FLORIDA WILDLIFE'S Fishing Citation

"for that BIG ONE that DIDN'T get away"

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

All fish must be taken from the fresh waters of the state of Florida, as defined by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. Fish must be caught on conventional fly, spinning, or bait-casting tackle, with artificial or live bait, in the presence of at least one witness.

The catch must be weighed and recorded at a fishing camp or tackle store within the state by the owner, manager, or an authorized agent of the respective establishment.

Application for a Florida Wildlife Fishing Citation must be made within 10 days of the date fish was caught. Application must be made on the prescribed form as shown on this page. (Requests for additional forms should be addressed to Florida Wildlife Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Florida.)

Citation, showing recorded date of the catch, will be mailed to the applicant upon receipt of application form that has been properly filled out and signed.

The receipt of any and all photographs pertaining to the registered catch, including the applicant and the fish, will be appreciated by the editor for use in Florida Wildlife Magazine.

Florida Wildlife Fishing Citations are available without charge to any and all subscribers to Florida Wildlife Magazine, and their immediate families, who catch any of the following fresh-water game fish at the prescribed size requirements:

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<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>SHELLCRACKER</th>
<th>LARGEMOUTH BASS</th>
<th>BLACK CRAPPIE</th>
<th>BLUEGILL (BREAM)</th>
<th>RED BREAST</th>
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<tr>
<td>Weight</td>
<td>2 pounds or larger</td>
<td>8 pounds or larger</td>
<td>2 pounds or larger</td>
<td>1½ pounds or larger</td>
<td>1 pound or larger</td>
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FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION
Tallahassee, Florida

Published monthly by the
Dedicated to the
Conservation, Restoration, Protection of Our Game and Fish

BILL HANSEN, Editor
MORRIE NAGGIAR, Associate Editor
C. L. SATTERFIELD, Circulation
CHUCK SCHILLING, Fishing Editor
EDMUND MCLAURIN, Gun Editor

February, 1958
STRIKES and Backlash

Ocala Deer Stand

Dear Sir:

November 38 -- opening day, at 7:45 A.M., I shot a 130 pound deer in the Ocala National Forest. The buck fell into a 20 foot soil road on the 171 south of road 20, and was marked with an official aluminum plate bearing this legend -- Built by McLaughlin 1966. If your gun editor is responsible for my successful hunt, many thanks. I thoroughly enjoy FLOYD WILDLIFE. Yours for more good standing gun hunting.

Charles B. Hewlett St. Petersburg, Fla.

Yes, our gun Editor built that stand you succeeded on last Opening Day. He says that he is glad to hear that you hung a buck from one of his stands; says you, and others, are welcome to use any of his stands whenever you don’t find has in occupancy.

CONSERVATION LAW

Dear Sir:

I am indebted to Mr. M. Y. Joiner of the Florida Department of Highways, Jacksonville, for introducing me to your state publication. I liked the first copy so much that I subscribed and read the first edition that I received from cover to cover and, in my modest opinion, it is not only the best the island has, but is the most important thing that has happened for wildlife conservation than the laws on the laws on

C. Grant McKenna Jamaica, N.Y.

SHAD FISHING

Dear Editor:

I found Mr. Rios’s article about shad fishing very interesting. Several years ago I caught some fish in the Dead Lakes, near Key West and the Panana City which my guide called shad. We used to fish from boats and at the beach and it was a very good fish and I am wondering if they are the same kind as those caught in the St. Johns.

Ralph Rogers Gainesville, Fla.

The fish you caught in the Dead Lakes area were undoubtedly alebrieh shad. The alebrieh shad is found in the Northern Florida waters is a fairly strict resident than small surface schools and will even take

THE OTTER

Dear Sir:

In the October 1977 issue, Whether or not the Florida otter is endangered. Florida Fish & Wildlife, No. 1, p. 1-5. I read this article with great interest. We have two otters alive in our yard. They are about 5 months old. Fed them with fish, but they would not eat other food. We also recently killed a newt.

The oyster bed in the yard was dug up when it was moved into a digging basin on Oct. 1, 1977, and when we moved it in, we were never able to catch them again. When the low water prevailing, the river he left with his family. We were never able to catch them again. When the low water prevailed, the river he left with his family.

CORTICINE AGAIN

Gentlemen:

I am very much interested in the subject of corticines in your magazine now. Part of my job as a Son of Nature to teach self-preservation in the natural. Some scientists say that a big part of the paper is anything new about treatment that is made public as soon as possible.

Jack Brown Chenango, N.Y.

The only information that I know about the house is that Dr. W. Deichmann, Pharmacologist from Miami University, Colorado, is working on an article about Corticines for make. It’s available to be published.

BOAT PROBLEMS

Gentlemen:

I just received my first copy of your magazine and wish to say how highly I would like to have it. One of the interesting comments written by one of the USAF, Ralph L. Prosser, was beautiful as he had to say in my reading of the following statement. This is the most important of the projects is quite interesting to me I would have wondered if I could get a copy of the report from 1977 issue. Now I am working Fiber Craft, I am interested in their flying habits and want to know if you are interested in the research that is being made today.

Charles M. Gray Tampa, Fla.

APALACHEE GEES

By DON MANNING

A GOOD MANY YEARS ago moving Canada goose were passed through the Apalachicola River drainage country on their way to the wintering grounds in the vicinity of St. Marks, Florida. Occasionally a flock would pitch down to rest and feed in a convenient corn field before moving on. Only now and again a hunter might succeed in bagging one of the highly prized bookers. Any way you please, just as the last flock was spotted we never were able to catch them either. When the low water prevailed, the river he left with his family.

Jack Welton Lake Wales, Fla.

Fisheating Creek was a good seven miles away from the main stream. The island group is generally covered with the oak savannah, which is the only species in the area. We were never able to catch them again. When the low water prevailed, the river he left with his family.

Judging by the results experienced in other places, the annual birds should form the nucleus of a regular wintering population in the Apalachicola area.

Florida Wildlife

FEBRUARY, 1978
FISHING

By CHUCK SCHILLING

Philopotamus

In case you are puzzled about the title of this paragraph, let me explain. Philopotamus is a Latin term meaning friend, or lover, of the river. By the same token, hippopotamus means horse of the river, or river horse. My authority for all this is Ernie Lyons, Editor of the STUART NEWS (Florida), who claims to be the only walking, talking philopotamus in Florida operating under proper nomenclature. Ernie Lyons is the kind of guy who puts great store in proper names. If he says so, philopotamus must be right and proper. He warns me that the plural is not "philopotamuses," as I carelessly suggested, but "philopotamis," in the classic manner.

If Ernie Lyons is the only philopotamus in the state, there are thousands of us who love rivers fervently without the blessing of proper title. I have many friends who have been practicing the philopotamus trade for many years and enjoying every minute of it.

One of these is Steve Trombult, Roving Reporter for the MIAMI HERALD. Steve has an ambition to travel all the major rivers of the United States. At every opportunity, this philopotamus is off to the headwaters of another stream to launch his boat in an adventure of river cruising. In fact, Trombult is now doing a popular series of river stories for the HERALD'S Sunday Supplement.

People are interested in rivers, and they like to read about them.

Lazy Living

If you have never spent a few days or weeks on a river, you have missed one of the most rewarding outdoor experiences. I have been a philopotamus all my life. I was raised in Kentucky close to the spot where the Licking River meanders into the broad waters of the Ohio. I had traveled the whole length of both of these rivers, via canoe, before I had escaped my teens. I've cruised and floated many rivers in all parts of the country since then, always getting a terrific thrill out of it.

In my youth, river cruising was an all summer undertaking. I used to pack a simple, camping outfit put in my canoe in any river handy, and eventually wind up on the Mississippi about the same time the last straw was on the pumpkin. This was our living in fantasy. The world is a river far removed from the world of everyday affairs. We're along, my companion and I, our baggage downstream a few inches each day but sometimes staying a week or more at some scenic spot.

We bade and swam, эксплорировали the creeks and countryside, with fly rod for sport and with trotline to catch fish and chicken farmers for fruit, vegetables, and an occasional piece of meat. Our needs were simple. We could not have lived for weeks at a time without spending a dime or visiting a store.

Sunshine Parkways

Florida has Sunshine Parkways that are innocent of tollbooths or mileage fees. These have been here since long before the first white man checked into the local tourist office. Florida's rivers are bathed in sunshine, and the country they flow thru is as near to perfect, natural parks as you are likely to find. The Florida philopotamus is in a wonderful spot to carry on his trade.

If you have a yen to try a spot of river cruising, don't deny it. Sunshine State is less difficult in the Sunshine State. There are literally hundreds of Florida rivers, springs, and creeks waiting to unfold their treasures before you. The secret of successful river cruising is slowness. "Take it easy" should be your motto. One mile an hour is considered good going. Two miles an hour are considered good going in this league.
A "FULL HOUSE" gallery moving by horse, hunting wagon and jeep observed the birch dog field trials held Dec. 7 and 8 under sponsorship of the Columbia County Sportsmen's Club of Lake City. Three stakes were judged by H. R. Wilber, C. R. Monroe of Clearwater, with competition in the amateur-age all, member's shooting dog and amateur der. by stakes. There were sufficient birds for satisfactory judging in every respect.

Trials were held on the property of Frank Oosterhouse, one of that of his neighbors, Mr. Oosterhouse has a 22,000 acre plantation. Results will be published in an early issue of The Action.

Field trials are an important activity of Federation clubs. The regional amateur championship for southeastern states is scheduled for the last week in January and will be held at the Charlotte County quail preserve near Punta Gorda. Preliminary competition for the southern part of the state was sponsored by the Everglades Conservation and Sportsman's Club of Miami.

The Governor's awards were scheduled for selection at a meeting Jan. 14 in the offices of the Game Commission in Tallahassee.

The first annual awards banquet was set for Feb. 1 in Tallahassee, to be attended by the Governor, members, representatives from the Sears, Roebuck and Co., National Park Service and stores, directors of departments involved in the awards program and award recipients in addition to officers of the Federation, Outdoor Writers, and Conservation Council and members of the press.

In clarifying the standards, the Governor's awards, representatives from the Sears, Roebuck and Co., and the National Park Service were so financed and so staffed as to offer the public the full use of the possibilities for which the parks are created, rather than what we see over the whole United States today—a dwindling of park care personnel and care which should be forthcoming in both accommodations and the various branches of care necessary to such a public utility. Needless to say, the Federation will oppose any movement which might be used as a front for development. Our efforts have to date been in vain, always resulting in the cancellation of those things for which the Federations are now famous. Continuing a series of successful meetings.

Florida Wildlife Federation. Commercial fishing interests and Outdoor Writers held Miami convention, Nov. Federation was represented by H. R. Wilber, president, and R. B. Bon, past president and chairman of the executive vice president.

Summing up results of past meetings, members of the group came to the conclusion that the snook fishery is not in as bad a condition as was feared. One of the most important concerns was the protection of the snook fishery, which is in a bad state, and the Federation has been working hard to improve the situation. The group also discussed the need for better law enforcement to protect the fishery.

Concerning local laws, the group discussed the importance of laws concerning the protection of the fishery. They pointed out that the recent increase in the number of biologist and conservationists working in the area has been a positive development. The group also discussed the need for better law enforcement to protect the fishery.

The bulletin quoted a United Press story stating, "Enslowisher said that he did not see how the defense budget can be cut below $38 billion. But he held out some hope of cuts by cutting back on other programs like water pollution..."

The Wildlife Management report states that the program has been successful and that conservationists will be chagrined at any reduction.

In the annual report, the Governor's awards were presented to individuals who have made significant contributions to the preservation of Florida's natural resources. The Governor's awards are given each year to recognize the efforts of individuals who have contributed to the state's wildlife and natural resources.

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By EDMUND MCLAURIN

**Rifle Tournament**

If you're ever aspiring to be a champion rifle or pistol shot, then March is your month—whether your horoscope says so or not.

For it is during March, the month that usually roars in like a lion and goes out like a lamb for most states, that the national mid-winter open rifle and pistol tournaments are held in already sunny Florida, and new champions named.

Opening with four full days of competitive, prove position, 22 caliber rifle shooting on the outdoor range of the Sunshine Rifle Club, St. Petersburg, the annual activity customarily crosses Tampa Bay, via the six mile long Gandy Bridge, to embrace five days of stand-on-your-feet-and-shoot-up-competitive-pistol matches on the modern outdoor range of the Tampa Police Pistol Club.

The magic dates this year are March 11 to 14, inclusive, for the National Mid-Winter Smallbore Rifle Tournament, held at St. Petersburg each March, are women. They can shoot too — - - as you will soon find out when you try to out-score them!

**Putting up targets in preparation for firing of one of the open competitive matches at the annual Tampa Mid-Winter Pistol Tournament, Suwanee, Top: C. A. Brown, Tampa, has long been recognized as an outstanding competitive shooter; bottom: Larry Chambers, Winter Haven, Florida's Women’s Pistol Champion.**
PRINCE of the WOODLANDS

BY MORRIE NAGGIAR

Everyone knows, of course, that the dangerous trend was being a time. Under protection the gray squirrel followed the recouping of a once neglected area, back into the squirrel population. In recent years, squirrel hunting in Florida has become a popular activity, comparable to those of other states but sufficient to offer a good deal of excitement to the sportsmen each season.

No Florida hunter needs to be reminded how important the gray squirrel is in the natural economy of the state. The Commissary Game Management Division reports the annual bag of squirrels in Florida exceeds the one million mark by a considerable margin. On the basis of numbers harvested, the gray ranks in importance with the quail and the dove, two highly prized Deep South favorites.

The gray tail, boldblack game farmer, is a timid creature, rates hardly a nod in Florida where hunters have ample opportunity to meet with the nimble bodied squirrel.

Throughout its range, the gray squirrel is primarily an animal of the forest, least affected by the habitat requirements of hardwood forest. In Florida, the recovery of hardwood forest has been aided by the numerous and widely scattered hammocks and swamps. These areas are the centers of the squirrel population.

FLORIDA WILDLIFE

February, 1958

At about six weeks of age the young begin moving about the home tree and soon gain enough confidence to strike out on their own.

Leaf nests are usually common in good squirrel territory.

 pronto to be the most important factor determining the extent to which a particular woodland is inhabited by squirrels. Caves and hollow trees are usually quite common in mixed forest growths containing gum, oak, and hickory.

Leaf nests are usually common in good squirrel territory.

(Continued on Page 38)
...AND STILL CHAMPION

Bait-casting tackle is making a comeback and it gladdens this bass-addicts heart

By RUSSELL TINSLEY

To really brew a controversy, take a stand in merits of casting tackle versus spin gear, or with the next time a group of anglers gather. A fair method is strictly a personal choice. I ought to know better, but for what it’s worth, here is what I’ve got.

To satisfy my curiousity, I took a personal last summer of the first 100 bass fishermen I met as to each of the group of tackle. The results were surprising. Eighty were casters, sixteen used spin outfits, one a fly-rod and three were armed with any care-poles. This I’m sure, was a fairly accurate sampling, although even I didn’t expect the percentage of pluggers to be so one-sided.

At a bass fishing tournament I attended last July, not one of the 267 experienced participants used spinning gear. Several of them interviewed admitted that they had experimented with spinning gear, but found conventional casting gear to be more reliable for bass fishing.

Me, I prefer the casting method myself, I do have four spinning rigs that I employ for various purposes. I start by my pet: a six-foot, light-action glass rod, a reeling with 10-pound test line, and an eight-pound leader of six-foot length. Bait casting is the sole fishing method of America’s origin. Four generations of anglers have been accustomed to hardwire with casting rigs with little alteration in technique, except for the refinements that come with time.

Spinning has made its impact on the American fishing scene, and to this is due the Allen method. Europe one of the greatest advancements has been made in bait casting, and the trend toward progressive smaller lures and lighter tackle.

Most of the regular bass plugs are in the six-class, but today more miniatures are showing up on the market.

Many Florida bass anglers feel that 1/16-inch test line is ideal for when fishing waters where snags, lily pads, weeds or other obstructions are common.

Foot hollow-bottom rod, you can use bass lures for phenomenal distances with wrist-action alone, and you can bull’s-eye your cast within a very small area.

The wrist and forearm should do all the work in casting. By whipping the rod back vertically and starting it forward again the minute it reaches a peculiar, particular position, your arm power will flex the rod against the weight of the lure, and the rod, in turn, will pull out the bait. The more flexible the rod, the more distance you’ll naturally gain with smaller lures. But the average fisherman must sacrifice some of the pliantness in order to get a rod sturdy enough to drive a hook into a bass’ tough mouth and turn it once it heads for the safety of cover.

I’ve learned the secret of using so-called medium-size plugs—those two to four inches long, 3/4 to 1 ounce in weight—mainly by talking with a myriad of anglers while in quest of material for my daily newspaper column. But I also ramrod a experiment with two fishing buddies that confirmed my beliefs.

Charley, Eddie and I agreed to try our bass research over a six-month span, March through August, for conclusive results. Charley, a light-tackle specialist, accepted the challenge of tiny spinning lures while I was to use medium-size plugs and Eddie larger ones.

Overall, my catch was by far the best, from the standpoint of best average size. As suspected, Charley caught the most bass, although not near as many (Continued on Page 30).
For Better FISHING

By E. T. "RED" HEINEN, Chief
Fish Management Division

TREATMENT of the 31,000 acre lake required many barrels of the highly concentrated liquid rotenone.

In the central Florida counties of Lake and Osceola lies Lake Apopka. This 31,000 acre body of water had, over the years, earned itself a reputation as a consistent producer of game fish.

During a short period in the spring of 1957, a random check was made at 105 poled-out boats on Lake Apopka. Of the slightly more than 100 anglers engaged, not a specimen was less than the five pound limit.

The average weight fell between five and six pounds—and this from the catches of these bass fishermen, from the lowest dub to the expert.

During this same period of time, bass angling skillful of anglers were catching fish and many times every fish they landed was only natural that anglers were seeking elsewhere for their sport. Business declined, and fishing days took their toll. It was all the heart of the community had held to stop the boating. Gone were the fish; missing also were the fishermen with their freely spent pesos.

Similar adverse factors had a strangle hold on other lakes in the vicinity. With the situation on a down-grade, it became glaringly apparent that just how important the sport fishing was in the economy of the section. With salaries up, the一直是 increasing time available for recreational pleasure, local sportsmen had the means and the inclination to seek greater pastimes. The travel they did, but away from Apopka.

In the face of the disaster, sportsmen's groups were drawn towards the commonwealth. They, the once far-damed fishing, "do something, anything, to save back fishing in our lakes," was the cry.

One of the more prominent groups to become interested in a project was the P.I.S.H. the Florida Inland Sportsfishing Hosts. This organization, composed of fishing camp operators, guides and buyers whose livelihood hinges on good fishing.

It was only natural, then, that the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission should be drawn into the picture. If the Commission's fish technologists could determine the cause of the poor fishing—and offer a remedy—probably arrangements could be worked out to finance the operation. Unquestionably any cure would involve a considerable outlay in cash. "Just tell us what is wrong, first," said P.I.S.H. and the other groups.

Accordingly, early in 1956, a survey team under the supervision of Mel Hous and Harold Mooney, two of the Commission's competent technicians, was assigned to investigate the Apopka situation and to submit a report as soon as possible.

Fortunately, there was available a considerable body of data collected by fisheries personnel during the heyday of Apopka's fishing. At that time, hault seine and gill nets had been used to sample the fish population. All rough fish, such as gars, mudfish, and gizzard shad, taken by these nets, were destroyed. Studies were made to determine if such activity would benefit the fishing.

The technicians were aware, even at that time, that something was not exactly "Right" about the lake. For one thing, it is not common to catch only large bass from any body of water. A well balanced, productive lake contains all sizes of fish. The absence of all bass hinted at impending disaster even at a time when anglers were reaping a rich harvest. The netting project was discontinued after a few months since the operation proved to be too expensive for the Commission to finance with its limited revenues.

The survey team, utilizing nets and poison to check the fish population, found that the bass had decreased considerably in numbers. At the same time gizzard shad had increased to the point where they made up more than 90% of all the fish present in the lake. There was also a super-abundance of small thread-fin shad. These are important species for bass but they can become so numerous that bass and other game fishes are literally crowded out of a lake. In some bodies of water, shad may make up as high as 90% of the total fish. This then was the cause for the poor fishing in Lake Apopka. What was the remedy?

Commission technicians have long used a chemical rotenone—in lake renovation work. This material is a poison that causes suffocation of fishes through action on their gills. The chemical is nothing new. It has been used for centuries by natives of the Amazon Region and other portions of South and Central America, to kill fish for food purposes. Instead of the primitive material, however, industrial know-how has turned out a refined, highly concentrated rotenone solution that is easy to handle and is very efficient.

In renovating bodies of water with rotenone, technicians attempt to kill all fish present. After a suitable clearing period, the treated water is restocked with the numbers and species calculated to best fit the potential of the lake or pond.

During the course of reclamation work, it was noted that invariably shad would become distressed before game fish and other species showed signs of being affected by the poison. This suggested some interesting possibilities to Fisheries Technicians Mel Hous and Harold Mooney. He began a series of experiments with carefully controlled rotenone concentrations. After doing extensive work on the problem, Mel succeeded in determining within a very narrow margin, the concentration required to kill gizzard shad without harming bass and other game fishes. The susceptibility of shad to rotenone is especially marked in the young, smaller sized individuals. When poisoned was in sufficient concentration to destroy larger shad, the game fish were also killed.

The technicians determined that shad live only three or four years. Logically, then, if they could kill off most of the small shad for three or four successive years, they could control excessive populations of shad. The adult shad missed by the poison would die off by itself.

(Continued on Next Page)
(Continued from Previous Page)

simply running out their life cycle. This, then, was the reason it worked.

Test lakes were chosen and poisons administered in the required minute concentrations. Experimental treatments of Newman's Lake near Gainesville and Lake Trafford in Collier County were successful. In both cases huge poundages of fish were destroyed. Less than one-half of one percent of the total fish kill was comprised of game species.

In Lake Morton at Lakeland approximately 5,000 pounds of fish were destroyed for each acre of area. Here the sport fishing took a definite and immediate upswing. Speckled perch fishing actually improved overnight. Bass fishing improvement took longer since the few bass that had survived the pressure from the dead bass had not successfully raised a brood of young for some time. Within a year the bass had spawned and the resultant fingerlings had attained sufficient size to interest anglers.

With the cause and the remedy for Apopka's serious fishery decline now known, the next step was to determine how much money would be required to treat the lake. Basic to such calculations is a survey to determine the average volume of water in the lake in order to control the roteneon concentration. Also, since it has a definite bearing on the results, chemical analysis was collected. This survey was assigned to Pete Crittenden, unit leader, and his Lake and Stream Survey staff.

After several weeks of careful survey and calculation it was determined that the cost of the initial application of roteneon would be $50,000. But where was the money to come from? The Commission fully realized the necessity for such expenditure but with its limited funds it was not possible to budget the necessary $50,000 for the required three applications.

The 1957 Legislature provided part of the answer when there was passed an appropriation bill allocating $250,000 to the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission to be spent for the improvement of fish rearing throughout the state. Governor Collins had signed such a bill in his address to the Legislature and, too, saw the need for more development such as promoting sport fishing.

Senator John Sutton of Orange County, it was said, other County officials, helped by getting a bill passed in the Legislature authorizing Orange County to collect an additional fifty cents on the sale of fishing license purchased within the County. The accumulating funds from this source were spent to improve fishing in Orange County. In other Orange County officials also indicated that they would contribute to the project.

Mutual agreements were finally worked out. Mr. State Cabinet agreed to release sufficient funds for the second application, Orange and Lake Counties agreed to support the third and final annual treatment.

The Commission would supply the equipment, personnel, and technical know-how for all phases of the operation.

Since low water temperatures tend to nullify the effects of the toxicant, the first operation was scheduled to begin as soon as possible after the financial situation was settled. Accordingly, bids specification for chemical use were published, and several companies engaged in the aerial spraying business were invited to bid. The S. B. Penick Co. of New York was awarded the bid for the poison. Southern Air Express, Inc. of Gainesville agreed to make the application of treatment by airplane.

Never before had there been such a large scale spraying operation. Since it is necessary for maximum results, to treat the entire lake within a maximum of 24 hours, it was decided to spray the 4,000-acre lake in a maximum of five days.
I see Jim Mullins coming out of Andy's Tackle this morning and I walk over to say hello. I go fishing with Jim about two months ago, and a few little things went wrong and I don't see Jim again for little while. Then I see him three weeks ago and a few more unfortunate things happen and this is the first time I see him in three weeks. I say, "Hello Jim!" His face has an unhappy expression when he answers.

He tells me, "Hello." He does not sound enthusiastic. I notice he is carrying a package, kind of behind him. Almost as if he is trying to hide it from me.

I say, "Whataya got in the box, Jim?"

He shows me.

I say, "Pretty big bullets, Jim." He tells me, "They are not bullets. They are shells. Shotgun shells."

He appears discouraged.

I say, "Jim, you want some mints for your upset stomach?"

He tells me, "That's not what's bothering me. I was feeling fine, up until a few minutes ago."

I say, "Going hunting, pal?"

He tells me, "I . . . . . . no. That's . . . . you see, these are for my brother."

I say, "I would like to congratulate your mother." He tells me, "What?"

I say, "Last month you tell me you are an only child. I would like to congratulate your mother."

His smile gets sick, like it is pasted on. He tells me, "Ha ha ha."

I have heard better ha ha ha's from my dog and I let him know this fact.

He tells me, "Can't you take a joke? Can't you see I am only joking, ha ha ha?"

I wait.

He tells me, "As a matter of fact, they are for me, of course. I plan to do a little skoot shooting tomorrow."

I wait.

He braces his shoulders. He tells me, "I suppose you'll be too busy to come along?"

I say, "I have always wanted to shoot a skoot or two."

I hear they are good eating. He gets the indignation again.

I say, "You sure you don't want a mint?"

He has a little and shakes his head.

He tells me, "Look, maybe you'd rather say hung tomorrow."

I shake my head.

I say, "Jim, never fear. I am a good shot. You will not be disgraced."

He tells me, "Be honest. I couldn't stand anything like what happened when we went fishing."

I draw myself up haughtily.

I say, "Jim, let us not dig up the dead past I must shoot!"

He looks at me a reflective moment. Finally he man up his mind.

He tells me, "Not skoot. Ducks. We're going duck hunting."

I say, "Oh?"

He tells me, "What do you mean, 'Oh'? Have you had any experience with ducks?"

Well, of course, if I am going to answer in the instant sense, it would have to be "No," as no other word is the truth, but if I am going to answer in the poetic sense, then it would have to be "Yes," because I am "No," then Jim will say "No" too.

I say, "Yes."

He tells me, "You certainly took long enough to decide."

He is suspicious.

I say, "I was thinking about the ducks."

This is a stroke of sheer genius. It convinces him.

He tells me, "H'm. Maybe you have done some. But in Florida we seldom bother with them."

I press my advantage.

I say, "I would like dogs."

He tells me, "Well, it would make things easier. Could anything in mind?"

I say, "My wife's friend has a dog."

He sounds interested. He tells me, "What kind?"

I say, "I think it's a French poodle."

His face gets red and his eyes take on a glint of passion and he makes strangling noises.

I say, "Jim, you'd better take that with you. He half focuses one bleary eye on me. His voice is croak.

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LOOK JIM

LISTEN JIM

BY DAVID ROSS

He tells me, "Just what the hell did you say?"

I say, "I've made a possible mistake. We have a little and shakes his head. He tells me, "Look, maybe you'd rather say hung tomorrow."

I shake my head.

I say, "Jim, never fear. I am a good shot. You will not be disgraced."

He tells me, "Be honest. I couldn't stand anything like what happened when we went fishing."

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FEBRUARY, 1958

FLORIDA WILD

ALL THE WAY OUT TO THE MARSH

JIM IS STRANGELY SILENT. MY FUNNIEST EFFORTS TO MAKE HIM SAY SOMETHING, SO AS TO GAIN FURTHER INFORMATION, REMAIN UNSUCCESSFUL. IT IS NOT AT ALL EASY TO GET HIM TO TALK, EVEN TO ASK HIM A QUESTION.

I sit down on the curb to wait. I soon begin to feel drowsy. It would be so easy to drift off into sleep, but this I am determined not to do.

It is with some surprise, therefore, that I feel myself being cruelly shoved and pummeled a few moments later.

I look around, rubbing my eyes, and sure enough it is Jim. I smile.

I say, "Hiya Jim. Must have dozed slightly."

He tells me, "I could hear you snoring clear across the square."

I stand up haughtily.

I say, "Jim, I am not in the habit of being woken."

I was merely resting my eyes.

I am about to say more, when I notice his eyes. They were flickering down and down from the top of my outfit to the bottom. Each time they complete the round trip, they seem to get a little wider.

I wait.

He tells me, "Green Bermuda shorts. Pith helmet. Target pistol."

I say, "Jim, Would you give me a hand?"

He looks up from where he is doing something with a shotgun.

He tells me, "What's the trouble?"

I say, "These damn boots. They're not comfortable.

All the way out to the marsh Jim is strangely silent. My funniest efforts to make him say something, so as to gain further information, remain unsuccessful. It is not at all easy to get him to talk, even to ask him a question.

I sit down on the curb to wait. I soon begin to feel drowsy. It would be so easy to drift off into sleep, but this I am determined not to do.

It is with some surprise, therefore, that I feel myself being cruelly shoved and pummeled a few moments later.

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(Continued on Page 34)
"MAN ALIVE. LOOK AT THE GUNS! There must be thousands! How in the world did so many guns get in one place at the same time? Who owns them—a museum?"

The questions were recently asked of a hotel manager by a New York jewelry salesman who, after checking in at one of Clearwater's leading hotels, decided he would walk around a bit. Wandering into the hotel's mezzanine lobby he was astonished to see more than five thousand guns of every imaginable shape and description neatly laid out on open tables for free public inspection. Having entered the lobby by a side door he had missed seeing the identification and invitational poster at the main entrance.

"It's the quarterly convention of the Florida Gun Collectors' Association. They're meeting here this weekend," the hotel manager explained. "The guns belong to different members. I believe one man alone brought more than 530 old pistols to display. Why don't you get one of the members to take you around and point out the more interesting guns? There are a lot of them."

The many guns the hotel guest saw took a long time to finally become a great galaxy. . . .

The individual gun collectors—doctors, retail merchants, attorneys, salesmen, students and retired persons of all ages—first organized at Orlando in May 1951, with 35 charter members. By November of the same year, the FGCA had more than 70 Florida resident members on its roster and several out-of-state affiliates, and had begun holding periodic conventions and educational exhibits in various Florida communities.

Prior to group organization, many of the members had been collecting old guns for years as a personal hobby. Only when they pooled resources did they really know exactly what each man had. Intra-club selling and trading have since been brisk.

The organization now has more than 390 Florida residents, representing 65 different Florida cities plus a long list of active members in 22 other states, who periodically come to Florida to attend the FGCA's quarterly conventions and exhibit their own firearms collections.

Current officers are Col. Rolfe R. Holbrook, Gales City, president; C. B. Jones, Gulfport, vice-president; August L. Tange, Sr., North Miami, secretary-treasurer; G. A. Brand, Hialeah, sergeant-at-arms; directors H. A. Brand, Miami Shores, John A. Fabbrnury, Old Town; Dr. James G. Smith, Waukeef; William D. Fuller, Coral Gables, and George Garty, Fruitland Park.

Membership in the Florida Gun Collectors' Association is open to anyone who has an interest in collecting, or a love for, old guns. Interested persons need not have a collection of guns in order to become a member. Individual membership dues of $5.00 per year and an additional $2.00 first-year initiation is currently applied.

Declared objectives of the FGCA are "to establish a permanent organization and promote friendship among those interested in the collection, possession and use of firearms and their accessories; to make a study of the laws and regulations which may be injurious to stand opposing legislation which may be injurious to the collection, possession and use of firearms by responsible collectors, shooters and sportmen; to establish a scientific beneficial association devoted to the promotion of the hobby of gun collecting, to the education, enlightenment and encouragement of gun collectors and prospective gun collectors." On that basis, the Florida Gun Collectors' Association holds a State of Florida charter as a non-profit corporation.

The oldest members of the FGCA in man-years are a bit reluctant to declare a single person as ranking senior, but it is no secret that young Drew Stevens, 13, of Ft. Lauderdale, is the organization's youngest active member.

Individual collecting interests vary widely, and frequently are highly specialized. Member Marvin Donan of Miami specializes in the collection of derringers, especially matched sets. His preference is for the remaining manufactures of Henry Deringer, of Philadelphia, who originated the popular pocket pistol that were the style of the Mississippi steamboat period. The inventor of the easily concealed style of pocket gun spelled his name with one "i" and so marked his manufactures, but his models were widely copied by rival gun-makers of the same generation who also took liberties with the spelling and capitalization of the real inventor's name. In time the word "derringer" (two r's) was added to our language; Webster's Collegiate Dictionary gives the following definition: "(After its American inventor, Henry Deringer.) A short-barrel pocket pistol of large caliber."

Claude Kaufman, of Leesburg, collects all types of anti-locking and automatic-functioning military weapons. The Leesburg member owns the largest collection of such guns in the FGCA.

James Smith, of Wauchula, collects cases of finely engraved dueling pistols. One of his sets was made for a Romanian king and is regarded as one of the finest in existence.

FGCA president Rolfe R. Holbrook, of Coral Gables, collects Colt handguns and Civil War period weapons. Gun he holds belonged to Confederate General Pierre Gourreau, who surrendered in Beauregard's battle on the battlefield.
Flintlocks appeared shortly before 1600, and almost entirely replaced the wheel lock by 1650. The flintlock's use of a deadly Kentucky rifle, originally designed for gunpowder, became the standard firearm of eastern settlers.

Following the invention of the wheel lock in 1607, by Rev. Alexander Forsyth, Scottish smiths, firearms developments were many. Each succeeding generation has enjoyed along with increased accuracy but often with a marked reduction in felt recoil. The fact that early American guns, along with foreign manufactures, were either totally or largely made resulted in the creation of many fine American weapons reflecting decorative skill and individual expression by individual gunsmiths. Some are fast becoming rare and are collected today. Naturally, old guns once owned by military and international personalities, or associated with notable historic events, are especially sought after.

For example, during the Civil War period and a decade thereafter, talented New England gunsmith Nathaniel G. Whittlemore built several fine rifles for national leaders. One of Whittlemore's creations was a magnificently finished and gun-emblazoned cup lock target rifle, complete with ramrod, Clark-type muzzle loading attachment, pewter flask and bullet mould, made especially by him for presentation to General Ulysses S. Grant. Until recently, only the Smithsonian Institution-owned Grant rifle, often referred to by gun collectors as the world's finest target rifle (as it might well have been in its day), was known to exist. But discovery of another identical weapon has raised the hope of gun collectors that others of Whittlemore's presentation-class weapons may be found.

Another such gun, members of the New England gun and sword societies of other eager collectors of historical firearms throughout the United States—will practically fall out each other in bidding for the rarity. What has been the most famous firearm of American history? Some gun lovers name and defend the Kentucky rifle, others the Winchester repeating rifle, a few Shooters Buffalo repeating-type weapon and a few Sharps Buffalo repeating-type weapon and a few Sharps Buffalo repeating-type weapon. However, the modern .22 caliber plinking rifle. However, the modern .22 caliber plinking rifle. However, the modern .22 caliber plinking rifle.

The wheel lock action, the first major improvement in firearms after the appearance of the unsatisfactory matchlock, came about 1515 when a German gunmaker developed a ignition method similar in mechanical operation to that of the modern cigarette lighter. Rifling, a system of spiral grooves cut into the bore of a firearm to give the bullet sufficient spin to make head-on, stable flight to target, also was developed about 1515, but was not generally used until decades later.

(Continued from Preceding Page)
Plopped in the south west part of the gunnery Florida's largest fresh water lake within the U.S. is Lake Okeechobee—a 728,000 acre lake—its deepest annually hovers 12 feet, it's 14 miles wide and 25 miles long, its outlet at the end of the lake is 6 miles long. This lake is famous for its black bass. This black bass is the largest fish in the lake. The lake is famous for its black bass.

Consistently large bass are caught from the lake, and the veteran fisherman swear there are bass waiting to be caught. The smart fisherman will find the everglades and the reeds where the bass are located. The smart fisherman will also use live bait to catch the fish. The fisherman must be patient and wait for the right moment to cast the bait.

Fishing for Lake Okeechobee bass is not easy, but it is not impossible. The fisherman must be patient and wait for the right moment to cast the bait. The fisherman must also use live bait to catch the bass. The fisherman must also use the right technique to catch the bass. The fisherman must also use the right equipment to catch the bass. The fisherman must also use the right place to catch the bass. The fisherman must also use the right time to cast the bait. The fisherman must also use the right place to cast the bait. The fisherman must also use the right technique to cast the bait. The fisherman must also use the right equipment to cast the bait. The fisherman must also use the right place to cast the bait. The fisherman must also use the right time to catch the bass. The fisherman must also use the right technique to catch the bass.

Florida's BIGGEST Fishing Hole

By MAX HUNN

For blood tingling angling and battling bronzebacks weighing up to 15 pounds, plan a fishing jaunt to Lake Okeechobee—Florida's giant fishing hole.

For blood tingling angling and battling bronzebacks weighing up to 15 pounds, plan a fishing jaunt to Lake Okeechobee—Florida's giant fishing hole.

A full stomach of largemouth bass taken from Lake Okeechobee.
They’re Seeing Red

BY MORRIS H. SHAW

Photos by Jake Johnson

Jim Kline laid the binoculars on the fender of the pickup. Slowly and thoughtfully he removed a bandana from his hip pocket and wiped it across his eyes. He smiled, and the handshake became more evident in the glassed lenses. The knob on the side of the binoculars was turned, and the view in the scope was more clear. A, B, B, A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z.

Biology Lee Libby scurries quick in shallow water around trap to live in waterfowl.

Ducks captured in one of the Commission’s Clover-leaf type live traps. The birds are driven into the narrow catching pen portion of the trap where they can be removed by hand through trap door.

The bird watchers are curious, not angry. Just the same, all along the northward migration routes, they admit that

n

A river just out of Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

The three incidents were not isolated cases for from eight states and provinces in the Canadian provinces have come reports of red, green, and yellow duck sightings — almost fifty individual reports to date. Undoubtedly many more people spotted the unusual appearing waterfowl but did not report the fact to wildlife authorities. Enough returns have been received however to offer a great deal of encouragement to Floridians and Fresh Water Fish and Game Commission biologists who conceived the plan that put the flashy plumaged quackers on the loose in the Atlantic and Mississippi flyways.

Most sportsmen are aware of the waterfowl banding program that has been carried on for a good many years by Federal and State conservation agencies in an effort to learn facts regarding the migratory habits and other facets of behavior of our migratory waterfowl. Much interest in the banding and useful information has been gained through the operation of the banding program but it does have definite limitations. For one thing, the percentage of band returns has been very small. Another drawback is that it may be years before an individual band is recovered, assuming that it is eventually returned. Unless the bird again comes to hand either by virtue of being retrapped by wildlife workers or killed and reported by hunters, the bird furnishes little or no information of value in formulating a comprehensive picture regarding the continent’s waterfowl populations. Since most band returns are from birds killed by hunters, it is only during the fall and winter months that most of the information is obtained, heavily weighted for the months of those months.

When biologists Bill Jennings and Frank Winston were assigned to work on Florida’s Federal Aid sponsored waterfowl project in the fall of 1952, they pondered over methods by which they could gather much information regarding the movement of the birds within the boundaries of the state many questions were unanswered. Would waterfowl in the habitat of a particular area be able to shift readily when adverse conditions rendered that particular habitat no longer tenable? Where do Florida’s wintering waterfowl go when they head northward in the spring? Questions such as these are basic in planning successful waterfowl management programs.

Frank and Bill hit upon the idea of colorizing live-trapped ducks with dye so that various segments of the state’s winter population of birds could be identified. Since Frank had used dye in marking other birds for study, that portion of the project became his responsibility. After a good deal of experimentation, a suitable dye formula was compounded from a mixture of acetic acid, alcohol, water, and maline dye powder. During the first season of operation, some 500 ducks, mainly blue-winged teal, with some lesser scaup, pintail, shoveler, and black ducks were trapped on the west side of Lake Okeechobee. The ducks were banded with the conventional numbered aluminum bands as well as treated with the red dye. Birds thus marked are readily spotted from the ground and even more so from the air. The added color does not disturb normal behavior of the species.

So successful did the first year’s test dyeing turn out that similar efforts have been devoted to the work each year since the 1953-54 season. Crews operate in three different sections of the state; Lake Okeechobee in South Florida, Gainesville in (Continued on Next Page)
the central part of the state, and Titusville on the east coast. Each of the stations has been assigned a color, thus ducks taken at Okeechobee are dyed red, those at Titusville, yellow, and those from Gainesville, green. The U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service which clears projects concerned with migratory birds has okayed the three colors for the exclusive use of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. It is obvious that if other states should get into the act by dyeing birds with the same colors, the resultant confusion would yield no information of value to anyone. The Florida operation is presently limited to six species: green-winged teal, blue-winged teal, baldpate, pintail, ringneck and lesser scaup. Florida is the logical point for the dyeing operation for, according to the figures obtained during the nationwide midwinter inventory in January, it is apparent that from a third to one half of the Atlantic flyway's duck population winters in Florida. By the time all but a few late departing stragglers have started their northward movement late in March, it is hoped that some two thousand birds will be sporting new paint jobs of brilliant hue as a souvenir of their winter's sojourn in the Sunshine State.

Wildlife technicians in the Atlantic and Mississippi flyway states have been alerted to be on the lookout for the dyed ducks. Outdoorsmen can render a valuable service to the cause of wildlife management by reporting sightings of colored waterfowl to the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Florida. Reports to be of maximum value should be as complete as possible and should give the species (if determined), a number of dyed ducks where seen, and the date sighted. The findings of the Florida operation so far beyond the boundaries of a single state for the responsibility of managing the nation's waterfowl is vested in everyone of us who enjoy the privilege of going afield in pursuit of the wily webfoot.

(Continued from preceding page)

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(Continued from preceding page)

Florida Birdlife

Florida Bobwhite, Colinus virginianus virginianus

There are two subspecies of quail in Florida, the Eastern bobwhite and the Florida bobwhite. The latter is considerably smaller and darker than the former. The eastern bobwhite averages about six ounces in weight whereas the related form averages an ounce less.

Florida Bobwhite, Colinus virginianus floridanus

The Eastern bobwhite is found in the northern and northwestern parts of the state, roughly north of a line drawn across the state from St. Augustine on the east to Cedar Key on the west. The lower portion of the state is inhabited by the Florida bobwhite. There is a considerable overlap in the ranges and the birds intermix freely where they both frequent the same range. The life history of both birds is essentially the same.

Quail remain in coveys until spring when there is a gradual breakup of the flocks. As courtship begins in earnest, pairs or trios tend to wander away only to reassemble in coveys at night to roost. In north Florida, covey breakup usually begins around March 15, but may not be complete until May 1. In the southern part of the state it can be expected to occur three or four weeks earlier.

Normally there are 15 per cent more cocks than hens. These "bob-chet" cocks are doomed to a lonely summer. Their "bob-white" calls are commonly heard well into the summer months.

The bobwhite is a monogamous bird. Once mated he remains a devoted husband and father until nesting is completed and the chicks renest. The hen normally begins egg laying as soon as the nest is completed. It takes her from 15 to 20 days to lay the average clutch of 14 eggs. Incubation is usually performed by the hen but the cock may share these duties. If the hen is killed while incubating, the cock completes the task. By the twenty-third day after hatching begins, the chicks emerge from the shell.

Nesting season in north Florida runs from about May 1 to October 1, with the peak in June and July. In South Florida nesting is two to four weeks earlier. If the first eggs are destroyed the birds will continue to renest until late in the summer or until they are successful in bringing off a brood. (Continued on Next Page)
Florida Turkey, Meleagris gallopavo silvestris.

There are two subspecies of wild turkey in Florida, the Eastern turkey inhabiting the northern portion of the state, and a more vividly colored South Florida sub-species, the Florida turkey. The two are somewhat interbred, and nearly all Florida turkeys are mixed to some extent with domestic strains. The Big Cypress Swamp contains the most nearly wild stock of any other area in the state.

The mating season of the turkey in Florida runs from January into March. Many activity during February. Gobblers tend to range alone at this period, strutting during the early morning hours and calling new hens from the same stock. Mating generally occurs between daylight and nine o'clock in the morning, the procedure is repeated until the entire male gobbler has mated several hens. First year gobblers usually do not mate. Unlike the model parent booby male, turkey hens are very seldom take an interest in their mates, or young after the mating season.

The females of a very crude nest—little more than an depression—caused by the weight of her body—in a well hidden spot near some opening in a trail or old wood, and presence within a few hundred yards of water. She stays at the average rate of one egg each one and half days. During this she feeds less and less with her cluck of eggs grows, until the she feeds less and less. The cluck of eggs grows, until the she seeks her food alone near the nest. She continues to roost with the flock however until the incubation period of 28 days begins. Once they begin to pip, all the eggs are hatched within a 24 hour period.

As the eggs near the hatching time, the hen becomes more—and more reluctant to leave her nest. until just before hatching it will avoid almost any step on her. Continued intrusion will force her to abandon her nest, and early during laying a single discovery will sometimes result in permanent abandonment. For this reason, a minimum of disturbance must be maintained to insure a successful turkey nesting.

Floors and fires take terrific toll of turkey nests, a toll never replaced by occasional late nesting or re-nesting. Before the young chicks are too old to learn to fly, at about two weeks many of them are lost through exposure, accident, or predation. Most chicks which survive the first six weeks will mature.

Through spring and summer young turkeys usually run with their mother hen. Several groups may combine to form a large flock. As they mature, where there are plenty of turkeys, the birds tend to break the flock into larger and smaller groups. Gobblers tend to form more exclusive flocks of not more than five birds, hens and young about 18 birds, until winter. With winter, mature males tend to run alone and break range, and become antagonistic toward each other until after mating season.

Florida Crane, Grus canadensis pretesis. The Florida crane is a large wading bird about the size of the Great Blue Heron. The forehead and crown are bare and reddish within a few hundred yards of water. She stays at the average rate of one egg each two days. During this time she feeds less and less with her clutch of eggs grows, until the she seeks her food alone near the nest. She continues to roost with the flock however until the incubation period of 28 days begins. Once they begin to pip, all the eggs are hatched within a 24 hour period.

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Through spring and summer young turkeys usually run with their mother hen. Several groups may combine to form a large flock. As they mature, where there are plenty of turkeys, the birds tend to break the flock into larger and smaller groups. Gobblers tend to form more exclusive flocks of not more than five birds, hens and young about 18 birds, until winter. With winter, mature males tend to run alone and break range, and become antagonistic toward each other until after mating season.

Florida Crane, Grus canadensis pretesis. The Florida crane is a large wading bird about the size of the Great Blue Heron. The forehead and crown are bare and reddish within a few hundred yards of water. She stays at the average rate of one egg each two days. During this time she feeds less and less with her clutch of eggs grows, until the she seeks her food alone near the nest. She continues to roost with the flock however until the incubation period of 28 days begins. Once they begin to pip, all the eggs are hatched within a 24 hour period.

As the eggs near the hatching time, the hen becomes more—and more reluctant to leave her nest. until just before hatching it will avoid almost any step on her. Continued intrusion will force her to abandon her nest, and early during laying a single discovery will sometimes result in permanent abandonment. For this reason, a minimum of disturbance must be maintained to insure a successful turkey nesting.

Floors and fires take terrific toll of turkey nests, a toll never replaced by occasional late nesting or re-nesting. Before the young chicks are too old to learn to fly, at about two weeks many of them are lost through exposure, accident, or predation. Most chicks which survive the first six weeks will mature.
LOOK JIM—LISTEN JIM
(Continued from Page 21)

impossible.”
He doesn’t move.
He tells me, “Mine fit. They are worn and uncomfortable. Whatever is wrong is undoubtedly your fault.”
My response echoes to his pride.
He says, “Jim! Jim! My fault? My fault that these miserable things are the wrong size, and simply will not fit over my shoes? My fault that...
His tone is weary as he interrupts.
He tells me, “Take your shoes off.
Take the damned things off. They aren’t needed. The boots go on over the socks.”
He turns back to the gun and gives it a savage wrench.
I dress in silence, determined to overlook his breach of etiquette in speaking so surlily.
Pretty soon I am dressed as he is, vest, jacket, boots, red plaid shirt and all. I pick up my gun and walk over to where Jim is pulling an old boat from under some weedy sparrows and meating to himself. It is evident that some subtle diplomacy is needed here. Take. Make him feel good.
I say, “Pretty clever, Jim, leaving that boat hidden this way. You sure know all the tricks all right, old buddy. You certainly are smart, Jim, old pal. I can’t think of anyone I’d rather go with than you!”
He tells me, “I can’t.”
I say, “Who, Jim?”
He tells me, “Anybody!”
I laugh politely, but frankly, I don’t think it’s much of a joke, especially when he delivers it with such a straight face.
I say, “Can I help?”
He tells me, “Yeah. Go bring the motor. It’s on the back seat.”
I go get the motor and bring it to where Jim stands, all ready to shove off.
He smiles at me. Real friendly like.
He tells me, “I want to shake your hands.”
I say, “Sure Jim. But why?”
He tells me, “I didn’t think you could do it. You brought a three hundred and forty-six dollar motor all the way from that station wagon over here, and nothing went wrong. You actually did it. All by yourself. Shucks!”
I have a feeling he is making another of his pointless jokes, but rather than refuse and possibly make him mad, I stick out my hand.
I say, “Sure Jim.”
That is what I say, although chances are, even if you are standing right next to me you will not get to hear me say it, as it is most certainly drowned out by Jim’s screaming. For what happens is that when I reach out to shake I am going to let go of the motor, which is very poorly built anyway, if you want my opinion, and unbalanced too, as it slips out of my other hand and nudge Jim’s foot. Since it weighs a little over sixty pounds chances are it is quite a hefty nudge at that, and there may be some slight excuse for the way he is hopping around and bowing and holding his foot and swearing at me, and shaking his fist at me, and shouting and cursing at me, and showing his temper.
Sure enough it works. The roar of Niagara cuts off in mid-sentence, wait for the sputter of the same.
I stay silent.
A few seconds later, when I am still nothing but silence, I am around the seat and diners a most upsetting situation.
There stands my huffy Jim, his shotgun held loosely in his hand.
Its barrel is pointed loosely in way.
His finger hanges loosely in the trigger guard.

AROUND THE STATE

How about you? How about the hooting red head brought last week? And the 20-horsepower outboard below that? And the...

DEPARTMENT STORE

How about you? How about the hooting red head brought last week? And the 20-horsepower outboard below that? And the...

ABOVE: Army Waves Rock Ferry? 
Emmett Haskell, Polo City hunter, around 100-pound buck pointed during the recent deer season. To his hunting partner Haskell’s kill as a definite uncertain unfurled doe when the buck antemong the rut of the two in three and one-half year old group.

BEST YET ON OCALA. Ranchers on the Ocala National Forest harvested a total of 700 deer and I heard the highest seasonal kill since the management area was established. Bill Land, 32-year-old since the management area was established. Bill Land, 32-year-old since the management area was established.

Photo by Jim Durr

Ocala hunter, left the footnote with the 170-pound bee he displays in the photo above plus a nice eight point back.
JUNIOR CONSERVATIONIST

By DENVER STE. CLAIRE

DURING THE NEW YEAR of 1958, I hope that in your planning you see fit to include Conservation. Perhaps you plan this year to compete for the title of "Outstanding Junior Conservationist of 1958." Maybe you plan to be a better club member or officer. Whatever you plan, remember that "Conservation Benefits Everyone" and include it as part of your project.

If you have any intentions of entering the contest for the Junior Conservationist of 1957, please send in all your points accumulated between January 1, 1957, and December 31, 1957. Send in your grand total for the number of years you have been working on projects. Separate your yearly points; that is, 1953-14,000 points; 1954-12,000 points; 1955-30,000 points. Grand totals indicate the rank which you have earned. In the case above the grand total would be 56,000 points. The following ranks may be earned by Junior Conservation Club members completing the conservation projects in our Merit Point System. The series of projects includes 125 different projects, ranging from Ranks: Ranger, 10,000 points; Forester, 30,000 points; Chief Ranger, 45,000 points; Chief Forester, 60,000 points; Junior Ranger, 75,000 points; Junior Forester, 100,000 points.

As you have no doubt noticed, two new ranks have been added. They are the ranks of Chief Ranger and Chief Forester. For comparison, the old and the new systems are shown below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ranks</th>
<th>Points</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ranger</td>
<td>10,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Forester</td>
<td>30,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chief Ranger</td>
<td>45,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Chief Forester</td>
<td>60,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>Junior Ranger</td>
<td>75,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior Forester</td>
<td>100,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

June 8-21
Jr. Conservationist 45,000
Chief Ranger 60,000
Forester 75,000

June 22-28
Jr. Wildlife Officer 100,000

July 6-19
Jr. Conservationist 45,000
Chief Ranger 60,000
Forester 75,000

July 20-26
Jr. Wildlife Officer 100,000

August 3-9
Jr. Conservationist 45,000
Chief Ranger 60,000
Forester 75,000

August 10-16
Jr. Wildlife Officer 100,000

For the first time this year, we are computing with one two-week period. Quota for this two-week period will be 125 boys between the ages of 8 and 12. If this response for this week's program is popular, there is a possibility of an additional two-week period.

1958 Directory

We are at the present time busy compiling the new 1958 Directory of Affiliated Clubs of the Florida Junior Conservation Club League. If you have any changes in your officers, meeting places, advisors, addresses, etc., please notify the Orlando Club, 265 West Adams Street, Orlando, Florida. As soon as this Directory is completed, each club will receive a copy.

1958 Summer Camping

Yes, the 1958 Summer Encampment is just ahead of us, and not too far away, we might add. Your parents within the next month or so will be receiving forms for your camp reservations. Remind them that the sooner the reservation is sent in, the more certain you are of a place at camp.

The schedule for 1958 has been completed and is as follows:

June 1-7
Girl Scout Training Week for Adults
Wildlife Camp for Girl Scouts

FEBRUARY 1958

"Burt's Fish Market just called; you lost your billfold on the counter."
The young are very small, hairless, and blind at birth. At about six weeks of age the young begin moving about the home tree and soon gain strength and confidence to strike out on their own. Gray squirrels attain their full size and weight when they are about two years of age, although mating activity is not uncommon among squirrels a year or two old. Acorns, hickory nuts, and other mast is preferred gray squirrel food and when these are abundant, the animals are seldom interested in other foods. During other times of the year, the gray displays a wide taste, eating many kinds of seeds, fruits, leaves, shoots, roots, buds, tender shoots, fungi, tubers, insects, and their larvae and pupae. The nests of various birds are sometimes raided by foraging squirrels and both eggs and young have reportedly been eaten. When corn or peanut fields are located close to good forest cover, squirrels sometimes take advantage of these crops to supplement their normal diet.

Squirrels will take surface water if it is available but seem to be able to do nicely without it if circumstances require. Bones and the shed antlers of deer are not infrequently gnawed by squirrels, evidently for the calcium contained. Charcoal is sometimes eaten, evidently to supply a nutritional deficiency of some sort.

The main natural enemies of the gray squirrel include various hawks, owls and tree climbing animals, but during certain seasons of the year, in the fall for example, when there is a heavy drop of acorns and other mast crops, ground foraging squirrels are subject to predation by foxes, weasels and coyotes. Actually, losses to the total population from these predators is relatively minor. Nocturnal habits of the owl makes it likely that these birds of prey catch relatively few grays. Natural enemies are active during late summer, dark, and especially at night.

Gray squirrels are most active early morning for the first half hour after dawn. They usually have a half hour of activity and another flurry of activity in about an hour or two of daylight.

The fur of the gray squirrel is beautiful though it is not of commercial value. The squirlers that are fur are for the most part, the pelts of a furbearer of common to portions of northern Asia. To some, merely watching a nimble mouse in the niceties of the nimble spaces up a stroll through the woodlands or city park. The pounds in the meat could not be expected to be one million plus squirrels that actually fail to Florida hunters it certainly not an important consideration. Nor is the nutrition provided by hunting the gray squirrel overlooked. All of the gray certainly is deserving of the honorary title, Prince of the Woodlands.

AND STILL CHAMPION (Continued from Page 15)
keeps it. While Eddie got the larger fish. But even at this time, I've discovered something makes little difference in top-water artificial. Reason for this, I'm convinced, is because fish strike primarily at the moment of a noisy top-water lure rather than the actual bait itself, and when a fish is moving, he is less aware of the noise and more alert to the sound of the lure. I'm convinced, is because fish strike primarily at the moment of a noisy top-water lure rather than the actual bait itself, and when a fish is moving, he is less aware of the noise and more alert to the sound of the lure. I'm convinced, is because fish strike primarily at the moment of a noisy top-water lure rather than the actual bait itself, and when a fish is moving, he is less aware of the noise and more alert to the sound of the lure.
IT ALL DEPENDS ON YOU

By A. D. ALDRICH, Director
Games and Fresh Water Fish Commission

This year will be a milestone year for Florida. There are numerous and often opposing developments taking place. With the rapid exploitation and development of our natural resources, some have even the same effect on the natural balance of our state's environment.

Whether you hunt, fish, or camp out without doing either, you will find yourself more and more involved in the commercial and recreational activities of the state. It is your duty to consider the impact of your actions on the natural resources of the state and to participate in their protection.

To meet the demands of the state, the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission must work closely with the Fish and Wildlife Service and other federal agencies. The Commission is responsible for the management of the state's fish and wildlife resources, including the regulation of fishing and hunting seasons, and the protection of endangered species.

The Commission works closely with the Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure the sustainability of our fish and wildlife populations. This includes the management of fish and wildlife habitat, the regulation of hunting and fishing seasons, and the protection of endangered species.

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The Commission works closely with the Fish and Wildlife Service to ensure the sustainability of our fish and wildlife populations.

As the Commission's responsibilities continue to grow, we must work together to ensure the continued health of our natural resources and the enjoyment of all Floridians.

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For more information about the Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, please visit our website at [Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission](https://www.flfishandwildlife.com).

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BIGGEST FISHING HOLE
(Continued from Page 27)

quit, and dark descended.

The next morning we tried our luck again. Artificial lures didn't raise a thing, although we could hear the bass rolling way back in the weeds, where even weedless spoons couldn't operate. It was windy, too, another handicap.

Having only a couple of hours, we headed for our sunken tree again, and this time I finally netted the biggest weighing 6½ pounds, and the other—again seeming to do more battle—wiggling in at one and three-quarters.

But live bait had saved the day for us. Others fishing from the same camp, had the same experience. Only one bass was caught on artificials, while several were landed on live bait.

However, we were satisfied when two of four fish went 6½ pounds and better. Maybe no field day, but certainly something to remember.

There's a technique, too, to fishing for bass with live bait. On Lake Okeechobee it's customary to use a float. When the float begins to bob, don't haul in like you would with a crank pole. When you feel the pull, the odds are you won't set the hook. The secret is to let the bass mouth the bait, and then set the hook. It takes a little experience to do this, and you'll lose a few learning to keep a tight rein on your nerves, for the first inclination is to yo-heap, and Mr. Bass takes off.

There are variations in hooking your bait. When fishing in slow, expert fishermen and guides prefer to hook the chub through the lips, for they stay alive longer. When the bass are hitting in quick succession, they change the baiting technique to hooking through the back. Sometimes they hook through the tail, if trouble is encountered with the other two methods. However, don't pull too soon whatever the hooking method, or you'll find you haven't got your hook set.

There's one other tip. Keep a live bait on at all times. Bass like a fresh meal, and also live bait will make fairly certain you aren't bothered by predatory fish like gars and mudfish. They'll hit live bait, but not enough to interfere with your bass fishing pleasure.

Fishing accommodations are good all around Lake Okeechobee with the fish camps ranging from mediocre to lush, and the prices accordingly. Boats can be rented with or without motors, and all the camps will supply guides as well as bait and tackle.

It's fun to fish the hayfields. You can get your share of big 'uns, but you may have to modify your techniques to deal with the unusual situation of Florida's biggest fishing hole. 

BOOK REVIEW
FORESTRY, by Nelson C. Evans. 31 pages. Published by Belen Publishing Company, Canton, 38, Massachusetts. Price 1$1.00

This is No. 8 in a series of Technical and Professional Monographs released by the Bellman Publishing Company. Nelson Brown who prepared the monograph is especially well qualified to write on this subject. He began his career as a practicing forester in 1918 after receiving training at Yale University. He worked with the U.S. Forest Service for many years on western National Forests and on special assignment in several Southern States. He is a member of the Consortium in Europe on the number of trips taken between 1937 and 1939. He has published a number of textbooks on the subject.


The monograph is an excellent outline of the profession of forestry as a career.