

animals which may be harvested. Moose and deer populations are managed by a selective harvest system which controls the number, sex and age of the animal taken. Hunter and trapper education courses must be taken by all prospective hunters and trappers. The Community Wildlife Involvement Program is a successful program designed to provide funding to groups and individuals for projects to improve wildlife habitat and recreational opportunities.

In Manitoba, wildlife management initiatives involve: wildlife population monitoring; recreational hunting; wild fur trapping; habitat protection and development; wildlife conservation education; and the conservation, preservation and reintroduction of rare and endangered species. The province administers sport hunting seasons for six species of big game, the most important being white-tailed deer, moose and elk, and seven types of upland game birds. The majority of the harvest is ruffed grouse and sharp-tailed grouse. Waterfowl hunting centers primarily on mallards, Canada geese and snow geese. Manitoba has recently reintroduced wood bison to the province and has declared the great gray owl as the provincial bird emblem.

Endangered species, receiving considerable attention, are burrowing owl, peregrine falcon and piping plover. Special attention is also being given to the relationships between forest industries and woodland caribou.

In Saskatchewan, portions of hunting and fishing licence revenues are channelled into a fund for the purchase of critical wildlife habitat and habitat development projects. Designated critical wildlife areas on Crown land are protected from alteration or sale; emphasis is placed on prevention of damage by wildlife to private property and agricultural produce; and stiffer penalties for wildlife offences such as poaching and night hunting have recently been provided.

In September 1988, Saskatchewan announced the Quill Lakes project, the first project of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan to be implemented in North America.

Wildlife in Alberta includes bird game such as pheasant, Hungarian partridge, ptarmigan and ruffed, spruce, blue, sage and sharp-tailed grouse, as well as species of big game; furbearers; and non-game which includes endangered, threatened and vulnerable species.

Due to very diversified physical features, climate, and vegetation, British Columbia has the greatest variety and abundance of wildlife of all the Canadian provinces and territories: at least 112 species of mammals, plus numerous mammal

sub-species; over 400 resident species of birds; 14 reptile species, and 20 amphibians. Major game animals in the province include the moose, elk, mountain sheep, mountain goat, caribou, three species of deer, grizzly and black bear, cougar and wolf. Furbearers such as beaver, muskrat, marten, squirrel, mink, coyote, weasel, lynx and others, yield an annual harvest, valued at \$5.8 million on the raw fur market in 1986-87. Several million ducks and geese and several species of upland game birds provide an annual harvest for bird hunters. Over a million ducks and geese winter in British Columbia. Hunting is carefully regulated to conform with the primary objective of British Columbia's wildlife management program — to maintain and enhance wildlife and wildlife habitats, and thereby ensure an abundant, diverse and self-sustaining wildlife resource.

8.4.3 Territorial wildlife

In the Yukon judicious use of big-game species, upland game birds and freshwater fish is promoted for residents and non-residents. The Yukon Fish and Wildlife Branch licenses and regulates trapping of fur-bearing animals and activities of outfitters and guides. To increase knowledge about wildlife species and provide the basis for management, it conducts and supports biological research and public educational programs.

Northwest Territories. Wildlife management in the Northwest Territories includes surveys and radio-collaring of barren-ground caribou, polar bear tagging, raptor surveys, Dall's sheep surveys and wood bison studies. The fur-bearing species are also monitored. The Department of Renewable Resources is responsible for the administration of sport fishing licences and hunting licences. Some popular fish species are lake trout, Arctic grayling, pike and Arctic char. Big game and upland game species include caribou, moose, muskox, polar bear, black bear, grizzly bear, Dall's sheep, wolf, ptarmigan and grouse. Wildlife harvested by trappers includes the beaver, Arctic and red fox, lynx, marten, mink, muskrat, wolf and wolverine. The Department of Renewable Resources provides opportunities for native peoples to follow their traditional pursuits of hunting, trapping and fishing. Included are trappers' incentive grants (a fur subsidy program based on a percentage of the season's harvest), a fur marketing service, and an outpost camp program to help groups who wish to move back to the land and live off the natural resources available through hunting and trapping.