

Oregon State GAME COMMISSION BULLETIN

Vol. III

PORTLAND, OREGON, OCTOBER, 1948

No. 10

Reclamation Versus Conservation

By IRA N. GABRIELSON, President, Wildlife Management Institute*

In listening to the subject, "Reclamation versus Conservation," you will not be hearing a new topic since it has been of interest to fish and wildlife conservationists since the beginning of reclamation activities. The problems discussed were at first local and of secondary importance, but with the development of increasingly great combined hydroelectric and irrigation projects, the Reclamation Service has invaded all of the large Western river systems and their activities have become of major importance to those interested in maintaining runs of migratory fish, stocks of other fish, furbearers, and waterfowl.

In early days and until recently, all consideration for values other than irrigation and later for power development were largely ignored by the Reclamation Service and their supporters. Only in recent years have they displayed any tendency to give consideration to wildlife and fish values.

At present, credit should be given to the active heads of the Reclamation Service for a desire to give reasonable consideration to other interests. This has been especially true since the passage of the Coordination Act which definitely requires that engineering data be furnished to the Fish and Wildlife Service and to the state conservation departments of all projects located within their state. Despite the willingness of top officials to give such consideration there is still actual thinking along conservation lines in the minds of many of the staff who are responsible for the initial planning of projects. Until real consideration is given from the inception of a project, it will be difficult to secure adequate consideration of other values since the plans, by the time they reach the central office, already represent a vast amount of work and effort. Only when clear-cut instructions to give such consideration have become

a part of the thinking of every designing engineer in the organization, can adequate consideration of fish and wildlife values be assured. Even with the utmost effort on the part of the top officials, it will take time for such a concept to become completely accepted in the organization and it is not apparent that the high command has been as diligent as possible in trying to get this idea established in the organization.

The charge is repeatedly made that conservationists are opposed to all developments. While there may be individ-

(Continued on Page 6)

Pheasant Hen Protection Urged

Friday noon, October 29, thousands of Oregon sportsmen will take the field to hunt ringneck pheasants. The season is short, extending through November 2 in most counties and through November 7 in Malheur county. In Jefferson, Walla-walla, Union, Baker, Curry, Tillamook and Lincoln counties there is no open season. The bag limit is also modest this year, being two cocks in one day and six cocks for the season in Malheur county and two cocks a day and four for the season in the other open counties.

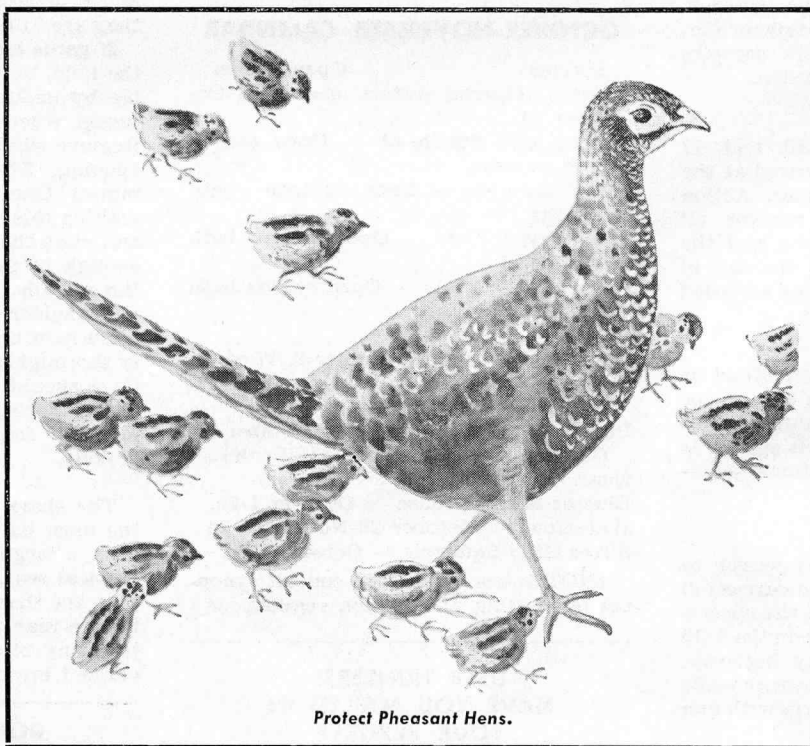
Many sportsmen can remember when the pheasant population of Oregon was sufficient to allow much longer seasons and more liberal bag limits. At the same time many sportsmen are wondering today what can be done to bring our upland birds back to that point once more.

The Game Commission is operating its game farms at near capacity, many new field rearing projects have been placed in operation and a department of habitat improvement has been established this year. Continuous study and research is being carried on. These operations will

all be a help toward the bringing back of the ring-neck pheasant, but to be completely successful there must be cooperation from every hunter. This cooperation must come in the form of protecting pheasant hens. Pheasants are polygamous and excellent reproduction can be expected with a one cock to five hens ratio. In other words, the hens are the vital factor and must be given every possible protection. Hens are extremely vulnerable to all types of predators when setting and when they are with their broods and uncontrollable losses are often heavy.

Past experience in pre-season and post-season censuses has shown that many hens are also killed either accidentally or maliciously during open seasons when only the shooting of cocks is allowed.

(Continued on Page 8)



Protect Pheasant Hens.

*NOTE: Reprint of paper presented to the annual conference of Western Association of State Game and Fish Commissioners, Salt Lake City, Utah, June 1948.

☆ THIS AND THAT ☆

Agents of the Game Commission successfully trapped and transplanted a cow and a bull elk recently. The elk were trapped in the Dora district of Coos county and were released on Copeland Creek near the Big Camas Ranger Station far up the North Umpqua river.

The elk trap, constructed of rope netting and a loading chute, had been set up in the Dora district several weeks before. A small herd of elk in this district had been causing considerable damage to crops and orchards. After construction, the gates of the trap were left open and the animals were baited with apples. Considerable difficulty was experienced in baiting the elk into the trap. Salt which has been used extensively in other places has little attraction for deer and elk in the coastal country of Oregon. Apples, however, finally proved the answer and suspicion of the trap gradually wore away. Altogether four elk were trapped, but two elk in spite of all precautions died of nervous exhaustion and heart failure.

The Copeland Creek country, where the elk were released, is excellent elk habitat and is believed capable of supporting a sizable herd. Very few if any elk have been in the area.

Operations such as this one, although spectacular and necessary at times to start a nucleus of breeding stock in a new area are exceedingly difficult and costly and so cannot be carried on to any great extent.

Autumn census of antelope herds was started during the latter part of August and early September in the Harney, Central, Lake-Klamath and Malheur districts. Summer deer and elk samples also were secured in all districts.

Approximately 25 blacktail and 12 mule deer fawns have been reared at the state game farms this summer. Action was taken last spring to recover all fawns picked up by the public and the deer will be released during the fall in closed areas where they will be afforded protection.

In the Malheur District, an effort is being made to live-trap sage grouse for transplanting purposes. Advantage of an increase in the numbers of this species is being taken to establish additional populations in other areas.

It shall be unlawful for any person to have in possession the plucked carcass in any manner so as to disguise the species or kind of any game bird while in the field or forest, or while upon any highway, train, car, boat, or other conveyance while returning from any hunting trip with gun or other hunting equipment.

Oregon State Game Commission Bulletin

Published Monthly by the
Oregon State Game Commission
1634 S. W. Alder Street—P. O. Box 4136
Portland 8, Oregon
MIRIAM KAUTTU
Editor

Members of the Commission

E. E. Wilson, Chairman.....Corvallis
Theodore R. Conn.....Lakeview
Kenneth S. Martin.....Grants Pass
R. D. McClallen.....Enterprise
Larry Hilaire.....Portland

Administrative Staff

C. A. Lockwood...State Game Supervisor
F. B. Wire.....Secretary
F. C. Baker.....Controller
H. E. Bowers.....Engineer
P. W. Schneider.....Director of Game
John McKean.....Upland Game
A. V. Meyers...Fed. Aid and Waterfowl
R. U. Mace.....Big Game
C. E. Kebbe.....Furbearers
Frank Stanton...Habitat Improvement
P. R. Needham....Director of Fisheries
R. C. Holloway...Surveys and Salvage
E. W. Goff.....Hatcheries
H. J. Rayner...Diseases and Nutrition
H. R. Mangold....Director of Supplies
C. B. Walsh...Director, Public Relations
G. E. Howell...Fishways, Screen, Stream
and Lake Improvement

Entered as second-class matter September 30, 1947 at the post office at Portland, Oregon under the act of August 24, 1912.

At the present time the Bulletin is circulated free of charge to anyone forwarding a written request.

Permission to reprint is granted provided proper credit is given.

OCTOBER-NOVEMBER CALENDAR

Species	Open Season
Trout — Coastal waters open until October 31.	
Salmon and Steelhead — Open season both months.	
Jack Salmon — Open season both months.	
Spiny-rayed Fish — Open season both months.	
Predatory Animals — Open season both months.	
Deer — October 1-20.	
Elk — October 25-November 2, Western Oregon. October 25-November 11, Eastern Oregon.	
Pheasants — October 29-November 2. October 29-November 7 (Malheur).	
Quail — October 29-November 2.	
Blue or Sooty Grouse — October 1-20.	
Waterfowl — October 29-November 14.	
Silver Gray Squirrels — October 1-20.	

(NOTE: For exceptions consult synopses of hunting and fishing regulations.)

**DEER HUNTERS!
HAVE YOU MAILED IN
YOUR REPORT?**

September Meeting of the Game Commission

The Oregon State Game Commission at its meeting on September 10 and 11 transacted the following business.

It was decided to accept the purchase offer of the Pendleton Kiwanis Club for eight acres of the Pendleton game farm to be used as a recreational area. The Supervisor was instructed to advertise for bids for the remainder of the property.

The department was authorized to make provisions for raising setting hens at the Hermiston game farm.

Paul Scheffer, U. S. Soil Conservation Service, appeared before the Commission to discuss the farm fish pond program sponsored by that department.

A tentative agreement was worked out with representatives of Grants Pass Irrigation District regarding control of water at Savage Rapids dam.

The Supervisor was instructed to advertise for bids for purchase of the Eugene game farm property, the bids to be opened at the October meeting of the Commission.

All bids received August 14 for improvements at the Rock Creek and Fall River hatcheries were rejected.

The next meeting of the Commission will be held October 15 and 16.

Care of Game Birds

Waterfowl and upland birds should be disembowled quickly, then hung up to cool. Plucking can be done at leisure. Placing warm birds in a game pocket all day under a hot sun often causes the meat to be tainted. It is best to prepare and cool birds as soon as possible after they are killed.

If game birds have not been dressed in the field, they should be as soon as possible by making a slit in the skin at the breast where the neck enters the body. Remove wind and food pipes through this opening. These organs may also be removed from the body cavity without making this incision. Cut around the vent and split the abdominal cavity back far enough to insert fingers, and withdraw the entrails. Be careful not to break the gall bladder on the liver. After the entrails have been removed, wash body cavity thoroughly and remove all membranes. Care should be taken to cleanse the interior thoroughly. Meat should never be placed in freezer until animal heat is out of body.

The shark is generally believed to be the most dangerous fish, but the barracuda, a large savage pike-like fish of the tropical seas, is more apt to attack man than the shark. It is almost as large as a twelve-year old boy and its mouth is such that any bite is likely to result in permanent injury.

DON'T SHOOT HENS

Sauvies Island Fish Salvage

Contrary to expectations salvage operations at Sauvies Island and adjacent areas this summer produced the fewest game fish for restocking purposes in many years.

The June flood not only delayed the activation of salvage work for over a month but had a considerable effect on the program throughout the summer. Water and mud prevented entry to many areas normally accessible. The water level in many ponds has stayed high throughout the season obviating the necessity of salvaging.

Comparatively few catchable size game fish were obtained. Seining produced a preponderance of scrap fish in relation to the game fish.

Surveys of the flooded areas disclosed little need for salvage work. Most of the game fish evidently escaped as the water receded leaving only carp and other undesirable species.

1948 Waterfowl Season

Oregon hunters will receive a more liberal season and bag limit for harvesting migratory waterfowl in 1948. The United States Fish and Wildlife Service determined these more liberal regulations on the basis of their recently adopted policy of waterfowl management by major flyways. Each northern breeding area supplies birds for one of the four specific flyways and the crop produced on these breeding areas determines the season and bag limit for the specific flyway involved.

A choice of two split seasons of 17 days each or a continuous season of 40 days was offered to each of the Pacific Flyway states. The Oregon Game Commission accepted the split season to give a better geographic distribution of the kill and give nearly all hunters an opportunity to hunt waterfowl near home with a reasonable chance of success. The choice of dates for a split season was restricted to a few specific dates.

The seasons selected are from noon, October 29 to November 14, inclusive, and from noon, December 23 to January 8, inclusive. Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise to one hour before sunset.

The bag limit for ducks was increased from 4 to 5 a day. Geese remain the same as last year: 5 a day, of which at least 3 must be snow geese. Bag limits are summarized as follows:

Ducks — 5 a day and 10 in possession, not more than 1 of which can be a wood duck.

Geese — 5 a day and 5 in possession, of which at least 3 must be snow geese.

Coot — 15 a day and 15 in possession.



Fish salvaging crew at work on Sauvies Island.

Merganser — 25 American or red breasted mergansers a day.

Closed season on swan, Ross's Goose and jacksnipe.

General hunting method regulations remain the same as 1947. However, for interstate shipment or transportation of waterfowl, it is necessary that the head, head plumage and feet remain intact on the bird.

If waterfowl migrations occur at normal times, it is expected that the first split season will provide the best hunting in eastern Oregon, and the second split season will provide the best hunting in western Oregon.

Public Shooting Areas

The Oregon State Game Commission will operate two public shooting grounds during the 1948 season. These are Summer Lake and Chewaucan Marsh, both in Lake county in southeastern Oregon. The best hunting will probably be during the first season. Summer Lake will have 5,658 acres open to hunting and Chewaucan will have approximately 2,800 acres open to hunting. A daily hunting fee of two dollars is charged to partially defray the cost of operating these shooting areas.

Decoys are often used at Summer Lake. Goose decoys are very useful at Chewaucan. The use of retrieving dogs is strongly recommended, particularly at Summer Lake.

The Camas Swale area near Eugene, and the Sauvies Island area near Portland, are still in the process of acquisition and development and will not be open to hunting during the coming waterfowl season.

Elk Season Opens

The general season for hunting of elk opens October 25 in all sections of the state although different closing dates are provided for the eastern and western parts of the state. West of The Dalles-California highway the season ends No-

vember 2 while east of the highway elk hunting extends through November 11.

In western Oregon the bag limit is one bull elk having antlers with three points or more, including the brow tine. In the area east of The Dalles-California highway, the bag limit is one elk of either sex with the exception that only bull elk having antlers may be taken in the following section of northeastern Oregon:

Beginning at the town of Boardman, thence southeast along U. S. Highway No. 30 to Pendleton, thence south along U. S. Highway No. 395 to Dale, thence southeasterly along the Desolation Creek road to its junction with the Indian Rock road approximately 1 mile east of the Desolation Guard Station, thence south and east past the Red Boy Mine to Granite, thence southeasterly to Sumpter, thence southeasterly along the Sumpter Valley road to Salisbury, thence northeasterly along State Highway No. 7 to Baker, thence north and west along U. S. Highway No. 30 to La Grande, thence north and east along State Highway No. 82 to Lostine, thence south along the Lostine River road to its end, thence south along posted trail to its junction with the Wallowa Forest boundary at a point approximately one-half mile south of Minam Lake, thence east and north along the forest boundary to the Snake River, thence following the State Line to the north and west to the town of Boardman, the point of beginning.

A map showing the sections where the different seasons and bag limits prevail is included in the "Oregon Hunter's Guide" now being distributed by game license agencies.

Elk hunters, as well as deer hunters, are required to file the report card attached to the hunting tag within 30 days after the close of the hunting season. Even if an elk is not killed, the report must be made and failure to do so gives the Game Commission the right to deny the hunter a tag the next year. For management purposes the information provided by these cards is important.

"Crimes Against Public Policy"

A RESUME OF OREGON GAME AND FISH LAWS

Perusal of the old statute books for information about the early history of fish and game legislation reveals the first conservation laws passed by the state legislative assemblies codified under the fitting and expressive title of "Crimes Against Public Policy." But even prior to Oregon's statehood, a provision had been made for the protection of salmon. Authors of the act establishing the territorial government 100 years ago (August 14, 1848) envisioned the difficulties that migratory salmon would encounter with the advance of civilization and in Section 12 of the act provided as follows:

"The rivers and streams of water in said territory of Oregon in which salmon are found, or to which they resort, shall not be obstructed by dams or otherwise, unless such dams or obstructions are so constructed as to allow salmon to pass freely up and down such rivers and streams."

What would these territorial lawmakers think of the present day dams and obstructions across the major salmon streams of the Oregon territory?

After Oregon entered the Union, the first general wildlife conservation law found in the statutes is "An act for the protection of game and fish" passed by the 1872 legislature and becoming effective January 21, 1873. It prohibited the killing and selling of deer, moose and elk during the period from February through June. Fine for violation was \$20 for the first offense and double for the next one. Hide hunters were discouraged by the provision making it unlawful to take deer and elk at any time for the sole purpose of obtaining the horns and hides. The period from April through July was declared closed for the taking and selling of swans and certain species of ducks. A closed season also was provided for grouse, pheasants and sage hens from April through June 15; for prairie chickens from March through June; and for quail and partridge from April through July. The fine for illegal taking of game birds was \$5 for the first offense, double for the second.

For the protection of fish the law prohibited use of explosives or poison in killing fish; declared a three-year closure on shad, black and striped bass; and provided again that obstructions across

streams having migrating fish shall have ladders.

Within the next ten years laws had been passed protecting the ringneck pheasant (following its introduction into Oregon by Judge O. N. Denny); providing for a closed season for taking and selling trout from November to March; outlawing seines and nets for taking of mountain or brook trout and snares and traps for taking of upland game birds. Bird nests and eggs were protected. Possession of game out of season was made a misdemeanor. The first Fish Commission was appointed in 1887.

The 1895 legislature made further advancements in the program of regulating fish and game. A fish and game protector was appointed by the legislature to enforce the laws. Sale of game was still permitted at this time but the sale of upland game birds was limited to 20 birds a day and no game could be sold after the fifth day following the close of

Two years later (1901) the taking of deer was limited to five per person and only the hides could be sold. Upland game bird limit was set at 10 birds and trout at 125 fish per day. Also a law was passed requiring non-residents to pay \$10 for a hunting license for marketing purposes.

First License Laws

By 1905 the sale of all game was prohibited and resident hunters were required to have a license, fee for which was \$1. In 1909, female deer and fawns were protected and the killing of deer at night by use of dogs prohibited. That year also the first angling license law was passed, providing a fee of \$1 for residents and \$5 for non-residents. These license laws remained in effect until 1917, when resident fees were raised to \$1.50 each for hunting and fishing licenses. These fees were changed in 1921 to \$3. The non-resident hunting license fee was increased to \$15 in 1929 and to \$25 in 1948. The non-resident's angling license fee remained at \$5 until the present \$10 fee became effective this year.

The 1911 legislative session is noted for the creation of the first board of commissioners authorized to manage the game and game fish of the state. The present form of two separate commissions was established by the 1921 legislature, which thereby completely segregated the administration of game and commercial fish interests. From then on, the legislature began to regulate the take of fish and game more intensively. In 1913 the deer limit was reduced to three and methods of hunting were regulated; the trout bag limit was reduced to 75; the first legislative game reserves were created; the first trapping license and regulations in regard to furbearers passed; the take of geese was limited by including them in the general bag limit of 30 a week for ducks and other waterfowl.

Bag Limits Go Down

In 1917 the trout limit was further reduced to 50 and again to 30 in 1921. The trout limit went down to 20 in 1935; to 15 in 1940 and then to the present limit of 10.

The deer limit was cut to two in 1917; then restricted to two blacktail or 1 mule deer in 1929; and the present day limit of 1 deer went into effect in 1940. From the 1873 deer season of seven months (Continued on Page 5)

ABSTRACT OF GAME LAWS STATE OF OREGON 1908 - 1909											
ARRANGED BY H. G. SCHNEIDER, PORTLAND, OREGON											
WHITE—OPEN SEASON BLACK—CLOSED SEASON											
BAG LIMIT.											
DUCKS	50 in one week	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October
GEESE AND SWANS	No limit										
UPLAND BIRDS	10 in one day										
DEER	5 in one season										
ELK	1 in one season										
BUCK DEER—Except in Baker, Coos, Curry, Grant, Harney, Malheur, Umatilla, Union and Walla Walla Counties.											
DEER—Baker, Grant, Harney and Malheur.											
BUCK DEER—Coos and Curry Counties.											
ELK											
SILVER GRAY SQUIRREL											
UPLAND BIRDS—China Pheasants, Native Pheasants, Grouse, Quail.											
UPLAND BIRDS—Clinton, Coos, Curry, Josephine and Tillamook Counties.											
BLUE GROUSE—Tillamook.											
BLUE GROUSE—East of Cascade Mountains.											
PRAIRIE CHICKENS—Wasco.											
SAGE HEN AND SAGE "COCK"—East of Cascade Mountains.											
DUCKS, GESE AND SWANS—Except in Coos and Lake.											
DUCKS, GESE AND SWANS—Coos.											
DUCKS, GESE AND SWANS—Lake.											
WATER RAIL AND UPLAND PLOVER.											
WHAT IS ALWAYS UNLAWFUL.											
To sell, offer for sale, barter, or exchange, ship, carried or transported beyond the boundaries of this state, any deer, moose, mountain sheep, elk, silver-gray squirrel, swan, prairie chicken, grouse, and all species of upland birds and ducks.											
To hunt beaver or spotted fawn.											
To run deer with dogs or night hunting.											
To kill China Pheasants in Jackson County.											
To kill female deer in Coos and Curry Counties.											
To kill quail or Mongolian pheasants in Grant, Harney, Umatilla & Wheeler Counties (Jan. 1, 1912).											
To trap or destroy nests of protected game birds.											
To shoot on enclosed lands without permission.											
To ship or sell deer skins without being properly tagged.											
PENALTIES.											
Fine to transport game outside of this state for the sale, etc., \$100 to \$500 and imprisonment.											
Violation of game laws, \$15 to \$500.											
Fine to hunt without a license, \$25 to \$100 and imprisonment.											
NOTE.											
For deer tags apply to any Justice of the Peace or County Clerk.											
Hunter's license good anywhere in Oregon.											

the season. A pollution law was passed and the beaver season was closed in Malheur and Baker counties.

Elk populations evidently decreased to the extent that the special session in 1898 closed the season entirely for a period of seven years. Next year the legislature stopped the sale of all game, extended the closure on the beaver season for 20 years; prohibited the killing of Hungarian partridge; and created the position of a game and forestry warden.

"Crimes Against Public Policy"

(Continued from Page 4)

(July 1-January 31) the seasons were gradually reduced to open periods ranging from August through October; then September and October; and finally part of October only. The elk season was re-opened in 1933 for a 3 day season and later for seasons extending from a week to a month.

In 1873 upland game birds could be hunted for eight or nine months of the year. Then the season was decreased to two months (October and November) in 1901; to the month of October in 1915; and to two weeks about 1923. Ringneck pheasants, however, were given absolute protection from time of their introduction in 1882 until 1891. Duck limits went down from 30 a day to 25 in 1919; 15 a day in 1929; 12 in 1933; 10 in 1935; up to 15 in 1944; down to 7 in 1946 and 4 in 1947; and then up to 5 for the current season.

Hunters and Anglers Increase

When with the issuance of the hunting license the Game Protection Fund was established in 1905, the licenses were printed and issued by the individual counties so that accurate records are not available as to numbers sold. At the time the Board of Fish and Game Commissioners took office in 1911, there was an accumulation of \$60,000 in the Fund and approximately \$70,000 more was collected that year. By 1912 the Board had instituted the policy of supervising the printing and sale of game licenses and during that year issued 83,162 hunting and angling licenses, from which the total revenue was \$85,770. Licenses sold included 39,267 resident hunting, 43,433 resident angling, 152 non-resident hunting and 310 non-resident angling.

Since then license sales have shown a steady increase, except during war and depression years, and the all time high

No. 10

Hunter's License

STATE OF OREGON,
County of Casco ss.

Know All Men by These Presents: That Fred Bennett
residing at Marshall in the County of Casco State of Oregon
having complied with the Laws of the State of Oregon relating to the application for a Hunter's License, and
having paid the fee required thereby,

Is Hereby Granted a License
From May - 23 1905 to December 31st, 1905, to hunt for, pursue, take, catch
or kill any of the game animals or birds within the State of Oregon, during the open season when it is lawful to
kill the same.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and affixed my official
seal this 25 day of May A. D. 1905
James H. Patton County Clerk.
Robert C. Watson Deputy.

Applicant's Signature: James H. Patton
Age 19 Hair Brown Eyes Gray

(This license not transferable.)

Hunter's license No. 10 issued in 1905, the first year a resident was required to have a license to hunt.

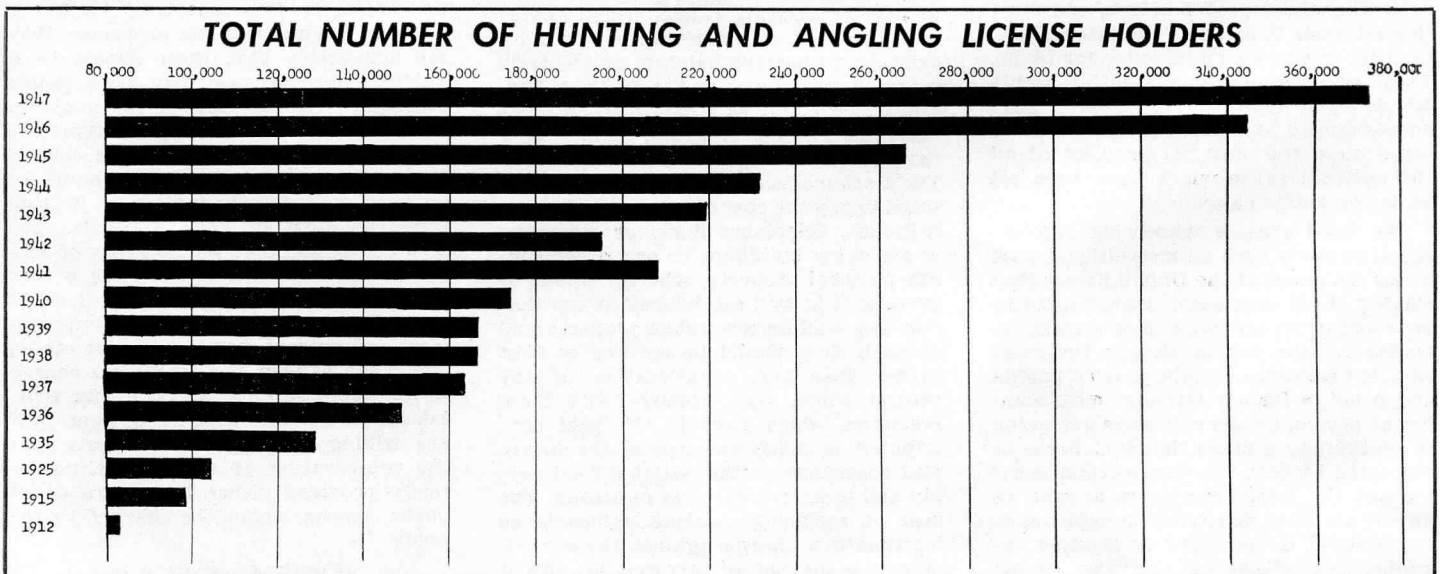
was reached in 1947 when 372,814 individuals purchased some form of hunting or angling license. The 1948 sales are expected to be slightly higher, which means that almost five times as many hunters and anglers presently are making use of the wildlife resources. At the same time the available habitat for fish and game has become correspondingly less. Fish and game must compete with the demands of civilization for use of the water, soil and forests of the state. This adds up to the same answer we have submitted before. What is left must be divided among many more and consequently each individual must be satis-

fied with a smaller share if anything is to be left for future generations.

All the ruminants or cud-chewers, namely, cattle, sheep, goats, deer, antelope and camels, invariably get up with their hind legs first, while other large quadrupeds use the opposite procedure with forelegs first.

Fish, like humans, get seasick if left to the mercy of the waves for an extended period.

PROTECT PHEASANT HENS



Reclamation Versus Conservation

(Continued from Page 1)

uals with that attitude, the vast majority of those interested in the out-of-doors recognize the necessity and desirability of much of the proposed developments. They quarrel only with certain extreme examples of irrigation development and have a growing resentment toward vast and often visionary projects that cannot possibly be justified by any sane, economic concern for the national welfare.

What is it that conservationists want? In trying to state their viewpoint, I shall not state personal opinions, but try to represent the consensus of opinion of those with whom I am associated in the conservation field. This includes the national conservation organizations as well as state organizations in the West. It would be impossible to represent completely every shade of opinion, but I think there is general agreement on the basic concepts.

Recreational Areas Should Be Protected

First, there is a widespread belief that there are some magnificent scenic spectacles that should never be subjected to development. Most of these are now withdrawn in national parks or wilderness areas. Conservationists generally believe that such areas should remain entirely protected against any human encroachment other than a minimum amount of roads or trails to provide access. At the present time, the Reclamation Service has pledged itself not to invade any national park or national monument but has so far refused to make a similar commitment as to wilderness areas. The present controversy over Lake Solitude, in Wyoming, is only the latest example of those arising out of the efforts of reclamation engineers to invade national reservations for the purpose of providing irrigation water, hydroelectric power, or both. All the older conservationists can remember the repeated efforts of irrigation interests to invade Yellowstone Park in order to provide more water for Idaho. They also remember the bitter fights which were necessary to prevent such encroachment on this the first and in some ways the most magnificent of all the national parks which have been set aside for public enjoyment.

The total area of wilderness and national parks is such an insignificant part of the land area of the United States that leaving them untouched cannot possibly have any great economic impact upon the welfare of the nation, though the invasion of those areas might provide profits and benefits for a relatively small number of people. Conservationists are going to continue to demand that such areas be respected by both the Reclamation Service and the Army Engineers as well as any or all other construction agencies in the Federal Government or in other organizations. These agencies can expect

bitter opposition whenever they propose to invade any area set aside for these purposes.

Outside of the present reserved areas, there are a few streams of such scenic beauty and which have become so famed for a combination of scenic beauty and recreational opportunities that they too should be left alone. Just at present, attention is centered on one of these because of a controversy over proposed reclamation developments. The Rogue River, in Oregon, one of the most famous steelhead streams in the world and which has been written about in many languages, is threatened with a series of dams. Anglers have come from all parts of Europe and from far away Australia to fish its famed waters and its sentimental value probably exceeds many times the actual value of the fish runs involved. There are other streams which have the same appeal in only slighter degree — the Madison in Montana, the Umpqua in Oregon, and the Gunnison in Colorado, to mention only a few that have been written about so ably that they have become symbols of vast import in the minds of a great many. It would be the part of wisdom to leave these streams alone. Again, they represent such a small fraction of the total amount of water still available that any invasion for power or other purposes could well be deferred until they become of such vital importance to the national welfare that scenic, sentimental, and recreational values have to be sacrificed to grim necessity. America is far from such a state at present. No consideration of personal profit or private gain for a comparatively few people should be allowed to interfere with their other immense values, intangible though some of them may be.

Preserving Fish and Wildlife Legitimate Charge Against Project Cost

Conservationists believe that the cost of preserving runs of migratory fish, of preserving existing values in non-migratory fish, and of preserving or replacing existing waterfowl habitat, particularly refuge areas owned by the State or Federal Government as a part of their wildlife management program, should be a part of the cost of reclamation projects. The Reclamation Service has never hesitated to pay the cost of moving highways, railroads, telephone lines, or removing or replacing buildings, or any other similar physical property, whether public or private. It is well established in law that fish and wildlife are public property and as such they should be entitled to first rather than last consideration in any project which may interfere with these resources which have in the past contributed so much and can in the future still contribute to the national food supply and to its recreational resources. The cost of replacing existing values is as legitimate a charge against these projects as is the cost of carrying out any of

the other costs incident to the development of impoundments.

As an example, there are proposals in North Dakota which, if carried out, would destroy several waterfowl refuges developed at great cost by the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service for the perpetuation of the migratory waterfowl flocks. These refuges have a value far beyond the actual food that they furnish or the number of ducks which can be produced upon them annually as breeding grounds. They supply a resting place and food for the migratory birds from farther north in their semi-annual north and south migration. They are located at strategic concentration points and ancestral stopping places. If they are destroyed, the effect would be disastrous far beyond the loss of the immediate production of the area. If these present proposals are carried out, similar areas closely approximating the present location and size of existing refuges must be built and developed for the Fish and Wildlife Service without charge as a part of the construction cost of this project. State areas involved should be handled in the same way.

Similarly, the cost of saving the runs of fish in the Columbia River because of the construction of huge hydraulic and irrigation dams are not a proper charge against the fish and wildlife funds of the country, but such costs are a proper charge against the projects which are being promoted for other purposes. If the project cannot stand such a cost, it had better be left unbuilt since the saving and perpetuation of these publicly-owned natural resources are a far more proper charge against the cost of development than is the movement of a highway or a railroad or a telephone line.

There has been some effort on the part of reclamation proponents to justify the idea that fishways, devices for providing for existing wildlife habitat, replacing destroyed habitat and similar costs, are not proper charges against irrigation or hydraulic development. In their frantic efforts to find means of justifying more and more fantastic proposals, they are suggesting that these should be a public charge because they are a public resource. It is the view of the majority of conservationists that these items are a legitimate charge against the cost of these projects and that they should be weighed as economic factors in judging the feasibility of the proposals. The only concession that the majority of conservationists are willing to make is that the development of additional habitat beyond that now existing or the improvement of present conditions, something which can happen, is a legitimate charge in the public interest and could be written off as a non-reimbursable item. Few are willing to support the thesis that the preservation of existing values already provided either by nature or at public expense should be charged to the public.

(Continued on Page 7)

Reclamation Versus Conservation

(Continued from Page 6)

Conservationists are greatly concerned over present trends in the development of the Central Valley project in California. The project adversely affects important runs of Chinook salmon in the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers. It can and will eliminate the major wintering grounds of the Pacific Coast flight of waterfowl unless definite provision is made to provide feeding and resting grounds to replace those that will be destroyed.

To date provision has been made for the Sacramento run of fish — provisions that will become useless if additional dams now proposed are constructed. No provision has been made for the San Joaquin run of fish. On the contrary, some Californians believe that the Reclamation Service is trying to destroy the run so that no provision will need to be made for it. Likewise, no provision has yet been made to provide for waterfowl wintering grounds. Altogether these problems are so important and so typical of those presented by vast river basin development schemes that the outcome is apt to become a clear-cut test of the real intention and ability of the reclamation groups to give consideration and protection to values other than irrigation and power.

Impoundments for any purpose affect fish and wildlife, sometimes beneficially and sometimes adversely. It is the contention of conservationists that any adverse effects should be compensated for at the expense of the proposed project but that any improvements over existing conditions or the provision of additional habitat might well be charged to public expense as non-reimbursable items.

Need For Outside Agency To Evaluate Projects

Only in the last few years, at first by agreement among the Reclamation Service, the Army Engineers and the Fish and Wildlife Service and later because of the Coordination Act of 1946, have plans and programs involving impoundment of water or disturbance of streams and lakes been available to the Fish and Wildlife Service and to the states for consideration and study at the time the engineers are making their preliminary surveys. This is a long step toward better correlation of activities and a more comprehensive understanding of all public values before construction is actually started. This relationship should improve as the various agencies work more closely together and there should gradually come to engineers some comprehension of fish and wildlife problems and to those interested in such resources some understanding of engineering problems and the limitations under which engineers work. Such understanding should

go far toward eliminating any removable causes of friction. There will, however, be conflicts which can only be settled by some outside agency. Many of the problems can be worked out by mutual cooperation and understanding of the problems of both sides. There has been a distinct improvement visible even in the short period of time these activities have been more closely coordinated. Inevitably, there will be difficulties so long as the construction agency is the final judge as to whether or not the program that it is sponsoring is to be recommended to the Congress as a feasible program. It is conceivable that despite the protests and

representations of fish and wildlife or other interests that the construction agency would still present an affirmative recommendation to Congress. It is not good public administration for any agency involved in the promotion of projects of the magnitude of many recent proposals to be the final judge of their over-all public values. There is urgent need in the Federal Government for an agency which has no interest in the construction of power, irrigation, navigation, or flood control projects to make a final determination before construction appropriations are requested.

(Continued on Page 8)

If We Treated Our Homes As We Do Our Woods



What A Lucky Thing Folks Never Took To Holding Picnics In Other Folk's Houses



Moral: Take Your Indoor Manners With You When You Go Outdoors

Oregon State Game Commission Bulletin

1634 S. W. ALDER STREET
P. O. BOX 4136
PORTLAND 8, OREGON

Reclamation Versus Conservation

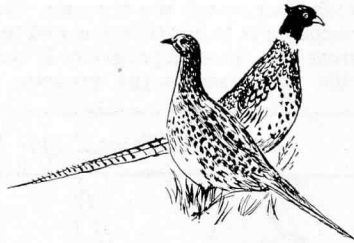
(Continued from Page 7)

National Survey of Streams Proposed

There is one other point that conservationists feel is of increasing importance because of the open competition between the Reclamation Service and the Army Engineers to stake out every possible impoundment site on the rivers, creeks, and dry washes in the country. It is becoming increasingly evident that no stream no matter how valuable for other purposes is safe from attack. Conservationists would like to see a survey and classification of the streams of this nation. They feel that some have such magnificent scenic and recreational values that they should be preserved for all time in a natural state and not be subjected to diversion of their waters for any purpose. There are not many such streams, but they do feel that some have such supreme value that they should be preserved. There are others that could be harnessed to a limited extent and still preserve most of the present recreational and natural resource values, while there are many streams on which impoundments could not seriously curtail or hurt natural production of fish or wildlife or interfere with recreational uses. In fact, by careful planning, there are many streams on which impoundments can be made to contribute to the better production of fish and wildlife resources.

This proposal for the classification of the streams of the country was presented at the Izaak Walton League conference in Chicago in March. The Army Engineers at that time indicated a willingness to join in such a program but nothing has yet been heard from the Reclamation Service officials regarding it. This is a good time to present it squarely and ask whether or not they would be willing to join conservation organizations in supporting a Congressional Resolution for such a survey to be made by a group of disinterested and unbiased citizens. Such a classification, if made and followed in future development projects, would go far toward eliminating the present antagonism of conservation groups.

The cheetah or hunting leopard of India is credited with being the swiftest four-footed animal.



Pheasant Hen Protection Urged

(Continued from Page 1)

This season it is sincerely hoped that every hunter taking the field will make doubly certain before shooting that the bird is a cock. Every hen killed means one less brood for next year. Cocks and hens are easily distinguishable if the hunter takes just a second to make sure.

If the upland bird hunters of Oregon make their slogan, "protect the hens," and make every effort to accomplish that end, it will be a big step toward the bringing back of the ringneck in Oregon.

Careful readers of the game laws will find an exception to the shooting of cocks alone and in view of this difference an explanation is necessary. In the Summer Lake Valley the pheasant season will be open to the shooting of pheasants of either sex. The reason for this is that a population of ringneck pheasants is not being built in this isolated valley. It is the test tube for the Game Commission in measuring the successfulness of various methods of artificial propagation. It is the scene of a controlled pheasant study. This is the third season that the studies have been carried on. This year as in past years of the study a special season is being held in order that as many as possible of the marked pheasants released there can be recovered. The objective of this year's study is to determine the survival of young pheasants reared on the area as compared with previously released pheasants that were reared on game farms. The only way to get accurate information on this subject is to crop as many birds as possible of both sexes.

In the rest of Oregon, however, the Commission is attempting to establish and build a good population of ringneck pheasants, so remember, let's all try to "protect pheasant hens."

A gopher will dig a hole about three feet straight down.

Mr. Hunter, Save Your Deer Skins

The average hunter pays little or no attention to the skin which covers the carcass of that fine buck he has just killed. In reality, this skin can be of great value if given the proper care.

Buckskin can be tanned in a variety of colors and used for many articles of clothing, the most common of which are jackets, gloves and moccasins. The quality of the finished product depends for the most part upon the care received prior to tanning. Dragging the buck over the ground is undesirable as the hide as well as some of the meat is ruined. If the deer is too large to carry and must be dragged, it will take but a few minutes to cut some brush on which to lay the carcass. This will serve as a cushion and protect the hide and meat from injury.

Care should be taken in skinning the animal. It is much better to leave some flesh on the hide rather than chance cutting holes in it. A salted skin makes the finest leather. It should be stretched out with the flesh side up and two or three pounds of fine salt sprinkled on it. Table salt will serve the purpose. Salting should be done immediately after skinning. Every inch of the hide should be covered in order to protect against spoiling. In case salt is not available, the hide may be spread, flesh side out, over a limb or even a wire fence until dry. A week or ten days after salting, the skin may be rolled up into a bundle and shipped to the tannery.

Following these simple rules will insure maximum quality in the finished product.

Special Tag Drawings

Applications for special elk tags for the Dora area in Coos county and the Baker area must be in by 5 p.m. on October 27 in order to be included in the drawings. Applications for the Ukiah-Birch elk area and the Silver Lake deer area should be in the Game Commission office by 5 p.m. on November 12.

The dates of the special seasons for the various areas are as follows:

Dora Elk Area — November 20 to November 23, inclusive.

Baker Elk Area — December 4 to December 8, inclusive.

Ukiah-Birch Elk Area — December 11 to December 14, inclusive.

Silver Lake Deer Area — December 18 to December 22, inclusive.