

COURTESY AND CONSERVATION

When we were young, mother often reminded us that "honey catches more flies than vinegar"—a discreet way of saying that favors are granted more quickly if one's tongue isn't quite so sharp.

Mother's advice was well founded and should be seriously considered by law enforcement officers in general and state wildlife officers in particular. We conscientiously believe that the improper approach of an over-zealous conservation officer has struck a sour chord in the minds of too many well-intentioned sportsmen in the past. There have been cases reported where a surly word and belligerent attitude sent conservation-minded hunters into the woods with an "I'll thumb my nose" attitude.

Combining courtesy with politeness helps sell women's lingerie, cast gross shoes and popcorn throughout this great nation daily. If it works there why won't it show results in our chosen field—wildlife conservation?

A well-directed smile and pleasant word would work wonders in winning sportsmen's cooperation in the fight for conservation if they were utilized by wildlife officers while scanning a fisherman's license or checking a hunting party in a deep woods.

Don't get us wrong! We are not advocating pansy-wansy law enforcement methods—not by a long shot. It does our heart good to hear about stern officers trundling law-breakers off to jail after they have demonstrated contempt for the laws we have set up in desperate effort to save wildlife's very existence.

But there's a vast difference between an efficient officer and one who is "plain tough."

"... Walt Carley said, "The real secret of success is for people to do things because they want to and not because they have to."

We have something on the ball after we prove that "honey catches more flies than vinegar."—B. S.
How dependent we are all upon the affability of our soil, our water and waters, and wildlife for our daily sustenance. Are you one of those who, in the spring, go to the woods and fields full of fresh green trees, and the diverse, few找不到, and think everything is well? Well, that's what you think. Wake up, lady! You've been dreaming. Take time to write. Even if you do have a rich legacy from which your parents derived a lasting worth, and you know they would have done well to use it to protect your children to do likewise, wouldn't you.

Well, your children have failed to seize the many benefits of great value. Their future, indeed, seems to depend on the protection and wise use of this wealth. You might well ask what the farmers are doing to protect and restore these valuable possessions.

How can this be done? I'll tell you—First, acquaint yourself with the conditions of our natural resources. You might well ask: What is the exact amount of the precious resources we have in common, in nature? And you and I as well as other women cannot afford to live in ignorance about these things. You have to get to work, shoulder our part of the responsibility to protect and restore these natural resources.

Conservation is the most important subject in the world today, affecting every one of us. You will find conservation isn't just a whim or a flash in the pan idea that affects the farmers and fishermen. To ignore conservation today will mean that your grandchildren will have to share a world of bare hills, barren countryside, and utter disregard for its beautiful natural resources.

Now, to get back to your part in this great play: You have the ability to do more than plan and carry out a program to safeguard the future of your family. You have the position of a woman (sometimes a poor man), power perhaps but nevertheless

Two Alligator "Farmers" Give Their Views On the Highly Controversial 'Gator Question

The Florida 'Gator looks mean and vicious—but is it!

By W. I. DYRSDALE and F. CHARLES USINA

THE adult Florida alligator is beneficial to wildlife, predatory sportfishing, as a bountiful fish stock, a friend of all. It is an enemy of the people, harmless and distinctly dangerous.

In other words, the alligator is a contradictory creature.

As such, the alligator has been the victim of gross misunderstanding ever since the white man invaded the Floridian peninsula. For, no really sound argument has ever been supported unanimously to prove the species.

In 1891, according to figures of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, two and one-half million alligators were killed in a period of only ten years. Some are killed for sport, many lost their lives because civilized men were afraid of them and still others met death because hunters wanted their valuable hides. Alligators have been slaughtered as wantonly as the buffalo that once populated the western plains until today the spotting of a 'gator of any size anywhere in the state is a comparatively rare event. The contradictory statements about the alligator in the first paragraph are, strangely enough, true. Because the alligator is not, like the garfish, 100 per cent bad or 100 per cent good like Florida's small covers, the people don't know what to do with him.

Irate citizens point to instances in which alligators have killed human beings, to examples of alligators devouring livestock, and raise a cry for total war on alligators. On the other hand, sport fishermen realize the benefits of alligators which prey upon garfish and fish-destroying turtle. Livestock operators (some of them) appreciate the water holes the alligators so thoughtfully make for their cattle in dry seasons. Merchants are eager in the market for alligator hide. Let's survey the situation. The state protects alligators up to four feet in length, and alligators of such small size are not highly dangerous to society. A number of Florida counties prohibit the taking of alligators entirely, and all counties must observe closed seasons during the alligator's mating month of March, April and May. Baby alligators may not be shipped in interstate commerce. On the surface, such legislative protection looks good, but the human element must be considered. Nearly every alligator...

(Continued on Page 10)
Babowhite is deserting many sections of Florida because he can no longer find food for his family. Here a Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission biologist tells us how we can restock his larder.

By ROBERT W. MURRAY

It serves as a place where birds can feed without being molested by their natural enemies and must consist of plants valuable as bird foods. By bordering the woods it furnishes the birds a place where they can dart into cover if an enemy approaches. Most birds, especially quail, will not feed more than 200 yards from natural cover. They don't like to be harassed by their enemies while eating. By establishing this border of food plants, a bird habitat has been created that formerly didn't exist. There was cover in the woods but no nearby food and naturally there were very few birds present.

Plants that are selected for borders are not adversely affected by being next to timer. In fact, borders often are planted in the woods. They tolerate the shade and usually do not require a high soil moisture content. These plants are largely legumes and manufacture their own source of nitrogen. Thus, a high soil fertility is not required. And, at the same time, they are among the best bird foods known. A wide variety of them are classified as valuable bird foods. Some of the most important in Florida are the lespedezas, partridge pea, Florida legumes and many other pod-bearing herbs, shrubs and trees. Perennial legumes are better than annuals for they persist for more than a year and do not have to be re-planted each season.

Lupinoides Bicolor, one of the perennial lespedezas, is particularly well adapted to border planting in the southeast. It is a preferred bird food and is tall enough to furnish excellent cover as well as food. Its blossom is very attractive to bees for those who might be interested in agriculture. Unfortunately, a strain has not yet been developed that is entirely suited to soil and climatic conditions in Peninsular Florida. The range of the plant seems to be restricted largely to the Piedmont. It can do fairly well on the heavier clay soils in the northern part of the state. The Soil Conservation Service is experimenting with several strains in Florida at the present time in an effort to find one that can be developed commercially. Bicolor is a dependable plant which lives many years without replanting. We know of at least one plot that has been worth that is at least 50 years old. It withstands burning, disease, cutting or rabbit use and it will control erosion on recommended sites. Bicolor is a shrub that grows 1-5 feet high. By observation and food studies we know that it is a preferred food of quail. They eat the seeds in preference to their usual favorites.

Borders usually have a recommended length of around 400 feet and a width of 30 feet. This furnishes plenty of food for a covey of quail and needs to be no longer. However, borders may be placed at various sites over the farm and furnish food for several covers. For a border to be a good one it must be planted and maintained properly. The soil should be well prepared and fertilized. Maintenance requires a minimal amount of effort. The plants are usually cultivated the first year.

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Good News

It was a happy day for quail hunters when the government recently approved $95,758.06 to Florida as its share under the 1947-48 Pittman-Robertson program. Under the one-for-one matching trend of the act, Florida has contributed $1.03 to 1.75 available this year for the purpose of propagating and restocking wildlife.

A substantial chunk of the fund, calculated to put leg future dividends, is being invested in a "quail bank." State biologists are closely conducting wildlife surveys and an extensive propagation program has been instituted under the Pittman-Robertson setup.
MANATEE RIVER
Fresh water fish in this historic river take a "back seat" for a short period last month when small tarpon wandered their way from salt water to explore the river. Some fishermen suffered skinny knuckles from narrowly避免ed heart attacks when they connected with a few of the notorious tigers with tight tackle. The largest reported caught weighed 20 pounds. Fish are biting in West Lake in the southern part of the county. Worms and live bait for bream and sheelsnakes are the Dillinger, Florida bait. It's time to get for bass. Start fishing when the moon is high.

DEAD LAKES
With high water receding, bream, sheelsnake, cracker and bass are giving the angler a lot of fun again in this famous nursery of Florida fish. We are still early in the morning or late in the afternoon. The fish will be waiting for earthworms, bee worms and Castabalia worms. Yet we must keep in mind that fish will not "eat it up" in the Apalachicola river as soon as the water returns to normal level. Lucky river fishers are: Virginia Gil, Noezees Eye, Barrattmann and Stough and River Beach.

CHOCATWAHATCHEE RIVER AREA
Described from Florida, Alabama and Georgia have been getting their share of bream, brocked perch and bass in this famous northwest Florida recreational section. Earthworms, bee worms and Castabalia worms are put up on the stringers. Try your luck early mornings on the edges of the river. Recent "tips" tell us to go to Chocatwhatchee River, Indian River, Round Lake, Lake Oak Cutoff, Sistetary, Long Lake, Snookatchee Lake, Mile Lake, Biskail Lake, Pull Boat Lake, Rock's Bluff, Chub Lake, Stevens Lake, Holmes Creek, Alcaqu Creek, Morrison Springs, Cassidy Lake, Shoal River and Reddy Creek.

LAKE GENEVA AREA
Bass and trout are biting in Lake Geneva, Long Eagle, Black Creek and Bundy Lake. Recommended fishing sections: south and west sides of Lake Geneva, north of Middleburg, Black Creek, and Long Pond and Bundy Lake grass patches. Use live Slain Jim, Arbuck and drifers for bass. Change to live bait for fishing. Best fishing from dawn until 8 or 9 a.m.

BLUE CYPRESS LAKE
Black bass are biting in this lake and canals of west of Feltsmere, in Indian River County. Best catches are being made in the mouth of the streams where the water is running; and on the grassy flats near the north end of Cypress Lake. A fishing party of four caught 40 black bass in two days fishing in Blue Cypress Lake, using Johnson spoons.

PINELLAS COUNTY
Fish stringers were skinnying the first two weeks of August—all because of too much water. Lakes in this sunshine sport were full. Lake Butler and Booker Creek were out of their banks and fishermen said they were compelled to do their best fishing “in the woods.” However, fishing picked up the latter part of the month. Ruffer fish were listed as the “best” lure for traveling from mid-morning until mid-afternoon. Numerous top water baits for casting were showing good results mornings and in the late evening.

WASHINGTON COUNTY
The rivers were too high for good general fishing during the latter part of August. However, bream, warmouth and bass were striking in Hamilton, Still, Porter, Russ and Wages Lakes. Best baits: half fish, earthworms, wigglers and coffee worms. You might try your favorite casting plugs too. Live bait bagged prizes catch 11%, 8½%, 7½% and 7 pounds from Hills, Lucas and Long Lakes last month.

LAKE TALQUIN
Bluegill and black bass have been doing alright with the fishermen from the mouth of Little River to the Florida Power Dam. Many sportmen were trying their favorite baits for bass but live bait was the most successful. Bream were learning toward earthworms. Using a Slim Jim lure near Camp Star, Mrs. E. T. Stewart of Jacksonville landed an 11-pound 4-ounce bass last month.

SPORTSMEN'S CLUBS
FORTIFIED with a list of 32 valuable prizes for the winners, the Okeechobee Big Mouth Bass Contest was launched August 1, under the co-sponsorship of the Hendry County Fish and Game Association and the Lions Club of Clewiston. The contest officially opened September 12 at Clewiston when prize winners will be announced at a community fish fry and picnic. No holds are barred in the contest to catch the biggest bass in Lake Okeechobee and its tributaries except that men and women contestants are urged to be "good sportsmen" and abide by the law.

Six official weightmasters have been appointed by the contest sponsors and the lucky fisherman who connects with the biggest bass will win a brand new three horsepower outboard motor, offered by members of the Hendry County Fish and Game Association. An outright award of $50 cash is seen in the prize list which also includes valuable fishing equipment and an even an attractive makeup case for a lucky woman contestant.

"Time Out For Summer Fun" is the slogan of the contest—a contest that certainly will be a lot of fun for everyone concerned except the Okeechobee bass.—A. H. Harrington.

Landing a 10-pound 6-ounce black bass won the grand prize, a Shakespeare President reel, for Dick Macionik in the Black Bass Fishing Contest sponsored by The Kissimmee Sportsmen's Association from May 1 until July 31. The prize was donated by Ellis F. Davis, president of the association.

First prize in June, a steel rod donated by the association, was given to Tom Lakins for his 8-pound 11½-ounce bass. Other winners during the month and their prizes included Earl Luptey, 8 pounds 10 ounces, silver trophy; Ruth McManus, 8 pounds, 5 ounces, nylon line donated by Prother Accessory Store. In the plug division, H. H. Macionik, with a five-pound 14-ounce bass, won the "Box" Trophies for the Robinson Bait Co., Orlando.

In July, Dick Macionik's grand prize winning catch was followed by a monthly first prize, a thermos jug donated by the association. Other winners, the size of their catch and prizes won include:

Si Reynolds, seven-pound, nylon poncho, donated by the association; and H. H. Macionik, 6 pounds 4 ounces, two nylon lines donated by the association. In the plug division after applying for the 12-inch bunch won him a plug donated by the Robinson Bait Co.

Although the Dixie Rod and Gun Club, Sulphur Springs, was only organized in January, its members already are winning the Tampa and Plant City clubs to watch their laurels for the Dixie members are determined to pass both clubs in membership. The club recently became affiliated with the Florida Wildlife Federation.

The organization's outdoor activities include pistol and rifle range, skeet and trap shooting and archery. Included in clubroom activities are numerous indoor games as well as an indoor pugum and pistol range. A "sail" division is now being organized to promote land and water bass casting. A cold drink stand, recently installed in the clubroom, already is a money maker.

Officers include Wesley Colley, president; Helen Colley, vice-president; Earl Colley, secretary; and Cliff Goetzl, treasurer.

The Hillsborough County Wildlife Association, Tampa, plans to continue to receive at least 300 sportmen to a big meeting. The officers have scheduled for September 12. A representative of Winchester Arms Company will add pep to the meeting by exhibiting pictures of guns and books hunting as well as skeet and trap shooting. The film will run one and a half hours.

The association plans to prepare a fresh and saltwater fishing contest September 15 that will close March 1, 1948. Prizes, valued at more than $300 will be awarded the winners, including several outboard motors and fuel tanks, and valuable rods. Prizes are listed for those in fish water jack, perch, blue gill bass, shell cracker and steel. In the salt water division, prizes will go to the best speckled trout and longest mackerel. The contest is limited to members of the association, however any good sportsman can become a member and compete by paying $5, which will put them in good standing until the contest closes.—W. D. LeMotte.
National Federation Offers Prizes for Best Wildlife Poster

Many Prizes Awarded in Daytona's Contest

Daytona Beach—Prizes were awarded to 137 lucky fishermen when the first Putnam County Group Joins the Federation

Many prizes were awarded in Daytona’s contest.

Daytona Beach—Prizes were awarded to 137 lucky fishermen when the first Putnam County Group Joins the Federation

PALATA—A group of Putnam county sportsmen, meeting here recently, adopted the name of the Putnam County Sportsmen’s Association and then voted unanimously to affiliate with the Florida Wildlife Federation.

The members approved a charter establishing a new association as a non-profit organization and selected this city as headquarters.

The board of directors includes: C. D. Anderson, A. M. Heilick, F. V. Oliver, Hor- hor Ben, Harold N. Huber, G. R. Hunter, Kenneth Milne and Forrest Wood. Charter members, in addition to the above, are: A. P. Oliver, Capt. Noah Tilghman, Julian C. Calhoun and John Barry Davis.

Official of the Federation and the Game and Fish Commission recently at the Plantation home of Louis A. Page, 13 Withlows south of Tallahassee. Left to right: Page, Louis A. Page, F. V. Oliver, Chester Ben, Harold N. Huber, Capt. Noah Tilghman, Julian C. Calhoun. Also present were: Chester Stappenbeck, Dr. J. N. Kennedy, Russian Fishing Commissioner, and S. E. Al-

The club members voted to work hard in hand with state conservation officers in the Whitehall woods until the “critical” period ends the last of the month.

Association committee, after meeting with game and fish officers, agreed to keep min-

bees, bats, birds, fish, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, other living things in their habitat.

To be included in the first annual meeting of the group, now to be held in the Whitehall woods, are: Chester Stappenbeck, Dr. J. N. Kennedy, Russian Fishing Commissioner, and S. E. Al-}

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Boarding House for Quail

(Continued from Page 3)

until they become established. If materials are used the only maintenance required in successive years is discarding and fertilizing every third year to keep weeds and brush down and stimulate reproduction. To assure a good production the borders should not be grazed by livestock. Back in the prehistoric "good old days" as it is said by some that we have heard grandpa tell about, when quail were plenti- ful, other conditions were ideal for the birds. His system of clearing small patches of timber plus diversification farming made a very suitable environment for game such as the bob-white. Old unplanted grain fields in small patches and surrounded with fence borders. Every rail fence was a natural wildlife border and a paradise for quail. The quail population jumped to an all-time high! Then came the large-scale clean method of tractor farming and overgrazing. The natural borders of food and cover were destroyed. The quail population dropped. The farm was "not balanced" and we began fighting destructive insect outbreaks. Now, after restocking and law enforcement have failed to restore the old border ideas and a conservative, balanced system of farming. We have realized that we cannot "balance the "balance of nature" and continue to prosper. Don't be like Farmer Jones and believe that you can. If you enter into a farm enters into your Soil Conservation Service work-unit conservation agreement. Tell him you are interested in a wildlife border. Let's offer the quail a new building as soon as possible.

It's Our Fight Too

(Continued from Page 2)

You have gained too much and have a great deal to lose. You will want to share your experiences with other women. Organize a club of your own, or ask the men if they would like to have you in their club. I think the men will be eager to take you in. Don't be afraid to help the teenagers form their clubs. Then get to work and plan concrete programs for conservation enlightenment for your community. Wildlife films, talks by foresters, game wardens and expert shot and trapshoppers will add zip and life to your meetings. Write to the information office and interesting books on the outdoors: put them around in the living room where the children will pick them up. Don't be surprised if you see them engrossed after awhile. We are carrying out a program of conservation enlightenment in our own club and our membership has increased surprisingly. We have also inspired women coming to our meetings now as men, and the youngsters are taking an active part. At the present day, we had as our guests one of the scout troops in town. We showed them the birds and wildlife and had refreshments after several interesting talks by sportsmen. The boys said that they didn't know how to do it, but they did it just to show them how to do what you have planned to do to protect the birds and wildlife. See? America needs you! Education and conservation today is the compass that will guide our ship of fate. You can't afford to ignore its directions. We must battle to save our dwindling wildlife and waster of Florida. Don't leave it up to the menfolk. Remember, its our fight, too!

Oh yes, I forgot to tell you——Mr. Perkins just came by and asked for his club card. I gave it to him and he bade fair to never forget. "These gold-darned women, 'Bout time they got to do something useful."
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**FLORIDA WILDLIFE**

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**SEPTEMBER, 1947**
Airplane Employed To Snare Violators

Ultra-modern equipment was employed recently by Ludell Burdell, Fourth District Wildlife officer, in capturing two of the larger birds of prey, in addition to the various, smaller birds. The birds were first sighted in the Everglades area, near Everglades City, and were tagged with clay (1) to keep them from migrating. The equipment consists of an ultraviolet camera and an ultrasonic device, which emits a high-frequency sound wave that the bird can detect. When the bird comes within range of the ultrasonic device, the camera automatically takes a picture. The camera is equipped with a timer that allows it to take pictures at regular intervals, even if the bird is not visible. The pictures are stored on a memory card, which can be retrieved later for analysis. This technology is used to study bird migration patterns, habitat use, and the effects of habitat degradation on bird populations. The equipment is portable and can be set up in remote locations without the need for a human operator. This allows researchers to study bird behavior in real-time, without disturbing the birds. The equipment is also used for conservation purposes, such as wildlife management and habitat restoration. In this case, the equipment was used to catch two large birds of prey, which were then transported to a rehabilitation facility for further observation. The equipment is a valuable tool for wildlife management and conservation efforts, allowing researchers to study bird behavior and ecology in real-time, without disturbing the birds.
 spending time with his wife and four children. He enjoys reading, hiking, and playing golf in his free time.

In his professional life, Mr. Harris has held various leadership roles in the diamond industry. He has been a member of the American Gem Society and is a graduate gemologist. He has also served on the board of directors for several local non-profits and is passionate about supporting the arts and education.

Mr. Harris is a dedicated family man and is very involved in his community. He is active in the local Boy Scouts troop and volunteers at his children's schools. He is also a member of the local Rotary Club and participates in community service projects.
EITHER THIS DICTIONARY IS WRONG OR THERE ARE A LOT OF FOLKS AROUND HERE CALLING THEMSELVES BY THE WRONG NAME!

Why Call Them Sportsmen?