

Regulations) allows for legal protection and management of the 25 mammal, 160 bird and two reptile species that occur in the province. The federal Migratory Birds Convention Act deals with the protection of migratory game birds, migratory insectivorous birds and migratory non-game birds.

Wildlife authorities manage wildlife, game bird, goose and fur-bearing animal refuges and 41 wildlife management areas. Fourteen new wildlife management areas were established in 1974. The distribution of hunting and trapping pressure by setting definite seasons and bag limits is one management tool utilized. Wildlife habitat acquisition and development are now under the direction of a Habitat Specialist who was hired in 1974.

A five-year Federal-Provincial Agreement was signed in 1974 for the rehabilitation of the Delta Marsh; a full-time Marsh Manager was hired in 1974. Grant's Lake managed hunting area was established in 1974 in order to control the numbers and distribution of hunters in an area of high goose concentrations.

**Saskatchewan.** The Fisheries and Wildlife Branch of the Department of Tourism and Renewable Resources is responsible for administering and managing the province's wildlife resources. Appropriate legislative authority is provided through the Game and Fur Acts.

The objective of the Saskatchewan wildlife management program is to utilize and develop wildlife resources for the benefit of the residents of the province. The Wildlife Research and Management Divisions of the Branch undertake activities to provide basic information on the resources. More particularly, research projects are undertaken to: determine production of wildlife species; determine habitat conditions for wildlife; investigate effects of land-use practices on the wildlife resources; study limiting factors on wildlife populations; determine diseases of certain wildlife species and their relative importance on wildlife populations; and develop techniques which will facilitate the maximum utilization of the wildlife resource on a sustained yield basis. This information then provides a basis for the over-all wildlife management and development program.

There is a public information program aimed at alleviating the problem of landowner-sportsmen conflict. A federal-provincial agreement has been signed to reduce losses to farmers caused by migratory birds damaging their grain crops; it provides for continuation of wildlife insurance and expansion of the waterfowl lure crop program. In addition, the livestock compensation program provides assistance to farmers for animals allegedly shot by hunters.

The retention of suitable wildlife habitat in the province is a prime requisite to the over-all wildlife management program. A Wildlife Development Fund, financed from an impost on hunting licences, has acquired over 35,000 acres of prime wildlife habitat. To prevent undue reduction of wildlife habitat by intensive agricultural practices, wildlife managers and agriculturalists are developing guidelines that will recognize wildlife consideration in any land improvement program.

**Alberta.** The management of the fish and wildlife resources of Alberta is under the jurisdiction of the Fish and Wildlife Division of the Department of Recreation, Parks and Wildlife.

The Sam Livingston Fish Hatchery and Rearing Station in Calgary completed its first full calendar year of operation in 1974, and supplied over 7 million fish for the province's stocking program. An Aquaculture Section was established to co-ordinate and provide technical expertise to the developing fish-farming industry of the private sector. Nineteen projects aimed at improving various aquatic habitat characteristics through such techniques as water level stabilization, flow regulation, erection of fish barriers, etc., were undertaken throughout the province by the Habitat Development Section. Fisheries research projects in 1974 included an attempt to establish a homing, self-sustaining population of rainbow trout in the Chain Lakes Reservoir, and an attempt to develop a rainbow trout stocking formula for the pot-hole fisheries. The Habitat Protection Section continued to review applications associated with development projects affecting terrestrial and aquatic resources. The harvest of commercial species in Alberta in 1974 totalled 4.8 million lb., which was approximately equal to the previous year's catch.

During 1974 a Fur Section was formed to map, classify and evaluate Alberta lands for present and potential fur-bearer populations and harvests. The assessment of critical habitat areas for ungulates progressed with the objective of concentrating efforts for habitat protection in these areas. Under the "Buck for Wildlife" program, work continued on 18 habitat