

private land in southern Ontario have been acquired for public hunting; six of these are intensively managed for pheasants or waterfowl and hunters using them are charged daily or annual fees.

Much of the research on wildlife is carried on by the Research Branch of the Department of Lands and Forests. Studies are conducted at the Wildlife Research Station in Algonquin Park and there has been an increase in the volume and variety of work being done throughout the province under the supervision of wildlife research biologists at the Southern Research Station at Maple. During 1962, the Wildlife Section carried out 75 research projects, some of them in co-operation with the field staffs of Forest Districts or of other agencies.

*Saskatchewan.*—Saskatchewan officially lists 308 species of birds and 77 species of mammals within its boundaries. Wildlife management deals mainly with four principal groups—economic fur bearers, upland and big game species, migratory waterfowl, and non-game species (including predators).

A program of conservation in relation to the fur bearers has been carried out since the end of World War II in co-operation with the Indian Affairs Branch of the federal Department of Citizenship and Immigration. This program has involved establishment of a Conservation Area program in the Northern Affairs District wherein steps have been taken to assure maximum optimum levels of the most important fur species, notably beaver and muskrat, to provide the highest possible income for northern citizens engaged in trapping. Early in the postwar period, a beaver trapping and transplanting program re-established beaver populations throughout most of northern Saskatchewan. The fur management program permits trapper participation through trapper councils, fur co-operatives, etc. Several projects involving the construction of dykes and dams to help increase and maintain desirable fur populations have been carried out.

Conservation of big game is effected through harvest control by means of regulations and sometimes by the imposition of closed or restricted seasons. For example, comprehensive aerial surveys of antelope, moose and, to a lesser extent, elk and deer are conducted annually to provide trend information that permits management recommendations to be made with relation to big game populations. Inventories of upland game birds and waterfowl permit similar predictions on which recommendations may be based.

One of the chief concerns with respect to upland game birds has been the continuous loss of habitat as a result of increasing agricultural use of land, a problem intensified by hunting pressure in the past quarter-century. The growth of hunter interest is indicated by the number of licences and game seals sold in the province, which increased from 7,327 in 1938-39 to 44,794 in 1948-49 and 119,096 in 1958-59. During the 1950's a plateau was reached with respect to the sale of game bird licences, but the steady increase in sale of big game licences which began after World War II continues, particularly with respect to moose and deer.

Attempts have been made to develop experimental habitat areas for upland game birds by the provision of improved nesting, brooding and winter feeding areas.

Waterfowl conservation measures have been undertaken by Ducks Unlimited, an organization which is conducting 234 active projects (247,380 acres of water and 1,915 miles of shoreline) for the propagation of waterfowl. The Department of Natural Resources is co-operating with these activities. Some attempts have been made to reduce migratory bird depredation problems by providing "lure" crops in limited locations and by the establishment of restricted hunting areas to provide protection in fall resting areas for migratory birds.

The increase in hunting interest is indicated by growth of membership in the province's sportsmen's organizations, and interest in wildlife in general by province-wide membership in various nature study groups such as the Saskatchewan Natural History Society. One of the more dramatic indications is the public attention given to the annual migration