This Florida Wildlife Magazine Digital Preservation Project is developed with financial assistance provided by the: William H. Flowers, Jr. Foundation and the Fish & Wildlife Foundation of Florida, Inc. through the Conserve Wildlife Tag grant program.
Florida Wildlife Scrapbook

WADING BIRDS SUCH AS HERONS, IBIS, AND RAIS HAVE LONG LEGS AND LONG, SLENDER TOES \* LONG TOES PREVENT SINKING INTO MUD.

WATER BIRDS LIKE DUCKS, GEESE, SWANS AND GUINEA HAVE FULLY WEBBED FEET MADE FOR SWIMMING.

HARK, EAGLES AND OWLS HAVE POWERFUL FEET WITH STRONG, SHARP TALONS FOR GRASPING AND HOLDING RAYS, MUS AND OTHER PREY.

WOODPECKERS HAVE TWO TOES IN FRONT AND TWO BEHIND WITH STRONG, SHARP CLAWS MADE FOR CLIMBING AND CLINING TO VERTICAL SURFACES.

STRONG, BLUNT CLAWS OF QUAIL, PHEASANTS AND TURKEYS ARE MADE FOR SCRATCHING AND RAKING THE GROUND WHEN SEARCHING FOR FOOD.

---FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION---

WILD FEET - BIRDS

---FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION---

Florida Wildlife

FLORIDA WILDLIFE is published monthly by the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Florida. Copyright 1912, Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. Printed at Tallahassee, Florida. Entered as Second Class Matter Nov. 6, 1912, at the U.S. Post Office, Tallahassee, Florida, under the Act of August 24, 1912.

Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

ROBE TALLAHASSEE

OCTOBER, 1965

Published monthly by the FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION

Tallahassee, Florida

Dedicated to the Conservation, Restoration, and Protection of our Game and Fish

BILL HANSEN, EDITOR

WALLACE HUGHES, Art Director

C. L. SATTERFIELD, Circulation

In This Issue

Conservation Bandwagon

The Sparrow Hawk

Wallace Hughes 13

Fishing Tourist

Charles Waterman 14

Let's Go Bowhunting!

Edmund McLaurin 18

Bass Dilemma

Mike Goddes 22

Departments

Conservation Scene

4

Muskie Flashes

6

Fishing

8

Dogs-Hunting

10

Boating

27

COMMISSION

W. E. COPeland, Chairman

Jacksonville

Northeast Region

RONALD WISE, Dunuadak Springs

Northeast Region

HAROLD W. ASHLEY, Melbourne

Central Region

JACK GIUETT, Wauchula

Southern Region

W. THOMAS McBRIDE, Miami

Everglades Region

ADMINISTRATION

DR. O. E. FRYE, JR., Director

H. L. WALLACE

Assistant Editor

JOEL MCKINNON

Administrative Assistant

JOHN W. WOODS, Chief

Publications Division

JAMES A. POWELL, Chief

Game Management Division

BRANTLEY GOODSON, Chief

Law Enforcement Division

JAMES T. FLOYD, Chief

Information-Education Division

RHETT MCKILLIAN, Chief

Communications Division

Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

ROBE TALLAHASSEE

OCTOBER, 1965

In This Issue

Conservation Bandwagon

The Sparrow Hawk

Wallace Hughes 13

Fishing Tourist

Charles Waterman 14

Let's Go Bowhunting!

Edmund McLaurin 18

Bass Dilemma

Mike Goddes 22

Departments

Conservation Scene

4

Muskie Flashes

6

Fishing

8

Dogs-Hunting

10

Boating

27

COMMISSION

W. E. COPeland, Chairman

Jacksonville

Northeast Region

RONALD WISE, Dunuadak Springs

Northeast Region

HAROLD W. ASHLEY, Melbourne

Central Region

JACK GIUETT, Wauchula

Southern Region

W. THOMAS McBRIDE, Miami

Everglades Region

ADMINISTRATION

DR. O. E. FRYE, JR., Director

H. L. WALLACE

Assistant Editor

JOEL MCKINNON

Administrative Assistant

JOHN W. WOODS, Chief

Publications Division

JAMES A. POWELL, Chief

Game Management Division

BRANTLEY GOODSON, Chief

Law Enforcement Division

JAMES T. FLOYD, Chief

Information-Education Division

RHETT MCKILLIAN, Chief

Communications Division

Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

ROBE TALLAHASSEE

OCTOBER, 1965

Published monthly by the FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION

Tallahassee, Florida

Dedicated to the Conservation, Restoration, and Protection of our Game and Fish

BILL HANSEN, EDITOR

WALLACE HUGHES, Art Director

C. L. SATTERFIELD, Circulation

In This Issue

Conservation Bandwagon

The Sparrow Hawk

Wallace Hughes 13

Fishing Tourist

Charles Waterman 14

Let's Go Bowhunting!

Edmund McLaurin 18

Bass Dilemma

Mike Goddes 22

Departments

Conservation Scene

4

Muskie Flashes

6

Fishing

8

Dogs-Hunting

10

Boating

27

COMMISSION

W. E. COPeland, Chairman

Jacksonville

Northeast Region

RONALD WISE, Dunuadak Springs

Northeast Region

HAROLD W. ASHLEY, Melbourne

Central Region

JACK GIUETT, Wauchula

Southern Region

W. THOMAS McBRIDE, Miami

Everglades Region

ADMINISTRATION

DR. O. E. FRYE, JR., Director

H. L. WALLACE

Assistant Editor

JOEL MCKINNON

Administrative Assistant

JOHN W. WOODS, Chief

Publications Division

JAMES A. POWELL, Chief

Game Management Division

BRANTLEY GOODSON, Chief

Law Enforcement Division

JAMES T. FLOYD, Chief

Information-Education Division

RHETT MCKILLIAN, Chief

Communications Division

Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission.

ROBE TALLAHASSEE

OCTOBER, 1965
CONSERVATION SCENE

Florida’s Firearms Law Hailed as One of the Best

The hundreds of firearms bills introduced across the country this year, the most constructive measures have come out of Florida, California and Illinois. Firearms bills in these states have gotten the enthusiastic support of sportsmen, according to the Shooting Sports Association, because they have been singled out at the criminal misuse of firearms without infringing on the rights of law-abiding hunters and shooters.

In fact, the Florida measure, which was recently signed into law, makes it very clear in a “Declaration of Policy” that no law should ever infringe on the rights of law-abiding citizens to possess a firearm without a certificate from the head of the institution he can do so without endangering others.

In Illinois, the legislature recently passed a bill which would be considered a separate offense and the sentence would be added to the one imposed if the offense were committed unarmed. Sentences would be increased two to five years for the first conviction, five to ten years for the second, and an indeterminate term (but not less than 7 years) for the third.

This bill, which was actively supported by Illinois sportsmen, is one similar to one now pending in Congress, sponsored by Rep. Robert Casey of Texas, to set a mandatory 25-year federal sentence for a person convicted of using or carrying a firearm in a robbery, assault, murder or kidnapping. A similar bill is pending in the Pennsylvania legislature.

California’s firearms laws, which Governor Edmund G. Brown calls “among the best in the nation”, were strengthened recently with the signing of new laws, supported by the state’s sportsmen.

Among them are laws to:
- Classify as grand theft, the theft of any firearm.
- Increase the penalty for illegal possession or ownership of a concealable firearm from 5 to 15 years.
- Make it an offense, punishable by up to 15 years in prison, for any person who has been convicted of a felony while armed, to own or possess a firearm.
- Prohibit a person who has been involuntarily committed to a mental institution to own or possess a firearm without a certificate from the head of the institution that he can do so without endangering others.
- Exempt antique weapons from the Dangerous Weapons Control Law.

New Pheasant Project

If your game bag gets a questioning look on its face this coming season don’t be surprised. It may be wondering what to do about that strange, new bird he has just winded in the edge of the cornfield.

As the man behind the dog, however, you should know it that one of the greatest stocked by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. Hold your fire in such cases. Otherwise this promising experiment in the introduction of a new game bird species in Florida will not have a chance of succeeding.

That is the word from game biologist R. W. Murray, Chipley, who is now busy releasing phasianet.

(Continued on page 39)

Hunting Season Notes

Waterfowl Hunting Season Regulations

Florida hunters will have a two phase season for ducks, geese and geese during 1965-66. The first phase will open at 12:00 noon November 24 and continue through December 6. The second phase will open at sunrise, December 18, and continue through January 9. Duck hunting will end from sunrise to sunset except on the November 24 opening day when hunting will begin at 12:00 noon.

The daily bag limit on ducks other than mergansers is four and may not include more than five of the following species: (a) two wood ducks; (b) two mallards; (c) two canvasbacks. Daily bag limit for geese will be two. Daily bag for coots will be ten with a total possession limit of 20. The limit on American, red-breasted and hooded mergansers, in the aggregate of these species, is five daily and ten in possession of which not more than one daily and two in possession may be hooded mergansers.

During the first two weeks of the November 24 through December 5, the Florida duck is classified along with the mallard and hunters may have no more than two in the aggregate of these species. In the following described areas, two scapucks may be taken in addition to the daily limit: bag: all open waters of Charlotte Harbor area from the bridge on U.S. Highway 41 to a line running from Boca Grande to Boca Grande Bridge; all open waters of the Guano River Wildlife Management Area in St. Johns County; all open waters of Banana River from Banana Creek south to State Road 388; all open waters of Indian River from State Road 388 south to State Road 60; all open waters of State Road 60 from Banana Creek south to State Road 388; all open waters of Mosquito Lagoon from Oak Hill to State Road 402.

Welcome Aboard

Conservation Bandwagon

By ERNEST SWIFT

National Wildlife Federation

For the past few years we have seen programs identified with the conservation movement sprouting up throughout the nation's supply of nonrenewable resources. The junk yards and auto dumps have been mentioned as a prime target in the beautification program. If there is one lesson which should be something more basic than screening them with high board fences and shrub rows.

These junk heaps of iron and other metals are still a part of the nation's supply of nonrenewable resources. The junk yards may be an eye sore, but the waste they represent is a sin. These junk heaps represent overproduction of automobiles, and too often through the land we see high priced farm machinery rusting in fence corners. Overproduction and waste is what sustains our affluent way of life. Such attitudes are fiercely defended. It is up to each of us to help root out all fags of big government, big business and big labor in this regard. The very fact that we Ameri-
MUZZLE FLASHES

By EDMUND MCLAURIN

Recall sensitivity factors include gun fit and design, and the butt plate contour

Recall sensitivity factors include gun fit and design, and the butt plate contour

said, "Recall increases as either the velocity or weight of the shot charge, is increased, provided the same gun is used in making comparisons. Also, the lighter the gun, the more the kick; the heavier the bullet or shot charge and the powder charge, the more the kick." . . .

For recall sensitive shotguns who want to stick to the 12 gauge, the Remington Model 1100 autoloaders, with its thick, sleek, style Pachmayr "White Line" rubber recoil pad for maximum shooting comfort.

With the Pachmayr pad or without, felt recoil of the Remington Model 1100 autoloaders is remarkably light. The recoil is still there (because the shell's bullet charge is a fixed, constant factor), but it is so well controlled that a 12 gauge feels like a 20 in respect to imparted shoulder recoil—let alone 12 times.

If you are a hunter, get that Model 1100 with 26-inch barrel equipped with a select choke device like the Lyman, Super Poly Choke or Pachmayr, and the already mentioned Pachmayr "White Line" recoil pad. The muzzle attached compensator will serve the dual purpose of reducing felt recoil and providing a selection of choke, and the Pach­mayr pad will absorb some of the remaining recoil.

You'll have a gun you will enjoy shooting, and which will be very versatile afield.

If your shooting activity is to be confined to trap shooting, then get the special, longer-barreled, Full Choke bared, trap shooting Model 1100-TB with ventilated rib, Monte Carlo style stock comb. Add the recommended Pachmayr pad, but dispense with muzzle attached choke control unit, not needed on a Full Choke bared trap gun.

Few shooters are ever truly satisfied with their guns. Invariably, their line of thinking is that the gun presently owned can be advantageously re­placed by another model. Consequently, every hunting season sees many sales and trades.

For those so inclined, it is timely to mention that reputable dealers are now in competition with each other for good used guns, and they in turn usually guarantee satisfactory performance to their customers. Quite frequently, a sporting goods store can offer you a very good trade-in of an old gun on a brand new one.

On the other hand, if the gun dealer buys outright, with no balancing trade-in, don't expect to get much above the current "blue book" price. The reason is that the licensed dealer must be able to mark up the gun to a new selling price and make a profit to stay in business, and he has money tied up in the transaction until he does liquidate.

When buying a used gun by mail, either deal with an established firm, or try to get the individual seller to list the gun, if available, with guaranteed refund if the gun proves unsatisfactory.

Your part of the agreement is to be responsible for the merchandise in case of loss, and to get any unsatisfactory gun back in transit with copy of Bill of Lading as proof, within the three day time limit, or forfeit claim to refund.

Some sellers will not grant privilege of a three day test. In that event, insist on shipment express collect with examination privilege. This means you can open the package in the presence of the carrier, to satisfy yourself that the firearm is apparently in good condition before paying the C.O.D. charges. If unsatisfactory, the shipment is marked "Refused" and returned to source at original shipper's expense.

Mail order transactions, other than with reputable firms, always have an element of risk—which is why so many of us prefer to buy our guns locally, despite the loss of the personal contact of a mail order advertisement's oft-stated discount.

An avid reader of hunting and fishing magazines, or one who periodically reads available books on big game hunting, sooner or later notices mention of use of a Nosler bullet, and reads of its described performance on game.

Nosler custom made bullets have long been used by handloaders and by big game hunters fortunate enough to obtain ready-to-use ammunition loaded with Nosler bullets of proper style and weight. The Nosler line of bullets has a good reputation among experienced riflemen, who demand the best accuracy and performance possible from a bullet. One­shot kills are common.

Nosler bullets are unique in that they are partitioned; on impact with the flesh the soft, tapered fore-section rolls back over a hard core lead base creating an expanded bullet of much larger than original caliber and one of great cutting and shock­ing power, but one which tends to hold together.

A special Nosler patented partition positively controls expansion.

The trouble, until recently, has been that the non­handloader has not been able to easily obtain ready­to-use ammunition loaded with Nosler bullets. Nos­ler does not manufacture complete rounds of ammun­ition, and few handloaders will sell their precious creations. However, that stumbling block no longer exists.

Norma, a big name in ammunition manufacturing, now loads various popular calibers with Nosler bul­lets. Included are the .270 Winchester, .308 Winchester, .375 H&H and 7mm Remington Mag­num calibers.

The premium ammunition costs more—about 5¢ more per round—but gives assured hunting effi­ciency, if you do your part as a straight-shooting rifleman. It can be had from any sporting goods store stocking Norma brand ammunition, or by mail order from Williams Gun Sight Company, Davison, Michigan; Badger Shooter's Supply, Owen, Wisconsin, and from other Norma ammunition distributors.

ANYONE WHO PREPARES editorial copy a couple of months in advance of scheduled publication, or who long writes column material, sooner or later encounters unintentional complications. For example, . . .

In the March 1965 issue, readers were told about the small, Plato Brand No. 702, plastic nametapes used for personalizing various sporting goods items, especially fishing tackle boxes, hard leather gun cases and camera bags.

The plates are of ¾% of an inch thick, hard, dur­able plastic, and are 2½ inches long by ¾% of an inch wide. Name lettering is ¾ of an inch high. Quality is excellent.

I especially recommended the solid black back­ground name plate with white lettering, and gave the name of the Southeastern Sales Corp., St. Petersburg, Fla., as source of supply. But between the time of copy preparation and magazine printing the owner of the one-man firm had a heart attack and closed business.

For reader information, the plates can be ordered direct from the manufacturer, Plastic Tag & Trade Chock Company, P. O. Box 2, Bay City, Michigan. Price for a minimum order of 25 figures out about 19¢ per plate; however, if you order 50, the unit price drops to 17¢ per plate—your best buy.

For recall sensitive shotguns who want to stick to the 12 gauge, the Remington Model 1100 autoload­ing shotgun is notable for its impacted light recoil.
A class of boat that will serve for both salt and fresh water fishing, and is a fairly spacious, fast, soft-riding craft

By CHARLES WATERMAN

FISHING

The boating department is on another page and I don't even own a yachting cup like Elgin White's but now and then I venture a few words about the fishing boat business to the despair of more nautical folk.

After four years in the navy I was still inclined to call the deck the floor so my analysis of hull design has a pre-school sound but the specialized field of small, fast fishing boats is not too often scratched by the cruising crowd. Here goes on some experiences with the "multi-hulled" outboards.

These boats have different looks but they all operate on the principle of several surfaces contacting the water once. They are noted for easy riding as they plane partly on a cushion of air and spray. The merits of the various bottoms are too complex to call the deck the floor so my analysis of hull and topside features.

I certainly haven't tried all of these boats. I have recently used a Bonito, produced by Bonito Boats, Inc., Box 8876, Orlando, Florida. I have also done some rough water miles in the large, 16-foot Boston Whaler. The Boston Whaler name comes up any time this job is done. I imagine the term "Whaler" is irksome to many builders, even though they privately know that Boston Whaler has the large size Boston Whaler and others in that class but they aren't much use for the big Boston Whaler. It is a heavy boat and when sitting without power it draws considerable water. It would stick on a shallow flat you could pole right up as the standard for so long that there's a certain size Boston Whaler and others in that class but although they are a combination of soft-riding, good speed and great stability. They also have no intention of secretes, no matter what the large Whaler is close to 16 feet in length and will do the job if you want to travel in open water and then.

The big Whaler is expensive. The factory of fishing room and fast enough for any sensible fishing need in fresh water.

For my own personal use the bow rail would have to be removed as I shove a boat through a lot of creeks where the brush would tear off anything that stands up like that. This would be an objection in about one in a million fishermen as nearly everyone else is too smart to crawl through mangrove creeks where there is plenty of nice, open water outside. Such boats don't row as nicely as long, slender ones but you have to have some compromises somewhere.

Storage, as in most small fishing boats, is something of a problem. With all that space, you have little covered area. This Bonito has a covered compartment on each side amidships, each of which serves as a passenger seat. Minor beefs are that rain can seep in around the edges of the lids and that the lids blow open when the boat is being towed at highway speeds. I'm not picking on the Bonito folks as this business of compartment lids opening up has been a sore spot with me on several boats. It isn't as simply prevented as you might think. Latches and locks can be in the way.

This class of boat will bear looking into if you need a fairly fast, soft-riding, roomy job that will serve for sensible salt water use as well as lake and river fishing.

The Boston Whaler is close to 16 feet in length and will do the job in a bag, usually because its owner was a little vague about how to get it back together. Gary says the occasional left-hand threads in popular reel makes are most likely to hamperlock the amateur repairman. He adds that two basket cases in the same bag are momentarily confusing but no great problem. A reel's nationality makes no difference. The parts are nearly always ready for it.

A Mitchell spinning reel, admittedly one of the best if you are a creek fisherman.
Tribute to dog—the one absolutely unselfish friend that a man can have in this world

When the bird reaches such a predetermined position just shoulder your gun and blaze away. Pure mechanics will do the rest. In other words, if you have calculated mass, velocity, trajectory and windage—oh yes, and if the bird flies in the right direction—it will dutifully fall behind the little bush behind the third tree on the left.

If not, however, the judge is bound to utter the most awesome words that can fall on the ears of a trial gunner “No bird—Pick up your dog,” meaning that the poor handler and dog, both standing on a mental bed of red hot coals, must slowly throttle back those pent up emotions, turn calmly on their heels and proceed back to the waiting line.

As a handler I have experienced this sinking sensation but I feel that while the repeaters, and auto loading shotguns are tremendous guns in their place and while they may be loaded with as many as five rounds, once the choke is honed into that one barrel then its range is fixed and there is no time between shots at a field trial to reach up to that muzzle and tighten a multiple choke device.

The only salvation or dodge I have noted some single tube field trial gunners employ is to make the second shot one of the heavier loads such as a two and three quarter inch magnum.

Everyone wants to shoot the guns and blaze away at flying pheasant pigeons or ducks and perhaps everyone is entitled to such an opportunity at least once. Generally speaking once is enough and the experience of shooting under the scrutiny of judges, handlers, dogs, gallery and even bird boys is somewhat terrifying. Don’t, however, feel rained upon if you are not asked to “gun” at a field trial as the Captain of the Guns is responsible for the shooting ability of his gunners and any sincere Captain is going to search the countryside for the best qualified guns he can find.

Tribute To A Dog

George Graham Vest was born in Frankfort, Kentucky, in 1830 and lived on the so called “Corner of Celebrities,” a city block that has produced nine U. S. senators, six U. S. congressmen, two U. S. supreme court justices, two U. S. cabinet officers, nine governors, three admirals and seven high-ranking diplomats. Thousands of people each year visit the splendid homes of this famous block in Kentucky’s capital.

After moving to Missouri to practice law, Vest became a senator in the confederacy during the Civil War and later served as senator for 25 years. Famous and respected as he was, however, he achieved immortality for something quite apart from his statesmanship.

In 1870 Senator Vest had a client named Charles Burden whose favorite hound, Old Drum, had been shot by a neighbor, Leonides Hornsby, allegedly for killing sheep. Burden sued Hornsby for damages. Hornsby promptly retained another U. S. senator for counsel, the renowned Francis M. Cockrell, and the case attracted widespread attention.

Senator Cockrell was an extremely competent attorney. He did a superlative job, marshalling his facts before the court into a completely convincing argument to justify the killing of a marauding dog.

Senator Vest didn’t refute him. He called no witnesses, cited no precedents and offered no legal argument. Instead he simply stood before the jury and talked quietly for a minute or so about the nature of a dog.

His gentle, moving oration died away into a dead silence. Then a storm of wild applause that no gavel could silence swept the courtroom. Everyone present was visibly affected, many people weeping unashamedly.

Senator Vest won a unanimous verdict and his tribute to man’s best friend became a joy and a treasure to dog-lovers of all ages the world over. This is what he said to the jury: “Gentlemen of the Jury:—The best friend a (Continued on next page)
Those who are nearest and dearest to us, those from him, perhaps in a moment of ill-considered action. The people who are prone to fall on their knees to do us honor when success is with us, may be the first to throw the stone of malice when failure settles its cloud upon our heads.

"The one absolutely unselfish friend that man can have in this selfish world, the one that never deserts him, the one that never proves ungrateful is his dog. A man’s dog stands by him in prosperity and in poverty, in health and in sickness. He will sleep on the cold ground, where the wintry winds blow and the snow drives fiercely, and kiss the hand that has no food to offer; he will lick the wounds and sores that come in encounter with the roughness of the world. He guards the sleep of the master of his master’s side. He will kiss the hand that has no food to offer; he will lick the wounds and sores that come in encounter with the roughness of the world. He guards the sleep of his master's side. He will kiss the hand that has no food to offer; he will lick the wounds and sores that come in encounter with the roughness of the world.

Companions of the Hunt

Hunting is never fully appreciated until the hunter buys a dog, trains him and then enjoys the fruits of his labor. Since I was a wee tad of a lad, hunting has been my favorite outdoor recreational sport, but I never really knew the thrill of the game until I acquired a qualified sporting dog. Not that the wide range of assortments four legged beast of my youth did not provide me with unlimited pleasures but my really first qualified hunting dog did not arrive on the scene until later years.

Sporting dog breeds are like new car models, they are all good and all different. It’s a matter of personal preference and type of hunting. Many hunters pride themselves with the long lists of famous ancestors their dog sports, but the most important thing is, can he hunt? Without the keen nose, the pulsating drive and the desire to hunt and to please, a dog’s pedigree is worthless. My retriever was only eight months old when he made his first retrieve on the opening day of duck hunting season. Shortly before sunrise (this was quite a few years ago and it was legal) he shot one half hour before sunrise) a lone mallard made the mistake of being fooled by my decoys. A single shot downed the bird, a cripple with a broken wing. No command was necessary as my pup entered the water and was half way to the duck before it hit the water. A quick chase, recovery and return to the boat with his prize. This truly was a sight to behold and while I may have popped a button with pride over my shot and the performance of the pup, I could see even more pleasure and pride in the eyes of my black dog.

There is, indeed, a mutual bond between dog and hunter. They are a team, working for the same thing, each contributing his share. September and October is the height of the dog training season and there is still time to get yourself a hunting partner. When sunrise, on opening day rolls around you’ll be a fortunate hunter if you have a four-partner at your side.
The visiting angler must remember that even the very best fishing areas have “off-periods.”

By CHARLES WATERMAN

A friend of mine got on an airplane on Ohio, stepped off it in South Florida and into a boat with me. Twenty minutes later we stopped at a bend in a mangrove river and the snook struck everything we put into the water.

My friend had never seen such fishing but he accepted it calmly, taped his burned thumb, massaged his sore arm and went back to his hotel. Asked if he was a little disappointed when he returned the second time, he answered, “it wasn’t always like that. I think later he came back and wanted to know where all those fish were. I’d been unable to convince him to eat it and get a bigger one tomorrow.

Residents who accepted it calmly, taped his burned thumb, massaged his sore arm and went back to their homes. Big bonefish, above, can be caught within sight of the highway in the Florida Keys. The fisherman is Buddy Nordmann who landed this one at Key Largo.

The visiting angler must remember that even the very best fishing areas have “off-periods.”

By CHARLES WATERMAN

FISHING

A friend of mine got on an airplane on Ohio, stepped off it in South Florida and into a boat with me. Twenty minutes later we stopped at a bend in a mangrove river and the snook struck everything we put into the water.

My friend had never seen such fishing but he accepted it calmly, taped his burned thumb, massaged his sore arm and went back to his hotel. Asked if he was a little disappointed when he returned the second time, he answered, “it wasn’t always like that. I think later he came back and wanted to know where all those fish were. I’d been unable to convince him to eat it and get a bigger one tomorrow. Residents who accepted it calmly, taped his burned thumb, massaged his sore arm and went back to their homes. Big bonefish, above, can be caught within sight of the highway in the Florida Keys. The fisherman is Buddy Nordmann who landed this one at Key Largo.

The visiting angler must remember that even the very best fishing areas have “off-periods.”

FLORIDA WILDLIFE

OCTOBER, 1965

TOURIST

There’s the traveler for whom fishing is just a part of the trip and who doesn’t even bring his tackle. If he doesn’t want to dig up a guide’s pay the two best bets for him are roadside panfishing and salt water bridges and piers.

You won’t drive far in Florida without seeing someone fishing a roadside ditch or pond and most of these people are after panfish and using cane poles. A fishing license and a dollar or so in equipment will put you into that business. Not all roadside ditches are full of bream but where you see someone already at it, chances are pretty good. Roadside signs advertise bait almost any time you get into fishing areas.

The panfish limits are liberal and that’s the easiest way to get them although more refined tackle such as a fly rod or ultra-light spinning outfit multiplies the fun. Panfishing is good enough in Florida that hundreds of anglers come here solely for that kind of fishing and take home some hefty limits on ice. A lot of catfish come out of the roadside ditches too.

Bank fishing isn’t easy in Florida after you get away from the road; too much vegetation and swamp land—so don’t count too much on walking the shores of the bigger lakes and rivers.

Fishing salt water from the beach takes special equipment and experience. It’s generally a waste of time for the beginner.

Big salt water duel for the casual tourist is the fishing pier which doesn’t cost much and puts you far enough out into the ocean or Gulf that you’re sure to be over some kind of fish. At the land end you can learn what is being caught and you can usually rent tackle if you need it. Once you’re out on the pier you can get the word from experienced regulars.

Most pier fishing doesn’t require heavy tackle. When there are runs of big snook, channel bass or cobia you need pretty husky gear but standard fresh water casting tackle is fine for the usual bluefish and Spanish mackerel. Cane poles are pretty much out of the question though because you’re high above the water.

There’s good pier fishing the year around with pretty regular runs at some points. For example, at Panama City beach they expect cobia early in April. Fresh water fishermen must understand that salt water fish are migratory and that today’s “teeming pier of eager fish—catchers may be just a long, sleepy sun deck tomorrow.

The party boat is a good bet for salt water fishing and needs a little explanation. Such a boat carries a large number of customers at a set fee and tackle is furnished although you can use your own if you prefer.

The “party boat” is sometimes called a “reef boat,” “bottom boat,” “drift boat” or simply “head boat.” The term “head boat” comes from the system of charging so much per head for fishermen.

(Continued on next page)
(Continued from preceding page)

A charter boat is something else and on the East Coast it almost invariably means an offshore trolling boat that caters to small parties, generally of no more than six. These boats usually carry a crew of two.

Charter skippers are generally happy to mix their party; that is, the cost of charter can be shared among fishermen who never knew each other before the trip was arranged. The best known target of such boats on the Atlantic side is the sailfish, but charter boats work lesser species such as mackerel, dolphin and kingfish. They generally go out to the Gulfstream or near to it.

Generally (and if I didn't deal in generalities in this article I never would finish) the East Coast and Keys charter boats are more on the fancy side than those on the Gulf. There's a reason because many of those on the west side of the state operate in bays and touchy passes where shallow draft is important and the glossier craft are out of place. On the West Coast, where the Gulf Stream is a long way out, the fishing concentrates more on tarpon and other shallow water game.

In fact, some of the Gulf charter boats, many of which have plain shelter cabins or no cabins at all, are simply called "tarpon boats." All of the charter boats I know of will furnish tackle.

Bait fishing and fishing with drift lines are salable and some charters count on that to come from the East Coast, the Gulf has a reputation of being the better saltwater angling area. There are many freshwater guides who use bait fishing and possibly the customers don't have the bait box on a party boat named Marianne, Naples, Florida.

A lady from the Everglades enjoys fishing from a live-aboard cruiser and towed skiffs for bass fishing. She has plain shelter cabins and is fast and furious on Ed Towell's boat off the end of one of Florida's shallow flats. In general, the largest bass are caught in late winter and early spring. Late spring and early fall are tops for fly fishing both for bass and panfish. The plastic worm and its relatives are used all year around and are just as deadly as ever, but there are hundreds of other good spots. The cool "tourist months" are crappie time and spinning tackle, spin-cast rigs or cane poles will do the job.

In general, the largest bass are caught in late winter and early spring. Late spring and early fall are tops for fly fishing both for bass and panfish. The plastic worm and its relatives are used all year around and are just as deadly as ever, but there are hundreds of other good spots. The cool "tourist months" are crappie time and spinning tackle, spin-cast rigs or cane poles will do the job.

In general, the largest bass are caught in late winter and early spring. Late spring and early fall are tops for fly fishing both for bass and panfish. The plastic worm and its relatives are used all year around and are just as deadly as ever, but there are hundreds of other good spots. The cool "tourist months" are crappie time and spinning tackle, spin-cast rigs or cane poles will do the job.
FLORIDA BOWHUNTING as a sport has been merely stumbling along after a series of recent year ills, but bids fair to prove that it again can be hunting season’s major attraction.

Formerly discouraged—and disgusted—bowhunters are talking with much the enthusiasm and anticipation that was theirs during Florida bowhunting’s peak year a few seasons ago, when a record number of bowhunters took out the special archery permits, and when toxophilites generally were as contented as any large group can ever be.

A tonic for the sick sport is the Game Commission’s scheduling of several bowhunting periods ahead of the regular gun season, and supplementary special hunts after most of the powder burners have called it quits.

Three big bowhunting attractions are represented by open season in the Citrus Game Management Area, October 16 through October 31 and week-end hunting on November 6, 13, 14, 20, 21, 25, 26 and December 4-5; in Ocala Management Area, October 23 through October 31, with hunting every day; at Eglin Military Reservation (in Northwest Florida), October 23 through November 7, again with the privilege of hunting every day. For those who seek deer, bucks only will be the legal bag in all areas.

As a wind-up to the bowhunting season, special wild hog hunts are scheduled for the Guana River Wildlife Management Area (in St. Johns County) on five consecutive week ends, beginning the week end of January 22-23 and ending the week end of February 19-20.

From the year of its first sponsored bow hunt (on the Ocala Management Area), the Game Commission has tried to increase the scope of bowhunting activity without discriminating against the more numerous gun hunters. Expression of opinion has been encouraged—by letter and at open meetings held in various sections of the state.

One thing both gun hunters and bowhunters seemingly want, and that is to have all the bowhunting begin and end before statewide gun hunting starts, except in specially designated areas. This policy is being carried out. Except for the Citrus Area season overlap and special wild hog hunts of late January and February, all bowhunting activity will run course and end prior to November 16, the date the general gun hunting season begins in most Districts.

Actually, the earlier dates are to the advantage of deer-seeking bowhunters. Game is apt to be more plentiful and—more important—less wary. Persons who like to both bow hunt and gun hunt can do both under the present open season system.

Special archery hunts will add zest to early bowhunting schedules

By EDMUND MCLAURIN

Let’s Go Bowhunting!

The year that the bowhunting in the Citrus Game Management Area was set to open simultaneously with the general statewide gun hunting season was an experiment that bowhunters do not wish to see repeated—ever! The basis for widespread objection is not alarm about hunting safety (for the Citrus Area during the calendar period was closed to gun hunting), but because of the conflict of hunting interests and available time. Faced with having to make a choice, many otherwise enthusiastic bowhunters will lay aside their bows in favor of powder class weapons.

Another boost to Florida bowhunting could be restoration of the once allotted doe kill in the Citrus area, and possibly inclusion of the same privilege in other areas where game biologists decree a reasonable doe harvest can be made.

Undeniably, successful hunting of deer with bow and arrow requires a certain degree of skill, combined with beneficial experience and contributory hunting luck. For this reason, many women—comparative beginners in the art of bowhunting—feel their chances of getting within sure killing distance of a buck are somewhat slim. Without the incentive of a possible doe kill, few feel that investment in equipment and licenses justifies participation. Many men feel the same. Full family participation must have both incentive and hope.

One thing certain: No authorized doe kill for bowhunters will ever constitute a threat to basic breeding stock; deer kills—regardless of sex of the animal—don’t come easy for even the experts! Kill records of the Game Commission reflect the fact (Continued on next page)
that in past legal doe seasons the bowhunters have never harvested their full quota. An annual allotment of does for the scheduled bow hunts would greatly increase total interest and participation.

Active participation in the major Florida bow hunts scheduled for this season will require a special $5.00 archery permit in addition to regular state hunting license. The one $5.00 archery permit, matched to a regular state hunting license, will be good for three of the main events—the Guano River Area hunt; the October 23-31 period in the Ocala Management Area; and for all the bowhunting dates designated for the Citrus Game Management Area.

Eglin Field Military Reservation bowhunting will have its own special, low-cost, Air Force-issued permit—required in addition to regular state hunting license. Consult coming season regulations available from county judge offices and any of the Regional Offices of the Game Commission, for specific information.

The one $5.00 embracive hunt permit is good news to many bowmen—especially those who wish to bowhunt in different areas, or who must purchase several special archery permits for family member use. For them, the tariff remains the same, but hunting scope is broadened.

Bowhunting is not a cheap sport, although after you acquire essential items of tackle your expenditures for maintenance at peak efficiency will largely be for lost or broken arrows and new bowstrings.

A good hunting bow can cost more than a big gun, however, from $50 to $70 is a prize bracket that should equip you nicely.

A dozen quality arrows will be around $15, and the same number in broadhead hunting style will cost you from $20 to $30, on the average.

In addition, you’ll need an arm guard (about $3.50); a good shooting glove ($2.50); quiver ($10 to $20); bowstring silencer and extra bowstring ($2.00); and extra bowstring and bowstring wax ($2.00). You may wish to add a KAMO mottled camouflage pattern suit (about $11); a matching KAMO Overtaker ($1.25); a bow sight (from $3.00 to $30.00 or more); a folding stool on which to sit during the long hours of motionless vigil alongside a game trail ($3.50 to $8.00); a Miracle Lure deer scent dispenser and scent ($3.00), and whatever other items strike your fancy.

When purchasing your first bow, don’t make the mistake of trying to get all the bow power you can for your money; as a rule, a hunting bow that requires from 45 to 55 pounds of pressure to draw it to 28 inches will serve you best. Many hunters prefer bows of lighter poundage. The important thing is not to use a bow that you cannot fully draw and aim steadily and release smoothly.

"Dry" practice at home, many bowmen are reluctant to get out and string a stored bow for only two or three dozen "dry" practice draws. For these spiritually willing but procrastinating souls, there is now a strong steel spring exerciser, with a handle shaped like a grip on a bow and fitted with a sight for aiming at a provided target. The pull rod simulates a bow string and is gripped the same way. Practice can be carried out anywhere, without advance preparation. The exercisers come in various pounds of pull at standard 28 inches draw. Pulling and aiming one 25 to 50 times daily will soon build arm and shoulder muscles until you can easily draw and aim any bow with a draw equivalent to the pounds of pull of the exerciser. (Product is Killbow Exerciser, available in a range of 25 to 75 pounds pull at 28 inches draw.)

Target or hunting style, arrows should be matched to each other for spine (stiffness of shaft), length and weight, so they are as nearly identical as possible and are also of the correct spine for the bow’s drawing weight. Creason’s Archery Supply, Tampa, manufactures many of the top-grade arrows used by Florida bowhunters. Certain of the broadhead styles are especially in demand and are nationally famous.

Although three featherfletching is commonly seen on hunting arrows, four feather fletching is preferable, experts say. Because there is no cock feather to first note and turn out, the nocking of an arrow—especially for a follow-up second shot—can be made faster. Also, the hunting style arrow, with its heavier head, should have stiffer shaft spine and considerably longer feather fletching to better stabilize the broadhead in flight.

A pre-determined nocking point on the bowstring is very important; it should regularly place the arrow about 1/4 to 3/4 of an inch above the square (determined by placing a T or an L-shaped carpen­tere’s square on the arrow rest and letting it extend back until the short length of the T or L square touches the bowstring uniformly). Most hunters hand-serve the nocking point, but the new alumi­num ring markers make the job easier and faster.

Some bowhunters like an arrow holder on their bows, and some do not. A holder keeps the arrow in ready position on the arrow rest until the archer starts his draw, then releases automatically. There are several types, but the one that mounts off the inside of the bow is probably best, as there is less movement of the device when it releases the arrow, important to the hunter trying to keep visible weapon movement to the minimum.

Angling rays of morning or afternoon sun on a varnished bow limb can reflect light like a mirror and be a long range warning to any game that chances to spot the flashing signals. Too often the give-away reflections are unknown to the stalking hunter.

Smart bowmen are camouflaging their bows by slipping on KAMO net covers, by taping bow limbs with camouflage tape or by painting with non-reflective pigments. The first method is much preferred and most often used, because many fine bows are really too beautiful of wood and workmanship to cover up with tape or daubed-on dull paint! Merely slipping off the elastic KAMO cover converts the bow to the attractive dress that the manufacturer gave it.

For a long time, many bowhunters who used the instinctive method of aiming their weapons decided (Continued from page 33)
across the calm, and the quiet water was molten large-mouth black bass. Late afternoon shadows fell rays of the setting sun on huge cypress and hard with colors spawned by the reflection of the last efforts towards a "new day" creation are expanded the reverence of a chapel.

Ancient cypress knees combined with dark blue waters and intermittent cattail, and an over­
hanging canopy of Spanish moss, lended to the scene

I quietly laid down my spinning gear and picked
up the bait-casting rod and an old wooden, glass­
eyed infrared reflector, as it seemed to me that to use anything else would be a violation of heritage. As I looked around at all the beautiful places for
a cast, I thought to myself that the Lord must use anything else would be a violation of heritage. As I looked around at all the beautiful places for
cast, I thought to myself that the Lord must

There was no strike; indeed, there had been on ly a few strikes the entire day.

At last, I had seen nothing, and the fishing had been

I finally picked the base of a great
cattail for my cast. The plug had been .on the water
of this lake. I finally picked the base of a great
cattail for my cast. The plug had been .on the water

As populational growths slow and level off, in response to the carrying capacity of the lake it­

As I looked around at all the beautiful places for

The factors which have turned the tide in the areas
in question are, in some cases, subject to isolation, but more often are intertwined in com­plexes which defy the biologist's understanding.

The latter case has been observed in certain lakes in South Florida where once-strong bass populations have evolved into populations of black crappie, channel cat, gar and mudfish.

Where it does not seem feasible that the afore­
mentioned sequence has occurred in a lake, the true factors are very often cryptic and elusive to the biologist and require a great deal of research for discovery. Quite a bit of research aimed at uncovering the complete story of declining lakes is presently being conducted by Commission biolo­

The large-mouth bass, in South Florida’s marsh and canal areas, face continued decline unless efforts towards a "new day" creation are expanded

Very likely there would be no more before dark. For this lake had suffered the same fate that many of its sister waters had been subject to in south­
eastern Florida. Over the last several years bass fishing success had declined to the point that, for the last three years, it hardly warranted the bass fisherman’s time.

Although there are still some places in South Florida where bass fishing remains excellent, some of the best places which were old stand­bys in bygone days have evolved into the situation described above. While this has been true of both lakes and canals, it is especially notable in canals.

And with the vast network of canals which course
between Lake Okeechobee and Homestead, and the sparseness of lakes, it is of course natural that the canals are of top concern in fish management work.

The latter case has been observed in certain lakes in South Florida where once-strong bass populations have evolved into populations of black crappie, channel cat, gar and mudfish.

Where it does not seem feasible that the afore­
mentioned sequence has occurred in a lake, the true factors are very often cryptic and elusive to the biologist and require a great deal of research for discovery. Quite a bit of research aimed at uncovering the complete story of declining lakes is presently being conducted by Commission bio­

The large-mouth bass, in South Florida’s marsh and canal areas, face continued decline unless efforts towards a "new day" creation are expanded

Very likely there would be no more before dark. For this lake had suffered the same fate that many of its sister waters had been subject to in south­
eastern Florida. Over the last several years bass fishing success had declined to the point that, for the last three years, it hardly warranted the bass fisherman’s time.

Although there are still some places in South Florida where bass fishing remains excellent, some of the best places which were old stand­bys in bygone days have evolved into the situation described above. While this has been true of both lakes and canals, it is especially notable in canals.

And with the vast network of canals which course
between Lake Okeechobee and Homestead, and the sparseness of lakes, it is of course natural that the canals are of top concern in fish management work.

The factors which have turned the tide in the areas
in question are, in some cases, subject to isolation, but more often are intertwined in com­plexes which defy the biologist's understanding.

The latter case has been observed in certain lakes in South Florida where once-strong bass populations have evolved into populations of black crappie, channel cat, gar and mudfish.

Where it does not seem feasible that the afore­
mentioned sequence has occurred in a lake, the true factors are very often cryptic and elusive to the biologist and require a great deal of research for discovery. Quite a bit of research aimed at uncovering the complete story of declining lakes is presently being conducted by Commission bio­

In many of the South Florida bass fishing waters, the garfish, above, and mudfish have replaced the fighting largemouth black bass. upper left. Such changes are mostly in the complex network of canals found throughout the post-Okeechobee, south of Lake Okeechobee, right. Of prime concern to the fish management worker is the search programs needed to improve canal bass fishing.

(Continued on next page)

BASS DILEMMA

The largemouth bass, in South Florida’s marsh and canal areas, face continued decline unless efforts towards a "new day" creation are expanded

By MIKE GADDIS
Biologist, Fisheries Division

The factors which have turned the tide in the areas in question are, in some cases, subject to isolation, but more often are intertwined in complexes which defy the biologist's understanding.

Most of the areas in which bass fishing has suffered greatly have been the victims of certain physical changes in the environment which produced geo­

In many of the South Florida bass fishing waters, the garfish, above, and mudfish have replaced the fighting largemouth black bass. upper left. Such changes are mostly in the complex network of canals found throughout the post-Okeechobee, south of Lake Okeechobee, right. Of prime concern to the fish management worker is the search programs needed to improve canal bass fishing.

(Continued on next page)
Fishermen congregate along a South Florida canal. The ample seeking largemouth bass are apt to return home disappointed. During the past several years, how ever, success has declined to the point that, in some areas, it hardly warrants the bass fisherman's time to even try.

(Continued from preceding page)

gists, and when such discoveries are made, they will give increased insight into the problems of management.

Of the factors which may be isolated concerning canals, probably the most important has been the drainage of marshlands. Research biologists have found definite proof that a canal which is bordered by an intermittent marsh produces a much greater poundage of bass and other game fish than does a canal completely void of marsh area; consequently, it provides much better fishing. The reason for this is readily understandable when one examines the properties of an intermittent marsh, i.e., a marsh which exists for maybe six months of the year and then during the dry season is pulled back into the canal. During the period when the marsh area maintains, it throws open an ideal littoral zone for spawning adult bass and forage species, and subsequently provides a nursery for the protection and growth of the fry. When the dry season comes and the marsh waters are drawn into the canal, many pounds of forage are taken into the system, which enables maximum growth and expansion of the bass colony.

The canals which are foremost in the memories of veteran South Florida bass fishermen are the same ones that some years ago entertained such a marsh system. But in recent times these canal marshes have been drained or diked to make way for agricultural and urban development, and the resultant marshless canals have declined greatly in production of good bass populations, and their direct result, good bass fishing.

Along the same lines of physical alteration are the channelization tendencies which seem to be inherent in the construction of many of the canals interlacing the southern part of the state. Such canals are constructed so that the finished product is a deep trough with 90 degree sides. While this remains more economical for the constructor it sounds the death knell for good bass production. The largemouth bass, by nature, does much better where some shallow-water areas, i.e., a littoral zone, prevail. This is especially important in terms of reproductive success, as the bass prefers and needs shallow water regions for spawning.

Rough fish are the next important reality that exists in the bass' repertoire of enemies. While marshless canals rok havoc on bass production, gar and mudfish, especially the former, seem to thrive under the situation. A typical example was found in a recent fish population sample taken from a canal in Dade County where recoveries indicated a gar population exceeding 50 percent by weight and a bass population of less than 10 percent. Greater survival potential and fewer natural enemies give such population outbreaks to rough fish. The resultant rough fish population densities give severe competition for food and may repress spawning success.

The problem of pollution has ascended in South Florida fish management until it now holds an unfortunately important position. Domestic and industrial wastes are the culprits, with the latter sustaining top place. The primary offenders in past history have been sugar mills and tomato canneries which neglected to provide adequate disposal facilities. These offenses have become fewer at present due to the cooperation of most factories, and the realization of impending legislature on the part of others.

Unfortunately, however, a more disastrous adversary has entered the picture; the pesticide. Every research day many new pesticides are being developed with increased toxicities. Many of these chemicals are in use now, not only in southern Florida, but all over the state. Very minute amounts introduced into an aquatic environment are deadly poisonous not only to fish, but to aquatic invertebrates and bottom organisms. Such a chemical kill not only eliminates the fish population for the present, but may also retard the growth of newly-stocked fish by lowering the natural productivity of the water for a long time afterwards.

The largemouth bass is truly facing a dilemma in South Florida today. Which way the future leads is a moot question. The answer will lie for the most part in future management techniques which must be founded on novel research ascertained facts and new ideas.

The means for intensifying the management program was established under a dollar addition to the annual state fishing license two years ago. This extra dollar goes into the Fish Improvement Fund administered by the Fishery Division of the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and has given a great boost to the financial arsenal available for the management of Florida fisheries.

The most direct result of Fishery Improvement Funds has been the establishment of Fish Management Areas, which are areas selected for intensive management by the Commission and the Board of County Commissioners of the county in which the body of water is located. Several such areas have been established in the South Florida region. In the Fish Management Area, the Commission, using Fishery Improvement Funds, has the resources available for initiating any management program which it feels is warranted in terms of producing a greater standing fish crop and better fishing. Research relative to novel management techniques falls hand and hand with the intensive management program. In other words, at the same time that management programs are applied, much valuable information is being attained that will be useful in the management of other waters. In effect, the Fish Management Area serves as a field laboratory as well as providing better fishing for the sportsman.

In this light, South Florida biologists look toward the impending future and must employ techniques of management which are novel as compared to previous standards. The factors playing on a body of water must be analyzed as carefully as possible, and then, based on this analysis, new approaches must be taken in order to gather more data on the do's and don'ts of South Florida bass management.

One flaw that has hampered South Florida biologists for a long time is the lack of prior research on canal management. Actually, even though biologists have made great gains on the problem in recent times, successful canal management still remains as a bugaboo in the biologist's hair. Indeed, it is almost a new fisheries frontier to be explored, mapped and conquered. As such it offers interest and a great challenge to the fish management technician. Much work is being undertaken at present toward further understanding of the interrelationships existent which are holding down largemouth bass populations in canal situations.

(Please turn to next page)
One of the strangest properties of a canal is often discovered when fish samples show a fair number of rough fish present, fish populations. At present, selective electro-shocking aimed at a solution and population density most probably plays a major part.

There is some indication that fishing is the proposed development of new canals in the remaining, available marshlands.

There is no chemical available to the biologist which will give a consistent selective kill on gar and mudfish. When such a chemical is discovered the problem is expected the program will most surely be expanded in the future.

The Florida pollution problem has increased to the point that it is demanding a greater and greater amount of the biologist's time. While industrial waste problems are on the decline, pesticide problems are very much on the upswing. Primary offenders in the past and present are the chlorinated hydrocarbons such as DDT, Toxaphene, Hepathal, and Edrin which are so often used in insect control and citrus grove spraying. But the much more deadly organic phosphates are appearing more and more frequently. This category includes Chlorothion, Malathion, and Parathion, of which the latter amount of these chemicals can spell disaster to fish populations. If the present trend continues there will probably be Commissions personnel assigned to full-time research on pollution-in domestic, industrial, and pesticidal.

What they'll see along the Apalachicola river is a darned sight different from what they'd see in the 18,000 Islands, but it'll be well worth the jaunt from Tennessee. Not too many people are enthused about a cruise on the Apalachicola. They pass over it on the bridge at Chattahoochee, see that kinda brownish water, and shrug it off with a "yuk!"

But "yuk" again, Willas. True, the mouth Black Bass. No other species more deserves a "new day" in South Florida. Intensified management with novel weapons is the guiding light toward this end.

Editor's note: The News-Free Press in Chattanooga, who is siring them down, said they're already packing!

Well, I'll tell you ... after seeing the photo equipment they brought for that sojourner through the Islands, I can see where they ought be packing! They had everything but C. B. DeMille, Elizabeth Taylor and Richard Burton!

What they'll see along the Apalachicola will be a darned sight different from what they'll see in the 18,000 Islands, but it'll be well worth the jaunt from Tennessee. Not too many people are enthused about a cruise on the Apalachicola. They pass over it on the bridge at Chattahoochee, see that kinda brownish water, and shrug it off with a "yuk!"
form all over a boat, while in less spread such things out in the cockpit.

When you return from a run, mildew growth are to make ample pit to dry thoroughly. We enter the mid-point of the growing season. Many newcomers to the boating field are apprehensive about ne-
deeding a stretch of chop for the course, when sliding down the face of a large wave. Often a rally slows down when climbing a bit of controversy on that sub-

First of all, they know today's weather rough water and here's a wild river ... stopping the boat has drifted far to sea because an untrained crew member agreed to tie up (with a family knot, no less.)

Another thing ... remember we were just talking about pollu-
tion? Well, try to remember to keep all refuse aboard for shore disposal. And use fresh water discriminantly. When you're in port see to it that the boat is handled properly to avoid unnecessary noise during evening hours ... you know how noisy some small outboard or yacht, as the little subs have a diving capacity of more than 150 feet and a 360 degree bolide canopy that gives unlimited vision underwater. They are 10 ft. long with a width of 5 feet, four inches, and a speed of five knots. You can get it for $3995, f.o.b. Lantana, Florida. That's the price for the Purposems, which is a one man deal. The Tigershark, ideal for family fun, is a two-man submarine that is 17 feet, six inches long and weighs 3445 pounds. You're get-
ting into top money for this baby, though ... she runs $10,800 federal diploma. But you can get four mains jobs for as much as $75,000 if you really want to live it up.

But Steege says the little boy he tried was a dream, and it just may be the latest thing in boating in the years to come ... particu-
larly in Florida waters where we have such things as deepwater springs and coral reef parks like the John Pennekamp at Key Largo.

Not all our 39,000,000 boating enthusiasts in this country own these boats. Many of them spend their sea-going hours aboard someone else's outboard or yacht, as the case may be, and if you're among the newcomers joining in on the water fun for the first time, Bill Foster of Johnson Motors sends along some advice on being a guest or a pest.

There really are certain rules any guest aboard a boat should follow. For example, you should always wear soft, ski-shoe proofs to protect your own safety as well as to protect varnished and mat-
ted surfaces.

In area of footwork, by the way, guests should always remem-
ber to step in and out of the boat—not on and off the gunwale —again for safety's sake.

Above all ... don't volunteer for unfamiliar duties without chal-
ing a bit of worry from pictures elsewhere in this article, the new "Mizzen-Mate" life jacket is actually an all-
weather coat that has class as well as being most functional. Made in Norway, the "Mizzen-Mate" life jacket is available in Florida in five colors through Maus & Hoffman's 710 East Las Olas Blvd., in Fort Lauderdale. It may overlook day or night the men's $55, and children's $47.00. —end
CONSERVATION SCENE
(Continued from page 4)

ant in all the major corn-producing counties of North Florida. "About five hundred birds are scheduled to be experimentally ant in all the major corn-producing counties of North Florida."

"Releases are also scheduled for at Gadsden, Calhoun and possibly Releas es are also scheduled for Gadsden, Calhoun and possibly Georgia."

"The Iranian variety was chosen in a comparable climate and is required as a new game bird species for Florida scattergunners. It requires shooting any unusual fowl that is ant and not the Chinese ringneck."

Commission is the Iranian pheasant."

"It is important that we conserve our available supplies of water for both quality water is essential to the Congress thus far in the current session, the new Act establishes a "Cabinet level" Water Resources Council consisting of the Secretaries of Interior, Agriculture, Army, and Health, Education, and Welfare, plus the Chairman of the Federal Power Commission."

"The law now establishes river basin commission to coordinate Federal, state, inter-state and local plans for water resources. Finally, in perhaps the most important feature, the new Water Resources Planning Act provides for Federal financial grants to the states for planning purposes."

"An ample supply of good quality water is essential if the United States is to continue to grow and prosper."

"As our available supplies dwindle," he said, "it is important that we plan the use of our nation's water's supplies to provide maximum benefits for all purposes—domestic and industrial use as well as for irrigation, flood control, pollution prevention, navigation, hydroelectric power and energy, outdoor recreation, and fish and wildlife enhancement."

"The daily bag limit on ducks other than mergansers may not include more of the following species than: (a) 2 wood ducks; (b) 2 mallards; and (c) 1 canvasbacks."

"The possession limit on ducks other than mergansers may not include more of the following species than: (a) 1 wood duck; (b) 3 mallards; and (c) 1 canvasbacks."

"The limits on American, red-breasted, and hooded mergansers, in the aggregate of these species are 3 or 2 in possession of, of which not more than 1 daily and 2 in possession may be hooded mergansers."

"South of State Road 50, duck hunters will be allowed to have 4 Florida ducks in their total bag of 4. North of State Road 50 the Florida Duck is classified along with the mallard and hunters may have no more than 2 in their daily bag."

"In the following described areas, two scoop checks may be taken in addition to the daily bag: all open waters of Charlotte Harbor area from the bridge on U.S. Highway 41 to a line running from Boca Grande Pass east through Berkeley to the mainland; all open waters of the Gaucho River Wildlife Management Area in St. Johns County; all open waters of Banning River from Sanacome Creek south to State Road 520; all open waters of Tampa Bay; all open waters of the Indian River from Shiloh south to the bridge on State Road 516 at Melbourne; all open waters of Mosquito Lagoon from Oak Hill to State Road 400."

"WATERFOWL HUNTERS"

Florida Migratory Game Bird Regulations 1955-1966

WATERFOWL—Ducks, Geese, Coot

Season: Two Phase, November 24, 1965 through December 6, 1965

December 18, 1965 through January 9, 1966

Shooting Hours: Nov. 24, First Phase Opening Day, 12 noon to sunset

From sunrise to sunset all other days

Bay Limits Daily Limit Possession Limit

Ducks

4

(see notes below)

Geese

12

Coot

1

The daily bag limit on ducks other than mergansers may not include more of the following species than: (a) 2 wood ducks; (b) 2 mallards; and (c) 1 canvasbacks.

The possession limit on ducks other than mergansers may not include more of the following species than: (a) 1 wood duck; (b) 3 mallards; and (c) 1 canvasbacks.

The limits on American, red-breasted, and hooded mergansers, in the aggregate of these species are 3 or 2 in possession of, of which not more than 1 daily and 2 in possession may be hooded mergansers.

South of State Road 50, duck hunters will be allowed to have 4 Florida ducks in their total bag of 4. North of State Road 50 the Florida Duck is classified along with the mallard and hunters may have no more than 2 in their daily bag.

In the following described areas, two scoop checks may be taken in addition to the daily bag: all open waters of Charlotte Harbor area from the bridge on U.S. Highway 41 to a line running from Boca Grande Pass east through Berkeley to the mainland; all open waters of the Gaucho River Wildlife Management Area in St. Johns County; all open waters of Banning River from Sanacome Creek south to State Road 520; all open waters of Tampa Bay; all open waters of the Indian River from Shiloh south to the bridge on State Road 516 at Melbourne; all open waters of Mosquito Lagoon from Oak Hill to State Road 400.

LEON COUNTY. Waterfowl hunting permitted only on opening day, Wednesdays, Saturdays, Sundays, November 25 and 26, and December 5. The use of all outboard motors is prohibited on Lake Tamminen, and Lake Jackson, during the open season for waterfowl hunting.

Mourning Dove

Bag Limits: Daily Limit 12; Possession Limit 24.

Three Phase Season, shooting hours from 12 noon to sunset.

First Season: October 3 to November 3; except Alligator Point, Franklin County, Third District, closed.

Second Season: November 20 through December 5, statewide.

Third Season: December 18 through January 3, statewide.

Marsh Hen

(Black and Gallinules)

Shooting Hours: from sunrise to sunset.

Second Season: November 11 to November 17; Daily Limit 12; Possession Limit 5.

Snipe

Shooting hours, from sunrise to sunset.

Season: November 13 to January 1. Daily Limit 8; Possession Limit 16.

Woodcock

Shooting hours, from sunrise to sunset.

Season: November 13 to January 1. Daily Limit 5; Possession Limit 10.
she was checking them in preparation for repairs but without interrupting her conversation she finished all of them within 20 minutes or so.

Voluminous repair charts and exploded drawings are employed when rare specimens go on the operating table. The repair literature is mounted directly in front of the worker.

Although many reels are sent in by individuals, the larger repair orders come from big department stores. Bennett's investment in parts probably runs into six figures.

Two years ago Bennett was looking around and figuring how to liquidate a tackle business he didn't think was going to make it. Just then some men came in seeking parts for an obsolete reel. Gary dug up pieces and suddenly realized he had $12,000 invested in parts. He decided to go into the business and went on a shopping tour, buying up unwanted parts in the cobwebbed crannies of Florida tackle shops. He'll sell either parts or repair jobs.

Bennett is quick with advice about reel care. You'd think he didn't want the repair business. With worn-out parts and reels, he says the main problem is bail springs and bent bails. He recommends manual reels but knows the public isn't going to go for them too strongly as long as automatic bails look easier to work with.

With spin-cast reels he says the Number One mistake is in tightening the line. The cone (which usu­ally regulates the drag) and leaving it tight. Something is almost sure to stick. You should loosen the drag when you finish a day's fishing.

Baitcasting reels suffer most from a failure to inspect and test prior to hunting use. Last, just plain hard luck!

If you think you've seen it list of reel parts you should thumb through a hundred pages of catalogs at Gary Bennett's place. Mrs. Lorena Sandeman, checking over parts book, can fix most reels in five minutes.

Almost anyone can repair a reel if he keeps careful track of the way the parts go, says Bennett, but most of us won't do that. The result is a basket case.

The swallows and splashes made by Florida fishes aren't as easily identified as some old timers would have you believe. I know that's true because I've heard some strong arguments on the subject.

The actual bass strike on the surface is likely to have a hopping sound and perhaps a secondary splash caused by the tail as the fish heads back down.

In shallow water a moving bass tends to make two splashes so close together that the wave circle is simply a small engine used for maneuvering purposes, for trolling, for getting through water growth and as a source of propulsion.

If you have to watch carefully to make sure it's pumping water unless it's air cooled. The secondary waves made for a number of years are 3-horse­power Johnsons and Evinrudes.

In the Homosassa and Crystal River sections on the West coast, the "accessory" motor system is widely used by outboard fishing captains. That's simply a small engine used for maneuvering purposes, for trolling, for getting through water growth and as a source of propulsion.

Jack Howard, California arch­er and bow-maker, has killed more than forty deer, wouldn't hunt without one. His preference is an inexpensive combination sight with "set pins" for 20, 30, and 40 yards, with bow window located in line with center of sight. One of his "pins" is always close to correct aim. Jack Dewey, another famous bowhunter and archery expert, says, "Why some archers refuse to even try a bow sight is beyond me. During my 26 years of hunting, its use has proved so superior to instinctive style of aiming, I wouldn't even consider changing!"

You don't have to use a bow sight, but its use will prove educational and definitely help you to analyze your shooting form.

What are some of the reasons for missing a shot, once your big chance comes? The list is long, but here are a few of the usual ones.

Lack of practice. Inability to judge shooting range. In proper nocking of an arrow. Difficulty in keeping release of bow hand behind you and fingers relaxed when shooting. Interference of a loosely hanging arm sleeve. Arrow inadvertently touching a deflecting leaf or twig in flight. Faulty equipment (largely due to the bowhunter failing to inspect and test prior to hunting use). Just, plain hard luck!

BE A WHILE AGO I offered to pass on the names and addresses of persons collecting antique fishing tackle. I don't know much about tackle history myself but get queries about it now and then.

Well, here's a collector of baitcasting reels. He's Karl Gast of 3411 46th St., Tampa, Florida. He's looking for reels in the era of Meek, Blue Grass and Meisselbach, built before the level wind originated.

Mr. Gast's letter points out that the baitcasting reel is definitely an American contraption and this is a special bit of "Americana." I am inclined to agree when he says, "I find that in accuracy and distance as well as in just plain fish catching, the baitcasting reel has never been surpassed."

There's nostalgia in his mention of how he caught the fishing bug from Dr. James Hemshall's "Book Of The Black Bass" around the age of 13.

But even if you have a hunting record of misses, the law of averages says that eventually you will make a hit and kill. Therein lies hunting's perpetual appeal.

Where game is hit but lost, the usual reason is a dull arrow that fails to do an immediate and effi­cient cutting job on blood vessels and vital organs. Keep hunting arrows razor sharp.

If Florida bowhunting doesn't provide enough excitement, you can pack your tackle and head for some of the dangerous game regions of other states and countries. You won't hunt handi­capped. The modern hunting bow has accounted for tough grizzlies, polar bear, moose, and even elep­hant and tiger trophies. In the hands of a man who knows how to use it, the bow is still one of the deadliest weapons developed by man.
FISHING TOURIST (Continued from page 17)

A motorist in my vicinity was arrested and charged with speeding and throwing a beer bottle out of his car. He was fined $15 for speeding, and $25 for throwing the beer bottle. Beautification is on the march. It would seem only good common sense that our hard-earned problems, forest fires, erosion and pollution—the latter two common to all areas—should be parceled out in an intelligent conservation program until they have reached a high standard of efficiency and good husbandry, and 

NATURE NOTES

You can’t be sure of a deer’s age by the number of points on his antlers. Tooth succession is the best index to age. * * *

The otter’s favorite pastime is sliding. During the winter months a mother and her young will spend hours every day sliding down steep creek banks. * * *

Loons have exceptional diving ability. Their legs are placed so far back on their bodies that they can’t walk erect on land but move by sliding on their breast.

CONSERVATION BANDWAGON

cons are a special breed of predator precludes possibilities of economic decline through waste of resources. At least so we think.

But which is more important, to shroud the scrap piles of progress or to initiate a program to conserve these nonrenewable resources?

Road beautification is another phase of this new program, especially transcontinental subsidized speedways. No one can right now succeed without road beautification. One moot question is whether to have billboards or not to have billboards. Attempting to escape the metropolitan influence becomes more difficult every day.

Bridges, it has been said, should blend into the landscape and not be architectural monstrosities, but what about the water that runs under the bridge? What is being done about the poisons of industrial, municipal and agricultural pollution? Which is more important in the survival fight, pretty bridges or clean water. If our values were properly balanced we could have both. Tree planting along roads can also be used for two purposes, to stop soil erosion, or to hide its ugly scars from the spectator.

So long as our gypsy public continues with its present habits it will be necessary to fine litterbugs. A motorist in my vicinity was arrested and charged with speeding and throwing a beer bottle out of his car. He was fined $15 for speeding, and $25 for throwing the beer bottle. Beautification is on the march.

So long as the attitudes of adults are indifferent to waste and beautification it will be difficult to teach the younger generation that such programs have merit. The boys is the future of the nation.

In my region one of the heartening things which I have observed coming from all this recent conservation upsurge is crews of boys working on stream improvement, pollution abatement and other projects having to do with lakes and streams. These programs are being sponsored through emergency flood control funds and the Neighborhood Youth Corp. The Federal government furnishes the funds, and projects and direction are determined by the state.

The boys are building rock wing dams and retaining walls, and clearing trash from once beautiful streams. They are using their muscles, seeing nature first-hand and earning $1.25 an hour. The lessons they learn from these experiences will stay with them for years to come. The lessons they learn from these experiences will stay with them for years to come.
Into fresh waters, via stream and river, the powerful, high-leaping tarpon provides prime autumn angling thrills.—F.S.H.B. Photo

SUBSCRIBE NOW TO

Florida Wildlife
The Florida Magazine for ALL Sportsmen

12 Big Issues of Hunting and Fishing for only $2.50

TWO YEARS, 24 ISSUES, $4.75
THREE YEARS, 36 ISSUES, $6.25

FLORIDA WILDLIFE
Tallahassee, Florida

Enter or extend my subscription for _______ year(s) for FLORIDA WILDLIFE.

☐ Check; ☐ Cash; ☐ Money Order herewith.

Mailing Address:
Name
Street No.
City
State Zip Code

When sending change of address or inquiring about subscription, please include address impression from most recent copy you have received. To insure delivery of all copies, changes of address should be mailed as soon as possible.