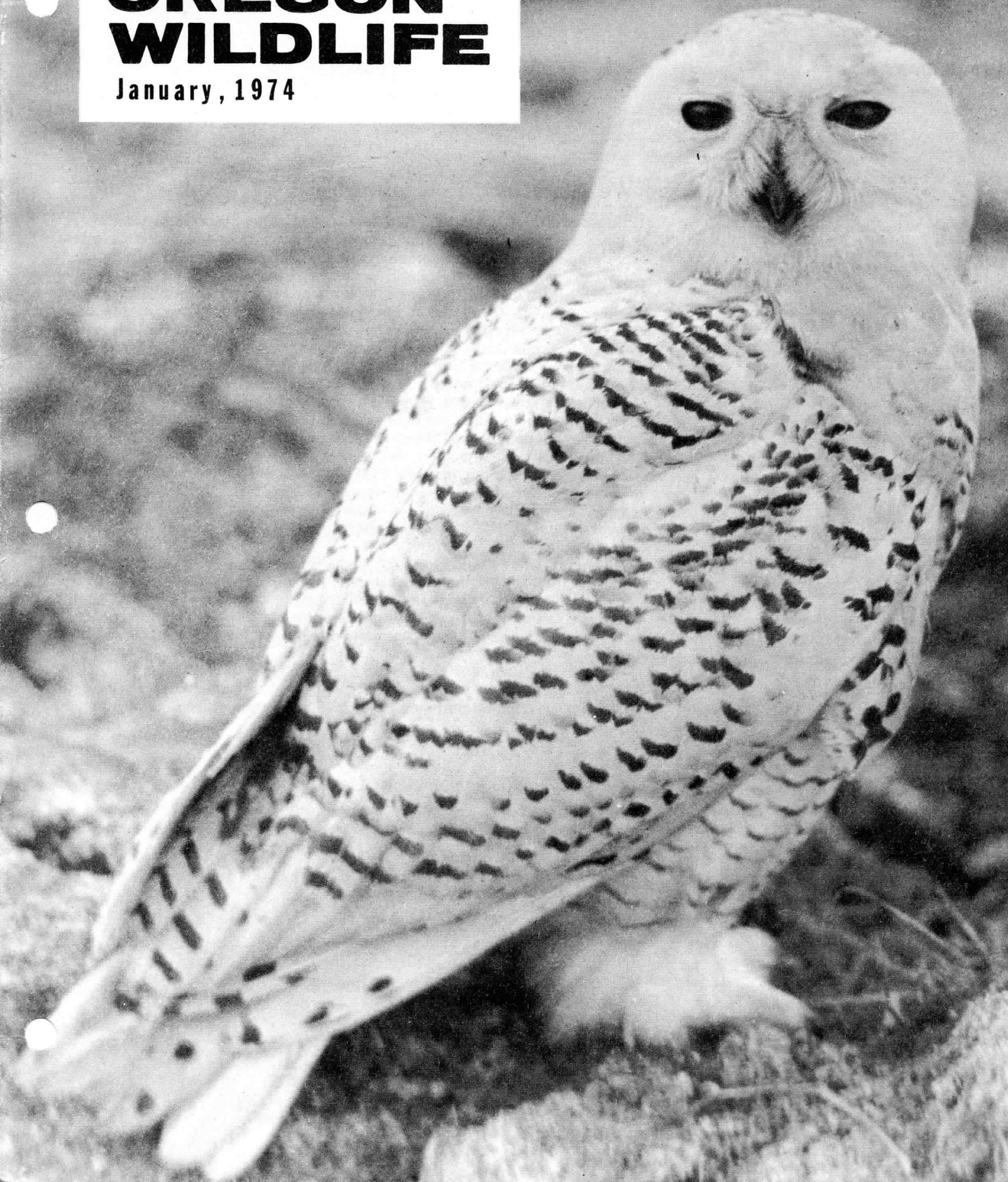


# OREGON WILDLIFE

January, 1974



# OREGON WILDLIFE

**JANUARY 1974**  
**Volume 29, No. 1**

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HAROLD C. SMITH, Staff Artist

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## The Cover

A Snowy Owl. A nongame wildlife visitor that periodically visits Oregon when the food supply farther north becomes scarce.

*Photo by William Finley*

## HUNTER SAFETY TRAINING PROGRAM

### Instructors Approved

Month of November .....19  
Total to Date .....3,311

### Students Trained

Month of November .....709  
Total to Date .....205,367

### Firearms Hunting Casualties Reported In 1973

Fatal .....9  
Nonfatal .....48

## "We, Therefore, Dedicate This Publication . . ."

In April of 1946 Volume 1, Number 1 of the Oregon State Game Commission Bulletin was issued. On the front page of that issue was a dedication statement explaining some of the background thinking and purposes of the Bulletin.

With this issue, the Bulletin ceases and we assume our new title of OREGON WILDLIFE. It's going to take a while before we quit referring to our publication as "the Bulletin" and we don't propose to make the appearance and content that much different. However, with the broader responsibilities assigned to the Commission, we thought it appropriate to put forth a bit of a new face reflecting somewhat the new charge. As you regular readers have noted, we have gradually added material of a broader scope.

Though the Commission is charged specifically with the management of the sport fishery and wildlife resource, we feel that the maxim once put forth by some sage that in nature all things are related and attached is quite valid. When you pull one string, you affect the universe.

Actually, though the technical staff of the Commission is usually referred to as biologists, such individuals were some of the first ecologists. Fish and wildlife are products of the land and it is impossible to manage or even consider the fates of various species without recognizing what is going on that will influence their habitat.

Therefore, we would like to re-dedicate our publication, borrowing somewhat from the original dedication: "... to all of the citizens of the State of Oregon with the sincere hope that it will bring you each a greater understanding and appreciation of our great wildlife resource and a better knowledge of the management program of the Commission, the problems encountered and their solutions."

With this, Volume 29, Number 1, we begin publication of OREGON WILDLIFE. For any of you researchers, Volumes 1 through 28 were entitled the Oregon State Game Commission Bulletin. At this time, it is no longer published.

RES□ □ □



# THE WILDLIFE COMMISSION

The 1973 Oregon State Legislature, in adopting House Bill 2010, not only passed a new game code with a number of changes but also changed the name of the Oregon Game Commission. Actually, HB 2010 made only a few major changes in the laws governing the operations of the Commission. The main thrust of the bill was to rearrange, clarify, and in a few cases eliminate the body of laws that has been accumulating over many years. In some cases there were sections that actually contradicted each other and some that were obsolete in light of current conditions.

The provisions of the bill went into effect on January 1, 1974. Though you will notice a few changes that concern your hunting and angling activities, you will notice that there is no longer a Game Commission.

The 1971 session of the legislature expanded the responsibilities of the Commission to include the management of virtually all the animals and birds in the state instead of just the game animals and birds and furbearers. The new game code changes the Commission's name to reflect these new responsibilities.

Under previous law, there was established a Game Commission consisting of five members appointed by the Governor to serve for terms of five years. The original terms were staggered with the effect that one new commissioner was appointed each year.

The new law is similar in most



**An important function of the Wildlife Commission is holding of public hearings to solicit information for setting of various hunting and angling seasons and bag limits.**

respects except, "There is established the State Wildlife Commission consisting of five members appointed by the Governor.

"The term of office of each member is four years. Before the expiration of the term of a member, the Governor shall appoint a successor. A member is eligible for reappointment.

"Two members of the commission shall be from that portion of the state lying west of the Cascade Mountains, two from that portion lying east of the Cascade Mountains and one from the state at large."

Commission members are paid \$20 per day plus expenses when performing official duties. The law states they must meet at least every three months but in actuality they meet almost every month to handle the necessary business.

### **WHAT DO THE COMMISSIONERS DO?**

The law tells part of what they do. However, it doesn't mention all of the telephone calls they get and the time they put in over and above the official meetings.

Some of the things they are charged with by law include appointing a director who has the authority to appoint all subordinate officers and employees of the Commission.

Also, the commissioners are charged with the responsibility of formulating and implementing the policies and programs of this state for the management of wildlife. They may accept appropriations, gifts, or grants for purposes of wildlife management and use same for wildlife management purposes.

Additionally they may sell or exchange property, authorize various types of tags and licenses, establish special hunting and angling areas, and, perhaps most importantly to most citizens, after investigation they may set the hunting, trapping, and sport angling regulations each year.

Obviously this is a simplification of the law. Basically, the commissioners review budgets, set policies, and set the various annual regulations.

The broad, main goals under which the Commission and its staff of employees operate is set down in Article 496, Section 6 of the new law. It provides:

"It is the policy of the State of

**Commission Chairman, Frank Moore. A resort operator from Idleyd Park.**



**Commission Vice Chairman, Dan Callaghan. An attorney from Salem.**



**Commissioner Mrs. Allen Bateman. Guest ranch operator from Klamath Falls.**



Oregon that wildlife shall be managed to provide optimum recreational and aesthetic benefits for present and future generations of citizens of this state. In furtherance of this policy, the goals of wildlife management are:

- (1) To maintain all species of wildlife at optimum levels and prevent the serious depletion of any indigenous species.
- (2) To develop and manage the lands and waters of this state in a manner that will enhance the production and public enjoyment of wildlife.
- (3) To permit an orderly and equitable utilization of available wildlife.
- (4) To develop and maintain public access to the lands and waters of the state and the wildlife resources thereon.
- (5) To regulate wildlife populations and the public enjoyment of wildlife in a manner that is compatible with primary uses of the lands and waters of the state and provides optimum public recreational benefits."

In other parts of this issue we have presented some of the history, financial information, organization and geographical information concerning the Commission and its operations. Actually, there is little apparent change from the operations of the Game Commission. We thought that with the name change it might be an appropriate time to present this information. If any of you are interested in really delving into all of the laws under which the Commission operates, a limited number of copies of the new wildlife code will be available about the end of March.

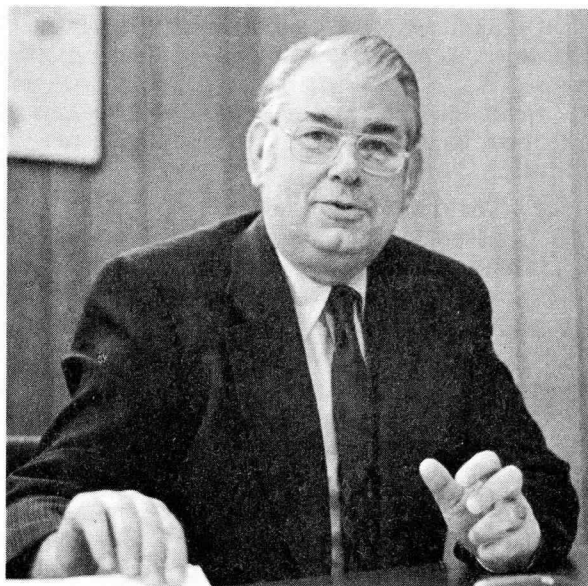
We hope this issue will give you an introduction to the first Wildlife Commission in Oregon's history and also give a better understanding of how the Commission and its staff of employees are organized and operate. □

#### Editor's Note

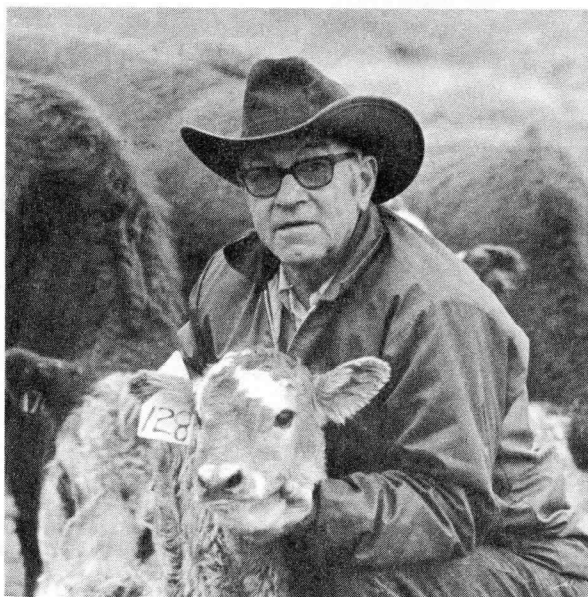
*All of the commissioners have numerous affiliations with various outdoor clubs and have a variety of outdoor hobbies including hunting and angling. We present only their vocations here; their avocations indicate their interest in and concern for our wildlife resource.*

**OREGON WILDLIFE**

**Commissioner Allan Kelly. Manager Oregon, Washington division of insurance agency from Portland.**



**Commissioner James Whittaker. Rancher, Pilot Rock.**



## THE STAFF AND OPERATIONS

A few highlights from the most recent biennial report of the Commission prepared for the 1973 Legislature revealed the Commission had about 318 employees in 67 different work categories with professionally trained biologists making up about 38 per cent of this work force.

Income from tags, licenses, and permits makes up the major portion of the Commission's revenue as indicated by the figures elsewhere in this issue. The Commission receives no funds from the state general fund.

The Commission owns slightly over

82,000 acres of land varying from a warehouse site of less than half an acre to the 22,000-acre White River Wildlife Area in Wasco County. On these lands the Commission paid \$148,952.60 taxes and assessments. Most of this went to the various counties.

If you're interested in more figures and details of the Commission's operations, a few extra copies of the 1971-72 Biennial Report to the Legislature are available and will be sent out on a first come, first served basis until they are gone. □



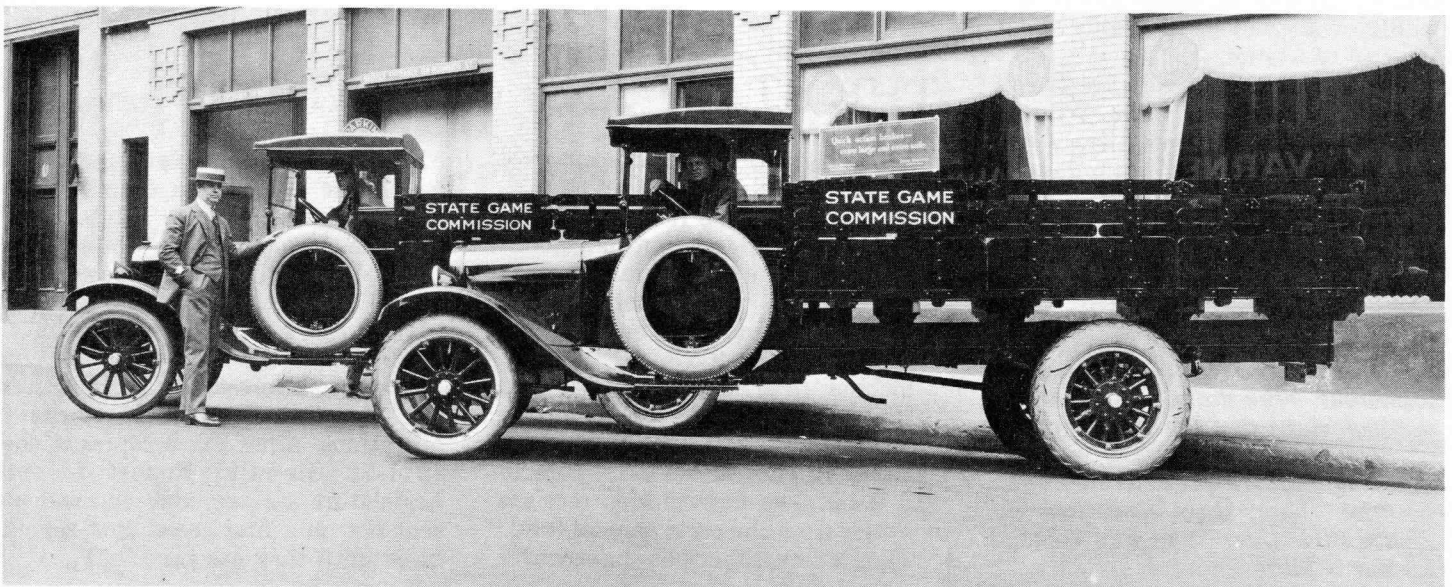
On January 1, 1974 an organization new to Oregon government comes into existence. Actually, it is not a new body or group of employees, but instead a new name.

Reorganization and naming is nothing new, as you will discover by reading this brief historical summary excerpted from a paper by former Assistant Game Director Clark Walsh.

- 1872—The first legislative game law closed the season for killing and selling of deer and elk. It made it illegal to take deer for their hides only. Also several laws were passed concerning the taking of fish. However . . . no money was appropriated for the enforcement of any of the laws passed.
- 1878—First fish commission was established. It operated until 1887, mostly in name only. It was not funded.
- 1882—The first funds were set aside for the construction of a fishway over the falls at Oregon City. Also, some more game laws were passed, but no money appropriated for their enforcement.
- 1887—A state Board of Fish Commissioners was created with three men on it. Their main duty was to enforce the game and fish laws, but no one was employed to do the job and there were no funds available.
- 1893—The first fish and game protector appointed. This position eventually developed into the State Game Director. Also, more laws were passed by the legislature.
- 1898—A Board of Fish Commissioners was set up consisting of the Governor, Secretary of State and Fish Commissioner who was supposed to do the work. More game laws were enacted.
- 1899—The position of Game and Forestry Warden was established. More game laws were passed including a closure of the beaver season for 20 years. A 5 deer bag limit with a season from July 15 to October 30 was set. The warden was furnished with a first year budget of \$2,200. His pay was \$1,200, office expenses \$500, and \$500 was allocated to hire deputy wardens. During that year he made 15 cases, only 3 of which were dismissed, and he collected \$780 on fines from the 12 cases that were tried.

# HISTO HIGHL

An early activity of the Commission was operation of fish hatcheries. Shown here are two new liberation trucks ready to be equipped with the milk cans that were used to haul fish. Photo wasn't dated, so you'll have to speculate.



# RICAL IGHTS

- 1901—The first trout bag limit was set by the legislature, 125 fish per day. The first actual hunting license was authorized. It was for nonresidents only and cost \$10.
- 1905—The State Game Fund was established. A resident hunting license at \$1 was put into effect.
- 1909—Resident angling license at \$1 established and at the same time a non-resident angling license for \$5 was put on the books. The selling of all game was prohibited by this legislature.
- 1911—The state Board of Fish and Game Commissioners came into existence. Prior to that time there was the Board of Fish Commissioners and the State Game and Forestry Warden as separate entities.
- 1913—A number of legislative changes took place and the development stage of fish hatcheries and game farms was entered. In this year the magazine "The Oregon Sportsman" was started.
- 1921—The legislature created the two separate agencies of the Game Commission and the Fish Commission.
- 1931—The Oregon State Police were organized and the game law enforcement was turned over to them.
- 1938—The first college-trained fisheries and wildlife biologists were graduated from Oregon State University and joined the staff of the Game Commission.
- 1941—The Game Commission was given the authority, by the legislature, to set the annual bag limits and seasons for hunting and angling. Prior to this time such rules were set by the legislature.
- 1949—The legislature repealed all of the game and sport fishing laws and re-enacted a new code similar to the previous one.
- 1971—The Game Commission's responsibility was expanded by the legislature to cover the management of all wildlife in the state and sport angling instead of just game birds, animals and furbearers and sport angling.
- 1973—Legislature passed a modernized game code which included the changing of the name of the Game Commission to the "State Wildlife Commission" to reflect the broader responsibilities assigned by the previous session. New code to be effective January 1, 1974. □



The ring-necked pheasant was introduced into Oregon in 1881 and started providing hunting in the 1920s with seasons set by the legislature. In 1941 the Commission was given authority to set seasons and bag limits.

# OREGON WILDLIFE COMMISSION

## Offices, Installations & Management Areas

### Legend

- ★ Central Office
- Regional Office
- Regional Boundaries
- 🐟 Fish Hatcheries
- 🦅 Game Farms
- 🌽 Screen Plants
- Fish Management Areas
- 🌿 Wildlife Management Areas
- Ft. Klamath (Nearest town shown to permanent installations)
- 🐟\* Rearing Pond



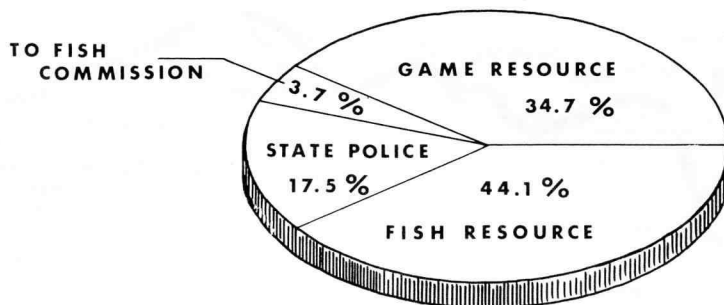
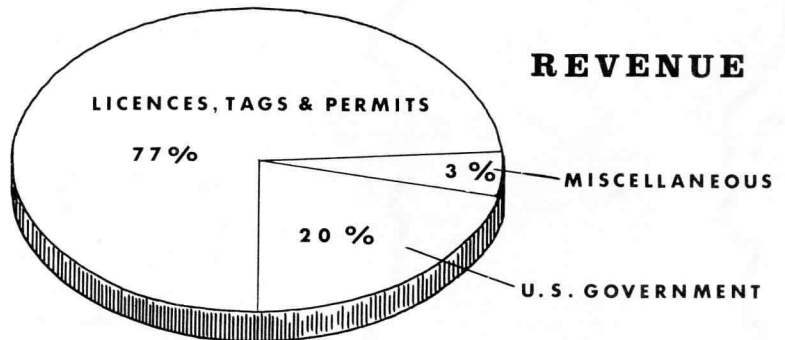




**Oregon Wildlife Commission  
1972-73 Fiscal Year  
Ending June 30, 1973**

Revenue:

License, tag, permit sales .....	\$7,451,000	77%
Federal government .....	1,907,000	20%
Miscellaneous .....	322,000	3%
Total .....	<u>\$9,680,000</u>	<u>100%</u>



**EXPENDITURES**

Expenditures:

Transfer to State Police .....	\$1,660,000	17.5%
Transfer to Fish Commission .....	356,000	3.7%
Subtotal .....	<u>\$2,016,000</u>	<u>21.2%</u>
Fish Propagation .....	\$1,669,000	17.6%
Fish Habitat Improvement .....	576,000	6.1%
Fishery Management .....	924,000	9.8%
Fish Research .....	349,000	3.7%
Fishery Support Services .....	651,000	6.9%
Subtotal .....	<u>\$4,169,000</u>	<u>44.1%</u>
Game Propagation .....	\$ 112,000	1.2%
Game Habitat Improvement .....	1,260,000	13.3%
Game Management .....	984,000	10.4%
Game Research .....	241,000	2.5%
Game Support Services .....	691,000	7.3%
Subtotal .....	<u>\$3,288,000</u>	<u>34.7%</u>
TOTAL .....	<u>\$9,473,000</u>	<u>100%</u>

# This and That

A 33½ pound flathead catfish taken from Brownlee Reservoir on the Snake River by Ray C. Gardner of Huntington is the largest flathead and also the largest catfish of any kind taken from Oregon waters, according to Wildlife Commission records.

Gardner took the big fish, which measured 37 inches in length and 27 inches in girth, on September 28. He was fishing with a 9-foot glass spinning rod and 10-pound test line when the record fish took a dead minnow bait and kept him busy for some 45 minutes. □

Birdwatchers will have to change listings in some of their field guides if they want to be up to date on bird names.

The American Ornithological Union has changed many of the common names of birds. The changes were for clarity or to conform with international usage.

The robin now is properly called the American robin.

The common egret becomes the great egret; widgeon is now properly spelled wiggeon; the shoveler duck becomes the northern shoveler; the pigeon hawk becomes the merlin.

The sparrow hawk becomes the American kestrel; the catbird is now the gray catbird; the yellowthroat is now the common yellowthroat; the parula warbler has been renamed the northern parula and the upland plover is now the upland sandpiper.

Categorization of geese also has been changed. Snow and blue geese were thought to be two different birds. Now ornithologists say there is only the snow goose, in either white or blue phases. □

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service agents recently uncovered a massive illegal animal-skin ring that involved 32 New York companies and some 19 individuals.

Veteran agents were stunned at the amount of skins imported into the country illegally over an 18-month period: 30,068 ocelots; 46,181 margay (a small South American cat); 15,470 otter; 5,644 leopard; 1,867 cheetah;

1,939 jaguar; 468 puma, and 217 ariraha (giant otter).

The Service said the skins came to the poachers through middlemen in South America, Asia and East Africa. The pipeline to the United States was through Switzerland or Canada, neither of which ban the fur trade. Pelts were then sold and shipped illegally to American or European buyers. □

Dr. John Gibbons, director of the University of Tennessee's environment center, and Dr. Barry Commoner, of Washington University, St. Louis, have hit on a provocative energy conserving statistic.

The two scientists suggest that wearing a sweater in winter and (for men) going coatless in summer, could save the equivalent of 100 million tons of coal. Those snazzy jackets and coats now on the market, Gibbons said, account for four percent of the energy used in the U.S.

Another energy saving note from the two men: "Gas lights in front of houses may look nice, but 17 of them use as much energy per year as it takes to heat a house. A 100-watt bulb left on overnight requires the equivalent of a pound of coal to be strip-mined and burned." □

Because of volunteer efforts in the Coos Bay area, anglers now have improved access for fishing the West Fork of the Millicoma River.

About a dozen bay area Jaycees worked with Jerry MacLeod, Game Commission fishery biologist, to construct a pole slide which will enable anglers to launch drift boats with much greater ease than before. Bank access to the 6 miles of river thus opened up is very limited because of posted private property.

A local firm donated poles, the Game Commission provided cement and hardware, and Coos County provided access and room for a graveled parking area. The Jaycees constructed the launching facility in two work sessions and dubbed it the stonehouse pole slide.

The new slide is adjacent to a county bridge about 5½ miles upstream from Allegany. □ Ken Durbin

# Environmental Events

Preservation of the remaining Middle Snake River area as a free-flowing river was strongly supported by the Oregon Wildlife Commission at the State Water Resources Board's Snake River policy review hearing.

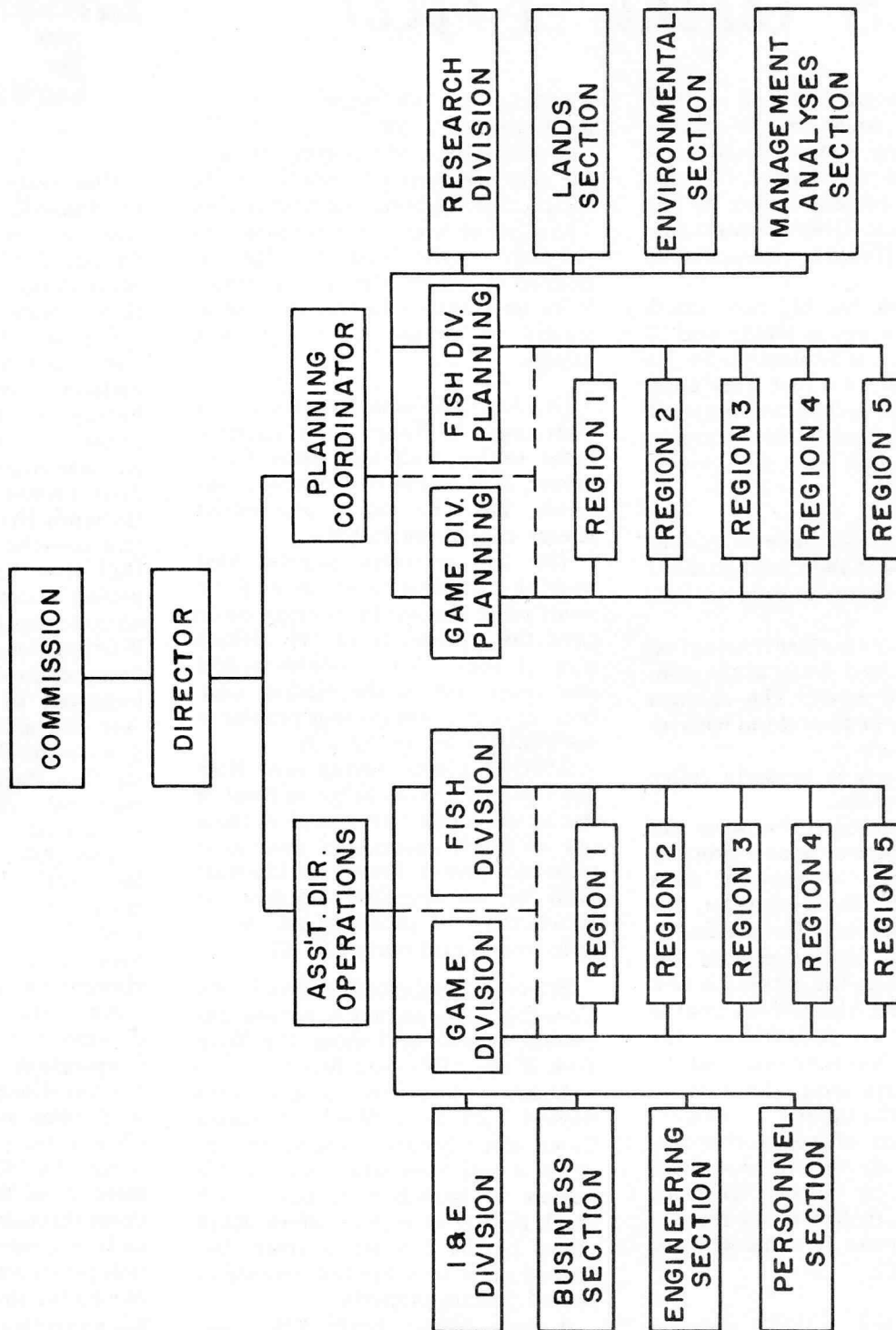
Portland General Electric Company filed an application with the Federal Power Commission to relicense the Bull Run hydroelectric project on the Sandy River. The project was originally licensed in 1924. It diverts water from the Sandy and Little Sandy Rivers through Roslyn Lake to a powerhouse located on the lower Bull Run River. If relicensed, the project's operations could be extended up to another 50 years. The Oregon Wildlife Commission will ask that if licensed, structures and operations be improved to provide good passage over Marmot Dam, adequate river flows below Marmot Dam, and that the flow fluctuations below the Bull Run powerhouse be essentially eliminated.

The State Land Board adopted temporary rules which will allow placing fills and structures into the lower Willamette River only where they are in compliance with strict environmental guidelines.

An interim agreement was developed with Crown Zellerbach Corporation and Portland General Electric Company to increase power production at their Willamette Falls (West Linn) plants this winter. Under terms of a 1971 fish protective agreement, 17 of 29 turbines would be shut down through the winter, spring, and early summer. The interim modification permits those 17 to operate from November through March to produce an equivalent of about 70 million kilowatt hours of electricity. To offset the somewhat greater fish injury that could be caused, all 29 turbines will be shut down through the principal downstream migration next spring. The net benefit will be more than 40 million kilowatt hours of power and improved passage for thousands of downstream migrating steelhead and salmon. □



# Organization of Oregon Wildlife Commission



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