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GEORGIA

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CONTENTS

Out On A Limb	Aaron Pass	1
Quail For You	Dean Wohlgemuth and Ted Borg	4
Tie Your Own Flies	Bob Wilson	8
Tobacco Cured Ducks	John Culler	11
Sportsman's Federation Convention Report	Bob Wilson	14
Outdoor World		15
Sportsmen Speak		16
Sportsman's Calendar		17

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WHAT CAN ONE MAN DO?

In spoken word, prose, poetry and song, you've heard the question asked a great deal lately, "What can one man do in fighting pollution of our environment. There's a catch commercial to that effect, you know, and maybe, just maybe there IS something that each single individual can do.

A great many people sincerely want to know the answer to this question. Telephones convey that message to GAME & FISH frequently. And when the question does present itself, it may leave even professionals in the field of conservation a little tongue tied in attempting to answer.

Of course, most frequently, the question to us from the public on what an individual can do to help, is really aimed at wildlife conservation more than at air and water pollution and environmental quality.

All these things, however, go hand in hand to a very great extent.

Most people are good, upstanding citizens who for the most part leave wildlife conservation up to the professionals of the State Game and Fish Commission. Not frequently, however, the average citizen feels he'd like to help if he could . . . but what can he do?

Let's start with wildlife conservation. The usual answer to how a person can help runs something like . . . call your local Game and Fish Commission office to report violations, write letters to your lawmakers and join an organization active in conservation work. These are all good pieces of advice, but may not be carried far enough. Yes, do call your local ranger or local district Game and Fish Commission office anytime you see a violation. But, please call right away so that there's a chance of catching the culprit in the act. When it isn't possible or practical to do so, let us know soon as you can.

When an acquaintance commits an act that is not in the best interest of conservation, let him know that you think he's wrong, and hurting you and himself. Even when he brags of taking more than the limit and can't prove it, chide him about doing and saying such things. You believe in conservation, stand up for it! It may take some courage, but the public feeling toward conservation could be largely aided by sportsmen pointing out the good they've done rather than the laws they've broken and gotten away with doing it. If you're guilty here, by all means, stop telling those stories of "great accomplishments" outside the law.

Yes, do write letters to lawmakers. Study the current issues, however, and write knowledgeable letters. They need not be lengthy, preferably they should be short and to the point. Commend lawmakers for jobs well done, urge them to support good bills, rather than simply urging them to vote against bad ones. Let them know your feelings. Don't make snap judgments, but study the proposals.

(Continued on Page 1)

ON THE COVER: There's no thrill like that of seeing a big covey rise over a good dog on a perfect point. Long famous for its excellent quail hunting, Georgia still has plenty of birds. It is difficult, however, for the average hunter to find a place to hunt. Because of land use changes and jealously guarded private property, the city-dweller hunter finds his opportunities quite limited. There still are some places open to the public, however. Read "Quail For You," Page 4, by Dean Wohlgemuth and Ted Borg. Cover photo by Ted Borg.

ON THE BACK COVER: It isn't likely that many Georgia trout fishermen have seen a fly like this western stream version tied for GAME & FISH Magazine by Joe Townsend of Marietta. If you've ever been tempted to try your hand and skill at fly tying, you won't want to miss "Tie Your Own Flies" by Bob Wilson on Page 8. And what better time could there be to find out than during the long off-season winter months? Cover photo by Bob Wilson.

By Aaron Pass

OUT ON A LIMB



Photo by Ted Borg

Many people see Georgia's most popular game animal everyday and do not even realize it, or at least they see the animal which looks just like the animal. The squirrel which scampers across city lawns is a carbon copy of the hard hunted country cousin in the woods, but that's where the similarity ends. Generations of close association with the animal has dulled the wits of the city man to the point where they consider it almost pets.

The rural squirrel is a totally different creature from the domesticated squirrel found in city parks. He is a wild game animal, wary and alert, and has been well educated by generations of farm boys with .22's. And, as the squirrel hunters have discovered, it is a long way from tree top to pot.

Squirrel hunting as a sport is a tra-

ditional pastime dating back to colonial days when squirrels were an important food source for frontier families. Hunting with large caliber flintlock rifles, early explorers and backwoodsmen used a method known as "barking" to avoid extensive meat loss on the small animals. This feat was accomplished by shooting just under the squirrel where the force of the striking bullet and ricocheting wood would kill or stun the animal by concussion, but not damage the carcass. The rural south in particular has long held squirrel hunting in high esteem, and the southern hillbilly and his squirrel rifle are as closely related in cultural folklore as the cowboy and his sixgun.

The squirrel is still a popular target among hunters due mainly to its abundance and easy accessibility. Young hunters in particular are drawn

to squirrel hunting, and every fall this sport initiates a new generation of hunters to the outdoors. But regardless of age or experience, the popularity of squirrel hunting stems from the fact that it is a challenging sport that can be enjoyed without a large cash outlay for either equipment or travel.

About all it takes to get started in squirrel hunting is a place to hunt, and some type of firearm. There are of course many other items of equipment which can make a hunt more pleasant and profitable but they are not absolutely essential. While camouflage is to be preferred, any dark clothing will serve the purpose adequately. Sturdy shoes or boots and a sharp pocket knife will round out the equipment list.

As for firearms, there rages a great controversy over the proper squirrel gun. The classic gun for squirrel is the

.22 rimfire rifle and many hunters hold forth that this is the only sporting arm for squirrel hunting. The contention is that this weapon gives the game a fair chance. This is a valid argument as far as stationary targets are concerned, but anyone who has tried to bag a squirrel running or leaping from limb to limb, even with a shotgun, knows that this is not exactly a simple task. There is no argument that the shotgun is the more effective weapon in the heavy foliage early in the season. There are also many populated areas that offer squirrel hunting where the shotgun with its limited range is a much safer choice than the rifle. The shotgun vs. rifle controversy will probably never be settled since both sides have valid points. The riflemen will continue to use .22's and the shotgun hunters will continue to stand by their guns loaded with number 4 or 6 shot. Recently however, there has been a trend toward traditional hunting methods among many hunters. The popularity of primitive weapons has encouraged many sportsmen seeking greater challenge to hunt squirrels with muzzle-loading flintlock and percussion firearms.

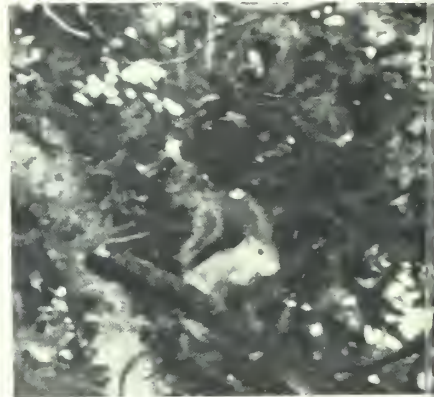
Finding a place to hunt squirrels is the next step. At the rate our public land is vanishing these days finding a

place to hunt anything can be a problem, but finding a squirrel area is still relatively simple when compared to the other species of game. The lands of both the Chattahoochee and the Oconee National Forests harbor good squirrel populations and are open to public hunting, as are the Wildlife Management Areas of the State Game and Fish Commission during small game hunting periods. In addition, forest land privately owned by the timber companies is open to hunting without restrictions on some tracts. Other tracts may be hunted if permission is secured, so it is wise to check with the individual companies to determine what type of regulation is in force. The individual landowner too, is often more prone to allow a squirrel hunter on his property than hunters after other types of game if permission to hunt is politely sought.

To find a good squirrel area the hunter must first understand the needs of his quarry. Squirrels feed on a wide

By using a scope-sighted .22 the hunter assures of a greater challenge to his hunting skill, and therefore more sport. The shotgun, however, will usually put more meat in the bag, and is often preferred for safety's sake when hunting in densely populated areas.

variety of things, but the basic staple of their diet is nuts, supplemented in season by fruits and buds. These food requirements dictate a stand of hard woods. Water is also needed, and for shelter squirrels require mature trees with an adequate number of hollow ones to serve as den trees. This adds up to a mature stand of hardwoods, probably an oak/hickory mixture in Georgia near a water source. Other good bet



are wood lots bordering cornfields, and stands of pine in severe weather or during mast failure.

Now that an area generally fitting the needs of squirrels has been described, the problem is pinpointing the concentrations of the animals in the general area. Almost any area of the type described above will have some squirrels in it, but the best hunting success is usually enjoyed when an area of heavy use is found. Since squirrels will "migrate" out of an area to one which better suits their needs, the wise hunter will make sure the area he plans to hunt shows signs of recent use.

Perhaps the best sign of squirrel activity is to see squirrels themselves during a preseason scouting trip. Following to do this, look for the telltale signs left behind which indicate their presence. In the fall the nuts are falling from the trees, and squirrels are foraging on the ground; but after finding food they like to eat it from an elevated position. Look on top of stumps, logs and rocks for gnawed nut hulls where Mr. Bushytail has had a snack and the litter behind. Squirrel "beds" are large masses of leaves and twigs jammed in the forks of trees. Since they are mostly used during the warm weather of summer and early fall, they serve mainly to indicate that squirrels have been in the area. Later in the season look for holes in standing low trees, with the entrances well smoothed and clean by squirrels coming in and out.

When actually hunting there is one "best" method. To sit or walk is the question, as the two main schools of thought on the matter are sitting and stalking. Sitting is just what it implies: you pick a spot and sit waiting for



squirrels to forget the disturbance and start their activity again. To stalk, one has to slip quietly through the woods, stopping frequently for short periods to look and listen. Stalking is not just a walk in the woods, its successful use depends on quiet movements, good use of concealment, and close observation. Both methods are productive for those who use them, and the choice of one over the other is best made on the temperament of the hunter.

Another hunting method can be used by two men late in the season when the foliage is off the trees. Since a wary squirrel will often run around a tree trunk to hide, the two partners get a reasonable distance apart or on the opposite sides of a draw and take turns moving slowly forward. Any squirrel seeing one of the hunters move will spin around the tree it is presently occupying, offering the other hunter a clear shot. When hunting in this manner it is very important to always know where your partner is and avoid any low angle or ground shots for safety's sake. When a squirrel is downed it is advisable to walk over and pick it up right away. Wounded squirrels have a tendency to burrow under leaves making them difficult to find. If the squirrel is only wounded do not attempt to pick it up, those large teeth are designed to cut through tough nut shells and they do quite a job on fingers too. After pickup of the animal the other squirrels in the immediate area may be shocked, so it is a good idea to move a few yards or so before resuming hunt-

Photos by Aaron Pass



These fresh acorn cupplings indicate the presence of squirrels in the area. They are usually found on top of stumps, logs, and other slightly elevated positions that squirrels prefer as feeding stations. Mast from oaks and other hardwoods make up such an important part of the squirrels' diet that widespread mast failure generally results in a serious food shortage for the squirrel population.



edge of a cornfield near a wooded area is a good place for squirrel hunting. For example, corn dropped into the woods from the top of the stalks is an important supplementary food source during a hard frost or late in the season when the nuts are gone.

Squirrel hunting is basically a game of becoming a part of the forest, and interpreting its sights and sounds into meaningful signals which let you know when your quarry is on the move. The sights are the flick of an ear or tail, or just the movement of some leaves slightly out of tempo with the rest. The sounds which signal activity are a rustle in the dry leaves, the scraping sound of a squirrel cutting through the shell of a nut, or the whoosh of a springy limb as the squirrel vaults from it to another. These sights and sounds which pass unnoticed by the casual observer are the successful squirrel hunter's stock and trade, and correctly deciphering them is what makes him successful.

Squirrel hunting is a lot of fun in its own right, but it is also an excellent way to dust off the old hunting instinct in preparation for hunting other species later on. It gives the hunter a chance to brush up on the essential elements of woodcraft and practical hunting marksmanship. It is also quite an enjoyable way to spend an autumn or winter afternoon.

QUAIL FOR YOU

By Dean Wohlgemuth and Ted Borg

Photos by Ted Borg



Wild birds, especially quail, are more than a quarry now. When the birds are in the open like this, you'd better take advantage of the good luck available in Oaky Wood. Management Area offers hunting area to the public, something that is a rare treat these days.

Georgia is King of the Quail Country. Long Live the King!

Nice thought, isn't it? But if you live in a city or town, or just plain don't own any land to hunt on, it's a safe bet you have a difficult time finding a place to hunt.

Our state's reputation as a quail hunter's paradise is fading. It's fading for a couple of reasons, one of course being that less and less

nd is in crops which provide good
ail cover.

Yet, there are areas of the state,
nder private ownership, where the
ail hunting will probably never be
ualled. These lands, however, are not
ailable except to very, very few per-
ns.

The average person looking for some
ail hunting lands is in a predicament.
If you're one of these, here's good
ws for you . . . The State Game and
sh Commission has a game manage-
ent area, centrally located, that has
abundance of quail, several thousand
res worth, and has very light hunting
essure. All you have to do to hunt
ere is show up on dates the area is
en. No permit, no checking in or out,
required.

Too good to be true? Then you

*nt only is the management area open
small game hunting for whatever is
season (on Wednesdays and Saturdays
rough February), the quail area is easily
cessible. At the start of the hunt, Ted
vidson and D. L. Davidson park, then
p off the road, and are immediately
nting.*

ought to visit Oaky Woods Management
Area this winter. You're right, Oaky
Woods is a deer hunting area. But when
the deer hunts are over, then the area
is turned over to small game hunters.

Too much timber? Well, it's true that
most of Oaky Woods' 37,000 acres is
woodland, owned by Georgia Kraft
Company and Continental Can Co.
These large timber interests lease these
lands to the State Game and Fish Com-
mission as a game management area.

Not all the land is currently in
timber. In fact, this year there will be
some 4,000 acres of open land, ideal for
quail hunting. The land is not all in
one lump, but in five scattered areas.

The land was clear cut by the harvest-
ers, leaving it to grow up in brush and
weeds until the land is ready for refo-
resting. Some was cut about a year ago,
and already has sufficient under-
growth, primarily weeds and grass, to
provide excellent cover and food for
birds. And the birds are there! Ray
Plaster, area manager, reports seeing as
many as 12 coveys along roadsides in a
day. One group of hunters last year got
shots at eight coveys in three hours. If
that isn't good enough, you'd better go
to pen-raised birds on a preserve.

Plaster said last year he averaged

about 10 hunters per day he was open,
or about three groups of hunters per
day. He added that as many as per-
haps 50 hunters, in groups, could find
plenty of room to hunt and never have
to work over land that has already been
hunted that day.

Success was good for most hunters.
Why, then, aren't more people using
the area? Is the land hard to get to? Not
at all. All the scarified (clear cut) areas
are right along good graded dirt roads
through the management area.

It is true, however, that walking can
be rugged on most of the land. Low,
rolling hills of middle Georgia are
covered with thick brush and weeds. If
your legs aren't in shape, they'll tell you
about it at the end of the day. Plaster
said that hunters who weren't successful
in last year's hunts were those who just
didn't want to put forth the effort to
walk through the rugged terrain.

Plaster, who now has been re-
assigned to the Mountain Management
District in Walker County, said that
some 2,000 acres of timber on Oaky
Woods will be clear cut this year,
adding that much land to the quail
hunting inventory next fall. It will be
cut in time so that spring growth of
weeds and grasses will provide seeds for





The cover is thick in some areas, which can make it tough hunting . . . but the birds like it. The edge of the woods next to the cleared land is a likely spot to find a covey or two.



Hunters can still find birds without dogs but they're certainly helpful, especially in retrieving birds that fall in the dense cover.

quail food. The quail will be there, he assures.

He pointed out that the first year after an area is cut is usually the best for hunting, because it is easier walking. It is more difficult but still excellent hunting the second year. By the third year after cutting, the thick cover will be quite difficult to navigate.

However, about the third year the lands will be replanted to new trees. At this time, the land is cleared of weeds somewhat, and is much easier to hunt. This makes it good hunting for another three years, at which time the new trees are tall enough to make hunting very difficult if not virtually impossible. By this time, however, the land has produced at least four or five years of good hunting, and in the meantime more land will be opened. There will always be good quail hunting available at Oak Woods!

All this fine hunting is awaiting you at no cost. The area is open all day Wednesdays and Saturdays, from Dec. 9 this year through Feb. 27, 1971. This is a month longer than last year, a total of 24 days. There is no need to check in and out. Gates will be open on days the area may be hunted.

And if you'd rather hunt squirrels, rabbits or doves, that's all right, too. The land is yours for the hunting, for whatever small game hunting is in season during those dates.

It should be added that the squirrel hunting is excellent, particularly in the Ocmulgee River swamp sections of the area.

Too far away? If you live in Atlanta, you can reach the area in about 1½ to 2 hours. You're only about an hour away if you live in Columbus. Residents of Augusta, and Waycross may spend

two hours' travel time getting to Oak Woods. From Valdosta, about an hour and a half, perhaps a little more, is all that's necessary up the Interstate 75.

To reach the area, go to Perry, Ga., on the I-75. From Perry, take Ga. Highway 127 east eight miles to the town of Kathleen. Turn right on Ga. 247 and go one mile, where you'll see a Game and Fish Commission management area sign. Turn left on the dirt road and go three miles. This will bring you out at the checking station near the center of the area. From this point you can see two of the cleared areas where hunting is good.

To find more of the cleared areas, take either the left or the right fork of that road. The left fork will lead you to

Compartment 2, on your left. The right fork will lead you to two cleared areas one in Compartment 5 and the other in Compartment 6. Another cleared area is on the right side of Ga. Highway 247, a few miles past the checking station road, just as you cross Big Indian Creek.

There it is . . . all laid out and ready. What are you waiting for? Let's go quail hunting! But don't forget your dogs. If you have some available, they'll sure be helpful when you hunt quail at Oak Woods. 🐾

This covey got up in the edge of the woods, and headed for the heavy cover but the guns came up and there were birds for the bag!





TIE YOUR OWN FLIES



Tying your own flies is not as difficult as it may appear, and the space requirements and initial investment is quite small. Almost anyone, young or old, can tie their own flies if they have a little patience. Jerry Jernigan of Everett Roach Sporting Goods in Atlanta shows how it's done.

■ Have you ever looked at a trout or bass fly that cost you 75 cents or a dollar, and thought nothing was there that costs more than a dime? What makes a simple-looking fly cost so much in the store?

Well, the various components, the hook, feathers, hair, silk, and cement are relatively costly if they are of high quality; but the biggest cost factor, other than the various mark-ups involved, is the labor necessary to manufacture a good fly.

There is nothing difficult about tying flies. Anyone who can tie his shoelaces and has a reasonable amount of patience should be able to turn out fish-taking flies on his first attempt. It is not necessary to obtain a small business loan to get into production either; a basic starter kit should cost around \$10.

If you are a hunter as well as a fisherman, you will be able to supplement

your basic kit with good stocks of duck feathers and hair from deer and squirrel. Flies with deer-hair bodies make some of the most effective bass lures known to anglers.

While there are literally thousands of patterns for trout flies alone, not to mention bass and saltwater flies, once a few simple procedures are mastered all flies become simple. Of course the correct materials, a few gadgets, and a place to work under good lighting are required.

Ready-assembled kits for the novice fly tyer usually contain all the essentials necessary to get started. The materials in these kits are not of extremely high quality, but then your first flies are not likely to be exactly superb either. The pre-assembled kits can and will enable the novice to produce satisfactory flies with a minimum of initial investment.

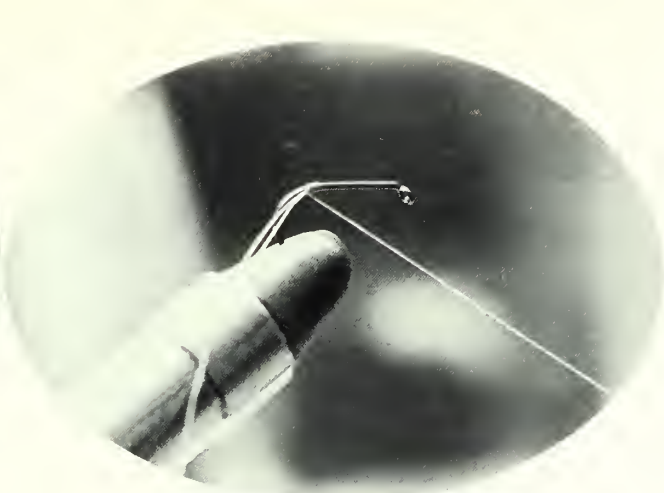
(Continued on Page 10)

By Bob Wilson

Photos by the Author



Only a few materials are necessary to get started and practice tying flies. Major fishing supply stores are usually able to provide the materials and a little expert advice for the novice.



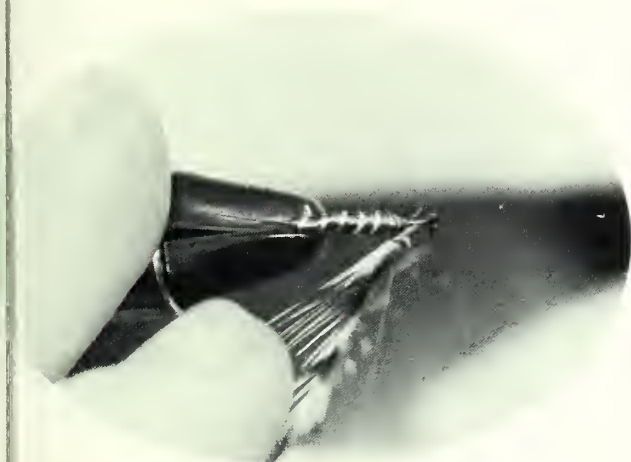
With the proper size hook secured in the fly-tying vise, the tying thread is tied securely to the shank of the hook.



The tail is then attached. In this case, the tail consists of a few pieces of duck feather dyed red.



Next, the body wrapping materials are attached at the shank of the hook and wrapped forward toward the eye of the hook. On this fly the body is green silk floss. Tinsel, also used to wrap the body of this fly was attached at the same time as the silk floss, but has not yet been wound around the body of the fly.



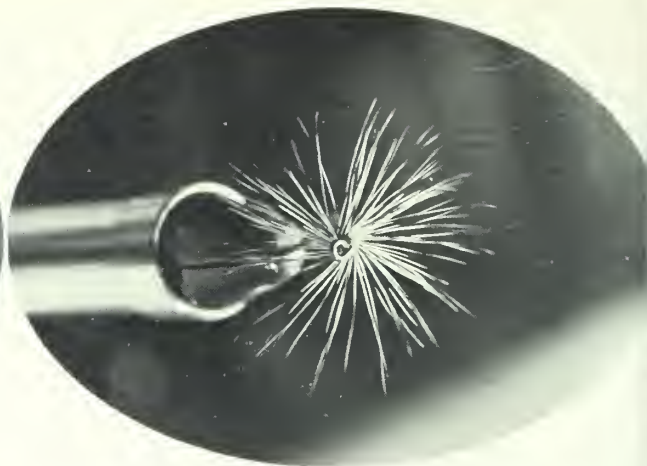
After the body of the fly has been wound and decorated, the hackle, or sometimes a hair head, is attached. If the fly is to have wings, they may also be attached at this stage.



The hackle is wound carefully to obtain an even distribution of fibers. The same holds true in the case of a fly tied with a hair head.



With the hackle secured a head is then formed using the winding thread, and the body of the fly is inspected for flaws.



The hackle is inspected for even distribution particularly in the case of a dry fly, as the hackle must support the fly on the water surface.

Basic equipment includes a fly-tying vise, hackle pliers, a bobbin, a collection of various colors of silk threads, floss, yarns, and tinsel, a vast array of feathers, deer or squirrel hair, cement, and a hackle guard. Small scissors with short points are useful for giving feathers a final trim job. A common razor blade is helpful in cutting off the tying thread close to the body of the fly.

Beginners should start tying on numbers six or eight hooks until they have the hang of it, and then move on down to the smaller hooks. Some novices find it a help to tie a new variety of fly in a large size, say a number eight, before attempting to turn out a dozen or so on a size twelve or sixteen

hook. This gives them an opportunity to see a three-dimensional model of the fly and permits easy spotting of poorly tied areas.

By paying attention to the descriptions of the various flies as they are listed in guidebooks, and following the proper assembly sequence, *you* can tie a perfect fly made of high quality materials. Such a fly will have cost you only a few cents in materials and a few minutes of spare time. Every fisherman has spare time during these winter months, and few things can compare with out-foxing and catching a hard-fighting wily fish with a clump of feathers that *you* have tied to a hook! 🐟



If the fly passes inspection, the head is given a drop or two of varnish or clear fingernail polish to cement the tying thread.



Making certain that the cement has not sealed the eye of the hook will save a great deal of frustration when the angler reaches the stream.



TOBACCO CURED DUCKS

By John Culler

Photos by the Author

Tyler checks one of his tobacco flue wood duck nesting boxes. The nesting boxes have helped to bring back good duck hunting on his farm. He built these boxes for less than fifty cents a piece.

drainage ditch, hunting laws that were too liberal in the past and large tracts of land further north that "short-stop" hunters and geese have all taken their toll on Georgia waterfowl hunting, but Georgians, rather than bemoan the situation, are doing something about it.

Tyler and his family are working, along with another tireless group called the Georgia Waterfowl Family, on restoring wood duck habitat. The wood duck is Georgia's native duck. He doesn't fly away from a far away place to raise his young, nor does he have to make a long perilous journey back again in the fall. Wood ducks traditionally nest in hollow tree cavities preferably near an isolated wooded lake, stream, or pond, but wood ducks are also adaptable and have been putting up nesting boxes since the 1930's conservation movement, hoping to replace some of the nesting cavities being lost to a changing civilization.

In addition to the conservation agencies, some individuals in Georgia, concerned over the decline of waterfowl populations in the state, have also been putting up nesting boxes and it is beginning to pay off. Walter Tyler, an Irwin County farmer who lives near Ocilla, has had an increasing success in each of the three years that he has been working to increase the duck population on his farm.

He began putting up nesting boxes when he got the idea from a neighbor. Some of them are made from a section of tobacco flue, and none of them cost

over 50 cents to build. In the three small ponds on his place, Tyler put up 20 boxes the first year but met with only limited success, because only one was used. This is because wood ducks have to be "imprinted," that is, a female wood duck tends to nest in the type nest where she was hatched, and until some adult birds that were hatched in a nesting box are in the area the boxes will get little use.

Undaunted by the neglect of his boxes, Tyler put up six more the next year, for a total of 26 boxes, and the ducks responded by using 12 of them. This past year Tyler added 12 more boxes, and all 38 nesting boxes on his place were used. According to Tyler's records, which he began to keep the second year he began working with the ducks, there were more than 200 eggs laid in his 38 boxes this year, not counting five broods that hatched out before he could count them. The most eggs he counted in one box was 35, but the average was near 18.

Tyler thinks most of the ducklings make it to flying size. "As soon as they hatch the hen takes them into heavy cover," he said. "When they get a little bigger I see them almost every day and they seem to raise about all they start out with."

Of the three ponds on Tyler's place, two are heavily wooded, providing ample hiding places for small wood ducks. But the first two years he didn't put predator guards around the bottom of the trees in which his boxes were

located, and some nests were destroyed by snakes.

"I lost five boxes last year to white oak runners. They will really get those eggs. But I haven't lost a nest since I installed the predator guards," he said. "If there is a bush or tree close by the snakes will go from bush to tree to get in the box. They are smart, but after they get in the nest they don't want to leave. I caught all five of the snakes in the boxes."

With many farmers in his section of the state switching to gas to dry out their tobacco crop, Tyler has had a plentiful supply of old tobacco flues to work with. He says about 25 boxes can be made from the pipe that comes from one tobacco barn. "All you need is a bottom and top, four bolts, a hinge, four nails, and a piece of two by four to fasten the box to the tree," he explained. Be sure to put a piece of hardware cloth on the inside so the baby ducks can climb out, and that's all there is to it. Most any kind of light gauge tin will serve as a predator guard around the bottom of the tree."

"They don't seem to care much about how the box looks, just as long as it's built pretty tight and the light doesn't show through," Tyler said. He emphasized this by pointing to an old beer keg he put up three years ago. Eighteen ducklings hatched out of the keg this year.

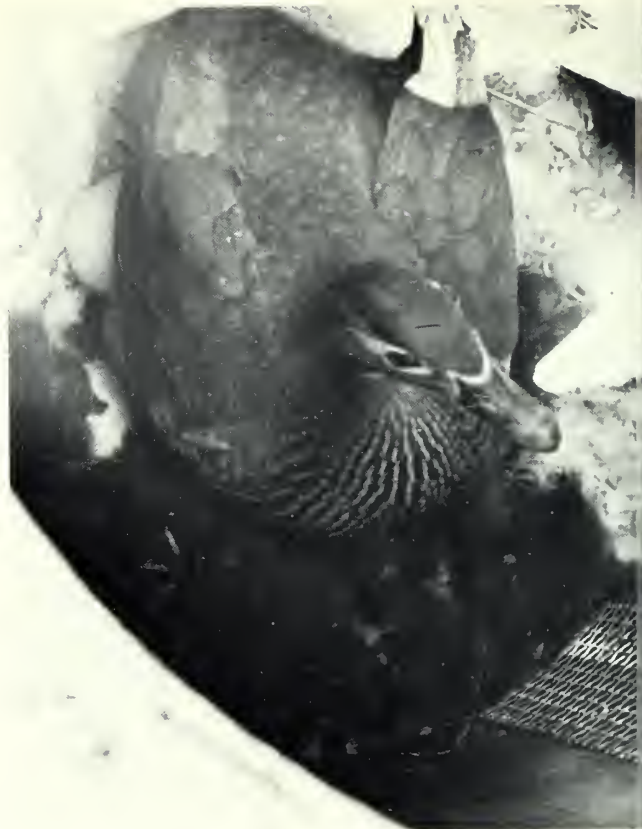
Duck hunting has improved tremendously in the area since he and his friends began putting up nesting boxes, Tyler said. "We usually shoot each

pond about twice each season, and although we make everyone stop when they get their limit, a lot of ducks could be killed here," he said. "One of my personal requirements is everyone use No. 4 shot. I don't like to see birds hit by No. 8 shot fly away to die somewhere."

Wood ducks begin nesting in Georgia as early as February, but nesting doesn't reach its peak until April. The female will add down to the nest, along with whatever decayed wood, leaves or other material is close by. When they hatch, the hen lets them dry out for a couple of days, then leaves the nest and calls to them. The ducklings show a tremendous amount of faith, and leap blindly out of the hole into their new world. With tiny wings flapping and webbed feet outspread the tiny ducklings sometime fall as much as 60 feet, but the fall never seems to bother them.

Acorns are choice food for the wood duck, which will consume 50 to 75 in a normal meal. The younger birds are also fond of spiders and insects, but the diet of most adult birds consists almost entirely of plant material.

Wood ducks have suffered since the turn of the century in Georgia, primarily because of loss of habitat. Many swamps were drained for agriculture and lumber interests, and thousands of hardwoods were removed to make way



A female wood duck and her brood inside a nesting box r from an old tobacco flue. The ducklings are just beginning hatch, which means they will be in the water in another hours.



...of the week - head ... (on next page) ... duck ...

for the pine tree. But nature he things when the beaver got a new hold in the state, and this industry family has created thousands of lakes which benefits all wildlife. Be ponds almost always are good for v ducks, because beavers build their c in creek bottoms in heavily wo areas. These areas, featuring a com nation of water, vegetative growth low-hanging bushes, harbor the gre quantity of insects and plant foods, providing the most ideal type of v duck feeding habitat, especially young ducks.

To be really successful with boxes, wildlife biologists say they be located in an area that has a s age of natural nesting cavities. instance, federal game biologists in Okefenokee Swamp area have rather poor success, but there a a plentiful supply of natural ca available. But in Tyler's area, the agricultural sections of the state v much of the land has been cleared another story.

Although conservation agencies as the Georgia Game and Fish Con sion continue to put time and effo increasing the numbers of the v duck, it's individuals like Walter who may ultimately make the rea ference. ~

FORIAL Cont'd Can One Man Do?

which really are good and which not. Do join conservation organizations and sportsmen's clubs. But be in, before joining, that the organization really does have high ideals and is to them. A great many of the sportsmen's clubs in our state will expel members if they're known to break laws. This is as it should be. Work with the organization in lending support to good causes. Help make sportsmen's clubs free of simply being social hunting and fishing clubs that care less about being law-abiding and conservation minded. Back up the organization when it's right, oppose it when it's wrong. Urge all members to stay within the law.

And, by all means, always carefully follow all game and fish regulations at all times, to the best of your ability. Urge others to do so. Take youngsters hunting and fishing, and teach them to be good sportsmen. Never let anyone, especially a youngster, hear you talk about breaking a limit or taking game out of season, or by illegal means. Always remember, ideas and ideals can be easily planted or destroyed in the mind of a youngster and may well re-echo through his entire life. Youngsters who do not enjoy hunting and fishing, who do not become good sportsmen, are the ones who are most likely to become solid citizens. We can't do them, or the world, any better favor than to teach them to appreciate the great outdoors and to use it properly. Remember, the future is in our hands. Probably too few youngsters have the opportunity to learn of our sports these days, due largely to their busy living and busy time schedules. Legal hunting and fishing does not solve the wildlife situation, rather it makes it worse. Legal sport controls and manipulation of populations, and through the sales of licenses and through taxes on arms, ammunition and tackle pays the bill for conservation work. When you buy these things, and obey laws and guide others to do the same, you're doing an important part in conservation.

The greatest damage to our wildlife's environment today is caused by man, not by the sportsman, but not through his sport. It is through his progress, his building of industries, his changing of land and thus the environment; his old uses and misuses of water resources; his uncontrolled use of pesticides and herbicides.

What can you do about this? Demand stronger laws, and enforcement. Enforcement also means demanding that courts convict and adequately punish the guilty. A light fine and a suspended sentence rarely convince a man or he mustn't break the law again.



Are some of these detergent suds in the South River yours?

Second offenders certainly need to be dealt with more firmly.

Air and water pollution do affect wildlife and fish as well as mankind. Industry has often been named the culprit in these areas, and often is. However, the trend in recent years has been that industry has been cleaning its own house, particularly in the field of water pollution. This must continue to improve. No new industries must be allowed to use water without providing pollution control facilities. Old industries who have not done so must build such facilities. You can demand this through elected officials.

Yet, perhaps the most guilty person of all in water pollution, and perhaps air pollution, is YOU. That's right. You voted against bills to increase taxes that would pay for water and air pollution control. You didn't want your city to spend your money to clean up the sewage that you created. Your automobile is one of the worst culprits in air pollution. Have you had an anti-pollution device installed? Have you a hole in the muffler of your car? You drive several thousand miles each year, adding your share to air pollution. You use detergents that pollute streams.

Have you dumped trash along a roadside? Have you thrown litter from a car window, or a boat? Have you left a campsite messy? You'll do a great share if only you'll halt these practices. If you had an idea how much tax money you waste when you litter, you'd stop.

Our society is so affluent nowadays that many things are thrown away that used to be saved. For example, soft drink bottles cost you only three cents

each, so you toss them away rather than turn them in for a deposit. In fact, you usually buy nonreturnable bottles and cans so you don't have to bother, though they cost you considerably more. Did you know that in Georgia, each resident averages nearly one soft drink per day? This means a total of nearly \$50 million worth of bottle deposits would be paid by this state alone if all were returnable bottles. This is about 10 times the budget of the State Game and Fish Commission. Much of this deposit money is wasted every year. You could stop the waste by doing your share. You could demand that throwaway packages be outlawed. One Georgia soft drink company claimed losses of \$20,000 in one year, because returnable bottles were not returned. Bottles cost the company seven cents each, and if they aren't used at least three times the bottler loses money. So do you. Your taxes pick them up off roadsides and in parks, etc.

It has been said that the cost of picking up an empty beer can from the roadside by the Highway Department is greater than the original cost of the can filled with its product. Can you afford to pay taxes for such waste? How much better if you and your family were to never litter, so that your taxes could be used for worthwhile pollution control facilities!

Is there really anything that one man can do to improve environmental quality? Yes, there is. A little common sense, a little thought, a little effort will tell you how. If you really care, you can help. That help is absolutely vital. Do your part!

—Dean Wohlgenuth

Bagby Receives Outdoor Life Award Crockford Gets Wildlife Recognition

By Bob Wilson
Photos by the Author

National honors came to State Game and Fish Commission Director George T. Bagby at the Georgia Sportsmen's Federation Convention, when he re-

ceived the 1970 Outdoor Life Magazine Conservation Award for 1970.

The plaque was presented to Bagby by Thomas Kimball, Executive Director of the National Wildlife Federation, while William E. Rae, Editor of Outdoor Life, watched.



Outdoor Life Magazine's conservation award of the year was presented to Georgia Game & Fish Director George T. Bagby at the Georgia Sportsmen's Federation Convention. From left are: Charles Elliott, Outdoor Life Southern Field Editor; William E. Rae, Editor of Outdoor Life; Bagby; Thomas Kimball, Executive Director of the National Wildlife Federation; and Claude Kelley, Regional Representative for NWF.



The juvenile youth winners in the Georgia Sportsmen's Federation awards program are (left to right): Gary White, August J. P. Flannery, Billy Deer, and others. Also shown are: Ernest V. Brender, Gerald R. Hunter, and others.



The juvenile youth winners in the Georgia Sportsmen's Federation awards program are (left to right): Gary White, August J. P. Flannery, Billy Deer, and others.

The popular national magazine Bagby's efforts in halting channelization of the Alcovy River as a part of a posed watershed project to be conducted by the Soil Conservation Service. Some of the project is still undecided, depending on the outcome of meetings between the Commission, the SCS, the U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife.

Also honored at the convention was Jack Crockford, Assistant Director of the Game and Fish Commission. He received the State Federation's Wildlife Conservationist of the Year award for recognition of his continuing professional efforts in the field of wildlife conservation.

The State Federation's top award went to Harry Rossell, U.S. Forest Service, creator of the Smokey The Bear campaign.

Other awards were: soil conservationist of the year, Clarence Higginbotham; water conservationist of the year, A. D. Searcy; forest conservationist of the year, Ernst V. Brender; conservation educator of the year, B. M. D. conservation communications award of the year, Gerald R. Hunter; and outstanding sportsmen's club of the year, Austell Sportsmen's Club.

The youth conservationist of the year award went to Donna Ash of Conley. Youth conservationist awards were given by: Mike Sumner; Mae Moye; Jim Haupt; Marshall Adams; Wesley Daniel, Jr.; Leonard Fussell; and Connell.

The awards program of the Georgia Sportsmen's Federation, established in co-operation with the Sears-Roebuck Foundation is designed to recognize and encourage dedicated work in the management of natural resources. The awards are designed to stimulate interest by private citizens, government officials, civic and fraternal organizations, industrial firms, and communications media.

Members of the Sportsmen's Federation present also elected officers for the next year.

Incumbents re-elected were Tom Holliman, President; Clyde Green, Executive Vice President; and Stickley, Secretary-Treasurer.

New Officers included District Presidents Doy Boyd, Statesboro; Bob Gibson, Thomasville; Michael Matthews, Preston; J. C. Lumsden, Atlanta; Rendell Lawrence, Molena; Gary White, Austell; Donald Dukes, Park; and Ralph Matson, Augusta.



Mr Herman Talmadge and Jasper County Deer Festival Queen, Clydie McMichael, pinned the beard of Olin Armstead who grew the longest beard of anyone attending her festival. This was the Fourth Annual Festival to be held in Monticello.

Jasper County Deer Festival

The Fourth Annual Jasper County Deer Festival was a great success despite a light rainfall and cool weather. On the day of November 14, 1970, hundreds of people gathered in the town of Monticello to observe the festival, beauty contest, and other festivities.

Mayor Herman Talmadge addressed the group in an inside meeting at the town house beginning about noon. Mel Larson of Marlin Firearms demonstrated his skill with a rifle at the edge of the square early in the afternoon.

Prizes were given for the heaviest deer brought into the festival and the deer with the most points. Carlton Jones of Markston brought in the deer with the most points, 22. The heaviest deer was a buck brought in by Roger Hopwood of Macon, which weighed 195½ lbs. Olin Armstead of Monroe was crowned to have the longest beard of any hunter present in the beard growing contest. Rocky Adornato of New Berlin, Wisconsin traveled 910 miles to participate in the festival. He was awarded a lantern for traveling farther than any other person to reach the deer festival. The youngest hunter to bag a deer was 14 year old Gary Johns of Monticello.

The prize drawing, C. R. Weaver

of Macon won a .444 Marlin Rifle, with a K4 scope. Another big winner was Emil J. Melvin of Atlanta, who won a .30-30 Marlin Rifle. Barron Fullerton won a Profane Tree Stand, and Joel Bales of Monticello won a hunting knife. Clydie McMichael was crowned Queen of the 1970 deer festival. The runners up were Kathy Jones, Martha Armistead, Cathie Cullem, and Shelia Ozburn.

—Marvin Tye



These two striped bass were caught in the tail race below the Lake Sinclair dam Dec. 17, by Henry A. Arnold, Rt. 1, Mill-edgeville. They weighed 18 lbs. 3 oz., and 21 lbs.

The two big stripers fell for a white butterbean jig on 15 pound test line.



Only 1000s are we giving away prizes. The year's best hunter in the world, 1970, is just one of the big deer hunters. He is the only one to have won the world's best hunter award in the world. He is the only one to have won the world's best hunter award in the world.



Roswell Brittany Is National Champ

Augustus of Rivers, a five-year-old Brittany Spaniel owned by Jim White of Roswell, recently won the National Open Brittany Championship Trial and now holds that title. White believes his dog to be the first from Southeastern U.S. to hold a Brittany national title.

The Georgia born and raised dog defeated nearly 60 regional winners in the National Open held Nov. 13 through 20 at Paducah, Ky. He found three coveys

on a very windy day when most dogs were able to find only one. He ran on the third day of the trial.

Gus climbed to the National Open after winning in a number of state trials including New Jersey, Minnesota, Illinois, Kentucky, Tennessee, North Carolina, South Carolina and several others.

—Dean Wohlgenuth

Book Review

CROW SHOOTING SECRETS

By Dick Mermon, Winchester Press, 460 Park Avenue, New York 10022. 149 pages. \$5.95.

The author of this book is a dedicated crow hunter, that fact stands out immediately. Calling him a crow hunter rather than a crow shooter seems appropriate as Mermon puts real effort into getting his quarry. Further, he is genuinely interested in sharing his experience and knowledge in that field with others.

With no bag limits, no closed seasons, and the often ready cooperation of landowners with crow hunters, this sport is bound to become more popular. The crow can be as wary as any game animal, and yet he can sometimes be lured into range in such numbers as to make for fast and furious shooting. Dick Mermon's book is a good basic introduction to the sport.

The author favors the shotgun, blind,

and decoy approach, and spends little time on the techniques of crow hunting with the high velocity rifle equipped with a high power scope. A lot of time and effort is put into crow hunting by the author, but when he starts talking about one, two, and even three hundred birds killed in one day from a two-man blind, it somehow seems worth a lot of time and effort. Mermon comments on the crow and his habits, the construction of blinds, personal camouflage, decoys, crow calls, guns and shooting techniques, and useful miscellaneous equipment.

Unfortunately, the book has no diagrams which might have helped the reader grasp the essentials of several things that are described, but not shown. A number of the photographs in the book are poorly reproduced, and could have been eliminated in favor of such diagrams. This shortcoming and a few technical errors, do not make the book less valuable to the sportsman who is interested in busting some crows.

B.W.

Sportsmen Speak...

Letters of general interest will be used as possible. Letters must be brief and to the point. The number of letters received prevents us from using all letters. When several letters on the same subject are received the editor reserves the right to use only those which cover the subject best.

MIREX AGAIN

Ordinarily I am content to stand apart the pollution-pesticide controversy; our department makes recommendations to the commission and to the legislature they in turn make policy. The article Margaret Tucker was both informative and timely in spite of certain disagreements among readers.

I worked with the Bureau of Sport Fisheries in Marion, Alabama following the treatment of ponds with Mirex as mentioned by Mr. Kight. (Van Valin, C. C., A. K. Anderson and L. L. Eller, 1968. Some Effects of Mirex on two warm water fishes. Trans. Am. Fish. Soc. 97: 185-186). I can verify that Mirex was persistent in sediment samples (gas chromatographic analyses) even after initial treatment. Contact experience with another chlorinated hydrocarbon delayed for approximately 1½ years to lay any synergistic action upon was introduced into the ponds.

Again thank you for the excellent article. Let's have some more like it.

Sincerely,
C. Jerry Knowlton
Marine Biologist

STREAMS RUINED

A few years ago I had the pleasure of catching my first mountain trout. It came from Wild Hog Creek in North Georgia. This experience has led me to return there at least once a year, but now I find that the beauty of this stream and of Canada Creek is ruined by pollutants of a chemical nature such as suds, as well as sewerage apparatus derived from livestock. There is enough pollution in both creeks to make fishing undesirable.

Until I was introduced to this area I had no idea such beautiful mountain scenery and exciting trout fishing existed in Georgia. To see it ruined by pollution is shocking and sad. I hope the State of Georgia realizes its invaluable asset it has in its mountains and clear streams and will take all necessary steps to preserve them.

Unless this is done all incentive for return will be lost, as it will be for others. I am sure. More importantly, the next generation of Georgians will have failed its duty to preserve a clean environment for the generations of Georgians to come.

Sincerely,
Charles F. Dawkins

While the Game and Fish Commission is obviously concerned with the results of pollution, incidents of water pollution should be reported to the State Water Quality Control Board for investigation. Both the Quality Control Board and the Game and Fish Commission need the help of concerned individuals to effectively carry out their functions.

Sportsman's Calendar

HUNTING SEASONS

MOURNING DOVES: December 17, 1970 through January 15, 1971. Daily bag limit is 18. Shooting hours from dawn till sunset prevailing time.

BRANT

Season — November 16, 1970 through January 24, 1971.
Bag Limit — 6 daily, possession limit 6.

DUCKS, MERGANSERS AND COOTS

Season — December 2, 1970 through January 20, 1971.
Bag Limit—Ducks: 4 daily, including no more than 2 black ducks, 2 wood ducks, 1 canvasback or 1 redhead. Possession limit 8, including not more than 4 wood ducks, canvasback or 1 redhead or 4 black ducks. **Mergansers:** 1 daily including no more than 1 hooded merganser; possession limit 10 including no more than 2 hooded mergansers. **Coots:** 15 daily, possession limit 30. An additional 2 scaup daily and 4 in possession may be taken during the regular duck season in those portions of Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, McIntosh, Glynn and Camden counties lying on the Intracoastal Waterway only.

GALLINULE

Season — November 7, 1970 through January 15, 1971.
Bag Limit—15 daily, possession limit 30.

WOODCOCK

Season — November 20, 1970 through January 23, 1971.
Bag Limit—5 daily, possession limit 10.

TURKEY

Season — November 20, 1970 through February 27, 1971 in Baker, Calhoun, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Gady, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, and Thomas counties only. **Bag Limit**—2 per season.

GROUSE

Season — January 16 through February 27, 1971. Bag limit three (3) daily; possession limit six (6). (260-2-30 Amended)

OPOSSUM

Season — October 17, 1970, through February 27, 1971. Statewide season. Exception: Coweta County will be open September 26, 1970, through January 23, 1971. No bag limit. (260-2-31 Amended)

QUAIL

Season — November 20, 1970, through February 27, 1971. Statewide season. Bag limit twelve (12) daily; possession limit thirty-six (36). (260-2-32)

RABBIT

Season — November 20, 1970, through January 30, 1971. The counties of Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Elbert, and all counties north of those listed will be open for rabbit hunting. Bag limit five (5) daily.

Season — November 20, 1970, through February 27, 1971, in all counties south of the above listed counties. Bag limit ten (10) daily. (260-2-33 Amended)

RACCOON

Season — October 17, 1970, through February 27, 1971, in Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Elbert, and all counties north of those listed. Bag limit one (1) per night per person.

Season — All counties south of the above named counties are open year round for the taking of raccoons. No bag limit. (260-2-3.4 Amended)

SQUIRREL

Season — October 15, 1970, through February 27, 1971. Bag limit ten (10) daily. (260-2-3.5 Amended)

SMALL GAME MANAGED HUNTS SCHEDULE

Dates

Areas

Reg. Season Lake Seminole, Whitesburg, Allatoona, Altamaha (except Butler Island), Cohutta, Grand Bay, Brunswick Pulp and Paper Co. (except during dog deer hunts)

During waterfowl season, by permit only Altamaha (Butler Island)

Dec. 9-Feb. 27 Lake Russell
Wed., Fri., & Sat.

Dec. 11-Feb. 27 Coleman River
Fri. & Sat.

Jan. 22-23 Chestatee
Feb. 5-6, 19-20

Jan. 29-30 Lake Burton
Feb. 12-13, 26-27

Dec. 9-Feb. 27 Piedmont Exp. Sta.
Wed., Fri., & Sat.

Dec. 9-23 & Jan. 2-Feb. 27 Cedar Creek
Wed., Fri., & Sat. only

Jan. 22-23-Feb. 5-6, 19-20 Chattahoochee

Jan. 2, 6, 9, 13, 16 Bullard Creek

Jan. 4-9 Suwanoochee

Jan. 22-23-Feb. 5-6, 19-20 Blue Ridge

Jan. 11-16 Arabia Bay

Dec. 9-Feb. 27 Oaky Woods
Wed. & Sat. only

Jan. 2-30 Clark Hill
Wed. & Sat. only

Jan. 22-23-Feb. 2-6 Warwoman

Jan. 4-9 Alapaha (E. of Ga. 135)

Feb. 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13 Waycross State Forest

Jan. 9, 11, 12, 13 Chickasawhatchee

WE'D RATHER SWITCH THAN FIGHT!

If it means better service to you, as a subscriber of *Game & Fish Magazine*, we're willing to make a change. And we're doing it, beginning with this issue. Our mailing lists are converted to a computer system.

This will enable us to serve you more promptly and accurately, both in getting your magazine to you each month, and in renewing and starting new subscriptions for all our readers.

Of course, when starting out on something new, there's always a chance there may be a few bugs in the system that will have to be ironed out. If so, we hope you'll bear with us.

If it is necessary to contact us regarding your subscription, PLEASE include the mailing label on the outside of your magazine. Under the computer system, it will be necessary for us to have all the coding on the label in order to serve your situation properly.

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Thanks for your help . . . it's a pleasure serving you!

The Editors

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371



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CONTENTS

An Education In Safety	Aaron Pass	1
There's Good Hunting Yet!	Bob Wilson	4
Catch 'Em With A Camera	Ted Borg	7
Yesterday's Traps—Today's World	Marvin Tye	11
Midnight Music	Ted Borg	15
Sportsmen Speak		16
Outdoor World		17
Sportsman's Calendar		17

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Help Stamp In Better Fishing and Hunting

If you had the choice of buying a good fishing vest for \$10, or could get a better one for only \$2.25, which would you choose?

Foolish question? Well, let's put it this way... if you could buy an annual trout fishing permit for \$10 (or pay \$1 for every day you went fishing), or instead could pay only \$2.25 for a trout stamp which would allow you to fish every day of the season, which would you choose?

We of the State Game and Fish Commission think you'd choose the \$2.25 annual trout stamp in preference to the \$10 permit. We hope so, because strange as it may seem the \$2.25 stamp would, we believe, provide us with more actual income.

The reason is largely because most fishermen aren't sure they'll go trout fishing often enough to make it more feasible to buy the \$10 permit than pay \$1 per day. So they buy the \$1 daily permit instead. We take in about \$18,000 a year this way, but having a man on the gate of each trout management area to collect your dollar has eaten up a huge chunk of the "profits"... \$15,000 worth.

We'd realize more of a margin of profit on the stamp and you'd be able to start fishing earlier in the morning, since you wouldn't have to stand in line at the check-in station. And the added profits would mean more money to spend on trout management and stocking, instead of paying the salary of a man to sell permits.

You're sold on the trout stamp? Fine... now on to the next step. You see, the trout stamp is just part of the package which will be necessary to provide needed extra income for the Game and Fish Commission, to do a better job for you, the sportsman.

Unfortunately, we can't always save you money in such an obvious way. Yet, if your chances of success are better you'll spend less money on fruitless trips, so you're likely to come out better after all.

In the lingo of the baseball writer, we have tossed up the long, slow curve, now comes the high hard one... the big game stamp. Sure, it'll cost you more money to license yourself to hunt deer, but did you know that on the average one hunter in six killed a deer last year? The average hunter spends 17 days of hunting for each deer killed, and he spends an average of more than \$25 per day he hunts more than \$400 per deer. Now, if his odds of getting deer were increased, even to just one in 16 days, he could save \$25 per deer, or much more than the stamp would cost him. (Last year's proposal was for a \$5 stamp.)

The stamp would be just the instrument that would increase his chances of success, because it would provide more money for managing and protecting the existing deer herd, and would allow for a stepped up stocking program.

Add to this the fact that there'd be enough income from the big game stamp to help get a good turkey stocking program rolling. The stamp would be required to hunt any big game in Georgia, including deer, turkey and bear. The Commission intends to begin a concentrated effort on turkey management, similar to what has been done in recent years on deer.

(Continued on Page 1)

ON THE COVER: Wildlife photography requires skill, planning, and most of all, patience for truly outstanding results. Here Don Pfitz utilizes some of the specialized techniques of outdoor photography explained by Ted Borg in his article "Catch 'Em With A Camera" on Page 7.

Photo by Ted Borg

ON THE BACK COVER: The brisk winds and uncrowded waters of late winter makes this an excellent time for sailing. This exhilarating sport requires warm clothing and a high tolerance to cold weather. Later as the weather warms, power boats and water skiers will use the sails as other recreationists take their turn on the water.

Photo by Aaron Pass

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AN EDUCATION IN SAFETY

close shave will probably make everyone involved a little more careful about safe handling. In this case, one of the operator's quick thinking in a bad spot averted more dire consequences.

Photo by Ted Borg

By Aaron Pass

Whether you're a rank beginner or a person who has had considerable exposure to boating, you're interested in the sport because you derive pleasure from it. It's fun to boat. It isn't fun to learn of boating safety. That is, unless you have taken one of two boating courses which teach you how to get the most enjoyment out of boating, and in the process learn the safe, proper way of handling your boat.

Most articles dealing with safety are oriented toward what not to do for safety's sake. They are in effect "Don't" lists which tell you how to avoid being unsafe. Such an outline of hazards to

avoid is both an effective and forceful tool to get the safety message across, but often from the standpoint of safety it is more important to know what to do than what not to do.

Boating is a good example of an activity where doing the right thing at the right time is vitally important to avoiding misfortune and sometimes tragedy. A basic knowledge of correct boat handling techniques is unquestionably the best safety practice on the market; it is that proverbial ounce of prevention that helps you avoid rather than amend a dangerous situation.

Pleasure boating has grown tremend-

ously as an outdoor recreational pursuit in recent years. A cruise on any of the state's large reservoirs will quickly point out that you are not alone on the water these days, in fact it's usually downright crowded. Right along with the increased participation in water sports for pleasure there has been a paralleling rise in the number of water related accidents. These accidents, which cost thousands of dollars and several lives each year, are caused for the most part by ignorance. Ignorance of the correct thing to do in a nasty situation, and the panic which generally leads to the wrong decision.

Three fishermen set out for a day on the water to enjoy their sport. The initial mistake of not having heard the weather report for the area, caused them to be caught on big water with a small boat in a sudden storm. Panic in the high waves caused the boat operator to try to turn around and head back — that was mistake number 2. A wave caught and capsized the boat, and they attempted to swim to safety. This was the third and final mistake for two of the three. Ignorance leading to panic in an admittedly bad situation had tragic results.

Anyone who participates in any sport long enough will eventually run into a similar hairy scrape, and at such times knowing what to do and the confidence that such knowledge breeds can be invaluable. There is no substitute for experience of course, but the gaining of experience can be a long and risky process, particularly for the average boater who has limited time to enjoy his sport. An excellent alternate is boating education. It does not replace experience, but it provides an excellent foundation on which experience can be safely accumulated.

One such boating course is ably spon-



The U.S. Power Squadron offers an extensive boater education course called Basic Piloting. It lasts 12 weeks and covers topics which are very useful to the small boat operator.

Photo by Aaron

sored by the U.S. Power Squadrons, an organization originally dedicated to the principle of promoting boating as a sport by teaching the fundamental principles of the art. The Power Squadron has turned today to promoting safety through teaching the same basic fundamentals of seamanship.

The course is called Basic Piloting, and both it and the course material are provided free. Lasting 12 weeks, the course is intended to help the novice boat operator get safely off on the right foot and to gain more enjoyment from his boat. The course is designed to make the inexperienced boater aware of the many responsibilities and things he needs to know before venturing on the water. It also serves as a guide to make the learning process quicker and more

beneficial to him.

The classes stress both safety and seamanship, covering a broad range of subjects the small boat operator will find useful and interesting. The small boat section, for instance, is practical in nature. It covers safeguarding against fire, handling of fuel, use of radios, understanding weather reports and conditions. Covering both how to stay out of trouble, and what to do if trouble arises, this lesson is very important to both beginners and veterans alike.

The seamanship and small boat handling lessons are also very valuable since they cover the basic fundamentals of small craft operation. Everyone who uses a boat, regardless of experience, is bound to learn something useful from these segments. Use of the anchor, maneuvering the boat, docking, mooring, and knots and rope care are covered in the seamanship lesson. The small boat section goes into detail about the type of boat commonly used for pleasure craft, emphasizing outboard motors and their maintenance, limitations of small boats, and handling a small boat in rough water. The material outlined in these two lessons forms the basis for correct and safe boating.

To keep you boating on safe waters the course includes lessons on government regulations and rules of the road. The regulations section covers required equipment, documenting, and reports. Rules of the road explain right of way, signals between boats, and lights. This section provides practical instruction on situations involving other boats which are necessary on today's crowded waters.

Getting lost in a boat on inland waters is usually little more than a harassing, but it can spell serious



Of course you don't see any life jackets, they were left behind to make room for more people. This staged picture illustrates a point in boating safety but such an overloaded boat is not an unusual sight on any of our major reservoirs.

Photo by Ted Borg



Photo by Aaron Pass

Small boat operator needs to know many things about his boat and its proper use, one important bit of knowledge is "Aids to the Road". The Coast Guard Auxiliary Basic Seamanship Course covers this aspect thoroughly; here the instructor explains aids to navigation.

in foul weather. The charts and compass class, and the mariner's compass class are quite an aid to charting a correct course. These lessons cover interpretation, using the tools and techniques of a course. The compass class covers with use of the compass, installation and how to care for it.

Successful completion of this 12 hour course will make one a reasonable competent sailor with sufficient knowledge to handle most situations one might normally encounter. To find out when and where the next course starts in your area call the U.S. Power Squadron at 1-800-243-6000 toll free and ask for the phone number of the local district office. Georgia has Power Squadron courses in Atlanta, Rome, Gainesville and Columbus in the 17th district, in Augusta and Savannah in the 18th district.

Another organization which presents boating education courses is the U.S. Coast Guard Auxiliary. This organization is made up entirely of volunteers, though it is affiliated with the Coast Guard. It is non-military. Created by an act of Congress, the Auxiliary promotes boating safety, effects rescues, and promotes compliance with laws regarding boating. The Auxiliary is best known for its Courtesy Motorboat Examination, and for rendering aid to distressed boaters, but it conducts several educational programs also.

One of these is the Outboard Motorboat Handling class which lasts only four hours. In this very compact class the basics of seamanship, rules of the road, and water safety are brought out in a way to provide maximum benefit for those taking the course. An interesting variation of this course is called the Hunter-Fisherman

boating course which is directed specifically toward the sportsman who has occasion to use a boat while hunting and fishing. These courses are the raw basics and they are short enough for there to be little excuse for not taking them.

Safe Boating is a somewhat longer course than the outboard motorboat class, lasting for three 2 hour lessons. It covers basic seamanship, aids to navigation, and rules of the road. This course is also very basic, but it does go into greater detail than the shorter ones. More time is allotted for the discussion of each of the topics covered, and it is an excellent choice for the boatman

with limited time. This course is also used for the introduction to longer Basic Seamanship course.

The Basic Seamanship course is the Auxiliary's main instructional tool and goes into the fundamentals of boating in some depth. Seamanship, aids to navigation, and rules of the road are all covered at greater length, and the course also goes into maneuvering, and chart and compass instruction. This course is designed to be valuable to all boatmen with the emphasis on the novice, and through its application make the waters safer for everyone.

All of these courses are provided free by the Coast Guard Auxiliary as a public service, as a part of their overall program to promote safe boating. Anyone interested in attending these courses should write the 7th Coast Guard District, 51 S.W. First Avenue, Miami, Florida, 33130, and inquire about the nearest flotilla.

These courses dealing with proper boat handling are one of the best methods available to stem the rising number of waterborne accidents. The increasing volume of water traffic these days makes trial-and-error learning a risky proposition for the beginner and for those around him. Boating education cannot replace years of experience but it can and does give one a tremendous headstart. Having learned the fundamentals of boat handling the average water sportsman is not only safer, his pleasure is greatly enhanced by his increased understanding of his sport. He is also secure in the knowledge that he can deal with an emergency if it does arise.



Good equipment is the mark of a good yachtsman; this safety equipment is all useful in safe small boat operation and some of it is required by law. An educated boater knows the value of safety equipment and how to use it.



THERE'S GOOD HUNTING YET!



By Bob Wilson

Photos by Ted Borg

February is bound to be almost no sportsman's favorite month. Deer season is over, and it's still too cold and miserable to work up much enthusiasm over fishing. But that's a poor attitude! There's a lot of just plain good hunting left yet.

There are actually more game species that can be hunted now than game species on which the season is closed. Somewhere in the state you can hunt quail, grouse, snipe, rabbit, squirrel, raccoon, and opossum during at least a portion of this month. While most seasons will close on February 27, open seasons on turkey will be spotted throughout March and April in various areas around the state. Even in late April, hunters will be able to seek out the wily wild turkey in one portion of the state. Raccoon season never closes down in south Georgia!

Some hunters will be crunching through dead leaves, perhaps some snow, up in north Georgia in hopes of flushing an occasional ruffed grouse. Almost any hunter that has been startled by one of these birds exploding into flight almost underfoot will tell you that hunting these birds is well worth the effort, especially if he has been successful in downing the bird with a snap shot in thick woods.

Down in south Georgia, hunters will follow dogs or sweep through fields to drive up some of that area's numerous cottontails. Cottontail rabbits are so thick in many areas of south Georgia that farmers consider them to be pests and welcome hunters.

hunters who enjoy following the yelps of their coon dogs have looked forward to the end of deer season. There are hunters throughout the state who are dedicated to this particular type of hunting.

There is a vast range of types of hunting available right now for the sportsman. Let's take a look at the game birds that may be hunted and get rid of that "end of the season" attitude this time in the year!

Quail will be fair game statewide through February 27. On hunting pressure scattered throughout the state, the season will remain open even after, until the end of March. The bag limit of 12 quail will provide a good day's hunting, even for those hunters with dogs. While quail hunting with a good dog, in good quail country it is possible for two or three hunters spread out in a line to walk up a covey often enough to keep things interesting.

When in south Georgia, plantation hunts are often done on horseback or with transportation provided by cars or jeeps. In the northern portion of the state, hunters often walk up quail with the assistance of a dog. Which way you may hunt, the sports remain the same. When a covey of quail flushes up with a roar of wings, and your thumbs, and everything seems to be in slow-motion except the quail, now you've got hunting.

Red grouse hunting is a northern Georgia sport. It calls for a lot of walking over some of the state's most rugged terrain. Shots are infrequent, and thick cover favored by these birds calls for stalking. Why bother to hunt them if it's all that difficult to get a shot? In a word it's the challenge. When you get to feeling comfortable in your position as a great bird hunter and suddenly get two quail per covey rise, or a grouse. They will bring you back to reality and put you back in your

Red grouse seem to be on the increase in the Georgia mountains. Habitats are generally good, with adequate food supply to support large numbers of grouse. However, quail are one of the most difficult animals for game biologists to count or estimate their numbers. We can really say with certainty that there are more or less ruffed grouse, we can say that there seem to be more of them. Georgia hunters should have a good grouse season this year, but with nothing is guaranteed. The season will run through February 27, with a bag limit of three.

The season on Wilson's snipe will be open through February 13, and the daily limit is three. These game birds are frequent near lakes, ponds, and other

large bodies of water. Hunting cleared land adjacent to these bodies of water is most productive. These birds will not hold for a dog, and hunters who insist on using a dog will have a number of birds flush out of range.

Snipe have an erratic flight, which make them challenging game for the upland bird hunter. These birds flush close, generally 15 to 25 yards, which calls for a gun with a fairly open choke and number eight or nine shot.

The only other game bird on which the season remains open is the wild turkey. If there is an aristocracy of woodland game birds, the turkey is clearly king. A hunter who manages to take one of these birds can justly be proud of his accomplishment. Extreme natural caution, a keen sense of sight, and surprising speed when alarmed, all combine to make our wild turkey one of the most challenging of all game species.

Spring turkey seasons will be announced through the news media as soon as they have been set by the Commissioners. Seasons vary widely in different sections of the state, but there are seasons open each year in some counties in each section of the state.

The Game and Fish Commission is currently instituting a program of turkey management that is designed to increase Georgia's wild turkey population, and introduce the bird into areas that do not presently have a huntable population. Under this program, a turkey flock will be obtained through trapping and will

be released on Sapelo Island. On Sapelo, the birds will be free from most natural enemies, enjoy a very favorable habitat offering an excellent food supply, and should show a rapid increase in number. Surplus birds from this flock will then be trapped for release in selected areas throughout the state. It will certainly take time before the results of this program will be seen but the future for turkey hunting in Georgia seems bright.

Georgia hunters really need no introduction to rabbit hunting. Cottontails are traditional game, and have been hunted by generations of rural residents and city dwellers alike. Whether the hunter likes to hunt behind a good rabbit dog, or kick 'em up by walking the edges of cleared areas, cottontails are fine sport and can be equally fine eating.

Wherever there is suitable habitat and an adequate food supply, usually wooded and brushy areas bordering cultivated fields, there are rabbits. South Georgia is famous for rabbit hunting on a grand scale, and rightly so. It is not at all unusual for a dozen hunters around a south Georgia field to take their limit of 10 daily. Rabbit season, already closed in north Georgia, will run through February 27 in south Georgia.

Squirrels like rabbits need no introduction to Georgia sportsmen. Squirrel hunting is a southern tradition, and Georgia is no exception. Squirrel hunters are about evenly divided over the question of suitable weapons, one group

Bird hunting to many Georgia sportsmen means quail, and justly so. Georgia is widely known as the quail capitol, and many out of state hunters visit our state to hunt this bird "Georgia style".





The rabbit population in south Georgia, with adequate food supplies and temperate weather is able to stand the hunting pressure of a long season and high bag limits.

Georgia squirrels are making a strong comeback this year after depletion brought on by a mast failure. With a good nut crop this year, the squirrels are back in the woods as thick as ever.



opting for .22s with scope sights the others sticking to their shot. Another, and steadily growing group returning to the muzzle-loaders of but then they are divided over the lock vs. percussion question.

The squirrel population in Georgia has made a quick comeback from recent mast failure and mass migration. Where there are stands of mature woods located near a water supply the squirrel population is usually good. The statewide season is open through February 27, and it will take considerable skill for a hunter to take his daily limit of 10 of these quick animals.

Raccoon hunters never have to worry about a season on raccoons in Georgia as the season is open year-round there, and there is no bag limit. In north Georgia the season will be through February 27, and the bag is one per night per person.

The biggest sport in coon hunting is following the dogs and listening to the sound of the pack. Coon hunting requires dogs to the dedicated coon hunter. He puts in time, effort, and money to make his dog or dogs the best in the pack. A hunter has to participate in this type of hunting to fully understand those who do won't trade it for anything else.

Opossum season will run through February 27 with the exception of Chatham County where it has already closed. There is no bag limit on this animal, but few hunters seek them.

Hunters who put up their guns after the deer season, or after duck season, are missing out on a lot of hunting. Season remain open on some of the most interesting and just plain fun game species. Hunting season isn't over, and Georgia sportsman can enjoy the outdoors while his yankee counterparts are either closed up indoors or outside miserably cold.

CATCH 'EM WITH A CAMERA

By Ted Borg

Photos by the Author

Imagine walking down a backwoods road on a nice spring morning and suddenly a cottontail rabbit hops out on the road just a few yards in front of you. Slowly you raise your "weapon", and CLICK! Beautiful shot!

Now think about sitting on a tree stump over a well used deer trail and below you walks a doe and her fawn. CLICK, another nice shot.

When you use a camera for your sport, you don't have to worry about bag limit, sex, or bag limit. For wildlife enthusiasts and lovers of the outdoors, it's a very satisfying sport.

Hunters and fishermen should carry a camera along on their trips. Even if the camera is an inexpensive model, it will give you an invaluable picture that will be cherished forever. That beautiful eight point buck, or the ten pound bass that didn't get away this time will be worth remembering and having a picture made right on the spot. How many times have you said "I wish I had a camera right here." There may be many good photographic opportunities on a trip even if you don't make a kill or land a fish.

Good pictures don't necessarily come from high priced cameras. They are the product of attention to detail in setting up the camera, following instructions enclosed with the camera and with the manual, and using good common sense. When using your camera, be sure you have studied the instruction booklet and practiced enough so you can operate it easily. Being able to use your camera without having to study it in the middle of each time you shoot will sometimes mean the difference between getting a picture or not. In the common category, consider the fact that the picture will appear fuzzy, whether it is sharp or not, when the camera is not held rock steady. Moving in as close to your subject as possible for a

Camouflage clothing is a good idea for wildlife photography. In this case, the deer has just noticed the photographer, but not before he got his picture. Sometimes it may be best to use a tree stand, just as if you were hunting.





Spring is a great time for wildlife photography. This scene was taken while walking through a field using a 35mm single lens reflex camera using a 135mm telephoto lens. The time for two shots before the rabbit crossed the road.

larger image size is always a good idea. If you don't have an exposure meter, you should follow the data sheet supplied with the film. Proper exposure should be easy if you follow instructions given by the film manufacturer. Keeping all of these things in mind while shooting is necessary for good pictures in any situation. But after shooting a good bit, and becoming used to your equipment, this will become almost instinctive.

You'll find it much easier, though, if you have a camera with a built-in exposure meter. Particularly with a single lens reflex camera, a behind-the-lens exposure control is very beneficial in getting correct exposures. This allows exact light measurement with any lens used and takes away the worry of wrong exposures.

Actual photography of wild game in their natural habitat can be easy or hard. The action described in the first paragraph can really happen. In the spring when the rabbits are mating, they will come out of the brush right in front of you. They sometimes seem half tame. Usually another rabbit will be nearby. The easiest way to photograph them is to have a 35mm camera with a telephoto lens at ready while walking through the brush or down a road. A 135mm telephoto lens is a good all around lens for this, but a 200 or 300mm may give better results on these and smaller animals. But don't be afraid to try it with any kind of shutter box no matter how inexpensive it is.

Most small game in the spring should be easy targets for photographers with a little perseverance. Quail will also be

walking the dirt roads through the woods, and be feeding. Look for them in the fields. As for squirrels, tame ones in parks may not be everyone's idea of wildlife, but they do allow good opportunities for shots. Always be sure to try to shoot where it looks woodsy.

Telephoto lenses are best for wildlife photography, but don't let the lack of them stop you. Using long lenses requires tripods, gunstocks, or very steady hands. A 135 or 200mm lens can be hand-held fairly easily with a little concentration. A 300mm will be a good deal trickier, but with determination and practice, sharp pictures are still possible.

Action-filled hunting pictures are better than the shot of a man holding up a dead animal. Quail, dove, duck, and crow hunting are good for pix. When hunting them with friends, position yourself so you can cover one of the hunters as he shoots at his target. For quail, stay to the rear of the other hunters. This will allow you to cover the hunter as well as the covey rise. A normal lens on an inexpensive camera is perfect for this. Even drop-in cartridge 126 cameras are usable. Most of these cameras have a shutter speed of around 1/90 seconds and can be used very effectively with a little care.

Squirrel and rabbit hunting action is harder to accomplish because it is difficult to get the hunter and the game in the same picture. In a lot of cases you'll have to be satisfied with a running rabbit shot or the hunter firing his gun. Don't forget the dog action on a rabbit hunt if the beagles are on the job.

When hunting or fishing, a harness of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife is valuable while walking, shooting, or any type of activity. It's a good idea to have a camera hanging against everything. The camera is always within reach for a quick photo. For an excellent article on quail hunting, see "Quail Hunting" in the March issue.



It is almost impossible to get a decent shot of a deer hunter shooting his quarry, unless you forget about hunting and position yourself in a stand overlooking a friend and the area where the deer is most likely to appear.

Fishing! Ah! That's where the action is! When bass, bream, or crappie fishing with a friend, position yourselves as far apart in the boat as possible. Most of the time a normal lens will be sufficient, but a wide-angle lens will provide a better chance of showing the fish in the water and the fisherman in the same picture. Be sure to have your camera right at hand or hanging from your neck. Get that action as the fisherman nets his fish or picks it up with one hand while holding his rod in the other.

A medium telephoto lens such as a 105 or 135mm is good for close-ups of jumping fish and to shoot the action in another boat nearby. Try to stay away from the overused "dead fish" picture when possible. When showing the catch of the day in a shot, try different angles. Maybe a picture of one man handing the string of fish from the boat to another angler on the dock, or the fisherman straining at the weight of the big string of bass or bream (Oh happy thoughts). Try tying the string of fish to a pole or something with the man holding the other end, now shoot with the camera closer to the end of the string. This adds perspective to the picture.

An underwater camera or a real cheapie is what you need for pictures of trout fishing if you get out in the water yourself. When shooting another fisherman, try to get in front of him, but

not in his way. At the sign of a strike, forget your line and cover that action as he fights and lands his fish. From the banks of trout streams a lot of nice pictures are possible, but don't be afraid to step out in shallow water to get a better angle. Being across a small stream from a fisherman is always good if there is not much brush on the banks.

Don't forget the beautiful scenery you often encounter on hunting and fishing trips. Look for ways to "frame" a scene such as looking out over a lake in the fall and shooting with a red or yellow leafed tree in one corner or maybe both. A fishing boat in this lake would make it a perfect shot.

In "framing" a picture, you position yourself so that tree limbs or leaves, long grass stems, posts or similar objects are much closer to the camera than the main subject. These framing objects are on the very edge, on either the side or top or both, of the actual picture. This adds a feeling of depth to the picture.

Ever try baiting birds in your back yard? Use corn, peanuts, etc., and position yourself in a blind or window of your house. Also many nice bird shots can be made in the fields or woods. The problem here is that birds are so small that a long telephoto lens is necessary to get a good image size.

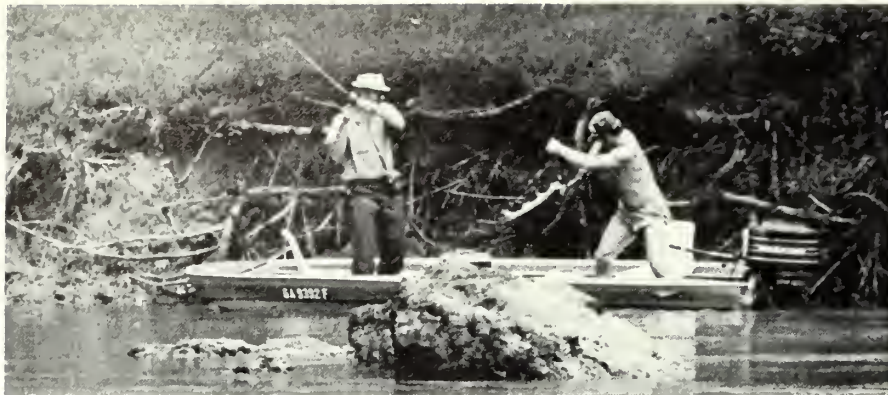
The type of film you shoot is dependent on what your uses for the pictures will be. If you want to just show off the game you bagged or the fish you caught, then you need a negative color or black and white film that provides prints when they are processed. On color slide film a medium to high speed

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is where a telephoto lens comes in handy while fishing near another. The distance was 50 to 75 feet and the 135mm lens used gave a good image size. When you think the fish is coming up for a jump, be ready to shoot just as it breaks the water.





This fisherman has just caught a nice bass; note the camera hanging around the angler's neck. As his fishing buddy hauls the trophy in, the fisherman/photographer drops his rod and reel, grabs his camera and takes a memorable shot. This series of pictures illustrates the importance of being prepared by taking a camera along on all of your fishing and hunting trips.

This shot illustrates the points of a good scenic photograph. There is someone doing something in the scene, and the leaves in the foreground give it a feeling of depth. Without these, the picture would not have been as interesting.



film rating will allow for faster and/or lower light levels.

So far nothing but 35mm cameras have been mentioned. It is the experience of the author that 35's are suited for outdoor and wildlife photography. There are other types of sizes such as 2 1/4 square reflex cameras and large format box cameras and c. For most amateurs, it is felt that they are more easily used and also afford use of the widest range of lenses and accessories for a lesser price.

For the person who is seriously interested in wildlife photography and other types, Eastman Kodak Company has available several Photo Information Books for the beginner and the advanced amateur. Some of them deal with the general aspects of photography some such as the "Here's How" series deal with the specific how-to art. These cover techniques used for different individual situations, including outdoor scenery, wildlife, flowers, birds, and many others.

Whether you are a hunter, fisherman, birdwatcher, or just an all-around sportsman, photography can be an interesting and rewarding pastime. Every guy that takes the film out of his camera every Christmas and vacation record memorable times while outdoors.

The author believes that good pictures of wildlife in the field or a hunting or fishing action shot is important and more satisfying than trying home fish or game. But of course, that is his job, and he's awfully glad.



the scene to be found on a late winter's night at W. L. Smith's store near Newnan. Smith and Terry Story have taken as many as 630 beavers in a single season.

Yesterday's Traplins - Today's World

By Marvin Tye

Photos by Ted Borg

In the early days of this country there was a hardy breed of men who opened many trails into the frontier. They carved out roads and established settlements that were later populated by those with less adventurous spirits.

These men were the fur trappers who moved west in search of beavers and other animals whose pelts were market-

able. It would seem to most Georgia residents especially those who live in cities such as Atlanta, Macon, or Columbus—that the day of the fur trapper was long past. This is only partially true. We do not have great tracts of wilderness in our state. Nor do we have the great demand for beaver pelts and other furs that was evident in the fron-



W. L. Smith sets a large beaver trap that will dispatch the animal humanely. Smith puts out 600 traps over a 10-county area, and comments that as many as 250 of his traps are stolen each year by vandals.

630 of the large rodents. Smith's mated total bag for this year is jected at 400. On an average, he that he takes 900 to 1,000 raccoon year and 200 to 300 foxes in an where they are over-abundant.

Many Georgians are not aware the state harbors a substantial population. Smith traps about 40 these animals in a good year. He takes 40 to 50 otters, 1600 to muskrats and as many as 100 bobcats.

Smith is the first to admit that ping is not the method most like bring one great riches or even a stantial income. To a man who e being outdoors and observing na the profession is one that brings a tain amount of satisfaction. Smith that it's more enjoyable than a lo other things he could be doing.

Trapping is not all entertaining however. Smith must leave his h about 7 a.m. each day and begin ma his rounds. The weather is usually and sometimes it will be raining. a hard cold day in the field, the tra must stay up until 11 or 12 skin his catch.

How much does he get for hi forts? A good mink might bring Beavers bring from 75¢ to \$12 per Smith usually sells them in a bulk p age or "nose count" for \$5 each. decline of the stock market in r months has adversely affected the of furs. Story has taken a job in a

tier days. Nevertheless, there are some residents of Georgia who make a large portion of their incomes from this pioneer-type profession.

One such man is W. L. Smith, a truck farmer, who operates a combination grocery and antique (Junque as he calls it) store on the Carrollton-Newnan highway. When the trapping season opens in the fall, you are more likely to find him in the woods than in the store. He has traps spread over an area that covers parts of 10 counties. When you do find him in the store, chances are he and his trapping assistant, Terry Story, will be in a back room skinning beaver, raccoon or some other furbearer. At times, the room can contain as many as 100 or more pelts of animals of various species.

Smith claims that he uses up to 600 traps. He says that he receives so many calls from farmers and other land-owners requesting his aid in trapping bothersome beavers, that he cannot handle them all. He does not have permanent locations for all of his traps, but moves them around according to the abundance of game and the demand for his services. He may concentrate on one particular area for a week or two, then move on.

In their most productive year of beaver trapping, Smith and Story bagged

Terry Story, Smith's assistant, lugs two beavers back to the road. Skinning is usually done back at the store.



...ning the beaver is a chore that often keeps the trapper up until 11 or 12 o'clock at night. Trappers put in a lot of long hours and have a number of expenses to cover before they begin to show a profit.



...flesh must be cut away from the so that the hide will not spoil. Work demands skill and patience as of the knife here can ruin a pelt.



manufacturing plant and does not devote nearly as much time to trapping as he did before.

In addition to these problems, there is the theft of traps that makes Smith have to replace about 250 of these expensive items each year. He says that these are taken by people whenever they are found.

The trapper loses very few days to bad weather. Heavy rains do not affect the water level in a beaver pond, but it does make mink trapping more difficult.

When GAME & FISH photographer Ted Borg and I visited the two trappers not long ago, Story showed us a heavy steel trap that closed with such force that it would kill a beaver instantly. Such a humane device is to be valued by those who appreciate these animals.

Due to protection in the past, the beaver has made an amazing comeback in Georgia and other states. Beavers are so abundant in many areas, they are considered a nuisance. They are now off the protected list, but of course, may be trapped only during the trapping season, which began in November 20 and continues through February 27. Like other game or fur bearing animals, they will be protected by limited seasons or closed season if they are threatened with extinction in the future. Raccoons may not be trapped in certain sections of the state because of their low numbers.

Oppossum, muskrat, otter, mink, and skunk are protected by limited trapping seasons that generally run from late November to the last week of February.

A summary of the current state laws and regulations on Trapping follows:



GEORGIA

TRAPPING REGULATIONS

2602-.45 Trapping.

(1) Raccoons may not be trapped in Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, and Elbert counties or any county lying north of these counties. There shall be no closed season for the trapping of raccoon in any of the counties south of the above listed counties. The trapping season for opossum, muskrat, otter, mink and skunk shall be November 20, 1970, through February 27, 1971. There shall be no closed season on the trapping of fox, bobcat, or beaver in this State. No other wildlife except those specified may be trapped at any time within this State.

(2) The use of traps on any wildlife management area by any person not authorized by the Game and Fish Commission is hereby prohibited.
Authority Ga. L. 1955, p. 483. Effective April 11, 1970.

260-2-.46 Fur, Hide and Pelt Reports.

Within ten (10) days after the close of trapping season, all trappers must report the number of furs, hides, or pelts which have been taken during the open season and the person, firm, or corporation to whom sold. Such reports must be made to: State Game and Fish Commission, 270 Washington Street, Trinity-Washington Street Building, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.
Authority Ga. L. 1955, p. 483. Effective April 11, 1970.

260-2-.47 Exportation of Furs, Hides or Pelts. Any person, firm, or corporation who shall ship, transport or otherwise convey any furs, hides, or pelts from any point within this State to any point outside this State shall file with the Commission a report of the number and type of furs, hides, or pelts exported from this State and name and address of the person, firm, or corporation to whom such furs, hides, or pelts were shipped. Such reports must be submitted immediately after any shipment and failure to submit such a report will result in revocation of license. Any furs, hides, or pelts shipped, transported or otherwise conveyed from any point inside this State to any point outside this State contrary to any provisions of this regulation shall be declared contraband and seized and disposed of as provided by law.

Authority Ga. L. 1955, p. 483. Effective April 11, 1970.

TRAPPING LAWS

CHAPTER 45-6. TRAPPING.

45-601. Rules and regulations governing trapping; specification of wildlife that may be trapped; trapping out of season; exception as to traps set near residences.—The commission shall, by the promulgation of rules and regulations, designate the kinds and species of wildlife that can be lawfully trapped during trapping seasons. It shall be unlawful for any person, firm or corporation to trap out of season, or to trap

any wildlife in this State unless it is the kind and species designated in the rules and regulations of the commission: Provided, that it shall be lawful for any person to set steel traps within 200 yards of the residence or dwelling of any such person for the protection of livestock, poultry, or other fowl or domesticated animals from any vermin or predatory animal, bird or fowl. (Acts 1955, pp. 483, 521.)

45-602. Traps to be stamped with owner's name; confiscation of traps not so stamped.—All traps set or used for the purpose of taking wildlife shall be stamped with the owner's name in such a manner that the same shall be legible at all times. Any trap or traps found that are not stamped as required above may be confiscated and destroyed by the commission, its officers, and wildlife rangers. (Acts 1955, pp. 483, 522.)

45-603. Emergency trapping; permits; no license necessary.—In times of emergency, where the health and welfare of the people in a locality are in danger, the commission may issue permits allowing trapping by designated persons in certain defined localities for the purpose of protecting the public health and welfare. Such designated persons shall not be required to have a trappers license to carry out such emergency trapping. (Acts 1955, pp. 483, 522.)

45-604. Trapping upon lands of another without consent of owner prohibited.—It shall be unlawful for any person to set or place any trap, or bait the same upon the lands of, or in the waters adjoining the lands of any person, for the purpose of taking, capturing or killing any wildlife upon the lands of another except during the open seasons on such wildlife, and then only after such persons have obtained the written consent of the owner of the lands, which written consent shall be upon the person who may be using or setting said device. (Acts 1955, pp. 483, 522.)

45-605. Confiscation of trapping equipment illegally used.—It shall be the duty of the wildlife rangers to confiscate all traps, pitfalls, deadfalls, scaffold, catch, snare, net, salt lick, blind pig, baited hook, or other similar devices used in violation of the wildlife laws, rules and regulations, and to dispose of same as may be directed by the commission. (Acts 1955, pp. 483, 522.)

45-606. Traps to be inspected within each 36 hours.—All traps shall be inspected within each 36 hours and anything caught therein shall be removed. (Acts 1955, pp. 483, 522.)

45-607. Reports to landowner of livestock or domestic animals caught; liability of trapper for damages.—Persons trapping upon the lands of another shall at once make the owner of the lands a full written report of the head of stock, fowl, or dog caught in the trap or other trapping device set by such person, giving the date such stock, fowl, or dog was caught with full description thereof.

(a) When damage is done to any person's stock, fowls, dogs or like property, by reason of being caught by said device, the one setting or placing said devices

shall be liable for all damages done them. (Acts 1955, pp. 483, 522.)

45-608. Penalty for violation of trapping laws.—Any violation of the provisions of the trapping laws, including the rule regulations of the commission, shall be a misdemeanor and punished as provided by law. (Acts 1955, pp. 483, 523.)

45-609. Killing mink or otter with arms prohibited; sale or possession of animals so killed; exceptions.—It shall be a misdemeanor to use any kind of arm to kill or injure mink or otter, or to possess or offer for sale any mink or pelts killed by any kind of firearm. Provided, that nothing herein shall prevent any person from killing any of said animals while they are destroying or damaging about to destroy or damage, such crops, domestic fowl or other personal property. (Acts 1955, pp. 483, 523.)

45-610. Penalty for violation of trapping laws.—Any person violating the provisions of section 45-609, which prohibit the killing of mink or otter with firearms and the possession of pelts of such animals so killed, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished as provided by law. (Acts 1955, pp. 483, 523.)

45-611. Killing, taking or possession of non-game birds prohibited; nests of such birds; exceptions.—Except as otherwise provided by the wildlife laws and regulations, any person who shall take or capture or have in his possession any wild non-game bird, or take or destroy the nest or eggs of any non-game bird, shall be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished as provided by law: Provided, that any person may ship into this State birds and nests for millinery purposes. (Acts 1955, pp. 483, 523.)

45-612. Trapping rabbits on own premises.—Notwithstanding any provision of this Chapter or any other law, no regulation to the contrary, it shall be permissible for an individual, members of a family and tenants to trap rabbits on his own premises by employing any traps or devices commonly called "rabbit traps." No permit nor license shall be required before engaging in such activities: Provided, that nothing contained herein shall be construed to authorize a person to trap a rabbit out of the season provided for hunting rabbits in this State. (Acts 1964, p. 193.)

45-613. Removing wildlife from trap of another.—No person shall take, possess or remove from any legally set trap any fully trapped wildlife without the permission of the owner of such trap. (Acts 1947, pp. 497, 523.)

45-614. Penalty for removing wildlife from trap of another.—Any person violating any provision of section 45-613 relating to removing wildlife from the trap of another, shall, upon conviction, be guilty of a misdemeanor and punished as provided by law. (Acts 1968, pp. 497, 523.)



By Ted Borg

Photos by the Author

Midnight Music



a clear fall night just cool for a jacket, with the stars shining in the air clean-smelling, then add the deep-throated bellow of a coon baying in the distance, and you have the stuff dreams are made of for a coonhound man.

He is standing by his pickup truck, ready and ears alert to single out the dog from the pack by the way he bellows. It's hard to know what it sounds like until you have experienced it. By identifying the bark of each hound, hunters can tell which dog picks up the scent of a raccoon, which is hottest on the trail, and which one that trees the quarry first.

At the contest. This is what keeps a coon hunter up until the early morning. A coon hound man loves his dogs as other sportsmen love their horses. A kind of activity. He will raise a pack of dogs, be given one by a friend, or buy other hunters, and pay high prices for good registered dogs. Eight hundred dollars for a coon dog is not at all unusual. It gets higher, of course, for truly outstanding hounds, and even higher in this class.

Coon dogs are registered with various Kennel Clubs. These include coon dogs and hunting dogs. At a field trial such as the Bullard trial, which is held twice a year, these dogs will be judged as best of breed, best of show and other categories. The

real stars of coon dog circles are the actual hunters, however. UKC registered and nonregistered (grade) dogs are run in the hunts, although the registered dogs are the only ones that are officially recognized.

The coon dog field trial is really an excuse to get together with other hunters, to argue and brag a little and to see which dog can trail and tree a raccoon best. These trials are usually a social gathering of a certain breed of men. They are fanatics about dog work and they take their sport very seriously. They work with and train their dogs to make a good showing not only for the trials but also for their own sport and enjoyment.

You may wonder why a man would love coon hunting so much. His wife probably wonders too, as she goes to bed at night while her husband is out in the woods listening for the bellowing of his coon dogs. All that can be said is that you have to try it to even begin to understand. The sound of the pack in full throat, the mounting tension as the dogs run a hot trail, and the climax signified by the tree bark are some of the answers.

This is some of what it is all about, but not all. There is all the companionship on a crisp fall night of men drawn together by a common love—coon hounds. Talk to a coon hunter, see what he says about it. Maybe he'll invite you along to share his fun.



The treeing contest at a coon dog field trial is competition based on a dog's ability to signal that it has "treed" the quarry.

Sportsmen Speak...



Letters of general interest will be used as possible. Letters must be brief and to the point. The number of letters received prevents us from using all letters. When several letters on the same subject are received the editors reserve the right to use only those which cover the subject best.

DEER POACHERS DESPICABLE

I just completed your article "Deer's Public Enemy Number One" in the December issue of *Georgia Game & Fish* and immediately wanted to say a big thanks to you for a job well done on something that was most needed.

There is nothing more despicable than hunting deer at night with a light. I am an avid deer hunter—in fact you might say I thrive on the challenge of hunting deer. Believe me, my blood boils whenever I consider real hunters taking the easy way.

I commend you for your article, and also the people who helped you stage your photos. It is time the hunters, safe, legal hunters, in Georgia and other states realize the danger that night hunters are to the traditional art of hunting.

In my opinion, one caught fire-hunting should be barred from the field for a long time. Nothing so unsportsman-like could be deemed a mistake. It takes complete planning and daring to set up an illegal hunt!

Thanks again for a terrific story!

John Littlefield
Sports Editor
Americus Times-Recorder

POACHERS SICKENING

I have just gone through the most sickening season of all my years as a deer hunter (8 years). I was satisfied with my personal year, but what I am talking about is the illegal things that were going on in the small section of the state where I hunt.

I am one of 23 members of the Alcovy Sportsman's Club and I just do not understand why people will do anything to kill a deer. I was riding down a small dirt road leading toward Jackson Lake and spotted a deer laying on the side of the road. I stopped my truck and found a large buck that had had its antlers cut off at the skull. As I was standing there looking at him, this man walked up and said, "How do you like him? I killed him last night and just found him before dark tonight." He showed me his antlers and it was a very nice 8 point buck. This was the night before opening day. May I say that I, and thousands of other hunters, would have loved to have killed this buck sitting in my stand freezing to death. But not this guy, he had to get this one sitting in his truck with lights on, waiting for him to cross a small field (at night).

This is just one way the laws of Georgia have been broken. I have seen and heard men talking about does that were illegally killed and poached. I was not able to obtain any information that would help any Game Warden, should I have seen any, which I did not. I just wish the hunters would wake up and see that there are times and places for their type of hunting.

Lonnie Melton, President
Alcovy Sportsman's Club

Gentlemen,

Your article in the December issue about poachers, brings to mind a letter I have been wanting to write you for a long time. My concerned hunting partner and I belong to a so called "club" with leased land in Jones County near Bradley, Georgia. We are true sportsmen and hunters but there are several of the "dirty lowdown coward deer stealers" which you described, in our club. We cannot say anything about it because we do not have any voice or seniority in the club. We simply pay our dues for the land in order to have a place to hunt.

To describe what I mean, just listen. I have heard one man boast several times that 5 years ago, he and a friend killed 15 deer off this land. This same man on this past doe day, rolled up in his truck with two does—boasting that he left three more in the woods giving him a season total of seven. I know for a fact that one more man during the first week of this season killed six bucks. A lot of people are going to think that I am exaggerating, but I and lot more people know for a fact that these and a few more instance are true.

The point I am trying to make is this. I have never in three years ever seen a game warden or state vehicle on this property. My friend and I have discussed this and we cannot figure why some of these people are not caught. Is it a shortage of wardens or is the state blind to the fact that this is happening? Believe me, it is happening.

In addition to an answer to this. I am also asking for help to protect myself and all "real" hunters from being victims to these fools' stupidity.

Thank you
A Georgia Sportsman

NO PLACE FOR PARKWAY

Promoters of the Blue Ridge Parkway Extension are following the usual pattern of a self-serving organization out of touch with the feelings of the people, glossing over obvious defects in their plans and becoming downright hostile when they are challenged by our all too timid conservation organizations. They are presently considering the re-routing of the Parkway because of objections raised to the proposal route. The obvious fact is that there is no feasible route for a Parkway in Georgia which will not do irreparable environmental damage. Georgia is not as generously endowed with mountains as its neighbors to the north, claiming mainly a single chain in its north-eastern corner. One therefore cannot compare benefits and drawbacks with those of the existing Parkway in North Carolina, where one mountain range is followed by another.

We are faced with two alternatives—routing the Parkway into the already settled and developed valley on either side, a choice uninteresting to the planners for obvious reasons of lack of scenic value, or sending it like a knife through the midsection of our only significant mountain range, gutting the Appalachian Trail—Reroute it, they say. Where? into the valleys?

It chaps through our prized management areas, its proponents making the absurd statement that it would "enhance" hunting by "protecting wildlife". Ask any game warden in Northeast Georgia what the biggest thorn in their side is. The most frequent answer—the jacklighters on the Richard Russell Highway. This is enhancing hunting? The route follows the high ridges over most of its length—the major pathways of the few remaining black bear and wild turkey, yet this group has the colossal gall to say that they are more concerned about disturbance to fish and game than our own Game and Fish Commission.

It begins its mountain section at V Stair Gap. Go there now—then in you imagine an asphalt highway under you. If the thought doesn't disturb you, isn't a shred of sensitivity left in you?

It crosses Woody Gap. Listen carefully you may hear the old Ranger turning.

Then along the Appalachian Trail a upper reaches of the Chestatee Manag Area to Neels Gap. Here we have an interesting phenomenon. "Grade separation tures at major intersections." With the palachian Highway also crossing here, lists will be treated to the novel sight three tiered bridge structure within the row confine of the Gap—far more than at present!

On to the present monument to the cow of Tourism, the Russell Highway. same assurances of care did not prevent the yearly landslides, silting and jacking that make that colossal blunder affront to every outdoorsman, be he fisherman, or simply a lover of nature.

Past Brasstown, where already other aggressive minded people are moving up its northern flank in an effort to all Georgia under surveillance from the of an automobile.

The Rabun County folks are caught in a dilemma. The only reasonable route is through the Little Tennessee River. This is most of their taxable real estate but being tourist conscious, they just quite bring themselves to oppose the plan. It will not take our enterprising men long to figure out an alternate route up the flanks of Rabun Bald! An engineering challenge, to be sure, but nothing can't be accomplished with enough dozers and taxpayers' moneys.

There you have it—the only feasible for the Parkway Extension. But resist. To quote the man, "There is no in the United States more concerned the environment than we are". To our lasting shame and to the detriment of those who will come after us, I fear true.

B. J. Jackson,
Gainesville, Ga.

STREAM POLLUTION

Another major source of stream pollution is top soil.

Fifteen years ago Peachtree Creek lanta flowed clear. Now it's liquid mud. There are real estate developers and others in metro Atlanta who first clear areas of all trees. A major offender lived in Atlanta was a man named Real. The poor sucker who bought a house on it setting on a clay lot. It might take years to get the grass back and 25 years to get the trees.

The highway department has long been another major offender. As soon as the berm is grassed over, along comes a maintainer (blade) and scrapes it off. In county large dirt fills are left unattended such as the Sugar Creek Road. Fighting Creek used to flow clear, now a half inch of rain causes it to flow dirt red. But it flows into the once beautiful (what the Indians had it) Oconee River it is a sewer for the twin cities and the Omine, yet it is an interstate stream.

It seems strange to drive through the Oconee River gorge on U.S. 64 a stream as clean as a billiard ball. Accidents wastes from the mine and domestic industrial waste from Copperhill and Nashville sterilize the stream.

Indians in the Cherokee Reservation by must surely feel a lot of crummy took their lands over.

J. A. B.
Blue Ridge

Stamp In Better ing and Hunting

In addition to the two stamps, the Commission needs a minimal increase on both fishing and hunting licenses, which would provide the necessary revenue to meet rising costs and for the overall improvement in the Commission's programs. Of course, if you do not fish for trout or hunt deer, you need not buy the stamps. The whole package was introduced into the Legislature last year, but failed to get off the ground. Observers say the reason was because the big game stamp met with disfavor in some areas. Apparently, many large landowners were opposed because they felt it unfair to pay a big game stamp to hunt on their property, which, they said, had not been stocked by the Game and Fish Commission.

Now, let's look that over a bit. In the first place, whether the landowners have to buy the stamp to hunt on their own property may depend on just what new bill, which may be proposed, is written. Under current laws, a landowner need not purchase either a fishing or hunting license for fishing or hunting on his own property. Of course, anyone who is not an immediate family using his property must have a license. But if he does not need a license, he probably won't have to buy the stamp either. . . . It all depends on how a bill is written.

In the second place, while actual stocking may not have been placed on his property, there were deer stocked in every part of the state, increasing the herd and reducing deer over the entire state. Stocked in management areas are the deer of the resulting deer herd for many years.

Stocking isn't the only factor, by a long way. In how good the deer population is. Of course, there must be deer in the place for them to increase . . . but a good game management practices without protection, there can be no good hunting.

What kind of management does the Commission provide for deer on your land? Well, we know from our studies, that any deer are in your area and what they do how much food and cover there is through our knowledge and experience can determine the wisest dates, of season and bag limits to set for deer.

After we participate in the South-Atlantic Wildlife Disease Study, which prevents the spread of disease from deer on one neighbor's land to your land. We make efforts to control wild dog population in your area, to protect your herd. We also protect deer in your area from illegal hunting. The last sentence was only a few words. But you can bet that the actual carrying out of that is not short or easy. Many, many hours are spent, into the wee small hours of the night. Many men drive many miles with many hours to see that deer are not being hunted illegally. Without that protection, poachers might wipe out most of the deer on your land.

How many turkeys are there in your area? Perhaps, someday we may be able to have some in your general area through the stamp.

The big game stamp improve your hunting? Will it be a worthwhile expenditure? We firmly believe it will. We need support in passing this measure in the legislature.

—Dean Wohlgenuth

the outdoor world

Boating Safety Study

A House committee to study ways to improve boating safety was scheduled to meet during the first week of January. Results of that meeting were not available by press time.

Basically some of the problems to be faced here were a lack of personnel to effectively patrol the waters of the state and a lack of funds to get it done. This job is currently being handled by Game and Fish Commission Wildlife Rangers in addition to their regular duties of patrolling wildlife management areas and enforcing hunting and fishing regulations. This added burden was probably only a small one as recently as 10 years ago because of the small number of pleasure boaters in the state then.

The number of boats has increased tremendously, while the number of rangers remains the same. According to official statistics, there were 10,000-15,000 visits made to Lake Lanier last year. There were 56 boating accident related deaths in Georgia in 1964. During the first seven and a half months of 1970 there were 81 drownings in the state. More personnel to enforce boating regulations and more knowledge on the part of boat operators could cut this figure considerably.

—Marvin Tye

Boating Classes Begin

Both the U.S. Power Squadron and the Coast Guard Auxiliary will start their spring boating education programs this month in an effort to capitalize on the interest spurred by the ninth annual boat show. The boat show is being held at the Atlanta Civic Center Exhibition Hall and representatives of the Power Squadron and the Coast Guard Auxiliary will be on hand to explain the boating courses to spectators.

The U.S. Power Squadron Piloting Course will be given in two locations in the Atlanta area this spring. A course will be taught at Dykes High School beginning February 15, and another course will start February at Rowland Elementary School in DeKalb County.

For further information contact the Power Squadron representative at the

Boat Show or call Ed Thomas, 627-2645, or William Gillham, 351-5797.

The Coast Guard Auxiliary will present the Basic Seamanship Course and a Basic Sailing Course two weeks after the Boat Show. A meeting place has not been set at the time of this writing, but that information will be available from the Auxiliary representative at the show, or call George Bird, Flotilla Commander, 938-0354.

—Aaron Pass

Sportsman's Calendar

SMALL GAME MANAGED HUNTS SCHEDULE

Dates	Areas
Reg. Season	Lake Seminole, Whitesburg, Allatoona, Altamaha (except Butler Island), Cohutta, Grand Bay, Brunswick Pulp and Paper Co. (except during dog deer hunts)

During waterfowl season, by permit only	Altamaha (Butler Island)
Dec. 9-Feb. 27	Lake Russell
Wed., Fri. & Sat.	
Dec. 11-Feb. 27	Coleman River
Fri. & Sat.	
Feb. 5-6, 19-20	Chesattee
Feb. 12-13, 26-27	Lake Burton
Dec. 9-Feb. 27	Piedmont Exp. Sta.
Wed., Fri. & Sat.	
Jan. 2-Feb. 27	Cedar Creek
Wed., Fri. & Sat. only	
Feb. 5-6, 19-20	Chattahoochee
Feb. 5-6, 19-20	Blue Ridge
Dec. 9-Feb. 27	Oaky Woods
Wed. & Sat. only	
Feb. 2-6	Warwoman
Feb. 4, 5, 6, 11, 12, 13	Waycross State Forest

HUNTING SEASONS

GROUSE: January 16 through February 27, 1971. Bag limit three (3) daily; possession limit six (6). (260-2-30 Amended)

QUAIL: November 20, 1970, through February 27, 1971. Statewide season. Bag limit twelve (12) daily; possession limit thirty-six (36). (260-2-32 Amended)

RABBIT: November 20, 1970 through February 27, 1971 in all counties south of Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, and Elbert counties. Bag limit—ten (10) daily. (260-2-33 Amended)

RACCOON: (1) October 17, 1970, through February 27, 1971, in Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Elbert, and all counties north of those listed. Bag limit one (1) per night per person.

(2) All counties south of the above named counties are open year round for the taking of raccoons. No bag limit. (260-2-34 Amended)

SQUIRREL: October 15, 1970, through February 27, 1971. Bag limit ten (10) daily. (260-2-35 Amended)

TURKEY

Season—November 20, 1970 through February 27, 1971 in Baker, Calhoun, Decatur, Dougherty, Early, Grady, Miller, Mitchell, Seminole, and Thomas counties only. **Bag Limit—**2 per season.

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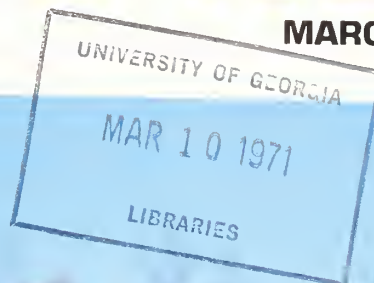




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MARCH, 1971





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CONTENTS

The Call of Spring	Aaron Pass	1
"Wish I Had Your Job"	Dean Wohlgemuth	4
Let's Go Fishing... Now	Dean Wohlgemuth	8
A Look At The License Proposal	Bob Wilson	11
Fast Shooting — No Limit	Bob Wilson	12
Sportsman's Friend	Marvin Tye	14
Outdoor World		15
Sportsmen Speak		16
Sportsman's Calendar		17

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Conservation—A Career For You

In just a few months, schools — both high schools and colleges — across the country will present diplomas to thousands upon thousands of youngsters. Some of these young people will begin the search for a job. Others will continue their education. And, of course, most probably many will have to enter the Armed Services. But by the same token some of these young veterans will be completing their enlistments and begin looking toward a career.

The questions in the minds of these young folk, to whom we must entrust the future, are many. Some know where they are going, career-wise. A great many do not. Some just beginning college, still have ample opportunity to choose... if they could just be sure what choice is the right one.

We do not propose that everyone should choose a career in wildlife conservation. However, there are probably thousands of youngsters who would like to enter the field, if they were more aware of the opportunities and requirements.

Good, qualified youngsters can be, indeed, hard to come by for conservation agencies. Most state and federal agencies would welcome more qualified candidates for positions they have open.

Therefore, *Georgia Game & Fish Magazine* has decided with this issue, to begin a series of articles, which will answer most if not all of the questions in the minds of those sincerely interested in the field.

It is very probable that the answers may also guide some one already out of school, currently in an unsatisfying or unrewarding position, who wants to get into conservation work.

We know that many persons envy those of us who work in conservation. That is why we came up with the title, "Wish I Had Your Job," written by your editor, for the first of this series. There probably isn't an employee in a conservation department anywhere who hasn't been thanked thousands of times. This is especially true of the game wardens (we call them wildlife rangers in Georgia). So we chose law enforcement as the first subject. In fact, many people don't stop to realize that there are jobs other than wildlife rangers and wardens with the Game and Fish Commission.

There are several other positions, excellent ones, in our department and with other similar agencies. Not everyone could be suited to any one kind of position offered by conservation agencies. Perhaps, however, you may, upon reading this series, find a position that will interest you.

Articles will appear in succeeding months on the topics: game biology, fisheries biology, biological aid and public relations. The articles will describe what it's like to spend your life in these fields, and will advise you how much and what kind of education you need to prepare yourself for each field.

If you do find your heart's desire, maybe you'll be guided in selecting your career and the proper course of study.

(continued on page 17)

ON THE COVER: The Wildlife Ranger is not simply the man who gives you a citation for breaking the law; he's much more than that. Georgia's Ranger of the Year, Ed Friend, takes time to help a youngster catch a fish. Read about him in "Sportsman's Friend," Page 14, by Marvin Tye. Also, you'll learn more about a ranger's life if you'll read the first in a series about finding a career in wildlife conservation, "Wish I Had Your Job" by Dean Wohlgemuth, Page 4. Cover photo by Ted Borg.

ON THE BACK COVER: Is there any need to try to put into words the feeling of this hunter? He's just bagged the king of game birds, the most elusive of all Georgia game, the wild turkey. You'll learn more about how you can collect your trophy gobbler by reading "The Call of Spring," by Aaron Pass, Page 1. Photo by Gene Pollack.



fortunate hunter has succeeded in calling in a fine gobbler, and he has a good shot. He had better take it fast, before the turkey gets suspicious and makes his

Photo by Jim Morrison

The Call of Spring

By Aaron Pass

■ The yelps of a hen turkey drifted through the swamp, and in immediate response came the rushing gobble of a tom. There was also a rustle in the

leaves as the gobbler strutted with his wingtips dragging the ground and his tail fanned, to draw the female to him. This time he was being misled, for the

(Please turn page)

object of his attention was not a turkey hen but a camouflaged hunter expertly imitating the sound of a female. The reason for the deception was, of course, to bring the turkey close enough for a shot, since it is around the mating instinct of the birds that the sport of spring gobbler hunting developed.

Now don't get the idea that all one has to do is strike a couple of discordant notes on a turkey call and take cover from the stampede of lust-crazed gobblers... it isn't like that at all. The wild turkey gobbler is one of the most suspicious and intelligent game animals in the world, and even when the mating urge is on him he is no pushover.

It is these very qualities of extreme caution and intelligence which make the wild turkey gobbler one of the most admired trophies in the east. There are other qualities about the turkey which, coupled with his caution, make him a tough and challenging target. Not only does he have an excellent sense of hearing, but his vision is second to nothing else in the woods, including the hawk. His sight is roughly comparable to that of a man with 8X field glasses, demanding near perfection in the hunter's camouflage and blind. A veteran turkey hunter was once heard to comment that, "If those darn toms could smell as well as they can see and hear, nobody would ever kill one."

There is one chink in the wild turkey's seemingly invincible armor, however; he will, in the spring, seek a hen. Actually, he much prefers that the hens seek him out, but if necessary he will go to them. The courting display of gobbling and strutting is designed to attract the hens to him, and call it masculine vanity or whatever, the male is hesitant about going to a hen. This is another factor the successful turkey hunter must overcome by expert calling and "turkey sense".

Turkey sense means essentially thinking like a turkey, and it is acquired



Photo By Aaron Pass

only after much experience. Basically it is a blend of woodcraft, hunting ability, and an intimate knowledge of turkey habits. After it has been developed, the hunter has an almost instinctive knowledge of which call to use, how much to call and what looks to be a good stand. He may not be able to say why he made any given decision, he just knows it is right. This quality is possessed by all consistently successful turkey hunters, who can not only think like their quarry, but can almost converse with him in his own language.

Rudimentary calling is not hard to master with the help of a good call and a demonstration record. A beginner can, with conscientious practice, do a fairly credible job in a relatively short time. Really good calling is quite another matter, with the truly expert caller having spent years developing and refining his ability. It is a true art, best learned by matching wits and skill

In particularly dense cover two hunters often sit back to back to cover all directions. The turkey, on the other hand, can see within an arc of almost 360 degrees, and can watch his own back quite well.

with a wild gobbler, the most critical of all judges of calling technique. Any mistake in tone or rhythm is a major error, and this wily bird isn't prone to give hunters a second chance.

Turkey calling, like most other forms of wild animal calling, was originally practiced by the Indians. The calls themselves have taken many forms over the years, from human vocal cords, through turkey wingbones to modern calls. There are many forms and variations, but the most popular types are the mouth call, the diaphragm, and the cedar box.

The mouth type utilizes a principle originally used by the Indians, where the hunter blew on certain leaves held between the thumbs to make artificial turkey calls. The modern variety substitutes artificial leaves for leaves, and it is held entirely in the mouth, freeing both hands. More popular with beginners are the friction calls which can be more easily mastered.

The cedar box is a friction call and is perhaps the most widely used. In expert hands it can produce any sound a turkey can. It consists of a small hollow box with a moveable tongue which is drawn across the top edge, producing resonant clucks and caws. Although these two types of call are the most popular, there is an almost infinite variety of other types which include pipestems and hollow reeds. In fact, there are still a few old masters around who quite effectively use the original turkey call, the human voice.

The spring gobbler hunt usually begins on a stand near an area where turkeys are known to be roosting.



Photo By Aaron Pass

Good camouflage is essential to turkey hunting. The use of trees or brush as a blind in addition to camouflage clothing is recommended. These hunters have selected stands using trees as blinds to conceal them from their sharp-eyed quarry.

It is to wait for the toms to begin morning calling to attract hens. To do this calling before leaving the stand, and the hunter can use it to pinpoint their location. The next step is to attract one to your stand by imitating the hen. A simple process in itself but the extreme wariness of the turkey makes it one of the toughest tests of anyone's hunting ability and craft.

A good stand and good camouflage are just as important to successful turkey hunting as is good calling. A stand should have many qualities, one of the most important is concealment. Since the hunter has to remain completely motionless in deference to the eyesight of his quarry, the comfort of the stand can be tremendously important to the success of the hunt. A natural stand such as a log or a tree in front of a stand is highly recommended as long as it doesn't interfere with the ability to see or raise the gun. If no natural stand is available, a few shrubs can be cut and stuck into the ground to break the hunter's outline.

Camouflage clothing, as has been mentioned, is almost a necessity. A face mask and camouflage gloves may sound extreme, but the eager, shining face of a novice turkey hunter or the movement of ungloved hands has been a warning signal for many a wise old hunter. When dealing with the wild turkey on his own ground, the odds are greatly in his favor, and the wise hunter cuts them as much as he can.

As for firearms, most southern turkey hunters use shotguns, and owing to the large size of the birds, the 12 gauge with magnum loads is preferred. Experienced turkey hunters use either 6 or number 4 shot and aim for the head and neck, feeling that the small shot gives better pattern on the small target than larger shot such as number 2 or BB. Body shots, even with large shot, are not recommended since they will not firmly anchor a tough old gobbler unless he is close enough to absorb totally the whole charge.

Hunters who use rifles prefer a small caliber centerfire cartridge, often hand-loaded to a moderate velocity. There is no controversy over bullet choice, with some hunters using a quick expanding bullet in the interest of quick humane kills while others prefer tougher bullets which cut down meat loss but increase the chance of wounding. The .22 caliber, though legal, is definitely not a turkey gun, sadly lacking in the power necessary to insure clean kills.

The turkey is a ground dweller and relies on his legs to carry him away from danger. Since he had rather run than fight, shooting a turkey on the

ground is not considered unsporting. The sport in turkey hunting is derived from the difficulty of outwitting this wary bird in his forest habitat.

The wild turkey is a true wilderness bird, needing extensive tracts of woodland interspersed with clearings for prime habitat. The clearings provide "bugging" areas where the young turkeys, called poult, hunt for protein-rich insects in the spring and summer. Later in the year the staple of the turkey's diet becomes mast and buds of hardwoods, particularly the smaller acorns. The turkey has little love for close association with humans and much prefers his hardwood forest with as little human encroachment as possible.

The turkey has, in modern times, been losing ground rather steadily in his competition with what man calls progress. Man's land use practices have gone directly contrary to the wild

turkey's needs. The draining of river swamps, expanding agriculture, and the practice of eliminating hardwoods in favor of faster growing pines have all led to a general turkey decline. More recently however the growing southern timber industry has been turning farmlands into forestland and this holds the potential for a possible turkey comeback if these forests were to be managed with a view toward wildlife values as well as timber production.

The wild turkey is a magnificent gamebird with all the sporting qualities of true trophy game. So intriguing is the sport of hunting turkeys many of its devotees pursue the spring gobbler, almost to the exclusion of everything else, with the zeal of true fanatics. "Turkey Fever" it's called, and it starts in the early spring when the gobblers begin calling before daylight. This is the time of the turkey hunter, and a fine time it is. 🦃



Photo by Aaron Pass

This fine trophy is the result of patience, skill, and luck. Since the gobbler will mate with as many hens as he can attract, some males can be harvested on the spring hunts without hurting the breeding stock.

CONSERVATION: A CAREER FOR YOU?

Article 1 of a Series

The Wildlife Ranger does much more than simply enforce laws. Much of his time is spent helping the hunter and fishermen in various ways. For example, here a ranger on water safety patrol helps a stranded fisherman back to the landing.

Editor's Note:

"Gee, I sure wish I had your job. It must be great to be working outside all the time, with fish and wildlife. I bet you get to do a lot of hunting and fishing. I imagine you have a lot of fun in your work. How could I get such a job?" Nearly everyone who has ever worked in the field of wildlife and fish conservation has heard this many times.

There is so much feeling, from so many people, wrapped up in that paragraph that this series of articles was born in an attempt to answer the questions posed.

Students and youngsters still seeking a career will, it is hoped, find the answers to many of their questions in this series. Further, many persons already employed are interested in the possibility of changing to this field, and may be guided. Even those who know they cannot make the change, at least at present, will find this series interesting. And even those not considering conservation as a career may enjoy learning more about what their State Game and Fish Commission does, and what it's like to work for this agency.



"Wish"

By Dean Wohlgemuth
Editor

Photos by Ted Borg

■ So you want to work with wildlife. What sort of position are you considering?

"Well, 'you say,' I guess I want to be a game warden. Isn't that what you call the people who work for the Game and Fish Commission?"

In Georgia, we call them wardens. Some states call them game wardens, others game protectors, others conservation officers. It all amounts to virtually the same thing. There ARE many other types of positions you can do with a conservation degree, but these positions will be described in more detail in the next article.



'Had Your Job'

...succeeding articles. Right now, take a look at what it's like to be a Georgia wildlife ranger, and what is required of such a man.

Typically, the wildlife ranger is a law enforcement man. He wears a badge, carries a gun, and enforces laws regarding game and fish. He can make a case against you and arrest you.

To say, however, that he is a policeman is not an adequate description. He is much more than that. He is an upholder of the law, a friend of wildlife, a friend of the hunter and fisher-

man. Yet, while being almost a "kissing cousin" of the sportsman, he must know when to stand firm. He must know when to make a case and he must know, through more or less a sixth sense, when justice would best be served by giving a stern lecture. He must not play favorites with friends or relatives or persons in high places. He must be totally impartial.

A ranger's day might begin with a radio call from district headquarters to talk to a landowner about trespassers hunting on his land. Before that assignment is complete, he may be sent to

another landowner's property to give advice on game management or on how to solve a weed problem in a farm pond, or whether the pond should be restocked. Actually, this is out of the ranger's field . . . he can do little except advise the man to have a biologist pay a visit. But still, to assure the man the Commission is sincerely interested, he takes time for a personal visit, then makes the arrangement for the biologist to make the investigation.

On his way from this call, the ranger notices some fishermen on a river bank. Routinely, he checks to see if all have



The daily routine of a ranger is, basically, that of law enforcement. During hunting seasons, he keeps busy making sure that hunters have their licenses, and that their firearms are legal, and in the case of shotguns, that the gun is plugged so that it will contain no more than three shells.

their fishing licenses and are within the legal limits on their stringers. While doing this, he answers a question as to where the best catfishing is on this river. Another angler, obviously a novice, gets personal advice on how to rig his line.

At noon, the ranger attends a local civic club meeting, showing a wildlife film and answering questions . . . or perhaps it was the meeting of a sportsman's club at night . . . or a school class that needs a lecture on either hunting safety or water safety.

If the ranger lives near a lake, he may spend most of his day patrolling that lake, checking licenses and limits, and at the same time assuring that every boat, whether registered or not, whether a fishing boat or pleasure boat, has proper legal safety equipment aboard. He may have to chase down a speedboat that is operating recklessly, and write a citation. And, among the more disagreeable of his tasks, is that of helping to find a drowning victim.

In hunting season, he may have to check a dove field or a duck pond to

see if it is illegally baited. Then later, he'll have to return to see if shotguns are properly plugged, and whether the hunters abided by the bag limits.

In deer season, he may have to leave his home for a full week or more at a time, to assist in operating a managed hunt. Here, he'll sell permits each morning, check kills as they come in during the day, then ride around the area later in the day to be certain all kills are checked in, and that hunters' guns are unloaded at all times except when hunting.

Should a hunter be lost in the woods, the ranger will have to join the search party, and may be on the job for hours, perhaps all night long, or even for several days.

In the case of a hunting accident, he must thoroughly investigate the incident, writing a full report, and seeing to it that charges are made if necessary.

He may spend a day assisting a fisheries biologist doing research work on a farm pond, or stocking trout in a stream. He may help to do some work in planting a food plot for deer or



Boating Safety Patrol duty is varied. At least one approved life preserver, safety equipment and boat registration

turkeys on a management area. Maybe he's helping conduct a population study on a large reservoir, or in a game management area.

When the day is done . . . in his case usually well after dark . . . he may receive a phone call that someone is shooting deer at night, and out of season. With other rangers, he may have to lie in wait for hours on a cold night in hopes of apprehending the offenders.

This kind of work may not make the position of wildlife ranger seem as wonderful as you thought. If not, then you needn't consider such a job . . . it may not be for you. To many, however, this may be just what they're looking for.

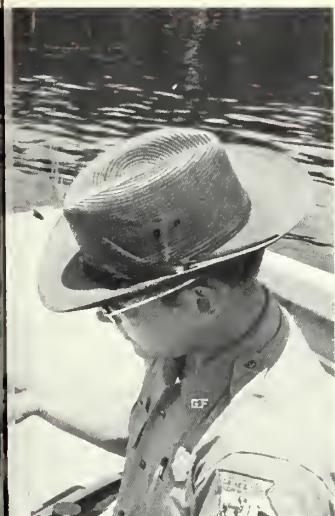
There are, to be sure, many pleasant aspects of the work, perhaps more obvious than any indicated by these duties. The ranger is out of doors nearly all the time. He meets people, and makes friends. If he can ever find time, he knows where the best hunting and fishing in his area can be found.

The ranger mostly is self responsible in his job. While he works under



The Coastal Patrol has the duty of checking commercial fishermen and shrimpers as well as sport fishing.





is to ensure that boats carry
board. They also check other



In checking fishermen, the ranger not only makes certain his "customer" abides by safety regulations, but checks to see if he has a fishing license, and that his catch is within the legal limits.

tion of his district chief, most of
me he is on his own.

may appear by now that a man for
a job must have many qualifica-
s. He needs to be something of a
ver, policeman, public relations
public servant, minister, friend
to forth.

These are, to be sure, part of the job.
These qualifications can't actually
from formal education. They are
type of requirements that must
come from a man's personality,
uced by on-the-job training, and
of experience.

The basic requirements for a person
ing a job are: he must be a high
graduate, five-foot eight-inches
or more, and at least 140 pounds.
must be between the ages of 21 and
with no police record and of course,
citizen.

There are other things that are
d, that are difficult to describe.
Cline, Wildlife Major, described the
ies he looked for in a man when
ing a new ranger.

"I would ask a man what type of
work he has done, and what interests
he has that made him inquire into the
position," Cline said.

"The man must be interested in the
outdoors and in conservation. He must
want to make hunting and fishing in
Georgia better, from a conservation
standpoint.

"A ranger is not altogether a police-
man . . . he has to have deeper inter-
ests," Cline said. "He must be willing
to be a public servant."

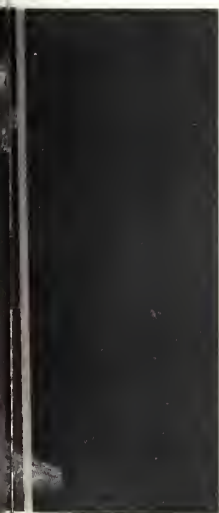
While he has to be something of a
mother, brother or friend, he still has
to be firm when dealing with everyone.
He can't play favorites when making
cases. He has to have an open mind,
however, and be willing to understand
each situation. "He must have impartial
feelings toward each individual," Cline
said.

"If you're just looking for a job
where you'll make money, you need to
go somewhere else," Cline said. Rang-
ers' pay will never make you wealthy.
Starting salary is \$492.50 per month,

increased to \$515.50 per month after
a six-month working test. Top salary is
\$648.50. Opportunities for advance-
ment include possible promotion to
sergeant, lieutenant, captain and major.
To be a ranger, he must pass a written
merit exam, physical, and agility test,
and pass a police investigation. During
his first two years, he may not work in
his home county or an adjacent county.

Weekends and holidays find rangers
working when other people are having
fun. Forty-hour weeks are not the rang-
ers' lot. He might work as many as 80
hours, and perhaps at times 24 hours
or more at a time.

The life of a ranger is not an easy
one. It can be pleasant, at times, and it
can be difficult. It can, to be sure, at
times be dangerous. Nonetheless, there
is usually a long waiting list of people
wanting the job. This is because the job
is a rewarding one . . . offering rewards
that are not easily described. They must
be felt. If you have the personality to
have these feelings, perhaps you, too,
can be a wildlife ranger. 🐾



*The Ranger may sometimes
be called upon to help a lost
sportsman find his way
back to camp.*

*After his regular
day's work is done, he
may teach a class in school,
scout troupe or local civic
club, on the finer points of
gun safety and conservation.*



LET'S GO FISHING ...NOW!

By Dean Wohlger
Editor

Sure it's early in the year, and the air is brisk . . . but it isn't too early for the fish to bite. This party, camped in South Georgia in early March, found the bass biting well enough to provide camp meat.

Photo by Dean Wohlger



When does the fishing season begin in Georgia? Actually, there is no beginning and no end to "fishing season" in our state . . . you can fish, and quite successfully, all year long except perhaps for occasional bad weather in winter.

You have to begin a year somewhere, however, and though the calendar people choose January, for the Georgia fisherman a more logical month would probably be March. This is the month that temperatures, both air and water, may come to a point that stirs the restlessness in every angler's soul, and make him take his fishing rod from its winter hiding place.

Though some folks fish all winter long, the majority of the angling clan prefer to wait for this dawning of spring. Of course, the farther south you go in Georgia, the sooner the weather and water will bring out the inclination to catch a fish. In fact, good weather may have drawn fishermen out in February. Anyway, the weather's good and you're ready to go. Where, you ask, to begin? What kind of fishing should you try? It's begin in south Georgia and move northward as the warmer weather comes that way.

First signs of warm weather can make largemouth bass restless in southern waters. Lake Seminole's most famous fishing is during this season, for real water bass. If it hasn't been very warm, it may pay to start with deep running lures in deeper water. Because of the heavy cover in Big Sem, one of the better lures is the plastic worm with a weed hook. The worm is usually a top getter in Georgia almost any season. Also, various types of jigs-and-headers and similar rigs are good.

They are fished right down on the bottom with short jerks, though a jig may be reeled in steadily by some anglers. Generally a jig would be fished faster than a worm. Whichever you use, throw it into a hole, allowing plenty of time for the lure to sink to the bottom. When your line, then move the lure along the bottom with your rod tip, sweeping the line in the length of the rod, allow the lure to sink as you move the rod tip toward it, and take the slack line . . . then repeat the process. Should the sun warm things sufficiently, shallow or topwater lures can be effective, particularly in the southern end of the state.

Crappie fishing usually is at its best in mid-March as the water temperature rises. By this time of the month, lakes in the middle section will begin to awaken with crappie being the likely adversary, followed soon by bass in the month.

Each year's spring fishing season is,

of course, heavily dependent upon the weather. At this time of year, rains may be warm enough to hasten the warming of lake water, especially if followed by days as warm as they sometimes can be now. Even March wind can sometimes help to warm waters more quickly.

Walter F. George Reservoir south of Columbus will be hot on the heels of Seminole in reaching spring. This lake should again be among the state's very finest fishing spots. Moving northward, largemouth bass will be close to shorelines late in March in Clark Hill, Hartwell, Sinclair, Lanier, Allatoona, Jackson and other mid-Georgia reservoirs. Before then, spring lizards and large minnows fished deep will be productive. Minnow and jig fishermen will begin finding crappie in submerged brushpiles not far from shore.

As buds and leaves begin to appear in trees and bushes bordering the water, fishing will continue to improve, and the white bass will begin to feel the urge to move up out of the lakes into the streams for their annual spawning pilgrimage.

Rivers running into Lake Sinclair usually provide some of the first white bass spawning, along with perhaps Clark Hill, then Lanier, Allatoona and Lake Weiss.

Mountain lakes, including Burton, Blue Ridge and Chatuge, will probably yield walleyes first, and likely some trout, especially while the water is still

rather cold. Minnows, minnow-like lures and jigs are good for these two species. When the water is still rather cold, walleyes will probably be at less depth than bass, but as the temperature rises, so do the bass while the walleyes go deeper. Walleyes might also be found on upstream spawning runs out of lakes, both above and below Lake Burton, and above Lake Hartwell. By late March, Chatuge and Blue Ridge will produce smallmouth bass.

Trout fishermen who love to ply the streams for their quarry, and find it difficult to wait for the regular trout season opening, which will be about the first of April, can ease the pains of waiting in year-round trout streams. A list of these waters is in your last year's trout fishing regulation pamphlet, published by the State Game and Fish Commission. Spinners and natural baits will catch trout now.

Late in March, largemouths can be found on shorelines, with the best bets being points of land extending out into the lakes. These points indicate shallow water out from the bank for some distance, usually accompanied by dropoffs to each side. Those points with brush or rocks to provide cover, are best. Anchor a long cast from land, casting toward shore. Deep running lures won't work here, unless they're very weedless. Plastic worms again are among the top baits, but so are shallow running lures. Some of the vibrating lures, meant to be

Waders and a spinning rod, and shoal water are the ingredients for catching fish in many places in Georgia. It might be for white bass or walleyes, or it might even be on a year-round trout stream.



fished quite fast, can be the most effective type for early fishing on the points. This writer has caught good stringers of sizeable bass in mid and late March fishing vibrating plugs off the points. It's one of my favorite methods and seasons for bass fishing.

Warm clothing may be necessary to keep you interested in fishing, particularly in early morning. If the weather is quite nippy, there's probably little need to be on the water at the crack of dawn. Frequently, the bass begin hitting as late as 9 or 10 a.m., moving about mostly in the warmer part of the day. Later in the year, even perhaps in late March, the middle of the day would be better spent fishing deeper holes.

Personally, in late March when the temperature can sometimes ease up to the 70's or even 80's, I like to begin the day fishing the points for bass. When the bass fishing slackens, I may dabble a minnow for crappie from late morning into mid-afternoon, grabbing a sandwich while watching the bobber. Then, by perhaps 3 p.m., switch back to the points and work out the rest of the day going for bass. This provides a change of pace and rest from tossing a plug all day long, and keeps you sharper for bass fishing.

River waters will usually be high and muddy most of March, and not particularly warm, until late in the month when the white bass spawning begins. About this same time, in rivers near the coast, sea-run striped bass, saltwater cousins of the white bass, should begin their spawning trek into freshwater rivers. Also, saltwater shad should be running well in low country rivers.

This year could well be the beginning of a new era, in earnest, for Georgia fishermen. Commission fisheries biologists believe that landlocked striped bass will be taken with some regularity in several lakes around the state.

Already, stripers (rockfish) of two or three pounds were occasionally being taken by anglers in late fall and winter in Lake Sinclair, where stocking efforts were concentrated. Also, Lake



When the temperature begins to rise, largemouth bass may be found with some regularity along shorelines, particularly off points. Shallow running lures may be the trick.
Photo by Ted

Jackson should produce some good fishing for these species this year or next. Lake Blackshear, one of the first lakes to receive stripers, is yielding a few, and once in awhile Seminole produces one.

The biggest surprise, where rockfish are concerned, is Lake Burton. Rearing ponds along the edge of Burton were used by biologists to raise tiny fry to fingerling size, for stocking elsewhere. The dregs of these ponds, mostly tadpoles, contained just a few stripers that eluded biologists when the bulk of the fingerlings were removed for stocking purposes. The ponds were flushed into Burton, and those few remaining stripers have flourished... almost once a month, reports have come in of catches of rockfish up to 10 or 11 pounds!

Chain pickerel will be among the first species caught in south Georgia waters this month. The Okefenokee Swamp, Seminole, Lake Worth near Albany, Walter F. George and even some farther north waters will give up some jackfish to anglers, especially those who work spoons, spinners and jigs-and-spinners in these waters.

The jackfish, one of two species which Georgia holds the world record (9 pounds, 6 ounces) is a scrappie reaper that seldom is found over a couple of pounds in size, but is fine eating and you overcome numerous bones.

Georgia's coveted record could have been boosted to perhaps 10 pounds if some lucky angler been able to catch a prize found by fisheries biologists last winter. Biologist Mike Gennings reported finding a chain pickerel on Lake Walter F. George which apparently died of natural causes that was 33.2 inches long and weighed 9 pounds 8 ounces. He felt the fish had been dead for perhaps 24 hours, still weighing 9 pounds 8 ounces. He felt the fish had been dead for perhaps 24 hours, still weighing 9 pounds 8 ounces. He felt the fish had been dead for perhaps 24 hours, still weighing 9 pounds 8 ounces.

Other records are within striking distance of Georgia fishermen this year. For the last several years, a number of white bass have been caught in Georgia that were within ounces of the world record of 5 pounds 4 ounces. Georgia's largemouth bass record of 12 pounds 4 ounces is one that seems attainable, but who knows? Maybe this is the year the Peach State will produce an even greater fish for the most attainable of all freshwater records! March is the month that could very well be the time for any of these records to be broken.

Whether you set a record or not, chances are excellent for you to catch the biggest you've ever taken of your favorite species, and surely you'll find very fine fishing in our state this month.

With opportunities like these available, there's no need for you to wait any longer... the crowds will not be at the lakes, just a few fishermen. And the fishing will be just what you have been waiting for all winter!



The walleye is usually hard to find during hot weather, except in deep water.

LOOK AT THE CENSE PROPOSAL

Bob Wilson

Recognizing the need for an immediate effort in wildlife conservation, a bill to increase Georgia hunting and fishing license fees has been introduced in the Georgia House of Representatives by Representative Howard Rainey Cordele, chairman of the House Game and Fish Committee. Passage of the bill would result in hunting and fishing license fees being increased by \$1. Passage of the bill would also add a \$2 mountain trout stamp and a \$3 big game stamp.

The \$3 big game stamp would have to be purchased in addition to the hunting license only to those hunters who wish to bag deer or wild turkey. The mountain trout stamp would be required only of fishermen after rainbow, brook, and brown trout. The mountain trout stamp would eliminate management area fees for trout, but would not change management stream schedules. In some areas of Georgia bass are referred to as trout or green trout, but the proposed bill would require nothing other than the regular fishing license for fishermen for this species.

Mountain trout and big game management are currently major programs of the Commission. Funds necessary for expansion of these programs would come chiefly from the sale of the mountain trout and big game stamps. Fishermen who fish for largemouth bass, crappie, bream or other species, however, for mountain trout would not have much of their license fee being spent on management programs for mountain trout. Similarly, the sportsman who hunts only small game does not have to purchase any stamp in addition to his hunting license, and does not have to bear the burden of paying for a huge portion of the management program.

Chairman of the Game and Fish Commission, J. B. Langford, of Calhoun, reported that there is a great need for expanded services carried out by the



Photo by Ted Borg

Sportsmen had their say regarding the proposal to increase hunting and fishing licenses, and the majority strongly favored paying more for better conservation. Tommie Holliman, president of the Georgia Sportsmen's Federation, tells the House Game and Fish Committee at their public hearing, that the Federation endorses the proposal.

Commission. Commissioner Langford explained that all revenues received by the Commission are turned over to the state's general fund, and added that the General Assembly will be requested to appropriate the additional revenue from the license increase and special stamps to the Game and Fish Commission in order to provide improved and expanded services. Representative Daniel Grahle, a member of the House Appropriations Committee, has indicated that the General Assembly is required by law to appropriate an amount at least equal to that revenue taken in by the Commission back to the Commission, and has appropriated a greater amount for the past several years.

The new Director of the Game and Fish Commission, Joe D. Tanner, has outlined the major needs of the Commission, explaining how the added revenue would be used. The funds would allow expansion of the fisheries program on warmwater streams, reservoirs, ponds, mountain trout streams, and in saltwater. Further, the increased funds would provide for more intensive management of game on national forest lands, and enable the Commission to begin a statewide program of small game management in cooperation with landowners. A program designed to open new public hunting areas would also be included.

The law enforcement division of the Game and Fish Commission would be bolstered. Plans call for the addition of 13 new wildlife rangers, 8 to be assigned to counties which currently have no resident ranger, and 5 to be assigned to the saltwater patrol on Georgia's coast. Director Tanner feels there is a critical need for a training program for

rangers, and that such a program would receive a high priority in allocations of increased revenue. The boating safety program is also slated for improvement.

Tanner also has plans to initiate two new programs within the Commission, one to be an environmental evaluation study on continuing basis and the other to be a planning program within the Commission in order that all operations in the field of wildlife conservation will be well coordinated not only inside the Commission, but also with other state and federal agencies. The planning program would enable the Commission to utilize the additional funds in the most efficient manner possible.

Georgia's hunting and fishing license fees are among the very lowest in the nation, and will remain so even if the increase is approved. Also, the state one of a very small number with abundant deer hunting and trout fishing that have no additional charges for these sports. The proposed increase would bring the resident fishing license from \$2.25 to \$3.25, the resident hunting license (which would be limited to small game) from \$3.25 to \$4.25, the combination resident fishing and hunting license from \$5.25 to \$7.25, and would add a \$2 mountain trout stamp and a \$3 big game stamp.

At a public hearing held at the state capitol on Feb. 9, private citizens and representatives of sportsman and conservation groups spoke overwhelmingly in favor of the proposal. The measure has also received support from editorial comment from various news media. Individual sportsmen should let their legislator and Representative Rainey know their feelings on the proposed legislation. 🐾

FAST SHOOTING NO LIMIT



The common crow can make for some uncommonly fine shooting, but good results take effort and skill. Don Huie, who runs the Triple H Gun Club near Locust Grove, sets out some decoys, getting ready to try to call in some crows spotted feeding in a nearby pasture.

■ This time of the year might well be called the hunting season slump. Game seasons are almost all closed and it's too early for many outdoorsmen to work up a great deal of excitement over fishing. Target shooting or a round or two of skeet or trap may help for a while, but the challenge of the real thing is somehow missing.

If you want a challenging quarry to shoot this time of the year, look around cornfields and other cultivated lands for large black birds which scream raucous calls. The common crow can make for some uncommonly fine shooting. Crows are some of the most intelligent of all winged species; but despite high intelligence, keen eyesight, and natural wariness, crows can be caught unaware by the cautious hunter or called to a blind in flocks.

Crows are one of the few bird species that are not protected in any way by law. With no season restrictions and no bag limit, the when, where, and how many is entirely up to the individual hunter's determination and skill. Shooting crows has the beneficial side effect of creating good hunter-landowner relations. The farmer welcomes the reduction of these noisy crop destroyers and will probably be more likely to welcome the hunter when the game seasons open again next fall.

Crow shooters may approach the sport from either of two methods of shooting. Some hunters, with high-velocity rifle, equipped with high-powered scope, attempt to slip up on the wary crows by sometimes shooting

from great distances. Other hunters employ duck-hunting techniques and try to lure flocks of the birds into scattergun range by using calls, blinds and decoys. Whatever method the shooter uses, crow shooting requires as much skill, patience, and effort as hunting almost any game animal we have.

Additional equipment helpful in stalking crows would be a good set of binoculars, camouflage clothing, and a detailed relief map if the shooter is unfamiliar with the terrain. The crow's natural wariness and extremely keen eyesight combined with a high degree of social organization which includes the designation of sentries, make the crow a challenging quarry to stalk. Only by planning a concealed approach and exercising all the expertise he would in stalking the most wary game animal will the crow shooter be able to get into position to make a clean kill on the sentry bird and get a couple more of the pests in the resulting confusion.

Scattergunners who want to bust a few crows will need different equipment. Shotguns of 20 gauge and larger are adequate, but should be modified or full choke. Experienced crow shooters tend to use 7½ or 8 shot, but number 6 shot can be an efficient "de-crower" also. The shotgunner will also need a crow call and camouflage or subdued clothing.

Additional equipment which would be helpful includes camouflage materials for constructing a blind, and decoys. The decoys would consist, as one would imagine, of imitation crows, but might

By Bob Wilson

Photos By The Author



Brush covered with honeysuckle vines make an excellent natural blind if enough space is cleared in the middle to permit easy gun swing. Wearing camouflage clothing, the shooter, at lower left, blends in with the blind materials. Look closely, there is a hunter in there.

Crows respond almost immediately to the call, wheeling about overhead. The sight of dozens of these large birds just out of range makes the effort involved worthwhile, especially when a few make the mistake of getting too close.

Color and general outlines are more important than size and material used. It is important that the decoys be dull black in color, with just a touch of sheen. Decoys with a glossy finish will cause crows to flare off, usually just before they get in range.

The best decoy set would include decoys on the ground and a few in trees above the blind. If an owl decoy is used, it should be placed near the top of a small tree or atop a fence post in an exposed position. Some crow shooters prop up the first dozen or so downed birds to serve as additional decoys. Two of the downed birds may be tied together with a yard or so of dark nylon string and tossed up into a tree to serve as decoys.

All this may seem an awful lot of effort to go to in order to bag a few birds that aren't even fit to eat, but what about 25 to 50 bird kills that are not considered uncommon? A little attention to detail, preparation, and some study of crow behavior can result in some hot shooting at a challenging target! It all becomes worthwhile when 30 to 40 of these big birds are wheeling about overhead, keeping just out of range except for an occasional bird giving in to curiosity and sweeping in for a closer look, only to meet his doom.

And before anyone gets excited, white or albino crows are not considered rare! Biologists estimate that albinism may occur in one crow per thousand. Crows with white spots are also fairly common. 🐦



Good equipment and preparation pays off. With no season and no limit, crows provide fine off-season shooting.

include a replica of the crow's enemy, the owl. Some of these are even constructed in such a way that the shooter can pull a string to make a decoy flap its wings.

Crows communicate to one another in a surprising number of variations in their raucous screams, and respond to good calling. Calls operated by a shooter, either by blowing or shaking, should be adjustable in order to imitate a range of crow "voices." Just as calling waterfowl, good crow calling technique is acquired by practice and listening to crows themselves, recording tapes, or more proficient crow

crows have a keen sense of danger and are easy to spook. Their sharp intelligence and social organization to the point of posting a sentry while the flock is already being mentioned. However, crows do have certain habits and behavior traits that make them vulnerable to the shooter.

When a feeding flock has lost its sense of confusion sometimes results, making a shot possible. If a flock is called to a set of decoys, they may work themselves into a frenzy, and return to the ground again in the face of the shooter. A flock may rest, flying off a few yards or so, and be brought in for attack again after a pause in feeding.

Crows set a pattern in roosting, feeding, and flock formation for migration. They migrate from north to south during the fall, say September to November, although a few birds will remain in any given area unless food supplies run out. Crows congregate in roosting areas before beginning migration, and a shooter who can set up one of these roosts at a nearby feeding area is almost certain to enjoy a good shoot. Crows are slow to change habits and continue to return to the same grouping area year after year if feeding in these areas does not become too frequent.

Dark spots for crow shooting in-

clude fields used for grain crops bordered by woods, and areas used as garbage and trash dumps away from populous areas. Crows prefer to perch in trees to survey a feeding area, but like to feed standing on the ground. Perching in mature trees gives the birds a greater chance of seeing any danger, such as an approaching crow shooter. Crows prefer to feed while standing upright as they can leap into flight more quickly than when hanging sideways on a corn stalk.

The crow shooter must utilize available natural cover in constructing a blind. Where natural cover is nonexistent, dedicated crow shooters construct a blind some time in advance of the day set for the shoot in order to give the birds a chance to get used to this change in the landscape. Thick brush, honeysuckle thickets, or similar cover may provide an excellent blind if space for the shooter to swing his gun is hacked out of the middle.

In good weather crows will leave their roosting area and head for various feeding grounds early in the morning, returning just before dark. On days that promise rain however, the birds will stick pretty close to the roost and make short foraging flights to nearby feeding locations and return to the roost as soon as they have finished feeding. In strong wind, crows will fly low seeking an easy route from roost to feeding ground partially protected from buffeting winds by treelines or hills. At these times crows are frequently very easy to decoy in. On the other hand, on crystal clear days when the barometer is low, crows as well as many other birds seem to enjoy soaring to great heights and just seem to be having too much fun to be troubled to respond to a shooter's calling.

Decoys and decoy techniques are as important to the crow shooter as to the duck hunter. Crow decoys are molded or cut from a number of different materials including Styrofoam, plastic, papier-mache, even silhouettes cut from cardboard and painted black work.

SPORTSMAN'S FRIEND

By Marvin Tye

Photo by Ted Borg

Ed Friend, Wildlife Ranger of the Year for 1970, looks pensively at the West Point Dam which is now under construction. The dam will provide a large impoundment with increased recreational potential for area sportsmen and a lot more patrol work for the ranger.



■“Ed Friend is the sort of man who does all that is asked of him and then does a little more,” Manchester District Chief Lewis P. Cotton said. “That is the main reason that he was named ranger of the year. Ed puts forth an extra effort and can always be depended upon to do what he is supposed to do.”

A fine example of the way the 28-year-old Troup County ranger gives an extra effort to his job is the manner in which he approached speaking to local civic clubs. All rangers in the State Game and Fish Commission's Manchester Law Enforcement District are expected to attend such meetings when they are requested to do so. Ed not only prepares his remarks in advance, but has studied public speaking from library books during his spare time. He is careful to avoid giving the same program or showing the same film to any organization as a repeat performance.

Ed was born at Fort Benning and was a resident of Albany before serving a four-year tour of duty with the U.S. Navy. He achieved the rank of petty officer third class before his discharge. To a degree, Ed followed in his father's footsteps when he chose a law enforcement career. His father, Joseph Edward Friend, is now chief of police in Albany. Due to Ed's interest in the outdoors, it was only natural that he would decide to be a ranger instead of a city policeman.

Bass fishing is one of his favorite pastimes. Ed has bagged a number of largemouths in the four to five pound class but has never caught a really large specimen. The enjoyment of tangling with scrappers of that size and the possibility of landing an even larger bass bring him back to the water every time he has an opportunity. Ed will be the first to admit that his chances to catch such sport are far too infrequent. He quickly learns that the fishing and hunting activity

is at its peak is the time when their workload also mushrooms. During the spring and summer months, he must check the catches of sport fishermen to be sure they do not exceed the limit and also determine whether or not they possess licenses. A large part of his time has been taken up by water safety patrol work on Lake Harding (also known as Bartlett's Ferry Lake). This sort of activity can keep a ranger on the go day and night. The State Game and Fish Commission does not have a separate water safety division as some other states do, but this work is handled by rangers in addition to their usual duties.

Ed does not regret having to handle this additional duty on Lake Harding. This patrol work could be considered on-the-job training for the work he will be doing in a few years when West Point Dam is completed. The large impoundment that will be created on the Georgia-Alabama border in his and adjoining counties, will provide plenty of outdoor recreation for boaters in the area. A trained officer to insure the safety of these people will be a great asset.

Another of Ed's interests is deer hunting. Again, the duty of checking other hunters, on weekends as well as during the week, keeps him from pursuing the sport as much as he would like to. Ed commented that he had less of a problem with illegal deer hunting than many of his fellow rangers. One reason he gives for this is that there is a relatively small deer herd in his area. Another factor is the limited amount of cultivated land in which deer feed at night.

In the off-season and at other times when activity is slack, Ed looks for arrowheads and other Indian artifacts. A cabinet in his home holds his collection of arrowheads, spearpoints, bows and other items constructed by the

earliest recorded residents of his tracts.

Ed enjoys being in the field meeting other sportsmen. He treats violators impartially and fairly. He is willing to be lenient if the man obviously acted out of ignorance or made an honest mistake. In one case a violator refused to show any identification. He even gave a false name suspected this, so he told the violator that he would not be released into custody until someone brought a driver's license and revealed his proper name. The judge who tried his case levied an additional fine stiffer than one for the original violation for the arresting officer.

The life of a ranger is never a routine. Ed recalls one time when a group of violators let the air out of his tires so that he could not pursue them. On another occasion, one man and a group of hunters ran when Ed approached. As Ed pursued this suspect, the other men in the party disappeared. He apprehended the fleeing suspect and everything was in order. The man had a license and was not violating any laws. Ed assumes that at least one of his companions was hunting without a license.

Ed is often called upon to prepare fair exhibits or perform other duties in cooperation with biologists and other Commission personnel. No matter how the task or how unpleasant it may be, he performs it to the best of his ability. According to Chief Cotton, Ed does what is required and then a bit more. Perhaps the most unpleasant duty of a wildlife ranger is giving aid when the body of a drowning victim must be recovered.

Ed has been employed as a wildlife ranger since July 16, 1965. He is married to the former Glenda Allen of Hogansville. Ed, Glenda

(Continued on page 15)

Sportsman's Friend

(continued from page 14)

Two-year old son Edward H. Ed, Jr. now live in Hogansville. Subtly Ed is looking forward to day when his son can join him on to observe nature, fish for bass or deer.

As the boy develops an interest in the outdoors as most boys do, he will have an excellent teacher in his father, Georgia's ranger of the year for 1970.

Editorial Conservation Career?

(continued)

You may prepare yourself to be well-qualified. Perhaps your life will be that will be of great importance to mankind.

If this should be accomplished, this will have accomplished a very worthwhile goal.

This is our hope.

—Dean Wohlgemuth

Book Review

TROUT MADNESS

Robert Traver, St. Martin's Press, New York. 178 pages. \$6.50

Each is best known by many sportsmen for its foul weather, and as a good place to start thinking seriously about fishing. Anyone finding it difficult to get into the proper frame of mind should consider reading *Trout Madness* by Robert Traver, as it is an excellent stimulus for both the memory and anticipation. For those who are having no trouble visualizing ripples, and rising fish, the book can be recommended as sustenance for the soul until opening day.

This collection of 21 short stories by the author of *Anatomy Of a Murder* features some of the highlights of a sport trying to outwit and sometimes catching trout. Traver's yarns are set in the setting of Michigan's Upper Peninsula, but they consist of experiences and emotions universal to trout and trout fishermen. It is a "Just Fun" book which does not dwell on the technical intricacies of tackle and technique. There is a strong undercurrent of philosophy beneath the fun, how that speaks of serenity and self fulfillment, and how these qualities may be found along a trout stream.

The book is basically an assortment of collections and reflections on the sport of trout fishing written by a dedicated disciple of the sport. It is rich in memories and nostalgia and long on content.

—A.P.

the OUTDOOR WORLD



Governor Jimmy Carter congratulates his new director of the State Game and Fish Commission, Joe D. Tanner, left, after swearing Tanner in to that post. His wife, Sandra, was present for the ceremony in the Capitol.



Leo T. Barber, Jr. of Moultrie, was named to a seven-year term as second district Commissioner on the State Game and Fish Commission during ceremonies in Atlanta February 3rd. Barber replaces Richard Tift of Albany whose appointment expired this year.

Photo by Ted Borg



J. B. Langford is the new chairman of the State Game and Fish Commission. He was elected during the January meeting of the Commission, for a one-year term. The Calhoun attorney has been on the Commission since 1959. He represents the seventh district.

Shad Derby Dates Told

The second annual Shad Derby sponsored by the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce will begin at 8 a.m. Friday March 12 and end at 2 p.m. March 14.

In this fishing contest, valuable merchandise prizes such as boats and motors are awarded to the anglers catching the largest shad. These fish are anadromous species. This means that they live most of their lives in the ocean and ascend fresh water streams and rivers to spawn.

The Ogeechee River near Savannah is one of the best spots in the Southeast for catching this game fish during its spawning runs. For more information on entry fees required and other aspects of the contest, contact Curtis Carter, Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce, P. O. Box 530, Savannah, Ga. 31402.

—Marvin Tye

G&F Manages Wildlife on Berry College Land

Under a recent agreement between Berry College and the State Game and Fish Commission, the Commission has assumed responsibility for wildlife management on some 20,000 acres of Berry property located west of U. S. Highway 27. While much of the area is classed as a wildlife refuge, with no hunting permitted, at least one portion will be operated under the regulations for Wildlife Management Areas with specified periods for both small game and deer hunts. Maps and directions for reaching the area in which public hunting will be permitted will be published by the Commission and will be available before the next hunting season.

—Bob Wilson

Atlanta Camping Show

Hunters and fishermen often camp in conjunction with their trips afield, and a good camp can add greatly to the enjoyment derived from a hunting or fishing trip.

The newest developments in camping and outdoor equipment will be featured at the Atlanta Camping Show, being held Mar. 24-30 at the Atlanta Civic Center. The show will consist of exhibits by manufacturers showing their new lines of merchandise for 1971.

The State Game and Fish Commission will also have a booth to distribute information on fishing and other subjects.

Far on Pass

Sportsmen Speak...



SOUTH RIVER STINKS

Please let me share a few thoughts for consideration. No, Sirs, the South River suds are not ours, but they come from "up there" where "they" boast about what a great state Georgia is!—and we in Henry County find it mighty embarrassing to look at, and smell, and wonder, what if I-20 or I-75 crossed it, and the tourists had to look at it?

It is very disturbing also, to think of the natural resources and wildlife that would be wiped out if a "proposed Airport" was DUMPED ON US! When you live down here, especially if you appreciate these good things, and have been used to them all your life, it really is upsetting to think of childhood home-places, natural resources, wildlife, places of outdoor enjoyment, among many other countless things that money can't buy being wiped out for the love of money and in exchange for filth, smoke, noise, dirt and crime, and the Lord knows what else? I know, they don't know what they are missing, and I certainly wouldn't live where they do, in spite of all their garbage being dumped on us, just pity them. But they may not know it, they are fast looking for a place out in the country to move to, most of them, and I don't guess they have thought about any of that.

We enjoy the Magazine, and appreciate your promotion of the best things in life, and your demotion of pollution.

Mrs. Wm. T. Kelley
Henry County

TOO LATE?

First, I would like to say this magazine is great. The months are long until the next issue arrives. The articles are just what I personally need for information about hunting and fishing.

Second, you deserve a slap on the wrist for not printing the article "So You Bagged Your Buck" in the November issue. You need another slap on the other wrist for the fine article "How to Save Your Hide" in the December issue. These two articles should have appeared in the early fall issues so we would have had all this good information when it was needed. After 6 years of hunting deer I finally got that beautiful 8 point rack and 190 pounds of good meat. After reading your article on cleaning and dressing a deer we seem to have done several things wrong, but now we know. Since no one knew how to save the hide I just put soda and salt on it to see how it would do.

In the end my deer provided some good meat and the taxidermist was able to save my mount with another cape. Although I "lost my hide" on my first deer it was all a great experiment.

Thanks for the article on ducks in the December issue. This is my second year with the ducks and I will be able to identify them in several ways.

Keep up the good work on your fine magazine. We really have a great state and a paradise for sportsmen.

J. W. Yeargin
Dallas, Georgia

DESIGNATED CAMPING

During the past few years I have participated in numerous state managed hunts. For this opportunity, I am most grateful. The Game & Fish Commission has an excellent job in providing some of the best deer hunting to be found in the Southeast.

While on some of these hunts, I had good deer stands ruined by hunters who came in and set up camp in hunting areas. I am not opposed to camping, I also enjoy a good deer camp, but not designate certain areas for camps and not have deer driven from these by smoke, food aromas, and by some campers who stay up all night and then during the day.

Another subject of complaint is the lack of coverage during deer season by the Atlanta newspapers. I can only remember a couple of deer pictured during this season. Surely, someone must have some good ones which could have provided some amusing and interesting stories, always interesting to read of the "Where's, and Whens, hunters scored on a shirt tail. What could be done to provide for more coverage in the newspapers?

Enjoy your magazine tremendously, hope you will continue to provide sportsmen with this means of communication to the outdoors world.

Max M...

As with most controversies, the issue of designated camping on Wildlife Management Areas has two sides. There is no doubt the problems you have mentioned are particularly on areas with very heavy use. On the other hand, the designated camping area concept tends to create "Camp Ghettos", and spoil the wilderness experience many of the hunters are seeking. We feel that the best policy is to have flexibility on campsites until the amount of use indicates more restrictive measures are necessary.

WHY VISITORS UNWELCOME

I would like to take this opportunity to commend Georgia GAME & FISH on the job it does keeping the Georgia sportsman abreast of the different aspects of wildlife in our state.

Jones County, my home county, although we are aware, is well known for its excellent deer hunting. Often I am asked why many land owners in this area reserve their land for hunting or trespassing on their land.

It is not the majority but the minority, the trigger happy, so called "gun men" who make the majority of our hunters unwelcome in our county.

The local Game & Fish Rangers should be commended for their efforts to enforce game laws in Jones County, and within the near future all of the poacher and cow hunters along with other undesirable elements will learn that Jones County welcomes the true sportsman and not the trigger happy fool.

M. Joseph Wood

PEOPLE ARE ANSWER

I enjoyed reading your editorial in the January issue of GAME & FISH dealing with pollution. I certainly agree with you on the answer to our problems. I just wish there was some really effective way to convince the people that they are responsible. You are doing a wonderful job on your magazine and all sportsmen in Georgia appreciate it.

Incidentally, the Duck Guide was a work of beauty.

Frank Barron
Rome Coca-Cola Bottling Co.
P.S. I am still not sure that outlawing away packages is the answer.

National Wildlife Week You Really Care?

Wildlife is a part of our American life. Our forefathers hunted and fished as a source of meat for the table, and animal skins were used for clothing; but today we enjoy hunting and fishing for recreation. Stories and tales of these activities are passed from one generation to another like a treasured tradition. The endangered list of wildlife species have reached an all time high of 1,100 in 1970—do we really care that our grandchildren may never be able to observe wildlife in its natural habitat? We are now enjoying the most comfortable life of any country in the world—with plenty of nutritious food, comfortable clothing for every occasion, and families now own two or more cars. Wages are the highest in history, and we have more hours for leisure, and education is surging to a higher peak—yet we live in a land of vanishing beauty, increasing ugliness, of shrinking open space, and an over-all environment that is diminished daily by pollution, noise and blight. According to population statistics and our present way of living by the turn of the century our world can no longer support life, much less healthy, happy life. As a young person I don't want to see my future in this manner—or so I hope. Wildlife is a sensitive yard stick by which we may measure the quality of our environment. YES, we do care about wildlife.

National Wildlife Week, sponsored by the National Wildlife Federation and the Sportsman's Federation, is observed from the 21st through 27th. The observance of this week should stimulate our interest in sharing our environment

with wildlife. We do not like to think of any species of wildlife endangered in an environment that also threatens the life of man. Conservation is neither a science, nor an art, but a doctrine. It includes our religious, economic and political attitudes and the practices we approve for the intelligent use of the earth's natural resources.

Do you really care that our lakes and streams have poisonous mercury in them... that pesticides and insecticides are contaminating wildlife, not to mention the ill effects on humans? We say we care but there seems to be more talk than action! It is good that we have politicians who endorse laws that help protect US from OURSELVES but I'm afraid these laws alone cannot save America. We need more individual interest and understanding. Water and air pollution are still too widely shrugged off as a mere inconvenience, whereas, they are already affecting our health—as well as wildlife.

During National Wildlife Week I challenge you to participate by improving your environment. In this way you will be helping to save wildlife and YOURSELF. In an over populated world every bit of litter piles up in a hurry—start a beautification project at home and in your community. Plant dogwood trees and shrubs that will not only add beauty to your surroundings but will also provide food, nesting areas, and protection for the birds. Instead of an Easter parade why not plan a "Nature Parade" inviting boys and girls to share this adventure with you. You'll find mother nature dressed in the most lovely shades of green, and wearing the delightful perfume of wild flowers and shrubs. Flocks of migrating birds will be lingering here and there to say "hello". Maybe you can take a day off for a picnic with your family. If you can find an unpolluted river or stream plan a fishing trip with your son or daughter—these memories will be cherished forever.

If you really care share your knowledge and interest with others—this contagious enthusiasm will save your world and wildlife, too. Our world is in trouble—thank you for coming to the rescue.

Donna Ash
Youth Chairman
National Wildlife Week
Oliver, Ga. 30449

Sportsman's Calendar

TROUT SEASONS

Open season April 1 through October 2. Streams closed to fishing: Coleman River upstream from U. S. Forest Service Bridge No. 54 (Coleman River Road); Dicks Creek (Burton Management Area), entire length inside management area; Blood Mountain Creek (Chestatee Management Area), entire length inside management area.

CHANGES IN THE FISHING REGULATIONS

Lake Worth—Creel limit on bream, 50; creel limit on bass, 15; Minimum size limit on bass, 10 inches.

Sinclair—Minimum limit on bass, 10 inches.

Tobesofkee—Minimum size limit on bass, 10 inches.

Suwannee River—Minimum size limit on chain pickerel, 15 inches.

Use of nets or traps of any type, prohibited in rivers and streams.

SPRING TURKEY SEASONS 1971

Section 44

April 17, 1971 through May 1, 1971, in the counties of Banks, Chattooga, Dawson, Fannin, Floyd, Franklin, Gilmer, Gordon, Habersham, Lumpkin, Murray, Rabun, Stephens, Towns, Union, Walker, White, and Whitfield. Bag limit one (1) turkey gobbler. (260-2-40 Amended)

Section 45

(1) (Wildlife Management Area Only Spring Season) April 26 through May 1, 1971, on Blue Ridge, Chattahoochee, Johns Mountain, and Burton. Bag limit one (1) turkey gobbler. Permit required; available at checking station.

(2) April 12-17, 1971, on the Clark Hill Management Area. Bag limit one (1) turkey gobbler. Permit required; available at checking station.

(3) March 22-27, 1971, Bullard Creek Management Area. Bag limit one (1) turkey gobbler. Permit required; available at checking station.

(4) April 19-24, 1971, on the Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge. Bag limit one (1) turkey gobbler. Permit required (application for permit required prior to March 31, 1971); available from Refuge Manager, Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge, Round Oak, Georgia 31080. (260-2-42 Amended)

Section 46

March 27 through April 24, 1971, in Wilkes, Lincoln, Taliaferro, Warren, McDuffie, Columbia, Chattahoochee, Houston, Marion, Muscogee, Talbot, Twiggs, Wilkinson, and Stewart counties. Bag limit one (1) turkey gobbler. (260-2-41 Amended)

Section 47

March 13, 1970-April 17, 1971, in Ben Hill, Brantley, Coffee, Charlton, Decatur, Dodge, Pierce, Telfair, Wilcox, Camden, that portion of Clinch and Echols counties lying east of U. S. Highway #441 and South of Georgia Highway #94. Bag limit two (2) turkey gobblers (260-2-71)

IN MEMORIAM

Ranger William Lee "Billy" Bryant, 28, was killed in an accident while on duty December 23, 1970. He is survived by the widow, Mrs. Mary Bryant and two children. Ranger Bryant joined the Game and Fish Commission on June 1, 1965 and had worked as a biologist as well as a ranger. At the time of his death he was assigned to Chattooga and Floyd counties. His widow was presented \$1,000 by the Peace Officers Association of Georgia because of Ranger Bryant's membership in that organization.



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Volume VI

Number 4

CONTENTS

Fishing Fun for '71	Marvin Tye	1
The Gamemakers	Dean Wohlgemuth	4
Anglers' Awards	Bob Wilson	8
Better Habitat for Better Hunting	Aaron Pass	12
Outdoor World		15
Sportsmen Speak		16
Sportsman's Calendar		17

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Speak Now ... Or Forever Hold Your Peace

Hunters and fishermen I am speaking to you. Not to the birdwatcher, the naturalist, the canoeist or to any other variety of outdoor recreationist, but specifically to the hunters and the fishermen who are about to lose their sport through slack-jawed indifference.

This is the era of conservation, it is right now one of the hottest issues in the marketplace, and the ball is rolling. For years conservationists, including hunters and fishermen, have beat their breasts and moaned that no one would listen. Well now everyone is listening, and someone had better start talking. Everyone is concerned, from the market set, ever aware of an "in-topic", to the factory worker from the inner city who wants his kids to have cleaner air.

Several "authorities" have already dismissed the "ecological kick" as a fad, and considering the proven attention span of the American Public, they may well be right. So right now, while conservation is a hot issue with a ready-made audience, is the time when progress must be made.

This simple reality has already been recognized by many of the disciplines in that great generality called outdoor recreation, and they are not dragging their feet. By bringing the issues out in the open, and expressing either approval or rejection, they prove their understanding of the methods which influence public opinion and determine public policy. As small but active minorities, they effect changes in a concerned nation.

Isn't all this conservation good for all outdoorsmen? Doesn't it help everyone? Yes, but depending on who is doing the active work, it is often better for some than for others.

This is not meant to speak ill of any conservationist. Any dedicated person who is sincerely interested in conserving our environment is an ally and should be treated as such. However, it should be pointed out that people are basically selfish, and are more concerned with their own area of interest than any other, particularly if no one makes them aware of any other. Oversimplified this means that the birdwatcher and the hiker are much more interested in what is good for birdwatchers and hikers than what is good for the hunter and the fisherman.

For example, at the same time the nation is gaining respect and more protection for scenic and unique natural resources, the hunter is losing ground, both figuratively and literally. As a result of these areas being placed under the protection of federal and state agencies which either discourage or prohibit hunting, all outdoor buffs profit, except the hunters whose license fees and Pittman-Robertson contributions have probably done more to aid wildlife over the past decades than the actions of any other group.

Think for a moment of all the conservation issues we have recently made big news. Of these, how many are directly concerned with hunting or fishing *per se*? Of those issues which do protect wildlife habitat have been instigated and supported by groups not directly related to hunting or fishing.

(Continued on Page 4)

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ON THE COVER: Keeping plenty of game available for Georgia hunters is a continual job for game biologists such as Dick Whittington, Coastal Region game supervisor. To find out what life as a biologist is like, read Dean Wohlgemuth's article "The Gamemakers," Part II of a series on careers in conservation, on page 4. Photo by Ted Borg.

ON THE BACK COVER: It's fishing time again! For a look at what is ahead in the way of fishing in our state this year, see "Fishing for '71," by Marvin Tye on Page 1. Also, 1970 fishing contest winners announced on Page 8. Photo by Ted Borg.

FISHING FUN FOR '71



Hard-fighting largemouth bass is the most popular species of gamefish in the state. Lake Lanier, Walter F. George, Clark Hill, Hartwell, Sinclair, Seminole and Allona are expected to produce fine bass fishing.

By Marvin Tye

Photos by Ted Borg

The Georgia angler is blessed with one of the most varied fishing selections of any Southeastern resident. He can choose from flowing mountain streams that offer fine trout fishing, large reservoirs and farm ponds that contain a variety of warm water species, a number of rivers that harbor freshwater gamesters as well as anadromous species on spawning runs or he can go to the Georgia coast for really excellent saltwater fishing.

Perhaps the most popular species to

be found in the state is the largemouth bass. The world record, a 22-pound, 4-ounce specimen, was landed in Georgia waters in 1932. Since that historic day, hundreds of bass weighing up to 17 pounds have been bagged by peach state anglers. It takes a bass of at least 10 pounds to win a master angler's certificate or to stand a good chance of winning the State Game and Fish Commission's big fish contest. The smallest winner in the past three years weighed more than 13 pounds and the largest,



This fine string of bass was taken from Lake Jackson.

than average striper fishing. More than 150,000 of these fish have been stocked in our large reservoirs during the last two years. Lake Sinclair received 72,000 stripers in June, 1969. At that time the fish were 1½ inch fingerlings. Six months later fishermen began catching stripers weighing ½ to ¾ pound. By now the fish have reached the four or five-pound mark with some possibly weighing more. Sinclair is presently showing the highest population of stripers as well as producing the most frequent catches.

Lake Jackson received 20,000 stripers ranging in size from three to six inches in December, 1969. An additional 22,000 were stocked in 1970. A total of 42,000 stripers from the Walter F. Fish Hatchery were stocked in Lake Nottely and Blackshear in 1969. Blackshear and Lake Seminole had been stocked with stripers at an earlier date.

All of these lakes, as well as Lake Burton, are expected to produce good striper fishing in 1971. The quantity of stripers will probably be greater from Lake Sinclair. Stripers up to 10 pounds have been taken this year from both Lake Burton and Lake Seminole. These lakes as well as Lake Blackshear could produce some really large stripers in 1971.

There is a minimum size of 16 inches on striped bass in all Georgia reservoirs. Stripers under this

taken from Lake Seminole, pulled the scale down almost to the 16-pound mark.

According to Fisheries Chief Leon Kirkland, a number of Georgia impoundments should produce good bass fishing. Among the best bets are Lakes Lanier, Clark Hill, Hartwell, Allatoona and Seminole. Sinclair is expected to show considerable improvement due to extensive management. Lake Walter F. George is expected to produce a high percentage of real tackle busters.

The striped bass is the major anadromous species sought by the Georgia angler. That tongue-twisting word, anadromous, means that the fish lives most of its life in the ocean and swims up freshwater rivers to spawn. Stripers of more than 60 pounds have been caught on these spawning runs, but that is not what the biggest excitement is about now.

More than 20 years ago biologists discovered that the striper could live its entire life span in fresh water lakes and could reproduce there under ideal circumstances. Since that time, these fish have been introduced into a number of Georgia reservoirs all over the country. The success of these stockings has ranged from fantastic to just so-so. The program is well on the way to becoming one of the states with better

Georgia mountain trout streams offer a setting for every taste. There are accessible fishing areas and remote streams where you might see more wildlife than fellow fishermen. You'll have a good chance of finding action at either type location.



be returned to the water un-
ed. An angler may take no more
five stripers in any one day's
g.

the striped bass is well established in almost
Georgia's reservoirs. Kirkland
ularly recommends Lakes Lanier,
ona, Sinclair, Hartwell, Clark
Walter F. George, Blakeshear,
ole, Bartletts Ferry and Goat
The limit on white bass is 30 fish
ay per angler. Limit catches are
fficult to achieve when these fish
their spawning runs up tributary
s each spring. Such activity is
bly going on somewhere in Geor-
ght now. The hardest part of this
is to find the fish. When you do,
ot too difficult to entice them to
a weighted fly or any of a num-
other lures. It's a bit difficult to
a fighting white bass in when it's
it's best to swim the other way,
at's the kind of work that no con-
ed angler minds doing.

akes Blue Ridge and Chatuge are
ed out by Kirkland as being the
op spots for smallmouth bass fish-
The state record smallmouth
ed six pounds five ounces and was
from Lake Blue Ridge on Decem-
1, 1969 by Jackie R. Suits.

akes Blakeshear and Seminole are
ted to provide outstanding bream
g this year. Good bream fishing
also be had at Lake Chatuge, Lake
Ridge and Lake Burton. Excellent
conditions and resulting good
g have occurred for the past two
s on the Altamaha, Satilla and

Ogeechee Rivers. Kirkland says that
this trend should continue again this
year. A brochure being printed by the
State Game and Fish Commission will
provide information on the various fish-
ing camps, and other facilities available
at all major reservoirs and rivers in the
state. To obtain your copy just write
the Commission and ask for their fresh
water fishing brochure.

Trout season begins April 1. The out-
look for the various members of the
trout family—brook, brown and rain-
bow—found in Georgia is good, with
larger fish being stocked in the streams
this year than were stocked last year.
Lakes Lanier and Burton and a number
of other smaller North Georgia im-
poundments should produce some fine
catches for the angler seeking trout. The
Chattahoochee River directly below Bu-
ford Dam continues to be the top spot
in the state for producing large trout.
These waters are managed for trout
fishing with a closed season to prevent
excessive fishing pressures. The tail-
waters below Hartwell Dam also offers
fine trout fishing.

Due to the terrific demand for trout
fishing, certain of the most easily ac-
cessible trout streams are likely to be
crowded. This is especially true on
weekends and holidays. If you like to
catch trout and don't mind some com-
pany you should have a good time on
any of the managed trout streams. If
you like solitude with your fishing, a
trip to Noontootley Creek or some
other remote stream deep within the
Chattahoochee National Forest may be
just what you need.

The trout fishing season for all
streams except those on managed areas
runs from April 1 through October 2.
Management area streams are open only
on scheduled days from May 1 through
Labor Day, September 6.

Georgia's fine salt water fishing is
often overlooked by the state's anglers.
Spanish mackerel, sea trout, tarpon,
king mackerel and other game species
are usually abundant during the sum-
mer. It is possible to literally load the
boat with mackerel at certain times.

In addition, the recently discovered
reef or live bottom off Sapelo Island
provides suitable habitat for a great
variety of sea life preyed upon by large
game fish. You're likely to find black
sea bass, sailfish, king mackerel, cobia,
amberjack, bluefish, barracuda and a
number of other species living on or
above the reef. It is located about 16
miles due east of Cabretta Inlet on
Sapelo Island and marked by four spar
buoys. A map showing the location of
the reef is contained in a brochure on
the reef produced by the State Game
and Fish Commission.

A good way to break into saltwater
fishing is to hire a guide or charter a
boat at any one of a number of camps
along the coast. Fish camps, facilities,
and other information helpful to the
saltwater angler will be included in the
saltwater brochure being prepared by
the State Game and Fish Commission.

Fresh water or salt, the Georgia an-
gler has one of the widest varieties of
angling to be found anywhere in the
country. And the prospects for this year
could best be described as bright.



such as this
to produce
action with any
ber of warm-
er gamefish.
Georgia's many
all lakes and
onds should
e overlooked
y the angler.

CONSERVATION: A CAREER FOR YOU?

*The biologist isn't
a white-collar worker.
He finds most of
his work outdoors,
and he can't mind
getting his feet wet
or his hands dirty.
Doing research on
duck migrations
involves trapping
waterfowl for
banding and other
studies.*

The Gamemakers

By Dean Wohlgemuth
Editor

Photos by Ted Borg



Perhaps at times you've wondered how the State Game and Fish Commission came to set hunting seasons at a particular time or length, and why bag limits were set as they are. Whose job is it to decide?

Regulations are actually set by the board of Commissioners, appointed by the governor as a governing body over the department. These Commissioners are not professionally engaged in this field, however, and must draw the facts they need for setting regulations from professionals whose business it is to find these facts.

This is a large part of the job of the game biologist. He is a scientist. His studies of how many there are of various species of wildlife, how much hunting pressure an area can withstand and actually needs, how much hunting pressure that area is likely to receive and how successful hunters are likely to be, are all part of the facts gathered by the biologist. He compiles these facts, then makes recommendations to the Com-

missioners on what the seasons should be. It is then the duty of the Commissioners to weigh these facts, compare them with the needs of the public, and come up with the final decisions on what will be the resulting regulations.

Regulations must change from year to year. There are many reasons for this. Perhaps the spring was particularly rainy, and reproduction of a certain species was very poor because of the mortality of the offspring. It may therefore be necessary to reduce season length or bag limits to assure enough of the species remains for reproduction in the following year.

On the other hand, perhaps there was abundant reproduction one spring because of ideal conditions, yet a lack of food for that species because of a frost or other weather factors, such as a flood. This may mean a large amount of game available, but many of the species are doomed to die during the winter because of a great scarcity of food. Let us say too, that this particular species is one that is able to rebound well in reproduction, from very small numbers of remaining survivors. In this case, the advisable

Article II of a Series



to have a larger harvest of the
e, through longer seasons or in-
el bag limits.

ity of the changes may depend
on long range studies. The
of 10 years of experience in
ing the habits of deer, for ex-
e may show that too many bucks
ing harvested because of heavy
g pressure. Yet, the deer popula-
re high, and food is scarce. This
es the advisable thing to do is to
one day at the end of the season
de for hunting doe deer as well
ks. By limiting doe hunting to
y, only a relatively small number
b harvested, just enough to bring
ance of bucks and does back in

Studies are made by biologists on
any deer (or other species) there
an area, what percentage is likely
harvested during hunting season,
the reproduction rate is likely to
at area, what effect hunting has
reproduction, and even how much
deer move around, in and out of
n; season.

Georgia's biologists have, for ex-
e, in recent years used radio track-

ing equipment to trace the movements
of game to determine the effects of
hunting. In one study biologists trapped
deer and attached radio transmitters to
collars on the deers' neck (see "Wired
for Sound," February, 1968, GAME &
FISH). In another, jungle fowl were
released with transmitters attached (see
"Now They're Bugging the Birds," De-
cember, 1969, GAME & FISH). The
transmitters sent out signals which biol-
ogists tracked with receivers from vari-
ous points, to follow movements.

The most thorough studies on various
species are more easily gained on wild-
life management areas, where condi-
tions can be effectively controlled.
Here, the land area, the number of
hunters, the seasons, and even illegal
hunting and predation is recorded quite
accurately.

In addition, the actual harvest can
be measured very accurately. Samples
are sometimes taken from these species.
Deer are checked for weight and age, in
order to determine growth rate and re-
production ability. The age of deer may
be checked through examining jaw
bones.

In cooperation with other states and

with federal agencies, studies are made
of migratory game birds, such as doves.
Dove ages may be checked by studying
wing feathers. Surveys are conducted in
all cooperating states to determine hunt-
ing pressure, dove populations, repro-
duction and hunter success.

Similar studies were made in Georgia
on rabbit populations (see "Rabbit Rid-
dle," December, 1968, GAME &
FISH). A report is planned for future
issues on the results of this study. This
research was intended to determine
what has happened to rabbit popula-
tions. It took into account the reproduc-
tion rate, the food availability, food
quality, hunting pressure, cover (pro-
tection) availability, the effects of pred-
ators and many other factors governing
the numbers of rabbits.

Such studies on these and other spe-
cies are necessary for the setting of
hunting regulations. They also help to
provide more and better hunting.

It may be discovered, for example,
that in one section of the state there is
too much illegal hunting. Stronger law
enforcement efforts may be necessary.
In another area, it may be predation
from wild or stray dogs. It may be that



Deer management plays a major role in the work of Georgia game biologists. Deer are trapped for various different types of research projects, as well as for transporting deer to new areas. Deer must be trapped and tagged for population studies, and, as well, tracking work to determine deer movements, outfitted with transmitters.

Working in cooperation with other state and federal game biologists, the biologist may take deer to "wings" as he is called, or he may be called to "wing" sent in by hunters. He may be called to "wing" sent in by hunters. He may be called to "wing" sent in by hunters. He may be called to "wing" sent in by hunters.



the best method of providing better wildlife populations would be to eliminate these starving, vicious, wild dogs.

In another instance, and perhaps with another species, biologists might find there is too little food available. The public may be asked to cooperate in providing small patches of the proper kinds of food. In most cases, certain weeds and plants that provide food for small game also provide cover... protection from natural enemies. Providing these things may be all that is necessary to bring back good numbers of this game.

In some instances, nature has left a gap. There may not be enough of any kind of game to provide good hunting. Game native to the state may not find the area suited enough to their needs to provide them a good enough living for them to be plentiful. Research may suggest that a game bird or animal from another continent could thrive here. Experimental stockings are made, and if successful, further stockings follow, and eventually, perhaps there may be a new game species available for the sportsman.

Finding new areas which may be ob-

tained for public hunting areas is a part of the job of the game management division. When a new area is opened, it must be studied for game present, along with factors which control game populations. Game may be stocked, then carefully protected until natural reproduction has brought numbers of the game species high enough to support hunting. Then the area is opened, and hunts are controlled so as to maintain the best possible population levels.

If hunting pressure is too low, food supplies may diminish, and leave the game herd faced with possible starvation and disease. This can be as serious a problem as overhunting.

A biologist may be assigned, for several years, to conduct extensive studies on just one species of wildlife in a certain section of the state. While a great deal of his time may be spent in field work, he must also spend some time occasionally, doing laboratory studies on disease or on food quality. He may have to spend a big percentage of time writing reports on his work, compiling the results of his research, and decisions may be derived from studies.

These reports are necessary for future planning of regulations and management techniques by him and other biologists. Also, they are necessary for requiring federal aid for management projects.

While he can spend a great deal of his time outdoors and in enjoying his work, there are problems that face the biologist. He may be frustrated that he is not able to solve a problem, or that it may take years of research... or that years of research may seem to result in little or nothing.

Even if he reaches a solution, he may have difficulty selling that solution to the public. Without the support of sportsmen, he may not be able to get the solution to work. It is difficult times to convince others of the merits of his findings... why things must be done a particular way.

In order to become a game biologist, he must have at least a bachelor's degree in wildlife management. There is a wide range of subjects he should study. Courses he studies probably will include most of the following: elementary zoology and botany; chemistry (organic, inorganic, and biochemistry); mathematics (algebra through calculus); physics; entomology (insect study); English composition; geology; economic special botany courses, including physiology and plant classification; toxicology; histology, physiology, comparative anatomy, zoogeography (distribution of animals); forestry, and animal ecology; embryology, a

y, mammalogy; ornithology; her-
gy (in order, the studies of cell
ment, parasites, mammals, birds
ptiles and amphibians); inverte-
zoology; ichthyology (study of
; statistics; wildlife conservation;
e and fisheries management; lim-
(study of waters); animal taxo-
(classification); and scientific
n or German.

OR'S NOTE: This list of courses is
from "Careers in Wildlife Con-
on," published by the Conserva-
Department, Winchester-Western,
Mathieson Chemical Corporation,
on, Illinois, used with their per-
n.)

n a master's degree or even doc-
egree is highly desirable to the
st. In some cases, these postgrad-
udies are necessary to obtain the
n he desires. Certainly, his future
enhanced by having had more

biologist is a scientist, basically.
er, he may be called upon to
is an administrator as well. He
n time become a regional biol-
n charge of other field biologists
section of the state. He may later
e chief of game management for
te. Or he may go to a federal
such as the U. S. Bureau of
Fisheries and Wildlife, and
eventually be the head of a
of this agency or perhaps a state
. A biologist's future is limited
y his ambition and ability. The
st secretary of the U. S. Depart-
of the Interior is a position for a
ional conservationist, usually a
te biologist. While this is the top
field, there are a great many im-
administrative positions all up
der.

site the requirement for an ex-
solid educational background,
the field starts at a comparative-
level for a professional man,
a government agency. A young
fresh from college with a B.S. in
management and no experience
with the Georgia Game and
Commission as a biologist I at
\$50 per month. With a year of ex-
perience or a masters degree, he can
as a biologist II, starting at \$711.50
month.

re and more, there are increasing
activities for biologists with private
ity. Large forestry products indus-
se pecially, are adding biologists to
staffs. These industries have
ed that their vast forests are excel-
lent producers of game, and that the
public has a strong desire to avail itself
of hunting opportunities. Foresters
that not only is it an important
public relations factor to open these
to the public, it is very compat-



Many of the state's management areas are open to the public only through the cooperation of the Commission's biologists and large forest industries. They coordinate closely with representatives of these industries to manage wildlife and open the areas to hunting.

Though much of his time is spent outdoors, the biologist also must spend time at his desk, keeping reports and research up to date.

ible with forest management. Some
companies even believe that there is
enough income from operating fee
hunting on their lands as to provide ex-
tra profit from the forests. In these
cases, they hire game biologists to man-
age wildlife populations and hunting,
in order to provide the best possible
public relations and profit. While hunt-
ing fees are usually very reasonable,
they must cover the costs of manage-
ment practices and salaries of biologists,
and, if possible, provide a margin for
some profit.

The need for good, qualified biol-
ogists is increasing daily. The future of
hunting and wildlife populations in this
country is dependent upon these dedi-
cated professionals.

It is a good life, one of pleasant but
hard work and long hours, but also one
of great rewards... primarily that of
serving your fellow man.



NEXT MONTH:

Fisheries Biologists



Stan Hodsdon shows off his home-made Yellow Jacket lure, which he used to catch a 13-pound largemouth bass, which won the Black Bass category in the 1970 Georgia Big Fish Contest. In addition to receiving a Garcia rod and Ambassador 5000 reel as his prize, Hodsdon will have his name engraved on the Black Bass trophy and will receive a Master Angler's Certificate.

Photo by Bob Wilson

By Bob Wilson

ANGLERS AWARDS

Think like a bass, a big largemouth bass! It's early spring, the end of March, and the lake is low. Got it? Now, would you believe a 3½-inch yellow jacket? You don't think so, eh? Well, at least one such bass did and became a contest winner because of it.

Come to think of it not many fishermen would believe a fishing lure made out of a piece of briar root, shaped and painted to resemble a yellow jacket of any variety. Stan Hodsdon of Commerce didn't really expect any results when he made the lure from a piece of briar root that he had found in the woods. He was just going to place it on the line and see if he could catch a fish. He decided that

he has. But just for fun, one memorable morning last spring. Hodsdon put the lure on his line and commented to his fishing partner, Jim Banks, that he was getting ready to catch the biggest fish in the lake. The very first cast hooked a 13-pounder that took at least ten minutes to land on six-pound test line.

When you can start a fishing day that way, it's bound to put you in good spirits. Hodsdon put the fish on the stringer, and took his "secret weapon" lure off the line and retired it. Perhaps it's best that way. Not many lures can

claim prize-winning catches on the east, and being home-made makes the feat even more impressive. But if you're fishing gets real slow sometime this spring and you see a fisherman carefully pulling a lure from the bottom of his tackle box and it flashes yellow and black, he's casting it towards shore, better back to the lake and give him room to play the fish. Because it's bound to be Mr. Hodsdon after another prize-winner.

Thirteen pounds may not seem too much for a largemouth bass, with the world record set at 22-pounds, 4-ounces.

Georgia fish caught in 1932, but this under was big enough to win from Georgia GAME & FISH, ITS AFIELD, and FIELD AND LAM magazines and the Garcia Corporation, distributors of sporting gear. As the winner in the black bass category in the 1970 Georgia Big Fish Contest, the fish has won Hodsdon an assadeur 5000 reel and a Garcia and he will have his name engraved on the Black Bass trophy provided by Garcia.

The lunker was taken in Clark Hill Reservoir on March 30, 1970, using a home-made yellow jacket lure and a 100-foot test line. Hodsdon usually doesn't start his fishing for black bass until May to start his fishing for black bass season, but got an early start on last year, and what a way to start a season.

There may seem like a lot of difference between a 13-pound largemouth bass and a 2-pound, 1½-ounce bream. Eugene Payne of Atlanta felt the same sort of excitement in landing his winning catch. Just to balance the scale, this winner was the last fish of the day. Payne used a small pink spinner for what proved to be irresistible for the largest bream entered in the contest.

Deep fishing, some 18 to 20 feet, is recommended by Payne for fishermen after really big bream. He fishes from a boat and puts his bait out about as far as he can cast, usually using pink spinners. Since he uses two or three rigs at a time, it's certain that the rod and reel prize will come in handy.

What was the biggest white bass in the state during 1970? Well, we probably never know. The largest white bass entered in the contest was 3 feet, 8-inches; but it is strongly felt that a number of white bass over 4 feet must have been taken in Georgia last year. Michael Gozdick of Riverdale didn't even plan to enter the contest, but his fishing partner, Robert Guthrie, persuaded him to enter his entry at the last minute. A last-minute entry will win a Pflueger rod and reel outfit for Gozdick and his name will be engraved on the White Bass trophy provided by the Pflueger people.

The winning white bass was taken on the Chattahoochee arm of Lake Lanier April 9, 1970. Gozdick says he usually fishes in at the Gainesville Marina on the Chattahoochee arm of the lake when he is after white bass. He has just ordered a new bass boat, and a Pflueger rod and reel prize will be what he needs for this season's fishing.

Another Pflueger rod and reel outfit will be awarded to Charlie Hobbs, Sr., of Atlanta, in recognition of his catch



Michael Gozdick checks the Thin-Fin lure that helped him land a prize-winning white bass. He will have his name engraved on the White Bass trophy, and will receive a Pflueger Supreme rod and reel outfit as his prize.

Photo by Ted Borg

Charlie Hobbs, Sr., landed this trophy-sized rainbow trout in Lake Lanier, using the smallest of Mepps lures.

Photo by Ted Borg





Eugene Payne captured the grand prize in the bream category with this 2-pound 1½-ounce scrapper, caught using a small pink worm.

Photo by Bob Wilson

of a rainbow trout in Lake Lanier that weighed in at 8-pounds, 5-ounces. No small catch under any circumstances, Hobbs displayed considerable angling skill in taking this fish on 8-pound test line, using a "0"-size black Mepps spinner.

This fish was also the last catch of the day, after four or five trout had been taken in the lake. The catch was made in about six feet of water right next to a 100-foot drop, not far from Balus Creek.

Lake Blue Ridge produced the 1970 contest winner in the catfish category. Leon Reavis, of Clarkston, pulled a 44-pound yellow cat out of Blue Ridge on July 6, 1970, using a live minnow for bait. The north Georgia lakes can certainly produce some huge catfish. The 1969 contest winner in the catfish category weighed in at 51-pounds, 15-ounces and was caught by Hoyt McDaniel in Lake Nottely on June 2, 1969. It is hoped that the last two years' winners in this category were caught using minnows for bait.

Winners of saltwater tackle with 30-pound test line landed his 44-pound yellow cat. He should be able to put to good use the new rod and Ambassador

5000 reel that he will receive as prize. This year's contest should produce a number of really big entries in the catfish category, and you can bet that the 1969 and 1970 winners hope to be among them.

To even things up a bit, the prize winner in the crappie category came from Georgia's southernmost lake, Seminole. Emmett Thomas, of Bainbridge, waited until the contest was nearly closed to catch his 3-pound, 8-ounce black crappie on December 13, 1970.

While Thomas caught his fish in the traditional style using a cane pole and a minnow for bait, he may be even more effective at catching fine fish that one with his new Pflueger rod and reel outfit that is his prize. In addition to his prize, Thomas, along with all other qualifying entries, will receive the "Master Angler's Award" presented by the Georgia Sportsmen's Federation and Georgia GAME & FISH magazine.

The number of entries in the 1971 contest may have been small, and it is true that no new records were set, but the entries received represented a lot of fishing enjoyment. Perhaps the fine rod and reel sets awarded to the winner in the six major categories will be just the sort of encouragement needed to set some new records set in 1971. Setting a new record, winning a fine prize, or getting nothing but an enjoyable day's relaxation, every fisherman who hopes to enter the Georgia Big Fish Contest wins.



Emmett Thomas pulled this 3-pound 8-ounce black crappie from Lake Seminole just 18 days before the end of 1970, and the end of last year's contest. Thomas used a cane pole in making his catch, which points out that it's not what you use to catch fish that's important, it's how well you use it!

State Records

World's
Record

lbs.	BASS, FLINT RIVER SMALLMOUTH 6 lbs., 8 ozs.—J. E. McCormick, Griffin, Flint River, March 9, 1969	No Record
lbs.	BASS, LARGEMOUTH 22 lbs., 4 ozs.—George Perry, Brunswick, Montgomery Lake, June 2, 1932. World's Record	Same
	Second—17 lbs., 14 ozs., Nikkie Rich, Marietta, Chastain's Lake. April 27, 1965	
lbs.	BASS, SMALLMOUTH 6 lbs., 5 ozs.—Jackie R. Suits, Fry, Lake Blue Ridge, Dec. 11, 1969	
lbs.	BASS, SPOTTED 7 lbs., 8 ozs.—Donald Palmer, Cleveland, Little Tennessee R., May 20, 1969	8 lbs.
lbs.	BASS, STRIPED 63 lbs., 0 ozs.—Kelly A. Ward, Dublin, Oconee River, May 30, 1967	Same
lbs.	BASS, REDEYE (COOSA) 2 lbs., 10 ozs., John R. Cockburn, Jr., Dalton Jacks River, July 4, 1967	No Record
lbs.	BASS, WHITE 4 lbs., 15 ozs.—William R. Harris, Jr., Carnelia, Lake Lanier, March 31, 1969	5 lbs., 2 ozs.
lbs.	BLUEGILL 2 lbs., 15½ ozs.—J. Terry Cantrell, Atlanta, Okefenokee Swamp, August, 1965	5 lbs.
lbs.	BOWFIN 14 lbs., 0 ozs.—Randall Lee Brown, Lake Park, Okefenokee Swamp, May 5, 1968	
lbs.	CARP 35 lbs., 6 ozs., Albert B. Hicks, Sr., Atlanta, Sweetwater, Creek, April 17, 1967	55 lbs., 5 ozs.
lbs.	CATFISH, CHANNEL 39 lbs., 3 ozs.—Ben Patrick, Tifton, Patrick's Lake, July 4, 1969	57 lbs.
lbs.	CATFISH, FLATHEAD 51 lbs., 15 ozs.—Hayt McDaniel, Suches, Lake Natteley, June 2, 1969	
bs.	CRAPPIE, BLACK 4 lbs., 3 ozs., Kenneth Matthew Kirkland, Janesboro, Lake Jadecca, April 30, 1967	5 lbs.
bs.	CRAPPIE, WHITE 4 lbs., 4 ozs.—Charles McCullaugh, Decatur, Lake Hartwell, April 27, 1968	5 lbs., 3 ozs.
bs.	GAR, LONGNOSE No Official State Record	50 lbs., 3 ozs.
bs.	MUSKELLUNGE 38 lbs.—Rube Golden, Atlanta, Blue Ridge Lake, June, 1957	69 lbs., 15 ozs.
bs.	PICKEREL, CHAIN (JACKFISH) 9 lbs., 6 ozs.—Baxley, McQuaig, Jr., Hamerville, Feb., 1961, World's Record	Same
bs.	SAUGER No Official State Record	8 lbs., 5 ozs.
bs.	SUNFISH, REDBREAST No Official State Record	No Record
bs.	SUNFISH, REDEAR (SHELLCRACKER) 2 lbs., 12½ ozs., Bill Crabb, Marietta, Private Pond, Cobb County, Aug. 26, 1968	4 lbs., 12 ozs.
5 or	TROUT, BROOK 3 lbs., 12 ozs.—Barry Lowe, Lithania, Maccasin Creek, April 12, 1969	14 lbs., 8 ozs.
8 or	TROUT, BROWN 18 lbs., 3 ozs., William M. Lowery, Marietta, Rock Creek, May 6, 1967	39 lbs., 8 ozs.
4 or	TROUT, RAINBOW 12 lbs., 4 ozs.—John Whitaker, Ellijay, Coasawatee River, May 31, 1966	37 lbs.
is.	PERCH, YELLOW No Official State Record	4 lbs., 3½ ozs.
is.	WALLEYE 11 lbs.—Steven Kenny, Atlanta, Lake Burton, April 13, 1963	25 lbs.

GEORGIA BIG FISH CONTEST

The Georgia Sportsmen's Federation and Georgia Game & Fish Magazine sponsor a big fish contest for the State of Georgia during each calendar year.

Shortly after the first of each year, rod and reel sets will be given to the angler catching the largest fish in any one of six categories: black bass, white bass, crappie, bream, mountain trout, and catfish. In addition, the angler catching the largest black bass each year will have his name engraved on the Garcia Black Bass Trophy, and the winner in the white bass category will have his name engraved on the Pflueger White Bass Trophy.

Entries made on fish caught after December 31 will be entered in next year's contest. Entries should be made as soon as possible after the fish is caught. The deadline for entries in the contest is January 15.

How To Enter

1. Have fish weighed, measured, and entered at any official Georgia Sportsmen's Federation Weighing Station or any office of the State Game and Fish Commission. If no such station is available, have the fish weighed and measured in the presence of two witnesses who sign the official entry blank or a facsimile.
2. Before the affidavit can be accepted, the truth of the statements must be attested before a qualified officer such as a notary public, justice of the peace, sheriff, municipal clerk, postmaster, member of state or local law enforcement agency, wildlife ranger, etc.
3. There is no entry fee for the contest.
4. Any Georgia licensed angler, resident

or non-resident, may enter the contest by completing the official affidavit.

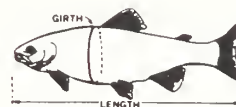
5. Fish must be caught on sporting tackle and be hooked and landed by the entrant.

6. Fish must be caught in the State of Georgia during the legal angling season for the species taken.

7. Angler can submit as many entries as he wishes. Certificates will be awarded for all fish surpassing the minimum standards in the chart regardless of the year caught, but contest prizes will be awarded only in the general black bass, white bass, crappie, bream, mountain trout, and catfish categories for fish caught this year. Awards will not be given for specific species within these categories such as the largest white crappie, black crappie, etc. due to the difficulty of exact identification of the species in these categories. In the event of a tie, duplicate awards will be given.

8. Clear sideview black and white or color photographs of the fish, preferably with the angler, must be submitted with each entry which become the property of Georgia Game & Fish Magazine.

9. Affidavits should be mailed to Big Fish Contest, Georgia Game and Fish Magazine, Trinity-Washington Street Building, 270 Washington Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.



HOW TO MEASURE A FISH Girth: should be measured around the largest part of the body as shown in diagram. Length: Measure along a flat surface from the extremity of the mouth to the extremity of the tail.

PRINT OR TYPE ALL INFORMATION

Kind of Fish _____ Weight _____ lbs. _____ ozs. Length _____ ins.

Girth _____ ins. Bait used _____ Type Tackle _____

Rod Brand _____ Reel Brand _____ Line Brand _____ Test _____

Where caught (Name of Lake or Stream) _____

Location of Lake or Stream (County or Nearest Town) _____

Date Caught _____

Angler _____

Home Address _____

City and State _____

Telephone Numbers: Business: _____ Home: _____

Fishing License Number: _____

"I hereby swear that the above statements are true; that in taking this fish I complied with the contest rules, fishing regulations, and that the witnesses hereto saw this fish weighed and measured. I consent to the use of my name in connection with the Georgia State Fishing Contest."

(Signature of person who caught fish)

We, the undersigned, witnessed the weighing and measuring of the fish described above and verified the weight and measurements given.

1. Signature _____
Address _____

2. Signature _____
Address _____

Sworn to and ascribed before me this _____ day of _____, 19 _____

(Signature of a qualified officer—See Rule 2)

Send all entries to: Georgia Game & Fish Magazine, Trinity-Washington Street Building, 270 Washington Street, Atlanta, Georgia 30334.



Photo by Ted Borg

These hunters are after quail in a opening caused by a timber sale. Quail are one of the game species which have been affected by the change in land management practices over the past few years.

BETTER HABITAT for BETTER HUNTING

By Aaron Pass

Anytime a group of veteran small game hunters gets together one fact becomes immediately obvious, hunting for birds and rabbits is not as good as it used to be. Today's hunting as compared to the sport as it was in the good old days is puny to say the least. It is said that quail hunters used to expect open shots at several coveys in the course of a day, and a rabbit hunt was always good for six or eight cotton-tails. But the good old days are gone, and there are few things around that seem to be as good as they once were.

There are many kinds of small game which may be hunted in the state, but the average Georgia hunter is usually after either quail, rabbit, or squirrel. These are the three most important small game species; and of the three,

quail and rabbits seem to be declining in numbers.

Many hunters seem to feel that hunting is the reason for this decline in small game population, citing that in the past, you seldom encountered another hunter. Admittedly, hunting pressure has increased, and the stocking of gamebirds and animals is often recommended as a remedy.

Natural predators, like hawks, and foxes, are thought by many to be the cause of the problems. Due to the belief that these wild hunters are responsible for serious inroads on small game, predator control is often advocated to increase the game population.

Stocking and predator control are two deceptively simple panaceas, and these two measures were the answers

small game management, the job of wildlife biologists would be a deal simpler. Unfortunately neither approach would do much to help the problem, because neither strikes at the root of the decline in small game: loss of habitat and changing land use. Increasing hunting pressure on an dwindling amount of good habitat is a real problem with small game biologists.

Habitat is the key to effective small game management. Habitat means the natural surroundings in which a given species is normally found. Good habitat consists of conditions which supplies all the various needs of any form of wildlife, including food, water, cover, nesting areas, etc. Good habitat means a healthy game population, and consequently as this habitat diminishes so does the game.

Wildlife populations are governed by the natural conditions of the area in which they live. These conditions dictate both the type of wildlife and the number which can live there. Since the different species of wildlife have different needs, good habitat for one type is poor for others.

Nature's laws have dictated that some species must prey on others to live. These are called predators, and the species they prey on are prey species. The prey species are well adapted to this by high reproductive potential which allows them to cope with the predation. The rabbit is notorious for this trait. On the other hand, the predator acts as a check to the prey species from overpopulating and destroying themselves by starvation or disease.

The term "carrying capacity" means the number of any species for which a habitat can provide food and shelter. When this carrying capacity is exceeded the surplus will either starve or succumb to disease. In addition, the burden the surplus has placed on the habitat usually reduces the carrying capacity for some time.

It is this surplus that man harvests by logging, and by hunting, man himself acts as a predator. The hunter is a more efficient predator as compared to the wild variety. For this reason such artificial limits as a season and a bag limit must be placed on the game species for its protection.

The natural predators on the other hand do not pose a serious threat to a healthy game population in good habitat. These predators are opportunistic, taking what they can catch, and are more directly governed by nature than is man. When conditions are good and prey is plentiful, predators are plentiful; but when the prey is scarce, the predator must move to another area or starve. In this way



In forest areas where undergrowth has been eliminated by a mature tree canopy, the practice of clear cutting can provide openings and an interspersed cover needed by wildlife. The clear cut should not be too large, however, and mast-producing trees should be left.

Photo by Aaron Pass

Wildlife biologist Frank Parrish and Arthur Harper check a food plot in a forest area. These plantings can be placed along firebreaks, abandoned logging roads, and other small clearings in wooded areas.

Photo by John Culler



nature prevents the overharvest of wildlife by natural predation.

Field research shows that in favorable habitat, natural predation has little effect on wildlife populations. It is in fact necessary to maintain a healthy population by removing the sick and weak individuals of any given species. Predator control is not the answer to an increased small game population.

Stocking, like predator control, is not a very good way to bolster small game populations. Because of the rapid breeding potential of this type of wildlife, they can restock themselves in adjacent areas which have the proper habitat. This means that if quail and rabbits are not already present in an area, there is a pretty good reason why they are not and stocked animals would disappear in short order, due to the same reasons.

The broad effects of changing land use patterns and their effect on game populations is one of the major reasons for the decline of quail and rabbit hunting in Georgia in the past few decades. These two species are often referred to as farm game because they thrive in the presence of agriculture, particularly "small farm" agriculture. The early years of this century saw a set of conditions which constituted a rabbit and quail paradise.

Small fields and openings, separated by brushy fence rows and fallow areas provided exactly the type of habitat that favored these two species. These were the "good old days" when Georgia was the undisputed quail capital of the world, and all the fabulous legends were born. Modern times have seen a rural to urban shift in population, and

the remaining agriculture is big business. Large scale agriculture, utilizing the principles of clean farming, and large tracts of one crop plantings, has done away with much of the field edge habitat that rabbit and quail formerly used for cover. Other land, not utilized as cropland has been put into pasture or devoted to timber production, neither of which is beneficial to the farm game species. The timber land is, in many cases, expanding the habitat of the forest game such as deer, turkey and squirrel where it is being managed with wildlife values in mind.

Since most public land is in forest cover, farm game is pretty well restricted to private land, and it is on this private land that game production can be increased by land management practices which take wildlife needs into account.

The planting of wildlife food and cover crops improves the habitat, and is the best way to increase the numbers of game birds and animals on a piece of land. This practice improves the carrying capacity of the area, and quail and rabbits will quickly establish themselves in this new habitat.

As an example of this, last fall I had the pleasure to bag two rabbits, and see two others in an area that had formerly produced only one or two. The difference was that a half an acre had been planted in millet to attract doves and the rabbits had also developed a taste for it. I shared my hunting area with a large redtail hawk, and his competition did not bother me a bit. I seriously doubt that I made him go hungry either, since he dines mostly on field mice.

The dove field is perhaps the best example of improved hunting through land management. A plot that has properly fertilized and sowed or planted in brown top millet produces a hay harvest, and later on some dove shooting. This is a food plot, and since doves will fly a long way from cover to food, lack of natural cover will not prevent use of such a food plot by doves.

Quail, however, demand their services in close proximity to cover. For this reason a very large field with waste grain or seed in the middle doesn't help quail very much. Plantings should be laid out in long narrow strips or ovals no more than 30 feet from cover. This will allow both the hunter and the quail a fair chance. Quail are mainly seed eaters and plantings of the lespedezas, peas, sorghum or millet will be attractive to them. One 1/4 acre plot per 5 to 10 acres of quail habitat is sufficient. If the land is in woods, one to two acres is a good size.

Ducks like doves are migratory and there are Federal regulations which pertain to baiting that should be carefully observed. A harvested grain field adjacent to a flooded river or swamped pond is very attractive to fowl, and can furnish good shooting. The wood duck is one of the few which nest locally and their numbers in an area can be increased by providing nesting boxes for them. These should be placed in and around swamps, places of increase in beaver ponds, have contributed greatly to bringing this species back from the edge of extinction.

Wildlife biologists from the Game and Fish Commission are willing to visit the landowner and offer advice on a small game management program.

More information on small game management on private land can be obtained through county agents, and the Extension Wildlife Specialist of the Cooperative Extension Service.

The management of land for increased game production is not done for the benefit of the hunter. The improvements in habitat help many forms of wildlife as well, and anyone who enjoys nature should give some thought to providing for wildlife. These measures usually do not cut into the production of either agriculture or forestry, and they do not demand massive labors. They do result in an enrichment of wildlife values, and a better environment.

It's true that the good old days are gone, and so are the conditions that produced them. Small game hunting, though, is not necessarily gone. The needs of this type of wildlife are taken into account.



Draining of the large river swamps in the south has caused a habitat shortage for the wood duck, which nests in hollow trees. Erecting nest boxes around swampy areas and beaver ponds is a good conservation measure.

Photo by John Culler

ie OUTDOOR WORLD



ROUT STAMP FOR '71

In Georgia trout fishermen open the 1971 season April 1, they may also be opening a new dimension of im-

mountain trout fishing in the state. This is for anglers fishing for mountain trout who are required to have a special trout stamp costing \$2.25, as well as a state fishing license. The stamp is intended to offset the rising cost of the mountain trout management program, and provide additional money for needed improvements to meet the growing demand for mountain trout fishing.

The demand for mountain trout fishing has been increasing steadily, and this increased pressure is met by the quality of trout fishing will go up. More trout are needed for stocking at present both trout hatcheries to maximum production. Since further expansion at the present sites is not possible, a new hatchery needs to be built. The trout stamp will provide the revenue for constructing this hatchery, which will annually produce about 2 million fish. These additional fish could allow the full potential of the mountain trout fishery to be realized.

More fish will be stocked in streams that are now on the stocking list, and the list could be expanded to include more streams. Fisheries biologists have estimated that there are several streams in northwest Georgia which would provide a profit-and-take trout fishing where fish are available. The cold tailrace from north Georgia impoundments such as the Chattahoochee River at Buford Dam, would also benefit from more fish.

"We haven't been able to produce enough trout to realize the full potential of these streams while maintaining all the trout streams in the state," said Kirkland, Chief of Fisheries for

the Game and Fish Commission. "The Chattahoochee River, in particular, could handle many more fish than we can now stock in it, and could provide trout fishing inside metropolitan Atlanta."

More fish are needed to fully develop trout fisheries in the cold water lakes in the state. Mountain trout are now stocked in 17 reservoirs in north Georgia, and some very large fish are taken annually. Incidentally, since there are other fish species present in these lakes, anglers are not required to buy a trout stamp unless they intend to keep any trout caught.

The trout stamp will also benefit the native trout fishery in the mountains. An effort is being made to retain as many native trout streams in a natural condition to maintain this high quality fishing. This will be accomplished primarily by restricting the stocking efforts to the larger and more accessible streams, relieving the pressure on those streams which produce wild trout.

Many native trout streams have been abused by improper land use practices on their banks. The trout stamp will provide funds for the reclamation and renovation of these streams, and the restocking of a wild strain of brook trout wherever possible.

The idea of a special mountain trout stamp to provide funds for trout management has been tried with excellent results in several other states, and it became Georgia law in early March. It is felt by The Commission that a trout stamp is the fairest and best method of providing additional revenue to improve the trout management program and expand Georgia's trout fishery.

—Aaron Pass

Editorial (continued)

SPEAK NOW...

This is not a blanket indictment of all hunters and fishermen, because there are many organized groups which are doing their best to protect your interests, and they need your support. Trout Unlimited, Ducks Unlimited, The Izaak Walton League, and many individual sportsmen's clubs are actively involved in the conservation issue, but are outnumbered and outdone by other groups with better publicity.

It is time now, past time in fact, for the hunter and the fisherman to make his stand and say his piece, or he's going to get crowded off the conservation bandwagon and be lost in the shuffle. Wildlife is the easiest resource to lose "in the shuffle" and it is on wildlife that the hunter and fisherman depend. All the canoeist needs is water, and all the hiker needs is a forest trail, wildlife is nice to have around but not totally necessary. So the man who needs wildlife had best get into the fray and do his part, for no one who shuns the fight has any right to share the spoils.

—Aaron Pass

MOVING?

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State

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Sportsmen Speak...



Letters of general interest will be used as possible. Letters must be brief and to the point. The number of letters received prevents us from using all letters. When several letters on the same subject are received the editors reserve the right to use only those which cover the subject best. Letters should be signed; however, names will be withheld upon request.

SMALL GAME LACKING

I am a trophy deer hunter although I have never killed one but I enjoy it and keep going back every year.

I enjoy other small game too, but we don't have enough rabbit, quail, and grouse in north Georgia to hunt. I believe part of the money should go for stocking rabbit, quail, grouse, turkey and squirrel as well as deer.

The fox in north Georgia is one of the reasons rabbits are so few.

One of my friends and I were hunting last year when we had 3 or 4 inches of snow and every set of rabbit tracks we found, a fox was tracking the rabbits also.

I believe a bounty should be placed on the fox to lower him in number. I believe the fox destroys 3 times the rabbits that man does. I also believe just a little attention should be taken from deer and put on small game. I like to hunt deer, but some people don't, but do enjoy hunting small game.

Rayburn Smith
Ellijay, Georgia

We concur that there is a definite need for more and better small game hunting in the state. The key to increasing small game populations is to increase and maintain good small game habitat, see "Better Habitat for Better Hunting," this issue). Research has shown that stocking and predator control in areas with poor habitat is wasted effort, and in areas with good habitat these measures are generally not necessary.

CRABS AND TURTLES

After having read the letter from Mr. J. H. Edwards concerning the dead turtles at St. Simons and your ridiculous answer, I could not help but comment on an incident I was involved in.

My outboard motors stopped while in the sound near Brunswick and I was towed in by a shrimp boat which was in the process of emptying their nets. The deckhand with a mallet was needlessly killing all of the crabs in the net and throwing them overboard. When asked about this he said everyone did it and I assume that the turtles are handled similarly.

I suggest that the State Game and Fish Commission take steps to put an end to this needless destruction of wildlife.

Jerry Wright, Jr.
Atlanta, Ga.

If we could find a way to stop all law breakers, we'd have done it long ago, and so would have every other law enforcement agency in the world. We do the best we can, and will have to continually improve our enforcement.

MORE BOATING CLASSES

I have just read the article "An Education in Safety" by Aaron Pass, in the February issue. I believe your magazine should be commended for this fine and timely article.

After reading this article I thought your office and your readers might like to know of the existence of the "Flint River Power Squadron" located in Albany, Georgia and a member of 22nd District, U.S.P.S.

Our present piloting class consists of 30 students.

Information on future classes may be obtained from P/C Ben Dowling, Phone 435-8937.

G. C. Bonham
Albany, Ga.

DEER SEASON

In my opinion your magazine is the most informative of all the publications I subscribe to, it has the most information concerning hunting and fishing of any of them.

I am writing to see if it is possible, for you to tell me the opening dates of the 1971 deer seasons, I would also like to see the success of the management areas after this past season. I believe a story concerning each management area individually would be informative and appreciated.

I have lived in Georgia all my life and believe it to be the greatest deer hunting state in the south, this success has to be given to your magazine and the fine staff of the Game and Fish Commission. Best wishes for your continued success.

Tony Simpson
Smyrna, Georgia

The fall hunting seasons will be set in a few weeks. We hope to have the new hunting and fishing regulation booklets published sometime in April. We have done articles on a few of the management areas, and plan to do more in the future. There are enough management areas to keep us in story ideas for quite some time!

DEER POACHERS

In the February issue of Georgia GAME & FISH, letters in Sportsmen Speak referred to deer poachers, and to the true Georgia sportsman. If this illegal killing of deer is not stopped, soon the true sportsman will not be able to enjoy this sport with abundant game much longer. I would like to suggest that concerned hunters get to know their game rangers' number and report all illegal kills to the game law enforcement officers immediately, you will find the officer to be grateful for your help.

I hunt deer in my state of South Carolina and love the sport, believe me I will report anyone night shooting, violating bag limits or killing does during buck season to my conservation officer.

Clem T. Matthews
Simpsonville, S.C.

STREAMS NOT RUINED

In reply to the article "Streams Ruined" I would like to say there are specifications one has to go by before allowing any type of drainage to go into a stream. The pollutants of Wild Hog Creek and Canada Creek took all precautions. Every concerned state commission visited these two areas—took samples of water, had lagoons built and no stones were left unturned. As for Canada Creek no drainage goes into this one from the head of Woody's Lake.

I feel that the State of Georgia will preserve the invaluable assets it has in the mountain streams. Surely the people of Suches, Georgia would not wish anyone to stop visiting our area for stream fishing. This is not undesirable fishing; at the same token take a look at the sewage disposal of

both creeks as well as the growing c livestock.

Mrs. Clyne E. Wo
Suches, Ga.

LIKES STAMPS

I agree with part of your article Stamp in Better Fishing and Hunting the February issue. I approve of the and large game stamps if they will put a way to do something about these people and others that ride the road at night using lights, and give us more for the outside streams.

This is a small county, and everyone knows each other, or is related, so grand jurymen and jury will not take action when anyone is brought in for violation of the game laws. Until the people realize the law is to be obeyed, we never have the game and fish we should.

You speak of a \$10.00 annual and a day permit, or instead use a \$2.25 stamp that allows you to fish every day of the season. Does this indicate that management area streams that are still will be open every day? I hope not.

Increase the license fee, have the stamp and a big game stamp, also have where everyone that trout fishes must have a license and trout stamp regardless of

Henry L. Burrell
Clayton, Georgia

Management streams will still be only on specified days. The difference you won't have to check in or out each day or pay a daily fee. All it will cost you is on management streams or open streams or to catch and keep mountain trout lakes, is the \$2.25 annual mountain stamp.

QUAIL FOR WHO?

Imagine the enthusiasm engendered by Dean Wohlgemuth's open invitation to invited quail hunters of Georgia to join "excellent" hunting of Oakley Woods Management Area! Here is the experience of who responded.

My hunting partner and I left Atlanta the second Saturday after the issue of I-75 beyond Macon resembled opening of deer season. Each vehicle, it became obvious, was being guided by Mr. Wohlgemuth's detailed directions to the hunting dream. The directions were excellent. As we could tell, everyone arrived! With small effort we found a spot where we hoped we were the first in the field plunged in eagerly with anticipation of in the air.

Immediately we were attacked by thirsty briars. Had not we been warned the birds were the reward of a willingness to work the heavy cover? Indeed we had been undaunted by the stabbing pain of implanting themselves in every area, we plunged ahead. We continued to plunge ahead for hours, detouring completely around fellow brave souls and finding dogs who were likewise being torn to pieces by the "rugged terrain." Expecting some comfort, I had worn two pairs of jeans. It was a stroke of luck, for nudity is first upon in the field, and before the day the outer pair was scattered over the rolling hills of middle Georgia.

Any sacrifice is small compared to the joy of finding birds, so how about the "cellent hunting" that had brought us in the first place? When we stopped for lunch after three gruelling hours we had seen two singles, each of which had been wildly out of range. Our own guns remained unfired. However, we had heard an occasional volley from the small army of hunters so we began stopping the vehicles that were roaming the countryside to inquire of

eyed occupants concerning their suc-
Of the twelve or so groups we ques-
not one had found birds. Most re-
ed that their dogs had simply quit.
was one common denominator: an
copy of Georgia GAME & FISH. We
d the occasional shots were simply
killings. After all, what man can stand
while his best friends, both two and
gged, are suffering. From several re-
overheard during these conversations,
re Mr. Wohlgenuth, I would be very
to ascertain before any future ven-
to the field with firearms, if any of
had responded to this article on Oaky

Darrel M. Wilkins
Atlanta, Ga.

can lead a quail hunter to cover, but
n't necessarily assure that he'll find
ids. True enough by late season, birds
more scarce. Some folks find them,
s don't. We wish we could assure every-
full bag everytime they go afield...
e're doing our best. Hope you have
luck next time out. You weren't the
one who responded to the article. We
point out in answer to one telephone
in...the only dogs allowed on Oaky
and most other management areas
inting dogs for quail or grouse. No
dogs are allowed.

Book Review

CREATING THE KENTUCKY RIFLE

William Buchele, George Shum-
Publisher, R. D. 7, York, Pennsyl-
17402 189 pages. \$10.00 cloth-
\$, \$6.50 paperbound.

With the current increase in primi-
weapons hunting, more and more
ers are building their own rifles,
at least considering doing so. Any-
even remotely interested in build-
a muzzle-loading weapon should
this book. This enlarged edition
up to date the standard reference
for the Kentucky rifle builder.
This book does not contain all the
ers; it is unlikely that any single
ne could adequately discuss all the
of such a complex subject. The
beginner will not be able to build
n, accurate, and authentic Ken-
rifle using this book alone as a
e. However, it does give the begin-
a clear enough description of the
s difficulties involved in con-
ting such a gun, and will give him
gh information for him to intelli-
decide whether or not he wants
nterprise such a project. Where suf-
information is not included in
book to enable the beginner to
out some particular phase of con-
on, reference is given to an au-
thoritative work which will contain the
sary information.

Illustrations are both adequate
clear enough to explain construc-
etails. Very helpful also are full-
patterns for both rifle and pistol.
B.W.

Sportsman's Calendar

SPRING TURKEY SEASONS

North Georgia

April 17, 1971 through May 1, 1971, in
the counties of Banks, Chattooga, Dawson,
Fannin, Floyd, Franklin, Gilmer, Gordon,
Habersham, Lumpkin, Murray, Rabun,
Stephens, Towns, Union, Walker, White,
and Whitfield. Bag limit one (1) turkey
gobbler.

April 26 through May 1, 1971, on Blue
Ridge, Chattahoochee, Johns Mountain,
and Burton Management Areas. Bag limit
one (1) turkey gobbler. Permit required;
available at checking station.

Middle Georgia

March 27 through April 24, 1971, in
Wilkes, Lincoln, Taliaferro, Warren, Mc-
Duffie, Columbia, Chattahoochee, Hous-
ton, Marion, Muscogee, Talbot, Twiggs,
Wilkinson, and Stewart counties. Bag limit
one (1) turkey gobbler.

April 12-17, 1971, on the Clark Hill
Management Area. Bag limit one (1) tur-
key gobbler. Permit required; available at
checking station.

April 19-24, 1971, on the Piedmont Na-
tional Wildlife Refuge. Bag limit one (1)
turkey gobbler. Permit required (applica-
tion for permit required prior to March
31, 1971); available from Refuge Man-
ager, Piedmont National Wildlife Refuge,
Round Oak, Georgia 31080.

South Georgia

March 13, 1970-April 17, 1971, in Ben
Hill, Brantley, Coffee, Charlton, Decatur,
Dodge, Pierce, Telfair, Wilcox, Camden,
that portion of Clinch and Echols counties
lying east of U. S. Highway #441 and
south of Georgia Highway #94. Bag limit
two (2) turkey gobblers.

March 22-27, 1971, Bullard Creek Man-
agement Area. Bag limit one (1) turkey
gobbler. Permit required; available at check-
ing station.

REGULATION CHANGES

Lake Worth—Creel limit on bream, 50;
creel limit on bass, 15; minimum size limit
on bass 10 inches.

Sinclair—Minimum limit on bass, 10
inches.

Tobesofkee—Minimum size limit on
bass, 10 inches.

Suwanee River—Minimum size limit on
chain pickerel, 15 inches.

Use of nets or traps of any type, pro-
hibited in rivers and streams.

PUBLIC FISHING AREAS

McDuffie—March 1 through October
31, 1971.

Arrowhead—April 1 through October
31, 1971, Wednesdays, Saturdays, and
Sundays only.

TROUT SEASONS

Open season April 1 through October 2.

Streams closed to fishing: Coleman
River upstream from U. S. Forest Service
Bridge No. 54 (Coleman River Road);
Dicks Creek (Burton Management Area),
entire length inside management area;
Blood Mountain Creek (Chestatee Man-
agement Area), entire length inside man-
agement area.

Bag limit: 8 per day, 8 in possession.

MANAGEMENT STREAM SCHEDULE

Management Area	Stream	May	June	July	August	September
BLUE RIDGE	Jones Creek (Artificial Lures)	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Montgomery	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
	Nimblewill	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Noontootley (Artificial Lures) (Catch and Release)	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Rock Creek	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
CHATTAHOOCHEE	Chattahoochee	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Dukes	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
CHESTATEE	Boggs	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
	Dicks	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Blood Mountain Waters	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed (Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Waters	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed (Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
LAKE BURTON	Dicks	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
	Moccasin	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Wildcat	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
LAKE RUSSELL	Middle Broad	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Finney	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Mon., Sept. 6)
WARWOMAN	Saraha	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Walnut Fork and Woods Creek	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Tuckaluge	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
		Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed

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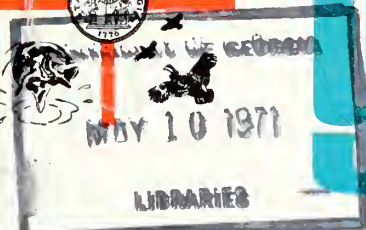




GEORGIA

game & fish

MAY, 1971





GEORGIA

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May 1971

Volume VI

Number 5

CONTENTS

Management Stream Directory	Aaron Pass	1
Businessman Boss	Dean Wohlgemuth	6
The Governor is a Sportsman	Dean Wohlgemuth	7
Toward Better Fishing	Bob Wilson	9
Cane Pole—Can Do!	Marvin Tye	12
Private Paradise	Beverly Clement	14
Sportsmen Speak		16
Outdoor World		16
Sportsman's Calendar		17

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Boating Safety—Common Sense Or Regulation?

A recent tragedy on a Georgia lake when a sudden storm struck during a fishing tournament, capsizing 1 boats at a loss of two lives, generated a lot of comment concerning boating safety. As we enter another boating season, with the Georgia lakes certain to be more crowded than ever before, boat operators need to think about their safety on the water. The fallacy of that common "It can happen to me" attitude was pointed up by the tragedy which wrecked such havoc with tournament fishermen of considerable experience.

Some people have suggested licensing boat operators to make certain that they are trained in boat operation and water safety. This would be a difficult program to implement, as it would put a burden on the individual boat operators and on governmental agencies. Safe enjoyment of our lakes and waterways is more important than convenience however, and this could become a reality if the situation does not improve.

Excellent courses are available on boating safety and piloting throughout the state. Swimming, drown-proofing, and water safety courses are offered almost continually by the American Red Cross and other organizations. All we have to do as water recreationists is to take advantage of the courses and services already offered, and practice what we learn from them, and there will be less need for restrictions and regulations.

Some fishing clubs have now required participation in their tournaments to wear life preservers whenever a boat is in motion. A few fishermen complain that they cannot move around and work on their tackle while wearing a preserver. These fishermen should investigate approved life preservers that have been designed for racing small sailboats—certainly an active sport. Improved life-saving devices are available to suit a wide variety of needs; of course these things cost money, but a single life is many times more valuable than the single dollar cost of tons of such devices.

In order to enjoy safe fun on the water this season, make sure you are properly equipped. Equip yourself with adequate training in addition to devices necessary for safe and enjoyable participation in your favorite water sports. Sure it's fun, but do it right, safely, and with consideration for others, and we will all be better off in the long run.

—Bob Wilson

ON THE COVER: Who can forget their first fishing experiences? Many of us did it all started with a cane pole, a farm pond, and a lot of bream. Many people substitute a fly rod for the cane pole these days, but the excitement is still there if the pond is well managed. For tips on getting the most out of farm ponds read "How to Use Your Pond a Private Paradise," by Beverly Clement on page 14. Photo by Ted Borg.

ON THE BACK COVER: Fisheries biologists, like Larry Smith and Nix hefting a striped bass destined for the Richmond Hill Hatchery, work on a wide variety of projects to improve and maintain Georgia's fishing potential. The careers in conservation series continue this month with Bob Wilson's article "Toward Better Fishing," on page 9. Photo by Ted Borg.

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Some of Georgia's best trout fishing is found in the streams and rivers which flow through the ten wildlife management areas operated by the Game and Fish Commission in the Chattahoochee National Forest. There are 37 major trout streams and many small tributary streams which support trout inside the boundaries of these areas. These streams are managed to provide good quality trout fishing for the state's anglers.

These management areas are located on public land administered by the U.S. Forest Service, and are managed by the Game and Fish Commission for increased wildlife values. Due to the excellent control of these areas by the Commission's law enforcement and technical personnel, the wildlife management areas have better populations of fish and wildlife than other similar areas in the Forest.

The management area streams offer an excellent variety of fishing opportunities for the trout fishermen. There are small, rushing brooks with heavy streamside cover where ultra-light spinning tackle is the best choice, and there are larger more open streams, which furnish enjoyable fly casting. Artificial-only streams are provided for the purist, while other areas are open to bait fishing (with the exception of minnows, which are illegal on all management area streams). Each management area has at least one stream devoted to wild trout fishing where no hatchery fish are stocked, providing a high quality fishing experience to the dedicated trout fisherman. There is also at least one stream on each area where the natural production is supplemented by stockings of catchable size trout during the fishing season.

In past seasons there was a charge of \$1 per day to fish most of the managed streams; however, this year a trout stamp is required for all mountain trout fishing. This stamp will cost \$2.25, and it enables one to fish any managed stream on open days at no extra charge.

This stream directory has been compiled to assist fishermen who might be thinking of trying some of the management streams this season. Each of the major streams on each wildlife management area is catalogued as to general

Photo by Ted Borg



Noontootley Creek, on the Blue Ridge Management Area, provides some top-notch wild trout fishing. It is managed as an artificial-only, catch-and-release stream, and no hatchery trout are stocked.

stream characteristics, predominate trout species, access to the stream, and any special regulations which might be in effect. It is hoped that this information will give the fishermen a fair idea of what to expect on these managed streams.

Warwoman Area

The Warwoman area is characterized by steep mountainsides, deep gorges, and generally rough terrain. The streams on Warwoman are small and fast flowing due to the steep gradient. They offer rugged fishing conditions, but have good populations of wild trout.

Sarabs Creek has the best access from a parallel road on its middle section. The headwaters and lower section have no road and the terrain is rough. This small to medium sized stream is stocked with rainbow trout in the accessible section, with some wild trout present its entire length. For open days check the Management Stream Schedule.

Walnut Fork and Hoods Creeks are

both small and hard to fish. They receive light stocking of rainbows, with wild browns and rainbows present. Brook trout are present in the headwaters sections. These streams have good foot access from parallel logging trails, but road access is poor. A creel census is being carried out on these two streams and fishermen are required to leave their licenses at the checking station before starting to fish. The licenses will be returned when the fishermen check out and report their catch. For open days check the Management Stream Schedule.

Tuckaluge Creek is closed for the 1971 season. It will be renovated and restocked with wild brook, brown and rainbow trout.

Finney Creek is managed for wild trout fishing only, and it receives no stocked fish. Wild rainbow and brook trout are the principal species found in Finney. This small stream has only foot access through very rugged terrain. For open days check Management Stream Schedule.

Coleman River Area

The Coleman River Area borders the North Carolina line and is the northernmost wildlife management area. The terrain is extremely mountainous and rugged, but the area offers good fishing for wild trout in isolated surroundings.

The Coleman River is managed for

wild trout fishing, and no stocking is done. The stream is open during the general trout season, April 1 through October 2. Fishing is restricted to artificial lures from the Coleman's junction with the Tallulah River upstream 2.2 miles to a designated point. Rainbow and brown trout must be ten inches long, and brook trout at least seven inches to be kept on the Coleman. The river is a medium size stream with some areas open enough for limited fly fishing. Caution should be exercised when fishing this stream due to some extremely rugged stretches on the lower section. The Coleman River will be closed during the 1971 season above U.S. Forest Service Bridge No. 54 for renovation.

Tate Branch and Mill Creek will be closed during the 1971 season for renovation and reclamation as wild brook trout fisheries.

Swallow Creek Area

This rugged area has only one accessible stream, which is open during the general trout season, April 1 through October 2. Swallow Creek is a small stream and receives a light stocking of rainbow trout. This stream is brushy and consists mostly of fast water with few pools. At the present time the stream is extremely silty due to logging operations in the watershed. Road access is good.

Rock Creek also on the Blue Ridge Area, is one of the most popular managed streams, and it is heavily stocked with rainbow trout. There is good road access to Rock Creek and there are two Forest Service campgrounds on the stream.

Photo by Ted Ferguson



Lake Burton Area

The Lake Burton area is a moderate-mountainous area with medium size streams. It is one of the older management areas and its streams are well known.

Dicks Creek will be closed during the 1971 season for renovation and restocking to a wild brook and rainbow fishery. Moccasin Creek is managed for wild trout fishing, and receives no stocked fish. This stream is medium to small in the headwaters section, and flows through very rough terrain. Wild rainbow, brown and brook trout are all present in sections of this creek. The lower section on Moccasin Creek are closed to fishing, but offer good foot access at all times. For open days, check the Management Stream Schedule.

Wildcat Creek is heavily stocked with rainbow trout, and some wild browns are present. The stream is fairly open in some brushy sections. Access to Wildcat Creek is excellent from U.S. Forest Service Road No. 26. For open days check the Management Stream Schedule.

Chattahoochee Area

This area is basically similar to the Lake Burton area in terrain, except that the Chattahoochee area contains a major stream.

The Chattahoochee River is fairly open on the management area and is open enough for enjoyable fly casting. The river is stocked with rainbow trout and some wild browns are present. Between the checking station there is excellent access to the river from U.S. Forest Service Road No. 52. Above the checking station there is good foot access along logging roads. For open days on this stream check the Management Stream Schedule.

Low Gap and Jasus Creeks are tributaries of the Chattahoochee. They are medium size streams and are stocked. Regulations are the same as for the Chattahoochee.

Spoilcane Creek forms a portion of the eastern boundary of the Chattahoochee Management area. This medium size stream is open during the general trout season, April 1 through October 2. It is lightly stocked with rainbow trout and supports some wild browns. The streamside cover is open enough for limited fly fishing. Spoilcane flows alongside Ga. #75 and access is excellent.

Dukes Creek is managed for wild trout fishing, and does not receive any stocked fish. There are rainbow in the upper section and brook in the headwaters of this small to medium stream. Access to this stream is limited except in the lower section which parallels the hard Russell Highway. For open days check the Management Stream Schedule.



Photo by Ted Borg

Dodd, Davis, and Dover Creeks are small and brushy tributaries to Dukes Creek, and they are not stocked. They are under the same regulations as Dukes.

Chestatee Area

Waters Creek is managed for wild trout fishing and is not stocked. Wild rainbows and browns are the primary species with some brook on the headwaters. The stream is small to medium size, but streamside cover is open enough for limited fly fishing. There is good foot access to the creek from a parallel trail. For open dates check the Management Stream Regulations.

Dicks Creek is a medium size, open stream which receives moderate to heavy stocking. The stream has mostly stocked rainbow, but supports some wild browns. This creek has very good access from a parallel road. For open days check the Management Stream Schedule.

Blood Mountain Creek is a tributary of Dicks and will be closed during 1971 for reclamation as a wild brown stream.

Boggs Creek receives moderate stockings of rainbow and holds some wild browns. This creek is of medium size and is fairly open. There is excellent access from a parallel road. For open

The Coleman River is managed as a wild trout stream and receives no stocked fish. The lower section is artificial-only, and there is a minimum size limit of 10 inches on rainbow and brown and 7 inches on brook trout taken from the river.

dates check the Management Stream Schedule.

Chestatee River (including Frog-town Creek) is open during the general trout season, April 1 through October 2. This is a medium to small stream on the management area. It is stocked with rainbow and has some wild browns. There is excellent access from Ga. #129 which parallels the stream.

Dockery Lake, located near Woody Gap, is heavily stocked with rainbow trout. This three acre lake has a Forest Service Campground, and is open during the general trout season, April 1 through October 2.

Blue Ridge Area (upper section)

Blue Ridge is one of the oldest management areas, and its trout streams are well known.

Rock Creek is the most popular management area stream, and receives the heaviest fishing pressure. This stream is heavily stocked with rainbow trout, and an occasional wild brown turns up. The stream is medium to large and is open enough for good fly fishing. This stream has excellent access from U.S.

Forest Service Road No. 69 which parallels its entire length. There is also a twelve acre lake which is open on the same days as the creek. For open days check the Management Stream Schedule.

Little Rock Creek is a small, fast flowing creek which is not stocked. It offers brook trout fishing in the headwaters. Mill Creek furnishes the water supply for Chattahoochee National Fish Hatchery and is closed to fishing.

Noontootley Creek is in many ways

the most unique trout stream in the mountains. It is managed as a catch-and-release, artificials-only fishery. Only artificial lures can be used and all trout under 16 inches must be released unharmed. Noontootley is managed as a wild trout stream, and no hatchery fish are stocked. This management program allows the fisherman to experience very high quality wild trout fishing in terms of number of wild fish caught. Rainbow and browns are the primary species. The stream is me-

dium in size and very brushy, and produces an average of two trophy fish per year, usually browns. The lower section is large enough for limited fishing. Noontootley has excellent access from U.S. Forest Road No. 69 which parallels most of this stream. On open days check the Management Stream Schedule.

Blue Ridge Area (lower section)

This area's trout streams make up a portion of the watershed of the Etowah River. They are mostly medium streams with a good ratio of pool

Montgomery Creek is made up of two tributary streams, the West Fork and the East Fork, also known as Black's Creek. This stream is stocked with rainbow trout, and rainbows constitute the primary species. Montgomery is of medium size with reasonably good conditions: some stretches are good enough for fly fishing. The stream has good road access where it is crossed by U.S. Forest Service Road No. 42. For open days check the Management Stream Schedule.

Jones Creek is managed as a wild stream, with fishing mostly for rainbow browns. No fish are stocked in Jones Creek. The stream is of medium size and is open enough for fly casting. The stream is difficult to fish due to the many sections of flat water where the trout are easily spooked. Jones is restricted to artificial lures only and is open on days scheduled in the Management Stream Schedule. It has good road access via bridges on U. S. Forest Service Road No. 42, and foot access along made by fishermen.

Nimblewill Creek receives a regular stocking of rainbow trout each season and some wild brown are present. The stream is small, but has good access from U.S. Forest Service Road No. 28. For open days check the

Photo by Bob Wilson



The Chattahoochee River, on the Chattahoochee Area, is one of the largest of the management area streams; big enough for enjoyable fly casting. The Chattahoochee is well stocked and there is also a good population of wild trout in the river.

The first Saturday of trout season finds a good number of fishermen on Johns Creek on the Johns Mountain Area. This stream is one of several in Northwestern Georgia where the water is cold enough to support stocked trout.

Photo by Aaron





Photo by Ted Borg

Boggs Creek, on the Chestatee Area, has good access and camping areas. This medium size stream is well stocked with rainbow trout.

ent Stream Schedule.

Cohutta Area

is one of the most primitive and accessible areas in the mountains. The streams on Cohutta all have limited access and furnish wild trout fishing.

Jacks River is managed for wild trout fishing, and receives no stocking. The stream holds wild rainbow and browns, and is a fairly large stream. The access is very limited except on the lower portion in the Alaculsy Valley. Jacks River is open during the general trout season, April 1 through October 2.

The Conasauga River is another large trout stream, with stream-bred rainbows and browns. Like the Jacks, the Conasauga has virtually no access except old logging roads which are in poor condition. This stream is open during the general trout season, April 1 through October 2.

Mountaintown Creek is lightly stocked. The predominate species found in this stream is rainbow. Mountaintown is a medium size creek, with an access-only section above the SCS Culture No. 2, as posted. The stream is open during the general trout season, April 1 through October 2.

Conasauga Lake is seventeen acres in size, and is stocked with rainbow trout. It is open from April 1 through October 2.

Johns Mountain Area

This area contains only one trout stream, Johns Creek. This stream is of medium size and is heavily stocked with

rainbow trout. Excellent access to Johns Creek is afforded by U.S. Forest Service Road No. 231 which parallels the stream. It is open during the general trout season, April 1 through October 2.

Lake Russell Area

The middle Fork of the Broad River is the only trout stream on this area. This medium size stream is below the natural trout area and is managed for put-and-take fishing. It is heavily stocked with rainbow and has good access from U.S. Forest Service Road No. 87. For open days check the Management Stream Schedule.

Special Regulations On Managed Streams

The fishing hours on management area streams are from 30 minutes before sunrise until 30 minutes after sunset. Checking in and checking out is not required on any managed trout streams except those on which a creel census is being conducted.

Live bait-fish are prohibited on all management area streams to protect the streams from the accidental establishment of an undesirable species. It is also illegal for anyone fishing an artificial-only stream to have any natural bait in his possession.

For more information on regulations concerning Management area streams, and for directions to the streams listed in this article, see the 1971 *Georgia Trout Regulations* published by the Game and Fish Commission.

The lucky angler's reward for a day spent on one of the management streams. Not every day is this rewarding, of course, but chances are good that the angler will take home some trout as well as pleasant memories.

Photo by Aaron Pass



Meet Your Director

BUSINESSMAN

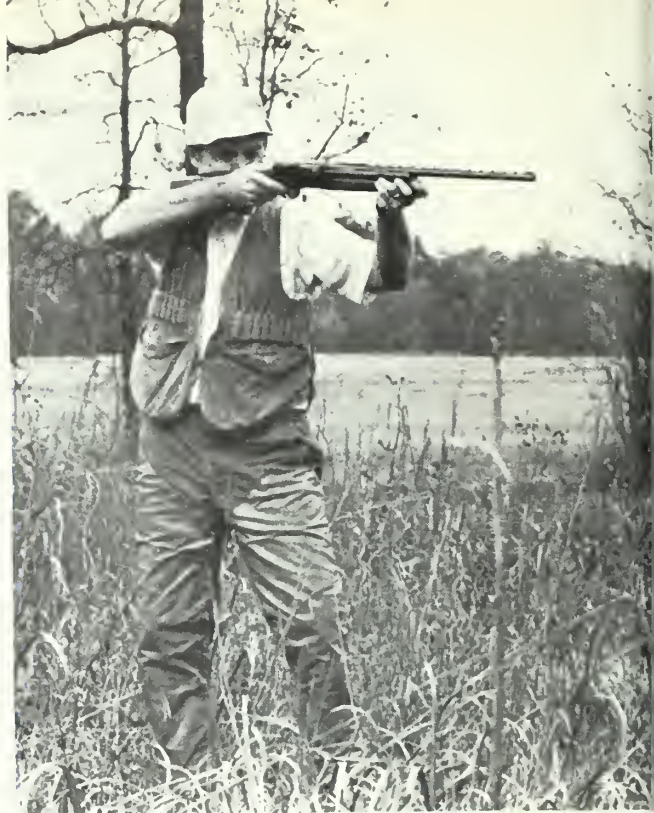
BOSS

By Dean Wohlgemuth

Photos by Ted Borg



A professional administrator, Tanner handles the Commission in a business-like manner.



The Game and Fish Commission's new Director, Joe D. Tanner, finds quail hunting to be his favorite sport. Dove hunting also ranks high on his list of outdoor activities.

Since becoming the State Game and Fish Commission's Director in January, Joe D. Tanner has found himself in a hectic schedule.

As soon as he took the reins, he was thrust into a campaign to gain an increase in hunting and fishing license fees, so that funds would be available to begin a needed effort to improve and expand services of the State Game and Fish Commission.

Though he has no background in politics — "I never thought I'd ever be involved in government or politics in any way, but here I am"—Tanner showed he had the ability he needs to work in cooperation with the legislature. The Department gained an overwhelming victory in the passage of the increase.

Tanner does things in a business-like way. His experience is in business administration. He had been manager of the Sumter Electric Membership Corporation in Americus, a rural electric utility which services 11 counties.

His solid background in the field of administration is his strong point in taking over the department. Though a lifelong ardent sportsman, he admits "I am not a professional biologist, but I am a professional administrator. I feel

the position calls for an administrator."

Tanner pointed out that he feels the Department now has many highly qualified persons on the staff. "I intend to let these experts do their work. I will listen to them and allow them the necessary latitude to achieve the things they have the capability of doing."

The young (33-year-old) native of Twin City, Georgia, sees the job as a challenge, one he is eager to meet. "I feel there is room for considerable improvement in the services provided by the Department. We will see to it that the Georgia sportsman will get a dollar's value for every dollar he spends on his hunting and fishing licenses."

Himself an avid quail hunter, Tanner hopes to see major improvements in small game management around the state. One of his major goals is to provide more public hunting for small game hunters.

He also intends to make sweeping improvements in the law enforcement division. This will be done primarily through an intensive training program.

Tanner attended Emanuel County Institute in his home town, then later attended the University of Georgia majoring in general business. He has also participated in a number of com-

munity development and environmental short courses at the University of Georgia and the Georgia Institute of Technology. He was a member of the Americus Rotary Club, the Chamber of Commerce and Jaycees last year.

An outdoorsman since youth, Tanner likes to train his own bird dogs. He puts dove hunting close to his love for quail hunting. He enjoys fishing as well as fishing, and intends to initiate a much stronger water sports program in the Department.

Approaching his new position in a well-organized manner of a business executive, Tanner is initiating a planning group within the department only for long range plans but term studies to help both immediate and future needs of the Georgia sportsman.

He practices what he preaches during his first two months in the department. He worked a 12-hour day, getting adjusted into the position and handling a heavy workload that crosses his mind each day.

Tanner feels that efficiency in the department can be improved, and the overall conservation effort can be expanded. This is his aim during his tenure as director.

Meet Your Governor

The GOVERNOR is a SPORTSMAN



The busy world of being Governor, especially right at first during the legislative session, left little opportunity for Governor Jimmy Carter to partake of his most-loved sport, quail hunting.

A short break from gubernatorial duties in the form of a day afield eased the pressure of his office and brought a broad smile to the face of Governor Jimmy Carter.



remember the first time I ever
ot a quail. It was by myself hunt-
the woods when I was 10 years
I used to shoot a .410 bolt action
n. I shot a quail and picked it up
an home with it to show to my
Daddy looked at the quail and
while he said 'where's your gun?'
I thrown my gun down in the
It took us three days to find it!"
Georgia's new Governor may not
at excited about each bird that
s nowadays, but he still has a
interest in the sport of quail
g.
ice then (when he shot his first
except for the time I've been in
avy, I hunted every time I got a
e," Governor Jimmy Carter told
E & FISH Magazine in an ex-
interview. "I hunt mostly on
own farm, generally late in the
oon just for an hour or two. Since
n campaigning, though I haven't
el as much as in the past. This
ve been three or four times."
Governor was born on a farm, so
ing was available to him . . . and
ok the opportunity, until he began
1 year stretch in the Navy.
ived in a swamp and I used to
or whatever the season permitted

. . . rabbit, squirrel, coon, possum and
fox. But I think the main thing that I
love to hunt is quail, and I always have
been.

"When I started running for Gov-
ernor four years ago I had three bird
dogs, but now I've gotten rid of all but
one," the Governor said.

As time allows, he'll go on one or
two dove shoots a year. "I don't hunt
deer and never have been turkey hunt-
ing, but I'd like to go on a turkey hunt
sometime."

The Governor's fishing is mostly
limited to natural creeks in his home
area. "Kinchafoonce Creek is the south-
ern border of my own farm and Chcc-
tawhatchee Creek runs right through
some of my land.

With this kind of interest in hunting
and fishing, the Governor intends to
see some improvement in wildlife con-
servation in his state. "One of the things
I'd like to see the Game and Fish De-
partment do is to analyze and com-
pletely restock the natural creeks in our
state with redbellies or bream and large-
mouth bass and whatever other species
of fish that are suited for that particular
habitat. I think we need to have a con-
certed effort. That would help more
people than anything I know and it

wouldn't take very much management
afterwards.

"I'd like very much to see our creeks
and our swamps stay in a natural state
as much as possible, and I'm doing all
I can as Governor—particularly work-
ing in Washington—to reduce the need
for channeling of streams.

"I think that the way to get to it is
to eliminate the federal requirements
which make it necessary to channel a
stream in order to justify economically
a soil and water conservation district
project. I think we do need the soil
and water conservation people to con-
tinue as they have for several decades to
play a leading role in the conservation
of soil, water, woodlands, streams, even
game and fish—they ought not to be
criticized. But it's important that we
eliminate the necessity for them to chan-

nel streams in order to get approval of a project.

"We need to have a heavier credit factor assigned to both the flood control and also fresh water for cities. In addition to that, I think we need to establish a very strong credit factor economically for recreation, hunting and fishing, and enjoying the natural habitat of a swamp. This is going to require considerable effort on the part of conservationists and myself and also I think we might get the soil and water conservation district personnel to agree with this if it will permit them to go ahead and build the lakes we need in Georgia and still avoid having to channelize the streams below the dams.

The Governor feels there needs to be an aggressive effort made also to work closely with small farmers. "I think we need to establish a series of short courses and seminars all around the state—during the off seasons as the Game and Fish personnel have time—perhaps with an organized presentation of slides and movies to encourage farmers to improve the game populations on their own farms. This is the cheapest way to do it and I think it would give farmers a major additional source of income. If they have adequate game population they can either conduct hunting trips themselves or lease their lands to those in the cities who are eager for a place to hunt.

"I have, as you know, spent a large part of my adult life in the Navy—11 years—and I'm particularly interested in the coastal regions. I've spent three or four days on Sapelo Island and visited the refuge there. I've been very closely associated with those who own Cumberland Island. I am also very interested in a personal way in the shrimp industry and I think the Game and Fish Department itself through a renewed effort on the part of the biologists can emphasize basic and applied research, learn the breeding habits and the growing habits of shrimp, shad, oysters, and other shellfish so that we can more effectively encourage the production of salt water commercial fishing in areas. I'd like to see a renewed interest placed on this. This is a matter that is of great interest to all Georgians.

"I think the ease of passing an increase in hunting and fishing licenses with the widespread support of those who are going to pay them is an indication that Georgians are intensely interested in seeing an expanded role for the Game and Fish Department.

One other point I'd like to make is that there has to be in Georgia a close working relationship between those that are interested in all means of utilizing the natural resources. This would include, I think, the Game and Fish, parks, recreation, and water conservation.



A good covey rise, and the Governor brings up his gun. He proved himself to excellent wingshot.

vation, air and water pollution, natural areas preservation and others. Where we now have duplications or overlapping functions and in some instances complete omissions of legitimate functions of government, there are opportunities to make Georgia a finer, more enjoyable place to live. This is my direct responsibility and I am going to assume it but I will need the help of all those who are interested in the full and enjoyable utilization of our natural resources. I hope they will participate during this year, particularly in the reorganization of our state government.

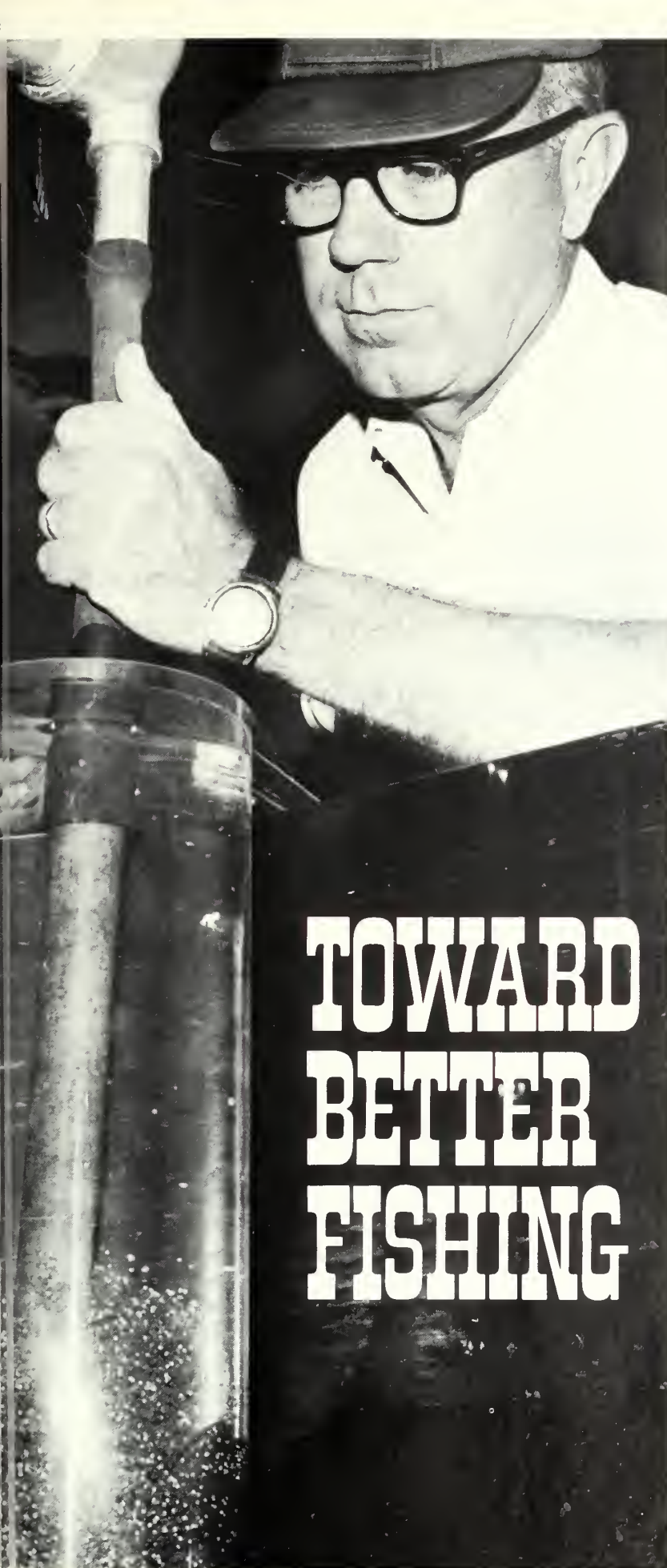
"I look forward to working closely with Joe Tanner and with other personnel of the Game and Fish Department. I have complete confidence in him and I personally think of all the young men I know in Georgia, Joe Tanner is the best qualified administratively. He's got courage and ability and an awareness of the same things I've discussed and of the needs for a stronger role to be played by Game and Fish."

Asked about the relationship of industry and progress to conservation, the

Governor said, "It's got to be possible. I think that industry is essential around to the realization that one of the best ways to attract and hold qualified personnel that will guarantee the success of their particular industry is to provide those top management people and others with an enjoyable way to spend their off duty hours.

"If I were a design engineer or flight personnel manager, I would rather work in a place like Brunswick, Waycross, Valdosta, Macon, or Columbus if my home community then provided an opportunity for hunting, fishing and enjoying the outdoors.

"If there is a conflict that exists between industry and conservation, my inclination would be to favor outdoor management in order to resolve the difficulty because the present decisions will have great significance for generations to come. I think that the new realization that we are in danger of destroying the placeable natural resources that God has given us has made us aware of the need of preserving them."



CONSERVATION: A CAREER FOR YOU?

Article III of a Series

By Bob Wilson

Last month's article in this series on conservation careers concerned the game biologist. This is one side of the technical services coin in wildlife conservation. The other side is the fisheries biologist. Just as the game biologist conducts scientific studies in the field of game management, the fisheries biologist carries out similar studies on fish management.

Habitat analysis, life history studies of various species, and the effects of limiting factors such as fishing pressure are the concern of the fisheries biologist. Fisheries biologists recommend season dates, size limits, and creel limits to the Commissioners, who enact them into regulations. A vast range of studies are included under the field of fisheries biologist. He may concentrate his efforts on a single species, or work more generally on cold-water or warm-water species.

The difference between the successful fisherman and one with an empty stringer may be the measure of success of the work of a fisheries biologist. If the biologist has made an accurate analysis of the situation, and his recommendations have been implemented, the fisherman should be able to catch

Fisheries biologists of the Game and Fish Commission will be the ones due thanks as fishermen begin catching striped bass hatched at Richmond Hill and stocked in a number of Georgia lakes.



the fish he is after—if his angling skill is up to par.

Continual studies are important in determining the condition of streams, rivers, ponds, lakes, and even the salt-water fishing areas. Often a study may take long years of work before a conclusion can be drawn from the facts—or the only conclusion may be that no conclusion can really be drawn. Work on a given project may be interrupted by more pressing projects, certain seasonal limitations, lack of necessary funds or equipment, or an endless variety of other distractions. The biologist must be able to return to a project that he has not worked on for a year, one which he may be able to work on only one week of each year, and still make progress towards his goal.

The fisheries biologist must be able to work with people as well as fish. An important function of fisheries biologists in the Georgia Game and Fish Commission is advising farm pond owners on ways of insuring maximum fish production and fishing pleasure from their ponds, following up on citizens' report of water pollution that might endanger the fish population, and investigation and reporting on the causes of fish kills. Reports, complete with charts and tables, take up a great many of the fisheries biologist's hours. Causes must be explained and justified, and periodic progress reports must be made.

The biologist must be able to explain the reasons of pond management (see "A Pond Owner's Guide" elsewhere in this issue) to the pond owner in clear non-technical language. He must be able to

convince the pond owner of the importance of following a pond management program strictly. The biologist must be able to gain the confidence of the people he advises through his sincerity in being of assistance and knowledge of fish management techniques.

In order to prevent possible damage to the fisheries resources, the biologist must quickly check reports of water pollution that might affect the fish. In this duty he must coordinate his efforts and work with other officials and agencies such as the Water Quality Control Board, State Health Department, and the appropriate local officials. Water pollution is often covered through fish kills, which are reported to the Fisheries Division of the Game and Fish Commission for investigation by the fisheries biologist.

It obviously takes a good deal of technical training to be a fisheries biologist. The basic core of studies would be the same as that given last month to the game biologist, with special emphasis on ichthyology (study of fish), limnology (study of waters), and parasitology (study of parasites). While a bachelor's degree in wildlife management is necessary for the fisheries biologist, he may find a master's degree helpful for advancement or qualification for a higher position that he desires.

Fisheries biologists, just as game biologists, start out with the Georgia Game and Fish Commission as a biologist I at a salary of \$648 per month and progress to Biologist II at \$800 per month with a master's degree or

The biologist's technical background is called upon when a water analysis is necessary in a farm pond study.

The number and type of fish and the various sizes of any certain species tell the trained fisheries biologist about the state of the fish population in a given area.



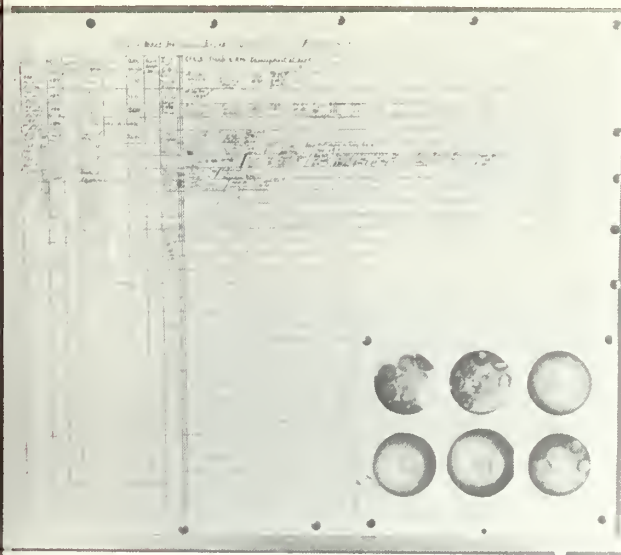


Photo by Bob Wilson

Without accurate record-keeping much of the biologist's work would have little lasting value. Recording data and preparing reports take up a good portion of the biologist's time.

experience. A Biologist III, starting at \$781 per month, is an administrator in a technical field. The Biologist I, and to a lesser degree the Biologist II, coordinate and supervise the work of other biologists and biologist assistants on a number of fisheries management projects.

Perhaps you would like to know specifically what kind of projects a fisheries biologist might work on. A fisheries biologist covers a lot of ground—or more accurately—a lot of water. A few of the major projects that Georgia Game and Fish Commission biologists are currently working on include trout habitat improvement, management of hatcheries, investigation and improvement of Georgia's saltwater fishing, the construction of artificial reefs, an experimental hatching and rearing of striped bass, and research on warmwater streams and rivers.

In Georgia trout streams are being improved under the direction of biologists, in order to offer more abundant and improved trout fishing. Research is also being conducted into the various factors that affect the carrying capacity of various Georgia trout streams. Some of these projects have been described in articles in *GAME & FISH*, and future articles on these projects are planned. (See "Maternity Homes for Trout," September, 1969, *GAME & FISH*.)

With the discovery of a live bottom in marine growth off Sapelo Island, marine fisheries biologists of the Commission began research activities to determine the extent and nature of the live bottom in order to determine which species of fish should be found in the area. While these research activities are in progress, coordination was made with other agencies, and an artificial reef construction program was planned, and is now being obtained. Other artificial reefs in various parts of the country are ef-


fective in providing improved habitat, which in turn provides better fishing. An article on the Sapelo live bottom and the artificial reef program is scheduled for a fall issue of *GAME & FISH*.

Research is also currently going on in an attempt to learn more about the potential for efficiently raising catfish in farm ponds. Special test ponds are being operated under the direction and close supervision of Game and Fish Commission biologists, and facts are being recorded and studied. The latest report on this project appeared as "By a Cat(fish) Whisker," in the May, 1970 issue of *GAME & FISH*.

The striped bass program of the Game and Fish Commission has moved into high gear this year, with the striped bass hatchery at Richmond Hill, near Savannah, becoming fully operational. Striped bass eggs are being incubated

and hatched, and the fingerlings will be stocked in several Georgia lakes. Test stockings of striped bass obtained from the South Carolina hatchery, have indicated that the fish can thrive in some of our lakes, with a growth rate often greater than anticipated. It will be chiefly thanks to fisheries biologists that fishermen in Georgia can try their luck for these fighting fish that normally spend their lives in saltwater habitat, running up rivers only to spawn.

The job of the biologist is not over when the improvements or stockings that he recommends have been made. Periodic samplings and population studies must be made in order to evaluate the relative success of a program. Studies must be made of the type, size and numbers of fish that anglers catch. Analysis of many factors enable the fisheries biologist to determine whether or not a lake or stream has a good balance of the various types of fish desired there, and if the fish community has a healthy mixture of size groups.

Life as a fisheries biologist can be extremely rewarding, and at times it can be extremely frustrating. The biologist can expect to spend a lot of time outdoors doing field work, but he will also have to put in long hours compiling information and preparing reports. The future of fishing is in the hands of the fisheries biologist; it may be an awesome responsibility, but it can be an enjoyable responsibility. 

NEXT MONTH:

Biological Aides

The work of the fisheries biologist covers a wide variety of interesting and rewarding work. This biologist must gather his data underwater.

Photo by Bob Wilson



CANE POLE

The cane pole is an excellent tool for teaching a youngster how to fish. Farley E. Mobley shows Tim Jones how to approach feeding bass from behind a bush so that he won't cast a shadow.



CAN DO!

Tim shows that he learned his lessons well by hauling out a fine bass. With a little help of tackle, he was able to land it.



By Marvin Tye

Photos by Ted Borg

story of the barefoot boy with a cane pole who outfishes the sophisticated city angler with the latest equipment is one of the most worked cliches in fishing literature. This picture is seldom true today. The angler uses electronic depth-finding devices, advanced bait-casting rods and reels. This man has a definite edge when it comes to catching big fish in large numbers of fish.

There are times however, when the cane pole comes into its own. Sometimes bass, crappie and bream will ignore the finest of artificial lures. At times, a worm or minnow fished on a cane pole can often bring results where other methods fail.

It would be safe to estimate that the majority of today's anglers caught their first fish on a cane pole and natural bait. Most of these anglers, this writer included, tend to slight the lowly cane pole. It is a meat fishing device and does not require the skill necessary to fly-casting, bait casting or even spin-casting tackle.

For these very reasons, however, it is useful. What better method exists for teaching a young boy or girl the basics of angling? It is often hard to hold these youngsters' attention, especially if the fishing is slow. You may be probing the depths for a lunker in the mouth and be satisfied if you land one or two big specimens in an hour. Chances are your young son will be bored with this activity, or lack of it. On his first fishing trip, you should take him to a pond that contains a

large population of bluegills. Give him a cane pole, show him how to rig it and help him get the feel of it.

In case you've forgotten, or never used a cane pole, you should use a length of line about the same length as the pole. Attach it to the tip and attach a small worm-baited hook to the other end. Clip a split shot a few inches above the hook and a plastic bobber or cork high enough to allow the bait to sink to the proper depth. Instruct the young angler to set the hook and haul the fish out when the bobber disappears. Then sit back and watch the fun and lend a helping hand when needed.

The young man or young woman who begins fishing in this manner will get plenty of action. As they gradually progress to more advanced forms of angling, they will be able to take an occasional empty stringer in stride. At the beginning, however, plenty of action is important.

Cane pole fishing can be enjoyable for the mature angler who has a cabin on a lake with a plentiful supply of small fish available. It is an interesting way to collect a few panfish for the table without having to put the specialized tackle to work. This saves wear and tear on fishing lines that could be important if a lunker bass is hooked later on. Suppose you use your casting tackle to fish for bluegills or small bass at the boat dock and the line is frayed on submerged rocks or stumps. Unless the frayed line is removed, it could part at a critical moment when that once-in-a-lifetime trophy is hooked later. Such tragedies can be avoided by using the reliable old cane pole.

The pole is also useful as a change of pace. Let's say you have been fishing

all morning with artificial lures, casting out and reeling in. Maybe you catch fish. Maybe you don't. When you get ready to take a break for lunch or a mid-morning snack, haul out the old cane pole. It's relaxing to sit and watch the bobber as you eat. If a fish does strike at this time, you may be able to land it with one hand, if the fish is not too large. If it is a big one, the excitement is worth the interruption of your lunch.

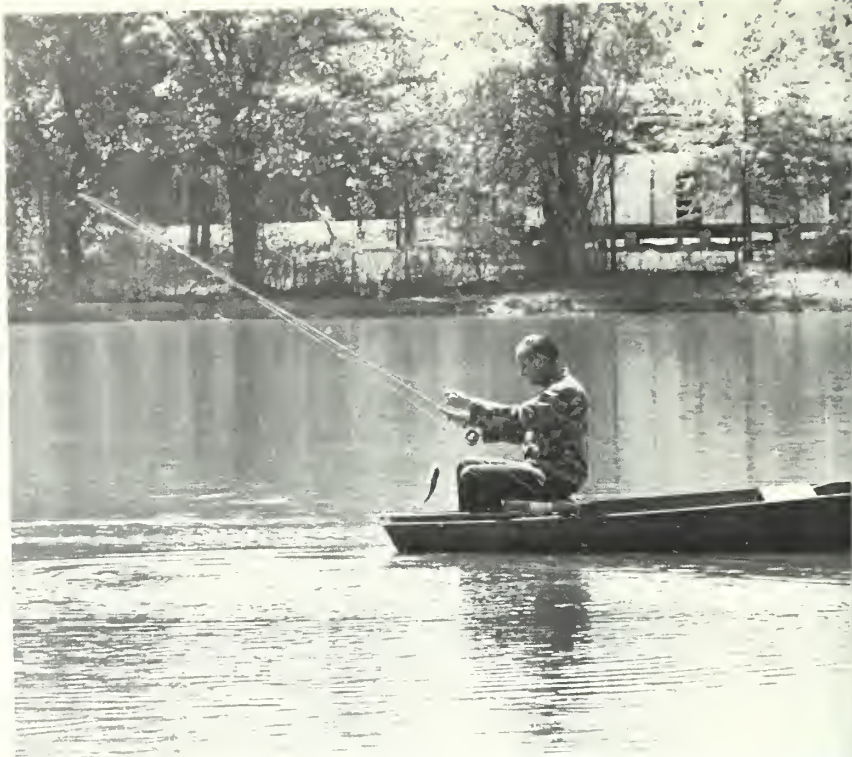
There is an almost forgotten art called skittering or jigger poling. In this operation, the angler uses an artificial lure. It is tied to a relatively short line and jigged up and down in the water or "skittered" on the surface. Often a spoon and pork chunk or spinner is fished in a figure-eight pattern on or near the surface, an action that would be hard to duplicate with any other type of tackle. This method can sometimes be extremely effective on bass and pickerel and can work with smaller panfish if the size of the lure is kept small.

Many fishermen begin fishing with cane poles and graduate to more advanced tackle. At least one fisherman has used a cane pole to acquire a better outfit. Emmett Thomas of Bainbridge used this basic tackle to land a 3 lb. 8 oz. crappie that won first prize in the 1970 big fish contest sponsored by the State Game and Fish Commission. In recognition of his angling ability, he has been presented a brand new bait-casting rod and reel. There are more rewards to this type of fishing than meet the eye. Why not give it a try, or if you've tried it long ago, renew your acquaintance with this fine old method of angling.



At times fishing with cane poles can produce fast action and plenty of strikes. Memories of such activities will stick with the young angler throughout life.

How To Make Your Pond A **PRIVATE PARADISE**



The end result of a well-managed pond is the enjoyment of good fishing.

By Beverly Clement

Photos by Ted Borg

A well-managed pond will provide good fishing and many hours of enjoyment with a minimum of time involved in maintenance; but to adequately manage a pond requires a knowledge of the basic principles.

Correct construction of the pond is important. The Soil Conservation Service Work Unit Technician in each county, and the County Agent will be glad to advise individuals in selecting a pond site and in the proper construction. There are many steps to be followed, but two should be emphasized in particular. The pond must be completely drainable. If a fish population requires removal after a number of years, the pond must be drained, all fish removed, and restocked. It is also very important to keep the edges of the pond cut sharply to a depth of at least two feet. If

this is not done, weeds will always be a problem in shallow water. It is much better to have the edges cut properly, than to have to use a chemical treatment annually. Aquatic weeds interfere with population balance by allowing hiding places for small bream and preventing necessary predation by the bass. This can contribute to an overpopulation of bream.

Prior to stocking the pond with hatchery fish, the water source should be poisoned with rotenone to eliminate all wild fish. The pond should contain only those fish obtained from the hatcheries.

The Game and Fish Commission will stock private ponds with 1000 bream (bluegills and shellcrackers) and 100 largemouth bass per acre. The bream fingerlings are stocked in the late fall or early winter. The largemouth bass fingerlings are stocked the following spring. Channel catfish at the rate of 100 fingerlings per acre are also available, if desired. They are stocked at the same time as the bream. These proportions of predator (bass) to forage (bream) are very important. The pond owner must never add other fish to the pond. In a pond providing good fishing, a "balanced" condition exists. Without the correct ratio of bass, the bream would overpopulate and the food sup-

ply would be inadequate to allow for growth. Therefore, the majority of bream would be less than harvestable size.

One of the most important factors in pond management is a good fertilization program. Fertilization increases the pounds of fish per acre that a pond will support, and fertilized ponds provide much better fishing. Fertilizers release nutrients into the water, increasing the growth of microscopic plants and animals known as plankton. They constitute the food eaten by young fry of all types of fish. Plankton also provides food for insect larvae and water animals that are in turn eaten by the forage fish. Fertilization increases production at the bottom of the food chain, thereby increasing production of harvestable fish. The increase in production from fertilization also provides a shading effect. If the pond edges are properly cut, this shading prevents excessive growth.

The average pond should be fertilized with 40 pounds per acre of 20-5. The first applications should be doubled until a good "bloom" is achieved. Fertilization should be started when the water temperature is about 65°F in the fall. After a bloom is established, the pond should be fertilized only once a year. It is possible to see a shiny oil

s under the water. In many areas
 eorgia, ponds are low in lime. If
 difficult to obtain a good color
 fertilization, the water should be
 ed for lime content. If the addi-
 of lime is recommended, agricul-
 lime should be spread at the rate
 00 pounds per surface acre. This
 d last two to three years. Hydrated
 can also be used at the rate of
 pounds per acre. This is not as ef-
 e as the agricultural lime and
 be added several times a season.
 od management of a fish pond
 includes proper fishing. *No fish*
should be removed from the pond
until after the bass are stocked. No
 should be removed until after they
 spawned. It is recommended that
 ore than 150 pounds per acre of
 be removed during this first year
 fishing. More important, no more
 20 bass per acre should be taken
 g this period. In the following
 it would be wise to return all
 under 10 inches long. For top
 ction, the harvesting of fish should
 read evenly over the fishing season.
 you experience difficulties with the
 gement of a pond, you should call
 ame and Fish Commission. A fish-
 biologist will check the pond and
 recommendations for improved
 gement techniques. Those services
 ded include analysis of water for
 content, weed identification and
 mended controls, general manage-
 checks, determination of the cause
 sh kills, "balance" checks, and
 services.

ring the period of June 15 through
 umber 15, a pond can be seined to
 mine if the fish population is in
 r proportion. Several quadrant
 hauls are made with a 15-foot
 row seine to check reproduction of
 bass and bream. A fisheries biolo-
 can tell a considerable amount from
 ving the types and numbers of fry
 fingerlings in the 15-foot seine
 . To supplement the information
 by the 15-foot seine, one or two
 ant seine hauls are made with a
 ot bag seine. This seine will catch
 larger size groups of bream and
 . The proportion of bass to bream
 rportant. It is also important to find
 a of each inch size group. It is
 ble to tell by seining if the popula-
 is in balance, over-crowded with
 a, bass heavy, contains wild fish,
 s other problems. The biologist will
 s general management principles
 the pond owner, and will make
 mmendations for correcting any
 em which may exist.

c maximum utilization of a fish
 d construct properly, fertilize reg-
 l, stock and harvest correctly, and
 professional help when needed.
 y fishing!



Weeds can be prevented by properly cut edges and adequate fertilization.



Bream spawn in shallow beds. Fishing for bream is excellent where such beds can be located.

Fertilizer is applied in shallow water at the rate of 40 pounds of 20-20-5 per surface acre.



Sportsmen Speak...



Letters of general interest will be used as possible. Letters must be brief and to the point. The number of letters received prevents us from using all letters. When several letters on the same subject are received the editors reserve the right to use only those which cover the subject best. Letters should be signed; however, names will be withheld upon request.

QUAIL FOR US

Your article "Quail for You" in January 1971 issue of GAME & FISH Magazine was excellent and very informative.

We wish to express our thanks and appreciation to the State Game and Fish Commission for the work you are doing in improving all phases of the program. Also, for the co-operation you have received from such large companies as Georgia Kraft, Continental Can and others. This is truly a great service you perform for the sportsmen and hunters of this state. Only a few people realize the amount of work involved in an operation the magnitude of yours.

Our group hunted the Oaky Woods area three times during the past quail season killing a total of 70 birds, and enjoyed every minute of it.

Your service and untiring efforts will truly help keep this state known as "King of the Quail Country" for years to come.

W. E. Barrett, Atlanta	Earl Tolleson, Covington
T. J. Britt, Atlanta	Sanford Tolleson, Covington

TO HAWK KILLERS

This is an open letter to the hunter that killed seventeen hawks while traveling the roads through South Georgia Saturday, January 30th.

Was the thrill of killing these big beautiful hawks so great that you could not pass them up? Using a high powered varmit rifle with telescope sight you could hardly miss. Do you realize by killing these hawks you have allowed at least 34 rats, snakes or chipmunks to live each day. By killing these hawks you may have cut down on quail population next year. These same rats that would have been caught and eaten by hawks you killed will multiply and eat more of the food that quail and other birds would eat; also rats and snakes destroy the eggs of ground nesting birds.

I have been a Taxidermist for many years (33 in all). I have mounted many hawks and other trophies, and never in my 33 years have I found anything in the craws and stomachs of the hawks that I dissected after mounting the skins but rats and snakes.

The next time you place the cross hairs of your rifle on one of these hawks, think, is the thrill of reducing this beautiful bird to a mass of crumpled feathers so great that you cannot pass it up. Think of the rat; this hawk would destroy in a years time before you touch the trigger, think, would not the thrill of shooting a tin can full of water and seeing it disintegrate be just as great a thrill - THINK ABOUT IT!

Charlie E. Fleming

SAFE BOATING

A special note of thanks for the fine U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary articles you published in the February 1971 issue of the GAME & FISH Magazine. We are always happy when the public can be made aware of our program and more especially that we can provide public service functions in the areas of teaching boating safety and assisting hunters, fishermen and pleasure boaters in time of need. The members of the Coast Guard Auxiliary take pride in being prepared to meet and cope with most emergencies that may, from time-to-time arise in boating.

You might be interested in knowing that there are several Auxiliary flotillas throughout the State that are ready and willing to teach anyone interested in knowing more about boat operation and safe boat handling. For anyone interested in obtaining further information on the various courses available — including a special course for hunters and fishermen—they may write or call one of the following Flotilla Commanders located nearest them:

Chester R. Allen, FC 21 (Clark Hill)
1843 Savoy Street
Augusta, Ga. 30904
738-2335

Lester Litesey, FC 23 (Weiss)
230 College St.
Cedartown, Ga. 30125
748-1295

George Bird, FC 26 (Lanier)
3718 Embury Circle
Chamblee, Ga. 30341
938-0354

Paul Hellstrom, FC 10-2
3 Richmond Dr.
Savannah, Ga. 31405
236-0281

Robert Chaney, FC 22 (Allatoona)
5147 Lucile Avenue
Acworth, Ga. 30101
974-6663

Paul Tyner, FC 24 (Lanier)
1235 Niskey Lake Rd., SW
Atlanta, Ga. 30331
349-1528

Howell Brunson, FC 10-1
624 E. 58th St.
Savannah, Ga. 31405
355-0133

Thomas Van Alstyne
2 Court St.
Woodland Track Park
Brunswick, Ga. 31520
264-2252

Again, our thanks to your publication for introducing the public to the Coast Guard Auxiliary.

Philip A. Mazur
Staff Officer-Public
Relations Division II,
District 7 USCGAUX

YOUTH FISHING CONTEST

A new division of the GAME & FISH Magazine fishing contest, for youngsters under 16, has been announced. Prizes will be given in four classes: bass, bream, crappie and trout. Full details will be announced next month.

the outdoor world

Governor Carter Praises Work Of Game & Fish Commission

Governor Jimmy Carter recently presented an award to Representative Howard Rainey of Cordele, chairman of the House Game and Fish Committee in recognition of the Committee's efforts in the passage of House Bill 340.

In accepting the handsome plaque Rainey said, "Proper credit for passage of this bill should be given our supporters in the senate as well to the numerous sportsmen who testified at public hearings and sent letters and telegrams to members of the General Assembly expressing their views."

House Bill 340, signed into law March 3, will raise hunting and fishing license fees \$1.00 each and provide additional revenue through the sale of a big game license for hunting deer, turkey and a trout stamp to be used when fishing for mountain trout. The additional revenue will be used for improved and expanded services by the Game and Fish Commission.

—Marvin

Austell Club Holds Rodeo

The Austell Sportsmen's Club scheduled its annual fishing rodeo Saturday, May 15, at Pine Valley in Powder Springs. Proceeds from the rodeo will be used to provide scholarships for teachers to the Georgia Rural Resources Institute sponsor many conservation organizations in the state, including the Georgia Sports Federation and the Georgia Game and Fish Commission.

First prize in the contest will be a foot Appleby fishing boat. He also has an electronic depth finder and fish signal and an electric trolling motor. The prize will go to the person who catches the largest bass.

Other prizes include electric rods and reels and other fishing items. Five categories have been established for various species of fish.

Tentative plans include a state championship. For information concerning the rodeo, contact Donald Sealey, secretary of Austell Sportsmen's Club, Box 742, Austell, Georgia, telephone 948-1841, extension 70.

—Dean Wohlgenau

Hunting-Fishing Regulations Are Available Request

The 1970-71 Fishing and Hunting Regulations Booklet published by the Game & Fish Commission is now available. It can be received by making request to any of the Commission's regional offices. Copies are also available in a number of sporting goods and dealers across the state. The booklet contains regulations for all hunting except hunting on wildlife management areas in the fall and hunting for migratory game birds. Seasons for these types of hunting are set later in the

hunting and fishing regulations booklet contains a map showing when firearms deer season opens in all parts of the state having an open season. It also explains the new regulations concerning hunting licenses and stamps. Directions to the State designated public fishing areas are contained in the booklet. It answers some of the most frequently asked questions about hunting and fishing in the state.

A separate folder describing trout fishing regulations in detail is also available from the Commission. This folder contains maps of the trout fishing areas in the state including wildlife management areas and the section of the Chatahoochee River below Buford Dam where trout fishing is allowed. Also included in the folder are detailed directions on how to reach the most popular trout fishing streams.

—Marvin Tye

Editor Award

Mr. Morrison, former chief of information and education of the State Game and Fish Commission and former Editor of Georgia GAME & FISH magazine, has been named National Conservationist of the Year by the 2½-million-member National Wildlife Federation. Morrison, now employed by the U.S. Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, was honored by the Federation for his battle against channelization of Georgia streams while employed by the Game and Fish Commission. He particularly campaigned, through writing and speaking, against the probable restriction of fish and wildlife that will result from channelization of the Altamaha River.

As a result of his efforts, the citizens of Georgia and neighboring states were alerted to the tremendous environmental destruction of stream channelization," the organization said.

—Marvin Tye

Sportsman's Calendar

REGULATION CHANGES

Lake Worth—Creel limit on bream, 50; creel limit on bass, 15; minimum size limit on bass 10 inches.

Sinclair—Minimum limit on bass, 10 inches.

Tobesofkee—Minimum size limit on bass, 10 inches.

Suwanee River—Minimum size limit on chain pickerel, 15 inches.

Use of nets or traps of any type, prohibited in rivers and streams.

TROUT SEASONS

Open season April 1 through October 2.

Streams closed to fishing: Coleman River upstream from U. S. Forest Service Bridge No. 54 (Coleman River Road); Dicks Creek (Burton Management Area), entire length inside management area; Blood Mountain Creek (Chestatee Management Area), entire length inside management area.

All trout waters are open for fishing from 30 minutes before sunrise until 30 minutes after sunset.

No night trout fishing is allowed on trout streams open during the regular state trout season. Trout fishing at night on major reservoirs is permitted.

Creel limit: 8 per day, 8 in possession.

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MANAGEMENT STREAM SCHEDULE

Management Area	Stream	May	June	July	August	September
BLUE RIDGE	Jones Creek (Artificial Lures)	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Montgomery	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
	Nimblewill	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Noontootley (Artificial Lures) (Catch and Release)	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
CHATTAAHOOCHEE	Rock Creek	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Chattahoochee	Sat., Sun.	Wed. Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
CHESTATEE	Dukes	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
	Boggs	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
	Dicks	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Blood Mountain Waters	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed (Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
LAKE BURTON	Dicks	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
	Moccasin	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Wildcat	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
LAKE RUSSELL	Middle Broad	Wed. Sat., Sun.	Wed. Sat., Sun.	Wed. Sat., Sun.	Wed. Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Finney	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Mon., Sept. 6)
WARWOMAN	Saraha	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Walnut Fork and Hoods Creek	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Tuckaluge	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed

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CONTENTS

Ultra-Light For Ultra Sport	Aaron Pass	1
Contributions Of A Ranger	Marvin Tye	4
Jack Of All Trades	Charles M. Marshall	7
Paradise That Was	Dick Wood	11
Commissioner Barber	Dean Wohlgemuth	14
Shad Affair	Marvin Tye	15
Outdoor World		16
Sportsmen Speak		17
Sportsman's Calendar		17

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If You Can't Help—Don't Hinder

Many people have been heard to comment something to the effect of, "Yes, it's all well and good to talk about putting an end to pollution and litter, but what can I do about it as an individual?" A number of suggestions have been made by various individuals and groups, and there are even long lists of things to do or not do to help out in the battle against pollution. Most of these however, are of a preventative or passive nature, and something more is called for.

It is certainly a good and commendable thing to not add to the litter around a camping area or on a stream or river bank. It is also true that we need to keep watch on our day-to-day consumption and disposal of goods. Some containers are to be preferred over others which may form permanent litter or long-lasting contamination. Perhaps some products should be avoided altogether because they or their containers are a major source of litter and pollution.

But while all this is good, it seems that many are missing the point. Stopping or limiting our personal pollution as individuals is a fine thing to do but it hardly makes a dent in the overall problem. It is not enough to merely halt the tide of litter and pollution, we must roll it back—and that is going to take more than a passive effort.

As individuals, we can make headway against the tide of litter and pollution by taking active as well as passive action. In addition to doing everything possible to not add to the litter and pollution, we must attack the already existing problem of the litter and pollution of years past.

Instead of just taking your own empty drink cans, bottles, and other rubbish back to be disposed of properly collect up that debris scattered across our landscape at recreation areas by some thoughtless dolt. One individual can clear up the litter pollution of a dozen or more. Sure it takes some effort and time, but then most things are worth the value do.

Some individuals and groups have begun such a course of action. Trout Unlimited encourages its members to "bring back a limit of litter," and issues litter sacks for that purpose. Individual volunteers will gather June 5 for a Chattahoochee River clean-up, with the assistance of the recreation and parks departments of the City of Atlanta, Fulton County, and Cobb County. This is the type of thing that must be done. If you can't help, don't hinder.

—Bob Wilson



ON THE COVER: Biological Aides, Area Managers, and Hatchery Staff, the subject of "Jack of All Trades," by Charles M. Marshall on page 7, do much of the day-to-day work on the research and management programs of the Game and Fish Commission. Photo by Dean Wohlgemuth.

ON THE BACK COVER: "Ultra-Light for Ultra Sport," the title Aaron Pass' article on page 1, explains why more and more fishermen are getting more pure enjoyment out of their sport with this lightweight tackle. Photo by Aaron Pass.

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ULTRA-LIGHT

for ULTRA- SPORT

By Aaron Pass

Photo by Dean Wohlgemuth

Every angler indulging in a day-dream fishing probably pictures himself in his mind's eye hauling a 15-pound bass from a stump-filled cove, or catching a rainbow in excess of 20 inches in a rushing mountain stream. Unfortunately in fishing as in most things, reality usually doesn't measure up to fantasy. Most of us average anglers spend our time catching average size fish, and these days 15-pound bass and 20-inch trout are not average.

It is an interesting rhetorical question as to whether the modern fisherman is fishing for fish or sport but fortunately, most of us no longer directly depend on what we catch for our food supply. It will seem that the enjoyment provided by a day of fishing is at least as important as the weight of the fish at the end of it.

Anglers are ever alert for ways to improve their sport and get more fun out of it. Ultra-light spinning is one method used to stretch the enjoyment of fishing by the use of tackle light enough to allow even small fish to put up a respectable fight. This technique allows plenty of action with the various

panfish and the average trout and bass, which seem to come along much more often than the lunkers.

Ultra-light spinning was introduced into this country in the late 1940's only a short while after conventional spinning tackle began to catch on. Originally the technique was called "hairlining" by American anglers used to the heavier casting and conventional spinning tackle. The small reels, short rods, and low test lines were regarded with misgiving by conservative plug-casters and fly rod men, but spinning was firmly established and UL profited from its big brother's success.

Ultra-light fans were, at first, looked upon as stunts by most anglers, even those using conventional spinning tackle. It just didn't seem realistic to try to seriously fish with two pound test line and those tiny lures. The miniature tackle soon proved itself up to a surprising number of angling needs, and filled a vacant niche in fresh water tackle.

Sometimes there would be a need for the use of lures smaller than could be efficiently cast with regular spinning or casting tackle. Ultra-light equip-

ment allowed the casting of lures as light as 1/20 of an ounce, and this small hardware carried the day when flies were unproductive and the fish were shy of larger lures. Another factor which added to the popularity of ultra-light tackle was the increased sport fishermen got from the small fish that formerly had been unceremoniously hauled in. Anglers looking for more sport were swiftly converted, and ultra-light ranks swelled.

The original ultra-light outfits imported from Europe were pretty delicate rigs indeed, with rods weighing only two or three ounces, reels weighing about seven, and using lines testing under three pounds. Tackle this fine required the utmost skill in casting and playing fish, but it nonetheless became very popular. Gradually the ultra-light in American use has evolved to match this country's fishing situation.

Today, the modern UL outfit will be built around an open face spinning reel weighing about eight to ten ounces. The rod will be from five to six feet long with a slow action to better handle the small lures. Lines commonly used now range from three to six pounds in test strength, since modern processes can produce four pound monofilament of smaller diameter than the two pound lines of a decade before. The use of small diameter lines is integral to the



Photo by Aaron

Photo by Aaron Pass



More and more anglers are turning to ultra-light tackle for increased sport. These fishermen are out after crappie, which are just the right size for the tackle.

This angler has a nice little Coosa bass on the line. This species is abundant in many north Georgia streams and although it seldom exceeds two pounds, it is a great fighter on light tackle.

light concept as the decreased resistance of lines is necessary to cast small lures. The increased care that must be taken with a struggling fish is merely a dividend.

Ultra-light lures are generally copies of conventional spinning lures. They range in weight from as low as 1/20 of an ounce, and the assortment includes plugs, spoons, spinners, and bucktails. These small lures are the key to much of the success UL anglers enjoy, for late in the season it seems they know all the regular lures by trade name and quantity and the mini versions in ultra-light are just the ticket for arousing bored fish. In addition, these small lures can be fished in shallower water than the larger lures, and their light weight causes less water disturbance to spook wary fish. Since its introduction, ultra-light tackle has been used for virtually every type of fresh water fishing, and by some for light salt water work. UL, like all fishing, has its optimum use, and due to its limitations it is more specialized than most. An ultra-light is best suited for fishing for species weighing under ten pounds and if the water is brushy, five pounds is a more reasonable limit. One of the principles of ultra-light fishing is to have more finesse with fish which would be overpowered by conventional tackle. There is no reason to go the other way and let the fish overpower you, so keep the angler's limitations in mind for the most fun.

Trout fishermen in particular were quick to recognize the virtues of ultra-light equipment for their purposes. The ability to delicately present small

lures with a minimum of water disturbance greatly aided the fisherman working spooky fish. The small lures did not run as deep as conventional spinning tackle and were best in shallow streams.

Although UL still retains its stronghold on the trout streams, many other anglers are waking up to its use on the widely distributed warm water species, particularly the panfish. Even large bream and crappie are no match on regular tackle, but taken on an ultra-light rig, they can make a good account of themselves. The slow action of a good ultra-light rod handles bait beautifully and the small lures seem to be made to order for these species.

The increasingly popular white bass is another prime target for the ultra-light enthusiast. This species averages about two to three pounds in weight and has an amazing amount of strength for that size. Hitting a spawning run of white bass in a river will guarantee a light tackle fan plenty of action.

Coosa (redeye) bass are abundant in many north Georgia rivers and streams, and they are excellent fighters on light tackle. Rarely exceeding a pound and a half, this species is often overlooked by anglers, in favor of the more glamorous species. Even the lowly bullhead and small catfish, abundant in many farm ponds, will give an ultra-light outfit a good going over.


In short the ultra-light user has a goodly selection of game fish to go after. And while he probably won't bring in any fish that wring the hand off the scales, you can bet that he had a lot of fun catching those "small" ones. 

Photo by Aaron Pass



The very popular white bass is an excellent choice for UL fans. This fish is well known for its annual spring spawning runs and can be caught on a variety of spoons, spinners and doll flies, all of which come in ultra-light proportions.

CONTRIBUTIONS of A RANGER

By Marvin Tye

Photos by Ted Borg

This young lady seems a little gun shy, but with an able teacher like Marlin Taunton, she should be able to handle the weapon proficiently in a short time. The students use air rifles and shoot into paper targets in front of a protective dirt bank to prevent accidents. Adult supervision is available during all shooting.

"What a refreshing change to have a wildlife ranger in this county concerned with what's good for sportsmen rather than one peeking from behind tree stumps and bush clumps to catch them at what they're doing wrong," begins a letter of commendation in the FREE PRESS, a newspaper published in Thomaston. It commends Ranger Marlin Taunton for his work in a number of projects that benefit the sportsmen in his county and their families.

While the idea of a man "peeking from behind tree stumps and bush clumps" to catch the sportsman in an illegal act is hardly a fair picture of the work of a wildlife ranger, it is the impression that a number of people have. Marlin Taunton is doing a lot to dispel this image. He is a member of a three-man advisory committee to plan a county park program on and around the banks of the Flint River. The committee, which serves in this capacity without pay, is in charge of plans for the Sprewell Overlook Park for which some 400 acres of land have been acquired from



g Cork Company. In addition a launching ramp and a rifle range to be constructed on Georgia Kraft land leased to the county. Campsites, picnic areas and varied facilities are under consideration by the

enthusiastic sportsman himself, likes to hunt and fish whenever the opportunity. For that reason, understands the sportsman's needs and wants to help solve his problems by using some of the fine fishing on the river more easily accessible. He believes that having a public shooting range in the county not only provides a convenient spot for the hunter to take aim and sight in his weapon, but it also eliminates a lot of shooting in areas where it would be unsafe.

The Flint River has excellent fishing for largemouth bass, bream, catfish and Flint River smallmouths, a species found only in the Flint River drainage system. At present, the best way to reach many of the excellent fishing spots is by float trip. With camping facilities and launching sites established along the river, most of these areas can be reached more easily by family groups as well as individuals.

At present five park sites have been developed. A park at the Spewrell Bluff is under construction and already being used by fishermen and their families. The park system, when completed, will place a site about every four miles on the Flint River in Upson County. It would provide easy access to the river and more recreation for the residents of the area as well as tourists. When the Spewrell Bluff Dam is completed and the reservoir filled, a lot of work will be covered with water. At that time, however, the river will be opened up to public use as it never has been before.

In addition to his law enforcement duties and work with the parks program, Mr. Taunton is also active in certain physical education activities at Thurston School. You may think that physical education is a bit out of a wildlife warden's line, but that is not so here. It's unusual to see students at this rural community waiting for their school bus with fishing tackle in hand.

This is due to the imagination of instructor Terry Hadaway. In his opinion, fishing, hunting, archery and target shooting with firearms are sports that can be enjoyed long after graduation. It is no longer feasible to participate in team sports. He believes that more time should be devoted to these activities in schools.

In the spring of 1970 he held the first target shooting classes at Thurston School. He was assisted in teaching fishing by a number of experts from the local area.

Archery is one of the most popular subjects taught in the Thurston School Physical education classes. Interested parents, as well as Georgia Highway Patrolmen and other interested individuals help to instruct the students.



Terry Hadaway sees that his young students learn the proper way to handle firearms. Because the school is in a rural area, trap shooting can be done nearby in safety.



Wildlife Ranger Marlin Taunton, center, is active in a number of projects to help sportsmen in the Thomaston area. Here, he discusses plans for classes in outdoor recreation with Thurston School Principal C. C. Tate and Instructor Terry Hadaway.

The course opened with a two-hour period of introduction to fishing and fishing terminology by Terry Hadaway. Rev. William R. Connie, pastor of the Thomaston Presbyterian Church, and Albert Edmonson presented classes on rod making and bait casting. Ben Miller, district attorney of the Griffin Judicial Circuit, instructed the students on the use of the fly rod. Marlin Taunton showed them how to use a cane pole. At the end of the course the students were taken on a field trip to put their fishing skills to the test.

In the fall of 1970, Hadaway inaugurated a gun safety and shooting class at Thurston. Hadaway opened the session with an introduction to firearms. Bob Coleman, operator of an area sporting goods store, taught care of firearms. Donald Rogers held an hour-long class on safe use of sporting firearms. Rangers Marlin Taunton and Leroy Haekley instructed the students on the subjects of "Do's and Don'ts of Safe and Legal Hunting" and "Safe Handling of Firearms in the Home."

The students were given actual experience in target shooting with air-powered rifles on the school grounds. A range set-up by Daisy Heddon Company was used for this practice. Marlin Taunton again assisted the students, along with a number of the children's parents and State Highway patrol troopers, and other individuals including Tommie Holliman, President of the

Georgia Sportsmen's Federation. This group watched the students closely as they fired and made sure that they handled their weapons safely and avoided any accidents.

Ernie Wilkins of Callaway Gardens taught a class on trap and skeet shooting and supervised the students in shooting with 12, 16, 20, and .410 gauge shotguns. Many of the students said that they enjoyed this phase of the Outdoor Education Program more than any other.

Next on the agenda was a course in archery. A target range was set up on the front lawn of Thurston School with targets made by the students themselves. Marlin, an experienced archer who has taken a number of deer with bow and arrow as well as with firearms, helped to instruct the students in the handling of this weapon. In addition, his wife, Melissa, is a fine shot. Both Marlin and Melissa demonstrated the correct method of shooting. Some of the students cheered for her and urged her to compete with her husband and beat him. She has been active in all phases of the Outdoor Education Program.

Marlin Taunton does a good job of protecting the game and fish resources of his area. In addition he is involved in projects that will help provide more outdoor recreation for his neighbors and insure that their children have the proper knowledge to participate in outdoor sports enthusiastically and safely.

JACK OF ALL TRADES

By Charles M. Marshall

Photos by Ted Borg

Article IV of a Series

Ever wished you worked outdoors where you could hear sounds of nature all around you? The quietness of a fresh snow, the roar of a waterfall, birds stirring as day breaks, or the sounds of a happy bass fisherman after he sets the hook in a hungry, six-pounder—these are sounds which are part of everyday life for a biological aide.

If you have been following this series of conservation career articles, you know the duties of a wildlife ranger, a game biologist, and a fish biologist. Each of these is an interesting career; but the biological aide has an opportunity to work in any of these fields. You may be assigned to help a ranger and assist in tracking down game and fish violators, or some of the many other duties assigned to a ranger. On the other hand, you may work with fisheries or



CONSERVATION: A CAREER FOR YOU?



Area Managers are responsible for the maintenance and operation of the Wildlife Management Areas managed by the Game and Fish Commission. They are part ranger, part forester, and part farm operator.

game management. In other words, this career may involve any or all phases of outdoor game and fish work.

If the applicant chooses to work at a fish hatchery, he will perform such chores as feeding and caring for the fish from tiny fry until they are ready to be released in streams, farm pounds or impoundments. He must have the ability to receive instructions and then work on his own. This involves taking water temperature, oxygen samples, water hardness, cleaning tanks, treating fish for disease, keeping the hatchery in an attractive condition, and, last of all, releasing the final product. In trout hatcheries, this means a catchable fish for some proud fisherman to take home and brag about.

Your interest may be in fish but not a hatchery. Okay, there is a place for you, too. This may be working on a river research study where you will assemble all equipment, such as gill nets, dip nets, boats, motors, trailers, tubs, tables, scales, etc., which are used to take a sample of fish in a stream or reservoir.

This involves setting up a floating net that covers a known area on a slow-moving stream or reservoir. A chemical called rotenone is pumped into the water causing the fish's gills not to function properly. They come to the top of the water where most of them are quickly dipped up and put into tubs for weight and age determination. There is a problem at this point. All fish do not come up or cannot be caught the first day. This means the crew must return the following day, at which time the fish have bloated and are floating on the surface of the water. A fisheries aide really earns his pay on what they call "second day pickups." It separates the men from the boys. Unless you have worked with them, you cannot believe how fast a fish will rot when the temperature is high. Fortunately, this kind of work is not required more than three or four times each year.

So far we have been looking into activities of enforcement and fisheries work. Now let us turn the page to game management and see what this has to offer you.

Biological aides have an important part to play in game management. They are hard-working, outdoor-loving, dedicated individuals who carry out jobs assigned to them by game biologists. The person needs to be a "jack-of-all-trades" because his work is so varied. Some are classified as refuge managers; but during a given year, they may set up and operate a deer checking station, handle enforcement during hunts and use the equipment to pull hunters out of a mudhole or help find them a place to hunt if they are unfamiliar with the area. At times, they are called upon



Hatchery Supervisors keep check on the day-to-day progress of their fish "crop." They also make sure the hatchery equipment and grounds are kept in shape.

in emergencies such as an accident, with in the hunter's family or many circumstances where their two-radio can contact the outside world. During hunting season, he often takes in samples from deer for a research project which biologists may be conducting at several places simultaneously. Of course, this means he must know a great deal about a deer's anatomy to fulfill his need. For instance, he may be removing adrenal glands, ovaries from females, or stomach samples from others. Like the second day pickup of a deer can be a smelly operation. The deer's jaw is removed in many instances to determine the age of the deer. This information is kept along with the date, sex and measurements. These are used to determine many things including the management area and its herd.

After the hunting season is over and the manager has told his hunting friends goodbye for another year, he looks forward to a long rest. But this never happens. There are other things which must be done. Roads must be scraped and repaired after hunters have ploughed them up with jeeps, trucks, motorcycles, cars, automobiles and other kinds of transportation. They travel in every kind of vehicle you can imagine. So help me, if a hunter hit the bushes on a riding lawn mower with the blade removed! If the area has any ponds or swamps, the area manager frequently checks and installs wood duck boxes to encourage these beautiful waterfowl on the area. Or, maybe he will build a pond and then consider nest boxes to supplement other uses of the pond.

Most game management areas have a type of food plots. These, of course, must be planned, planted and managed by the area manager which means he should be familiar with farm management.

Boundary lines must be marked and maintained. Signs must be constructed and replaced (hunters just can't resist taking them down). Trails and roads must be kept open for ease of transportation.

While involved in the above activities, a biologist may call and tell the hunter to trap ten deer and install radios on them or have them available for another research project. This means a man of the hour must make certain that deer traps are baited, set and all deer trapping equipment is available. After a deer is trapped, the next step is to get the trap with the deer. It takes a very good man to go into a dark box-trap with a mad or frightened deer. This is usually accomplished by sliding the feet under one of the drop doors backing into the trap so your rear will be exposed to the deer rather than your head. Once you are inside, the

The Biological Aide working in game management assists in trapping and marking game animals so that their movements can be traced. Here a miniature radio transmitter is placed on a deer by means of a collar.



A Wildlife Technology class studies the spring production of bream and bass young at Baldwin Lake on ABAC campus.



deer is subdued and held until another person can assist in tying him up so that he can be marked with plastic streamers, ear tags or paint. A person doing this type work rapidly learns to wear heavy clothing and not worry about a few scratches and bruises.

If capture is made with the "dart gun," this means working at night. Lights, trucks, guns, heavy cloths, deer crates, drugs and a host of other things need to be assembled, checked, repaired and cleaned for use. This is no easy task and calls for a person with acquired skills as well as a lot of natural ability. You need to be of good temperament to work all day, then trap at night. Your job may be to drive a jeep or truck slowly around an area while two other men are busy with spotlights looking for deer. If you happen to be the gunman, you will approach a deer seeking a shot of about 30 yards or less at the rear of the animal. The large hip muscle is the most logical place to aim the flying syringe. About three minutes after being hit, the animal should show definite reaction to the drug and, consequently, be caught and placed in a recovery box. The hours are long and many times exhausting; but if you are man enough to take it, it is rewarding.

Instead of deer, you could be trapping and banding ducks which means you will be working hip-deep in a swamp or pond taking ducks out of traps and putting bands on their legs and recording data in a log book.

Doves are also trapped and banded throughout the state during summer months. This gives useful information regarding their movements, especially during hunting season when most band returns are made. As you can see, an area manager is a busy man, but the work is interesting because there is so much change from month to month.

If these job descriptions are of interest to you but you have not been trained, you may ask, "How do I get the training?" As most of you know, biologists are trained at many four-year schools in Georgia and our sister states, but a biological aide program was non-existent in this area until about three years ago when a Wildlife Technology Career Program was started at Abraham Baldwin Agricultural College in Tifton, Georgia (see September, 1970 issue of Georgia GAME & FISH). This two-year Associate Degree is designed to meet the needs of assistants for all careers mentioned in this series. Course work includes two law enforcement courses, math, English, speech, history, game management, fish management, farm equipment, natural resources, biology, forestry, surveying and many others which are needed to fully qualify a person to fill these jobs.

So far, all we have covered is what this person does. No doubt, you also are interested in what the job pays, how many jobs are available, etc.

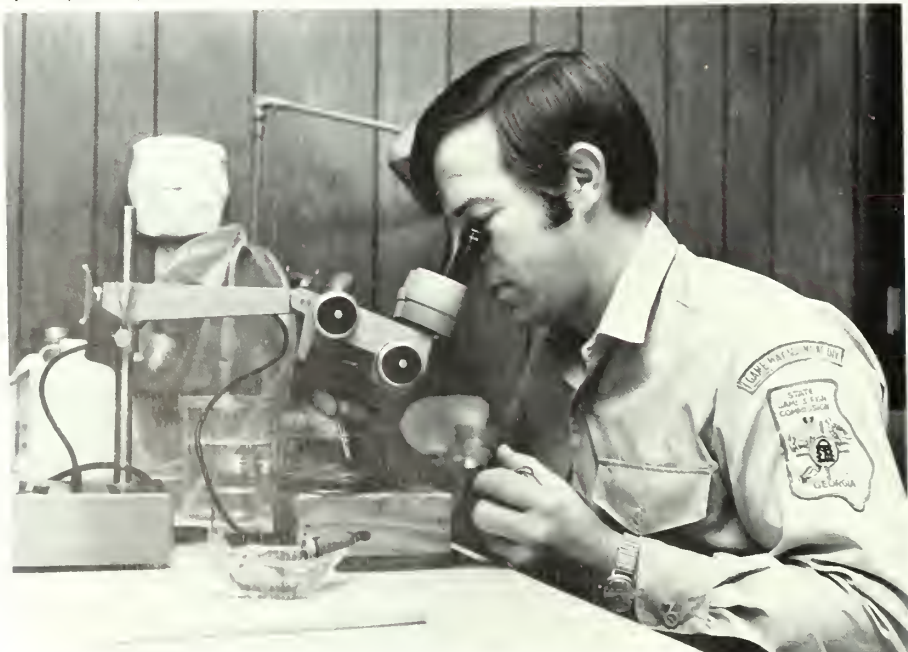
At present, the Georgia Game and

Fish Commission starts a new two-year graduate at a Biologist Aide II level (about \$6,000 a year). A high school graduate with courses in biology, chemistry, or others related to animal care may qualify as a Wildlife Biologist Aide I at a starting salary of \$410 per month. The Biologist Aide is furnished a vehicle and work uniforms. If he chooses enforcement, he also gets a dress uniform and is assigned to work with an experienced ranger in his district.

Now, regarding the number of jobs available. These are somewhat limited with the Georgia Game and Fish Commission; however, other agencies are constantly looking for hard-working individuals who want to stay out in the field as opposed to working in an office. In time, many jobs should be available with paper companies, large landowners, game preserves, and the federal government. If present public interest in ecology, pollution and environmental destruction continues, there is no telling how many good jobs will be open in the future.

If these jobs sound interesting, you should consider one of them as a career. The hours are long and sometimes tiring, but you surely find out where the hunting and fishing spots are located. If an aide is really on the ball, it doesn't take him long to find which deer or cook makes the best biscuits and which has the tastiest liver and onions. This is another fringe benefit of a biological aide.

The part played by a Biological Aide in a game management study may include hours spent peering into a dissecting scope counting and identifying parasites.



Trout Fisher's Paradise That Was

By Dick Wood

Photos by the Author



The Conasauga used to produce trout like these handsome fellows, nine to fifteen inches long and nicely colored. This was a typical catch in the days this story describes, but it couldn't be duplicated these days.

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

Dick Wood, Ringgold, Ga., is semi-retired, but for most of 76 years, he's enjoyed the kind of life most of us today can only dream of.

He was a trapper since youth. He also became interested in photography, and a trapline photo won him a \$50 contest prize and brought him a job offer in advertising. He wrote free-lance articles for trapline and farm publications.

He later became managing editor of FUR NEWS, the forerunner of what is now FUR-FISH-GAME magazine. Dick is one of the oldest members of Outdoor Writers Association of America. He has spent many years as a free-lance photographer and writer. He has hunted, fished and trapped all over the continent. Deer hunting and fishing in Georgia and Tennessee are his main loves these days.



CONASAUGA

Way back in the early '40's I was first introduced to the Conasauga River headwaters by two veteran Tennessee anglers, Monty Lyles and Frank Mos-teller. My first impression was a disappointment. I had heard much about Conasauga as a wilderness trout stream, one of the few in this eastern country that had to be hiked to, and it was a long 2½ mile trail down a mountain-side; and as I learned months and years later, a much, much longer trail climbing out at the end of the day, often carrying a creel limit of ten trout weighing as many pounds.

On that first occasion, we spent the night in sleeping bags rolled out on tarps in the yard of the warden's cabin at Betty's Gap on Grassy Mountain, lulled to sleep by the whippersnappers. They seemed to be all around us; apparently some were perched on the nearby rail fence posts. This area is noted for its rattlesnake population, but why we didn't fear them invading our bed-rolls, I am not quite sure.

After coffee and a hasty breakfast of sausage and buckwheat pancakes,

cooked over coals from an open woods fire, we headed down the trail, so precipitous the first hundred yards that we had to frequently grab a bush to prevent falling. By the same token we grabbed them climbing out to prevent sliding back. Monty and Frank were going light, but I carried a light weight knapsack containing lunch, a small camera, and wading gear to be donned at the stream.

Where the stream crossed the trail apparently had been a ford in long ago logging days, hence was easily wade-able. Above this point, near the headwaters, there was no trail along the bank and the stream was not open enough for pleasurable fly fishing. The trail, now much less precipitous, led downstream, cutting around bends. Every two, three or four miles the old logging road would cross the stream, so we learned to count fords in spacing the fishing areas for each angler.

Frank and I had been fishing together for two or three seasons, mostly in North Carolina's Nantahala area. Now



Atwood Long is shown here creeling a nice Conasauga rainbow. These were all wild fish and plenty tasty.

Monty Lyles is about to release this nice little "eating size" trout on the middle section of the river. In those days an angler could count on catching plenty of fish this size in the course of a day.



Frank, whom I rated a top-hand trout angler, was introducing a stream new to me.

"You follow us down to the second ford and start fishing back. I'll turn Monty loose at the third ford and I'll go on down another mile or so and fish back. Then we'll meet here at No. 1 ford for lunch about noon, and compare notes," Frank had instructed.

I noticed the stream had now widened out and most pools were too deep to wade. Also at this time the water was crystal clear. This indicated to me dry flies should be in order. I didn't need to check the temperature of the water with the thermometer carried in my fishing jacket pocket; in wading the fords I could tell it was amply cold. The banks were brushy, so it was necessary to wade to the middle of the stream below a pool to keep the flies out of the bushes on the back-cast. Most pools could be waded around by keeping near the more shallow bank, but some had to be walked around. I started with a brown bivisible, a dry fly that had proven a killer the fall before on Bald River in the Tellico area. No hits. I changed to two or three other patterns, such as fanwing Royal Coachman, Professor, Forked-Tail, Coachman, then in desperation, a black gnat followed by a white miller. I just could not get up a decent size trout. One or two six inchers were hooked and released. Next I went to my favorite: a wet fly dropper and the Tellico nymph, selecting a size 10 Female Adams for the fly, a combination that has seldom failed to produce for me in streams from Tennessee to Northern Maine, to California and even Alaska. This rig required a tapered leader. The nymph had been tied to my order on a weighted body.

Sometimes larger trout are reluctant to come to the surface, but will strike a sunken nymph. Occasionally, the dropper fly flashing around on the water will attract a second trout, giving the angler a dual thrill trying to net them.

I had trout fished enough to know the type of water trout prefer, to keep out of sight, avoid flashing rod shadows over a pool and avoid drag in a line. Yet with all the skill I could command, at our noon rendezvous I reported, "Not a keeper trout." Frank wouldn't believe it, looked into my creel, and then accused me of having hid 'em out.

Then I had a surprise. My pals dumped their creels. As I recall, Monty had four and Frank had six trout, not one under 10 inches and the largest 13, all in the vivid coloring of stream-raised trout.

After a lunch of sandwich, followed by a banana or apple, Frank said to me, "I'm going to fish thru that stretch you covered this morning. You follow Monty down to the fourth ford and

fish back up-stream. You'd better take the trail by sundown or you won't find it out by dark."

The farther down stream I went the better it looked. There was a minimum of waste water and more pools to be fished from the bank or flat extending into the stream. However, the water was too clear and fishing was tough. I managed to hook a couple of keepers, and at the end of the trip took note that both Monty and I were short of their limits. But the news to me was that Frank had caught a single trout in the stream. He had fished in the forenoon. We had cursed the subject and decided it had been fished out because it was close to the trail.

My second trip to Conasauga was a decided contrast to the first. It rained almost all night but we decided to go anyway. So, near the head of the stream was quite dingy but not swollen enough to prevent wading. As usual we crossed and started fishing down to fish back up-stream. I gave them the top stretch and told to wade the trail's end for my buddies.

For dingy water I always start with a #2 gold finish spinner and an orange body Tellico nymph, sometimes a lead wire weight just above the spinner knot on the leader, about a foot above the lure. I was enjoying a few strikes and had creeled a couple of keepers, when to my disgust, an angler came splashing down the river of the stream, fishing a short line with a cane pole, and to my surprise he had fished half a dozen eating size—eight to ten inch—trout dangling from his line.

By way of greetings, "I see by your catch there is no use for me to go behind you. Using worms or bait. Most "native" anglers use bait.

"Nope, just a Flatfish plug, playing one of these lures in which was originally been a green finish, now it's battered.

After several trips I began to fish the stream, and the best lures to use had at times phenomenal success: a Peck's brown wasp. Female and Royal Coachman usually produce hits, but for some reason the Tellico nymph didn't go over in this stretch. I learned if the stream is crystal clear one might as well take a nap under a shade tree until late in the day, stay hidden under rocks or overhanging banks, perhaps feeding mostly in the evening. Even then the angler will have to fish a pool, with polarization in mind. If it is, he keeps toward the sun, or toward the sky, or against dark bushes if it is dark. If you can see a shadow on top of the water, this means the trout can see you plainly. You need to keep on the bank where you can see the trout in the water. If wearing Polarized glasses,

riably do trout fishing, then just in mind the trout don't have them, keep toward the sun to avoid being

another red letter trip of my Conasauga experience, Frank Mosteller went in from Betty's Gap with intention of hiking at least halfway up the 120 trail, then fish back the mid-section. Hitting a few pools going in the spring clear water, hadn't seen a strike. The river was low and clear; we began to suspect a fruit-trip. However, about mid-morning it rained and before noon was rain-soaked and dogs. We had dived under a protruding rock bluff for shelter. By the time the water was as near muddy as the Conasauga ever gets. We ate our lunch and talked away the time, hoping the stream would clear. At one point Frank said, "I'm going on back up that tributary creek we saw at the top of the mountain. You can take your time and maybe catch a few before reaching the trail."

Returning, back to a tree trunk, I started thumbing thru my flybook and came across a trout tied by a mountain boy from the hammer feathers on a size 6 and eyed hook. Getting out a No. 2 finish spinner, "I'll just try this forrosity" I said to myself. I tied it to the end of straight eight pound line, since the water was almost

had eaten lunch by a deep pool, I cast into, and bingo, a 12 inch trout hit before the lure was more than a foot under the surface. After playing it in and out and netting it, my friend picked up and I started working the pools back upstream, getting a hit, and in almost every pool. Invariably some trout are not securely hooked and shake free. I don't change lures as long as one is drawing strikes. I released trout under eight inches, as marked by the rod handle, and had creeled nine before reaching the last ford below the trail.

The picture is vivid in my mind now. Walking around a stretch of fast moving water over rock ledges, there was a nice overhanging rock wall, an ideal shelter out underneath. I carefully cast into the swift current and let it drift, giving just enough pressure on the rod to keep the lure off the bottom and the spinner working. Usually, spinners are cast upstream, against the current, they can be successfully cast ahead, pulling across the stream, as in this case. The second cast produced a hit and I set the hook instinctively. There was no jump but a swirl in the water and I felt a heavy fish on. Immediately I waded into the tail of the current drawing my net to fend off any fish that would make to go down-

stream, as I knew it would be lost in the series of small waterfalls. After a few minutes and swipes with the net, I finally succeeded in netting what proved to be a 14 inch brown trout. It hadn't jumped a single time, but fought under water like a channel cat or a walleye.


It was now dusk and my creel was full and heavy, and about four miles lay ahead of me, three of them like Jacob's ladder. I was cheered by the thought I would have put one over on my long time fishing pal, who had chosen to fish up the mountain branch.

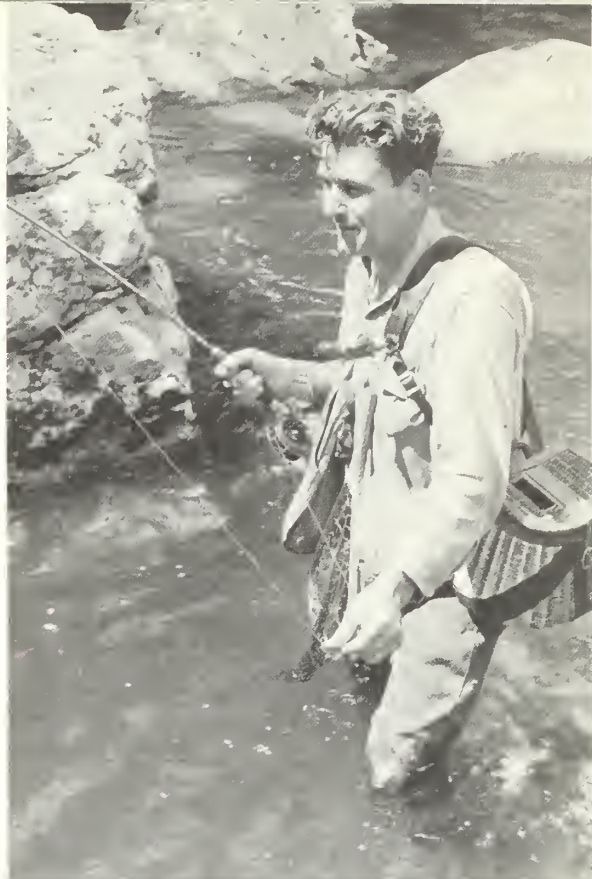
At long last the top was reached, and Frank was sitting in the car waiting.

"Hate to make you feel bad, Frank," I said, dumping my creel of trout onto the grassy bank. "Any trout in that mountain creek?"

For an answer Frank dumped his creel near mine and to my amazement he had a limit of nice size trout, a few brooks, mostly rainbows, beautifully colored.

"No I didn't fish the branch. After I walked about an hour, the stream had cleared enough, so really I was fishing ahead of you all the time. Looks like I overlooked a few, especially that one-eyed brown," the old master said.

Sure enough, on inspection I saw the big brownie was minus one eye. I had to take a lot of kidding from Frank about sneaking up on its blind side. 



Frank Mosteller, who first introduced me to the Conasauga, is shown fishing one of the many rocky stretches on the stream. There was almost no access to the river other than by foot when these trips were made.

Just another creel of fine Conasauga trout taken back in the "good old days" when the river was an angler's paradise.



Meet Your Commissioner

Leo T. Barber, Jr.

By Dean Wohlgemuth

Photos by Ted Borg



Leo T. Barber, Jr., new Second District Commissioner, from Moultrie, examines some of his thousands of color slides of wild flowers. Long a photography enthusiast, he prefers carrying a camera afield rather than a rod or gun.

When he's out hunting for wildlife, the newest member of the board of the Georgia Game and Fish Commission carries a camera rather than a gun.

Leo T. Barber, Jr., of Moultrie, finds the camera to be the tool he uses to find relaxation in the outdoors. Though he's "not a hunter or fisherman, I am a conservationist."

When the Natural Areas Council and the Slash Pine Area Planning and Development Commission conducted an investigation of the Satilla River as a candidate for being a natural area, Barber went along on the three-day float trip to make the pictures for the study.

Barber and his wife, Ann, look over some mounted prints of color photographs he has taken.



He put together a slide show and has used it to speak to several groups on the Satilla. Long interested in photography as a hobby, in recent years his interest in the field is primarily concerned with botanical photography. He has several hundred slides of wild flowers.

Barber is in the construction business. His father founded a construction company quite a few years ago, and along with his brother, Leo Barber grew up in the business and stayed with it. He lives within 100 feet of where he was born. His father still lives in the house next door, that was his birthplace.

Barber was a timekeeper on construction jobs during his school years. After returning from a tour of Army duty, he took a power line construction job for the family firm, and handles largely work of that type now mostly for REA. His brother, Albert, built a school in Moultrie, built several houses there and other buildings in the Moultrie area. Leo's father, Leo T. Barber, Sr., is still the senior member of the firm.

He and his wife Ann, formerly of Dallas, Georgia, have three children. Tom — Leo T. Barber III — is 20, and attends Emory University. Nancy, 14, and Brian, 11, are at home.

Barber's interest in photography goes back to high school days. In the Army, he went through the map reproduction school at Ft. Belvoir, Virginia, in a course that was half photography. After that school he was placed in a combat battalion of the Engineers, and sent to Europe. In France during World War II, he was placed in an infantry group, and was in the group with the first troops to

go to Japan when the war ended in 1945.

Since active duty he has been in the reserves in Moultrie, and was once in the infantry staff with State Sen. Hugh Carter. He is now on mobilization assignment to the Corps of Engineers, Savannah District Office, and holds the rank of lieutenant colonel.

Before service years, he had attended Georgia Tech studying mechanical engineering, then finished his school in civil engineering. Mrs. Barber attended LaGrange College, then graduated from the University of North Carolina with a major in sociology.

The photography hobby proved useful when pictures were needed on construction projects. His children were often models for his hobby. They began looking for some way to pursue his interest in the field, and soon he had more than 1,000 flower slides. His wife became more interested in the hobby, and they attempted to identify the flowers, and she became interested in the field. The two now share the hobby, and frequently show slides to garden club and botanical groups. She identifies flowers and writes the scripts, while he does the photography. He uses a Leica F and a Kodak IIIC camera.

As a member of the Commission, Barber sees as his goals, "the improvement of our natural resources rather than the detrimental modification of them. Also, I'm interested in trying to conserve all our birds and animals in their state, both game and non-game. I want to see development of natural areas."



Moss-draped trees along the Ogeechee's bank form the perfect setting for trolling for the anadromous shad. H. T. Crosby, the angler operating the motor, took both 11th and 12th prizes by entering two fish in the contest.

A REAL SHAD AFFAIR

By Marvin Tye

Photos by the Author

Shad fishing is a sport that is growing in popularity each year. The fish fight hard when hooked, jump frequently and are considered a delicacy. Shad roe is especially prized by gourmets.

The State Game and Fish Commission and the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce have worked together for the past two years to promote a fishing contest called a "Shad Derby." Prizes were awarded for the largest shad

caught by anglers each year on the Ogeechee River.

Almost 300 anglers participated in the 1971 contest. Mrs. Sylvia Driggers of Savannah won first prize with a 6 lb. 3 oz. roe shad. She was awarded a new boat, motor and trailer for her efforts. This prize was contributed by the Savannah Marine Dealers Association.

Competition for the first 10 prizes was close with a matter of ounces separating the winners. The tenth place winner, caught by Howard Hall of Savannah, weighed an even five pounds, one pound and three ounces less than Mrs. Driggers' fish. Earl Stokes of Mel-drim took second prize with a 5 lb. 15 oz. shad. Right behind him was Bobby Turner of Savannah with a 5 lb. 14 oz. specimen.

H. T. Crosby of Savannah won 11th and 12th prizes by entering two fish in the contest. His largest weighed 4 lbs. 7½ oz. The smaller of the two was one half ounce lighter.

The shad is an anadromous species. This means that it lives most of its life in the ocean and ascends fresh-water rivers to spawn. Commercial fishermen catch them in nets during these spawning runs. Shad from the Ogeechee River are known throughout the country as some of the finest to be had anywhere. Pollution in a number of streams has either eliminated shad from these waters or tainted their bodies, giving them an oily taste. These conditions are not found on the relatively clean Ogeechee.

Shad do not feed while traveling upstream, but can be enticed into striking small lures. It is believed that the shad think the lures are small fish that might eat their eggs or interfere in some other manner with their reproduction.

The most popular lures for shad fish-



Earl Stokes of Mel-drim, Georgia weighs what turned out to be the second prize winner in the contest. Watching are from left: Ranger Gene Jones, Martha Macon of the Game and Fish Commission's Savannah office, and Curtis Carter of the Savannah Area Chamber of Commerce.

ing are small weighted flies or jigs and small spoons with single hooks. Some of these jigs are especially designed for this fishing and are called shad darts. The most productive method of fishing is trolling. Once an angler finds the fish, it is not too difficult to get action — provided the water is not muddy. Shad will attack the jigs and spoons on sight.

You must troll at the proper depth and speed to be successful. Most anglers place a sliding sinker above a keel swivel and attach a 12 to 18 inch leader to the swivel with the lure on the lower end. Weight of the sinker and trolling speed can be varied until the right combination is found. To fish two lures, a three-way swivel is used with varied lengths of leader attached. Multiple hookups are common and many anglers reel in two fish at one time. Getting them into the boat can be tricky however, because the fish have very tender mouths and cannot be horsed in.

Light spinning tackle is both the most practical and most sporting for shad fishing. The fight can be enjoyed to the fullest when using such equipment. In addition, the limber rod and light drag do not tear the hooks out of the fish's tender mouths.

The shad derby is now an annual affair which a growing number of anglers anticipate throughout the winter. It is an exciting affair, with much more to be gained than the prizes offered.

The complete list of winners of the 1971 Shad Derby is:

1. Mrs. Sylvia Driggers 6 lb. 3 oz.
Savannah, Ga.
2. Earl Stokes 5 lb. 15 oz.
Meldrim, Georgia
3. Bobby Turner 5 lb. 14 oz.
Savannah, Georgia
4. Johnny M. Gantt 5 lb. 8 oz.
Savannah, Georgia
5. Robert Turner 5 lb. 7 oz.
Port Wentworth, Georgia
6. Austin N. Exley 5 lb. 6 oz.
Rincon, Georgia
7. Gordon C. Shuman 5 lb. 3 oz.
Savannah, Georgia
8. Robert D. Franklin 5 lb. 1½ oz.
Savannah, Georgia
9. H. A. Van Sickle 5 lb. 1 oz.
Garden City, Georgia
10. Howard Hall 5 lb. 0 oz.
Savannah, Georgia
11. H. T. Crosby 4 lb. 7½ oz.
Savannah, Georgia
12. H. T. Crosby 4 lb. 7 oz.
Savannah, Georgia
13. D. I. Downing 3 lb. 8 oz.
Savannah, Georgia
14. J. R. Ruge 2 lb. 11 oz.
Macon, Georgia
15. Richard C. Jackson 2 lb. 6¼ oz.
Savannah, Georgia

the OUTDOOR WORLD

Youth Fishing Contest Division Announced

GAME & FISH Magazine has announced the addition of a new division in its annual fishing contest. Prizes will now be given each year to the anglers under 16 years of age, who catch the largest fish in four general categories — black bass, bream, crappie and trout.

Dean Wohlgemuth, editor of GAME & FISH, said that arrangements have been made to give prizes of True Temper rods and reels to the winners in each category.

The black bass division will include largemouth, smallmouth, Flint River, and Coosa (redeye) bass; the crappie category will include both white and black crappie; the bream division will include bluegills, redbreasts, and redear sunfish (shellcrackers); and the trout category will include rainbow, brown and brook trout.

In addition to the prizes for the biggest fish among these species caught by under-age anglers, Master Angler Awards will be presented to fishermen under 16 who catch these species of fish in the following minimum weights or larger: Black bass — 5 lbs.; Crappie — 2 lbs.; Bream — 1 lb.; and trout — 2 lbs. or 16 inches long.

Other rules for the contest remain the same as in the general division. The regular official entry form for the general division will be used for the Youth Division, however the angler's age should be listed where the form calls for the fishing license number, and should be marked, at the top of the form, "Youth Division."

—Dean Wohlgemuth

Chattahoochee Clean-up Planned

Three metro area governmental agencies have gotten together on a common interest and problem to do something about the litter accumulation on the Chattahoochee River. The Fulton County Public Works Department Recreation and Parks Division, the City of Atlanta Recreation Division of the Park Department, and the Cobb County Recreation and Park Department are coordinating the river clean-up drive.

The clean-up day will be Saturday, June 5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. and will cover that portion of the river from Morgan Falls Dam to the Highway 41

bridge. All interested users of the river are urged to come out and prove they are as interested in maintaining river's natural beauty as they are in enjoying it.

All volunteers need some type floating device such as a raft, innertube, canoe, etc. and participants should be swimmers. The Georgia Power Company will cooperate by restricting water output on this day. Safety cautions such as life jackets, and protection should be observed by volunteers. Participants are also requested to bring their own litter baskets.

For more information call: Cadora 572-2276, Don Crawford 5633, or Beal Lazenby 964-4196.

—Aaron

Book Review

THE WEEDY WORLD OF THE PICKEREL
By Bob Gooch, A. S. Barnes & Co., York. 184 pages. \$8.50

The chain pickerel is one of two for which Georgia holds the world record. A 9 lb. 6 oz. specimen taken by Baxley McQuaig, Jr. of Homerville in 1961 is the largest of this species to be landed by a sport fisherman.

Until recently there has not been a book devoted to this interesting species. Bob Gooch's new book fills the void and does it well. He lists hot spots for pickerel fishing in all of the states where it is available. A number of fine spots in Georgia are mentioned.

Gooch describes the three species of pickerel and discusses the techniques for fishing for them. He devotes chapters to such subjects as spinfishing, fly fishing, baitcasting, and fishing with natural baits. There is even a chapter on ice fishing, a subject that is interesting if not relevant for the Georgia angler.

The 184-page book is illustrated with numerous photographs and drawings which show tackle used, typical habitat, distribution and differences in the species of pickerel.

In addition to fishing techniques and tackle, the book describes care needed for pickerel fishing, care in catch, cleaning and cooking and management of the species.

This book can make you a better pickerel fisherman as well as provide entertaining reading.

Sportsmen Speak...



NEED SMALL GAME

glad to know the price of our hunting has gone up. I hope you use the ad money to help game and wildlife in I would be glad to pay more money ssary to help feed small game.

way that I think some money could ely spent would be to plant some of e lines and power lines right of ways. companies are bush hogging these ways now. It would be a very small expense to sow millet and peas, and them in as they go.

ink the deer are doing fine. Where we to work is in the small game field. and millet will feed nearly all of our game.

uth Georgia, there is enough cultiva- take care of birds and rabbits. North has very little or no farming.

have more rabbits in towns and sub- s than in the country. They are eat- vns and shrubbery. The pipe and nes would be a good place to keep g stock.

Larry Ramos
Lawrenceville

ood portion of the additional funds and through the license increase will ncreased small game management ns. A definite need for such expanded ns has existed for some time, and nds are available for this work.

gia Power and other utilities do have ns to encourage landowners to plant food plots under power lines that and by easement. The Game & Fish ssion supports these programs and ages landowners to participate as a maintaining income from such land pling wildlife in their areas.

QUAIL WAIL

Following letter is a reply to Mr. Dar- Wilkins of Atlanta who commented in Sportsmen Speak" section of the April of your magazine.

Mr. Wilkins:
know . . . it's amazing. Not the point u're overlooking the thirteenth quail r (me) in the not-too-well managed Woods Management Area . . . but the at someone else besides myself is n for punishment is interesting.

been reading Mr. Wohlgenuth's arti- cles, following a few suggestions pper articles as well as the GAME magazine plus several other maga- And do you know what? . . . If you is quail hunting territory is a bit off i should try his fishing holes.

Bobby NeSmith
Valdosta

haps this simply proves that some of e better than others? At least, you're eading . . . so far! But come now, if i and hunt often, you know that some ou do, some days you don't. And /, you must know outdoor writers don't out days they don't . . . what would a? And we're no different from other ien. Some days we don't.

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Inquiry. If moving, list new
address above.

Sportsman's Calendar

REGULATION CHANGES

Lake Worth—Creel limit on bream, 50; creel limit on bass, 15; minimum size limit on bass 10 inches.

Sinclair—Minimum limit on bass, 10 inches.

Tobesofkee—Minimum size limit on bass, 10 inches.

Suwanee River—Minimum size limit on chain pickerel, 15 inches.

Use of nets or traps of any type, prohibited in rivers and streams.

TROUT SEASONS

Open season April 1 through October 2.

Streams closed to fishing: Coleman River upstream from U. S. Forest Service Bridge No. 54 (Coleman River Road); Dicks Creek (Burton Management Area), entire length inside management area; Blood Mountain Creek (Chestatee Management Area), entire length inside management area.

All trout waters are open for fishing from 30 minutes before sunrise until 30 minutes after sunset.

No night trout fishing is allowed on trout streams open during the regular state trout season. Trout fishing at night on major reservoirs is permitted.

Creel limit: 8 per day, 8 in possession.

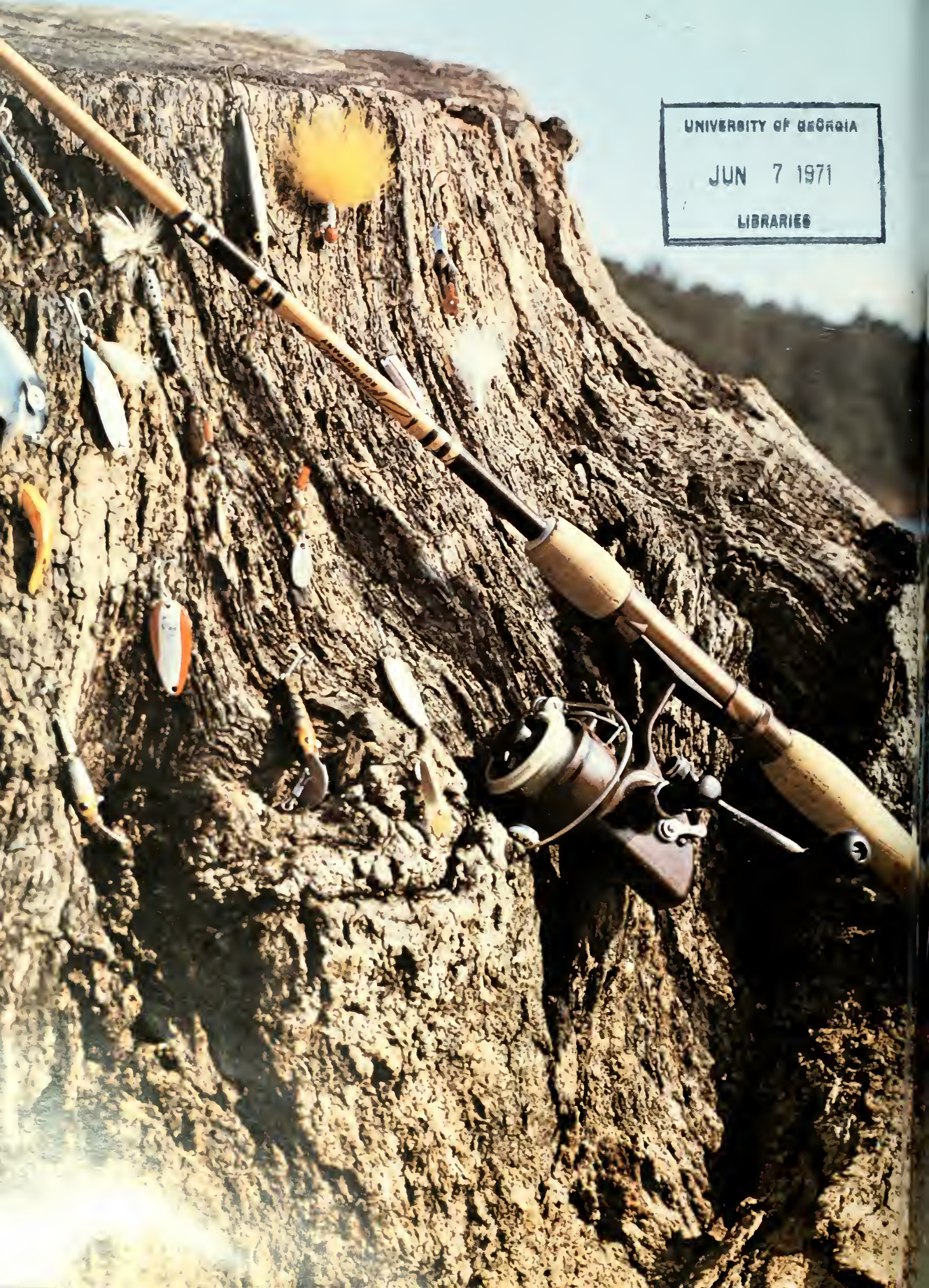
MANAGEMENT STREAM SCHEDULE

Management Area	Stream	May	June	July	August	September
BLUE RIDGE	Jones Creek (Artificial Lures)	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Montgomery	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
	Nimblewill	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Noontootley (Artificial Lures) (Catch and Release)	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Rock Creek	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	CHATTAHOOCHEE	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Dukes	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
	CHESTATEE	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
	Dicks	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Blood Mountain Waters	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed (Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	LAKE BURTON	Dicks	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
	Moccasin	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Wildcat	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	LAKE RUSSELL	Middle Broad	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	WARWOMAN	Finney	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Saraha	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Walnut Fork and Hoods Creek	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Tuckaluge	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed

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CONTENTS

Five Little Mountain Jewels	Dean Wohlgemuth	1
Getting Started Right	Aaron Pass	5
Bridging the Gap	Dean Wohlgemuth	9
Try for a Trophy	Marvin Tye	15
Outdoor World		16
Sportsmen Speak		16
Sportsman's Calendar		17

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ATLANTA'S CHATTAHOOCHEE

Atlanta is a most fortunate city. Location, climate, and terrain are all favorable. Some really fine hunting and fishing spots are located close to the city. The closest spot for good fishing is the Chattahoochee River, where trout, bass, bream, and perch can be caught within an hour's drive of downtown Atlanta.

Others besides the fishermen enjoy the river. Canoeists, rafters and swimmers enjoy the Chattahoochee—at least as far down as Peachtree Creek, where the Chattahoochee becomes dangerously polluted. With slightly improved access, hikers and other outdoor recreationists would make use of and enjoy Atlanta's Chattahoochee.

The Game and Fish Commission recognizes a definite need to preserve and protect the Chattahoochee River above Atlanta in its present natural and scenic state, and support efforts to that end. The State Water Quality Control Board makes every effort to preserve the water quality of the river and the Game and Fish Commission seeks to insure the continued potential for enjoyment by sportsmen.

The Game and Fish Commission is also responsible for the enforcement of laws against littering, and this is a major problem on the river. It seems that the more people that enjoy a scenic and natural area, the more litter they leave behind.

Another "Great Chattahoochee River Raft Race" is over and the debris mostly cleaned up as a result of two large-scale efforts (one on the part of the raft race organizers and one subsequent to that by city and county governments and citizen volunteers). These efforts are certainly commendable, but they shouldn't be necessary. The problem is caused by deliberate, although sometimes unthinking littering.

If it takes a law and enforcement to protect the river, be it. It would be better for those of us who use and enjoy the river to keep it clean in the first place—we owe it to ourselves, and to the river.

—Bob Wilson



ON THE COVER: It's summer, and for many a Georgia family, that means camping time. When a great many of these families think of camping, they look for a shady site on a lakeshore, so they can also enjoy fishing, boating and other water sports. Bucky and Kitty Caggins of Hartwell and their children are sure to pitch their tent where the fishing is good, as they've done here at the new Hart State Park on Lake Hartwell. If your family camps out this summer and wants to go fishing, but doesn't know how to get started, you'll find helpful tips on selecting basic tackle in Aaron Pass' article, "Getting Started Right," on page 5. Also, for some hints on where to go, if you like remote small lakes, see "Five Little Mountain Jewels," page 1, by Dean Wohlgemuth. Photo by Ted Borg.

ON THE BACK COVER: Winding up the current series on "Conservation Career For You" in this issue is a close look at the Information and Education Division. The article, "Bridging the Gap," page 8, explains how the Information specialist provides communication and interpretation between the conservationist and the public. Dean Wohlgemuth, center, Chief of Information and Education for the Georgia Game and Fish Commission, is joined by a sportsman and Wildlife Sergeant Ray Boleman. Photo by Ted Borg.

FIVE LITTLE MOUNTAIN JEWELS

By Dean Wohlgemuth

As I cut the little 9½-horse motor and the waves stilled around the boat, there was a near-perfect silence, broken only by the sound of a few birds on shore. There was no sign of civilization of any kind in sight, except that we were on a manmade reservoir.

But the dam, the power plant—no construction, no power lines, nothing was in view. Just woods and water. It was a cool, foggy morning for mid-May, and I had to remind myself that I was not on a lake 'way back in Canadian bush, or the back country of the north-woods. I was in Georgia!

Now, I don't mind seeing a few fishermen out on the water, just so long as

A cool, misty morning, with water as smooth as silk... that's the way you're likely to find five lakes that shine like jewels set in the mountains. This scene is on Yonah Lake.

Photo by Ted Borg



Picturesque scenery greets the eye on all five lakes, as it does here on Lake Rabun. The mountains in the background are nearly hidden by low clouds. Much of the shore of Rabun is dotted with homes. This lake has public camping and boat ramp, something hard to find on the others.

Photo by Ted

every spot you know isn't already taken by someone else. What irritates me most of all, though, when I'm out trying to tangle with a lunker bass or frisky bream, is to have my boat constantly rocked by a speedy runabout which, more often than not, is towing a skier, and usually running much too close to me. Nor do I enjoy having to thread my way through heavy traffic of boats of all types and sizes to get to where I'm going, wondering if any of them even know there is such a thing as "Rules of the Road,"

much less know them and obey them.

So, for years, I've searched for more secluded waters . . . not those distant lakes hundreds of miles to the north or west which required a two-week or more vacation and several hundred dollars to reach, but something here at home which I could reach in a few hours with a minimum of cost. I don't mind if the lake is rather small—it's easier to find fish in a strange lake if it isn't too large.

For some time I've been curious about five small lakes in northeast Georgia

that I'd heard very little about, I wanted to see what they were like. when Ted Borg and I paid a visit I found a partial answer to my question about remote waters. That is, there is a remote atmosphere on two of the lakes, and the others apparently are fished too hard, though they're not so remote.

Of course, there's a definite reason why fishing pressure is low here—a lack of access to all of these waters was quite limited and in some cases very difficult. It's doubtful that these waters could stand heavy fishing pressure.

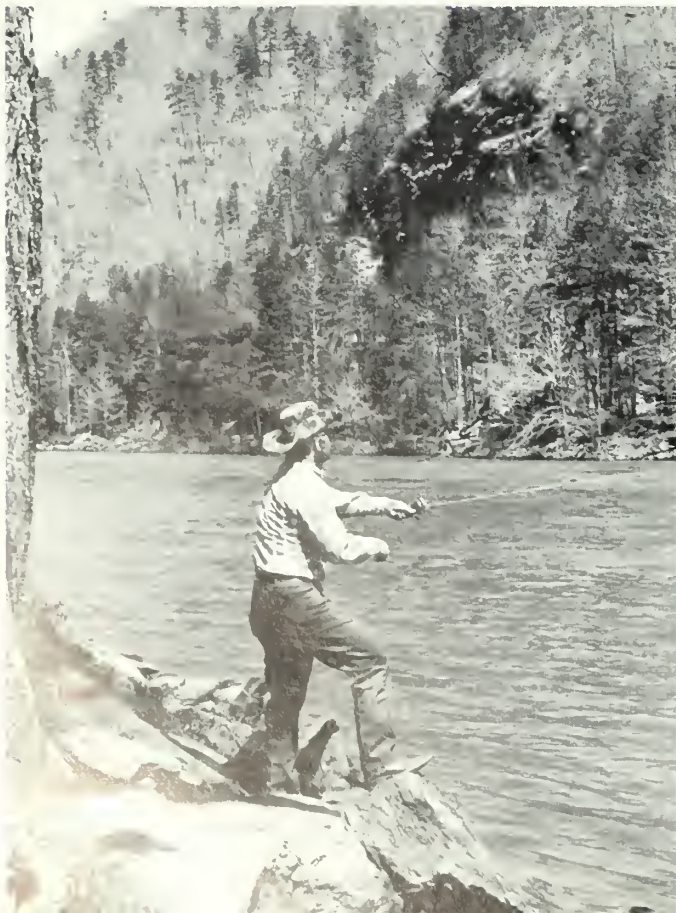
These lakes are all in a cluster on the river system, and all are Georgia Electric Company reservoirs. They're all between two big lakes, Burton and Rabun, well, on the Tallulah River. One of the lakes is at the junction of the Tallulah and the Chattooga rivers, and another just below that junction, on the Tallulah River.

One piece of equipment is necessary to fish at least three of the lakes—a cartop boat with a small, lightweight motor. A small, light boat is still the more desirable type for the other two because of the small size of the waters. Cartoppers are splendid for these lakes.

It wouldn't be nearly accurate to give the impression that all five lakes are really remote from civilization, even though access is quite difficult. Four of the lakes have quite a number of cottages on the shore, and are fished regularly, if not very heavily. The most remote of the lakes has no houses on its shores, yet it too receives some fishing pressure. However, since it has very difficult access indeed, anglers from outside the local area are few.

No claims are made here as to the quality and size of the fish that are caught on these waters, though

Photo by Ted Borg



Rugged shorelines leave little room for an angler, and most shorelines are reachable only by boat. But this angler needn't worry about reaching deep water. The steep banks mean great depths within a good cast.

men bring in enough to keep them back with some regularity. Com- from most of them indicate that d large, bream fishing was the most y available sport on all five, and bass fishing wasn't bad, few real rs are caught. Generally, bass to average two or three pounds, a five pounder considered quite

ause of the hectic schedule of g five lakes in two days, plus a trip of a couple of hours each during those days, Ted and I had little opportunity to wet a line. We on mostly a picture-taking and fact- g trip, to size up the situation for port.

did find cool, beautifully emerald- colored water, gorgeous mountain forest scenery and a pleasant, quiet sphere on all lakes.

ually, things haven't always been et on one of the lakes as they are

Once a bustling resort, it is now or less a forgotten lake. This is Rabun, second lake downstream Lake Burton. You reach it by turn- U.S. 441, about four miles north hamlet of Tallulah Falls, or some miles south of Clayton, at a sign ating Rabun Beach Recreation This same road parallels three of lakes; first, you'll see Tallulah Falls then Rabun, then Seed. If you go ough, you'll cross just below the a Dam, and come out on the Geor- 7 highway just north of Clarkes- Rabun is second oldest and second t of the five lakes, and the only hich has boat houses open to the , plus the aforementioned recrea- rea operated by the U.S. Forest e. The recreation area has a large, ful, improved campsite, swimming and boat ramp, for public use. wo boat houses are Hall's Boat s and Rabun Boat House, so close er you don't know where one ends he other begins. The boat houses cated about midways up the lake, e the recreation area is near the end. Both boat houses have boats motor for rent.

ing the second day of our trip, e rain poured steadily down, Ted spent a few hours talking about es with Bucky Cawthon of Hall's House. Later, he took us for a cook's tour of the lake. Virtually shoreline of Rabun is dotted with cottages and fine permanent e. Nonetheless, most of the shore- inviting, and according to Bucky, fishing waters. "Our water is al- perfectly clear," he told us.

d, similarly, is completely sur- ced by cottages, with no public ac-

Getting a boat into Tugalo requires a strong constitution . . . but a stronger one, and an even stronger back is necessary to get it out again. This steep slope some 20 feet long (or deep) is the only access on the Georgia side. The South Carolina shore offers little better, and is many miles away.



Photo by Ted Borg

cess to the water. "You'll have to find a private cottage-owner who will allow you to carry a cartop boat across his lot, or check with Georgia Power on carrying a cartopper across some of their land," Bucky said. Seed was getting quite stained that day, during the down- pour, but normally is clear.

Tallulah Falls Lake, like Seed, has no access, and you'd have to get permis- sion from a cottage owner to tote a car- top boat in from the road. How difficult it would be to gain such permission on either lake is something that can't be predicted, though local people who know them probably have little diffi- culty. An overabundance of requests, especially if granting permission resulted in littering or nuisance-making on the part of the guests, would quickly quell

any spirit of cooperation on the part of lake dwellers.

While these three are the most popu- lated and probably the most fished of the five lakes, Yonah also has some cot- tages on its shores, but mostly on the lower half. Steep mountainous shore- lines prevent building in some places. Ted and I cruised Yonah in my little flat bottom aluminum boat. Checking water depths in various places with my fish lo- cator I found the water only about 15 feet near the upper end, but nearer the dam I found it to be astonishingly deep only a few feet from the shore.

We found two or three boats out on the water at Yonah, and watched as one angler pulled in a bass of a couple of pounds. He'd landed three or four others that morning.

Photo by Dean Wohlgenuth



Bream fishing is good on these lakes, and GAME & FISH photographer lays aside his camera long enough to prove it on Tugalo Lake. Bass fishing is good too, but don't expect lunkers like you'll find in larger reservoirs. Some of the little lakes also have trout.

We rode on down to the dam to check out the excellent public ramp, and the deep water next to an old boat house looked so inviting we couldn't resist making a few casts ourselves. In 20 minutes I hung two small bass on plastic worms. You could see small bass and bream by the dozens in the perfectly clear water, so clean you could see the bottom easily six feet or more down.

Yonah can be reached from either end of the lake. The ramp is near the dam, and can be reached by going out of Toccoa on State Highway 184 toward South Carolina. Just before the 184 crosses Lake Hartwell, turn left and follow the unmarked road there along the shore of the Tugaloo River to the Yonah Dam. Follow the road around the dam to the ramp.

To reach the upper end of Yonah, and also the Tugaloo Dam, turn off the U.S. 441 some four miles south of Tallulah Falls, at the large "Tugaloo Power Plant" sign. Follow the paved road east to the small Georgia Power Company village. At the far edge of the village is a gravel road forking to the left. A small wood sign reads "To the lake." Follow the narrow, rough, steep mountain trail down into the valley for a few miles, and you'll come out at the base of Tugaloo Dam. To the right is a picnic area,

on the upper shore of Yonah Dam. There are concrete picnic tables there, and at the far end of the picnic area is a place where a cartop boat can be put into the waters of Yonah.

Upon reaching the bottom of the valley, where the picnic area comes to view, there's a road to the left, up the steep mountainside . . . this is the road to the top of the dam, and the access point to Tugaloo Lake. Use of the word "access" is almost stretching the point. You'll find a narrow foot trail, a few feet from the edge of the dam, where you can slide a light cartop boat down to the water, some 20 feet down the steep slope. Getting the boat down, we found, was easy . . . getting it back again, especially in the rain that caught us, was a somewhat different story.

Our tour of Tugaloo was cut very short by the rain, so there was no opportunity to sample the fishing here . . . but it was on this lake that we found the real solitude described at the beginning of this article. Though we saw little of this lake, it was readily apparent that this one of the little lakes that look like jewels set in the mountain scenery, was the centerpiece . . . the most beautiful and precious of all the gems.

There is only one regret in making this report . . . the fact that there is a

chance that the appeal of these lakes may attract too many visitors. Being small, and lacking as they are in facilities, these lakes are not able to withstand an influx of large numbers of anglers. I'm not certain that even the first of these visitors would have more than mediocre fishing success.

Too many visitors would destroy the solitude and remoteness of these lakes, and, worse than that, would probably severely damage their beauty because of the litter that would be left. Even now we found one of the picnic tables left an unsightly mess of drink cans and bottles, paper plates, and various other types of trash left by campers . . . even an old mattress!

These are not the kind of waters that you'd want to visit often, they're too difficult to reach. Yet, they are the kind of lake that a person who genuinely appreciates real natural beauty, peace and quiet, an unspoiled environment, will find worth visiting at least on rare occasions. You'll earn whatever pleasure you'll find in just reaching the water in a boat. Let us hope that those willing to go to this much trouble are also willing to take proper care of this delicate environment! If so, these little mountain gems will continue to glitter for our enjoyment for a long time to come.

Tugaloo is wedged between mountains on the Tugaloo River, which separates Georgia from South Carolina. This is the wildest and most beautiful of the five little lakes, and the hardest to reach.

Photo by Ted Borg



ing has come a long way since the of a cane pole, a length of twine bent pin. Fishing tackle has and from several basic types into an sibly diverse assortment of spe- ed outfits designed for specific con- and needs. This increased com- has been welcomed by the serious who understands and can use the ized equipment. However the ame fisherman strolling into a store to buy himself a fishing out- probably headed for trouble. The average neophyte is at once con- ed with a forest of different rods, a selection of reels, and a seemingly s array of lures. To a man who is actly sure of what he wants in the lace, the wide selection he is of- in a well stocked sporting goods is usually more confusing than l. At this point the fledgling fisher- turns to a salesman for assistance, roach which can result in either ost or the worst possible informa-

the worst the salesman will be ex- hat . . . a salesman and not a fish- . He will be a bright, promising man selected from a host of sales ants and placed in a vacancy in orting goods department, his mind tered with any real knowledge. e type's standard answer to a techni- estion is generally something like, "I'm not sure. I wish Mr. So-and-So ere, I think he caught a fish once ould know all about it."

ry slightly better is Mr. All-Pro, pends most of the time impressing ovice with his own extensive edge. He approaches, with patches eeth flashing, and immediately nes into a discussion of the various of the ultra-fast action steelhead as compared to the new power-flex, magnum worm rod, the mere ap- ance of which causes trophy bass to ible and lesser fish to float belly-up n surface.

rom such encounters the determined erial angler will come home bur- ead down with rods, reels, lines, lures, e will also probably be bankrupt,



Photo by Dean Wohlgemuth

GETTING STARTED RIGHT

By Aaron Pass

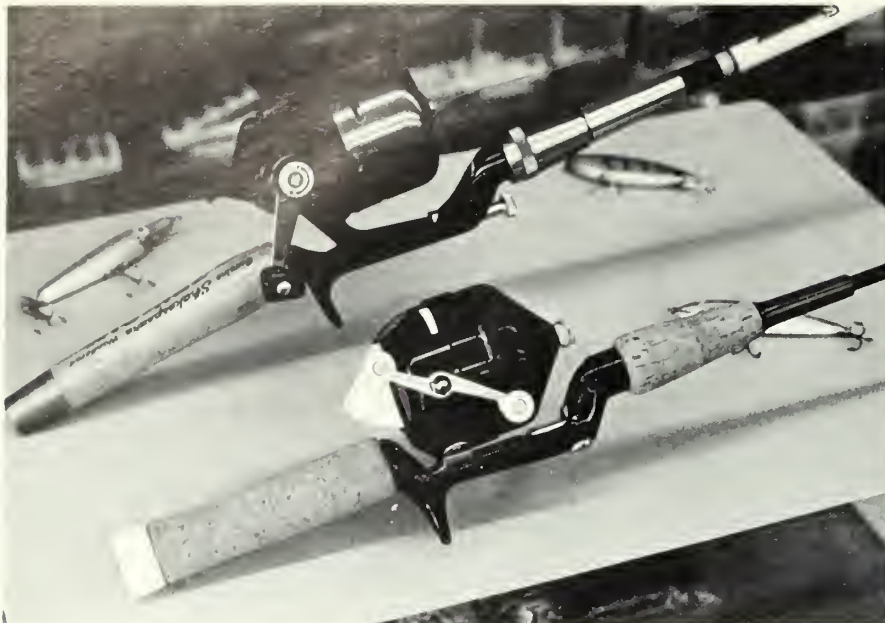


Photo by Aaron Poss

The closed face spin cast reel is the most easily mastered, and is highly recommended for the novice. The two outfits illustrated represent the price range of this tackle. The top outfit costs more than \$30 while the lower one can be had for around \$10.

confused, and at a complete loss trying to figure out how all of this junk fits together. For this information our beginner will turn to the outdoor magazines, whereupon he will discover in an article devoted to selecting a basic fishing outfit that most of his newly purchased equipment is indeed good stuff but not intended for the uses to which he will put it. At this point there are two choices: read up and re-equip, or forget the whole thing and take up golf.

On the other hand an experienced tackle salesman can be of tremendous assistance to the novice. This type has practical fishing experience, a knowledge of tackle and of local fishing conditions. He also has the opportunity to size the customer up as to ability and interest. This combination of factors allows the salesman to give the beginner guidance that can't be duplicated in any magazine article, book, or film. Similar counsel sought from a friend who fishes is equally valuable in preventing unwise tackle purchases. If no such source is available, the beginner is best advised to read outdoor publications for articles such as this one which make suggestions on buying that first basic outfit. If the reader already knows what species he will initially be angling for, reading articles about that species will also yield some good information.

The beginning angler comes in an amazing variety of shapes and sizes. He may be a youngster shopping for his first outfit, having graduated from the "popper" stage, or possibly a grand old fellow looking for a pastime at which to spend his retirement leisure. Sometimes the angler who has mastered one type of fishing will want to try another, broad-

ening his enjoyment of the sport. These people are not interested in subtle variations of rod action or in minute refinements in reel design, this will come later. What they are interested in is having fun and catching fish, and what they need is a good basic fishing outfit.

Such an outfit would ideally be inexpensive, rugged, and adaptable to a wide variety of fishing situations. Now inexpensive doesn't mean cheap; it is false economy to buy a real "El Cheapo" special. This kind of merchandise is usually poorly made, easily broken, harder to learn with, and most important, less fun to use than well built equipment. Also, if a good quality first outfit is selected, the angler who moves on to more refined or a different type of tackle will still have a handy spare rig in case of breakage or a change of conditions.

This article is intended to be a general guide on the assembling of a basic fishing outfit. In each instance an effort has been made to suggest a versatile combination of equipment which will be entirely adequate for most freshwater fishing. Each type of tackle to be discussed does have an optimum use and will perform most satisfactorily when kept within its particular limitations.

The spin-casting outfit is far and away the best choice for the angler purchasing his first outfit. There are other types of tackle that will do everything the spin-cast rig will do better but none that will do it as easily. The spin-cast is a purely American innovation and represents a marriage between conventional spinning and casting tackle. Line is pulled from a fixed spool as in spinning, but the reel sits on top of the rod with a right-side retrieve as does a casting reel. The spool



This basic lure assortment would cover most freshwater fishing in the country. The lures at top are surface plugs, with two shallow running wobblers just below. The sinking plugs are below along with a diving plug at the right. For real bottom scratching use the jig or plastic worm. At left, the metal lures are (from top to bottom) a spoon and two types of spinners.

is hooded, which accounts for the trouble-free operation of this type of tackle. The hood contains the line as it swirls off the spool and reduces the tendency to tangle.

Casting a spin-cast is accomplished by merely pressing a button to release the line, swinging the rod in a casting arc and releasing the button to allow the line to run free. It is such a simple process that an hour's practice will have anyone getting off fishing-distance casts. The inherent simplicity of spin-cast tackle makes it a natural for the first timer or a youngster.

A normal spin-cast outfit starts off with a closed-face reel which usually comes equipped with about 100 yards of from six to 15 pound test monofilament line, and costs from \$10 to \$25. The rod is normally five to six feet in length and will handle lures from $\frac{3}{8}$ to $\frac{5}{8}$ ounce. A perfectly adequate one can be had for \$10 to \$15. An angler expecting to do a lot of bass fishing should get a reel with line testing more than 10 pounds, but if panfish are the quarry, a lighter model will provide more sport.

The open-face or conventional spinning reel was European in origin but caught on in this country in the 1940's due to its ease of operation. Until the spin-cast was developed the spinning outfit was the easiest to learn. This type usually hangs below the rod and has no cover for its fixed spool. The lack of a hood cuts down line friction allowing longer casts, but it also increases the chances of a snarled line. Most spinning reels have left-side retrieve which allows the rod to remain in the right hand after the cast.

A spinning outfit is only as good as

the reel so buy the best quality model you can afford. A normal open-face spinning reel weighs from 10-25 ounces and will handle lines testing from six to 15 pounds. The line capacity of these reels is a bit more than the closed-face type, ranging from 100-400 yards. The open-face is generally a bit more expensive than the spin-cast, with a good model costing from \$15 to \$25. Spinning rods are usually 6 to 7 feet long and a fairly good one can be had for around \$15. The best bet for a beginner is a rod with a medium action which handles lures weighing $\frac{1}{4}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$ ounce.

Ultra-light spinning is simply conventional spinning in miniature (see "Ultra-Light for Ultra Sport," June, 1971, Georgia GAME & FISH). This smaller scale tackle is somewhat more difficult to use than standard spinning tackle because the lighter monofilament lines are more prone to tangle. An ultra-light spinning reel will weigh around eight ounces and handle two to six pound line. The rod, five to six feet long, should have a slow action and handle lures from 1/12 to 1/4 ounce.

There are two other types of freshwater tackle that are not recommended for "first outfits." The use of both fly and bait-casting tackle is pretty complex and should be postponed by the beginner until he has mastered fishing with the less complicated spinning or spin-cast tackle. Years ago neophyte anglers had to start out with either fly or casting tackle as this was all that was available. It can be done of course, but it is pretty hard to concentrate on fishing while at the same time learning to use complicated tackle.

Spinning tackle is easily and quickly

Photo by Aaron Poss



Photo by Aaron Poss



Open face spinning tackle is probably the most popular tackle in the country. Its ease of operation revolutionized fishing in the late 40's when it was introduced from Europe. Ultra-light tackle is simply scaled down for smaller fish.



Perhaps the best purchase a beginner can make is a book on fishing. These are usually available in better tackle shops and provide much useful basic information.

There is nothing like success to liven up a youngster's interest. This young lady seems to be doing pretty well with her spin cast reel and Dad's expert guidance.

Photo by Aaron Poss

learned and so allows the novice to spend his time learning about fish and fishing. Many anglers stop right there, feeling that spinning tackle performs quite adequately, while others will go on to fly and casting tackle.

As for lure selection, this is a subject which merits a full article in itself. Very briefly, however, the beginner should content himself with a few of the basic patterns which are proven producers in his area. Again the advice of tackle shop operators and veteran fishermen is the best available. A surface plug; a couple of shallow running, minnow-shaped plugs, and a couple of deep runners would be a good beginning. It is not advisable to try to fill up a tackle box the first time out, nor is it economically feasible. It is truly amazing how quickly those empty trays will fill once the fishing bug bites and you begin to haunt tackle displays with regularity.

Fishing is one of the fastest growing of the outdoor recreational activities these days. More and more people are finding it an enjoyable way to spend their leisure time outdoors. The tackle manufacturers are keeping abreast of this surge of interest with new developments coming out almost every day. Most of these are genuine improvements and greatly enhance the sport of fishing, but they also lead the inexperienced angler toward becoming equipment-bound. Getting lost in the gadgetry is the tendency to obscure the real objective of fishing, which is having fun. The beginner should start with a basic outfit and keep it simple to gain the most satisfaction from his sport. 🐟

Photo by Dan K...



BRIDGING THE GAP

By Dean Wohlgemuth
Chief, Information-Education

The dark-green station wagon bearing the State Game and Fish Commission seal on each side pulled into the service station, and a man wearing a business suit rather than a wildlife ranger uniform, stepped out. "Can you give me some directions?" he asked.

"Sure." The attendant gave the requested information, then queried, "What county are you the game warden for?"

"I'm not a ranger," smiled the man. "I'm on the staff of

Game and Fish Information Officers not only set up and conduct gun and hunter safety training clinics, they film the events to use for future programs where facilities are limited.



CONSERVATION: A CAREER FOR YOU?



Photo by Ted Borg

Selecting which color slides to use is a part of the job of putting together the monthly magazine. Slides are also used for programs shown to civic clubs. GAME & FISH Managing Editor Bob Wilson studies several possible cover pictures.

GAME & FISH Magazine. I'm an Information Officer with the Information Division." The service station attendant said, "Oh, I see." Yet it was rather apparent that he really didn't understand just what the man's job was . . . to him, a man working for the Game and Fish Commission was a "game warden."

Similar instances occur often for staff members of the Information Office. They have also been asked, many times, "What company do you work for? What company puts out that magazine?" People asking such questions are surprised, then, to learn that the Information Officers—staff members of GAME & FISH Magazine—are actually employees of

the State Game and Fish Commission, full time.

Apparently the public conception is similar to that of the service station attendant who believes all Commission employees are rangers. They probably wonder, too, why there are full time Information Officers. When they learn there is such a thing as the Information Division, they may wonder why there is such a division, and what it does.

This article, in a final wrapup of the series on "Conservation: A Career For You," will explain what the Division is and why it is one of the most important phases of conservation work.

(Editor's Note: Though this is the final

article describing the various types of work available in the field of conservation, a related article discussing possibilities for women in conservation work is scheduled for a future issue.)

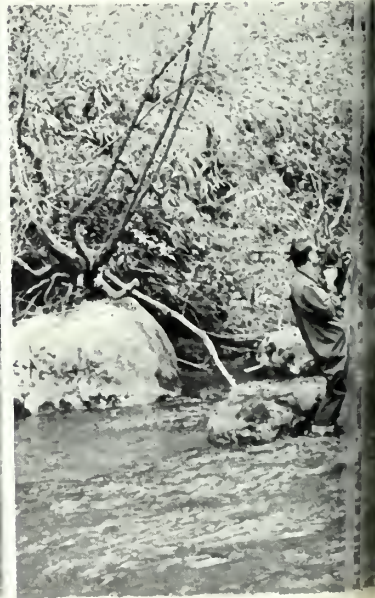
A successful campaign of any type requires the efforts of a majority of those involved. Therefore, the first step in any project should be to enlist the support of as many persons involved as possible. Conservation is no exception.

This being the case, the effort to provide good wildlife and fisheries conservation for the people in a state requires full-hearted cooperation from the public. How do you gain this support? This is the job of the Information-Education or public relations, Division of the wildlife conservation agency.

Today's public is more knowledgeable and demands to be better informed before it will accept a proposal to conduct a project, a campaign, or an overall effort. An informed and educated citizen will lend his support when he knows why the Game and Fish Commission finds it necessary to close hunt for a particular species for a year, why a certain method of hunting may be stopped, or why a certain water may be fished with only artificial lures, why an increase in the fees for hunting and fishing licenses is necessary, how the funds will be used.

Most agencies shy away from using the term "public relations" for the one required to keep the public informed, preferring the title "Information Education." Whatever you call it, the purpose remains the same . . . the "I" office is charged with seeing to it that the public is informed as to what the Commission is doing and educated as to why it is being done. The purpose

I&E personnel may find it necessary to get their feet wet to do their job. They may spend a good deal of time on a fishing or hunting trip, using nothing but a camera or a pen to capture their "game." Photo Editor Ted Borg grinds out movie footage of an angler coming to the river bank to rest after catching a nice fish.



ing these two things is simply to win public to the side of the conservationist. The Information Officer may be described as something of a road builder. He paves roads so that the administrator, the wildlife biologist, the fisheries biologist and the law enforcement officer have an easier and smoother time reaching the objective.

There are many ways to provide the citizenry with information and to educate the public as to why certain things should be done. The I&E Division cannot afford to overlook any of these avenues, for none will reach all persons. The Information Officer must be a man of diversified talents. I&E must use all sorts of media to reach the public, including newspapers, radio, television, personal appearances before organizations, direct mail and departmental magazines such as the one you are now reading.

Not few people are qualified in all phases of his area, so usually there are specialists in the various categories. These specialists include a photographer, a broadcaster and staff writers. Most staff members would participate in public speaking. Some writers handle news releases, some write brochures and most, if not all, write for the department magazine. Many staff members do some photography. Some agencies have staff photographers.

While a man may specialize in one field, the more fields in which he is knowledgeable the more valuable he is to the department. He is the more likely he is to advance in his field. It is helpful if he cannot only write news releases and magazine articles, but can also write and design a brochure and give speeches, but can also take photos, edit a magazine, outline a slide show or



Photo by Dean Wohlgenuth

Informational booths to disseminate brochures and regulations to the public and answer questions are set up at major boat shows and other events which draw a statewide audience. Press Services Editor Aaron Pass sells a magazine subscription to a sportsman.

movie and write speeches for other persons within the department.

It often works out that one Information Officer may be more knowledgeable about boats and therefore becomes the boating safety expert who handles programs of this type. He may also be the fishing expert. However, most Information Officers are expected to know most popular sports and in addition, become familiar with management and conservation principles for both hunting and fishing.

Actually, the Information Officer is largely an interpreter. He collects technical data from biologists and law enforcement personnel, and translates it into layman's language for dissemination to the sportsman. He must make it

easy for the average citizen to understand the complicated processes professional conservationists employ, so that the sportsman knows what the Game and Fish Commission is doing for him, and why he, as a sportsman, must support the Commission's programs.

You could even say the Information Officer is something of a salesman... he must "sell" conservatism, and the Commission's programs. In fact, he must "sell" his Commission to the public. Any knowing salesman knows, however, that he must not misrepresent his product. Any claims he might make which can be proven untrue reflect on him and his credibility is gone. Future efforts to sell his product are futile because of suspicion and mistrust. The Information

Photo by Aaron Pass



Officer cannot afford to make false claims for his product, he cannot report other than factual information, or he will have lost public trust. He must also "sell" his services to fellow employees.

One of the frustrating problems facing the Information Officer is that of gaining the support of all persons within his own agency. He must have strong support from his Director, or he'll never be able to put together an effective public relations program. Similarly, he must have cooperation from supervisors of all other divisions of the Commission, including game management, fisheries management, law enforcement and administration fields such as accounting and license divisions, in order to obtain information about what situations need his attention. Further, he must have cooperation from all field personnel in supplying him with information about their activities, and usually the Information Officer depends on field employees, both law enforcement and biologist personnel, to assist him in arranging to gather information for articles, pictures and so forth.

In some instances, he may experience difficulty in getting the support and cooperation of any or all levels within the Commission. Reasons for this vary. Some administrators feel that the less facts that reach the public eye, the less criticism there is likely to be. Some feel that public relations is not important. Others, while realizing some limited value of public relations, feel it should

be limited, that the cost of such a program is too high, and that public relations results are so intangible that the costs cannot be justified.

Field personnel often feel they are incapable of assisting because they have no knowledge of public relations. They fail to recognize good stories that should be published. They have no time from a busy schedule to help, or feel "that's the I&E man's job . . . let him do it, and I'll do mine." The I&E man must then try to show each individual employee that efforts of the Information Division are aimed at making his job easier, that problems can be solved, or at least eased, by the effects of good public relations.

The administrator must be made to understand that if he is to conduct a successful conservation program, the I&E Division must be considered equally as important as any other phase of his overall program. He must be shown that many problems can be prevented with proper advance preparation by the I&E Division. It must be pointed out to him that the public's opinion of his department depends on what reaches the public eye . . . and that public opinion is of utmost importance in achieving conservation goals.

The Information Officer must have training special to his field. He might seek a college degree in journalism, preferably with a minor in wildlife biology or wildlife management. He should study courses in sociology and

human behavior, public relations, public speaking, the effects of publicity and basic courses in biology fields. In order to have a better understanding of his specific field, he might study such things as broadcasting or photography.

While education is important, the background for a good Information Officer is practical experience in the field. If he is to be a writer, experience as newspaper reporter or sportswriter is extremely valuable. If he is to be in the broadcasting phase of the I&E operation, he needs experience with commercial radio and television stations. They help him to know what the media expect from him, and how to prepare material for these media that will be used. He knows what is news and what is mere publicity that an editor or news director will shove aside.

More than these, the Information Officer should be a person who has a deep love for the outdoors and who is conservation minded. He should know fishing, hunting, boating, camping, and all phases of enjoying the outdoors. In other words, he must be numbered among the sportsmen with whom he wishes to communicate; and at the same time, he must be one of the professional conservationists, whose words and words he is attempting to relay to the sportsman. And he must enjoy meeting and dealing with the public.

The Information Officer must be a bridge, to close the communications gap between the conservationist and the

Photo by Ted Borg



The Information Officer may get pretty deeply involved in his work at times, as was the case here in making boating safety pictures. Note the photographer crouching deep in water for pictures.

A wide range of types of photography are part of the I&E function. Here, staff members of GAME & FISH Magazine make a close-up picture of flytying for a magazine cover.



Photo by Aaron Pass

sportsman. The bridge often carries two-way traffic, keeping the professional conservationist and the administrator informed of public needs and feelings.

With a degree in journalism, English or related fields, a young student fresh from college would be eligible for a rating of Information Officer I with the Georgia Game and Fish Commission. He must, however, pass a merit examination. At this level, he would begin at a salary of \$539.50 per month. With a degree and two or more years of experience with media or in the field of journalism, public relations or related work, he would be eligible to take the Information Officer II exam, and start at \$648.50 per month. As with all other positions under the State Merit System, an employee is on a six months working test. Upon completion of this period, he is eligible for a raise, then on each anniversary of that initial raise he is eligible for an annual increase until he reaches the top of the scale in five and a half years.

Positions for Information Officers are quite limited since this is the smallest of divisions among conservation agencies. Only about one percent of the employees of the Georgia Game and Fish Commission are Information Officers.

Competition for such a position, when it exists, is keen. Usually, one out of perhaps 10 or 15 applicants has the type of background which would make him a strong candidate for the position.

Of course, there are 50 state wildlife conservation agencies, with varying requirements and numbers of I&E staff members; some other state agencies with similar positions in other conservation fields, such as forestry commissions, and numerous federal agencies with I&E functions ranging from limited to large scale operations.

There are relatively few positions with established private businesses in the outdoor public relations field, but those would include forestry businesses, to some small degree, and perhaps a few other firms of the type that own large land areas and deal in natural resources. The greatest source of outdoor public relations positions would be with industries who make equipment for outdoor sports, such as manufacturers of guns, boats, outboard motors, fishing tackle, camping gear and so forth. However, most of these positions go to persons with a solid background in outdoor writing and public relations. Some private conservation organizations, clubs and groups, mostly of national or statewide

level, have some public relations positions.

The appeal of outdoor writing and conservation writing is one that draws sharp attention from hordes of outdoorsmen so that competition becomes more keen each year. It is a field that has many rewards . . . the satisfaction of having produced something that has a definite impact on conserving our natural and wildlife resources, the pleasant, interesting work and the opportunity to provide an important service to mankind are a few of these rewards.

The potential conservation agency Information Officer might expect to spend much of his time afield . . . if so, he's due for a disappointment. At least 80 percent of his time will be spent indoors.

Typical of the work expected of the Information Officer would be: writing a news release announcing a new Commission policy regarding boating safety; writing a magazine article explaining the biologists' studies of wildlife populations and how they affect the setting of the hunting seasons; conducting a tackle clinic or hunting safety or boating safety program for a school group; speaking to a civic or sportsman's club on why the Commission had to close a certain area to deer hunting; writing a speech for the

department Director on the Commission's activities regarding striped bass stocking; working with other agencies in planning a seminar for the public on conservation of natural resources in our state; taking photos and gathering information for a brochure on public hunting areas in the state; answering questions of sportsmen on the telephone who want to know where the best fishing is, what is the best method of fishing and what methods are legal; writing a letter in answer to mail requests of similar nature; seeing that hunting and fishing regulations books are printed and disseminated to the public; tape-recording an interview with a high government official or a sportsman, for later use on a radio program; planning a television program or movie on Commission activities; be interviewed on radio or television, or by a newspaper reporter to answer questions regarding the Commission; or see to it that the printing and mailing of various publications are completed.

This by no means covers the myriad of duties heaped upon the Information Officer. He may occasionally face a hostile citizen who is irate over a Commission policy, though he usually finds that thorough explanation of the reasons behind the policy soothes the feelings rapidly.

He may be called upon to help arrange an exhibit at a special show or fair. He attends many meetings, seemingly most of which are nights and weekends, working with other persons, organizations and agencies in furthering conservation and cooperation be-

tween various groups. He finds perhaps half of his nights and weekends, perhaps more, are spent pursuing the duties of his career. Even when he is at home, he may find his telephone keeps him on duty well into the night. Even when he relaxes to read, he's probably reading outdoor or photography magazines, looking toward improving techniques and finding new ideas.

A reader of the departmental magazine frequently makes a comment such as, "Boy what a job you have! Do you just ride around the state and go hunting and fishing and write about it?" He fails to realize that the Information Officer seldom has the opportunity to fish or hunt even on an assignment that may keep him away from home several days and keep him working 12 hours per day. Instead, he likely will spend the time on a trip watching someone else fish or hunt while he takes action photos and talks with sportsmen or perhaps camp operators to gather story information. Though he may spend hours in a boat touring a lake, he may never touch a fishing rod other than to hand it to a person whom he'll photograph. He may, however, find himself using a fishing rod all day long . . . in a classroom before students. Or maybe it's a gun, at a hunting safety clinic.


His wife may feel his job gets more attention than she does, even during the hours that are supposed to be hers. And perhaps at times, she's right. But that's the kind of dedication it takes to be "sold" enough on conservation and the Commission to be able to "sell" it to the public. 



Photo by Ted Borg

Many types of publications are written and printed by the I&E office, to provide information about conservation, the Commission and its activities, regulations boating and hunting safety and information about where to go hunting and fishing. Special Publications Editor Marvin Tye lays out a new brochure, getting it ready to go on the presses.

The demand for instructional clinics on tackle and fishing techniques is rapidly increasing, particularly at various high schools. This is just one type of talks and programs put on by information officers. I&E Chief Dean Wohlgenuth demonstrates all types of tackle and their use to physical education class at Sandy Springs High School.

Photo by Ted Borg



A TROPHY

A black and white photograph of a man in a white short-sleeved shirt and dark belt, holding a large fish trophy high in the air with both hands. The fish is long and slender with dark spots. The background is a bright, overexposed outdoor setting. The text "A TROPHY" is printed in large, bold, blue capital letters at the top left of the image.

Photo by Ted Borg

A though not prized as a food fish, the tarpon is known around the world as a game fish. Its savage strike, long and high leaping battle have thrilled thousands of anglers. Tarpon are not found in the open ocean water where mullet are found. Anglers seeking the tarpon or "silver king" as he is sometimes called, fish the tidal rivers and bays. Large top water plugs or mullet are preferred by the majority of the fishermen. These fish grow to more than 100 pounds, so sturdy tackle is advised.

1. Only fish caught in a sporting manner by rod and reel will be eligible.
2. To be eligible for prizes, a contestant must enter the rodeo before going fishing and have in his possession a valid entry blank upon submitting his tournament entry.
3. For the purpose of this tournament, fish must be caught between July 4 and 6 p.m. September 5.
4. Fish must be weighed in and registered at the official tournament weighing station, Blackbeard Cove Marina.
5. In case of ties, fish with the earliest

6. Any fish gilled, netted, shot, mutilated or handled in an unsportsmanlike manner will be disqualified.
7. Weighing station will be open each day from 8 a.m. until 6 p.m.
8. Trophies will be awarded at 1 p.m. Monday, September 6. Contestants need not be present to win, but trophies must be claimed by October 1.
9. The Rules Committee shall be the final authority and the decision of the judges will be final.
10. Entry blanks can be obtained at Blackbeard Cove Marina at Ridgeville, Georgia. Entry fee is \$1.00.

outdoor world

Bargain Deer For Jenkins County

Three illegal hunters were recently charged with the responsibility of their activities and made to rectify, at their own expense, the damage they caused. The three poachers were apprehended by state wildlife rangers while hunting deer at night in Jenkins county and were bound over for trial in State Court at Millen. Judge Thomas Odom presided in the case and the three violators were found guilty of violation of several Game and Fish regulations including hunting deer out of season, hunting at night, and hunting from a public road.

Judge Odom went a step further and made the provision that a portion of the fines were to be used as restitution to the state for a doe deer which was found in the violators' possession at the time of their arrest. A check for \$200 dollars was sent to the State Game and Fish Commission to defray the expenses of the capture and release of another doe to replace the one illegally killed.

The replacement deer was captured in late May by Bill Collins, wildlife biologist for the Game and Fish Commission. Collins located the doe in an area with a heavy deer concentration that is normally used for restocking purposes. The doe was caught with the use of a tranquilizer gun designed for the humane capture of wild animals. Assisted by Elonzo King and Vince Early, Collins crated the deer and notified Ranger Milton Baab in Jenkins County that they were on the way.

Judge Odom also presided over the release of the doe in her new home later that afternoon. Since the doe was found to be heavy with fawn at the time of her release, Jenkins County received two deer for the price of one; or considering the frequency of twins, maybe even three.

—Aaron Pass

Rodeo Success Despite Rain —Casting Contest Delayed

It was a wet group of some 200 persons who participated in the Austell Sportsman's Club annual fishing rodeo May 15 during a steady rain, but the undaunted anglers brought in some good catches. As a result, entrance fee money was enough to provide one scholarship for a teacher to enter the Natural Resources Institute Teacher's Workshop at Millen this summer. Mrs. Marjorie Johnson, science teacher at

Austell Junior High, has been awarded the scholarship, said Don Kelley, of the club.

The rain did cause some difficulties, however. The championship casting contest had to be postponed. Kelley said the casting contest has been rescheduled for Saturday, July 17, at Pine Valley Lake near Powder Springs. He added that the \$5 entry fee would be used to finance a Teacher's Workshop scholarship for next summer. Categories in the contest will be for open faced, closed faced and level wind (conventional) casting equipment.

Winners named in the fishing contest included:

Largemouth bass, 4 lb. 11 oz., Cliff Huntington, of Athens;

Bream, 8 oz., Jimmy McKelvey, age 10, of Austell;

Crappie, 10½ oz., Ralph Sims of Rockmart;

Chain pickerel, 3 lb., Sam Tolar, of Fairburn;

Bullhead catfish, 1 lb. 8¼ oz., Perry Curd, East Point;

Largest stringer, over 18 pounds, by Marcine McCoy, Douglasville; and

Largest fish for youngsters under 12, James Heard, Mableton, a 1 lb. 5¼ oz. bass.

—Dean Wohlgemuth

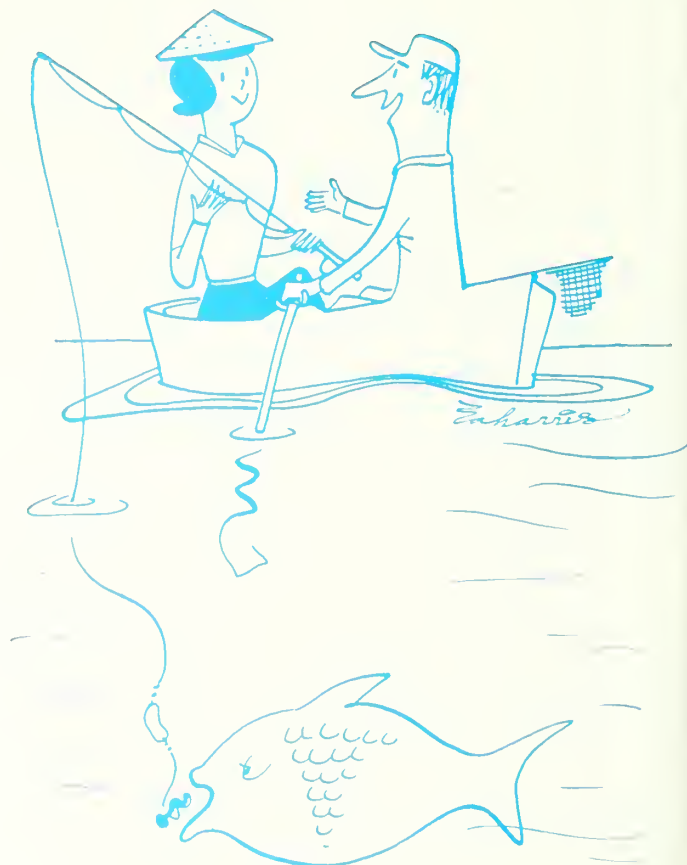
Sportsmen Speak...

ALTAMAHA CANAL

It is with increasing frequency that I read our local newspapers of progress of the Altamaha River Development Commission's drive to make a barge canal out of the Altamaha and Ocmulgee Rivers. None of what I have so far read has expressed the effect this vast physical change will have on the hunting and fishing and the general environment along the water ways in question. I feel that every Georgian has the right to know specifically what physical changes are proposed and more importantly what effects on the ecology of this waterway will occur.

In the March 25, 1971 edition of the Milledgeville TELEGRAPH there appeared another article on the project. The final paragraph drew my concern and finally stimulated me to write this letter since I have put it off several months. The paragraph quoted states: "Gen. Richard Gray of the U.S. Corps of Engineers, told the commission that there are some 1,100 river development studies under way in the United States, and every one of them is running into trouble because of the environmental impact reports required by Congress."

If the Altamaha River development is going to cause "environmental trouble" then I am against it. Our environmental problems today



"Now don't count on that beginner's luck nonsense."

primarily the result of financial greed sub-
sound judgment. I hope that is not the
here.

Alfred B. Smith, Jr.

I hope you attended recent public hearings
the Corps of Engineers study and let your
be known. If you couldn't get to the meet-
letters to newspapers and the Corps would
the best method of letting others know of
stand

CONFISCATE FISH?

would like a question answered—I know of
son who caught four fish over his limit and
o pay a \$30.00 fine and also had the fish
away. Is this legal to fine you and take
fish?

Name Withheld
Trion

It is legal to confiscate all fish (or game,
that matter) in possession of a violator.

SUPPORTS LICENSE INCREASE

cannot begin to tell you how much I appre-
the work y'all are carrying on. I just pur-
d my new hunting and fishing license for
. I endorse the increase and also the big
license. I am happy to pay more money
ow that deer will be taken care of for my
ing pleasure and for generations to come.
day I, along with you, will pass on to our
n destiny but what we do for nature will
on if we instill in our followers the preless
of the preservation of nature.

John D. Graves
Augusta

MORE RABBITS

we just discovered that the Game and Fish
Commission is establishing a public fishing area
ment to the Altamaha Waterfowl Refuge
Darlen. In the process it looks like one of
finest rabbit hunting areas I've ever come
s is being ruined.

realize we need more fishing areas but a
forethought and some work and this area
still be used for fishing and bird hunting
produce the abundance of rabbits it has
in the past.

with hunting areas getting harder to find
year, it's a crying shame that the Game
Fish Commission is to blame for the loss of
of the best small game hunting areas left.
while I'm writing, I'd like to mention one
thing. In this area of the state there are
tracts of pulp timber land owned by
Camp and Brunswick Pulp Company.
st areas are used for hunting thanks to
s companies but are not producing the
aint of game they could if feed strips and
st piles were built. If the Game and Fish
Commission would initiate a program to im-
ve habitat in all open land, not just a few
ing areas, I feel sure that small game
ing would improve considerably.

Thomas Hanrahan
Brunswick

Rabbit hunting is presently an unregulated
vege on the Altamaha Refuge. Rabbits are
undance in this area of the state, while
ic freshwater fishing lakes are indeed
re. The public fishing area on the Alta-
h is being established in response to popu-
emand, but very few things can be done
hout displeasing someone.

The Game and Fish Commission does lease
d from various companies in the timber and
or industries. However, our chief concern is
d fe and their chief concern is timber. We
continually searching for more land to be
sd far wildlife management areas. We have
ntrol over game management in timber
d we do not have under lease.

Sportsman's Calendar

Management Area	Stream	May	June	July	August	September
BLUE RIDGE	Janes Creek (Artificial Lures)	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Montgomery	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
	Nimblewill	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Naantaatley (Artificial Lures) (Catch and Release)	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Rack Creek	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
CHATTAHOOCHEE	Chattahoochee	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Dukes	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
CHESTATEE	Baggs	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
	Dicks	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Blood Mountain Waters	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed (Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
LAKE BURTON	Dicks	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
	Moccasin	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Wildcat	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
LAKE RUSSELL	Middle Broad	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Finney	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Mon., Sept. 6)
WARWOMAN	Saraha	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Walnut Fork and Hoods Creek	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Tuckaluge	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed

TROUT SEASONS

Open season April 1 through October 2.
Streams closed to fishing: Coleman
River upstream from U. S. Forest Service
Bridge No. 54 (Coleman River Road);
Dicks Creek (Burton Management Area),
entire length inside management area;
Blood Mountain Creek (Chestatee Man-
agement Area), entire length inside man-
agement area.

All trout waters are open for fishing
from 30 minutes before sunrise until 30
minutes after sunset.

No night trout fishing is allowed on
trout streams open during the regular state
trout season. Trout fishing at night on
major reservoirs is permitted.

Creel limit: 8 per day, 8 in possession.

GEORGIA game & fish

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State

Zip Code

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ment.

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☐ 3 years \$2.50

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GEORGIA game & fish

AUGUST, 1971





GEORGIA game & fish

August 1971 Volume VI Number 8

CONTENTS

Beat the Heat	Marvin Tye	1
Nocturnal Bassing	Dean Wohlgemuth	4
Clearcut	Aaron Pass	8
Gun Safety Course	Bob Wilson	13
Ancient Challenge	Marvin Tye	15
Sportsmen Speak		20
Outdoor World		21

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TOWARD PROFESSIONALISM

The first few classes will have been graduated by now in the new intensive training program for wildlife rangers. One week courses are currently underway at the University of Georgia.

Plans are to conduct 10 classes of one week each, each class consisting of a group of about 22 rangers. Some 220 rangers will be trained this year. Now, mind you, these classes are not holidays . . . far from it. A better comparison would be much more like military basic training or boot camp. Rangers at the school are on duty 24 hours a day. They aren't even allowed to leave the training center except in the case of real emergency during the entire week.

This strict discipline is a part of the training, for a qualified ranger is a man of self-discipline.

Georgia has enjoyed high quality personnel, for the most part, in the Game and Fish Commission. However, there is a need for formalized training to better equip personnel to do their job well. Rangers are the first to receive such training, but all department personnel will soon be in some form of professional training on an annual basis. Each individual, including supervisory personnel, will receive two weeks of training every year.

New personnel particularly need training, but even old veterans benefit greatly from refresher courses. It takes a lot of training to keep up with all the changes in our department.

Before this training program started, with the state's new fiscal year which began July 1, there was no formal training for Game and Fish personnel. This may not have been as critical for professional personnel, such as fisheries and game biologists, who are college trained.

However, there was no effective method of providing training in the skills rangers needed, except through experience. True enough, experience is still the best teacher, but problems can be avoided if new rangers can make use of the experience of older hands.

It would be unfair to indicate that new rangers have no training at all. This is not the case . . . new men were assigned to good, experienced rangers, for a short period of time, to show them the ropes of the job. This is good but undoubtedly lacks much.

In addition to this one week of intensive training on laws, regulations, law enforcement, and such similar subjects, rangers will later be given a week of field study in conservation and wildlife management. This should help them to better understand the overall conservation concept and equip them to be more professional.

The strong professional administrative background of the Commission's director, Joe D. Tanner, is displayed in his demand for higher professionalism on the part of Game and Fish Commission personnel.

This means that you, the sportsman, will enjoy better conservation in the state, and more efficiency in operation in the department and more efficient use of the money you spend on a hunting and fishing license.

And it is just one of the many good things that is coming about within the Game and Fish Commission because of the increase in hunting and fishing license fees last winter. The support you gave that legislation, in helping it pass, has indeed benefitted you as a citizen and a sportsman.

—Dean Wohlgemuth

ON THE COVER: The mountains of north Georgia constitute a fragile environment for all their rugged beauty. A controversy is raging over the timbering method called clearcutting as it is practiced in the mountains. Find out more of the pros and cons of this issue in, "Is the Answer Clearcut?" by Aaron Pass on page 8. Photo by Dean Wohlgemuth.

ON THE BACK COVER: Sundown marks the start of the night fishermen's day. "Beat the Heat," by Marvin Tye, and "Nocturnal Bassing," by Dean Wohlgemuth, describe this popular and rewarding way of avoiding midsummer heat. Photo by Dean Wohlgemuth.

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Night fishing can produce fast action and heavy strings of crappie on a warm summer night. Fishermen who tie up to bridges like this one on Lake Jackson can usually be assured of plenty of action.

HOW TO BEAT THE HEAT AND CATCH MORE FISH

or

*A Fairly Compleat Gyde to
Ye Art of Angling
at Nyte*

By Marvin Tye
Illustrated by Ted Borg





Lights placed in the water help attract baitfish and insects which attract larger predator species. White bass, crappie, largemouth and catfish are taken on most Georgia lakes even at night fishing along the summer months.

Warm summer days and fishing seem to go together naturally. No one enjoys sitting out in a cold rain or bundling up in several layers of clothing just to keep warm.

But too much of anything can be bad. The sweltering heat of a bright July afternoon can be downright uncomfortable. It can also be a time of poor fishing results. Fish go deep during the summer months to reach cooler waters and also to escape the glare of the sun. Many species are sensitive to excessive amounts of sunlight.

There are two solutions to the problems caused by excessive heat and sunlight. One is to fish the deep holes where the fish have taken refuge. The other is to fish at night.

While fishing deep during daylight hours can sometimes produce good catches, night fishing offers a number of advantages. For one thing, the water is not as crowded after sundown. Water skiers, pleasure boaters, swimmers, and the majority of the fishermen confine their activities to the daylight hours. A night fisherman will have even more portions of our major impoundments to himself at certain times. Another advantage are extra boats and anglers. The pleasure of night

fishing. It is cooler at night and the angler does not have to worry about possible sunburn.

Almost all species that will take baits during the daytime also feed at night. By far the most popular species sought by the nocturnal angler are the largemouth bass, white bass, crappie, trout, and catfish. The largemouth is well known for his nighttime assaults on topwater plugs, live minnows and artificial worms. This species will be discussed in detail in another article in this issue, so this article will concentrate primarily on the other three species.

Crappie fishermen generally place a lantern or other bright light over the water where they plan to fish, often as close to the surface as possible. This light attracts insects and small baitfish which in turn attract the crappie. The fisherman simply drops his baited hook into the lighted area and awaits a strike.

The preferred bait for this type fishing is a very small shiner minnow. Small size hooks will get the most crappie. Because of the species' rather delicate mouths, they cannot be hauled out of the water with a great deal of force. Limber rods and light but steady pressure are best. A landing net is helpful and prevents the loss of too many lightly hooked crappie.

Sometimes you can fish for crappie almost on the surface. A plastic float can be attached to the line a short distance from the bait and a split shot or two added to take the minnow down to the desired depth. If shallow fishing fails to produce, the float can be moved up the line until the baitfish is swimming in the zone where the crappie are feeding. Long casts are seldom necessary, this type of rigging is acceptable.

The fisherman who wants to use artificial lures instead of live bait can usually score with crappie. A variety of small lures will entice this tasty game to strike, but the most popular of these lures are so popular for this kind of fishing that they are often referred to as "crappie jigs." If crappie are feeding near the surface, the jig can be cast out and retrieved in the normal manner with action added by short jerks of the rod tip. The jig can be fished at various depths simply by letting it sink for a longer period of time before beginning the retrieve. If you start your retrieve after, say, a count of 10 and hook a fish, you can assume that you have found the proper depth. Simply count to 10 after each cast, begin your retrieve and you should catch fish. A simpler method used by some crappie anglers is to at-

h a float to the line so that the jig
I sink to the desired depth.

Crappie fishermen operate from a
at, a lighted pier or dock, bridges or
bank around such structures. This
ivity can be combined with camping
taking folding chairs down to the
ore line and hanging out your lantern.
od, cold drinks and other luxuries too
avy to carry in a boat can be kept
ar at hand in your campsite. In addi-
a, you don't have so far to go when
a get ready to turn in for the night.
White bass feed voraciously on live
d at night. The angler who uses one
f these baitfish or a close imitation, can
ometimes enjoy fast action. The limit
n this gamester is 30 per day—or, in
s case, per night. It is not at all un-
sal for the nocturnal angler to string
the limit in one session on the water.
Some of the largest white bass caught
uring the summer months are taken at
ht. The angler who scores with the
igest fish usually fishes about 30 feet
ep. It seems that the biggest of the
ite bass lie at the bottom of the school
uring daylight hours. Some anglers
orize that these larger fish feed on
ured shad that their surface feeding
oolmates have sent toward the bot-
n. If you can get your bait or lure
ow the surface feeders, you stand a
od chance of catching the big boy. At

night, most of the white bass feed deep.
Still, the deeper you fish, the better your
chance of catching large fish.

The white bass is a fine game fish. It
strikes readily, fights hard and is very
good to eat. For best results on the din-
ner table, skin the fish before cooking.
The skin, if left on the fish, gives the
meat a distinctive oily taste. Without
this, it is a grade-A table fare.

Night fishing for trout is allowed in
the north Georgia reservoirs only. Trout
streams are closed to all fishing from 30
minutes after sundown until 30 minutes
before sunrise. A minimum size limit of
14 inches on all species of mountain
trout applies to lakes Blue Ridge, Bur-
ton, Clark Hill, Hartwell, Lanier, Ra-
bun, Seed, and Tallulah Falls. Fish un-
der 14 inches must be returned to the
water immediately after they are caught.

Early in the spring and summer trout
are found about 30 feet down. Anglers
using pink worms or live minnows will
score if they locate the fish. As the
weather gets hotter, the fish go deeper
to find temperature and oxygen con-
ditions which they favor. Certain artificial
lures such as spinners, spoons and plugs
which imitate minnows will catch trout.
Trout up to 12 pounds have been caught
in some of our large reservoirs.

The channel catfish is recognized as a
game fish and a good food fish. It has its

fans throughout the state. I remember
watching Ben Patrick land a fine chan-
nel cat that weighed about four pounds
last summer. Ben fished from midnight
till daylight on a warm July night. He
baited up with cut mullet and fished on
the bottom. He left the bail of his spin-
ning rod open so that the cat could run
with the bait for a short distance before
he set the hook. Ben took the state rec-
ord channel cat from one of the lakes on
his property near Tifton a year earlier.
It weighed 39 lb. 3 oz.

Catfish like a smelly bait. The stronger
the scent, the more they seem to go for
it. Chicken liver and other cut baits pro-
duce well. Compared to the tempera-
mental largemouth, the channel cat is
sometimes easy to catch. It feeds during
morning, afternoon or night with little
regard for heat or light conditions. Be-
cause it locates its food through scent, it
can be caught as readily at 2 a.m. as
during mid-day.

For a change of pace, night fishing
can be cool and relaxing. It is especially
beneficial for the man who must work
long hours and does not get much free
time during the day. He can substitute
the peace and tranquility of a back
country lake for television and other
manufactured entertainment in a city
environment. An occasional break such
as this is good for any man.

cy Cook, Horace
Whon and Marvin
Miller fish for bass
crappie on a pier
in Lake Jackson.
Cabin owners and
their guests enjoy
such fishing each
summer on our
larger reservoirs.
Night fishing is
cooler and often
more productive
than fishing during
the day.



For Sizzling Summers Try.



NOCTURNAL BASSING

By Dean Wohlgemuth
Photos by the Author

SWISH!

The fisherman flipped his spinning rod, and the lure sailed out into the darkness. It was so quiet, you could almost hear the monofilament sliding through the rod guides.

Silence. What seemed like several minutes went by. Actually it was only a second or two, no longer time than normal for a cast.

Splash!

At last, a set of lungs released the breath they contained. The plug had hit the water. Not a tree.

It doesn't always happen like that... sometimes no splash. But you don't know until you've waited. You can't see how far the cast is going in the darkness.

Sometimes, the initial splash, from the cast, is followed moments later with a much louder **SPLASH! WHOOSH!** Suddenly the line jerks tight, and you're into a good fish.

Continued on next page



You have to fish by sound, feel and memory when tossing a plug out into the inky blackness of night . . . but the results can be worth it.

Some of the best producing lures for night fishing. Most are topwater lures which make plenty of noise, but some shallow and several deep runners also are excellent for bassing at night.



That's the way it is, when night fishing for bass. It's quiet, almost like a cemetery. There's solitude, peace and contentment. On the water in the late evening there may be some flying insects, especially if there's no breeze. Insect repellent helps here, though.

But usually, there's nary a sound nigh of the time. It's as though you own the whole lake and hadn't allowed anyone else to be there when you were. Except for the bass. They're invited. And they are a lot more likely to accept the invitation this time of day.

When the broiling summer sun beats down for long hours each day, summer water is too hot to be comfortable for bass. Not only that, summer days bring boats out in huge squadrons, even on weekdays, on most of Georgia's major reservoirs.

Granted, many of our lakes are lively enough in the early part of darkness. Yet, if you get back in the coves, or the late enough, most of the lakes are as secluded as if they were in the "out back" country.

As the night cools off, the sun's heat is more acceptable to a bass because there's no sun beating down on him, magnified in intensity by the water just as surely as car windows seem to increase the heat of the sun.

And this is the time that the big bass come close to the top to find food. If you want to fish topwater or shallow running plugs in summertime, you'd better wait until sundown to start. Have you heard the bass breaking surface at night? It can sound like it's raining bricks.

Now, don't think that topwater is the only way to fish at night. Some of the deep holes that produce bass in daytime still may be good places to try, fishing the bottom with plastic worms or diving or sinking plugs. Chances are, though, that the points which run to a depth of only a few feet, but with dropoffs to deep water on each side are the best places to fish these bumping lures.

To be sure, while the problems of ease and competition from other anglers and from pleasure boaters, are reduced at night bass fisherman will encounter other difficulties. As indicated at the outset, you're never sure whether your lure hits the water until you hear it. Then, you can't be certain whether it's not the line is over a stump.

It is important to know your boat well at night, if at all possible. This helps to avoid some of the snags. You'll have to try to be careful to keep your boat enough from shore so that at least none of your casts won't be too long.

the shore. And you'll have to be more careful boating at night.

Just remember, though, that at night the bass are likely to be at least a few feet from shore a good bit of the time. A cast doesn't have to go within five feet of the shoreline.

I recall night fishing once, when I was a youngster. At that time, I had never caught a bass. I was using worms, and was fishing for catfish. I heard bass bumping out in the lake, and could occasionally see a splash. I couldn't cast far enough to reach them. I was disillusioned. Fishing from the shore may be productive sometimes, but frankly, I don't only recommend fishing from a boat when seeking bass at night. In fact, it's the writer's opinion that a good boat is among the most important pieces of equipment a bass fisherman has, day or night. He can cover more water more effectively and from better angles, because of his instant mobility.

There are a few things the night angler must recall, that are more critical than for his daytime colleague. These include noise and light, particularly. Noise is magnified at night, largely because of the lack of competition from other normal daytime noises... boats, mostly, but all manner of manmade things. The night sounds are different. You'll hear whip-poor-wills, crickets, frogs... that sort of thing. Night music, call it.

When you bump the bottom of the boat with an oar, or let an anchor hit the water too hard, the fish will hear it more easily, and may spook a bit more than during the day. But if you're quiet, you'll find the fish much less wary at night. And because of the way their eyes are made, they'll see better in the lesser light.

Those who fish at night for bream, crappie, white bass, and some such species, such as discussed in another article in this magazine, make good use of night lights. These attract bait fish to the surface, and game fish follow them. Not so with the bass. A light makes him nervous and wary. The less light you shed on the water, the more fish you'll catch.

Don't forget, however, for safety and legality sake, you must have a white light, visible from all directions, on your boat. But if you'll put a cardboard shield below it, that will keep its light, which is relatively weak anyway, from spooking the fish.


A lantern, flashlight, campfire, even a match or cigaret lighter, will cause a bass to keep his distance, and head for deep water. If you must use a flashlight to see to tie on a new lure... you can bet you'll lose your share to snags at

night... then keep the light carefully shielded, holding it below the gunwale of the boat, to see what you're doing.

What lures are best at night? Or does it make any difference? You'd better bet it does! The darker the lure, the easier it is for a bass to see it at night. I think this is particularly true of shallow runners and topwater lures. They're silhouetted against a sky that appears rather light to a bass.

To my way of thinking, the best time for topwater plugs, at least during the summer months, is at night. The noisier the plug, the more effective it is. Those that must be worked with a steady retrieve are probably best—these include

those equipped with one or two propellers or the wide-bladed plugs as the Jitterbug—because a bass can follow the lure through its noise even when he can't see it. The vibrating, sonic-type lures in the shallow-running class also are good at night. Of course, as with any bass fishing, your own variations and ideas are likely to work best for you... and you never can predict exactly how any bass ever, is likely to act.

You can bet, though, that you'll keep cooler, get less sunburn, have more elbow room, more fun and most likely more bass if you'll try nocturnal bass fishing. It's the best way for a bass man to beat the summer heat! 

If you hit it right, dawn may break to find you with a nice string of largemouths like these.



Is the Answer...

CLEARCUT?



By Aaron Pass
Photos by the Author



Clearcutting is one of the most controversial conservation topics currently before the public. The basic question seems to be whether or not the practice leads to environmental degradation, and both sides seem firmly entrenched in their own point of view. Critics of the practice maintain that it is harmful and are asking for a two-year moratorium on the practice until research can evaluate the total environmental impact. Advocates hold that clearcutting is beneficial and a two-year delay would represent forest mismanagement.

Clearcutting is one of the timber harvest methods used by modern foresters to manage a forest under a system known as "All-age management in even-aged blocks." A clearcut is accomplished by the cutting of all the trees in an area, including those which are commercially unusable. The area is then left to regrow (regenerate) all of its trees from scratch. All of the trees in the stand will be of roughly the same size and age, hence the term even-aged management, and each cut area will be an even-aged block, within the all-age forest.

Clearcut harvesting is said to be one of the most economically feasible methods of timber harvest, and results in a healthier, more productive forest. It is also highly visible, and in the opinion of many, an eyesore and a "sin agin' Nature." As a result of this critical attention, clearcutting has been seriously questioned by many conservation-minded groups, particularly where it is being practiced on public lands. Its critics claim that clearcutting represents intensive timber management at the expense of wildlife values, esthetic and environmental quality. Its proponents claim that timber production as well as many other values, including wildlife, are enhanced by even-age management.

The Forest Service is the largest manager of public lands in Georgia, controlling over 800,000 acres in the Chattahoochee and Oconee National Forests. These lands are principally forest land and even-age management, including clearcutting, is practiced in both areas. It is on the 700,000 acres of mountain land in the Chattahoochee Forest, however, where clearcutting is drawing the sharpest criticism. Many feel that this unique mountain environment, its wildlife, recreational potential, and its natural beauty, holds values which far outweigh the singular value of the board feet of lumber produced.

A clearcut is esthetically appalling;

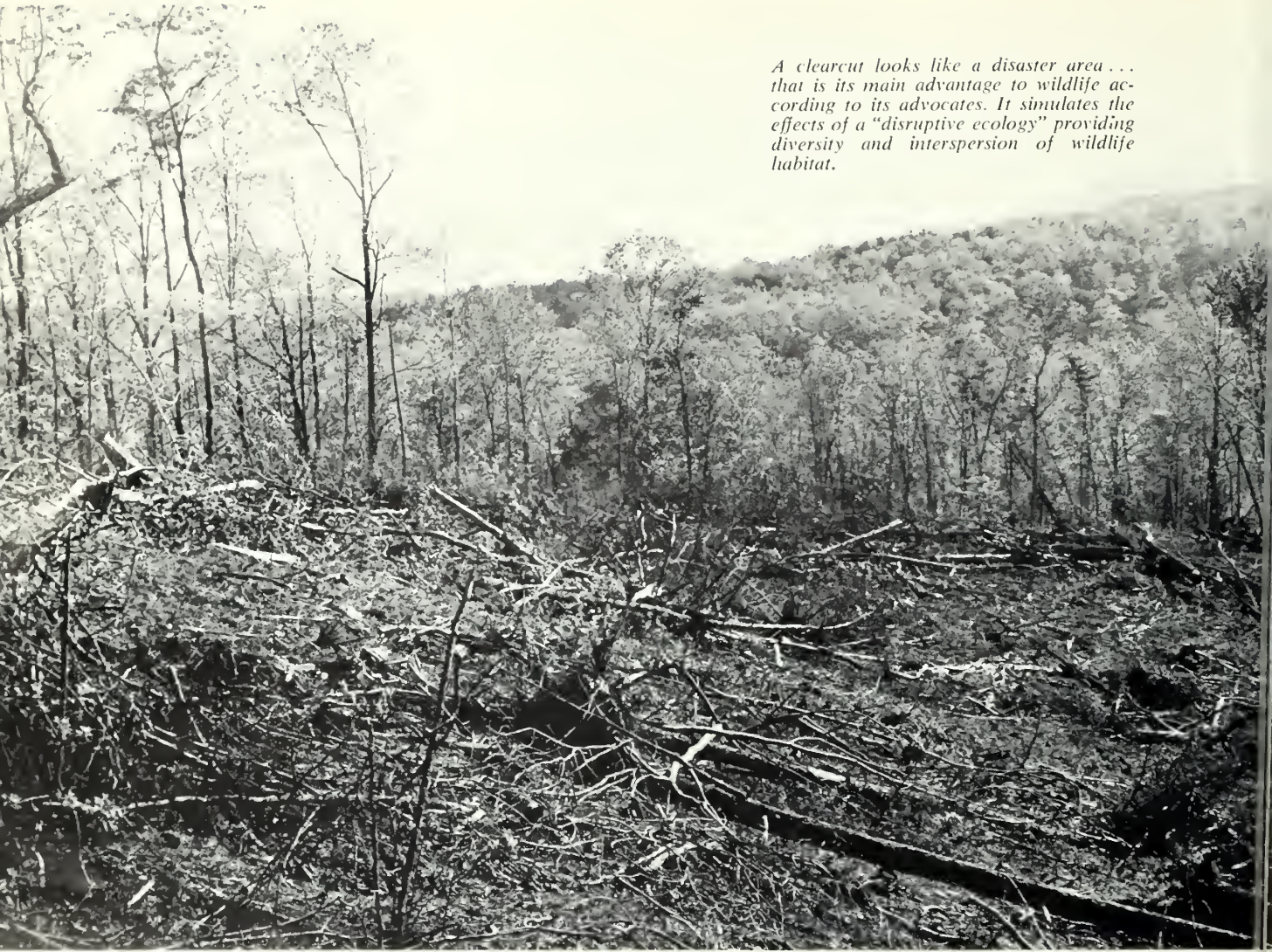
there is no question about that. It resembles the aftermath of some tremendous natural disaster, such as a wildfire or windstorm. Undoubtedly the camper or hiker who ventures onto such a scene in search of natural beauty will be dismayed. The hunter, viewing the slopes denuded of their mast producing hardwoods, justifiably wonders what will happen to the wildlife. The trout fisherman, seeing his favorite stream silted and muddied by the run-off from a freshly cut area, isn't soothed by statistics citing the increased sustained yield of lumber from even-age management, either. These outdoor enthusiasts will readily agree that a clearcut is a very efficient method of growing and harvesting trees, but that it doesn't seem to hold much promise for them.

The Forest Service, on the other hand, makes a strong case for both even-age management and the clearcut method of timber harvest. This management system is said to not only improve the efficiency of timber management and harvest, but also to improve the habitat for wildlife. The controversial clearcut concurrently plays the role of hero and villain when both sides of the question are aired. That a clearcut resembles a natural disaster is not denied, rather it is one of the strongest arguments of its practitioners. They maintain that it duplicates, in a controlled way, the consequences of wild fires, storms, and disease which shaped the wild virgin forests which greeted the first European settlers of this continent. That a clearcut is a disaster is not argued by its critics, but they do disagree on whether or not it is controlled.

Many argue that the Forest Service should return to a forest wide all-age management system which employs a selective-cut harvest system. This method calls for the cutting and removal of trees in a standing forest as they mature, thus all age classes are represented in a given stand. Foresters object that this method leads to long term ills such as "high grading," where the repeated cutting of the best trees culminates in a forest of culls. Also since the forest canopy is really never opened, a perpetually mature climax forest is maintained with little of the understory or plant interspersed needed by wildlife.

Wildlife species vary greatly in their specific habitat needs, but the forest dwellers have some common needs which are beneficial to all. An interspersed of habitat types is one of these

A clearcut looks like a disaster area . . . that is its main advantage to wildlife according to its advocates. It simulates the effects of a "disruptive ecology" providing diversity and interspersed of wildlife habitat.



The newly opened tree canopy allows sunlight to reach the forest floor, encouraging low growing plants which produce browse and fruits. Wildlife biologist, Bob Howarth, examines blueberries growing in a cut-over tract.

common needs. This refers to the availability of a variety of plants offering diversity of food and cover. This interspersed habitat may be created by openings in the forest which permit natural plant succession, and "edge" habitat, which is the brushy border between woods and openings. Such an effect is produced by a "disruptive" ecology, or conditions that prevent the development of an even forest to maturity all at once. In nature, wild fire, floods, and disease lead to disruption and it is this type of action that clearcutting is said to simulate.

A clearcut is certainly disrupting, but is it a benefit or a detriment to the ecology of an area? At what point does the clearcut cease to be a healthy disruption in a mature forest and become a food-destroying, cover-removing, silencing monster? On these specific points even professional wildlife managers disagree, but there is general agreement that, in theory, clearcutting can be beneficial to wildlife.

The Forest Service points out that a clearcut opening in a mature forest is helpful to most types of wildlife. The

pened tree canopy allows sunlight to penetrate to the forest floor, stimulating natural plant succession. It is true that reduction of mast (acorns, hickory nuts, walnuts, etc.) is sacrificed when a stand of hardwoods is cut, but the low growth plants which begin to sprout soon thereafter will supply woody browse and fruit (soft mast) for wildlife. The availability of browse is particularly important to wildlife in times of mast failure. Some of the important mast trees will not grow under an existing tree canopy; a clearcut opening will encourage these species.

A clearcut site being regenerated to hardwood will theoretically produce wildlife food during each stage of its plant succession. These facts tend to indicate that a well planned series of clearcuts of reasonable size, well dispersed in both area and time, could contribute significantly to a forest's wildlife population.

The benefits of even-age management and clearcutting sound good in theory. Increased timber production and high quality wildlife habitat all in one package is like having your cake and eating it too. Unfortunately, practice often does not resemble theory and it is here wildlife suffers part company with loggers.

In forest management realities, as with the having and/or eating of cakes, choices are often made between efficient economics and ecologic considerations. In such cases, it is not unusual for the ecology to be found wanting, and as a result many professional wildlife managers view clearcutting (the practice, not the theory) with mixed emotions.

One particular sore spot is the allowable size of the cut. It is more economical to log as large an area as possible, but from the wildlife standpoint 50 acres is about the maximum beneficial size. This size is only a general guide, however, and the full benefit is realized when such factors as terrain, tree species, location, and configuration of cut are taken into account. At the present time 50 acres is the maximum allowable cut on the Chattahoochee National Forest. Due to the mountainous terrain, even a 50 acre harvest site must be chosen with care to avoid erosion problems.

Dispersion of cuts over the whole forest area is also a critical factor, since our adjoining 50 acre harvest sites in effect a 200 acre clearcut. The key benefit of even-age management is a localized interspersion of plant species and ages, and the large scale even-age stand of rush following a big clearcut offers little more diversity than did the mature forest.

One particular aspect of clearcutting

is causing a great deal of distress to wildlife managers. Timber Stand Improvement is the official terminology, but it means changing the species of tree growing in a particular stand. The site, after the cut, offers an excellent opportunity for stand conversion to a more "desirable species." Although just what constitutes a more desirable species is subject to a considerable latitude of definition, it usually depends on what values are allowed to predominate in the man-

agement system. Wildlife values are best served by natural regeneration to mixed hardwood or hardwood/pine forest that now exists in the mountains. Lumber production leans toward the more efficient, pure pine stands, and we are seeing an increasing loss of natural hardwood stands to the faster growing pines.

A normal hardwood rotation period is 80 years between harvests, as it takes this long for the trees to mature into sawlogs, whereas a pine stand can be



The above photo shows a seed tree harvest which will result in a stand conversion from a mixed hardwood/pine stand to a pure pine stand. The area was harvested by clearcutting except for the seed trees of the "more desirable" species.

This seeded pine and the naturally regenerated oak seem to be doing about equally well in this site which is being converted to pine. Improvement cuts and herbicide treatments will remove the competing hardwood species from this "improved" pine stand.



harvested in 40. It doesn't take a genius to figure out that a pine stand will, in a given period of time, produce more lumber than a hardwood stand. In regard to wildlife values, however, the hardwoods are vastly superior in food production. A naturally revegetating hardwood stand will, as mentioned earlier, produce some wildlife food during all stages of its rotation period. A pine planting produces only the low growing browse plants for the first 3 to 5 years after the cut, after which the pine seedlings become large enough to shade out the browse. The maturing pine stand produces little usable mast and becomes a virtual biological desert until the next harvest.

The conversion of a stand begins with a clearcut harvest, perhaps leaving some seed trees of the desired species (pine).

The site is then extensively prepared by bulldozers to destroy the existing hardwood root systems, the area is then seeded or planted with pine. The stand will then be subjected to improvement cuts and herbicide treatments to eliminate hardwood species which have infiltrated the stand.

This intensive site preparation presents another critical environmental problem in the mountain terrain. The steep slopes are prone to erosion after any clearcut, but when the soil is disturbed by bulldozing the erosion problem is multiplied. The silty runoff from such a site will increase sedimentation and water temperature of the streams in the watershed. These two factors are the main problems facing the trout fishery in the mountain areas today.

Even a stand being regenerated to

hardwoods will show a marked drop in wildlife food production between the time the trees grow large enough to shade out the low browse plants and they begin to produce mast. This problem can be helped by a series of selective cuttings in the pole-sized forest to allow low browse openings. These selective cuts must be well planned however, the criteria by which the stand is "weeded" will greatly influence its final composition.

It is unfortunate that the most desirable trees from the timberman's standpoint are often poor producers of wildlife foods. Hollow den trees, used as homes by many wildlife species, also are victims of weeding cuts, and even the comparatively long 80-100 year hardwood rotation is insufficient to produce such trees. Although the timber harvest guidelines call for the protection of food and den trees important to wildlife, the application of these guidelines at the field level is usually left to timber-management specialists who oversee the harvest, rather than professional game managers who wrote the guidelines.

Professional game managers will concede that clearcut harvesting has the potential to be a useful management technique if wildlife values are taken into proper account in its practice. The recognition of these values doesn't necessarily mean complete abandonment of timber production, but does demand more comprehensive management techniques. It will also require the acknowledgment that a forest's beauty and wildlife are just as important as the lumber it will produce. The clearcut is a useful tool for both wildlife and timber management, but as it is currently being practiced in some areas it is inconsistent with sound conservation methods which would promote multiple use of the forest. A slight shift of emphasis would make it possible to both have and eat the resources cake of our Natural Forest land.

This clearcut site was intensely prepared by bulldozing to facilitate reseedling to pine. Such disturbance of the unprotected forest floor on steep slopes can lead to erosion problems.





Photo by Ted Borg

Gun Safety

By Bob Wilson

Twenty pairs of eyes were riveted upon the young boy as he carried the shotgun to the firing line. He kept the muzzle of the gun pointed in a safe direction at all times. After checking the position of the safety, the youngster loaded a shell into the gun, raised it to his shoulder, and called, "Pull!"

The **thwump** of the trap launching the clay pigeon was closely followed by the boom of the 12-gauge shotgun. The youngster hardly noticed the recoil as he watched the clay target disappear in a puff of smoke. Reverberations



Photo by Aaron I.

of the blast died away in time for him to hear the soft clink of falling fragments of clay. The onlookers cheered—it was the first time the boy had ever shot a gun.

Flushed with success, he turned around but kept the muzzle of the gun pointed down-range. His father was proud too, and quite relieved. Few of the onlookers could have guessed that until that day the boy had been depressed and the father frustrated over the subject of shooting. The youngster wanted to go shooting, but his father lacked the necessary knowledge to get him started correctly and safely. As a result of a gun and hunter safety program, this boy was prepared to take up the sport of shooting—and before the day was over, dad was shooting too!

City-reared people often find it hard to find out about hunting and fishing or find someone to teach them the correct and successful methods of taking up these sports. Realizing this, the Game and Fish Commission takes every opportunity to teach Georgians how to be active in these sports safely and correctly. The gun and hunter safety course offered by the Georgia Game and Fish Commission and presented in cooperation with Winchester-

Western will be held at the Triple H Gun Club near Locust Grove on August 21.

The whole course includes a slide presentation and demonstration on gun safety and hunter safety, and a trip to the firing line to let the students practice safe shooting under close supervision. The course is designed to give the new or young hunter an excellent opportunity to get started correctly, well versed in proper and safe methods of handling guns.

While the instruction given in the course is offered at no charge, a fee of \$2 per person will be charged for the shooting session to cover the cost of targets, firearms rental, and ammunition. Shooters furnishing their own shotgun ammunition will only pay \$1 to cover the cost of the targets. All shooting will be done with shotguns.

Sessions will last about an hour and a half, with sessions starting at 10 a.m., 12 noon, 2 p.m., and 4 p.m., on August 21. Game and Fish personnel and qualified Winchester instructors will be on hand all day. For further information call the public relations office of the Game and Fish Commission at 656-3531 in Atlanta, or Triple H Gun Club at 957-5091 in Locust Grove.

Ancient Challenge



FOR MODERN SPORTSMEN

By Marvin Tye

The warm morning sun was just beginning to cut the haze of an early October day. From his perch 15 feet up in a high oak tree, the bowhunter could see squirrels feeding on the ground and various species of birds flitting from tree to tree. Suddenly, a movement off to one side caught his eye. As he watched, he was able to distinguish first a nervously twitching tail, then a pair of legs below the screening brush. Then the animal moved and the hunter could see the front legs and head of a fine whitetail buck. The antlers gleamed in the sunlight as the deer lowered his head

to munch acorns on the ground.

The situation looked perfect. If the deer continued feeding on its present course, it would step into the open well within bow range. The animal was on the bowhunter's left side, so the man would not have to change position on his tree stand in order to shoot. As if on cue, the buck stepped into the clearing and lowered his head to pick up a succulent acorn.

The archer had a quartering away shot. The buck was facing the opposite direction and was distracted by its feeding. The man had visions of meat in the

freezer as he drew the bowstring back to his anchor point and aimed. It had been several months since he had taken a shot such as this. Would the arrow drop at that range or should he aim low on the animal's body to compensate for the tendency to shoot high from an elevated position? Such decisions must be made in a hurry, so the hunter took aim at the center of the buck's rib cavity, a compromising calculation. He relaxed his grip on the bowstring and his arrow was on its way. The brightly feathered shaft seemed to be heading right for its mark. At the last second, it seemed to

If you plan to do much of your deer hunting from a tree stand, you should practice shooting at deer-sized targets from an elevated position.

lose some of its momentum and fell just under the buck's body, striking a rock with a metallic click. The startled deer jumped forward, then bounded away, his white tail waving in alarm.

A moment's indecision had cost the hunter a fine trophy. More so than any other type of hunting, bagging a buck with a bow and arrow calls for extended practice before the season begins. If the archer in the preceding incident had practiced shooting from an elevated position at deer-sized targets from various ranges, he would have known just how to aim when that deer appeared and the outcome might have been different.

If you plan to bowhunt for deer during the coming season, now is the time to practice. The more familiar a hunter becomes with his weapon, the more likely he is to place his shots accurately. Most bowhunters use a portable tree stand placed about 10 to 15 feet off the ground. Shooting from such a position brings up problems not faced by the archer on the ground. Up to a certain range, the elevated archer tends to shoot high. To compensate for this, he must aim below the point he intends to hit. At a certain range—point blank range—he must aim exactly where he wants the arrow to strike. Beyond this range, the arrow must be aimed above the point of impact to allow for the drop in trajectory.

After several weeks of practicing shots from a tree stand, the archer can make such shots almost without conscious calculation. It is almost automatic. Yet, summertime practice need not be all dull routine. August and September are months when archery clubs throughout the state hold field tournaments and other competitive events. These are a lot of fun as well as good practice for the hunting archer.

The sport of field archery originated as a means of practicing for bowhunting. Targets were set up in the woods to simulate hunting conditions and hunters were required to shoot from various distances. The usual target on a tree stand is a circular bull's eye

similar to that used for other target-shooting competition. During the late summer months these are replaced by animal targets. Deer, rabbit, squirrel, fox, and other native Georgia species are represented as well as bull moose and other similar creatures thrown in just for fun. Usually these targets are only paper faces placed on bales of hay. Sometimes, more elaborate targets are constructed in three-dimensional models to give more realism. These are especially beneficial to the hunter shooting from a tree stand.

If you are a beginning archer and would like to get in on such a shoot, you

will probably find an archery club in your town or at least in a nearby town where such events are held. You can find the location of the nearest archery club by contacting your local sporting goods dealer or by writing to Jerry Cameron, Executive President, Georgia Bowhunters & Archery Association, 2626 Wiggins Street, Lithonia, Georgia 30058. One of the biggest of the tournaments to be held in Georgia each year is the heavy tackle shoot at Moccasin's Bowhunting Preserve in Uvalda. In addition to shooting at simulated animal targets, participating archers also get a chance to hunt wild hogs during this





Photo by Marvin Tye

contest which is held during the Labor Day weekend. A bow with a minimum draw weight of 40 pounds is required for this competition.

If his primary interest is tournament competition, the archer usually shoots a bow of much less than 40 pounds. Shooting a heavy hunting bow 100 times or more in a single day would tire the archer to the point that he would not be able to shoot accurately during the last stages of competition. Actual hunting situations would not require as much shooting, so a stronger bow can be used with good results as far as accuracy is concerned. The stronger bow can also

be used in such events as the heavy tackle shoot where archers shoot from one to three times at each target and have time to rest before shooting at another. In this event, vital areas are drawn on the animal targets. If the archer hits a vital spot with his first arrow he scores 20 points. A hit in a non-vital area on the first shot scores 16. If he hits the target with the first arrow, the archer does not shoot again until his group moves to a different target. If he misses the target entirely with the first arrow, the archer gets to try up to two more shots scoring 14 or 10 points for the second arrow or 8 or 4 for the third.

If the archer misses the same target three times, he gets no score at that particular location.

Women as well as men participate in field and target archery competitions. In fact, in most tournaments there are separate divisions for men, women and children. There are even classifications for degrees of skill. A person who consistently shoots high scores in competition is matched with others of the same degree of skill. Those who do not usually shoot such high scores compete with others in their class.

The beginner in archery should be careful to buy a bow that he can handle. If he buys one that is too heavy for his capabilities, he will develop bad habits such as flinching and a jerky release which will cause his shooting accuracy to suffer. Bow weight is measured in pounds, usually the amount of pressure required to draw an arrow 28 inches.

According to state regulations, it is illegal to hunt deer or turkey with a bow drawing less than 40 pounds. Some hunters who compete in tournaments use a 40 pound bow or heavier for both hunting and target work. They reason that this keeps them familiar with their hunting weight and pays off in continued accuracy during the deer season. A man who is really serious about competition will probably use a lighter bow and will probably outscore the man whose primary interest is hunting. The average tournament weight bow is 35 pounds for men and 25 pounds for women. Tournament competitors are likely to install sights, stabilizers and other gadgets on their bows for increased accuracy.

If you want to take up bowhunting there are two ways to go. The first of these is to buy two bows. One should be 40 pounds or heavier, the other light enough so that you can hold it at full draw for several seconds without tiring. Practice with the lighter bow to tone your muscles and gradually work up to the hunting weight weapon. In the beginning shoot the heavy bow only a few times each day or each practice session.

Buying only one bow in the 40 pound



Photo by Marvin Tye

The bowhunter who can consistently place his arrows in the vital area on a deer target is ready to go hunting for this fine game animal during the fall.

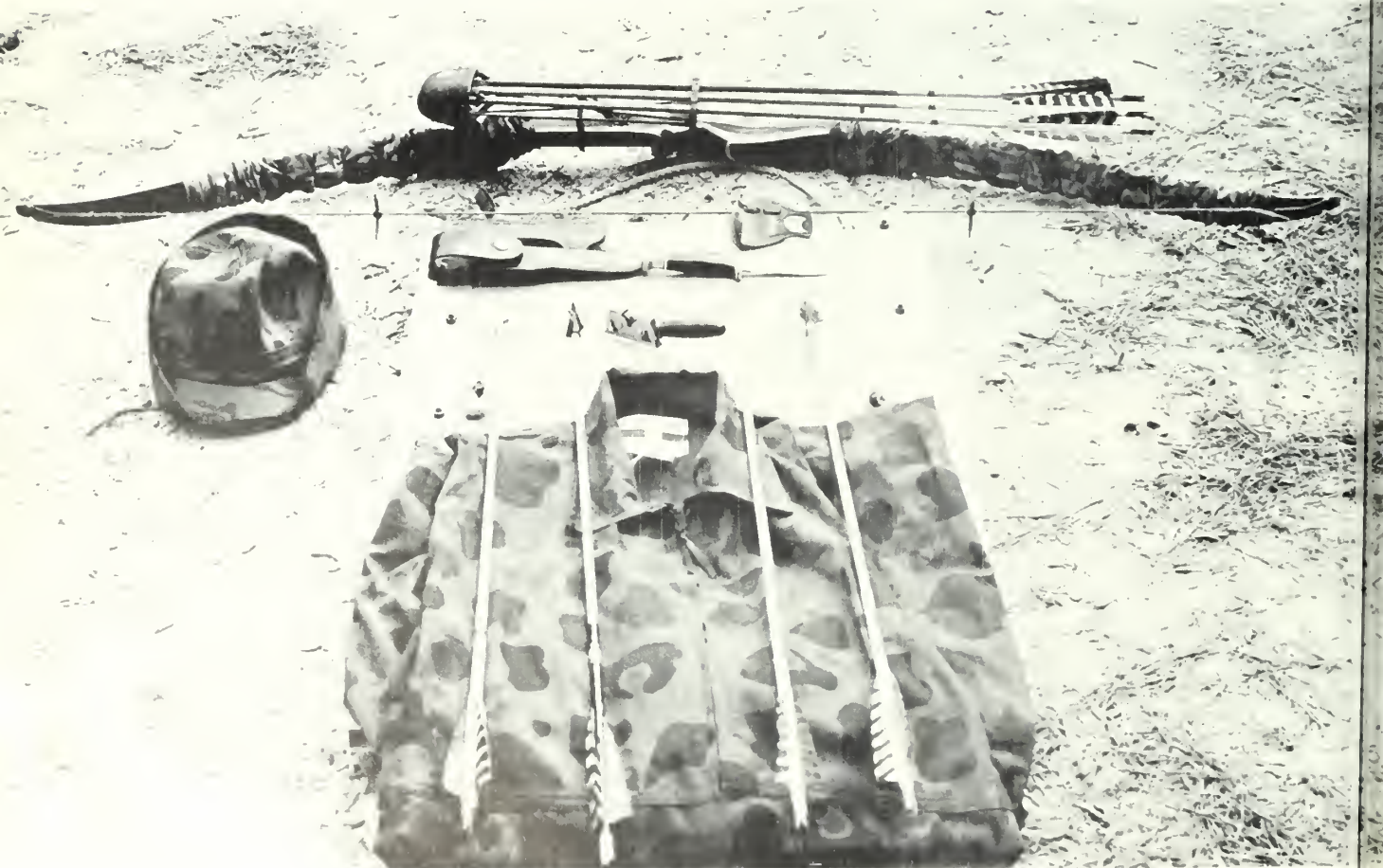
Basic equipment for the bowhunter—bow and broadhead arrow, shooting tab, armguard, knife, sharpening device, tree stand and camouflage suit. Pick your equipment with care. Economy is fine, but buying inferior tackle can bring poor results.

or larger class can be a mistake. If you buy such a bow and shoot with it long periods of time, your practice sessions are likely to be unpleasant and you are likely to develop bad shooting habits. More people have dropped out of archery because they were "overbowed" than for any other reason.

If you go by the second method, buying only one bow in a hunting weight you can still learn to shoot accurately. The secret is to shoot only a few rows, with as much rest between shots as needed at the beginning. In this way you will develop your strength gradually and not have unpleasant memories of aching muscles and arrows that do not go where you aim them.

Regardless of what kind of bow you use you must have arrows matched to that particular bow. Arrows that shoot well out of a 50 pound bow will not perform the same way when shot from a 40 pound weapon. Consistent accuracy is impossible with mismatched tackle. For this reason you should buy bows, arrows and archery accessories from a dealer who is an archer himself and knows the subject thoroughly. If you try to buy the cheapest equipment that you can find, you may cheat yourself in the long run. There is nothing wrong with trying to save money—just be sure that you do not buy inferior equipment.

Photo by Ted





Organized competition helps to improve the archer's skill. Other members of an archery club can give valuable advice to the beginning bowhunter.

Photo by Ted Borg

Don't go hunting deer until you can use a heavy enough bow to get the job done and shoot it accurately. If you can't handle your equipment, you are as likely to wound the animal as to kill it. A sharp broadhead, accurately placed, is just as deadly and humane as any other hunting weapon.

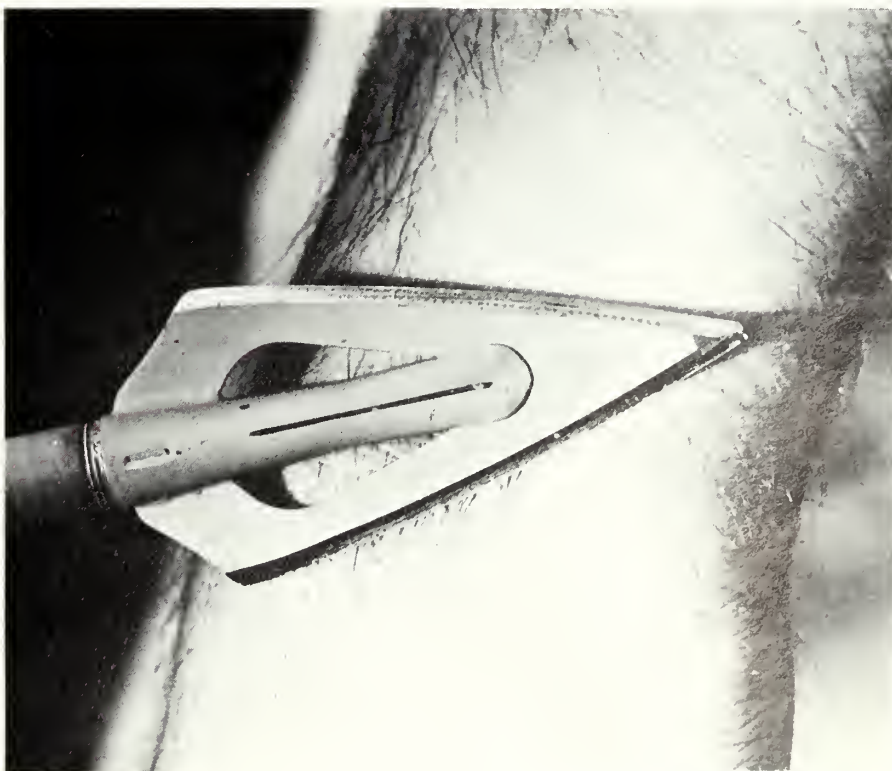
There is a saying among serious bowhunters that he who hunts with a dull broadhead has two. This means that only the foolish man hunts with anything less than a sharp broadhead. If your broadhead will not shave hair from your arm, it is not sharp enough to hunt with.

Most archers use three or four-edged cutting points in order to have a larger cutting area. The broadhead kills by hemorrhage, so the more cutting area it has, the better it performs.

There is a wide range of activities that you can enjoy with your bow and arrow—tournament competition, deer hunting, bowfishing for rough fish and hunting small game such as squirrels and rabbits. All of these activities require shooting skill and a thorough knowledge of the factors involved. The challenge is what makes it all worthwhile.

Unless your broadhead will shave hair from your arm, it is not ready to be shot at a deer. Sharp edges increase its killing power and get the job done humanely.

Photo by Ted Borg



Sportsmen Speak...



Letters of general interest will be used as possible. Letters must be brief and to the point. The number of letters received prevents us from using all letters. When several letters on the same subject are received the editors reserve the right to use only those which cover the subject best. Letters should be signed; however, names will be withheld upon request.

JUNGLE FOWL PROGRESS?

I am an avid dove hunter and would like to see more articles on the subject. Also in your December, 1969, edition you had an article on the experiments concerning the stacking of jungle fowl. How are these experiments coming along? Keep up the good work.

Brent Finley
Chamblee

There have been only two experimental stackings of these birds in the state. One didn't pan out as the birds have disappeared. There are still sightings being made at the other release point, but so far, no natural reproduction has been reported. At this point, we are waiting for more positive indications on whether or not the Jungle Fowl can adapt to Georgia.

PRIVATE TROUT STREAM

I have a farm in North Georgia and a trout stream flows through this farm (I own both sides of the bank) and Game and Fish stocks this creek.

I also keep my land posted as sometimes we go down to the creek to take a bath and have target practice toward the creek.

My question is this: Can I legally ask anyone to leave the creek behind my house since it is designated as trout water and can I ask Game and Fish to quit stocking fish at my bridge (the presence of stocked fish brings a lot of unwanted people and trash).

Also can I fish on my own property anytime of the year?

Bryan L. Stevens
Atlanta

Since you own both sides of the stream, you may as you desire prevent other persons from fishing on your stream. You may legally ask anyone to leave your property.

Should you do this, however, it will be necessary that you notify us so that we may discontinue stocking this stream. We cannot stock a stream which is not open to the public. Please advise us of the name of the stream and its location.

In answer to your final question—no, you may not fish in your stream all year, you may fish for trout in a designated trout stream only during the legal trout season April 1 through October 3 this year.

DEER BOOKS WANTED

As a subscriber to the State Game and Fish magazine, I am very interested in all articles concerning deer hunting. I am glad to see our state on the upswing in the reproduction and growth of turkeys and whitetails. Much of this is credited to this worthwhile magazine.

After several seasons against Mr. Whitetail Buck, I love to read and study all material concerning the issue. However, I have found it difficult to obtain good, interesting, factual and detailed books for my whitetail knowledge and library. (Tom Hayes' whitetail book is excellent.)

I would appreciate any lists of names of books (authors and publishers) concerning whitetails of which any of your writers might know.

I have the following books:

1. The Complete Deer Hunt by Joe DeFalco (Grosset and Dunlap, N. Y., 1970)
2. Hunting the Whitetail Deer by Tom Hayes (A. S. Barnes and Co., Inc., N. Y., 1966)
3. The Deerhunter's Bible by George Laycock (Doubleday and Co., Inc., N. Y., 1963)
4. The Archer's Bible by Fred Bear (Doubleday and Co., Inc., N. Y., 1968)

Thank you very much for your assistance in this matter.

W. Ralph Bray, III
Atlanta

The books you mention are all excellent choices. We would suggest three more:

1. The Deer Hunter's Guide by Francis E. Jones (Stockpole Books, 1968, \$5.00)
2. How to Hunt Whitetail Deer by S. A. Anderson (Funk & Wagnolls, 1968, \$5.95)
3. Whitetail by George Mottis (World Publishing Co., \$6.95)

Georgia GAME & FISH will contain periodic reviews of books which we feel will be especially helpful to our readers.

SAD OVER STREAMS

I was saddened by the letter of Mr. Charles E. Dawkins appearing in the January issue of GAME & FISH Magazine about the pollution of Wild Hog and Canada creeks near Woody's in North Georgia.

I first fished these streams in 1930. At that time they were streams in a virgin forest, known as Cherokee National Forest, and changed to the Chattahoochee National Forest.

Since that time many changes have taken place in the streams and the forest. During the 22 years I fished those streams everything that occurred was detrimental to good trout fishing except the restocking of the streams. Not only were the above named streams virgin territory, so were the Jones and Montgomery creeks and all the tributaries of the Etowah river (which I called the Hightower).

When I first fished those streams you could fish for days and never run into another fisherman on the streams. What a day of fishing could have been by fishing down Wild Hog and Canada creek and then up Canada creek to the highway near the home of Chief Ranger Woody, then about a 3 mile walk to Wild Hog and your car.

At the time I began to fish those streams were all stocked with rainbow trout, and the limit was 20 each day. Very few times did I fish those streams and fail to get our limit. Many small ones released. The ones we caught ran from 10 to 18 inches in length, the largest one I caught was a 5 1/4 pounder taken in Jones creek in 1935.

About 1933 or '34 the CCC camps moved into the forest and set up housekeeping and the creeks were used to dispose of the garbage in tin cans from some of the camps would wash long way downstream from the camps. The first job was construction of roads; the second they constructed made the streams more accessible for the fishermen. Where the stream was bare the roads ran just a murky color and when it rained they turned into a stream of red mud. The sediment left on the streams from the CCC camps did not make better trout fishing.

About the time the CCC camps were discontinued or moved to other locations, the U. S. Forest Service gave a contract to a lumber company to remove all the chestnut logs and to cut out the standing trees. It seemed that the only way to remove this timber was to build logging roads along the streams, crossing the streams many times. This and the tree lops left in the stream did not improve the fishing. In a year or two after the logging stopped, fishing once again improved. In 1952 I had to bid farewell to trout fishing due to age, too old to wade in streams any more, the fishing was still too good.

When I first fished these streams there was no wildlife one would run into were half wild range cattle, wild hogs and squirrels. But when I quit the streams, under the management of Chief Ranger Woody, the turkey, deer and ruffed grouse were plentiful.

W. B. Davis
Inverness, Florida

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outdoor world

Striped Bass — High Production

Georgia's production of striped bass, a project that went into full operation only this year, has begun to produce dividends. Approximately 7,000,000 striped bass were produced this year by the Fisheries Division of the Game and Fish Commission at Richmond Hill Hatchery. The fry were reared at Cordele and Steve Cocke Hatcheries to reach fingerling before final stocking in our major lakes.

Representative Howard Rainey, of Cordele, Chairman of the House Game and Fish Committee, and Game and Fish Commissioner Dr. Robert Collins, of Americus, representing the 3rd District, were on hand recently to witness some of the results of the program as the first major stocking of stripers in Lake Blackshear took place. Approximately 43,500 of the striped bass fingerlings, reared at the Cordele Hatchery, were released in Blackshear.

Previous test stockings in Blackshear have indicated that striped bass can adapt to the conditions of the lake, and the fish are expected to introduce a new dimension in sportfishing in the lake. These striped bass will act as a biological control on the gizzard shad in addition to offering another challenge for the fisherman. The fingerlings are expected to reach the legal keeping size of 15 inches within 18 months.

—Bob Busby

Recycling Moves Ahead

Glass container manufacturers have paid the public approximately one million dollars for reclaimed bottles and jars in the first nine months of an industry-wide glass recycling program. Member companies of the Glass Container Manufacturers are expected to reach an annual pace of half a billion jars and bottles this summer.

Each quarter has shown a significant increase of involvement by public-minded citizens and organizations in this program. Richard L. Cheney, President of GCMI, reports that the number of reclaimed bottles and jars has increased from 42 million in the opening quarter of the program to 96 million in the first quarter of 1971. Mr. Cheney added that, "all indications point to continuation of this rising trend."

The majority of the glass containers salvaged are recycled into the bottle manufacturing process but many pos-

sible uses are being explored. An experimental black-top paving material, "glassphalt," made up of crushed glass aggregate instead of crushed stone, is presently being tested on many roadways in the U.S. and Canada. Other potential uses for salvaged glass include bricks, blocks, insulation, wall paneling, and numerous other building products. According to Mr. Cheney, "potential uses for discarded bottles and jars could absorb every ounce of waste glass we could possibly hope to find in the nation's refuse, not only this year, but as far ahead as we can see."

Two of the local agencies that accept used glass for recycling are the Coca-Cola Bottling Company located at 8th and Williams Streets, Atlanta (phone

872-7791), and the Owen-Illinois Glass Container Division at 3107 Sylvan Road, Atlanta (phone 766-2761). These companies purchase any thrown-away glass for 1 cent a pound. They ask that the glass be reasonably clean, separated by color, and all metal removed. Paper labels may be left on the bottles. For information on recycling programs in your area, check with your local bottling and glass companies.

This is one of the many ways in which each individual can join in the effort to clean up America and reduce future litter. Start your own anti-litter campaign by returning your glass containers for recycling, instead of discarding this valuable product as trash.

—Margaret Howard

Sportsman's Calendar

Management Area	Stream	May	June	July	August	September
BLUE RIDGE	Janes Creek (Artificial Lures)	Sat., Sun	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Mantgomery	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
	Nimblewill	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Naantaatley (Artificial Lures) (Catch and Release)	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Rock Creek	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs. Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
CHATTAHOOCHEE	Chattahoochee	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Dukes	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
CHESTATEE	Baggs	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	Wed., Thurs.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2)
	Dicks	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Blood Mountain Waters	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed Sat., Sun.	Closed (Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
LAKE BURTON	Dicks	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed
	Maccasin	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Wildcat	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	Sat., Sun.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
LAKE RUSSELL	Middle Braad	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	Wed., Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
WARWOMAN	Finney	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Sarabs	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	(Wed., Sept. 1; Thurs., Sept. 2; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Walnut Fork and Haads Creek	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	Sat., Sun.	Wed., Thurs.	(Sat., Sept. 4; Sun., Sept. 5; Mon., Sept. 6)
	Tuckaluge	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed	Closed

TROUT SEASONS

Open season April 1 through October 2. Streams closed to fishing: Coleman River upstream from U. S. Forest Service Bridge No. 54 (Coleman River Road); Dicks Creek (Burton Management Area), entire length inside management area; Blood Mountain Creek (Chestatee Management Area), entire length inside management area.

All trout waters are open for fishing from 30 minutes before sunrise until 30 minutes after sunset.

No night trout fishing is allowed on trout streams open during the regular state trout season. Trout fishing at night on major reservoirs is permitted.

Creel limit: 8 per day, 8 in possession.

SQUIRREL SEASONS

August 14, 1971, through September 4, 1971, in the counties of Harris, Talbot, Upson, Monroe, Jones, Baldwin, Hancock, Warren, McDuffie, Columbia and all coun-

ties north of those listed. Bag limit 10 daily. Statewide season is October 16, 1971, through February 29, 1972. Bag limit 10 daily.

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SEPTEMBER, 1971





GEORGIA game & fish

September 1971 Volume VI Number 9

CONTENTS

Dove or Die	G&F Staff	1
Elbow Room Hunting	Dean Wohlgenuth	5
Endangered Species	Aaron Pass	8
Meet Your Commissioner	Marvin Tye	10
My First Dove Shoot	Donna Ash	11
Seafood Cafeteria	Bob Wilson	12
Big Buck Bounty	Marvin Tye	15
Outdoor World		19
Sportsmen Speak		20
Sportsman's Calendar		20

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WE ARE JUDGED BY OUR WORST

The sport hunter has recently changed his hat; doffing traditional red plaid cap for the ominous black Stetson characteristic of the bad guy in early western shoot-em-ups. At least this is the image the general, non-hunting public is getting from a well planned propaganda offensive now under way by the anti-hunting forces. In many modern ecology flicks it is the hunter who is cast as the bad guy, wiping out flocks of ducks and herds of deer and generally wreaking havoc with the ecology.

The hunter is quickly chosen by the environmentalist filmmaker seeking to make a highly emotional "statement" in his film. The hunter is seized upon because he is very visible, easy to isolate, and highly emotion provoking. The environmental problems such as pollution, loss of wildlife habitat, and the population explosion, are usually ignored because they are hard to photograph, harder to explain, and not nearly so exciting. A recent example of this technique was the much-written-about "Say Goodbye" in which, according to reports, the film maker admitted he used splashed film to fake a sequence showing a hunter "kill" a ferocious polar bear with cubs. The film was condemned as a lie and the film maker admitted that he saw no harm in using a doctored film for a "high impact."

These films and the accompanying propaganda crusades which sometimes use well known personalities to endorse the "Hunter is a Beast" point of view are rapidly changing the public's image of the hunter. The brave woodsman who saved Little Red Riding Hood from the wolf is now shown out in the woods gunning down Bambi.

What can be done about this? Some hunters will only mutter about do-gooders, and sit back saying they pay licenses, support the Game and Fish Commission, and don't violate any game laws. This is all commendable but it doesn't prove much to anyone else. The farmer with the cut fence, the hiker who finds the carcass of an illegally killed doe . . . they have a definite opinion about what part of man the hunter is. The people who hear the game dog brag about shooting two limits and getting away with it have the same opinion, he is a slob. To them the hunter has just been weighed in the balance and found sadly wanting.

Who will prove to them that all hunters are not like the sorry examples they had contact with? They have seen the hunter at his worst, and it is up to you to show them the hunter at his best.

What have you done lately to prove you're not a slob?

—Aaron Pass

ON THE COVER: September means dove hunting to Georgia sportsmen. Bob Ingram, Gamewinner Inc., Atlanta, is ready for the doves with his camouflage umbrella. You'll be rarin' to go after doves yourself after reading the lighthearted article, "Dove or Die," by the GAME & FISH Magazine staff, on Page 1. Also, another first for GAME & FISH is a Youth Section, 13-17, featuring a dove hunting article by young Donna Ash of Oliver, Georgia. Photo by Dean Wohlgenuth.

ON THE BACK COVER: One of the little known sports in Georgia is pit fighting hunting marsh hens in our coastal marshes. There is plenty of elbow room for this sport, but there's a bit of hard work connected to it. See Dean Wohlgenuth's article, "Elbow Room Hunting," Page 5. Photo by Dean Wohlgenuth.

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DOVE OR DIE

BLAM! BLAM! BLAM!

"There flies a dead dove!"

Popopopopopopopopopopopopopopop!

"Don't let that soft grey color fool you... steel is the same color. They're wearing bulletproof pants!"

You're sitting hidden in a clump of weeds, your back to part of the field,

(but in comfort)

By the Staff of
GAME & FISH Magazine

Photo by Deon Wohlgemuth.

This dove hunter is ready for a hot day afield, with his water jug and camouflage umbrella... but where's his gun? Don't worry, he already had it on his stand, along with a stool, radio, shells, retriever,...



and the rest hidden from view by some trees. You haven't seen a dove in a half hour, but it seems like an hour. Sweat pours down from your hat, trickling into your shooting eye, and along your nose. You wonder if ever again, you'll see a dove.

Just then, the whole world seems to erupt in gunfire, and you believe a battalion of paratroopers wound up off course and fell in that field, instead of Vietnam. Pow, Pow, Pow. Blooie! Hundreds of shots ring out, just behind the trees. Progressively, the fire begins to move your way, and you wonder whether to stand your ground or run.

Finally you decide that it is, after all, just the other hunters, and that one huge flock of doves is attacking the field. You scan the sky, hoping at least a few of them survive to reach your stand. But you don't see any falling birds, no one running out into the field to pick up their bag.

At last you see the birds...oops, make that 'bird.' Yep, that's right...all that shooting was at just one bird, and he's still going, 75 yards high, just beyond the flak, twisting, turning, bobbing, darting, dodging all the fire, apparently untouched. He comes your way, and you're the last stand in the field. Now's your chance to be a hero, and show the others you can do what they can't.

The bird seems to think the last gun is behind him, and he comes in lower, within 40 yards. You're set. Carefully, you check your gun, mentally condition yourself to lead him, just right.

Blam, blam, blam! Your gun is empty. The valiant dove flies on. Untouched. (What crosses your mind won't be printed here.)

Oh well, you sigh, that's dove hunting. You wonder about those 'national averages' which say that hunters are supposed to bag one dove for every so many shots. You wonder who's getting one for at least every two shots, because you know there must have been 200 rounds fired at that last bird, and he's still flying.

Well, no use worrying about...oh, there comes one, and he's headed right toward me, nice and low...Poom! Doggone, where did that skybuster come from? Didn't he know he couldn't possibly hit that bird, and that it was coming my way?

There's one, winging straight toward me, coming from behind. No one can see me to this one. Blam, blam, blam. One shot! Look three shots, but he's gone!

One back on up and walk back to the stand. Halt! Wait! back, a flock of at least a dozen doves passes overhead. You pull



Ladies get into the act, too, during the dove season. Here, Wohlgenuth draws a bead on a bird, though she sometimes has a bit of trouble finding those she downs...and sometimes it's her husband she can't find!

the trigger. Nothing. Doggone! Why didn't I reload right away?

If you've hunted doves, you may recognize some of these circumstances as having happened to you. Who hasn't?

On a dove hunt, you'll see nearly everything. Some zany, funny things can happen to you on the way to a dove dinner.

The staff of Georgia GAME & FISH have combined their experiences into this epistle, to hopefully bring you a few laughs, and to excite your fancy so that you just can't stand it any more...by the time you finish reading this, we'll almost bet you've glanced at your gun rack at least four times, and before doing another thing, you'll take Ol' Betsy from the rack, dust her off, and may swab out her throat a bit. Chances are, you'll even be ready to get out the reloader, and pack up some shells.

And you'd better hurry...dove season is all set for noon, Saturday, Sep-

tember 4. There'll be three segments to the season again this year, September 4-25, October 23-November 10, and November 18 through January 15. You don't forget...the two-year experimental limit of 18 birds per day is a thing of the past. This year, the limit reverts to the normal 12 birds per day. Come on now, be a sport. Remember, you're here for dove shooting, and want to keep it fun. When you hit 12, don't forget to pick up your gear and go home. It might be more fun standing by the water cooler watching your friends shoot...and miss!

And everyone misses. The good ones we like to remember, the bad ones we forget. Dean Wohlgenuth, GAME & FISH editor, recalls one day last season...

There weren't too many flying. I'd hit only the easy shots I would have had a good meal. Those are the ones missed! The two I hit? One was a pin-



away, went past me silently, and I recovered just as the bird was barely out of range. Enraged, I shot anyway. The bird dove, recovered, sailed 200 yards and went down. After it I went, and 10 minutes later I found it. Just as I turned to go back to my stand I saw my wife shoot and a bird fall, dead. But she didn't go after it.

"Why didn't you pick up your bird?" I asked. Her reply? "I didn't really think I hit it."

My next shot was another sneaky bird, one that came up on my right, around a tree. The first snap shot missed, and as the bird went behind me, I fell down as I twisted around to make a second try. I was almost in mid-air as I pulled the trigger... and the bird dropped stone dead.

One day, moments after I took the field, a downpour began, in spite of the weatherman's promise of sunshine. An old, vacant house in the center of the

field was the most popular place around. Lie-swapping and general friend making began.

After awhile, there was a loud bang from the other side of the house. A dove had come by, and a hunter leaned out the window and made a clean kill.

It was then that everyone noticed the rain had slackened quite a bit. One by one, hunters began drifting back out to their stands. Soon, the house was nearly empty, except for a few who preferred to stay as dry as they could. When I went back out, my wife was among those who stayed inside. She was about three months away from having a baby.

I was back on my stand, bagging enough birds to keep me out in the rain. Once I looked up, and thought I saw my wife, wearing my hat, head from the house toward the field... but at a 90 degree angle from me and from where her stand had been.

She began looking around as if she'd

lost something. Just then, someone shouted, "Behind you!" She whirled, looked up, fired... and the dove fell wounded, halfway between her and me. She ran after it, and I was about to have a heart attack. But she caught it, looked up, and saw me. "What are you doing over here?" she asked.

"This is where I've been all day," I replied. She never had been very good on directions.

Rain can always add complexities to dove hunting. I recall one day hunting in the rain, with an ample supply of reloads in paper hulls. About the time the rain began to let up, the doves began really coming in. Everytime I tried to cram a shell into my gun, I fumed... those shells had swelled with the moisture, and wouldn't fit the gun's chamber. I watched dove after dove fly by, well within range, with no shells that would fit my gun.

And I can recall, too, the day, I needed one bird to fill out my limit. It was almost quitting time, and birds were coming in very, very slow now. At last. One more small flock. I raised my gun and fired... poof! A blooper load, jamming my gun. Well, that can happen to any reloader once in awhile!

And who hasn't hunted with a group where one fella had a dog with him to retrieve his birds? And the dog retrieved everyone else's birds?

Listen to Ben Gunn, now, who does the Game and Fish Commission's daily fishing reports, as he tells of some of his experiences:

All one has to do is let the word "dove" fall upon my unsuspecting ears and my memory discs begin to rotate and counter-rotate. In a split second out pops—in living color—a most unbelievable event that occurred quite a number of years ago, so unbelievable that I have never bothered to pass it along to any other party. Here's what happened on that cold autumn afternoon some years ago.

I had gone squirrel hunting with a close friend who was struggling through life under the load of Clarence Leighton Hardy. Due to certain enlargements of anatomy he had been renamed by his peers to the more descriptive and personally appealing name "Moose Ears." That's who I was hunting with that day, good ol' Moose Ears Hardy. He had a .410 shotgun and I had a single shot .22 rifle.

After a fruitless hour or so in a swampy area Moose Ears and I decided to head home. We elected to cut across a cornfield that was at least a quarter mile wide. We had almost made it to the other side where we'd pick up a wagon

track when a single gray phantom scrambled for the sky right in front of us. It made a quick climbing bank and struck out for the edge of the swamp we had just left minutes before.

We listened to its soft whistling raspberry chuckle and watched as it swooped into the grey moss-spread arms of a huge live oak that reared itself on the border of the swamp. It was so far away all we could really determine was that it had landed somewhere in the huge middle section of the tree.

We stood silent for a moment then Moose Ears began to grunt. He never spoke when a grunt would suffice. He grunted at me, then at my .22, then at the faraway tree, then a particularly mean grunt, holding up and shaking his .410.

I felt like socking him in the stomach. I always did when he grunted at me, but I shrugged my shoulders and aimed my rifle at the tree. All the time I was thinking, "He's out of his everloving mind if he thinks I can spook that dove out of that tree and get him to fly back over here so he can get a crack at him with that flea buster he calls a gun!" But I aimed where I thought the trunk of the tree would be, allowing Kentucky windage for the distance, and pulled the trigger.

I didn't even bother to keep my eyes

on the tree after I sent that little .22 short cartridge zinging on its way. I started to sit down on some busted corn stalks when I heard Moose Ears give out with a grunt like I'd never heard before. I looked up and he was staring at me with eyes like Mason jars. He looked at me, at the tree, and back to me, just grunting little soft grunts now and shaking his head.

And that, my friend, was how I was a party to a certain unbelievable event that occurred many years ago. When Moose Ears and I got to that tree, he outprinted me the last five yards and we found that dove resting peacefully on the ground... but that last headache it had must have been a lulu, for the top of its head was missing, done in by a .22 short from a quarter of a mile away, and by a 12-year-old kid that was hoping to hit a tree trunk.

Even now when I see Moose Ears about once a year I feel that stare and see his eyes begin to grow. The only thing, he doesn't grunt anymore. He sniffs now.

And now, it's time to hear from Aaron Pass, GAME & FISH staff writer:

Some years ago when the world was innocent, idealistic, and certainly less complicated, we had the opportunity to carry a young friend on his first mourn-

ing dove hunt. He had been in possession of a battered .22 rimfire of dubious manufacture and proof for a couple years, and had, in the solitary manner of most country boys, become quite adept at the stealthy assassination of squirrels, rabbits, and an occasional wary quail.

After two years of terrorizing the tiny small game population, our young nimrod persuaded his non-hunting father to make him a birthday gift of a brand new 16-gauge shotgun. Then, armed, he embarked into that world of happy madness known as wingshooting.

Being approached by the young man on the subject of a bird hunting trip, I decided that a dove shoot would be an ideal introduction to the intricacies of shotguns, shot patterns, and flying targets. It would also be a good initiation to the social aspects of hunting, which would contain an excellent object lesson in humility, we opined.

In the days this hunt took place, large acreages of productive cropland were not devoted exclusively to the care and feeding of mourning doves as they do now. Then it was the custom to seek a fallow field or pasture and wait in the afternoon in the hope four or five flights of doves might blunder by. We assigned the novice a good spot and retired to our own hiding places, figuring he would at least get a few shots.

It was a slow day where we sat judging from the almost continual lack of musketry from our young friend. In reaction, he was holding off an arm of birds. Finally late in the day six doves rashly passed in front of our guns with no ill effects, although I remain convinced to this day that one of those arrogant little doves flew away with his tail shot out.

As we assembled late that afternoon everyone of course blamed the lack of weight in his gamepocket on the lack of game, misfires, faulty safeties, stuff in the eyes, etc. (mostly etc.). Our young wingshot showed up just at sunset with a bulging bag. "I got eight," he innocently announced, and dumped his quarry at our feet.

As we stood there pondering the glacially defunct—and of course illegal—dowlarks, we were confronted with the problem of explaining the young man's mistake to him without shattering his delicate adolescent ego. Finally, Aaron, Tom, who in our own youth was noted for his gentleness with boys uppies, or young mules, all of which he classed at the same intelligence level, spoke. "Well, it's been a pretty bad day... sure wish I'd thought to pass the time plinking at fieldlarks to get better practice."





The morning sun breaks through the haze of the marshland, finding hunters heading out to catch the high tide in search of marsh hens (rails).

Photo by Dean Wohlgemuth

Elbow Room Hunting

By Dean Wohlgemuth

Even for late September, it was hot and muggy. This wasn't the kind of weather I'd have thought was good for hunting marsh hens. However, Frank Cox assured me that the height of tide was the important factor, and since Frank had spent several years working as a biologist in the coastal regions and had hunted marsh hens several times, I accepted him as the expert on the subject. The tide was reaching a height of 8.4

feet, not much below the best height it gets on the Georgia coast, and Frank claimed this would flood the marshes well enough to get our boats across them. He didn't make it altogether clear how much work it would be to get the boats through the marshes. In fairness to him, I'll admit there's no better way to describe this task to someone than to hand him a pole, put him in the rear of a boat, and tell him, "let's go."

Frank and Dudley McGarity were in the first boat, and Pete Bell and I followed in the second. Frank cut the 10-horse motor and picked up the pole, pushing the boat through a slough. I followed suit, lifting my 9½ horse motor off the transom before making with the pole.

Since all of us except Frank were novices at the sport, Pete and I stayed fairly close to the other boat until we got

the drift of what was going on.

A raucous squawk came from the heavy marsh grass, just off the slough, and Frank bent his back into the pole. Shortly we saw a brown bird bobble up from the marsh, seemingly floating slower than a helium filled balloon. Boom! Boom! Boom! Dudley emptied his 20 gauge, but the marsh hen kept bouncing along through the air, dipping back into the marsh once it was well out of shotgun range.

"How in the heck could I have missed such an easy target?" Dudley was mut-

tering. Frank grinned back, "They're not hard to hit, just easy to miss." Then he added, "you probably led him too much, not being used to such a slow target."

It was probably only about 10 minutes of poling later—though it was beginning to seem like an hour—that Dudley got his second chance, and this time made allowances for the slow-flying bird, dropping it with one shot.

It was time, then, for the pole-pushers and the gunners to swap ends of the boat, and it was with no little relief that I gratefully turned over the pushing

chores to Pete and sat down in the bow of the 12-foot aluminum boat with my 20-gauge pump across my knees.

Though they fly very slowly, the marsh hens, or rails, seemed to be a very exasperating target. You push through a small cut or slough, where the going is fairly easy, and you hear the crow well out into the shallow marshes.

You struggle to pole the boat through the thick marsh grass on bare inches of water, and just as you get to where you thought you heard them, the squawk comes from the edge of the slough.

It takes plenty of sweat and elbow grease to push a flat-bottom boat through the shallow water of the marshes at high tide, to find just where those birds are hiding.



At least it didn't matter if you were quiet . . . in fact, Frank pointed out that the more noise you make, the more likely you are to flush the birds. So we banged the side of the boat with paddles as we got close to where we thought the birds were hiding, and soon Pete (now back in the gunner's seat) was getting some occasional shots. But Pete had his problems. Not claiming to be a top wingshot, he couldn't seem to get zeroed in on the brown bobbling, blundering birds.

At last he nailed one, but the bird fell

Photo by Ted Borg



well back into the shallow marsh, and it took quite a bit of poling and looking to find it. Finally it was my turn, and like the others, I found myself shooting out in front on my first try. The marsh hens were flying unbelievably slow. Because of this, the pattern from the shotgun didn't have time to open much when the birds were put up close to the boat. You couldn't lead them much, but apparently they needed a slight lead. I tried again, and finally got into the scoring column.

It seemed the poling was getting harder and the water more shallow. We'd been on the marsh for about three hours, and had gotten some distance from Frank and Dud. I looked around for them, and saw they were back in the open water.

"Better come on out now, the tide is falling," Frank yelled. I did. I remembered what he had said about being stranded in that muck if you didn't get out before the tide left you high and dry.

We had 10 birds among us, far below the 15 apiece allowed in the bag limit, but enough for supper in camp that night.

It was back at camp that I got another lesson on marsh hens. They're not only hard to hunt, but they're pretty tough to dress. Then the kidding began as to whether we greenhorns would actually eat them. For the first time I was informed they aren't considered a delicacy by most folks. I really hadn't thought of that . . . I'd assumed that if people hunted them, they must be good to eat.

Actually, they turned out a lot better than I was led to believe, in fact I honestly enjoyed eating them. That is not to say, however, that I'd care for a steady diet of them, say like twice every week. A couple of times or so every year is sufficient.

Since tides high enough for us to pole through the marshes lasted only a few hours each day, much of the time for the three-day hunt was open for other activities. Our erstwhile tutor had thought of this, too. At his suggestion, I'd pulled my 16-foot fishing boat along, and it was put to good use trout fishing during low tide.

We had made quite an entourage from our DeKalb County homes to the Savannah area, where we hunted. Frank and Dud were pulling a small boat trailer behind their pickup truck with not one, but two light aluminum boats on it. The top boat was upside down on the other, with gear stowed in between. We'd strapped the boats together snugly.

Camp was set up at a campground near the stadium on Skidaway Road on

the edge of Savannah, and we went to a nearby ramp to launch the boats.

When I asked Frank about the lack of cold, nasty, wet, windy weather that I'd always heard was necessary for marsh hen hunting, he told me "Well, it's true you often get your highest tides then, and that makes it easier to get a boat across the marshes. Actually, an east wind is all you need to help you. This tends to hold the high tide water in the marshes a little longer and allow you a little more hunting time. But nothing will help if the tide isn't over eight feet."

We hunted in easy view of the City of Savannah, not more than 10 minutes from the landing. Yet, we had all the elbow room we wanted for hunting. There were a few other hunters out, but certainly there was not the crowd you often find in other types of hunting. There was no problem in finding a place open to the public for hunting, either. And there were plenty of birds, as long as we had energy and strength to pole around and find them.

This, to me, is the prime reason for hunting marsh hens. They seem to be in abundance, and hunting pressure is light . . . and there are plenty of places on the Georgia coast to hunt them. Bag limits are liberal (15 per day) because of their abundance.

Because of this, I found the hunt an enjoyable change of pace, and wouldn't have hurt feelings if I could schedule a marsh hen hunt each year.

True enough, there are disadvantages in hunting them, as suggested . . . the hard work and the less-than-delectable flavor, however, properly prepared, marsh hens are good eating enough to suit me.

The meal I enjoyed most of all actually was three months later. Just before Christmas, Dudley phoned me. "Dean, we're having a game dinner at our house. We're going to have those marsh hens, but if you can't stand them, we'll also have some quail, venison, woodcock and other game."

All the crew from our hunt was there, and Frank and Dud and their wives had worked together to put on a real feast. One dish looked particularly appetizing . . . there were birds, about twice the size of quail, cooked in mushroom gravy. "Mmmm, that's good! What is it?" I asked.

Frank and Dudley grinned and winked at each other. "Marsh hens," they said.

After dinner, we began laying plans for future hunting and fishing trips. Among them was a marsh hen trip for the next year.

THE AMERICAN HUNTER...

Photo by Aaron Pa



AN ENDANGERED SPECIES?

By Aaron Pass

When a species is classified as endangered it means that its prospects of survival and reproduction are in immediate jeopardy, and that it is possibly headed for extinction. To place the hunter in such a category may seem a bit far-fetched, but in view of modern conditions and certain social trends there are indications that sport hunting may be in for some stormy weather. It isn't the hunter himself that is in the "immediate jeopardy" of physical extinction, or at least no more than any other mortal living in this troubled world. It is the possible loss of hunting as his sport and pastime that threatens him, and what is it besides this singular activity that differentiates him from everyone else?

Hunting is essentially a solitary activity, appealing most

strongly to those individuals who prefer to be away from the strictly structured social activities. Taking his pleasure on a mountain top rather than a night club, he is happier in the surroundings which grant him a measure of independence than in the increasingly complex and constricted "civilized" world. These values and traits when contrasted against the mass of modern society make the hunter an odd bird indeed, at a time when the values of individualism and self-reliance are not as esteemed as once they were. The modern world doesn't understand the motivations of a man who would rather sweat and toil up a mountainside in search of venison than sit in air conditioned comfort while a waiter brings him a beef steak.

The American Hunter (*Venator Americanus*)

Description: This large predator is a distant strain of the species *Homo Sapiens*, varying from other members of that genus by traits and habits rather than by physical appearance. Major distinguishing traits are: an inordinate love for the outdoors, and participation in an activity (hunting) which takes him into this preferred environment. Other typical hunter traits include an individualistic attitude and high degrees of independence and self-reliance.

Ecological Importance: The hunter has traditionally been regarded in a "folk hero" manner by the general public; however, a recent shift in the cultural values of society at large has raised some question as to the hunter's environmental impact. Professional conservationists and wildlife managers feel his predation is generally harmless, and in some cases necessary, to a well balanced eco-system, and that his economic and moral support of wildlife programs have made significant contributions to wildlife preservation. In short, they feel that the hunter, under the controls of wise management, fills an important ecological niche. Newer groups of preservationists, reflecting the ecological concern of contemporary society, disapprove of the hunter's predatory role. They feel that the hunter is an atavistic cultural throwback who wantonly destroys wildlife, and as such he should be classified as vermin and eliminated.

Distribution and Range: Hunters are found all over the continent with significant concentrations in rural and wilderness areas where people live in close harmony with the land. The overall hunter population is presently large and growing, but unfortunately, the areas of huntable land are constantly decreasing. The economic

pressures generated by the expanding population of the modern world are continually causing the development and loss of large wildlife producing areas. Roads, reservoirs, municipal and industrial expansion are all gnawing away at the lands which produce the huntable surplus of game on which the hunter depends. Despite the efforts of hunters in achieving sound natural resource conservation practices, and the restrictions they have placed on themselves regarding the harvest of wildlife, it is foreseeable that hunting might eventually become impossible due to lack of habitat.

Status: Endangered, due to extensive habitat loss, sanctions proposed by those factions who disapprove of the predatory role, and apathy combined with lack of understanding on the part of the general public. Wildlife populations are almost completely dependent upon environmental quality; if environmental degradation is allowed to continue at its present rate, extensive wildlife loss will result. In view of the wildlife/habitat interrelationship, the curtailment of sport hunting as wildlife conservation measure, as suggested by the anti-hunting factions, is essentially meaningless. If the habitat is preserved, wildlife will be present in huntable numbers, if it is not, the wildlife will disappear whether it is hunted or not. In the final analysis, it is the general public who will decide how high a priority it will assign the hunter and wildlife. The widespread acknowledgement of the interrelationship of the wildlife and its habitat, and of the predator and his prey is essential if either wildlife or the hunter are to survive. Without this acknowledgement there is an increasing likelihood that both will become extinct.

Meet Your Commissioner

George P. Dillard

By Marvin Tye

George P. Dillard, newly appointed member of the State Game and Fish Commission from the fourth district, is a man of diversified interests and talents.

He is a practicing attorney, family man, sportsman, farmer, and active participant in church, social and civic affairs. Dillard was born in Laurens County on March 26, 1918 and raised on a farm. Much of his early life was spent in DeKalb County where he graduated from Lithonia High School as valedictorian. He attended Draughon School of Commerce, Georgia Tech Evening School and the Atlanta Division, University of Georgia before receiving his LL.B. from Woodrow Wilson College of Law in 1940. He also attended Lamar School of Law, Emory University in 1946 and George Washington Law School in Washington, D. C. in 1952.

Dillard served as a special agent for the Federal Bureau of Investigation from October 21, 1940 to February 6, 1953. He received the War Service Certificate from the FBI for counter espionage, counter sabotage, and internal security investigations during World War II. At the time of his resignation, Dillard was administrative assistant to Director J. Edgar Hoover, Bureau Headquarters, Washington, D. C.

Dillard left the FBI to return to practice law in Decatur where he has been engaged from that time until the present. He has also served as Deputy Assistant Attorney General, State of Georgia, 1953-54; Assistant DeKalb County Attorney, January 1955 to November 1955; and now serves as DeKalb County Attorney, a position to which he was appointed in November 1955. He was appointed to the State Welfare Advisory Board by Governor Ernest Vandiver in 1952 and has recently been appointed to the State Game and Fish Commission by Governor Jimmy Carter.

Active member of organizations,



Photo by Marvin Tye

George P. Dillard, new 4th District Commissioner, is a practicing attorney who is very active in church, civic and social affairs. Whenever he can take a break from his busy schedule, Dillard likes to fish on his farm or hunt doves or quail.

Dillard holds membership in American Bar Association, Sigma Delta Kappa Legal Fraternity, Board of Trustees Atlanta Union Mission, Board of Visitors of Emory University, Georgia Bar Association, Decatur and Stone Mountain Bar Associations, Old War Horse Lawyers Club, Decatur Lions Club, DeKalb Chamber of Commerce, Society of Former FBI Agents, Atlanta Lawyers Club, and American Judicature Society. He is past co-president of Decatur High School PTA and has served on the Board of Directors of DeKalb County Chapter, American Red Cross.

Dillard is an active member of The First Methodist Church of Decatur.

He is married to the former Mary Elizabeth Elarbee from Brooklet in Bullock County. They reside at 152 Vidal Boulevard in Decatur and are the parents of three children. Doug, 29, practices law with his father. He and his wife Myra have a daughter Ashley, 3, and son George Douglas, Jr., who will

be one year old in November. Randolph, 24, a graduate of the University of Georgia, is assistant manager of a restaurant specializing in steaks. The Dillards' 21-year-old daughter, Jan, who has just returned from a European tour, is now a senior at Furman University in Greenville, S. C.

Although Dillard is very much of a city dweller, he still loves the outdoors. He owns two farms, one in DeKalb County where he raises sheep and another 165-acre tract in Gwinnett County where he raises Hereford cattle. Dillard enjoys fishing for bass and bluegill at his farm pond in DeKalb County. He also enjoys hunting quail and dove. Although he admits that his busy schedule does not permit him to spend as much time afield as he would like to.

A man whose roots are in rural living and who is now living the life of an urban dweller, George P. Dillard can understand the problems of the average Georgia sportsman.

My First Dove Shoot

By Donna Ash
Oliver, Georgia



Photo by Jim Morrison

This month Georgia GAME & FISH has another first—a special section for persons under 20 years of age. This section will be run as frequently as material is available. Articles will be especially for, about or by our youth.

About the Author



DONNA ASH

Donna Ash, 16, was the Georgia Sportsman's Federation Youth Conservationist of the Year in 1970. For this she received a 20 gauge automatic shotgun which she enjoys using for hunting doves, squirrels and other game.

A resident of Oliver, she writes a column on outdoor and conservation topics for her county newspaper, the SYLVANIA TELEPHONE, and hopes someday to find a career in conservation.

I eagerly looked forward to trying my luck in hunting this tricky dun grey bird, weighing not more than 4 to 6 ounces, known as the mourning dove. On brief hunts I had gone with my father when I was younger—but then I was considered too inexperienced to take a stand. For the past two years my invitation seemed to always end with a last minute rush—and for various reasons I was left at home.

This time I eliminated all the excuses and persuaded my father to take me with him. When he came out loaded with his shells and gun, I was waiting in the truck like an immovable object. Besides who could tell the boys from the girls with all the long hair this day and time, much less the camouflaged clothing?

I was dropped off in an out of way place to be as inconspicuous as possible. At least I had graduated from the role of a "retriever."

It was a beautiful afternoon, the sky was a lovely shade of clear blue with just a few wispy clouds floating by. The nippy breeze was just enough to keep the bright sun from being uncomfortable.

I surveyed the area for a good stand. There was an excellent place beside a hedge-covered fence separating a pond surrounded by scattered saplings from a cornfield stripped with rye grass. Across the field the pine trees were gently swaying as if nodding approval of my presence.

Soon the doves started swooping into the field. I was now in shooting position trying to take steady aim at that dipping, dodging bundle of feathers, feeling obligated to beat the average in shooting! Now I could tell at a glance why this

little bird could make a hunter feel at war with himself.

Suddenly there was such a burst of rapid fire shooting across the field, it sounded like a minor war and I was in the midst of it all. I didn't know whether to hit the ground, run, or shoot. In my excited state, every gun seemed to be pointing in my direction. Whew—that brief session seemed about an hour long. I gave a sigh of relief—I was completely out of range from other hunters and apparently I was not the intended target!

My attention was now turned to a more important matter, the doves. They were darting in at regular intervals, even if I were not looking in the right direction I could soon tell when doves were entering, by the burst of gunfire across the field. By this time I'd begun to get the hang of things. I'd shoot swiftly at a flying bundle of feathers whenever the opportunity presented itself. To my amazement I soon discovered it was easier to kill a mess of skeet than dove.

A lone dove was circling the field slowly. Several doves had already been feathered through my continued efforts and I was determined not to let this one get away. I started aiming when the dove came from behind some trees. I held my fire until he was almost opposite me, quickly now I squeezed the trigger. The dove folded in flight and hit the ground. Some one yelled, "You got 'im Donna."

I had a great time and also proved that the U.S. average of 7.9 shots per bird is fairly accurate. I can now understand why the dove is such a popular game bird. It not only provides a source of excellent meat, but is an exciting sport for the hunter *plus* giving man an opportunity to see nature at its finest. 🐦



Photo by Larry Smith

Divers prepare to study the ocean bottom some 18 miles out from Sapelo Island in the search for good sites for artificial reefs.

Seafood Cafeteria

By Bob Wilson

The diver entered the water just before the first tire units were rolled off the barge. As the air that he had taken under with him drifted to the surface in tiny glistening bubbles, the silence of the underwater world surrounded him.

It wasn't really silent. Intermittent snaps and crackles indicated the presence of some forms of marine life. A shrill hissing noise probably came from a bilge pump on board the boat.

SPLASH! . . . SPLASH! . . . SPLASH! The first unit hit the water, looking something like one end of a steam roller. After what seemed like a moment's hesitation, the units turned on end and plummeted toward the bottom. About 35 feet below the surface the clumps of tires faded from view as the limit of visibility was reached.

The diver moved in close to the barge to take some pictures as the tire units hit the water. When he was satisfied that he had the underwater pictures needed,

the diver surfaced and moved away from the barge. With the diver out of the way, the unloading proceeded more rapidly.

The tire units, actually six to eight tire carcasses joined into a column by steel rods, were flipped on their side and simply rolled off the barge. Cement in the bottom tire of the column provided the weight necessary to take the unit swiftly to the bottom.

The site was not merely an underwater dump for worn-out tires, although they form many an unsightly heap on land. The site was one of several locations where the State Game and Fish Commission is conducting research, seeking ways to improve Georgia's saltwater fishing potential.

Georgia's offshore waters are virtually the same as

those of Florida and the Carolinas, and our extensive saltwater marshes provide rich nutrients. But the states to the south or north are much more famous for their saltwater fishing. What's the problem? Why doesn't Georgia have just as much saltwater fishing excitement to offer as these other states?

Numerous studies along with sporadic fishing success have proven that Georgia waters contain the same species that are caught to the north and south. The problem seems to be that the fish pass through our waters on their way up or down the coast, perhaps lingering for a while to feed on the abundant supply of marine life to be found in and just outside our numerous sounds. The fish don't stick around, even though there is plenty of food for them, and that brings us to the

Photo by Dick Stone

SPLASH! A tire unit, actually a column of seven tires held together with steel rods, heads for the bottom to serve as a gathering place for fish.



crux of the problem. Fish, like other animals, require more than food.

Fish like to be able to hide. They hide from fish large enough to prey on them, and they in turn lie in wait for smaller fish that they can prey upon. Two-foot ridges in the sand or the intricate maze of a coral reef, and everything in between, serve to give fish a feeling of security, and they tend to cluster around such areas. Large offshore species swoop around such areas hoping to pick off some unwary fish that has gotten too far away from his protecting cover.

The hollow columns made of discarded tires are designed to provide just such cover on the relatively flat sandy plain that tapers gently down off the Georgia coast. Some marine organisms should attach themselves to the tire reef within 30 days. Soft corals, sea fans, sea whips, urchins, sea squirts and sea cucumbers should be among the first inhabitants of the reef, followed by crabs, shrimp, and shellfish.

Small fish, looking for food and hiding places will come next. The small fishes, together with the shrimp, will attract the larger gamefish. Not all species of game-

fish will stay around the reef for long periods of time but most offshore species will make periodic sweeps of such marine meeting places which act as a sort of always-open seafood cafeteria. A few of the most popular species that fishermen should find on or around such a reef are: king mackerel, cobia, little tuna, bluefish, amberjack and barracuda.

With the first tire units already in the water, salt water sportsmen may begin sampling the benefits of the program in late fall before unruly winter storms set in. Each test reef will cover about 6½ acres of ocean floor and should provide plenty of room for large numbers of fishermen to test their skill without getting into or in another's way.

Local, state and federal funds are making the project long sought by coastal fishermen, a reality. Additional thanks go to the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company plant at Albany which donated 1,100 tires and paid the shipping costs to get them to Brunswick. Each reef, however, will consist of about 30,000 tires, and individuals and companies near the coast are pitching in to round them up.

A diver prepares to photograph the sea floor in the "live bottom" area off Sapelo Island. While some marine growth is present, the flat bottom offers little to fish looking for hiding places and food.

Photo by Bob Wills





Taxidermist Edward J. Silvey of Athens, left, and William Boswell of Elberton check the head of a buck from Boswell's buck which scored 158 4/8 points on the Boone and Crockett measuring system and won first place in the antler division of the 1970-71 big deer contest.

Photo by Jim Couch

BIG BUCK BOUNTY

By Marvin Tye

The dream of every deer hunter is being able to bag a prize-winning buck. Many hunt for a lifetime without accomplishing this goal. Some score fairly early in their hunting careers. William H. Boswell and W. E. Simmons fulfilled their dreams during the past season by bagging bucks that took first place in different divisions of the Big Deer Contest sponsored by GAME & FISH Magazine and the Georgia Sportsmens Federation. Boswell took top honors in the antler division with a buck that scored 158 4/8 on the Boone and Crockett Club measuring system. Simmons' buck was tops in the weight division at 235 pounds.

Simmons is one of those hunters who spent a lifetime in the field before tagging his dream buck. He began deer hunting about 35 years ago and has almost a dozen bucks to his credit. All of these were taken on organized drives where dogs were used to bring the deer to the hunter. He began hunting with a 16 gauge shotgun but now uses a 12.

Simmons bagged his big buck last No



W. E. Simmons of Rebecca, took this fine buck on a drive in Calhoun County. It weighed 235 pounds to take first place in the weight division of the contest.

Photo by Marvin Tye

ember when he and other members of the Turner County Hunting Club were invited to hunt on the Magnolia Plantation near Albany. The 60-year-old farmer left his home near Rebecca with high hopes of bringing in the venison. By mid-morning, however, he began to have doubts. Shortly after the drive began he spotted four does racing through the brush at top speed. As these were legal targets, Simmons opened fire, emptying his gun at the difficult targets. When the smoke cleared away, he realized that he had not scored a hit. All that he could think of at the moment was that he was about to lose his shirt tail for not scoring a hit.

His disappointment was short-lived. At about 10 a.m. he heard three shots at a nearby stand and figured that one of his hunting partners had scored. He looked in the direction of that stand and saw a large set of antlers moving above the brush. "That old huck got by me," Simmons told himself. "Now it's

into the clear just as Simmons got into position less than 20 yards away. He fired one shot and the deer went down on the spot.

Although he lost his shirt tail for missing the earlier shots, there was not a happier man on that drive than W. E. Simmons. "It seems that everybody there wanted a piece of my shirt tail," Simmons said. "When they got through cutting I didn't have much shirt tail left below my neck."

His consolation, of course, was the big huck that he had downed on his fourth shot of the day. It carried an 11-point rack and a handsome head that now hangs in an honored spot in the Simmons home. Hunting buddies Deral Dukes and Lester Atkison witnessed the weighing of the deer and attested that it was a 235-pounder. W. E. Simmons may have lost his shirt tail on November 21, 1970, but he had the last laugh on his companions by winning a brand-new hunting rifle for his excellent kill.

William H. Boswell of Elberton has hunted deer for the past six years and had succeeded in killing three bucks before he downed the prize winner in the

antler division of the big buck contest. He bagged all of these deer on his father's farm in Greene County. The first was taken from the ground during the 1969 season. Boswell then constructed a tree stand and took another deer from later the same year.

He opened the 1970 season by taking another buck from the same stand. On the way to and from his father's farm he spotted a number of deer crossing the road in Oglethorpe County. The idea of a hunting spot nearer to home intrigued the 34-year-old pharmacist, so he scouted out the area on a Sunday afternoon and found a trail that seemed to be heavily traveled. Boswell found two pine trees near the trail that would offer some concealment to a sitting hunter. He placed a couple of dead trees around these to make a makeshift blind and placed a small stool behind the blind and returned to this spot early the following Tuesday morning.

About 7:30 he spotted what appeared to be a deer feeding in the brush off one side of the trail. As he watched, he could see that what he had first thought was part of the foliage was a set of

the deer was headed toward his stand, so that the buck broke

antlers on a deer's head. It was a buck with a larger rack than any he had ever taken before. He raised his Model 71 Winchester .348, took careful aim at the chest cavity and squeezed off a shot. The deer was hit, but it lunged around, trying to run back down the trail. Boswell fired the remaining two cartridges in his magazine and the buck went down out of sight.

The hunter had only two more cartridges in his pocket. He assumed the deer was dead, but he reloaded and walked over within 10 feet. The deer failed to rise again, so Boswell fired twice more and the animal was still.

Close examination showed that all of his shots hit the deer, all but one of them in the chest. The extra shots were probably unneeded, but good insurance. The buck weighed 198 1/2 pounds live weight and had a rack that scored 188 4/8 points on the Boone and Crockett System. Boswell, already a gun collector of sorts, will have one more piece for his growing collection as a re-

sult of taking first place in the antler classification of this year's contest.

As usual, this year's contest turned up a few entries in the non-typical category. The best of these was a buck killed by David Crane of Smyrna. It sported a rack that scored 180 4/8 points. To win first prize, a non-typical rack must score more than 25 points higher than the largest typical entry. Crane's buck did not score so highly, but it is indeed a trophy worthy of notice.

This year for the first time, the Georgia Sportsmens Federation will present a special award to the outstanding non-typical entry. The prize had not been determined at press time. A similar award will possibly be given next year to the man who bags the most outstanding non-typical trophy measuring over 175 points. If a non-typical rack should win first prize, the special trophy might then be awarded to the outstanding typical rack of more than 150 points.

Crane hunts deer each year with his father, brother Norman and brother-in-

law Paul Phillips in Greene County. He says that his father, Lonnie L. Crane, is 64 and can outwalk his younger hunting companions. David and Norman were hunting together early in the morning of November 9 when David scored with the big buck. A heavy rain was falling, so the men did not leave their camp on Georgia Kraft Company land until 8:30 a.m. They saw another group of hunters ahead of them apparently firing their rifles for target practice. The Cranes thought that these might drive a deer their way so they began to look around. They spotted one buck coming their way and David moved to try and head it off. The deer detected him and ran the other way.

Before moving to another spot, David heard a dog bark one time in the opposite direction. Thinking that the dog might be chasing a deer, he turned in that direction and waited. A few minutes later, he saw the monstrous buck heading straight for him. It stopped less than 30 feet away behind a large tree.

Photo by Jim Couch

David Crane of Smyrna bagged this non-typical buck which scored 180 4/8 points. He will receive a special award for this buck that will be given this year for the first time.



America's number one conservationist

It's a fact, but how many people know it? For instance, hunters are proud that an 11 per cent tax on their guns and ammo goes for conservation. Since 1937, more than \$435 million has been collected and prorated to state game departments for land acquisition, wildlife habitat improvement and management. Hunters, along with fishermen, gladly pay over \$180 million a year for license fees. It goes to support such programs as creating proper environment for wildlife, clean streams, law enforcement and conservation education.

What's more, the millions of acres developed by money from hunters support more non-game species — such as song birds, shore birds, small mammals — than game species.

Hunters owe it to themselves and to future generations of outdoorsmen to help get this message across. And they can! The whole story, along with statistics, is in a new illustrated booklet, **THE HUNTER AND CONSERVATION**. It tells how America's hunters have fought for conservation of all natural resources for over 75 years. How hunters, to protect the basic breeding populations of wildlife, asked for season and bag limits. How they campaigned for the establishment of state wildlife agencies and raised the money by putting license fees on themselves. How they founded conservation organizations such as the National

Wildlife Federation, The Izaak Walton League of America and Ducks Unlimited.

THE HUNTER AND CONSERVATION can create new understanding between outdoorsmen and the non-hunting public. It can help to educate youngsters. But only if you'll help to put it in their hands.

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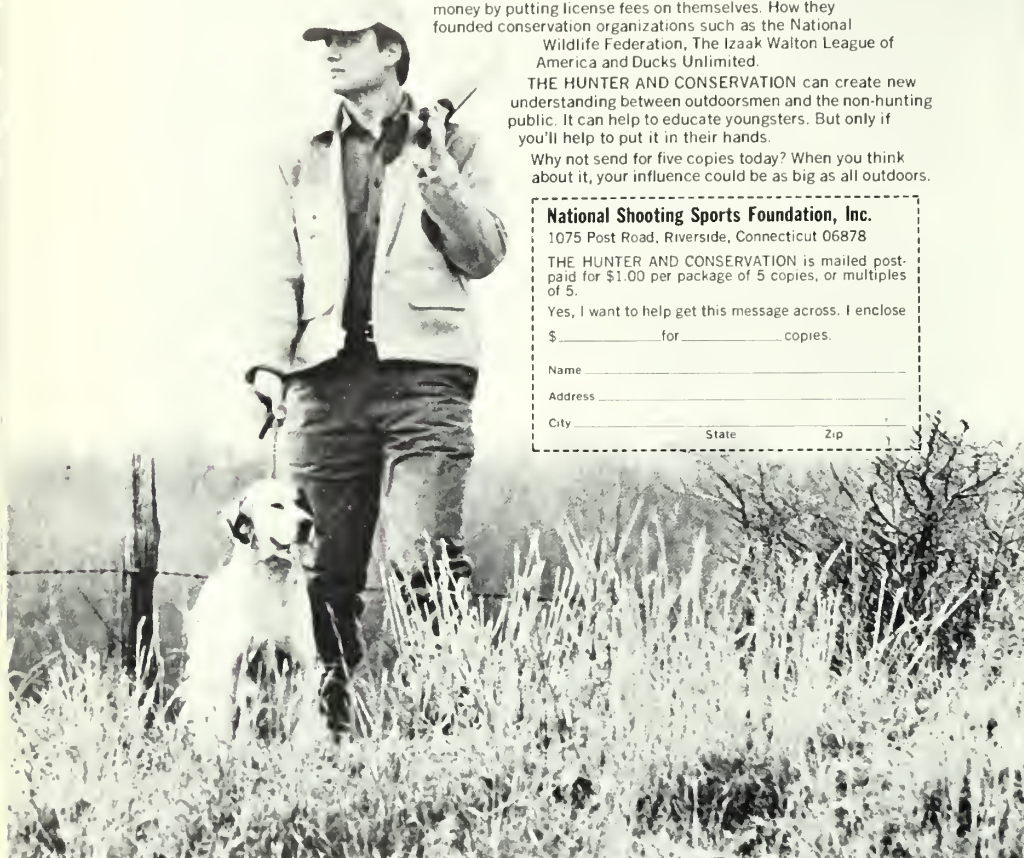
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David started to fire at the exposed position of the deer, then decided to wait for a better shot. The second the deer stepped from behind the tree, he squeezed the trigger and the deer fell dead on the spot. He used a .30-.30 and had time to rest his arm on a tree for steady aim. He was back in camp by 9 a.m.

It is interesting to note that like the winners in this year's contest David Crane had taken a number of deer before this past season. He has six or seven deer to his credit with a rifle and one with bow and arrow.

The Cranes and Phillips hunt all day, primarily by still hunting or stalking rather than taking a stand in one spot. They take lunches and spend the entire day in the woods. David says that many of their deer are taken during the middle of the day when fewer hunters are in the woods.

Surprisingly few entries are made in the big deer contest each year considering the large number of deer taken in Georgia each fall. As more hunters are made aware of the contest, the competition should increase. At the close of each contest, the judges always wonder if a potential prize winner or record breaker is lying in some hunter's home or freezer.

Any hunter who bags a deer that scores more than 150 typical or 175 non-typical points on the Boone and Crockett scoring system or weighs more than 200 pounds field dressed is eligible for a Master Hunter's Certificate from GAME & FISH Magazine and the Georgia Sportsmen's Federation. The largest deer entered in the weight classification and largest entered in the antler classification bring the successful hunter a new rifle, live weights or estimated weights are not acceptable. Awards are presented each year at the Georgia Sportsmen's Federation annual meeting.

If you bag an exceptionally large buck that you think might score highly in the contest, bring the mounted head or the rack by the Atlanta office of the State Game and Fish Commission so that it can be measured for entry into the contest as well as for consideration for Boone and Crockett recognition. The deadline for entries in the 1971-72 contest is May 10, 1972. A 90 day drying period is required before a rack may be officially measured for Boone and Crockett scoring. All heads or racks MUST be brought to the Atlanta office for entry in the antler classification.

Be on the lookout for that big buck this season. Who knows... you might kill a record breaker or the best deer of the year. Follow directions for entering the contest and you won't be sorry.

the outdoor world



Coastal Inspection

Georgia Governor Jimmy Carter and State Game and Fish Department Director Joe Tanner traveled to the Georgia coast recently to get a first-hand look at the problems facing Georgia shrimpers. They were guests of the H. J. Westberrys of Jesup on their shrimp boat, *Captain Henry*, working out of Brunswick. Shown examining part of the catch are State Senator Roscoe Dean, Jr., Westberry, Governor Carter and Tanner.

Dove Field Regulations

The mourning dove is rapidly becoming the most popular gamebird in the nation. Every September thousands of Georgia hunters take to their blinds for some fast shooting at this elusive feathered target.

The regulations which govern the hunting of doves are jointly set by the state and Federal governments since the dove is legally classed as a migratory gamebird. As part of these regulations, the hunting of doves over baited fields is unlawful.

A baited field is defined as any area where grain, salt or other foods which are attractive to such birds are unnaturally present. The foods, grains, etc., are considered unnatural when they are placed there for any reason other than a valid agricultural or farming operation. This includes any area where foods attractive to migratory gamebirds are present where such foods would not ordinarily be found if no hunting for the birds were permitted.

On lands managed for wildlife protection it is unlawful to hunt doves over areas where crops are manipulated in such a way to make feed more available to the birds.

Wildlife rangers of the Georgia Game and Fish Commission as well as Federal agents of the Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife will enforce the restrictions on baited fields.

—Aaron Pass

Boating Classes Begin

The U. S. Power Squadron will conduct two boating safety courses in the Atlanta area this month. The course will be offered free as a public service by the Power Squadron to promote safer boating through education.

The course is called Basic Piloting and lasts approximately 12 weeks. It will cover such topics as: boat handling, safety, rules of the road, and aids to navigation.

The course begins at 7:00 p.m. on Sept. 13, 1971 and will be given at two locations, Dykes High School at 4360 Powers Ferry Road, and at Rowland Elementary School at 1317 S. Indian Creek Drive, Stone Mountain. For more information, contact Fed Thomas at 67-2605.

—Aaron Pass



Photo by Jerome Drown



River Park Planned

Land on the Chattahoochee River near Morgan Falls Dam has been provided to Fulton County by Georgia

Power Company for construction of a public park. When the park opens, the Palisades section of the Chattahoochee will become easily accessible to the public for the first time.

I am a member of The Georgia Sport Shooting Association, NSSA, ARA, NRA, two years as a Range Master, and now Chief Referee and Shoot Chairman of a large Skeet and Trap Club, just ending 20 years active service. I have been an avid hunter and fisherman for at least 30 of my 40 years. I would like to make one statement: Your thin, beautifully pictured, well illustrated, most informative, low cost magazine is about the best piece of material I have had the opportunity to read all over the world. I would like to congratulate, and thank you and your staff of "Georgia Game and Fish" for a job extremely well done.

SHARES CONCERN

I just finished reading the 'Sportsmen Speak' section of your magazine and feel inclined to agree with the gentleman who wrote showing concern for the "Altamaha Development Program." I personally believe that this program is for the benefit of a few influential businessmen

only. These gentlemen say that a great deal of money could be saved by this program. I would rather pay higher prices; for the price of losing this river and its wildlife is too great for all of us to pay.

Gory Yaung, 15
Everett, Co.

Recent favorable press reports on bass fishing at Lake Jackson resulted in a new morina operator staging a "Bass Rodeo."

Far the past three weeks orderly fishing that we normally enjoy has disappeared. Perhaps it is the development of a new type of sportsman. These instances are accurate and have been reported to me by responsible owners or actually experienced by myself. I am retired and have lived on the lake for 15 years.

1. Two boats located a hot spot close to a fishing pier; possessed the ward and this point has been a modhouse since. I had two nylon trot lines cut. From 6 am to 9 pm they fish under your windows throwing out their beer cans and other litter. Generally they fish closely around docks, piers and boat houses, and rush in and out with high speed motors damaging docks, etc.

2. Hove cut many notches on shore-line trees when nearby hot spots are located regardless of whether trees are in yards or forests.

3. Sneaked in at night and threw two fish baskets and a gill net around a hot spot. I have these items.

4. Tried fishing during the night with bright lights, the reflection of which lit up the entire

area. Parked family and litter on pontoon boat while fishing.

5. Numerous reports of costing around people fishing from docks and still fishing from boats occasionally tongling up their lines with too close and erratic costing.

6. Cut down two weeping willows on edge of water which appeared to be in their way and one character caught by owner when became entangled in flower bush about 8 ft up in yard.

7. Cut an expensive inboard-outboard lo and permitted it to drift out into the lake arder to better fish between o floating dock c fishing pier. And so on and on.

Owners don't expect to claim any port of lake as private but they do expect some consideration for the expense and effort they go to enjoy some degree of privacy and freedom and not be continually plagued by a hard plastic worm costers. There is an answer and it is being taken albeit unpleasant to all concerned.

I hope your excellent magazine will write a piece on "Sportsmanship" on consideration of the other fellow. Many of these characters obviously haven't the slightest concept of what sports means.

A. H. Thurmond, Jr.
Jackson

We've looked askance at this type of "sportsmanship" on several occasions, and will continue to write on this subject. Comments from other readers are welcomed.

SEASONS OPEN THIS MONTH

TROUT SEASONS: Management trout season ends Mon., Sept. 6. Open trout season ends Oct. 2. Creel limit: 8 per day, 8 in possession.

DOVES: First segment, Sept. 4 through Sept. 25; second segment, Oct. 23 through Nov. 10; third segment, Dec. 18 through Jan. 15, 1972. Daily shooting hours, 12 noon prevailing time, until sunset. Bag limit, 12 per day, possession limit, 24. At no time shall the hunter have in his possession more than one daily bag limit (12) while going from the shooting area to his car or home.

RAILS: (Marsh hens) Open Sept. 4 through Nov. 21. Daily bag limit, 15 possession limit, 30. Shooting hours, from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

CURFEW: Aug. 14 through Sept. 4, 1971, 10:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. in the communities of Harris, Talbot, Upper and Lower James, Baldwin, Hancock, and Harford. Columbia and all counties except Bag limit 10 daily. No curfew in 1971, through 1973.

SEASONS OPENING NEXT MONTH

DEER (1) (Archery Hunt) Oct. 1 through Oct. 30, 1971, in any county or part thereof having a legal firearms deer season. Bag limit two (2) ducks or one (1) buck and one (1) doe. Hunting with dogs prohibited.

(2) Exception: (**Archery Hunt**) Oct. 1 through Oct. 14, 1971, in those counties and/or parts thereof (see Section 30) having an Oct. 15 opening firearms deer season. Bag limit two (2) bucks or one (1) buck and one (1) doe. Hunting with dogs prohibited.

DEER: Buck Only: Oct. 15, 1971, through Jan. 1, 1972, in the following counties except as otherwise provided in Section 31: Brantley, Bryan, Bulloch, Burke, Candler, Chatham, Charlton, except that portion lying northwest of the Okefenokee Swamp, which is closed; Clinch County, except that portion lying in the southwest corner of the county, bordered on the north by the Seaboard Coastline Railroad and on the east by Suwannee Creek which is closed and except that portion of Clinch County lying north of Arabia Bay Wildlife Management Area and between U.S. Highway #221 and U.S. Highway #441 which is closed, and except that portion of Clinch County lying northwest of U.S. Highway #221, which is closed; Effingham, Emanuel, Evans, and that portion of Echols County lying east of U.S. Highway #129 and south of Georgia Highway #187; Glynn, Jefferson, Jenkins, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Screven, Wayne, Washington, Tattnall, that portion of Lanier County lying north of the Seaboard Coastline Railroad and east of the Ala-

bama River and southeast of U.S. Highway #221; and also that portion of Pierce County lying south of U.S. Highway #82 east of Ga. Highway #121, and west of Ga. Highway #32. Bag limit two (2) bucks. Hunt with dogs allowed.

DEER: Either Sex: Oct. 15, 1971 thro Jan. 1, 1972, the islands, except Sapelo, Blackbeard, and marshes lying east of Intracoastal Waterway in Bryan, Camd Chatham, Glynn, Liberty, and McInt counties will be open for the taking of c of either sex. Bag limit two (2) bucks one (1) buck and one (1) doe. Hunting v dogs allowed.

SQUIRREL: Statewide season is Oct. 1971, through Feb. 29, 1972. Bag limit (10) daily.

OPOSSUM: (1) Oct. 16, 1971, thro Feb. 29, 1972, in Carroll, Fulton, DeK Gwinnett, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, bert, and all counties north of those lis No bag limit.

(2) All counties south of the ab-
named counties are open year round
the taking of opossum. No bag limit.

RACCOON: (1) Oct. 16, 1971, thro Feb. 29, 1972, in Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Spalding, and all counties north of those listed. Bag limit one (1) per night per person.

(2) All counties south of the above named counties are open year round for taking of raccoons. No bag limit.

(For complete seasons and regulations write for regulation book.)

TIDE TABLES

SEPTEMBER, 1971

Day	HIGH WATER				LOW WATER	
	A.M.	HT.	P.M.	HT.	A.M.	P.M.
1. Wed.	4:01	6.1	4:49	7.4	10:19	11:13
2. Thu.	5:07	6.6	5:49	7.9	11:19	—
3. Fri.	6:07	7.2	6:37	8.3	12:01	12:13
4. Sat.	6:55	7.9	7:25	8.5	12:49	1:07
5. Sun.	7:43	8.4	8:07	8.6	1:37	1:55
6. Mon.	8:31	8.7	8:55	8.4	2:25	2:49
7. Tue.	9:19	8.8	9:43	8.1	3:13	3:37
8. Wed.	10:13	8.7	10:31	7.6	4:01	4:31
9. Thu.	11:01	8.4	11:25	7.1	4:49	5:29
10. Fri.	—	—	12:01	8.0	5:37	6:19
11. Sat.	12:25	6.6	1:01	7.6	6:37	7:25
12. Sun.	1:31	6.2	2:13	7.3	7:43	8:37
13. Mon.	2:43	6.0	3:19	7.2	8:49	9:43
14. Tue.	3:55	6.1	4:31	7.2	9:55	10:43
15. Wed.	5:07	6.3	5:25	7.4	10:49	11:31
16. Thu.	5:55	6.7	6:13	7.5	11:43	—
17. Fri.	6:37	7.0	6:49	7.6	12:13	12:25
18. Sat.	7:19	7.3	7:25	7.6	12:55	1:13
19. Sun.	7:49	7.5	7:55	7.5	1:31	1:49
20. Mon.	8:19	7.6	8:25	7.4	2:07	2:31
21. Tue.	8:49	7.6	8:55	7.2	2:37	3:07
22. Wed.	9:19	7.5	9:25	7.0	3:13	3:43
23. Thu.	9:49	7.4	10:05	6.7	3:43	4:19
24. Fri.	10:31	7.2	10:37	6.5	4:19	4:55
25. Sat.	11:13	7.1	11:25	6.3	4:55	5:43
26. Sun.	—	—	12:01	7.0	5:37	6:37
27. Mon.	12:19	6.1	1:01	6.9	6:31	7:43
28. Tue.	1:19	6.1	2:07	7.0	7:43	8:49
29. Wed.	2:25	6.2	3:13	7.2	8:55	9:49
30. Thu.	3:37	6.6	4:19	7.5	10:01	10:43

The staff of
GAME & FISH Magazine
 has decided to publish
 the tide tables for the
 last four months of 1971
 for the benefit of
 marsh hen hunters
 and other coastal sportsmen.
 Later, a listing of the
 entire year 1972's tide tables
 will be included in one issue
 of **GAME & FISH.**

MOON PHASES

	Full Moon	Last Quarter	New Moon	First Quarter
OCT.	4	11	19	27
SEPT.	5	11	19	27

HOW TO USE THESE TABLES

The calculations are for the outer bar. Find the reading for the desired tide. In the table below find the number of minutes to add to correct for the place you are going to fish or swim. The outer bar calculation, plus this correction, gives the correct reading for the point desired. In September and October, adjust for Daylight Saving Time by adding one hour.

NOVEMBER, 1971

Day	HIGH WATER				LOW WATER	
	A.M.	HT.	P.M.	HT.	A.M.	P.M.
1. Mon.	6:13	8.9	6:37	8.0	—	12:25
2. Tue.	7:00	9.3	7:24	8.0	12:48	1:24
3. Wed.	7:49	9.4	8:13	7.9	1:31	2:13
4. Thu.	8:42	9.2	9:00	7.6	2:30	3:00
5. Fri.	9:31	8.9	9:55	7.2	3:13	3:55
6. Sat.	10:25	8.4	10:49	6.7	4:07	4:43
7. Sun.	11:19	7.8	11:49	6.4	4:55	5:37
8. Mon.	—	—	12:19	7.3	5:55	6:37
9. Tue.	12:55	6.2	1:13	6.9	6:55	7:37
10. Wed.	1:55	6.1	2:13	6.7	7:55	8:37
11. Thu.	2:55	6.2	3:13	6.6	9:01	9:31
12. Fri.	3:55	6.4	4:01	6.6	9:55	10:13
13. Sat.	4:49	6.7	4:55	6.5	10:43	10:55
14. Sun.	5:31	7.0	5:37	6.6	11:31	11:37
15. Mon.	6:07	7.3	6:13	6.7	—	12:13
16. Tue.	6:43	7.5	6:49	6.7	12:19	12:55
17. Wed.	7:19	7.6	7:25	6.6	12:55	1:37
18. Thu.	7:55	7.7	8:01	6.6	1:31	2:13
19. Fri.	8:25	7.6	8:31	6.5	2:13	2:55
20. Sat.	9:01	7.6	9:13	6.4	2:49	3:37
21. Sun.	9:43	7.4	9:55	6.3	3:25	4:19
22. Mon.	10:25	7.3	10:43	6.3	4:07	5:01
23. Tue.	11:19	7.1	11:43	6.3	4:55	5:49
24. Wed.	—	—	12:13	7.0	5:55	6:43
25. Thu.	12:43	6.5	1:13	6.9	6:55	7:43
26. Fri.	1:43	6.8	2:13	6.9	8:07	8:43
27. Sat.	2:49	7.2	3:13	6.9	9:13	9:43
28. Sun.	3:55	7.6	4:19	6.9	10:13	10:37
29. Mon.	4:55	8.1	5:19	7.1	11:31	11:25
30. Tue.	5:55	8.5	6:19	7.2	—	12:07

CORRECTION TABLE

	Hrs.	Min.
St. Simons Pier	0	25
Frederica Bridge	0	50
McKay Bridge	0	50
Brunswick East River	0	50
Turtle River Bridge	0	55
Turtle River, Crispin Island	1	10
Humpback Bridge	1	00
Jekyll Marina	0	30
Jointer Island	0	55
Hampton River Village Creek Ent.	0	20
Village Fishing Camp	0	45
Taylor Fishing Camp	1	00
Altamaha Fishing Park, Everett City, Ga.	4	00
Two-Way Fishing Camp, South Altamaha	2	00

MOON PHASES

	Full Moon	Last Quarter	New Moon	First Quarter
NOV.	2	9	18	25
DEC.	2-31	9	17	25

OCTOBER, 1971

Day	HIGH WATER				LOW WATER	
	A.M.	HT.	P.M.	HT.	A.M.	P.M.
1. Fri.	4:43	7.2	5:19	7.9	10:55	11:31
2. Sat.	5:43	8.0	6:13	8.3	11:55	—
3. Sun.	6:37	8.6	7:01	8.5	12:19	12:43
4. Mon.	7:25	9.1	7:49	8.5	1:13	1:37
5. Tue.	8:13	9.4	8:31	8.3	2:01	2:31
6. Wed.	9:01	9.3	9:19	8.0	2:43	3:19
7. Thu.	9:49	9.0	10:13	7.5	3:37	4:13
8. Fri.	10:43	8.6	11:07	7.0	4:25	5:01
9. Sat.	11:42	8.1	—	—	5:19	6:01
10. Sun.	12:07	6.6	12:43	7.6	6:13	7:07
11. Mon.	1:13	6.2	1:49	7.2	7:19	8:13
12. Tue.	2:25	6.1	2:55	7.0	8:31	9:19
13. Wed.	3:37	6.2	3:55	7.0	9:31	10:13
14. Thu.	4:37	6.5	4:55	7.0	10:25	10:55
15. Fri.	5:31	6.9	5:37	7.2	11:13	11:37
16. Sat.	6:07	7.2	6:29	7.2	—	12:01
17. Sun.	6:43	7.5	6:49	7.3	12:19	12:43
18. Mon.	7:19	7.7	7:25	7.3	12:55	1:25
19. Tue.	7:49	7.8	7:55	7.2	1:31	2:01
20. Wed.	8:19	7.8	8:25	7.0	2:07	2:37
21. Thu.	8:49	7.7	8:55	6.8	2:37	3:19
22. Fri.	9:25	7.6	9:31	6.6	3:13	3:55
23. Sat.	10:01	7.4	10:31	6.4	3:49	4:37
24. Sun.	10:43	7.3	11:01	6.3	4:25	5:19
25. Mon.	11:37	7.1	11:55	6.2	5:13	6:13
26. Tue.	—	—	12:37	7.0	6:07	7:13
27. Wed.	12:55	6.3	1:37	7.1	7:19	8:19
28. Thu.	2:01	6.6	2:43	7.1	8:31	9:13
29. Fri.	3:13	7.0	3:49	7.3	9:37	10:13
30. Sat.	4:19	7.6	4:49	7.6	10:37	11:01
31. Sun.	5:19	8.3	5:49	7.9	11:31	11:55

DECEMBER, 1971

Day	HIGH WATER				LOW WATER	
	A.M.	HT.	P.M.	HT.	A.M.	P.M.
1. Wed.	6:49	8.8	7:07	7.2	12:19	1:01
2. Thu.	7:37	8.9	8:01	7.2	1:13	1:55
3. Fri.	8:25	8.7	8:49	7.0	2:07	2:49
4. Sat.	9:13	8.3	9:37	6.7	2:55	3:37
5. Sun.	10:07	7.9	10:31	6.4	3:49	4:25
6. Mon.	10:55	7.4	11:25	6.2	4:37	5:13
7. Tue.	11:43	7.0	—	—	5:25	6:01
8. Wed.	12:19	6.0	12:37	6.6	6:19	6:55
9. Thu.	1:13	6.0	1:25	6.2	7:19	7:49
10. Fri.	2:07	6.0	2:13	6.0	8:13	8:37
11. Sat.	3:01	6.1	3:07	5.8	9:13	9:25
12. Sun.	3:55	6.3	3:55	5.8	10:01	10:13
13. Mon.	4:43	6.5	4:49	5.8	10:55	10:55
14. Tue.	5:31	6.7	5:37	5.9	11:37	11:43
15. Wed.	6:13	7.0	6:19	6.0	—	12:25
16. Thu.	6:55	7.2	7:01	6.1	12:25	1:13
17. Fri.	7:31	7.3	7:37	6.2	1:07	1:55
18. Sat.	8:07	7.4	8:19	6.2	1:49	2:37
19. Sun.	8:49	7.4	8:55	6.3	2:31	3:19
20. Mon.	9:31	7.4	9:43	6.3	3:13	4:01
21. Tue.	10:13	7.3	10:31	6.4	3:55	4:43
22. Wed.	11:01	7.1	11:25	6.6	4:43	5:25
23. Thu.	11:55	6.9	—	—	5:37	6:19
24. Fri.	12:25	6.7	12:49	6.6	6:37	7:13
25. Sat.	1:25	6.9	1:43	6.4	7:43	8:13
26. Sun.	2:25	7.1	2:49	6.2	8:55	9:13
27. Mon.	3:31	7.3	3:55	6.2	9:55	10:13
28. Tue.	4:37	7.6	5:01	6.2	10:55	11:07
29. Wed.	5:37	7.9	6:01	6.4	11:55	—
30. Thu.	6:37	8.0	7:01	6.5	12:01	12:49
31. Fri.	7:25	8.1	7:49	6.6	1:01	1:43

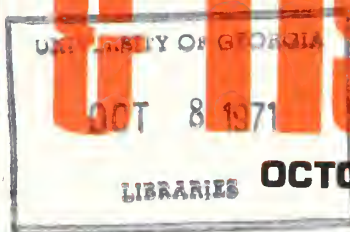
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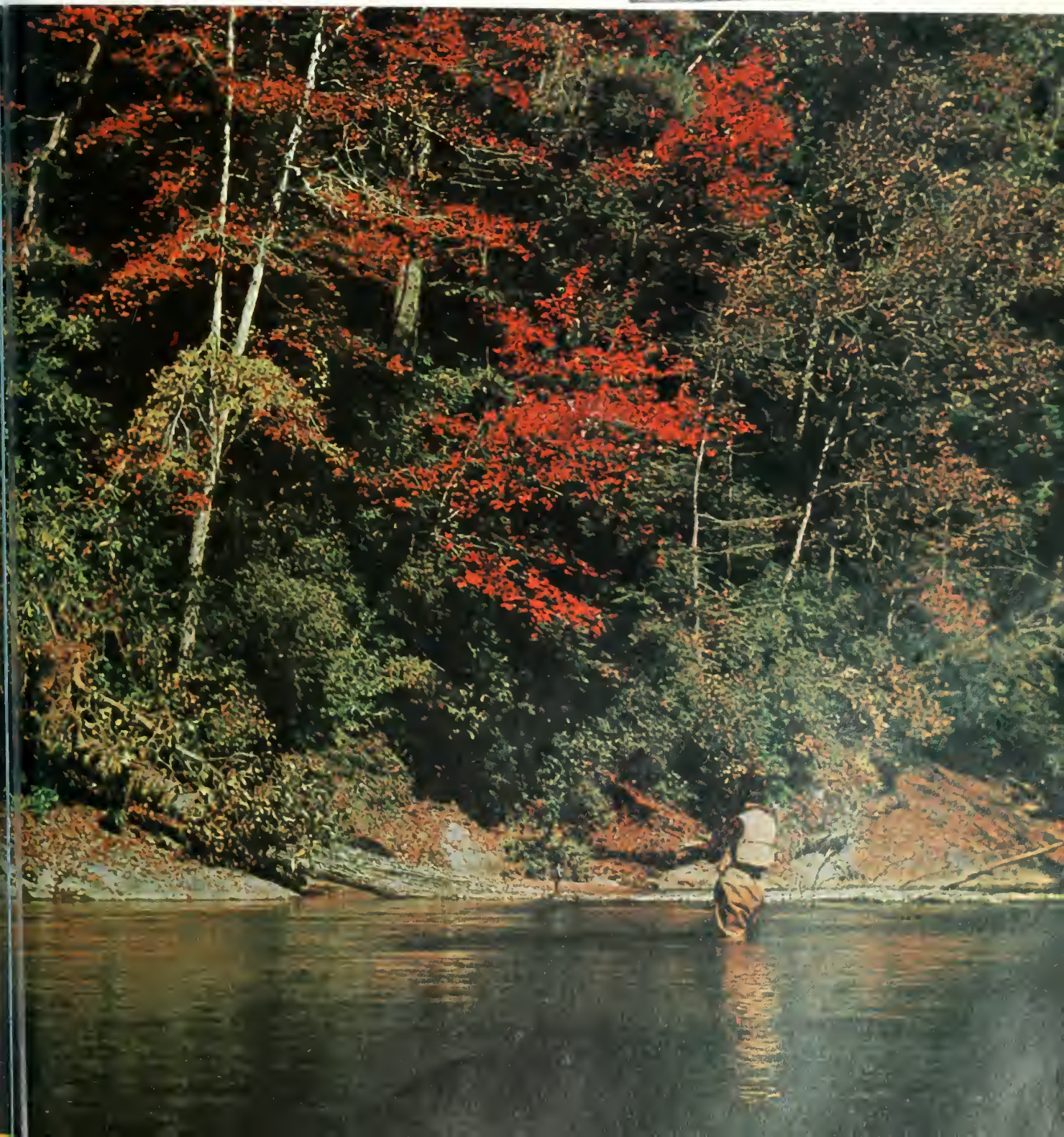
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GEORGIA game & fish

October 1971 Volume VI Number 10

CONTENTS

Blackpowder Challenge	Bob Wilson	1
Hunt the Hard Way	Marvin Tye	4
Women in Conservation	Dean Wohlgenuth	6
Fall Revival	Aaron Pass	10
Tailwater Trout	Dean Wohlgenuth	13
The Great White Chattooga	Wayne Fears	16
Sportsman's Calendar		18
Outdoor World		20
Sportsmen Speak		21

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IS WATER SAFETY REALLY SERIOUS?

Let's get downright serious for a moment . . . just how serious is the boating safety situation nowadays?

If you doubt that boating safety is a problem, then read these two sentences from John A. Volpe, Secretary of the U. S. Department of Transportation, which pretty well answers the question in short order:

"More Americans die in recreational boating than in any other form of transportation except the automobile. During the past five years, 7,000 pleasure boats died in accidents."

Can you now argue that the problem is serious?

Further, for every boating death, there are many many more accidents resulting in injury, than there are fatal accidents. And again, many more times as many accidents involving damage to property but no physical injury.

And Georgia's boating safety record is by no means one to brag about.

If you still don't believe that safe boating or the lack thereof is serious in Georgia, you should certainly spend a summer weekend in a very small boat on nearly any one of our major reservoirs, particularly Allatoona, Lanier, and Hartwell. All of these lakes are heavily patrolled, nonetheless you can see dozens of examples of dangerous, reckless operation on any summer weekend. It is obvious that a relatively small percent of the boaters have any real knowledge of how to operate a boat safely, and have even less knowledge of the meaning of the Golden Rule.

No attempt is made here to point the finger at any one size, class, speed or type of boat, for ALL boats are a hazard when improperly operated. You can drown or be killed just as dead in a rowboat or sailboat as you can in a cruiser or a fast runabout, and vice versa. Safety regulations apply to all boats regardless of type.

There are more than 45 million people in this nation now participating in recreational boating. That is about one fourth of our population. Georgia ranks high among the states. The three large reservoirs previously mentioned regularly rate among the 10 most-used lakes in the nation, Lanier normally being the country's busiest lake. Atlanta is known as the largest inland market in the nation.

Is the boating safety situation serious?
Yes.
Dead serious!

—Dean Wohlgenuth

ON THE COVER: Fall colors and a trout stream. It's hard to imagine anything that works better to soothe the frayed nerves that most people seem to pick up with after another hot, hectic summer. For tips on successful autumn angling read "Fall Revival," by Aaron Pass, page 10. Fishermen frustrated by closed streams should investigate year-round trout streams, one of which is described in "Tailwater Trout," by Dean Wohlgenuth, page 13. Photo by Bob Wilson.

ON THE BACK COVER: Statewide squirrel season opens on October 16, 1971. This wary game animal will not sit out on his limb posing for the hunter he did for photographer Ted Borg.



Photo by Marvin Tye

BLACKPOWDER CHALLENGE

By Bob Wilson

The hunter was relaxed, lying back on the ground, enjoying the outdoors while waiting for a deer. It was a good location, near the top of a slope, and he was well concealed in some brush on the edge of a little bluff from which he had an excellent view of the slope down toward the lake. Fresh tracks, less than two days old, indicated the slope was used frequently by several deer.

The hunter listened to the sounds of the woods. From time to time he glanced at one of the numerous squirrels feeding on the forest floor. Several times particularly bold squirrels scurried so close that he considered

shooting one while waiting for a deer. After imagining what the .58 caliber minie ball that he was using would do, he gave up on that idea.

The two deer approached so slowly, stirring the debris on the forest floor in search of succulent acorns, the hunter thought it was just another of the noisy squirrels. The thought that a deer might approach from the top of the ridge above and behind his hiding place had never entered his mind. When he finally rolled around to look at what he thought was an especially brave squirrel, the two doe deer were within fifteen yards.

The larger of the deer saw the movement, gave a snort of surprise, and they were off for a clump of trees. White tails waving, they covered the thirty yards to the trees without seeming to touch the ground. A very disgruntled hunter still lay on the ground mentally muttering something not printable. Then one of the white tail's character traits almost led to meat on the table.

Deer are naturally curious. Cautious yes, but curious about things they haven't seen before or that appear unusual. Having gained the security of the clump of trees and brush, the larger deer just couldn't resist having another look at whatever it was that had interrupted their browsing. After all, it didn't seem to be dangerous; at least nothing had happened so far. Truthfully, the hunter didn't feel that he represented any danger to the deer either.

His gun lay beside him, pointed in the wrong direction. The hammer was at half-cock safety. Even if he could get the gun swung in the right direction without spooking the deer, he couldn't shoot while propped up on one elbow. With a slow, smooth motion, he swung the rifle across his body. The deer stamped its foot.

The hunter slowly eased into a sitting position, hardly able to believe the deer was still standing there watching him. At last! He had managed to get his gun pointed in the right direction and get into a sitting position. All that remained was to move the hammer to full-cock, and draw a bead on the deer. He already had his aiming point picked—just behind the left foreleg, and a little high to allow for the distance. Raising the rifle, he pulled the hammer back.

The faint click that the scar made as the hammer reached full-cock was too much for the deer. Ears flicked back and head lowered, the deer whirled behind the brush, and the two deer bounded away. The hunter muttered and wondered if such things had happened to frontiersmen in days gone by. They probably had, he decided, but it was a good thing that he wasn't out to get enough meat to feed the settlement.

During the years in which the tradition of the American hunter developed, hunting was done more for subsistence than for sport. Our ancestors depended upon the success of the hunt for a major source of food. Hides and furs were important for clothing or as a source of additional income. Hunters were quick to adopt improvements in equipment and techniques that would produce results.

Metallic cartridge, smokeless powder, and the improved dependability and increased the hunter's success. Tight chokes, three-inch magnum rifles, and telescopic sights are all available to the modern hunter that extra margin for success. Does today's hunter really need it?

Nowdays we hunt more for sport than for meat for the table. Oh sure, a mess of honey-gold quail is food fit for a king, and venison steaks, wood duck, wild turkey, rabbit, or squirrel stew can make a delicious meal that will be long remembered. But if the hunter has food for the table as his chief purpose, he would be much better off doing his hunting in the local butcher shop, saving himself a lot of money, time and effort.

How to add to the sport and enjoyment of the hunt? More and more sportsmen are turning to the muzzle-loader. Proven effective hunting weapons by generations of frontiersmen and market hunters, the old charcoal burner will make you a better hunter. Hunting skill develop to overcome the limitations of the muzzle-loader.

The hunter using a muzzle-loader rifle normally has only one shot. He has to make it good! He learns to wait patiently until he has a clear shot, and can hit a vital area. Fifty yards is a good range for a muzzle-loading rifle, so the hunter must learn the ways of his game, and develop his woods skills so that he can get within range.

The hunter using a muzzle-loader has the satisfaction of bagging his game on a more nearly even footing, and meeting the challenge of self-imposed limitations, and of equaling the feats of hunters in days gone by. He will also get a jump on hunters using modern firearms due to the special "Primitive Weapons" hunts and seasons. Getting first crack at the Wildlife Management Area hunts at the start of the season is reason enough to take up blackpowder shooting in itself.

The hunter looking for challenge and sport can use muzzle-loaders for hunting small game as well as deer. Squirrels are traditional targets for the sharpshooter using small caliber longrifles. The real traditionalists insist on using flintlock longrifles, usually .36 or .42 caliber.

Squirrels, rabbits, and slow flying preserve quail provide fine sport for the gunner using a muzzle-loading shotgun. Since the shooter is hand loading for each shot he can make changes in the shot size or powder charge to suit the situation. Almost all muzzle-loading shotguns are cylinder bored and are best suited for close-range shooting. Recess chokes can improve the patterning of some such guns, and the use of plastic shot protectors adds about one degree of choke.

Even ducks can be effectively hunted using a muzzle-loading shotgun. This calls for long barrels and equal long patience for the hunter to wait until the birds are called into range. As few ducks as we get in Georgia, it takes a dedicated sportsman to stack the odds against himself this way; but if the market hunters of the past could fill their gamebag this way, the modern hunter can do likewise if he really wants to.

Muzzle-loaders used to hunt deer in Georgia must be .40 caliber or above for rifles, or 20 gauge shotguns or larger loaded with slugs or buckshot. The most popular calibers are .45 and .58. The .58 caliber using the minie ball is probably the best choice for the beginner as it has tremendous impact energy and has enough weight to buck through light brush if necessary.

For a real challenge in hunting, one that pays off in great personal satisfaction and improved hunting skills, give the muzzle-loaders a try. It's one heck of a lot of fun!



Photo by Ted Borg

Even if muzzle-loading is not for you, you'll have to admit that a flintlock longrifle such as this one can be a thing of beauty. Blackpowder purists insist on such weapons for squirrel hunting in the fashion of the early American frontiersman.



HUNT THE HARD WAY

By Marvin Tye

Photos by the Author

If any hunter ever went out with the odds stacked against him, it was a bowhunter. Only the man who masters the use of his tackle and learns the habits of the animals he hunts has any chance of consistent success.

For each opportunity that would insure success for the man with a rifle or shotgun, there may be 50 or more that the archer must turn down. He cannot shoot at long ranges. Brush that would not be in the path of a bullet will be in the path of the arrow on its arching trajectory and will deflect the shaft, causing it to miss the mark. The archer must make considerably more movement to shoot his weapon and thus runs a bigger risk of alarming his game.

Many people cannot understand why a person would want to hunt with a bow and arrow when it is so much easier, comparatively speaking, to bag deer and other game with firearms. The difficulty or challenge is the primary reason for bowhunting's growing popularity. Consistent accuracy with a bow and arrow takes much more practice than comparable skill with firearms. In addition, a certain degree of muscular coordination is required. The archer must also be able to judge distance and know how much his arrow will drop at 40 or 50 yards. He may have to aim several inches above his intended target in order to hit it while the rifleman will be able to aim dead on at a much greater distance.

When the archer has achieved a high degree of competence with his weapon, he has just completed the first step in becoming a bowhunter. He must learn where the deer are most likely to be found and know at what times of the day they will be moving from one spot to another. In order to get within 30 yards or less of a deer, the hunter must be able to move silently through the woods or have the patience to stand motionless on a tree stand or long periods of time. Hunting from a tree stand is the most productive method for the archer. He will see less deer from this elevated perch, but if it is selected with care he will be well within range of those he sees and will probably be able to get a shot at the animal before it sees him.

The bowhunter should wait until he has the best possible chance to hit a vital area before shooting. He should not shoot when the animal is behind a bush or shielded by tree branches. This material will deflect the arrow and cause it to miss.

The best possible shot for an archer is the quartering away shot in which the animal has passed the hunter and is looking straight ahead. If the arrow hits in the vicinity of the last rib, it will angle forward into the lungs, heart or other vital areas and kill the deer quickly. In addition, there is less chance that the deer will see the archer drawing his arrow and run before the man can shoot.

Many a hunter on the ground has had that problem. It is fairly easy to spot a buck coming from a distance and raise your shotgun or rifle to shooting position and hold it there until the buck comes within range then squeeze the trigger. This takes very little movement at the critical moment. The archer can raise his bow arm, but he cannot hold a heavy hunting bow at full draw for a long period of time. He must move when the deer is within rock-tossing range and not spook it.

In addition, the bowhunter must be sure that there is enough room to draw his bow and that the limbs will not hit obstructing brush when he releases the arrow. The gunman can simply shove his weapon through a hole in the brush and shoot without fear of such things.

The bowhunter who must confine his activities to the ground relies on camouflage clothing and scented materials to enable him to get close to his game. Georgia law requires the use of a bow with a minimum draw weight of 40 pounds. Those hunting the state's wildlife management areas must use broadhead arrows 7/8 inch wide or wider. The wise bowhunter keeps his broadheads sharp enough to shave the hair from his arms.

Each bowhunter must have an archery license and a big game license to hunt deer in Georgia. The archery license costs \$3.25 for residents. Non-residents may buy a 10-day archery license for \$12.50 or a season archery license for \$25.25. Big game licenses cost \$3.25 for the resident and \$10.25 for the non-resident.

What does the bowhunter get for this price? Certainly it is not a lot of game meat. He will have his share of success and put meat on the table, but he would bag a lot more game with firearms. The reward goes much deeper than that. Bowhunters spend a lot of time in the field. They really work for their game. Success figures are low. Even on an extremely good area such as Clark Hill the success ratio for 1969-70 was 9.4 percent with 255 hunters taking only 24 deer. The bowhunter enjoys the thrill and challenge of the hunt and a tremendous feeling of accomplishment when he finally bags a big buck the hard way.

ully half the enjoyment
of archery hunts is the
companionship of good
friends around the fire
and stories of impossible
hunts or the big one that
p. away. The other half
the enjoyment of such
a hunt is the solitude
of a tree stand.



WOMEN in CONSERVATION

Photo by Ted B



By Dean Wohlgemuth

EDITOR'S NOTE: Women are reaching out in all directions these days to find new freedoms. Many of these freedoms involve ways to make a living. And for some time, quite a few young girls have been intrigued by outdoor recreation and conservation, and wondered whether they could ever break into this apparently strictly man's world. They're doing more than wondering now. They are in it. This article, as a supplement to the recent series, "Conservation: A Career for You?" which GAME & FISH ran in the March through July issues, tells of the possibilities in this field for women.

Call it women's lib if you choose, but there's no doubt that girls are now seeking more freedom in their careers, looking for positions that only a few short years ago, even they themselves wouldn't have dared dream about.

And those dreams are now beginning to encompass the field of conservation. A surprising number of girl students have expressed interest in employment in conservation work. GAME & FISH Magazine has, in recent months, taken a long look at conservation employment in its series, "Conservation: A Career for You?" The series gave a thorough look at all phases of the field. The question arises now, just which of these jobs might be open to a girl inclined toward

h's class of wildlife technology students includes Hilda Hoskins, who looks forward to a career in conservation.



Photo by Ted Borg

Beverly Clement, a Fisheries Biologist with the Georgia Game and Fish Department, carries out a water sample analysis.

being a professional conservationist?

The answer? According to one young lady—who is in her chosen field of conservation—any field she chooses!

She is in a position to say this; she is a fisheries biologist for the Georgia Game and Fish Commission. Miss Beverly Clement is unique in this, to be sure, being the first and only girl biologist ever hired by Georgia. In fact, she may be the first girl ever hired anywhere, for a strictly field work position in fisheries. At least two other states have hired girl biologists, largely for laboratory work inside. One of these was hired before Beverly joined the Georgia Commission two years ago.

As is the case in any field formerly considered strictly a "man's world,"

Beverly found her career to present a lot of challenges. After two years in her position, she feels she has proven that a woman can handle a field position in a conservation agency.

Admittedly, some of these fields might present far more difficult challenges and hurdles than others do, but she remains convinced a woman can do the job.

"Of course," she adds, "it all depends on the woman. She must make up her mind she wants not only to be treated as an equal, but to be equal . . . that is, to handle her share of the load. She must not expect or accept any favors.

"When I first joined the Commission, I felt there was a tendency on the part of the men with whom I worked, to sort of overprotect me. That is, they wanted



Photo by Ben Gunn

Checking the progress of catfish in a rearing basket in the hot summer sun may not be everyone's idea of fun, but it's work that must be done.

Just standing and watching? Yes, Beverly has already done her share of work on this cold, wet population study.

Photo by Aaron Poss



to lighten the work for me as much possible. I felt that if I was going to achieve my goals, I couldn't let this happen. For one thing, after a time the men might feel that it would always be necessary to make concessions for me, and because of this there could be resentment building up within the team. Therefore I've always tried to do all of my own work, and to carry my share of the load. I think it is absolutely necessary that any girl in the field share this attitude."

Beverly also pointed out that there are several attitudes that are absolutely "musts" for a girl in conservation work. First, she must be looking for a career, not just a job. She has to really want to be a conservationist and to dedicate herself to the field, and place it ahead of other goals. It must be a permanent career for her, not a short term employment.

She must realize that while she has some physical limitations, so do all other people; and therefore she must admit these limitations and ask for help when necessary. "If I have to lift something too heavy for me, I'm not afraid to ask for help. If a man were to be lifting something that was more than he could handle, he's ask for help. Why shouldn't I?"

How does a girl become interested in a conservation career? "Just the same as anyone else," Beverly says. In her own case, it was her biology class that brought out her interest.

She admits she received very little in the way of encouragement toward her dream, rather she met with a lot of discouragement. This was mostly after completing graduate work, when she went looking for a job. Many states where she applied told her simply and flatly that they felt a woman could not handle the position.

Once she was employed, however, discouragements diminished. "Sure, I've taken a lot of kidding. I've had to admit some physical limitations and met with physical handicaps, but I feel that by now I've achieved, at least partially, some of my goals. That is, to be recognized not as 'that woman biologist,' but as 'just another fisheries biologist,' or more or less, just one of the boys."

Beverly's advice to a girl seeking a position in conservation is simple. First, check into what education requirements there are for the position in which you're interested. She added that this, of course, is essential for everyone, not just girls.

Further, she feels that to enter such a field takes a girl that knows her own mind and knows exactly what she wants and is willing to work to get it. She ex-

phasized the "willing to work." As a sort of a pioneer in this field, she feels that every girl receiving such a job is obligated to prove that women can do the job and do it well.

A girl who wants a field position must also take into account that as, for example, a fisheries biologist she'll find times she must wade in water and mud to her waist. She has to be certain she wants to do this type of work. She can't be squeamish, but then, "after doing all the things you have to do to get a degree in the various fields of biology needed, you're past being squeamish."

She must also realize that plans of marriage must be considered. A girl who chooses to remain single would have no problem, but a girl who plans to marry must take several things into account. She'd have to find a man who would accept the fact that she might arrive home from work four or five hours later of an evening than he does, and that she might be covered with mud and fish lime," Beverly said. She added that a career woman might find it most desirable to not have children. Doing so might well hinder her career and might discourage prospective employers who would not be overjoyed in giving extended leaves of absence when children are born.

She must also realize that her work will have unpleasant duties and situations, and she must not shirk from them. For example, it may be necessary to do some netting in very cold water in chilly weather. You may not relish it, but nonetheless, in the overall pursuit of your career you will enjoy it, Beverly assures.

Not all positions are as rugged as that of a game or fisheries biologist, though Beverly sees no reason a girl can't handle one of these positions, or that of a biological aide or even a game warden. Again, it depends mostly on the girl, her physical capabilities and her mental attitudes.

Most young girls seeking work in the field of conservation consider the public information line. This, of course, does not depend on physical prowess nearly as much since the work is largely mental.

A girl with a background and education in journalism, and a genuine knowledge and love for the outdoors would find a much easier time gaining acceptance in that line.

Of course, those girls who are not inclined along these fields, but who have an interest in conservation, may find some consolation in being a secretary, typist or clerk for a conservation agency. Many such positions exist in all agencies, and though not by any means could they be called professional con-

servation positions, they allow a woman to be close to the field. In some areas, such as public information, a secretary or receptionist may find herself nearly as deeply involved in public information and public relations work as the information officers.

Further, there are opportunities for a woman to aid in conservation even though she cannot make a career of it. If she is truly interested and wants to help in the conservation cause, she can, as Beverly suggests, do these things:

—Write articles on conservation for newspapers and magazines.

—Vote for legislation and legislators in the best interests of conservation, and campaign in behalf of good laws and legislators.

—As a hobby or part-time avocation, become a wildlife and conservation photographer.

—Take an active part in as many conservation organizations as possible.

—As a mother, she can bring up her children to know and love the outdoors, outdoor sports and wildlife. She can encourage them to be interested in conservation, and if not on a professional level, become good citizens to support conservation causes.

The future, Beverly feels, will offer more and more opportunities for women in conservation, though the field will most probably continue to be dominated by men. Nonetheless, every woman who gains such a position can, through dedication and hard work, open the field even more for others who eventually wish to enter it. Agencies who have had good experiences with women in conservation, will be much more likely to accept the idea of hiring more women in the future.

Can a career in conservation be a rewarding one for a woman? Beverly says it is, and we'll have to admit it certainly looks like she enjoys it.

Photo by Ted Borg



FALL P



Photos by Aaron Pass

VIVAL

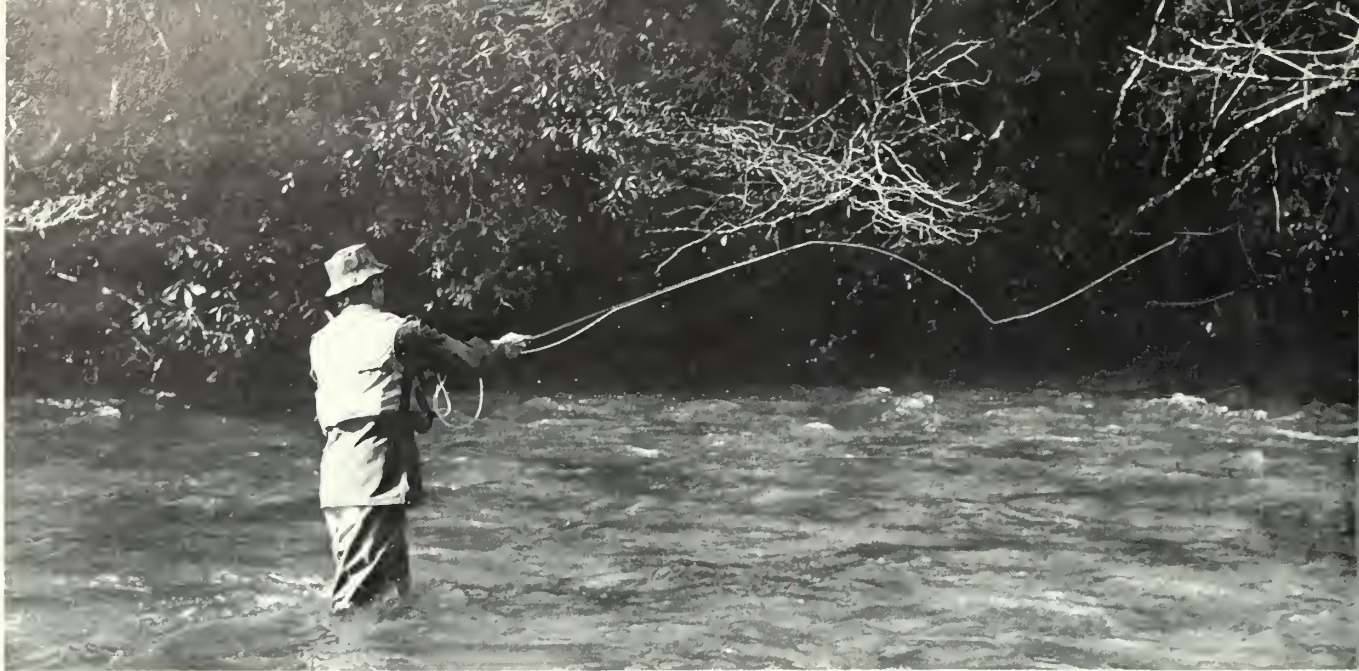
On the fourth attempt the fly finally slipped under the overhanging alders and dropped almost against the riverbank. It would have only about four feet of free float in the gentle bankside run before the stronger mid-channel current would catch the fly line and draw the fly under water. After a drift of only about two feet, the fly was engulfed by a small, but enthusiastic brown trout, and after a brief struggle the "frying-size" brownie was added to the creel.

The fish measured only about ten inches, certainly not a remarkable size, but there was another factor about his capture which made him unusual. He was taken on one of the most popular streams in the state, in early September, and there was not another angler in sight to rush over to share the spot. After the Labor Day weekend, the number of fishermen on the streams drops noticeably, and the angler can have the stream pretty much to himself. This is quite a contrast to the elbow-to-elbow, standing three deep situation common earlier in the season . . . and quite a bit more enjoyable.

The fall angling picture is generally good as the fish become more active and fishing begins to pick up again after the long summer slump. The trout angler can also expect some excellent action provided he makes allowances for the changed living and feeding habits of his quarry at this time of year. The problems of low, clear water and spooky trout are still almost as bothersome as they were earlier in the summer. The techniques used in summer trout fishing will still be productive in the early fall, with lures representing land insects and small fish being the top baits. The trout will still be wary from the summer onslaught so caution and stealth will be rewarded.

Later in the fall, as water temperature begins to drop, the trout will begin to move back into their favored haunts deserted earlier in the summer. The cooler tem-





Fishing to the fish is always a good idea, and in this case the angler is casting to a run under overhanging bank vegetation. This approach takes fish but be prepared to snag a lot of lures in the brush.

Photo by Bob Wilso

peratures will also induce more feeding activity, and the fish will become less suspicious as the hordes of summer anglers are forgotten. The real key to successful fall trout fishing, however, is to know what to fish and where to place it for best results.

The trout moved to the deep holes and under the undercut stream banks earlier in the summer seeking cooler water and protective cover from the overhanging bank vegetation. They will remain in such spots through the early fall months because, normally the water will still be somewhat low and warm, and there is easily available food as well. This food is in the form of terrestrial insects and small fish to be found in these spots. Later in the fall, the fish will again scatter throughout the stream when the water temperature drops, then nymphs and small fish replace the land insects as favored food items.

There is no problem of the fly fisherman "matching the hatch" in the fall months, as there is no hatch to match. The major hatches of aquatic insects are over at this time, and the trout are living on whatever comes their way. Land insects, or terrestrials as they are called, make up a large portion of trout food at this time. Flies imitating grasshoppers, inch worms, or any of a multitude of bugs which inadvertently fall into the water at this time of the year are all good bets. These should be fished close to the bank, right up under the streamside cover, if they are going to reach the fish. If you are not losing a lot of flies while doing this type of fishing then you are either an expert fly caster or you're not getting close enough to get the fishes' attention.

Spinners and spoons meant to imitate small baitfish should likewise be fished close to the bank cover. These lures can also be drifted through the deeper holes and "skim" through the back eddies of fast water with good results. As at any time a bit of finesse with the tackle will pay off most handsomely; splashing lures and lines will only drive the wary trout deeper into seclusion, as will the careless wading. Any fish who made it through the summer fishing season is too wise to fall for

any morsel of food that acts unnaturally or is accompanied by a lot of disturbance.

The wariest of all the trout is probably the brown who is well known for his ability to outsmart anglers. It is also the brown which is the king of fall trout fishing and browns taken at this time of year will exhibit the brassy gold coloring with scattered red spots which denote the spawning season. The brown is an avid insect feeder and for that reason he is very popular with fly casters, but will readily strike any lure which looks like food if it is well presented. The caution of the wild brown is one of the reasons that he is able to withstand the high angling pressures of summer to provide good fall fishing. The brook trout is native to the east coast and also an autumn spawner. A male brook trout taken in the fall will be almost pure black with red and blue spots, possibly the prettiest fish ever to grace an angler's net. The rainbow trout does not spawn in the fall but the cooler water temperature will put rainbows on the move again, actively seeking food.

In short the autumn holds some excellent fishing opportunities for those who pursue it. The leaves along the mountain trout streams are at their best, changing to the brilliant hues of fall, and the streams themselves offer a high degree of quiet wild beauty. The fish are actively feeding once again after their long summer fast, and even the stocked fish will have been in the stream long enough to make a good account of themselves on the end of the line. The crowds of summer have gone leaving only the natural sights and sounds; this is an excellent time to be in the woods.

Although Georgia's Management Area streams close early in September, there is still plenty of good fishing available on the general open streams until early October. After this the several "year-round" trout streams still remain for the fisherman who wishes to try some late fall and early winter fishing. The fall trips are an excellent excuse to go deer scouting, squirrel hunting or simply get out in the woods at this exhilarating time of year.

TAILWATER TROUT

By Dean Wohlgemuth

Photos by the Author

The second time the trout rose, Marty Fishburn was within casting range. He had taken a bearing on the first rise, and cautiously waded within range bent over low to be less visible.

With infinite care, he made three false casts, and dropped his fly in the center of where the rings on the water had begun.

The fly floated past, and he cast again. And again. Nothing.

Then, on the fourth cast, the trout took it. Marty snapped his rod back, setting the hook, then the slender 6½ foot bamboo took a deep bow as the fish took line off the reel.

The trout raced downstream, and sawed back and forth for several minutes, leaping three times. But now, it could no longer clear the water, only make a surface splash as Marty expertly steered it close enough to land it.

Marty lifted the fish for me to see. It breathed in the fresh air, cool for mid-August, and cast a glance up and down the river. The three fishermen we had seen, a quarter of a mile away, were gone. Now, the only anglers in sight were the two that had come with us, Jack Olden and Bill Kurtz, more than a half mile away. You could see more than a mile of stream in this flat, straight stretch.

Everyone has their own ideas about what good fishing water should be like. When it comes to trout water, this writer likes a stream wide enough to cast a fly on a spinner without getting tangled in shoreline trees and brush every third or fourth cast, if possible. More important, there should be a substantial distance between fishermen.

That can be difficult to find in Georgia. Though there are some 1,000 miles of trout water in our state, most of the streams are tiny... but crowded with anglers. It's hard to find a pool or a run or a riffle that hasn't been fished at least a dozen times by different fishermen by 10 in the morning.

Pushed into a corner by various types of stream alterations these days, fisheries management personnel have had to look



The Savannah River immediately below Lake Hartwell may not offer the rugged scenic beauty of a classic mountain trout stream, but it certainly has the trout in it, and it offers year-round fishing.

into new ways to produce stream fishing for such species as trout. One of the best answers to this problem, in recent years, is to use the cold waters drawn from the bottom of large reservoirs, in the tail-races. These waters are cold enough to support trout even in warm, "flatland" climates. And they're usually big, wide streams.

Such a place is the Savannah River below Lake Hartwell. Here, the river bed is some 150 yards or more wide, though most of the actual water is not that wide, when the generators aren't running. It's pretty well scattered around large areas of rock at these times, and these are the times that you can fish.

When the power plant goes to work, the water is too deep and too swift in the Savannah for the fisherman, as is the case on most such streams.

An angler working tailraces for trout, even if he's several miles downstream from the dam, must always keep his eye on the waterline. If he notices any rise at all in the water level, he'd better head for shore as quickly as he possibly can. The high water rolling downstream is dangerous while generators are operating. You can be left stranded, surrounded by water too deep and too swift to wade.

Since the Savannah is the border between Georgia and South Carolina, both states manage the fishing. They take turns stocking trout at regular intervals. Also, as a border-forming stream, there is no closed season on this river. It may be fished any of the 365 days each year.

It struck me as ironic, that here at the headwaters of the Savannah, we were catching fat trout, while several miles



downstream anyone fishing would have to release their entire catch because of mercury pollution. Here, between Lake Hartwell and Clark Hill Reservoir, the water was safe, and the fish good to eat.

Before we had entered the stream about 8 a.m. that day, Marty had called the office at the dam and ascertained that a generation was scheduled for 11:30 a.m. It would be about an hour later that the high water would reach us.

After Marty landed the 12-incher already described, he took two or three more nice trout while I spent most of my time following him at a good distance with a camera.

When his fishing slowed and I noticed a rise near me, I began working my ultralight with a spinner. Four or five casts later I was hooked into a trout that turned out to be a 10-incher. This whetted my appetite and I began working the rod in earnest.

We had started out by walking downstream several hundred yards, fishing back up to the bridge. We were near the bridge a little before noon, when I caught my trout.

I shot a glance downstream. Wow! A leaping trout soared high above the surface of the water. What a fish! I'd have sworn it was in the 20-inch class!

The fish was more than 200 yards away, in a large, long pool. It had been easy to determine exactly where the pool the fish had been. Reaching the head of the pool, I found a nice run and made a few casts. Spotting a small rise down about two casts, I worked into position and went after the fish, not sure it was the monster, but hoping.

Just then, the big rascal came out of the water again, still a good 50 yards below me! Again, I worked closer, closer, closer, ever so cautiously, trying not to



disturb a single stone more than necessary.

I was where I thought I would be able to reach him with a long cast. Again, he came out of the water! I needed to be about 20 feet closer . . . if I could only reach that last rock jutting above the surface, right next to the deep water.

Just as I worked my way to it and prepared to cast, I heard Marty shout. The words weren't too audible, yet I knew what he was trying to tell me. I looked at my watch and confirmed my guess . . . it was time for the high water to reach us. And I had just reached that fish!

The temptation was too much. I looked around, and could see no change in the water level yet, so I cast perhaps a half dozen times carefully. Then I lost my nerve. I'd been in tailwaters before and found myself surrounded by swift water too deep for my waders. I got out, disappointed that I hadn't time to work longer on that big trout. But you can bet I marked his location carefully before I left.

I didn't get to come back that after-

noon, not to that spot. We ate lunch while the generators ran, then came back as the water began to fall. But this time it was Jack and Bill's time to go downstream, while Marty and I went up.

Actually, in a way I'm glad I did, even though I didn't get another shot at the lunker. I'll save him for another day. I did get to see more of the river.

I can't say the Savannah has the same rare beauty as a mountain stream, but I did admire its ruggedness, its wildness. The water was clearer now, after the generation, and there were many good looking riffles, shoals, runs and pools.


Still working the camera more than the rod, I went fishless until late in the afternoon . . . that is, I went troutless till then. The Savannah has an abundance of yellow perch, and I must have caught and released two dozen. And once I landed a nice bream!

My shoulders were aching under the weight of the camera straps and wader suspenders, and I'd worked a blister on my heel by the time Marty said "We'd better head back, if we're going to make the road before dark." I was glad to

leave. My aching legs found new strength to make the trip, knowing they were headed home.

Comparing notes, we had kept seven trout. I had two 10-inchers, the smallest we had kept. Marty and Bill had five keepers between them . . . both had released smaller fish. Those they kept were up to about 14 inches. Jack was muttering something about yellow perch on his line so much the trout didn't have a chance to hit.

The Savannah offers a challenge and a promise to the trout fisherman who wants wide open spaces and good sized trout. All three of my companions were amazed at seeing a total of about six anglers on the river, other than ourselves. They assured me they seldom ever see anyone during a day's fishing. It's tough wading over the slick rocks, and Marty told me that he and Bill both have had to put their rods between their teeth and swim out in dangerously swift water, when an unscheduled generation caught them unaware.

Still, to all of us, the Savannah is well worth the effort it demands. 

Marty Fishburn, on the left, and Bill Kurtz check over one of the tailwater trout taken from the Savannah below Lake Hartwell.



the GREAT WHITE

By Wayne Fears

The Chattooga River is unquestionably the most valuable white water river in the southeast and one of the finest in the nation.

The Chattooga starts its way southward from where its headwaters form on the crest of the Blue Ridge in mountainous North Carolina, near the eastern side of Whiteside Mountain. The first 10 miles is in North Carolina, then it becomes the boundary, for 40 miles, between the states of South Carolina and Georgia. In this 50 mile rush of water, the river drops from 3360 feet to 891 feet for an average fall of 49 feet per mile.

The Chattooga River is one of the longest and largest free-flowing mountain streams in the southeast remaining in a relatively undeveloped condition. Roads cross the river at only five places and for most of its length it is hemmed in by forest of white pine, hemlock, and various hardwoods, without fields, farms or other signs of civilization. Due to the foresight of the U.S.D.A. Forest Service and the Georgia Power Company, the principal landowners, there has been a minimum of timbering within the river's corridor. The river is a part of three national forests, the Nantahala of North Carolina, the Sumter of South Carolina, and the Chattahoochee of Georgia.

Trout fishing on the Chattooga is an all year affair since it is one of the few southern trout streams where fishing is allowed year 'round. Many camping canoeists, fishing for supper, have gone into camp with a mixed creel of brown, brook, and rainbow trout. Also, many of the feeder streams, such as Warrenton, West Fork, Whetstone, and others, offer the fisherman an opportunity for solitude and excellent trout fishing in a wilderness setting.

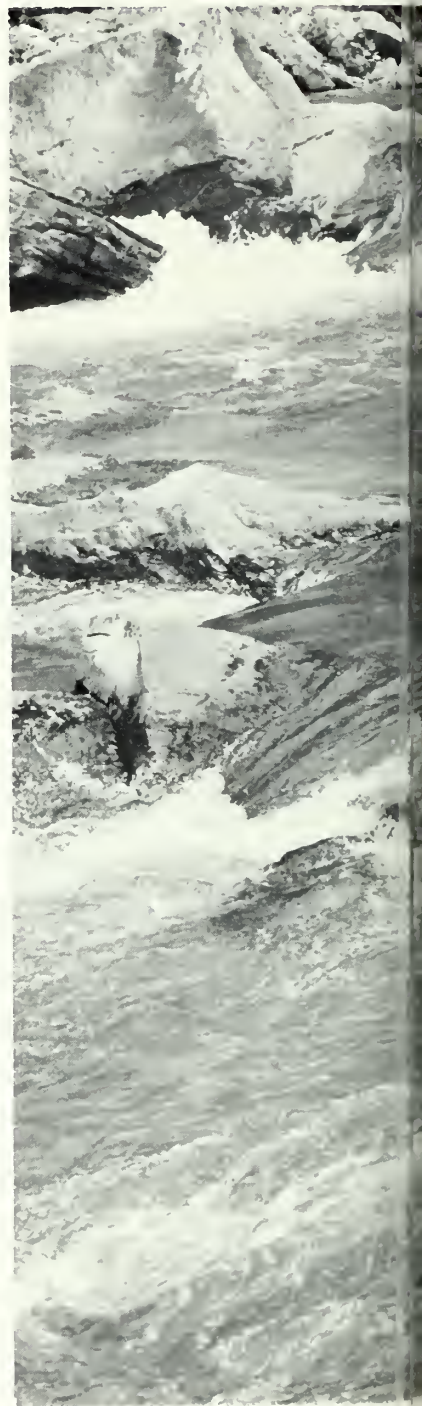
The Chattooga River must

be planned depending upon the watercraft to be used, white water expertise, and purpose and length of the trip. Since there are no guides or rental equipment available for the river, careful planning is a must for a safe trip. Planning is best carried out by considering each section of the river that is between the road crossings. As was stated earlier the river has five road crossings—Bull Pen Road (Forest Service Road near Cashiers, North Carolina), Burrell's Ford (Forest Service Road off Georgia Highway 28), Russell's Bridge (Georgia Highway 28), Earl's Ford (Forest Service Road near Clayton, Georgia), and U.S. Highway 76.

The entire section from Bull Pen Road to Burrell's Ford is in a completely natural state. It includes some beautiful but hazardous white water. This six mile section of the river should be floated only in rubber rafts. On this section is the point where North Carolina, South Carolina and Georgia boundaries come together. At this point is a rock in the river with the point and survey date carved in it by the surveyor. The rock is named for him—Ellicott's Rock. The Forest Service maintains trails in this area for backpackers. The trails start at Walhalla National Fish Hatchery on South Carolina Highway 107. This first section ends at a Forest Service campground at Burrell's Ford Bridge. This is an excellent campground for both auto camping and float trip camping.

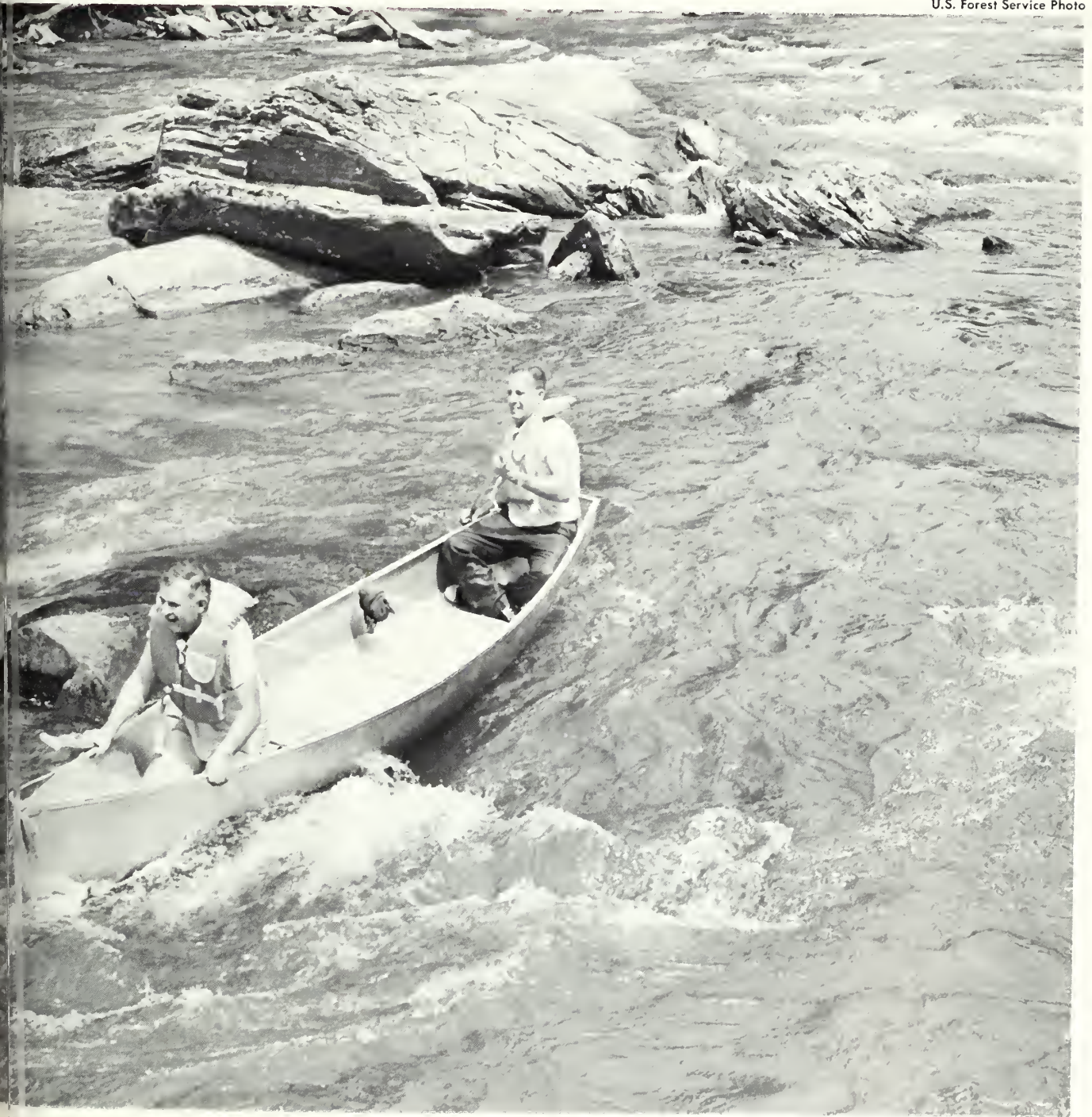
The second section of the Chattooga starts at the campground and runs 10 miles to Russell Bridge on Georgia Highway 28. This stretch of river includes exciting but treacherous white water and is recommended for skilled white water canoeists.

The next section is said to be the best stretch of the entire river for trout fishing and it is the easiest to canoe. It is



CHATTOOGA

U.S. Forest Service Photo



Sportsman's Calendar

eight miles long and well known feeder streams such as West Fork and Warwoman make, for the trout fisherman, a dream come true. By using a canoe the camping fisherman could spend a long weekend on this section of the river. A detailed brochure on this section can be obtained from the Forest Supervisor, Sumter National Forest, Columbia, South Carolina.

The section between Earl's Ford and U.S. Highway 76 has been assessed as more difficult, requiring experience in white water canoeing. Leaving Earl's Ford, steep ridges close in on the river as it drops over rapids, around boulders and down ledges. This 12 mile stretch has been called the most beautiful stretch of white water in the southeast—unexcelled for both scenery and canoeing water. Near the end of this section of the Chattooga is a 10-foot high falls known as Bull Sluice. Many canoeists have lost their gear at these falls as they have an easy approach through fast water and are hidden from view until too late to escape.

The last section of the Chattooga is 10 miles in length and considered very dangerous and only suitable for the most expert canoeist. Part of this stretch flows through an impressive gorge with cliffs rising over 400 feet on each side of the river. Enormous boulders and unusual rock formations are common. Once a floating party is launched, the continuous rapids and sheer canyon walls make it almost impossible to get out of the river.

Camping is allowed along the river provided fires are used with care, a clean campsite is left, and trees are not damaged.

The Chattooga has scenic values which cannot be duplicated and which deserve protection. Its course now runs almost entirely through forest land. Many feeder streams enter the river as 50-60 foot

DOVES: Oct. 23 through Nov. 10; Dec. 18 through Jan. 15, 1972. Daily shooting hours, 12 noon prevailing time, until sunset. Bag limit, 12 per day, possession limit, 24. At no time shall the hunter have in his possession more than one daily bag limit (12) while from the shooting area to his car or home.

RAILS: (Marsh hens) Open Sept. 4 through Nov. 21. Daily bag limit, 15 possession limit, 30. Shooting hours, from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

DEER (1) (Archery Hunt) Oct. 1 through Oct. 30, 1971, in any county or part thereof having a legal firearms deer season. Bag limit two (2) ducks or one (1) buck and one (1) doe. Hunting with dogs prohibited.

(2) Exception: **(Archery Hunt)** Oct. 1 through Oct. 14, 1971, in those counties and/or parts thereof (see Section 30) having an Oct. 15 opening firearms deer season. Bag limit two (2) bucks or one (1) buck and one (1) doe. Hunting with dogs prohibited.

DEER: Buck Only: Oct. 15, 1971, through Jan. 1, 1972, in the following counties except as otherwise provided in Section 31: Brantley, Bryan, Bulloch, Burke, Candler, Chatham, Charlton, except that portion lying northwest of the Okefenokee Swamp, which is closed; Clinch County, except that portion lying in the southwest corner of the county, bordered on the north by the Seaboard Coastline Railroad and on the east by Suwannee Creek which is closed and except that portion of Clinch County lying north of Arabia Bay Wildlife Management Area and between U.S. Highway #221 and U.S. Highway #441 which is closed, and except that portion of Clinch County lying northwest of U.S. Highway #221, which is

closed; Effingham, Emanuel, Evans, and that portion of Echols County lying east of U.S. Highway #129 and south of Georgia Highway #187; Glynn, Jefferson, Jenkins, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Screven, Wayne, Washington, Tattnall, that portion of Lanier County lying north of the Seaboard Coastline Railroad and east of the Alabama River and southeast of U.S. Highway #221; and also that portion of Pierce County lying south of U.S. Highway #82 east of Ga. Highway #121, and west of Ga. Highway #32. Bag limit two (2) bucks. Hunting with dogs allowed.

DEER: Either Sex: Oct. 15, 1971 through Jan. 1, 1972, the islands, except Sapelo and Blackbeard, and marshes lying east of the Intracoastal Waterway in Bryan, Camden, Chatham, Glynn, Liberty, and McIntosh counties will be open for the taking of deer of either sex. Bag limit two (2) bucks or one (1) buck and one (1) doe. Hunting with dogs allowed.

OPOSSUM: (1) Oct. 16, 1971, through Feb. 29, 1972, in Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Embury, and all counties north of those listed. No bag limit.

(2) All counties south of the above named counties are open year round for the taking of opossum. No bag limit.

RACCOON: (1) Oct. 16, 1971, through Feb. 29, 1972, in Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Embury, and all counties north of those listed. Bag limit one (1) per night per person.

(2) All counties south of the above named counties are open year round for the taking of raccoons. No bag limit.

SQUIRREL: Statewide season is Oct. 1, 1971, through Feb. 29, 1972. Bag limit ten (10) daily.

waterfalls. The river offers to those who visit the feeling experienced by explorers of a new land. At the same time it serves as a retreat from the constant din of civilization.

The great, white Chattooga has something for everyone who enjoys wild, unspoiled rivers. Miles of trout fishing in a wilderness setting is becoming scarce. The Chattooga contains some of the best trout fishing found in the southeast. Such a long stretch of white water rapids suitable for canoeing is also scarce. The Chattooga runs through a constantly changing series of rapids with virtually nothing in the way of eddies to slow the boaters' progress. As if planned, the white water is divided by relative ease of passage by the road crossings. Thus the river affords a good training ground, as well as long stretches that test the skills of the expert white water enthusiasts.

Because of the unique recreational opportunities afforded by the river it has been studied for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. At the public hearings there was little opposition to the Chattooga becoming a National Wild and Scenic River. The study is now in Washington and trout fishermen, canoeists, campers, and wilderness seekers in general await the outcome.



SMALL GAME MANAGED HUNTS

Reg. Season	Allatoona, Brunswick Pulp & Paper Co. (Special regulations apply to each compartment on this area. See regulations.), Carroll-Douglas (Whitesburg), Coosawattee (Cartecay Tract), Grand Bay, Seminole
During waterfowl season by permit only. Dove, Sat. only during dove season except those Saturdays when managed duck hunts are held. Rabbits (See regulations.)	Altamaha (Butler Island)
Dove only on Wed. afternoon during Sept. and Oct. seasons on designated sections.	Albany Nursery
Jan. 10-15	Arabia Bay
Dove (Restricted, see regulations.) Other small game, in season.	Baldwin State Forest
Dec. 27-Jan. 1 compartments A & B only.	Berry Schools
Oct. 23-30; Dec. 18-Jan. 8	Blue Ridge
Oct. 22, 23, 30	Blue Ridge (Raccoon only)
Dec. 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25, 29; Jan. 1, 5, 8, 12, 15	Bullard Creek
Oct. 16-30	Cedar Creek
Dec. 8-22; Jan. 5-Feb. 26	
Wed., Fri., Sat.	
Oct. 23-30; Dec. 18-Jan. 8	Chattahoochee
Oct. 23-30; Dec. 18-Jan. 8	Chestatee
Dec. 10, 11, 17, 18	Chestatee (Raccoon)
Jan. 7, 8, 21, 22	Chickasawhatchee
Feb. 4, 5, 18, 19	
Sat. afternoon only Sept. and Oct. seasons (Dove)	
Jan. 5-29; Wed., Sat.	Clark Hill
Oct. 16-23; Nov. 20-27	Cohutta
Oct. 11-25	
Oct. 16-30; Dec. 8-Jan. 31	Coleman River
Oct. 16-23; Nov. 20-27	Coosawattee
Oct. 11-25	
Oct. 16-Dec. 25	Coosawattee, Cohutta (Raccoon only)
Oct. only	
Oct. 20-Jan. 31	Lake Russell
Oct. 15, 16, 29, 30	Lake Russell (Raccoon only)
Oct. 23-30; Dec. 18-29	Lake Burton
Oct. 16-30	Oaky Woods
Wed., Sat.	
Oct. 11-18	Oaky Woods
Jan. 1-Feb. 26	
Oct. only	
Oct. 16-30; Dec. 11-23	Ocmulgee
Oct. 1-29	
Oct. 1, Thurs., Sat.	
Oct. 16-30; Dec. 8-22	Piedmont Experiment Station
Oct. 5-Feb. 26	
Oct. 1, Fri., Sat.	
Oct. 16-30; Dec. 3-Jan. 1	Pigeon Mountain
Oct. 4-Jan. 1	Pigeon Mountain (Raccoon only)
Oct. only	
Jan. 3-Jan. 8	Suwanneechee, Alapaha
Oct. 16-30	Swallow Creek

Oct. 16-30; Dec. 18-Jan. 8 Warwoman
Feb. 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12 Waycross State Forest

MANAGED DEER HUNTS SCHEDULE

(Hunts marked "QH" with a number are limited quota hunts. Number of hunters allowed is indicated. Hunters will be determined by drawings in advance of the hunt. For details on each area, consult the Management Area directory.)

PRIMITIVE WEAPONS

Dates	Areas
Nov. 1-6	Bullard Creek (Either Sex)
Nov. 12-13	Chickasawhatchee (Either Sex QH 300)
Nov. 1-5	Clark Hill (Either Sex)
Dec. 13-18	Piedmont Experiment Station (Either Sex)
Nov. 15-20	Suwanneechee (Either Sex)
Oct. 25-30	Warwoman (Buck Only)

ARCHERY (EITHER SEX)

Dec. 13-18	Alapaha
Oct. 25-30	Allatoona, Berry Schools
Oct. 11-16	Blue Ridge
Oct. 1-30	Brunswick Pulp & Paper Co. (Lampa Dosia Tract)
Oct. 1-14	Brunswick Pulp & Paper Co. (Samsavilla, Tyler, Atkinson, and Harrington Tracts)
Oct. 4-9	Chattahoochee
Nov. 1-5	Clark Hill
Oct. 25-30	Johns Mountain, Lake Russell
Oct. 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9	Oaky Woods
Oct. 1, 2, 6, 7, 9, 13, 14, 16, 20, 21, 23, 27, 28, 30	Ocmulgee

BUCK ONLY

Dec. 27-Jan. 1	Alapaha
Nov. 22, 23, 24	Allatoona (QH 500)
In Season	Altamaha (Wrights, Cambers and Lewis Islands only) Grand Bay, Seminole, Carroll-Douglas (Whitesburg)
Dec. 13-18	Arabia Bay
Nov. 29-Dec. 4	Berry Schools (QH 500)
Nov. 22-27	Blue Ridge, Cedar Creek, Chattahoochee, Chestatee, Clark Hill, Coleman River, Johns Mountain, Lake Burton, Lake Russell, Oaky Woods, Ocmulgee, Piedmont Experiment Station, Pigeon Mountain, Swallow Creek, Warwoman
Nov. 22-27	Oaky Woods
Dec. 1-4	
Nov. 6; 8-13; 17-20; 22-27	Ocmulgee
Nov. 6-Jan. 1	Brunswick Pulp & Paper Co. (Special regulations apply to each tract of this area.)
Oct. 15-Jan. 1	Bullard Creek
Nov. 29-Dec. 4	Chickasawhatchee (QH 300)
Dec. 3, 4, 17, 18	Suwanneechee
Dec. 6-10	Waycross State Forest
Nov. 29-Dec. 4	

EITHER SEX FIREARMS

Dec. 8	Berry Schools (QH 250)
Jan. 1	Lake Burton (QH 400)
Dec. 11	Suwanneechee

ANTLERLESS ONLY FIREARMS

Nov. 27	Allatoona (QH 250)
Dec. 27, 28	Cedar Creek (QH 1,000)
Dec. 27	Clark Hill (QH 300)
Dec. 18	Lake Russell (QH 500)
Dec. 29	Oaky Woods (QH 500)
Dec. 27, Jan. 3	Piedmont Experiment Station (QH 700)

QUOTA HUNTS: PUBLIC DRAWING: Permits for all quota hunts will be selected by a public drawing which will be held at the offices of the State Game and Fish Commission in Atlanta on October 27, 1971. Participants will be drawn from all applications received in the Atlanta office of the State Game and Fish Commission bearing postmarks from October 4 through October 18, 1971.

No more than five (5) persons may apply on each one application and any person who makes more than one application for the same hunt will be disqualified from all hunts. Each applicant must enclose his \$5 permit fee with his application. Those persons not chosen for the hunt will have their fee refunded. Those persons whose names are drawn forfeit their hunt fee, and no refunds will be made regardless of whether they participate in the hunt. No permit will be available at the checking station on quota hunts.

Chief of Law Enforcement Named



Col. Reginald K. Fansler of Augusta has been selected as chief of law enforcement for the Georgia Game and Fish Commission. Department Director Joe D. Tanner has announced that Col. Fansler began his duties in September. He was formerly assistant commandant of the U.S. Army Military Police School at Fort Gordon.

The selection of Fansler is a major step in improving the operation of the Game and Fish Department. Drawing upon Fansler's broad experience in law enforcement work is a part of the overall effort to strengthen the professionalism of Game and Fish personnel.

Three men are currently assigned as deputy chiefs for various areas of the state. All three deputy chiefs, Major William Cline (northern regions), Major J. D. Atchison (southern region) and Major David Gould (coastal re-

gion) will continue in their present duties.

The new state chief will supervise a law enforcement for the Game and Fish Commission, including the ranger training program which was begun this summer. He will be in charge of approximately 225 wildlife rangers employed by the Department.

Col. Fansler holds a B.S. degree from Michigan State University with a major in police administration and a minor in psychology; is a graduate of a traffic management and safety course at Northwestern University; and has graduate from several short courses in police operation techniques, criminal law and police community relations under the auspices of the Federal Bureau of Investigation and civilian police agencies.

He was Commanding Officer of the 4th Military Police Training Brigade at Fort Gordon from 1963 to 1965, during which time he directed and supervised the training of 2,200 military policemen. He served as Provost Marshal in Hawaii from 1965 to 1967, and was Provost Marshal in Vietnam from 1967 to 1968. In Hawaii he supervised police operations for a community of some 35,000 soldiers and civilian employees and families. He was in charge of police operations for some 7,000 military personnel in Vietnam. His duties in several of these assignments also included administration and community relations. In his present position at the Military Police School at Fort Gordon, he manages a school of some 700 students and staff and faculty of 600.

His wife, Avis, is a resource teacher in the Richmond County School System working in special education and special reading. They have three children: Marilyn is a senior at the University of Hawaii; Susan is a sophomore at the University of Georgia; and Mark, 14, is at home.

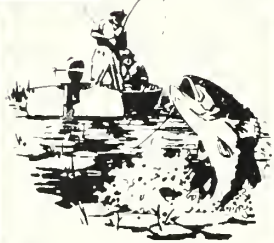
"I was born and raised a country boy," says Colonel Fansler, "and have always been oriented to outdoor living. I trapped and hunted all types of small game as a youngster and I still enjoy small game and deer hunting." He also enjoys fly fishing for trout.

"In joining the Game and Fish Department I am pursuing my two favorite enthusiasms, outdoor sports and law enforcement. I find this a very congenial and homogenous grouping of personal interests," said Fansler. "I feel that I can make a contribution to the things that are important to people in the coming years, and that of course, the conservation of our God given natural resources."

—Bob Wilson

—Dean Wohlgenuth

the outdoor world



Hunting License Requirements Explained

Joe D. Tanner, Director of the State Game and Fish Commission, has called attention to Georgia's hunting license requirements to help the state's hunters avoid breaking game laws unknowingly.

Some confusion has developed as to what licenses are required for hunting deer using various weapons.

In order to legally hunt deer in Georgia, the hunter must have a regular hunting license or a bow and arrow hunting license depending on the weapons to be used. In addition, a big game license is required this year for the first time for hunting deer or turkey.

A hunter wanting to hunt deer or turkey with firearms and bow and arrow must have the regular hunting license and the archery license in addition to the big game license.

The big game license is required of all hunters after deer or turkey in addition to the regular hunting license or the archery hunting license, regardless of the method used. Georgia hunters are limited to two deer per season, only one of which may be taken on a Wildlife Management Area.

The cost of the various resident Georgia hunting licenses are as follows:

Home License (small game)	\$4.25
Hunting and Fishing	7.25
Archery License	12.50

Bow and Arrow Hunting License (small game only) 3.25

Big Game License (required in addition to the regular hunting license or the bow and arrow hunting license or both) 3.25

Non-resident hunting licenses are as follows:

Hunting License 10 day trip (small game only) \$15.25

Season Hunting License (small game only) 25.25

Archery License (10 day trip) (small game only) 12.50

Season Archery License (small game only) 25.25

Big Game License (season) 10.25

Resident Georgia hunting licenses are available in all parts of the State from almost 2,000 license dealers including most hardware stores, sporting goods stores, bait dealers, etc.

Resident archery licenses, trapping licenses, and non-resident licenses are available at some license dealers or from the State Game and Fish Commission, License Division, Trinity-Washington Street Building, 270 Washington Street, S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30334. Orders by mail should include the complete description and address of the applicant, with the proper payment. All licenses purchased during the 1971-72 season expire on March 31, 1972.

Gun Safety Program A Success

Hunters flocked into the Triple H Public Shooting Center at Locust Grove Saturday, August 21, for a hunter safety course. This was the second annual such event, sponsored jointly by GAME & FISH Magazine, Winchester-Western and the Triple H Shooting Center.

Sessions began at 10 a.m. with the final one beginning at 4 p.m. All during the day, hunters crowded the clubhouse where indoor classes were held, and the live skeet and trap ranges where shooting instructions were given. Si Rickman, district manager for Winchester Franchise Operations, provided classroom instruction and he and Don Huie of the Triple H club gave shooting instructions.

—Dean Wohlgenuth

Book Review

ARCHER'S DIGEST

Edited by Jack Lewis

Digest Books, Inc., Northfield, Illinois.
220 pages. \$5.95

This book is labeled as an encyclopedia for archers and it comes as near to living up to that claim as any publication that I have seen. It consists of 32 individual chapters covering all phases of archery, but slanted somewhat towards the bowhunter. There is a brief history of archery, a discussion of basics and a number of features discussing tackle selection and design.

Such off-beat subjects as Yabusame (the Japanese sport of shooting at specialized targets from horseback), flight shooting, use of crossbows and arrow speed are discussed. Bowfishing for carp and gar is described in detail. There are chapters on hunting small game and big game in North America, Africa and Australia, and chapters on bow hunting as practiced by women and family groups.

There is an excellent chapter on the basics of bowhunting by Doug Kittredge as well as a chapter on the fine art of aiming calling by Jim Dougherty.

The Archer's Digest is an excellent book for the beginner and offers some interesting reading for the advanced archer as well. The descriptions of the habits of various species of game animals and the techniques of hunting them are particularly interesting.

Compiled by the publisher of Bow & Arrow magazine, the book contains a series of the most commonly asked questions in letters to the editor and their answers. There is also a listing of archery terms and their definitions and a directory of the manufacturers of archery equipment.

—M. T.

Sportsmen Speak...



JUNK IN JACKSON

We are very concerned over the increasing pollution of Jackson Lake. There just isn't enough being done to stop it on the Alcovy and South rivers.

There is also the matter of individuals that use the lake who could help. On Sunday mornings there is always a truckload of beer cans—floating in the lake. Could signs be put up to stop this—with stiff fines for offenders, such as the highway uses? The cans could be kept in the boots and carried to the dock to be disposed of with the other camp garbage. Also there are the old docks, we have seen them dragged into the Tussahaw by big boats and dropped. These docks float about and catch more trash. We cut up and burned our old dock.

We enjoy Lake Jackson and have a cabin in the Tussahaw section. We have been there nine years and will soon be retiring age. Sometimes we nearly get swamped by drunks flying by.

If possible will you please let us know what can be done. We take the monthly State GAME & FISH Magazine.

Ed T. Walkers

Fareast Park

This is an old problem. Government agencies have long sought a way to prevent the public from littering. A new law against littering was passed by the last Georgia General Assembly, empowering the Game and Fish Commission to enforce laws against littering. Our rangers can and will make cases against persons caught violating litter laws. Of course, we can't be everywhere and see all violations. If you see someone littering, it would be helpful if you could get boat registration numbers or auto license numbers, and report these to your local ranger. We have now posted signs on most reservoirs stating the rangers now enforce litter laws. We need the support of all persons in not only making certain that you yourself don't litter, but discourage others from littering.

LICENSE CONFUSION

In the July issue of OUTDOOR LIFE on page 30, the statement is made concerning Georgia hunting licenses, "An archery only license costs \$3.25. However, the archer may use a regular license for his bow-and-arrow hunting." This means to some of us that if we hunt both with a gun and a bow we need only buy a gun license along with the big game stamp. I would appreciate it if you would clarify this for us.

C. D. Carrall

Columbus

OUTDOOR LIFE has apologized for the error, and plans to run a correction soon. During the archery season, an archer needs both an archery license and a big game license. During the gun season, a gun hunter needs a regular hunting license and a big game license. Archers hunting during the gun season must abide by bag limits set for gun hunting, and must have an archery license and big game license. A hunter using a bow during archery season and a gun during gun season needs an archery license, a regular license, and needs buy only one big game license.

SAVANNAH MERCURY

I have just finished reading your article "Bridging The Gap" in the July issue of the Georgia GAME & FISH Magazine which I look forward to reading every month.

I am an avid fisherman and did most of my fishing in the Savannah River before it was closed due to mercury pollution. (The area where I fish.) I would like to know the results of the most recent test made by the Game and Fish Commission and also when this river might be open to the public again. How often are the fish being tested?

I would appreciate it very much if you could give me the above information.

Bill Brannen

Statesboro

We are continuing regular tests on the Savannah. The latest test showed that most fish still contain a dangerous amount of mercury. At such time that fish are again safe to eat we will change regulations to permit anglers to keep their catch. Tests are being run at three-month intervals. Actually, Georgia Game and Fish Commission permits fishing in the polluted portion but anglers may not keep their catch. This is for your own protection.

GEORGIA game & fish

Send check or money order to:
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270 Washington St., S.W., Atlanta, Ga. 30334

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A photograph of a squirrel perched on a tree branch. The squirrel is facing right, with its head turned slightly towards the camera. It has a light brown body with darker brown spots and a bushy tail. The tree branch is thick and has a rough, textured bark. The background is filled with green and yellow leaves, suggesting an autumn setting. A white rectangular label with a black border is attached to the branch, containing text from the University of Georgia Libraries.

UNIVERSITY OF GEORGIA

OCT 8 1971

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GEORGIA game & fish

NOVEMBER, 1971



GEORGIA'S NEGLECTED HUNTING AREA

By Marvin Tye

Large oak trees along the banks of the Altamaha River provide ideal habitat for deer and squirrel in portions of the Bullard Creek Wildlife Management Area. There will be a primitive weapons hunt for deer this month with hunters being able to take one deer of either sex. A buck only hunt for users of conventional firearms will be held November 29 through December 4.

Photo by Jim Couch

Most Georgia hunters who live in an urban area such as Atlanta, Macon or Columbus are looking for a place where game is fairly plentiful and hunting pressure is light. With the ever-expanding population and growing interest in outdoor recreation, many hunters are convinced that such areas don't exist, at least not for the average sportsman.

If you're one of those discouraged souls, take heart. The Bullard Creek Wildlife Management area may be just what you are looking for. It consists of 18,000 acres of timberland owned by Continental Can Company on the south bank of the Altamaha River in Appling and Jeff Davis Counties.

It was created, or designated as a wildlife management area in 1961 and opened to deer hunting in 1967. Joe Clements of Baxley is the area manager.

To reach the area, take U. S. Highway 221 north from Hazlehurst 6.5 miles. There you will find an entrance sign and a dirt road turning to the right off the highway. Follow this road for 4.5 miles and you will find the checking station on the right. The area consists primarily of mixed hardwood and pine uplands with extensive river swamps along the Altamaha.

This is fine habitat for deer, turkey, quail, squirrel, rabbit and ducks. During this fall there will be two deer hunts. The first is a primitive weapons hunt for deer of either sex. Open dates are November 1 through November 6. Bag limit is one buck or one doe and small game as allowed by state regulations. Primitive weapons are defined by Game and Fish Department regulations as long bows, cross bows, muzzle loading rifles .40 caliber and above and muz-



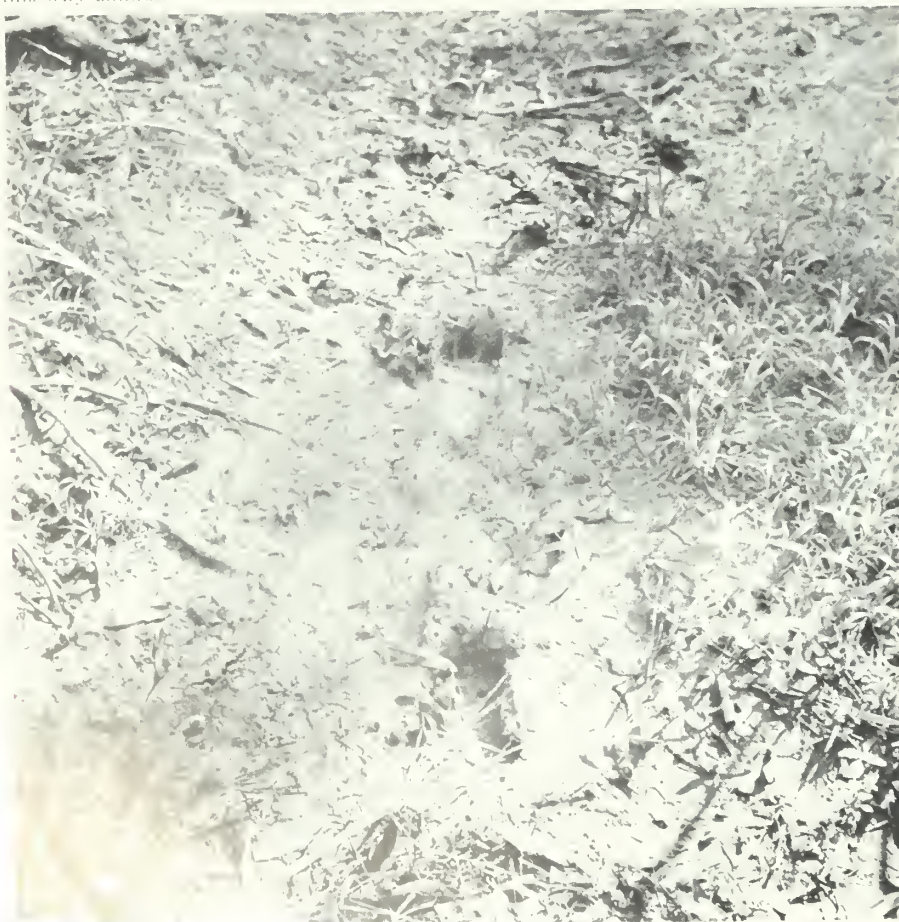


Photo by Jim Cou

Area Manager Joe Clements of Baxley patrols the hunting area from a boat to prevent poaching. Legal hunters must enter through the checking station and not by the river.

Tracks of deer and wild hog indicate the abundance of game on the area. Wild hogs may be taken by permit holders during deer hunts. This is one of the best spots in Georgia for this wily animal.

Photo by Morvin Tye



zle loading shotguns 20 gauge and above which must be loaded with single ball for deer. Convention breech loading firearms are prohibited.

The second deer hunt is scheduled for November 29 through December 4 with a bag limit of one buck only. In this hunt, legal weapons are limited to 20 gauge shotguns or large loaded with slugs, muzzle loading rifles .40 caliber or above, or rifles using any center-fire cartridge with expanding bullet .22 caliber or above with the following exceptions: .25-20, .32-20, .30 Army Carbine, .22 Hornet, .218 Bee, .22 Remington Jet Magnum, .221 Remington Fireball, .256 Winchester and the .22 Special.

Results of the past four years fail to show the true potential for good deer hunting on the area. During the first deer hunt in 1967, 242 hunters bagged 19 deer for a success ratio of 7.8%. The next year 278 hunters bagged 12 deer for a success ratio of 4.3%. During the 1969, 317 hunters tagged 21 deer for a 6.6% success ratio. Last year's success ratio for the firearms hunters was 5.55% with 13 deer taken by 234 hunters.

Bowhunters racked up the biggest success ratio last year with the smallest amount of deer killed on any day.

the hunts. The archers bagged only four deer, but there were just 21 hunters, giving a success ratio of 19%. With the chance to take deer of either sex, as the archers had last year, primitive weapons hunters should also have a high percentage of hunter success. This will be the first time the antique gun fanciers will have had the opportunity to hunt on Bullard Creek.

According to Wildlife Biologist Bob Ernst, the hunters would do much better if they got back into the swamp and hunted hard. He said that the swampland in the managed area stretches for some 25 miles along the river and is ideal habitat for deer as well as for turkey and other game. These swamps contain large, relatively dry areas with plenty of acorns from the large oak trees. Hunters

who go far enough away from the roads should be able to find more deer.

Ernst also claims that the deer are among the heaviest in the state and have some of the largest racks. For example, the average live weight of deer taken in 1967 was 152 pounds with the largest single specimen weighing 205 pounds. The average for the next three years has been almost as large with a 185 pounder killed in 1969 and a 187 pound specimen taken in 1970. He believes that even larger deer are to be found back in the swamp.

There is fair to good turkey hunting on the area, although the success ratios would not seem to bear this out. No turkeys were bagged during the first turkey hunt in 1970 and only one in 1971 hunt. This is not as

bad as it may seem because luring a wary old gobbler into range and then making a quick, accurate shot is extremely difficult. There were only 18 hunters on the 1971 gobbler hunt which gives a success ratio of 5.55%. According to Bob Ernst, the turkey population seems to fluctuate from year to year because of flooding of the river swamps. When this happens during the spring, large numbers of young turkeys are killed. Successful nesting in dry years seems to keep a permanent supply on the area. The flooding also makes access into the swamps difficult and prevents a large kill.

Small game hunting for any species in season will be legal on certain dates only. These are December 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, 25, 29, 1971, and January 1, 5, 8, 12, 15, 1972. As in

Wildlife Biologist Bob Ernst examines tree used by wild hogs to scrape mud from their sides. The mud wallow to the left of the tree is very heavily used.

Photo by Jim Couch



most other management areas, no night hunting is allowed and no dogs are allowed except pointing dogs for quail hunting. Hunters must check in and out daily with check in beginning at 5 a.m. and check out ending at 8 p.m. Hunting from horses and vehicles is prohibited and all vehicles must remain on county roads.

Duck hunting, of course, depends on the supply of ducks migrating into Georgia, but can be very good in good years. There is excellent squirrel hunting because of abundant mast and den trees along the river banks. There is some pretty good quail hunting in certain portions of the area and some good rabbit hunting.

As a sort of bonus, deer hunters will get a chance to take wild hogs during the deer hunts. These animals are classed as non-game animals and can be killed, but only with the landowner's permission. Hogs seem to be plentiful there this year. They cannot be hunted or killed during the small-game hunts.

By now you are probably wondering why this area does not have heavy hunting pressure. The major reason could be its location. Another factor is that it has not really been open to hunting long enough to attract a lot of attention. Regarding the location, it is right smack in the middle of a predominately rural area of the state

where most of the residents either own or have access to good hunting areas. In addition, a number of hunters take advantage of nearby Fort Stewart.

The hunter who wishes to investigate Bullard Creek will need to buy a \$5 permit for deer hunting. No permit is required for the small game hunts. There is ample campsite space adjacent to the checking station. Motel accommodations are available at nearby Hazlehurst, Baxley and Vidalia.

If you think Bullard Creek might be the sort of place that you have been looking for, give it a try. You might be pleasantly surprised.

Oak forests such as this are ideal habitat for squirrels, turkey and other game. Small game hunters can pursue any species in season on specified dates in December and January. Turkey hunts are usually held each spring.

Photo by Jim Cour

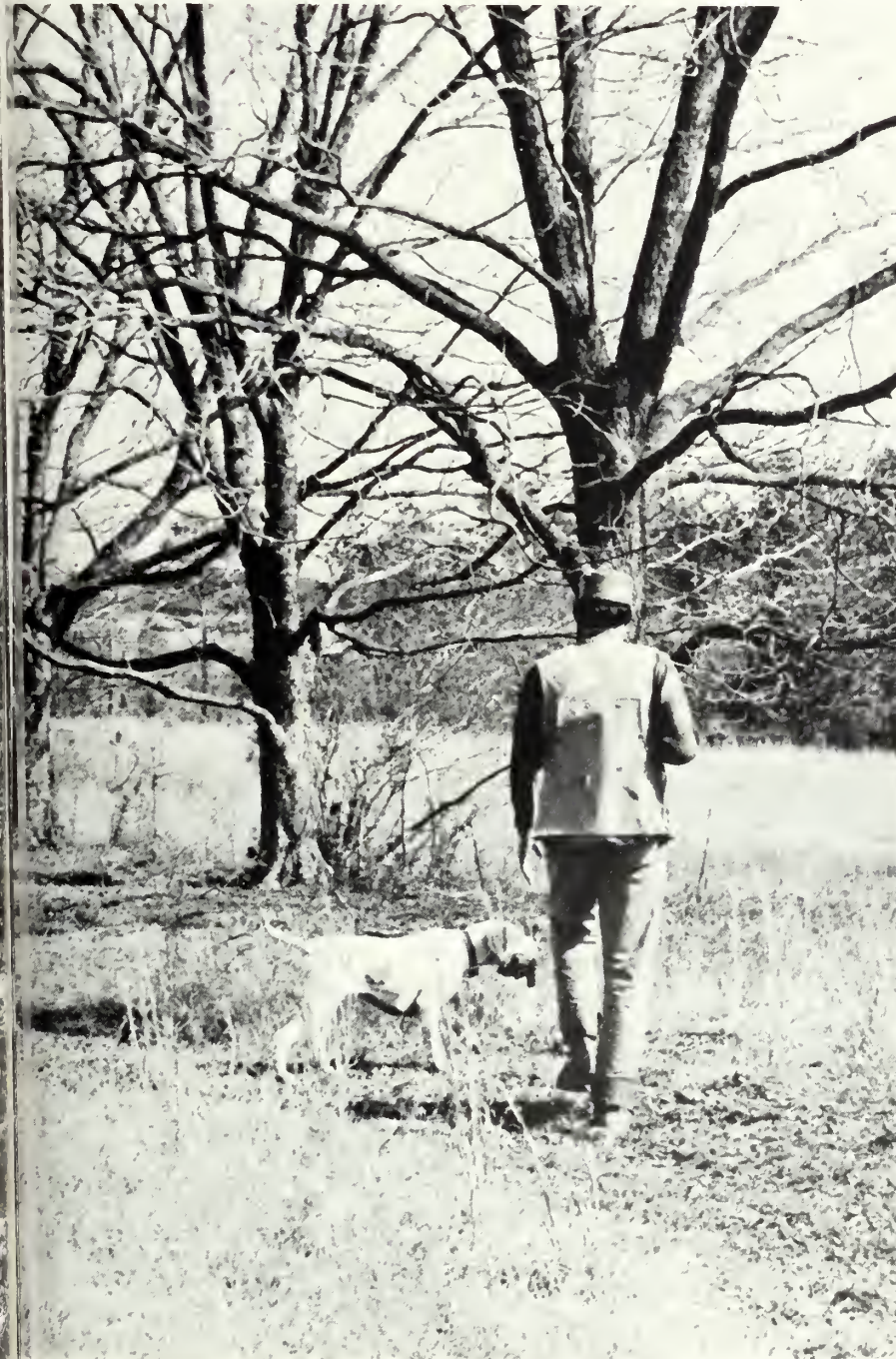


HUNTING FUN — SAFELY

By Pat Edgar
American Red Cross

Hunter and dog afield for a day of fun and sport—if common sense hunting safety practices are followed.

Photo by Bob Wilson



What you know about a gun or bow and arrow can't hurt you, but what you don't know about these weapons can kill you. As with most activities, safe keeping and safe use of guns begins with common sense and courtesy.

When not in use, guns should be stored in a sturdy cabinet with a strong lock, and the key kept out of the reach of children. Ammunition should also be stored in a locked cabinet, preferably separate from the guns, so that children and others do not have access to it.

In addition to durable clothing and sturdy, warm boots, a hunter in fields or woods should carry a compass, small flash light, steel match or matches in a waterproof case, strong knife, bandages and first aid materials, map of the hunting area, and a loud whistle. A whistle can be heard farther than the human voice, and is an important item in any hunter's gear as a call for help.

Always ask a landowner's permission to hunt on his property. He will know where you are and when to expect you to return. This safety factor is as important as the legal requirement to avoid trespassing.

When hunting in an open field or in brush, hunters should walk abreast, making sure that one does not get out in front. If one of the hunters is left-handed, he should always be placed at the right end of their line, since his tendency is to swing to the right. Hunters working alone in high brush or scrub should make sure that if there is another lone hunter within gunshot, they are aware of each other.

A hunter should make frequent inspections to make certain his gun



All the items in this hunter's safety kit can prove quite valuable if an emergency arises. The compass and map should be used constantly by the hunter, in order to prevent possible emergency situations.

muzzle is not inadvertently plugged with mud, earth, or weeds. More often than not, if a plugged barrel is fired, it will explode or split and cause injury to the hunter.

Sometimes a hunter takes two or more shotguns of different gauges on a trip, and must carry two sizes of ammunition. Should he, in error, drop a 20 gauge shell into a barrel of a 12 gauge gun, the shell will slide through the chamber into the barrel. If he should then push a 12 gauge shell on top of the 20 gauge and fire the gun, the result will be an exploded barrel and probably serious injury.

Whether hunting alone or with others, a hunter should never attempt to climb over a fence with a gun in hand. If alone, push the gun—muzzle first—through the fence and lay it down parallel to the fence with the muzzle facing away from the area where the hunter will climb over. Once over the fence, the hunter can retrieve his gun from the rear without ever being near the deadly end of the gun. If two or more hunters are to cross the fence, one should hold both guns while the other climbs the fence. He then passes the guns to his companion and climbs over himself. It is a good habit to open the action of a gun or even unload it before attempting to cross a fence.

It is a matter of pride to the hunter that he can hit what he shoots at. And even more important for him is that he can precisely what his target is. Some hunters are over-anxious or inexperienced. They have blazed away at objects, dimly seen. Then

they find, to their horror and regret, that they have maimed or killed a fellow hunter or a child. For easy identification, wise hunters wear bright colored clothing as a protection to themselves.

With thousands of enthusiasts turning to bow and arrow hunting, knowledge of safety methods should be kept in mind. The bow hunter works under a decided disadvantage, so he usually wears camouflage clothing and moves stealthily for the hunting bow's shorter range.

Many bow hunters use a special quiver, attached to the bow to keep their arrows within easy reach and avoid the noisy back quivers and the excess motion to draw an arrow from over the shoulder. When such a

quiver is used, the tips of the arrow in it should always be covered by metal or other protective hood.

Hunting arrows, unwisely handled can be a hazard in other ways too. Handed to another person point first they can cut the hand of the receiver or sever an adjacent bow string, causing a violent reaction of the bow which could injure anyone near it. Bowhunters should not walk with an arrow nocked in the bowstring. A fall could cause serious injury.

The most recent statistics show that the hunter's bad judgment caused 37 percent of hunting accidents. Of these, 7 percent were mistaken for game; 11 percent stumbled or fell while carrying guns; triggers which caught on a foreign object accounted for 4.6 percent; and loading or unloading guns represented 5.6 percent. Removing guns from vehicle accounted for 3.7 percent.

Because of the potential danger in hunting, officials feel sportsmen should be aware of the hazards involved and know how to minimize them.

GAME & FISH magazine, the National Rifle Association, and other organizations offer periodic classes and demonstrations on hunting safety techniques. The American Red Cross while not offering such classes itself also tries to bring useful information on correct gun handling to as many people as possible, and does offer valuable first aid training of potential value to all outdoorsmen.

These hunters are safety conscious and are crossing an obstacle correctly and safely. It doesn't slow them down and it doesn't seem to detract from the enjoyment either, but you can bet an accident would!





Photo by Aaron Pass

HAPPY HUNTING AHEAD!

By Dean Wohlgemuth

The best news on the hunting outlook for Georgia sportsmen this year is that there is likely to be better hunting for small game. Numbers of rabbits, grouse, squirrels, ducks and doves all seem to be improved.

The small game hunter is usually overlooked in the hunt for over deer hunting each year, even though perhaps two or three times as many sportsmen go after small game than deer . . . and most deer hunters swap

their high-powered rifles for scatterguns or .22 rifles after the venison season becomes history.

To be sure, the lot of deer hunters also tends to be improved in most sections of the state, as deer populations continue to increase, along with the acreage of forest lands.

Not all of the news on small game is good, either. While game populations are increasing, the relatively

The success of Georgia duck hunters largely depends on how cold it gets in the states to the north of us, but the outlook seems good.



Photo by Dean Wohlgenau

small amount of land open to the small game hunter has not increased. Each year, the need for public small game hunting lands becomes more and more critical, with the increased number of hunters and more and more private lands posted against hunting.

Further, more and more farm lands which provide good small game habitat are being converted to timber, and thus becoming deer or turkey habitat. Of course this trend does benefit the squirrel hunter, but plays havoc with the prospect of the rabbit and quail hunter. Also, more and more would-be dove hunters are sitting at home wishing they knew of a place where they could shoot.

The greatest problem here is that forest lands are not too difficult to obtain hunting rights on, but lands for non-forest game just aren't to be found. The only hope of the rabbit and quail hunter is the fact that some forest industries practice clearcutting. Though rugged and difficult to hunt, and usually unsightly,

Rabbits, along with grouse, seem to have had a good breeding season this year in north Georgia.

Photo by Ted Borg



these areas do, at least, provide the right kind of habitat for rabbits, and often have good quail population. Some even attract fair numbers of doves because of the weed seeds available.

Rabbit hunters have had to journey southward to find their quarry for the past several years. The cottontails have been abundant in the southern portion of the state, and still are . . . but here again, where there are rabbits there are also quail, and this kind of land is rarely open to the out-of-county hunter. North Georgia has had its share of problems in both rabbit and grouse situations, not to mention quail, but the three species appear to be doing better in the northern counties this year.

Apparently the rabbits, the grouse and the bobwhites all have had a good breeding season in the upper third of the state, so there'll be more of all three for north Georgia hunters. Also, squirrels in the mountain areas should again be abundant, having overcome heavy losses of a late freeze on food supplies which drove the squirrels southward.

Now in the second of three parts, the dove season appears to be progressing fairly well. As always seems to be the case, the dove seems to be abundant until the shooting starts, then he can be much harder to find. Nonetheless, finding a place to hunt is much harder than finding a number of birds once you've found some where to go. Surveys show doves to be in very good abundance this year.

Initial indications are that ducks should be more plentiful this year too, and Georgia's season is a little longer this time. However, several factors have to be reckoned with before outright claims of a good season can be made. In this far-south state, there must be some pretty cold weather in the states to the north of us to drive the waterfowl down our way.

Actually, there are probably many more ducks and much better hunting than most Georgians realize, but the price of exerting enough effort to get to the ducks comes high. Beaver ponds and swamps usually have plenty of ducks, but it takes a lot of hard work to wade into such places, a lot of scouting to find them in the first place, and a lot of asking to get permission to hunt on most of them.

Most large, open waters aren't too attractive to

FOREST FIRMS LIST CONTACTS FOR HUNTING PERMISSION

Finding some land on which he can obtain permission to hunt is perhaps the major problem of today's sportsman. Permission to hunt on private land is difficult to obtain, but perhaps even more difficult is finding the owner of the land to ask permission.

Many of the forest industries in Georgia have vast acreages of land which they allow hunters to use if permission is requested. In fact, more than three million acres of industry-owned lands are open in Georgia each year, by permission.

The Game and Fish Department, as a public service, has provided a list of forest industries to aid sportsmen in obtaining permission to hunt. The list was compiled in cooperation with Southern Forest Institute, an

association of wood-using industries in the Southeast. Hunters are urged to respect the owners' property and to abide by any company rules.

The Department, in publishing the list, does not guarantee that hunting privileges will be granted by any companies or on any lands. The list is provided simply to inform hunters whom they should contact to request permission to hunt on the lands owned by the various companies. The Department also reminds hunters that they must have permission of any landowner before hunting, including forest industries.

No information is available from the State Game and Fish Department as to the location of any lands of any of the companies. Maps of these lands are available from some of the companies.

Contacts of the various companies to request information and hunting privileges are:

Georgia Kraft Co., Wood and Woodlands Division, P. O. Box 1551, Rome, Ga. 30161; also district managers, W. J. Rowston, Box 102, Coosa Ga. 30129; T. A. Gresham, P. O. Box 272, Gainesville, Ga. 30501; Paul L. Lawrence, Rt. 6, Box 287, Macon, Ga. 31201; J. H. Colson, 625 West Taylor St., Griffin, Ga. 30223; and W. G. Carson, Oconee Development Forest, Greensboro, Ga.

Container Corporation of America, Paper Mill Division, North Eighth St., Fernandina Beach, Fla. 32034; also Ed Mathews, Area Forester, Container Corp. of America, Waycross Area Headquarters, Box 887, Waycross, Ga. 31501; Walt Branyan, Area Forester, Container Corp. of America, McRae Area Headquarters, P. O. Box 237, McRae, Ga. 31055; Ed Pope, Area Forester, Container Corp. of America, Cusseta Area Headquarters, P. O. Box 58, Richland, Ga. 31825.

Gilman Paper Co., St. Mary's Kraft Division, St. Marys, Ga. 31558; also, J. G. Fendig, Manager, Timber Division, Gilman Paper Co., St. Marys Kraft Division, St. Marys, Ga. 31558.

Hiawassee Land Company, P. O. Box 449, Gainesville, Ga. 30501; Hiawassee Land Co., P. O. Drawer 779, Newnan, Ga. 30263; Hiawassee Land Co., P. O. Box 571, Calhoun, Ga. 30701.

International Paper Co., Georgetown, S. C. 29440; also, Harold M. Phillips, Area Superintendent, P. O. Box A, Richmond Hill, Ga. 31324; David Warren, Forest Wildlife Specialist for the Panama City Region, P. O. Box 2487, Panama City, Fla. 32401.

ITT Rayonier Inc., P. O. Box 528, Jesup, Ga. 31545; also, Thomas E. Evans, Area Supervisor, ITT Rayonier Inc., Eastman, Ga.; Luke H. Morgan, Area Supervisor, ITT Rayonier Inc., Swainsboro, Ga.; Marvin F. William, Area Supervisor, ITT Rayonier Inc., Waycross, Ga.; W. J. Menear, Jr., Area Supervisor, ITT Rayonier Inc., Swainsboro, Ga.; Flen C. Campbell, Area Supervisor, ITT Rayonier Inc., Jesup, Ga.

Union Camp Corp., Woodlands Division, P. O. Box 570, Savannah, Ga. 31402.

Brunswick Pulp and Paper Co., H. Glenroy Dowdy, Land Manager, Brunswick, Ga. 31521.

Great Northern Paper Company, Noel Haskins, Timberlands Manager, P. O. Box 44, Cedar Springs, Ga. 31732.

ducks when they can hide away in remote swampy areas where there is better protection and more food. Wood ducks, native Georgia waterfowl, certainly are not likely to be found anywhere else than such shallow wooded wetlands. Mallards, too, like these spots. The fact that there are now plenty of beaver ponds in the state has contributed greatly to wood duck populations. This gorgeous and delicious bird is a real challenge to a gunner. Its swift flight is exaggerated by the fact that it darts around and through the trees, and can be past a gunner before he can hardly realize he's in range.

Central Georgia still lays claim to being the best part of the state for the deer hunter, and as such, it attracts the largest numbers of hunters, so deerstalkers hunting this area should be especially careful to observe hunting safety practices. One of the best pieces of advice that can be given to any deer hunter is to be sure to wear red, orange or yellow hats or clothing.

The forest lands and timber lands that are available to the public in the state's midsection are where the most deer will again probably be taken this year. The second best portion of the state is along the coast. Public hunting is hard to find here, the best bet being to seek permission from forest industries.

The Chattahoochee National Forest in the mountains offers a good amount of public land. This is tough terrain for the hunter, and he must watch out to not get lost. The extra effort required to hunt steep mountain country discourages many hunters. And the outlook here for numbers of deer could be a bit brighter. Sometimes considered the second best part of the state to hunt deer in past years, the mountains can be rated no better than third this year. And, except for the counties around Columbus, southwest Georgia can't be considered particularly good for deer.

All in all, it will probably be another record-breaking year for deer hunters, however. The bag count was up last year from 25,000 deer harvested in 1969, to nearly 30,000 in 1970. There's no reason to doubt that there will be a similar increase this year.

So whatever you like to hunt, there seems to be a better than even chance that you'll have more fun and more success this year than you have in the last few seasons. Good hunting!



Ranger school trainees, as part of the training course, receive practical instruction from FBI personnel. Here they are firing the standard FBI combat course with instructor John Langsfeld looking on.

RANGER BOOT CAMP

By Aaron Pass
Photos by the Author

"This is more like basic training than basic training was!" This muttered comment was heard and endorsed by several uniformed wildlife rangers as they hurried down a hallway to their next class. It also elicited a smile from the instructor who was moving with equal haste ahead of the group to begin the class on crime scene search. To continue the analogy another ranger added, "The main difference is that basic wasn't run on this tight a schedule."

Tight schedules and long hours are common at the Game and Fish Department Training Program for wildlife rangers being conducted at the Center for Continuing Education at the University of Georgia. The 100-day sessions the rangers are receiving include law enforcement training and special training in wildlife conservation. It is a training program designed to broaden the

ranger's capacity to deal effectively with a myriad of unique problems common to his everyday routine.

The close resemblance to Army boot camp, often mentioned by the trainees, isn't entirely accidental either, since it serves the same general function. Initially, all wildlife rangers will attend the training program to assure uniformity in the understanding of rules, regulations and objectives of the department. Later it will be used as a basic orientation course for new rangers to acquaint them with their jobs before they are sent to the field.

This training program was made possible by the increased operating budget of the Game and Fish Department as a result of the rise in the cost of hunting and fishing licenses. Joe D. Tanner, Director of the Department, is a strong advocate of formal training and feels that this program will be of direct and im-



mediate benefit to the sportsmen of the state. Tanner said, "Capable, professional officers are the backbone of any law enforcement agency, and training such as this is the best way to generate the professionalism."

The program is being sponsored by the Institute of Government of the University of Georgia and is being held at the Center for Continuing Education there. Qualified instructors conduct the classes in both general law enforcement and special wildlife training.

The program begins with coursework devoted to an explanation of the laws and regulations involving wildlife. Carl Jones of the Attorney General's Office and Robert Baker of the Game and Fish Department co-instruct this section. A session on report writing is included since this is an essential portion of the law enforcement officer's job. The instructor for this session is Howard Benson, Supervisor of the Advance Training Section of the Dallas (Texas) Police Department.

Benson and Col. Ralph Herrod, recently retired from the service and the Law Department of the U. S. Army Military Police School in Fort Gordon, Ga., also conduct classes in the laws governing arrest and techniques of search and seizure. Instructors from the Federal Bureau of Investigation give classes and practical instruction in defensive tactics and combat marksmanship. FBI personnel also instruct in courses on jurisdiction and cooperation with other law enforcement agencies. The rangers are also trained in some of the more subtle aspects of the law enforcement process such as the interpersonal communications skills training presented by Dr. John Blakeman from the University of Georgia.

Classroom instruction accounts for a large portion of the ranger training program, with subjects relevant to the wildlife officer's job being particularly stressed. The topics include interpretation of game and fish laws and regulations, report writing, and others related to law enforcement work.





Photo by Bob Wilson

GAME COOKERY

By Bob Wilson

Bring up the subject of wild game as food and somebody in the crowd will say something like, "But I don't like the strong taste." Chances are that such a person has had an unfortunate experience with a game-food that was not properly prepared, or more likely, not properly field-dressed and prepared for cooking. Any meat must be properly cared for in order to prevent contamination and spoilage. In the commercial abattoir and butcher shop there is little difficulty in keeping meat free of hair, excess blood, or other undesirable substances. In the field, however, this is somewhat more difficult.

Proper field care will not insure a gourmet's delight—that depends on the skill of the cook—but without proper field care, it may be difficult if not impossible to prepare a palatable meal. All game should be field-dressed as soon as possible and the flesh cooled. Body cavities should be quickly washed out if the shot has pierced organs other than the lungs or heart. If musk or scent glands are present, care should be taken to prevent contamination of the meat from this source.

The musk or scent glands are a major source of contamination and necessitate care in the field-dressing of both small and large animals. Hair from the area of such glands can impart a strong, harsh flavor to any meat with which it may contact. Hands or a knife blade that accidentally touch the immediate area of the glands should be washed with soap and water before any further field-dressing is carried out.

Feathers and birdshot are certainly undesirable when encountered in an otherwise well-prepared quail, duck or dove. These can be easily removed with a small tool made by flattening the end of a small nail into a diamond-shaped point. Simply inserting the tool and rotating it as it is pulled out will "drill out" the feather and lead.

Birds are easier to skin than pluck, once you get the hang of it. Skinning birds, particularly ducks, removes a major source of strong flavor in this game. It also exposes the flesh directly to the heat of cooking, tending to dry the meat out. The natural fat, if left on birds, will help keep the meat moist, but will give it a strong flavor. Game birds with dark meat such as ducks and doves will still have a "wild" flavor, but the harshness is removed if they are skinned and the natural fat removed.

"Gamey" flavors can be reduced by proper field dressing and final cleaning at home. They can also be reduced by soaking in various solutions containing salt, soda, vinegar or milk. One cup of vinegar to a quart of water, or two tablespoons of salt to a quart of water will make simple and effective soaking solutions. Soaking in plain milk will remove strong flavor too.

The flesh of game animals will contain comparatively little fat. This calls for cooking methods such as braising or roasting in a covered container. A good alternative is the addition of fats in the form of bacon placed on top of the meat. If meat from animals such as deer

or wild hog is to be ground, it is wise to have some fat added.

The following recipes are offered as starting points only. Don't be afraid to experiment with variations, just as you would with commercial meats. Keep in mind the certain peculiarities that game-foods have that we have already discussed, and you'll see what fine eating game animals can provide.

FRIED RABBIT

Roll pieces of rabbit in seasoned flour and fry in bacon grease over medium-low heat. This is an especially fine method to use in cooking young rabbits.

BAKED RABBIT

Coat rabbit pieces with butter and add seasoning. Bake for about 15 minutes at 400 degrees. Chop up an onion and toss in a skillet along with a couple of pats of butter. When the onion starts to brown, sprinkle in a spoonful of flour and continue cooking until the onion is well browned. Add a cup of chopped mushrooms, a bay leaf, a sprig of thyme, a bit of chopped garlic, and a little parsley. After all ingredients have simmered for a couple of minutes, add a cup of boiling water and continue to simmer and stir until mixture is smooth. Pour the mixture over the rabbit and bake 15 to 20 minutes with frequent basting.

SQUIRREL AND DUMPLINGS

Drop squirrel pieces into a big pot of hot water, cover and let simmer until tender. Season to taste. When the meat is tender enough to fall off the bone, turn up the heat to bring the mixture to a rolling boil and add dumplings. Recover and cook for an additional 10 minutes.

FRIED QUAIL

Roll quail pieces or whole carcass split down the back in seasoned flour and drop into hot fat that is deep enough to half cover the pieces of quail. Brown and turn until well browned on all sides. Cover pan and turn down heat to simmer quail for 30 minutes or until tender, adding a little water if necessary.

The seasoned quail can be fried without the coating of flour in a little butter either alone or with mushrooms.

GRILLED QUAIL

Marinate 4 quail in a mixture of ¼ cup of water, ¼ cup honey, ½ cup white cooking sherry, 2 teaspoons of cinnamon, 1 teaspoon each of curry powder and garlic salt. Let the birds soak for 2-3 hours at room temperature or overnight in the refrigerator. Grill over coals for about 1½ hours, basting with the marinade and turning frequently. The birds will take on a dark brown color due to the marinade long before they are done.

BAKED QUAIL

Sprinkle quail with salt and lots of pepper and wrap a slice of bacon around each bird. Place the birds in a baking pan and seal with foil. Bake at 450 degrees for about a half-hour or until tender. Remove the foil,

baste well with butter and add sliced mushrooms. Roast until nicely browned, basting once or twice.

BRAISED DOVE

Melt ⅓ cup of butter and add ¼ cup of flour and salt and pepper. Brown the flour and add 3 cups of water and the juice of one lemon. Bring the mixture to a boil and pour it over 8-10 doves and cover tightly. Cook in the oven at 325 degrees or in a skillet with tight-fitting lid for a half-hour or until tender.

Dove can also be cooked using the recipes given for quail and grouse.

BAKED DOVE IN SAUCE

Season birds with celery salt and pepper and brown by frying with a little butter. Make sauce with 1 can of condensed mushroom soup, ½ cup of cooking sherry, add a couple of pieces of parsley. Place in baking dish and pour sauce over the birds. Bake at 350 degrees for a half-hour or until tender, basting frequently.

BAKED WILD DUCK

Coat duck with butter inside and out. Sprinkle liberally with salt and pepper. Add stuffing if desired. Place bird in baking dish with ½ inch of hot water. Cover duck with orange or lemon sauce and cook at 350 degrees for 2 hours, basting frequently and adding hot water if necessary.



Since venison is the subject of the next article, no mention will be made here of the variety of ways of preparing this tasty game-food. As pointed out earlier, the recipes listed here are intended to get the successful hunter started in the right direction in using the game he bags. Future articles will give details on smoking game-foods and a separate article will deal with cooking in the outdoors. Cautious experimentation with seasonings and sauces and cooking methods that you like will help you develop your own personal recipes for preparing gourmet feasts that family and friends will long remember.

VENISON

can be

TASTY

By Charles Raymond

Too often venison is poorly handled in the field and improperly cooked in the kitchen. Then what could have been a truly delightful meal is relished only by the family pets. After all, if you count up license, gun, ammunition, camping gear and travel expenses, this meat will probably cost you several hundred dollars, so why not handle it carefully?

Every step in getting wild game to the table is important. Good table meat starts with a good animal handled correctly in the field and ends with skillful use of the correct cooking methods.

First of all, it's important where you shoot the deer. If you should fail to lead a running deer sufficiently, you will strike him in the can and ruin most of the contents.

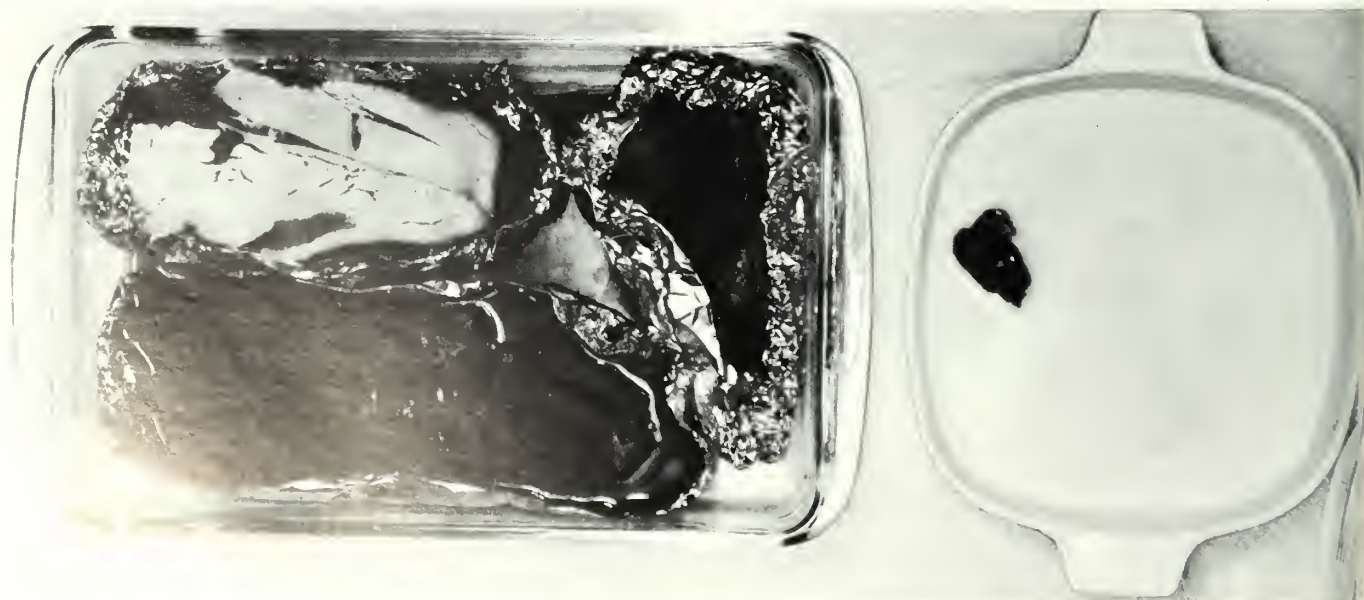
A lot depends, too, on where you hunt for deer. An animal, as any stock producer will tell you, is only as good as his feeding habits. If your deer has fed on water plants, or wheat grass or tender young grass you will have delicious meat. If you come across a deer that has spent most of his life in an apple orchard, you've got a gourmet's meal coming.

The game must be cleaned and cooled immediately. This is especially important if the hunting season is warm. Blood that has settled around openings made by shot should be cut out to avoid a bitter taste.

A carrier or rack on the top of the car will allow air to circulate around the carcass and help keep it cool. Heavy canvas can be used to protect the meat. In unusually warm weather, night-time travel may be

A variety of marinades can be used to soften the sometimes harsh flavor of venison. Some good marinades include cooking wine, vinegar, Italian dressing, and even plain milk.

Photo by Bob Wilson



necessary. Never carry venison home in a tightly closed car trunk. The hood of the car, where the engine heat is transferred to the meat, is the worst possible place to carry your game.

There is no general agreement on the value of aging venison. Most feel that a 5- to 10-day aging period is valuable provided it can be managed at a constant temperature under sanitary conditions. A temperature of 40° is good. Aging is best done in a locker plant or meat cooler. Many butchers will hang your deer in their coolers for a few days if you request it. Under most conditions high daytime temperatures during the deer season make it unwise to age venison without refrigeration.

In most areas butchers will cut and wrap venison for freezer storage. But it is your responsibility to tell the butcher just how you want your deer cut. Make a list of what you would like from each of the major cuts. Ask your butcher for advice. He can judge the quality of your animal and make helpful suggestions.

Count on 50 to 70 pounds of locker meat for every 100 pounds of meat carried from the woods. Here is a good guide to cutting your meat shapes:

- Make rib steaks at least 1½ inches thick.
- Cut round steaks 2 inches thick and use for swiss steak.
- Cut roasts for your family size. You can get two roasts large enough for a family of four from each shoulder, and two rump roasts.
- Grind and add beef or pork fat (½ pound for 5 pounds of venison) to lean ground hamburger.
- Remove all visible fat before freezing.

Many find it convenient to take meat for deerburger to the local meat market to be ground in a power grinder. Some markets specialize in custom smoking venison. Others make luncheon meat and hard sausages from deer meat furnished by the hunter. The price is usually quite reasonable. And the products are a real delicacy. Check your community for this service.

Even if you have a home freezer there may not be room to freeze the meat quickly. Stacked meat may take several days before it is frozen solid. During this time juices are lost and quality is lowered. It may be worth taking the wrapped meat to the local locker plant for freezing. Use venison within 6 to 9 months for the best quality.

If you shot a good deer and handled it correctly, cooking the meat will be a delightful experience. Venison, like other meat, has a flavor all its own. The strong gamey flavor is most pronounced in the fat. Some feel that the bone marrow also makes the meat strong. So be careful not to get marrow on the meat.

If your family enjoys the natural flavor of venison, your only cooking problem is to make the meat tender. If your family rebels at a gamey flavor, there are three things you can do to increase their enjoyment. (1) Disguise the flavor with spices, herbs, and other seasonings. (2) Dilute the flavor by choosing recipes using stuffings or starch fillers, or use the meat with other meats and vegetables. (3) Serve venison in so many different ways that the family learns to like it.

Some general rules will start you off toward successful venison cookery. Cook venison like low quality

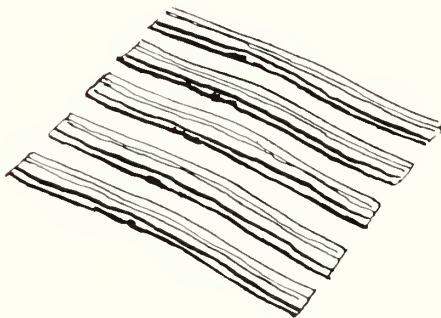
beef. Most game has little fat and corresponds in quality to beef carcasses with little or no external fat. Venison is cooked in the same way. The tender cuts like the loin and rib can be broiled or roasted. Round steak, meat from the leg, and the less tender cuts are best when cooked by moist heat: braising, stewing, or pot roasting.

Do not overcook. Deer meat has short fibers that toughen quickly if overcooked or cooked at too high a temperature. Plan to serve venison medium to well done, never rare or overdone.

Tenderize the meat. Vinegar, tomato sauce, and French dressing sauces are good for tenderizing venison. Cover slices or chunks of meat and allow to stand in the marinating sauces for at least 24 hours. Broil if possible.

Reduce the sugar in sauce recipes. Venison's natural flavor is sweeter than other meat. Sauces made for domestic meats may be too sweet. Use ¼ less sugar.

Remove all venison fat before cooking. The gamey flavor is most pronounced in the fat and venison fat becomes rancid quickly. Ground pork or beef fat should be substituted since venison is a dry meat, or the surface may be covered with bacon strips.



ROASTING (round, loin, shoulder)

1. Season with salt and pepper.
2. Place on rack in uncovered pan, cover surface with bacon strips.
3. Do not add water—do not cover.
4. Roast in slow oven (300° 350° F.) allowing 20-25 minutes per pound.

BROILING (Steaks and Chops)

1. Preheat the broiler.
2. Place steaks or chops on the broiling rack with top surface 3 inches below source of heat.
3. Leave the broiler door open unless directions of range advise otherwise.
4. Broil on one side until nicely browned. Season with salt and pepper. Turn to other side. Broil until done. For a 1½ inch steak, the time required will be 7 to 10 minutes for the first

side; 5 to 7 minutes for the second. (Try broiling in your fireplace over a bed of glowing coals.)

PANBROILING—Frying (Steaks and Chops)

1. Heat a heavy frying pan until it is sizzling hot.
2. Add 1 tablespoon butter to the pan and allow to melt or rub the pan with a little suet or small amount of fat. Place meat in hot pan.
3. Brown both sides—turning only once.
4. Reduce heat after browning to finish cooking thick chops or steaks.

Cooking venison by moist heat methods (for less tender cuts).

BRAISING (Shoulder, Neck, Breast)

1. Season with salt and pepper, rub with flour.
2. Brown on all sides in hot fat.
3. Add small quantity of water (about 1 cup).
4. Cover closely.
5. Cook **very slowly** until tender. Turn the meat occasionally. (Time—usually 2 to 3 hours.)

STEWING (Shoulders, Shank, Neck)

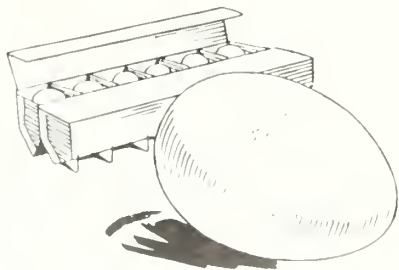
1. Cut meat into cubes about 1 inch in size.
2. Season with salt and pepper, sprinkle with flour.
3. Brown on all sides in hot fat.
4. Cover with boiling water.
5. Cover kettle tightly and cook very slowly until tender. Do not boil. Add vegetables just long enough before serving time so that they will be tender.

RECIPES

The following recipes give directions for using venison. Venison can be used in most of your favorite meat dishes.

POYHA (A different meatloaf recipe handed down to us by the Cherokee Indians.)

- 1 pound ground venison
- 1 No. 303 can whole kernel corn
- 1 small onion, chopped



- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 eggs
- ½ cup corn meal
- ½ cup water

Measure the corn meal and place in a small bowl. Add the water and stir to mix. Allow to stand. Brown the venison in fat. When meat is thoroughly cooked add the corn and onion. Cook 10 minutes. Add the salt, egg, and corn meal, stir well. Cook another 15 minutes. Put in greased loaf pan and bake 30-45 minutes at 350°. Serve with cheese sauce, or mushroom soup.

VENISON MEAT BALLS (Serves 4)

- 3 slices soft bread
- ¼ cup water
- 1½ pounds ground venison
- 2 teaspoons salt
- ¼ teaspoon pepper
- ¾ cup finely chopped onion
- ¼ cup butter
- 1 tablespoon flour
- ¾ to 1 cup milk
- Salt and pepper for gravy

Soak bread in water for 5 minutes. Break into small bits, pressing out as much water as possible. Combine bread, ground venison, salt, pepper, and chopped onion. Blend lightly but thoroughly. Shape into small balls about 1 inch in diameter. Chill for 15 to 20 minutes. Brown on all sides in butter, turning frequently. Cover pan. Turn heat low and cook for 15 minutes. Remove meat balls to separate pan and keep hot. Add flour, salt, and pepper to pan drippings, stir well. Add milk, stirring constantly, and simmer for 3 or 4 minutes. Return meat balls to pan and simmer another 5 minutes.

VENISON POT ROAST WITH VEGETABLES (Serves 6 to 8)

- One 3-to-4 pound venison roast
- ¼ cup cubed salt pork or mild bacon
- 2 tablespoons butter
- 6 carrots
- 6 onions
- 6 potatoes
- 1 teaspoon parsley flakes or 1 tablespoon fresh chopped parsley—1 stalk celery, sliced
- ¼ teaspoon thyme
- 1 cup tart fruit juice or cider
- 1 teaspoon salt, ¼ teaspoon pepper
- 1½ cups hot water
- 3 tablespoons butter or drippings

Lard the roast well by inserting cubes of salt pork into small cuts in the roast. Heat butter in a Dutch oven or deep casserole and brown the meat on all sides. Add hot water, fruit juice, celery, parsley, thyme, salt, and pepper. Cover and simmer gently for 3 hours on top of the stove or in the oven at 350° until meat is tender. If liquid gets too low, add water. About one hour before meal is to be served, add peeled potatoes, carrots, and onions. Add a little additional salt for vegetables. When vegetables are tender, remove them and the meat to a platter and keep hot. Thicken liquid with 2 or 3 tablespoons flour.



VENISON SWISS STEAK (For Less Tender Cuts)

- 1½ pounds round steak
- ¼ cup fat
- 3 large onions
- 1 medium stalk celery
- 1 cup tomatoes
- 2 tablespoons Worcestershire sauce
- Salt and pepper

Steak should be at least 1½ inches thick. Dredge with flour and season with salt and pepper, brown in fat on both sides. Add other ingredients. Cover tightly and cook in moderate oven (350°) or over low heat on top of stove until tender (about 1¼ hours).

TERIYAKI STEAK STRIPS

- 2 pounds venison steak, cut thin
- 1 can beef consomme (undiluted)
- ⅓ cup soya sauce
- 1 teaspoon savor salt
- ¼ cup chopped green onions (including tops)
- 1 clove garlic
- 2 tablespoons lemon juice
- 2 tablespoons brown sugar

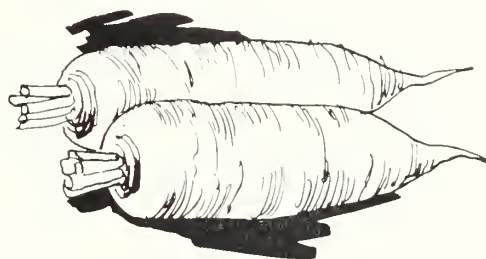
Cut the steak diagonally, across the grain. Mix the other ingredients to form a marinating sauce. Pour the sauce over the meat strips and refrigerate overnight. Drain and broil 4 inches from the heat until tender. Do not overcook.

VENISON SAUERBRATEN (Serves 4 or 5)

- 2 pounds of venison chuck, round, or rump roast
- 1 cup vinegar
- 6 peppercorns
- 5 whole cloves
- 3 bay leaves
- Water to cover
- 3 tablespoons fat
- 6 carrots
- 6 onions
- 1 cup sliced celery
- 1 tablespoon sugar
- 10 gingersnaps, crushed

Trim all visible fat from venison. Place venison in glass dish with cover. Add peppercorns, cloves, and bay leaves to vinegar and pour over meat. Add enough water to cover meat. Cover dish and refrigerate. Allow to stand for at least 5 days.

Remove meat from marinade. Reserve the liquid for gravy. Heat fat in heavy frying pan. Brown meat on both sides. Add vegetables and 2 cups of vinegar marinade. Simmer until meat and vegetables are tender—approximately 1½ hours. Remove meat and vegetables from pan. Add sugar and gingersnaps to remaining liquid to make gravy.



VENISON BURGERS (Serves 6)

- 2 pounds ground venison
- ¼ pound ground pork or mild sausage
- 1 medium onion, chopped
- ⅛ teaspoon black pepper
- ¼ teaspoon marjoram
- ¼ teaspoon monosodium glutamate (optional)
- 2 eggs, beaten
- 2 tablespoons melted fat
- ¼ cup sweet cider

Blend venison, pork, and chopped onion together. Add seasoning and beaten egg. Blend well. Form into small patties, about ¾ inch thick. Brown hamburgers on both sides in fat. Cover, reduce heat to low, and simmer for 10 minutes. Turn hamburgers. Add cider, cover, and simmer 10 minutes more. Serve immediately.

BROILED VENISON STRIPS

- 2 pounds lean venison strips or cubes
- ¼ cup vinegar

SAUSAGE

You can grind venison up into delicious sausages. A grinder (can be bought at most hardware stores) clamped on the edge of a table and a strong arm will turn out a vast quantity of sausage in a short time. The ground meat can be seasoned with spices (see any cookbook) and salt and rolled and wrapped for the freezer. The sausage may also be wrapped in cheesecloth for smoking.

When you learn to cook deer meat well, you will look forward to the hunting season, not only for the fun of the trip, but for the tasty meat you can put in the family locker.



outdoor world

Georgia Anglers Set New State Records

The 1971 Georgia Big Fish Contest, sponsored jointly by Georgia GAME & FISH and the Georgia Sportsman's Federation, has resulted in three new state records being established. Record-breaking fish have been entered in the white bass, crappie, and shellcracker species. The new Georgia state record white bass is only a couple of ounces under the current world record.

Mr. J. M. Hobbins of Atlanta pulled the 5-pound 1-ounce white bass from Lake Lanier on June 16, 1971. As if landing a big white bass like this wouldn't be enough of a challenge with medium-weight gear, Hobbins used 4-pound test line on his spinning outfit. Leon Kirkland, Chief of Fisheries for the Game and Fish Department commented that the fish would have set a new world record if it had eaten just a couple more shad before being caught. Kirkland feels that Lake Lanier holds a world record white bass, and that some lucky angler will lay claim to this title for Georgia.

Mrs. Shirley Lavender of Athens, surprised herself and her family by landing a 4-pound 4-ounce black crappie on June 1, 1971 while fishing for catfish, using shrimp for bait. The fish brought the scales up one ounce above the old record. No doubt Mrs. Lavender's sons, aged 8, 10 and 12, are suitably impressed with their mother's record-setting catch.

A new state record for shellcracker was set by Mr. John S. Reid of Montezuma with the 3-pound 1-ounce beauty he pulled from a Macon County lake on August 8, 1971. The previous record for this species was 2-pounds 12½-ounces, set in 1968.

A deadline of January 10, 1972 has been set for entries in the 1971 Georgia Big Fish Contest. Contest entry forms can be obtained from the State Game and Fish Commission offices at 270 Washington St., S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30334. Entries must be postmarked no later than January 10 to be eligible.

—Bob Wilson



Letters of general interest will be used as possible. Letters must be brief and to the point.

LAKE CHATUGE

I subscribe to your magazine Georgia GAME & FISH and want to tell you what a fine magazine it is. It makes good reading and I save mine for future reference.

I plan to fish Lake Chatuge up near Hiawassee, Ga. and would like to get information concerning my Georgia fishing license. Is it good all over the lake, even in North Carolina? Is the bass fishing good at Chatuge? And where can I order topographic maps of the lake that show the terrain features prior to being covered by water? I realize that some of these questions may not be in your area of responsibility but possibly you can guide me to the correct office.

I have sent a copy of the letter by A. H. Thurmond, Jr. entitled "Rodeo Roughriders" to Mr. Ray Scott, Publisher of BASS (Bass Anglers Sportsman Society) magazine. Hopefully, he will mention the Thurmond letter to insure all of our bass fishermen remember we are responsible citizens first and serious bass anglers second. I hope the Fishing Rodeo was a local success. It is bad advertising for those of us who would be considerate of all water recreation areas.

Frank L. Baker

question Georgia has a reputation with North Carolina which Georgia license to fish Lake Chatuge

However, any fishing on the North Carolina side there has to comply with their regulations.

I know of nowhere that topographical maps are available of this lake. I might suggest you contact the TVA since they are the builders of this reservoir.

I appreciate your comments regarding the fishing tournament participants who are something less than sportsmen.

—DHW

COMMENDS PROFESSIONALISM

I read with great interest and enthusiasm my good friend, Dean Wohlgemuth's editorial entitled "Toward Professionalism" that appeared in the August 1971 issue of Georgia GAME & FISH. As a native Georgian and professional wildlife worker, may I commend you and your staff for this dynamic and progressive employee development program. Certainly, it will accomplish all of what Dean outlined in his article plus much more.

I have great admiration for your biological and enforcement staff as I'm sure do the great majority of Georgians. Therefore, I have a particular interest and enthusiasm for what you are doing to build and further enhance this vital unit of State Government.

J. David Almand
Chief, Division of Extension
National Marine Fisheries Service
Arlington, Va.

David Almand was formerly wildlife extension specialist for the cooperative extension service at the University of Georgia, and wrote a weekly outdoor column for several Georgia papers. The editorial he refers to was in regard to the ranger training program which at that time was just beginning. An article in this issue explains, in more detail, what the school involves and how it prepares rangers to do their job better. Eventually, all Game and Fish Department personnel will receive training in their particular fields. This is one of the ways that the increased hunting and fishing license fees is benefitting Georgia sportsmen. We appreciate Mr. Almand's comments.

Local DU Chapters Hold Meetings

Ducks Unlimited, an organization of duck hunters dedicated to the improvement of wildlife habitat to increase the number of ducks, has been active since 1937. Over \$17,000,000.00 has been collected and expended by DU to plan, build and develop over 1,000 nesting ponds in Canada, where over 65% of the American Continent's waterfowl begin life.

In early 1970 DU moved across the border to the south with the launching of Ducks Unlimited de Mexico. The new organization is composed of Mexican sportsmen and will raise funds within that country to be used for waterfowl conservation and management progress in Mexico.

DU plans to "drought proof" an additional 4,500,000 acres of Canadian waterfowl habitat by 1980. This project will be carried out in cooperation with the Canadian Government and individual land owners. This ambitious undertaking will require DU to raise their fund drives by 20% or more each year.

Georgia Sportsmen interested in obtaining more details on this organization dedicated to the improvement of duck hunting and the preservation of the species can contact local chapters chairmen as listed below. Dates of the local banquets are also indicated.

- Albany
Gordon Hanson
November 2
- Atlanta
Tom H. Rentz, Jr. (875-5657)
October 27
- Augusta
John G. Hagler
November 12
- Brunswick
Judson B. Smith
October 21
- Columbus
Frank Venable
November 11
- Cordele
Roger Browning
November 30
- Griffin
Andy Y. Austin
November 18
- Moultrie
Frank R. Pitcock, III
November 4
- Savannah
Robbie L. Harrison
November 3
- Thomasville
Paul W. Bryan, Jr.
November 3

—Bob Wilson

Sportsman's Calendar

SMALL GAME MANAGED HUNTS

eg. Season	Allatoona, Brunswick Pulp & Paper Co. (Special regulations apply to each compartment on this area. See regulations.), Carroll-Douglas (Whitesburg), Coosawattee (Cartecay Tract), Grand Bay, Seminole
During waterfowl season by permit only. Dove, Sat. only during dove season except those Saturdays when managed duck hunts are held. Rabbits (See regulations.)	Altamaha (Butler Island)
Dove only on Wed. afternoon during Sept. and Oct. seasons on designated sections.	Albany Nursery
Nov. 10-15	Arabia Bay
Dove (Restricted, see regulations.) Other small game, season.	Baldwin State Forest
Dec. 27-Jan. 1 compartments & B only.	Berry Schools
Dec. 18-Jan. 8	Blue Ridge
Dec. 8, 11, 15, 18, 25, 29; Jan. 1, 8, 12, 15	Bullard Creek

Dec. 8-22; Jan. 5- Cedar Creek

Feb. 26

Wed., Fri., Sat.

Dec. 18-Jan. 8 Chestatee

Dec. 10, 11, 17, 18 Chestatee (Raccoon)

Jan. 7, 8, 21, 22 Chickasawhatchee

Feb. 4, 5, 18, 19

Sat. afternoon

only Sept. and

Oct. seasons

(Dove)

Jan. 5-29; Clark Hill

Wed., Sat.

Nov. 20-27 Cohutta

Dec. 11-25

Dec. 8-Jan. 31 Coleman River

Nov. 20-27

Dec. 11-25

Oct. 16-Dec. 25 Coosawattee, Cohutta (Raccoon only)

Sat. only

Dec. 20-Jan. 31 Lake Russell

Dec. 18-29 Lake Burton

Dec. 11-18 Oaky Woods

Jan. 1-Feb. 26

Sat. only

Dec. 11-23 Ocmulgee

Jan. 1-29

Wed., Thurs., Sat.

Dec. 8-22 Piedmont Experiment Station

Jan. 5-Feb. 26

Wed., Fri., Sat.

Dec. 3-Jan. 1 Pigeon Mountain

Fri., Sat.

Dec. 4-Jan. 1 Pigeon Mountain (Raccoon only)

Sat. only

Jan. 3-Jan. 8 Suwannoochee, Alapaha

Dec. 18-Jan. 8 Warwoman

Feb. 3, 4, 5, 10, Waycross State Forest

11, 12

MANAGED DEER HUNTS SCHEDULE

(Hunts marked "QH" with a number are limited quota hunts. Number of hunters allowed is indicated. Hunters will be determined by drawings in advance of the hunt. For details on each area, consult the Management Area directory.)

PRIMITIVE WEAPONS

Dates	Areas
Nov. 1-6	Bullard Creek (Either Sex)
Nov. 12-13	Chickasawhatchee (Either Sex QH 300)
Nov. 1-5	Clark Hill (Either Sex)
Dec. 13-18	Piedmont Experiment Station (Either Sex)
Nov. 15-20	Suwannoochee (Either Sex)

ARCHERY (EITHER SEX)

Dec. 13-18	Alapaha
Nov. 1-5	Clark Hill
BUCK ONLY	
Dec. 27-Jan. 1	Alapaha
Nov. 22, 23, 24	Allatoona (QH 500)
In Season	Altamaha (Wrights, Cambers and Lewis Islands only) Grand Bay, Seminole, Carroll-Douglas (Whitesburg)
Dec. 13-18	Arabia Bay
Nov. 29-Dec. 4	Berry Schools (QH 500)
Nov. 22-27	Blue Ridge, Cedar Creek, Chattahoochee, Chestatee, Clark Hill, Coleman River, Johns Mountain, Lake Burton, Lake Russell, Oaky Woods, Ocmulgee, Piedmont Experiment Station, Pigeon Mountain, Swallow Creek, Warwoman
Nov. 22-27	Oaky Woods
Dec. 1-4	Ocmulgee
Nov. 6; 8-13; 17-20; 22-27	
Nov. 6-Jan. 1	Brunswick Pulp & Paper Co. (Special regulations apply to each tract of this area. See special section in this brochure for details)
Oct. 15-Jan. 1	Bullard Creek
Nov. 29-Dec. 4	Chickasawhatchee (QH 300)
Dec. 3, 4, 17, 18	Suwannoochee
Dec. 6-10	Waycross State Forest
Nov. 29-Dec. 4	

EITHER SEX FIREARMS

Dec. 8	Berry Schools (QH 250)
Jan. 1	Lake Burton (QH 400)
Dec. 11	Suwannoochee



DEER: Buck Only: October 15, 1971, through January 1, 1972, in the following counties except as otherwise provided: Brantley, Bryan, Bulloch, Burke, Candler, Chatham, Charlton, except that portion lying northwest of the Okefenokee Swamp, which is closed; Clinch County, except that portion lying in the southwest corner of the county, bordered on the north by the Seaboard Coastline Railroad and on the east by Suwannoochee Creek which is closed and except that portion of Clinch County lying north of Arabia Bay Wildlife Management Area and between U.S. Highway #221 and U.S. Highway #441 which is closed, and except that portion of Clinch County lying northwest of U.S. Highway #221, which is closed; Effingham, Emanuel, Evans, and that portion of Echols County lying east of

U.S. Highway #129 and south of Georgia Highway #187; Glynn, Jefferson, Jenkins, Liberty, Long, McIntosh, Screven, Wayne, Washington, Tattnall, that portion of Lanier County lying north of the Seaboard Coastline Railroad and east of the Alabama River and southeast of U.S. Highway #221; and also that portion of Pierce County lying south of U.S. Highway #82 east of Ga. Highway #121, and west of Ga. Highway #32. Bag limit two (2) bucks. Hunting with dogs allowed.

DEER: Either Sex: Oct. 15, 1971 through Jan. 1, 1972, the islands, except Sapelo and Blackbeard, and marshes lying east of the Intracoastal Waterway in Bryan, Camden, Chatham, Glynn, Liberty, and McIntosh counties will be open for the taking of deer of either sex. Bag limit two (2) bucks or

one (1) buck and one (1) doe. Hunting with dogs allowed.

DEER: Buck Only: November 6 through November 20, 1971, in the following counties except as otherwise provided: Appling, Atkinson, Banks, Barrow, Berrien, Bartow and Cherokee counties except that portion between Knox Bridge and Stant Creek, south of Ga. Highway #20 to Alltoona Reservoir, which portion will be open during the managed hunt schedule that portion of Coffee County lying north of Ga. Highway #32. Brooks, Carroll, Chattooga, Clay, Dade, Dawson, Dool, Douglas, Fannin and Gilmer except that portion of these counties containing the Cohutta Wildlife Management Area follows: beginning at the Murray-Fannin County line and the Georgia-Tennessee State line; thence running easterly along said line to Tumbling Creek Road (FSR-22); thence southerly down Tumbling Creek Road to Watson's Gap, thence continuing in a southerly direction down Three Forks Road (FSR-64) to Dyer Gap, thence down Flat Top Mountain Road (FSR-64A) to the Flat Top Mountain, thence in a southerly direction down the ridge of Flat Top Mountain to Fowler Wolfpen Gap to Wolfpen Gap Road, thence in a southwesterly direction down Wolfpen Gap Road to East Mountaintown Creek Road; thence southwesterly along East Mountaintown Creek Road to Mountaintown Creek Road; thence westerly along Mountaintown Creek Road to Holly Creek Gap Road (FSR-90); thence northwesterly along Holly Gap Road to Potato Patch Road (FSR-68) thence westerly along Potato Patch Road to Murray-Gilmer County line; thence northwesterly to the Fannin-Gilmer County line; thence westerly along said line to the Murray-Fannin County line; thence along said line to the point of beginning; that portion of Echols lying west of the Alapaha River, Floyd, Forsyth, Franklin, Gordon, Gwinnett, Habersham, Hall, Haralson, Jackson, Lanier except that portion lying north of the Seaboard Coastline Railroad and east of the Alapaha River and southeast of U.S. Highway #221; Lowndes, Lumpkin, Madison, Paulding, Pickens, Polk, Quitman, Rabun, Randolph, Stephens, Sumter, Towns, Union, Randolph, and White. Bag limit two (2) bucks. Hunting with dogs prohibited.

DEER: Buck Only: (1) November 27 through November 27, 1971, in the following counties except as otherwise provided in paragraphs 2 and 3. Colquhoun, Coweta, that portion of Ben Hill County lying east of U.S. Highway #129 and that portion of Dodge County west of Georgia Highway #230 and north of U.S. Highway #280, Fayette, Heard, Irwin, Jasper, Davis, Johnson, Laurens, Meriwether, Montgomery, Telfair, Tift, Troup, Wheeler, Wilcox and Worth. Bag limit two (2) bucks. Hunting with dogs prohibited.

(2) **DEER: Buck Only:** November 27 through November 27, 1971, only in that portion of Johnson County east of the Little Ohoopce River. Bag limit two (2) bucks. Hunting with dogs allowed.



"That stupid dog must be illiterate!"

(3) **DEER: Buck Only:** November 25, 26, 27, 1971, only in that portion of Dodge County west of Ga. Highway #230 and north of U. S. Highway #280. Bag limit two (2) bucks. Hunting with dogs allowed.

DEER: Buck Only: November 6 through November 27, 1971, only in that portion of Toombs County lying south of Ga. Highway #107 and Ga. Highway #56. Bag limit two (2) bucks. Hunting with dogs allowed.

DEER: Buck Only: November 6 through December 4, 1971, in the following counties except as otherwise provided: Baldwin, Bleckley, Butts, Clarke, Columbia, Crawford, Elbert, Greene, Hancock, Harris, Henry, Houston, Jasper, Jones, Lamar, Lincoln, Macon, McDuffie, Monroe, Morgan, Newton, Oconee, Oglethorpe, Peach, Pike, Pulaski, Putnam, Richmond, Rockdale, Schley, Spalding, Talbot, Taylor, Taliferro, Twiggs, Upson, Walton, Warren, Wilkinson, and Wilkes. Bag limit two (2) bucks. Hunting with dogs prohibited.

DEER: Either Sex: December 3 and 4, 1971, only, in the counties of Baldwin, Butts, Columbia, that portion of Crawford north of U. S. Highway #80, Greene, Hancock, Jones, Lamar, Lincoln, McDuffie, Monroe, Morgan, Newton, Putnam, Talbot and Wilkes. Bag limit one (1) buck and one (1) doe or (2) bucks. Hunting with dogs prohibited.

DEER: Either Sex: December 4, 1971, only, in the counties of Crawford south of U. S. Highway #80, Henry Jasper, Macon, Spalding, Taylor, and Upson. Bag limit one (1) buck and one (1) doe or two (2) bucks. Hunting with dogs prohibited.

DEER: Either Sex: December 31, 1971, and January 1, 1972, only, in the counties of Chattahoochee and Muscogee. Bag limit one (1) buck and one (1) doe or two (2) bucks. Hunting with dogs prohibited.

DEER: Buck Only: (1) November 6, 1971, through January 1, 1972, except as otherwise provided in the following counties: Chattahoochee, Glascock, Marion, Muscogee, Stewart, and Webster. Hunting with dogs prohibited. Bag limit two (2) bucks.

(2) **DEER: Buck Only:** December 20, 1971, through January 1, 1972, in the following counties: Glascock, Marion, Stewart, Webster. Bag limit two (2) bucks. Hunting with dogs allowed.

OPOSSUM: (1) Oct. 16, 1971, through Feb. 29, 1972, in Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Elbert, and all counties north of those listed. No bag limit.

(2) All counties south of the above named counties are open year round for the taking of opossum. No bag limit.

RACCOON: (1) Oct. 16, 1971, through Feb. 29, 1972, in Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb,

Gwinnett, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Elbert, and all counties north of those listed. Bag limit one (1) per night per person.

(2) All counties south of the above named counties are open year round for the taking of raccoons. No bag limit.

SQUIRREL: Statewide season is Oct. 16, 1971, through Feb. 29, 1972. Bag limit ten (10) daily.

QUAIL: November 20, 1971, through February 29, 1972. Statewide season. Bag limit twelve (12) daily; possession limit thirty-six (36).

RABBIT: (1) November 20, 1971, through January 31, 1972, in the counties of Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Hall, Habersham, and all counties north of those listed will be open for rabbit hunting. Bag limit five (5) daily.

(2) November 20, 1971, through February 29, 1972, in all counties south of the above listed counties. Bag limit ten (10) daily.

WOODCOCK: November 20, 1971, through January 23, 1972. The daily bag limit shall be five (5) and the possession limit shall be ten (10). Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

COMMON (WILSON'S) SNIFE: December 11, 1971, through February 13, 1972. The daily bag limit shall be eight (8) with a possession limit of sixteen (16). Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

DUCKS AND COOTS: November 22, 1971, through January 20, 1972. Bag limit on ducks shall be three (3) daily with a possession limit of six (6); and the bag limit on coots shall be fifteen (15) daily with a possession limit of thirty (30). Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

NOTE: The limits on ducks may not include more than (a) 1 black duck daily; (b) 2 wood ducks; (c) 1 canvasback or 1 redhead. The possession limit on ducks shall not include more than: (a) 4 wood ducks; and (b) 1 canvasback or 1 redhead or 2 black ducks.

The limit on mergansers is 5 daily and 10 in possession, of which only 1 daily and 2 in possession may be hooded mergansers.

BRANT: November 15, 1971, through January 23, 1972. Daily bag limit shall be six (6). Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

SCAUP: An additional two (2) scaup daily and four (4) in possession may be taken during the regular duck season November 22, 1971, through January 20, 1972, in that portion of Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, McIntosh, Glynn, and Camden Counties lying east of the of the Intercoastal Waterway. Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

GALLINULE: November 7, 1971, through January 15, 1972. Bag limit is fifteen (15) daily and thirty (30) in possession. Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

DOVES: Oct. 23 through Nov. 10; Dec. 18 through Jan. 15, 1972. Daily shooting hours, 12 noon prevailing time, until sunset. Bag limit, 12 per day, possession limit, 24. At no time shall the hunter have in his possession more than one daily bag limit (12) while traveling from the shooting area to his car or home.

RAILS: (Marsh Hens): Open Sept. 4 through Nov. 21. Daily bag limit, 15 possession limit, 30. Shooting hours, from one-half hour before sunrise to sunset.

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DECEMBER, 1971





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FEATURES

Hunting The Buffalo . . .	Marcus B. Morehead	2
Bonus Bird	Aaron Pass	5
Wild Hog Hunt	Marvin Tye	8
1972 Tide Tables		11
Backyard Bonanza	Dean Wohlgemuth	15
How To Invite Ducks To Dinner	Dean Wohlgemuth	18

DEPARTMENTS

Sportsmen Speak	23
Outdoor World	24
Sportsman's Calendar	25

ON THE COVERS

ON THE COVER: Decoys at dawn. A golden sunrise over still water, with decoys set and hunters in their blinds. But will the birds come in? To make sure that they do, see "How To Invite Ducks To Dinner," by Dean H. Wohlgemuth on page 18. Photo by Ted Barg.

ON THE BACK COVER: Many hunters pass up what can be rewarding hours spent hunting the woodcock; erratic, swift and unpredictable of flight. For a discussion of hunting this challenging game bird read "Bonus Bird," by Aaron Pass on page 5. Photo by Jock Crockford.



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Is There Still A Place For Hunting?

Hunting has always been a way of life for mankind. Many years ago, man hunted out of necessity for food. Nowadays, hunting is done for pleasure and for sport.

In recent years, the public opinion of hunting has drastically changed. In the past it had always been accepted readily, but since the Gun Control Act of 1968 and events leading up to passage of that act, public opinion has gone more and more in the other direction.

To many persons, hunting is offensive, and to some even cruel. There are those who say there is no place in our society for hunting, since it is no longer necessary for survival. They claim it has depleted our wildlife, and that it is barbaric and undesirable.

Hunting does yet, very definitely, have a place in our society, and is necessary if we are to have an abundance of wildlife. A close look at the present day situation will point out these facts.

First, let's go back a bit into the history of wildlife and its populations. When white settlers first came to the continent, there was abundant wildlife. Hunting pressure was very, very low. Yes, there was some hunting at that time, carefully controlled hunting. The Indians hunted for the meat they needed, but were very careful not to be wasteful. Therefore, you'd have to say this was controlled hunting. There has never actually been a time in this world when there was no hunting at all, except in certain relatively small areas.

Upon arriving in America, the white man also began hunting to fill his needs. As the population grew,

mostly by immigration, hunting pressure increased. There were absolutely no controls on hunting at this time. "Meat hunters" and "market hunters" slaughtered game at an alarming rate, and before long, game populations dwindled so that some species became extinct or virtually so.

Let us take a look at Georgia history in wild game population. As recently as 40 years ago, there were indeed very few deer in our state. In the year 1928, the last known deer in the north Georgia mountains was killed, having been chased down with dogs. If, after that, anyone saw a deer anywhere in the state, the newspapers carried the story. What few deer there were, were to be found only in the Okefenokee Swamp, or on large south Georgia plantations.

Federal legislation was passed in the early 1930's which began to slowly reverse the trend. Of course, the sale of hunting licenses provided funds for the State Game and Fish Commission to begin conservation and restoration work. But the federal legislation provided for an 11 per cent excise tax to be placed on the sale of firearms and ammunition under the Pittman-Robertson Act. This tax money could only be used for wildlife management. It was prorated back to the various states on three factors: population of that state; revenue from this tax collected in that state; and participation by that state's conservation agency.

Pittman-Robertson or P-R funds work this way: for every dollar a state would spend in a wildlife management program approved by the federal government, the P-R program would add three more dollars. In

other words, the federal government would pay three-fourths of the cost of these projects.

The most recent excellent example of how this works is Sapelo Island. This island was purchased about two years ago to become a state wildlife refuge, to be used to raise deer and turkeys for stocking. The purchase price was just under \$1 million. Of this, the state paid one-fourth, the federal government paid three-fourths. All work done on this island will be under the same basis, with us paying one-fourth of the cost and receiving the rest from Pittman-Robertson.

It is true that in an environment uninhabited by man, wildlife populations tend to balance each other, through predation, competition for food and other factors limiting food and cover. However, populations of wildlife of this type are not really healthy populations. Nor are they stable. They fluctuate greatly.

Under a careful management program, which is possible only through efforts of a conservation agency supported by the hunter through license fees and funds from P-R, much higher and healthier populations are possible. And the populations of game are much more stable.

The reason that we now have very high deer populations in the state is because we've had these funds to stock and protect deer. And as a matter of fact, there are now many more deer in Georgia than there were **before** white men ever set foot on Georgia soil!

Since deer is one of the best examples, I'll stay with this species a while longer. Let us say that we had

(Continued on Page 22)

HUNTING THE



By Marcus B. Morehead

Photos by Sam Pote, Jr.

No, this isn't a story about odiferous men in buckskins crawling up on a herd of **Bison bison bison**, and the setting isn't in Wyoming, Colorado, or Montana. It's about a place that teems with ducks, woodcock, swamp rabbit, quail, deer, and bobcat, and it's all within an hour's drive of Atlanta!

Buffalo Swamp is located in Carroll County, due west of Atlanta. The swamp itself is about ten miles long and, at its maximum, a half-mile wide. If you've never heard about it before, don't feel slighted, for many people in Carroll County don't know it exists. And many people who do aren't about to go near it.

in the summertime, fighting snakes, briars, and bugs for a chance to haul out one of the over-sized bass which inhabit it, but the swamp really comes into its sporting own during the hunting season.

Unlike the Alcovy swamps, or the Okefenokee, Buffalo Swamp is small. You can't set a canoe in mid-stream and expect to cover the interesting spots. No, my friend, if you want to get to know Buffalo, you've got to hoof it! Oh, you **could** put a canoe in it, if you were hung up on portaging, for every fifty feet or so that's what you'd have to do.

To hunt the Buffalo you need chest waders (or, if you're nimble and knowledgeable, hip boots). The wading is rough, over fallen logs, stump holes, through beaver canals. You also need a flashlight, for if you hunt it in the morning, you'll need to start out well before dawn, and if you hunt it in the afternoon, it'll be dark before you come out. I suspect it is the rigor

BUFFALO!



The swamp is at least 150 years old, maybe older. The creek flowing through it (Buffalo Creek, naturally) reaches its base level several miles before it empties into the Little Tallapoosa River, and its waters overflow into the low-lying areas which make up the swamp.

Beaver work the swamp, but they aren't its cause. Perhaps it is the result of the rape of the land by cotton cropping during the 19th Century. Other swamps are presumed to have originated this way, with the streams tilting up by the fast-paced erosion of the newly exposed topsoil. Or, Buffalo Swamp could have been the result of the natural wandering of the creek and the river, the latter moving enough to deny easy access to its flanks. We are not sure yet, and may never know, but there's a certain group of sportsmen (from Carroll County and elsewhere) who are thankful the swamp is here, regardless of the reason!

There are brave men who venture into the swamp

involved which so far has limited the number of hunters in the swamp. Oh, you can pussyfoot around the edges, all right, as I've seen some do. And if you hang around long enough, you can congratulate the **hunters** who struggle out carrying the game.

Why hunt Buffalo? If you don't have a weekend to go to Darien, or to Seminole, but have a morning or afternoon and want some ducks, that's why. Or if you'd like to find out how your pointer or setter stands up against Mr. Timberdoodle. Or, if you're sick and tired of birds sailing after the covey rise clear into Alabama, and would like to get some big, fat, native bobwhites. Or, perhaps you'd just like to see some country within an hour's drive of Atlanta that hasn't changed much in a hundred years!

All of Buffalo Swamp is located on private property, so you'll be advised to ask permission from the local property owners first. For general advice, I'd stop at

Johnson's Bait and Tackle Shop near the city limits of Carrollton. Carroll County people are still Southern people, and the hospitality of this town compares with any other, anywhere!

For the duck hunter, the swamp has its good share each season of blacks, mallards, green-wing teal, and pintail. The wood duck, of course, is king here, but last season I killed 18 birds, none of which were woodies (six black, twelve mallards). A friend of mine harvested 47 ducks from the swamp last season, about ten of which were woodies (he's even nuttier than I about duck hunting, visiting the swamp on 34 occasions between December 2, 1970, and January 20, 1971).

Leave most of your decoys at home. In the swamp, five or seven (we never set out an even-numbered spread) are all that you need. Geese do not use the swamp, but a floating goose decoy or two helps assure the wary blacks that they can land. Have a local fellow with you, or bring a buddy, for the swamp may not be big, but it's a swamp, and after dark the landmarks hide.

Last season, a local preacher went in the swamp by himself. He got some ducks, and it grew dark on him as he was wading out. He had gone in alone, but on his way out he picked up a buddy, a bobcat! The cat trailed him all the way out, screaming every so often. That's one preacher who'll never go into the swamp again, alone! I tried to convince him that the cat

wouldn't have bothered him, but his saucer-sized eyes told me I wasn't getting through . . .

Deer tracks cover the swamp, and the local expert deertrackers tell me that, when the going gets rough, all the trophy bucks retire to the swamp. In the wilder parts of the swamp I have found turkey feathers, too.

Around the edges of Buffalo are many bevys of the old, big bobwhite. Apparently they are the vestiges of yesteryear, surviving because they invariably plummed deep into the swamp's bosom when threatened.

The swamp itself is a thing of beauty to an outdoors man, and a reminder that once this land, Georgia, belonged to the game. Maybe eastern buffalo, extinct now, wallowed in its depths, and the Creek Indians (and later the white man) named the swamp after them.

It's unfortunate that many Georgians view such places as empty backwaters: "Wait'll we clear that swamp out," they say, and I, for one, along with the ducks, the bobcats, and the beaver can wait. Channelization, often justifiable in terms of economics and real estate, has erased many of our local swamps, and such progress may one day render Buffalo Swamp into a Holiday Acres Subdivision. The eastern buffalo won't mind, for he's passed from the scene, but what about the other creatures? How about your son or grandson? Where will he find his game? If we aren't careful, he'll have to go to the history archives, and read about it in under **Odd Sports of the Twentieth Century . . .**

The low ground around the edges of the swamp contains woodcock (during their migrating ventures), swamp rabbit, deer, and an occasional bobcat.





The long, flexible beak allows the woodcock to probe underground for earthworms, the principle food item of the bird. Note the bell on the inquisitive pointer's collar; the tinkling bell enables the hunter to follow the dog's progress in heavy cover.

BONUS BIRD

By Aaron Pass

Photos by the Author

The two quail hunters breasted into the heavy brush along the creek bottom and found the setter locked on a solid point, with the pointer backing. Expecting one of the singles from the quail covey they had just flushed up on the hill, the hunters strode past the point and nothing happened. Confused, they stood with their guns at ready until one spoke, "He must have heard us and got up." At the sound of his voice, the bird rose on whistling wings and bore off into the swamp. Two hasty shots were missed as the bird dodged through the trees, then he turned in flight and was neatly dropped as he crossed in front of the hunters.

The pointer found the dead woodcock first and stood over it in bewilderment. He had been trained to retrieve game for his master but the plump long-billed bird at his feet neither looked, smelled, nor tasted like the quail he was accustomed to. Soon the hunters came and picked up the bird. Calling it a "snipe," they commented on its artful dodging in flight and returned to serious quail hunting.

The American woodcock is known variously as timberdoodle, long-bill and even snipe, due to his superficial resemblance to the Wilson snipe, and is regarded as an excellent game bird. Although migratory, he is considered as upland game and in some circles the

woodcock tops the list of preferred targets. The center of woodcock hunting is probably the northern states and southern Canada, where a number of dedicated hunters pursue the timberdoodle as a primary game bird. In most areas, however, woodcock are usually taken incidentally while hunting other game species. This is particularly true where ruffed grouse are the primary gamebird, since grouse and woodcock often share the same cover.

Hunters in the southeastern states seem to neglect the woodcock as a game bird, and with the exception of Louisiana, the Southeast has a very light timberdoodle harvest. This is partially due to the fact that quail are the number one upland species in this region. Quail and woodcock have different habitat requirements and quail hunters seldom venture into woodcock territory except when they are seeking birds from a scattered covey as related earlier. The lack of knowledge concerning woodcock habitat and hunting techniques result in few birds seen, consequently most Southern hunters aren't aware of the hunting potential for this sporty game bird.

Louisiana does recognize the potential and its annual harvest is equal to all the other southern states combined. Previous investigations in Louisiana have



A dog becomes a valuable asset when a bird is downed in heavy cover, such as the swamp privet cane above, since the bird is well camouflaged against the forest floor. Not all bird dogs will retrieve a fallen woodcock, but most will "hunt-dead" and assist in locating it.

The hunter at left moves in on a woodcock point in a thick stand of swamp privet; a preferred type of cover for this migratory gamebird. Woodcock usually hold well for a beat dog, and this pointer had little trouble although it had been trained on quail.

led some writers to conclude that 80% of the woodcock produced in North America winter in that state. More evidence suggests that large wintering populations probably exist throughout the Southeast. Further banding experiments should cast more light on this, and any hunter killing a banded woodcock (or any other species) should take the trouble to return the band.

Woodcock have been pretty much of a mystery bird over the years due to their secretive nature and nocturnal habits. Migrating at night, a flight of birds would suddenly arrive in an area only to seemingly vanish a few days later. They also feed by night, flying into fields and openings to feed on earthworms, which constitute a major part of their diet. Woodcock are seldom seen by day except when they are flushed from their resting places in the swamp and on adjacent hillsides.

The distinctive bill of the woodcock particularly adapts it for securing its favored food. Using the long, flexible bill as a probe, the birds find and catch earthworms underground. Therefore moist, soft earth and a plentiful supply of worms are prime considerations for woodcock cover.

Due to the earthworm diet woodcock are particularly susceptible to persistent, inorganic pesticides. It is not known if the pesticides contribute to any significant mortality, but high levels of poison residue have been found to drive some birds from an area in Canada in connection with an insect control program. To date, no studies have been made which exceed U.S.D.A. maximum residue tolerances.

Another serious threat to woodcock hunting is loss of habitat, and anything which tends to eliminate the swampy areas in the flood plains of rivers and creeks is striking directly at prime woodcock habitat. In the South there are presently two programs which have a significant negative impact on those areas which are woodcock favor. The draining and clearing of river bottom hardwood swamps, and their resultant conversion to agriculture is one negative influence, and the increasing number of impoundments on Southern rivers is another. In one case the land is drained and radically altered and in the other it is flooded, but in both cases large hunks of prime woodcock habitat are lost.

The recognition of good woodcock habitat is the key to successful hunting, for these coverts tend to concentrate the birds and provide consistent shooting. In Georgia this is usually a river or creek bottom where the fertile soil assures plenty of earthworms. Fields in the bottoms are also used for night feeding excursions while forested areas are used for daytime resting cover. A good understory of such plants as swamp privet, honeysuckle, greenbrier and switch cane seem especially attractive to the birds. In the best areas this understory will be thick, but in more open woods isolated patches of cover will oftentimes harbor birds if any are present in the area.

Woodcock, being migratory, are noted for their sudden appearance in a covert and, in the areas where woodcock hunting is popular, the arrival of the "flight"

is eagerly anticipated. In Georgia the migration begins to arrive in force in early December and remains fairly concentrated through mid-January. To discover the arrival of the flight the hunter should begin checking likely areas in late November for probe holes and the chalky white droppings, which are descriptively called "whitewash."

Because the birds tend to concentrate in relatively small areas, several coverts should be located for hunting to avoid shooting one out. Don't expect a dyed-in-the wool timberdoodle man to show you "his" hunting places; most woodcock hunters are as secretive as the bird they hunt. Bribes may be effective, however, and a gift of a new car, a handcrafted English double or a similar trinket might gain you an invite to his second or third best covert.


Since woodcock hunting means walking, it's a mistake to dress too warmly, but owing to the nature of the bird's preferred haunts, briar protection will save a lot of needless bloodshed. Safety colored hunting clothes can also avoid bloodshed because the woodcock's erratic flight pattern often brings him near other hunters in the same party.

Most shots in a typical woodcock covert will be at close range at a rapidly moving bird dodging around trees. This type of shooting calls for a light, fast-pointing shotgun, 12-28 gauge, with an open choke. Skeet

guns are excellent, except they are usually a bit heavy.

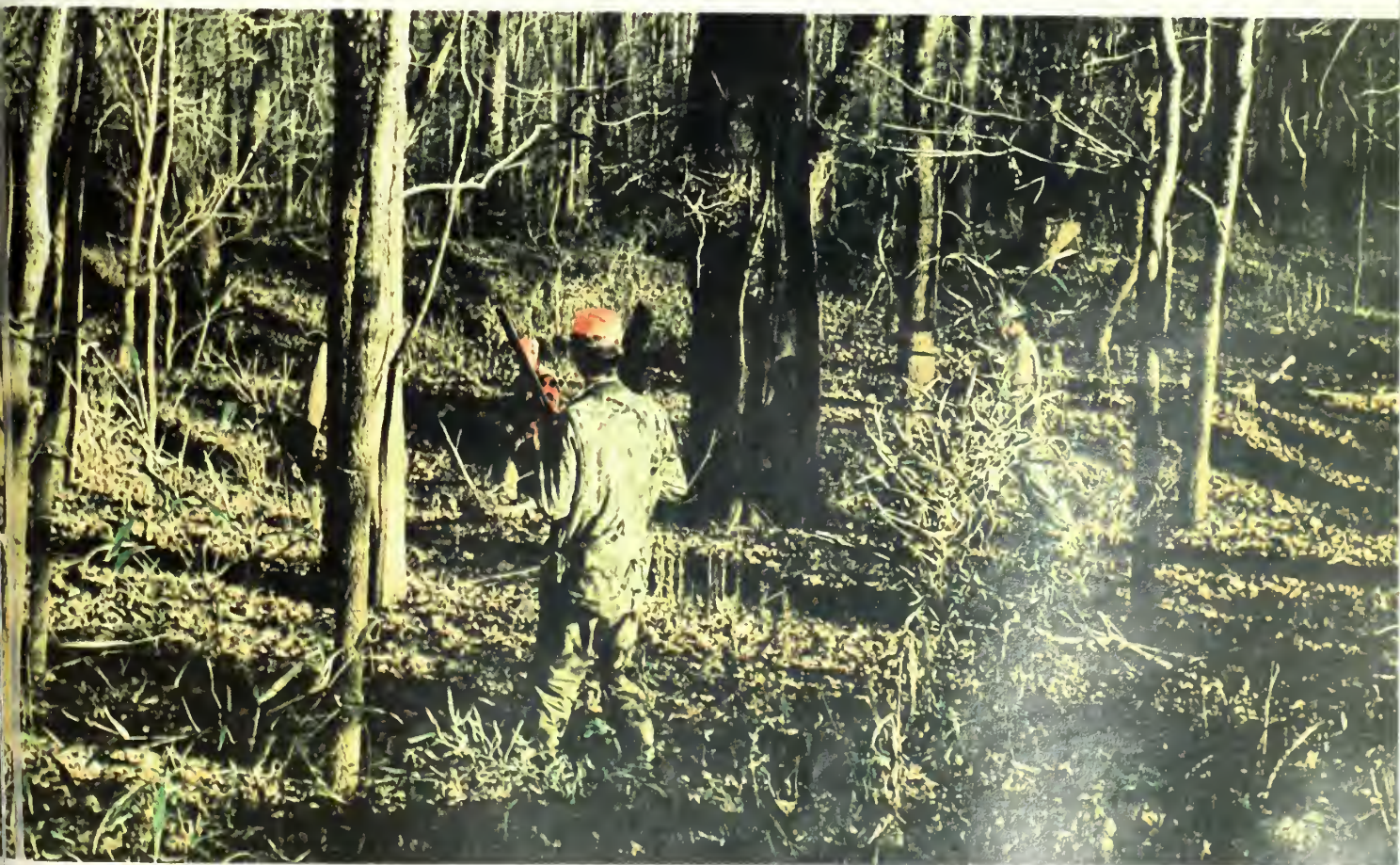
Dogs are a vital element to a successful hunt, if not solely for their practicality, then for the esthetics of the thing. While woodcock can be walked up by a lone hunter who thoroughly works good cover, it seems almost a sacrilege to shoot this classic upland bird in the absence of a good dog. The woodcock's excellent camouflage is an immensely practical reason for having a dog since many downed birds would otherwise be lost. Although some dogs will not retrieve a woodcock, most will "hunt dead" and locate one, standing over it until the hunter arrives.

There is no "best" breed of bird dog for woodcock, and all of the pointing and flushing breeds have been used successfully. The dense cover where woodcock are normally hunted does call for a close working dog, and Brittany spaniels and German short-hair pointers are well thought of in timberdoodle circles.

The woodcock is pursued by a relatively small but intense group of devotees, and after shooting at this tricky upland game bird it's easy to understand their enthusiasm. One expert has gone so far as to label the sport as addictive. The real allure of woodcock hunting is beyond the explanation of simple words as are most things which are more than the sum of their parts. It is something that must be experienced to be understood, and once experienced it calls you back. 

This cover is a bit too open for woodcock which prefer more ground cover, but the birds are often found near isolated clumps of understory. The use of brightly colored clothing is highly recommended for woodcock hunting, particularly in denser cover.

Our thanks to the Southeastern Cooperative Wildlife Disease Study whose assistance and personnel made this story and these photos possible. Special thanks to Sam Pursglave and Gory Doster whose research paper, *The Woodcock as a Game Bird Resource in the Southeastern U.S.*, comprised the major reference material for the story.



WILD HOG HUNT

By Marvin Tye

Jerry Green points out boar sign on his hunting preserve near Naylor. Freshly used wallows, fresh tracks or rooted up areas indicate that the animals are frequently using an area. The hunter who concentrates his efforts near such sign is most likely to score.

Photo by Morvin Tye



Each year a growing number of hunters inquire about the possibility of hunting wild boars in Georgia. One of the most frequently asked questions is, "Are there any wild boars in the state?" This question could be answered two ways. In the strict sense of the word, there are no wild boars native to North America.

We do have feral hogs which are descendants of domesticated breeds. Generations of survival in the wild have created an animal that resembles the original European or Asian wild boar in the same manner that a feral dog will resemble a wolf. Some breeds of dog closely resemble their savage ancestors and the same holds true for certain types of swine.

The term boar is intended to describe a male pig, but it is used rather loosely to describe wild hogs of both sexes. Any wild boars or wild hogs found in Georgia are classified as non-game animals and are considered the property of the landowner. The hunter who shoots such an animal without permission on privately owned land could be arrested on a variety of charges.

This situation was brought about by the practice of free range in the 19th Century and early part of the 20th. At that time, hogs, cattle and other animals were allowed to roam over much of Georgia's woods and countryside. The animals were rounded up or killed when the owner was ready to eat or sell them. Some hogs were identified by brands or tattoos placed in their ears.

In an effort to curtail illegal poaching of deer, the Game and Fish De-

partment has made it illegal to hunt any non-game animal (including wild hogs) with any weapon other than shotguns with number 4 shot or smaller, .22 rimfire rifles, centerfire rifles with bore diameter .225 or smaller, all caliber pistols, muzzle loading firearms and bows and arrows.

The Department encourages the shooting of wild hogs in some of its managed areas, but only during deer season. Biologists class the hogs as an undesirable species on most of the managed lands in the mountains. They compete with deer and turkeys for food, root up valuable plant life and wallow in trout streams, making them muddy and unfit for much aquatic life. These hogs are descendants of free-roaming pigs from the open range days.

During the regular firearms deer season only, hunters can shoot wild hogs with firearms used for deer hunting. Some hog hunting is available on Bullard Creek and Suwannee Wildlife Management Areas. As in the mountains, this activity is allowed only during the deer hunts and not during any small game hunts.

There are places other than the managed areas where the hunter can find good hog hunting. One of these is Fort Stewart. On this large military reservation located near Savannah in the southeastern corner of the state, hunters are limited to four hogs per season. These may be of any size or either sex. These four hogs may be taken all on one day or at any time during the hunting season. Hogs are abundant on the military reservation. In fact, during the first few days of the 1971 archery deer season hunters bagged six deer and five hogs.

In addition to the regular Georgia hunting license or archery license, the hog hunter must have a Fort Stewart permit which sells for \$3 per year or military personnel, \$10 per year or civilian employees and \$50 per year for civilians not employed on the base. This also entitles the holder to fishing privileges on the reservation. Daily permits are available for a cost of \$5 per day. As an alternate, the bow hunter can purchase an annual bow hunting permit for \$20 per year. The total number of annual fishing and hunting permits to be sold usually is 500 on a first come first served basis. Total number of one-day hunting permits to be issued

Predominantly hardwood forests along river bottoms are prime spots for finding wild hogs. Two Georgia hunting preserves cater to bowhunters with rates of \$5 per day for an unguided hunt. One of these is near Uvalda, the other near Naylor.



Photo by Marvin Tye

is determined by training requirements but in 1970 it did not exceed 200 for any given day. For the latest information on regulations and permits available, the interested hunter should contact the Provost Marshal, Fort Stewart, Georgia.

For the man who wishes to do his boar hunting exclusively with bow and arrow, two fine areas are available. One of them is Mobley's Bowhunting Preserve near Uvalda. Robert Mobley, owner of this tract of land has 2,700 acres of predominantly hardwood river bottoms along the banks of the Altamaha reserved for archers. No guns or dogs are allowed, for a limit of one wild hog per day. Camping on the land is free for the hunter.

This area has a good wild hog population that is growing each year. In March of 1969 I was one of 20

bowhunters who took part in a hunt at Mobley's. Four of the archers bagged wild hogs, most of the hunters saw hogs and a number of them took shots but failed to connect. Organized hunts are usually held on the preserve around the Labor Day weekend and again in early spring. Mobley can be contacted by calling (912) 594-3361.

Jerry Green of Naylor runs the only other bowhunting preserve operating in Georgia. He has 1,800 acres in Lowndes County along the banks of the Apalachee River one mile east of Naylor off U. S. 84. The land consists of hillsides covered with oak, palmetto thickets, stands of pine and some river swamp, ideal habitat for wild hogs and other game. Green also allows the bowhunter to take white-tail deer in season. Camping is free unless the hunter makes use of elec-

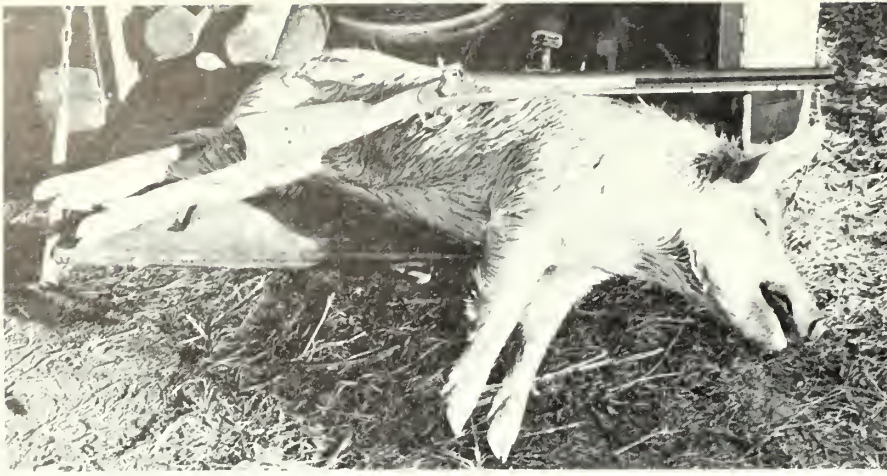


Photo by Bob Wilson

It is possible for archers and muzzle-loading enthusiasts to hunt wild hogs throughout the year provided they have the permission of the landowner. Use of high powered rifles is restricted to deer season.

trical hooksups. The hunter may take one wild hog per day. Sows with suckling pigs are strictly off limits. Organized hunts are sometimes held at Green's preserve in September and March. In this case, the term organized hunt is used rather loosely. It simply means that a large number of hunters, usually about 20 or so, are on the place at one time. Chances are high that this number of hunters will keep the game moving and give the archers a better chance to score. For more information you can write Jerry Green at Route 1, Naylor, Georgia, or call him at (912) 244-6458.

There are no guides furnished at either Mobley's or Green's hunting preserve. The archer simply pays his fee, camps out and goes hunting. There is also no guaranteed kill. Some score, others don't. There is plenty of game and chances are good that the skilled hunter will get a chance to bag a good boar.

For those who like guaranteed hunts, Walt Hall and the Hall Brothers Hunting Club offer such a setup on 15,000 acres of forest land in the southwest corner of Chatham County. They furnish food, equipment, dogs, lodging and guides. By equipment, they mean trucks, boats or other vehicles needed to reach the hunting area. In addition the successful hunter must pay a fee for a large wild hog or a lower fee for a non-hog animal that may be used for bait. The Hall brothers have operated the preserve for years on Skidaway Island. They have just recently moved the preserve to the main-

land. It was not uncommon to see large droves of hogs on Skidaway Island, ranging in size from suckling pigs to tremendous old boars. On one trip to the island late in the afternoon I observed at least 75 of these animals in about two hours time.

Walt said that the new hunting area he controls is even better habitat for wild hogs and should provide excellent hunting. You can contact him by writing to Hall Brothers Hunting Club, Route 4, Box 392, Savannah, Georgia, or by calling (912) 354-7284. These men allow hunting with firearms as well as bows and arrows.

The wild hog has been called an excellent, extremely wary game animal and a stupid creature that can be approached with ease. He has been called vicious by some, while others claim that he will run away from a fight every time. The truth lies some-

where between these extreme views.

Like every wild animal the wild hog will avoid contact with humans whenever possible. The wilder the animal, obviously, the warier he is. An animal that is descended from several generations of wild stock will be almost as spooky as a deer and will look somewhat like the original European or Asian wild boar. An animal that has just strayed from captivity may look just like a barnyard pig and be no harder to approach.

Regarding the question of danger, a mature wild hog has a pair of savage tusks that can cripple a man with ease. Both domestic and wild hogs have killed men on numerous occasions. A wounded boar may try to kill the man who shot him or he may try to escape. The second possibility is more likely.

A sow with young is more likely to attack than an old boar. There are those who believe that neither a boar nor enraged sow with young will press through on a charge if the man stands his ground. It is an interesting theory, but I don't care to test it.

The wise thing to do is to be extremely cautious when dealing with these large animals. If you have shot a big boar and think it is dead, approach it from behind. Be certain it is dead before you touch it. A second shot from close range is good insurance.

The best time to hunt wild hogs is during the colder months of the year when insects and snakes are not overly active or abundant. They are an interesting species that are well worth the hunter's time.

Photo by Morvin Ty

A boar with tusks this large can be dangerous. Extreme caution should be taken when approaching a wounded animal. If you down a boar, be sure that he is dead before touching him.



Hoping to help you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year, filled with pleasant, fruitful days afield and afloat, this Tide Table for 1972 is furnished to you, compliments of GAME & FISH Magazine for your use in coastal fishing and hunting. Carefully tear it out of your magazine, then fold it and put it in your tackle box, hunting coat, or wherever it will always be handy, for use all year long. It is the only Tide Table that will be published in the magazine this year.

To keep up to date on everything about hunting and fishing in Georgia, keep up your GAME & FISH subscription. For new subscriptions, send \$1 for a year or \$2.50 for three years to GAME & FISH Magazine, 270 Washington St., S.W., Atlanta, Georgia 30334. For renewals, please furnish the address label off your latest issue. For your convenience, use the coupon in the magazine.

And don't forget . . . gift subscriptions can handle all your Christmas shopping needs conveniently and inexpensively . . . and you can't give a better gift to a sportsman!

Here's wishing you Happy Holidays and the best in outdoor sports!

The Staff

P.S. Please remember . . . be a good sportsman. Obey all Game and Fish regulations. And don't litter!



1972 GEORGIA TIDE TABLES

Times given are Eastern Standard—adjust for Daylight Saving by adding one hour.

Calculations are for Savannah River Entrance. Corrections for other locations can be made by using the accompanying tidal difference data. Merely add or subtract the correction as indicated for the specific location.

			DIFFERENCES					DIFFERENCES	
			Time					Time	
			High	Low				High	Low
GEORGIA			Water	Water	Doboy and Altamaha			Water	Water
Savannah River					Sounds				
2707	Tybee Light		-0 08	-0 15	2762	Blackbeard Cr., Blackbeard I.		+0 21	+0 44
2715	Port Wentworth		+0 33	+0 41	2763	Sapelo Island		0 00	+0 02
					2769	Darien, Darien River		+1 10	+1 12
					2771	Wolf Island		+0 06	+0 35
					2773	Champney I., S. Altamaha R.		+1 12	+2 30
						St. Simons Sound			
2719	Tybee Creek entrance		-0 07	+0 02	2779	St. Simons Sound bar		+0 01	-0 05
2727	Thunderbolt		+0 34	+0 09	2781	St. Simons Light.		+0 24	+0 28
2731	Isle of Hope, Skidaway River		+0 52	+0 25	2785	Troup Cr. entr., Mackay R. .		+0 54	+0 49
					2787	Brunswick, East River		+0 55	+0 40
						St. Andrew Sound			
2733	Egg Islands		+0 06	+0 07	2797	Jekyll Point		+0 28	+0 28
2739	Fort McAllister, Ogeechee R.		+0 50	+1 13	2799	Jointer Island, Jointer Creek		+1 02	+0 49
2743	Cane Patch Creek entrance .		+0 57	+0 40	2807	Dover Bluff, Dover Creek . .		+0 57	+0 49
					2817	Cumberland Wh., Cumb. R. .		+0 40	+0 42
						Cumberland Sound			
2747	Kilkenny Club, Kilkenny Cr. .		+0 31	+0 13	2821	St. Marys Entr., north jetty .		+0 15	+0 15
2749	Sunbury, Medway River . . .		+0 56	+0 42	2823	Crooked River entrance . . .		+1 23	+1 12
2757	Blackbeard Island		+0 20	+0 19	2825	Harrietts Bluff, Crooked River		+2 09	+2 12
2761	Mud R., at Old Teakettle Cr.		+0 47	+0 43	2827	St. Marys, St. Marys River .		+1 21	+1 13

JANUARY, 1972

Doy	A.M.	High Water		Ht.	Low Water	
		Ht.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
1 Sat.	8:14	8.0	8:39	6.7	1:58	2:39
2 Sun.	9:00	7.8	9:25	6.6	2:48	3:25
3 Mon.	9:43	7.5	10:12	6.4	3:34	4:08
4 Tue.	10:26	7.1	10:57	6.3	4:20	4:48
5 Wed.	11:07	6.7	11:43	6.1	5:04	5:29
6 Thu.	11:49	6.3	—	—	5:52	6:12
7 Fri.	12:24	6.0	12:30	6.0	6:38	6:56
8 Sat.	1:12	5.9	1:15	5.7	7:31	7:45
9 Sun.	2:01	5.9	2:05	5.5	8:28	8:37
10 Mon.	2:52	5.9	2:56	5.4	9:24	9:29
11 Tue.	3:49	6.1	3:55	5.3	10:18	10:21
12 Wed.	4:46	6.3	4:50	5.4	11:09	11:09
13 Thu.	5:37	6.6	5:44	5.6	11:59	11:57
14 Fri.	6:23	6.9	6:33	5.9	—	12:45
15 Sat.	7:08	7.2	7:16	6.2	12:44	1:32
16 Sun.	7:47	7.4	7:55	6.4	1:30	2:14
17 Mon.	8:28	7.5	8:40	6.7	2:16	2:57
18 Tue.	9:08	7.5	9:25	6.9	3:01	3:38
19 Wed.	9:51	7.3	10:12	7.0	3:46	4:19
20 Thu.	10:38	7.1	11:02	7.1	4:35	5:05
21 Fri.	11:27	6.7	11:59	7.0	5:23	5:52
22 Sat.	—	—	12:18	6.4	6:24	6:47
23 Sun.	12:58	7.0	1:20	6.0	7:25	7:49
24 Mon.	2:01	6.9	2:25	5.7	8:36	8:55
25 Tue.	3:09	6.9	3:39	5.6	9:45	9:58
26 Wed.	4:23	6.9	4:53	5.7	10:50	11:00
27 Thu.	5:30	7.2	6:00	6.0	11:47	11:59
28 Fri.	6:28	7.4	6:51	6.3	—	12:45
29 Sat.	7:17	7.5	7:40	6.5	12:52	1:34
30 Sun.	8:00	7.5	8:24	6.7	1:43	2:19
31 Mon.	8:41	7.4	9:04	6.7	2:30	3:00

Moon Phases:

Last Qtr. 8th, New Moon 16th, 1st Qtr. 23rd, Full Moon 30th

FEBRUARY, 1972

Day	A.M.	High Water		Ht.	Low Water	
		Ht.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
1 Tue.	9:18	7.1	9:40	6.6	3:15	3:38
2 Wed.	9:53	6.8	10:19	6.5	3:56	4:15
3 Thu.	10:29	6.5	10:57	6.3	4:35	4:51
4 Fri.	11:04	6.2	11:23	6.2	5:13	5:26
5 Sat.	11:44	5.9	—	—	5:56	6:08
6 Sun.	12:17	6.0	12:27	5.6	6:44	6:52
7 Mon.	1:02	5.9	1:12	5.4	7:35	7:43
8 Tue.	1:54	5.8	2:07	5.2	8:37	8:44
9 Wed.	2:55	5.9	3:06	5.2	9:39	9:40
10 Thu.	3:58	6.0	4:10	5.3	10:34	10:36
11 Fri.	5:03	6.3	5:12	5.6	11:25	11:30
12 Sat.	5:54	6.7	6:04	6.0	—	12:15
13 Sun.	6:42	7.1	6:53	6.5	12:20	1:01
14 Mon.	7:25	7.4	7:36	7.0	1:09	1:47
15 Tue.	8:06	7.6	8:22	7.4	1:58	2:31
16 Wed.	8:49	7.6	9:07	7.6	2:44	3:14
17 Thu.	9:32	7.4	9:56	7.7	3:30	3:57
18 Fri.	10:15	7.1	10:45	7.6	4:21	4:44
19 Sat.	11:10	6.7	11:40	7.4	5:10	5:32
20 Sun.	—	—	12:06	6.2	6:05	6:27
21 Mon.	12:40	7.1	1:05	5.8	7:09	7:28
22 Tue.	1:44	6.8	2:14	5.6	8:21	8:39
23 Wed.	2:55	6.6	3:31	5.5	9:32	9:48
24 Thu.	4:11	6.6	4:48	5.7	10:36	10:49
25 Fri.	5:18	6.8	5:54	6.1	11:33	11:46
26 Sat.	6:15	7.0	6:41	6.5	—	12:26
27 Sun.	7:00	7.2	7:24	6.8	12:39	1:11
28 Mon.	7:39	7.2	8:03	6.9	1:27	1:52
29 Tue.	8:17	7.1	8:38	7.0	2:10	2:31

Moon Phases:

Last Qtr 7th, New Moon 15th, 1st Qtr. 21st, Full Moon 29th

MARCH, 1972

1 Wed.	8:48	7.0	9:11	7.0	2:49	3:05
2 Thu.	9:19	6.7	9:43	6.9	3:27	3:39
3 Fri.	9:51	6.5	10:15	6.7	4:06	4:12
4 Sat.	10:26	6.2	10:51	6.5	4:41	4:45
5 Sun.	11:01	5.9	11:30	6.3	5:20	5:22
6 Mon.	11:42	5.7	—	—	6:01	6:05
7 Tue.	12:16	6.2	12:29	5.5	6:53	6:56
8 Wed.	1:07	6.0	1:22	5.4	7:52	7:57
9 Thu.	2:06	6.0	2:24	5.3	8:57	9:03
10 Fri.	3:15	6.1	3:33	5.5	9:57	10:05
11 Sat.	4:21	6.4	4:37	6.0	10:50	11:03
12 Sun.	5:22	6.8	5:38	6.6	11:41	11:54
13 Mon.	6:13	7.2	6:29	7.2	—	12:29
14 Tue.	6:57	7.5	7:17	7.8	12:48	1:16
15 Wed.	7:43	7.7	8:03	8.2	1:39	2:02
16 Thu.	8:27	7.7	8:49	8.4	2:27	2:48
17 Fri.	9:14	7.5	9:37	8.4	3:15	3:33
18 Sat.	10:03	7.1	10:28	8.1	4:06	4:20
19 Sun.	10:54	6.7	11:23	7.7	4:57	5:11
20 Mon.	11:52	6.3	—	—	5:53	6:08
21 Tue.	12:24	7.3	12:57	5.9	6:56	7:15
22 Wed.	1:31	6.9	2:09	5.7	8:04	8:24
23 Thu.	2:41	6.6	3:23	5.7	9:14	9:33
24 Fri.	3:54	6.5	4:34	6.0	10:15	10:33
25 Sat.	4:57	6.6	5:35	6.4	11:06	11:28
26 Sun.	5:51	6.8	6:22	6.8	11:57	—
27 Mon.	6:34	6.9	7:01	7.1	12:15	12:39
28 Tue.	7:13	6.9	7:36	7.3	1:02	1:18
29 Wed.	7:46	6.9	8:06	7.4	1:43	1:55
30 Thu.	8:19	6.8	8:38	7.3	2:24	2:30
31 Fri.	8:47	6.6	9:08	7.2	3:01	3:05

Moon Phases:

1st Qtr. 8th, New Moon 15th, 1st Qtr. 22nd, Full Moon 29th

APRIL, 1972

1 Sat.	9:18	6.4	9:40	7.1	3:37	3:37
2 Sun.	9:51	6.2	10:13	6.9	4:15	4:12
3 Mon.	10:28	6.0	10:54	6.7	4:51	4:47
4 Tue.	11:11	5.8	11:39	6.5	5:33	5:28
5 Wed.	11:59	5.7	—	—	6:18	6:17
6 Thu.	12:30	6.4	12:54	5.6	7:15	7:19
7 Fri.	1:29	6.3	1:55	5.7	8:17	8:30
8 Sat.	2:33	6.3	3:00	6.1	9:18	9:33
9 Sun.	3:36	6.5	4:08	6.6	10:14	10:35
10 Mon.	4:43	6.8	5:09	7.2	11:05	11:31
11 Tue.	5:40	7.1	6:03	7.9	11:54	—
12 Wed.	6:31	7.4	6:51	8.5	12:23	12:45
13 Thu.	7:18	7.6	7:40	8.8	1:18	1:33
14 Fri.	8:06	7.5	8:30	8.9	2:09	2:22
15 Sat.	8:55	7.4	9:19	8.7	2:59	3:11
16 Sun.	9:46	7.0	10:12	8.3	3:51	4:03
17 Mon.	10:42	6.7	11:10	7.8	4:44	4:54
18 Tue.	11:45	6.3	—	—	5:39	5:54
19 Wed.	12:11	7.3	12:47	6.1	6:38	6:57
20 Thu.	1:13	6.9	1:59	6.0	7:44	8:07
21 Fri.	2:20	6.6	3:04	6.1	8:49	9:13
22 Sat.	3:22	6.4	4:09	6.3	9:46	10:10
23 Sun.	4:23	6.4	5:05	6.6	10:36	11:03
24 Mon.	5:18	6.4	5:48	7.0	11:19	11:50
25 Tue.	6:00	6.5	6:29	7.2	—	12:02
26 Wed.	6:36	6.5	7:04	7.4	12:36	12:41
27 Thu.	7:13	6.5	7:37	7.5	1:17	1:18
28 Fri.	7:45	6.5	8:08	7.5	1:54	1:55
29 Sat.	8:16	6.4	8:38	7.4	2:35	2:31
30 Sun.	8:49	6.2	9:11	7.3	3:11	3:06

Moon Phases:

Last Qtr. 6th, New Moon 13th, 1st Qtr. 20th, Full Moon 28th

MAY, 1972

Doy	A.M.	High Water		Ht.	Low Water	
		Ht.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
1 Mon.	9:23	6.1	9:46	7.1	3:50	3:43
2 Tue.	10:02	6.0	10:25	6.9	4:28	4:19
3 Wed.	10:45	5.9	11:14	6.8	5:08	5:00
4 Thu.	11:34	5.9	—	—	5:55	5:51
5 Fri.	12:02	6.6	12:31	6.0	6:47	6:50
6 Sat.	12:59	6.5	1:28	6.2	7:42	7:57
7 Sun.	1:58	6.5	2:32	6.6	8:41	9:05
8 Mon.	3:01	6.6	3:39	7.1	9:38	10:08
9 Tue.	4:05	6.7	4:40	7.7	10:30	11:06
10 Wed.	5:06	6.9	5:38	8.2	11:22	—
11 Thu.	6:03	7.1	6:32	8.7	12:03	12:15
12 Fri.	6:55	7.2	7:23	8.9	12:57	1:07
13 Sat.	7:48	7.2	8:13	8.9	1:52	2:01
14 Sun.	8:39	7.1	9:04	8.7	2:44	2:55
15 Mon.	9:34	6.9	9:58	8.3	3:38	3:46
16 Tue.	10:31	6.6	10:54	7.8	4:28	4:42
17 Wed.	11:32	6.4	11:52	7.3	5:23	5:36
18 Thu.	—	—	12:33	6.2	6:18	6:34
19 Fri.	12:50	6.9	1:34	6.2	7:15	7:39
20 Sat.	1:46	6.5	2:33	6.3	8:11	8:42
21 Sun.	2:41	6.2	3:29	6.4	9:06	9:39
22 Mon.	3:34	6.1	4:24	6.6	9:53	10:29
23 Tue.	4:27	6.0	5:09	6.9	10:40	11:18
24 Wed.	5:16	6.0	5:52	7.1	11:21	—
25 Thu.	6:00	6.1	6:33	7.3	12:01	12:02
26 Fri.	6:39	6.1	7:08	7.4	12:44	12:42
27 Sat.	7:14	6.1	7:40	7.4	1:27	1:23
28 Sun.	7:50	6.1	8:15	7.4	2:10	2:03
29 Mon.	8:27	6.0	8:49	7.3	2:49	2:40
30 Tue.	9:00	6.0	9:26	7.2	3:27	3:19
31 Wed.	9:41	6.0	10:07	7.1	4:09	4:00

Moon Phases:

Last Qtr. 6th, New Moon 13th, 1st Qtr. 20th, Full Moon 28th

JUNE, 1972

Doy	A.M.	High Water		Ht.	Low Water	
		Ht.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
1 Thu.	10:26	6.0	10:50	6.9	4:48	4:41
2 Fri.	11:17	6.1	11:39	6.8	5:29	5:30
3 Sat.	—	—	12:11	6.4	6:18	6:28
4 Sun.	12:30	6.7	1:08	6.6	7:09	7:31
5 Mon.	1:28	6.6	2:07	7.0	8:07	8:38
6 Tue.	2:27	6.5	3:08	7.4	9:04	9:45
7 Wed.	3:30	6.4	4:14	7.8	10:01	10:43
8 Thu.	4:37	6.5	5:15	8.2	10:56	11:44
9 Fri.	5:41	6.6	6:13	8.5	11:51	—
10 Sat.	6:39	6.8	7:08	8.7	12:39	12:48
11 Sun.	7:34	6.8	8:00	8.7	1:36	1:43
12 Mon.	8:27	6.8	8:53	8.5	2:31	2:39
13 Tue.	9:21	6.8	9:44	8.1	3:22	3:33
14 Wed.	10:15	6.6	10:35	7.7	4:13	4:22
15 Thu.	11:13	6.5	11:26	7.2	5:00	5:17
16 Fri.	—	—	12:08	6.4	5:49	6:08
17 Sat.	12:15	6.8	1:01	6.3	6:37	7:04
18 Sun.	1:03	6.4	1:53	6.3	7:30	8:01
19 Mon.	1:52	6.0	2:44	6.4	8:21	8:57
20 Tue.	2:41	5.8	3:35	6.5	9:08	9:50
21 Wed.	3:33	5.7	4:24	6.6	9:55	10:39
22 Thu.	4:24	5.6	5:15	6.8	10:42	11:28
23 Fri.	5:18	5.7	5:57	7.0	11:25	—
24 Sat.	6:03	5.8	6:40	7.2	12:13	12:09
25 Sun.	6:45	5.9	7:17	7.3	1:01	12:55
26 Mon.	7:24	6.0	7:53	7.4	1:44	1:36
27 Tue.	8:03	6.1	8:30	7.4	2:25	2:19
28 Wed.	8:42	6.2	9:07	7.4	3:08	3:01
29 Thu.	9:25	6.3	9:48	7.3	3:46	3:43
30 Fri.	10:06	6.5	10:29	7.1	4:25	4:25

Moon Phases:

Last Qtr. 4th, New Moon 11th, 1st Qtr. 18th, Full Moon 26th

JULY, 1972

Doy	A.M.	High Water		Ht.	Low Water	
		Ht.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
1 Sat.	10:57	6.7	11:14	7.0	5:06	5:14
2 Sun.	11:50	6.9	—	—	5:49	6:09
3 Mon.	12:08	6.7	12:47	7.1	6:41	7:08
4 Tue.	1:03	6.5	1:45	7.3	7:36	8:16
5 Wed.	2:00	6.3	2:46	7.4	8:37	9:23
6 Thu.	3:05	6.1	3:53	7.7	9:36	10:27
7 Fri.	4:17	6.1	4:59	7.9	10:37	11:28
8 Sat.	5:25	6.3	6:03	8.2	11:35	—
9 Sun.	6:28	6.5	6:58	8.3	12:26	12:33
10 Mon.	7:24	6.7	7:49	8.4	1:23	1:30
11 Tue.	8:17	6.9	8:38	8.2	2:16	2:25
12 Wed.	9:06	6.9	9:23	8.0	3:05	3:14
13 Thu.	9:55	6.9	10:09	7.6	3:50	4:02
14 Fri.	10:44	6.8	10:52	7.1	4:32	4:51
15 Sat.	11:30	6.6	11:33	6.7	5:14	5:36
16 Sun.	—	—	12:17	6.5	5:57	6:25
17 Mon.	12:17	6.3	1:02	6.4	6:40	7:16
18 Tue.	1:02	6.0	1:51	6.4	7:28	8:10
19 Wed.	1:47	5.7	2:40	6.4	8:20	9:07
20 Thu.	2:37	5.5	3:36	6.4	9:11	10:02
21 Fri.	3:36	5.5	4:33	6.6	10:03	10:52
22 Sat.	4:34	5.5	5:22	6.8	10:52	11:43
23 Sun.	5:27	5.7	6:13	7.1	11:41	—
24 Mon.	6:18	5.9	6:54	7.4	12:32	12:26
25 Tue.	7:01	6.2	7:32	7.6	1:17	1:13
26 Wed.	7:42	6.5	8:10	7.7	1:59	1:56
27 Thu.	8:23	6.8	8:46	7.7	2:39	2:42
28 Fri.	9:04	7.1	9:24	7.6	3:18	3:25
29 Sat.	9:49	7.3	10:07	7.4	3:59	4:10
30 Sun.	10:38	7.4	10:54	7.1	4:42	4:57
31 Mon.	11:30	7.5	11:45	6.8	5:23	5:50

Moon Phases:

Last Qtr. 4th, New Moon 10th, 1st Qtr. 18th, Full Moon 26th

AUGUST, 1972

Doy	A.M.	High Water		Ht.	Low Water	
		Ht.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
1 Tue.	—	—	12:25	7.5	6:14	6:50
2 Wed.	12:40	6.5	1:26	7.5	7:13	7:57
3 Thu.	1:42	6.2	2:29	7.5	8:16	9:07
4 Fri.	2:51	6.0	3:39	7.5	9:22	10:15
5 Sat.	4:08	6.0	4:53	7.7	10:24	11:18
6 Sun.	5:21	6.3	5:54	7.9	11:26	—
7 Mon.	6:22	6.6	6:48	8.1	12:13	12:23
8 Tue.	7:17	7.0	7:37	8.2	1:08	1:18
9 Wed.	8:02	7.2	8:18	8.1	1:54	2:07
10 Thu.	8:46	7.3	8:59	7.9	2:41	2:56
11 Fri.	9:27	7.3	9:37	7.5	3:21	3:39
12 Sat.	10:08	7.2	10:13	7.2	3:59	4:20
13 Sun.	10:47	7.0	10:51	6.8	4:37	5:00
14 Mon.	11:27	6.8	11:30	6.4	5:13	5:45
15 Tue.	—	—	12:11	6:7	5:55	6:31
16 Wed.	12:14	6.1	12:57	6.5	6:38	7:25
17 Thu.	12:59	5.9	1:47	6.4	7:28	8:25
18 Fri.	1:50	5.7	2:44	6.4	8:27	9:24
19 Sat.	2:47	5.6	3:47	6.6	9:25	10:18
20 Sun.	3:52	5.7	4:46	6.9	10:18	11:12
21 Mon.	4:53	6.0	5:39	7.2	11:12	11:57
22 Tue.	5:48	6.4	6:25	7.6	12:00	—
23 Wed.	6:36	6.9	7:05	7.9	12:44	12:49
24 Thu.	7:18	7.3	7:43	8.0	1:27	1:34
25 Fri.	8:02	7.7	8:22	8.1	2:08	2:21
26 Sat.	8:43	8.1	9:03	7.9	2:49	3:06
27 Sun.	9:29	8.2	9:46	7.7	3:30	3:53
28 Mon.	10:16	8.2	10:35	7.3	4:15	4:41
29 Tue.	11:07	8.1	11:29	6.9	5:00	5:36
30 Wed.	—	—	12:06	7.9	5:52	6:35
31 Thu.	12:26	6.5	1:09	7.6	6:53	7:44

Moon Phases:

Last Qtr. 2nd, New Moon 9th, 1st Qtr. 17th, Full Moon 24th,
Last Qtr. 31st

SEPTEMBER, 1972

Day	A.M.	High Water		Ht.	Low Water	
		Ht.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
1 Fri.	1:31	6.2	2:18	7.5	8:00	8:57
2 Sat.	2:48	6.4	3:33	7.5	9:10	10:04
3 Sun.	4:07	6.3	4:43	7.6	10:18	11:06
4 Mon.	5:16	6.6	5:46	7.8	11:15	11:57
5 Tue.	6:12	7.1	6:35	8.0	—	12:10
6 Wed.	7:01	7.5	7:18	8.1	12:44	1:01
7 Thu.	7:44	7.7	7:55	8.0	1:29	1:49
8 Fri.	8:20	7.8	8:30	7.8	2:10	2:32
9 Sat.	8:56	7.8	9:04	7.5	2:49	3:11
10 Sun.	9:30	7.6	9:34	7.2	3:24	3:48
11 Mon.	10:07	7.4	10:09	6.9	3:58	4:29
12 Tue.	10:42	7.2	10:48	6.6	4:34	5:07
13 Wed.	11:23	7.0	11:29	6.3	5:11	5:52
14 Thu.	—	—	12:09	6.8	5:52	6:40
15 Fri.	12:16	6.0	1:02	6.6	6:41	7:41
16 Sat.	1:09	5.9	1:57	6.6	7:42	8:45
17 Sun.	2:09	5.9	3:00	6.7	8:46	9:42
18 Mon.	3:12	6.0	4:04	7.0	9:47	10:34
19 Tue.	4:19	6.4	4:59	7.3	10:43	11:21
20 Wed.	5:15	7.0	5:51	7.7	11:31	—
21 Thu.	6:06	7.6	6:33	8.0	12:07	12:23
22 Fri.	6:52	8.2	7:18	8.2	12:52	1:11
23 Sat.	7:36	8.7	7:59	8.2	1:37	1:59
24 Sun.	8:21	8.9	8:41	8.1	2:20	2:46
25 Mon.	9:08	9.0	9:28	7.8	3:05	3:37
26 Tue.	9:57	8.8	10:19	7.4	3:53	4:26
27 Wed.	10:51	8.5	11:14	7.0	4:42	5:20
28 Thu.	11:52	8.1	—	—	5:36	6:21
29 Fri.	12:17	6.6	12:59	7.7	6:39	7:31
30 Sat.	1:31	6.4	2:08	7.5	7:48	8:45

Moon Phases:

New Moon 7th, 1st Qtr. 15th, Full Moon 23rd, Last Qtr. 29th

OCTOBER, 1972

Day	A.M.	High Water		Ht.	Low Water	
		Ht.	P.M.		A.M.	P.M.
1 Sun.	2:47	6.4	3:21	7.4	9:00	9:48
2 Mon.	3:59	6.6	4:30	7.5	10:05	10:43
3 Tue.	5:06	7.0	5:23	7.6	11:03	11:32
4 Wed.	5:57	7.4	6:09	7.7	11:54	—
5 Thu.	6:40	7.8	6:52	7.7	12:19	12:39
6 Fri.	7:17	8.0	7:27	7.7	12:58	1:24
7 Sat.	7:52	8.1	7:59	7.5	1:37	2:05
8 Sun.	8:25	8.0	8:32	7.3	2:13	2:44
9 Mon.	8:56	7.9	9:03	7.1	2:49	3:22
10 Tue.	9:29	7.7	9:34	6.8	3:24	3:59
11 Wed.	10:04	7.4	10:13	6.6	3:57	4:38
12 Thu.	10:41	7.2	10:54	6.3	4:35	5:18
13 Fri.	11:30	7.0	11:43	6.1	5:17	6:07
14 Sat.	—	—	12:21	6.8	6:02	7:02
15 Sun.	12:37	6.1	1:14	6.8	7:02	8:04
16 Mon.	1:38	6.1	2:16	6.8	8:07	9:03
17 Tue.	2:39	6.4	3:17	7.0	9:13	9:57
18 Wed.	3:42	6.9	4:16	7.2	10:11	10:45
19 Thu.	4:43	7.5	5:12	7.5	11:03	11:31
20 Fri.	5:35	8.1	6:03	7.8	11:56	—
21 Sat.	6:26	8.7	6:49	8.0	12:19	12:48
22 Sun.	7:13	9.1	7:37	8.1	1:05	1:39
23 Mon.	8:00	9.3	8:22	7.9	1:54	2:30
24 Tue.	8:50	9.2	9:11	7.7	2:44	3:21
25 Wed.	9:43	9.0	10:06	7.3	3:34	4:15
26 Thu.	10:38	8.5	11:08	6.9	4:25	5:08
27 Fri.	11:39	8.1	—	—	5:24	6:08
28 Sat.	12:14	6.6	12:44	7.6	6:25	7:13
29 Sun.	1:25	6.5	1:49	7.3	7:34	8:20
30 Mon.	2:35	6.5	2:56	7.1	8:42	9:21
31 Tue.	3:40	6.8	3:58	7.0	9:45	10:14

Moon Phases:

New Moon 7th, 1st Qtr. 15th, Full Moon 22nd, Last Qtr. 29th

NOVEMBER, 1972

1 Wed.	4:43	7.1	4:55	7.0	10:40	11:02
2 Thu.	5:31	7.4	5:40	7.1	11:29	11:44
3 Fri.	6:14	7.7	6:21	7.1	—	12:12
4 Sat.	6:51	7.8	6:56	7.1	12:25	12:58
5 Sun.	7:24	7.9	7:30	7.0	1:03	1:37
6 Mon.	7:58	7.9	8:03	6.9	1:42	2:17
7 Tue.	8:29	7.7	8:34	6.7	2:17	2:55
8 Wed.	9:02	7.6	9:09	6.5	2:55	3:35
9 Thu.	9:37	7.4	9:45	6.4	3:30	4:13
10 Fri.	10:14	7.2	10:26	6.2	4:07	4:54
11 Sat.	10:59	7.0	11:13	6.1	4:44	5:36
12 Sun.	11:45	6.9	—	—	5:32	6:27
13 Mon.	12:08	6.2	12:38	6.8	6:27	7:20
14 Tue.	1:03	6.3	1:35	6.7	7:30	8:18
15 Wed.	2:05	6.6	2:34	6.8	8:37	9:15
16 Thu.	3:06	7.1	3:35	6.9	9:40	10:06
17 Fri.	4:09	7.6	4:33	7.1	10:37	10:58
18 Sat.	5:06	8.2	5:32	7.3	11:33	11:48
19 Sun.	6:02	8.7	6:25	7.5	—	12:26
20 Mon.	6:55	9.0	7:18	7.5	12:41	1:21
21 Tue.	7:46	9.1	8:08	7.5	1:33	2:14
22 Wed.	8:37	9.0	8:59	7.3	2:25	3:08
23 Thu.	9:30	8.7	9:56	7.1	3:18	4:02
24 Fri.	10:26	8.3	10:57	6.8	4:12	4:54
25 Sat.	11:23	7.8	—	—	5:08	5:49
26 Sun.	12:01	6.6	12:21	7.3	6:08	6:48
27 Mon.	1:03	6.5	1:22	6.9	7:10	7:47
28 Tue.	2:06	6.5	2:18	6.6	8:15	8:45
29 Wed.	3:07	6.6	3:15	6.4	9:14	9:36
30 Thu.	4:03	6.7	4:10	6.3	10:09	10:24

Moon Phases:

New Moon 6th, 1st Qtr. 14th, Full Moon 20th, Last Qtr. 27th.

DECEMBER, 1972

1 Fri.	4:56	6.9	5:01	6.2	10:59	11:08
2 Sat.	5:41	7.1	5:48	6.3	11:46	11:51
3 Sun.	6:22	7.3	6:26	6.3	—	12:29
4 Mon.	7:01	7.4	7:04	6.3	12:32	1:10
5 Tue.	7:34	7.4	7:39	6.3	1:11	1:53
6 Wed.	8:07	7.4	8:12	6.3	1:52	2:34
7 Thu.	8:41	7.3	8:45	6.2	2:29	3:14
8 Fri.	9:17	7.2	9:26	6.1	3:08	3:53
9 Sat.	9:52	7.1	10:07	6.1	3:45	4:31
10 Sun.	10:31	6.9	10:48	6.2	4:26	5:10
11 Mon.	11:16	6.8	11:43	6.3	5:09	5:53
12 Tue.	—	—	12:07	6.6	5:58	6:44
13 Wed.	12:35	6.5	12:58	6.5	6:59	7:35
14 Thu.	1:34	6.8	1:54	6.4	8:03	8:33
15 Fri.	2:35	7.1	2:57	6.4	9:10	9:32
16 Sat.	3:36	7.4	4:01	6.4	10:13	10:27
17 Sun.	4:42	7.8	5:08	6.6	11:12	11:24
18 Mon.	5:44	8.2	6:07	6.8	—	12:10
19 Tue.	6:41	8.5	7:05	6.9	12:20	1:05
20 Wed.	7:34	8.6	7:58	7.0	1:18	2:01
21 Thu.	8:26	8.6	8:51	7.0	2:13	2:55
22 Fri.	9:17	8.3	9:47	6.9	3:05	3:46
23 Sat.	10:12	7.9	10:40	6.8	3:59	4:35
24 Sun.	11:01	7.4	11:39	6.6	4:49	5:23
25 Mon.	11:55	7.0	—	—	5:43	6:11
26 Tue.	12:30	6.4	12:43	6.5	6:39	7:03
27 Wed.	1:27	6.3	1:34	6.1	7:38	7:58
28 Thu.	2:21	6.2	2:22	5.8	8:36	8:51
29 Fri.	3:16	6.2	3:19	5.6	9:33	9:42
30 Sat.	4:11	6.3	4:13	5.5	10:24	10:31
31 Sun.	5:06	6.4	5:08	5.5	11:15	11:17

Moon Phases:

New Moon 5th, 1st Qtr. 13th, Full Moon 20th, Last Qtr. 27th

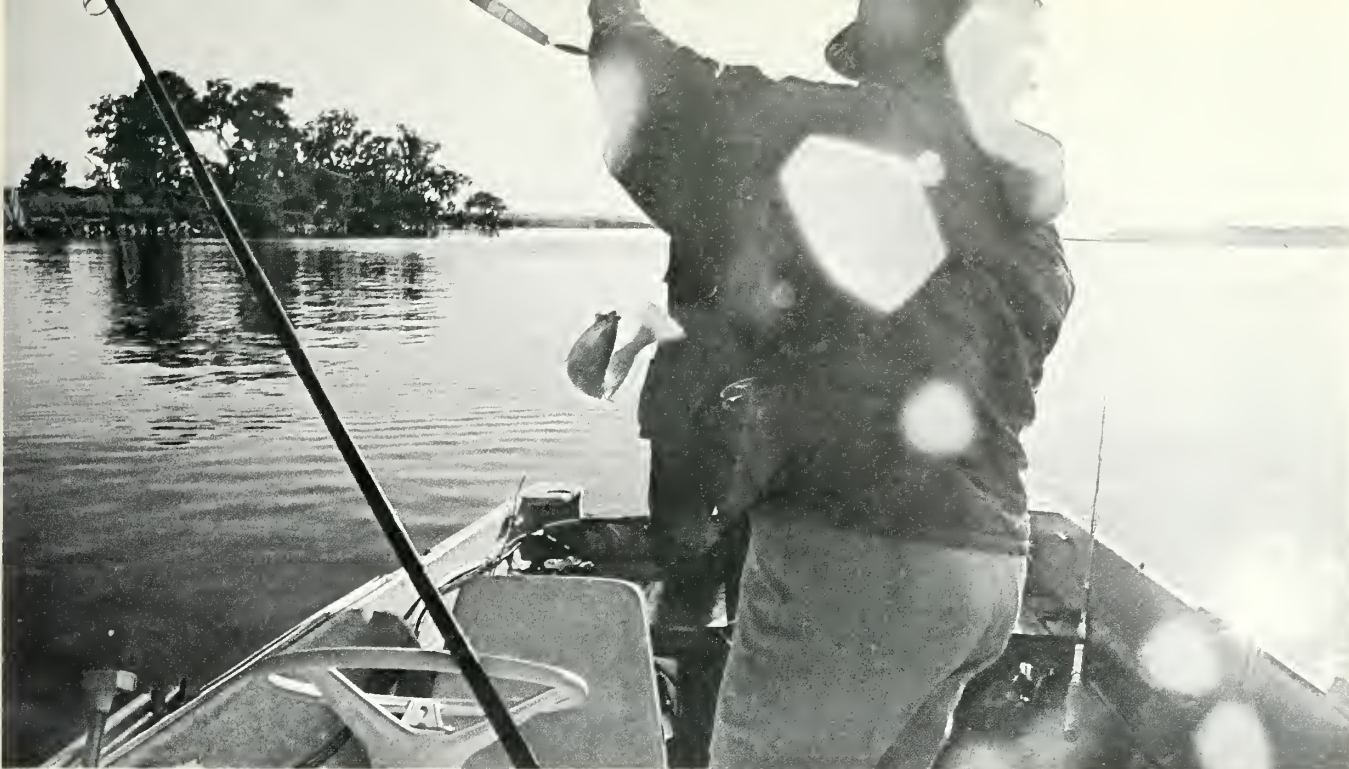


Photo by Dean Wohlgemuth

BACKYARD BONANZA

By Dean Wohlgemuth

Would you drive across town to buy groceries, or a new suit of clothes, when just around the corner from your home you could get the same items for a lower price? Probably not. But if you did, it might be because you didn't know what was available right under your nose.

Perhaps that's the case with a lot of Georgia fishermen. They travel to other states for saltwater fishing, apparently unaware that our own coastline has good fishing available.

Georgia's coastline seems short, barely more than a hundred miles in a straight line from the South Carolina to the Florida boundary. But wait a minute . . . our coast is NOT a straight line, far from it! Actually, there's about a thousand miles of coast, and the fact that it isn't a straight line means that there are many, many acres of estuarine areas that provide excellent fishing.

Another thing that seems to give

the wrong impression to anglers is that Georgia's coast is indented in comparison to neighboring states, while the Gulf Stream makes a convex curve away from land, making it a long, long ride by boat to the Stream. The fishing's good out there, but it just takes too long to reach it. The continental shelf is so far out, that all the water within reasonable reach of our coast is shallow, thus most people believe the fishing isn't good in the waters that are close in.

It is true you won't find such species as snook and bonefish, but if you like Spanish and king mackerel off-shore fishing, Georgia can provide top notch sport. And you don't have to go offshore at all, if you don't want to, because our "inshore" (estuarine) waters abound with speckled sea trout and channel bass. And in the hot months, there are plenty of trapon.

The majority of fishing on Georgia's

coast is most probably for trout and channel bass (also called redfish). To catch these, you don't need a large cruiser or other expensive boat. All you need is the same kind of boat that is adequate for our larger freshwater lakes. Small runabouts of 14 through 18 feet are generally ample, and modern, deluxe fishing boats are excellent. Some coastal anglers even use wooden and aluminum flatbottom boats, though these couldn't be considered safe, especially for persons not accustomed to coastal waters. A deck, windshield and a transom well would be appreciated when the water is rough.

Tackle needn't be too complex or expensive for bass and trout fishing. Any saltwater surf or pier tackle, or even medium to heavy freshwater tackle should be adequate. Baitcasting reels and boat/pier rods of perhaps seven feet will do, though this



Photo by Ted Borg

Oyster bars are hard to find during high tide, but you can spot them easily when the water is down. Locating the bars at low tide, then staying around to fish the incoming tide is a good way to find a good trout drop.

These are the baits that tempt the palate of saltwater trout and channel bass. The more finicky trout prefers his shrimp alive, but the channel bass (redfish) isn't as particular. Jigs with short plastic worm bodies and small lures with good action will also take trout. With the live shrimp, a sliding saltwater float should be rigged as shown, with the offset-type trout hook.

Photo by Ted Borg



writer feels a 10-foot surf spinning rod with a saltwater open faced reel is easier to handle. Terminal rigs are the same for both species. Most anglers seem to like to use saltwater slip floats, and a swivel sinker perhaps a foot or so above the offset hook.

Because of this, saltwater fishing in Georgia has a brilliant outlook for the future.

Why hasn't it already been utilized? This is probably due several things. First of all, little has been said about the potential. Secondly, good information about where to go and how to fish the coast is hard to find. Many local people fish, but few people inland are aware of the possibilities, and when they do visit, it may be at the wrong time of the moon, thus they go away discouraged.

Also, it isn't easy to find facilities on the coast. Actually, there are quite a lot of fish camps all up and down the coast, but there are few places where anglers can find a list of them. For that reason the Public Relations Division of the Game and Fish Department has sought to keep an up-to-date list, but this has been difficult.

Guides, too, are hard to find, and a stranger to these waters needs a

guide. Unless you have a navigation chart, and know how to read it, you'll likely get into trouble finding your way around shallow bars without getting grounded. All the marshlands look alike, making it very easy for a person not acquainted with these waters to get lost. Finding the spots to fish that are productive isn't always easy. All these things add up to the fact that, at least on your first visit or two, you'll save money and time in the long run, if you hire a guide.

It'll be worth it if you get the hang of bringing in those fish by the dozen. You'll have sport galore, good eating, and lots of fun . . . and you need not worry about crowded water.

Shrimp is the bait for both species. Trout are finicky enough that you'd better use live shrimp if you expect to do much good, but the channel bass aren't so hard to please. They'll take the shrimp alive or dead.

Frequently, you'll catch both bass and trout from the same spot, but it isn't necessarily so . . . it depends on the spot. Trout drops are most likely to be found over oyster bars along the edge of a marsh, and sometimes trout may be next to a steep bluff, where there are tree trunks in the water.

Channel bass may be at the very edge of the marsh grass, particularly at the mouth of a small cut where tidewater flows in and out as the tide rises and falls. If an oyster bar is close to such a spot, you may catch trout on one side of the boat, and bass on the other. The best cast for a bass would be as close to the grass as you dare, while you may toss a line up current several feet from the marsh, and let it drift down in order to lure a trout. Of course, trout are likely to be deeper than the channel bass in these conditions, so the stopper bead on the sliding float would have to be adjusted accordingly.

Both species are likely to do best around high tide. Trout usually hit best on the rising tide, but if you're unfamiliar with local trout drops, low tide might be the best time to start. That way you can easily find the oyster bars that will soon be flooded.

Channel bass find their way into the flooded marshes to feed when the water reaches a level that enables them to do so. When the tide first starts flowing into the marshes, you'll

likely pick up some at the mouths of the cuts into the marsh. Then again, as the tide leaves the marshes high and dry, the bass must come out the way they went in.

Also, larger channel bass are likely to be found in deep channels around the islands, especially on the ocean side. They can sometimes be caught surfcasting, too.

Both trout and bass are to be found just about anywhere along the Georgia coast, but being on the right spot at the right time isn't always easy. According to Mrs. Nina Smith, wife of Phil Smith who operates Kip's Fish Camp at Shellman Bluff, the neap tide is the time to fish for trout. When the moon is in the first or last quarter, this high tide is lower than at full moon. Phil Smith told me that he believes the higher tide at full moon causes more silt to be stirred up, thus staining the water and making it harder for the fish to see the bait.

On a visit to the coast last fall, I fished with Mrs. Smith who, according to her husband, is the best guide on the coast. I had no reason to doubt it. Even though I was there during the dark of the moon, fishing could have been better. Most other boats were coming in fishless, but she put us on a few spots that produced

several channel bass. Our efforts to catch a trout, however, were nearly futile.

It's best, in planning a trip, to make arrangements a week or so in advance by calling a coastal fish camp and getting the operator's best guess on when the fishing should be good. Then, to play it safe, phone again the day before you leave, to see how things have been going, and how the weather has been. If you hit it wrong, a trip can be disappointing, and it's easy to get discouraged when the fish don't hit. September is considered the time to start fishing for trout and bass, but fishing won't hit its peak until November and December.

One taste of fishing action when they're hitting right, taking the bait as quickly as you can put it in the water, and you'll have to agree that Georgia's coast offers some very fine sport.

Oddly enough, it's a resource that has hardly been scratched. I'm told by fisheries experts within the Georgia Game and Fish Department that less than three per cent of Georgia's fishermen ever wet a line in our coastal waters. Yet, they say, there are more fish in that short coast line than in all the many large freshwater lakes in our state.

If you hooked that shrimp just right, and got it in the right place, you'll soon be bringing in fat trout such as this one. Mrs. Nina Smith does the net work for Marvin Tye.

Photo by Ted Borg



HOW TO INVITE DUCKS TO DINNER

By Dean Wohlgemuth

I had to strain my eyes to see the black specks just above the distant horizon, but Don Huie's sharper eyes had already picked them up. I wouldn't even have known there were ducks around except that Don began blowing his duck call.

We watched anxiously as the flock headed in our general direction, but not straight at us. Don and I had our flatbottom jonboat pulled back into some reeds, where there was more mud than water under it. The reeds gave us good natural camouflage. Our instant blind was on the back side of a cove. A small peninsula juttied out some 50 yards away, and that's where Ted Borg and Bob Wilson situated their boat.

Cover was more sparse there, but Ted needed that vantage point to take pictures, so I gave him my length of camouflage netting to help conceal their boat.

We had looked at this spot the previous afternoon, so we had no trouble finding it in the pre-dawn lightlessness. The cove wasn't the easiest place to get to on Lake Seminole . . . a shallow strip across its mouth protected it from boaters. We'd had to tilt up our motors and get out of the boats to tow them across the shallow flat.

Once we got through the shallows and to our spot, we set the decoys, then pushed our boats back into the reeds, ready to hunt by daylight.

That first flock came in about 9:30, after the morning fog had burned off, and the day was bright and clear . . . and warm. We'd hoped, of course, that we would draw cloudy, cool weather, but as it had been the day before, we again had bluebird weather.

Don's pleading on the call did the trick, and the ducks made a long,

slow curve as they were about even with us. They went over twice, little lower each time, and on their second pass they were close enough to give us a close aerial inspection just at a safe range.

When they were directly overhead they flared off, and sped off into the distance. Don and I looked at each other with blank expressions. What had gone wrong?

Waders were becoming more important in this hunt. We'd had to use them to get the boat into this spot, and now we both slid into the water to look over the situation. Something had obviously spooked the ducks, but what?

We looked over our blinds from out in the water. They looked good. The day before, when a flock had shied away similarly, we'd found that our boats weren't hidden well enough, and a patch of my white outboard motor had shown through when the canvas cover had slipped. But this time we saw nothing out of order.

Our attention turned to our decoys. Aha! "Here's what's wrong," Don called. He pointed. We had rigged our decoy anchors upon our arrival at Seminole two nights earlier using pyramid saltwater fishing sinkers, and heavy nylon braided line. The new line was shiny and white and was floating too near the surface. In that clear water and bright sun, the anchor lines must have been very visible indeed to the ducks. Something was fishy to them about this setup. The "ducks" they saw must have looked tied down.

We had originally set our decoy in deeper water, and that longer line had been necessary. This time, we were fooled by the underwater vegetation, and mostly by the darkness. One by one, Don and I wrapped up the excess line so that the decoys were floating on a tighter anchor line

Excitement runs high as hunters set their decoys for some duck shooting. There's really no secret magic formula for arranging the decoys. The more informally they are placed, the more natural and relaxed they look to the ducks.

Photo by Dean Wohlgemuth



mentally reminding ourselves to dye the line a dark brown at the first opportunity.

Perhaps an hour later, another flock came our way, and Don once again sent out the musical notes that called the ducks to dinner. Only this time, it was our dinner, not theirs. They came in and set their wings on the second pass, and just before they touched down, we came up shooting. There was meat for the pot.

Duck hunting may seem tricky and a lot of trouble to some folks. To be sure, it can require a great deal of effort, particularly if you're after wood ducks in their native habitat, where you wade far back into shallow swamps along streams. It's also very tricky shooting, as the woodies dart around and through the trees.

Hunting puddle ducks, such as mallards isn't as hard as it probably sounds to the novice who is reading most epic adventures of waterfowling. However, there are several bits of knowledge that could be passed on which might very well help improve his chances at the sport.

The first idea conjured up by most sportsmen when talking of duck hunting is that of sitting in a blind near a set of decoys. This is probably accepted as the best and most romantic way of hunting ducks. I'd have to subscribe to that way of thinking for the most part. However, there certainly are other ways to hunt ducks and under certain conditions, the other ways are most productive.

I'll go over the other methods lightly in this article, however, and stick mostly to the blind-and-decoy method.

As touched on a moment ago, wood duck hunting is more frequently done by wading swamps, simply because that's the best way to get them. It usually requires some advance scouting to find an area of swamp where you're likely to find ducks. Look for hollow trees where woodies are likely to nest, keep your eye on the water to notice whether there may be any duck feathers about, and naturally, you look for ducks. Frequent checking of an area where you have seen ducks will tell you whether they return often enough to make for good hunting.

Creeks running through wooded areas can also be good, where wading is not required. Perhaps there's a



Photo by Dean Wohlgenuth.

Once the decoys are set, it's time for the hunters to get into their blind. This often necessitates some on-the-spot makeshift blind building. Natural high weeds and camouflage netting can do the job very well. Just make certain all shiny and light-colored objects are well covered.

swamp nearby, or some feeding area, and ducks may pass up and down the stream between resting and feeding areas. You'll seldom see woodies until they're right on you, and they'll be moving fast. It will take fast reaction and fast shooting to hit them. To my way of thinking, this can very well be some of the very most difficult type of shooting you'll ever encounter.

When hunting woodies, it's not a case of moving constantly, stalking the birds. You're better off finding a good location, and sitting or standing still partially hidden behind bushes or weeds, and wait for the birds to pass by. The best shooting will, of course, be early morning or late evening, as the birds are moving to or from feeding areas. There's also a chance you'll see some mallards, teals and other puddle ducks in such spots.

If you're hunting small farm ponds there isn't likely to be much use in setting out decoys and waiting around all day. Ducks may spend the night on such ponds, leaving early in the morning to feed, and returning late in the evening to bed down. The way to hunt such ponds is "jump" them . . . sneak up from behind the dam, keeping well out of sight of the water, until you're within range. Then, you jump up, ready to shoot as the ducks come boiling off the water.

Another form of jumping ducks is used on rivers. A small boat is floated

down current, keeping pretty much to the inside of the curves. Everytime you round a bend, keep your eyes open . . . there may be a flock of ducks there, and you might get within range. A piece of camouflage netting draped over the boat will probably help.

Big water? Large lakes or coastal waters? Now, these are the places where you'll need those decoys. Jump shooting from a boat is sometimes good in coastal waters, as you pole your boat through sloughs and creeks quietly, being ready to shoot everytime you round a bend. But if this seems like too much work, maybe you'd better try the decoy route.

Of course, setting decoys in tidal waters can sometimes be frustrating and if you aren't careful, all your decoys might float away when the tide runs strong. To offset this, use heavy anchors with plenty of line to handle the deepest water. To avoid the problem of having lines show too clearly, as Don Huie and I did at Seminole, it pays to see that the lines are dyed a dark color. Also, there are commercial decoy anchors on the market on which you can wrap the line, and as the decoy pulls the line up, it unwraps by turning the anchor over and over.

Also, in tidal waters, be careful you don't put your boat in shallow water at high tide where it may be a struggle to get it out when the tide



Photo by John Culle

Your heart is pounding when you see a sky-full of ducks like this! The question is how to get them within range. The right combination of a blind, decoys and calling will provide the opportunity you've been waiting for.

goes out. A flatbottom, lightweight boat and waders are recommended, but you can sink pretty deep in marsh mud, and oyster shells may cut your waders.

In marshes, it isn't hard to push a boat into the marsh grass and be well hidden with a minimum of effort. But in some places, you'll need a more elaborate blind.

If you have a place to build a permanent blind, this is the most ideal. But finding such a place, where hunting is productive most of the time, is not easy in Georgia. However, if you own or have access to a large pond or small lake, particularly if there is a river or swamp nearby, perhaps you have such a situation.

Blinds should be built well in advance of the season so that they'll be weathered and natural looking, and ducks coming into the country will be used to them.

All sorts of material can be used for a blind. A simple, easily built blind that is effective is one of hog-wire fencing. Posts driven into the ground or into the bottom of the lake hold up the wire. Then, use reeds, brush, tall grass or weeds to weave into the fencing. If you build the blind on the water, you probably will want to leave one end open so that you can slide a small boat in, and use the boat to hunt. Blinds should be built in quite shallow water, so that ducks can find food

and shelter more easily here. The big, open water areas are usually shunned by puddle ducks. Where you see reeds and cattails, you see a potential duck hunting spot. In fact, any weedy water probably has hope, because it indicates not only shallow water, but availability of food.

You can build more elaborate blinds out of lumber, but you should use second-hand lumber that is well weathered. If you build such a blind over water, it'll take sturdy posts driven well into the lake bottom. If you put a floor in it, build it high enough to slide a boat underneath out of sight, and also, to keep abnormally high water out of your blind. You can build it bottomless and use a boat for a seat, but a wooden floor is better and warmer.

Wooden blinds are much more easily built on land. Such a blind can be a real comfort in the bitter weather duck hunters prefer. And it's easier to put a catalytic camp heater in one of these, too, although "cat" heaters are safe enough that, with reasonable caution, they can be used in nearly any kind of a blind, as long as they're lit in a safe place.

If you hunt open water, or if you have no place to build a permanent blind, your boat can make you a fine blind with a minimum of expense and effort. I use such a rig for nearly all of my duck hunting. My rig doesn't yet have all the refinements I'd like, but hopefully, it will by the time the season is well under way.

My choice for a duck boat is a 12 foot flatbottom aluminum jonboat. Specially built duck boats are not to be knocked, but are frequently heavy, not as roomy as could be, and most of all, expensive. Further, their use is limited to duck hunting and very little if anything else. An aluminum jonboat, however, can easily be cat-topped, and can be used for pond fishing, river fishing, and just about anything.

The boat should be painted a dull brown, but a dark green will do. Bright aluminum absolutely will not do . . . you'll have to paint that boat. And it may pay to at least touch up the paint chips at the start of each season, oftener if necessary. Shiny spots can spook ducks.

Making a blind out of a jonboat need not be a major project. A foot wide strip of livestock fencing can be attached temporarily around the gunwale of the boat, and then weeds, reeds, brush and so forth can be woven into the fencing to provide the blind. This can be a nuisance, however, and for my part, I find a bolt of camouflage netting the most convenient, easy and effective means of hiding my boat. With no frame at all the netting can be draped over everything and everybody in the boat. However, a slip-on frame will help to hold the netting in place more effectively. Be sure that the motor is not overlooked when hiding your boat. An old piece of canvas can do this job quite well.

Motors are not a major item to the duck hunter, perhaps, but a dependable motor is probably more of a must to a duck hunter than a fisherman. You may be in shallow enough water to pole, but you may not . . . and you may have a long way to go. If you're in small water, you may need no motor at all, or perhaps an electric will do. But if have far to go, a gas motor of up to 5 hp should do nicely. If you're on really big water you may want a bit larger motor to cover distance faster, but don't forget the limitations of that light jonboat, and don't forget the fact that you'll be going out well before light, and you just can't hurry through darkness.

There's no great secret to placing decoys, though you will find hunters who go to elaborate pains in setting out their blocks. There are several patterns you could use, and these may be more effective and necessary when hunting in open water, but hunting the small coves and potholes for puddle ducks doesn't require such careful setting. In the potholes and coves, put some blocks in close to shore near weeds as though they were feeding and resting. One decoy might be placed well out toward open water to be acting as a sentry.

Seasoned hunters usually place their decoys in such a way that an open spot is left near the blind, so that incoming ducks would naturally head for that spot to land, giving the hunters a shorter range shot.

It is to my own thinking that if decoys are too formally placed, and too close together, they appear to be nervous and on the verge of taking off. For that reason, I prefer to scatter my decoys more or less haphazardly, but leaving an open area close to the blind, some in close to weeds and cover, and one sentry out in front. Also a good idea is to have one or two goose decoys. Ducks rely on the wisdom and eanness of geese, and feel secure when a goose is present. Some hunters even use a few crow or dove decoys in nearby bushes or trees, to add to the carefree atmosphere of the spread.

Positioning of the blind and the decoys is worth mentioning. Whenever possible, I like to set my arrangement so that the sun is to my back, more or less, so I may move

from morning to afternoon. My reason for this is so that when looking for ducks, and shooting at them, I won't have to look into the sun . . . but the ducks will have to look sunward to see me. Of course, if you're sure the day is going to be the typical duck hunting overcast, rainy weather, that isn't important. Wind can be a factor in setting up your blind and decoys. Try to set them so that the ducks can come in upwind.

As for weather, this doesn't seem to be as critical a factor in Georgia as in states farther north. I've found the birds about as plentiful, and as liable to move around on warm, sunny days as on nasty days. I think this is probably because by the time ducks get this far south, they are beginning to expect better weather, and are looking for wintering grounds. Farther north, they're more transient and bad weather makes them move farther south.

Timing your shooting is a very important factor in duck hunting. Hunters should agree to watch each other and go up together. If one hunter is more experienced than the others, he should be the lead man on shooting first.

Probably the most frequent error by the less experienced hunter is shooting too soon. This is partly because ducks are pretty good sized birds, and if you're used to doves or quail, ducks look closer than they really are.

Also, ducks very often circle your decoys two or three times before coming in, and inexperienced hunters sometimes fear the birds won't be back, and take ehaney long shots on the first or second pass. True, they may not come on in, but such long shots rarely do any good and may do harm . . . they may wound a duek you have no hope of retrieving, and they may frighten off those or other nearby ducks that might come in.

Of course, if ducks are on their third or fourth circle, were in fairly close last time, and still seem unlikely to set their wings, and if they are close enough to provide you with a reasonably good shot, then go ahead.

When the ducks are coming in low enough to make a landing, then patience is your best virtue . . . and this is really the only good way to shoot over decoys. Wait until they set their wings and come gliding in. If you set your decoys right, they

Waiting patiently until the ducks are close enough before shooting, being careful not to move at all until you come up shooting, and careful aim and proper swing brings the desired results . . . a duck dinner!

Photo by Ted Borg



won't land before they get to you.

A word about shot; it seems more and more hunters are going for larger sizes of shot, largely because they feel the shot will carry a greater distance, thus be more effective. It is true that larger shot will carry a little farther, but the distance isn't enough to worry about. The fact is, larger shot means less pellets per load, thus a thinner pattern, and more likelihood of wounding a bird that you'll never get.

Quite a few people these days are using No. 4 shot which I personally consider to be too big for all except the very largest of ducks and even then, No. 5 shot is better. In fact, No. 6 shot will bring down any duck if he's close enough to make a good shot in the first place, and hit well enough. I doubt that No. 5 is much, if any, better than No. 6, although I will admit that on the trip described at the opening of this article, a few test shots made by both Don Huie and myself did seem to indicate 5's might be a bit better at the outer limits of reasonable shotgun range.

For smaller ducks, 6 shot is large enough, and 7½ shot can be fine for teals and other small ducks.

The big problem, of course, is in hitting the bird well. A good lead is important, since ducks are fast flyers. When coming in with set wings, however, they're naturally moving more slowly, and lead must be adjusted accordingly. And as in the case of all flying game, angle of approach is a factor.

Having a retrieving dog is a fine addition to a hunt, adding much pleasure to be sure. Not all of us are able to keep a retriever, and may not hunt ducks often enough to make it

worthwhile. Wearing waders, and using a boat can usually solve that problem, however, though I was very disheartened on the Seminole trip to lose one wounded duck that fell into water over the top of my waders. It swam to cover and escaped before I could get the boat after it. A retriever might have saved the bird.

Calling ducks is highly important in a successful hunt over decoys. When the ducks are flying some distance away, they might not ever see your decoys if you don't give them a holler. Too much calling adds chance for an error, however, and may sound phony to the ducks. Best advice here is to not call more than necessary.

If there's a way to describe with words on a page how to call ducks, I haven't found it. The best I can tell you is to buy a duck call record well before the season, listen to it until your wife threatens divorce, then practice on your own call until you can pretty well match the results of the record. Frequent practice may be more worthwhile than long practice in a session or two. I find the feeding chuckle particularly hard to do, requiring much practice. For that reason, I practice calling nearly every day, all year long . . . but I have a special way of doing it!

I have found that when I call my youngsters home to dinner, they easily fail to hear their names. But when I blow that duck call, they know good and well who's calling and why . . . especially, when after several high-ball calls, I put out the feeding chuckle to say it's dinner time! The uniqueness of the method of calling them home gives them added incentive to come running, I'm sure. ➤

EDITORIAL

(Continued from Page 1)

a certain area of land, and through restocking, predator control and closing hunting for a certain period of time, we had reached the best possible population of deer . . . we'll say 100 deer. The reason this is the best possible is because this area of land can produce only a certain amount of food for deer . . . it can support only 100 deer.

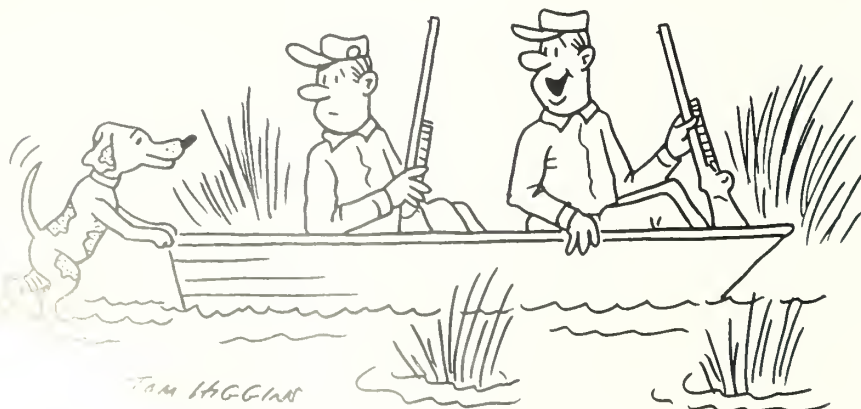
We decide we want more deer, so we continue to not hunt the area. True enough, next spring, natural reproduction results in perhaps 30 new fawns born. All seems well. Then, the following winter, times get hard. There is food for only 100 deer. None of the 130 deer have enough to eat. The strongest survive, but in weakened condition, perhaps susceptible to disease. In the meantime, the food-producing vegetation is damaged by over-browsing, so that it can provide food for only perhaps 70 deer the following year. Even though we have lost 20 deer to starvation, there are still 110 deer looking for food. Perhaps the next year we may lose virtually all of our deer herd.

The sensible thing to do would be, upon reaching the optimum level of 100 deer with an annual reproduction of 30 deer, is to have an annual harvest through legal **controlled hunting** of 30 deer. In this way, we will have the most possible deer, and all will be healthy and happy. Not hunting the herd would be the worst thing we could do for them.

Provide more food? How? The soil has only so much potential. We may raise the level of ability to support deer by planting some food patches. But we'll reach that point within a year, probably, and be back where we started . . . we'll have to hunt them or lose them.

Feed them with feeders? They'll lose their wildness, thus their ability to take care of themselves. They may also contract disease from close association at these feeders. They may even fight each other for the food. If they become accustomed to free feeding, and suddenly lose it, they'll never regain the ability to care for themselves. This again, is not a favor to the deer . . . anyway, there must be limit somewhere, on how many deer we can feed. And once again, we'll need to hunt deer.

Incidentally, it is highly important



Nothing—no one could see the way he handles a gun."

to realize that conservation is paid for by the hunter and fisherman . . . only by the hunter and fisherman. A few independent conservation organizations may give some lip service—and indeed may be helpful in molding public opinion. However, the actual work of stocking, protecting, planting feed and otherwise managing wildlife comes from the sale of hunting licenses, and federal funds. If hunting and fishing stopped, there would be no license sales, thus no conservation, and before long, much less wildlife.

We have spoken so far only of deer. While this is perhaps the best and most easily understood example, it is by no means the only species that works this way.

Quail, for example, must be hunted to be kept healthy. Again, lack of winter food and cover makes hunting a must. Of every 100 quail born this spring, only 15 to 20 have a chance of survival to reproduce next spring. This is true whether quail are legally hunted, or not hunted at all . . . it makes no difference! But this is quite all right, since those 15 or 20 quail are quite capable of producing the 100 birds next year that the range can support through the summer and all months.

What happens to the rest? If not taken by the hunter, predators will take some, starvation the rest. Starvation, believe me, is a far more cruel way to come to an end than the instantaneous termination by firearms.

Further, in hunting birds, the coveys are scattered, and the birds intermingle with other coveys. At the start of the year, all the birds in the covey are brothers and sisters. By the end of the season, when they break into pairs to mate, if they've been scattered several times, these mates will be from separate broods. This prevents inbreeding, and again makes for the strongest population.

The hunter also keeps the birds on their toes. They learn they must be careful in order to survive.

The same general patterns are true of nearly all wildlife. In the case of most species of small game, the hunter has little or no influence otherwise, on their populations. Game populations of all types are, to be very sure, controlled by man. However, under controlled hunting, it is not the hunt-

er who has the greatest effect on wildlife. The worst predator of all, on any game, is man, to be sure. Not the hunter, mind you, but the road builder, the contractor who constructs an industrial plant, the farmer who destroys weeds and brush in his fence rows, the forester who turns cropland into pine thickets which produce no food for any game what-

soever . . . the industrialist who pollutes the air and water, and destroys habitat for game; the developer who builds cities where there had been streams, woods, fields and meadows for game to live and thrive.

If we are to benefit wildlife, we must continue to hunt . . . but stop needless destruction of wildlife habitat!

Dean H. Wohlgemuth

Sportsmen Speak...



Letters of general interest will be used as possible. Letters must be brief and to the point. The number of letters received prevents us from using all letters. When several letters on the same subject are received the editors reserve the right to use only those which cover the subject best. Letters should be signed; however, names will be withheld upon request.

THANKS FOR THE GAME RANGERS

I think the game rangers are doing an outstanding job of keeping the illegal hunting down. I admire them and the fine job they are doing.

Each year about two weeks before archery season enters I scout for deer signs to see where the hunting is best. I was in Putnam County late one afternoon last week. I was coming out of a side road after looking for signs just before dark when I was stopped by three rangers looking for illegal hunters. They were nice to me as they questioned me and found out what I was doing. As I drove off I felt good about what had happened because I knew they were doing a good job of cutting down an illegal hunting and violators of all types of hunting.

I hope the rangers will keep up the good work this season and all future seasons.

Keep up the good work, rangers.

E. Howell
Milledgeville

LIKES MAGAZINE

During a five month cruise in the Mediterranean, it is indeed a distinct pleasure to receive my monthly copy of GAME & FISH magazine. You should be congratulated on your excellent layout and selection of material. I was very much impressed with the color photographs in the newer issues.

I'll miss a lot of the hunting and fishing this year, but GAME & FISH does give me a large degree of empathy with my fellow Georgia hunters and fishermen enjoying our wonderful state. Keep up the good work.

Joseph M. Respass
USS Saratogo

Everyone certainly likes to receive compliments but we are glad to know that some of our readers have noticed the changes that we have made in recent issues. We think that color photographs and additional pages with more articles makes Georgia GAME & FISH a better magazine. Comments and suggestions from our readers are always welcome.

SUPPORTS CHANNELIZING

I have been a subscriber of your magazine almost since it was started and enjoy it very much.

I am writing this letter in rebuttal to the many letters you have printed from people of all walks of life who have been running down the Soil Conservation Service.

I am in the ditching and grading business and have built a few of the private watershed ponds and have ditched quite a lot of the swampland where there has been channelization. I have been ditching today on Buffalo Creek in Corral County just south of Corroilton, Georgia. I was reared near that creek and the whole swamp has never had enough game on it to hunt, with the exception of a few buck rabbits, which were next to impossible to get to hunt. There have been no fish in the creek for at least 8 or 10 years because the stream is too polluted.

There will probably be readers who will write you and say that all I am interested in is the job of ditching the land that surrounds the creek. But if they could see the rich, moist soil that would grow fine pasture year round, I think they would change their minds. At the time I am writing this letter, the upland pasture is so dry that it would burn like a powder keg and the bottom-land pasture is much needed.

I would also like to mention the fact that I saw the pictures that WSB-TV showed on this very creek and they only showed what they wanted the public to see. I know most of the people who have land on this creek and if they had not wanted the channelization of this stream, they could have stopped it.

It is my opinion that the work that the Soil Conservation Service did on this creek has been worth the taxpayers' money.

I also believe that the Georgia Game and Fish Department and Soil Conservation Service are going to have to work together on the channelization of future streams instead of butting heads. This will never accomplish anything, but only cost the taxpayers more money. I agree with the Georgia Game and Fish Department that there are streams that should be left alone. I also think the Game and Fish Department and Soil Conservation Service should be joining forces and fighting pollution instead of each other.

I would also like to say that I am proud of the job the Game and Fish Department is doing in keeping the deer population up in the state. I am a deer hunter and hunt in a lot of the state as well as in other states. After hunting in Colorado and Canada, I still say there is nothing to compare with hunting the White Tail Deer in the hills of Georgia.

I would like to make it clear that I am solely responsible for this letter and its contents and that the Soil Conservation Service had nothing to do with some.

Max Denney
Bremen

See "Hunting The Buffalo" on page 2.

the OUTDOOR WORLD



LOCAL CONSERVATIONIST HONORED BY AMERICAN MOTORS

Mrs. Charles P. Yarn, of Atlanta, was recently presented an American Motors Conservation Award for 1971 at the annual conference of the Nature Conservancy in Savannah. Mrs. Yarn was selected as a recipient of an award in the non-professional category for her outstanding work as a private individual in the area of natural resources conservation. She was specifically cited for her efforts to preserve the islands and marshes along the Georgia coast. Working through the Garden Club of Georgia, the Nature Conservancy, the Georgia Conservancy, and S.A.V.E., Mrs. Yarn has contributed to the creation of public awareness of the value of coastal islands and natural areas.

The American Motors program, under the direction of Ed Zern, outdoor writer/humorist, has been in operation since 1953. American Motors' board chairman, Roy D. Chapin, Jr., said of the awards program, "Among problems confronting our nation today, the preservation of our natural resources assumes an imperative quality . . . our wisdom in preserving the environment will importantly determine the way of life of future generations."

Each year 20 awards are presented, 10 each in professional and non-professional categories, for dedicated efforts in the field of renewable natural resources. In addition to Mrs. Yarn's 1971 award, Game and Fish Assistant Director Jack Crockford won the 1970 award in the professional category.

—Aaron Pass

Book Review

THE WATER LORDS, Ralph Nader's Study Group Report on Industry and Environmental Crisis in Savannah, Georgia.

By James M. Fallows,
Grossman Publishers, New York,
New York.
255 pages, \$7.95.

This is a book for everyone—not just the fisherman interested in the condition of the Savannah River, not just the citizens of Savannah who must live through these problems every day—anyone who needs water for survival should read this one! The report at times becomes quite frightening and appalling and makes one realize why he must care, no matter how far from the U. S. is his home. The fact that all human beings depend on water and the misuse of water resources will prove disastrous to the future of many facets of our life. The problem of pollution, water pollution, unequal taxation, corporate arrogance, and others.

THE WATER LORDS is an excellent ecological document showing quite eloquently how man's mismanagement of his most vital and irreplaceable resources could be his final mistake.

The study group's report is very readable, giving the story of Savannah's problems from the major beginning of the river pollution in 1935 up to what is being done, or not being done, to decrease the near overwhelming pollution in 1971. The book is filled with facts, quotes, and charts documenting the information and yet all is presented in such a way that the reader does not become bogged down with statistics. Indeed, the statistics lend credibility to what might otherwise be construed as exaggerations.

Even those who have become apathetic or think they have lost their capacity for outrage will find many shocking facts in **THE WATER**

DEER POACHERS CONVICTED IN LOWNDES COUNTY CASE

An all-night stake out, shrewd detective work, and a high speed chase in the early morning hours produced the arrest and conviction of two men in the Game & Fish Department's increased war against deer poacher and night hunters.

According to Wildlife Major J. L. Atchison, Deputy Chief of Law Enforcement for the Southern Regional State Court Judge T. Guy Connell of Valdosta sentenced Willie Fred Daniels, 22, of Naylor to a 12-month sentence after Daniels pleaded guilty to charges of hunting deer out of season, hunting deer without a license, and possession of deer out of season.

Atchison said that Charles D. Bennett, 23, of Stockton, was fined \$20 and sentenced to 12 months in county jail after pleading guilty to charges of hunting deer without a license and possession of deer out of season. The jail sentence was suspended.

A pickup truck driven by Daniels and various pieces of equipment including lights, a handgun and ammunition for various weapons were confiscated, Atchison said.

The incident began when Wildlife Ranger L. C. Taylor left his home at 8 p.m. Saturday night, September 18, to patrol an area of Lowndes

LORDS. However, not all of the facts are negative. Accounts are given about the mill that proved pollution can be controlled and credit is given to the individuals and agencies that are **really** doing all possible to fight the atrocities of massive pollution and corporate deception.

Mr. Fallows also points out the unique quality and beauty of the Savannah community. The members of the study group were quite impressed by the people of Savannah in their desire to preserve the history of the city. The accomplishment of restoring this history in such a way that the past lives beautifully with the present is often praised.

THE WATER LORDS basically makes one look closely at what is being done to his air and water and ask why. Many of the whys are answered in Savannah's situation but this study is an excellent guide to follow in uncovering the reasons for matters where the pollution problem exists.

—M. H.

County where local residents had complained of night deer hunting activity. Taylor parked his vehicle just north of the Echols-Lowndes County line off Ga. Highway 135 in a position where he could observe traffic in the general area. Every two hours, Taylor would drive the dirt roads nearby and search for signs of traffic or other activity. Early the following morning, he found foot prints on one of the dirt roads and marks where an animal had been dragged into the road. Closer examination revealed blood signs and deer hairs on the bushes. Following the trail about 80 yards from the road, Taylor found the site where the animal had been killed. He found other drag signs about 1½ miles up the road, indicating that perhaps two deer had been killed that night.

Taylor radioed Biological Aide C. E. Davis for assistance. The two men searched the area thoroughly and found two expended .22 caliber rimfire cartridge hulls and tire tracks with an unusual tread design. The men decided to drive into Naylor and see if they could locate a vehicle with this style tread.

The men spotted the tracks of such a vehicle on an unpaved road in Naylor and then saw two men standing beside a pickup in a residential neighborhood. As Taylor tried to approach the men for questioning, the men hopped into their truck and sped away.

According to the ranger's report, he pursued the suspects at speeds exceeding 80 m.p.h. with siren on and red lights flashing. The truck stopped at the intersection of Ga. Highway 221 and Old State Road where the two suspects were apprehended. The chase ended at 9:30 a.m., Sunday, more than 13 hours after Taylor had begun his stake out.

The ranger reported that the truck contained meat from at least three individual deer. It was assumed that the men were attempting to sell the meat.

According to Game and Fish Director Joe D. Tanner, poaching is one of the most serious problems facing the state's deer herd. Due to increased funds from the license increase and additional training for law enforcement personnel, the Department has stepped up its fight against such violations.

—Marvin Tye

Sportsman's Calendar

RACCOON: (1) Oct. 16, 1971, through Feb. 29, 1972, in Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Barrow, Jackson, Madison, Elbert, and all counties north of those listed. Bag limit one (1) per night per person.

(2) All counties south of the above named counties are open year round for the taking of raccoons. No bag limit.

SQUIRREL: Statewide season is Oct. 16, 1971, through Feb. 29, 1972. Bag limit ten (10) daily.

QUAIL: November 20, 1971, through February 29, 1972. Statewide season. Bag limit twelve (12) daily; possession limit thirty-six (36).

RABBIT: (1) November 20, 1971, through January 31, 1972, in the counties of Carroll, Fulton, DeKalb, Gwinnett, Hall, Habersham, and all counties north of those listed will be open for rabbit hunting. Bag limit five (5) daily.

(2) November 20, 1971, through February 29, 1972, in all counties south of the above listed counties. Bag limit ten (10) daily.

WOODCOCK: November 20, 1971, through January 23, 1972. The daily bag limit shall be five (5) and the possession limit shall be ten (10). Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

COMMON (WILSON'S) SNIPER: December 11, 1971, through February 13, 1972. The daily bag limit shall be eight (8) with a possession limit of sixteen (16). Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

DUCKS AND COOTS: November 22, 1971, through January 20, 1972. Bag limit on ducks shall be three (3) daily with a possession limit of six (6); and the bag limit on coots shall be fifteen (15) daily with a possession limit of thirty (30). Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

NOTE: The limits on ducks may not include more than (a) 1 black duck daily; (b) 2 wood ducks; (c) 1 canvasback or 1 redhead. The possession limit on ducks shall not include more than: (a) 4 wood ducks; and (b) 1 canvasback or 1 redhead or 2 black ducks.

The limit on mergansers is 5 daily and 10 in possession, of which only 1 daily and 2 in possession may be hooded mergansers.

BRANT: November 15, 1971, through January 23, 1972. Daily bag limit shall be six (6). Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

SCAUP: An additional two (2) scaup daily and four (4) in possession may be taken during the regular duck season November 22, 1971, through January 20, 1972, in that portion of Chatham, Bryan, Liberty, McIntosh, Glynn, and Camden Counties lying east of the of the Intercoastal Waterway. Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

GALLINULE: November 7, 1971, through January 15, 1972. Bag limit is fifteen (15) daily and thirty (30) in possession. Shooting hours are from one-half hour before sunrise until sunset.

DOVES: Oct. 23 through Nov. 10; Dec. 18 through Jan. 15, 1972. Daily shooting hours, 12 noon prevailing time, until sunset. Bag limit, 12 per day, possession limit, 24. At no time shall the hunter have in his possession more than one daily bag limit (12) while traveling from the shooting area to his car or home.

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