

Department's wildlife management program is to provide and encourage the utilization and development of the province's wildlife resources for the recreational, social and economic benefit of the people of Saskatchewan and, to this end, the Branch administers a Wildlife Research and Management program. Research projects are undertaken to: determine production of wildlife species; determine habitat conditions for wildlife; investigate effects of land use practices on the wildlife resource; study limiting factors on wildlife populations; determine diseases of certain wildlife species and their relative importance to wildlife populations; and, develop techniques to facilitate maximum utilization of the wildlife resource on a sustained-yield basis. The role of the Wildlife Research Unit, therefore, is to provide basic information of the resource which is subsequently used as the foundation of the wildlife management and development program.

Reduction of wildlife habitat as a result of intensive agricultural practices is at present a major concern. A Wildlife Development Fund to acquire, develop and improve wildlife lands has been established. It is financed from game licences which provide approximately \$230,000 annually. A Game Advisory Committee representing various public groups is consulted on an annual basis on proposed game seasons, bag limits and management programs.

British Columbia. The Fish and Wildlife Branch of the Department of Recreation and Conservation is responsible for the protection, enhancement and wise use of the wildlife and freshwater fish resources of British Columbia. Administrative and technical headquarters are in Victoria, with six regional headquarters in the main centres of population, as well as 44 district offices, three fish hatcheries and a number of permanent field stations throughout the province. The Branch promotes the wise and orderly use of upland birds, game animals and sport fish by licensing hunters and anglers and by determining and enforcing closed seasons, bag limits and other regulatory measures. It licenses and regulates the trapping of fur-bearing animals, the commercial propagation of game birds and fish, the activities of big-game guides and generally acts as manager of the province's wildlife.

Through close contact and liaison with other government agencies and with private concerns involved in mining, forestry, agriculture, water use and transportation, the Branch actively fosters the preservation of a suitable land and water environment for wildlife and outdoor recreation. The Branch enhances the abundance and health of desirable species of animals by the acquisition of key areas of range for big game and waterfowl, by the operation of fish hatcheries and the stocking of lakes and by improving habitat for both fish and wildlife. To increase the understanding of the wildlife resource and provide a proper basis for wise management, it conducts and supports fundamental and applied research on fish and wildlife and their environment.

The Branch's objective is to make a significant contribution to the economy and well-being of British Columbia through wise management of game resources and of non-tidal fisheries. It attempts to maintain British Columbia's waters and lands in a state of continuing productivity through attention to such major matters as pollution and land use and encourages planned or integrated use of lands for forestry, agriculture and wildlife. The Branch also creates public awareness, through programs of education and information, of the values of wildlife resources and of the principles of wise management; protects the resource from unlawful and indiscriminate use and waste; and furthers the rights of the public as a consumer of the wildlife resource.

Sources

- 10.1 - 10.1.2 Information Services Branch, Department of the Environment.
- 10.1.3 Information Services Branch, Department of the Environment; provincial returns from respective provincial government departments.
- 10.1.4 Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Industry Statistics Branch, Statistics Canada.
- 10.2 - 10.2.1 Information Services Branch, Department of the Environment.
- 10.2.2 Supplied by the respective provincial government departments.
- 10.2.3 Manufacturing and Primary Industries Division, Industry Statistics Branch, Statistics Canada.
- 10.3 Agriculture Division, Industry Statistics Branch, Statistics Canada.
- 10.4 Information Services Branch, Department of the Environment.