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A CONSERVATION SCENE

Central Florida Lake Improvement Programs

The Administration office serving the area in which an individual expects to carry out his farming operations or by writing directly to the FHA, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

Dove Supplies

Results of dove censuses indicate that weather and not the hunter is responsible for the scarcity or plenty of mourning doves, according to the National Wildlife Federation. After last year's severe winter it appears that the dove population is down somewhat in states where dove hunting is not allowed. The population is about the same in states where there is legal dove hunting. This points up an analysis that has been made repeatedly by conservation organizations. The harvest of mourning doves usually simply reduces the supply by about what might be lost from natural causes.

Conservation Scholarships

The National Wildlife Federation and state affiliates have announced the 1963-64 program of scholarships and fellowships in conservation. The program provides graduate grants up to $1,000 and undergraduate funds for those who have completed at least one year of college up to $500. The work may be in resource management, conservation education, journalism, radio and television, landowner-sportsmen relations or related programs. Application blanks may be secured from the Executive Director, National Wildlife Federation, 1416 Sixteenth St., N.W., Washington 6, D.C.

Farm Loans Readied

The Farmers Home Administration, under the terms of the Flood and Agriculture Act of 1962, is ready to make loans to farmers and ranchers, individually or in association, to buy, develop, enlarge, and operate recreational enterprises on or larger than family farms, according to the Wildlife Management Institute. "Funds for recreational enterprises may be used to develop land and water, construct buildings, and to purchase land, equipment, livestock and other related recreational items including the payment of operating expenses. Recreational enterprises which may be financed on family farms include camping grounds, swimming facilities, tennis courts, riding stables, vacation cottages and lodges, lakes and ponds for boating and fishing, docks, nature trails, picnic grounds and hunting preserves," an FHA brochure explains. An FHA spokesman has said that the list does not describe all purposes for which loans may be made and that such shooting activities as skeet fields, and trap and rifle ranges also would be eligible.

FHA loans are used by farm residents who are unable to provide needed funds or who cannot get credit elsewhere at reasonable rates and terms to finance actual needs. Repayments on loans secured by real estate may extend to 40 years at 5 percent interest. Loans for equipment and operating expenses may not exceed $33,000; real estate loans may not exceed $60,000 taking into account all debts against the property.

Complete information about the loan program may be obtained from the county Farmers Home Administration office serving the area in which an individual expects to carry out his farming operations or by writing directly to the FHA, U.S. Department of Agriculture, Washington 25, D.C.

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Conservation Leaders Must Look To

RESOURCES ECOLOGY

As regular as death and taxes, fall and spring are open seasons for castigating state conservation departments for all the human delinquencies which have combined to defeat nature in providing a bountiful supply of fish and game. The indoor sport of quarterbacking the wildlife expert moved outdoors with the annual mass migration of fever-eyed “true conservationists” bent on getting value received from their license dollar. The woods and fields are full of them; and the newspapers and sporting magazines are full of their opinions—well-baked, half-baked and raw.

The term “Great American Heritage” is refurbished, predator bounties are dusted off for another go-round. Hunting programs for birds and deer are given in-depth and generalized treatment, the any-deer season versus buck season argument is reheated, and the hours and days of hunting, the puny bag limits, ad infinitum, are rehearsed.

I have yet to hear one of these “true conservationists” admit he is less than an absolute authority or a master craftsman in the outdoor arts; but, to say the least, some manage to be a lot of trouble to themselves with all the dime store gadgets they lug along. If these so-called articles of the trade are an index to sensible land-use, the average sportsman knows a great deal. However, it seems to indicate the reverse.

In all the many millions of words of prophecy, of doom or the high priesthood of authority, practically nothing is mentioned of self-responsibility, of erosion, of rural zoning, of water pollution, of the economy that makes this nation strong. The make-up and responsibilities of these agencies vary from state to state because of legislative mandates called the law.

Some state conservation agencies have broad responsibilities which include the management of forests, parks, and commercial fishing, as well as inland fisheries, game, and law enforcement. In other states these duties have been divided, with one agency in charge of forests, another in charge of parks, and still a third in charge of fish, game and enforcement.

Not that these public agencies sit on the right hand of the golden throne, but it does raise the question of their basic responsibilities. Are they responsible only to license holders, or to the public at large, which has equal equity in resources? More basis, is not their inherent duty more to the resources, which in the long run will redound to public good?

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Such mundane matters, how-ever, have little appeal to an urban license holder. In his opinion a conservation department is created solely to supply his particular brand of pleasure, whatever that may be. Success is two rabbits on an acre where one formerly thrived regardless of habitat.

There are too many conservation agencies today which feel their sole duty is to pander to increasing the synthetic and recreational fluff currently demanded. They have maneuvered themselves into believing that recreation can feed off it. They take strong leadership to resist this drift and to keep the basic tenets of resource management out in the open and in proper perspective. The reason for this one-group favoritism is obvious: Fish, game and law enforcement budgets are fed off itself. It tabs little appeal to the public at large, which has equal equity in resources. More basic, is not their inherent duty more to the resources, which in the long run will redound to public good?

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Largemouth bass — size and appearance!

Some facts about combination rods for "compact" traveling.

When the food supply is scanty from the start, fish are generally stunted. We see that quite frequently in the case of bream in Florida. In certain lakes and canals, they are thick as flies on an unwashed sheepdog and hungry enough to take on anything that moves or splashes. Now fish don't react like humans when their food supply is short from the start. I wouldn't say that those panfish are really unhealthy. They're simply undersized — not diseased. As far as I can tell, they're just as good to eat as their larger brethren. Of course, overcrowding is a good basis for disease but it doesn't necessarily follow. Nature apparently adjusts the size of the fish to the food supply and the length of the growing season.

Florida's big bass — accepted as the largest in North America — are the result of both abundant food and a year-around growing season. Although accepted as a subspecies, it's unlikely they'd attain full stature in more northern climes.

The size of the black bass' head varies greatly over the country. There are specific biological methods for separating the largemouth from the smallmouth but there's lots of head-size difference among the bigmouths.

In some species of fresh water fish, a small head in relation to the body is a sign of plenty of food. In other words, the head is supposed to grow at about the same speed regardless of the food supply while the body takes on extra weight when chow is abundant. I'm afraid the big Florida largemouth is a non-conformist because the usual 10-pounder has a maw like a cellar door.

I have caught solid, hard-fighting largemouths in the midwest that were longer and more slender than the Florida fish. I have caught bigmouths in California that had very small heads but were quite chunky.

So, except in the matter of total weight, the bass may not follow the pattern completely. But — big head and long skinny body with sunken abdomen indicates poor food supply. A freshly spawned-out fish may have the concave abdomen but if well-fed it has body depth and width.

And you can't judge by just one fish.

As a rule, if you build a combination rod you'll have one that isn't extra good at anything but there are circumstances when one stick may have to serve more than one purpose.

This usually happens when you need to travel with light baggage.

I have one rig that works as spinning, baitcasting and fly-casting rod and does fairly well at all. It is a 2-piece rod (not counting the handles) and it's 6'/s feet long, made of hollow glass and fairly soft. It has spinning guides. One handle is a standard plug-casting grip and as a plug rod I use it with lures up to 4%-ounce and down to 5/4-ounce. The other handle is a plain spinning handle with simple ring reel holders. Keep them near the middle and they're fine for a conventional spinning reel. Push them down to the butt and you can use a fly reel.

How does it work?

Well, it's excellent with the spinning reel and light lures. It's good with the baitcasting reel up to 4%-ounce plugs and above that it gets too logy. With the fly reel you need a light line and should stick to pretty small flies. Polite-sized bugs don't go so good. It's all right if you have room for only one rod.

While on the subject of easily transported equipment, you know you can buy what they call "suitcase fly rods," all sectioned down to lh-ounce plugs and above that you can buy what they call "suitcase fly rods," all sectioned down to lh-ounce plugs and above that.

As a fellow I know was in the act of netting a whopper bass when he noticed the hook was slipping from the fish's mouth. "I used the net like a catcher's mitt," he explained, "and I slammed him into it with the other hand."

On an excursion into the West after fresh water trout, I encountered a Florida guide who is an excellent fly fisherman. The wind was bad one day, however, and this chap stuck himself in the ear with a No. 18 fly. A No. 18 fly is even smaller than it sounds like and without my bifocals I don't even know which end to tie the leader to.

(Continued on page 32)
SOME NEW CHAMPIONS were crowned during recent field trial events in the Sunshine State. These include bird dogs, retrievers, fox hounds and coon hounds. All in all, it appears as though field trials are on an upward swing in Florida. The number of field trials and entries is convincing evidence that trials are serving some certain purpose. More than the results of faid or fancy, they are fulfilling a need. A need for dog and man to go afield and hunt in a kind of cooperative bond that has existed between man and dog through the ages. A chance for a man to breed and train and run a dog in competition to determine the worth of his efforts and to improve his stock and methods.

In Florida there are field trials for just about every sporting breed of dog. There are coon hound field trials and registered night hunts, trials for the rabbit hunting beagles, retriever trials and trials for bird dogs. There are field trials for the fox hound and special trials for the foreign imports and all-purpose dogs such as the German shorthair, vizsla, and weimaraner. The Florida-Georgia retriever trial comes close to providing a field trial for spaniels. About the only hunting dog that is not run in field trial competition may be the deer and bear hounds, and it is difficult to imagine establishing the test for such a trial.

Cracker Bird Dog Field Trial

At the conclusion of the November-10-11 "Cracker Bird Dog Championship Trial" conducted on the 1500 acre shooting preserve of O. D. "Buddy" Huff in Marion County, a new Cracker Champion was crowned. A classy four year old pointer "Hi-Go" owned and handled by Hal Davis of Ocala will wear the crown and retain the coveted Monroe Championship for a year. Hi-Go managed to chalk up a total of four finds and completed two retrieves during his thirty minute heat. Sired by Champion Sapilla 'Wahoo Pete this white pointer has already established some six wins in a total of eight starts. During this two day trial he managed to retire the beautiful silver bowl awarded for the best retrieving among the bird dogs.

The Cracker Dog Trial is a field trial for birds and bird hunters. Dogs are judged not only on hunting and pointing ability but also on retrieving. It is a shoot to kill trial and while some handlers do their own shooting others use extra gunners, and are judged accordingly. One peculiarity of the Cracker Dog Trials is the fact that a dog is not faulted if he breaks shot, provided the break is to retrieve a downed bird.

Basses are run for 30 minute heats with half the time spent in open cover and the remaining time in heavy cover. Three classes are run during the event and awards are presented to the best in horse back handled dogs, best in hand handled dogs, best in hand handled vehicles, and the best in foot handled dogs. The trials are conducted under the rules of The Amateur Field Trial Club, and sponsored by the Cracker Bird Dog Club. Club president is David White of Dun nellon and Secretary-Treasurer Hal Davis of Ocala.

Florida Retriever Trials

The North Florida Amateur Retriever Club conducted its second American Kennel Club sanctioned retriever field trial November 10-11 on the Velda Farms near Tallahassee, Out standing among the retrievers, which included labradors, chesapeakes, and golden's was a three year old lab "Mike's Greatford Duke" owned and handled by Parker Capps of Jacksonville. In addition to being the top dog in the Open All-Age stake "Duke" also received the coveted title of Florida Field Champion. To those who know this combination of man and retriever, Duke's ability to win the Open All-Age was never in question. This team seems to have some sort of understanding that is a mystery to many other retriever handlers.

The two day trial included in addition to the Open All-Age an Amateur All-Age, Qualifying, Derby, and Puppy stake. Results of the two day event is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>OPEN ALL-AGE</th>
<th>AMATEUR ALL-AGE</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 Dee Dot's Greatford Duke</td>
<td>Lab M Parker Capps Jacksonville</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 Tred Avon Doll</td>
<td>Lab F Pete Crittenden Leesburg</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 AFC Mallard of Devil Garden</td>
<td>Lab M R. H. Johnson Miami</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 Rebels Poopdeck Pappy</td>
<td>Lab M Clyde Spencer Tallahassee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 JAM Bob of Mossy Oak</td>
<td>Lab M Ross Hannon Tallahassee</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Qualifying

| 1 Bigstone Rebel Babe | Lab F Dick Cheves Panama City |
| 2 King Buck of Woodville | Lab M Ross Hannon Tallahassee |
| 3 Dee Dot's Greatford Duke | Lab M Parker Capps Jacksonville |
| 4 Tred Avon Doll | Lab F Pete Crittenden Leesburg |
| 4 Chessy's Lady Joy | Lab M Scott Munroe Tallahassee |
| 4 JAM Bob of Mossy Oak | Lab M Parker Capps Jacksonville |

Trophy presented by "Judge's Award of Merit" to:

JAM Star of Shalimar

Florida Fox Hunt Field Trial

The Florida Fox Hunters Association conducted their 10th annual fox hound field trial on Northwest Florida's St. James Island October 22-23-24-25. The four day event started with a bench show for the hounds, complete with the crowning of a Queen of the Fox Hunt, fish fry and other activity associated with the occasion.

Rules of the Florida Fox Hunters Association stipulates that any dog placing on the bench must be cast in the field.

Each hound is assigned a number and such number painted on the side of the individual dog. This of course is the only method that is practical for judges to score an individual dog when several hundred are running in the same woods. Hounds are cast away and hunted through out the morning hours. Each evening is filled with anticipation as the daily scores are posted. Final awards are made on the (Continued on page 32)
Largest of the common Florida herons, the GREAT BLUE HERON, is a familiar sight to travelers along the highways of Florida. This 4-foot tall, blue-gray heron commonly inhabits roadside ditches, canals, marshes and bay shores, as well as back country shores of lakes, rivers and swamps. Often mistakenly called "Crane," this bird is the antithesis of patience when stalking a meal of frogs, fish, snakes or even rats and mice. It can remain motionless for agonizingly long periods with neck folded or outstretched before quickly striking at its intended meal.

SOME FLORIDA HERONS

PHOTO STORY By WALLACE HUGHES

The crow-size GREEN HERON is small as herons go, but with neck outstretched and crest raised he appears to double its size. In shadows it looks quite dark, but in sunlight it is very colorful with reddish-brown neck, green wings and yellow feet.

The LITTLE BLUE HERON may be observed in two colors. The adult, center, is slate-blue with dark-purplish head and neck that appears almost black at a distance. The immature, right, is white. Both have black bills, tipped with black. White birds have dark greenish legs and feet. This medium-size heron lives in marshes, swamps, roadside waters, and shores of ponds and springs. It patiently stalks its food but moves quickly when the decision to strike is made. It eats many insects and crawfish in addition to the usual heron fare of frogs and small fish.

The "real beauty" of the heron family is the SNOWY EGRET, right. Its black legs with yellow feet, and all black bill tell it from other white herons. It is not a patient feeder but moves quickly about, often stirring the water with one foot while keeping a close eye out for its prey of frogs, aquatic insects, snails and minnows. Commonly seen in waters along road sides, the Snowy Egret is almost half the size of the American Egret.

The 3½ foot tall AMERICAN EGRET (below, left) is easily tell by its yellow bill and black legs and feet. Singly or in groups it frequents roadside waters, swamps, and fresh and salt water marshes. During nesting season, long, delicate feathers called plumes or "aigrettes" grow from its back. In the early 1900's the use of these plumes by the millinery business nearly caused the extermination of these birds and the Snowy Egret. Concerted efforts by the Audubon Societies and public opinion stopped the slaughter. Today, Egrets are common again and are fully protected by Federal and State laws. The REDDISH EGRET (below, right) is a medium-size heron with gray body and reddish-brown neck and head. Rarely, a white phase is seen. Both plumages have flesh-colored bills tipped with black. It is found mainly in the Florida Keys.
Perhaps more than anything else, the future of Florida fishing will depend on the individual reaping the benefits—the fisherman!

In 1751, a fisherman named William Bartram wrote a fishing story about a trip along Florida large-mouth black bass. The story tells of the fisherman filling a canoe with bass that weighed from fifteen, twenty and thirty pounds. The method utilized by these early fishermen called for a stout pole and line, and artificial bait. A description of this early lure placed three large hooks back to back and covered with the white hair of a deer's tail, shreds of a red garter, and some parti-colored feathers.

Today many fishermen continue to write stories of their travels in Florida and describe fishing for largemouth black bass. While today's adventures might not fill a canoe with bass weighing in the thirty-pound class, the fishing methods have improved over those described by Bartram.

The area traveled by Bartram required a journey of weeks, during which time no other big bass were seen. The same area may now be covered in a day's boating venture and seldom out of communication with other fishermen.

With over thirty thousand named lakes, rivers and canals it is no mystery that Florida has continued through the years as the nation's leading fresh water fishing state. However, even as the thirty pound bass of Bartram's day have disappeared, the modern fisherman must be on constant alert to protect and improve his fish and fishing it provides them with recreation and pleasure without a great investment, and because the fresh water fish of Florida are valued as a table fish. Fresh water fishing is a valuable resource to all the people of Florida and as such it deserves the close attention of all concerned.

Who Benefits From Fresh Water Fishing?

Everyone—the butcher, the baker and the candlestick maker—every citizen of Florida benefits from fresh water fishing. The fisherman benefits from the recreational value of the fishing trip. The fish camp operator from the revenue received for services rendered to the fisherman. The manufacturers of fishing tackle, boats, and outboard motors benefit. The sporting goods dealer when he sells these manufactured items to the fisherman. The grocer when he sells food for a fishing trip. The gasoline station from which the fisherman purchases gasoline for a fishing trip. The motel and hotel owner when the fisherman visits a lake or river away from home.

The dollar spent by a fisherman, in one way or another, touches every hand in a community. Everyone benefits either directly or indirectly from fresh water fishing.

How Much is Fresh Water Fishing Worth?

A national survey indicated that two out of every five persons over 12 years of age fish one or more times during a year. On average, fishermen take about 18 fishing trips during a year. In Florida, this percentage is considerably higher, probably due to the accessibility of water. This same survey indicated that the average fisherman spent approximately $95.00 for his fishing pleasure.

In Florida there were 55,000 licensed fishermen during 1961. This would indicate that fresh water fishing in Florida is worth at least $82,345,000.00 a year to the citizens of Florida. It should be realized that less than 30% of this total value is available to the Commission for fisheries work since many citizens in Florida fish without a license. The total recreational value could reach $75,000,000.00.

It is easy to note that where fresh water fishing is good, more people fish and the benefits to the citizens are greater. Where the fishing conditions are poor, and catches are low, the benefits are reduced. Fresh Water fishing is a business, and good fishing is good business. To produce better fishing, there must be better fish management.

Who Pays For Fish Management?

The fisherman pays the bills of fish management in Florida. He purchases fish management and protection for fresh water fish when he buys his fishing license.

(Continued on next page)
The revenue received from the sale of fishing licenses is placed into a State Game Fund. The State Game Fund may be used only for the management, restoration, conservation, and regulation of fresh water fish and wildlife in Florida. The fisherman's license buys fish management.

The fisherman also pays when he purchases fishing tackle. For every dollar spent on tackle and accessories, the Federal government collects an eleven cent tax. This Federal tax money is allocated back to the states for fish management and fish restoration work in direct proportion to the number of fishing licenses sold in a particular state. However, for each three dollars of Federal money spent on fish management, the State Game Fund must match such expenditure with one dollar.

Any way you look at it, the fisherman pays for the management of Florida's fresh water fish. The fisherman pays for the management of a resource that benefits everyone.

What Is A Fishing License?

A fishing license is more than a piece of paper. A fishing license is a legal document that entitles the fisherman the privilege of fishing anywhere in the state, at any time he may desire, by any legal method. A fishing license is not a tax as no one is forced to buy one. A fishing license may be classified in the same category as a ticket to a ball game. A fishing license is a ticket to 365 days of wholesome, healthy, outdoor recreation.

Many sportsmen consider the purchase of a fishing license as an investment. An investment in the future of Florida's fresh water fishing. A fisherman may carry his fishing license with pride for it is a badge of the conservationist, a symbol of the sportsman, and stamps the user as an individual that has contributed to the future of Florida's fresh water fishing.

Why is Fish Management Necessary?

As a merchant must manage his store and replace his stock and a farmer must harvest his crop and plant new seed, so must the fish of Florida be managed, harvested and cultivated. Fishing is a business and if the business is to prosper, it must be managed. Florida is a progressive and changing state, and a progressive fish management program is necessary if fishing is to keep abreast of the increasing changes.

While Florida is blessed with an abundance of water, the population of the state is constantly increasing; as this population increases, public waters decrease. What were wilderness lakes a few years ago, are now surrounded by developments and civilization. Where thousands have fished in the past, there must be waters and fish for the tens of thousands in the years to come.

In a scientific and expanding age of civilization, Florida cannot hope to provide this necessary fishing with a fish management program that is antiquated and limited. To produce fish and fishing waters there must be a management program that is equally as expansive as the other progressive trends in the state.

What is Fish Management?

Fish management is just what the name implies. It is the management, control, study and manipulation of the waters and other elements that support the fish. In order to better understand fish management, let's take a look at some of thevarious (Continued on next page)
Fresh water fishing lakes are vital to the economy and recreation of Florida communities. Improved patterns of fish management programs are necessary, and include the actual making of new fishing lakes as well as the improving and rehabilitating of existing waters.

An important part of fish management is investigation and research. Without scientific study to precede an operation, no management project can be successful. Through research the three year program that eliminated the gizzard shad and restored game fishing in the 31,000 acre Lake Apopka was possible. Investigation and research are not limited to laboratories, but conducted under actual fishing conditions in which biologists and fishermen may study and observe fish management at work. Examples of such would be the stocking of anadromous (fish that spawn in fresh water but live in salt water) and exotic fish such as the tilapia (Nile river panfish) into some of the lakes of Florida. Evaluation of new chemicals that will eliminate the entire fish population in a lake in comparison with others that will selectively eliminate the rough fish but not harm game fish. The Lake and Stream Surveys which study and survey the lakes and rivers of Florida to provide the data and recommendations for future management programs. The River Basin Fisheries Investigation which evaluates the activities of water control agencies that may be detrimental to fishing. The St. Johns River Appraisal and many others. Investigation and research provides a positive approach to the management of Florida's fresh water fish.

What Does Fish Management Cost?
The cost of fish management depends upon the size of the program, what the program is designed to produce, and the existing fisheries problems. To better understand the cost of fish management, look at the present expenditures for some programs.

To construct a boat ramp that will provide loading and launching facilities as well as public access will cost about $2,000.00. This means that over one thousand fishermen will have to purchase fishing licenses in order to construct one boat ramp. It costs $8.00 to control one acre of water hyacinths, and Florida contains an estimated 80,000 acres of the floating plants. The fishing licenses of four fishermen will control one acre of hyacinths. To selectively control the rough fish in Lake Apopka required three years of work and about $90,000.00. Compare this cost with the miles of fresh water in Florida and you will begin to have some understanding of the cost of fish management.

How Extensive is the Present Fish Management Program?

Florida's present fish management program is a (Continued on next page)
Florida's water hyacinth is a troublesome enemy of the fresh water budget. Climatic conditions are perfect for its rapid growth, and eradication of this ailment is never ending. The use of fish management needs to keep good fishing waters open.

What Will This Program Cost?

It is difficult to place a cost on such a program as the program itself will depend upon the need, and while the present need is great the future need will be even greater.

As an estimate it would require approximately $100,000.00 to renovate Florida's fish hatcheries in order that they might produce the fish that will be required to stock newly created lakes and renovated waters. Fish hatcheries would have to be updated in order to produce the new exotic fish.

To provide fifty new boat ramps and public access to Florida waters would require $100,000.00, and Florida needs more than an additional fifty boat ramps. It is estimated that it would require approximately $150,000.00 to meet the immediate need for lake construction, about $100,000.00 annually for chemicals to control the rough fish population in Florida's lakes, and $50,000.00 to continue the present hyacinth control program.

Is The Present Revenue Sufficient For Such a Program?

No, the present fishing license fee is based on a 1943 law and a 1943 dollar. Even with increased license sales the revenue received is not sufficient to meet the demands of an ever increasing population of fishermen and increased fishing pressure. A projected program for the future will by necessity have to be based on the value of the present dollar if such a program is to be a reality.

The present day fish management programs are based on notices and dollar-value established twenty years ago. Improved and progressive operations in the current and future demand greater flexibility and better leadership and ability in fish hatchery operations. To quote a phrase, often used in recent years..."Fish are what Florida's fresh water fishing can do for you, but what you can do for Better Fishing For All."
DOVE DILEMMA

By EDMUND MCLAURIN

There is one thing that can be accurately stated about dove hunting. Shooting is apt to be either very good or very poor. There doesn't seem to be much middle ground.

It was that way Opening Day of the first phase of this year's three-part dove hunting season in Florida — at least where I hunted.

Five of us — Thad, Keith, Bud, Pam and myself — had been accorded dove hunting privileges on the acreage of a very large Central Florida farm and livestock ranch.

Although our host sows farm crops such as watermelons, cantaloupes and vegetables of season, his major operation is the raising of livestock. Consequently, a considerable portion of his vast total acreage is devoted to grazing livestock and the growing of grain feeds therefor. As might be expected, the long, wide cultivated fields in various stages of harvest are literally a Shangri-La to doves.

We assembled forces early on Opening Day. Three of us drove up from St. Petersburg, another came from Ocala and the fifth member of the party drove down from Jacksonville. We were together and ready to start hunting at the legal hour of noon.

It was a beautiful day, but hot. Just the faintest suggestion of a breeze could be felt in our faces, and even that was hot and humid. The steel receivers of our shotguns soaked up the sun's heat like sponges and were soon warm to our touch.

After our host had designated the particular fenced-in field in which he preferred that we hunt, we quickly took positions. There were not enough of us to cover it with an interlacing pattern of fire.

The field was simply too large. It ran east and west for what looked like a good mile and was at least half that wide. About 250 yards to one side, a Florida secondary highway ran parallel. On the other side was another huge field containing a partially harvested livestock feed crop, and on the long side of that was a huge stand of pine.

The season may have opened at noon, but the firing didn't! It wasn't until about an hour later that a dove came within gun range. Bud, on the stand next to mine, downed it with a single shot — just as I concluded that he had waited too long to shoot.

Finally, about 2:45, with only one bird and no supplementary shots, I signalled Bud and Keith. We met by the east fence. Sam and Thad saw us congregate, and stopped hunting to join us.

"Let's call some peanuts and boil them," I suggested. Our host had previously called our attention to his extensive peanut plantings and given us the privilege of harvesting whatever we could eat.

Birds frequently flew across the field, but most of them were field-alighting meadowlarks and restless woodpeckers flying back and forth between landmark trees. The few doves that did put in an appearance were invariably distant from our guns and on flight courses that had final bearing on the big stand of pines. There they alighted and stayed, in accordance with the habit of doves to take a mid-day siesta. They completely ignored our dove decoy silhouettes, set up along a section of the fence.

I didn't get a shot until about 1:30, when two doves came my way, flying low and fast. I got one of them. Occasionally, a single gun would boom and the rest of us would suddenly become hope­fully alert, although in vain. What with the scarcity of birds, no one was careless about his shooting when he did have a chance!

For supplementary attraction to the decoy set-up, the use of a mouth-blown call should not be overlooked. One model on the market seems to work exceptionally well, its low, soft, plaintive notes being easy to produce and of surprising acoustical range. I am convinced that, at times, a call can be used effectively with decoys — especially if birds are occupying restless perch in field bordering trees.

Unlike crows, doves do not long dilly-dally in making decisions. When incoming birds sight a waiting hunter crouched along a boundary to a feeding area or watering spot, they may cut their wings harply and make wide, fast flight to a safer locality. On the other hand, if they have made up their minds to feed or water in an area fringed with waiting hunters, they come on, regardless — depending on their speed, erratic flight and change of wing beat to see them through to their objective.

Guns boomed at intermittent points as first one member of the party and then another got shots. Sometimes the gruff gunfire blended, for there were now plenty of birds. They came in flocks of three, five, sometimes six or seven. There were also enough singles to keep us active.

The birds were resident doves. There had not been any cold weather to send northern flocks on southward migration. They would come later.

In no time at all, it seemed, I had my legal limit. Thad had his, too. Keith lacked a bird. Sam.

(Continued on next page)
Every three to five shots is average. Birds that come to the gun backed by a stiff breeze are usually very difficult targets. A fast flyer when he wants to be, the dove also knows how to use the wind to his advantage — and often does.

For dove hunting, almost any shotgun and gauge will do. Favorites are pumps and autoloaders of 12 and 16 gauge, loaded with size No. 7 1/2 shot.

A Modified choke bored shotgun, of either 12 or 16 gauge, is just about perfect for doves, used with size No. 7 1/2 shot. Any doubts we might have had were dispelled by the timely appearance of a Wildlife Officer, routinely checking licenses. He stated he had known local conditions a long time, had personally examined the fields and they were legally open to hunting within the provisions of applicable regulations.

"Obviously, you fellows aren't farmers, or you'd know how grazing stock can knock down and scatter corn feed." Bud admitted. Later, we were to see feeding livestock trample and scatter grain as had been described.

"Yeah, we're city boys!" Bud admitted. Later, we were to see feeding livestock trample and scatter corn feed. Within minutes our own guns were loaded. At times, singles and doubles (Continued on page 32)

(Continued from preceding page)

where grains are found scattered or farming operations.
I got my information direct from sources of authority some years ago, when hunting acquaintances became involved in an alleged baited field incident. Better still, it's in black and white, over the signatures of highest officials, supplemented by a copy of the printed regulations.

"We know that," I said. "How about the small concentration of corn we saw back there?"

"That's a normal condition, caused by grazing stock. The animals knock down the corn cobs and frequently scatter the kernels as they feed." We were quite relieved to have his explanation.

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"Yeah, we're city boys!" Bud admitted. Later, we were to see feeding livestock trample and scatter grain as had been described.

We lost little time getting back to our stands, for the birds were flying up and booming. Bordering farmlands had their shooters afield, too.

"Let's go and talk with the landowner. He's hunting down at the south end of this same field," Bud suggested.

"What does this suggest?" he asked. He indicated a small spot about a foot in diameter, sprinkled with fresh corn kernels and an almost empty cob.

"A baited field!" I admitted reluctantly. "But I can't understand it. What with all the standing corn and grain, why would anyone bait a field like this one?"

"Baits me!" Bud replied. "What do you think we should do?"

"Get out of here," I suggested emphatically. "We haven't hunted here yet so we haven't broken any laws, if it is a baited field, but that would be pretty hard to explain to anyone with a one-track mind."

About seven percent of all shotgun shells sold are used by dove hunters. The dove hunter bagging one bird for every three to live shells fired can be considered average.

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GENERAL HUNTING SEASON INFORMATION

ALL HUNTERS must possess valid Florida hunting licenses, even if shooting at age. DOG STAMPS also are required when taking game or birds, and CONCEALED CARRY PERMITS are in addition to all licenses. A license is valid for the possession of all provisions of any game or fish and properly handled and transported at all times.

PURCHASE OF HUNTING LICENSE OR PERMIT con­stitutes acceptance of the provisions of all provisions of this Code. A license is valid for the hunting of all species except those listed below. Card in possession of all provisions of any game or fish and properly handled and transported at all times.

SIGN YOUR LICENSE—No license or permit is valid until counterstamped by the owner to permit use. Also sign your name across face of your stamp.

LEGAL METHODS OF TAKING GAME—Dogs or hounds may be used, except where prohibited. Plants or trees may be used, except where prohibited. Plants or trees may be used, except where prohibited.

BOATS FOR WATEROFT—Migratory birds may be taken. No hunting with motor or outboard engine except if such craft is fastened within or tied immediately alongside of any type of stationery blind or rising at another or beached.

FLORIDA WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREAS

This season the Game and Freshwater Fish Commission will have open to hunting the Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) listed below. In addition to a regular hunting license, a public hunt area permit is required for those desiring to hunt at the Management Areas.

MULTIPLE PUBLIC USE CODE FOR LISTING BELOW, *Open To Fishing, **Open To Fishing Under Special Permit, Open To Taking Of Frogs. See Special Management Area Summaries For Regulations, Permits, and Seasons.
MUZZLE FLASHES

Serious participation in smallbore rifle tournaments calls for a large array of finest equipment.

By EDMUND MC LAURIN

Despite the fact that the tendency is to own more than one gun and engage in more than a single phase of shooting activity, this is still an age of specialization—so far as required equipment is concerned.

Much of my incoming mail expresses individual interest in acquiring both the correct and complete equipment needed for maximum participation and potential success in a particularly active phase of shooting activity. Money doesn't seem to be a factor; most of the questions I receive primarily concern what equipment should be acquired, not the cost.

Comparatively considered, serious participation in local, state or national smallbore rifle tournament competition probably calls for assembly and expert use of the largest array of equipment. First essential is a super-accurate, heavy frame, heavy barrel .22 caliber rifle chambered for the .22 long rifle rimfire cartridge. Currently popular examples are the Winchester Model 52, Remington .40X and the Anschutz Model 1411 match grade rifles.

Selection of sighting equipment for the rifle model of choice is very important. For participation in matches of metallic sight classification, a high grade, readily adjustable, micrometer-click rear peep sight—usually used in combination with a hooded style aperture front sight—is indispensable. Examples are the Lyman 48, Redfield International Match, Redfield Olympic and the once popular Vaver and Marble-Goss receiver sights, and the Anschutz model 6702.

Currently popular companion front sight choices include the Lyman 77, Redfield International and Olympic models and, where still to be found, the Vaver and Marble-Goss.

Rear and front sights are of detachable design, to permit quick changeover to scope sight, where the competitor participates in the full roster of usual mixed classification matches.

The scope sight of the competitive rifleman is a long, powerful and precise instrument capable of quartering the center of a small bull's eye 100 yards distant. Of available brands, the Lyman Super-Targetspot, the Unertl Target and the Leupold Scope-Shot are current favorites. None are cheap; prices run from about $85 to $145, depending on power and size of incorporated light-gathering objective lens.

Most tournament shooters choose a magnification within the 12 to 20X bracket, although a few use sights of 25 and even 30 power. The higher powers will define bullet holes in distant targets and can be made to serve as spotting scopes after shots are fired.

For the metallic sight matches, the tournament competitor needs a standard spotting scope, which he places beside him on a small stand that supports and keeps the instrument within easy reach, to examine bullet impact location on target after a shot is fired and permits needed sight changes to be made without wasting time and points.

Spotting scopes of 20 power or higher, and with objective lenses of 50 to 60mm, are preferred. Examples can be found among the Bausch & Lomb, Unertl, Saturn and Bushnell brands, and final selection is largely a matter of personal choice where performance characteristics are common to several. Here again, a considerable grab is required.

Placing anywhere near the top in rifle tournament competition requires the steadying influence of a gun sling. In addition to the leather, 1-1/2-inch, wide, carry style sling, special detachable slings—used separately or in combination with an arm cuff—are available. The latter type is the popular two section Freeland arm cuff and sling hook.

Another standard item of rifle tournament equipment is a shooting coat, padded at elbows for prone shooting and at shoulder and around sling arm to help support the rifle butt and the sling loop at constant, non-slip ping locations. For more than thirty years the 10-X Imperial No. 202 coat has been favored by bench rest shooters. The long popular model is very practical, stylish and made to last.

Other usual, useful accessories include a shooting glove to keep the tension of the sling strap from numbining the gun cradling hand during prolonged firing; a rubberized mat on which to lie while shooting prone; cartridge block; spotting glasses to reduce glare and minimize mirage; cleaning rod and patches of proper size, and incidental items like score pad, miscellaneous targets, extra rear sight discs, small screwdrivers and possibly a tube sight for optional use. It is customary to carry most of these accessories in a shooting kit, like the Freeland and Badger extended boxes.

Except for the substitution of a high power, center fire rifle, like the Winchester Model 70 Boltgun or Springfield 30-06, the big bore tournament competitor uses pretty much the same equipment as the smallbore shooter. There seems to be a growing interest in open tournaments that feature the firing of the gruff-voiced big bore.

The pistol tournament competitor can eliminate such items as shooting coat, ground mat, scope sight, and other accessories foreign to handgun shooting, but will need spotting glasses, a long vizored cap, a car bide lamp sight blackener, cleaning rod, spotting scopes and assorted screwdrivers, and some sort of box in which to carry his equipment.

Favored handguns for tournament use include the Hi-Standard and Colt match target autoloaders, Roger Mark I autoloader, Smith & Wesson Model 41 autoloader—all .22's—and the 45 calib er Colt Service weapon. Where revolvers are used, guns like the Smith & Wesson K-22 Master piece, K-38 and Colt Officer's model rifles as made by early Pennsylvania gunsmiths, and later vintage Colt Navy revolvers are favored.

Ideal — where you can find them — are old "Kentucky" model rifles as made by early Pennsylvania gunsmiths, and late vintage Colt Navy revolvers. The columns of advertising in THE SHOTGUN NEWS (Colum bus, Nebraska) should be closely reviewed if your interest is in buying the favorite weapons of yesteryear.

There is tremendous interest in trap and Skeet shooting. One reason is the increasing number of conveniently located clubs and well managed programs.

Any quality made, modern shotgun of 12 gauge, capable of firing two fast shots, fast enough to gain the satisfaction of practice gun. Preferably, it should have at least one Full Choke bored barrel—

(Continued on page 32)
1962-63 Hunting Season

### WILD TURKEY
Turkey of either sex legal game during regular season, two per day, three per season.

- **First District:** Opens November 17, closes January 6. Special season in DeSoto and Hardee counties.
- **Second District:** Opens November 17, closes January 6. Alachua, Bradford and a portion of Columbia County south of State Road 18 and east of U.S. 441 closed at all times. Spring turkey gobbler (hens protected) hunting season March 30 through April 14, one-half hour before sunrise to 12 noon. Dixie, Lafayette, Levy and Gilchrist counties closed to Spring Gobbler season.
- **Third District:** Opens November 17, closes January 13. Spring turkey gobbler (hens protected) hunting season March 30 through April 14, one-half hour before sunrise to 12 noon. Dixie, Lafayette, Levy and Gilchrist counties closed to Spring Gobbler season.
- **Fourth District:** Opens November 17, closes January 6. Monroe closed to Key Deer.
- **Fifth District:** Opens November 17, closes January 6.

### BUCK DEER
Buck deer with one or more five-inch antlers, one per day, two per season.

- **First District:** Opens November 17, closes January 6. Hardee, Manatee, Sarasota, Pinellas, and DeSoto counties, and that part of Hillsborough county south of U.S. Highway 92, closed at all times.
- **Second District:** Opens November 17, closes January 6. Alachua, Bradford and a portion of Columbia County south of State Road 18 and east of U.S. 441 closed at all times. Spring turkey gobbler (hens protected) hunting season March 30 through April 14, one-half hour before sunrise to 12 noon. Dixie, Lafayette, Levy and Gilchrist counties closed to Spring Gobbler season.
- **Third District:** Opens November 17, closes January 13. Special season in Walton, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, and Escambia counties to open November 17 through December 2, and December 15 through January 1. to coincide with season in Eglin Air Force Military Reservation. Washington, Holmes and Jackson Counties closed.
- **Fourth District:** Opens November 17, closes January 6. Monroe closed to Key Deer.
- **Fifth District:** Opens November 17, closes January 6.

### BEAR — RABBIT — WILD HOG
Black bear legal game during open deer season. Daily and seasonal bag limited to one. Cub bears protected at all times.

- A hunting license is required for rabbits during regular hunting season.
- Wild hogs are considered game animals, with no special hunting areas during open season, designated for each area.

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### Special Area Regulations

**Florida’s Duck and Coot Hunt Season** opened at 12:00 noon November 21, for forty consecutive days through December 30. Goose hunting will be allowed through December 30.

Under the final migratory hunting regulations framework from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, daily bag limits for ducks is three, with a total possession limit of six. Daily bag for geese is two, with a possession limit of four. Both daily bag and possession limits for coots will be six.

Special waterfowl regulations in effect for the 1962-63 season are: Hunting permitted from sunrise to sunset. No hunting of cansanck or red head ducks. The daily bag may not include more than two mallards, black ducks, or Florida ducks, singly or in the aggregate of two wood ducks, or one hooded merganser. The total possession limit may not include more than four black ducks, mallards, or Florida ducks, singly or in aggregate, two wood ducks and one hooded merganser. Daily limits on American and red-breasted mergansers is five and the possession limit is ten. Leon and Jefferson counties will be closed to duck and coot hunting except on Wednesdays, Saturdays, Sundays, opening day and holidays.

**NOTE:** Special hunts for migratory birds, including ducks, geese, canvasbacks, wood peewocks, and swan hunting is scheduled for the final migratory hunt season of November 21 through December 30.

**Special Scaup Bonus**
In addition to other bag and possession limits, Florida hunters in certain scaup concentration areas will be allowed a bonus of two extra scaup ducks in a day’s bag and four in possession. These areas are: All open waters of Charlotte Harbor from the bridge on U.S. Highway 41 to a straight line running in an easterly direction from Boca Grande Pass through the Gulf of Mexico to the mainland. All open areas of the 2,200 acre impoundment open to controlled hunting on the Gunzo River Wildlife Management Area, St. Johns County, Florida. All open waters of the Banana River from Banana Creek south to State Road 520.

**Squirrel**
Open season Statewide November 17, closes in First, Second, Fourth and Fifth Districts February 17. Closing Districts, Northwest Florida: February 24. Daily bag limit of 30 gray squirrels and two fox squirrels, with no season bag limit.

**Quail**

**Waterfowl Hunters**
Make certain you have a correct and up-to-date state waterfowl hunting stamp before hunting waterfowl. Available from your local post office at a cost of $3.00, the stamp is required of all waterfowl hunters 16 years of age or older.

Your name must be signed in ink across the face of the stamp before you hunt.
DOVE DILEMMA
(Continued from page 25)
approached in such rapid succession that I did not detect their approach, and they were over my head and away before I could change angle of fire. This second afternoon of hunting offered some really good shooting.

Two of my birds fell in the tall weeds that grew quickly around the waterhole. I stopped hunting and searched for them for at least half an hour. As game should not be wasted, it’s better to walk down a bird and then not find it, I sorted the weeds with my hands and a swinging foot until both birds were in hand. I found only one kill.

When I rejoined my companions I found that they, too, had resolutely lost a bird or two each in the big field’s random patches of tall, thick weeds.

However, so the aggregate we had a good bag of birds. But the best part of it was that all were legally hunted.

Somewhere, that knowledge always makes shooting — and the eating—harper memories.

Dogs — Hunting
(Continued from page 11)

basis of the accumulated score of the three day field event. Highest of awards is classified as a combination winner, which indicates that the dog has placed high in both bench and field competition.

Emerging as top All-Age Combination Hound was a three year old Trigg named "Mickey," owned by Dr. E. K. Crain of Arcadia. Top All-Age field honors went to a two year old Walker named PeeWee, owned by Dean Horton of Pensacola. Walker.

Combination hound was a Walker named Calico Zip, owned by Foster Zipperer of Valdosta, Georgia. Awarded the best in Derby field activity a Walker female named Hanna owned by H. R. Deenison of Siluria, Alabama.

At the annual business meeting the members of the Florida Fox Hunters Association re-elected John Stephens of Quincy as another term as president.

Coon Hunt Licensed Night Hunt

The Panhandle Sportsmen Club of Panama City sponsored a licensed wild coon hunt under the rules of the Florida Coon Hound Club on the night of October 20. By special dispensation and under the supervision of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission the wild coon hunt was conducted on the Gaskin Wildlife Management Area. There is a marked difference between a coon hound field trial and a coon hunt licensed night hunt. A field trial is conducted during daylight hours and under controlled conditions which employ traps stockaded with coon scent and other simulated hunting conditions. A licensed night hunt is just what the name implies and is conducted at night and with wild coon. Champions of the hunt are awarded a licensed night hunt and for a dog to become a recognized night hunt champ is a mark of distinction among the owners of coon hounds.

Coon hounds are broken into two categories during licensed wild coon hunts with special consideration given to those hounds which have previously achieved the title of Night Champion. This special hunt for the champions is known as a Champion of Champion Cast. Other classes are for the hounds that are registered with the United Kennel Club and known as Registered Cast. The remaining class is for hounds that are not registered and known as Grade Cast.

Winning the Champion of Champions Cast was a five year old Bluetick female, Night Champion SB Swift Creek Susie owned by Ben Bullcock of Niceville, Fla.

A total of 41 coon hunts were entered in the North Florida coon hunts with special consideration given to those hounds which have previously achieved the title of Night Champion. This special hunt for the champions is known as a Champion of Champion Cast. Other classes are for the hounds that are registered with the United Kennel Club and known as Registered Cast. The remaining class is for hounds that are not registered and known as Grade Cast.

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CONSERVATION SCENE
(Continued from page 4)

Raccoon Problem
Florida's raccoons have become a problem in several ways, mainly due to their increase in recent years. There is now disagreement as to whether their numbers should be reduced. The arguments against the raccoon is that he likes corn, has an aversion to watermelon and is sometimes a carrier of rabies. In favor of the raccoon is the popularity of coon hunting with dogs. In a recent issue of "The Conservation Scene", a publication of the Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, a letter from C.R. Madsen of the Fish and Wildlife Service predator and rodent control staff concludes that raccoon reduction of raccoon numbers is unnecessary but that there is overpopulation in some areas. The arguments against the raccoon is that he likes corn, has an aversion to watermelon and is sometimes a carrier of rabies. In favor of the raccoon is the popularity of coon hunting with dogs. In a recent issue of "The Conservation Scene", a publication of the Florida Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, a letter from C.R. Madsen of the Fish and Wildlife Service predator and rodent control staff concludes that raccoon reduction of raccoon numbers is unnecessary but that there is overpopulation in some areas.

Shotgun For Squirrels
There is a lot of disagreement among hunters as to the most desirable firearm for gray squirrels. According to the conservation department of the Olin Mathieson Chemical Corporation, there is slightly more crippling where rifles are used. Some farmers who will permit shotgun hunting frown on rifles. In Indiana, 12-gauge shotgun users spent an average of 3.3 hours in killing a squirrel. Riflemen averaged 13 hours. However, the Olin Mathieson people are of the opinion that rifle use requires more skill than shotgun hunting.

Izaak Walton Resolutions
At an August meeting in Palm Beach, directors of the Florida Division of the Izaak Walton League of America passed resolutions summarized as follows: "Air" should be added to the Izaak Walton League policy statement, making it a pledge to aid and support in the protection and restoration of America's "soil, woods, waters, wildlife and air." State legislation should declare striped bass a gamefish in Florida with establishment of protective measures on size and creel limit. Petitioned the Cocoa Beach City Commissioners, Brevard County Commissioners and trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund to deny establishment of any bulkhead line which will extend beyond 100 feet contiguous to any existing land areas lying in the waters of the Banana river.

TOO MANY BOAT LAWS
Because of the complexity of boating and trailer regulations over the country, the Outboard Boating Club of America has decided to issue a series of regional digests of boating laws. There were simply too many variations for a single volume, they decided. The first of the digests covers 13 Midwestern states.

CUT OUT AND SAVE THIS APPLICATION BLANK

**FLORIDA WILDLIFE**

**FLORIDA WILDLIFE'S FISHING CITATION**

is available without charge, to any and all subscribers to Florida Wildlife Magazine, and their immediate families, who catch any of the fresh-water game fish of the prescribed species and size requirements. Citation, showing recorded date of the catch, will be mailed to the applicant upon receipt of the following application form that has been properly filled out and signed.

**APPLICATION FOR FLORIDA WILDLIFE FISHING CITATION**

The Editor, FLORIDA WILDLIFE

Date, ____________________

Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Fla.

Please send me the Florida Wildlife Fishing Citation with the inscribed data listed below:

Name (please print) ___ __________

Address, ___ __________

City, State, ___

Species ______________________________________

Weight, Length ____________________

Type of Tackle ____________________

Bait or Lure Used ____________________

Where Caught: __________

County

Date Caught, __________

Catch Witnessed By ____________________

Registered, Weighed By ____________________

At ____________________

(Signature of Applicant)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPECIES</th>
<th>ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LARGE MOUTH BASS</td>
<td>8 pounds or larger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CHAIN PICKEREL</td>
<td>4 pounds or larger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLUE GILL (BREAM)</td>
<td>1½ pounds or larger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SHELL CRACKER</td>
<td>1 pound or larger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BLACK CRAPPIE</td>
<td>2 pounds or larger</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RED BREAST</td>
<td>1 pound or larger</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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 fishing tackle, with artificial or live bait, in the presence of at least one witness. The catch must be weighed and recorded at a fish camp or tackle store within the state by the owner, manager, or an authorized agent of the respective establishment.
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