

## OREGON STATE GAME COMMISSION ULLETIN

JULY, 1960 Number 7, Volume 15

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#### the cover

A Rocky Mountain Elk. (Photo by Ron Shay)

### BULLETIN **HUNTER SAFETY** TRAINING PROGRAM

Instructors Approved	
Month of May	44
Total to Date	1083
Students Trained	
Month of May	602
Total to Date	3934
Firearms accidents reported 1960	17
Fatal	2
Nonfatal	3

#### SMALL GAME REGULATION HEARINGS SCHEDULED

Two hearings have been scheduled by the Game Commission to consider small game regulations.

On July 15 regulations concerning grouse, pigeons and doves will be set. Pigeons and doves come under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and the general framework of regulations is established by the federal government. However, the Commission will have an opportunity to set the season dates within this framework.

On August 19 a hearing will be held to determine the seasons for other upland game birds as well as silver gray squirrels and furbearing animals. The Commission expects also by that time to have the general framework for the waterfowl regulations.

#### MAY-JUNE MEETING OF THE GAME COMMISSION

The Oregon State Game Commission at its meeting on May 27 and June 10 considered, in addition to the big game regulations, the following matters:

ANGLING CLOSURE-Closed to angling Medco Pond in Jackson County.

ILLINOIS FALLS-Accepted low bid of \$83,700 by Mann Construction Company for construction of fishway at Illinois Falls.

ALSEA SALMON-STEELHEAD PONDS-Authorized staff to proceed with preliminary work for developing two salmon-steelhead rearing ponds in the Alsea River as part of research project under the salmon license fund.

BIDS-Authorized a call for bids for the following projects: Roaring River Hatchery pipeline, Medco Pond outlet, Hemlock Meadows (Umpqua) rearing pond, Bull Prairie impoundment, Trillium Lake, Lofton Reservoir, Wallowa boat ramp and Reedsport boat ramp.

ACCESS — Authorized acquisition of access site on Clackamas River at Carver.

#### SILVER LAKE SEASON DATES CLARIFIED

Silver Lake Unit is erroneously listed as being open October 15 to 23 under Management Unit Deer Seasons in the 1960 Big Game Regulations Synopsis.

Actually, the Silver Lake Unit will be open to buck deer hunting from October 1 to 23 by anyone holding a general deer tag.

In addition, 4,000 controlled deer season tags costing \$5 each will be issued for the taking of doe deer in the Unit from October 1 to 23 and on November 19 and 20. Closing date for filing application for these tags is August 1.



The Willamette River and its tributaries were closed on June 15 to angling for chinook salmon, including chinook jacks, for the remainder of the year. Although above Oregon City the river is closed after July 1 by legislative Act, the earlier closure was considered urgent because of the small run that appeared in the river this year. The 1960 run of chinooks is the smallest yet recorded and is much smaller than its parent run.

Spring chinook angling in the lower Rogue was good this spring, the season being one of the best since 1953.

Scuba gear made it possible for the fishery staff to make almost a complete count of the largemouth bass in a borrow pit near Jefferson Junction.

\* \* \*

By the end of May the fishery division of the game department had released 6,239,744 fish (333,474 pounds) in the waters of the state. Water and road conditions slowed up the liberation schedule for eastern Oregon. During the month of May alone 164,000 pounds of fish were liberated, a new high in poundage for a single month.

Spawning channels are being designed for kokanee in the tributaries of Wallowa Lake.

\* \* \*

Heating water in a fish pond to keep it constant at 56 degrees is being tried experimentally at the Wizard Falls Hatchery to see if this will help young fry get a better start in life. Gene Morton, hatchery superintendent, worked out the idea and found it possible to try it out through the assistance of the Redmond R.E.A. in providing electrical energy for the project and Coates Electric in donating the heating devices. Overall growth and weight of the fish in this pond have been about double that of fry being reared under normal conditions in a control pond.



By John McKean, Chief of Operations, Game Division

ON JUNE 10 THE GAME COMMISSION completed planning of 1960 big game hunting regulations. They are designed to provide an efficient utilization of the big game resources, a maximum of recreational opportunities, and to alleviate conflicts with primary land uses.

Last year's record harvest of over 155,000 big game animals was not entirely a product of increased game production. Weather conditions, hunting pressure, and many other unpredictable variables have a direct bearing upon hunter success and the number of animals taken.

The May issue of this Bulletin provided a detailed analysis of the 1959 big game harvest and the June issue gave complete instructions on how to apply for special big game tags and permits. The purpose of this article is to explain some of the factors considered in the 1960 regulations and point out some of the hunting opportunities citizens may enjoy this fall.

The pattern of 1960 seasons is similar to that of 1959 with antelope season opening on August 20; archery season, September 3; deer season, October 1; and elk season, October 29. The harvest of antlerless animals is controlled by unit and a number of special seasons are provided to correct specific game management problems.

#### Antelope:

Nine hundred persons will enjoy the privilege of hunting buck antelope from

August 20 through 24. The distribution of tags by area is identical to 1959. The tags are allocated in proportion to the number of animals in each of the six antelope areas, and the hunter's chance of success is about equal in all of the areas. Last year, 900 hunters bagged 451 buck antelope. Areas 3, 4, and 6 provided the highest success largely because of more convenient access to antelope ranges.

Persons who received antelope tags in 1958 or 1959 are not eligible to apply for a tag this year. With this restriction, it is anticipated that approximately 20 per cent of the applicants will be successful in drawing an antelope tag.

Aerial sampling of antelope ranges this spring provided a count of 5,712 antelope, indicating no change in the overall density of that species in spite of the fact that production averaged only 45 fawns per 100 does as of August, 1959. Predation by coyote and bobcat contributed to the loss of fawns last year. With the cooperation of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, counties and local livestockmen, the predator control program was approximately doubled on antelope ranges last winter and positive results are expected this year.

#### Deer:

An increase of 14,000 in deer hunters combined with favorable weather conditions before and during the 1959 deer season resulted in a record harvest of 146,000 deer last year. Approximately 70 per cent of the deer taken were bucks. This exceptional success reduced the ratio of bucks to does slightly and may have some influence upon the number of bucks available to hunters this fall, but there is no evidence of a decline in Oregon's deer population.

A total of 34,295 mule deer was observed on 2,723 miles of census routes this winter and spring. This index of 12.6 deer per mile may be compared to the 1959 count of 12.4 deer per mile and the 1955 high of 14.5 deer per mile.

The mild winter permitted a high survival of mule deer but poor forage production in 1959 resulted in heavy utilization of bitterbrush and other preferred deer foods on winter ranges. Bitterbrush utilization measurements on 154 winter range transects indicated an average use of 59 per cent of the 1959 production. Many ranges were utilized far in excess of recognized plant tolerances. In the spring of 1959, the average use on these transects was 44 per cent.

Current measures indicate little change in blacktail densities in spite of the increased hunting pressure and harvest. Complaints of damage to conifer plantations and agricultural crops are common in nearly all western Oregon counties.

In considering public recommendations for the 1960 deer season, the Commission observed that many people in-

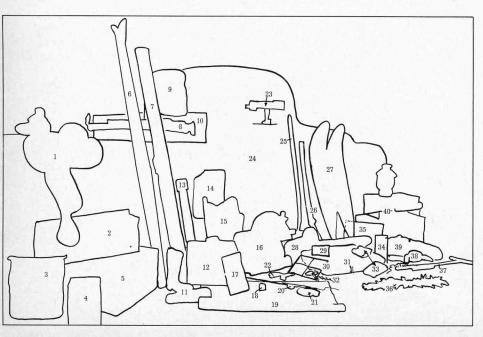
(Continued on Page 6)

# GAME AGENT EQUIPMENT

Last month on these pages the equipment of a typical fishery biologist was pictured. Displayed at the right is some of the equipment used by Paul Bonn, game biologist in the central Oregon area, to keep on top of the job of managing the wildlife in his district. This is no small task considering the size of his area, the variety of game found there and its popularity as a hunting area.

Game population and forage inventories, damage control, habitat improvement, stocking, trapping, and other responsibilities occupy Paul's time throughout the year. Making his job easier is the fact that he has gained an intimate knowledge of his district acquired over a period of 18 years. But as in other game districts throughout the state, conditions change from year to year and it's his responsibility to assess these and to make management recommendations that will protect the resource and at the same time provide a maximum amount of hunting opportunities.

## **GAME AGENT EQUIPMENT KEY**





- Saddle—packsaddles, alforjas, and panniers are often used also
- Live box for transporting upland birds or small game
- 3. Chemical deer repellent
- 4. Block stock salt
- 5. Quail live trap
- 6. Skis
- 7. Portable motion picture screen
- 8. Handyman jack
- 9. Sleeping bag
- 10. Equipment box built in back of pickup
- 11. Insulated boots
- 12. 16mm. movie projector
- Steel post driver—for fencing water holes and range plots
- 14. Jeep can, 5 gals.—used for fuel and water in the desert country particularly



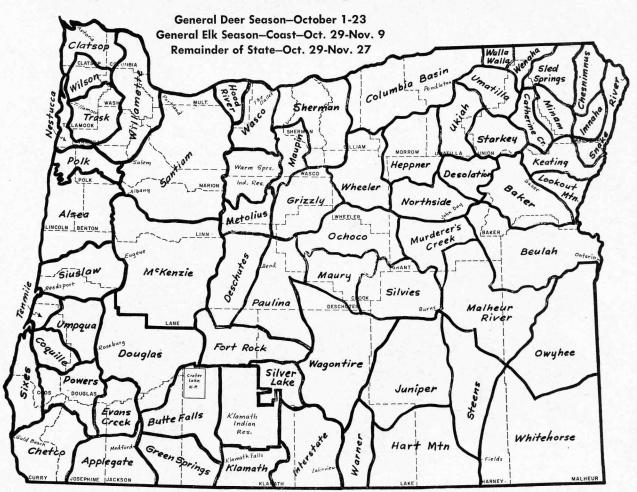
- 15. Pack board
- Portable pump and hose—used to fill water holes
- 17. Clip board—used for record taking
- 18. 6' steel tape
- 19. Maps
- 20. Condition and trend forage measurement equipment
- 21. 50' steel tape—range forage measurement
- 22. Seal press and metal seals—for tagging game carcasses
- 23. Spotting scope—game census work
- 24. Pickup truck
- 25. Shovel
- 26. Shotgun
- 27. Snowshoes
- 28. Chain saw

- 29. Camera
- 30. Sq. ft. frame—for forage measurements
- 31. 10x12 wall tent
- 32. Vegetative plot marker
- 33. Case and binoculars
- 34. Emergency rations
- 35. Signs
- 36. Firecracker rope—used to frighten deer
- 37. Soil sampler
- 38. Steel trap
- 39. Foul weather clothes
- 40. Camp gear—grub box, Coleman stove and gas lantern
- 41. Tool box

Not shown

Horse trailer, horse, Bailey live trap

## **Big Game Management Units**



### 1960 Big Game Seasons

(Continued from Page 3)

dicated a preference for a straight eithersex deer season. This proposal was carefully reviewed in the light of experience and management objectives. The Commission elected to continue with the combination of a buck season supplemented by antlerless deer seasons by unit and specific problem areas.

Analysis of the experimental straight either-sex deer seasons at Silver Lake and Wendling last year indicates that the procedure did increase the number of deer harvested but, also, resulted in a greater harvest of antlerless deer. At Silver Lake, 3,899 reporting hunters bagged 2,290 deer, and 57 per cent of them were antlerless animals. In 1958 with a staggered season, 6,793 hunters bagged 1,349 deer, and only 31 per cent were antlerless. At Wendling, 3,530 hunters bagged 260.deer, 82 per cent of which were antlerless. In 1958 with a staggered season, 2,881 hunters bagged 183 deer, and 75 per cent were antlerless. Fiftysix per cent of the hunting pressure and 66 per cent of the Wendling deer kill occurred on opening week end. Comparison of the wanton waste factor is available at Silver Lake. In 1958 with a staggered season, 6,793 hunters reported seeing 808 wasted deer, or .119 deer per hunter. In 1959 with the straight season, 3,899 hunters saw 533 wasted deer, or an average of .136 per hunter. This measure indicates that there is as much waste of game with an either-sex bag limit as during a buck season.

A total of 126,900 antlerless deer permits will authorize persons to take an antlerless deer in lieu of a buck during the last nine days of the general deer season in 61 units. Last year, 118,400 permits were authorized, 115,447 were issued, and 42,190 antlerless deer were reported taken during the unit seasons.

In addition to the unit seasons, eleven controlled seasons authorize 8,850 persons to take an additional deer at a designated time and place. Some of these seasons are designed to permit the taking of two deer on one trip. The Wallo-

wa and Snake River Pack seasons authorize persons to take one antlerless deer and one buck on Labor Day week end or during the general season. The purpose of this regulation is to provide an incentive for hunters to utilize deer on ranges that are not accessible by automobile. A similar incentive is provided in an area between Waldport and Florence on the coast where deer are causing damage to conifer plantations and on the east face of Steens Mountain during the last nine days of the general season. During these seasons, the special season tag authorizes the taking of one antlerless deer and the general season tag may be used upon a buck. Persons possessing a unit permit in addition to a special tag could take two antlerless deer in the special season area at the time the unit permit is valid.

The Silver Lake experimental range will be open for unlimited buck hunting during the general deer season. In addition, 4,000 antlerless deer tags will be valid during the entire deer season and

(Continued on Page 8)

## Summary of 1960 Big Game Seasons

#### MANAGEMENT UNIT DEER SEASONS

AREA	COUNTY	PERMITS	BAG	DATE	
Alsea	Benton and Lincoln	11,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
* A mmlagata	Togonhino	400	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Baker	Baker	1,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Beulah	Malheur Jackson Union Curry and Josephine	3,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Butte Falls	Jackson	. 500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Catherine Creek	Union	1,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Chetco	Curry and Josephine	300	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Cnesnimnus	wallowa	. 500	1 deer 1 deer	Oct. 15-23 Oct. 15-23	
Clatsop	Clatsop	1,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Columbia Basin	Morrow and Umatilla	700	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Coquile	Coos Deschutes	1,200	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Descrites	Grant	500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Douglas	Grant	2,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
*Evans Creek	Josephine and Jackson	600	1 deer	Oct. 15-23 Oct. 15-23	
Fort Bock	Lake and Klamath	2,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Green Springs	Jackson and Klamath	1,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Grizzly	Crook and Jefferson	1,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Heppner	Morrow and Grant	2,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Hood River	Hood River	400	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Imnaha	Wallowa Klamath and Lake	1,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Interstate	Klamath and Lake	5,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Keating	Baker	1,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Klamath	Klamath	1,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Lookout Mountain _	Baker	1,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23 Oct. 15-23 Oct. 15-23	
Malheur River	Harney and Malheur _	4,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Maupin	Wasco	. 400 800	1 deer 1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Maury	Crook	19 000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Metolius	Lane and Linn	. 12,000	1 deer	Oct. 10-20	
	Decebutes	1,200	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Minam	Union and Wallowa _	1,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Murderers Creek	Grant	3,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Nestucea	Tillamook		1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Northside	Grant	4,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Ochoco	Crook	1.000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Owyhee	Malheur	800	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Paulina	Deschutes	1,800	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Polk	Polk and Lincoln	4,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Powers					
	Josephine and			0-4 15 00	
	Douglas	_ 1,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Santiam					
	Clackamas, Marion	10 000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
C1	and Linn	500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Sherman	Sherman	3 000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Sirves	Harney	1.000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Singlan	Lane and Douglas  Wallowa Wallowa and Baker Union Harney Coos	4.000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Sled Springs	Wallowa	1,200	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Snake River	Wallowa and Baker _	1,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Starkey	Union	_ 700	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Steens Mountain	. Harney	2,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Tenmile	Coos	_ 400	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Trask	. Illiamook and ramini	1,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
			1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Umatilla	. Umatilla	_ 1,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Umpqua	_ Douglas	1,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Walla Walla	_ Umatilla	500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Warner	Lake	1,500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Wasco	Wasco Wallowa Wheeler Malheur	_ 500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Wenaha	_ wallowa	800	1 deer	Oct. 15-23 Oct. 15-23	
Wheeler	wneeler	3,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Whitehorse	Columbia and	500	1 deel	OCt. 13-23	
Willamette	Columbia and Washington	7 000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
Wilson	Tillamook	2,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23	
WIISON	TOTAL	100,000	- 4001		
	TOTAL	126,900			

#### CONTROLLED DEER SEASONS (\$5.00 TAG FEE)

CONTROLL	ED DEEK SEASU	NO	(\$5.00 IAG	· LLL)
Wallowa Pack	Wallowa	1,200	1 buck and 1 doe	Sept. 3-11; Oct. 1-23
Snake River Pack	Wallowa	500	1 buck and 1 doe	Sept. 3-7; Oct. 1-23
**Corvallis Watershed	Benton	300	1 deer	Oct. 25, 26; Nov. 5, 6
Alfalfa	Deschutes	300	1 doe	Dec. 10,11, 17, 18, 24, 25, and 26
**Bly Area	Klamath	300	1 doe	Dec. 17, 18
Silver Lake	Lake and Klamath	4,000	1 doe	Oct. 1-23; Nov. 19, 20
Steens Mountain	Harney	500	1 deer	Oct. 15-23
	Lake	300	1 deer	Sept. 10,-18 24, 25
**Canyon Creek	Grant	300	1 deer	Aug. 27- Oct. 23
N Fork Siletz	Polk and Lincoln	150	1 deer	Dec. 10, 11
	Lincoln and Lane	1,000	1 deer	Oct. 15-23
A CONTRACTOR OF THE PROPERTY O	TOTAL			

#### PERMIT ELK HUNTS

AREA COUNTY	PERMITS	BAG	DATES
Chesnimnus Unit Wallowa	250	1 elk	Nov. 11-27
Desolatioon Unit Grant		1 elk	Nov. 11-27
Heppner Unit Morrow	250	1 elk	Nov. 11-27
Imnaha Unit Wallowa		1 elk	Nov. 11-27
Minam Unit Wallowa	200	1 elk	Nov. 11-27
Sled Springs Unit Wallow	300	1 elk	Nov. 11-27
Starkey Unit Union		1 elk	Nov. 11-27
Ukiah Unit Umatilla		1 elk	Nov. 11-27
Umatilla Unit Umatilla		1 elk	Nov. 11-27
Walla Walla Unit Umatilla	250	1 elk	Nov. 11-27
**Mill Creek Area Umatilla and Wallowa	100	1 elk	Nov. 5-13
**Clatsop Agri, Area _ Clatsop	750	1 elk	Dec. 17-18
**Lake Creek Area Coos and Douglas		1 elk	Dec. 10-11
**Loon Lake Area Douglas		1 elk	Sept. 17-18
Troy Area Wallowa		1 elk	Dec. 17-31
Shaw Mtn. Area Baker	300	1 elk	Dec. 10-31
**Wilson Unit Tillamook	400	1 elk	Oct. 29-
			Nov. 9
TOTAL	4.370		

<sup>\*</sup> On or within one mile of cultivated agricultural lands. \*\* Area closed to all other hunting.

#### ANTELOPE SEASON—AUGUST 20-24

Bag Limit-One buck antelope with horns longer than ears. Fee-\$5.00 (1958 and 1959 tag holders ineligible)

AREA	TAGS	UNITS
Area I	100	Ochoco, Maury, Silvies
Area II	150	Paulina, Wagontire, Fort Rock, Silver Lake
Area III	150	Klamath, Interstate, Warner
Area IV	250	Juniper, Hart Mountain, Steens
Area V	150	Beulah, Malheur, Owyhee
Area VI	100	Whitehorse
	-	
TOTAL	900	

#### ARCHERY SEASONS

AREA	LIMIT	DATES
Eastern Oregon Management Units (Wasco, Deschutes, Baker, Keating, and		
Starkey Units)	1 deer and 1 elk	Sept. 3-25
Western Oregon Management Units(Alsea and Green Springs Units)	1 deer	Sept. 3-25; Oct. 25-
		Nov. 20
Roosevelt Elk Area (Trask Unit)1-	-3 pt. bull elk	Oct. 29-Nov. 9
Hart Mountain (Lake County)		Sept. 10-13
	1 deer	Sept. 3, 4 and 5
Canyon Creek (Grant County)	1 deer and 1 elk	Aug. 27-Oct. 23
Mt. Emily (Union and Umatilla County)	1 deer and 1 elk	Sept. 3-25

### Schedule of Closing Dates and Drawings for Big Game Tags and Permits

#### Antelope Tags:

Closing date for applications, 5 p.m., July 18 Public drawing, 10 a.m., July 25

#### Controlled Deer Season Tags:

Closing date, 5 p.m., August 1 Public drawing, 10 a.m., August 8

#### Deer Permits:

Closing date, 5 p.m., August 8 Public drawing, 10 a.m., August 15

Closing date, 5 p.m., August 29 Public drawing, 10 a.m., Sept. 7

On or within one mile of cultivated agricultural lands.
 Unit closed to all other hunting.
 † Designated area closed in vicinity of Howard Prairie delivery canal.

## 1960 Big Game Seasons

(Continued from Page 6)

on November 19 and 20. The objective of this season is to test the merits of the two-deer bag limit as a deer management tool. All hunters are required to check in and out of the Silver Lake Unit.

Other controlled deer seasons are not concurrent with the general deer season but all of them provide an excellent opportunity to take a deer.

A person may apply for one unit permit and one controlled season deer tag. The application for a unit permit is issued with the general deer tag, and applications for controlled season tags are available at all license agencies. There is no charge for the unit permits, but a fee of \$5.00 must accompany the application for a controlled season tag which authorizes a second deer.

Extended deer seasons in November are authorized upon agricultural lands in the Rogue, Umpqua, Willamette, and Hood River Valleys and portions of Wasco County. Their purpose is to reduce deer numbers in agricultural areas. Any person with an unused deer tag may participate in these seasons but success will be low.

Good deer hunting can be expected in all counties this fall. Wallowa, Baker, Grant, Malheur, Harney, Lake, and Klamath Counties are expected to provide the highest hunter success for mule deer. Douglas, Lane, Linn, Benton, Polk, Lincoln, and Tillamook Counties will be the leading blacktail producers.

This year deer hunters will not be required to return a report card. After the hunting season, 20,000 licensed hunters will be asked to report their hunting experience in some detail. This change of procedure will provide equally valid information and constitute a substantial savings of costs.

#### Elk:

The open season for Rocky Mountain elk (October 29-November 27) is one week longer than last year. This extension is intended to place more hunting pressure on elk winter ranges.

A total of 4,370 antlerless elk permits is authorized. Twenty-five hundred of these will be valid from November 11-27 on 10 eastern Oregon units. The remaining 1,870 permits will be issued for 7 special seasons in specific problem areas.



Last year, 44,217 elk hunters reported taking 6,828 Rocky Mountain elk (5,304 bulls and 1,524 cows) and 2,147 Roosevelt elk (1,923 bulls and 224 cows). In terms of bulls, this represents a 45 per cent increase in the harvest of Rocky Mountain bulls and an 11 per cent increase in the take of Roosevelt bulls. The exceptional 1959 harvest is believed to be a product of favorable hunting conditions rather than any great increase of elk numbers.

Current inventories indicate a slight increase in Rocky Mountain elk and no change in the density of Roosevelt elk.

Classification of 3,578 elk last winter indicated a slight decline in the ratio of bulls to cows and normal calf production.

Orderly harvest methods for Roosevelt elk continue to be a matter of concern on the heavily hunted coast range, particularly in the north coastal area which is close to centers of population. Last year, a noon opening combined with an intensive patrol had a positive effect upon hunter conduct but in many respects the season was far from orderly. This year the Commission has authorized an experimental either-sex season for the Wilson Unit in northern Tillamook County. Four hundred permits are authorized with the provision that hunters will be assigned to designated portions of the unit in proportion to management needs. In the absence of some control of distribution within the unit, it would be possible for hunters to concentrate upon individual herds and eliminate the entire group. This system has been satisfactorily used in Utah and other states for several years and may prove to be an efficient harvest method for Roosevelt elk. This season is designed to reduce elk densities in portions of the Wilson Unit where elk are causing damage to conifer plantations. Hunters interested in this season will apply for the Wilson Unit. Assignments within the unit will be determined after successful applicants are selected by public drawing

It is anticipated that Wallowa, Union, and Umatilla Counties will continue to provide the best elk hunting this year; however, last year hunter success was also high in Grant, Harney, and Malheur Counties where an either-sex bag limit has been employed since 1943 to prevent conflicts with deer and domestic livestock. Of the coastal counties, Coos will maintain its position as the leading elk producer.

The lucky people who draw one of the antlerless elk permits will approximately double their chance to bag an elk. Last year success during the general elk season averaged 17 per cent. Success of antlerless permit holders averaged 30 per cent.

This year many citizens and organizations recommended that the Commission prohibit issuance of elk permits to an individual more frequently than once every three or five years. The Commission concluded that present procedures do not deny any person the privilege of hunting elk and the limited benefits of the proposal would not be commensurate with the cost of screening all applications to determine eligible persons.

#### **Archery Seasons:**

Bow hunters will have an opportunity to hunt big game from August 27 through November 20. Eight big game management units and four other areas provide lots of space and a good distribution of hunting opportunities.

Last year bow hunters reported harvest of 180 deer and 8 elk in archery areas. The number of archers is not known, but it is believed that at least 5,000 persons participated.

In recent years there has been a tendency for some archers to carry sidearms or other firearms while hunting in archery areas. The 1960 regulations prohibit this practice.

#### The Hunter's Responsibility:

Many landowners and public agencies cooperate in maintaining Oregon's game resources and recreational opportunities.

With the cooperation of hunters, these important values can be perpetuated.

Remember the "Red Hat Pledge"

Obey the Game Laws,

Respect the Rights and Property of Others,

Be Careful with Fire and Firearms.

#### Oregon State Game Commission Bulletin

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