

**Quebec.** The management and protection of wildlife within Quebec is the responsibility of the Fish and Game Branch of the Department of Tourism, Fish and Game. The Branch, operating under the Wildlife Conservation Act which is the legal basis for protecting fish and wildlife animal species within the province, consists of five Services. The Wildlife Management Service is responsible for the management of all wildlife and particularly of species of interest to hunters and fishermen. Biologists are assigned to nine districts and their work includes the collection of data on animal populations and habitats in the respective areas. The Wildlife Research Service conducts projects to improve the basic knowledge of fish and wildlife in order to help wildlife managers. The Fish Hatchery Service operates seven hatcheries, inspects commercial hatcheries and controls imports of eggs and salmonids. The Conservation Service is responsible for enforcing fishing and hunting regulations and for informing the public of the scope and importance of such regulations. Finally, the Leasing Service of fishing and hunting rights deals with outfitters and private clubs.

**Ontario.** Wildlife management in Ontario is administered by the Division of Fish and Wildlife of the Ministry of Natural Resources under the authority of the Ontario Game and Fish Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Migratory Birds Convention Act and the Regulations connected with them. Objectives for this division are to manage the fish and wildlife resources of Ontario so as to provide and encourage a continuous supply of recreational and economic opportunities and to develop public understanding of relevant ecological principles. Within the Division of Fish and Wildlife, the Wildlife Branch and the Commercial Fish and Fur Branch have responsibilities involving wildlife management. Recent decentralization has resulted in the distribution of management functions between main office and eight regional and 49 district offices.

The deer herd in Ontario has experienced a decline during the past few decades, manifested by a southward retraction of about 200 miles in the northern limit of the range of white-tailed deer as well as by a reduction in deer populations throughout the remaining deer range. The primary cause of the decline has been the maturation of the forest following the reduction of logging and fires since the 1930s. Several series of severe winters were instrumental in reducing the deer herd to a size compatible with the reduced range quality. The management program has been aimed at increasing the amount of browse available in winter yards and maintaining suitable winter cover. Moose management is concentrated on production and harvest inventory and evaluation of the effects of various forest practices and conditions on moose range. The number of moose hunters has been increasing and more intensive management measures for moose are being formulated.

In upland game and waterfowl management programs, effort is directed to the maintenance and improvement of habitat as it is habitat which determines the potential wildlife numbers. Management is carried out on areas under agreement between landowners and the province and on provincial wildlife areas. These two categories of wildlife management areas have helped to increase opportunities for nature study and hunting in southern Ontario where most of the land is privately owned. Certain of these areas also ensure preservation of the wetland habitats important to a great variety of wildlife, especially waterfowl. A program to re-establish a wild-breeding population of the giant Canada goose in southern Ontario is continuing and these birds are now to be seen in many places. Waterfowl banding, production surveys and harvest inventory are carried out to assist in developing waterfowl management programs.

The major effort in fur management is directed toward beaver. This involves aerial censuses of beaver colonies and specimen collections by trappers. Monthly summaries of all fur bearers taken by each trapper are now prepared. The harvest of beaver, marten and fisher is controlled by quota. About three quarters of the fur harvested in Ontario is auctioned through the Ontario Trappers' Association Fur Sales Service in North Bay. A concerted effort to develop better and more humane traps was started in 1973 in co-operation with the Ontario Trappers' Association. Workshops on humane trapping techniques, pelt preparation, animal biology and management practices have continued to upgrade trappers' skills and knowledge.

**Manitoba.** The Manitoba Department of Mines, Resources and Environmental Management is responsible for the management and conservation of the province's wildlife resources. Authority provided by provincial legislation (The Wildlife Act, the Predator Control Act and