1969
Vol. 22 N. 10
March
FLORIDA BLACK BEAR—AND ITS NORTH AMERICAN COUSINS

FLORIDA BLACK BEAR

THE LARGEST LAND ANIMAL IN FLORIDA • WEIGHT TO 6 FEET • WEIGHT TO 400 POUNDS OR MORE • FOUND THROUGHOUT THE STATE LIVING IN SWAMPS, FORESTS, AND PORTIONS OF THE EVERGLADES

FLORIDA WILDLIFE MAGAZINE • FLORIDA GAME AND FRESH WATER FISH COMMISSION

ALASKA BROWN BEAR

THE LARGEST CARNIVOROUS (MEAT EATING) ANIMAL ON EARTH • UP TO 9 FEET TALL • WEIGHT TO 1800 POUNDS • INHABITS THE ISLANDS AND MAINLAND OF ALASKA

FLORIDA WILDLIFE • MARCH 1969

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From A Painting By Wallace Hughes

The Cover
A non-aggressive member of the omnivorous family, the Florida Duck is closely related to the Northern Greenhead Mallard. The drake is shown at top, the hen below. They are also known as summer duck, summer mallard and black duck. See pages 6 and 30.

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ROSE TALLAHASSEE

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Adult nutria weigh 15 to 25 pounds. They will burrow into dikes and levees, if available; also build floating houses—actually platforms. They are similar to the native muskrat and beaver, except that the nutria’s tail is long, round, sparsely haired.

the fur that failed

First brought into this country as an experimental fur bearer, the nutria, or coypu, has taught many states a costly lesson.

The nutria, sometimes called coypu—from the Latin name, Myocastor coypus—are unprotected fur bearers in Florida. If you should see a 25-pound water rat, do the state a favor and eliminate it the same as you would a mouse in your closet. It is a known “undesirable alien” possessing great destructive potential.

By GENE SMITH

You cannot miss the big yellowish-orange front teeth of the nutria. The aquatic rat, imported from South America, eats plants at will. This sizable shell was collected in Lake County in 1964, which, incidentally, was the last year ever of the nutria fur farm licenses (those) were issued in Florida.

Illustrations by Wallace Hughes.
The Cracker Mallard

By E. DALE CRIDER
Game Management Biologist

THROUGHOUT MOST of peninsular Florida, from a fine east and west through Gainesville southwest to Cape Sable in Monroe County, the most common duck during the summer is the mallard.

If you hesitate to accept this identification and wish to pursue a more satisfying name for this native, semi-tropical webfoot, don't take my word for it. To settle any questions on this topic seek the advice of a "Cracker" hunter and he'll put you straight: that the mallard is the only nesting duck in Florida, with one exception, that being the Wood Duck (Alx sponsa), which nests in hollow trees throughout the state.

If you persist with your questioning, your Cracker friend will more than likely prove his point by taking you to some small marsh or roadside borrow-pit and pointing out a mated pair of ducks which will resemble the Black Duck (Anas rubripes), which nests up in New England and eastern Canada. But you'll not be looking at Black Ducks, my friend, for the southernmost breeding Blacks are found in North Carolina. Although the ducks before you will resemble the Black Duck for the southernmost breeding Blacks are found in North Carolina. Although the ducks before you will not resemble Black Ducks, my friend, from up North, they'll be mallards just the same—in North Carolina. Although the ducks before you will resemble the Black Duck for the southernmost breeding Blacks are found in North Carolina. Although the ducks before you will not resemble Black Ducks, my friend, from up North, they'll be mallards just the same—"Cracker mallards."

Again, if this designation annoys you just question your informer a bit further by asking him to identify the big ducks which nest in the northern prairies, the ones you've always referred to as the Common Mallard. You will learn it is the majestic "Northern Greenhead"—the duck so scarce in Florida nowadays a Cracker duck hunter would walk a mile just to see one.

You should not assume that the "Cracker mallard" is a newcomer. Back in 1874 the Florida Duck, as it is more technically known, was officially designated it as a non-migratory nestin duck found only in Florida. But he distinguished it merely as a subspecies of the Black Duck. Then in 1923 the Florida Duck was elevated to the status of a separate species (Anas fugeuldae). But due to its coloring being so similar to the Black Duck, and since the hen and drake are colored alike in both species, the Florida Duck and the Black Duck have remained close relatives in the minds of most waterfowl biologists and other duck enthusiasts.

The "mallard" handle—presumably derived from the Florida Duck's resemblance to the female Northern Greenhead Mallard (Anas platyrhynchos)—has long annoyed "purists," those who go strictly by the identification books. Only recently have the true relatives of the Florida Duck been disclosed. Today the Florida Duck has been reclassified and again lowered to only a race category. But this time, as a result of years of cross-breeding experiments, biologists renamed the Florida Duck a subspecies, or race, of the Northern Greenhead Mallard—not of the Black Duck.

This is an admission of more significance to waterfowl managers than to the average sportsman and bird lover. Current trends in waterfowl conservation are toward individual species management, as is reflected in liberal bag limits and seasons on certain species and additional restrictions on scarce ones.

Back when ducks were plentiful and northern nesting grounds were adequate, there were fewer hunters for which to provide a harvestable"way. A duck was a duck then, regardless of its color, creed or race. Now each waterfowl species is usually managed, to some degree, as a separate unit.

Ironically, less is known about the Florida Duck than most North American ducks—due to its restricted range and insufficiency in terms of population. Only recently has the surface been scratched regarding its life history and population perimeters. However, with the wealth of management information available to Commission biologists on its extremely popular greens-and-buck brother from the North, much can be applied for more properly managing our "Cracker Quacker."

Angling Lures

there are varieties of tandem-hooked fishing lures—streamer flies, plastic worms and porkrinds—that will take Florida panfish and largemouth bass

By CHARLES WATERMAN

RIGHT AT THE MOMENT I can't think of any modern, free-spooling reels for plug casting that have handles on the left side and I have never wanted one.

A fine and experienced fisherman who visited me the other day said such a reel would be a great convenience to him since that would make it unnecessary for him to change hands with each cast. He's right handed and says he sees no reason why a plugging reel can't work like a spinning outfit—cast with one hand, crank with the other. He says that anyone who can operate a spinning reel with the handle on the left could operate a plugging reel with the handle on that side.

It's something to think about and there may be others who feel the same way.

"Couldn't you work a plug better with your right hand?" he asked. He had me there and it was one of those conversations when I thought of what I shouldn't' said roughly six hours too late. Once during that six hours I took a plug rod out and tried to work it with my right hand. I hope he reads this. I now have my answer.

The answer is: No, I can work the outfit better with my left.

Now I anticipate his comeback. He'll say: "That's just because you never did it any other way and you've used to grabbing it in your left hand after every cast."

And he has me again because I have no suitable answer. I do have some arguments on the hand-changing side though.

Both this fisherman and I are right handed. With a spinning rod we cast with our right hands and crank with the left. Evidently he likes it that way and I'm not sold on it. With a spinning rod my right hand gets very tired because I never let go, hold the grip just the same through casts and retrieves until I sometimes fear rigor mortis is setting in. For me a changeover is a rest.

Now with the entire fishing tackle industry on testhooks over my conclusions I have another ready to hand out.

One expert fisherman I know is a left hander and he complains because all of the free-spool reels have the handles on the right side. He says his hand gets extremely tired because he never gets a chance to relax his hold on his plugging reel. Even though he's left handed he'd like to have the handles on the left.

And another thing: For years I always used fly reels with the handle on the left side so I'd never have to let go of the rod with my right. Then it occurred to me that it would be restful to change hands when reeling in and I went to right handed reels and have stuck with them right up to my dotage.

This, of course, gives me the last word. The tackle manufacturers can sigh in relief, and since the fellow who brought up the subject does not write a fishing column, and since I refuse to give him equal space, the subject is closed.

Or does he have something?

A TANDEM-HOOKED lure is nothing new. There are tandem-hooked porkrinds, plastic worms and streamer flies and have been for many years.

Buck Pryor, a fly fisherman from Jonesboro, Arkansas, recently sent me some samples of tandem flies that work well on bass and panfish and have some hooking qualities that bear discussion. Actually, each unit is really two streamer flies, the larger one in front and connected to the smaller by a piece of heavy monofilament. Except for size the two flies are alike but the larger hook of the lead fly turns the opposite way from the trailer fly hook as they are coupled together. Being connected... (Continued on next page)
This medium sized 935 will take 265 yards of 10-pound monofilament and is as near to the all-around size as you can get. Nearly all spinning could be done with a reel of those dimensions. It could get by on panfish and work in the surf in an emergency.

A spool of that size is big enough to give some added distance if your first guide will accommodate the big loops and the handle and mechanism are husky enough for pretty brutal heavy fish hauling (which may not be for spinning gear anyway). Anyone hunting for an all purpose number might look twice.

For the second time in three years I have had a go at fly fishing for steelhead on the Kispiox River in British Columbia. The Kispiox neighborhood traditionally produces more prizewinning steelhead (listed as “Western Rainbow” in the Field & Stream contest) than any other part of the country.

Last September in five days of fishing I had exactly one steelhead strike on the Kispiox, but it was quite a strike as I landed a 3⁄4 pounder which would have been enough to win the Fissta & Stream contest the year before. For some time I basked in the glory of having the Number One fish of 1968 but it was a season of two strikes and I was soon subdued back into my rightful status of steelhead amateur.

The real point of bringing up the steelhead story (besides showing what a bass fish I am) is to point to the fact that steelhead which return from the sea to their rivers of birth for spawning, hew true to size to a great extent. That is, a river such as the Kispiox may consistently have the biggest steelhead in the world year after year, even though the stream may be rather small as steelhead rivers go. In fact, some of the very large neighboring rivers have runs of steelhead.

Among steelhead fishermen, who are a very dedicated lot, the sizes of fish to be expected in various streams is pretty much common knowledge, and fish biologists recognize that certain strains of fish are larger than others. Study of steelhead is still in its infancy because of the immense complexity of a life cycle which includes going to sea and then returning to a river of birth.

Anyhow, non-scientific fishermen are likely to wonder just how much there is to “strains” of the various species. Granted that habitat is the biggest factor in fish propagation, it is possible that some of the big bass areas of Florida got that way because they happened to have big strains of fish! And could these big fish be spread to other areas where the largemouths tend to be small?

As an open comment to biologists, I hope they won’t throw cold water on this thought by citing a bunch of disproving tests along those lines. I like to think of families of BIG bass and would rather not hear any more about it.

Launching a boat in the surf takes a little thought and is a bit of athletic skill. I have read numerous articles about it but am chicken myself.

Every time I get all steamed up about going to sea in a small boat from a sandy beach I begin to consider the complexities of having an outboard motor and all my gear dunked in salt water and I figure some other way of getting out there.

Briefly, the system consists of using a boat which two healthy men can handle, generally made of aluminum and employing an outboard motor of from 9% to about 25 horsepower. A smaller engine won’t have the shove to keep the adventurers out of trouble and a bigger one will be too heavy for manhandling.

On a nice, calm day these fishermen wait until they spot a series of small waves, whereupon they head the bow into a little swell and push the boat into the drink fast. One of them jumps in and grabs the oars and while he pulls like the devil his buddy pushes until the water gets deep for wading and then jumps in and starts the motor. They then get away from shore fast to avoid breakers which could roll them back on the beach, probably upside down.

In returning they pick a big swell, ride the backside of it until it drops from under leaving them high and dry on the sand and then hop out and drag their boat out of the way of the next wave.

Of course this operation is staged only on calm waters and when you’re out fishing you must keep an eye on the seas and know when to get back to shore. It’s a matter of experience and judgment.

One pair I know does this thing with a 12-foot pram, but a vee bow is supposed to be better. It helps get through the first wave or two with less resistance. The smaller the boat I’m in the further the shore I always appear to win and I am apt to whittle Home Sweet Home softly any time the beach disappears when I’m in a boat under 18 feet in length.

But as nearly as I can learn the most dangerous part of all is motor handling, the one which requires pushing the inlets, and even an old time skipper occasionally meets disaster doing that. The two surf launchers I spoke of claim to be mortally afraid of attempting an inlet, even in a boat much larger than their 12-footers.

Some of the finest fishing of all is available to the small boater who can get his light tackle out of sight of land, but only the very wise and the very foolish seem to get in on it.

On thatunner about barbless hooks. You can buy them from Hexter’s, Inc., R.R. 1, Waseca, Minn. 56093. There aren’t many of them in use any more and it took David R. Brewer of Lantana to stir me up a while back when he said they didn’t appear to be for sale any longer.

If you want to try them for small lures, flies or with bait I think you’ll find it’s especially easy to hook fish deeply with them. The little hook doesn’t interfere much with penetration but, of course, you need to keep a tight line once the fish is hooked. I’ve never seen barbless trebles.
Commissioner Windham, who is unmarried, is a 5-year veteran of the U. S. Air Force. He served in Korea and the Far East. He is active in the civic and social affairs of Jacksonville. He serves on the board of directors of the Legal Aid Society, is a member of Willing Hands, Inc., serves on the Youth Council on Civic Affairs, and is a past vice president of the Jacksonville Junior Chamber of Commerce.

He holds membership in the ATO Fraternity, the Sales Marketing Executive Club, the Friars, the Downtown Council, and is on the Military Affairs Committee of the Florida State Chamber of Commerce.

He is also a member of the Navy League, the Life Underwriters Association, Ye Mystic Revelers, the Florida Yacht Club, and the Ponce de Leon Country Club. Windham is a Scottish Rite Mason and a Shriner.

Not only does Commissioner Windham bring proven business and management ability to the Commission. He is a lifelong outdoorsman and is well read in the intricacies of wildlife and fisheries conservation. He enjoys hunting, fishing, camping and golf and expresses a particular fondness for quail hunting and bass fishing.

Windham, who resides at 4255 Yacht Club Road, Jacksonville, has expressed a desire to serve the state not only in the proper management and wise use of today's wildlife resources. He is convinced it is time to preserve wilderness habitat for Florida's future needs.

He says, "It behooves us now to protect wildlife and fisheries resources and wilderness habitat because if we don't, future generations won't be able to see, much less enjoy, game and fish in natural surroundings."

**Asleep in the Deep: Maybe**

**Animals are having sleeping problems because of narrowing living space and the bedding of modern civilization.**

It is generally thought that animals can sleep any time under almost any conditions. Nothing could be further from the truth. They are not as adaptable as people. Nature has required no standard sleeping hours in general for her creatures. But virtually every species has its own clock set for sleeping hours and its bed, manner of repose, fixed for it. And by this clock and in this bed it must get its rest.

A mere refuge may not be enough for a transferred or migrated animal. Without sleeping accommodations an animal that is accustomed to it may not thrive. Animals sleep in unbelievable postures and conditions. But it's their required way.

If bats and certain species of birds can't find a place to hang upside down they are out of luck for the night. Most animals prefer as soft a bed as they can arrange, but a goat will fret the night out if his bed is soft. He will leave straw or sand for a stump, a pile of posts, or a rock. A number of water creatures have no concern for the yielding qualities of their bed. But the depth of the water must be just right for several mammals, such as the hippopotamus, who insist on sleeping under water with only their nostrils showing.

Many animals will not get their required rest unless they have private sleeping quarters. A grotto, for instance, sleeps stretched out with his arms crossed behind his head. But many other animals couldn't sleep alone and like it. Togetherness seems necessary to them for repose. So they must have a "king-size" bed—or else. Pigeons have been seen roosting on top of each other in layers that stacked up a yard high. Some species of swifts bed down for the night clinging to each other in the manner of bees swarming. And certain snakes sleep in balls tangled together like spaghetti in a bowl.

Animals must have adequate undisturbed time to locate good sleeping sites

(Continued on next page)
Many people claim that a shark never sleeps, and thus puts himself in a class by himself by being the only animal that can live without sleep. It is understandable that no one probably has ever slipped up on a shark asleep in his natural habitat. But apparently nature requires that all her creatures must sleep, at least a little.

Some people claim that fish, as a class, never sleep. This conclusion has been reached because no one has ever seen a fish with its eyes closed—for the simple reason they have no eyelids. But they do become inactive, apparently relaxing into unconsciousness, and thus sleep. However, scientists know little about the rest requirements of fish.

A similar generalization confused people for a long time that whales do not sleep. This deduction was reached because they have been seen following ships for days on end. But recent observed habits of the California gray whales indicate that they do sleep, but can go for incredibly long periods of the time that whales do not sleep. This deduction is understandable that no one probably has ever slept up on a shark asleep in his natural habitat.

Many animals get by on very short intervals of repose. But they must have these intervals for well-being. Rabbits take 16 to 21 regularly spaced naps a day. White rats take 10 rest periods every 24 hours. Elephants get their sleep in naps of two to three hours, and require about half as much as people.

On the other hand, a few animals literally sleep their lives away. Some snakes, for instance, may sleep right through day and night with only a single brief awakening.

When it comes to sleep animals have no regard for our clock or calendar. The figurai “Do Not Disturb” sign hangs out for a complete season for the hibernators of winter and the estimators of summer. They repose in varying soundness for months at a time.

Anyone who thinks animals can get by on any kind of rest arrangement that may appear adequate from a human viewpoint should have a talk with an experienced zoo keeper. Their observations reveal that you can’t reverse or safely tamper with nature’s schedules. It may be as easy to change spots and stripes as sleeping requirements. The Munich Zoo, when it had probably the finest collection of primates in the world, took pains to respect the privacy and sleeping hours the jungle had established. Blinds were hung outside the sleeping boxes of the apes and monkeys to assure them of relative privacy, quiet, and darkness for the full twelve hours sleep accustomed to in the jungle.

Just how much the wild creatures are being put out by our noisy encroaching civilization is difficult to determine. Ducks and geese, for example, in their long migrations need rest stations and sleeping accommodations. There probably are as many ponds and lakes as ever for overnight stops. But can a bird feel safe and secure enough to close both eyes? People are crowding in closer and closer to the banks. Lights from industry glare. Boat traffic may keep the “bell” rocking most of the night. Also, the sounds of the deep woods have changed. Instead of the soft natural night sounds of the woodland creatures diesel and jet engines pound and scream, and people collect and rend the country-side with electronic noises of ingenius varieties and intensities. One wonders how much electric guitar even a goose can endure.

We have little reliable information on the capacities or determination of wild creatures to adjust to encroaching civilization in their free state. But observations of swifts in recent times gives us something to think about. Flocks as high as two miles above the earth seemingly asleep on the wing have been found by airplane pilots. More and more jet pilots report running into these birds asleep on the wing. Some appeared so sound asleep they dived under the airplane at the very last moment.

It seems there is no way left for some creatures to escape civilization for a sound, uninterrupted night’s sleep. You would think that any that could go up two miles above the earth and sleep on the wing could do it. But the swifts must be thinking otherwise by now.

Who knows how much wildlife has left their old, overcrowded haunts to try to find a place to get a good night’s undisturbed sleep, found it and stayed there—or were out in the search. Doubtless more people in this country have broken down in health and efficiency because of inadequate sleep than in inadequate food and housing. For all we know the animals may be started on the same unfortunate route...
Not a fish, not a snake, not an eel, not a lamprey. It’s a siren, one of the salamanders. Common in Florida, the siren is quite shy. The bushy growths are external gills. Sirens are toothless and almost sightless. They are helpless, harmless, and hopelessly homely. The pictured specimen was collected by fishery biologists Dennis Anith and David Cox at the confluence of the Suwannee and Alapaha rivers in Northeast Florida region.

THE GREATER SIREN

By GENE SMITH

Photos By Wallace Hughes

THE GREATER SIREN (Siren lacertina), sometimes called a mudpuppy, is one of a varied group of amphibians, the salamanders. Some forms of true salamanders are lizard-like and live on land, while others, like the several species of sirens, are strictly aquatic.

The sirens are found in many situations—muddy ponds, roadside ditches, lakes, streams, and even in polluted and stagnant waters. A favorite haunt is in shallow water beneath the weeds or a mass of water hyacinths.

Like most salamanders, this strange, eel-like animal is more abundant than is commonly supposed. But he is not often encountered by casual outdoorsmen; only by the curious.

If ever you see a Greater Siren close up you’ll never forget him. No other creatures, not even snakes or eels, look exactly like him. (A smaller siren, aptly named the Lesser Siren, is his closest relative and nearest look-alike.)

One’s eyes are immediately drawn to a pair of degenerate front legs—obviously useless for propelling the long, heavy body—and to a neighboring pair of brashy appendages positioned slightly behind the head. These are external gills, through which the siren takes oxygen from the water. The sirens have four toes on each foot.

Locomotion is provided by its well-developed tail fin, which, through evolution, has taken over the function from the unneeded legs. Neither siren has hind legs ... not a sign of any!

For the sake of comparison, two other large, aquatic, eel-like salamanders are found in Florida: the Two-toed and the Three-toed Amphiumas. They have four useless little legs and no external gills.

Adult Greater Sirens range from 20 to 30 inches in length, the maximum being about 36 inches. The Lesser is only 8 to 12 inches long. Both are nocturnal in habits. They scrounge around the muddy bottom where they are able to capture only the slower animal forms for food—crayfish, worms and mollusks; insects, some vegetation and similar debris taken in with their animal food.

The siren is a mild-mannered, toothless, practically blind creature, positively harmless—in and out of the water. When taken from the water it may utter a series of weak crying sounds not unlike a newborn puppy’s helpless yelping.

It reproduces by laying eggs in the water. Fertilization is accomplished externally. Even the terrestrial salamanders that live under rotten logs and damp leaves return to the water to lay their eggs.

The Greater Siren ranges only along the Atlantic coastal plain from the District of Columbia through Florida and to extreme south Alabama. The Lesser is found from South Carolina through north Florida, up the Mississippi to Illinois, and west to east Texas.
habitats—Places Where Wildlife Live.”

Habitat—places where wildlife forever.

Habitats, for wildlife forever. As these are destroyed by sprawling suburbs, giant airports, super highways and mammoth shopping centers. As these appear, the living space for our wildlife vanishes. Before it is too late, we must stop and consider what this loss of natural environment will mean. MOUNTAINS, seashores, and towering forests usually come to mind when we talk about natural resources. Conservationists are warning that another resource, our abundant wildlife, could be lost in the path of progress and expansion. These hallmarks of civilization take an ever-increasing toll of natural areas, destroying them as homes, or habitats, for wildlife forever.

Once America was a land of forests, marshes, woodlots and fields, with clean water and fresh air. Wildlife seemed a part of every landscape. Now the seven countryside is being transformed into a land of sprawling suburbs, giant airports, super highways and mammoth shopping centers. As these appear, the living space for our wildlife vanishes. Before it is too late, we must stop and consider what this loss of natural environment will mean. Animals from deer to robins need food and cover, clean waters, and room to roam—if they are to survive. Areas destroyed by our civilized progress are finished as far as wildlife habitat is concerned.

Spaces for wildlife cannot be treeless subdivisions; they cannot be factory sites or drained marshlands; they cannot be stream beds for sewage or speeding lanes for power boats.

Providing habitats, those vital living areas for wildlife, is a matter of choice and economics. The choice is simply: “Do we value this heritage of natural beauty?” If so, we must decide that the beauty of wild animals in natural settings is worth the expense and effort of developing and protecting habitats.

The presence of wildlife in our fast-moving world means that we have not yet destroyed the delicate balance of nature. The prospect of moon travel may fire our imaginations, but the wild beauty of this world is unbearable for giving a little peace of mind. To ensure a future for this great natural heritage, the National Wildlife Federation, during Wildlife Week, March 16-22, is urging us all to “Provide Habitat—Places Where Wildlife Live.”

National Wildlife Week
March 16 - 22, 1969

Sponsored annually by the National Wildlife Federation and its state affiliates, National Wildlife Week is planned each year to include the first day of Spring. The original proclamation was signed in 1936 by President Franklin D. Roosevelt.

By WERNER O. NAGEL

habitats improvement

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Fundamental needs of wildlife are known to be food, cover, water and living space. Without provision for all four, wildlife cannot survive. Man’s rightful domination and his use of natural resources must allow for fish and wildlife’s requirement for life.

If the food supply for any species is short, only the number of individuals that get enough to eat can live. More than that: most wildlife has to find food each day, every day in the year. Thus, to support a satisfactory wildlife population, sufficient food must be available the year around.

If the food supply for any species is short, only the number of individuals that get enough to eat can live. More than that: most wildlife has to find food each day, every day in the year. Thus, to support a satisfactory wildlife population, sufficient food must be available the year around.

Food:

It takes a great variety of food to meet all the different wildlife needs. Yet there are some attributes that all wildlife foods must have in common, to meet the needs of any wildlife species.

Abundance: If the food supply for any species is short, only the number of individuals that get enough to eat can live. More than that: most wildlife has to find food each day, every day in the year. Thus, to support a satisfactory wildlife population, sufficient food must be available the year around.

Quality: Nutrition, or the nourishing quality of food, is a popular subject these days. On the air and in print we are told that livestock and poultry, as well as humans, need nutritious food. Wildlife also requires food high nutritional quality for health and ability to produce abundant, vigorous young.

Werner O. Nagel is a biologist of many years’ experience in wildlife research and management. He is Senior Biologist in the Fish and Game Division, Missouri Conservation Commission, and the author of numerous technical and popular articles on wildlife conservation.

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tective medium in which wildlife moves around and carries on its life activities.

Different species have different cover requirements, and each species needs several different kinds of cover. The bobwhite can use annual grasses or weeds for summer nesting cover, but for winter protection needs dense vegetation that resists snows and offers concealment when summer foliage is gone. Waterfowl nest and raise their young and molt where surrounding water or dense vegetation offer protection from predators, but as adults or in migration the middle of a wide stretch of open water is often their best protection. The fox squirrel may spend much of the summer in a nest of leaves, but in winter seeks the protection of a hollow tree. All in all, most species need cover where they can rear their young in safety, get their sustenance without exposing themselves too much, and find shelter from heat and cold, rain and snow. Deficiency in any of these cover needs results in losses which cannot be made up until the deficiency is corrected.

Water

Water in some form is an essential part of all wildlife habitat. The kind and amount of water needed varies with the species: for fish, it is the source of food and oxygen as well as being cover and a medium of transportation; for waterfowl it supplies food as well as protection from enemies that cannot fly or swim. All wildlife needs water in the diet: most drink it, but in winter seeks the protection of a hollow tree. Some other animals; larger plants and aquatic animals in turn furnish larger fish and other small wildlife needs from succulent vegetation and/or dew. Water is also an important medium for producing food, some of which feed minnows and other small aquatic life, which in turn furnish food for larger fish and other small aquatic life, which in turn furnish larger fish and other animals; larger plants and aquatic animals which feed waterfowl and muskrats and larger fish; frogs and crayfish as tid-bits for mink and raccoon; salmon for bears—there are many others. And water as cover or protection is necessary to many kinds of wildlife. All in all, the well-balanced water area, with the vegetation that grows in or near it, produces and supports rich and varied wildlife populations. The extent to which it can do this depends on two things: the fertility of the water itself, as determined by the watershed, including the soil which forms its bottom and banks; the absence of pollution unfavorable to aquatic life.

Land uses that opened up the American continent have favored whitetailed deer production. They like thick cover for nesting but open, or broken, vegetation types nearby for feeding. They do not adapt from place to place for their needs.
The National Wildlife Federation has promoted nationwide Wildlife Week since 1939. The organization represents two million persons in state conservation organizations, associated service groups, and individual members. Nowhere is its work more visible than in Florida, where the Federation has conducted conservation efforts with educational programs directed toward sound management of natural resources—soil, water, forests, marshes, and wildlife—via the Florida Wildlife Federation, which has been in existence since 1961. The Federation has coordinated conservation efforts with educational programs directed toward sound management of natural resources—soil, water, forests, marshes, and wildlife. Soil, water, forests, marshes, and wildlife.

We could give a lot of explanations about these things, but to put it another way: wildlife has a special value and attraction over tame ones, because they are wild. You cannot actually "pur-sue," "outsmart," "outfight" or even "hunt" a creature that it attempts to escape you, or even to fight back. We want the game to be vigorous, alert, shy—and just smart enough to be smart, elusive—wild: that is because it must have accomplished something. We want WILDLIFE.

There is only one reason why a creature is alert, smart, elusive—wild: that is because it must have accomplished something. We want WILDLIFE.

To do this, we have to look at game habitat in the light of our own use of the land. Whether we like it or not, it is our use (or abuse) of the land and water to meet our own needs (or wants) that's shaped the pattern for wildlife, and will shape it in the future. Also, we must face the fact that we cannot use the abundance and variety of wildlife of the past as an argument for the present or the future. We cannot go back to the use of the past, and therefore, our only hope for increased abundance of wildlife lies in a realistic appraisal of what can be done to maintain or improve its living conditions, in the light of our own demands upon the land.

This makes the restoration of wildlife habitat seem like a tough problem. It is: something about it aren't a bit pretty, and using pretty words about them won't make these things any better looking. A gullied-field day, for instance, is as unpretty as a throat-slash savaged. All and the gullied fields, all the fields not gullied but close-cropped, all the gullied fields, all the gullied fields, all the gullied fields.

The changes in wildlife habitat due to land use and differences in plant abundance were by no means all unfriendly to wildfowl. The early cultivators of areas of tight prairie sod and clearings in the vast forests permitted the growth of more favorable native food and cover, to which some farm crops also contributed. This was a break for some wildlife for which land use was too much of a few kinds of vegetation like trees and grass, and too little variety and abundance—particular of annual food plants. Actually, the decades when new farms were being carved from virgin forests and prairie were a wonderful age for farm and forest game, and it fairly swarmed in the newly-opened areas.

In this period also many of the natural swamps and marshes and the more remote forests hadn't been drained or cut over, because it was still un-economic to do so. This supported the original wildlife, not just the kind encouraged by cultivation. So right in this "in-between" period wildlife was abundant not only in numbers, but in variety of species as well.

The favorable point for many species was reached and passed, though, when the extent and intensity of land use went too far. Now we're right back again to broad acres of fields, like wheat and grass or forests of mostly "timber-type" trees. A new twist has been added, too: many of these broad areas of cover are leveled not just yearly, but even more often as we make land produce more than one crop. At the same time, increased demands and more efficient methods have made drainage and intensive forest use profitable and the natural habitats are shrinking fast. Meanwhile two relatively new and deadly enemies of wildfowl—chemical weed killers and insecticides and industrial pollution—have been introduced into more and more of the farmlands and the remaining water habitats, with disastrous results to many species.

Change and destruction together—plant replacements, fire, cultivation, grazing, drainage, pollution, and "chemical farming"—on ever-larger areas and with increasing intensity have continued to accelerate the loss of wildlife habitat. The result has had a knock back aside from reducing certain game: it has been favorable to decide increases in some rodents and, automatically, in their predators—some of which we agree we can have too many of! All in all, what we have left in wildlife in what we have left in wildlife habitat.

This is a brief history of a great change. As history, it's interesting: but as background it's a revelation of the size of the problem, and what we can do about it and what we can't. The main thing that the history of the use of the land for our own needs tells us is this: except perhaps on certain dedicated public areas, such as wildlife refuges, no land or water of recognized higher economic value for other uses is going to be untouched primarily for wildlife use; no plant that hasn't a definite use in agriculture or forestry is going to be let grow on private land that can economically support more useful to man's own immediate needs.

That's legitimate use we're talking about, without reference to abuses and mistakes. So there's no use dreaming about untouchability of habitat. What we mean bringing back original conditions on lands used for our own needs. There's no use dreaming of reserving wildlife habitat for species with higher priorities for our own needs. In fact, there's no use dreaming at all if we are to increase wildlife, we must face facts—the facts of our own needs for food and shelter, as well as the needs of wildlife for these things.

This does not mean that the problem is hopeless—far from it! There are at least four ways of producing more wildlife without cutting down on the number of hens, duckings, and abode we need. In fact, one of these ways will actually give you steaks that are more tender and nutritious, and better shoes and housing!

One approach is to make every bit of land still available for wildlife more productive, and to make land and water used for other purposes produce as much wildlife as possible without conflict with the main purposes.

A second approach is to find substitute plants that will furnish good wildlife food and cover while they perform a useful farm function.

A third approach is to investigate the possibilities, where we cannot keep or restore native habitat for wildlife, of finding new kinds of wildlife that thrive in the new kind of habitat.

The fourth approach is in "reverse": along with these things to do, to produce more wildlife, there are other things we can just as easily stop doing, to preserve present wildlife. These are things like unwise drainage, pollution, over-grazing, burning, and other mistakes or excesses that are not only harmful to wildlife, but also economically unsound.

Above all, we need to take a more realistic and practical attitude toward wildlife itself. To realize that it is not only of interest to us, but that it also has a very definite economic value. That when 25 million people spend somewhere around $3 billion a year in activities associated with the enjoyment of wildlife, it is far from economically unsound: it is a major natural resource! That when we destroy a natural resting ground for wild geese, we may be literally killing the goose that laid the golden egg—because the temporary extra cash and commodities we don't really need.

In the case of our national bird, the golden eagle, there is deep concern that it may fail to survive. Not only are the wilderness sites unsuitable, the land yields only two eggs. Proposals are being made to secure some of these eagle eggs.

In Florida and Alaska are reporting successful nesting of this magnificent bird—an American symbol.

In Florida and Alaska are reporting successful nesting of this magnificent bird—an American symbol.
“Hello World!” says the emerging baby gator, right, before he scramble out of shell and immediately heads for water, below. The newly hatched youngster is 91/2-inches long, and easy prey for enemies this age. Note protective coloration.

Baby alligators, above, one self sufficient from the start. Two hours after the first egg hatched, all 31 young were in the water. Eleven eggs near the bottom of clutch, below the waterline, did not hatch. The youngest at right, the last to leave, had escaped from its shell in only seven minutes.

“Hello World!” says the emerging baby gator, right, before he scramble out of shell and immediately heads for water, below. The newly hatched youngster is 91/2-inches long, and easy prey for enemies this egg. Note protective coloration.

Game Manager John Chenowith, above, standing beside alligator nest gives indication of the large size—it’s 6 feet, 8 inches across, 3 feet, 8 inches high. The gator egg, shown at left, is beginning to hatch. Note the bulge on the left side of egg below midline where the membrane protrudes through cracked shell.

Game Manager John Chenowith, above, standing beside alligator nest gives indication of the large size—it’s 6 feet, 8 inches across, 3 feet, 8 inches high. The gator egg, shown at left, is beginning to hatch. Note the bulge on the left side of egg below midline where the membrane protrudes through cracked shell.
I F YOU THINK an Everglade Kite must just be an ordinary type of kite made of paper on a frame and flying at the end of a string over the Everglades, you have a lot to learn—as I did—about Florida's wildlife.

It helps in discovering south Florida's bird life when your father-in-law has made a second career of conducting bird tours of Lake Okeechobee and its environs.

That's how I am able to glean firsthand the knowledge of L. Thayer Stem, Jr., proprietor of a fishing camp on the west shore of the lake, who has been singled out by both government conservation agents and officials of the state and national Audubon societies as an authority on the bird life of the region.

This 'bird man of Lake Okeechobee' is especially sought as an expert on the status of the Everglade Kite, the rare species of hawk found in southeast Florida and which periodically has faced extinction during critical water shortages.

Seeing a kite use its long, hooked beak to extract the meat from the fresh-water snail that is the bird's only food is always the highlight of any birding expedition on the lake.

It was seven years ago as a college journalism student that I first viewed kite nesting grounds on Lake Okeechobee. Since it also was during one of the lake's low periods, we waded waist-deep into Moonshine Bay and spotted the birds by their white band across the base of the tail.

Returning to the University of Florida with the idea of writing a feature article on the kite, I did further research and consulted with Dr. Oliver L. Austin, Jr., curator of the Florida Museum in Gainesville, who promptly informed me that my future father-in-law probably had seen more Everglade Kites in the last ten years than any other man in Florida.

In fact, his career as a guide began inadvertently in 1950 when the family purchased the fishing camp and learned it was a lunch stop for official Audubon Society tours which then were originating out of Okeechobee and Clewiston five days a week during the winter months.

The Audubon tour director was Alexander Sprunt, Jr., author and ornithologist of Charleston, S.C., who now spends winters as the Society's representative at Caribbean Gardens near Naples and still visits Stem's Camp.

It was arranged that Alma Stem would take over preparing meals for the birding parties. The host, meanwhile, began going out into the field on his own ahead of time to locate the different species.

Many guests on the tours later returned to the camp to be guided by the owner, and his "bird business" began.

Since then he has hosted individuals and groups from all over the world: Japan, Germany, Austria, Holland, Sweden, Switzerland, France, England and Canada. Members of the Congress of Foreign Ornithology visited the fishing camp in 1962 and individuals whom he has guided range from the president of the Japanese Association for the Protection of Birds to an Englishman on vacation from his position with the World Bank.

Audubon Societies throughout the United States have directed members to this Okeechobee guide with the result that he has been written up in Audubon publications as far away as California.

Each visitor signs the camp guest book and notes what species he saw for the first time.

The guide himself has probably spent more time seeking and observing the Everglade Kite than any other bird. During a year he served as part-time Audubon warden, he kept detailed records on the status of this rare hawk.

Based on weekly patrols, he submitted reports in which he estimated numbers and kinds of all birds he had observed roosting, feeding and nesting and (Continued on next page)
As our civilization in these United States becomes more complex and beset with new and vexing problems, the individual states face new challenges. If they are to retain their traditional and legal prerogatives, they must accept their responsibilities on a high plane of integrity so as not to be overthrown by impatient minorities who view Federal sovereignty as the only classical virtue.

In the matter of protecting natural resources no one would be foolish enough to argue that the states have advanced to a Utopian idealism with uniform objectivity. Nor can any historical documentation give the Federal government any special badge of merit.

The Atlantic seaboard states were nearly 125 years old when New Mexico and Arizona came into statehood as frontier territories. The resources stored up through eons of time had made possible the heroic age of exploration. Later they were responsible for the creation of the greatest free nation on earth. Wildlife was elemental to survival for food and clothing. Even after the era of exploration, hunting was still as much a part of frontier life as was tilling the soil or plying a trade. Yet throughout all that time of pioneering and conquest, the collective ownership of wildlife by each state was never questioned. The Colonials and the westering migrants wanted no part of the European tradition where a man could be hung for poaching a rabbit.

When the time arrived for the protection of game through the enactment of laws, they were fiercely adamant that all game come under the collective ownership of the states. Colonial laws prior to the adoption of the Constitution attest to this tenet. As the great western migration advanced and new states were created, laws were enacted to give protection to the diminishing game species. The fact that these laws were often on the liberal side or loosely drawn and often poorly enforced does not negate the recognition of state ownership. Even when land was homesteaded or purchased after the creation of a state, the implied covenant of state ownership of all game on all land went with the title. It didn't have to be written into the deed because the State's laws already covered the issue. Rudimentary state laws did not save the passenger pigeon nor did any Federal laws save the bison.

Now the traditional and legally accepted authority of each state to protect and manage its resident game is being challenged by the Department of Interior. The entire and laborious system of state conservation agencies has been built block by block on tradition and legal documentation as to the ownership and control of these resident species. Even the control of migratory waterfowl by the Federal government was held unconstitutional until covered by an International Treaty with Great Britain and later with Mexico.

Successfully the states adopted various forms of licenses as a practical means of raising funds to From the days of New World colonization, through western pioneer times, to the present, Americans have wanted no part of the European traditions that could have a man hanged—or even flogged—for poaching a rabbit. Ownership of game and fish by the people came about by explicit laws, not accident.
manage wildlife. There were few if any bleeding hearts around during all those pioneering efforts to lobby for funds from the general coffers to do the job. The hunter wanted to hunt and the fisherman wanted to fish, and they were willing to spend money for the perpetuation of wildlife. They have always had their differences as to what constitutes management; some are conservative, others liberal, some greedy. But most important—despite imperfections at the state level—many wildlife species have been saved from extinction and a few have increased; and most of this happened when there was no Federal machinery to save any wildlife.

Now comes a generation of "Johnny-Come-Lately" preservationists who claim that the old system was all wrong; that hunting implies a low mentality and greed, and total lack of esthetics which is repulsive to them. The citizenry was all wrong; that hunting implies a low mentality and greed, and total lack of esthetics which is repulsive to their sensitivities; that the states are money hungry, middling and incompetent. But they were scarce as hen's teeth when the liberal-minded mass of the great unwashed were attempting to devise some means of wildlife conservation. And down through the years it has been amply proven that this mill-run of common sense has been amply proven. It was the old system that managed wildlife, and it is still the only system that can do the job. The hunter wanted to hunt and the fisherman wanted to fish, and they were willing to spend money for the perpetuation of wildlife. They have always had their differences as to what constitutes management; some are conservative, others liberal, some greedy. But most important—despite imperfections at the state level—many wildlife species have been saved from extinction and a few have increased; and most of this happened when there was no Federal machinery to save any wildlife.

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cient success with alpha-chloralose, an odorless, 
nearly tasteless oral anesthetic in capturing 
wild birds and animals encouraged Commission 
biologist Steven K. Stafford of Lake City 
to test the drug on bears.

"We thought that an effective oral drug capture 
method would be especially useful in handling wild 
bears and animals encouraged Commission

The powdered alpha-chloralose was administered 
on baits to 17 wild black bears in the study, which 
was conducted mostly in the Okefenokee National

The other bears escaped in sub-
effective narcosis.

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There are several types of bore examining aids. For its .30 and .50 caliber weapons, the Army provides a prism-like gadget that can be inserted in receiver of rifle or machine gun to determine bore condition. The device can also be used for bore sighting an unfired rifle.

Made in both .30 and .50 caliber sizes, the devices are now abundant as World War II surplus. P&D Sales Company, P. O. Box 155, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74102, catalogs both types. The .30 caliber size costs a dollar; the less sought .50 caliber sizes are three for a dollar. (Join two of the .30 caliber bore inspection scopes with a cardboard tube and you have a handy periscope, should you have need for a small periscope.)

Very practical, but more expensive, is the Universal BoreSlope, featuring a highly polished piece of prismatic glass contained in a black plastic housing. A thumb button on top of the short length, box-like case permits the user to extend or retract the glassviewer. When retracted, the glass is protected from accidental damage.

When inserted in the breech of a firearm, bore or rifling is well illuminated by prismatic reflection. The smallest particle of dirt or barrel bore scratch out the needed single cell, pen-size battery, obtainable at any hardware or drug store.

A bore examining device that I especially like is the one marketed by Forster-Appelt Company, manufacturing gunsmiths of Lanark, Illinois 61046. It consists of a long, small diameter, flexible, light-carrying tube that can be inserted in gun bore, or in any hard to illuminate recess. The price is $2.75. I have all the types described, but use the Forster-Appelt unit more than any of the others.

A bore examining light, whatever the type of personal choice, is a worthwhile investment to anyone who loves and frequently or infrequently handles guns.

Many shotgunners will smirk derisively when mention is made of putting a gunning on a shotgun; they not only consider such an installation misapplication but downright foolish. Actually, the idea has considerable merit, especially where a shotgun is carried a considerable distance without possible opportunity for active use—as can happen when a shotgun is among items of equipment portaged into a remote camp.

A gunning on a shotgun can be practical for the upland gunner; its presence enables a tired tender to shoulder his gun and more easily and conveniently transport it on the long walk back to car or farmhouse. Just ask the hunter whose shotgun now sports a gunning.

If your shotgun now lacks slang swivels, make it a point to get a set installed before next hunting season. You will be glad, come next November.

The swivels can be installed now and the sling itself left off the gun until needed. Bases of detachable shotgun slang swivels or swivel studs of correct type are invariably small and scarcely noticeable, yet, once installed, they are always there when temporary addition of a carrying sling is advantageous.

Williams Gun Sight Company, Davison, Michigan 48423, has just announced a swivel adapter that can be put on any single barrel pump or autoloaded shotgun, just ahead of magazine slide or fore-end cap, without drilling and tapping for holding screws. The swivel adapter is clamp type; an Allen-screw holds it snug against the shotgun barrel. Once firmly tightened, the adapter will remain in place without possibility of loosening and being inadvertently lost.

The adapter has a small metal ball at bottom, which supports the sling-hose housing incorporating a sling-reloading release plunger.

Press the spring plunger and sling swivel-hose and instant can be taken from the shot­gun barrel, or as easily replaced, without disturbing the adaptor.

A conventional sling swivel can be used on the underside of the butt stock, or both forward and rear swivels can be detachable. In my personal choice, the assembled components should permit quick removal of the entire sling (for up­land gunning) and as easily replaced.

The removed sling can be completely rolled and carried in hunting coat pocket until time for re­placement.

**Gun Control Laws**

*By John Marsman*

**How many of you would shell out $10 million a year for a worthless product? How about $3 million?** It's doubtful that anyone in his right mind would even consider throwing away that much money.

Don't chuckle too loudly because they're doing it in Philadelphia and if you don't keep a watchful eye on your legislators you may soon be doing the same.

That's what Philadelphia taxpayers are paying for a worthless crime prevention law, but Philadelphia has always like to talk about it. They are having a rough time proving their gun control law works. Crime rate statistics they do move—doesn't—it, not yet. It's an embarrassing situation.

How about the cost of the magic law that doesn't work? The permit required for a gun purchase costs $1. The investigation and paper work required in processing a single permit is estimated to cost the city $15. The taxpayer picks up the difference.

That's the taxpayer who has known the convenience of a removable gunning on a shotgun that really appreciates one. As the news gets around, we can expect to see more shotguns equipped with detachable gunning.

**Five models are available for either the Williams standard swivels or quick detachable style. Sets are available for .20 gauge single barrels with diameters from .700 through .750. There is a 16 gauge set, plus three 12 gauge sets that will even take care of large 12 gauge barrels with diameters above .875. Because of the wide range of barrel diameters these adapters fit, they will also take care of most rifle barrels.**

For the smaller barrels and rifles with tubular magazines, the previously reported on Williams tubular magazine adapters (see October 1968 issue of FW) should be used. They accommodate bore and tube diameters from .405 up. Williams Gun Sight Company can also furnish special swivel sets made especially to fit the Remington Models 872, 11 and 11–87 shotguns and Winchester shotgun models 12 and 1200, as well as other models that utilize magazine cases. You can make the installation, or they can do it for you at nominal cost, as can any competent gunsmith.

It is the hunter who has known the convenience of a removable gunning on a shotgun that really appreciates one. As the news gets around, we can expect to see more shotguns equipped with detachable gunning.

**Guns and Taxes**

What kind of crime prevention could 10 million dollars buy if used effectively? At a rather nice salary of $10,000 it could pay for 1000 additional policemen. This would provide added protection for all the citizens, protection against crimes they have real cause to fear, like robbery, beating, rape.

For any city contemplating a gun law like Philadelphia, perhaps common sense should be given to really effective ways of reducing crime; and not using gun laws as a false panacea, and gun owners as scapegoats.

By providing more policemen, residents could return to the parks and playgrounds, they could have the peace of mind of knowing there was little chance their house or apartment would be robbed; that they could take a walk on a warm summer night and know they could return home without being mugged or robbed; that their wife could shop or their daughters return from a school dance with­out being attacked.

Gun laws won't stop these crimes; effective crime prevention can.

Up until now, little has been said about the cost of gun control laws. The Philadelphia case proves the law is worthless and the cost high. This means the taxpayer is being robbed.

Even in the face of the Philadelphia fiasco, civic leaders in that city are urging the adoption of their worthless and costly laws as a model for state and federal legislation. Don't allow it to happen in Washington.
CONSERVATION SCENE

Florida Litterbugs

Litterbugs are costing Florida State Parks around $129,000 a year.

State Parks Director Bill Miller said loose litter, which does not include disposal of garbage or trash placed in park containers, is one of the most frustrating problems faced by Florida's 65 parks and historical memorials.

Parks personnel spent 64,220 man hours last year picking up litter, Miller said. Beach parks seem to suffer most heavily, accounting for more than half of the hours spent cleaning up. Parks near large population centers also are hard hit.

Paper, bottles, and cans seem to be the main culprits, the parks director noted. He pointed out that bottles and cans are especially painful to barefoot visitors where barefoot啤酒 cans are not the blame in the hours spent cleaning up. Parks

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in dependency on the eve of the Act's implementation, to complete misunderstanding still exists over certain general provisions of the Act, the National Wildlife Federation, reports the Alcohol and Tobacco Division. Initially, the Act was one of the most universally misunderstood and misinterpreted piece of legislation to come out of the Congress in recent memory. It has generated national confusion, ranging from a lack of certain understandings still exists over certain general provisions of the Act.

1. The Act does not require registration of conventional firearms.

2. The Act does not prohibit over-the-counter sales of ammunition to non-residents.

3. The Act does not prohibit transport of firearms and ammunition to another state for hunting, showing, or competition.

4. The Act does prohibit sale of any firearm or ammunition to anyone under 18 years of age, or sale of handguns and hand-steam newspaper interpreted this to mean no one under 18 could go hunting.

Perhaps the confusion could be attributed in part to over-reaction in the wake of a hard fought and often emotion-charged battle between the Act's opposing forces. But the major villains were complexity and speed of enactment.

With the law set to go into full effect less than a month after receiving the President's signature, the resulting juggernaut of public inquiries caught Alcohol and Tobacco Tax regional offices with their interpretations down. Much of the initial furor has subsided, but considerable public misunderstanding still exists over certain general provisions of the Act.

The Washington, D.C., office of the Alcohol and Tobacco Division offered the following clarification of five primary sources of confusion:

1. The Act does not require registration of conventional firearms.

2. The Act does not prohibit over-the-counter sales of ammunition to non-residents.

3. The Act does not prohibit transport of firearms and ammunition to another state for hunting, showing, or competition.

4. The Act does prohibit sale of any firearm or ammunition to anyone under 18 years of age, or sale of handguns and hand-steam newspaper interpreted this to mean no one under 18 could go hunting.

5. The Act does prohibit mail order sales of firearms and ammunition except to licensed dealers, importers, and authorized government agencies.

Specific questions regarding these or any other provisions contained in the Gun Control Act of 1968 should be addressed to the nearest regional office of Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division, Internal Revenue Service, U.S. Treasury Department.

For that BIG ONE that didn't get away

FLORIDA WILDLIFE'S
FISHING CITATION

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

Only fishing citation applications received within 90 days from date of catch will be honored.

APPLICATION FOR FLORIDA WILDLIFE FISHING CITATION

The Editor, FLORIDA WILDLIFE
Game & Fresh Water Fish Commission, Tallahassee, Fla.

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

Name (please print): ________
City: ________ State: ________ Zip No: ________
Species: ________ Weight: ________ Length: ________
Type of Tackle: ________
Bait or Lure Used: ________
Where Caught: ________ in ________ County
Date Caught: ________ Catch Witnessed By: ________
Registered, Weighted By: ________ At: ________
Signature of Applicant: ________

CUT OUT AND SAVE THIS APPLICATION BLANK