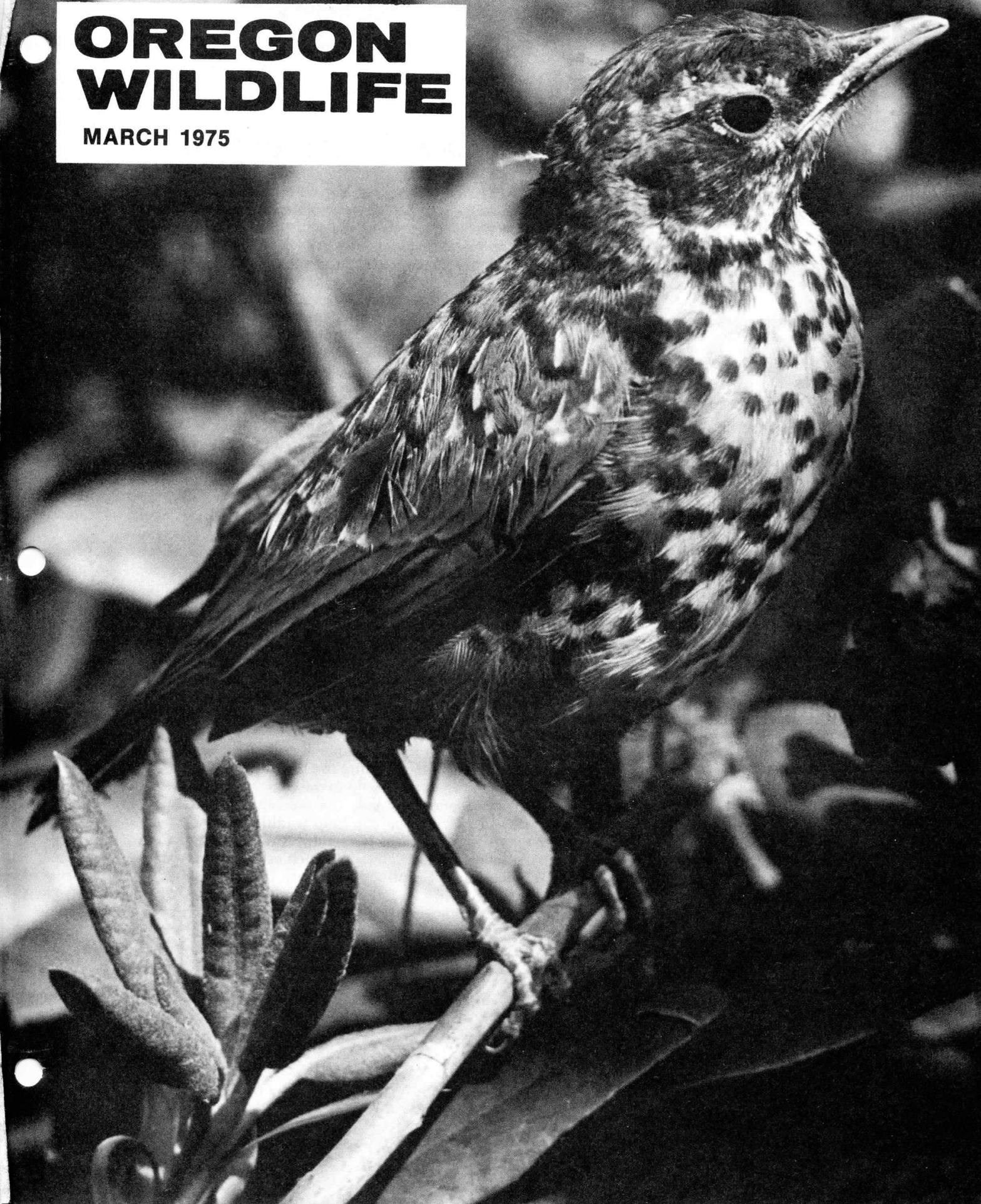


OREGON WILDLIFE

MARCH 1975



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Volume 30, No. 3

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The Cover

A gangly young robin. How to tell? Charlie Bruce gives some tips on pages 8 and 9.

Photo by William Finley

HUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM

INSTRUCTORS APPROVED

Month of January22
Total Active1,857

STUDENTS TRAINED

Month of January465
Total to Date218,595

HUNTING CASUALTIES REPORTED IN 1975

Fatal0
Nonfatal1

Wildlife Law Enforcement

In recent months there has been an increasing amount of comment in the press concerning game law violations and particularly poaching of big game animals. We have received a number of letters from individuals disturbed about what they feel is an increasing incidence of such violations and further disturbed by what they feel are inadequate punishments for the perpetrators of the violations.

One such letter suggested that the game wardens weren't imposing heavy enough fines on the people who were caught violating game laws. With this in mind, we thought it might be well to point out some of the relationships between laws, rules, fines, and law enforcement.

There are about 100 officers in the game law enforcement division of the Oregon State Police. They are financed with money from the Wildlife Fund and their basic responsibility is to enforce the wildlife and sport fishing laws of the state. In addition, most of the field personnel of the Wildlife Commission are deputy game wardens and, though their basic duty is one of collecting biological data, they also may enforce the wildlife and sport fishing laws of the state.

The basic laws they are enforcing are the statutes enacted by the Legislature and the additional rules set by the Wildlife Commission. The statutes do list maximum fines and jail sentences that may be assessed for the commission of misdemeanors. All wildlife law violations are classed as misdemeanors.

In addition, the citation book now used in wildlife law enforcement has a list of suggested amounts that should be charged in bail for various violations. This is similar to the system used with minor traffic violations.

These fines, jail sentences, and other details are set by statute or rule and they are not things that can be changed by the officer. The main variation in fines comes when the case is taken to court and the judge, whether he be a justice of the peace or a district judge, hears the case and sets the fine and/or jail sentence. He has the right to impose the maximum fine permissible or he may completely dismiss the case. Variations in between the two extremes include imposition of a fine with suspension of much of it, a suspended jail sentence, or a combination of the various possibilities.

Basically, it gets down to the simple idea that the enforcement officer has the responsibility of arresting or citing into court individuals who he feels have violated the wildlife laws. It is then up to the court to decide upon the guilt or innocence of the person and to impose the punishment if it is appropriate.

As a concerned citizen, you can help wildlife law enforcement officers do their job by reporting violations. It is not desirable to try to make a citizen's arrest. Instead, collect all available data such as time of day, type of violation, description of violator, description of car with license number, etc., then turn this over to the State Police for follow-up. A small billfold-size card that lists all of the important information to be gathered concerning a violation is available at Commission offices. The card is a part of the national Help Our Wildlife (HOW) program. With clear, well recorded information, officers can put together a case to take to court. From then on, the disposition of the case is up to the judge.

R.E.S.

BRIDGE CREEK—

Land For The Elk

by Dick Scherzinger
Habitat Biologist, Northeast Region



Have you been out hunting or camping in the summer months and wondered why you do not see more deer and elk in an area? "Gosh," you think, "there are thousands of acres and lots of food available. There should be animals all over the place." This may be true from where you see it and at the time you see it. But, have you ever been back to that same area during the winter? Instead of green grass and shrubs, there is now deep snow and very little, if any, food available for the big game animals. Where did they go? Well, instead of having thousands of acres to live on, the animals are now crowded onto

small areas at lower elevations.

One of the keys to the survival of big game is the availability of winter food and cover. When deer and elk migrate from their summer range, they must have an area available at a lower elevation where the forage is adequate and adjacent to cover that will provide them with security and protection from the winter storms. These small, critical wintering areas are the limiting factors for the herds. How much food and the quality of the cover that is available to them determine how many animals will subsequently populate the adjacent and

more plentiful summer range.

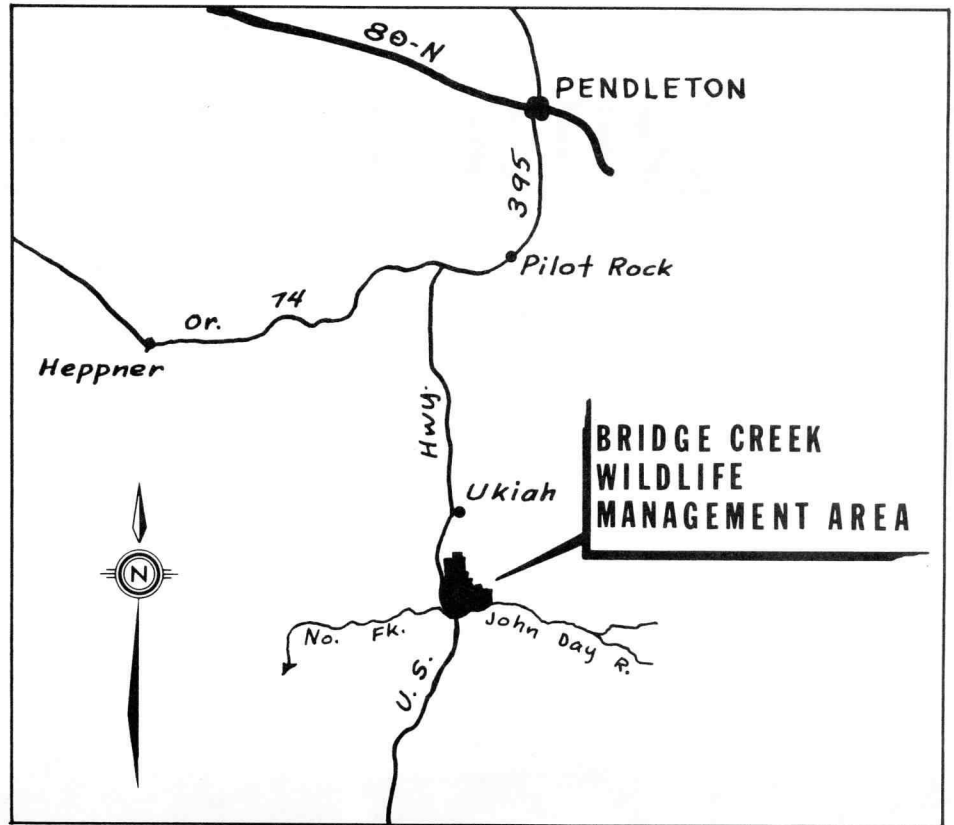
It is the responsibility of the Wildlife Commission to develop and maintain the big game resource at a level compatible with other land uses to provide for the demands of the ever-increasing numbers of big game hunters. Looking to the future, the Commission believes it is necessary to acquire and develop a few key big game winter ranges where there is not adequate forage to sustain the number of big game animals supported by the adjacent summer range. One of the key winter ranges lies in the Blue Mountains of

Northeastern Oregon, about 50 miles south of Pendleton and just south of Ukiah.

In 1928 the first recorded elk sighting was made on Bridge Creek Flats. Elk increased in numbers, and by 1950 they were beginning to create a problem for the ranchers who were using the flats year around for grazing. When the Bridge Creek Management Area project was initiated in 1961, the area had a recorded history of heavy use by livestock with little forage remaining available for the wintering big game. Acquisition of Bridge Creek Flats was initiated when the Hilbert estate became available. Over the years, other adjacent lands became available and were purchased, until now the management area totals 8,400 acres. The Commission also controls 80 acres of Bureau of Land Management land and about 1,000 acres of Oregon State Park land by agreements. The total project area contains 15,000 acres. Four thousand acres are still in private ownership and will be purchased when they become available. The remaining 2,500 acres within the project boundaries are in the Umatilla National Forest.

Bridge Creek Flats was settled at the turn of the century by homesteaders whose main source of income was from small dairy herds. These herds were grazed during the summer months on what is now Forest Service lands. The winter food was provided by the grazing of the flats, supplemented by rye hay grown on the small amount of arable land. As time passed, the economy changed from rye hay and dairy cows to wheat and beef cattle. By 1950, farm work had been abandoned and year-long cattle grazing took over.

The area is ideally suited for big game winter range. The south border is the North Fork of the John Day River and west boundary is Camas Creek. Both streams are at an elevation of about 2,800 feet. The land then goes up steep walls to open rolling grasslands which are creased by the Bridge Creek, Stover and Day canyons. These canyons contain most of the cover on the project lands. To the east it then goes into the heavy cover on the Forest Service land. This land is at a higher elevation but contains the critical cover which affords the herds their shelter.



During normal weather the wintering elk herd, now numbering about 1,200 animals, uses the Forest Service cover during the day and the open grasslands on the management area evening, night, and early morning for feeding. When storms hit, they move into heavy cover. As the snow becomes deep, they then take refuge on the steep land adjacent to the streams. At these lower elevations there is less snow and forage is still available. When the storm abates, the south-facing slopes and the open grassland quickly become bare and the animals again move back onto this land.

When the Commission purchased the first lands, year-around livestock grazing on the flats had left little forage for the elk when they arrived. They usually show up on the flats sometime around the first of December and stay until the last of April. From 1961 through 1963, all livestock grazing was halted on Commission lands. The native vegetation responded to the protection and ample winter forage became available. However, it was noted that the elk did not like the coarse mature vegetation and foraged on the adjacent Forest Service lands where there had been livestock grazing. The next year, cattle were put on the area under a rest rotation system of grazing to utilize the coarser, stemmier feed and leave the more palatable tender regrowth for the game animals. The Bridge Creek Canyon was fenced off and all of the vegetation was set aside for use by game during the severe storms.

To control the cattle, 25 miles of fence was built. About 15 miles of this is in the form of take-down fencing which is put up in the spring after the elk leave and laid down in the fall after the cattle are removed from adjoining lands. The take-down type fence allows the elk unhampered access to the management area during the winter. It is also less costly to maintain as none of it is torn out by the elk.

Water was an essential lacking on the flats. A pond and spring development program was inaugurated to aid in cattle distribution and to provide the resident herd of some 200 deer with water. A total of 24 ponds was built and five springs developed. This water system has been a major factor in getting more even utilization of the

available forage. Careful consideration was given to the placement of the ponds so that the cattle grazed the open grassland and were drawn away from the steep canyon slopes. In this manner this vegetation was reserved for the elk and deer.

A salting program was put into effect to further control animal distribution. Each year a utilization study is made and the salt is placed to draw animals into areas that are not normally used or lightly used. Two different programs are used because utilization patterns differ greatly between the cattle and elk.

Over the last 13 years, an attempt has been made to reestablish cover. Over 150,000 ponderosa pines have been planted. At the present time only about 15 percent of these are still growing. What the grasshoppers and rodents did not get during the dry summer months, the increasing elk herd ate during the winter.

All of the old fields that the homesteaders had been farming were never reseeded. These fields were abandoned and in most cases forage production was low and they were infested by tarweed. These fields, since 1961, have all been reseeded to high producing permanent pasture grasses.

What has all of this development bought us? For the 13 years prior to the acquisition by the Wildlife Commission, the average winter census was 121 elk. In the first eight years after its purchase, the winter elk census on the management area averaged 418 elk. The peak count was 677 animals in 1967. At that time, snowmobiles began harassing the elk on the open flats and in the next three years the census dropped to 327 head. In 1971 the management area was closed to all vehicle traffic from December 1 through May 1. The elk found that they were no longer disturbed, and as a result the count jumped up to a high of 1,191 animals in the winter of 1974.

As a result of the increased forage, the population of wintering mule deer went from 153 in 1960 to a high of 512 in 1964. Since that time, the census has followed the general trend of the deer counts in other units in northeastern Oregon. The summer resident herd has built up to about 270 animals and seems to be holding there.

The major objective of this wildlife area is to increase wildlife forage production and to winter as many big game animals as possible without damage to the forage resource.

During the hunting seasons, vehicles were driving over the open grasslands at will. This practice damaged the forage so that much of it was not available to the elk. Also, during wet weather deep ruts were being cut into the soil, causing severe erosion problems. Last year the road system was closed to vehicle traffic prior to deer hunting season. A close check was made of the hunters and it was found that several objectives were being accomplished. By confining the hunters to the one road, the old Stagecoach Road, the forage was being protected. It was also found that the animals were not being chased off the area and that the quality of the hunt was greatly improved. Of over 250 hunters questioned, only five objected to the closure.

Several game birds are found on the management area. There is a good population of blue grouse. Each year this population is increasing and about 50 are taken by hunters. Other game birds found on the area in smaller numbers are the chukar partridge, Hungarian partridge, mountain quail and mourning dove.

Several years ago, it was noticed that many of the smaller cavity nesting birds were absent from the flats. The apparent reason was the lack of dead trees and snags that are necessary for woodpeckers to construct their nests. This meant a lack of holes for birds such as the bluebird, tree swallow, wrens, and others to build their nests. To date, 232 small nest boxes have been put up. As many as 83 per cent of the boxes are used each year. Now these birds are very common. It is also felt that these small birds are helping to control insect pest problems.

After thirteen years, Bridge Creek Wildlife Management Area is performing the job it was designed for. It is providing a wintering area with adequate forage to feed the animals that migrate from the extensive summer ranges of the Ukiah Ranger District.

In so doing the area is maintaining ten times as many elk as in the past and providing similarly increased recreation for the people of Oregon. □

Winter Steelhead

*Story by Jim Gladson
Photos by Ken Durbin*

A fisherman who lands a winter steelhead on the banks of the Wilson River has more in common than he realizes with another angler who takes his fish on the Coquille River. The thread that binds these two anglers is the fish each holds.

While they were landed on different streams 200 miles apart, there is a very good chance the two fish originally came from the same place.

That place is the Wildlife Commission hatchery on the North Fork of the Alsea River high in the central Coast Range. It is the Alsea winter steelhead that supplies the eggs for all winter steelhead released in Oregon's coastal rivers and streams.

The egg-take at the Alsea Hatchery begins in December and continues through April. The steelhead run usually peaks there in mid-February but eggs are taken throughout the five months. This assures that future return runs will be spread throughout the season rather than arriving in one big rush during a particular month.

About 2 million eggs are taken at the Alsea Hatchery every winter. Of those, only about 650,000 are reared at Alsea. The rest are shipped to Commission hatcheries near Bandon on the south coast and Hebo on the north coast.

Approximately 700 females supply the necessary eggs and an equal number of males are collected to supply milt for fertilization of the eggs.

Eggs and milt are collected at the same time in small containers. The fertilized eggs are immediately spread in a shallow layer on the bottom of screened trays which are in turn immersed in constantly flowing water. The eggs remain there for 70 to 80 days before hatching.

When hatched, the tiny steelhead fry are less than an inch long and still dependent on their attached egg sacs for nourishment. During a year of hatchery care, however, they will grow to between 7 and 8 inches in size. It is these healthy and hungry smolts that are released into the coastal streams.

Winter egg-take can be cold and wet work. First the fish must be sorted by sex and maturity. Al Ludlow is the net handler.

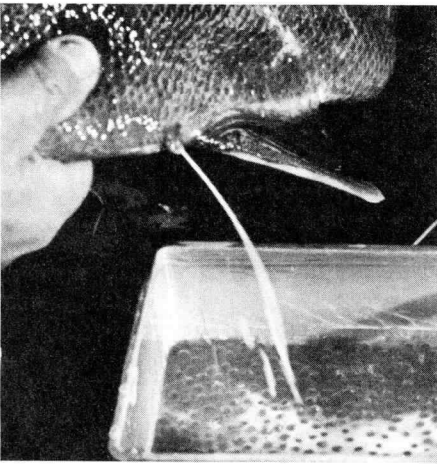


Alsea Hatchery Superintendent Paul Vroman gently strokes the sides of a ripe female to remove her eggs. Average number of eggs per female is about 2,500.



Eggs are stripped . . .

and mixed with milt.



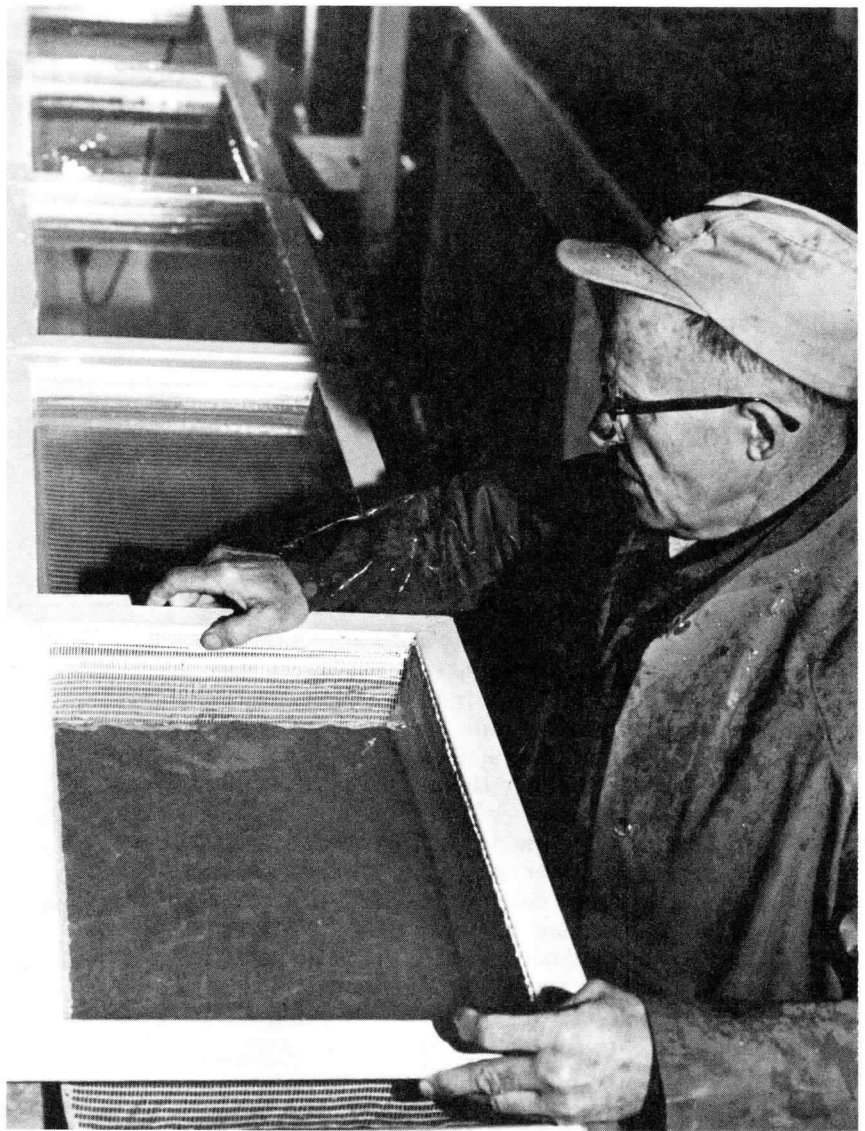
Like their ancestors of this year, these liberated smolts will start their migration to the sea and not return to the river of their release for two to three years. Unlike salmon, the steelhead does not die after spawning. However, extremely high mortality rates both in the river and back out at sea usually prevent future spawning attempts by the fish.

The newly released smolts have almost as bad a time as the adults. A return of 4 to 8 percent of the fish for spawning is considered good.

Five coastal rivers will receive more than 100,000 smolts this year. They are the Alsea, Coquille, Nehalem, Siuslaw, and Wilson Rivers. Lesser numbers go to 13 other coastal rivers and streams.

The Wildlife Commission plans to release about 1.6 million winter steelhead smolts this year. This figure includes fish to be released in the Willamette and Columbia River systems.

OREGON WILDLIFE



Fertilized eggs go from the collection container to screen trays set in running water. Normal hatching time is 60 to 70 days. Spawned-out fish are returned to the river.

Steelhead eggs set for release in the interior waterways are collected at the Oregon Fish Commission's Big Creek Hatchery near Astoria. These eggs are then shipped to the Wildlife Commission hatcheries at nearby Gnat Creek and Roaring River near Scio where they are hatched and reared to release size.

While weather, water conditions, and other forces of man and nature may cause ups and downs in annual steelhead returns, the egg-take and rearing operations of the hatcheries help assure the angler willing to brave the elements a reasonable chance at a reward for his effort. □

How To Tell A Bird

by Charlie Bruce
Nongame Biologist

Bird watchers are said to be the eyes of the conservation movement because they are often the first to detect significant changes in the populations of wild birds. These population changes tell us that there's been a change in the environment, both theirs and ours. In 1973 over 24,000 pairs of eyes measured this environmental barometer and tallied over 78,000,000 individual birds during the National Audubon Society's 75th annual Christmas Bird Count. Before anyone can be concerned about counting different kinds of birds, there is that problem of first being able to properly identify them.

The two essential tools of the modern birder is a regional field guide and a six or seven power pair of binoculars. To the bird student of early America there were no bird books and binoculars had not been invented. An unknown species was usually shot and compared to species already described or specimens already in his collection. Except for game birds, most birds today are protected by federal and state laws and shooting a specimen will get you a nice fine and a free vacation in jail unless you have the proper scientific collecting permit.

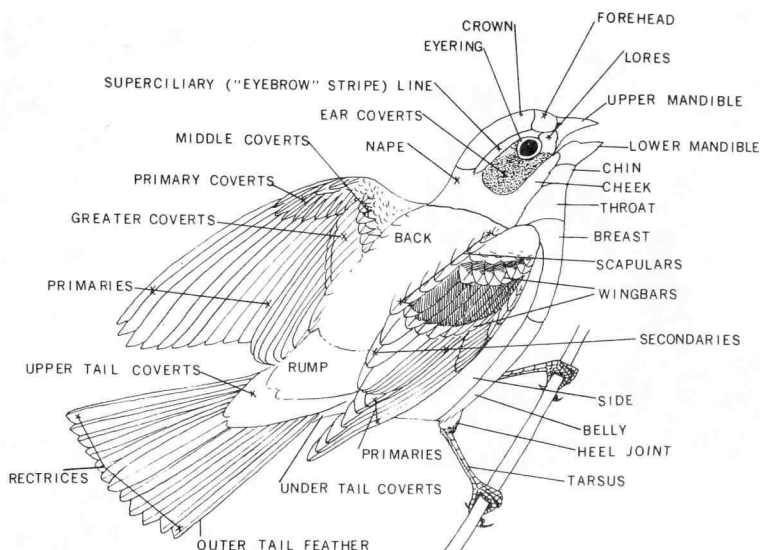
Field guides are worthless unless you know how to use them. Many an amateur bird watcher has spent countless minutes thumbing through a guide only to have the bird fly away before identification is made. If you have a field guide for North America, you've got 1,000 pictures to look at and only one-fourth of the birds will be found in Oregon. Believe it or not, that field guide is organized into a family tree of bird relationships, roughly arranged from the most primitive to the most highly evolved birds. There are 18 larger groups for Oregon birds called Orders and 61 smaller subgroupings known as Families. The beginning birder will find that he or she will be dealing

primarily with families.

A family is a group of species that has evolved from a common ancestor and shares similar characteristics but no two families share the same combination of characteristics. Ducks and geese are conspicuous members of the same family because they all have broadened bills, short legs with webbed feet, downy feathers, and the young can fend for themselves as soon as they hatch. But, when you get to the smaller "dicky" birds, you must

rely on more discrete field marks.

Color, body size and shape, special features of the head, wings, tail, legs, behavior, and song are the most commonly used field clues for identification. It's fairly easy to pick out the distinct colors of a bright orange and black Bullock's oriole and match it with the appropriate color plate in your field guide. But you'll soon find that males and females of the same species are often different colors, that females usually have drab colors in



MAP OF PLUMAGE AREAS

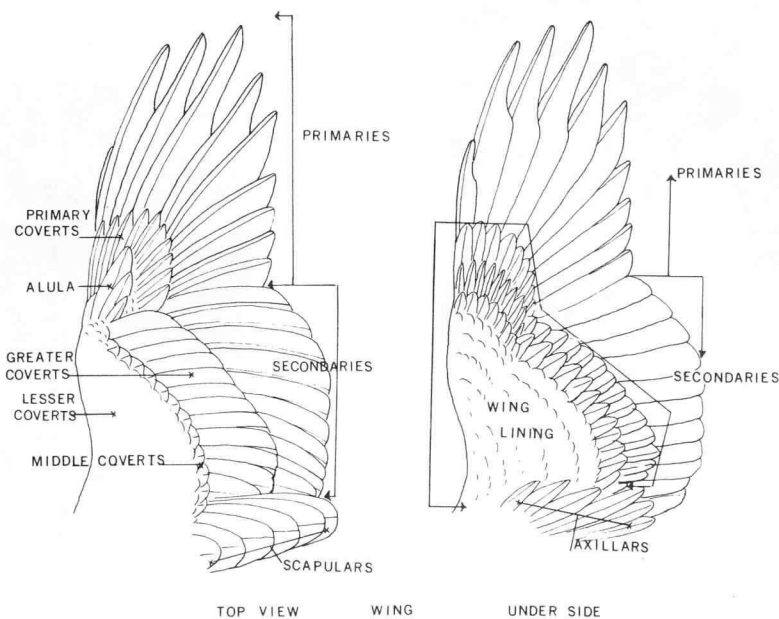


PLATE 1

SCHULTZ

Artwork Courtesy of Seattle Audubon Society

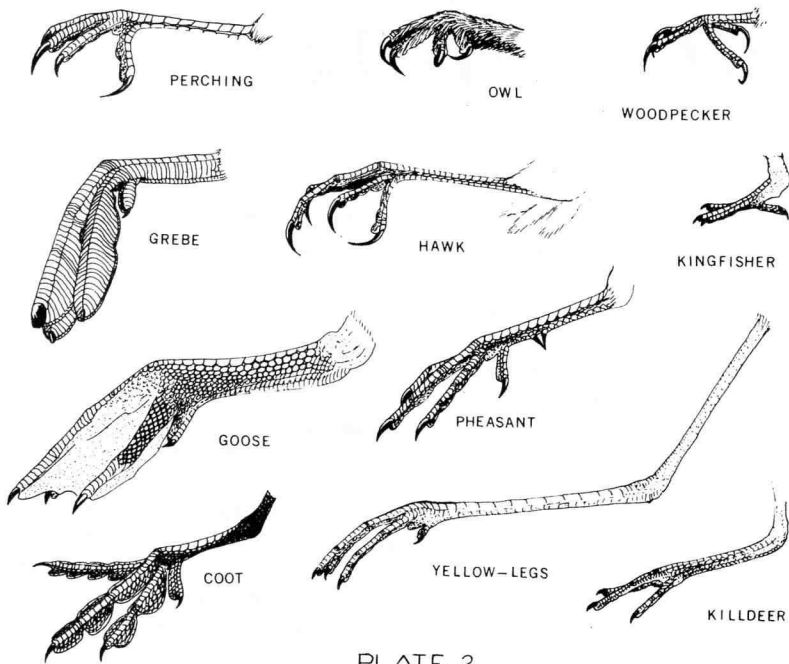


PLATE 2
TYPES OF BIRD FEET

SCHULTZ

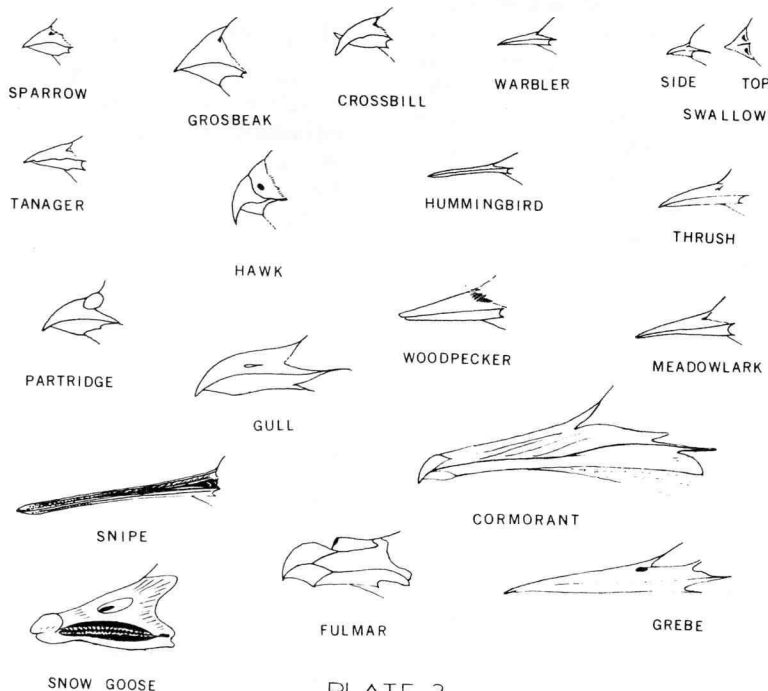


PLATE 3
TYPES OF BIRD BEAKS

SCHULTZ

flying by at some distance, sitting out in the middle of a lake, or running way ahead of you on the beach. Color might not help, especially with the sun in your eyes. Shorebirds are notorious for looking the same color at a distance but the long legs and a down turned bill may give away the whimbrel on the Oregon coast. The hairy and downy woodpeckers look identical except for the fact that the hairy is larger and has a longer bill. The Cooper's and sharp-shinned hawks will give you only a second to identify them as they zip by but the rounded tail of Cooper's will tell you it's not a square-tailed sharpshin.

The behavior of a bird is often a quick key to identity. Many hawks are commonly observed in the Willamette Valley during the winter. A large hawk hovering in the distance is a dead giveaway for the roughleg while a small hovering hawk is most likely a Kestrel. A small bird climbing head downward on the trunk of a tree is a nuthatch but not a creeper that only climbs head up. The undulating flight of a woodpecker will at least tell you what family of birds you are dealing with. Observing the behavior of a bird usually comes with experience but be aware of it now.

As your experience and perception grow, you begin to realize that all those bird songs are different. In fact, once you learn the songs of your neighborhood birds, you could just about retire your binoculars except that many birds do their calling only early in the morning, late in the evening or at night. You will probably hear a lot more species than you see. Unless you like to climb Douglas fir trees, you may never see an olive-sided flycatcher, but his "quick-three-beers" will tell you he's there. One way to learn bird songs is to listen to records or recordings. The best way is to go out with someone who knows.

There is no substitute for experience in any field whether it be ornithology or hunting. All the field guides and records won't help you as much as an experienced birder. If you are really interested in learning about birds and bird identification, you should join one of the many Audubon groups in Oregon. One day in the field with a flock of experienced bird watchers is worth more than two bird books in the hand. □

comparison to males, that juveniles or first year birds may look similar to one or both of the adults or perhaps look like the adults of another species. The most confusing aspect of color as a field mark is that color changes with the season. The brightest colors are observed during the breeding season

while drab colors are the rule in fall and winter. Your field guide should point out these differences so be sure to read the fine print.

Body shape and size may even be a more difficult problem for the beginner than color. More often than not you're going to be looking at birds

This and that

compiled by Ken Durbin

Endangered Species Defined

The Oregon Wildlife Commission recently recognized a list of 12 animals which are considered to be endangered or threatened in Oregon.

The list, which includes four mammals, seven birds, and one amphibian, was compiled by an endangered species task force consisting of biologists from state and federal resource management agencies and universities. Some of the species are permanent residents in Oregon; others are seasonal visitors.

Five species are considered endangered, meaning they are in danger of extinction throughout all or a significant portion of their ranges. Included in that category are the Columbian white-tailed deer, California brown pelican, Aleutian Canada goose, American peregrine falcon, and arctic peregrine falcon.

A threatened species is one which is likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future throughout all or a significant portion of its range. In Oregon, threatened species include the sea otter, wolverine, and kit fox; the northern bald eagle, northern spotted owl, and western snowy plover; and the western spotted frog.

All these species are now protected under the federal Marine Mammal Protection Act, Endangered Species Act, or state law. Biologists are continuing to investigate the specific needs of these and other species and are attempting to reverse or slow their decline wherever possible.

*

King-size Game Reserve

The largest game reserve in the world, according to a list published in the IUCN Bulletin, published monthly by the International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources, is the Central Kalahari Game Reserve (Botswana) at 5,280,000 hectares (13,041,600 acres), which is roughly the size of Malheur and Harney Counties combined.

*

Wintering Waterfowl Abundant

Numbers of ducks and geese wintering in Oregon are up substantially from recent years, according to results of the annual winter waterfowl survey conducted recently by state and federal wildlife biologists.

The nationwide survey was conducted during the second and third weeks in January and included all major waterfowl areas in the United States. Forty biologists from the Oregon Wildlife Commission and from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service participated in counting waterfowl throughout Oregon.

Some 404,000 ducks were recorded this year, representing an increase of nearly 54 percent from last year and up 12 percent over the average for the past five years. Geese were even more prevalent this year. Double the number counted last year — some 94,500 — were observed, which is nearly 75 percent higher than the five-year average.

Wildlife Commission staff biologist Chet Kebbe points out, however, that wintering waterfowl figures for the state are not really significant until the results from other western states are tabulated, too. Weather conditions and food supply play an important part in determining where ducks and geese spend the winter.

*

Nonhunters And Duck Stamps

A campaign has been launched by the Interior Department to encourage nonhunters to help protect valuable wetlands by purchasing duck stamps. Announcing the program expansion, Interior Secretary Rogers C. B. Morton called the Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp program "one of the largest single efforts to insure the future of wildlife."

All waterfowl hunters 16 years of age and older are required to purchase a duck stamp. The revenue goes directly into the purchase of wetland habitat. More than 160 species of birds and many mammals and fish are dependent on wetlands.

Stomachache With A Sheepskin Lining

Scientists at the University of Utah are currently involved in experiments designed to make coyotes sick, but only temporarily.

Professor Carl Gustafson treated a dead lamb with lithium chloride, a type of salt which induces nausea but seems to have no lingering effects.

After the seven test coyotes consumed the lamb, they refused to attack sheep. Gustafson sees hope that this type of experimentation may lead to a lessening of sheep predation by coyotes.

Colorado Outdoors magazine

□

Commission Meeting February 7, 1975

Following are highlights of some of the actions taken by the Wildlife Commission during its most recent meeting.

The Commission denied an outdoor club license to Trans State Management, Inc., based on a finding by the Commission that adequate financial arrangements have not been made to secure performance of obligations, guaranties, and warranties to existing members of Adventure Unlimited that were included in the promotional plan for the sale of membership and the contract with members.

The appeals of one license agent and several guides were considered.

The staff was authorized to negotiate and accept a price to be paid to processors of commercially caught steelhead in the Columbia River.

Payment of \$250 to Keep Oregon Green was approved.

Schedule of 1975 trout and salmon allocations was approved.

The Commission approval of the construction of the Elk Creek project was removed.

March 21 is the hearing date scheduled for antelope regulations and to amend the Columbia River and several tributaries salmon angling regulations. □

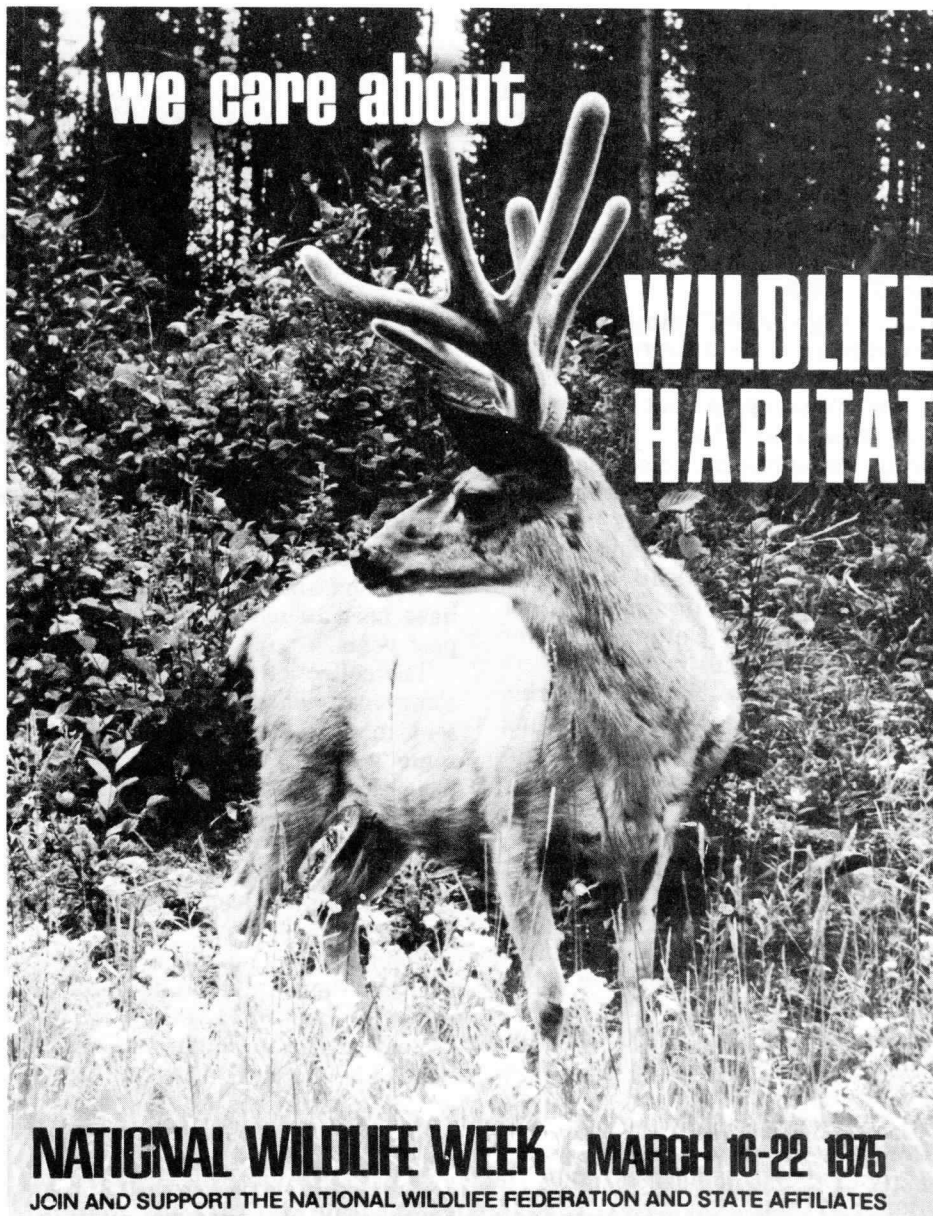
Hutchison Receives Award



Jim Hutchison, of the Oregon Wildlife Commission in Florence, receives award for the Oregon Fisheries "Outstanding Worker of the Year" from Del Skeesick, outgoing president of the Oregon Chapter of the American Fisheries Society. The award was made at the joint annual meeting of the American Fisheries Society and The Wildlife Society held at Salishan Lodge recently. Hutchison is active in the Oregon Coast Conservation and Development Commission and he prepared a slide series for the American Fisheries Society. He was also instrumental in calling attention to problems created by U.S. Forest Service road building and its effect on surrounding streams. Because of Hutchison's interest, a road building policy change was instituted. He is also active in the review of environmental problems in Lane County.

(Photo and story courtesy
Oregon Coast Sportsman)

we care about



WILDLIFE HABITAT

NATIONAL WILDLIFE WEEK MARCH 16-22 1975

JOIN AND SUPPORT THE NATIONAL WILDLIFE FEDERATION AND STATE AFFILIATES

Many animals, like many people, have a housing problem, plus a food and water problem.

What they need is "habitat."

And habitat is what they shall have, if the National Wildlife Federation has its way. The huge nonprofit organization is dedicating its 38th National Wildlife Week to the theme, "We Care About Wildlife Habitat."

In announcing the annual event, scheduled March 16-22, 1975, Thomas L. Kimball, executive vice president of the Federation, defined habitat as the place where animals live, including everything they need for survival. He pointed out that every animal has specific habitat needs.

The ring-necked pheasant needs

grasslands and seed foods which grasslands provide. Another bird, the Florida Everglade kite, must have warm swampy areas where it can find its staple food item, the fresh water apple snail.

For the brook trout, cold clean water is indispensable; for the robin, lawns and meadows containing worms and insects. the eastern cottontail rabbit cannot survive without brushy areas, grassy fields, brambles, forest edges.

"Every living thing on earth needs good habitat," Kimball said. "Protection of habitat is the key to healthy, abundant wildlife populations. Many wildlife habitats are now trampled by the march of unplanned growth and development." □

Proposed Closure To Salmon Harvest—1975

The Oregon Wildlife Commission will hold a public hearing at 10 a.m. on March 21 at the Portland office to consider closing the Columbia River, the Deschutes River, the Snake River and its tributaries to angling for chinook salmon from April 1 through July 31, 1975.

The Oregon Fish Commission plans no commercial main river season during this period and the fishery agencies of Washington and Idaho also plan a similar closure to protect spring and summer chinook salmon.

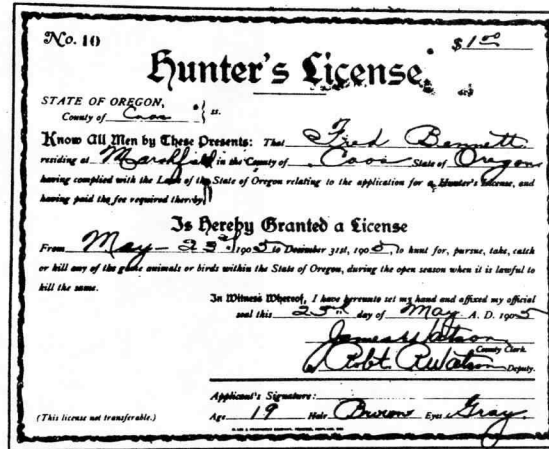
The reason for this proposed closure by all agencies is the anticipated poor runs of spring and summer chinook and summer steelhead destined for Snake River and other upper Columbia River spawning tributaries in 1975.

Studies by the National Marine Fisheries Service revealed few young salmon and steelhead downstream migrants survived passage of the Snake and Columbia River dams in 1972 and 1973. These were the main year classes of fish to provide adult runs to the river in 1974 and 1975.

Chinook smolts to Little Goose Dam were estimated at 5 million fish in 1972 and 1973 but migration below The Dalles Dam was estimated at 750,000 in 1972 and 250,000 in 1973. Steelhead smolts to Little Goose Dam were estimated at 2.5 million in 1972 and 5.5 million in 1973. Outmigration below the dam was only 500,000 smolts in 1972 and 220,000 smolts in 1973.

The 1974 runs of spring and summer chinook to the Snake system were critically low and all harvest was prohibited after mid-May. The 1975 runs are estimated to be even poorer than last year.

The 1974 run of summer steelhead to the Snake River Basin was also critically low and harvest was restricted. The 1975 run is expected to be low and may need protection after August 1 upstream from Bonneville Dam. □



Old Licenses Wanted

Staff artist Harold Smith has taken on a project to assemble a scrapbook of hunting and angling licenses that have been issued in Oregon over the past years.

The collection that is on hand has some real "oldies" that have been sent in by folks, but also there are some gaps in the series. The first licenses were issued in 1905. At that time the resident hunting license sold for \$1 and the nonresident cost \$5. The year 1909 was the first year of issue for angling licenses; the cost was also \$1.

Following, we've run a list of the licenses that are missing from the collection. If you have any old ones around that you might not care to keep any longer, they would be welcome additions to the archives collection at the Commission office. Obviously, the most sought after ones are the ones we've listed, but if you have other old ones you wouldn't mind parting with, don't hesitate to send them in. Some of the old ones in the collection are in rather tattered condition and replacements for them would be welcome. The list of needed documents is:

1909 hunting license
1912 angling license
1914 hunting license
1924 angling license
1930 angling license
1933 hunting license
1933 angling license

1935 angling license
1936 angling license
1938 combination license
1940 angling license
1944 angling license
1945 angling license
1946 angling license
1947 angling license
1949 angling license
1949 hunting license
1950 salmon-steelhead tag
1950 deer tag
1950 elk tag
1959 hunting license
1959 angling license
1959 combination license
1959 deer tag
1959 elk tag
1959 salmon-steelhead tag
1966 hunting license
1966 angling license
1966 combination license
1966 deer tag
1966 elk tag
1966 salmon-steelhead tag
1968 all licenses and tags
1969 all tags
1970 all tags
1971 all tags
1972 all tags

Any other documents such as trapping licenses, old guide's licenses, collector's permits, etc., will be gratefully accepted. They will be added to the collection at Commission headquarters. Please send all such items to Harold Smith, Oregon Wildlife Commission, P.O. Box 3503, Portland, Oregon 97208. Thanks. □

