

# OREGON WILDLIFE

SEPTEMBER 1982

# OREGON WILDLIFE

SEPTEMBER 1982  
Volume 37, No.9

## OREGON FISH AND WILDLIFE COMMISSION

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Ron E. Shay, Editor  
Ken Durbin, Managing Editor

**Cover** — They're out there somewhere. This month several of our game bird hunting seasons open. Next month most of the remainder will. A table of season dates can be found on page 5. The printed regulations should be available now at license agencies throughout the state.

*Photo by Ken Durbin*

HUNTER EDUCATION PROGRAM	
INSTRUCTORS APPROVED	
Month of July .....	25
Total Active .....	1,547
STUDENTS TRAINED	
Month of July .....	554
Total to Date .....	293,542
HUNTING CASUALTIES REPORTED IN 1982	
Fatal .....	0
Nonfatal .....	8

## SALMON

If the title of this piece caught your attention, you're the one we want to reach. In recent months, there have been yards of copy written about the salmon situation on the coast. Also during recent months there have been reams of misinformation put forth concerning this subject.

In talking with various groups, we have found there is considerable confusion. Most folks are dependent on their newspaper for information and the stories there often reflect pretty much what is being said by various individuals at a particular meeting or hearing. Again, such statements may or may not clarify the situation.

Although the commercial fishermen and the charterboat operators have organizations and their representatives usually attend Department meetings and hearings, and carry information back to members of their groups, but the average individual salmon angler has been difficult to reach. This has been shown by lack of input by any great numbers of these individuals. Perhaps all of you were out fishing, too busy, or just didn't care.

However, the time is rapidly approaching when planning for next year's seasons will commence. It is extremely important that you be heard. But, for your comment to have the greatest impact, it should be based on valid information and presented at the proper time and place.

On the back page of this issue, Jim Gladson has put together some salmon facts for your consideration. Equally important, there is an address you can write to get on the mailing list to receive a salmon newsletter.

This newsletter will concentrate on presenting information about salmon management and the various seasons past and future. We have presented some general information in OREGON WILDLIFE in the past, but in keeping with our intent to make this a general interest publication we have not allowed it to dwell excessively on salmon. The salmon newsletter will do just that. If you are a sport salmon angler and would like to have some say about future seasons and management plans for salmon, we would urge you to take time to send in your name and address to SALMON, P.O. Box 3503, Portland, Oregon 97208. We'll be happy to add you to the mailing list.

We urge not only sport anglers, but any of you who are interested in getting more detailed information on the salmon situation to send in a card or letter and begin receiving the newsletter. It won't be fancy, but will be full of information.□

*R.E.S.*

## COMPACT AND COMMISSION MEETINGS

*The Columbia River Compact is scheduled to meet at 9 a.m. on Thursday, September 2, to consider late fall gillnet seasons. The meeting will be in Washington at Vancouver City Council Chambers, 210 East 13th Street.*

*The Compact will again meet at 9 a.m. on Monday, September 13, to consider adjustments in Indian and non-Indian fall seasons. This meeting will be at Fish and Wildlife Department headquarters, 506 SW Mill Street in Portland.*

*On Friday, September 17, the Oregon Fish and Wildlife Commission will meet beginning at 8 a.m. to conduct a general business meeting. The Commission will again meet Saturday, September 18, to review 1983 angling regulation proposals. Both Commission meetings will be in Portland at ODFW headquarters.□*





This boy has begun an activity that will sustain him the rest of his life.

## TO MAKE A HUNTER

*By  
John Madson*

When I was a kid, I took to school like a setter pup takes to a leash.

At summer's end, about the time squirrel season was coming in and some real action was in sight, the folks would drag me in from the woods, clean me up, and shove me into a classroom. There I'd sit, staring out the window at autumn's deepening blush and cussing my luck for not having been

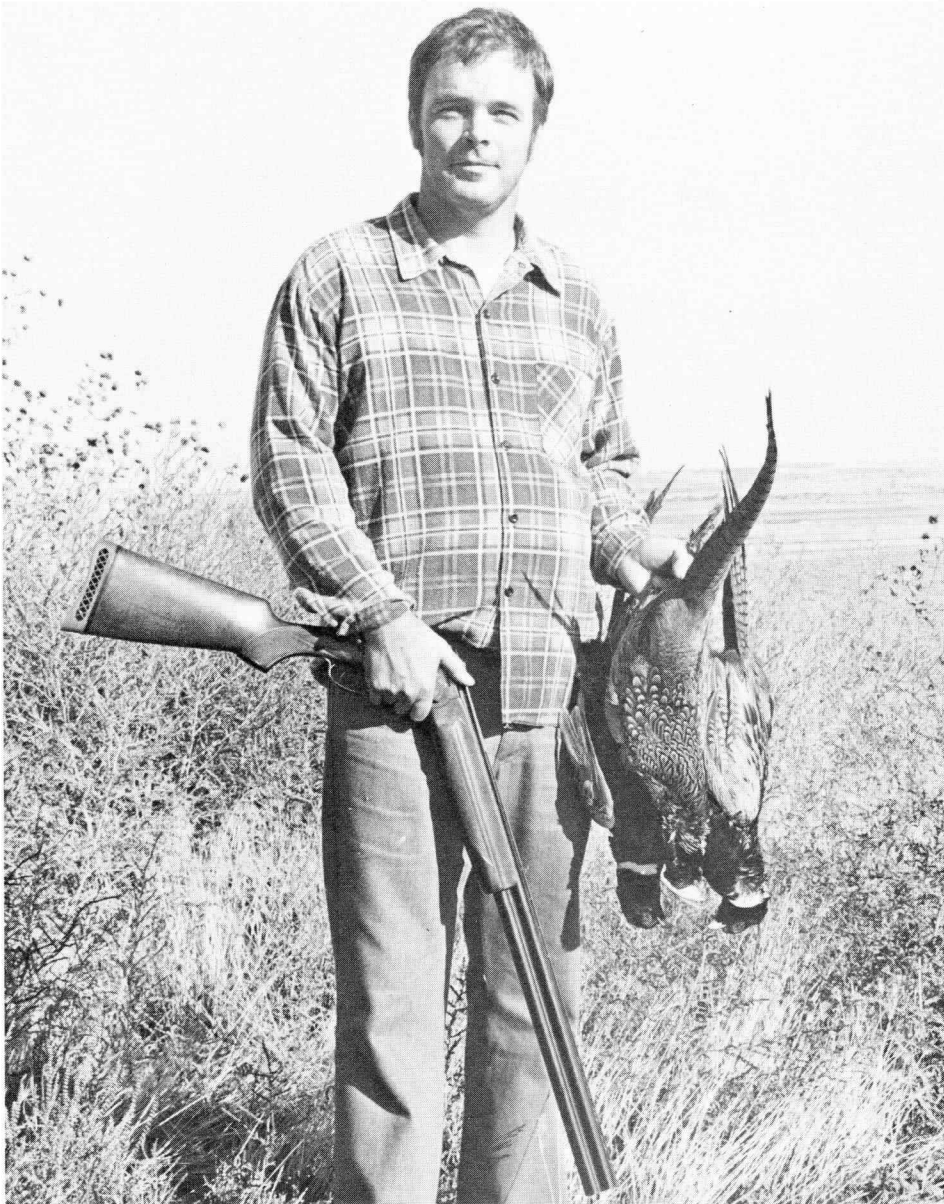
**OREGON WILDLIFE**

born an Indian a hundred years earlier — with no such thing as school.

I didn't know that boys and girls have been schooled for the past million years or more, with harsher grading systems than any I had. If I'd been an Indian kid a century before, I'd have undergone rigorous training from the time I could toddle until I'd earned my place as an adult.

A plains Indian's "kindergarten" might begin at the age of four or five with his first bow and arrow; soon followed with instruction in shooting, hunting, trailing, and plainscraft from his father, an "uncle," or older brothers. And while he learned the ways of hunting, he was also taught the spirit of the hunt. Assiniboine boys were told by their elders to "look to your equipment and use it skillfully.

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The boy in a man comes out whenever he goes afield, no matter how old he may be lucky enough to become.

Study the habits of animals and birds and learn to take them at the right time and in the correct manner . . . .” Blackfoot boys listened to lectures from eminent men who told them what they must do to be successful in life; they were instructed in religion, ethics, and heritage as well as the practical side of hunting.

Since the dawn of humanity, the youngsters in hunting societies have been carefully schooled in ways of dealing with the world, the after-world, and each other. Our modern laws, religion, art, literature, language, and government all grew out of this. Nearly every-

thing I was force-fed in school had its start with hunting. Knowing that at the time might have helped, although I’d have preferred starting from scratch out there in the squirrel woods.

Youngsters no longer need the deep-grained skills of hunting in order to survive. But if we want to continue to do some hunting, as millions of us do, we must remember the timeless lessons and school ourselves in the ways and wonders of the hunt. Some of those things are old beyond reckoning; others are brand-new. Put them together and you have modern hunter education.

Most hunter education programs today are conducted by state fish and game departments under guidelines set by the North American Association of Hunter Safety Coordinators. That title is somewhat misleading, for although the training emphasizes safety, it goes far beyond that. It may include conservation, game management, actual gun-handling and shooting, survival, hunting ethics and laws, hunting techniques, care and use of equipment, and other topics — all tailored to the particular region. It touches on all hunter behavior, aiming to produce hunters that are safe, responsible, knowledgeable, and considerate of others’ rights. In one form or another, modern hunting training has been around since the early 1940s when Kentucky and New Hampshire set up the first voluntary programs. Mandatory hunter training was begun by New York state in 1949, and by 1978 all states and Canadian provinces had hunter training programs. In over half of these states and provinces, persons buying their first hunting licenses must have passed a basic hunter education course.

There was a time when most young hunters could learn what they needed to know from someone close to them. Ideally, this was an experienced father or grandad who had the time and patience to impart his wisdom and skill and make it stick. But interest in hunting sometimes skips a generation or two, and most youngsters don’t have such menfolk. Such men seem to be growing rarer, and the best place to find them today is in organized hunter training programs.

Good hunter-training grows in importance as land use tightens and more hunters crowd into fewer hunting grounds. Under such conditions, quality hunting can be maintained only with quality hunters. It’s been said that if we don’t educate hunters we may lose our right to hunt, and that we must improve ourselves in order to appease our enemies — which is a negative, defensive way of looking at it. We shouldn’t accept responsibility in order to defend hunting, but simply in order to enjoy it

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more. The goal of hunter education is to enrich the life of the hunter by teaching him to understand and support the wild places that he loves, and make safe, ethical hunting a lifelong source of satisfaction. That's the main thing — and one of its many spinoffs happens to be good public relations.

There are many tangible rewards as well; such as better access to private hunting lands, and having a head start as a trained beginner. The more you know about hunting to begin with, the more successful you're likely to be — which can keep you fired up to learn even more as you go along. There is growing interest among hunter educators to recognize and qualify certain "Master Hunters" whose deep knowledge, skill, and responsibility would serve as examples as hunters who have gone all the way.

Of all today's outdoor users — campers, fishermen, backpackers, birdwatchers, RV drivers, or whatever — only hunters are being actively taught to enter the outdoors in ethical, non-destructive ways. The emphasis is on hunters because, to the public, they appear to present the greatest threat to wildlife, property, and other people. It's ironic that the trained, ethical hunter threatens nothing, and that the untrained, non-hunting public is inflicting far greater damage on our outdoors.

Some day, the hunter's responsibility may be shared by outdoor users of all sorts, with "hunter education" broadening into "outdoor education." That has been a long time coming, but hunters have blazed the trail and stand ready to lend a hand. We have much to give those who love the outdoors, whether they choose to go afield with a gun or not. We can teach them some things about living, and perhaps even freedom. As our old friend, C.H.D. Clarke, put it:

"Hunting is living. Living is an art. In our much-vaunted progress we confuse technology with the art of living. This deception clouds all aspects of life, including hunting, but the hunter, with his deep roots in the past, is freer than anyone else."□

## OREGON WILDLIFE



## 1982 GAME BIRD SEASONS

SPECIES	OPEN SEASON (all dates inclusive)	OPEN AREA	DAILY BAG LIMIT	POSSES- SION LIMIT
Blue and Ruffed Grouse	Aug. 28-Sept. 26 Aug. 28-Nov. 10 and Nov. 27-Dec. 31	Eastern Oregon Western Oregon plus Hood River & Wasco counties	3	9
Chukar and Hungarian Partridge	Oct. 2-Dec. 31 Oct. 16-Nov. 14	Eastern Oregon except Baker, Grant, Wallowa counties Western Oregon plus Klamath County	6 4 2	18 12 6
Cock Pheasant	Oct. 16-Nov. 28 Oct. 16-Nov. 14	Eastern Oregon Western Oregon	2 2	8 6
Valley Quail	Oct. 16-Dec. 31 Oct. 16-Nov. 14	Eastern Oregon Western Oregon	5 5	10 10
Mountain Quail	Oct. 16-Dec. 31 Aug. 28-Nov. 10 and Nov. 27-Dec. 31	Eastern Oregon Western Oregon plus Hood River & Wasco counties	2 5	2 10
Turkey	No Fall Season	Controlled Spring Gobbler Season in April 1983		
Sage Grouse	Sept. 18-19	By permit only in four Southeast Oregon areas	2	2
Mourning Doves	Sept. 1-30	Entire State	15	30
Band-Tailed Pigeons	Sept. 1-30	Entire State	5	5
Duck (includes mergansers) (a)	Oct. 16-Jan. 16, 1983 Oct. 16-Jan. 23, 1983	Entire State (b) Columbia Basin counties (b)	7 7	14 14
Coot	Oct. 16-Jan. 16, 1983	Entire State	25	25
Goose	Oct. 16-Jan. 16, 1983 Oct. 16-Jan. 16, 1983 (See following exceptions) Oct. 16-Jan. 23, 1983 Oct. 16-Jan. 2, 1983 Oct. 16-Oct. 31 Nov. 1-Jan. 16, 1983	Western Oregon (c) Eastern Oregon Columbia Basin counties (b) Baker and Malheur counties Klamath & Lake counties Klamath & Lake counties	2 3 (d) 3 (d) 2 1 (e) 3 (d)	2 6 2 2 2 6
Black Brant	Jan. 15, 1983- Feb. 20, 1983	Coastal Counties	4	8
Common Snipe	Oct. 16-Jan. 16, 1983	Entire State	8	16

(a) The daily bag limit may include not more than 2 redhead or 2 canvasback or one each. The possession limit may include no more than 4 singly or in the aggregate.

(b) Columbia Basin counties are: Wasco, Sherman, Gilliam, Morrow and Umatilla counties.

(c) The following areas are closed to all goose hunting: (1) That portion of Coos and Curry counties west of Highway 101; (2) that portion of Tillamook County lying south of an east-west line passing through the most westerly point on Cape Lookout.

(d) The daily bag limit may be increased to 6 providing not more than 3 are dark geese and 3 are white geese. White geese are snow and Ross' geese. All other geese are dark geese (Canada, Cacklers, and Whitefront).

(e) The daily bag limit may be increased to 3 provided 2 are white geese and one a dark goose. The possession limit may be increased to 6 provided 4 are white geese and not more than 2 are dark geese.

# the measure of the hunt is largely a measure of yourself



The notion of quality hunting may encompass many things. But the most important part is always up to you: Your attitude. Your sense of responsibility. The principles you adhere to. Hunting that emphasizes traditional skills, fair chase and proper conduct is always an experience of value. Yet when the emphasis is on the quickest and easiest way to fill the game bag, though technically legal, it is not much of an experience at all. And it degrades both the sport and the participant. The standards you set for yourself are the true measure of your experience in the field. For more information, write to: National Shooting Sports Foundation, 1075 Post Road, Riverside, CT 06878.



# THIS AND THAT

Compiled by Ken Durbin

## HUNTER NUMBERS KEEPING PACE

Figures reported in *American Hunter* magazine indicate that the percentage of hunters in the U.S. population has remained the same — 7.5 percent — for at least the past 20 years. Since 1961 the country's population has grown from 182 million to 220 million, while the number of licensed hunters has grown from 14 million to more than 16 million. These figures dispute the claims made by some anti-hunting organizations that hunting is a fading tradition.

*Colorado Outdoors*

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## NEW MICROBE HERBICIDE EATER?

A University of Illinois biochemist, who developed and patented oil-eating bacteria, is now designing microbes to consume a herbicide. Through genetic engineering, Ananda Chakrabarty has produced a mixture of microbes that feed on 2,4,5-T, a component of the defoliant Agent Orange sprayed in Vietnam. Bacteria from Niagara Falls' Love Canal and two other dumps provided the genetic material able to feed on the chemical. The next step: assembling genes which will allow the microbes to diet exclusively on the herbicide, so they can be put to work cleaning up toxic soil residues.

*Wildlife Digest*

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## TIP FOR SCALING FISH

This idea comes from *NEBRASKAland*, publication of the Nebraska Game and Parks Commission. While we have not tried it, it sounds like an idea worth trying.

"This trick will make the task of scaling small fish much easier. Dip the fish in a pot of scalding water for a few seconds. You'll find that the scales will practically fall off when scraped with a scaling knife. If you have a lot of small fish to scale, you can scald them in one operation by stringing them onto a straightened coat hanger or other length of wire."

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## REMINDER TO HUNTERS AND PLINKERS

We mentioned this last year, but for those who have forgotten or did not see it, a bill passed by the 1981 Legislature prohibits the discharge of firearms, air guns and archery equipment from or across any railroad right of way. Pheasant hunters and others frequently hunt along the brushy rights of way but this practice is now illegal, just as is hunting or shooting along a public road. The railroad right of way is generally considered to be all the land along the tracks between adjacent fences.

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## BIG GAME "BIBLE" OUT

A newly revised eighth edition of *Records of North American Big Game*, the official listing of record and trophy big game compiled by the Boone and Crockett Club, has just become available. It records data for nearly 7,000 individual trophies in 31 categories. Selected scoring measurements are given, along with kill location, date and the name of the hunter and/or owner for each. There are also a dozen chapters on various aspects of big game and hunting.

The regular hard-cover edition of the records book is \$29.50 plus \$2 shipping and handling. There is a multiple copy discount of ten percent for orders of two or more copies. Shipping and handling for additional copies is \$1 per book. The book can be ordered directly from the Boone and Crockett Club, 205 South Patrick Street, Alexandria, VA 22314. It is also available in many bookstores. Those interested may also write the B&C Club for information about a special limited edition of the book.

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## BUILDING PHEASANT HABITAT

After five years, South Dakota's Pheasant Restoration Program, financed by a \$5 stamp required by all small game hunters, has paid 650 landowners to set aside 20,000 acres for pheasant nesting habitat. Landowners receive \$12-\$50 per acre plus additional financial assistance for cover plantings.

*Pennsylvania Game News*

## IOWA OFFERS WETLAND TAX EXEMPTION

Iowa has enacted legislation to allow property tax exemptions on wetlands and other types of "conservation lands" that meet certain requirements. The exemptions are permitted on wetlands, recreational lakes, forest cover, forest reservations, rivers and streams, riparian areas and open prairies.

To apply, the landowner makes application with the local Soil and Water Conservation District office. Once certified by the district commissioners, the county board of supervisors may grant tax exemptions for up to 3,000 acres of other than forest land in each county. Forest lands meeting the requirements will not be restricted to the 3,000-acre limitation.

Individual state efforts to preserve wetlands are of increasing importance as federal wetland programs suffer from lack of support and funding. Minnesota pioneered the giving of tax exemptions for wetland protection.

*Wildlife Management Institute*

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## PHEASANT LONGEVITY

Pheasants have been known to live as long as eight years in captivity, but the average cage life is more like five or six years.

How do these birds, tough beyond belief compared to doves or quail, fare in the wilds? Poorly. Most never make it to their first birthday. Those that live to be three or four years old are hoary old-timers.

Does hunting affect pheasant populations? Not much, if at all. In a Wisconsin study 100 mature birds were trapped and banded in an area where hunting was not allowed. Some 30 birds survived the first year, nine lasted one more year, and two lived to be three years old.

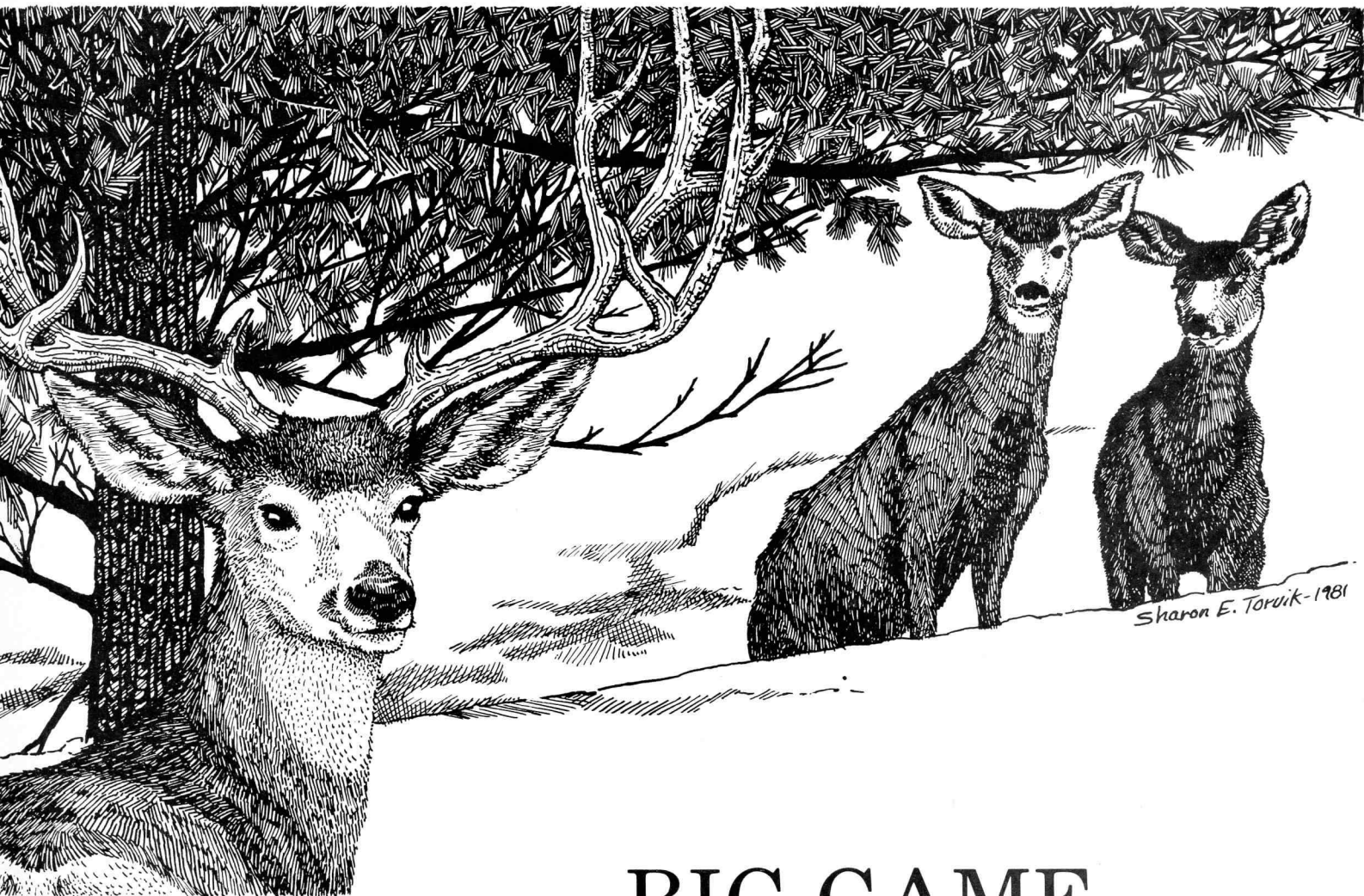
*The Powder River Sportsman*

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## AMEN

"Twice blessed is the man who is genuinely enthusiastic over a fish at the end of the other fellow's line!"

*Arthur R. Macdougall, Jr.*



The 1982 big game seasons got underway on August 7 with the early Gerber Reservoir antelope bow season. Rifle antelope season commenced on August 21 and ended on August 27. Early reports indicated an excellent season for this fine trophy animal.

Bear season will begin this month on September 4 and some form of big game hunting will be in progress through March 31 for Oregon's 450,000 hunters. Hunting prospects for 1982 are generally good except for mule deer bucks which will be less plentiful this year than they have been in recent years. A lower carryover of mature bucks and a reduced survival of yearlings will mean only an average season. Overall mule deer populations are down from last year and reduced season opportunities will produce a lower success rate than in 1981. With the short

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# BIG GAME HUNTING

## THE VIEW FOR '82

By  
Bob Jubber  
Staff Big Game Biologist

buck season applied to all or parts of 20 management units in eastern Oregon, hunters may want to consider taking advantage of the longer 40-day black-tailed deer season in western Oregon. Excellent opportunities will be available in the later part of the season as weather cools and the leaves fall.

Best prospects for black-tail hunters will be on the east slope of the coast range from Yamhill County south and the west slope of the Cascades from Clackamas

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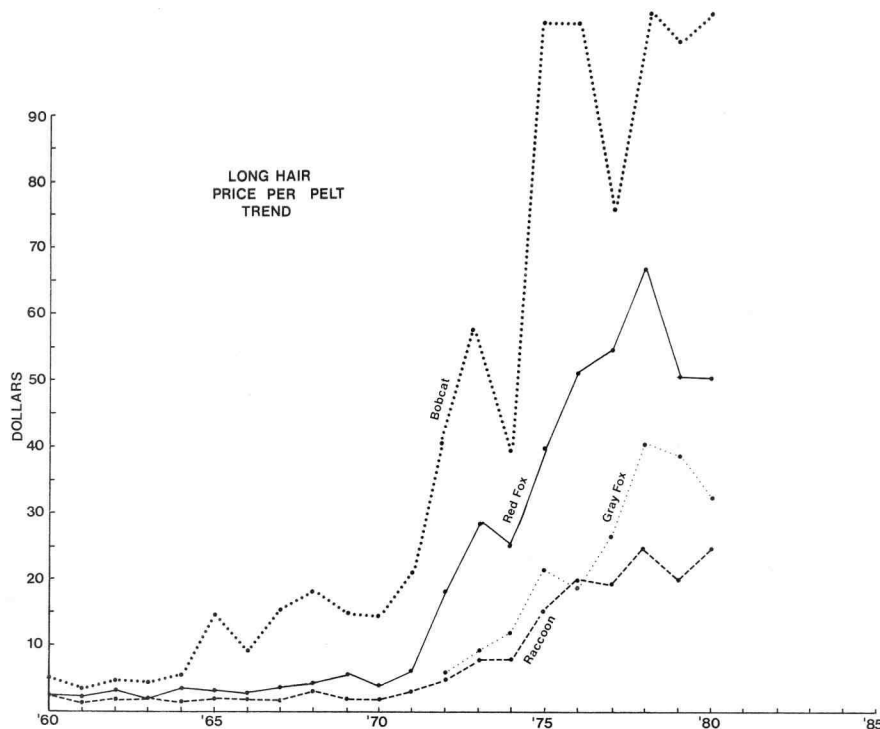
drainage southward. The "hunter's choice" season during the last four days of the western Oregon season should be very productive. This season, for any deer, is scheduled in the Scappoose, Stott Mountain, Willamette, Santiam and McKenzie units, as well as the east portion of the Siuslaw Unit and most of the Alsea Unit. Controlled deer seasons will get underway on October 9 in western Oregon with 84,000 permits becoming valid in southwest Oregon units. East of the Cascades 6,200 permits for controlled deer hunts become valid October 16 through October 24th and these hunts should produce high success.

Elk hunting prospects are expected to be only fair in the Rocky Mountain elk areas. Bull carryover is reduced in northwest Oregon, but numbers of yearling animals are fairly good in most units. Roosevelt bull carryover was good and success is expected to be average. Rocky Mountain elk season begins on October 30 and the first period continues through November 3. The second hunt will run November 6 through the 14th. Roosevelt season opens on November 13 and ends November 16 for the first period, with the second season running November 20 through November 26. The southeast Oregon elk area is restricted to 450 permits this year, with the season open October 30 through November 10 for an elk of either sex. More than 95,000 elk hunters took to the woods in 1981 and a similar number is expected for the coming season.

Hunters are reminded of the tag sale deadlines for general deer and elk seasons. The last day to purchase deer tags is October 1. The deadline for Roosevelt elk is November 12 and October 29 is the last opportunity to buy a Rocky Mountain elk tag. For those hunters drawing controlled deer and elk permits no deadline is imposed on tag purchase this year.

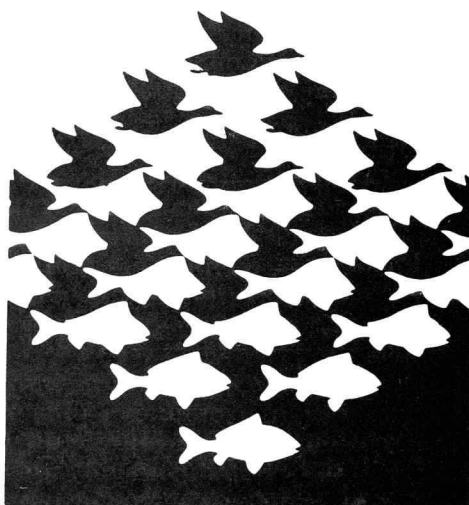
Oregon offers a wide variety of hunting experiences for big game, with a spectacular array of beautiful forest and desert country in which to enjoy these opportunities. □

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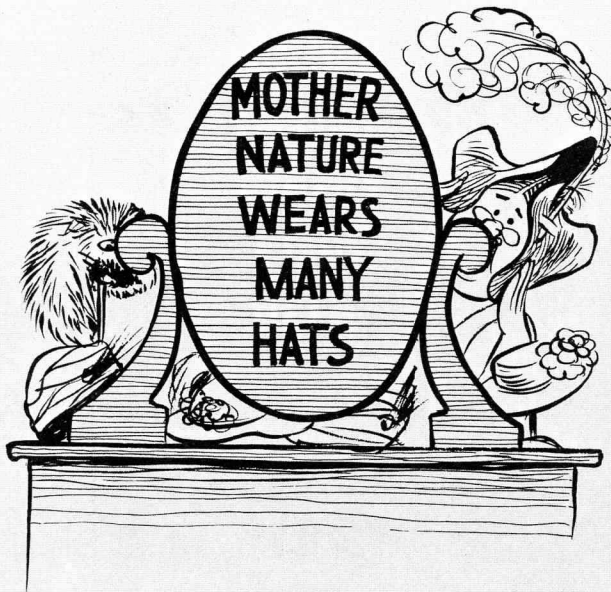
## WHICH SPECIES?

*Last month, in an article on Oregon's furbearers, we ran a graph showing trends in long hair fur prices. The lines were very pretty, but unfortunately they did not tell anyone much because we failed to identify the species represented by each trend. For those who inquired, and others who may be interested, here is the graph again with the species shown. □*



**National  
Hunting  
&  
Fishing  
Day<sup>®</sup>**

**September 25, 1982**



SHE WEARS A HAT OF TENDERNESS AND LOVE WHEN SHE USES CAMOUFLAGE AND OTHER TRICKS TO CARE FOR THE YOUNG.

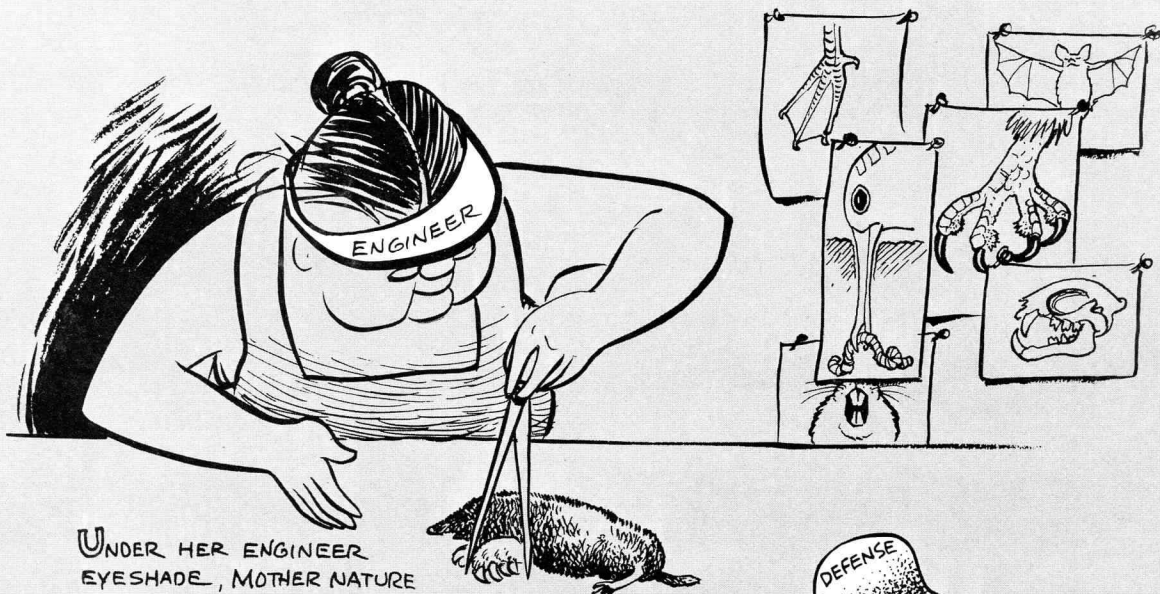


IN HER ARTIST'S HAT, SHE PAINTS COLORFUL BIRDS, SPECTACULAR SUNSETS, LOVELY FLOWERS, AND ---- WELL, JUST LOOK AROUND FOR MANY, MANY SAMPLES.



WHEN MOTHER NATURE PRODUCES MORE ANIMALS THAN SHE CAN FEED, SHE PUTS ON HER HAT THAT SYMBOLIZES RUTHLESSNESS AND GOES TO WORK.





UNDER HER ENGINEER EYESHADE, MOTHER NATURE DESIGNS ANIMALS THAT ARE MODELS OF INGENUITY AND EFFICIENCY.



IN A HUNGRY WORLD, BARBS, TEETH, CLAWS, SCENTS, ARMOR, AND OTHER DEFENSE EQUIPMENT COME IN HANDY.



THIS HAT IS A MOST SUCCESSFUL NUMBER. UNDER THIS HAT MOTHER NATURE CAN TAKE  $1+1$  AND EQUAL 3, OR 4, OR 10, OR 1,000, OR 20,000.

THE "HAT" BEING CREATED ON THE RIGHT IS ONE THAT MOTHER NATURE HAS BEEN FORCED TO WEAR SINCE MAN ARRIVED ON THE SCENE.



WARBACH

# SILVER GRAY SQUIRREL STUDY CONTINUES

A study of silver gray squirrels which began last year in Hood River and Wasco counties will continue this fall, and squirrel hunters are again asked to cooperate by providing information and certain inedible parts.

Researcher Susan Foster says information gathered last year was extremely helpful and she needs continuing help to collect more data. Various parts collected from hunter-bagged squirrels provide information on growth, age composition in the population, reproductive information and other

data. Hunters interested in participating in the study this year can get more information by writing Susan Foster, Box 335, Gresham, Oregon 97030; by contacting her in person at Friend, Oregon; or by contacting the ODFW office in The Dalles, telephone 296-4628.

Last year 36 hunters contributed to the study by providing parts and information on 106 squirrels.

Foster says there will be eight drop stations this year, stocked with plastic bags for parts, and tags for recording information about the squirrels. These will be

located at Rock Creek Campground, the cattle guard by the White River Wildlife Area headquarters (at the junction of Dodson and Threemile Roads), Bonney Crossing Campground, Little Badger Campground, the Upper Little Badger Campground of S308, Jordan Creek Campground, Barlow Ranger District Office at Dufur, and the ODFW office in The Dalles.

Susan Foster especially thanks the hunters who participated last year. She says the information obtained from volunteers was an invaluable addition to her work. □

## WESTERN AGENCIES COMMENT ON ISSUES

The Western Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies met recently and discussed some of the pressing issues affecting conservation programs in the West, according to the Wildlife Management Institute. The Association is composed of agencies from 13 western states and two Canadian provinces.

In a series of resolutions, the Association opposed a proposed raid on the Pittman-Robertson (P-R) Program and the wholesale disposition of federal public land. It supported legislation to manage wild horses and burros and protect wetlands. And it opposed legislation being drafted to turn over part of the Desert National Wildlife Range for use by the Defense Department.

The group said that H.R. 6115 and H.R. 6448, which would divert handgun excise tax collections from P-R Program activities into another fund for compensating victims of crime, would severely impact the states' abilities to continue wildlife management and hunter education programs. It said that the bills were for a worthy cause, but that they should be funded from other sources.

The Association noted that the

Administration is proposing to increase federal revenue by selling public lands and apparently does not intend to solicit state or public opinion. It opposed the sale of any lands until a determination of their "fish, wildlife, historical, other outdoor recreational values, and other benefits and losses" have been made on a site by site basis. And it said that lands should be disposed of only if it is determined, with state and public participation, that they lack any of these significant values.

The Association voted in favor of legislation to authorize federal agencies to sell excess wild horses and burros for which there is no adoption demand by qualified individuals. The resulting revenues would be used to fund wild horse and burro management. The bills, S. 2183 and H.R. 5825, are pending in Congress.

The administrators resolved in support of tax incentives for wetlands protection. They also opposed a bill being drafted to give 826,000 acres of the Desert National Wildlife Range to the Defense Department for a training and weapons testing area. The area is important desert bighorn sheep habitat. □

## HAT TIP TO CIRCUIT COURT

A Tillamook county violator recently found it may not pay to appeal a case to the higher court. The snagger had been fined \$205 by Justice Court Judge Marge Christensen.

Feeling he might get the ruling reversed, the convicted lawbreaker appealed to the Circuit Court. The Circuit Court jury also found him guilty after which Circuit Judge Delbert Mayer imposed a fine of \$405.

In assessing the increased fine, Judge Mayer explained his feelings on the matter saying in part, "These local rivers are very small bodies of water and the pressure on the fish is enormous. . . ." Commenting further he said, "Now, Judge Christensen and I have a problem of what to do about all of this because I don't think the resource is going to stand up to all this kind of pressure even if we all comply with the law. And it definitely is not going to if people don't follow the law." And finally, he added, ". . . my problem is to try to figure out what kind of a sentence it will take to keep these people from snagging fish. . . ."

The fine imposed may be a start, a tip of the sportsman's hat to the judge. □



## Audubon Films Scheduled

Five new color motion picture films are scheduled by Audubon Society of Portland during the coming months. These films present an interesting close-up view of numerous varieties of wildlife in their native habitat, and are narrated personally by the naturalist-photographers who produced them.

Each film of the series will be presented in Benson High School Auditorium located at NE 12th Avenue and NE Irving Street in Portland at 8 p.m. The schedule is:

Monday, October 4, "Roaming California's Coast Range"

Wednesday, November 3, "Quebec Whales and Labrador Tales"

Wednesday, January 26, "Romance of the West"

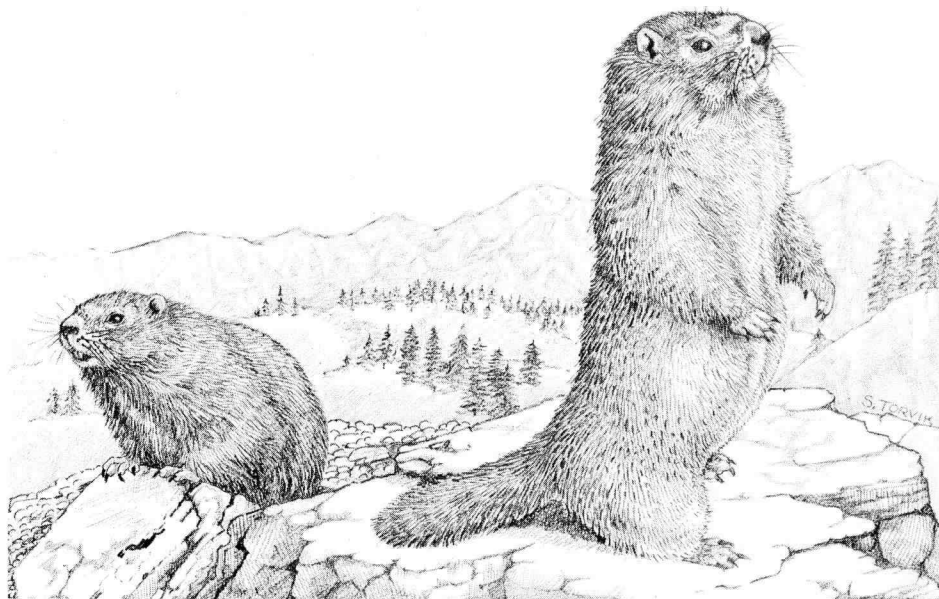
Thursday, March 31, "Kiwi Country"

Tuesday, May 3, "Hawaii: An Insider's View"

The lead-off film on California will be narrated by Al Wool, a rancher in the hills of the Coast Range. His interest in nature began at an early age on his father's ranch. He broadened his knowledge of natural history while a student at Stanford University. He served as president of Santa Clara Valley Audubon Society two years, is an authority on California Wildlife, and has had articles published in several natural history magazines. His colorful film includes scenes of butterflies, insects, hummingbirds, and warblers at a "sapsucker bar" where the red-breasted sapsucker has drilled holes in a willow tree's bark. Golden eagles, gray fox, dragonflies and dippers behind a waterfall provide interest.

Although tickets will be available at the door at Benson on program nights, you can avoid standing in line at the ticket window by purchasing a season ticket (\$9 for adults, \$4.50 for students) at Audubon House on Cornell Road, at Stevens & Sons Jewelers in Lloyd Center, or by mail order to John T. King, Chairman, Audubon Wildlife Films, 3320 SW 100th Avenue, Portland, Oregon 97225. □

**OREGON WILDLIFE**



### The Yellow-Bellied Marmot

Their heads pop up above the grass at the edge of a rocky alpine slope. Now you see them . . . but with a sharp whistle they scurry to their burrows . . . and now you don't.

The yellow-bellied marmot, known to scientists as *Marmota flaviventris*, is a common feature in the mountain landscape of the Cascades. These rock-dwelling rodents live in burrows beneath the rocks and eat nearby plants and grasses. They are colonial animals and are sometimes found in family groups. This gathering often includes an adult male, two females, some yearlings from last season, and several new arrivals.

The marmots are also found in suitable rocky habitats throughout Eastern Oregon. They might be seen running for cover along the rocky shoulders of a county road. Here they are called "rockchucks." These marmots are not found west of the Cascades in Oregon.

The yellow-bellied marmot is one of six marmot species in North America, a group which also includes the woodchuck or groundhog of the Eastern and Central U.S.

Oregon's only marmot has a range extending from southern British Columbia south to Nevada and California and east into the Rocky Mountains. Three additional distinct species may also be found in Washington State, but are not present in Oregon.

An adult yellow-bellied marmot may weigh five to ten pounds and have a body length of up to 19 inches. Its fur is thick, with most of the coat ranging in color from gray to reddish-brown. The belly, as you might suspect, is yellowish.

These marmots are true hibernators. They take to their burrows in late summer and sleep until early spring. Unlike another mountain rodent, the pika, they do not live off stored food during the winter. Fat reserves keep them alive through the coldest months.

When the skinny marmots emerge from their winter sleep, they breed. Four to six young are usually born in early June. These youngsters mature quickly, but often stay with the family until the next season. Yellow-bellied marmots are known to skip a breeding season if food supplies are low. The average marmot may live four to six years.

Because they are colonial animals, their societies are widely studied by scientists. One of the results of this extensive research is the documentation of six distinct whistling calls used to communicate with other members of the group. This communication technique is exclusive to marmots in the West. The more solitary groundhogs back east apparently do not whistle. □

Jim Gladson

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# Ocean Salmon News

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For commercial operators, however, 1982 was a moderate year when compared to the previous two years. Even though the troll season for coho was shorter than last year, the catch was 17 percent less than 1981 and 27 percent greater than 1980 landings.

Fulltime trollers are still on the ocean fishing for chinook. By August 1, these fishermen had already caught more chinook in three months than they did during the full six-month season last year. They can fish south of Cape Falcon until October 31.

Sports fishermen should have more time on the ocean than they were allowed this year. This fact will be an important consideration when seasons are set for 1983. The Department hopes to get as many ideas as possible from this user group prior to entering PFMC ocean regulation hearings. Meetings to discuss commercial/sports coho allocations and season frameworks will be scheduled for this fall.

Trollers are still having a good year fishing on abundant chinook stocks. And, despite the shortened season, the coho catch was very near the average for the last five years. However, there is no question that the sudden decrease in coho run size following the all time high in 1976 has worked considerable hardship on many salmon fishermen.

## Counting Private Fish

Some people stress the point that privately-reared coho salmon are not counted in the OPI. The implication is that these fish are somehow protected from ocean harvest in sports and commercial fisheries by either the Department or PFMC or both.

It is true that the privately-raised coho are not estimated by the OPI model, mainly because their hatchery production methods do not create jack returns to the same degree as do public hatcheries. Since the OPI is based on the

returns of jacks, we cannot estimate adult abundance by counting private hatchery fish.

However, Department biologists do estimate private hatchery coho abundance and compute their potential contribution to the ocean catch by examining historical survival and harvest rates.

The number of private fish calculated to be caught based on history is then added to the OPI estimate. So, ocean catch quotas are not based solely on the OPI estimates, but also include the expected catch of coho originating from private hatcheries.

For example, the 488,000 coho quota for commercial trollers south of Cape Falcon included almost 172,000 private hatchery coho. Without those fish being counted, the allowable catch would have been only 316,000 and the season would have been closed even sooner this year.

## An Upwelling Experience

While public hatchery production and release of yearling coho smolts has remained fairly constant in recent years, the return of adult fish has declined.

The big question is "WHY?" There are several theories that do provide possible, though unconfirmed, answers.

One possibility is that in some years poor ocean conditions may have a direct influence on the survival of young coho salmon first entering the ocean.

Specifically, the presence or absence of an ocean condition called upwelling may play a large role in whether young coho salmon live or die.

Upwelling, which is brought on by a combination of northwest winds and certain weather patterns, pushes cool, nutrient-rich waters from the ocean bottom toward the surface.

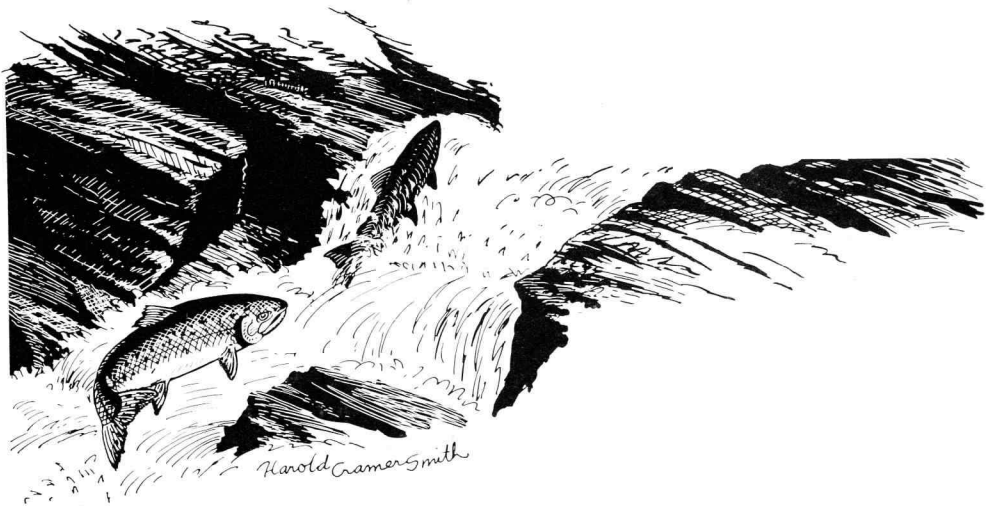
These rich waters allow the smolts to feed and grow more rapidly while also tending to reduce the killing of the young fish by predators.

A study going back several years has plotted the occurrence of spring upwelling with coho salmon smolt survival and adult returns. The study shows a very close relationship between good upwelling years and higher returns of coho adults the next season. Similar relationships do not appear for chinook or steelhead.

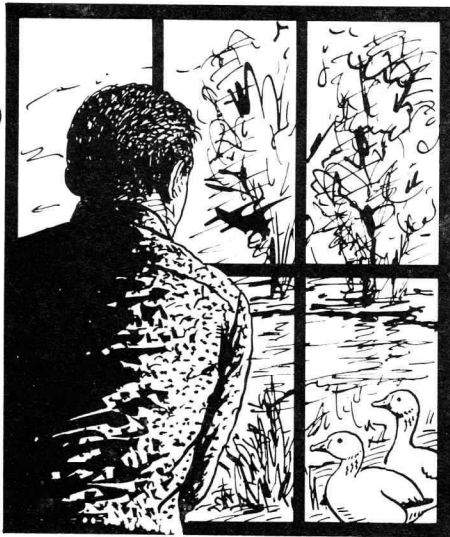
Because coho declines in the last five years have been accompanied by poor ocean upwelling, biologists are becoming more convinced that these ocean conditions are a major factor affecting coho survival.

Ocean upwelling this spring was the best in several years. If the theories are correct, next year could bring improved coho returns. □

*Jim Gladson*







*Oregon's*

# WILDLIFE WINDOW

Do animals think? Can they learn new activities that are not within the range of their genetic program and instinctive behavior? Thoughts on this topic range widely in the scientific world. Complex animal communication, like the dance of honeybees to tell the location of nectar sources, seem to suggest some pretty clear application of thought or logic. To hard-line animal behaviorists, however, this activity still appears to be very much a programmed behavior.

Obviously, animals do learn some things in addition to those instinctive behaviors with which they are born. Were this not so, there could be no trained animal circus acts, champion retrievers or guide dogs. Still, this behavior is largely building on skills that nature already provided. Dogs are bred to naturally retrieve and the additional training only enhances a natural predisposition. If a dog could somehow "tell" another that if it would do a certain trick then some human would make life better in the old kennel, then we could begin to believe that animals have something more than simple instinctive behavior as a base. If an animal could only communicate better with its own kind, perhaps it could cause learning.

Animal behavior characteristics are key items in human perception of most creatures. Animals that migrate, a behavioral activity, are usually noted especially for that trait. Salmon and geese, for instance, are probably first remem-

bered for their migratory behavior. The constructive behaviors of such creatures as bees and beavers leads humans to label them as "busy" or "industrious." This is again attaching a label based on a particular observed aspect of behavior. The term "songbirds," which is used to describe a large group of small birds again fixes title which really describes what is perhaps their most notable or visible aspect of behavior.

The fairy-story writers, Disney and other cartoonists regularly single out one visible or imagined aspect of a creature's behavior pattern and focus the story line on it. This creates a stereotyped impression. Who says the fox or

coyote is really sly? And who ever came up with the notion that the owl is any wiser than any other bird? Labels of behavior patterns we link to certain human characteristics were just tacked on to the animals that seemed to behave in a somewhat similar manner.

To many people, these cartoon portrayals of animal life are more real than the real animals themselves. Thus much of the public's impression of animal behavior comes from some pretty questionable sources. This is unfortunate for it gives certain oversimplified or unjustified labels to animals that do not really behave in the stereotyped manner at all.

## THIS MONTH'S WINDOW

### BEHAVIOR

**Observe your pet or someone else's. Try to separate learned behaviors from instinctive ones.**

**Watch some cartoon shows or read the funny papers. Pick an animal being shown and note what behaviors are portrayed. How many are instinctive and how many are "taught" or patterned after human actions?**

**Cross-check your decisions in both above cases by further study about the animal in question. How well did you do in separating behaviors?**



Fishing for salmon in the ocean, whether for sport or business, no longer involves the simple following of season dates. The decline of coho salmon runs, allocation requirements between ocean and river fisheries, and the necessary enactment of complex regulations has created an atmosphere of uncertainty and misunderstanding.

In an effort to clarify the "whys" and "what's" of its management program, the Department of Fish and Wildlife will soon begin regular publication of the "Ocean Salmon News."

This publication will be directed at ocean salmon fishermen. Its purpose will be to answer often-asked questions and provide advance information on activities that may affect these fisheries.

What follows is a sample of what the newsletter will contain. The actual newsletters will be published separately from Oregon Wildlife. If you are a salmon fisherman who wants to keep informed you may get on the "Ocean Salmon News" mailing list by mailing your name and address to: SALMON, PO Box 3503, Portland, OR 97208.

## The Names in the Game

When talking of salmon and salmon seasons, confusion often arises about the meanings of frequently used terms or names. Here are some short definitions and explanations that should be helpful. First, some alphabet soup:

**PFMC:** Pacific Fishery Management Council. This body was formed by the Fishery Conservation and Management Act enacted by Congress in 1976. Members of the Council include fisheries managers from the three coastal states and Idaho, representatives of commercial and sports user interests, and federal fisheries officials.

The Council recommends season dates and catch quotas for federal waters outside three miles. The US Secretary of Commerce has the final say on passage of regulations.

**NMFS:** National Marine Fisheries Service is the federal agency that oversees implementation and enforcement of fisheries regulations in federal waters. The agency is also involved with fisheries research.

**FCZ:** The Fisheries Conservation Zone is the area of federal ocean jurisdiction from three miles out to 200 miles. Fisheries in waters inside three miles are regulated by the individual states.

**OPI:** The Oregon Production Index is a mathematical model used to predict the size of annual runs of coho salmon. The estimate is based on the returns of two-year-old jack salmon to certain hatcheries and dam counts the year before. The OPI area extends from Leadbetter Point near Willapa Bay, Washington, all the way south into California. Generally the coho caught here were produced here in hatcheries and natural production areas.

The terms "allocation" and "quota" are frequently confused.

Allocation refers to the division of available coho between commercial and sports ocean fisheries and ocean and river fisheries. Each fishery is allocated a certain percentage of the total allowable catch.

Quotas are the actual numbers of fish that can be caught and still allow enough coho to return to streams for harvest and to hatcheries for spawning.

## How the OPI Works

In the fall, when coho salmon return to hatcheries in Oregon and Columbia River hatcheries in Washington, biologists watch closely to see how many of those fish are early maturing, two-year-old coho, called jacks.

The rate of return for the jacks allows biologists to predict how many adult coho will return the next year. This predicting method is called the Oregon Production Index (OPI).

The OPI does not count every fish. That is why it is an index and not an absolute measure of stock size. What it does do is consider the fact that returns of coho jacks closely tracks abundance of adult coho the next year.

Like any other predictor, whether it be an economic or weather forecast, the OPI does have a margin for error. However, this predictor has proved quite accurate over the years, and it is the best pre-season predictor available so far.

## Short Season — Big Catches

There has been much discussion about the economic impacts of the short ocean salmon season this year. For the charter operator and coastal businesses, the impact has, indeed, been severe.

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