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The Cover
For summer-time outdoor recreation — family vacation camping at Econfina Springs, in northwest Florida’s Bay County.

Color Photo From Florida State News Bureau

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JULY, 1966
A statewide program designed to recognize outstanding accomplishments by individuals or organizations in the wise use and management of Florida's natural resources was announced today by the Florida Wildlife Federation. Known as the 1966 Conservation Achievement Program, the special project is part of a nationwide conservation education effort of the National Wildlife Federation and its state affiliates and sponsored by the Sears-Roebuck Foundation.

In announcing the 1966 program for Florida, a sequel to the successful Governor's Conservation Award Program of last year, Don Southwell, president of the Florida Federation said, "This program is designed to recognize outstanding accomplishment in the cause of conservation, but more important, it is being conducted to teach others by precept and example, how they might take a more active role in promoting the wise use and management of Florida's natural resources—our soils, waters, forests, fish and wildlife."

The 1966 Conservation Achievement Program will honor individuals or organizations in ten categories: State Conservationist of the Year, Wildlife, Youth, Forestry, Soil and Water, Salt Water Resources, Education, Adult Guidance, Youth Conservation Effort, Conservation Organization and Conservation Communications. State winners will receive trophies consisting of unique statuettes of symbolic species of American wildlife. They will be publicly recognized at a special Recognition Meeting to be held in Palm Beach in September.

Waterfowl Nesting Survey
An extensive air and ground survey of major waterfowl nesting areas in the United States and Canada has begun amid reports of improved water conditions in the Continent's major duck nesting region on the northern prairies, the Department of the Interior announced recently.

"There are early indications that the water situation is improved," said Director John S. Gottschalk of the Department's Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife. "It takes nesting ducks as well as water to produce birds and the May survey has two specific objectives—a check of nesting conditions and a count of the breeding population of ducks."

"We will release regular reports on what our field biologists are finding, although an accurate reading on the situation can come only when the surveys are completed."

The so-called "prairie pothole" country, a vast region that includes the Dakotas, western Minnesota, eastern Montana, and a large part of Alberta, Saskatchewan, and Manitoba, is often called North America's "duck factory." The potholes are glacier-gouged ponds and lakes which, with good rainfall, are ideal duck nesting sites.

A severe drought in the pothole region, beginning in 1957, was broken in 1965 when snowmelt and summer rains raised water levels in many of the natural ponds. The breeding stock of ducks, however, was so drastically reduced during the drought that improved water conditions in 1965 emphasized a shortage of nesting birds.

The 1965 hunting regulations were designed to send more breeders back to the prairies this summer.

"Our goal is to rebuild the breeding population to take advantage of the restored nesting areas," Gottschalk said. "Any change from last year's restrictive shooting regulations will depend on the output from an increased duck breeding population, plus better water conditions. The information, our field biologists gather this summer will tell the story."

Tortugas BirdBandings
For the 13th season, the Terrapins at the Dry Tortugas are being visited by a scientific banding party intent on revealing characteristics in the life histories of the Sooty and Brown Noddy Terns. In North America only the small islands of the Dry Tortugas, 70 miles west of Key West, support nesting colonies of these tropical terns. At present the population is estimated at 50,000 but with heavy shooting, it may exceed 100,000 a year.

Bird banders, including noted ornithologists, will continue to collect size, sex and age observations as the birds are banded and released.

Wildlife Stamps For Conservation Programs
Four species of endangered American wildlife, plus one species that has been extinct since 1914, are featured on a new edition of Wildlife stamps now being mailed to thousands of conservationists across the country by the National Wildlife Federation.

Prepared under the direction of Federal Art Director Roger Tory Peterson, the original paintings from which the stamps were reproduced feature the woodcock, ivory-billed woodpecker, key deer, passenger pigeon, and grizzly bear. Once the most abundant bird in North America, the last passenger pigeon died in the Cincinnati Zoo in 1914. It became extinct because of loss of habitat and covered wood forest areas were clear-cut and burned, coupled with over-harvest by man. älthough these species are endangered, it is being recognized at a special Recognition Meeting to be held in Palm Beach in September.

Situations and Attitudes
The Conservation Job
By ERNEST SWIFT
National Wildlife Federation

For years an increasing number of citizens have been pressing for adequate water pollution abatement. This long road has led to two conclusions: 1. That there is a need for federal legislation; and 2. Anti-pollution laws must have "teeth" and be vigorously enforced.

In other words, when "the moment of truth" finally comes, positive laws and their enforcement appear to be the only method of controlling pollution.

In the prevention of forest fires, the police powers of the states and the Federal Government have always been necessary to remind some citizens that carelessness does not pay. Even in stock grazing on the national forests, and to a lesser degree on B. L. M. lands, police powers are in the offing.

The first efforts to stop the destruction of wildlife were prohibitive laws of the chase, although in the beginning they were loosely drawn and inadequately enforced. The crush of people dictated their improvement.

Time has proved that habitat is a vital factor in the preservation of all wildlife species, but with its acknowledged importance there has been a tendency by a new generation of game and fish managers to minimize law enforcement.

With the destructive proclivities of our civilization, game law enforcement alone will not save the wildlife, while on the other hand habitat conservation cannot save wildlife from the increasing hordes of hunters and fishermen who stand the state and federal police powers taking an active part. Those who have no respect for the privileges they enjoy must have their consciences jolted by a man in a uniform wearing a badge.

This all becomes an interesting situation in attitudes. In the matter of water pollution, the public has reluctantly concluded that stringent enforcement is a necessary adjunct; but some professionals in fish and game management now take the position that enforcement is over stressed if not out moded. Fish managers can document the fish planted, game managers the pheasants released, forest rangers can point to a green expanse with few fire scars, and standards of effectiveness in game law enforcement are difficult to measure.

Some resource administrators whose jurisdiction includes enforcement but have no background of experience in such matters attempt to set standards by way of the number of arrests. Such a slide rule approach defeats efficient enforcement. Wardens are liable to take the easy course and fill their quota with petty cases, but that doesn't stop the commercializer, nor is it good public relations. Petty cases can jeopardize a warden's effectiveness.

Some inexperienced administrators recommend public relations as a nearly complete substitute. The only weakness in that argument is that public relations doesn't seem to reach a man on a creek spearing fish at two o'clock in the morning, a midnight hot-rodder headlighting deer, or a commercializer of ducks. If the professional violators are apprehended, the amateurs soon lose heart.
Old Cape Florida Lighthouse

By John Fix

An agreement by the Governor's cabinet March 22, 1966, to purchase the 109-acre tip of Key Biscayne, northernmost of the Florida Keys, assures Dade County its first State Park. The land is fascinating Cape Florida, last unspoiled wilderness in the southeastern portion of the State and one which has long been bitterly contested for by commercial interests. Sole structure on the park site—only a pelican glide across Biscayne Bay from Miami’s towering skyscrapers—is old Cape Florida lighthouse, hemmed in by a jungle of coconut palms and Australian pines and besieged by the sea. It was built in 1825.

Time and the elements have dealt harshly with the old lighthouse. Red bricks are missing from its tower. Its metal top housing is rusting away and its rickety outer ladder is broken and jutting from the wall. Not however far enough to have discouraged mischievous youngsters from ascending and descending the sloping walls with crudely-scrawled, white-paint initials.

But, battered as it has been to near-oblivion by hurricane winds, pounded by a surf that has gnawed away more than a mile of sand originally separating the lighthouse from the sea that today is licking at its feet, the old tower was never in greater peril than the day in July, 1836, when the Indians attacked.

The Seminole Wars were at their fiercest. Earlier that year the Indians had massacred the Coee Family at New River where later a stockade was built and a town named Fort Lauderdale. The less than a hundred white settlers between New River and the Miami River, 22 miles to the south, fled in panic to Key West.

But not Old John Thompson, keeper of the light at Cape Florida, nor his negro helper.

"You go if you want to, Henry," said Old John.

"Not me, Mint' Thompson," the negro shook his head "Y'all stays, I stay."

John smiled and patted the black man’s shoulder. Then he took up the telescope with which in recent days he had been anxiously scanning the sea.

But it wasn’t from the sea that the Indians attacked. They came by land, from the remote north shore of the island, creeping stealthily through its dense sub-tropical vegetation. The first intimation of their presence was a burst of musket fire which ricocheted from the bricks of the lighthouse. "It’s THEM!" shouted Old John. He and Henry had been engaged in some repair work in the lower floor of the tower.

The negro had no need to ask who “them” were. Without a word he and Old John scurried up the circular staircase within the tower, firing from openings as they went. At a prearranged point halfway up they paused.

"We’ll keep shooting from different levels," said Old John. "That way they’ll think there’s more of us."

The men were able thus to hold off the savages until darkness fell.

But when night closed in over the Cape, the Seminoles advanced on the lighthouse. They discharged their muskets into its lower floor. Bullets punctured the oil drums containing oil for the light. The oil burst into flames; the flames raced up the circular staircase within the tower, igniting with a roar and blowing the lower levels.

Within the tower ignited with a roar and blew the oil, the smoldering whites-paint initials.

Gasping and choking for air they managed to get through the trap door. "Me and Henry stuck our heads in," said Old John, managing a grin.

There was no time for jubilation. The shaft was silhouetted against the sky. For the moment they had the fire at bay.

But their relief was short-lived. Pent-up gasses within the tower ignited with a roar and blew the trap door skyhigh. Flames raged with greater fury and this time enveloped the upper structure itself.

Old John Thompson and his helper lay on a two-foot wide, rail-less platform just outside the great circular dome of the light. From below the Indians fired haphazardly in their direction. A stray bullet demolished the light. Splinters of glass showered the men. They were splattered with oil. The oil saturated their clothing and caught fire. "God Almighty," cried John Thompson, beating at the flames. "We’re roasting alive."

Beside himself with pain, he struggled to his feet. With a superhuman effort he hoisted a powder keg to the edge of the scuttle. "You Red devil!" he shouted and let the keg plummet downward. If John Thompson, as he was convinced, was going to die, he was taking some of the enemy with him. He steered himself for the blast that would send him and his torturers to Eternity.

But the resulting explosion was a mild one and had the single effect of dampening the fire. It also sent screaming savages, terrified but unhurt, to the shelter of the palmetto thicket.

The pinewood wreckage of the upper tower, which had continued to smolder, blazed anew. Tongues of flame licked skyward. They threw the men clinging to the platform into bold relief. The burning structure on the park site,—only a State and one which

(Continued on next page)
South Florida Angling

Over-size fly "bugs" prove helpful when bass fishing the heavy grass areas of Lake Okeechobee

By CHARLES WATERMAN

While this tippet is 10-pound-test or less, the leader tapers up to a 35-pound butt section that's fastened securely to a fly line which would test 30 pounds or more and there's a couple of hundred yards of backing under that, testing maybe 18 pounds or so. Keep these facts straight.

The other day I was firing away at some small snook on the opposite bank and a little irritated because they wouldn't respond when I noted out of the tail of my eye that an automobile was approaching pulling a trailered outboard boat at a casual roadside estimate of 60 miles per hour. He was coming at a rate likely to interfere with my backcast so I timed it to go behind the car and over the boat. In doing so I did not consider the effects of coldball wind currents which evidently sucked my leader and line down upon the outboard motor.

I wasn't the tippet that caught; it must have been the butt section of the leader or the line itself because I suddenly found myself engaged in the urgent business of letting go of some fly line and backing which were making deep cuts, smoking burns and some quick blasters on my pinkies.

I saved the rod and reel by dropping them on the ground and pulling out the backing so fastened snugly to a leader tapers up to a 35-pound butt section that's pretty plush fishing as you just get out of your boat. HAD MY HANDS IN BANDAGES FOR A WHILE BUT THEY ARE ALL RIGHT NOW.

Here's what happened:

For some years now I have been fly fishing from time to time in the Tamiami Trail canal, which runs alongside Highway No. 41 across South Florida. This is pretty plush fishing as you just get out of your car, stroll out on the state-maintained highway shoulder and make an easy cast across the ditch. You can also patrol the canal in your car and stop if you see a bunch of snook pulling down the sawgrass and spitting it out.

Now in this kind of fishing you have to make a backcast across the highway and it behooves any angler to watch lest he become attached to the vehicle of a pilgrim from Connecticut or a truck jockey from Tampa.

Through the years I've figured I had this department pretty well taken care of. Sometimes I'd wait a little until the traffic cleared and on other occasions I'd just flip the backcast very high and let the traffic go under (this latter when the snook were working and I hurried).

Now I confess that there have been a few occasions when I misjudged, hooked a passing car and lost a streamer fly and tippet but it has been a matter of no great moment as my wife ties the streamers.

I had my hands in bandages for a while but they are all right now.

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getting your line but I have seen times when, with a light drag, I have been uncertain as to whether a fish was gaining or losing.

And something about drag tension:

- The bend of the rod makes a big increase in your usable drag. Length of the stick, the angle at which it is held and the ease with which the line goes through the guides all contribute to effective drag.

Obviously there can be no set rule about this but to get some idea, here's an example.

I set a spinning reel drag at an even two pounds and the line goes off the reel two pounds too. Then I attached the reel to a light spinning rod 6½ feet long and pulled it right angles to the rod, which brough the effective drag up to three pounds. Longer or shorter, softer or stiffer rods would give different results but there's a starter.

Any drag tension becomes progressively greater as the spool of line becomes smaller, a pitfall for the tidy soul who carefully tests his drag with a scale, figuring he has the maximum permissible tension when he adjusts the gullet with a full spool of line. It takes no physics degree to figure that as the line runs off the spool the drag automatically tightens due to reduced leverage on the spindle.

How much? Well, again this varies with the amount of line you started with and how small the spool is when you've run off the line but I tested that too. I took an Ambassadour reel full of casting line and set the drag at exactly two pounds; then I ran the line off and tested again when the spool began to show. On the last test the drag tension came to six pounds which might explain some of those distant breakoffs by salt water fish.

I trimmed a bit in the interests of better casting. I set a spinning reel drag at an even two pounds and when my bare spool began to show, there was a starter.

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Some time back I mentioned that I put line dressing on fly lines, even though they're supposed to float without it and the idea is not only to make them float but to make them stay just as high on the surface as possible. A barely floating line with the water coming well up upon its sides simply doesn't work as slick as one that sits 'way up high.

Now hear this:

The extra high floating line will not only pick up smoother and save your arm, it will actually keep you from hanging up in "junky" water. The high floating line will pick up your lure with a minimum of towing before lift-off.

For example, if you're fishing a floating bass bug and have cast over aroot or a big blade of grass, the high floating line will generally start the bug off the water so quickly it will clear the obstacle. The sinking line will yank it right into trouble.

I've never chased any more hangups and when my bare spool began to show, there was a starter.

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On the pickup, when your bug blurs like a plumber's friend in hot tar, chances are your sinking line has yanked it under, interfering with your cast.

When you can't make your bug pop without wrenched your elbow the chances are your line is a bit sinky on the end and won't let the bug do its stuff.

It's better when they float.

The STRANGER ability of all sorts of fish to live in seeming harmony (even though dining on each other from time to time) was demonstrated last spring in a clear canal I fished in South Florida. The bass fishing was good although the fish run a bit small, generally around a pound, and there were plenty of bluegills to fill in the slow periods if you'd use a small lure. But right in among these readily striking fish were dozens of big snook in the 10-pound class and up. It was strange to toss a small lure out and have a little bass bust it with no interference from what resembled the Loch Ness monster a few feet away.

You always had the feeling that some time those snook were going to start teering things up but, if they ever did, I wasn't there.

**FLORIDA WILDLIFE**

JULY, 1966

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**A couple of good Okeechobee bass. At top is the Weed Wing which goes well with the addition of a pork rind. The lower lure is big Weber Dylite frog poppling bug for fly red use.**

---

**Lake Okeechobee bass are ideally to big popping bugs but it took special equipment to get the lures out of the vegetation.**

**Wings sell at $1.70 each making the trip a financial failure.**

We decided that the spinner was chowing up his 12-pound braided line during occasional hangups and put on a piece of heavy monofilament leader after which we had no more trouble. In fact we were able to stay an extra day on the savings in Weed Wing costs but for a while we had the factory working overtime.

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Fishing Improvement Program

Although still in its infancy, this bill is making great strides toward better fishing

By ART HUTT

Fishing Improvement Program

Although still in its infancy, this bill is making great strides toward better fishing by ART HUTT

If ever the future of Florida's fresh-water fishing received a healthy economic boost, it was back on July 1, 1963, when the Fresh Water Fishing Improvement Bill went into effect. Calling for an extra dollar on each resident fishing license, money from this bill is helping to establish fisheries management techniques designed to keep abreast or ahead of those ever-increasing pressures against the sport.

Simply stated, FIP funds are creating more—or better—fishing in Florida.

In its three years of existence, the program has created over 60 Lake Management areas, some three-dozen launching ramps, built one large fish hatchery, renovated existing hatchery, has a research laboratory under construction, and literally dozens of projects underway or completed.

Commonly referred to as FIP (Fishing Improvement Program), the bill was sponsored by several state sportsmen's clubs, endorsed by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, and passed by legislative action.

The purpose of the bill is five-fold:
- To create and establish fish management areas.
- To improve fresh water fish and fishing conditions.
- To acquire and develop access to fishing waters lacking adequate public access facilities.
- To renovate or restore worn-out fishing waters.

Further provisions of the bill state that a "Fish Management Area" is a body of water designated and approved by the Board of County Commissioners in which the water lies, and sanctioned by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission for improvement purposes.

Also, all anglers except those 65 years and over and under 15 years of age, must have a license to fish in such areas. On other bodies of water, no change was made in the regulations.

The dollar increase on all resident licenses would go into a special Fish Management Fund to carry out the provisions of the bill.

Previously, all state fisheries management money came only from the State Game Fund which in turn derives its money mainly from the sale of fishing and hunting licenses. From this, fish management funds amount to about $11 on the State Game Fund dollar—now greatly expanded—but unaffected—by the FIP funds.

When you buy a $3.00 fishing license, 25¢ is subtracted for the judge's fee. Of the $2.75 left, $1.75 goes into the State Game Fund, and the $1.00 into the Fishing Improvement Fund.

Of course, Dingell-Johnson Federal Aid funds have been and still are available for federally approved projects. This money is based on a state's license sales and geographic dimensions, then allocated to the states requesting it at the rate of three federal dollars to the states requesting it at the rate of three federal dollars to one state dollar. The FIP set-up does not interfer with the D-J program. In fact, one frequently supplements the other.

FIP funds have several advantages over the federal D-J funds, however. The latter must be presented a year in advance, then proceed through the slower federal channels for approval. Also, along with the uncertainty of this approval, since the amount of this aid is based on license and tackle sales throughout the states, either figure being down in a certain year means that the requested money could be slashed or denied.

On the other hand, FIP funds afford a continuous source of money with project approval almost immediate, especially desirable features when the Commission wants to get a project off the ground in...
(Continued on next page)
a hurry or where the project might be too expensive or not suited for federal funds.
Fish in Florida's 50,000 named lakes, rivers, and canals attracts visitors from far and wide, mak­
ing cash registers jingle from barbershops to bait shops, benefitting everybody. Non-resident (136,-
000 plus) and resident (401,000 plus) fishermen pour about $60,000,000 into the state's economy an­
ually.
This is big business any way you look at it.
However, with a steadily increasing population, more industries, more roads, and more abuse of
Florida's God-given natural attributes, water qual­
ity is rapidly deteriorating with a corresponding
increase through development and civilization.
This decline is the basis for an intensified and
progressive fisheries management program. Fish are a crop and must be managed, cultivated, and hor­
vested. Management programs—research, investiga­tion, application—are costly yet insignificant in re­lation to the other eventuality—no fishing.
Happily, the extra dollar fee tacked onto your
residency license since 1963 is forestalling this bleak
possibility.
To be accepted, proposed FIP projects must be
economically justified, biologically sound, and there
must be public access to the water under consider­
ation.
If the programs pass the three-point test, they're
discussed at a meeting with other department heads.
The Game department is involved in many of these
proposals. The contemplated lowering of a lake by
one foot, for example, may have an adverse effect
on what they're trying to accomplish in game man­
gement.
Once approved, the project is properly budgeted.
The establishment of the Lake Management
Areas has been the largest item in the FIP cam­
paign, involving a total of close to 100,000 water
acres. Such areas, when requested by the County
Commissioners and approved for management by
the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commis­sion,
receive intensive management treatment.
To illustrate, 146-acre Lake Lawne in Orlando
was a lake with unorganized access, poor fishing,
boat ramps, parking lot, drainage—and improved
roads, ramps, parking lot, drainage—and improved
fishing—all through FIP funds.
But it doesn't stop there.
The Central Fisheries Research Laboratory at
Eustis will be constructed with FIP funds, although
D-J money will later be involved in the purchase of
equipment. At this lab, the first state venture of its
type, water quality standards which relate to fish
productivity will be established.
The four-month old Richloam Fish Hatchery near
Webster is a product of FIP funds. Hatcheries are
becoming increasingly important for restocking
those lakes which can be totally controlled, like
Lake Lawne. Striped bass and other fish which may
be of value in Florida waters will be worked with
here also.
The St. Johns River Survey, a massive investiga­
tion which started with State Game Funds is now
totally FIP, as is the Withlacoochee project, a study
of the influence hyacinths—and spraying—have on
sport fishing.
Boat ramps are an important aspect of FIP spend­ing;
for public waters are useless if there is no way for
the fisherman to get to them. A ramp project had
existed for several years through D-J and Out­
door Recreation Committee funds. However, the
ORC funds have been used and the ramps are now
strictly an FIP affair.
FIP budgeting provides salaries for fisheries per­
sonnel to sample and to maintain all the manage­
ment lakes, and when the Florida Inland Sportfish­ing Huts (F.I.S.H.) of Leesburg suggested an ex­
panded fishery project for the central Florida lakes,
**1966-67 Hunting Season**

**Northwest Region**

**DEER & BEAR:** November 19 through January 15, hunting permitted every day.

**TURKEY:** Fall Season, November 19 through January 15, hunting permitted every day. Spring Gobbler Season, March 25 through April 9.

**QUAIL & SQUIRREL:** November 19 through March 5, hunting permitted every day.

**Special Regulations:** The use of rifles is prohibited in DeSoto, Hardee, Manatee, and Sarasota counties except .22 rimfire rifles may be used other than for taking of quail.

**DEER & BEAR:** November 12 through November 20 in DeSoto, Manatee, and Sarasota counties. November 12 through January 2 in all other counties. Hunting permitted every day.

**TURKEY:** Fall Season from November 12 through January 2; hunting permitted every day. Spring Gobbler Season: March 11 through March 26, south of State Road 50; March 25 through April 9 in Hernando County, north of State Road 50.

**QUAIL & SQUIRREL:** November 12 through February 26. Hunting permitted every day.

**South Florida Region**

**DEER & BEAR:** November 12 through November 20 only, in Gilchrist County and that portion of Levy County between State Roads 337 and 339. November 12 through January 2 in all other counties. Hunting permitted every day.

**TURKEY:** No open season in Alachua, Madison and Suwannee counties, or in that portion of Columbia County south of State Road 240 and west of State Road 47. In all other counties; Fall Season from November 12 through January 2; Spring Gobbler Season, March 25 through April 9.

**QUAIL & SQUIRREL:** November 12 through February 26. Hunting permitted every day.

**Central Florida Region**

**DEER & BEAR:** No open season on the Florida Keys of Monroe County. November 12 through January 2, all other counties. Hunting permitted every day.

**TURKEY:** Fall Season, November 12 through January 2, hunting permitted every day. Spring Gobbler Season, March 11 through March 26, in that portion of the Region located south of State Road 50; March 25 through April 9, in that portion north of State Road 50.

**QUAIL & SQUIRREL:** November 12 through February 26, hunting permitted every day.

**Everglades Region**

**DEER & BEAR:** No open season in Alachua, Madison and Suwannee counties, or in that portion of Columbia County south of State Road 240 and west of State Road 47. In all other counties; Fall Season from November 12 through January 2; Spring Gobbler Season, March 25 through April 9.

**TURKEY:** No open season in Alachua, Madison and Suwannee counties, or in that portion of Columbia County south of State Road 240 and west of State Road 47. In all other counties; Fall Season from November 12 through January 2; Spring Gobbler Season, March 25 through April 9.

**QUAIL & SQUIRREL:** November 12 through February 26. Hunting permitted every day.

**WILD HOG:** In that portion of Levy County between State Roads 337 and 339, November 12 through November 20, only; Alachua County and the remaining portion of Levy County, November 12 through January 2.

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**Bag Limits**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Bag Type</th>
<th>Daily Bag</th>
<th>Season Bag</th>
<th>Possession Limit</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Deer, Buck Only</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Turkey — Fall</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spring Gobbler</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
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<tr>
<td>Squirrel, Grey</td>
<td>10</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Squirrel, Fox</td>
<td>2</td>
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<td>Quail</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bear</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wild Hog</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
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</tbody>
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**Shooting Hours — Resident Game**

From one-half hour before sunrise to one-half hour after sunset; except Spring Gobbler Season when shooting hours will be from one-half hour before sunrise until 12 noon only.

**Migratory Game and Bird Regulations**

Federal migratory bird hunting dates and regulations for March Hens (rails & gallinules), Mottled Dove, Waterfowl (ducks, geese, swan), Snipe and Woodcock, as set by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, during July and August, will be published as a separate summary, available by September 1, 1966.

**NATIONAL FOREST BEAR HUNTS**

Applications for the Apalachicola Bear Hunts should be filed with the Regional Manager, Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, P. O. Box 576, Panama City, Florida. Hunters who wish to participate in the Osceola Bear Hunts should file applications with the Regional Manager, Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, P. O. Box 908, Lake City, Florida. All applications must be accompanied by a check to cover permit cost, prior to August 26.

Each three-day hunt will be limited to not more than 17 people, except upon approval of the hunt supervisor. Each group must obtain a $50.00 party permit and each person in the party must also possess a regular hunting license.

Additional information concerning the special hunt regulations and procedures governing the drawing may be obtained by contacting either regional office.

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**FLORIDA WILDLIFE**

**JULY, 1966**
A bass fisherman spends most of his time in anticipation of a strike and even when it happens out there 40 or 50 feet away from him a good, rousing blast will make him jump. When it happens at arm’s length and the bass scrapes his fingers most any angler needs an instant tranquilizer.

Tex L’Argent, who operates the Bass Capital Resort fishing club on Lake Crescent, has a sneaky bit of promotion going for him in the form of a couple of big, artificial pools filled with bass that are about half a backhand away as the bait disappeared. Of course a bass doesn’t have teeth but he does have a sandpaper mouth and Debie ended up with some scratched fingernails. These wounds didn’t impress Tex much but she studied them occasionally for a day or two. Keeping up those pools is a lot of work but Tex doesn’t have teeth but he does have a sandpaper mouth and Debie ended up with some scratched fingernails. These wounds didn’t impress Tex much but she studied them occasionally for a day or two. Keeping up those pools is a lot of work but Tex

“Just hold it by the end of the tail and lower it down close to the water.” Tex says. He gave this introduction to my wife Debie and she obediently went out on the little pier and sat down at the end. I went around to the other side of the pool with a camera. Now feeding bass by hand is not exactly new and I’ve seen a lot of photographs of it but most of the hand-fed bass in this world don’t weigh anywhere near ten pounds. When the fish struck Debie did half a back flip and I snapped the camera roughly in the direction of a water explosion I couldn’t believe was just a cranky old lady bass.

We did it several more times and I managed to hit some of the strikes pretty well as they happened, even showing a dark blob of bass countenance down in the splash on a couple of occasions, but Debie never got to the point where she didn’t yank her hand away as the bait disappeared. Of course a bass doesn’t have teeth but he does have a sandpaper mouth and Debie ended up with some scratched fingernails. These wounds didn’t impress Tex much but she studied them occasionally for a day or two. Keeping up those pools is a lot of work but Tex

figures they’re the best advertising he can buy and maybe he’s right. Anyone who doesn’t get fishing fever after such an exhibition wouldn’t be a fishing resort customer anyway.

“Jumping bass” or “bar bass” are simply fish that gang up to attack passing schools of bait. We used to say that it was a practice learned from salt water fish but there are “school bass” in some lakes that never saw salt water species so maybe that’s bunk dope. There aren’t nearly as many school bass resorts are located on the west side of the lake just off U. S. Highway 17. Crescent Lake is about as long as Lake George but not so wide. It lies just a little north of “Big George” and “Little Lake George,” a bulge in the St. Johns, is straight west of Crescent making them only about five miles apart.

Crescent Lake is joined to the St. Johns by Dunn’s Creek, which runs north out of the lake and goes into a bend of the river near San Mateo. Running into the lake at the south end is Haw Creek, one branch of which comes in from Lake Dixon, a pretty good fishing lake in itself. Dixon is some of the prettiest cypress water in Florida—but we’re talking about Little Lake George and Lake Crescent now. All of these waters are big enough that a good, state road map will show them plainly.

Both Little Lake George and Crescent Lake are noted for big fish, being located in the Big Bass Belt, and if there is such a thing as a most reliable sector for schooling bass, I’d say this is it. When I first visited this area, I went fishing over on the St. Johns with A. P. Oliver, one of the best known of the guiding veterans. Oliver told me then that he caught schooling bass every week of the year. There probably isn’t as much school bass fishing as there used to be for a whole batch of reasons but this is a good area.

School bass, “jump bass” or “bar bass” are simply fish that gang up to attack passing schools of bait. We used to say that it was a practice learned from salt water fish but there are “school bass” in some lakes that never saw salt water species so maybe that’s bunk dope. There aren’t nearly as many school bass resorts are located on the west side of the lake just off U. S. Highway 17. Crescent Lake is about as long as Lake George but not so wide. It lies just a little north of “Big George” and “Little Lake George,” a bulge in the St. Johns, is straight west of Crescent making them only about five miles apart.

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As far upstream as Lake George and Crescent,
the St. Johns system is strongly affected by the
Jacksonville tides. When you get south of Lake
George the immediate tide effects are slight although
steady winds can cause backups that "turn the river
around."

There's lots of schooling on Lake Crescent, some­
times visible from docks at Crescent City. Tex L'Ar­
gent says the school fishing generally gets under way
after the main spawning period ends.
The first time I visited Crescent City years ago I
was impressed by a sign right at the end of a busy
street admonishing the citizenry not to dig worms
there. Fishing is an important interest in that coun­
try.

We had a try at Crescent Lake last March when
it had been tossed for several days by a persistant
wind and the water was just a bit cooler then
normal. There's a good, free launching ramp right
at the end of a street in Crescent City although it's
not fully protected and a strong eastern wind can
make launching a little hectic. There's a fine fishing
dock right next to the ramp and local people can
land panfish and an occasional bass a few feet from
their cars.

There are several ramps scattered around the
lake but you'd better make inquiry as not all of
them are usable. Most of the east shore of Crescent
is owned by lumber interests although there are a
few put-in spots. One is at St. Johns Park at the
south end.

We got into the water early in anticipation of
high winds and crossed the lake to the east shore.
Water was a little high and the cypress edges didn't
look too fishy but there were small offshore patches
of grass, reeds and bonnets so, after a few minutes
of bouncing lures off cypress knees, we took to the
grass patches and began throwing weedless stuff
right into the heaviest part.

I had a big popping bug and Debie was working a
weedless spoon. This is a fine arrangement because
common courtesy dictates that the fly fisherman gets
the bow of the boat and I therefore get the best of
the fishing.

The bug caught in a grass stem and plopped into
the water as if I had planned it that way, disappear­
ing with a solid chug. I gave forth a remarkably
inaccurate play-by-play account of my progress as
the bass sought a hide-out somewhere down there
in the flora. A couple of times I announced that I
had lost the fish but he finally popped up to the
surface and practically into the net, encouraged by
both hands on a slender rod that bent double and
remarkably straightened out again when the episode
was over. The manufacture of durable glass rods
has done a lot for people who like to fish in grass
where they have no business.

A few minutes after I landed my bass (which was
considerably smaller than expected) a full-grown
bighorn decided to chase a terrified shiner all over
the place. He chased the shiner out of a grass patch
into the open and then back into the grass with
progressively louder strikes as his quarry moved at
flank speed by both air and water. Always calm in
such a crisis, I tried vigorously to cast my bug
between the bass and the shiner but was unsuccess­
ful. As I recall, it developed the bug had been
hooked near the seat of my jeans all the time, a
contingency which couldn't be anticipated by any­
one.

In fairness it must be recorded that the bass
accounted remarkably like those my wife had fed
the day before at the Bass Capital resort and I was
quite sure those weighed in the neighborhood of
ten pounds. A psychiatrist might observe that my
analytical mind had figured my chances providing
I had hooked a 10-pound bass on the edges of that
grass and that subconsciously I really hadn't wanted
him at all. This is ridiculous because the bug was
hooked to my pants all the time, I think.

It wasn't a banner fishing day but every two or
three grass patches another fish would show up.
Shortly after the big bass chased the shiner, Debie
hooked a fish with her plug casting outfit and a
spoon and got him into the boat with the aid of
skillful net use. In fact, she gouged into the grass so
far and probed so delicately that I'm not even sure
the fish she brought up with the net was the same
one that had struck.

As I say, that was in March and the crappie
fishermen were busy. That's their time of year and
most of them seldom think of hunting "specks" dur­
ing warm weather. Speckled perch are plentiful
in both Crescent Lake and the St. Johns a few miles
away and I believe most of the biggest Florida
specks come from that general area. Either there
has been an upturn in crappie population in recent
years or more people have learned to catch them
(Continued on next page)
Those who want seining say that the rough fish compete with game fish for food and actually destroy spawn and the gamefish themselves. Those who oppose it point out that seining is rough on the bottom vegetation, kills some game fish accidentally and enables unscrupulous operators to bootleg gamefish from the seine. They say that complete supervision of commercial seining operations is impossible. The argument becomes stronger when fishing is poor and suckers become less important when fishing gets better.

The “Bass Capital” resorts do a great deal of national advertising, something which brings business to the big operators as well as to small camps that don’t buy much space. Bass fishing between Lake George and Palatka is an older tourist attraction and the pictures of big Sportsman’s Lodge at Welaka have long been familiar in where-to-geo sections of outdoor magazines.

Eel grass is a big attraction to St. Johns River bass and just where the big patches are to be found from year to year has a big bearing on fishing. There are other factors, of course, but most fishermen say it’s a matter of water level. When the level is down at the right time, the sun gets to the bottom and grass grows lush.

At low water there is considerable wade fishing near Welaka but during wet weather you’d better stick to boats. The bass spawn, preferably on sandy bottoms, in patchy grass areas. I have found the patchy grass spots very good for surface lures in late spring, summer and early fall.

Undoubtedly it’s hard to heat live bait or the plastic worm for consistent success although other methods are more fun when they work. The school buss are caught both as they come to the surface (when small plugging or spinning lures are used) or off the bottom beneath the schooling area on plastic worms or live bait.

Quite a few stripped bass of the salt water variety are caught in this area but the species is too inconsistent to be an important contribution to the fishing.

The famous Oklawaha River empties into the St. Johns near Welaka and there’s good bass and panfish action near the mouth. Across the St. Johns from the Oklawaha I’ve caught some fine bass in late evening when thunderheads formed after a hot July day.

Fishing guides are nearly always available in the Welaka area, a whole list of available ones being posted at the Sportsman’s Lodge dock, for example.

From the mail I get, it would seem that tourist fishermen should take a lot of care in selecting their St. Johns River guides—not that the guides aren’t reliable but some of them specialize only in live bait fishing and may not know what’s all about if you insist on using artificials. The guide’s standpoint is understandable because a large percentage of visitors aren’t competent in the use of artificials.

What I call “big bass fever” gets in the way of some vacations. There has been so much talk about 10-pound bass from the St. Johns River that by the time some fishermen arrive on the scene they’d be willing to use any means, fair or foul, to collect a fish for the taxidermist. I’d be the first to say that the chances may be better with a big, free-running shiner attached to a monofilament line but the skilled caster will probably be happier if he controls his desire for a record breaker and uses the tackle he likes, even if the fish run smaller.

This big-fish complex came out the other day when one resort operator told me last year was a poor year for big ones and “all we caught were a lot of 9-pounders but we’re catching 10-pounders this year.” That’s all very good and that particular operator has been producing but another guide said he didn’t want expert casters or fly fishermen.

“It’d rather get greenheads and use my own tackle with heavy line and spinners; that way I can get some big fish for them and that’s what they come for.”

I don’t know. Maybe so.
A snake bit dog isn’t a pleasant thought, but with a bit of care and advance planning, it needn’t be fatal to man’s best friend.

The white coat was heavily matted with blood as the three year old prize pointer tried to raise its head. Owner Ben Roberts lay a calming hand on his dog’s head as Dr. Bill Ray of Tampa, Florida sent a final massive dose of anti-snakebite serum into the area around the wound. Laboring breathing and a slow heartbeat gave scant hope to the anxious pair as they worked over their patient.

“Rattlesnake!” was the single word combining explanation and curse, that told the tale as the veterinarian worked. Three vials of serum did the trick this time, and the dog would soon be on its feet and hunting. It isn’t always this way.

Don’t count on your dog having the same luck, unless you stack the deck in his favor the way this dog’s owner did.

Knowing the usual outcome of a snake versus dog battle, Roberts walked into the woods that day carrying a lightweight kit of Antivenin, a compact unit comprised of syringe, needle and serum.

Immediately after his dog suffered the bite, the needle was hastily assembled, serum inserted in the syringe according to the simple explanations packed with the kit, and the contents of the vial injected in two doses.

Following the instructions, part of the initial dose was injected into muscle and various areas directly surrounding the swollen area, while the remainder of the remedy went into a large muscle higher on the bitten limb.

The next step was moving the dog into his car, arranging for a telephone call to his veterinarian, and getting the animal there as soon as possible.

According to Dr. Ray, “No one can say for sure whether or not this initial injection made the difference between life and death, but I do know that the pointer was almost dead on arriving at my office. I personally believe that failure to have given the dog an immediate shot of the serum would have resulted in a dead dog.”

Antivenin, usually available in drugstores or thru your vet, is effective against the deadly trio of North American pit vipers, rattlesnake, copperhead and moccasin. The only poisonous snake it has no effect on is the small-fanged Coral snake. A bite from this one must be treated with a serum brought in from South America, and not generally available with the ease of obtaining Antivenin.

For the hunter or camper who values his dogs, whether pure bred champion, or family mutt who couldn’t be bought for any price, an investment of less than fifteen dollars can mean the difference between a few days rest, or the grief that only a man who has lost a dog can understand.

One item worth mentioning is that a series of telephone calls to half a dozen drug stores in the area of Central Florida, showed that although any of the druggists could order the kit with no delay, it was difficult to obtain it immediately. A lack of calls for the drug was the reason for not stocking it.

This means that plans for a potential hunt in snake country should involve contacting a supplier early, getting your supply, AND CARRYING IT WITH YOU!!!

With animal bites, it is seldom possible to make the ½ inch incision necessary for mouth suction removal, but should your partner (or yourself) be unlucky enough to step into the striking path of an angry snake, that incision, and suction, can serve as a life-saving stopgap. Your dog isn’t that lucky. He must have the injection if he is to stand a chance of surviving a full dose of venom from an irritated reptile.

The danger of snake bites are directly proportional to the size of the snake and the amount of venom that gets into the victims bloodstream. Cases on record show that snakebit persons or animals who have died in an hour or less, are results of a bite directly on a vein.

In spite of an inherent distaste of snakes, one helpful piece of knowledge is identification of the attacker. Near water, or in swampy areas, many snakes have been immediately named as moccasins, where later identification has proven this incorrect. By that time, the unpleasant procedure of injection of antivenin, and its attendant discomforts, has already begun.

From several medical sources, and competent herpetologists, the word is “start the treatment first, then identify the snake if possible.”

Undoubtedly most would rather endure some dis-

(Continued on next page)
The western Diamondback Rattlesnake from Maine to Florida, where it is called the Copperhead, seldom runs over three feet in length and its blackish-yellowish body has dark olive or brown markings. Although it has been ascertained that they strike only when disturbed or scared, this is one snake that gives no warning prior to its attack. Mostly it ranges from New England to Texas, with the western outsider being fairly sure of missing this one while afield.

For the southern outdoorsman who spends his time near the water, his uninvited guest list might well include the Water-Moccasin, also known as the cotton-mouth, due to the stark white of its inner mouth.

This venom carrier stays near the water, where its thickish head can be seen swimming after its diet of fish and other aquatic life. The brown or olive body can be as long as five feet, which is usual seen from the rear as it basically seeks protection from enemies by rapidly escaping to the nearest water.

Some dogs seem to enjoy tackling a snake, perhaps fascinated by this legless challenge, or perhaps with an aversion to the reptile itself. Either way, the best snakebite precautions are found in keeping the two well separated.

If they should get together, follow the basic rules below, and your chances of having another outing together will improve greatly:
1. Purchase, and carry, an antivenin outfit, anytime you plan to be out with your dog.
2. Read the instruction sheet, packed with the kit, before you go afield.
3. Contact your veterinarian, or arrange for someone to call ahead, as soon as you have administered the serum.
4. Get there as soon as possible. Your injection may help keep the dog alive, but a severe dose of snake venom needs trained medical attention to insure that all possible remedial actions have been taken.

A snake bit dog isn’t a pleasant thought, and it isn’t something to look forward to, but with a bit of advance planning, it needn’t be fatal to man’s best friend.

(Continued from preceding page)

comfort due to an unnecessary treatment, than face the alternative because they weren’t sure what bit them.

Although some experts have strong opinions regarding the ‘timidity’ of the rattler, this snake is provided with the most virulent poison of any of the venomous snakes in North America. It can cause death just as quickly as an aggressive type.

With a family of over 15 species, the most common is the eastern diamondback, reaching lengths of over 8 feet and carrying a definite diamond-shaped design bordered in yellow, on its’ olive or brownish body. Its range extends from the Mississippi to North Carolina, throughout the southeast.

The southwest United States holds the dubious honor of having the Western Diamondback Rattlesnake, which may reach lengths of 7 feet, and wears a slightly lighter color than its’ relative. Among them being the Western Diamondback Rattlesnake, Mississippi to North Carolina, throughout the southeast. The Cottonmouth, or Water-Moccasin, is the eastern diamondback, reaching lengths of 7 feet, and wears a slightly lighter color than its’ relative.

The west coast holds two separate breeds, the Pacific and Massasauga, which extend their area into Canada. The Eastern seaboard harbors the Timber Rattlesnake from Maine to Florida, where it is called the Copperhead Rattlesnake. This latter may reach five feet, and its blackish-yellowish body has dark irregular bands to identify it.

Running a close second in terms of deadliness, the Copperhead seldom runs over three feet in length. Its’ brightly copper-colored head tops a body several shades darker, and is basically a night creature, venturing forth after dark to feed on mice and small game. Although it has been ascertained that they strike only when disturbed or scared, this one snake that gives no warning prior to its’ attack because they weren’t sure what bit them.

The Crystal River waters of the Juniper Springs run seduce many canoers to the Ocala National Forest; these warm days...

**Canoe Adventures**

Despite the embrace of jet-age comforts for outdoor recreation, paddle-pushing canoe adventures are becoming more popular.

I’ve never been there before, but after talking to Nancy Brower, lovely little feature writer for the Florida Development Commission’s News Bureau, I gotta go!

Nancy says the Juniper Springs Run in Ocala National Forest is one of the most beautiful natural attractions she has ever seen. She and her husband, Bill, along with another couple and ol’ John Wilhelm, the “Florida Outdoorsman,” took a week’s camping and canoeing trip from Juniper Springs to the bridge crossing U. S. 19, a distance of about seven miles.

“It was beautiful,” beautiful Nancy bubbled. This was the first effort at boating and camping of any kind for Nancy and Bill, and they thoroughly enjoyed the great outdoors and paddling a canoe. The two couples also took a tour of the Alexander Springs run, near the Juniper course, and the narrow, winding streams certainly appealed to their aesthetic tastes.

Nancy enjoyed every moment of it. She advised against small tents for camping, however. “Ever tried changing clothes in one of those things?” she smiled. No . . . but I had to change clothes in the front seat of a car when I came up short a motel room once . . . that on for size!

Canoing in remote areas like Ocala’s National Forest is an ideal boating pastime. And in runs like Juniper and Alexander, you can only make it in canoes. The way is narrow, shallow, and dense, and larger craft simply could not navigate.

Like I stated in a recent issue of Florida Wildlife, canoeing is making as big a comeback as short skirts. I have had so many inquiries about canoes since I ran that little piece on John Cassidy’s Seminole Canoes down in Longwood, that you would think the Indians are planning another uprising. Darned if I don’t think I’m going to have to join the canoeing for lunch bunch, or some crowd like that!

**ANYONE REMEMBER A STORY we did about two years ago on a cruise across southern Florida with Charlie Miller of Miami? Charlie is a dentist, if you recall, and aboard a boat is a worrier. Charlie worries about everything. He cleans the seats, he checks the compass, he looks at the gunwales, he peers into the transom, he counts every strand in the lines, he takes a screwdriver and tightens every screw on the boat, and last, but certainly not least, Charlie blows the bilges, getting all the fumes out.

We need more worrying Charlie. There would be fewer accidents and much more safe boating on our waterways.

And you know what? According to people who conduct powerboat safety inspections, a fire extinguisher is the item most frequently involved when deficiencies are found!

That wouldn’t happen to Charlie. I think he has a fire extinguisher about every three feet on a boat. Charlie is a real worrier about fires, and who can blame him?

Bob Brewer of Mercury Motors tells us that the average boater seldom encounters fire allot. However, the purpose of safety regulations is to guard against the unexpected, and experience shows there can be fires on board.

State regulations regarding fire extinguishers vary, and even federal regulations change to keep them up to date. If in doubt as to whether your boat must carry one, consult your dealer, talk to a state motorboat inspector, or trailer your rig into any active Coast Guard station for an authoritative opinion.

(Continued on next page)
Remember when we were kids learning to swim, and the instructor explained to us to use the "buddy system"? The rule of it was that two persons were to swim together, therein insuring the safety of each member of the team.

Well, the same system was adopted in the main by outboarders, and there are a good many reasons for it.

One family may own an outboard cruiser, the cabin and compartments of which are fine for catering to a brood of children. But this craft may not be as handy for fishing, exploring and off-the-beach skiing as might be desired. Another family owns a utility runabout, perfect for such use but not so good for family comforts.

Result ... the two families get together and go places as a "task force," prepared for any sport, because the two different boats will do any job.

Another advantage is that time can be put to better use. The men may want to fish, the youngsters to ski and the ladies to lounge on the beach. With two boats available, there can be a fishing party and a beach party at the same time, pleasing everyone.

Safety, too, is a factor. When it is necessary to cross an open expanse of water it is comforting to have another boat tagging along. If the route penetrates deep into wild country, such as a swamp or a chain of lakes, a lone boat can be in a jam if it encounters trouble. When a pair of boats go together, there is always one ready to help the other, if the occasion arises. There is seldom need for it, but ask any skipper if the peace of mind doesn't make the trip much more pleasant.

I know when we make these cruises all around the state, we usually have three boats, and we have found on several occasions one would break down and we'd have to double up in the other two. Outboaring has made tremendous advances in the past few years, but there is still that old motor trouble bugaboos that is still with us at times.

As a general rule, extinguishers are required on all inboard-outboard craft, which have lockers, cabins, compartments, bilge spaces or any other closed areas which could fill with fumes from leaking or spilled fuel.

An extinguisher is of no value if it is poorly installed or not in operating condition. Approved extinguishers now have pressure gauges on them so there will never be any doubt as to the state of the charge.

When deciding where to install a fire extinguisher, find a location where the pressure gauge will be easy to see. Frequently, you will prevent getting an equipment deficiency ticket from an inspector for having an extinguisher with inadequate pressure.

Also try to install the extinguisher where the boat's operator can reach it quickly, regardless of where fire may break out. For example, if installed in the forward part of a cruiser's cabin, a flare-up of the galley stove at the rear of the cabin may cut off access to the extinguisher.

Some extinguishers are discharged by pulling a trigger and others by squeezing the handle. Try to locate your extinguisher where it will be protected from spray, and make sure it is held securely in its bracket.

**LOT OF PEOPLE are pretty squeamish, and rightly so, when they think of the open sea. I have been out into the Gulf on several occasions in an 18-foot and found the experience quite thrilling and completely safe. Of course, we had a couple of powerful motorists to handle any emergency that might crop up.

But the recent Miami-Nassau powerboat race found some outboards coming into their own in competing with the ocean racing hulls. Jim Wynne of Miami took his 28-foot Formula Special with two supercharged 500 h.p. engines around the course in first place, as was expected. But that wasn't expected to be the fifth, sixth and eighth place finish by outboarders powered with Mercs.

Chuck Strickland of Sarasota was the first to finish in an outboard, putting a 29-foot Glastron across the line. Chet had three (count 'em) Mere 110's attached, which pushed that Glastron along like a bat with out of your knows where.

Several persons have tried the tricky erasing from the east Florida coast to the Bahamas and Bimini in outboards. You can make it, if you have the intestinal fortitude, I think it's called. You wouldn't catch me out there in an outboard unless I knew the Atlantic and Gulf Stream would be like glass for at least three days, that tough country, and it is strictly big boat territory. Don't be foolish!

With everyone getting in the swim here in the middle of the summer, you might give some thought to this:

Outboards like this one are moving into ocean racing with a vengeance. This craft finished sixth in Miami-Nassau run.
Limited supply of surplus carbines converted into special custom hunting rifles

Back in 1873, the Winchester factory got an idea for novel sales promotion of their Model 73 lever-action repeating rifle, then already popular for hunting and Indian-fighting. The gunmakers had noticed that every once in awhile an exceptionally smooth-firing and accurate rifle would show up during run-of-the-mill tests. Some bright lad in the front office hit upon the idea of setting aside these exceptional Model 73s for special conversion, dressing them up a bit and stamping their barrels with the distinctive designation “One of One Thousand.”

One hundred and thirty-six of the “One of One Thousand” model were made and sold. When the movie “Winchester 73,” starring James Stewart, was made, with stress on one of the rifles, a nationwide search for still existing similar Winchesters was made. A surprising number of the original 136 were located. Today, these remaining Winchester Model 73’s are high market value.

Many thousands of M1 Carbines, both war surplus and of private manufacture, have been sold to present day shooters. Few will likely ever merit designation as collector pieces, among the few that will are the fifty custom-built, sporterized M1 Carbines being assembled and beautified by the Williams Gun Sight Company, of Davison, Michigan, gunsmiths as well as suppliers of shooting accessories.

A selected M1 Carbine action is fitted with a special, thumb-hole pistol grip. Mannlicher-style stock designed by Reinhart Fajan, famous gunstock maker of Warsaw, Missouri. Metal surfaces are attractively blued, and the cartridge clip reduced to five shot capacity size for additional appearance.

The usual military receiver sight is replaced with the factory-loaded Norma .30 Carcano center fire .30-06 cartridge, barrel length 24 inches, weight 7.5 lbs. (1.5 lbs. less than the original M1 Carbine). A selected M1 Carbine barrel band of each rifle with the words “One of Fifty”.

Norma, an internationally established name in commercial center fire sporting ammunition manufacture and in the making of components for home reloading, is fast bringing out new calibers to meet both consumer demands and the trend toward general use of smaller, high velocity calibers for deer and other medium size game.

Recent completely-loaded, ready-to-use cartridge additions include loadings for the 6mm Remington, the .65 Carcano, the low-trajectory 223, and the .22-250 (varmint cal) calibers. The 6mm Remington caliber loading features a semi-pointed soft-point 109-grain bullet that develops 3100 f.p.s. muzzle velocity. At 100 yards bullet velocity had dropped to only 2900 f.p.s. and bullet energy is 1890 foot pounds—a real wallop for such a small bullet.

The factory-loaded Norma .65 Carcano cartridge embodies a 156-grain soft-point, round nose bullet that gives muzzle velocity of 2600 f.p.s., and desirably low bore pressure, in military or converted to sporter Carcanos.

Norma’s .223 (civilian) caliber load is the sporting counterpart of the high velocity, low-trajectory 223 caliber cartridge being used in Vietnam. The caliber is especially liked because of its light recoil (a great advantage when making fast follow-up shots) and its excellent ballistics over even such extreme ranges as 400 and 500 yards.

The Norma center fire .223 caliber sporting cartridge is a rimless bottleneck loaded with a 55-grain soft point bullet that zips out of rifle muzzle at 3600 f.p.s.

In practical use sense, a quality shotgun can be accurately compared to a top-grade paint brush. Either, in skilled hands, will produce beautiful results. Likewise, it is possible to improve skillful use of either by collateral reading, as well as experience.

One in a long while, a truly useful shotgun book title is added to the list of hard-back books on shotguns, as well as periodical literature. The chapter devoted to alternate use of the shotgun as a big game rifle, firing rife slugs, is especially informative. Page 110 of the book features a ballistics table that interestingly compares the performance of rife slugs with such calibers as the .30-30 Winchester, .30 Remington, .30 M1 Carbine, .35 Remington and .44 Remington Magnum over ranges from muzzle to 100 yards.

Publisher is D. Van Nostrand Company, Princeton, New Jersey; price is $5.95. Your local bookstore can order “Shotguns and Shooting” for you.

Your Florida state hunting license, during its calendar period of validity, entitles you to the additional privilege of shooting skunk, red and gray fox, bobcat, raccoon, nutria, armadillo, crows, buzzards and certain other specified varmint class animals and birds during regular seasons. You must, however, have your unexpired hunting license in your possession while afield.

Varmint hunting is great sport. For best results, use callers and camouflage. Your local area Wildlife Officer can acquaint you with exact particulars, and suggest good places to hunt.

Now, another Florida law—House Bill No. 827—passed during the last legislative session, further protects your right to lawfully own and use sporting firearms.

House Bill No. 827, a state law that supercedes any law, ordinance or regulation in conflict there with, not only clearly defines sportmen’s rights, but does a body blow to the old, vague and often legally misconstrued Florida law 790.05 and 790.06, by clearly defining rights, legally and individually, to good citizens and sportsmen.

Letters. His book is written in the same concise, but adequate, style of his letters. You will find it easy to read, and to the point.

Contents are embracive. Besides a history of the shotgun and its specific applications, there are informative chapters on tested techniques for field, trap and Skeet shooting; a review of gauges, choke bores, barrel lengths, stock dimensions and muzzle devices and tips on upland hunting, waterfowl hunting and competitive target shooting, including proper gun mounting and handling.

The chapter devoted to alternate use of the shotgun as a big game rifle, firing rifed slugs, is especially informative. Page 110 of the book features a ballistics table that interestingly compares the performance of rifed slugs with such calibers as the .30-30 Winchester, .30 Remington, .30 M1 Carbine, .35 Remington and .44 Remington Magnum over ranges from muzzle to 100 yards.

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something above 50,000 pairs of Sooty Terns and one tenth that number of Brown Noddies. The banding project was carried on by the Florida Audubon Society and the Florida State Museum. Over a hundred thousand Sooty Terns have been banded at the Dry Tortugas with banded birds recovered in many eastern states, in the West Indies, Central and northern South America and in several countries of West Africa. One hundred of the Sooty Terns banded since the late 1930’s have returned to be recaptured in the Tortugas in recent years, with the records from band numbers fixing their ages at from 18 to 28 years.

Leaders of the 1966 expeditions are Oliver L. Austin, Jr., curator of the Florida State Museum, Gainesville and William B. Robertson, Jr. of the National Park Service, Homestead who conducted trip No. 1, and C. Russell Mason, of the Florida Audubon Society, Miami and Dr. Robert H. Robertson who leads tour No. 2. Adults terns are banded in the early season, largely young, but some adults will be banded on the 2nd trip. In 1965 the Tortugas terns banded ran above 30,000.

The Golden Passport

A “Golden Passport” to the Nation’s top outdoor recreation areas represents the greatest bargain yet for campers, hikers, boaters, fishermen and other outdoor enthusiasts. This wallet-size card will admit you and all those accompanying you in a private vehicle into appropriately 7,000 Federal recreation areas; and for as many times as you want during a one-year period. Since many of these Federal areas charge entrance fees, the $7 Golden Passport can more than pay for itself on one vacation trip.

The Federal Recreation Area Entrance Permit, however, is not much more than just a bargain for the outdoor-minded public. It is also an investment in the outdoor recreation future of the United States because the money from its sale goes into the Land and Water Conservation Fund.

This Fund, which is also supported by receipts from the sale of surplus Federal land and a tax on motor boat fuel, will provide a major boost for the Nation’s outdoor recreation resources. Forty percent of the Fund will be used to create additional Federal recreation areas such as National Parks, recreational facilities at Federal reservoirs, and others. Sixty percent of the Fund will go to States, counties, and municipalities in the form of recreation grants to be matched 50-50 from local revenues.

The “Golden Passport” is available at all Federal areas where entrance fees are charged. It may also be purchased at all offices of the Corps of Engineers, the Forest Service, the Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service, the TVA, various agencies of the Department of the Interior, offices of the American Automobile Association, certain national conservation organizations, and by mail from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Washington, D.C.

Individuals purchasing a $7 Golden Passport by mail from the Bureau of Outdoor Recreation, Box 7763, Washington, D.C. 20044, for a Golden Eagle Family Award Certificate suitable for framing and a handsome Golden Eagle lapel insignia. A copy room in bigger and better outdoor recreation areas is just over the horizon; but only if you do your part by purchasing the “Golden Passport,” a blue chip stock in America’s outdoor recreation future.

Conservation Workshop

Fishermen who would make fishing companions of their children will be interested in the training program at the Florida Youth Conservation Camp operated by the Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission in the Ocala National Forest.

Open for boys and girls between the ages of 16 and 13, the Florida Youth Conservation Camp is more than a summer vacation or an escape from "pennies, books, teacher's dirty looks." The camp is a conservation workshop designed to teach the value of natural resource conservation through participation in outdoor activities.

The Youth Conservation Camp continues through August 13, for seven sessions of summer training in nature study, camping, fishing, hunting, archery, firearms safety and marksmanship, swimming and boating.

Complete information on the Youth Conservation Camp and application for reservations may be obtained by writing the Youth Conservation Camp, Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, Ocala, Florida.

Alligator Law Proposed

The Department of the Interior has adopted regulations to provide for increased wildlife protection and facilitate enforcement of certain criminal statutes covering offenses against wildlife.

A Department-proposed amendment to the Criminal Code would extend protective Federal laws to every part of the United States in order to curb the unlawful taking of the endangered 12- to 18-foot alligator now in violation of State, Federal, or foreign law. The Department has suggested that the law be extended to cover reptiles (such as alligators), amphibians (frogs), mollusks, including oysters and clams, crustaceans, such as crabs and lobsters.

The Department also proposed amendments concerning penalties designed to prevent wild animal and property on Federal sanctuaries, refuges, or breeding pools, from being transported.

As proposed, the Criminal Code would be amended in four ways: Extend coverage to all Federal areas administered for the conservation of wildlife and to all other Federal areas that may be set aside by the Secretary of the Interior to aid wildlife. Define “wildlife” to include wild mammals and birds, reptiles, amphibians, fish, mollusks, crustaceans, and all other classes of wild animals.

Prohibit violation of regulations set by United States agencies responsible for wildlife areas concerning automobiling, disorderly conduct, or littering.

Provide new authority to Interior Department employees to arrest persons violating regulations and to search for and seize any property used or possessed in violation of any law.

A third recommendation would amend the Criminal Code governing importation of injurious species of wildlife. At present, the Secretaries of Interior and Treasury share enforcement responsibility, but there is no provision for arrests or seizure of property used in violation of this section. The proposed bill would provide Interior and Customs Bureau employees with this authority.

Wild River Destruction

The Florida Audubon Society noted recently that the systematic destruction of Florida’s wild rivers and their natural beauty has recently received sharp criticism from two widely-separated quarters.

Eight hundred delegates to the 23rd annual convention of the Florida Association of Student Councils, gathered in Melbourne, passed a resolution asking that “the few remaining rivers left in the state of Florida remain as they are now—beautiful, scenic rivers which abound in wildlife.”

The high school students pointed out that the “young people of today and the electors of tomorrow, desire to have the same chance to live in the natural beauties and wonders of the world as our fathers and their fathers before them.”

Noting that “an attempt to turn certain rivers in Florida into large canals by dredging will affect the wildlife in and around these rivers,” and also that they “represent not only the few remaining wild rivers in Florida,”
THE CONSERVATION JOB

Although presented in some fact sheets of conservation work, the hunting and fishing public still look upon the conservation warden as the "front-man" of the state conservation agency. This is also true in the case of the federal game agents. The warden is the man who is asked about the seasons and bag limits and a place to hunt and fish. He gets complaints on crop damage, illegal hunting, pollution problems, fish kills, car-killed game and why the mosquitoes bite.

By the very nature of his job he deals more with a very vocal public. He is a symbol of regulations—sometimes liked and sometimes only tolerated—and all he can give away for "free" is advice. His advice should always be honest and accurate, but it isn't always palatable. Throughout the year he sees a lot of game and game habitat under all conditions, and he is worth his salt, he will see it in the nighttime as well as during the day. He constantly feels the pressure of a public interested in their own particular kind of recreation, but also intent on taking some game home with them. Sometimes a warden gets full up to the neck with a seemingly blood-thirsty public. That is why he is often more conservative in the matter of seasons and bag limits than the fish and game managers. In recent years many wardens have had to become shepherds for boat safety, which to me has little to do with the basic job of protecting fish and game and forests.

I have come to the conclusion that different phases of conservation work develop different attitudes. Possibly the attitudes are there before the new prospects enter the field. Truly game and fish managers have their problems, but public pressure does not pile up on them to the same degree as it does on a warden, nor do they have to make on-the-spot decisions as to whether someone has over-stopped the law. Generally they can make more leisurely decisions. Instant decision making becomes a discipline, and in enforcement too many wrong decisions cannot be made. If they are, the officer may find himself in court as the defendant.

I have known a number of persons in all fields with the highly desirable quality of equal interest and willingness to learn. A person lost in all phases of conservation should come first, the specialty second. However, an interest in wildlife does not make a competent biologist, nor does a badge make a warden.

In hiring young men just out of school I have been disturbed by the fact that they seemed more concerned about all of the benefits attendant to the job than what the job was going to require of them. They are the type who blame politics because they were not hired.

Latest stream on the doomed list is the lovely Oklawaha, once selected by a federal study team as worthy of national wild rivers status due to its unspoiled natural beauty. Rich in scenic beauty, history and wildlife, 45 miles of the heartland of the Ocklawaha is now in the process of being excavated, dammed and flooded as a link in the Cross Florida Barge Canal. Inundated will be 57,000 acres of timberland—live oak, sweet gum and pine—including 5,000 acres of the Osca National Forest.
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