

# Oregon State GAME COMMISSION BULLETIN

Vol. V

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No. 8

## Western Game Assn. Holds 30th Annual Conference

The thirtieth annual conference of the Western Association of State Game Commissioners will be held at the Multnomah Hotel, Portland, August 14, 15 and 16, under the chairmanship of State Game Director C. A. Lockwood, who is president of the association.

The Western Association represents the fish and game commissions and departments of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Nevada, Arizona, New Mexico, Utah, Wyoming, Colorado, Montana, California and British Columbia.

The sessions are open to the general public and local conservationists are urged to take advantage of them as it will be several years before another conference is held in Oregon. The program will be divided into general and technical sessions, concerning subjects of importance to fish and wildlife management.

**1950 HUNTING RULES**  
See Page 5

## 1950 Game Outlook

By JOHN McKEAN, Chief of Operations, Game Division

On July 14, the Oregon Game Commission received information and suggestions for 1950 hunting seasons from interested individuals and groups from all parts of the state at a public hearing held at the Commission's Portland office.

The Game Commission's objective in management of game is to produce and maintain the maximum compatible number of game animals on all available habitat and allow for the harvest of surpluses in a manner that will provide the greatest amount of recreation for Oregon's citizens. In order to approach this objective, it is mandatory that the Commission have accurate unbiased information on all game resources of the state. The co-operation of all parties concerned is essential for sound management.

Sportsmen, landowners and other groups contribute much valuable information on local problems and express the attitude of local people toward these problems. In addition, the Commission has a field organization which is charged with the responsibility of obtaining annual measurements of game populations and

factors influencing their productivity and welfare. After considering information from all sources, the Commission announced tentative regulations for the 1950 seasons which were given further consideration and finally adopted on July 28.

A brief description of these seasons and the reasoning behind them follows.

### Antelope Season

Oregon's antelope herds have increased substantially during the past five years and although there is ample range for further increases and need for a better distribution of antelope, a surplus of bucks is present and the Commission has authorized issuance of 1,500 tags for buck antelope in 1950.

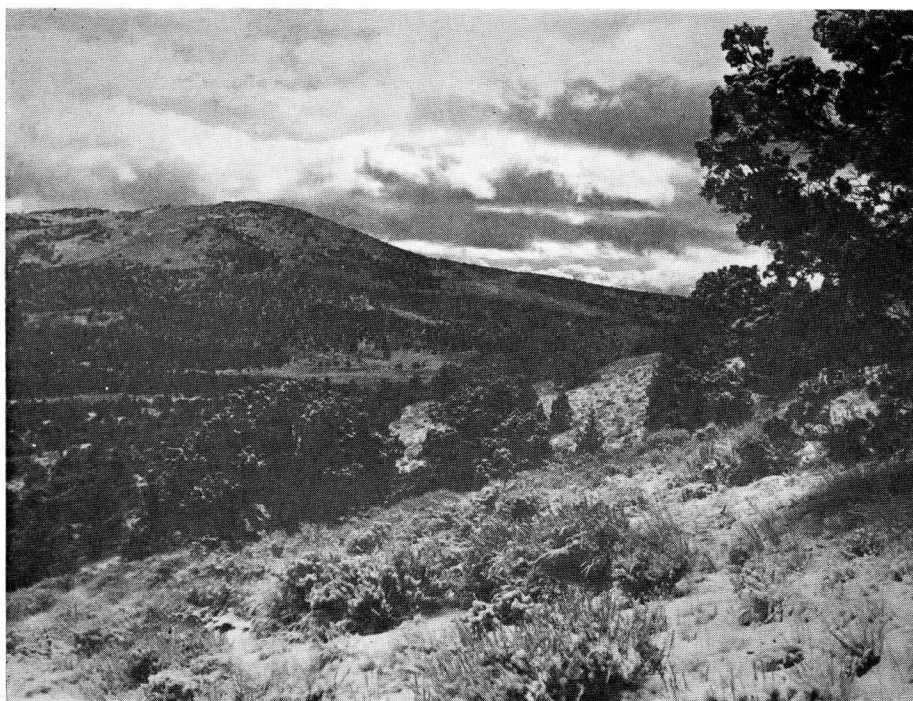
The season is scheduled for August 19th through the 25th. The area open will include portions of Deschutes, Lake, Harney, and Malheur counties south of the Bend-Burns Highway (U.S. 20) with the exception that the Drakes Flat area in Lake county will remain closed. The Drakes Flat area is one of the most accessible antelope ranges and was heavily hunted last year. The purpose of the closure is to allow an increase in bucks on the Drakes Flat range and encourage hunters to venture farther east where antelope are more abundant and were not heavily hunted last year.

Malheur and Harney counties are expected to provide the best antelope hunting this fall.

### Deer Season

Although many sportsmen would prefer

(Continued on Page 3)



Conley Hills deer winter range near Silver Lake in Lake county.

## ☆ THIS AND THAT ☆

Fifteen hundred tags were issued to hunt antelope during the period from August 19 to August 25. The Game Commission received several thousand applications and a drawing was held to determine the lucky applicants. Census information showed a modest increase in antelope numbers which warranted a limited open season for bucks only.

\* \* \*

The distribution of salt on big game ranges not otherwise supplied has been fairly well completed. Much of this work was accomplished from an airplane but distribution from the ground will be continued on the more isolated ranges as the summer progresses.

\* \* \*

During the month of June the game biologist reported a total nesting population of 8,220 birds at the Summer Lake management area. This number included 1,000 honkers, 5,220 ducks and 2,000 coots.

\* \* \*

Fisher tracks have been seen in southern Oregon by the field agent. This is the first authentic report for a number of years giving indication that these animals are still present in Oregon. Fisher pelts have a high value and some from Alaska and Canada sold last winter for \$155 each.

\* \* \*

Far removed from recognized antelope habitat, an antelope was observed a few weeks ago by Game Commission personnel in the middle of a lodge pole pine forest near the junction of Oregon Highway 31 and U. S. Highway 27.

\* \* \*

The fishways and screen department report that by the end of June 430 fish screens were in operation in the eight watershed districts where it has been possible to initiate a screening program. The districts are in Deschutes, Umatilla, Wallowa, Baker, Lake, Upper Klamath, Jackson and Josephine, and Douglas counties. Screen box construction work also has been started in Union county.

\* \* \*

Stocking by airplane has proven to be the most economical method for most of the pack lakes. The airplane cost per pound of fish in 1949 was calculated to be 69 cents whereas packstring operations amounted to \$1.03. However, there are some disadvantages as very small lakes cannot be stocked by plane nor conditions within the lakes observed. Therefore, some use will still be made of the packstring although not as extensively as in past years.

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## South Twin Lake Season Extended

South Twin Lake in Deschutes county will remain open to trout angling until September 15 instead of closing on August 15 as originally scheduled by the Game Commission.

High survival of fry and the slow growth of the different size groups of fish have resulted in an overcrowded condition in the lake. Extending the season for a month, it was hoped, would relieve the situation by cutting down the fish population somewhat.

## Mountain Goats Sighted In Wallowa

Four and possibly a fifth mountain goat have been sighted high on a mountain near Wallowa Lake in Northeastern Oregon by Mike McFetridge, Wallowa Lake packer, and Ted Laughlin, Game Commission field agent.

According to Laughlin, the goats were scattered on sheer rock formations at 7,000 feet altitude. The animals were observed through field glasses but swirling clouds and rough terrain prevented a close approach.

The five goats were last seen in March when released by game agents on the slopes of Chief Joseph Mountain which rises above Wallowa Lake. Prior to this introduction, mountain goats were unknown in Oregon.

The Oregon State Game Commission has permission to trap nineteen more of the shaggy cliff dwellers in Northern Washington sometime next winter. These animals will be used to supplement the Wallowa band.

## America's Rarest Goose Shows Population Gain

Ross's snow geese — the smaller version of the attractive snow geese — are now believed to number nearly 2,000, according to the report of a recent expedition in the Canadian arctic, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service says.

Last year about 460 Ross's geese wintered on the Sacramento National Wildlife Refuge. The Sacramento Refuge was once the only known wintering ground for the small white geese and was originally purchased because of its attractiveness for Ross's and other geese. Now it is recognized that part of the population must winter elsewhere.

The good news that their population must number nearly 2,000 was brought by noted British artist ornithologist Peter Scott, who, with ornithologist Harold Hanson, went to the Perry River Country this summer to investigate the bird's nesting ground. The bird experts reported 260 Ross's goose nests on five islands in one lake, which with other data formed the basis of the population estimate.

"JOE BEAVER"

By Ed Nofziger



Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

"I-I-I s-says 'b-b-b-be c-c-careful w-w-with f-f-fire'."

A total of 366,690 eggs were taken from rainbows at East Lake and 2,065,180 from Diamond Lake.

## Oregon State Game Commission Bulletin

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## 1950 GAME OUTLOOK

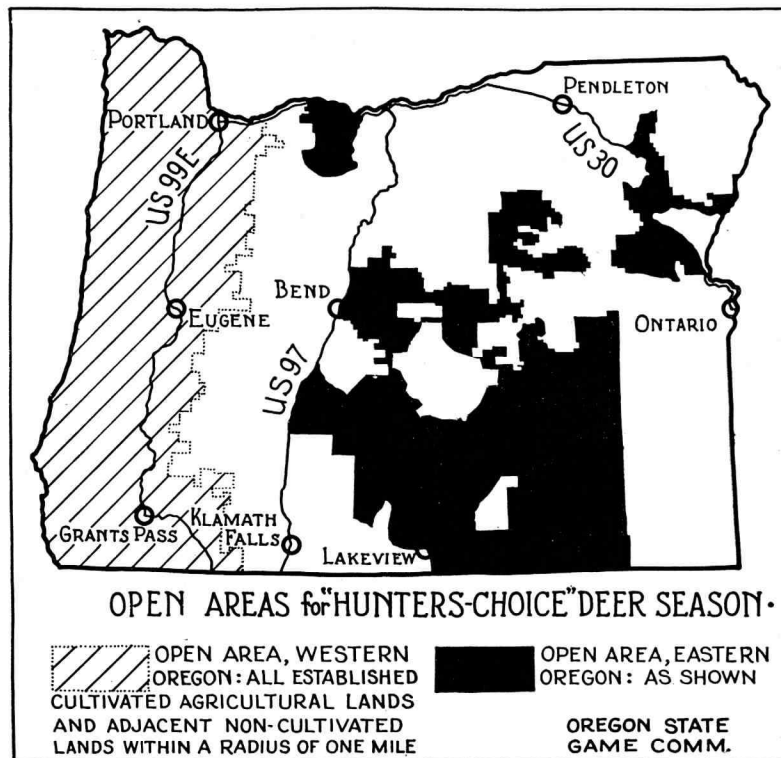
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that the deer season open earlier, the normal fire hazard in timbered areas during September and the possibility of emergency fire closures on much of the available hunting lands induced the Commission to delay the opening until September 30.

Increases in both blacktail and mule deer during the past two years have given the Commission much cause for concern because of irreparable damage to range forage on some mule deer winter ranges and increasing complaints of damage to cultivated crops in nearly every part of the state. It must be recognized that big game animals are not compatible on agricultural lands and although state laws provide that landowners suffering damage may obtain a permit to kill offending animals, in many instances the problem is too great to be handled in that manner. The Commission would much rather that the animals be harvested by hunters during a duly authorized open season. The increasing number of damage problems in recent years is partially due to the fact that high market values and Federal Aid Programs have encouraged farming of marginal lands in or immediately adjacent to big game ranges, and in some instances it appears that heavy hunting pressure on higher ranges has induced deer to move down onto agricultural areas where few people hunt during open seasons.



A successful antelope fawn drop this spring is an indication that last fall's controlled buck hunt did not affect production. Another limited hunt is being held this month.



Recognizing an obligation to prevent damage to agricultural crops and a direct need for holding mule deer herds within the carrying capacity of their winter ranges, the Commission has authorized a two-day "Hunter's Choice" deer season after the close of the regular buck season.

The buck season will extend from September 30 through October 17, and then on October 21 and 22 any person possessing an unused deer tag may take one deer (buck, doe, or fawn) in the following general areas:

On and within a radius of one mile of cultivated agricultural lands in all counties west of the summit of the Cascades.

Portions of Deschutes, Crook, Harney, Grant, Baker, and Union counties outside the exterior boundaries of National Forests.

All of Lake county except the Mule Deer Refuge, adjacent Goose Lake Valley and the Deschutes National Forest.

Portions of Hood River and Wasco counties.

The general "Hunter's Choice" type of season is not original with this deer season. It has been used successfully in many other states. It has also been used consistently on central Oregon elk ranges since 1943 without effecting a substantial reduction in elk herds in that area.

This season is a wide departure from Oregon's past special deer seasons, in which special tags have been sold to a limited number of hunters for harvest of surplus animals from specific areas. The "Hunter's Choice" type of season is only

possible because surpluses or problem animals occur over a wide enough area to accommodate all anticipated hunters.

In eastern Oregon the greatest surpluses of deer occur in Lake, Harney, and Grant counties where winter concentrations of mule deer have had a detrimental effect upon winter forage supplies and heavy losses of young deer were sustained last winter as a result of the lack of forage.

The objectives of the proposed two-day season are to permit the harvest of deer on and immediately adjacent to cultivated agricultural areas where the animals are of little value to Oregon's sportsmen and are a constant nuisance to agricultural enterprises. Also by hunting the open ranges outside the National Forest boundaries in eastern Oregon, hunters will have an opportunity to harvest the deer that are making twelve months use of critical winter ranges and contributing to substantial damage problems in the irrigated eastern Oregon valleys.

In Lake and Harney counties, a general reduction in deer numbers is mandatory if the forage resources on critical winter ranges are to be maintained. The problem is at present so general in these two counties that it cannot be confined to any one particular herd range; therefore, the "Hunter's Choice" type of season can be used to advantage.

One exception in Lake county is the summer range of the interstate mule deer herd which summers on the southern end of Fremont Forest and winters on the Modoc Forest in northern California. In

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## 1950 GAME OUTLOOK

(Continued from Page 3)

view of the interstate complications with this herd, a cooperative study was inaugurated in 1945 with the U.S. Forest Service and the states of California and Oregon participating. As a result, we now have more detailed information on the habits and trends of this herd than is available on any other mule deer herd in the west.

After making a very detailed study of the winter range of the interstate deer herd, the committee making the investigation recommended that 3,000 antlerless deer be harvested from that herd in the fall of 1950 and that Oregon and California each harvest 1,500 of these animals. The migration routes of the interstate deer herd between the Klamath Falls-Lakeview Highway and the state line provides one of the most popular mule deer hunting areas in the state. Unless some control is exercised it is possible that hunters would harvest more than the agreed 1,500 antlerless deer from that area. Therefore, the Commission found it necessary to limit the number of hunters that would have access to that area. The state law which authorizes the Commission to establish special seasons for a limited number of hunters demands that special tags be sold to any resident licensed hunter in the order in which they may apply, with a drawing held if the circumstances warrant such action. The interstate deer herd season is scheduled to occur on October 18 and 19. Only 1,500 antlerless deer tags will be issued for this season. Applications received before or by 5:00 p.m. September 15 will be included in the drawing which will be held

on September 19 in the event more than 1500 applications are received. The price of antlerless deer tags for this season will be \$5.00.

### Elk Season

The liberal "Hunter's Choice" elk season in eastern Oregon counties last year resulted in a 15 to 20 per cent reduction in most of the northeastern Oregon herds and brought most of the problem herds down to a compatible level.

Last winter elk remained at comparatively high elevations until April and May when the herds dropped down onto private range lands to utilize early green grass and weeds.

The Starkey range (area between Upper Grande Ronde River and La Grande) was withheld from the "Hunter's Choice" season of last year because of its accessibility and popularity. This action resulted in a concentration of elk in that area last winter which caused substantial damage to the limited shrub forage available and heavy spring use of privately owned grazing lands. In order to correct this problem, the Commission has authorized issuance of 250 tags for harvest of an estimated 200 antlerless elk from that area. These tags will be valid during the last half of the general season (November 11 to 19) to assure a better distribution of hunting pressure.

The Commission continues the policy of controlling elk numbers on problem browse deer ranges in central Oregon counties and will permit the harvest of elk of either sex on the Ochoco, Malheur and portions of the Whitman and Wallowa National Forests. The reason for this policy is that there are approximately eight times more deer hunters than elk hunters



Field agent points out elk use on pine in Troy area.

and one elk consumes as much forage as five deer. Therefore, on ranges which will not maintain deer herds at their present level, it does not appear wise to encourage increases in elk which would compete with deer for the limited winter forage available.

Only bull elk with three antler points including eye guard can be legally taken during the general elk season in western Oregon. The principal elk herds in western Oregon are in Clatsop, Lane, Coos, and Douglas counties. However, there has been a noticeable spread in distribution of elk in western Oregon.

Recently logged and burned ranges in Washington, Yamhill, Tillamook, and Polk counties will remain closed during the 1950 season to encourage increases in scattered small herds of elk in those counties.

Roosevelt elk, because of their habits, are much more vulnerable during hunting seasons than eastern Oregon elk and past experience indicates that unless yearling bulls (spikes) are protected, a closed season once every third year is necessary to maintain a balanced sex ratio. The three point law has been in effect since 1945 and has enabled sportsmen to enjoy continuous open seasons without jeopardizing the elk herds.

Elk in Clatsop county created a serious damage problem last winter by invading agricultural lands where lotus seed and other high value crops were being produced. Elk census data accumulated since 1945 indicates an increase in elk in that area during the past five years, but an even greater factor is that the rapid growth of conifers and alders on the elk ranges is shading out preferred forage plants and elk in seeking open grazing lands are forced down onto agricultural areas.

The Commission recognizes that as the

(Continued on Page 7)



Proximity of agricultural lands to deer habitat results in game damage problems.



# 1950 Hunting Regulations

## ANTELOPE SEASON

Open season, August 19 to August 25, inclusive.

Number of permits, 1,500 (Residents only). Fee: \$5.00.

Bag limit, one adult buck antelope having horns longer than the ears.

Open area: All of Deschutes county south of U. S. Highway 20 and east of U. S. Highway 97, all of Lake county exclusive of that area bounded on the west by U. S. Highway 395 and on the east by the Warner Valley road, and all of Harney and Malheur counties south of U. S. Highway 20.

All hunters required to return report card attached to antelope tag.

## BUCK DEER SEASON

Open season September 30 to October 17, inclusive, in all counties except Sherman county for blacktail and mule deer having not less than forked antlers, and in Douglas county for whitetail deer having not less than forked antlers. Bag limit, one deer having not less than forked antlers.

Report card attached to deer tag required to be returned to the Game Commission within thirty days after the close of the deer season, whether the hunter is successful or not. Failure to comply gives the Game Commission right to refuse deer tag the following season.

## HUNTER'S CHOICE DEER SEASON

Open season, October 21 and October 22.

Bag limit, one deer of either sex for those hunters possessing unused deer tags.

### Open Areas

**Lake County:** All of Lake county except the Mule Deer Game Refuge, that part of Lake county within National Forest boundaries north and east of the Fremont Highway (U. S. 31) and that portion south of the Klamath Falls-Lakeview Highway (Ore. 66) and west of that portion of the Three Flags Highway (U. S. 395) south of Lakeview and the "High Desert" area described below. (See Interstate Antlerless Deer Season.)

**Klamath County:** That portion of Klamath county described as follows: Beginning at the junction of The Dalles-California Highway (U. S. 97) with the north boundary of Klamath county, thence south along The Dalles-California Highway to its intersection with the north boundary of the Klamath Indian Reservation, thence following the boundary of the Klamath Indian Reservation east and south to its intersection with the Klamath Falls-Lakeview Highway (Ore. 66) near Bly, thence east along the Klamath Falls-Lakeview Highway (Ore. 66) to the intersection with the east boundary of Klamath county, thence following the east boundary of Klamath county to intersection with the Fremont Highway (U. S. 31), thence northwesterly along U. S. Highway 31 to The Dalles-California Highway (U. S. 97), the point of beginning.

**Deschutes County:** That portion of Deschutes county east of The Dalles-California Highway (U. S. 97) outside the exterior boundaries of National Forest except the "High Desert" area described below:

**Crook, Hood River and Grant Counties:** All of Crook, Hood River and Grant counties outside the exterior boundaries of National Forests except the "High Desert" area described below.

**Baker County:** All of Baker county outside the exterior boundaries of National Forests except that portion east of U. S. Highway 30 and south of State Highway 86.

**Union County:** That portion of Union county east of U. S. Highway 30 and Oregon Highway 82 outside the exterior boundaries of National Forests.

**Harney County:** All of Harney county outside the exterior boundaries of National Forests except the "High Desert" area described below.

**Wasco County:** All of Wasco county south of 15 Mile Creek, north of the Warm Springs Indian Reservation and west of The Dalles-California Highway (Oregon Highway 23 and 52).

**Malheur County:** That portion of Malheur county north of U. S. Highway 28 and west of the Brogan-Miller road.

**High Desert Closure:** The following area in Lake, Deschutes, Harney and Crook counties will be closed to hunting during the general hunter's choice deer season: Beginning at the junction of Pine Mountain road with U. S. Highway 20 at a point 3 miles east of Millican in Deschutes county; thence south along the posted road to the community of Lake in northern Lake county; thence easterly along posted

roads to junction with U. S. Highway 395 at Wagontire; thence northeasterly along U. S. Highway 395 to junction with U. S. Highway 20; thence northwesterly along posted county road to intersection with U. S. Highway 20 at Brothers; thence westerly along U. S. Highway 20 to Pine Mountain road, the point of beginning.

**Western Oregon:** The following described areas west of the summit of the Cascade Mountains: All current established cultivated agricultural lands and adjacent non-cultivated lands within a radius of one mile. Provided that all of Tillamook county and all lands within exterior boundaries of national forests will remain closed to all hunting during the general hunters' choice deer season.

## ARCHERY SEASONS—DEER AND ELK

All archers required to have archery permit in possession while hunting in any archery area. Report card attached to this permit required to be returned to the Game Commission within thirty days after the close of the archery season.

Archery permits issued free upon application to Game Commission.

All archery hunters required to have deer and/or elk tags in possession as well as Archery Permit.

All deer and/or elk must be taken by means of long bow and barbed broad arrow only. Following minimum weights and sizes are required:

Bow: Not less than 40 pounds.  
Arrow: Not less than 1 ounce (437½ grains).  
Arrowhead: Not less than ½ in. wide.  
Open seasons and bag limits for special archery areas are as follows:

**Mt. Emily Game Refuge** (Union and Umatilla counties)

Open season September 16 to September 28, inclusive.

Bag limit, one deer of either sex and one elk of either sex.

Open area: Mt. Emily Game Refuge. (Note: During regular deer and elk seasons this area open to rifle hunting with bag limits as provided under general regulations.)

**Canyon Creek Refuge** (Grant county)

Open season, September 16 to October 17, inclusive.

Bag limit, one deer of either sex and one elk of either sex.

Open area: That portion of Canyon Creek refuge lying north and east of Canyon Creek described as follows: Beginning at the mouth of Sheep Gulch Creek on Canyon Creek at a point approximately 4 miles south of Canyon City, thence south and east along Canyon Creek to the mouth of Middle Fork of Canyon Creek near Wickup Camp, thence north and east along summit, thence north and west along the summit past Pine Creek Mountain to Canyon Mountain, thence west down Sheep Gulch Creek to Canyon Creek, the point of beginning.

**Note:** All other sections of the Canyon Creek Refuge will be open to rifle hunting during the general deer season and the entire refuge will be open to rifle hunting during the elk season.

**Tillamook Burn** (Tillamook county)

Open season, September 16 to September 28, inclusive.

Bag limit, one deer of either sex.

Open area: Beginning at the junction of the Jordan Creek road with the Wilson River Highway No. 6, thence up the Jordan Creek road to the summit, thence north along the South Fork of the Wilson River road to the Old McNamer Camp on the Wilson River Highway No. 6, thence southwesterly along the Wilson River Highway No. 6 to the Jordan Creek road, the point of beginning.

**Baker Area** (Baker county)

Open season, September 16 to September 28, inclusive.

Bag limit, one deer of either sex and one elk of either sex.

Open area: Beginning at the city of Baker, thence south along State Highway 7 to its junction with Elk Creek, thence northwesterly up Elk Creek to its junction with the boundary of the Baker Watershed, thence following the east and north boundary of the watershed to the summit of Elkhorn Ridge, thence northwesterly along the ridge to Anthony Lakes, thence north along the Anthony Butte Road past the Porcupine Guard Station to the intersection with the Beaver Tower Road, thence northwesterly along the Beaver Tower Road to its intersection with the Telephone Line Trail, thence north-easterly along the Telephone Line Trail to Pedro Cabin, thence easterly on posted road to

the Howard Meadows Road, thence southeasterly along posted road to intersection with Ladd Creek Road, thence north and east along the Ladd Creek Road to its junction with U. S. Highway 30 at Hot Lake, thence south along U. S. Highway 30 to the city of Baker, the point of beginning.

**Cow Creek Game Refuge** (Douglas county)

Open season, September 16 to September 28, inclusive.

Bag limit, one deer of either sex.

Open area: Cow Creek game refuge.

## SPECIAL DEER SEASONS

**Interstate Herd** (Lake and Klamath counties)

Open season, October 18 and October 19.

Number of permits, 1,500 tags.

Bag limit, one antlerless deer.

Fee: \$5.00.

All hunters required to check in and out of area. Checking stations at Fort Spring cabin on the State Line road, at the junction of Finley Corral road with State Highway 66, and at junction of West Side road with State Highway 66.

Open area: All of the Mule Deer Game Refuge and that portion of Lake county south of the Klamath Falls-Lakeview Highway (Oregon 66) and west of the Three Flags Highway (U. S. 395) south of Lakeview.

## GENERAL ELK SEASON

**Western Oregon**

Open season, October 25 to November 19, inclusive.

Bag limit, one bull elk with three points or more, including the brow tine on one antler.

Open area: That portion of Oregon west of The Dalles-California Highway (U. S. 97), except the following areas which are closed to elk hunting: All of Polk, Washington and Yamhill counties; all of Tillamook county except the northwest corner bounded on the east by State Highway 53 and on the south and west by U. S. Highway 101; and that part of Douglas county east of U. S. Highway 99 and north and east of Oregon Highway 227.

**Eastern Oregon**

Open season, October 25 to November 19, inclusive.

Bag limits:

One bull elk with antlers in the following described area: Beginning at Arlington; thence south and east along Oregon Highway 19 to Kimberly; thence east along Kimberly-Long Creek road to Long Creek; thence north along U. S. Highway 395 to its intersection with the road up the Middle Fork of the John Day river; thence southeast up the Middle Fork road to its intersection with U. S. Highway 28 one mile south of Bates; thence easterly along U. S. Highway 28 to its junction with Burnt River road (Oregon Highway 7); thence easterly along Oregon Highway 7 to its junction with the Water Gulch road at Hereford; thence northerly along Water Gulch road to its junction with the Sumpter Valley road at Lockhart; thence westerly along Sumpter Valley road to Sumpter; thence north along the Fruit Creek road to the summit of the Blue Mountains, thence north along the summit to its junction with the Anthony Lakes Road, thence north along the Anthony Butte Road past the Porcupine Guard Station to its intersection with the Beaver Tower Road, thence northwesterly along the Beaver Tower Road to its intersection with the Telephone Line Trail, thence north-easterly along the Telephone Line Trail to Pedro Cabin, thence easterly along road to intersection with Ladd Creek Road, thence north and east along Ladd Creek Road to its junction with U. S. Highway 30 at Hot Lake, thence northwest along U. S. Highway 30 to La Grande, thence northeast along Oregon Highway 82 to Joseph, thence northeasterly along the Sheep Creek Road to its intersection with the Imnaha River, thence northeasterly down the Imnaha River to its confluence with the Snake River, thence following the State Line to the north and west to its junction with U. S. Highway 730, thence westerly along U. S. Highway 730 and U. S. Highway 30 to Arlington, the point of beginning.

One elk of either sex in the area east of The Dalles-California Highway (U. S. 97) with the exception of that portion, described above, restricted to bull elk having antlers.

**Extended Elk Seasons**

The open season for elk of either sex shall be extended from November 20 to December 31, inclusive, in the following described areas: All of Clatsop county on or within one mile of current established cultivated agricultural lands.

Those portions of western Coos and Douglas counties within three miles of Loon Lake in Township 23 S, R 10 W, Willamette Meridian.

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## 1950 Hunting Regulations

(Continued from Page 5)

Provided that all elk killed during the extended seasons specified above must be tagged with the metal seal of the Game Commission before transporting from the open area. Tagging stations will be located as follows:

Clatsop area: Astoria, Seaside and Birkenfeld.  
Loon Lake area: Loon Lake.

### SPECIAL ELK SEASON

#### Starkey Area (Union county)

Open season, November 11 to November 19, inclusive.

Number of permits, 250.

Bag limit, one antlerless elk.

All hunters required to check in and out of area. Checking stations at the intersection of the Starkey Road and U. S. Highway 30 at Starkey and at La Grande.

Open area: Beginning at the junction of the Starkey Road with U. S. Highway 30, thence west and south along the Starkey Road to Starkey, thence south and east along Chicken Hill road to Anthony Lakes, thence north along the Anthony Butte Road past the Porcupine Guard Station to the intersection with the Beaver Tower Road, thence northwesterly along the Beaver Tower Road to its intersection with the Telephone Line Trail, thence north-easterly along the Telephone Line Trail to Pedro Cabin, thence easterly on posted road to the Howard Meadows Road, thence southeasterly along posted road to intersection with Ladd Creek Road, thence north and east along the Ladd Creek Road to its junction with U. S. Highway 30 at Hot Lake, thence northwesterly along U. S. Highway 30 to its intersection with the Starkey Road, the point of beginning.

### GAME REFUGES OPEN TO HUNTING

The following game reserves will be open to hunting during the regular open seasons for wild birds and wild animals except as otherwise specified:

Canyon Creek Game Refuge (see description of portion set aside for archery season).

Salt Creek, Grass Mountain, Steens Mountain, Cow Creek, Whitetail Deer, Mule Deer, Three Sisters, Mt. Emily Game Refuge, Myrtle Park, Ochoco, Burnt River, and the following portions of other State Refuges:

Warner Game Refuge outside the exterior boundaries of the Hart Mountain National Antelope Refuge.

That part of the Oregon Caves refuge outside the Lake and Cave Creek drainages which includes the Oregon Caves Monument and is bounded by summits on the north, east, and south.

The Willowa Mountain refuge with the exception of that portion outside the boundaries of the Willowa National Forest.

That portion of the Deschutes Game reservation lying south of the following described line: Beginning at the junction of the posted fire road with U. S. Highway 97 in Section 32, T 20 S, R 11 E, thence east and south along posted fire road to its intersection with the Paulina Creek road in Section 31, T 21 S, R 12 E, thence easterly along the Paulina Creek road to its junction with the China Hat road in Section 4, T 22 S, R 14 E.

### CLOSED TO ALL HUNTING

#### Molalla Area (Clackamas county)

Beginning at the Molalla River bridge at Shady Dell, thence south along the county road to Dickey Prairie, thence south and east along county road to its junction with Crown-Zellerbach No. 100 road, thence east along the No. 100 road to its junction with the U. S. Forest Service Timothy Patch road, thence south and east along the Timothy Patch road to its junction with the Range line between Ranges 4 east and 5 east, thence south along the Range line to its junction with the South Fork of the Molalla River, thence west along the South Fork of the Molalla River to its confluence with the Table Rock Fork of the Molalla River, thence north and west along the main Molalla River to the bridge at Shady Dell, the point of beginning.

#### Tillamook Burn (Tillamook county)

Beginning at the junction of the Jordan Creek road with the Wilson River Highway No. 6, thence up the Jordan Creek road to the summit, thence north along the South Fork of the Wilson River road to the old McNamara Camp on the Wilson River Highway No. 6, thence southwesterly along the Wilson River Highway No. 6 to the Jordan Creek road, the point of beginning, provided that the area shall be open to archery hunting during the archery season for deer.

#### Mill Creek Area (Polk county)

Beginning at Dallas, thence westerly along

the main graveled road up Rickreall Creek and along the Pope and Talbot Lumber Company logging road to its junction with the Main Line logging road of the Willamette Valley Logging Company at the foot of Rilea Peak in Section 12, Township 8 S, Range 8 W, thence northerly along the Main Line logging road through K-Junction to Boulder Camp in Section 19, Township 7 S, Range 7 W, thence northeast along the main logging road to its junction with the Mill Creek road, thence northeasterly along the Mill Creek road to its junction with State Highway 22 near Buell, thence southeasterly along State Highway 22 to Dallas, the point of beginning.

McKay Creek Area (Crook county). This area closed to deer hunting only.)

Beginning at the junction of the Allen Creek road with the Ochoco summit road at a point approximately one mile east of Foley Butte, thence east along said summit road to its junction with the Mill Creek road, thence south along the Mill Creek road to junction with the new logging road on Harvey Creek, thence westerly along the Harvey Creek and McKay Creek roads to junction with the Allen Creek road in Section 5, Township 13 south, range 17 east, thence north along the Allen Creek road to its junction with the Ochoco summit road, the point of beginning.

#### Bessie Butte Area (Deschutes county)

Beginning at the junction of the northwest corner of the Deschutes Game Reservation with U. S. Highway 97, thence northerly along U. S. Highway 97 to its junction with the Arnold Ice Cave road, thence southeasterly along the Arnold Ice Cave road to its junction with the Deschutes Game Reservation boundary, thence west along the north boundary of the Deschutes Game Reservation to its junction with U. S. Highway 97, the point of beginning.

#### Soap Creek Area (Benton county)

Beginning at the junction of the newly acquired county route No. 65 with Highway 99 West about 200 yards north of the main Adair Village entrance, in Township 10 South, Range 4 West, Section 30, Benton County and proceeding north on Highway 99 West to county route No. 3904 in Township 10 South, Range 4 West, Section 7, in Benton county; thence west on gravel route No. 3904 to its junction with county route No. 6501, thence south along route No. 6501 to county route No. 65, thence northwest along route No. 65 to a point intersecting the east line of section 9, in Township 10 South, Range 5 West, thence south along the east line of sections 9, 16, 21, 28 and 33 to intersection with the Sulphur Springs Road in Township 11 South, Range 5 West, Section 4, thence northeast along the Sulphur Springs road to the point where it crosses county route No. 65, thence in a southeasterly direction to Highway No. 99 West and the place of beginning, as posted by the Oregon State Game Commission.

#### Madras Area (Jefferson county)

Beginning at the town of Gateway, thence north along the county road to a point on the East bank of the Deschutes River at the mouth of Trout Creek, thence south along the east bank of the Deschutes River to the mouth of Crooked River, thence south and east along Crooked River to intersection with U. S. Highway No. 97; thence north along U. S. Highway No. 97 four miles to intersection of the county road to Lamonta; thence easterly along the main traveled county road through Lamonta to road junction, approximately two miles west of the town of Grizzly; thence northerly along the Hay Creek road to junction with U. S. Highway No. 97 in Township 9 South, Range 15 East, Section 31; thence westerly approximately 2½ miles to junction with the Gateway Road, thence westerly along the county road to the town of Gateway, the point of beginning.

#### Sauvie Island (Multnomah and Columbia counties)

All state-owned lands on Sauvie Island except those set aside as a public shooting ground.

#### Government Island Management Area (Multnomah county)

#### Chewaucan Area (Lake county)

That part of the property of the Chewaucan Land and Cattle Company in the upper and lower Chewaucan marshes except that portion operated as a public shooting ground.

#### Summer Lake (Lake county)

That part of the Summer Lake Game Management Area not operated as a public shooting ground.

#### Naval Air Station (Tillamook county)

#### Winchester Dam (Douglas county)

The stillwater portion behind the Copco dam at Winchester upstream to lower end of the island, a distance of 1.5 miles.

Deans Point (Tillamook county) (Closed to pig-eon hunting only.)

That part of Tillamook county described as follows: Beginning at the Nehalem River state highway bridge; thence running south along the west bank of the Nehalem river to the south end of Deans Point; thence running north along the east side of the Nehalem Bay to the mouth of Tubessing Creek; thence running east from Tubessing Creek to the Nehalem River state highway bridge along a line of markers to be established by the Game Commission, the point of beginning.

Nehalem Bay (Tillamook county) (This area closed to waterfowl hunting only.)

Beginning at the junction of the east bank of Tubessing Creek with U. S. Highway 101; thence westerly along Highway 101 to its junction with Cemetery Road; thence south and west along Cemetery Road to its junction with Bennett Road; thence west and south along Bennett Road to its end; thence west and south along the trail which is a continuation of Bennett Road to its junction with Nehalem Bay; thence northeasterly in Nehalem Bay along a line of markers to be established by the Game Commission to the mouth of Tubessing creek; thence north along the east bank of Tubessing Creek to its junction with U. S. Highway 101, the point of beginning.

Coos Bay (Coos county) (This area closed to waterfowl hunting only.)

That part of Coos Bay (Coos county) described as follows: Beginning on Russell Point at the north end of U. S. Highway No. 101 Bridge across Coos Bay in Coos county, thence west approximately ¾ on parallel 43° 26' to the Southern Pacific Railway to a point due east of the northeast point of the North Bend Airport, thence west to the northeast point of the North Bend Airport, thence southerly along the west bank of Pony Slough to the Charleston-North Bend Highway, thence east along the Charleston-North Bend Highway to the east bank of Pony Slough, thence northerly along the east bank of Pony Slough and Coos Bay to the south end of the Highway No. 101 Bridge, thence northerly along the Highway Bridge to the point of beginning.

Also all State and Federal Parks and refuges are closed to all hunting, except those specifically opened to hunting as herein listed.

### SMALL GAME

#### PHEASANTS

Area 1. Multnomah, Clackamas, Washington, Yamhill, Polk, Marion, Linn, Benton, Lane, Columbia, Coos, Clatsop, Tillamook and Douglas counties.

Season: Noon October 14 through October 22, inclusive.

Bag: Two cocks a day, four in a season.

Area 2. Lake, Klamath, Josephine, Jackson, Deschutes, Crook, Hood River, Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Wheeler, Morrow, Umatilla, Union, Willowa, Baker, Grant, Harney, and Jefferson (exclusive of the Madras Irrigation Project).

Season: Noon October 14 through October 29, inclusive.

Bag: Three cocks a day, nine a season.

Area 3. Malheur county.

Season: Noon October 14 through November 5, inclusive.

Bag: Four cocks a day, 12 a season.

Area 4. Summer Lake as described in the 1949 synopsis.

Season: Open in the morning (on a Friday) one week after the waterfowl opening. Extend throughout the waterfowl season.

Bag: Four of either sex a day, 12 a season.

Hunters required to check in and out of area and have pheasants tagged. Stations at Summer Lake and Paisley.

#### VALLEY QUAIL

Open season in Jefferson, Wheeler, Gilliam, Morrow, Crook, Deschutes, Grant, Harney, Lake, Klamath, Umatilla, Josephine, and Jackson.

Season: Noon October 14 through October 29, inclusive.

Bag: Ten a day, 20 a season.

#### HUNGARIAN PARTRIDGE

Open season in Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Willowa, Wheeler, Gilliam, Jefferson, Baker, Union and Grant counties.

Season: Noon October 14 through October 29, inclusive.

Bag: Three a day, six a season.

#### BLUE AND RUFFED GROUSE

Area: All counties west of the summit of the Cascades and Umatilla, Morrow, Union, Baker, Grant, and Wheeler counties.

Season: September 1 through September 7, inclusive.

Bag: Two grouse a day and for the season.

#### SAGE GROUSE

Area: Lake, Deschutes, Harney, and Malheur

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## 1950 GAME OUTLOOK

(Continued from Page 4)

old logged and burned areas become reforested, the carrying capacity for game will decline but does not desire to jeopardize all of the Clatsop county herds in order to control the present damage problem on farm lands. For this reason they have authorized an extended season such as has been used successfully in Baker county.

Any holder of an unused elk tag may take an elk of either sex on or within a radius of one mile of cultivated agricultural lands in Clatsop county between November 19 and December 31.

A similar season has been authorized within a radius of three miles of Loon Lake in western Douglas county.

These seasons are not recommended as a likely place to get an elk because the foot hill lands adjacent to farms are very brushy and there probably will be few, if any, elk present early in the season. It is suggested that hunters who desire to hunt in these areas contact landowners and arrange to be advised when elk move down onto farm lands.

Hunters must realize that most of the lands included in the extended elk season and "Hunter's Choice" deer season are in private ownership and Oregon laws require that the hunter obtain permission to hunt from the landowner. It is probable that some landowners will exercise the privilege of posting their property and preventing trespass; however, in this event, the landowner will certainly have weakened his position if he claims need for control of damage to his property by game.

### Small Game

The most popular small game species in Oregon are pheasants, quail, and migratory birds. Most of these species have a comparatively short life span and high reproductive potential so that they must be managed as an annual crop.

The Commission is necessarily concerned with the maintenance of an adequate breeding population of small game species and is in the unfortunate position of having to establish hunting regulations before it is possible for them to determine the current year's crop with accuracy.

A measurement of breeding populations of most small game species is obtained by conducting a census during the late winter and early spring months. This provides a knowledge of the breeding stock available but does not provide a measure of their reproductive success and the surplus that will be available for harvest on the following fall. To supplement the information obtained by census, the Commission's field agents conduct a survey during the two weeks prior to the Commission's July meeting to determine the percentage of game birds and animals that have succeeded in bringing off young ones and the average size of litter or brood; however, usually there are so many standing crops that it is impossible to account for a high

percentage and the information obtained is not completely reliable. Normally, by August 15 it is possible to determine the season's crop with reasonable accuracy.

### Pheasant

The spring pheasant census indicated a slight increase in pheasant numbers in eastern Oregon counties and a decline in pheasants in most western Oregon counties; however, fair breeding populations were present in most counties and brood counts obtained early in July indicated a better than average rearing season. In western Oregon a total of 186 hens were observed and 69 per cent of these hens had a brood. The average size of the brood was 7.8 chicks or an average production of 5.7 chicks per hen. In eastern Oregon a total of 784 hens were observed and only 33 per cent of the hens observed had a brood. The absence of early broods can be explained by the fact that the growing season in eastern Oregon was retarded by continuous cold weather this spring and it is entirely possible that many pheasant broods will hatch late.

The 1950 pheasant season follows a

## ABOUT THE AUTHOR

John McKean, a native of Douglas county, is a member of the 1938 graduating class of the fish and game department at Oregon State College. He began his service with the Commission by working summers at the Corvallis pheasant farm during 1936 and 1937, and then accepted a permanent job upon his graduation.

His first assignment was to take charge of pheasant liberations for western Oregon. He initiated the present method of releasing birds on a systematic basis, conducting surveys of liberation sites to determine suitability as to food, water and cover.

During reorganization of the department, he was appointed chief biologist in charge of big game and upland game. When increased activities made it necessary to create two sections, he elected to keep the upland game. A little more than a year ago he was appointed to his present position as Chief of Operations for the Game Division, which embraces all activities dealing with upland game, big game, migratory game and furbearers.

McKean has two hobbies which tie in closely with his job, photography and flying. Although not required to do so in the line of duty, he misses no chance to pilot a plane when flying is in order to survey game areas, hunt coyotes, and, straying over occasionally into the fisheries field, count salmon fishermen on the Willamette River.



pattern similar to last year, opening on noon October 14 and extending through October 22 in the Willamette Valley and adjacent counties with a bag limit of 2 cocks a day and 4 in season.

Most eastern Oregon counties will enjoy a two-week season with three week ends and a bag limit of 3 cocks per day or 9 during the season.

In Malheur county the season will extend through November 5 and the bag limit will be 4 cocks a day or 12 during the season.

At Summer Lake, where hunters have participated in a study of the survival of pheasants by harvesting as many as possible of the marked, released birds, the pheasant season will not open until a Friday one week after the opening of the waterfowl season. The bag limit at Summer Lake will be 4 pheasants of either sex a day or 12 during the season. The purpose of the delayed opening at Summer Lake is to provide for a better distribution of the hunting pressure and alleviate the public safety problem that has occurred in past years when large numbers of hunters concentrate in the comparatively small area that is used by pheasants.

### Valley Quail

Although deep snows and extreme cold temperatures last winter caused a loss of some valley quail, the spring census indicates that in most counties there is an adequate breeding population. With normal nesting success surpluses can be anticipated for the 1950 hunting season.

The season will extend from noon October 14 through October 29 in Jefferson, Wheeler, Gilliam, Morrow, Crook, Deschutes, Grant, Harney, Lake, Klamath, Umatilla, Josephine, and Jackson counties.

In the past quail hunting has been largely incidental to pheasant hunting; however, during the last few years it has been observed that an increasing number of hunters have been making trips into central Oregon for the specific purpose of hunting quail. Although quail are not as large as pheasants, they are more sporty to shoot and in areas where they are abundant, they provide a very attractive form of recreation. Excellent quail shooting can be expected in Crook, Deschutes, Grant, and Wheeler counties this fall.

### Hungarian Partridge

Although Hungarian Partridge are not as abundant in Malheur and other eastern Oregon counties as they were in the early 1940's, they have a very wide distribution and the Commission does not anticipate that an open season this fall will jeopardize breeding populations of this species.

Hungarian Partridge may be hunted in Malheur, Morrow, Umatilla, Wallowa, Wheeler, Gilliam, Jefferson, Baker, Union and Grant counties during the regular pheasant season and the bag limit will be 3 Huns per day or 6 during the season.

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# 1949 DEER AND ELK KILL

The separate deer tag in effect for the past two years has enabled the Game Commission to analyze statistically the annual kill. Success of this project necessarily is dependent upon individual co-operation by all participating sportsmen in submitting information cards attached to the deer tag.

Results of the 1949 deer season have been tabulated and are now available. A total of 163,628 hunters purchased deer tags during 1949 as compared to 166,618 tag holders in 1948. The 1949 buck kill totaled 57,260, an increase of 17,475 over the 1948 bag of 39,785.

From the hunters' standpoint the 1949 deer season was very excellent. An average of 35.0 per cent of all hunters were successful in bagging a buck. In 1948, the average hunter success was 23.9 per cent.

A comparison of the kill for 1948 and 1949 is provided in Table I. In the majority of counties the kill was upward, although one notable exception, Tillamook county, reported a decreased bag. Since much of this country was opened to deer hunting for the first time in 1948 after

several years of closure, the kill was expected to stabilize after the large surplus of bucks was removed during the first open season.

Compared to previous years, archers were very successful in 1949. This is accounted for by the opening of an excellent archery area in Tillamook county. Not only was the kill higher but the number of archers participating exceeded the 1948 figure. During 1949, a total of 657 archers bagged 59 deer and one elk, for a success ratio of 9.17 per cent as compared to the 1948 kill of 10 deer by 186 participants.

Results of the 1949 archery seasons are tabulated in Table II.

One controlled deer hunt was authorized in 1949 on the north side of the John Day river in Grant county. The season was held from December 15 through December 18 and was an emergency measure designed to crop surplus deer on a winter range which was in serious condition due to drought and grasshopper infestations during the previous summer. A total of 844 hunters bagged 750 antlerless deer, the success average being 89

per cent.

The 1949 elk kill was higher than any year since the season was first opened in 1933. A total of 9,134 elk were bagged by 26,096 hunters, 35 per cent of all tag holders being successful. The numbers of hunters and kill for 1949 exceeded those of 1948 when 22,536 participants removed 5,430 elk for an average success of 24 per cent.

Clatsop and Coos counties led all others in western Oregon from the standpoint of elk harvested. The 1949 kill of 185 bulls in Clatsop county was identical with that of 1948, while the 184 bagged in Coos county was a substantial increase over the 113 taken the previous year.

The greatest increase in kill occurred in eastern Oregon as a result of the very generous season held last fall. With the exception of two small areas, all of north-eastern Oregon was open for both sexes. Umatilla, Union and Grant counties recorded the highest bag in that order.

Table III provides a complete summary of the 1949 elk kill by counties.

(See page 9 for Tables II and III)

TABLE I  
GENERAL DEER SEASON  
1948 — 1949

County	Number of Hunters		Kill		% Hunters Successful		% Forked Antlers		County Area in Sq. Miles	Bucks Killed per Sq. Mile	
	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948	1949	1948		1949	1948
Baker.....	5,495	5,607	2,521	1,721	45.9	30.7	41.1	43.6	3,084	0.8	0.6
Benton.....	2,983	2,776	630	507	21.1	18.3	51.1	52.7	647	1.0	0.8
Clackamas.....	2,355	2,038	458	350	19.4	17.2	50.0	48.9	1,890	0.2	0.2
Clatsop.....	3,768	3,450	917	790	24.3	22.9	48.8	51.0	820	1.1	1.0
Columbia.....	3,297	3,135	687	440	20.8	14.0	50.1	52.5	646	1.1	0.7
Coos.....	4,553	6,340	1,490	1,198	32.7	18.9	47.8	49.0	1,611	0.9	0.7
Crook.....	4,867	4,692	2,005	1,240	41.2	26.4	54.3	44.0	2,980	0.7	0.4
Curry.....	1,099	1,673	458	361	41.7	21.6	48.6	42.1	1,622	0.3	0.2
Deschutes.....	13,183	8,560	4,756	2,180	36.1	25.5	43.2	56.5	3,041	1.6	0.7
Douglas.....	6,908	8,512	2,464	1,746	35.7	20.5	44.1	44.1	5,062	0.5	0.3
Gilliam.....	314	.....	114	.....	36.3	.....	32.0	.....	1,211	0.1	.....
Grant.....	9,734	9,904	5,558	3,033	57.1	30.6	44.1	50.3	4,532	1.2	0.7
Harney.....	7,536	9,252	4,011	3,266	53.2	35.3	46.3	49.2	10,132	0.4	0.3
Hood River.....	1,413	1,669	172	168	12.2	10.1	42.9	54.5	529	0.3	0.3
Jackson.....	6,437	8,264	2,063	1,365	32.0	16.5	34.9	32.5	2,817	0.7	0.5
Jefferson.....	1,256	975	344	245	27.4	25.1	38.8	43.2	1,794	0.2	0.1
Josephine.....	2,355	3,096	630	394	26.7	12.7	32.5	39.7	1,625	0.4	0.2
Klamath.....	11,932	9,972	5,443	3,104	45.6	31.1	45.4	43.8	5,973	0.9	0.5
Lake.....	13,659	12,741	6,900	3,860	51.0	30.3	51.0	54.3	8,270	0.8	0.5
Lane.....	7,222	7,892	1,833	1,423	25.4	18.0	44.6	45.2	4,594	0.4	0.3
Lincoln.....	2,041	3,177	630	545	30.9	17.2	49.8	52.4	1,006	0.6	0.5
Linn.....	3,454	3,059	917	636	26.5	20.8	44.2	46.2	2,204	0.4	0.3
Malheur.....	2,983	3,106	1,146	886	38.4	28.5	41.1	41.7	9,870	0.1	0.1
Marion.....	2,669	2,452	516	428	19.3	17.5	53.8	50.0	1,173	0.4	0.4
Morrow.....	2,041	1,742	859	392	42.1	22.5	44.2	54.0	2,059	0.4	0.2
Multnomah.....	314	374	57	33	18.1	8.8	53.9	43.3	424	0.1	0.1
Polk.....	2,826	2,447	745	522	26.4	21.3	48.9	47.1	739	1.0	0.7
Tillamook.....	9,734	9,976	2,349	3,268	24.1	32.8	45.8	38.7	1,115	2.1	2.9
Umatilla.....	4,396	4,971	1,089	896	24.8	18.0	45.8	46.2	3,231	0.3	0.3
Union.....	4,485	5,488	1,260	1,138	28.1	20.7	38.8	46.4	2,032	0.6	0.6
Wallowa.....	2,512	5,494	1,146	1,250	45.6	22.8	33.3	38.8	3,178	0.4	0.4
Wasco.....	1,884	1,878	458	311	24.3	16.6	36.6	43.2	2,387	0.2	0.1
Washington.....	2,669	2,611	802	755	30.0	28.9	25.9	38.8	716	1.1	1.1
Wheeler.....	2,512	2,264	1,374	755	54.7	33.3	41.0	47.5	1,707	0.8	0.4
Yamhill.....	2,198	2,157	458	473	20.8	21.9	49.5	53.7	709	0.6	0.7
Tag Holders Not Hunting..	6,544	4,741	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
State Totals and Averages.....	163,628	166,618	57,260	39,785	35.0	23.9	44.1	46.7	95,430	0.6	0.4



## 1950 GAME OUTLOOK

(Continued from Page 7)

Huns are so widely scattered over open grass range lands in eastern Oregon that it is difficult to recommend an area where concentrations of birds will occur to attract hunters who specifically desire to hunt Hungarian Partridge. Probably the best Hun hunting will be in Malheur county where they are found on agricultural lands with pheasants.

### Blue and Ruffed Grouse

During the past five years the Commission has been allowing an open season on grouse each year in counties along the coast range and protecting blue and ruffed grouse in most other sections of the state. Density measurements indicate that the open season in the coast range has had no substantial effect upon grouse densities and that in other areas protection has not encouraged substantial increases. Blue and ruffed grouse occur in timbered sections throughout the state and the Com-

mission has authorized an open season in all counties west of the summit of the Cascades and Umatilla, Morrow, Union, Baker, Grant, and Wheeler counties. The season will extend from September 1 through the 7th and the bag limit will be 2 grouse per day and for the season. These dates coincide with the probable pigeon and dove season and will give shotgun artists an opportunity to bag both pigeons and grouse during the first week of the pigeon season.

### Sage Grouse

The sage grouse is a cyclic species which appears to be near the top of its cycle and it is the Game Commission's desire that hunters have an opportunity to harvest a part of the sage grouse crop before the expected natural losses occur. These birds are most plentiful on the desert ranges in Malheur, Harney, and Lake counties and are not at present abundant on the northern portion of their range which extends into Crook, Grant, and Baker counties.

The sage grouse season will extend from September 1 through the 7th in Lake, Deschutes, Harney, and Malheur counties south of U.S. Highway 20. The bag limit will be 3 grouse a day and for the season.

Last year the Game Commission authorized a sage grouse season during the first five days of the deer season in an effort to give every hunter an equal opportunity to participate in the sage grouse hunt. It is recognized that few western Oregon residents will have an opportunity to make a trip into southeastern Oregon counties for the specific purpose of hunting sage grouse and that it would be desirable to have the sage grouse season combined with some other general season in that area so that the sage grouse could be harvested as a secondary crop. However, last year several hunters complained that in October they could not tell the young birds from the old birds and that the birds harvested were not nearly as palatable as they would have been earlier in the season. In view of this condition, the Commission has selected an earlier date including the Labor Day week end which will give hunters ample opportunity to pursue sage hens if they so desire.

### Silver Grey Squirrels

The silver grey squirrel is another small game species which is far from abundant in Oregon and deserves protection in counties where nuts are not an important commercial crop and the squirrels can be maintained without substantial damage to orchards. The open season will extend from October 1 through October 20 in Benton, Linn, Lane, Josephine, Jackson, Coos, and Curry counties. Squirrels may be hunted the entire year in other Willamette Valley counties.

### Migratory Birds

Ducks, geese, and other migratory birds fall under the jurisdiction of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the Oregon Game Commission only has authority to regulate within the provisions established by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. This year the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will not announce 1950 regulations until after a complete survey of the year's production has been completed in August and for this reason the Oregon Game Commission was not in a position to consider regulations for the 1950 waterfowl season during its July hearing.

During the past two years the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has given the states alternatives as to certain opening dates and a choice as to whether they desire a split season or the continuous season. Last year the Oregon Game Commission had the choice of a fifty-day continuous season or two twenty day split seasons with dates predetermined by the Fish and Wildlife Service. Because of the wide variations in time of arrival of migratory flights, the Oregon Game Commission selected the split season. The first portion of this season from October 21 to November 9 was

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TABLE II

### 1949 ARCHERY SEASON

Name of Area	Dates of Season	No. of Archers	Bucks	Does	Fawns	Elk	Total	% of Archers Success.
Tillamook Burn	Sept. 17-28, Inc.	413	7	28	10	..	45	10.9
Mt. Emily	Sept. 17-28, Inc.	147	3	5	..	1	9	6.1
Canyon Creek	Sept. 17-Oct. 20, Inc.	97	0	6	..	..	6	6.2
		657	10	39	10	1	60	9.17

TABLE III

### 1949 GENERAL ELK SEASON

County	No. of Hunters	Bulls	KILL		Totals	% Successful Hunters	% Spike Bulls
			Cows	Calves			
Clackamas	7	...	...	...	0	0.0	...
Clatsop	1,028	185	...	...	185	18.0	...
Columbia	63	5	...	...	5	0.8	...
Coos	752	184	...	...	184	24.5	...
Curry	63	10	...	...	10	15.9	...
Deschutes	26	3	...	...	3	01.2	...
Douglas	252	30	...	...	30	11.9	...
Hood River	4	2	...	...	2	50.0	...
Klamath	13	2	...	...	2	15.4	...
Lane	210	10	...	...	10	04.8	...
Lincoln	60	12	...	...	12	20.0	...
Wasco	13	0	...	...	0	0.0	...
Yamhill	13	6	...	...	6	46.2	...
WESTERN OREGON							
SUB-TOTAL	2,504	449	...	...	449	17.9	...
Baker	2,004	173	229	58	460	22.9	22.8
Crook	252	10	13	8	31	12.3	...
Gilliam	13	...	...	2	2	15.4	...
Grant	3,758	457	646	323	1,426	37.9	17.6
Harney	312	17	28	16	61	19.5	...
Jefferson	26	...	...	2	2	07.7	...
Lake	26	1	...	...	1	03.8	...
Malheur	3,507	21	27	20	68	01.9	44.4
Morrow	1,253	186	301	172	659	52.6	26.4
Umatilla	6,011	822	1,370	731	2,923	48.6	35.1
Union	3,507	548	1,187	457	2,192	62.5	30.7
Wallowa	1,754	365	274	183	822	46.9	30.0
Wheeler	125	14	14	10	38	30.4	54.5
EASTERN OREGON							
SUB-TOTAL	22,548	2,614	4,089	1,982	8,685	38.5	28.9
Tagholders Who Did Not Hunt	1,044						
STATE TOTALS							
AND AVERAGE	26,096	3,063	4,089	1,982	9,134	35.0	31.9

## Oregon State Game Commission Bulletin

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PORTLAND 8, OREGON

### 1950 GAME OUTLOOK

(Continued from Page 9)

designed to provide shooting in the south central Oregon area. The second half of this season from December 19 through January 7 was designed to provide shooting in the remaining three-quarters of the state and particularly in the Willamette Valley and coastal area where good hunting is not normally available until late in December. Unfortunately clear weather prevailed during the first half of the 1949 season and hunter's success was low in most south central Oregon counties. When good shooting weather did occur, the season had closed and by the time the second season opened, most of the birds had left the area for more temperate regions. This occurrence led to vociferous complaints against the split season from the south central Oregon area and in the event the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service again permits the states a choice in the manner of setting seasons, it will be extremely difficult for the Commission to satisfy the demands of all sections of the state and stay within the limits demanded by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

All of the Commission's game agents participated in the annual waterfowl census last winter. Final tabulations of this census indicated a decline in breeding population of most waterfowl species. In view of this condition it does not appear probable that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will authorize a more liberal season than in 1949 and in all probability, unless they find an exceptionally high survival on the northern rearing grounds, the season will be curtailed this fall.

#### Conclusion

In preparing the 1950 hunting regulations, the Game Commission has endeavored to make them as simple and understandable as possible and impose a minimum of restrictions upon the activities of those seeking recreation in pursuit of game. In accomplishing this, it was necessary to include some areas in the "Hunter's Choice" deer season which were not an immediate problem. However, it is assumed that sportsmen will recognize the intent of the regulations, select known problem areas to hunt in, and exercise respect for the game laws and private properties upon which they will be hunting.

The Commission has provided for the closure of some areas during the 1950 seasons. These will be described in the 1950 Hunting Synopsis and posted to prevent confusion.

Tagging regulations will be the same as in 1949 with the exception that elk taken during the extended elk seasons in Clatsop and Coos counties must be tagged with a metal seal before transporting from the area in which they were legally killed, and tagging of game birds will not be necessary during the general open seasons.

The Oregon Game Commission recognizes that the "Hunter's Choice" deer season is new to Oregon sportsmen and will undoubtedly be the subject of much controversy, because most citizens are not aware of the damage and range problems that are involved. Unfortunately space is not available in this article to explain the detailed problems encountered in each specific locality. However, if sportsmen's clubs or other interested groups desire a more detailed explanation, an effort will be made to have one of the Commission's agents present more information upon request.

### 1950 Hunting Regulations

(Continued from Page 6)

counties south of U. S. Highway 20.

Season: September 1 through September 7, inclusive.

Bag: Three grouse a day and for the season.

#### SILVER GREY SQUIRRELS

Open season is from October 1 to October 20, inclusive, in Benton, Linn, Lane, Josephine, Jackson, Coos, and Curry counties.

Open season is entire year in Columbia, Washington, Multnomah, Clackamas, Marion, Yamhill, and Polk counties.

Bag limit: Five in possession.

#### MIGRATORY BIRDS

##### DUCKS AND GEESE

Season and bag as allowed by the Federal Government.

##### MOURNING DOVE

Season: September 1 to September 15.

Bag: Ten a day or in possession.

##### BAND-TAILED PIGEONS

Season: September 1 to September 30, inclusive.

Bag: Eight a day, 24 a season.

#### TAGGING REGULATIONS

All big game animals and birds in possession in the field or forest or in transit more than 48 hours after the close of the open season for such animals or birds must be tagged with the metal seal of the Game Commission.

When the owner of a deer tag shall legally take or kill any deer, such person shall immediately punch out the date of kill, sign his or her genuine signature thereto, and attach the same to such deer in plain sight; and said tag shall be kept attached to such carcass or parts thereof so long as the same are preserved or until it is replaced by a tag or seal of the Game Commission. (Section 3, Chapter 144, Oregon Laws 1947).

When the owner of an elk tag shall legally take or kill any elk, such person shall immediately punch out the date of kill, sign his or her genuine signature thereto and attach the same to such elk in plain sight; and said tag shall be kept attached to such carcass or parts thereof so long as the same are preserved or

until it is replaced by a tag or seal of the Game Commission. (Chapter 391, Oregon Laws 1947).

Any portion of legally taken big game animals or game birds in possession of other than the person who killed same must be tagged with a metal seal provided by the Game Commission.

All big game animals or birds or portions thereof shipped by common carrier must be tagged with a metal seal provided by the Game Commission.

Any elk taken after November 19th during extended seasons in Clatsop and Douglas counties must be tagged with the metal seal of the Game Commission before transporting outside the area in which they were legally taken.

#### FURBEARING ANIMALS

##### MINK, MUSKRAT, OTTER, AND MARTEN

Open season, November 15, 1950 to February 15, 1951, both dates inclusive; except in Malheur county open season is November 1, 1950 to February 15, 1951.

##### RACCOON

Open season, November 15, 1950 to October 15, 1951, both dates inclusive.

##### FISHER, BEAVER, AND RINGTAIL CAT

Closed season entire year.

No person is required to purchase a trapper's license to hunt or trap furbearing animals during the open season upon land of which he is the lawful owner or lessee, but he is required to register the location of such land with the Oregon State Game Commission and have in his possession each year a receipt of such registration before hunting or trapping furbearing animals.

Any person trapping furbearing animals, whether on his own or other lands, is required to file with the Oregon State Game Commission within 30 days after the close of the season a report of the number and species of furbearing animals taken and the amount received from their sale.

The Commission has the right to refuse to issue a license the succeeding year to anyone failing to make a report as required by law.

All traps, whether set for furbearing or other wild animals that may be trapped lawfully, must be marked with a brand approved by and registered with the Oregon State Game Commission and no such branded trap may be sold unless accompanied by a uniform bill of sale; provided, however, that unbranded traps may be set for unprotected non-game animals by any person upon land of which he is the lawful owner or lessee.

Warning signs must be posted in conspicuous places within 50 feet of all traps larger than No. 5 or with a jaw spread of more than 10 inches.

The above regulations do not apply to the trapping of gophers, moles, ground squirrels, and weasels.

No flesh of any salmon or steelhead may be used for trap bait. No flesh of any game bird, game fish, or game animal may be used for trap bait.

All Marten pelts in possession more than 30 days after close of the season must be tagged with the metal seal of the Game Commission.

It is unlawful to disturb or remove the traps of any licensed trapper while he is trapping on public domain or on land where he has permission to trap.

It is unlawful for any person to destroy or injure any muskrat house at any time except where such muskrat house is an obstruction to a private or public ditch or watercourse.

State refuges and closed areas will be open to trapping for furbearing and predatory animals during the period from November 15, 1950, to February 15, 1951, with the exception of the following areas which are closed to all trapping: Sauvies Island Game Management Area, Summer Lake Management Area, Sturgeon Lake Game Refuge, Government Island Management Area and all city and municipal watersheds now in refuges.