

**Nova Scotia.** The wildlife division of the lands and forests department is concerned primarily with the maintenance of a stable and healthy environment for the purpose of ensuring optimum populations of vertebrate wildlife.

Inventories are conducted on an annual basis to monitor the population of important game and non-game species. Some other activities include: assistance with the preparation of integrated resource management plans for Crown lands, fur-bearer research, marshland management in co-operation with Ducks Unlimited (Canada), environmental impact studies and resources education programs including mandatory hunter training.

Among other concerns are co-operative programs with the Trappers Association of Nova Scotia and Nova Scotia Wildlife Federation, providing technical information to federal and provincial agencies involved with programs affecting land use and water quality; designation of unique wildlife habitats to ensure long-term management and protection; maintenance of a modest "put and take" trout fishery; biological assessment of lakes and streams; co-operative wildlife research with Acadia University; and the preparation and updating of legislation.

**New Brunswick.** The wildlife resources of New Brunswick are the responsibility of the fish and wildlife branch of the natural resources department. Orders-in-council issued under the New Brunswick Game Act provide a means of controlling bag limits and hunting pressure in the utilization of surpluses of wildlife species.

Biological surveys of game animals are carried out to determine the condition of populations. Principal game populations managed are: moose, white-tailed deer, black bear, beaver, muskrat and woodcock. Research and active management programs to integrate forestry practices with deer winter habitat requirements will continue to be the main thrust of deer management.

A trapper information and education program was initiated in 1976 and has received full support from the New Brunswick Trappers Association. Its primary objectives include the personal involvement of resident trappers in the wise use and management of the fur resource in the province. The current demand for long-haired furs such as bobcat, fox and fisher has diverted trapping pressure from beaver, otter, mink and muskrat.

Sport fishing contributes substantially to the economy. Atlantic salmon anglers fished 113,609 days to catch 52,243 salmon and grilse during 1976. The Miramichi River system accounted for 73% (38,318) of the salmon and grilse angler catch during this period. However, more angler-days are spent fishing for brook trout in New Brunswick. In 1976, 1,250,000 angler-days were spent participating in the inland salmon and trout sport fishery.

**Quebec.** The maintenance, improvement and protection of wildlife within Quebec is the responsibility of the wildlife branch of the tourism, fish and game department. The branch comprises three divisions. The wildlife management and operations division, with its regional services, is responsible for the management of all wildlife and particularly of species of interest to hunters and fishermen. Biologists are assigned to nine administrative regions and their work covers the inventory and study of animal populations as well as the improvement of the populations and their habitats. The fish hatchery service operates six hatcheries, inspects commercial hatcheries and controls imports of eggs and salmonids. The wildlife research branch conducts projects to improve the basic knowledge of fish and wildlife in order to help wildlife managers. The wildlife protection branch enforces fishing and hunting regulations and informs the public of the scope and importance of such regulations.

**Ontario.** Wildlife management in Ontario is administered by the fish and wildlife division of the natural resources ministry. Objectives are to provide and encourage a continuous supply of recreational and economic opportunities and to develop public awareness of relevant ecological principles. The wildlife branch is responsible for wildlife management, distributed among the main office, eight regional and 49 district offices.

The deer herd in Ontario has declined during recent decades, manifested by a southward retraction of 320 kilometres in the northern limit of the range of white-tailed