



OREGON STATE

GAME COMMISSION BULLETIN

JANUARY, 1954



THIS and THAT

The tentative angling regulations set by the Commission on January 8 will come up for final consideration on January 22, when the Commission reconvenes its hearing at its offices in Portland. The general public will be given an opportunity to express its views before the regulations are formally adopted.

* * *

Results of the deer and elk hunting seasons are being tabulated by the game department, and those hunters who have not turned in their report cards are urged to do so without delay. The law requires the return of these cards within thirty days after the close of the hunting season.

* * *

Creel census data for Clear Lake at the head of the McKenzie River indicate a catch of 10,565 hatchery trout from the lake in 1953 as compared to 13,264 in 1952. Over a two-year period this represents a return to the fishermen of 23,829 fish or a 52.5 per cent over-all recovery.

* * *

Pope Lake on Sauvie Island was treated in November with 650 pounds of rotenone to remove a population of carp and a few bullhead catfish, white crappie and bass. In addition, about 7 miles of drainage ditch tributaries were treated with spray from a pump mounted on the back end of a pickup truck. A grill is to be installed near the floodgate to prevent the reinfestation of carp in the lake, which will be planted with bluegill and bass in the spring of 1954.

* * *

Hunters finding leg bands on waterfowl they killed this season should report the band number with information as to date and location of kill. Two duck leg bands turned in this season revealed interesting information. A pintail drake killed in October at Silver Lake had been banded December 11, 1951 in Lahului, Hawaii, so that the bird had travelled at least 2,400 miles and perhaps considerably more. A mallard drake killed in October in California had been banded 15 years ago at the Malheur refuge.

December Commission Meeting

The Oregon State Game Commission met in Portland on December 11 and the following matters were among those brought up for consideration.

Resolutions adopted by the Oregon Woolgrowers Association at the recent annual convention were read and considered.

Answers received so far from county courts in response to letter sent out asking the Commission be advised of any petitions received for road vacations indicated that the counties were willing to cooperate.

The staff presented a display of pheasant tags and metal deer tags used in several other states and was instructed to give the Commission a further report as to advisability of making any changes in existing tags used in Oregon.

Mr. R. E. Fraser appeared before the Commission with reference to damage being done on his property by ducks.

The Commission authorized submission of a preliminary Pittman-Robert-

son project for the trapping and transplanting of mountain sheep to Oregon, in response to the offer of the British Columbia Game Commission to furnish at least 25 animals in exchange for paying for the cost of trapping and transporting. The British Columbia Game Commission indicated an interest in seeing the species re-introduced in Oregon, which is in the center of the former range of the bighorn sheep. The present herd in British Columbia is on the northern fringe of the range and just holding its own.

An application for permit to store logs in Gilbert River was denied; it being against the Commission's policy to allow such storage inside the Sauvie Island Management area.

Mr. Ed Averill appeared before the Commission with reference to the movement to ask the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service to change the name of the Malheur Wildlife Refuge to the "Malheur Finley Wildlife Refuge" in honor of William L. Finley. The Commission expressed no objection to the change.

Some discussion was held in regard to stimulating interest in junior rifle clubs and the staff was instructed to investigate this further.

With reference to requests for extension of the waterfowl season, the Commission moved that the Fish and Wildlife Service be requested to consider a ten-day extension of the present season provided it was determined that there existed a surplus bird crop that had not been harvested in the Pacific Flyway states and provided that the Pacific Flyway Council concurred in such a recommendation.

BRANT SEASON ON

This year's separate season for brant from December 1 to February 10 provides waterfowl hunters with a little additional shooting.

The name brant is often mistakenly applied to lesser Canada geese and cackling geese.

The black brant is a brownish-black goose with black head, neck, and foreparts, and dark breast. They are slightly larger than a mallard duck in size.

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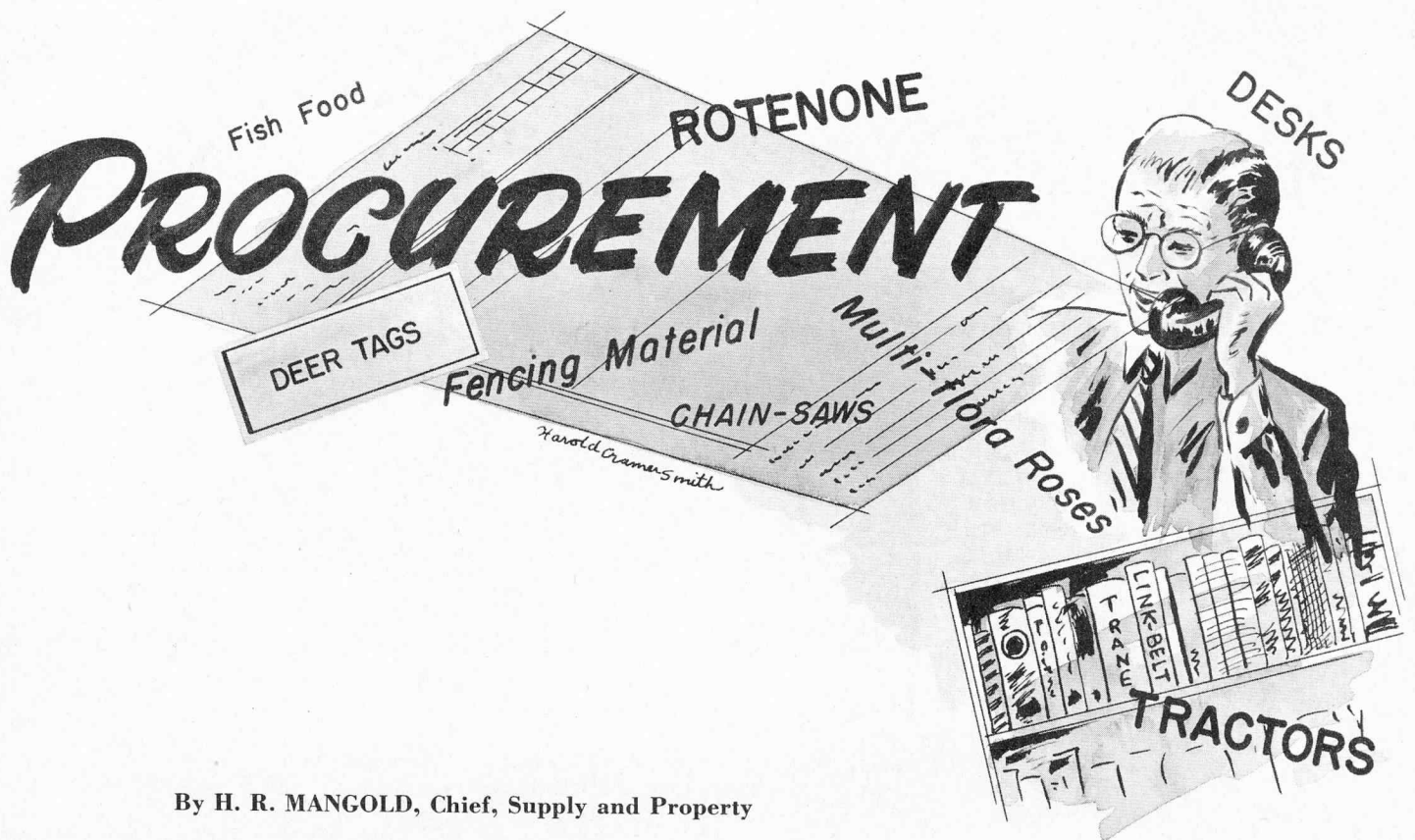
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COVER

This snow scene at Paulina Lake in Deschutes County is one that often confronts fishery crews when they go up to make preparations for the annual spring rainbow egg-taking operations.



By H. R. MANGOLD, Chief, Supply and Property

OF THE NUMEROUS divergent activities of the Game Commission, probably one of the least known by the license holders is that of securing and supplying the many items necessary for the successful execution of its various functions. Because of the substantial nature of this activity, in 1948 the Game Commission established a Procurement Division for the purpose of supervising the purchase and distribution of all properties and supplies. Until the establishment of this division, the several operating divisions were making many of their own purchases without the advantages of quantity buying.

The first objective was to organize a plan to channel all activity needs through the Procurement Division so that a use control could be established to fit into the allowable budget for the operation of each separate division. This plan required a stores or warehouse stock of all supplies and materials commonly used in Commission operations, allowing for proper purchases and orderly distribution. Procurement, as it applies to the Game Commission, is unlike its application to any type of non-state business in that it requires that all purchases be made in accordance with certain state laws enacted to govern such procedures.

The needs of the Commission originate from the programs undertaken by the various divisions. Such programs are based on careful studies and materials and supplies must be positive and not subject to substitution.

Materials required are so varied that they include items produced for all known uses. The Game Commission is more or less unique in this respect because of the variety of activities with which it is concerned.



Constructed in 1952 at the Willamette Hatchery, this building contains the fish food grinding room and a cold storage plant with a capacity of 100 tons of fish food.

A limited number of common-use items are provided by state contract and all such items are available to state agencies through a regulated procedure. Many items required by the game farms, trout hatcheries, and game management areas are based on results of extensive experimental investigations by the staff. In this respect an exchange of information with other state and federal agencies is helpful, and the procurement problem is lessened considerably on this type of supply.

To emphasize the importance of Commission requirements in the field of supply, the item of fish food has been selected to illustrate best one of the major supply problems. Requirements for fish food rank first in quantity and present a most complex problem. A considerable amount of study and planning on the part of research and nutrition personnel, hatchery superintendents, and distribution personnel is necessary in order to provide the hatcheries with high quality fish food supplies in volume and at the time needed.

Not too many years back, by-products utilized as fish food were discarded by the food processing industry. Within recent years many such items

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PROCUREMENT

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have been converted into profitable sales products, and a stiff competitive market has been established. The Game Commission must not only compete with other agencies purchasing the by-products for fish food but must also contend with competition from dog food manufacturers, fur farm operators, and fertilizer manufacturers. Some of the by-products are also converted for medicinal purposes.

With respect to meat products, an unfavorable situation exists in that we do not now have the density of human population in this area that would cause to be produced a much larger supply of packing house products than is now available. Packing house products make up a very important part of the fish food supply. Included are beef, pork, mutton, and horse products. Requirements also lean heavily toward fish products in the form of viscera. There is also a highly competitive market for this item which is obtained from the cannery industry throughout the Pacific Northwest and Alaska.

Supplementing meat and fish products, a considerable quantity of dry foods is required. This type of food includes salmon meal of a specially prepared type, cottonseed meal, dried milk, dried brewer's yeast, wheat middlings and salt. This illustrates rather clearly the wide variety of items that must be obtained in the category of fish food alone. Requirements for fish



Capable of grinding 2,200 pounds of fish food in twenty minutes, this fish food grinder at the Willamette Hatchery is the largest in the state.

food will, in all probability, reach an approximate three million pounds in 1954. Because of the competitive market and the general rise in living costs, the price that the Game Commission must pay for fish food is many times what it was prior to World War II. It has been necessary to seek sources of supply in many parts of the country. The greatest cost advances occurred during wartime when the Price Con-

trol Act became effective. Since that time very limited remedial action has been forthcoming.

Adequate inventories of fish food are kept on hand to accommodate approximately a six months' requirement. This supply is retained in facilities at the various hatcheries, having been transferred there by trained personnel in specially equipped motor vehicles.

The next most important item is game bird food, and this too is carefully selected to obtain high quality materials necessary for good production results.

The production facilities such as game farms and fish hatcheries are not the only activities requiring quantity purchasing of materials and supplies. Field management activities of the Game Commission have increased many-fold in recent years and with that increase has come the necessity for purchasing and supplying a wide variety of material. The field agent working on a stream or lake survey often needs specially designed equipment. Another activity may require the use of farm equipment and still another activity cannot function properly without equipment designed for travel over deep snow.

Such procurement must be carefully planned in order to avoid delay or conflict. The rehabilitation of Diamond Lake, planned for completion in 1954, may be cited as an example that will require a considerable quantity of

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These sacks of rotenone stacked high along the lake shore represent the chief item of supply required in trash fish removal operations.

Sauvie Island Game Management Area

The Sauvie Island Game Management Area project was approved by the Game Commission in 1947. It provided for the acquisition and development of 12,340 acres of land and water on the north end of Sauvie Island. The primary objective of the project is to maintain and improve habitat for wildlife in the lower Columbia River area; however, recreational uses consistent with the above objective are authorized and encouraged.

Historically, the island has long been noted as a resting area for migratory waterfowl using the Pacific Flyway. Big and Little Sturgeon lakes from all indications were hunting grounds for the Columbia River Indians long before the white man made his appearance on the scene. Also the part of the island bordering the Columbia was a fishing ground for these same original Americans.

At the time the Indians were inhabiting the area, its value as a resting and feeding place was not appreciated. As the number of hunters increased and other wet lands were drained, the need for maintenance of habitat and protection of wildlife became more apparent. It was obvious that this island, named after a French dairyman at Fort Vancouver, was an important link in the

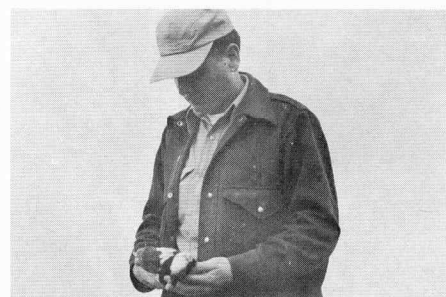
resting areas utilized by ducks and geese on their journey southward.

Since the project first began, a total of approximately 10,300 acres has been acquired by the Game Commission. Objectives remain the same with primary activities at present consisting of water stabilization, brush clearing and crop planting.

Much of the land acquisition was done after the disastrous 1948 floods that inundated many of the farms on the island. At present, several tracts of land that are privately owned are interspersed through the state holdings in such an arrangement as to make larger water control projects difficult.

Usually eight Commission employees work on the island under the guidance of Knox Alexander, area manager. Alexander has been with the Commission since 1937 when he started work at the Ontario game farm. Five years later in 1942 he moved to the Pendleton game farm and thence to the newly acquired Hermiston farm. He remained there until 1951 when he was assigned as manager of the Sauvie Island project.

In addition to the manager and his crew, the Commission employs a full-time biologist on the island. At present Al Hoffmeister is refuge biologist and



Al Hoffmeister holds an Old Squaw duck killed by a hunter on the Sauvie Island management area this fall. This species is rarely found in western Oregon and is the first recorded on the management area.

has been in this position since 1950 after graduation from the Fish and Game Management school at Oregon State College. As biologist, Hoffmeister has studied the influence of food plantings and other development programs upon wildlife populations.

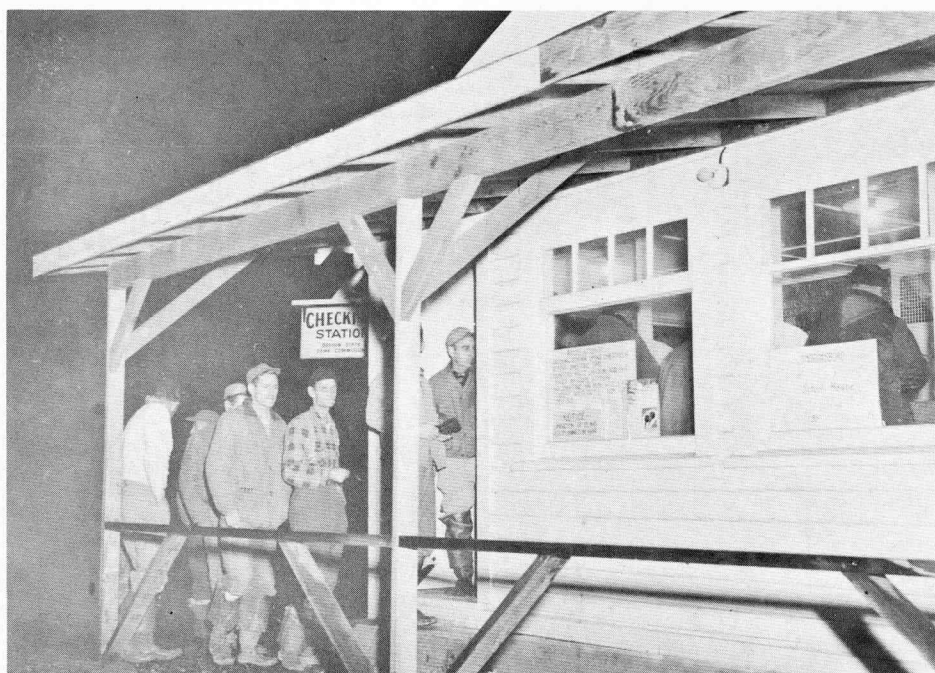
Of growing importance is the recreational use of the game management area. It is used not only by hunters, but also by fishermen and picnickers from the nearby metropolitan areas. Though the area is basically set up as a resting, nesting, and feeding area for waterfowl, plans put into effect are considered closely to determine their effect on the recreational uses.

In 1952, there were 8,937 hunting days expended on the management area in pursuit of waterfowl and pheasants. Crow hunting is becoming so popular that crow hunting areas were set up for a nine-month season with a justifiable number of users.

A recent measure of recreational uses indicated that over 50,000 man days of recreation were provided during the past year. Traffic jams on the public roads caused by parked cars of fishermen have brought about the installation of parking areas. On week ends of peak use, it is estimated that 400 to 500 fisherman cars are parked on the island. Work is being done by the fisheries department to improve the fishing and provide still more sport.

The program of raising food crops for wildlife is increasing, and this year's plantings totalled 545 acres. The Sauvie Island project has not been completed and land acquisition is still continuing. The major development projects cannot be started until certain other areas have been acquired.

Rapid increases in population in Oregon will further point up the importance of projects such as Sauvie Island and its development promises to be of major importance to wildlife and sportsmen of the state.



Waterfowl hunters lined up at the checking station on the management area.



1933

A fish tank truck twenty years ago



1953

Model used today for fish releases

1953 FISH STOCKINGS*

Watershed	Rainbow	Cut-throat	Steel-head	Silver Salmon	Eastern Brook	Kokanee	Brown	Lake Trout	Chinook	Golden Trout	Total
1.....	52,695 16,376	119,353 13,951	23,774 2,265	47,817 3,849							243,639 36,441
2.....	1,096,640 62,175	22,742 6,705			891,090 4,105	19,996 10					2,030,468 72,995
3.....	134,190 45,730	3,557 655			60,116 456						197,863 46,841
4.....	87,830 27,395				23,312 188						111,142 27,583
5.....	2,295,986 68,905	160 320	36,197 3,218		1,903,939 12,169	289,289 85	119,817 540	31,911 3,648			4,677,299 88,885
6.....	74,016 10,148										74,016 10,148
7.....	337,739 11,997										337,739 11,997
8.....	98,883 14,718									6,300 1	105,183 14,719
9.....	150,174 3,645					19,750 39				990 **	170,914 3,684
10.....	168,856 3,025										168,856 3,025
11.....	3,998 890										3,998 890
12.....	105,359 5,924				1,001 271						106,360 6,195
13.....	69,935 7,183				4,988 768						74,923 7,951
14.....	980,591 9,820				118,732 3,107						1,099,323 12,927
15.....	415,203 28,235	4,608 1,211		46,553 4,728	26,000 130				57,562 3,869		549,926 38,173
16.....	159,776 31,490	2,997 750		29,799 3,368	14,000 70				115,560 16,678		322,132 52,356
17.....	25,807 4,145	184,826 7,266		19,957 5,851							230,590 17,262
18.....	67,377 21,885	61,495 15,576	46,246 2,620	36,719 3,632		49,792 14					261,629 43,727
TOTALS.....	6,325,055 373,686	399,738 46,434	106,217 8,103	180,845 21,428	3,043,178 21,264	378,827 148	119,817 540	31,911 3,648	173,122 20,547	7,290 1	10,766,000 495,799

Note: Upper figures signify numbers of fish, and black figures signify pounds of fish.

*To December 1, 1953.

**Weight less than one pound was dropped.

Pheasant Releases

Pheasant liberation for 1953 was concluded on November 6th with a total of 34,260 birds having been released throughout the state. The pheasants were produced on the game farms at Hermiston, Ontario, and Corvallis. Liberations started in March with the release of 6,987 adult birds held over at the game farms during the winter. The 4,025 pheasants held for egg production on the game farms were re-

leased in May and early June following production of necessary quotas. During July and August, 15,888 young birds of the year from six to ten weeks of age were released. The final liberations were of 7,441 full grown cocks released immediately prior to and during the hunting season.

Distribution by region and individual county is shown in the accompanying table.

1953 PHEASANT LIBERATIONS

Region—County	Adult Spring	Young Summer	Adult Fall	Total Shipped	Shipping Loss	Total Liberated
Northwest:						
Benton.....	768	585	0	1,353	2	1,351
Clackamas.....	192	345	104	641	2	639
Clatsop.....	0	0	512	512	1	511
Columbia.....	25	867	974	1,866	2	1,864
Lane.....	992	585	769	2,346	9	2,337
Linn.....	1,571	1,020	1,111	3,702	6	3,696
Marion.....	652	375	384	1,411	1	1,410
Polk.....	382	795	0	1,177	2	1,175
Washington.....	512	0	0	512	2	510
Yamhill.....	695	636	468	1,799	1	1,798
Total Northwest.....	5,789	5,208	4,322	15,319	28	15,291
Research Unit.....	7	0	0	7	0	7
Southwest:						
Douglas.....	896	720	384	2,000	3	1,997
Jackson.....	480	450	512	1,442	2	1,440
Josephine.....	288	270	0	558	5	553
Total Southwest.....	1,664	1,440	896	4,000	10	3,990
Western Oregon Totals.....	7,460	6,648	5,218	19,326	38	19,288
Central:						
Crook.....	0	900	0	900	0	900
Deschutes.....	156	500	0	656	0	656
Jefferson.....	201	0	0	201	0	201
Klamath.....	0	1,500	0	1,500	3	1,497
Sherman.....	300	560	0	860	0	860
Wasco.....	336	672	0	1,008	1	1,007
Total Central.....	993	4,132	0	5,125	4	5,121
Northeast:						
Baker.....	400	499	156	1,055	8	1,047
Gilliam.....	162	240	0	402	1	401
Grant.....	367	900	0	1,267	3	1,264
Morrow.....	174	432	336	942	0	942
Umatilla.....	456	236	315	1,007	4	1,003
Union.....	400	501	180	1,081	7	1,074
Wallowa.....	400	500	336	1,236	7	1,229
Total Northeast.....	2,359	3,308	1,323	6,990	30	6,960
Southeast:						
Harney.....	0	900	0	900	1	899
Lake.....	200	900	900	2,000	8	1,992
Total Southeast.....	200	1,800	900	2,900	9	2,891
Eastern Oregon Totals.....	3,552*	9,240	2,223	15,015	43	14,972
State Totals.....	11,012	15,888	7,441	34,341	81	34,260

*Additional 125 for Medford Dog Trial.
Total spring adults shipped: 11,137.

PROCUREMENT

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equipment including boats, outboard motors, pontoons, pumps, and a variety of other items such as respirators, sacks, signs, and ropes. Among the items of material required for the Diamond Lake job will be an estimated one hundred tons of rotenone. Frequently equipment and material is not readily available and an extensive market must be solicited to effect final procurement. Project planning must be accomplished months in advance to permit time for the obtainment of necessary equipment and supplies.

Careful and timely procurement is essential to the proper functioning of the production and management facilities of the Game Commission. The requirements are many and varied. Funds derived from the sale of hunting and fishing licenses are used in part for the purchase of materials and supplies needed to carry on Game Commission operations. The contribution to the economy of the state in this respect is of no small magnitude.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR



Henry R. Mangold started working for the Game Commission in 1932 as a general fieldman. As the department had no extensive field force in those days, his duties were varied and included such assignments as

checking stations, bird releases, and fish liberations.

Later he was transferred to the Portland office and in January 1936, was appointed assistant superintendent of fisheries, in which position he gained much of his experience in procurement of supplies, particularly fish food. This made him a natural choice to head the procurement section for the Game Commission when it was formally set up in 1948. All requests for supplies and materials from the different divisions are processed through this department.

Quite in tune with his job, "Hank" likes to hunt and fish although nowadays does not find as much time for this as in former years. However, he still tries to save some of his vacation time for an occasional eastern Oregon elk hunt. At home his favorite hobby is his flower garden, which includes a choice collection of fuschias.

ROCKY MTN. ELK



Rocky Mountain elk are widely scattered over the forested areas of northeastern Oregon. Their numbers reached lowest ebb by 1910. In 1912 and 1913, thirty head of elk were brought in from Yellowstone National Park herds and kept at "Billy Meadows" in the Wallowa National Forest. The animals increased under protection until hunting was again permitted in 1933.

The bugling of the bull elk is one of nature's wildest sounds. Much bugling, challenging and fighting occurs during September as the bulls gather their harems for the annual mating period.



Calves are born in May and June and are kept hidden for a time, later joining into herds with other cows and calves. By November, the calf is weaned and must depend on plant food to live.

Elk are the largest big game animals in Oregon. Head and neck deep brown to black with a conspicuous neck mane, body brownish-gray in winter, yellowish-gray in summer. Large tawny-yellow rump patch. Bulls grow antlers which sprout in April and are shed the following February and March. They like forested country with mountain meadows nearby. Elk follow the snow banks up to the high country in summer and move down onto the lower slopes as winter approaches. Main food consists of grasses with some twigs and buds of trees and shrubs.



Elk, because of their size, do not have numerous enemies. An occasional calf may be taken by a coyote, bobcat, or bear. Deep snows and starvation are the worst enemies of all.



The elk develops a pair of ivory teeth in the upper jaw known as "tusks" or canines. In the adult bull these grow large attaining a polished brown appearance and are highly prized as trophies by hunters.

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Commission Bulletin**

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