender. It's the all important curing process that breaks down those tough muscle fibers. Remember, too, that once meat fibers are frozen, this tenderizing process ends.

If possible, get your deer to a processing plant on the same day you shoot it. Should you be unable to make it within 24 hours, have the butcher hang the dressed carcass (hide removed) in his curing room for 24 to 26 days at a temperature of 32 degrees Fahrenheit. Three or four degrees variation will do no harm, but that's the outside limit.

A handy rule of thumb to remember when you're in the back country too deep to reach the proc-

. . . *Venison*

essor within 24 hours is: Subtract two days from the total curing time for each day's delay in getting to the processor, when the temperature is below 35 degrees. If you're in a region where temperatures are between 35 and 40 degrees, knock off three days for each day's delay.

At the end of the appropriate curing period, your venison will be ready for processing and freezing, and unless you've bagged yourself a really old deer, it should turn out to be as tender as prime beef.

If you're in a region where processing plants are out of the question, cure your venison by hanging it for eight to ten days in a woodshed or some other appropriate out-building. This works well in areas where temperatures range between 40 and 50 degrees. It's not recommended where the thermometer is likely to stay above 50.

When following this method, it's best to remove the hide before the curing begins. Also take the usual precautions of employing lots of black pepper on all exposed meat surfaces and thoroughly encase the hanging carcass in a clean meat sack.

Trim away all dried surface areas at the end of the home curing period before proceeding with freezing, canning, or smoking operations.

This brings us to the final trouble spot—cooking techniques.

Once it reaches the kitchen, venison should be handled as follows:

1. Old, and therefore tough venison should be converted to sausage. (See the venison sausage recipe.)
2. Before cooking any cut of venison, remove all tissue-like membranes from its exterior, as well as all visible fat. Removal of membrane improves the effectiveness of marinating, larding, or barding. Removing the fat gets rid of most of those "gamey" observations at the dinner table.
3. All venison roasts are extremely dry, unless the meat has been thoroughly punctured with a knife or cooking fork along the grain, and either larded or barded with strips of bacon, salt pork, or beef suet. Barding—tying flat pieces of these fatty meats or beef suet around the roast with butcher twine—is simpler. Larding requires the insertion of very thin strips into the puncture holes at close intervals with a larding needle.
4. Marinating, an optional step which further tenderizes any cut of venison, is a matter of individual choice. Some contend it alters the true taste of the meat. We always marinate and braise any venison about which there's the slightest doubt. A good marinade has an acid such as wine, beer, vinegar, or milk, and cooking oil. Other ingredients are added for flavor.
5. Never overcook venison! It'll be tough as nails. Of course, stews and pot roasts and braised cook-

ing in general don't suffer from overcooking, except in the loss of taste. Medium rare, as indicated for beef roasts on a good meat thermometer, represents the outside limits of cooking. If the meat is pink and juicy when you cut in, it's done. About 15 minutes to the pound in a moderate oven should give you a perfect venison roast.

6. All roasted and broiled venison requires frequent basting. If the roast is larded or barded, baste it every 15 minutes; if not, every five minutes will suffice. Use a seasoned cooking oil for this.

7. Venison cuts slated for broiling should be at least an inch thick— one and a half inches is perfect. In addition to having all fat and membrane removed, these cuts should be well pierced to facilitate basting. Rub each side of the meat

with garlic and paint liberally with a well seasoned olive oil. We season with freshly ground pepper and hickory smoked salt. Unlike broiled beef, venison must be turned frequently, after being seared on each side for 45 seconds. Always broil close to a very hot fire— about six minutes to the side. Keep it turning, basting, turning, and basting. Stop at medium rare. Cut into the meat to see when it reaches this stage.

If you make it a point to heed these dressing, curing, and cooking precautions, your venison will be prime, sweet, tender, and delicious. You'll be king of the hill when the hunt reaches the dinner table. And, as added bonus, you'll have the satisfaction of savoring many a fond deer hunting memory. #

Bob's Venison Sausage

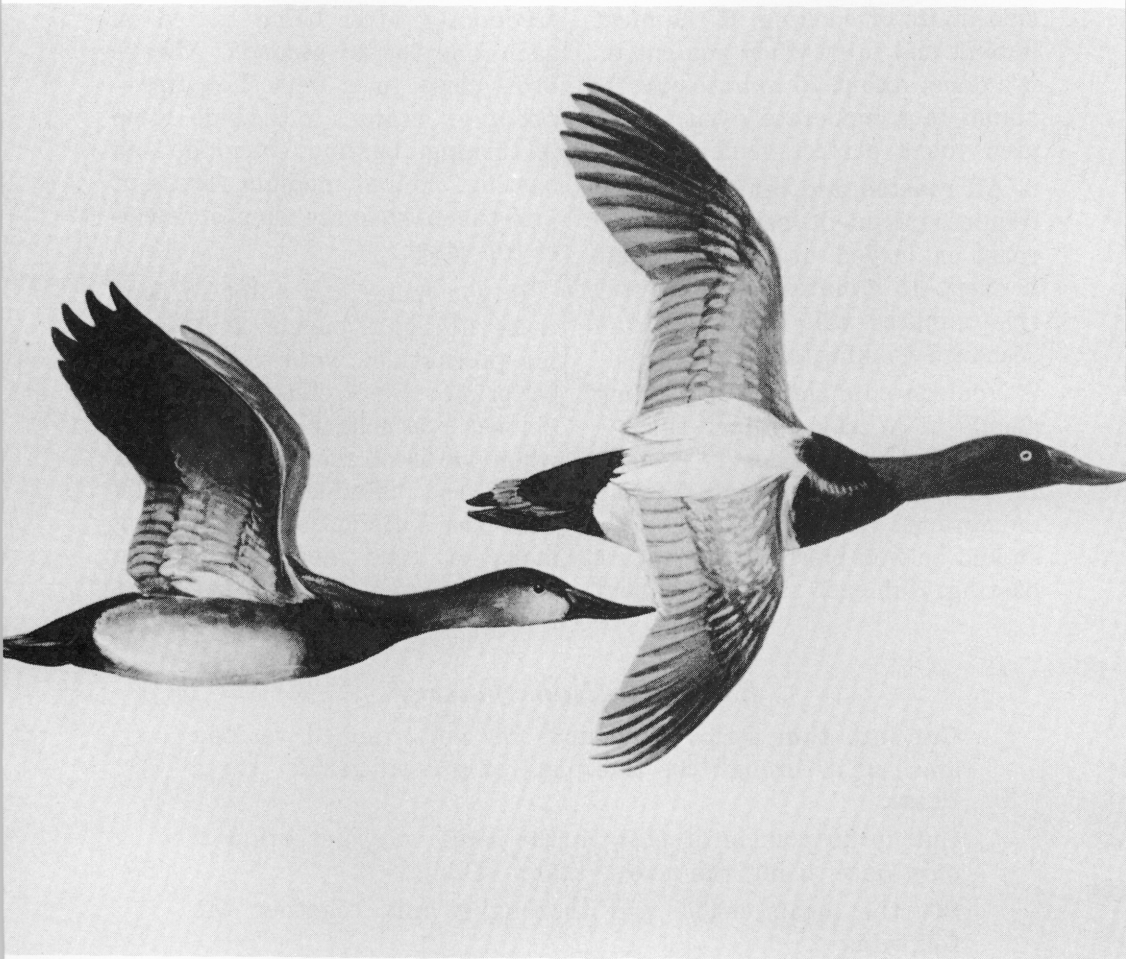
Cut into thin strips 50 pounds of well-trimmed venison and run it through the fine plate of a meat grinder three times.

Cut up 50 pounds of pork in the same way, but grind it only once, using the coarse plate.

Set the meats aside, and thoroughly mix together the following:

2 pounds of salt	1 ounce of black pepper
1 pound of sugar	2 ounces of sage
1 ounce of white pepper	½ ounce of nutmeg

Sprinkle the mixture equally on each batch of meat, and work it in thoroughly. Combine the ground venison and the pork into a uniform blend and run it once through the sausage plate of the grinder. Stuff into conventional sausage casings or form into patties, and package for the freezer.



Canvasback Ducks

Our disappearing Cans and Redheads

By Art Hawkins

From Fins and Feathers

(First of a two-part series)

"A celery-fed canvasback from the Susquehanna Flats was once the symbol of duck hunting and was as avidly sought as the Holy Grail . . . Harve de Grace . . . was revitalized each winter by the return of the ducks. The population swelled with sportsmen, guides, market hunters, and the wealthy of the nation. All were drawn by the lure of the noble duck—like a college reunion they all mingled with excitement and anticipation."

This quote came from a fascinating book on wildfowling methods, now mostly illegal, entitled *The Outlaw Gunner* by Dr. Harry M. Walsh published in 1971. It is a good introduction to my two-article series on canvasbacks and redheads in which I shall discuss the present status of these two species of diving ducks in light of their past and speculate on what their future may hold.

Last fall, it was illegal to shoot canvasbacks anywhere in the United States or to shoot any redheads except in the Pacific Flyway. This is not the first time that these birds were granted such protection.

It was illegal to shoot them any-

where in the United States for four straight years, 1960-63, but then the season was liberalized to permit the taking of either one or two from 1964 until last fall. The closure last fall not only was bad news to duck hunters who like to hunt them but also had far deeper significance. It meant that these favorite game birds failed to increase despite three consecutive years of favorable nesting conditions when legal bag limits never exceeded one "mistakebird" for either or both species.

Why haven't they increased? Will they ever occur in huntable numbers again? These are the questions crossing the minds of the more thoughtful hunters as well as of biologists and administrators.

Experienced hunters know that even closed seasons do not provide complete protection from shooting. Especially in the case of female redheads, which are rather nondescript, hunters shoot many cans and redheads by mistake or through carelessness. And closed seasons do not deter some violators.

Perhaps these kinds of waste

. . . Cans and Redheads

alone are enough to keep the population from increasing. Whatever the cause, these birds are dying as fast or faster than they are being replaced through nesting. Investigations are underway to find out why this is true, and I shall discuss some of the studies later. Neither species is considered rare or endangered but are, at present, too scarce to permit an open season.

The inevitable decline in can-red-head populations is rooted in America's earliest history as the following early accounts disclose.

The price list of J. C. Wilson, a Baltimore wholesaler in 1786, published in *The Outlaw Gunner*, shows the unbelievable high price for a pair of canvasbacks of \$5-\$7 for "prime" birds and \$2.50-\$5 for "regular" birds. Redhead pairs sold for \$2.50 compared to \$2 for geese and less than a dollar for most other kinds of ducks.

Nearly a century later, *Johnson's Natural History* by S. G. Goodrich, dated 1868, says this: "The canvasback, in the rich, juicy tenderness of its flesh, and its delicacy of flavor, stands unrivaled by the whole of its tribe, in this or perhaps any other quarter of the world. . . At our public dinners, hotels, and particular entertainments, the canvasbacks are universal favorites. They not only grace but dignify the table, and their very name conveys to the imagination of the eager epicure of the

most comfortable and exhilarating ideas. Hence, on these occasions, it has not been uncommon to pay from one to three dollars a pair for these ducks; and, indeed, at such times, if they can, they must be had, whatever may be the price."

It appears from these two accounts that their market value decreased between 1786 and 1868 although the esteem with which they were regarded certainly had not diminished. Another quotation from *The Outlaw Gunner* provides a possible explanation for the reduced price per pair: "As elsewhere, market gunning in Curra-tuck Sound did not come into full bloom until after the Civil War. The Chesapeake and Albermarle Canal opened (in 1859) in conjunction with several railroads made large-scale shipping possible. . . The old Dominion Line carried the fowl to New York, while the Bay Line shipped into Baltimore."

Arthur Cleveland Bent in his famous *Life History of North American Waterfowl* refers to "the lordly canvasback, the most famous American game bird, from the standpoint of the epicure." Francis H. Kortright in *The Ducks, Geese, and Swans of North America* states: "The lordly canvasback . . . is the most famous and most highly esteemed of our ducks, not even excepting the grand mallard. . . This super duck is reputed to be the "choice of the epicure" and has achieved worldwide fame as a table bird; a reputation it will no doubt retain."

The reputation of the redhead is somewhat below that of its close cousin but as Kortright pointed out, ". . . there is no doubt that many a lip has smacked over a fat redhead in the belief that the choice of the epicure (the canvasback) was being enjoyed." He describes the redhead "as one of the finest and most important game birds and among diving ducks ranks second only to the canvasback."

W. E. Clyde Todd in *Birds of Western Pennsylvania* also defends the redhead: "The canvasback famed by epicures for the flavor of its flesh is much overrated in this respect. Under ordinary circumstances, it is no better than the scaups and is rather inferior to the redhead. Only when it has been feeding extensively on the wild celery (*Vallisneria spiralis*) does its flesh become permeated with the peculiar flavor of the plant, which is supposed to render it unusually palatable."

According to Dr. T. S. Roberts in *The Birds of Minnesota*, "The redhead and the canvasback are so similar in temperament, general habits, and distribution, that much of what is said about one applies equally well to the other."

He went on to say that "in southern Minnesota, Heron Lake was the center of abundance of the redhead and canvasback in the middle of the last century, and they bred there in great numbers. But, with the settling of the country

and the excessive spring market-shooting that was soon inaugurated, the nesting birds decreased rapidly in the fifties and sixties.

Writing about the early 1880's in Minnesota, J. W. Preston stated in the *Ornithologist and Oologist* that "among other game birds are vast numbers of canvasbacks and redhead ducks; both these species remain to breed, though not so plentifully as formerly."

Also in the *Oologist* Lloyd Peabody for 1898 said about the redhead, "Once our most plentiful Duck here has been killed in thousands, for the last fifteen years. Fancy twenty guns hunting on a lake every day for two and a half months at a stretch, each gun killing thirty to ninety redheads a day. Is it any wonder that they are not as plenty as they used to be?"

Some of the decrease about the turn of the century in southern Minnesota was due to a deterioration of habitat as carp roiled the lakes and destroyed the preferred food beds. As fall and spring concentrations of canvasbacks on Heron Pomme de Terre and Shetek Lakes were declining their numbers increased on Lake Christina near Ashby which, by the mid-forties, became known far and wide as one of the great migration areas in North America for this species. Tremendous growths of favorite foods like sago pondweed, widgeon grass, and najas were the main drawing cards.

This information came from J.

. . . Cans and Redheads

Donald Smith's account in the Auk. During the sixties Christina lost both its food and its canvasbacks but following a lake poisoning program to kill bullheads and improve transparency food plants are coming back and so are the cans.

In the early 1870's, one of the best known canvasback lakes of the midwest was Lake Koshkonong in Wisconsin's Red Rock Valley. One fall Governor Hoard was invited by Thure Kumlien, who lived on the lake, to see the spectacular numbers of cans. He recalled that "we lay flat in the boats on the shore and did not have long to wait before a roaring of wings was heard in the distance. As they flew over us the noise became greater. On and on they came, great hosts of them. When morning broke, the water was covered with these beautiful ducks as far as the eye could see."

Angie Kumlien Main supplied this account in a Transactions of the Wisconsin Academy of Sciences, Arts, and Letters:

For a time Koshkonong supplied canvasbacks and other species to the Chicago market but here, too, the carp took over and the diving ducks had to go elsewhere for food.

After leaving Minnesota and Wisconsin, many of the birds stopped in Michigan. Bent quotes Burrows concerning the conditions they encountered there. ". . . the birds were slaughtered by all sorts

of abominable devices, including night floating, punt guns, sail boats, and steam launches . . . as well as by more legitimate methods of decoys. At present, they are sometimes obtained by "sneaking" or drifting down upon flocks on the open water in a boat more or less concealed by rushes, bushes, and similar disguises, but the greater numbers, are shot from blinds or hiding places over painted wooden decoys."

Finally, the birds reached their Chesapeake Bay wintering grounds. There they encountered every device then known to man for taking ducks. Even a century ago, some people were concerned about the slaughter that was taking place particularly directed at canvasbacks because of their high market value and pre-eminence for sport.

The situation on the wintering grounds a century ago is vividly portrayed in the February 1870 issue of Harper's new Monthly Magazine in an article "Game Waterfowl of America." W. Wadell, the author, wrote as follows:

"The far-famed canvasback . . . is probably the best known of our waterfowl . . . Although it is annually slaughtered by means of all the devices which cruelty and brutality can suggest, the above named places, during the whole season are fairly alive with them. . . . The enormous prices which are offered for canvasbacks are becoming the cause for their rapid

extermination. A decrease in their numbers is now imperceptible; but soon, very soon their well-known 'quack' will no longer gladden the ear of the hunter. The unprincipled, and I may say cowardly, manner in which the canvasbacks are usually obtained, is certainly, to say the least, shameful. No true sportsman will descend to or countenance the wholesale systems of murder to which these delightful birds . . . are subjected. . . . The game should always be allowed a chance for life; it should be shot in a scientific and sportsman-like manner, and by this nobler manner of hunting the destruction is stopped."

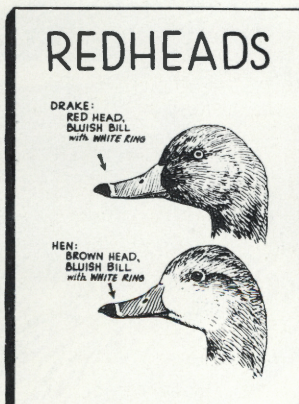
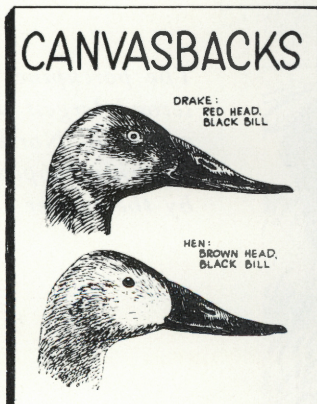
The author was less concerned and complementary about the redhead for he wrote:

"It is the inferior of its congener (the canvasback) both in

excellence of flesh, game spirit, and stateliness of appearance. This bird is not infrequently palmed off on the unsuspecting gentry from the 'Rural deestrics' as the bona fide canvasback; and these deluded creatures will protest that it is worth a 'hull load of spreeng chicken;' devouring it with great gusto, occasionally varying the performance of smacking of the lips and rolling of the eyes."

These old accounts tell us that canvasbacks by reputation and redheads by association have been harrassed by mankind in various ways and places since America was first settled.

In the next issue I shall have more to say about another form of assault against their numbers—on their nesting grounds, assess their current status and crystal-ball into their future. #



The Porcupine

One of the slowest, clumsiest, and apparently least useful animals in New Jersey is *Erethizon dorsatus*, better known to hunters, hikers, and campers as the porcupine. Few persons who have spent any time at all in the woods have not encountered or heard of the porky and wondered what possible value such a creature could have in this world.

For sheer sloth there is no contest between the porcupine and any other North American mammal; the porky wins in a walk. The fact that he is seldom molested by any but the most hunger-crazed animals probably accounts for his almost complete indifference and lack of alertness. His sole defense is the sharp quills of varying length that bristle from all parts of his body except head, belly, and feet. It is these quills that provide the porky's most distinguishing characteristic.

And, though long ago proved erroneous, the misconception that the porcupine can shoot or throw his quills at an attacking enemy still finds credence among many wary woodsmen. He will, when hard pressed, flip his six-inch tail at a persistent attacker, trying to dissuade him by implanting a few of the short, sharp quills in his opponent's body. But



The porcupine is the second largest native rodent in North America, topped only by the beaver

his routine defense against intruders is much less taxing on his brain or physical powers. He simply tries to hide his vulnerable head under a bush or other foliage and relies on his quills to discourage serious molestation.

Most animals have a knowledge and healthy respect of the porky's quills and usually give him a wide berth. Dogs, however, are seldom hesitant to mix it up with the first porcupine they encounter. Even after the painful experience gained — first, from the penetration of the quills and, later, from their removal by an owner armed with a sturdy pair of pliers — some dogs never learn.

Besides dog owners, campers generally have reason to dislike the porcupine. An almost uncontrollable affection for salt causes this pesky creature to gnaw on anything touched by human hands. Perspiration, with its salt content, attracts the porky to a wide variety of man-handled camping articles, any of which will be rendered useless after he has gotten his teeth into them.

At an average weight of between 15-30 pounds, the porcupine is the second largest rodent in America, topped only by the beaver. Usually a vegetarian — except for his salt raids — he feeds principally on the inner bark of coniferous trees. This aspect of his appetite, in fact, is a disturbance to many conservationists who frown upon his destructiveness to young trees, and his bark-eating depredations upon forest plantings have earned him a place on the bounty list of many states.

In addition to *Erethizon dorsatus*, whose range takes in the greater part of Canada and the eastern United States north of Pennsylvania, including north Jersey, another species, *Erethizon epixanthus*, exists throughout the Rocky Mountain area and as far south as Mexico. #

Hunter Orange A Must

New Jersey hunters must wear a daylight fluorescent orange color cap or outer garment containing at least 200 square inches of orange fluorescent material.

This law applies to all persons while hunting deer, rabbit, hare, squirrel, fox, or game birds, other than waterfowl, with firearms in New Jersey.

The penalty for violation will be \$50 for each offense.

This law does not apply to bow hunters.

Other states which have adopted similar hunter's orange provisions have reported a decrease in hunting accidents because of its use. #

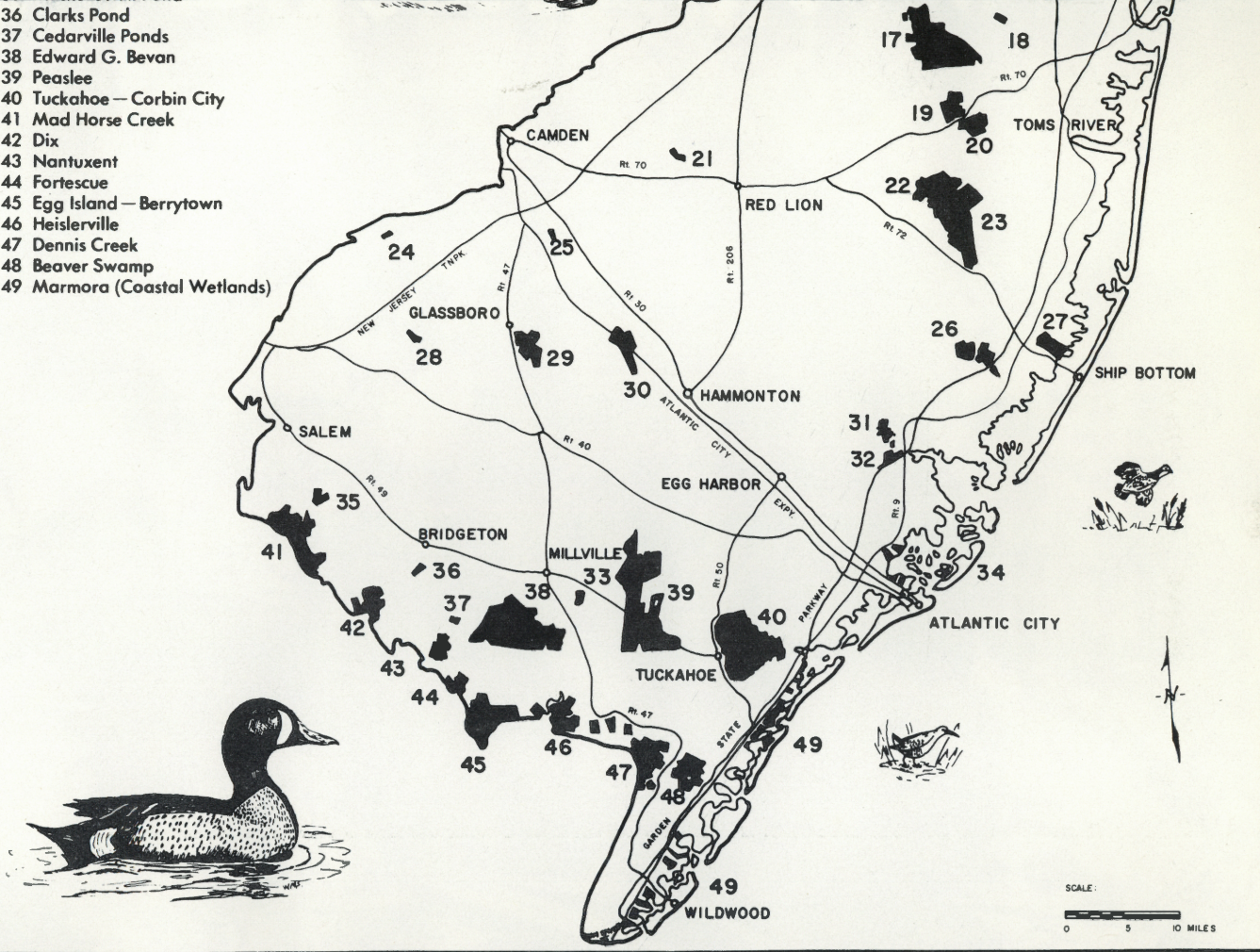
LOCATION MAP

NEW JERSEY WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

- 1 Hainesville
- 2 Flatbrook — Roy
- 3 Walpack
- 4 Hamburg Mountain
- 5 Wanaque
- 6 Whittingham
- 7 Berkshire Valley
- 8 Pequest
- 9 Black River
- 10 Ken Lockwood Gorge
- 11 Clinton
- 12 Amwell Lake
- 12A Baldwin Lake
- 13 Assunpink
- 14 Turkey Swamp
- 15 Imlaystown Lake
- 16 Prospertown Lake
- 17 Colliers Mills
- 18 Butterfly Bogs
- 19 Manchester
- 20 Whiting
- 21 Medford
- 22 Pasadena
- 23 Greenwood Forest
- 24 Logan Pond
- 25 Rowand Pond
- 26 Stafford Forge
- 27 Manahawkin
- 28 Harrisonville Lake
- 29 Glassboro
- 30 Winslow
- 31 Swan Bay
- 32 Port Republic
- 33 Menantico Ponds



- 36 Clarks Pond
- 37 Cedarville Ponds
- 38 Edward G. Bevan
- 39 Peaslee
- 40 Tuckahoe — Corbin City
- 41 Mad Horse Creek
- 42 Dix
- 43 Nantuxent
- 44 Fortescue
- 45 Egg Island — Berrytown
- 46 Heislerville
- 47 Dennis Creek
- 48 Beaver Swamp
- 49 Marmora (Coastal Wetlands)





Fur Ecology and Conservation

By E. Anthony Delgado,
Fish and Game Councilman

Editorial Comment: This article expresses the opinion of Mr. E. Anthony Delgado, Fish and Game Councilman and ardent conservationist, the agricultural representative from South Jersey. The Division of Fish, Game, and Shell Fisheries appreciates the opinions of Mr. Delgado as a professional fur farmer and welcomes other views on this subject.

The fur industry, more than any other group, is painfully aware that wanton destruction of a species can only lead to the eventual end of our industry itself. Moreover, we are profoundly aware that the dissemination of misinformation regarding inhumane treatment of animals can only alienate a segment of our consuming market.

The World Wildlife Fund, which encourages responsible ecological attitudes toward animals most threatened by extinction, has saluted the fur industry management and labor who have undertaken to abide by the world wildlife code and have demonstrated that the industry's imagination and creative genius can provide chic, elegant designs without using furs from endangered species.

Regarding the harvesting of pelts and the method used, studies by government, veterinary, conservation, and humane society investigators have found that in all but possibly the most dangerous species, animals are dispatched in the quickest and most humane manner known today. Although some of the methods might sound primitive, the veterinary and Canadian humane society witnesses have endorsed them, and have called them as humane as can be and have testified that they are comparable to the methods by which cattle, sheep, and hogs are killed in the civilized nations of the world.

Testimony on the Seal Hunt

In testimony before the Canadian House of commons, Tom

← *Very few furbearing species are threatened with extinction. For example, there are now more beaver in New Jersey than at the turn of the century*

. . . Fur

Hughes, general manager of the Ontario Humane Society, declared it was impossible to skin seals alive, as has been depicted in widely-circulated films.

Dr. Forbes McLeon, veterinarian and managing director of the St. John, New Brunswick, S.P.C.A., who also accompanied a seal hunt, said over 800 carcasses were examined and less than 10 percent did not have fractured skulls. No evidence of suffering prior to death could be observed in the 10 percent without fractured skulls. A crushed skull should be satisfactory proof of a humane death. No cruel acts in killing methods were observed. Sad sights frequently are misconstrued as cruelty. Indeed,

In New Jersey the most devastating and long lasting influence to muskrat populations is destruction of habitat

testimony given in the hearings before the Canadian Parliament has shown that the films depicting cruelty actually were staged for that purpose.

The Canadian Government says it has signed declarations from the hunters involved that they were paid to stage it.

Veterinarian Elizabeth Simpson, in a report published by the Zurich-based World Federation for the Protection of Animals told of her observations during a Pribilof harvest, "The kill of bachelor males," she noted, "is directed towards maintaining the herd at a level which will produce its maximum sustainable yield." As to humaneness of the methods employed, she found no evidence that any



fur seal had been skinned while still alive.

As for the endangered species, the fur industry, contrary to impressions created by over-zealous conservationists, does not favor the indiscriminate destruction of animals for the sake of their precious hides. It would be quite unrealistic, at the very least, for us to endanger our future supply of raw material. Despite the cries raised regarding the impending disappearance of certain species of wildlife, the fact is that very few species are actually threatened with extinction. The authority on this subject is the International Union for the Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (IUCN), based in Morges, Switzerland, whose Red Data Book is constantly brought up to date with reports on the status of virtually every known species in the world. According to this authority, for the few species threatened with extinction, only two or three were used for fur purposes.

The most wanted furs—leopards, jaguars, and cheetahs—listed as endangered species are not used today by the fur industry. Moreover, these animals in past years have accounted for less than one percent of the furs sold in the United States. The vast bulk of other furs sold here are species that are ranch-raised specifically for their furs.

In addition, expanding world population has restricted the land

and food available to wild animals. This, in fact, accounts for most of the reduction of animal populations.

For example, in New Jersey, the most devastating and long lasting influence to muskrat populations is destruction of habitat. Mosquito control practices, including dikes, sluice boxes, and pumps used to exclude tide-water from marshes in order to kill off mosquito larvae before they emerge as adults, has resulted in the elimination of proper water and food conditions for the muskrat population.

In addition, dredging of the Delaware River and land development have destroyed tens of thousands of fine muskrat marshes. And muskrat trapping is very important to the economy of some rural New Jersey communities.

Some well-intentioned people have asked why we don't support the wearing of fake fur. Forgetting the esthetics, the ecological reason is that a synthesized product or fake, whether it be mink fur or Persian lamb, is an inorganic product. The waste from the manufacture of these types of products cannot be ecologically recycled and consequently they must by their very nature pollute the ecosystem. The product grown on our mink farms and trapped in the marshes is organic. It can be recycled and it does not pollute the ecosystem. So you see, the fur industry makes some real contributions to our environment. #

Forest and Park Lands Open to Hunting

The following state forest and park lands are open for hunting

State Forests	Acres	Counties
Bass River	8,935	Burlington and Ocean
Belleplain	11,178	Cape May and Cumberland
Abram S. Hewitt	1,890	Passaic
Jenny Jump	967	Warren
Lebanon (including Whitesbog area)	25,739	Burlington and Ocean
Penn	3,318	Burlington
Norvin Green	2,260	Passaic
Stokes (including Valley Farm, Belle Ellen, Jarbby, and Newbegin)	14,598	Sussex
Wharton	99,036	Atlantic, Burlington, and Camden
Worthington	5,711	Warren
Sub-Total	173,632	

State Parks	Acres	Counties
Allamuchy	2,200	Morris and Sussex
Double Trouble	1,614	Ocean
Duck Island	177	Mercer
Farny	803	Morris
Great Sound	198	Cape May

Only that state-owned land which is within the following areas:

North of Stone Harbor Boulevard

South of Avalon Boulevard

West of Intercoastal Waterway

East of Garden State Parkway

Greenwood Lake	2,525	Passaic
That state-owned property west of East Short Road including the former Wehran Tract.		
Inskip	2,012	Gloucester
Millstone	792	Somerset

Monmouth Battlefield	575	Monmouth
The lands open to hunting consist of 575 acres of state-owned land lying south of the Freehold-Jamesburg railroad right of way, north of Route 33, and west of Wemrock Road excluding the Apple Farm lease.		
Rancocas	850	Burlington
Hunting permitted for the period November 10 through December 8 inclusive for game which is in season during that period.		
Ringwood (Skylands)	1,700	Passaic and Bergen
As posted on Skylands section only.		
Swartswood	513	Sussex
That state-owned property south of Newton-Swartswood Road and east of East Shore Road.		
Voorhees	437	Hunterdon
Wawayanda	6,000	Sussex
	20,396	
Sub-total	20,396	
Grand Total	194,028	

The grand total comprises approximately 81 percent of the total forests and parks lands. #

More Wasted Waterfowl

In the midst of public outrage over oil spills and heated debate on the issue of lead vs iron shot for waterfowling, one of the unsung villains in the fight to conserve migratory birds is the common, every day oil sludge pit (or oil sump). Ranging in size from 20 feet square to half an acre or more, these pits dot the land over the oil producing acres of Wyoming, South Dakota, Nebraska, Kansas, and Colorado; in other words, the heart of the Central Flyway.

To a migrating duck or goose, the pits appear to be small ponds, especially inviting during dry years. The birds land, are coated with oil and quickly die. According to U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service estimates, between 25,000 and 30,000 birds succumbed to the lure of these pits in Colorado this year, and it has been a wet year.

To compound the tragedy, these pits can be cleaned up fairly easily. There are laws against letting oil collect on the surface of these ponds. There are fines that can be levied. And the petroleum industry is making an effort to put its house in order. But, in the meantime, waterfowl continue to land in the oil sludge pits and die by the thousands. #

. . . **Scaup** *Continued from Inside Front Cover*

little bluebill, bluebill, blackhead, blackjack, blackneck, bluebill shoveler, bobby duck, broadbill, bullhead, bullneck, cottontail bluebill, creek blackhead, creek broadbill, dosgris (grayback), fall duck, fresh water broadbill, goshen broadbill, greenhead broadbill, howden, lake duck, little bay bluebill, little blackhead, little broadbill, little creek broadbill, little duck, little grayback, marsh bluebill, mud bluebill, polridge, pond broadbill, raft duck, river bluebill, river shuffler, river broadbill, shuffler, summer duck, swamp bluebill.

Names of the Greater

For the greater scaup, colloquial names include: big bluebill, bluebill, bay blackhead, bay broadbill, bay shuffler, big bay bluebill, big blackhead, big broadbill, big fall duck, blackhead, black-headed broadbill, black-headed duck, black-headed raft duck, blackjack, blackneck, bluebill widgeon, broadbill, broadbill bluebill, bullhead, bullneck, canvas back bluebill, deep water broadbill, dosgris, dosgris de mer (sea grayback), fall duck, flock duck, grayback, lake bluebill, laker, mussel-duck, raft duck, salt water broadbill, sea dosgris (sea grayback), sea duck, shuffler, troop duck, troop fowl, winter broadbill. #

Winter Fishing

What fresh water fish can you expect to catch during winter? To those who actually get out and try, the answer usually is, "the same species you caught last summer."

While certain fish are considered prime fare on the cold weather menu, there are hardly any game fish that fail to show up in the catches of devoted winter fishermen.

You can run down the list of summertime favorites—pike, trout, walleye, perch, bass, pickerel, and whatever else is legal—and suddenly realize that fishing really knows no season.

The big difference is in the method used and in the fish themselves.

Techniques and equipment used in ice fishing bear little kinship with those employed during fairer weather, except for the hook. Artificial lures take a back seat to natural baits, and elaborate tip-up set-ups lure the quarry.

However, the big difference is noticed in the response of fish. Spectacular fighters under summer conditions often become quite sluggish in frigid waters. Bass, in particular, exist in such a state of semi-hibernation that they are reluctant to seize the bait. Pickerel, on the other hand, manage to retain a lively appetite.

Winter is hardly a time to stop fishing. In fact, there are a lot of folks throughout the state who sincerely feel it's the time to start. #

Status of the

Monk Parakeet Program

in New Jersey

By Thedora Schubert,
Wildlife Biologist

The New Jersey Division of Fish, Game, and Shell Fisheries and the New Jersey Department of Health and Agriculture are cooperating in a monk parakeet retrieval program under the advisorship of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. Live monk parakeets are being kept in facilities at Rutgers University to establish a study colony.

The monk parakeet program has been in effect since early 1973 when public attention was focused on this bird through agricultural reports and birding publications. The Department of Agriculture initially became involved in early 1969. A limited staff in both Agriculture and Fish and Game has been assigned to this program but the entire Division is cooperating in reporting monks. Conservation officers, agricultural extension agents, biologists, birders, and the public report sightings and nests.

A "wanted poster" for monks was published through Rutgers University and distributed to extension service agents, various interest groups, and to individuals upon request. A mailing of 3,000 posters was provided by the New Jersey Chapter of the Sierra Club.

A number of newspaper articles have appeared throughout the state indicating the need to control this bird and requesting the public to report birds and nests.

A form acknowledgement of monk parakeet sightings was devised and stenciled to facilitate faster recognition of parrot sightings or nests.

Public opinion is varied on the control of monk parakeets with most people recognizing the threat but still favoring the presence of a bird or birds at their feeders or property. People with monk parakeet nests on their property generally allow removal of the nests. The New Jersey Audubon Society took a mediocre stand on the monk parakeet, indicating control of the bird when it is damaging crops. The New Jersey Sierra Club favors the eradication of the bird.

One live monk has been captured at a nest site while several attempts have failed in an effort to find a working trapping procedure. Coordination with other states has yielded helpful information. The Federal Government is collecting and monitoring data on monk parakeet control programs in eastern

. . . Monk Parakeet

states. Four live monks are in captive situations in Rutgers. The live monk caught wild is being used as a lure bird to trap other monk parrots. A noose trap which harmlessly holds the bird by the feet, is used. The primary feathers were cut from one wing of this bird to prevent flight should it escape.

No monk parakeet reproduction has been reported in New Jersey

removed, thus perhaps interrupting the nesting cycle. No eggs or young have been found in any nests. Begging behavior was seen in late July in a flock of five birds, perhaps indicating young. Limited time and personnel restrict visits to active nests and trapping efforts.

It is perhaps too late to control the monk parakeet, particularly since 19 young in various stages of development were found in a



The author discussing the monk parakeet program with Division conservation officers during a training session

despite the fact that at least 12 nests are known. Some of these nests were deserted by the birds after human interference during capture attempts. Other nests were

nest on Long Island and reports of numerous monk parakeets in the Philadelphia area. These birds fly up to 30 miles in search of food and may well travel into and out

of New Jersey in a day's journey. The growing number of bird feeders in suburban areas will carry these birds through winter and the many agricultural crops of New Jersey can be utilized during the warmer months. Also, a number of residents maintain feeders through the summer months, and many summer sightings are at feeders.

Under Fish and Game regulations, the monk parakeet may not be possessed and the USDA ban on importing any birds has perhaps halted some traffic in monks. However, one person in Staten Island is so in favor of these parakeets

in the wild that he is searching pet shops for monks in order to buy and release these birds.

Correspondence concerning monk parakeets include, besides sightings, zoos seeking surplus birds, and graduate students doing research.

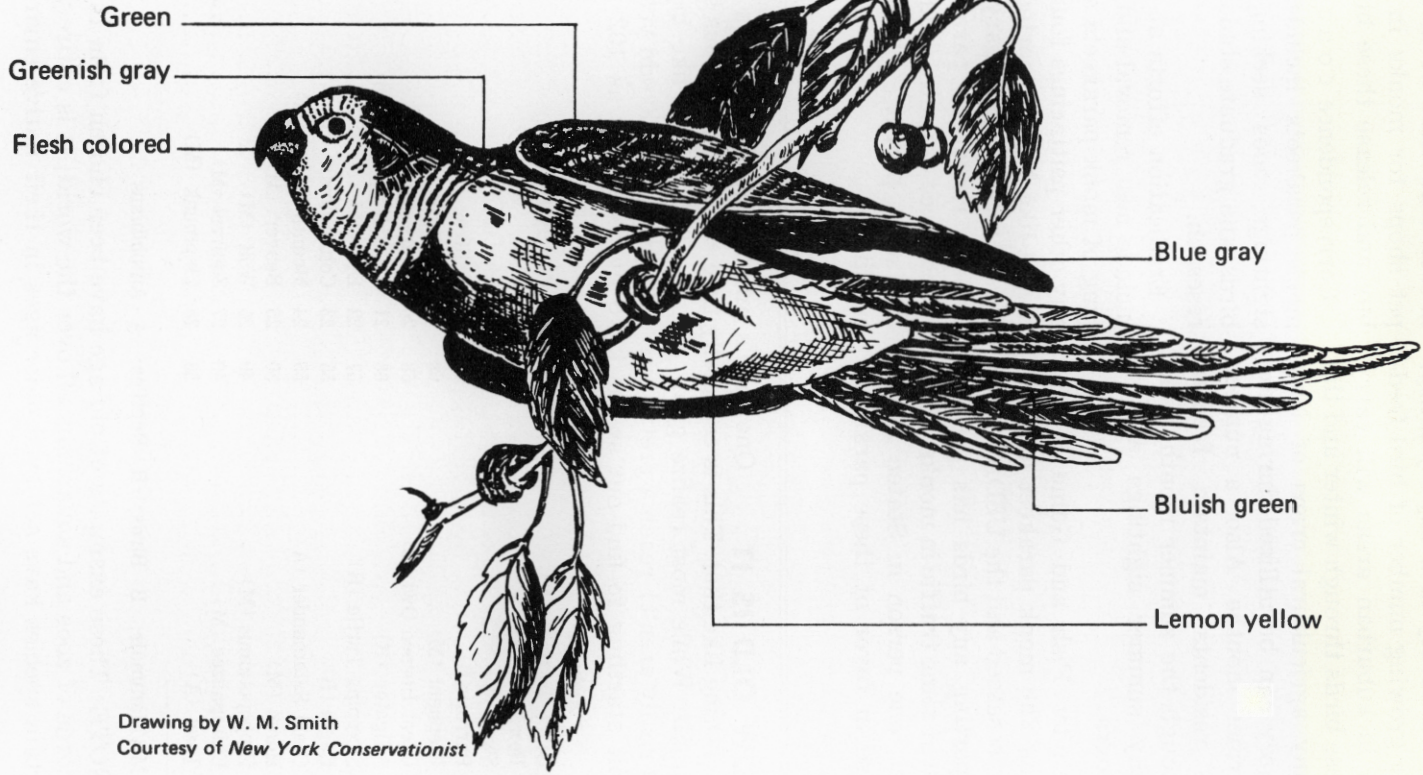
Eradication efforts at this time include nest removal and livetrapping of monk parakeets as well as any other psittacines found. Other parrot-like birds reported in New Jersey include the canarywing and Indian ringneck parakeets. A peach-faced lovebird and a maxillians parrot have been caught. #

HOW OLD IS IT . . . One man's middle age is another's youth or something like that. This is especially true among the various species of animals. While most realize giant tortoises (they look like big turtles, but really aren't) reach a pretty ripe old age (circa 150 odd years). It is a bit startling to find out swans have lived as long as 102 years.

<i>Animals*</i>	<i>Years</i>	<i>Animals*</i>	<i>Years</i>
1 Giant Tortoise (R)	152	15 Grizzly Bear (M)	32
2 Box Turtle (R)	123	16 Bison (M)	30
3 Swan (B)	102	17 Lion (M)	30
4 Parrot (B)	80	18 Bullfrog (A)	30
5 Elephant (M)	69	19 Cobra (R)	28
6 Great Horned Owl (B)	68	20 Tiger (M)	25
7 Alligator (R)	68	21 English Sparrow (B)	23
8 Snapping Turtle (R)	57	22 Elk (M)	22
9 Eagle (B)	55	23 Cottonmouth (R)	21
10 Giant Salamander (A)	55	24 Mountain Lion (M)	20
11 Horse (M)	50	25 Beaver (M)	19
12 Hippopotamus (M)	49	26 Wolf (M)	16
13 Chimpanzee (M)	40	27 Squirrel (M)	16
14 Toad (A)	36	28 Chipmunk (M)	12

* M - Mammals; B - Birds; R - Reptiles; A - Amphibians

(NOTE: These examples of old age have been chosen from the reliable records of zoos and aquariums all over the world; it is entirely possible certain species have achieved older ages in their native environment.)



Drawing by W. M. Smith
Courtesy of *New York Conservationist*

WANTED

Information concerning the location and numbers of

Monk Parakeet, *Myiopsitta monachus*

Aliases: Quaker Parakeet, Gray-headed Parakeet

Description:

Sizesimilar to mourning dove

Sexescolored alike

Voiceraucous chattering

Nestlarge communal nest built of twigs. It may be constructed on utility poles, house eaves, or in trees. The nest is used throughout the year for both roosting and raising of young.

Other facts. The monk parakeet is a resident of South America. It has been imported into the U.S. in large numbers as a pet. Escaped or liberated parakeets have now been reported from 24 states east of the Rocky Mountains. Successful reproduction has been reported from the metropolitan New York area and from Connecticut. If large populations become widespread, they could become serious competitors with native birds and cause considerable crop damage to farms, gardens, and orchards.

The monk parakeet has a prodigious appetite for fruit and grain. Within its native distribution in South America, it is a serious agricultural pest. Large flocks travel long distances to feed in cultivated grain fields and orchards. Annually, 2 to 5 percent of Argentina's crops are lost to this bird with local destruction as high as 45 percent. A considerable control effort has been made in Argentina, but with little or no effect.

Research efforts are currently under way to determine the potential impact of this species on agriculture and wildlife in the United States. However, in order to carry out this research, considerable help and support are needed from the public in locating wild populations and nests.

Anyone seeing monk parakeets or their nests should report the exact location and date to:

Robert Mangold
N. J. Division of Fish, Game, and Shell Fisheries
P. O. Box 1809
Trenton, N. J. 08625

State Trophy Deer Record List

Typical Firearm

Hunter and Address	County	Year	Score
1. Anthony DePiano, Hightstown	Mercer	1945	163 5/8
2. Fred Space, Sussex	Sussex	1950	163 3/8
3. Ron Snyder, Alloway	Salem	1972	161 5/8
4. Antler Sportsmen's Club, Princeton	Mercer	1956	157 3/8
5. Earl Casper, Newport	Cumberland	1970	160 5/8
6. Frank Newkirk, Salem	Salem	1970	154 2/8
7. George Leber, Jr., Yardville	Burlington	1967	151 2/8
8. John H. Smith, Jr., Marlton	Burlington	1969	149 5/8
9. Dennis B. Wescott, Old Bridge	Monmouth	1972	149 0/8
10. George Leber III, Allentown	Monmouth	1965	148 4/8
11. Paul L. Mott, Tuckerton	Ocean	1953	146 5/8
12. Wilbert Zarin, Salem	Salem	1968	145 5/8
13. Thomas A. Marcucci, Trenton	Ocean	1969	143 3/8
14. Robert L. Carter, New Egypt	Ocean	1969	143 1/8
15. Leon Jones, Mt. Holly	Burlington	1967	142 6/8
16. Warren Strang, Woodstown	Salem	1963	142 2/8
17. Anthony J. Rosato, Sergeantsville	Hunterdon	1969	142 0/8
18. George Alsheimer, Jamesburg	Middlesex	1967	141 5/8
Carl Torchio, New Paltz, N. Y.	Bergen	1967	141 5/8
19. Wesley Bodine, Stockton	Hunterdon	1971	141 4/8
20. Thomas Hope, Woodbury	Gloucester	1968	140 0/8
Richard Guckenberger, Freehold	Monmouth	1965	140 0/8
21. Troy Clark, Clarksberg	Ocean	1968	138 5/8
22. James Allen, Mullica Hill	Burlington	1968	137 3/8
23. Ralph Schooley, Trenton	Monmouth	1971	137 2/8
24. Harry Romaine, Franklin	Sussex	1965	136 7/8
Frank Remshifski, Lake Hopatcong	Morris	1968	136 7/8
25. Howard Lane, Jackson	Ocean	1951	136 6/8
26. Carmen Clark, Creamridge	Monmouth	1957	135 0/8
27. John W. Lane, Manasquan	Ocean	1952	134 7/8
28. Gene Coppola, Moorestown	Burlington	1966	134 6/8
29. C. Kenneth Moore, Trenton	Mercer	1954	134 5/8
30. Vincent Canterelli,, Somerville	Somerset	1945	134 3/8
31. Charles H. Gray, Mt. Holly	Burlington		134 1/8
John Miller, Lambertville	Hunterdon	1969	134 1/8
32. Robert Karaniewsky, South River	Ocean	1970	134 0/8
33. Herman Johnson, Neptune	Monmouth	1942	133 6/8
34. Donald C. Ross, Sussex	Sussex	1969	133 3/8
35. George R. Kays, Washington	Warren	1928	133 1/8
36. Jim Neely, Woodbine	Cape May	1969	133 0/8
37. Edward Linke, Jamesburg	Monmouth	1932	132 7/8
38. Joseph Fritts, Washington	Warren	1959	132 0/8
39. George Kinney, Milford	Hunterdon	1944	131 6/8
40. Dale M. VanDerMark, Newton	Sussex	1968	131 4/8
41. David Hager, Doylestown, Pa.	Hunterdon	1964	130 7/8
42. Stephen Mihal, Stirling	Morris	1969	130 6/8
43. John Kinelski, Princeton	Somerset	1970	130 1/8
44. Vernon R. Joy, Denville		1941	129 2/8
45. George Leber, Jr., Yardville	Ocean	1956	129 0/8
46. Warren Pittenger, Branchville	Sussex	1968	128 6/8
47. Karl Janke, Iselin	Burlington	1972	128 1/8
48. Edward Jasko, Freehold	Monmouth	1970	127 6/8
49. Linden Mathews, High Bridge	Hunterdon	1950	127 4/8
50. Frank Meissner, Jr., Budd Lake	Morris	1954	127 2/8
51. David Goff, Cream Ridge	Ocean	1965	125 7/8
John R. Bedell, Spring Lake	Ocean	1946	125 7/8
Ken Collins, Freehold	Monmouth	1965	125 7/8
52. Charles W. Gray, Mt. Holly	Ocean	1960	125 5/8
53. John Trani, Cream Ridge	Mercer	1959	125 3/8
54. James O. Peale, Lebanon	Hunterdon	1957	125 0/8
James Shephard, Mine Hill	Morris	1940	125 0/8

Non-Typical Firearm

Hunter and Address	County	Year	Score
1. John Bedell, Spring Lake	Monmouth	1954	166 2/8
2. Robert Bennett, Freehold	Monmouth	1957	150 6/8
3. Michael Wasitowski, Somerville	Somerset	1968	140 5/8
4. Daniel Mascaro, Kenilworth	Hunterdon	1972	139 5/8
5. Richard Ross, Jackson	Ocean	1971	84 4/8

Typical Bow and Arrow

1. Lewis H. Vetz, Jr., Vincentown	Ocean	1971	150 2/8
2. Gary F. Hull, Spotswood	Ocean	1971	142 1/8
3. Edward Kayes, E. Brunswick	Monmouth	1953	141 7/8
4. Jerry Kauffman, Belvidere	Warren	1972	127 5/8
5. Raymond Sisco, Stockholm	Sussex	1969	126 7/8
6. James Ott, Bloomingdale	Sussex	1972	126 6/8
7. Richard H. Lundell, Lancaster, Pa.	Somerset	1969	126 3/8
8. John Young, Walpack	Sussex	1965	123 1/8
9. Thomas Rome, Sussex	Sussex		120 2/8
10. Mike Peragino, Newton	Sussex	1965	114 7/8
11. Don Reinhart, Matawan	Somerset	1963	112 2/8
12. John Sliker, Newfoundland	Sussex	1971	112 0/8
13. Niel Zullo, Rahway	Somerset	1967	109 3/8
14. George Koenemann, Parsippany	Warren	1970	107 1/8
15. John Dugan, Jr., Washington	Warren	1970	105 6/8
John A. Simms, Clinton	Morris	1972	105 6/8
16. Robert Krisanda, Rockaway	Morris	1971	105 4/8
17. Bill Claeys, Fairlawn	Morris	1971	104 2/8
18. Raymond Eberhardt, Neshanic	Somerset	1971	104 0/8
19. David D. Schmehr, Succasunna	Morris	1971	103 6/8
20. Frank Clark, Wayne	Passaic	1968	103 3/8
21. James Kelly, Burlington	Burlington	1968	100 6/8

200-pound Club

Firearm			Weight
1. Ivan C. Smick, Eldridge Hill	Salem	1968	226
2. Aldo Belfanti, Ridgewood	Sussex	1971	218
Bow and Arrow			
1. Pat Delre, Hightstown	Mercer	1967	250
2. James Ott, Bloomingdale	Sussex	1972	219
3. James Kelly, Burlington	Burlington	1968	212
4. Neil Dayton, Bridgeton	Cumberland	1969	205
5. John Sliker, Newfoundland	Sussex	1971	201 1/2

Trophy Deer Programs

Any deer taken with a dressed weight of 200 pounds or more is eligible to receive an award in the weight division of the annual trophy deer program. Deer with well-developed antlers may be entered in the annual antler division competition. These programs are sponsored jointly by the New Jersey Division of Fish, Game, and Shell Fisheries and the New Jersey State Federation of Sportsmen's Clubs. Entry forms can be obtained by writing the Division of Fish, Game, and Shell Fisheries, P.O. Box 1809, Trenton, New Jersey 08625.

When you purchase a fishing or hunting license be sure to obtain a copy of the compendium of fish or game laws.

Heislerville Area

The Heislerville area, consisting of approximately 3,300 acres, includes diked haying marshes, impoundments, productive tidal marshes, and fertile uplands. Located in Cumberland County, the tract takes in most of the area immediately west of Heislerville. Access includes Matts Landing, East Point, and Thompsons Beach Roads.

The tract was purchased in April, 1956, with money from hunting and fishing license fees. One hundred and thirty acres were purchased through the Green Acres Program and assigned to the Division of Fish, Game, and Shell Fisheries.

Management is directed to improving fish and wildlife habitat, including restoration of tidal productivity on enclosed meadows, control of undesirable plants, promoting switch grass growth on uplands, and adequate water-level management in impoundments.

Waterfowl

Three ponds created by impoundments and the low Cadwalader tidal marshes attract thousands of nesting, migrating, and wintering waterfowl. Black duck hunting is superb here along with green-winged teal, widgeon, gadwall, mallard, and pintail. Florida gallinule also nest and are harvested in the three impoundments. Thousands of wintering snow geese attract considerable numbers of birdwatchers and photographers. #

Upland Game

Native reproduction of pheasants and quail is supplemented by pre-season and in-season stocking. Hunting is especially good for pheasant, rabbit, quail, and woodcock.

Deer

Deer are not plentiful but are increasing in numbers. Bow and shotgun hunters are welcome to use the area.

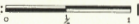
Fishing

Fishing for striped bass, white perch, black drum, weakfish, kingfish, catfish, carp, and bluefish is good in the tidal creeks, Maurice River, and Delaware Bay. Crabbing and carp bow fishing are favorite sports of summer visitors.

Recreation










The area is being maintained and supported by the license money of the sportsmen of the state. The Division of Fish, Game, and Shell Fisheries welcomes all citizens to make use of the area for wildlife-oriented recreational activities such as bird watching, hiking, and photography. #

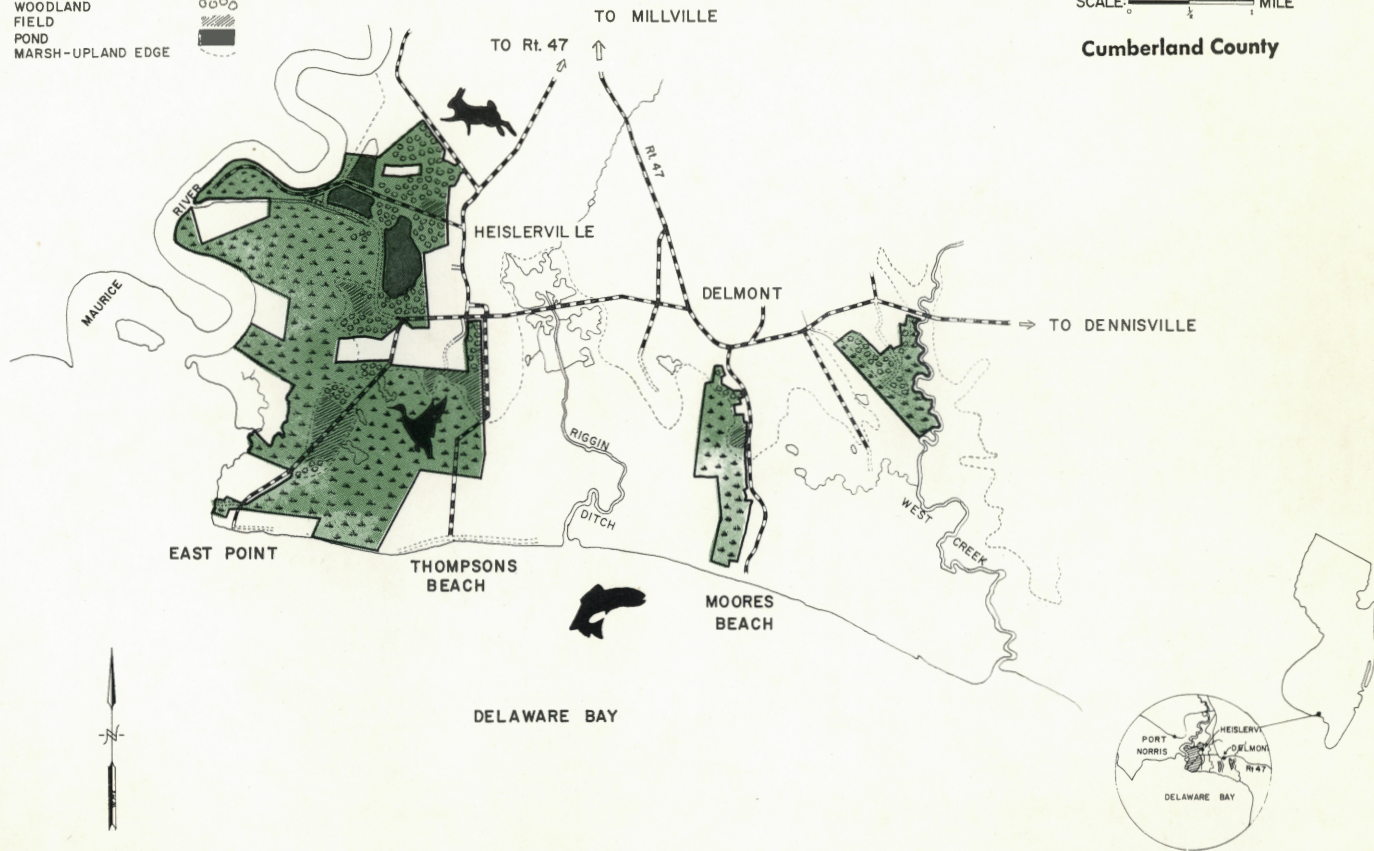
HEISLERVILLE WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA

SCALE:  MILE

Cumberland County

SYMBOLS

- ROAD (IMPROVED) 
- ROAD (UNIMPROVED) 
- TRACT BOUNDARY 
- SALT MARSH 
- STREAM 
- WOODLAND 
- FIELD 
- POND 
- MARSH-UPLAND EDGE 





**Division of Fish, Game, and
Shell Fisheries**

**New Jersey Outdoors
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