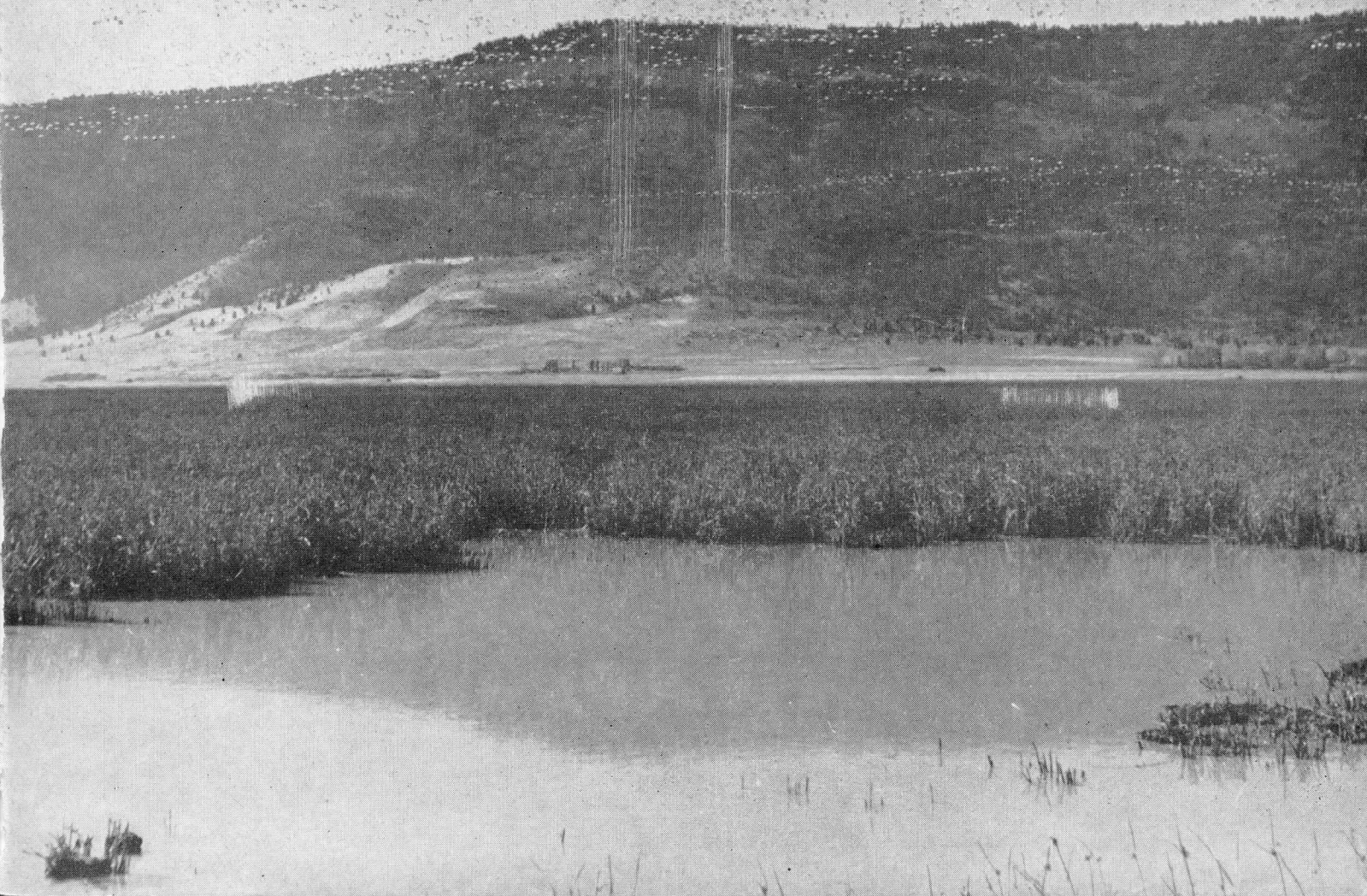
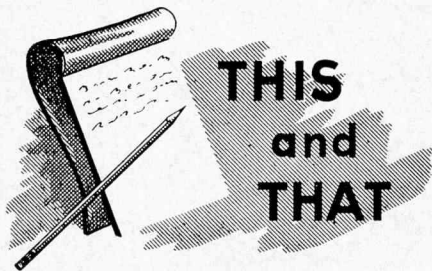


OREGON STATE
GAME COMMISSION
BULLETIN
MAY, 1952





A pure white yearling deer was observed last month near Dry Mountain on the Ochoco National Forest by Ellis Mason, district game agent, and Cranston Fosburg, forest ranger. No trace of dark hairs was seen although the deer was observed at fairly close range with binoculars. Mason reports this animal probably is the same white deer seen on Palimano Buttes three months earlier by Darwin Collins, a local rancher.

* * *

The general angling season for lakes within national forest boundaries in the Cascade area opens May 30. National forests affected by this regulation are Mount Hood, Deschutes, Willamette, Rogue River and Umpqua. A few lakes, however, have earlier or later opening dates and anglers will find these special seasons listed in the official angling regulation pamphlet for 1952.

* * *

Hunting regulations for 1952 will come up for consideration by the Game Commission at its July meeting, Friday the eleventh. Seasons and bag limits for big game, small game and furbearers will be set that month.

* * *

During March approximately 3,200 adult pheasant hens were released in the Willamette Valley and Columbia Basin area.

* * *

Yearling salmon and steelhead releases were completed in March from the coastal hatcheries and trout liberations have been underway for several weeks. Six large planting units are now operating. The fisheries department also has let a contract for construction of four new planting boats and three trout trolleys to provide for better distribution of fish in streams.

* * *

Waterfowl hunters have paid out almost \$27 million for "duck stamps" during the 17-year period from July 1, 1934, when the stamp act became effective, through June 30, 1951. Stamps prior to the 1949-50 issue sold for \$1 each and those issued subsequently have cost \$2.

SUMMER CAMP WILDLIFE PROGRAM OFFERED

A wildlife conservation course is being offered to summer camps for the third consecutive season by the Game Commission as part of its youth education program. Instructors will be available to 4-H Clubs, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Campfire Girls and other similar groups for two-day periods to teach conservation and take youngsters out on field trips to acquaint them with native game animals and birds. Last year 75 camps were attended, with 5,000 children participating in the program.

Schedules are now being made up for this summer and organizations interested in taking advantage of this service should contact the Game Commission immediately and give their camp dates.

APRIL MEETING OF THE GAME COMMISSION

Matters coming up for consideration of the Game Commission at its meeting on April 11 and 12 included:

Enactment and enforcement of safety regulations for the benefit of salmon anglers at the mouth of the Umpqua River was requested by a delegation from the Reedsport Chamber of Commerce. Aside from assisting from an educational standpoint, the Commission did not feel it had the authority to participate in such a program.

A delegation from Maupin appeared to request more fish for planting in the Deschutes River. The Director was instructed to write letter explaining the present policy in making fish allocations.

Plans for hatchery to be constructed at Leaburg by the Army Engineers were reviewed.

Request of Highway Commission for right of way through Eel Lake property was deferred until the next meeting pending further study.

Members of the Western Forestry Conservation Protection Committee appeared before the Commission to discuss the fire problem during the hunting season.

The following capital outlay items were approved:

Alsea Hatchery:	
Intake Box	\$ 7,440.00
Willamette Hatchery:	
Cold storage unit	28,000.00
Wallowa Hatchery:	
Improvements to cold storage unit	1,500.00
Klamath Hatchery:	
Addition to cold storage unit	6,500.00
Pipelines	5,000.00
Retaining wall	1,700.00

COVER PICTURE

Flight of geese coming over the rim at Summer Lake.
(Photo by Stuart J. Couper.)

Correction: Last month's cover showed fish poisoned at Waverly Lake in Linn county instead of Big Lava Lake.

Oregon State Game Commission Bulletin

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Portland 8, Oregon

MIRIAM KAUTTU
Editor

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Leslie Zumwalt	Northwest Region
	1224 E. 8th, Albany
L. M. Mathisen	Central Region
	222 E. 3rd, Bend
J. W. Vaughn	Southwest Region
	Box 997, Roseburg
W. C. Lightfoot	Southeast Region
	Box 8, Hines

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CHANGE OF ADDRESS

Please report promptly any change of address. Send in both the old and new address with notice of change.

The next meeting of the Commission will be May 9 and 10.



Land for Wildlife

By A. V. MEYERS, Federal Aid Coordinator

THE BASIC ELEMENTS by which man exists are earth, light, water, and air, or the products thereof. The interests of industry, agriculture, and wildlife in these basic elements are deeply interwoven and often competitive. This relationship is becoming more acute as agricultural and industrial developments are made and the demands for hunting and fishing increase.

The management of wildlife under these conditions can follow either one of two general policies:

1. Wildlife management through prohibition. That is, limiting the public's take by extremely curtailed bag limits and seasons to the diminishing annual crop that would be produced at the sufferance of industry and agriculture.

2. Wildlife management through production and the development and maintenance of habitat accomplished by:

- a. Setting up multiple use programs of the basic elements.

- b. Harvesting wildlife on a sustained yield basis.

- c. Setting aside a fair proportion of land and water on which to develop and improve wildlife habitat. This would compensate for the losses incurred by other developments.

For those responsible for the wildlife resources, the easy way out would be the first approach—wildlife management through prohibition. Certainly the public would not favor such a pro-

gram and it is rather inconceivable that any wildlife management official would be so indolent.

Wildlife management through production and development involves many problems. Among these problems is the highly controversial program of land acquisition and development.

Need for Habitat

The need for acquisition and development can well be illustrated by the waterfowl situation in the Upper Klamath Lake area. Originally this lake was surrounded by approximately 35,000 acres of marshland that was heavily used by birds of the Pacific Flyway. The maintaining of a higher lake level for irrigation and power flooded out a small part of this marsh. As illustrated on the accompanying sketch, agricultural development has drained about 27,000 acres. This large body of water still attracts thousands of waterfowl but the birds find their feeding area limited with the marsh reduced to less than one-tenth its original size. Solution of the problem seems to be the development of remaining areas to try to make one acre equal the wildlife value that ten acres originally provided. This means acquisition and intensive development.

The loss of habitat for upland birds and big game animals is just as serious although not as spectacular or as apparent as the Upper Klamath Lake waterfowl situation. Therefore, acquisition and development becomes an im-

portant part of all wildlife restoration programs.

Summer Lake

The first large acquisition and development project carried out by Oregon was the Summer Lake Game Management Area in Lake County. Negotiations were started on this unit in 1940. The first acquisition was made in 1944 and 13,465 acres are now controlled. The development program began in 1945 and is nearing completion. The major features of the Summer Lake Development Program are briefly outlined as follows:

1. The East River Diversion — $4\frac{1}{4}$ miles of canal—carrying water to a barren alkali flat has increased the marsh area of a project from 4,000 to 7,000 acres.

2. Installation of 22 permanent water controls in the East River Diversion and Ana River has provided an effective means of regulating flows.

3. Construction of $4\frac{3}{4}$ miles of dike divided the marsh area into three units which, along with the water controls, made water stabilization possible. The stabilizing of water levels improves aquatic food production and increases waterfowl nesting and nesting success.

4. Fifteen hundred acres have been developed into a meadow type area interspersed with numerous ponds. This was done by the construction of three-quarters of a mile of dike, three water

(Continued on page 4)

LAND FOR WILDLIFE

(Continued from page 3)

controls, and the cutting of numerous small channels.

5. There are 370 acres of cropland in the project on which dry land crops of wheat, rye, and barley are grown annually and left standing for winter wildlife feed. Of this 370 acres, only 181 acres were being farmed prior to the development project.

6. Twelve and three-quarters miles of road have been constructed making the area accessible to hunters, as well as maintenance and management crews. Road construction in this type of land has been difficult and costly.

7. Headquarters facilities, consisting of a manager's residence, barracks, checking station, warehouse, shop, barn, and oil shed have been installed.

Shortly after the Summer Lake area was acquired, thereby becoming tax exempt under existing laws, the adverse effect of these large area acquisitions on local tax structures became apparent. School districts, irrigation and drainage districts, and the counties would be affected. To prevent this, the Oregon State Game Commission successfully solicited the state legislature to provide suitable legislation that would permit the State Game Commission to pay and the counties to receive monies equal to and in lieu of the taxes that would have been paid if the land had remained in private ownership.



Windbreak dike and water control built to stabilize water levels. This helps waterfowl nesting and improves conditions for other wildlife, as exemplified by the muskrat house in the picture.

The costs of acquiring and developing a management area are somewhat of a shock at the first glance. However, it must be recognized that once these original expenditures are made the wildlife resource is permanently benefited by a place on which to exist. If these original costs are amortized over the period of their effectiveness,

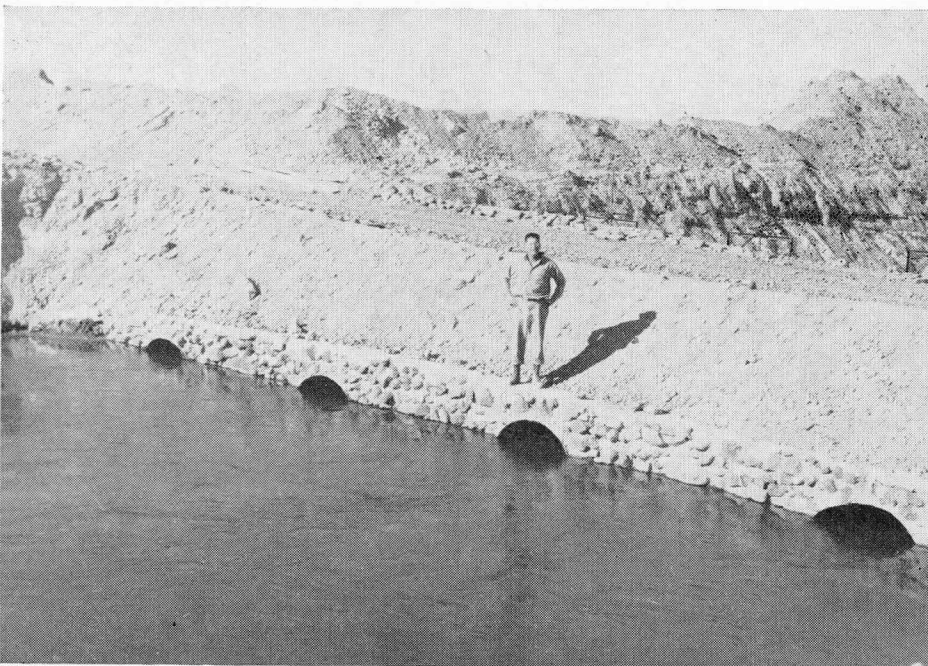
the annual prorated share is quite reasonable.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY OF THE SUMMER LAKE MANAGEMENT AREA

Cost of Acquisition	\$ 48,844.72
Cost of Development:	
Complete to date	\$191,188.02
Estimated to completion	30,000.00 221,188.02
Capital investment	\$270,032.74
Annual Maintenance Cost:	
Including farming, water control, repairs and upkeep, taxes, irrigation assessments, law enforcement, etc.	\$ 25,000.00
Annual Receipts:	
Hunting permits, fur crop and grazing leases	\$ 9,000.00

The Summer Lake Management Area is commonly referred to as a public shooting ground. On the part of a hunter who only sees this operation during the open season, this is understandable. To the State Game Commission, which is responsible for the protection of the wildlife resource, the operation of a public shooting ground is of secondary importance. The protection and propagation of the resource afforded by this area is the primary justification for its existence. Public shooting grounds in the Chewaucan and Warner Valley areas have been set up by cooperative agreements with large landowners without the large ac-

(Continued on page 5)



East River diversion in Ana River, diverts water to a 3,500-acre marsh which previously was just an alkali flat.

LAND FOR WILDLIFE

(Continued from page 4)

quisition and development costs. These areas benefit the hunter but not the wildlife.

Based on the results of Summer Lake and other similar projects, the Commission has approved several more acquisition and development projects.

Sauvies Island

In November, 1946, a 10,500-acre acquisition and development project was approved for Sauvies Island in the Columbia River near Portland. To date 7,957 acres have been acquired. The development program for this unit is based primarily on water stabilization, brush clearing and crop planting. Several tracts of land that are still privately owned are interspersed through the state holdings in such a manner that water stabilization projects cannot be activated at this time. Brush clearing is to be started in 1952. The program of raising food crops for wildlife is increasing each year and now totals 421 acres. The rest of the area is being grazed by livestock under a planned program that is compatible with wildlife use.

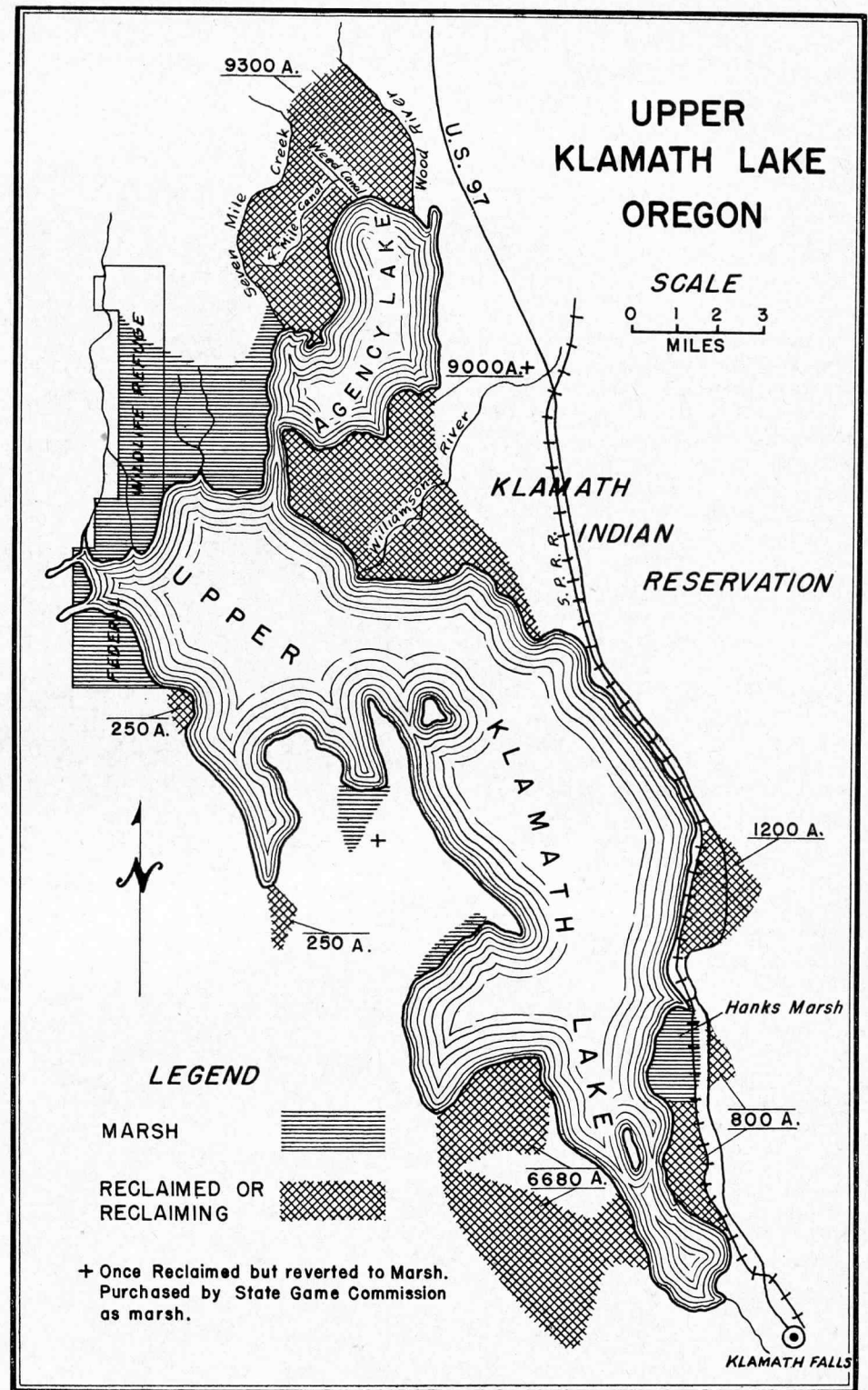
Stated briefly, the Sauvies Island project is still in the acquisition stage. Development is just beginning. A portion of the Sauvies Island area was opened to public shooting in 1949.

Government Island

In July, 1949, a 2,500-acre project was approved for Government Island in the Columbia River near Portland. The state has acquired 1,813 acres. The development program for Government Island is small in scope compared to other management areas. Installation of small inexpensive water controls, brush clearing and planting of annual crops make up the bulk of the development work. Wildlife habitat will be improved principally by the management of land uses for the benefit of wildlife. The development and management programs are under way. The Government Island area is closed to all waterfowl hunting.

E. E. Wilson Management Area

Shortly after the close of World War II, the Camp Adair military base north of Corvallis was abandoned and declared surplus. Much of this land was sold back to former owners; however, the main cantonment area, which is littered with roadways, concrete foundations and graveled parking areas and includes approximately 1,880 acres, was deeded to the Oregon Game Com-



mission in 1950 for production of wildlife.

This area is referred to as the "E. E. Wilson Game Management Area" in honor of Mr. E. E. Wilson, who rendered outstanding service to the state as member and chairman of the Game Commission from 1935 to 1949 and was

most active in acquiring and planning development of the area.

This tract is primarily suitable for production of upland game birds and other small game species; however, it is being developed and used for many purposes.

(Continued on page 6)



Field corn left standing for food adjacent to a duck pond.

LAND FOR WILDLIFE

(Continued from page 5)

It provides a field laboratory for the School of Fish and Game Management at Oregon State College, where students have an opportunity to study the habits of game animals and birds and thoroughly test the available techniques of measurement and management.

There is ample space for artificial production of game birds for stocking

of Western Oregon habitat. Mechanical brooders constructed on the area since 1950 can produce up to 15,000 pheasants annually, and with use of other available equipment the area could produce up to 50,000 game birds a year.

Through planting of shrubs, food plants and development of water, the natural production and maintenance of all small game species, including waterfowl, is being increased to a maxi-

mum. Surpluses will disperse to stock adjacent lands and some species are trapped and transplanted in areas in need of stocking.

The Wilson Area is also being developed to provide public recreation compatible with the production of wildlife. The area has provided excellent grounds for field dog trials and last fall 272 juvenile hunters were permitted to hunt pheasants on the area. The area is also used by picnickers and nature study groups through the summer and will become more attractive for such purposes as development projects are completed.

In August, 1951, a 23,600-acre project was approved for the purchase of a big game winter range on the North Fork of the John Day River in Umatilla, Grant, and Morrow Counties. The state now controls 8,877 acres in this unit. The area is the winter range that must accommodate the deer and elk from a much larger surrounding summer range. The winter range is the limiting factor for these herds and any improvement in wintering conditions will be directly reflected in the herd numbers. It is anticipated that through strict grazing control, range revegetation and improvement practices the wintering capacity for this range will be greatly improved.

This land being winter range will in itself be of little or no value for public hunting. During the hunting season the herds will still be on the surrounding national forest lands that are open to public hunting but the results of the winter range improvements will show up in these higher areas.

The encroachment of agriculture and industry on the living space for wildlife will undoubtedly continue in line with the over-all development of the country. Acquisition of areas of high wildlife potential and the intensive development of these areas is one of the known means of compensation. The obvious conclusion is that acquisition and development for wildlife are important phases of the wildlife conservation program.

The John Day River for the first time in many years does not have gold dredges operating on it and the clear water has made the stream much more attractive to anglers.

* * *

An electric ray fish weighting 20 lbs. can discharge enough electricity to knock a man down.

WATERFOWL USE ON THE MANAGEMENT AREA

Area	Estimated Ducks Produced Annually	Estimated Geese Produced Annually	Waterfowl Use at Peak of Migration
Summer Lake	10,000	2,000	150,225
Sauvies Island	1,000	None	620,900
Government Island	400	None	9,665

PUBLIC SHOOTING RECORDS FROM THE MANAGEMENT AREAS

1. Summer Lake:

Year	Permits Issued	Length of Season	Ducks Killed	Poss. Limit	Geese Killed	Poss. Limit	Success Ratio	Closing Time
1944	2,201	80 days	5,041	(30)	2,317	(12)	3.34	Sunset
1945	4,102	80 days	6,296	(20)	2,864	(12)	2.22	Sunset
1946	5,202	45 days	7,534	(14)	3,964	(4)	2.17	Sunset
1947	2,670	28 days	3,628	(8)	856	(5)	1.68	1 hr. before Sunset
1948	3,789	34 days	4,834	(10)	4,474	(5)	2.60	1 hr. before Sunset
1949	3,684	40 days	5,061	(8)	589	(6)	1.40	1 hr. before Sunset
1950	3,132	55 days	3,101	(6)	699	(6)	1.23	1 hr. before Sunset
1951	2,852	60 days	5,056	(6)	2,768	(6)	2.74	1 hr. before Sunset

2. Sauvies Island:

Year	Permits Issued	Length of Season	Ducks Killed	Poss. Limit	Geese Killed	Poss. Limit	Success Ratio	Hunting Method
1949	1,665	23 days	1,896	(8)	30	(6)	1.18	80% blinds 20% free lance
1950	2,465	33 days	3,017	(6)	53	(6)	1.25	30% blinds 70% free lance
1951	5,229	36 days	8,272	(6)	138	(6)	1.61	16% blinds 84% free lance

3. The Government Island Management area does not include a public shooting ground.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



"Avey" Meyers has been working for the Game Commission continuously since 1938 except for time out in the Army during World War II and has had varied experience with the department. He was first assigned to big game work, which included spending the winter of 1938-39 living with the Murderers Creek deer herd when it was a critical problem. Later he was in charge of furbearer and predator activities, as well as waterfowl. Work and hobby were combined when he helped shoot coyotes from the air during the period when the Commission participated in an aerial control program.

In his present position as Federal Aid Coordinator he supervises wildlife restoration projects undertaken with federal funds through provisions of the Pittman-Robertson Act. To this has recently been added coordination of fishery projects to be set up under the Dingell-Johnson Act.

A native of Umatilla county, Avey attended grade and high school in Echo and graduated from Oregon State College in 1935. Prior to joining the Game Commission, he worked for the Oregon Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit.

Hunting, clam digging, Labrador dogs and building rock walls account for most of his spare time.

Seeing a hawk chase small birds around his multiflora rose hedge gave Jesse J. Denton, Jr., SCS aide at Flemington, N.J., a new respect for the hedge's conservation value.

Denton planted multiflora seedlings behind his house at Ringoes in 1946. By winter of 1950 they were 6 feet high and thick enough to keep farm animals from getting through. One cold day in January Denton noticed several birds huddled in it, twittering in great excitement. A hawk was circling low overhead. As Denton watched, the predator "buzzed" the bushes several times, but the little fellows stayed put.

Evidently angered, the hawk finally tried to crash-land in the hedge. The thicket and thorns halted his plans and forced him to the ground. After walking up and down disgustedly, he flew away, leaving his quarry still well protected by their refuge.

FALL RIVER HATCHERY

There are two distinctive things about Fall River Trout Hatchery—an airstrip designed for aerial fish transportation and snows that often last five months.

Located southwest of Bend and 15 miles from The Dalles-California Highway on the South Century Drive Road, this hatchery is ideally situated for its role as trout supply center for the hundreds of "back country" Cascade lakes. Each summer most of the trout raised at Fall River Hatchery are flown from the adjoining airstrip built cooperatively by the Game Commission and U.S. Forest Service. Within minutes after the trout are loaded, they are tumbling into a Cascade lake.

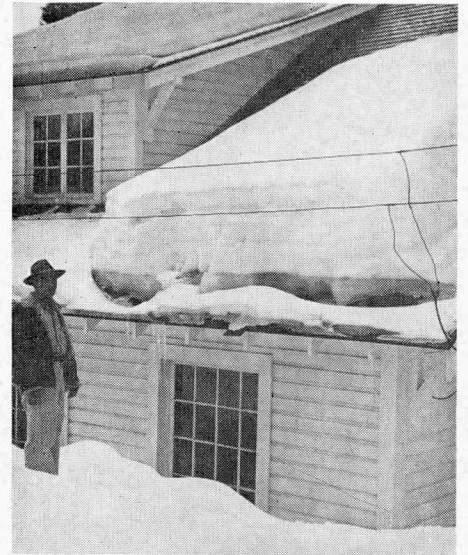
Only fingerling trout are required for the aerial fish plants so no large fish are raised at Fall River Hatchery. Fall River, which supplies the hatchery water, issues directly from the pumice soil at 42°, too cold for rapid production of yearling trout but excellent for hatching eggs and holding small trout.

At present 1,830,000 eastern brook trout obtained from fish spawned last October at East Lake are being held for aerial plants this summer. An additional 995,000 eastern brook trout have been hatched from eggs purchased in Montana and a large supply of rainbow eggs procured in Idaho has arrived at Fall River Hatchery. Eggs received at the hatchery are often held through the "tender stage" and then re-shipped to other state hatcheries.

From the first heavy snows in November until the end of March, Fall River Hatcheryman Lloyd Wilson must plow 13 miles of road to maintain contact with the outside. "For neighbors during the long, white spell Lloyd and his wife have only gray jays and several bufflehead ducks that sport in the icy waters of Fall River.

Hatcheryman Wilson has pioneered in the state hatchery system. He was raised at the old Clackamas Hatchery on Clear Creek; his father, Irwin Wilson, started this first state hatchery in 1893.

In 1908, Wilson accompanied his father to southern Argentina with one million salmon eggs. His father built a hatchery on the Santa Cruz River and raised the salmon for the Argentine government. Subsequent attempts to establish salmon runs in southern hemisphere streams have proven successful in New Zealand and Chile. Wilson



Deep snow makes it possible for Lloyd Wilson to stand at roof's edge of his hatchery building.

also worked for the Hawaii Territorial Fish and Game Commission where he helped introduce trout in Hawaiian streams.

Wilson's first job with the early Oregon Fish and Game Commission was at the old Bonneville Central Hatchery in 1912. Rapid motor transportation was then in the future, so the trout were loaded in a special railroad car, The Rainbow. Wilson recalls that the car had an air compressor packed in ice and the cooled air was bubbled into 177 fish cans. At each railroad stop local sportsmen would meet The Rainbow with a wagon and team of horses. In this manner many Oregon lakes and streams received their first trout stocking. The car captain was Tom Craig, an individual known to many Oregon sportsmen.

Central Oregon's first hatchery was located on Tumalo Creek west of Bend, but when the water proved to be too cold, freezing in the troughs during the winter, the Fall River site was tried in 1923 and a permanent station was built in 1929.



"Keep Oregon Green"

"JOE BEAVER"

By Ed Nofziger



Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

"If I didn't work like a beaver to keep a good forest, you trout wouldn't have a steady mountain stream to play in."

CHUKAR PRODUCTION STEPPED UP

The Hermiston game farm is being converted for production of Chukar partridges and the Game Commission hopes to rear 10,000 of the Asiatic game birds for release in eastern Oregon next fall. The Hermiston game farm will rear 7,000 Chukars and the Ontario game farm 3,000 Chukars.

For the past two years the Game Commission has been building up a breeding flock of 1,200 Chukars, but the young birds are highly susceptible to diseases and parasites carried by the domestic hens used for brooding. Hermiston Game Farm Superintendent Roy Dickinson has devised small electric brooders for the Chukars that should help overcome the disease transmittal problem. The exotic game birds will also be broken into small groups and dispersed widely over the Hermiston game farm to prevent the spread of any disease.

A trial plant of 270 Chukars was made in Warner Valley near Lakeview last October. The liberated Chukars have survived one of the severest winters on record for that area as they were observed this month by Game Agent Norman Minnick.

ANNUAL REPORT DEPARTMENT OF STATE POLICE 1951

GAME CODE		Warn.	Arrests	Acq.	Sent.	Fines
Angling	closed season	18	53	4	.38	\$ 1,641.00
	prohibited areas, hours, or methods	180	367	5	.97	9,851.00
Disguising	sex of animal	1	3	—	—	125.00
	species, kind of bird	1	2	—	—	50.00
Exceeding bag limit		63	172	7	1.10	6,099.50
Failure to tag properly		189	262	5	4.16	22,236.50
False application for license		8	37	8	.11	1,411.50
Holding game animal without permit		—	2	—	—	70.00
Hunting	closed season	12	103	11	2.39	8,150.50
	prohibited areas, hours, or methods	281	401	36	3.75	18,069.00
	protected animals, birds	1	17	—	.61	1,650.00
Lending angler's or hunter's license		—	7	—	—	445.50
Molesting game animals, birds		2	1	—	—	25.00
No License	angling	499	353	16	1.13	8,092.00
	game breeder	—	1	—	—	25.00
	guide	—	6	4	—	170.50
	hunting	243	116	7	.04	3,186.50
	non-resident	3	57	5	.09	1,622.00
	taxidermist	—	1	—	—	25.00
Possession	trapping	7	6	1	.08	375.00
	game animal	5	108	2	1.77	9,127.50
	game bird	1	52	5	.51	1,574.50
	game fish	88	117	6	.72	3,723.50
	protected animal, bird	2	57	4	1.86	4,289.00
Purchasing more than one license		1	1	—	—	100.00
Sale game animal, bird, fish		—	1	—	.16	500.00
Shooting from highway		27	61	1	.64	1,339.00
Trapping	closed season	—	2	—	—	5.50
	prohibited areas, or methods	—	5	—	.11	266.00
	with unbranded traps	—	9	—	.03	320.50
Trespassing		—	2	—	—	30.00
Using license of another		1	8	—	—	466.00
Wanton waste of game		1	18	3	.58	1,462.00
TOTALS		1634	2408	130	21.19	\$106,524.00

14.54 years suspended
\$20,390.50 remitted

Licenses and bag limits checked o.k.	angling and hunting	108,718
	fur dealer	1
Predatory animals killed	guide	71
	trapping	301
Searches	with warrant	56
	without warrant	33
Seizures	game animal	12,534
	game fish	1
		39

North American Conference Well Attended

The 17th North American Wildlife Conference held in Miami March 17 through 19 was attended by approximately one thousand conservationists, fish and game administrators and sportsmen. Oregon representatives included P. W. Schneider, State Game Director, and A. S. Einarsen, Leader of the Oregon Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit. Mr. Schneider acted as chairman of a technical session on big

game and fur resources.

Presentation of a national natural resources policy at one of the general sessions was a highlight of the Conference. Management and restoration of all renewable natural resources, including soils, waters, forests, and wildlife, were covered in the proposed policy.

The other two general sessions were devoted to shortcomings in the conservation program and to a panel discussion of current waterfowl problems.

Oregon State Game Commission Bulletin

1634 S.W. ALDER STREET
P.O. BOX 4136
PORTLAND 8, OREGON

FRANK STANTON
STATE GAME FARM
CORVALLIS ORE