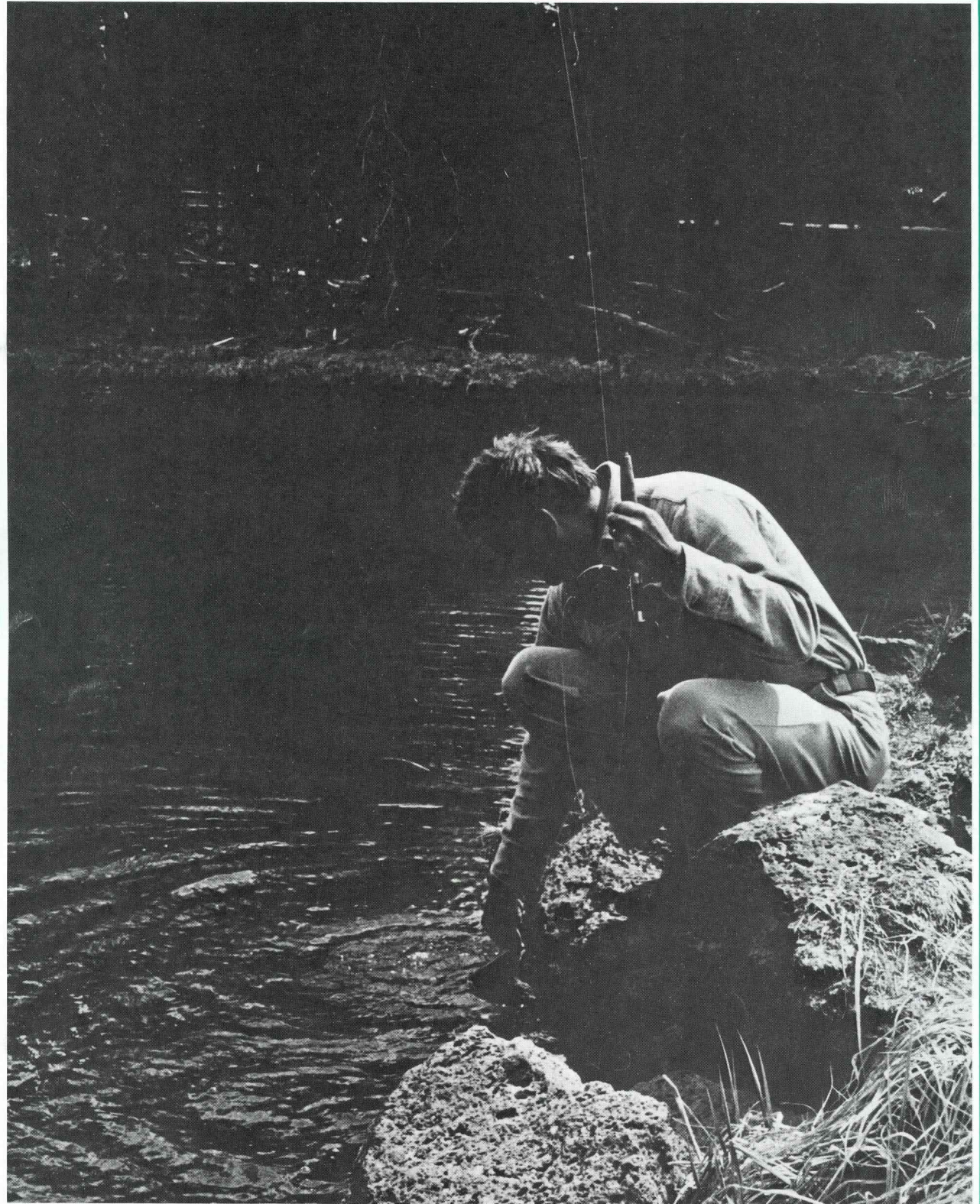


OREGON WILDLIFE

July-August 1988



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The Cover

Oregon's high lakes provide excellent trout fishing. See inside for some history on the stocking program, and fishing tips.
Photo by Ken Durbin

HUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM April-May 1988

Instructors Approved19
Total Active984
Students Trained730
Total to Date333,955
Hunting Casualties Reported in 1988
Nonfatal3
Fatal0

A Win-Win-Win Situation

In business, government and personal relationships, the ultimate goal is to achieve what has come to be called "Win-Win" outcomes. The results of a negotiation, an agreement or action benefit all of the parties involved. Everybody wins something.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife is involved in a partnership with other public and private organizations and individuals that promises considerable benefits. Work is underway now to build a salmon rearing pond at Tuffy Creek on the South Fork of the Wilson River in Tillamook County. When complete, this facility will allow the department to raise an additional 100,000 spring chinook salmon smolts for release into the Wilson River system.

A depleted run of springers can be restored in the Wilson, and the cost to the state will be minimal. The Tillamook County economy will reap major benefits, however, when these fish return as adults to the bay and lower river. In addition to all this, a group of people — who desperately need a positive life experience — will have a chance for productive and rewarding work. The possibilities are so good for all concerned, that I call this effort a win-win-win situation.

A public fund drive to raise donations for this work is underway. The effort is coordinated by the Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation (OWHF), a private, non-profit foundation dedicated to enhancing Oregon's fish and wildlife and preserving public access for recreation. You may recall the Foundation's vital role in securing public access along the Deschutes River a few years ago.

The Foundation goal is to raise \$200,000 in public contributions to build the rearing pond. Total project cost will be \$326,600. The foundation has already committed more than \$26,000 to the project. Parks Medical Electronics of Aloha has also pledged a challenge grant of \$100,000 to be matched two for one by other donations.

Fish for the project will be hatched at the department's hatchery on the Trask River near Tillamook. The first smolts reared at the site will be released in the fall of 1989.

The pond is being built at the South Fork Camp, an Oregon Department of Corrections minimum security facility, where inmates are employed by the Department of Forestry as tree planters and fire fighters. In addition to their regular forestry work, some inmates will be volunteering their time to operate and maintain the pond. Many inmates have already been involved with the Department of Fish and Wildlife Salmon and Trout Enhancement Program (STEP) and have been rearing pheasant at the camp for release at the department's E.E. Wilson Game Farm north of Corvallis.

The key to making all this succeed is cooperation. The department does not have the funds to build the pond. Without the fund-raising help from the Heritage Foundation, and generous contributions, Tuffy Creek will not happen. Without the willingness of the Departments of Forestry and Corrections to get involved, the project would also not be possible.

If you want to help with a donation, or need additional information, contact the Oregon Wildlife Heritage Foundation, PO Box 8301, Portland, OR 97207. Everybody can win here, especially if you get involved, and tell your friends as well.



UPDATE

Buoy Ten Opens

Large runs of coho and chinook salmon are expected to greet anglers who take part in the annual fishing frenzy known as the Buoy 10 season on the lower Columbia River.

Biologists predict a harvest of up to 200,000 coho and 50,000 chinook salmon during the fishery that began August 6 between Buoy 10 on the Columbia bar and the Astoria-Megler Bridge.

The season will be open seven days per week. There is no overall catch quota for either species. The daily bag is two fish per day with a 16-inch minimum size for coho and a 24-inch minimum for chinook. After Labor Day, the daily bag will go up to three fish per day, only two of which may be steelhead. Single-point barbless hooks will be required through September 30.

This fishery in the lower river has become very popular in recent years when the ocean sport seasons have closed. This year, the north of Cape Falcon ocean sport season off the Columbia closed July 24.

Viewing Guide Available

Want to see some of Oregon's wildlife, but you're not sure where to go? The answers to your questions are at hand in a new guide to wildlife viewing sites in the state.

Oregon's Guide To Wildlife Viewing is a joint-venture publication coordinated by the Defenders of Wildlife with support from several state agencies, including the Department of Fish and Wildlife. The full-color, 80-page booklet lists 123 separate sites around the state where some form of wildlife may be seen. The viewing opportunities range from bald eagles in eastern Oregon to sea lions on the coast.

The guide also includes 13 separate maps showing various areas of the state, and where each site is located. In addition, the Oregon State Highway Division is placing road marker signs to alert travelers to the viewing sites, much the way state parks are identified now. The symbol for the site will be a graphic of binoculars.

This publication will be sold for \$4 dollars per copy. Information about the booklet, and forms for ordering copies, are available by writing the Viewing Guide, PO Box 59, Portland, OR 97207.

Bird Seasons Set

The Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission has set September 1-30 as the state hunting season for mourning doves. The opener for band-tailed pigeons has been shifted to September 15. That season will also run through September 30. Department biologists requested the late pigeon opening because the population is continuing to decline. Last year the season opened September 7.



WILLIAM F. FINLEY

An Interview with Gail Achterman **FOREST PLANNING** *The State Role*

Conducted by Kay Brown-ODFW



KEN DURBIN

BOB KUHN



BRUCE CRAVEN

"I don't think there's anything happening in the state of Oregon in the natural resources and environmental areas that's more important than federal forest planning."



"I see growing recognition among many Oregonians of the importance of the forest as watersheds."



The U.S. Forest Service

manages 155 national forests nationwide. Of these, 13 national forests are located in Oregon and represent nearly one-half of Oregon's total forest land base.

Plans are now being prepared by the Forest Service for every national forest, which will direct the way that agency manages lands and resources for the next 10 to 15 years. The plans are extensive reviews of land and water resources, coupled with a draft Environmental Impact Statement for each forest.

They describe a range of alternative management measures and identify a preferred Forest Service alternative. Each alternative is reviewed and analyzed for impacts. Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife staff and field biologists have reviewed and commented on all the plans as they affect state fish and wildlife resources.

Gail Achterman, the Governor's Assistant for Natural Resources, is coordinating Oregon's effort to assure that the plans balance the needs of communities, the environment and the state economy.

Q: The Governor has said that active participation in Federal forest planning is a high priority to all Oregonians. How is Oregon participating in that process?

A: We're doing it in two steps. The first thing we've done is submit coordinated state responses on the draft environmental impact statements on all national forests in Oregon. Those state responses include a detailed letter from the Governor analyzing the principal concerns raised by state agencies about the drafts, and detailed, technical agency comments on the plan. I think it's fair to say that we have prepared more thorough and detailed comments on the plans than any state has done before.

But more than that is the second step in the process where we are really working now on developing state alternatives for each of the 13 national forests. We're coming to grips with the same tough questions the Forest Service has to answer in terms of balancing the various uses of national forests, rather than simply commenting on the Forest Service's alternatives and never proposing anything ourselves.

Q: What do you see as the key issues in the forest plans?

A: I think there are four major issues for both eastern and western Oregon. First is timber supply: How much timber is going to be harvested from the national forests in the future, and how close is that going to come to meeting demand? The key issues related to that are: How much of the national forest land is suitable for timber production? What's the real capability of that suitable land for growing commercial timber? How much of the available land really has higher value for other uses that may conflict with timber management?

The second issue relates directly to fish and wildlife habitat needs and how the plans meet those

needs; elk herds, Columbia River and coastal anadromous fisheries, and maintenance of habitat for indicator species are primary concerns.

The third major issue is recreation. We think a great deal more needs to be done in the plans to address what the real opportunities are for investing in recreation, both developed and undeveloped, in Oregon.

The fourth issue is water resources. Most of the water supply for Oregon, whether for domestic, industrial or agricultural purposes, comes from the national forests. Activities on the forests can affect water quality, seasonal distribution of water flows and, obviously, have a real impact on fishery management as well.

Q: The Forest Service has experts that have drafted these plans. Why does the State need to review them so closely?

A: I think that the Forest Service technical experts look at the planning process from the federal perspective. They look at it consistent with the statutes and regulations that govern their activities.

We feel there are a couple of things the state is in a good position to offer. One is that our technical experts in the various state agencies often have extensive on-the-ground, hands-on experience with the resources on our national forests. Second, I think we're in a unique position to use our expertise and step back from the Forest Service process and say: Does this make sense? Does this really hold together?

Q: How good is the state's working relationship with the Forest Service?

A: It's excellent. We have strong support from the Regional Forester and from the Chief of the Forest Service. They recognize that the National Forest Management Act directs them to coordinate their planning activities with the state

government. Frankly, many states haven't taken the process very seriously — haven't chosen to participate.

Too often, in the past, states have not done their homework to help analyze the tough decisions that the Forest Service has to make when looking at all the competing demands on the forest. Because we are willing to do our homework, because we take the process seriously, the Forest Service is taking us seriously.

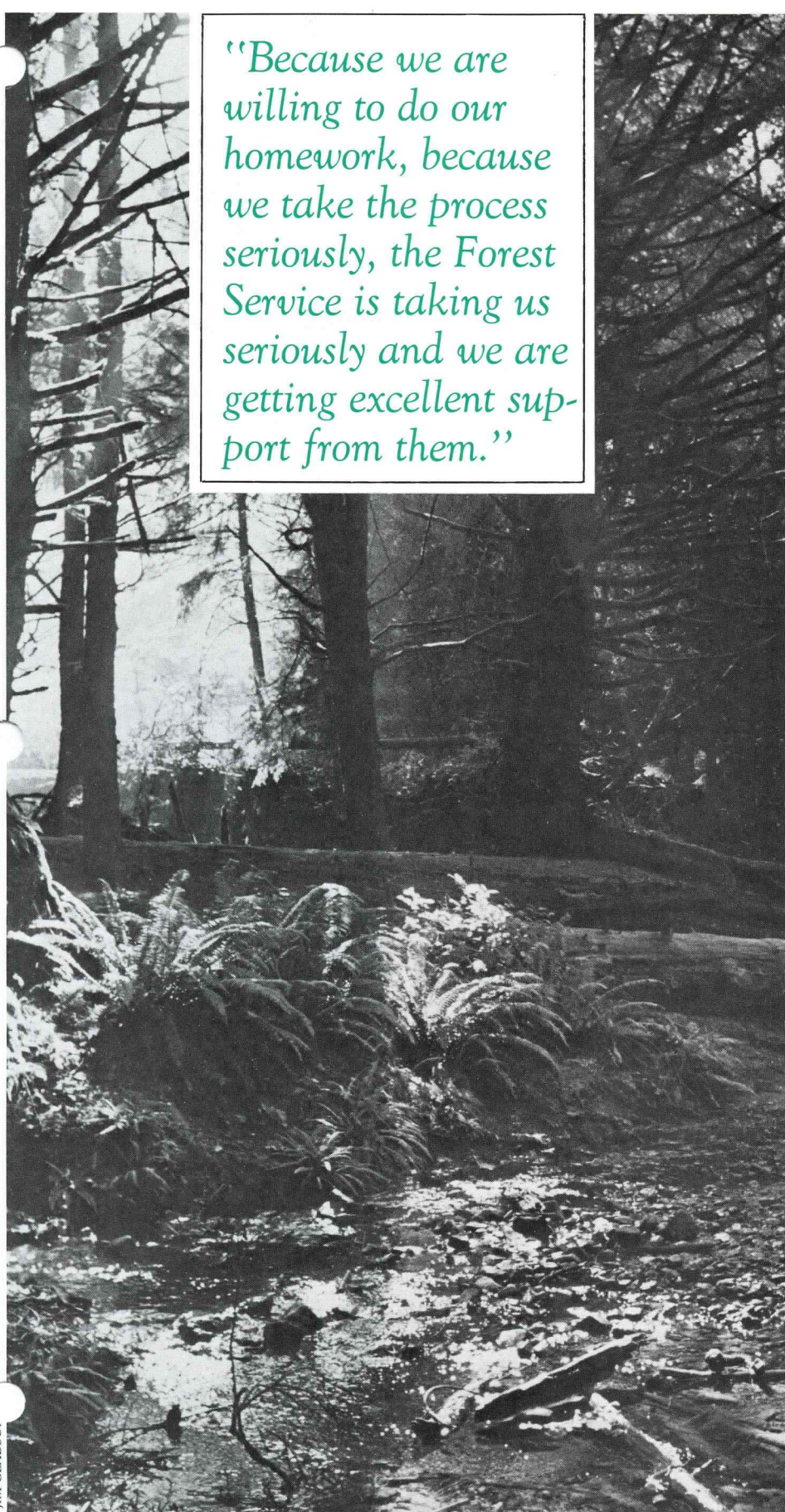
Q: Can you describe the state's objectives for management of national forests in Oregon?

A: I think that we really have two objectives, and those are stated in the introduction to all of our coordinated state responses. First, is that the land should be managed in an environmentally sound manner so that future generations have the same opportunities we do to enjoy the bounty of the national forest lands. The second objective is that the forests should continue to produce a high, sustainable flow of economic benefits and amenities that they've traditionally provided for Oregonians.

We recognize this means there must be a balance between our state's dependence on the timber supply and our need to preserve and protect the quality of the environment. The objectives are general, and they are going to be met in different ways on different forests, depending upon what the specific resource values are on each forest.

Q: Since fish and wildlife on national forest lands are actually managed by the Department of Fish and Wildlife, do you see a different relationship with respect to fish and wildlife as opposed to timber?

A: I think the Forest Service in its statutes and its policy guidelines very clearly recognizes that they have the habitat management responsibility, while the state Depart-



"Because we are willing to do our homework, because we take the process seriously, the Forest Service is taking us seriously and we are getting excellent support from them."

ments of Fish and Wildlife, or their equivalent in other states, have the population management responsibility. As we all know, and as the Forest Service is well aware, it's impossible to manage the populations without managing the habitat. I think they recognize very clearly that, by law, they must set minimum management requirements to maintain viable populations of fish and wildlife species that live on the forest.

We must be sure that the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife is a participant in defining what those minimum management requirements are. That, in fact, there is an open process that is scientifically and technically credible to define what the management requirements are for ensuring viable populations of fish and wildlife species.

Q: What are you hearing from Oregonians? Is there a strong message that's coming through on forest plans?

A: Overall, one would have to say that most Oregonians think there ought to be a better way to seek a balance between the timber supply needs that they definitely recognize, and the need to preserve the quality of Oregon's environment, which I think all Oregonians want to see happen. They aren't very satisfied with the Forest Service alternatives. People are looking to the Forest Service — and I'd like to think looking to state government — to find better solutions, better ways to achieve the needed balance.

Q: State comments on the forest plans also include a lot of questions. Will the Forest Service be able to respond?

A: They're going to be able to answer many of them. And they already are answering many of them. We think we've been able to assist them in terms of identifying some analytical techniques and ap-

proaches that will help answer a number of the questions. For example, some of the forests did a very good job of breaking their forests down into watersheds; building their planning model on a watershed basis so that accumulative impacts could be analyzed on a watershed-by-watershed basis. This is very important for fish and wildlife resources as well as for water resources.

Other forests didn't structure their plans that way, so a lot of the questions we're asking are aimed at finding out details about watershed impacts.

Q: How can the state coordinate the response to the Forest Service plans when state agencies have different goals and objectives?

A: I think Oregon state laws recognize that the various boards and commissions, like the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission, have different statutory objectives; and that's why the agencies have submitted their technical analysis and comments independently.

There has been no effort on the part of the Governor's Office to do anything other than standardize the format and focus the state agency comments on aspects of the forest planning process we think the state is in the best position to address.

The problem in the past has been that no one at the state level really stepped in and came to grips with the different perspectives. It was always left to the Forest Service to make that judgment. We think the governor is in a better position to reflect a balance that's appropriate for Oregonians.

Q: What do you see changing in the long-term on how Oregonians want to use their forests?

A: That's a tough question. I see growing recognition among many Oregonians of the importance of the forest as watersheds. And I think

there's a very high level of public concern about whether or not the forest practices on national forest lands truly meet the expectations and performance standards of the Oregon Forest Practices Act.

I also feel that as the population of Oregon grows, and as our tourism industry grows, there are going to be increasing demands on the forest for recreational opportunities, whether it's fishing or ski area developments.

That doesn't mean, however, that national forests somehow should be managed like national parks. It doesn't mean that the forests are going to cease being a critical part of the timber supply needs for the wood-products industry in Oregon.

Q: How do you rank forest plans compared to your other natural resource job duties?

A: I don't think there's anything happening in the state of Oregon in the natural resources and environmental areas that's more important than federal forest planning. I think it's critical for our economy from a variety of perspectives and it is critical for our quality of life. Developing and reviewing these plans is an incredibly challenging task.

The Forest Service has taken on an enormous job in doing these plans and we're really at a critical time in terms of the future of the national forests. This is the first round of plans under the National Forest Management Act and it's absolutely critical that they be the best that we can possibly produce. So, it really is at the very top of our priorities, and I think quite rightfully so.

Kay Brown, executive assistant to the Chief of Fisheries, recently completed a three-month internship in the Governor's natural resource office.

GOTCHA
By Lt. Dudley Nelson
Oregon State Police Game Division

The old television show "That's Incredible" has nothing on the day-to-day scenarios experienced by Oregon's game wardens. Unusual cases, and even more unusual excuses, are common fare for the 110 wardens who patrol the waters, forests and deserts of the state. If records were kept, the excesses of some people would boggle the mind of many hunters and anglers who often return home empty-handed.

It's hard to imagine that two men could dig 750 razor clams on just one tide, or a hunter could kill and tag a six-point bull elk with a 55-inch spread thinking it was a deer. What could two anglers do with 400 trout caught from a high mountain stream in one day? How could their consciences allow two hunters to bag 50 geese in excess of their limit on a weekend hunt?

Would you believe a Portland man has received 25 fish and wildlife citations in the past five years? Though he has been fined, suspended and jailed, he shows no indication he will quit violating. Greed is the fuel that fires the engines of wildlife poachers, and these cases exemplify the extremes that greed can lead a man to.

Many people leave home in the morning intending to have a productive, legal day in the field, but turn into poachers before the day ends. A case in point is the three men who fished the Siletz River for summer steelhead one morning. Unable to entice any fish to bite, they



BOB KUHN

Every year, hundreds of game law breakers receive not only stiff fines and possibly jail sentences, but the Judge may also confiscate weapons used in committing the crimes. This seized gear is usually sold at auction by the state.

tried to snag them to no avail. They left the stream empty-handed, but returned in the afternoon with dynamite. The ensuing blast only yielded four steelhead. They returned again after dark with a gillnet, and this time were able to catch 23 salmon and steelhead. Fortunately, they also attracted the attention of two game wardens who made the best catch of the day.

In a similar case, two men drove from Eugene to Prineville on Memorial Day to shoot ground squirrels. They shot a lot of squirrels, but also couldn't resist shooting a tremendous bull elk in full velvet. When they packed the last quarter out, they were met at their vehicle by wardens who were alerted by a concerned cowboy.

It would be a challenge to come up with an excuse for violating the game laws that has not already been heard. One of the favorites is the excuse offered for Exceeding The Bag Limit On Fish, Game Or Shellfish, that goes something like this, "I don't fish or hunt, so I should be able to take extra clams." Another favorite is, "I just found it lying there and didn't want it to go to waste, so I took it."

Hunters who illegally kill cow elk, invariably say they were shooting at a bull and don't know how the cow got shot. People are always trying to convince the game warden that some unidentified police officer told them they could do some illegal act. It is rare to find a person who says,

"Yea, you got me, I did it."

Many wildlife cases are made simply by bad luck for the poacher, or good luck by the officer. One poor chap chose the game warden's driveway to turn around in at 3 a.m. The warden was awakened and looked out the window in time to see the luckless man shoot a four-point elk from an adjoining field. Much to the warden's surprise, he found the lone hunter had a full cast on a broken leg that would have made it impossible for him to remove the "deer" he thought he had shot.

Another hunter threw the remains of an illegal deer along a rural road at night, unaware his jacket was hooked to the carcass. Neatly printed on the inside of the collar was the man's name and address.

Numerous wildlife cases are made each year by a "lover scorned" who calls and reports her ex's illegal hunting or fishing activities. Some bird hunters have been surprised to find their dog packing an illegal bird they had discarded when they saw the game warden approaching. Another poacher was apprehended when he accelerated too rapidly from a stop light in a coastal town, and his firewood and an illegal deer rolled out the back of his pickup onto the street.

Two men were asked if they had killed anything when found with shotguns on a warm summer evening. They denied hunting, but the five-year-old boy with them proudly

pulled several grouse from under the seat to show the "nice officer."

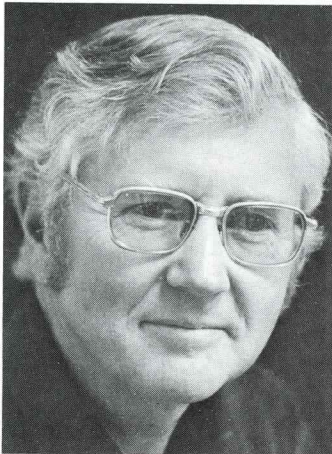
There is humor in these cases only because someone got caught. There is nothing funny about the tremendous loss of fish and wildlife resources each year to poachers. Most experts agree that less than 10 per cent of all illegal big game kills are reported or even discovered, and of those, less than 10 per cent result in an arrest.

Occasionally, a poaching venture turns truly tragic, as when two young men shot at what they thought were deer eyes in their spotlight. The single shot struck and killed two people sitting at a picnic table in a park. The "deer eyes" were two candles on the table.

Another man was killed when he jumped out of a car to shoot at sage hens during the closed season and was shot by his partner who was trying to do the same thing.

Game wardens can only hold the line. Proper respect for wildlife resources, and observance of game laws will come through education and public commitment. People can help stop poaching by being good eyes and ears in the woods. Game officers can't be everywhere, but other hunters in the field can be the best source for obtaining information that leads to arrests. In recent years the TIP Hotline has been very useful. If you hear about, or know of a violation, call 1-800-452-7888. There are people stealing your natural resource, and they must be stopped.

BACK WHEN THE LAST OF THE PACK STRING SUMMERS



by Tom McAllister
Outdoor Writer
The Oregonian

The packstring of mules on the mountain trails was a curious site for other visitors to the backcountry.



Trout stocking in Oregon began with barren waters. Hundreds of mountain lakes hadn't held fish since their day of creation by landslide, glacier, beaver or crater eruption.

Until 1911, the state's hatchery stations were used solely for salmon production. But a desire by sportsmen of that era to introduce trout into the barren lakes of the Cascade, Wallowa, Strawberry and Elkhorn mountains had the support of Governor Oswald West.

Because of Oregon's then primitive road system, William L. Finley, the State Game Warden at the time, had a railroad express car converted in 1912 to transport the fingerling trout in 10-gallon milk cans that were fed by an aeration system and iced in hot weather.

Named "The Rainbow" — this rail car began the trout distribution program in Oregon. Local rod and gun clubs arranged to meet the train and do a good share of the early stocking.

That first summer, 83 barren Cascade lakes were stocked with rainbow, brook trout and coho fry from Bonneville by means of a pack string that met "The Rainbow" at railheads in Oakridge, Detroit, Estacada and Bend. Except for a break during World War II, packers with mules and horses were employed each summer to stock the backcountry mountain lakes, those reached only by trails. Some remote lakes were reached only by bushwacking, or following dim blaze marks.

The backcountry lakes program in the Cascades shifted to airplane stocking in 1949. Now, hundreds of lakes are stocked by helicopter in just a week.

As a fledgling biologist attending Oregon State University on the GI Bill, I had the ultimate summer jobs. In 1947, I was on a lake and stream survey project based out of Princess Creek Campground on Odell Lake. Backcountry lakes were being inventoried to determine their suitability and carrying-capacity for trout.

My pack horse carried a war sur-

July-August 1988

plus rubber raft, a plane-table for mapping the lake outline on scaled paper, sounding line, a water analysis kit and a small brass dredge that snatched bottom samples. We also sampled the lakes with fly rods, if they held trout.

After encountering the Game Commission fish packing crew one day on their way to Taylor Burn from Gold Lake, I knew that's where more adventure lay.

The following summer I was assistant to Reino O. Koski, the aquatic biologist who headed the fish stocking operation. We joined our packer, Hugh S. Skinner of Redmond, in gathering 14 independent-minded mules that had wintered on the high desert near Hampton Buttes.

Skinner's pack outfit included four riding horses and a white bell mare and her colt who the mules would never desert. From one end of the Cascades to the other, that bell mare kept the pack animals together when turned out to pasture.

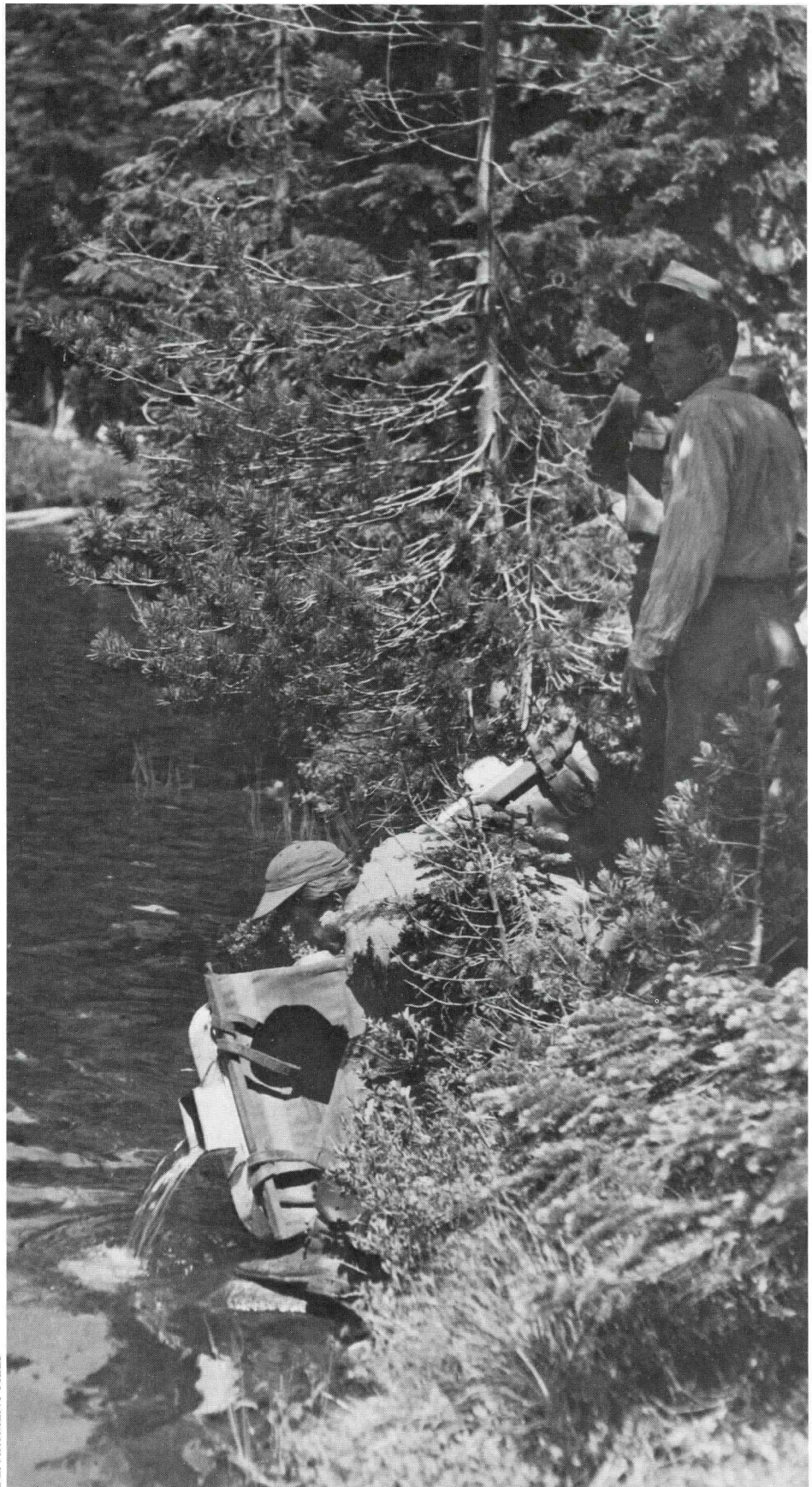
At daybreak, my first chore was to hike out from camp to the meadow, listen for the bell mare, catch and halter her, jump aboard bareback then head for camp. In no time the entire outfit would come running from all directions to fall in line behind the mare and colt.

One sedge-frosted dawn in Gold Lake Meadows, I turned back to count heads and had two extras — a cow elk and her calf had joined the mules and now brought up the rear of the line.

The Game Commission hauled trout fry or fingerlings to the road-head camps by special tank truck. We held the fish in a wire mesh live box set into a cold creek or spring. When the lakes of one area were all planted, the pack string and crew moved on to the next base camp with an access road, and adequate holding water for the trout.

At trapper Creek on Odell Lake the local water ouzel population zeroed in on the live box and they sang for their supper while perched around the rim.

Oregon Wildlife

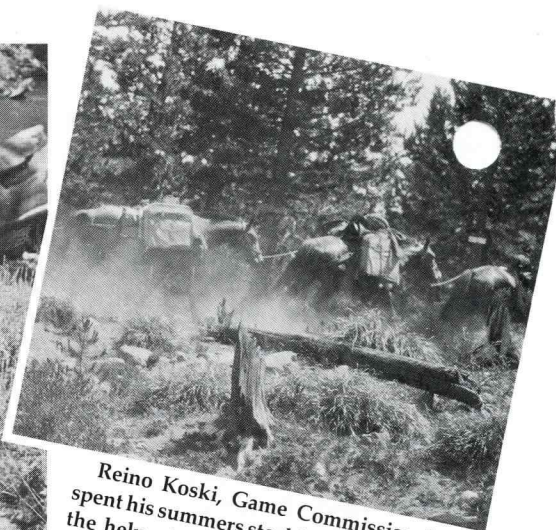


DEPARTMENT FILES

Many of Oregon's high lakes did not have trout until stocking programs started in the early 1900's.



McAllister and Koski at work.



Reino Koski, Game Commission biologist, spent his summers stocking the high lakes with the help of Tom McAllister.

We filled special 10-gallon rectangular pack cans designed for fish packing with chilled holding water. The colder the water, the more oxygen it would hold. Then squares of burlap were placed over the pack can openings and secured with a section of inner-tubing. This allowed the water to be aerated as the mules jogged down the trail, the water sloshing back and forth in the half-filled cans.

The mule string was a colorful show for campers and hikers. Many wanted to visit, but there was no time for conversation once the pack outfit was loaded with fish and committed to its destination lakes. Some anglers actually thought we were packing legal-sized trout in those cans, and were beside themselves to learn the destination.

We developed a stock answer that both satisfied and excited the curious. "We're packing water to a forest fire — no time to visit" was our greeting, and it worked fine, even on rainy days for the more gullible.

The few times a pack base was near a forest campground, visitors flocked to photograph the pack outfit and visit. The campers at Little Cultus Lake asked us about bears because they heard things that went bump in the night. Verne E. Mallory, the state trapper from Redmond who sometimes visited our camps, had both a bear and cougar paw, so we fulfilled those campers' wildest

imaginings by impressing the paw prints right up to their tent entrances one night. We were there to reinforce the story the next day, and the commotion still hadn't died down when we moved up the line to our next camp.

A Game Commission pack string summer didn't allow time for amenities, and we were rough around the edges. There was time in the evenings for a bath-swim in one of the lakes, flyfishing the caddis hatch in twilight, or running bear or cougar into the night when Mallory dropped in with his hounds. Sometimes we filled our "rubber duck" raft with water and let it set all day in the sunshine for a luxurious camp bath that night.

There were many still unnamed small lakes tucked into remote parts of the Cascades that were stocked for the first time the final pack-string summers. We had a complete set of aerial photos of the Cascades, taken by the Army during the war. There was concern about saboteurs parachuting in and hiding out there.

Those photos revealed lakes not shown on the early geologic survey maps. These newly stocked lakes needed names for the record, so we provided some. Timmy and Lady lakes were named for the two sheep dogs that accompanied the pack string, and Suzanne and Darlene lakes were the names of our packer's teenage daughters.

The smartest mule in the outfit,

Jim-Bill, also had a lake named for him. Skinner always said that mule was the equivalent of any two mules, so he earned his double name.

Sometimes we went cross-country with a short pack string to stock a new lake. On one such occasion, when clouds enveloped the forest, I was completely confused as to direction and turned Jim-Bill loose. He led me straight back to the trail and camp.

The old Game Commission pack string was the end of an adventurous, exploratory period when an unbroken forest slumbered in blue summer haze, and far lakes called and glinted through the tree tops.

The pack string always moved out early to take advantage of the chill morning air and it was great to be alive, sitting a horse and leading those mules down another trail to another hidden lake.

Most Oregon Wildlife readers are probably unaware that Tom McAllister once worked for the Oregon Game Commission. As his story notes, he worked as a summer seasonal in 1947-49. He then worked as a fulltime employee during 1950-53 before joining the Oregon Journal as an outdoor writer. The Department of Fish and Wildlife thanks him for sharing his experiences.

PEREGRINE

Recovery Takes Wing

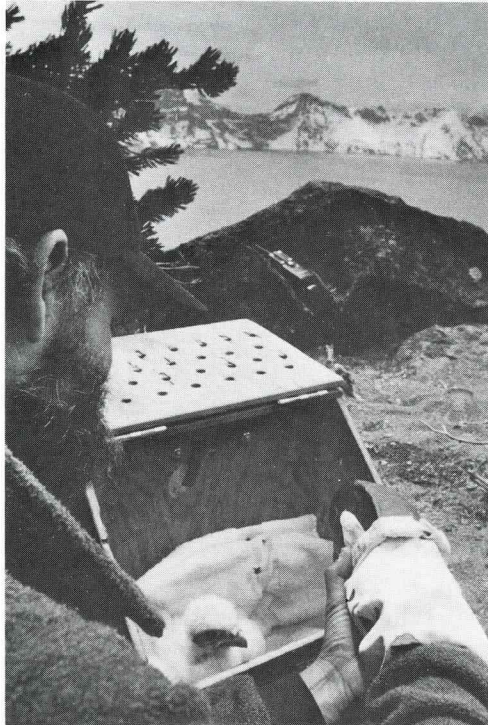
More peregrine falcons are successfully raising young in Oregon this summer than there have been in decades. Biologists estimate there are at least six nests producing chicks now. This turnaround is testimony that patience, persistence and some luck do bring rewards.

During the 1960's and 1970's, these falcons were all but extinct in the state. In fact, nationwide, the peregrine population was plunging as the birds fell victim to loss of habitat and an invisible killer — the pesticide DDT. Peregrines were among the first species listed as "endangered" under the federal Endangered Species Act adopted by Congress in 1973.

Now, more than 25 years after national attention focused on the issue, biologists are seeing signs that the worst may be over. Recovery programs that raise peregrine chicks in captivity for release into the wild have helped restock depleted peregrine populations.

As the banned pesticides fade from the environment, nesting birds are also laying more healthy eggs not doomed to failure because of thin shells caused by chemical contamination. As a result, unassisted, wild production has also resumed. In many cases, these naturally-producing birds wear bands that show they were once captive chicks from past introduction projects.

For example, Crater Lake National Park has been the site of peregrine reintroduction projects since 1981. Typically, an adult pair would nest, but produce thin-shelled eggs that would probably not survive. So people intervened, replacing the contaminated eggs with chicks



A peregrine chick gets a new home at Crater Lake.

hatched at a special laboratory. The parent birds never seemed to mind the sudden shift from unhatched eggs to developing chicks, and set about doing what all parents do — taking care of the kids.

The crew of biologists preparing to do the same again this spring found an active nest with eggs already in it. They decided to wait and see if these eggs would hatch naturally. On April 21, three apparently healthy peregrine chicks emerged, marking the first natural production at the Crater Lake site since the recovery program began.

Nature is not always kind, however, because on May 1 the nest was empty. The three chicks and the adult female had been killed by a great-horned owl. Not to be defeated, biologists moved to what they called Plan B.

Two additional peregrine chicks were brought in from a rearing facility and placed in an active prairie falcon nest on the crater rim. The prairie falcon chicks were removed and transplanted elsewhere. This practice of using prairie falcons as surrogate parents for peregrine chicks has worked well in other areas, and apparently worked here. The adult falcons continued their care without seeming to notice the switch and the birds were expected to fledge by mid July.

The Department of Fish and Wildlife, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services, the National Park Service and the Peregrine Fund, is rearing chicks for release at four different sites this summer — the biggest single-year effort in Oregon's program history. The work also dove-tails well with programs in neighboring Washington and California, where intense recovery efforts are also underway.

In addition to Crater Lake, birds are being raised in hack boxes in Hells Canyon, the lower Columbia River Gorge and at a new site near Summer Lake. Total production from these projects could yield 16 new birds that may expand natural nesting populations in years ahead.

The department will spend about \$9,000 on the peregrine recovery program this year, with about \$22,000 coming from the other agencies and the Peregrine Fund.

Department spending for the last seven years of reintroduction efforts approaches \$100,000. All of this money has come from donations by Oregon state taxpayers through the Nongame Wildlife Fund on the state tax form.

High Lakes Angler

By Ted Fies
District Fisheries Biologist — Bend

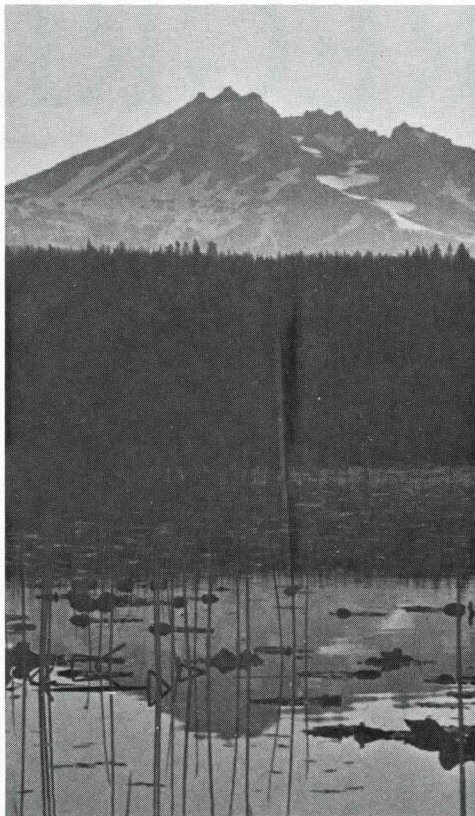
There are a lot of different ways to catch trout in Oregon's high lakes. When you fish, however, it is probably more important than what gear you use. Fishing can be very good during the early part of the season, then pick up again in September and October. Generally, mid-summer is the slow time as warmer weather sends the fish to deeper, cooler water.

Time of day is also important. Early morning and late evening are usually the best bets for success, especially for fly anglers.

As far as equipment goes, "think light" should be the rule, as light as you can handle. Many high lake anglers use the combination pack rods that break down into four or five sections. These rods fit nicely onto a horse, or in a day pack. They usually can be used for either spin or fly-fishing.

If you are spin fishing, use light line — two to four pound test is fine for most waters. Fly anglers should use a light tipit and a fairly long leader. In most of these lakes, the water is clear and the fish are easily spooked.

Catching trout also means angling where the fish are likely to be. When fishing a high lake, remember that trout prefer cover. Try around the downed logs, sunken rocks and other likely hiding places. The areas where the bottom breaks off into deeper water can also be productive.



KEN DUREIN

When the trout head for deeper water during mid-summer, the angler must go to them. In the large lakes, many people use inflatable rafts or float tubes to get out into the middle of the lake. Then they drift or row around, trolling either lures or flashers and a worm.

Type of lure, bait or fly really depends on personal choice. There are a lot of options that work well. Small spinners can be very productive, and so can bait. Small, one eight-ounce lures also work well, especially in late summer and early fall when the water is cool and fish are getting aggressive.

Fly-fishing can be successful all season. Anglers will sometimes find themselves in the middle of a trout feeding frenzy if an insect hatch is in progress.

Anglers entering the high country also need to think about more than fishing gear. Anyone fishing in these lakes should be just as prepared for weather changes. Thunderstorms can come up suddenly, and snow is frequently a threat early and late in the season.

People with experience in Oregon's mountains during the summer always carry another essential item — insect repellent. Mosquitos and flies can be a real problem in the high country. Long-sleeved shirts and plenty of repellent can keep the bugs from ruining your experience. Also, take along sunglasses, preferably polarized, not only to protect your eyes, but to see where fish are in the clear waters.

If you are going into a wilderness area, the Forest Service requires that you sign in at trailheads. This is for your safety, so people will know where you are if you have trouble. It is always a good idea to let someone know if you are going into the back-country, wilderness or otherwise; and when you plan to return.

Leaflets Available

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife publishes information guides to the lakes of Oregon's National Forests. These publications list each lake, its size, the species fish it contains and a map reference point for its location. These are not maps. The location descriptions are useless without Forest Service or other maps of the areas that have Range, Township and Section grids.

The lake guides are available through the Department by writing PO Box 59, Portland, OR 97207; and through many U.S. Forest Service offices throughout the state.

The publications include:

1. Lakes of the Mt. Hood National Forest
2. Lakes of the Willamette National Forest
3. Lakes of the Deschutes National Forest
4. Lakes of the Fremont, Rogue, Siskiyou, Siuslaw, Umpqua and Winema national forests
5. Lakes of the Crooked R. National Grasslands & the Malheur, Ochoco, Umatilla and Wallowa-Whitman national forests

THE ART OF FISHING

by Bill Hastie

Fish are fun to catch.

Fish are good to eat. Fish are fun to print . . .

Waaaaaait a minute! Print a fish?

That's right — you can actually make colorful prints of the fish you catch! And now that the fish are biting, it's a great time to try your hand at fish printing. This process allows you to record your catch in an artistic way. You can make a print with most any fish; but those with larger scales, such as carp, bass, bluegill, rockfish or flounder, will give the best results.

The art of fish printing, also called *gyotaku* (pronounced ghio-ta'-koo) has been used in Japan for more than a century to record catches of sportfish. The Japanese technique is also used by scientists.

Here is what you will need to start your fish print collection.

- fresh (or frozen) fish
- newspaper, plastic modeling clay, straight pins, 1/2" stiff bristle brush, small paint brush, water-based ink (linoleum block ink is best, liquid tempera paint can also be used)
- rice paper, newsprint, or other moisture-tolerant paper (since rice paper is expensive, you might prefer to start with newsprint)

And here's how to print your fish:

1. Use soap and water to clean the outside of the fish as completely as possible. The cleaner the fish, the better the print. Dry the fish well.
2. Place the fish on a table covered with newspapers. Spread the fins out over some clay and pin them in this position. Allow the fish to dry further.

Brush on a *thin*, even coat of ink or paint. Leave the eye blank.

4. Paint around the insertion of the pelvic fin, leaving a small space between the body and the fin. Paint the pelvic and other fins.

5. Carefully place a piece of rice paper or newsprint over the inked fish. Use your fingers to gently press the paper over the surface of the fish. Be careful not to change the position of the paper or a double impression will result.

6. Remove the paper from the fish quickly, lifting up one end and peeling it off. Often, the second or third print from one inking or painting comes out the best.

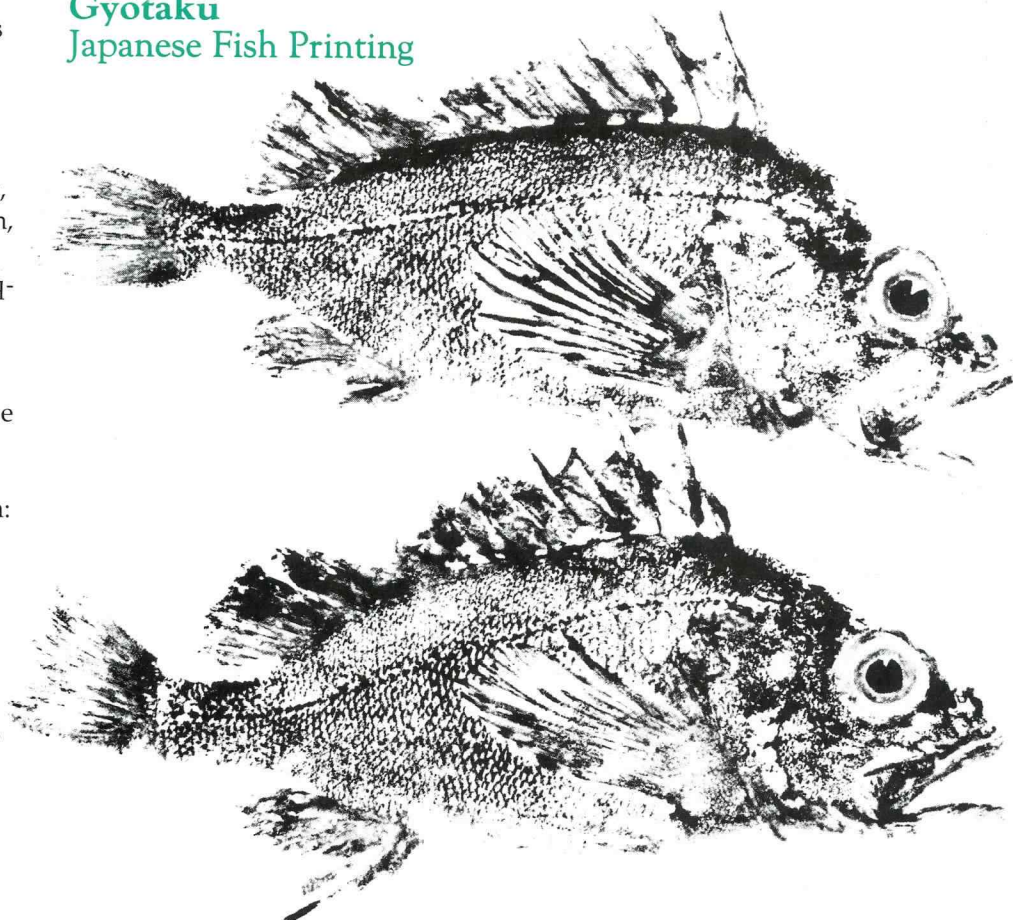
7. Use a small brush to paint the eye on the finished print.
8. Dry and iron face down (optional).

9. Label your specimens and display them. You may also make prints of shells, flowers, leaves and rocks using this method.

With a little practice, you will soon be making fish prints you'll be proud to display.

Adapted from "Gyotaku: Japanese Fish Printing", Water, Water, Everywhere, Oregon State University Sea Grant Program, Corvallis, Oregon, 1986.

Gyotaku Japanese Fish Printing



"WILD AND FISHY"

First Annual Photo Contest

Remember the Wild & Fishy Photo Contest. Use the form below for each entry. Rules for the contest are in the May-June issue of Oregon Wildlife. The deadline for all entries is December 1.

"WILD AND FISHY"

Photo contest entry form

(Please print)

Name _____

Street _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

DIVISION: (check one)

35mm slide ☐

8X10 black and white photo ☐

CATEGORY: (check one)

1. Wildlife ☐

2. Scenics ☐

3. Fishing Scenes ☐

4. Hunting Scenes ☐

I understand that this photo or slide entry automatically becomes property of the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, and will not be sent back to me. This entry is released to ODFW for use at agency discretion with recognition of the photographer.

Signature _____ Date _____

Mail all entries to WILD AND FISHY, PO Box 59, Portland, OR 97207.

A form must be submitted with each entry.



506 SW Mill Street
PO Box 3349
Portland, OR 97208